

FAIRPHONE

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fairphone to upgrade six-year-old Fairphone 2 to Android 10, providing users with unprecedented seven years of support

Following the Android 9 for Fairphone 2 software update, the company will start beta testing for Android 10

Amsterdam, the Netherlands, 23 November 2021 — Fairphone, the Dutch social enterprise building a market for ethical smartphones, has announced the start of public testing of Android 10 for Fairphone 2, its six year old smartphone, rolling out the first beta version. Fairphone 2 was launched in 2015 and is one of the few Android smartphones sold in that year to still receive continued software support. This means Fairphone 2 will have been supported for a total of seven years - something truly unique in software support for Android smartphones. Initially released with Android 5, it has been upgraded to Android 6, Android 7.1 and Android 9.

This time, the company collaborated with the Fairphone community to help build the operating system. Fairphone took into account the challenges it experienced when upgrading to Android 9 and as a result, the upgrade to Android 10 has been a faster, more streamlined process. Fairphone worked with a software developer in India, [Bharath Ravi Prakash](#), who worked as a volunteer open source developer for the project. With his help, Fairphone was able to complete the update in 10 months, compared to 18 months for Android 9. The company learned a lot from the Android 9 upgrade and although still complex, Android 10 was more predictable than Android 9.

Fairphone's ambition is to keep phones in use for as long as possible, going against the grain in an industry where rapid cycles mean that smartphones have a short lifespan. This along with the difficulty of repair and limited software support for smartphones contributes to the growing electronic waste stream globally.

Fairphone's devices, including its latest, Fairphone 4, are designed to last. Thanks to the modular construction and spare parts, anyone can make repairs. The company's introduction of the 5-year warranty ensures that its phones keep running smoothly (and securely with regular software and security updates) for years to come so that users can use and enjoy them for longer. And longer-lasting devices aren't just great for the user experience – they also help reduce the environmental footprint. For Fairphone 3 and Fairphone 3+, the company will also start the beta testing for Android 11 this week.

Agnes Crepet, Head of Software Longevity & IT at Fairphone comments, "Our unique approach to software has allowed us to help our users keep their devices for as long as possible. We're pleased

to be able to provide our Fairphone 2 community with yet another software upgrade, reaching our goal to provide at least five years of support from launch for our phones and with the Android 10 upgrade, we're going beyond that to seven years of support. We are constantly raising the bar for ourselves and the industry, showing that doing things more sustainably in software is possible."

Fairphone expects Android 10 for Fairphone 2 to be publicly available in early 2022.

Note to the editor

About Fairphone

Fairphone is building a market for ethical phones and motivating the industry to act more responsibly. We design, produce and sell smartphones to uncover the supply chain behind our products, raise awareness for the most urgent issues, and prove that it's possible to do things differently. Together with our partners and collaborators, we're working to make caring for people and the planet a natural part of doing business.

Photos, videos, fact sheets and other materials are available on the Fairphone press page:

<https://fairphone.com/en/about/press/>
www.fairphone.com

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