

For Active
People
Ages 60+



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Newsletter!

Cyberspace News

Buying A Compact Video Recorder

The last time I bought a camcorder (in 2000), my son was an infant and I was thrilled that the device came with a peripheral that allowed me to show the movies in my VCR. Now that my unit is a cumbersome, non-PC compatible dinosaur, I've begun looking for a compact video recorder.

These recorders are specifically designed for capturing spontaneous moments "whenever and wherever they happen." That means they're portable and, theoretically, easy to use. Compact video recorders are, in essence, small camcorders which generally weigh less than six ounces and fit quite comfortably in your pocket.

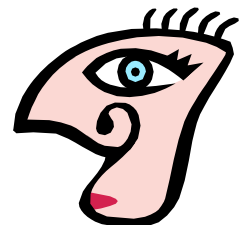
Here's what the Internet site www.smartcomputing.com recommends when you're looking for one of these devices:

- Make sure the equipment fits comfortably in your hand. The more comfortable it is, the more likely you are to use it.
- Favor models that let you film

and operate the device with a single hand.

- Look for built-in or expandable storage. Compact video recorders usually rely on flash memory, the same kind found in thumb drives. It's very reliable, solid state (no moving parts) and unlikely to be damaged if dropped. The amount of memory (such as 2, 4, or 8GB) in the device determines how much video you can record, so get a model with as much memory as you can afford.
- Expandable memory slots, for extra memory cards like SD (Secure Digital) cards are nice to have, especially for devices lacking plentiful integrated storage.

And remember to shop around. Look for a bargain and you just might find one!



Free And Fun

Come to our Computer Fun Meetings, which are free and open to everyone, whether you're a WACC member or not.

Meetings are held the second and fourth Mondays of each month from 11:30AM to 1PM.

Just For You

Cyberspace News is now archived on the WACC website. There you can see prior issues of CN, full issues of the newsletter between April 2007 and October 2009 as well as selected articles from other issues. In some articles, additional important material is included (for instance, information obtained after publication).

Just go to www.wacci.net and click the "Archives" button along the left side.

Think *You've* Lost Money

I don't want to trivialize the results of this year's Wall Street woes. But at least you can blame the Stock Market and, hopefully, not errors in judgment. Because errors like those have cost some of the richest people quite a lot of money. For example:

- In 1883, Dr. William Howey went to check on crews building the Canadian Pacific Railway. While searching for a lost worker, he found some interesting copper-colored rocks and pocketed them. When he got home, he sent them to the director of the Geological Survey of Canada. The stones were deemed worthless, and Howey threw them away. A contractor picked them up, and a year later decided to check out the site where they were found. It turned out those "rocks" were copper and the Contractor, Thomas Murray, had discovered one of the world's largest copper deposits, producing millions of dollars of ore. When it was discovered the ore contained high levels of highly sought-after nickel, the deposit was named the International Nickel Company of Canada, and went on to become the second-largest producer of nickel worldwide.

In 2006, Vale (NYSE: VALE) bought the company (named INCO) for \$17 billion.

- Vegas casino owner and art collector Steve Wynn was entertaining a small group of friends in the fall of 2006 when he decided to show them his prized Picasso "Le Reve" ("The Dream"). He had recently agreed to sell the piece for \$139 million to fellow collector and hedge fund director Steve Cohen. But Wynn's "dream" turned into a nightmare when, with one seemingly harmless hand motion while hosting a party at his home, he put his elbow through the famous painting of Picasso's mistress. The shocked guests vowed to keep silent about the incident and Wynn later chose to keep the painting; it was restored but dropped in value to \$85 million. It cost Wynn \$90,000 for restoration work.

Those who make more, often lose more. We're all guilty of bad judgments sometimes. May they never cost us as much as they cost these gentlemen!

Source (note the absence of the www in this web address):
<http://finance.yahoo.com>

Fall Cleaning? Why Not!

As the cold weather comes and drives us indoors, here is a tried-and-true method for getting rid of the messes you've probably been living with for too long:

1. Remove all trash from the space. If you're cleaning for someone else, put these items aside for him/her to approve before you throw them out. Always assure people you will not throw away anything before they approve.
2. Remove all non-trash items you want to get rid of. Box them up to give away to a charity, save them for your yard sale, list them on craigslist or simply put them beside the road with a "FREE" sign.



3. Put away everything that already has a designated place. (By now, you have some breathing room in this space, and it's time to start finding

places to keep the remaining items. Before putting any item permanently away, sweep, clean or dust under that area.)

4. Group similar things together. You might start with just making piles of things, such as all your paint cans. When you put the same things together, you see how much volume you have

of that type of item, and it sort of speaks to you as to where that grouping goes, as it has to go some logical place where it will all fit.

5. You're now down to the remaining random items and you have to get a little creative about where to put them. You might start pounding nails into attic or garage rafters to hang things. Also look for easy containers for loose stuff. Some things can be stored in an ordinary shopping bag hung by a nail. Long-term you might need to find shelving or pegboard, if you don't already have adequate space. Just work with what you have at the moment, and think about improving your storage system later.
6. Square everything to the walls. When things are at hodgepodge angles it just looks messier. Random items simply squared to the wall always look nicer.
7. Stand back and survey your efforts. Look for items that are still out of place or areas that could be straightened up even further.

Some Quirky Numbers

26

The percent of U.S. dogs that sleep in their own bed

13

The percent of people with six or more pets

24

The percent of boys who say that they diet to stay slim

\$2,500

The price paid for 50 rolls of toilet paper from the 1920s

10

The percent of Internet users who are clinically addicted to it

Source: *The Old Farmer's Almanac 2009*

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Quotes Regarding: Autumn

“Autumn is a second spring when every leaf’s a flower.”

...Albert Camus

“I’ve never known anyone yet who doesn’t suffer a certain restlessness when autumn rolls around...We’re all eight years old again and anything is possible.”

...Sue Grafton

“It was one of those perfect English autumn days which occur more frequently in memory than in life.”

...P.D. James

“Autumn is really the best of the seasons; and I’m not sure that old age isn’t the best part of life. But of course, like autumn, it doesn’t last.”

...Clive Staples Lewis

Source:
www.dailycelebrations.com

Chew Away

Think chewing gum is for kids? Well, according to two new studies (both funded by the Wrigley Science Institute but, according to Reader’s Digest, well designed), chewing a little sugar-free gum:

- *Helps prolong attention by easing stress and anxiety.*
- *Results in less snacking.* Volunteers who chewed gum for fifteen minutes each hour between lunch and a snack ate 60 fewer calories from sweets than when they

went gum-free.

Plus it actually exercises the jaw muscles. So choose to chew!



Source: Reader’s Digest, 8/09.

Cleaning (...continued)

In the most extreme cases, you may need to physically remove all of the items from this space to sort it where you have more room. This is also a good strategy for someone who is reluctant to part with obvious junk. It’s easy to keep something if you leave it where it is. If you move the item from it’s current resting place, such as out to the driveway, the owner has to cart it back if he or she wants to keep it. Most of the



time, they’ll choose to throw it away.

A space that has been cleaned will quickly become messy again,

unless you change your day-to-day habits. Whenever feasible, when you place things down, put them back in their right place. Make clean-up a regular phase of your task. In general, picking up and neatening is part of everyday life.

Editor’s Note: Don’t let grand-kids off the hook when it comes to helping you clean. The little ones love to help and the older ones could use the responsibility.

Source: www.tiphero.com