



HardBody PSP Daily Case December 2005

By Bob Mandel

PSP CASES

Because of the incredibly high vulnerability of the PSP to scratches and dirt, the most intense market competition is in the area of cases for the PSP. Here tons of options have emerged and many serve rather different purposes: for example, there are those that just hold the PSP, and those that hold a few accessories as well, and those that have hard shells to protect against drops and dents, and those that have soft shells to feel nice to the touch. As an alternative to a complete case, there are also flat "armor" protectors that cover the entire face of the PSP, transparent screen guards that cover just the viewing window, and rubberized skin grips that wrap around the whole device (Pelican makes a great combination of the last two in its PL-6008 Skin Grip and Screen Guard product).

My personal favorite PSP case is the not-widely-publicized is the Slappa HardBody PSP Daily Case. At a reasonable retail price of \$19.99, you get a ton of features. First, although providing a hard shell, it is soft and comfortable to the touch like leather, constructed out of a material called EVA (the material you find on the bottom of flip flops). The case has a water resistant zipper with 2 pulls containing rubber grips. In addition to holding your PSP snugly, with a convenient extra-wide elastic band to hold it securely in place (something many other cases that hold more than the PSP do not have), there is a storage divider with two cargo net storage pockets, ideal for storing Universal Media Discs; and a cargo net storage pocket inside the case cover (ideal for storing headphones or a USB connector). The case also includes a D-ring with removable carabineer clip, as well as an adjustable Velcro storage strap, to maximize flexibility in transport.

If you simply want an inexpensive case for the PSP without the ability to hold anything else, then I would recommend the Logitech PlayGear Pocket, also selling for \$19.99. This case has a protective polycarbonate shell, shoulder triggers that are fully accessible without having to remove your PSP, secure snap closure, and a convenient headphone access port means you can listen to your favorite tunes on the go. The adjustable 270-degree lid doubles as a sun visor to cut down on distracting outdoor glare or as a stand to view movies and photos hands-free.

CONCLUSION

So go out and accessorize your PSP to your heart's content! Do not just sit there with your PSP and think you have everything you need except for games (and maybe movies). Although now you may not simply be able to put your PSP in a coat pocket to take it somewhere and start to play, you will find that with the accessories suggested here your handheld gaming device will be a lot safer, louder, charged up, and versatile. For not much money, your recreational enjoyment can be dramatically enhanced.