

Simple How-To For Your Cell Phone

Revision 2.0



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Introduction

Cell phone has become an indispensable part of our modern life. Increasingly, people around the world depend on it every day to stay connected with their families, love ones and business associates and get more things done anytime anywhere without landlines. We put together this e-book that consists of various useful online articles that we believe you could learn some simple how-to for your cell phones. We sincerely hope you can benefit from these articles that could help you to become a better and more knowledgeable cell phone user.

Best to your safe and happy use of your cell phone!

FONE8.com team
Email: customercare@fone8.com
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About FONE8.com

FONE8.com is based in San Francisco, CA. Our goal is to provide you, our valued customer, with a simple and secure shopping experience in the complex world of wireless communications. We offer the latest model wireless devices at rock-bottom prices, FREE shipping plus 100 percent money back guarantee with FREE return shipping, so you won't have to look much further if you want the best deal! Visit now at www.fone8.com.

Making it Easy to Compare Cellular Plans

by Morgan Hamilton

If you are planning to buy a brand new cell phone, there is a good chance that you will be surprised at the number of different service providers available in the today's market. Several years ago, only Motorola and Sprint were available to the public. Nowadays, there are many different service providers that are offering a lot of different deals.

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Several years ago, only Motorola and Sprint were available to the public. Nowadays, there are many different service providers that are offering a lot of different deals. It can be overwhelming for the everyday shopper. In order to make a good decision, a buyer would need a convenient method to compare cellular plans.

I used to think that the only way to compare cellular plans would be to visit every cell phone sales booth or to transact with other authorized dealers personally. This method takes up a lot of time and I would usually stop after examining the merchandise of a couple of stores. I am well aware of the advantages of comparison shopping, but I don't want to consume several days on the activity. I chose to go home and find out if it is possible to compare cellular plans on the World-Wide-Web. I have no idea why I didn't think of this idea before. After all, people can do pretty much everything on cyberspace these days, and my task wasn't exactly an unusual one. As I had hoped, it was quite simple and easy to compare cellular plans on the Internet.

I discovered that it would be a lot simpler to go directly to a couple of different consumer-oriented sites instead of visiting each individual service provider's website. These consumer-oriented sites enabled me to compare cellular plans from different providers all on the same page. This format makes it convenient to see which deal were the best and which deals were too damaging to my budget. After I found a suitable plan from the comparison chart, all I need to do was visit the nearest shop and order what I need.

I was able to save money on my service contract because I took time to compare cellular plans before paying for a phone. I was only required to pay for the features that I would actually use and did not get locked into a long-term deal. I was really satisfied with the cell phone plan that I was able to get. Before you buy a new cell phone or sign with a new provider, I advise you to compare cellular plans first. Doing so will give you the satisfaction of getting the best deal possible.

About the Author:

Morgan Hamilton offers expert advice and great tips regarding all aspects concerning Cellular Plans. Visit www.guideforonlineshoppers.com for more helpful information about Cellular Plans and other similar topics.

Cell Phone Family Plans Reviewed

By DiscussWireless.com

It's another season for shopping and buying and wouldn't you know, cell phone companies from both the US and Canada are starting to roll out some new deals. This article will look at the pros and things to watch out for when it comes to signing up for family plans. It would take into consideration things like network coverage or cell phone selection between carriers, but it will give you an idea of the money you will or won't save.

You have the special someone, the kids, your significant other? Without a family plan all calls between each other usually count against your total minutes use. That means no free calling between the most popular numbers in your phone. This can change, however, with new family plans. What we see clear across the board (especially in Canada) is the carrier's willingness to offer cell phone plans to families. You'll get unlimited calling between people on your plan, sometimes up to 4 different phones. Sounds great doesn't it? No more phone bills that cost crazy amounts, you can save your money!

Essentially the idea is perfect, one bill, and no fees, no more lost minutes. Basically the ads are true, you are getting unlimited phone calls between the family plan members, however, beware of some of the fine print.

For example, remember, you'll be sharing all additional minutes between all of you. Got a talkative kid? You may wind up with no minutes for yourself since everyone shares the anytime minutes. By the way, all you're saving really is the minutes you wasted between each other. You don't save anywhere else on the bill. Each phone is still charged individually: activation fees, system fees, 911 fees, etc.

You should be aware of the different charges for different services when you're moving one person from one carrier to another. Some carriers don't charge for basic voicemail but others charge you money (Rogers \$5 bucks basic voicemail.) That's an additional 60 bucks a year. Do you want to pay that money that you would not have before? Basically you have to decide whether \$60 is worthy cost for money talk time.

So how should you make a choice? Really, it's a matter between who will offer the most anytime minutes. Whoever can provide you with the best deal for minutes aside from your family/couple members would be the way to go. Some offer free first incoming minute on all calls. Some exceed others in anytime minutes; some will give

you deals on new phones, more minutes, additional features, etc. Be on the prowl and don't jump at the first opportunity. Compare costs and you'll save some additional cash.

About the Author:

This article is provided by Discusswireless.com. Discusswireless includes cell phone reviews, unlocked cell phone, and price comparisons. Visit DiscussWireless.com for details.

Internet Cell Phone Deals - How to Take Advantage of Them

The Internet can be a great place to buy your next cell phone. How many times have you been in the mall and were harassed by some pushy wireless telephone dealer? The Internet store is a sharp contrast to this type of environment. On the Internet, you can take your time, research a particular phone, and search for the best deals. In addition to this, Internet dealers generally have better cell phone deals than their brick and mortar competitors. But how do you take advantage of these better deals?

In 2004, the government approved number portability. Number portability allows you to keep your cell phone number, even if you switch carriers. The implications of this are crucial for taking advantage of Internet cell phone deals.

Internet dealers often offer some very innovative and high end cell phones for free after rebate. However, to receive these offers, you must also sign up for a new cell phone plan. If you want to stay with your current carrier, you must sign up for a new phone number along with the new phone plan. This is because number portability is carrier to carrier (not inter-carrier). Although you could upgrade your phone and keep your number and carrier, this would not qualify you for most Internet offers. The alternative is to keep your cell phone number (through number portability) and switch carriers. However, if you choose this option, make sure that you are not under contract with your current provider or you could stand to face a hefty termination charge.

Nevertheless, there are many quality carriers in the marketplace. Switching carriers should not be that troublesome. Therefore, these Internet cell phone deals have great value for the consumer. Often, these phones that you can get free after rebate would cost you more than \$200 as an upgrade. As a savvy cell phone consumer, you could select two carriers that you are comfortable with and switch between the two every one or two years (and receive a high quality cell phone free after rebate) in the process. The Internet marketplace holds great value for the cell phone consumer. Take advantage of these great Internet cell phone deals.<http://www.str8junk.com/go.html>

About the Author:

Stuff for dudes

<http://www.str8junk.com/go.html>

Committing to a Cell Phone Plan: the Critical First Days

by Christine Pepler

Many consumers have had the experience of hearing a sales pitch and being sufficiently impressed to purchase the goods or services, only to find that the reality was somewhat less than anticipated. When the purchase involves a device or service that we tend to rely on daily, and which potentially binds us to that service for years to come, this can be a very bitter pill to swallow. With cell phone plans that typically span two years, buyers need to be sure that the service as well as the phone itself will meet their expectations.

Smart shopping up front can certainly go a long way in assuring that consumers get the cell phone and service that they expect. Assuring that the cellular provider has adequate coverage in areas where an individual needs to routinely place or receive calls can help reduce the likelihood that dropped calls and gaps in coverage are problematic. Such issues are one of the most frequent reasons cited by dissatisfied customers who wish to terminate a cell phone plan early.

Reading the written contract is also critical to assure the service offered is as the sales person describes it. Despite what any sales person may say, it is the written contract that will determine what service the cellular provider can be held responsible for providing. Realizing, for instance, that roaming fees are added on to a frequently called long distance number only after an exorbitant bill is received, can be a painful experience. The wise consumer also keeps a copy of the contract on hand just in case discrepancies arise later.

However, even with a significant amount of investigation the experience of using a particular cell phone plan can still fail to meet the customer's expectations. Coverage may be available in a given area but the quality of the call may be poor. The phone itself may not perform well. The pricing for some calling features may be significantly different than what the consumer understood them to be during the sales process.

Because of the potential for such discrepancies in expectations versus realities, it is extremely critical for consumers to make full use of the assessment period they are allowed with most cell phone plans. Assuring that the plan purchased allows a 14-30 day trial period in which the phone can be returned or the plan can be cancelled without termination fees should be a factor in selecting the service. Again, this cancellation policy should be in written form within the contract.

Consumers should fully assess their new cell phone plan during the initial period to assure that it will meet their ongoing needs. Are calls of acceptable quality? Are calls dropped? Does the phone perform as expected? Users should also keep track of charges. Checking the bill online is possible in many instances rather than waiting for it to arrive in the mail. Certainly all problems can't be identified in such a short period of time, but many can. The critical first few weeks of a new cell phone plan are often all consumers have to allow them to assess and terminate if needed without penalties.

To assure the process of cancellation and return of the cell phone goes smoothly in the event that this is necessary, consumers should maintain any receipts, a copy of the contract, and the original packaging for the cell phone. A phone in good condition and timely adherence to the time line offered by the contract's cancellation policy would help assure that there is no termination penalties incurred.

Certainly, consumers can terminate cell phone plans early but not without significant penalties. Options also exist online that allow disgruntled cell phone plan owners to identify others willing to assume their current plan, but again these options are not completely cost or risk free.

Although there is no current legislation to provide other recourse to consumers who have legitimate issues with their cellular service, there are some signs that the future may bring additional protection. In Washington State, for instance, legislation is currently being considered to allow consumers to terminate cell phone plan contracts without financial penalty when they experience excessive dropped calls or gaps in coverage. For the time being however, consumers need to make use of the one primary means of assuring that they get the service they anticipate: the cancellation policy within the contract that allows them a window of time to assess and terminate if necessary.

About the Author:

The author, Christine Pepler believes that consumers should not have to possess a technology degree to be able to choose home electronics and entertainment devices. Visit her site, www.homemedias.info, for simple, useful information and shopping for cell phones and cell phone plans.

Advantages and Disadvantages of Prepaid Cell Phones

by Declan Tobin

We are constantly seeing advertisements on TV promoting cell phones and cell phones carriers with what they call great introductory offers if you sign up with them on their network.

Is it worthwhile signing a one-year contract with a cell phone carrier?

Well that is a question that you need to answer for yourself, while the pricing may look attractive you need to consider if you will be using the phone on a regular daily basis.

Ask your self the following:

- Do I need my cell phone for work?
- Will I be calling mainly friends and family?
- Will I be making out of state calls or international calls?

If the answer to the above number of questions is no, well prepaid cell phones could be your best choice. Prepaid cell phones are ideal for people who do not intend signing

contracts and do not intend to use the cell excessively. There are many advantages and disadvantages with using this type of cell phone:

Advantages of using a prepaid cell phone:

- No credit check required
- No deposit required
- No monthly rental fee
- No termination fee if you decide not to use your phone again
- No service fee
- A large selection of phones available including camera cell phones
- Always in control of call costs

Disadvantages of using a prepaid cell phone:

- Calls and SMS Text will be more expensive per minute than using a bill phone
- You could run out of credit at a crucial time that you need to make a call
- Some carriers will put a time limit on your credit (you will need to use it up within a certain time or else it will be classed as invalid)

Children with prepaid cell phones:

Always purchase a cell phone with low emissions for health and safety purposes. Children under the age of 7 are not recommended to using any type of cell phone. If you like to keep tabs on your children and you feel a cell phone is a good safe idea, do not make the mistake that many parents do in giving a cell phone that has line rental. If you do this be very prepared for a large monthly bill every month from the mailman. It's like giving your child a large bag of candy and asking them not to eat them unless it's really necessary. Prepaid cell phones are ideal for children, if their credit runs out, so be it, but you can always call or text them and it's then up to you what extra credit to allow. It's very difficult for young children to budget wisely and kids will be kids so you need to careful when it comes to financing them a cell phone.

What are the highest costs involved with prepaid cell phones?

Be careful your credit can be eaten up very quickly. Camera cell phones are great fun and handy to have at times but if you are using a prepaid cell camera phone and want to text photos the cost can be very high per text. Also watch for roaming charges is these too can be very expensive. Always look for promotions and giveaways with no hidden charges.

Is getting credit easy?

Buying credit could not be easier. Most stores will sell credit for the different cell phone carriers and some stores have vending type machines where you can simply follow the instructions and top up your credit. You can also call your cell phone carrier (usually a toll free number) and purchase with your credit card. Credit issued as a long

number. Simply type this into the correct section of your cell and that's all there is to it.

Prepaid cell phones in brief:

- A great idea for those of us who need to stay inline with our phone expenses.
- Very handy to have for emergencies with no rental charge.
- Ideal for children if you wish for them to carry a cell phone
- A good back up if you experience a problem with your house phone

Once again always look into the different cell phone carriers and their prepaid cell packages, not all are the same with some giving excellent starter packages.

About the Author:

Declan Tobin is a successful freelance writer providing advice for consumers on purchasing a variety of Cell phone plans which includes Cell prepaid plans, Carriers, and more! His numerous articles provide a wonderfully researched resource of interesting and relevant information for all of your phone interests and needs. Visit his site at www.no1-in-cell-phones.com

Giving your Kids a Cellular Child Phone

by Jay Moncliff

In today's hectic world, more and more parents are concerned about their children's safety, and rightly so. Children today are involved in more and more activities and spend more time at home alone than any other generation. Many parents are turning to cell phones as a way to keep in constant touch with their children.

As cell phone technology becomes more and more advanced and prices of phones drop further and further, many families are utilizing shared calling plans and prepaid phones to furnish their children with cell phones. Most parents feel that children can be taught to be responsible with the devices, and the peace of mind that being able to contact your child at any time brings is more than worth the cost of the monthly billing.

Of course, a certain level of responsibility is necessary before a child should be given a cell phone. Most parents wait until their kids are middle school age before considering it, and then there is a significant learning process before the kids are turned loose with the phones.

Children must be taught that the phone is a valuable piece of equipment, like a Gameboy or scooter, and must be treated with respect. This means no "monkey in the middle" or games of catch with the phone. Additionally, children must learn when it is appropriate to call for help and when it isn't. Any parent of a child who has called 911 as a joke or just to see what would happen will stress the importance of this lesson.

Children must also be taught the proper time and place to use their cell phones. Most parents will set limits on the amount of calls to friends that the kids can make during the week. Since many plans now have free weekend calling, many parents allow children to call their friends during the free periods. Children must also be taught that the phones are not to be used during school hours, unless there is an emergency.

Most middle school aged children can grasp these concepts well, and the “coolness” factor still associated with having a cell phone at that age is a great incentive for the kids to follow the rules.

There are several prepaid cell phone plans available as well, if you just can't afford to take the chance that your child will run up an astronomical bill. Several large discount retailers carry the popular Tracfone on which all time must be prepaid. The per minute cost is significantly higher than with regular phones, but if you are providing your child with a cell phone for emergencies, this shouldn't be a major issue. They are easy to activate, and the minutes can be replenished via a special toll-free number or on the Internet.

There are also services that allow you to track your child's activities using Global Positioning Satellites (GPS). These phones are available through several companies including MyChildTracker. The service works with regular cell phones and allows the user to receive a voice message or a dot on a map on the Internet. Although this is an extra monthly fee to pay, parents of teens have found the service invaluable.

If you are considering a cell phone for your child, make sure to spend some time teaching him basic cell phone etiquette and establishing some rules for its use. Not only will the cell phone give you piece of mind, but you may be able to teach your child about responsibility at the same time.

About the Author:

Jay Moncliff is the founder of portalmoviles.net, a website specialized on Moviles, resources and articles. This site provides updated information on Moviles. For more info visit his site: portalmoviles.net.

Effective & Affordable Ways To Boost Cell Phone Reception

by Robin Meyer

According to a recent CNET article, there are 206 million cell phone users in the U.S. The majority of those users complain that coverage is sometimes sparse and reception is often frustrating. In fact, Consumer Reports' Annual Cell Phone Survey reported that 70% of survey respondents had at least one dropped call within a week's time and 60% suffered from bad connections. Nonetheless, Americans are still in love with their cell phones.

So, what can you do when the love of your life lets you down? What help is there when your cellular reception is less than you need it to be? There are a variety of cell phone antennas and other cell phone accessories that can boost your cellular reception without breaking your budget.

Replacement Cell Phone Antennas

Something as simple and inexpensive as replacing your cell phone antenna can do wonders to increase your cellular reception. If your original cell phone antenna is not up to par, consider choosing a new antenna specifically designed for maximum reception in the areas in which you travel. You'll want to keep in mind that not all cell phones are equipped with antennas that are replaceable by the user. Also, while antennas can improve reception, the signal strength of your cell phone provider is also a determining factor.

If you primarily find yourself on flat terrain, choose an antenna with a 3db to 9db range. For areas with lots of obstructions (hills, buildings, wooded areas) consider a cell phone antenna with a 0db to 3db range. If you encounter a variety of terrain, an antenna with a 3db to 5db range would work best. The cost? From \$3 to \$40 depending on design, brand and function. Besides cell phone antennas, there are also external antennas. This is not your only option, however. There are many cell phone accessories available that help increase cellular reception.

External Antennas

External antennas can mount to almost any surface. From the roofs of houses or office buildings to metal on cars to glass windows, external antennas can greatly increase your cellular reception within the given coverage area. At a cost from \$20 to \$100, external cell phone antennas can be very effective. Keep in mind, however, that these accessories only aid reception within a particular environment where the antenna is located. External antennas may require an antenna adapter cable to function properly.

Desktop Suction Antennas

Originally designed for travelers, desktop suction antennas help increase cellular reception practically anywhere. These cell phone accessories plug into a standard power outlet and then suction-mount to a desk or window. No wires are connected to your cell phone. These types of antennas are great for hotels, rural homes, office buildings or other environments. Because there is no permanent connection, desktop antennas are great for those who move from place to place. At a cost of about \$30, desktop antennas are very affordable.

Cell Phone Amplifiers

If you're looking for a serious, permanent solution to noisy connections or dropped calls, consider a cell phone amplifier. These cell phone accessories can connect in two ways: directly to your phone through the RF port (wired) or wirelessly. Let's look at each one individually.

Wired Amplifiers

Amplifiers increase cellular reception and extend coverage for up to 50 miles. Either an electrical outlet or a car's cigarette-lighter adapter powers the amplifier itself. This is a wired connection, however. Wired amplifiers work well in vehicles or home/office environments where your cell phone can be plugged in, but would not help with cellular reception while you're not connected to the amplifier. The cost? Between \$200-\$300.

Wireless Amplifiers

If you'd rather not have a hard connection, consider a wireless amplifier. Using a combination of external and internal cell phone antennas, wireless amplifiers allow multiple phones to work inside your vehicle, office or home without the need for a direct connection with each phone. Wireless amplifiers cost between \$450-\$700.

Depending on what solution you need, your level of mobility and the amount you intend to spend, there are multiple cell phone antennas and other cell phone accessories designed to boost your reception with great results.

About the Author

Robin Meyer is Web Manager of Your Wireless Source that specializes in cell phone antennas as well as other cellular phone accessories. Visit them online today at www.yourwirelesssource.com.

8 Reasons Why Your Cell Phone Battery Is Failing

by Nat Jay

*'My battery keeps getting low when I need it...' 'But I recharged it just this morning...'
'What's the heck's wrong with this battery...?' 'It's just a year old... How can it fail?'*

These are common complaints, and the reason, we often conclude, is that it's the manufacturer's fault.

Fact is, cell phone technology has grown rapidly over the past 4-5 years, but battery technology just hasn't kept pace. Cell phones use lithium-ion batteries with a normal lifespan of 2-3 years. They are efficient power sources and often last a couple days when fully charged.

Even if we go back to as recent as 2003, it wasn't uncommon to find cell phones that gave just 1 hr of talk time with a standby time of under 24 hrs. These days, despite all the processing power involved, we can expect the typical Nokia or Sony cell phone to last much longer than that -- Say 4-6 hrs of talk time and 2-3 days of standby time. But the reality is, we often get just 50-75% of that. There are reasons for it.

It's important to note that the talk time / standby figures given by advertisers and manufacturers are just 'official' figures under "ideal" test conditions -- which means, the phone is tested with just the bare minimum of applications running (usually just the operating system) at room temperature, and used for no more than talking and sending SMS.

Under "normal" usage circumstances, however, we do a lot more than that. Here are 8 of the things that a cell phone tends to engage in on a real-world basis:

1. Bluetooth on most phones having it is almost always on.
2. We've got multiple applications running in the foreground and background - even those we're not using.
3. Emails are being sent and the Internet is being browsed.
4. The brightness of our phone screen is set to high by default.
5. We've got sounds and vibrating alerts on, instead of functional ringtones.
6. For travelers and business users on roaming, the phone is constantly locating a signal -- which eats into precious battery time like no one's business.

7. We tend to overcharge our battery by keeping it plugged in for over 24 hrs, or the opposite -- completely discharge the battery before recharging it again.

8. Lastly (and more commonly), our phone is continually exposed to heat, cold, dust, rain, oil fumes, shocks and vibrations, including accidental drops on a hard floor.

The first 6 consume power while the last 2 can irreversibly damage the cell phone.

Power running low is one of the biggest complaints of cell phone users. And with new phones supporting features like Wi-Fi, Webcam and GPS - almost like a mini-computer - the strain on the battery is as enormous as that on the processor and memory.

The overall performance of our cell phone depends heavily on how efficiently the battery is used in day-to-day scenarios. By cutting down on just a couple of the points above, the battery will last longer -- not just between charges but also over its overall lifespan.

About the Author

Nat Jay is actively involved with trends in the cell phone industry. Get his latest recommendations at www.freewebs.com/lookfirst

10 Best Ways to Use Your Cell Phone Wisely

By FONE8.com

Cell phone has become an increasingly indispensable tool in our daily life. Here is what Fone8.com recommends in using your cell phone wisely.

1. Choose a wireless phone and service plan that best meet your day-to-day needs
In choosing your perfect phone and plan, you need to realize that your cost will include: monthly service plan, activation fee, cancellation fee, long distance, roaming and cell phone fees. This will help you to select the best service plan (local, regional or national) that best meet your need within your budget.

Figure out how you will use a cell phone, where and when you will make most of your calls, and how much you want to spend. Choose the cell phone you want and /or need. Do you need all the latest options or do you just need to make calls in an emergency? Look for special promotions-Are there any great deals out there that will get you the best deal for the right phone and plan?

If you are a frequent traveler, there are plans available that offer free roaming and long distance. These regional and national plans tend to cost more, but may still save you from paying exorbitant per-minute charges.

And if you are comfortable with a 2-or 3-year contract, you can often get a discounted

rate or other incentives from your wireless providers.

2. Read the user manual

After you sign up a service plan and receive the phone of your choice, you should take the time and effort in learning and becoming familiar with your wireless phone. This will enable you to take advantage of all useful phone features like automatic redial, calculator, keypad lock, phone book, vibrate mode, voice-activated functions, etc. Plus certain phone models offer some special features. For example, Qualcomm Phone Model 3035 offers a smart button feature that allows user to customize their popular used feature. Most users are not aware of availability of this function or know how to set it up unless they read the manual.

3. Get cool tips and discounts from wireless phone manufacturers

Often, manufacturers provide cool tips on how to use their wireless phones. Kyocera Wireless, the manufacturer for Qualcomm phones, provides tips on its site and accessories on discount.

4. Accessorize your cell phone

Go buy a hand-free does wonder, one of the most wireless accessories you should own. It frees your hands to do other things while you talk to your party on the cell phone. It is safer when you drive and talk on the wireless phone. In many states, you are required to do so, too.

5. Get a spare battery

Nothing can get irritated than running out of battery when you are in the middle of conversation with your important customer. So go buy a spare battery, it is a good investment.

6. Get mobile Webs service

If you are frequently on the road, it is wise to subscribe Mobile Web service with your carrier so you can access Web anytime anywhere. There are a number of popular Web sites dedicated for small-screen phones and PDAs. Fone8.mobi offers a free cell phone portal that enables you access all these sites from one convenient place. You can also take advantage of major mobile portals such as mobile.yahoo.com, mobile.google and mobile.msn which offers tons of features at no charge.

7. Use text messaging

Text messaging is a quick, convenient, and discrete way to keep in contact with your friends and loved ones that will keep you from burning extra minutes in your cell phone plan each month. You can efficiently send a short message to communicate with others instead of having to make a cell phone call. It can also be used to alert yourself of important events, meetings, etc and receive news alerts, ringtones, and more.

8. Customize your ringtones

A ringtone is the sound your phone makes when there's an incoming call. You can customize it to figure out who is calling you without looking at caller ID. It is also a great way to express your true individuality and style of taste. Ringtones can be downloaded

from ringtone shops on the internet such as eWirelessGames.com or downloaded directly from your wireless carrier.

9. Avoid using cell phone while driving

Do not use a cell phone when driving because you need to focus on the road and not a cell phone conversation. It is dangerous and puts not only yourself but everyone else on the road at risk. If you have to use your cell phone while on the road, just pull over and stop your vehicle and then make your cell phone calls.

10. Practice good etiquette

Since cell phone conversation tend to be a private matter, you need to refrain from placing or receiving calls in public places such as libraries, schools, restaurants, theaters and churches. Also, adjust your ring volume at a reasonable level so that only you can hear it. Remember to set your phone in vibrate mode when you are in a meeting so no one get distracted when an unexpected phone comes in.

About the Author:

This article is provided by FONE8.com, a leading online retailer for wide selection of cell phones and cell phone plans.

We can all hear you now! Cell Phone Etiquette

by Jawahn Thompson

Have you ever been seated in a restaurant, already to eat your dinner, when your cell phone rang? Do you answer it and talk to whoever is on the other line or do you reach out and mute it, not wanting to disturb anyone? The correct thing to do would be to turn your cell phone off when you go into a restaurant or another place where your phone calls may disturb others. However, if you forgot to turn it off and it rings, mute it so others do not have to hear it.

While cell phones have made our lives easier, they have also made it possible to annoy others. Many individuals think nothing of using their cells phones in public places, such as the subway, restaurant, or even a live performance. The most important thing to remember, however, is that it is not the cell phone that is causing these problems. It is the cell phone user. If you are the owner of a cell phone, you may want to consider getting to know the proper cell phone etiquette.

When you have a cell phone, it is very important to not talk on your phone when you are in restaurants, museums, libraries, or other places where quiet is expected. Such places include hospitals, churches, and waiting rooms. The fact is if you are in an enclosed public place, be safe and do not use your cell phone. If, however, it is an emergency and you must talk to on your phone, it is best to keep at least a ten to

fifteen-foot distance from anyone else while you are talking. The most important thing to remember is to use common sense when you have a cell phone.

With the wide availability of ring tones for your phone, many people are often choosing those that are loud and unique. However, just because you like it, doesn't mean anyone else will. If you are going to have your cell phone on in public, make sure you choose a ring tone that is not too loud and one that is not too annoying. It's important to remember that while you may need to take a call, you don't need to annoy anyone or disrupt someone's concentration.

Another important thing to consider when using your cell phone is to keep your conversations short and simple. By telling the person on the other end that you are on a cell phone, they should understand you wish to keep the call short. You will also want to remember that if you are in a public place, you do not want to talk about your personal business or say things that others should not hear or that you don't want repeated. You never know who could be listening in when you talk on a cell phone in public.

There are several countries, including Australia, Germany, and Japan that have banned the use of cell phones while driving unless you have a hands-free unit. Many states in the United States have banned cell phones when driving, as well. If you live in a state that does allow the use of cell phones while driving, make sure you take proper precautions to allow for your safety and the safety of others.

With the invention of text messaging, many find communicating with others in public much easier and definitely more private. However, there are certain guidelines you should follow when text messaging, as well.

First of all, you know that annoying little sound that states you have a new text message? The best thing you can do is to put it on mute. This is how kids in classes get away with texting during classes without getting caught. You can prevent yourself from annoying anyone by simply silencing your message alarm. With the advanced technology of the cell phone, you'll find many are also able to download music and users can play their music anytime and anywhere. It's important to remember that while you love a certain type of music, others may not.

Is it within proper etiquette to send someone a text message when you are in a public place such as a restaurant or library? Generally, you need to remember that if you are not bothering someone, don't worry about it. If, however, you're sitting in the front row of a lecture and you're bent over texting someone on your cell phone, the lecturer may get a little irritated that you're not paying attention and you may want to put your cell phone up and plan to text message someone later. If it is one that must be sent, gracefully exit the room and find a quiet spot to send it.

One of the worst possible things you can do when text messaging is to be driving. Believe it or not, there are people who try to make sure they are pressing the right

buttons and completely forget they should be looking at where they are going. This needs no explanation to say what could happen.

The fact is text messaging is a great way to communicate and you do not have to bother someone when you communicate this way. No one has to listen to a one-sided conversation or be interrupted by someone yelling, "Can you hear me now?" Text messaging has definitely made life much easier for all.

While many states have issued laws regarding talking on your cell phone while driving a vehicle, there are cities and towns that are discussing the possibility of regulating cell phone usage in public places. Some cities have even gone through with these laws and while they are having difficulty enforcing them, they are placed there in case anyone wishes to pursue the matter of annoyance in court. However, if you are like many, you may not want your cell phone usage regulated. In order to stop this, you must take it in your own hands and practice proper cell phone etiquette and inform others to do so, as well.

About the Author

YourConsumerElectronics.com offers up to date on the latest new and product specifications. Visit for more info.

Cell Phone Basics - About your Wireless Buddy

by Net Jay

There are about 100 million cell phone users in America today, with thousands more jumping on to the bandwagon every day. But despite its popularity, many users are still clueless about the technology (or ideas) behind this indispensable device. So allow me to present you a quick-n-easy crash course -- the 4 must-know things about your wireless buddy:

1. Wireless Services

There are 3 kinds of wireless services -- (a) Analog, (b) PCS, and (c) Digital. Analog was the original wireless service and still covers large parts of the US. But it's dated and quite expensive to maintain, so used only by a minority of individuals mostly from universities and the government. For the sake of comparison, analog is to wireless what dial-up is to the Internet. PCS and Digital wireless services are more modern -- they are conceptually the same but operate on different radio frequencies.

2. Transmission Technologies

you choose your cell phone but it's your service provider (carrier) who decides what transmission that phone will use. These, too, come in 3 flavors -- (a) CDMA, (b) GSM, and (c) iDen. CDMA is the dominant US standard offering the benefits of voice encryption and high-speed mobile Internet. GSM is a satellite-based European standard that's making inroads into the US as an alternative to CDMA. While iDen is a relatively obscure standard whose USP is its support for push-to-talk facility - a walky-talky kind of system.

3. Calling Plans

Calling Plans give you access to the carrier's network to make calls within your predefined area (your home area). Most carriers offer local, regional and national plans with the benefits of unlimited night or weekend calling and free long distance calling being offered by default. The lowest advertised rates are generally for local plans -- ideal if you don't travel that much. But if you do, factor this into your plan at the sign-up stage itself to brace for higher call rates when you activate roaming. Consider family or shared plans if you are a new subscriber as they offer the greatest amount of flexibility and economy.

4. The Cell Phone Itself

Your cell phone isn't just an extension of your business or personal life, it's also a reflection of your personality. So choose one that does just that. Do you need a top-grade phone with mobile TV and full multimedia features -- streaming video and the like? Or, do you need a smart phone with support for Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and PDF files -- along with push-email? Or do you just need a solid, dependable phone that helps you communicate by voice and SMS wherever you are? Bottom line is, pay only for the features you need. Battery life, speaker clarity and signal strength in out-of-city areas are all important deciders of phone quality. If you're in the market for a new cell phone, make sure you're clear about what you're going to use the phone for. Focus on deals that give you the widest possible choice in one place and look for add-ons that enhance your user experience. Draw from the experiences of others but make your own decisions. After all, your needs are as unique as your priorities.

About the Author:

Net Jay is actively involved with trends in the cell phone industry. Get his latest recommendation at www.freewebs.com/lookfirst