



COVID-19

BEST ↘

REVIEWS ↘

NEWS ↘

HOW TO ↘

FINANCE ↘

HEALTH ↘

CARS ↘

DEALS ↘

5G



[JOIN / SIGN IN](#)

# Google: Android.com market back up in China

Despite reports that the mobile-app store was being blocked throughout mainland China, Google says the culprit was a technical issue related to a software update.



**Lance Whitney**



Oct. 11, 2011 9:43 a.m. PT



Google and the Chinese government seemed to be at odds once again today, as online services related to the search giant's Android.com market in that country were apparently inaccessible. But what appeared to be an intentional government blocking was merely a glitch related to a software update, Google told CNET.

"We identified a technical issue during a software update and have now fixed it," Google spokesman Taj Meadows wrote in an e-mail.

Two Web sites that test URLs to see if they're available in China revealed Google's online store for mobile apps was inaccessible earlier today. Search results for "market.android.com" at [Greatfirewallchina.org](http://Greatfirewallchina.org) and [blockedinchina](http://blockedinchina) indicated that Android.com services were blocked across the major regions of China, including Beijing, Shenzhen, Inner Mongolia, the Heilongjiang Province, and the Yunnan Province.

#### Related stories:

China blocking some Google searches

Partial block for Google Mobile services in China

Google Suggest searches blocked in China

Google report shows where its content is blocked

The two sites didn't explain why the app store was blocked. But some news and blog sites speculated on the motive.

The block on Android.com started over the weekend, [according to The Register](http://The Register), right after Google said it

would set up a [virtual visit to South Africa for the Dalai Lama](http://South Africa for the Dalai Lama). China and the Dalai Lama have long engaged in a war of words, criticizing each other.

Further speculation included the notion that there may have been an attempt to protect a new mobile operating system known as Qiushi, which is being developed by Chinese search engine Baidu and could present competition to Android, [according to Ubergizmo](http://Ubergizmo). An analyst who e-mailed [ZDNet Asia](http://ZDNet Asia) also said an intentional blocking of the service by the Chinese government would prevent a "major setback" for Google, as it could easily drive people to other mobile platforms.

So long as the Google service remains accessible in China, the speculation can be put aside.

**Updated at 4:30 p.m. PT** *with comment from Google, and again at 11 p.m. to reflect that this this Android market is different from the Android Market used in the U.S. Users instead visit a Web site on a computer to access online services .*

#### COMMENTS

[Software](#) | [Tech Industry](#) | [Mobile](#) | [Google](#)  
[Internet](#)



[English](#) | [Español](#)

#### MORE FROM CNET

[Upgrade to Windows 10 for free right now](#)

#### ABOUT

[About CNET](#)  
[Newsletter](#)

#### POLICIES

[Privacy Policy](#)  
[Terms of Use](#)

#### GET THE CNET APP

[App Store](#) | [Google Play](#)

The 34 best games on Nintendo Switch

[Sitemap](#)

[Mobile User Agreement](#)

**FOLLOW**

The best Wi-Fi routers of 2020

[Careers](#)

[Ad Choice](#)



Windows 10 tips and tricks

[Help Center](#)

[CA Privacy/Info We Collect](#)



The best VPN service for 2020

[Licensing](#)

[CA Do Not Sell My Info](#)

© CBS Interactive Inc. All Rights Reserved.