

Android MID 7" Tablet PC (an iPad Clone)

Apple's iPad was surrounded with extreme hype before its initial release. By the time it hit the store shelves, many people went absolutely nuts and bought themselves a piece as soon as they could get their hands on one. However, little did they know that somewhere on the other side of the world, a different version of (pretty much) the same device was in the works.

Now, before you get the wrong idea, the Android MID 7" Tablet PC is not an iPad imitation. Instead, it is akin in principle to the Samsung Galaxy, both being tablet PCs running on the Android platform. In this article, we'll take a quick look on what this product has to offer and see how good (or how bad) it is, when compared to the industry-leading iPad.

Battery Life

Now, the iPad boasts more than eight hours of use without recharging, while the Android MID 7" lasts for less than four hours. What's more, there have been reports that many units have had issues with charging, as the batteries often arrive defective. Thus, make sure that you purchase your device from a reputable seller in order to avoid getting a mobile device that is far from mobile.

On-screen Keyboard Sensitivity

One thing I noticed right away is that the on-screen keyboard was not as responsive as I had initially hoped it would be. It takes almost half a second for a character to appear on screen, which translates to at least 2 minutes to write a single tweet. I guess I was not supposed to expect much from a device that costs 100 US Dollars, but I cannot help to expect a bit more.

Connectivity

Unlike the iPad, this tablet device does not have a SIM card slot. While many decry the iPads being iffy about the SIM card size, this one has no SIM capability whatsoever. This may be a serious issue for users like myself, who use SIM-based broadband Internet on a regular basis.

External Keyboard and Pouch

The Android MID 7" Tablet PC has optional accessories, so I decided to get an external keyboard that is

installed on a carrying case. One thing I noticed is that the external keyboard has a USB connector, while the tablet PC does not. Therefore, you will still need to use an adapter (comes with the default package) for the keyboard to function.

Now, the pouch is actually a misnomer. How come? Because the clamps that hold the device are spaced too far apart. Due to this fact, the tablet can fall off the carrying case at any given moment, which defeats the purpose of this accessory in the first place.

So what's actually good about this Tablet device?

The Price

At less than 100 USD, buying the Android MID 7" Tablet PC should be a painless process to most people's pockets. It can serve as a good training ground for Android OS novices. Why? Because given its price, even if you accidentally break it, you will not remain heartbroken.