In this last chapter of the book we would like to review the current progress of Android and its future outlook in the mobile marketplace.

To see how successful Android has been during 2009, we will first list the device manufacturers that have committed to building Android based devices. To see the progress in the capabilities of Android devices we will briefly examine the device specs for T-Mobile G1 (from 2008), Motorola Droid (late 2009) and the recently released Google’s unlocked device NexusOne (early 2010). We have also seen the emergence of a number of Android application stores in 2009. We will list some of these online Android application stores.

To understand how Android will fare in the future, we will look at some of the Mobile OSs and contrast them to the Android OS and its framework and conclude the chapter with a set of useful resources covering Android development and Android news.

**Current State of Android**

Android has done really well in 2009. At the end of 2008 there is just one Android based device in the market, T-Mobile G1. In early 2009 there were reports that there could be as many as 18 device manufacturers that are expected to release devices by the end of 2009. It sounded too ambitious. There were also only a few thousand android based applications in early 2009. As 2009 has come to pass there are indeed over 18 device manufacturers that are already selling Android based devices ranging from Cell phones to Netbooks to eReaders. There are over 20,000 apps and counting in the various app stores. Hardly a week goes by without an article or two in the Wall Street Journal concerning Android.

Let us take a look at the range of devices that are available or announced in the market place.
Android Based Mobile Device Manufacturers

At the end of 2009 the list of manufacturers that make devices that run Android OS include

- Archos (An Internet tablet)
- Barnes and Noble (Nook book reader)
- Entourage (Dual faced eReader like a real book)
- General Mobile
- HTC (Maker of Magic, Hero, Droid Eris, Click/Tatoo)
- HKC (A clone platform for HTC)
- Huawei
- Lenovo
- LG Group
- Motorola
- Qigi
- Samsung
- Gini
- Ericson
- Acer
- Skytone (alpha-680 netbook)
- ICD Vega (tablet)

Most of these are mobile phone manufacturers and some manufacturers make Netbooks (Acer) and book readers (Barnes and Noble, Entourage). As you can see the avalanche of Android devices is here.

Let us consider a couple of these devices to see what kind of specs we could expect on these devices. Let us start with the more popular Motorola Droid

Motorola Droid

Motorola Droid comes with an ARM Cortex processor that clocks between 256 Mhz to 550Mhz (According to the Motorola spec site). It supports onboard RAM between 256M to 512MB. It has a WVGA capacitive touch screen, TFT (Thin Film Transistor) LCDs. Droid has a camera with 5 mega pixel resolution (Compare that to 12 Megapixels in more dedicated digital cameras). Droid supports GPS, Wifi, Bluetooth. Droid also comes with a USB 2.0 compliant micro USB. In addition to these Droid supports Acclerometer,