

I've spent an embarrassing amount on PDA's over the last 20 years. In this time personal organiser equipment has been evolving and here I am still funding the process. What's driving this note is whether my philanthropy is finally paying off. An HP ipaq 5450 running Windows Pocket PC has fingerprint recognition, Bluetooth, Wireless LAN. It can play music and video. It could run as a Sat Nav or handle email through the phone or wireless network.

But as I do this never before have I confirmed so many actions or reminded this PDA what it's supposed to be connected to. Playing a tune is no casual exercise. It will remember your contacts for as long as its battery lasts: if you forget to charge it it'll lose all your friends. And since a Sat Nav really needs to work in desperate moments, I wonder how much one dare rely on it. Windows Vista didn't care to talk with it. I conclude that this now highly evolved PDA has decided to give evolution a miss.



My PDA gallery showing all the devices used in earnest.

The last few Psion's were dependable in the extreme. The Sony Ericsson phones were life-saving in that they stored everything you needed and could handle email after a fashion.





