



Apple User Group

May 25, 2017
Episode 73*



*Since Jan 2010

Next Meeting

Thursday 1:00pm

June 29, 2017



June Meeting



- In the June presentation, I will cover Apple's annual developers conference - WWDC
- This includes all the new features that will be included in the next versions of iOS, macOS, tvOS, and watchOS
- In addition, there are also a lot of rumors about new Mac hardware, maybe a new iPad, and even an Echo competitor
- This is one of my favorite presentations of the year...



WWDC17

San Jose, CA, June 5–9



Apple News!

Apple News



- iMovie, GarageBand, Pages, Numbers, and Keynote for Mac and iOS are now free for everyone
- Apple announced price drops for its Mac Pro lineup. It's dropping the 4-core option and significantly lowering the prices of its new 6-core and 8-core machines
- Apple has announced a full rebranding of iTunes Podcasts to Apple Podcasts, complete with a new “Listen on Apple Podcasts” logo. They even renamed the company’s official Twitter account for podcasts to @ApplePodcasts

Apple News



- Apple has reportedly hired a small team of biomedical engineers to develop sensors that can non-invasively and continuously monitor blood sugar levels to treat diabetes and include it in the Apple Watch
- Apple says the company is working on a "closed-loop supply chain" that would allow them to be able to build products with recycled materials only
- 1st Gen Apple Watch repair coverage was bumped to 3 years for some swollen battery issues

Apple News



- It's rumored that Amazon's Video app will come to Apple TV this summer. Amazon and Apple appear to have buried the hatchet. Amazon will also likely sell the Apple TV as part of the deal.
- Nokia and Apple announced that they have settled all litigation related to their intellectual property dispute and agreed a multi-year patent license
- Microsoft announced that Apple's iTunes will come to the Windows Store by the end of the year. Is Apple learning to play better with others now?

Apple News



- Apple bought Beddit which makes sleep monitoring devices, and companion apps for iOS and Apple Watch
- Apple released four minor software updates – iOS 10.3.2, watchOS 3.2.2, macOS 10.12.5 and tvOS 10.2.1. All software versions are essentially bug fixes and security improvements
- I've installed all the updates with no issues. You should do these updates immediately for security purposes

Apple News



- According to a study by the University of California, the Apple Watch's built-in heart rate monitor is 97 percent accurate when detecting the most common form of an abnormal heart rhythm when paired with an algorithm to sort the data
- Rumor: Apple planning to phase the iPad mini out of its lineup?
- iOS 11 may not be available for all devices that run iOS 10 today. See the following chart for best guess estimates on what devices will be left out

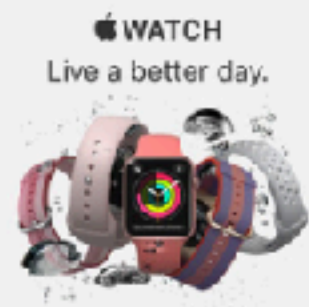
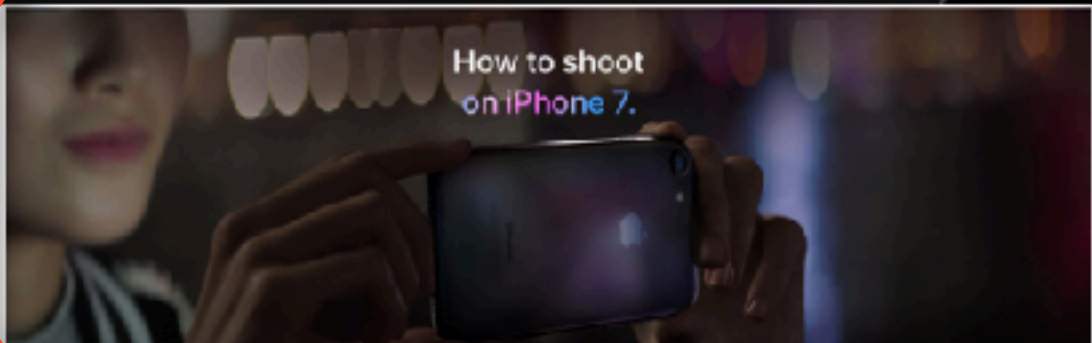
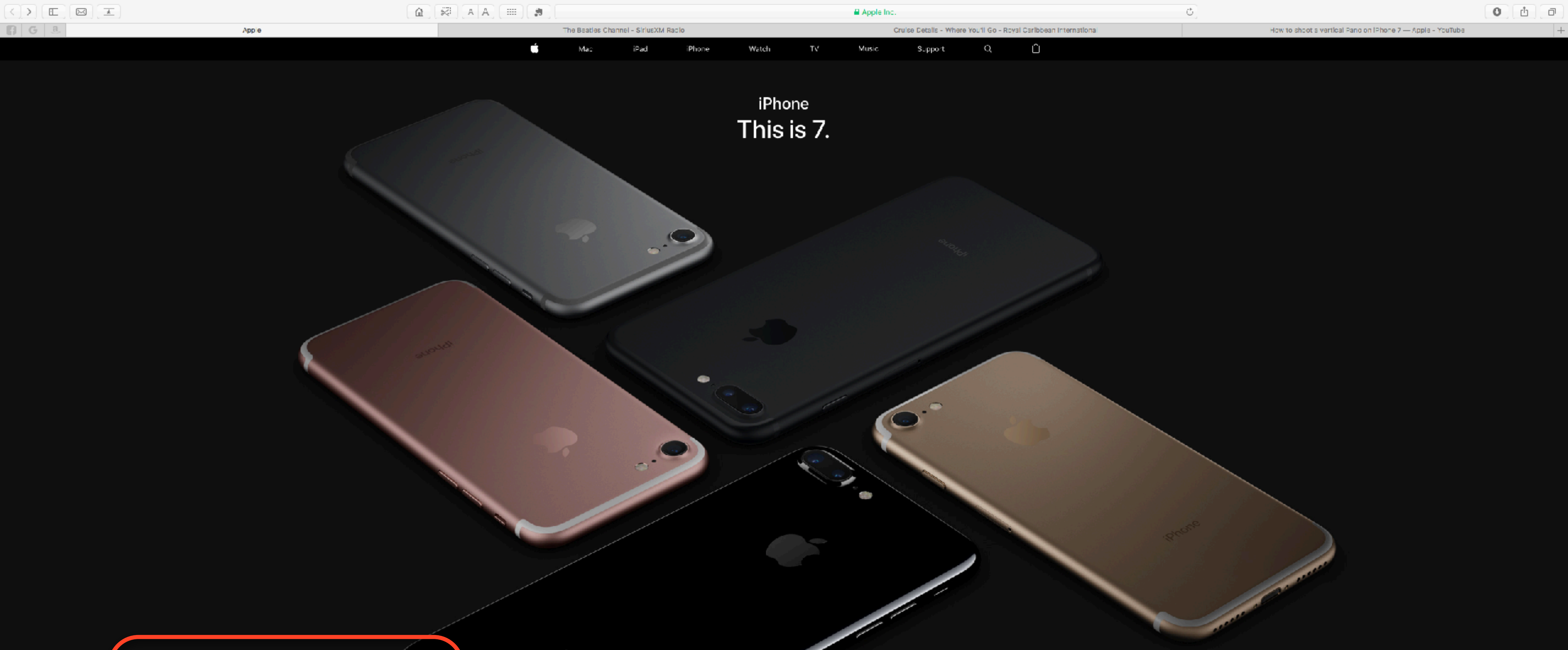
iOS || Compatibility Estimate

Compatible with iOS 10			iOS 11 compatibility (estimated)
Device	Launch date	Retirement date	
iPhone 5	Sep-12	Sep-13	NO
iPhone 5c	Sep-13	Sep-15	POSSIBLE
iPhone 5s	Sep-13	Mar-16	POSSIBLE
iPhone SE	Mar-16		YES
iPhone 6	Sep-14	Sep-16	YES
iPhone 6 Plus	Sep-14	Sep-16	YES
iPhone 6s	Sep-15		YES
iPhone 6s Plus	Sep-15		YES
iPhone 7	Sep-16		YES
iPhone 7 Plus	Sep-16		YES
iPad mini 2	Nov-13	Mar-17	POSSIBLE
iPad mini 3	Oct-14	Sep-15	POSSIBLE
iPad mini 4	Sep-15		YES
iPad 4th generation	Nov-12	Oct-14	NO
iPad Air	Nov-13	Mar-16	YES
iPad Air 2	Oct-14	Mar-17	YES
iPad Pro - 9.7-inch	Mar-16		YES
iPad Pro - 12.9-inch	Nov-15		YES
iPad 5th generation	Mar-17		YES
iPod touch 6th generation	Jul-15		YES

iPhone Photography



- Apple has a new web page titled “How to shoot on iPhone 7”
- The new site includes 16 videos with topics ranging from “how to take the perfect close-up” to “taking shots during the golden hour of the day”
- Some of the videos are also on YouTube
- While it’s aimed at the iPhone 7, most of the tips apply to any iPhone
- Here’s the web page and an example video



Shop and Learn
Mac
iPad
iPhone
Watch
TV
Music
iTunes
iPod
Accessories
Gift Cards

Apple Store
Find a Store
Genius Bar
Workshops and Learning
Youth Programs
Apple Store App
Refurbished and Clearance
Financing
Recycle and Recycling
Order Status
Shopping Help

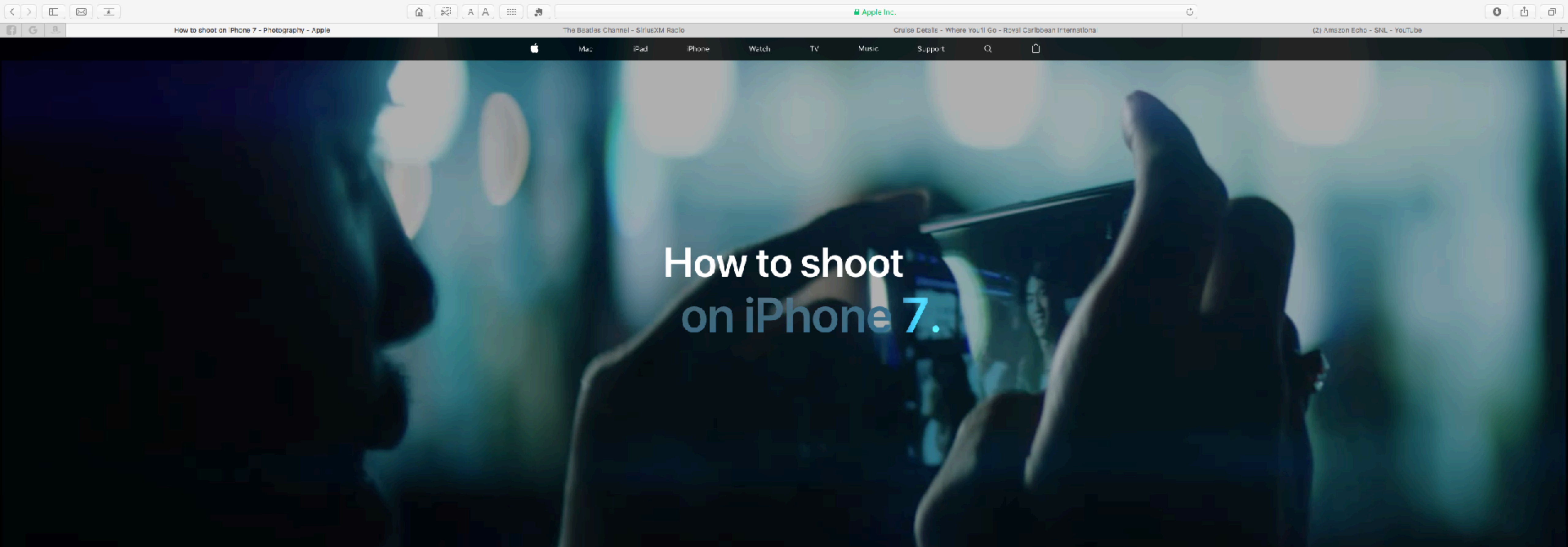
For Education
Apple and Education
Shop for College

For Business
Apple and Business
Shop for Business

Account
Manage Your Apple ID
Apple Store Account
iCloud.com

Apple Values
Accessibility
Education
Environment
Inclusion and Diversity
Privacy
Supplier Responsibility

About Apple
Apple Info
Newsroom
Job Opportunities
Press Info
Investors
Events
Contact Apple



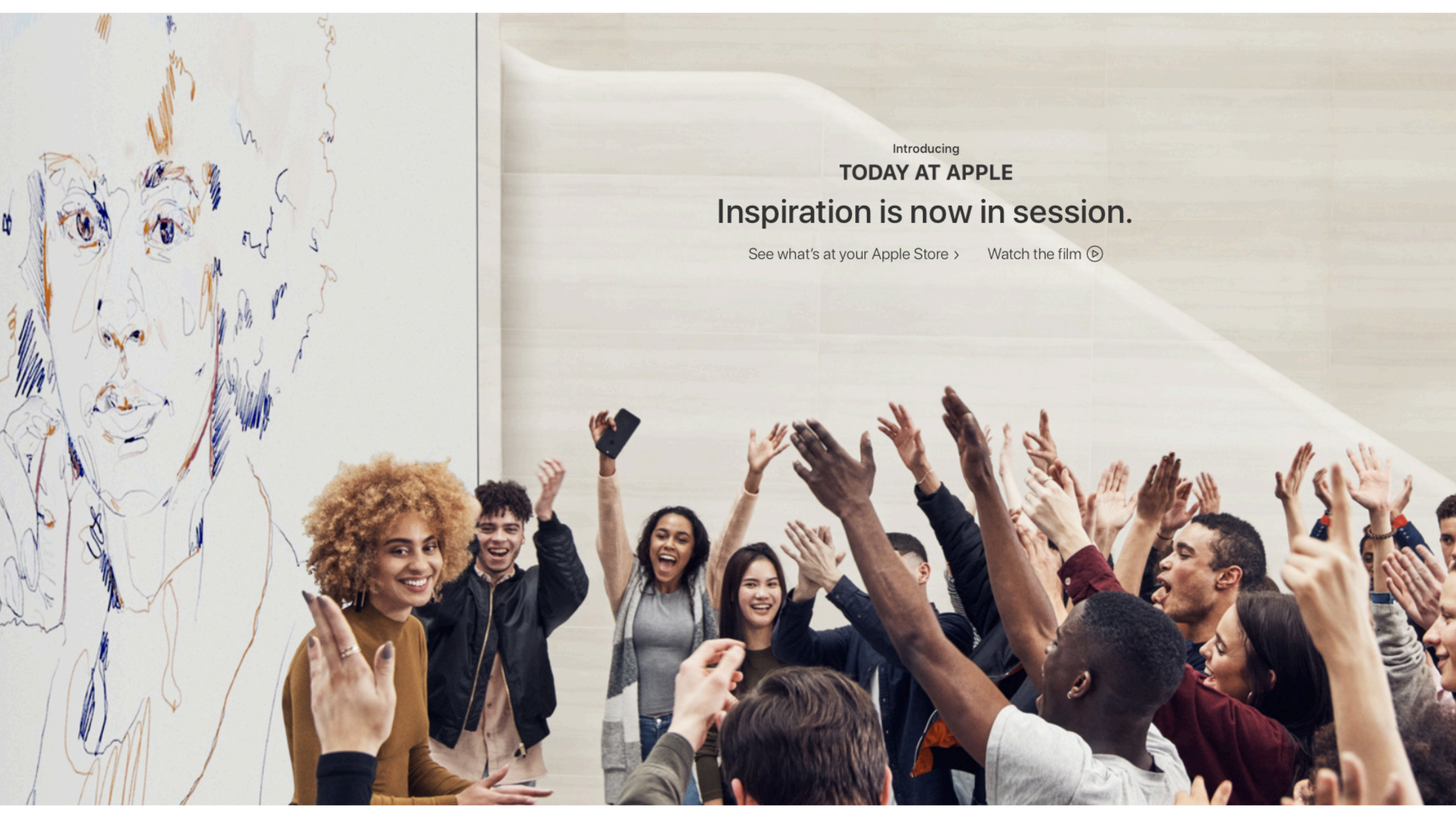
How
to
shoot
**a great
portrait.**

How
to
shoot
a close-up.

How
to
shoot
**a vertical
Pano.**

How
to
shoot
**without
a flash.**

How
to
shoot
action.



Introducing
TODAY AT APPLE

Inspiration is now in session.

See what's at your Apple Store > Watch the film ▶

Today at Apple



- Apple just launched a new educational program called Today at Apple for all 495 Apple stores globally
- The program is aimed at enhancing skills and helping people with projects vs. just teaching people about their devices
- Many sessions will be taught by new Creative Pros, the liberal arts equivalent to Apple's technical Geniuses
- Each Creative Pro is an expert in one or more areas of the arts, such as photography, art, music, videography, ...

Today at Apple - Examples



- Photo Walks include sessions such as framing architecture or capturing action on video
- Photo Labs with photographers to experiment with new techniques and styles in hands-on sessions
- Sketch Walks explore observational drawings, watercolor, brush techniques...
- Kids Hour is designed to spark imagination and creativity through fun hands-on projects like coding with robots, creating music with GarageBand and making movies with iMovie

Today at Apple - Examples



- Coding sessions to introduce anyone to coding through Swift Playgrounds, an iPad app designed to make coding interactive and fun
- Music Labs explore different genres and beats and introduce new tools to musicians of all levels.
- Pro Series take advanced users on a deep dive into Final Cut Pro and Logic Pro with sessions on color correction and grading to post production, or audio mixing
- Perspectives and Performances feature artists and musicians talking about their creative process or sharing their talents live

Today at Apple - Examples



- Teacher Tuesdays where teachers can learn new ways to incorporate technology into their classrooms
- Studio Hours are Apple's version of a professor's office hours. Creative Pros host 90-minute sessions on topics from art and design to documents and presentations
- Anyone is welcome to bring in a personal project for advice from experts, or to use the space to work alongside others
- Go to apple.com/today to find out what is being offered

Today

M

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22

23

24

25

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All Categories

Photo & Video

Music

Art & Design

Coding

Business

Kids & Parents

Teachers

Products

Anytime

Morning

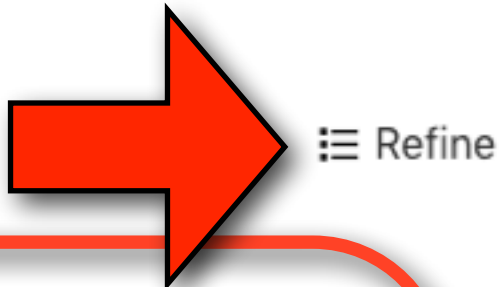
Afternoon

Evening

All Local Stores

Apple Christiana Mall

Apple Suburban Square

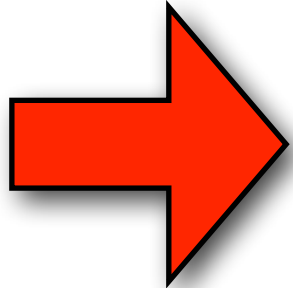


Refine

Studio Hours: Photo Projects

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Apple Christiana Mall

Details



How To: Edit Video on Mac

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Apple Christiana Mall

Details

Studio Hours: Video Projects

1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Apple Christiana Mall

Details

Basics: iPad

1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Apple Christiana Mall

Details

Studio Hours: All Projects

2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Apple Christiana Mall

Details

Basics: iPhone and iPad Intermediate

3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Apple Christiana Mall

Details

Studio Hours: Photo Projects

May 22, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Apple Christiana Mall

Join us or drop in for this 90-minute session dedicated to photography. Bring your iPhone, iPad, or Mac and your photo project to work on, and our Creatives can help you get started. We'll share pro tips on using the Camera app on iPhone, give ideas for organizing a photo album on your Mac, and more. Or, just use the space to work on your project and we'll be there when you need us.

125 Christiana Mall

Newark, DE 19702

iMacs



- Apple's marketing chief Phil Schiller and software engineering chief Craig Federighi have confirmed that Apple is working on new iMac models that the company expects to launch later this year
- I'm hoping they will to be announced at June's WWDC
- They did not share specific details about what to expect from the refresh, but Thunderbolt 3 ports and faster processors are likely at the very least
- Federighi thinks the new iMac models will address even more of the pro market
- My checkbook is all oiled up and ready to go!!

My Apple Experiences



Apple iCloud



- I reluctantly upgraded my iCloud storage from the free 5GB level to 50 GB for \$0.99/month
- I was getting warning messages about running out of space and the main culprit was photos
- I started working at reducing storage and just decided that I'd rather spend the \$1/month than reduce photos or delete apps
- Since I now have about 45GB available to me, I'm starting iCloud backups on my iDevices (as well as occasional iTunes backups)

New iPad



- Last month I talked about Apple releasing a new 2017 iPad
- I recommended it for anyone looking to upgrade anything older than the iPad Air
- Well, I took my own advice and bought a new gold iPad to replace Peg's iPad 4
- In 2012, we paid \$599 for our 32GB iPad 4
- We paid \$429 for the new 128GB iPad
- So very happy with the price

New iPad



- The new iPad was significantly lighter and thinner than the iPad4 and a smidge heavier and thicker than my iPad Air2
- The new iPad was also significantly faster than the iPad4 and insignificantly faster than the iPad Air2
- The screen quality was comparable between all three devices, although the Air2 was slightly better if you were being critical
- I did an encrypted back up on the iPad4 to iTunes and restored the backup to the new iPad. The process went fine with no real issues

New iPad



- Bottom line: We are very happy with the upgrade
- If you have a iPad Air, iPad Air2, or iPad Pro, I don't see any reason to upgrade to this device unless you are running out of storage
- This device is not a game changer
- However, if you have an older device that you are considering upgrading, this is a great value
- Note: There are rumors of a new iPad Pro being announced in June



Kindle Paperwhite vs iPad

- I recently decided to get a Kindle Paperwhite ebook reader
- Before this, we have always used our iPads and iPad minis to read books with the Kindle app or iBooks
- I bought the Kindle Paperwhite on sale for \$100 from Amazon. It's normal price is \$120
- After using both for a while now, I thought I'd share how I think they compare



iPad Pros



- Color screen: The Paperwhite is black and white only and you can't have a dark screen with white letters. The iPad not only can show colors (comic books), but you have a lot more options for background and fonts
- Screen size: The iPad (even the mini) has a bigger screen that can hold more text
- Versatility: Obviously you can do a lot more with an iPad than just read books
- Faster: I find the iPads turned pages faster and in general were just faster than the Kindle. Of course, this might vary depending on which model iPad you own, and it was only noticeable when moving back and forth between devices



Kindle Paperwhite Pros

- Price: \$100 for the Paperwhite vs. \$329 for the cheapest iPad
- Readability in full sunlight: The Paperwhite uses E Ink technology and is actually easier to read in full sunlight. The iPad is very difficult to see in full sunlight due to the glare.
- Portability: The Paperwhite is 6.7" x 4.6" with a 6" screen. This is small enough for me to put in my pocket to carry around.
- Number of books: Amazon states that the Paperwhite can carry over 1,000 books. Your iPad has to share storage with pictures, movies, etc...



Kindle Paperwhite Pros

- Battery Life?: “A single charge can last up to six weeks (based on a half hour of reading per day with wireless turned off and the light setting at ten)”. I don’t necessarily agree with this. 30 minutes a day is not a lot. In my experience if you use them in the same way, there’s not much difference
- Eye Strain: Kindle Paperwhite guides light toward the surface of the display with it’s front light—unlike back-lit tablets that shine in your eyes— this reduces the strain on your eyes
- To summarize: It depends on what you read and where you want to read it. Both are very nice devices and work together

Batteries



- One of the things I do before I give a talk is to recharge all my battery powered devices (iPad, Satechi remote control, Apple TV remote) so I don't have my presentation disrupted)
- This works great for these items, but I was using regular AA batteries for the mic. I try to make sure the batteries are OK, but this is difficult to judge
- A couple of presentations ago, I misjudged and my batteries ran out mid-presentation
- Once-burned is enough, so I went looking on Amazon for a rechargeable solution that I could recharge before a talk just like the other equipment

Batteries



- I settled on the Panasonic BQ-CC55 Quick Charger with a 4.7/5 star rating with lots of glowing reviews
- It came with 4 AA Eneloop Ni-MH (Nickel–metal hydride) batteries
- This charger works with AA or AAA batteries
- It can recharge 4 AA batteries in 3 hours or 2 batteries in 1.5 hours
- You can charge any number of batteries (1-4) and are not required to do all 4 at a time

Batteries



- 4 individual LED lights indicate the remaining charge of each battery cell; Green 80-100%, Orange 20%-80%, and Red 0%-20%. Once a battery is completely charged, the corresponding LED turns off.
- Built-in 'battery sensing' technology automatically stops the charging process if a non-rechargeable battery is inserted into the unit. It will also stop charging if batteries become overheated while charging.
- Price \$34.99 for charger with 4 AA batteries (other configurations are available with varying battery number and types)
- So far, I'd give it a “highly recommended”

Computer Security



Passwords



- According to the experts at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), some of the password requirements drilled into us over the years are actually not that helpful
- In fact they might be counterproductive
- For example, they say that forcing users to create passwords which include numbers and random characters is no longer necessary

Passwords



- Basically, passwords full of #'s and &'s are hard to remember, and they don't actually offer that much of a benefit.
- Instead, NIST recommends that people be allowed to choose any password of 8 characters or more — with a catch
- The catch being that whatever the user selects should be compared against a list of known common passwords and not allow any of these passwords to be selected

Passwords



- They do say you need a minimum of 8 characters but allow the user to set it longer if desired
- They are very much in favor of two factor authentication
- They also recommended against periodic password changes which removes a significant burden from both users and IT departments.
- They say that periodic changes do not improve password security but only makes it worse

Passwords



- Of course, if a company discovers it's been hacked, you should still be required to reset your login information
- They also recommend against security questions like 'What was your mothers maiden name?' when choosing memorized secrets. These can be easy to find the answers bypassing the passwords
- So, to recap: No special characters required, no forced password resets, and no easily guessable security questions

Ransomware




- I'm sure by now, everyone has heard about the "WannaCry" ransomware outbreak on Windows machines
- Bob has sent out a note about it and I'm sure he will cover this in detail, so I'm only going to make a few points here:
 1. Make sure you keep all your devices up to date
 2. Back up your computer
 3. Tim Cook refused to provide a back door to law enforcement after one of the terror attacks. He said if Apple provides this, eventually it will get in the hands of the bad guys. In my opinion, this is a perfect example vindicating his decision.

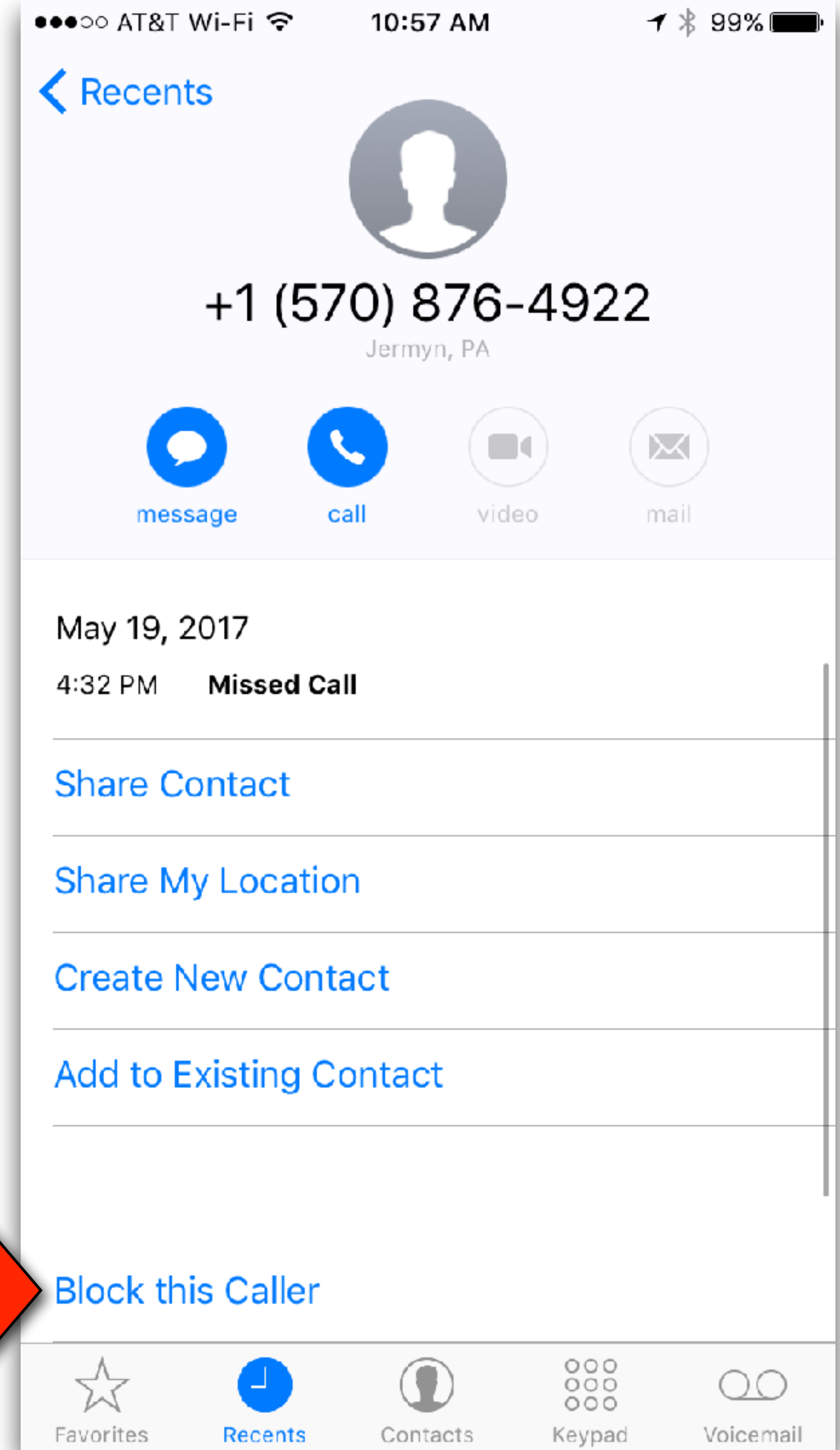
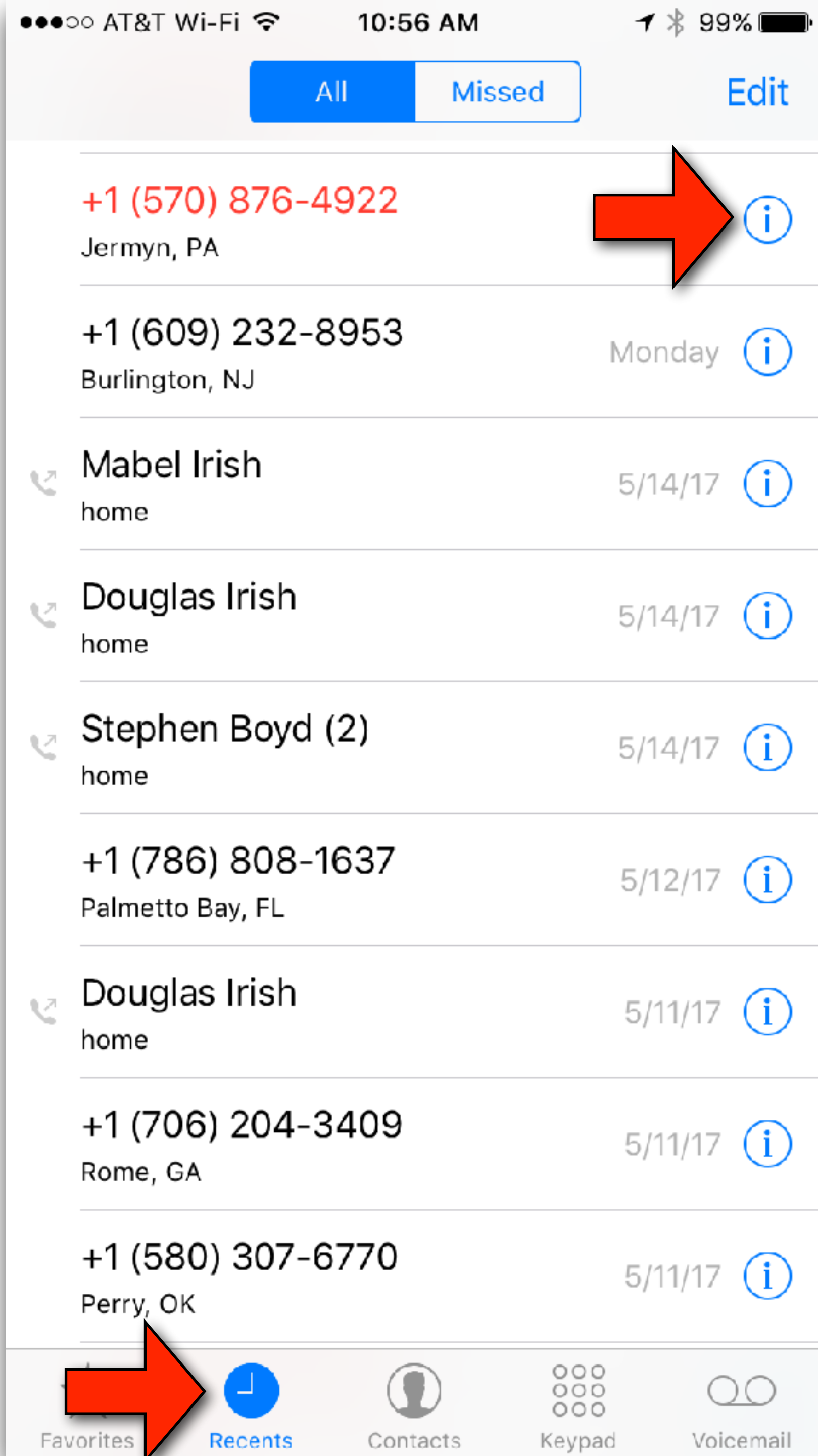
Quick Tips



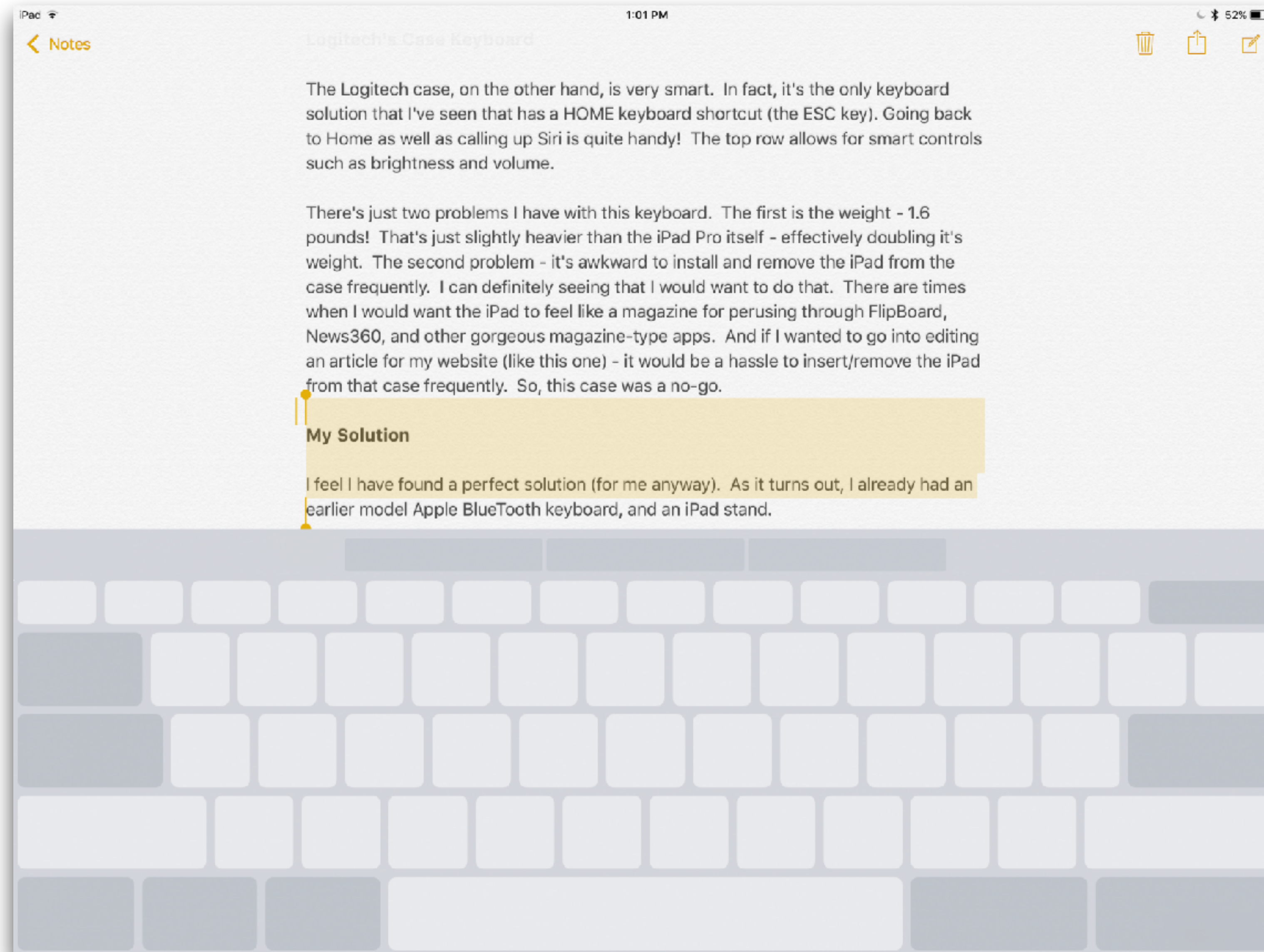
How to Block a Caller



- It seems the number of spam calls to my iPhone has been increasing
- While this is hard to prevent, you can at least block them from calling again
- To block a caller, go to the Phone App and select recents
- Then find the number you wish to block and select the info button 
- Then go to the bottom of the screen and select Block this Caller



Trackpad Mode - iPad





Trackpad Mode - iPad

- If you've done any editing using an iPad, you know it can be a bit tricky to position the cursor and select text
- It's times like this that makes you wish you could connect a mouse to your iPad
- Trackpad Mode is a somewhat hidden feature that was added back in iOS 9 that helps you move the cursor around
- Trackpad Mode mimics the same kind of control users have on their Mac trackpads



Trackpad Mode - iPad

- To trigger Trackpad Mode, you press the keyboard area on the screen simultaneously with two fingers
- You will know you have triggered this mode when the letters or numbers on all of the on-screen keyboard's keycaps disappear. The cursor will also highlight slightly.
- The key is to be sure that both fingers contact the screen at the same time
- Once you are in Trackpad Mode, you can move the cursor around easily while having better visibility of where the cursor is located

Trackpad Mode - iPad



- Once you position the cursor to where you want it you can select text around the cursor
 - Tap with two fingers to select a word
 - Tap twice with two fingers will select a sentence
 - Tap three times will select the entire paragraph
- Or alternatively, when you first engage Trackpad Mode, pause for just a moment before moving your fingers. Now when you move, any text that you pass over will be selected.
- It can be a little tricky, so practice on a test document first to get the hang of it
- Let's take a look at a MacMost video demonstration



macmost
<http://macmost.com>

Navigational Gestures - iPad

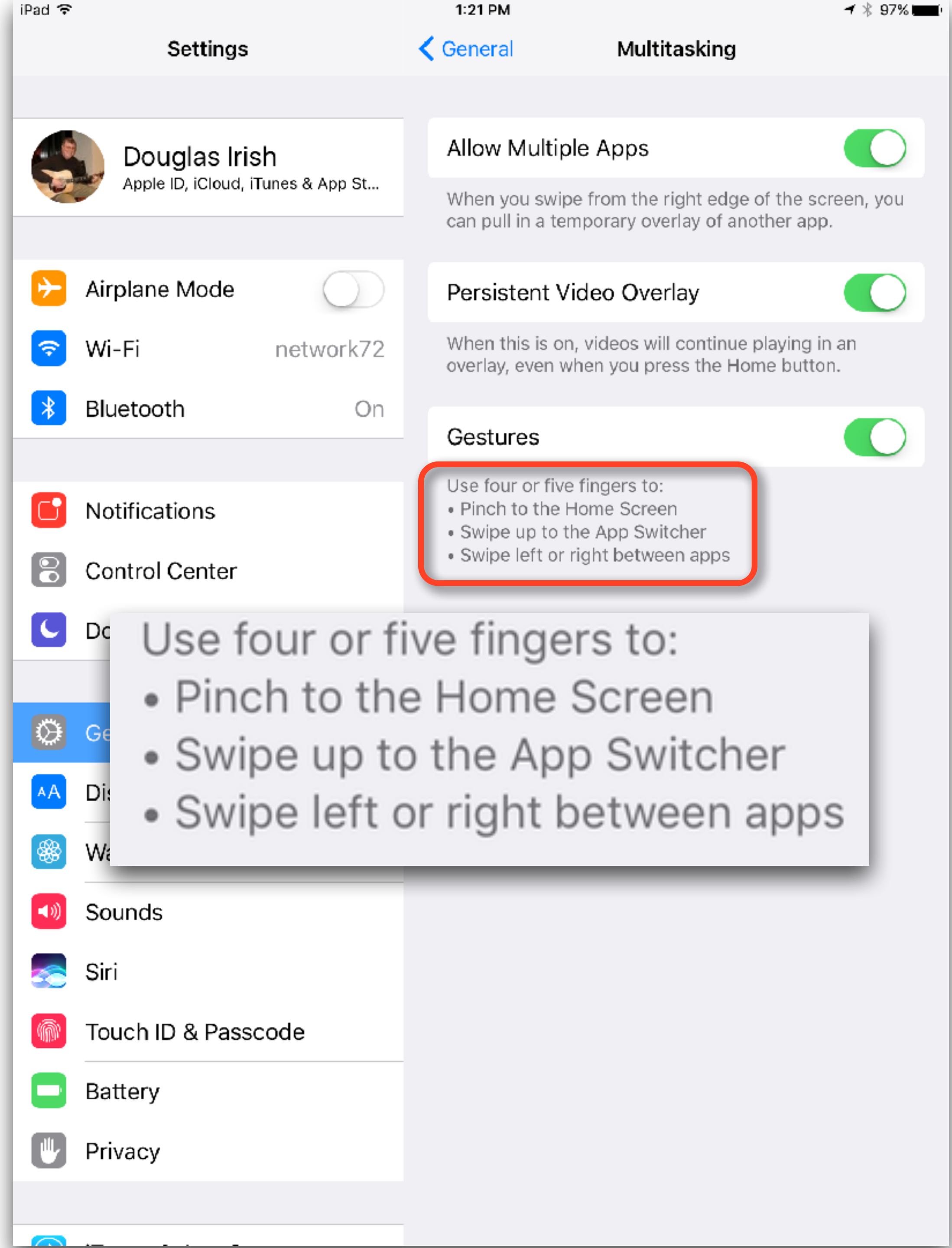
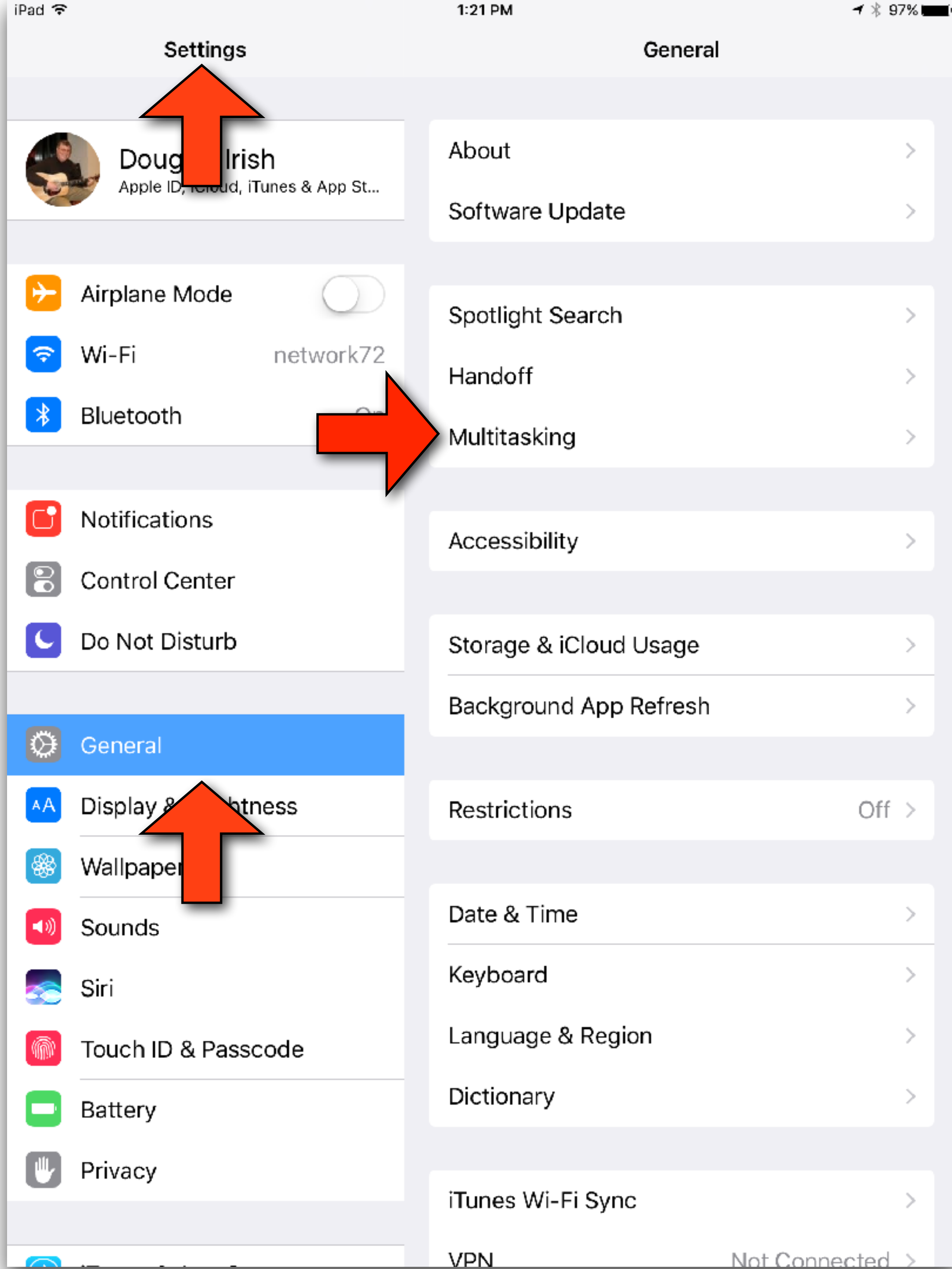


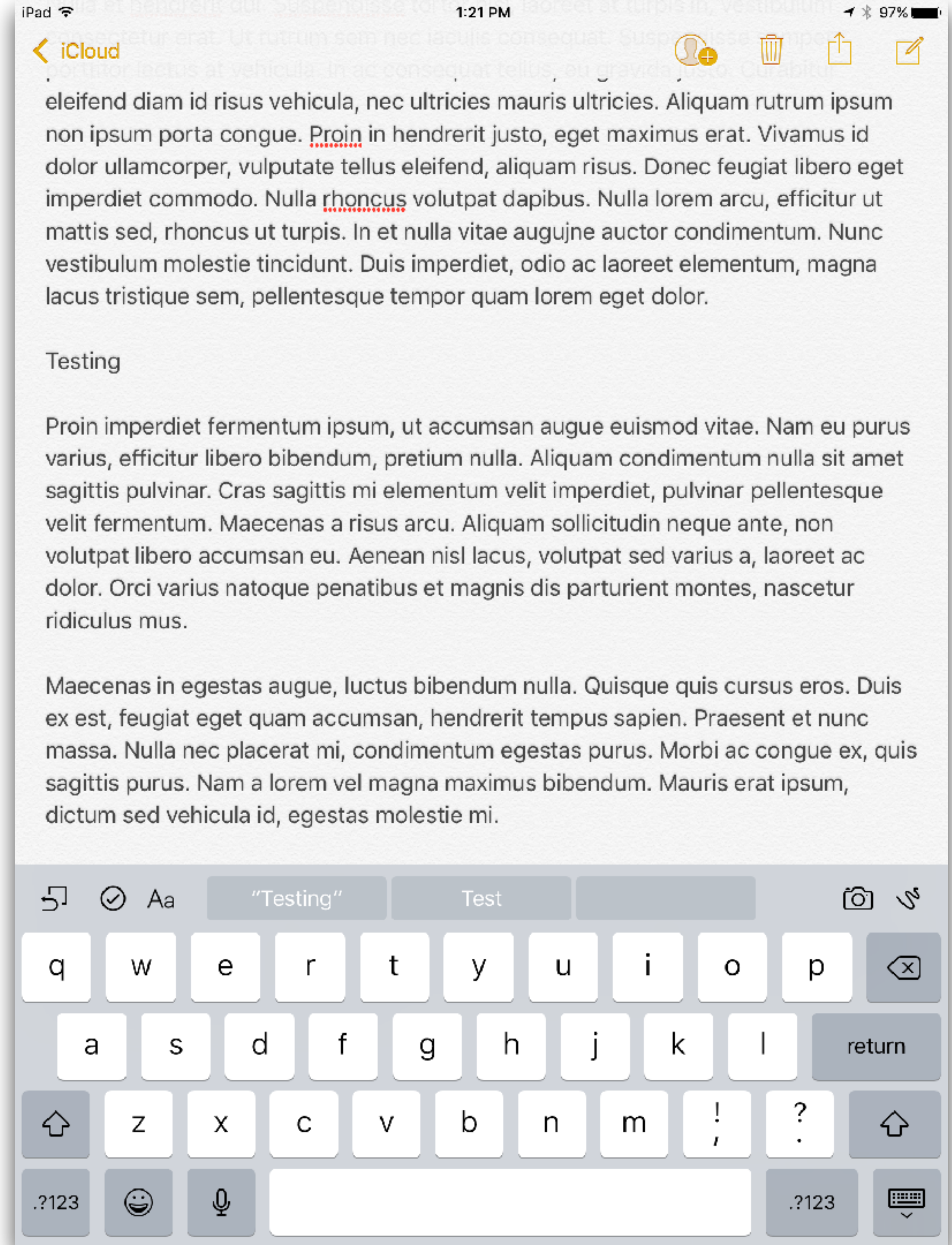
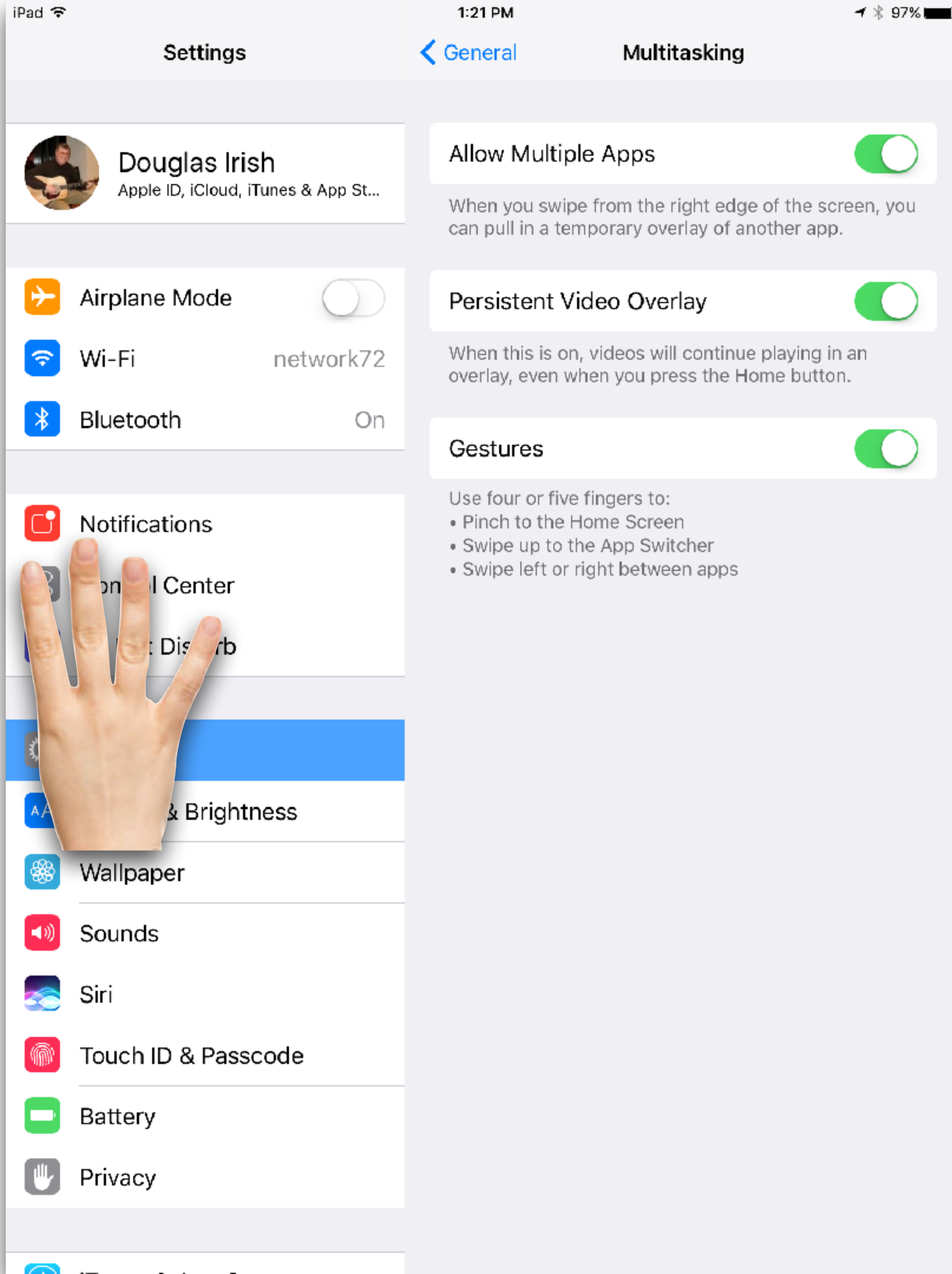
- Here's a tip on a couple of useful gestures to navigate between apps on your iPad (not iPhone)
- Note: These work with either four or five fingers
- The first gesture works when you are within any app
- You can move back and forth between apps using a four or five finger swipe left or right across the screen
- This is extremely useful if you are working in two apps at once like copying and pasting between two apps

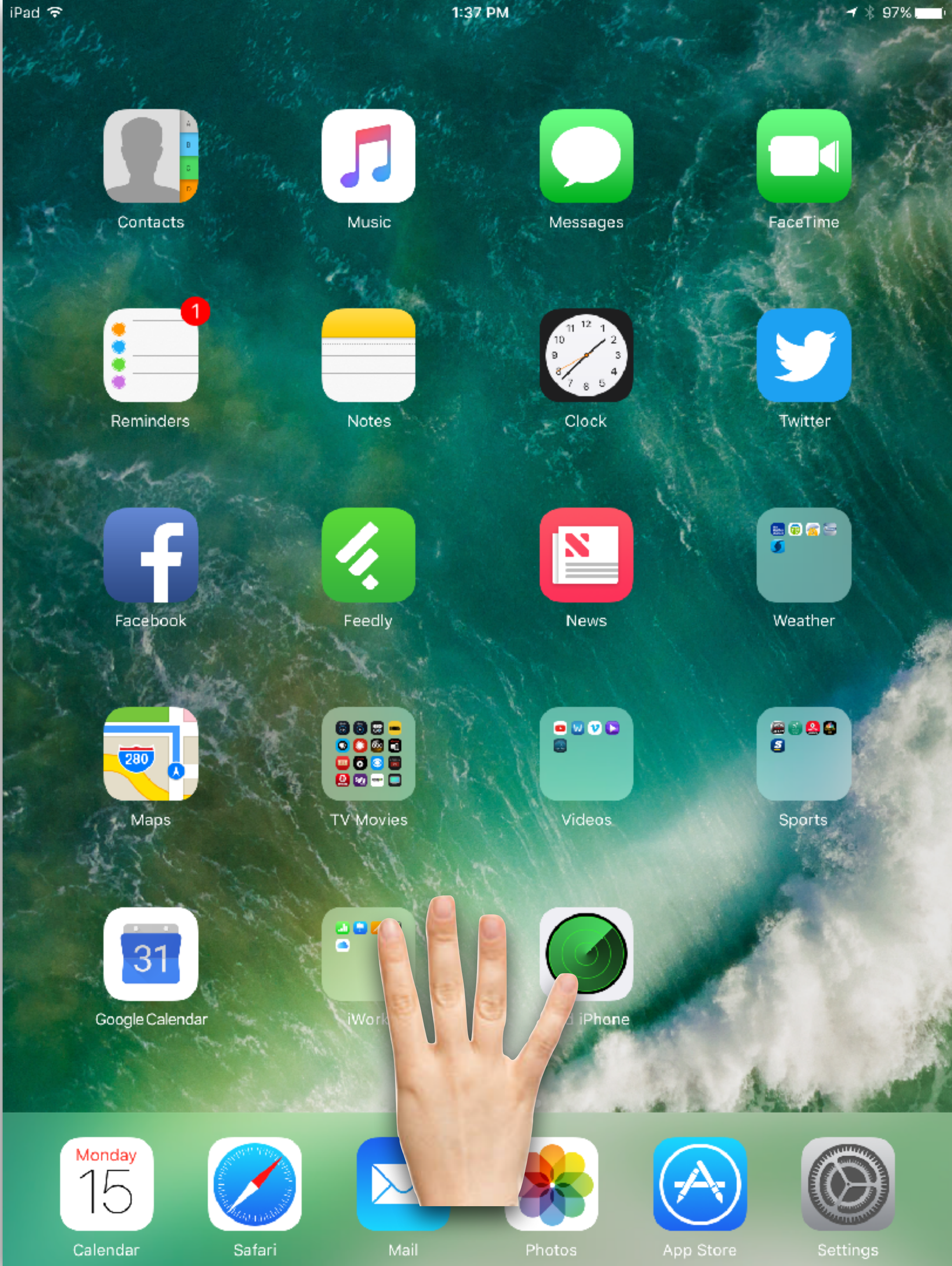
Navigational Gestures - iPad



- The next gesture can only be performed from the Home Screen or from inside of a Folder
- A four or five finger swipe upward on the screen opens the app switcher similar to Control Tab on a Mac
- You can also open the app switcher with a double tap on the home screen (This works on the iPhone as well)
- These gestures are controlled from the Settings app, under the General-Multitasking menu and are enabled by default







Some Apps of Interest

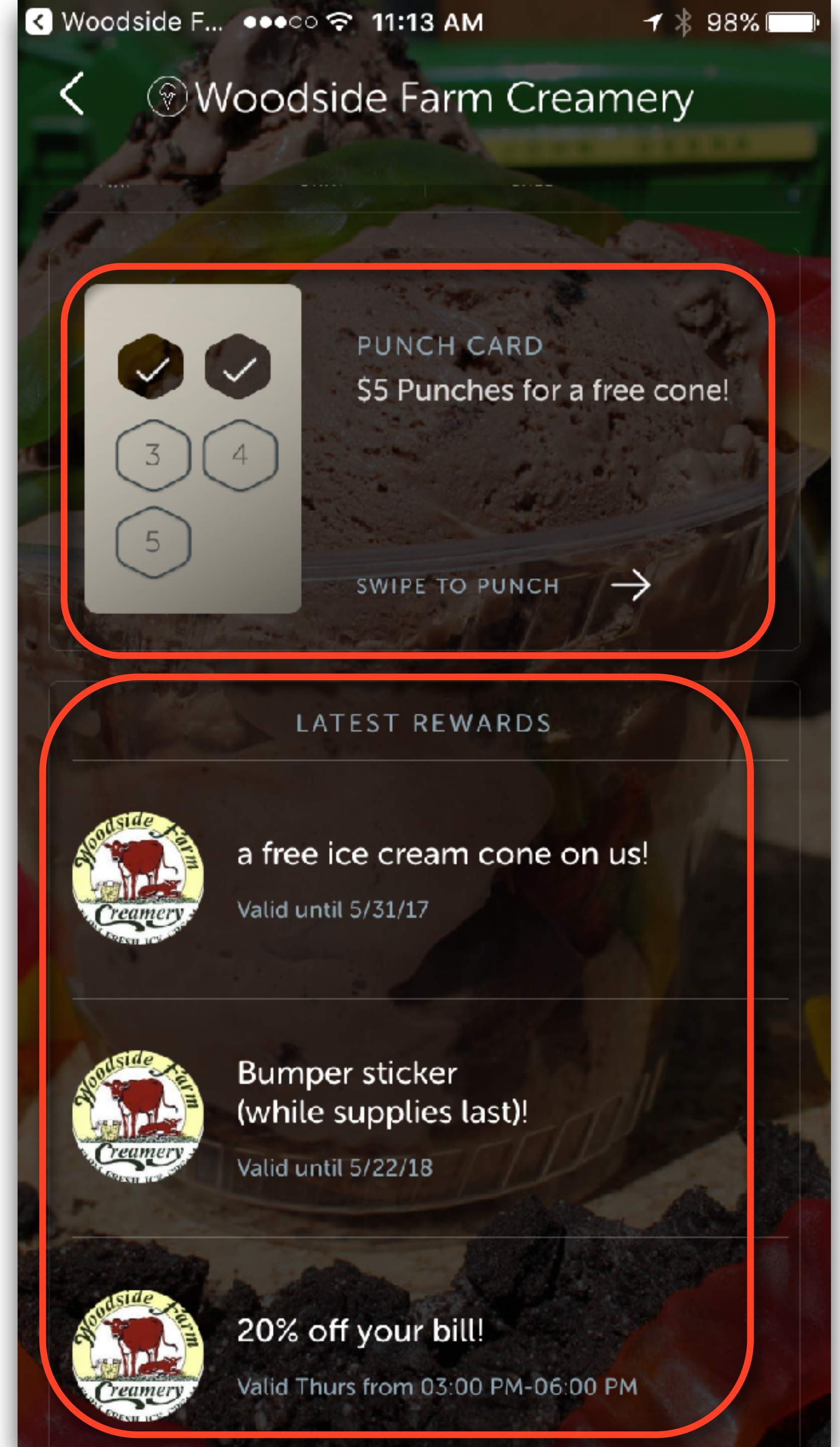
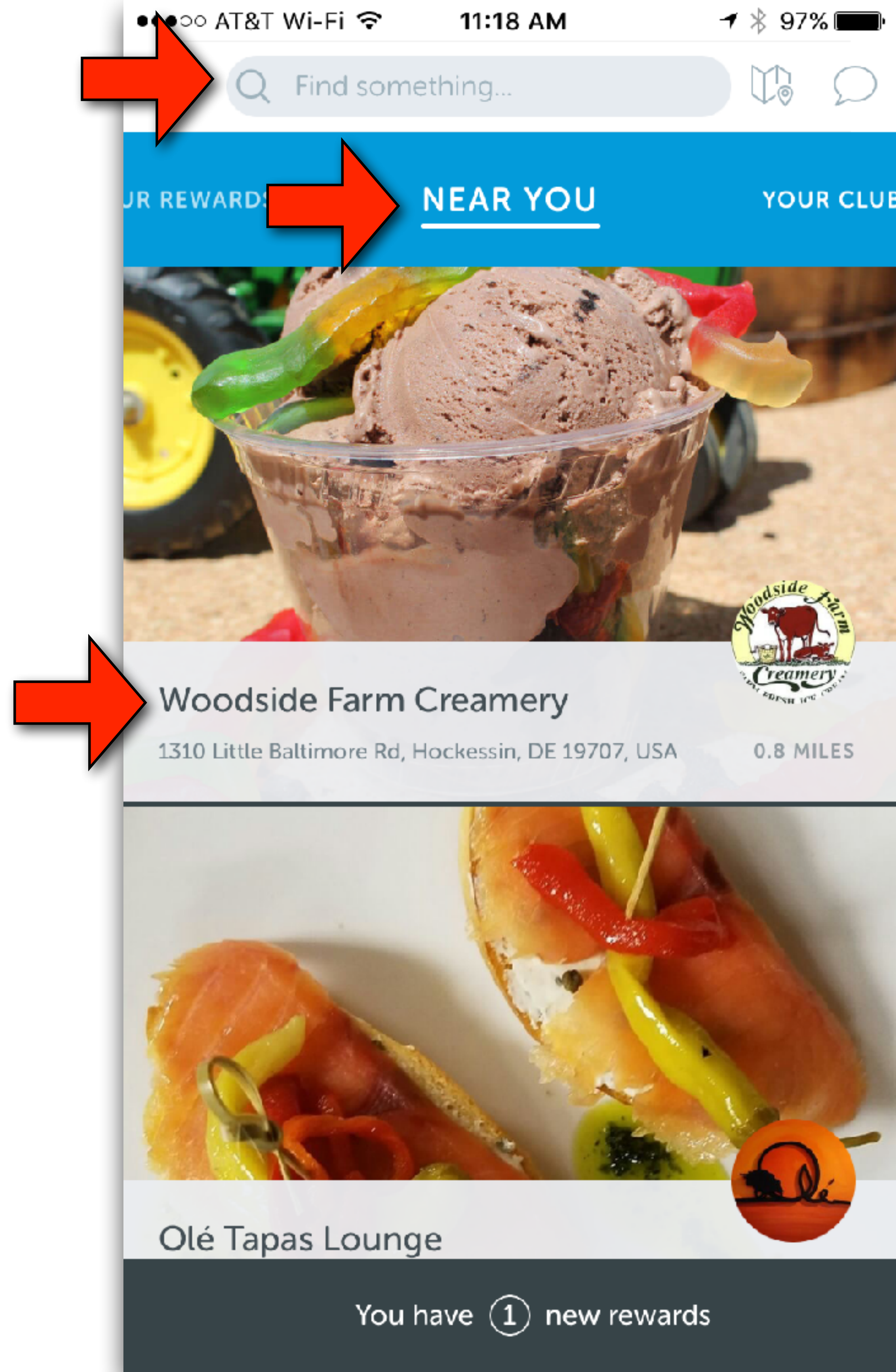




Floc App



- I'm a big fan of Woodside Creamery ice cream
- They have a loyalty program thru the Floc app
- Download the Floc app, then search for Woodside Creamery
- Anytime you spend \$5, you get a punch. 5 punches gets you a free cone
- They also have other rewards like a free cone on your birthday month and 20% off on Thursdays from 3-6 pm.

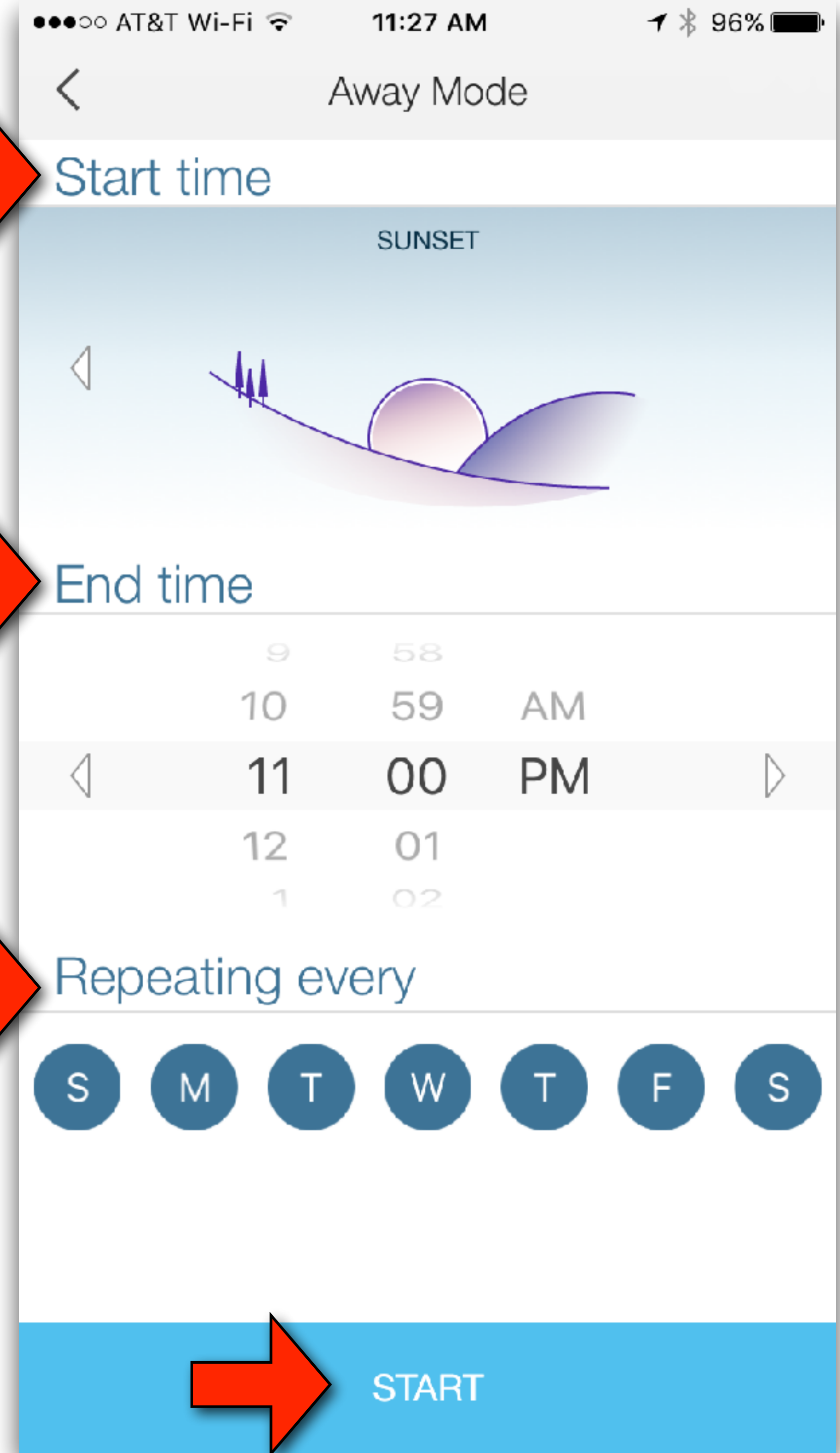
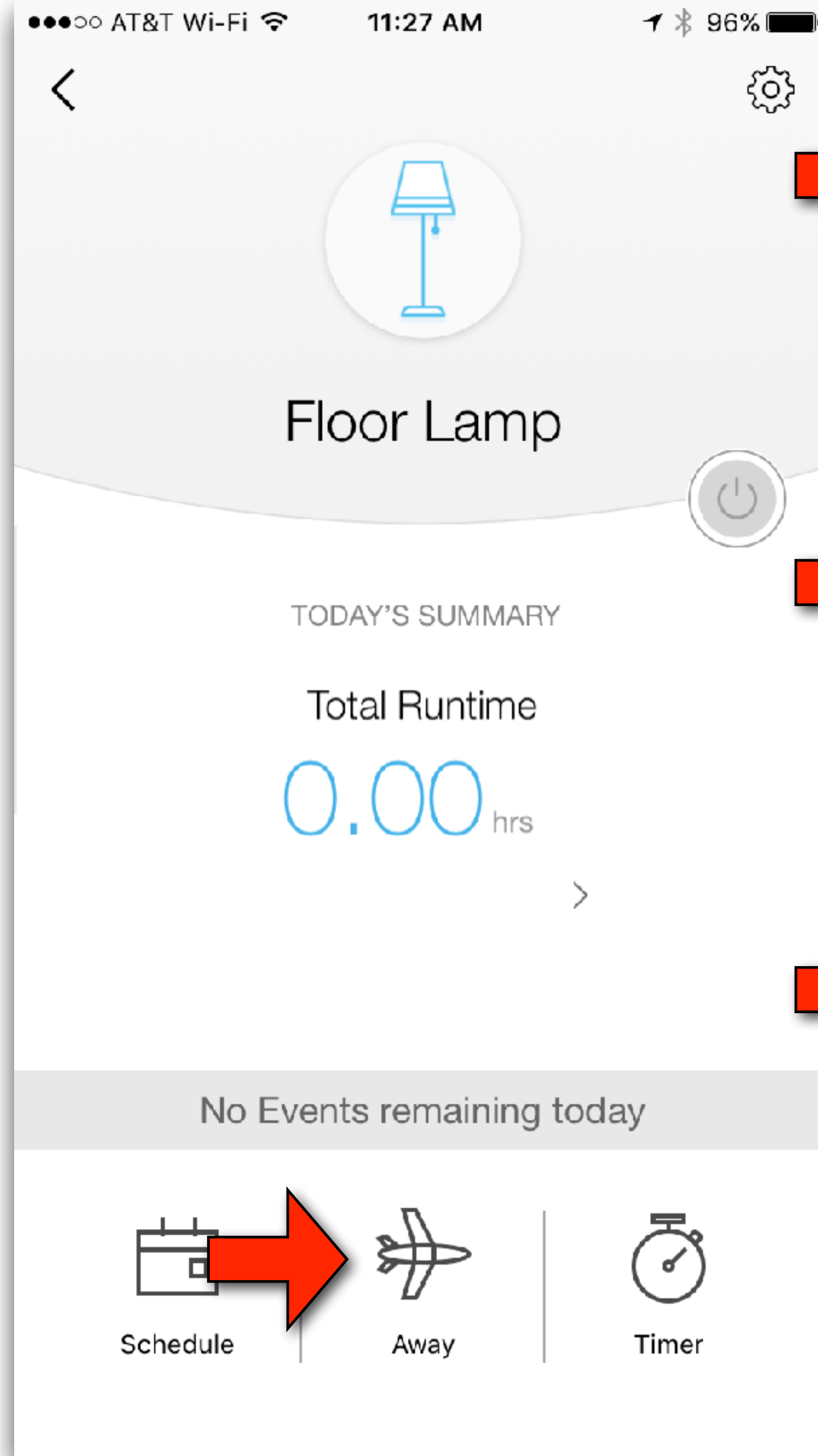
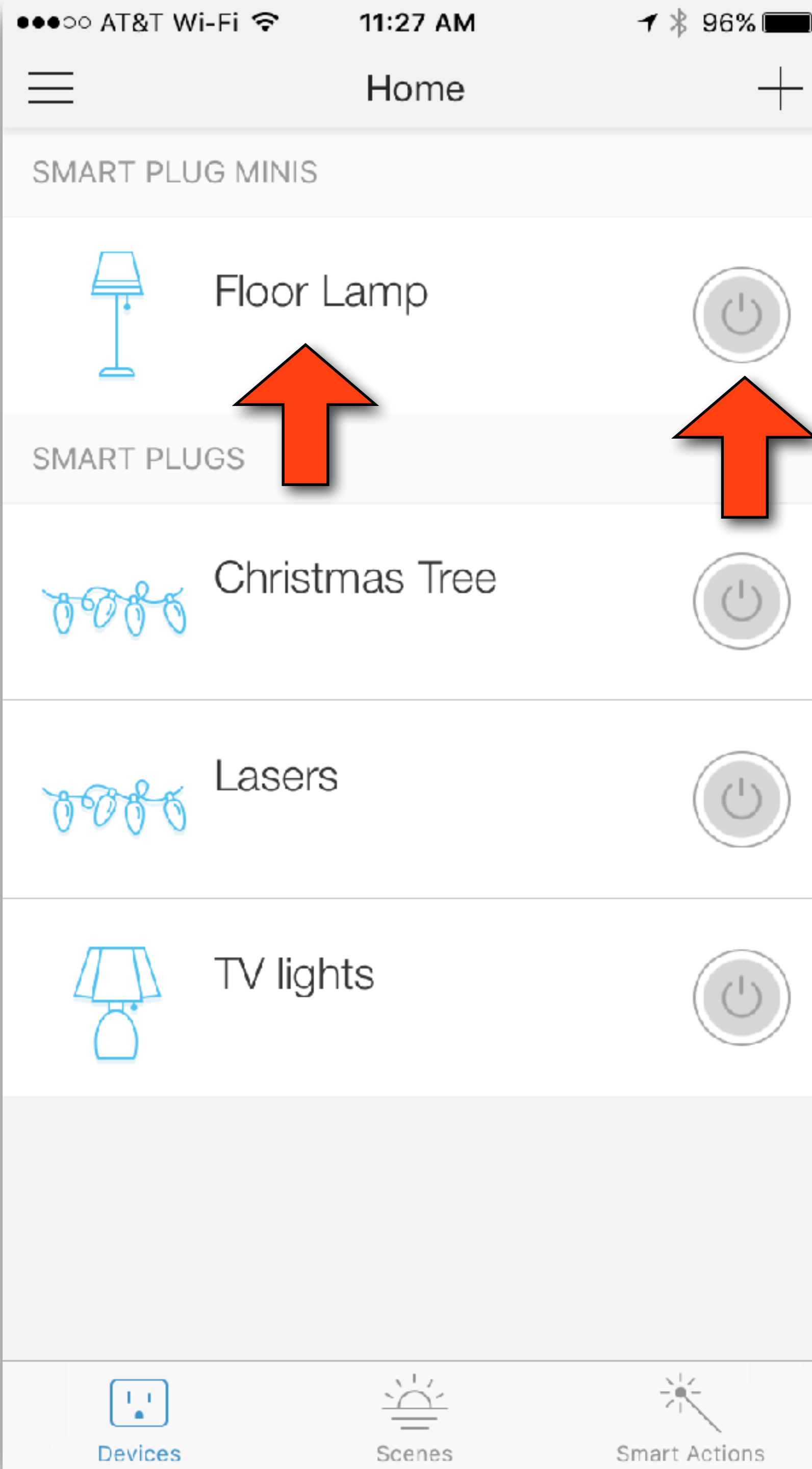


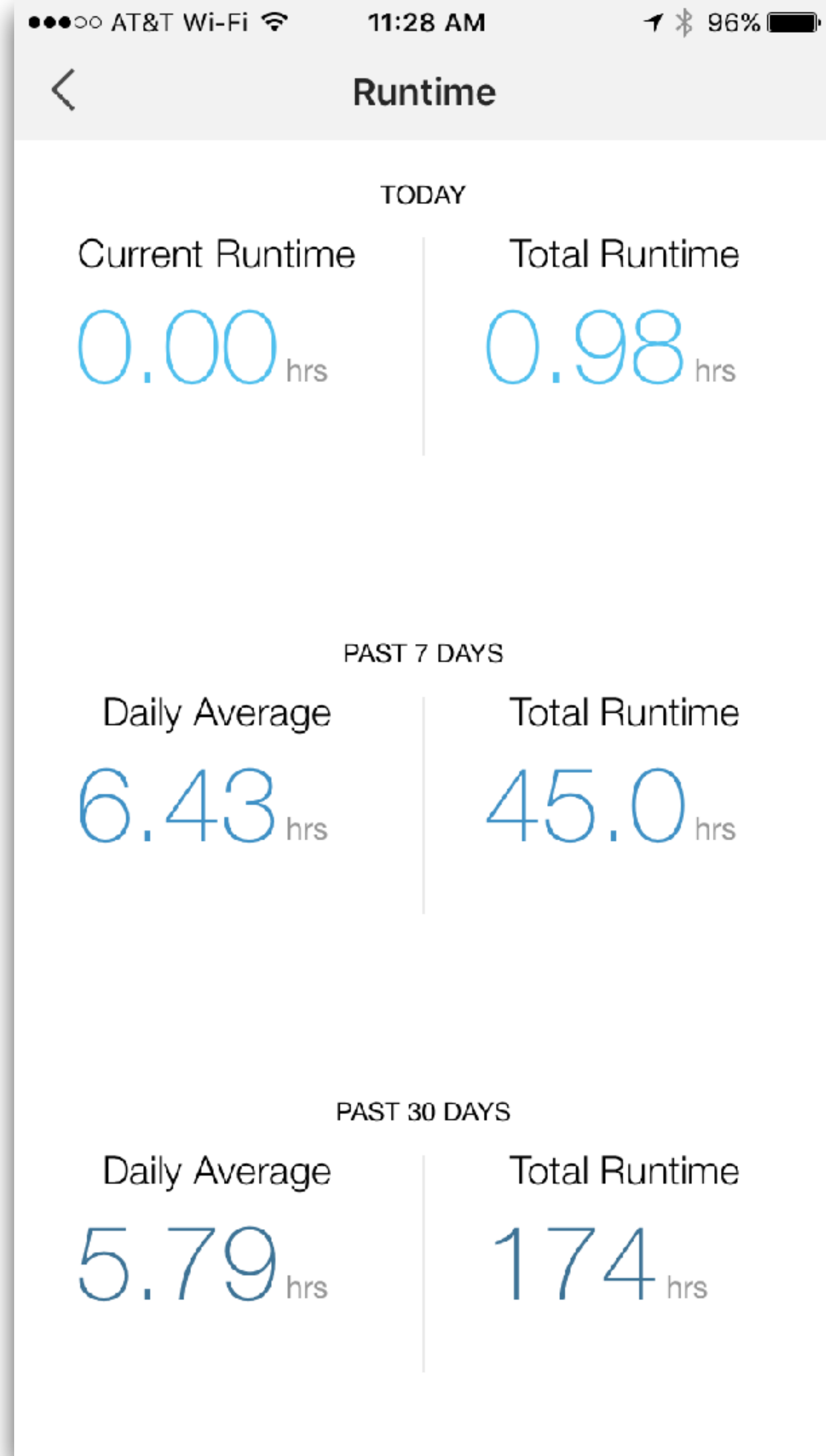
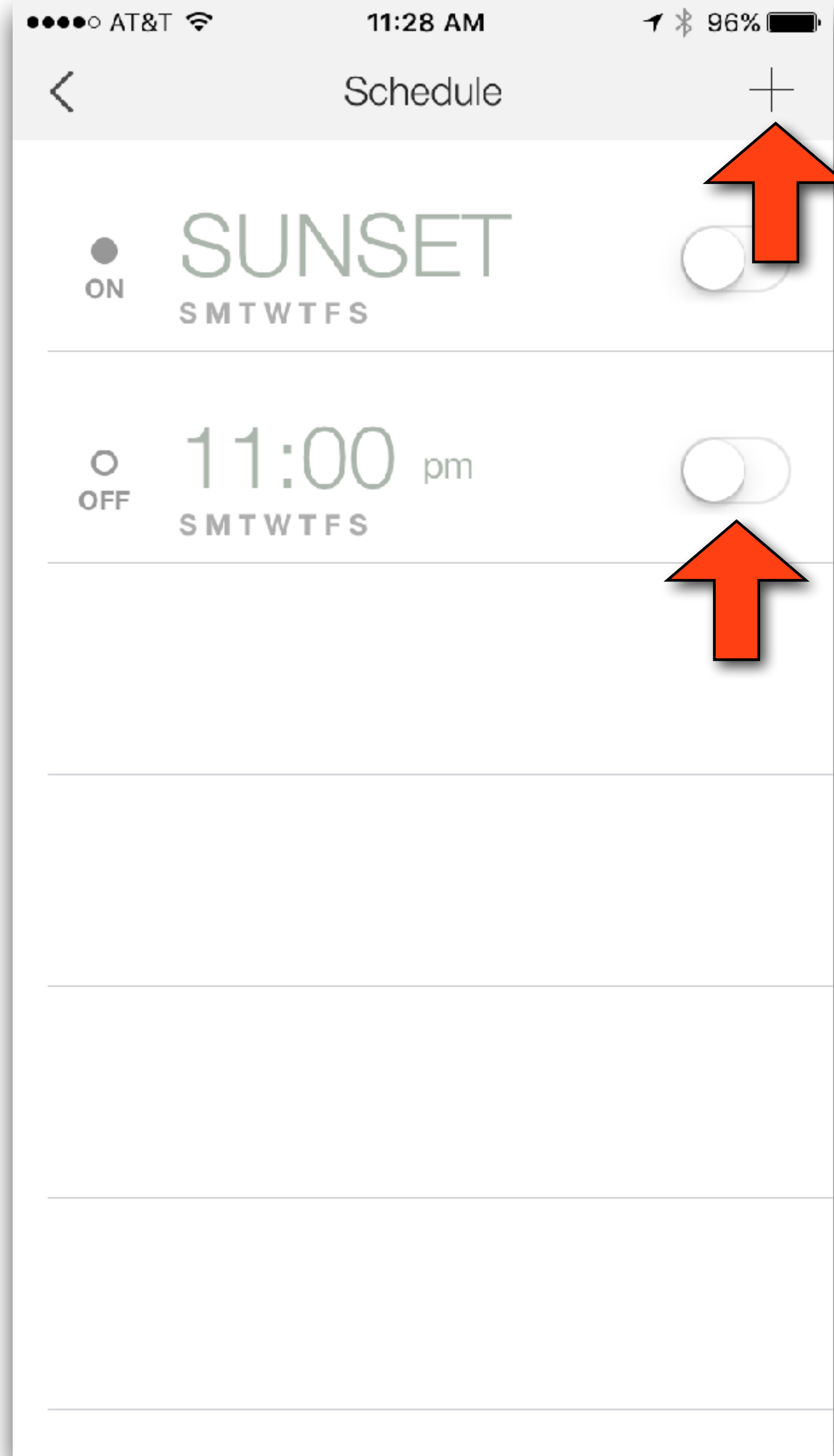
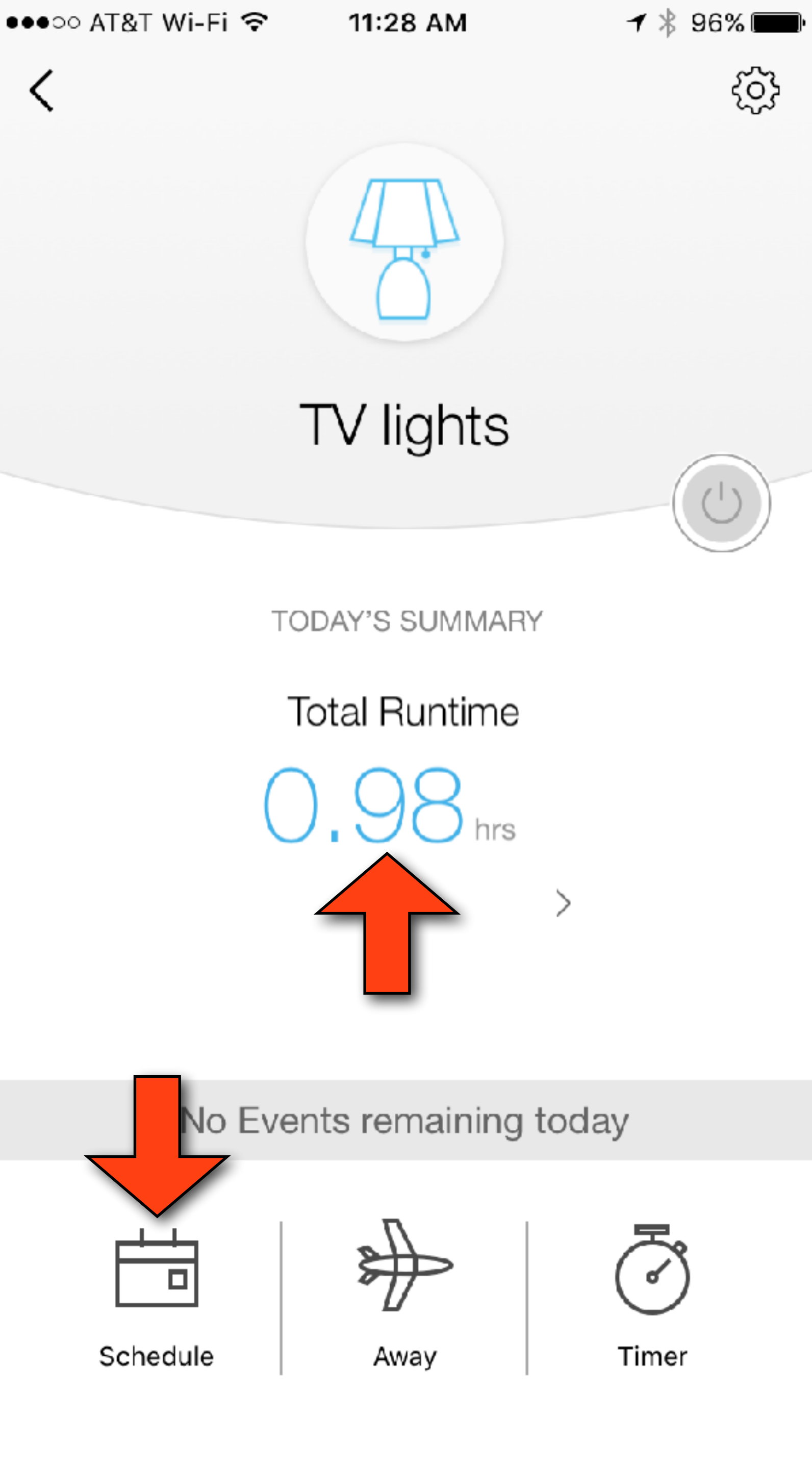


Kasa App



- The Kasa app is the app that is used to control TP-Link home automation devices such as smart plugs and smart lightbulbs
- I have 4 of these devices which I control primarily with my Echo devices
- However, you can also control them from the Kasa app which also allows you to do some other features not available thru Echo such as:
 - Schedule the lights to turn on and off at times you specify
 - Away Mode: This turns lights off and on randomly between times you specify to make it look like someone is in the house





New Echo Announcements



Echo Look



Echo Show

Echo Announcements



- These two new Echo hardware devices that support the Alexa assistant
- They also announced a new feature called “Alexa calling” that is available on existing Echos and Echo Dots
- Echo/Alexa has been extremely successful and the competition is starting to heat up
 - Google has the Google Home
 - Harmon Kardon has announced a new device called “Invoke” for Microsoft’s Cortona that mimics the original Echo
 - Apple is rumored to announce a Siri device in June

Echo Look



- Does everything an Echo does and in addition you can use your voice to take full-length photos and short videos with a hands-free camera
- It's basically an Echo with a camera to take selfies
- The camera includes built-in LED lighting, a depth-sensing camera, and computer vision-based background blur
- Amazon is positioning this device as a fashion aide to help you pick wardrobes and share with friends and has a dedicated app to facilitate this

Echo Look



- The price will be \$199
- It is currently available on an invitation-only basis. Go to Amazon and request an invitation if interested
- Availability dates have not been announced
- When I first heard this, I checked carefully to make sure it wasn't a parody product put out by Saturday Night Live
- I personally don't see any value of this device (for me)
- But here's Amazon's introductory video. Judge for yourself



Echo Show



- The day after they announced the Echo Look, they announced another product called the Echo Show
- This device also does everything the original Echo does, but it includes a 7” touch screen
- This device is far more interesting to me than the Look and could be a step up from the original Echo
- BTW, Apple’s new device is also rumored to include a touch screen

Echo Show Capabilities



- Make hands-free video calls to others who have an Echo Show or the Alexa App or voice calls to anyone who has an Echo or Echo Dot
- Watch YouTube, Amazon videos and movie trailers
- View photos, weather forecasts, to-do and shopping lists on screen
- View song lyrics on-screen with Amazon Music
- You could view the front door or monitor a baby's room with compatible cameras

Echo Show



- It is 7.4" x 7.4" x 3.5" (187 mm x 187 mm x 90 mm) and weighs 41.0 oz
- It has eight microphones one more than the Echo or Echo Dot
- It has the same beam-forming technology, and noise cancellation as the original Echo and Echo Dot
- It has dual 2 inch stereo speakers with Dolby processing
- It will cost \$229 and be available for release on June 28th. You can pre-order it now on Amazon
- Here's Amazon's introductory video for the Echo Show

Alexa Calling



- Amazon also announced a new feature for existing Echos and Echo Dots called Amazon calling
- You have to have the latest Alexa App and grant Alexa access to your contacts
- Then just ask Alexa to place a call to someone with an Echo or Echo Dot (doesn't currently support the Echo Tap)
- Alexa will let you know when someone is calling, and a green light ring will appear on your device
- You can ask Alexa to answer or ignore the call

Echo Calling

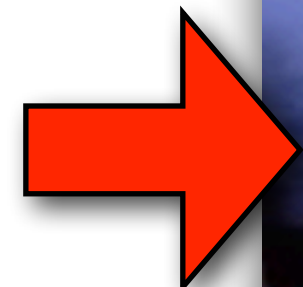


- In addition to calling, you can also use Alexa to send and receive messages
- Just ask to send a message, then tell Alexa what you'd like to say and she'll send it
- When you get a message, you'll hear a chime and a green light ring will appear on your device - "Alexa, play my messages"
- You'll also be notified and can view or hear messages in the Alexa App on your iPhone
- Amazon Echo is so famous now, it got its own 'Saturday Night Live' skit

Apple Distribution List



- I have a distribution list I use to send out meeting notices, links to presentations, and occasionally notices that I think are important to the Apple community
- Probably 2-4 emails/month
- To get on or off my distribution list, send a message to irishdf@me.com
- Note: When I get failures several times for an individual, I remove the name from my list, so if you suddenly stop getting my emails and want to get back on, send me a note



NSC Apple User Group

🔒 Closed Group

Joined ▾

➦ Share

✓ Notifications



Discussion

Members

Events

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Doug Irish

Just now · Newark

Apple has announced a presentation on October 27th that appears to be about new Macs. Therefore it's probably a very bad time to buy a new Mac before the 27th.



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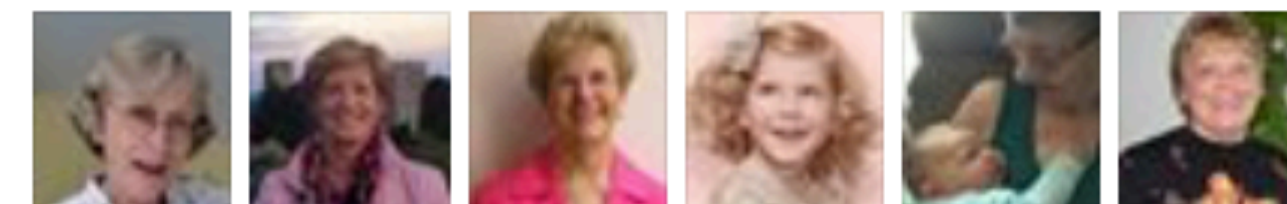


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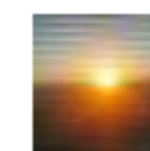
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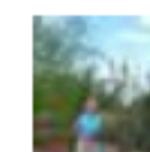
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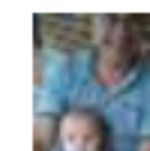
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Newark Senior Center - Apple User Group



Questions

Thank You!



*Presentation produced on an iMAC using
Apple's Keynote software