

HTC Updates One Smartphone

Written by Marco Attard
27 March 2014

HTC launches the next version of the One flagship smartphone, the One (M8), a larger 5-inch model featuring identical aluminium unibody construction to the 2013 model if with even more metal.



According to the company the body is 90% aluminium, compared to the 70% of the previous model. The edges are also more-rounded and the finish is brushed, not matte.

The 5-inch display is 1920x1080 resolution, while powering all are a quad-core 2.5GHz Snapdragon 801 processor, 2G RAM, 16/32G storage (expandable to 128GB via microSD slot) and a 2600mAh battery.

Connectivity includes Bluetooth 4.0, dual-band 802.11ac wifi, AWS compatibility, LTE and NFC. The OS of choice is Android 4.4 (KitKat) as reskinned with the Sense 6.0 UI, although a version running on "clean" Android will be available directly from Google.

One interesting feature is the camera-- a dual-camera setup dubbed "Duo Camera" allows Lytro-style photo refocusing in post-processing thanks to an additional depth sensor. Meanwhile the 4MP "Ultrapixel" sensor from the 2013 One promises to improve low-light photography via larger pixels and an F2.0 lens.

Also making an appearance is the front-firing "BoomSound" stereo speaker setup, if with a more

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powerful DSP chip and zero mentions of Beats technology.

The HTC One is available from April 2014 in silver, gold and gunmetal gray.

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