

Used Smartphone Grading Standards

Your complete reference for A/A+, A-, B/B+, and C/C+ condition grading, cosmetic criteria, and battery health thresholds for wholesale used smartphones.

A/A+

Near New

A-

Very Good

B/B+

Good

C/C+

Honest Wear

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GRADING STANDARDS

What Grading Means

Cosmetic grading gives buyers a standardized, objective description of a device's physical condition. SmartChoice uses four grades — A/A+, A-, B/B+, and C/C+ — assessed against screen condition, body condition, dents, cracks, touch-detectable wear, and battery health. Every device is individually IMEI-checked and hardware-tested, then graded against fixed cosmetic and battery thresholds under standardized lighting — never batch-sampled. All devices are 100% functional unless stated otherwise.



Near New

Pristine, near new condition. No visible wear under normal light — no scratches. Battery health $\geq 85\%$.



Very Good

Very good condition. Light scratches, invisible when the display is on. Battery health $\geq 82\%$.



Good

Good condition. Light scratches, some visible when the display is on. Battery health $\geq 78\%$.



Honest Wear

Obvious signs of everyday use. Deep scratches, no cracks. Battery health $\geq 73\%$.

Criteria	A / A+	A-	B / B+	C / C+
Overall condition	Pristine, near new condition	Very good	Good	Obvious signs of everyday use
Screen scratches	No visible wear under normal light	Light scratches, invisible when display is on	Light scratches, some visible when display is on	Deep scratches (no cracks)
Body scratches	None visible under normal light	Light scratches permitted on back	Noticeable marks on back/edges	Obvious scratches, possible dents
Dents	None	Pinprick dents allowed, not visible from 30cm	Minor dents allowed	Multiple small dents or 1–2 medium dents
Cracks	None	None	None	None
Touch detectable wear	None	Faint (some scratches)	Yes (some)	Yes (likely)
Buttons	Perfect	Perfect	Perfect	Perfect
Battery health	$\geq 85\%$ original capacity	$\geq 82\%$ original capacity	$\geq 78\%$ original capacity	$\geq 73\%$ original capacity
Functional	100%	100%	100%	100%
Complete	✓ With covers & battery	✓ With covers & battery	✓ With covers & battery	✓ With covers & battery, no missing parts

Grade A/A+ — Near New

Grade A/A+ devices are the highest quality tier in our inventory. These units show no meaningful cosmetic wear and closely resemble brand-new devices.



Overall condition

Pristine, near new condition

Body scratches

None visible under normal light

Cracks

None

Buttons

Perfect

Functional

100%

Screen scratches

No visible wear under normal light

Dents

None

Touch detectable wear

None

Battery health

≥85% original capacity

Complete

✓ With covers & battery

GRADE DETAIL

Grade A- — Very Good

Grade A- devices are in very good condition — light signs of use that only show up on close inspection.



Overall condition

Screen scratches

Very good

Body scratches

Light scratches permitted on back

Cracks

None

Buttons

Perfect

Functional

100%

Light scratches, invisible when display is on

Dents

Pinprick dents allowed, not visible from 30cm

Touch detectable wear

Faint (some scratches)

Battery health

≥82% original capacity

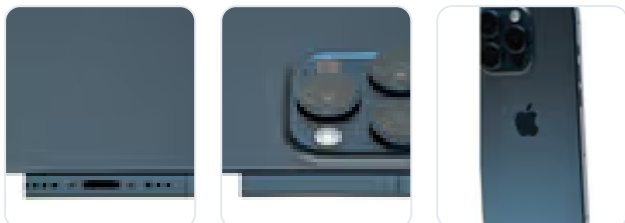
Complete

✓ With covers & battery

GRADE DETAIL

Grade B/B+ — Good

Grade B/B+ is our most popular tier and the sweet spot for most B2B resellers — solid quality at a competitive price.



Overall condition

Good

Body scratches

Noticeable marks on back/edges

Cracks

None

Buttons

Perfect

Functional

100%

Screen scratches

Light scratches, some visible when display is on

Dents

Minor dents allowed

Touch detectable wear

Yes (some)

Battery health

≥78% original capacity

Complete

✓ With covers & battery

Grade C/C+ — Honest Wear

Grade C/C+ devices show obvious signs of everyday use and are priced accordingly, while remaining fully functional.



Overall condition

Obvious signs of everyday use

Body scratches

Obvious scratches, possible dents

Cracks

None

Buttons

Perfect

Functional

100%

Screen scratches

Deep scratches (no cracks)

Dents

Multiple small dents or 1–2 medium dents

Touch detectable wear

Yes (likely)

Battery health

≥73% original capacity

Complete

✓ With covers & battery, no missing parts

PRICING

Pricing Benchmarks

The EUR ranges below are derived from actual current wholesale listings, not invented figures — but stock rotates fast (thousands of units per month), so treat them as indicative rather than a live price list. For exact current pricing by unit, see [live stock](#).

Model	A / A+	A-	B / B+	C / C+
Apple iPhone 11 Pro Max 256GB	—	—	—	€120
Apple iPhone 14 128GB	—	—	€265	€255

Model	A / A+	A-	B / B+	C / C+
Apple iPhone 15 128GB	—	—	€375	€360
Apple iPhone 15 256GB	€445	—	€420	—
Apple iPhone 15 Plus 128GB	—	—	€405	€385
Apple iPhone 16 128GB	—	€525	€515	€495
Apple iPhone 16 Plus 128GB	—	€545	€535	€520
Apple iPhone 16 Pro Max 256GB	—	—	€785	€755
Apple iPhone 16e 128GB	—	—	€405	€390
Apple iPhone 17 Pro Max 256GB	€1165	—	—	—
Samsung Galaxy S22 Dual-SIM 128GB	—	€205	€195	—
Samsung Galaxy Tab Active5 5G 128GB	€270	—	—	—

A Note on Coverage

We carry iPhone 11 through 17 — standard, mini, Air, Plus, Pro, and Pro Max — and Samsung Galaxy S10 through S26 in standard, Plus, and Ultra variants, alongside mid-range Galaxy A models. Only models and grades with at least two units currently in stock are listed above — a single unit doesn't make a meaningful benchmark. The table is generated from live wholesale listings and refreshed periodically; models not shown here may still be available. Check [live stock](#) for the full current range and pricing.

Last refreshed 2026-07-22. Contact us for current live pricing.

CHECKLIST

Arrival Inspection Checklist

Use this checklist when your shipment arrives. Complete all steps before accepting or storing the batch — under our [return policy](#) you have 7 business days from delivery to

report discrepancies, with photographic evidence.

1. Packaging & Documentation

- ☐ Verify item count matches packing list
- ☐ Check outer carton for damage (photograph any transit damage)
- ☐ Confirm IMEI sticker on each device matches packing list
- ☐ Check invoice and VAT documentation included

2. Physical Condition Verification

- ☐ Power on each device — confirm it boots fully
- ☐ Inspect screen under bright direct light and at 45° angle
- ☐ Check body: back, frame, all four corners, buttons, ports
- ☐ Verify cosmetic grade matches your order specification
- ☐ Document any deviations with close-up photos

3. Functional Testing

- ☐ Run display test — check for dead pixels, yellowing, flickering
- ☐ Test touchscreen response across full screen surface
- ☐ Test Face ID / Touch ID fingerprint sensor

- ☐ Make a test call — verify earpiece and microphone
- ☐ Test rear and front cameras (photo + video)
- ☐ Test speakers and mute/volume buttons
- ☐ Test Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, and mobile data (SIM slot)
- ☐ Check charging port with cable

4. Software & IMEI Checks

- ☐ Check battery health via Settings > Battery (iOS) or 3rd party app (Android)
- ☐ Confirm device is not activation-locked / MDM-enrolled
- ☐ Verify IMEI is clean using imei.info or similar service
- ☐ Confirm iOS/Android version is up-to-date or flashable
- ☐ Factory reset device before resale

FAQ

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the difference between Grade A/A+ and Grade A-?



Grade A/A+ devices are in pristine, near new condition with no visible wear under normal light and battery health of 85% or above. Grade A- devices are very good condition — light scratches that are invisible when the display is on — with battery health of 82% or above.

What does 'battery health' mean and why does it matter?



Battery health refers to the device's battery capacity as a percentage of its original capacity, measured via diagnostics. Grade A/A+ requires battery health of 85% or above, A- requires 82% or above, B/B+ requires 78% or above, and C/C+ requires 73% or above. This matters because it affects the device's screen-on time and resale value in downstream markets.

Is Grade C/C+ fully functional?



Yes, all Grade C/C+ devices are fully functional including all hardware and software features. The difference from higher grades is cosmetic wear (obvious signs of everyday use, deep scratches) and battery health (73% or above). Every grade undergoes the same functional testing.

Can a device have one cosmetic grade but different battery health?



No — the published grade covers both. A device must meet both the cosmetic criteria (screen, body, dents, cracks, touch-detectable wear) and the battery health threshold for its grade, so a phone that looks A/A+ but tests below 85% battery health is not sold as A/A+.

What happens if a device arrives in a different grade than ordered?



Under our return policy you have 7 business days from delivery to report discrepancies, with photographic evidence. We resolve the claim under our 30-day warranty, which covers faults and grading errors. All devices are individually tested and inspected before listing to ensure grade accuracy.

How does Marginal VAT affect the price of graded devices?



SmartChoice operates under the Marginal VAT scheme, which means VAT is charged only on the profit margin of the sale, not the full selling price. This results in

lower effective VAT on purchases compared to standard VAT, making the wholesale prices more competitive for EU resellers.

Where can I see current pricing by grade?

Pricing varies with batch quantities, model, and market conditions, so SmartChoice publishes live, current pricing by grade on the stock page rather than a fixed price list — visit shop.smartchoice.ee/stock for up-to-date wholesale pricing.

ABOUT

About SmartChoice

- B2B wholesale supplier of used smartphones, Tartu, Estonia
- Marginal VAT and reverse VAT stock available — ideal for EU resellers
- No minimum order — single units to bulk pallets
- Devices tested and graded in-house before listing
- IMEI-clean guarantee on all stock
- 30-day warranty on every device — covers faults and grading errors
- Dispatch from Tartu within 1 business day of payment confirmation
- EU-based — no customs delays for European buyers

ONLINE SHOP

shop.smartchoice.ee

EMAIL

info@smartchoice.ee

LOCATION

Tartu, Estonia — EU

VAT SCHEMES

Marginal VAT & reverse VAT

Ready to order?

View our live stock list for current pricing by grade.

Related Resources

View Current Stock

Browse our live inventory of graded smartphones by condition, model, and region, with current pricing.

Blog Posts on Grading

Read in-depth guides on grading standards and wholesale buying by region.

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