

converted to 'Final Scratch' software that enables them to mix sound files on their laptops. Radio 1 VJ and DJ Kriel dumped his vinyl a while ago: "Four years ago, if a DJ walked on stage with CDs, you'd have laughed. Now there's stuff you can do with Final Scratch that you can't do with the CDJ."

At the moment, you have to plug your iPod up to a laptop to mix with it, but rumours are already spreading of the mythical black iPod stuffed with next-level mixing technology. "Where did you hear that?" asks Apple Europe's spokesperson. "I can't confirm or deny anything, but I'll say this: we know there are people working on their own mixing software already."

"Those DJs whose reputations depend on them getting tunes before everyone else need to watch out," says Kriel.

"How people judge a great DJ is changing fast."

iPod nights are springing up all over the country as people develop a taste for no-holds-barred musical rampages. At noWax ([www.nowax.com](http://www.nowax.com)) in London, punters are invited to take their iPods along and each play three tunes at a time. It's DIY clubbing at its most simple. "Even without mixing, there's a skill," says promoter Raj Panjwani "Knowing what to play next. You've got to be selfless. If the other DJ's just done really well with a reggae track, it's pointless putting on The Darkness."

## I'M A SKINFLINT, GET ME OUT OF HERE

When Mixmag visited our local branch of Cash Converters, we got offered a measly thirty quid for a [theoretical] box-fresh 20 gig model. "We've only had a couple in so far," said staff member Tony D, "but we've sold them pretty fast." At those prices? No kidding.

## iPOD TRIBES

### iCaring Sharers

When not taking a bite of your lunch and using the last of the bog roll, iSharers will happily jack their headphones into a stranger's iPod, and vice-versa, for a quick blast of someone else's taste in music.

### iSnobs

Wouldn't be seen dead with anything less than the original "first generation" iPod, ignoring the fact that it's smaller in capacity, cost more and the battery's probably died by now. Often they

avoid recent converts by swapping the white headphones for anonymous black (actually a good idea, see "iCrime time" above).

### iSlobs

You didn't get a case, so now your iPod's shiny back is all scratched. None of your music files are in album folders or categorised in any way.

### iSpods

The iPod equivalent of the trainspotter, found craning his neck over your shoulder to check out what you're listening to, then sneering because it's a Justin Timberlake remix, not something unlistenable by Stockhausen. 

