

## **ANDROID APPS EXTRAVAGANZA**

**April 16, 2015** 



THE APP CHECKED YOUR ONLINE FOOT-PRINT AND SAYS YOU'RE A SERIAL MANSPLAINER WITH AN UNSUCCESS-FUL DATING HISTORY.

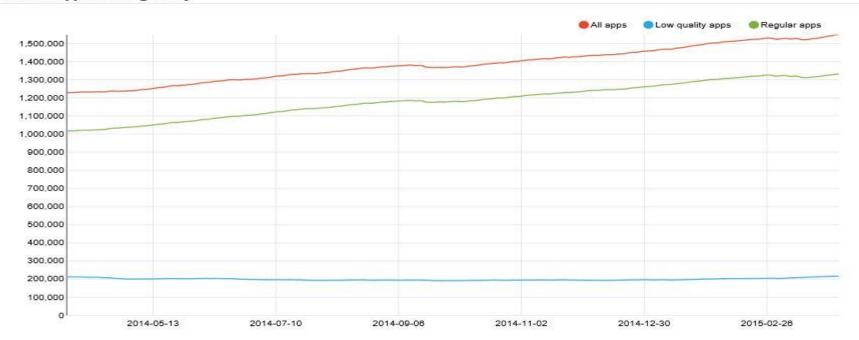


Current number of Android apps in the market:

1,547,767

Percentage of low quality apps: 14%

#### Android apps on Google Play



### New Android apps per month



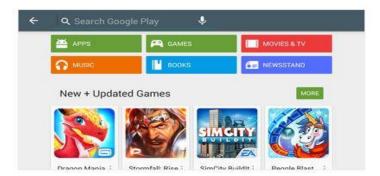
### Great apps are easy to find — if you know how to look



Google Play has more than 1.43 million apps in its app 
section, and while bigger numbers are great for bragging rights, finding the apps you actually want in that haystack can get a little daunting. On one hand, it's a good problem to have plenty of apps for your Android. On the other hand, sometimes too much of a good thing can be, well, too much. How do you find the apps that you actually want or need on your phone?

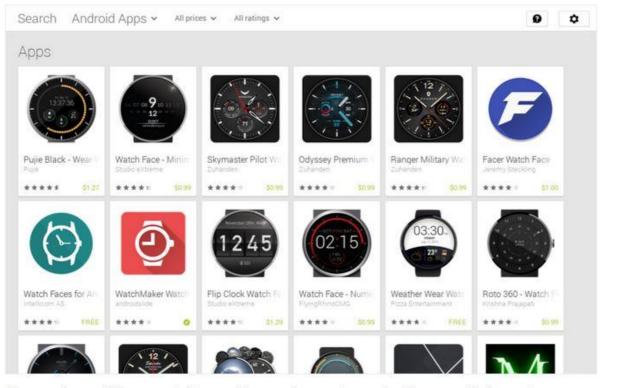
There are a few resources out there to help, and the first of them looks very, very familiar ....

#### Search me...



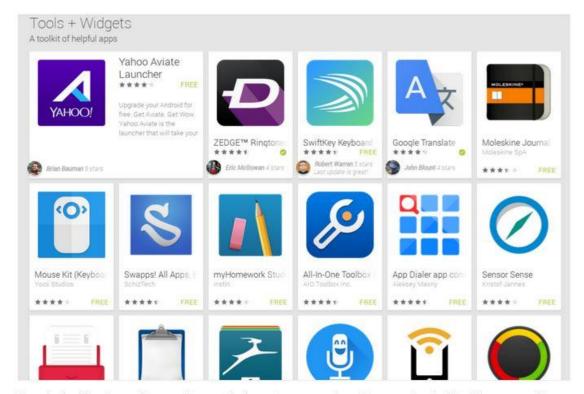
This first one's sort of a no-brainer. The quickest — and most times the easiest — way to find the app you're looking for is by searching for it. Google is a search company, and there's a search bar at the top of Google Play for a reason. (And searching from Google proper works wonders as well.) You can narrow your choices down to the app section, or any other section you're looking for.

However, there are a few caveats to using search to find <u>apps</u>  $\[ ec{x} \]$ , first of them being that you need to know what you're looking for, or at least have a fairly concise idea of what you're looking for. This becomes even more important in broader categories.



If you can't search for an app by its specific name, be sure to search with as specific keywords as you can. It's easy to judge an app by its icon, but also try to pay attention to the name of company as well as the app. If the name sounds hinky, it probably is. While searching in the Play Store app on your phone or tablet, you can see ratings for apps in the search listings, but on the website from your computer , you cannot. However, you can filter apps in the website search by both price and rating, so rather than scrolling past low-rated apps, you never even see them.

#### Collections



If you're looking for quality apps in a particular category, such as fitness or family-friendly games, all you may need to do is scroll down the Google Play home page. On both the main homepage and the app section's home page there will be collections of apps grouped by a certain theme, like New Year's Resolutions, or Spring Break travel apps. These collections are put together by Googlers and should offer quality content for your device... if they happen to be showcasing what you're looking for.

	ogle Play Top App Char				All Apps	1 252 2
#	Free	Paid		Grossing	hlight Free Paid	▲ Download CSV ♣ New Free
1	Messenger Facebook	- Minecraft - Pocket E	dition -	© Clash of Clans Supercell		- (1) Texas Holde PRGAMESS
2	Facebook Facebook	Attack the Light Cartoon Network		S Game of War - Fire Age Machine Zone, Inc.		- Fast & Furio
3	§ Pandora® Radio Pandora	Trivia Crack (Ad free	e) -	S Candy Crush So King	da Saga	- Racing Feve
4	Clean Master (Speed Booster) Cheetah Mobile	- Five Nights at Fredo Scott Cawthon	ly's 3 -	S Candy Crush Sa King	ga	- Remote Con Best Remote
5	Instagram Instagram	Bloons TD 5	5	Boom Beach     Supercell		- Taichi Pand Snail Games
6	GO Keyboard - Emoji, Emoti     GO Keyboard Dev Team	Five Nights at Fredo	ly's -	Clash of Kings		- S Home: Boov Behaviour Int
7	Snapchat Snapchat, Inc.	- Geometry Dash RobTop Games		S Summoners War Com2uS		- DomiNations NEXON M In
8	Super-Bright LED Flashlight Surpax Technology Inc.	Scribblenauts Remi Warner Bros. Interna		Farm Heroes Sa King	ga	- S Modern Com Gameloft
9	3 Candy Crush Soda Saga King	Terraria. 505 Games Srl		Hay Day     Supercell		<ul> <li>Solitaire touch-and-ms</li> </ul>
10	Spotify Music Spotify Ltd.	- Five Nights at Fredo Scott Cawthon	ly's 2 -	Slotomania - Fre Playtika	e Slot Games	- Real Steel Cl Reliance Big
11	Netflix Netflix, Inc.	Tomb Raider I SQUARE ENIX Ltd	+	Marvel Contest of Champions     Kabam		- Fashion Stor Storm8 Studi
12	© Crossy Road Yodo1 Gemes	FOTONICA Santa Ragione s.r.l.		Big Fish Casino - Free SLOTS Big Fish Games		- Hidden Object
13	Subway Surfers Kiloo	THE GAME OF LIFE Electronic Arts Inc	-	Bubble Witch 2	Saga	- Five Nights A
14	Kik     Kik Interactive	- Goat Simulator Coffee Stain Studios				- I FINAL FANT DeNA Corp.
15	WhatsApp Messenger WhatsApp Inc.	True Skate True Axis	ē.	Family Guy The Quest for Stuff TinyCo		- Newborn Tw 6877g.com
16	Skype - free IM & video calls Skype	LIMBO - Playdead		Cookie Jam SGN		- I TAP SPORT
17	Jelly Jump     Ketchapp	Grand Theft Auto: San Andre Rockstar Games, Inc.		Pet Rescue Saga     King		- S Angry Birds Rovio Enterts
18	Clash of Clans Supercell	Townsmen Premium	-	© Castle Clash IGG.COM		- S Cruise Kids
19	APUS Launcher-Small,Fast, Apus Group	- The Room Fireproof Games	ж	s myVEGAS Slots PlayStudios	Free Casino	- S Marvel Might DeNA Corp.
20	Temple Run 2 Imangi Studios	- NBA JAM by EA SP Electronic Arts Inc	ORTS™ -	S DoubleDown Ca		- § Quiz Run

#	Free		Paid		Grossing		New Free
20	§ Temple Run 2 Imangi Studios	-	NBA JAM by EA SPORTS™ Electronic Arts Inc	-	Double Down Casino - FREE Double Down Interactive, LLC.	1000	Quiz Run
21	Pinterest Pinterest, Inc.	-	MONOPOLY Electronic Arts Inc	H.: (	Hit it Rich! Free Casino Slots     Zynga	(+)	Star Wars Rel
22	Surgery Simulator 6877g.com	-	Monument Valley ustwo	¥9.	Slots - House of Fun! Play Now Playtika HOF	(4)	Rotate     Artur Zeleski (i
23	Dubsmash Mobile Motion GmbH	-	Survivalcraft Candy Rufus Games	<b>1</b> 51	Madden NFL Mobile ELECTRONIC ARTS	-	Dr Jump     Words Mobile
24	Candy Crush Saga     King	-	Minima Pro Live Wallpaper Joko Interactive	211	FarmVille 2: Country Escape Zyngs	927	Num Smash KonaMobile
25	Bingo Crush - Free Bingo Ga FunGameStudio	•	Card Wars - Adventure Time     Cartoon Network	-	Jackpot Party Casino - Slots     Williams Interactive	•	Universal TV Ultimate Unive
26	ZEDGE™ Ringtones & Wallp Zedge	•	Ultimate Guitar Tabs & Chords Ultimate Guitar USA LLC	-	BINGO Blitz - FREE Bingo+SI Playtika Santa Monica	-	Waldo & Frier Ludia Inc.
27	CM Security Antivirus AppLo Cheetah Mobile (AntiVirus & A	5	HotSchedules HotSchedules	200	Wizard of Oz Slots Free Casino     Zynga	176	© Crazy Campir TabTale
28	Texas Holdem - Live Poker 2 S     PRGAMESSTUDIO	-	Nova Launcher Prime TeslaCoil Software	#20	S GSN Casino GSN.com	-	© Cinderella Fre
29	Amazon Shopping Amazon Mobile LLC	•	Grand Theft Auto: Vice City Rockstar Games, Inc.	m /	8 Ball Pool Miniclip.com	(=)	Clash of Islan Mid Core Gam
30	§ ZigZag Ketchapp	-	BlockLauncher Pro Zhuowei Zhang	-	Knights & Dragons GREE, INC	300	GIPHY for Me Giphy, Inc.
31	3 Trivia Crack Etermsx	-	AllCast Premium ClockworkMod	+::	Panda Pop SGN	-	Memes for Me ZomboDroid
32	8 8 Ball Pool Miniclip.com	-3	Torque Pro (OBD 2 & Car) Ian Hawkins	¥9	Puzzle & Dragons     GungHoOnlineEntertainment	(4))	Talking Tom f Outfit7
33	Fast & Furious: Legacy Kabam	-	Scholly: Scholarship Search Scholly	400	Racing Rivals Glu	120	Sound Clips 1 Facebook
34	Yahoo Mail – Free Email App Yahoo	-	Aces of the Luftwaffe Premium HandyGames	277	The Simpsons™: Tapped Out     Electronic Arts Inc	9 <u>2</u> 7	Bitmoji for Me Bitstrips
35	3 Game of War - Fire Age Machine Zone, Inc.	•	FoxFi Key (supports PdaNet) FoxFi Service	-	Bingo Bash - Fun Bingo Ga GSN Games	•	Sick Bricks Spin Master S
36	3 Despicable Me Gameloft	•	Backflip Madness Gamesoul Studio	-	<b>8 Gummy Drop!</b> Big Fish Games	•	Quick Hit Slot Dragonplay
37	Five Nights at Freddy's 3 Demo Scott Cawthon	-	Surgeon Simulator Bossa Studios Ltd		DoubleU Casino - FREE Slots     DoubleUCasino	45%	My Newborn I TabTale
38	SoundCloud - Music & Audio SoundCloud	-	Dude Perfect  Dude Perfect	-	Brave Frontier     gumi Inc.	-	Ditty for Mess
39	iHeartRadio - Music & Radio iHeartMedia, Inc.	-	Poweramp Full Version Unlo Max MP	# 6	Heroes Charge     uCool	(+)	Five Nights at Ketchup Mobil
40	Twitter Twitter, Inc.	81	Call of Duty Black Ops Zomb  Activision Publishing, Inc.	+:	S KIM KARDASHIAN: HOLLYW	-	§ Stickman Rus Ketchapp

Non-Google Apps: there are many places to get Android apps other than the Google Play Store. A simple search will get you many choices. However, these apps are not certified by Google as safe, and some risk is involved. Here is a list for your consideration:

GetJar The store supports Android, BlackBerry, Windows Mobile, iPhone and Symbian platforms. You can filter down to just the Android apps by the setting in the top right-hand corner of the screen.

AppBrain is an alternative way of browsing the official Google Play Store. AppBrain is incredibly useful for hunting down interesting apps on a larger screen.

SlideME lets you browse its catalogue of apps online or via an installable app called SAM that runs the whole experience on your Android device. This market focuses on promoting the work of small, independent developers.

F-Droid The very specific focus of F-Droid is free and open source software (FOSS) Android apps. It's pretty basic, but there is some categorization and the list is searchable. You'll find a big selection of free apps here and they all promise no tracking, no ads, and no dependencies. It's worth checking out for free apps, especially if you support the open source movement

The OnlyAndroid store offers a wide range of apps and differentiates itself with discounted apps. This includes a "Deal of the Day", where one app is offered at a significant discount for 24 hours.

Mobogenie Market. With a large library of apps, Mobogenie Market is a viable alternative to SlideME. The interface is nice and modern, and the app even includes some extras like downloadable ringtones and the ability to download YouTube videos.

Amazon App Store has over 330,000 Android apps which can be downloaded. It features a free "App of the Day".

To install your downloaded (\*.apk) app:

Step 1: Go to SETTINGS

Step 2: Click on APPLICATIONS

Step 3: Make sure that "UNKNOWN SOURCES" is checked

Step 4: Read the warning message and acknowledge if you are OK to proceed

Step 5: Tap on the downloaded file from your file manager to install

WARNING: Be careful when installing apps from third-party sources. Some apps can contain malware

# Free apps everybody! Amazon's latest bundle is worth \$105



Amazon has this really nice habit of giving away bundles of Android apps every once in a while, that are typically worth north of a hundred dollars. The latest such free bundle comes today and includes a variety of games, but not only.

Today's Free App of the Day Bundle contains 34 apps and games that are worth up to \$105. Highlights of the collection include games like Five Nights at Freddy's 2, Cut The Rope, Kindgom Rush Origins, World of Goo, or Guardians of the Galaxy: The Universal Weapon, which normally cost \$1 to \$5. This looks like a great opportunity to stock up with some fun games on a new account or just test out some new timewasters that previously cost some money.

There are also some productivity apps in the bundle, like Servers Ultimate Pro, Business Calendar, or FolderSync.

## **POPULAR APPS FOR FINDING APPS:**









# **Popular Web Sites:**

Google.com C/Net.com AppyGeek.com

- \* Phandroid
- \* Android Central
- \* Android Police
- \* Android Authority
- \* Android And Me
- \* AndroidSpin
- \* TalkAndroid
- \* Android Guys
- \* Land of Droid
- \* The Android Arcade
- \* Droid Gamers
- \* Android Apps
- \* Android Headlines
- \* Android Reddit /r/android
- \* The Verge Android
- \* Android In Canada
- \* AndroidOS India
- \* XDA Developers

### **MUST HAVE APPS ACCORDING TO GLENN:**

Web Browser: Google Chrome Alternative: Dolphin or Firefox

Productivity: Google Docs Alternative: Docs to Go or Office Suite

Calendar: Google Calendar

Cloud Storage: Box Alternative: Dropbox or One Drive

Cloud Manager: Sandisk Memory Zone or Unclouded

Utility Tools: Clean Master Alternative: CCleaner or AVG Cleaner

Photo Viewer: Gallery Alternative: QuickPic

Stock Market: Yahoo Finance Alternative: World Stock Market

Delete / Undelete: iShredder 3 Alternative: Dumpster

Quick Notes: NOTY Notepad Alternative: GNotes or Keep Foreign Language: Duolingo Alternative: Tourist Language

News: News Hog Alternative: News Republic

Music Player: Double Twist Alternative: Play Music or Amazon MP3
Entertainment: Movie Tube Alternative: Popcorn Time or Viewster

File Manager: Astro File Manager Alternative: ES File Explorer

Wireless File Xfer: SHAREit Alternative: Web PC Suite

Podcasts: Pocket Casts Alternative: Double Twist

Password Safe: Pocket Alternative: mSecure

Customize: Nova Launcher Alternative: Icon Changer

Anti Virus: AVG Antivirus Alternative: 360 Security or Avast