



# Wearables Weekly

Compiled by Sarah Kunkle and Gillian Christie

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## [Fitbit rival Misfit Link costs \\$20, automatically tracks sleep](#)

The new Misfit Link device tracks a variety of activities, including walking, cycling, running, tennis, yoga, and sleep, for just \$20. Misfit Link syncs with the free Misfit app, which awards daily points based on activity level and breaks down activity into "moderate" versus "vigorous." The main drawback of the device, however, is that it does not come with a wrist strap like other Misfit devices. Despite some shortcomings, the Link's \$20 price point is incredible cheap for an activity tracker, so that just about anyone can give wearables a try.

## [Build your own smartwatch with this Kickstarter](#)

Smartwatch company Blocks Wearable, has launched a Kickstarter, promising the first modular wearable. The company aims to provide customization beyond what is currently offered by Apple Watch and Android Wear. The Blocks strap is made up of modules, including GPS, heart rate monitor, extra battery life, that can be customized based on specific needs. For example: users could add an extra battery when going on a weekend trip and then swap in the GPS and pedometer when going for a run. The watches will be compatible with iPhones and Android, working with iOS 8 and above on iPhone 4S and above and all Android 4.0 and up phones.

## [Wearable Funding Due for 5-Year Low, But Health Wearables May Fare Better](#)

According to a CB Insights report, funding for startups focused on wearables is estimated to reach \$276 million for 2015, 72 percent lower than 2014's total and the lowest level since 2010. However, the outlook for health wearables is more optimistic. Three of the top four most well funded companies in the CB Insights report (Jawbone, Misfit, and MC10) are health or wellness focused. In addition, a Rock Health Q3 2015 report estimated year-to-date wearable investment at \$430 million, much higher than the CB Insights number.

## **Other Health Technology Headlines**

[Apple Expands ResearchKit To Autism, Epilepsy And Melanoma Studies](#)

[First look at Tag Heuer's pricey Android Wear smartwatch](#)

[UCSF Awarded \\$9.75 Million to Create Platform for Mobile Health Research](#)

[How Smartphones Can Detect Bipolar Disorder](#)

[Microsoft adds health privacy features to Office 2016](#)

[Surgeons are using virtual reality to locate tumors with these new 'cancer glasses'](#)

[Fitbit employees ordered by court to turn over alleged Jawbone secrets](#)

[The leader of the free world hasn't ditched his Fitbit](#)

[Why medtech must go digital](#)

[Fitness wearables are not reaching the right users—but they could](#)

[White House CTO: Health care is about to get a lot more entrepreneurial](#)

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