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Grinch and find some unique tech gifts for your friends, family, coworkers or even just a new toy for yourself.

Isaac M. O'Bannon • Nov. 27, 2013



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The holidays are here ... almost. Fortunately, there's still time to shoo away the Grinch and find some unique tech gifts for your friends, family, coworkers or even just a new toy for yourself.

While thoughts of holiday gift-giving often conjure up visions of the latest personal

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Turn Your Workflow Digital in a Snap

Even in the modern paperless office, there is still paper coming in, even if the end product you produce is totally digital. The most effective way to turn paper-based documents into the digital workpapers your firm depends on is to use a next generation scanning solution like those in the **ScanSnap** line from **Fujitsu**. Whether a pocket-sized mobile scanner like the **S1100**, a portable scanner like the **S1300i**, a desktop model like the **iX500**, or the **SV600** contactless scanner, ScanSnap products and the built-in document automation software can help bring some stress relief year-round. (From \$199;

www.fujitsu.com/us/services/computing/peripherals/scanners/scansnap)

One for the Road

When they're on the road and living with their laptop, mobile professionals often miss the productivity boost they get from a multiple monitor setup on their desktop. Now, they can take an extra monitor with them. The 16" AOC Portable USB Monitor is perfect for presentations or everyday work, giving users a simple way to add a monitor. And, since it gets its power through the same USB cord that connects the video screen into the laptop or desktop computer, there's no need for a separate power cord. (From \$99; <http://us.aoc.com>)

Serious Grilling Requires Serious Gear

The serious outdoor chef is always prepared, and with the **Tactical BBQ Apron**, he or she will also have quick access to the gear needed for any grilling mission. Instead of digging through piles of tongs, spatulas, thermometers and other BBQ tools, they can be properly assembled onto the MOLLE system that holds everything the grill master requires. Includes multiple pounces, adjustable side straps, Velcro patches and compartments for storing secret spices. (\$34.99; www.thinkgeek.com/product/11cd)

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juiced it up with some advanced features to create the **Lua**. With a user-adjustable Pro-Optic sensor, a rugged, ambidextrous shape, no-sweat side grips and a soft-touch surface, the Lua gives gamers more precise control and the ability to instantly switch speeds in the heat of battle. (\$29.99; www.roccat.org/Products/Gaming-Mice/ROCCAT-Lua)

Add a Pocket to Your Phone

Mobile technology has nearly made carrying a bag or thick wallet a thing of the past, but you still need a place to carry your ID, credit cards or a few dollars. The solution: The **Q Card Case** from **CM4**. Featuring a lay-flat screen guard for ultimate protection, a soft-touch finish and a pocket with room for three cards plus cash, the Q Card Case is available in multiple colors and styles that fit iPhone 4/4s, iPhone 5/5s and the Samsung Galaxy S4. (\$39.99; www.cm4.com)

Get Your Pulse Up

Whether you're a casual walker or a hardcore outdoor enthusiast, or even just busy rushing between stores during the holiday shopping season, now there's a way to keep better track of your lifestyle. The **Pulse** from **Withings** helps you be more active and measure it, by capturing all the details from steps taken, calories burned, elevation climbed and distance traveled. It syncs to smartphones or tablets so you can put the information into perspective. (\$99.99; www.withings.com)

Sleek & Rugged

Is your phone prepared for the real world? The **Hydra Series** of mobile phone cases are "designed to survive life," and feature waterproof, dirt proof, dust proof and impact resistant designs. With the Hydra, even if your phone falls into 7 feet of water for 30 minutes, or falls from up to 8 feet onto a hard surface, it is protected. It also comes with a rugged holster, scratch and impact resistant screen protector, Reinforced Ballistic Corners and a slim design. (\$79.99; www.GoBallisticCase.com)

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Even better, they produce herbs to enhance your cooking. The **Click and Grow** is an easy-to-use electronic “smartpot” that grows real herbs and flowers, and automatically measures and applies the right amount of water, fertilizer and air based on the plant’s needs. (www.clickandgrow.com; \$79.99 starter kit; \$19.99 for additional plants/refills.)

Make Your TV Smarter

The latest generation of televisions are enhanced with the latest in interactive tools, but what if you're not ready to get rid of your T.V. that's only a few years old, but you still want internet on your T.V? Fortunately, the **SmartStick TV Streamer** makes it easy, without the need for a clunky box or tangled cables. Simply plug the SmartStick into the USB port on your T.V., and you can quickly access various television and entertainment apps, including Netflix, Hulu Plus, ESPN, Vudu, Facebook, Twitter and even Angry Birds. (\$49.99; www.favientertainment.com)

Kickin It, In Style

Whether you want to pump up the bass or mellow out to some classical tunes, the **i-Mego Throne Cambo** over-the-ear headphones offer outstanding audio quality and performance, along with eye-catching design innovations that combine to provide unique and stylish headgear. (\$79.99; www.i-mego.com)

Thin Is In ... For Your Keyboard, Too

From cell phones to tablets, sleek is chic when it comes to mobile tech. Now that same thin style is available for iPad users with the Bluetooth 3.0 Rapoo E6300, an ultra-thin wireless keyboard that offers the tactile benefits of typing on a real keyboard instead of a touch screen. The compact keyboard can easily fit in a pocket, briefcase or carryall, making it a convenient accessory to your must-have tablet. (\$49.99; www.rapoo.com)

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venture into extreme environments. The **SLXtreme5** is up to any challenge, sporting a waterproof, rugged design, the case for the iPhone 5/5S also includes a solar-powered battery to keep your phone going longer or to charge it in emergency situations. With a military specification certification rating of 810G, it can protect your phone from 6 ft. (2m) falls, dust and sand and a waterproof rating of IP-68 for up to 6 ft. (2m) depths. (\$149.99; www.snowlizardproducts.com)

From everyone at *CPA Practice Advisor*, We wish you the Happiest of Holidays and a prosperous New Year.

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