

Setting up an Amazon Echo in Spain

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Got yourself an Amazon Echo? The first thing you will need is the Alexa App on your phone or tablet. The problem is the Alexa app is not available in Spain. Don't panic, providing you have an Android based device, you can sideload the app. Sideload an app means you are going to install the app manually from another source other than the Playstore. Similar to how you install a program on a PC ie: you download the install file and follow the prompts to install it.

Unfortunately Apple devices will not allow you to do this so your out of luck if you only have apple devices to hand, There is a way to sideload on apple devices but its very complex and way beyond this article. I would not recommend you attempt it unless you really know what you are doing as it can brick your device and VOID your warranty.

First of all, before you can download the Alexa app (link below), you need to allow “Unknown Sources” on your Android device. Go to your settings then Security settings, look for an option to allow “Unknown Sources”. (If you can't find it, google Unknown Sources and the model of device you have) Once enabled you will get a scary security warning, this is ok to accept, However I would recommend once you have finished installing Alexa you disable it again.

Now that your device is ready to accept files from unknown sources you can go and get the install file. In the Android world an install file is called an “Apk” . Open the browser app on your phone, in the navigation bar enter the following address and go there.

<http://compusurf.es/pubftp/alexa.apk> the file will start to download, you will be warned that this type of file can damage your device, this is true but not this one so it is safe to proceed. You will get a few prompts about what the app is allowed to do , accept them all. (you will need about 50MB of space on your device for the app) During the install you will need your Amazon account login details, if you do not have one you get a chance to set one up during the process.

Once installed, open the app and follow the prompts to setup your echo or other Alexa enabled device. Tip: to get the correct time on your device use Gibraltar as your location using the postcode GX11 1AA , remember during the setup process your Alexa device must be powered up and in range of the same wifi router that your Android device is connected to.