

Useful Handheld Apps (iOS/iPadOS examples, applies to Android too) and Cross-Device Synergies

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October 2022

Exploring Apps

- Though iPhones/iPads come with assorted native (built-in) apps, they're also "blank slates", ready to be customized (and filled!) with one's personal selection/collection of apps. But there's bazillions of apps in the app store -- so how do you find/select the (relatively) few to use? And once you've used your device for a while, how do you know how much storage and data each app uses? This presentation explores the app store for exploring/selecting/installing apps, tours a few of my favorite apps, and highlights app management tools.
- I'll highlight apps from my iOS experience; most or similar apps are available for Android devices.
- Frequent reviews/collections/"Best of" articles, e.g., *The Best iPhone Apps for 2022* -- <https://www.pcmag.com/picks/best-iphone-apps>
 - *The App Store hosts more than 2 million titles, so it's tough choosing which ones to install on your iPhone 14, iPhone 14 Pro, or other Apple handset. We help you decide with 97 top app picks in 12 key categories.*

PCMag Best Apps Categories

- Communication
- Education & Information
- Entertainment
- Finance
- Food & Travel
- Health & Fitness
- Lifestyle & Hobby
- Photo & Video
- Productivity
- Security
- Social Networking
- Utility

A Million Apps – Which to Use?

- Too many to just browse
- Seek suggestions/recommendations
- Note when apps updated, ratings/reviews
- Only grant reasonable access/permissions
- Be careful; make educated choices
- Free/paid? Get what you pay for? Pay for what you get? Support developers – and if you're not paying, you're the product!

Organizing Apps

- Group app icons by category for ease of use and management
- Use same Apple account for all devices
- Explore/exploit iCloud for backup and sharing files/data/sharing
- Use desktop Spotlight tool for quick access to apps
- Record screen actions and capture screen shots for documentation/sharing and problem reports
 - <https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT207935> -- Record screen
 - <https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT200289> -- Screenshot
- Manage apps
 - <https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT211345> -- Native tools
 - Settings: Notifications/Privacy; scroll list to review choices

Record Screen

- Settings > Control Center, tap Add button next to Screen Recording
- Open Control Center
- Tap gray Record button, wait for three-second countdown
- Exit Control Center to record screen
- To stop recording, open Control Center, tap red Record button. Or tap red status bar at top of screen and tap Stop

Use Photos app to select screen recording

Some apps might not allow recording audio or video. You can't record screen and use screen mirroring at same time

Screenshot

- Screenshot iPhone 13 and other models with Face ID
 - Press side button and volume up button at same time.
 - Quickly release both buttons.
 - Thumbnail temporarily appears in lower-left corner of screen.
 - Tap thumbnail to open it or swipe left to dismiss it.
- Screenshot iPhone models with Touch ID and side button
 - Press side button and Home button at same time.
 - Quickly release both buttons.
 - Thumbnail temporarily appears in lower-left corner of screen.
 - Tap thumbnail to open it or swipe left to dismiss it.
- Screenshot iPhone models with Touch ID and top button
 - Press top button and Home button at same time.
 - Quickly release both buttons.
 - Thumbnail temporarily appears in lower-left corner of screen.
 - Tap thumbnail to open it or swipe left to dismiss it.

There's an app for that...

- Cox Cable apps: watch TV channels on iPad
- Movies: IMDB (research movies); Netflix (watch them!)
- Amazon: browse, shop, check order status
- Publications: many for personal/professional reading
- Newsstand: groups publication apps
- Shop/dine/travel: Google Earth, Yelp, OpenTable, Zillow
- Weather
- Health: drugstore, docs, labs, records, research, pets...
- Etc.
- Music/games: not so much for me -- or just not yet!
- Wallets for payments, event tickets, boarding passes...
- Multiple browsers (essential for problem diagnosis/recovery!)

There's Another App for That...

- Microsoft Office and equivalents: free subset, paid full version
- Communication and social media (email, instant messaging, Twitter, Skype, Facebook, Facetime to call iOS devices, etc.)
- Government/politics
- Infinite online content (TED talks, LinkedIn, Wikipedia...)
- Publications (NY Times, WashPost, Slate, BBC...)
- Shop/dine/travel (airlines, Google Earth, Giant, GasBuddy, Angie's List, Yelp, Zillow for real estate values ...)
- TV/radio information, weather/health/hobbies...
- Utility functions (clock/timer, calendar, camera...)
- Finance (deposit checks by taking pictures!)
- Device/network status/statistics/diagnostics
- Government
- Audience suggested: Quora, OneNote, Evernote, Camera Plus, PixelMator, Animal 4D
- Zoom (used for PATACS/APCUG online meetings)

Favorite Apps

- WAZE for navigation and real-time traffic and hazards information – a Westchester County friend commented:
 - What a find! We had to go to Flushing twice round-trip in rush hour (9 and 5). WAZE sent us over Throggs Neck Bridge three times and over Whitestone once. It was really thinking. We hit almost no traffic. Thanks!
- Messing with Waze
 - Bogus reports, kid's wagon with 99 phones

Favorite Apps (continued)

- Keynote (you're looking at it!) for preparing/delivering presentations using iPad, iPhone, and iPod touch
- Safari/Firefox/Chrome/etc. for browsing
- Phone for ... talking!
- Life360 for family-style location sharing
- Virtual reality
- Rate/review apps, share experiences

Apps Demos

- Sort apps to groups/folders/etc. plus dock
- New York Times
- Google Maps/Earth/Streetview
- Amazon
- Yelp/OpenTable (reviews/reservations)
- TV Guide
- Contour (for Cox Cable)
- Life 360 (share location information)
- CVS

Apps Demos (Continued)

- The Weather Channel
- Clock (alarm, stopwatch, timer)
- Speedtest (also try website on PC/Mac)
- IMDB (Internet Movie Database)
- Navy Federal Credit Union
- YouTube
- Browsers
- Zillow

Travel Apps

- Waze
- Life360
- Google Maps
- Google Earth
- Lyft
- Metro Subway Map
- NYC Subway
- FlightAware/FlightRadar/FlightStats
- Zillow

Utility Apps

- Clock
- SpeedTest
- Compass
- Measure
- Handy Level
- Calculator Pro

Online/Communication Apps

- Chrome/Safari/Firefox
- Gmail
- Messages
- Zoom/GoToWebinar/Webex
- See Send
- Smart911
- Notes

Entertainment/Education Apps

- Contour
- IMDB
- Lynda.com
- Keynote
- Pocket

Synergy: iCloud on Windows

- iCloud is Apple's proprietary cloud offering
- If you have Apple devices and use Windows, install iCloud!
- Windows dashboard integrates apps; they're separate on Apple devices
 - [What is iCloud for Windows?](#)
 - [Download iCloud for Windows](#)
 - [Set up and use iCloud for Windows](#)
 - [Get help using iCloud for Windows](#)
 - [Get help using Outlook with iCloud for Windows](#)
 - [Set up and use iCloud Photos on your Windows PC](#)
 - [Get help with iCloud Photos on your Windows PC](#)

Cross-Device Synergies

- iCloud Keychain syncs usernames and passwords across devices for websites/apps; other choices include Firefox Lockbox
- iCloud increasingly syncs appropriate Apple apps across devices, such as Stocks, News, Home
- Check Apple Software Update (click Start and All Programs) for new iCloud versions.
- Unless you want it, DON'T install iTunes; my experience with that on Windows wasn't pleasant.
- Beware uncertainty about iCloud data preservation/availability/transfer after account holder death
- Files app displays/manages iCloud files.
- Safari can sync bookmarks (other browsers also do this, of course)
- Besides iCloud, many 3rd party apps sync across devices, e.g., 1Password password manager, Pocket for saving articles to read

More Synergies/Synchronization

- MANY cloud services sync across devices (including macOS)
 - OneDrive
 - DropBox
 - Box
 - Adobe Creative Cloud
 - Google Drive, other apps and cloud services
 - Hightail (formerly YouSendIt)
 - Amazon Drive
 - SugarSync
- Many apps and websites support cross-device communication, e.g., Life360 for sharing locations, Find iPhone, Find Friends
- Other cloud services such as AWS, Azure, HPE Helion, aim more at corporate/business needs
- Apple makes extensive use of AWS (Amazon Web Services)
- There's abundant information online and in many books (check indexes!)

Summary/Conclusion

- Apps are like pizza toppings – a personal choice
 - I like anchovies, my wife doesn't!
- Verify before trusting: check history, ratings, reviews
- Evaluate new apps as needed and delete what isn't needed
- Update apps (and iOS/iPadOS) regularly – or automatically
- Group apps by category to avoid redundancy and simplify finding
- Use spotlight for fast searching