

How to Save any screen, to review the screen image now or later

<i>Device Type</i>	<i>Keyboard keys OR button combo</i>	<i>Screen image file is stored in folder</i>
Windows	Win+PRTSCR	Pictures/Screenshots
Macintosh	Shift+Command+3	Desktop
Android	Power+Volume Up	Internal storage/ DCIM/Screenshots
iOS	Home+Volume Down or Power+Volume Down	Photos

CLOCK APP CUSTOM ALARM TONES

A Learn in 30 presentation by
JOHN KROUT

For PATACS+OPCUG joint meeting
Saturday, November 15, 2025

Agenda

- Why are custom clock alarm tones useful?
- What this presentation covers and does not cover.
- Assign custom tones for alarms in Google Clock app, Samsung Clock app, and iPhone Clock app.
- Download zero-cost custom spoken alarm tones to get started.

Why Alarm Tones?

- Instead of a built-in alarm sound, your Clock app alarms can speak aloud the alarm purpose to you.
- Spoke alarm announcements enable you to understand the alarm purpose instantly. For example:
 - Wake up,
 - Take Medicines,
 - Dentist appointment,
 - Social Security income today,
 - PATACS and OPCUG Meeting Today at 1 PM.

How to record and install custom Alarm Tones?

- To limit this presentation to 30 minutes, I left out material I have covered previously for creating and installing custom tones. The prior material is already online.
- You can make Windows text-to-speech announcement recordings (see PATACS Recent Meeting for April 2025)
- You can install recordings as ringtones (See PATACS Recent Meetings for March 2025)
- You can make text-to-speech announcement recordings using your Android or Apple portable device (see articles on Krout's Corner Web page)

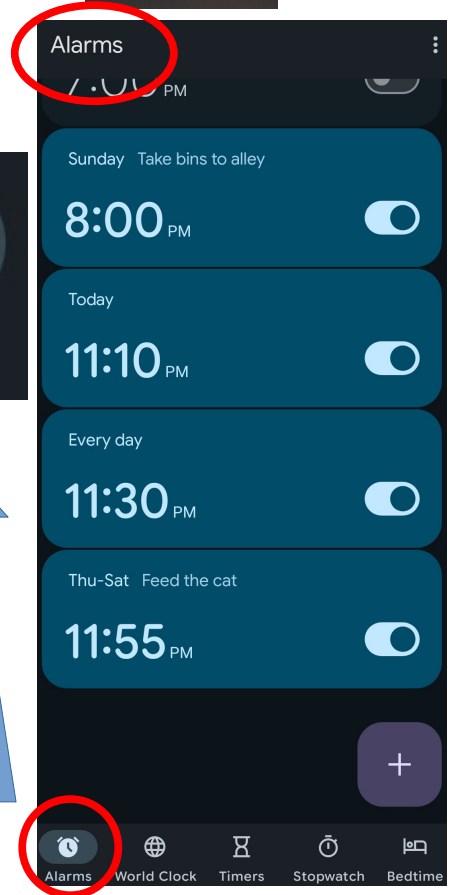
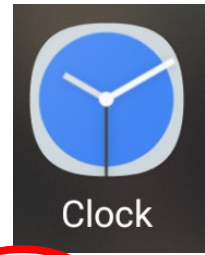
Three clock apps are covered today

- Google Clock, Samsung Clock, and iPhone clock
- Like custom text tones or ringtones, making use of a custom alarm tone generally involves three phases: Recording, Installing, and Assigning.
- Today we will focus on Assigning custom tones for alarms.
- Samsung Clock is unique because it can read out loud the alarm title. However, for that feature to be useful, a special Silence tone must be installed and assigned, as you will learn today.

The Google Clock app
The Samsung Clock app
The iPhone Clock app

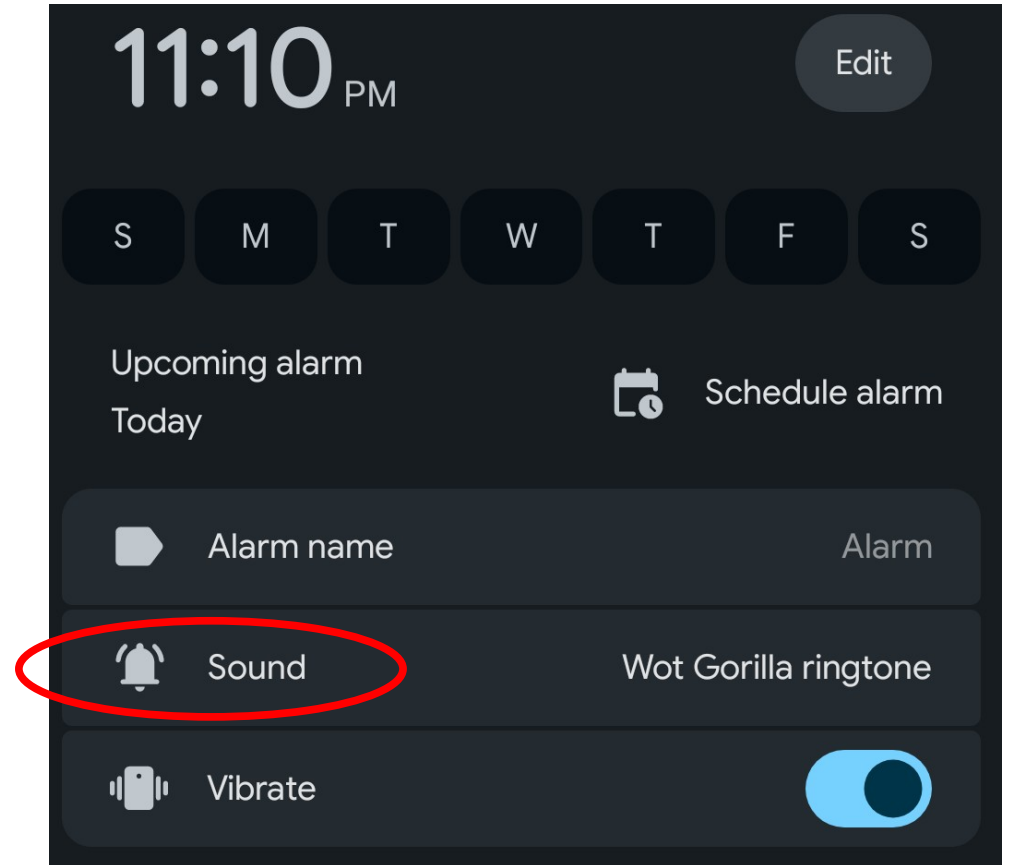
Assign a custom alarm tone using the Google Clock app

- Open the Google Clock app.
- If the Alarms screen is not visible, then click the **Alarms button** (circled) at the bottom of the screen.
- Create (tap the + sign) or find an alarm to which to assign a custom alarm tone.
- To assign a custom tone to an alarm, tap any blank part of the alarm to open the Alarm Details popup (next slide).



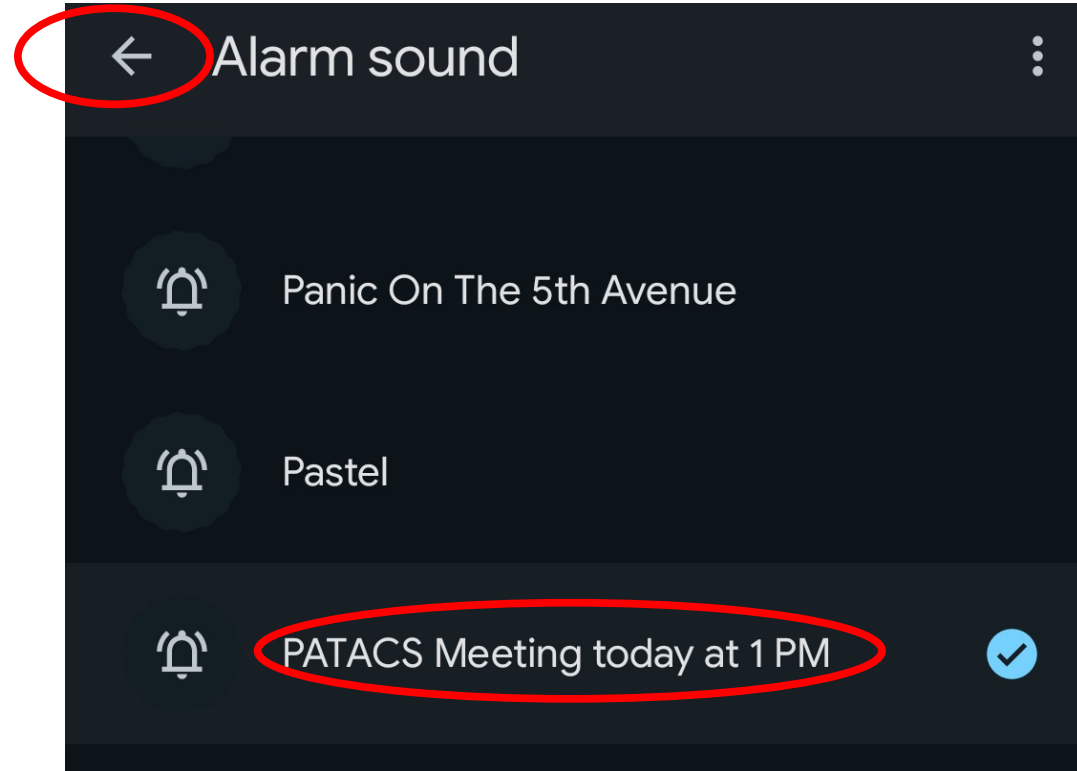
Assign a custom alarm tone using the Google Clock app

- In the Alarm Details popup, select the **Sound field** (circled).
- An alphabetic list of Ringtones appears (next slide).



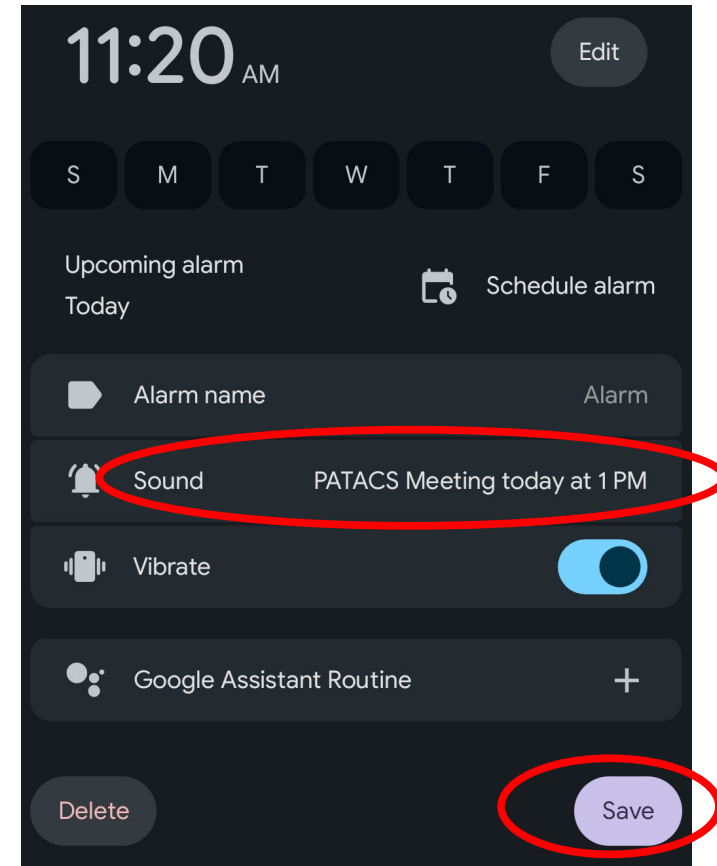
Assign a custom alarm tone using the Google Clock app

- Scroll through the list and select the desired custom tone.
- The tone plays.
- If that is the *correct* custom tone, then tap the left-arrow at the top left corner (circled).
- If not the correct tone, then tap another custom tone.



Assign a custom alarm tone using the Google Clock app

- The Ringtones list closes and the Alarm Details popup reappears.
- The selected alarm tone name appears in the Alarm Details by the word Sound (circled).
- IMPORTANT! Click the **Save button** in the lower left corner (circled). The popup closes. DONE!
- Tap Delete if you chose a wrong tone.



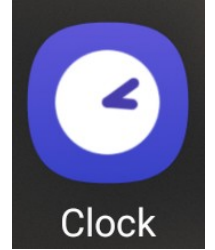
The Google Clock app

The Samsung Clock app

The iPhone Clock app

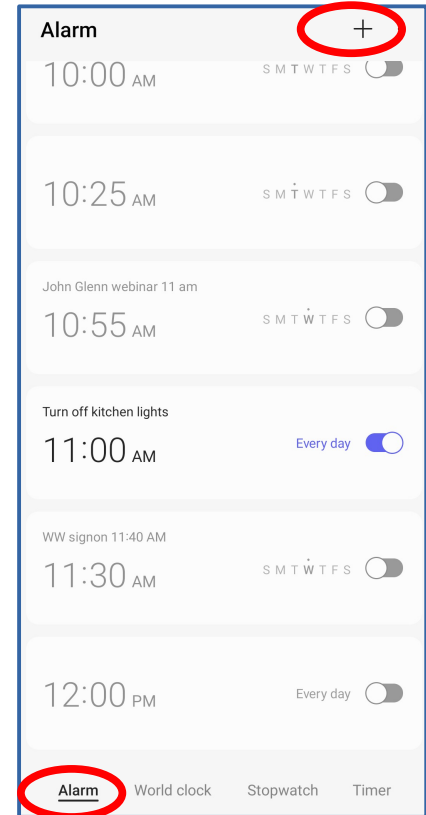
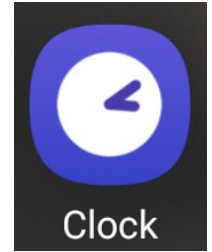
The Samsung Clock app

- This app has the unique ability to read aloud its name when the alarm time arrives.
- However, the read-aloud option **REQUIRES** that an alarm tone also be selected for the alarm. Of course, an alarm tone playing any sound interferes with the audibility of the read-aloud option. I heard that interference repeatedly.
- I will provide you with a custom tone named Silence 10 seconds.mp3 that you can use as the tone to assign to a read-aloud alarm.



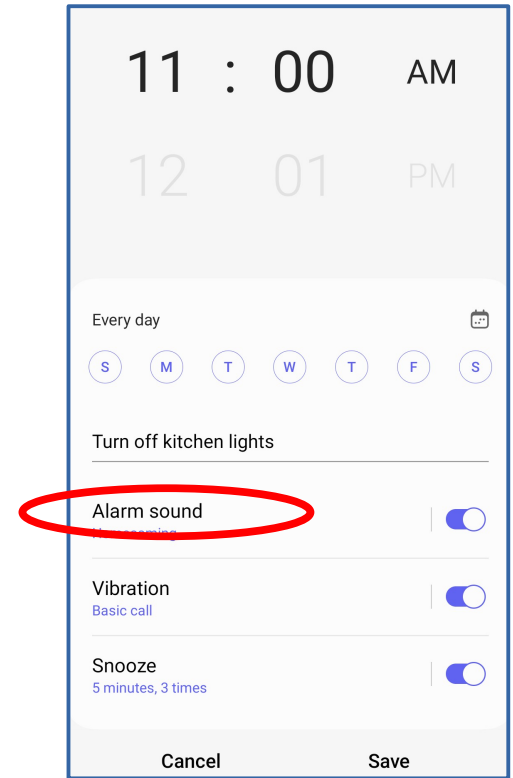
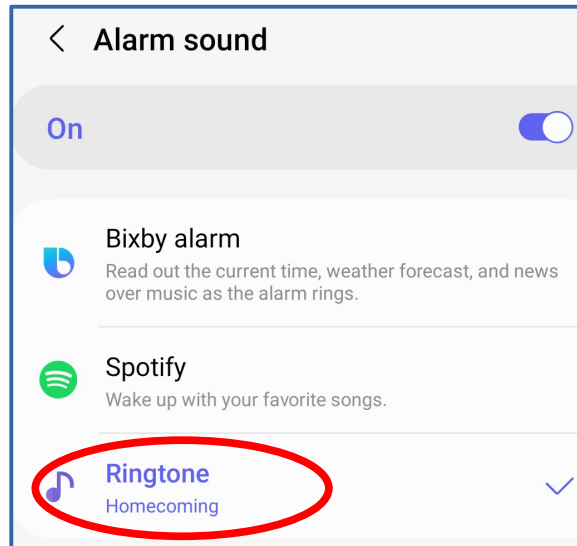
The Samsung Clock app

- These instructions cover both custom ringtone assignment and using the app itself to read aloud the alarm title.
- Open the app. If the alarms list is not visible, then tap the **Alarm button** in the lower left corner (circled).
- Select the desired alarm, or tap the **+** button (circled) in the upper right corner to create a new alarm.
- The Alarm Details screen appears (next slide).



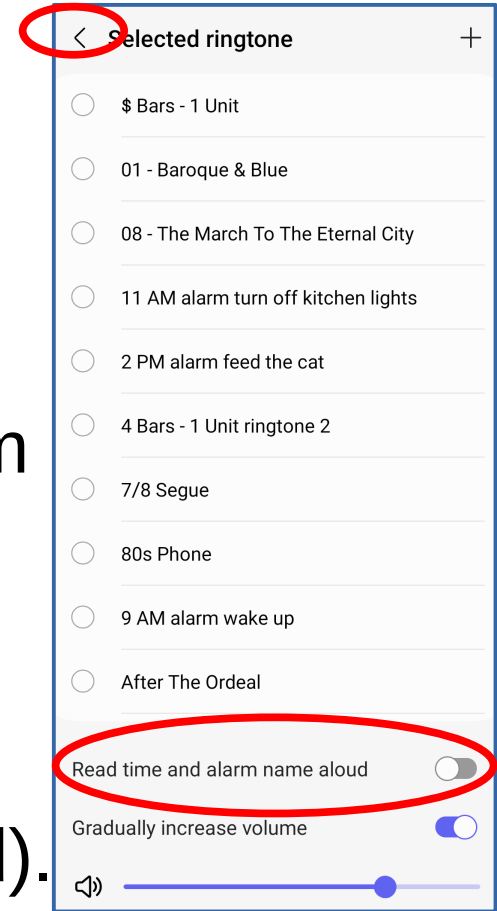
Assign a custom tone to a Samsung Clock alarm

- In the Alarm Details screen, tap the **Alarm Sound field** (circled).
- An Alarm Sound screen appears.
- In that screen, tap the **Ringtone field** (circled).
- An alphabetic list of Ringtones appears (next slide).



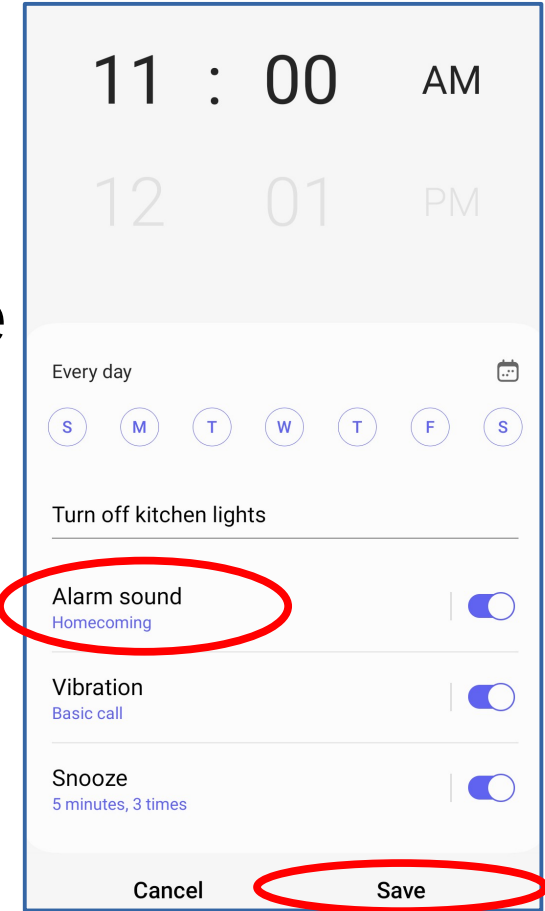
Assign a custom tone to a Samsung Clock alarm

- If you want the app to read aloud the alarm title, then turn on the **Read Time and Alarm name aloud** switch (circled).
- AND select the **silence custom tone**.
- If instead you want the alarm to play a custom alarm tone, then select that custom tone.
- When selected, the tone plays.
- If you have selected the *correct* tone, then tap the left arrow in the top left corner (circled).



Assign a custom tone to a Samsung Clock alarm

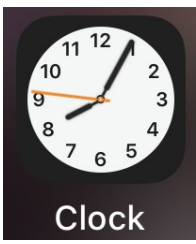
- The alarm sound screen reappears (not shown). Tap the left arrow in the upper left corner.
- The **Alarm Details screen** reappears. The selected alarm tone name appears under **Alarm Sound** (circled).
- The Alarm Sound screen ***does not show*** that the read aloud switch is on or off.
- IMPORTANT! Tap the **Save button** in the lower right corner (circled). DONE!



Which Samsung Clock option is better for you?

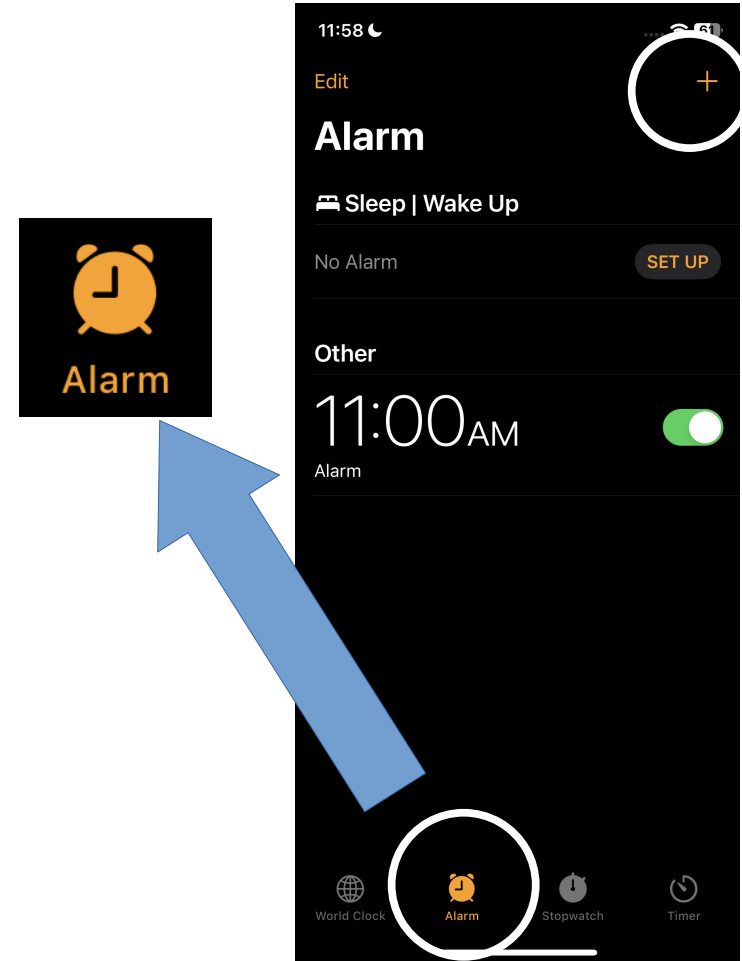
- Custom alarm tones take up storage space on your Android portable, but not much space.
- The read-aloud option avoids that use of storage space.
- In my opinion, the audio quality of the read-aloud option is less than ideal. It sounds a bit ragged. That issue might be unique to my Samsung phone model.
- For Samsung Clock alarms that repeat, I always use custom alarm tones.

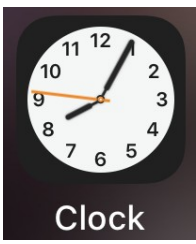
The Google Clock app
The Samsung Clock app
The iPhone Clock app



The iPhone Clock app

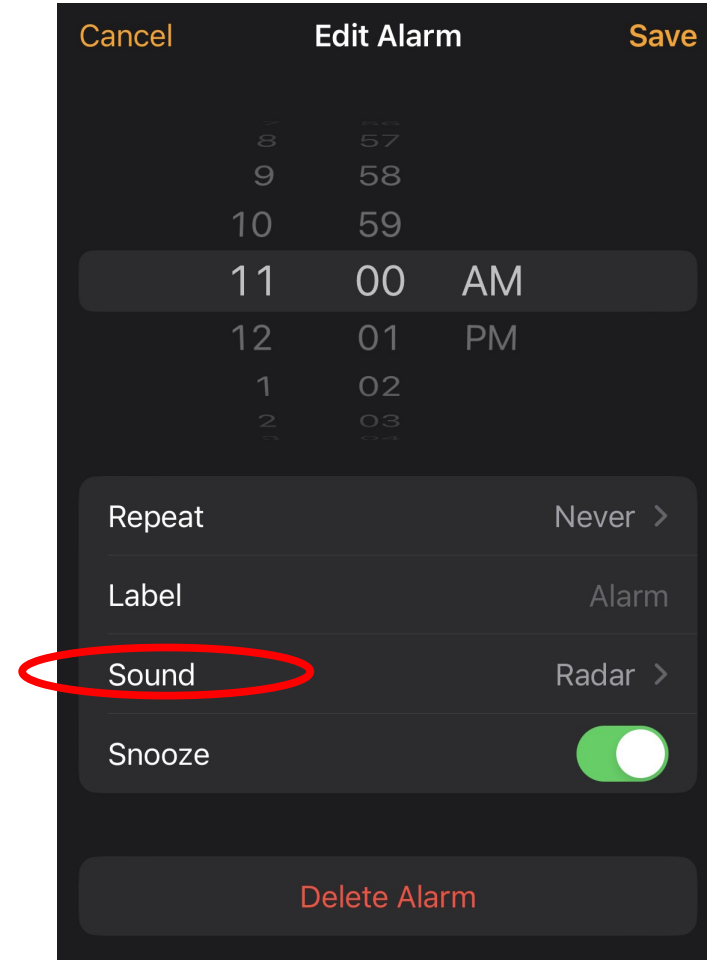
- Open the Clock app.
- If its screen does not display alarms, then tap the **Alarm button** at the bottom of the screen (circled) to reveal alarms.
- Tap any existing alarm, or tap the **+ button** in the upper right corner (circled) to create a new alarm.





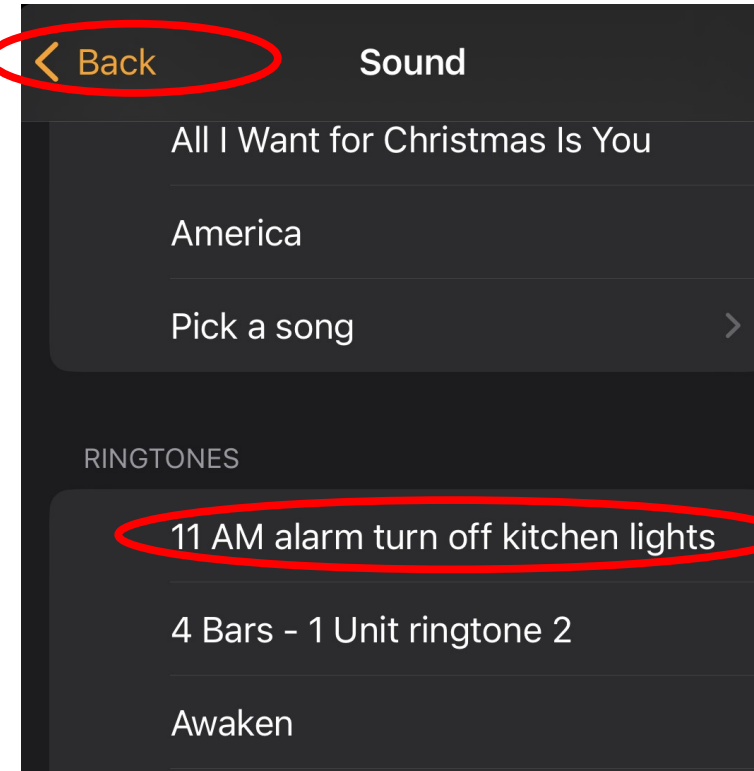
The iPhone Clock app

- The **Edit Alarm** screen appears.
- In that screen, tap the **Sound** field (circled).
- The alphabetic screen of installed tones appears, with tones in groups (see next slide).



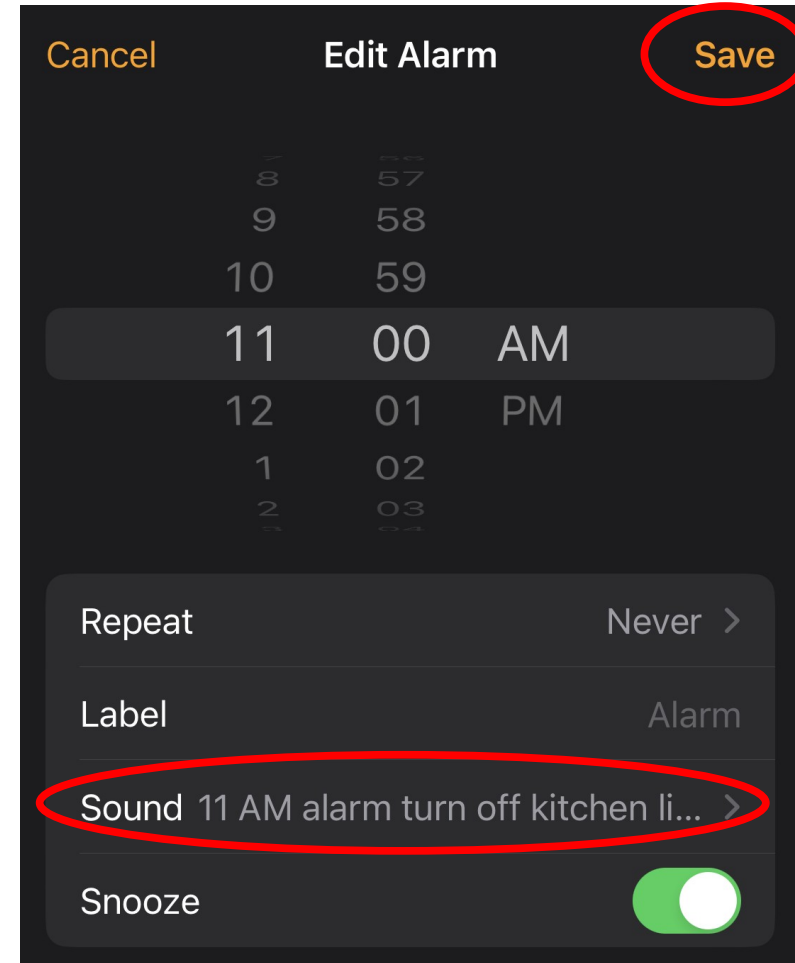
The iPhone Clock app

- The list displays groups of sounds.
- Songs appear in the first group.
Custom tones appear in the **Ringtones group** (circled). Built-in tones appear in the third group.
- Scroll to and select the desired custom tone for the alarm. iPhone plays the selected tone.
- If that is the *correct* tone, then tap the **Back button** (circled) in the upper left corner, and the tones list closes.
- If not the correct tone, then tap another tone.



The iPhone Clock app

- The selected tone name appears to the right of the word **Sound** in the Edit Alarm screen (circled).
- IMPORTANT! Tap the Save button in the upper right corner (circled).
- Or, if you chose the wrong tone, then tap the Cancel button.
- The Edit Alarm screen closes. The list of Alarms reappears. DONE!



**Custom tones you can download
to get started**

Pre-recorded custom alarm tones

- I have made some custom spoken alarm tones and posted them online for you to download.
- These include:
 - Wake Up,
 - PATACS meeting Wednesday at 7 PM,
 - PATACS Meeting today at 7 PM,
 - PATACS and OPCUG joint meeting Saturday at 1 PM,
 - PATACS and OPCUG joint meeting today at 1 PM

Pre-recorded custom alarm tones

- For Android, I have also posted a Silence 10 seconds.mp3 tone that you can use together with the Samsung clock read-aloud option.
- I posted the tone files as two file groups in Zip files, one Zip file for Android and a second Zip file for iPhone.
- Makes it easy to obtain a custom alarm tone file group with just one download URL.
- The Zip files have no password. You can open a downloaded Zip file immediately and copy the custom tone files.

Pre-recorded custom alarm tones

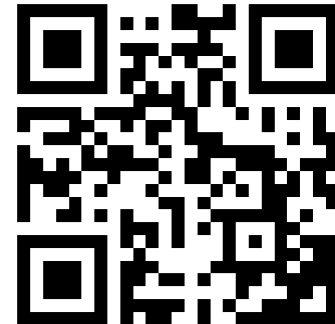
- This Zip file approach dodges a Google Drive glitch which, when downloading a single M4R file, auto-converts the M4R extension to M4A.
- For iPhone, I strongly recommend downloading the Zip file ***to your computer***. You need to install the custom tones using iTunes or an equivalent application on your computer, with your iPhone connected to your computer via USB.

Download the Zip files containing custom alarm tones

- Custom alarm tones for **Android**:
- <https://tinyurl.com/2p8xhanh>



- Custom alarm tones for **Apple**:
- <https://tinyurl.com/y3473wcd>



THE END