

# The TarMac Vaporware Gazette

## The \$999, eyebrow-raising iPhone X: David Pogue's hands-on review

by David Pogue | [finance.yahoo.com](http://finance.yahoo.com) | September 12, 2017

Ten years ago, the world got its hands on the very first iPhone.

On Tuesday, we got our hands on the 10th annual upgrade to that historic machine: the hotly awaited, gorgeous, shockingly expensive iPhone X. (You pronounce it "iPhone 10"—that's a Roman numeral.)

The iPhone X is all screen; there's no more empty slab of black or white above and below the screen. Better yet, it's all OLED screen—the stunning colors and deep blacks (million-to-one contrast ratio!) of organic LED technology. You can charge this phone by setting it down on a charging pad instead of plugging in a cable. You can unlock it just by showing it your face.

Fortunately, if you've been thinking it's time for a new iPhone, the iPhone X is not your only option. Apple also released two other models Tuesday, the iPhone 8 and iPhone 8 Plus. They offer better cameras and faster chips (than last year's phones), and also permit pad charging. But they lack the OLED technology and the edge-to-edge screen—and cost \$700 and up.

Apple CEO Tim Cook's grand unveiling took place at the new Apple campus in Cupertino—the enormous, still unfinished "spaceship" ring. It was the first event Apple has held in the mind-blowingly beautiful Steve Jobs theater.

Afterwards, Apple permitted the throngs of tech reporters into the annual "petting zoo"—a carefully monitored set of tables where we could try out the new models and ask questions about them. Here's what I discovered.

### The body

Apple's iPhone X presentation kind of buried the headline: This phone gives you the jumbo screen size of a Plus model into the compact body size of the non-Plus iPhones. That's a big, big deal for anyone who loves the features of the Plus models (a zoom camera lens, longer battery life, huge screen) but isn't crazy about wielding a phone the size of a VHS cassette.

The band around the edges of the phone is mirror-finish stainless steel. Front and back are made of hardened glass—50% tougher than before, Apple says—in silver or black. It looks gorgeous.

Please see Pogue, page 2.

## Here's everything Apple announced at its big iPhone launch event

Avery Hartmans | [businessinsider.com](http://businessinsider.com) | September 12, 2017

Apple unveiled not one, but three new iPhones at its hardware event on Tuesday. The iPhone X, iPhone 8, and iPhone 8 Plus join a slew of new products and services from Apple, many of which are set to roll out as early as this Friday.

Along with the new phones, Apple announced its first foray into wireless charging, new facial-recognition technology, and a 4K Apple TV. Plus, Apple finally added a cellular connection to its new Apple Watch Series 3. Here are all the things Apple announced Tuesday:

### • The iPhone X.

The new iPhone X — pronounced "iPhone ten" — features a strikingly different design from its predecessors like the iPhone 7. It has a 5.8-inch screen that Apple calls a "Super Retina Display," which utilizes a superior screen technology called OLED. The iPhone X comes in just two colors for now: black, and white.

You can preorder the iPhone X on October 27. It ships on November 3, and has a starting price of \$999 for 64GB of storage.

### • iPhone 8 and iPhone 8 Plus.

The iPhone 8 comes in a standard 4.7-inch model and a larger 5.5-inch "Plus" model—in silver, matte black, and a new gold color. Both the iPhone 8 and the 8 Plus have a glass back and both support the Qi wireless charging standard. Starting price: \$699. Arrives Sept 22.

### • The Apple Watch Series 3

Apple Watch Series 3 is the first Apple Watch, and the first Watch with cellular built in. The watch can make and receive calls allowing you to leave your phone at home, and will have the same number as your iPhone. The new watch comes in three colors: a new gold aluminum finish, silver, and space gray. Available to order Friday and starts at \$329 — the watch with cellular: \$399. Available Sept 22.

### • Apple launching own heart rate study for Apple Watch users.

The new Apple Watch Series 3 will feature an enhanced heart rate app, which will notify you when it detects an elevated heart rate specifically when you're not active. The sensor will also be able to analyze heart rhythm, so Apple is launching the Apple Heart Study in partnership with Stanford University. The study will use data from Apple Watch to analyze cardiac arrhythmia and will be available on the App Store later this year.

### • New Apple TV to stream video in ultra-sharp 4K resolution.

The new Apple TV 4K will be able to stream 4K – or UHD (ultra high-definition) – resolution video, which is sharper than the full-HD 1080p resolution from previous Apple TV models. It will also support HDR (high dynamic range) to produce better colors and contrast between light and dark areas of a scene.

The Apple TV 4K will be able to stream live video, like sports, in 4K HDR from Apple TV apps. It will be available to buy for \$179. You can pre-order it starting on September 15—it ships a week later.

### • Apple's first wireless charging pad: AirPower.

AirPower is a wireless charging pad that will be large and powerful enough to charge your new iPhone — either the new iPhone 8 or the high-end iPhone X — as well as your Apple Watch Series 3 and AirPods at the same time.

Unfortunately, it sounds like AirPower won't arrive until 2018. Apple must first work with the regulatory committee that oversees the Qi

Please see Everything Apple on Page 2

## The notch

The front isn't entirely screen. At the top, there's what Apple calls the Notch, which houses the front camera, the earpiece, and a depth camera. The Notch interrupts what's usually the status bar.

## The Home button

On an all-screen phone, where do you put the Home button?

You don't. On the iPhone X, there is no Home button. But that's like saying, "On the new Toyota, there is no brake pedal." We use the Home button for everything! One press to wake the phone. Touch to unlock. Long touch for Apple Pay. Two presses to switch apps. Press and hold for Siri. How can we get along without a Home button?

Lots of these functions have been assigned to the Sleep/Wake switch on the right side. You now hold it down to trigger Siri, for example, or triple-click it to fire up the Magnifier.

To return to the Home screen, you swipe up from the bottom of the screen. To open the app switcher, you swipe up from the bottom of the screen and pause with your finger in the center.

OK, fine. But what about the fingerprint reader? It's gone. Instead, Apple says it's come up with something better: Face ID.

## Face ID

When you get your phone, you train it to recognize your face in Settings. It asks you to look into the camera and turn your head each way—twice. After that, just looking at the phone unlocks it. (You also have to be looking at the phone—your spouse can't make you unlock it while you're asleep.) Whereas the fingerprint reader had an accuracy-fail rate of 1 in 50,000, Face ID's stat is 1 in a million. You'll use Face ID wherever you used to use your fingerprint: Triggering Apple Pay, for example.

The battery lasts two hours longer than the iPhone 7. And all of this runs on iOS 11, the software that's coming September 19.

Complete article at <https://finance.yahoo.com/news/999-eyebrow-raising-iphone-x-david-pogues-hands-review-010122923.html>

The *TarMac Vaporware Gazette*, named in honor of past president Jerry Rowe, is published monthly. Send kudos, complaints, and article ideas to Cindy Huffman, editor.



### TARMAC "CONTROL PANEL"

Tom Davis, president  
Ray Kallman, vice-president  
Jan Cooke, treasurer  
Cindy Huffman, newsletter editor

### Other Panel Members

Eleanor Cavin  
Gary Gobel  
Lynn McAlpine

### TARMAC BY-LAWS

- If you show up, you're a member.
- If you speak up, you're an officer.
- If you stand up, you're the president.

website: <http://tidewatermug.757.org/index.html>

e-mail: [tidewatermug@mac.com](mailto:tidewatermug@mac.com)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TidewaterAreaMacintoshUsersGroup>

Meetings: 2nd & 3rd Thursday each month except Dec. (first meeting only). 6-8:30 pm. **Help desk** opens at 6.  
Pops Diner, 1432 Greenbrier Pkwy., Chesapeake 23320

# Everything Apple (cont. from Page 1)

wireless charging standard to implement a new standard it developed for AirPower. Apple didn't say how much AirPower would cost or when it will be available.

## • iOS 11 will arrive on your iPhone and iPad September 19.

Apple's smartphone operating system, iOS 11, will arrive on phones September 19. The new OS features person-to-person payments in Apple Pay, a refreshed Control Center, a revamped Apple Maps, support for augmented reality (AR) applications, and much more.

## • WatchOS 4 to launch September 19.

Apple's smartwatch operating system, WatchOS 4, will also launch on September 19.

## • MacOS High Sierra will be available to download on Sept 25.

Apple's latest operating system for Mac laptops and desktops, MacOS High Sierra, will be available to download on Monday, September 25.

MacOS High Sierra will include "Autoplay Blocking," which stops media from autoplaying across the internet; an improved Photos app; an overhauled core file system, support for high-end virtual reality; and more.

## • FaceID — a new system to unlock your iPhone X.

Face ID is the new way to unlock your phone on the iPhone X. Face ID replaces Touch ID, which scans your fingerprint to unlock the iPhone. Since the new iPhone X doesn't have a physical home button or a Touch ID fingerprint sensor, Face ID will be the only way to securely lock and unlock the iPhone X.

Apple says Face ID will be able to handle and recognize any changes to your face, like beards, different haircuts, and putting on or taking off glasses and hats. And the technology will recognize your face in the day and night time.

## • Animoji: animated emojis you can control with your face.

Animoji use Apple's new facial recognition software to turn you into animated emojis that can make facial expressions and talk. There are a dozen different Animojis, including the monkey, panda, alien, and fox.

## • Changes are coming to Apple's retail stores.

Another feature coming to Apple stores called "Today at Apple," which gives customers tips for their devices, such as how to take great photos with photo walks around the town. There are also classes where people can learn to code and teachers can learn about the latest education apps.

<http://www.businessinsider.com/apple-event-iphone-x-8-watch-september-12-2017-9/#changes-are-coming-to-apples-retail-stores-11>



# International Apple Watch 3 won't work with U.S. carriers

by Killian Bell | [cultofmac.com](http://cultofmac.com) | September 14, 2017

If you want your Apple Watch Series 3 to work properly in the U.S., don't buy it when you're on vacation abroad. Units purchased in other countries won't connect to LTE networks in the U.S., and vice versa. That means you won't be able to roam with your Apple Watch in the same way you can with your iPhone.

For now, if you're out of your home country and you're thinking about pre-ordering a Series 3 unit there, you might as well forget it.

Complete article at <https://www.cultofmac.com/502914/international-apple-watch-3-wont-work-u-s-carriers/>