



Sample Mobile Phone Reviews

HTC Tattoo Review

In a word or two

The HTC Tattoo smartphone is a smaller and cheaper version of its predecessor, the HTC Hero. However, the phone has a lot more to be said for it besides the budget-friendly price tag.

The Design

The HTC Tattoo is a great looking little phone with an uncommon, curvy style. Its shape makes it comfortable to hold in only one hand and it has the added advantage of a touchscreen for ease of use.

The phone comes with a brown, white, graphite or black exterior. If, however, you want to add your own stamp – or, I should say, tattoo – you're in luck as you can change the clip-on case to one that reflects who you are. You can even design a case using photos and images of your choice.

HTC Tattoo Specifications

Run using the Google Android Operating System, the HTC Tattoo is packed with clever features. Its size makes it the ideal on-the-go phone and its technology makes it the perfect mobile communication tool.

The first time you use it you'll be pleasantly surprised with its applications. It comes with the likes of Google Maps, Twitter app, YouTube app, Email, to name but a few, pre-loaded as standard. And with access to the Android Market, you can download as many more apps as you wish! The Android Market is similar to the Apple App Store found on the iPhone and allows you to personalise your HTC Tattoo with a variety of gadgets.

A big bonus is that many of the apps in the Android Market are free, and there are a range of music, social networking, practical and games apps available.

The technology, like the design, is geared towards customisation. Using Sense interface, the HTC Tattoo is user-friendly. You can merge all your contacts from Facebook and Gmail into your phone's address book including any contact pictures. Similarly, you can have not only your photos on the phone but access those on friends' Facebook accounts.

The phone has 7 home screens and various wallpapers, themes and gadgets so you can personalise how your phone behaves. If, for example, you mainly use your phone for work, you could choose to have the Calendar, Skype, Email and Google Maps apps on your opening screen. On the other hand, you may be music mad, and want to have the music player visible. The choice really is yours.

Considerations

A slight let down in an otherwise truly smart smartphone is the touchscreen. It is relatively small at 2.8 inches which makes text messaging a slightly tricky pastime unless your hands are petite. The resistive technology of the touchscreen makes it less responsive to touch and you need to apply a fair bit of pressure and precision. However, these are mere niggles and after a while, you are sure to get accustomed to the workings of this phone.

Verdict

Perfect for the smaller budget as you still get a powerful Android phone which is full of fun and functionality.

Sony Ericsson Xperia Pureness Review

In a word or two

The Sony Ericsson Xperia Pureness is the epitome of style and is an expensive work of art which will be irresistible to all those seeking a fashion device for a phone.

The Design

The Sony Ericsson Xperia Pureness is all about design. It is one of the sleekest, most fashionable phones ever created, in our humble opinion. Long, slim and black, weighing a mere 70g, its crowning feature is its 1.8 inch transparent screen.

The technology behind the scratch-resistant screen is mind boggling. The mobile phone which has come closest, to date, to the transparent beauty of the Sony Ericsson Xperia Pureness is the LG GD900 Crystal – and this only features a transparent touch-sensitive keyboard which pales in comparison to the screen on the Pureness.

When the power is off, the phone looks like a pure black body with an unusual transparent screen – the buttons have no visible writing on them and the rows of keys look like black strips. It is only when the Sony Ericsson Xperia Pureness is switched on that the screen lights up along with all the keys. The numbers on the pad shine white and the three control buttons below the screen light up in green, white and red.

Sony Ericsson Xperia Pureness Specifications

The Sony Ericsson Xperia Pureness is part of the Xperia range which includes the X2 and the X3. However, the Pureness is not a smartphone. The phone comes with quick internet connection, Bluetooth, email, texting and picture messaging, a music player, games including PacMan, FM radio and organiser. But if you want a mobile phone for social networking, downloading applications, browsing the internet for long periods of time, the Pureness is not for you.

The features on the phone are easy to navigate and look good in their monochrome colours on the transparent screen. There are some neat touches such as the music

player showing cover art in black and white; the Pureness Concierge for booking into restaurants, concerts and events; and TrackID which sends you the song, artist and album details when you record a few seconds of a song.

Considerations

The Sony Ericsson Xperia Pureness is very expensive and is not a smartphone.

Verdict

If you want to make heads turn when you answer a call or email a colleague from your phone, then the Sony Ericsson Xperia Pureness is for you. It is unique and it is incredibly cool. Given the steep price tag, the phone is definitely for the followers of fashion rather than technology-driven users.