



Testing from the
Good Housekeeping Research Institute
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WHAT TO BUY, WHAT TO SKIP

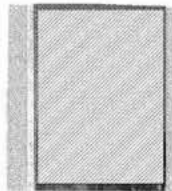
Best New Products 2010

Scouting for the winners of our **2nd Annual VIP (Very Innovative Products) Awards**, we looked for inventions that solve everyday problems in new and exciting ways—or are just plain cool. This year, we celebrate breakthroughs in beauty, cooking, outdoor gear, home entertainment, cleaning, and electronics. Life just got a lot easier. →



COOLPIX S1000PJ CAMERA FROM NIKON, \$430

When the gang wants to see the pics you just snapped, it can be a drag to huddle around a teensy camera screen or take the time to upload images to a computer. This point-and-shoot camera is the first to include a built-in projector, capable of casting images that measure up to 40 inches diagonally. Features like 12.1 megapixels, 5x wide-angle zoom, and image stabilization (to keep shaky hands and moving objects from ruining the shots) help you capture clear, enlargement-worthy photos. This newfangled technology may bring back the old-fashioned family slide show.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY J MUCKLE

February 2010 GOOD HOUSEKEEPING 111 COOLPIX

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VIP Awards

Good Housekeeping
VIP
AWARDS
BEST INNOVATIVE PRODUCT

TESTING, TESTING
Our 10 winners stood out from among the 1,650 products that GHRI evaluated in the past year

TRAVEL CHAIR AND COCOON BUNK SACK
with **Insect Shield**, \$60 and \$30, respectively

Whether camping in the wilderness or sitting on the sidelines of your child's soccer game, you'll want this portable chair as your perch. An insect repellent embedded in the fabric keeps biting bugs from ruining your good time (and is also EPA-registered and appropriate for use by children and pregnant women). The bunk sack has been similarly treated, and can be used by itself or as a sleeping bag cover for a no-itch night under the stars.

FRIZZ THERAPY STRAIGHTENING IRON
from Remington, \$50

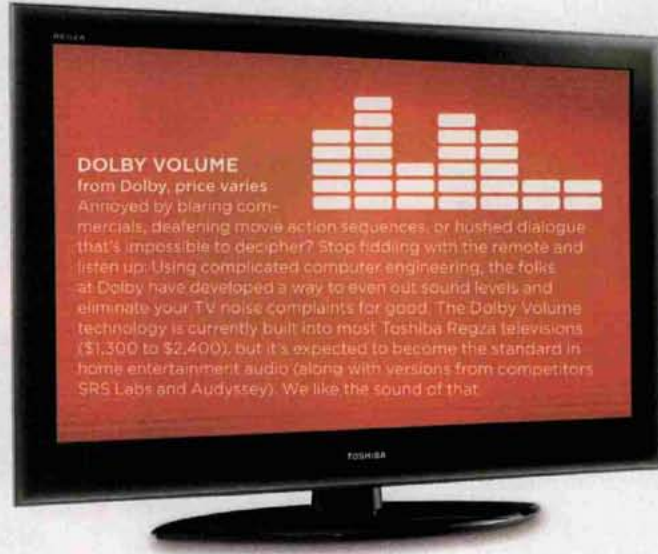
If you've desperately tried to tame your curly coil only to have tendrils spring up at the first hint of humidity, you'll want to try this new flat iron by Remington—the only one that has conditioning polymers covering the plates. These frizz-fighting substances coat and smooth the hair while the heat straightens it. In our tests, kinky locks stayed sleek for up to 15 hours—even after exposure to high heat and humidity.

PERFECT FLUSH
from Brondell, \$79

This simple system is the first to turn nearly any toilet into a water-saving dual-flush unit, for a fraction of the cost of buying a new one. And it will slash up to \$100 per year off your water bill. Installation takes a half hour or less, even for an inexperienced DIYer. The two-sided button sits atop the tank or can be mounted to the side with double-stick tape. Press one side for a small flush, the other for a full flush (or any of 10 increments you can set).



the goods
VIP Awards



DOLBY VOLUME

from Dolby, price varies
 Annoyed by blaring commercials, deafening movie action sequences, or hushed dialogue that's impossible to decipher? Stop fiddling with the remote and listen up. Using complicated computer engineering, the folks at Dolby have developed a way to even out sound levels and eliminate your TV noise complaints for good. The Dolby Volume technology is currently built into most Toshiba Regza televisions (\$1,300 to \$2,400), but it's expected to become the standard in home entertainment audio (along with versions from competitors SRS Labs and Audyssey). We like the sound of that.



2 IN 1 OVEN RACK AND GRILL CLEANER


from Carbona, \$8
 Grimy oven racks are a pain to wash (especially because you can't leave them in place during most ovens' self-cleaning cycles). And, after a season of barbecues, grill grates can be even worse. This simple kit lets you ditch the scrub brush and soak away the burned-on crud. The oversize plastic bag is roomy enough for two racks or grates—put them in, pour in the cleaner, and let sit overnight. Any residue that hasn't dissolved by that point can be sloughed right off with a scrubby sponge.



FLEXIBLE GRILLING SKEWER
 from Fire Wire, \$15 for two

From the why-didn't-they-think-of-that-before? file: This 27-inch wire skewer makes cooking up kabobs virtually hassle-free. Meat and veggies slide right on, and the whole thing coils to fit easily into a bowl or resealable bag for marinating. Once the grill's going, the skewer can be snaked around other foods—no need to move burgers in order to make room for long, straight sticks.

Photographs by Richard O'Connell/Getty Images (TV screen); Tina Rupp/Getty Images (oven rack).

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PHOTOSMART PREMIUM WITH TOUCHSMART WEB ALL-IN-ONE PRINTER

from HP, \$399

Passive printers are so passé. This new HP doesn't need a computer to tell it what to do. Using a wireless Internet connection, it can access a variety of specially designed Web applications (such as Google Maps, weather, and USA Today) through its own touchscreen control panel. Once you find the info you need (say, grocery coupons or movie tickets), just print and go. The machine also copies, scans, faxes, and produces high-quality photos...and, of course, speedily prints documents from a computer.



SOFT SPRAY INTENSITY

Choose this option to avoid breaking glasses or having plasticware flip and fill with water.

STRONG SPRAY INTENSITY

With this setting, grimy pots, pans, and casserole dishes emerge spotless without your pre-rinsing them.

STEAM DISHWASHERS

from LG, \$1,049-\$1,399

Do you run separate cycles for crusty pots and pans (which need powerful cleaning) and delicate glasses you want to protect from chipping? Or run a full wash cycle for stored dishes that are more dusty than dirty? Machines in this new LG line are the only ones that let you select different water-spray settings for the top and bottom racks. They're also the first to have a short steam-powered freshening cycle for quickly and gently cleansing china of dust and film—while using less than one-third the water of even the quick wash cycle.

STILL FLOORING US



Hall of Fame Award

SWIFFER SWEEPER

from Procter & Gamble, \$11 for a starter kit and \$4.79 for refills

A goodhousekeeping.com poll asked readers: Which product has stood the test of time and made a significant improvement in your daily life? The Swiffer Sweeper came out on top—and we're not surprised. It truly changed the way we clean. The cloth whisks up dust and hair better and faster than any broom bristles can, and with less hassle than hauling out the vacuum requires. Used with wet cloths, it's even an efficient mop stand-in. Plus, the low-profile head ducks under furniture. How did we live without it?

