

iPhone:

The Missing Manual

3.1 Software Update

Writing a book about the iPhone is a study in exasperation, because the darned thing is a moving target. Apple updates the iPhone's software fairly often, piping in new features, bug fixes, speedups, and so on.

iPhone: The Missing Manual went to press when iPhone 3.0 software roamed the earth. Then, a couple of months later, Apple produced a big 3.1 software update, then 3.1.1, then 3.1.2.

In October, O'Reilly reprinted the book, updated to 3.1.2 coverage. If you bought the original printing, here's what's new in 3.1.2. (This list doesn't include a big batch of bug fixes and speedups that Apple bestowed on this software update.)

Triple-Press the Home Button

In Settings→General→Accessibility, you can set up a triple-press of the iPhone 3GS's Home button to turn accessibility features on or off: VoiceOver (page 189) or white-on-black type (page 190). (If you choose Ask, then a triple-click summons three buttons: VoiceOver, White on Black, and Zoom [page 191].)

Paste into the Dialer

You can now paste a copied phone number into the top of the number keypad in Phone mode.

Bluetooth Voice Control

To dial by voice, hold down the Home button for 3 seconds. If you're wearing

the earbuds, hold down the center button; if you have a Bluetooth earpiece, you can now hold down the Call button.

Rearranged iTunes Store App

The icons at the bottom of the screen are now Music, Videos, Ringtones, and Search. “Podcasts” have been moved to the More screen.

Beneath the Music list: a Redeem button, which you can tap if you’ve been given an iTunes gift certificate or promo code, and your current credit balance.

“Save Original” Trimmed Videos

When you finish trimming a video (page 136) and tap Trim, you can now tap either Trim Original (meaning “shorten the original clip permanently”) or Save as New Clip (“leave the original untouched; spin out the shortened version as a separate video”).

Genius Recommendations for Apps

In the App Store app (page 251), the new Genius button shows a list of apps you might enjoy, based on the apps you’ve already downloaded. And the Top Grossing button shows which apps have made the most money, even if it’s not a lot of copies.

Remote Lock

If you lose your iPhone, and you have a MobileMe account, you could erase it by remote control, to keep your secrets safe. But what if you worry about the security of your phone’s info, but you don’t want to erase it completely, and just want to throw a low-level veil of casual protection over the thing? Easy: Just lock it by remote control. This button lets you make up a four-digit pass-code (which overrides the one you already had, if any). Without it, the sleazy crook can’t get into your phone at all. Sign in to me.com, click Find My iPhone, and click Remote Lock.

Phishing-site Warnings

A new option in Settings→Safari: Fraud Warning. If you visit a known scam (“phishing”) Web site, Safari will let you know.

Rearranging/Deleting Apps using iTunes

To fiddle around with the layout of your Home screens with the least amount of hassle, connect the iPhone to your computer using the white charging cradle. Open iTunes (version 9 or later).

If you click your iPhone's icon in the left-side list, and then click the Applications tab at the top, you see a visual display of your iPhoto Home screen.

From here, it's all mouse power:



- Turn on Sync Applications, if necessary, and then turn on the checkboxes of the apps you want on your phone. In other words, you can store hundreds of apps in iTunes, but load only some of them on your iPhone.
- Click one of the Home-page thumbnails in the scrolling far-right list to indicate which screen you want to edit. Then drag the icons to rearrange them on that page.
- It's totally fine to drag an app onto a different page thumbnail. You can organize your icons on these Home pages by category, frequency of use, color, or whatever tickles your fancy. (The empty gray thumbnail at the bottom of the thumbnails list means, "Drag an app here to install an additional Home-page screen.")
- You can drag the page thumbnails up or down to rearrange them, too.
- To delete an app, point to its icon and click the X that appears. (You can't delete the original iPhone apps like Safari and Mail.)

When your design spurt is complete, click Apply in the lower-right corner of the screen.