

iPhone X Tips

Open the App Switcher like a pro

Now that there's no home button, you've got to learn a whole new set of gestures, and opening the App Switcher can be tricky. Apple tells you to swipe up from the gesture bar towards the center of the screen, and then wait for the App Switcher to appear when you feel a little vibration. This is not only slow, but hard to pull off. Instead, swipe up and at an arc towards the right or left (if you're a lefty) and, voila!

Bring back the home button (sort of)

Honestly, you get used to not having a home button pretty quickly. But if you simply can't live without it, there is a way to bring it back (albeit in virtual form).

Go to General > Accessibility > Assistive Touch and turn it on. You'll now see a virtual home button that you can customize to activate shortcuts.

You can set the virtual button to go home with a single-tap, double-tap, long press, or 3D Touch. Or set the button for other shortcuts like launching Control Center. Additionally, if you're worried about screen-burn in, we recommend lowering the "Idle Opacity" setting below the 40 percent default.

In some ways this virtual home button is more versatile than a physical one. You don't have to place it where the real button used to be — it can be placed anywhere along the sides of the display.

Unlock with Face ID faster

Novice users will think there's only one right way to unlock the iPhone X: raise it and then swipe up after the Face ID padlock has opened. Seasoned iPhone X users already know of a faster way: raise and swipe.

That's right, Face ID is usually so accurate that you can just swipe up — no need to wait for the padlock icon to open — when the TrueDepth camera is

held directly in front of your face. You save a half a second, but when you're unlocking your phone all day long, they add up.

Show battery percentage

iOS doesn't display the battery percentage by default, but you could go into the Settings app and turn it on. On the iPhone X, the setting's been removed. But have no fear. You can still see the battery percentage by swiping down on the right side of the notch. It's now incorporated into the Control Center.

How to disable Face ID in an instant

If for whatever reason you find yourself in a situation where you don't want Face ID to be your primary form of security — like if you're being held captive somewhere and someone has your phone and could force you to look at it — you can quickly deactivate it.

Quickly press the power button (officially called the "Side Button") five times and it'll automatically turn Face ID off and default to your passcode to unlock. Entering your passcode will re-activate Face ID.

Flip quickly between apps

You should already know this trick, but you may have missed it during setup. Because who doesn't swipe through the tutorials to hurry up and get to the phone?

Swipe right on the gesture bar from the home screen and you'll see that you can quickly flip between suspended apps. Additionally, you can swipe left and right once you've flipped to an app that wasn't the last one opened.

Save up to 60% battery life

We've been consistently impressed with how long the iPhone X lasts. On many occasions, it lasts up to a day and a half.

Putting your phone in low power mode will extend the battery life even further. But you can extend battery life even more, by up to 60 percent according to AppleInsider's tests, simply by using black wallpaper, inverting colors to create a pseudo "dark mode," and by turning on grayscale mode. These extra power-savings are the result of the iPhone X's OLED display. Unlike traditional LCD screens, which have pixels that are backlit across the board, the pixels on OLED displays are individually lit. Black pixels are essentially "off" and not lit, therefore conserving power.

[Make Control Center easier to reach](#)

Accessing the Control Center on the iPhone X is not exactly intuitive, especially with one hand. Good thing you can make it easier to call up with Reachability.

The setting's turned off by default. Go to Settings > Accessibility > Reachability.

Now, when you activate Reachability (swipe down on the gesture bar), the entire screen will slide down and you can swipe down right above the upper right app icons.

Sure, it's a two-swipe process now, but it's better than fumbling with one hand and accidentally dropping and smashing your iPhone X.

[Quiet alarms with your Face](#)

Blaring alarm clocks suck. On iPhone X, you don't need to hit snooze. After picking it up, Face ID will look for your face, and if it sees it, it'll automatically lower the volume.

[Animoji as stickers](#)

Animoji are highly addictive and the karaoke remixes people are doing are so much fun to watch. Most people know that you can send Animoji as 10-second videos, but don't realize you can also pose them and send them as iMessage stickers.

To do this, open the Animoji recording feature as you normally would by tapping the App store icon to the right of the camera button. Create the Animoji face pose you want and then tap it, and it'll automatically be placed inside of the text input box for sending as a sticker.

Force quit apps

It's a myth that force quitting apps will conserve battery life. In fact, Apple says doing so actually wastes more power.

But sometimes an app freezes up and there's no way to reset with other than to force quit it. On the iPhone 8 and older, force quitting apps was as easy as opening the App Switcher and swiping up on the app.

On iPhone X, this action is a little more complex. First, you need to bring up the App Switcher. Then, you need to long-press on the app until a little red minus symbol appears in the left corner. You can tap on the minus symbol to force quit an app or swipe up on an app.

Tap to wake

Many Android phones have had a "double-tap to wake" up the display feature for years. Now, iPhone X users have a similar feature, only it only requires a tap.

Tap-to-wake is nice for when you just want to check the time or peek at your notifications without lifting the phone up and triggering Face ID. You can tap anywhere on the iPhone X's display to activate this feature.

Take a screenshot

Apple recently beefed up the screenshot function in iOS 11, which allows you to edit shots and send them without having to store the pics on your iPhone.

However, you'll need to use a different command to take a screenshot on the iPhone X.

Just hold down the side button and then press the volume up button to take a photo of whatever you can see onscreen.

Record your screen

You can now also take a silent video of what's happening on screen.

To access this, go to settings and open the 'control center' option.

Click 'customize' and you'll be able to add the record screen option to the control center, which appears when you swipe down from the top right of the screen.

You can record sound through your phone's microphone, but not phone calls or the audio produced by apps.

How to Activate Siri

You can always get Siri's attention by just saying "Hey Siri," but if you'd rather activate Apple's AI assistant without speaking you'll need to learn yet another new gesture, albeit one that's particularly easy to remember.

All you need to do is hold down the side button for a few seconds and Siri will switch on. If you do this by mistake, you can dismiss Siri by swiping up from the bottom of the display to return to the iPhone X home screen.

How to Open the Control Center and Notification Center

By now, you've probably noticed that a big theme with the iPhone X is swiping up. On previous iPhones, that same gesture was used to access the Control Center. So how do you find it on Apple's new phone?

To launch the Control Center, just swipe down from the top right corner of the screen. Having the Control Center located at the top right also means that accessing the Notification Center is now limited to the top left corner of the screen. Helpfully, there's a big ugly notch in the middle to keep you from opening the wrong menu.

App sliding

You can also slide between the apps you have most recently been using: Just swipe the gesture bar at the bottom of the screen to the left or right. Swipe right to get to the previous app you were using, or left to return to the current app.

The Notifications List

To check your notifications, you must remember to swipe down from the top left corner of the display.

How to use Apple Pay

To use Apple Pay you will need to double-press the sleep/power button while holding the iPhone up to the payment terminal. Make sure you have your eyes open and are staring directly at the device when you do this as iPhone X will attempt to authenticate your identity using Face ID. (You can also use your password to verify this if you do not use Face ID).

How to turn off your iPhone X

There are two ways to turn your iPhone off:

- Hold down both the volume up and side buttons for a few seconds
- Or use the new Shutdown option in Settings>General.

How to Force reset your iPhone X

Follow these steps to Force Reset your iPhone X:

- Press and quick release the Volume Up button on the left of your device
- Then press and quick release the Volume Down button
- And then press and hold the Sleep/Wake button until the Apple logo appears.

Design

The iPhone X is made with glass and stainless steel and features the first OLED screen called the Super Retina Display. The phone is water and dust

resistant and is available in Silver or Space Grey. No home button on the phone so you simply have to raise to wake the iPhone X, or tap the display.

Display

The iPhone X has 5.8-inch Super Retina Display with an edge-to-edge finish. The screen has a 1,000,000 to 1 contrast ratio with wide color support as well as True Tone which will adjust the white balance to match the surrounding light.

Specs

Specifications	iPhone X
iOS	iOS 11
Specifications	iPhone X
Display	5.8-inch Retina HD display
Processor	A11 chip 64-bit
RAM	64 GB 256 GB
Rear Camera	12MP wide-angle and telephoto cameras
	Digital zoom up to 5x
Front Camera	7MP camera 1080p HD video recording
Features	True Tone display
	3D Touch
	Fingerprint-resistant
	Display Zoom
	IP67 Splash, Water, and Dust Resistant
	Touch ID: Fingerprint sensor
	Apple Pay

Face ID	Enabled by TrueDepth camera for facial recognition
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Battery	Wireless charging
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The iPhone X is powered by A11 Bionic chip, neural engine, and M11 motion coprocessor, 64-bit processor with a battery with two hours longer use than the iPhone 7 Plus. The phone will have a wireless charging mat called AirPower to charge the phone.

Measuring 143.6mm x 70.9 x 7.7 mm, the phone has 5.8-inch OLED True Tone display with 2436 x 1125 resolution at 458 ppi, 625cd/m2 brightness, and 1,000,000:1 contrast ratio (Super Retina display). Weighing 174g, it has 64GB and 256GB storage options, and is equipped with 12MP wide-angle and telephoto cameras with f/1.8 aperture as well as 7MP FaceTime camera with f/2.2 aperture.

The iPhone X runs iOS 11 and supports Wi-Fi 802.11a/b/g/n/ac Wi-Fi with MIMO, LTE Advanced, and Bluetooth 5.0. You can use the phone to pay using Face ID in stores, within apps, and on the web.

[In the Box](#)

1. iPhone with iOS 11
2. Ear Pods with Lightning Connector
3. Lightning to 3.5 mm Headphone Jack Adapter (no more mic jack)
4. Lightning to USB Cable
5. USB Power Adapter
6. Documentation (useless)