

Genealogy on the Go with the iPad/Tablet

By Lisa Louise Cooke

Host of the *The Genealogy Gems Podcast*

www.GenealogyGems.com

The iPad is built for hitting the road and is ideally suited for genealogy due to its' sleek lightweight size, gorgeous graphics and myriad of apps and tools. In this class you will discover the top apps and best practices that will make your iPad a genealogical powerhouse!

The iPad: The most expensive email checker?!

Rather than trying to duplicate what you do on a laptop, you need a tablet mindset. Think of it this way: even though both a fax machine and email on a computer send the same information, you don't use them the same way. The key to iPad prowess is to figure out what the tasks are that you want to accomplish rather than just looking for only apps in the genealogy category. With the right apps and some tablet know-how, your iPad will become an indispensable research tool.

The Genealogist's iPad Desktop

Top App that boost productivity. These are categorized by the task to be accomplished:

(Note: all information provided was accurate at the time this handout was created. Check websites for up to date availability and cost.)

Reading Apps

iBooks: The iPad comes with iBooks. Free

GoodReader: \$4.99, and I've found it to be well worth it if you like to annotate and book mark your reading material.

FlipBoard: Create your own customized "glossy magazine" featuring your favorite genealogy podcasts, blogs and videos! Free www.flipboard.com

Audio Visual Apps

SpeakEasy Voice Recorder: Record family history interviews with this app that features a super simple-to-use interface. \$1.99

Adobe Photoshop Express: Photo Editor. Adobe is *the* name in photo editing, so you'll want to be sure and get this app. Free

Photobucket: Cloud storage and management of photos and videos. Particularly useful for media that you need cloud hosting and HTML code for, such as photos and videos you want to post on your genealogy blog or use in a program like Google Earth. Free

Panorama by Wondershare: There are lots of apps out there that create panoramic photos, but I like this one because it creates terrific panoramic photos with sleek straight edges, unlike some

of the free ones. This app is perfect for family reunion group shots, sweeping photos of cemeteries and other large scale subjects. 99 cents

Skrappy: There aren't too many robust scrapbooking apps out there (at least not yet) but this one is fun and easy to use. \$2.99

Location Based Apps

Trip Journal: Allows you to document your research trip as it happens. \$2.99

Trip Viewer: The free companion app to Trip Journal is called Trip Viewer. .

Google Earth: The Google Earth app in no way offers the full functionality of the free desktop program. However, it's perfect for viewing and sharing your KMZ files such as customized maps. Save your KMZ file in Dropbox on your desktop, and you can grab it and open it on your tablet. Free.

Organization and Utility Apps

Evernote: Keep all your notes organized and backed up on the Cloud. A must-have app! Free

Dropbox: File sharing and back up via the Cloud. You can share files of all types between your various computing devices, or share a folder of files with a fellow researcher. Evernote assigns you your own unique Evernote email address so that you can send photos from your camera roll directly to the app. Free

SplashTop2 Remote Desktop - Personal: Remote access of your computer from your iPad anywhere, anytime! This app will revolutionize your "tablet life." One example: if you run into a video that requires Adobe Flash, open up the SplashTop app and watch it on your home computer with your tablet. Your computer must be on, connected to the Internet, and have the SplashTop Streamer downloaded. .99 cents

Education Apps

Invest in your on-going genealogical education! If you don't you're just going to fall behind as technology moves forward and that means you're going to be working a lot harder than you have to.

YouTube: Use Google search strategies to locate free tutorials and expert interviews. My Genealogy Gems YouTube Channel is loaded with free genealogy content: www.youtube.com/genealogygems. Free

Genealogy Magazine Apps: Magazine apps are typically free to download, and require in-app purchases of issues. *Internet Genealogy Magazine, Family Chronicle, History Scotland Magazine, Your Family Tree (UK), Family Tree Magazine (UK)*

The Genealogy Gems Podcast App

The app delivers family history inspiration and innovation directly to your mobile device (iOS, Android and Windows8.) Listen to the free episodes, access bonus content (pdf documents, videos and more), visit the website, star your favorite episodes to refer back to, share through Facebook, Twitter, and Email and stream the audio in the background while you do other things. \$2.99

Collaboration Apps

Dropbox: The power of the cloud for free. (See previous section)

Facebook: Connect with the living! Free.

Skype: Invaluable for making free calls on the road from your iPad. Free

Pinterest: It's like pinning all of your favorite things on a virtual bulletin board for future reference and inspiration. Get started with <http://pinterest.com/lisalouisecooke>. Free

Genealogy and History Apps

Ancestry App: Let's you take your Ancestry.com family tree with you on your iPad.

MyHeritage App: Recently updated companion app to www.myheritage.com. Free

RootsMagic App: Take your genealogy database with you. Currently only "viewing" capability (not editing.) View gedcom file generated from other software programs. Free.

British Library: Treasures HD: Explore rare materials, including fully digitized historic books. \$5.99

National Archives: Today's Documents: National Archives of the United States. Free

The National Archives: The National Archives of Britain's "official memory." Free

Library Locator: Does what its name says. Free

Lisa's Top iPad Quick Gems

1. Scroll Back

To quickly scroll back to the top of a page (like a long spreadsheet or website) simply tap the black bar across the top of the screen that has the time and battery life.

2. Save a Website Photo in Safari

Save a photo off a website In Safari by pressing and holding on the image, and then selecting "Save Image" from the pop up menu. This will save the image to your camera roll which you can access through the Camera app.

3. Google Swipes

When searching with the Google app, once you've run a search and selected a result you can easily navigate back to your original search results list by swiping the screen to the right.

4. Speed Up Your Typing

When typing text, tap the space bar quickly twice and it will insert a period and then a space so you start your next sentence.

5. Take a Screen Shot

Press and hold the home button and then quickly press the power button to snap a screen shot. It will be saved to your camera roll!

6. Organization

Add and rearrange apps on your dock by tapping and holding an app until they all start to "shake" and then dragging and dropping them to the desired location. Create app folders by dragging and dropping one app on top of another which creates a folder. Then drag and drop other apps into the folder.

7. Quick App Search

If you have a lot of apps and want to find one quickly, you can always press the home button and then type the name of the app, press the app and it will automatically open.

8. Split Screen

Splitting your keyboard can allow you to hold your iPad while typing in a "texting" style. Grasp the iPad on the sides, place your thumbs at the center of the keyboard, and swipe to the outer edges of the iPad. Restore the keyboard by swiping from the outer edges to the center of the keyboard.

9. The Bread Crumb Dock

Double press the home button and a dock containing the apps you accessed recently appears.

10. Create bookmark apps for website

Use the Safari app to navigate to a favorite website. Tap the button just to the left of the URL address and select "Add to Home Screen."

Bibliography:

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