



# 7 Things about Google Glass

## 1 - What is it?

Google Glass is a computer that includes an optical display with a head mount, touch sensitive pad, a camera and a speaker. Google Glass is a head-mounted computer with technologies that make it comparable to a smartphone.<sup>1</sup> It is a revolutionary device that lets you multitask without having to fumble for a phone or take your attention off of things in front of you.<sup>2</sup>

Learn more <http://www.google.com/glass/>

## 2 - How does it work?

Google Glass has a touch sensitive pad on one side of the frame that you use for scrolling, selecting and navigating.<sup>3</sup> Glass also has the ability to read movement with multiple sensors. With a simple movement of your head, you are able to put the Google Glass to sleep, scroll through options or even wake it up. Voice sensors also give a user the ability to select, search and record.<sup>4</sup>

## 3 - Who's doing it?

Google Glass was developed in Google labs in Mountain View, California. Google calls the project, "Project Glass" and it is expected to be released to the public in 2014. Google engineers are currently working on new designs including a prescription glasses version.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2402613,00.asp>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.google.com/glass/start/what-it-does/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.google.com/glass/help/>

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.google.com/glass/start/what-it-does/>

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.cnn.com/2014/01/28/tech/innovation/google-glass-lenses/index.html>

## 4 - Why is it significant?

Google Glass not only allows the user to take pictures, record videos, surf the web, check the weather, listen to music or message a friend but it allows them to do all of this without holding a device or having one awkwardly mounted to them. Google Glass is a more convenient and efficient way of staying connected to the user's environment while also staying connected to the world.<sup>6</sup>

## 5 - What are the downsides?

Two of the major downsides of Google Glass are price and availability. The price is one thing that Google is working on lower. As of right now, the explorer program is around \$1,500 and it lets users try out the developer version of Google Glass.<sup>7</sup> The other main problem is availability. Since the product is only in its development phase, it is relatively hard to get your hands on a pair to try out. This all should change when Google announces its release date, hopefully this year.

## 6 - Where is it going?

Google Glass is a product that will be available for anyone to buy. The product could be used in the workplace, around home or even on the go. Where Google Glass goes is completely dependent on how the user wants to use it. An adrenaline junkie could take Google Glass on a mountain biking trip or an artist could take it to their studio to record their work. Google Glass is made to be taken anywhere the user chooses to go.<sup>8</sup>

## 7 - What are the implications for higher education?

Any college student has had that one professor that writes faster than one can read and the Google Glass can help a student with this problem. Taking pictures of the board or recording the lecture are only two of the many uses for Google Glass in the classroom.<sup>9</sup> View PowerPoint slides as the professor talks about them and take notes all at the same time. Google Glass could improve the learning ability of the student when used as a teaching supplement.

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<sup>6</sup> <http://www.google.com/glass/start/what-it-does/>

<sup>7</sup> <https://glass.google.com/getglass/shop/glass>

<sup>8</sup> <http://www.google.com/glass/start/what-it-does/>

<sup>9</sup> <http://www.edudemic.com/guides/the-teachers-guide-to-google-glass/>