

iPhone ^{+ iPad & iPod touch} Life

Best Apps • Top Tips • Great Gear

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Inside the iPad 2

and...

5 Steps for
Getting
Started

Top 10 apps



25 practical apps for
Voice Recognition

iPhone 5 What's next?

PLUS

RACECAR DRIVING / GAMING / SHOOTING VIDEO
EARTHQUAKE SURVIVING / APP CREATING
BACKPACKING / NOTETAKING / MINDMAPPING



lunch and there is a super timer app, **Giant Timer** (free, app2.me/3745) that lets me know when I have had my 20 minutes.

I read quite a lot and I use the local library heavily. Most libraries, including mine, have apps for reserving and renewing books online. The reference apps above are very handy when I come across a new word. There are plenty of apps for purchasing e-books and magazine subscriptions, and they have abundant selections. I used an excellent magazine app, **Zinio** (free, app2.me/2402), when I was on a four-hour flight last week, and this is how I enjoy my *iPhone Life* magazine every month.

In the Evening:

At dinner time the iPad is at home in the kitchen. I don't cook much, but there are plenty of websites that are anxious to help, and there are hundreds of recipe apps.

There are also free special event apps that are superb. They are designed for short-term use around a specific event such as the Academy Awards or a golf tournament. Because they are built for a specific purpose, they give the users everything they need to enjoy the event and often include live, streaming video. You can delete them once the event is over.

I don't download many videos or movies, but I do like to watch one or two hours of TV in the evenings. There is a TV guide app, **What's On** (free, app2.me/3746), that is much more comprehensive and easier to use than anything on the television or in the newspaper. It is easily set for your location and cable provider. It gets two thumbs up from me.



For watching TV, **What's On** is very comprehensive and easy to use.

While I'm watching TV, I often see an actor that I recognize from another show or movie. The Internet Movie Database app, **IMDb** (free, app2.me/2701), is very helpful for identifying characters. I am also not a computer gamer, but all of my grandchildren have loaded up their favorites on my iPad. For the occasional diversion, I like **Sudoku** (free, app2.me/2485), **Word Warp** (free, app2.me/3747) and **Paper Toss** (free, app2.me/2751).

One more app I should mention is Apple's word processing app, **Pages** (\$9.99, app2.me/2412). I wrote this article with it on my iPad. So there it is. I use 20 to 25 apps in a typical day that suit my lifestyle. With over 400,000 apps in the App Store, chances are good that you'll find apps to suit your lifestyle as well.

I hope that you are enjoying your iPad as much as I am. ☺



Paul is a retired senior living in Ottawa, Canada. He has been computer literate since 1967 when he was programming Honeywell computers in assembler language via punch cards. He has taught information technology at the postgraduate level. For much of his career, he was a marketer at a large software company. Paul has created a series of apps aimed at seniors or any inexperienced users. You can see them on his website (thesimplesuite.com). In addition, he has designed and built a simple-to-use scheduling app for home or office use (skedoolee.com).



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Restaurant owner uses iPod touch to get customer feedback and improve his business

Mike Muckler

What do you do? I'm a BRIXX Pizza franchisee.

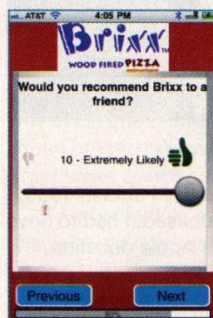
Which device do you use? 2 iPod touches in the restaurant.

How long have you had them? 3 months.

How do you use your devices? We use them with an app called **Survey on the Spot** (free, app2.me/3737) to collect guest satisfaction feedback at the restaurant. We also use the iPod touch as a sweepstakes incentive for guests that take our surveys.

What apps do you use the most? Survey on the Spot

How does the iPod touch help you? The iPod touch running the app makes it fun and easy for guests to provide feedback on their experience at the restaurant. The system operates in real-time, so if there is a service issue, we know immediately via e-mail or text alerts. It has also been great as a tool to help us build our e-mail mar-



keting list. The best part is that we don't have to do any data entry or tabulation. It all happens automatically.

Did the iPod touch require any special modifications to use it in the restaurant? It had to be permanently mounted on a small cutting board to make it easier for guests to handle and a little harder to steal. We also turn off all of the other tools on the iPod so guests don't use it to connect to the Internet. The app is set to auto start so that it returns to the first survey question automatically upon completion of a survey.

What would you do if you didn't have it? Hand out paper comment cards or ask guests to take a survey at home on the Internet.