

# CELL PHONE BASICS

## Why do you need a cell phone?

- Access health records
- Make emergency calls to friends and family
- Text with friends and family
- Video call children and grandchildren
- Check the weather, date, and time

## Types of Cell Phones

- **Flip Phone** - These basic phones flip open to reveal a keypad and screen, which makes them simple and easy-to-use. Just note that these phones won't allow you to video chat, use the internet, or help navigate when you're traveling.
- **Smart Phones** - Through apps and internet connectivity, they offer countless options for entertainment and practical applications. You can shop, manage your stocks, edit photos, track your daily footsteps, read the news, play games and more.

## Android Phones vs. iPhones

- **iPhone** - This phone offers more cybersecurity and protection, but comes at a higher cost. Some claim that it is easier to use, but trying it at an electronics store is the best way to tell.
- **Android Phone** - Although cheaper, there are many options when it comes to Android phones, which can be overwhelming. It is also

important to know which devices your family has, since Apple phones allow Facetime, and Android phones do not.

## Features to Consider

- **Volume** - If you're an older adult who's hard of hearing, try looking for a phone with a louder volume range. Some phones are made specifically for the hearing impaired, and others are designed to be compatible with hearing aids.
- **Camera** - Do you frequently snap pictures of your grandkids or flower garden? In this case, you might want to look for a cell phone with a quality camera. You're more likely to find this feature in higher-end smartphones, although even most basic cell phones come with a camera.
- **Screen Size** - Some older customers may prefer a small phone that they can easily stash in their pocket. Others may opt for a phone with a large screen so that they can read and type more easily. You'll also want to consider the size of your grip so that you can comfortably hold the phone in one hand.
- **Emergency Button** - Some phones designed specifically for seniors come with a physical button that will automatically dial an emergency phone number of your choosing. This could be helpful if you're in distress and don't have time to search for the right contact.
- **Fingerprint Recognition** - Some of the newer model smart phones offer fingerprint recognition as a way of unlocking your device. For seniors who have trouble remembering a security code, but still want to protect their phone, this could be a great option.