



INFO SHEET N°1

Phone or Smartphone? What is the difference?

A simple, clear guide — no jargon, easy to understand.

⚠ Prices change regularly — Always check current offers on the relevant website, on **comparis.ch** or **alao.ch** before signing.

*You often hear about "smartphones" but aren't quite sure what they are? Don't worry.
This sheet explains everything in a few minutes, without complicated terms.*

The 3 types of phone — simply explained



The landline phone

- ✓ Always stays at home
- ✓ Plugged into a socket
- ✓ Very simple to use
- ✓ Ideal for calling from home

 *Like a favourite armchair: comfortable and reliable, but it doesn't go for walks!*

« I call from home »



The large-button mobile phone

- ✓ Goes everywhere with you
- ✓ Large and easy-to-see buttons
- ✓ Calls and SMS only
- ✓ Few complicated functions
- ✓ Requires a SIM card (like any mobile phone)

 *Like a simple little car: it takes you wherever you want, without a hundred buttons to figure out!*

« I call anywhere simply »



The smartphone

- ✓ Phone and mini-computer in your pocket
- ✓ Photos, Internet, WhatsApp
- ✓ Weather, maps, videos...
- ✓ Touchscreen — you touch the screen
- ✓ Requires a SIM card and internet plan

 *Like a digital Swiss Army knife: it can do almost everything, but you need to learn where the tools are!*

« I call, communicate and browse everywhere »

In summary 😊

 **Landline** = stays at home · **Large buttons** = phone without complications ·  **Smartphone** = phone with a computer brain



Detailed comparison

Feature	 Basic phone	 Smartphone
Make phone calls	✓ Oui	✓ Oui
Send SMS <i>Short Message Service — short text messages</i>	✓ Oui	✓ Oui
Browse the Internet	✗ Non	✓ Oui
Take photos	~ Basic	✓ Excellent quality
WhatsApp — calls & video (<i>free</i>)	✗ Non	✓ Oui
Useful apps	✗ Non	✓ Yes (weather, health...)
GPS / maps	✗ Non	✓ Oui
Battery life	✓ Several days	~ About 1 day
Ease of use	✓ Very simple	~ Needs learning
Prix	✓ 20 – 60 CHF	~ 100 – 600 CHF



Our SeniorPhone advice

If you want to **only make calls** and are not comfortable with technology, a **basic phone** is perfectly suitable. Available from **CHF 20–40** at Swisscom, Sunrise, Salt or large stores (Migros, Coop, Interdiscount).

If you want to **video call your grandchildren**, receive family photos, use maps or pay with TWINT, an **entry-level smartphone** (CHF 100–180) is an excellent solution. It just takes a little time to learn — and it is absolutely possible for everyone!

What is WhatsApp?

WhatsApp is a free app to install on your smartphone. It lets you communicate with your loved ones — wherever they are in the world — without paying a penny more than your normal internet subscription.

Free calls

Call your children, grandchildren or friends, in Switzerland or abroad, at no extra cost.

Free video

See your loved ones' faces live on your screen, as if you were in the same room.

Photos & videos

Receive and send family photos instantly.

Text messages

Send text messages for free — like SMS but at no cost.

 **Important:** WhatsApp only works on a **smartphone** connected to the Internet (home Wi-Fi or mobile subscription). It is not possible on a basic phone.

✓ **In Switzerland, most mobile subscriptions include enough data to use WhatsApp.**

Mobile operators in Switzerland

The 3 major operators (own network)



Swisscom

Best coverage
Market leader



Sunrise

Good value for money
Good urban coverage
N°2 in Switzerland



Salt

Competitive prices
Former Orange Switzerland
N°3 in Switzerland

Budget operators (use the 3 major networks)

Ideal if you want to spend less, with similar quality.

- ✓ **Wingo** — Swisscom network, from CHF 13.95/month, no contract

- ✓ **Spusu** — Swisscom network, from CHF 9.90/month, very popular

- ✓ **Coop Mobile** — from CHF 11.95/month, easy to subscribe in store

- ✓ **M-Budget Mobile** (Migros) — the cheapest, from CHF 9.95/month

- ✓ **Yallo** — no-contract offers, attractive prices

- ✓ **Teleboy** — mobile, internet, TV and landline, from CHF 9.90/month

Where to buy in Switzerland?

Phones and smartphones are available at **Swisscom Shop, Sunrise Store, Salt Store**, as well as large stores: **Interdiscount, MediaMarkt, Fnac, Migros, Coop**. Comparing prices online at *toppreise.ch* before buying is a good idea.

SeniorPhone tip — buying in a shop

In a shop, you will often be offered a subscription along with the phone. Always take the time to read before signing. **You are never obliged to accept on the spot.** You can always say: *"I'll think about it and come back."*

Our Info Sheet N°3 will be entirely dedicated to mobile subscriptions.

✓ Key takeaways

- A basic phone is only for calls and SMS — nothing more.
- A smartphone does all that, plus Internet, photos and apps.
- Both have their uses depending on your needs.
- The smartphone nécessite un apprentissage, mais c'est accessible à tous.
- Price alone is not a good reason to choose — think about how you will use it.

This month, SeniorPhone is supported by:

[Space reserved for the monthly sponsor]

One sponsor per month only — to keep your trust.

● Sécurité — À retenir absolument

🔒 Ne communiquez jamais vos mots de passe ou codes à qui que ce soit

Ni par téléphone, ni par email, ni par SMS. Ni votre banque, ni la police, ni un opérateur ne vous les demanderont jamais.

📞 Appel masqué — ne pas répondre

Un numéro masqué cache volontairement son identité. Raccrochez sans hésiter.

❓ Numéro inconnu — évitez de répondre

Laissez sonner, attendez un message vocal, appelez uniquement si nécessaire. Ne rappelez jamais un numéro 0900.

🚨 Faux policier ou faux banquier — raccrochez et appelez le 117

La vraie police et votre banque ne vous demanderont JAMAIS de remettre de l'argent ou votre code PIN par téléphone.

Ce bandeau apparaît sur chaque fiche SeniorPhone — parce que votre sécurité est notre priorité absolue.

