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Chapter 1

Setting Up and Navigating Your iPhone

Congratulations on getting an iPhone! You've made a great choice.

In addition to being a first-rate cellular telephone, the iPhone is an excellent music player, a gorgeous widescreen video player, and a fantastic camera and camcorder system, not to mention a powerful internet communications device.

This chapter starts by making sure you know your way around your iPhone's hardware. It then shows you how to activate the iPhone and set it up either manually or by picking up settings from your current iPhone or your iPad. You then learn to navigate the iPhone's Home screen pages and dock, lock the iPhone when you're not using it, and power it down for those rare occasions you don't need to keep it running. Once you've grasped these essential moves, you learn how to sync content to your iPhone via iCloud, Apple's online service.

At the end of this chapter, you learn about Apple Intelligence, Apple's new strategic direction that incorporates artificial intelligence (AI) into its products, and where to turn in the book for coverage of Apple Intelligence on your iPhone.

Meeting Your iPhone's Hardware

On the outside, the iPhone's hardware is sleek and simple. This section explains what you find on the front, the back, the sides, and the bottom.


TIP

Turn to the appendix for coverage of the iPhone Duo. Because this iPhone model folds, its controls and screens are laid out somewhat differently than those of the other iPhone models.

On the front

On the front of your iPhone, you find the following (labeled in Figure 1-1):

- **Camera:** The camera on the front of the iPhone is tuned for selfies and FaceTime video calling, so it has just the right field of view and focal length to focus on your face at arm's length, which presents you in the best possible light. Most current iPhone models include the Center Stage feature for video, which automatically tracks faces and reframes the shot as needed to display them.
- **Receiver/front microphone:** The iPhone uses the receiver (speaker) and front mic for telephone calls. The receiver naturally sits close to your ear when you hold your iPhone in the "talking on the phone" position; the mic is used for noise canceling and FaceTime calls.


TIP

If you require privacy during phone calls, use a compatible Apple or third-party headset — wired or wireless.

- **Status bar:** The status bar displays important information, as you discover later in this chapter.
- **Touchscreen:** The touchscreen dominates the front of the iPhone, enabling you to control the iPhone by gesturing with your fingers and thumbs.
- **Home button and Touch ID sensor (Touch ID models only):** No matter what you're doing, you can press the Home button at any time to display the Home screen, which is the screen shown in Figure 1-1. The iPhone's Touch ID sensor uses your fingerprint to unlock the phone and to authenticate you (see Chapter 2).

- **App icons:** Each icon on the Home screen launches an app, such as the Weather app or the Files app.
- **Widgets:** A widget is a sort of mini-app that displays information or enables you to access features. For example, the Music widget in Figure 1-1 shows you current and upcoming songs.

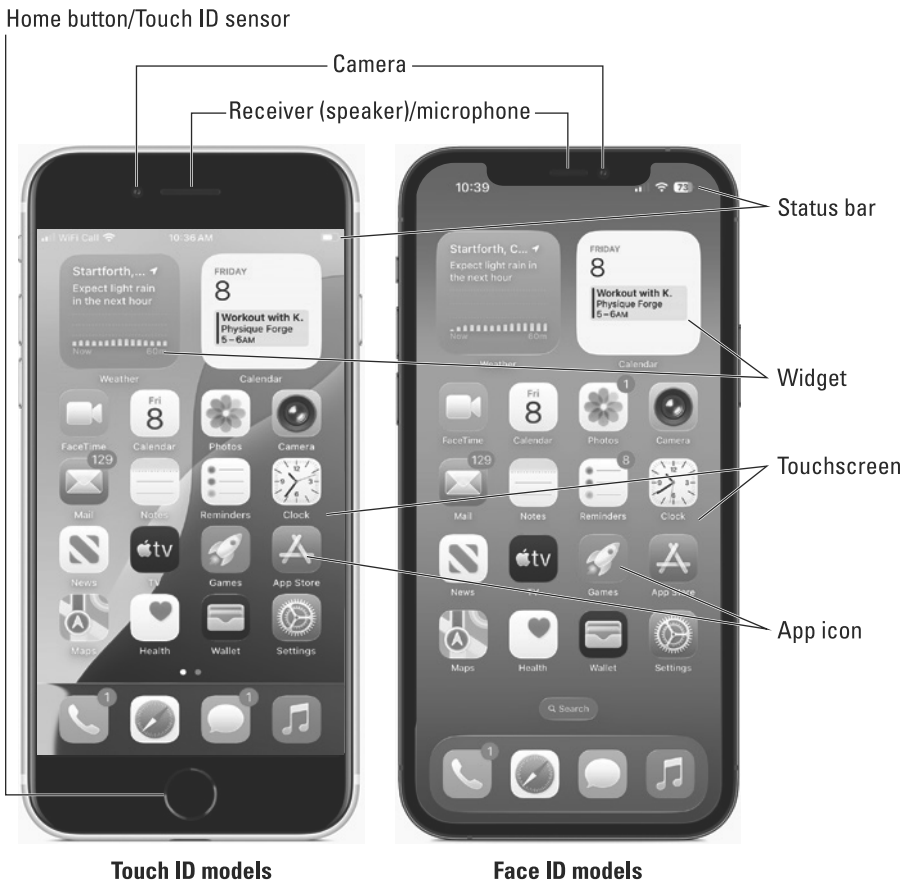


FIGURE 1-1: Touch ID iPhone models (left) have a Home button, whereas Face ID iPhone models do not.

Photo courtesy of Apple, Inc.

On the back

On the back of your iPhone are one to three camera lenses that look like little circles or ovals in the top-left corner. The iPhone also has one or more little LEDs next to the camera lens for use as a flash for still photos, as a floodlight for videos,

and as a flashlight that you can turn on or off via Control Center. For more on using the camera and shooting videos, see Chapters 12 and 13, respectively; for more on the flashlight and Control Center, see Chapter 3.

On the sides

Here's what you'll find on the sides of your iPhone (see Figure 1-2):

- **Side button:** This physical button on the right side of the iPhone enables you to take several actions, including powering on your iPhone; putting it to sleep and waking it; and summoning Siri, the virtual assistant.
- **Camera control:** All iPhone 16, iPhone 17, and iPhone 18 models and the iPhone Air include this physical control surface for opening the Camera app; taking a photo or starting video capture; and adjusting zoom, exposure, depth of field, and other settings.
- **SIM card tray:** If your iPhone model uses a physical SIM card, open this tray, insert the card in it, and then replace the tray. iPhone 14, iPhone 15, iPhone 16, iPhone 17, and iPhone 18 models sold in the US use an e-SIM (a virtual SIM) rather than a physical card. The iPhone Air and iPhone Duo use an e-SIM in every market. The SIM card tray may be on either the right side or the left side, depending on the iPhone model.

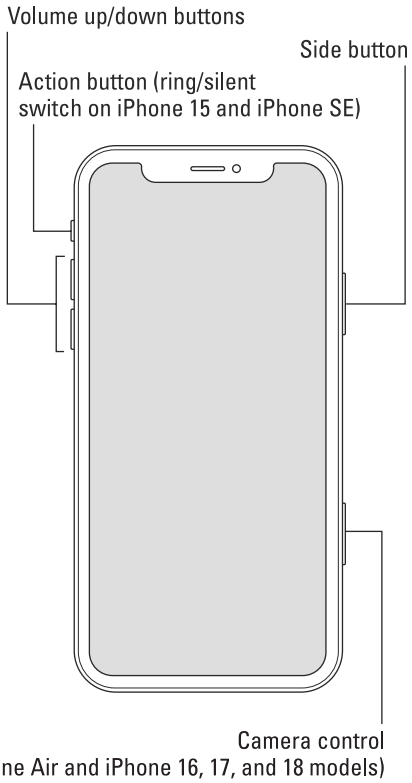


FIGURE 1-2:
Here's what you'll find on the sides of your iPhone.



TECHNICAL STUFF

A SIM (Subscriber Identity Module) card is a removable smart card used to identify mobile phones. When you switch phones, you can move the SIM card from your old phone to the new phone, provided the phones use the same SIM card size. Current iPhone models that use a SIM card use the nano-SIM format.

- **Action button:** The iPhone 15 Pro and all iPhone 16, all iPhone 17, and all iPhone 18 models have the action button at the top of the left side, as does the iPhone Air. You can customize this button in the Settings app to take your preferred action, such as recording a voice memo or turning on the flashlight. The action button's default action is to toggle between ring mode and silent mode; long-press the action button until you feel haptic feedback confirming the mode change.
- **Ring/silent switch:** In place of the action button, the iPhone 15 (non-Pro models), iPhone SE, and earlier iPhone models have this switch at the top of the left side, which lets you quickly toggle between ring mode and silent mode. When the switch is set to ring mode — with the switch toward the iPhone's screen — your iPhone plays all sounds through the speaker on the bottom. When the switch is set to silent mode — with the switch toward the iPhone's back — your iPhone makes no sound when you receive a call or when an alert pops up on the screen.

  
  REMEMBER

  Silent mode is overridden by alarms you set in the iPhone's Clock app; by music, audiobooks, and other audio you play; and by you auditioning sounds such as ringtones and alert sounds in the Settings app. Also, when you configure a focus, such as Do Not Disturb, you can permit specific apps to interrupt it.

  
  TIP

  If your phone is set to ring mode and you want to silence it quickly when it starts ringing, press the side button or either of the volume buttons.
- **Volume up/down buttons:** Two volume buttons are just below the action button or the ring/silent switch. The upper button increases the volume; the lower one decreases it. You use the volume buttons to raise or lower the loudness of the ringer, alerts, sound effects, songs, and movies. During phone calls, the buttons adjust the voice loudness of the person you're speaking with, regardless of whether you're listening through the receiver, the speakerphone, or a headset.

Most current and recent iPhone models have a feature called Dynamic Island, a display element that appears near the top of the screen to provide context-sensitive controls and information, such as playback controls for music, telephony controls for phone calls and FaceTime calls, or map directions for your current journey. Dynamic Island adjusts its size automatically to present information visually to you. Tap an icon in Dynamic Island to go straight to the app for the feature that icon represents.

These models also have a feature called Always-On Display that lets you show key information, such as notifications and upcoming events, on the Lock screen. On iPhone models without Always-On Display, locking the phone turns the screen off completely.

On the bottom

On the bottom of your iPhone, you find microphones, the USB-C port or Lightning port, and stereo speakers, as shown in Figure 1-3:

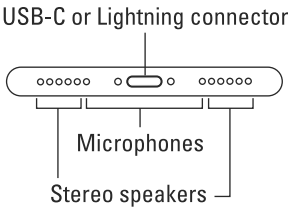


FIGURE 1-3:
On the bottom of your iPhone (some models differ slightly).

TECHNICAL STUFF

- **Microphones:** The built-in microphones let callers hear your voice when you're not using a headset.

  The iPhone sports three or more microphones — the main ones are on the bottom — which work together to suppress unwanted and distracting background sounds on phone calls using dual-mic noise suppression plus beam-forming technology that makes the microphones listen in the right direction.

- **USB-C port or Lightning port:** The USB-C port or Lightning port has several purposes:

  - *Recharge your iPhone's battery.* Connect one end of the included charge cable to the iPhone and the other end to a USB power adapter, a USB port on your computer, or a port on a powered USB hub.
  - *Sync your iPhone.* Connect one end of the cable to the port on your iPhone and the other end to a USB port on your Mac or PC.
  - *Connect your iPhone to other devices.* Connect a camera, a television, or an external drive easily. For an iPhone with a USB-C port, use a USB-C cable. For an iPhone with a Lightning port, use a Lightning adapter such as the camera connection kit or one of Apple's A/V adapter cables.
  - *Connect EarPods or a headset.* If you have Apple EarPods with a USB-C connector, you can plug them straight into the USB-C port; similarly, you can connect Apple EarPods with a Lightning connector directly to the Lightning port on a Lightning-port iPhone. To use another headset, you may need to get Apple's USB-C-to-3.5mm Headphone Jack Adapter, Lightning-to-3.5mm Headphone Jack Adapter, or a functional equivalent.

- **Stereo speakers:** The speakers are used by the iPhone's built-in speakerphone and for playing audio — music or video soundtracks — when no headset is connected. They also play the ringtone you hear when you receive a call. All current iPhones have stereo speakers.

Setting Up and Activating Your iPhone

Before you can start using your iPhone, you need to set it up, configuring its operating system (iOS) — the software that makes the iPhone tick — to work the way you want it to. You may also need to activate the iPhone to connect it to Apple's services and to your cellular carrier's service.

If you've already set up and activated your iPhone, skip this section.

Turning on Your iPhone

Start by turning on your iPhone. Press and hold the side button, the physical button on the iPhone's right side. When the Apple logo appears on the screen, release the side button and wait until the Hello screen appears. Then swipe up from the bottom of the screen on a Face ID iPhone or press the Home button on a Touch ID phone to begin the setup process.

Choosing the language, country or region, and appearance

A series of screens walks you through the first three steps of the setup process:

- **Language:** Choose the language you want your iPhone to use, such as English.
- **Country or Region:** Specify your country or region, such as United States.
- **Appearance:** Tap the Default radio button, the Medium radio button, or the Large radio button to choose the size of text and icons on the screen. Tap the Continue button.

At this point, the Quickly Set Up iPhone screen appears, enabling you to finish setup quickly by using your current iPhone or iPad. Read on.

Using Quickly Set Up iPhone or continuing setup

If you have an iPhone or iPad set up with your Apple Account, you can use that device to set up your new iPhone quickly. When the Quickly Set Up iPhone screen

appears (see Figure 1-4), unlock your current device and bring it close to your new iPhone. Your new iPhone then displays a complex pattern on the screen, and the Camera app opens on your other device, showing a target ring. Aim this ring at the pattern to establish the connection between the devices, and then authenticate yourself on your new iPhone by entering the current device's passcode. Follow the prompts to set up the new iPhone based on the current device. Skip ahead to the section "Starting to Use Your iPhone," later in this chapter.

If you don't have a current iPhone or iPad to use, or if you want to set up your new iPhone differently, tap the Set Up Without Another Device button, and then follow through the next subsection.

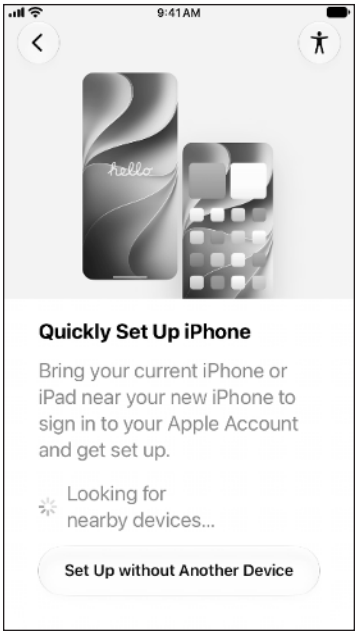


FIGURE 1-4: From the Quickly Set Up iPhone screen, you can swiftly set up your new iPhone using your current iPhone or iPad.

Setting up your iPhone without another device

If you chose to set up your iPhone without another device, work your way through the following screens:

- **Written and Spoken Languages:** Look at the Keyboards button, which shows the default keyboards for the country or region you chose — for example, English (US) and emoji keyboards if you chose United States. Then look at the dictation button, which shows the default language, such as English (US). If both settings are what you want, tap the Continue button; if not, tap the Customize button and choose the keyboards and dictation language you prefer.
- **Choose a Wi-Fi Network:** Tap the Wi-Fi network you want to use, type the password on the Enter Password screen, and then tap the done icon (check mark).

  If you need to use a Wi-Fi network that hides its network name, tap the Choose Another Network button. On the screen that appears, type the network name and the password, and then tap the Join button.

If no Wi-Fi network is available, tap the Continue Without Wi-Fi button to use a cellular data connection. You may need to scroll to see this button.

- **Activation:** Wait while iOS activates your iPhone over the Wi-Fi connection (or the cellular connection, if you tapped Continue Without Wi-Fi). Activation may take several minutes.
- **Data & Privacy:** Read the information, and then tap the Continue button.
- **Age Range:** Tap the Child (12 or Younger), Teen (13 to 17), or Adult (18 or Older) button to help iOS configure parental controls and safety features. The rest of this section assumes you've selected Adult; if you select Child or Teen, you'll need to take other setup actions.
- **Face ID/Touch ID:** On a Face ID iPhone, follow the prompts to scan your face by aiming the recognition circle at your head, and then rotating your head to replace the white marks with green marks. On the Use Face ID with a Mask screen, choose whether to configure Face ID for use when you're wearing a protective mask.

  On a Touch ID iPhone, follow the prompts to scan the print of the finger or thumb you want to use to unlock the iPhone. You can add up to four more fingers (or thumbs — max two, preferably) after you finish setup.
- **Create an iPhone Passcode:** Tap the six-digit passcode you want to use, and then confirm it on the second screen.


TIP

  If a six-digit passcode doesn't suit you, tap the Passcode Options button on the Create an iPhone Passcode screen. On the iPhone SE, you may need to scroll down to see the Passcode Options button. In the dialog that opens, tap Custom Alphanumeric Code, Custom Numeric Code, or 4-Digit Numeric Code, as appropriate, and then enter the code twice on the following screens. A custom alphanumeric code of eight characters or more is the most secure, though it will take longer to type. A custom numeric code enables you to create a numeric code of the length you prefer. Four digits are the minimum. Each additional digit beyond six digits makes the code that much more secure. A four-digit numeric code is not strong enough for serious security, but you might want to use such a short code on an iPhone you're using for a demonstration, such as at a trade show.
- **Transfer Your Apps & Data:** Choose whether (and if so, how) to transfer your apps and data to your new iPhone. You have five choices:
  - *From iCloud Backup:* Tap this button if you have a backup of your current or previous iPhone and want to restore it to your new iPhone.
  - *From Another iPhone:* Tap this button if you have a current iPhone and want to transfer its apps and data. Normally, you would use the Quick Start

feature earlier in the setup process to transfer your data from your current phone, but this button provides an alternative means.

- *From Mac or PC:* Tap this button if you used your Mac or PC to back up your previous iPhone and you want to restore data from one of those backups.
- *From Android:* Tap this button if your current device is an Android phone or tablet. You won't be able to transfer apps available only on Android.
- *Don't Transfer Anything:* Tap this button to set the iPhone up from scratch.

For the first four choices, follow the prompts in the resulting screens. For example, when restoring from an iCloud backup, you need to sign in to iCloud using your Apple Account, and then select the backup to use.

- **Apple Account:** Sign in to your Apple Account by entering your email address and password.
- **Terms and Conditions:** Read as much of the Terms and Conditions as you wish, and then tap the Agree button if you want to proceed.
- **Make This Your New iPhone:** This screen appears after you set up the means of transferring apps and data using one of the methods mentioned previously. The screen displays buttons summarizing what can be transferred, such as Apps & Data, Settings, and Wallet. If one of these buttons has > at its right end, you can tap the button to reveal a list of details — for example, tapping the Wallet button reveals a list of the payment cards to be transferred with Wallet. Tap the button again to hide the details. Tap the Match Settings button to continue with this selection, or tap the Customize button if you want to choose what to transfer.
- **Update Your iPhone Automatically:** Tap the Continue button if you want iOS to automatically download and install updates. Keeping iOS updated is wise from a security perspective, but it means you may occasionally find your iPhone updating when you want to use it. If you prefer to control when iOS installs updates, tap the Only Download Automatically button instead.
- **Stolen Device Protection:** Read the details of this security mechanism, and then tap the Continue button. iOS enables Stolen Device Protection by default. You can disable it later from the Face ID & Passcode screen or the Touch ID & Passcode screen in the Settings app.
- **Location Services:** Tap the Enable Location Services button to enable Location Services immediately. Normally, you'll want to enable Location Services because apps such as Maps depend on it. You can tap the Disable Location Services button if you don't want to use Location Services or if you plan to enable it later.

- **Apple Pay:** Tap the Continue button (and then follow the prompts) if you want to set up Apple Pay now, adding one or more credit or debit cards. Tap the Set Up Later button if you prefer to set up Apple Pay later or not at all.
- **Screen Time:** Tap the Continue button if you want to enable the Screen Time feature, which monitors your use of your iPhone and other Apple devices so that you can analyze how much time you spend doom-scrolling. Tap the Set Up Later in Settings button if you want to remain unmonitored for now.
- **Siri:** Tap the Continue button to set up the voice-driven virtual assistant now, or tap the Set Up Later button to set up Siri later (or never). If you enable Siri, the Improve Siri & Dictation screen appears, prompting you to share your Siri audio recordings anonymously to help Apple improve Siri; tap the Share Audio and Text button or the Not Now button, as appropriate.

Starting to Use Your iPhone

Once you've completed the setup routine, the Lock screen appears. Unlock it using Face ID or Touch ID:

- **Face ID:** Hold the iPhone pointing at your face.
- **Touch ID:** Place your registered finger on the Home button and click it.

If you didn't set up Face ID or Touch ID during setup, you can set it up later in the Settings app. Tap the Face ID & Passcode button or the Touch ID & Passcode button, and then follow the prompts.

Meeting the Home screen

After you unlock your phone, the Home screen appears. It's divided into pages, with the first page appearing at first. If you haven't customized the Home screen yet, the first page should look more or less like Figure 1-5.

These are the items on the first Home screen page:

- **Status bar:** This narrow horizontal strip appears across the top of each Home screen page; many apps also display it. The status bar displays icons that

provide a variety of information about the current state of your iPhone. See the next section for details.

- **Wallpaper:** The wallpaper is the background in front of which the app icons and widgets appear.
- **Widgets and widget stacks:** A *widget* is a kind of mini-app that displays information on a single topic, such as the Weather widget showing the weather forecast and the Calendar widget showing the next calendar event in Figure 1-5. Widgets come in various sizes. You can arrange widgets of the same size into a *widget stack,* a virtual vertical stack in which you see only the topmost widget but can pull down on that widget to display the widget immediately below it.
- **App icons:** More than a dozen app icons appear by default on the first Home screen. These icons are for frequently used apps, such as Camera, FaceTime, Mail, Calendar, and Clock.
- **Search button:** The search button gives you instant access to the search feature.
- **Dock:** This area appears at the bottom of each Home screen page, giving you access to four apps no matter which page is displayed. The default apps are Phone (for phone calls), Safari (for web browsing), Messages (for instant messaging), and Music (three guesses).



FIGURE 1-5:
On the Home screen's first page, you see the status bar, the dock, widgets, and app icons.

Swipe left across the main section of the first Home screen page (not across the status bar or the dock) to display the second Home screen page (see Figure 1-6). You can see that the status bar, the Search button, and the dock remain the same, but the selection of app icons changes. There is also a folder called Utilities, which contains several lesser but useful apps. To open the folder, tap it.



FIGURE 1-6:
The second Home screen page.

Identifying the status bar icons

The status bar regularly displays icons showing the current time, the status and strength of the iPhone's cellular connection and Wi-Fi connection, and the proportion of battery power left. Beyond such widely useful information, the status bar can display a wide range of icons, depending on your iPhone's status. The following list shows you the status icons and explains what they indicate:

5GE

- **5G/5G+/5GE/5G UW/5G UC:** Your wireless carrier's fifth-generation wireless network is available. (Full disclosure: 5GE — 5G Evolution — is actually an enhanced 4G network but still pretty fast.)

4G

- **4G:** Your wireless carrier's high-speed UMTS network is available.

3G

- **3G:** Your wireless carrier's 3G UMTS or EV-DO data network is available and your iPhone can connect to the internet via 3G.



- **Airplane mode:** All wireless features of your iPhone — the cellular, 5G, 4G, 3G, GPRS (General Packet Radio Service), and EDGE networks, Wi-Fi, and Bluetooth — are turned off. However, you can turn on Wi-Fi and Bluetooth if you need them.



- **Alarm:** You've set one or more alarms in the Clock app.
- **Battery:** This battery icon displays the level of the battery's charge. The icon is completely filled with green or white when the battery is fully charged and then empties as the battery becomes depleted. If the icon is green, your iPhone is connected to a viable power source; if the icon is white or black, no

power source is connected. A lightning bolt appears on the icon when your iPhone is recharging.



- **Bluetooth battery level:** A tiny battery icon next to the Bluetooth icon displays the battery level of some Bluetooth devices.



- **Call forwarding:** Call forwarding is enabled on your iPhone, so it will forward incoming calls to the number you specified.



- **Camera in use indicator:** An app is using your iPhone camera. If you're using the Camera app, this won't be news, but the indicator can be helpful when other apps are using the camera.



- **CarPlay:** Your iPhone is connected to CarPlay, Apple's technology for making the iPhone work with the car's infotainment system.



- **Cell signal:** The strength of the cellular signal. The cell signal icon tells you whether you're within range of your wireless telephone carrier's cellular network and therefore can make and receive calls. The more bars you see (four is the highest), the stronger the cellular signal. *No Service* appears when your iPhone is out of cellular range, while *Searching* appears when it's trying to find a signal.



- **Do Not Disturb:** The Do Not Disturb feature is enabled.



- **Driving:** The driving focus is enabled.



- **Dual cell signal:** On iPhones with dual SIMs, the top row of bars indicates the signal strength of the line used for cellular data and the lower row of dots indicates the signal strength of your other line.



- **EDGE:** Your wireless carrier's slower EDGE (Enhanced Datarate for GSM Evolution) network is available and you can use it to connect to the internet.



- **GPRS/1xRTT:** Your wireless carrier's slower GPRS data network is available and your iPhone can use it to connect to the internet.



- **Headphones connected:** Your iPhone is connected to Bluetooth headphones.



- **Location Services:** An application is using Location Services (see Chapter 10).



- **LTE:** Your wireless carrier's high-speed LTE network is available.



- **Microphone in use indicator:** An app is using your iPhone's microphone.



- **Network activity:** Some network activity is occurring, such as over-the-air synchronization, sending or receiving email, or loading a web page. Some third-party apps use this icon to indicate network or other activity.



- **Personal:** The personal focus is enabled.
- **Personal hotspot:** This iPhone is connected to the internet via the personal hotspot connection of another device.



- **Personal hotspot indicator:** This iPhone is providing a personal hotspot connection or screen mirroring to another device; or an app is actively using your location.



- **Portrait orientation lock:** The iPhone screen is locked in portrait orientation. Open Control Center and then tap the portrait orientation lock icon to lock your screen in portrait orientation.



- **Reading:** The reading focus is enabled.



- **Recording indicator:** Your iPhone is either recording sound or recording your screen.



- **Syncing:** Your iPhone is syncing with Finder or iTunes.



- **Sleep:** The sleep focus is enabled.



- **TTY:** Your iPhone is set up to work with a teletype (TTY) machine, which is used by those who are hearing or speech impaired. You need an optional Apple iPhone TTY adapter (suggested retail price $19) to connect your iPhone to a TTY machine.



- **VPN:** Your iPhone is currently connected to a virtual private network (VPN).



- **Wi-Fi:** Your iPhone is connected to the internet over a Wi-Fi network. The more arcs you see (up to three), the stronger the Wi-Fi signal. If your screen displays only one or two arcs of Wi-Fi strength, try moving around a bit. If you don't see the Wi-Fi icon in the status bar, internet access via Wi-Fi is not currently available.



Wi-Fi networks are usually even faster than cellular data networks. So iPhones connect to a Wi-Fi network if one is available, even when a cellular network is also available.

- **Wi-Fi call:** Your iPhone is making a call over Wi-Fi.



- **Work:** The work focus is enabled.

App Library and Home screen widgets

Two features that make finding what you need on your iPhone faster and easier are App Library and Home screen widgets; you learn all about both in Chapter 2.

Locking and Unlocking Your iPhone

When you're not using your iPhone, lock it and put it to sleep by pressing the side button once. Locking the iPhone like this turns the screen off, saving battery power, and prevents anyone else from using the iPhone without unlocking it. Locking the iPhone before you put it in your pocket or purse also helps ensure that the touchscreen doesn't register any bumps or touches that might change or delete something or even place an unwanted phone call.


TIP

Your iPhone automatically locks itself after a short period of inactivity, such as 30 seconds or a minute. To configure the length of time, choose Settings ➪ Display & Brightness; tap the Auto-Lock button; and then tap the length of time, such as 30 Seconds, 1 Minute, or 5 Minutes.

Here's how to wake the iPhone from its sleep and unlock it:

- **Face ID iPhones:** Press the side button. Point the iPhone at your face and swipe up from the bottom of the screen. Face ID recognizes your face and unlocks the iPhone.
- **Touch ID iPhones:** Press the Home button using the finger or thumb you registered with Touch ID. The iPhone wakes, and Touch ID recognizes your fingerprint and unlocks the iPhone.

If the Raise to Wake feature is enabled, you can wake the iPhone by picking it up. To enable Raise to Wake, choose Settings ➪ Display & Brightness, and then set the Raise to Wake switch on (green).

Powering Down Your iPhone

Normally, you don't need to power your iPhone down. Instead, you simply put it to sleep when you're not using it, and then wake it up when you need it again.

When you do need to power your iPhone down, do so in one of these ways:

- From the Home screen, choose Settings ➪ General ➪ Shut Down. The Power Off screen appears. Slide the Slide to Power Off slider to the right.
- From Control Center, long-press the power icon in the upper-right corner, and then slide the Slide to Power Off slider to the right.

- On a Face ID iPhone, press the volume up button, press the volume down button, and then press and hold the side button for a couple of seconds. The Power Off screen appears. Slide the Slide to Power Off slider to the right.
- On a Touch ID iPhone, press and hold the side button until the Power Off screen appears, and then slide the Slide to Power Off slider to the right.

Syncing Your Data via iCloud

Now that you've grasped the basics of handling your iPhone, you'll likely want to get some or all of the following onto it: contacts, appointments, events, bookmarks, music, movies, TV shows, podcasts, and photos.

The easiest way to get items onto your iPhone is by syncing them across the internet using the iCloud service, Apple's complete solution for syncing and storing your data online. Syncing your data keeps it up to date everywhere, so a change you make on your iPhone is available on your iPad and your Mac or PC, as well as your Apple Watch or Vision Pro headset.


TIP

Alternatively, you can sync your iPhone with your Mac or PC using a cable connection and Finder or iTunes. For details on using a Mac or PC, see this book's cheat sheet, which you can download from `www.dummies.com/` (search for **iPhone For Dummies 2027-2028 Edition**).

iCloud can store and manage most of your digital stuff — your music, photos, contacts, events, and documents — and make it available to all your computers and Apple devices automatically.

iCloud pushes information such as email settings, calendars, contacts, reminders, and bookmarks to and from your computer, iPhone, and iPad, and then keeps those items updated on all devices wirelessly without any effort on your part. iCloud is also tightly integrated with the Files app (see Chapter 14).

Your free iCloud account includes 5GB of storage, an amount carefully calibrated to be enough to get you started, get you hooked on iCloud, and then get you paying to upgrade to iCloud+, the paid tier of iCloud, when you need more space. As of this writing, iCloud+ plans run $0.99 per month for 50GB, $2.99 per month for 200GB, $9.99 per month for 2TB, $29.99 per month for 6TB, and $59.99 per month for 12TB.

A nice touch is that all music, apps, periodicals, movies, and TV shows purchased from the iTunes Store, as well as your iTunes Match music or Apple Music music

(see Chapter 11) and your iCloud Photos content (see Chapter 12), don't count against your iCloud storage. Apple Books (e-books) don't count either, but audiobooks do.

Apart from audiobooks, what else counts against your storage? Most everything you can think of — mail, documents, photos and videos taken with your iPhone — and some things that probably don't spring to mind, such as account information, settings, and other app data. Some of these items take up little space, but photos get higher in resolution and larger in file size with each new iPhone model, and a 4K video can consume several gigabytes of storage in minutes. So if you want to stick with a free iCloud account, you'll need to police your storage rigorously.

To have your email, calendars, contacts, and bookmarks synchronized automatically and wirelessly between your computers and your Apple devices, enable iCloud syncing on your iPhone. Start by displaying the iCloud screen in the Settings app like this:

1. **On the Home screen, tap Settings to display the Settings screen.**
2. **Tap the button that bears your name at the top of the Settings screen.**

   This button is the Apple Account button. Tapping it displays the Apple Account screen.
3. **Tap iCloud to display the iCloud screen (shown in Figure 1-7, left).**

   The screen in the figure is called iCloud+ because I'm paying for extra storage.

The iCloud screen contains seven main items, all of which you'll benefit from knowing about. You'll need to scroll to see the last several items.

- **iCloud histogram and Storage button:** The histogram is a bar chart that shows how much of your iCloud space you're currently using. A readout gives you the text version, such as *29.5 of 50GB*, and a green bar gives you a rough idea of how much of the available space you've used. Tapping the Storage button takes you to the Manage Storage screen, where you can see how much space each app is using. You can even drill down into apps that have overstepped their boundaries and delete data to recover space.
- **Saved to iCloud box:** This box is where you specify what to sync. You can tap any of the six buttons — Photos, Drive, Passwords, Notes, Messages, and Mail in the example — to display a screen for configuring a sync for that item. Tap See All to display the Saved to iCloud screen (shown in Figure 1-7, right), where the full list of apps appears. Some of these apps have a button you tap to display a configuration screen for the app, which includes a Sync This iPhone switch or similar switch for enabling or disabling sync; others, like the Contacts app here, have the on/off switch directly on the Saved to iCloud screen.

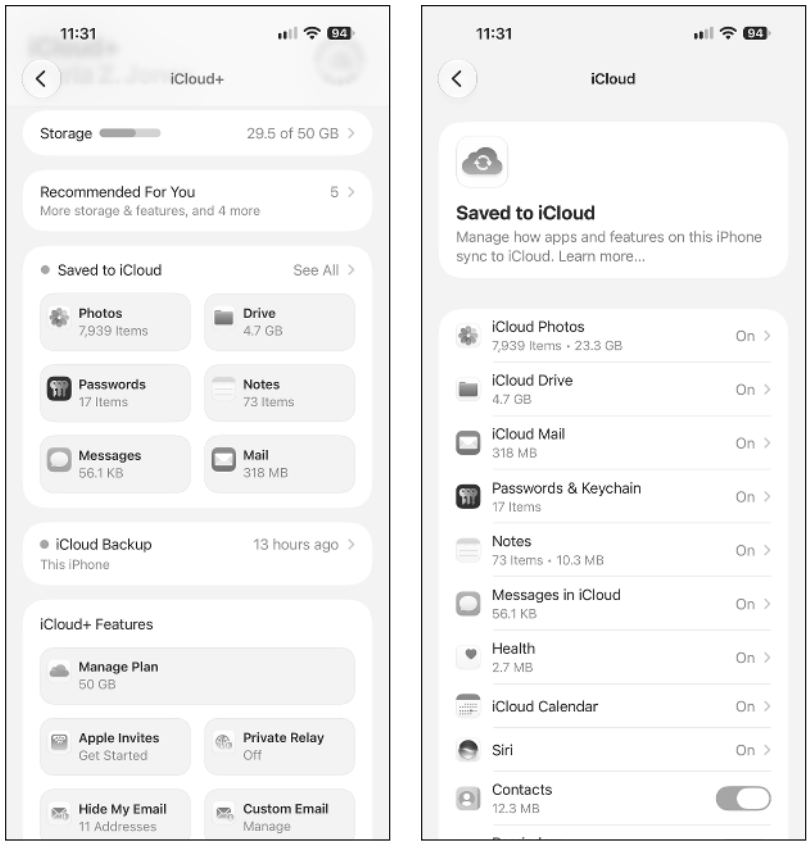


FIGURE 1-7: From the iCloud screen (left), you can check your usage of account storage and enable or disable an individual app's use of iCloud (right).

- **iCloud Backup:** In this box, tap the iCloud Backup button to start backing up your iPhone with iCloud. See the next section.
- **iCloud+ Features:** Enable the Private Relay feature to hide your iPhone's IP address and Safari browsing activity from all network providers and websites. This is a good move; so too is using the Hide My Email feature to hide your real email address and instead share a unique, randomly generated email address (such as `winsome_adroit.0x@icloud.com`) with any company or service you don't trust not to sell the address to spammers. The Custom Email feature enables you to use a custom domain name, such as `your_company.com`, with iCloud.
- **Manage Plan:** Tapping this button displays a screen for upgrading to iCloud+ or changing your subscription plan. You can also access this screen from the Manage Storage screen that you met at the top of this list — just tap the Change Storage Plan button.

- **Advanced Data Protection:** Tapping this button displays the Advanced Data Protection screen, where you can turn on advanced data protection. This feature applies end-to-end encryption to ensure that most iCloud data types, such as data from the Notes and Reminders apps, can be decrypted only by your trusted devices. This encryption provides strong protection, and you must set up a recovery contact or recovery key to make sure you can recover your data if you lose your trusted devices. Tap the Turn On Advanced Data Protection button to start the process of enabling the encryption. iOS makes you set up a recovery contact or recovery key if you have not already done so.

  
  WARNING

  Five-alarm warning: Keep your recovery key and your recovery contact's details safe. Without them, you won't be able to recover your data.

- **Access iCloud Data on the Web:** Set this switch on (green) to enable access to your iCloud data via the `www.icloud.com` website.

You find out more about iCloud in the rest of this chapter and several other chapters, so let's move on to syncing your iPhone by connecting it to your computer.

Coming to Grips with Apple Intelligence

Apple Intelligence is a suite of artificial intelligence (AI) features that Apple has added to its operating systems, including iOS, iPadOS, and macOS. Apple Intelligence aims to use AI tools to make your iPhone, your other Apple devices, and their apps more useful to you while protecting your privacy.


NEW

In iOS 27, Apple has expanded Apple Intelligence by making Siri AI one of the main ways to use it on your iPhone. Apple has designed Siri AI to be more conversational; more aware of what is on your screen; and better able to use your personal context — such as content in Messages, Mail, Photos, Notes, and other apps — to help you find information and take action.

Apple Intelligence includes a wide range of features that break down into six main categories, as explained in this section.

Using Siri AI on your iPhone


NEW

In iOS 27, Siri AI becomes a central Apple Intelligence interface on your iPhone. You can still invoke Siri by saying "Hey Siri" or long-pressing the side button; but now, you can also swipe down on Dynamic Island to start chatting to Siri. Better yet, the dedicated Siri app enables you to review past conversations, continue earlier chats, pin key conversations for quick reference, or simply start a new query.

WHERE DOES APPLE INTELLIGENCE RUN?

When you use Apple Intelligence features, the device you're using — such as your iPhone, iPad, or Mac — performs the processing if it can. When a feature needs more complex computation than your device can provide, Apple Intelligence uses Private Cloud Compute, Apple's privacy-focused system for running larger Apple Intelligence models on Apple Silicon servers. Apple claims that Private Cloud Compute neither stores your personal data nor makes it accessible to Apple or anyone else, and that outside experts can verify these privacy protections.

When a task requires input from a third-party AI tool, Apple Intelligence notifies you of the planned data transfer and gets your approval before performing it.

The following list summarizes the key features of Siri AI:

- **Conversational requests:** You can ask open-ended questions, brainstorm ideas, and follow up on earlier conversations without starting from scratch each time.
- **Personal context:** You can ask Siri AI to find information from your own content, such as a hotel booking confirmation in Mail, a restaurant recommendation in Messages, a note you made about a particular topic, or photos from a trip.
- **Onscreen awareness:** You can ask Siri AI questions about what is displayed on your iPhone's screen, such as a web page, a photo, a message, or a map.
- **Actions in apps:** You can get Siri AI to take actions in apps such as Messages, Mail, Music, Reminders, Calendar, Photos, and Notes. For example, you might have Siri create a reminder, add a calendar event, rotate a photo, draft an email, make a note, or add the current song to a playlist.
- **Up-to-date information:** You can ask Siri AI to get the latest information from the web on whatever topic interests you, and then follow up with specific questions.
- **Siri mode in the Camera app:** You can point the camera at something and use Visual Intelligence to search, ask questions, or take an action based on what Siri identifies.

See Chapter 3 for examples of how to use Siri AI.

Understanding and summarizing text, images, and the world around you

Apple Intelligence includes the following features that help you make sense of text, images, and other content:

- **Visual Intelligence and Siri mode in Camera:** You can have these features identify objects, plants, products, landmarks, and so on from photos, screenshots, or the Camera app. Visual Intelligence can also recognize text in screenshots and other images, and then help you search for information, create reminders, add calendar events, or take other actions.
- **Summarize:** This feature condenses long notes, messages, articles, web pages, or email messages into key points you can read quickly. For example, the Mail app can display summary previews of your incoming messages (see Chapter 8).
- **Highlight-to-Search:** This feature explains or finds information related to text you've highlighted, enabling you to research a topic easily without copying text into another app.
- **Onscreen questions:** You can ask Siri AI about content displayed on your iPhone's screen. For example, if you're looking at a message about dinner plans, you can ask for recipe ideas or add related information to Notes or Reminders.

Translating and improving communication

Apple Intelligence features for translating content and improving communication include the following:

- **Live Translation:** You can turn on real-time translation of incoming text or speech in apps such as Messages, FaceTime, and Phone.
- **Write with Siri, Rewrite and Proofread:** Tell Siri AI what you need written, and it can generate a draft from scratch. It can also give feedback on what you have written, rewrite text, or proofread it. For example, you might use the Writing Tools feature to check an email message you've written (see Chapter 8). You can ask for a straightforward rewrite or specify the tone you want, such as professional or casual.
- **Genmoji:** You can create personalized emojis from descriptions or by selecting a combination of elements. You can use a genmoji as an avatar in apps such as FaceTime.

Generating and editing visual content

Apple Intelligence also includes features that enable you to generate and edit visual content:

- **Image Playground:** This feature, which you access through the Playground app, enables you to create images from descriptions, suggestions, or people in your photo library. iOS 27 adds new image styles, including photorealistic results, and lets you modify or transform images by describing the changes you want.
- **Image Wand:** This feature, which appears in the Notes app, lets you convert a rough doodle you've drawn into a more finished illustration.
- **Clean Up:** This feature in the Photos app allows you to remove unwanted objects, such as photobombers, from your photos. See Chapter 12.
- **Memories:** The Memories feature in the Photos app creates *memories,* movies assembled from your photos and videos. Photos has created memories automatically since iOS 10 (2016) but without giving you much input on their contents. Now you can tell Photos to create a specific memory movie for you.

Boosting productivity and organization

To help you boost your productivity and improve your organization, Apple Intelligence includes features such as these:

- **Reminders suggestions and Calendar smart adds:** iOS automatically suggests reminders (to-do items) or calendar events from information it detects in messages, email messages, screenshots, or other content.


NEW

- **Smart search and improved Mail search:** In the Mail app, the smart search feature enables you to search using natural language instead of using just keywords. In iOS 27, a new ranking system helps bring the most relevant Mail results to the top, even when messages are buried deep in your inbox.


NEW

- **Shortcuts with AI actions and natural-language creation:** iOS 27 enables you to build more powerful shortcuts to save time. Shortcuts can include Apple Intelligence actions, such as summarizing or translating text or generating images. Using natural language, you can describe the shortcuts you want Siri AI to create, and Shortcuts can connect actions across apps to create them.



- **Safari tab organization and notifications:** You can have Safari automatically group tabs into topics, making related pages easier to find. You can set the Notify Me feature to monitor specific web pages for changes, such as a price drop or an item coming back into stock.
- **Help keeping passwords secure:** The Passwords app not only stores all your passwords and passcodes securely but also warns you about weak or compromised passwords that may threaten your security. On some websites and services, the Passwords app can help you update your passwords to more secure ones.
- **Providing call context:** When you phone a business, Apple Intelligence can dig up relevant information from across your apps — for example, finding a confirmation code in a Mail message when you phone an airline.
- **Apple Wallet and Visual Intelligence:** The Visual Intelligence feature can help you with tasks in Apple Wallet, such as creating a pass from a barcode or a QR code. If you're using Apple Cash, Wallet can also perform tasks such as splitting a bill from a scanned receipt.

Enabling developers to leverage Apple Intelligence

Apple Intelligence also makes some of its features accessible to application developers so that they can include Apple Intelligence features in their apps. For example, developers can include capabilities from Writing Tools in their apps, and they can use the Private Cloud Compute feature to handle complex AI tasks securely in the cloud with strong encryption.