Smartphone basics

Your phone does four jobs you will use every day: calls, texts, contacts, and photos.

Calls

iPhone

When the phone rings, tap the green Accept button — or slide the slider if the phone is locked. The red Decline button sends the call away. To make a call, open the Phone app, tap Recents or Contacts, and tap the person's name.

Samsung

On the full-screen incoming-call display, drag the green phone icon toward the center to answer and drag the red icon toward the center to decline. To call someone back, open the Phone app, tap Recents, and tap their name.

Texts

iPhone

Open Messages, tap the square-with-pencil icon at the top, type the person's name, write your note, and tap the blue arrow to send. To attach a photo, tap the + next to the typing box and pick Photos.

Samsung

Open Messages, tap Start chat, type the person's name, write your note, and tap the arrow to send. To attach a photo, tap the + next to the typing box and pick the photo.

Older Samsung phones: on phones (Android 11 or earlier) still using the old Samsung Messages app instead of Google Messages, tap the pencil icon to start a new chat.

Contacts

iPhone

Open the Phone app, tap Contacts, then the + at the top. Type the name and number, tap Done.

Samsung

Open the Contacts app, tap the +, type the name and number, and tap Save.

Photos

iPhone

Tap the Camera icon, then tap the big round button. Your pictures wait in the Photos app — newest at the bottom.

Samsung

Tap the Camera icon, then tap the big circle. Your pictures wait in the Gallery app — newest at the top.

iPhone or Samsung?

Pick the one your family uses — then they can help you.