



iPhone/iPad

Setting Up Siri

Siri is Apple's voice assistant that lets you use your voice to interact with your devices, such as the iPhone, iPad, or iPod Touch, to find or do what you need. Siri can help you complete everyday tasks, like making phone calls, sending text messages, setting timers and reminders, or checking the weather before leaving the house. Siri's speech can also be changed to a voice or language you prefer.

Activating Siri with Your Voice: For devices running iOS 17

Tip: If your device runs iOS 16, scroll down to that section of the handout.

1. Go to your Home screen and open the **Settings** app.
2. Scroll down and select **Siri & Search**.
3. Under the **Ask Siri** heading, select the **Listen for** button to open the **Listen for** menu.
4. Three options are available:
 - "Siri" or "Hey Siri"
 - "Hey Siri"
 - Off

Tip: The default option is Off and shows a blue check mark to the right. When set to Off, your device will not listen for “Siri” or “Hey Siri” at the beginning of requests.

5. Select the first option, **“Siri” or “Hey Siri.”**
6. Select **Enable Siri** on the alert that appears at the bottom of your screen.
7. Next, you are prompted to set up Siri by using your voice to repeat the messages on the screen:
 - **“Siri, what’s the weather like?”**
 - **“Hey Siri, send a message.”**
 - **“Siri, set a timer for three minutes.”**
 - **“Hey Siri, get directions home.”**
 - **“Siri, play some music.”**

Tip: Speaking these prompts into your phone helps Siri recognize your voice when you say, “Siri” or “Hey Siri.”

8. Tap the **Done** button at the bottom of the screen to complete the setup.
9. You can now say, “Siri” or “Hey Siri” to activate Siri and ask questions like, “Hey Siri, call Hadley,” or “Siri, what time is it?”

Tip: When you activate Siri with your voice, a circle with swirling colors appears at the bottom of your screen and Siri will say, “Mm-hmm?” or “Uh-huh?” or something similar to acknowledge your voice prompt.

10. Repeat these steps to ask another question or to give another command.

Activating Siri with a Button

11. Below **Listen for** in the **Siri & Search** settings, is the **Press Side Button for Siri** option.

Tip: If your device is an older model with a Home button, this option will instead show **Press Home Button for Siri**.

12. Tap the toggle switch on the right to turn it on. (The toggle switch turns green when it's on.)

Tip: When your device is in silent mode, Siri responds silently. When silent mode is off, Siri responds with sound. Learn more in the [Change How Siri Responds](#) article from Apple Support.

13. Press and hold the side button on the right (or the **Home** button, depending on your device) to activate Siri.

Tip: Again, when you activate Siri with the side button, a circle with swirling colors appears at the bottom of your screen. But Siri does not say anything. As long as the circle is swirling, Siri is waiting for you to ask a question or give a command.

14. When Siri appears, ask a question or give a command like, "What's the weather like?" or "Set a timer for three minutes."
15. Repeat these steps to ask another question or to give another command.

Changing Siri's Voice or Language

16. Tap **Language** under the **Ask Siri** heading in the **Siri & Search** settings.

17. A list of languages available for Siri appears. A default language is selected (with a blue check mark) based on how you originally set up your device. If you would like Siri to use a different language, select one from the list.

Tip: Changing Siri's language will turn off the "Siri" or "Hey Siri" settings you completed. An alert appears asking if you want to do this. If yes, tap on Change Language. If no, tap Cancel.

Tip: After choosing a new language, you'll have to repeat the steps for activating Siri with your voice.

18. Select **Back** at the top left of the screen to return to the Siri settings.
19. Select the **Siri Voice** option below **Language**.
20. Choose an option under the **Variety** heading.

Tip: For example, if your language is English, you can choose from different English accents like American, Australian, British, Indian, Irish, or South African. Siri will say, "Hi, I'm Siri. Choose the voice you'd like me to use," in the accent you selected.

21. Next, choose a voice under the **Voice** heading. You have several male and female voices to choose from. A blue check mark appears next to the selected voice.

22. When you're done adjusting the Siri settings, select the **Back** button at the top left to go back to your device settings. Then close the **Settings** app.

Activating Siri with Your Voice: For devices running iOS 16

23. Under the **Ask Siri** heading, select the toggle switch next to **Listen for “Hey Siri”** to turn it on. (The toggle switch turns green when it's on.)

24. Select **Enable Siri** on the alert that appears at the bottom of your screen.

25. Next, you are prompted to set up Siri using your voice to repeat the messages on the screen:

- “Hey Siri, what’s the weather like?”
- “Hey Siri, send a message.”
- “Hey Siri, set a timer for three minutes.”
- “Hey Siri, get directions home.”
- “Hey Siri, play some music.”

Tip: Speaking these prompts into your phone helps Siri recognize your voice when you say, “Hey Siri.”

26. Tap the **Done** button at the bottom of the screen to complete the setup.

27. You can now say, “Hey Siri” to activate Siri and ask questions, like, “Hey Siri, call Hadley,” or “Hey Siri, what time is it?”

Tip: When you activate Siri with your voice, a circle with swirling colors appears at the bottom of your screen and Siri will say, “Mm-hmm?” or “Uh-huh?” or something similar to acknowledge your prompt.

28. Repeat these steps to ask another question or to give another command.

Activating Siri with a Button

29. Below **Listen for “Hey Siri”** under the **Ask Siri** heading, is the **Press Side Button for Siri** option.

Tip: If your device is an older model with a Home button, this option will instead show **Press Home Button for Siri**.

30. Tap the toggle switch on the right to turn it on. (The toggle switch turns green when it’s on.)

Tip: When your device is in silent mode, Siri responds silently. When silent mode is off, Siri responds with sound. Learn more in the [Change How Siri Responds](#) article from Apple Support.

31. Press and hold the side button on the right (or the **Home** button, depending on your device) to activate Siri.

Tip: Again, when you activate Siri with the side button, a circle with swirling colors appears at the bottom of your screen. But Siri does not say anything. As long as the circle is swirling, Siri is waiting for you to ask a question or give a command.

32. When Siri appears, ask a question or give a command like, “What’s the weather like?” or “Set a timer for three minutes.”

33. Repeat these steps to ask another question or to give another command.

Changing Siri's Voice or Language

34. Tap **Language** under the **Ask Siri** heading in the **Siri & Search** settings.

35. A list of languages available for Siri appears. A default language is selected (with a blue check mark) based on how you originally set up your device. If you would like Siri to use a different language, select one from the list.

Tip: Changing Siri's language will turn off the "Hey Siri" settings you completed. An alert appears asking if you want to do this. If yes, tap on Change Language. If no, tap Cancel.

Tip: After choosing a new language, you'll have to repeat the steps for activating Siri with your voice.

36. Select **Back** at the top left of the screen to return to the Siri settings.

37. Select the **Siri Voice** option below **Language**.

38. Choose an option under the **Variety** heading.

Tip: For example, if your language is English, you can choose from different English accents like American, Australian, British, Indian, Irish, or South African. Siri will say, "Hi, I'm Siri. Choose the voice you'd like me to use," in the accent you selected.

39. Next, choose a voice under the **Voice** heading. You have several male and female voices to choose from. A blue check mark appears next to the selected voice.
40. When you're done adjusting the Siri settings, select the **Back** button at the top left to go back to your device settings. Then close the **Settings** app.