



11.17.2005

[Get Popular Science posters here!](#)

[> Subscribe](#) | [> Newsletter](#)

Search:

Popsci.com:

- [Home](#)
- [What's New](#)
- [How2.0](#)
- [Science](#)
- [Computers & Elec.](#)
- [Aviation & Space](#)
- [Automotive Tech](#)
- [Technology](#)
- [Medicine](#)
- Magazine:**
- [Current Issue](#)
- [Archive](#)
- [Subscribe](#)
- [Digital Edition](#)
- [Customer Service](#)
- [Gift Subscription](#)

Resources:

- [Buy PopSci Art](#)
- [Contact Us](#)
- [PS Showcase](#)
- [Media Kit](#)
- [RSS](#)

Newsletter:

Enter e-mail address to receive popsci weekly updates to your inbox.



Home Improvement

Easy projects, tips, and instruction for the Do-It-Yourselfer.



Painting

[click here](#)

What's New

Wireless Headphones Are Finally Here

Four ways to experience untethered audio bliss

By Stephen Regenold



Jeff Harris

[+ Enlarge this image](#)

[Go to Forums](#)

[Print This Article](#)

[E-Mail This Article](#)

It's a brave new wireless world, yet most portable-audio hounds are still tangled up in headphone cords. Soon, though, you'll have lots of wireless stereo headphones to choose from. The technology isn't brand new, but until recently it was too bulky and expensive to shove into the tiny, splurge-worthy gadgets we love. Expect to see three flavors of wireless earmuffs—Bluetooth, Wi-Fi and magnetic induction [see sidebar below]—rolling out between now and early next year. These airy headphones will connect wirelessly to audio players, mobile phones, laptops, stereo systems and game consoles for unencumbered musical bliss.

Logitech Wireless Headphones for MP3 (\$130;

[logitech.com](#))

Range: 33 feet

Battery life: 8 hours

Logitech's Bluetooth transmitter plugs into a standard 3.5mm jack to make the headphones compatible with almost any audio device. Computers with Bluetooth Advanced Audio Distribution Profile (A2DP) will also send music to the headphones.

Plantronics Pulsar 590 (\$200 with adapter;

[plantronics.com](#))

Range: 33 feet

Battery life: 10 hours (listening); 130 hours (standby)

Plug the Bluetooth adapter into your audio player, then press a single button to switch between stereo audio and your Bluetooth phone. Hide the telescoping mic when you don't need it. Works with A2DP laptops.

LTB Freezone Wifi (\$100; [ltbaudio.com](#))

Range: Up to 100 feet, depending on device

Battery life: 6 hours

For now, these earmuff-style cans are best suited for listening to music on your computer. There is only one Wi-Fi player, the SoniqCast Aireo, currently available, but rumor has it that Samsung and other manufacturers will release Wi-Fi-enabled players that automatically move music wirelessly from PC to player, or player to player.

Nokia Wireless Stereo Headset HS-12W (\$160; [nokia.com](#))

Range: 33 feet

Battery life: 8 hours (listening); 200 hours (standby) Nokia's earbuds work with Bluetooth-enabled mobile phones that can store music. Stash your phone in a pocket or bag, and use a single button to instantly switch between tunes and incoming calls. A control box on the lanyard contains an FM radio and an LCD screen with caller ID.

Archived Articles:

- [• See all What's New](#)
- [• PopSci Complete Archive](#)

It's a start.



beyond petroleum™

Search:

Popsci.com:

- [Home](#)
- [What's New](#)
- [How2.0](#)
- [Science](#)
- [Computers & Elec.](#)
- [Aviation & Space](#)
- [Automotive Tech](#)
- [Technology](#)
- [Medicine](#)

Magazine:

- [Current Issue](#)
- [Archive](#)
- [Subscribe](#)
- [Digital Edition](#)
- [Customer Service](#)
- [Gift Subscription](#)

Resources:

- [Buy PopSci Art](#)
- [Contact Us](#)
- [PS Showcase](#)
- [Media Kit](#)
- [RSS](#)

Newsletter:

Enter e-mail address to receive popsci weekly updates to your inbox.

Office DEPOT.

HOLIDAY 2005

GIFTS
that mean
BUSINESS

SHOP NOW

What's New

Wireless Headphones Are Finally Here

Four ways to experience untethered audio bliss

By Stephen Regenold



Jeff Harris

WHAT'S NEXT

Your Personal Sound Bubble

Unlike Bluetooth and Wi-Fi, magnetic induction does not transmit data via radio frequencies, which propagate indiscriminately beyond the headphone's range. Instead it encodes the audio in a weak magnetic field. Because each magnetic bubble extends only six feet around the transmitter, there is essentially zero interference from other devices using the same signal protocol. Technology developer Aura Communications (auracomm.com) boasts of power-consumption, cost and security advantages as well. Consumer-electronics companies, including Creative Labs, have shown prototype magnetic-induction players. Some could hit shelves by year's end.

1 | 2

[Enlarge this image](#)

[Go to Forums](#)

[Print This Article](#)

[E-Mail This Article](#)

advertisement

diy
network

diynetwork.com

Home Improvement

Easy projects, tips, and instruction
for the Do-It-Yourselfer.

Painting

click here

Top 5 Most Popular Articles on popsci.com Today:

1. [Toshiba Perpendicular Magnetic Recording](#)
2. [The Worst Jobs in Science](#)
3. [Artificial Surf Reefs Versareef](#)
4. [Jeep Hurricane](#)
5. [The Worst Jobs in Science](#)

THE MARKETPLACE SPONSORED LINKS

Promotional USB Flash Drives and MP3 Players

Customized USB Flash Drives and MP3 Players with your company logo for promotional giveaways. 64MB USB Flash Drive only \$12.00. Free Custom Logo, Fast...

Share Dialup over WiFi Wireless

Tired of being limited to one person at a time on your dialup internet? With the WiFlyer you can share your dialup connection with your whole family ...

Need More Space for your digital life?

Buy a Seagate External Hard Drive or Upgrade Kit between now and 2/28/06 and get free music downloads from RealPlayer Music Store, free photo prints ...

[Buy a link Now](#)

Archived Articles:

- [See all What's New](#)
- [PopSci Complete Archive](#)

Office DEPOT.

HOLIDAY 2005

GIFTS
that mean
BUSINESS

SHOP NOW

POPULAR
science

Name:

Address:

City:

St/Pr: Zip/PC:

E-mail: