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POWER PLAYERS

In 2023, one of the worst inconveniences anyone can have is to be without power on the go. Luckily, that's a problem that's easily avoidable with this clever tech.

By Joseph Lam

SCOOT AROUND

For the best part of the last two decades, scooters have been far from in vogue. But tech has done to the two-wheeled push toys the same it has done to gaming: somehow made them cool. Electric scooters are on the rise despite facing some difficulty with legislation in certain states, and at the top end of the market is Segway and its latest offering, the Max G2. The \$1699 scooter is quite the device, able to reach a range of up to 70km powered by a 900W motor and climb an incline of 22 per cent. As for speed? Up to 35km/h, less when travelling uphill. The device is rear-wheel drive, has double suspension and even traction control – how's that for smart? For those concerned about riding on the road, there's a horn, brake lights and even indicators. As for those worried about losing the scooter, it has Apple Find My capability; [segway.com.au](https://www.segway.com.au).



Segway's Max G2 electric scooter makes the daily commute faster (and more fun) by allowing you to travel 70km on a single charge at up to 35km/h.



This NRGVault device is a powerful and portable power station – perfect for that camping trip.

FEEL THE POWER

There's never been more demand for portable electricity, from powering camping grounds to corporate off-sites or just the family BBQ in the park. And for some, having back-up power in case of a blackout isn't just convenient but a must. Laser, the Australian tech company founded in a Surry Hills garage in Sydney in 1987, has entered the market, establishing a new sub brand by the name of NRGVault. Its first devices to market include a 288Wh power station and a 1228Wh power station. The larger device, the PV1500, comes with four AC outlets, two USB-C and four USB-A ports, and DC ports. The device can run a 5W light for over nine days while it can run a 60W TV for 18 hours, charge a MacBook Pro 17 times and run a 1000W microwave, a 1200W oven or a 1300W chainsaw for an hour or just under. The power stations have LiFePO4 batteries that use phosphate salts, the safest kind on the market. These batteries charge faster, are non-toxic and last up to five times longer than lithium-ion batteries; [nrgvault.com.au](https://www.nrgvault.com.au).



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READ AROUND THE WORLD

You're on a long-haul flight, there's no USB charger and you've forgotten to pack your power bank. If there's one device you would ever want to get stuck with, then this is it. Kobo had a rough start in the e-reader and writer market, but its second generation Elipsa 2E is a welcome treat. The 10.3-inch device has a glare-free E-Ink touchscreen, which gives readers a lovely break from the blue light our devices emit. What else is new? The device's stylus can now be charged with a USB-C cable, it can link to Google Drive to import and export documents, and the device supports some integration with Readwise, Norton, Roam and Evernote. Better yet, it has OverDrive allowing users to borrow ebooks free from libraries around the world; kobo.com/au.



Don't go on a getaway without Kobo's new e-reader/writer, which allows you to borrow ebooks free from world libraries.



Hitting the road with the Mophie Snap+ Wireless car mount charger means you can navigate and charge at the same time.

SNAP AND GO

MagSafe technology is everywhere and anywhere, and if you're not snapping your phone on and off chargers at home, or in your workplace or car, you're doing something wrong. Mophie's Snap+ Wireless 15W vent mount charger is a game-changer for drivers, allowing them to secure their phone to the car's air-conditioning vent mount to view for navigation while charging. For those without a MagSafe case, it comes with a magnetic ring that can be mounted on any case. And the part? The USB-C cable charger can come out of the vent mount to be used on the go; jbhifi.com.au.



You can charge your devices at the same time with this nifty Belkin power bank.

CHARGE ON THE RUN

There's nothing worse than getting stuck in a meeting with a flat battery. The power bank industry has never been bigger, but as more brands enter the market, the more innovative companies continue to lead. Belkin has come out with one of the coolest power banks of 2023, releasing a 10,000mAh device that can simultaneously charge an Apple Watch or second generation AirPods and an iPhone or iPad. The BoostCharge Pro has a 20W USB-C charger for devices, as well as a 7.5W charger for watches. The device can charge an Apple watch from 0 to 80 per cent in about 45 minutes. The 10,000mAh battery can charge an Apple Watch up to 14 times or an iPhone twice before you need to recharge the power bank itself. What's more? It's backed by Belkin's connected equipment warranty with cover up to \$2500; belkin.com/au.