



The power to do more

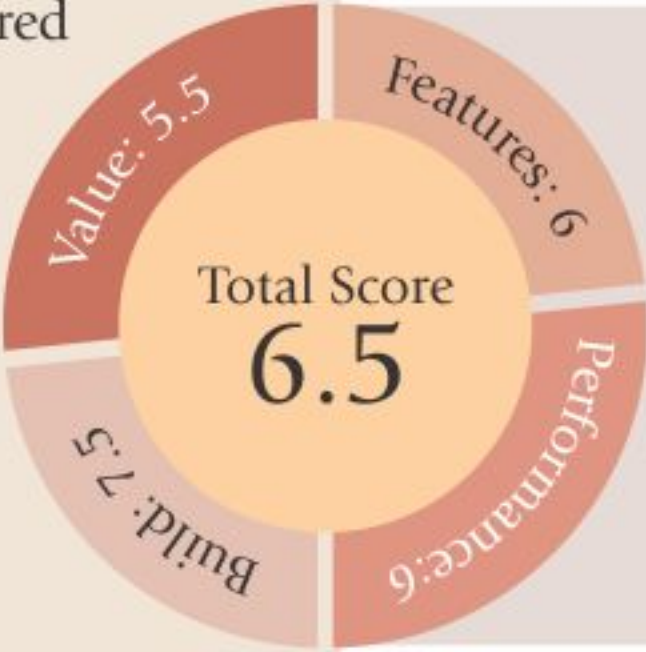
HANDS-ON REVIEW

NOKIA LUMIA 625

Largest screened Lumia Nokia ever pumped out

Nokia's Lumia 625 is the immediate younger brother to Lumia 620. Does this sharp looking device come with most of the things that you could ask for in a midrange smartphone? Well, we are about to know. First, let's come to the display. It has by far the largest screen on a Lumia ever. Honestly speaking, I am not that big fan of Windows phones. But the touch sensitivity of this gorilla glassed IPS display was able to create a somewhat awe within me. Unfortunately that feeling was short lived. The 480X800 resolution of the screen managed to kill it mercilessly. Talking about performance; for a phone that only packs 512MBs of RAM in this era, it was quite good. It managed to perform all the tasks without lagging a bit. It even managed to load mediocre games with an acceptable delay. Oh! Forgot to mention the processor of this phone is a Dual Core 1.2GHz. That explains a lot now. It also supports 4G-LTE. Unfortunately 4G is still a distant dream in this country. The interface of the phone is pretty decent too. It comes with Windows Phone 8 with Amber update added with Nokia's own tweaks. Good thing about this update is that now some service of Google can be integrated in this phone. In contrast to Android, Windows is fairly stringent about customizing the interface. Only the size and color of live tiles can be changed, but that's about as far as it goes. It also lacks the sophistication of Android and the unified notification center of the new iOS. The apps support of this phone is a bit frustrating. Though Vimeo, Temple Run, WhatsApp etc apps are there. But essential apps like Prey (as in track your mobile devices),

Verdict: Though this handset has a long list of things that could have been included, still we find the design and the built inspiring. The decent battery life impressed us too. The phone's camera is decent but average. Its display is resplendently touch-sensitive. On the downside, it has really poor resolution. Also the performance is to some extent limited by the low RAM of the device. The apps eco system is not on par with android and iOS. Compared to the specs that it offers, it is bit overpriced. May be one good reason to buy this handset is because it's the last piece of hardware from the dying Finnish giant (since Microsoft acquired Nokia's Handsets Division).



Specs
Display: IPS LCD & gorilla glass 2. 4.7" inches
OS: WP8 with Amber update
CPU: 1.2 GHZ Dual Core
ROM: 8 GB
RAM: 512MB
Connectivity: LTE, HSUPA etc.
Camera: Primary 5 MP, 2592x1936 pixels, autofocus, LED flash & secondary VGA.
Sensors: Accelerometer, proximity
Price: Tk. 22,500/- (Dealer Price)

There are built in apps to add Instagram-like effects in the images. The other app- 'Nokia Music' offers free unlimited music streaming for six months. You could continue to stream music even after this period but of course for a nominal fee. Another app in this phone that is supposedly brilliant is 'Nokia Here'.

more hours. Probably the credit goes to the low rez. display. As always, check out the sample shots in the online and fb page! Thanks to Tanver Ahmed Ovi for lending his phone for the review.

WORDS: SHAHRIAR RAHMAN



Wordpress app, Instagram etc are not there. But most of the popular games (both free and paid) are available for download. The built in apps are okay. Not great but okay. Microsoft Office, like always, was pretty awesome. We also found two particular apps that were very good: Nokia Smart Cam and Nokia Music. The smart cam takes multiple shots simultaneously. It then does some post processing, removes red eyes, moving objects and brings the best shot out of it. But you can see all the under shots too. In smart cam mode the flash and zoom neither can be controlled which is unfortunate. When you switch to the regular camera mode then you can control those. Not to mention, it has a VGA front facing camera for taking grainy 'selfies'.

According to reviewers abroad, this app takes offline navigation to a new level. Unlucky us, it does not support in Bangladesh yet. This handset also supports 4G, which again is not available in Bangladesh.

The build of the handset is robust; a thing we like very much. The plastic feels good in hand and does not feel cheap at all. It can also be observed that it is skinnier and has a refined form factor than its predecessors. And this translucent plastic shell of the phone is removable and you can see the battery underneath it. Speaking of battery, it has 2000 mAh. And the battery life is simply awesome. After being extensively abused for the entire day, it managed to keep on going for six

Razer Black Widow Ultimate

Worth the money?

Razer, makers of obnoxiously priced gaming gear (keyboards, mice, headphones, etc.), might not have a strong presence in Bangladesh, but there are quite a few people in Dhaka using Razer's high end products. But is it really worth it, getting a twelve thousand taka keyboard?

The Black Widow Ultimate is one of the high-end models in Razer's line of gaming keyboards. It certainly tops the series of mechanical keyboards that they have to offer, and it's priced as such. In terms of the differences between the Ultimate and the regular Black Widow, you get a USB 2.0 port and microphone line/ headphone line out ports on the side of the Ultimate, as well as five fully programmable shortcut keys to the left. There's also two special keys, Fn key + Alt; Fn + F11, which reads the shortcut keys, and locks the game window (thus disabling the windows key, preventing accidental window minimization), respectively.

As for the backlit keys themselves, the mechanical *thunk* you get every time you hit a key, alone might be worth the price for some people (if you can spend 20-30 thousand more to get an iPhone just for the touch smoothness, paying 10 thousand more for a keyboard can also be justified). It's not just the sound either, as the mechanical keys allow you to control how much pressure you're putting on each key, a feature that is extremely useful in

modulating the throttle in racing games or flight simulators. In particular, simulation racers with force feedback enabled, like WRC 3, the difference is clearly visible, with the cars being extremely responsive while turning, accelerating, or braking. Having used a mid-range Genius gaming keyboard for about a year and a half, I can safely say the Black Widow Ultimate can actually be



Verdict:

Is it worth it? If you can afford it, yes. If you can't, you're not missing out on a whole lot. Find an old type writer and revel in the joy of mechanical keys. The layout takes some getting used to (the keys are quite close to each other), but ergonomically it's brilliant, because the Black Widow is one of the most compact gaming keyboards out there. The weight is a severe issue, though, as it weighs as much as several small babies (probably more useful, though).
Price: Tk. 12,000/-

gaming keyboard, while the Genius was a prettier than usual keyboard with a few extra keys stuck on it, with no discernible improvements in performance over any regular keyboard.

The backlit keys will be a great feature for late night stealthy gaming sessions (wouldn't want to warn the parents by keeping the light on, right?), and with four stages of light intensity, you're all set. The font is funky and makes the keyboard look like a control panel on an alien spaceship.

The tested unit bricked itself three times over the course of the first week due to some firmware muck up, but bringing it back to life takes a few short steps and can be found in gaming forums/blogs. Look for the link on our fb page.

SHAER REAZ

Why is there an iPhone 5C

It was expected that Apple would release two iPhones this time. Almost everything about the iPhone 5S and 5C were leaked before the announcements; whether everything they announced fell flat is still up for judgement. The big question however remains: do you 'upgrade' to the iPhone 5S if you have an iPhone 5 and if so, where does it leave the iPhone 5C?

The iPhone 5S may not be a major upgrade from the iPhone 5 but things like the 64-bit processor – a first for mobile devices – will come

of use down the line once more developers start optimising their apps accordingly. The fingerprint scanner is also going to catch-on once more apps become compatible with it. For iPhone 4S users especially, this is a worthwhile upgrade.

The iPhone 5C is where most of the confusion arrives. Analysts expected that it would be a cheaper version of the iPhone 5S costing not more than 300 USD; they also expected the colourful plastic (well polycarbonate actually) exteriors, with their predictions further solidified

through factory production leaks. The rest of the hardware remains exactly the same as that of the iPhone 5. But a price of over 500 USD - while making it cheaper than the 5S – does not make it cheap and costs almost as much as the iPhone 5.

So why would Apple, a company that prides itself of premium designs, go with plastic for the 5C? In truth: one of the biggest user-complaints about the iPhone 5 was how quickly its aluminium exterior lost its colour and scratched. So the polycarbonate exterior for the 5C is more of a

correction over the 5 in that aspect. Another gripe of users about the iPhone 5 was its questionable battery-life and Apple claims that they have fit a larger battery into the 5C to improve matters.

In essence, the C in the iPhone 5C, should be standing for correct. So for users that don't have an iPhone 5, the iPhone 5C is the better, more correct alternative. But overall, both the iPhone 5S and 5C leave even many



fanatics questioning whether to buy any of their 'latest and greatest' products. At the end of the day the long lines outside Apple stores speak for themselves but whether the two

new iPhones beat previous records or even match analyst's expectations are to be seen.
Price: Tk. 55- 58,000/- (iPhone 5C 16GB on order)

SHAHNOOR RABBANI

JUST IN



ADATA launches waterproof, shock-resistant USB 3.0 Flash drive, S107

ADATA Technology has launched a new USB 3.0 Flash drive, the S107. The S107 offers a new water proof & shock-resistant designs and Super Speed USB 3.0 interfaces. Targeting the modern crowd with an on-the-go and mobile lifestyle, the S107 combines a sporty modern look with military grade shockproof and water-resistant construction. The exterior of its S107 drive is constructed of a unique silicone rubber, making it ideal for travelling and excursions. Users now need not worry about the data loss due to accidental drops or spills, which causes irreparable damage in conventional storage devices. The drive is available in scarlet red and wild blue.
Price: Tk. 1,400/-

ASUS announced incredible gift offer all over Bangladesh

Global Brand Private Limited, the authorized distributor of ASUS in Bangladesh has announced "ASUS Incredible Gift Offer" on ASUS notebook and tablet PC. The month-long promotional campaign has started from 1st September. Under this promotion, every purchaser of ASUS notebook or tablet PC will get 'Scratch Card'. Lucky winners can win ASUS Fonepad, mobile phone, headphone, USB speaker, table clock or many more special gifts. Offer till 30th September.

ASUS X550CC notebook launched

Value-packed with all the essentials, the ASUS X550CC reinvents your daily computing experience. It features 1.7 GHz Intel i5 processor, 4 GB RAM, 750 GB HDD, NVIDIA GT 720M graphics of 2 GB video memory, 15.6-inch display. Other special features of the notebook are- Instant on that resumes your computer from sleep mode in 2 seconds and USB 3.0.
Price: Tk 51,000/-

Samsung LED TV with Galaxy Grand and Galaxy Core

Samsung customers buying a Samsung Galaxy Grand or a Galaxy Core from any Samsung Smartphone Café are eligible to win a brand new Samsung LED



TV now. However, everyone is a guaranteed winner with instant cash discount ranging from BDT 1,000 to BDT 2,000, with each Grand and Core purchase. Samsung Galaxy Grand is priced at BDT 29,900 while Galaxy Core is priced at BDT 21,900, and they are both available in equal monthly installments of BDT 2,490 and BDT 2,433 respectively. Under this campaign, Samsung has recently announced the first LED TV winner, Rakibul Islam from Kushtia, among several other winners.



Brother MFC-9460CDN color laser all-in-one printer

The MFC-9460cdn color laser all-in-one combine's print, copy, scan and fax in one powerful device. In addition, it offers standard auto-duplexing to help you save paper, and a 35 sheet ADF for faster scanning, copying and faxing. It produces high-impact color output and offers flexible connectivity with its Ethernet and USB interfaces. Its automatic duplex feature for two-sided printing helps save paper and optional high yield toner cartridges are available to help lower your operating costs.
Price: Tk. 69,000/-

