



What is Airplane Mode and How Does it Work?

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Airplane Mode, also known as Flight Mode, is a setting on smartphones, tablets, and other devices that temporarily suspends wireless communication, including cellular signals, Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, and GPS. This mode is designed to comply with airline regulations, which require electronic devices to be in a non-transmitting mode during flights.

What Happens When You Turn On Airplane Mode?

When you enable Airplane Mode on your device:

- Cellular signal is disabled, preventing calls, texts, and mobile data usage. You cannot access web pages or online emails. You can't download or stream content from the internet. You cannot send or receive text messages or phone calls.
- Wi-Fi is turned off when you enable Airplane Mode. You can, however, turn wi-fi back on in your settings, since many airliners have wi-fi available, either free or for a fee. If you opt for this service, you will be able to surf the web, use message apps such as WhatsApp, Facebook Messenger and iMessage, and even make wi-fi calls.
- Bluetooth is also disabled in Airplane Mode, but it too can be turned back on so you can use your accessories like headphones, hearing aids or smartwatches.
- GPS may be affected, as it relies on cellular or Wi-Fi signals for accuracy.

What Can You Still Do in Airplane Mode?

Despite the limitations, you can still:

- Use apps that don't require internet connectivity, such as games, notes, and music players.
- Access previously-downloaded content, like eBooks, articles, and documents.
- Take photos and videos with your device's camera.
- Connect to Wi-Fi manually, if needed, for in-flight internet or at home.
- Use Bluetooth, if manually re-enabled, to connect to accessories.
- Even in Airplane Mode, essential functions such as alarms do continue to work.

What happens when someone calls or texts you in Airplane Mode?

- The call will not go through. The caller may hear a message stating your phone is turned off or out of range.
- Texts will not be received until Airplane Mode is turned off and your device reconnects to the cellular network, typically when you land and toggle Airplane Mode off.

Airplane Mode isn't just for flying. It's also helpful when your feet are on the ground!

- Use it if you want to save battery life. Also, setting your device to airplane mode as you charge it makes charging go faster.
- Are you easily distracted? Turning airplane mode on will eliminate notifications or calls for as long as you like.
- Surprise bonus: Sometimes, toggling Airplane Mode helps reset a weak signal or Wi-Fi connection.