Is the integrated multifunctional car radio really better than the function extendable one?





Multifunctional car radios are replacing the traditional radio function only car media players, everyone knows more functions equal more fun. Popular functions including Bluetooth, navigation, radio, of course, all become basic functions of a car multimedia player, no need to elaborate how useful and convenient they are as the overwhelming advertisement already done a great job.

New functions are developed for better accessibility to the smartphone, such as mirror link, few companies have successfully developed their own free version. The Android Auto and Apple CarPlay, as the third party driving assistance

APP, are gaining more followers every day, some car radios already integrated with the Android Auto and Apple CarPlay. But there are car head units compatible with the Android Auto and Apple CarPlay. Here I made a comparison:

Car radios' Android Auto and Apple CarPlay		
	Integrated	External
Price	Higher	Lower
Function Display	Stable	Stable
Installation	Not required	Plug-and-Play
Replacement	Difficult, need to return the whole unit	Plug-and-Play

That's the information I found for your reference. (Every choice is not easy to make, some part needs to be sacrificed...)

If you are looking for information about an external Android Auto/ Apple CarPlay dongle, Pumpkin NA7006B may be helpful. Other external device like DAB digital radio box NA7021B is also available.

Excellent value for the price of the Pumpkin single din 7 inch touchscreen android car radio

## Android 10 CAR RADIO PLAYER



Ok, so I pulled the trigger on this based on price point, and the review by the guy below with the Land Rover — I have an old BMW that's a Sunday cruiser and really just wanted to update the head unit to have Bluetooth, nothing more — for the price of a regular old Kenwood deck, I picked this up figuring the extra features, if they're as good as promised, would be a bonus.

Unit arrived FAST, and was well packaged. Included GPS antenna, mounting bracket, a rear view camera, single din bracket and removal tools. Wiring was simple, following the schematic on the unit itself, and the notes in other reviews about making sure the blue antenna wire gets jumped to power.

Interface out of the box is good, but I chose to run a car launcher, as have some others — I like the home screen better than the stock one. App selection from the google play store

is great, and there's plenty of memory to accommodate whatever you want. Even the stock offline gps is pretty solid. I'm including a few screenshots of the stock home screen, the launcher, and an app or two.

I've kicked the tires on all the features of this unit since having it and am incredibly impressed at the functionality for the price point. It performs pretty darn close to my other android units in other cars that cost much more. If you're looking for a modern single din solution for an older retrofit, or a budget friendly alternative to the Alpines, Kenwoods, and Sonys, check this out. It's a great value.

Lastly, kudos to the seller for offering EXCELLENT customer service — I expected there would be little to no support for the questions that came up about the product but was pleasantly surprised when any issues I had were resolved within a day and to my satisfaction. Five stars for a great seller who stands behind their merchandise.

See more information about <u>Pumpkin 7" Android 10 Single Din</u> <u>Bluetooth Car Stereo with Flip Screen Navigation</u>.

## What is the car stereo of a car?



The car stereo usually comes with a touch screen to control an in-dash car stereo, and it is also called as "head unit", "car radio", "car DVD player", and "sat nav". You may tell the functions of a car stereo from these names, speaker, radio, navigation, CD/ DVD player, which are the most basic functions you can find on the radio of a car. (if you are looking for a cost-efficient unit, <u>WinCE OS-based car stereo</u> may suit your requirement well.)

Despite the WinCE or Android OS, Bluetooth connectivity is listed on the major functions of a car stereo to provide users the easy and cozy driving time. Music streaming, hands-free calling, and phonebook access and sync are all available thanks to the Bluetooth function.

Some other people call the car stereo as an infotainment

system, or multimedia car player, as many other functions are possessed in such a unit. For example, smartphone mirror-link, steering wheel audio control, USB/ SD card input, reverse camera display. The <u>Android OS-based stereo</u> offers you free downloading options and more powerful functions if your budget allows. Popular functions including Android Auto/ Apple CarPlay driving assistant, DAB+ digital radio, OBD car diagnostic tool, are integrated or optional.

All in all, any functions that may help to make your driving comfier, safer, and smarter, the car stereo manufactures are all taken into serious consideration.

Do remember to check your original car radio height (<u>1 Din or 2 Din</u>) before picking the size of the display screen if you want the new car stereo can be fit perfectly.