



Glen's Goodies

JANUARY 2026

Apple Confirms Chase to Takeover Apple Card

As a follow up to news I shared a few months ago, Apple has been looking for a new company to takeover it's Apple credit card. Apple confirmed last week that Chase will become the new issuer of Apple Card, taking over for Goldman Sachs. Apple has said that this transition to Chase will happen in about 2 years.

Apple said, "During this transition, Apple Card users can continue to use their card as they normally do. Additional details regarding the transition will be shared with all Apple Card users as the transition date approaches."

Apple has created a webpage on its site that answers questions about this transition:

<https://learn.applecard.apple/transition>

It sounds like if you are a current Apple card user, you won't have to make any changes, but just keep doing what you are currently doing with using and paying your card balance.

The MacBook Pro Turns 20

This past Saturday, January 10, marked the 20th anniversary of Steve Jobs announcement of the MacBook Pro. Jobs announced it as his "One More Thing" segment at the end of his Macworld San Francisco keynote on January 10, 2006.

If you'd like to see this segment of the keynote you can view it here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I6JWqllbhXE>



“The MacBook Pro was an evolution of the previous PowerBook as the professional-level laptop in Apple's lineup, but with the shift from PowerPC chips to Intel Core chips, Apple decided to launch a rebrand. The MacBook Pro was initially available only in a 15-inch size, with a 17-inch model following a few months later. A 13-inch aluminum MacBook debuted in October 2008, and after just one generation it was folded into the MacBook Pro lineup in 2009.

The original MacBook Pro came in two configurations, both with 15.4-inch widescreen displays at a resolution of 1,440 × 900 pixels. As announced, the entry-level model priced at \$1,999 featured a 1.67GHz Core Duo processor, 512MB of 667MHz DDR2 RAM, and an 80GB hard drive, while the higher-end model priced at \$2,499 offered a faster 1.83GHz Core Duo processor, 1GB of RAM, and a 100GB hard drive.”

<https://www.macrumors.com/2026/01/10/macbook-pro-20-years-old/>

The Worst Browsers for Privacy

The iGaming company Digitain looked at the risks various browsers expose users to. While Chrome isn't the worst browser out there, it's 72% market share means that puts more people at risk than less popular browsers.

Here's Digitain's list of various browsers when it comes to user privacy, along with risk scores (the lower the score, the better the browser):

ChatGPT Atlas – 99
Google Chrome -76
Vivaldi - 75
Microsoft Edge - 63
Opera - 58
Ungoogled - 55
Mozilla Firefox - 50
Apple Safari - 49
DuckDuckGo - 44
Tor - 40

Atlas launched in October 2025, but Digitain felt the browser is designed without ANY security in mind.

“New AI-powered browsers like ChatGPT Atlas and Comet from Perplexity are getting a lot of attention right now, and millions of people are trying them out because of the AI hype,” Paruyr Harutyunyan, head of digital marketing at Digitain, said in a statement.

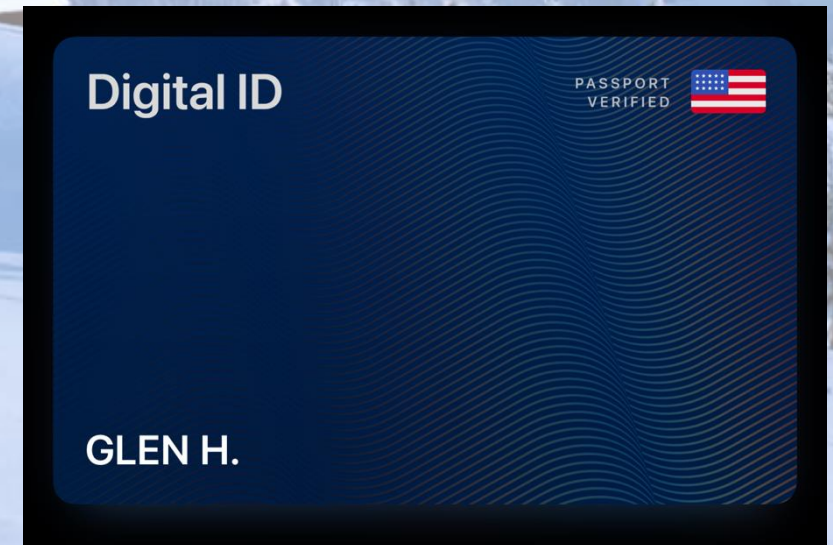
“AI works by collecting and learning from data, which means these tools might be gathering more of your personal information than you realize. Just because something uses AI doesn't automatically make it safe or private.”

Privacy Advocates are Terrified by Apple Digital ID

Apple's new Digital ID is very convenient if your traveling, but it's also easy for governments to tracking its citizens' every move. Privacy advocates are concerned that the new Apple Digital ID is a phone-based system can be used to track everyone all the time. There's also worry that once people adopt digital identification cards, laws can easily make them mandatory.

“Apple just rolled out Digital ID. The surrender of privacy is about to hit warp speed. This is step one of your digital leash, gift-wrapped as convenience,” wrote Jason Bassler, Co-Founder of The Free Thought Project and Founder of Police The Police, on X. “Once it's ‘normalized,’ it's irreversible. Then it's ‘optional.’ Until it's not.”

So, is the new Apple Digital ID safe? That's a good question!



Why You Get Carsick and How an iPhone Feature Might Help

How motion sickness happens

- There are two common theories for why motion sickness happens. The first one is the postural instability theory. In this first theory when humans lose control of their posture while in motion like on a rocking boat or a roller coaster, we can't adapt and get sick.
- The second theory, sensory conflict theory, is more commonly cited in medical research. It states that motion sickness happens when the movement you see and perceive is different from what your inner ear is sensing and experiencing.

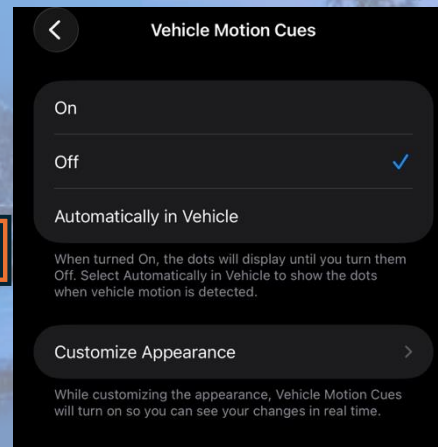
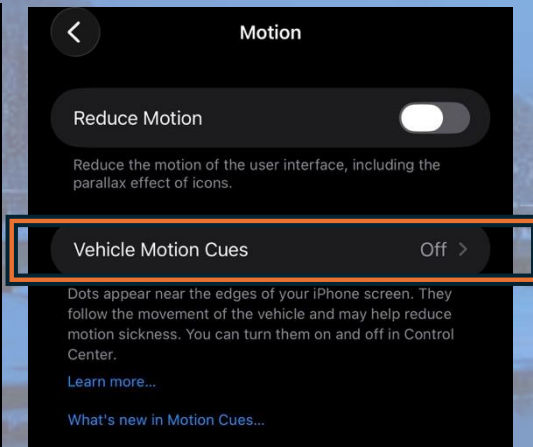
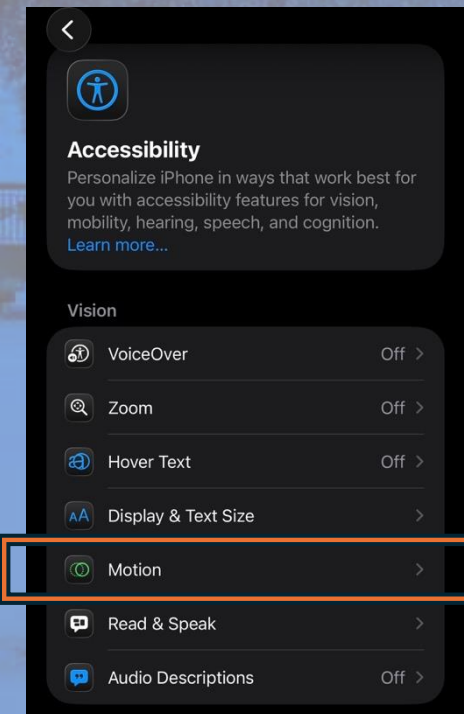
Whichever theory is in play is no fun if you've experienced it.

The conflict between what you see and feel causes a sensory conflict, which can make you feel sick. The Cleveland Clinic recommends anyone feeling motion sickness while reading should put their "book, phone or tablet away and look at objects in the distance or the horizon" to resolve the conflict.

Why You Get Carsick and How an iPhone Feature Might Help

What is the iPhone Feature That Might Help?

Your iPhone has the Vehicle Motion Cues feature. Go to Settings > Accessibility > Motion



Doing this will put 8 circles on both sides of your iPhone display. You can have these on all the time or only when your iPhone detects that you're in a vehicle. The circles move to give you a visual cue as to the movement of your vehicle. If your car is moving forward, circles will “pass”

alongside what you're reading at the same speed objects on the side of the road would if you were looking out the window. If your car is backing up, the circles will then move in the opposite direction. If the car makes a turn, they will move in a way the turn is happening. The purpose is that these circles will reduce the conflict between your eyes and your inner ear to help resolve motion sickness.

M1 vs M5 Chip

This past November 10th marked the fifth anniversary of the Apple silicon chip replacing Intel chips in Macs. The first Apple silicon chip, the M1, was unveiled on November 10, 2020. The M1 debuted in the MacBook Air, Mac mini, and 13-inch MacBook Pro. We've now had five total generations of Apple silicon chips, with the M5 unveiled in the 14-inch MacBook Pro this past October. So how do the M1 and M5 compare? I'm still in love with my 16" M1 Max MacBook Pro that is now 4 years old. I've had no reason to upgrade and find my MacBook Pro performs great. That being said, if someone offered me a swap for a 16" M4 Max MacBook Pro, I'd probably do it! (The M5 hasn't appeared yet in the 16".) Here are the numbers to compare:

Here's how the M5 measures up to the M1,
per Apple's M5 specs:

- 6× faster CPU/GPU performance
- 6× faster AI performance
- 7.7× faster AI video processing
- 6.8× faster 3D rendering
- 2.6× faster gaming performance
- 2.1× faster code compiling

Geekbench comparison scores:

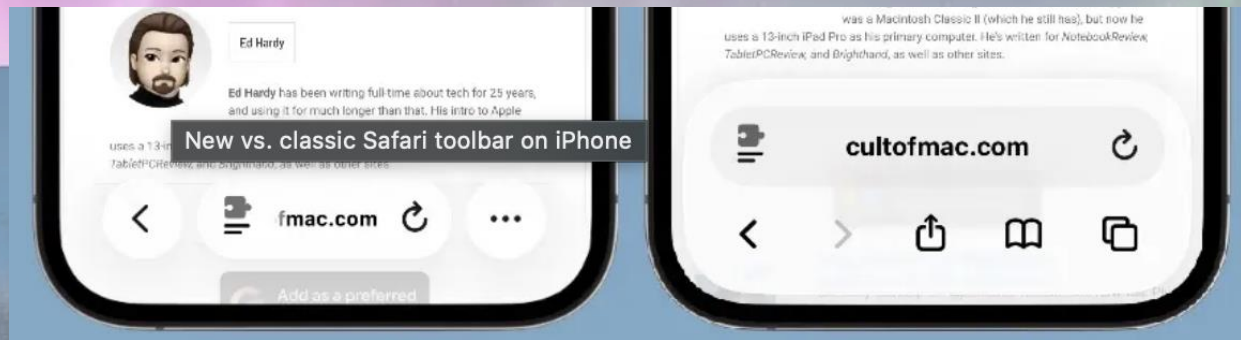
- M1 single-core - 2,320
- M5 single-core - 4,263
- M1 multi-core - 8,175
- M5 multi-core - 17,862
- M1 Metal - 33,041
- M5 Metal - 75,637

Both CPU and GPU performance have increased significantly over the past five years, and Apple has boosted AI and gaming performance too with add-ons like hardware-accelerated ray tracing and an ever-improving Neural Engine.

Bring Back Safari's Full Toolbar to your iPhone.

Safari on your iPhone got a minimalist toolbar with iOS 26. If you are missing the full toolbar, you can restore it to its full glory.

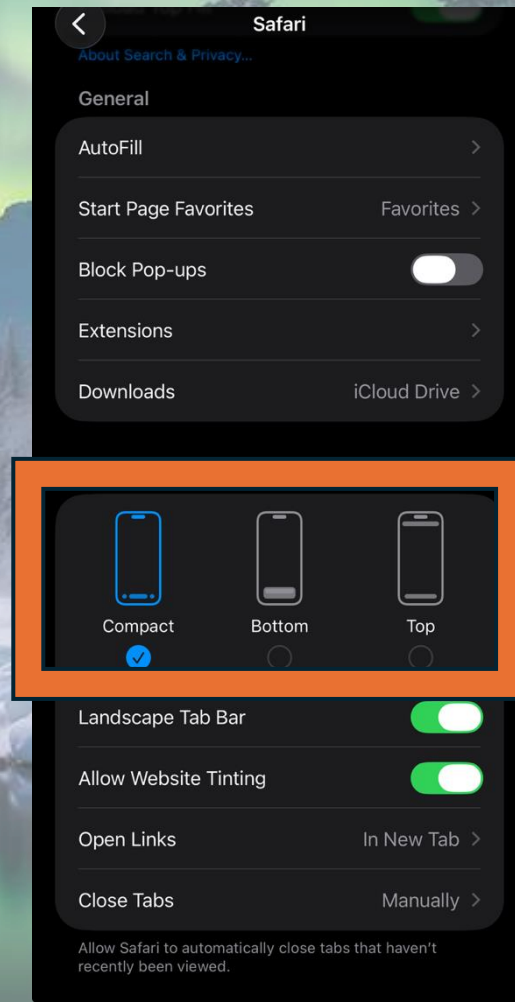
Here is what the new toolbar vs the old toolbar looks like:



How to get the full Safari toolbar back on your iPhone:

Go to Settings and scroll to the bottom to Apps. Find Safari in the list of apps and tap on it.

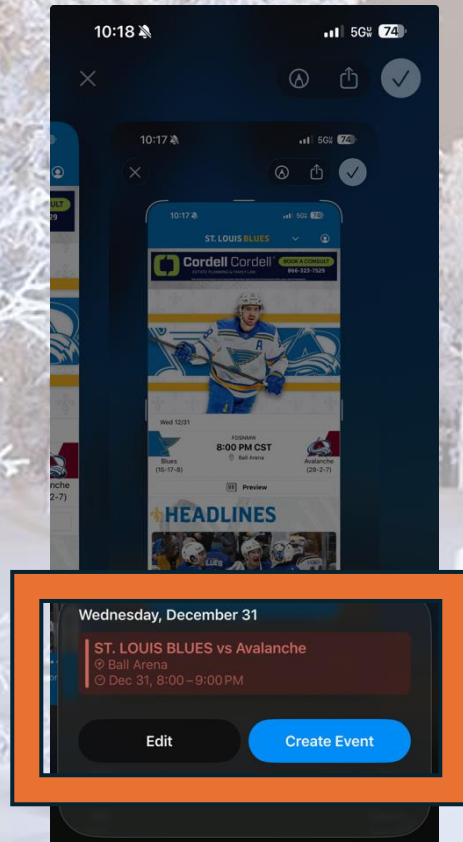
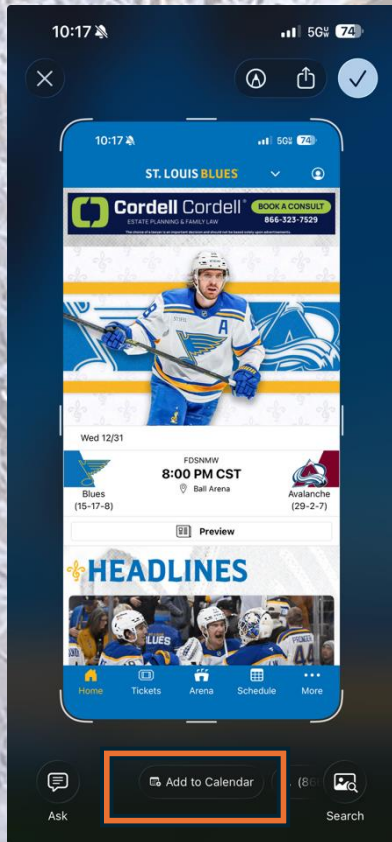
Then under Safari, find the “Tabs” section and instead of “Compact,” which is the new version, select “Bottom” or “Top” depending on where you’d like your toolbar to be located. Now go back to Safari and you will see it looks like the past version of the toolbar again.



Add Calendar Events from a Screenshot in iOS26

If you are running iOS 26 and have an iPhone 15 Pro or newer, your iPhone is compatible with Apple Intelligence and will let you add events to the Calendar app via a screenshot.

If you take a screenshot of anything containing event details, visual intelligence will also recognize those and show an “Add to Calendar” option in the bottom-center of the screen. Tap that, and you’ll see the detected event with an option to add it to your calendar.



You can add Calendar events from any screenshot, whether it's an email, a social media post, a text thread with friends, or a website.

Once you tap “Add to Calendar,” you’ll have the option to Edit any details if you want. If the event’s details are already accurate, you can tap Create Event to add it right away.

Edge Light

macOS Tahoe 26.2 was released on December 12th and includes a really cool new feature called Edge Light. Edge Light creates an on-screen light that illuminates your face with light when you're on a video call in a room without bright lighting.

According to Apple:

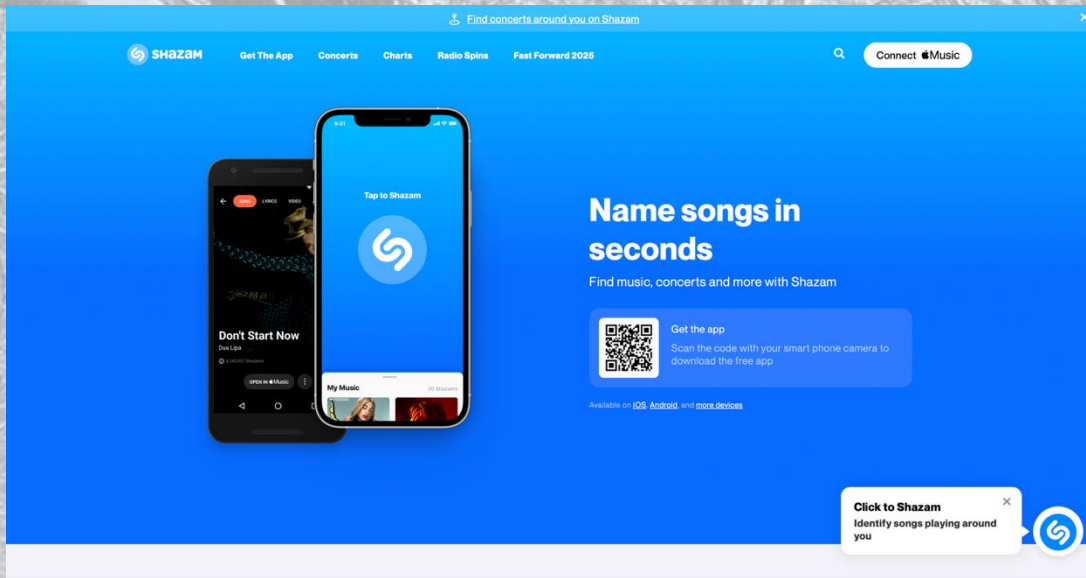
- Edge Light video effect uses the Mac display to illuminate your face like a virtual ring light when you're on a video call in low light
- Customizable light width and temperature give you control over how you're lit
- Mouse awareness ensures that the light recedes when you need to access content underneath
- Option to have the light turn on automatically in low light situations on Mac computers introduced in 2024 and later



Edge Light by AppleDesign: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YxM4TDT0ad4>

Shazam Website

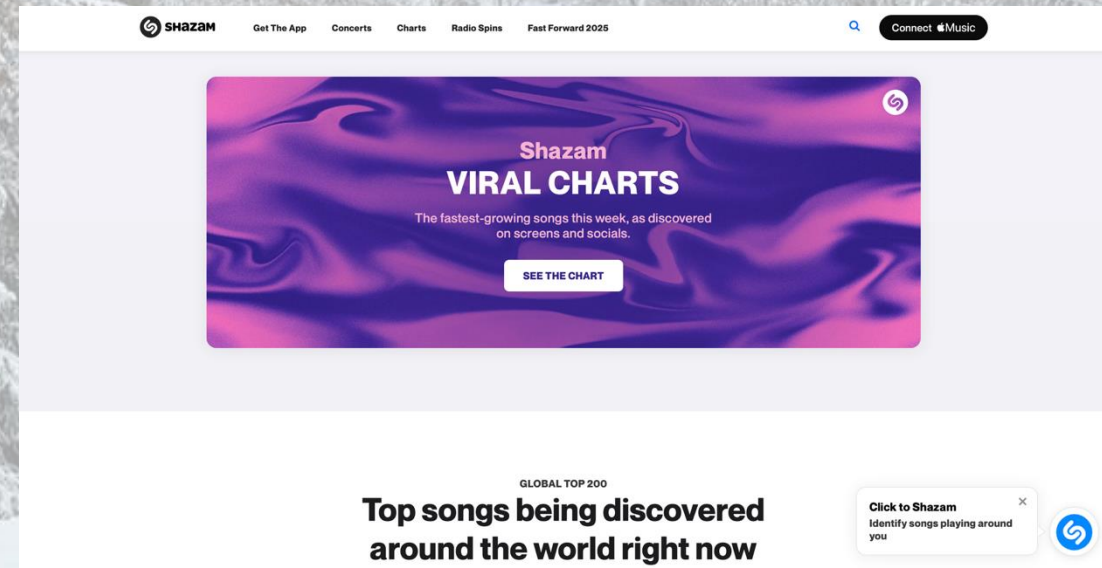
If you use the Shazam app on your phone to identify music playing around you, then you'll be interested to know that there is a Shazam website: <https://www.shazam.com>



The website will allow you to do a number of things:

- Identify songs
- Look up concerts
- Look up the top identified songs in the U.S.
- See what tracks are being most played on radio
- See emerging artists

While you can download the Shazam app, you don't have to, as it comes as part of the iOS system. Just add it to your Control Center. Then you can just pull down and tap Shazam to identify what song is playing.



Cuktech's 10,000 milliampere-hour magnetic power bank

Looking for a power bank that offers both wireless charging and fast wired charging? If so, take a look at the Cuktech 10,000mAh 2-in-1 magnetic power bank.

Cuktech 10,000mAh magnetic power bank

\$21.99 

The CUKTECH 10,000mAh Magnetic Power Bank provides effortless snap-on charging for iPhones and other devices. And it even comes with a built-in USB-C cable for fast 20W charging. Its compact design makes it easy to carry around.

Pros:

- ✓ Built-in USB-C cable
- ✓ Magnetic wireless charging
- ✓ Value for money

Cons:

- ✗ Wireless charging limited to 7.5W

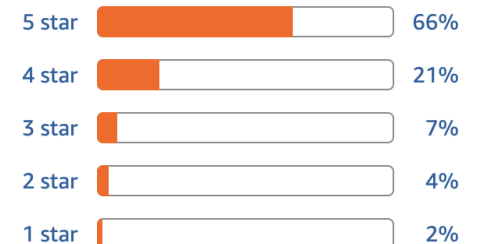
[Buy from Amazon](#)



Customer reviews

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

200 global ratings



12/28/2025 10:11 am GMT ⓘ

Harry Potter Spells for the S-Lady That Turn Your iPhone into a Magical Wand

If you are a Harry Potter fan, you can now use your iPhone like you're a Muggle-born witch or wizard with a Magical Elder wand. There are commands you can use with the S-Lady to make things happen on your iPhone. So, get your wand, er iPhone ready and follow along to try them! If you want to try these as I go through them, please make sure your microphone is muted!

1. Lumos

Pronunciation: /loo · mows/

This command will turn on your flashlight.

2. Nox

Pronunciation: /knocks/

This command will turn off your flashlight

3. Accio

Pronunciation: /Ack · ee · oh/

This will “summon” an app. To do this say: "Hey Siri, Accio [App Name]."

Harry Potter Spells for the S-Lady That Turn Your iPhone into a Magical Wand

There are more commands that are Harry Potter spells, but to make them work you first have to set up Shortcuts on your iPhone. Here is a link to a page that will go through these and give you a download link to a Shortcut that you can add. <https://techwiser.com/18-harry-potter-spells-for-siri-and-shortcuts-app-to-use-on-iphones/>. Here is a list of these with each individual link:

4. Lumos Maxima Pronunciation: /LOO-mos MAK-si-ma/

This will turn on your flashlight at maximum brightness

Shortcut link: <https://www.icloud.com/shortcuts/54bf222e443348229b03a6f73920cddb>

5. Silencio Pronunciation: /sih-LEN-see-oh/

Toggle your iPhone's silent mode.

Shortcut link: <https://www.icloud.com/shortcuts/8e050e204751471583ec377e0e9d8512>

6. Muffliato Pronunciation: /muff-lee-AH-tow/

Muffliato fills the ears of those nearby with an unidentifiable buzzing sound so they can't overhear conversations. This shortcut turns down the volume down to a lower level and activates Background Sounds to muffle conversation.

Shortcut link: <https://www.icloud.com/shortcuts/0d104cdde83449c8a3d4a446c0a3b36a>

Harry Potter Spells for the S-Lady That Turn Your iPhone into a Magical Wand

7. Sonorous Pronunciation: /soh-NOHR-uhs/

This will set your volume to a higher percentage

Shortcut link: <https://www.icloud.com/shortcuts/680ba0895cc94c48a536e1bcbb70c300>

8. Quietus Pronunciation: /KWIY-uh-tus/

This will set your volume to a Lower Percentage

Shortcut link: <https://www.icloud.com/shortcuts/8729980354d74cf0a0baa3a93ae2315a>

9. Point Me Pronunciation: /POINT MEE/

Open the Compass app

Shortcut link: <https://www.icloud.com/shortcuts/b209b7cf1a274e40b4a779527690b7dd>

10. Vermillious Pronunciation: /vur-MILL-ee-us/

Share your location with your contacts without contacting emergency services

Shortcut link: <https://www.icloud.com/shortcuts/dd9e3b9e1fa34042be1e6bb767567f32>

Harry Potter Spells for the S-Lady That Turn Your iPhone into a Magical Wand

11. Homenum Revelio Pronunciation: /HOM-eh-num reh-VEH-lee-oh/

Open the Find My App and select a specific person to locate.

Shortcut link: <https://www.icloud.com/shortcuts/bca6206ee497455086d20d88a517101c>

12. Reducio Pronunciation: /re-DOO-see-oh/

Reduce the text size displayed on your screen.

Shortcut link: <https://www.icloud.com/shortcuts/f37320252eeb41b8a32e8a430f3b8060>

13. Engorgio Pronunciation: /en-GOR-jee-oh/

Increase the text size on your screen (Return it to normal size by using Reducio)

Shortcut link: <https://www.icloud.com/shortcuts/4f053b4bab114a8ebc8bd1ab32db6078>

14. Alohomora Pronunciation: /ah-LOH-ho-MOR-ah/

Open the Passwords App

Shortcut link: <https://www.icloud.com/shortcuts/6ce0d5da9995465f82e701bc62c003b2>

Harry Potter Spells for the S-Lady That Turn Your iPhone into a Magical Wand

15. Apparition **Pronunciation: /AP-uh-RAY-shun/**

Quickly change your wallpaper.

Shortcut link: <https://www.icloud.com/shortcuts/95e65273b2c041568adb29d36c4aeada>

16. Avada Kedavra **Pronunciation: /ah-VAH-dah keh-DAV-rah/**

Shut Down your iPhone

Shortcut link: <https://www.icloud.com/shortcuts/367d0c1e55a649ca9e568a9ee8d90a96>

17. Expecto Patronum **Pronunciation: /eks-PEK-toh pa-TROH-num/**

Call a designated guardian contact who you trust and can rely on. You have to select the contact in your shortcut's setting.

Shortcut link: <https://www.icloud.com/shortcuts/b9a31461505d4cb08a7c5b06f16c8d7d>

18. Cantis **Pronunciation: /CAN-tiss/**

Open Apple Music and play a specific album or song. You have to specify in the Shortcut.

Shortcut link: <https://www.icloud.com/shortcuts/fd47ea5e418e41aa8fa472da9e07b891>

Follow Up...

The proposed Lego Apple iMac G3 desktop set that I discussed a few months back earned enough votes from the public to take the next step toward becoming a real Lego product. It got the required 10,000 votes.

“The Lego Review Board is deciding if this could become an official Lego Ideas set,” the company says. Lego evaluates the build quality and playability and how well it fits being a Lego product. Demand and profits are also considered.

There are licensing and intellectual property considerations. Apple has to approve of the design before it can become a Lego product.

Many projects don’t move forward after getting 10,000 votes. If Lego approves the concept, then a design team reworks it into a production-ready set.

After the set design is finalized, it then has to be manufactured and the packaging designed. Ideas for Lego sets typically reach store 6-12 months after approval.

