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Editors' Top Cell phones

updated February 22, 2006



You're intelligent enough to know that carrying around a cell phone and a PDA is inefficient. Lighten your load by picking up an all-in-one device. Whether you use it as an organizer, an e-mail device, a cell phone, or all of the above, getting a smart phone is a smart move. Here's our list of your best bets in a phone/PDA hybrid. As this list will be updated regularly, sign up for our [On Call Newsletter](#) to keep tabs on new models. -- [Bonnie Cha](#), senior associate editor

Editors' Top Cell Phones:

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Shopping by brand? According to CNET editors, here are this category's major players.

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Smart phones

Cell phones	Editors' rating	Price	Summary
<p>Palm Treo 650 (Cingular, GSM/GPRS)</p>	<p> 8.3 Excellent</p>	<p>▶ \$199-\$548 from 4 stores Check prices</p>	<p>Though it has its shortcomings, the Palm Treo 650 offers solid performance and adds some key features to maintain its reign as smart-phone leader.</p> <p>Specs: Palm OS 5.4 , Up to 360 min , GSM 850/900/1800/1900 , Cingular Wireless</p>
<p>Palm Treo 650 (Sprint, CDMA)</p>	<p> 8.3 Excellent</p>	<p>▶ \$299-\$599 from 2 stores Check prices</p>	<p>Though it has its shortcomings, the PalmOne Treo 650 offers solid performance and adds some key features to maintain its reign as smart-phone leader.</p> <p>Specs: Palm OS 5.4 , Up to 300 min , CDMA 800/1900 , Sprint PCS</p>
<p>Samsung SCH-i730</p>	<p> 8.3 Excellent</p>	<p>▶ \$429-\$499 from 2 stores Check prices</p>	<p>Small, light, and powerful, the Samsung SCH-i730's high-speed data support and built-in Bluetooth and Wi-Fi make it an excellent choice for those who have to stay connected at all times, though the crippled Bluetooth support may spoil the party for laptop road warriors.</p> <p>Specs: Microsoft Windows Mobile for Pocket PC Phone Ed. 2003 SE , 64 MB, Up to 132 min , CDMA2000 1X 800/1900 , Verizon Wireless</p>
<p>RIM BlackBerry 8700c</p> <p>Released: 11/21/2005</p>	<p> 8.0 Excellent</p>	<p>▶ \$0-\$299 from 3 stores Check prices</p>	<p>Armed with an Intel processor and EDGE support, the RIM BlackBerry 8700c offers mobile professionals a winning package of performance, productivity, and design.</p> <p>Specs: BlackBerry Handheld Software , 16 MB, 240 min , GSM 850/900/1800/1900 , Cingular Wireless</p>
<p>T-Mobile SDA</p>	<p> 8.0 Excellent</p>	<p>This product is currently not in stock at any of our online merchants. Check the manufacturer's Web</p>	<p>For those who want to do more on the go, the T-Mobile SDA offers a winning package of productivity tools, multimedia, and great performance. We just wish the smart phone had a better keypad layout.</p> <p>Specs: T-Mobile</p>

I-mate Jam



7.6
Very good

site for more information.

\$545-\$559
from 2 stores

Check prices

Similar to the I-mate SP3i, the I-mate Jam is a fun multimedia-capable smart phone. That said, the lack of a keyboard makes it better for reading e-mail than sending it.

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CNET editors' review

Editors' rating

Excellent **8.0** out of 10

Reviewed by: Bonnie Cha

Review date: 12/6/05 Release date: 11/21/05

Average user rating: 7.6 See all user ratings

The good: The RIM BlackBerry 8700c benefits from an Intel processor and EDGE support, as well as a bright display, a full QWERTY keyboard, and a slim design.

The bad: To our disappointment, the RIM BlackBerry 8700c uses a proprietary instant-messaging client, and Bluetooth is limited to use with headsets and car kits.

The bottom line: Armed with an Intel processor and EDGE support, the RIM BlackBerry 8700c offers mobile professionals a winning package of performance, productivity, and design.

Read CNET's review of the RIM BlackBerry 8700c

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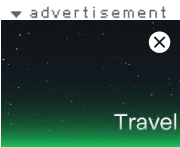
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User opinions for RIM BlackBerry 8700c

Average user rating **Very good** **7.6** out of 10

Average rating from 29 users

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Sort 29 user opinions by: Rating | Date | Comments posted | Most helpful

9 out of 10 Spectacular

Overall, a great product (read more)

by simtiarz (see profile) - November 26, 2005

I went from a Treo 650 to a BlackBerry 7290 to now a Blackberry 8700c and I can honestly say that... (read more)

45 out of 46 users found this user opinion helpful.

9 out of 10 Spectacular

Great PDA/phone (read more)

by dferguson (see profile) - December 1, 2005

I returned my 7100g within Cingular's 30-day buyer remorse period to get the 8700c. I was happy... (read more)

16 out of 17 users found this user opinion helpful. 2 comments posted to this opinion.

9 out of 10 Spectacular

Truly a business phone! (read more)

by digijoe (see profile) - December 3, 2005

I have had approx 10 phones in the past year, from sprint, verizon and Cingular and I do not buy... (read more)

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3. Samsung SCH-i730
4. Palm Treo 650 (Verizon Wireless)
5. Audiovox SMT5600

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