

STYLE RADAR

TAP THAT APP

VUE Video

Posting photos on WeChat and Instagram is cool, but if you really want friends back home to live vicariously through your experiences abroad, you can't keep sharing stationary selfies. No, your pics have to move – or at least offer 360-degree views (see our review of the Camorama on [thatsmags.com](#)).

Enter VUE: the video editing and movie making app that lets you shoot footage and create video montages between 6 and 60 seconds on your smartphone. Even if you don't plan on posting footage of your live 10-second bungee jump at Baiyun Mountain to social media, VUE makes you feel a little more like Peter Jackson, and that's never a bad thing.

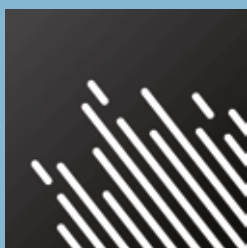
Available for free on Google Play and the Apple Store in both English and Mandarin, the app is simple to master and makes even a mundane shot of the floor in your office look like a scene from a badass indie drama (we tried it), so you really can't go wrong.

Start by selecting the shape of your frame (full screen vertical video, square, widescreen, etc.) and then choosing a filter from a list of names like 'Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind' and '2001: A Space Odyssey.' You can decide how many shots to take (1-6) and the total duration of your video. Next, pick your subject(s) and start filming.

Polish your work by adding in transitions (fade, dissolve) between shots, subtitles, stickers (please don't) and background music ('cinematic' is our favorite). VUE lets you access your iTunes music as well, in case you don't like the generic but surprisingly tasteful jingles included in the app.

Now go out and film something!

VUE is available on iOS and Android devices and can be downloaded in English or Mandarin.



SENNHEISER
MOMENTUM 2.0
RMB2,199
[sennheiser.tmall.com](#)

XIAOMI MI HEADPHONES
RMB199
[xiaomi.tmall.com](#)

CHEAP CHIC VS LUX LABEL

Sound-Off

A source of solace on perplexingly noisy metro and train rides in China, headphones are an invaluable companion on long road trips and commutes. If you're afraid to rock anything but earphones, don't be: living in Asia is the perfect excuse to invest in a pair of flashy, over-the-top headphones. They're as much an accessory as a listening device.

Our cheap but chic option this month comes from Xiaomi and sells for just RMB199 on Tmall. Producing a comparably clear, crisp sound for the price, the lightweight Mi Headphones are plenty comfortable and come in white or ostentatious black and gold. They're compatible with any smartphone, tablet or laptop you have, so there's no need to trade in your malfunctioning Apple phone for a Xiaomi just yet.

On the higher end is Sennheiser's Momentum 2.0, listed at a steep but bearable RMB2,199. Boasting more spacious and softer earcups than the 1.0, they bring out the best in all types of music – including heavy bass – and conveniently fold up to fit in a carrying case. The leather band and vintage design convey a smart sophistication that's a bit more age-appropriate than those glossy Beats by Dr. Dre you bought in college.

INSPECT-A-GADGET

Cheap Camera Drone

We quickly realized something was wrong. Perched on the edge of a building, we watched as Yadajia's D61 drone drifted out of reach in the wind, six stories up.

Onboard camera rolling, the 26-second video ends when the drone apparently crosses the 70-meter Wi-Fi range and out of our possession forever. Total money lost? RMB198.

Packing 'good-enough' features that were the realm of prosumers just a few years ago, the quadcopter is about the size of a large pizza and costs less than a nice meal. In the box, you get everything you need to fly it, including an Xbox-inspired controller, which has a smartphone grip. Though a phone is not required, it makes the drone infinitely cooler by giving a live view from the camera and allowing you to record video, that although is



HOW MUCH: RMB198
SOLD WHERE: TAOBAO (SEARCH D61WG)
FOR WHO: THE DRONE CURIOUS

advertised as being 720p, looks a bit lower.

Build quality is what you would expect at the price point – flimsy plastic and screw holes a smidgen too small – but on the whole the drone works, though it can be a bit unwieldy, as we found out the hard way.

While the drone industry in the West has seen layoffs and 'pivots' away from manufacturing, the D61 is a drone that only China could provide. Though DJI remains the obvious choice for hardcore hobbyists and videographers, this drone is an excellent first step for those who want to fly seven minutes at a time.