

# Bluetooth Technology & Compatibility Guide

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## What is Bluetooth technology?

**Bluetooth technology** is a wireless communication system. It communicates data securely from one device to another using radio transmissions. The technology was developed by Ericsson in 1994, but is owned by a collaborative group of companies named the Bluetooth Special Interest Group (SIG).

## Types of Bluetooth

**Bluetooth** refers to Bluetooth technologies 1.0, 2.0 or 3.0. Each Bluetooth version is backwards compatible.

Your Bluetooth smartphone, tablet, portable media player or laptop must be the same Bluetooth version or higher as the accessory you would like to pair it with.

**Bluetooth Smart Ready** and **Bluetooth Smart** refer to Bluetooth technology 4.0.

Bluetooth Smart accessories only work with Bluetooth Smart Ready smartphones, tablets and laptops.

**Please Note:** Some Bluetooth Smart devices require specific apps for functionality and may not be compatible with all Bluetooth Smart Ready devices.

## Types of Bluetooth Devices

**Bluetooth** devices are wireless and usually stream rich content, such as video and audio.

These devices can be smartphones, tablets, laptops or accessories. Common Bluetooth accessories include wireless speakers, headphones and keyboards.

**Bluetooth Smart** devices are sensors, which send only small bits of data at a time and use very little energy. They are sometimes referred to as **Bluetooth Low Energy**, or **BLE**. These devices can stay paired to **Bluetooth Smart Ready** devices even when they aren't being used.

Automatic wake and sleep modes eliminate the need for constant re-pairing of your devices. Common **Bluetooth Smart** devices include heart rate monitors, sensors, remotes, thermometers, smartwatches and fitness trackers.

**Bluetooth Smart Ready** devices are primarily smartphones, tablets, portable media players and laptops that can connect with both **Bluetooth** and **Bluetooth Smart** devices.

These products send and receive data from any type of Bluetooth-enabled accessory.