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Humor

The Day Mom Went Wireless

The following conversation really took place! Mom wanted a cell phone "for emergencies," and the day she received the phone in the mail quickly became just such an occasion.



"Mom, your phone is set up with a YES button and a NO button."
"But how do I turn the phone on?"
"By hitting the NO button which functions as the POWER ON button."
"What? The NO button is also the ON button?"
"Yes. Hit the NO button to power up the phone."
"Is powering up different than turning it on?"
"No."
"No as in the NO button or just plain No?"
"No as in just plain no."
"Okay. Then how do I make a call?"
"Hit the NO button to turn it on. Wait for the beep indicating the network has been acquired."
"Acquired by whom?"
"Acquired by your phone."
"Okay. Do they charge me for that?"
"No. You only pay for calls you make and incoming calls because they use the network."
"Okay. So, NO to turn it on and then what?"
"Wait for the beep and then dial the number you want to call."
"Do I press NO?"
"No. Just dial the number."
"Okay. Then what?"
"Hit the YES button."
"Yes?"
"Correct."
"Then what?"
"Then it gets very exciting. When you hit the YES button you're connected!"
"Connected to what?"



Connected to what?

"To the network, and the phone dials the number."

"Do they charge me for that?"

"No. You're only charged for connected time."

"Connected time?"

"Yep. The time you spend either on a call you make or talking to someone who called you."

"How would they call ME if I have the phone?"

"They would use THEIR phone, Mom."

"Oh. I follow you. So then what?"

"Then, when you are done talking and want to end the call, hit the NO button to hang up."

"NO hangs up? I thought NO turned the thing on?"

"NO turns the phone on AND hangs up the phone."

"Do they charge me for that?"

"No."

"Okay. I think I got that. But how do I turn off the phone?"

"By hitting—and holding down—the NO button."

"I thought that button ends the call?"

"It does. But it also shuts off the phone when you want it off."

"And all I do is hold it down?"

"Yes."

"For how long?"

"Until you hear the beep."

"Oh. Okay. That's a little confusing."

"I think it might be for a while, until you get used to it."

"Oh. Okay. I'm glad you're here to help me with all this."

"No problem Mom. That's why I'm here."

"Okay. So I just held down the YES button and now it's asking me if I want to access my address book. What just happened?"

"You hit YES instead of NO to turn off the phone."

"I thought you said YES."

"Nope. NO shuts off the phone."

"Do they charge me for that?"

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