



Segment Producer Sukhjot Ghag comments and reviews cool, high-tech "smart clothes."

Featured in the Travel Gear episode "Scuba, Baby Tech, Smart Clothes." [See schedule for airings.](#)

Smart Clothes

From a solar-powered jacket that keeps your laptop juiced up to stealth socks and disposable "drawers," we looked at road duds to smarten up any travel wardrobe.

Do you feel naked without a mobile phone, Blackberry, laptop, digital camera and PDA? The next time you want to take all your portable electronic gear on the road, wear something from Scott E Vest and you'll be clothed and wired. The Scott E Vest Sports Jacket looks like a basic three-button sports coat, but it has 14 pockets. It's not just the number of pockets that makes this coat so cool. Most of the pockets are hidden within the jacket and connected through a conduit system that allows a MP3 player, for example, to be inside your jacket undetected. The earbuds run up through the lining of the jacket. When you are ready to use them, pull them out of the space made for them near the collar and turn your tunes on. Wires remain undetected and untangled. The jacket costs around \$250 and comes in navy blue.

The newest innovation from Scott E Vest is a line of jackets made with ICP solar technology. Solar strips are attached to the outside of the jacket on the shoulders and upper back. Plug your devices into a small port on the outside of the jacket and you'll get a charge while you wear it! For now ICP Solar Technologies says the panels deliver enough power to recharge a mobile phone in just a few hours. There was one other really cool factor we liked for music fanatics — small magnets in the collar to keep your earbuds in place. Very nice touch!

Eddie Bauer has some smart fabrics to offer. They've put a twist on the popular khaki with their wrinkle-and-stain-resistant Nano line. The fabric is made with machine-washable fibers treated with a special coating that isn't stiff. Eddie Bauer says the coating doesn't wash off, so you can spill stuff on it to your heart's content. We found that although the khakis we tested did resist a coffee spill, it was they became less resistant the more we spilled. By the third spill, the coffee was starting to settle instead of bead.

Touring is no fun if you're too warm or too cold. With Lowe Alpine's Warm Zone tops, you can increase your temperature by 25 percent just by turning the garment inside out. On one side the fabric is made to insulate. Turn it inside out and it ventilates. It's two in one!

Keeping your feet warm and dry is important whether you're traveling or not. Timberland Acadian Shoes are comfortable and compact. The moccasins expand with every step because of a three-zone pressure system that distributes weight. Your feet will stay comfortable after a long day of sightseeing. Soft suede also makes these shoes easy to pack.

Stealth socks, made by Zip It!, have a double cushioned heal and sole and are impact-absorbing. They also have a secret zippered pocket. About the size of a credit card, it's great for tucking away a couple of bucks or your keys.

Long trips often mean having to hand-wash your clothes in the hotel sink, especially undergarments. Onederwear has a solution: 100 percent cotton disposable underwear. It comes in many styles and is 100 percent biodegradable, so there is never a need to pack dirty drawers!