

iOS 16 Has More Hidden Features Than We've Expected — 20+ Changes!

It's seriously a mysteeeeerious update

[Nikhil Vemu](#)

Photo by [Omid Armin](#) on [Unsplash](#)

The iOS 16 developer beta is already out for a while now. I've [installed](#) it on my secondary iPhone XR and got awed by its [coolest new features](#).

While exploring what's *more* new, I've discovered a handful of hidden features Apple didn't reveal.

For the first few features, →

7 Secret iOS 16 Features Apple Didn't Tell You About

Perhaps to awe you with the public release

Here are 20+ other hidden features that will probably change the way you'll use your iPhone.

- **Changes in Phone and Contacts**

#1. Merge Duplicate Contacts

Image courtesy of [MacRumors](#)

The Contacts app in iOS 16 can detect duplicate contacts and can help you in merging them.

#2. Filter Fields while Sharing

Contacts

Screenshot by the author


You can now filter/exclude fields while sharing someone's contact to protect their privacy.

Say someone asks for your father's email. Why send his mobile number along?

#3. Lock to End Call

'Lock to end call' accessibility feature in iOS 16

Screenshot by the author

With iOS 16, you can set to end calls by pressing the side button. To do this, go to settings  < Accessibility

 < Touch  and toggle Lock to End Call .

#4. Transfer eSIM via Bluetooth

Transfer eSIM from another iPhone in iOS 16

Screenshot by the author

This is one of the most needed features of iOS. I still remember I had to visit my network provider on a dark rainy night to transfer my eSIM to my newer iPhone.

With iOS 16, you can transfer your eSIM from your existing device to your new device via Bluetooth. This gets really helpful if you're trading in your old iPhone.

eSIM — The SIM that isn't a physical card

Why do we need to buy a read-only SIM everytime? Why don't we embed a re-writable card in every Smart phone and modify...

• Changes for Photos and Videos

#5. 'Shared with You' Filter in Photos

Photos filters in iOS 16

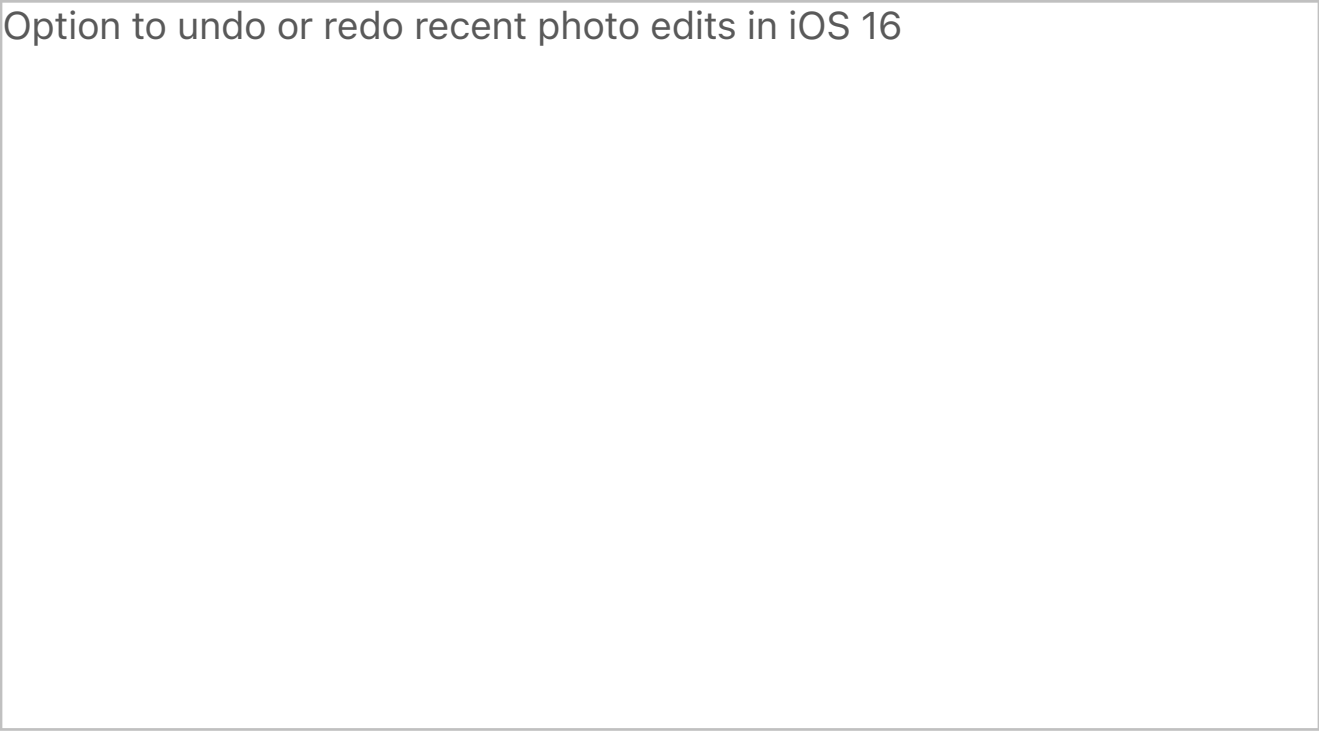


Screenshot by the author

With iOS 16, you get a new filter that allows you to include or exclude shared photos in your libraries.

People generally share photos by AirDrop, iMessages, WhatsApp etc. You know it.

#6. Undo or Redo Edits to Photos

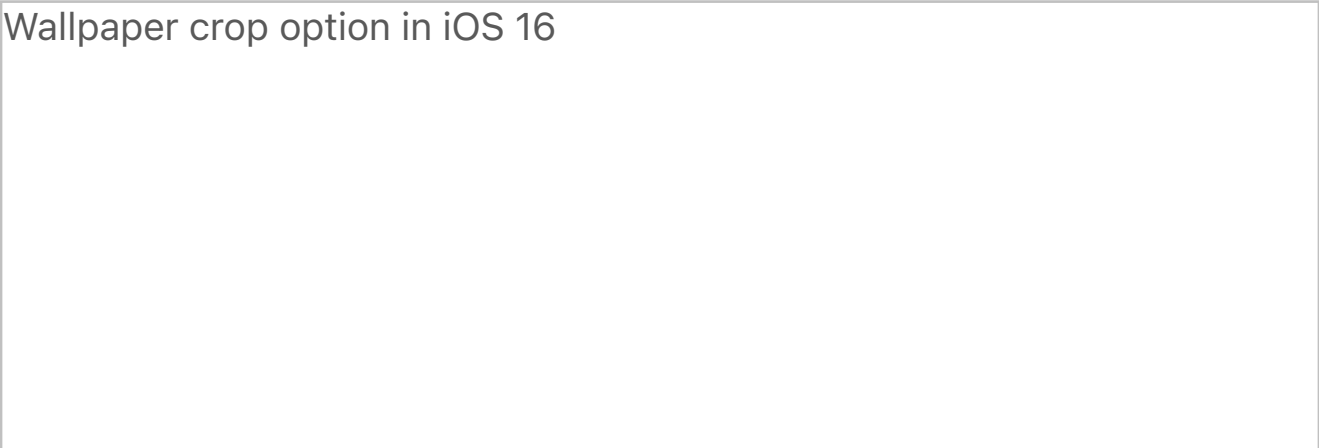


Screenshot by the author

As of iOS 15, we could only revert back all the edits made to a photo. With iOS 16, we could undo and redo recent edits too.

Quick Tip: Tap on the photo to temporarily view :

#7. Crop Image to a Wallpaper



Screenshot by the author

iOS 16 features the Wallpaper option while cropping a photo.


#8. The Hidden and Recently Deleted albums are now Protected

Hidden and Recently Deleted albums are protected in iOS 16



Screenshot by the author

Till iOS 15, someone else accessing our hidden photos and recently deleted albums was laughably easy.

Apple rectifies its blunder with iOS 16, and employs Face/Touch ID to guard it. To use it, go to `settings`  `< Photos` , and toggle `Use Face ID` .

#9. The New Duplicates Album

Duplicates photo album in iOS 16



Image courtesy of [9to5Mac](#)

The classic Photos app now features the `Duplicates` album. Open it and you get the list of all your similar-looking photos to help you merge duplicates and preserve the highest quality ones.

This helps run out of iCloud storage late.

#10. Video Player update

Screenshot by the author from [this](#) YouTube video

The video player in iOS 15 had one single bar at the bottom with all the playback controls. iOS 16 brings a completely redesigned UI (see the picture above).

It resembles YouTube controls we all got used to. Also, swiping left or right skips the video by 10 secs.

- **Miscellaneous**

#11. Quick Note arrives to iOS

iOS is finally added the Quick Note feature. As yet, it only existed on macOS and iPadOS.

To create a Quick Note, simply click its icon in the Control Centre. As it's 'quick', the Notes app isn't opened. It also offers to add webpage links if you open it while on Safari.

7 Features Of Apple Notes That Would Never Let You Ditch It

Seemingly simple, yet great functionality

#12. Permission needed to copy-paste across apps

Permission to paste from another app in iOS 16



Image courtesy of [9to5Mac](#)

With iOS 16, you're asked for permission if you or an app



tries to paste content of one app in another app.

Though this seems absurd, this way, you'll know if an app's secretly peeping into your clipboard.

Note: This only happens the first time you paste

#13. Change how Notifications appear

You can now change the default for how notifications appear. You can choose among `count`, `stack`, and `List` .

To modify your default setting, go to `Settings`  `<` `Notifications`  `<` `Display As` , and choose your preferred one.

#14. A Recently Deleted folder for Messages



You'll now have a `Recently Deleted` folder for Messages. This allows you to recover deleted messages and conversations before upto 40 days of deletion.

#15. Siri can now announce notifications

Announce Notifications on Speaker in iOS 16

Screenshot by the author

If you feel busy, you can employ Siri to announce your notifications on speaker. However, you can't exclude it for certain apps as of now. Privacy glitch?

To use this, go to Settings  < Accessibility  < Siri and toggle Announce Notifications on Speaker .

[10 Absolutely Useful Siri Tricks You Probably Haven't Tried Yet](#)

[These simple tricks might save you hours a year](#)

#16. Pin Tabs on Safari

Option to pin tabs in Safari iOS 16



Screenshot by the author

iOS 16 gives you the ability to pin tabs in the normal tab page or Tab Groups. This comes handy in highlighting the most important tab.

- **Updates for Health**

#17. The all-new Sleep Stages



Screenshot by the author

Apple can now identify your sleep stages while you're in sleep. You can access this data by clicking `Show More Sleep Data` in the `Sleep` section of Health app.

PSst: You'll need an Apple Watch for this.

#18. Vision Prescriptions can now be added to Health

You can now add your vision prescriptions to the Health app. To do it, go to `Health` ❤️ < `Browse` < `Body Measurements` ⓘ, tap on `Vision Prescription`, and fill in the details.

• Updates for Security

#19. Security Fixes now don't require Software Update

Install System and Data Files in iOS 16



Screenshot by the author

iOS 16 brings an optional feature that installs vital security fixes without needing a software update.

If toggled on `Install System and Data Files` in the `Automatic Updates` menu in `Software Update`, your iPhone will always have the latest security patches without your notice.

#20. Face ID gets more secure

iOS 16 Face ID saying Face is too far away



Screenshot by the author

iOS 16 warns you of your face being far away while conducting Face ID. This helps it accurately verify it's really you.

[This One Simple Trick Will Make Face ID Work Faster & Better](#)

[You've been ignoring this all the time](#)

#21. A New Overheating security Mechanism

iOS 16 charging on hold while overheating



Image courtesy of [MacRumors](#)

If your iPhone gets too hot while charging, it can now wait to return to normal temperature before it resumes charging again.

This saves your battery from slow damage.

[5 Worst Charging Mistakes You Unknowingly Make With your iPhone](#)

[#5 is a must-know](#)

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