SOFTWARE & TECH

How To Make A Folder On Iphone

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Introduction: Why Organise Your iPhone Home Screen with Folders

If you have owned an iPhone for more than a week, you have almost certainly faced the slow creep of app clutter. That pristine home screen you started with gradually becomes a sprawling grid of icons, forcing you to swipe through multiple pages just to find the messaging app or the tool you need. This is where the simple yet transformative power of folders comes into play. Knowing **how to make a folder on iPhone** is one of the most fundamental and impactful organisational skills you can learn. It instantly transforms a chaotic screen into a streamlined, logical workspace. Whether you are a new iPhone user migrating from Android or a long-time user who never bothered with organisation, mastering this skill will save you time, reduce visual noise, and make your device feel more personal and efficient. In this guide, we will walk you through every single step, including advanced tips, renaming tricks, and common troubleshooting, so you can take full control of your digital space.

The Quick and Easy Way: How to Make a Folder on iPhone

The process of creating your first folder is remarkably intuitive, but if you have never done it, you might not know where to start. Apple designed this feature to be gesture-based, meaning there is no menu button to tap. Instead, you use a simple drag-and-drop motion that feels natural once you get the hang of it.

Step 1: Enter Jiggle Mode

Start by locating two apps that you want to group together on your home screen. Press and hold your finger down on any app icon until the icons on your screen begin to wiggle. On iPhones with 3D Touch or Haptic Touch, you need to be careful not to press too hard, as that will open a quick actions menu instead. A light, sustained press for about one second will do the trick. You will know you are in the right mode because the icons will jiggle, and a small minus sign (-) may appear in the corner of some apps, although this is for deletion rather than grouping.

Step 2: Drag One App onto Another

Once the icons are jiggling, take one of the apps you want to group. Place your finger on it and hold for a moment until the icon feels like it is "attached" to your finger. Then, drag it directly on top of the second app icon. You do not need to be extremely precise, but aim to centre the first icon over the second. As soon as the two icons touch, a subtle animation will occur. The second icon will seem to merge into the first, and a small, dark square will appear around them. At this point, before you release your finger, the system is waiting for confirmation.

Step 3: Release to Create the Folder

Lift your finger, and the two icons will instantly snap into a new folder. The folder will open automatically, revealing both apps inside a dedicated window. You will also see a text field at the top where the folder name appears. The iPhone will automatically suggest a name based on the category of the apps you grouped. For example, if you dropped the Messages app onto the Phone app, it might suggest "Communication." If you grouped two games, it might suggest "Games." You can accept this suggestion or type your own name immediately.

Step 4: Exit Jiggle Mode

After you have created your first folder, you will see it on the home screen. The icons will still be jiggling. To lock everything into place, simply tap the **Done** button in the top right corner of the screen, or press the Home button if

you have an older iPhone model with a physical button.

How to Add More Apps to an Existing Folder

Once you have created your initial folder, you are not limited to just those two apps. In fact, you can add as many apps as you want, up to a limit of 12 apps per page inside a folder. A single folder can hold up to 135 apps in total if you use multiple pages inside it. To add more apps, you follow a very similar process. Enter jiggle mode again by pressing and holding any icon. Then, simply drag the new app icon onto the folder icon. You do not need to open the folder first. The folder will briefly expand to show you the contents, and then it will shrink back down, confirming the app has been added.

This is particularly useful when you download a new app. Instead of leaving it scattered on the last page of your home screen, you can immediately drag it into the appropriate folder. For example, if you download a new photo editing tool, you can add it directly to your "Creativity" or "Photo & Video" folder without any extra steps.

How to Rename a Folder: Personalise Your Organisation

One of the best features of iPhone folders is the ability to rename them. The auto-generated names like "Utilities" or "Lifestyle" are helpful, but they might not match your personal organisation system. You might prefer "Work Stuff," "Social Media," "Finance," or even emoji-based names. To rename a folder, first open the folder by tapping on it. Once you see the apps inside, you will notice the folder name displayed at the top centre of the screen. Tap directly on the name. The keyboard will pop up, allowing you to delete the old name and type in a new one. You can use any characters, including emoji, to create a custom label. Once you are done, tap **Done** on the keyboard or tap anywhere outside the folder to save the name. This is a simple step, but it dramatically improves how quickly you can locate the correct folder at a glance.

How to Remove an App from a Folder

Sometimes, you might decide that an app no longer belongs in a particular folder. Perhaps you use it so often that you want it directly on your home screen, or maybe you are reorganising your folders entirely. Removing an app from a folder is just as easy as adding one. Enter jiggle mode by pressing and holding any icon. Then, tap to open the folder that contains the app you want to remove. Inside the folder, press and hold the app you want to move until it lifts off its spot. Drag it out of the folder window and onto the home screen area. If you release it anywhere on the home screen, it will be placed there. If you drop it onto another app icon outside the folder, it will create a new folder. If you drop it onto an existing folder, it will be added to that folder instead. This flexibility allows you to completely restructure your organisation system without any complicated menus.

How to Delete a Folder

There is no specific "delete folder" button on an iPhone. Instead, a folder is automatically deleted when it contains only one app or zero apps. This means that the folder removes itself. To delete a folder, you simply need to remove all but one of the apps from it. Enter jiggle mode, open the folder, and drag the apps out one by one until only a single app remains. When you exit jiggle mode, the folder will disappear, and the remaining app will be placed on the home screen. This is a clean, automatic process that keeps your home screen tidy without leaving empty folders cluttering your layout.

Advanced Tips for Organising Your iPhone Home Screen

Once you have mastered the basics of **how to make a folder on iPhone**, you can take your organisation to the next level. Here are some professional strategies used by productivity enthusiasts and minimalists.

Use the App Library for Deeper Organisation

With iOS 14 and later, Apple introduced the App Library, which automatically categorises all your apps into intelligent folders. This means you do not have to clutter your main home screen with every app. You can keep only your most essential folders on the main screen and let the App Library handle the rest. To do this, you can hide entire home screen pages and rely on the App Library for less frequently used apps.

Create a Workflow-Based Folder Structure

Instead of grouping apps by type (e.g., "Social Media," "Games"), try grouping them by workflow or context. For example, create a folder called "Morning Routine" that contains your alarm clock, weather, calendar, and news apps. Another folder called "Travel" could include maps, ride-sharing, hotel booking, and currency converter apps. This approach minimises the number of steps you need to take to accomplish a task.

Use Folders in the Dock

Did you know you can place a folder in the dock? The dock at the bottom of your screen is the most accessible area. You can drag a folder containing your most-used apps directly into the dock. This gives you instant access to a group of apps from any home screen page. To do this, enter jiggle mode and drag the folder onto the dock. You might need to remove one of the existing dock apps first to make room.

Simplify with a Single-Page Home Screen

Many users aim for a single-page home screen. By grouping all their apps into a few strategically named folders, they can fit everything onto one page. This eliminates the need to swipe between pages. For example, you might have folders labelled "Essentials," "Work," "Play," "Finance," and "Settings." This approach requires discipline, but it creates a highly efficient interface.

Common Issues and Troubleshooting

Even though the process is straightforward, you might encounter a few hiccups. Here are the most common problems and how to solve them.

Icons Won't Jiggle

If you press and hold an app icon and nothing happens, or if it opens a menu, you are likely pressing too hard (on older 3D Touch devices) or not holding long enough. On newer iPhones, a **long press** of about one second is required. If you see a pop-up menu with options like "Share App" or "Delete App," you are triggering Haptic Touch. Simply release and try again with a softer, longer press without moving your finger.

Apps Won't Drag onto the Folder

If you are in jiggle mode and you try to drag an app onto a folder, but it snaps back, you might be moving too quickly. Ensure that the folder icon is not already selected. Sometimes, if you accidentally tap the folder, it will open instead of allowing you to drop an app on it. Try dragging the app directly onto the folder icon without opening it.

Folder Name Won't Change

If you tap the folder name and nothing happens, make sure you are tapping directly on the text. The tap target is quite small. Also, ensure you are inside the folder and the icons are not in jiggle mode. You can rename a folder whether the icons are jiggling or not, but it is often easier when they are still.

Folder Disappeared

If your folder disappeared, it is likely because you accidentally removed all apps from it. Remember, a folder is automatically deleted when it contains only one or zero apps. Check your App Library and home screen pages to see where the apps ended up. You can always recreate the folder using the steps above.

Conclusion

Learning **how to make a folder on iPhone**is a small skill that yields enormous benefits for your daily digital life. It transforms a chaotic grid of icons into a curated, logical system that works the way you think. Whether you are grouping work apps together, creating a dedicated space for your hobbies, or simply trying to reduce the number of home screen pages you have to swipe through, folders are the answer. The process is intuitive and quick, and the possibilities for customisation are nearly endless. By following the steps in this guide, you now have the knowledge to create, rename, add to, and remove folders with confidence. Take a few minutes today to reorganise your iPhone. You will be surprised at how much cleaner and more efficient your device feels, and you will wonder how you ever managed without this simple organisational tool. Start with just two apps, and build from there.

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