

by Alan J. Pierce, EdD

## Ventev Powercell 5000 MSRP \$54.99

The biggest problem with all personal electronics is that they all need to be recharged at the least opportune times. It is double trouble when you are not near an electrical outlet and two of your personal devices both need to be recharged at the same time.

The Ventev Powercell 5000 is a backup charger that delivers recharging power from its 5000mAH lithium Polymer battery. It is designed to charge two devices at the same time. It has a 1A 5V charging port for cellphones and a 2.1A 5V rapid charging port that is ideal for charging your tablet. The wall charger that is sold with Apple iPads provides 2.1A at 5V; the same output as the Powercell 5000 2.1 A port. See photo.

If you plug your cellphone or other USB devices into the more powerful 2.1A port, it will just accelerate the charging process. The reverse is also true if you plug your tablet into the 1A port, it will just take longer for it to charge. The Powercell 5000 has built in temperature protection, short circuit protection, and it will automatically shut off charging when your device is fully charged. This means you don't have to worry about overcharging your device regardless of which port on the device you choose to use.



This battery is sold fully charged which makes it the perfect last minute purchase at an airport kiosk. It comes with a charging cable for you to recharge it by plugging it into your computer or your own wall outlet charger. The charger weighs 5.3 ounces and measures 117mm X 72mm X 15mm (approximately equals 4 5/8 X 2 7/8 X 5/8).

You need to supply your own charging cables for the devices you want to charge using the Powercell 5000. Once your cable is attached you need to press the start button to start the flow of electricity to your device. The charger has 4 lights that will come on when you press the start button. You can tell the condition of the Powercell 5000 by how many lights glow yellow. When your device is fully charged the Powercell 5000 will automatically shut off. You can find out more about this backup charger online at Ventev's website:

<http://mobileaccessories.ventev.com/>

*Alan is co-author of **Introduction to Technology**  
**Glencoe McGraw-Hill 2010**  
and a **TechDirections Magazine** Columnist .  
Visit [www.technologytoday.us](http://www.technologytoday.us)  
for past columns, reviews, and resources.*