



GEORGIE GORDON



< **CLASSIC CHIC**  
Sagittine, a specialist in stylish wardrobe storage, recently launched a limited edition collection called Luxe. The Santiago storage box (pictured) pays homage to the classic Louis Vuitton steam trunk, with an elegant brass frame and leather top. The Santiago Luxe, \$3100, Sagittine, sagittine.com.

> **FLOWER POWER**  
Artist Anna Varendorff mainly works with brass, creating sculptures and jewellery from her studio in Melbourne. Her striking circular vases were designed to hold only a stem or two but are as impressive as a vase full of the most luscious blooms. Flower circle (pictured), \$170, A.C.V Studio, acvstudio.com.



< **SPLISH SPLASH**  
This hand and body wash is made from the essential oils of cedarwood, juniper berry and orange and has a woody citrus scent. The cleanser is made in Sydney and is cruelty free and animal friendly. A percentage of each sale is donated to the Orangutan Foundation International. Black range hand and body wash (pictured), \$35, Artisans Bungalow, artisansbungalow.com.au.



^ **WELL HOOKED**  
Alison Wyatt, who founded Queensland-based Hepburn Hardware, creates innovative cabinet handles, knobs and hooks from cut glass, leather and brass. The jute rope range, which has proven popular with coastal homeowners, is made from solid brass and has a matt finish. Jute rope hooks and pulls (pictured), from \$15.95, Hepburn Hardware, hepburnhardware.com.

# TECHKNOW

## DIGITAL RADIOS

Reviewed by Patricia Maunder

Digital radio has in some ways been superseded by streaming options, including internet radio, but zero data costs and bandwidth concerns mean it has distinct advantages. Like AM and FM broadcasts, digital radio is free and the sound quality is significantly better than these analogue services. Those who prefer waking to music or talk rather than buzzers and mobile alarms have plenty of digital clock radio options, including Sangean's DCR-89. It looks like analogue equivalents, and receives FM stations, but digital broadcasts' dreamy audio quality, and the ease of tuning into and setting stations, means it's a step up. There are more sophisticated options that combine digital radio and internet-based audio, such as the Bush BR320DABC, which covers most listening needs: digital and FM radio; Wi-Fi access to internet radio stations and podcasts worldwide; and easy connection to audio on other devices via Bluetooth and Near Field Connection. Music streaming service Spotify is enabled on the unit, but controlled via the app on your mobile or tablet.

### VERDICT

Despite a couple of questionable functional quirks, the Sangean enables anyone to easily switch from an analogue to digital clock radio with satisfying results. The Bush is also simple to use, but its numerous listening options, excellent sound and sleeker design make it well suited to any room.

### CHECK THIS OUT

Digital radio became available in Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth in 2009, but expansion across Australia has been slow. Trials in Canberra and Darwin look set to become permanent services by 2018, but there is no timeline for regional digital radio, or the shutdown of analogue signals. In January, Norway became the first country with digital-only radio.

**SANGEAN**  
RRP \$155



With its prominent LCD screen, unobtrusive buttons and rotary volume control, this white clock radio is a conventional looking bedside companion. The sound is great for its size and the interface generally user-friendly – with the exception of checking what time the two alarms are set to. Another minor annoyance is both buzzer and radio alarms rapidly rise to significant volumes, no matter what level was previously set – an effective if rude awakening.

**BUSH**  
RRP \$329



This also has dual alarms, but its diverse functionality and robust sound (choose from one customisable and six pre-set sound profiles) means it works well in larger, active areas. The interface is intuitive, the 3.2-inch LCD colour screen easy to read, and connectivity generally straightforward. From digital radio to stored or streamed audio via other devices such as mobiles and MP3 players, this new model conveniently and effectively ticks all the boxes.

"I FOUND THIS GREAT THING."



## YOGAEVERYWHERE

Find peace in yoga and peace in your equipment with these artistic exercise mats from YogaEverywhere. Created by Remy Gerega, these unique mats feature aerial photography of Sydney's picturesque beaches and other hot spots from around the world. They are eco-friendly, free of toxic materials and printed with non-fade inks. They double as a hot yoga towel, featuring a microfibre top layer that absorbs sweat. It's all about escaping the chaos of the daily grind in style and comfort. \$129, available at [yogaeverywhere.com.au](http://yogaeverywhere.com.au). **LEISHA KAPOR**