

# ASSIGNMENT ONE

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## MP3 PLAYERS

BY:AZADEH ATTARI

PMP devices, which stands for Portable Music Player, is a term used to describe any digital portable music player that allows you to download or save digital music (in mp3 format) from your computer on your player(pmp).

The category of PMP devices have replaced the larger portable CD players such as WALKMAN. Not because of their much smaller size but also because you can store hundred and thousands of songs and video on them.

### WHAT IS AN MP3 PLAYER?

An mp3 player is a digital audio player and falls under the broader category of devices. It's a small hand held device that uses flash memory for storing mp3 files.

Often weight less than an ounce. In addition to supporting the mp3 format, depending on the brand of the player you have, it might also support additional file players. For instance, different video formats (MPEG, WMVA,MPED4-SP3,.....) or different audio formats like (MP3, WMA, AAC4, WAV,...) or also image format like JPEG.

An mp3 player is basically a strong device that contains solid-state memory, such as flash memory. And a software that will let you

transfer audio files from your computer to your player and vs versa. Mp3 players most commonly use the USP port on your computer for data transferring, and also some players may plug into FIRE WIRE or PARALLEL port.

Mp3 players may also include features such as play list, radio or web sites. They also will let you choose your favorite backlight color and so many other things.

The big question here is, what is the difference between an IPOD and MP3 player?

The answer is that both of them are PMP devices or MP3 players. But the IPOD is a specific brand of MP3 players made by APPLE company, and it has a special set of features and design.

Since the release of the APPLE ipod in 2001, under the ipod brand, Apple has released many variation of its products such as the IPOD CLASSIC, IPOD TOUCH, IPOD SHUFFLE, IPOD MINI and NANO.

Unlike most mass markets of mp3 players, the Ipod uses the Apple itune software to transfer music to your music device. Ipod was announced several months after the release of Itune.

WHAT IS ITUNE?

It's a program that converts audio CDs into compressed audio files, and could organize your digital music collection. By using Itunes you can store a music library on your computer, burn music from CD, transfer photos, videos, games and small applications and many other features if the player supports it.

**These are the best selling MP3 players of 2008, ranking from 5 to 1:**

5) At the number five spot we've got the [Creative ZEN X-Fi](#)



Freak Score 9.0 out of 10  
46 expert reviews  
170 user reviews

from 111 sources in 26 countries

Best price: [\\$153](#)

The Creative ZEN X-Fi features an MP3 player with capacity of 8GB/16GB/32GB. It also has a 2.5" 16.7 million color TFT LCD with 320 x 240 pixels. The player can play up to 36 hours of audio playtime, up to 5 hours of video playtime. The ZEN X-Fi supports the following formats for video MPEG, WMV9, MPED4-SP3, DivX3 4/5 and XviD3. Audio formats which are supported are MP3, WMA, AAC4 (.m4a), WAV (ADPCM), Audible 4 and JPEG (BMP/ GIF / PNG / TIFF) 5 for image formats.

4) Occupying the number four spot is the [Apple iPod Nano 4G](#)



Freak Score 9.1 out of 10  
43 expert reviews  
368 user reviews

from 82 sources in 15 countries

Best Price: [\\$129](#)

With the 4th iteration to Apples iPod Nano Apple has made "the thinnest iPod yet". The Nano now features a built in accelerometer that gives it similar functions as the iPod Touch or the iPhone were you can flip it to the side and see music in

cover flow mode. A added new feature for the Nano 4G is that you can "shake it" to switch song.

3) Coming in at the number slot we've got the [SanDisk Sansa Fuze](#)



Freak Score 9.2 out of 10  
30 expert reviews  
127 user reviews  
from 72 sources in 15 countries.

Best Price: [\\$59](#)

The SanDisk Sansa Fuze features an MP2 player with capacity of 4GB/8 GB. It also has 1.9-inch color TFT LCD. The device also supports audio formats such as Ogg, Vorbis, FLAC, Audible, WAV, WMA, MP3.it also supports video format of MPEG and photo format of JPEG. In addition to this it also has 40 Digital FM presets. It also contains a Built-in microphone and allows voice recording. It also has a USB 2.0, 3.5-millimeter headphone jack and an embedded Rechargeable battery. It comes packaged with Earphones, Quick Start Guide, and Installer CD with User Manual.

2) At number two we've got the [Sony NWZ-A826](#)



Freak Score 9.3 out of 10  
21 expert reviews  
23 user reviews  
from 67 sources in 19 countries.

The Sony NWZ-A826 is a portable multimedia device that was released by Sony under its Walkman brand. The player measures 3.7 x 2.01 x 0.37 inches and weighs approximately 2.05 ounces. It can be used to store and play audio and video files as well as store and view image files. The player is only available in black with 4 gigabytes of flash memory that can accommodate up to 2,450 audio files or up to 15 hours of video files.

1) and coming in at the number one spot, the numero uno, the Top Dog of MP3 players this year, we've got the [Apple iPod touch](#) with a perfect 10 out of 10 rating!



Freak Score 10 out of 10  
37 expert reviews  
356 user reviews  
from 78 sources in 14 countries.

Best Price: [\\$214](#)

iPod Touch 2nd Generation main features are:

- \* Dimensions: 2.4" x 4.3" x 0.33" (61 mm x 110 mm x 8.4 mm) (W x H x D)
- \* Weight: 4.05 oz (114.8 g)
- \* 3.5-inch (diagonal) widescreen Multi-Touch display
- \* Wi-Fi (802.11b/g)
- \* 8 GB, 16 GB or 32 GB memory
- \* Holds up to 1,750, 3,500, or 7,000 songs in 128-Kbps AAC format
- \* Holds up to 10,000, 20,000, or 25,000 iPod-viewable photos
- \* Holds up to 10 hours, 20 hours, or 40 hours of video
- \* Frequency response: 20Hz to 20,000Hz
- \* Impedance: 32 ohms
- \* Audio formats supported: AAC (16 to 320 Kbps), Protected AAC (from iTunes Store), MP3 (16 to 320 Kbps), MP3 VBR, Audible (formats 2, 3, and 4), Apple Lossless, AIFF, and WAV
- \* Supports MobileMe, Microsoft Exchange, Yahoo! Mail, Google Gmail, e AOL e-mail services, plus IMAP e POP servers.
- \* Supports 17 languages, 30 international keyboards and 19 dictionaries.
- \* Built-in rechargeable lithium ion battery, with up to 36 hours of music playback time or up to 6 hours of video playback time when fully charged
- \* More information: <http://www.apple.com>

\* Suggested price in the US: USD 229 (8 GB); USD 299 (16 GB); USD 399 (32 GB)

As you can see Apple dominated the marketplace when it comes to mp3 players, and for very good reason, they're very good products that work well, are easy to use, feature packed and they're just an all around great portable media player.

The Apple line of mp3 players are just an amazing example of what happens when you set out to be the best at something, Apple has created a product that is simply amazing in both form and function. They started with an initial product years ago and it has saturated the market so much so that the term IPOD has become synonymous with mp3 players everywhere.