

A CONVERSATION WITH YOUR PHONE PLUS GOOGLING FOR ANSWERS

Compiled by Jonathan Bacon for a SIDLIT 2017 session at Johnson County Community College.

Commands to try on Siri:

To get Siri's attention: press and hold the **Home** button or say "Hey Siri."

Note: If your iPad or iPhone doesn't respond to "Hey Siri" go to **Settings > Siri** and be sure **Allow "Hey Siri"** is enabled.

If you have an iPhone 6s or later, an iPad Pro 12.9-inch (2nd generation), an iPad Pro 10.5-inch, or an iPad Pro (9.7-inch), you can use "Hey Siri" whenever you want. If you have an iPhone 6 or earlier, or another iPad or iPod touch model, you need to plug your device into power first.

NUMBERS

- **Ask for solutions to mathematical equations:** "What's the square root of 10,058?"
- **To have Siri flip a coin or roll the dice:** "Flip a coin" or "roll the dice" or "roll a six-sided dice."
- **To pick a number:** "Pick a number between 1 and 100."
- **To figure the amount of a tip:** "How much should I tip on a \$32.95 bill?"
- **To get the calorie count of a food item:** "How many calories in a hot chocolate?"
- **To convert anything:** "How many cups in a gallon?" or "How many liters in a gallon?"

PHOTOS, PHONES, LISTS, WORDS AND APPS

- **To call someone on speaker phone:** "Call my wife on speaker" or "call my wife home phone on speaker."
- **To locate photos on your iPhone or the web based on time, place, album or persons:** "Find photos of Stephen Hawking" or "Find all dog photos" or "Find photos of [someone on your phone]."
- **To create and or add to a list:** "Add bacon to shopping list."
- **To find the spelling of words or the definition:** "How do you spell mathematical?" or "What is the meaning of critical thinking?"
- **To pronounce a word:** "How do you pronounce the word spelled Sacajawea" or "How do you pronounce the word spelled Lahaina?"
- **To set a reminder for a specific time and date:** "Remind me at 8:45 AM today to take my vitamins."
- **To set reminders with a link back to content:** go to a web page and say "Remind me of this."
- **To open apps:** "Open Fitbit" or "Open Facebook."

CHATTING WITH SIRI

- **To find the forecast:** "What is the temperature outside" or "What is the forecast for tomorrow?"
- **To just chat:** "Tell me a joke" or "read me a Haiku" or "Can you rap?" or "What's your favorite book?"
- **To Thank Siri:** "Thank you, Siri."

- **To find the name of a song/tune:** “Can you name this tune?”

TRAVEL

- **To find out about a specific location or attraction:** “Which four presidents are on Mount Rushmore?”
- **To find out what planes are flying overhead:** “What planes are flying overhead.”
- **To get directions:** “Directions to Kauffman Center” *or* “Where is Tiffany Hills Sports Complex?”
- **To determine the length of time to a location:** “How long to drive to Fayetteville, Arkansas?”

DATES AND CALENDARS

- **To add a date to your Calendar:** “Add Doctor Appointment to my calendar for August 17, 2017 at 3 PM.”
- **To find some’s anniversary or birthdate:** “When is Donald Trump’s birthday” *or* “When is Jimmy Carter’s wedding anniversary?”
- **To remember Holidays:** “When is Mother’s Day in 2018?”
- **To determine specific day of week of an event:** “On what day does Christmas fall in 2018” *or* “what day of the week was July 11, 1913?”

TRIVIA

- **To get movie plot, cast and other basic information:** “Tell me about La La Land.”
- **To find trivia answers:** “What movies has Chris Pratt starred in?”
- **To fact check:** “Who won the last Super Bowl?”
or “Who was the 23rd President of the United States?”
or “How many Presidents are on US coins?”
- **To do research:** “When was Mount Rushmore completed” *or* “when did World War II end?”

SETTINGS

- **To switch to the selfie camera:** “Take a selfie.”
- **To set an alarm:** “Set an alarm for 4:30 PM today.”
- **To delete all alarms:** “Delete all alarms.”
- **To change how Siri addresses you:** “Call me King of the Road.”
- **To stop/start notifications, alerts and calls from making any noise, vibration or lighting up the phone screen when the screen is locked:** “Do Not Disturb” *or* “Turn off Do Not Disturb.”
- **To turn on Airplane mode which turns off cellular and Wi-Fi:** “Turn on Airplane mode.” However, if you do, you disable Siri...but she/he will warn you.

GETTING TO KNOW SIRI

If you pose a question to Siri and she misunderstands the question, you can edit your question using the “**tap to edit**” link that appears under your question. Then edit the question as you would any text entry.

Settings > Siri > Access When Locked enables you to use Siri even if your phone is locked. If you don’t want others to use Siri when your phone is locked, turn off this feature.

Siri works with almost all built-in apps plus a host of others thanks to SiriKit, the software development kit (SDK) provided by Apple. While the list at <https://goo.gl/kyQzB3> and <https://goo.gl/APZtwu> may expand with time, it gives you an idea of the apps SRI can interface with.

Google Search Tips and Tricks:

Search box uses up to 32 words, not case sensitive, Boolean operators are case sensitive (AND, OR), word order matters, punctuation ignored (except \$ and underscore or dash) and uses automatic word stemming.

- **To find the meaning of a term, precede it with *define*:** Example: define: coterie
- **To find an exact text or phrase surround the words with quotes.** Example: "Johnson County Community College"
- **To eliminate certain words in the search results, use the minus sign immediately followed by the text.** Example: Garfield -comics *or* garfield -comics -davis -"the musical" -school
- **To replace certain words and find phrases that match.** Example: "a * in time saves *" *or* "If you can't say * don't"
- **To search for the text only on a specific web site.** Example: "bacon site:jccc.edu"
- **To search for and compare two items use vs.** Example: bacon vs. ham
- **For an Advanced Search:** type "advanced search" in search box or after conducting a search, select the "Search Tools," if available.

Sources:

- <http://bgr.com/2015/07/20/siri-tricks-tips-commands/> (Siri Tricks & Tips)
- <http://www.imore.com/secret-siri-commands-ten-ways-amp-your-digital-assistant> (Secret Siri Commands)
- <http://www.cheatsheet.com/gear-style/apples-siri-12-tricks-you-didnt-know-she-could-do.html> (12 Siri Tricks)
- <https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT204389> (Getting Started with Siri, including setup and change voice.)
- <http://libguides.mit.edu/google> (Google search tips)
- <http://www.thetechteacher.net/2016/05/10-things-siri-can-do-for-teachers.html> (10 Things Siri Can Do for Teachers & Students)

ⁱ You can change Siri's voice using these steps:

1. Select Settings.
2. Scroll down and select Siri
3. Scroll down and select Siri Voice
4. Select Accent (American, Australian or British) and Gender (Male or Female)

Note: before you can use Siri's new voice you may need to wait until it has been downloaded (if it's the first time you've used the specified accent and gender).