

# Here's How to Free Up Space On Your iPhone

BY **NICOLE CARPENTER** UPDATED: AUGUST 8, 2019 1:26 PM ET - Time



When you get a new **iPhone**, you almost never think about how much space you're using. Go ahead and pile up those movies, music and apps. Never delete text messages, save **every photo!**

But as time goes by, all that content starts to add up. Next thing you know, you'll be ready to snap a photo of grandma

blowing out her birthday candles, and you get the dreaded popup: you're out of space.

Thankfully, it's easy to free up space on your **iPhone**.

First thing's first: to see what's taking up space on your iPhone, open up the **Settings** app. Once in **Settings**, hit **General**. From there, you'll want to select **Storage** or **Storage & iCloud Usage**. You'll see a graph breaking down your device's storage usage into a few different categories: media, apps, photos, books, messages, and other. Each of the storage categories is assigned a color, so you'll be able to conceptualize at-a-glance what's taking up the most space on your phone.

Ready to make some space on your iPhone? Here are three ways to do just that.

## **Follow Apple's recommendations**

If it's time to clear out space on your iPhone but you don't even know where to start, why not ask the phone itself for some ideas?

Under that storage graph in the **Storage & iCloud Usage** section, your iPhone should show a section of **Recommendations**. Hit **Show All** to open them up. Your iPhone will suggest steps like **Reviewing iTunes Videos** — you can click on this recommendation to see all the iTunes

videos you've downloaded and select from the list which to keep and which to delete, for example.

Other recommendations are easy to switch on by simply clicking **Enable** on the right.

## **Offload unused apps**

Under **Recommendations**, your iPhone also provides an option to **Offload Unused Apps**. Hitting **Enable** will allow the device to “offload” **applications** when you need storage. This option will remove certain apps from your device, but keep their underlying data. That way, if you need to use the app again, you can just re-download it and be off and running like you never deleted it at all.

You can manually offload apps, delete apps, or delete app data manually, too. In the **Storage** page, you'll see a list of your installed apps below the recommendations. By clicking on the app in the list, you'll open an expanded view. There are three options available from there: **Offload the app**, **Delete the app**, and others for **deleting documents and data**.

## **Use iCloud for storage**

Sign in with your Apple ID to automatically turn on **iCloud** on your iPhone. To access your iCloud settings, navigate to **Settings**, hit your user ID, then tap **iCloud**. From there, you're able to see the storage available for you on iCloud,

with a bar graph similar to the one from your device's **Storage** page. In the section titled **Apps using iCloud**, you can flip a switch to choose which categories of apps — Calendars, Contacts, Mail, Photos, etc. — automatically upload their data to iCloud.

All iPhone users automatically get 5GB of storage for free. If that's not enough storage for you, you can pay for extra storage, starting at \$0.99 for 50GB.

### **Correction, Aug. 8**

*The original version of this story misstated what happens to information that's stored on iCloud when it's deleted from your phone. When you delete information on your phone, it's also deleted from iCloud.*

original article:

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