iOS 7 Guide
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Introduction to iOS 7

2013 saw the announcement of the biggest change to the iPhone, iPod, iPad and iPad mini range. The change isn’t with the devices themselves but with the operating system that runs on them.

The update, called iOS 7, is the biggest change to the operating system since the original iPhone was released 6 years ago. It is completely different from any of the versions that have come before. Gone are the 3D and real world backgrounds - such as the notes app looking like a notepad and the calendar that looks like a moleskin book.

Icons are much flatter and the fonts are very thin and clean. The keyboard is more white than grey and has a translucent effect that lets you see what’s underneath. Apps now mainly have a white background except for stocks which is black, and the weather which has a stylish background.

So if you want to know in more detail how the new update looks, and the new features you get, then you have come to the right place.

iOS 7 is due for release in Autumn 2013.
Who gets iOS 7?

Not everyone will be able to run iOS 7 on their current Apple devices. Here is a list of devices that iOS 7 is compatible with:

**iPhones**
- iPhone 4
- iPhone 4S
- iPhone 5

**iPod**
- iPod touch 16GB
- iPod touch 32GB/64GB

**iPad**
- iPad 2
- iPad with retina display
Want iOS 7 right now on your iPad?

If you want to see iOS 7 before the official release you can. For a price.

The iOS 7 beta is available now for registered Apple developers and will soon be available to average users who register their iPad as part of a developer program.

The iOS 7 beta is meant for registered Apple developers and there is no way to use this beta without registering the iPad or iPad mini with a developer account. Users who wish to avoid the $99 iOS Developer fee can register their device with a third-party for about $8.

The official iOS 7 release date is set for the autumn, and will likely arrive a few days ahead of an iPhone 5S / 6 release.

The official way to get the iOS 7 beta is to join the Apple Developer program for $99 a year. This allows you to register 100 devices to try the iOS 7 beta and to test apps. This is designed for developers, but Apple does not kick you out if you don’t create an app. Even users that go this route should be sure they can live with a buggy iPad as the iOS 7 beta is not finished software.

For users that don’t want to pay $99 to join the Apple Developer program there are many third party services like IMZDL, which will register a iPad to be a part of the iOS 7 beta for $8. The registration lasts one year and is almost instantaneous. This is not directly through Apple, so there is always a chance the service might get shut down, but this is one of the most popular services.

Users will need to enter their iPad UDID to join the iOS 7 beta. This is unique to an individual iPad or iPhone. Users who registered an iPhone as part of the iOS 7 beta will need to register the iPad separately. The easiest way to do this is to download UDID Sender and email the iPad or iPad mini UDID to yourself.

Now you know that you can get iOS 7, I’m going to tell you why you shouldn’t be tempted to install it yet.
Reasons not to install the iPad iOS 7 beta

The iPad iOS 7 beta offers early access to cool new iOS 7 features, but it is not for everyone. Not all apps will work on the iOS 7 beta and there is an expiration date for the software, so users that travel away from an internet connection or without their notebook could be left without a working iPad for some time.

Only users who can manage to use an iPad or iPad mini that doesn’t work 100% of the time should even consider installing the iPad iOS 7 beta. Users should refrain from leaving any App Store reviews while using the beta, as issues are to be expected, and are not the app developer’s fault.

Here are 5 good reasons not to install the iOS 7 beta:

1. Bugs
2. Apps aren’t guaranteed to work
3. Non-functioning device
4. You can’t downgrade to iOS 6
5. It isn’t the full version of iOS 7
iOS 7 design

A quick look at how Apple have changed each of their apps in iOS 7.
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iOS Features

Control Centre

Control Centre gives you quick access to the controls and apps you always seem to need right this second. Just swipe up from any screen — including the Lock screen — to do things like switch to Airplane mode, turn Wi-Fi on or off, or adjust the brightness of your display. You can even shine a light on things with a new torch. Never has one swipe given you so much control.
Notification Centre

Notification Centre lets you know about new mail, missed calls, to-dos that need doing and more. And a new feature called Today gives you a convenient summary of, well, today. One glance at your iPhone and you’ll know if it’s a certain someone’s birthday, if you’ll need an umbrella or if traffic will slow down your commute. You’ll even get a heads-up on tomorrow. You can access Notification Centre from any screen, including the Lock screen. Just swipe down. And get up to speed.
Multitasking

Multitasking has always been a smart way to switch between apps. Now it’s even smarter. Because iOS 7 learns when you like to use your apps and can update your content before you launch them. So if you tend to check your favorite social app at 9:00 am every day, your feed will be ready and waiting for you. That’s multitasking in iOS 7. It knows what you want to do before you do.

A smarter way to multitask.

Press the Home button twice to see preview screens of the apps you have open. To quit an app, just swipe it up and out of preview.

Intelligently scheduled updates.

iOS schedules updates during power-efficient times. Like when your device is on and connected to Wi-Fi. So your battery isn’t drained unnecessarily.
Camera

Camera in iOS 7 puts all your shooting formats — still, video, panorama, and now square — front and centre. With a swipe, you can capture what you want the way you want. Fast. And new filters let you do even more with each image. Give it a retro feel. Dial up the contrast. Or go black and white. Artistic license is all yours.

Filters.

You can apply filters to still and square photos. Pick a filter and see the effect before you take the picture. Or just take the shot and apply it later. If you ever change your mind and decide no filter is the best filter, you can simply remove it.
Photos

Now there are faster, easier and more delightful ways to scroll down memory lane. Introducing Collections, Moments and Years — smart groupings of your photos and videos based on time and place. Tap Years and all your shots fill the screen. Each year holds Collections, like your trip to California. And in that Collection are distinct Moments — photos of Hollywood Boulevard, videos of San Francisco Bay. So you can find a shot from whenever, wherever, in no time.

Inside a Collection.

Tap a Collection, like “Hawaii”, and see photos from your trip organised into Moments according to date and location.

A year - or years - in review.

Tap the Year view and prepare to be amazed. Every photo and video you’ve ever taken appears onscreen, almost like artwork.
Airdrop

Sending a photo or a document to someone via text or email is fine. But if that someone is right next to you, a text or an email suddenly feels like too many steps. Enter AirDrop for iOS. It lets you quickly and easily share photos, videos, contacts — and anything else from any app with a Share button. Just tap Share, then select the person you want to share with. AirDrop does the rest using Wi-Fi and Bluetooth. No setup required. And transfers are encrypted, so what you share is highly secure.

Share one to one. Or one to many.

With AirDrop, you can share, say, a photo or a video with a specific person or multiple people. Just tap the Share icon, select who you want to share with and let AirDrop do its thing.

Make yourself available. Or not.

You’re automatically visible in AirDrop to your contacts running iOS 7. But you can also make yourself visible to anyone nearby using iOS 7 or to no one at all. One tap in Control Centre is all it takes.

File received.

Recipients can choose to save whatever you send. When they do, the content is saved where it should be — a photo in Photos, a pass in Passbook, a contact in Contacts and so on.
Safari

Browsing is bigger, better and more beautiful with Safari in iOS 7. Buttons and bars — like the unified smart search field — stay hidden until you scroll to reveal them. So you see more content than ever on your screen. And with a swipe, you can go back or forward a page. It’s all designed so nothing gets in your way or slows you down.

Unified smart search field.

Type a URL or search term in the unified smart search field, and Safari automatically suggests the closest match to what you’re looking for. So you find the right web page fast.

New tab view.

See your open web pages in a consolidated view that lets you scroll effortlessly from tab to tab. To close a page, just swipe it offscreen.

Shared Links.

See all the URLs in your Twitter timeline, who posted them and what they had to say about them.

Reading List.

Reading through the articles in your Reading List is quick and easy. Simply scroll seamlessly from one to the next.
Secure Passwords.

Lots of things you do on the web require passwords. Now iCloud can remember your account names, passwords and credit card numbers for you. And Safari will enter them automatically whenever you need to sign in to a site or shop online. It works on all your approved iOS 7 devices and Mac computers running OS X Mavericks. And with 256-bit AES encryption, it's highly secure.

Password Generator.

Every time you create an account, you can have Safari generate a unique, hard-to-guess password. And remember it for you.
Siri

Siri in iOS 7 gets a new look and new capabilities. It features a redesigned interface that fades into view — on top of whatever’s on your screen. It’s faster at answering questions and checks more sources, such as Bing, Wikipedia and Twitter. And Siri takes on extra tasks, like returning calls, playing voicemail, adjusting screen brightness and more.

Siri knows you’re talking.

Now when you ask Siri something, audio waves move across your screen, letting you know Siri is listening and processing your request.


If you have questions, Siri has answers. And you’ll see them right on the screen. Even web search results from Bing. So you won’t be pulled out of Siri and into Safari just to see the same list.
Siri searches Wikipedia.  

Siri now references Wikipedia to answer your questions.

Siri searches Twitter too.  

Want to know what people are tweeting about a certain topic? Just ask.
Apps store

Apps Near Me — a new feature of the App Store in iOS 7 — shows you a collection of popular apps relevant to your current location. And a new Kids category spotlights the best apps for children based on age. iOS 7 also keeps your apps up to date automatically, so you don’t have to bother. Another bonus of automatic updates: no more little red badge begging for your attention.

What’s popular near me?

Wherever you find yourself — the Louvre, for instance — tap Near Me and you’ll see a list of apps you might find useful.

Browse the best apps for kids.

Now parents and teachers can quickly find apps that are perfect for children. Just visit the new Kids category for a curated selection of age-appropriate apps.
Find my iPhone

Losing your iPhone feels lousy. Thankfully, Find My iPhone can help you get it back. But if it looks like that's not going to happen, new security features in iOS 7 make it harder for anyone who's not you to use or sell your device. Now turning off Find My iPhone or erasing your device requires your Apple ID and password. Find My iPhone can also continue to display a custom message, even after your device is erased. And your Apple ID and password are required before anyone can reactivate it. Which means your iPhone is still your iPhone. No matter where it is.

Lock screen message.

Even after a remote erase, Find My iPhone can continue to display a message with your phone number on the Lock screen.

Your iPhone made it home.

If you get your iPhone back after you've already erased it, just enter your Apple ID and password to reactivate it.