

Here comes the Apple iOS 11 update



Are you ready to download iOS 11 and get a fresh look, a smarter version of Siri, and some new Live Photos tricks? Well, the new operating system is available for download from today.

Friday officially marks the start of fall, that time of year when you start seeing pumpkin spice lattes and new iPhones. And for iPhone users who don't plan on buying a new smartphone anytime soon, it's time to update your iOS. With the iPhone 8 and 8 Plus set to go on sale Friday, Apple is rolling out iOS 11, which includes a handful of new features, both fun and practical, along with a fresh look. And if you have an iPad, you can update that, too. Here's a quick guide to a flawless update.

First things first, updates don't always go perfectly, though chances are everything will be fine. Still, if something does go wrong, you'll want to restore your phone's data with a backup copy. You can back your phone up either to the cloud or to your computer's hard drive through iTunes. Once the phone is backed up, tap the Settings icon, and after it opens up select General. From there, Software Update is the second item from the top.

You'll probably see a notification that an update is ready. If not, select Software Update anyway and your phone will search for the update. Then just download and install it. This could take several minutes. Make sure your battery is close to fully charged before you start, or plug your phone in. Upgrading takes a lot of juice. You'll also need about 2GB of free storage to run the update, so start deleting stuff now if you need to.

According to Apple, iOS 11 is compatible with every iPhone dating back to the 5s. But smartphones have advanced quite a bit in the four years since that phone debuted. If you have an iPhone 5s, it won't freeze up once you download the new operating system. However, it may not have the horsepower to run every advanced feature that requires a lot of processing power. So that was that for the update, it's just a usual update, you don't need to be a techie geek for this. So ready to dig in?

The first thing you'll probably notice after the update completes and your phone restarts is the redesigned Control Centre. You can customize it to include only the controls you want or need. Camera updates include new filters, such as Vivid, which makes colours pop, and some new tricks for Live Photo, which was introduced with iOS 9 in 2015. And Siri has been updated to sound more human and, according to Apple, to be more intelligent. The information the digital assistant collects about you will be used to autofill your iMessages with what it thinks you're going to say, according to the company.

One of the most useful and long-awaited features of iOS 11 was supposed to be person-to-person payments through iMessage, as many people already use third-party apps such as Venmo. But this feature isn't ready quite yet. On its website, Apple says to expect it sometime this fall. And, yes, there are more stickers and emojis, too. Finally, Apple has launched a new design of the app store with iOS 11. It has a more curated feel than before, with separate sections for what's new in the store, as well as Apple's

recommended apps and games. Go ahead, enjoy the new OS.