USER GUIDE

Android Auto

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VERSION: 2.1

ISSUE: A

Please Visit: www.androidauto.com

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1. **Introduction**

   Android Auto is a technology that mirrors Android smartphone to car's entertainment system. It is a driving app that allows to use phone's applications such as making calls, listening music and getting directions while driving.

   Engineers who build Android Auto devices and Android accessories like infotainment systems and smartphones must work with the AOA protocol. Android Auto is widely used in most of the countries.

2. **Executive Summary**

   Android Auto is designed to help you stay focused on the road by reducing the need to handle your phone. Here, we will walk through what is how Android Auto works? how to connect with phone? Compatibility, Applications and Troubleshooting methods.

3. **Getting Started**

   As we have seen, a majority of brand-new cars comes with Android Auto as a standard feature, for that you may have to pay a little extra in some cases. If you have older outdated car or outdated head unit, there are plenty of aftermarket infotainment head units which will allow you to connect your phone via Android Auto. Before you start, ensure the following:

   - To use Android Auto, you need an Android phone running X.0 or higher.
   - You will need a high-quality USB cable for in-vehicle connection.

   3.1   Android Auto application

   - Download Android Auto application from the Google play store.
   - Plug the phone into your car's USB port or connect wirelessly.
   - Switch Bluetooth ON in your phone
   - Launch the Android Auto app on your mobile device.
   - Follow the on-screen Instructions to complete setup.
   - Accept all permissions and enable notification access for Android Auto.

   In addition to the above, there are also some core app quality guidelines that are followed by Google. This includes features like gesture navigation also.

   3.2   Connecting Android Device

   Make sure before making the connection your vehicle is in idle condition. The parking brake must be engaged getting started the setup.

   For better results, keep your phone's Bluetooth, Wi-Fi and Location Services turned ON while you complete the Android Auto setup.

   A pop-up notification will appear, once Android Auto is ready to use.

4. Applications

Android Auto supports numerous applications to enhances driving experience. Here is a look at some of the important applications you can use.

4.1   Navigation

➢ Access the Maps screen offers traffic updates and route planning.
➢ Provides traffic data and real-time road conditions.

4.2   Infotainment

➢ You can stream music, podcasts and playlists.
➢ Customize Radio stations based on your preferences.
   (Supports applications such as Podcasts, Spotify, etc.)

4.3   **Communication**

By using Google Assistant,

➢ Use Voice commands to make calls and send texts.
➢ Use Voice commands to send and receive messages.

4.4   Weather

➢ Use Voice commands to check the weather.
➢ Use Voice commands to change the inside temperature.

5. Compatibility

This section will give the detailed explanation about the Android Auto compatibility.

5.1   Smartphones

Any Android phone running Android X.0 or above will support Android Auto. However, any older smartphones running Android Y or below will require the Android Auto app. Recent versions of Android offer enhanced features and improved performance.

5.2   Vehicles

Most of the vehicles support Android Auto. Manufactures like Ford, Audi, BMW offer full integration of their infotainment systems. Remember that, Android Auto is optional on some brands. Before choosing the model, check for the Android Auto standards.

5.3   Aftermarket

If your car doesn't have built-in support, you can purchase after market head units that offer full integration.

Note: For further info, check www.androidauto.com/compatibility

6. Use Cases

Android Auto transforms infotainment into a connected hub that improves driving experience. Here are the most common ways Android Auto is used. And also, Android Auto improves safety and convenience in several ways.

6.1 Navigation

- ➢ Android Auto enables seamless navigation using Google Maps,
- ➢ Android Auto provides real-time updates and alternate routes.

6.2 Hands-Free communication

You can stay connected with voice-activated calls, texts and messages without taking your hands off the steering wheel.

6.3 Infotainment

You can control music and streaming services through voice commands or car's commander control or car's touchscreen.

6.4 Voice Assistance

You can use Google Voice Assistant provides hands-free access to all the updates.

6.5 Multitasking

You can switch easily to other applications without taking your eyes off the road.

7. Main Features of Android Auto

Android Auto's user interface system automatically creates on-screen tiles for different apps and shortcuts to replies. This was designed to improve the usability of the systems and also it has the ability to automatically adjust the interface's aspect ratio to accommodate the widescreen.

Android Auto will announce the calls and sender's name and read it to you while driving.

8. Troubleshooting

If any malfunction or Android Auto is not working, follow the below troubleshooting steps,

8.1 If connecting with USB cable

8.1..1   Check the USB cable to have stable projection.

8.1..2   Ensure USB cable is plugged in properly on both ends.

8.1..3   Check the Mobile device should be connected to the internet.

8.1..4   Ensure Head Unit Firmware is up to date.

8.2 If Wireless Connections

8.2..1   Allow Android Auto to access the Wi-Fi and Location.

8.2..2   Check the Mobile device should be connected to the internet.

8.2..3   Ensure Head Unit Firmware is up to date.

8.3   By Using Voice Commands

8.3..1   Make sure environment is quiet.

8.3..2   Speak gently and clearly.

8.3..3   Check the Mobile device should be connected to the internet.

Figure 2: Android Auto responding to voice commands

8.4   Reboot Android Auto

8.4..1   To reboot Android Auto, you can restart your Android device by following the below steps.

8.4..2   Press and hold the power and volume up/down button for about few seconds.

8.4..3   The power menu will appear.

8.4..4   Tap Restart.

Now, connect your device with Android Auto. If again facing the similar issue, please visit www.androidauto.com/troubleshooting

9. Third party applications

It is stated that, better not to use third party applications like You Tube as there are concerns while streaming video and driving. The reason behind this is not safer to use the third-party applications while driving. It is advised not to use the third-party applications.

For more info, please visit www.androidauto.com/privacypolicy

10. Disabling Android Auto function

Android Auto automatically enables when smartphone connects with USB. If you don't want to disable the function, disable the function in smartphone settings by following the below steps.

10.1   Go to settings

10.2   Click USB connectivity

10.3   Disable the USB connection.

11. Resetting Android Auto

Resetting the Android Auto is similar to another app you use. Here are the instructions to follow.

➢ Open the settings app on your Android phone.
➢ Go to Apps or Advanced features.
➢ Click Android Auto app.
➢ Click on storage and cache.
➢ Click on 'Clear Storage'.
➢ Clear the cache.

Now the Android Auto is all set to connected with your car.

12. Case Studies

Question: Android Auto stopped working suddenly and how can get it fixed? (wired)

Answer: Follow the steps 8.1.

Question: Android Auto stopped working and how can get it fixed? (wireless)

Answer: Follow the steps 8.2.

13. Things to Remember

➢ Once the phone connects with USB, it will get charge automatically. Unplug the phone, if not to play with Android Auto.
➢ Third party applications like WhatsApp and Skype are also compatible to use the services to make calls instead of Android Auto's conventional smartphone system.
➢ But, keep in mind Android Auto makes it safer to use while you drive. But if you are busy trying to use car apps on the display, you put yourself and others at risk.

14.Latest Versions

The latest version called Android Auto Coolwalk. You can see multiple apps on the screen side by side, at the same time. The Coolwalk feature is available in Android Auto application version 2.1.

15.Upgrade Instructions

Always check Google play store for the Android Auto application updates. Android Auto has been updated regularly over the years with significant improvements to features and functionality.

A timely software update can improve the working of the software. Always restart the app after you update the software for installation.

For Google play store application https://www.playstore.com/androidauto/

For further updates, please check www.androidauto.com/application

16.Conclusion

This User guide helps you to use Android Auto features. Keep your eyes on the road at all times is critical to car safety, you pay attention to while driving. By using Android Auto, enjoy seamless access to the features that matter most while keeping your focus on the road.

References:

1. *Online blogs*
2. *Official website: Android Automotives*
3. *Helpful Topics: TATA, Google about Android Auto, etc.*

For more info: Please visit, www.androidauto.com

Acronyms:

AOA – Android Open Accessory