

# Aakash Tablet



**Aakash** is first of Android-based tablet computers produced by British company DataWind. It is manufactured by the India-based company Quad, at a new production centre in Hyderabad. The tablet was officially launched as the *Aakash* in New Delhi on 5 October 2011.

The Aakash is a low-cost tablet computer with a 7-inch touch screen, ARM 11 processor and 256 MB RAM running under the Android 2.2 operating system. It has two universal serial bus (USB) ports and delivers high definition (HD) quality video. For applications, the Aakash will have access to Getjar, an independent market, rather than the Android Market.

The device was developed as part of the country's aim to link 25,000 colleges and 400 universities in an e-learning program. Originally projected as a "\$35 laptop", the device will be sold to the Government of India and distributed to university students — initially at US\$50 until further orders are received and projected eventually to achieve the target \$35 price. A commercial version of Aakash is currently marketed as *UbiSlate 7+* at a price of \$60. The Aakash 2, codenamed *UbiSlate 7Ci*, was released on 11 November 2012 and has a configuration that is an improvement over previous versions. The tablet will be sold to MHRD at a cost of Rs.2263 and subsidised to Rs.1130 for students.

Since the launch of **Aakash tablet** on one hand it has been praised a lot for the price it has been made available to the Indian mass. On the other hand it has been criticized for compromised specifications and features. However considering everything and summing it up Aakash tablet is a good product for the starters who have always wished to own a tablet PC and could not afford it and has a great scope of improvement.

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### Inside Story Headline

Android 802.11

256 MB RAM

USB port

336 MHz ARM 11 Processor

Front Facing Camera

WiFi 802.11

2GB (internal) flash memory,  
which is expandable up to 32GB  
using a micro SD card

## Specifications

### Processor

It comes bundled with an ARM 11 processor with the clocking frequency of 366 Mhz which i would call rather slow. When compared with other similar devices akash tablet lags way behind. This means you need to have a lot of patience if you have requirements like high quality gaming and you are addicted of watching high quality videos. Although low resolution videos run well on this tablet pc.

### Battery

The capacity of the battery of akash tablet is 2100 Mah which i would consider to be a little less considering the screen size. With a 7 inches display it would hardly be able to manage a playback time of 2 hours. I consider this a drawback obviously. The battery has also been reported to have some heating issues.

### Memory specifications

No too much should be expected from a 256 mb RAM which is just enough to run basic tasks on akash tablet. It comes with a secondary memory of 2 GB which can be expanded upto 32 Gb using micro SD card.

### Display

It comes with a 7 inches resistive display which i would call not too much complaining at the price this tablet is sold. Although capacitive screen could have given a much better user experience and multi touch feature. . However the resistive screen does the job and is quite manageable.

### Operating System

Aakash tablet runs on Android Version 2.2 also known as froyo. But it devoids its users from the most exciting feature of using android platform which is android market.

### Price

Now come the best part.Akash tablet has been made available as two versions , one of which is sold commercially to general public and the other one is meant for only indian students. The specifications of both being same , the commercial version is priced at 2,500 INR or approximately USD 50. For students it has been presented at ridiculously low price at 1,138 Indian rupees or USD 25 after the cost being subsidized and slashed to less than 50%.

Whatever the verdicts be the fact is that akash tablet has developed its own craze which doesn't seem to be stop any time sooner specially with the announcement of improved version being released in near future.

S.No.	Technical Specifications	Aakash	Aakash 2
1	Processor	366 MHz	1 GHz
2	Memory (RAM)	256 MB	512 MB
3	Storage (Internal)	2 GB	4GB
4	SD Card slot for external memory	Up to 32 GB	up to 32 GB
5	Peripheral	2 x Standard Type A Mini USB 2.0 Ports	USB 2.0 port with 4 Port USB Hub
6	Audio-out	1x3.5 mm jack	Integrated speakers
7	Audio-in	1x3.5 mm jack	3.5mm jack for external headphones/speakers
8	Display and Resolution	7" resistive touch Screen with 800x480 pixel resolution	7" multi-touch capacitive projective display with at least 800x480 resolution/screen



### Inside Story Headline

## Aakash 2

Datawind in association with the HRD Ministry has launched Aakash 2 - the new version of India's low-cost tablet Aakash, which was trashed by both users and reviewers for its poor performance. The new Aakash 2 tablet is available at a subsidised price of Rs 1,130 for Indian students, while Datawind is delivering the tablet to the HRD Ministry at Rs 2,263.

Compared to the previous version of the Aakash tablet, which proved to be a dud, the company has now upgraded some of the key features to enhance the user experience.

The new Aakash 2 tablet comes engineered with a 1GHz Cortex A8 processor, while the original Aakash tablet was powered by a 366 MHz processor. The Aakash 2 tablet has a 7-inch capacitive display with four multi-touch points. The screen has a resolution of 800x480 pixels. The previous version of Aakash had a 7-inch resistive touch screen.

Besides, the upgraded Aakash runs Android 4.0 operating system, whereas its predecessor had Android 2.2 OS. The Aakash 2 sports a front-facing VGA camera, and has built-in Wi-Fi connectivity. The new tablet has 512 MB RAM and internal memory of 4GB, which is expandable up to 32GB using a micro SD card. The tablet is said to offer around four hours of battery time.

The commercial version of the Aakash 2 unit is branded as UbiSlate 7Ci, and is available for purchase on DataWind's website at Rs 4,499.

The tablet 'Aakash 2' was launched in October last year by the government to make available computing devices to students at subsidised rates.

512 MB RAM

USB port

1 GHz Cortex A8 processor

Front facing camera

WiFi

7-inch multi-touch capacitive screen

4GB (internal) flash memory, which is expandable up to 32GB using a micro SD card



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## Conclusion

All of the above features along with a good document and PDF viewer, editor, wifi, makes Aakash Tablet a good tablet for people who cannot afford biggies like iPads and Playbooks. Students can seek most advantages from Aakash as it offers no less features than any other tablet available in the market. You cannot ask more at Rs. 2999

When we compare aakash and aakash 2. Aakash 2 clearly stands out of the way, offering so much better than aakash, being it features like 1GHz processor, 512 RAM, 4GB internal memory or may be looks or a Android 4.0 these all features makes aakash 2 better than Aakash.

## References

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