

Mobile Virtual Network Operator

MVNO

Terms & Definition

GSM - Global System for Communications. World Wide Standard

CDMA - Code Division Multiple Access (USA)

LTE - Long Term Evolution, (Based on GSM)

GSM can handle Voice and Data at the same time

CDMA can not handle Voice and Data at the same time

Quad Band - GSM/LTE (ATT, TMobile) CDMA/LTE (Verizon, Sprint)

Note: Verizon & Sprint will discontinue CDMA once their LTE Networks are filled out. ATT & TMobile are doing the same with Edge/UMTS.

What is a MVNO you may ask

“A mobile virtual network operator (MVNO), virtual network operator (VNO), or mobile other licensed operator (MOLO), is a wireless communications services provider that does not own the wireless network infrastructure over which it provides services to its customers.”

MVNO - Pro and Con

Pro:

Inexpensive Plans (a la carte)

BYOP (Bring your own Phone)

Choice of Networks

Many high end Phones have a common frequency and can be used on any MVNO but at reduced bandwidth.

Quad band phones (unlocked) can work on many MVNO's

MVNO - Pro and Con

Con:

A La Carte plans - can become very expensive as you use more

Black listed phone can not be used on MVNO's

BYOP - Phones must be unlocked. Carriers are required to unlock your phone once the phone is paid off and you are in good standing with your Carrier

BYOP - Phones configured for GSM/LTE will only work on MVNO's offering GSM service. Phones Configured for CDMA/LTE will only work on MVNO's offering CDMA. MVNO's using Verizon, the phones must be certified.

The Biggest Problem with MVNO Industry

Most MVNO know Users are not going to go through the process of finding Bands, Frequencies and unlocking procedures to BYOP, so any MVNO's offers Users cheap phone at a inflated price.

MVNO's offer little or no after sales support.

MVNO phones do not get access to busy Cell Towers, this is not a issue with MVNO's owned by one of the Big 4

Many MVNO's do not upgrade System OS and Security Patches. Except Nexus, Pixel and iPhone

MVNO Networks

Boost Mobile	Sprint
Consumer Cellular	AT&T, T-Mobile
CREO Mobile	Verizon
Cricket	AT&T
FreedomPop	Sprint, AT&T
GreatCall	Verizon
H2O Wireless	AT&T
MetroPCS	T-Mobile
Mint SIM	T-Mobile
Net10	T-Mobile, Sprint, AT&T, Verizon, U.S. Cellular
Page Plus	Verizon
Pix Wireless	Sprint, AT&T
Project Fi	Sprint, T-Mobile, U.S. Cellular, Three
Red Pocket	Sprint, T-Mobile, Verizon, AT&T
Republic Wireless	T-Mobile
ROK Mobile	Verizon, Sprint
Simple Mobile	T-Mobile
Straight Talk	Sprint, T-Mobile, Verizon, AT&T
Tello	Sprint
TextNow	Sprint
The People's Operator	T-Mobile, Sprint
Ting	T-Mobile, Sprint
TracFone	Sprint, T-Mobile, Verizon, AT&T
Twigby	Verizon, Sprint
U.S. Cellular	U.S. Cellular
Ultra Mobile	T-Mobile
US Mobile	T-Mobile
Virgin Mobile	Sprint
