



ONEPLUS 5^T REVIEW

- BY UDAY MAHAJAN



 OnePlus 5^T
A New View





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Android has grown a lot over the years and recently manufacturers like Motorola, OnePlus, LG are producing great products like the Moto G Series, OnePlus 5T (OP5T), LG V30 at a great price point. OnePlus, a Shenzhen based Chinese smartphone manufacturer founded by Pete Lau and Carl Pei released its flagship OnePlus 5T on November 21, 2017 in the United States a few months after the launch of OnePlus 5 (OP5).

I was very impressed with specifications of the phone and its price-to-value ratio. It was priced at \$499 with a 0.6-inch larger display with lesser bezels than its predecessor OP5. Having used the Pixel 2 XL owned by my family member, I feel OP6T was (and may be still is – I expect to see the OP6 soon in May) the second-best Android smartphone available in the android market. I am not going to list the specs. Please refer to <https://www.oneplus.com/5t> for details. I am going to write my unbiased review with pro and cons of the OP5T based on my usage for approximately 5 months.

PRO'S FIRST:

Design & Display: I really liked the display of the phone. It really felt like the 2017 premium phone with fewer bezels, 6.01 -inch Full HD AMOLED panel with 18:9 aspect ratio, metal body. I like the fact they did not go with QHD (2K) displays as the battery life gets reduced with it. I am also glad the fingerprint scanner was at the back as I feel it's more convenient and results in bigger screen size. The camera hardware however was not designed very carefully. The bump was structured in such a way that it led the camera to touch the surface the phone was kept on (if any phone case was not used.) thus damaging the camera. I would like to add that the display of OP5T is better than Google Pixel XL according to me.

Camera: Camera and is one of the most important features to consider these days and OnePlus nails it. Although not as great as Google Pixel XL's or Samsung S9's camera quality, I felt OnePlus 5T camera was beyond expectations. Both the front and the rear cameras produced great pictures and videos without any doubt.

Other Pros: I was really impressed with the Facial recognition. Although its not as secure as iPhone's Face ID or Samsung's IRIS; it is better than most Android phones and blazingly fast. Dash charging charged my phone 60% in 35 minutes and is really an amazing feature. After some hours of music streaming, a non-excessive usage of email and social media a few of phone calls throughout the day, my battery lasted for 1.5 – 2 days. The battery life of the phone



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impressed me expect the fact that Dash charge required OnePlus 5T chargers only. Consider users forgetting the chargers at home and left with only option to use their friend's fast charger. Individual App lock was awesome; however, it would be great if OnePlus add the facial unlock for the individual AppLocker. Lastly, OnePlus did not force me to buy Bluetooth headphones or use stupid dongle by not removing the headphone jack (Thank you OP5T team). I also liked they gave student discount for the phones attracting students like me who think a lot before investing their money.

CONS: Since it's an awesome phone, this section will be somewhat short. I did not like the fact that OP5T was not Water Resistant, that the phone does not have microSD card slot, is not carrier friendly in the USA unlike my previous phone MotoG3 (2015) which was priced like \$220 when I bought it. I think carrier friendliness gives the users power to change to any carrier of their choice and travel without worry and water resistance gives a new level confidence to the users to operate the phone. I was satisfied when OnePlus tweeted that their next phone will be water resistant.

Notes specifically for the OnePlus Team: I would love to see the following features in OP6, OP6T (not necessarily in order):

- Stereo speakers,
- Improved camera (compared to other flagships, possibly with AI),
- Water resistance,
- Availability of headphone jack (Please don't follow others in this),
- A less slippery and more curved back, for comfort and convenience,
- Face unlocking improved in low light, secured, and applied to more applications,
- Maybe an in-screen fingerprint scanner,
- Special color editions release with initial launch,
- Promised faster updates to latest Android and security patches (stating with great significance),
- Better case which does not spoil the finish of the phone.

After spending 4-5 months with the OP5T, I still recommend OnePlus 5T and Google Pixel XL to Android lovers non-iOS fans depending on their budget, photography priority respectively.

My Ratings of OnePlus 5T and other competitors: Personally, considering the **specs and value for money** I would rate:



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- OnePlus 5T an 8.9/10.
- Pixel 2 XL an 8.9/10.
- iPhone X an 8.6/10
- iPhone 8 Plus an 8.8/10
- Samsung Galaxy S9 Plus an 8.8/10
- LG V30 an 8.3/10
- HUAWEI Mate 10 Pro an 8.5/10
- HUAWEI P20 PRO an 8.7/ 10
- Honor X an 8.8/10
- MotoG6 Plus (Recently Released) and 8.6/10

I am excited for the OP6 and really hope it launches before mid-May as I am looking to gift a phone to my Grandfather on his birthday. I am looking forward to OnePlus 6 & 6T, Pixel 3XL and rumored budget Pixel 3 for markets like India. I really hope they do not increase the price significantly as low price compared to other flagships is one of the features which allows them to attract more customers, students and budget market people like in Southeast Asia region.

Thank you for reading my thoughts on OnePlus 5T. I hope this was helpful.