

Kickstarter Project Hemingwrite offers writers a respite from Internet noise

December 11 2014, by Bob Yirka



Entrepreneurs Adam Leeb and Patrick Paul had an idea—a new age typewriter that offered the comforting nostalgia of old fashioned typewriters with the connectability of modern computers, minus the distractions of current devices. They've built a prototype, and are calling it the Hemingwrite – a distraction-free digital typewriter. Also, it's now a [Kickstarter Project](#), with the two hopefuls looking for \$250,000 to

further develop the idea leading perhaps to a sellable product.

The Hemingwrite is quaint, of that there is no doubt. Leeb and Paul have built a housing and put in a keyboard that immediately reminds of old faithful [typewriters](#). Instead of typing onto paper, though, keystrokes appear on a six inch e-ink display, and instead of paper output, the results of writing efforts are stored in the cloud (via WiFi). To give the device that old-world feel, they put in a mechanical keyboard with Cherry MX switches. The case is aluminum, giving the machine more durability than a typical laptop or tablet computer. The machine also has a bright red instant-on button, a left side knob for moving between three possible documents and a knob on the right-hand side for turning WiFi on or off. The keyboard also has a Print key and there's a status bar screen between the display and keyboard. The two builders claim the battery will last four to six weeks between charging.

The whole point of the Hemingwrite is to help writers get back to the business of real quality writing—there's no email, text messaging or cruising the web—all it does is allow a person to write a document they way it was done in the old days—in a peaceful, calm environment. They believe using the device to write will not only make writers more productive, but better, because they will be able to focus on honing their craft, rather than worrying about what is going on in the rest of the world. That's the good stuff. The not so good is that the thing weighs four pounds and costs \$349 for a limited number of people now and ultimately \$499 for everyone else once it's in production and made for general sale. That might seem like a lot to some, especially considering that it's in competition with laptops that offer a lot more, and can offer the same "silent" mode by a user simply turning off their WiFi.



More information: hemingwrite.com/

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