

# Plateau PC Users Group

## Apps, Apps and more Apps!

Presented By  
George Sengstock

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# Personal Computer?

In the early 1980s, my definition of a Personal Computer was one in which, without purchasing any additional software or hardware, activate a lamp and read the status of a switch in one line of code AND communicate with ANY RS-232 device easily.

That era ended in 1984 for Apple and 1990 for the PC with the advent of Windows 3.0.



# According to Brave Search:

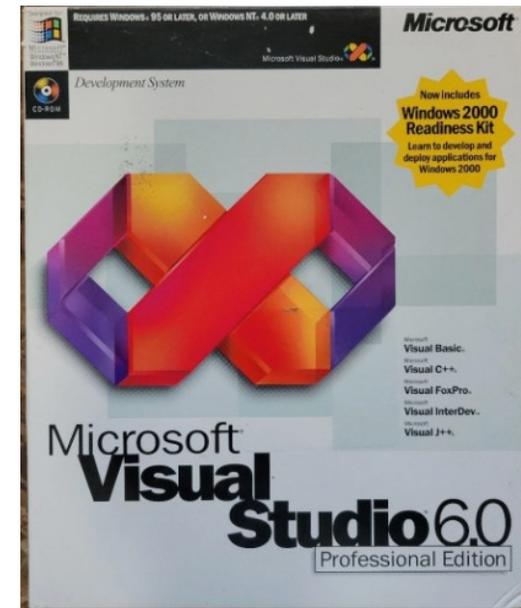
A “computer application”, also known as application software or an application program, is a software package designed to perform a specific function directly for an end user. These programs are developed to carry out particular tasks such as word processing, data analysis, multimedia playback, web browsing, or communication. Common

examples include Microsoft Word, Excel, web browsers like Chrome or Firefox, image editors like Adobe Photoshop, and email clients such as Outlook.



# In the “Good Ole Days”

In a sane world, development tools were comprehensive and came with ... well written DOCUMENTATION.



Then the internet happened and complete chaos ensued. Platforms became a toxic stew of constantly changing low quality rubbish.



# In the “Good Ole Days”

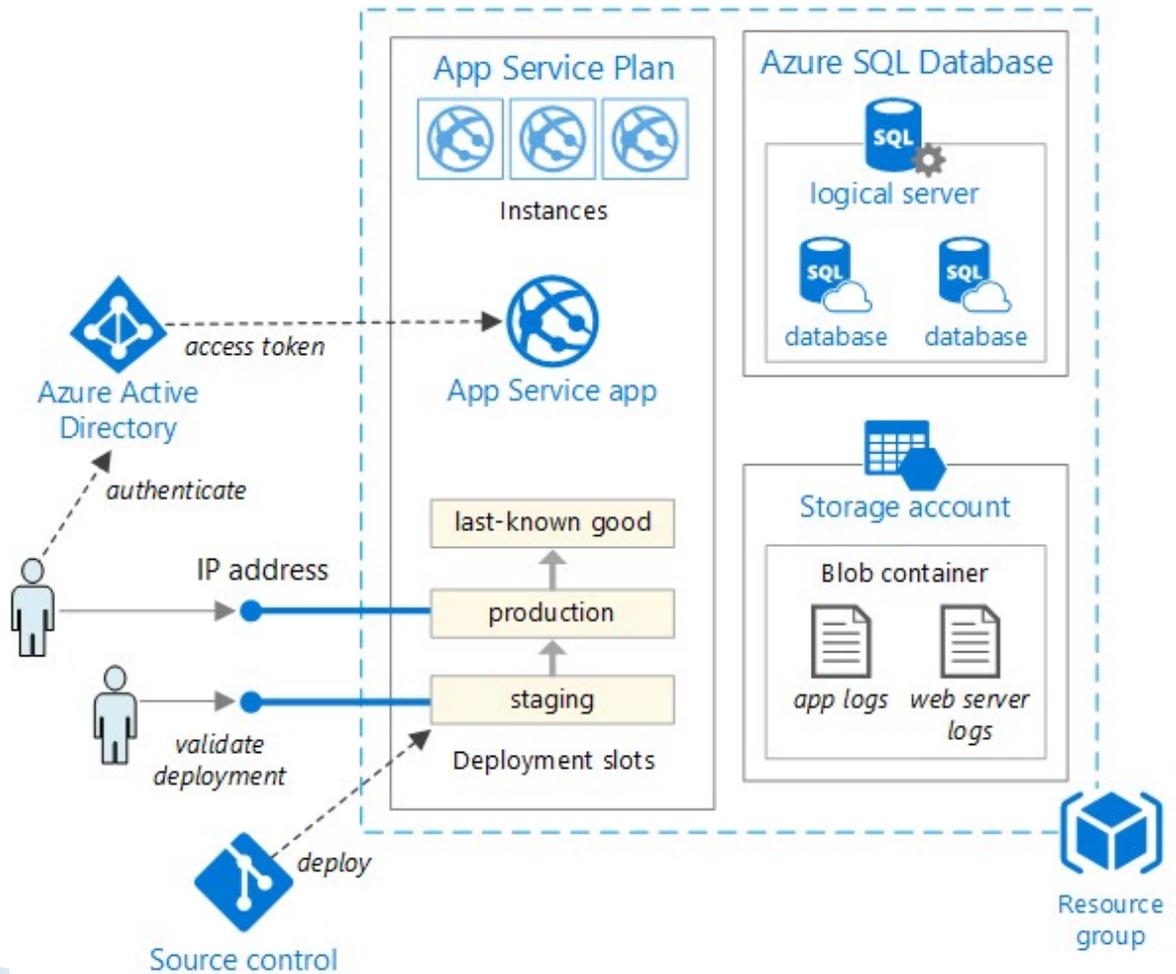
In a sane world, development tools were comprehensive and came with ... well written DOCUMENTATION.

You could whip up an app in a jiffy to do custom communications, data conversion and storage and so on.



# Is it an App or a Web Page?

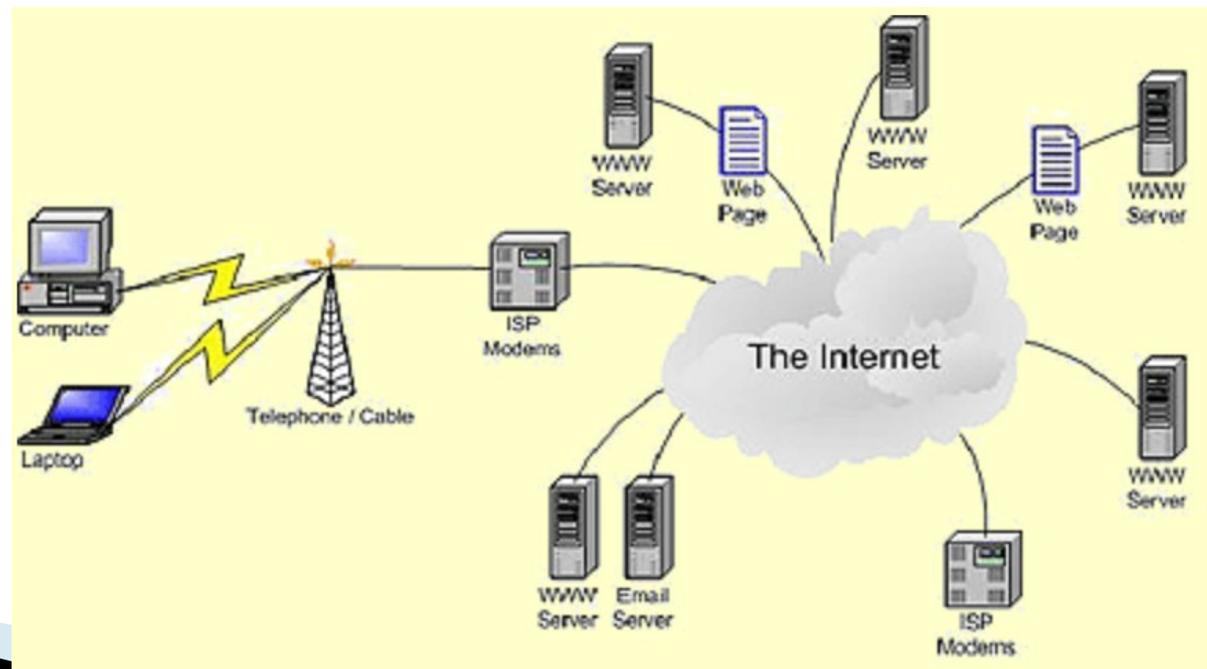
## It's a WebApp of course!



# Personal Computer?

In my opinion, this phrase can no longer be used when describing today's "client devices". Most folks don't own and operate a computer anymore, we are renting a terminal that has some localized storage and computational functionality.

And you control  
None of it.



# Then “SmartPhones” Happened

The first smartphone, the IBM Simon Personal Communicator, was introduced in 1992 and released to the public in 1994.



The smartphone era began to gain significant momentum around 2007 with the release of the Apple iPhone, which revolutionized the industry with its multi-touch interface, app store, and integration of multimedia features.

Perfection of the cheap Touch screen display is an Important factor.

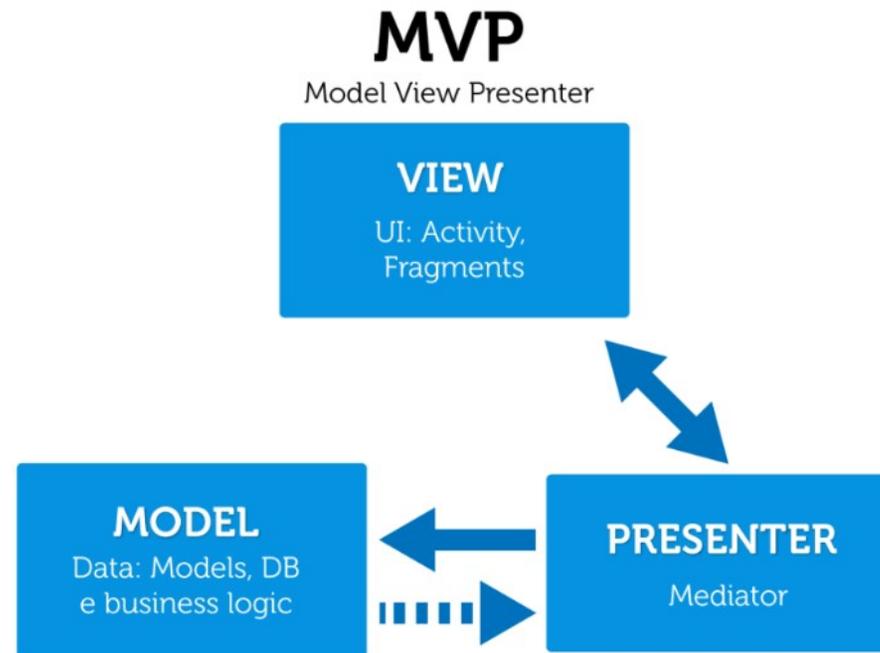


# According to Brave Search:

The term "app" gained widespread popularity following the introduction of the iPhone in 2007 and the launch of the Apple App Store in 2008, where it was used to describe software tailored for mobile devices. Over time, the term has expanded beyond mobile platforms and is now commonly used to refer to software across various devices, including desktops and laptops, with major vendors like Apple, Microsoft, and Google applying the term to software available through their respective app stores. Despite this broadening usage, some sources still associate "app" primarily with mobile software, especially lightweight programs focused on specific functions.



Now your TV has Apps!



- ▶ **Model:** the data layer
- ▶ **View:** the UI layer, displays data received from Presenter, reacts to user input. On Android, we treat Activities, Fragments, and `android.view.View` as View from MVP.
- ▶ **Presenter:** responds to actions performed on the UI layer, performs tasks on Model objects (using Use Cases), passes results of those tasks to Views.



# Top 10 Android Development Tools

1. Android Studio (Part of MS Visual Studio)
2. Kotlin Programming Language
3. Firebase
4. Jetpack Compose
5. GitHub
6. Dagger Hilt
7. Coil
8. LeakCanary
9. Jira
10. Espresso

I developed a thousand applications for PCs for 4 decades and I have never heard of ANY of these but #1 !!!



# Android Development

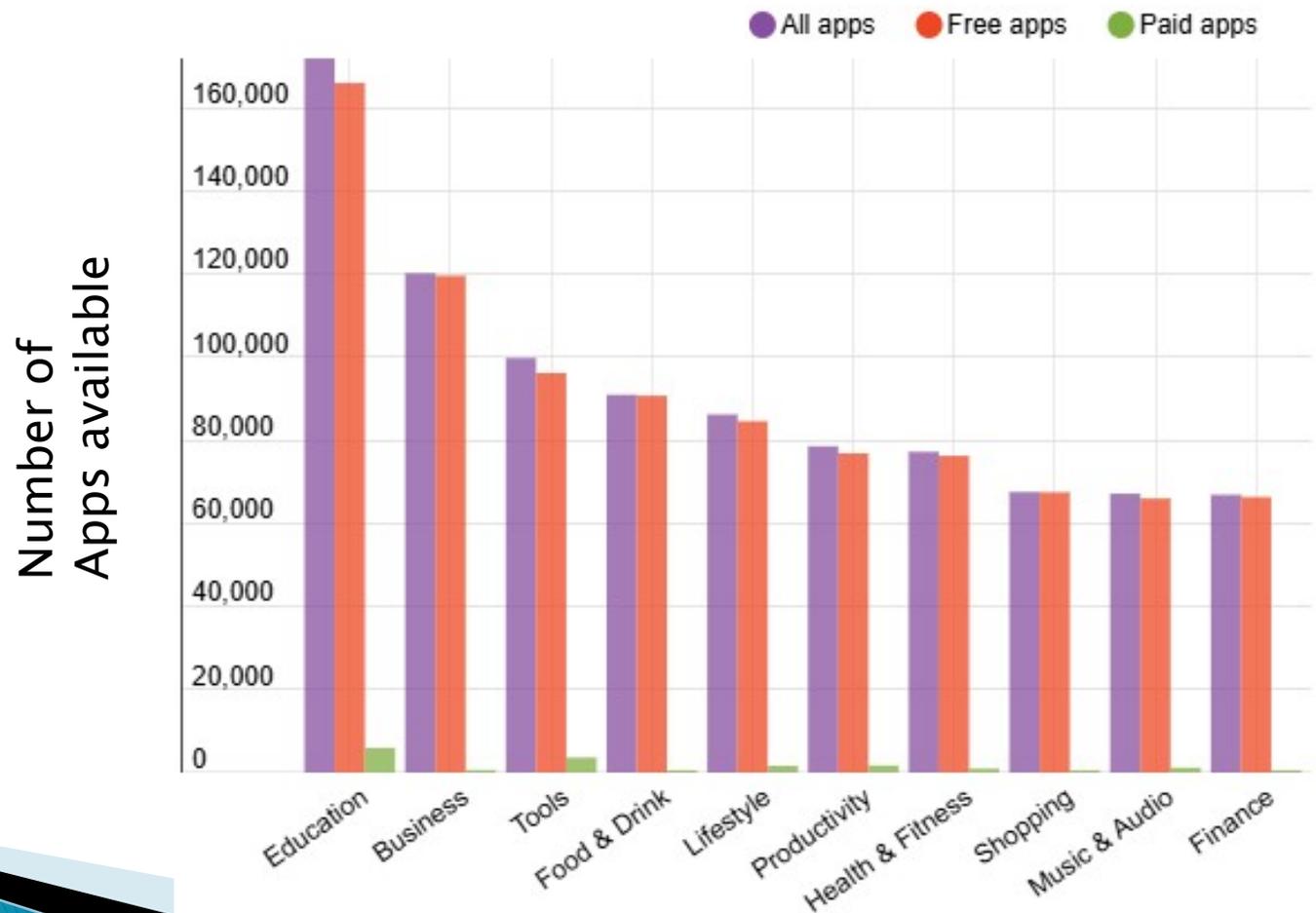
At this age, I think I'll skip it!



# There's an App For That!

Or 100,00! In the most popular category there are 20,502 apps which reached 50K downloads or more.

Top 10 Google Play categories



# Categories of Apps (yes, most are GAMES)

Category	All apps	Average rating	# >50K download	Paid apps	Average price	Low quality
Art & Design	9474	3.96	2114	537	\$5.31	2673
Auto & Vehicles	21863	3.73	2294	371	\$11.22	7232
Beauty	13276	3.97	626	26	\$4.65	8235
Books & Reference	51743	4.39	9633	1987	\$9.37	19634
Business	120156	3.73	7796	601	\$20.17	44764
Comics	1062	3.94	344	70	\$3.05	196
Communication	36137	3.92	4134	334	\$7.80	14934
Dating	4425	3.63	1218	12	\$25.51	572
Education	171874	4.18	17772	5938	\$8.20	92061
Entertainment	61662	3.93	13803	1157	\$5.70	18303
Events	15236	3.98	491	39	\$4.53	5915
Finance	66857	4.05	13334	544	\$6.24	14546
Food & Drink	90917	4.22	3725	226	\$4.20	59086
Health & Fitness	77186	4	6565	947	\$9.13	26764
House & Home	13941	3.64	1191	97	\$8.82	4368
Libraries & Demo	2286	4.07	289	26	\$10.70	548
Lifestyle	86167	4.14	9482	1619	\$7.13	28997
Maps & Navigation	24684	3.77	3596	930	\$6.41	9026
Medical	25205	3.9	2982	765	\$14.25	6602
Music & Audio	67122	4.25	8769	1167	\$7.02	27389
News & Magazines	20541	3.96	3163	43	\$3.39	6974
Parenting	4124	3.99	810	101	\$4.21	676
Personalization	56962	4.37	8730	21903	\$1.64	21139
Photography	15117	3.96	4766	427	\$7.35	4536

Category	All apps	Average rating	# >50K downloads	Paid apps	Average price	quality apps
Productivity	78526	3.89	8315	1701	\$8.15	25772
Shopping	67524	4.21	7894	70	\$2.75	26800
Social	21701	3.97	3531	79	\$3.97	5097
Sports	37112	3.97	3788	788	\$13.14	15311
Tools	99762	3.85	20502	3611	\$7.03	28328
Travel & Local	52025	3.86	5389	1220	\$4.25	20820
Video Players & Editors	6786	3.9	2622	243	\$5.56	1340
Weather	4567	4.1	1200	244	\$5.54	593
Action	15784	3.98	5033	738	\$3.35	3961
Adventure	12416	4.09	3804	1110	\$4.73	2633
Arcade	19417	3.95	3757	808	\$3.17	5689
Board	8242	4.17	2383	491	\$4.88	1565
Card	7283	4.18	2568	375	\$3.66	1016
Casino	3887	4.22	1382	275	\$9.32	1042
Casual	36621	4.03	8945	962	\$3.98	12651
Educational	14388	4.06	3805	1249	\$4.41	4023
Music	2020	4.04	810	136	\$3.17	425
Puzzle	41307	4.23	8948	1342	\$2.57	11579
Racing	6036	3.96	2670	174	\$4.99	1549
Role Playing	11590	3.93	5779	776	\$5.86	1768
Simulation	19439	3.91	9421	811	\$6.04	4154
Sports Games	4861	4.01	2028	222	\$3.39	959
Strategy	9621	3.9	3926	589	\$4.35	1805
Trivia	6529	4.12	1293	162	\$3.65	1522
Word	6887	4.33	1728	247	\$4.26	1246

# How Do I Find Apps?

## Pre-Requirement: What device?

Apps are specific to iPhone/iPad, Android or PC (Windows)

Not all platforms are supported.

“Smart TVs” are a classification of Apps too! (Roku, Amazon Fire, etc.)

- My friend uses .....
- Search using your device’s app store
- Use a Google or other internet search

Include key phrase ex:

“android”

“app for windows”

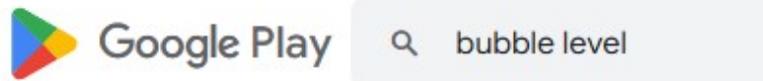
“iPhone”



# Examples of a Search

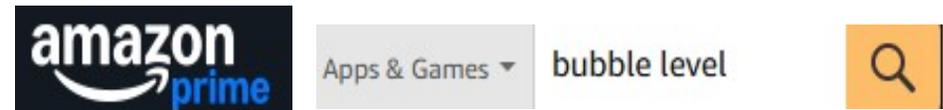
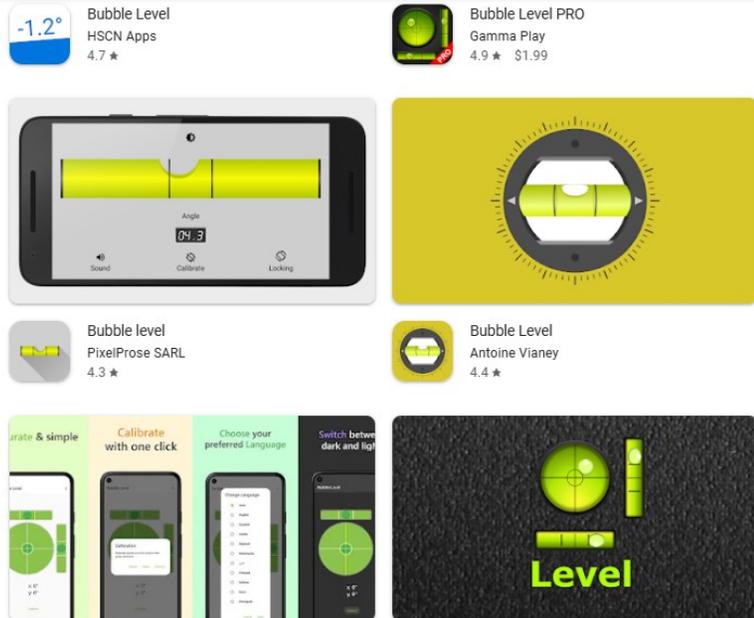
One of my favorite Apps is one that turns my phone or tablet into a “Bubble level”. 19 matches came back for my phone model and dozens for the tablet.

<https://play.google.com/store/search>



Apps & games

Device



Device Type

< Clear

Fire Tablet

Fire Phone



# Where Do I Download Apps?

## 1. Use Google Play Store or Apple App Store



Using the built-in app store for your device is the safest and easiest way.

## 2. Use a reputable alternative (usually platform specific)



<https://www.amazon.com/>



<https://en.aptoide.com/group/applications>



<https://www.apkmirror.com/>



Aurora Store  
4.75

<https://auroraoss.com/aurora-store>

Galaxy Store

<https://galaxystore.samsung.com/apps>

## 3. Download from Author or Collectives

<https://f-droid.org/en/>  
<https://izzyondroid.org/>



F-Droid



Always use caution!



# What are You Using?

The #1 (non built-in) App for seniors is Facebook.

## Auto and Navigation

Android Auto Apple CarPlay Google Maps

## Health & Fitness

All Trails Planet Fitness BP Tracker

## Games Hundreds of thousands

Majong Suduko Prune Wordscapes  
(Wordadale is a web site, not an App)

## Home control & Security

ADT SimpliSafe Xfinity Home Vivint

## Travel

Airlines (I still use paper ticket) Hotels

## Shopping

Kroger Walmart Weigels Belks Amazon

## Music

Pandora Spotify YouTube Music

## Books and Bible

Goodreads YouVersion Bible Enduring Word

## Banking and Finance

Edward Jones Zell Rocket Monarch  
New category: subscription management

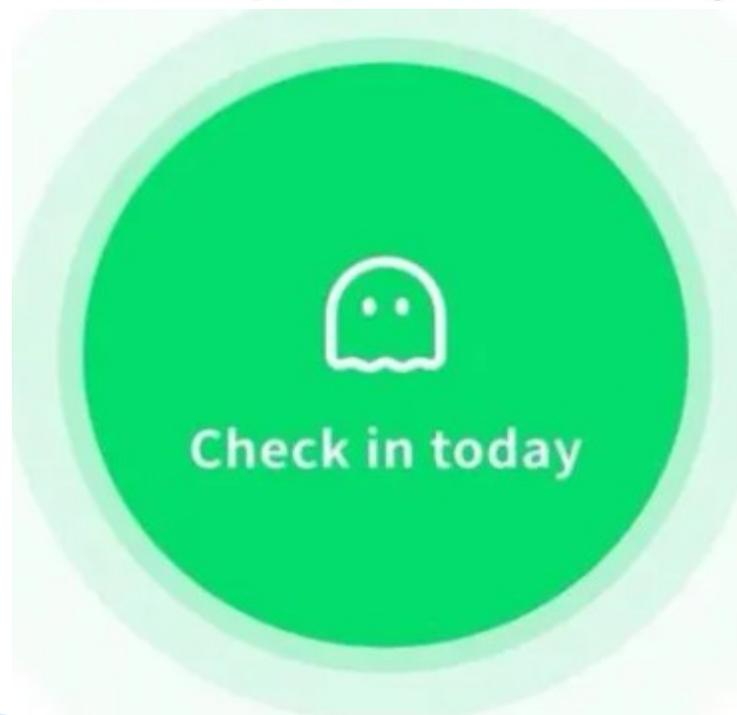
## Senior Dating

Match.com eHarmony SilverSingles



# The Hottest App in China

“Are You Dead?” app designed for people living alone surges to number 1 in China

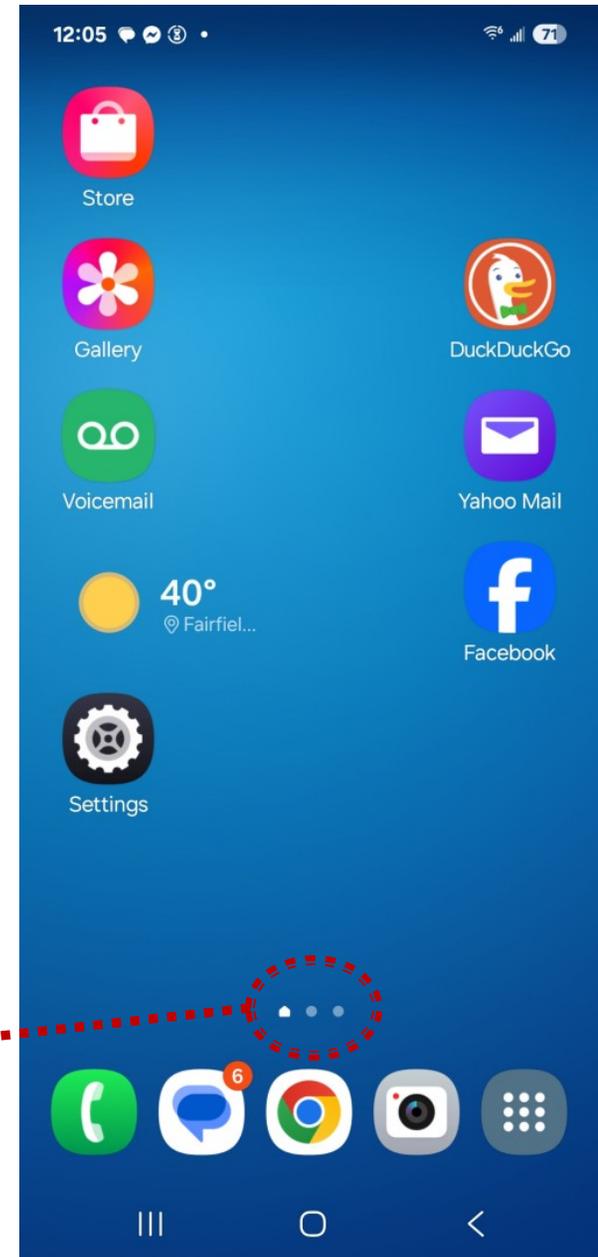


# My Home Screen

This is the Home Screen  
Aka “the Desktop”

A little house appears indicating  
we are on the Home Screen.

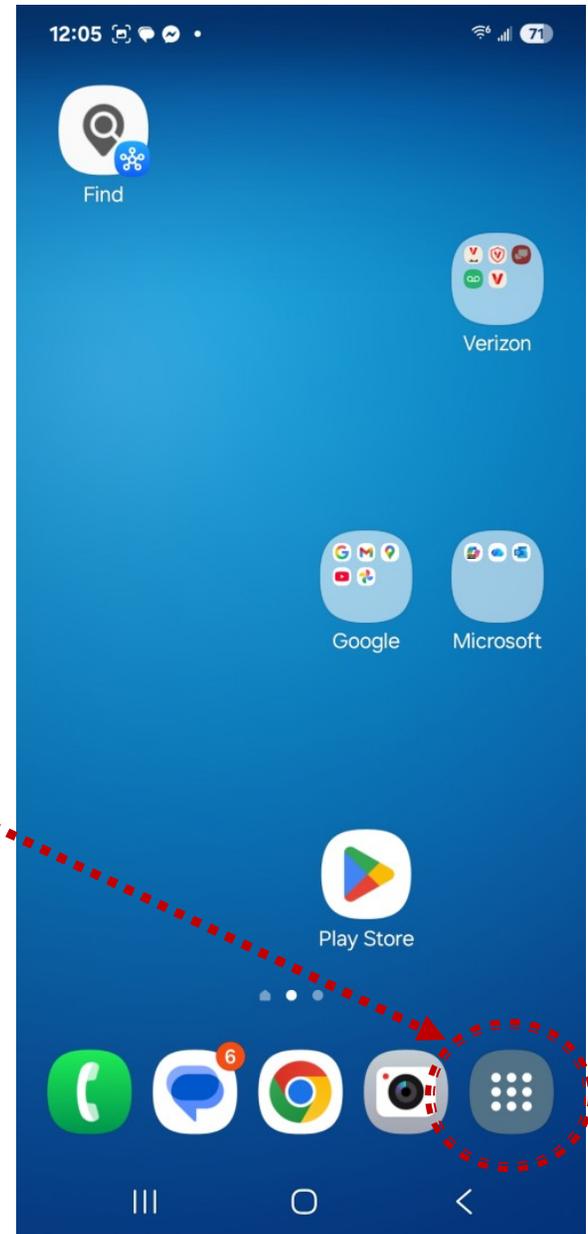
Additional dots show I have  
additional screens  
(scroll left / right)



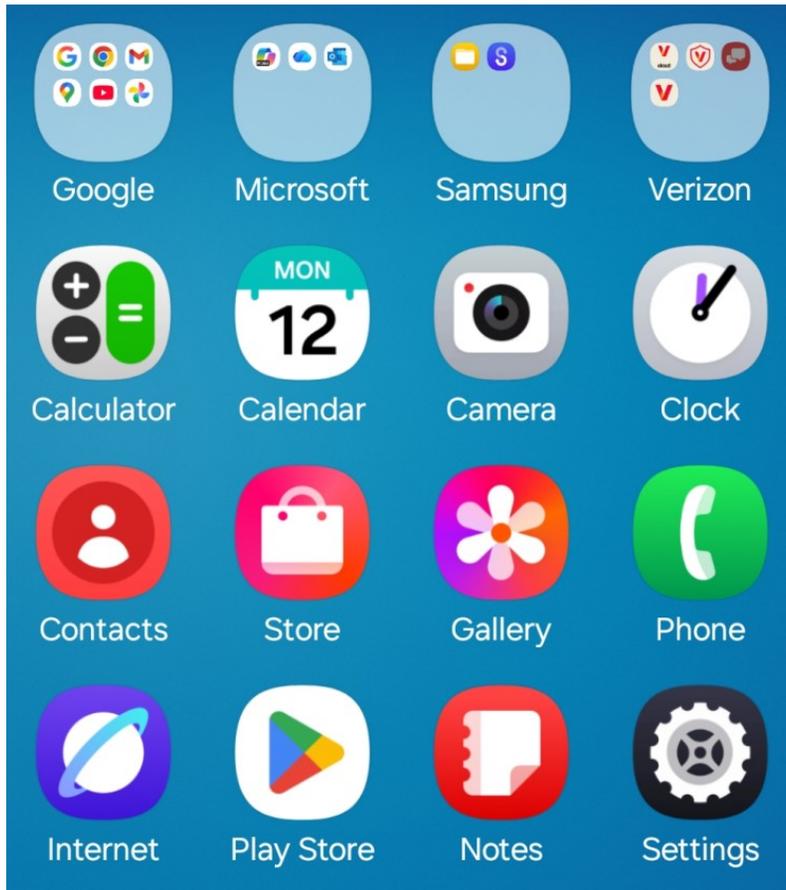
# My Home Screen

This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> page of the desktop

Tapping the Apps icon will bring you into an entirely separate set of screens all the Apps you have loaded.



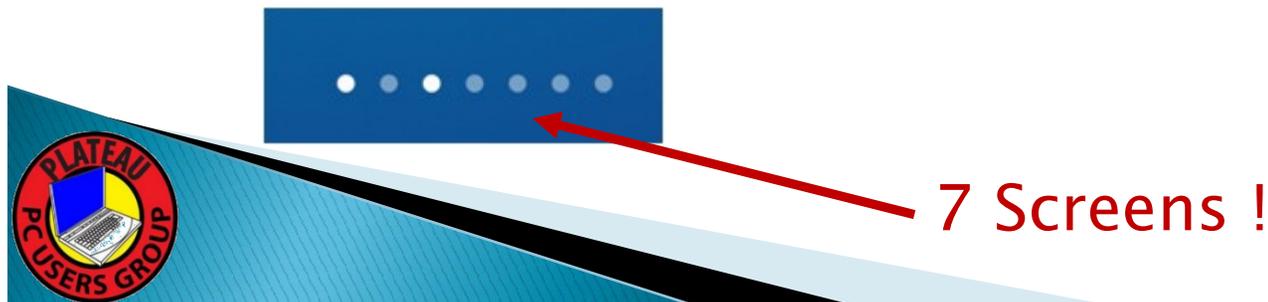
# My Apps



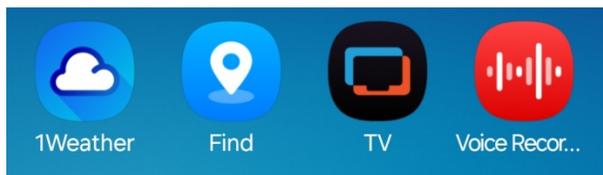
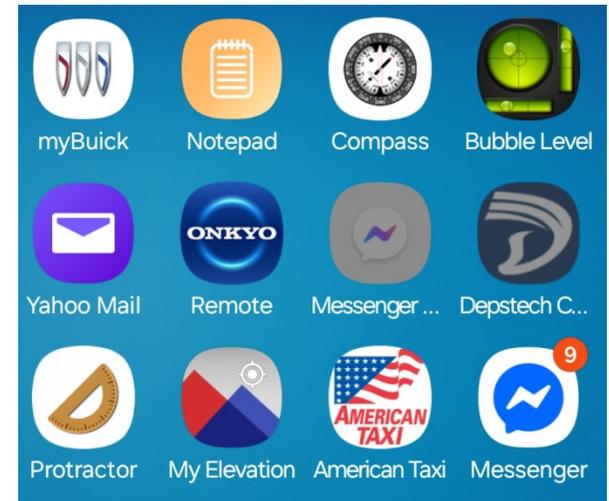
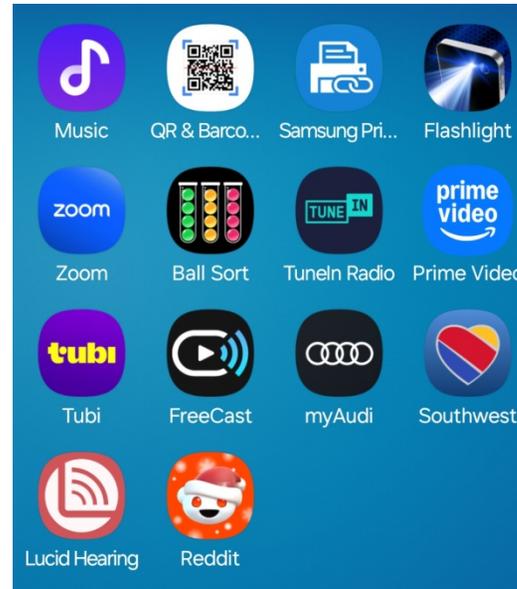
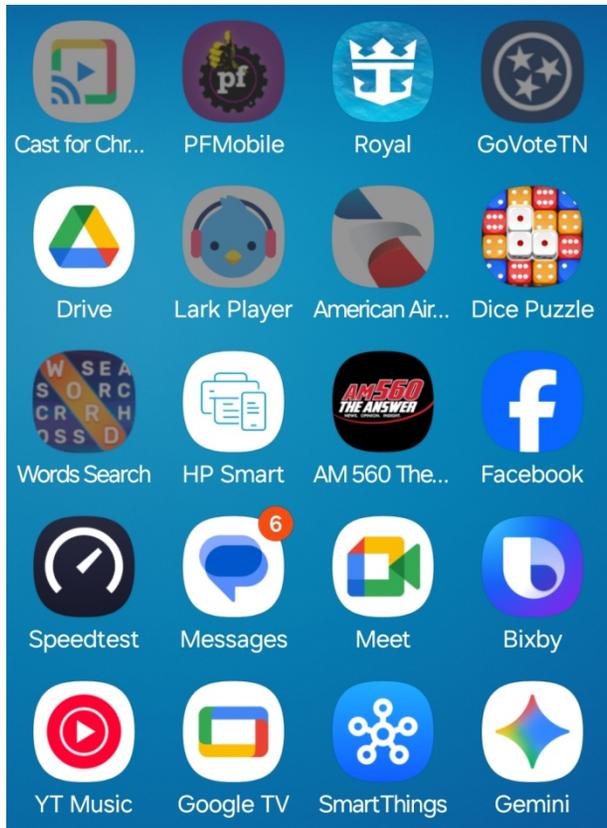
Page 1 .....

To see the additional pages, swipe right or left.

Remember, the icons on the desktop are simply **SHORTCUTS** to one of these App Icons.



# My Apps (more)



Clearly, this is unacceptable !



## Can I Make Folders? (Android)

Press and hold an app icon on the home screen, then drag it onto another app icon. This action will create a folder that contains both apps. You can add more apps to the folder by dragging and dropping them into it. After creating the folder, tap on it to rename it by entering a descriptive name, such as "Health" or "Games".

This method works on most Android devices and does not require a third-party app. However, I had issues dragging another App into existing folder.

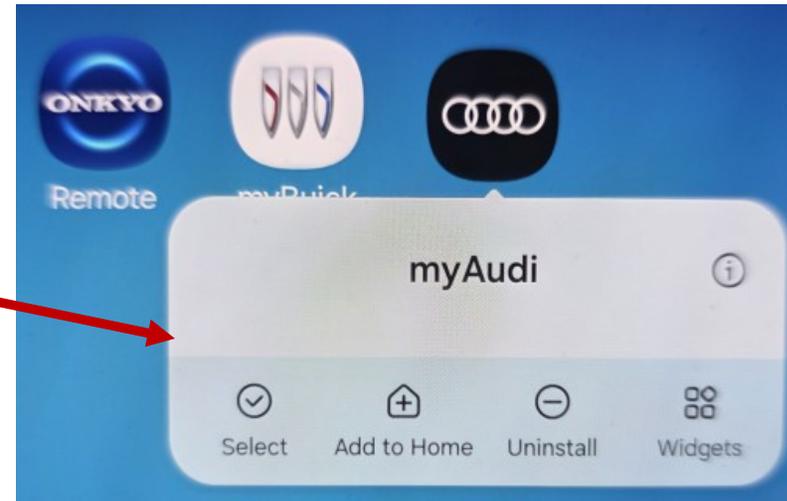
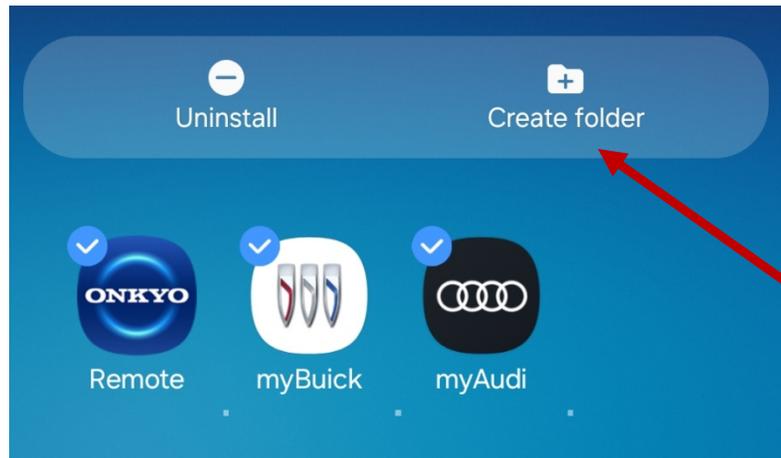
The select - drag movements can be tricky at times!



# Tips For Arranging Icons

Group icons into related into the same sub-page.

Long Tap to bring up options



Select multiple items then use Create Folder or Uninstall multiple Apps.

The “gestures” can be frustrating at first so practice makes perfect. I keep accidentally creating a Home Screen icon!



# Consider the Functionality Offline

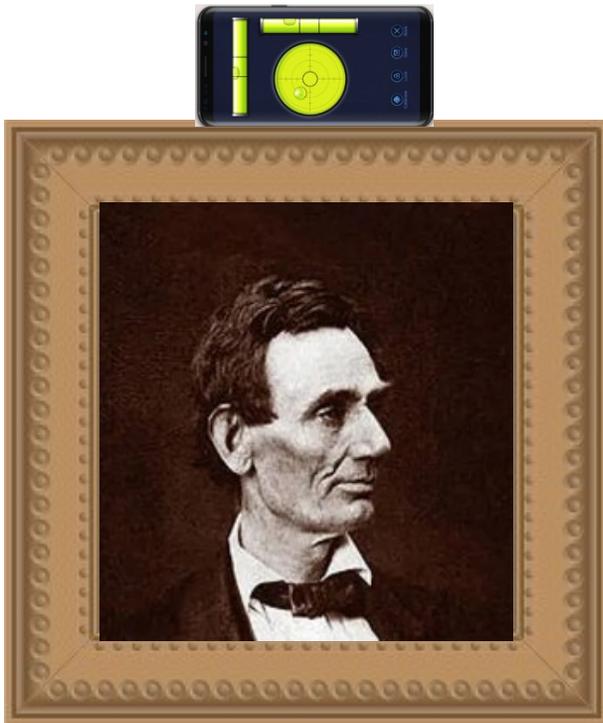
Many Apps are dependant on the Internet. If you are going somewhere with no internet will your App work?

**Test it:** Put device in “Airplane Mode” AND turn off Wi-Fi then use the App. A lot of games will not work “offline”.



# Using the Bubble Level

Before using, remove any add-on protective case or brackets.



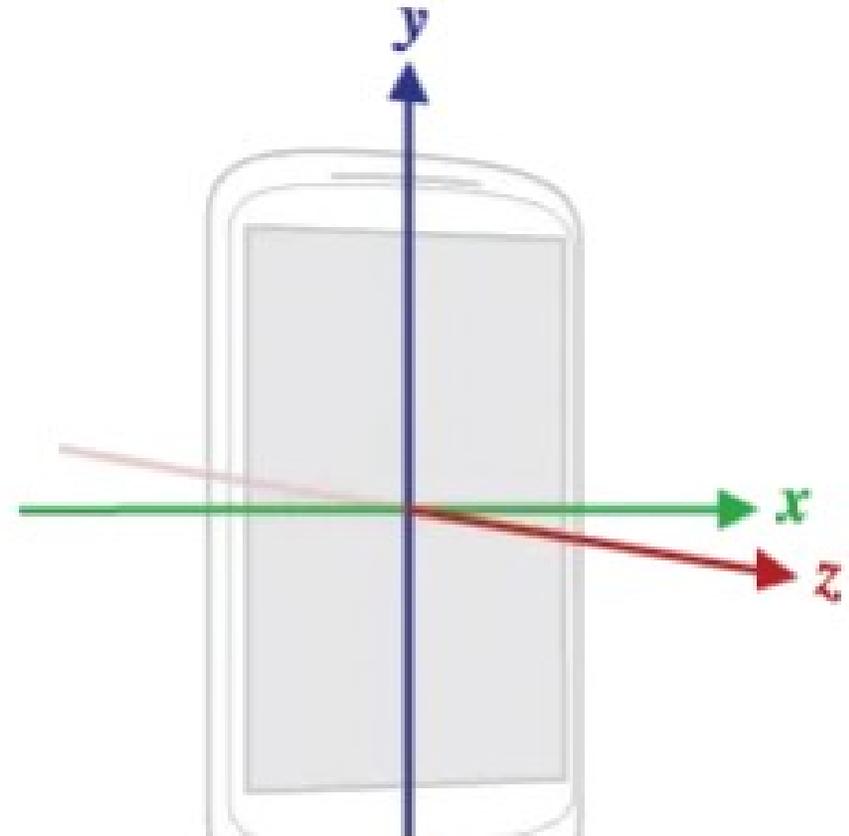
# How it works

All smart phones now have 3-Dimensional accelerometer sensors. These detect movement. By using gravity as a stimulus (acceleration), the angles on each axis can be determined.

$$x \cdot \sin\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right)$$

$$y \cdot \sin\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right)$$

$$z \cdot \sin\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right)$$



# More Cool Stuff I Use!



<https://www.whatsapp.com/>

Make international voice/video calls and texts over Wi-Fi



Smart Tags (Air Tags)



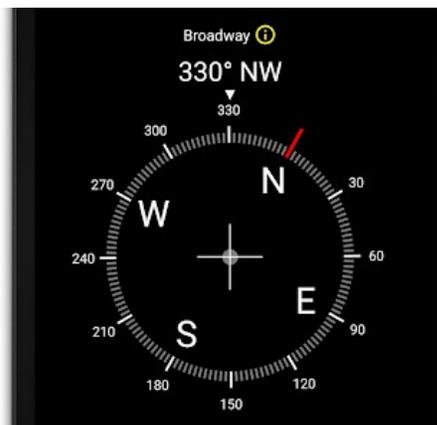
Honey, I think I dropped it down there

USB Endoscope

**DEPSTECH**

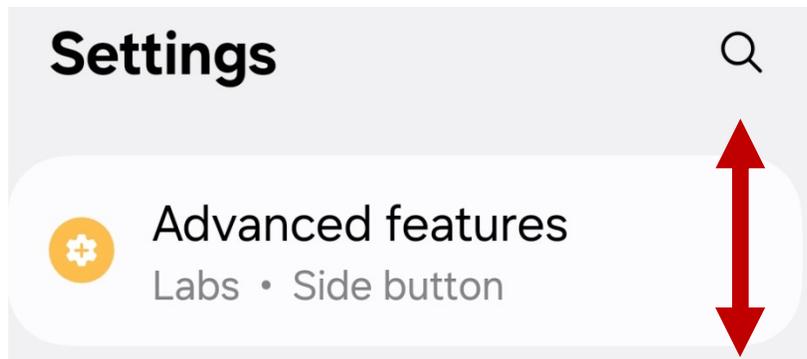


Navigate Old School With a virtual compass

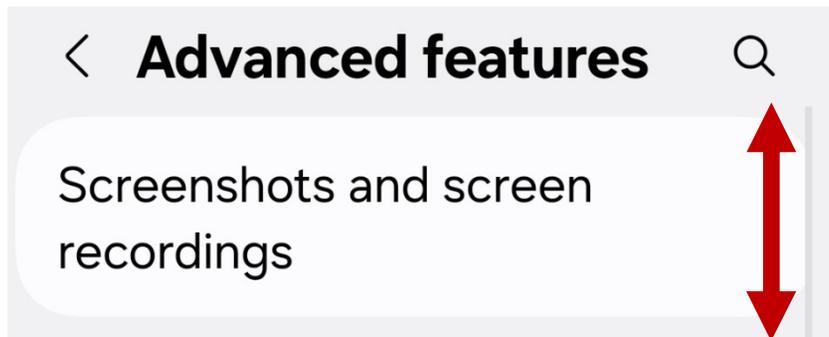


# The Palm-Swipe

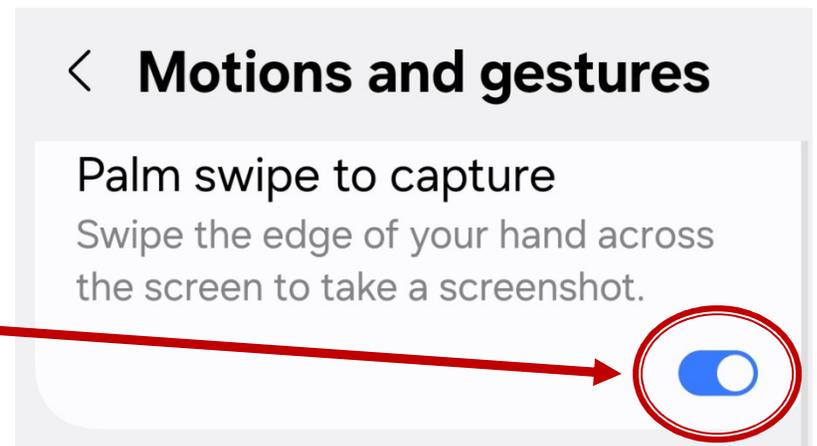
Samsung Galaxy devices, enable the "Palm Swipe to Capture" option in Settings under Advanced features > Motions and gestures.



1:  
Scroll to find "Advanced features"  
Then Tap it



2:  
Scroll to find "Screenshots .. recordings"  
Then Tap it



3: Turn it On



# The Palm-Swipe

Lay the edge of your hand on the screen at a slight angle and swipe.



The captured photos tool will show up the 1<sup>st</sup> time.



But I usually take more screen shots then e-mail them to myself and use the computer to edit.

# Resources

Review of every Android app by category

<https://www.appbrain.com/stats/android-market-app-categories>

The only alternative iPhone App site I have found

<https://iphone.apkpure.com/>

<https://www.inspirevisual.com/blog/10-best-alternative-app-stores-for-android/>

<https://www.seniorliving.org/cell-phone/apps/>

<https://www.theseniorlist.com/cell-phones/best/apps/>

<https://www.seniorliving.org/cell-phone/apps/games/>

Screen Shots on Android

<https://support.google.com/android/answer/9075928?hl=en>

Grouping and arranging app icons

<https://www.wikihow.com/Organize-Apps-on-Android>



# Roundtable Discussion

