

Special points of interest:

- A *portable device* can be in a hardware or software format.
- The definition most applied to *portable or mobile devices* are *small handheld electronic tools which serve a variety of functions*.
- Some examples include, MP3 players, PDAs, cell phones and notebook laptops. There are several others, some with one or two functions (such as a CD player which can allow you to select a radio band station) or an *iPad*, a new device introduced in 2010 which allows a user access to a variety of features, including games, the Internet, books, periodicals, music, movies, and e-mail services.



This is an example of an *iPad*, introduced to the technology world in 2010 by *Apple*. The icons on the screen are touch icons which will direct the user to a topic of general interest. They are labeled for easy Interpretation and use.

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# An Introduction to Portable Devices: A Pathfinder

Plainfield Public Library Pathfinder

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## Overview Commentary

Are you intrigued by the explosion of technology in the past decade but also thoroughly confused by the sheer number of options in portable devices available to you? Perhaps you believe a portable device would be of use to you on a daily basis but you are perplexed as to which one(s) might be a perfect fit for your needs. Or maybe you cringe when you see the terms your children type when using their texting devices, but you've determined to brush up on the lingo they use. Maybe you've decided that you simply don't want to carry around that bulky oversized calendar in your purse anymore or drag those heavy CD players around your waist when you go to the gym? Is there any way to get your calendar or music in a more compact size?

Whatever your interests or needs, *The Plainfield Public Library* can help you out, whether it's simply to understand the technology or to dive headlong into the technological boom of the first decade of the 21st Century!

### *Good Luck and Have Fun !*



Today's generation of PDAs are generally called *smartphones*. They are multipurpose devices for cell phone and email use, as well as storing personal organizing data such as appointment calendars and to-do lists. The monitors of these devices are icon-oriented touch screens for ease of use.

## Some Highlighted Resources

- *Master Visually iPod and iTunes*, by **Bonnie Blake**, call # **006.5 BLA**
- *Popular Mechanics*, located in the **Periodicals Collection**
- *How to Do Everything with MP3 and Digital Music*, by **Dave Johnson**, call # **004.6 JOH**
- *Music Technology*, by **Alan Hilvert-Bruce**, call # **J796.7 HIL**
- *Troubleshooting & Maintaining Your PC: All-in-one for Dummies*, by **Dan Gookin**, call # **004.16 GOO**

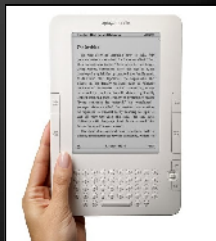


This cell phone is an example of a multipurpose portable device. You can receive and send calls, text someone, or listen to music. It's called the **Razzle**.

"The future of news is about distributing content as widely as possible and monetising not just content but relationships. Devices will be a big part of that, but they're not the answer."

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**Patrick Smith**



The **Kindle** is a portable device for reading e-books and magazines.

## In-house Books & Magazines

- *iPhone: The Missing Manual*, by David Pogue, call # 621.384 POG
- *Everything is Miscellaneous: The Power of the New Digital Disorder*, by David Weinberger, call # 303.483 WEI
- *Wired*, located in the Periodicals Collection
- *Consumer Reports*, located behind the Reference Desk along with the *Consumer Reports Buying Guide* for the current year
- *Computer Telephony Encyclopedia*, by Richard Grigonis, call # R 621.385 GRI

## Articles

- "20 ESSENTIAL IPAD APPS." *Macworld* 27.8 (2010): 41. MasterFILE Premier. EBSCO. Web. 30 June 2010.
- Jay, Robin. "To show your clients that they matter, stow the BlackBerry." *Las Vegas Business Press* (10712186) 26.20 (2009): P25. Regional Business News. EBSCO. Web. 30 June 2010.
- "Kindle tops our e-reader Ratings." *Consumer Reports* 75.7 (2010): 40. MasterFILE Premier. EBSCO. Web. 30 June 2010.
- Adam Satariano Washington, Post. "Apple rings up huge sales with launch of iPhone 4." *Toronto Star* (Canada) n.d.: Newspaper Source. EBSCO. Web. 30 June 2010.

## Online Resources

- [www.wired.com](http://www.wired.com)
- <http://handheld.teco.edu>
- [www.pcworld.com](http://www.pcworld.com)
- <http://eduscapes.com/tap/topic78.htm>
- [www.wisegeek.com/technology.htm](http://www.wisegeek.com/technology.htm)
- [www.techworld.com/personal-tech/?intcmp=ros-hd-nv31](http://www.techworld.com/personal-tech/?intcmp=ros-hd-nv31)
- [www.pricegrabber.com](http://www.pricegrabber.com)
- [Amazon.com/Kindle](http://Amazon.com/Kindle)
- [www.lingo2word.com/lists/txtmsg\\_listA.html](http://www.lingo2word.com/lists/txtmsg_listA.html)
- [www.apple.com/ipad](http://www.apple.com/ipad)
- [www.popularmechanics.com/archive/technology/gadgets/0/10/](http://www.popularmechanics.com/archive/technology/gadgets/0/10/)
- [www.geek.com](http://www.geek.com)
- [www.about.com](http://www.about.com)