



The power to do more

BYTES

HANDS ON
REVIEW

Samsung Galaxy Tab 3 A middling tab with an extravagant price-tag

The tablet, even though isn't a new product, has taken the world in a storm. Everybody wants one and most people have one. Today I'm going to talk about the Samsung Galaxy Tab 3. Even though it is called a tablet, in reality, it's a cross between a phone and a tablet.

Starting with the display: it's mediocre. Only about 170 ppi pixel density which means the pictures isn't crisp, sharp and appealing. Since it is a device you'll be using 10 inches from your face and you want as much detail as possible when playing games or watching a movie, so get ready to be disappointed. But Samsung is no inane. They compensated the screens sharpness by making the screen very bright (most of the time).

In terms of speed, it really has none. I mean this is

some justice when you listen to music or watch something on it. I'd say the speakers are just about right but a being a bit louder would not hurt anyone. The device is 3G ready too. So you'll have up to 21mbps on the go beside the regular Wi-Fi. The tablet comes with the usual Samsung software customization; Group Play, Memo, S Voice (similar to Google Now). That is all good but the thing I didn't like much is Samsung's own app store. That means I have to sign into my Google account twice; once for registering with Google and once with Samsung; that's just too much work. I'm also not expecting any software update for this device. If you would like to try a newer version of android on it, you will have to root the device, install custom recovery and then find a ROM that you like.



your very basic tablet. Games struggle unless they are your basic games like DOTS or Flow Free. So don't expect to be playing the newest RAM- craving games. The NAND drive (ROM) is just fast enough to keep the tablet running. It is not that snappy unless you disable a lot of components. The read/write to the microSD (using a class 6 card) isn't fast either. So once you hook up your tablet to your pc to copy something, make sure you have time. A better alternative to this issue would be using apps like Wi-Fi file transfer or AirDroid. The device is quite heavy, so ready book off it while laying flat on your back becomes a workout in about 5 minutes.

The specs aren't great but it has support for GLONASS (Russian version of GPS), TV out and extra slots for your 64 GB microSD card if you want to store music or movies to watch when you go on trips or at home. The tablet has stereo speakers, so it does

If you do own one, here are some suggestions to make it snappier:

- Unlock → settings → about
- Tap on the section where it says "build number" 7 times.
- You will see the developer options is now on
- Scroll down to "windows animation scale" and tap on it, select "animation off"
- Do the same for the next 2 options
- Find "force GPU rendering" and enable it
- This is optional; you could select "do not keep activities". That way your tasks are killed when you leave them.

Once you finish doing them, you'll feel the tablet is a little bit more responsive but still doesn't make it above average; it will still give you a better experience than before.

Reviewer runs Aalok IT and takes the occasional break by giving new smartphones a thorough workout

S M NIAMUL HAQUE



THE VERDICT

This isn't Samsung's top-of-the-line tablet. You could say that it's merely a response to the iPad mini or Google Nexus 7. The response would have been much well received only if the price of this chubby device was half of the current one. Still it managed to be one of the best sellers in Bangladesh market. Till today we wonder why! Our advice: If you really want a tablet to see what it's all about, get a Chinese non-brand one available for about 15 to 22k. Or a first generation Google Nexus 7. Or even the Samsung Note II provided you are OK with the 5 inch display!

SPECS

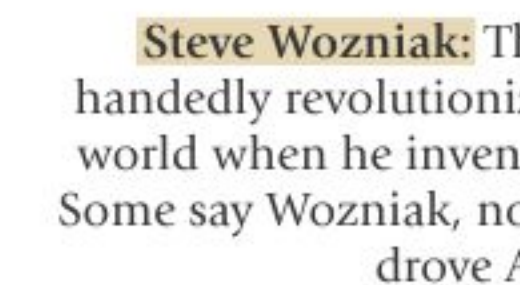
Display: 600 x 1024 pixels, 7.0 inches (~170 ppi)
OS: Android 4.1.2 (jelly bean)
CPU: 1.2 GHz Dual-core
ROM: 8/16 GB
RAM: 1GB
Connectivity: Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, EDGE, 3G and IR port
Camera: Primary 3.15 MP geo-tagging, autofocus & Secondary 1.3 MP.
Sensors: Accelerometer, GPS etc
Battery: 4000 mAh
Price: 8 GB Tk. 35,000/- (Limited time offer ongoing: Samsung ESI95 camera with per purchase)

Top ten Rockstars of tech world!

TECH
TRIVIA



Larry Page & Sergey Brin: These duo are the inventors of Google. The search engine that they developed was and still is 'The most effective' tool to bring out any bits of information in the vast ocean of internet.



Steve Wozniak: This genius single handedly revolutionize the computer world when he invented Apple I & II. Some say Wozniak, not Jobs was what drove Apple to success.



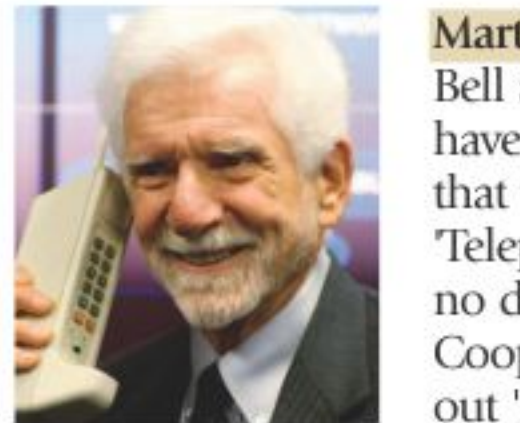
Jack Kilby & Robert Noyce: These old school scientist are the inventors of Integrated Circuits (IC). Thanks to them we can now use PC's without consuming the electricity of an entire city.



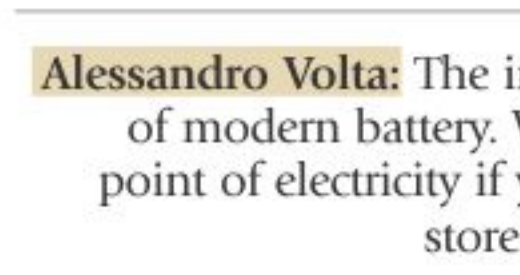
Tim Berners-Lee: The father of World Wide Web. Thanks to him, you don't need to be a Pentagon official or a CIA spy to use internet.

Bill Gates: The guy who swiped the floor with the most user-friendly OS for PC's ever. This reclusive billionaire is now a philanthropist and one of the top donors of the world.

Steve Jobs: Founder & the top manager of Apple Inc. and mind behind the iProducts. Visionary or not, he is the most popular one in the list. No doubt on that.



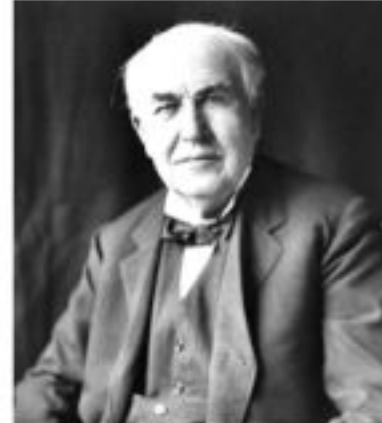
Martin Cooper: Gramham Bell and many others might have disputed over the fact that who invented 'Telephone' first, but there is no doubt that Martin Cooper is the first to bring out 'Portable Phones'.



Alessandro Volta: The innovator of modern battery. What the point of electricity if you can't store it, right?



Lady Ada Lovelace: Worlds first programmer. And the only lady who made in to our list. Daughter to the famous poet 'Lord Byron', Lady Lovelace coded programs for an analytic machine.



Thomas Edison: Ever wondered why 'Electricity' is required everywhere. That's because of this guy. His innovations are the reason why electricity was considered the mode of power in consumer appliances.

TECH THOUGHTS

Is the iPad Mini 2 better than the iPad Air?

Apple have not been known to be a company that offers users an array of choices, going by the motto: "What we offer is better than what anyone else offers because we're Apple". So when the iPad Mini 2 and iPad Air were announced simultaneously on October 22, it begged the question as to why Apple would release two different products with literally the same hardware – save for the screen size – and at a 100 USD price difference. See, the iPad Air is called exactly so because it is lighter and smaller in overall, than its predecessor. The iPad Mini 2 is even smaller, lighter, thus giving users the inevitable choice that Apple lacked or perhaps did not want to give. In a perfect Apple world (the one under Steve Jobs), the Mini would

have never happened. Much less the Mini 2 because Apple would have never bucked to the trend of creating a product in which they need to cut down on profit margins, as was the case with the initial Mini. Adding to that, it was a product they released based on the warm reception a rival company had produced: the Nexus 7. Actually, the term rival company could also be disputed according to the Apple philosophy as the Cupertino giant has always marched to its own beat. Just take the original iPhone, iPad and even the new iPhone 5S for example. The iPhone 5S has a small screen in comparison to today's flagships and a fingerprint scanner: something that has not



proven very successful with the Motorola Atrix in the past but this is Apple we are talking about and when they talk, people (well, mostly their fans) listen. But now, in the current Apple reality, they have forced themselves to compete with the Nexus 7, the Kindle Fire and a plethora of small Android tablets. The second quarter results also show what Apple feared: Android overtook Apple's iPad and iPad Mini in the tablet market share according to ABI Research. Even though the iPad and iPad Mini were the most popular tablets in the market, and will continue to be for the foreseeable future. The main issue with the iPad 4 was its size and heft and the iPad Mini simply looked inferior specs-wise against the Nexus 7 while

expectedly costing more. Apple again, improved on that with the iPad Mini with Retina display while rightfully increasing its price to 400 USD for the base unit. But herein lies a problem for Apple as well. Many fear the iPad Air could also suffer from self-cannibalisation from the iPad Mini 2. The Mini 2 almost automatically seems like the better choice than the iPad Air, being cheaper, lighter and smaller. The Air's only saving grace is the 1.8 inch bigger screen with the same resolution (unfortunately also meaning lower pixel density). One thing is for sure, Tim Cook's Apple is philosophically different from the one led by Steve Jobs.

SHAHNOOR RABBANI

JUST IN

D-Link cloud service in BD

To simplify and enhance your digital lifestyle, Computer Source has brought My D-Link Cloud Service. It has introduced three types of Cloud Routers: DIR-600L/DIR-605L/DIR-506L and a Cloud Camera: DCS-932L in the local market. Using these devices 'Mydlink' Cloud Services help you to stay connected. Effortlessly access, share, view and control the devices on your home network from anywhere, anytime. Wi-Fi routers, cameras and storage devices can all be reached instantly using a computer or smart device, putting you in control of your network no matter where you are. Just attach them to your network, log in to the 'mydlink mobile app' or mydlink website. www.mydlink.com, and you're good to go.



ASUS BW-16D1HT 16X Blu-ray writer

ASUS BW-16D1HT is a powerful and energy-saving Blu-ray writer which is capable of writing from 16X BD format. Its M-Disc compatibility allows consumers store their priceless photos or documents for more than 100 years, and along with BDXL Support, the maximum data storage is 128 GB in one disc. The Blu-ray writer is suitable for anyone who desires a total storage and data backup solution. It supports the latest Blu-ray 3D technology for 3D Blu-ray, 2D to 3D, DVD conversion and DVD Up scaling. Its E-Green feature saves over 50% of power consumption.

Price: Tk. 9,500/-

Samsung slashed smart phone price in Bangladesh

Samsung has introduced more attractive rates for their smartphones, with the aim to cater more exclusively to the Bangladeshi users, facilitating them with the possibilities of 3G. Keeping the consumers' interest in mind, Samsung's newly introduced price for Galaxy Core is BDT 19,900 (previously at BDT 21,900), Galaxy Grand now at BDT 27,900 (previously at BDT 29,900), Galaxy S4 Mini at BDT 37,000 (previously at BDT 42,500), Galaxy S4 at BDT 55,000 (previously at BDT 63,500) and Galaxy Note 2 at only BDT 47,000 (previously at BDT 65,500).



Microlab blue-tooth speaker

Microlab MD212 is a portable speaker with blue-tooth connectivity. This speaker can be connected to any smartphone, tablet or even laptops to enjoy music in the range from 150Hz to 20 KHz frequency. Size of this speaker is so convenient that it can even be carried anywhere. This speaker consists of two Mics and one sub-woofer. It can work as a speaker phone too. Microlab MD 212 comes with an additional tray to attach a phone or tablet to it. Lithium battery of this speaker can be easily recharged by USB mini port.

Price: Tk. 2,800/-



ASUS high-end gaming graphics card in the market

The ASUS HD7870-DC2 brings 28nm GPU advancements to a very cost effective segment that combines great gaming and overclocking performance with the value sought by high-end computer gamers. Packed with incredible features, such as PCI Express 3.0, the ultra-efficient AMD Eyefinity technology or ready for DirectX 11 Support, ASUS HD 7870-DC2 is the world's one of the most advanced graphics undoubtedly. Moreover, 1000 MHz Engine Clock, GDDR5 2GB video memory, HDMI output interface and Windows 7 compatible can bring you better performance and outstanding gaming experience.

Price: Tk. 26,500/-