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# Kogan Blu-ray Player


Ready for the day when BD-Live isn't rubbish.

Kogan 

[www.kogan.com.au](http://www.kogan.com.au) 

\$199 

Wi-Fi; USB for external media. 

If only it streamed media via Wi-Fi. 



If you're a Blu-ray aficionado, chances are you've tried out the BD-Live functionality found on the latest players. You probably then turned it off exactly three minutes later. If you've never used BD-Live, it's just like having an internet browser in your Blu-ray menu, but running at speeds that make a 56k modem look snappy. Adding insult to injury, this browser is also limited to downloading a mere trailer or two related to the film you're viewing. Therefore the fact that this \$199 Blu-ray player supports it isn't really a compelling argument for purchase.

However, the fact that it

supports this feature courtesy of an integrated Wi-Fi connection is compelling. Not only does it make enabling BD-Live easy, it's also great for keeping the player's firmware up to date. If only it had gone one better and streamed media from your PC to the player, we'd have been in love. It does play media from external storage courtesy of its USB port though, and even supports everybody's favourite \*cough\* legal video format \*cough\*, .mkv.

As a Blu-ray player, it does a sterling job. Load times are minimal, and it's quite happy to skip back and forth through chapters. The image

quality is great, although standing it next to a \$2,000 Denon may show a few shortcomings. It's whisper-quiet during playback, so won't spoil the atmosphere. It's even got 7.1 outputs on the back for those who have the speakers but no amp (however unlikely that may be). The menu rounds out this excellent package, with a very clear, intuitive interface.

Considering the excellent price, this player is hard to fault. Even better, if and when the day arrives when BD-Live is actually worth using, you'll be well equipped to make the most of it.

**Bennett Ring**

