

Paranoid Android

Subjects: Computer Science, Information Systems

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Paranoid Android is an open-source operating system for smartphones and tablet computers, based on the Android mobile platform. The latest official version is Sapphire, based on Android 12, released on 30 November 2021. In September 2015, PC Advisor called it the most famous ROM along with CyanogenMod, and The Economic Times called it the second-largest custom Android ROM in the world with over 200 000 users.

Keywords: sapphire ; smartphones ; android

1. History

Paranoid Android was founded by Paul Henschel.^[1]

In February 2015, OnePlus hired a handful of key members from the Paranoid Android team to work on its new OxygenOS.^[2] This caused delays to the release of Paranoid Android 5.1 builds.^[3]

In October 2015, team member Matt Flaming told *Android Authority* that the project would go on hold.^[4] In June 2016, the Paranoid Android team announced that they were back with new team members.^[5] This announcement coincided with the release of a new version of Paranoid Android, which was based on Android 6.0.1 Marshmallow, with the May security patch, and included new customization features.^[5] On June 8, 2016, Paranoid Android supported Nexus 6P, Nexus 5X, Nexus 6, Nexus 5, Nexus 4, Nexus 7 2013, Nexus 9, OnePlus One, OnePlus 2, and OnePlus X.^[6]

On May 31, 2017, the team announced that they released the Nougat flavour of Paranoid Android. This version was based on Android 7.1.2 Nougat, with the most notable feature being the return of Pie Controls. Supported devices include the OnePlus 3 and 3T, Nexus 5X, Nexus 6P, Pixel, and Pixel XL.^[7]

On 12 May. 2018, the Paranoid Android Google+ account posted an update on the status of the project. The developers had run out of funds causing their website and Gerrit to shut down and ceasing all work on Oreo builds. The team stated that they were close to release but weren't able to continue without funds and looked to the community for donations.^[8]

On 27 August 2018, the Google+ page was updated with a new post titled "Being more transparent".^[9] The team apologized for a lack of communication and shared info about current activities. The team decided to finish device trees and release sources before discontinuing Oreo MR1. Basic builds were released for the OnePlus 3, 3T, 5 and 5T, as well as the Sony Xperia X, X Compact, XZ Premium, XZ1 and XZ2. The next goal was Android Pie, with the post saying builds were almost stable, though at the time of the post only two commits under the Pie branch were released on the team's Gerrit.^a They also released concept art for an upcoming feature named "Blink Navigation" based on gestures and Pie navigation, as well as a rundown of a new versioning system.^[10]

The project was relaunched with a new set of stable releases named "Quartz"^[11] (based on Android 10) on 16 April 2020, for a limited set of devices. The Quartz release coincides with supporting additional devices such as the Xiaomi Mi 9.^[12]

2. Features

According to *The Economic Times*, the two most notable features of Paranoid Android are the Halo and the Pie.^[1] The Halo (not included in version 5.0 or greater) is a floating bubble that lets users see notifications without leaving the current screen, and the Pie is a replacement for onscreen navigation buttons that stays off screen and lets users swipe in from the edge to see the buttons.

Paranoid Android also features Substratum theme support alongside their own Color Engine, accidental touch rejection, Pocket Lock (which prevents buttons being pressed in a user's pocket) and the ability to take a screenshot by swiping three fingers.

3. List of Supported Devices

The following is a list of devices that are supported by Paranoid Android:^[13]

Manufacturer	Model	Code name	PA version
Sony	Xperia Z1 Compact	Amami	6.0.3
Huawei	Honor 5X	Angler	7.3.1
Sony	Xperia Z3 Compact	Aries	6.0.3
LG	Nexus 5X	Bullhead	7.3.1
Sony	Xperia Z2 Tab LTE	Castor	6.0.3
Sony	Xperia Z2 Tab WiFi	Castor_windy	6.0.3
Asus	Nexus 7 2013 (4G)	Deb	5.0
Asus	Max Pro M1	X00TD	Quartz (10)
Asus	Max Pro M2	X01BD	Quartz (10)
Google	Pixel C	Dragon	6.0.3 ^[14]
Oppo	Find5	Find5	4.6
Oppo	Find7	Find7a	5.0
Oppo	Find7	Find7s	5.0
Asus	Nexus 7 2013 WiFi	Flo	6.0.3
HTC	Nexus 9	Flounder	6.0.3
Xiaomi	Mi 5	Gemini	7.3.1
Xiaomi	Mi A2	jasmine_sprout	Quartz (10)
Xiaomi	Mi 6	sagit	Quartz (10)
Xiaomi	Mi 8 Pro	equuleus	Quartz (10)
Xiaomi	Mi 9	cepheus	Quartz (10)
Xiaomi	Mi MIX 2	chiron	Quartz (10)
Xiaomi	Mi MIX 2S	polaris	Quartz (10)
Xiaomi	Pocophone F1	beryllium	Quartz (10)
Xiaomi	Redmi 3S	land	Quartz (10)
Xiaomi	Redmi 4A	rolex	Quartz (10)
Xiaomi	Redmi 5	rosy	Quartz (10)
Xiaomi	Redmi 6 Pro	sakura	Quartz (10)
Xiaomi	Redmi Note 5 AI / Pro	whyred	Quartz (10)
Xiaomi	Redmi Note 7	lavender	Quartz (10)
Xiaomi	Redmi Note 8 / 8T	ginkgo	Quartz (10)
Xiaomi	Redmi K20 / Mi 9T	davinci	Quartz (10)
Xiaomi	Redmi K20 Pro / Mi 9T Pro	raphael	Quartz (10)
Asus	Nexus 7 2012 Wifi	Grouper	5.1
LG	Nexus 5	Hammerhead	7.3.1
Sony	Xperia Z1	Honami	6.0.3
Sony	Xperia Z3+/Z4	Ivy	6.0.3
Sony	Xperia Z3	Leo	6.0.3

Sony	Xperia Z4 Tablet (LTE)	Karin	6.0.3
Sony	Xperia Z4 Tablet (WiFi)	Karin_windy	6.0.3
Sony	Xperia X Compact	Kugo	7.3.1
Samsung	Galaxy Nexus	Maguro	4.6
LG	Nexus 4	Mako	6.0.3
Samsung	Nexus 10	Manta	5.0
Google	Pixel XL	Marlin	7.3.1
Oppo	N1	N1	4.6
OnePlus	One	Bacon	7.3.0
OnePlus	2	Oneplus2	6.0.2
Oneplus	X	Onyx	7.3.1
OnePlus	3/3T	Oneplus3	Quartz (10)
OnePlus	5/5T	Oneplus5	Quartz (10)
OnePlus	6/6T	Oneplus6	Quartz (10)
OnePlus	7 Pro	Oneplus7Pro	Quartz (10)
OnePlus	7T Pro	Oneplus7TPro	Quartz (10)
Nextbit	Nextbit Robin	Robin	7.3.1
Google	Pixel	Sailfish	7.3.1
Sony	Xperia Z5 Premium	Satsuki	6.0.3
Sony	Xperia Z3 Tab Compact	Scorpion	6.0.3
Sony	Xperia Z3 Tab Compact Wifi	Scorpion_windy	6.0.3
Motorola	Nexus 6	Shamu	7.3.1
Sony	Xperia Z2	Sirius	6.0.3
Sony	Xperia Z5	Sumire	6.0.3
Sony	Xperia X	Suzu	7.3.1
Sony	Xperia Z5 Compact	Suzuran	6.0.3
Asus	Nexus 7 2012 (3G)	Tilapia	4.6
Sony	Xperia Z Ultra	Togari	6.0.3
Samsung	Galaxy Nexus (Verizon)	Toro	4.6
Samsung	Galaxy Nexus (Sprint)	ToroPlus	4.6
LeEco	Le Pro3	Z11	7.3.1
Essential	Essential PH1	mata	Quartz (10)
Lenovo	VIBE K5/K5 Plus	A6020	Quartz (10)
Ainol	Aurora II	Unknown	1.3.2

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