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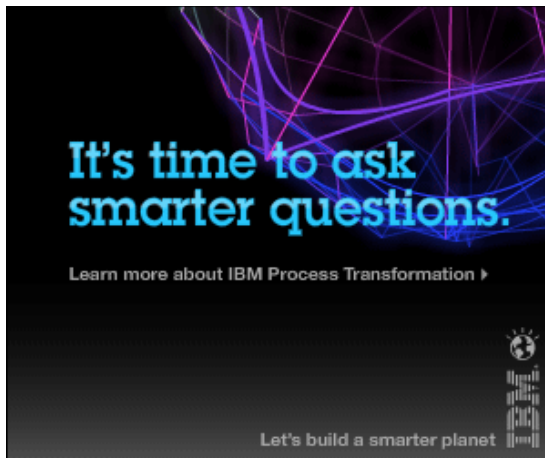
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## [Humane Reader is a \\$20 8-bit PC for TVs](#)

posted by [David Adams](#) on Mon 26th Jul 2010 01:07 UTC, submitted by fran

 Humane PC and its Humane Reader child are open source hardware projects with some seriously low-cost internal components. At volume the PC could retail for [as low as \\$20](#), and that's with 2GB of microSD storage, USB / PS/2 plugs, and video out. The PC is primarily designed to output low-res, black and white text to a TV, making it a low cost reader for developing countries, and the Humane Reader project pre-loads the device with thousands of Wikipedia articles (much in the vein of the OpenMoko WikiReader).

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### Features

#### [Apple and Intel: Destined to Clash](#)

Linked by [David Adams](#) on 07/27/10 7:44 UTC



An interesting article at Ars Technica takes a look at some compelling data (the longer-than-normal processor update cycles in Apple's personal computer lineup) and speculates that Apple's enthusiasm for its partnership with Intel [might be cooling](#). Like Apple's soured relationship with once-BFF Google, this may be the result of Intel's increasing activities in the mobile computing space.


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#### [Big Loss for Apple: Library of Congress Makes Jailbreaking Legal](#)

Linked by [Thom Holwerda](#) on 07/26/10 17:48 UTC



So, there I am enjoying a nice Gilmore Girls episode after a long day's work, and Engadget's iPhone application brings the good news: the US Library of Congress has [added a DMCA exemption for jailbreaking or rooting mobile phones](#)! This is a major blow to Apple, who [actively tried](#) to keep jailbreaking a criminal offence, and a major win for everyone who believes that the phone you buy is actually yours, and not the manufacturer's.

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#### [India Unveils 'Laptop' Costing \\$35](#)

Linked by [David Adams](#) on 07/26/10 0:44 UTC, submitted by [orfanum](#)



India's Human Resource Development Minister Kapil Sibal unveiled a [touchscreen tablet](#) that he claims they will be able to produce for just \$35. The device is being aimed at students, and seems to be taking the One Laptop Per Child idea and running with it. "Despite the price, users will get a touch-screen, a PDF reader and a webcam for video conferencing. There has been no confirmation of its specifications but reports suggest 2GB of memory, Wi-Fi and Ethernet and power consumption at just 2W. Naturally, the device will run Linux."

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#### [FFMpeg's fvp8, the Fastest VP8 Decoder](#)

Linked by [David Adams](#) on 07/26/10 0:30 UTC, submitted by [boulabiar](#)



Just after 3 weeks of [the binary compatible vp8 decoder release](#), the FFMpeg team still impressing us but this time with a new benchmark of their own vp8 decoder. The new ffvp8 decoder written independently using pre-existent FFMpeg code-base [is now the fastest vp8 decoder with margins going more than 30% faster](#) than Google's official codec specially on 64bit machines.

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### [eComStation and Breadbox Ensemble](#)

Linked by Michael Hill on 07/25/10 10:36 UTC



"As a long-time fan of GeoWorks Ensemble (now Breadbox Ensemble), a DOS based graphical user interface and office suite popular in the 80s, I've run it under a variety of operating systems and emulators over the years. You see, Ensemble requires an underlying operating system to provide a DOS compatible file system, not unlike early versions of Windows that required DOS. [...] With the release of eComStation 2.0 I thought I'd revisit the challenge of getting Breadbox Ensemble running under OS/2 again [...] but to add a further twist, since I didn't want to do this on a dedicated machine, I chose to see if I could get things running under VirtualBox."

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### [Motorola Droid X Disappointments](#)

Linked by [gsyoungblood](#) on 07/20/10 18:01 UTC



On July 15th the latest Android super-phone was released by Motorola and Verizon Wireless. All hail the Droid X. The release was not without controversy though. The Droid X, while greatly raising the bar for Android phones in general, does so at the expense of the very power users and community that made the original Droid the gotta-have phone it became. Alienating this group may have far reaching consequences for Motorola.

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### [The Next Big Tech Battleground: the TV](#)

Linked by [Eugenia Loli-Queru](#) on 07/18/10 9:32 UTC



I'm a couch potato. There, I've said it. I love sitting down and watching sci-fi movies, like any good geek would. And this is an (almost religious) action that hasn't changed for many, many, years. But I feel that we're in for a surprise soon. The way we watch TV and access content is about to change. TV watching will at last arrive into the 21st Century, and the technology giants will be there to duke it out for the reins of this new industry.

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### [Free Bumpers for iPhone Buyers](#)

Linked by [David Adams](#) on 07/16/10 17:59 UTC



In a move that should surprise nobody, Apple has sort-of admitted to iPhone

antenna problems in their press conference this morning, claiming it affects a small number of users, but they claim to be working hard to fix the problems that they have confirmed. They've offered free bumpers (that have until now been a \$30 accessory) to all iPhone buyers, and are offering to waive any restocking fees for anyone who wants to return their iPhone 4. Whether or not there's going to be a hardware fix for future iPhones, Steve Jobs says he doesn't know yet whether that will happen.

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### [Is Computer Science a Dead End in the Workplace?](#)

Linked by [snydeg](#) on 07/15/10 18:31 UTC



Fatal Exception's Neil McAllister asks whether the [need for advanced development expertise is on the decline](#) in an era in which tools grow increasingly more advanced, and coding increasingly moves offshore. 'Few companies share Google's zeal for academic credentials when hiring new developers. Many are willing to accept self-taught programmers, particularly if they have other skills relevant to the business.'

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### [QNX6 Is Closed Source Once Again](#)

Linked by [Brynet](#) on 07/15/10 16:55 UTC



As of April 2010, a silent change was made on Foundry27, users with a myQNX account could no longer checkout/update their copies of the QNX SVN repositories and a [vague Wiki page](#) was created "detailing" some licencing clarifications.

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