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Android and Android folk can't live without our widgets. Be it Beautiful, Android Pro, or any other that doesn't come to mind, they're one of the most aesthetically pleasing and practical apps to being on Google's team. For those who're always looking for the best clock and weather icons on a tablet (a title usually held by the Beautiful Widgets), say hello to the newest kid on the block, HD Widgets. HD Widgets is a tablet-only app that looks to bring some of the visual beauty and slickness most people are accustomed to from Beautiful Widgets. Everything is optimized for the tablet's larger screen, and the results really speak for themselves. HD Widgets comes with a large selection of sizes to choose from, ranging from full screen to header, half-page, and even weather by itself. Some options also have a "small" choice, as well, which usually means the clock isn't taller than the rest of the widget. There's also a pretty good selection of clocks to choose from, although the extent is mostly what color and what kind of frame. There's a couple of options as far as font, but if you're not interested in either a traditional digital clock font of a Sense clock, you might be wise to look elsewhere. You can also opt for shortcuts instead of the weather, which includes airplane mode, wi-fi, Bluetooth, screen rotation, and brightness. To top it off, you also get to pick the background. Once you've got your widget customized and placed, you needn't worry about anything else. It'll automatically determine your location (in my case, via wi-fi), and you're good to go. If you're curious about the weather, you can tap the weather icon, and similar to Beautiful Widgets, a full screen weather detail is brought up. This is where HD Widgets really shines, as it can fully take advantage of the tablet's large screen. Large weather icons are bright and gorgeous, and you're shown really detailed information like sunrise and sunset as well as wind direction and pressure. Your weekly forecast is there, too, with icons and temperatures, just like you'd expect. It's good looking, plain and simple. The only downside of HD Widgets as of now is that you can't download user-made clocks or weather icons, but honestly, with how slick the built-in icons are, I'm not sure you need to. And even then, that's my only complaint. Fortunately, the developers have their emails public and are taking feature requests and ideas, so I know what I'm going to say. HD Widgets is only \$1.99 for now (an introductory price of ~40% off), so if you're rocking a tablet and looking for some absolutely stunning widgets, I'd hope on this sooner rather than later. It's an excellent app that looks like it's only got room to grow, and two bucks isn't bad at all. We've got download links and more pictures (like way more) after the break. Apple has never been shy in outlining its stance as an environmentally friendly, green company. In fact, the spring launch of the iPhone SE and 9.7-inch iPad Pro gave the world an opportunity to meet Liam, a robot with 29 arms capable of disassembling old iPhones so that the components can be reused. The demo was a part of Cupertino's wider effort to plug its Renew program, a somewhat self-explanatory initiative that promotes the idea of recycling old devices. Continuing in this vein, Apple has shared a trio of colorful wallpapers on its website, each themed towards helping man better recognize the precious nature of mother earth. There are three new wallpapers in total to be found via Apple's new "Thanks" webpage on its main site. The bright, bold, exclusive images have been created by artist Anthony Burrill, and are "inspired by nature and people coming together to help the planet." Though nature wallpapers have been in vogue since the early days of the computer, these are quite different than your typical nature-themed shots. Both thought-provoking and eye-catching, it's clear that Apple is very serious about saving the planet, and as one of the world's most valuable companies, is looking to lead by example. We've embedded a preview of the images in the gallery below so you can take a look. If you want to use any of the wallpapers, Apple recommends visiting the website on your desired iOS device, and snatching them that way. These wallpapers have not been included in the new iOS 9.3, so if you're looking to give your iPhone or iPad a refreshed look, hit the source link below. source: Apple via 9to5Mac Well, this is new. Today, Google quietly announced a new version of Android in a small blog post. The new version, Android 5.1, is still called Lollipop, but it will come with a few new features including Device Protection, and HD voice, where your device supports it. Android 5.1 will also support multiple SIMs on devices that contain multiple SIM slots (presumably carriers and manufacturers have had to add this support where applicable on top of Android until now). Device Protection will allow a user to remotely lock their device if it gets lost or stolen. This will prevent your phone from being used until you log in with your Google account. This protection even remains in place if the person who takes your phone performs a factory reset. These are just a few of the new features that will come in Android 5.1, though Google hasn't released a full changelog. The update is rolling out to the new Nexus devices today, though presumably it will still take a few weeks or months to get to most other devices. Android 5.1: Unwrapping a new Lollipop update | Official Android Blog We've gathered up 15 awesome illustrations from the likes of Tom Jay, Steven Bonner and Jessica Walsh for you to enjoy on your iPhone. There's everything from 3D, abstract illustration, photography and typography so whatever your design taste, you're bound to find a wallpaper that takes your fancy! All of these iPhone wallpapers have been saved at iPhone 4 dimensions (960x640) and have a pixel density of 326ppi. What does all this mean? It means they'll look lovely and sharp! To add these images to your iPhone just visit this post on your device, click the image, press and hold and then select 'Save'. Then simply navigate to your Camera on the iPhone and choose the saved image from your Camera Roll. Select the arrow at the bottom of the Camera Roll and choose 'Use as Wallpaper'. Now, for those awesome illustrations... Tom Jay Click the image to see the full size iPhone wallpaper (opens in new tab) João Oliveira Click the image to see the full size iPhone wallpaper (opens in new tab) Sam Taylor Click the image to see the full size iPhone wallpaper (opens in new tab) Computer Arts Click the image to see the full size iPhone wallpaper (opens in new tab) Ana Albero Click the image to see the full size iPhone wallpaper (opens in new tab) Tom Jay Click the image to see the full size iPhone wallpaper (opens in new tab) Click the image to see the full size iPhone wallpaper (opens in new tab) Jessica Walsh Click the image to see the full size iPhone wallpaper (opens in new tab) Matt Booth Click the image to see the full size iPhone wallpaper (opens in new tab) João Oliveira Click the image to see the full size iPhone wallpaper (opens in new tab) Steven Bonner Click the image to see the full size iPhone wallpaper (opens in new tab) Radim Malinic Click the image to see the full size iPhone wallpaper (opens in new tab) Lauren Gentry Click the image to see the full size iPhone wallpaper (opens in new tab) Richard Nabarro Click the image to see the full size iPhone wallpaper (opens in new tab) Sorin Bechira Click the image to see the full size iPhone wallpaper (opens in new tab) We'll be regularly updating this post with more illustrations for you to download, so keep your eyes peeled! Thank you for reading 5 articles this month! Join now for unlimited access Enjoy your first month for just £1 / \$1 / €1 *Read 5 free articles per month without a subscription Join now for unlimited access Try first month for just £1 / \$1 / €1 1000p and 1080i - one letter, big argument When is HD not HD? It's a question that is causing huge discussion after a controversial Sony blog talked about 1080i support for 'nearly HD' sets. Currently, to qualify as HD in the UK, sets must be 720p or 1080i, with so-called Full HD or True HD sets having 1080p. HD Burnout So when Burnout Paradise designer Simon Phipps wrote on the Sony blog: "Plus heaps more, including: 1080i support for PlayStation 3 owners with "almost HD" sets", it sparked something of a reaction. "Really appreciate the 1080i support, but calling 1080i TVs "almost HD" is a real dumb move- just because you don't like it doesn't make it a real HD res. My 1080i CRT tv will blow the doors off 75% of the LCDs out there in the picture quality department," posted one commentator. Telly wars "That said, the HDTV specification is 1080i or 720p — BOTH are full high definition, BY DEFINITION. Neither is "not quite HD". I love my 1080i CRT HDTV compared to almost every 720p LCD screen I've ever seen and anyone else who owns one can probably tell you the same. Do some research before venting next time — 1080i IS HD. Real HD. The HDness. Completely HD..." posted another. Are we beginning to see an HD telly class war - with the Full HD crowd smugly grinning at the poor old HD Ready lot? It's certainly prompted a bit of a debate. Let's explore what are arguably the best apps on both iOS and Android right now. We are not going to give you tons of options in each category, but just the best apps you can get for your Android device or iPhone on either the Google Play Store or the Apple App Store. Best messaging apps for Android and iOS Telegram is one of the best messaging apps that works across both platforms. Spend enough time on the Internet and you will inevitably see Telegram flying around as a recommendation. The app is free of charge and supports group chats, but also allows you to follow certain channels and quickly get up-to-date. Get it on Android | iOS It's hard to describe the popularity of WhatsApp in one sentence: after all, it's one of the most downloaded apps regardless of the platform, period. WhatsApp is a cross-platform, end-to-end encrypted app with group chat functionality, stories, free video and audio calling internationally, making it a rather powerful hub for all things communication. Get it on Android | iOS Another mighty popular messaging app, Viber has a host of healthy features that make it a worthwhile alternative to WhatsApp. With feature-rich group chats, video calling, and tons of fun stickers available on the store, Viber is as good a messaging app as they come. Get it on Android | iOS Despite the somewhat negative press that Facebook has got over the years, Meta's Messenger is still one of the most popular ways of communication around the world. After all, who doesn't have a Facebook account? Good news, you can use the app without one, but still make good use of all its features. There's some basic chat personalization available as well. ▲Return to table of contents▲Best social network and social media apps for Android and iOS Get it on Android | iOS If it's happening now, it's on Twitter: it is among the most popular social networks on the globe, allowing you to get timely updates from popular figures, celebrities, and other people of interest. Starting off with up to 140 characters in a single tweet, the social network ultimately grew to 280 characters per tweet and is currently testing an "edit" button, which will let you fix annoying typos in your tweets in a timely manner. Get it on Android | iOS The social network for professionals, Microsoft's LinkedIn lets you quickly connect with your co-workers and other peers in your line of work, as well as get up-to-speed with the current developing of your industry and discover the latest trends. What if you're looking for a new job? LinkedIn is one of the perfect places to look for a new occupation, or simply mark yourself as "available", and the headhunters will be after you in no time. Get it on Android | iOS Oops, did you see it? The snap is now gone! Gen Z's favorite Snapchat kickstarted some of the hottest trends in social media with stories, AR-filters, and ephemeral messages. You can snap your friends and keep those streaks going. Previously, Snapchat has received some criticism for not working optimally on Android devices, but the situation has definitely improved in recent years. Get it on Android | iOS A relative newcomer on the social media scene, BeReal has a simple, but rather intriguing premise: as soon as the app alerts you, you have two minutes to take a picture of what you're doing alongside a selfie of your lovely mutt. In order to see your friends' photos, you have to take one, preferably as soon as possible. Get it on Android | iOS The short-form video platform is truly addicting, for all the good and bad reasons. On TikTok, you can watch tons of short videos from your favorite content creators, and get into the latest trends. TikTok is available as both an iOS and as an Android app. ▲Return to table of contents▲Best photo and video editing apps for Android and iOS Get it on Android | iOS One of the essential image-editing apps on both Android and iOS, Snapseed is a very powerful tool that allows for both basic and more advanced image editing. The app supports RAW photo developing and editing, giving you an even greater flexibility when it comes to image edits. There are lots of fun filters and tools alongside the basic functionalities you might expect from an image-editing app, like cropping, image tuning, etc. Get it on Android | iOS If you're serious about your mobile photos, you are certainly recommended to get Lightroom Mobile on your phone. The app is slightly more professional than other run-of-the-mill image editors you can find on the Play Store or the App Store. The app is lauded for its extensive use of sliders, which brings it up-to-speed with the full-fleshed desktop version. Another compelling feature are the Lightroom presets, which let you to quickly give your photos a certain desired look. You can either import these from your desktop app or download popular custom ones, of which there are quite a lot available on the internet. Get it on Android | iOS Canva is definitely one of the best apps when it comes to collage making on either Android or iOS. With Canva, you can quickly and efficiently create your own unique designs for webpages, Instagram posts, or whatever else you might think of. There are tons of presets that surely would come in handy for your design needs. You also have some basic video editing skills on board, making this a must-have. Get it on Android | iOS Despite inception as the official free video editor intended for TikTok, CapCut is actually a pretty capable video editor in general. Aside from basic video editing, CapCut also offers splitting, playback speed, animation transitions, style presets, audio extraction, various effects, stickers, and overlays, and so much more. This rather intuitive app is a must-have if you often edit videos on the go, no matter if you're using an iPhone or an Android device. Yet another excellent video editor for both iOS and Android, which allows you to stitch and mix/match your video clips into a digital masterpiece. Aside from the basics (editing, splitting, effects, filters, cropping, and precutting), InShot also has the rather interesting voice effects and denoising features, which make it stand out a bit from similar apps. All of this is neatly wrapped up in a super intuitive interface, making it one of the best iOS and Android apps. ▲Return to table of contents▲Get it on Android | iOS When it comes to raw utility, it's hard to surpass what Notion brings to the table. This super-deep time and workflow organizer allows you to collaborate with other people in your workspace, keep track of your tasks, and create rich media on the go. The personal version of Notion will remain a free version forever, says the developer behind it, while the team plan will cost you, but it's well worth it. For some, this one comes as the ultimate communication channel for small and large teams, allowing for deep collaboration and integration with multiple third-party tools, like Google Drive, Asana, Dropbox, Zendesk, and more. In-app video and audio calling, as well as one-on-one and group huddles, make this one an exceptional and vital app for any business. For many, this one is the ultimate word processor. The powerful app gives you all the bells and whistles you might expect, and then some, enabling you to create expansive text documents with rich media and advanced formatting. Of course, the iOS and Android versions of Google Docs sync up with the web-based version of the app as you write, allowing you to quickly resume your work from whatever device you have at hand. Google's web-based personal file server is one of the most popular ways for file-sharing on the web, but is also perfect as a personal file cache that allows collaboration and quick access to your files wherever and whenever. With 15GB of free basic storage for every Google user, Drive is a rather powerful, device-agnostic solution for file backup and access. Definitely a must-have! While the title for the best note-taking app is certainly a toss-up between Evernote and Google Keep, Evernote gets slightly ahead with its much better third-party integration support. You can use Evernote with the full expanse of Google Suite (Drive, Docs, Sheets, etc.), Slack, Microsoft Teams, Outlook, and so on, whereas Google Keep works best with Google's own productivity apps only. Evernote also lets you attach PDFs to your notes, attach Slack messages or emails, and so much more. Get it on Android | iOS Pocket is one of those apps that will simplify your digital life a lot. Thanks to it, you can quickly save any webpage for later reading or viewing. There's also a Pocket extension for just about any browser out there, which enables you to sync your reading lists between devices and easily curate your selection. ▲Return to table of contents▲Get it on Android | iOS Google Maps has undoubtedly established itself as the go-to digital map of the world for regular users. While its closest competitor, Apple Maps, has certainly come a long way since its inception, Google's wildly-popular mapping software is still a more feature-rich app with advanced guidance and navigation functionalities, coupled with a slightly more intuitive and easy-to-use interface. If you have a smartphone, be it an iPhone or Android device, you need this one, period. It's an essential app for a reason. Get it on Android | iOS Technically Google's second map app, Waze's strength lies in its crowd-sourced alerts that warn of your road hazards, police patrols, traffic, accidents, and anything else that might mar your driving experience. Surely, navigating with Waze isn't bad as well, and while the maps are not as detailed, it's worth having this one on your phone as well. The fun celebrity guidance voice packs are worthy of a chuckle, as well. ▲Return to table of contents▲