

Wireless Charging Via Pond

Written by Marco Attard
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Hardware startup Devant plans to add wireless charging to the iPhone 5/5s with the Pond Project-- an Apple MFi-approved charging case, tray and fob adapter ecosystem based on the Qi wireless charging standard.



The flagship Pond device is the Stream, a Lightning connector-compatible Qi adapter built inside an iPhone case. It features a 2-piece design (with a bottom portion docking in the connector and a top portion locking the handset in place) and delivers 1 amp of power to the iPhone via wireless charging pads using the Qi standard.

Devant says Stream is "the first globally available Apple MFi-approved Qi wireless charging case" for iPhones, which will be available in ABS plastic, maple and walnut.

Handling charging duties is the Pond "wireless charging valet tray." It is essentially a Qi charging pad in the shape of a tray in birch, maple or walnut, one complete with an indented area in which one can put their keys, wallet and the like.

It comes in two versions-- regular (charges one device with an integrated 10000 mAh battery) and Duo (charges two devices with 2 multi-coil Qi charging stations and 20000 battery). Both also feature a 5V USB plug for wired charging.

A final piece of the Pond puzzle is the Pebble, a soft-touch fob adapter adding Qi wireless charging to any device with a micro USB or Lightning connector.

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Devant is currently looking to fund development on the Pond device family via preorders on the Kickstarter crowdfunding platform, where it already made nearly \$10000 out of a \$30000 goal (with 22 days to go on time of writing). Should the campaign be successful Pond devices will start shipping from August 2014.

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