

Famille iPads 2017



Crédit: Apple

When Apple released a [new iPad on Tuesday](#), the company also simplifiée the iPad lineup: instead of four iPad models, there are now three. This makes it easier to décide which iPad to buy, though there are still a lot of factors to consider. Let's take a look at the major features you should think about when picking an iPad.

Size

If you want to carry your iPad around with you, then size is an important consideration. Here's a breakdown of each iPad.

	12.9" iPad Pro	9.7" iPad Pro	iPad iP	iPad mini 4
Screen size	12.9"	9.7"	9.7"	7.9"
Height	12"	9.4"	9.4"	8"
Width	8.7"	6.6"	6.6"	5.3"
Depth	0.27"	0.24"	0.29"	0.24"
Weight (Wi-Fi)	1.57 lbs.	0.96 lbs.	1.03 lbs.	0.65 lbs.
Weight (Wi-Fi & Cellular)	1.59 lbs.	0.98 lbs.	1.05 lbs.	0.67 lbs.

Screen

Just looking at the iPads, it's difficult to discern any difference in the screens besides their sizes. All of the iPads use LED-backlit displays with Multi-Touch support and fingerprint-resistant oleophobic coating. But there are a few features that are found in some models and not in others that may not be obvious.

	12.9" iPad	9.7" iPad Pro	iPad	iPad mini 4
Fully laminated display	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Antireflective coating	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
P3 wide color support	No	Yes	No	Yes
True Tone support	No	Yes	No	Yes

If color accuracy and détail is vital to your work, then you want the 9.7-inch iPad Pro with its [P3 wide color](#) and [True Tone](#). If you really want the bigger screen of the 12.9-inch iPad Pro, you won't get the P3 support, but there is a way to use iOS's [Night Shift to act like True Tone](#).

The iPad lacks the laminated display and antireflective coating found in the other iPads, so you might have issues with glare. You might consider an iPad mini 4 instead, especially if you plan to be outdoors a lot, or if you are going to use the device where lighting is influential in the environment, like a photo studio.

Smart Connector

The iPad Pro is the only iPad outfitted with a Smart Connector, which is used to connect devices like keyboards.

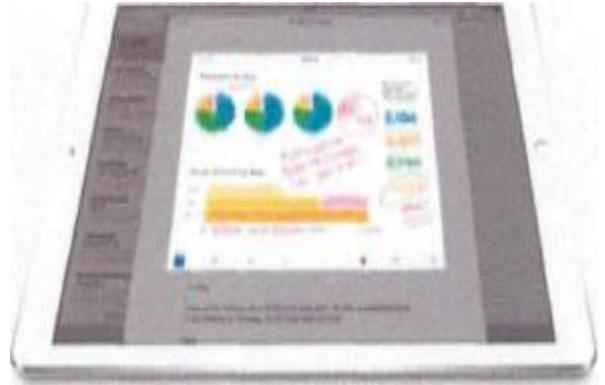
Apple's [Smart Keyboard](#) uses the Smart Connector to connect to the iPad Pro. The Smart Keyboard for 12.9-inch iPad Pro is \$169 (available on [Amazon](#)), and the Smart Keyboard for 9.7-inch iPad Pro is \$149 (available on [Amazon](#)). Third parties like Logitech also make keyboards that use the Smart Connector.



You can still use a keyboard with the iPad and iPad mini 4, but since these iPads don't have a Smart Connector, Bluetooth is used to connect to a keyboard. So, you can use any Bluetooth keyboard, but you may want to get a keyboard case that's designed specifically for the iPad or iPad mini 4 for extra comfort.

Apple Pencil support

In case you're not that familiar with Apple's iPad models, the iPad Pro is the only device that can be used with the [Apple Pencil](#) (\$99; available on [Amazon](#)), a pen-like input device. You can still use your fingers to interact with the iPad Pro, but the Pencil provides the precision needed for creative work, or for people who want to write using an instrument.



You can find a third-party stylus that can be used with the iPad and iPad mini 4, though they may not function like the Apple Pencil. Some styluses are made for specifically for writing, while others are for [sketching](#).

Photo camera

If still photos are a priority for you, then you probably want the 9.7-inch iPad Pro. It has a few major features (noted below) that the other iPads don't have.

	12.9" iPad Pro	9.7" iPad Pro	iPad	iPad mini 4
Resolution	8 megapixels	12 megapixels	8 megapixels	8 megapixel
Aperture	<i>f/2.4</i>	<i>f/2.2</i>	<i>f/2.4</i>	<i>f/2.4</i>
Live Photos	No	Yes	No	No
True Tone flash	No	Yes	No	No
Wide color photo capture	No	Yes	No	No
Autofocus	Yes	Yes, with Focus Pixels	Yes	Yes
Tap to focus	Yes	Yes, with Focus Pixels	Yes	Yes
Panorama HDR photos	Up to 43 megapixels	Up to 63 megapixels	up to 43 megapixels	up to 43 megapixels
	Yes	Auto HDR	Yes	Yes

Video caméra

The 9.7-inch iPad Pro is also the more capable video caméra. In fact, its specs outpace the other iPads by a wide margin. Major differences noted below.

	12.9" iPad Pro	9.7" iPad Pro	iPad	iPad mini 4
Résolution	1080p	4K	1080p	1080p
Slow-motion	720p/120 fps	72p/240 fps 1080p/120fps	720p/240 fps	720p/240fps
Video stabilization	Yes	Yes (Cinematic) Continuous	Yes	Yes
Focus	Tap to focus	autofocus	Tap to focus	Tap to focus

FaceTime caméra

Since iPads are used more and more for video conferencing and selfies, the FaceTime caméra is an important consideration. As with photos and video, the 9.7-inch iPad Pro has the best specs.

The 9.7-inch iPad Pro has a 5-megapixel FaceTime caméra, while the other three iPads are a 1.2 megapixels. Also, the 9.7-inch iPad Pro comes equipped with a Retina Flash to make sure you are properly illuminated. There is no flash in the other iPads.

Processor

The iPad Pro is the top performer with an A9X chip. The chip in the 9.7-inch iPad Pro is slightly slower than that one in the 12.9-inch iPad Pro, so it doesn't overheat in the smaller form factor.

The iPad has a A9 processor, which is same model number as the processor in the iPhone 6s. Though it's not as fast as the A9X, it's a boost over the A8X chip that was in the iPad Air 2.

The iPad mini 4 comes with the slowest processor of the lineup, an A8. It's the compromise you make to get the smaller form factor and a reasonable price.

Rose Gold

And finally, after considering everything listed above, there's the one thing that could change or confirm your decision: the Rose Gold factor. The 9.7-inch iPad Pro is the only iPad available in Rose Gold. If that's the color you absolutely must have, then that's the iPad for you.



Apple

9.7-inch iPad Pro in Rose Gold

AH iPads are available in Gold, Silver and Space Grey

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