

## PDA Headquarters

# Buying a PDA

A PDA (personal digital assistant) or handheld as they are commonly referred to, is basically is a small portable device that fits into the palm of your hand. "Personal" is the operative word here. What you want is a portable device that will meet your organizational, information and communication needs, and fits your budget and lifestyle.

### ***Consider your needs...***

- PIM – Personal Information Management
  - Do you simply want to organize personal information such as address book, calendar, and to-do list?
- Reference resource
  - Will you use the PDA as a reference resource?
- Interactive communication device
  - Do you want interactive capability for email, web browsing or mobile phone capability?
- Multimedia
  - Will you need to view audio or video files?
  - Do you want a built-in or add-on camera or voice recorder?
- Office Suite
  - Do you want to be able to manipulate office documents?
- Miscellaneous considerations
  - How much do you have to spend?
  - This technology changes rapidly...consider two years use
  - Look for memory, flexibility, and expandability

### ***Uses in Medicine...***

#### Reference resource

- Drug Information
- Practice Guidelines
- Diagnosis and Treatment Algorithms

#### Patient Management

- Prescription Writing
- Charge Capture/Billing
- Patient Tracking



### Medical Calculators

- General (MedMath, MedCalc, Archimedes)
- Special (PregCalc, DripCalc)

### Internet Access

- Some applications provide updates with each synchronization
- Interactive portals such as MDConsult
- Web browsing such as AvantGo

## ***Two Major Operating Systems***

SPEC	<b>PALM OS</b> 	<b>POCKET PC</b> 	NOTES
Size	Smaller	Larger	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Features dictate size and weight rather than OS</li> </ul>
Weight	Lighter	Heavier	
Display	B/W or Color 320X320	64k Color Most have transreflective LCD display	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Most devices now have at least 16 bit 64k color</li> <li>▪ 320X240, 320X320 or 320X480 resolution</li> </ul>
Battery Life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Better battery life</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Eats up battery power more quickly</li> <li>▪ Average 8 hours</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Lithium-ion battery</li> <li>▪ Rechargeable cradle or cable</li> <li>▪ Some devices can be powered and recharged using AC adapter</li> </ul>
Memory	8MB to 32 MB	32MB to 64MB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Palm OS applications require less memory</li> <li>▪ Operating system and PIM applications are stored in ROM</li> <li>▪ 1 MB on Palm OS is equal to 4 MB on Pocket PC</li> <li>▪ Memory expansion a must</li> <li>▪ Not all applications can live on memory cards</li> </ul>

Synchronization			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ USB Cradle</li> <li>▪ USB Cable</li> <li>▪ Infrared</li> </ul>
Ease of Use	Very easy to use; highly customizable	Windows-style interface	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Palm OS known for ease of use; Pocket PC familiar to windows users</li> </ul>
Applications	May or may not include office-compatible applications	Interfaces with Microsoft Office suite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ More medical applications for Palm OS</li> <li>▪ More free applications for Palm OS</li> <li>▪ Pocket PC apps require more memory</li> </ul>
Enhancements	If not included as built-ins, most enhancements can be purchased as add-ons for expansion slot		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Apps</li> <li>▪ Camera</li> <li>▪ Voice recorder</li> <li>▪ MP3</li> <li>▪ Video</li> </ul> Integrated phone
Wireless	Many newer devices include Bluetooth; higher end devices include Wi-Fi; also available as expansion add-ons		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Infrared</li> <li>▪ Bluetooth (Personal Area Network)</li> <li>▪ Wi-Fi (Local Area Network)</li> </ul>
Expandability	Device may include one or two expansion slots		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Memory</li> <li>▪ Keyboard</li> <li>▪ Camera</li> <li>▪ Voice Recorder</li> <li>▪ Modem</li> <li>▪ Ethernet card</li> <li>▪ Bluetooth</li> <li>▪ Wireless Card</li> <li>▪ Bar Code Scanner</li> </ul>
Text/Data entry	Stylus Graffiti On-screen keyboard Thumb keyboard	Stylus Graffiti Handwriting recognition On-screen keyboard Thumb keyboard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Stylus/graffiti</li> <li>▪ On-screen keyboard</li> <li>▪ Thumb keyboard</li> <li>▪ External keyboard</li> <li>▪ Wireless keyboard</li> </ul>
Cost	100 – 500	300 - 1000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A PDA that will meet most needs ranges from \$200 to \$350</li> </ul>

## Popular Palm OS devices

PalmOne	Sony
<p>PalmOne Tungsten E (Palm OS 5)            \$199.99            32 MB            320X320 color            Expansion slot            Office compatible; Universal connector; HotSync cable; Cover</p>	<p>Sony CLI E PEG TJ25 (Palm OS 5)            \$199.99            16MB            320X320 high resolution 65k color            Expansion slot            USB port; Jog Dial Navigator;</p> <p>Sony CLI E PEG TJ35 (Palm OS 5)            \$249.99            32 MB            320X320 65k color            Expansion Slot            USB port; Office compatible; MP3 player; handwriting recognition; Jog Dial Navigator; built in speaker;</p>
<p>Palm Tungsten T2 (Palm OS 5)            \$329.00            32 MB            320X320 65k color            Bluetooth; Office compatible; Voice recorder;            Dual Exapnsion slots; Palm Universal Connector;</p>	<p>Sony Clie PEG-T50 (Palm OS 5)            \$349.00            16MB            320X320 high resolution color            Bluetooth; Voice recorder; MP3 player (requires memory stick); integrated keyboard; Office compatible; picture/movie viewer; expansion slot</p>
<p>Palm Tungsten T3 (Palm OS 5)            \$399.00            64MB            320X480 rotating color display            Bluetooth; expansion slot; voice recorder; graffiti area; Office compatible; microphone; spkeaker; Universal connector;</p>	<p>Sony Clie PEG-NX73V (Palm OS 5)            \$449.00            16MB            320X480 color rotating display            expansion slots; built in camera &amp; voice recorder; built in MP3 player; built in keyboard; Office compatible; handwriting recognition</p>

Palm Tungsten W \$419.00 16MB 320X320 color with backlight expansion slot; wireless phone, internet capability; Office compatible; Thumbboard Universal connector;	
Palm Tungsten C \$499.00 64MB 320X320 color display expansion slot; WiFi capable; Office compatible; Thumbboard;	

### ***Popular Pocket PC devices***

<b>HP/Compaq</b>	<b>Other</b>
HP IPAQ 1935 \$199.00 (mail-in rebate) 64MB 240X320 resolution, 3.5 in. display Office compatible; microphone; voice recorder; video playback;	Dell Axim X3 \$229.00 64MB 240X320 resolution, 3.5 in. display Voice recorder; audio playback
HP IPAQ 1945 \$299.99 32MB 240X320 resolution, 3.5 in. LCD display Bluetooth; voice recorder; Office compatability	Toshiba e750 \$299.00 32MB 3.8 in. display Office compatible; audio recording; video playback
HP IPAQ 2215 (Pocket PC) \$399.99 64MB 3.5 in. display expansion slot; Bluetooth; voice recorder; MP3 player; Office compatible; Microphone & speaker;	ViewSonic Pocket PC V35 \$299.00 32MB 3.5 in. display Office compatible; voice recorder; MP3Player; Microsoft E-book reader; expansion slot;