

IN DETAIL

SONY AIBO

ERS-220 Series £1270

020 7365 2938 | www.aibo.com

Hot on the heels of Sony's cutesy LM series comes the ultimate robo pooch. It has aggressive cyber styling and more sensors, buttons and lights, plus improved firmware. If RoboCop wanted a pet, this'd be it

Belly upload

As with all Aibos, the brains are in the belly, where a pre-programmed Memory Stick controls emotional reaction and development. There's also a PC card slot in evidence, allowing you to insert a wireless LAN card to control Aibo from afar

Face the future

It's around the head that the stylistic differences really tell. Gone are the cute, floppy ears of the original and there's no trace at all of the cuddly, cartoon face of the LM series. In fact, the ERS barely looks like a pooch at all. But this isn't a pet dog, it's a pet robot

Uncommon sensors

Nine LEDs on the body, plus six on the head allow for greater expression. There are also four touch sensors on different parts of the body and an infrared sensor that stops Aibo backing into the skirting boards

Big fat joints

Although it features the same 16 degrees of freedom as the original Aibo (with 12 motors in the legs alone), the movements of the ERS-220 are faster, more graceful and smoother than before

Paws for thought

Each paw features a sensor, and the range of movement is staggering. When Aibo gets excited he'll go into 'boost' mode, crouching, shaking his hips, scratching his back foot and galloping around looking for toys



1 Ear

What looks like a single ear is in fact a switch used for scolding or praising the pooch. The real 'ears' consist of two stereo microphones on either side of the head

2 Spotlight

A retractable spotlight acts as a flash for the Aibo's in-built digital camera. It also pops up when your canine buddy gets over-excited

3 Visor

The RoboCop-style visor houses six LEDs in blue and red, used for indicating the Aibo's mood

4 Mouth

The mouth/nose houses the image sensor. With a wireless LAN PC card and the Navigator Memory Stick, you can control Aibo remotely from a PC and see what it sees

**FIRST THOUGHTS...
Aibo ERS 220 v Aibo LM series**

The obvious aesthetic differences aside, the main changes between the LM series (right) and the ERS 220 are the capacity for interaction and wireless control. Once again, Sony has pushed the limits of technology with stunning design. So what if it's useless? This is innovation for the sake of it and it's awe inspiring



Sony Aibo ERS 220

CPU/RAM	64bit RISC/32MB
Formats supported	Memory Stick, PC Card
Battery life	approx 1.5 hours
Camera	100,000 pixel CMOS image sensor
Motors	16in legs, neck and head
Sensors	10, including temperature and light sensors