With <u>iOS 18</u>, Apple Music is getting a fresh set of updates that make the experience smoother, more interactive, and tailored to your preferences. From Music Haptics to new SharePlay options, these features enhance how you experience music.



In this guide, I'll walk you through the latest <u>iOS 18 tips</u> and features to get the most out of Apple Music on your iPhone running iOS 18.

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1. Getting started with Apple Music

If you're new to Apple Music, getting started is simple. After opening the Apple Music app, you can sign up for a free trial or choose a subscription plan. Here is a brief overview of the <u>Apple Music plans</u>:

- Individual: \$10.99/month
- Family (up to 6 people): \$16.99/month
- University Student: \$5.99/month (includes Apple TV+)

Also, a special Apple Music Voice Plan, available for \$4.99, lets you listen to any song via Siri.

After successfully completing the setup of your account, Apple Music will customize your musical tastes by inquiring about your preferred genres and artists. This is important because it helps the app generate suitable playlists and song suggestions for you.

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After this, you may proceed to explore the Music app to learn its features.

- Listen Now: See your recently played songs, mixes made for you, recommended radio stations, and suggestions based on your listening history.
- New: Get personalized recommendations for new music or artists by Apple Music editorial staff. You can explore sections such as New Releases, Latest Songs, and Updated Playlists.
- **Radio:** Described further in the next section, you can head to the Radio tab to listen to a station.
- Library: This contains all of your music playlists, albums, songs, compilations, and downloaded items.
- **Search:** Use the Search box to find artists, songs, albums, radio stations, shows, and more. Type your request or use the microphone icon to speak it.

Use the shortcut menus

You can also access a list of handy shortcuts with a long-press (tap and hold).

- **Long-press a song:** Along with the other items you'll see, you can long-press a song to <u>create a station</u> with it.
- Long-press an album: You can long-press an album or one of your playlists to add it to your listening queue, either at the beginning or the end.



2. Take advantage of radio stations

The Radio stations in Apple Music are awesome for background music while you work or play. They offer a continuous stream of songs, shows, and podcasts so you can just relax and listen without lifting a finger.

- 1. Tap the **Radio** tab at the bottom of the app.
- 2. You can then browse through the various stations.
- 3. Listen to a radio show with your favorite host or artist, recent episodes of that new podcast, or artist interviews.



You can also check out music stations by genre, listen to Apple Music hits, or hear songs from around the globe. Simply select a station and enjoy!

3. Add tracks to the queue

iOS 18 has enhanced the music queue system. It now includes clearer options for adding songs to your listening queue.

The Play Last option has been renamed to **Play After**, providing more context about what will play next. When you select this option, you'll see exactly what song or album will follow in the queue. Also, you can change the song that is currently playing without hampering the queue.

To add songs or albums to your queue, simply long-press on it and tap **Play After**. Or open the currently playing song page and tap the **three-dots icon**. Here, select **Add to Queue**. Moreover, you can find a Queue button in the Now Playing screen.

Pro Tip

To delete the track queue, go to the Now Playing section and tap on the burger icon to see your music queue. Then select Clear at the top and tap Clear Queue to confirm.

4. Use Crossfade in Apple Music

Crossfade facilitates a smooth transition from one song to another, so the music never stops playing. To enable crossfade on your device, follow the steps mentioned below:

- 1. Open the **Settings** app on your iPhone.
- 2. Tap **Apps** \rightarrow **Music** \rightarrow Toggle **on Crossfade**.
- 3. Use the slider to adjust the length of the crossfade between songs. You can go as low as 1 second or as high as 12 seconds.

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5. Create Collaborative Playlists

Apple Music lets you <u>create Collaborative Playlists</u> with your friends and family. All the participants can add, remove, or reorder songs to the playlist. Pretty fun, right? Making themed playlists for group long drives and house parties is useful.

- 1. Go to the Library tab and select Playlists.
- 2. Tap on **New Playlist** or choose an existing one.



- 3. Now, tap the **three-dots** icon and select **Collaborate**.
- 4. Toggle on Approve Collaborators and tap Start Collaboration.
- 5. Finally, share the playlist link with the people you want to give access to.



Once everyone joins the playlist, they can add, remove, and react to the songs.

6. View song credits

Explore the geniuses behind your favorite tracks from the Apple Music Credit page. You will get information about all of the performing artists, composition artists, producers, lyricists and sound engineers who worked on the song.

Here's how you can view song credits in Apple Music on your iPhone or iPad:

- 1. Open the music page you are listening to.
- 2. Tap the **three-dot icon** next to the song name.
- 3. From the pop-up menu that appears, select View Credits.

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7. Get Music Haptics

A cool new feature introduced with iOS 18 is Music Haptics. When you're listening to music, your iPhone can provide subtle vibrations that sync with the beat of the song. So, it is useful for people with hearing impairments.

To <u>enable Music Haptics</u>:

- 1. Go to **Settings** and select **Accessibility**.
- 2. Scroll down and tap **Music Haptics**.
- 3. Toggle on Music Haptics.

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Here, you can adjust the intensity of vibrations based on your preference.

8. Check out premade playlists

If you want to try something new, why not one of the premade playlists in the Music app? The songs are assembled for you, and you can simply skip over the tunes you don't like. You can pick a playlist for a specific genre, mood like alone time, activity like a workout, a year like the 90s, etc.

- 1. Tap the **New tab** at the bottom of the home page in the Music app.
- 2. Scroll down to the **More to Explore** section.
- 3. Now, choose an option. Here, I selected Moods and Activities.
- 4. You will see premade playlists like Apple Music Chill, Apple Music Commuting, etc. Choose the **playlist** you want to hear, tap the **Play button**, and you're set.



If you discover a song you want to hold onto, tap the three dots to the right of it and then add it to your library or one of your own playlists. Tap the plus sign on the top right to add the entire playlist to your library.

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9. Automatically add songs to your library

When you find a song you want to add to a playlist or save it as a favorite, you can also automatically add it to your music library. This means that the song is always available to you, even if you delete the playlist.

- 1. Open the **Settings** app \rightarrow Go to **Apps** and choose **Music**.
- 2. Then, toggle on Add Playlist Songs and Add Favorite Songs.



3. Head to the Library tab to locate the song, or use the Search tab to find it fast.

Moving forward, any song you add to a playlist or mark as Favorite will also appear in your library.

Tip: You can mark an artist as your favorite to receive notifications about new releases, live shows and more. Simply go to the Artist page and tap on the star icon.

10. Hear more of what you like (and less of what you don't)

Whether you're discovering a new genre, artist, or style, you can teach Apple Music what you like and dislike. Using the Suggest Less features, you can hear less of what you don't with a simple tap.

- 1. When you see a song you want to mark, long-press it until the shortcut menu appears. You can also use the three dots to the right of a song to open the menu.
- 2. Then, tap **Suggest Less** if you don't like a tune. Apple Music then attempts to keep similar songs from appearing in its suggestions.

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3. If you change your mind, follow the same process and tap **Undo Suggest Less**.



If you can add tracks to your library quickly, select the Favourite option.

Additionally, you can enable listening history for the Music app to see your recently played songs and receive replay mixes. Open **Settings** \rightarrow **Apps** \rightarrow **Music** and toggle **on Use Listening History**.

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11. Get music information on Apple TV

Suppose you watch a show or movie on Apple TV and wonder about its title track. Now, you can view which music is playing in the show from the Insight option.

- 1. When watching a show or movie, pause it to see playback controls.
- 2. Tap on InSights.
- 3. Now, swipe left to see the cast, crew, and music tracks.
- 4. Tap the **plus icon** on the music tile to add it to your library.
- 5. Go to the Music app's Library tab and open the Saved Songs album.

12. View your Apple Music Replay

After using the Music app for a while, you'll find a playlist of the songs you listened to the most over a period of time. Automatically generated for you, Apple Music Replay lets you easily access songs you played more than any others.

- 1. Go to the Listen Now tab and scroll to the very bottom.
- 2. You should see a section titled **Replay: Your Top Songs by Year** with a playlist for each.
- 3. Select one to review it and tap Play to listen.



If you ever wondered what your <u>most streamed songs on Apple Music</u> were in 2024 or even 2020, Apple Music Replay lets you know.

13. SharePlay with everyone

SharePlay has been revamped in iOS 18 to allow users to share their music experience more easily without requiring everyone to have an Apple Music subscription.

Anyone nearby can join in on the fun when playing music through a HomePod, Apple TV, or any compatible Bluetooth speaker. They can **scan a QR code** displayed on your device to access and control the playback queue.

This feature is also integrated with CarPlay. It allows every passenger in the vehicle to add tracks to a queue or play/pause and skip a track without connecting to the AUX cable.

Whenever you start a SharePlay session with CarPlay, other nearby Apple devices can join the session by simply tapping a notification on the lock screen or scanning a QR code. They don't need an active Apple Music subscription.

14. See what your friends are listening to

If you and your pals share your music tastes, it's fun to find out what they're listening to at the moment. This is a terrific way to hear something different or chit-chat over that upbeat new tune.

- 1. To get started, create an Apple Music profile by tapping your **profile** icon on the top right.
- 2. You can then share your profile with friends, let others find you, and decide what you want to share.



- 3. Next, find and follow friends who have also set up Apple Music profiles. You can do this when you set up your own profile or later by selecting **Follow More Friends** on your profile screen.
- 4. To see which songs your pals are playing, head to the **Listen Now** tab and **Friends Are Listening To** section.



Alternatively, tap your **profile** icon and then select your name. You'll see who you're following and can choose a friend to see exactly what they're listening to.

15. Sing, search, or share with song lyrics

You can see song lyrics in the Music app, making it a great way to sing along. But you can do more with Apple Music's lyrics than that. You can search for a song using a particular lyric and share specific lyrics with others.

View song lyrics

1. While a song is playing in the **Now Playing** bar, tap the **Lyrics** icon.



2. You'll see the synced lyrics move as the song continues. Simply tap to display the playback controls if necessary.

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Search with lyrics

- 1. Head to the **Search** tab and type or use the microphone to speak the song lyric.
- 2. You can choose between **Apple Music** and **Your Library** to find the song with the matching lyrics.



Share lyrics

When you view the lyrics for a song playing as described above, long-press one of those <u>lyrics you want to share</u>. You'll then see it pop into a separate screen where you can share it via AirDrop, Messages, or on social media.

16. Create and share playlists

Similar to seeing what your friends are listening to, you can create and share a playlist directly with them. This is super for creating a compilation of songs you know they'll love.

- To create a new playlist from Scratch: Go to the Library tab \rightarrow Select Playlists, and tap New Playlist at the top. Then, follow the prompts.
- To create a playlist based off of a song: Long-press the song or tap the three dots
 → Pick Add to Playlist. Then, pick New Playlist and follow the prompts.

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Once you create, it's time to share!

• To share a playlist via Messages, Mail, AirDrop, or a similar avenue: Long-press the playlist and pick Share Playlist. Then, choose your sharing option and follow the prompts.

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• To share a playlist via SharePlay: Long-press the playlist and pick SharePlay. Select a contact and then pick Messages or FaceTime and follow the prompts.

For more details on how to share playlists on Apple Music, check out our how-to.

17. Make Smart Playlists

Like a playlist you create in Apple Music, Smart Playlists are those you can assemble automatically. You just set up the criteria for the songs you want to add. Then, when a new song lands in your library that matches those criteria, it'll pop into the Smart Playlist, ready for you to listen to.

Although the Music app on iPhone doesn't currently support creating Smart Playlists, you do have options. First, you can make the Smart Playlist on your Mac and <u>sync it with the</u> <u>Music app</u> for access on your iPhone. A second option is to set up a shortcut on your iPhone

to create the Smart Playlist.

Take a look at our tutorial for <u>creating a Smart Playlist to set one up on an</u> iPhone using one of these methods.

18. Listen to Apple Music without the Internet

If you travel somewhere with weak or no internet, did you know that you can <u>listen to Apple</u> <u>Music offline</u>? Just download the songs you want, and you're ready when that "no signal" message comes into view.

- In order to download a song, you'll need to add it to your library or a playlist. Long-press or tap the three dots to the right of the song to select one to add to the Library or a playlist.
- 2. Once you've added the song, open your **library** or playlist to **select it**.
- 3. Then, long-press or tap the three dots and pick **Download**.

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To download one of your playlists, select it to open it. Then, tap the **Download** button (down arrow) on the top right.

If you'd like to see your downloaded music and how much space it takes up, go to **Settings** \rightarrow **Music** and select **Downloaded Music**.

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19. Enhance the sound

Do you love songs with booming bass, a toned-down instrumental background, or where the guitar stands out? You can enhance the sound of songs you listen to in the Music app with several options and only a few steps.

Open the **Settings** app \rightarrow choose **Music**. Then, move down to the **Audio** section to adjust the following sound options.

- **Dolby Atmos**: This is set to **Automatic** by default, using spatial audio for supported songs. But you can change it to **Always On** if you like, which uses Dolby Atmos even if your earphones don't support it.
- Audio Quality: If you enable the toggle for Lossless Audio, you'll get that highquality sound you enjoy. Just note as the setting describes, this can cause more data consumption.
- **EQ**: You can choose from various <u>EQ presets to adjust the audio</u> for bass, dance, piano, pop, rock, and other types of music. If you would like to adjust the equalizer without preset options like these, you can also look at <u>EQ apps for iPhone</u>.

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1:01		1:01		
Settings Music		< Music	EQ	
Show Star Ratings		-		
Access star ratings for music saved to your library in the song menu. Using star ratings won't affect your		Off		
recommendations in Listen Now.		Acoustic		
Sync Library		Classical		
Your purchased music, content you add from Apple Music or import to iTunes, and changes you make to your library will sync across all your devices.		Dance		
		Deep		
Dolby Atmos	Automatic >	Electronic		
Audio Quality	5	Flat		
FO	Off >	Hip Hop		
Sound Check		Increase Bass		✓)
		Jazz		
DOWNLOADS		Late Night		
Downloaded Music	315.5 MB >	Latin		
Optimize Storage	On >	Loudness		
Download in Dolby Atmos		Lounge		
Automatic Downloads		Piano		
Music automatically downloads for offline listening when added to your library or purchased in the iTunes Store.		Рор		

20. Croon karaoke with Apple Music Sing

Singing along with song lyrics is great, but what's even better is when your voice is the only one. Just like that karaoke bar you visit on the weekends, <u>Apple Music Sing</u> lets you do it from right your couch.

Play a song as you normally would, and then tap the **Lyrics** icon. Warm up your vocal cords and tap the **Karaoke** icon (magic wand).

You'll then notice the song's vocals vanish, the melody remains, and the lyrics stay on the screen for you to sing along.

The feature is available on the iPhone SE 3rd generation and iPhone 11 series and later.

21. Watch music videos on Apple Music

You may not realize it, but the Music app has an entire <u>section of music videos</u> for you to enjoy.

- 1. Go to the **Browse** tab.
- 2. Scroll to the bottom below **More to Explore**.
- 3. Tap Music Videos.

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You'll then see a great selection of videos, video playlists, and everything from new music to songs by genre to options for kids and families.

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22. Receive Music notifications

If you never want to miss that new song by your favorite artist or when a friend follows you, you can enable these notifications in the Music app.

- 1. Select your **profile** icon on the top right.
- 2. Then, on the profile screen, choose **Notifications**.
- 3. Enable the toggles for New Music and Friend Activity.

Also, make sure you have your <u>iPhone Notifications</u> enabled for the Music app. Go to **Settings** \rightarrow **Notifications** \rightarrow **Music** and turn on the toggle for **Allow Notifications**.



What's your favorite Apple Music feature?

With these Apple Music tips, you should be set. Whether you want to view song lyrics, sing

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karaoke, or make your most-loved tunes sound even better, you'll surely enjoy the Music app even more.

Let us know which of these features, or others not mentioned here, are your Apple Music favorites!

Read more:

- How to delete recent Apple Music searches on iPhone, iPad, and Mac
- How to use Favorites in Apple Music on iPhone
- <u>Spotify vs. Apple Music: Where to place your bet?</u>