

# The New Apple iOS 16.3.1 Release: Should You Upgrade or Not?

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### In brief

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Recently, compatible iPhones received a small but significant iOS 16 update from Apple. The 16.3.1 firmware update tries to fix several problems.

Two noteworthy additions are the iPhone 14's crash detection to prevent false triggers and a fix for an unresponsive iCloud.

This article will cover everything you need about iOS 16 and its effect on your iPhone and iPad use. In addition, we discuss any problems and flaws users are finding with the new program, as well as new features and design revisions.

### Did you recently upgrade your Apple iPhone?

iOS 16.3.1, an upgrade to Apple's operating system, patches a security flaw that hackers might have used in the wild.

Apple's help page showed that the bug was in WebKit, Safari's web browser engine. The issue might make it possible for an attacker to run code on a victim's device.

Additionally, iOS 16.3.1 resolves a problem in the kernel that might have allowed an app to run arbitrary code with kernel privileges.

The update, iOS 16.3, enabled support for using security keys for two-factor authentication.

Recently released, Apple iOS 16.3.1 and iPadOS 16.3.1 provide vital security updates and significant bug fixes.

### What in the version iOS 16.3.1?

The most recent iOS version contains security and bug fixes for iCloud, Siri, Find my, and crash detection.

According to Apple, the most recent version fixes a problem that may have been actively exploited on iPhones. According to Apple, the flaw affects iPhone 8 models and later, and it may result in the execution of arbitrary code.

The update may also resolve a problem with iCloud that some users had after iOS 16.3 was released. With the previous update's release, some users have claimed on Reddit and Twitter that they cannot back up to iCloud.

Crash detection on the iPhone 14 and 14 Pro devices is another problem that iOS 16.3.1 might fix. First responders have been helped by crash detection in some cases, but it has also been activated when some people ride roller coasters while using their phones.

iOS 16.3 comes with the following:

- To prevent accidental emergency calls, emergency SOS calls now require holding the side button with the up or down volume button and then releasing it.
- Addresses a problem in Freeform where some sketching strokes made with your finger or an Apple Pencil might not appear on shared boards.
- a problem where the wallpaper on the lock screen can seem black is fixed.
- The Home Lock Screen widget's inaccurate reporting of the status of Home apps has been fixed, and Siri's potential improper response to music requests has also been addressed.
- a problem where Siri might not respond appropriately to music requests is fixed
- Fixes instances where Siri queries in CarPlay, might not be properly understood.
- a problem where the wallpaper on the lock screen can seem black is fixed
- The Home Lock Screen widget's inaccurate reporting of the status of Home apps has been fixed, and Siri's potential improper response to music requests has also been addressed.
- Fixes instances where Siri queries in CarPlay, might not be properly understood.
- Security updates, including a patch for a critical kernel hole that might allow an app to "run arbitrary code with kernel privileges" and a fix for a Screen Time bug
- Assistance for HomePod (2nd gen).
- Equality Apple Watch faces in black.
- Although not mentioned in the release notes, advanced data protection is available to all users globally.
- Apple ID physical security keys: A physical key that has been FIDO-certified can be used to secure your Apple ID and will replace two-factor authentication for Apple ID logins.

## It's for whom?

All iOS 16-compatible devices, which include the iPhone 8/iPhone X and newer, can now download Apple iOS 16.3.1. The iPhone 6S and 7 series and the iPod Touch are no longer supported by iOS 16. If older devices are at risk, you would also anticipate seeing iOS 15.7.4 in the upcoming weeks, given the significance of the security updates in iOS 16.3.1.

According to Apple, the problems only affect iPhone 8 models and later. Security upgrades for macOS 13.2.1, iPadOS 16.3.1, and Safari 16.3.1 were also issued.

- Face ID on your iPhone is unreliable:
- Alter the Face ID option to prevent unauthorized access to your iPhone.

## Apple iOS 16.3.1 fixes the issue

- If apps use iCloud , iCloud settings can be unresponsive or display erroneously.
- The Find My feature of Siri might not function.
- Improvements to crash detection on the iPhone 14 and iPhone 14 Pro models.
- For additional information, see all the features iOS 16.3 users missed, what iOS 16.4 beta testers can try immediately, and how to join to test Apple's iOS beta software.

## What else has been added to iOS 16.3.1?

On the iPhone 14 and iPhone 14 Pro models, iOS 16.3.1 is expected to improve crash detection.

The default setting for the iPhone 14's Crash Detection feature is to notify emergency services whenever it detects a "serious car crash."

## **Future Trail for Apple iOS 16.3.1: Update**

iPhone and iPad owners should update due to the significance of the CVE-2023-23529 security fix in iOS 16.3.1 / iPadOS 16.3.1. Although there have been a few isolated reports of issues in the update (most notably concerns about signal strength), your device's security should always come first.

iOS 16.4's first beta is anticipated to be published either this week or early next. The update would contain a redesigned version of the HomeKit architecture that was first introduced in iOS 16.2 but quickly removed owing to glitches and installation problems. If you want to experience iOS beta releases but know they will be buggy, you can sign up for the Apple Beta Software Program.

As Apple continues to refine the core OS, anticipate iOS 16.3.2, a dedicated bug fix, to arrive before iOS 16.4. Since its buggy debut, something has been a work in progress.

## **Which iPhone models can receive the iOS 16.3.1 update, and when can you do so?**

You can install iOS 16.3.1, compatible with iPhones updated to iOS 16, directly if you don't rely on Google's Photos app. In our in-depth iOS 16 guide, you can find a complete list of compatible models.

Many countries already have iOS 16.3.1 available. You can still install it if you don't see the software notification or if you've turned off automatic updates by going to general Settings > Software Update.

Please share your opinions with us in the comment part. Which iPhone do you currently have iOS 16 installed on? How have you found the latest software from Apple so far?