

Gadgets! Some are better than others. As you'll find out, many will help you, other's will intentionally attack you to 'help' you. (I bet you're wondering what they are, no?) I can't think of any gadgets that permanently harm you (unless you do something stupid like eat them which does occasionally happen), but just be wary, that's all. Now let's go!

Alarm clock

Thank God for alarm clocks, as there's nothing stopping me from sleeping 14 hours a day. Back in my mental home days, I did indeed sleep 14 hours a day. Sleeping 15 hours a day is more or less impossible, I know because I tried. M.E. sufferers should take comfort in the fact that some people envy them, at least sometimes. Dear God was that place boring. But again, nice food!

Calculator

I have to be honest, since leaving school I've forgotten how to do additions with those table things. I'm sure I'd pick it up again after a few minutes, but for now I live in fear. What if my niece asks me how to add up properly? It would only be a few years from now. Luckily there are a few lines of defence in the form of her parents. Unless they've forgotten, too. I believe birds can do simple additions, so... off to the pet store!

Laptop

Spill liquid on a keyboard and buy a new keyboard. But spill something on a laptop? Dear God no. Apparently you can get waterproof keyboards, but why go crazy space age, when you can just put your drink somewhere else?

Mouse

Mouses may have resembled mice when they had leads going into computers, but times have changed and it's time for a new name. How about this one: Blobs? If that's not descriptive enough, maybe laser blobs? Very cool.

Floppy disc

No one has used a floppy disc in many years (apart from spies apparently because they're harder to hack or something), but the things were listed on the internet anyway. (Yep, I've done at least some research). Personally I thought the things were a load of rubbish in that they broke CONSTANTLY. God knows what super-crucial military secrets have been lost to them. Let's hope nothing nuclear.

Memory sticks

Now we're talking. Efficient AND can hold more than a tenth of your average MP3 file! Very neat. A lot more in fact, so yeah, MI5 get your act together. If a hostile country threatens to nuke you, how will you send them a sweet pop song to ease the tension with a mere floppy disk?

DVD player

Second to none when it comes to playing DVDs and great for CDs, too! They're not perfect however. Can they cook tins of beans? They cannot. In fact, the liquid in the tins could surely cause electrocution. No one wants a funny death.

CD player

Ah, my most used gadget after my computer. I got the player 23 years ago and it's still working fine! There are some CDs that skip a bit, but is that the fault of the disks or the player?? It's hard to say as I treat both with extreme care. I've cut my face countless times when shaving, and I hate to sound vain, but I value my face. Have I ever scratched a CD? I'm genuinely not sure. Maybe not! And try using a single mobile phone for 23 years! The company probably wouldn't even let you.

MP3 player

Just not the same as CDs! Where's the removal of the discs from the cases with love and care? The staring at the pure, hard logic of your alphabetised collection, afterwards? The smugness of owning albums 99.9999% of the population don't? The pride of knowing the alphabetic better than at least 99.9% of the population? MP3 players suck!

Mobile phone

No one will ever steal my mobile as I keep it safe in my home at all times. Do you know the only real time I took it outside? To see if it was working properly and that it wasn't relying on the internet or whatever. (I don't fully understand, I got the advice from Google). I tested it just in case I ever needed to take it with me. Which I don't.

Earbuds

Mmm. Music blasted right into your ears! Why not go the whole way and file the things down so they can pierce your eardrums and get the music directly into the brain? Yes, in a twisted way I should be thankful for earbuds for accelerating my hearing loss as you and I both know, my destiny was never to be a musician. I only took up writing for this site because I didn't know what else to do, and hey, I like writing!

Printer

Good for printing out maps, as of course I have no Google maps on my phone. (I wouldn't need the app unless I get lost in my house). But naturally, I rarely can be bothered to use my printer as it only works with another, very slow computer in another room, so... let's covertly belittle technology once more and use a good old fashioned pen and paper so I don't get lost. Out of curiosity, I once Googled technophobia to see if I have it and the symptoms are panic attacks, etc. So I don't.

TV

I do watch a reasonable amount of TV, but not as much as I watch Youtube. Apparently it would take more than a hundred thousand years to watch every video on the site. There was once an April fools joke that said all the videos would be viewed and the best video would win a prize. It's very embarrassing that I fell for it.

Batteries

Since I accidentally stepped on my electric razor and then switched to normal blades instead, I haven't really had much use for batteries. I'm sure less people are using the things as time goes by, too. I guess battery companies should team up with Gillette and make an electric razor that doesn't break easily. Only then will batteries be in constant demand. Also, I'm not sure how much the vibrations help with the act of shaving. It's as useful as having a vibrating soap as far as I'm concerned.

Watch

Is it just me or do seconds go by longer when you're bored? That alone makes time keeping exceptionally complicated. Having said that, I own no watch. I have a clock in my car, on my computer, and on my hi-fi. But what happens when I walk? Well, time to take a risk.

Fridge magnet

Not the most useful item on the list, sure, but if you hate the thought of keeping documents in a folder and want your kitchen to look like a child's bedroom, you are in luck!

Distortion pedal

If you play metal guitar, you don't need a mobile phone, a fridge magnet, a floppy disc, etc., but you DO need a distortion pedal. That's a fact. Don't believe me? Actually, there are countless metal videos on Youtube with clean guitars instead of distorted ones. They get many laughs.

Satnav

Woooooooah. Imagine a world without Satnavs! The world would grind to a halt! When the emergency services are called, ambulances would drive off cliffs, and the police would arrest their fellow officers by mistake! And what would happen to me?? Well, I've even got lost WITH the things. So yeah. Let's not think about THAT anymore.

Electric shock belt

Do these really work? I'm just saying, if it feels like you're getting stabbed (on the highest setting) how much good are they doing you? Do regular stabbings increase fitness?? A pessimist would say not only do they do nothing, they were invented by an evil genius who hates people trying to get fit.

Credit card

Here's an interesting thought: If you lose your credit card no big deal, lose £1,000? You've seriously messed up. I guess I'm not a true technophobe, as not only can I control my breathing etc. when thinking of the cards, I genuinely think they're a damn good idea!

Electric toothbrush

Electric toothbrushes are a good idea, too. But I got too into them and wore some of my gums away. You know when I said interdental brushes were a game changer? Whilst they do clear up some of the muck, they can wear your gums away, too. So yeah. Not a TRUE game changer.

Metronomeff

I never thought these were real things, but my spellchecked okayed it!

Metronome

I am familiar with these, though. Having said that, I've never really used one. (And to be clear, I've certainly never used a metronomeff. Now spellchecker has highlighted the word - but still not the first one. :S) They may be useful for making you play in time, but you can play TOO in time, you know? But trying saying that to modern metal bands. They'd kill you.

Spellchecker

These do mostly work, honestly. Just not ALL the time. What else can I say? Very important for making you look knowledgeable and professional. Though of course, they don't detect weird writing such as when you talk about nearly going insane after drinking tainted hot chocolates and then suing coffee shops. It would be a nice feature. And naturally, to everyone else the drinks are actually fairly decent.

Ok! So it's the electric shock belts that attack you to help you. Of course it is. What were you thinking? Friendly bombs? As all fans of The Office (the British version) know and to a lesser extent poetry fans, all such bombs have already been used on Slough! I've been to Slough and it was rubbish, explaining why the explosives are 'nice'. A wacky poem. That's all there is to say, really. So. Bye!