

TECH GUIDE 2010 GEAR

## How to Woo a Tech Girl >

### TANITH TIP #4

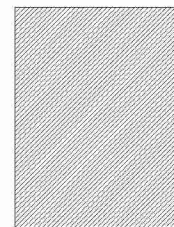
*"I'm often too high-strung and stressed," Tanith Belbin says. That's why she's grateful for her skating partner Agosto's laid-back attitude, which helps defuse tension. But there is such a thing as too calm, like when Agosto waited until the last minute to get a visa before an important competition in China. Your real-world translation? Stay on top of the daily grind. Pay your bills on time, clean up after yourself, and follow through, whether that means showing up at 7 p.m. sharp or asking for that raise.*

*"I've taken care of myself financially since I was 18, and I don't have very much patience for people who don't take responsibility for themselves," Belbin says.*

*Tanith Belbin test-drives the Ducati Streetfighter, described at right.*



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# SHIFT Into Top Gear

Technology shouldn't keep you trapped behind a computer. Our picks for the best on-the-go gadgets (and gifts) of the year will help you rev up your life in 2010

## Ducati Streetfighter

Most naked motorcycles are all brawn, no brains. This one doesn't disappoint in the muscle department: Pound for pound, it's the most powerful road-legal naked bike available, with 155 horses packed into a 373-pound body. But its smarts are what impressed us most. Ducati swiped pro-level traction control from its superbikes (a first in the naked line), adding eight levels of slip-proof sensitivity to help it adjust to any rider or road condition. The situation-savvy computer even compares front- and rear-wheel revs to sense where you are on the road—slowly gunning it during a mid-corner lean, for

example, or blasting out of the back end of a turn. The bike is strong, smart, and safe—the perfect cure for anyone's midlife crisis. \$15,000. [www.streetfighter.ducati.com](http://www.streetfighter.ducati.com)

## FOR THE WARRIOR Magellan RoadMate 1700

Throw a pint-sized GPS up on the window of your SUV or truck, and it blends right in with the bug guts. Worse, you're positioned farther from the screen, so it's harder to scan and swipe. That's why this unit's 7-inch touchscreen is the best thing to happen to big rigs since mud flaps and lot lizards: No more deep stretching just to tap the screen. It's smart, too, with 6 million points of interest

preloaded, a high-way lane mode to identify exit lanes, and Navteq maps (the same ones used by Garmin). \$300. [magellangps.com](http://magellangps.com)

## FOR YOUR SPORTY SPICE Head YouTek Radical MP racket

What your shots really need is touch, not torque. Want proof? On the pro circuit, winners are estimated to have the fewest unforced errors 74 percent of the time. That's why we're swatting overheads with this stick: Thanks to a dynamic material called D30 that stiffens at the molecular level on impact, this racket is rock-hard for big smacks, but supple during slow, graceful slices and drop shots. Now, if only our game was so multidimensional. \$190. [head.com](http://head.com)

## Steal!

### FOR THE GYM RAT Polar FT7

What good is burning 600 calories on Tuesday if your gym sessions sucked wind the rest of the week? Short-sighted fitness tracking means small-time results. That's why this low-priced, high-tech watch stays close to our hearts. The free Web-based tracking software and social-networking features kept us logging work-outs and helped

us push through plateaus. Our favorite feature: throwing down the gauntlet by challenging other users to a fitness face-off. \$120. [polarusa.com](http://polarusa.com)

### Knog N.E.R.D. 12

Most cycling computers are so smart they're stupid. You spend more time setting them up than you do on an average ride. Setup with this one is a cinch, literally: Just snap the head unit around the handlebar and wrap the magnetic transmitter around the wheel—no rubber cutouts, no zip ties, and no wires.

Black & Decker's ReadyWrench never leaves you empty-handed.



The unit tracks and displays 12 functions, including your current, average, and maximum speeds, trip distance, and ride time. \$90. [knog.com.au](http://knog.com.au)

### FOR THE HANDYMAN Black & Decker ReadyWrench

A socket wrench sans sockets is just a bad hammer. And yet what tool is easier

to lose on the garage floor than a socket—a small, cylindrical piece of rolling metal? That's why we love this wrench, which anchors each socket to the handle. Just swivel to the size you want, and you can wrench away. \$30. [blackanddecker.com](http://blackanddecker.com)

### Powderhorn Gunpowder Jacket

Down outerwear can turn your hot spots into sweat pools. Not this climate controller. Thanks to ceramic fibers woven throughout the fluffy stuff, the jacket redistributes heat more evenly throughout the filler, retaining body warmth and giving moisture the boot. We wouldn't hit the slopes without it. \$495. [powderhornworld.com](http://powderhornworld.com)



Magellan's RoadMate 1700 improves your view.

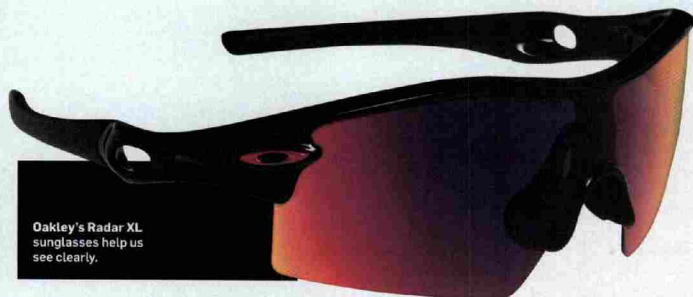
INSTANT EXPERT

### SEE THOSE ASTERISKS?

Sometimes gifts are for giving, not just getting. That's why we've chosen our favorite stuff for every person on your shopping list. Just wrap 'em up and blow 'em away.

Robin Larson took our picks. Zero ratings

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Oakley's Radar XL sunglasses help us see clearly.

**FOR STUDENTS**

**LaCie iitsaKey**

Easy come, easy go: That's how we treat USB drives these days, now that they're as ubiquitous as chewing gum. The problem is, it's easier than ever to abandon your résumé or vacation photos in a computer lab or photo kiosk—we've done both. So we love this simple but elegant key-shaped USB

**FOR THE DUFFER**

**Nike Method Putter**

Amateur golfers who drop big dollars on pumpkin-size drivers are just bad investors clad in plaid. Think about it: Your big gun leaves the bag 18 times a round at most, while your putter's involved in half (or more) of the game. This green-tamer is our pick for saving serious strokes. Unlike all-steel or all-polymer putter faces that deliver backspin after impact, the business end of this short-range stick is a hybrid, giving you a quicker forward spin toward the hole while maintaining accuracy and distance control. Be the ball, Danny, be the ball. \$250, [nikegolf.com](http://nikegolf.com)

bladeless design makes it easier to wipe away grime, dust, and dirt, and turns ventilation into a design statement. \$300, [dyson.com](http://dyson.com)

**Oakley Radar XL Blades**

The hydrophobic lens coating on these sunglasses kept it streak-free during long rides. But it's the shape that helped us see clearly: Oakley added 7 mm to the nose bridge's height to accommodate the down-the-snout view that cyclists have in the saddle, keeping it from blocking our gaze and our eyes on the finish line. \$175, [oakley.com](http://oakley.com)

**Burton Joystick**

The reverse-camber design trend will hit critical mass in 2010, and for good reason: The shape swaps the traditional bow in a snowboard's center for contact points in the front and back of the board, adding grip in turns and float in powder. The rub? With the tail of the board already touching ground, it's hard to rear back and "pop" off jumps. That's why this board's king of the hill: Burton added a scoop in the tip and tail of the board, a subtle

tweak to create just enough space to provide snap and playfulness. It's our favorite all-around board of the year. \$500, [burton.com](http://burton.com)

Burton's Joystick adds pop to your powder runs.



For lots more great tech, tips, and tests, visit [MensHealth.com/techguide](http://MensHealth.com/techguide).



Feel the breeze with Dyson's fan... er, Air Multiplier.

drive. The 4-gig data hauler is nearly impossible to lose, thanks to its proximity to your front-door key. Plus, it's easy to tote around. \$25, [lacie.com](http://lacie.com)

**FOR THE HOT GIRL**

**Dyson Air Multiplier**

Air Multiplier? What's wrong with "fan"? That's what we thought, until we unboxed this beauty. The tumbling, jet-engine-inspired wind cannon amplifies air up to 15 times before blasting the equivalent of 119 gallons per second your way. The

Photo: iStockphoto.com