

It Was Love At First Sight with This Obsidian Plugin

[Geet Duggal](#) • 3 mins

[Apr 7th](#)

Obsidian Memos (now “Thino”) is a great example of Obsidian’s power to layer an elegant user experience on top of plain text.

Nearly two years ago I wrote about a way I journal in Obsidian that I can honestly say changed my life. Simply put, all you do when you have a thought is append a line to a plain text file representing your daily log.

This Simple Journaling Method Could Change Your Life

I am using a journaling technique that I can honestly say has changed my life and I’ve also been sticking with it like...

[medium.com](#)

The format of the line is a bullet point or checkbox prefixed with a timestamp and then a note of some sort.

☐ 13:28 Capture interesting thought or note

That’s it. Let’s call this type of list entry prefixed with a timestamp a **tick item**. Like a second hand ‘ticks’ to mark each second, a ‘tick item’ is a [list](#)

[item](#) that stamps in time a thought you want to capture.

In Obsidian, I simply append a line to my daily note and often use an iOS Shortcut to quick-capture the thought.

The Most Useful iOS Shortcut for Obsidian

This one will be a quick post, but just wanted to share a super simple iOS shortcut I use for Obsidian that is pretty...

[medium.com](#)

Fast-forward two years and I still use this method to literally capture all my thoughts as a part of a wholistic method of organizing all my thoughts and projects in plain text.

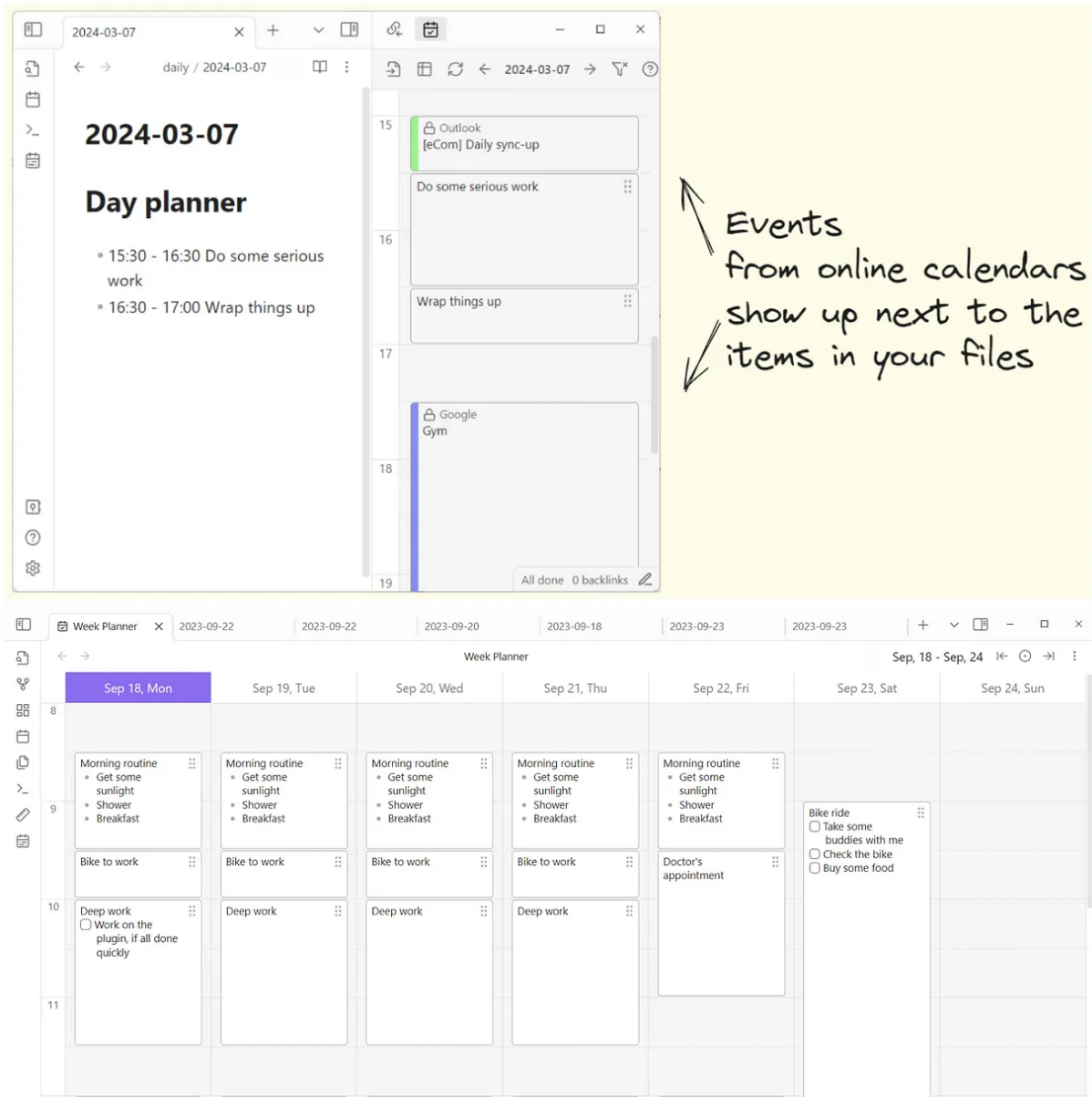
Capture to do. How I manage literally all my tasks in Obsidian

Unlock the simple, satisfying, and energizing secret to task management ‘productivity’

[medium.com](#)

The ‘tick item’ seems to have become an unofficial, organically defined standard for taking daily notes, jotting down memos, and journaling. In Obsidian, for example, the [Day Planner](#) plugin will read these items and visualize them neatly in a daily or weekly view.

What it looks like



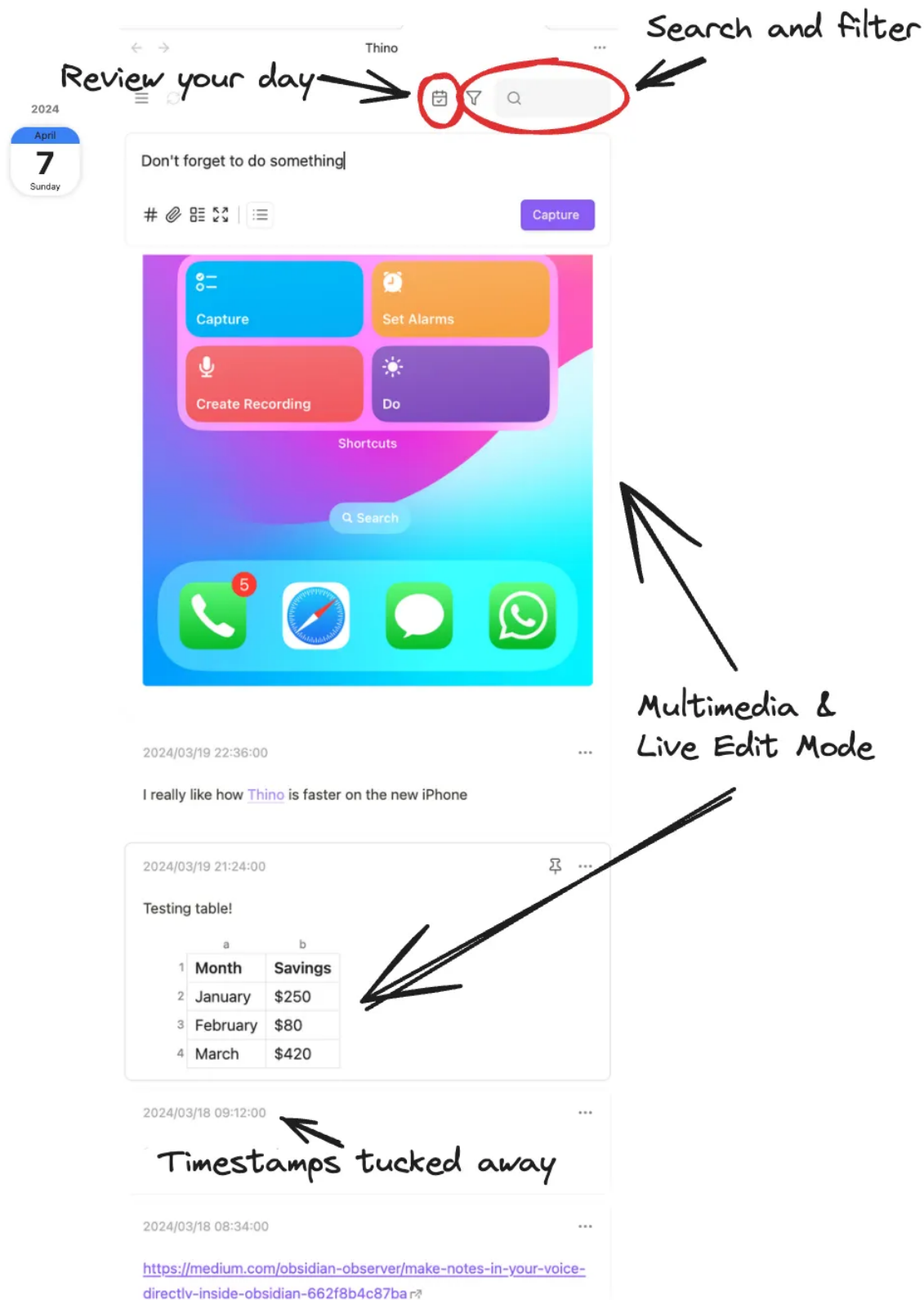
Screenshot from the Day Planner plugin Github web page.

No other plugin scratches my itch for interacting with the 'tick item' format than [Thino](#) as described in a [simple example](#).



Thino: A new way for you to quick capture an idea in Obsidian.

It provides a very intuitive and simple way to visualize my notes across my daily log entries:



With Thino, my daily log entries are instantly transformed into a 'me feed' with some obviously handy UX features pointed to in the screenshot above. Thino has quickly become the one-stop way to visualize and inter-

act with my notes throughout the day.

The beauty of using Thino in Obsidian is that it is based on a stupidly simple plain text format. I didn't have to change the way I store and format my notes at all. It all just worked 'out of the box'. *This is why Thino was love at first site for me.*

I have been using this plugin for a couple of months now and it has been a trusty companion both in Desktop mode for Obsidian and mobile. It is such a pleasure to see everything sync up seamlessly across my devices and to have so many options on how to quick capture notes in a very portable and simple format.

I also think there's a lot of potential for extending Thino with different visual layouts and features that might be useful beyond what it currently supports (eg. add custom background color tick items, more powerful fliters and ways to group items, etc). For example, I often write tick items in the form of '**doodles**': a set of around 4 comma separated words or phrases.

bank, gym, trader joes, home
spinach, cheese, berries, avacado
milk, half-n-half, sour cream
oatmeal, cookies, bread

Obsidian is simple and powerful enough for me to quickly experiment with a way to visualize these doodles and that will be the subject of a subsequent post. More on the ‘working memory’ motivation of a ‘doodle tick item’ can be found here:

Satisfy the Beast. Science the Sh-t Out of Difficult Tasks and Habits

Special guests: Obsidian, iA Writer, iOS Shortcuts

medium.com

I’d say if you haven’t given this type of logging/journaling a shot, it’s definitely worth a try and very easy to get started.