

# Pocket **Phone** Guides

## ***What is Android?***



**In association with**



## GET A SMARTER SOCIAL LIFE

- Powered by Android™
- Access an exciting world of over 38,000 apps via Android Market
- Facebook and Twitter built-in
- Instant messaging and email built-in
- 3.5mm headphone jack
- Sleek and slim design



**LG** **optimus**  
GT540

[www.lg.com/uk/mobile](http://www.lg.com/uk/mobile)



**Pocket Phone Guide  
to Android**



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## Introduction

**Easy to use and endlessly adaptable, Android is the future of smartphones. This guide will help you to choose the best – and get the most out of it**

### What's it all about?

Android is so in right now. Whether it's the ballooning number of mostly free apps or just how easy it is to personalise, more and more manufacturers are launching phones that run on this incredibly

easy to use, yet powerful operating system (OS).

The friendly interface is easy to customise, and users tend to love the online aspect – fast, desktop-like web browsing; great social networking features; and live email and calendar updates. Android phones are getting insanely popular, and it's only going to get bigger.

Android handsets can all access the Android Market, where a fast growing number of apps are available – 50,000 to be exact, up 12,000 in just two





weeks. In fact, the platform designed by search giant Google is growing so fast, analysts believe it will overtake iPhone and BlackBerry by 2012.

But which Android phone is right for you?

LG is the most recent manufacturer to have joined the Android arena – and it is looking to win on cost and camera. Its InTouch Max GW620 (page 10) is a smartphone aimed at first-timers, and LG keeps it cost efficient with its latest – the higher end Optimus GT540 (page 12).

If you remember LG's camera phones like the Viewty Smart or movie-friendly New Chocolate BL40, you won't be surprised that the InTouch Max GW620 and the Optimus GT540 buck the Android trend for mediocre cameras.

We've compiled this guide to Android with tons of recommendations on the best apps for work, play and everything in between.

Whether you're after some tips on using your Android phone, or thinking about making the switch, this guide is for you. Enjoy!



## Phone features

**So you've got your spanking new Android phone. What now? This is where the fun really begins, with tons of sleek ways of making your daily routines simpler**



### Calendar

Customisation is key in Google Calendar, with the ability to view your agenda in a monthly, weekly or daily format. You'll receive reminders of upcoming events that will pop up in the notifications bar at the top of the screen. You can even set up shared or public calendars, making it possible to RSVP to events direct from your phone. Hook your phone up to your computer and you'll also be able to sync the Google Calendar on your phone with that on your PC or Mac.



## Google Mail

Android phones are pretty savvy when it comes to any email account, but with Gmail, it really excels. Push email alerts you to new messages as soon as they arrive in your inbox, and your phone will auto-complete any addresses you've mailed before. Word documents, MP3s and PDFs can all be read on your Android

phone. Your account is synched automatically, so any changes you make to your email folders or contacts list will be visible on your phone and PC, and you'll also be able to view the same sub-folders and starred emails as on the desktop account. And, as with desktop Gmail, you can label, prioritise and search all your mail.



## Contact sync

Android phones are some of the most people-centric devices on the market, with the know-how to sync contacts from Outlook, Google Mail and several social networking sites. The beauty of this is that all your contact information for one individual is kept in one place. For example, pull up a contact card, and not only will you be privy to phone numbers and email addresses, you'll also be able to recall previous text conversations and Facebook updates, and even have access to any online albums they have posted.

## Backup

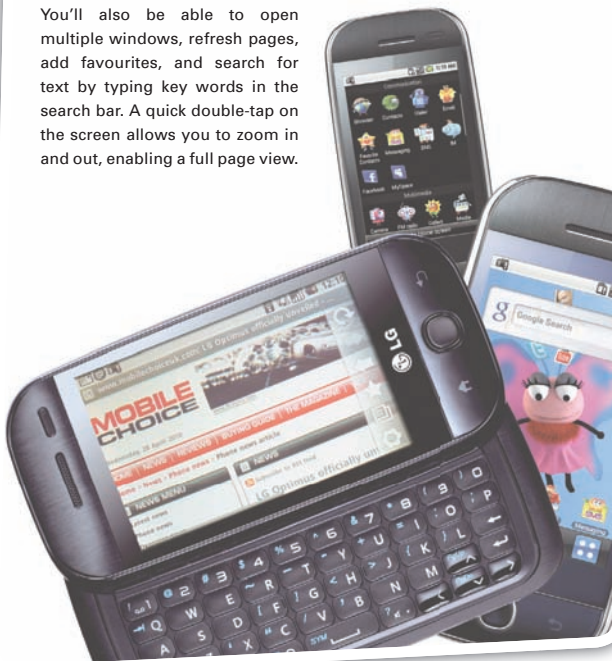
Syncing your Android phone with your computer (or simply using Google Mail and Calendar) is a great way to back up your contacts, calendar and emails. If you lose your phone, or just want to switch handsets, all that information is stored online and easily transferred to your next handset. There are also lots of apps on the Android Market that can help you save and back up even more of your phone's data – including media files, texts and other apps you've downloaded.



## Excellent web browser

More people are using their phones to browse the internet, be it for the latest news, football scores or even a spot of online banking; and the Google Android platform excels at web. Both the LG InTouch Max GW620 and the LG Optimus GT540 boast HSDPA and Wi-Fi for fast, reliable surfing. The browser on both is also full HTML, providing a PC-like web experience – as opposed to a mobile-optimised browser, which often cuts text and images.

You'll also be able to open multiple windows, refresh pages, add favourites, and search for text by typing key words in the search bar. A quick double-tap on the screen allows you to zoom in and out, enabling a full page view.



## Apps

Expand your phone even further with these smart add-ons

With more than 50,000 apps available to download from the Android Market, consumers are spoiled for choice. Whether you're after games, social networking, entertainment or even business-focused apps, there's something for everyone. Just tap the Market icon – it'll already be on your home screen – and you can search for specific apps, or just browse through categories including productivity, lifestyle and utility. Each app has user reviews and a star rating out of five to help you pick the best ones, and around 60% are free, with the bulk of the rest costing less than a fiver. Check out three of our favourite freebies.



### GPS-r

Use GPS to remind yourself what you need to do, when you pass the place where you need to do it. Simply set an alarm and link it to a point on Google Maps – for example, 'pick up milk' when you pass the corner shop.

## Cooking Capsules Taster

This handy app provides short videos that guide you through a variety of recipes, detailing the ingredients required, how to make it, and the amounts you'll need, depending on how many people you're cooking for.



## Express News

Pop this widget on your home screen to follow the latest headlines. It covers sources such as AFP and the Press Association, and you can 'favourite' topics like politics or entertainment for a more personalised feed.





## Android phones

**If you're a newcomer to Android, check out LG's InTouch Max GW620. This friendly QWERTY phone is a great all-rounder that won't cost the earth.**

### **LG InTouch Max GW620**

This is one of the most socially oriented Android phones around. Here's how to get the most out of it

#### **Linkbook™**

LG's pre-loaded app syncs with Facebook, Twitter and Bebo, so you can view the news feed from all three, as well as post updates, comment on friends' posts and exchange messages.

#### **Face to Action**

Call friends directly from your photo gallery with Face to Action, which lets you tag friends in photos and link them to their contact cards.

#### **Photo sharing**

Any time you take a photo, you can upload it to Facebook, Twitter or Bebo, as well as any other photo or social network apps you download.

[www.lg.com/uk/mobile](http://www.lg.com/uk/mobile)



## Music

A 3.5mm audio jack, so you can use your own headphones

## Internet

Three-inch touch-screen for web browsing, plus HSDPA and Wi-Fi for high-speed internet anywhere

## Messaging

Easy to use, five line QWERTY keyboard with dedicated number symbols

## Photos

Five-megapixel camera with auto-focus, flash, geo-tagging and face detection.

## Navigation

A-GPS provides a quick location fix, and Google Maps offers walk/drive directions and a places-of-interest feature

LG InTouch max  
GW620

## Download this

The Android Market has 50,000+ apps. These freebies will turbocharge your InTouch Max GW620:

### WeatherBug

This nifty app puts a weather widget on the home screen for up to date temperature info and alerts of severe weather. There's also a toolbar for news headlines, weather maps and forecasts.

### Layar

Find anything near you with this augmented-reality browser that comes with hundreds of 'layers'. A Twitter layer shows nearby tweets; a TfL layer shows local Tube stations; and there's even an estate agent layer that pinpoints nearby houses for sale.

### Pixelpipe

Upload photos to multiple blogs and social networks at the same time, with titles, captions and tags. Supports Facebook, Flickr, Twitter, Picasa, Blogger, Foursquare and more.





## Android phones

**Another friendly Android phone, the LG Optimus GT540 is a social networking guru, as well as having a cool name.**

### **LG Optimus GT540**

The stylish Optimus GT540 is LG's second in its growing Android range, but what's so great about Android anyway?

#### ■ **Google Sync**

Log in once, and your Android phone is forever synced with Gmail, Google Calendar and Gtalk, for real-time email, appointment and instant message alerts

#### ■ **Android Market**

Over 50,000 apps to completely personalise your LG Optimus GT540

#### ■ **Customisation**

Place your favourite apps and widgets on any of your LG Android phone's home screens for quick fire access

#### ■ **Great virtual keyboard**

Along with great touch-screens, Android phones have virtual keyboards with auto-suggest to keep those typos to a minimum

#### ■ **Beefier browser**

Address bar doubles as search bar, bookmarks feature and full web surfing history

[www.lg.com/uk/mobile](http://www.lg.com/uk/mobile)

**LG optimus**

**Music**

The 3.5mm audio jack is positioned at the top of the phone, making it easier to plug and unplug your own set of cans while the phone is in your pocket.

**Colour**

Available in black and silver.

**Video**

The full-featured player supports MP4, DivX and WMV files.

**Screen**

The pièce de résistance, the three-inch resistive touch-screen, sparkles into life and can be viewed in landscape or portrait, depending on which way you hold the phone.

**Internet**

With both HSDPA and Wi-Fi on board, expect a lightning-fast browsing experience.

**Look and feel**

With its subtle round edges and thin physique, the Optimus GT540 is pocket-friendly, but also looks the business.

**Social Networking Services Manager**

The integrated SNS Manager brings live updates from Facebook and Twitter, as well as full access to those sites, along with YouTube and Google Talk, into one place.



## Say it with apps

The Android Market is packed with apps, so just hit the Market icon and start looking. Here are some of our favourites – all free

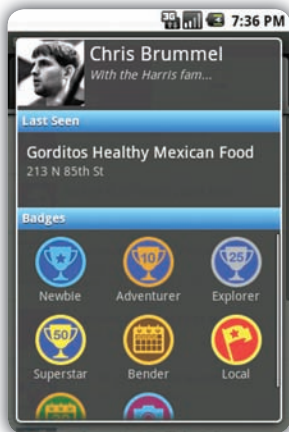
### Social networking



facebook

### Facebook

This app notifies you of new messages, event invites, friend requests and wall posts. You can also check out the news feed, comment on friends' posts, and upload photos from your phone camera to Facebook.



## Foursquare

Collect badges such as 'Local', 'Explorer' or 'Bender' when you check in to lots of places in this city-wide social network. If you're the most frequent visitor to a place, you'll become 'mayor', and participating venues could offer you cool discounts.

## Twidroid

Twidroid is way better than using Twitter via the browser, as it lets you easily retweet, reply and post updates. Once you download it, you'll have the option to post photos on your Android phone to Twitter.

## Linkbook™

The LG Optimus GT540 and InTouch Max GW620 both feature LG's all-in-one social networking app Linkbook, which syncs with your Facebook and Twitter accounts. See page 10 for more.



## Lifestyle



 ShopSavvy

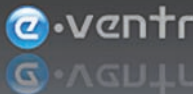
### ShopSavvy

One of the first Android apps, ShopSavvy lets you use your phone's camera to scan barcodes for product prices. It'll then search for online or nearby shops that sell that product more cheaply.



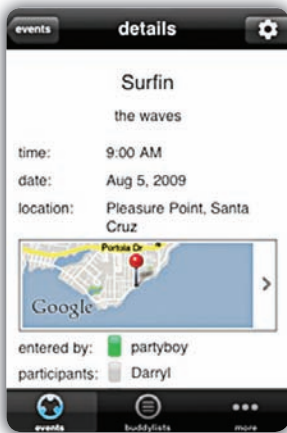
## Wikitude

Wikipedia and GPS power this augmented-reality application that provides you with Wiki-sourced information, video and nearby points of interest, based on your current surroundings.



## E-ventr lite

Invite multiple friends to a party in one go. Just create an event and add people from your buddy list. They'll need to have the app too, but that's not too hard, since it's also on the iPhone and BlackBerry.





## Productivity

### TripIt

If you're planning a trip, you'll want TripIt. Just upload emails from travel agents, airlines or hotel bookings, and it'll automatically create your personal itinerary.





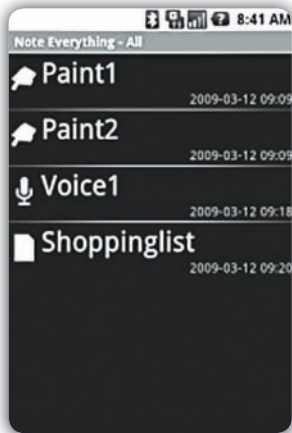
## Note Everything

Great ideas come and go – but not if you jot them down. Note Everything lets you write, record or take pictures of things you need to do, use or buy. You can even scan barcodes of products to price-check.



## Tube Status

The notoriously fallible Tube just got a little easier to handle. Tube Status has live updates on the state of the railway lines, and also includes a handy map of the system.





## Entertainment

### Google Sky Map

Ever wanted to wax lyrical on the constellations? Aim your phone at the night skies and this app will overlay a star map and info about the stars you see.

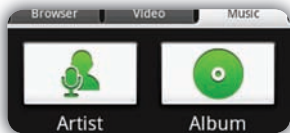


Google™



## Movies by Flixster

Cinema buffs need this app, which gives you film times, cinema locations, previews and trailers of just about every available film, plus reviews from aggregator site Rotten Tomatoes.



## Meridian

Turn your Android phone into a multimedia machine with this beefy music and video player. You can tag media, use gestures to launch features, subtitle videos and search for song lyrics.



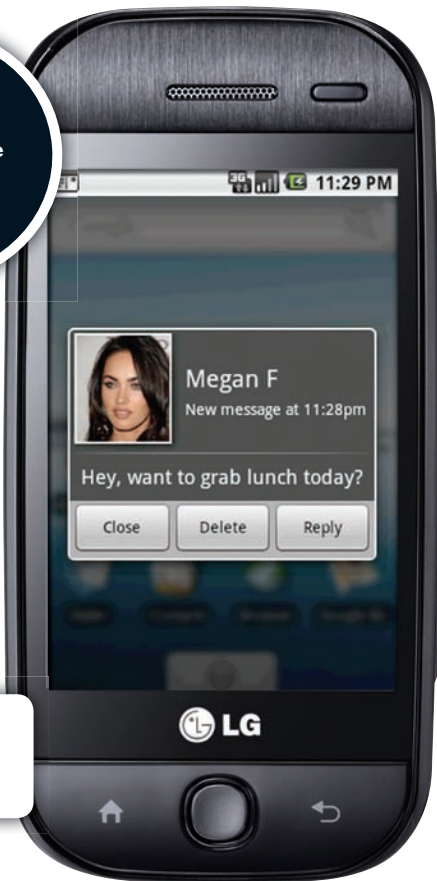


## Utility

Keep your phone  
in tip-top shape

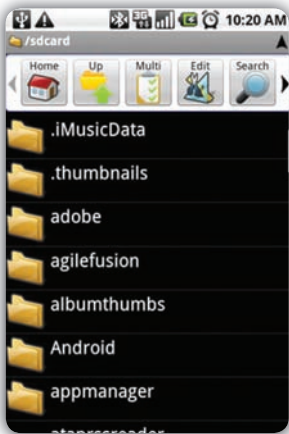
### SMS Popup

With SMS Popup, you'll no longer have to jump out of your current app to deal with texts. This app displays a preview of new messages at the top of any screen, and you can hit delete, close and reply direct from the preview box.



**ASTRO**

You'll want to back up your media files and apps, and Astro lets you do all that, and uninstall unwanted programs. Then, if you switch phones, you won't have to download those cherry-picked apps again.

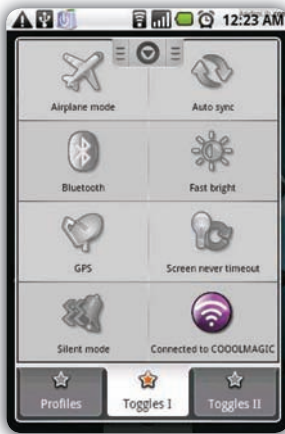


Enter new name:

YouTube Profile

**Toggle Settings** (Android 1.5 only)

Perfect for the LG InTouch Max GW620, this puts settings widgets on the home screen to adjust Wi-Fi, GPS, 3G and ring volume. You can also create profiles based on low battery or time of day – no volume and Wi-Fi on at work, perhaps?





## Tips and tricks

### Themes and styles

Want a phone that looks like no one else's? Download customisation apps to jazz up your home screen and pick up dozens of new-look skins and themes. Check out some of our favourite looks.



#### **aHome with Chinese Culture skin**

**Free Lite version; \$4.99 full version.** Skins and icon packs are free-\$1

#### **Open Home with Moon Dust skin**

**Free Lite version; \$3.99 full version.** Skins and icon packs are free-\$0.99



#### **dxTop with SteamPunk skin**

**Free Lite version; \$2.99 full version.** Skins and icon packs are free-\$1.99



## Contacts and calendar

There are a couple of tricks you can use to move lots of contacts at once, as well as sync calendars – so that, for example, you can get work appointments onto your phone's calendar.



### Moxier Sync

Pre-loaded onto your LG InTouch Max GW620 or LG Optimus GT540, this app syncs your Gmail with your work email (if it's a Microsoft Exchange account). Log in with your work email details once, and it will automatically sync contacts, calendar, notes and tasks, without you having to lift a finger again.



### Google Sync for desktop

Even if your work or other email isn't on the Microsoft Exchange server, you can still sync it with Gmail, as long as you use the Microsoft Outlook mail program. Just download Google Sync to the PC or Mac that Outlook is on, enter your details once, and Google will keep those contacts and calendar synced to Gmail and Google Calendar.

## Download this

### Bump

Exchange numbers the techie way with Bump, which lets you swap contact details with another phone, simply by touching the two devices together. Works with any phone that has the app, which is available for Android and iPhone.

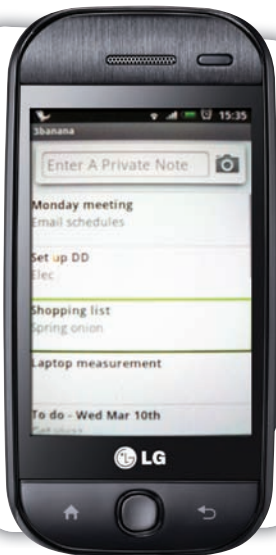




## Camera

If the number one thing you want to do with your photos is show 'em to your friends, LG has your number.

Both the Optimus GT540 and InTouch Max GW620 are great social networking phones, with built-in features to share photos direct from the phone via social networks, email, or any new photo-friendly apps you download. Here are three cool places to share your snaps.



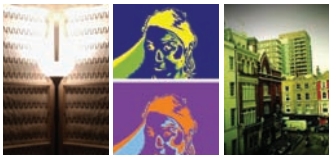
### 3banana

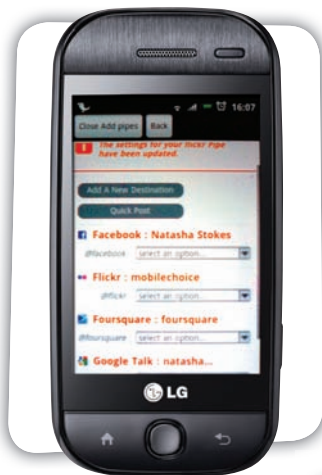
A memo app that lets you save reminders as text or photos, and back it all up online. You can also add tags and GPS locations.

## Download this

### FxCamera

Want some seriously cool, arty, or retro shots? This camera-filter app produces snaps that look like Polaroids, Warhol prints and more.



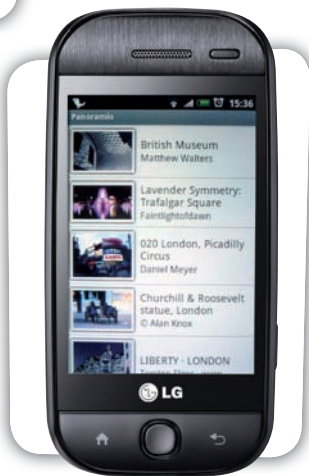


## Pixelpipe

Post your photos on any, some or all of your social networks and blogs in one go. Supports Facebook, Flickr, Twitter, Picasa, Blogger, Foursquare and more.

## Panoramio

Take pictures on your travels and upload them with tips and routes to this online community, which displays user-generated photos of any place in the world.





## Video

Watching it, recording it and sharing it - everything you need to turn your Android phone into a media machine from video player to a remote control app

### mVideoPlayer

For the ultimate movie phone, download mVideoPlayer for your Android device. It organises all your video by album, so if you have a lot of TV series, they'll be saved together in a single folder.

It supports MP4 and WAV files - and if you're moving your video library from iTunes, it supports M4V files too.

mVideoPlayer also supports subtitles and if you stop the video - say to pick up a phone call, or exit to home screen - you can start again at the same place when you open it again. The player can also give you the IMDB info on any movie in your library.



### So over Hollywood?

Shoot your own video on your Android phone and share them via the free **Qik** app. You do the recording while in the app, which then streams the footage on the web. The video is automatically saved online and there's also an offline mode where you can edit your artwork and share it with individual friends, Facebook and Twitter.

## Download this Gmote 2.0

Control movies and music on your computer from a distance. This app also lets you launch PowerPoint shows, surf the web and even use your phone as a touch-pad and keyboard for your computer. Supports Linux, Windows, Mac.



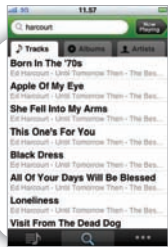
## Music

Your Android phone is also a full-blown music player, so get to grips with what it can do, and download the best apps to get the right listening experience.



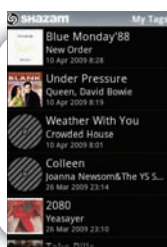
### Last.fm

The original online radio is a freely available app with more than 6.5 million songs in its database. Just fire up the app and stream dozens of genre stations, or create your own. Be sure you're in a Wi-Fi zone, though – streaming can really rack up data charges over 3G.



### Spotify

Stream over six million songs to your phone with this app, which is available free to Spotify Premium subscribers. You'll be able to access your playlists from anywhere, as well as download playlists to your phone to listen to when out of Wi-Fi or 3G range.



### Shazam

Heard a song you love, but can't identify it? Let Shazam record a few bars, and it'll comb its database to give you the title and artist. It hasn't failed us yet... and yes, we've tried.



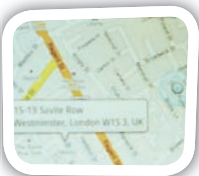
## Maps and GPS

With Google Maps already installed, your Android phone is a great sat nav, providing you with global maps, walking and driving directions, and live traffic information. Here are a few tricks to get even more out of its mapping features.



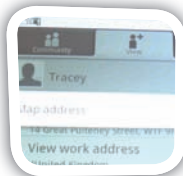
### Hit 'search'

You don't need to know what you're looking for to find it – for example, type in 'dim sum', and Google Maps will mark several places it identifies with the tasty Chinese food. Or try 'Boots' to find the closest branch.



### Tap on places

You'll get the address and phone number, along with users' reviews of the place. You can get directions from your current location, or see it in Street View. You can also 'Search Nearby' to find other places of interest in the area.



### Find a friend

If you have a friend's address on your Android phone, you can get directions to their house just by tapping the address in the phone book.

## Download this

### Aloqa

This turbo-charged app recommends the closest restaurants, parties and even music, film and comedy events. The company works with partners such as Qype and Wikipedia, so that at any given location, you can check out articles on nearby streets and landmarks, as well as discounts at nearby restaurants. Biggest bonus? There's an ATM locator.



## Operator deals

**LG Android phones clock in at some budget friendly tariffs. Check out what you can get from the major operators**



### Optimus GT540\*

The Optimus GT540 launches in May, and, unlike the InTouch Max GW620, will be available both on contract and prepay. You can get it in black or silver variants with final pricing and availability TBC. Check [www.lge.com/uk/mobile](http://www.lge.com/uk/mobile) for the latest details and future Android phones.

### InTouch Max GW620

#### T-Mobile\*

● **18 month contract** Free from £25 per month. With 300 minutes, 300 texts and unlimited internet

● **24 month contract** Free from £20 per month. With 300 minutes, 300 texts and unlimited internet

#### Virgin Media\*

● **18 month contract** Free from £30 per month. With 600 minutes, 3,000 texts and unlimited internet

● **24 month contract** Free from £25 per month. With 600 minutes, 3,000 texts and unlimited internet

\* Subject to change. Check with retailer for latest deals



## Why switch?

### Reasons to buy an Android phone

So you've read about the apps, you've checked out the phones - but are you sure you want to plonk those pounds down for an Android of your own? Here are four reasons we'd recommend an LG Android phone.

#### Customisation

Like the idea of being able to design your home screen just the way you want? Android phones are the most customisable of all of the smartphone operating systems. You can easily move, add and remove shortcuts and widgets, or download new icons and themes for a really different look (see page 24 for the lowdown).



#### Low cost

LG's Android line is more cost effective than most other smartphones, with all the same benefits of a powerful and easy to use OS. In fact, the InTouch Max GW620 is available free on £20 contracts.

#### Free apps

Sixty percent of the 50,000 apps at the Android Market are free, while most of the paid-for ones are under a fiver. And because developers have access to the full Android code, they can make apps that integrate perfectly into the phone.

#### Camera

Android cameras can be hit and miss, but LG has nailed the snapper on its InTouch Max GW620 (page 10) and Optimus GT540 (page 12) handsets. Both come with auto-focus and flash, and take decent pictures, even in low light - a coup for phones at this price point. And, of course, you can upload the photos to Facebook, Twitter and more.

## UPDATE FRIENDS AND INFLUENCE PEOPLE

Stay on top of your tweets with Twidroid, a free app available on Android Market.™ It lets you update your Twitter feed, and see what your friends are saying, wherever you are. Just one of over 20,000 apps available on the LG InTouch Max GW620, the new smartphone from LG.

# LG InTouch max GW620

[www.lg.com/uk/mobile](http://www.lg.com/uk/mobile)



# LG

Life's Good



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