

printout

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

Upcoming Events

WWDC – World Wide Developers Conference

The WWDC will start this month on the 22nd. Due to health concerns it will be a virtual conference this year. For those who wish to explore the proceedings download <[WWDC](#)>

WWDC is the unofficial WWDC app for OS X, i.e. it's from a third party. Use this app to watch WWDC sessions on your Mac and do much more. It is version 7.0.2. There is some question about what macOS this version runs on — probably only on Catalina (macOS 10.15). Try [WWDC version 6.2](#) if you're not running Catalina.

KeyMac Board Meeting

We have been trying out virtual meetings using Zoom. We will have one at 6:30pm on July 7. Everyone is invited to try it out.

See page 13 for the invitation and some instruction. Clicking on the URL should load the appropriate software if it is not already available.

There are many (probably too many) tutorials on youtube. These are a couple that you might want to start with if you have never used zoom:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9isp3qPeQOE>

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=zoom+user+guide 🗑

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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 © 2020, Keystone MacCentral, 310 Somerset Drive, Shiresmanstown, PA 17011.

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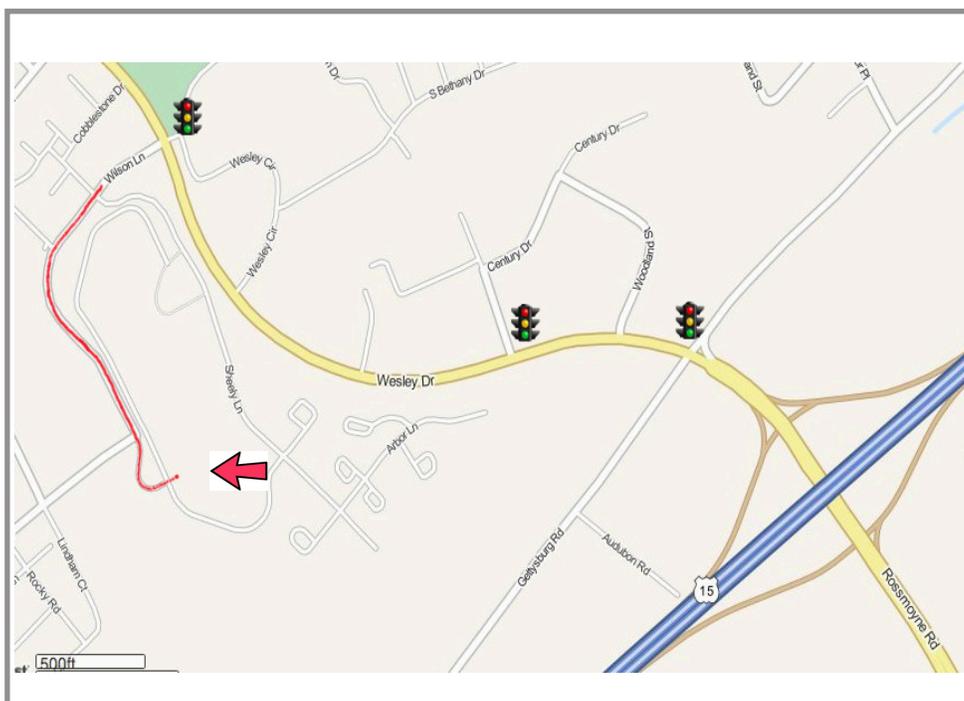
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Bethany Village West
Maplewood Assisted Living (Bld 21)
5225 Wilson Lane
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Web Site

<http://www.keystonemac.com>

Mailing Address

310 Somerset Drive
Shiresmanstown, PA 17011

Be Careful When Scheduling Events Using Siri

I just made an embarrassing technical mistake that required an apology for wasting someone’s time. My error? Using Siri to schedule a Zoom call with two colleagues on the board of the Finger Lakes Runners Club while relying on Google Calendar as my default calendar service. Here’s what happened.

We coordinated the time for the meeting in email at the end of the day, but I was in a hurry to finish and forgot to add it to my calendar right away. Instead, as is often the case, I remembered when I was making breakfast the next morning. Since the meeting was for just a few hours later, I didn’t trust myself to remember to start the Zoom call without it appearing on my calendar, with a reminder popping up at the right time. Pressing the Apple Watch’s digital crown, I instructed Siri, “Schedule a call with Mickie and Gary for today at noon.”

Siri on the Apple Watch understood me correctly, but I should have thought more about the fact that it asked me which Gary I meant — I know a number of people named “Gary” or “Garry.” I tapped the option corresponding with the correct Gary, noticed with some irritation that Siri had created an event merely titled “Call,” and went back to making breakfast. I figured that I’d know what “Call” meant when the reminder came up, even though I wanted it to read “Call with Mickie and Gary.” After breakfast, I sent the Zoom meeting details to Mickie and Gary in email.

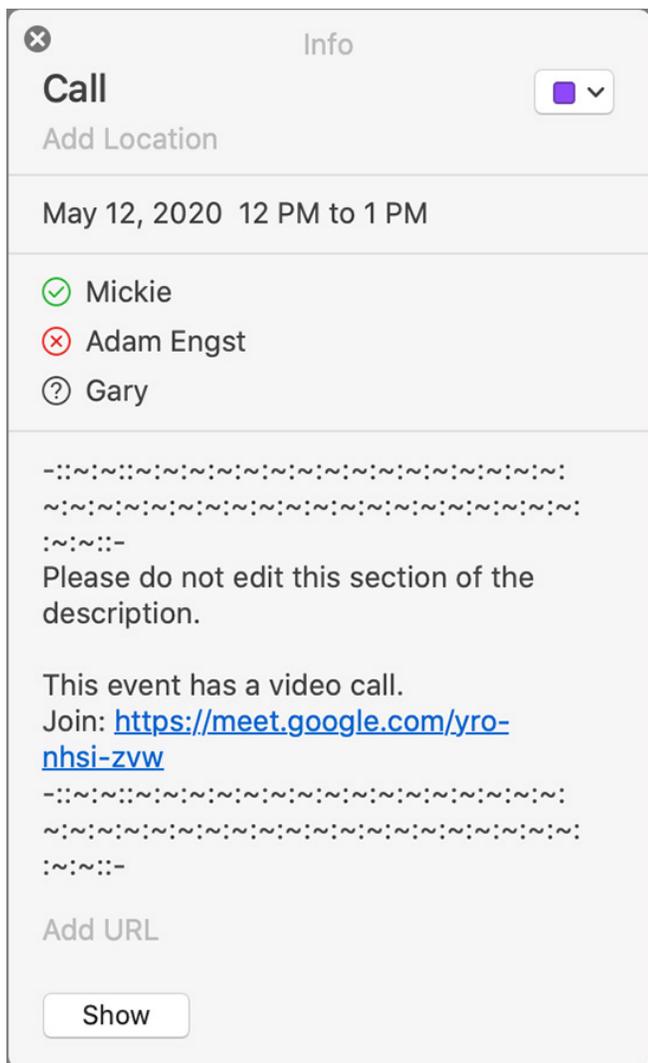
At noon, I started the call, and Mickie joined a minute later. We chatted for a while before wondering where Gary was. A few text messages later, and he came on, irritated, asking why he had been sitting in Google Hangouts by himself for 10 minutes. Google Hangouts? Why was he in Google... suddenly, it all became clear, and I immediately apologized for wasting his time and explained the situation.

When I used Siri to create the calendar event for the call, because I specified Mickie and Gary by name, Siri tried to be smart and invited them to the event without telling me. I didn’t want that to happen — the event was for my reference, not because I wanted to put it on their calendars.

(This is a general complaint. Speaking as someone who doesn’t work in a large organization, calendar invitations make me uncomfortable. I never quite know when they’re being sent, or in what manner, or how the recipient will respond. As a writer, if I’m going to invite someone to an event, I want to do so using language I control. Plus, when I receive invitations, I don’t know what will happen if I accept, reject, or ignore the invitation. I’m sure invitations work better in groups that rely on shared calendars for frequent meetings, but I’d love a switch to disable them entirely.)

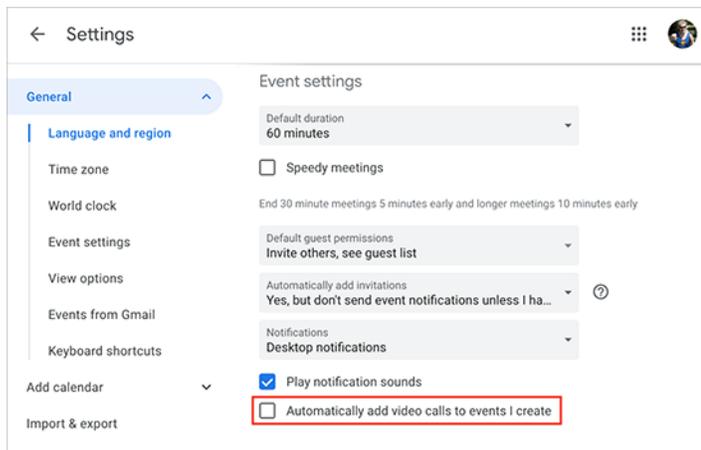
In retrospect, there were two hints that Siri had issued invitations to the event: its query about which “Gary” I wanted and the fact that the event was titled “Call.” Had I said, “Schedule a call with FLRC colleagues for today at noon,” Siri wouldn’t have been able to issue any invitations (since I have no contacts named “FLRC colleagues”) and would have titled the event “Call with FLRC colleagues.”

The second part of the problem stemmed from the fact that I use Google Calendar for my main shared calendars. That’s because, when he was in high school, Tristan’s main computer was a Chromebook Pixel, so we standardized on Google Calendar for our shared calendars. I also sometimes appreciate the fact that Gmail can automatically add events to my calendar, although it can get wacky with



airplane flights, particularly those that cross time zones. Now that he's at Cornell (and thus much less in our calendar) and using a MacBook Pro, we could switch back to iCloud.

As a result, when I scheduled the call using Siri, it created the associated event on a calendar in Google Calendar. In itself, that wouldn't have been a problem except that, by default, Google Calendar automatically adds video calls to events I create with other attendees. Oops! You can disable this default in Google Calendar's General settings; while viewing Google Calendar in a Web browser, click the gear icon in the upper-right corner, choose Settings, and click Event Settings.



So as soon as Gary said he had been waiting in Google Hangouts, I realized that he had, for whatever reason, seen the event invitation and its associated link, rather than the email I'd sent. Mickie had seen (and accepted, not that I realized that until I was writing this article — add that to my invitation complaints) the event invitation too, but since she also read the email, she knew to use Zoom.

It all makes sense, and I can see why programmers working in large companies like Apple and Google would assume that everyone would want event invitations — their days undoubtedly involve a continual flurry of invitations to accept and reject. And the Google Calendar team probably thought they were doing everyone a favor by providing single-click access to a video call right within the invitation. At least they provided an option to disable it.

If you're like me, however, and see your calendar as essentially private, all I can suggest is that you either avoid using Siri to create events, which would be a loss, or train yourself never to mention a contact's name when creating an event. That's what I'll be doing from now on. Live and learn! 🗑️

By Dave Kitabjian

ExactScan Might Be the ScanSnap Replacement You Need

Fujitsu ScanSnap scanners became wildly popular many years ago by simplifying the process of going paperless. Their user-friendly hardware and uniquely simplified scanning software created a package that took the chore out of building a feature-rich, personalized scanning workflow.

But ScanSnap Manager, the magical desktop software that's the secret sauce to this solution for the older generation of scanners that many of us are still using, is 32-bit software and therefore not compatible with macOS 10.15 Catalina. Owners of perfectly functional older Scan-Snap scanners face the difficult choice of either having to buy a new scanner or stay on macOS 10.14 Mojave.

Except that there's another option — third-party scanner software. One such product is Hamrick Software's VueScan Professional product, which I reviewed at length last year (see "[VueScan: Not the ScanSnap Replacement You're Looking For](#)," 2 December 2019).

While extremely capable and apparently a working solution for many people, VueScan Professional is a far cry from the ScanSnap Manager experience and suffered from various problems that I called out in that article.

But there's another contender out there, ExactCODE's [ExactScan Pro](#). Is it a more viable alternative to ScanSnap Manager? Let's take a look.

ExactScan comes in three varieties: the basic product for \$79.99, the Pro version that adds OCR for searchable PDFs and other features for \$99.99, and the Enterprise version that supports high-speed scanners for \$297.50. ExactScan Pro hits the feature sweet spot, matches ScanSnap Manager and VueScan Professional most closely, and will be the focus of my review.

Scanner Compatibility

ExactScan Pro supports a wide variety of scanners, but you will need to check the [compatibility page](#) to make sure your scanner is supported before you purchase. You'll notice that list includes a number of ScanSnap scanners,

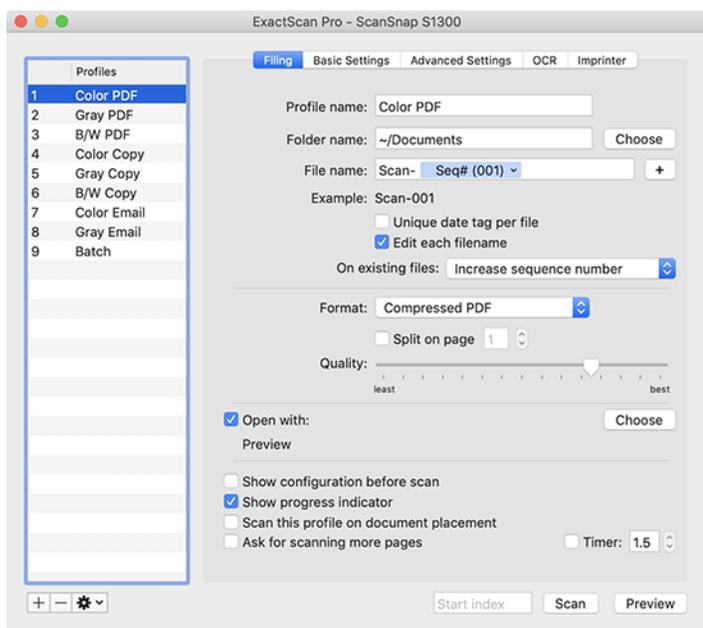
including the popular S1300 model that I own and used in my previous tests.

If your scanner is in the list, head over to ExactScan's [download page](#) for the free 14-day trial. During the trial period, scans get a small but prominent red banner at the top of scanned pages, but otherwise, the software is fully featured.

Installation, Interface, and Profiles

After the typical drag-and-drop copy into the Applications folder, a launch of ExactScan Pro offers to install TWAIN Bridge to permit scanning from other applications. I allowed it to install, but my review will cover only scanning from ExactScan Pro.

Once launched, ExactScan Pro presents you with the following interface:



Unlike VueScan's Basic, Standard, and Advanced levels of user interface complexity, ExactScan Pro makes all its features available all the time. While they're also organized behind a series of tabs, the overall layout is more obvious and less confusing than VueScan's.

Whereas VueScan's profile management appeared to be an afterthought, ExactScan Pro puts workflow at the center of the user experience, providing a full profile management sidebar on the left panel of the main window. Since its profile interface works in accordance with Apple design guidelines, profiles automatically save changes you make. Better yet, you can access all your profiles by Control-clicking the app's icon in the Dock. This simple feature, which I relied on when using ScanSnap Manager, is valuable because it lets you make a quick scan without having to enter ExactScan Pro's main user interface.

ExactScan Pro comes with a variety of predefined profiles, which can serve as examples of how to use the various settings in different workflows.

Essential Features Work as Expected

Like ScanSnap Manager and VueScan Professional, ExactScan Pro offers all the features power users have come to expect, including:

- Document feeder support, assuming your scanner has one
- Multi-page, duplex scanning to PDF
- OCR for creating searchable PDFs
- Flexible file naming patterns based on date, time, sheet #, and resolution
- Blank page removal
- Crop and deskew
- Scan to email
- Scan to print
- Saving images to Photos

Using ExactScan Pro, I was able to recreate my workflow needs from ScanSnap Manager, making it a viable replacement for ScanSnap Manager. Finally!

ExactScan Pro also offers other options that ScanSnap Manager lacks, some of which could be useful and a number of which I'd probably never use. For instance, ExactScan Pro (like VueScan Professional) offers a feature to start scanning automatically when you insert a piece of paper into the scanner. This feature is quite useful as long as you remember to select your profile beforehand.

In addition, ExactScanPro lets you configure post-processing filters, such as adjustments to Brightness, Contrast, and Gamma. It applies these filters to all scans, which can be useful if, for instance, you have a batch of photos that all have the same editing needs. Higher-end photo editing software generally offers batch adjustments along these lines, but Apple's Photos does not, making this feature of ExactScan Pro potentially more interesting for Photos users.

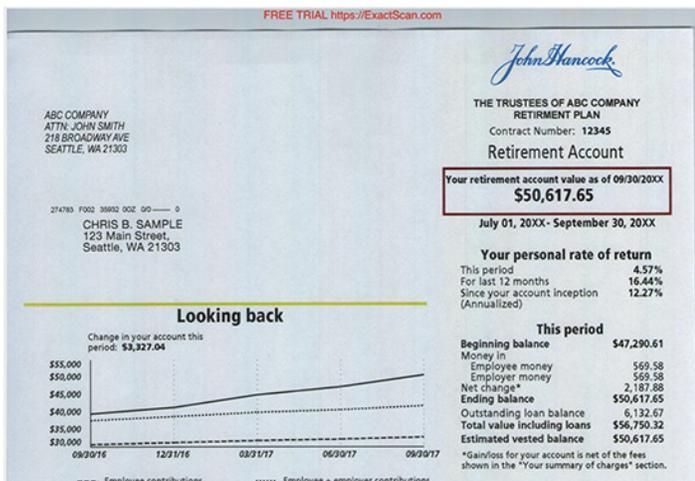
Quirks and Anomalies

As much as ExactScan Pro worked as promised and allowed me to use my ScanSnap S1300, it, like VueScan Professional, has some quirks that I never faced with ScanSnap Manager. These are far from deal-breakers, but they show that ExactScan Pro, while highly usable and functional, still doesn't quite match up to ScanSnap Manager.

In each of these cases, I reported the problem to our representative at ExactCODE and sometimes directly to their support team. While they were generally responsive, a number of my reports were dismissed as edge cases.

Crop and Deskew Surprises

ExactScan Pro bundles cropping and deskewing in a Media Detection pop-up menu. Whenever I leave that menu set to None, I end up with the white background of my test document getting filled with some type of color. It's a washed-out color, but still not the true white of the original.



Backgrounds aren't white when Media Detection is set to None. (No, this is not my 401K!)

Changing Media Detection to Auto Crop and Deskew eliminates that background color. You can see that it's nearly as white as it should be. That shouldn't have anything to do with cropping or deskewing, but it seems to, which is troubling.



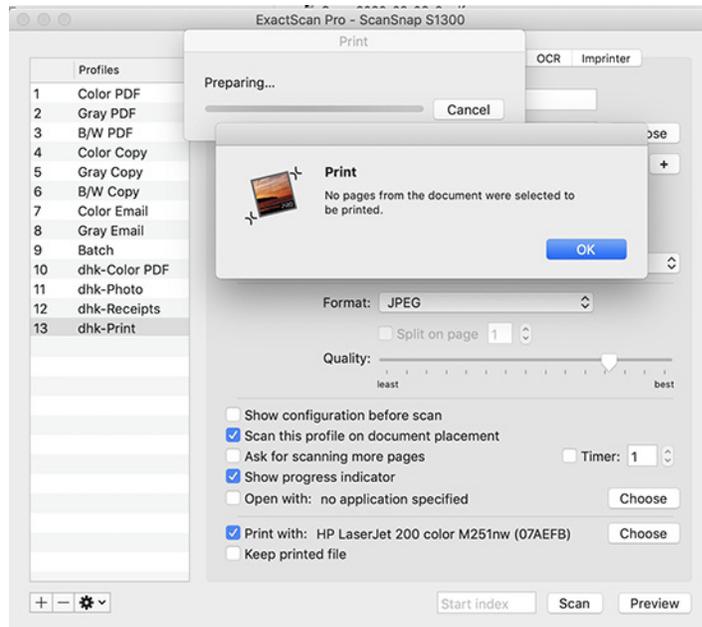
Setting Media Detection to Auto Crop and Deskew gets the background white, as it should be.

Weirdly, when I first chose the Auto Crop and Deskew option, the first page was heavily skewed, even though I had inserted it straight. This behavior was unusual — ExactScan Pro worked correctly most of the time, but it wasn't just a one-time problem. ExactScan Pro has a "De-skew based on page content" checkbox that sometimes made things better and sometimes made them worse.

Regardless, ScanSnap Manager always worked properly in my experience, so I can't help but feel a bit frustrated with ExactScan Pro here.

Can't Print as JPEG

Another oddball issue I found — this one is repeatable — is that if I set the scan format to JPEG and select the Print With checkbox to send the scan to the printer, I get a message saying "No pages from the document were selected to be printed." But when I change the format to PDF, it prints fine.



I raised this issue with ExactCODE's support team, suggesting that, if they can't make printing a JPEG work, then they should at least use an interface validation that prevents the user from selecting the JPEG+Print combination. They dismissed it as an edge case.

A Separate Email Is Created for Each Scanned JPEG

Another non-ideal — behavior is how ExactScan Pro handles a series of images scanned as JPEG that you've set to Open With using Mail, as you might do if you wanted to scan a bunch of images and attach them to an email message. I expected all the scanned images to be attached to a single email message. Instead, presumably since ExactScan Pro created a separate JPEG file for each side of every sheet in the batch, it attached each JPEG to a separate email message.

I found a checkbox buried in ExactScan Pro's Preferences window called "Merge files in one batch." Unfortunately, checking that box made no difference.

Fortunately, as with printing, scanning to PDF behaves as expected, creating a multi-page PDF and attaching the single file to a single email message.

Conclusion: Onward to Catalina?

Annoying as these anomalies may be, they're easily avoided, and I generally found ExactScan Pro to be a highly usable scanning solution. Most importantly, it might finally allow

me to upgrade to Catalina without losing access to my ScanSnap S1300.

I will miss the hassle-free, works-as-expected ScanSnap Manager experience, but I finally feel like ExactScan Pro provides a software alternative that will be good enough

to move forward with. It's not cheap, but it's less expensive (and more environmentally friendly) than buying a new scanner. If you give it a try, I'd love to hear what conclusions you draw and if you find ExactScan to be your ticket to Catalina! 🗑️

By Klaus Wirtz

Exploring Hearing Aid Integration in iOS

Last year I got my first hearing devices. For some time, I had noticed that I turned up the TV much louder than my wife did, and I had problems following discussions with larger groups of people. After having my hearing tested, I got a prescription for two hearing devices, which I took to a hearing system specialist. I learned that besides normal hearing aids, there are "Made for iPhone" (MFi) hearing devices that are directly recognized and controlled by iOS. An [Apple support document](#) lists manufacturers and products that have earned the MFi label. Of course, as an Apple user, I had to get an MFi pair. After trying several different devices, I finally settled for a pair of [Pure 312 3Nx by Signia](#). In this article, I describe my experience in setting up and using these devices.

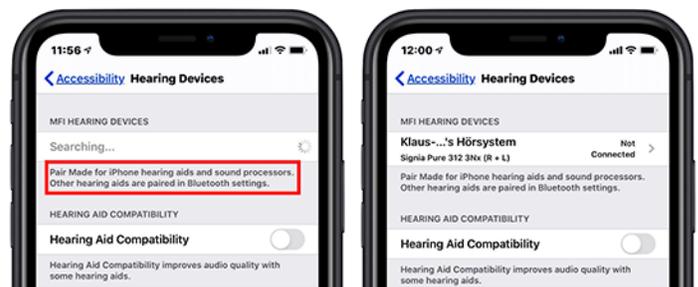
A couple of things before I start:

- I assume that the behavior of "Made for iPhone" hearing aids is at least somewhat similar across manufacturers and devices. There are plenty of other devices that don't conform to Apple's standards; I cannot say much about these.
- I haven't tested or used many devices from different manufacturers, so I cannot provide product comparisons or even recommendations.
- I am German and live in Germany, so I don't know anything about the hearing aid scene in the US or other countries.
- Although I changed the operating language of my iPhone from German to English before I started taking the screenshots for this article, some German words wouldn't translate. I'll explain them as we go along.

Introducing Your Hearing Devices to Your iPhone

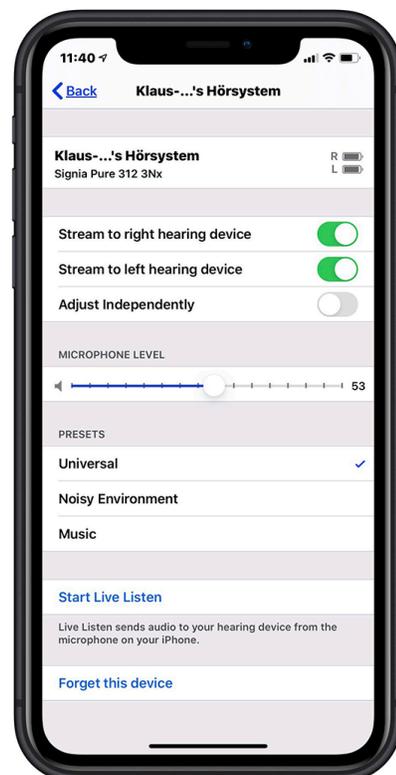
You connect MFi hearing aids with your iPhone in Settings > Accessibility > Hearing > Hearing Devices. Obviously, there is a Bluetooth pairing going on here. But hearing devices don't have a button that puts them into pairing mode; instead, you have to open and close the battery case on each device to restart them. (You pair non-MFi hearing aids in Settings > Bluetooth like any other Bluetooth-enabled devices.)

If all goes well, iOS recognizes your hearing aids and gives them a name. You see the name of my device in the next screenshot. "Hörssystem" means "Hearing Device"; I don't know why iOS inserted an ellipsis in place of my last name, and no, I couldn't find any way to change this name.



Next, you'll have to agree to a standard Bluetooth pairing request.

The status of your device then changes to Connected, and tapping it opens a new page containing controls for your device, most of which need no explanation.



Listed under the Presets heading are the programs for different hearing situations that are present in your hearing device. (The hearing specialist configured and downloaded these to my hearing aids, and when I was annoyed by wind noises while riding my bike, she updated the programs accordingly. Work with your hearing specialist to create and modify these.) You can switch between them by tapping one. Most of the time, I use the Universal preset. The Noisy Environment preset works well for restaurant visits or meetings with larger groups of friends or colleagues. I hardly ever use the Music preset; I prefer earphones for listening to music.

Below the presets is Start Live Listen. This iOS feature, which also works with AirPods, uses the microphone on your iPhone to send audio to your hearing aids, which could be helpful in certain environments where your iPhone can be placed closer to the source of sound than your hearing aids' microphones. That's the theory anyway — I don't notice any change at all when I enable it.

If you want to start over, just tap Forget This Device at the bottom.

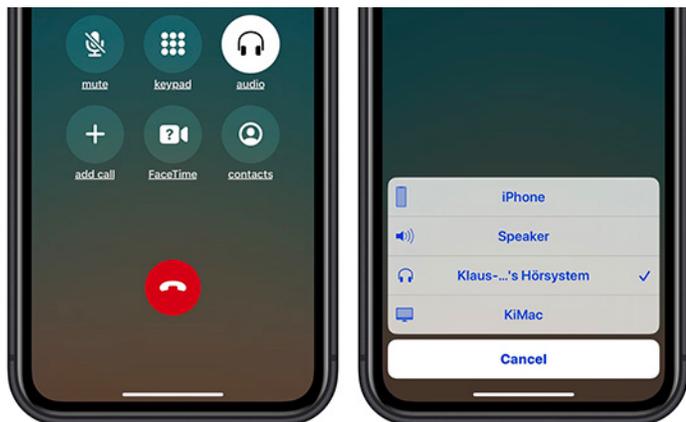
From this point on, your iPhone knows your hearing aids. If you switch them off, your iPhone will notice and disable the hearing aid functions. When you later switch them on again, your iPhone will reconnect to them automatically, so you don't have to repeat the pairing procedure.

Most manufacturers have their own iOS (and Android) apps that duplicate some of the above controls and add more functions. Since these apps are manufacturer-specific, I'm not covering them here.

Next, let's look at how you perform some common tasks that involve your hearing aids.

Making Phone Calls

When you make or receive phone calls, the iPhone automatically sends the incoming voice to your hearing aids. In most cases, this is what you want. If you want to route the audio to your iPhone's speaker, a HomePod, or somewhere else, you can tap the Audio button in the call controls to bring up a sheet listing the available destinations.



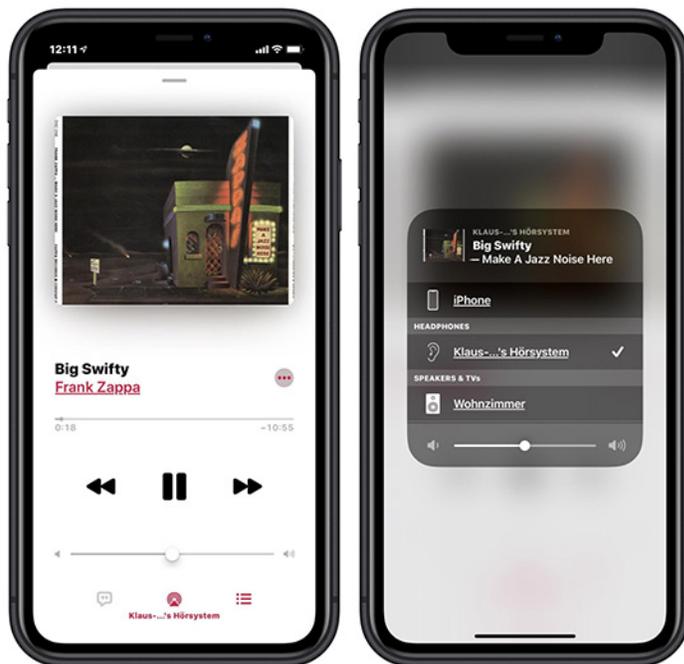
After tapping Audio (left), tap a destination to choose it (right).

Listening to Music

Music you play is treated in a similar fashion. By default, the iPhone sends it to your hearing aids, but you can choose to send it to another destination. However, this time it is not an Audio button that shows up but an AirPlay



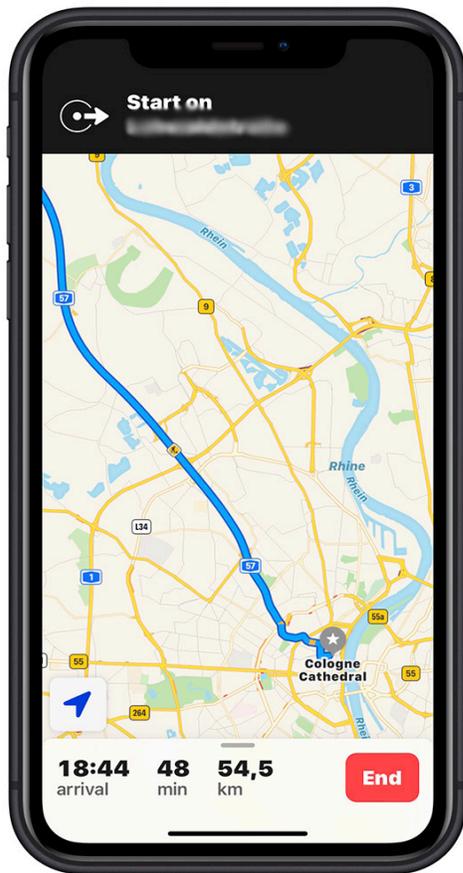
button located at the bottom of the music player.



Tap the AirPlay button (left) to bring up a sheet containing available audio outputs (right).

Strictly speaking, the only AirPlay destination in this sheet is Wohnzimmer, which is our AirPlay-capable living room stereo (Wohnzimmer = living room). But it surely makes sense to group all audio outputs in one place regardless of the protocol used to reach each one.

Spoken Directions While Navigating

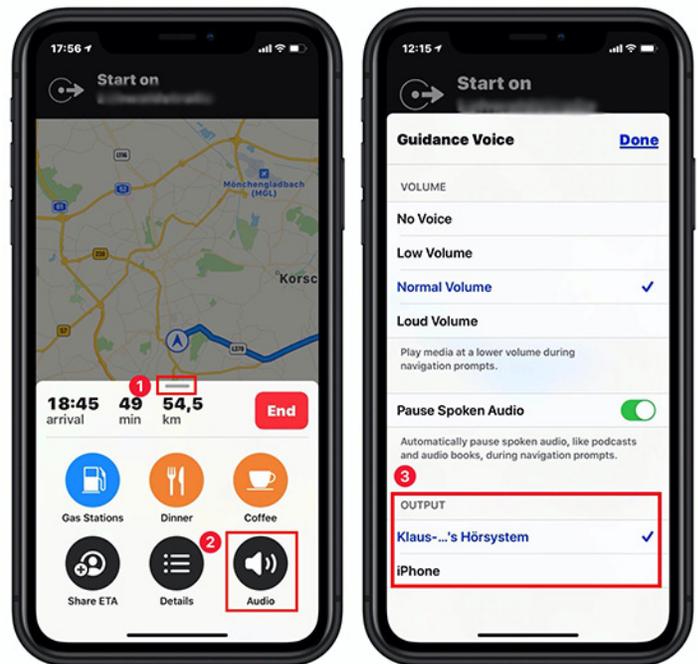


Do you see any controls for rerouting audio?

In the car, my wife and I often use Apple Maps to guide us. (Our car is too old to provide CarPlay or even built-in GPS navigation; its tech tops out at a cassette player.) The first time we started navigation when I was wearing my new hearing devices, my wife noticed instantly that she didn't hear any directions. As you might guess, the iPhone sends audio from Maps to the hearing aids by default.

Looking at the iPhone screen, we did not see a way to reroute the spoken directions to the iPhone speaker, since it's helpful for the passenger to be able to hear the spoken directions too. It would be even more of a problem if my wife was driving but only I was hearing the directions. Being somewhat in a hurry at the time, however, we left it at that. Later I looked at the Apple Maps interface again, but I still couldn't figure out how to route the audio. On my next visit to the hearing system specialist, I asked the friendly people there, but they didn't know either. A Google search finally gave me the answer. Would you have known?

You can pull up the sheet from the bottom of the navigation screen to reveal more buttons. One of them is an Audio button that, when tapped, brings up a sheet where you can switch the voice output to the iPhone speaker.



Swipe up on the sheet, tap Audio, and then pick an output destination.

This, in my opinion, is a bad case of hidden functions. How is the average user who doesn't read manuals to know that he can pull this sheet up? At the very least, a hint that there is a hidden part should be present in the visible part of the sheet, perhaps a small arrow.

Listening to Voice Memos



Any audio routing controls here that you can see?

Another awkward situation arose when I went to the biweekly rehearsal of my small choir wearing my new hearing devices. We wanted to record one song we had rehearsed to play it back immediately as a way of checking our progress. I recorded the song with the Voice Memos app and started to play it. I heard the song, but my colleagues just looked at me expectantly. You recognize the

pattern: the song played back to my hearing devices, not to the iPhone speaker. I looked at the Voice Memos interface to switch the audio output.

This time, there is no way to control where the audio is played — no Audio button, no AirPlay button, no sheet you can pull up to reveal hidden controls. The Ellipsis button presents a sheet that contains many useful functions but no way to change the audio destination. In the end, I emailed the song file to my colleagues after the end of the rehearsal. Only much later did I figure out several ways to send a voice memo to the iPhone speaker or another destination — read on!

Changing Audio Routing Defaults

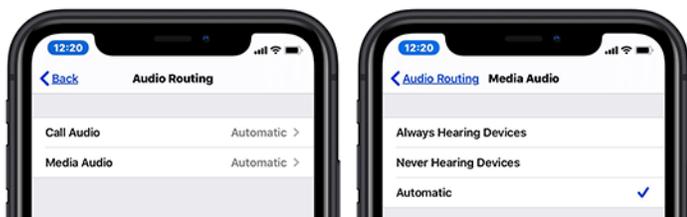
It's obvious by now that the default behavior of the iOS hearing aid integration is to send all audio to your hearing devices. There should be a way to change this, and there is.



Back in Settings > Accessibility > Hearing > Hearing Devices, the screen where you connected your hearing aids contains more controls, one of which is labeled Audio Routing.

Tapping Audio Routing > Media Audio shows three choices. (Call Audio offers the same choices.)

The default here is Automatic. Changing it to Never Hearing Devices sends all audio to the iPhone speaker. So this would have been one (clumsy) solution to the Voice Memos problem: switch to Never Hearing Devices, play the memo, and then switch back to Automatic.



Always Hearing Devices is, in my testing, poorly labeled; it should be Always Hearing Devices (When Present). Here's why: If your hearing devices are connected to the iPhone, this option sends audio to them; if they are not connected, sounds play through the iPhone's speaker. The question remains: what does Automatic do? In my testing, it's the same as Always Hearing Devices (When Present). Apple's [support document](#) has this to say:

Audio Routing

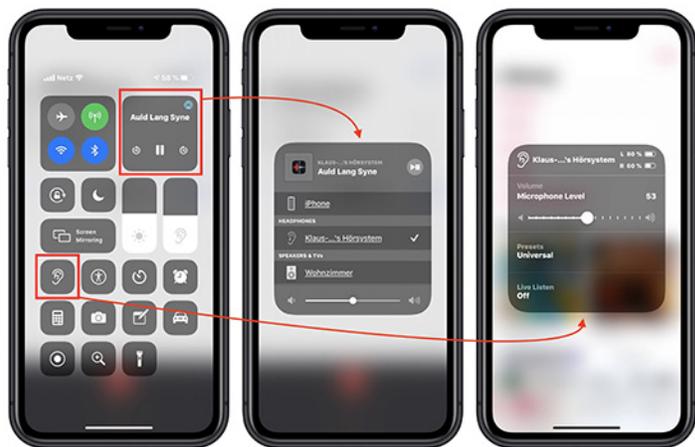
Choose the default device for audio playback.

Well, that's helpful. If you know what Automatic does, please leave a comment.

Shortcuts (and a Second Solution for Voice Memos)

There are a couple of shortcuts that help with common hearing aid functions. Control Center contains two relevant controls. The Audio "card" (as Apple calls it) in the upper right contains an AirPlay button that gives access to all available audio destinations, exactly like the AirPlay button in the music player.

Tapping the AirPlay button in the Audio card presents a second solution to the Voice Memos problem above—it displays a list of possible audio destinations. Like the first solution, this change of audio output is permanent; if you want to switch back to your hearing aids, you'll have to do so manually.



Then there is the Hearing control (the one with the ear icon above). If you don't see it in Control Center, you'll have to activate it in Settings > Control Center > Customize Controls. It gives you access to some important functions like volume, presets, and Live Listen.

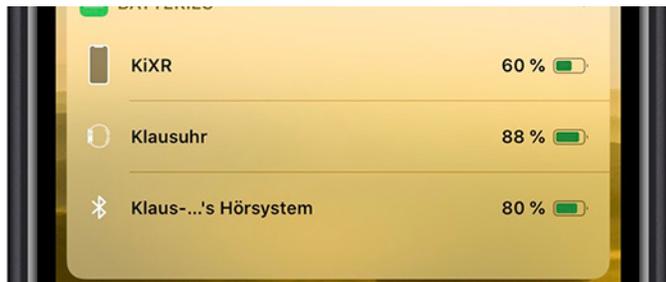
Another option is a so-called Accessibility shortcut, which can also provide quick access to the Hearing controls. On an iPhone X or later, you invoke it by triple-clicking the side button; on other iPhones, you triple-click the Home Button. You configure the Accessibility shortcut in Settings > Accessibility > Accessibility Shortcut; one choice there is MFi Hearing Devices. Triple-clicking the button then

shows your Hearing controls, or, if you have configured more than one Accessibility shortcut, a list of choices. Tapping Hearing Devices then brings up the same Hearing options as before.



Triple-click the side or Home button to bring up Accessibility shortcuts.

Finally, iOS provides one additional shortcut that helps you keep track of the battery level in your hearing aids. On the iPhone's Lock or Home screen, swiping from left to right reveals a configurable set of widgets. The Batteries widget shows not just the battery levels of your iPhone, Apple Watch, or AirPods, but also those of your hearing aids. If it doesn't appear, scroll to the bottom and tap Edit to activate it, much like adding the Hearing controls to Control Center.



Using Your Hearing Aids with More Than One Apple Device

Connecting hearing aids to multiple devices seems to be tricky and troublesome according to some comments in TidBITS Talk. Generally speaking, if you want to pair your hearing aids with another Bluetooth device, you have to put both devices into pairing mode; since the hearing aids lack a button for that, you have to take them out, open and

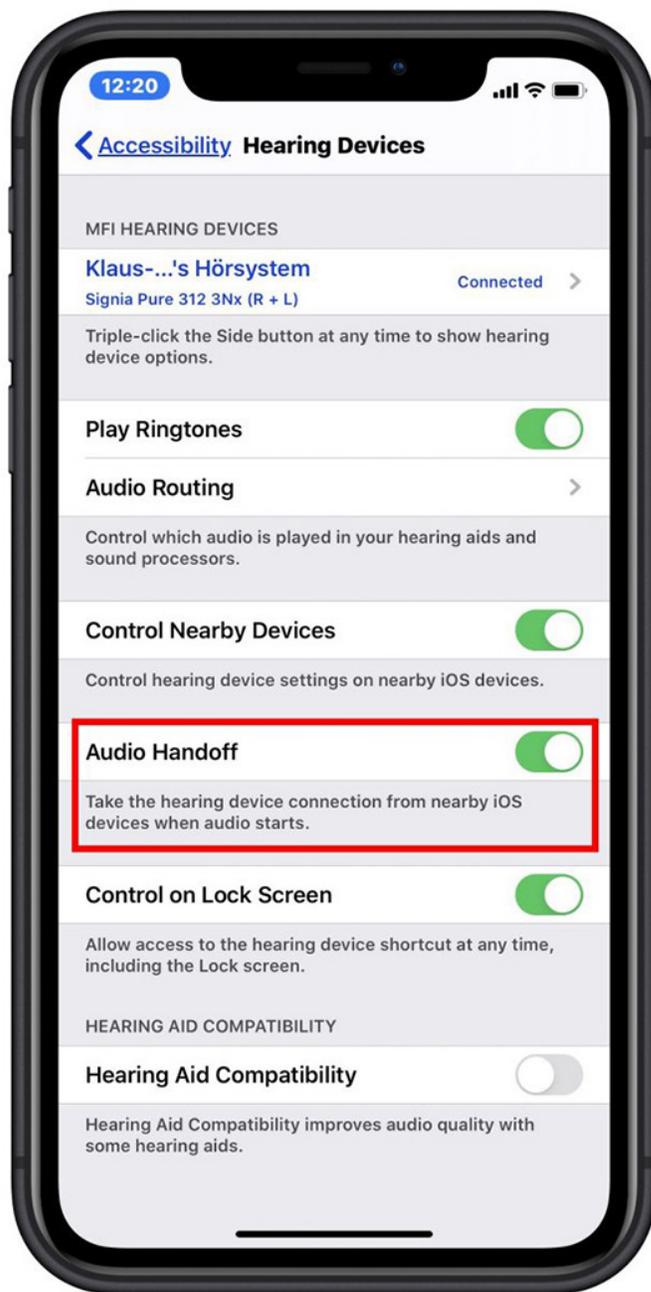
close the battery cases to restart them, and then put them back in. It's fussy and not particularly comfortable.

However, if we restrict the discussion to Apple devices, we find a relevant [Apple support document](#) that's surprisingly clear:

If you pair your hearing devices with more than one device (both iPhone and iPad, for example), the connection for your hearing devices automatically switches from one to the other when you do something that generates audio on the other device, or when you receive a phone call on iPhone.

Changes you make to hearing device settings on one device are automatically sent to your other devices.

- 1 Sign in with your Apple ID on all the devices.
- 2 Connect all the devices to the same Wi-Fi network.



Furthermore, Audio Handoff must be on; enable it in Settings > Accessibility > Hearing > Hearing Devices.

I tested this with my iPhone and iPad; the results were mixed.

- When I signed in with the same Apple ID and connected to the same Wi-Fi network, the hearing aid settings from my iPhone were indeed magically transported to my iPad. So the second device knows about my hearing aid without having ever seen it or paired with it directly. That’s great.
- My first tests revolved around receiving phone calls while music was playing from another device to my hearing aids. I started by playing music on the iPad, which was correctly sent to my hearing devices. I then had someone call me on the iPhone. Immediately, the music on the iPad was silenced, and the iPhone sent the ringtone (and the caller’s voice) to the hearing aids. In some tests, the iPad stopped the music during the call, restored the connection to my hearing devices after the call had ended, and resumed playing. In other cases, the iPad stopped the music, and nothing happened at the end of the call.
- My second series of tests involved playing music on one device and then starting music on the second device. Automatic switching of the hearing aids did not work reliably for me, no matter what I tried. What did work was the following series of steps:
 - Music plays on device A through the hearing aids.
 - Stop the music on A and, using the AirPlay button, move the audio destination away from the hearing aids to another destination.

- On device B, start the music. After a delay, it should automatically play through the hearing aids.

The goal of automatically distributing the hearing aid settings to all participating Apple devices is a good one and seems to work. However, the switch from one audio-generating device to a second one sometimes works for me and sometimes doesn’t. But my tests were far from exhaustive. Your comments are welcome!

It (Mostly) Just Works

Overall, I’m quite content with how Apple integrates support for hearing aids into iOS. Setup is straightforward, and the way all audio is sent to the hearing aids makes sense in most cases.

There are a few situations where it doesn’t, and although Apple could do a better job of making the interface more discoverable, there are ways of redirecting audio from the hearing aids to other audio destinations. A uniform symbol (like the AirPlay button) that leads to a consistently laid-out screen would be helpful, as would a Siri command to “Play audio on my hearing aids.” Only a few apps, like Voice Memos, fail to provide any in-app way of redirecting audio — we can hope Apple will address this in an update.

Although Apple has put some effort into making one set of hearing aids work with multiple iOS devices, the automatic switching works well only with phone calls. With music and other audio, the switching is haphazard at best, and there’s plenty of room for improvement there. Although Apple has put some effort into making one set of hearing aids work with multiple iOS devices, the automatic switching works well only with phone calls. With music and other audio, the switching is haphazard at best, and there’s plenty of room for improvement there. 🗑️



Upcoming Events

KeyMac Board Meeting continued

If you would like to join the Keystone MacCentral's July Board Meeting (via Zoom), the easiest way is to simply click on this link: <https://zoom.us/j/95143597105> (or you can copy and paste the URL into your browser).

Another method would be to visit www.zoom.us and click "JOIN A MEETING" which is located at the top of the page. You will be asked to enter a meeting ID. The Meeting ID = **951 4359 7105**

In both of the above cases, you may be prompted to install a piece of software. It does not take long to install and it doesn't take up much space. You will have the option to use your computer for the audio connections or to call in by phone for the audio connection. If you choose the phone option, you can use either of these phone numbers: (929) 205-6099 or (301) 715 8592.

Topic: KeyMac July Board Meeting
Time: Jul 7, 2020 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/95143597105>

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