

What is a Tablet?



- Small, portable computer that you use by touching the screen.
- It usually has a longer battery life than a laptop.
- You connect to the Internet through Wi-Fi or cellular data (Data also might be called 3g or 4g)
- You do things using “apps” or applications that you get from the device’s store.
- It can sense movement and change in orientation.
- Most have GPS location capabilities.

Also may be called:

- Mobile device
- Smart device

What is an eReader?



- An eReader (electronic reader) is a device for reading content, such as eBooks, newspapers and documents.
- eReaders use e ink (electronic ink) which provides a reading experience closer to reading on paper. It tends to be easier on the eyes and requires much less power so the device can go days or even weeks between charges.
- eReaders can be read in full sunlight without the glare of a tablet.

Tablets can also function as eReaders.

How e ink works

Electronic ink is made up of tiny microcapsules suspended in a clear fluid. When you “turn the page” an electrical charge is applied and the capsules will either rise to the top or be pulled to the bottom.

http://www.eink.com/how_e_ink_works.html



Questions to ask when choosing an eReader or Tablet

? What do you want to do with the device?

- Just read eBooks:
eReaders - Kindle, Nook, ePub eReaders
- Browse the Internet, Email and Facebook, Listen to music, Play games, Read eBooks, Watch movies:
Tablets – Android, iPad, Kindle Fire, Nook HD

? How much do you want to pay?

eReaders

ePub eReaders- Kobo, Sony ect. (\$40 and up)
 Amazon Kindle eReader (\$79 - \$199)
 Nook GlowLight eReader (\$129)

Tablets

Amazon Kindle Fire Tablets (\$50 - \$229)
 Android Tablets (\$140 and up)
 Nook HD Tablet (\$149 - \$399)
 Apple iPad Mini (\$269)
 Apple iPad (\$399)
 Microsoft Surface Tablet (\$700)
 Apple Pro (\$799)

? How heavy is the device?

(Will you be holding the reader for a long time? Carry the device with you?)

Lighter

Kindle - 5.9 ounces
 Nook Glowlight - 7 ounces
 Kindle Paperwhite - 7.3 ounces

Heavier

Nook Tablet - 14.1 ounces
 Kindle Fire - 14.6 ounces
 iPad - 1.33 to 1.46 pounds

? How big do you need the screen?

(How much will you need to magnify the text?)

Devices come in sizes 6-10 inches

? How will you get to the Internet? Wi-Fi or 3G?

- **Wi-Fi** – You can access in a place that has a wireless router.
- **Mobile Data (3G or 4G)** – You can access most places in the United States. Most devices have either option.

? Do you want to borrow eBooks from the library?

(Do you have access to a computer or only the device?)

- Easier Library borrowing (You can borrow right from the device)
Tablets – Android, iPad, Kindle Fire, Nook HD
- Harder Library borrowing (You will need a computer to borrow)
eReaders - Kindle, Nook, ePub eReaders

? Do you want to listen to books as well?

- Play Audiobooks
Tablets – Android, iPad, Kindle Fire, Nook HD
- Text to Speech
Kindle Fire tablets – If the publisher allows, the device will convert text of an eBook to speech and read it to you.

? How much storage do I need?

(Will you be taking pictures, using many apps, or downloading content?)

The more storage you device has the more expensive it will be. Some devices have slots so you can add storage yourself.

Storage is measured in Gigabytes.

1 gigabyte will hold about 256 photos or 200 songs and a movie requires 1.50 GB for SD or 3.3 GB for HD to download.

? Where will you go to buy eBooks, Music and Movies?

- Amazon – Kindle Fire, Kindle eReader
- iTunes - iOS
- Barnes & Noble – Android, Nook eReader
- Google – Android

Tablets - choose an operating system - Android, iOS, or Windows?

Compare Tablet systems to automobiles.

They are made to do similar things but have differences depending on who makes them. The operating system is the “engine” that makes them work. Ultimately choosing comes down to personal preferences, what works best for you.



Android – used in many different tablets

Pros

Works very well with Google services – maps, drive, photos

More customization

Tend to be cheaper

Widgets for easy access to live information such as weather or news

Can have multiple accounts on the same device – share with others

Cons

Differences from device to device

Quality can vary



Android - Kindle Fire

Pros

Cheapest options

Great parental control

Works best with Amazon content

Can have multiple accounts on the same device – share with others

Cons

Limited apps – what Amazon provides



iOS - iPad

Pros

The standard for tablets

Good quality

Best selection of apps

Very similar from one device to another

Cons

More expensive



Windows

Pros

Closest in feel it a traditional computer

Good for productivity – Full versions of Word, Excel, PowerPoint

Cons

More expensive

Less available apps