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Android has what seems like a billion different weather apps available, but when it comes to getting needed in easy-to-read fashion, we prefer 1Weather. 1Weather Platform: Android Price: Free, \$1.99 Pro Download Page Features Current Weather Conditions, Hourly, and Detailed 10-Day Forecast Real-Time Severe Weather Warnings Optional Constant Notification in The Menu Bar with Current Conditions Indiv Radar and Satellite with Multiple Layers Tons Themes and Settings Options No Ads (Pro Version Only) Where It Excels 1Weather crams almost all weather conditions you may need in simple weather conditions you may need in simple to read the interface without feeling too cluttered or confusing. Swipe right to visit different sections, such as forecasting, graph viewing, radar, and more - each with their own individual tabs that set up the view (such as hourly or 10-day predictions). It also comes with several themes, so you can customize its look to your heart's desire. Where it falls short although the design of 1Weather is better than most weather apps that often feel very cluttered - I feel like its design can still be better. Yahoo Weather, for example, puts everything in one, simple, vertical scrolling view, which is better than switching between tons of different tabs. Similarly, Apple's default weather app on the iPhone allows you to expand certain parts of the interface for more information rather than putting everything in front of you. Small touches like this can make a big difference in usability. However, 1Weather is better for most of its competition. The Yahoo Weather competition is my personal favorite bunch and it solves most of my design issues with 1Weather. All you need is on the same screen, with less (but still readable text), as you scroll, you see the panels you want in descending order of total necessity (although you can change them). It fits into all the important things without losing space. Yahoo Weather's fall, unfortunately, is its radar card, which doesn't move-functionality fad that keeps it from our top pick. Weatherbug has improved a lot since it was our best choice, but it just didn't surpass the more well thought out apps out there. Weatherbug suffers from overload clutter, making it difficult to read at first sight as 1Weather. However, it probably offers more weather information than any of the others on the list, so if that's what you want, Weatherbug is for you. The Weather Channel aims to mimic the great design of Yahoo Weather for the first time, and it does the job well. Its biggest annoyance, however, is the unnecessary material between useful tile-giant ads, news and videos from the weather channel, and what is called weather that I can't imagine I ever want. And, you can't move these tiles around, so I see little reason to use this over any of the others. AccuWeather has a similar problem, giving priority and gimmicks that will put in the way of the actual information you want. If you want a different paradigm in general, there are a few other interesting apps out there too, like Nice Weather with its flat, minimalist look, or eye in Sky Weather, which is about as easy to read as they come (but doesn't give you much more than basic temperatures and predictions). If you want something really simple though, one of them will probably make you happy. These are not the only apps in the Play Store, but they are the most popular and the best we've looked at. If you have another favorite of your own, be sure to mention it in the discussions below. Lifehacker's App Directory is a new and growing catalog of recommendations for the best applications and tools in a number of these categories. Source: Marco Miranda Our phones are pocket supercomputers with professional cameras and battery for a few days, but without the applications to take advantage of this, what's the point? There are millions and millions of Android apps that are transforming our phones from shiny glass slabs into powerhouse performance, and over the past year, these are the apps that have captured the day and made our lives easier, faster and better. Source: Nick Sutrich/Android Central Who needs a personal assistant when you have services such as Google Assistant and Amazon Alexa available, where do you go? These types of apps aim to help relieve the stresses and pressures of your day-to-day life to make things easier. From automation to smart home products and everything in between, these apps allow you to get the job done with some help. From assistants routine in Google Watches to the huge expansion of assistant compatible smart home devices, to an overhaul of visual responses, this has been a busy year for Google Assistant. It feels like a hundred years ago when Android Auto added Google Assistant, but this simple addition has made millions of drivers safer,

especially during these long, frustrating holiday drives. The free Google Play Tasker has stalled a bit in previous years, but since new owner Joan Diaz - the creator of the AutoApps Suite plug-in and the most ardent tasker fan - has taken over, the automation app has seen an overhaul of the user interface and major updates. With TaskerNet and improved exports/imports, it's never been easier to share, customize, and create amazing profiles and tasks for Android (and beyond). Amazon's \$3.49 Google Play is no longer the first place to go just for your online shopping needs as the company continues to expand its understanding of the world. With Alexa, you get a personal assistant in your pocket, as well as integration with Echo devices and the ability to stay connected wherever you go. You can even send messages to other Alexa-enabled devices without paying a penny. Free in Google Play Have you ever wanted to know the type of flower you see while hiking? Well, with Google Lens you can Fast, just holding the camera up to the flower. The lens will even translate foreign languages or keep business cards on contact faster than ever before. Free on Google Play, IFTTT gives you the ability to create a variety of automation between apps and services that are no longer available. With over 630 different integrations, you can create your own recipe and get alert when this item on your Amazon wish list finally goes on sale, for example. If you don't want to create your own, there is a community and a library of different recipes to choose from and customize. Free in Google Play If you need to monitor your lights, smart plugs, thermostats, or assistant speakers/displays from heat beds or far corners of the globe, the new Home View's Google Home app makes it easy. Being able to add Home members to use what you've already created is a huge step forward to make smart homes more accessible to all skill levels. Free in Google Play Best Keyboard Apps Source: Android Central Keyboard on your smartphone is one of the most used apps daily. This is the first thing that pops up when your friend sends you a message if you need to reply to an email, or if you just need to get your thoughts. But the great thing is that there is a keyboard app that works for everyone, no matter what is basic or if you want to go to extremes setting up. The Gboard keyboard continues to dominate the market with an ever-expanding feature set on Android, iOS, and soon on Chromebooks. Some of this year's additions, which include options such as making your emoji package, or GIFs, may seem trivial, but Gboard has also added support for dozens of new languages, as well as a recent floating keyboard mode that makes filling out the form a breeze. Free in Google Play Instead of having to deal with the main stock themes on the keyboard, Chroma gives you a keyboard with so many customization options that your head will spin. This is in addition to featuring smart AI to provide vastly improved contextual forecasts compared to competition. You'll also get the added benefits of gestures you already know and love. Free w/iAP's Google Play SwiftKey creeps in for a four million mile download marker and for good reason; This custom keyboard gives you complete control. The app itself sports over 100 different themes and you can even create your own theme with an image that you have taken or downloaded as a background. SwiftKey also includes support for more than 300 languages, and you can include up to five different languages at a time. Free in Google Play Many keyboard apps just focus on your spelling is wrong. Grammarly takes things to the next level with clever predictions, and even being able to choose from synonyms if you want to sound fancy. You can not only expand your vocabulary, but also sound professional. Free w/iAP in Google Play Best Browsers Source: Android Central While the Google app makes it easy to quickly search for something, your mobile browser handles most of the hard work. Some of these mobile browsers have become so powerful that you can install extensions, while others provide the most private viewing experience possible. And hey, one of our picks even gives its users the opportunity to make dough while surfing. While ads help keep the lights on for some, they can be a real nuisance when you're just trying to check out the latest article. With a browser like Brave, you're guaranteed to get the best AdBlock browser, while getting a quick and secure browsing experience. There's also the added benefit of Brave paying you to browse the web at your pace and how you want. The free w/ads in Samsung's Google Play browser finally made its Play Store debut a few years ago and is much more reliable than just about anything else you'll find. In addition to built-in privacy features, Samsung also allows you to download third-party apps that act as extensions. And if you already have a Samsung device and you use this browser, you'll get even more features inaccessible in other places, such as integration with Gear VR and more. Free in Google Play Google Chrome is a de facto choice for many and for good reason: it just works. Google is working tirelessly to bring new features into the app, along with keeping the design fresh and clear. When you use Chrome, you get almost all the same features as the app on your computer, including the synchronization capabilities, so you can start reading something on your phone and pick it up on your computer. Free in Google Play Firefox is already a fan-favorite to view your desktop, so why not check your mobile browser? There's a built-in advertising lock tracker, enhanced privacy controls, and extensions to give you all the tools you need. Free in Google Play Best VPN Apps Source: Harish Jonnalagadda / Android Central Virtual Private Networks (VPN) are used for a variety of reasons, including giving you the ability to hide your identity online. Another popular use for VPN is to stream some TV shows while you travel abroad. These apps are all free, but there are subscriptions to consider if you want to safely browse everywhere. With over 3,000 different servers in more than 90 countries, it's easy to see why ExpressVPN provides a great experience. It's easy to get started and then all your web browser is encrypted and you can travel safely. After registering for the service, no on the number of devices that can be connected and it will even protect your text and instant messaging. The free w/iAP in Google Play NordVPN is one of the best in the business because of the way it handles your data. The data passes through the original server and then sends the same encrypted data data second server for an additional level of protection. In addition, there are more than 5,500 servers located in more than 50 countries. The free w/iAP in Google Play Surfshark is superior in speed and because it can be used with an unlimited number of servers at the same time. This will be great for almost everything you would like to do with your devices, but you won't be able to use Surfshark with streaming apps because it is outside the U.S. Free w/iAP in Google Play with IPVanish, you'll be provided with a secure environment to browse the web, watch videos, and manage your accounts. The service provides access to more than 1,400 different servers in 75 countries, as well as 24/7 support. In case you don't want to stick to this service, you have 30 days to change your mind. Free in Google Play Best file management app Source: Andrew Myrick/Android Central While many of us have changed the way we use our phones, there is one thing that will never change - we download a lot of things. I'm not just talking about apps, but also music files, documents, PDF files, or even new wallpapers. It is important to have your files organized so you know where everything is or get rid of these outdated memes. If you're inclined to download a bunch of files to your smartphone, you'll need a Simple File Manager Pro to keep them running. This app offers an intuitive experience for accessing root files, providing access to microSD cards or USB devices. In addition, there are many customization options to create a theme that fits your desires. \$1.19 in Google Play Some want a simplified file manager, but for those who want something a little tricky, the X-Plore file manager is perfect. This app has an old-school Windows look and feel, giving you all the features you might want. You can even set up an app to access and manage files on your Android phone from your computer's web browser. Google's free w/iAP Google Files has started as an experimental app, but it's evolved into an easy way to keep your storage from getting filled. With features such as Smart Recommendations, The Files will offer garbage files that can be downloaded and disposed of with ease. Free in Google Play Astro has been available in the Play Store for over 10 years, and it is still one of the best file manager options. The app makes it easy to access files, along with opening these annoying files and RAR, right from your smartphone. You can also control cloud storage services directly from Astro, making it an all-in-one storage option. Free in Google Play Best Social Media Apps Source: Android Central Social is a fickle sister. It can be a great source of news and information and an easy way to keep in touch with friends, but it's also frustrating when the latest trends and memes clog up your timeline. Fortunately, many different platforms to share your voice with like-minded people or create an amazing community. I've been a third-party Reddit lurker for years, but this year the official Reddit app breezed past Relay, Boost, and the rest for the top version of the app. The new kind of Reddit website has been the source of many small debates, but I rather enjoyed as a new look at the website for continued improvements on the Android app. Now, if only *it*/Writing Prompts don't suck all my lunch breaks... Free in Google Play Instagram popularity continues to grow and it seems that there's just nothing that any competitor can do to stop it. This app is one of the best and easiest ways to share your favorite photos, whether you're tracking your life or just editing a goofy photo. In addition, you get features such as IGTV from some of your favorite creators, and the app makes it easy to find even more people/brands to follow. Free in Google Play Let's face it. There are many Twitter apps on the Play Store, and while many of them are pretty good, none of them compete with Fenix 2. From multi-account support to a super-useful dumb system, Fenix 2 strives to be Twitter's best customer. It doesn't even count the customization of options that allow you to customize the layout, giving the ability to make the theme that makes Twitter more enjoyable to use. \$4.99 in Google Play Almost everyone you know on Snapchat and for good reason because it makes sharing your life easier than before. You'll get personal messages, free cloud storage and many different ways to make your photos and videos absolutely perfect. Free w/iAds in Google Play Best Photo Apps Source: Andrew Martonik/Android Central After years of potato photos from mobile devices, we're finally at the point where our smartphones can take better photos than some DSLR cameras. The Play Store opens the door for many different apps to take, edit and store these photos, which, in some cases, act as a digital memory bank. ProCam X unlocks the potential that your smartphone camera is capable of, which is pretty much now. The app allows you to control different aspects of your image by providing professional controls such as ISO, white balance, and even geos. With this app, you can even take RAW photos, which opens up better image editing after fact. \$5 in Google Play Once you've taken a picture, chances are you'll want to change it. With Adobe Lightroom, you can make simple edits, or step things up a notch and edit like right from your smartphone. Adobe even has a built-in pro-level camera, so Lightroom becomes your all-in-one solution for your mobile photography needs. Free w/iAP in Google Play For those who care more about backing up their photos and less about pro-level editing, it's the only real choice of Google Photos. Photos. The app itself gives users some basic photo editing capabilities, while sometimes giving you stylized photos with the way Google thinks your photo should look. You'll also get smart Automatic Albums, Photo Books, and create shared albums in seconds. Free in Google Play Our smartphone cameras are more powerful today than ever before, and we're not just talking about shooting. With an app like FiLMiC Pro, you can take professional-level video and gain full control over the editing process. Those who are already familiar with recording the video on the DSLR will feel at home without having to drag around the camera bag. \$15 in Google Play Best Settings Apps Source: Joe Marin/Android Central The biggest advantage of Android, compared to competition, is the ability to customize almost every aesthetic aspect of your device. From the widgets you use to what the app drawer looks like, and even the settings menu, there's a way to set everything up. These are the best apps you can use to get the exact look you want on your smartphone. If at the beginning of the year you told me that the launcher I would use the most was a Smart Launcher, I would have laughed in your face. Then Smart Launcher 5 arrived and I fell in love. The flexibly classified box application is better than ever, and with the integration of Icon Pack Studio and system without grid widgets, the SL5 makes building and switching themes a breeze. The free w/iAP in Google Play Lawnchair 2 gives you that Pixel Launcher feel, with all the settings that you'll find in other third-party launchers. There is support for adaptive icons, along with new Features of the Drawer category, and more. You can use Lawnchair to create the most complex or basic launcher on your mobile device. Free in Google Play Big Brother Kustom Widget Maker KWGT, Kustom Live Wallpaper in one stop themed has grown on me significantly this year. While the SLS in the grid widgets are good, nothing beats the exact, edge-to-edge widget and placement element in KLWP. Formulas and menus can be intimidating, but a robust KLWP community, especially on Reddit, can help make any topic possible. Free/\$4.49 in Google Play It can be frustrating when you find an icon package that you love, but there are a few apps that are not included. Of course, you can send a request to the developer and wait for an update, but there is a better solution. With Icon Pack Studio, you can create your own icon pack while setting up each icon to your liking, and it will work with just about any side of the launcher. Free or \$4.49 (Pro) in Google Play Changing wallpapers has been fun as long as we've been able to do it, and has been there with us for quite some time. With Tapet, you can choose wallpaper on your own or install an app to automatically create new for you every hour once a day. In addition, the app will automatically detect the resolution of your smartphone, so that the wallpaper looks crisp and there will be a stain on your home screen. Free w/iAP in Google Play Some of us don't have the time or want to dive through thousands of icon packages, but just want something that looks great. Whicons isn't flashy (on the surface) but does the job of giving you a nice package icon for your Android phone. There are more than 5,500 custom icons, along with included wallpapers to match, and support for Dynamic Calendar Icon, so your calendar shows the right date. Free w/iAP in Google Play Source: Ara Wagoner/Android Central In addition to setting up your phone to your heart content, you can take advantage of widgets to quickly digest various bits of information. If you're just looking to see what the weather forecast looks like, or you should see what's on the agenda for today, there's a widget for everything. Then other apps allow you to create your own widget with any part of the information you can think of. Best Password Managers Source: Joe Marin/Android Central Absolutely, positively, under no circumstances should you have a note on your smartphone with passwords on the list. Hackers are better than ever today and your personal information can be revealed more easily than you think. However, if you have a password manager, these passwords can be analyzed and then you will be informed whether the password has been compromised. Then the app can help create a secure, secure and almost indestructible password so that your information doesn't fall into the wrong hands. 1Password hasn't always been the best option in the Play Store, but recent updates have upped the ante and pushed it to the top of the charts. The service gives you a short trial period before you need to sign up for a subscription. And your vaults will remain secure, giving you the ability to keep important personal information safe but ready. The free w/iAP in Google Play LastPass does a fantastic job of keeping all your passwords safe and secure, even if you want to stick to a free account. Then, there are premium options for either one user or you can get your entire family protected with a specific plan. The service even offers security issues that help keep your passwords updated and safe and out of the hands of the bad guys. Free w/iAP in Google Play When it comes to Dashlane, you get access to up to 50 passwords stored on one device with a free version, but Premium gives you even more. With a Premium subscription, users get access to a personalized VPN, as well as credit monitoring and identity theft protection. It's all in addition to being a great place to save your be safe and make it easy to upgrade them. Free w/iAP in Google Play Stop using the same password every time you create a new one on the Internet. Enpass is a simple password manager that works regardless of whether you're connected to the Internet or not, because the data is stored on your device, not on the company's servers. But you can easily sync all the passwords on your devices using popular cloud services such as Dropbox, Google Drive and more. Free w/iAP in Google Play Best messaging app Source: Android Central Let's be real, messaging is the main way that almost everyone communicates. Thanks to various applications and services, it is much easier to shoot your mother with text than to call her and sit on the phone for an hour or more. Not everything requires a phone call, and these messaging apps open the door to making it easier to communicate with friends, family, colleagues, and others. Dark theme! Messages for the Internet! It's been a great year for Google's SMS app, and while I still miss mood messenger and Textra themes, the only party SMS app that can compete with messaging for the Internet is the paid SMS sync service Pulse, which is compatible with great platforms and browsers. The 'message' theme may be lacking, but the dark theme is a welcome addition. Free in Google Play Android Central has slacked for years because Slack is one of the best chat apps on the market today, for business or personal purposes. The themes allow us to get into the little things without spamming the main chat, and anyone can download custom slackmoji for extra flair. All I need now is a dark topic, so I don't blind my bosses when I ping them at 2 a.m. Free in Google Play SMS Organizer started as a fun project from the Microsoft Garage team, but turned into one of the smartest apps that you can download. While you can still send SMS and MMS messages, SMS Organizer generates automatic reminders from your conversations, and even makes it easy to pay your friend back for dinner, straight from the app. You can even easily block spam messages, as well as set up notifications and set up certain tunes for your contacts. The free Google Play Telegram has already been one of the fastest and most popular third-party messaging customers available, but Telegram X is proving things up a notch. With the X version of the app, the interaction with the app is even faster, and there are even more features along with an improved interface and plenty of gestures to use. Free in Google Play Discord is designed with gamers at heart, but more and more are switching to the messaging platform thanks to its integration and ease of use. You can quickly create a community of users, with easy community management, while customizing roles and having links invitations at the ready. Free in Google Play If the end-end encryption is the name of the game, then Signal Private Messenger is the best choice. This service ensures that every message you send is safe and you can even set up an app to SMS client on Android device. You can even make audio and video calls that are guaranteed to remain private no matter what. Free in Google Play Best Weather Apps Source: Harish Jonnalagadda/ Android Central Nobody wants to get caught in a downpour at the wrong time, and it's important to know whether you need a coat or if it's shorts and sandals time. There are so many weather apps on the Play Store that it's pretty hard to find a diamond in the rough. Fortunately, there are several apps that stand apart from the package, offering something unique. AccuWeather is a simple offering for a great weather app thanks to its MinuteCast functionality. This gives you the most recent weather warnings, so you know if there's a surprise storm that you don't need to get caught in. Free w/iAP in Google Play Weather can be annoying, so it's important to have an app that makes the weather forecast manageable. Today the weather stands out in this regard with its beautifully designed app and access to any different bits of information you might want. It's also customizable, so you can either browse or hide what you want to know and what you don't. Free w/iAP in Google Play Instead of relying on an app to tell you when bad weather might be heading your way, why not see it for yourself? RadarScope gives you a radar view of what's going on around you, with up to minute updates along potential storm warnings from the National Weather Service. Free w/iAP in Google Play Yahoo Weather has come a long way over the years and now sports a gorgeous design that shows you all the information you need. You can track up to 20 cities at the same time, or play around with interactive maps to see where the storm system is expected to pass through. Free w/Ads in Google Play Best News Apps Source: Andrew Myrick/Android Central World is moving at a faster pace than ever and you don't want to miss out on what relevant news is talking about around the office. There are news applications from dedicated sources, but the presence of the aggregator analyzes inconsequential news from the main ones. You can use an app that allows you to aggregate the news that you care about from sources that you trust in a clean layout. It is important to have a news app to aggregate what is important to you and also give you an idea of what is happening in the rest of the world. Google News does this with quick access to the top five daily headlines, and tab for you, so you can read the news that you care about. Google even Full Coverage feature, which compiles a list of sources and more for major stories. Free w/ads in Google Play Feedly for those who want to have a news app that is specifically tailored to their interests World. The app makes it easy to organize your favorite sources with RSS power when integrating with other apps like IFTTT and Sapir. With Discover, you can browse through different news categories to catch up on a variety of topics you don't normally see. Free w/iAP in Google Play If you want to keep track of what's going on in your area and not necessarily the rest of the world, then SmartNews is perfect. The app provides a section that shows your local news, giving you the necessary notifications and even a widget you can throw on your home screen. In addition, you'll get access to some of the best news sources aggregated in one place for quick access. Free w/ads in Google Play It can be difficult to choose through overwhelming news headlines from a variety of sources. So why not use an app like Inoreader just to pay attention to sources that you know and trust? This RSS reader allows you to curate a personalized news feed, so you only get the news you care about. However, in this day and age, you can have a whole library of books stored directly on your phone. Whether you want to read a book on your lunch break or catch up on a comic book series, these apps make it easy. The Amazon Kindle app is fantastic at giving users access to a library of books, magazines and more in their pockets. If you subscribe to Amazon Prime, the company gives members access to more than 1,000 different titles for free. If you don't have time to read, there is a built-in sound narration for many books. Free w/ads in Google Play Haven't had time to sit and read? Let Audible read these audiobooks for you. The app gives recommendations based on your library and preferences, providing your first audiobook for free after registration. Audible even allows users to earn \$20 in Amazon credit if they have finished three titles by March 3. What more do you want? Free in Google Play It's good and dandy to read comics to bring e-book readers, but Comixology gives you all the comics you might want in a clean interface. There are over 100,000 comics, graphic novels and manga to choose from and you can buy them directly in the app. Now you can start catching up on your favorite comic book series on the go. Free in Google Play While some e-book readers allow you to read books purchased only through their app or only in one format, Moon Reader is more open. The app supports more than 10 different formats, including EPUB, HTML and PDF. As your library grows, you can personalize it and create collections, all using one app to read everything. Free w/iAP in Google Play Best Sports Apps Source: Andrew Myrick Myrick Android Central Most of the world gets consumed by their favorite sports, from football to the NFL and everything in between. With a selection of apps in the Play Store, you can keep an eye on them all. If you want to know if your top fantasy choice has got injured, or if you want to catch highlights from last night's game, these apps make this possible. Gone are the days of needing separate apps to track various favorite sports. With theScore, you can follow an array of sports, stats, and more without switching apps. You can even create a personalized channel to follow specific teams, leagues, or even your favorite player. Free w/ads in Google Play ESPN has been a world leader in sports for over 40 years, and the company continues to bring the best sports content on the go. The app itself makes it easy to stream games from your favorite teams, and also gives you highlights on the West Coast game that you fell asleep during. The free w/iAP in Yahoo Sports' Google Play is one of the few sports apps that not only lets you read the latest headlines for your favorite team, but lets you watch games as well. If you missed the game, catch all the highlights at center center or play some fancy pick-em games if you want to have some fun. With Yahoo Sports, you'll be able to follow all your favorite teams, along with the likes of MMA, boxing, or racing. Free w/iAP in Google Play Best Video Streaming Apps Source: Ara Wagoner/Android Central Streaming Services is the way to come, and these days, there's a streaming service available to everyone. While old comedies and movies are great, these streaming companies are pushing new and original content that uses 4K HDR playback and tells some of the best stories. Then others give you a platform to make your own videos and share them with the world. Disney is the new guy on the streaming service block, and it's a very welcome addition to the arsenal. The app gives you quick access to your favorite Disney classics, along with new shows such as Mandalorian for those who want more Star Wars in their lives. The app allows you to create a profile for everyone and you can download the titles directly to the device for easy offline viewing. Free w/iAP in Google Play Netflix kills the game in original content, providing some of the best movies, documentaries and TV shows. The company even works to reboot some classic series, and is a major source for some old comedies and movies. Free in Google Play Can you go wrong with the YouTube app? Just how to wax your account and watch videos from your subscription, or create playlists so you can them later. You can even get started as a YouTube creator by editing and uploading videos directly from the app. Free w/ads in Google Play's Best Music Apps Source: Supplied Source: Supplied Wagoner/Android Central No matter you're on a road trip or just trying to hunker down and get some work done, the music makes the world go round. These music streaming services give you the largest library of songs you can imagine and make products like the iPod look like the weakest relic of the past. Just open the app, select the song that is stuck in your head, and strap out the song as there is no tomorrow. Spotify seems to be trying to take over the world of music, but it's not for nothing. The app offers some of the most personalized recommendations and playlists, so you can find new music you'd never heard of on a smooth interface. If you just want a basic music streaming player, the free version works just fine with some limitations. Free w/iAP in Google Play Slowly but surely, YouTube Music is getting what we expected from Google Play Music and it keeps getting better. With the Hot List you can get an idea of what the most popular songs are, or find what's trending before it hits the airwaves. But the biggest advantage is that you get access to YouTube Music if you already subscribe to Google Play Music or YouTube Red. The free w/ads in Google Play Apple Music has made great strides since its inception to try to take over the giant at Spotify, and it has pretty much succeeded. With over 60 million songs in the catalog, along with exclusives like Beats 1 Radio, Apple Music appeals to everyone, even if you don't have a single Apple product. Free in Google Play Best Podcast Apps Source: Andrew Myrick/Android Central radio stations can be annoying with ads that come every couple of minutes, often longer than the show you're listening to. Podcasts give you access to radio shows that you care about, and make it so that you can either sit back and enjoy a simple conversation or listen to an exciting story that covers multiple episodes. Pocket Casts is just the best podcast app you can get in the Play Store. The app offers easy subscription access, an array of customizable playback options, and you can find new podcasts easier than ever. Also, you'll never miss a podcast episode with different notification options that you can customize from the app. Free w/iAP in Google Play If you want a simple, no-frills podcast player, Google has you covered it with the Podcasts app. Google Podcasts makes it easy to just start listening to your favorite podcasts without a bunch of extra frills. And you can use the Google Search app to find different podcasts and podcast episodes while playing them as soon as you find them. Free on Google Play Addict does much more than just give you a beautiful interface to interact with your favorite podcasts. The app includes more than 100,000 radio stations and 20,000,000 and providing personalized recommendations based on your subscriptions. You can even set up RSS news feeds and follow YouTube/Twitch channels from the app. Free w/ads in Google Play Best Sleep Tracking Apps Source: Andrew Myrick/Android Central With all the devices loaded around you and screens that are always ready to turn on, it can be hard to get a good night's rest. However, the Play Store has some apps that can help you fall asleep by analyzing how you sleep and providing ways to improve. It can be tough to wake up in time, let alone try to analyze your sleep if you have an app like the sleep cycle. The app will coach you to have the best night sleep regularly, while gently waking you up at the right time to make you feel refreshed. With the help of the tab analysis, you can view how you slept the night before, check if you snored, and get recommendations to sleep even better. Free w/iAP in Google Play Wake Up on Time is a difficult task, but falling asleep can be just as tough. With the sounds of sleep, it's made a little easier. The app includes 12 different sounds of nature, works offline, and allows you to set a timer so that the app won't work all night. The free w/iAP in Google Play Sleep Time combines the benefits of sleep magazine, alarm clock, and sleep analysis all in a beautifully designed app. Different background algorithms will help you get the best night sleep you've had in years. Then you can wake up the next day to see how well you slept and how long. Free w/iAP's Google Play Best Dating Apps Source: Andrew Myrick/Android Central Decays is hard to pass for everyone, but there comes a time when you want to strap on your boots and get back in the saddle. These dating apps make it easier than ever to meet new people and whether you are looking to find a new friend or build a new relationship, these apps will help you get started. OKCupid succeeds in providing its users with in-depth information about potential matches, and makes it easy to start a conversation. The app even includes different questions, so you'll know whether you're compatible with your matches or not. There are a few ads to address if you don't switch to premium subscriptions, but they're not too intrusive. Free w/iAP's Google Play Tinder helped kickstart the trend of mobile dating apps with its simple profile display and the whole swipe right. The app stands out only in getting the conversation started after it fits, getting you even closer to the perfect first date. There are even more opportunities to take advantage if you are registered for Tinder Gold as likes, Super Likes, and more profile management. The free Google Play Bumble is unique as it is not only designed to help users get a date, but can also be a great source to meet some friends in the new new On the dating side of things, users create a profile and can just swipe through. Once the match is held, the conversation can begin, or the match expires within 24 hours, if nothing is said. Free w/iAP's Google Play Best Apps for Finance Source: Android Central For many, stock trading can be cumbersome and overwhelming, but Robinhood makes things easy and you don't have to throw down a boatload of cash. The Robinhood app allows you to invest in a lot of stock options, and you can even immerse yourself in the world of cryptocurrency if you feel adventurous. Free in Google Play Some people have to work on a budget, and Money makes it easy to track your daily spending using multiple taps. Then you can see where all your money is going, along with how close you are to paying off your credit card or stashing for a new toy. Free/\$2.50 in Google Play Gone are days of figuring out how to split a check. Venmo, backed by PayPal, makes it easy to split an account with friends, allowing you to send funny notes about each payment. And if necessary, transferring money from Venmo to your bank account can happen in seconds with an instant transfer. Free in Google Play you don't need to worry about the game guessing the game when the package will be delivered if you have a tracking number. Once you enter the number into the Delivery Tracker package, you will receive regular notifications as your package travels around the country. There's even a widget you can use to take a look at to see when the package will be delivered. Free w/iAP in Google Play If you want an app that you can view and track your financial life, then you can't go wrong with Mint. After registering and adding different financial accounts, you can view all your money, including your bank account, auto loans, credit cards and more. The app also gives you the ability to create budgets that are easier to stick to, while tracking every penny that enters or leaves your bills. Free in Google Play Source: Andrew Myrick/Android Central Time Marches and that new toy you bought a year ago started to gather dust in the corner. Should you recycle it? In some cases this is correct, but as the saying goes, one person's trash is another person's treasure and there is an opportunity to earn some money back. These apps allow you to list your old clothes, electronics, and even cars so they can get put into use and give you some extra green in return. eBay has been a leader when it comes to fast and easy selling old devices, clothes, and pretty much everything else for years. After setting up an account and accepting some You can create a new listing in a matter of minutes. Also, you get the added benefit of finding some amazing deals for yourself. Free w/ads in Google Play Recent service update brought LetGo on par with eBay and Facebook Marketplace. You can already sell your old clothes that no longer fit, but now you can even sell the car that was sitting on the road. In addition, you can quickly communicate with someone who is interested in your items, without checking your email or handing out your phone number. Free w/iAP in Google Play Unfortunately, there is no special app for Facebook Marketplace, but you can still access it from the Facebook mobile app. This gives you a look at the items available for sale around you, as well as allowing you to sell to someone local and remove the shipping anxiety. Free w/iAP's Google Play Best Mental Health App Source: Android Central Mindless YouTube videos and video games don't do much to keep your mind sharp. After all, your mind is the most powerful tool that everyone has, and it is important to keep it sharpened. These tools allow you to move away from your phone, or work as an extension to help keep your mind at ease. Launched by the creator of Action Launcher, ActionDash takes digital well-being and turns it down to 11. With this app, you can view the dashboard of how you use your phone, including the average session time. This gives you all the information you need to help spend less time on your phone and more time with those who matter. Free w/iAP's Google Play Idea of logging every day can be tedious. Daylio helps change that mentality. This gives you a number of tips to answer compared to just giving you a blank sheet of paper. As the days roll by, you can take a step back and consider how your days went with the dashboard showing your mood chart and more. Free w/iAP's Google Play Best Workout Apps Source: Joe Marin/Android Central One of the most popular New Year's resolutions to start hitting the gym is either bulk or lose weight. However, some apps do this so that you don't even have to step foot in the gym if you want to lose weight at your own pace. And what could be better than using some ultra-powerful apps that tailor your needs. Google Fit has slowly become a fan favorite for fitness-tracking users who want a no-frills way to monitor their health. The app offers customized health goals based on recommendations from the World Health Organization and the American Heart Association. There are even personalized coaching tips to help push you closer to what you can be healthy. Free in Google Play Gone are days of having to worry about paying for an arm and a leg for a personal trainer, especially with the Nike Training Club app. Provides a variety of workouts to help you know what you need to do to improve in different areas. And there are personalized workout recommendations that inhabit the more you workout. Free w/iAP in Google Play Perhaps the biggest hurdle when trying to lose some is food intake. MyFitnessPal makes it easy as you can quickly search and find the foods you eat with over 6 million options in the database. Just set your weight goal, and the app will calculate how many calories you should eat per day. Free w/iAP's Google Play Best app Source: Andrew Myrick/Android Central It happens all the time. You start adding items to the to-do list, but they still end up being forgotten and then you have to rush in and do everything at once. Or maybe you just need a way to take a quick note for easy access later. These performance-enhancing apps help make sure you're tracking your challenges or more in-depth projects. Tracking your various tasks and projects can be a real pain, but with Todoist, all your problems can be put to rest. The app makes it easy to enter a task quickly while allowing you to create projects, tags, and more, so your to-do list is always organized. Todoist even allows you to integrate with apps like Gmail, Slack, and more, so you can add the necessary tasks as soon as they come up. Free w/iAP in Google Play Keep your Evernote and your TickTick, Google Keep with me until the end of the line and it's 100% free. Keep another Google app to see a visual update this year, and while I'm still waiting on the dark theme, expanded 12 color options, adding sub-products to checklists, and improving Drive integration make Keep Only The Task Manager and Inspiration Board I use. Free in Google Keep Have you ever wanted to grow a tree on your smartphone? With Grow, you can do just that and grow as many trees as you can think. This tracker habit is simple and straight forward to track and remind you of the habits you want to keep track of. Every time you complete a habit, your tree will grow a little-by-little, giving you something to look forward to. Free in Google Play Best Learning Apps Source: Andrew Myrick/Android Central Along with keeping your mind sharp, you want to keep learning your brain and yourself to learn something new all the time. Whether he's learning a new language or trying to figure out exactly what quantum physics is, there's an app for that. Or maybe you just want the informative book to condense into a 15-minute session, giving you the most important points. Duolingo is one of the most powerful apps on the Play Store as it will teach you how to speak and understand a new language in your spare time. The app is free and offers over 30 different languages to learn, helping push the boundaries of what you can already speak. Free w/iAP in Google Play There's Wikipedia and then there The mobile app provides instant knowledge and even computing for almost everything you might know. The categories range from basic mathematics, depending on quantum physics, and Geology. \$2.99 in Google Play Best email app Source: Daniel Bader/Android Central Emails is just the worst form of communication. Instead of receiving spam flyers in your inbox, you now get ads and spam in your inbox. However, some rely so heavily on email that it has become a way of life. And these people need an app that makes organizing and consolidating emails easy, so you can finally reach the legendary inbox zero. Gmail is one of the best apps, no matter which platform you prefer. Google has figured out how to do email the right way with its Gmail application, and you get many different tools at your disposal. And you're not even limited to just using the Gmail account in the app, since there's no support for the likes of Outlook, Yahoo, or other IMAP/POP accounts. The free w/ads in Microsoft's Google Play Outlook were once thought of as an afterthought, but no more so, as Microsoft has put at the time to make this app great. A focused inbox lets you worry about important things, including a calendar client and a OneDrive file manager in one app. Outlook makes it easy to keep your day organized and making sure you never miss a thing. The free w/ad in The Newton Mail's Google Play has been an up-and-down story after being purchased several times, but now it's back with new (and private) owners. The app is fantastic at handling your email with a minimalist approach, and has quite a few useful features for sorting these annoying and annoying emails. Free w/iAP's Google Play Best Driving Apps Source: Joe Marin/Android Central If you've lived in the same place for the past 15-20 years, chances are that you don't remember the right way to get somewhere new. Or maybe you should get a ride from the train station to the hotel and you don't rent a car and don't want a hail tax. These travel apps make it easy to do everything you need to do and then some. When it comes to getting to your destination, no app is better for navigation than Google Maps. The service is one of the most accurate applications to display and includes additional information such as real-time transit updates. A recent update even allows you to order an Uber or Lyft if you need to go somewhere. Free in Google Play With nearly 7 million downloads, it's easy to see why Uber took over the ride-sharing world. The service is available in more than 600 cities and it is easier than ever to have someone pick you up without welcoming a taxi or with a bus. Free in Google Play The biggest advantage for MAPS, ME not the benefits of navigating the app, but instead, being able to download all your apps for offline use. You won't be able to see the traffic flow in real time, but you can get where you need to go. Cards. ME even works to take public transport to an unknown city. Free w/iAP on Play Best Calendar Apps Source: Android Central Nobody Wants to Miss That Important Doctor Appointment, but if you don't have it to write it down somewhere, it's an opportunity. Having a mobile calendar makes it possible to quickly and easily organize your day, reminding you of this important meeting. These apps can be tailored to your needs by showing you the most important information on how your day will go. The Google Calendar itself is already a great way to track your daily, weekly, and monthly appointments. Then add integration with Gmail and you'll get events from your inbox automatically added. Google also integrates reminders so you never miss a task, and you can even add personal goals that will be automatically scheduled. The free Google Play aCalendar interface is one of the best and most beautiful you can find. Add this to how intuitively quick to add events and look at different views, and you have a home run. The only downside is that you have to stick to google calendar services to take advantage of aCalendar. Free w/iAP in Google Play Unlike other options, DigiCal works with many of the popular calendar services such as Google, Outlook, and others. The app offers a schedule for many popular sports, too, so you'll always know when the next game is. In addition, you can view the weather details for each day so you know whether to bring a raincoat. Free w/iAP in Google Play Best file backup app Source: Daniel Rubino/Android Central You don't want to be stuck in the dark trying to find this file that you could have sworn that you downloaded but was buried. Our smartphones are literally a pocket computer and it is important that these downloaded files are neatly organized. Also, it's always nice to be able to have the app analyze your files and photos and offer to delete them without you going through them one by one. Google Drive is just part of the puzzle, which is The Performance of Google's Get the Job Set of Apps. Here you will find all your different documents and can use it as a backup for projects created on your phone or computer. You can then view the files regardless of your Internet connection. Free w/iAP in Google Play While you start with only 5GB of memory, OneDrive automatically updates its Office 365 subscribers with a whopping 1TB of memory. It's perfect for backing up all documents, spreadsheets and even photos. Just turn on camera Upload and you'll get an automatic backup for your photos taken on your device The free w/iAP in Google Play Dropbox was one of the first cloud storage options to be available to the masses, and

the company is still rolling along. The 2GB starting limit is a bit on the low side, but signing up for DropBox Plus (\$9.99 per month) gives you 2 TB storage space. There are apps for iOS, Android, Windows and Mac, so your files will be synced and available everywhere. Free w/IAP in Google Play Best PDF Scanner Apps Source: Android Central If you go to an event or have lots of meetings with new business partners, chances are you'll end up with lots of business cards that go in the drawer. With these PDF scanners, you can snap a quick image and then instantly have a digital business card that can be added to the contact or saved for later use. Office Lens quickly and easily makes these photos of documents and business cards and turns them into PDF. You can then save them to your OneDrive account or even just on your device directly. Once converted, the images can be edited and altered or annotated for the rest of the time. Free in Google Play Adobe has its hands in many different pots, and with Adobe Scan, you can scan almost everything and it is converted to PDF. With intelligent scanning, the app can recognize contact information and remove unnecessary doodles or search for something specific. Free in Google Play CamScanner has made a name for itself by just being great at what it does and just works. Simply scan the document with the camera, and the app automatically crops the image into an edited PDF. It works with business cards, documents, or even drawings that you make, giving you a way to save everything. Free w/IAP's Google Play Best Written App Source: Android Central It doesn't matter if you're an author or just an office grunt, you need to put words on paper for some reason at some point. Some apps allow you to do just that while keeping those pages stored for reference later. Or maybe you're already an author and want to learn more about the world of Markdown writing without any additional distractions. Regardless of the situation, there is an application that allows you to just sit down and write. Google Docs can be the main text editor or something that you use to write your first book in. There are many tools that you can customize documents in the format you are looking for. And the best part is that every letter or character you type is saved automatically as you move forward. Free in Google Play you will not only get the power of Microsoft Word on your mobile device, but the app also acts as a mobile PDF reader. With the new Microsoft Office, you can create, edit, and view all different Microsoft documents, such as Word, Excel, and more. Best of all, you don't have to worry about having a lot of different apps, Free W/IAP in Google Play When it comes to finding the right Markdown editor, the choice is somewhat slim, but the YA writer makes everything easier. Get rid of all the distractions and just let your mind put words on paper without bothering you. In addition, there is with different platforms such as Windows, Mac and, of course, Android. Free w/IAP's Google Play Best Voice Recorder Apps Source: Joe Marin/Android Central Nobody likes to forget that idea or thought or reminder to do something. Or maybe you want to brainstorm some ideas verbally, instead of putting them in something like Google Doc or a task manager. Voice recorders make it easy to start them and just start talking, and some of them even cut out the silence during breaks. With all of Google's advances in AI technology, it would be wise for a company to release a smart voice recorder. This new app is limited to certain Pixel devices, but includes features such as real-time transcription offerings for tags. There may even be an update in the works that allows users to record calls for use later on. Free in Google Play Smart Recorder from SmartMob is one of the best options on the Play Store if you want just a clean voice recorder. The app records in the highest sound quality possible, while skipping silence in the recordings without having to fast forward. The records are then securely stored in a neat interface where you can edit the title and add notes to it. Free w/IAP in Google Play Did you ever have an idea that was amazing and then it just disappeared before you could type it? Idea Note helps solve this problem with a floating widget that provides quick shortcuts to set up reminders, write notes, and more. With Idea Note, the app even lets you take a quick shot, providing easy access to it when you're ready for it. Free w/IAP in Google Play Best Road Ride Apps Source: Andrew Myrick/Android Central Let's jump in the car and prepare for this road trip we've planned for all year. But before you get on the road, you'll want to make sure you're ready to keep an eye on the road, keep up to date with your oil changes, and find the cheapest gas wherever you are. Or maybe it's time to find your next mobile trip path and get a new car to bring home and you can make it easier than ever. Staying focused on the road is the most important object while driving, but it has made it even more difficult to get all the notifications on our phones. Android Auto removes distractions by allowing users to focus on the road and destination by reading out important notifications. You don't even need a special Android Auto head unit to take advantage of this, as your phone can be installed and uses the same interface. Free in Google Play Nobody wants to pay an arm and a foot for gas without speaking about to run out of gas at the wrong time. GasBuddy finds the cheapest gas stations in your area, giving users the option of various reward programs. Once signed up, users can join Payment with GasBuddy and save up to 15 cents per gallon on the first filling, and up to cents per gallon on visits after that. Free in Google Play Whether you travel on business or just want to keep track of the maintenance of your car, Fuelio does everything. The app provides inputs to track car costs, service assignments, mileage, and more. The travel log functionality uses a built-in GPS tracker, so the information is as accurate as possible. Free in Google Play Almost every car has a report CarFax, which tracks not only any accidents, but also performed services. Using this app, users will be able to track all auto repair and maintenance information history, as well as receive alerts when the car is overdue for oil changes or tire rotation. Free in Google Play After dealing with traffic, finding a parking spot can be one of the most frustrating aspects of driving in a big city. SpotHero alleviates these problems by allowing you to book a parking space in advance, and giving users instructions on how to get there. In some cases, users can save on parking fees by booking with SpotHero instead of paying after arrival. Free in Google Play Best PC Expansion Apps Source: Harish Jonnalagadda/ Android Central It would only make sense to be apps that integrate with your phone and computer, so they work like one. Instead of picking up your phone every time a notification comes through, you can get the same notification on your computer so you can focus on what you're doing. AirDroid does everything you could do when synchronizing your phone with your computer. Once set up, users can transfer files, manage SMS and contacts, and make or answer calls from their computer. There are even remote access options, so you can leave your phone in another room but check something out. Free w/IAP in Google Play In addition to providing expected services such as file transfer, reflection notifications, and SMS messages, Join does much more. The obvious advantage is the integration of Tasker, because Join is done by the same developer as Tasker. But after tweaking, the possibilities of what users can do without having their phone truthfully endless. Free/\$4.99 in Google Play Best Video Call Apps Source: Harish Jonnalagadda/Android Central How Long Has It Been Since You Saw Your Family After You Moved? With video chat apps you can pick up the phone and see your family and friends, even if you are miles and miles away. Some apps offer additional benefits such as seeing who's in a video chat before answering, while others are just basic and get Who wants to be in the middle of a video chat and the picture turns into something since 2008? Google Duo guarantees its users the best video quality possible, along with other benefits such as low-light mode, Knock Knock for call preview, and eventually And if you don't want to make a video call, you can convert the call into audio so you can still have a conversation. Free in Google Play Facebook Messenger has become the default messaging platform for many, and for better or worse, the app continues to impress. In addition to being a messaging platform, Messenger can handle SMS messages and even video calls. If a video call happens to a Facebook friend, you can get up and work at the right time. The free w/IAP in Google Play Skype has been significantly updated over the years and is inching towards an 11 million download token. Voice calls, video chats, smart messages and even SMS are possible via Skype. In addition, there is cross-platform compatibility so users can take advantage of its features, regardless of the use of their Android phone or computer. Free in Google Play There's literally an app for everything when you browse the Play Store, you'll find thousands and thousands of apps that look interesting and different from the usual ones. There are many different categories of apps to discover and we are always looking for that next cool and hip app to check out. It can be difficult to get through and find all the best apps for each situation, but we are grateful for the options provided. Without apps, our phones will be just phones and where is the fun part of this? Whether you love mobile games, get things done, or just want to sit back and catch up on your favorite show, there's an app for that. And while some apps may work for me or you, that won't work with your buddy or grandmother. These are just some of the best apps you can find today, but we are always looking for and hoping for new and exciting apps to get into the Play Store. We can earn commissions for purchases using our links. Learn more. More.

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