

# S60 (software platform)

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(*September 2008*)




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The **S60 Platform** (formerly Series 60 User Interface) is a **software platform** for **mobile phones** that runs on **Symbian OS**. S60 is currently amongst the most-used **smartphone** platforms in the world. It was created by **Nokia**, who made the platform open source and contributed it to the **Symbian Foundation**. S60 has been used by mobile device manufacturers including **Lenovo**, **LG Electronics**, **Panasonic** and **Samsung**.<sup>[1]</sup> Sony co-created the software with Nokia. Symbian is the most popular smartphone OS on the market by 47% of the sector's total sales, with 17.9m handsets sold in Q4 2008.<sup>[2]</sup>

In addition to the manufacturers the community includes:

- Software integration companies such as **Sasken**, **Elektrobit**, **Teleca**, **Digia** and **Mobica**
- Semiconductor companies **Texas Instruments**, **ST Microelectronics**, **Broadcom**, **SONY** , **Freescale**, **Samsung Electronics**
- Operators such as **Vodafone** and **Orange** who develop and provide S60-based mobile applications and services
- Software developers and independent software vendors (ISVs).

S60 consists of a suite of libraries and standard applications, such as telephony, **PIM** tools, and **Helix**-based **multimedia** players. It is intended to power fully-featured modern phones with large colour screens, which are commonly known as **smartphones**.

The S60 software is a multivendor standard for smartphones that supports application development in **Java MIDP**, **C++**, **Python**<sup>[1]</sup>  and **Adobe Flash**. An important feature of S60 phones is that they allow new applications to be installed after purchase.<sup>[*clarification needed*]</sup> Unlike a standard desktop platform, however, the built-in apps are rarely upgraded by the vendor beyond bug fixes. New features are only added to phones while they are being developed rather than after public release.

These are a few common features in S60:

- It supports **Java ME (MIDP 2.0** commonly, but varies from phone to phone) applications and **Symbian C++** applications.
- Certain buttons are standardized, such as a menu key, a four way joystick or d-pad, left and right soft keys and a clear key.

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## S60 editions

There have been four major releases of S60: "Series 60" (2001), "Series 60 Second Edition" (2003), "Series 60 3rd Edition" (2005) and "S60 5th Edition" (2008).

In S60 1st Edition, the devices' display resolution was fixed to 176x208. Since 2nd Edition Feature Pack 3, S60 supports multiple resolutions, i.e. Basic (176x208), and Double (352x416). **Nokia N90** was the first S60 device to support a higher resolution (352x416). Some devices, however, have non-standard resolutions, like the **Siemens SX1**, with 176x220. **Nokia 5500 Sport** has a 208x208 screen resolution, and the **Nokia E90** with its wide 800x352 inner display.

### S60 3rd Edition

(S60v3) uses a hardened version of **Symbian OS (v9.1)**, which has **mandatory code signing**. In S60v3, a user may install only programs that have a certificate from a registered developer, unless the user disables that feature or modify the phone's firmware through third-party hacks that circumvent the mandatory signing restrictions. This makes software written for S60 1st Edition or 2nd Edition not binary-compatible with S60v3.

In 2006, a "Designed for S60 Devices" logo program for developers was launched. The logotype can be used with conforming programs (Symbian or Java).

### S60 5th Edition

In October 2008, S60 5th Edition was launched. (Nokia decided to move from 3rd Edition directly to 5th Edition "as a polite gesture to Asian customers"<sup>[3]</sup>, because the number four **means bad luck in some Asian cultures**). S60 5th Edition runs on **Symbian OS version 9.4**<sup>[4]</sup>. The major feature of 5th Edition is support for high-resolution 640x360 touchscreens; before 5th Edition, all S60 devices had a button-based user interface. S60 5th Edition also integrates standard C/C++ APIs and includes Adobe Flash Lite 3.0 with S60-specific ActionScript extensions that give Flash Lite developers access to phone features like contacts, text messaging, sensors and device location information (GPS).

The S60 5th Edition is the last edition of S60. Its assets along with **Symbian OS**, **UIQ** and **MOAP (S)** have been used as a base for **Symbian**, an **open source operating system** being developed by the **Symbian Foundation**. The first edition of **Symbian**, Symbian^1, uses S60 5th Edition on top of **Symbian OS 9.4** as its base.



Screenshot of a typical Nokia S60 user interface.



S60 5th edition idle screen. Bottom left "button" brings up a virtual number pad, to compensate for removal of actual numerical keys.

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Many devices are capable of running the S60 software platform with the [Symbian OS](#). Devices ranging from the early [Nokia 7650](#) running S60 v0.9 on Symbian OS v6.1,<sup>[\[5\]](#)[\[6\]](#)</sup> to the latest [Samsung i8910 Omnia HD](#) running S60 v5.0 on Symbian OS v9.4.<sup>[\[7\]](#)</sup>

The table lists devices carrying each version of S60 as well as the [Symbian OS](#) version it is based on.

S60 edition	S60 version number	Symbian OS version number	Devices <sup><a href="#">[5]</a><a href="#">[6]</a><a href="#">[7]</a></sup>
<b>S60, version 0.9</b>	0.9	6.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 7650</a></li> </ul>
<b>S60 1st Edition</b>	1.2	6.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 3600</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 3620</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 3650</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 3660</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia N-Gage</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia N-Gage QD</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Sendo X</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Sendo X2</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Siemens SX1</a></li> </ul>
<b>S60 2nd Edition</b>	2.0	7.0s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 6600</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Panasonic X700</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Panasonic X800</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Samsung SGH-D720</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Samsung SGH-D728</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Samsung SGH-D730</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Samsung SGH-Z600</a></li> </ul>
<b>S60 2nd Edition, Feature Pack 1</b>	2.1	7.0s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 3230</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 6260</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 6620</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 6670</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 7610</a></li> </ul>
<b>S60 2nd Edition, Feature Pack 2</b>	2.6	8.0a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <a href="#">Lenovo P930</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 6630</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 6680</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 6681</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 6682</a></li> </ul>
<b>S60 2nd Edition, Feature Pack 3</b>	2.8	8.1a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia N70</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia N72</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia N90</a></li> </ul>
<b>S60 3rd Edition</b>	3.0	9.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 3250</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 5500 Sport</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia E50</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia E60</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia E61</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia E61i</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia E62</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia E65</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia E70</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia N71</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia N73</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia N75</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia N77</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia N80</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia N91</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia N91 8GB</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia N92</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia N93</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia N93i</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Samsung SGH-i570</a></li> </ul>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <a href="#">LG KS10</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">LG KT610</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">LG KT615</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 5700 XpressMusic</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 6110 Navigator</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 6120 Classic</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 6121 Classic</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 6124 classic</a></li> </ul>

<p><b>S60 3rd Edition, Feature Pack 1</b></p>	<p>3.1</p>	<p>9.2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 6290</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia E51</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia E63</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia E66</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia E71</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia E90 Communicator</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia N76</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia N81</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia N81 8GB</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia N82</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia N95</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia N95 8GB</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Samsung SGH-G810</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Samsung SGH-i400</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Samsung SGH-i408</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Samsung SGH-i450</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Samsung SGH-i458</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Samsung SGH-i520</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Samsung SGH-i550</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Samsung SGH-i550w</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Samsung SGH-i560</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Samsung SGH-i568</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>S60 3rd Edition, Feature Pack 2</b></p>	<p>3.2</p>	<p>9.3</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 5320 XpressMusic</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 5630 XpressMusic</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 5730 XpressMusic</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 6210 Navigator</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 6220 Classic</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 6650 fold</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 6710 Navigator</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 6720 Classic</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 6730 Classic</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 6760 Slide</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 6790 Surge</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia C5</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia E52</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia E55</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia E71x</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia E72</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia E75</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia N78</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia N79</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia N85</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia N86 8MP</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia N96</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Samsung GT-i8510 (INNOV8)</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Samsung GT-I7110</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Samsung SGH-L870</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>S60 5th Edition</b> <i>(Corresponds to <a href="#">Symbian^1</a>)</i></p>	<p>5.0</p>	<p>9.4</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 5800 XpressMusic</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 5800 Navigation Edition</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 5530 XpressMusic</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia 5230</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia N97</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia N97 mini</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Nokia X6</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Samsung i8910 Omnia HD<sup>[7]</sup></a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Sony Ericsson Satio</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Sony Ericsson Vivaz</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Sony Ericsson Vivaz Pro</a></li> </ul>

[Symbian](#) is now progressing through a period of organisational change to metamorph into an [open source](#) software platform project. As an OS, [Symbian OS](#) originally does not provide a [user interface](#) (UI), the visual layer that sits on top of the operating system. This was implemented separately. Examples of Symbian UIs are [MOAP](#); Series 60; [Series 80](#); [Series 90](#) and [UIQ](#). This separation of UI from underlying OS has created both flexibility and some confusion in the market place. The Nokia purchase of Symbian was brokered with the involvement of the other UI developers and all major user interface layers have been (or have been pledged to be) donated to the [open source](#) foundation who will independently own the Symbian operating system. The new [Symbian Foundation](#) has announced its intention to unify different Symbian UIs into a single UI based on the S60 platform. (Announcements made in March 2009 indicated this would be the S60 5th edition with feature pack 1).

## See also

- [Symbian OS](#)
- [Android \(mobile phone platform\)](#), an open-source mobile platform by Google

[\[edit\]](#)

- List of Nokia products
- Location-based services (LBS)
- Maemo, Nokia's Debian Linux-based platform
- Microbrowser
- MOAP, another Symbian-based platform
- Mobile Development
- Mobile game
- Series 40, Nokia's non-Symbian-based platform for mass-market devices.
- UIQ, another Symbian-based platform
- Web Browser for S60
- Windows Mobile
- iPhone OS

## References

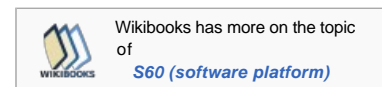
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- ↑ http://www.s60.com/life/thisiss60/S60forbusiness/licensees
- ↑ http://www.casualgaming.biz/news/28345/Symbian-OS-still-bossing-Apple-and-Google-in-mobile-market
- ↑ S60 5th Edition and the Nokia 5800 XpressMusic are here! ↗, 3rd comment
- ↑ http://www.s60.com/pdfs/getPdf.do?handle=dfb1ff95-77de-4f3b-98a4-4407c519828c-1790878959
- ↑    Forum Nokia Device Specifications for S60 models ↗(operating system information)
- ↑    Sony Ericsson Satio Press Release ↗ (information about S60 version)
- ↑    http://www.samsung.com/uk/news/newsPreviewRead.do?news\_seq=12421 ↗

## External links

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- Official links
  - S60 Blogs - The official S60 Blogs by Nokia ↗
  - Forum Nokia - S60 developer site ↗
  - Forum.Nokia.com - S60 2nd/3rd Edition: Differences in Features v1.5 ↗
  - Forum Nokia Russia - S60 developer site ↗



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<b>Nokia 2000 series</b>	2110i · 2115i · 2310 · 2600 · 2600 classic · 2610 · 2630 · 2650 · 2651 · 2700 classic · 2730 classic · 2760	
<b>Nokia 3000 series</b>	3100/3100b/3105 · 3110 · 3110 classic · 3120 · 3120 classic · 3155 · 3200/3200b/3205 · 3210 · 3220 · 3230 · 3250 · 3310 · 3315 · 3330 · 3410 · 3500 classic · 3510/3590/3595 · Nokia 3530 · 3510i · 3600/3620/3650/3660 · 3600 slide · 3720 classic	
<b>Nokia 4000 series</b>	Series skipped as a sign of politeness from Nokia towards Asian customers. See <b>tetraphobia</b> .	
<b>Nokia 5000 series</b>	5070 · 5100 · 5110 · 5130 Xpress Music · 5200 · 5210 · 5220 Xpress Music · 5230/5235 · 5300 · 5310 Xpress Music · 5320 · 5330 Mobile TV Edition · 5500 Sport · 5510 · 5530 · 5610 · 5630 · 5700 · 5730 · 5800	
<b>Nokia 6000 series</b>	6010 · 6020/6021 · 6030 · 6070 · 6085 · 6100 · 6101 · 6103 · 6110/6120 · 6110 Navigator · 6111 · 6120/6121/6124 classic · 6131/6133 · 6136 · 6151 · 6170 · 6210 · 6210 Navigator · 6220 classic · 6230 · 6233/6234 · 6255i · 6260 Slide · 6260 · 6265 · 6270 · 6275i · 6280/6288 · 6290 · 6300 · 6300i · 6301 · 6303 classic · 6310i · 6315i · 6500 classic · 6500 slide · 6555 · 6600 · 6600 fold · 6600 slide · 6610/6610i · 6620 · 6630 · 6650 · 6650 fold · 6670 · 6680 · 6681/6682 · 6700 classic · 6710 Navigator · 6720 classic · 6730 · 6800 · 6810 · 6820 · 6822	
<b>Nokia 7000 series</b>	7110 · 7160 · 7210 · 7250 · 7280 · 7360 · 7380 · 7390 · 7500 Prism · 7600 · 7610 · 7650 · 7700 · 7710 · 7900 Prism <b>Nokia 7000 series Supernova</b> 7100 Supernova · 7210 Supernova · 7310 Supernova · 7510 Supernova · 7610 Supernova	
<b>Nokia 8000 series</b>	8110 · 8210 · 8250 · 8310 · 8600 Luna · 8800 · 8850 · 8910	
<b>Nokia Communicator</b>	9000/9110/9110i · 9210/9290 · 9210i · 9300/9300i · 9500	
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<b>Nokia Eseries</b>	E5 · E50 · E51 · E52 · E55 · E60 · E61/E61i · E62 · E63 · E65 · E66 · E70 · E71 · E72 · E75 · E90 Communicator	
<b>Nokia Nseries</b>	N70 · N71 · N72 · N73 · N75 · N76 · N78 · N79 · N8 · N80 (Internet Edition) · N81 (N81 8GB) · N82 · N85 · N86 8MP · N90 · N91 (N91 8GB) · N92 · N93 · N93i · N95 · N95 8GB · N96 · N97 · Nst-4	
<b>Nokia Xseries</b>	X2 · X3 · X5 · X6	
<b>Internet Tablet</b>	770 · N800 · N810 (WiMAX Edition) · N900	
<b>N-Gage</b>	Classic · QD · QD Silver Edition	
<b>Others</b>	Vertu luxury phones	
<b>Concept</b>	Nokia Morph · Nokia Eco Sensor · Nokia Aeon	
List of Nokia products		

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