

# Barnes & Noble adds apps to Nook e-reader

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In this product image provided by Barnes & Noble, the youtube app is displayed on the Nook e-reader. Barnes & Noble is adding an applications store and an email program to its Nook e-reader, bringing the \$249 device closer to working like a tablet computer in the vein of the iPad. (AP Photo/Barnes & Noble)

Barnes & Noble Inc. on Monday added an applications store and an email program to its Nook Color e-reader, bringing the \$249 device closer to working like a tablet computer in the vein of the iPad.

The Nook Color has a color touchscreen, which gives it capabilities

beyond those of Amazon.com's competing Kindle. The Kindle has a gray-scale screen that isn't touch sensitive.

The Nook Color runs Google Inc.'s Android software, which is used on phones and tablets, but the device doesn't run standard Android applications. Instead, Barnes & Noble is encouraging developers to submit specially written applications to its Nook Apps store.

Among the more than 125 applications available Monday are the game "Angry Birds" and cooking recipe vault "Epicurious."

Barnes & Noble is also adding the ability to play Flash content on the Nook Color's Web browser.

Jonathan Shar, head of Barnes & Noble's "digital newsstand," said the Nook isn't intended to go compete directly with full-fledged tablets such as the iPad, for which there are more than 65,000 apps.

"The target for this is still people who love reading," Shar said.

The bookstore chain launched the Nook Color in November as a successor to its first Nook, which had a gray-scale screen and a smaller, color one. Right from the start, the [Nook Color](#) had a few non-book applications like "Sudoku," but there was no way to add more.

The new features are available as a free software update for current Nook owners.

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