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If you want to upgrade your Android device, be desired by its manufacturer or you just want more control over the phone or tablet you have, you've probably gone looking for a new ROM. An entrenched phone is the first step, but the new ROM will give you a brand new mobile OS, and this week we'll be looking at the top five Android ROMs, depending on your nominations. Earlier this week, we asked you which Android ROMs you thought were the best. We took your nominations, counted them, and now we're back to pick out the top five. It's important to note that not every ROM is available for each device, and different drives are designed for different audiences - some are designed to update the OS, while others are lean and medium sets to speed up your phone. Whichever choice you choose, you need to make sure your device is supported by the developers behind the ROM before installing it. If you've had an Android phone for any period of time, you've probably been tempted to root it out and More Poll is closed and votes are counted! To see which of the contenders took the top spot, head over to our weekly Hive Five follow-up post to see and discuss the winner! If your Android device feels a little callous, or maybe the manufacturer has given up on it and... MoreCyanogenModCyanogenMod may be one of the (if not) the most established Android ROM in the world, and for good reason. It offers a ton of great features, is available for more devices than most other ROMs of its type, and has a type of polish and support that makes it easy to fall in love with. There are builds of CyanogenMod for Android phones and tablets, and slowly but surely the developers behind the CyanogenMod are rolling out Ice Cream Sandwich versions for devices whose manufacturers have abandoned the device upgrade completely. To download, CyanogenMod includes features you won't find in an Android warehouse, such as OpenVPN support, downloadable support, more privacy tools, and more. A list of supported devices can be found here. Android Open Kang Project (AOKP) Android Open Kang Project (AOKP) is a relative newcomer compared to many other popular ROMs already available, but it is growing rapidly in popularity. It offers many of the features that CyanogenMod has, and at first glance you may mistake one for another, but once you start looking at options and add-ons, you will see differences. AOKP has received high marks for add-ons and tools that you can't get in CM, centralized control over ROM options, and generally more customization options than CM. At the same time, its developer community is smaller and it may not have the same polish and support device that CyanogenMod has. However, it is it's stable, and definitely worth a look. A list of all the devices you support can be found here. MIUIMIUI amazed us by how beautiful the user is was and how elegant it made Android look and feel. It's not the most multi-feature packaged or hackable ROM, but it's definitely one of the most customizable and elegant, and it's seriously fast. MIUI began life as a trendy version of Android localized in China, but fashion aficionados have since localized it for dozens of languages and countries. It offers strong theme support, beautiful promotion apps, customizable lockscreens, GApps support, and full access to the root. You're not going to get a wealth of niche features here, but you'll get a device that's much easier and more fun to use once you install MIUI. A list of supported devices can be found here. If you've become a bit bored with how Android looks and works, MIUI is a completely different... Read moreSlim ICSIf you have the Galaxy Nexus, Nexus S, Samsung Galaxy S or Galaxy S II, Slim ICS may be the ROM for you. Not only does Slim ICS bring your device to the Ice Cream Sandwich, it's also a super-thin, lightweight setup that's surprisingly easy to install, even if it's clearly aimed at advanced users. Slim ICS already has GApps rolled, so you don't need to install them later. Where other ROMs are trying to add tons of new features and customization options, Slim ICS is designed to trim fat up to bare essentials and give you a quick and clean ICS setup. It's only available for a handful of Samsung devices and there's pretty much one developer and several beta testers behind the scenes, so don't expect a ton of features additions or new devices, but it's updated weekly and sports plenty of third-party mods. Liquid Smooth ROMSLiquid Smooth ROMS is available for multiple devices, and while the project has started with Motorola Droid, Droid 2, Droid X, Droid Incredible and HTC Thunderbolt, it is also available for the Galaxy Nexus and several other devices, although you'll have to dig through the forums a bit to find them. The banner fluid feature is that it is probably one of the fastest ICS ROMs available, faster than even the stock set that happens on the Galaxy Nexus. You don't sacrifice features for speed, but the overall size of the ROM is still good and small, leaving more room for the apps and features you choose to use, unlike those forced on you. GApps are baked right in, and ROM offers a support theme so you can customize it to your liking. Overall, if you have a supported device, this is probably the leanest, sneakiest ICS ROM you can download. Now that you've seen the top five, it's time to put them all to the vote and determine the winner. No mention of honor this week, but you've all assigned over 60 different ROMs to consider, so whatever ROM you settle on, make sure it's a good match for features, You are looking for the device you have, and the Android version you want to launch. It may be your top five, but they may not be the best for specific device, so your homework! Is there anything to be said for the nominees we missed? Your favorite doesn't get enough nominations to be included? Remember that the top five are based on your most popular nominations from calling for applicants to thread from earlier in the week. Share your thoughts in the comments below. Hive Five is based on reader nominations. As with most Hive Five posts, if your favorite stayed away, it's not because we hate it, it's because he didn't get the nominations needed in calling for job applicants to make the top five. We understand that this is a bit of a popularity contest, but if you have a favorite, we want to hear about it. Is there an offer for Hive Five? Email us tips'hivefive@lifehacker.com!Photo by Peter Kirn. If you've read anything about Android, you'll know that it's an open source platform, which means that development for Android is quite common, and many people have come up with some amazing things for it - including custom ROMs. But the process and the huge number of ROMs available can be quite scary. Some great developers have created an app that has essentially become one store for all your custom ROM needs. Read on after the break. Our forums are full of a lot of different hacking and flashing related issues, and frankly, a lot of it comes down to people who don't understand or just really scary to mess up something. (And that's certainly understandable) coming from the background in which I used a lot of different smartphone devices, and downloaded many versions of the OS that weren't original, for me it wasn't that bad. First I started doing things out of my Mac, like downloading the files needed, transferring them to my memory card after renaming them, and then flashing with the device. This method works very well for people who know things like what the root of the SD card is or how to flash a custom recovery. Fortunately, some of the Android experts have been kind enough to develop an app for us that brings almost all of these options to us in a fast and easy-to-use location. The ROM Manager is pretty easy to use, but the feature is a packed app that will make flashing ROM, adding themes, fonts, or creating a backup of the current ROM breeze. The first thing you notice when you open the app is the ability to blink at a groovy recovery, which is one of the latest custom recovery images that seems to work well and is supported by many different developers. Other than that you'll notice that there are a lot of different names in the list format, these are all different ROM developers you can be familiar with. The developer's name will take you to where you can download the ROM of your choice. Some developers will have previous models along with current, and will have only the most current revision of the ROM.   Along with having the various ROMs available in the app, some other developers are listed who have created themes, or other additions to these ROMs. As with other platforms, people like to have custom themes that allow their device to have a personal touch and not keep a generic look that you could only find on any device. Downloading and applying these themes, or font add-ons as simple as downloading ROM, all you have to do is choose which one you want to download and then download it and then reboot it and it will apply itself, and when after the device is downloaded you will now see your new theme.   MANAGER ROM is available in the Android Marketplace App $3.99 Update. Yes, you have to be rooted. Keep in mind changes in your device such as rooting and flashing custom ROM can void your warranty. Also, be sure to make these changes at your own risk. Be sure to visit the hacking forum of your respective device with any questions you may come across. Happy hacking! Every week, the Android Central Podcast brings you the latest technology news, analysis and hot takes, with familiar co-hosts and special guests. Subscribe to Pocket Cast: Audio Subscribe to Spotify: Audio Subscribe to iTunes: Audio We can earn a commission for purchases using our links. Learn more. More. ios 7 custom rom zip download for android. ios 9 custom rom zip file download for android. ios 10 custom rom zip for android download. ios custom rom for android zip download