



PCWorld.com

February 15, 2011

Best Bags to Hold Your Tech Gadgets Safely and Efficiently

Featuring: Flare

Monthly Traffic: 1,884,033

URL: <http://tinyurl.com/4gnckm3>

Do you own a smartphone, a netbook, a tablet PC, a digital camera, an MP3 player? Or an iPod Touch, a laptop, a handheld gaming console, and/or a Kindle or other type of e-reader? If you use any subset of the above list daily, you probably could use a well-designed catchall gadget bag to schlep all that tech around safely. These messenger bags, cases, and backpacks have the ability to hold several devices, eliminating the need for a bag for each one. We looked at five bags that would hold a laptop, a tablet or e-reader, a compact camera, a phone, all of their accompanying chargers, and extra batteries, plus some room for a personal device or two as well.



If you prefer a backpack to a messenger bag, or just need something a little more on the rugged side, then the Osprey Packs Flare is a solid contender. The Flare is lightweight, made of weather-resistant material, and has pockets and pouches for all of your essential tech gear. The Osprey Flare (\$79) looks like a hikers' backpack shrunk down to be more compatible for everyday use. It has one zippered main compartment and three exterior elastic pockets with clip closures on the outside of the bag. The adjustable shoulder straps are heavily padded and have chest clips to keep the pack in place. The pack feels comfortable when worn due to the squishy built-in back pads. The outside of the Flare also has numerous loops, clips, and straps for adding on more items. Inside of the main compartment, you'll find a large pocket designed to hold a 15-inch laptop, another pocket ideal for an e-reader or tablet, and two other small pockets. Between the interior and exterior pockets, I was able to fit all of my tech gear and chargers without a hitch, although I would recommend protective cases and sleeves for anything loose in the main compartment as an extra precaution.

Because of the bags' design, fit, and functionality, the Osprey Flare is best suited for adventurers who need to bring their gadgets along on hikes, camping trips, water excursions, or any other sport or outdoor activity.

