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BURN TEST

## RELIANCE 3G TABLET

### The Second Monsoon Hungama Begins



*Android 2.3 optimises the tab experience*

#### Time to tab the masses

Reliance was one of the key players that started the downward spiral of mobile tariffs in the country. And now the operator is all set to change the game in the tablet market too. The Reliance 3G Tab is one of the most affordable tablets in the market today. The 3G tab runs the latest version of Android (2.3, or Gingerbread) has a 7.0-inch capacitive touch screen, a 3.0-megapixel camera and a secondary VGA camera in the front for video calling. At the bottom of the screen lie three capacitive touch buttons for Home, Menu and Back. Besides these is a LED indicator. The left side of the tablet is bare while the right one has the power cum lock key, volume key and a 3.5 mm jack for headphones. The back panel is detachable so you can replace the battery as well as the SIM in the old fashioned way. It has a silver colour finish with a prominent Reliance logo. While the design does not exactly stand out, the tablet is handy enough to use and carry.

#### Gingerbread Tab

The upside of the tablet is that despite its lower cost, Reliance has not cut corners in using a dated operating system. The tablet runs on Android 2.3.4, which is the latest version of the operating system in the market. Not much has been done to the interface but a few tit bits have been added here and there to give it a Reliance touch. For starters, when you switch on the tab it plays the whole Reliance tune, then there is a Reliance wallpaper and a unique folding unlocking mechanism. The homescreen has five screen panels that can be customised with shortcuts, widgets, etc. The main menu has a grid view and the tablet comes with standard Google apps and also Reliance's RWorld, which has two versions RWorld and RWorld online. In RWorld online, you have various options like Full2Music, Mobile Health, Cricket, Star Talk.

Pros 😊	Cons ☹️
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Android 2.3 OS</li> <li>■ Very affordable</li> <li>■ 3G, Wi-Fi with Wi-Fi hot spot creation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Relatively low resolution (800 x 480) screen</li> <li>■ No Flash support in the browser</li> <li>■ No built in video calling</li> </ul>

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Simply Music, Music Mania and Sampoorna Jyotish pack. There is support for POP, IMAP and Exchange accounts, and of course, there is the customary Gmail app (hey, this is an Android tablet after all). The Documents To Go app, which allows you to open documents but you cannot create any.

The 7.0-inch size of the tablet is optimum for carrying around easily, although we would have liked a higher resolution than the 800 x 480 sported by it. The device also comes with calling capabilities - you can use wired or Bluetooth headsets for convenience. The browser of the tablet supports multitouch but lacks full Flash support. You can open multiple windows and can search words on page, forward a page or share it via Bluetooth, e-mail, SMS, Facebook and Twitter. These are subscription based packages that you can access directly from the tablet. For connectivity, the tablet comes with 3G as well as Wi-Fi connectivity. You can also create a Wi-Fi hotspot that allows you to share your Internet connection with up to five different devices. There is a file manager too, which is of great convenience to search and manage content on the phone, especially for those who love dabbling with

file structures. The tablet has a smart dialer which adds to its convenience and usability as a phone, albeit a bulky one.

**Tablets can be fun**

On the multimedia front, the tablet comes with FM radio which is plain vanilla but has an interesting interface. After searching and setting a frequency, you just need to drag and drop it into the empty space on the screen to save it. The radio reception is good and you can listen to the radio through speakers too. The is also a music player that sorts music on the basis of artists and albums. It comes with Dolby Mobile settings where you can choose between various equalizer presets and create two custom presets too. The sound quality of the tablet is pleasant, although we would have liked a bit more power. The formats supported by the player are AAC, AAC+, AMR/AMR-NB, MP3 MIDI and Ogg PCM/WAV. The tablet has a dedicated video player application and here too you can use Dolby sound effects. It has support for MP4, H.263, H.264 video formats. For imaging there is a 3.0-megapixel fixed focus still camera that comes with picture quality and colour effect settings. You can set the exposure, ISO, white balance, contrast saturation, etc., as well. The picture quality of the tablet is average and lack of flash dents the performance. However, we are not fond of a camera in a tablet considering the inconvenience of shooting with such a big device. The tablet can capture VGA videos, letting you set video quality, choose video and audio formats for shooting, set the video duration and add colour effects. Again, video quality is average. While you can geo-tag pictures, the same is not possible for videos.

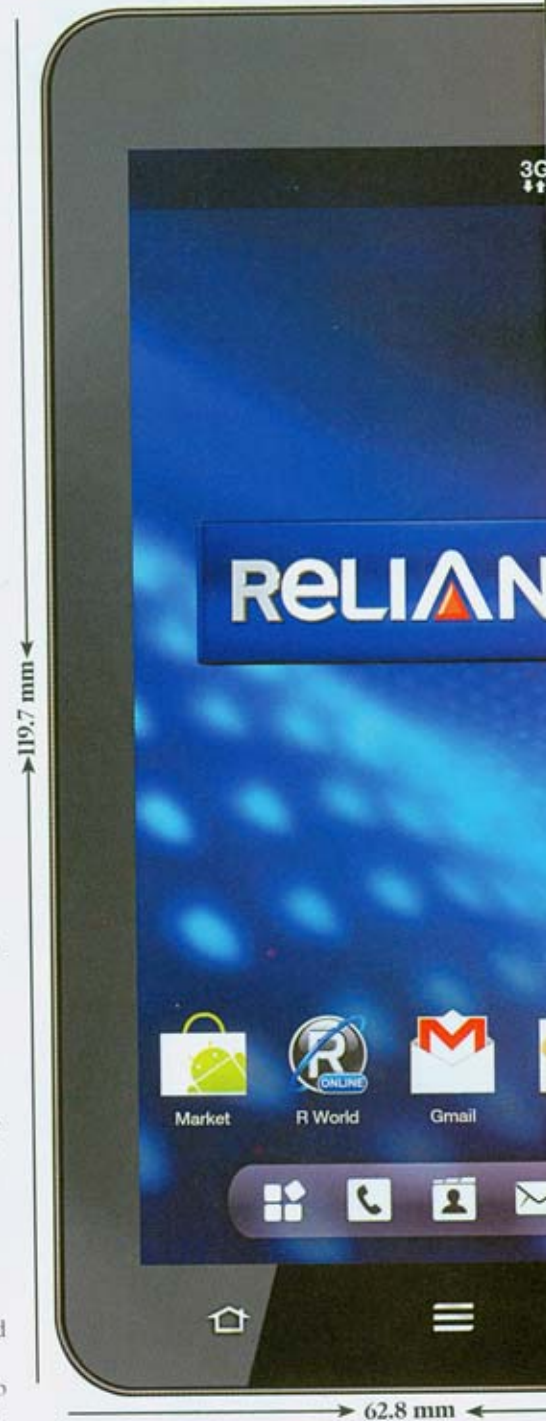
The tablet comes with a 4 GB microSD card which is included in the sales pack while the internal memory is 512 MB. The battery backup is according to the company's claims. There is YouTube app and a built in task manager to increase the efficiency of the tablet.

**Alternatively**

Reliance 3G tab is the most affordable Gingerbread tablet in the market today. If you want another such tablet then you can go for Samsung Galaxy tab 7.0 and if you can let go of the calling feature, then HTC Flyer which is a bit overly priced at Rs 35,000. However, if you are sticking to a tight budget, then we would advise trying out the Beetel Magiq, which costs Rs 9,990, or the OlivePad, which costs Rs 15,990. However, they both run older versions of Android - Froyo - and the Magiq comes with a resistive screen, which detracts from the touch experience. ■

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**TECH SPECS**

- Size | 192 x 1110 x 12.6 mm

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- Weight | 389 grams

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- Memory | 512MB, microSD

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- Battery | Li-Po 3500 mAh

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- Screen | 65,536 colours

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- Talktime/Standby | Upto 9 hours/300 hours

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- GPRS/3G | Yes/Yes

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- Bluetooth/ WiFi | Yes/Yes

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- Phonebook Capacity | Shared

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- Camera | 3.0 megapixel

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- Frequency | GSM 850/900/1800/1900

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- Others | R World online, Dolby

**Price: Rs 12,999**

**VERDICT**



**OVERALL**

**84%**