



# Learn More and Do More: Exploring Accessibility and Apps for Android

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with contributions from: Carolyn Phillips and Martha Rust

Tools for Life  
[www.gatfl.gatech.edu](http://www.gatfl.gatech.edu)

[www.amacusg.org](http://www.amacusg.org)

Wednesday, June 25, 2014 at 2:00 PM EST

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  - To receive your verification form, send an e-mail with the webinar title and date, your full name, organization, city, state, e-mail address and date of birth to [Liz.Persaud@gatfl.gatech.edu](mailto:Liz.Persaud@gatfl.gatech.edu)

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## Welcome to Tools for Life

Tools for Life, Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program, is dedicated to increasing access to and acquisition of assistive technology (AT) devices and services for Georgians of all ages and disabilities so they can live, learn, work and play independently and with greater freedom in communities of their choice.

Tools for Life and the TFL Network work collaboratively together to accomplish our mission through:

## IDEAS CONFERENCE

**JUN 2** Epworth by the Sea, St Simons Island

## WEBINARS

**MAY 28** [Georgia's Leadership Model for Increasing Accessible ICT in State Government](#)

**JUN 25** [Learn More and Do More: Exploring Accessibility and Apps for Android](#)

**JUL 30** [Position for Work: A Closer Look at Workplace Accommodations & Assessments](#)

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## TOOLS FOR LIFE APPFINDER



...for Living, Learning, Working, and Playing.

## AT ONLINE EXCHANGE





## All



# All about Android



When it comes to accessibility features and apps, Apple iOS dominates everything we see and do. But did you know that the Android system has over 12,000 various products on the market? With so many to choose from, we can only wonder if the Android platform can support people with disabilities with daily tasks and through the transition process.

If you've always wanted to learn more about Android, then this session is for you! Presenters will provide an overview of the Android system, explore the built-in accessibility features and share some apps that can assist with reading, writing, organization, computer and environmental access.



# Agenda & Learning Objectives



- A Closer Look at Android
- Discuss Android Pros and Cons
- Explore Android Devices & Accessibility
- Android and Access
- Our Favorite Android Apps

1. As a result of this activity, the participant will be able to identify the difference between Apple iOS and Android systems.
2. As a result of this activity, the participant will be able to name 3 native Android accessibility features.
3. As a result of this activity, the participant will be able to identify 5 apps that can benefit people with disabilities.






# You Don't Have to Pick One



# Be Informed of Your Options



## Buddies!



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# A Closer Look at Android

---

# What Is Android?



- Android is an operating system based on the Linux kernel with a user interface based on direct manipulation, designed primarily for touchscreen mobile devices such as smartphones and tablet computers, using touch inputs, that loosely correspond to real-world actions, like swiping, tapping, pinching, and reverse pinching to manipulate on-screen objects, and a virtual keyboard. Despite being primarily designed for touchscreen input, it also has been used in televisions, games consoles, digital cameras, and other electronics.
- As of 2011, Android has the largest installed base of any mobile OS and as of 2013, its devices also sell more than Windows, iOS and Mac OS devices combined.
- As of July 2013 the Google Play store has had over 1 million Android apps published, and over 50 billion apps downloaded.

Wikipedia

# Android is Popular



- Android is popular with technology companies which require a ready-made, low-cost and customizable operating system for high-tech devices. Android's open nature has encouraged a large community of developers and enthusiasts to use the open-source code as a foundation for community-driven projects, which add new features for users.

Wikipedia



# Version History



- The version history of the Android mobile operating system began with the release of the Android beta in November 2007. The first commercial version, Android 1.0, was released in September 2008.
- Since April 2009, Android versions have been developed under a confectionery-themed code name and released in alphabetical order:

Cupcake (1.5)

Doughnut (1.6)

Eclair (2.0–2.1)

Froyo (2.2–2.2.3)

Gingerbread (2.3–2.3.7)

Honeycomb (3.0–3.2.6)

Ice Cream Sandwich (4.0–4.0.4)

Jelly Bean (4.1–4.3)

KitKat (4.4–4.4.2)

# Version History Continued



# Facts about Android



- The Android operating system was first developed by Google in 2008 in response to Apple's iOS, which dominated the smartphone market at the time.
- Since 2008, the Android OS has proven itself a worthy competitor and officially took over as the market leader in the fourth quarter of 2010.
- The number of new Android devices being activated each month continues to climb at a staggering rate.

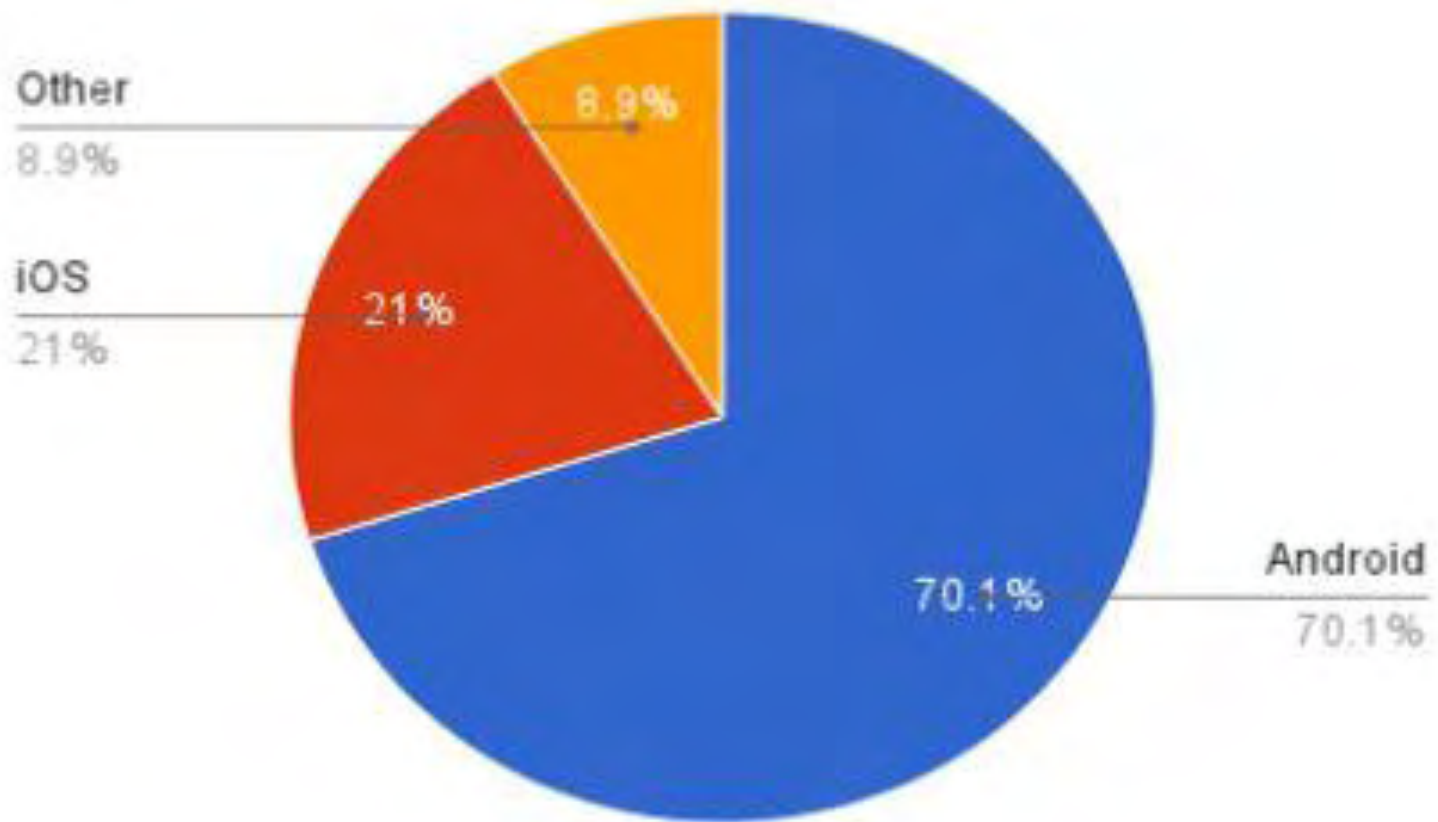


# The World's Most Popular Mobile OS

- Android powers more than a billion phones and tablets around the world.
- It's customizable, yet easy to use, and since it's made by Google, it works seamlessly with all your favorite Google apps.



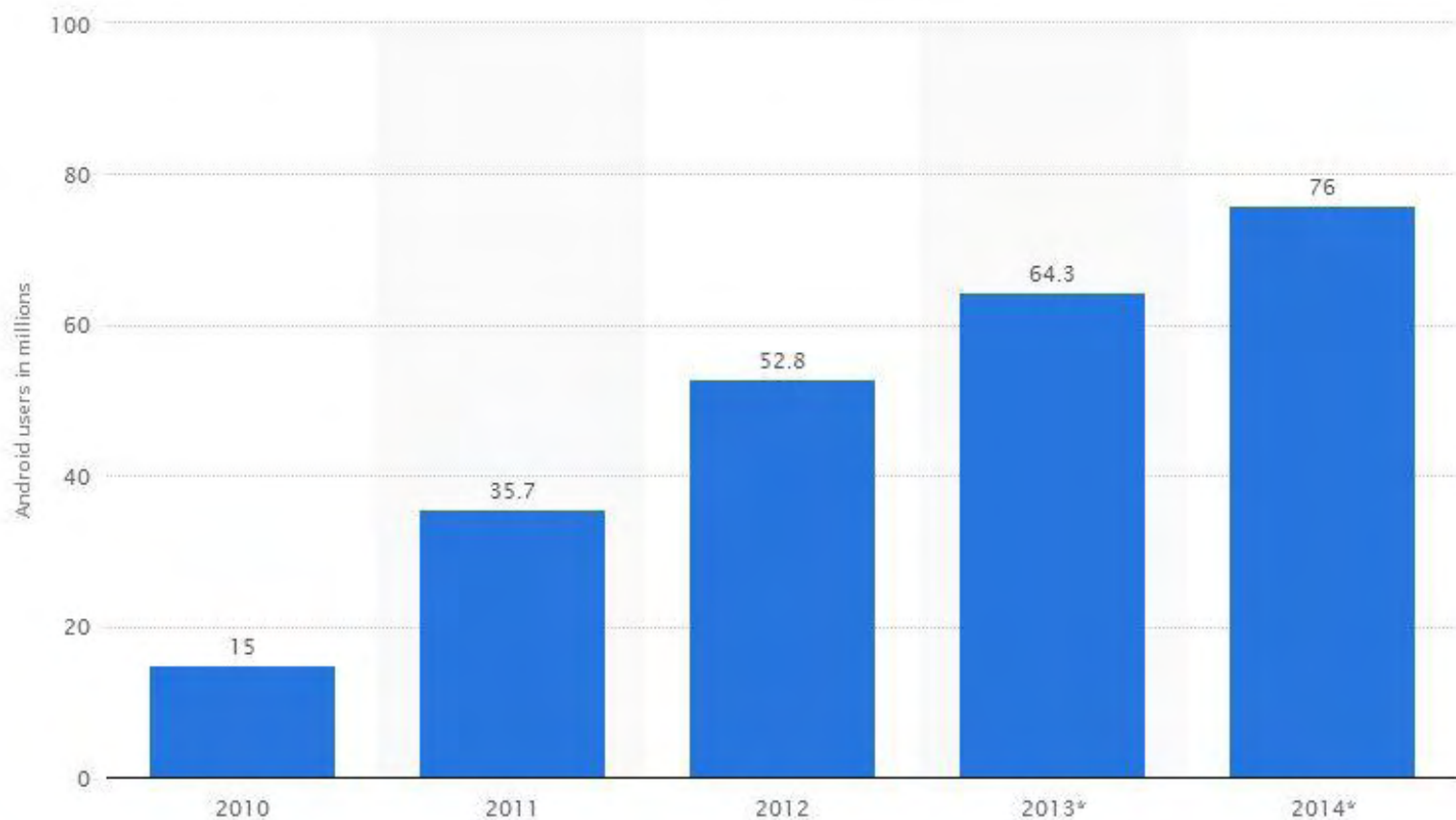
# Android is a Mobile Powerhouse





# Statistics on Android Users

Number of Android smartphone users in the United States from 2010 to 2014 (in millions)



# Smartphone Users Pick Android



47% of People Use Android Smartphones

30% of People Use iPhones

23% Use Other Smartphones

# Android vs iOS



- The major difference between Android and iOS is that Android is based around Open Source software and iOS is proprietary software
- This means that anyone can develop applications for Android without paying overpriced fees.
- This in turn means developers can charge less for apps or offer them for free.

# Pros and Cons of Android/iOS



- iOS provides the user with a universal experience.
  - If you are familiar with one iPhone, you can pick up any other iPhone and know exactly how to use it
  - Developers only have a few platforms to design for
- Android allows for deep customization and personalization
  - Users can replace keyboards, ringtones, wallpapers, even the user interface
  - Users are able to access and control more features, as well as how they operate





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# Exploring Android Devices & Accessibility

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# Samsung Galaxy Tab 3



- 7 inch screen
- Open one screen at a time
- Camera for photos and videos
- Ability to organize apps
- Similar to the Galaxy smartphone
- Starts at \$179

# Samsung Galaxy Note 8.4



- Built in accessibility features
- Multi Windows
  - 2 Screens
- Customize dashboards
- 8.4 inch display
- 10 hours Internet time
- eMeeting
  - Share screen
- Starting at \$349

# Samsung Galaxy S4

- Air Gesture
  - sensor at the top of the device, allows you to answer calls just by waving your hand
  - browse through photo albums and web browser tabs by using left and right hand gestures
- Air View
  - preview photos in an album, for example, by hovering any one of your fingers a few centimeters above the screen
- Smart Stay and Smart Scroll
  - Uses your eyes
  - Pauses when you look away or continues to scroll following your eyes



# Easy Mode

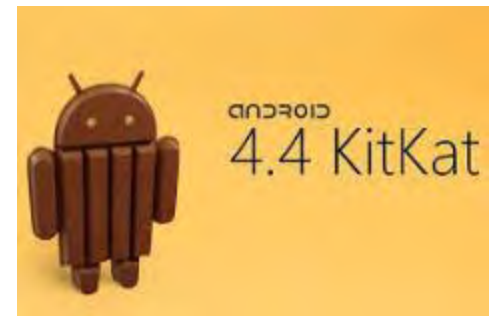
- In Settings under Home Screen Mode
- Has three home screens
- The main home screen has non removable widgets for the time, date, and weather. You will also find six apps to choose from that have much larger icons
- The left home screen is dedicated to calling
  - Can select up to nine contacts
- The right home screen includes 9 apps that you can customize to whatever you want
- Still have an app drawer
  - All apps are spelled out and in alphabetical order.
- The settings menu and camera interface is also simplified



# Android Tablets Accessibility



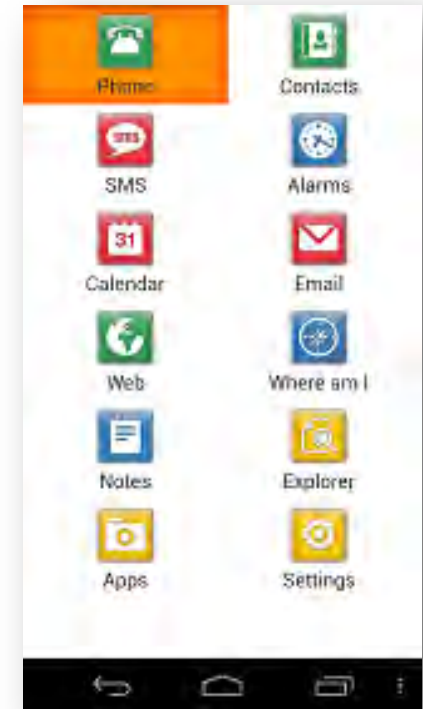
- Accessibility features are not all built in
  - Talkback, Kickback, and Soundback
  - Gesture Feature in Jellybean
  - Eyes - free keyboard
  - IDEAL Web Reader for internet
- What operation system is tablet running
  - KitKat, Jellybean, Ice cream sandwich, Honeycomb, Gingerbread
- Google Play Store to buy apps
  - Must have Gmail address
  - Can use Amazon gift cards
- Customize features
  - Pick from several kinds of keyboards





# Accessible Android Apps

- Big Launcher- icons look darker and text is larger
- Vlingo Virtual Assistant and Iris
- Text to Speech Toy- Text-to- Speech
- Eyes-free keyboard
- IDEAL web reader
- Code Factory - Mobile Accessibility Suite for AT&T users
  - 12 different apps / 30 day free trial -\$99
- [www.androidaccess.net](http://www.androidaccess.net)



## android Access: Accessible Android apps and news for the Blind and Visually Impaired

Welcome to Android Access, your portal to information on accessible Android apps and programs for the blind and visually impaired. We're excited to be a part of the Android community, and look forward to your comments, feedback, and submissions. If you're new to Android, check out our [Getting Started](#) page. Keep up to date with the latest reviews and news by [following @AndroidAccess on Twitter](#).

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# Accessible Android

## Get Maximum Eyes-Free Use from Your Android Phone

To read these pages most efficiently with a screen reader, use heading level navigation.

- At Level 2 are post dates, archives, subscription info, recent tweets, Good Stuff (a collection of pages), and More Information on Android and Accessibility (a compilation of related links).
- At Level 3 are post topics and subtopics.

For a chronological list of posts, check the archive dropdown list, or use the Topic List link under the Good Stuff heading.

To submit a post, [contact AccessAna](#).

Thursday, September 8, 2011

## How can I better enjoy my HTC EVO Shift 4G With Sense UI and Gingerbread?

Contributed by Alex Hiironen

The HTC EVO Shift 4G from Sprint is an excellent Android phone, with hardware keyboard, physical navigational controller, and decent specs. One of its drawbacks, however, is the HTC Sense user interface. The Sense UI affects fewer of the phone's applications than [the Touchwiz overlay on some Samsung phones](#), but Sense does require users to find some extra know-how or workarounds for certain things: the accessibility option in settings, the unlock gestures, the stock launcher, the call answer/reject/end gestures, the in-call screen, and the Contacts, Messaging, Alarms, and camera apps. Don't worry, most of this is still usable.

In this post, I explain how to work around the accessibility glitches in the HTC Sense

Archive: Older Posts Are Revised to Reflect Changes in the Technology

Archive: Older Posts Are Revised to Reflect Changes in the Technology ▾

Thanks Android Community

 [Access Ana](#)

I have a new Android phone, which I really like, but learning to use it has been slow going. The Eyes-Free community (both users and developers) has been very supportive. My contribution to it is to organize all their great information into articles and tutorials so that other blind and visually impaired users can enjoy their Android smartphones as much as I do mine.

Search this group

Search G

## Discussions

View: [Topic list](#), [Topic summary](#)

Topics 1 - 10 of 2443 [Older >](#)

**You cannot post messages because only members can post, and you are not currently a member.**

**Description:** Announcements and discussions about the Eyes-Free project whose focus is development of applications that provide eyes-free access to the Android platform.

### ★ [Samsung Gravity smart t-mobile](#)

I saw a tweet about this phone earlier. It's been announced but not yet released. The estimated release date is 06/08/2011. This phone has a slide out keyboard and is supposed to be available for under \$100 with a contract. I didn't see if it was 4g, but it might be a phone of interest to some of you.... [more >](#)

By **Gordon** - 3:19am - [1 new of 1 message](#) - [Report as spam](#)

### ★ [The vOICe and Color Identification](#)

I'm using the vOICe to identify colors. Generally speaking, it does a good job though it's better at giving me color approximations than precise colors. for example, it says that my aqua bedspread, sky blue throw pillow and green blanky are all cyan, and it says a canary yellow box is green or yellow green. I remember colors and the exercise of combining red, yellow, and blue in kindergarten well enough to understand that blue, aqua, and green are all on a continuum and that certain yellows (maybe not canary) can kind of sort of look green in certain lighting, so what the vOICe does makes sense to me.... [more >](#)

By **Ana G** - Jun 2 - [2 new of 2 messages](#) - [Report as spam](#)

### ★ [Seesmic](#)

I have installed seesmic and added my twitter account. I don't see a way to add any more accounts. I wanted to add my facebook account. Is anyone else usingseesmic? How do you aadd more accounts? Thanks for any help.

By **Terra Syslo** - Jun 2 - [1 new of 1 message](#) - [Report as spam](#)

### ★ [List of accessible apps?](#)

Is there a list of apps that are known to be accessible or are themselves accessibility apps? I'm trying to put together a list of things I'll need to download when the time comes. Chris

By **Christopher Bartlett** - Jun 2 - [3 new of 3 messages](#) - [Report as spam](#)

### ★ [Calculator](#)

Ok I've attempted to use several different calculators, but no luck. Can someone please let me know which one I need and maybe

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## Group info

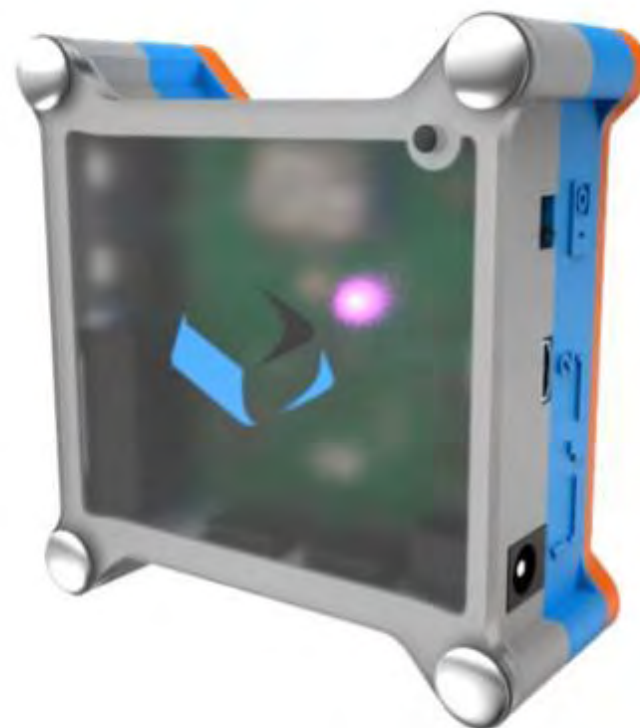
**Language:** English

**Group categories:** *Not categorized*

[More group info >](#)

# Tecla Shield

- Wireless device that controls smartphones and tablets using your external switches or the driver controls of your power wheelchair
- The only switch interface that works with both iOS® and Android™ mobile devices.







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Toll Free: (800) 626-8698 · Local: (830) 798-0005 · Fax: (830) 798-6221

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### Driver Control Packages

ASL 138 Extremity Control Joystick



100 Series

### Electronic Switches

ASL 215 Round Proximity Sensor with Mono Port and 24 Volt Connector



200 Series

### Electronic Switches

ASL 215 Round Proximity Sensor 3 Pin



200 Series

# HouseMate ECU for Android Configurator



- Enables a person with no arm movement or hand dexterity to operate everything in their environment wherever they go
- 100% of an Android Tablet/phone independently
- Push a button, blow a puff of air, bite, turn your head, raise an eyebrow or any other slight movement, even chin control joystick
- New Advanced Version includes an HID mouse interface for 100% visual control
- Makes web browsing fully accessible with a simple switch



## HouseMate ECU for Android Configurator

Click thumbnails to zoom & pan



Be the first to review this product



Email to a Friend

Sign up for price alert

Availability: In stock

As low as:

**\$459.90**

Price as configured:

**\$1,974.95**

Add to Wishlist

Add to Compare

### Quick Overview


Housemate ECU Environmental Control System enables a person with no arm movement or hand dexterity to operate everything in their environment wherever they go plus 100% of an Android Tablet and/or Android phone's functionality completely independently! Simply push a button, blow a puff of air, bite, turn your head, raise an eyebrow or any other slight movement, even chin control joystick! New Advanced Version includes an HID mouse interface for 100% visual control. Makes web browsing fully accessible with a simple switch. Compact and portable use on wheelchair or in bed!


Configure Description Details Video Specifications Questions Reviews

### Related Products

Check items to add to the cart or select all

☐  VoiceIR Environmental Voice Controller ECU - VoiceMe  
**\$799.95**  
Add to Wishlist

☐  ClickToPhone FREE TRIAL and Software Only License  
**\$379.95**  
Add to Wishlist

 Vocalize! Bluetooth Cell Phone System Configurator  
As low as:  
**\$1,079.90**  
Add to Wishlist

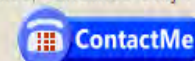
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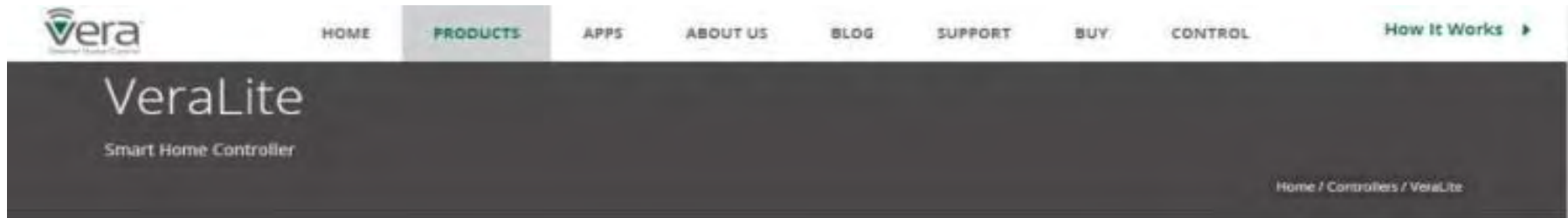
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# Android and Access

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# Environmental Controls

<http://getvera.com/controllers/veralite/>



Description Features & Specs Warranty & Support

## YOUR NEW ASSISTANT

HOME CONTROL DOESN'T HAVE TO BE COMPLICATED OR EXPENSIVE, SO WE CAME UP WITH THE VERALITE SMART CONTROLLER, WHICH IS SIMPLE AND INEXPENSIVE. IT MAY BE SMALL, BUT IT'S CAPABLE OF BIG THINGS!

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- Plug and play with your Internet connection
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VeraLite gives you easy control over lights, cameras, thermostats, door locks, alarm systems and more. Plus you easily can add intelligence to almost anything electronic in your home, and VeraLite can control them too. All the smart home benefits you've been looking for are right here in this easy, inexpensive add-on to your home network.



**AN AMAZING AMOUNT OF SMART TECHNOLOGY THAT FITS IN THE PALM OF YOUR HAND.**

VeraLite gives you easy control over lights, cameras, thermostats, door locks, alarm systems and more.

**ONLY \$179.95**

WHAT'S IN THE BOX



# Z Wave Modules

Z Wave modules differ from X-10 in that they work over a proprietary wireless network instead of existing wiring. Furthermore, instead of each module having to directly talk with the gateway, modules can communicate with each other.

This means that a command sent to the gateway is sent to all modules within range and each of those modules relay the command to all modules within their range, and so on, until the appropriate module receives the command.

This allows your network of modules to extend far out beyond the reach of the gateway itself making multiroom, multilevel, and exterior/interior implementation all on one network a possibility

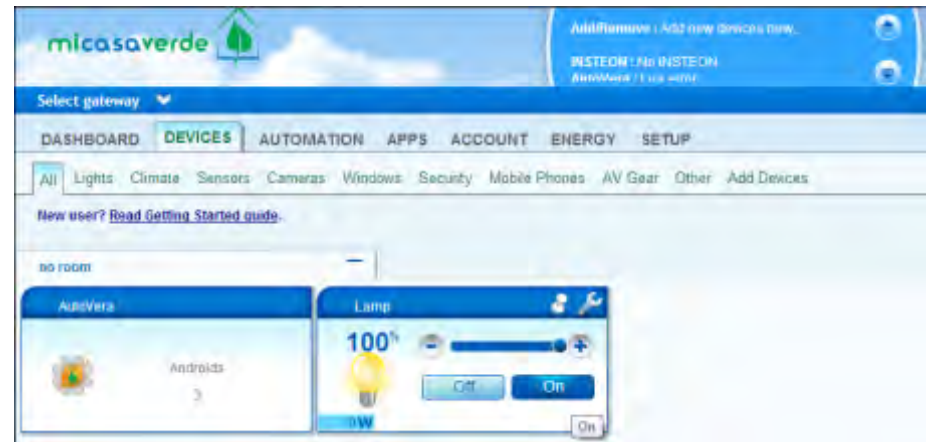
Shown at right is a dimmable 3 prong lamp switch.



# User Interfaces

Vera gateways can be controlled with a number of different interfaces.

- First Party Software
  - PC
  - MAC
  - Smartphone App



- Third Party Software
  - Smartphone Apps
  - TASKER! (Android only)





# Tasker



Tasker is a phone automation application that allows you to really unleash your android device's capabilities.

Tasker in a nutshell is a program that tells your device “When this happens, do this!”

- “When something is plugged into the headphone jack, open my music app”
- “When I open the navigation app, turn GPS on”
- “When my phone is connected to this cell tower, turn on wifi and connect to my home wifi”



# More on Tasker



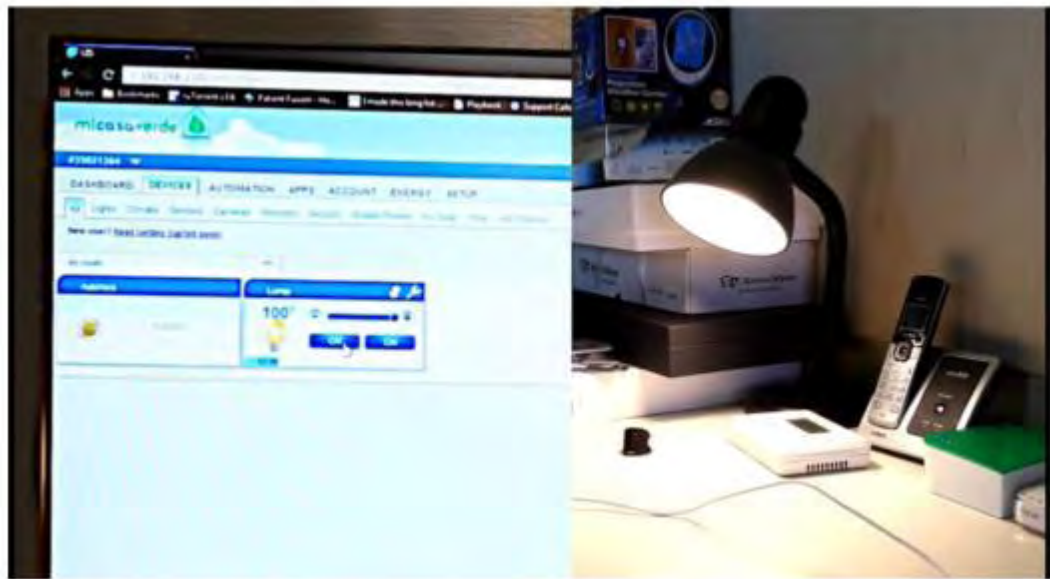
Plugins for Tasker allow you to access other features of your phone and interface with other internet connected devices.

- Autovoice – Allows you to set up custom voice commands and turn always listening on
- Autocast – Enables you to control a Chromecast device on your TV
- Autovera – Interfaces with your Vera gateway





# TFL Environmental Control Lab



# Google Glass

- Wearable Technology
- Bluetooth Connection
- Navigate
- Make a Call
- Send a Message
- Take a Picture or Video
- Get the News
- Search
- Google Play Music
- Google Now
- Be Social
- Internal Compass
- \$1500





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# Our Favorite Android Apps

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# What is Google Play?



- Google Play, formerly the Android Market, is a digital distribution platform for applications for the Android operating system and an online electronics and digital media store, operated by Google. The service allows users to browse and download applications developed with the Android SDK and published through Google, as well as music, magazines, books, movies, and television programs.
- Applications are available through Google Play either free of charge or at a cost. They can be downloaded directly to an Android or Google TV device through the Play Store mobile app, or by deploying the application to a device from the Google Play website.



# MUSIC, MOVIES, BOOKS, APPS AND MORE

on Android and the web.



## DISCOVER

Your favorites and more of what you love, now all in one place.



## ACCESS

Your stuff is everywhere you are, on the web and on your Android devices.



## ENJOY

No more hassles or waiting, just press play: it's all there, ready when you are.



## All your entertainment together

All the stuff you love is finally in one place. On Google Play you can choose from over a million apps and games, browse the world's largest eBookstore, discover millions of songs, watch the latest and greatest movies and TV shows, and even flip through your favorite magazines.

Before you decide, sample a song or book for free, view ratings, user reviews, screenshots, or watch a movie trailer. With Google

# Dragon for Android

## Dragon Mobile Assistant

- Speak to send a text, email, or call
- Set reminders
- Search the Internet
- Program to listen only to your voice
- Free

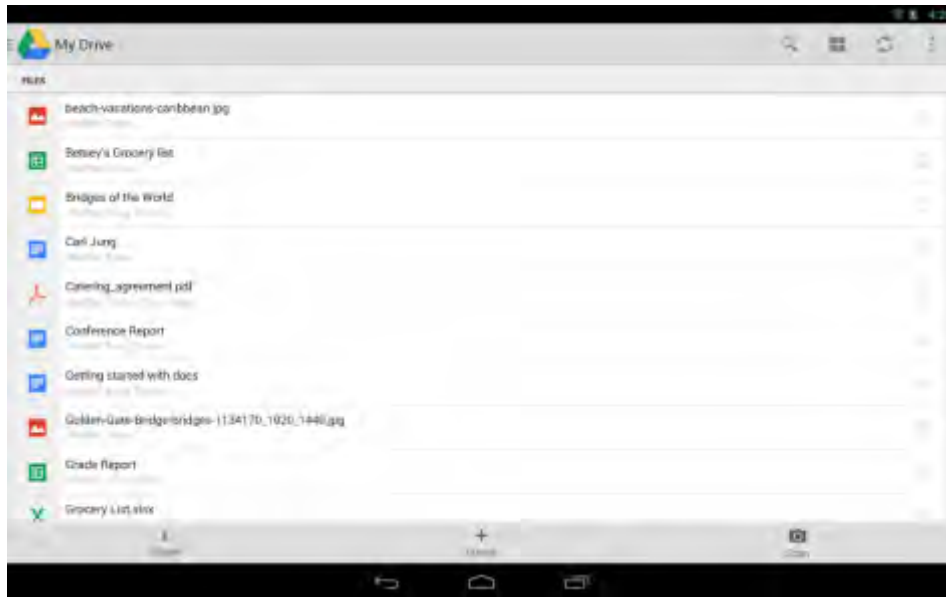
## Swype

- Alternate Keyboard
- Draw from one letter to the other without lifting a finger
- Reduces finger movement/fatigue





# Google Drive



- Upload photos, videos, documents, and other files and access wherever you go
- Share photos and files
- Make files available off-line
- Scan documents with device camera
- Up to 15 GB of storage
- Free

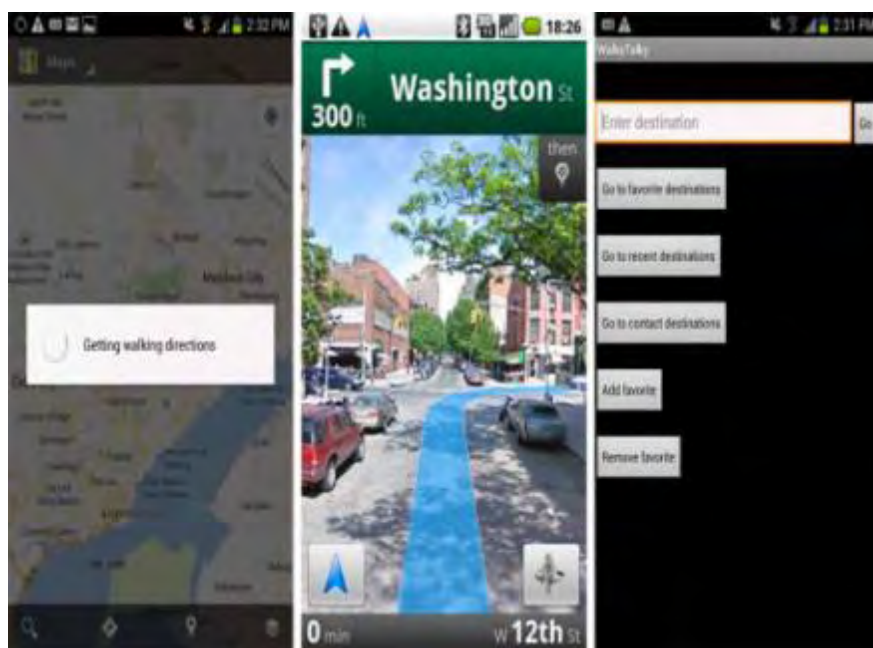


# Remote Mouse

- Turns your mobile phone or tablet into a wireless remote control for your computer
- Fully simulated mouse
- Magic trackpad
- Multi touch Gestures
- Landscape mode

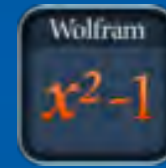


# WalkyTalky



- Accessible navigation aid
- Periodically updates the status bar with your current location to the nearest street address
- Ability to input a destination and directly launch Maps Navigation in Walking directions mode
- Need to enable GPS when running this app
- FREE

# Wolfram Alpha Apps



- Wolfram Software
- Multiple Apps
  - Algebra
  - Calculus
  - Fractions
  - Physics
- Varies in Costs
- Solve problems on the spot
- Shows solutions step-by-step

The screenshot shows the 'Results' page of the Wolfram Alpha mobile app. At the top, the status bar shows signal strength, battery, and the time 11:00. Below the status bar is a navigation bar with a back arrow and the word 'Results'. The main content area displays the following steps:

Results

$x = \pm 1$

$x = \pm(2\sqrt{2}) \approx \pm 2.8284$

Possible intermediate steps

Solve for  $x$ :

$x^4 - 9x^2 + 8 = 0$

Substitute  $y = x^2$ :

$y^2 - 9y + 8 = 0$

The left hand side factors into a product with two terms:

$(y - 8)(y - 1) = 0$

Split into two equations:

$y - 8 = 0$  or  $y - 1 = 0$

Add 8 to both sides:

$y = 8$  or  $y - 1 = 0$

At the bottom, there is a footer that says 'Powered by WolframAlpha' and '© 2013'.



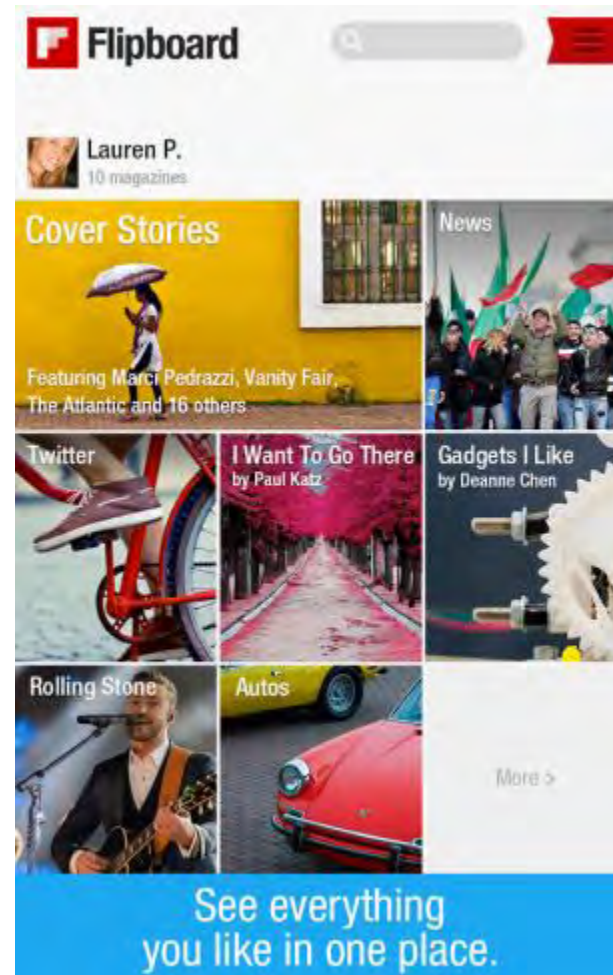


- Largest digital library with over 80 million users.
- Unlimited access to over 100,000 books for just \$8.99 / month - with a one month free trial
  - Unlimited reads
- Over 900 publishers, including NYT bestsellers, literary classics, groundbreaking non-fiction, and reader favorites in every genre
- World's largest digital document collection, with millions of user-uploaded written works
- Make notes and highlight text as you read
- Zoom in on images

# Flipboard: Your News Magazine



- Personal magazine
- Pick a few interests and tap any of the tiles to begin flipping
- Add blogs and publications
- Connect Flipboard to up to 12 social networks

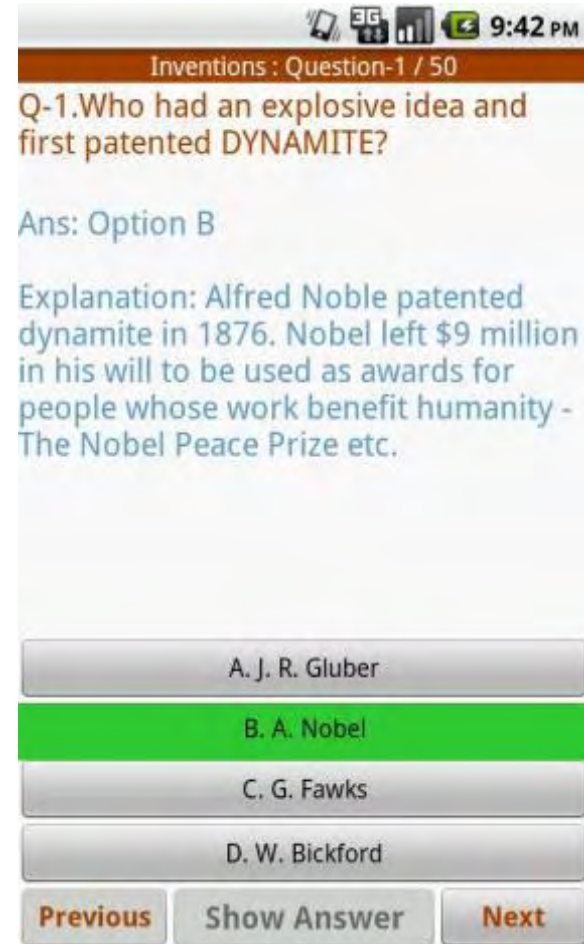




# General Science

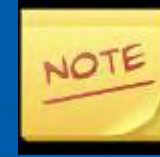


- Contains the multiple choice questions
- Free
- Question about following concepts,
  - Biology
  - Chemistry
  - Elements
  - Inventions
  - Nuclear Energy
  - Physics
  - Units & Measurements



# ColorNote Notepad

## Notes To Do



- Simple notepad app
- Organize notes by color
- Checklist for To do list & Shopping list
- Checklist to get things done
- Organize your schedule in calendar
- Password Lock note
- Free







Please listen to the following quick tips on how to use this reader. You can press the menu button to access the main menu. From there, among other features, you may select "Read to Me" to have the book read to you

While listening to a book, you may press the previous button to go back a paragraph, the play/pause button to pause or resume playback, the next button to go forward a paragraph, or table of contents button to access the table of contents.

During book playback you may also access the same features using gestures. Double tap to play or pause.

## Go Read Quick Start

Prev  
section

Pause/  
Play

Table of  
Contents

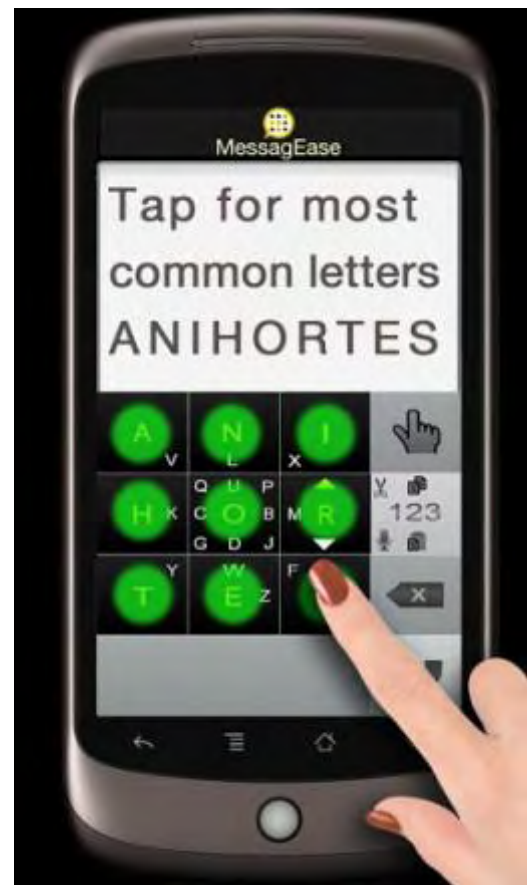
Next  
section

- FREE accessible e-book reader for people with print disabilities
  - Android 2.2 Froyo and above
- Access and download books directly from Bookshare
- Read with voiced navigation and text-to-speech
- Read books in DAISY 3 text and EPUB 2 formats

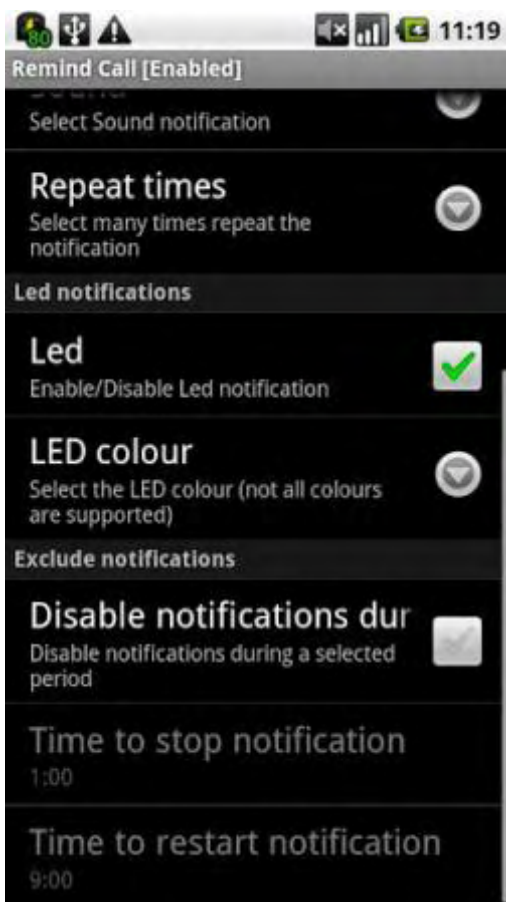
# MessageEase Keyboard



- Keyboard has large letters
- Change the colors
- Type using a Swype gesture
- Change the keyboard layout
- Lookup dictionaries to find the right spelling.
- Change the size, shape, haptic feedback
- FREE

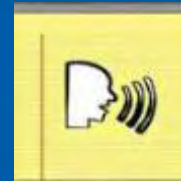


# Easy Reminder

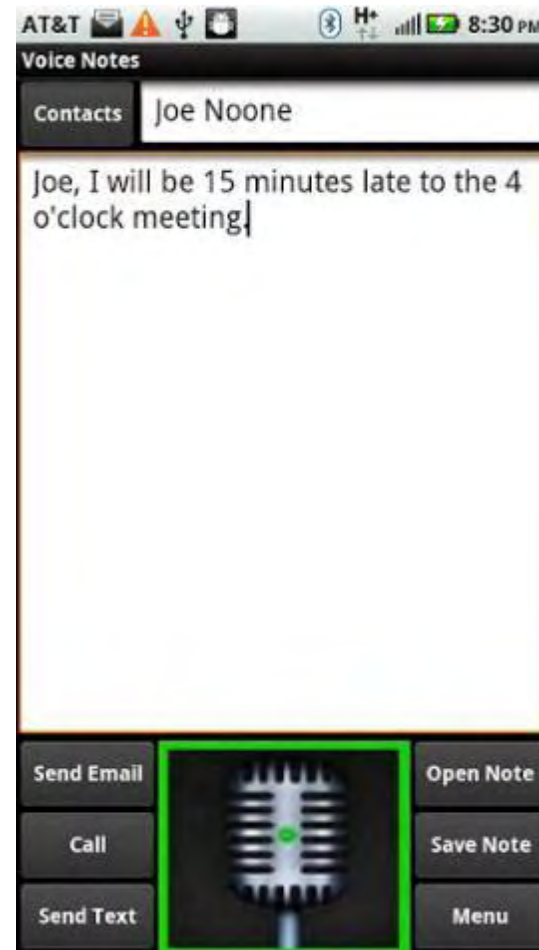


- Set alerts to remind you about unread messages or missed calls
- Notification is configurable
  - decide a time slot during which you will not be disturbed
- Free

# Voice Note Trial



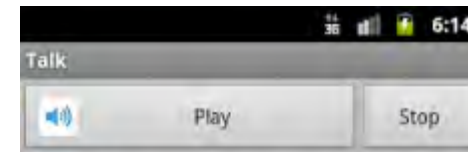
- Create lists, texts, email, notes, calls, and dial by voice
- Can use Google Voice Recognition when connected to internet
- Free



# Talk Text to Voice



- Convert text to voice using the Text-to-speech engine on your smartphone
- Allows importing web pages directly from the browser to listen to them
- Can also import selected text from other apps



Hello! I can read anything for you! :)



# The Future of this OS is Limitless



- Google has the futuristic ambition and the funds to take Android to unprecedented heights. In many areas — such as predicting what users will do next.
- Google Now knows that in the morning you're getting ready for work and will tell you about the traffic.





# Google Now

Google now

What is it

How to get it

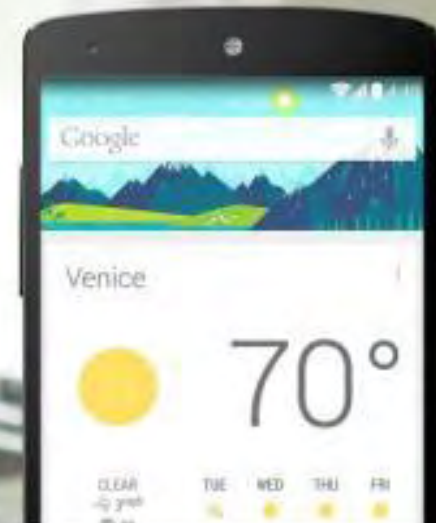
Cards

Get it now

## Introducing Google Now

The right information at just the right time

From knowing the weather before you start your day, to planning the best route to avoid traffic, or even checking your favorite team's score while they're playing, Google Now brings you the information you want, when you need it.



Assistance around the clock

# Resources



- <http://www.android.com/about/>
- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Android \(operating system\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Android_(operating_system))
- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Android version history](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Android_version_history)
- <http://www.google.com/landing/now/#whatisit>
- <http://www.statista.com/topics/876/android/>
- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Google Play](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Google_Play)
- <http://getvera.com/controllers/veralite/>
- <http://www.google.com/glass/start/>



# Questions



# Please Evaluate Us



Please take a moment to complete our survey:

<https://www.research.net/s/TFLwebinar>



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### *Disclaimer*

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