

## Re: Pocket PC OS verges on being crippleware

**Source:** <http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/PocketPC/microsoft.public.pocketpc/2005-01/0217.html>

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**From:** Amy Gray (*JudgeAmyGrayNOSPAM\_at\_hotmail.com*)

**Date:** 01/02/05

Date: Sun, 02 Jan 2005 12:03:15 -0500

On Sun, 2 Jan 2005 16:16:12 -0000, "Nightdrive"  
<nightdrive@supanet.com> wrote:

>Before I start, I will state that I really like my iPaq hx4700. Fantastic  
>screen, WiFi. Browsing the net anywhere in the house is a huge leap forwards  
>from my old Palm m500 with AvantGo.  
>  
>However...  
>I am really disappointed by the quality of the built in applications. They  
>appear to be intentionally stripped down apps to appease the developer  
>community. As a developer myself, I'm not opposed to other people making a  
>living from writing good software, but as a user, it would nice if some  
>decent functionality was built in, out of the box.  
>  
>Notes in particular is appalling, it looks like a demo app you'd see in a  
>programming book. Where are categories? Why can't I change font size of the  
>listing? Could I have a preview pane?  
>  
>The calendar is useful, but fairly basic, and has such poor support for the  
>VGA screen that HP include Pocket Informant. Unfortunately, although some  
>features look great in VGA (calendar), it is so advanced that it has a  
>fairly sharp learning curve. Without looking into the manual, I've no idea  
>how to use the Notes feature - it seems to have been written without regard  
>for any of the standard UI elements present in the built in applications. It  
>seems to be designed to provide the maximum number of bullet points in a  
>feature list, instead of doing the basics correctly.  
>  
>I understand that due to memory constraints, not all features can be build  
>into all applications. Every user has different requirements. As such, I'd  
>rather see the OS shipped with LESS software, and have the choice of  
>downloading FEATURE RICH, WELL DESIGNED versions of the apps I use the most.  
>Maybe use a point system like [www.ipaqchoice.com](http://www.ipaqchoice.com)  
>  
>Personally, I'd go for the following:  
>Notes - with categories, and ability to use a tree (outline) structure if  
>required. Link to tasks  
>CHM Viewer - very useful for those C# books  
>Newsgroup reader - so I can rant anywhere!

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>Contacts – very minimal, may even use Notes if search is good enough  
>Calendar – VGA support, and ability to set default settings for new  
>appointments (I would set all to 'Private' as default, as my work calendar  
>has to be shared)  
>...And I wouldn't expect to have to pay \$9.99 -> \$49.99 for each  
>application – for the privilege of such basic functionality. A points  
>system, where you get free points (and buy more if required) which would  
>allow me to 'purchase' these approved, consistent applications from  
>Microsoft, without spending weeks sifting the wheat from the chaff.  
>  
>Or alternately, provide us with decent apps to start with.  
>  
>  
>Comments, flames welcome. Suggestions for good commercial software which may  
>fit my requirements also welcome. This is a general gut feeling about my  
>first 2 weeks on Pocket PC. I expect more posts with specific questions for  
>you all in the near future.  
>  
>Happy mobile computing!  
>  
>Greg Woods  
>  
>  
You do realize it is a "Pocket PC?"

Maybe what you should have purchased a full size laptop.

Maybe instead of getting a ppc with a limited amount of memory/storage space maybe you should have gotten a full laptop with a 40 gig hard drive.

<http://www.pocketpcmag.com/bg04/specs.asp>

That is what happens when you have a device that doesn't have 40 gig of storage.

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