

Staying Together:

Using Macs, iPhones and iPads in a time of
Social Distancing

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Options ➡

- You can make phone calls from your Mac or iPad using Google Voice
- You can make phone calls from your iPhone (wild idea!)
- You can send SMS (Short Message Service) or Apple messages from Messages on your iPhone, iPad or Mac
- You can make one-to-one video calls from your Mac, iPad or iPhone using FaceTime
- You can make many-to-many video and audio meetings using FaceTime (somewhat difficult), Google Hangout or Google Meet (easy) or Zoom (easy but less secure)

Message ➡

- Message can send messages to any phone capable of receiving SMS messages
- When sending to non-Apple devices, limited to 160 characters
- Non-Apple phones may not be able to see photos, sounds, video, emoji, etc.
- Tip: in Contacts, if your contact has an iPhone, change the Mobile phone number to iPhone. This lets your iPhone, iPad, iMac know that it can send digital Messages rather than SMS messages.
- Apple Messages can be almost any length, contain video, sound, photos, emoji, etc.

Message II ➡

- Messages sent and received “immediately”
- Many people respond faster to messages than email
- Messages are ephemeral; they are poorly organized and difficult to search, they may not show the same thing on an iPhone and a Mac or an iPad
- Messages can take up a lot of space, invisibly
 - DEMO!
- Messages sent to phone numbers are SMS
- Messages sent to email addresses may be SMS or digital
 - Digital messages can be of almost any length and content, and do not count against recipient’s monthly allocation of SMS messages

Messages are ephemeral!

Don't count on them for archiving

(but they do take up room)

Email ➡

- First email message sent in 1971
- Email is essentially a form of file transfer. You can use it for text, you can abuse it with sound, photos, video, documents
- Email is way better organized than SMS messages
- But -- it can take up a huge amount of space, and should be regularly archived and pruned
- Email is only as good as your address book
- If you have more than a hundred messages in your inbox, you have no idea what is in your inbox
- Organize your messages, delete junk mail
 - DEMO!

FaceTime ➡

- FaceTime is Apple-only
- FaceTime is astoundingly secure
- FaceTime allows video or audio “calls” between iPhones, iPads and iMacs
- Limitation: can’t talk to Androids, Windows, etc.
- Repeat tip: if someone has an iPhone, change their phone number in Contacts from Mobile to iPhone
- You can call someone on FaceTime by either their Apple ID (email address) or their phone number
- Multi-party FaceTime is possible, but awkward

Zoom ⇒

- Hosting a meeting requires Zoom account, and Zoom app.
- You can participate in someone else's meeting using just your browser.
 - Zoom will prompt you to download the app, but you can ignore it.
 - If you did download the app and don't want it, remove it with AppCleaner.
- Zoom is free -- for up to 40 minutes
- Zoom has significant security problems and privacy problems
 - Meetings should have a meeting ID, and a password
 - Sometimes that is not possible. In which case: do not widely advertise the meeting.

Tips ➡

- Video meetings (FaceTime, Google Hangout, Zoom, etc.) should be from a “neutral” location
 - Not in front of a window
 - Not with barking dogs
 - Not with motorcycles or circular saws
 - Not with constantly changing light
- Use a room divider or screen
- Camera should be at eye level
 - If you are using a phone or a tablet, there is a tendency to hold them horizontally, and everyone has a great view of your nostrils
 - DEMO!

Stay Connected.
Electronically.