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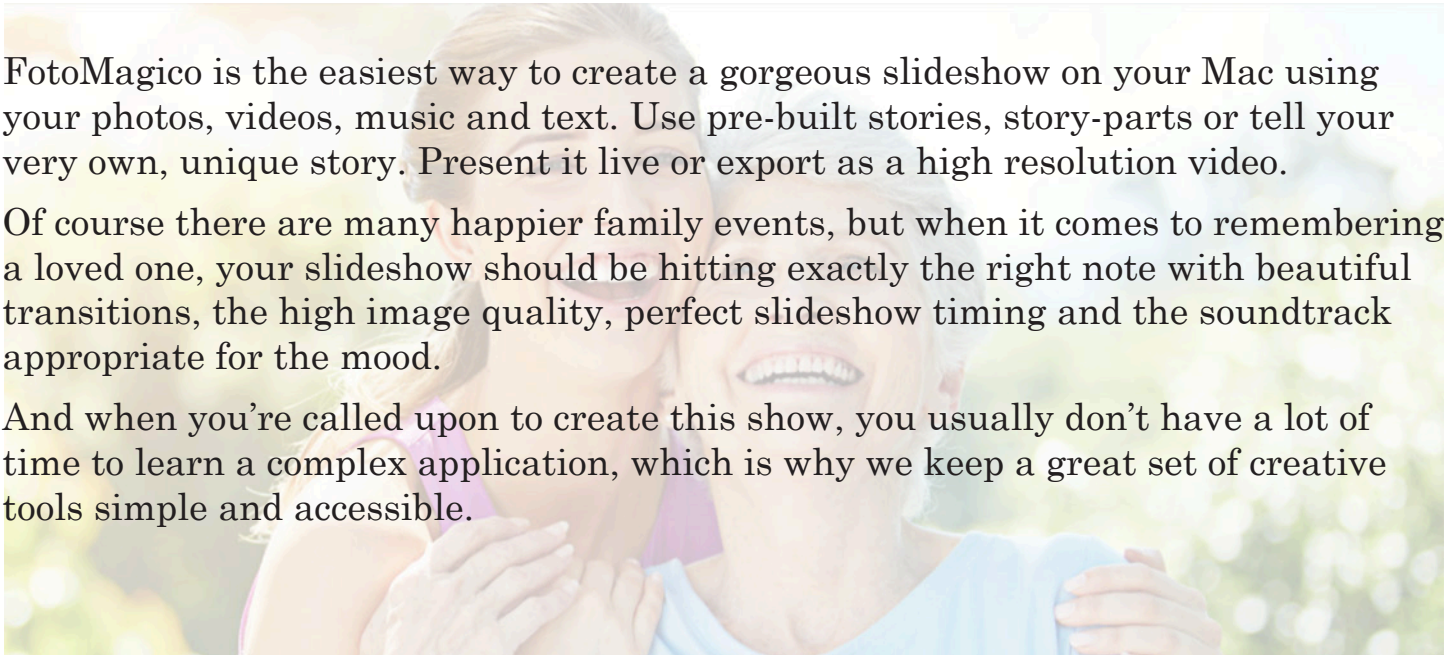
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Meet us at

Bethany Village Retirement Center

Education Room

5225 Wilson Lane, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Tuesday, March 21 2017 6:30 p.m.

Attendance is free and open to all interested persons.

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Keystone MacCentral is a not-for-profit group of Macintosh enthusiasts who generally meet the third Tuesday of every month to exchange information, participate in question-and-answer sessions, view product demonstrations, and obtain resource materials that will help them get the most out of their computer systems. Meetings are free and open to the public. The *Keystone MacCentral printout* is the official newsletter of Keystone MacCentral and an independent publication not affiliated or otherwise associated with or sponsored or sanctioned by any for-profit organization, including Apple Inc. Copyright © 2017, Keystone MacCentral, 310 Somerset Drive, Shiresmanstown, PA 17011.

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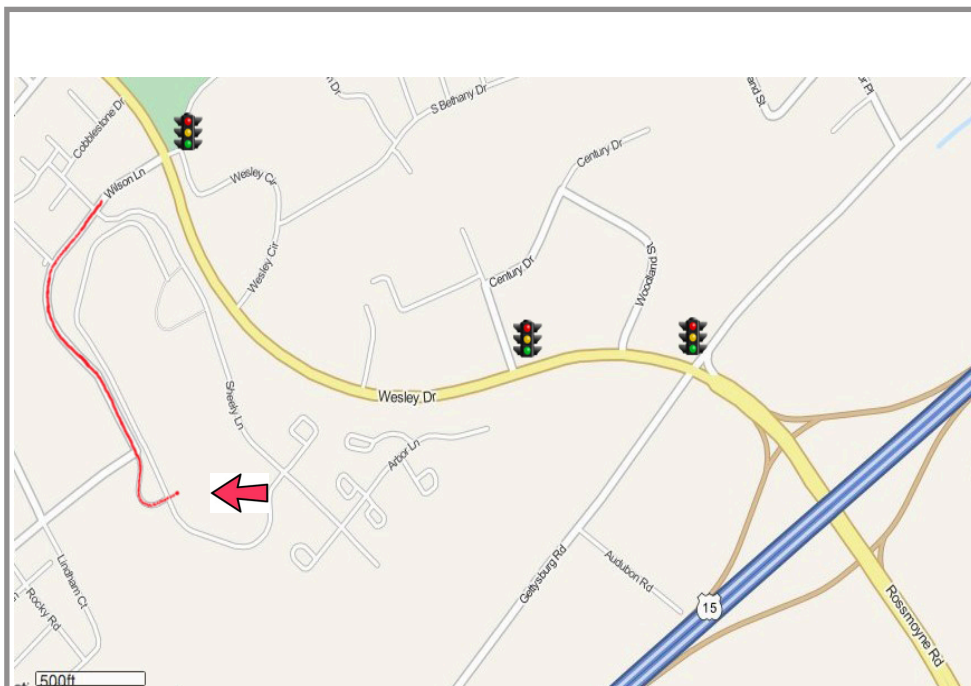
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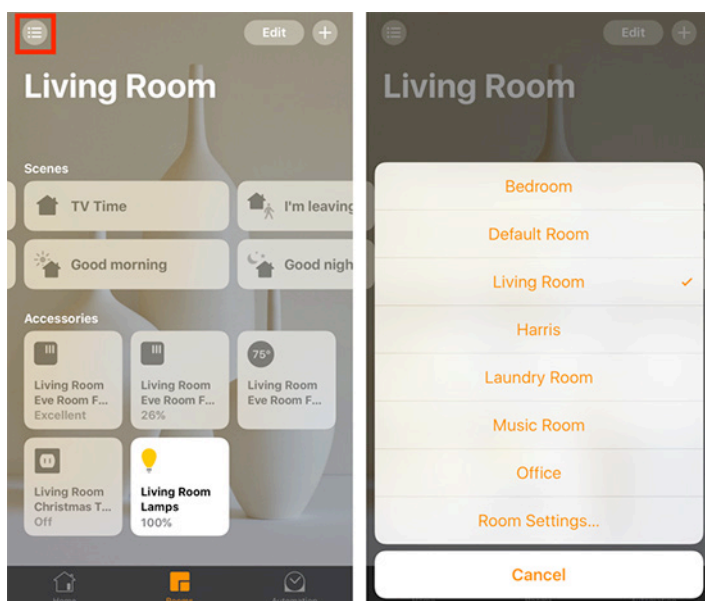
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A Prairie HomeKit Companion: Controlling Accessories

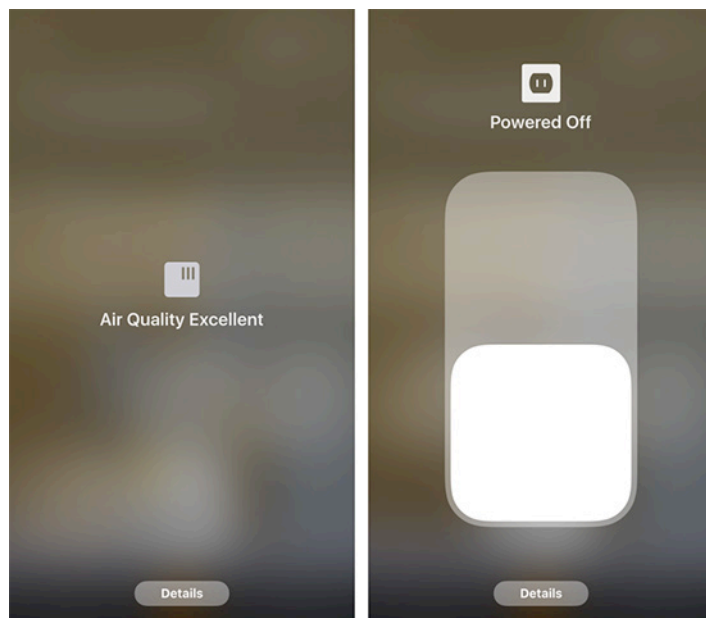
In [“A Prairie HomeKit Companion: Setting Up Accessories and Rooms”](#) (16 January 2017), I explained how to set up Accessories and Rooms, which are the fundamental building blocks of HomeKit, Apple’s system for home automation. But that article was a bit of a tease, since it left you hanging with a set-up system that you hadn’t used. In this edition, I’ll explain how you can actually control your Accessories with Apple’s Home app, as well as Control Center, Siri, and even your Apple Watch.

Controlling Accessories in the Home App – To access an Accessory (which, you’ll remember, generally maps to a particular device), go to the Rooms screen, tap the Hamburger button, and choose the Room that contains the Accessory.

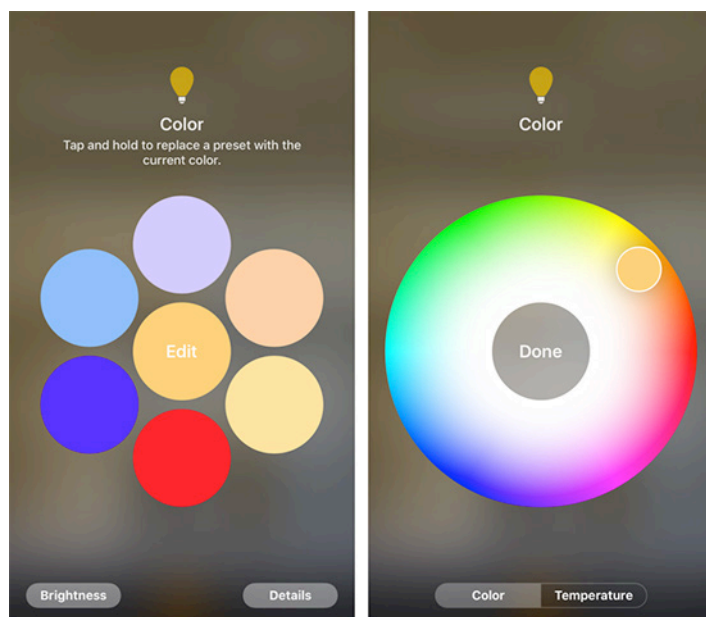


In the Room’s listing, you’ll see all the Accessories associated with that Room. For things like smart bulbs and smart plugs, you can tap the Accessory icon to turn it on or off. That’s simple to say, but it’s actually one of the key uses of the Home app, since it gives you remote control over any Accessory that turns on and off. (For some other devices, like room sensors, tapping their icons will have no effect because they’re always on.)

To work with Accessories in additional ways, either press and hold or 3D Touch an Accessory icon. That brings up a screen that shows more details and controls. For example, a room sensor shows its current status, a smart plug has a simple on/off switch, and a smart bulb offers a brightness slider.

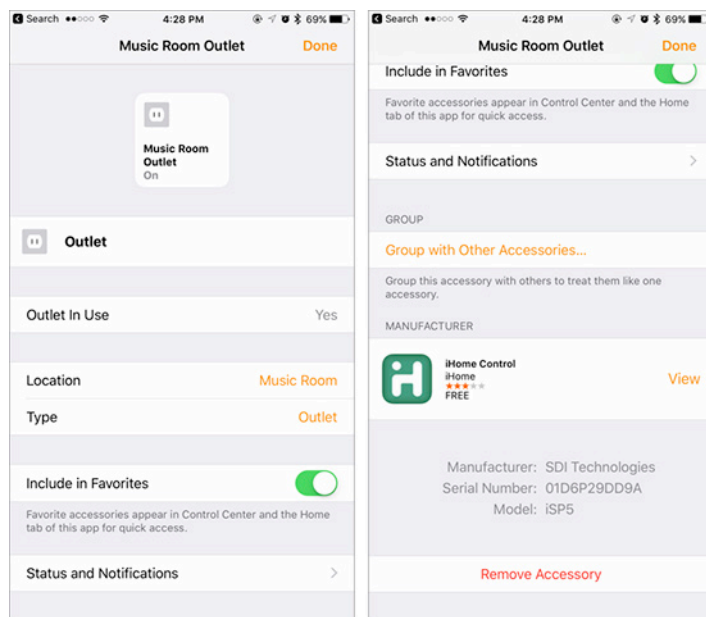


If a smart bulb supports multiple colors, a Color button appears too; tapping it brings up buttons that let you choose a color for the light. Tapping Edit in the center of a button brings up a detailed color wheel. Choosing a color there replaces one of the circles in the main color selector with that color. The Color screen also has a Temperature tab, which is the same thing, but with various degrees of white light.



Frustratingly, Apple's Home app doesn't let you copy your color selections between devices, so if you want to be sure that all your bulbs have the same color, you'll need a third-party HomeKit app with finer control, like [Matthias Hochgatterer's Home app](#). But if you're dealing with lights that should work together anyway, you can group them, which you do from the Details screen.

It's All in the Details — When you tap and hold or 3D press a HomeKit Accessory, you can also access its Details screen, which presents a few Accessory options, like name and Room location. You might remember some of these options from initial Accessory setup, as I detailed in "A Prairie HomeKit Companion: Setting Up Accessories and Rooms."



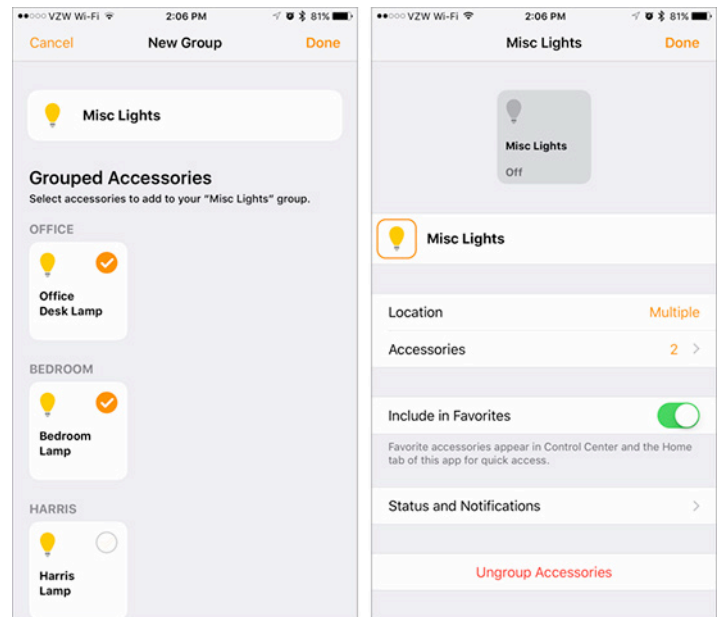
I want to focus on two options in the Details screen. The first is the Include in Favorites switch. You should enable this for any Accessory you plan to use with any regularity because it adds a shortcut for that Accessory to the Home screen of the Home app, to Control Center, and to the Home app on the Apple Watch. Note that Control Center won't display more than nine Accessories at a time, so it pays to be picky.

The second is the Group with Other Accessories option, which combines your Accessories so that they act as one — their individual Accessory icons will be replaced by a single new icon. This is useful if you have say, multiple smart bulbs in a single light fixture, or multiple lights in the same room that you want to be in sync. I use it to group our living room floor lamps to keep their brightness and color settings the same.

To group Accessories, tap Group with Other Accessories. On the next screen, give your group a name and select the other Accessories to add to the group. Tap Done when you're finished.

The icons for those Accessories will be replaced by a single icon for the group. To ungroup Accessories, go to the

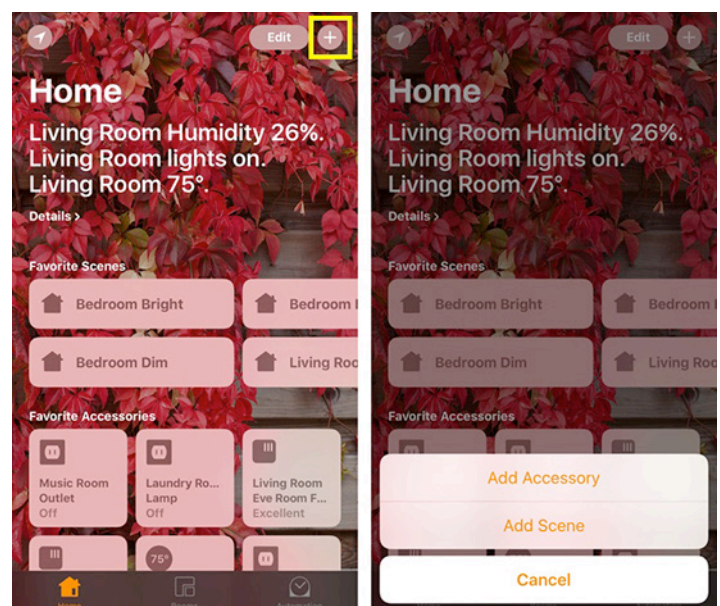
Details screen for the group and tap Ungroup Accessories. Remember, if you plan to use the group frequently, don't forget to set it as a favorite!



If you want to adjust one Accessory in a group independently, go to the Details screen for the group and tap Accessories to reveal individual icons for the Accessories. From that screen, you can adjust each Accessory on its own.

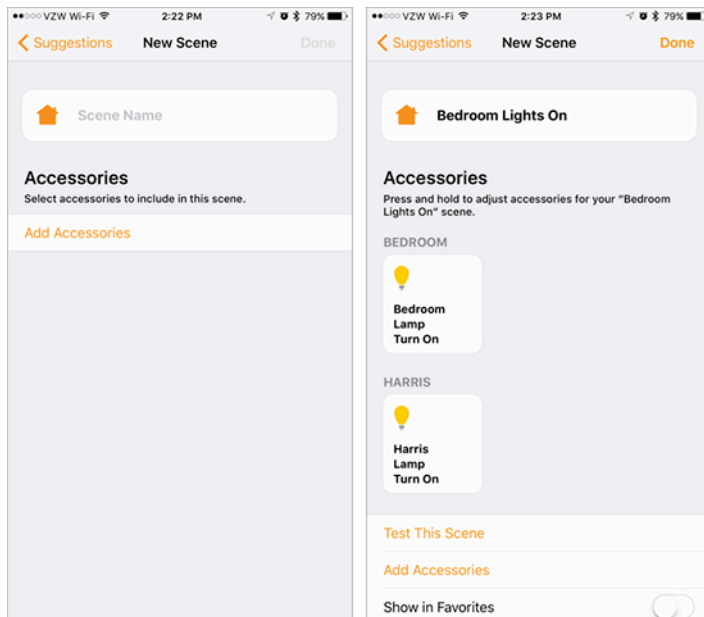
Setting Scenes — Tinkering with Accessories constantly gets tiresome. Thankfully, HomeKit offers shortcuts, called Scenes, that combine actions together. For example, you could have a Scene called Good Morning that turns on all of your lights, a Scene called I'm Leaving that turns off your lights and turns down the thermostat, or a silly party Scene that turns your living room red.

To create a Scene, tap the plus icon in the upper-right of the Home or Rooms screens and choose Add Scene. Home will suggest some Scene names, or you can create your own name by tapping Custom.



Once your Scene is named, tap Add Accessories, and then tap individual Accessories to add them to the Scene. Tap Done to move on.

Next, you'll be taken to a screen with the Scene Name, and the Accessories included in the Scene. Adjust the Accessories as you normally would. For instance, tap a smart bulb icon to turn it on in the Scene, or press and hold to adjust its brightness and color.



Finally, at the bottom are options to Test This Scene, which activates it temporarily; Add Accessories, where you can modify the Accessories included in the Scene; and Show in Favorites, which I recommend enabling for essential Scenes.

Suggested Scenes — I recommend three Scenes to everyone: Good Morning, Good Night, and Scenes to quickly adjust the brightness in your primary living areas.

For instance, I have three favorited living room Scenes for adjusting brightness: Living Room Bright, Living Room Dim, and Living Room Night, which set my living room Hue lights to 100 percent, 40 percent, and 0 percent (very dim, but not off) respectively. With these Scenes, I can easily dim the living room to watch a movie, but also quickly brighten it up if I need to find the remote or change my son's diaper.

Adjust these scenes as you see fit, but I recommend using my names, as they're easy to identify and Siri has no trouble understanding them.

When configuring the Good Morning and Good Night Scenes, the settings will depend on your Accessories and living situation. Think carefully about what to activate and why.

My Good Morning Scene does three things at the moment. It turns on the smart plug that controls the lamp in the laundry and music rooms and sets the living room lamps to 40 percent brightness. During the Christmas season, it

also turned on the plug that controlled the Christmas tree lights. My Good Night Scene does the opposite, though it dims the living room lamps to 0 percent instead of turning them completely off.

These Scenes are set up in such a way to light up the house sufficiently to navigate in the morning, without being painfully bright. Even though we have Hue bulbs in our bedrooms, these Scenes don't touch them at all. Why?

- I set Good Morning to activate automatically during weekdays. If my wife and son get a surprise snow day, I don't want them getting a rude awakening at 5:30 AM if I forget to turn the Automation off.
- I often want to control the bedroom lamp independently of everything else when I go to bed, either turning it on so I can find my way around or leaving it off if my wife is sleeping.
- I use Good Morning and Good Night as general-purpose Scenes throughout the day. I activate Good Night after my wife leaves for work and then Good Morning before she gets home. Nothing is happening in either bedroom, so there's no reason to mess with those lights.

All that said, I don't recommend that you create Scenes right away. Instead, experiment with your Accessories and figure out which settings you like and which devices you use most. Setting up Scenes will be easier once you have a sense of what you're doing regularly.

But if you just want to create some goofy Scenes to turn your living room blue or whatever, don't let me stop you! That's part of the fun of home automation. (If I ever install a HomeKit-equipped thermostat, I'll probably create a Game of Thrones-inspired scene that turns my lights blue and drastically lowers the temperature. Because I'm a huge dork.)

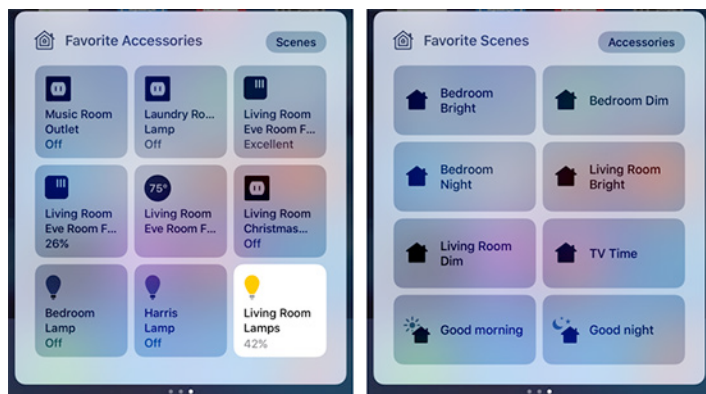
Once you've created a Scene, you can find it in two places in the Home app. If you set it as a favorite, it'll be available from the Home app's Home screen (and in Control Center). Otherwise, look in any Room with which the Scene is associated. If a Scene is split between multiple Rooms, you can find it in any of its Rooms.

Control with Control Center, the Apple Watch, and Siri — Jumping in and out of the Home app every time you want to turn on a light is more work than flicking a switch on the wall. Thankfully, Apple offers some quicker ways to activate your Accessories.

I usually use Control Center on my iPhone to manipulate my HomeKit devices. In iOS 10, Apple redesigned Control Center with multiple pages, and if you have any HomeKit devices favorited, swipe to the left twice to reveal an additional Control Center page that lets you control both Accessories and Scenes.

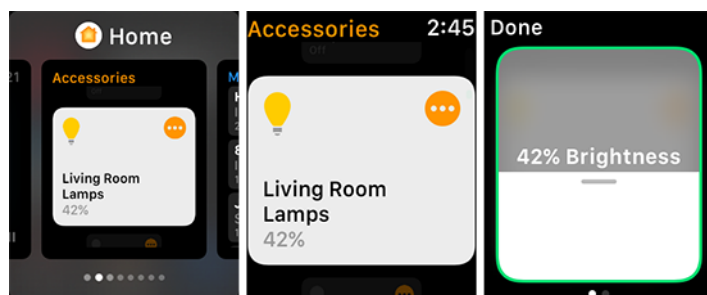
In the Home page of Control Center, a button in the upper right lets you switch between controlling favorite

Accessories and Scenes. Tapping an Accessory or Scene turns it on or off. As with the Home app, you can press and hold or 3D Touch Accessories in Control Center to see more advanced settings like brightness and color.



Control Center can display only nine Scenes and nine Accessories, so while you should favorite the items you use the most, you also want to be selective.

If you own an Apple Watch, the Home app built into watchOS 3 also lets you control favorite Accessories and Scenes. I recommend adding it to your Dock for quick access. Tapping an Accessory or Scene activates it, while the ... button lets you adjust things like brightness — which you can do with the digital crown, which is neat. That said, I don't use the Apple Watch Home app often, as I find it unreliable. It frequently throws No Response error messages for all of my Accessories. Like many Apple Watch activities, I can perform the same task on my iPhone more quickly.



Of course, you can also control HomeKit with Siri, which is a big win when it works. If everything is set up correctly, you can use a number of commands, such as:

- “Turn all my lights on.”
- “Turn off the bedroom lamp.”
- “Set the thermostat to 72 degrees.”
- “Make my living room blue.”
- “Good morning.” (Activates the Good Morning Scene)
- “Set Scene Good Morning.” (Does the same thing as above, which is useful if Siri doesn't recognize the Scene name on its own.)

For the most part, Siri controls work well, even with Hey Siri on the Apple Watch (though my watch usually takes a minute to recognize the command). You can even use these same Siri commands with the fourth-generation Apple TV, assuming it's running tvOS 10 or higher and it's signed into the same iCloud account as your other HomeKit devices.

That's about all you need to know about controlling HomeKit devices for now. In the next installment of this series, I'll explain how to set up a hub so you can operate your HomeKit devices when you're out of the house and how to set up Automations to make your devices work on their own. 🏠



by Joe Kissell

Aunt Agatha Ponders Her Digital Legacy

I turned 50 earlier this month. To celebrate, I dyed my hair purple and wrote my 56th Take Control book, “[Take Control of Your Digital Legacy](#).” This title was inspired by a number of conversations I've had with readers of TidBITS and Take Control in recent years, which have frequently turned to topics of data longevity. People have been asking me how they can be sure their photos, videos, email, documents, and other important data will outlive them, and this book contains the results of my research and thinking on the matter.

To introduce the book to you, I've framed a number of the questions that prompted the book, and their answers, as a conversation with my completely imaginary Aunt Agatha.

Aunt Agatha: Happy belated birthday, Joey!

Joe: Aunt Ag, I'd really appreciate it if, now that I'm 50, you'd stop calling me Joey.

AA: Sorry. Old habits. What brings you here today, other than my peach cobbler?

JK: Don't be silly. I'm also here for the ice cream. And I wanted to chat with you about my new book.

AA: Not another one! What must I take control of this time?

JK: You're going to like this one, because I wrote it with you in mind. The book is called "Take Control of Your Digital Legacy." It's sort of estate planning for your digital possessions.

AA: Are you're saying I'm old?

JK: Not at all; 68 is the new 55. And anyway, people of any age can expire suddenly. But... (drumroll) your data can live on forever.

AA: And that's a good thing?

JK: Absolutely! By deciding what data sticks around in the future, and in what form, you can shape the way people remember you. But if you do nothing, the stuff on your computer and iPad could suffer the same fate as that box of childhood souvenirs you found rotting in the basement. Not something you want to pass on, if you know what I mean.

AA: Ew. You may have a point.

JK: Cool. So now that I have your attention, what would you like to know about your digital legacy? Ask me anything.

AA: Well, for starters, what exactly do you mean when you say "digital legacy"?

JK: Your legacy is everything you leave for the future — not just your possessions, but also your stories, your accomplishments, and your contributions to the world. It's the sum of how you'll be remembered years from now. Your digital legacy is the part of that involving digital data: your digital photos, documents, email, and more. It's stuff that Grandma and Grandpa didn't have to think about, but that future generations will consider more important than scrapbooks and photo albums.

So, the starting point of the book is that you get to make decisions now about what will happen to your digital data after you're dead — and far into the future.

AA: Shouldn't all that be covered in my will?

JK: It could be, but conventional wills hardly ever address digital assets, at least not in sufficient detail. And because your files, photos, online accounts, passwords, and so on change so frequently, it would be a hassle to keep amending your will to make sure it's always up to date. Furthermore, your executor may not have the technical expertise to deal with all your data properly.

AA: OK, if my will isn't the best place, where do I record my wishes for this digital stuff?

JK: I suggest supplementing your will with a digital will that spells everything out, including a high-level list of

your digital assets and your preferences for preserving and distributing data, dealing with all your accounts, and so on. And then you'll select a digital executor who will carry out these instructions.

AA: OK, a picture is forming, but now it's getting me worried. I have a zillion photos, files, and accounts. Some of it is important, but a lot isn't. Realistically, how am I going to document all that stuff?

JK: Don't worry. You start by filling in a downloadable template I made. It's not complicated. Life is short, and you shouldn't have to spend weeks or months pondering every last file and reorganizing your whole computer. Instead, I recommend thinking about your data in terms of broad categories, and creating a fairly short list that includes brief annotations about the kinds of stuff you have, where to find it, and what to do with it. Depending on how much detail you feel like providing, filling out the template could take a few hours or a weekend. That's just part of planning your digital legacy, but it's an essential component.

AA: Suppose I'm still feeling a little overwhelmed. Could you pick out just one piece of it to get me started? What do you think is the most important thing to deal with first?

JK: Without a doubt, it's your passwords. If you got hit by a bus tomorrow, would Uncle Aubrey know how to unlock all your devices and get into all your accounts? As tedious as it might be, someone else could look through all your digital stuff and figure out what needs to be done, but if they don't have the passwords, they'll be stuck before they even get started. I mean, you're not going to be passing on your passwords to your grandkids, but you will be passing on some of the stuff those passwords protect.

I should emphasize that working through even one topic from the book can make life way easier for you, Uncle Aubrey, Timothy and Felicia, and their kids. If you have the time and energy to do everything, that's super, but picking and choosing the parts that are most important to you is also fine. Something is always better than nothing.

AA: I've got boxes of old family photos, and it would be nice to pass those on along with my digital photos. What should I do with them and other non-digital data?

JK: As you know, I'm a big fan of digitizing things that are analog. Not just photos, but audio recordings, home movies, and the like too. Someone gave me an MP3 file, digitized from an old reel-to-reel tape, of the audio from when Uncle Bill was on the TV show "To Tell the Truth" back in 1963. I think that's cool, and if that tape had never been digitized, it wouldn't have survived much longer.

Anyway, about the photos: Yes. Get a scanner, make a nice cup of tea, and start scanning. Keep notes as you go about who's in each photo, and anything else you know. You'll gradually build up an annotated index of sorts. Maybe you do this for a few hours every Saturday afternoon, one small batch of photos at a time. It'll take a while, but don't think of it as work, think of it as a relaxing stroll down memory

lane. Even if you never get through all of them, each photo you scan is another piece of history you can easily share online with the rest of the family, and a useful addition to your digital legacy.

AA: Do I need to worry about what file format I use? I'm thinking mainly of photos, but the same question could apply to all the files on my computer.

JK: Worry is a strong word. But yeah, you should think about it. Remember all those documents you created years ago in AppleWorks? And how hard it has been to find any app today that will open them? That may be an extreme example, but file formats become obsolete all the time. It's a complicated topic, so in the book, I explain what formats experts recommend for various kinds of files, and you can decide whether, or to what extent, it makes sense to convert your existing files.

AA: You mentioned email earlier. Should that really be part of my digital legacy? It feels kind of weird to let other people read it.

JK: You don't want anyone to see how many messages you get every day from Publishers Clearing House?

AA: Hey... I may already be a winner!

JK: You're always a winner in my book, Aunt Ag. But let's think about this. If someone were to read through all the hundreds of thousands of email messages on my computer... well, first of all, that person would need to be committed, in either sense of the word! Most of that email would be excruciatingly boring. On the other hand, by reading my email, someone could produce a detailed biography of me — they'd know exactly where I was, what I was doing, and what I was thinking on virtually every day of my life. I can imagine that being interesting to my distant descendants, or to historians once I become famous. (That's on my to-do list for the next decade.) I know I'd be thrilled to have that sort of information about Grandma and Grandpa.

Of course, your email could also include messages that are embarrassing or that contain secrets you really don't want to add to the family record. Not that I'm judging. If you want to pass on your email but exclude certain things, you'll have to go in and weed out those messages manually, I'm afraid. Better to do it now than have Tim and Felicia stumble across them later.

AA: Food for thought. Speaking of potentially embarrassing material, what will become of my Facebook page when I die?

JK: Facebook lets you set someone up as a legacy contact (your digital executor would be the perfect choice) so that when you die, that person can decide what to do with your account. That might mean memorializing it online, with one final message to your friends, or deleting the account altogether. Some other social media services offer something similar, some don't. But as long as you spell out your wishes in your digital will and give your digital executor

access to the accounts, that person can ensure that your posts are handled in whatever way you think is best.

AA: I see a theme developing here. All right, besides passwords, photos, email, and social media, what else I should be thinking about?

JK: Well, it's a long list, frankly. I know you have lots of online accounts. Some of those, like Dropbox, iCloud, and CrashPlan, could contain tons of important data. Plus there are all those miscellaneous files on your computer, like letters you've written, artwork and music you've created, calendars, contacts, apps, and all the rest. All the major categories are included in the template I made. Not everything needs a long-term legacy plan, but it's important to at least think it through.

AA: OK, here's a puzzler. What about all the music, movies, and TV shows I've purchased from iTunes? Can I leave those to your cousins?

JK: Purchased media is, as they say, a bag of hurt. Most purchased media uses copy protection to prevent anyone other than the licensed purchaser from using it. That's because you don't actually own this stuff, you've only purchased a license to consume it, and that license is exclusive to you. So it gets tricky, sometimes in a technical sense and other times in a legal sense, but I talk through the issues in the book.

AA: Assuming I organize and document everything the way you describe, do I just leave my computer to my digital executor in my will? Is that how the data gets passed on?

JK: It's definitely helpful for your digital executor to have access to your computer when you're gone. But your computer won't keep working forever. I mean, your descendants 100 years from now aren't going to be gathering around great-great-grandma Agatha's antique iMac to look at photos. The same is true of most storage media — hard drives and SSDs don't last forever, and CDs and DVDs deteriorate over time. You can buy so-called "archival" media, but there's no telling whether someone in the distant future will be able to find a device that can still read it. Imagine if someone handed you a floppy disk that was recorded 30 years ago. Even if the data's still intact, it's basically useless to you.

There are many ways to approach this problem, and although there aren't any perfect solutions, using more than one kind of storage media, storing copies separately, and asking your heirs to occasionally copy your data onto new media are steps in the right direction. If you can get Tim and Felicia to integrate your data into their own, which is then backed up regularly and passed on to their kids, that will increase the longevity of your files significantly.

AA: So now you're going to tell me that if I want all the details about how to plan for my digital legacy, I have to buy your book?

JK: You? Nah, you get the family discount of 100 percent off. But definitely tell all your friends to buy it!

Thanks to my imaginary Aunt Agatha for cleverly asking all the right questions about “[Take Control of Your Digital Legacy](#).” The book, which costs \$15, goes into complete

detail about all the topics mentioned here and much more. It shows you how to inventory your digital assets, prepare a digital will (with the included template file), share passwords securely, scan old photos, make decisions about social media accounts, and much more. I hope you’ll find it helpful in planning your own digital legacy. 🗑️

by Michael E. Cohen

How to Restore Data from iCloud

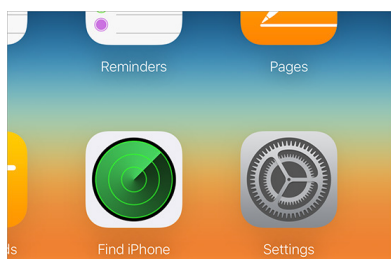
“What is truth?” This question has bedeviled philosophers and theologians for centuries, but in an age of distributed digital data storage you also need to know the answer to the question, “Where is truth?” This is not a philosophical question but a practical one: if you have a bunch of devices, all with copies of your personal information — your contacts, calendars, and so forth — where do you find the one true copy of your data, the one on which all of your devices can rely?

In the context of data shared among multiple devices, “[the truth](#)” is a technical term that refers to where devices with conflicting data go to get their conflicts resolved. If you’ve always wondered what Steve Jobs meant by “[The truth is on the cloud](#),” now you know. And if, like me, you store your contacts, calendars, reminders, and other stuff in iCloud, iCloud is where you go to resolve data discrepancies. That’s where the truth lies. What you have on your devices is not the truth, but merely a reflection of it, copied from iCloud. Even if you could find the files on your devices that contain your information, you couldn’t fix any problems there by whipping out some sophisticated file fiddling tool and twiddling bits, because that is not where the truth lies.

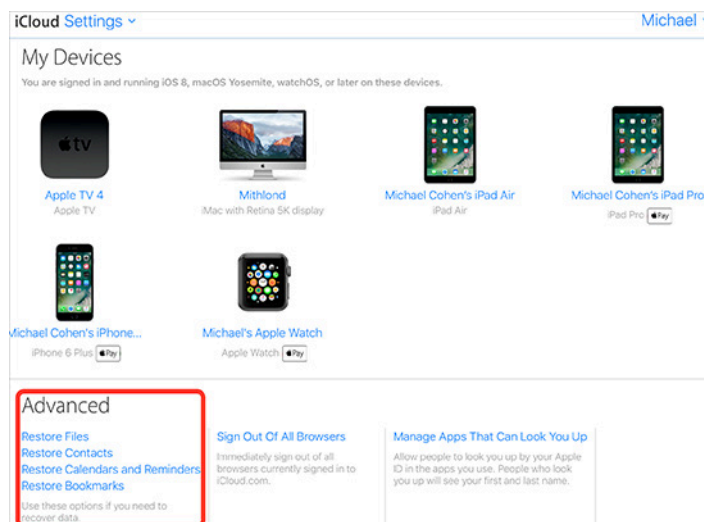
iCloud, however, much like real clouds, is notoriously opaque. It’s hard to see just what you have stored in it. Nonetheless, Apple has made it easy to fix some truth-related issues in iCloud, and you can do it with a readily accessible tool: a Web browser on any Mac or PC. With it, you can revert to backups of your contacts, calendars, reminders, and shared bookmarks, and even restore files deleted from your iCloud Drive.

The first step is to go to [icloud.com](#) in your browser and log in with your Apple ID and password.

Once you sign in, click the Settings icon on the launchpad page.

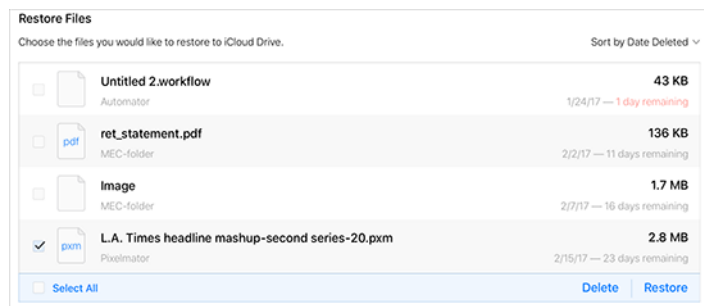


That brings you to the iCloud Settings page, which contains information about your iCloud account, a list of the devices that are signed into your iCloud account, and, way down at the bottom of the page, an Advanced section that provides some data restoration capabilities.

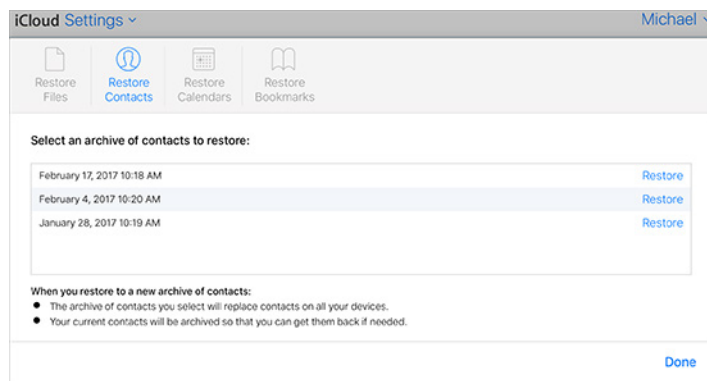


Here’s what you can fix, along with some caveats where appropriate:

- **Files:** When you remove a file from iCloud Drive, whether you do it by dragging it out of iCloud Drive on your Mac or by deleting it from within an app on your Mac or in iOS, iCloud saves the file for thirty days before it goes away for good, much like the way deleted photos are stored in the [Recently Deleted album](#) in the Photos app. Select the files you wish to put back into their respective iCloud Drive folders and click Restore to have them reappear in iCloud Drive.

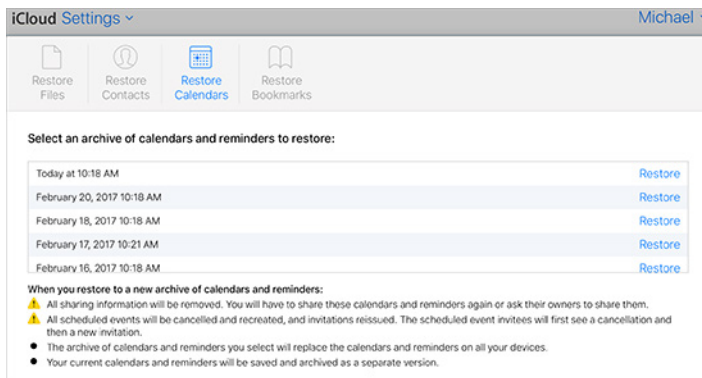


- **Contacts:** iCloud keeps track of when you make changes to Contacts and stores an archive of that data from the day before. iCloud retains these archives for about a month. If your contacts get messed up or muddled on your devices, you can restore them from an earlier day's version: click Restore to the right of the archive you wish to restore. Note that restoring an archive restores the contacts on *all* of your devices (remember, the truth is in iCloud, not on your devices). An archive of the contacts you just replaced is also stored in iCloud, so you can revert to it if you desire.



- **Calendar Events and Reminders:** Like Contacts, iCloud notices when you make changes to your calendar events and reminders and stores an archive of your Calendar and Reminder data as they were on that day before you made any modifications. Also like Contacts, iCloud retains about a month's worth of Calendar and Reminders archives. Select Restore by the entry for the Calendar and Reminders archive that you want to restore; doing so replaces that information on all of your iCloud-connected devices. Like

Contacts, your replaced calendar and reminder information is then stored in an archive so you can revert to it if you want. Keep in mind, however, that calendars and reminders can be shared with others, so restoring from an archive has a couple of side effects: any shared calendars and reminders will have to be shared again, and any pending calendar event invitations you have sent out are removed and new invitations issued in their place.



- **Bookmarks:** iCloud makes it easy to share the same Safari bookmarks and reading lists among all your devices, and it stores changes to those on a daily basis when you modify them on any device. As with Contacts, you merely need to click Restore by the bookmark archive you want to replace the bookmarks and reading lists on your iCloud devices (you have the previous month's worth of archives to pick from). And, similar to Contacts and Calendars, the replaced bookmarks and reading lists are archived so you can restore those if necessary. 📌

Software Review

Apple Remote Desktop 3.9 Client

Feb 21, 2017 – 9.3 MB

System Requirements

- Mac OS X 10.10.5 or higher
- Apple Remote Desktop (ARD) 3.0, 3.1, 3.2 or 3.2.1.
- An Ethernet (recommended), AirPort, or FireWire over IP network connection.

This update is recommended for all Apple Remote Desktop users and addresses several issues related to compatibility, reliability, and usability as well as the following improvements:

- Computer lists, complete with credentials, can be exported to an encrypted archive and restored to other viewers
- Improved security, with an optional compatibility option to support older clients in the Security tab of the Preferences panel
- Assistance cursors available via a custom toolbar item
- Support for the Touch Bar 📱

