Windows Mobile 2003 is the latest version of the software (built upon Microsoft Windows CE 4.2) that is included on Windows Mobile–based Pocket PCs.

Many vendors make PDAs based on Windows Mobile 2003. Some vendors design their devices with different consumer needs in mind. They may add additional memory, biometric security, extra expansion slots, GPS, high-resolution screens, and other value-added features.

There are a few basic hardware features that all Windows Mobile 2003 devices have in common, such as an ARM-based processor (Intel StrongARM, XScale, or Texas Instruments OMAP processor). These processors are interoperable for application compatibility with Windows Mobile 2003. They have at least 32MB of RAM for internal storage and application use. These devices contain at least one storage card slot for use with storage media such as Compact Flash or Secure Digital cards. They also have a transflective display, providing superior image clarity, indoors and outdoors, over previous generation devices.

The focus of this book is to provide you with an intimate knowledge of all aspects of Windows Mobile 2003–based devices. Each chapter contains tasks that walk you through the functions of your device in easy-to-follow steps.

Windows Mobile 2003 comes with certain built-in applications. Some vendors include additional applications and omit others. You will learn how to use the most commonly included applications found in Windows Mobile 2003.

Customize Personal and System Settings

Most aspects of Windows Mobile 2003 can be customized or modified to fit your specific needs. You will learn how to change the personal settings of your device such as how you enter data. You will also learn to add security features to your device. Screen settings can be changed, and you can alter the appearance of your device’s display. Regional settings can be localized to your area of the world. Memory and power usage can be optimized.
Create a Mobile Office

You will learn how to synchronize your device data with your home or office PC. You can schedule meetings and appointments with the built-in calendar. You can collect all of your contacts in one easy-to-use location and access them anytime. You will learn how to send and receive e-mail, take notes, and schedule tasks.

You will also learn how to take Word and Excel documents with you and edit them on-the-go with Pocket Word and Pocket Excel.

Stay Connected

You will learn how to connect your device to another device via infrared, Bluetooth, and wireless networks.

You will learn how to set your device to use network cards, modems, virtual private networks, and more.

With Internet connectivity, you can browse the Internet for the latest news, weather, and sports scores. You can communicate with friends, colleagues, and family with MSN Messenger. You can also connect to Terminal Services with the Terminal Services Client.

Entertain On-the-Go

You can take movies and music with you with Windows Media Player 9 and entertain yourself and others for hours. You can show your favorite pictures with the Pictures program and create a slideshow of your next family or office outing.

You can also take books with you in electronic format with Microsoft Reader and spend hours reading the classics or latest novel.
Microsoft has spent the last couple of years fine-tuning the Windows CE .NET OS to enhance your daily mobile computing experience, and Windows Mobile 2003 is the result.

**Zero Configuration WiFi**

Windows Mobile 2003 has greatly simplified connecting to 802.11 wireless local area networks, also called WiFi or WLAN networks. When your WiFi–enabled device comes within range of a WiFi network, your wireless-enabled device asks you if you want to connect to the hotspot that it just found. If you accept the connection, you may be prompted for additional information such as a WEP key. Your device will remember your connections, simplifying the next time that you connect to that hotspot.

**A Simplified Connections Manager**

The Connections Manager has been completely redesigned with a simplified wizard, enabling a quick and easy setup of connections for VPN, proxy servers, 802.1x, secure VPN, and encrypted connections.

**Integrated Bluetooth Support**

Windows Mobile 2003 has added support for Bluetooth-enabled devices and accessories, simplifying connections between Bluetooth-equipped devices, such as mobile phones, printers, GPS units, and more.

**Enhanced Messaging and Keyboard Support**

Communicating on-the-go just got easier with enhanced e-mail capabilities such as signatures and auto-suggest, which suggests the e-mail address that you are entering from your list of contacts. The Inbox also auto-corrects commonly misspelled words as you type your e-mail text. Common tasks in the Inbox can now be accomplished with new keyboard shortcuts.
Improved Contacts and Calendar

Improved search functions in Contacts enable you to find a contact in a matter of seconds by entering only part of the contact’s name. The improved search feature filters out all other names but the one you are typing, and with improved keyboard integration, you can do this without the use of the stylus. The Calendar application has been redesigned to show weekends in different colors, offering a clear representation of your weekly schedule. Saturdays are presented in blue, contrasting with Sunday and holidays, which now appear in red.

Additionally, vCards and vCals support has been added for the Inbox and Calendar to provide better integration with your desktop’s Outlook application.

Advanced Imaging and Entertainment

Moving a compatible storage card from your digital camera to your Pocket PC just got easier. With new support for photos in the program Pictures, you can take your favorite pictures with you and show them as a slideshow to friends, family, and colleagues. You can edit your photos with basic features such as cropping, image rotation, and brightness and contrast modifications.

Windows Media Player 9 for Pocket PC has been added for improved performance and compatibility with today’s music and video entertainment. Streaming audio and video content up to 300KB from your storage card or the Internet makes streaming media delivery the perfect companion to Media Player 9 for the PC.

A new game called Jawbreaker has been added to the game lineup as a welcome alternative to Solitaire.

Improved Pocket Internet Explorer Features

Pocket Internet Explorer has been improved with new features and a faster speed. Improved style sheet support, added SSL compatibility, and improved Web site rendering provide a rich Web browsing experience.
Microsoft announced Windows Mobile 2003 Second Edition on March 24, 2004, and Dell, Motorola, HP, and Toshiba announced that new devices with this updated operating system will be released in the summer and fall of 2004.

The major updates in the operating system include the ability to use Landscape, Portrait, or Square mode while allowing for dynamic switching between modes and support for high-resolution VGA displays up to 480 x 640 pixels. Windows Mobile 2003 is limited to a 240 x 320 display resolution in portrait-only mode.

Other new features in Windows Mobile 2003 Second Edition include customizing the Start menu and OK buttons, a font size slider for smaller or larger systemwide fonts, the improvement of page formatting in Internet Explorer, the ability to use shortcuts with Transcriber, a most frequently used applications area of the Start menu, and support for WiFi Protected Access (WPA).

Portrait and Landscape Orientation

The ability to dynamically switch between Portrait and Landscape modes without using a third-party solution or soft resetting your device is the most noticeable change in Second Edition. Many current Windows Mobile 2003 devices have the option to upgrade to Second Edition, and switching between modes will work on the current devices, which have 240 x 320 pixel displays. Both right-handed and left-handed Landscape modes are supported, and hardware buttons can be assigned to switch between the modes.
New Font Settings

The Screen settings have been changed from one entry screen to three. Screen orientation and alignment is on the first tab, General, enabling systemwide ClearType is on the ClearType tab, and the font size adjustment slider is on the Text Size tab.

Using Landscape Mode

Landscape mode has been a feature requested by users and will be especially beneficial for using Internet Explorer and Pocket Excel. Spreadsheets are commonly used in Landscape mode on desktop computers, and now you will be able to experience the same layout on your mobile device.

Internet Explorer Updates

Many Web sites still do not have mobile format options, so Internet Explorer attempts to reformat them to mobile format. The new version of Internet Explorer improves this formatting ability and offers you some more options. You can choose One Column, Default, or Desktop formats for Web sites.
New Buttons Settings

You have been able to customize what actions will occur when pressing the hardware buttons on your mobile device, and the Second Edition update now enables you to customize the Start menu and OK/X button as well.

The Square Display Option

The majority of Windows Mobile 2003 devices used a 240 x 320 pixel display due to requirements of the operating system. Microsoft now allows manufacturers to use square 240 x 240 and 480 x 480 pixel resolutions. This will allow Pocket PC Phone Edition devices or devices with integrated keyboards to be smaller and easier to carry in your pocket.

Functions can be assigned to new buttons

Windows Media Player on a square display
GET ACQUAINTED WITH YOUR WINDOWS MOBILE 2003 DEVICE

Windows Mobile devices vary in features from manufacturer to manufacturer. Some companies include a built-in camera, extra card slots, wireless capability, and such. However, the basic layout of a Windows Mobile device remains fairly similar from brand to brand.