

I feel like I crossed a line

Last week the price of the initial version of the iPad were dropped by \$100. I went out and bought one.

Initially, I was looking for something to read some manuals for work. My nook just wasn't up to that task. Then I found an app that just may help me to put my thoughts down without wasting lots of paper or post-its. So far I've found many things I like to do with this little device. It is almost too fun.

The iPad has replaced my droid for quick checks of the weather, and quick games of angry birds. It replaced my laptop for email checking and looking up blog post or other social networks. On some books, it even replaced my nook!!

I know I will still use some sort of PC for things requiring a computer. The screen size and speed are lacking on the iPad for some applications. I also need storage for the iPad. I can envision a time when I will be moving things around to get what I need for a day or week.

Of course, this won't replace my android phone, too big to carry around all the time. My nook is my favorite electronic means of reading books. But I can use this to watch movies during a trip. I can send off a quick email or two. I can post a blog update. I can check on sport scores and news. I have found uses for it and I just like using it.

Good points to this are many, but there are also some things that limit the device. I still have issues with some of them.

1) You must have a windows or Mac PC to even start running the thing. An iTunes account is needed just to start it. As far as I could determine iTunes is not available on my Linux machines. That almost made me take the thing back.

2) To be more useful it needs a keyboard. That limits the

portability. The touch screen keyboard works, but it takes up valuable screen space. And you can't touch type.

3) For the same reason I stayed away from iTunes, I have a small problem with this device. It is too easy to make a bunch of small purchases that add up quickly. \$0.99 seems like such a small price, but it could add up.

4) It still seems expensive for what it does. I realize you are paying for the small size and apple name, but I feel the cost is a bit on the high side. This is what you will have when there is really no close competition from any other slate type devices. Apple found their niche and made it their own.

All that said, it is still a fun little device. I'm sure that I will find many more uses for it.