

Gadgets: Chinon docking sound system has LCD display for video

April 1 2010, By Gregg Ellman



Chinon AVi

I've had the Chinon AVi sitting on my shelf for a few months and I'm glad I finally got to it.

These days the number of docking sound systems for the iPod family is never-ending and most are pretty good.

Finding something to make these stand apart isn't easy once you get past the sound, but Chinon's certainly does with its multitude of features.

The versatile system does all the things it's supposed to do with an iPod - charge it and broadcast the music or video through built-in speakers with

decent sound.

Other MP3 players can be connected via an auxiliary port.

In addition, a 7-inch LCD display is built into this multi-functional player. With this, users have a desktop device to play and view any video content stored on the portable media player.

The video option doesn't end there; it also includes a digital TV tuner with a full function remote control. This can be used as a [digital converter](#) box for analog TVs.

Also included is an FM radio with 20 presets and an [alarm clock](#). With the alarm clock, users can wake to any content stored on a portable media player or even a TV station of your choice.

Users can choose the included AC power supply or buy eight C batteries.

Details: chinonusa.com, \$199.99

Everyday there seems to be a new device designed to save you money.

The latest to cross my inbox is the NetTalk6000, designed to drastically reduce your home telephone bill.



NetTalk6000

This [Voice-over-Internet Protocol](#) (VoIP) system connects to an existing high-speed Internet connection so users can make unlimited local and long distance phone calls for free to the U.S. and Canada.

Users get a phone number along with call forwarding, caller ID, call waiting, three-way calling, voicemail and 411-directory assistance.

If you're scratching your head wondering what the catch is, all you have to do is purchase the \$99 device and then there are no monthly fees.

All this is done without the need of a computer, unlike similar companies that require a computer powered on to make calls.

The hookup is simple; just plug the existing Internet connection and phone line into the palm sized device. An option to connect via USB is available.

Included with the NetTalk6000 is a 3-foot Ethernet cable an AC adapter.

Details: tk6000.com

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