

Samsung looks to go bigger than ever with Note 9

9 August 2018, by Jefferson Graham, Usa Today



Samsung's new Note 9 phone, expected to be unveiled at a big bash in Brooklyn on Thursday morning, looks to be the biggest one yet, but it could be the last in the lineup.

According to Korean media, Samsung is considering ditching the Note altogether if consumers don't buy as many units as it hopes, and merge it with the premium Galaxy S lineup.

The new Note phone is expected to be bigger, have more generous storage and tout improved camera performance in low light. Enthusiast sites have been reporting leaks on the new phone, to the point Samsung New Zealand posted a promo video of the new phone to its local YouTube channel.

Two years ago, the Note became notorious in the annals of disastrous launches when reports of the phone's battery exploding started to surface. Samsung at first recalled the phone, then killed the Note 7 line altogether, waiting until 2017's Note 8 to try again. This time, successfully.

Daniel Ives, an analyst with GBH Research, says

the poor sales of the Note have been a "black cloud," for Samsung that it's yet to overcome. "There is a lot of pressure on this new release to be successful and lay the groundwork for future innovation and cross-selling opportunities in a fiercely competitive smart phone market."

The specs

At the Galaxy Unpacked event, Samsung is expected to show a Note screen that's slightly larger at 6.4 inches, up from the current 6.3-inch OLED screen, which would make it the largest smartphone release to date. The new Note is expected to have expandable storage from a micro SD card of up to 1 TB, which would be quite a feat since the current microSD card with the biggest storage we've been able to find is 400 GB, selling for \$170.

The current Note maxes out at 256 GB.

According to the many enthusiast sites that pick up leaks from all over the world, the new Note is also expected to have a longer-lasting battery.

The new edition of the Note traditionally is released in summer, to get ahead of that other dominant smartphone release of the fall, the new iPhone.

By comparison, the current top of the line iPhone, the X, has a 5.8-inch screen, and the 8 Plus model has a 5.6-inch screen.

The new Note is expected to sell for over \$900, compared to \$1,000 for the iPhone X and \$850 for the iPhone 8 Plus.

Samsung sells more phones, per unit, than any other company. According to market researcher TrendForce, Samsung will ship over 300 million in 2018, compared to just over 200 million for Apple's iPhone.

But the iPhone is the most popular phone by far, outselling the premium galaxy by 10 to 1. Most of Samsung's [phone](#) sales are on the low end.

USA TODAY's new consumer editor, Michelle Maltais, is a proud and happy owner of the Note 8. She sits down with Jefferson Graham on the Talking Tech podcast to weigh in on the new features she'd like to see on the next Note. Click the link below to listen:

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