Best Refurbished iPhones for Under $200

Description

Best Refurbished iPhones for Under $200 in 2024

In todayâ??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 possibleâ??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.

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Why Choose a Refurbished iPhone?

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

1. **Cost Savings** â?? Refurbished iPhones are significantly cheaper than new models, often saving buyers 30-50% off retail prices.
2. **Reliability** â?? Reputable sellers test, repair, and certify refurbished devices to ensure they meet high standards.
3. **Environmental Benefits** â?? Buying refurbished reduces electronic waste and promotes sustainability.
4. **Warranty & Return Policies** â?? Many sellers offer warranties and return windows, providing peace of mind.
5. **Near-New Condition** â?? 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 â?? $150

Key Features:

- **Processor:** A10 Fusion chip (still capable for basic tasks)
- **Display:** 4.7â?³ (iPhone 7) or 5.5â?³ (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:

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

Cons:

â•? No longer receives iOS updates
â•? Older processor may struggle with demanding apps
â•? 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 â?? $200

Key Features:

- **Processor:** A11 Bionic chip (faster than iPhone 7)
- **Display:** 4.7â?³ (iPhone 8) or 5.5â?³ (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:

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

Cons:

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

Best For:

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- Buyers who want a balance of performance and affordability
- Those who prefer wireless charging
- Users who need slightly better camera quality

3. iPhone 6s & iPhone 6s Plus

Price Range: $50 â?? $120

Key Features:

- **Processor:** A9 chip (slower than iPhone 7 but still functional)
- **Display:** 4.7â?³ (iPhone 6s) or 5.5â?³ (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:

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

Cons:

â•? Older processor struggles with modern apps
â•? No water resistance

â•? 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 donâ??t require high performance

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4. iPhone SE (1st Generation â?? 2016)

Price Range: $60 â?? $120

Key Features:

- **Processor:** A9 chip (same as iPhone 6s)
- **Display:** 4â?³ 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**

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Pros:

â? Smallest and most portable iPhone
â? Affordable
â? Decent performance for basic use

Cons:

â•? Tiny screen (not ideal for media consumption)
â•? Poor front camera
â•? 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 donâ??t need a large display

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** (Appleâ??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

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What to Look for When Buying a Refurbished iPhone

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

1. Check the Sellerâ??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 entirelyâ??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).

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4. Check for iCloud Activation Lock

- The phone should **not** be linked to someone elseâ??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., â??Excellent,â?• â??Good,â?• â??Fairâ?•).

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 â?? $200	Up to iOS 16	Good for daily use
iPhone 7 / 7 Plus	Budget buyers, water resistance	$80 â?? $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 â?? $120	Up to iOS 15	Slow but functional
iPhone SE (2016)	Smallest iPhone, compact design	$60 â?? $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). Itâ??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.

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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 deviceâ??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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