

Apple is expected to launch 3 new iPhones this year — here's everything we know so far

Lisa Eadicicco March 11, 2019 - Business Insider



Justin Sullivan/Getty Images

- **Apple** is expected to release three iPhones again this fall.
- One of the most notable changes expected is a new three-lens camera system.

- **Other potential updates could include the ability to use the iPhone as a charging pad for other products, and a frosted-glass design.**

Apple typically introduces new iPhones each September, and it looks as though 2019 is shaping up to be no different.

Keeping with the pattern in 2017 and 2018, Apple is widely expected to debut three new iPhones in 2019. And it sounds as if one of the biggest changes could be a triple-lens camera system.

Apple's iPhone launches draw massive attention from news outlets, consumers, and Wall Street, and that's bound to be the case more than ever in 2019 as the company grapples with falling iPhone sales.

In its earnings report in January, Apple said iPhone sales for the holiday quarter **fell by 15%** compared with the same quarter a year ago. Though other product areas are growing — such as its services business, which reached an all-time revenue high of \$10.9 billion — the iPhone is still Apple's biggest moneymaker.

Companies like Samsung and Huawei recently generated excitement with their new foldable phones, and many eyes will be on Apple come September to see whether it can make a similar impression with its 2019 iPhone lineup.

Here's a look at what we're expecting to see in this year's iPhones, based on the reports and rumors that have surfaced so far.

Three new iPhone models



Justin Sullivan/Getty

Apple is once again expected to announce three new iPhones this fall to succeed the current lineup,

as indicated by reports from [The Wall Street Journal](#) and [Bloomberg](#). That would follow the pattern Apple implemented in 2017 when it debuted the iPhone 8, iPhone 8 Plus, and iPhone X and again in 2018 when it launched the iPhone XR, iPhone XS, and iPhone XS Max.

A triple-camera system



The double camera lens system in the iPhone XS (left) vs. the single camera lens setup in the iPhone XR (right). YouTube/MKBHD

Apple's next iPhone could have three cameras on its back, echoing moves recently made by firms such as Samsung and Huawei.

The new high-end iPhone, likely the successor to the iPhone XS Max, would be the only one in Apple's new lineup to feature this triple-camera system, according to [The Wall Street Journal](#) and [Bloomberg](#). Apple's other less expensive iPhones might eventually get this triple camera, however, Bloomberg reports. Last year, Taiwanese outlet [Economic News Daily](#) also reported that Apple is working on a new iPhone with three cameras.

The addition of a third camera could enable the iPhone to capture a larger field of view and better zoom shots, Bloomberg notes.

Same screen sizes; possibly OLED displays for all three models



Apple's 2019 iPhones will be the same size as its current iPhones, according to a note from TF International Securities analyst Ming-Chi Kuo as reported by [9to5Mac](#). Kuo is generally considered to be a reliable source for Apple product news considering some of his predictions have proven correct in the past.

It's also possible that Apple will use organic light emitting diode (OLED) screens for all three of its 2019 iPhones, including the least expensive model. That would be a departure from the company's current lineup, as the entry level iPhone XR is the only device in the newest iPhone family to use a liquid crystal display (LCD). OLED screens typically offer deeper blacks and bolder colors, resulting in better contrast than LCD displays.

South Korean news source Electronic Times [reported](#) that Apple may use OLED screens for all three of its 2019 new iPhones in May, but Kuo predicts that one model will still have an LCD display.

A better Face ID camera



Hollis Johnson

Apple's facial-recognition system may be getting an update this year. The company plans to implement an upgraded Face ID system on its new iPhones that would "lower the impacts of invisible lights" in the user's environment to improve the experience, according to a note from Kuo which [MacRumors](#) reported. A report from [Bloomberg](#) also notes that Apple plans to improve its Face ID feature.

Apple is expected to bring a more sophisticated 3-D camera to its 2020 iPhones that would allow for

better augmented reality performance, but this technology might show up on a new iPad first, as both Kuo and Bloomberg report.

No fast-charging brick included



[Andrew Greenland/Flickr](#)

Apple's new iPhones will reportedly come with the [same 5W charging brick](#) Apple has been bundling with its phones for years according to [MacOtakara](#), even as fast-charging bricks have become an increasingly common standard for Android phones. That means iPhone owners looking to charge their

phones more quickly will still have to purchase an 18W charger separately.

The ability to charge other devices



Hollis Johnson/Business Insider

All three of Apple's new iPhones will include support for bilateral charging, which means they will be capable of charging other devices, according to a prediction from Kuo reported by [9to5Mac](#).

Samsung's new Galaxy S10 already supports this feature, which makes it possible to charge devices compatible with the Qi standard like its Galaxy

Watch Active and Galaxy Buds by resting them on the back of the device.

Possible switch to USB-C



Flickr / Simon Yeo

Apple typically requires its iPhones to be charged with its own proprietary charger, but there's a chance that could change this year. The company has tested some versions of its 2019 iPhone that would charge via USB-C rather than Apple's Lightning port, according to [Bloomberg](#). That conflicts with [Kuo's prediction](#) that Apple's new iPhones would once again only be compatible with its Lightning charger.

A similar design with frosted glass

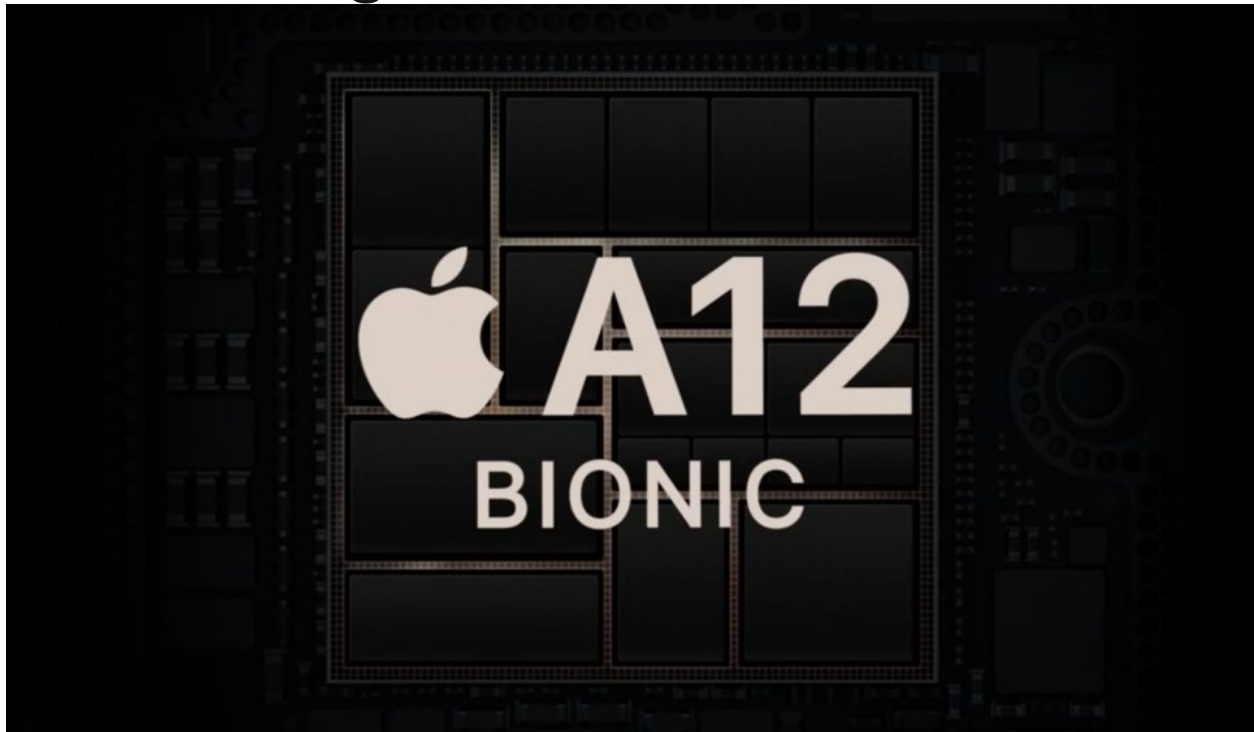


Edgar Su/Reuters

Don't expect this year's iPhones to look much different than the iPhone XR, iPhone XS, and iPhone XS Max.

Apple's new iPhones will "look similar to the current models," [Bloomberg reports](#), as Apple is reportedly planning larger changes in 2020 to allow for 5G support. Kuo, however, [indicates](#) the new models could feature a frosted glass casing and will still retain the same "notch" near the top of the display.

New processor, upgraded battery, and other changes



Screenshot

This year's iPhones will run on a new processor, as is typically the case with Apple's new iPhones, which [Bloomberg](#) reported. Kuo also mentions a few other internal updates in his note as [MacRumors](#) points out, which include upgraded batteries and an Ultra Wide Band component that would allow for better indoor positioning and navigation. Apple's iPhone XR follow-up is expected to include 4GB of RAM rather than the 3GB the [current model has](#).

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