# Windows Live for Mobile
**"Connect with friends, information and entertainment on your mobile device."**
*by Pete Choppin*

I've always been intrigued by how versatile and useful mobile phones and PDA/smartphones are, and yet I never really have taken full advantage of all the features of my PDA. One reason might be that, even though my PDA runs Windows Mobile 6.1, it seems that many of the multimedia features and some of the communication features are hidden or rather complicated.

Recently I attended an IT Technology Seminar and one of the keynote speakers was Chris Henley, an IT professional and self-proclaimed Microsoft Evangelist. Among other things, he admitted in his presentation that Microsoft still has yet to come up with a good software solution for mobile computing.

However, Microsoft has developed a package called Windows Live for Mobile that addresses this shortcoming. Windows Live for Mobile brings to life many of the features that you wish you could use on your phone, but you either don't know how to use them or where to find them. It also enhances, or adds to what you might already be using, such as text messaging and Internet browsing.

Let's take a look at some of the ways we can connect with friends, information and entertainment on your mobile device. I run each of these on a Samsung Saga i770.

## Hotmail for Mobile

This is not merely a link to Hotmail.com. This is a connection that downloads your Hotmail to your device. Not only that, but you can add all your Hotmail contacts to your mobile phone contacts with Hotmail for Mobile.

With Hotmail for Mobile you can read, compose and delete messages on your phone more simply and quickly than you thought possible because it is designed expressly for your phone's screen. This lets you see more of your inbox and messages without scrolling.

## Windows Live Messenger for Mobile

Not unlike the messenger that you use on laptops and desktops, Windows Live Messenger for Mobile allows you to connect with all your friends, view the status of your contacts, participate in group chats, and see and send emoticons. It is formatted especially for your mobile screen, and you can carry on a decent conversation. The nice thing about using Windows Live Messenger for Mobile is that I never need to miss an instant message, although this can be cumbersome at times if I want to get away.

## Windows Live Spaces for Mobile

Windows Live Spaces, the one *not* for your mobile device, provides a blog space for you to post blog entries on Windows Live. It is just another option offered to keep in touch and connected with all your contacts online. But haven't you ever had an idea or wanted to put something on your blog—say a photo and some text along with it? With Windows Live

Spaces for Mobile, that's exactly what you do. Now you won't need to wait until you get to your office or back home to post to a blog. You can do it anywhere.

**Live Search for Mobile**

Sorry, Microsoft has replaced this with Bing for Mobile. Essentially, it is Microsoft's new search engine optimized for mobile devices. There is no download or install necessary. Simply enter in your mobile Web browser and you will access Bing, Microsoft's search engine.

Mobile technology is becoming easier and more accessible all the time. A friend of mine commented that it is getting to the point that you believe that nothing is impossible anymore. Can I connect to my VoIP phone over my PDA? Yep, there's an app for that! Windows Live for Mobile isn't quite at the miraculous stage yet, but it is improving.

At the IT seminar I attended, one of the main themes that ran through almost every presentation was that IT is important to everyone, all walks of life, all ages and stages. Differing cultures do not matter and income does not appear to be a factor. Everyone in every part of the world uses technology and this includes mobile technology. In fact, in many parts of the world, mobile technology is now outgrowing traditional stationary desktop computing. Companies such as Microsoft are positioning themselves to take advantage of mobile computing with applications like Windows Mobile and Windows Live for Mobile.

**Resource**

[Windows Live for Mobile Web Site](#)— Send a link right to your mobile device and get started with Windows Live for Mobile