

A close-up photograph of a chocolate cake. The cake is dark brown and covered in a fine layer of white powder. Several small, five-petaled pink flowers with yellow centers are scattered on top of the cake. The background is dark and out of focus.

**CELEBRATION  
OF CHOCOLATE  
MONTH  
February  
2026**

**Glen's Goodies**

# Apple Confirms Siri Will Be Powered by Google Gemini

Apple recently put out a statement about the future of Siri being powered by Google Gemini. "After careful evaluation, we determined that Google's technology provides the most capable foundation for Apple Foundation Models and we're excited about the innovative new experiences it will unlock for our users."

"Apple and Google have entered into a multi-year collaboration under which the next generation of Apple Foundation Models will be based on Google's Gemini models and cloud technology. These models will help power future Apple Intelligence features, including a more personalized Siri coming this year."

This next-generation version of Siri that will supposedly be powered by Gemini is expected to be introduced with iOS 26.4 this spring.



# Apple Releases Creator Studio

Apple recently released the Creator Studio app bundle of 10 apps that includes a group of creative apps, plus premium content for the free Apple productivity apps. The apps are:



Pricing is set at \$12.99 per month or \$129 per year. College students and educators can get a discounted price for \$2.99 per month or \$29.99 per year. There is a one-month trial period before this kicks in.

Family Sharing will allow you to share a subscription with up to five other family members in your family account.

## Which hardware and OS version do I need to use Apple Creator Studio?

For the optimal experience, full functionality is available with macOS 26, iPadOS 26, and iOS 26 and later. Apple Creator Studio requires an Apple Account and internet connection to subscribe.

Final Cut Pro requires a Mac with macOS 15.6 or later or an iPad with Apple M1 chip or later, iPad (A16), or iPad mini (A17 Pro) and iPadOS 18.6 or later.

Logic Pro requires macOS 15.6 or later, iPadOS 26 or later, a Mac with Apple silicon, and an iPad with Apple A12 Bionic chip or later.

Pixelmator Pro requires a Mac with macOS 26 or later or an iPad with Apple M1 chip or later, iPad (A16), or iPad mini (A17 Pro) and iPadOS 26 or later.

Keynote, Pages, and Numbers require macOS 15.6 or later, iPadOS 18 or later, iOS 18 or later, or visionOS 2 or later. Some premium features require macOS 26, iPadOS 26, iOS 26, or visionOS 26 or later.

Motion requires macOS 15.6 or later.

Compressor requires macOS 15.6 or later. Some features require a Mac with Apple silicon.

MainStage requires macOS 15.6 or later.

**Nathan is going to speak about Creator Studio more in depth Later in our meeting tonight.**

# Apple Warns Users to Update Home App

Apple gave a final warning to customers last week that are using the Home app to upgrade to the latest version of the app by February 10 or might lost control of your smart home devices.

Apple has this posted on its support pages:

- If you are part of a home in the Home app that contains at least one smart home accessory, such as a HomePod, Apple TV, or smart light bulb, you will be prompted to update if you are not using the latest version of Apple Home. Information about updating may appear in the Home app, in the Settings app, or Apple email communications.
- If you are part of a home in the Home app that is using the older version of Apple Home, you may be automatically upgraded to the latest version of Apple Home.

To Update in the Home app:

- Open the Home app on your iPhone, iPad, or Mac.
- Tap or click the More button (the three dots in the upper right)
- Select Home Settings. If you own multiple homes, choose one, then select Home Settings.
- Select Software Update.
- Tap or click Update Now, then follow the prompts.

# Apple Buys Q.ai Startup for \$2 billion

- Apple recently bought an Israeli AI startup called Q.ai.
- Supposedly Apple paid \$2 billion, making it the second largest acquisition for Apple ever after it's purchase of Beats.
- In a statement to Reuters, Johny Srouji, Apple's senior vice president of hardware technologies, said:  
“[Q.ai] is a remarkable company that is pioneering new and creative ways to use imaging and machine learning. We're thrilled to acquire the company, with Aviad at the helm, and are even more excited for what's to come.”
- Q.ai has developed technology to analyze facial expressions and other types of communication. There isn't much information about Q.ai, as the company has been secretive since being founded in 2022. The only thing their website says is: “In a world full of noise we craft a new kind of quiet. Magic. Realized.”



“Based on patent filings, Q.ai has built machine-learning tech for audio and “silent” voice input, including systems designed to understand and improve communication in noisy or difficult environments. The company has also researched tech that interprets micro facial movements and expressions to communicate without making audible sound.”

-<https://9to5mac.com/2026/01/29/apple-acquires-secretive-q%E2%80%A4ai-startup-for-2-billion/>

# Why Weather Apps Give Misleading Data

My relatives and friends are always getting excited about storms coming because their weather apps predict doom. Their app might forecast 12 inches of snow one day, then drop that to 4 inches the next. Why do weather apps mislead users?

- The problem with many weather apps is they are taking raw data from ONE forecast model without any context. When this data changes, we can see big shifts in app forecasts. On the other hand, professional meteorologists use multiple computer models and run many simulations with the data from these many models to determine what they think will happen. They use their experience with weather patterns and historical data and their expertise to create forecasts. Professional meteorologists also will tend to be more conservative with forecasts because they know things change each day.
- Another problem is that apps will show snowfall predictions up to 10 days in advance. This is a problem because weather models can't be specific enough that far out to make accurate predictions. The models will constantly change each day as we get closer to the arrival of a storm. Until we get within 48 hours, things aren't too accurate.
- Add the hype online with people professing to be weather "experts" and you can easily build excitement and even hysteria. Ignore the noise and rely on the pros for information. Weather apps are pretty good at forecasting temperature and chances of precipitation, but they're notoriously bad at predicting intensity and accumulation.



# **YES, iPhone Text Typos Aren't Your Fault. Maybe.**

**In recent months, I seem to be having more problems typing on my iPhone keyboard. I make more mistakes than I used to and it gets frustrating having to re-type the same words multiple times. I've chalked it up to me getting older and having less dexterity. However, in recent months since the release of iOS 26, many users have been complaining they are having more typos using iPhone keyboards. You, might have noticed more mistakes than usual when you type. As it turns out there seems to be a bug affecting the iPhone's virtual keyboard.**

**A YouTuber named Michi NekoMichi recently shared a video, documenting keyboard mistakes when he's been typing on his iPhone running iOS 26. This has resonated across social media with people saying they have been having similar problems. So is this an iOS software issue? Here is the video:**

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

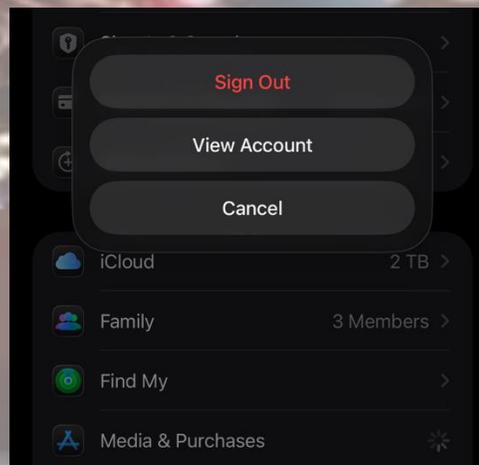
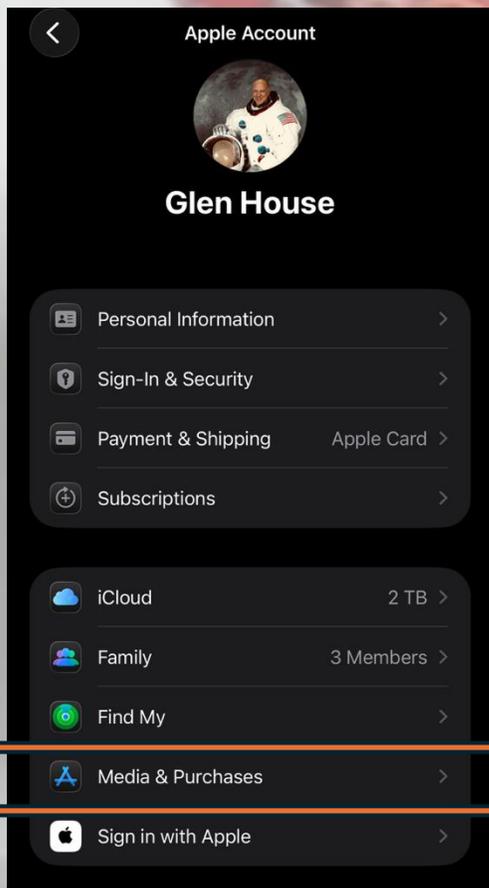


# How to Search Your Apple Purchase History

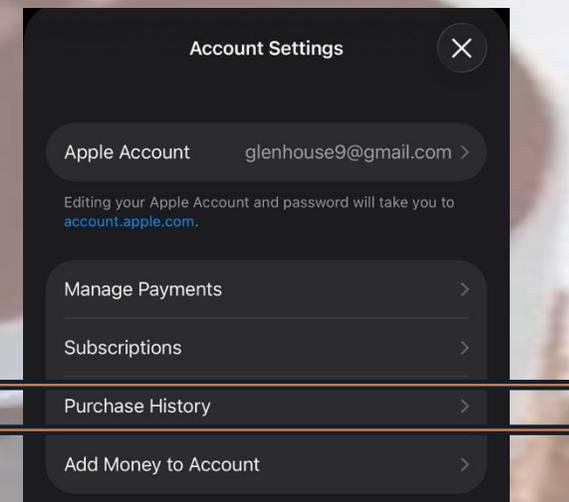
It's so easy to make purchases from your devices, whether it be apps or in-app purchases. It's also easy to lose track of what you purchase or how much you're spending. Here's how to see what you've purchased on both your iPhone and your Mac.

iPhone:

1. Go to your settings and click on your name to go to your account. Scroll down and press on "Media & Purchases."



2. Click on "View Account" and login to your account

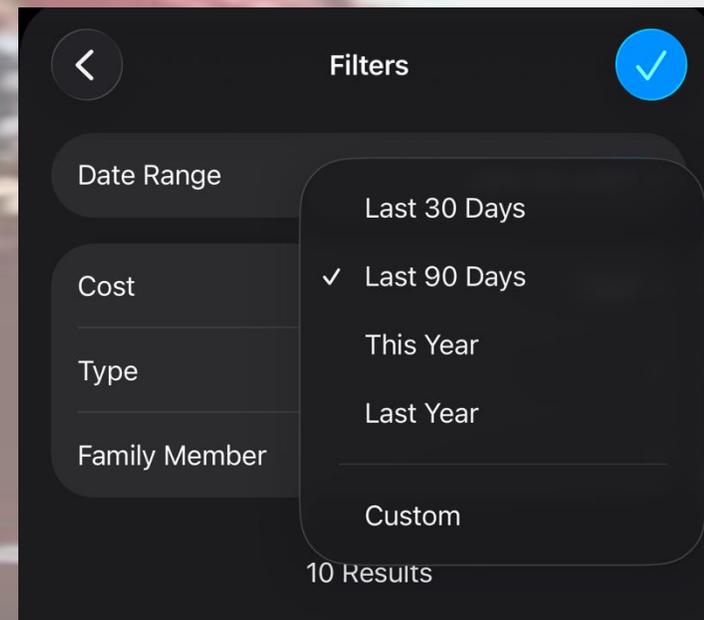
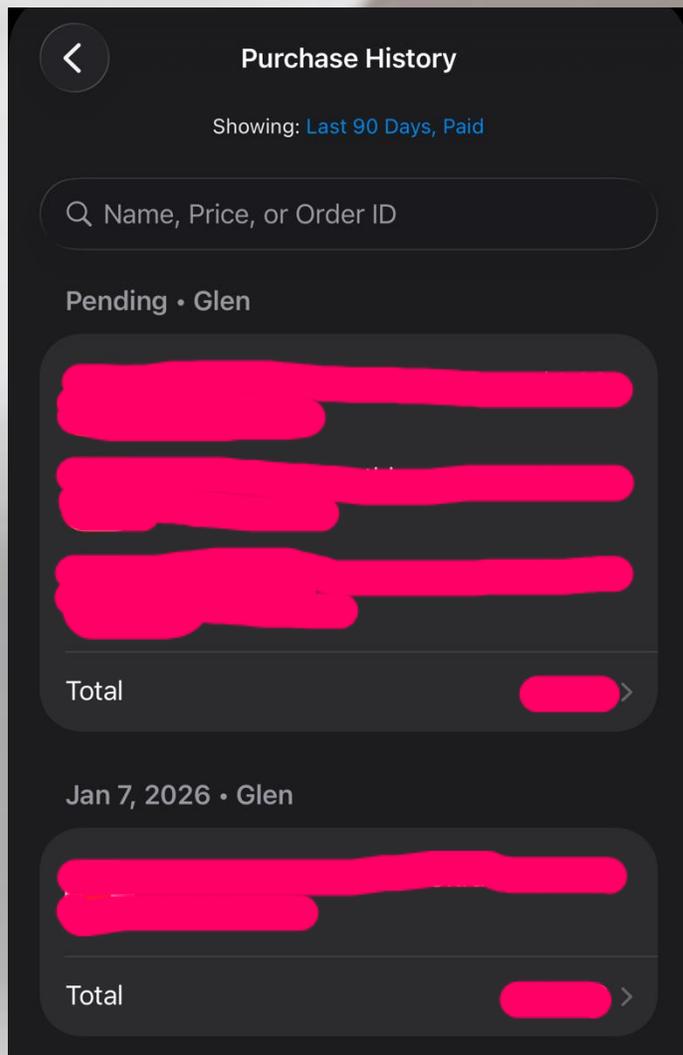


3. In your Account Settings, press on "Purchase History"

# How to Search Your Apple Purchase History

iPhone:

4. This takes you into your purchase history. By default it will show your purchases over the last 90 days in chronological order

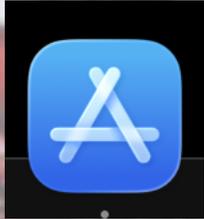


2. You can change your filters and search for any time period to see purchases during that period. You can also search by cost, type, or which family members made the purchase. To do this just press on the blue letters where it says “Last 90 days, Paid.”

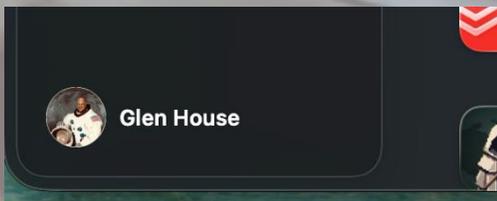
# How to Search Your Apple Purchase History

To do this on a Mac:

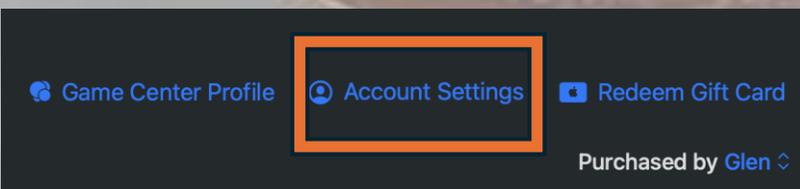
1. Open the App Store app on your Mac



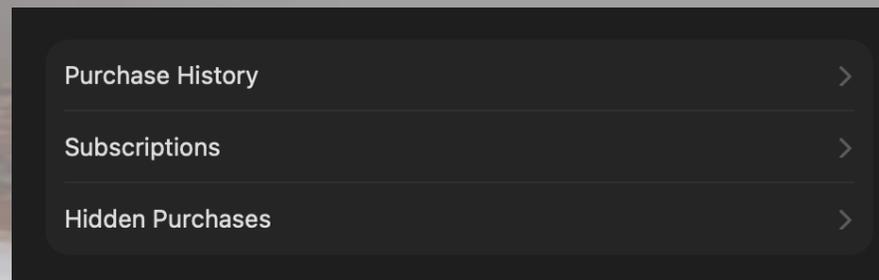
2. Press on your name in the bottom left corner of the app



3. Click on "Account Settings" in the upper right and login



4. Select "Purchase History" and you will see the same window as you saw on your iPhone. You can also just see subscriptions or you can select Hidden Purchases. Hidden purchases are apps or content that you have bought but you don't want to see in your main purchase history. When you hide an app, it will not appear in your list of purchases in the App Store, but it remains in your complete purchase history.



To hide an app:

On iPhone/iPad:

- Open the App Store.
- Tap your profile picture
- Select "Purchased."
- Swipe left on the app you want to hide and tap "Hide."

On Mac:

- Open the App Store/login
- Click your name
- Hover over the app and click "More," then select "Hide Purchase."

# See An Extended Call History For Any iPhone Contact

iOS 26 will let you pull up a call history for any specific contact you've made or received a call from. Here's how you access this:

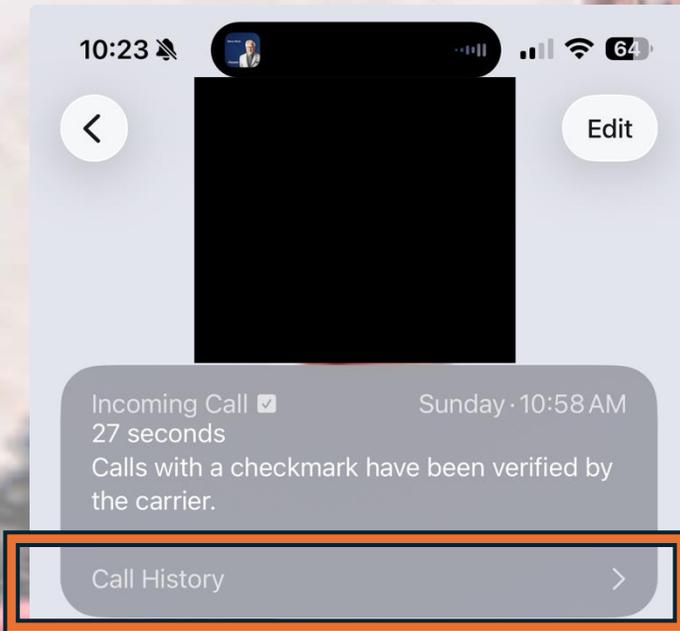
1. Go to your phone app and if you are using the new Unified view, find the contact in the "Recents" section whose call history you want to view.
2. Tap the contact's name (if you're using the Classic interface, tap the circled "i" icon to the right of their name)



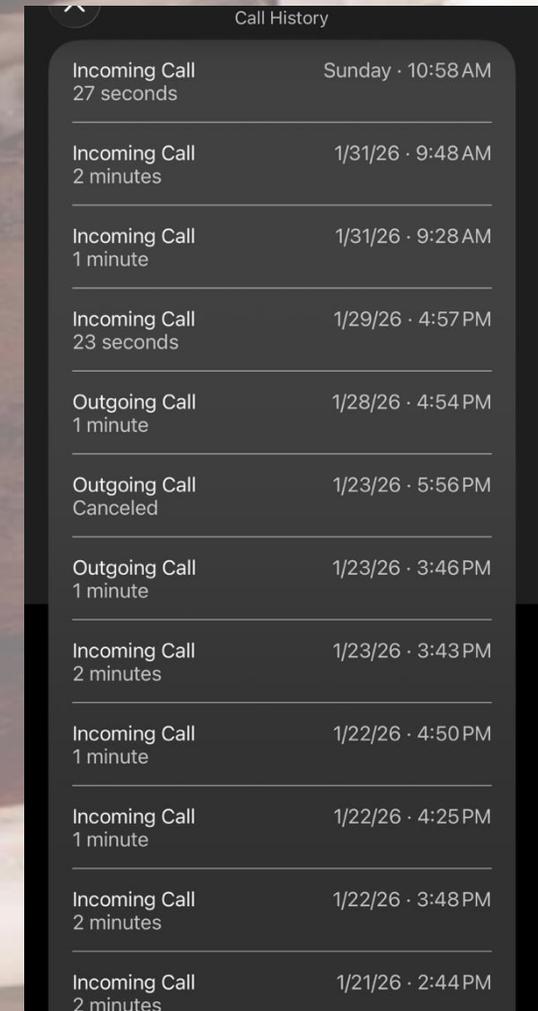
# See An Extended Call History For Any iPhone Contact

iOS 26 will let you pull up a call history for any specific contact you've made or received a call from. Here's how you access this:

3. Once you are in the contact's page, scroll down and tap "Call History."



4. You can now see a complete chronological record of every incoming, outgoing, and missed call with that contact. You'll see the date, time, and duration of every conversation. The listings here will stretch back as far as you've been contacting this person with your current iPhone.



# What do the Apple Watch buttons do?

What do the buttons on the Apple Watch do? Each individual button does different things, depending on whether you click, double-click or hold them down.

Here is a visual guide from Cult of Mac for the regular Apple Watch:



# What do the Apple Watch buttons do?

Here is a visual guide for the Apple Watch Ultra:



Cult of Mac

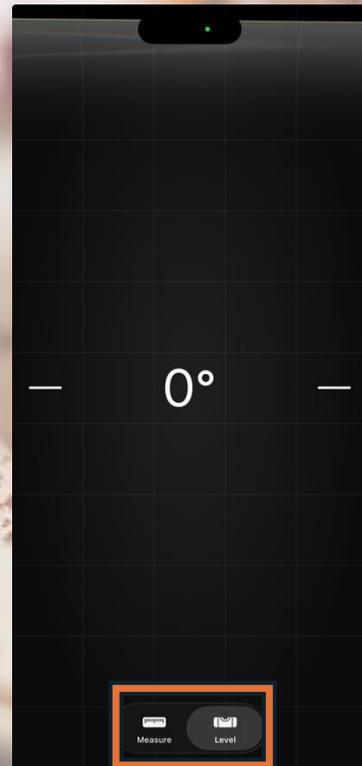
Apple Watch Ultra Button Guide



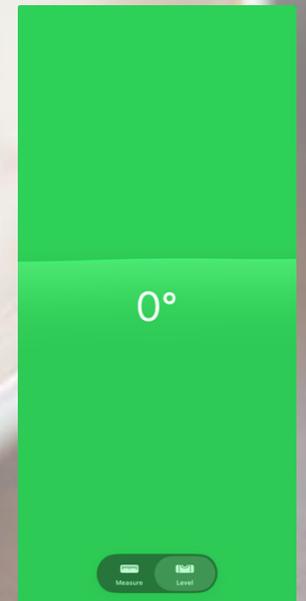
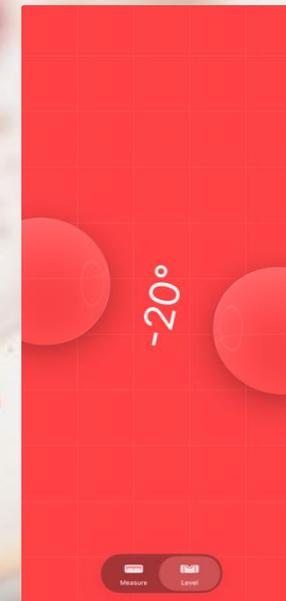
# Did You Know Your iPhone Has a Spirit Level Tool?

True story! It's one of the many somewhat hidden features and tools that your iPhone packs. I've found this handy on numerous occasions when I either didn't have a level handy or didn't want to have to go down to my workshop in my basement to get my level. So where is it and how does it work?

It's important to know that the spirit level is not an app on its own. It's found in the Measurement app.



You can use the level by laying the iPhone flat or standing it on any edge. Remember if you have a case on the iPhone, it will impact this. When the phone is laying flat, then the level will be represented by two bubbles. The bubbles come together as you get closer to level and eventually uniting into one bubble. If the phone is on its side, then the angle will be represented by a line. When the screen goes completely green, you've found a level angle.



In the Measure app, there are two options at the bottom of the screen "Measure" and "Level." Select Level

# Did You Know Your iPhone Has a Spirit Level Tool?

So how accurate is the iPhone level? I tested it against my regular level and the results came out the same. There are some things that can impact the iPhone getting an accurate reading. As I already mentioned a case can throw it off. Also, the buttons and camera bump can throw off the results. Depending on your case, It's possible that your case might actually level out the back camera.



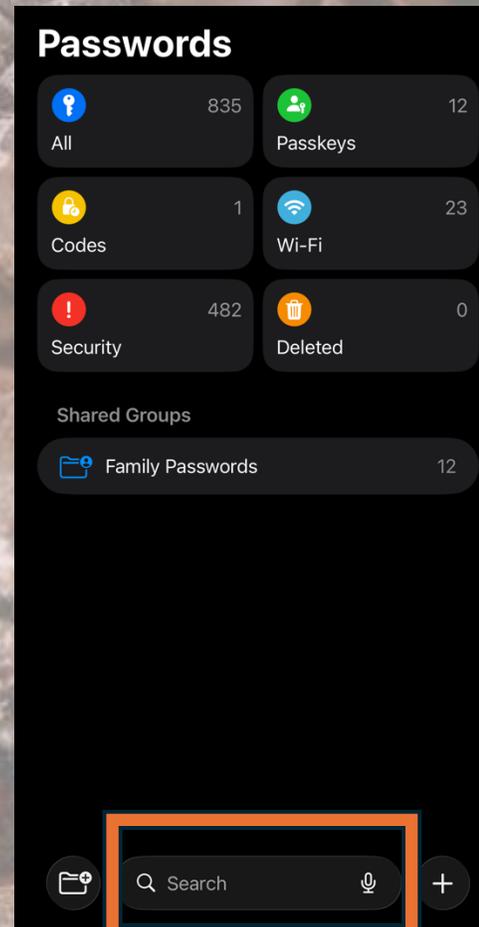
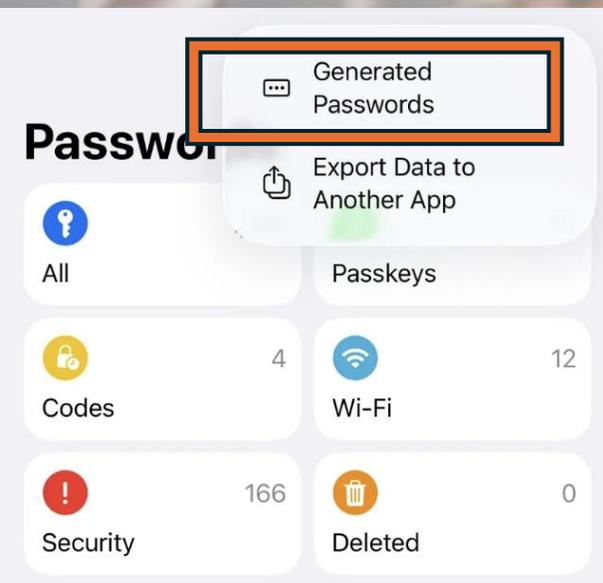
# The Passwords App in iOS 26 Has a Great New Feature

The Passwords app keeps getting better and there is a cool new feature that can save you from potential headaches. If you've ever needed to set a new password and you used Apple Passwords to generate a new complex password for you, only for it to not save in Passwords, it can drive you crazy. Now you're stuck having to go through the forget my password hassle. Well, Apple Passwords now has a potential fix for this.

When new passwords have been generated in iOS, but don't get saved correctly in the Passwords app, a menu option will appear. Go to the upper right and click on the three dots. You'll see a "Generated Passwords" option.

This option will only appear when a new password has been generated in the last 30 days. Otherwise, this option doesn't show up.

If you don't see the "generated Passwords" option, then go down to the search bar at the bottom of the screen. In the search bar type the name of the website or app that the password was generated to use with. You MIGHT be able to find something.



# Access F1 TV with your Apple TV account

If you're a Formula One racing fan, you probably know that Apple is now the provider of F1 races in the United States. Now, if you are an Apple TV subscriber, to get more in-depth content you can link your Apple TV account with F1.TV, to get the F1 Premium tier at no extra charge.

“F1 Premium offers a high quality, ad-free service that includes live feeds of every session at every event, featuring driver-on-board cameras, team radio and in-depth data alongside exclusive behind the scenes content. F1 TV Access provides a simplified alternative, giving fans access to live race timing data and full race replays.”

**THE ULTIMATE  
F1® LIVE IMMERSION**

To link your Apple TV account to F1 Premium use this link:

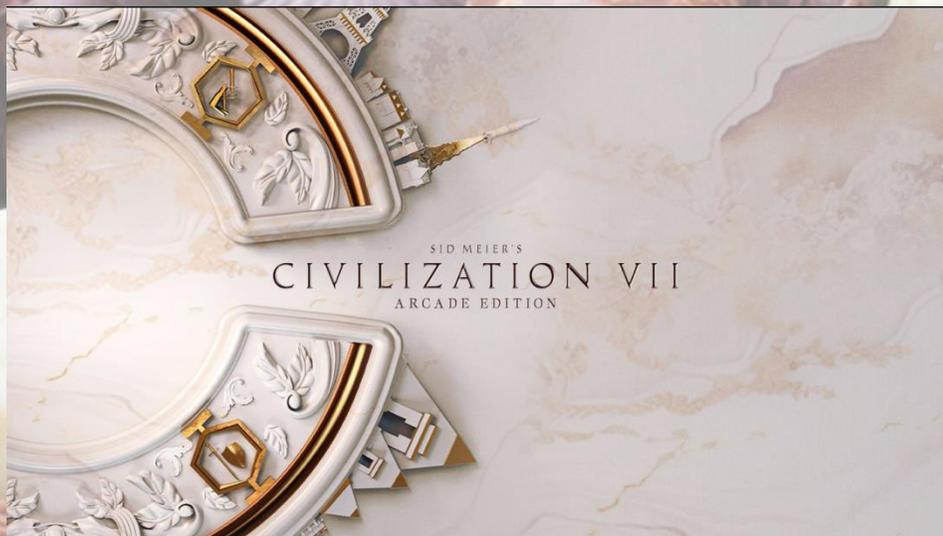
<https://9to5mac.com/2026/02/04/f1-tv-free-with-apple-tv-link-subscription/>

<https://www.formula1.com/en/latest/article/f1-tv-launches-new-f1-tv-premium-subscription-tier.46ULoJHnve3zgO0pmiKzrF>

	POSITION	CURRENT	PREVIOUS		
1	HAM	19 (S)	10 (M)	∞	∞
2	VET	16 (S)	07 (M)	∞	∞
3	BOT	18 (M)	09 (S)	∞	∞
4	VER	10 (M)	15 (M)	05 (S)	∞

# Video Gaming Old School!

If you are a fan of the long running Sid Meier video game series, Civilization, Apple recently announced that the new Civilization game, Civilization VII, is now on Apple Arcade. If you subscribe to Arcade, you can now get the game “free” on iPad, iPhone, and Mac. The first Civilization game came out in 1991.



# Video Gaming 1980s Style!

Ever pump quarters into the arcade back in the day? Then this game app is totally rad - it's righteous and totally tubular - it's like, totally your scene. Check out Retrocade for the iPad, iPhone, and Apple Vision.



Get  
ED FEB 5, 2026

# Silicon Inside Stickers

Remember the Intel Inside stickers? Now you can get Silicon Inside stickers.

“Available in two finishes: Silver and Space Black, each sticker measures 1.01" wide by 1.29" tall and has been designed with the a ton of care for every detail.

Printed on premium holographic vinyl, these stickers shift and shimmer with light, showing off a spectrum of color. A durable, weather-resistant laminate keeps them safe from fading, scratching, tearing, or water.”

## Silicon Inside Stickers

<https://basicappleguy.com/siliconinside>

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Available for the M1 to the M4 Max (and everything in between), these beautiful holographic vinyl stickers are a gorgeous add-on to any Mac or silicon-powered device. Each design faithfully represents the unique chip architecture of every Silicon chip released to date, and future chips will be added as the chips continue to advance.