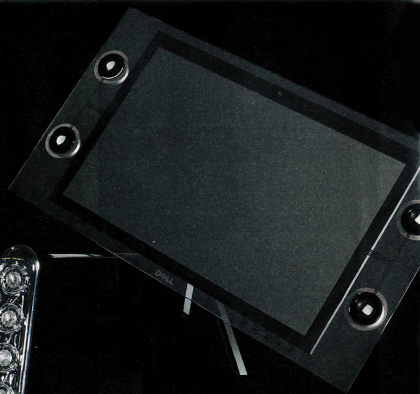
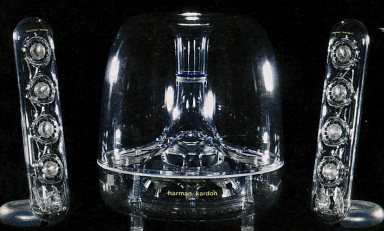


It's all become clear

Would Sir require chrome or black? Neither. This year we like tech you can see through

PC SPEAKERS ▼
Harman Kardon Soundsticks II
 £100, harmankardon.com
 Harman Kardon's transparent computer speakers back up iconic good looks with high-quality sonics. The two satellite 'sticks' pump out 10 watts through four tweeters, while a 20-watt, 15cm subwoofer provides bottom end. A touch-sensitive volume control fits the futuristic image, but that's the only feature. Compatible with PC and Mac.

IPOD SPEAKERS ▲
Ferguson Hill FH007
 £695 [plus optional £275 subwoofer], fergusonhill.co.uk
 A shrunken version of Ferguson Hills' £10,000-a-pair high-end monsters, these 43cm-high mini versions offer outstanding sound quality. The horn shape combats interference created by sound waves, which rattle around in a conventional box-shaped speaker, flattening the sound.



LCD DISPLAY ▼
Dell Crystal
 £700, dell.com
 Surrounded by four speakers set into 4mm tempered glass, this 22in monitor should revitalise the dulllest PC. Its high-definition resolution of 1680 x 1050 pixels and contrast ratio of 2000:1 will provide pin-sharp pictures, while the integrated microphone and webcam allow online chat. Ports include USB, HDMI and DVI – plus a socket to connect a subwoofer to beef up the sound.

BY SEAN MURPHY. PHOTOS: SIMON VINDALL, ALAMY

▼ GUITAR
AXL Perspex Clear Guitar
 £200, musicwarehouse.co.uk
 Despite being made of Perspex, this extremely rare see-through axe delivers a tonal warmth comparable to a wooden Pender Stratocaster, thanks to its three high-quality, EMG-designed pick-ups. You'll need strong arms though, as it's three times as heavy as a normal guitar.



▶ TURNTABLE
ClearAudio MasterSolution & Master TQ-1
 £12,635, clearaudio.de
 Weighing a crippling 24kg, the MasterSolution is loaded up with the finest audio technology. The 7cm-thick acrylic platter spins freely on a single 12mm, highly polished ceramic bearing, while the cartridge tracks along the tone arm to ensure the stylus has a perfect angle of attack.

▶ WEATHER STATION
Oregon Scientific Crystal Weather Station
 £130, oregonscientific.co.uk
 A crystalline block with a black base, Oregon Scientific's swish weather station forecasts climatic conditions by displaying beautifully etched 3D icons, lasered into the crystal. A wave of the hand and it displays the time, which is controlled by radio to ensure it's always accurate.

