

# Gadgets: Multi-functional clock radio has alarm and so much more

13 November 2019, by Gregg Ellman

Wireless Fast Charging



Credit: iHome

Bedside clock radios are critical for time displays and alarms to get you going in the morning. These days they are also needed for so much more, and the new AC powered iHome iBTW281 dual alarm clock speaker system does it all; it even cleaned up my nightstand mess of cables.

Along with an endless number of up-to-date features incorporating today's technology, the critical features of time and dual alarms are there. The time, date and alarm settings are on a front-facing display, with adjustable brightness levels. For snoozers, the snooze duration can be adjusted.

A quick start guide runs you through the basic setup, which includes a switch inside the backup battery compartment to automatically adjust for daylight savings time. A coin battery is also included to keep the time in the event of a loss of power.

The fun features are pairing your device with

Bluetooth, enabling the sound system to play whatever tunes you choose through the built-in speaker and you can have your smartphone's playlist used as your wake-up alarm source.

Once paired, you'll also have a speakerphone with echo noise cancellation. The voice control allows access to Siri and Google Assistant.

I have a newer smartphone with Qi wireless charging and charging couldn't be easier. Just lay any compatible wireless charging phone on top where wireless fast charging is built-in, and charging starts, even with a case on.

If you don't have a wireless charging smartphone (you need to get one, it makes life easy) there's a USB charging port on the back to connect your device.

All this adds up to cleaning up a nightstand mess of cables.

Before using this iHome device, my nightstand held an older standard clock radio with an AC power cord, a Qi charging pad with an AC power cord and an AC plug/cord for USB charging cords, all plugged into a power strip. Now, with the iHome iBTW281 [alarm clock](#), I have one AC power cord and I connect a USB cable to the backside port to charge my iPad.

Both sides of the iBTW281 have color-changing ambient lights with a choice of presets, including a night mode. The ambient light display also has an off option. If you're playing music, one of the choices will have the lights play and pulse to the beat of your music. They are purely cosmetic but will give a room a nice look with the vibrant color lights.

[www.ihomeaudio.com](http://www.ihomeaudio.com) \$79.95

V-Moda has launched M-200, the award-winning

company's first-ever reference studio headphone, which they refer to as the world's finest high-fidelity audio device.

The over-the-head studio headphones are designed to produce a clean, refined and spacious sound with transparent clarity, resulting in the perfect sound for producers, musicians, and sound professionals alike.

They feature a combination of meticulous Japanese engineering and classic V-MODA shapes and materials. Inside the headphones are 50 mm drivers with neodymium magnets and CCAW voice coils, that reproduce a wide range of frequencies up to 40 kHz.

As with every pair of V-Moda headphones I've tried over the years, comfort and design are as good as it gets. These have larger, flatter ear-cup housings compared to the Crossfade series. The closed-back M-200 features extra internal amplifying room for spacious sound with superior noise isolation.

The design includes a durable, adjustable and flexible headband, with even-weight distribution to wear in silent comfort. The exterior is made with premium, sweat-resistant PU leather, and detachable magnetic memory foam cushions.

The M-200 is available for pre-order for \$350, with delivery expected in late November

[www.V-Moda.com](http://www.V-Moda.com)

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