

# Laptop

## July 2008

Best & Worst Tech Support p.78 ■ 14 DIY Notebook Fixes p.86

# LAPTOP

MOBILE SOLUTIONS FOR BUSINESS & LIFE

25 Ways  
To Get More  
Out Of Google

Tips For Better  
Battery Life Now

TESTED: 10-Megapixel  
Cameras Under \$300



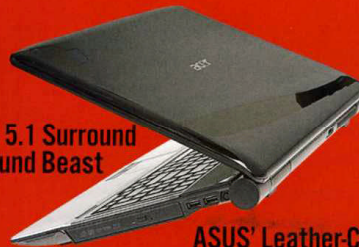
Voodoo's  
MacBook Air  
Killer

# Whoa!

## The Sweetest Machines On Earth



Acer's 5.1 Surround  
Sound Beast



ASUS' Leather-Clad  
Ultraportable



Dell's  
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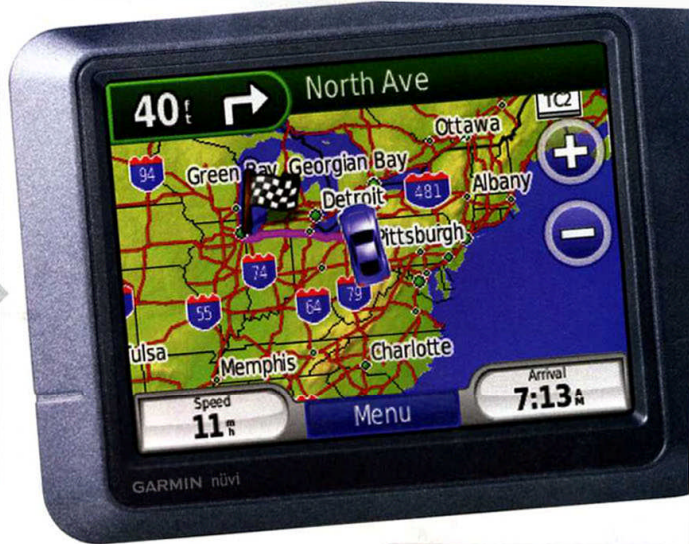
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## ARRIVALS

### Picture-Perfect Navigation

Like most affordable navigators, the Garmin nüvi 255 offers a 3.5-inch (320 x 240) display, and spoken turn-by-turn directions with street name pronunciation. But what makes this model stand out is Garmin Connect Photos navigation, with which users can download geo-tagged photos posted by other Garmin users and navigate to those spots. And the HotFix feature calculates your position faster by caching essential satellite info. Preloaded with City Navigator NT street maps and Garmin's standard GPS features (6 million points of interest, custom POIs, 2D and 3D maps, and optional MSN Direct), this device is ready to go right out of the box.

**Garmin nüvi 255; \$319; [www.garmin.com](http://www.garmin.com)**



### Bigger, Better Eee PC

What a difference a couple of inches makes. ASUS continues to innovate and expand the mini-notebook market with the Eee PC 900, which sports some impressive upgrades. The larger 8.9-inch, 1024 x 600-pixel display eliminates the window-sizing issue of the 7-inch (800 x 480) Eee PC 4G, while adding only a hair of extra weight at 2.2 pounds (vs. 2.0 pounds). And while the keyboard is still relatively small, the new FingerGlide feature lets you use MacBook Air–esque swipes on the touchpad, allowing for quick zooming and scrolling. Other enhancements include a sharper 1.3-megapixel webcam and double the RAM at 1GB. And you still get your choice of Windows XP (with 12GB of storage) or Linux (20GB of storage).

**ASUS Eee PC 900; \$549; [usa.asus.com](http://usa.asus.com)**



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### Portable Fort Knox

This is not your run-of-the-mill flash drive. While the memory key you already own provides an easy means of carrying around important digital files, it's equally easy to swipe, making confidential-doc storage a no-no. Black Box Innovations delivers the ultimate in USB lockdown with the Personal Pocket Safe, a pin-protected thumb drive that features preloaded software with which users can safely enter and organize important information, such as medical history, passwords, and other classified details. The software has a clean, easy-to-use interface, and military-grade encryption secures all your info. If that's not enough for you to rest easy, the Pocket Safe also offers an automatic "lock out" feature that shuts down the device when it detects foul play.

**Black Box Innovations**  
**Personal Pocket Safe; \$59.99;**  
[www.takeanyware.com](http://www.takeanyware.com)



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