

WHAT TO BUY

THE TECH-SAVVY GIZMO GEEK

► **iPod Nano:** Making our techie gift list is definitely something compact — an Apple's iPod Nano (\$149.99 at *Radio Shack*). The tiny MP3 juggernaut clips to your clothes, counts your steps, and has a touch screen (among other features). It's a perfect complement to the iPhone in that, at the very least, you can save your phone battery by rocking out on the iPod at the gym, your desk, or nearest coffee shop.



► **Flat-screen televisions:** There will be, as long as there are men, a market for large, flat-screen TVs. If you've got the cash, the **Samsung 46-inch LED HDTV** (\$2,097 at *Appliance Center* in Maumee) is big enough, high-def enough, and 3-D enough to wow the lucky guy (or gal) who gets one.



► **iPad:** The iPad (starting at \$499.99 at *Best Buy*), with its Internet, books, video, music, e-mail, and other apps, easily tops *The Blade's* 2010 Gift Guide for Techies. "It's definitely something we expect to drive sales," said Ryan Rutkowski, supervisor for computers and other electronics at *Best Buy* on Monroe Street. "For all the smart phones out there, everything they can do you can do on the iPad, except it's less complicated and has a larger screen."

► **Digital Compact Camcorder:** With the waterproof, hand-held **JVC Pcsio High-Definition 5.1MP Compact Camcorder** with 3-inch touch-screen LCD (\$179.99, available at *Best Buy*), your pristine, priceless home videos can be quickly edited and uploaded to Facebook, YouTube, or Twitter.

► **NOOKcolor:** If you prefer "The Ultimate Reading Experience," as *Barnes & Noble* describes it, check out the NOOKcolor, with its 7-inch color touch screen that gives you access to 2 million books as well as newspapers and magazine (\$249 at *Barnes & Noble*). You can also use the e-reader to surf the Web, play games, and listen to music. NOOKcolor has 8GB of space with expandable memory and built-in WiFi.

► **Kindle:** If literature is now read on thin, sleek, hand-held, electronic flat screens instead of printed-and-bound books, what does that do to the bookworm? Never mind. If you know a voracious reader who's looking for a little taste of technology, the Amazon Kindle (starting at \$139 at *Target*) can download 3,500 books without all those pages to turn, except the digital pages that will fly by.



► **Blu-ray disc player with Google TV:** And to go with the new flat screen, **Sony's Internet Connectable, Wi-Fi Built-In Blu-ray disc player with Google TV** (\$399.99 at *Best Buy*) gives one the options of watching the high-quality of recorded movies or surfing the Net and watching something simultaneously on the same TV screen.

► **iPhone IV:** One of the few things you can't do on an iPad, of course, is make phone calls. Thus, another item ranking high in the gift guide is Apple's iPhone IV (starting at \$199.99 at *Target*). This is great for those who would appreciate the entertainment value of an iPad, wouldn't mind the smaller screen for viewing on a cell phone, want to take pictures, and prefer not to carry around both a phone and an iPad.



► Digital Camera:

Know someone who wants to snap a still photo with something other than his or her telephone? Try the **Canon PowerShot SX210** (\$299.99 at *Target*).



For the gamer in your life: And finally, as video games continue to morph into a *Matrix* experience in which you are actually in the game, we recommend the **Sony PlayStation Move** bundle (\$99.99 at *Radio Shack*) for PlayStation 3 users, and the **Microsoft Kinect** (\$149.99 at *Appliance Center*) for Xbox 360 users. While the Move is a controller and the Kinect is a completely hands-free gadget, both devices incorporate your moves into combat, sports, fitness, and other video games.