

15 fun shopping phone apps

Is that Sony TV in the store a good price? Or is there a coupon you can use for that oil change? Check your phone! Shopping applications let you compare prices, download scannable coupons, and more. The iPhone has the most apps, but other phones (and the iPod Touch) have cool ones, too, and many of them are free or just a couple of dollars. Here are some of our favorites:



COUPONS



Coupon Sherpa

What it does Finds scannable coupons for shoes, shades, sports stuff, and more, including deals in your area.

Phone iPhone (iPhone apps also work on the iPod Touch; download them from the iPhone App Store)

Price Free



MobiQpons

What it does Finds scannable coupons. Look for offers from your favorite stores; you can even set it to block offers from stores you don't like.

Phone iPhone, Blackberry (download using Blackberry App World at blackberry.com/appworld), Google Android (Android Market at android.com/market)

Price Free

DOING THE MATH



Check Please

What it does Lets you split the check and figure out the tip, too.

Phone iPhone

Price Free (ad-free version is 99 cents)



CompareMe

What it does The math: Which is a better value, the bigger carton of OJ or the smaller one? This app figures it out for you.

Phone iPhone

Price \$1.99



Sale Price

What it does Calculates the sale price of an item and factors in your coupons and the sales tax to give you the actual final price.

Phone iPhone

Price Free

GROCERY AND FOOD



Epicurious

What it does Lets you search for recipes and creates a shopping list.

Phone iPhone

Price Free



Grocery Gadget Lite

What it does Keeps your grocery list online, with photos, if you like, and arranges items in the order they're found in the store. You can even update your hubby's list while he's in the store.

Phone iPhone

Price Free

up at www.fruccall.com)

Price Free



ShopSavvy

What it does Turns your phone's camera into a bar-code scanner (you can also enter a product's number or title), finds the prices locally and online, then links you to a site or gives you driving directions to a store (be sure your GPS function is on!).

Phone Google Android; also expected for the iPhone

Price Free

GETTING ORGANIZED



CardStar

What it does Consolidates all your store membership, discount, club, and rewards cards. A cashier can scan the bar code right off the phone.

Phone iPhone

Price Free

PRICE COMPARISONS



Fruccall

What it does Sends you price comparisons one of three ways: phone call, text, or on the Web.

Phone Any cell phone (sign

MONEY SAVER! Use your cell phone as a bargaining tool. One of our staffers negotiated a deal at an electronics store by showing the sales clerk a lower price at a competitor's Web site that she called up on her phone.