

# How Much Did the Stuff on Your SMARTPHONE COST 30 YEARS AGO?



All prices adjusted for inflation to 2015 dollars.

## 1985

## TODAY

### MOBILE PHONE



**\$9,000** (Motorola DynaTAC)



**\$20-\$250** (with contract)

### TEXT / IMAGE MESSAGING



**\$1,105** (Fax machine suggested retail price)



**Included** (SMS)

### GPS



**\$6,630** (Magellan GPS NAV 1000)



**Included** (Google Maps, Apple Maps)

### VOICE RECORDER



**\$110** Realistic CTR-70



**Included**

### DIGITAL WATCH



**\$45** (Casio DBC 600)

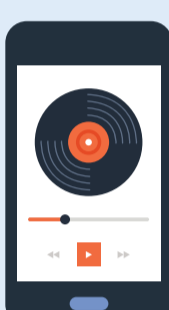


**Included**

### PORTABLE MUSIC PLAYER



**\$400** (Sony D-50 Discman)

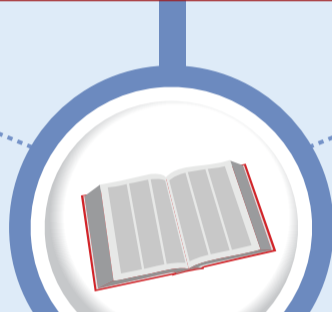


**Included**

### ENCYCLOPEDIAS



**\$2,210** (Encyclopedia Britannica)

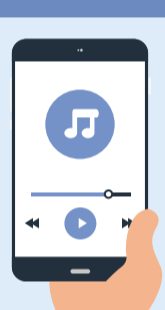


**Included** (Google Chrome, Safari)

### RADIO



**\$640** (Sony CFD-444 boom box)



**Included** (Podcasts)

### VIDEO GAME CONSOLE



**\$1,105** (Nintendo Entertainment System)



**Included** (App store)

### PORTABLE TELEVISION



**\$665** (Casio Mini Color TV)



**Free** (YouTube, Hulu)

### FILM CAMERA



**\$295** (Canon SPRINT QD)

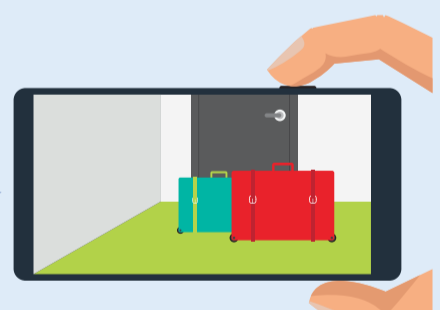


**Included**

### VIDEO CAMERA



**\$3,745** (Sony CCD-V8)



**Included**

### VIDEO PLAYER



**\$1,105** (VCR suggested retail price)



**Included**

### VIDEO CONFERENCING



**\$110,520** plus usage fees (Future Systems Incorporated)



**Free, included** (Skype, Facetime)

### PROCESSING POWER



**\$32 million** (Cray-2 supercomputer; 1.9 GFLOPS)



**Included** (~1.9 GFLOPS)

**TODAY'S TOTAL COST FOR STANDARD SMARTPHONE APPS IN 1985: \$32,137,280**



109 new houses (\$292,850)



957 new cars (\$33,560)



84,795 new computers (\$379)

**SOURCES:**  
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 • <http://www.thepeoplehistory.com/1985.html>  
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 • <http://www.radiohistory.com/catalogs/1985/>  
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 • <https://books.google.com/books?id=yvBt4kwrpCg&pg=PA48&pg=PA48&dq=cost+of+video+conferencing+1985&source=bl&ots=42ArBdTSU&sig=2zb23FKtNwKZGpL52dL9YxM&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjW84P4VdIAARXX7CtYKtAKC6AE5ZAGFv-onepage&eq=fa%20machine%20pricing%201985&f=false>  
 • <https://books.google.com/books?id=LQ289AAQ0BA&pg=PA157&pg=PA157&dq=fax+machine+pricing+1985&source=bl&ots=rlm1a0BLuX&sig=s9F16tP2mRr28Cw8B-2M&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjW84P4VdIAARXX7CtYKtAKC6AE5ZAGFv-onepage&eq=fa%20machine%20pricing%201985&f=false>