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10 amazing things to do with a tablet

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The Rover Wireless Spy Tank is ideal for tablets because it features cameras – it can even take night-vision footage.

This toy “tank” can be controlled by an iPad via its own Wi-Fi network at distances of up to 200m, with a camera sending back footage to the tablet. Alternatives, such as Parrot’s AR.Drone, take to the air, making use of a tablet’s gyroscope to control how the toy [robot \(#\) files](#).

For those who want to create their own robots, Android is the perfect partner. Lego’s Mindstorms kit, which uses the toy building blocks to create small interactive robots, can be controlled over Wi-Fi via the MINDdroid app.

Tablets can also be used to control homebrew robots, with online videos showing off high-end innovations from top tech firms, as well as amateurs using kits such as the Arduino processor to create their own.

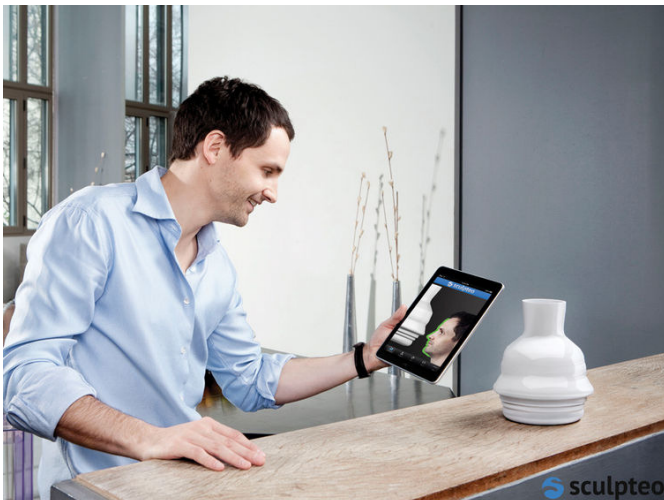
Create a 3D model (of your head!)

Making a ceramic vase styled in the shape of your own head may sound like the most egotistical act since the boxer George Foreman named seven of his children George – including two of the girls – but it’s possible via 3D-printing app Sculpteo.

Snap a picture with the iPad camera, and that can be used to create 3D designs, which the firm “prints” and ships out. At a few hundred pounds per vase of your own face, or a mug of your own mug, it isn’t necessarily the cheapest way to personalise a gift, but it highlights the potential of bespoke 3D manufacturing.

Autodesk is set to offer a similar tool called 123D Catch. Snap a series of photos – as many as six dozen – of an object to copy, and the system will create a 3D model to be printed via a third party or your own 3D printer.

For those who would rather design from scratch, 123D Sculpt is the sculptor’s equivalent to Brushes, giving users digital clay to make their masterpiece.



</gallery/features/375727/10-amazing-things-to-do-with-a-tablet/180316>

Code on your iPad

Tablets aren’t real computers, the argument goes, because you can’t program them. You can, however, program on them.

Apps such as Textastic and Koder include tabbed windows to easily flip through projects, and syntax-highlighting support for more than 80 languages, including C++ and XML.

Koder includes a code snippet library to make the job easier, and if typing on a tablet sounds too painful, Textastic supports a docked keyboard, and alters the soft keyboard to display symbols commonly used in the language you’re working in. Support for FTP and Dropbox makes hosting and sharing work easier.

Without the ability to compile, the iPad won’t be taking over desktops as the programming device of choice anytime soon, but it’s a handy device for web

developers or those looking to make minor edits on the go.

Open source Android may seem the more likely preserve of programmers, and it too features its own editing options. Touchcode PRO features similar features to the iPad apps, but also allows code to be uploaded for compiling.

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- [Rumors of iPad Mini Confirmed](http://www.bangstyle.com/2012/07/ipad-mini-confirmed/) (<http://www.bangstyle.com/2012/07/ipad-mini-confirmed/>) ([Bangstyle](#))
- [Is Nintendo's Wii U Worth Your Money?](http://www.technewsdaily.com/4401-nintendo-wii-worth.html) (<http://www.technewsdaily.com/4401-nintendo-wii-worth.html>) ([Tech News Daily](#))