

Re: It seems things are cheaper now but also cheaply made, am I paranoid?

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Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.electronics.repair/2006-08/msg01960.html>

- *From:* "L." <nospam@xxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sat, 26 Aug 2006 19:11:06 -0400
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"L." <nospam@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
[news:44f0d427\\$0\\$15479\\$ecde5a14@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](news:44f0d427$0$15479$ecde5a14@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

"NN" <davidlaska@xxxxxxx> wrote in message
<news:1156631263.872826.244960@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

Maxwell McHamster wrote:

NN wrote:

I always wondered why I run into people who have some machine or electronics that seem to last forever. What was worst that I never had a story like that nor could I find a particular brand to buy and have a story one day.

The old story – you get what you pay for, still holds up!

Examples:

For 15 years ago I bought A Philips "el-saver" light bulb, you know...those new "fluorescent" tungsten-lamp-replacement-bulbs that uses neon tubes rather than those tungsten lamps.

This one still works, and I've used it everywhere. Cost me a pretty penny back then. They used to cost about 30 dollars just for the "bulb" but for 15 years (and still going strong) this is a bargain.

People don't understand "quality" today – they only

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understand

"price – what does it cost today?" nevermind if it works only a year...just so they get it "half-price!"

Same with video (although most use DVD–recorders today)
I used to pay 1200–2000 dollars for a nice home S–VHS recorder
(usually from some fancy brand like Panasonic) – worked for 10–12 years easy..

Today? Purchased some crappy 200–300 dollar S–vhs recorder from JVC
that looks like a re–born ghetto blaster (more ghetto than blaster)
plastic–form–factor–all–in–one–idiot–design....last 1–2 year and gets worn out.

Piece of JUNK!

Of course – there are exceptions –
I bought a UNITED DVD player that can literally take ANY format and ANY region.
Cost me 60 bucks or so...lasted over 4 years...and is still going strong, so there are no rules without exceptions.

But yeah – the old rule still goes...you really DO get what you pay for. Don't ever get fooled into believing anything else.

MaxWell McHamster – yours in technology as always.

Relying on name brands is no longer a good guide because as you said, they are cheap models also.

another example is these new lighters that have a blue flame (sorta like a little torch). I bought one many years ago and used it for a year, lost it and found it a year later in the dirt and used it another two years. Now they last a month at best. I looked for the difference and the good one was made in Japan while the junk was made in china. There was one major part that was different, while the Japanese one use all brass for the burner assembly with filters at two points, the chinese ones use a non metal flexible tube and a screen.

My parents bought a dryer back in the late 60s. It was "only" a 120 volt

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dryer but it does the job quite well. It has had to have 3 belts replaced since bought – one due to the lid bracket coming loose and cutting it. The pulley was also replaced as well as the pig tail (thanks to a bad outlet). A total of say \$40 in parts. They paid about \$100 for it then. It STILL works like new. Oh yeah, they didn't have much money – bought it on a "Scratch and Dent" sale..... They sure got their monies worth. You "might" think the electric bill is higher – but the total bill complete with the dryer used 2 days a week and TVs on all night – not to mention many other uses of electric – \$38 per month. The clothes get dried in "A" cycle with no problem.

Our Fire Station bought a \$5300 or so dollar Big Screen Tv. Within the first month, it had to be repaired. DO YOU GET WHAT YOU PAY FOR? NOT ALWAYS. Lets go another route..... Air Jordan Tennis Shoes. They go roughly \$70 a pair. I can buy 7 pairs of cheap shoes for that price, and get almost as much wear out of one pair as one pair of the Air Jordans. NAME is NOT always "Everything"... Sometimes – you are paying FOR the name – NOT the quality.

In my own opinion, MOST items today ARE JUNK – regardless of price OR name.

L.

Also – in SOME cases (not all) – some things ARE cheaper ONLY because the manufacturing method has been made more efficient. That process is a savings for the company AND consumer – alike. Then too, there is "competition" or "price-wars" as you please..... THAT is good for us – the consumer – too.

L.

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