

Google Nexus Goes 5

Written by Marco Attard
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After the Nexus 4 comes the Nexus 5-- the next iteration of the Google-branded, LG-made smartphone acting as flagship for both the latest Android build (4.4) and Google's device design chops.



Supposedly "made for what matters," the Nexus 5 is a 4.95-inch device packing a 2.26GHz Qualcomm Snapdragon 800 CPU, 2GB RAM and 16/32GB storage. The display handles 1920x1800 resolution at 445ppi, while connectivity comes through dual-band wifi, NFC and Bluetooth 4.

Unlike the glass-clad Nexus 4 construction is in plastic, with a "silky texture" (read soft matte finish) similar to the 2013 Nexus 7 tablet.

The rear-facing camera features an 8MP sensor, optical image stabilisation (OIS), a small gyroscope and motor actuator to further increase shot ability, and a shutter fast enough to snap images at what Google calls "HDR+" (or "true" HDR) via capturing and combining multiple images at different exposures.

Handling everything is Android 4.4, aka KitKat-- yes, it officially shares a name with a certain chocolate-covered wafer-- the version supposedly designed for "the next 1 billion users." More of a refinement than an actual revolution, KitKat offers an improved Phone app (with search across contacts, nearby places and Google Apps accounts), deeper Google Now integration and lower processor overhead.

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According to Google KitKat will also run on lower-end devices (with 512MB RAM or more) previously unable to handle the latest Android updates, thanks to reduced memory consumption and the elimination of unnecessary background services.

The Nexus 5 is available now in the UK, France, Germany, Spain and Italy.

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