

Operating Systems

Operating System	Launched	Devices	Great for	Latest Version	No. Apps (approx)	Comments
Android	2008	HTC Desire HTC Hero HTC Tattoo Motorola Dext Sony Ericsson X10	Multitasking is a doddle. Unlike some OSs you can open as many applications as your phone can cope with.	2.1	20,000	The newest kid on the block, Google's Android OS is a rising star, and a strong contender against iPhone. It's open source – meaning it's free for developers to use and get their custom apps in the Android marketplace.
BlackBerry	2002	8520 Curve 8900 Curve 9700 Bold	Microsoft Exchange email when used with BES or BES Express	5.0	3,000	The BlackBerry OS makes its devices compatible with Microsoft Exchange and Windows, and is also compatible with a range of web based email systems. The BlackBerry Apps store has a wide variety of applications for work and personal use.
iPhone	2007	iPhone 3G iPhone 3GS	Apps, apps and more apps! Despite a late start, Apple quickly dominated the apps market with its iTunes webstore.	3.1	140,000	iPhone rolls many devices into one - phone, browser, mp3 player, camera, the iPhone has it all.
Symbian	1998	Nokia E71 Nokia X6 Sony Ericsson Satio	Another great multitasking OS that works with a variety of user input options including keyboard, on-screen keyboard, handwriting or stylus, depending on the phone it's used on. It's also great for sending files by Bluetooth, and beats other OSs in this arena.	9.4	1,500	Symbian began as Nokia's OS, but is now available on other manufacturer devices. It's ahead of the others in terms of volume of users, but as the requirements and expectations for apps grows, will its Ovi app store be able to catch up with Android or Apple?
Windows Mobile	2000	HTC Touch 3G HTC Touch Pro II	Integrating with PC Windows software, backed by Microsoft's solid heritage in software and user interface development.	6.5	800	Fully multitasking, just like its PC version, competition from rival OS providers has made Microsoft less complacent. As a result the new version of Windows Mobile is slicker, more flexible with more functionality. Definitely one to watch.