

Cheap Backup Cell Phones!

When traveling, I carry a cheap backup cell phone in case my regular cell phone is broken. The backup phone uses a different (and cheaper) cell phone service provider. That provider must: 1) Not require a contract for service, and 2) Must be very cheap!

Tracfone is a prepaid cell phone plan with no contract. The phone itself cost \$10 at Wal-Mart. I also bought a Double-Minutes card that doubles the prepaid minutes bought (buy 60 minutes, get 120 minutes). On the Internet I also found Promo Code 67861, which adds another free 60 minutes to the purchase (buy 60 minutes, get 180 minutes). That's 11¢ per minute.

The Tracfone is active as long as its minutes have not expired. The 60 Minute package is good for 90 days. Every 90 days, I go to <www.tracfone.com> on the Internet and add another 60 minutes (and get 180 minutes). Last time it cost \$19.99 for the 60 Minute package, for a total of \$22.38. Divide that by 3 months, and my back-up cell phone costs me \$7.46 per month. If the \$10 phone lasts 2 years, add another 42¢ per month to cover the phone... that's about \$8 per month.

Ting is a new cell phone service provider. Ting.com uses the national Sprint network. You can check it to estimate the quality of phone service in your area. You must buy a new phone from Ting, for a minimum of \$70. See <www.ting.com>.

It costs \$6 per month to use the phone. 500 Minutes per month are \$9. 100 Text Messages cost \$3. I don't use computer downloads, so 0 (zero) MB cost \$10. That's \$18 per month for cell phone service, plus \$2.92 per month if the phone lasts 24 months... that's about \$21 per month. But wait, there's more! After the first month, Ting adjusts your bill to show actual usage. You don't get charged a penalty for using more minutes than estimated. Extra minutes are 2¢ per minute.

You might want to consider Ting as your primary cell phone service provider, instead of just the backup. Have a family? You can buy another Ting phone, add a user for \$6 per month, and share your minutes, messages, and megabytes.

To save \$25 on your first Ting phone purchase, and another \$25 when you activate the phone, use this website URL: <<https://zdgn79nah.ting.com>>. (If you do this, my ting.com account is credited \$25, too. Didn't plan it that way, but that's the only way I can get you the discounts! If you prefer to pay full price, go for it.