New cars: What the critics say

Motor Trend
Take a spin in the Evora "and you'll swear the car should be renamed Euphoria." Billed by Lotus as the world's only four-seat mid-engine sports car, the Lotus has a new design that features an "ultra-stiff" structure of bonded and riveted aluminum as well as an eye-catching exterior that "oozes glamour and romance." A modified 276-hp Toyota V6 engine and six-speed gearbox make this both an "intense hill climber and pleasant highway cruiser."

Road & Track
The Evora is one of the few exotic, high-performance sports cars designed "for the consumer without a Swiss bank account." Driving enthusiasts should appreciate its impeccable handling, "incredible balance, laser-precise steering, and ample braking capacity." But the Evora also has a chic, surprisingly roomy interior, making this the type of car you can actually imagine driving regularly. "The Evora has genuine character, and lots of it."

Auto Express
The first all-new Lotus in 13 years, the Evora "has been well worth the wait." Crafted with an eye on comfort, the leather-and-metal cabin is built around a "driver-focused layout." Still, the 2+2 model has cramped back seats that are only "suitable for small children." Instead consider the entry-level 2+0 version, which at least provides a shelf "large enough to store a couple of squashy bags."

2010 Lotus Evora
Price: $74,675

The best ... products for pets

Air Dog Fetch Stick
This toy feels like a tennis ball but tugs and grips like a stick, making games of fetch more fun for both owner and pup.
Price: $9.99
Contact: Petsmart.com
Source: Real Simple

GPS Dog Collar
This electronic collar lets you use a smart phone or home computer to track down roaming pets.
Price: $249.99
Contact: Spotlightgps.com
Source: Modern Dog

Modkat Litter Box
A cat enters this bucket-like litter box through the top, allowing "any stray kernels to fall back in as the kitty climbs out."
Price: $180
Contact: Modkat.com
Source: Dwell

Dogleg Diner
This "simple and clean" food stand comes in various sizes and heights to suit any size of pet.
Price: $98 to $188
Contact: Docapet.com
Source: Dwell

Dog Peek
Incorporate this acrylic dome into a fence, and your pet can "see what is happening outside."
Price: $25
Contact: Opulentitems.com
Source: Handy

Tip of the week ...
how to improve digestion

■ **Pile on the prebiotics.** The good bacteria (probiotics) that thrive in your stomach require food (prebiotics). Berries, bananas, legumes, onions, and whole grains feed the probiotics you receive from such foods as yogurt, tempeh, and cottage cheese.
■ **Don't forget fiber.** Fiber helps move food and toxins through the body and also lowers cholesterol. Eat your morning bran, and don't skip fruits and vegetables. Increase fluid intake to avoid intestinal blockage.
■ **Spice things up.** Ginger and cinnamon have nausea- and diarrhea-controlling properties. Cinnamon helps "relieve abdominal spasms due to gas and constipation."
■ **Have a beer.** Social lubricants such as beer and wine actually "speed up gastric acid and speed up the emptying of food from the stomach." Just avoid fermented distilled beverages like whiskey, rum, and cognac.
Source: Better Homes and Gardens

And for those who have everything ...

In an era of iPods, smart phones, and netbooks, the inside of a briefcase can quickly become a sea of gadgets and cords. **Grid-It** "offers a clever way to carry all your electronics—or any small bits and bobs"—that's nearly infinitely adjustable. Three interlocking layers of non-abrasive elastic straps keep items tangle- and scratch-free, and you can easily transfer the whole apparatus from backpack to suitcase. Just be sure to remember what bag you left it in.
Price: $10–$30
Contact: Cocooninnovations.com
Source: Dwell

The Internet ...
sites for creating a wedding site

■ **Mywedding.com** offers "free, elegant, ready-to-use templates that make creating your wedding website a breeze." You can post pictures, create playlists, organize details for out-of-towners, and "even blog about big-day prep."
■ **Weddingtracker.com** helps couples build a site with a unique domain name, as well as "stay on top of the planning tasks at hand." A year's membership costs $60, but includes wedding-planning software that provides customized layouts, sections, icons, fonts, maps, and "the ability to upload over 200 photos."
■ **Wedpagedesigns.com** provides "beautiful templates for half the price of comparable wedding websites." At $29.95 for 36 months, you get all the staples of a wedding site, plus some nice extras like animation and slide shows.
Source: Wetv.com