

Interesting News Newsletter



iPad 2 Speculation, What you need to know.

The internet loves Apple and it loves ill-founded speculation, so it's hardly surprising that iPad 2 rumours were flying before the first iPad even reached the UK. With only weeks to go before its expected unveiling the iPad 2 release date, specs and price are still closely guarded secrets, but that doesn't mean there aren't some juicy rumours, inspired guesses and possibly even Apple leaks to consider.

What you can hope for:

iPad 2 specs: cameras and a gyroscope

Gizmodo reckons that FaceTime support's a given, and that means a front-facing camera like the

iPhone 4. BuzzBizzNews echoes the camera story, suggesting twin cameras. It also suggests that there'll be a three-axis gyroscope like there is in the iPhone 4. EETimes says Apple has been testing gyroscopes but decided not to put one in the original iPad.

iPad 2 specs: a USB port

Rumours suggest that the iPad 2 will have a USB port, which BuzzBizzNews says will enable users to "upload movies, documents and photos". We're not convinced it's for that, because Apple is moving increasingly to wireless. The iPad prints wirelessly. The iPad streams media wirelessly. Why add USB? More likely, we think, is a

MicroUSB port or adapter so the iPad meets new EU regulations on mobile device chargers.

(Continued on Page 2)



WikiLeaks Kicked offline after Domain Provider Terminates Service

A U.S.-based domain name provider shut down WikiLeaks early Friday, but the controversial website announced hours later that it had employed a company in Switzerland and was back up. "WikiLeaks moves to

Switzerland," the company said on its Twitter page about 4 a.m. ET. The tweet also provided WikiLeaks' new web address. U.S.-based domain provider EveryDNS.net shut down WikiLeaks' old web address early

Friday. The company announced that it had to cut its relationship with WikiLeaks because the site had received multiple cyber attacks.

(Continued on Page 2)

Inside this issue:

iPad 2.0	1, 2
WikiLeaks Offline	1, 2
Youtube Ads Skippable	2
PS3 Surpasses Xbox?	3
Xbox Web Browser	4
About us	4
Subscription	4



iPad 2 (Continued)

(Continued from Page 1) iPad 2 case: thinner and more like a MacBook

Brian Blair also says: "the new iPad is thinner than the existing model and is essentially made from one piece of metal with no pins needed. We understand it requires a new type of manufacturing process as a result, similar to the company's unibody approach seen in MacBooks."

iPad 2 specs: a seven-inch screen?

All of Apple's rivals have plumped for 7-inch displays, which means their tablets are lighter than the iPad. Will Apple follow them into seven-inch territory?

iLounge says prototypes exist, while earlier this year DigiTimes Predicted not just a seven-inch iPad 2, but a 5.6-inch iPad 2. Apparently the smaller iPads would target eBooks while the current iPad would target multimedia

entertainment, "sources stated". We're doubtful. Apple already does a mini-iPad with a retina display. It's the iPod touch.

The idea of a smaller iPad 2 took another knock in November, when 9to5Mac reported that the iPad 2 adverts have already been shot - with current-generation iPads playing the role of iPad 2s.

**"WikiLeaks
has become
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attacks"**

WikiLeaks Offline (Continued from Page 1)

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"EveryDNS.net provided domain name system (DNS) services to the wikileaks.org domain name until 10 p.m. ET, December 2, 2010, when such services were terminated," the

U.S.-based company posted on its website. "More specifically, the services were terminated for violation of the provision which states that 'Member shall not interfere with another Member's use and enjoyment of the Service or another entity's use and enjoyment of similar services.'

The company said Wikileaks.org has become the target of multiple cyber attacks.

"These attacks have, and future attacks would, threaten the stability of the EveryDNS.net infrastructure, which enables access to almost 500,000 other websites."

YouTube Launches Skippable Ads

YouTube has officially launched its new TrueView ad format, allowing site visitors to avoid watching ads they're not interested in.

Users will now be able to look for a countdown button that will let them

skip an ad after it plays for five seconds. In some cases, viewers will be able to select which ad to watch out of three pre-roll options.

YouTube had been experimenting with the button -- allowing users to stop ads from

playing -- for awhile.

TrueView, which is presently only available to advertisers with managed accounts, isn't all that widespread on YouTube just yet.

Advertisers can decide whether they'd like to use TrueView or stick with the usual non-skippable platform.



Youtubes Logo

New predictions show that within the next year, the PlayStation 3 will have sold more units worldwide than the Xbox 360.

Although Nintendo is sitting on the top of the console sales heap, perched high on the shoulders of the Wii's 76 million units sold, the battle for second place is still hotly contested. Currently, the Xbox 360 has a firm grasp on the number 2 spot with 45.2 million units sold worldwide, and that number is expected to increase this holiday thanks to the success of the Kinect— which sold over 1 million units in 10 days. Projections have Microsoft selling 5 million Kinect units in total this holiday season, many of which will be part of a bundle, so the 360 is expected to do well this quarter. But nipping on the 360's heels is the PlayStation 3, which has sold 41.2 million units worldwide. It is a tight battle, but as anyone that follows electronic sales can tell you, it is a marathon, not a sprint—and it appears that Sony might be making its move.

According to the analyst group DFC Intelligence, the PS3 will surpass the Xbox 360 in consoles sold worldwide, sometime in 2011. The Xbox 360 has been exceeding projections in consoles sold, and despite slumping software figures, hardware sales for Microsoft have been well ahead of projections. The above average sales numbers should continue through the holiday season, but that trend is likely to end shortly after.

Although the sales of the 360 console have been very strong following the redesign of the console, the software sales have not been rising to match. This suggests that many of the new systems sold are either replacement units, or are part of multiple consoles in the same house. And while the 360 may have fan base that is loyal—or has become too invested to not replace a dead console—the PS3 seems to be attracting new fans at a steady pace. The PS3 still trails the 360, but it was released almost an entire year after and the sales numbers continue to improve year to year.

Sony also has a huge advantage over Microsoft in the Japanese market. Nintendo dominates overseas as well as in Europe and the Americas, but while the PS3 has sold nearly 6 million units in Japan, a number that is expected to increase this holiday thanks to lower prices, Microsoft has never really been able to make an impact with the original Xbox or the Xbox 360. Current figures show a mere 1.4 million 360s sold in Japan, and while that number might increase thanks to the Kinect, Microsoft is not gaining much ground. By comparison, the 360 has sold 25.9 million in the Americas, while the PS3 has moved 16.1 million. The PS3 has a very slight edge in Europe though, with 19.4 million; the 360 has sold 17.8 million, and could narrow that gap this holiday season.

While the PlayStation Move might not have had the impact Sony was hoping, DFC is suggesting that a huge plate of exclusive titles could further boost the PS3's sales in 2011. Games like *Killzone 3*, *LittleBigPlanet 2*, and *SOCOM 4* are all due out as PS3 exclusives in the next year. With the PS3 finally turning a profit on each console sold, it has been able to lower the price of the system.

Of course, these are all just predictions, and anything can happen, but it could be the year of the PS3.



"This could be the year PS3 sales surpass Xbox 360"





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Microsoft's Xbox 360 Will Never Have a Browser

For years, 360 users have been scratching their heads and wondering when their gaming system- manufactured by the top software manufacturer in the world- would supply them with the software necessary to go online and surf the Web. The answer is never.

In an interview with Edge Magazine, Xbox product manager Aaron Greenberg confirmed that the 360 would not support a Web browser because Microsoft deemed exploring the Internet on a home TV to be a "poor experience."

"We really believe that the web browsing experience on TV is a poor one, and the real magic is to take those Web experiences and optimise them for the living room. That's what we did with Netflix. So, sure, you can go on the PS3 and go to Facebook and try to navigate, but it's an absolute nightmare." Both the Nintendo Wii and Sony PlayStation 3 support Web browsers. "No disrespect," Greenberg said. "There's things I love about the PS3, but that's not one of them."



XBOX 360

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