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Subject: MP3 Player buying advice

Posted by [Carrierll](#) on Sun, 11 Oct 2009 13:02:38 GMT

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My trusty (six? year old) Creative Zen-Vision:M is dying, the random crashes that have plagued it (previously brought on by cold weather, but now just by the player moving when I move) have increased in frequency and it's getting harder to use.

The trouble is, I do a lot of work and things outside, and therefore my requirements are a little... odd. My Zen, being a large, well constructed brick, has survived:

6 drops down my stairs (OK, this is more my clumsiness...),

A drop into the bath (accidental) whilst operating,

A drop onto a tiled floor from at least 4'

and exposure to farm environments (lots of rain, shit and animals trying to eat it, or tread on it etc).

Before I start: Apple iPods are too flimsy, and I dislike I-Tunes, and I want to be able to assemble WMD with my media player if I so choose... etc - No Apple products please.

1) Durability, my new player needs to be tough. Recheck the list of what my Zen has survived, size and weight aren't really concerns, I'm used to my Zen.

2) Stability, if it's HDD based, then it needs to be able to tolerate operating shocks, my car has no suspension, I'll be riding horses soon etc

3) Battery life.

4) Capacity, I only need ~8 GB, so this doesn't have to be huge.

Does anyone have any suggestions. Please note I live in the UK. I'm not too bothered about brand, but I will reiterate my personal issue with Apple.

Any suggestions?

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