Apple's new iPhones and the old iPhone SE

This week *Apple* announced their new *iPhone* lineup so if you are in the market for a new *iPhone* and you want the smaller *iPhone SE* or you want to save some money on last year's models, now is the time to head to the *Apple* store or your cell phone carrier store. I know a number of my clients really like the smaller *iPhone SE* and unfortunately *Apple* decided to discontinue the smallest model, so if you are in need of a new phone and want to get another *iPhone SE*, now is the time to do it, if you can find one. If you want to upgrade to a newer model the *iPhone 7*, *iPhone 7 Plus*, *iPhone 8 and iPhone 8 Plus* are all now \$100 less than last year.



New iPhone XR, iPhone XS and iPhone XS Max

The new *iPhones* this year are the *iPhone XR* (\$749 and up), *iPhone XS* (\$999 and up) and *iPhone XS Plus* (\$1099 and up). The *XS* and *XS Max* are incremental upgrades from the *iPhone X* introduced last year with edge-to-edge screens. The *iPhone XS Max* is the largest *iPhone* screen ever at 6.5". The *iPhone XR* with a 6.1" screen starting at \$749 is probably the most exciting new model. Keep in mind that the *XR* has a LCD screen which is not as sharp as the OLED screens on the more expensive *XS* and *XS Max*, but I'm sure, in true *Apple* fashion, it will be an excellent screen for most users.



Super Retina HD display¹

Super Retina HD display¹

Liquid Retina HD display1

These 3 new phones have a new faster A12 Bionic chip (the brains of the phone) which in some tasks is 30% faster than last years A11 Bionic chip. The XS and XS Max come in capacities up to 512GB, the XR up to 256GB. The XS and XS Max can be dropped in water (pool water, salt water, etc.) up to 2 meters for up to 30 minutes, the XR to 1 meter (rinse the phone and let it dry out). All three models have wireless charging which some new cars are starting to come out with. Just lay your phone down on a pad and it charges.

Both XS models have amazing new cameras with the ability to change the depth of field after the picture has been taken. So if you find that the background in a photo is out of focus you can change it to be in focus, without changing the focus of the near subject, after the fact. Amazing!



Click to watch the depth of field change

New *iPhones* do keep getting better and better but also more and more expensive, so now is a good time to get last year's model at a discount if you want to save some money.

iPhone Battery Replacements

If you currently own an iPhone SE, 6, 6 Plus, 6S, 6S Plus, 7, 7 Plus, 8 or 8 Plus

and you feel that the performance has declined since when it was new, you may be eligible for a \$29 battery replacement from Apple, until the end of the year. Apple was forced to admit that iPhone software was designed to decrease the phone performance when it detected that the battery performance had declined. Apple received a large amount of criticism for the practice and decided to lower the battery replacement cost from \$79 down to \$29. But they have now announced that the price will go back up next year. So if you own one of the above models and want to keep it another year or more it would be worth it to take it to the Apple store to see if it qualifies for the \$29 battery replacement (the Apple store will test the phone to see if the battery has in fact declined in performance).



Android Alternative to Expensive iPhones

Have you ever wondered if there is a less expensive alternative to *iPhones*? Why yes there is! You can get brand new *Android* phones from less than \$100 all the way up to over \$1000. But generally you can get excellent *Android* phones for a lot less than *iPhones*. For a phone with top of the line features, the Essential Phone 128GB Edge-to-Edge Full Display Unlocked Smartphone (Halo Gray) for \$310 is a prime example. But be warned, switching a cell phone is not only the phone itself but also the Eco system you are in (*Apple iOS vs. Google Android*). So if you are already an all *Apple* person with a *Mac* computer and an *iPad* you will probably want to stick with *iPhones*. But for those of you who don't much care which Eco system you are in, then you can save a lot of money on your next phone by purchasing an *Android* phone. Just keep in mind that if you switch from *iOS* to *Android* and you already have a lot of purchases in the *Apple* store (apps, music, movies, TV shows, etc.), you may be forced to repurchase that content in the *Google Play* store, which will add to the cost. And you might need to learn a few more things in *Android*.



Walmart deal on new iPad

FYI, if you are in the market for a new iPad, Walmart has the <u>Apple iPad (5th Generation, 2017 model) 9.7" Retina Display 128GB Wi-Fi Tablet in silver or gold for \$349</u>.

More info:

Apple - iPhone XS, iPhone XS Max, iPhone XR Compared

Apple - iPhone XS, iPhone XS Max Cameras

<u>Venturebeat - Apple cuts iPhone 7 and iPhone 8 prices by \$100, kills iPhone SE, iPhone 6s, and iPhone X</u>

Macworld - The iPhone XS: An innovation dilemma

<u>Macworld - iPhone XR vs iPhone XS and iPhone XS Max: Which one should you pre-order?</u>

Apple - iPhone Battery & Power Repair

PC Mag - Apple Reveals 2019 iPhone Battery Replacement Prices

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