

## IR-Capable iPhone Remotes via Pronto

Written by Marco Attard  
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Customers wanting an iPhone-powered universal remote control replacement can get a software-hardware combo with the Pronto-- a hub device handling communications between iDevices and entertainment equipment.



A collaboration between Philips subsidiary PITS and remote control app developer Peel, the Pronto receives Bluetooth commands from iDevices and converts them to IR signals via integrated 360-degree IR blaster. The actual device is compact, and can be hidden in AV cabinets.

The company claims the Pronto/Peel combination is compatible with over 3000 devices, and the unit includes an additional IR cable.

On the iPhone side the Pronto pairs with a companion Peel app complete with custom programming guide, show reminders and control of wifi-enabled devices such as STBs. It also handles 2 Pronto units.

Interestingly, the Pronto represents something of a flashback for Peel-- the company started off in 2011 with the Yves Behar-designed Pear IR blaster before moving to the arguably more lucrative smartphone remote app business in 2012.

The Pronto should be available from January 2015 following an obligatory CES launch.

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