

Best Refurbished iPhones for Under \$200

Description

Best Refurbished iPhones for Under \$200 in 2024

In today's fast-paced tech world, staying up-to-date with the latest smartphones can be expensive. However, refurbished iPhones offer a cost-effective alternative without sacrificing performance or reliability. For budget-conscious buyers, finding a high-quality refurbished iPhone under \$200 is entirely possible if you know where to look and what to consider.

This guide highlights the best refurbished iPhones available for under \$200, their key features, and where to buy them safely.

Why Choose a Refurbished iPhone?

Before diving into the best options, it's important to understand why refurbished iPhones are a smart choice:

- Cost Savings** Refurbished iPhones are significantly cheaper than new models, often saving buyers 30-50% off retail prices.
- Reliability** Reputable sellers test, repair, and certify refurbished devices to ensure they meet high standards.
- Environmental Benefits** Buying refurbished reduces electronic waste and promotes sustainability.
- Warranty & Return Policies** Many sellers offer warranties and return windows, providing peace of mind.
- Near-New Condition** Refurbished iPhones are cleaned, repaired, and often come with new batteries and outer shells.

Best Refurbished iPhones Under \$200

When shopping for a refurbished iPhone under \$200, the best models typically fall within the **iPhone 6s to iPhone 8 Plus** range. While these are older models, they still offer solid performance for everyday tasks like calling, texting, social media, and light gaming.

Here are the top picks:

1. iPhone 7 & iPhone 7 Plus

Price Range: \$80 - \$150

Key Features:

- **Processor:** A10 Fusion chip (still capable for basic tasks)
- **Display:** 4.7" (iPhone 7) or 5.5" (iPhone 7 Plus) Retina HD
- **Camera:** 12MP rear (with optical image stabilization on Plus model), 7MP front
- **Storage Options:** 32GB, 128GB (varies by seller)
- **Battery Life:** Decent for moderate use (refurbished models often come with new batteries)
- **Water Resistance:** IP67 (splash and dust resistant)
- **iOS Support:** Runs up to **iOS 15** (no longer receiving updates, but still functional)

Pros:

- Affordable and widely available
- Good camera performance for the price
- Water-resistant (unlike older models)
- Compact size (iPhone 7) or larger screen (7 Plus)

Cons:

- No longer receives iOS updates
- Older processor may struggle with demanding apps
- Limited storage on base models

Best For:

- Budget buyers who need a reliable phone for calls, texts, and light app use
- Those who prefer a smaller phone (iPhone 7) or a larger screen (7 Plus)

2. iPhone 8 & iPhone 8 Plus

Price Range: \$120 - \$200

Key Features:

- **Processor:** A11 Bionic chip (faster than iPhone 7)
- **Display:** 4.7" (iPhone 8) or 5.5" (iPhone 8 Plus) Retina HD
- **Camera:** 12MP rear (with optical image stabilization on Plus), 7MP front
- **Storage Options:** 64GB, 128GB, 256GB
- **Battery Life:** Improved over iPhone 7 (refurbished models often have new batteries)
- **Wireless Charging:** Yes (Qi-compatible)

- **iOS Support:** Runs up to **iOS 16** (no longer receiving updates, but more recent than iPhone 7)

Pros:

- Faster processor than iPhone 7
- Wireless charging support
- Better camera performance
- More storage options

Cons:

- No longer receives iOS updates
- Glass back is fragile (though refurbished models often come with new backs)
- Slightly more expensive than iPhone 7

Best For:

- Buyers who want a balance of performance and affordability
 - Those who prefer wireless charging
 - Users who need slightly better camera quality
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3. iPhone 6s & iPhone 6s Plus

Price Range: \$50 - \$120

Key Features:

- **Processor:** A9 chip (slower than iPhone 7 but still functional)
- **Display:** 4.7" (iPhone 6s) or 5.5" (6s Plus) Retina HD
- **Camera:** 12MP rear, 5MP front
- **Storage Options:** 16GB, 32GB, 64GB, 128GB
- **3D Touch:** Yes (pressure-sensitive display)
- **iOS Support:** Runs up to **iOS 15** (no longer updated)

Pros:

- Extremely affordable
- 3D Touch (unique to this model)
- Still functional for basic tasks

Cons:

- Older processor struggles with modern apps
- No water resistance

• Base models (16GB) have very limited storage

Best For:

- Buyers on an extremely tight budget
 - Those who need a backup or secondary phone
 - Users who don't require high performance
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4. iPhone SE (1st Generation • 2016)

Price Range: \$60 • \$120

Key Features:

- **Processor:** A9 chip (same as iPhone 6s)
- **Display:** 4" Retina (smallest modern iPhone)
- **Camera:** 12MP rear, 1.2MP front
- **Storage Options:** 16GB, 32GB, 64GB, 128GB
- **Design:** Similar to iPhone 5s (compact and lightweight)
- **iOS Support:** Runs up to **iOS 15**

Pros:

• Smallest and most portable iPhone
• Affordable
• Decent performance for basic use

Cons:

• Tiny screen (not ideal for media consumption)
• Poor front camera
• No water resistance

Best For:

- Users who prefer a small, lightweight phone
 - Those who want an iPhone for calls and texts only
 - Budget buyers who don't need a large display
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Where to Buy Refurbished iPhones Under \$200

Not all refurbished iPhones are created equal. To ensure quality, buy from **reputable sellers** that offer:

â?? **Certified Refurbished** (tested and repaired by professionals)
â?? **Warranty** (at least 90 days)
â?? **Battery Replacement** (new or near-new battery)
â?? **Return Policy** (30-day return window is ideal)

Best Places to Buy:

1. **Apple Certified Refurbished** ([Apple's Refurbished Store](#))
2. **Pros:** Highest quality, 1-year warranty, like-new condition
3. **Cons:** Rarely has models under \$200
4. **Amazon Renewed** ([Amazon Renewed](#))
5. **Pros:** Competitive prices, 90-day warranty, easy returns
6. **Cons:** Quality varies by seller (check ratings)
7. **Back Market** ([Back Market](#))
8. **Pros:** Specializes in refurbished tech, good prices, warranties
9. **Cons:** Some sellers have mixed reviews
10. **Gazelle** ([Gazelle](#))
11. **Pros:** 30-day returns, tested devices, good customer service
12. **Cons:** Limited stock
13. **eBay (Refurbished Sellers)** ([eBay](#))
14. **Pros:** Wide selection, competitive pricing
15. **Cons:** Risk of scams (only buy from top-rated sellers with warranties)
16. **Swappa** ([Swappa](#))
17. **Pros:** No junk, user-to-user sales, verified IMEI
18. **Cons:** Slightly higher prices than eBay

What to Look for When Buying a Refurbished iPhone

To avoid low-quality or counterfeit devices, follow these tips:

1. Check the Seller’s Reputation

- Read reviews and ratings (Amazon, eBay, Back Market).
- Look for **certified refurbished** labels.
- Avoid sellers with no return policy.

2. Verify the Battery Health

- Refurbished iPhones should have **at least 80% battery health**.
- Some sellers replace the battery entirely—ask before buying.

3. Ensure the Device is Unlocked

- **Carrier-locked** iPhones only work with one network.
- **Factory unlocked** iPhones work with any carrier (best for flexibility).

4. Check for iCloud Activation Lock

- The phone should **not** be linked to someone else’s iCloud account.
- Ask the seller to **remove the device from their iCloud** before shipping.

5. Inspect the Physical Condition

- Refurbished iPhones should look **like new** (no scratches, dents, or screen damage).
- Some sellers grade devices (e.g., “Excellent,” “Good,” “Fair”).

6. Test the Phone Upon Arrival

- Check **Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, speakers, microphone, and cameras**.
- Run a **battery health test** (Settings > Battery > Battery Health).
- Ensure **Touch ID/Face ID** works (if applicable).

Final Verdict: Best Refurbished iPhone Under \$200

Model	Best For	Price Range	iOS Support	Performance
iPhone 8 / 8 Plus	Best overall balance of price & performance	\$120 – \$200	Up to iOS 16	Good for daily use
iPhone 7 / 7 Plus	Budget buyers, water resistance	\$80 – \$150	Up to iOS 15	Decent for basic tasks

Model	Best For	Price Range	iOS Support	Performance
iPhone 6s / 6s Plus	Extremely cheap, backup phone	\$50 - \$120	Up to iOS 15	Slow but functional
iPhone SE (2016)	Smallest iPhone, compact design	\$60 - \$120	Up to iOS 15	Basic use only

Best Overall Pick: iPhone 8 or 8 Plus

For under \$200, the **iPhone 8 or 8 Plus** offers the best combination of **performance, camera quality, and features** (wireless charging, better processor). It's the most future-proof option in this price range.

Best Budget Pick: iPhone 7 or 7 Plus

If you need to spend **under \$100**, the **iPhone 7 or 7 Plus** is a solid choice, especially if you find a model with a new battery.

Best for Compact Size: iPhone SE (2016)

If you prefer a **smaller phone**, the **iPhone SE (2016)** is the most affordable option, though its tiny screen may not suit everyone.

Conclusion

Finding a **high-quality refurbished iPhone under \$200** is entirely possible with the right research and seller. The **iPhone 8 and 8 Plus** stand out as the best overall choices, offering a good balance of performance and features. For those on a tighter budget, the **iPhone 7 or 6s** are still capable devices for basic use.

When purchasing, always **buy from reputable sellers**, check for **warranties and return policies**, and **verify the device's condition** upon arrival. With the right approach, a refurbished iPhone can provide **excellent value without breaking the bank**.

Category

1. Uncategorized

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