

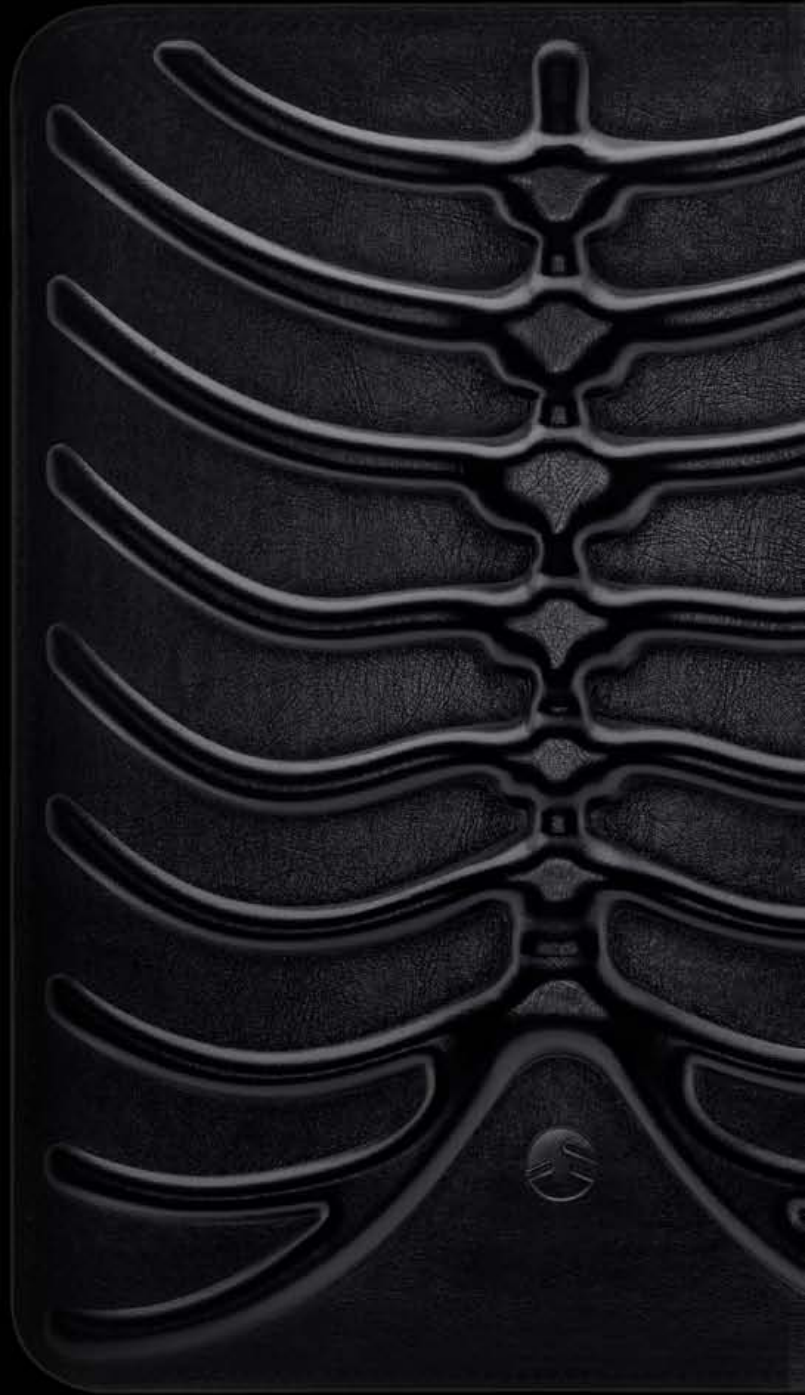
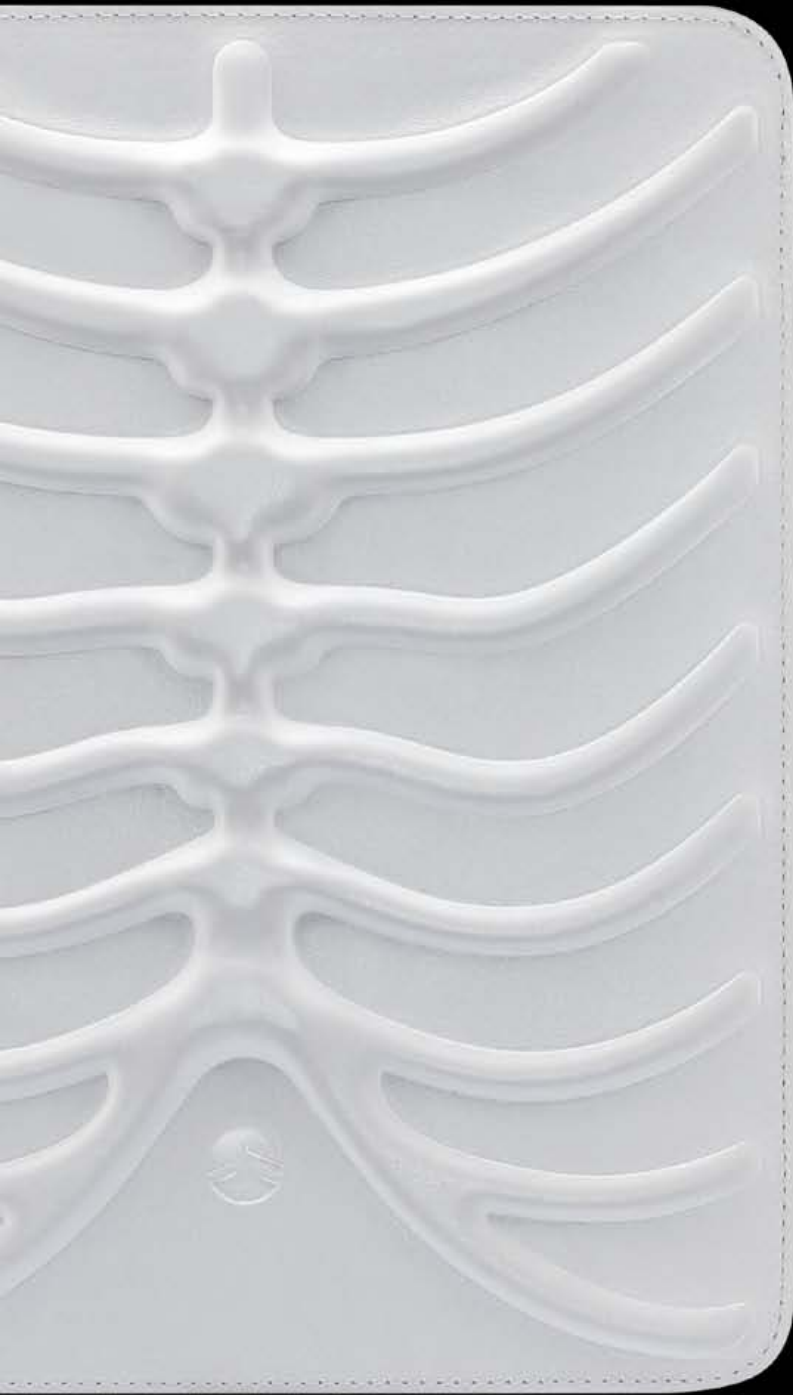
THE IPAD BUYERS' GUIDE

+

IPOD/
IPHONE
BOOK 5

FROM ILOUNGE.COM

A COMPLETE LOOK AT ALL THINGS IPAD
+ OVER 50 PAGES OF IPOD AND IPHONE TIPS
+ IDESIGN ON SIX LEADING THIRD-PARTY DEVELOPERS
+ APPS + ACCESSORIES + MUCH, MUCH MORE



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IPAD BUYERS' GUIDE + IPOD/IPHONE BOOK 5



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Foreword: Holding The Enigma. After years of rumors and speculation, the iPad should have felt obvious. Instead, it shocked the world - twice.

Three months ago, the iPad was supposedly the biggest introduction flub in Apple history - a tablet with a silly name, too few features, and a higher price than PC netbooks. The details had leaked months earlier on iLounge, but many people couldn't accept the concept: a bigger, more powerful iPod touch or iPhone, sold in two versions. They wanted a Mac. A camera. And so on. Yet despite such protestations, the iPad beat the first iPhone's sales record, selling over two million units in less than 60 days. Even skeptics were forced to ask: could iPads possibly be... important?

Our **iPad Buyers' Guide** explains why Apple's latest device is truly a game-changer, both for prospective iPad owners and current ones looking to make the most of their new touchscreen computers. We're not out to sell iPads - that's Apple's job - but the enthusiasm we feel for these new devices is palpable: they've already become bigger parts of our lives than the iPhones and iPods we've used every day for years. Accessory and app developers are working overtime to craft the first generation of great iPad add-ons, too, the best of which are discussed in the Guide.

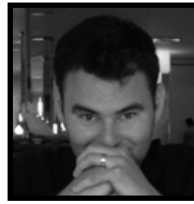
The bulk and balance of these pages are devoted to **The iPod + iPhone Book 5**, which shows you how to make the most of Apple's pocket-sized computers, ranging from iPod shuffles, nanos, and classics to the Internet- and app-ready touchscreen iPods and iPhones. Our 16-part All Things iPod + iPhone Guide walks through everything from getting audio and movies to customizing, repairing, and selling Apple's latest devices. Earlier editions of the Book still offer tips for older iPod and iTunes versions, and the iLounge.com web site and discussion forums do, too.

As is always the case with Apple, plenty will change in the weeks and months to come. We'll be back with a full update around the holiday season in our 2011 Buyers' Guide!



Dennis Lloyd
Publisher

Dennis Lloyd (dennis@ilounge.com) was a graphic designer and DJ before creating iLounge, the world's most popular and comprehensive resource for iPod, iPhone, iPad, and iTunes users. Dennis recently returned to Irvine, California with his wife, daughter, dog, and cat after a year in rainy Seattle.



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Editor-in-Chief

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iSnapshot. In an absolute sense, Apple's digital media products could hardly be doing better. But all the growth is coming from touchscreen devices.



As iPads and iPhones Surge, iPods and Apple TV Go Flat

Overall growth of family remains stunning, but non-touch devices decline; Apple doesn't mind

The numbers are in, and they're impressive: over 260 million iPods and 51 million iPhones have been sold to date - tallies that now grow in the double digits annually, eclipsing the unit sales of Apple's Mac computers. International iPhone shipments that hardly existed two years ago are now filling stores across every major territory in the world, winning fans from nearby Canada and far away China. Even the iPod shuffle, written off by competitors back in 2005 as a joke, outsells most of its major brand rivals, and the first two million iPads sold in under 60 days. It has half a year left to go.

Make no mistake, though: not all is well with Apple's lineup, as questions linger over the iPod family and the long-ignored Apple TV, sales of which have flatlined or shown modest declines. The hard disk-based iPod classic has sat without major modifications for three years, and the latest iPod shuffle has shaved off fat and bone alike in its quest to be ever smaller. Popular iPod nanos now sit at an uneasy \$50 price difference from far more powerful iPod touches, which have sold 35 million units and do much more. Apple may be comfortable with current growth levels, but tweaks are needed.

The Next-Generation iPhone Leaks: Here's What You Can Anticipate Later This Month

Though the first prototype of the fourth-generation iPhone showed up in Chinese pictures back in February, several later leaks confirmed the details. First is a completely new body: iPad-like metal sides, a glass face, and a back made from black or white glass or ceramic.

Inside is a bigger, supposedly 5-Megapixel rear camera with 720p video recording and a flash, a decent front-mounted camera for video chats, a roughly quadruple-resolution screen, and a larger battery. Expect the new iPhone, possibly called iPhone HD, to be shown by Apple in early June.



Need more details? Get up-to-the-minute iPod news from iLounge.com, and an archive of news stories dating from 2001 to the present day at ilounge.com/index.php/news/archives/.

The Latest iLounge Updates. Many of our recent site improvements have given the iPad new prominence; other changes are noteworthy, too.

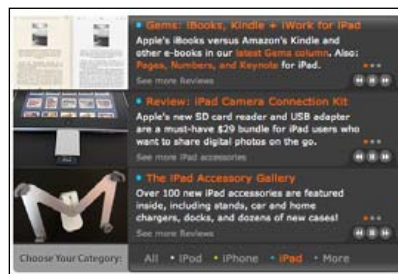
iPad Accessory Gallery

Choosing new accessories, particularly cases, has as much to do with looks as anything else. Our new iPad Accessory Gallery shows you exactly what to expect with tons of photos, linked to full reviews or quick bites of preview text.



iPad Highlights Tab

With Apple TV fading as the iPad becomes more important, we've replaced one with the other on our main page's highlights box. Click on the iPad tab to see editor-selected iPad stories.



Twitter

Five iLounge editors now share insights via Twitter; a box on our main page shows ones you'll want to read.

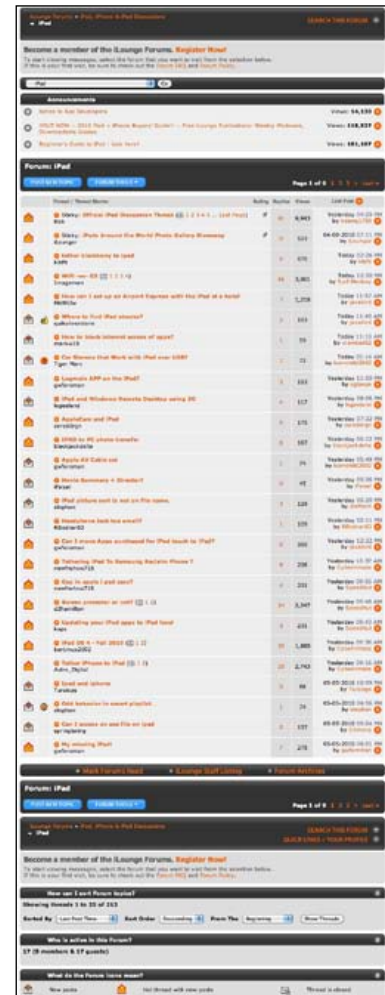


iLounge Weekly

Once known as iPodweek, our weekly e-mail newsletter has grown to include so much iPhone and iPad coverage that a new name and design were in order. Sign up for iLounge Weekly on the left of our main page.



iPad Forum



Our huge Discussion Forums have long been the place for useful and wisely moderated chats with iPod and iPhone users. Now we've added the iPad Forum so that you can talk about Apple's tablet computer, whether you're trying to get a question answered before making a purchase, or interested in helping other iPad users.



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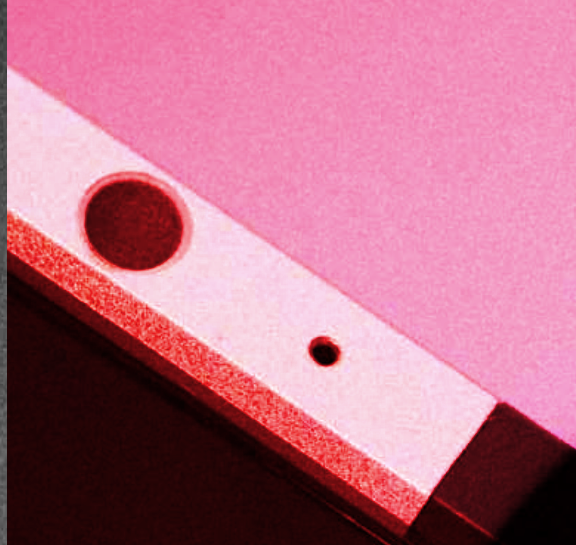
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SEARCH

Apple's new tablet computer sold its first two million units in less than 60 days - twice as fast as the original iPhone - even amidst questions as to how it would be used, and whether it was worth \$499 or more. The answers are actually exciting.

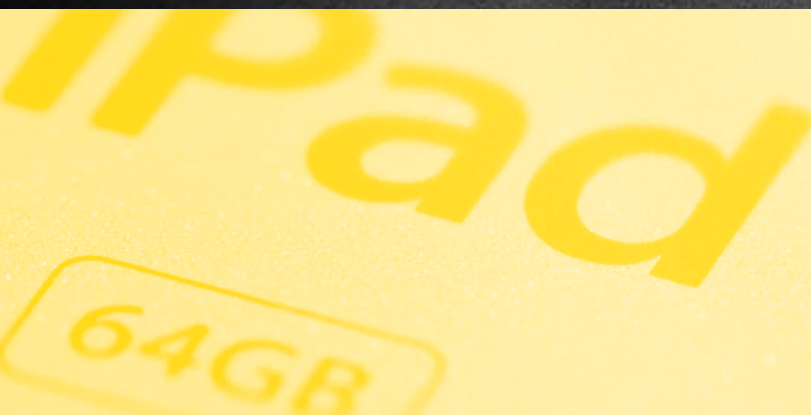


IPAD BUYERS' GUIDE

If you've already purchased an iPad, you already understand what makes Apple's latest invention appealing: a beautiful yet portable screen, a super-simple multi-touch interface, a battery that outlasts virtually any laptop on the market, and a chassis that is light enough to hold in one hand. The iPad is a next-generation computer, capable of web browsing, e-mail, high-definition video playback, photo sharing, music discovery, mapping, and personal organization right out of the box - better yet, applications that add digital book and magazine-reading capabilities, games, edutainment, and numerous other features to the iPad are either free or relatively inexpensive. Units have already been spotted in the hands of heads of state, at major corporations, and even in restaurants. Forget the first

two million units; it's very easy to imagine a future in which iPads are everywhere, replacing laptop and desktop PCs. But unlike the iPod and the iPhone, which made sense from day one - limited initially by prices that many people balked at - not everyone "gets" the iPad quite yet. Some see it as an unnecessary fifth wheel of a device, an oversized iPod touch or iPhone that comparatively lacks for pocketability and telephone calling features. Time and in-person opportunities to use the iPad will define it as its own distinct platform; so will a quick glance at this new Buyers' Guide.

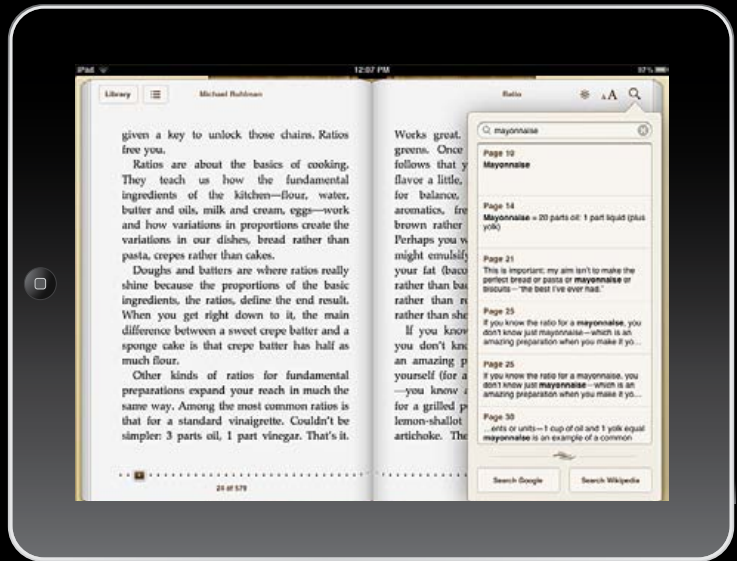
In the pages that follow, we discuss both versions of the iPad hardware, the basics of Apple's included iPad software, plus the top third-party accessories and applications that make this tablet computer even more useful and appealing. You can decide for yourself whether now's the right time to buy into the iPad family, but one thing's for sure: every iLounge editor who has purchased an iPad loves it. By the time you finish reading this, you'll know why.





DE

- 10 INTRODUCING THE IPAD
- 22 CASES, FILM + STICKERS
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- 37 STANDS + DOCKS
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- 40 IPAD CAMERA CONNECTION KIT
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iPad with Wi-Fi

16/32/64 GB - 10+ Hour Battery - Music - Photos - Videos - Books - Games - Internet - \$499-\$699 US

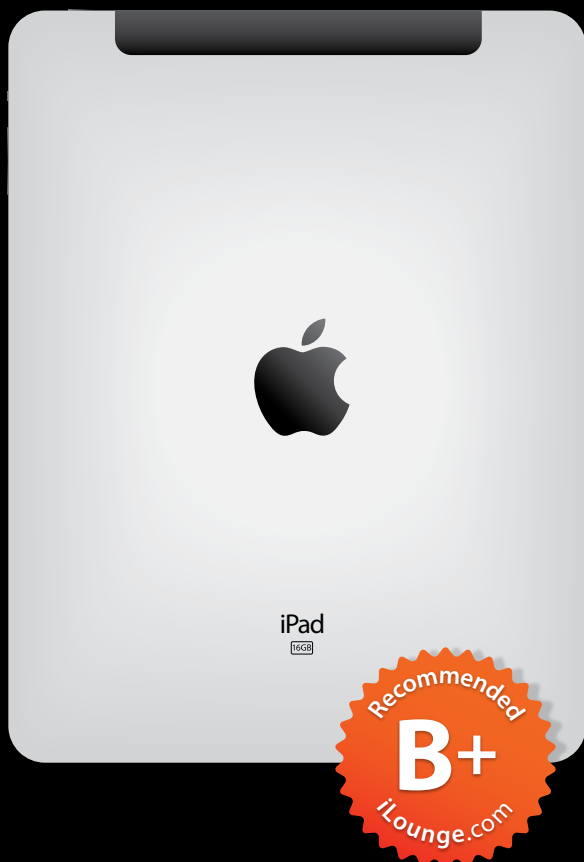
Also known as the iPad with Wi-Fi, Apple's basic iPad model is basically a laptop with a virtual as-you-need-it keyboard instead of a physical one. Shipped with a wall charger and USB cord - nothing else - it comes in three storage capacities ranging from 16 to 64 Gigabytes, all using fast flash memory rather than hard drives for storage. The most prominent feature is a bright, colorful 9.7" touchscreen with 1024x768 resolution - over five times the detail of an iPhone or iPod touch, and seven times the surface area. This screen lets you browse full-sized web pages, watch high-definition videos, and use gorgeous Google maps for between 10 and 13 hours, depending on how much you use its built-in 802.11a/b/g/n wireless card; it can also run virtually all of the 200,000 games and apps developed for iPhones, plus thousands designed specifically for iPads. Its biggest limitations: for now, it depends upon a full-fledged computer and iTunes for initial setup and synchronization, and doesn't offer true multitasking or video conferencing. But what it does, it does very well.





iPad with Wi-Fi + 3G

16/32/64 GB - 9-10+ Hour Battery - Music - Photos - Videos - Books - Games - Internet - GPS - \$629-\$829 US



Nearly identical to the standard iPad in hardware, capacity, and software features, the iPad with Wi-Fi + 3G adds two capabilities: GPS, which lets you more accurately locate your current position on maps and in third-party navigation applications, and optional cellular data service, which allows most of the iPad's Internet-based features to work in your car or anywhere else you might be traveling. Apple charges a \$130 premium for this version, which has a black antenna strip running across its back, top, and front bezel, and cellular providers such as AT&T offer month-to-month 3G data plans without requiring multi-year contracts. The good news: this iPad can completely replace an iPhone for everything but telephone calls, providing users with a bigger, better screen for web, mail, media, and apps. Bad news: 3G data speeds on some networks, including AT&T's, can be sluggish for uploading and video-viewing, and cheaper, data-capped service plans are ill-suited to the iPad. Still, if you need on-the-road access to the Internet, this iPad's a very good option.

What's On iPad's Outside: The Basics

A button on top turns off the display, and a button on front brings you back to the iPad's Home screen.



Glass Front, Aluminum Back

Quite like the top lid of a MacBook Pro laptop, the iPad has a minimalist glass face that runs nearly from edge to edge, apart from a thin silver aluminum bezel that frames the otherwise black glossy surface. After half an hour or more of use, the front glass gets covered in fingerprints, a problem reduced by good anti-smudge film protectors. Durable but scratchable aluminum continues from the front bezel on all sides to form the device's back, which bulges to 0.5" thick at the center. That's where you'll find a glossy Apple logo and the iPad name. The iPad with Wi-Fi +3G also has a black plastic antenna compartment on its back top, as well as a micro-SIM card slot on the lower half of its left side.



Headphone Port + Mic

iPad's 3.5mm headphone port fits virtually any pair of earphones, and also supports Apple three-button remote controls and microphones. A tiny hole hides iPad's built-in microphone, which works surprisingly well for voice recording and VoIP calls.



Screen Lock + Volume

A small switch above the iPad's right-mounted volume control buttons locks the screen in your choice of four orientations: up, down, left, or right. Yes, the iPad even works upside down, with its Home button above the screen.



Dock Connector

Apple's 30-pin port is again on the iPad's bottom, dead centered, for connection to cables, chargers, docks, and future speakers, as well as the new Camera Connection Kit.



Speakers

Though the iPad technically has left and right speakers inside, they're so close together that you'll struggle to hear stereo separation; the volume level and clarity are solid.

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iPad
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IPDKG-Grey/Grey

IPDKBK-Black/Black



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reVIVE II - Dual USB Home & Car Charger for iPad
Allows you to charge your iPad and an additional USB powered device at once



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What's In The Box: Too Little

iPad's box includes nothing more than a wall power adapter, a USB cable, a one-page instruction card, a warranty booklet, and stickers; the 3G version adds a SIM tray-opening tool. Conspicuously absent are necessities such as a stand or a screen-cleaning cloth; Apple sells two different docks (\$29-\$69), a case (\$39), extra power adapters (\$29), a camera adapter (\$29), and video cables (\$29-\$49) separately.

Domestic + International iPad Data Pricing: Pay-As-You-Go Service

Every iPad with Wi-Fi + 3G is shipped unlocked, so you can buy 3G data service from different companies - assuming that they sell micro-SIMs, miniature SIM cards that are only just beginning to become available. In the United States, only AT&T currently offers micro-SIMs and iPad service, but Apple's international partners are rapidly jumping on board. Here are some of the current options.

Country/Provider	iPad with Wi-Fi	iPad with Wi-Fi + 3G	Low-End Data	High-End Data
USA: AT&T	\$499-\$699	\$629-\$829	\$15/250MB	\$30/Unlim.
Canada: Rogers	\$549-\$749	\$679-\$879	\$15/250MB	\$35/5GB
UK: Vodafone	£429-£599	£529-£699	£10/1GB	£25/5GB
Australia: Telstra	\$629-\$879	\$799-\$1049	\$20/1GB	\$60/6GB
France: Orange	€499-€699	€599-€799	€10/200MB	€39/2GB
Italy: 3	€499-€699	€599-€799	€5/3GB	
Germany: O2	€499-€714	€599-€814	€10/200MB	€25/5GB
Spain: Vodafone	€479-€679	€579-€779	€15/250MB	€32/2GB
Switzerland: Swisscom	649-849CHF	799-1049CHF	19CHF/300MB	39CHF/2GB
Japan: SoftBank	¥48800-¥68800	¥61920-¥81840	¥4410/1GB	
Japan: SoftBank on 2-Year Contract		¥58320-¥77280	¥2910/Unlimited	

There are small differences in iPad with Wi-Fi + 3G micro-SIM pack-ins from country to country. In the United States, the AT&T micro-SIM is pre-installed in the iPad, but in other countries, a card may or may not be included in the package, requiring the customer to visit the data service provider's store and purchase one. Where that's the case, the price is typically under €5, and may include data service. Removing the micro-SIM card tray is as simple as inserting the sharp edge of the included tray removal tool into a hole on the tray's side, which pops it out of the iPad. A micro-SIM will fit, letting the tray slide back in.



What's Inside the iPad: Key Hardware Features

The iPad shares features with iPhone 3GS and iPod touch, besides the bigger screen and battery.



Memory

16GB iPads have 14GB of usable space; 32GB iPads have 29GB, and 64GB iPads have 59GB. We advise 32GB or more.



Battery

With Wi-Fi off, iPad can play videos for 13 hours; it can web surf for 10 hours, and play games for ~9.



Wi-Fi

Each iPad supports 802.11 a, b, g, and n wireless networks for fast access to the Internet, an improvement over pre-2010 iPhones and iPods. Web pages and Google maps load noticeably faster, even given the iPad's bigger screen, when using 802.11 n; battery life with Wi-Fi is better than 3G.



Bluetooth

Like the iPhone 3GS and iPod touch 3G, iPad supports Bluetooth 2.1 for stereo audio streaming to headphones and speakers, as well as wireless gaming between various iPhone OS devices. iPad adds support for Bluetooth keyboards - a huge benefit for word processor users.



3G/EDGE

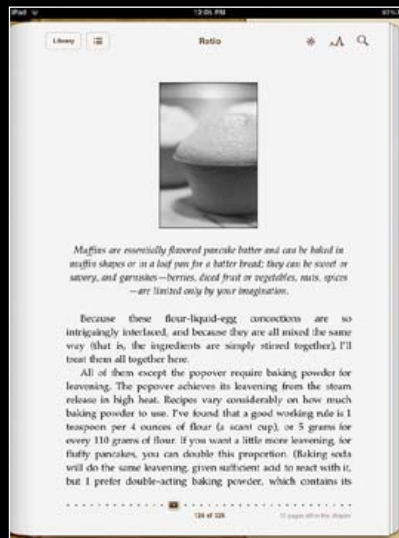
The more expensive iPad with Wi-Fi + 3G includes support for GSM, EDGE, UMTS 3G, and HSDPA 3G for global cellular data access, assuming that you sign up for a data plan. Tests on AT&T's network show slow 200Kb/second uploads and 2Mb/sec downloads, below iPad's peak 7.2MB/sec ability.

What an iPad Can Do: Apple's Free Apps

Every iPad ships with 13 applications, a new feature called Picture Frame, and free access to iBooks.



Picture Frame. A little flower icon on the bottom right of the iPad's Lock Screen lets it display a slideshow while idle.

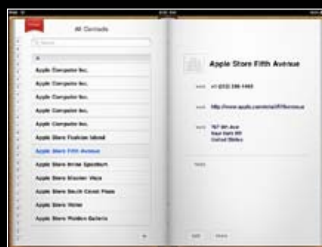


iBooks. Free from the App Store, Apple's competitor to Amazon's Kindle includes two halves: a nice book reader with the ability to display user-formattable downloaded books, and the iBookstore, which sells and gives away books from a sub-100,000-title library.





Calendar. A day planner with week and month views, synced to your computer.



Contacts. Store names, numbers, addresses and more for friends and family.



Notes. A simple text editor for composing, storing, and syncing personal memos.



Videos. Play 720p HD TV shows, movies and podcasts.



YouTube. Browse or stream free videos from the web.



Settings. Manage iPad's options and 3G service here.



Home Screen. Nearly identical to the ones on iPhones and iPod touches, the iPad's bigger Home Screen provides access to 13 built-in applications, adding your choice of background wallpaper, up to six docked applications, and the ability to rotate into portrait or landscape orientations. Scroll left to search or right to see more apps.



Maps. HD maps, Google Street View, and a compass.



iTunes + App Store. Apple's media and software shops.



Safari. A fast, beautiful web browser with bookmarks, zooming, and nine windows.



Mail. Simple multi-account email, with photo and some attachment browsing.



Photos. Sync albums from your computer for full-screen viewing and sharing.

How the iPad Works: iPhone App Emulation and Other Features

Though it's based on the same operating system found in iPhones and iPod touches - and capable of running almost all of the prior apps - the iPad has a number of extra features, plus some surprising continued limitations. Here are some of the key differences and similarities between Apple's digital media products, some of which will be changed in future iPhone OS software and hardware releases.



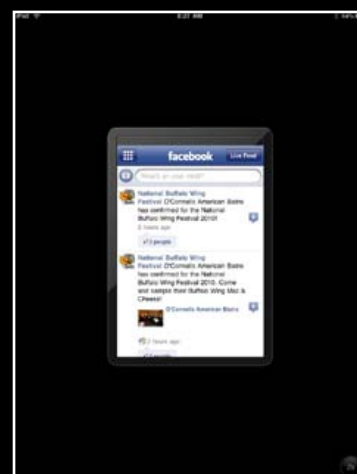
Apps and games specifically designed for iPad, including Iron Man 2, use the full screen for highly detailed graphics. Apple's Safari (right) similarly can display complete web sites that don't have iPad apps, such as Facebook.



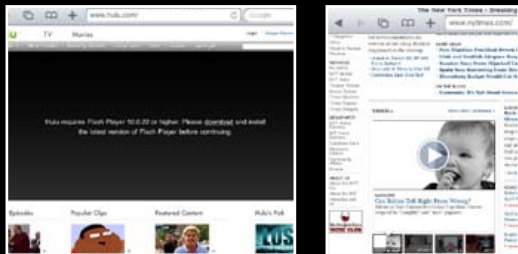
This is the iPad in "2X" mode, running the iPhone versions of Iron Man 2 and Facebook apps at near full-screen size. Art and text are chunkier, but controls, audio, and everything else work just as on an iPod touch.



If you need to run an iPhone app at close to original size, "1X" mode provides a substantially black screen with a framed pixel-for-pixel version of the app. Most apps do better at 2X, but you can experiment, and switch at any time.



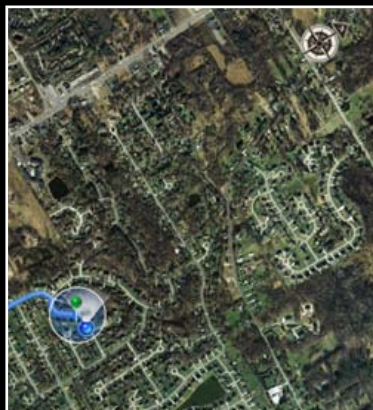
Flash. Apple refuses to let Adobe's Flash plug-in work in iPad's Safari browser, claiming battery drain and stability problems. As many web sites - including Hulu - use Flash for video playback or UI elements, empty boxes appear when iPad users open their pages. Some sites, including The New York Times, have switched their videos to iPad-ready H.264 format and created Flash-free interfaces.



Easy On The Eyes. A number of separate software and hardware features make the iPad surprisingly excellent as a reading device. An ambient light sensor can automatically dim and brighten the screen in different environments, and apps such as iBooks include their own manual brightness and font size adjustments. For users with visual disabilities, system-wide Accessibility features provide text-to-speech and zooming capabilities for every iPad app.



Compass. Both iPads include a magnetometer, a digital compass that assists with orientation in Maps and other apps. It's at upper right, and maps spin to match it.



Choose Your Orientation. Apple requires iPad apps to be able to work in both tall and wide orientations; some look the same both ways, others divide the wide screen into panes. It's easier to use wide all the time, but you can turn as needed, or lock the screen against flipping.



Video-Out. The iPad can be used with certain cables to output video and sometimes audio to television sets and monitors, a feature that will grow in importance over time. Currently, video-out is largely for movie, TV show, or YouTube playback, but upcoming games will let the iPad serve as a virtual controller for on-TV action, and Apple's Keynote turns the iPad into a laser pointer for slideshows.



Video Formats and Aspect Ratios. Though the iPad's video support is primarily limited to MPEG-4 and H.264 formats, Apple enables the device to play H.264 videos at 720p resolution, downscaled modestly to the iPad's 1024x768 display. Because of the shape of iPad's screen, wide videos - particularly movies - are either clipped off at their sides or shrunk and centered, with black bars above and below. Apple also includes support for M-JPEG .AVI videos created by certain digital cameras.

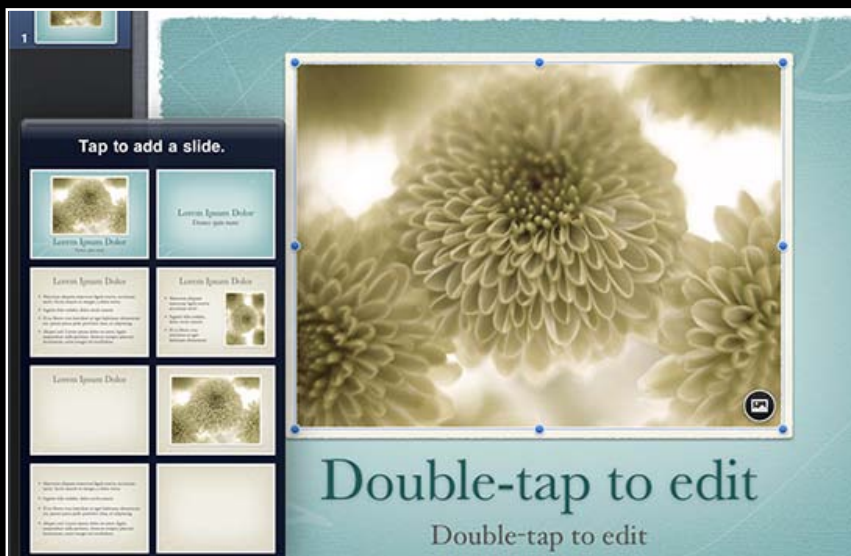


Is iPad Right For You?

Even though they're only two months old, Apple's first-generation iPads have already turned out to be considerably more useful - and broadly appealing - than many people had expected in the run-up to their release. Here's just a sampling of the different ways that an iPad could improve your life, or the life of someone you really want to thrill with an amazing and powerful new gift.

Working + Creating

Apple now sells simplified, touchscreen-optimized versions of its Mac OS iWork word processor Pages, spreadsheet program Numbers, and presentation creator Keynote for \$10 each, enabling iPad users to compose, edit, and store business documents with virtual or real keyboards.



Social Networking

In addition to displaying full-screen versions of Facebook, Twitter, and other networking sites, the iPad runs old and new apps streamlined for major communication services.



Reading + Learning

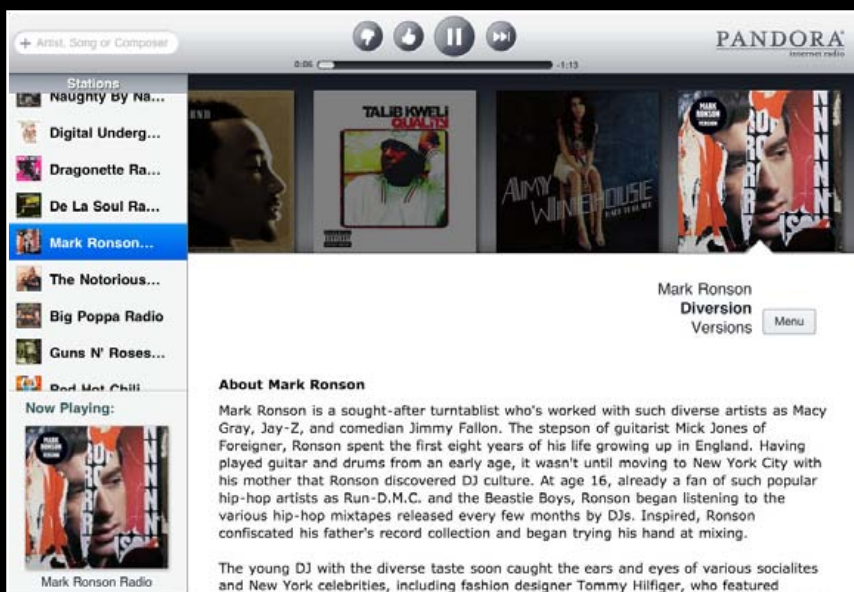
iBooks and Kindle apps are only the beginning of iPad's book capabilities: amazing multimedia books such as The Elements (shown) go further, as do numerous edutainment apps for kids.





Gaming

In addition to running tens of thousands of iPhone games, the iPad has its own higher-resolution "HD" titles that are far more aggressively priced than on competing devices. Some are designed for toss-away play, others offer realtime online multiplayer and long-lasting solo games.



Relaxing

Using headphones, iPad's built-in speakers, a Bluetooth stereo or a Dock Connector-based audio system, the iPad can play music from its own library for up to 6 straight days on battery power, or stream audio wirelessly for 9-10 hours. Leaning back in a chair for video has never been better, either.



Empowering

Computer novices and visually or hearing-disabled users will find iPad's simple interface and accessibility tools to be considerably easier than any PC or Mac. Web pages and email can be scaled up for easy reading; zoom and text-to-speech work everywhere.

iPad Case Types + Tips

Developers learned long ago how to properly protect iPods and iPhones, but the iPad is a new device with its own distinctive characteristics: it really needs a prop-up stand for videos, attracts more fingerprints than Apple's smaller devices, and benefits from easy charging and speaker access. Here, we offer tips on what to look for, followed by six sorted pages of top cases and films.

Words of Warning

Apple waited until the iPad launch to give developers dimensional details, so most cases today are loose-fitting pouches or folios. Expect better designs over the next six months.



Picking a Style

iPad cases currently fall into five broad categories. **Pouches and sleeves** are form-fit bags, **mini-handbags** look like purses and briefcases, **flip cases** have front flaps, **shells** cover only the iPad's back and parts of its sides, and **play-through cases** cover almost everything except the screen. There are variations within each category, discussed later.



Pack-Ins + Pricing

Very few iPad cases come with frills right now. Nude from SwitchEasy (shown) is an exception, with screen film and twin video stands.



Welcome to the Ozakiverse

iUFO – Triangle
Docking stand
sound system
for iPad



iSuppli – Square M
Rotation dock
charger for iPad



iCoat – Bamboo
Bamboo stand
designed case
with screen
protector



iFinger
Stationary style
tap stylus for
iPad & iPhone



iCoat – Relief
Relief sticker
for iPad



iCoat – Bubble
TPU Case
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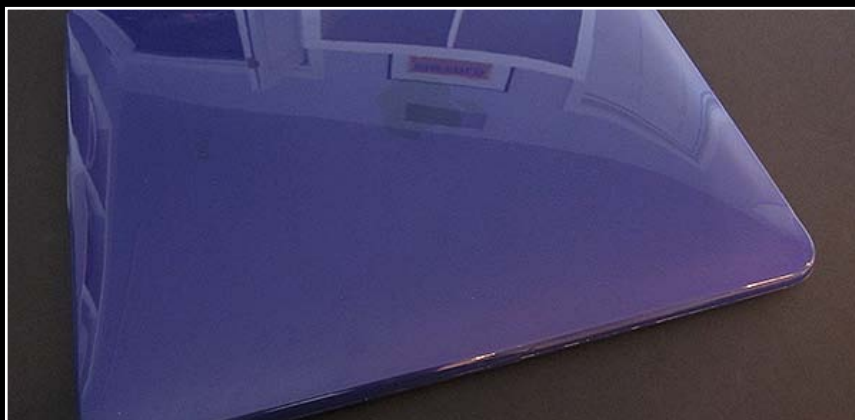
Face + Screen

Very few iPad cases today provide immediate screen access, but several, including Belkin's Grip Vue (shown), are "play-through" designs that are precisely form-fit to cover what needs covering and expose the rest. Unfortunately, very few play-through cases include film for screen protection; that's now in the process of changing.



The Thin Sides

Most iPad cases provide complete or substantial side coverage, leaving holes for the ports, speakers, microphone, and Screen Lock switch; some nicely cover the buttons. Many of the Dock Connector and headphone port holes are on the small side, only able to accommodate Apple-thin plugs, but some have been cut larger for greater add-on compatibility.



Back

Virtually every iPad case thus far provides complete back protection without seriously impacting wireless or cellular performance. Future metal cases may cause problems.



• \$120 **Vaja Retro Slim Jacket**

Though considerably more expensive than Eco-Envi, Vaja's color-customizable two-tone leather and magnetic clasps set this envelope-style sleeve apart from the pack; soft, grainy leather is used for the bulk of the outside, with a flat, smooth stripe and interior.



iPad Pouches + Sleeves: **Marware's Eco-Envi** (\$50, Above)



• \$30 **Booq Boa Skin XS**

A standout on colors and materials, this surprisingly cool sleeve-style case doesn't close at the top, but has a hard-reinforced tweed-like nylon back, plus a two-tone soft neoprene interior and front with a distinctive design. Like all Booq products, it has the feel of quality workmanship on all sides, and a cool little B logo tag on its front.



• \$30 **Acme-Made Skinny Sleeve**

A distinctive ultra-glossy finish in your choice of black or white colors transforms this relatively simple sleeve into a fashion statement. One side of the neoprene-lined sleeve is hard-reinforced to offer better protection for the iPad's screen, while the other is soft. Enough material is left on the open top to guarantee that the iPad is completely covered inside.



• \$10 **Kensington Reversible**

Though it's the opposite of fancy, the Reversible Sleeve has two major advantages: price and simplicity. It's the least expensive iPad-fitting case we've yet seen, and made with two-toned neoprene that can be flipped inside out, transforming the all-black sleeve into a light gray one with black piping. It's cheap enough to use as a spare.



iPad Mini-Bags: **Incise's Travel Kit Plus** (\$60, Above) has a video stand and tons of compartments



• \$20 **Kensington Sling Bag**

By contrast with the hand-held Travel Kit Plus above, Sling Bag is designed to be worn over the shoulder and at lower back or hip level - an iPad-sized mini backpack with enough room for the tablet in a padded compartment, one book, full-sized DSLR, or other large electronic item alongside it, and smaller accessories in one of two zippered pockets.



• \$130 **NewerTech iFolio**

Falling somewhere between a purse and a personal organizer in appearance, this Brazilian leather case zippers open to reveal a vinyl iPad mounting surface on the right, and a cards and papers holder on the left. An included shoulder strap with lobster claw clasps can be removed, letting you hold iFolio by a simple, long side handle instead.



• \$25 **STM Jacket iPad**

Smaller than iFolio and lacking the fold-open design, Jacket iPad has a rugged gray dot nylon body, a padded blue interior, and three exterior pockets of varying sizes, one zippered. Two more zippers hold the case closed, with a short side handle and detachable shoulder strap as carrying options. A great deal for the dollar.



\$60 Incase **Conv. Book Jacket**

Described as "Convertible" because it flips open to look like a book or serve as a notched iPad video stand, this black leather and gray microfiber case is classier than Apple's iPad Case in every way, though also thicker, and requires more space on a desk.



iPad Flip Cases: **Apple's iPad Case** (\$39, Above) is also a stand



\$73 SGP **Vintage Edition Leather**

Quite possibly the nicest-looking case SGP has ever made, this features a weathered suede exterior and a microfiber lining, with enough hard shell reinforcement inside to stand upright for video viewing. Top, bottom, and side protection, however, are unimpressive for the price - assuming that you're concerned about scratches.



\$45 Marware **Eco-Vue**

A simple black leather exterior and nicely tailored, substantially protective suede-like interior are obvious benefits of this reasonably-priced case; less apparent are the eco-friendly leather tanning process it was made with, and a pop-out video stand that lets it stand upright on a flat surface. An elastic strap holds it closed.



\$150 Vaja **iVolution Top**

Expensive but made with fine leather in your choice of dozens of different interior and exterior colors, this case is actually a two-piece set with a leather-covered and padded hard rear shell and a matching detachable front shell that can be carried around for screen protection or left off when it's not needed. Metal front and rear accents add to the class.

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Patrick J, Just Another iPad Blog

"We prefer using this with the Apple Wireless Keyboard over the official iPad Keyboard Dock"

Mark Hattersley, Macworld UK

"a wonderful dock for using the iPad"

Steven Sande, TUAW

BookArc for iPad is available now at the Apple Store or [CLICK HERE](#) to receive free shipping from TwelveSouth.com

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iPad Shells: Macally's Metrompad (\$30, Above) is a plastic shell with a black chrome mirrored finish



• \$30 SwitchEasy
Nude

Though several companies have released thin plastic shells for iPads, this one comes in the widest array of colors, all glossy, one transparent, and one translucent. While the Dock Connector hole is just a little too narrow for add-ons other than Apple's and similar cables, it's otherwise nice, and includes two video stands, port covers, and glossy screen film.



• \$35 Incipio
Feather

Matte soft touch rubber finish makes this sub-1 mm thick plastic shell less scratchable than Nude, though it shows more fingerprints, has less top and bottom protection, and offers fewer packed-in frills. For those who need basic iPad back coverage with a simple included screen protector, it's a fine place to start, and available in five colors.



• \$25 NewerTech
NuGuard

Less expensive than rivals, these plastic shells are different from one another: the clear version has added side protection not found on the black one, which only grips the iPad by its corners, adding a thin layer of leather to its back for extra class. They're sold without pack-ins, however; adding screen film brings the price up.



\$30 Macally
MetroLpad

Our favorite overall iPad case today is this oddly-named option with a matte translucent back, a wrap-around matte black frame, and cut-outs in all the right places. Other than its small-sized headphone port hole and lack of screen protection, we love it.

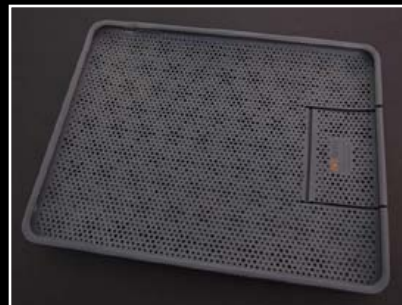


iPad Play-Through Cases: **Macally's MetroLpad** (\$30, Above)



\$35 Incipio
Dermashot

Incipio's most basic silicone case for the iPad comes with a screen protector and uses a unique honeycomb design to provide appropriate grippy thickness without the added weight of extra rubber. Four colors are available, each with a flat back that interestingly emphasizes the Apple logo without leaving it exposed. A video stand is included, too.



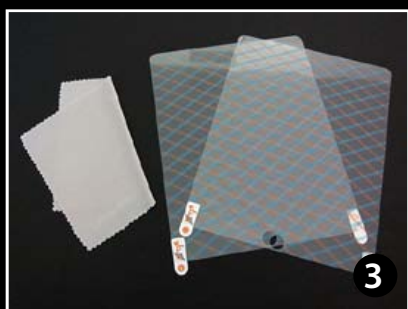
\$50 Speck
CandyShell

Based on the best iPhone and iPod touch cases Speck has released, this iPad design has a lightweight rubber interior and a glossy hard plastic exterior, but no screen protection. A major feature is its bottom Dock Connector flap, which opens for full compatibility with Apple's iPad Dock and Keyboard Dock, but needs to be open for cables, too.



\$40 Hard Candy
Sleek Skin

Unlike any other play-through case we've seen, this novel design has a fully detachable and repositionable front flap; it protects the screen when needed and can be pulled off entirely. Using corner pegs, it can be flipped off to the top, bottom, or any side. The semi-hard, translucent plastic it uses is a little tough to squeeze the iPad into, though.



Film + Stickers



Apple loves to use glass in its products, but glass - particularly on a device as large as the iPad - is a magnet for fingerprints and scratches. The solution: protective film, which typically uses static cling and requires manual use of a plastic card to work out the air bubbles shown above. So far, the least expensive film we've seen is from Simplism (1), a single piece of decent glossy (\$13) or anti-glare (\$17) protection. Power Support's film (2, \$25) is pricey but offers the best quality; its anti-glare film shows fewer fingerprints and scratches than competitors such as Speck's ShieldView (3, \$25), which gives you two sheets of film and a cloth for the same price, resisting fingerprints well but itself scratching easily. Companies such as United SGP (4, \$34) and Wrapsol (5, \$35) are offering full body film kits that use stronger adhesive-based film protectors requiring moist application; SGP's screen film is anti-glare and body film is glossy, while Wrapsol has glossy screen film and a matte body film. Additionally, GelaSkins (6, \$30) was first with iPad bezel- and back-covering art stickers, though with no screen protection.



Car Accessories

Given the size and long life of the iPad's battery, it's no surprise that the device requires heavier-duty chargers than iPods and iPhones: old iPod power adapters trigger a "Not charging" indicator on iPad's screen, while most iPhone chargers will take eight or more hours to refuel a depleted iPad. These four "2.1 Amp" car chargers can bring an iPad up to 100% life in roughly four hours, equivalent to Apple's own in-home iPad 10W USB Power Adapter. None include audio-out ports, however, so you'll need to pull sound from your iPad's headphone port or listen to its speaker.



Power Plus Pass-Thru

Griffin PowerJolt Plus for iPad

For \$30, this charger provides full-speed iPad charging and a rubber-capped port that can be used to connect a second car charger, such as the ones that come with non-Apple phones, for simultaneous power. We dig the coiled cable.

Mini In-Car Charger



Kensington PowerBolt Micro

It's the smallest iPad-compatible car charger yet released, sitting nearly flush with the cigarette lighter port in a vehicle while adding a three-foot USB cable. For \$25, it just works.

In-Car + At-Home Power



Incase Combo Charger for iPad

As the biggest iPad car charger out there, this \$40 option doubles as a wall charger with flip-out blades, and includes a detachable USB cable. A handy all-in-one for travel purposes.

Standard In-Car Charger



Griffin PowerJolt for iPad

Based on a long-running series of iPod and iPhone car chargers, this \$25 option looks near-identical to an older Griffin model but now does speedy iPad refreshes, too.

A Stylish Audio Cable



Belkin Mini-Stereo Link

The fancy nickel-plated 3.5mm audio connectors on this \$20 cable are tailored to work with virtually any case on the market; Belkin now sells 6-foot and 3-foot versions.

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LC Leather 



Oto Holder (Crocodile) 



Vintage (Italian) Leather 

Stands + Docks

The iPad's size instantly guaranteed its physical incompatibility with almost every dock, stand, and docking speaker system specifically designed for iPods or iPhones, so developers have been hard at work on new versions. Early stands have all been made from iPad-matching silver metals with rubber or foam padding, while the only docks - stands with electronics inside - have come from Apple itself. A handful of iPhone speakers such as the B+W Zeppelin, iHome iA5, and Creative ZiiSound D5 work for audio but not for full charging; true iPad-docking speakers are months away.



Luxe2 H4 iPad Holder

The most versatile metal stand we've seen thus far is this \$60, fully adjustable version with versatile spider-like arms that aren't the most stylish, but fit any iPad case you may use.



Griffin A-Frame Tabletop Stand

We love the look of this aluminum stand, and its wise rubber padding, but its edges are a little on the sharp side, and it's just a little less big case-compatible than H4 for a lower \$50 price.



Element Case Joule Stand

Stylish but also extremely expensive, Joule comes in brushed or chrome finishes and different colors. It only accommodates bare iPads, on just three angles, for \$129-\$139.



Twelve South BookArc iPad

As a small, iPad-specific version of the same-named MacBook stand, this \$40 silver steel and rubber holder uses padding to keep the iPad safe inside, either straight up or reclining.



Apple iPad Dock

For \$29, this plastic item holds an unencased iPad, adding an audio-out port and a female Dock Connector for syncing or power.



Keyboard Dock

This \$69 Apple add-on grafts a great-feeling aluminum and plastic keyboard to the iPad Dock, fine for low desks, less so for high ones.



JaDu Skadoosh

The silly name clouds a surprisingly smart \$58 aluminum design that folds for portability and provides lots of iPad reclining options.



Maclove Titan

A question mark for U.S. availability, this M-shaped aluminum iPad holder has a rotating and angle-shifting mount.