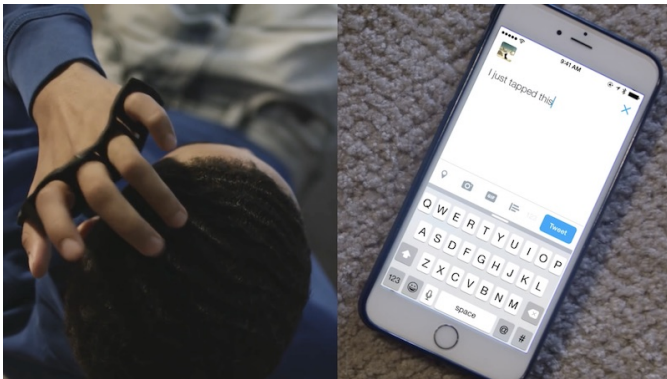


How to Tap Towards a Wearable Mobile Keyboard

Written by Marco Attard
20. May 2016

Ran Poliakine, the man behind wireless charger startup Powermat Technologies, aims to make typing on mobile devices easier with Tap, a wearable device able to translate taps into letters or keyboards.



The Tap is made out of a soft foam material and slips on the fingers like a knuckleduster. It uses any flat surface-- "a table, a chair or even your body"-- and a unique input system able to turn 31 different taps into letters or numbers. Connectivity comes through Bluetooth and the makers say it is compatible with smartphones, tablets, wearable devices and even VR headsets.

The actual input method takes some time getting used to, and as such it requires around 1 hour to master via game-style tutorial on a companion TapGenius app.

"Tap brings an entirely new dimension to how we can interface with the digital world," Poliakine claims. "Tap's fundamental technology is applicable not only to language, but also to music, gaming and control. It is a new modality that opens up a world of creative possibilities."

The Tap is set for release by end 2016. A development kit will also be available to select developers and OEMs wanting to integrate the technology in own apps, games, AR/VR experiences and devices.

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