



## Mobile apps: computer programs in your pocket

Video transcript: original clip

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Twenty years ago, virtually no one used these, but now it's hard to imagine life without them.

Today's handheld devices are more powerful and more connected than the desktop computers of the 1990's. And to harness that power, mobile apps were created.

Apps provide a one-touch route to services like banking and social networks. And they can be created by anyone who wants to code.

Basic coding kits can help get an app to market within days. So it's easier than ever to capitalize on a great idea.

A seventeen year old Londoner made an app that served up bite-sized news at the touch of a button. His bedroom creation sold for 18 million pounds.

These tiny pieces of code are designed to work with smart devices, which are seriously powerful bits of hardware. The first computers would take up an entire room but the smartphone in your pocket is a million times faster.

But, even they have their limits.

Cloud computing allows programmes and data to be stored and accessed over the internet instead of on your phone.

As mobile devices become increasingly connected, it makes sense for the heavy lifting to be done somewhere else.

Could cloud computing mean that one day we will have access to an unlimited amount of computing power?

It's incredible to think that just 70 years after the first electronic computer, so much of our lives are made possible by computer code.

And the truly exciting thing for me is that we've just started to explore the possibilities of connectedness, mobiles and apps.