

Low-cost iPhone 5 to Debut This Summer, Analyst Says

CNET

Apple could have a busy summer if the latest iPhone forecast from one analyst comes to fruition.

The company will launch an iPhone 5S and a revamped version of the [iPhone 5](#) [1] in June or July, predicts KGI Securities analyst Ming-Chi Kuo.

In an investors note received by MacRumors, Kuo said the [iPhone 5S would be similar to the current model](#) [2] but offer a few improvements, including an A7 chip for faster performance and a fingerprint sensor. The camera specs would bump up to an f2.0 aperture and a smart LED flash.

The revamped iPhone 5 would be a lower-cost version of the current model in a somewhat thicker case made of plastic and offer a choice of six colors. The analyst estimates the phone would sell for an off-contract, or unlocked, price of \$350 to \$450.

[Rumors of a low-cost iPhone have heated up this month](#) [3] with claims from The Wall Street Journal and Bloomberg and forecasts from other analysts. But most of the reports have cited a launch time of later in the year.

On Monday, Taiwan-based DigiTimes also said the new low-cost [iPhone would be outfitted with a plastic chassis](#) [4] in order to cut costs. However, it's difficult to envision Apple going too cheap on the exterior as that's not the company's usual style, even when trying to lower costs.

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http://www.wirelessdesignmag.com/news/2013/01/low-cost-iphone-5-debut-summer-analyst-says?qt-most_popular=0

Links:

[1] <http://www.cnet.com/iphone-5/>

[2] <http://www.macrumors.com/2013/01/16/apples-2013-product-roadmap-predictions-multiple-iphones-retina-ipad-mini-all-retina-macbook-pros/>

[3] http://news.cnet.com/8301-13579_3-57563508-37/new-intrigue-on-trail-of-cheaper-iphone/

[4] http://news.cnet.com/8301-13579_3-57564006-37/low-cost-iphone-might-use-plastic-body-report-claims/