

DataWind PocketSurfer

Hardware

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This month we feature gadgetry that gets you connected to the Internet in new ways. For example, the **PocketSurfer** appliance lets you see full Web pages with a cell phone, and you can turn your television into a Web browser using the MSN TV 2 device. If you want to extend your broadband connection without running wires all over your home or office, check out Logitech's Play Link system. And if that's not enough, we have plenty of other cool products for your perusal. ■



PocketSurfer
\$199.99 plus subscription
DataWind
(877) 878-3282
www.datawind.com

If you want Internet access through your cell phone without the limitations of a small display and awkward keys, the PocketSurfer Web viewer from DataWind may be just what you need. This cell phone appliance features a QWERTY keyboard and a VGA-width, 640-pixel LCD (liquid-crystal display). Unlike mobile devices such as PDAs and cell phones, the PocketSurfer displays fully functional Web pages complete with images, scripts, colors, and plug-ins.

The device connects wirelessly to your phone with Bluetooth technology. If your cell phone is not equipped with Bluetooth, you can purchase an adapter. According to DataWind, the PocketSurfer works with 80% of the cell phones in the United States. However, you must check with your cellular provider to determine how the PocketSurfer affects

your minutes and data plan. You also must subscribe to DataWind's Internet service.

The PocketSurfer delivers Web content in an average of five to seven seconds per page, which is 10 to 30% faster than most cell phones and PDAs, according to DataWind. Its Li-Ion battery is rechargeable and powers the device from four to six hours. At 0.58 x 5.5 x 2.75 inches (HxWxD) and 3.4 ounces, the PocketSurfer has a clamshell design and is lightweight and portable.

The PocketSurfer is dedicated to Web browsing; it doesn't offer email functions, storage, or printing capabilities. However, you can use it with Web-based email and other online services. ■

by Carmen Carmack



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