

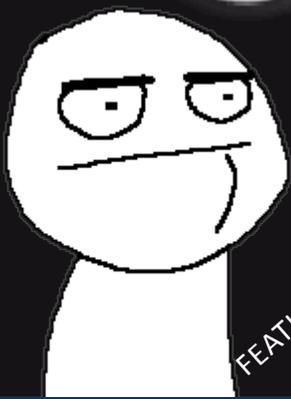


# hardWIRED

Official E-Zine - Created by Tom "Mousey" Lovelady

Issue 1 - Smartphones  
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FEATURING TL;DR DUDE!

We trawl through all the jargon and technical terms to bring you a simple, easy to understand guide on why these devices are changing the computing industry as we know it.

# What is a Smartphone?



To cut a very long story short, Smartphones have been around for a long time. They've always been the tool of the professional, The business elite that needs to be able to receive his emails anywhere on the planet, at any time to avoid some kind of disastrous financial disaster (If only more people had smartphones before the recession, Hah!).

Smartphones are typically always connected to the internet to keep the user constantly connected to their emails, instant messaging, documents and files (If they're hosted online) and all that jazz. They're also typically equipped with very high end hardware inside them so the software never lags or slows down.

Your average smartphone is designed to be powered on, And kept on. Look at a Blackberry for instance, Typically just like their users, Blackberry's don't power down unless it's essential to keep them going like a device restart. The software that powers all Blackberries known as BB OS (Blackberry Operating System) and is designed to be fast and efficient with multi-tasking and being able to deliver messages instantly without slowing down the handset at any time.

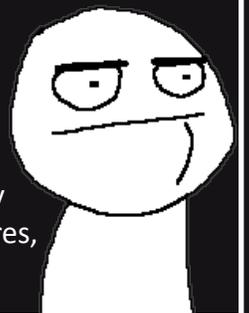
Even though Smartphones used to be the tool of the business elite, They don't seem to be anymore. When Apple released the original iPhone they really opened up the Smartphone market to consumers, Before the iPhone the only real smartphone anyone had heard of was the Blackberry, A Boring device with a full keyboard for blasting out emails and only available to people willing to pay obscene amounts of money per month for the internet access plan you need... Not "Could Do With" but NEED for a Blackberry.

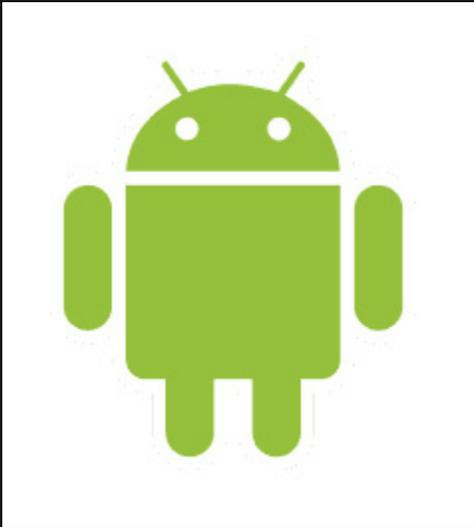
Research in Motion, or RIM, The Developers of the Blackberry unveiled their "Blackberry Internet Service" a few years back, However before i explain this you need to know a little about how Blackberries work on the internet, When a Blackberry connects to the internet for any purpose, Whether that's receiving an IM from that pesky noob on your contacts or posting a Twitter update about who's toilet you're sat on, Your Blackberry goes through several stages before it even starts receiving and sending data. First off it sends the signal to your Mobile Network/Carrier, Your Carrier/Network then sends the signal to a Blackberry Internet Server, Which then connects to the internet, Encrypts (Makes secure) the information, Then sends it back again through your Mobile Carrier to your Phone. Complicated right? Yeah... No wonder they were only available to business users before, You need an entire IT Department to learn how to send an email if you're new to them.

TL;DR Dude Says :

Smartphones have liek, Super fast hardware and all that awesome shiny stuffs in them. They're always connected to the internets too so it's easy to get your emails and stuffs.

The 3 major smartphone platforms, iPhone, Blackberry and Android all have app stores, So you can download stuffs.





# What is Android?

I'm sure at some point you will have heard the term "Android" or "Google Android" floating around and thought; "What the hell is Android?". In it's most basic form, Android is Google's take on the Mobile Platform. In about 2009 give or take, Google decided to take a whack at changing the way we look at our Mobiles. It's what's known as an "Open Source Platform"; Basically meaning that if you're Tech Savvy and not afraid to dive into some code, You can open up the files that make your phone behave the way

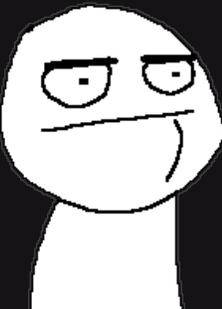
it does and modify them however you see fit without having to fear consequences from Google. Look at the iPhone for instance, Ever heard of "Jailbreaking"? (If not it will be explained later), When the Jail-break fad really took off for iPhone, Apple decided to try and crack down on it by exploiting a loop hole they left themselves in the License Agreement to sue users that had modified their phones by Jailbreaking them. Google found this ridiculous and instead decided to let users modify their phones how they saw fit, This lack of restriction allowed developers to go wild, And some of the most intuitive Applications ever seen for a mobile phone are available for Android.

Android really turned the Mobile Market on it's head, The screenshot on the right (Courtesy of daysiwant.blogspot.com) is a typical Android homescreen, By going with a more minimalist approach to the user interface, Android managed to be incredibly user-friendly, Whilst providing a great experience for the user.



TL;DR Dude Says :

Google basically realised there was liek, TONS of money to be made if they had a crack at doing their own thing for Smartphones, So they liek, Grabbed a bunch of Coders and whipped 'em until they came out with something pretty cool, Which we call Android... For some liek... Weird reason.



It's pretty awesomes for music and movies, Pretty good for games too, Battery kinda sucks on uber high end phones with it on though.