

IFA Reveal for Galaxy Gear, Note 3

Written by Marco Attard
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Samsung finally reveals its foray into smartwatch territory-- the company reveals the Galaxy Gear, as well as the 3rd iteration of the Galaxy Note phablet, at the Samsung Unpacked IFA 2013 event.



Looking like a chunky plastic wristwatch, the Galaxy Gear pairs with Samsung smartphones via Bluetooth 4.0 + BLE. It provides previews of incoming messages and emails, as well as "other valuable features and commands" (as Samsung puts it) such as pedometer, Find My Device (finds a lost phone from 1.5m away), compatibility with 70 Android apps (including Pocket, Evernote, RunKeeper and Runtastic), camera and, shockingly enough, a digital timepiece. Shocking.

Inside the Gear are a 1.63-inch 320x320 Super AMOLED display, 800MHz processor, 512MB RAM, 4G storage and a 315mAh battery promising "about a day" of use.

While the decision to use Bluetooth 4.0 allows for less drain on the battery, it also cripples the Gear-- the device is only compatible with the newly announced Galaxy Note 3 (more on that below) and the 2014 edition Galaxy Note 10.1 on launch. It will eventually pair with the Galaxy S4, Galaxy S III and Galaxy Note II, but only following an eventual software update.

Samsung reveals 6 colours of Gear at IFA 2013, the oddly named Jet Black, Mocha Gray, Wild Orange, Oatmeal Beige, Rose Gold, and Lime Green.

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