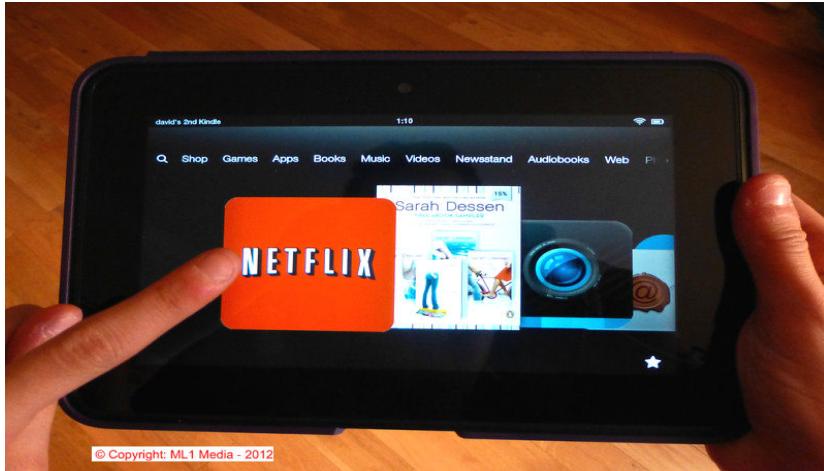


Kindle Fire HD

By John Miller & Doug Waters
Images by D. Massarik & Ray DiSilvestro



Amazon has a winner. Gone is the strange shape, the slow black-and-white screen, and the confusing buttons. Leading the way at Amazon is the new Kindle Fire HD. The feature list on the Fire HD is long and impressive, but it's the function of the device that seals the deal. The Kindle device has graduated from a simple video and e-reader device to a full-fledged multi-function wireless tablet. The Fire HD specs include an 8.9 inch, 1280x800 HD display with anti-glare filter, Dolby audio and stereo speakers, dual-band (2.4 and 5 GHz) Wi-Fi, integrated support for Facebook, Twitter, Gmail, Hotmail, Yahoo!, a front-facing HD camera for taking photos, and free unlimited cloud storage for all your Amazon content.

And content is where the Kindle devices have always excelled: Over 22 million movies, TV shows, songs,

magazines, books, audiobooks, and popular apps (Facebook Netflix, Twitter, HBO GO, Pandora) and games such as the all-important Angry Birds.

At \$299 for the 16GB model, it sharply undercuts the Apple offerings as well as comparable Nexus models from Google.

Amazon promises over 11 hours of battery life. Our tests proved that figure largely optimistic, varying significantly depending on the



use. Wi-Fi and video usage consume the battery much faster, although we were successfully able to watch two full length movies and surf the web for nearly one hour before the battery began objecting.

The Fire HD touchscreen is responsive and offers excellent

(continued) ⇨

