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# PERSONAL DEVICES

Every child wants their own mobile device. Just because they WANT one, doesn't mean they NEED one or that you should give them one.

In addition, just because an older child was ready for their own device at a certain age, doesn't mean the younger sibling automatically gets one at the same age. Remember, maturity rates differ among siblings.

Before getting your child a device, ask yourself the following questions:



1. Does my child NEED a device (or just want one)?
2. Is my child responsible enough to handle his/her own mobile device?
3. Is my child mature enough to both understand AND follow the rules I set for using the device?
4. Does my child understand my concerns about his/her safety when it comes to using a mobile device?
5. Does my child understand the cost of the phone and the services he/she can access?
6. Does my child understand that having a mobile device is a privilege, not a right?

If you decide that your child is ready for a mobile device, make sure you're crystal clear with them about your rules to use the device (*see the sample mobile device agreement included*).

You also might consider starting them with a device that doesn't have all the bells and whistles, and as they earn your trust to use the device appropriately and according to your rules, you can reward with a device that has more features. Take a look at our recommendations for starter phones.



# STARTER PHONES FOR KIDS

## Light Phone

**Works with:** Light, T-Mobile, Verizon, AT&T, Ting, Mint, US Mobile

**Features:** Phone calls, Messaging/Texting, Alarm, Hotspot, Calculator, Music player (1GB), Personal Hotspot

**Overview:** A cool looking phone designed to be used as little as possible (no browser, email, or social media). Screen is the same kind of electronic paper screen found in e-readers like the Kindle.



## KC2 by Kids Connect

**Works with:** KidsConnect only

**Features:** Pre-programmed phone numbers for voice calls and texts, SOS button, GPS tracking, Geofencing, Location history

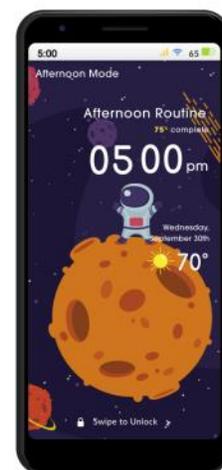
**Overview:** Very limited usage for child but lots of peace of mind for parents of young kids with tracking capabilities.

## Pinwheel

**Works with:** T-Mobile, AT&T, Mint, TracFone, Consumers Cellular, Cricket, MetroPCS, Verizon

**Features:** Parent portal built-in, Phone calls, Messaging/Texting, GPS tracking, Approved contacts, Music apps for kids, Video calls if parent approved, Camera with parental approval for attaching photos or videos to texts

**Overview:** Designed with kids in mind. Parental controls built-in, curated apps, no social media or internet browser, rugged.



## Gabb Z2

**Works with:** Gabb only

**Features:** Phone, Messaging, Music, Camera, Video, Voice Recorder, Calendar, Gallery, Calculator, Clock, GPS location

**Overview:** Looks like a smartphone but doesn't have internet browser or social media apps.

# STARTER PHONES FOR KIDS

## Punkt MP02

**Works with:** All carriers

**Features:** texting, phone calls, contact list, alarm clock, notes with reminders, calculator, basic calendar, Bluetooth and wifi compatible with secondary devices

**Overview:** No camera



## Troomi (Samsung A12)

**Works with:** Troomi service

**Features:** Camera, pre-vetted safe apps, texts, approved contacts, email, music, maps, weather, clock, calculator, GPS, unlimited talk and text, parent portal

**Overview:** Good starter phone for young kids and families who like Android phones



## Nokia 3310

**Works with:** Verizon and Cricket (AT&T)

**Features:** Camera, FM radio, audio player, Bluetooth, phone calls, texting, Snake game contacts, alarm clock flash light

**Overview:** Basic mobile phone



## Palm Phone

**Works with:** Verizon and Verizon subsidiaries

**Features:** Phone, Messaging, Music, Camera, Video, Voice Recorder, Calendar, Gallery, Calculator, Clock, GPS location, accident and water/dust resistance built-in, LifeMode to decrease distractions

**Overview:** Compatible with Google Family Link and Bark for parental controls—allows parents to keep an eye on screen-time, manage their kids' apps, view their activity, and see their location

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# SAMPLE MOBILE DEVICE AGREEMENT

- I understand that having a phone and using it is a privilege.
- I understand that my phone privileges can either be restricted or taken away if I violate the rules of this agreement.
- I understand that while I'm a minor living in my parents' home, my device belongs to my parents regardless of who bought it.
- I understand that downloading anything including games, apps, music, ringtones and more can cost money on top of the regular phone bill and that downloading them may put my phone at risk, so I will ALWAYS ASK PERMISSION FIRST before downloading anything to my phone.
- I will NOT POST ONLINE ANY PERSONAL INFORMATION, PRIVATE PHOTOS, MY LOCATION OR ANY OTHER SENSITIVE INFORMATION from my phone that could compromise my safety and privacy
- I will NOT let my friends use my phone and I will NOT share my passwords (both for my phone and for any apps on my phone) with anyone except my parents who will have a record of all my passwords.
- I will NOT use my phone after \_\_\_\_\_ pm.
- At \_\_\_\_\_ pm, I will \_\_\_\_\_. (i.e., plug the phone in the kitchen, give my phone to my parents to charge, etc.)
- I understand that I am responsible to know where my phone is and for keeping it in working condition. If I break or lose my phone, I will have to:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- If I break any of these rules, I will be subject to the following consequence(s):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Child

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date