

# Tech Tip: Eleven Great Free Mobile Apps for Attorneys That Were Not Designed For Attorneys

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Most lawyers are already well aware of apps like Fastcase, Lawstack, or Trialpad that are specifically designed for those in the legal profession. But such applications serve a very narrow purpose and can be quite expensive. In fact, BarMax, a comprehensive bar review course created by Harvard Law School alumni, is one of the most expensive apps there is (Price: \$999). Below are some great apps that—while not specifically made for the practice of law—could be very helpful to an attorney. And best of all, these apps won't cost you a dime!

**Google Drive** (Cloud Storage): With Google Drive, you can access up to 15 GB worth of documents for free! The value of having documents at your fingertips, and to be able to share files across hundreds of miles, cannot be overstated. In fact, users can now couple Google Drive with the \$35 Google Chromecast HDMI dongle to send documents in the cloud directly to a monitor of their choice. Of course, cloud storage will always have its security concerns, but that is also true of any PC connected to the Internet. Google Drive, <http://www.google.com/drive/#start> (last visited May 23, 2014).

Availability: Android; iPhone

Alternatives: Dropbox; OneDrive

**Triplt** (Travel Organizer): If you are one of those attorneys who is proud to boast that you live for your work and that you have not taken a vacation in years, we have this suggestion: *get a life!* Put down your briefcase and pick up a suitcase. And as you are planning your vacation, Triplt can help you automatically organize your itinerary based on all your various confirmed reservations for your flight, rental car, hotels, restaurants, etc. It is very easy to use and it even works offline. Triplt, <https://www.tripit.com/learnMore> (last visited May 23, 2014).

Availability: Android; iPhone

**Pocket** (Reading Management): Previously known as "Read It Later," Pocket allows you to save an article, video, or web page and view it offline later. This means that lawyers can continue researching or reading while on their commute or waiting for the courtroom to open. But if you are reading something humorous, don't laugh out loud. Your client might misunderstand and think that you are reading their pleadings and find them to be hilariously unbelievable. Pocket, <https://getpocket.com/> (last visited May 23, 2014).

Availability: Android; iPhone

Alternatives: Instapaper; Readability

**Cardmunch** (Business Card Organizer): Cardmunch is owned by LinkedIn. Just take a photo of a business card with your smartphone, and this app creates a LinkedIn connection. Every business card you submit is transcribed and edited by living human beings for accuracy. Then, you can flip through all of your stored business cards for easy access to your contacts. Just make sure that, before you hand someone his or her card back, you explain that you have digitally stored his or her card. Otherwise, the person may be highly offended! Cardmunch, <http://cardmunch.com/howitworks.html> (last visited May 23, 2014).

Availability: iPhone

Alternatives: CamCard

**Quip** (Document Collaboration): Quip is a streamlined word processor designed to make beautiful documents as quickly and simply as possible. This app works just as well on mobile devices as it does on desktops, and you can even use it offline and then synch up the next time you log on. Think about that: now you can rack up billable hours between shots on the back nine at Pebble Beach! Quip's greatest strength, however, is its easy-to-use collaboration feature that keeps track of all changes to a document in a chat-like thread. Quip, <https://quip.com/> (last visited May 23, 2014).

Availability: Android; iPhone

Alternative: Google Docs

**Quickoffice** (Productivity Suite): This app, which is owned by Google, picks up where Quip leaves off. It provides users with a complete set of office tools to create and edit files, presentations, and spreadsheets. It consists of Quickword (a word processor), Quicksheet (a spreadsheet), and QuickPoint (a presentation program). These programs are completely compatible with the Microsoft Office file format. Now the quality of your work will be so high, that your clients will be happy to pay your fees. Okay, maybe it's not *that* good! Quickoffice, [https://support.google.com/quickoffice/answer/2986862?hl=en&ref\\_topic=2986859](https://support.google.com/quickoffice/answer/2986862?hl=en&ref_topic=2986859) (last visited May 23, 2014).

Availability: Android; iPhone

Alternative: Kingsoft

**KeePassSD** (Password Management): Just a few weeks ago, a password management app would have never have made our list—but that was before news broke about the Heartbleed Bug. Clearly, password security has never been more important. This is especially true for modern attorneys that spend so much time online shopping and chatting . . . I mean, *researching*. KeePass is a free, open-source password manager that lets you put all your passwords in one database. Now you only need to remember a single master password. This means you can generate longer, stronger, and *different* passwords for each of online website or account. KeePassSD, <http://keepass.info/> (last visited May 23, 2014).

Availability: Android, iPhone.

**Opentable** (Reservation Assistant): Few things are more important to busy counselors than a good meal after a hard day in court—especially if the client is paying. With this free app, it's a piece of cake to make a lunch or dinner reservation. This can be especially useful when you are traveling in rough, unfamiliar neighborhoods (like Malibu or Beverly Hills). Find available tables at over 20,000 restaurants, including eateries in Canada and Mexico. Opentable, <http://www.opentable.com/about/> (last visited May 23, 2014).

Availability: Android; iPhone

**Remember the Milk** (Task Manager): Lawyers cannot afford to forget important things like due dates, deadlines, or when a client needs to replenish their retainer! Tag items with dates, and sync with your reminders in Evernote, and this app will automatically help you to organize and prioritize. In this way, attorneys will always be able to stay on top of their "to-do" list on those hectic days . . . or weeks . . . or months! Remember the Milk, <http://www.rememberthemilk.com/> (last visited May 23, 2014).

Availability: Android; iPhone

Alternatives: Wunderlist; Todoist

**Dolphin Browser** (Private Browser): This browser is fast, stable and simple to use. But Dolphin Zero's main claim to fame is that it offers the highest level of privacy possible. This protection is not so much the result of sophisticated encryption, but the fact that it Dolphin Zero automatically deletes input data, history, cache, cookies, and passwords. It's like a Snapchat for browsing. Our only criticism is that a protective browser should have a tougher sounding name. Dolphin Browser, <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.dolphin.browser.zero> (last visited May 23, 2014). Availability: Android; iPhone

**Chrome Remote Desktop** (Remote Computer Access): The ability to use one's smartphone to access a PC at home or in the office can have tremendous applications. You can access documents, run powerful programs, or have fun by making someone believe your computer is possessed. This app runs as an extension inside the Chrome browser and allows users to retrieve documents that are too sensitive to store on the cloud. Chrome Remote Desktop, <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.google.chromeremotedesktop> (last visited May 23, 2014). Availability: Android

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