

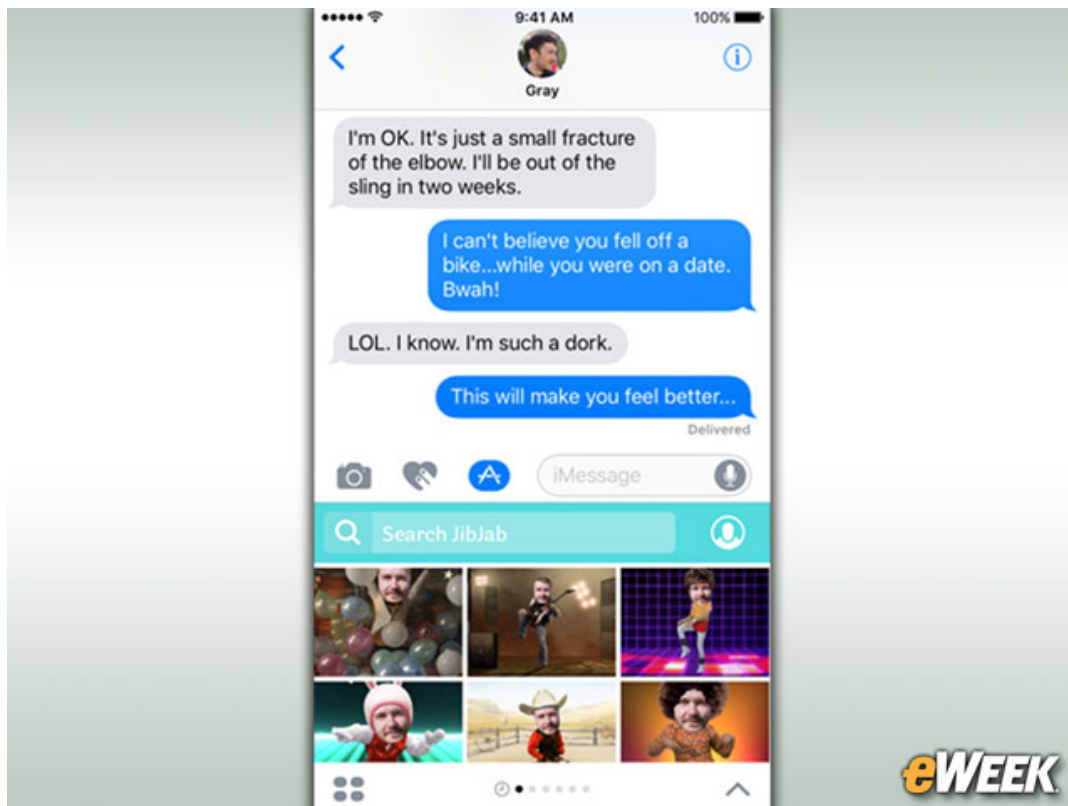
10 Reasons to Install iOS 10 Sooner Rather Than Later

Apple on Sept. 13 launched iOS 10, but you know it couldn't happen without at least one significant snag. Some early adopters were negatively affected by the update, which forced them to connect to iTunes in order to complete the upgrade and regain access to their devices. Although Apple quickly responded, saying it had fixed the problem, the early glitch has prompted some iPhone users to wonder if it's safe to download iOS 10 or if they should wait until Apple works all the bugs out of the download process. In the corporate world, early adoption isn't necessarily a standard practice, and there's always a fear that things might go awry, causing a loss of time, money and productivity. But with enhancements to iMessage, the ability for third-party developers to access Siri, in addition to a number of bug fixes, iOS 10 looks like a nice upgrade. So why wait. This eWEEK slide show covers some of the operating system's best features and why now is as good a time as any for iOS device users to download Apple's latest mobile platform. Read on to learn more.



Apple iMessage Is Much Better

Apple's iMessage has received a makeover in iOS 10. The app now includes the ability for users to digitally "write" messages to others, instead of just sending text, as well as access to rich links that provide previews to content shared by senders. The app features support for stickers that can be appended to content, as well as a new "invisible ink" feature so messages can remain hidden until the recipient reveals them.



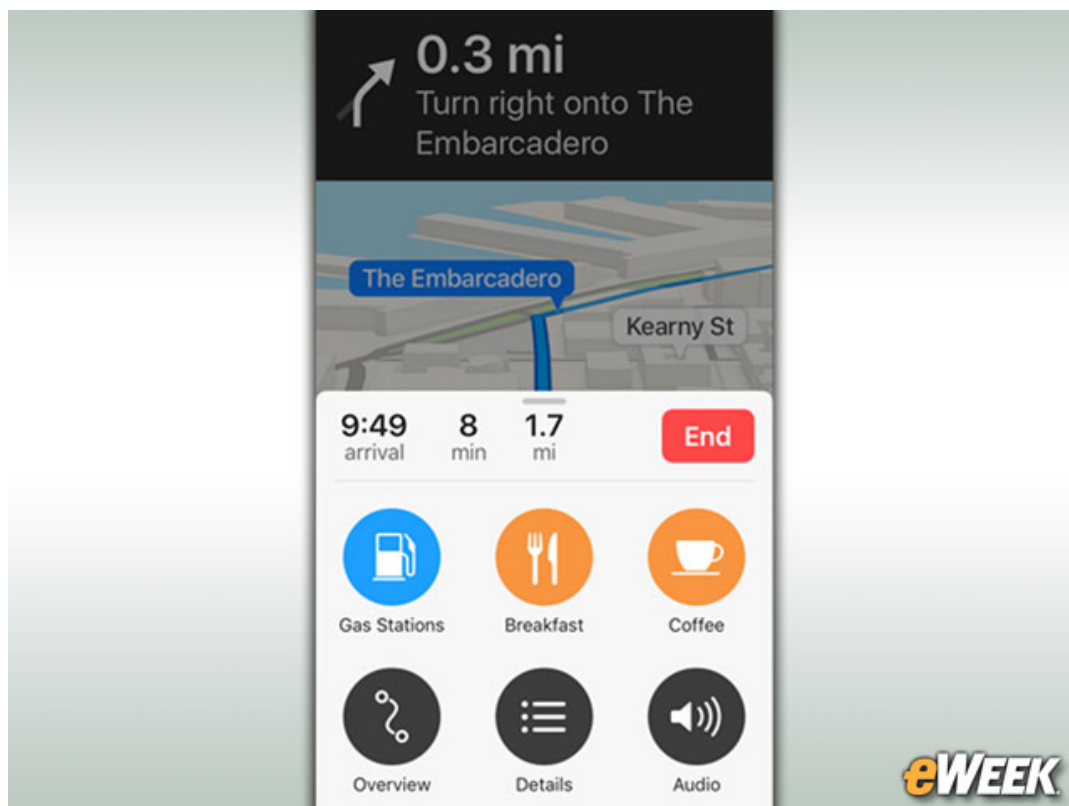
The Value of 3D Touch

Those who own the iPhone 6s or newer models of the handset will benefit from new 3D Touch features built into iOS 10. The operating system will come with the ability for users to vary the amount of pressure they apply to the screen and get a quick glance at important information, including what the weather will be like, upcoming calendar events and more. Apple is essentially using 3D Touch as a way to get users easy access to information it previously took a few taps to get to.



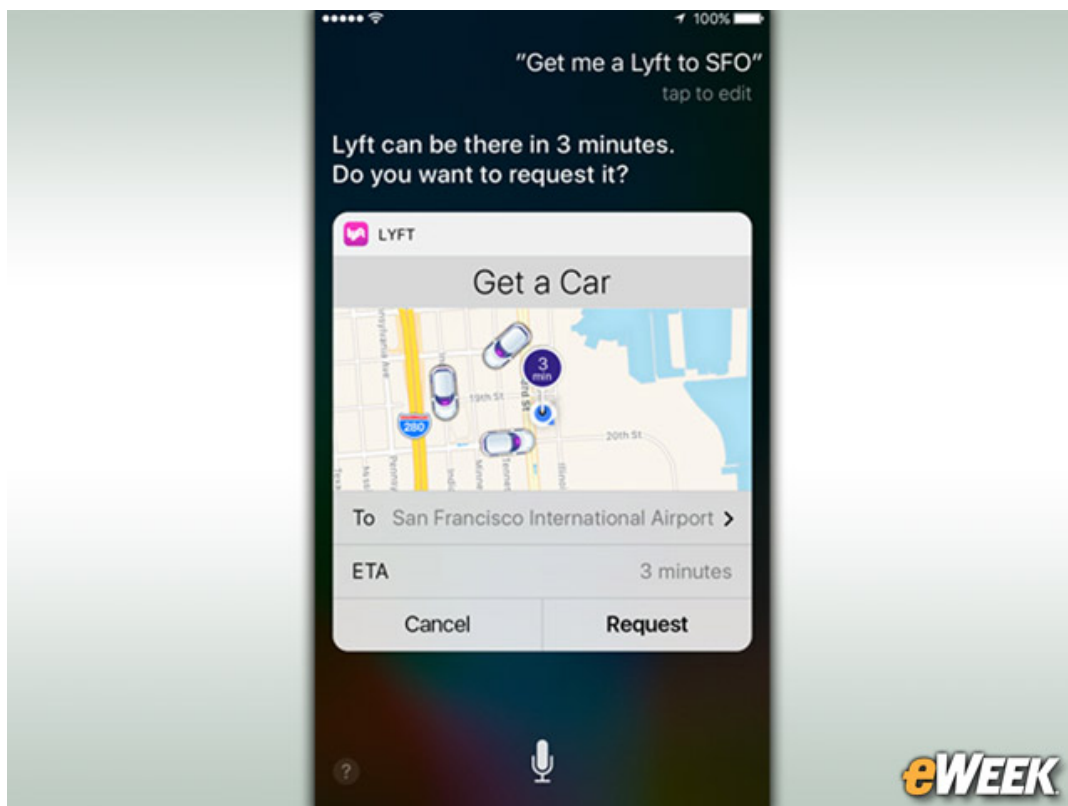
There's a Reliability Factor to Consider

Apple has been testing iOS 10 for the last several months to get as many hands on its operating system as possible and find glitches that could cause it to break down. More importantly, it has wanted to make sure the operating system's new features work as prescribed. All of that should give users some confidence in knowing iOS 10 is more reliable than its early install problems might suggest.



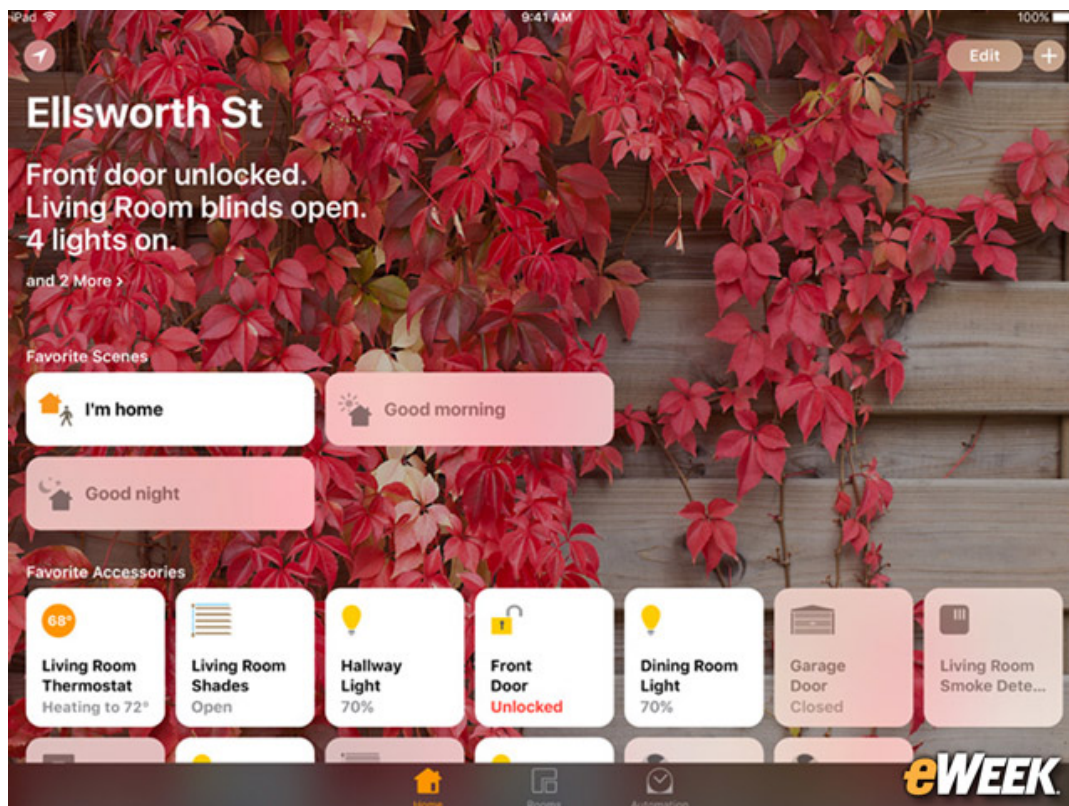
Third-Party Siri Integration Matters

For years, Apple has kept its virtual personal assistant Siri under wraps, but in iOS 10, that has all changed. Now, third-party app developers can access Siri and use the virtual assistant to let users shout out commands, request a ride from car-sharing service Lyft, and more. Apple's Siri integration is an important step in making the virtual assistant more appealing.



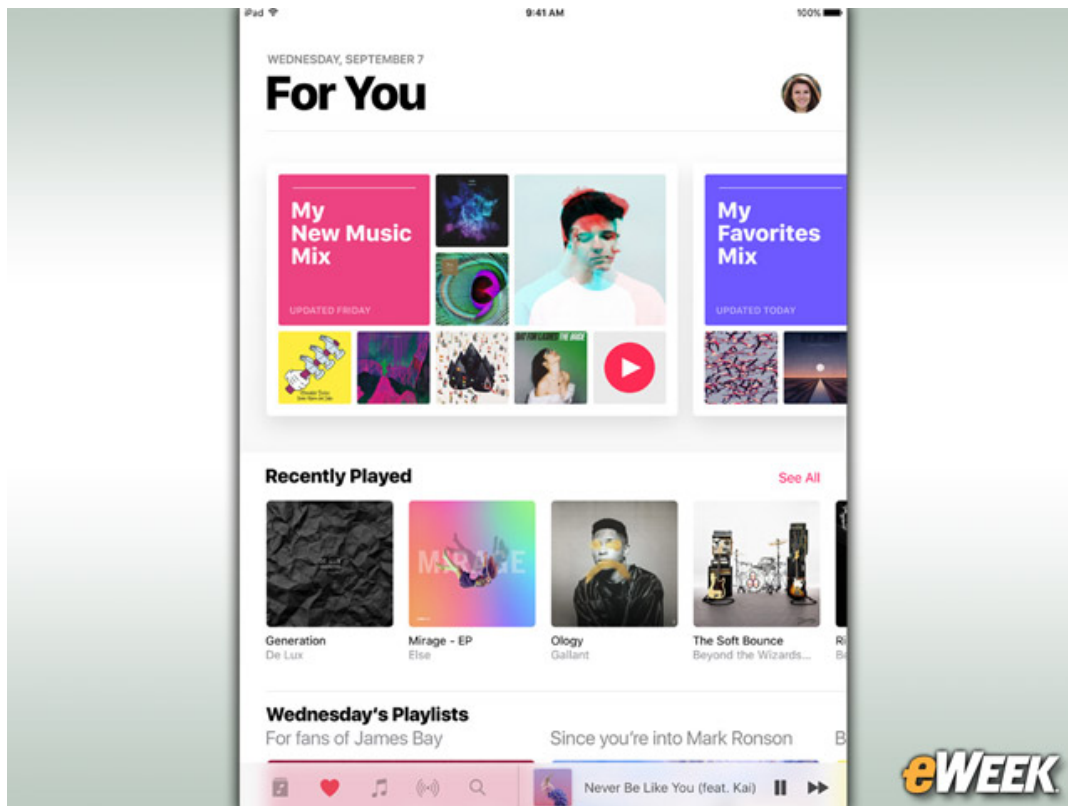
Get It for the Smart Home

For the first time, iOS 10 comes with an app called Home that allows users to control hundreds of smart home devices. Apple said at its iPhone 7 media briefing Sept. 7 that hundreds more devices would support Home in the coming months.



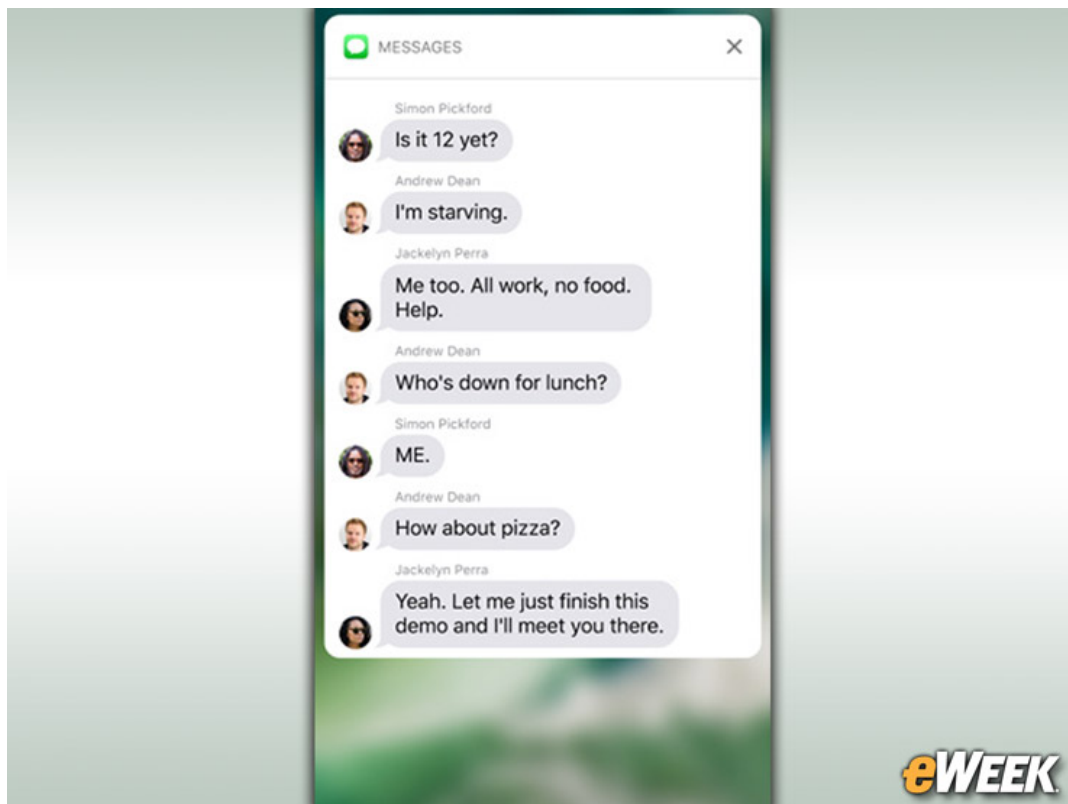
Apple Music Is Far More Appealing

Apple Music received a big overhaul in iOS 10. The streaming music service now makes it easier for users to find content and has simplified its design. Apple Music also comes with a smarter algorithm that can intelligently analyze a user's listening behavior and provide more relevant music recommendations through its "For You" page.



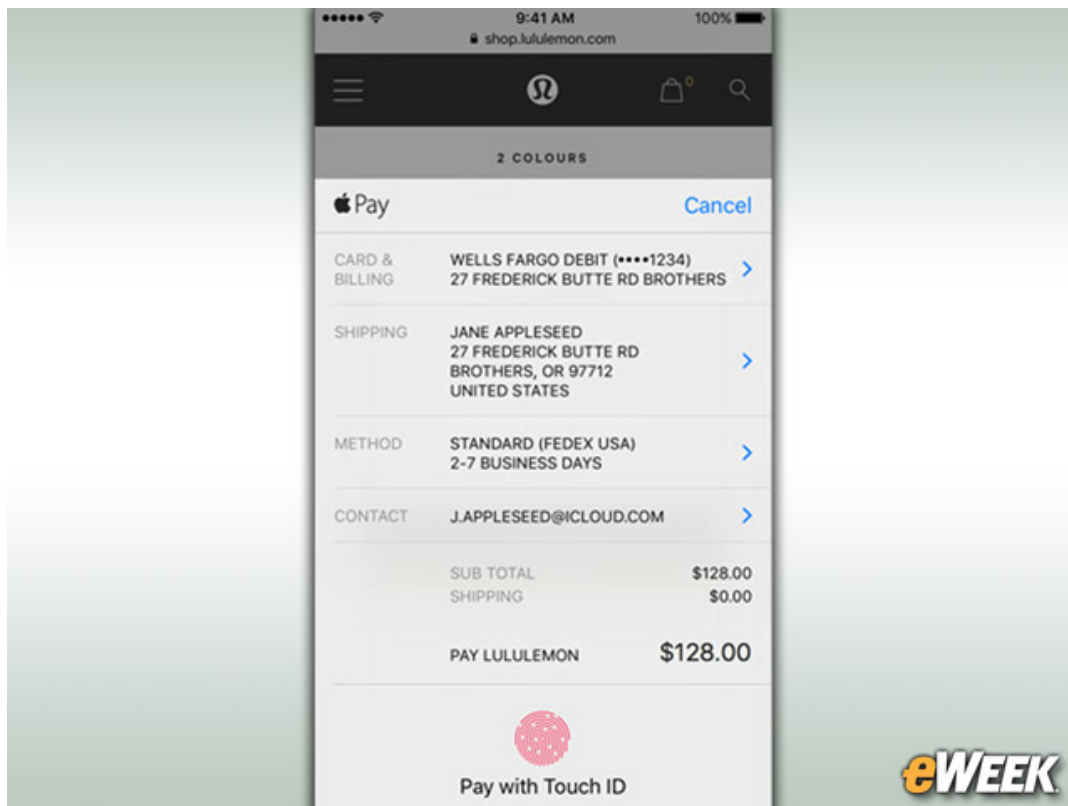
Rich Notifications Are a Nice Upgrade

Apple's notifications have received a much-needed overhaul with help from rich notifications. In iOS 10, when a user receives a link to a webpage, image or video, a preview of that content will be displayed in the notification, allowing the person to decide whether to click it or not. The rich notifications also mean users can respond to a message right within the notification rather than be forced to jump into another app.



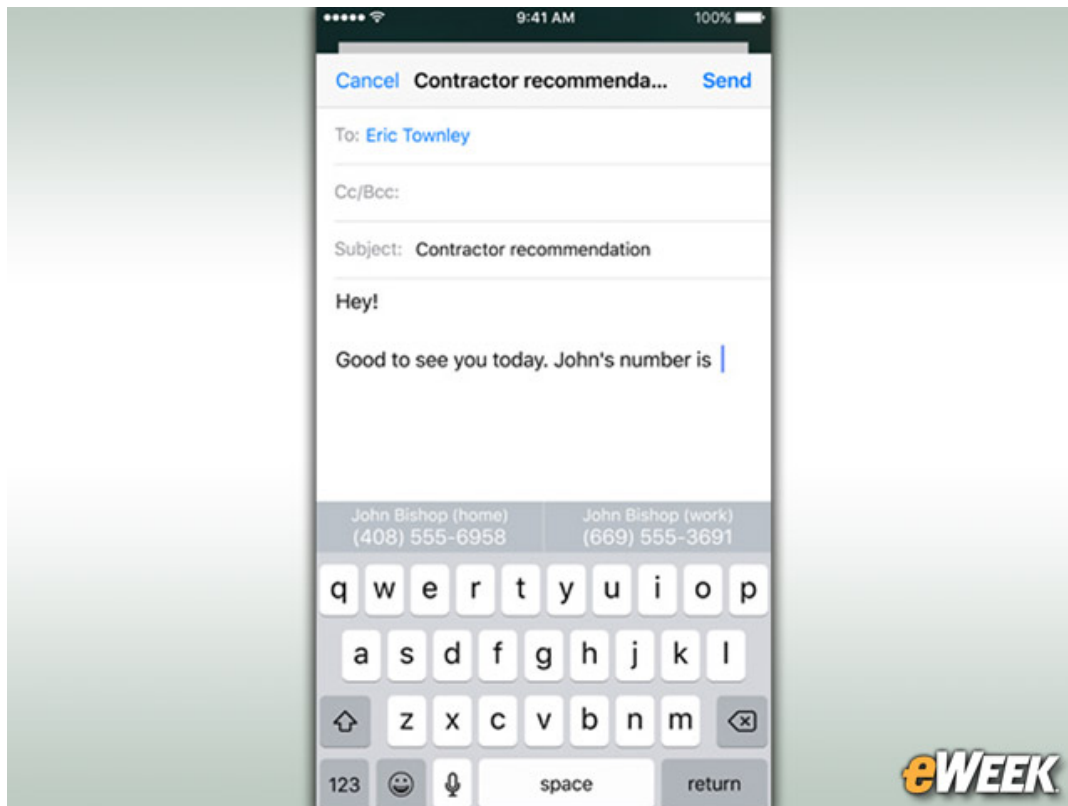
Apple Pay Goes to the Internet

Apple Pay has come to Safari. In iOS 10, users can go to an e-retailer's website and make a purchase. If that e-retailer supports Apple Pay, it'll show that as an option. Owners of devices with Apple Pay set up can then make a purchase using Apple's proprietary platform rather than input credit card information.



The Built-In Keyboard Is Getting Better

Apple's built-in virtual keyboard now includes a contextual prediction engine. That engine is capable of analyzing what a person is typing, and based on earlier conversations and other contextual clues, provide better recommendations for what to type next. For instance, if a user types something similar to "I'm available at," the keyboard will display free times in Apple Calendar that can be tapped on and quickly added to an email, message or other correspondence.



It's Free and It's Possible to Switch Back to iOS 9

There's little risk in downloading Apple's iOS 10. As long as users back up their data before deciding to download the software, they can update to iOS 10 at no charge and see if they like it. If they end up deciding that it has too many problems or just isn't right for them, they can go back to iOS 9 with a back-up. Granted, Apple doesn't make it so easy to back up to older iOS versions, but it is possible, and having that flexibility takes some of the risk out of downloading the new operating system.

