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The Reminders app on the iPhone is a powerful tool for staying organized, managing tasks, and boosting productivity. Whether you're scheduling daily tasks or setting location-based reminders, the app offers various features to help you keep track of everything.



#image\_title

With iOS 18, Reminders has become more powerful. You can now create and access tasks in Calendar, reorder the Today to-do list, use shortcut automation, and much more. Let's jump in to learn how to use the Reminders app and customize it to fit your needs.

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# How to set up the Reminders app on iPhone or iPad

Before you start using Reminders, you need to set it up correctly on your iPhone or iPad. The app comes pre-installed in iOS and syncs seamlessly with your iCloud account, allowing you to access reminders across multiple Apple devices. However, you need iCloud syncing for Reminders enabled for this.

- 1. Go to the **Settings** app on your iPhone and iPad.
- 2. Tap on your profile picture at the top and select **iCloud**.

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Q. Search	Personal Information	
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- 3. Now, tap See All next to the Saved to iCloud label.
- 4. Scroll down and toggle on **Reminders**.



## How to create a reminder in the Reminders app

In several ways, you can create a reminder in the Reminders app on an iPhone. Each method has its own benefits, so you can choose one that is best for you.

#### Method 1: In the Reminders app

The most straightforward way to create a reminder is via the Reminders app itself. Here's what you need to do:

- 1. Open **Reminders** on your iPhone.
- 2. Tap **New Reminder** in the bottom-left corner.
- 3. Give the reminder a title, like "Wish Happy Birthday."
- 4. Add some information about the reminder, like "Get the cake first," in the Add Note text field.
- 5. Now, tap **Details**, and, based on your requirements, set the date, time, location, and more for the reminder. We'll discuss this further in the later section.



6. Finally, tap **Add** to create the reminder.

You can also set a date, time, and location or add images from the quick toolbar options at the top of the keypad. Mind you, third-party keyboard apps like SwiftKey may not support this functionality.

- **Date and time:** Setting the exact date and time is the key to any reminder. Select Today, Tomorrow, or Date & Time to customize it. If you only set a date without time, you will get a notification at 9 a.m. by default. Go to Settings > Apps > Reminders > Time under All-Day Reminders to change this. Select a preferred time.
- Add a location: Tap the icon that looks like an arrowhead. Choose an option or tap on **Custom** and search for an address.
- **Flag a reminder:** Select the flag icon to mark a reminder as essential. All flagged reminders are displayed in the smart list section on the app's home screen.
- Add an attachment: Tap the camera icon. From here, you can add media to the reminder. Choose an existing image from the Photo Library or scan a document.
- **Assign a reminder:** To do this, you will need to create a shared list. Once you have done this, tap the assignment button to assign the reminder to the person you want.

#### Method 2: Reminders in the Calendar app

With iOS 18, you can manage your schedule and to-do list more efficiently, as reminders are now integrated into the Calendar app. This puts your current calendar events and reminder tasks in one place. Moreover, the Calendar app lets you create reminders within the app.

- 1. Open the **Calendar** app on your iPhone or iPad.
- 2. Tap the + icon in the top-right corner.
- 3. Go to the **Reminder** tab.
- 4. Enter the title and notes and select a time or date for the reminder.
- 5. Tap **Details** to customize the reminder more.
- 6. Hit **Add** to save it.



You can access and edit this task in the Reminder app as well.

#### Method 3: Using Siri

You can also ask Siri to create reminders for you.

Simply say, "**Hey Siri, remind me to [task]**." To add time and date to your request, you can say, "**Hey Siri, remind me to buy cake on December 24 at 9 pm.**" Next, you'll hear Siri reply with, "**Ok, I added it.**"

Asking Siri to create reminders is best when you want to be reminded of any article or email. Siri supports adding attachments or links to a reminder from native apps like Notes, Safari, Mail, Maps, Photos, etc. For example, open the article on Safari and say, "Hey Siri, remind me this at 7 a.m. **tomorrow**."

Tip

Siri adds the reminder to the default list. You can change this by going to **Settings** > **Apps** 

#### > **Reminders** > **Default List** and selecting the list you use most often.

#### Method 4: Create a reminder from another app

If you want to create a reminder from any third-party app, Siri can't help. But worry not! I have a quick workaround. The <u>iOS Share Sheet</u> lets you add reminders from other apps. Here's how:

- 1. Launch the app and open the content you want to get reminded of. Here, I am using a Facebook post.
- 2. Tap the share icon. If it doesn't show the Share Sheet, tap **More**.
- 3. Select Reminders.



- 4. Write a note if needed and tap **Details** to add date, time, and the likes.
- 5. Finally, tap **Add** to create a reminder.



This method works for most apps. However, creating a reminder for a voice memo is a bit tricky. The Share Sheet in the Voice Memo app doesn't include the Reminders app.

To accomplish that, go to the Notes app and tap the pen icon to create a new note. Now, tap the attachment icon and select **Record Audio**. Next, record the voice memo and hit **Done**.

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Finally, tap the share icon, select **Reminders**, add details, and tap **Add**.

If you have any existing voice memos, go to the Voice Memo app, tap on the recording and select the **t**hree-dot icon. Then, tap **Share** and choose **Notes**. Now, create a reminder for that note.

#### **Bonus: Create new reminders using old entries**

You can reuse old reminders to save time and effort. When you type the title of a new reminder, the app will show a list of relevant prior entries. Simply select the recommended title to add it.

Moreover, the app may learn from the reminders you create and suggest a date, time, and location for similar reminders.

# How to customize your reminders

Now that you have created your desired reminder, let me show you how to customize it to boost your productivity. The Reminders app lets you edit and add details to a task post creation. Let's look at how to do this:

- 1. Open the **Reminders** app on your iPhone or iPad.
- 2. Go to the **reminder** you want to customize.
- 3. Tap on the title and select the **Info** icon to the right.

This will open the **Details** page. Here, you can edit the title and add a note and URL to the reminder. You may also set or change the date and time of the reminder. In addition to these basic settings, you can access advanced reminder features, as we'll discuss below.



#### Set location-based reminders

You can set reminders that trigger when you arrive at or leave a specific location. Simply

toggle on **Location** on the **Details** page and select a recommended place.

To set a different location, tap on Custom and search for it. Choose a location from the search list and select between Arriving and **Leaving**.



If you want to learn in detail, go through our complete guide to <u>setting location-based</u> <u>reminders</u>.

#### **Get reminders in Messages**

The Reminders app can alert you when interacting with specific contacts in Messages.

To enable this, toggle on **When Messaging** on the **Details** page. Then, tap on **Choose Person** and select the contact from the list.



#### Set early reminders

For time-sensitive tasks, you can set early reminders. This will notify you earlier than the due time, allowing you to prepare better.

On the Details page, tap on Early Reminders and select the time frame from the drop-down list. You can also select **Custom** to set your preferred due time.



#### Add images to your reminders

I have already shared that you can create reminders from the Photos app. However, you can

also add an image or document to an existing reminder.

Go to the **Details** page and tap on **Add Image** at the bottom. Now, select **Photo Library** and choose an image. This helps in providing visual references for tasks.

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Add Image		Add Image		

### Make reminders recurring

You don't need to create the same reminder multiple times if you have a task that recurs

every week or month. From the **Details** page, select **Repeat** (the reminder must have a date) and choose the frequency.

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### Set priority

To manage your tasks more efficiently, you can assign priority to your tasks. Tap on **Priority** on the **Details** page and choose between **Low**, **Medium**, and **High**.



#### **Reorder today list**

Starting with iOS 18, you can rearrange your tasks in Today's list. By default, the **Today** list

shows the overdue reminders first, then all-day reminders, and finally, timed reminders grouped by **Morning**, **Afternoon**, and **Evening**.

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	0	Tonight
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My Lists		
Shopping List		
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Groceries		
Items to buy		
Testing		
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• New Reminder	Add Lis	New Reminder

You can reorganize these by dragging and dropping tasks to ensure the most important tasks are at the top. Other lists also support this gesture. But take care not to make subtasks accidentally.

Tip

You may also sort reminders according to the due date, creation date, priority, or title. Open any reminder list, tap the three-dot icon and choose Sort By. Select the desired option to sort your reminders.

# How to create subtasks in Reminders

Subtasks are valuable as they let you stash reminders under a parent reminder. For example, if the parent reminder is "Monthly Grocery Shopping," its sub-reminders can be toothpaste, tissue paper, soap, dog food, and so on.

You may add as many subtasks as you want. Moreover, the subtasks now show up in the List view in iOS 18 for better task management.

You can create a subtask in three ways.

- Method 1: Tap (i) while adding a new reminder. Or tap an existing one to see the (i) button. Next, tap Subtasks > Add Items. Once you finish adding subtasks, tap Details to go back. Then, finally, tap Done.
- **Method 2**: Long-tap an existing reminder and swipe it to the right. Then select **Indent**. This reminder becomes a subtask of the reminder above it. Similarly, to remove the subtask, long-tap and swipe it to the right corner of the screen. Then select **Outdent**.
- Method 3: Touch and hold a reminder and drag it over the other. The dragged reminder will become a subtask of the other.

# How to complete a reminder

You will receive a notification for the reminder according to your set date and time. Once you have completed it, you can mark it as complete.

- **Method 1:** In the Notification Center, tap and hold the reminder notification on your iPhone and select **Mark as Completed**. You may also postpone it.
- Method 2: Inside the Reminders app, tap the radio button (circle) to the left of a

reminder.

#### **View completed reminders**

Once you've marked a reminder as complete, it goes to the **Completed** folder on the app's home screen. You can view all your completed reminders here. This is useful for tracking progress or future reference.

You can undo a reminder if you have accidentally marked it as complete. Tap the gray circle beside the task to mark it as incomplete. To remove the completed entries, tap **Clear** and select **All Completed**.



You may also see your completed tasks in the list view. Open the list under **My Lists**, tap the three horizontal dots at the top right and choose **Show Completed**.

# How to use lists in the Reminders app

We have discussed the basic tasks in reminders so far. Let's now move on to the advanced features, such as Lists and templates.

A list is an excellent way to organize your tasks. It's handy for quick access to related reminders without cluttering them.

#### **Create a standard list**

- 1. Open the Reminders app and tap Add List.
- 2. Give it the desired **name** and choose a preferred color and icon.
- 3. Finally, tap **Done** in the top-right corner.



#### Edit a list

After creating the list, you may change its name, icon, color, and type. To do so, tap the list name, tap the three horizontal dots in the top-right corner and choose **Show List Info**.



Customize it and tap **Done** to save.

You can also rearrange the tasks on the list. Tap and hold an item to place it in the desired position.

#### **Create sections within lists**

Lists can be divided into sections. For example, you can create Work and Personal sections within a single list.

To start, open the list, tap the three-dots icon, and select **New Section**. You'll see the Manage Sections option if your list already has a section. Tap it and select **New Section**.

Write a title for the section and tap **Return** on the keyboard to save it.

After creating sections, you can view your list in a horizontal view. In the list, tap the threedot icon and select **View as Columns**. Now, you can swipe right to access the sections.

#### **Group lists**

You can combine your lists in a group to keep all related tasks organized in one place. It will also clear the clutter from the Reminders app home page.

To group related lists together, tap and hold the list and drag it over another. This will prompt you to enter the group name. Do it and tap **Create**.



#### Move a reminder to a different list

1. Tap an existing reminder and then tap the (i) icon.

- 2. Scroll down and tap List.
- 3. Now, choose a different list.



**Pro Tip:** You can also drag and drop reminders between lists. Touch and hold a reminder until it lifts a bit. Now, with another finger, tap **Lists** to go back and drop the reminder on the desired list.

#### Pin a list

You can pin your most-used lists to the top to quickly access it. Tap and hold the list and select **Pin**. Similarly, you can unpin any list.



## How to use Smart Lists in Reminders

Smart Lists in the Reminders app enable you to effortlessly filter items across all of your lists. Rather than creating a standard list, you can create custom Smart Lists, including tags, dates, times, places, flags, and priority. Whenever you create a reminder that matches

those criteria, it will be added to that Smart List automatically.

#### View your reminders in Smart Lists

Smart Lists automatically categorize your reminders by priority, due dates, or location. Open the Reminders app, and you'll see folders like **Today**, **Scheduled**, **All**, **Completed**, **Assigned to Me**, **Siri Suggestions**, and **Flagged**. Select one to view reminders in these lists.

All these names are self-explanatory. Flagged, for instance, has all the most important reminders you have "flagged." The Assigned to Me Smart List has all the reminders that others have assigned to you. Siri Suggestions shows suggested reminders that the app thinks you should create based on your email and messages.

#### **Create a custom Smart List**

You can create your own Smart List by setting custom filters.

- 1. Tap Add List from the Reminders app home screen.
- 2. Write a list name and select **Smart List** under **List Type**.
- 3. Tap on **Edit Filters** and select the parameters, such as Date, Time, Location, Priority, and Flag, that best suit your needs.

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Cancel	New List	Done	Cancel	New List	Done
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	New List			New List	
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	/ Smart List				
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- 4. Select a color and an icon or emoji to make the list distinguish at a glance.
- 5. Finally, hit **Done**.

You can also make your existing list into a Smart List. Open the list, tap the three-dot icon, and select **Show List Info**. Now, tap on **Convert to Smart List** at the bottom. However, note that you can't revert this change.

#### Hide or show Smart Lists in Reminders

You can choose to show or hide a smart list in the Reminders app based on your preference. When you hide a list, it no longer appears on the Reminders home screen. Similarly, you can make a hidden list visible.

Once you open the Reminders app, tap on the three-dot icon and select **Edit Lists** in the top-right corner. To hide a Smart List, uncheck the blue checkmark to its left. Similarly, you can make a hidden list visible. Tap **Done** in the top-right to save the view.

# How to create a grocery shopping list in Reminders

The Reminders app has a built-in feature for auto-categorizing grocery items. When you add items like "bread" or "milk," the app automatically places them under appropriate categories. You may even change the category or add a new one. Here's more on <u>creating a grocery shopping list in the Reminders app</u>.

## How to use list templates in Reminders

If you have recurring tasks like packing lists or meeting agendas, you can save them as templates to reuse later. You can customize the template to make new lists.

You may also share your template or download templates that others have shared with you. When you change a shared template, anybody who has downloaded it must re-download it to receive updates.

Moreover, earlier downloads of that template are unaffected if you delete a template. To learn more, read this guide on <u>how to use templates in Reminders</u>.

# How to group reminders and lists using tags

Tags help you to organize tasks automatically using keywords in the Reminders app. For instance, you can tag some reminders under the "#Christmas" category, put some under "#grocery #Christmas," and so on. This way, you can easily search and filter reminders across lists.

#### Create a tag

- 1. Go to the **Details** page for a reminder.
- 2. From here, select **Tags**.
- 3. Tap the **Add New Tag** field and write the tag keyword. Say, "Cooking," for instance. Press **return** on your keyboard to add it to your tag list.

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Cancel Details	Done	Cancel	Tags	Done
Get the cake first.		#Birthday		
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4. Tap **Done** in the top-right to save the reminder.

#### View reminders with certain tags

You can filter reminders across all of your lists by tagging keywords. Simply select the desired tags from the Tags section below. This will give you a list of reminders with that tag.

To add a reminder with this tag, tap on + New Reminder in the bottom-left corner.



At the top of the list, you'll see all tags currently applied to your reminders. A tag won't be

visible in the tag browser if it is no longer in use.

#### Add a tag to multiple reminders at once

If you have multiple related tasks, you can add tags to them at once, saving you time and effort.

- $1. \ \mbox{Open a list and tap the three-dot icon.}$
- 2. Tap **Select Items** and choose the reminders.
- 3. Now, tap the **More** icon in the bottom-right corner and select **Add Tag**.
- 4. Choose an existing tag or create a new one.



5. Finally, tap **Done**.

#### Remove a tag from a reminder

You can quickly remove a tag from a task. Open the list, tap on the tag under the reminder you want to delete and press the **Delete** key on your keyboard. Tap **Done** to save the

changes.

#### Edit or delete a Tag

- 1. Select the tag you wish to delete or rename from the **Tags** section at the bottom.
- 2. Tap the **More** button.
- 3. To change the tag keyword, choose **Rename Tag**.
- 4. Write the new keyword and tap  $\boldsymbol{O}\boldsymbol{K}$  to save.
- 5. If you want to remove the tag, select **Delete Tag** and tap **Delete** to confirm.



When someone sends you a reminder with tags, you'll see the marked word, but it will not be in your Tags section until you create one with the same keyword.

# How to share and assign reminders

The Reminders app lets you share your reminder lists with others and assign tasks to others. You can delegate tasks or grocery items and receive notifications about deadlines or activities.

#### Share reminder lists

- 1. Open the **desired list** and tap the **share icon**.
- 2. Now, use the desired **app** (e.g., Messages, Email, Slack, WhatsApp, etc.) to send the invitation to one or multiple people.
- 3. Once they accept, they can view, add, delete, or mark reminders as completed.

#### Note

Recipients of a shared list must be running a similar iOS version with your device. Else, it won't work on their side.

#### Assign a reminder in a shared list

You can assign reminders to different people. Let's assume you are going camping and you have reminder lists. You can allocate a reminder, say, to bring a blanket to one friend, take a stove to another, and so on.

Here's how to assign reminders:

- 1. Tap a **reminder** inside a shared reminder list (see how to make one above).
- 2. Tap the **assignment button** (person icon) above the default iOS keyboard.
- 3. Now, select a **person** and tap **Done**.

You may not see the assignment button if you use a third-party keyboard. In this case, tap the reminder, select the **(i) icon** and choose **Assign Reminder**.

To remove an assignee or reassign them a reminder, tap their **profile picture** next to the reminder and select the appropriate option.

The Reminders app lets you manage your shared lists more efficiently. Open the shared list, tap the collaborate button and select **Manage Shared** List. Here, you can change notification settings and give permissions to others. If you don't need the shared list, tap **Stop Sharing** at the bottom.

## How to delete a reminder in the Reminders app

At any point, if you want to delete a reminder, follow these steps:

- 1. Open the Reminders app on your iPhone or iPad.
- 2. Go to the  ${\bf reminder}$  you want to delete.
- 3. Long-press the reminder or swipe it to the left.
- 4. Select **Delete**.



If you want to delete multiple reminders at once, tap the three horizontal dots in the topright corner. Tap on **Select Items** and choose the desired entries. Finally, tap the trash icon and select **Delete X Items** to confirm.

Note

Accidentally deleted any entry? Worry not! Deleted reminders remain accessible for 30 days

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before erasing permanently. Select Recently Deleted under My Lists. Here, you will see all the deleted tasks. Tap on the item you want to get back and select Recover on the prompt.

#### Permanently delete completed tasks

To free up space, you can delete completed tasks. First, select **All** from the Reminders app home screen. Then tap the **three horizontal dots** in the top-right corner and choose **Show Completed**. Finally, long-tap the ticked reminder or swipe it to the left and select **Delete**.



#### Delete a reminder list

If you no longer need a task list, you can remove it to declutter your Reminder app view. To do so, go to the home page of the Reminders app. Then, swipe right to left on a list under **My Lists**. Now, tap the **red trash icon**.



Alternatively, tap a list, select three horizontal dots in the top-right corner and choose **Delete List**.

Note

Deleting a reminder list also erases all the reminders inside it.

# Bonus tips on using Reminders on iPhone

Now that you're familiar with its features, here are some tips to make the most of the Reminders app on your iPhone.

#### Use the Reminders widget

You can add the Reminders <u>widget to your iPhone's Home Screen</u> for quick access to your tasks. Simply press and hold the Reminder app icon on the Home Screen and select the widget size, and the app icon will be converted into the widget.

#### **Enable app badge for Reminders**

You can turn on notification badges for the Reminders app. The app icon displays the number of overdue or due reminders.

To do so, go to **Settings**  $\rightarrow$  **Apps**  $\rightarrow$  **Reminders** and toggle on **Include Due Today**.

#### Add languages to your groceries list

If you prefer to add items to your shopping list in your regional language, you may configure it. This way, the app will automatically detect the language and add the item in the appropriate category.

- 1. Navigate to **Settings**  $\rightarrow$  **Apps**  $\rightarrow$  **Reminders**.
- 2. Scroll down and select Add Language under Grocery Categorization.
- 3. Toggle on **Set Automatically**. It will detect the language according to your current location, keyboard, and language and region settings.



- 4. Toggle off Set Automatically and select Languages if you use any specific language.
- 5. Choose a language and get back.

#### **Use Shortcuts for Reminders**

For power users, the Shortcuts app offers several automations for the Reminders app.

- 1. Go to the Shortcuts app and head to the **Gallery** tab.
- 2. Search for **Reminders**. Now, you can see the Reminders' shortcuts.

I find the Batch Add Reminders shortcut very useful. It allows you to create multiple reminders from a paragraph. For example, consider you are browsing a recipe. Select the ingredients lists on the page and tap **Share**. Then, select the shortcut from the Share Sheet, and it will convert each item into a reminder item.

#### Set up medication reminders

You can set medication reminders directly through the Health app, which syncs with the Reminders app. To explore this feature in detail, read our guide on <u>how to set medication</u> <u>reminders</u>.

#### Signing off...

I hope you now know how to use the Reminders app on iPhone and iPad and make the most of it. Thanks to its feature-rich and easy-to-use design, the app is suitable for my needs. With features like Smart Lists, location-based alerts, and shared lists, staying productive is easier than ever.

What's your take on the Reminders app? Let us know in the comments below.

#### FAQs

#### Can't add music to Apple watch?

Yes, Walmart accepts PayPal for both online and in-store purchases.

#### **Does Target accept Apple Pay?**

Yes, Target accepts Apple Pay online and in person during checkout.

#### **Does Amazon accept Apple Pay?**

Yes, <u>Amazon accepts Apple Pay</u> when placing online orders for most products.