

PRINTABLE GUIDE

Choose a phone you can use comfortably

An easy phone is one that fits your hands, eyesight, hearing and usual tasks. A device marketed for older adults is not automatically the right choice. Try a few models and judge the actual actions you need to perform.

Smartphone | 2 min read | 5 steps

Before you start

- ☐ List your essential tasks: calls, messages, photos, maps or banking.
- ☐ Set a budget including the mobile plan, charger and any setup support.

1. Start with familiar controls

Consider whether you already know iPhone or Android and who can help you. Switching can be worthwhile, but allow time to learn where settings and buttons have moved.

- ☐ Done this step

2. Test readability

Ask to increase text and display size on a demonstration device. Read a message and find a contact. Check screen brightness, glare and whether enlarged text still leaves controls understandable.

- ☐ Done this step

3. Check physical comfort

Hold the phone, press its buttons and connect the charger. Try the keyboard. A large screen can help reading but may be heavier or harder to hold.

- ☐ Done this step

4. Confirm essentials and support

Check required apps, hearing-device compatibility and security-update support for the exact model. A simple calling phone may suit some needs but cannot necessarily run modern banking or messaging apps.

☐ Done this step

5. Compare the complete purchase

Include contract length, coverage where you live, returns and setup help. Avoid choosing on headline monthly price alone; calculate the overall cost over the commitment period.

☐ Done this step

Try it for yourself

Try calling, reading a message and connecting the charger on two models.

☐ I tried the task.

My notes

Must I buy the most expensive model?

No. Focus on comfort, required features and continuing security updates. A supported lower-cost model may do your ordinary tasks well.

Official help and the online guide

NCSC device support and security updates - <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/collection/top-tips-for-staying-secure-online/install-the-latest-software-and-app-updates>

Apple readable text options - <https://support.apple.com/guide/iphone/make-text-easier-to-read-iph3c076905a/ios>

Read online: <https://plaintech-guides.pages.dev/guides/choose-a-phone-you-can-use-comfortably/>