



Glasses for the blinds!

Vanessa Karamplia

What is it?

A pair of smart glasses that could transform the lives of blind and partially-sighted people could be in the shops as soon as 2016. The revolutionary technology enables those suffering from sight loss to see obstacles and faces, similar to the fictional high-tech visor worn.

How they work!

A video-camera mounted on the glasses turns the image in front of the person into a simplified black and white picture with nearby objects picked out in a bold white line. Testers found that they could navigate more easily, avoid walking into obstacles and even pick out facial features, making social interaction more natural.

HOW THEY WORK

1 Infra-red laser beams out thousands of spots of light

2 Normal video camera records detail

3 Infra-red camera picks up reflected spots from objects and sends to a computer in rucksack. Position of spots reveals an object's shape and distance



4 Images from both cameras are merged and projected on to glasses. The closer the object the brighter the image



5 Cameras could scan written information such as bus numbers and relay through earpiece



Video

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THE END