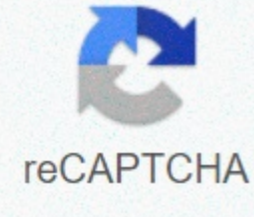




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## Dunder mifflin building google maps

This image was lost for some time after its release, but you can still view it here. Have you ever wished you could create your own web app that uses Google Maps? Well, this should be a boost in the right direction. Developer Peter Rukavina, creator of the Charlottetown Transit map, was good enough to include the full source code of his project on his wiki. Rukavina describes its setup using PHP and javascript; also describes in detail the setup of the corresponding MySQL tables. This should be a good starting point for all developers or developers who want to understand how to connect to Google Maps and start developing their own service. Charlottetown Transit Map [via hack daily] Google Maps is one of the best navigation apps on Android and iPhone, but given that most of us use it while driving, it's easy to miss some of its features. Whether you're new to Google Maps or a veteran, let's look at the best ways to make the best of it. Save your home and work addressesFirst things first, adding to your home and work address makes using Google Maps a little more enjoyable, as it simplifies navigation anywhere. Tap the three-row menu bar in the search box, tap Places, and add your home and work address. Add more destinations to TripNeed to grab lunch on a long trip? Or do you stop at the pharmacy on your way home from work? Setting up multiple destinations makes it easier, although it's easy to miss that it's even an option. You have two different ways to add more stops. First, map the instructions to your final destination as always. Then tap the three-point icon in the upper-right corner &gt; Add Stop. Enter a different location and Maps will move you between them. You can add up to nine different points of view here. Alternatively, you can add a stop along the route midway through the ride. It makes the most sense for something like grabbing lunch on a trip or if you're walking around town in need of a quick cup of coffee. Go ahead and start navigating to your final destination. Once the maps are navigating, tap the large search button, and then search for everything you need. Maps will only show you options on your current route. Save a parking space In the latest version of Google Maps, Google can save a parking space. When you park, you'll see a pop-up step that asks you to save your location. Do this, and then you can add additional information, such as what you're in or how much time is on your computer. This feature is brand new, so if you don't see it right now, keep an eye out for it over the coming weeks. Use maps to save locations you're interested in In anticipation of how to use Google Maps, you have some handy ways to save your locations. Historically, My Cards have always been but this requires you to have access to a desktop computer. Head to my maps on your computer and can create a private or public map that is available on Google Maps on your phone. This is convenient if you're trying to create a holiday itinerary, plan an event, or work on a shared map with friends. Yesterday, Google updated its long-forgotten My Maps tool. The service disguised itself as... Read more If we are more useful when you are in progress is a new feature of the list. Search for a location in Google Maps, and then tap the Save button. Here you will find a list of your locations, included predefined lists called Favorites, Want to Go and Star Places. You'll also see the option to add this location to a custom list or create a new list in full. I found these lists to be useful for both holiday planning and tracking things I want to do when I'm at home. They also come in handy when you have family in town and desperately need to find a good restaurant you've been around. You can also share these lists or share them publicly. This means that even if you don't do legwork to plan your holiday, you can reap the rewards of someone more organized than you. If you wanted to save your location on Google Maps, for years your only option was to add a little... Read moreSee your history to see each trip you've downloadedTo default, Google Maps keeps your running history of every trip you've taken. It's either very cool and useful or very creepy. Tap the three-line menu button, and then tap settings &gt; map history. Here you will see all the different places you have navigated. If you don't like google maps doing this, you can disable it by flipping the switch at the top of the screen to Off. Personally, I don't see any benefit in maintaining history because I'm not an amnesiac in a Christopher Nolan movie, but it might come in handy for you, too. Use the Explore button to find interesting places around you If you're in a new place and have no idea where to start, the Explore button is incredibly useful. Tap the three-line menu button, and then tap Explore. You will see a list of food options, cafes and bars. I've ignored this little feature for a long time, but ever since I accidentally touched it once, I've been using it a lot. Download Offline Viewing Maps If you have a bad data plan with your phone or are traveling abroad, offline maps are non-personal. Search for a city or place name, and then tap the name or address on the bottom bar. Tap the Download button to save this map. You can see what you've saved by tapping the three-line menu button in the search bar, and then tapping offline areas. In most cases, you can still manage and search for destinations in this mode. Android: Google Maps gets an update today that will add a ton of download information... Read moreZoom One-HandedAko you walk around with your phone trying to navigate google maps, pinching for zoom is Double-tap the screen, and then swipe up and down. It zooms in and out on the map. Send instructions from your computer to your phone If you're looking at directions to a location on your computer and want to do actual navigation on your phone, you can send that information to your phone as long as you're signed in to your Google Account on both devices. Search for your destination first and find the route. Once you've done this, you'll see the option to send directions to your phone (or car, if it supports Google Maps). Dig Deeper Into Transit DirectionsWhen you use public transit, Google Maps is a fantastic way to get around and Google is doing a pretty good job of providing you with a lot of search parameters to fine-tun your search results. Search for a destination on Google Maps, and then tap the public transit button. Here you will see a list of different ways to get to your destination. If you need to change the time, tap the Leave button and change it to any option you need. You can also tap the option button to fine-tune your results, including which forms of public transport you want to use (or not use) and change how much you walk. The last mode of transport you used will always be the default If you use many different modes of transport and bounce between different instructional styles, you may have noticed that Google is saving your last used mode by default. So, if you were instructed to walk last time, you will be given walking instructions in the next search. You can always change modes by tapping the large transfer mode icon on the search results, and then selecting the mode you want from the options bar. Avoid highways, tolls and other optionsDooks, do not want to engage in driving on the highway. In those days, it's nice to force Google Maps to steer clear of highways. Enter your destination, and then tap the three-point icon in the upper-right right. Tap the Route Options button. Here you can avoid highways, tolls and ferries. More importantly, you can also switch whether Google Maps uses your options for each trip or just this. If you want to avoid motorways, tolls or ferries at all costs, set settings to remember. If you want to do it just for this trip, set it on off. I prefer to leave it in an off position so it doesn't accidentally change me in some weird way because I forgot to turn the highways back on. Adjust the guidance volume and where it plays You wouldn't think something like guidance volume would matter, but if you're driving in a car with weird speakers, it's nice that Google gives you a lot of options. Tap the three-line icon in the search bar, and then tap Settings &gt; Navigation Settings. Here you can set the volume to soft, normal or loud. You can also choose whether voice navigation is playing via Bluetooth or not. You can even go completely down Select the Alerts Only function so you're only alerted to traffic, construction, or accident alerts. Sign up for the BuzzFeed Quizzes Newsletter - Binge on the latest quizzes delivered to your Quizzes newsletter inbox! Google Maps is great for just getting around. But make no mistake: the app is much more than just glorified Garmin. Maps have all sorts of powerful features and shortcuts that are obvious but just waiting to be discovered. So grab a compass and get ready: It's time to explore some of its most useful options off the beaten track. We were all guilty of looking at our devices while driving – to look ahead to the next step, maybe, or see how much time was left on the road. If you have an Android phone, there's a better way: Google Maps has a whole host of useful voice commands that will work whenever you're actively navigating. Just say Hey, Google or Ok, Google, and then try variations on these examples: What path is this? What's my next line? What's my ETA? How's the traffic ahead? How does traffic work? Avoid tolls Avoid highways Find gas stations Find restaurants Navigate home Take me to McDonald's What is the nearest hotel? Exit navigation»You can also instruct your phone to make phone calls, text, play music, or ask for your next meeting—all without ever taking your eyes off the road.2. Remember where you parkedOpen maps on your iPhone or Android phone and tap a small blue dot that represents your current location. This will pull a hidden menu with some handy options , including the ability to save your current parking location. You can add your own additional notes or photos, and even set a timer to remind you when it's time to move your car. Everything you need to remember where you parked is in the Maps mobile app. When you're ready to go back to your seat, look for a saved parking notification on your phone, or simply open Maps and tap the Parking Location tab at the bottom of the screen.3. Share your location, even as you moveI've got someone to find you – or maybe you just know where you are? See a simple real-time map system for sharing your location. To try it out, open Maps on your phone and tap the blue dot, just like in the previous tip, but this time choose Share your location. You'll be able to specify the end time of your location sharing or choose to keep it active until you manually turn it off. You can then select any of your contacts to share with or get a private web link for paste wherever you want. You can also access the sharing function in the middle of navigating maps by dragging up from the white bar at the bottom of the screen, and then selecting Share Travel. It'll share your location. Location. whoever you choose until you reach specific destinations. In both scenarios, people who open the link will see an icon that shows your current position on the map as you move — within the Maps app, if they have one, or in a regular browser window if they don't have one. You'll see an indicator at the bottom of the maps that will tell you that location sharing is active and you can always stop sharing by tapping that box.4. Search the route as you sailThis drag-up-do-do-navigation menu mentioned in the previous tip has another useful gem: the ability to search along the current route. Activation will give you one-tap buttons to find gas stations, restaurants, grocery stores, or cafes on the way from point A to point B. You can also type your own custom search term — if, say, you want to see every Starbucks or Taco Bell that's on your current path.5. Find out what's near anything A similar type of search is available in Maps, even when you're not sailing. Every time you want to find specific types of places near your current location or any other place, tap the search bar at the top of the mobile app and try variations on these queries:Restaurants near the Pharmacy near Figueroa and 1st Street Vegetarian Restaurants near me Book stores near UCLA Gas Station Things to do near the FloridaKarte Theater can act as your guide to practically anything Anywhere. You can also browse to see what's near your current location by opening Maps on your phone, then scrolling and scrolling through the Explore tab at the bottom of the screen.6. Get a ticket to go next time you search for a location on your phone, then decide to invite Uber or Lyft to get there, save yourself some steps and order a ride to the right of the Maps app. After searching for a specific place and then tapping the Directions button, look for an icon with a person who is flying his hand in the air as if greeting a taxi (located directly under the address bar, between the walking icon and the cyclist icon). This will show you current fares and waiting times for Lyft and Uber, right then and there, and allow you to jump directly into the process of ordering rides within any app.7. See how busy companies areFor going to the store, your favorite delicacies or even DMV, let Maps show you how long you'll face on arrival. Look for a place in the Maps app on your phone, or find and tap it in current Map view, and then tap the business name in the white bar at the bottom of the screen and scroll down until you see the Popular Times section. There you will find a chart of typical crowds in your current day and time, and often a live report on how much busy at that point. You can look ahead to find average data on congestion and for any other day and time. See exactly how busy companies are or likely to be in the future with the Popular Times Maps tool.8. Name your favorite places If you find yourself searching or navigating to the same places more than once, make life easier by giving your favorite places more memorable names. For example, you can call a doctor's office a doctor's office – which is much easier to remember and say by voice command than by an official map-based nickname like East LA Doctor's Hospital: Puglia Joseph MD. Or you can call a friend's building impossible to find Biff's apartment for a simple constant reference. The trick is to take advantage of Map's easily missed tagging system. First, look for the place you want in the Maps app on your phone (or find it and tap it in the current map view), and then tap the company name or building name in the white bar at the bottom of the screen. Then tap the three-dot menu icon in the upper-right corner of the screen and choose Add Label from the menu that appears. Type any label you want and save it. From that point down, you'll see your custom tag instead of the formal location name everywhere within Maps, and you can navigate to the place simply by telling Maps (or Google Assistant, on Android) to navigate to any name you've used.9. Save your special locations In addition to naming places, the Maps mobile apps allow you to create site collections for future browsing or sharing. Just tap the name of any location within the same bar at the bottom of the screen we shared, and then look for the Save option. Tap this and you'll be able to save your location to the default list, such as Favorites, or create your own custom list to be on. You can choose to have any list private—just for your personal viewing—or you can choose to have it available to you through a special shared link you're sending. It can even be publicly available to anyone who finds it online.10. Explore at eye levelStreet View is one of maps' best features, but you'd probably never even realize it exists if you don't know where to look. First, look for any location within Maps on your phone, such as Times Square, for example. (You can also tap and hold your finger anywhere on the map to select a specific reference point.) Then tap the location image that appears in the lower-left corner of the screen. Now, for the really neat part, tap the compass icon in the upper-right corner of the app. Hold your phone up and move it, and the view will move to match the actual direction you face at any time. It'll be like standing on a map looking around.11. Go back to the time offire up stream conductor, Doc: We're about to take some serious travel time. Google a feature that allows you to view Street View for any area as it has existed in different places in the past. This one only works from your desktop site, so open Maps on your computer and select a location. See that little yellow one in the bottom right corner, known to his friends as Pegman? Drag him with your mouse and leave it wherever you want. Then look for the watch icon in the gray box in the upper-left part of the screen. Tap that and you'll be able to drag the slider back in time to see 360-degree views from previous years. The feature isn't available for every possible location, but it's pretty widespread — and many locations have data worth an entire decade. Views from the past with Google Maps Street View History.12. Beam the map directly to your phone or carSpeaking maps on the web, the next time you search for directions on your desktop, save a step and beam them directly to your vehicle or mobile device. All you have to do is click the inconspicuous option that appears whenever you search for a place or drag instructions. It'll be in the box on the left side of the screen—either as an icon below the name or address of the place, if you're looking at a regular map, or as a plain text link just above the route options, if you've already pulled instructions. (If you clicked on a specific route, it will immediately be an unconfirmed icon to the right of the travel time estimate. And yes, there is some irony in the fact that you practically need a map to find this feature.) Click whichever version appears and you'll see a list of devices that are connected to your Google Account. Android devices should appear automatically, while iPhones will require you to install and sign in to the Maps app first, and then enable notifications within the app settings. For the car, you'll need to manually add your vehicle to Google's Send to Car website, provided you have compatible makea and model. Whichever way you go, map information will appear as a notification on your dashboard or device seconds after you send it from your desktop.13. See time-specific traffic estimates You can find out how long the ride is likely to take at any time with an intelligent map traffic assessment tool. Just search for a location in the desktop version of the map, and then click the Directions button and place any starting point that you want. At the bottom of the same box where you typed the address, you'll see a line that says Leave now. Click the down arrow next to it, and then select Depart to or Come to see likely traffic conditions and the estimated total number of trips for any particular day and time. The map traffic assessment tool will help you understand how much time you need to leave to drive, even if you don't go to the road right away.14 Get Custom Notifications When it comes to a standard daily commute, maps will help you avoid headaches by proactively giving travel time alerts and any heavy traffic or delays on the route. To set up custom commute notifications, tap the three-row menu icon in the upper-left corner of the mobile app, choose Settings, and then choose Commute on iOS or Commute Settings on Android.To will drag a screen where you can specify (or verify) your home and work address, and give Maps some information about how and when you usually travel. Fill in all the fields and be sure to activate get commute notifications, which moves to the bottom of the screen — then just sit back, relax, and know that Maps will have your back from there to the outside. Not every time is an adventure at two stops. While not quite front and center, Maps has a feature that lets you add more stops to any navigation. Start searching your phone for your first destination. Tap the Instructions button, and then type a starting point. See the small three-point menu icon to the right of that same field? Tap it, and then choose Add Stop from the menu that appears. Then you will get a third field where you can enter another destination – and when you fill it out, an option for the fourth destination will appear. You can even drag and drop destinations to reaste them as needed. This feature is a little more prominent when using maps on your computer: After firing directions to a specific destination, you'll see a small plus sign with add a destination to it text. You can tap this to add as many extra stops as you can to your trip, and you can drag and drop destinations to change their order.16 Get parking information before you goNothing is more strenuous than arriving sometime at the last second, then scramble to figure out where to park. Maps can help: Before you get in the way, look for a destination in the Google Maps app on your phone. On Android, tap the Directions button at the bottom of the screen, and then tap Steps and Parking and search for Find Parking. On iOS, tap the Steps button at the bottom of the screen, and then look for the Find parking link to the center of the screen. Note that the parking feature is only available in some U.S. cities, and Google doesn't specify which ones. So if you don't see the Find Parking option, it may not be live in your area from now on.17. Measure the distance between multiple PointsWant to map your morning jog - or maybe you just know exactly how far you have to travel on a particular trip? Maps can accurately measure the distance between two or more points, up to the second decimal point. On your phone, tap and hold your finger at the starting point. This will cause a red needle to appear along with a white view more location information. Swipe up on the iOS

bar or tap the bar in Android, and then select Measure Distance. After that, use your finger and blue plus icon to find and select a different point. Repeat as many times as necessary to measure your full path. The map distance measurement feature facilitates the precise distance between any number of points. On your computer, right-click the starting point and select Measure distance from the menu that appears, and then click each subsequent point along the way to get measurements.18. Sign in to your reservations If you use Gmail and/or Google Calendar, you can find information about upcoming bookings — as mentioned in your confirmation email in your inbox or event invitations in your agenda — within Maps. Tap the three-row menu icon in the upper-left corner of the mobile app, select Your Places, and then look for the Reservations tab at the top of the screen. Any plans you've created will automatically appear there, and you can tap them to get detailed information about their location along with the option to start navigation.19. Save time with advanced gestures Beyond classic pinch-to-zoom, Maps has a bunch of other useful gestures to help you get around the app on your mobile device. Try these advanced manoeuvres: To zoom in or out of a map with one hand, double-tap, and then — without lifting a finger — push up or down the screen. Twist the map to change orientation by placing your index finger and thumb on the screen, then twisting them together to the left or right. Move your perspective by placing two fingers on the map and moving both up on the screen. This will take you into a flyover view of any area you are looking at, along with three-dimensional buildings in many places. Do you want to save the step the next time you're ready to navigate? After you look at the location, press and hold the blue Instructions button at the bottom of the screen. This will take you directly into navigation mode, using Google's best guess for the route and mode of transport you're likely to use. 20. Disconnect from the network Like most Google services, Maps uses your searches and actions in the app to personalize future suggestions. But if you're going somewhere you don't want stored and associated with your account, Maps has a useful new feature that lets you go incognito and avoid saving any of your activities. To access it, simply tap the profile icon in the upper-right corner of the Maps interface on your phone, and then tap Turn on Incognito Mode from the menu that appears. The app will reload, and at the top of the screen you'll see a gray bar informing you that Incognito Mode is in progress with a dark icon of anonymous mode instead of a common profile picture. When you're ready to return grid, tap the Incognito Mode icon and choose Turn off Incognito Mode. And don't worry, your secret is safe with me. For even more of Google's next-level knowledge, check out my Android Intelligence newsletter. [Editor's note: This story was updated and extended in January 2020]. 2020.]

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