

# Review: OORT SmartFinder

Overview		
Fun	★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	
Geekiness	★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	
Usefulness	★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	
Ease of use / installation	★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	
Price-performance ratio	★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	

Design & Hardware
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Plastic disk. Diameter: 3.6 cm, Thickness: 0.8 cm, Weight: 9 gr</li><li>• A single button sends sound notification to mobile app</li><li>• Battery life: 4 months up to a couple of years, depending on use</li></ul>

Features
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Connects with mobile app over Bluetooth 4.0</li><li>• Sends alarm if out of range of mobile phone</li><li>• Mobile app shows strength of signal to indicate distance between phone and device</li><li>• A sound notification can be sent both from app to device as well as vice versa</li><li>• App displays last known position of SmartFinder, in case connection breaks, e.g. because item was left behind</li><li>• Can connect to OORT SmartHub and be used as presence detector to trigger actions</li></ul>

Suitability for daily use
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Helps locate lost items to which SmartFinder is attached, first by displaying last known location on a map, second by showing an estimated “distance” from the mobile phone, third by emitting a sound from SmartFinder once close enough</li><li>• Notifies user in case he/she gets separated from item or mobile phone</li><li>• If connected to SmartHub, can trigger an action, e.g. switch on a light and send a notification to parent’s mobile phone once a child returns home</li></ul>

Pros & cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>+ Very easy to setup, clean and intuitive app interface</li><li>+ Can be used standalone without any hardware dependencies</li><li>+ Small size and weight</li><li>– “Distance” displayed refreshes slowly, apparently does not change linearly with distance, not very reliable</li></ul>

- Beep emitted by SmartFinder too weak to be practically useful for locating
- SmartHub required for most advanced features. Even if OORT SmartLED bulb is present and paired with mobile app, SmartFinder and SmartLED cannot interact
- Device often gets disconnected from mobile phone even when it is within range, in which case a false alarm is issued on the mobile app
- When separation alarm function is activated, SmartFind cannot be used as a presence sensor
- Besides using a keychain or placing it into a pocket, it is not clear how it can be attached to items of value, its concave shape makes matters more difficult