

printout

Keystone MacCentral Macintosh Users Group ❖ <http://www.keystonemac.com>

Program Highlights for Sept 17

- In our Rumors and Reality section this month we have directions to this year's award winning photos using iPhones and iPads. Jim Carey will give a presentation on iPhone camera setting that can help enhance your photography.
- In honor of Apple's presentation this month, we will review the latest news from Apple.
- Dennis McMahon will demonstrate how to scan documents into the Notes app on iPhone and iPad to scan. 📄

Meet us at

Bethany Village Retirement Center

Education Room

5225 Wilson Lane, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Tuesday, September 17th 2019 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 © 2019, Keystone MacCentral, 310 Somerset Drive, Shiresmanstown, PA 17011.

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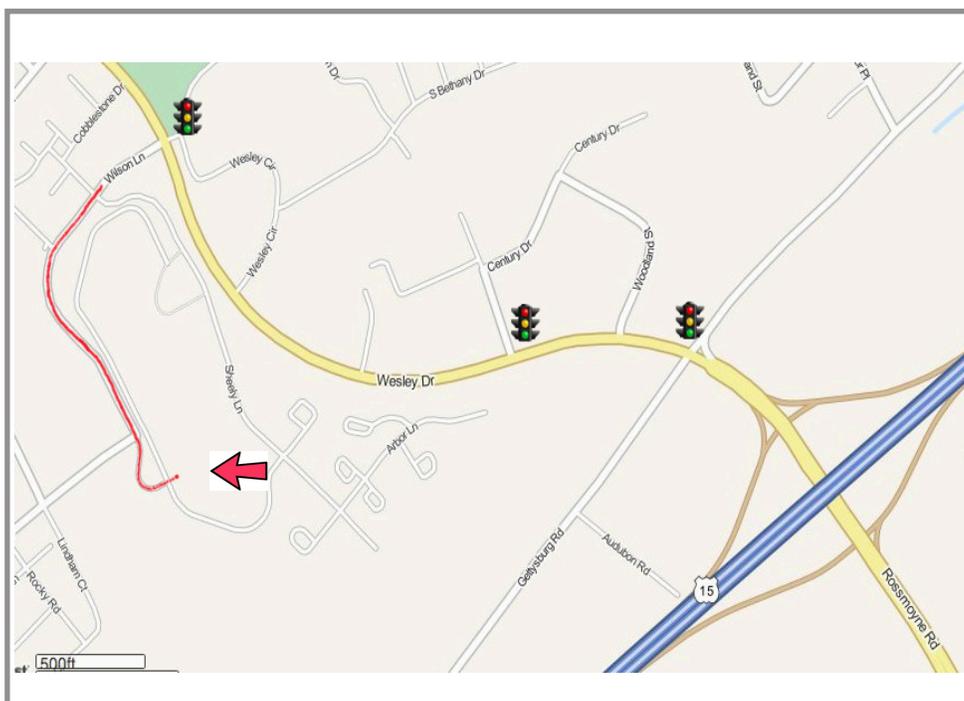
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How to Get the Most from Your Apple Card Benefits

Apple Card invites are rolling out for those who signed up for the preview of Apple's new credit card. Coverage has been intense — [Macworld has a FAQ](#) that covers all the details, and Jeff Porten wrote about its implications earlier this year for TidBITS in "[Apple Card: More Than Just a Credit Card](#)" (28 March 2019). Rather than cover such heavily trodden ground again, I wanted to explain how you can maximize your Apple Card benefits.

The Apple Card's signature perk is daily cash rewards, which vary depending on what you buy and how you buy it. You'll receive:

- 3% back** on purchases made directly from Apple, including the Apple Store, the App Store, iCloud storage, and iTunes
- 2% back** on Apple Pay purchases made from non-Apple retailers
- 1% back** on all other purchases, including those made with the physical Apple Card

Use Apple Card for Your Apple Services

An easy way to get that 3% cash-back is to use your Apple Card for all of your Apple services. Apple provides a shortcut in the Apple Card settings to do just that:

- Open the Wallet app.
- Tap your Apple Card.
- Tap the **•••** button in the upper-right corner.
- Scroll down and tap **Make Default at Apple**.

These steps make your Apple Card the default payment method for all of your transactions with Apple, including app purchases from the App Store, Apple TV subscriptions, iCloud storage, your Apple Music plan, and even AppleCare if you choose to pay per month.

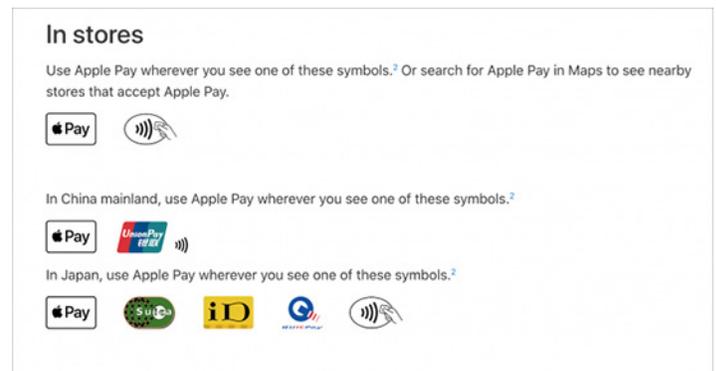
You can double-check that Apple Card is your default by going to Settings > Your Name > Payment & Shipping. Your Apple Card should be listed as the first payment method.

If you have an Apple Watch, you can check to see if the Apple Card is its default payment method by opening the Watch app and tapping My Watch > Wallet & Apple Pay > Default Card.

Use Apple Pay

Of course, Apple wants to incentivize you to use Apple Pay, which is why the company gives you 2% cash-back on every purchase you make with it through Apple Card. Apple Pay is well-enough established at this point that I won't bore you with a complete guide, but here are some quick pointers on using it:

- To make sure your Apple Card is the default Apple Pay method, go to Settings > Wallet & Apple Pay, and scroll down to Default Card. If it's not Apple Card, tap it and choose Apple Card.
- To use Apple Pay in a store, double-press your iPhone's Home or side button and authenticate with Touch ID or Face ID. Alternatively, activate it from your Apple Watch by double-pressing the side button. Once you've activated Apple Pay, hold your device near the card reader.
- Figuring out what stores take Apple Pay can be tricky. Apple has a list of Apple Pay partners, but your best bet is to look for one of these symbols around the register. If you're not sure, ask the cashier.



- Remember that you can use Apple Pay in some iOS apps like Lyft and on some Web sites when viewed in Safari, like the new, improved Take Control site. You don't have to use Safari to use your Apple Card online, but you'll get only 1% cash-back instead of the 2% that comes with Apple Pay purchases. Look for your card number, date, and security code in Apple Card settings under Card Information (remember, tap the **•••** button in the card's listing in the Wallet app).
- If you suspect your Apple Card number has been compromised, you can request a new card number from the Card Information screen.

Use Apple Card with the iPhone Upgrade Program

If you subscribe to [Apple's iPhone Upgrade Program](#), you can switch your payment method to the Apple Card to get that **3% cash-back** with every monthly payment. But how you change your payment method isn't obvious, and Apple doesn't explain it.

The iPhone Upgrade Program is managed by Citizens One, so if you need to do anything with it other than buying or trading in an iPhone, you'll have to [create a Citizens One account](#). As I discussed in "[The iPhone Upgrade Program: A Year in Review](#)" (30 November 2017), the hardest part is creating a password that conforms to all of Citizen One's byzantine requirements. You'll also need your loan number, which you can find in one of your monthly email receipts from Citizens One.

Password Guidelines

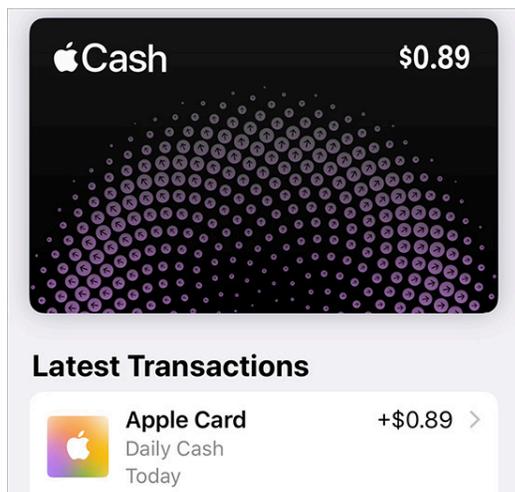
- The password cannot be the same as the Username
- The password must be 10-20 characters
- Password must have alphanumeric characters with one upper case, one lower case and one numeric character.
- The password must have at least one special character and the characters allowed are ! @ # \$ % ^ * , _ -
- The password cannot have more than two repeating characters

Once you've set up your account, log in and click Change Payment Account under your current balance. Click the dropdown list labeled Change My Payment Account, and choose Add a New Payment Account.

Again, you can find your Apple Card number and other information by opening Wallet, tapping your Apple Card, then the ●●● button, and finally Card Information. After you click Confirm, your Apple Card should be the default payment method for your iPhone Upgrade Program subscription.

Claim Your Cash

One of the unique benefits of the Apple Card is that Apple credits you with your cash-back payments every day, but it's not immediately obvious how you access that cash. Apple pays you through its Apple Pay Cash system and puts the money on that virtual card.



If you look at your cards in Wallet, you should see Apple Pay Cash in the stack, along with its current balance if you have one. Tap that card to see your latest transactions, including your Apple Card's Daily Cash rewards.

You can use Apple Pay Cash to send money to friends (see "[How to Use Apple Pay Cash for Person-to-Person Transactions](#)," 7 December 2017), but if you want to spend that money anywhere else, you'll have to withdraw it first. While viewing your Apple Pay Cash card, tap that ●●● button and then Transfer to Bank. You'll need to have a bank account tied to Apple Pay Cash if you don't already.

Avoid Interest Charges

There are no fees associated with the Apple Card, which is great, but that doesn't mean it's free to use. If you carry a balance, you'll be paying an annual percentage rate of anywhere between 12.99% and 23.99% on the balance. Your payment is due on the last day of every month, and although you'll receive a notification to pay it, it's all too easy to miss or be unable to complete the transaction. For instance, if you lose your iPhone, there's currently no way to pay your bill otherwise!

Thankfully, you can set up automatic payments so you'll never be charged interest:

- Go to Apple Card settings by opening Wallet, tapping your Apple Card, tapping the ●●● button, and tapping Scheduled Payments.
- Tap Continue.
- Tap Pay My Bill.
- Tap Next.
- Keep "When Payment Is Due" selected and tap Next.
- Authorize with Touch ID, Face ID, or your Apple ID password.

You'll also need to have a bank account set up in Apple Card settings > Bank Accounts. If you already have a bank account linked to Apple Pay Cash, you can link that to your Apple Card with just a couple of taps. 🗑️



Apple Issues Emergency Updates for All Its Operating Systems

When Apple updated its operating systems last month (see [“Apple Releases macOS 10.14.6, iOS 12.4, watchOS 5.3, tvOS 12.4, and More,”](#) 22 July 2019), the company’s engineers accidentally reintroduced a previously patched vulnerability that allowed jailbreaking. To close that vulnerability and prevent device jailbreaking, Apple has now released a series of emergency updates: [macOS Mojave 10.14.6 Supplemental Update](#), [iOS 12.4.1](#), [watchOS 5.3.1](#), and [tvOS 12.4.1](#).

Apple actually released macOS Mojave 10.14.6 Supplemental Update a few weeks ago, saying at the time that it fixed “an issue that may prevent certain Macs from waking from sleep properly” — see [“macOS Mojave 10.14.6 Supplemental Update”](#) (2 August 2019). Apple’s description now says that this updated version “resolves an issue that may cause certain Mac notebooks to shut down during sleep.” In addition, it fixes a bug that can degrade performance when working with very large files and another that could prevent Pages, Keynote, Numbers, iMovie, and GarageBand from updating.

Here’s how to install the updates:

- macOS 10.14.6 Supplemental Update: Install this 1.25 GB update from System Preferences > Software Update.
- iOS 12.4.1: Go to Settings > General Software Update. The update for an iPhone X is 99.3 MB.
- watchOS 5.3.1: Use the iPhone’s Watch app — go to Watch > General > Software Update. The update for an Apple Watch Series 4 is 55.4 MB.
- tvOS 12.4.1: If automatic updates aren’t on, you can update your Apple TV HD or Apple TV 4K by going to Settings > System > Software Updates.

Given the severity of the vulnerability, we advise installing these updates as soon as possible. While some people like jailbreaking their devices — and it’s certainly your right to do so — the security vulnerabilities that make jailbreaking possible by definition give attackers root-level access to your devices. Put bluntly, we don’t jailbreak our devices, and we don’t recommend that you do either. 🛡️

A Look at the Health App in iOS 13

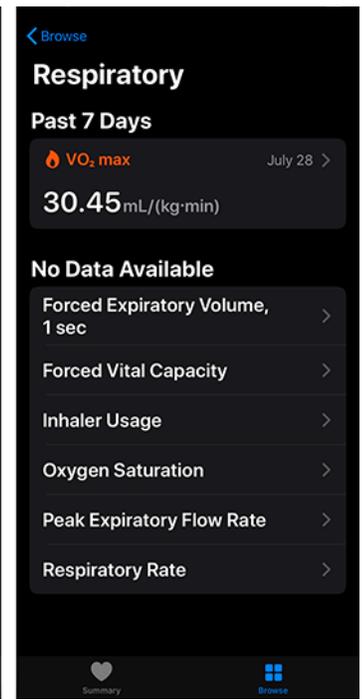
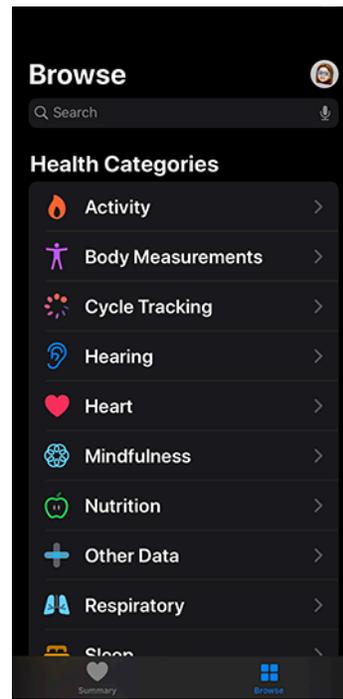
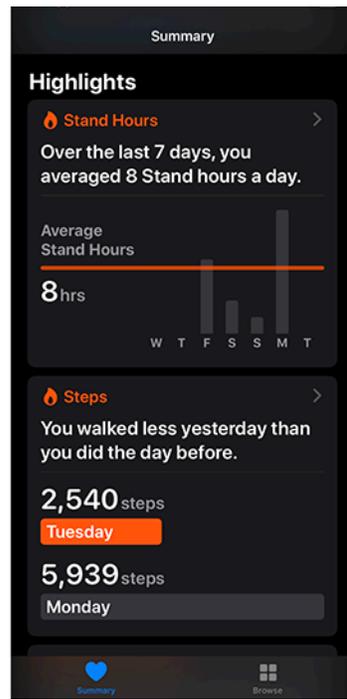
My husband and I started our “fertility journey”— as infertility nightmares are euphemistically called— just before the iPhone era began. Every morning, I took my temperature with a special pink thermometer, careful not to get out of bed or move enough to alter the reading. We noted that number on a pad of paper and later transferred it to a rumpled chart. Books full of fertility advice crowded the bedside table. None of us knew then how much the iPhone would simplify even these most intimate parts of our lives.

Today all iPhones ship with a built-in app, Health, that acts as a collection point for health data. And there’s a lot of that data — the use of health and fitness apps grew more than 330% between 2015 and 2017 according to Flurry Analytics. With the release of iOS 13 (due out in a few months, but available now in public beta), Health has grown beyond being just a weak database of health-related metrics. It’s now a tool that not only tracks more types of data — including the fertility indicators I once logged by hand —

but also actively helps users manage and understand that information by offering insights into their health trends.

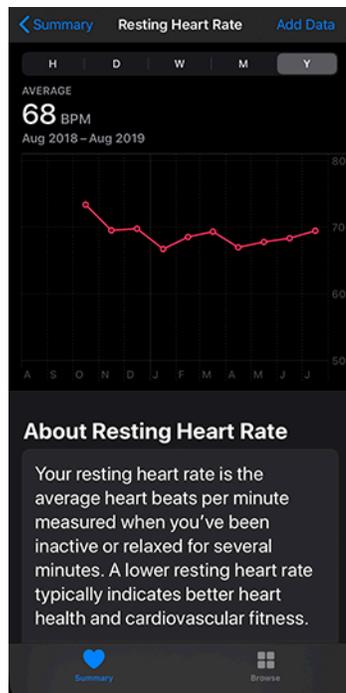
Your Health, at a Glance

The Health app serves as a dashboard for data you enter directly or — more likely — collect using compatible apps and health devices such as [smart scales](#), [smart insulin pens](#), and [fitness trackers](#) (including the Apple Watch). The first thing you see when you open iOS 13’s Health app is the new, information-packed Summary view. The Favorites section shows recent entries in categories you check often, like your exercise minute count. The Highlights section offers dynamic charts, with the app analyzing current and past data to provide a historical perspective on what’s going on. This is a quick way to get feedback, for instance, if you’ve been exercising less than usual or your blood sugar levels are trending upwards.



Tap any category in the Summary view to see highlights specific to it. The more data you have, the more insight this will give you. You can filter many charts interactively by hour, day, week, month, or year. In most cases, you'll also find basic educational material, drawn from sources like the Mayo Clinic and the National Institutes of Health, to explain the category's significance to your health.

If exercise is your main concern, you'll find additional tools in iOS 13's updated Activity app. It will chart your progress with key activity metrics, such as your walk and run pace, comparing the previous 90 days with the last 365 days and offering personalized challenges and coaching if you start to trend down.

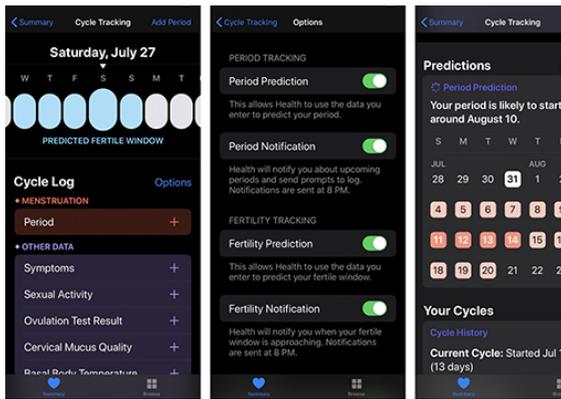


Tools for Tracking Menstruation and Fertility

When Apple's [Craig Federighi](#) first introduced the Health app back in 2014, he billed it as a dashboard where you could "monitor all of your metrics you're most interested in" no matter what app or health device they might come from. But the Health app lacked any way to track or record data about menstrual cycles, leaving out a [sizeable portion](#) of Apple's customer base. (You know, women.) A year later, iOS 9's Health app added basic reproductive health tools, but iOS 13 takes things to the next level, offering more visual charting and cycle statistics, as well as prediction and notification, which makes it much more useful on a daily basis.

Using past data as its guide — whether you've entered it into the Health app itself or into a third-party reproductive health app like [Glow](#) or [Clue](#) — Health now predicts the likely start of your next three cycles, making it easy to get an idea what the situation will be for upcoming pool parties and romantic vacations. By default, Health also warns you at 8 PM on the day before your period is predicted so you don't walk out the door without supplies. Likewise, if you're trying to conceive, Health can predict when you're nearing your "fertile window" — in other words, the time when ovulation is expected — and notify you the night before.

If you're looking for something in particular, tap Browse at the bottom of the window. Enter a term in the search field or explore the list of categories shown here.



To make it easier to log menstruation as well as pre- and post-menstrual symptoms like sleep and appetite changes, Apple announced that watchOS 6 (likely to ship alongside iOS 13) would include a companion app, Cycle Tracking. It will let you see predictions and notifications on your wrist, too.

Is Apple in the fitness tracker vanguard with this? Not quite. Fitbit added [menstrual cycle tracking in 2018](#) as did [Garmin, earlier this year](#). (Of the three, only Garmin offers specific features for menopause symptom tracking — something [many women deal with for years](#) — though you can log hot flashes with Health.)

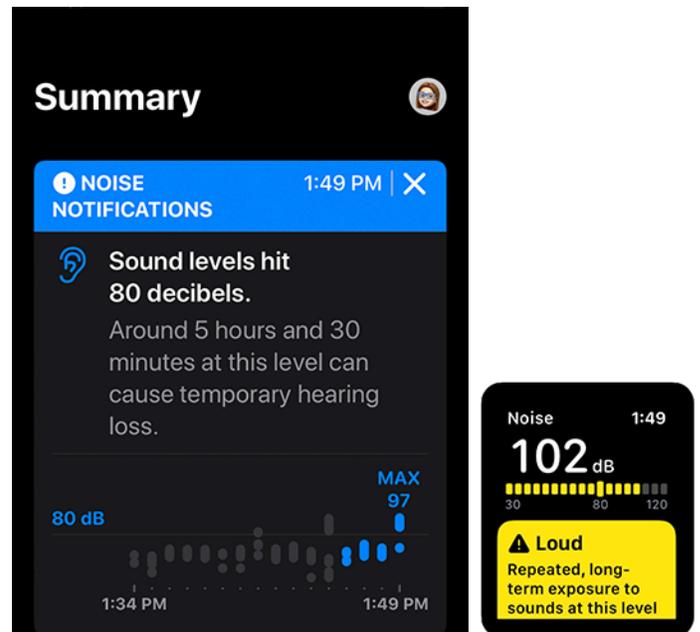
Tools to Protect Your Ears

The number of Americans with hearing loss doubled between 2000 and 2015, according to the [Hearing Health Foundation](#), bringing the total affected to nearly 50 million. In most cases, [noise-induced hearing loss](#) caused by continuous exposure to loud sounds (rather than a sudden explosion) is preventable. That's where the Health app's new hearing tools come in.

Health now tracks headphone audio levels, noting if your exposure reaches dangerous levels. That means if you regularly crank up your tunes, you can check the app to see whether you're putting your ears at risk. (To reduce an iPhone's maximum volume, go to Settings > Music > Volume Limit and move the slider to the left.) Likewise, if you see your headphone volume level trending up in Health's Highlights, it might be time to see your doctor about declining hearing. Proactive notifications that nudge you to make changes would make these tools even more useful.

If you have an Apple Watch running watchOS 6, it will work with the Health app to warn you about the sounds around you, too, whether they come from a concert or a construction site. If the decibels get dangerous, your watch taps you on the wrist and displays a warning; a notification also appears at the top of Health's Summary view.

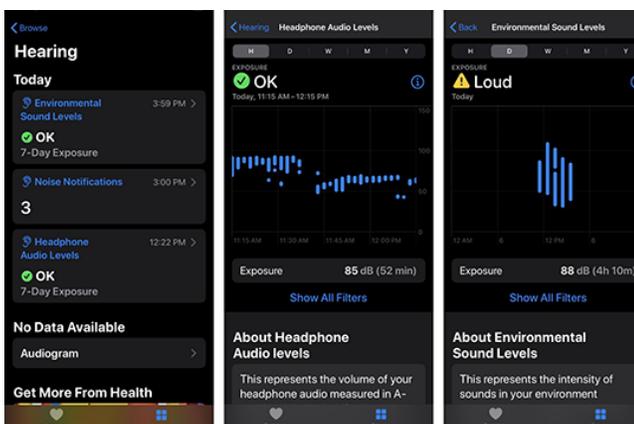
You can adjust the sensitivity in the Watch app on your iPhone depending on how careful you want to be with your ears. Reaching the preset maximum, 90 dB, wasn't difficult with Ozzy Osbourne playing full blast on a HomePod. That was also about the level that Josh Centers found lawnmowing to be (see ["3M WorkTunes Headphones Make Yardwork More Tolerable,"](#) 12 April 2019).



From Health Hub to Health Helper

When it comes to your health, knowledge is power. Making it easy to gather data, track symptoms, and draw basic conclusions about the state of your health makes it more likely you'll arrive at the doctor's office with the information you need to get good care. Or, even better, perhaps this data can help you change your habits and behavior so you don't have to schedule that doctor's appointment in the first place.

Whether it's protecting your ears or alerting you that the time is ripe for baby-making, iOS 13's Health app not only gathers more of our scattered health information but also helps us use it in practical and potentially profound ways. My daughter, now 11, will likely never be able to imagine otherwise. 🗑️



Real-World Observations about Mapping Apps

Last month, Tonya and I spent two weeks in Switzerland, where the public transit system is, at least to us Americans, utterly amazing. It seems that it's possible to go just about anywhere in the country via transit, and let me tell you, the buses, trams, and trains really do run with the punctuality for which the Swiss — a nation of watchmakers — are known.

While we were there, the apps I used the most were Apple Maps and Google Maps. We had a Swiss Travel Pass that provided free passage on all but the mountain railways (where it gave us a discount), and nearly every day found us mapping routes to our next adventure or destination. I used both apps heavily, often simultaneously, and came up with some observations that you might find helpful on your next trip.

Mapping Apps Use Lots of Power

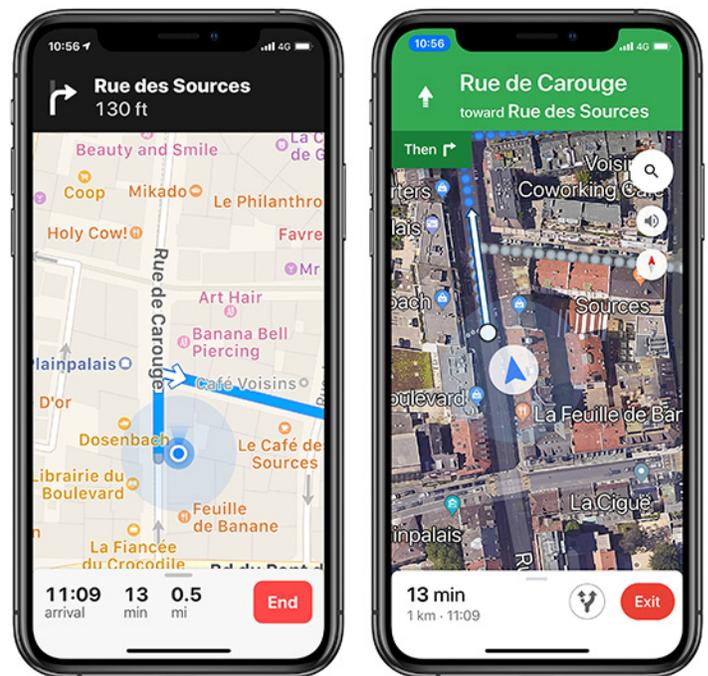
Unless your iPhone battery is in great shape, I strongly recommend having an external battery pack with you when traveling. Losing access to mapping apps because of a dead iPhone will be extremely stressful. My iPhone X still has a Battery Health Maximum Capacity of 94%, and only once or twice was I in danger of running out of battery before we stopped for the day. However, I always put it in Low Power Mode in the morning to reduce power usage. Embarrassingly, I didn't realize it at the time, but I could have added a Low Power Mode button to Control Center to avoid the trip to Settings > Battery every day.

As I noted in [“Orange Holiday Europe: A Cheap 4G SIM for Your European Vacation”](#) (22 July 2019), Tonya's iPhone 6s had more problems. It suffered from a Battery Health Maximum Capacity of only 88% despite her replacement battery being newer than my iPhone X, so she always carried an external battery and still restricted her usage to essentials. As a result, I did almost all the mapping, since those apps drained her battery all the more quickly.

Apple Maps Better for Walking

Apart from one day when we borrowed a tremendously cute [Smart Fortwo](#) from a friend, we walked or took transit everywhere. Or, more accurately, we walked and took transit everywhere, since getting to and from stations always required some walking, and we were also exploring Lausanne, Lucerne, and Geneva on foot. Since I was using both Apple Maps and Google Maps, I'd try walking directions in one, then the other, or sometimes both at the same time.

Apple Maps did a better job with walking directions than Google Maps due to its special place within the Apple ecosystem. It sent turn-by-turn directions, complete with custom haptics, to my Apple Watch, and it took over the Lock screen, so I could quickly glance at the screen to see how we were doing. In contrast, Google Maps was limited to notifications. And although I can't quite find the words, I found Apple Maps walking directions more reassuring and solid, making it more comfortable to use in the moment.



*Walking direction screens.
Left: Apple Maps. Right: Google Maps.*

Apple Maps Lock Screen Prevents Camera Use

Apple Maps taking over the Lock screen could be helpful, but it also proved annoying. We were in tourist mode, so I often wanted to whip out my iPhone, tap the camera button on the Lock screen, and take a quick snapshot. When Apple Maps was on the Lock screen, it removed the camera button, forcing me to unlock the iPhone and open the Camera app manually. While walking, paying attention to the map, and talking with Tonya, losing access to the Lock screen camera shortcut made for some awkward interactions.

I didn't think of it at the time, but I could have added the Camera to Control Center (Settings > Control Center > Customize Controls) and accessed it more quickly by

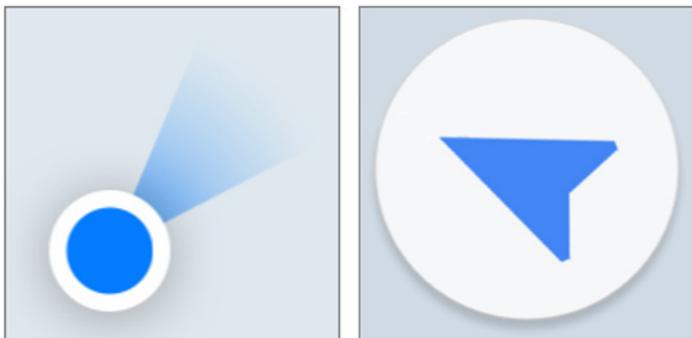
swiping down from the upper-right corner of my iPhone X, even when on the Maps-occupied Lock screen. I'd recommend setting that up in advance if you plan to use Apple Maps for walking directions when you also want to be able to take a photo quickly.



Left: Tap the green + button for an item in the More Controls list to add it to the Include list above, as I've already done with Camera. Right: Bring up Control Center and tap the Camera button to switch to the camera from the Lock screen.

Both Apps Show the Direction You're Pointing

Over the years, my main problem with walking directions, regardless of app, has been figuring out the direction in which to start. Both Apple and Google have improved their apps in this regard. In the past, I'd often find myself walking half a block before it was clear that I had guessed wrong about which direction to go initially. The icon that indicates your position now gives an indication of which way you're pointing, so you can usually just turn around slowly to figure out which way to go.



Directional icons.
Left: Apple Maps. Right: Google Maps.

The only problem with this is that the icons can be fairly small, and if your close-up vision isn't great and you're in bright sunshine, it can be challenging to read the screen well enough to determine direction. Even with the directional icon, I always checked that we were going the right way and several times had to admit that I'd sent us in the wrong direction. Which, as a guy equipped with high-tech mapping gear, was tough.

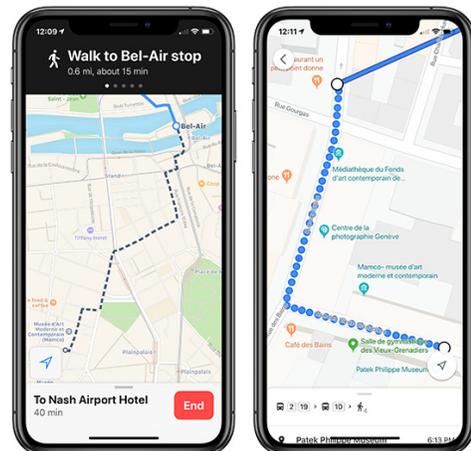
Large Stations Can Still Be Confusing

When you take the train into Geneva, you arrive at Gare Cornavin, a massive transit hub for both trains and local trams and buses. The problem, and neither app did a good job of helping us, is that there are at least two rather widely separated spots to catch buses or trams. Both apps could tell us which number bus or tram to use, but neither was able to tell us where to find it. Worse, because there were multiple routes that would work and time kept passing, as we tried to figure out what to do, the possibilities — and where to get the recommended bus — kept changing. Since we had arrived late at night and were exhausted, it was all the more stressful.

I have no helpful suggestions about how to resolve this problem. The simple fact is that sometimes, even with these advanced mapping apps, you need some local knowledge to be able to navigate a transit system effectively.

Walking Directions While in a Transit Route Suck

As I noted, setting up a route via transit almost always requires walking to get to the station. The problem is that neither app does a good job of providing those necessary walking directions. Both show you a map with lines that indicates where to go, but neither gives you turn-by-turn directions while you're walking, forcing you to watch your iPhone and look for turns manually the entire time. I could have sworn they didn't show the directional icons either, but perhaps that was merely me not being able to see the screen well while walking in bright sun. Regardless, why can't these apps provide the same interface for walking directions while in a transit route?



Walking directions while in a transit route were less than ideal, and often disagreed. Left: Apple Maps. Right: Google Maps.

I sometimes ended up setting up our transit route in Google Maps before switching out to Apple Maps for separate walking directions to the first station. That was more effective, but particularly in downtown Geneva, Apple and Google often disagreed not just about the best way to get somewhere, but how it could be done at all, forcing us to pick one and stick to it. I suspect either would have worked, but much like when you were a kid and depending on your parents to navigate, it was disconcerting to have them argue.

Bus Routes Aren't Always as the App Suggests

On our first night in Geneva, after we finally guessed at which bus to take from Gare Cornavin to the Airbnb where we were staying, I was somewhat concerned to see our moving location in Google Maps deviate from the predicted blue line. Luckily, we were still going in the right direction, so we stuck with it, and the bus did eventually rejoin the predicted route and stop where we needed. But because you sometimes have to make quick decisions about whether to stay on a bus or get off because it's going the wrong way, that deviation made for a fraught few minutes.

Bus Stop Names Don't Always Match Up

Also trying were the times when the names of bus stops didn't match with what the mapping apps advertised. The discrepancies weren't huge, but when you're already somewhat at sea due to not speaking the language of the area, it can induce uncertainty.

For instance, at one point, both Apple Maps and Google Maps told us to get off at "Cointrin, De-Joinville," with the previous stops being "Vernier, Balexert-Pailly" and "Vernier, Florales," but the screen in the bus that advertised upcoming stops read merely "Balexert-Pailly," "Florales," and "De-Joinville." It's easy to see that that the first word is being dropped when you have time to reflect, but when you're hot and tired at the end of a long day and you're squished into a standing-room-only bus with your backpack, the fact that the names start with different words can be tough to parse. In short, be aware that the mapping apps may use slightly different names.



The buses always advertised their stops, but it was disconcerting when they didn't match up with what the mapping apps claimed. Yes, I could have cropped to show just the screen, but where's the fun in that?

It's Hard to Preview New Routes While on Transit

One of the reasons to have at least two mapping apps available at all times is that when you're on a train in the middle of a transit route, it's tricky to stop and restart the route, as you might want to do if you want to preview a different possibility or need to switch to a slightly different eventual destination.

That's because the apps have no way of knowing that you're already on a train, so they'll try to direct you to the closest station, which may be behind you or would require taking an entirely different transit option if you were on foot at your current location.

I learned quickly that it was best to let Google Maps keep routing us while I switched out to Apple Maps to check out a different route possibility or to ponder what would be involved with the next day's travel.

Beware the Last Bus of the Day

One day we traveled from Grindelwald in the Swiss Alps to Geneva, which involved five trains, two buses, a funicular, a cable car, and a tram, along with bumming a car ride. That was because we went to Moléson for via ferrata and hiking — separately, since Tonya wouldn't be caught dead clambering up a mountain face that looked like this.



It's not recommended for those with a fear of heights and is undoubtedly considered wimping out by real climbers, but I found via ferrata to be big fun. And yes, I kept myself clipped in to the steel cable the entire time.

Once we had reconvened at the stunningly scenic restaurant halfway up the mountain (you took the funicular to the restaurant level and then the cable car to the top, or in our case, back down from the top, since I went straight up and Tonya hiked around and up to the peak), I mapped out the rest of the trip to Geneva and was shocked to see that

it was predicted to take 18 hours, rather than the 3 hours I had expected.



Molésou. Just another gorgeous bit of Swiss mountain scenery that was quite relaxing until we started planning the next leg of the trip.

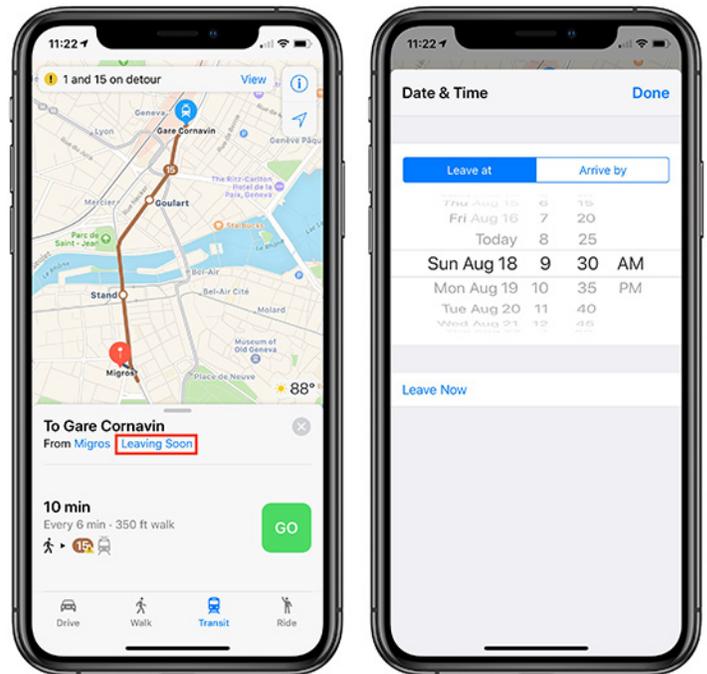
The problem was that the last bus for the day between Molésou and Gruyere — yes, where they make the cheese — had run for the day at 6:37 PM, and it was just after 7 PM. Both mapping apps therefore thought we should wait until 7 AM the next morning. Luckily, a Swiss family that had also been climbing kindly agreed to give us a ride into Gruyere, saving us a forced 4-kilometer march with full backpacks in an attempt to make the last train out of Gruyere.

Missing this bus took us by surprise because we had become accustomed to being able to go anywhere on the Swiss transit system, at any time. But of course, not all routes run at night. To co-opt a phrase, caveat viator! And read my next after-the-fact observation below.

Remember That You Can Set the Route Start Time

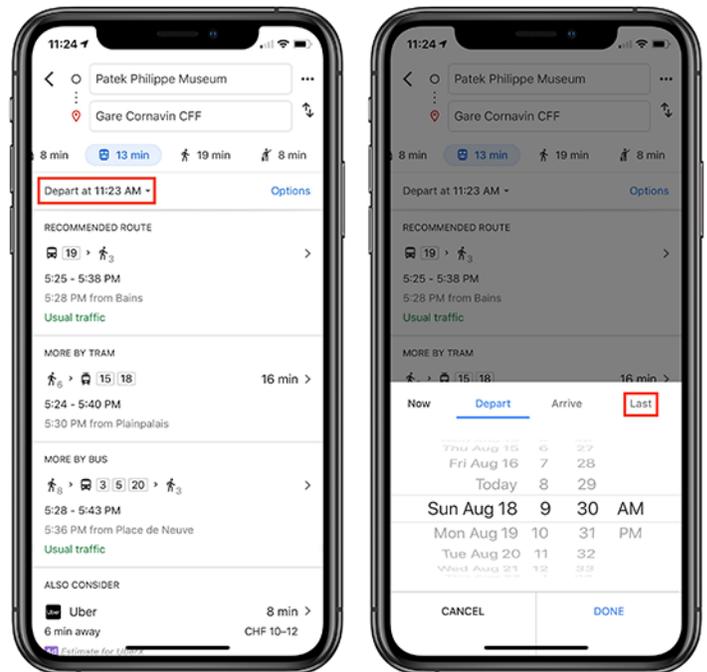
Most of the time when you're using a mapping app, you want to go from your current location to some destination, leaving shortly. You probably know that you can also get directions between two arbitrary places, but you may not have realized that you can also change the leaving time when getting transit directions. That's important if you need to sync up your day's activities with transit schedules.

In Apple Maps, once you set up your route, but before you tap Go, tap the Leaving Soon link in the From line, and set the desired date and time.



Setting a different leaving time in Apple Maps.

Similarly, In Google Maps, after you set your start and destination spots, but before you pick one of the suggested routes, tap the Depart At menu and set a different date and time. When I did this, I discovered that Google Maps offers a Last option for any given day, which would have been nice to know that day we were on Molésou!



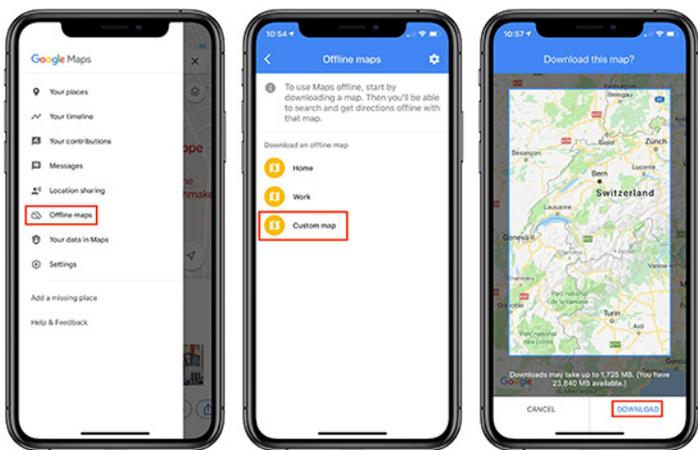
Setting a different leaving time in Google Maps. Note the option to find the last run of the day.

What If There's No Connectivity?

Neither Apple Maps nor Google Maps ever complained about not being able to download necessary map data while we were in Switzerland. However, our iPhones

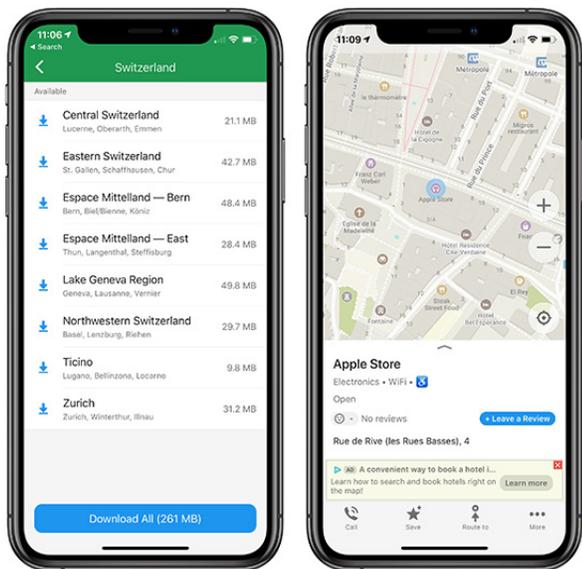
sometimes showed only the EDGE status icon instead of 3G, 4G, or LTE, and we occasionally noticed the dreaded No Service status as well. Offline maps could have been helpful in such a situation. The other utility of offline maps is that you could put your iPhone in airplane mode to save battery power or to avoid data charges while still being able to navigate. (Your iPhone's GPS remains active in airplane mode as long as you're running iOS 8.2 or later.)

In conversations with friends after we got back, one person pointed out that we could have gotten Google Maps to download offline maps for the areas we were in. Just tap the hamburger menu in the upper-left corner, tap Offline Maps, tap Custom Map, pinch to fit the desired map area into the screen, and tap Download.



Beware that an entire country's worth of maps could consume significant space on your iPhone.

Another friend recommended a different app — [Maps.me](#), which offers free, offline maps with turn-by-turn directions. It looks like a competent mapping app on the iPhone, although you must still download maps for the desired location while you do have connectivity. Note that Maps.me [supports transit routes in only a limited number of cities](#). Oddly, that list includes Lausanne, but no other cities in Switzerland.



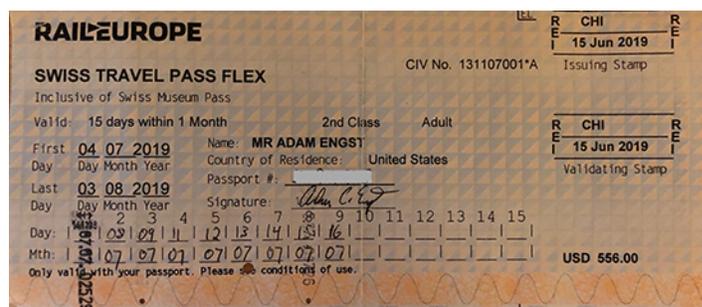
Once you download maps for the desired region, you can use Maps.me entirely offline.

Apple Maps has no user-controllable provisions for offline usage, but [it supposedly caches everything along a route once you tap Go](#). Plus, if you load an area and zoom in everywhere you might want to go in that area, Apple Maps may cache that data for offline viewing as well. Frankly, I think you'd be insane to gamble on an automatic caching algorithm providing reliable offline navigation. This limitation of Apple Maps is just another reason why you should always have multiple mapping apps available. If you have other recommendations, leave a comment!

A Low-Tech Finale

One final note that's specific to Switzerland. The most disconcerting thing about the Swiss transit system for us was how we paid for passage. We had each bought a Swiss Travel Pass, which cost about \$550 per person, but that meant that we paid only a small, discounted amount for the mountain train that took us up the Eiger to start our 12-mile hike on the Eiger Trail and the funicular/cable car combination up Moléson. Every other trip was free, as was entrance to nearly all museums in the country, so it turned out to be well worth the price.

But the Swiss Travel Pass was literally a piece of paper, and it turned out that you used by writing the month and day into a pair of boxes before you rode each day, since it was good for only 15 days of travel within a 30-day timeframe. We didn't realize this because that detail was buried in the middle of a page of 6-point text in multiple languages. On the first bus we took, we continued to be confused about how to use our passes and the driver, who didn't speak English, just grunted at us when we asked. It turns out that the buses are largely an honor system, with no pass checking that we saw.



Imagine — a paper ticket!

However, two days later, when we took our first train, the conductor took pity on us for not having written the date on each pass before getting on the train and let us off with what I expect is the standard clueless tourist warning. It seemed like an oddly backward system for a country that prides itself on efficiency, and it left us longing for London's tap-in, tap-out approach that works with Apple Pay and other NFR-enabled payment platforms. I have to think that the Swiss would love having everything encapsulated within an app that would engender additional appreciation of the precision and punctuality of their transit system. 🗑️

by Tim Sullivan

Rumors and Reality

Check up on the upcoming iOS 13. It looks like it packs a lot of new stuff. Look for its release in late September. Some sites to check:

https://www.macrumors.com/roundup/ios-13/#release_date

<https://cssc0der.com/ios-13-every-new-feature-you-need-to-know-about-right-now/>

Nobody should be installing Flash Player in 2019 — not even the real, legitimate one. (A lot of nasty stuff masquerades as Flash Updates.) Nearly all sites have stopped relying on Flash, as Adobe is discontinuing it; the company plans to no longer release security updates for Flash after 2020.

The HyperCube is an adapter for iPhone (or other smartphones) that automatically backs up photos, videos and contacts to a microSD card or USB-drive while you charge your device.

<https://9to5mac.com/2019/06/30/hypercube-iphone-backup-microsd-usb/>

I remember years ago seeing beautiful photographs sponsored by Apple. I found this years awards of photos taken with an iPhone or an iPad.

<https://www.ippawards.com/2019-winning-photographers/>

Some free mac utilities you must download!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cqjpa8-Cp-s>

Software Review

By Timothy Buck

Sip: Smart Color Management for Your Mac

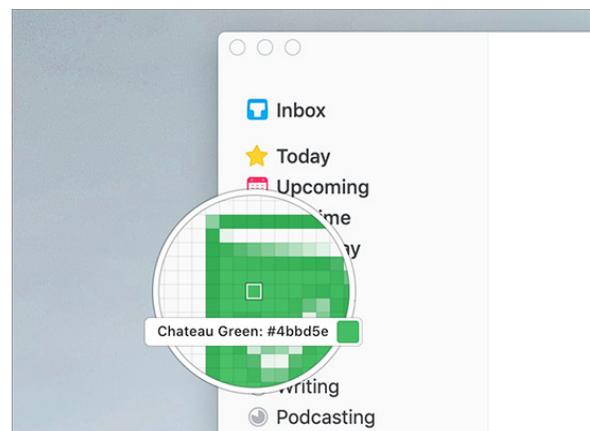
If you work with color on the Mac, you're probably painfully aware that the macOS Colors palette hasn't changed in years. It offers several different types of color pickers, an eyedropper tool for sampling a color from the screen, and wells for storing color swatches. It's functional for occasional use but becomes clumsy quickly— try remembering which red is which when you've saved multiple similar versions. Many graphics apps offer their own color tools, but they're useless as soon as you need to work in another app. Luckily, there's a solution: **Sip**.



Brothers André Gonçalves and Rui Aureliano designed Sip with advanced features for professional developers and designers, but its core functionality is simple enough that any Mac user might find it useful for color management.

Sip Basics

The first thing you'll do with Sip is pick some colors. You can open the color picker — which is a circle that magnifies a small portion of the screen underneath it — by clicking the menu bar icon or pressing a keyboard shortcut (Command-Control-Option-P). Sip provides plenty of **shortcuts**, all of which you can change in its settings.



Sip is a \$10 menu bar app that allows you to pick colors anywhere on your Mac, quickly organize them into palettes, and smartly use those colors in other apps.

To pick a color, position the color picker over the desired hue, wherever on the screen it may be, and click. That adds the color to Sip and copies it to your clipboard. Press a modifier key while picking a color to add additional tweaks:

Shift: Adds multiple colors in a row.

Option: Automatically creates a new palette and puts each color you pick in that palette (more on palettes shortly).

Control: Creates a new palette with the colors you're picking.

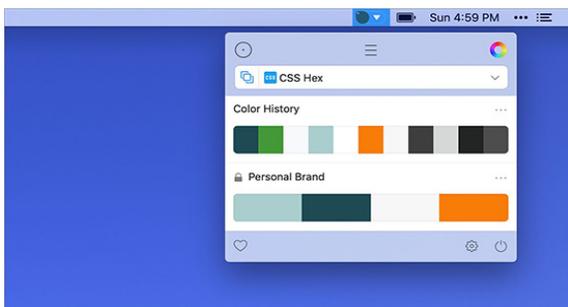
Command: Sends the color directly to the app in which you're working, if it's **one of the 17 currently supported apps**, including Web development apps like Coda and Espresso, and Adobe's Illustrator, InDesign, and Photoshop.

For more precise color picking, use Sip's keyboard shortcuts to increase or decrease the zoom of the color picker, to make the color picker's grid larger or smaller, and to move the color picker around in 1- or 10-pixel increments. This is great for grabbing a 1-pixel border color or the color of small text.

You can also send colors to Sip directly from Sketch or Photoshop using the Sip shortcuts for Get Border Color or Get Fill Color. Clicking the color wheel in the top right of the menu bar window opens a Photoshop-like color editor where you can pick a color or enter hexadecimal or RGBA values.

Once you have some colors in Sip, you'll probably want to create palettes to keep them organized. You might want a palette for brand colors, another for a project you're working on, and a few more for colors that inspire you.

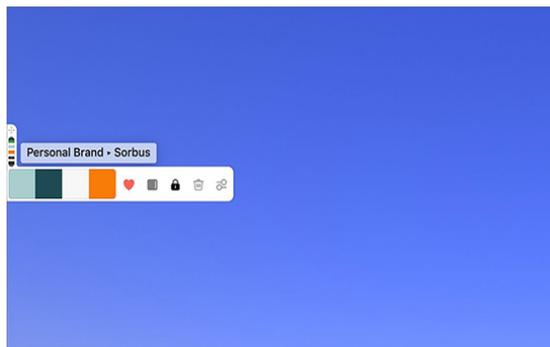
To create your first palette, click the hamburger menu in the menu bar window and then choose New Palette. All the colors you've picked so far will already be in your color history. Drag colors from your color history into your new palette. You can also drag to rearrange the colors within any palette.



Control-clicking the palette gives you options to rename, duplicate, lock, or favorite it. Favorites are helpful once you have a bunch of palettes. Clicking the heart in the bottom left of the menu bar dropdown will show only your favorite palettes.

Clicking the name of the palette takes you into a list view of all the colors in that palette. Sip automatically generates names for your colors like Sunglow or Blue Haze, but you can Control-click any color in the list view to rename it. I like naming my colors by use case, such as Background, Highlight, Header Text, and Body Text. Control-clicking any color in the list also provides options to delete, replace, or edit the color with a Photoshop-like color editor.

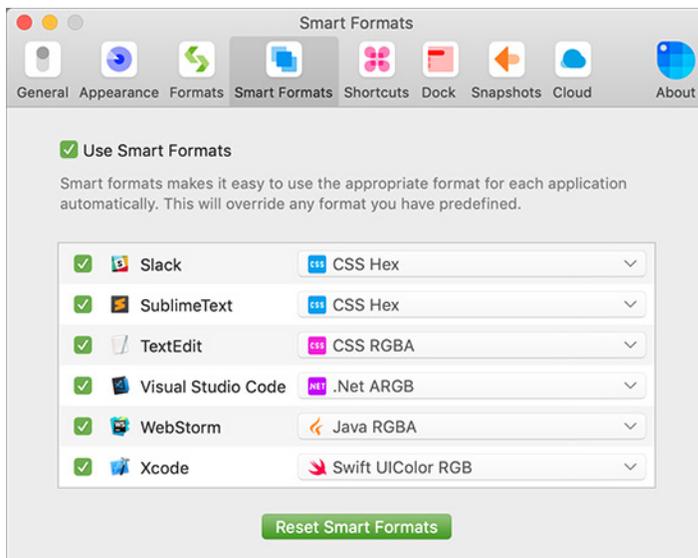
Once you've organized your colors into palettes, you can begin using them in other apps. Selecting any color from your history or a palette in the menu bar window copies the color to your clipboard. Sip can also show a draggable color dock on the edge of your screen; you can define which of your palettes appear in this dock. Selecting a color in the color dock works the same as the menu bar window.



Your color palettes, color history, and settings sync between Macs, and Sip automatically backs them up by taking snapshots that are saved locally in case you accidentally delete something.

Sip Formats

If you find yourself using different color formats in different apps, like hexadecimal in Photoshop and CSS RGBA in Sublime Text, Sip has you covered. You can turn on Smart Formats, define which format is used with each app, or simply use the presets. With Smart Formats on, when you paste colors from Sip into an app, it will automatically use the correct color format.



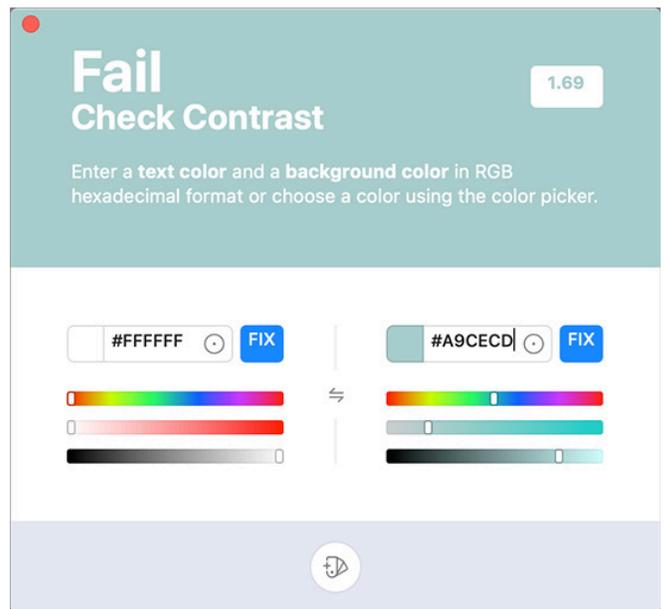
I've never had to create a custom format, but if the list of built-in formats lacks something you need, you can create your own based on any of the existing formats or from scratch. You'll find the Custom Format editor within the hamburger menu in the menu bar window. It allows you to define separately how the color is saved to your clipboard, viewed in the menu, and viewed in the picker.



Sip Accessibility Tools

Sip's Check Contrast feature helps you make sure that the contrast of the colors you are using is accessible to people with low vision. To check contrast, choose Check Contrast from the hamburger menu. Then pick a background color and text color. Sip will provide a numeric score as well as an overall grade of AAA (great!), AA (acceptable contrast for type smaller than 18 point), A Large (acceptable for type larger than 18 point), or Fail.

While I was using this feature to take screenshots for this article, Sip showed me that a white-on-seafoam color combination I was using on my Web site wasn't accessible. I was able to make a simple color change to my site, and now it's more usable for people with low vision.



Taking a Sip

You can [try Sip](#) for free for 15 days. After the free trial ends, you'll need to purchase the app.

Sip uses a pricing model popularized by the design app Sketch. It costs \$10 for one year of app updates on one computer. If you want to license more than one computer, you'll receive a discounted rate: \$8 each for 2–5 computers, \$7 each for 6–9 computers, \$6 each for 10–19 computers, or \$5 each for 20 or more computers. Once the first year is up, you can purchase another year of updates for half the cost of your first year, or you can keep using the version of the app you're currently using for no extra cost.

If you've struggled with color management between apps, Sip is well worth the price, and it's easy to test the trial version to see if it will improve your workflow. I know it has improved mine. 🍷

Apple Updates

macOS Mojave 10.14.6 Update

Aug 26, 2019 – 2.67 GB

System Requirements
– macOS Mojave 10.14.5

macOS Mojave 10.14.6 Combo

Aug 26, 2019 – 3.37 GB

System Requirements
– macOS Mojave 10.14

The macOS Mojave 10.14.6 update improves the stability and reliability of your Mac, and is recommended for all users.

This update:

- Makes downloaded issues available in the My Magazines section of Apple News+, both online and offline
- Adds all publications in Apple News+, including newspapers, to the catalog at the top of the News+ feed
- Adds the ability to clear downloaded magazine issues in Apple News+ by selecting History > Clear > Clear All
- Addresses an issue which prevents creation of a new Boot Camp partition on iMac and Mac mini with Fusion Drive
- Resolves an issue that may cause a hang during a restart
- Resolves a graphics issue that may occur when waking from sleep
- Fixes an issue that may cause fullscreen video to appear black on Mac mini

- Improves file sharing reliability over SMB

macOS Mojave 10.14.6 Supplemental Update

Aug 26, 2019 – 1.26 GB

System Requirements
– macOS 10.14.6

This update contains bug fixes that improve the stability, performance, and security of your Mac, and is recommended for all users.

This update:

- Resolves an issue that may cause certain Mac notebooks to shut down during sleep
- Fixes an issue that may degrade performance when working with very large files



- Addresses an issue that may prevent Pages, Keynote, Numbers, iMovie, and GarageBand from updating

Security Update 2019-004 (High Sierra)

Jul 29, 2019 – 1.9 GB

System Requirements
– macOS 10.13

Security Update 2019-004 is recommended for all users and improves the security of macOS.

Security Update 2019-004 (Sierra)

Jul 29, 2019 – 927.7 MB

System Requirements
– macOS 10.12

Security Update 2019-004 is recommended for all users and improves the security of macOS. 🗑️

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