

How Google's Nexus 7 device compares with rivals

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Hugo Barra, Director of Google Product Management, holds up the new Google Nexus7 tablet at the Google I/O conference in San Francisco, Wednesday, June 27, 2012. (AP Photo/Paul Sakuma)

Google Inc. said Wednesday that it [will sell its own tablet computer, the Nexus 7](#), based on its Android operating system.

Google is the latest challenger to Apple, maker of the popular [iPad](#). The new tablet will also compete directly with Amazon.com Inc.'s Kindle Fire.

Here's a look at the key differences between the new device, the Kindle Fire, the iPad and other leading competitors. The Nexus 7 will be available next month and the Surface this fall. The others are already available.

[Google](#) Inc.'s Nexus 7

- Price: \$199 for 8 gigabytes of [storage](#), \$249 for 16 GB.
- Screen size: 7 inches diagonally
- Screen resolution: 1280 x 800 pixels
- Weight: 0.75 pounds
- Cameras: Front-facing, 1.2 megapixel camera
- Battery life: 9.5 hours
- [Operating system](#): Google's Android

Pros: Access to a variety of games, utilities and other software for Android devices, though not as extensive as apps available for iPad. More features than Kindle Fire at same price.

Cons: Integrates with Google Play store, which is still new and isn't as robust as Apple or Amazon's stores. Data storage cannot be expanded with memory cards. No option for cellular [wireless broadband](#).

Amazon.com Inc.'s Kindle Fire:

- Price: \$199 for 6 gigabytes of storage
- Screen size: 7 inches diagonally
- Screen resolution: 1024 by 600 pixels
- Weight: 0.9 pounds

- Cameras: none
- Battery life: 8 hours.
- Operating system: Modified version of Google's Android

Pros: Cheap and portable. Convenient access to Amazon store.

Cons: No-frills tablet lacks camera and microphone. Small selection of third-party applications available from Amazon. Data storage cannot be expanded with memory cards. No option for cellular wireless broadband.

Apple Inc.'s iPad:

- Price: Starts at \$499 for 16 gigabytes of storage, goes up to \$699 for 64 gigabytes, more for versions with cellular [data access](#). (Apple still sells the older, iPad 2 for \$399.)
- Screen size: 9.7 inches diagonally
- Screen resolution: 2048 by 1536 pixels
- Weight: 1.44 pounds
- Cameras: 5-megapixel camera on back and a low-resolution camera on front, for videoconferencing
- Battery life: 10 hours.
- Operating system: Apple's iOS

Pros: Unmatched access to third-party applications, high-quality Apple software and the iTunes store. High-resolution screen. Widest range of

cases and accessories available. Available with access to fast 4G wireless broadband networks.

Cons: Relatively expensive. [Data storage](#) cannot be expanded with memory cards.

Samsung Electronic Co.'s Galaxy Tab 2 10.1:

- Price: \$400 for 16 gigabytes of storage
- Screen size: 10.1 inches diagonally
- Screen resolution: 1280 by 800 pixels
- Weight: 1.24 pounds
- Cameras: low-resolution front camera, 3-megapixel back.
- Battery life: 11 hours.
- Operating system: Google's Android

Pros: Lighter, thinner and cheaper than iPad. Longer, narrower screen better suited to movies. Also with 7-inch screen for \$250. Storage is expandable with microSD memory cards. Can act as a universal remote control for an entertainment center.

Cons: Selection of third-party applications not as good as iPad's, but wider than Kindle's. Screen resolution lower than iPad's. No option yet for wireless broadband, but likely to come.

Barnes & Noble Inc.'s Nook Tablet:

- Price: \$199 for 8 gigabytes of storage, \$249 for 16 gigabytes
- Screen size: 7 inches diagonally
- Screen resolution: 1024 by 600 pixels
- Weight: 0.9 pounds
- Cameras: None.
- Battery life: 11.5 hours.
- Operating system: Modified version of Google's Android

Pros: Cheap and portable. Storage is expandable with microSD memory cards. Easy access to Barnes & Noble book store.

Cons: Selection of third-party applications is small. Barnes & Noble lacks wide range of content. Lacks cameras and option for wireless broadband.

Microsoft Corp.'s Surface

- Price: Not yet announced. Storage options will range from 32 to 128 GB
- Screen size: 10.6 inches diagonally
- Screen resolution: Not yet announced.
- Weight: About 1.5 pounds for low-power version, 2 pounds for version running PC-style Intel processor.

- Cameras: Front and back cameras
- [Battery life](#): Not yet announced.
- Operating system: Microsoft's Windows

Pros: Runs upcoming version of Windows. Compatibility with programs available for traditional Windows computers. Storage can be expanded with microSD [memory cards](#).

Cons: Runs upcoming version of Windows. Operating system lacks good track record on tablets, and selection of third-party applications is small.

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