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Not long ago you needed the periphery of one goal to track running, but now smartphone apps are making it easier than ever. You have many options on both iPhone and Android. Some are rich in a plethora of stat tracking, while others are fun games to distract you while you're working. This week we'll look at the top five smartphone running apps. Earlier this week we asked you which apps were the best. You weighed in with your nominations. We counted them, ranked them and chose the top five. Here they are: If you're just starting out working or you're an experienced veteran, smartphone apps are running... More RunKeeperRunKeeper has long been one of our favorite apps to track your work habits, and it's clearly still one of the most popular. For the free app, it's a very rich feature and includes ways to track running, jogging, and even cycling. If you have the time, you are especially proud that you can share it via Facebook. RunKeeper also has a great set of stats to view when you're improving by checking your pace, and getting a better understanding of how you're doing. If tracking all this data on your phone doesn't sound appealing, RunKeeper also keeps your stats on its website, so you can check it out from anywhere.iOS/Android: Our favorite startup tracking app (and your) RunKeeper, available for iOS and... MoreEndomondoEndomondo is a very social app running. As RunKeeper it is easy to track duration, distance and speed. You can also create routes, challenge your time and challenge friends who live in your area. It's about as many features as running apps to come. You can get an audio coach, track hydration, send friends a brisk conversation, and more. One of the features of the cooler is the ability to see other people's times on routes and check it against your own. For those who like to chat over their running, Endomondo provides all the options you need. Nike works just like Endomondo and RunKeeper, Nike's Startup App provides all the statistics, stories and sharing opportunities you could ask for. Nike has its fair share of tricks up its sleeve though. You can get cheered by a real-time crowd, activate powersong to help you finish your run, and track your performance in different weathers. Nike works with out without any of Nike accessories as well, so if you want to just run with your phone, it won't be a problem. The zombies, run! We loved the zombies, run! when it was first released on iOS. Now the app is on Android (and Windows Phone), and also gives everyone the opportunity From zombies as fast as they can. What a zombie does, run! What's different is the fact that it turns your morning jog into a story about survival. You're not just tracking your run with stats and numbers, you're building a base full of supplies, and using zombie chases as interval workouts. It's This. not an app for stat-obsessed, but it's a fantastic experience for those who hate jogging.iOS: Not motivated to get started? It would help if you tried to avoid the pack... MoreMapMyRun As the name suggests, MapMyRun is all about tracking your route. In addition, MapMyRun tracks distance, calories, height and nutrition throughout the day. Food information is what makes MapMyRun stand out the most. If you have a bad day when you are falling behind your regular time you can check to see what you ate on other days and try to improve your overall health. It also gives you an estimate of how much you should eat and how many glasses of water you need. Now that you've seen the top five, it's time to put them on all of the vote to decide which smartphone running app is the best. An honorable mention this week goes to iSmoothRun, an iOS-only running app that uses both an accelerometer and GPS to track your distance. You can also store all your data and go to any other service you like, improve your metronome style, and even create your own intervals. Is there anything to say about one of the contenders? Want to make a case for your personal favorite even if it wasn't on the list? Remember that the top five are based on your most popular nominations from calling for applicants to thread from earlier in the week. Make your case for your loved one or alternative - in the discussions below. Hive Five is based on reader nominations. As with most Hive Five posts, if your favorite stayed away, it's not because we hate it, it's because he didn't get the nominations needed in calling for job applicants to make the top five. We understand that this is a bit of a popularity contest, but if you have a favorite, we want to hear about it. Is there an offer for Hive Five? Send us a letter on tips+hivefive@lifehack.com! Ken Ishii/Getty Images If you have an iPhone, chances are you're as familiar with the App Store as you are with other important apps such as Mail, Messages or even Apple Maps. And like every app that you probably spend a lot of time with, there are probably a few things that you kind of hate about the Apple App Store. As Mike Beasley reported some time ago for 9to5Mac, the App Store was about iOS 2.0, back when iOS was still called Phone OS. Since then, the store has gone through numerous major redesigns, added countless new features and features, and become home to 1.5 million apps. But along the way, it's got some annoying quirks and neglected to solve some of the problems of use. Unfortunately, some of these bugs are still sticking out, so Apple has something to fix with future versions of iOS (we on you, iOS 10). Read on to learn more about some of the worst things about the iOS App Store - and start thinking about much better would be with the solutions that we hope Apple will implement in the future. 1. Bad detection options and no recommendations If you want a new app or a new game but don't know exactly what you are looking for, it can be quite difficult to find something to download. The recommended tab on the App Store tries to solve this problem by popping up apps in a number of categories, including Best New Apps, Best New Games, Popular Apps, Popular Games, and An Ever-Rotating Choice Collections (e.g., the best apps are optimized for the new iPhone or the most festive games). Where things get more interesting is when you click the Category option in the top left corner. You can browse through dozens of different categories, all with their own unique collections. Apple can make it easier to take advantage of all these curated lists, popping them up on the home page of Featured. After all, does it know which apps you've downloaded, since how hard would it be for the App Store to offer you smarter, more personalized recommendations for new apps that you might find interesting? Apple logo by Timothy A. Clary/AFP/Getty Images 2. The lack of lists curated by other parties on the topic wishing that we could get smarter recommendations for apps to download, how cool would it be if you could browse the collection of apps curated by your favorite photographers, the staff of this magazine you can't put down, or a respected site on an interesting topic? Apple has its own lists of curators, and many of them, are all over the App Store. But curating lists of apps from individuals or publications you respect can give you some insight into the apps and tools that people actually use, especially for things like mobile photography. 3. Frustrated by Apple's search functionality, Apple recently updated the App Store search algorithm to give you more accurate results when searching with a keyword. But it's still harder than it should be to find an app when you don't know what it's called. Think about it: You can quite easily find an app if you know its name (or at least part of its name). But when you're looking for an app that can accomplish a specific task, all bets are off. Keyword input usually returns hundreds of results, but there is no way to filter free or paid apps, and there is no functionality to further refine the search. The App Store shows you the relevant keywords, but it's usually a little help. 4. No way to try the app before buying App developers and iPhone users, so have long complained that there is no way to try the demo app before buying it. This has led many developers to create free, limited their paid apps, or make the initial download for free and offer basic features like in-app purchases. But the App Store will benefit by adding demo features that will allow you Free trial of the app before purchase. The feature can also give you some peace of mind if you are considering spending more than a dollar or two on the app; If there is an opportunity to try the app and then get your money back if you don't like it, users may be more inclined to give premium apps a chance. iPhone covers are displayed during a press preview of Justin Sullivan's new flagship Apple Store/Getty Images 5. No social features Ever wondered which apps your friends downloaded, or which ones they added to their wish lists to download later? If so, it's very bad because the App Store won't tell you. Apple can add a number of different social features to the App Store. Consider, for example, how much easier it would be to get your friends to try out this new messaging app or photo-sharing app if you could share apps directly in the App Store (without sending a link via iMessage). And think about how easy it would be to follow the example of your best friend, a loving app that always has the best apps before anyone else has heard of them, if he could selectively share his recommendations in a list that you could view directly from the App Store. 6. There are no way to find sales and deals there are tons of tech blogs and Twitter accounts that can alert you to big apps that have temporarily lowered their price, or even free download for a limited period of time. But the App Store, inexplicably, offers no easy way to find these deals without relying on an external source. In the future, Apple may add a section that will focus on these time-limited deals and special sales, something that would certainly be appreciated by both app developers and iOS users. The Uber app logo is displayed on Carl Court's iPhone/Getty Images 7. Unreliable reviews It's a problem that many users became familiar with when the news broke that many of the reviews on Amazon are fake: While you can comb through user reviews to determine whether the app is worth download time or the purchase price, you probably can't trust all of these reviews. Many less popular apps have only a few reviews to start with, and it's disappointing to realize that some of these reviews are probably left by people who made the app (or their friends or employees). You may argue that this is not an Apple problem, but the App Store may require users to spend some time with the app before considering to try to protect themselves from fake reviews. In the meantime, it's best to read real reviews on trusted blogs if you're worried about spending money or time on the app 8. No for Apple's own apps While you can update all the other apps on your iPhone directly from the Update tab in the App Store, there are never updates for apps that come preinstalled on your iPhone. Why is that? Because Apple fixes bugs and adds features to these apps through iOS iOS This means that even when there is a simple bug in Apple Music or a simple feature to roll out to the mail, you have to go through the lengthy process of installing an update to the phone's operating system. In the future, Apple may deploy simple fixes for its own apps through the App Store, making them as seamless to update as any other .app.

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