

Mobile Phone Feature Definitions

To help manage calls:

Call waiting and call hold

Allows you to accept a second incoming call without losing the original call, then switch back and forth between them.

Call forwarding

Allows you to answer your cell phone calls at another phone number.

Call barring

Allows you to restrict outgoing or incoming calls, such as calls to international numbers.

Conference Calling

Allows you to talk with two other parties simultaneously.

Voicemail with message alert

If you are unable to answer the phone, this feature allows the caller to record a voice message that you can play back at your convenience, and notifies you that a message is waiting.

Video Message bank with message alert.

To make physical tasks easier:

Clamshell (flip-phone) design

This design is more compact and protects controls and display, but requires more manual dexterity.

Flat (non-folding) design

This design requires less dexterity but takes up more space, and the controls and display are more vulnerable.

One-touch/speed dialling

Allows you to call a person or business in your phone directory without entering the entire number.

Voice dialling

Allows you to call a person or business by speaking the name.

Voice activation (ie wake up)

Automatic redial

Allows your phone to keep dialling a number for you until the call goes through.

Headset jack

Allows you to conduct conversations hands-free, yet more privately than with a speaker phone.

Bluetooth for cordless hands free

Allows you to speak through an earpiece which has no physical attachment to the phone.

Speakerphone

Allows you to communicate without holding the phone.

Automatic answer

Answers the call after a certain number of rings (especially helpful when using speakerphone or hands-free headset) ***

Voice recognition for menu selection

Allows you to choose options and functions by speaking them.

Audible alerts for battery & signal strength

Phone beeps and gives visual message that battery is low.

Choice of Ringer Tones

The way a mobile "rings" can be changed

Compatibility with text-to-speech (TTS)

A text-to-speech (TTS) system converts normal language text into speech.

Extended battery life

Reduces handling of batteries and charger, usually with a larger, heavier battery

Predictive text with ability to add to dictionary

Predictive text allows some common words to be entered by a single keypress for each letter, as opposed to the multiple keypress approach used in the older generation of mobile phones.

Dial out buffer memory

A dial-out buffer memory enables users who are slow in dialling to avoid being timed-out.

Guarded/recessed keys

Large keys that are recessed or guarded can help ensure that the wrong key is not pressed.

To make visual tasks easier:

Colour display

Presents visual information in full colour

Adjustable display brightness and contrast

Allows you to customize the display to your needs.

Oversized/large display screen

Some mobiles have bigger screens than others.

Adjustable display font

Allows you to choose the type face and size easiest for you to read.

Adjustable display scroll speed

Allows you to control how fast the display moves from one line to the next.

Audio feedback for control inputs

Provides audio alerts and feedback for functions such as when voice mail is received or phone is turned on.

Voice output of displayed information

Information displayed on screen, such as battery level, is presented by voice.

Manuals and billing statements in alternate formats

Allows you the option of reading the phone's manual and getting your bills online or in other formats more usable for you

To make auditory tasks easier:

Silent (vibrating) ringer

Alerts you to incoming calls without sound.

Increased audio volume

Allows you to adjust the volume to suit your hearing and your surroundings.

Visual feedback for control inputs

Provides visual alerts and feedback on the display for functions such as when voice mail is received.

Text messaging

Allows you to send messages using the phone's keypad.

Picture messaging

Allows you to attach a photo to a message.

Instant messaging

Allows you to carry on a text-message conversation in real time.

Email/internet access

Allows you to access information and communicate via the internet.

Hearing aid compatibility

Allows use of a hearing aid without feedback.

TTY compatibility

Allows you to couple a text telephone to your cell phone.

Neckloop compatibility

Allows you to use adaptive accessories for hard-of-hearing users.

Video Calling

Allows caller to view the person spoken to during the call.

Video Messaging

Allows recipients to view caller while listening to message.

To make mental tasks easier:**Caller ID**

Displays the number of the party calling you on your phone.

Caller ID with photo option

Displays a photo of the caller.

Menu prompts and cues

Guide you through the menu.

Reminder function

Allows you to set a reminder of an upcoming event and have the phone alert you at the appropriate time.

Choice of ringer tones

Allows you to assign different ring tones to incoming calls, voice mail, or to identify specific callers.

Picture messaging

Allows you to attach a photo to a text message.

Special Features:**Digital camera**

Allows you to take photos and save them for later use or send them along with a message.

Personal data assistant

Provides additional functions such as a miniature keyboard, calendar, contact list, MP3 player, voice recorder, universal remote control, ability to share data with another handheld device or a personal computer, expanded memory capacity for storing documents, music, or photos, and expansion slots to add features such as additional memory, a modem, or a network card.

Navigation aid (global positioning system - GPS)

Allows you to locate your position on a map, accurate to within a few feet.