

When Reality Meets the Mobile Imaginary: Exploring Constraints in Mobile Technology Use

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<http://www.materialities.ca/>

imaginaries

- utopic future? possibility?
- start with the here and now:
 - mobile
 - seamless connectivity
 - easy to use
 - accessible
 - affordable
- framework of constraints
- location of remedies



what is the mobile internet?

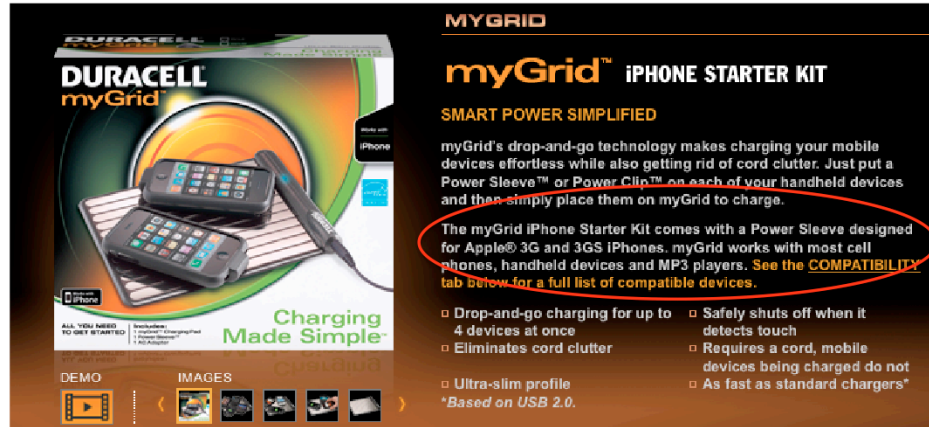
Facebook Zero app for 'feature' phones: <https://mobility.ca/support/fbzero/What-is-the-Facebook-Zero-App/>

Opera browser on Android mobile

Apps on iPod touch/iPhone/iPad

laptop plus wifi (St John, New Brunswick)

how mobile and wireless is it?



The advertisement for the Duracell myGrid iPhone Starter Kit is divided into two main sections. The left section features a product image of the kit's packaging, which shows two iPhones on the myGrid charging pad. The text on the packaging includes 'DURACELL myGrid', 'Charging Made Simple™', and 'ALL YOU NEED TO GET STARTED'. Below the image are links for 'DEMO' and 'IMAGES'. The right section has a black background with white and orange text. It starts with the 'MYGRID' logo, followed by 'myGrid™ iPhone STARTER KIT' and 'SMART POWER SIMPLIFIED'. A paragraph describes the 'drop-and-go' technology. A red circle highlights a paragraph stating that the kit includes a Power Sleeve for Apple 3G and 3GS iPhones and that it works with most cell phones, handheld devices, and MP3 players, with a link to a compatibility list. Below this, a list of features is presented in two columns.

MYGRID

myGrid™ iPhone STARTER KIT

SMART POWER SIMPLIFIED

myGrid's drop-and-go technology makes charging your mobile devices effortless while also getting rid of cord clutter. Just put a Power Sleeve™ or Power Clip™ on each of your handheld devices and then simply place them on myGrid to charge.

The myGrid iPhone Starter Kit comes with a Power Sleeve designed for Apple® 3G and 3GS iPhones. myGrid works with most cell phones, handheld devices and MP3 players. [See the COMPATIBILITY tab below for a full list of compatible devices.](#)

- Drop-and-go charging for up to 4 devices at once
- Eliminates cord clutter
- Ultra-slim profile
- Safely shuts off when it detects touch
- Requires a cord, mobile devices being charged do not
- As fast as standard chargers*

*Based on USB 2.0.

Duracell's wireless charger. Requires 'power sleeve' for each device, and wired connection for charging pad. <http://www.duracell.com/en-US/product/mygrid-kits-iphone.aspx>

does this help?

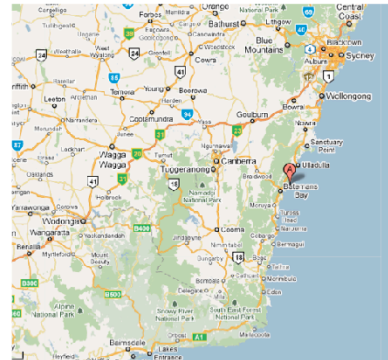


(Credit: Wikimedia Commons)

EU standard
charger
initiative

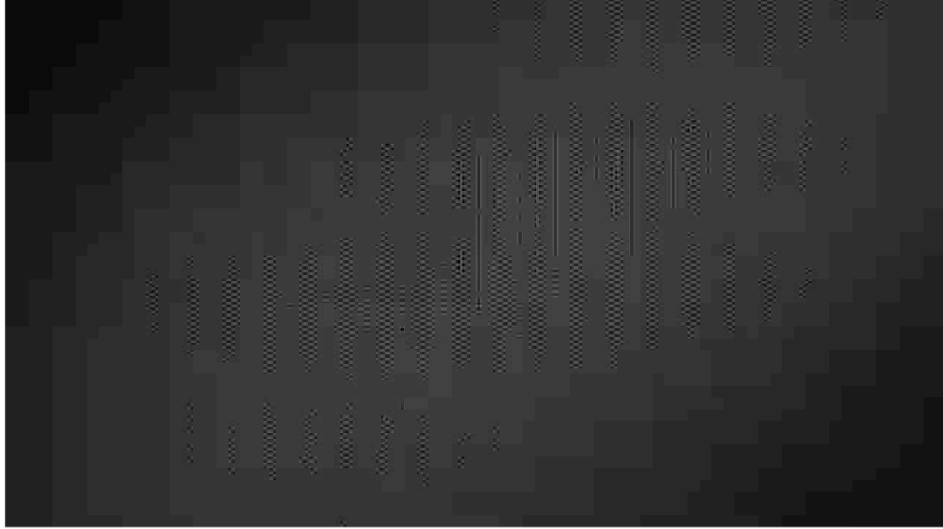
http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/sectors/rtte/chargers/index_en.htm

mobile assemblages



Getting broadband to the beach, Depot Beach, NSW, Australia.
<http://geobray.com/2010/01/19/broadband-3g-from-the-beach/>

another mobile assemblage



Video: <http://geobray.com/2010/01/19/broadband-3g-from-the-beach/>

what's in your assemblage/ensemble?



A mobile assemblage: Laptop, iPad, 2 iPhones, 3 mobile broadband connections, portable router (battery powered), router. Photo: George Bray

seamless: does it work?

• hubguest



International Roaming

[Return to Roaming Overview](#)

Canada

Rate per minute: \$7.49

*Calling in the Continental U.S. while roaming is an additional \$0.20

Country code: 1

Click on a carrier to see carrier-specific coverage for this country



Carrier	Frequency
Rogers Communications	1900MHz
Bell	NAS 3G 1700/1920/1900MHz
3/4G (Mobility)	1500MHz 800MHz 1800MHz 850MHz
Verizon Mobility	850MHz
Globalstar/Adventures	NAS 1G 1700/1920/1900MHz
Mobility	NAS 3G
Telus	NAS 3G 1700/1920/1900MHz
Vodafone	UMTS Band IV (1900/2100)

International roaming rates for text, picture, video, and instant m

\$7.50 per message received

\$7.50 per message sent

If you have a messaging bundle or plan, international messages you send while roaming are not covered by your bundle and will be charged separately. If you have a messaging bundle or plan, international messages you receive will be pulled from your bundle.

Data (GPRS) rate while roaming internationally

\$10 per MB in Canada

\$15 per MB in all other countries

i-smartphone 2008 universal sim unlock card



unlock for any mobile phone

No Cut Universal Unlock Sim Card



i-smartphone 2008 universal sim unlock card main features

1. Support many kinds of phones can apply a wide range of lifting the majority of locking the phone network lock.
2. As orange packaging and marking the upcoming security to prevent counterfeiting.
3. Super compatibility hardly pick the SIM card can be used normally throughout the world.

t-mobile roaming plans to Canada
sim card for use in multiple countries

seamless: does it work?

Telus To Unlock Devices Beginning February 15 For \$50

BY EX ON FEBRUARY 6TH, 2011

VIEW
COMMENT

This week, Telus announced that the wireless company will be unlocking their IDEN/HSPA+ devices as of February 15, 2011 for a \$50 fee.

At first glance, this seems similar to the Rogers/Fido unlocking policy, but there is one major difference. The Telus unlocking policy is more flexible, not requiring customers to be on their contract for the full three year term before allowing the unlock.

Device unlocking applies to TELUS postpaid SIM -based devices that operate on the Telus IDEN and HSPA+ postpaid networks and meet the following conditions:

- The device must be in post-paid (*paying a monthly bill or on a contract. Not a Pay and Talk customer*) status for a minimum of 90 days.
- The device must be in post-paid status for a minimum of 90 days.

not easy to use a Canadian phone in other countries, it must be unlocked first, for a fee

what about speed?

[Home](#)

Promotion - Bell Mobility

Take your Mobile Internet service to new speeds.

CANADA'S BEST NETWORK IS NOW AT 42 Mbps.



42 Mbps is a theoretical peak speed. Expected average download speed of 7-14 Mbps. Actual speeds may vary due to topography, environmental conditions, device type and other factors. Additional monthly fee and subscription required for access to this possible speed and is only available where network has been enabled to provide this possible speed. Additional fees OR speed surcharge are/is payable even if device is used in network areas where this speed is not supported by the technology. Other conditions apply.

bell.ca

easy to use?

ents a
SUPPORT
care package

60588
PARENTS
SERVED

BROUGHT TO YOU BY GOOGLE

Dad

I'm really: ☐ shocked ☐ impressed ☐ worried ☐ jazzed
that you've been using your computer these days.

CATEGORIES

- THE BASICS**
- WORLD WIDE WEB
- COMMUNICATION
- MEDIA
- FINDING INFORMATION

SELECT VIDEOS TO SEND [VIEW ALL VIDEOS](#)

- ☐ COPY & PASTE
- ☐ ADJUST THE TIME ON YOUR CLOCK
- ☐ CHANGE YOUR DESKTOP BACKGROUND (MAC)
- ☐ CHANGE YOUR WALLPAPER (PC)
- ☐ MAKE TEXT BIGGER (OR SMALLER)
- ☐ TAKE A SCREENSHOT
- ☐ CHANGE YOUR SCREENSAVER (MAC)
- ☐ CHANGE YOUR SCREENSAVER (PC)

<http://www.teachparentstech.org/>

<http://www.teachparentstech.org/>

easy to use?



Teaching Pop Pop How to Use His Cell Phone: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PX2attmH3Q8>

accessible?



mobility.ca: competitive plans in a limited footprint



In-flight Power

We've installed standard and USB outlets throughout our aircraft to power your electronic devices. All so that you can be more productive-or more entertained-during your flight.

International Aircraft

AC 110 volt power outlets are available at all BusinessElite® seats in A330, 747-400, 757, 767, 300ER, 767-400ER, and 777 aircraft. These outlets are also available in the first 10 rows of Economy Class on A330, 767-400ER and 777 aircraft, as well as select 757 and 767-300ER aircraft.

Domestic Aircraft

Standard power outlets are available at First Class seats on select 737 and 757 aircraft, and all 767-300 aircraft.

USB Ports

USB ports are available at all seats on 737-700, 737-800, 757-200, 767-300, 767-400ER, and 777-200ER and LR aircraft that feature [Delta on Demand](#).

wrong class?

Delta airlines in-flight power: http://www.delta.com/traveling_checkin/inflight_services/products/power.jsp



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USB Ports

USB ports are available at all seats on 737-700, 737-800, 757-200, 767-300, 767-400ER, and 777-200ER and LR aircraft that feature [Delta on Demand](#).

wrong device?

Delta airlines in-flight power: http://www.delta.com/traveling_checkin/inflight_services/products/power.jsp

other accessibility issues...

Mobile phones from Emporia Telecom

We make communication easy. We develop mobile phones by focusing on the essentials. Design and easy operation are the fundamental elements which make up all of our products.



TALK series

The first mobile phone you can simply talk with.

[Details](#)

emporia **TALK**



LIFE series









The first mobile phone that doesn't need a user manual (with emergency button).

[Details](#)

emporia **LIFE**

Usability for those with low vision or motor control issues: <http://www2.emporia.at/en/products/>

affordable? UK prices

	Setup	Monthly price	Contract	Speed	Downloads	
  <p>Pay Up Front Mobile broadband - 90 days usage included only £39.99</p> <p>Unlimited browsing: No extra charges over 1GB fair use but peak time downloading/streaming may be restricted. Also includes T-Mobile Night In offer: movie/game rental + snacks for only £5</p> <p>258 reviews</p>						GO Check coverage>
  <p>Broadband (15GB)</p> <p>446 reviews</p>	FREE	£15.99 /mth	24 months	7.2Mb max speed	15 GB per month	GO Check coverage>
Offer: Includes 3 months FREE subscription to The Times online						\$25.26 CAD
  <p>Broadband (5GB)</p> <p>446 reviews</p>	FREE	£12.99 /mth	18 months	7.2Mb max speed	5 GB per month	GO Check coverage>
Offer: Save £3/mth with voucher code 3MBB3OFF Includes 3 months FREE subscription to The Times online						\$20.52 CAD
  <p>215 reviews</p>	£9	£15 /mth	1 month	7.2Mb max speed	1 GB per month	GO Check coverage>

as at Feb. 11, 2011

affordable? AUS prices

 1 Month Contract \$99 USB Modem Cost \$15 Delivery Cost		\$19.95 <small>Min Cost: \$133.95</small>	3.6Mb	1.5GB	1 Mth	70%	★★★★★ BUY NOW »
 WIFI Modem Cost = \$129 Month to Month Contract *Terms & Conditions Apply		\$29.95* <small>Min Cost: \$166.90</small>	3G	4GB	1 Mth	71%	★★★★★ BUY NOW »
 Includes USB Modem \$15 Delivery Cost		\$29.95 <small>Min Cost: \$733.80</small>	3.6Mb	5GB	24 Mths	70%	★★★★★ BUY NOW »
 1 Month Contract \$99 USB Modem Cost \$15 Delivery Cost		\$29.95 <small>Min Cost: \$143.95</small>	3.6Mb	5GB	1 Mth	70%	★★★★★ BUY NOW »
 Includes WIFI Modem. Connects up to 5 Devices at Once *Terms & Conditions Apply		\$39.95* <small>Min Cost: \$489.35</small>	3G	8GB	12 Mths	71%	★★★★★ BUY NOW »

as at Feb. 11, 2011

affordable? Canadian prices

Home • Shop • Mobility • Rate plans

Mobile Internet plans Bell

Build your solution

Mobile Internet plans

\$30.00 /mo. Up to 500 MB	\$35.00 /mo. Mobile Internet Flex plan is great for people whose usage needs change from month to month.	\$40.00 /mo. Up to 1 GB	\$55.00 /mo. Up to 3 GB	\$65.00 /mo. Up to 5 GB
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1/3 of data allowance for 1 ½ times the cost in Australia
>3 times the cost of a 5 Gb data allowance in the UK

as at Feb. 11, 2011

locations of constraint (generic?)

- user-device interface
 - locked devices
 - form factor constraints (e.g. size, keyboard, battery)
- user-service provider (carrier)
 - restricted services (e.g. Skype over 3G)
- device-carrier-network
 - Verizon iPhone on CDMA
 - AWS spectrum in Canada

constraints < -- > barriers

continuum:

- income
- literacy/skill level
- location ('anywhere' claims)
- predicament

remedies (?)

- user-device:
 - design, literacy
- user-service provider (carrier)
 - new business models? open networks/devices, 'off network' approach
 - more competition (market forces argument)
- device-carrier-network
 - policy
- role of wireless in networked society?
 - wireless infrastructure in the public interest