The Astro Slide ? A modern phone with a full-sized mechanical keyboard

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The screen on the Android 11 Astro Slide phone slides up (hence the name) to reveal a full-sized keyboard in a format similar to a very small laptop.

The full specifications for the device are available on Planet's web site, but we include a summary below.

Planet previously brought us the Cosmo Communicator and Gemini ? both supported 4G plus WiFi and had a clamshell style arrangement to access the keyboard ? this of course meant that there was no screen visible when the device was closed.

The Astro Slide fixes all that and also includes an update to 5G. Originally available as an Indiegogo project, the Astro Slide is now available for direct purchase.

In summary, we have a 5G dual-SIM device running Android 11 with the promise of support for Sailfish, Debian and Kali Linux. The Astro Slide has 2 USB-C ports and has provision for dual SIMs and an additional microSD card, it also supports eSIM. This is the perfect solution for those who want the portability of a pocket-sized device with the power and flexibility of a (budget) laptop, assuming they're happy with a larger device that's probably twice the thickness of their existing phone.