

TECH-TALK



Oakley has always been on the cutting edge of technology when it comes to sunglasses. Their patented technology for lenses paved the way for many other sunglass manufacturers to mimic the designs and lens technology. Here, Oakley has teamed up with Motorola to bring us the latest in Bluetooth technology, the RAZRWIRE, an Oakley original. These stylish glasses are perfect for the on-the-go consumer with its light-weight feel and wireless, no-hassle answering system. Three buttons let you do the majority of your business; toggling in between calls, adjusting volume, re-dialing a call, etc. Not only does Oakley's patented XYZ Optics give you maximized sight clarity at every angle, while paired with Sprint's Palm Treo, the



sound quality and reception is astonishing. For all of these qualities, along with the sleek, stylish look, Oakley's out of the box thinking and UV protection, we give this one our highest rating -



Cobra

America's leader in communication and navigation electronics, comes out with the DataGrafix™ display screen for digital radar and

laser detectors. At 21mm x 15mm, you can expect some interesting information. While it's not quite as wide as the other detectors, it's twice as tall. This enables the detector to display battery voltage information, city/highway modes and a digital compass.

The big question now is how does it work in everyday life? Is it just a cool multi-color box on your windshield or does it actually do the job? I tested the detector in every-day traffic conditions where I found if you have the music turned up loud it picks up emergency vehicle's sirens so that you can get out of the way.

Detection is remarkably good as well. On my commute home I noticed several Ka-band radar detections, most of which were coming from bogies hidden behind bushes and bridges. I even had a few instances of POP-detection. The neat feature about this detector is that it tells you what band is being detected. The voice of the detector, that I've now named Vicki, talks to you. For example, if there is a Ka-band wave detected, it'll beep quickly a couple of times and Vicki will then come on and say, "Ka Alert". This is a nice change from what I'm used to, and hey, I didn't even swerve into traffic!

On the freeway it's quite good too. The range of the detection is decent; the only bone I have to pick with it is that it doesn't tell you where the signal is coming from. I was kind of hoping that with the built-in compass, it could be smart enough to tell you where the waves originated. For example, "Ka Alert – South" would make this even sweeter.

In conclusion, I believe that it's safe to say this is a solid investment. For \$229.95, it is a LOT cheaper than the V1 which retails for about \$400 and while you don't get the directional origin of the signal, it works quite well in detecting signals. All in all, we think it's definitely worth a pick-up.

