

What's New!

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Mio Fuse

This is one of the new breed of wearable technology products. It is a wrist band with Bluetooth connectivity to a smart phone.

The Fuse has two modes: Daily Activity and Workout.

Daily Activity mode is the default and works all day, measuring your steps, calories and distance. These data show on the wrist band face when you trigger it on. In order to save battery life the touch points on the band are not active unless your wrist is horizontal.

You can touch either edge of the display area to cause the display to appear. It is normally blank. You can scroll through the data by touching one of the touch points. The display turns off after a few seconds on inactivity. The values displayed are set to zero each midnight but stores the information for up to 14 days.

The Workout mode is triggered by touching the center of the display and holding for a few seconds. The display then provides a timer for how long you have been in workout mode, a flashing light showing the beat of your heart, a display of your heart rate, calories, distance, pace and speed.

Fuse is automatically connected to your smartphone once paired. After that, no action is necessary to download and record data being captured by Fuse, provided your smartphone is within 3 feet or so. The smartphone application is available for iOS and android and works on just about any smartphone running these systems.

The display of Workout data is coded by zone, where a zone is the degree of activity (rest, light, moderate and so on). The flashing light is colored based upon which zone you are currently in.

Fuse is handy to allow you to check on whether you are meeting daily goals you set. It can also be paired with other sport devices.



Fuse comes with a charging cable and Startup Guide. The charge cable has a USB plug on one end and a special connector on the other that fits the connectors on the back of the device. A full charge should last about a week and the battery is good for some 300 charges.

In my use the Daily Activity data is interesting. I was more interested, though, in the Workout mode. I play racquetball three times a week so I wanted to see what sort of data would be captured. One racquetball session lasted 1.98 hours and involved 3,083 steps, 1,953 calories and measured heart rates from 92 to 148.

About: Mio Fuse

Vendor: Mio Global
www.mioglobal.com

Price: \$149

myPower 10400

When you need more power and you're out of it, call on the myPower 10400 for relief.

There are many external batteries available today, and many will charge your devices just fine. But when you have a need for a fast charge or need to charge two devices at the same time, the myPower 10400 is your product of choice.

This is a compact unit, about the size of an iPhone 5 or 4, with an internal Li-ion high capacity battery. It has one input, two outputs and a button.

The input is used for charging the internal battery. The unit comes with a charging cable, USB plug on one end, a micro-USB plug on the other. You can use any USB port that is available to you, or you can use a wall power outlet with an adapter (USB to 110 v.).



The two outputs are each USB ports, but one provides 1 amp power, the other 13 amps. These are designed to charge just about any portable device. What is particularly nice is that the myPower 10400 recognizes your device and charges it at full speed. Not only that, when your device is fully charged, the myPower shuts off so that overcharging cannot occur.

The button serves two purposes. One is to identify the level of charge of the internal battery. There are four LED indicators. One indicator means 0-25% charge is available, two means 25-50% and so on. You can see at a glance what level is available.

The other purpose is to light the flashlight that is built into the device. Holding the button down for several seconds turns on the flashlight, pressing again for several seconds turns it off.

You can charge smartphones, tablets, external speakers, wearable tech devices and more.

The myPower 10400 is a handy product to have with you when you need to charge your portable device multiple times without recharging the internal battery.

About: myPower 10400

Vendor: iLuv
www.iLuv.com

Price: \$40

HDX Screen Protector

During CES the Zagg Company offered to apply one of their Invisible Shields to any device that you own. You can imagine that the lines at the booth were quite long!

My iPhone 6 qualifies for the new HDX screen protection. I was amazed at how quickly it was applied. It has two tabs, one at each end. All you do is remove the protective coating, grab the two tabs with both hands, carefully lay the screen protector on your screen and press uniformly. After a few moments it is ready to use. No liquids, no wetting your fingers, and best, no difficulty is applying it to your screen properly.

The company describes it as virtually indestructible! It has a military grade polyurethane coating to provide shock resistance. Other layers are self-healing technology, optical enhancing layer, high impact dispersion layer and self-wetting adhesive technology layer.



The self-healing layer is designed to heal itself from scratches and dings, a really helpful feature.

One feature that I like a lot is that the surface is almost impossible to mar with fingerprints. With most other devices with screens, your finger taps and slides leave a residue that is visible and can only be removed with a screen cleaner or microfiber cloth. I don't need to do that anymore!

The HDX comes with a lifetime guarantee – if it ever becomes worn or damaged, Zagg will replace it for as long as you own your device.

HDX is available for most popular smartphones and tablets.

About: HDX Screen Protector by Zagg

Vendor: Zagg
www.zagg.com

Price: about \$25



Spring certainly seems to have sprung!—George Harding, Photographer