

## SPECIAL REPORT Smartphone INSIDER:

*Smartphone Insider provides the inside scoop on today's hottest smartphones, including strengths and weaknesses, problems and solutions, user feedback, news, and tips & tricks.*

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# AT&T Tilt

**T**he AT&T Tilt (also known as the AT&T 8925, HTC TyTN II, and HTC Kaiser) was released in October of 2007 and was AT&T's first Windows Mobile 6 Professional device. The most noticeable feature of the smartphone is its tiltable screen, similar to that of a laptop. This feature as well as its unmatched array of connectivity features has given the Tilt a considerable amount of media and consumer attention. It has garnered excellent reviews from media outlets such as this magazine, PC Magazine, CNET, LAPTOP Magazine, and others.

### Strengths

- **Tiltable screen:** Allows for better viewing on a flat surface, as well as the ability to adjust the screen so that it can be read in bright sunlight
- **Sports full array of wireless options:** Wi-Fi (b,g), Bluetooth 2.0, GSM/EDGE, UMTS/HSDPA network (provides excellent call quality), and 3G data speeds for fast viewing of Web videos
- **Built-in GPS receiver**
- **Lots of memory:** 128 MB of RAM and 256 MB of ROM
- **Nice feel:** The back of the device features a soft touch finish for improved gripping
- **MicroSD slot** allows storage card expansion of up to 4 GB
- **Supports full array of e-mail formats,** including Direct Push, BlackBerry Connect, AT&T Xpress Mail, POP3, and IMAP, as well as HTML format viewing of e-mails
- **3 megapixel camera** with 8x zoom

### Weaknesses

- **Lack of included accessories:** No headset or holster
- **Bulky:** 4.4 x 2.3 inches and 6.1 ounces
- **No flash on camera,** and it must be held extremely steady for a clear shot
- **Speakers:** Music sounds tinny through speakers and speaker phone sounds hollow

### Limitations & Solutions

- **Reviews have stated that the battery cover is difficult to remove.** The lack of a release switch may require the use of a sharp object to pry it off.
- **With the screen tilted up to its limit,** the space available to press the soft keys is reduced, making it hard to get to them. You may have to lessen the tilt of the screen for better access of the soft keys.
- **Note that the SIM card slot is located on the underside of the display—not underneath the battery.** It can only be accessed when the QWERTY keyboard is exposed.
- **If your Tilt is running sluggishly,** it may be partly due to all the

pre-loaded software that AT&T includes on the device. You can remove this software, but be warned that doing this may also cause some specific AT&T settings for text messaging, proxy servers, and other settings to not load, requiring you to set them manually. If you want to go ahead and remove the pre-loaded software from your Tilt, follow these steps:

1. Back up the device using the included Sprite Back Up software (or another method).
  2. Go to Settings >System >Clear Storage. (This performs a "hard reset" of the device.)
  3. After the Tilt reboots and you go through the initial Windows Mobile setup (screen alignment, cut & paste tutorial, and time zone selection), the Today screen will appear and a message will pop up informing you that the enhancements are being loaded. When you see this message, quickly do a soft reset by inserting the stylus into the hole on the bottom right edge next to the mini-USB port. The Tilt will then load the Today screen without AT&T's preloaded software installed.
- Some users have reported flickering on sections of the Today screen. This is most likely caused by the TeleNav plug-in that came with the device. Simply remove TeleNav from your Today screen by going to Start >Settings >Today >Items tab and uncheck TeleNav in the list. Tap OK to save the changes.
  - Standard mini-USB headsets will not work with the Tilt. To use most headsets, you will need a 3.5 mm to USB adaptor. There are numerous online stores that sell these adaptors, including [tiltdepot.com](http://tiltdepot.com) (click on the "Music & Video" link).

### Tips & Tricks

- **Go back to the Today screen quickly:** Double tap (in quick succession) the Start hardware button.
- **Open Start menu:** Press the side OK button while the Today screen is displayed. This will open the Start menu, which aids in one-handed launching of programs.
- **Close Start menu:** Press the left D-pad button or the Start menu button.
- **Lock the device (which disables all the input functions):** Press and hold the End Call button. To unlock it, tap Unlock on the bottom left corner of the lower taskbar, then tap Unlock again in the middle of



the screen or press “\*” on the keyboard.

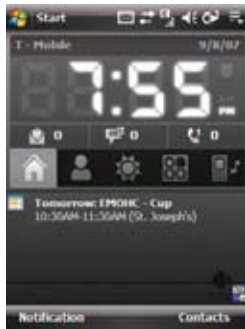
- **TouchFLO for HTC TyTN II users:** There is a version of TouchFLO built in that allows you to swipe your finger (or stylus) up or down on the screen to scroll in either direction in programs like Calendar, Contacts, and Internet Explorer. For example, the Contacts list will scroll up or down with a simple flick of your finger. If you want the scroll speed to increase, swipe your finger repeatedly in the desired direction. Once you stop swiping, the scroll speed will eventually decrease and then stop. To stop the scrolling at any time, simply tap once on the screen. Scrolling behavior may vary from one application to another.

- **Save battery life:** Be sure that your wireless connectivity features like Bluetooth and Wi-Fi are turned off when you are not using them. Tap on the wireless icon in the top task bar on the Today screen and tap Comm Manager from the pop-up bubble. From here, you can turn your connectivity features on or off.

- **Speed up GPS:** Use the built-in QuickGPS program to speed up the time it takes to determine your GPS position by downloading the most up-to-date satellite information. Go to Start >Programs >Tools >QuickGPS.

- **Open Task Manager from Today screen:** There is a Task Manager shortcut in the upper right corner of the Today screen. Tapping on it will display a list of running programs, with the option to close them individually by tapping on the corresponding X, the option to Stop All, or the option to open Task Manager by tapping on Options.

- The HTC TyTN II (right) has a customized Today screen plug-in that comes



pre-loaded on the device. A number of Tilt users have commented that they prefer it over the Tilt's Today screen. The TyTN II plug-in includes a larger clock, live weather updates, access to a quick application launcher, easy Contact photo dialing, and more. The plug-in does not come with the Tilt, but it can be downloaded here ([freewarepocketpc.net/ppc-download-htc-home-plugin-v1-0.html](http://freewarepocketpc.net/ppc-download-htc-home-plugin-v1-0.html)) and installed.

- A registry tweaking program for the Tilt was created by an independent programmer and is available for free ([jongma.org/KaiserTweak](http://jongma.org/KaiserTweak)). A guide to installing it is available here ([tiltsite.com/2008/01/how-to-install-kaisertweaks-on-your-tilt](http://tiltsite.com/2008/01/how-to-install-kaisertweaks-on-your-tilt)). Do so at your own risk.

- For tips on performing functions, see [america.htc.com/support/tilt/tips-tricks.html](http://america.htc.com/support/tilt/tips-tricks.html).

- For Tilt-specific downloads and other great resources, go to [htcwiki.com/page/ATT+TILT](http://htcwiki.com/page/ATT+TILT).

- The XDA Developers page for the Tilt (referred by its pre-release code name “Kaiser”) ([forum.xda-developers.com/forumdisplay.php?f=377](http://forum.xda-developers.com/forumdisplay.php?f=377)) includes the latest developed software as well as in-depth discussion of issues related to it. Also check out the HowardForums page for the Tilt entitled “Tricks, Tips, Hacks and Software” ([howardforums.com/showthread.php?t=1255155](http://howardforums.com/showthread.php?t=1255155)).

## Odds & Ends

- The Tilt is available at [wireless.att.com](http://wireless.att.com) for \$299 after a rebate and 2-year service plan. The unlocked HTC version (TyTN II) can be purchased without a service plan from [mobileplanet.com](http://mobileplanet.com), [simoncells.com](http://simoncells.com), and other online vendors.

- HTC (the manufacturer of the Tilt) provides an excellent support Web page, including a Getting Started Guide, FAQs, Tips & Tricks, and more ([america.htc.com/support/tilt](http://america.htc.com/support/tilt)).

- Sites with a Tilt-specific focus: [tiltsite.com](http://tiltsite.com), [htctilt.com](http://htctilt.com), [tiltdepot.com](http://tiltdepot.com) (accessory store) ■