

There is nothing consistent about e-readers or tablets (including those within the same family of devices). The operating system, hardware and feature sets, navigation controls and all around general functionality, will vary, sometimes dramatically, from device to device. There are, however, some commonalities.

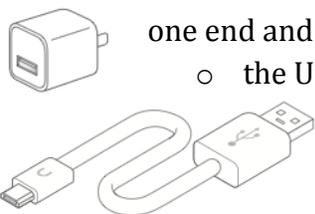
The **Power Button**, which turns the gadget on and off, and usually allows for putting the device to sleep, is:

- an oblong, round or rectangular button with a press trigger, or sometimes a slider mechanism instead
- located along the edge of the device, except when it is located on the back, often next to the volume controls, where it tends to be shorter in oblong length than the combined + - volume controls
- generally, triggering the power mechanism (either a quick press or slide as appropriate) will put the device to or wake it from sleep, hold in that position for more seconds to turn the device on/off
- often not labeled, but if so, the power symbol looks like a circle broken at the top by a vertical line
 - sometimes with a slider button, there will be labels for which direction is on & off



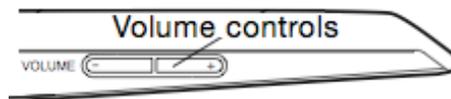
The **Power Adapter**, which charges the gadget, is:

- a combination piece consisting separately of a charger and a USB cable (standard USB connector on one end and a mini, micro, or proprietary connector on the other end for plugging into the device)
 - the USB cable can be disconnected from the charger and plugged directly into a computer port
 - in order to transfer files from the computer to the device
 - may also, but not always, allow for alternative charging of the device (usually at slower rates)
- older gadgets may still use a dedicated one-piece power adaptor (USB cable is completely separate)
- for devices with a charge indicator light, an amber or yellow colored LED indicates that the device is currently charging, a green LED indicates that the device has finished charging, an unlit LED may indicate that either the device is not receiving sufficient power or that its charging has completed



What **multimedia functions** is your device cable of?

- The device can **play back sound** if it includes any of the following physical components (usually located along the edges or back of the device):
 - volume controls (either a single oblong button, or two separate up (+) and down (-) buttons, often unlabeled, positively identify by testing the controls)
 - a headphone jack (looks like a 3.5mm hole, not to be confused with some power adapter tip ports)
 - speaker(s) (evidenced by the presence of a grill or other pattern of holes or slots on the device body)
- The device can **take a picture** if it has a built in camera, identifiable as a small recessed lens, or two, located under a circular pane of clear glass, usually located along the top (front and sometimes also back of the device)
- The device will generally be capable of **recording sound** if it has a built in microphone, usually located either along the top or bottom edges of the device and appearing as either a small recessed slot or a circular hole approximately the size of a pencil tip. In some rare cases, the device might include a microphone, as a possible future use case, that is not actually enabled/functional
- If the device has a color screen, it will generally be capable of **playing video** either through a web browser or other device app



Volume up/down



Headphone jack

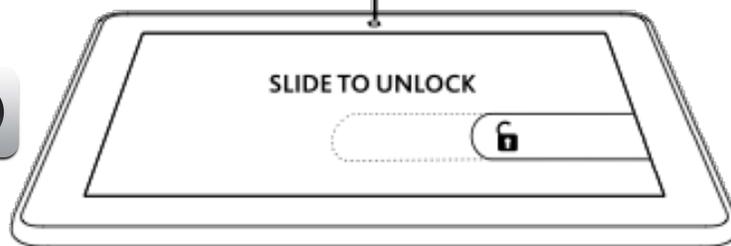


Speaker



Speaker

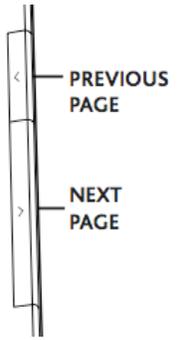
CAMERA



Page Navigation

• Dedicated e-readers

- generally do not have touch screen capabilities
- offering instead, physical navigation controls, such as
 - previous and next page buttons,
 - back button,
 - select wheel (a disc that can be scrolled up or down as well as be clicked)
 - 5-way controller (a square shaped button that can be used to navigate up, down, left and right as well as be clicked).



Physical navigation buttons enable the user to select and perform actions available to a given device through its menu system or settings options.

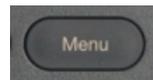
• Touch screen devices

- use direct tactile interaction with the device screen as an alternative to the functionality of computer mice or laptop touch/track pads
- reproduce previous and next page button navigation by either tapping the left (previous page) or right (next page) margins of the screen or by swiping the screen either left (next page) or right (previous page)
- many, but not all, have a Home (or equivalent) button available on the front of the device
 - generally, clicking the Home button will wake the device if it is currently asleep
 - if already awake, pressing the Home button returns the user to the device's start screen, the exact contents and features of which will vary from device to device
- provide virtual keyboards, which usually don't appear until an input field is made the focus
- usually have a screen lock mode in addition to the device sleep mode, requiring the dragging of a particular icon across the screen to effectively unlock the screen (e.g. drag the ribbon or lock icon left, drag the arrow and lock message right, drag the lock icon up, drag the account image icon onto the lock icon, etc.)



Menus and Navigation Bars

- some devices have a physical **Menu button** that takes you directly to that device's set of available options or actions (including **Shopping** the device store, accessing device **Settings**, managing the device's content **Library**, **Searching** across the device, etc.)
- otherwise the menu system may be accessed by means of some other physical control, such as
 - a scroll wheel to navigate to the menu
 - clicking the home or equivalent button (e.g. the nook button on NOOKs) to display a quick navigation bar, usually appearing either across the top or bottom of the screen and which may offer such options as Shop, Settings, Library, Search, etc.
- for touch screens, tapping the correct icon or swiping along the correct bar, will effectively conjure up navigation options. Try looking for and tapping either the gear icon (for settings, see example icons left) or the multiple horizontal lines icon (for the menu, see examples below). Do so either in the quick navigation or status bars (along the top or bottom of the screen) or on the home screen. If neither the gear or horizontal lines icon is visible, try looking for a down arrow button to tap in the status bar, another thing to try is swiping down from the top of the screen or status bar, or up from the bottom of the screen or quick navigation bar



Menu Button



MENU



Other miscellaneous physical components may include: physical keyboards, memory card slots (usually protected and hidden by a cover), video ports (e.g. HDMI, mini or micro HDMI, VGA), Wi-Fi on/off switches, reset buttons, side switches, stylus with built in storage slot, etc.