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Subject: Kindle fire?

Posted by [LoveJB](#) on Tue, 01 Nov 2011 01:39:52 GMT

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I'm seriously thinking about getting a Kindle fire in mid November. They cost \$199 and they are due to be released on Nov 15th.

Has anyone heard anything bad about them? Do you know anything about "cloud"? It seems that Cloud is how we will be entering the internet with the Kindle Fire.

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Subject: Re: Kindle fire?

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Tue, 01 Nov 2011 02:03:05 GMT

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Amazon has done a pretty good job with their devices, and I expect this one to be pretty popular. It's at the right price point. If they can get enough attention, it might just really take off.

The "cloud" is a new buzzword that means remote storage on the internet. It is usually automated so you don't really know your data is being stored remotely as opposed to being on the local device you're using. Most handheld devices store configuration options and some downloadable content (like books) but stream audio, video and other realtime data feeds.

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Subject: Re: Kindle fire?

Posted by [Shane](#) on Tue, 01 Nov 2011 03:38:38 GMT

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Which means when you have spotty wi-fi service you are S.O.L. I wish they would have put a damn SD card reader on this thing, then I would be more serious about buying one.

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Subject: Re: Kindle fire?

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Tue, 01 Nov 2011 04:26:35 GMT

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Well, that's true. But no phone charges either, so it's kind of a pick your poison kind of deal. If you travel a lot and so are stuck with crappy hotel Wifi, then a Wifi-only device is probably not for you. But if you're not a big traveler, and would be mostly using it at home, I think Wifi is a better deal. To me, it makes the most sense to connect with Wifi at home, and 3G/4G out on the road.

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Subject: Re: Kindle fire?

Posted by [Shane](#) on Tue, 01 Nov 2011 12:42:21 GMT

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Point taken. But it would be nice to load the 1000+ books I already have on an SD card and not have to worry about it.

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Subject: Re: Kindle fire?

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Tue, 01 Nov 2011 13:04:21 GMT

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That's for sure. Most eReaders will allow that. I wonder if there's a way to access the Amazon cloud storage from another system, so you could upload books and other content from your PC, allowing access on the eReader device. That's the way most cloud access works - it's available to all web-connected devices.

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Subject: Re: Kindle fire?

Posted by [Shane](#) on Tue, 01 Nov 2011 13:40:16 GMT

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I would venture to bet that the 2nd generation Fire will have a micro SD card reader built in, especially if they want to compete better with the Nook.

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Subject: Re: Kindle fire?

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Tue, 01 Nov 2011 14:46:00 GMT

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You might be right. Would certainly be a welcome addition.

I just checked the Amazon support forum and read that the cloud is free for Amazon-purchased content, but not sure about uploaded content. I see some mentions that it's free up to 5Gb, or you can upgrade to larger storage for a fee. Not sure if that's attractive to you or not, but it is one way to use the content you already own.

Amazon Cloud StorageAs an aside, personally, I don't like cloud storage. But that's mostly because I'm kinda private (paranoid?) and don't like putting documents or anything even moderately private or sensitive on a public system, even with encryption. Then again, I have a lot of published content on various websites, and I find that useful. Lots of audio related PDF files are here on this site, for example. So I'm not opposed to cloud storage for some kinds of content.

I think for most people, cloud storage is convenient, even attractive. I was surprised, for example,

when I saw Melissa prefer a cloud-based image-processor to more traditional "paint programs". To me, it made no sense to use server applications and cloud store for image processing. If nothing else, it's slower. But it did make some of what she did easier, and the user interface was intuitive and simple. Her pictures were available anywhere, and could be viewed or even edited on any web-connected device. So I think most people don't even really realize when their content bridges the gap from local to cloud. The majority of people probably don't know how the underlying mechanisms work, or where content is stored, and could really care less.

So all that to say I'm totally with you on the local storage option. I'd prefer to have the flash memory in the device. I don't think it will bother everyone, but as for me, I like having maintaining local copies of stuff and downloading it directly to the device.

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Subject: Re: Kindle fire?

Posted by [LoveJB](#) on Wed, 02 Nov 2011 01:23:53 GMT

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Wow, that was a lot of information. So I was planning on using the Kindle at home and at work. I am limited to where I can online at work and I am trying to figure out a way around these limitations. We have WiFi at work, so it sounds like it would be ok. I also have WiFi at home.

I don't get the whole book thing though. So I buy the books and they are on my computer. I load them onto my Kindle. Are they not available to me anywhere? I don't need WiFi to read the books right?

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Subject: Re: Kindle fire?

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Sun, 18 Dec 2011 03:35:18 GMT

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We're loving ours. Real low price, great device.

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Subject: Re: Kindle fire?

Posted by [LoveJB](#) on Sun, 18 Dec 2011 14:45:35 GMT

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So I went against the Kindle Fire and went with the Nook Tablet. I was talked into it by a co-worker (he works in the IT department). He actually installed something so that I can get books from Amazon or Barnes and Noble. I also get free apps (like a real Android phone). I love it so far!

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Subject: Re: Kindle fire?

Posted by [love4music](#) on Sun, 18 Dec 2011 22:16:25 GMT

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I would love to know what he installed. I was on the fence with a Kindle Fire but after hearing that you can't get apps or anything like that with it- I think I will go with a Nook too. I heard the apps are \$3 for the Nook though, so I would love to know what was installed to get them free. Also my friends all have Kindle's so if I can make my Nook read Kindle books that would be great!

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Subject: Re: Kindle fire?

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Mon, 19 Dec 2011 00:23:41 GMT

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There are plenty of apps available for the Kindle Fire. It's an Android device.  
Kindle Fire Apps

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Subject: Re: Kindle fire?

Posted by [Shane](#) on Mon, 19 Dec 2011 01:07:02 GMT

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love4music wrote on Sun, 18 December 2011 16:16 I would love to know what he installed. I was on the fence with a Kindle Fire but after hearing that you can't get apps or anything like that with it- I think I will go with a Nook too. I heard the apps are \$3 for the Nook though, so I would love to know what was installed to get them free. Also my friends all have Kindle's so if I can make my Nook read Kindle books that would be great!

Lots of free software to convert book files from one format to another.

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