

IPHONE/IPAD TIPS



iOS9 and Other Apple Tidbits

When To Update or Not

Needless to say, you have noticed that your phone is telling you that a new OS is available to download. I have not downloaded 9 yet and do not plan to do so for a month. 9.0.1 is already out with a bug fix and 9.1 is forthcoming in order to fix lagging response on older phones. I will wait for 9.1!! If you updated, you might have seen slower response on iPhone 5's and older iPhone 4's cannot update to 9.

If you elect to update to 9, you will be presented with the fresh install questions about iCloud password and security. Do not be tricked into adding a passcode (Apple changed it to 6 digits now) if you don't want one. You will see "passcode options" at the bottom of the screen. Use that to bypass that screen. I do use a passcode but only for restarts and being off for 3 hrs, otherwise I do not get a passcode every time I use my phone.

I have an iPad 2 that has not done very well with iOS8, so I will not likely update it. The processors are just too slow for the new OS's.

New Mail Feature in iOS 9

We can finally delete all emails that are found or are in a separate folder. We've had to pretty much delete one at a time thus far. You can now delete all of them in one swipe. Use the "edit" button at the top and then the "delete all" button to trash your emails at once.

How to Make Your Older iPhone Faster With iOS9

For phones older than the 6's, you might want to make this change to speed up response, Disable "transparency and motion". You will notice more contrast in your screens and a little difference in how screens move but the speed will improve greatly. Go to settings/general/accessability and find "increase contrast" option and turn it on. Right under that you will find "reduce motion" and turn that on also. Feel free to try this on your iPhone 6's as well.

Another power hog in OS9 is "Siri suggestions". I didn't know about this one. When this is on, Siri is working in the background crunching all of your data so that it can suggest activities for you to do or notify you of friends that are nearby.

To turn Suggestions off, go to settings/general/spotlight search and you will find this option at the top of the screen. Toggle it off.

Yet another power drain is "background app refresh". This means that apps that are not even active can process information and access the internet. You will be surprised to see how many are turned on!!! Go to settings/general/background app refresh and either turn it completely off or select only the essential app's that you cannot live without. For example if you have the IF app set up to alert you when you go by the grocery store as a reminder, it will not work if you turn off refresh.

Understand that these apps that slow your phone down also drain your battery. So you will get more battery time as well.

Use Siri to Search Photos & Live Photos

One of the iOS9 Siri features is the ability to search your photos. You can search by date or by location. For example: "Show me photos of Raleigh from June". For a specific date like your birthday: "Show me photos for April 15".

iOS9 on the 6s has a new feature called "live photos" which is an animated photo comprised of a still and a tiny movie. I'm sure it's cool, but be aware that it will increase the size of every photo with that feature (photos are already going to be larger with the 6s). If you are considering the purchase of a new 6s phone, consider buying a 32gig phone for more storage space. The 6's are likely the last model to offer the 16gig version with increased sizes of photos and 4k videos, 16gigs just will not cut it anymore.

Backup Before You Buy

Backup your iPhone before you buy a new one!!!

Device Tips

Re-purpose your old powered PC speakers. If you have an nice old set of powered computer speakers, like Bose, that are not being used, consider making them Wifi speakers by adding a Wifi or bluetooth adapter. Bluetooth has been around for years now and most devices have a limited range back to your iPhone. So now I'm interested in some nice sounding patio/game room speakers that can be controlled from your iPhone or iPad. You can also use your soundbar.

Sonos and Samsung (who make Wifi speakers) also have Wifi adapters/amps to convert old speakers to Wifi enabled. I am looking for one that works with PC speakers that have built-in amps. So this Pure Jongo A2 Wifi Adapter might do the job. It's \$49 on Amazon. The output is RCA, so you'll have to have a RCA to Mini adapter to plug PC speakers into the output. I'm ordering one asap.



Sonos is the industry leader for home sound distribution. It requires a control unit and a Wifi speaker for each room. Samsung is set up the same way.

iPad Surprise

Apple did release the iPad Pro (13 inches) and an iPad Mini 4. The Pro is huge compared to the iPad Air, comparable to a laptop. Options include a stylus and a smart keyboard case. With the new force touch and the stylus, you be able to draw and paint like a pro. The Pro also has split screen so that you can have 2 windows up at the same time. There are cameras front and back but I still don't see a flash - what's up with that??? Price starts at \$799 but you really can park your laptop now for a thin, light tablet with 10 hr battery life.

Force Touch means "pressure sensitive"



touching with your finger or stylus adding another dimension to your iPhone/iPad.
This applies to the new models released this month.

