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*i*Phone

If you don't have an iPhone, well, you don't have an iPhone

The iPhone is a line of smart phones designed and marketed by Apple Inc. It runs Apple's iOS mobile operating system, known as the "iPhone OS" until mid-2010, shortly after the release of the iPad. The first generation iPhone was released on June 29, 2007, the most recent iPhone, the sixth-generation iPhone 5, on September 21, 2012. The user interface is built around the device's multi-touch screen, including a virtual keyboard. The iPhone has Wi-Fi and cellular connectivity (2G, 3G, 4G, and LTE).

An iPhone can shoot video (though this was not a standard feature until the iPhone 3GS), take photos, play music, send and receive email, browse the web, send texts, and receive visual voicemail. Other functions—games, reference, GPS navigation, social networking, etc.—can be enabled by downloading apps; as of 2012, the App Store offered more than 775,000 apps by Apple and third parties. There are six generations of iPhone models, each accompanied by one of the six major releases of iOS. The original 1st generation iPhone was a GSM phone, and established design precedents, such as a button placement that has persisted through all models and a screen size maintained until the launch of the iPhone 5 in 2012.

The iPhone 3G added 3G cellular network capabilities and A-GPSlocation. The iPhone 3GS added a faster processor and a higher-resolution camera that could record video at 480p. The iPhone 4 featured a higher-resolution 960×640 "retina display", a VGA front-facing camera for video calling and other apps, and a 5-megapixel rear-facing camera with 720p video capture. The iPhone 4S upgrades to an 8-megapixel camera with 1080p video recording, a dual-core processor, and a natural language voice control system called Siri. iPhone 5 features the new A6 processor, increases the size of the Retina display to 4 inches, and replaces the 30-pin connector with an all-digital Lightning connector.

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"The biggest thing to happen to iPhone since iPhone" - iPhone 5.

Inside Story Headline

Bigger Screen

TFT Capacitive Touch Screen

Touch Focus

Predictive Text Input

Face Detection

Know more about iPhone

When the iPhone came on scene, it did a number of things that were truly innovative for a phone. It featured a huge full touch screen that was very responsive to fingers. Most other touch screens till then seemed a bit slow. Further, the Gorilla glass screen was scratch resistant and allowed you to keep your phone in your pocket with other knickknacks, without the fear of it getting scratched. The sleek phone with just one physical button and a firm aluminum casing was very innovative.

Hardware aside, what really distinguished the iPhone when it was launched, was the software that you could run on it. The iOS coupled with the App Store allowed you to install and run a host of apps on the iPhone, developed by programmers across the world. Till then, there were not many ways for smartphone users to extend the basic functionality of their phones. With the introduction of a system to install apps, the iPhone opened gates for people to use their phones in many ways.

Graphics intensive mobile gaming, streamed videos, watching movies, browsing the Internet, photo sharing from the mobile, checking emails, chatting, social media networking, GPS navigation, ticket booking, location sharing and uploading videos are some smartphone features that became commonplace, because of the iPhone. While many of these were possible on certain models of phones before the iPhone, never was there a phone that could handle all these functions with ease. What's more, the design of the iPhone made these features easy to use even for the non tech savvy.

Unlike other smartphones, iPhone is the only phone that uses iOS that makes software developers to concentrate on lucrative features that will be a lot more useful to users and have them enjoy the smartphone than ever before. Therefore all the considered facts that make iPhone the best phone are all related to hardware, the ability to update system without worrying about any bugs since it is the only phone that uses that software as well as having a smartphone that also acts as an iPod and an iPad!





Inside Story Headline

Technical Features

OPERATING SYSTEM

The iPhone runs the iOS operating system, or OS. Other smartphone operating systems include Android, Blackberry, Symbian and Windows. The iOS runs solely on the iPhone, while other operating systems, such as Android, are available on multiple brands of cell phones. The iOS includes multitasking, folders and tethering that allows other devices to share the phone's Internet connection, but similar features are available with other mobile operating systems as well. One difference is that although iOS can be "hacked," it doesn't allow the same level of customization and programming as the systems that run other smartphones.

COMPATIBILITY

The first four versions of the iPhone must be synchronized with a personal computer and iTunes. An iPhone user needs a Mac or a Windows-based computer and an iTunes account. This sets it apart from the majority of smartphones on the market, since other phones don't require a computer to set up and use the phone. The release of iOS 5 changes this requirement, allowing those without computers to own the iPhone.

APPLICATIONS

The iPhone connects to Apple's App store, which offers thousands of applications for use on the iPhone. Programmers must use a special set of developer tools to make the apps, and many have at least a small fee for use. Other operating systems don't require the use of propriety software for application development. Despite this requirement and the stipulation that Apple approve the program, as of the time of publication the iPhone has the widest selection of applications available and is the only phone with advanced video editing capabilities.

HARDWARE

The iPhone has different hardware from other smartphones. The reported battery life is one of the longest of any smartphone on the market, as of the time of publication. The iPhone's screen size is smaller than most other smartphones, but it has an extremely high pixel density, giving it one of the sharpest resolutions available.

Dual-Core 1.2 GHz

Wi-Fi 802.11b/g

Bluetooth 2.1 + EDR

PowerVR SGX 543 MP3 (triple-core graphics)

HTML (Safari)

iMessage

ACM



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Conclusion

Currently, it is pretty hard to point out significant differences in functionality between the iPhone and other Smartphones. All the major features that are available on one are available on the other. The hardware looks similar and even the user interfaces have many similarities. Today, the differences between the iPhone and other Smartphones boil down to considerations such as price, ability to jailbreak the phone and install your favorite software, hardware specifications, data plans provided by mobile carriers and the ability to connect with other devices. Choosing a smartphone has become difficult as the distinguishing lines between the iPhone and other Smartphones have blurred. It is all boiling down to user preference rather than significant differences between the iPhone and other Smart phones.

References

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