

## HTC Touch Pro

### Introductions

On its face alone the HTC Touch Pro doesn't differ much from the HTC Touch Diamond. Both still have the 2.8 inch LCD screen, the big scroll buttons, and the soft key on its front. You'll notice the difference when you compare the HTC Touch Pro and the HTC Touch Diamond side by side. While the HTC Touch Diamond is thin, the HTC Touch Pro is thicker – much thicker. That's because of the slide out keyboard. However, when you compare it with the HTC TyTN II, the Touch Diamond is only slightly thinner.



### Features, likes and Complaints.

The HTC Touch Pro still sports the TouchFLO 3D interface. While admittedly, the interface is much faster and responsive than the prototype Touch Diamond I've seen plus the fact that the cool animated graphics and icons makes this device look so cool, the HTC Touch Pro still suffers the same lag especially when you have previously opened some applications. I have already made my conclusion that this may be a Windows Mobile bug. You see, on the iPhone, previous version and 3G, no matter how many applications I've opened, be it the safari browser, YouTube player etc, whenever I press the menu button, there's no lag. It's still the same smooth interface. It may be because Apple manages to lose the applications you have previously opened whenever you press the menu button. On any windows mobile device, the applications are still running on the background and hence, the device suffers from unresponsiveness and lags if there are too many applications running. On one hand, applications running on the background can help you multi-task; you can copy text on the browser and paste it on mobile Word, etc, I guess that's why no matter how much I like the iPhone's interface, I'm still a window's Mobile fan since I'm a multi-tasker.

HTC already put more than enough RAM on this device, 288MB at that so I like the fact that compared with my Samsung i780, I can have two or three applications running or three or five tabs opened on the Opera browser and everything is still smooth sailing ... meaning, there's little to no lag.

Best thing I like about the HTC Touch Pro is its keyboard. Like I said, I'm already through with touch screen phones. One thing that the HTC Touch Pro has over the iPhone is that typing emails and SMS messages on this device is a breeze while typing on the iPhone is a REAL pain. One of the major reasons why I'm still not an iPhone convert. I like the fact that HTC

managed to have separate keys for the numbers and some symbols. Of course, there's still a learning curve when you first use the keypad but you can get used to it after a while. Do what I do and practice typing using, "the quick brown fox jumps over the lazy sheep dog".

One of my other complaints about the HTC Touch Pro as well as the HTC Diamond is that: why can't the HTC just make a 3 or 3.5 inch screen? If they just took off the scroll button, call buttons and shortcut keys on the front, they could have made a larger screen. A 2.8 screen just doesn't do it for me. Plus, I think it's windows mobile that needs an overhaul. If you change to the underlying windows mobile interface, you're still plagued with the scrolling issues since the scroll bar in a window is still small for those with large thumbs. You can only do the scrolling and flicking "thingy" when in TouchFLO 3D interface and not in Windows Mobile.

Audio quality on this device is passable though like I always say, I'm not really an audiophile though it's good enough for me. As for the camera do I really need to review it? Every HTC users know that the picture quality on HTC devices are crap and there's really not an improvement on the HTC Touch Pro.

As for the battery life, well, after using WiFi, Bluetooth for audio streaming, and playing G-Sensor extensively since it's addicting, after around 8 hours of use, battery still has 50% charge time which is not bad at all. I wasn't able to test the GPS function since there was no navigation software installed as yet as well as the TV - out function because there was no cable provided.

## **Conclusion**

Well, the HTC Touch Pro seems pretty impressive compared with the Touch Diamond. The 288 MB RAM makes this device faster and more responsive than the Diamond and ANY previous HTC devices, albeit more expensive. If you're a power user and you need to do emails and browse the web at the same time or browse multiple pages at the same time then switch to a word processing software, then the HTC Touch Pro is the best device to do that. Sure, the HTC Touch Pro still suffers from the same bugs as previous windows mobile devices and the occasional lag and yeah, the iPhone has a faster and responsive interface and still prettier to look at but when it comes down to which is really the better smart phone for power users? The HTC Touch Pro wins.

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