

Sidephone SP-01

User Guide

Version 1.0 (2025)

sidephone™

1. Welcome to Sidephone

Sidephone is a simple mobile phone that combines the benefits of a feature phone with the adaptability of a smartphone. The phone's small screen and physical buttons gently encourage you to use the phone in a healthier and more mindful way, while its AOSP base allows you to download and install a number of Android applications.

Sidephone gives you:

- A lightweight AOSP foundation without Google services
- A modular keypad system you can adapt to your activities, workflows and preferences
- A capable set of essential apps through Sidephone's App Library and App Packs
- The freedom to add or 'sideload' additional apps for advanced use cases
- Reliable hardware designed to be a daily companion

This guide will help you get started with Sidephone, understand how the device works, and make the most of your experience.

2. What's in the Box

You will find the following items inside the box:

- Sidephone
- Classic T9-Style Keypad
- 20W USB-C Charger (XTW-US20-1)
- 1m Braided USB-C Cable
- SIM Remover Tool
- Quick Start Guide
- Founders Edition Necklace & Chain

3. Get to Know Your Sidephone

3.1 Hardware Overview

Sidephone hardware includes:

- 2.8" 480×640 IPS Touchscreen
- Modular Keypad Bay
- 13MP Samsung Isocell 3L6 autofocus camera
- USB-C port
- Power & Volume buttons
- Loudspeaker (rear) & Microphone (bottom)
- Nano-SIM slot

Internal specs:

- MediaTek MT8766
- 4GB RAM
- 64GB internal storage
- Wi-Fi 802.11 ac/abgn
- Bluetooth 5.0
- GPS with GLONASS + Galileo
- Accelerometer + Gyro compass

Not included:

- eSIM, NFC, microSD card, headphone jack, 5G, FM radio, barometer

3.2 The Modular Keypad System

Sidephone's keypads attach using magnets and micro-latches. They can be swapped without powering off or using tools.

Keypad Examples:

1. Classic T9 Keypad
2. Sundial Keypad (optimized for music control)
3. Compact QWERTY (optimized for text input)

Safety:

- Lift gently from the bottom edge
- Do not force the keypad
- Do not attempt to lift the keypad by key caps
 - Key caps that come loose may separate from the device and pose a choking hazard.

4. Getting Started

4.1 Insert a SIM Card

Sidephone uses a physical Nano-SIM only. eSIM is not supported. Steps:

1. Insert SIM tool into tray.
2. Remove tray and place SIM face-down.
3. Reinsert tray securely.
4. Power on device.

4.2 Power On / Off

- Power on: Hold Power button.
- Power off: Hold Power → Power Off.
- Restart: Hold Power → Restart.

4.3 Charging Sidephone

Use only the included 20W charger and braided USB-C cable.

Warnings:

- Third-party fast chargers may exceed safe voltage ranges
- Overvoltage may cause damage or fire
- Keep port dry at all times and do not attempt to operate if device may be wet or damp

Indicators:

- Charging icon in status bar

4.4 First-Time Setup

Setup includes:

- Wi-Fi setup (optional)
- Basic accessibility
- Home screen introduction

Sidephone does not require or use Google accounts. Sidephone runs AOSP (Android 12) without Google Play or GMS.

5. Home Screen & Navigation

Sidephone runs a custom, minimal AOSP-based OS, updated via FOTA over time.

5.1 Home Screen Basics

Minimalist launcher with:

- App icons are arranged in a simple grid.
- Status bar shows battery, signal, Wi-Fi, and Bluetooth.
- Swipe gestures navigate between drawer and views.

5.2 Moving and Removing Apps

To move an app:

1. Press and hold its icon.
2. Drag to a new location.

To uninstall:

1. Press and hold the app.
2. Tap App Info → Uninstall.

System apps cannot be removed.

5.3 Gestures

- Tap: Open
- Long-press: Context menu
- Swipe down: Quick Actions
- Pinch: Zoom
- Auto-rotate available (portrait recommended)

6. Preinstalled Apps

Sidephone comes equipped with 9 essential apps:

1. **Phone:** place and receive calls
2. **Contacts:** add, edit, delete contacts
3. **Messages:** send SMS/MMS
4. **Gallery:** view photos
5. **Camera:** 13MP autofocus camera
6. **Clock:** alarms, timers, stopwatch
7. **Files:** browse internal storage
8. **App Library:** manage installable apps
9. **Settings:** device configuration

7. App Library

The App Library is Sidephone's unique, intentional installation system. It is empty by default, and requires a user to scan 'App Packs' to reveal apps to install.

7.1 App Packs

App Packs are scannable app bundles offered by Sidephone. They function like invisible folders that:

- Reveal compatible apps
- Help organize optional capabilities
- Encourage intentional selection

Scanning an App Pack does not install apps. It makes them visible inside the App Library for individual installation, if desired.

7.2 Installing Apps

1. Open **App Library**.
2. View apps revealed by scanning App Packs.
3. Select an app → **Install**.

No login or Sidephone account is required to use the App Library or install apps. Installed applications may ask for account credentials.

7.3 Sideloaded Apps

Exercise caution when sideloading.

Apps that rely on Google Play Services, SafetyNet, or Play Integrity may not function.

Recommended:

- Only install from trusted developers
- Review permissions carefully
- Do not put banking or other sensitive apps and services that contain this information on Sidephone

8. Phone, Messages, and Contacts

8.1 Phone

- App and dialer are accessible from Home screen
- It is possible to dial manually or via contacts
- Keys can be mapped for quick actions
- Call screen includes speaker, mute, and keypad options

8.2 Contacts

- Add new contacts via the + button
- Contacts are stored locally
- Importing existing contact lists is documented separately online

8.3 Messages

- Supports SMS. RCS is unsupported at this time.
- Notifications are shown in the status bar.

9. Camera & Gallery

9.1 Camera

- 13MP autofocus camera
- Tap to override and lock focus

9.2 Gallery

- Swipe to navigate photos.
- Delete, share, or view metadata.

10. Files & Storage

Sidephone includes 64GB internal storage.

- No microSD card expansion
- Manage files using the Files app
- Create folders, rename items, or delete content

Sidephone recommends installing LocalSend for transferring files between devices.

11. Connectivity

11.1 Wi-Fi

- Supports 2.4GHz + 5GHz networks
- Join via Settings → Network → Wi-Fi

11.2 Bluetooth

To pair a Bluetooth speaker:

- Swipe from top to open Quick Actions
- Long-press Bluetooth
- Choose Pair new device
- Select speaker → Confirm pairing codes

11.3 Hotspot

Sidephone can function as a hotspot, subject to limitations set by your carrier. No default SSID format is required. To enable hotspot:

1. Visit Settings, then Network & internet
2. Select Hotspot & tethering
3. Toggle the Wi-Fi hotspot switch to the "on" position
4. Optionally, customize the password, network name and security settings

11.4 Airplane Mode

Disables all radios.

1. Cellular
2. Bluetooth
3. Wi-Fi
4. Hotspot

12. Keypad Mapping

Sidephone allows custom mapping of physical keys.

12.1 How to Remap a Key

1. Open **Settings**
2. Go to **Key Mapping**
3. Tap **New Key Map**
4. Tap **Record**
5. Press the physical key to assign
6. Choose a trigger:
 - a. Single press
 - b. Long press
7. Choose an action:
 - a. Launch app
 - b. Open shortcut
 - c. Other available actions
8. Save mapping

13. Settings Overview

Display

- Brightness
- Auto-rotate (recommended: Off)
- Theme (light/dark, depending on build)

Sound

- Ringtone selection
- Notification sound
- Alarm volume
- Vibration

Connected Devices

- Bluetooth management
- Connection history

System

- FOTA updates
- Date & time
- Restart / Reset options

It is important to ensure that Sidephone has sufficient battery and is not otherwise interrupted during a FOTA update or this may prevent the install and impact the phone's ability to function.

14. Safety Information

Important limitations and safety notices.

14.1 Device Limitations

- Not waterproof
- No expandable SD storage
- No NFC

- No eSIM
- No barometer → Some emergency services may not receive vertical (Z-axis) location data

14.2 Charging Safety

- Only use included 20W charger
- Avoid third-party fast chargers
- Avoid moisture near charging port

14.3 General Use

- Avoid extreme temperatures
- Keep device dry
- Do not disassemble without permission and guidance from Sidephone
- Certain components may pose choking hazards. Sidephone is designed for use by adults. Keep the device out of reach of small children.

15. Troubleshooting

Device won't turn on:

- Charge using the included charger for 10 minutes
- Hold Power for 10 seconds

Bluetooth not pairing:

- Ensure device is in pairing mode
- Toggle Bluetooth off/on
- Forget and re-pair device

Hotspot not working:

- Check carrier plan
- Toggle Hotspot off/on

Apps not appearing in App Library:

- Ensure the correct App Pack has been scanned

16. Support & Warranty

For assistance:

- **General inquiries:** hello@sidephone.com
- **Support:** support@sidephone.com

Warranty details are provided online. Available coverage may vary by region.

17. Glossary

- **AOSP:** Android Open Source Project
- **App Library:** Where apps are installed
- **App Pack:** Collection of apps that may be revealed in the App Library
- **FOTA:** Firmware updates over-the-air
- **Long Press:** Holding a key for alternate action
- **Sideload:** Installing APKs manually

18. Legal Notices

This device uses AOSP (Android 12). All trademarks belong to their respective owners. Software and features may update via FOTA without notice.

FCC Statement

This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harm full interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver.
- Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.

Caution: Any changes or modifications to this device not explicitly approved by manufacturer could void your authority to operate this equipment.

This device complies with part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions:

(1) This device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

Specific Absorption Rate (SAR) information:

This device meets the government's requirements for exposure to radio waves. The guidelines are based on standards that were developed by independent scientific organizations through periodic and thorough evaluation of scientific studies. The standards include a substantial safety margin designed to assure the safety of all persons regardless of age or health. The SAR limit of USA (FCC) is 1.6 W/kg averaged. Device: Sidephone(FCC ID:2BTWX-SP01) has also been tested against this SAR limit. SAR information can be viewed on - line at <http://www.fcc.gov/oet/ea/fccid/>. Please use the device FCC ID number for search. This device was tested simulation typical 5mm to body. To maintain compliance with FCC RF exposure requirements, use accessories should maintain a separation distance between the user's bodies mentioned above, use accessories should not contain metallic components in its assembly, the use of accessories that do not satisfy these requirements may not comply with FCC RF exposure requirements, and should be avoided.