

*Head to Head: Kindle Fire vs. iPad 2 vs. Nook Color*

October 11, 2011

Amazon’s long-awaited tablet is finally here, in the form of the Kindle Fire. The \$199 tablet runs a heavily modified version of Android, hooks neatly into Amazon’s gigantic book store, and is designed for multimedia consumption and, more than anything, reading.

If that sounds familiar, it’s because the Barnes & Noble Nook, released months ago, is designed for essentially the same thing. The Nook Color is the clearest competitor to the Kindle Fire, but given the hype surrounding the new tablet, it seems more likely that the holiday season’s biggest question will be “Kindle Fire or an iPad?”

Here’s a comparison of the key specs and features of the Kindle Fire, the iPad2, and the Nook Color:



	Amazon Kindle Fire	Apple iPad 2	Barnes & Noble Nook Color
<b>Price</b>	\$199	\$499-\$829	\$249
<b>Content Source</b>	Amazon	iTunes	Barnes & Noble
<b>App Store</b>	Amazon App Store, Android Apps	iOS App Store	Nook Color Apps
<b>Apps Available</b>	16,638	500,000 (90,000 for iPad)	729
<b>Screen Size (inches)</b>	7	9.7	7
<b>Screen Resolution</b>	1,024 by 600	1,024 by 768	1,024 by 600
<b>Screen Size (Inches, HWD)</b>	7.5 by 4.7 by 0.45	9.5 by 7.31 by 0.34	8.1 by 5.0 by 0.48
<b>Weight</b>	14.6 ounces	1.33 lbs	15.8 ounces
<b>OS</b>	Android (version unknown)	iOS	Android 2.2
<b>Capacity</b>	8GB	16-64GB	8GB
<b>Expandable Storage</b>	No	No	Yes (up to 32GB micro SD cards)
<b>3G</b>	No	Optional	No
<b>Wi-Fi</b>	802.11 b/g/n	802.11 b/g/n	802.11 b/g/n
<b>Processor</b>	Dual-core TI OMAP 4	Dual-core A5 Bluetooth 2.1 + EDR	800MHz Cortex-A8
<b>Bluetooth</b>	No		No
<b>Camera</b>	No	Front and Rear	No
<b>GPS</b>	No	On 3G Models	No
<b>Browser</b>	Amazon Silk	Mobile Safari	Customized Android
<b>Battery Life</b>	8:00 (mfr. est.)	7:30 (as tested)	8:00 (mfr. est.)
<b>N/A = Not Available</b>			