

# Samsung Galaxy Tab 10.1

BIGGER, BETTER TAB

TEXT // KEVIN BOEY

## AT A GLANCE

**NETWORK**  
Wi-Fi and HSPA+

**CAMERA**  
3MP

**DISPLAY**  
10.1"

**OS**  
Android 3.1

**PRICE**  
TBA

Introduced earlier this year to the South East Asian region at the Samsung Forum 2011, the latest Samsung Galaxy Tab 10.1 is not just an evolution from the Galaxy Tab tablet that was introduced last year, but it brings a whole shebang of improvements with it apart from the increased screen real estate. First off, the device is a super-sleek tablet designed to look somewhat like it's competitors although with its plastic back and thinner size.

Its slimness hides the fact that this tablet packs NVIDIA Tegra 2 processing capability, along with 1GB of RAM and 16GB of storage space. While it is as thin as the current tablet benchmark, the Apple iPad 2, it comes with a battery with slightly higher capacity at 7000mAh along with a weight reduction despite its hardware. It feels solid in the hand, despite having a huge amount of plastic

covering it's back. Although the device is thin, it does not seem to flex and our fears of it breaking in half are pretty unfounded unless it is dropped on one of it's corners.

With our review unit updated to Android 3.1 (instead of the 3.0 stock ROM), the Samsung Galaxy Tab 10.1 did not come with Samsung's usual TouchWiz interface instead employs tweaks such as the Live Panel on the home screen called TouchWiz UX. Samsung also included their recognizable widgets called Mini Apps which look somewhat similar to the applications you get in their smartphone range. Despite it's Tegra 2 chipset, the tablet did feel laggy, especially in stock homescreen condition, no thanks to five rotatable homescreen pages that were chock-filled with widgets. This might be attributed to the OS update itself as previous versions of this tablet scored higher on

synthetic tests.

The screen is gorgeous, sporting a 1280x800 IPS panel while also having eye-popping colors at the same time. The same can be said whether we were viewing text, watching a HD video or flipping through our image library. This is due to it's high pixel density which rivals the iPhone 4's Retina display in terms of sharpness. It comes with Wi-Fi and HSDPA/HSPA+ wireless radios although a SIM with a data plan is needed for connecting to mobile networks.

Combining a set of stereo speakers, it is sufficient to say that playing back high-res movies on the Tab 10.1 is a highly amusing prospect. The only problem lies when you're transferring large files over to it's internal memory - the USB cable is, as always a proprietary version despite looking similar to a rivals' 30-pin connector. Although the Samsung Galaxy Tab 10.1 has niggles such as lag and a slightly different way in which it is executed, it is the closest Android tablet so far which made us wish that there were more apps for the OS to better show-off it's capabilities. For now, that is the main reason we're not too keen on Android tablets although if history repeats itself, they will be smashing new sales records pretty soon.

**SPECIFICATIONS** **PROCESSOR** 1GHz dual-core NVIDIA Tegra 2 // **DISPLAY** 10.1" touch sensitive TFT screen with 1280x800 and multi-touch // **CONNECTIVITY** Bluetooth 3.0 and A2DP and EDR, Compass, A-GPS Quadband GSM, headphones jack, WLAN 802.11b/g/n // **MEMORY** 1GB RAM, 16GB/32GB/64GB models // **DIMENSIONS** 256.7 x 175.3 x 8.6mm // **WEIGHT** 565g w/battery // **CONTACT** Samsung Careline // **TELEPHONE** 1 800 88 9999 // **URL** www.samsung.com/my



This tablet has an LED flash which makes it one of the better ones for image-capturing



The proprietary port can be a little grating sometimes as it isn't compatible with other chargers

This tablet is still Android's best so far



**Verdict:**  
**9.0**

**GOLD**  
**HMM**  
MALAYSIA

PHYSIQUE: 9.0  
FEATURES: 9.0  
USER FRIENDLINESS: 9.0  
PERFORMANCE: 8.5

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