

# Google tosses Reader as house cleaning continues

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This file photo shows a model displaying a Toshiba's tablet PC as an book reader, equipped with NVIDIA's Tegra2 processor on its CPU with Google's Android OS, at a book fair in Tokyo, on July 7, 2011. Google has announced it is tossing its Reader service and seven other products under a house cleaning campaign that has closed 70 of the Internet giant's features in the past two years.

Google said it was tossing its Reader service and seven other products under a house cleaning campaign that has closed 70 of the Internet giant's features in the past two years.

"These changes are never easy," Google [senior vice president](#) of technical infrastructure Urs Holzle on Wednesday said in a blog post.

**Update:** [Google Reader death brings online outcry](#)

"But by focusing our efforts, we can concentrate on building great products that really help in their lives."

Reader was launched in 2005 as a way for people to keep track of updates to favored websites using RSS feeds, which have become passe on the Internet.

"While the product has a loyal following, over the years usage has declined," Holzle said, noting that the Google Reader service will retire on July 1.

Google's Building Maker, designed to help people make 3-D models of structures for the Internet firm's [online maps](#), will be put out of commission June 1.

Support for Google Voice's app for Blackberry handsets will end next week.

"For Blackberry users who want to continue using [Google](#) Voice, we recommend they use our HTML5 app, which is more secure and easier for us to keep up to date," Holzle said.

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