

Mobile Phone Information

Majors

Alternatives MVNOs

MAJOR CELLPHONE CARRIERS

- VERIZON
- At&t
- T-MOBILE

MAJOR CELLPHONE CARRIERS

All have 5G Service but different technology

Verizon – *Ultra Band*

AT&T – *Mid Band*

T-Mobile – *Low Band*

5G Coverage (Presently)

T-Mobile 98% of US

AT&T 210 Mil People

Verizon 95 Mil People

All are still expanding coverage

Mobile Virtual Network Operator (MVNO)

Some MVNOs are owned by the majors

Verizon - TracFone

T-Mobile - Metro PC

AT&T - Cricket

These are transmitting on the major networks.

Other MVNOs also use major carriers networks to transmit

Boost - AT&T & T-Mobile

Consumer Cellular - AT&T

Mint - T-Mobile

Straight Talk - Verizon

Tello - T-mobile

COX - Verizon

Variety of Cable companies

MVNOs

If you don't use a lot or no data, there MAY be lower cost plans offered by MVNOs or operators owned by major

- Some offer free phones*
- Some sell phones
- Many have no contracts
- Many have multiple plan offerings
 - Individual
 - Family
 - Short term (3months)

***Usually Free phone requires a contract**

Activities use data on a cell phone

- **Browsing: Visiting websites**
- **Streaming: Listening to music or watching videos**
- **Using apps: Downloading and using apps, such as social media apps or online banking apps**
- **Communicating: Sending emails, direct messages, or making video calls**
- **Navigating: Using GPS or Google Maps**
- **Sharing: Sending or sharing files**
- **Many apps update themselves. While convenient, they use data in the background.**
- **Auto update can be disabled**

Amount of data depends on activity

- Social media: Uses about 50 MB per hour
- Gaming: Uses up to 300 MB per hour
- Standard-definition video streaming: Uses 240 MB per hour
- High definition video streaming: Uses 900 MB per hour
- Video conferencing: Uses 480 MB per hour
- Downloading Movies and streaming Music
(Amount depends on file size)

MVNO

Compare what your paying to the MVNO carriers offer.
Almost all, offer unlimited Talk and Text
Selecting one might save you money and provide equal service.

Example (present offerings): *

MINT - Offers \$15/mo 5gb data

BOOST – Offers \$100/yr 1gb data
\$15/mo 5gb data

TELLO - Offers \$10/mo 2gb data

CRICKET- Offers \$25/mo Unlimited Data

Note: Carriers change offerings constantly

MVNOs

Pros:

May offer lower rate for similar plans

Same transmission and coverage as major carrier

Can use existing phones if unlocked

May not require a contract

Have both 4g and 5g speed

Cons:

Many are pre-paid plans

May limit data speed during premium time

Can't use phone locked to another carrier *

Note: If no contract, carrier can unlock phone

Links

- Boost <https://www.boostmobile.com>
- Consumer Cellular <https://consumercellular.com>
- Mint <https://www.mintmobile.com>
- Straight Talk <https://www.straighttalk.com>
- Tello <https://tello.com>
- Cricket <https://cricketwireless.com>
- Cox <https://www.cox.com>

FINAL COMMENTS

- Determine your needs and how you use your phone
- ALL carriers have enough Talk & Text. Data is where they make their money
- If Data isn't important, look at low cost service
- Unlocked phones can be used with any carrier
- Having 5G is great but 4G phones work well
- If you want to try, go with no contract carrier.