wearOS

**Wear OS** (also known simply as **Wear**[[8]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-8) and formerly **Android Wear**[[9]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-9)) is a version of [Google](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Google)'s [Android](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Android_(operating_system)) [operating system](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Operating_system) designed for [smartwatches](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Smartwatch) and other [wearables](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wearable_computer).[[10]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-10)[[11]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-11)[[12]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-:1-12) By pairing with [mobile phones](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mobile_phone) running [Android version 6.0 "Marshmallow"](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Android_Marshmallow) or newer, or [iOS](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/IOS) version 10.0 or newer with limited support from Google's pairing application,[[13]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-alsacco-13) Wear OS integrates [Google Assistant](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Google_Assistant)[[14]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-14) technology and mobile notifications into a smartwatch form factor. Wear OS is [closed-source](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Closed-source), in contrast to the [free and open-source](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Free_and_open-source) Android.[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-SIGMETRICS-2)[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-Vulcan-3)

Wear OS supports [Bluetooth](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bluetooth), [NFC](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Near-field_communication), [Wi-Fi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wi-Fi),[[15]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-15) [3G](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/3G), and [LTE](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LTE_(telecommunication)) connectivity, as well as a range of features and applications. Watch face styles include round, square and rectangular. Hardware manufacturing partners include [Asus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asus), [Broadcom](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Broadcom), [Fossil](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fossil,_Inc.), [HTC](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HTC), [Intel](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Intel), [LG](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LG_Electronics), [MediaTek](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MediaTek), [Imagination Technologies](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Imagination_Technologies), [Motorola](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Motorola_Mobility), [New Balance](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_Balance), [Qualcomm](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Qualcomm), [Samsung](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Samsung_Electronics), [Huawei](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Huawei), [Skagen](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Skagen_Denmark), [Polar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polar_Electro), [TAG Heuer](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/TAG_Heuer), [Suunto](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Suunto" \o "Suunto), and [Mobvoi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mobvoi" \o "Mobvoi).[[16]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-16)

In the first six months of availability, Canalys estimates that over 720,000 Android Wear smartwatches were shipped.[[17]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-17) As of 15 March 2018, Wear OS had between 10 and 50 million application installations.[[18]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-18) Wear OS was estimated to account for 10% of the smartwatch market in 2015.[[19]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-19)[[*needs update*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Manual_of_Style/Dates_and_numbers#Chronological_items)]

Logo for Android Wear, the previous name of the

operating system

The platform was announced on March 18, 2014, along with the release of a developer preview. At the same time, companies such as [Motorola](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Motorola), [Samsung](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Samsung_Electronics), [LG](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LG), [HTC](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HTC) and [Asus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asus) were announced as partners.[[20]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-20) On June 25, 2014, at [Google I/O](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Google_I/O), the Samsung Gear Live and LG G Watch were launched, along with further details about Android Wear. The LG G Watch is the first Android Wear smartwatch to be released and shipped. Motorola's [Moto 360](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moto_360) was released on September 5, 2014.

On December 10, 2014, an update started to roll out, adding new features including a watch face API and changed the software to be based on [Android 5.0 "Lollipop"](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Android_Lollipop).[[21]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-:2-21)

The [LG G Watch](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LG_G_Watch)[[22]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-22) and [Samsung Gear Live](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Samsung_Gear_Live)[[23]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-23) started shipping in July 2014, while the [Motorola Moto 360](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Motorola_Moto_360),[[24]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-24) began shipping in September 2014. The next batch of Android Wear devices, which arrived at the end of 2014, included the [Asus ZenWatch](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asus_ZenWatch),[[25]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-25) the [Sony SmartWatch 3](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sony_SmartWatch_3),[[26]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-26) and the [LG G Watch R](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LG_G_Watch_R).[[27]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-27) As of March 2015, the latest Wear OS devices are the [LG Watch Urbane](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LG_Watch_Urbane),[[28]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-28) and the [Huawei Watch](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Huawei_Watch).[[29]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-29)[[*needs update*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Manual_of_Style/Dates_and_numbers#Chronological_items)]

On August 31, 2015, Google launched a Wear OS app for [IOS](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/IOS) version [8.2](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/IOS_8) or newer, allowing limited support for receiving iOS notifications on smartwatches running Wear OS.[[30]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-30) As of September 2015, only the LG Watch Urbane and Huawei Watch are supported, but Google announced support for more smartwatch models.[[13]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-alsacco-13)[[31]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-31)

In March 2018, Android Wear was rebranded as Wear OS. It was stated that the renaming "better reflects our technology, vision, and most important of all — the people who wear our watches."[[32]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-32) In September 2018, Google announced Wear OS 2.0, which made the personalized Google feed (replacing [Google Now](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Google_Now)) and new fitness tracking platform [Google Fit](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Google_Fit) accessible from the watch face, and redesigned the notification area to use a scrolling pane rather than pages, and support automatically generated smart replies (as on [Android Pie](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Android_Pie)).[[33]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-:5-33)[[34]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-34) In November 2018, the underlying platform of Wear OS was upgraded to a version of Android Pie.[[35]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-35)

In January 2021, Google completed its acquisition of wearables manufacturer [Fitbit](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fitbit); upon its announcement of the purchase in November 2019, Google's head of hardware [Rick Osterloh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rick_Osterloh) stated that it would be "an opportunity to invest even more in Wear OS as well as introduce Made by Google wearable devices into the market."[[36]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-cnbc_complete-36)[[37]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-:42-37)

Wear OS powered by Samsung

In May 2021 at Google I/O, Google announced a major update to the platform, internally known as Wear OS 3.0. It incorporates a new visual design inspired by [Android 12](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Android_12), and Fitbit exercise tracking features. Google also announced a partnership with [Samsung Electronics](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Samsung_Electronics), who is collaborating with Google to unify its [Tizen](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tizen)-based smartwatch platform with Wear OS, and has committed to using Wear OS on its future smartwatch products. The underlying codebase was also upgraded to [Android 11](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Android_11).[[38]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-38)[[39]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-39) Wear OS 3.0 will be available to Wear OS devices running Qualcomm Snapdragon Wear 4100 [system on chip](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/System_on_a_chip), and will be an opt-in upgrade requiring a factory reset to install.[[40]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-40)

Features

Wear OS can synchronize notifications from a paired device, and supports voice control with the "OK Google" hotword along with gesture-based input.[[41]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-:3-41) Wear OS integrates with Google services such as the [Google Assistant](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Google_Assistant) and [Google Mobile Services](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Google_Mobile_Services) (including [Gmail](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gmail), [Google Maps](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Google_Maps), and [Google Wallet](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Google_Wallet)), as well as third-party watch apps from [Play Store](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Play_Store).[[42]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-:4-42)[[43]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-:0-43) From the watch face, the user can swipe up to access their notifications, down to access a quick settings panel, from the left to view their personalized Google feed, and the right to view [Google Fit](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Google_Fit).[[41]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-:3-41) Via Google Fit and similar applications, Wear OS supports ride and run tracking, and devices containing heart rate sensors can perform a reading on-demand, or at intervals throughout the day.[[44]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-44) The watch can control media being played on streamed on paired devices.[[43]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-:0-43)[[42]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wear_OS#cite_note-:4-42)