



UPCOMING IPHONES

BYTES

Google Glass Preview



Google glass is expected to be everywhere. It's also expected to turn people into mindless Google statues.

When Google Glass (a.k.a. Project Glass) was unveiled, the tech world instantly had differing opinions on it. One side screamed out at the joy of having the chance to live out their sci-fi fantasies and the other side just complained it was nothing more than just vaporware. Google Glass is an attempt by Google in trying to integrate computing into our daily lives, other than just sitting around with your phone or PCs. It shows us a new way in which we can always be connected on the go but in a whole new way. The idea in itself seems revolutionary for many and the released trailer for the Google Glass makes sure your reaction is nothing short of awe. You can't help but feel that you really need one after all the tech eye candy it shows you. Wearable computing is not a new idea, but Google's enormous bank account and can-do attitude means that Project Glass could well be the first product for as good a start as any. Effectively, these smart pairs of

glasses have an integrated heads-up display and a battery hidden inside the frame. The core of Google Glass is its tiny prism display which sits not at eyelevel, but a little above it. You can see what is on the display by glancing up. It's literally a Heads Up Display (HUD) in real life and it is expected to be incredibly nifty. The glasses also have an embedded camera, microphone, GPS and, reportedly, use bone induction to give you sound.

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The device is mainly controlled by your voice: saying "OK Glass" starts you off with a range of options and from there you can take pictures, record those eye-view videos, send messages using speech to text, or get directions through the aforementioned built-in GPS. The most radical thing about Glass is the ability to record what is right in front of you, unobtrusively, in real time. It will supposedly be able to tether with iOS and Android, too. What mobile device in current times is complete without its apps? Yes, Google Glass has apps too. People have already started developing cool (or scary, depends on how you look at it) apps for it, such as finding your friends in crowds just by making the app scan the current camera feed and others that allow you to dictate emails and set up 'hang outs' with your friends. The lightweight and flexible glasses will come in five colors - Charcoal, Tangerine, Shale, Cotton, Sky. That's black, orange, grey,

white and blue for anyone that prefers plain English over marketing speak. The perks don't stop there; the glass might even come with the capabilities to make the blind "see" using the precise GPS with the camera and voice working seamlessly. This extends its uses far beyond just normal consumers, use of the device as a prosthetic is surely to be looked into too. The Google Glass looks very promising as it currently stands, and surely there are more uses to it which will be revealed in the coming months as we edge closer to Google's anticipated release date at the end of this year. Others believe the device will go up for public sale in 2014. No matter how you look at it, Google Glass in its basest element is a documentary studio in an eye glass case but only time will tell whether it really is as good as it sounds in practice as it is shown to be in the trailers.

SAFAT ALAM



The real way Google glass is intended to be used.

JUST IN

NVIDIA Launches Quadro K6000



Good news for you crazies out there! NVIDIA just launched its most recent flagship GPU: The Great 'Quadro K6000'. Well heeled for gaming, graphics and showing off, this monster is packing 12 Gigs of memory and almost double processing power than its predecessor. The price is not out there yet, but it's not going to be any less than USD 2500. And FYI, couple of potent GPUs available currently in Bangladesh are GTX 660 (Tk. 26000) and ATI Radeon 7970 (Tk. 40000 & 2 years warranty). Great for all the current games now.

Facebook is killing some iPhones

For many iPhone and iPad owners, battery life in iOS has been less than optimal. Apple's discussion forums are flooded with complaints about poor battery life not only in iOS 6.1 but in other versions of iOS as well. And while many have blamed Apple for the abnormal battery drain, one theory suggests that the Facebook application could be to blame.

For months now, iPhone and iPad owners have been complaining about poor battery life. First, it was with iOS 6.1 which unfortunately brought an Exchange calendar bug that caused massive battery drains for those that use the Enterprise email service. Apple attempted to tackle the battery life issues with an update to iOS 6.1.2, but since then, after updates iOS 6.1.3 and iOS 6.1.4, iPhone and iPad owners have been complaining about abnormal battery life with their devices.

The discovery, made by Hagga.net, points to the Facebook application as a source for battery drain on the iPhone and iPad. The problem with the Facebook application is explained like this.

Facebook is evidently active in the background, even while the app has been slept by the user. Putting the app to sleep means closing the app, but leaving it in the multitasking tray. While most apps remain dormant and frozen, the Facebook app appears to wake up, perform activities for 10 seconds or so, and go back to sleep.

What this means is that those who are having battery life issues, may want to try a couple of solutions to see if battery life is improved. One, delete the Facebook application altogether. For those who rely on Facebook's applications, this may be difficult, but it may improve battery life. And second, users can continually quit the application by double tapping the home button and clicking the minus that pops up in the app in the multitasking tray.

We haven't seen too much of a different when the Facebook app is left in the tray as opposed to when it's

Best smartphones to get your hands on

Hint: it's not an iPhone

Is it a phone? Is it a camera? Is it a gaming console? Smartphones do everything in abundance these days. So we pick five with very unique features.



HTC One

The HTC One represents the company's latest flagship, replacing the HTC One X+. It comes with a 4.7-inch full HD 1080p display, quad-core processor, full metal design and an Ultrapixel camera, Android 4.1 Jelly Bean and HTC's new Sense 5 software. Selling Point: Metal awesomeness, Brilliant camera Price: Tk 48000 - 52000

Sony Xperia Z

The device comes complete with a dizzying array of features, including a 13 megapixel rear-facing camera, a quad-core 1.5 GHz processor, 2 GB of RAM, 4G LTE and a unique design that according to some doesn't need the assistance of a case. On top of that it's waterproof. So go ahead and update your rainy day status while out in the rain. Selling Point: Water\Sweat\Splash proof Price: Tk 43000 - 46000.



MOTO DROID RAZR MAXX

Motorola's Droid RAZR MAXX HD not only features a massive 3,300 mAh battery that simply cannot be beaten by any other stock smartphone batteries, but it also features a high quality design with a Kevlar back, a large 720p display with a good ppi count, speedy dual-core processor and Motorola's new found penchant for swift updates. It comes with Android 4.1 and should get at least a couple more updates. That should take care of a year. Just one problem, it's not officially available in Bangladesh. You get grey market sets. Selling Point: Kevlar back, huge battery, great for Zombie Apocalypse. Price: Tk 39000 - 42000



Samsung Galaxy S4 Active

This younger brother of the flagship Galaxy S4 is a tough one. Besides having a quad core 1.9 GHz Qualcomm Snapdragon processor and 2 Gigs of RAM, it comes with an IP67 certified Dust and Water coating. So, your gloomy rainy days are over. Go and bounce in the drizzle S4 active style. It does have some downgrades though. Instead of SUPERAMOLED screen and 13 MP camera, it got a TFT screen and a 8 MP camera. Adding to the 'Discarded' list is temperature and humidity sensor. But then again why would you use your phone as thermometer, right? Presently it is available in Bangladesh in grey market. Selling Point: Supposedly better waterproofing than Xperia Z

GOOGLE NEXUS 4

The Nexus 4 is the most current Nexus device from Google, a moniker given to its developer devices that come loaded with vanilla Android, quick updates and easily customizable software. The Nexus 4 also benefits from high-end hardware, a staggeringly cheap price both unlocked through Google Play and through T-Mobile and the latest Android software, Android 4.2. The best part about this is you get updates for a very long time. The worst part is you don't officially get this phone here. But you do get a lot of grey market sets, way more than the Motorola. Selling Point: Android updates forever where other phone gets at best 3 updates Price: Tk 32000 - 34000



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