

10-inch Tablets: Pros and Cons

- *Large screen is good for TV, video and visually impaired*
- *Best for reading newspapers and magazines*
- *Better for productivity, especially with a keyboard*
- *More expensive than 7-inch tablets*
- *Heavier and therefore less portable*

Other things to consider

Screen Resolution

What screen resolution is best? Does it matter?

The screen resolution of the tablet makes a big difference to how clear it is and really affects your experience. Any 7-inch tablet with a 'Full HD' screen should be great, but some tablets are brighter and less reflective than others, which means they're better suited to using outside on sunny days. 10-inch tablets can have much higher resolution displays.

Is it worth buying tablet with 3G/4G?

Most tablets come in two versions, a Wi-Fi only and a Wi-Fi and 4G and/or 3G option. Wi-Fi only means that you'll need a Wi-Fi connection to use the internet, whether at home or in a café.

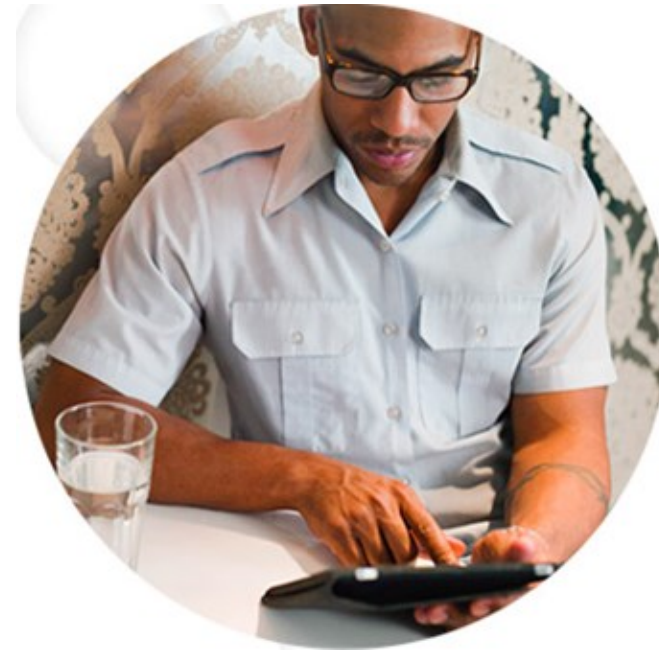
3G/4G tablets allow you to insert a SIM card so that you can use a mobile network to have internet access wherever you can get a signal.

One thing we do keep hearing from tablet owners is that they wish they'd bought one with mobile internet rather than a Wi-Fi only. If you commute, you should really consider a 3G or 4G tablet with a connection. In Zambia, with limited Wi-Fi facilities, we recommend that you consider a 3G or 4G tablet.

How much storage do I need?

If you like to have a lot of music or movies on your tablet you will need a lot of storage. Storage is measured in gigabytes (GB). 32GB is ample for most users. Only android tablets come with the option of adding some storage via a microSD card, iPads don't. These are bought separately and are relatively cheap. If you get a tablet with only limited storage, say 8GB, check to make sure it accepts microSD cards. If it doesn't, don't buy it.

TABLET



BUYING GUIDE



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The beautiful screens, portability and simplicity of tablets mean they're great to use and have become incredibly popular.

It wasn't so long ago there was only one tablet you should consider buying, Apple's iPad. But things have changed a lot in the last couple of years. There's now a multitude of tablets that are well worth considering.

Our plain guide is here to help you make your choice as simple and pain-free as possible.

Which tablet Operating System (OS) is best for you: Apple iOS, Google Android or Windows?

Each system has strengths and weaknesses. Apple iPads may be the most popular brand of tablets, but that doesn't mean they're the best for everyone.

iOS vs Android vs Windows: which is best for you?

Apple iOS

Pros and Cons

- Has considerably more tablet optimised apps than others
- iPads available with a 7.8-inch screen or a 9.7-inch one
- User interface is easy to use but not very customisable
- Tablets are more expensive but very well-made
- Don't allow for external memory to be added



Google Android

Pros and Cons

- Often cheaper than other tablets – especially 7-inch models
- Very customisable – you can make it look the way you want it to
- User accounts allow for separate settings for each member of the family
- Apps aren't always optimised for bigger screens



Microsoft Windows

Pros and Cons

- Windows RT tablets come with Microsoft Office for free
- Two versions: Windows RT (tablets apps only) and full Windows 8
- Not that much choice compared to Android
- Very limited number of quality tablet apps



What size tablet should you buy?

1. How often will the tablet leave the house?

Will you use it mostly at home on the sofa or in bed, or do you plan to take it everywhere and use it when commuting?

2. What's the primary thing you want to do?

Both sizes are good for the basics like web browsing. It's when you think about other tasks, such as reading, videos and playing games, where the differences are more pronounced.

3. How much are you willing to spend?

The bigger the tablet, the more expensive it'll be. If you only have a little to spend you may have to go for a smaller, 7-inch tablet.

7-inch Tablets: Pros and Cons

- Very portable and comfortable to hold with in one hand
- Cheaper than 10-inch versions, some cost K 2,000 or less
- Best for reading books and commuting
- Small screen makes browsing the internet a bit trickier
- Not the best for digital magazines and newspapers

