

COMPUTER APPS AND SMARTPHONE APPS AND WHERE TO GET THEM

Here are examples of the applications referenced in the PowerPoint, presented in the same order as the slides.

These are the apps I use. There are lots of choices to accomplish the same function. At last count the Google Playstore had over *3 million apps* available. All apps mentioned are for your phone unless specified. When searching for apps, specify you want the FREE version. You can always upgrade later.

HARDWARE

If you need a new computer or monitor and cost is consideration, you should consider the San Diego Futures Foundation.

<https://sdfutures.org/>.

It's run by SDSU and offers low cost computers and free training. Seniors qualify to purchase refurbished HP laptops and desktop systems priced from \$100-300. Computers are usually 2015-2016 models and are more than adequate for most applications. Systems include Microsoft Office 2010. Computers come with a one-year guarantee. Some systems include monitors. Separate monitors cost \$20-40.

Phone(619) 391-0050 to check on current hours and access to their offices. Rules are subject to change due to COVID.

EDUCATION AND FUN

Books to read and listen to:

Libby for SD County Library

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.overdrive.mobile.android.libby&hl=en>

Cloud Library for San Diego City

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.txtr.android.mmm&hl=en>

Kindle for Amazon books

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.amazon.kindle&hl=en>

Audible for Amazon music and recorded books

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.audible.application&hl=en>

Google Podcasts

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.google.android.apps.podcasts&hl=en>

Actually there are tons of podcast managers, all free, so pick one that works the way you like.

Crossword Puzzles by Brendan Emmett Quigley a frequent NYT constructor shares some more edgy puzzles than The Gray Lady would publish.

<https://www.brendanemmettquigley.com/>

Foreign language learning – Duolingo free. I have a 950 day streak.

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.duolingo&hl=en>

Shazam will tell you the name of the song you are listening to and who is playing or singing it.

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.shazam.android&hl=en>

ORGANIZING AND COMMUNICATING

The Google Suite:

Gmail

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.google.android.gm&hl=en>

Calendar

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.google.android.calendar&hl=en>

Tasks (To Do List)

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.google.android.apps.tasks&hl=en>

Contacts

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.google.android.contacts&hl=en>

Replaces the Contacts app that comes with all phones. Synchronizes with Gmail. There are also many other contact managers. Choose one that has the features you want. All contact managers use the same database in your phone, so you can switch at will.

Drive (cloud storage, 15 GB free space)

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.google.android.apps.docs&hl=en>

Google Drive has built in software to create documents, spreadsheets, slide presentations and data collection forms.

Photos

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.google.android.apps.photos&hl=en>

Can automatically backup the photos in your phone

Maps

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.google.android.apps.maps&hl=en>

All the functions above are accessed as web pages on your PC/Mac. Content is synchronized between PC/Mac and phone.

End of Google suite apps

CamsScanner Free: for digitizing paper documents, much better than your camera app.

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.intsig.camsscanner&hl=en>

The best know office suite is Microsoft Office. Free via Office.com. Full featured software for local installation is \$70 per year for a 5 computer family subscription.

Full featured free office applications for the PC:
Openoffice.org

<https://www.openoffice.org/download/>

Openoffice also has an Android phone app which I have not tried. I sometimes use Openoffice for special documents that Word won't format well.

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.androidropenoffice&hl=en>

WPS.com.

<https://www.wps.com/>

I haven't used WPS, but it has good reviews

PERSONAL SUPPORT

Medisafe free: medication reminder

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.medisafe.android.client&hl=en>

We have loaded copies of our driving licenses, passports, and proof of insurance to the cloud in case the originals are lost while travelling.

Google Fit for tracking exercise

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.google.android.apps.fitness&hl=en>

There are many free fitness/step counting apps. Choose one that has the features you like.

Location monitoring: Carolyn and I share our location via Google maps.

Recently we also installed Life360. It tells us when each of us arrives at or leaves specified locations, like home or work. Very comforting, especially when one is driving alone at night. The app can also sense if the vehicle is involved in a crash and display the battery level of the cell phone it is tracking.

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.life360.android.safetymapd&hl=en>

Our Groceries free: sharable shopping list, supports multiple lists. You can add a photo of an item.

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.headcode.ourgroceries&hl=en>

Online shopping: Amazon Shopping (the big kid on the block), all the major chain stores also have their own apps.

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.amazon.mShop.android.shopping&hl=en>

FINANCIAL

All major banks ,credit unions and credit card companies offer services through their web sites and have smartphone apps of varying functionality. You can deposit checks, view your statements and receive email or text alerts about unusual activity. Use a strong password which is different from that used for other types of sites. I have been doing this for over 10 years without any security issues.

Paying bills: You can pay most bills through your bank website or , for monthly bills, you can sign up to have the vendor pay themselves. Some examples are utilities, mortgage, credit cards and even the tax man.

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Any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic.

Arthur C. Clarke