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Selecting a Proper Android Tablet for EFM Systems

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Having a working tablet is just as important as having the EFM system set up correctly. Improper tablets or poor performing tablets can often be the root cause of many troubleshooting calls and issues, so to provide some explanation of what a 'proper' Android tablet would be:

Leading into this, there are over 30,000 android tablets that are 'compatible' with the EFM app, but tablet manufacturers do not make it very easy to tell actual differences in performance, or whether custom operating systems with reduced function are used on the tablet. So, this means we can give a general rule of which android tablet brands should be chosen, or what aspects of tablets should be avoided:

Suggested Tablet Brands/Models

Recognized Brand Name Android Tablets
Samsung, Acer, etc.
Examples Tablets (as of May 2025):
Samsung Tab S9 or Samsung Tab S10,
Acer Iconia Tab P10 or P11
!! AVOID Tablet models with 'LITE' or 'KIDS' or '+'
in the model as they often have reduced function

AVOID: Tablet Models with 'LITE', 'KIDS', or "+" in their name

Often these models will have reduced function, are not suitable for commercial-use applications, or have restricted security settings that will interfere with EFM System communications.

AVOID: Android Phones

Android phones are generally receiving mobile data, and since the EFM system isn't providing internet access through its WIFI, it can interfere with regular function of the app.

AVOID: Low-Cost 'Off-brand' tablets

Low cost tablets are generally not suitable for commercial application use, and are not recommended. There are thousands of these brands, which often have non-sensical brand names, but are sometimes hard to distinguish. There can be issues with the operating system (despite claiming to be Android OS 10+), and can cause apps like the EFM to crash sporaddically.
AVOID BRANDS LIKE (not limited to):
ULTITAB, UNISOC, BLACKVIEW, BYYBUO, WPAD, TOPSAND, WEELIKEIT, ZTE, UMDIGI

AVOID: Amazon FIRE Tablets & Custom OS

Amazon Fire tablets have a custom operating system that isn't suitable for sustained commercial use of a tablet like the EFM System. Other tablets that tote custom Android versions should also be avoided.

Android App Troubleshooting

For those unfamiliar with Android tablets, it may require some learning, but there is info and frequently asked questions on the EFM system setup in the manual (website or in the app when you click the "?" button) as well as the EFM FAQ page at www.wilger.net.