

Deploying iPhone X for your Company

When deploying a new hardware for your company's future productivity, there are many factors that you must address. For deploying new devices to any company, the main factor would most likely be the cost. How much is the device? How many do we need? Does it fit our budget? Basic questions that needs to be answers before tackling deployment. After that has been completed, the other factors come into play. Security, management, and time are the other factors you must include in your deployment process. This guideline was design to help in that process. Think of them as helpful tips you should try to remember when you are the person doing the deployment.

As with all great project plans, having an outline of your project is always a plus. This topic is the same. For my deployment, I have created a Gantt chart that plans out the process of how I would deploy new devices for an [x] number of employees. The chart will include all the of above mentioned factors. Of course, yours might be different from mines, but they should include similar main points. The Gantt chart I have created for this topic can be found on the last page. Before addressing any factors, I needed to find a base number of employees to work off from. My magical number just happen to be 57 employees. Don't ask how me how I got that number. It's magical. Now that we have our base number, we can resume with the topic at hand.

Cost

For this example, I will be deploying the new iPhone X to 57 employees. This is simply a multiplication problem. Assuming that I went with the 64 GB version of the iPhone X, my total would be \$57,000 ($57 \times \1000). This excludes tax, service fees (phone plan), and extra features that's needed (software, apps, etc.). Now you can argue and say, this is easy to do. Yes, the math part of this portion is. This subject becomes harder when you must factor in a budget. Most businesses, big or small, will set a budget to limit the cost of a project. There are also the extra fees that you must include in your plan to get a more accurate projected cost. These all must be put into consideration when trying to find the total cost of a project. For this project alone, I would be looking at a cost of \$57,000 minimum. When I factor in all the monthly cost of the service fees and software, that total project plan should be around \$70,000. This is assuming that we stick with a 2 years phone service plan and addition software programs.

Security

Security is a heavy feature most businesses would like implemented especially in mobile devices. This prevents breaches in a company's data and hardware. Although iPhones, in general, have their device encrypted. That doesn't stop them from being lost or stolen. For such cases, a mobile device management program (MDM) is usually install onto the device before given to an employee. This ensure that if the device is lost or stolen, any data that is stored on the

device can be remotely wiped or located. Usually for company owned devices, a user policy is signed before handing them(devices) to their employees. That agreement states the rules and regulation that an employee must follow when on company ground or using company equipment. More on MDM in the management portion of the topic.

Management

As stated in the security section above, MDM is use as a security risk prevention. MDM can also be used to manage devices in a business environment. Aside from the features above, MDM allows for disabling/installation of software remotely. This allows for ease of updating useable features and disabling unwanted ones. You can also track devices locations and their usage. Most MDM solutions usually require a monthly fee for their service. Example of one is Miradore. Miradore charges \$1 per device/per month for a business plan. So, for me that would give and addition fee of \$57 per month just for the new devices. This fee doesn't even include the devices already in play. There are many others out there, most ranging from \$2-\$5, but you get the idea of how an MDM solution can help to manage your devices and its cost. However, for my example, 57 devices should be manageable with just 2 people.

Time

With all great projects, implementing them is time consuming and costly. When factoring in time, you must include the following: research, implementation time, testing, and validation. Research involves finding the total cost and features of the new device. Implementation involves how long it will take to add the device to the company. Testing includes making sure the device is in working order and all software is up to date. Validation ensures that all feature is accessible to the employees. Implementation time is reduced if the company already has an MDM solution or IT technicians available. If this is the first time the company is deploying a new device, the time and cost is increased. The cost comes from hiring new employees to manage devices and the implementation process.

Now all project varies in different ways. For deploying a new device, these are just some guidelines that I hope are helpful to you in your next deployment project.