



# The last air bender

AHBAAR MILKY

Air cooled Porsches are held in high esteem in the hearts of Porsche aficionados and petrolheads alike. Small wonder when they reply with the 993 when asked about the best Porsche ever made. Restrained yet free flowing contemporary lines while retaining the quintessential 911 shape compared to the Spartan 964 predecessor with its boxed hips. Zuffenhausen's air cooled pinnacle came in the shape of a

silver 993 Turbo S. The last air bender. It's a shame tougher emission regulations killed the air cooled legacy and a Luftgekühlt (literally translates to air cooled in German, a term Porsche nuts like to throw around a lot) icon. I'd like to thank my lucky stars now as I talk you through the three parallel 993 911's I was lucky enough to drool upon.

993 911 Turbo S: spot at a Duke

of London "classics and cakes" meet in London 2018. Sat pretty beside a (probably) guards red 964. Wish I took pictures of the interior, namely the carbon fibre door pads. Take a second to oogle at the whale tail and it's intake vents. One of 345 in the flesh.

993 911 GT2 'Black Snake': spot at Joe Macari's, a dealership in London, 2018. Apparently, a Nurburgring production car

track record car. Pictures do not do justice to the larger than life GT2 wing and the fat stance.

993 911 Turbo: a low resonating exhaust note took me by surprise while exploring the sights and scenes of Geneva late last year. The swiss plates made it much cooler than it seemed like. I know what silver car with swiss plates I am buying if I had \$300,000.



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# Star Trek gadgets that are no longer fiction

NABILA HOSSAIN

As one of the television's very successful franchises, Star is considered to have been way ahead of its time. Created by American television screenwriter and producer, Gene Roddenberry, the franchise with its optimistic view of a future where people of all races unite together for the betterment of humanity, the franchise has in the years since its debut gone on to predict the development of the human race.

For people growing up in the 1960s, 80s and 90s, Star Trek provided a vision of the future. It seems that the future arrived sooner than

the writers could have imagined then. Many of the gadgets and gizmos that were initially popularized by the show then are being taken for granted now. In many cases, inventors might have taken inspiration from the shows of the franchise to develop practical uses for many commonly used present-day household technologies.

Here are some Star Trek gizmos that became real or are now becoming real.

### Cellular phone

Martin Cooper, who is credited with the invention of the first viable cellular phone has stated publicly that

he was inspired by the Star Trek version of personal communicators, which was an amazing concept back in 1966. Star Trek's influence grew further as phone developers went on to create flip phones that exactly matched the props used in the series.

An often overlooked technological marvel today, the cellular phone is probably the most obvious prediction the original Star Trek series got right.

### Tablet Computer

During the debut of Star Trek: The Next Generation, a concerted effort was made to make the new show stand out from its predecessor. As a result, among the new additions to Star Trek's technological capabilities was the Personal Access Display Device or PADD, a thin, flat touchscreen computer device.

prediction that Star Trek not only got right but if anything underestimated just how prevalent it would become.

### Intelligent Virtual Assistant

You can talk to a computer (voiced by Majel Barrett Roddenberry, Star Trek creator Gene's wife) in the Star Trek universe. The franchise features computers which the user can speak to and receive logical answers from.

These days, smartphone and computer users regularly engage in voice-activated conversations with digital personal assistants such as Siri and Cortana. Google even codenamed its voice-based service "Majel" in honour of Barrett Roddenberry.

### Universal Translator

Star Trek is a show that deals with difficulties of interactions between a variety of alien races. Such a circumstance called for a universal translator that could listen to any language and output it into an understandable language. In the later shows, it was integrated into the communication badges.

While Google translate has been the centre of jokes surrounding automatic translation, many companies are developing translation software and smartphone apps that can produce correct translation instantaneously by listening to the speaker.

### Replicator

In Star Trek: The Next Generation, Captain Jean-Luc Picard would say "Tea, Earl Grey, Hot!" and it would be replicated immediately. It was not necessary to think too hard about the scientific logic behind the replicator while creating such a device for the show.

Replicators are becoming common and affordable every day as the price of 3D printers is dropping dramatically. 3D printers do not tackle tea, or food for that matter and use mostly plastic as a building material but there is still a wide range of practical applications for the device.

The world has changed a lot since the show, Star Trek initially debuted. The television show popularized many fictional concepts that were later created in real life by scientists who were inspired by watching the adventures of Captain Kirk and his crew.



In 2010, the first commercially successful tablet computer, the iPad came into existence and since then modern life has seen a variety of tablet computer devices. This is a