Review: Proporta Crystal Case for Tungsten T3

Given the functionality and portability of PDAâ??s, itâ??s important to me that I always have my PDA with me. Unfortunatly, because of the design and form of many PDAs, unless you have a good case, you simply canâ??t â??pocketâ?• your PDA without fear of damaging the screen or inadvertently pressing a button resulting in a drained battery. Cases provided with most PDAs are marginal at best with the best cases being sold my third-party vendors.

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While Iâ??m certainly no newbie when it comes to PDA cases, (Iâ??ve owned various cases for the US Robotics Pilot 1000, Palm III, Palm Vx, and Sony Clie NX70V) the choices are admittedly daunting. Read on to learn more about what case choice I made for my Tungsten T3â?¦

My new Palm Tungsten T3 sports a simple stock leather-like â??flipâ?• case. While it does offer some screen protection, I am very hesitent to â??pocket itâ?• for fear of damaging the screen, so some better case was in order.

After reading some reviews and product listings, and after thinking about just what kind of case would suit me best, I decided to order a â??Crystal Caseâ?• from Proporta, an excellent PDA accessory company in the UK.

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The Crystal Case for the Tungsten T3 is a â??flipâ?• style case. I prefer this design over a â??bookâ?• style because it lets you easily hold and navigate the PDA as it was intended. I also feel that for the T3, the â??bookâ?• style is a bit impractical given its â??sliderâ?• design, so the â??flipâ?• style is excellent.

The case construction is simple, rugged, and elegant. According to Proportaâ??s site, is made from â??the type of durable and scratch resistant polycarbonate plastic thatâ??s used to make protective eyewearâ?•. In other words, itâ??s very durable. Like a pair of safety glasses, itâ??s clear and rugged providing great protection while at the same time letting you see and access most functions while the case is still closed. The case â??gripsâ?• the T3 around the edges very nicely and utilizes the small â??indentsâ?• in the back of the T3 to â??lockâ?• into place. Once attached, there is no slippage or movement. There is a â??flipâ?• cover that covers the screen and folds to almost 180 degrees when open. The case fits very snuglyâ??almost feeling like itâ??s a part of the T3â??s construction. The very form-fitting case adds only about an eighth of an inch all around keeping the T3 small and sleek like it was meant to be.

All buttons and ports are accessible thanks to nice, beveled cutouts that provide easy access to the power button, the voice memo button, and even the reset hole. The 5-way nav pad is NOT covered. Whilt this does make it probe to in-pocket button presses, this makes is actually nice because it lets you navigate apps without having to flip open the case. THere are several third-party apps available to prevent the buttons from powering on the T3.

At first, I thought that i could not HotSync with the case on. It simply didnâ??t fit into the cradle. But the, it struck me that if I just pull out the T3â??s slider, it sits very nicely in the cradle! So no messing around with removing the case! Very nice.

At this point, I have absolutely no reservations putting my Crystal Case-enclosed T3 in my front pocket, but Iâ??m still a bit hesitent about â??back-pocketingâ?• it. Time will tell, though. So, overall, I give the

Proporta Crystal Case very high marks.

Oh, and I must also mention that when I ordered the case, it arrived without incident within a week from the UK (I live in the USA.) Proporta did have to backorder another item I ordered at the same time, but they didnâ??t charge me shipping on the second item. Little things like that make their service really stand out.

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