

Practical Help iTV Notes:

Siri Tips – Using Siri to make calls, set reminders and more

Tip #1: Making Phone calls using Siri: hold down the Home button till Siri beeps at you. Then, say “Call [the number you want to call]” and wait. Siri will dial the number for you.

- Example: “Call 1 800 767 4835” and she’ll dial PosiTek.net for you
- You can also call anyone in your address book that way. Again, just hold down the button till Siri beeps and then say “call [the person you want to call] [which phone to call]” and wait. Siri will dial the number for you.
- Example: “Call Pam Willenz Mobile” to call her cell phone works better than cell or cell phone)



Tip #2: Some tips and rules for getting Siri to work for you reliably:

- You don’t need to turn on the iPhone and tap in your lock code, just hold down the Home button and say your command. For many commands, that’s good enough, if you need to tap in the lock code, Siri will tell you.
- Speak clearly without hesitation – think of what you’re going to say before you say it to Siri – she sometimes takes a hesitation to mean you’re done commanding her
- Use command language Siri understands – try to phrase your commands to her consistently so she doesn’t have to work as hard to figure out what you want.
- Up-front, let Siri know the relationships you have with your most-used contacts to save time (see below).
- Put together a list of commands you can and want to use with Siri, and practice them. The things you do most often, such as:
 - Call People
 - Set Reminders
 - Send Text Messages
 - Make or Change Appointments
 - Get Directions

Tip #3: To set a reminder, hold down the Home button till Siri beeps at you and then say “Set a reminder for [time and day] to [whatever you want to be reminded about]”

- Example: “Set a reminder for 3pm tomorrow to call my agent and get a quote for term life insurance.”

Tip #4: To send a text message, hold down the Home button till Siri beeps at you and then say “Send a text message to [contact name or relationship] saying, [what you want the text message to say, optionally including punctuation]”

- Example: “Send a text message to my oldest son saying call me when you are ready to be picked up comma but no later than 10pm comma because that is your curfew exclamation point”
- Siri will ask you to confirm if it’s ok to send the text. You should answer “Yes”, or “Change” or “Cancel”. If you say “No” she will have to ask you what you want to do. Saying “Change” will let you re-dictate your message.

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To **make or change an appointment**, hold down the Home button till Siri beeps at you and then say “Make an appointment with [contact name or relationship] for [the subject of the appointment] at/on [date and/or time of appointment]”

- Example: “Make an appointment with my Boss for Quarterly Sales Report on April 4 at 10am
- Example: “Change my appointment with my Boss on April 4th to 2pm”

Tip #5: Setup relationships with Siri to save you time. The person must be in your contacts folder. Hold down the Home button till Siri beeps at you and then say “[Name of contact] is my [relationship]”

- Example: “My oldest son is Carl Manning”, or “My boss is Bill Withers”, or “My girlfriend is “Tamara Golding”
- There is a long list of relationship types you can use, including wife, husband, mother, father, brother, sister, son, daughter, son-in-law, step-daughter, mother-in-law, uncle, cousin, boss, secretary, neighbor, friend, lover, co-worker, or just about anything you can say.
- Once established, you can use the relationship (and sometimes first name) instead of the full contact name when using Siri.
 - So for example, you could say “my best friend, Cici” when telling Siri to send a text message (instead of, say, Cici Gonzalez).
 - If you have more than one person in the same relationship.

Tip #6: Get directions easily by telling Siri to “get directions to [the name and location or place you want]”

- Example: “Get directions to Legal Seafood in Tyson’s Corner” or “Get directions to my friend Alison’s home”

Tip #7: Find places by telling Siri to “Lookup [what you’re looking for]”

- Siri may just do an internet search, but you’ll usually get decent results if you say specifically what you’re looking for.

Tip #8: Get word definitions by telling Siri to “Define [the word you want to define]”

Tip #9: Open an app on your iPhone/iPad by commanding Siri to “Open [app name]”

- Example: “Open Rocket Taxi”
- You will be prompted for your lock code

Tip #10: Some other commands you can use: see lists at <http://www.tuaw.com/2011/10/05/iphone-4s-what-can-you-say-to-siri/> and <http://www.idoono.com/2011/11/siri-user-guide-siri-commands/>

Tip #11: Use the Microphone icon anytime you see a keyboard **to dictate** what you want to say instead of typing it.

- The dictation feature (unlike Siri) will not care if you pause while speaking. It’s activated when you tap the icon, and deactivated when you tap the “Done” icon.

