

by Alan J. Pierce, EdD

Sound pOp™

by AudioSource® (MSRP \$39.99)

The Sound pOp is a water resistant Bluetooth speaker system that is rugged enough to play your music in the shower. See photo 1. Since it is also a hands free speaker phone, you can use it to avoid missing calls when you are wet or when you are dry. Basically with the Sound pOp you can listen to your music or answer your phone without touching a button on your phone in any environment as long as your phone is in Bluetooth range.

It is the water resistance of this device and how it attaches to smooth surfaces that makes this product very interesting.

You can use it in your car, shower, sauna, or by a swimming pool. You can leave your phone away from the humidity and water and still listen to your music or answer your calls as long as your phone is in



Bluetooth range. When your music is interrupted by the ringing of your phone you need to press the phone button on the Sound pOp to answer your calls. See photo 2. When your call is done you just press this button again to end your call and return to listening to your music.

The Sound pOp is 3 inches tall and weighs 3.2 ounces. It has a rubber outer skin with a water tight cap that covers its micro USB recharging receptacle. It has built in noise cancellation and it is highly water resistant. This product however is not waterproof and definitely not designed to be used underwater. Its sound system is built around a three watt class D amplifier and it is powered by a Li-Ion rechargeable battery. It is packaged with a recharging cable but it does not



come with a recharging block. You can use the USB charging block that came with a different audio product you own or just plug its recharging cable into a USB outlet on your computer when it is time to recharge the Sound pOp's internal battery.

Sound pOp is the only audio device that I know of that has a suction cup base so it can be quickly attached to any smooth wet or dry surface. It is available in black, red, navy blue, royal blue, white, hot pink and yellow.

Reasons to Drool

The most special features are its water resistance and suction cup bottom.

Not so Cool

All the buttons on its surface (Phone, Volume Up, Volume Down, and Power) are covered by its rubber skin which is a good thing. However since the buttons don't have a contrasting color, finding them when you are driving can be very distracting. See photo 3.



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