

## THE GOODS GEAR

**Wide Eye**

\$900, street ■ [www.sigmaphoto.com](http://www.sigmaphoto.com)

At 4.5mm, there's no wider-angle lens made by a major manufacturer than Sigma's f/2.8 EX DC Circular Fisheye HSM.

**HOT:** Designed for DSLRs that use APS-C-sized sensors, you'll get a full 180-degree angle of view. It comes in Canon, Nikon, and Sigma mounts. With Special Low Dispersion (SLD) elements to minimize chromatic aberration, it's good for close-up and low-light photography.

**NOT:** A lens this wide and fast doesn't come cheap.

**Fast and Furious**

\$130 and \$250, street ■ [www.sandisk.com](http://www.sandisk.com)

Carrying the famous Italian motorcycle marque, SanDisk's Extreme Ducati Edition are the latest and fastest 4GB and 8GB CompactFlash cards. We took a 4GB Ducati for a test drive using Verbatim's CameraMate ExpressCard CF reader (\$30, street).

**HOT:** Sizzling 41MB/sec read and 43MB/sec write speeds in our tests, beating even SanDisk's Extreme IV cards.

**NOT:** You'll need a new camera, an ExpressCard or SanDisk Extreme FireWire II CF card reader, and fast hard drive to take full advantage of the high speed.

**Take It All In**

\$800, street ■ [www.kaidan.com](http://www.kaidan.com)

Casual photographers need not apply—Kaidan's QuickPan Pro panoramic tripod head is for serious shooters who love to stitch panoramas. **HOT:** Five quick-release PlaceHolders that work with all camera types; 20-pound load capacity; standard and customized indexers so you can choose your vertical and horizontal reach. **NOT:** It's bulky and complicated, so plan your pictures in advance.

**Turn snapshots into**

graphic gold with Pikistrips.com, a site that lets you upload pictures and add cartoon effects and speech bubbles in a multipanel comic strip.

**Stay on the map.**

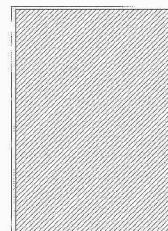
Throw the rugged little SPOT satellite messenger in your pocket, and no matter how far off the beaten path you trek, you can contact emergency rescue to get home safely. (\$170, street; [www.findmespot.com](http://www.findmespot.com))

**Connect old and new.**

Pick up the NewerTech USB 2.0 Universal Drive Adapter and transfer data between PC hard drives. (\$30, street; [www.newertech.com](http://www.newertech.com))

**Move your flash.**

That's right, an off-camera flash for a point-and-shoot: Metz's mecablit 28 CS-2 digital. At \$140, street, it might cost as much as the camera you attach it to, but your photos will be worth it. ([www.metz.de/en](http://www.metz.de/en))



HOW-TO