



BYOD Mobile Device Chart



Grove City Christian School Bring Your Own Device

The chart below describes many mobile devices, their features, and how they can be useful for teaching and learning. While it would be impossible to describe ALL devices, this chart selects some of the more popular and affordable mobile devices and describes their potential uses in the classroom.



Please note:

- Participation in the Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program is **OPTIONAL** (but encouraged for the 2015-2016 school year).
- Parents/Guardians are **NOT** asked to purchase a mobile device or send a mobile device to school with their child.
- Students are **NOT REQUIRED** to bring a mobile device to school.
- If students bring a mobile device to school they are expected to know how to operate the device on their own and the device needs to be charged and ready for use.
- Mention of a device in this chart does not constitute Grove City Christian School's endorsement of that product. This chart is offered for information and/or reference purposes only. All data in the chart is subject to change.

Overall Rating Chart			
Number of	Rating	Uses	Example Devices
4 Stars ★★★★	Exceptional	Have Wi-Fi capability. Allows students to create, edit, and share documents, videos and images. Ability to store files on the device or in the cloud. Matches the same configuration as the teacher's laptop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laptop (PC or Mac)
3 Stars ★★★	Great	Have Wi-Fi capability. Allows for a wide range of creative apps for working with text and graphics including pictures and video clips. In the Android area many apps are free, Apple apps will usually cost. Check the apps store and you will find an app for almost anything.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Google Chromebook • Apple iPad • Android Tablets (Google Nexus, RCA Maven, Samsung Galaxy) • Windows 8 Tablet (Surface, Nextbook)
2 Stars ★★	Useful	Have Wi-Fi capability. Allows for a wide range of creative apps for working with text and graphics including pictures and video clips. In the Android area many apps are free, Apple apps will usually cost. Check the apps store and you will find an app for almost anything. Usually just a smaller format.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apple iPhone • Apple iPod Touch • Android Phone • Windows Phone • Kindle Fire HD
1 Star ★	Acceptable	Have Wi-Fi capability. Allows for use on a specific task such as reading eBooks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nook Readers • Kindle Fire Readers

Some data in the above chart was used with permission from West Hills Christian School.



Device Descriptions

Device	Image	Features	Star Rating
Laptops (PC or Mac)			
<p>Laptops are great productivity devices because they support the same full versions of software applications that are used on desktop computers. They have a large screen and are heavier and less portable than other devices, such as tablets. Laptops often do not have a touch screen but some models may.</p> <p>Laptops are made by many different companies. Consider which type of operating system is installed as you evaluate which will work best for you. Common operating systems are Microsoft Windows, Apple's OS X, Google Chrome OS, and Linux. Laptops that run Google Chrome are referred to as Chromebooks, and they are a bit different from other laptops since they are designed to be connected to the internet.</p>			
<p>Laptop</p> <p>Cost approximately = \$275+</p> <p>Find out more at your local retail or computer store</p> <p>http://www.dell.com/ http://www.apple.com/ http://www.hp.com/</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WiFi access/Web Browsing • Larger screen size, not as portable as other devices • Great productivity device, supports same software used on desktop computers • Creativity programs including Microsoft Office suite • Local hard drive storage & cloud storage • Requires anti-virus/anti-malware • Depending on model: Built-in webcam 	<p>★★★★</p>
<p>Google Chromebook</p> <p>Cost approximately = \$200</p> <p>Find out more online at http://google.com/chromebook or at your local retail or computer store</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WiFi access/ Web browsing • Do not have access to all software like a laptop • Designed to be connected to the Internet and use apps from Google Play to access software that lives primarily on the Web, not on the computer • Cannot install traditional PC software such as Microsoft Office suite • Creativity programs including online Google apps; may allow access to online Microsoft Office suite. • A personal Google account is a requirement for using this device. • Local hard drive storage (small) & cloud storage • Requires anti-virus/anti-malware • Built-in webcam 	<p>★★★</p>


Tablets

A tablet is a one-piece mobile device that usually has a touch screen and an on-screen keyboard. Most tablets have Bluetooth compatibility so that you can connect a wireless external keyboard, if desired. Tablets are very portable and lightweight. Consider protecting a tablet with a durable case, such as an OtterBox or Gumdrop case, to protect it from accidental drops or while being carried in a backpack.

Most tablets use apps, rather than traditional software, and apps must be downloaded from a specific online app store. Tablets are good productivity tools, and they have a wide variety of apps that allow students to research information, create original content, and share ideas. As you evaluate tablets, keep in mind that tablets usually have different features and functions than computers.


<p>Apple iPad</p> <p>Cost approximately >= \$330 http://www.apple.com/ipad</p> <p>Examples:</p> <p>Apple iPad 2, iPad 3 (with Retina Display)</p> <p>Apple iPad Mini</p> <p><i>These models are compatible with newest iOS version: iOS 8</i></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WiFi access • Portable (iPad 2 & iPad 3 have 9.7 inch screen, iPad Mini has 7.9 inch screen) • Download paid and free apps from Apple iTunes App store. (Cannot install traditional software) • Wide variety of creativity apps • Front- and rear-facing cameras for photos, videos, video conference, scan QR codes • Local hard drive storage & cloud storage • Web browsing • On-screen keyboard. Bluetooth compatible for external keyboard. (No USB port) 	<p style="text-align: right;">★ ★ ★</p>
<p>Google Android Tablets</p> <p>Cost approximately >=\$200</p> <p>Examples:</p> <p>Google Nexus https://www.google.com/nexus</p> <p>Samsung Galaxy Tab http://www.samsung.com/us/mobile/galaxy-tab</p> <p>Amazon Kindle Fire HD http://www.amazon.com/kindlefire</p> <p>Barnes & Noble Nook HD is available but may be discontinued</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WiFi access • Portable (screen sizes approx. 7 to 10 inches) • Download paid and free apps from Google Play store (Cannot install traditional software) • Wide variety of creativity apps • Camera for photos, videos, scan QR codes. Models that have front- and rear-facing cameras are best for video conference. • Local hard drive storage & cloud storage • Web browsing • On-screen keyboard. Bluetooth compatible for external keyboard. Some models have USB port. 	<p style="text-align: right;">★ ★ ★</p>

<p>Windows 8 Tablet</p> <p>Cost approximately >=\$200</p> <p>Examples:</p> <p>Surface Pro http://www.microsoft.com/surface</p> <p>Nextbook http://www.nextbookusa.com/</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WiFi access and Portable • Windows 8 Pro device: Supports same software used on desktop computers and can download paid and free apps from Microsoft store • Creativity programs including Microsoft Office suite • Front- and rear-facing cameras for photos, videos, video conference, scan QR codes • Local hard drive storage & cloud storage • Web browsing • On-screen keyboard. USB and Bluetooth compatible for external keyboard. • Windows RT device (Surface): Download apps from Microsoft store (Cannot install traditional software) 	<p>★★★</p>
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<p>Apple iPod Touch</p> <p>Cost approximately >=\$200 http://www.apple.com/ipod-touch/</p> <p><i>iPod Touch 16GB and 32GB/64GB are compatible with newest iOS version: iOS 8</i></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WiFi access • Handheld (4.3 inches x 2.4 inches) • Download paid and free apps from Apple iTunes App store. (Cannot install traditional software) • Wide variety of creativity apps • Front- and rear-facing cameras for photos, videos, video conference, scan QR codes • Local hard drive storage & cloud storage • Web browsing • On-screen keyboard. Bluetooth compatible for external keyboard. (No USB port) 	<p>★★</p>
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Smart Phones


Smart phones are similar to tablets. They are handheld and have a touch screen and an on-screen keyboard. Smart phones use apps that are downloaded from a specific app store and cannot have traditional software installed on them. Smart phones are usually purchased through a cellular phone company with a calling, texting, and data plan contract. The phone company subsidizes the cost of the smart phone, so the smart phone itself is often very inexpensive. Older model smart phones can be purchased for less or come free with a contract, but they will become obsolete sooner than a newer model. Consider keeping an older smart phone if you upgrade to a new smart phone. The older smart phone has WiFi capability and can be used as a WiFi-only device; it does not need a phone number or SIM card associated with it. Consider protecting a smart phone with a durable case, such as an OtterBox or Gumdrop case, to protect it from accidental drops or while being carried in a backpack.


<p>Apple iPhone <i>iPhone 4, 4S, and 5, 6 or 6+ are compatible with newest iOS version: iOS 7 and iOS 8.</i></p> <p>http://www.apple.com/iphone/</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WiFi access • Handheld (4.3 inches x 2.4 inches)-4.7(6), 5.5(6+) • Download paid and free apps from Apple iTunes App store. (Cannot install traditional software) • Wide variety of creativity apps • Front- and rear-facing cameras for photos, videos, video conference, scan QR codes • Local hard drive storage & cloud storage • Web browsing • On-screen keyboard. Bluetooth compatible for external 	<p>★★</p>
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<p>Android Phone</p> <p>Samsung http://www.samsung.com/us/mobile/cell-phones</p> <p>LG http://www.lg.com/us/mobile</p> <p>Motorola http://www.motorola.com/us/home</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WiFi access • Handheld (variety of sizes) • Download paid and free apps from Google Play store (Cannot install traditional software) • Wide variety of creativity apps • Depending on model: Front- and rear-facing cameras for photos, videos, video conference, scan QR codes • Local hard drive storage & cloud storage • Web browsing • On-screen keyboard. Bluetooth compatible for external keyboard. (No USB port) 	<p>★★</p>
<p>Windows Phone</p> <p>Microsoft http://www.microsoft.com/en-us/mobile/phones/</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WiFi access • Handheld (variety of sizes) • Download paid and free apps from Microsoft store (Cannot install traditional software) • Wide variety of creativity apps • Depending on model: Front- and rear-facing cameras for photos, videos, video conference, scan QR codes • Local hard drive storage & cloud storage • Web browsing • On-screen keyboard. Bluetooth compatible for external 	<p>★★</p>

eBook Readers

An eBook reader is a portable device that is used primarily for reading digital books, magazines, and newspapers. Some eBook readers have a Web browser for accessing the Internet, and some have an MP3 player for playing music. eBook readers usually do not have the ability to create content, so they are not ideal for Bring Your Own Device (BYOD). These may be appropriate for younger ages.

<p>Barnes and Noble Nook Simple Touch</p> <p>Cost approximately >= \$79 http://www.barnesandnoble.com/compare-NOOKs/379003181</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WiFi • Portable (6 inch screen) • No creation or sharing features • Useful for reading books, magazines, and newspapers • eBook Formats Supported: ePub, PDF, JPG, GIF, PNG 	<p>★</p>
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<p>Amazon Kindle Reader</p> <p>Cost approximately >= \$69 http://www.amazon.com/kindle</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WiFi • Portable (6 inch screen) • No creation or sharing features • MP3 player • Limited Web browsing • eBook Formats Supported: Natively: Kindle Format 8 (AZW3), Kindle (AZW), TXT, PDF, unprotected MOBI, PRC. Through conversion: HTML, DOC, DOCX, JPEG, GIF, PNG, BMP 	<p>★</p>
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Thanks to Miguel Guhlin, Director of Technology Operations at East Central ISD in San Antonio, Texas, for permission to use and adapt their original mobile device chart. Used with permission from West Hills Christian School.

