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Why Checking Coverage is Important when Buying a Mobile Phone by [Lucas Charlotte](#)

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As there is such a wide range of mobile phones available to buy nowadays, it can be easy to get lost in the sheer volume of constantly updated makes and models. If you take your needs into consideration, finding the right handset to suit all your requirements should not be difficult.

Possibly one of the most important things to look at- that is often overlooked entirely- is mobile phone coverage. It makes no sense to sign up to a contract that charges in excess of Â£30 or Â£40 if you are unable to make or receive calls due to poor network coverage in your local area. Before committing to any deal, check signal strength maps on their websites. You should always check your local area as well as anywhere you spend a lot of time in, to make sure your phone will be usable in the places you spend most of your time.

Once you have ascertained which networks will provide you with the most reliable coverage, you can turn your attention to handsets and the functions you consider to be essential. Smartphones commonly feature programmes that enable mobile internet browsing, as well as GPS (global positioning system) to run maps, music and video players, and games. If you want to take photographs with your phone, make sure you check the resolution of the inbuilt camera. The higher the megapixel count, the clearer and crisper your photos will be. Many newer models also feature image stabilisers and anti-red-eye technology to help ensure you take perfect pictures everytime.

It is becoming the standard for mobile phone contracts to last between twelve and twenty-four months, with the majority of networks insisting you sign up to the latter if you want access to mobile broadband capabilities. If you do not have any interest in smartphones, apps or utilising mobile broadband, there are still many great basic handsets available. As they have less processing to do and feature fewer functions, the battery life in these cheaper phones is often better than in most top of the range smartphones.

Also think about whether you would like your phone to have a keypad or a touch-screen. Phones that are controlled via touch-screen technology are becoming increasingly common, making the selection of keypad sporting phones for customers who like the reassuring feel that pushing a button provides somewhat limited, although are still some great models on the market. Mobile phone retailers often have display models that you can hold and try out features. If you are unsure of the type of handset you would like, visit one of these shops and give each model a try.

If you follow these steps, you will be sure to choose the best phone for your needs, but with so many fantastic phones on the market, this will not be easy.

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