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Lifestyle An mp3 player just for pregnant moms: Ritmo Advanced

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# An mp3 player just for pregnant moms: Ritmo Advanced Sound System is made to play music in the womb

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Music appreciation in the womb isn't sounding so crazy these days. Now expectant moms can treat their unborn babies to the same tunes they're listening to by wrapping a specially designed sound system around their tummy, [the Daily Mail reports](#).

The Ritmo Advanced Sound System by Nuvo, which connects to an mp3 player, lets moms and their babies share "the sensory and emotional experience of bonding through sound and music, while being supportive, safe and stylish at the same time," according to the company's Web site.

The system costs \$129.99 on Ritmo's Web site, and was invented by [Oren Oz](#), father of two, after his wife had tried playing music to her unborn baby in her second pregnancy.

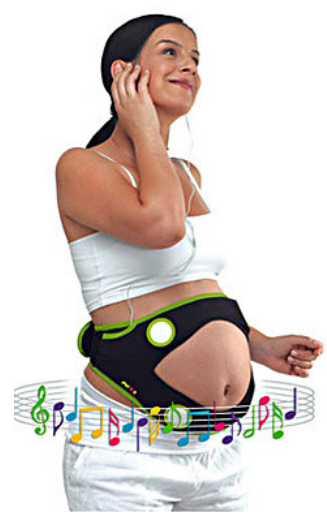
"Ritmo was born out of my frustration at seeing my wife struggle to find a comfortable position that also allowed the speakers to stay still," Oz told the Daily Mail. "It was impossible for her to be mobile while having the maximum flexibility to choose her own sound."

Oz and a team of parents at Nuvo Group wanted a gadget that focused on the comfort of mother and baby, according to the Mail. In their fetus-friendly sound system, two pairs of speakers in a soft fabric pad fit around a pregnant tummy and may be worn under clothes. Ear phones are included so mom can tune in, too.

The designers note that unborn babies display signs of "reactive listening" by the 17th week of pregnancy, according to the Daily Mail. But don't expect the sound system to turn your baby into a musical genius – or increase his or her IQ.

"There is no evidence that playing music for a baby to hear before birth boosts either music ability or intelligence," says [Tracy Dennis](#), associate professor of psychology at [Hunter College](#). "But there is evidence that early in prenatal development, unborn babies can hear noises, so you might increase their familiarity with whatever music you are playing. If you play [Mozart](#), when they are born, they might recognize it."

If you can't afford the Ritmo sound system, don't worry that your baby will be at a musical disadvantage, Dennis says. "If you think about it, unborn babies in [New York City](#) are exposed to all sorts of complex auditory stimuli," she says. "So any baby in [New York](#) will have a rich sound environment while they're developing in the womb, and that's what's important."



Nuvo-group.com

Moms-to-be can get their babies into the groove with this mp3 player for pregnant bellies.

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- Yes, what a great idea!
- Maybe ... in the privacy of my own home.
- No, I don't see the point of it.

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