Making Everything Easier!™

Nexus 7™

FOR DUMMIES®

Learn to:

- **Navigate your tablet, use built-in apps, and surf the web**
- **Load up on movies, eBooks, games, and music from Google Play™**
- **Manage your schedule, video chat, and connect with social media**

IN FULL COLOR!

Dan Gookin
Bestselling author of
Samsung Galaxy Tab 10.1 For Dummies

Nexus 7™ For Dummies®

Visit www.dummies.com/cheatsheet/nexus7 to view this books' cheat sheet.

Table of Contents

Introduction

- About This Book
- How to Use This Book
- Foolish Assumptions
- How This Book Is Organized
  - Part I: Introducing the Nexus 7
  - Part II: Keep in Touch
  - Part III: But Wait — There's More!
  - Part IV: Nuts and Bolts
  - Part V: The Part of Tens
- Icons Used in This Book
- Where to Go from Here

Part I: Introducing the Nexus 7

- Chapter 1: Behold the Nexus
  - Nexus 7 Setup
    - Liberating your tablet
    - Charging the battery

Setting up your Nexus 7

Know Your Gizmo
It’s a Turn-On

Turning on your Nexus 7
Unlocking the Nexus 7
Working the various lock screens

It’s a Turn-Off

Locking the Nexus 7
Controlling the lock time-out
Turning off the Nexus 7

Where to Keep Your Nexus 7

Chapter 2: How It Works

Basic Operations

Touching the screen
Changing the orientation
Controlling the volume

There’s No Place Like Home Screen

Touring the Home screen
Accessing multiple Home screens
Using the icon buttons

Common Activities

Starting an app

Working a widget
Reviewing notifications
Setting quick options
Visiting the All Apps screen
Reviewing recent apps

Chapter 3: Text Typing and Editing

The Old Hunt-and-Peck

Using the onscreen keyboard
Accessing symbols
Typing duties
Fixing your text automagically

Text Editing

Moving the cursor
Selecting text
Selecting text on a web page
Cutting, copying, and pasting

Voice Input

Activating voice input on the keyboard
Dictating to your tablet
Uttering b*** words
Commanding the Nexus 7 with your voice

Part II: Keep in Touch

Chapter 4: Dealing with Your Friends

Meet the People

Using the People app
Sorting your contacts

Even More Friends

Building a new contact from scratch
Creating a contact from an e-mail message
Importing contacts from your computer
Beaming contacts
Finding a new contact on the map

Manage Your Friends

Editing contact information
Taking a picture of a contact
Making a favorite
Joining identical contacts
Removing a contact

Chapter 5: Messages of the Electronic Kind

Tablet E-Mail

Setting up an Email account
Adding even more e-mail accounts

You’ve Got E-Mail

Getting a new message
Checking the inbox

Reading an e-mail message
Replying to or forwarding a message

A Message That You Create

Composing a new message
Sending e-mail to a contact

E-Mail Configuration

Creating a signature
Configuring the e-mail delete option
Setting the primary e-mail account

Chapter 6: On the Web

Nexus 7 Web Browsing

Viewing the web
Visiting a web page
Browsing back and forth
Working with bookmarks
Managing web pages in multiple tabs
Searching the web
Searching for something on a web page
Sharing a page

The Art of Downloading

Grabbing an image from a web page
Downloading a file
Reviewing your downloads

Chrome Controls and Settings

Changing the way the web looks
Setting privacy and security options

Chapter 7: Your Digital Social Life

Google Wants You to Use Google+

Setting up Google+
Using Google+

Your Life on Facebook

Setting up your Facebook account
Getting the Facebook app
Running Facebook on your Nexus 7
Setting your status
Uploading a picture to Facebook
Configuring the Facebook app

The Tweet Life

Setting up Twitter
Tweeting

Even More Social Networking

Chapter 8: Text Chat, Video Chat, and Phone Calls

We Can Talk

Using Google Talk
Setting your status and message

Getting friends on Google Talk
Typing at your friends
Talking and video chat

Google+ Hangouts
Connect to the World with Skype

Getting Skype for the Nexus 7
Chatting with another Skype user
Seeing on Skype (video call)
Sending a text message with Skype
Placing a Skype phone call

Part III: But Wait — There's More!

Chapter 9: There's a Map for That

A Map That Needs No Folding

Using the Maps app
Adding layers

Find Things

Finding out where you are
Looking for a specific address
Finding a business, restaurant, or point of interest
Searching for favorite or recent places
Locating a contact's address

Nexus 7 the Navigator

Getting directions
Navigating to your destination

Chapter 10: Name That Tune

Listen Here

Browsing your music library
Playing a tune
Being the life of the party

Add Some Music to Your Life

Using the Internet to access your tunes

Organize Your Music

Reviewing your playlists
Creating your own playlists
Making music available full-time
Removing unwanted music

Music from the Stream

Chapter 11: Other Amazing Feats

It’s a Clock
It’s a Large Calculator
It’s a Calendar

Browsing your schedule
Reviewing appointments
Creating a new event

It’s an eBook Reader

Using the Play Books app
Reading an eBook

It’s Google Now

Summoning Google Now
Barking various orders

It’s a Photo Album
It’s Your Video Entertainment

Enjoying YouTube
Buying and renting movies

Chapter 12: More Apps at the Play Store

Welcome to the Play Store

Browsing the Google Play Store
Obtaining an app
Installing apps from your computer

App Management

Reviewing your apps
Sharing an app
Updating an app
Removing downloaded apps

Part IV: Nuts and Bolts

Chapter 13: To Be Wireless

Wi-Fi? Why Not!

Understanding Wi-Fi
Activating and deactivating Wi-Fi
Connecting to a Wi-Fi network

The Bluetooth Experience

Understanding Bluetooth
Activating Bluetooth
Pairing with a Bluetooth device
Printing to a Bluetooth printer

Android Beam It to Me

Turning on NFC
Using Android Beam
Using Jim Beam

Chapter 14: Connect and Share

The USB Connection

Connecting the Nexus 7 to your computer
Dealing with the USB connection in Windows
Connecting the Nexus 7 to a Mac
Configuring the USB connection
Disconnecting the Nexus 7

Files Back and Forth

Transferring files to the Nexus 7

Copying files to your computer

Chapter 15: On the Road

You Can Take It with You

Preparing to leave
Going to the airport
Flying with the Nexus 7

The Nexus 7 Travels Abroad

Chapter 16: Customize Your Nexus 7

Home Screen Decorating

Hanging new wallpaper
Adding apps to the Home screen
Building app folders
Putting an app on the Favorites bar
Slapping down widgets
Resizing widgets
Moving and removing icons and widgets

Nexus 7 Security

Finding the lock screens
Removing the screen lock
Unlocking the tablet with your face
Creating an unlock pattern
Setting a PIN
Assigning a password
Setting the owner info text

Various Adjustments

Singing a different tune
Changing visual settings

Chapter 17: Maintenance and Troubleshooting

The Maintenance Chore

Keeping it clean
Backing up your stuff
Updating the system

Battery Care and Feeding

Monitoring the battery
Determining what is sucking up power
Extending battery life

Help and Troubleshooting

Fixing random and annoying problems
Using the “manual”
Getting support

Valuable Nexus 7 Q&A

“I can’t turn the tablet on (or off)!”
“The touchscreen doesn’t work!”
“The battery doesn’t charge!”
“The tablet gets so hot that it turns itself off!”
“The tablet doesn’t do Landscape mode!”

Part V: The Part of Tens

Chapter 18: Ten Tips, Tricks, and Shortcuts

Rotate That Home Screen
Summon a Recently Opened App
Friendly Friend Buttons
Add a Contact Screen Widget
Keep the Tablet Awake
Add Settings Shortcut Widgets
Add Spice to Dictation
Enter Location Information for Your Events
Use the Task Manager
Find Your Lost Nexus 7

Chapter 19: Ten Things to Remember

Use Dictation
Landscape Orientation
Orientation Lock
Use the Keyboard Suggestions
Things That Consume Lots of Battery Juice
Use a Docking Stand
Make Phone Calls
Mind Your Schedule
Snap a Pic of That Contact
The Search Command

Chapter 20: Ten Great Apps

AK Notepad
ASTRO File Manager
Dropbox

Google Finance
Google Sky Map
Movies
SportsTap
TuneIn Radio
Voice Recorder
Zedge
Cheat Sheet

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About the Author

Dan Gookin has been writing about technology for over 25 years. He combines his love of writing with his gizmo fascination to create books that are informative, entertaining, and not boring. Having written over 130 titles with 12 million copies in print translated into over 30 languages, Dan can attest that his method of crafting computer tomes seems to work.

Perhaps his most famous title is the original DOS For Dummies, published in 1991. It became the world's fastest-selling computer book, at one time moving more copies per week than the New York Times number-one bestseller (though, as a reference, it could not be listed on the Times' Best Sellers list). That book spawned the entire line of For Dummies books, which remains a publishing phenomenon to this day.

Dan's most popular titles include PCs For Dummies, Word For Dummies, Laptops For Dummies, and Android Phones For Dummies. He also maintains the vast and helpful website www.wambooli.com.

Dan holds a degree in Communications/Visual Arts from the University of California, San Diego. He lives in the Pacific Northwest, where he enjoys spending time with his sons playing video games indoors while they enjoy the gentle woods of Idaho.

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at 877-762-2974, outside the U.S. at 317-572-3993, or fax 317-572-4002.

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Introduction

Welcome to the 21st century. Computers? Forget them! They're old, heavy, and clunky and not designed with the modern lifestyle in mind. Instead, you need to follow the trends and get a *tablet,* a mobile communications gizmo — something you can take with you and stay connected wherever you are.

Avoiding temptation to follow the trendy crowd, you've selected something unique. The Nexus 7 is not your normal tablet. It lacks a digital cellular connection and the monthly bills that come with it. It also lacks a rear-facing camera because, let's face it, tablets make lousy cameras. No, the Nexus 7 is truly different.

As a Nexus 7 owner, or someone who's interested in purchasing the device, you obviously want to get the most from your technology. It can be intimidating. It can be frustrating. No matter what, your experience can be made better by leisurely reading the book you have in your hands.

About This Book

This book was written to help you get the most from the Nexus 7's potential. It's a reference. Each chapter covers a specific topic, and the sections within each chapter address an issue related to the topic. Definitely, you don't have to read this book from front to back. In fact, I forbid you to do so.

The overall idea for this book is to show how things are done on the Nexus 7 and to help you get the most from

the device without overwhelming you with information or intimidating you into despair.

Sample sections in this book include

- Locking the Nexus 7
- Activating voice input on the keyboard
- Importing contacts from your computer
- Setting up an Email account
- Running Facebook on your Nexus 7
- Talking and video chat
- Placing a Skype phone call
- Helping others find your location
- Flying with the Nexus 7

You have nothing to memorize, no sacred utterances or animal sacrifices, and definitely no PowerPoint presentations. Instead, every section explains a topic as though it's the first thing you read in this book. Nothing is assumed, and everything is cross-referenced. Technical terms and topics, when they come up, are neatly shoved to the side, where they're easily avoided. The idea here isn't to learn anything. This book's philosophy is to help you look it up, figure it out, and get on with your life.

How to Use This Book

This book follows a few conventions for using the Nexus 7. First of all, the Nexus 7 is referred to as the *Nexus 7* throughout the book. I might also refer to it as your *tablet,* for short.

The way you interact with the Nexus 7 is by using its *touchscreen,* the glassy part of the device as it's facing you. The device also has some physical buttons, as well as some holes and connectors. All these items are described in Chapter 1.

The various ways to touch the screen are explained and named in Chapter 2.

Chapter 3 discusses text input on the Nexus 7, which involves using an onscreen keyboard. You can also input text by speaking to the Nexus 7, which is also covered in Chapter 3.

This book directs you to do things by following numbered steps. Each step involves a specific activity, such as touching something on the screen; for example:

3. Choose Downloads.

This step directs you to touch the text or item labeled *Downloads* on the screen. You might also be told to do this:

3. Touch Downloads.

Some options can be turned off or on, as indicated by a gray box with a blue check mark in it, as shown in the margin. By touching the box on the screen, you add or remove the blue check mark. When the blue check mark appears, the option is on; otherwise, it's off.

Foolish Assumptions

Even though this book is written with the gentle hand-holding required by anyone who is just starting out, or

who is easily intimidated, I've made a few assumptions. For example, I assume that you're a human being and not a colony creature from the planet Zontar.

My biggest assumption: You have a Nexus 7, manufactured by Asus and distributed by Google on the Internet as well as in various stores in the real world. As this book goes to press, the Nexus 7 has only two variations — the 8GB model and the 16GB model. The differences between these models aren't great enough to warrant separate coverage in this book.

I also assume that you have a computer, either a desktop or laptop. The computer can be a PC or Windows computer or a Macintosh. Oh, I suppose it could also be a Linux computer. In any event, I refer to your computer as *your computer* throughout this book. When directions are specific to a PC or Mac, the book says so.

Programs that run on the Nexus 7 are *apps,* which is short for *applications.* A single program is an app.

Finally, this book doesn't assume that you have a Google account, but already having one helps. Information is provided in Chapter 1 about setting up a Google account — an extremely important part of using the Nexus 7. Having a Google account opens up a slew of useful features, information, and programs that make using your tablet more productive.

How This Book Is Organized

This book is divided into five parts, each of which covers a certain aspect of the Nexus 7 or how it's used.

Part I: Introducing the Nexus 7

This part of the book covers setup and orientation to familiarize you with how the device works. It's a good place to start if you're completely new to the concept of tablet computing, mobile devices, or the Android operating system.

Part II: Keep in Touch

In this part of the book, you read about various ways that the Nexus 7 can electronically communicate with your online friends. There's texting, e-mail, the web, social networking, and even the much-wanted trick of using the non-phone Nexus 7 to make phone calls and do video chat.

Part III: But Wait — There's More!

The Nexus 7 is pretty much a limitless gizmo. To prove it, the chapters in this part of the book cover all the various and wonderful things the tablet does: It's an eBook reader, a map, a navigator, a photo album, a portable music player, a calendar, a calculator, and potentially much more.

Part IV: Nuts and Bolts

Part IV of this book covers a lot of different topics. Up first is how to connect the Nexus 7 wirelessly to the Internet as well as to other gizmos, such as a Bluetooth printer. There's a chapter on sharing and exchanging

files with your computer. Then come the maintenance, customization, and troubleshooting chapters.

Part V: The Part of Tens

Things are wrapped up in this book with the traditional *For Dummies* Part of Tens. Each chapter in this part lists ten items or topics. The chapters include tips, tricks, shortcuts, things to remember, and things not to forget — plus, a smattering of useful apps that no Nexus 7 should be without.

Icons Used in This Book

This icon flags useful, helpful tips or shortcuts.

This icon marks a friendly reminder to do something.

This icon marks a friendly reminder not to do something.

This icon alerts you to overly nerdy information and technical discussions of the topic at hand. Reading the information is optional, though it may win you the Daily Double on *Jeopardy!*

Where to Go from Here

Start reading! Observe the table of contents and find something that interests you. Or look up your puzzle in the index. When these suggestions don't cut it, just start reading Chapter 1.

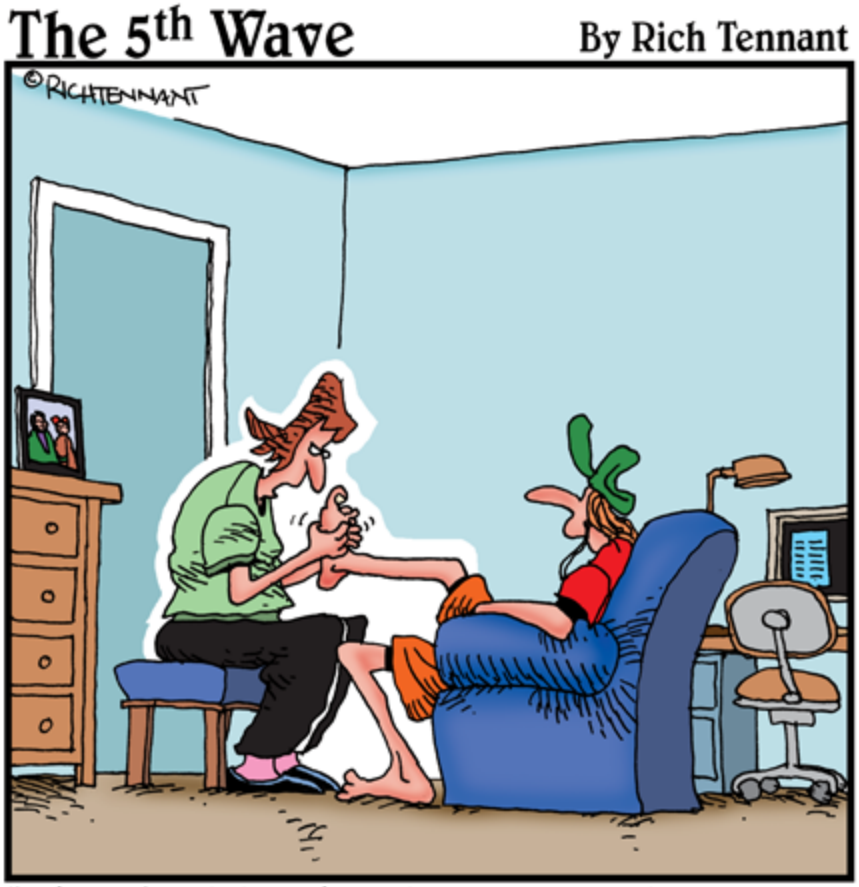
My e-mail address is `dgookin@wambooli.com`. Yes, that's my real address. I reply to all e-mail I get, and you'll get a quick reply if you keep your question short and specific to this book. Although I do enjoy saying Hi, I cannot answer technical support questions, resolve billing issues, or help you troubleshoot your Nexus 7. Thanks for understanding.

You can also visit my web page for more information or as a diversion: `www.wambooli.com`.

Enjoy this book and your Nexus 7!

Part I

Introducing the Nexus 7



"What I'm doing should clear your sinuses, take away your headache, and charge your Nexus 7."

In this part . . .

After several thousand years, tablets are once again all the rage. Babylonians wrote on them. Moses brought them down from Mount Sinai. Ancient Roman schoolboys did their homework on them. Tablets are nothing new.

Then again, those ancient tablets aren't really the same as modern mobile computing devices. Ancient tablets

didn’t use batteries. They didn’t communicate wirelessly with the Internet. They didn’t let you update your social networking status, read books, play music, find tacos, or do any of the wonderful things a modern tablet is capable of. So maybe the Nexus 7 is something new and different. Consider this part of the book your introduction to the 21st century tablet.