BILL'S HOME TECH

Home & Small Business Tech Solutions

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Big, Readable Clocks & Weather on Every Screen

See the time, date, and weather at a glance — on your phone, tablet, computer, and bedside

Plain-English tech help from:
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Tech Made Simple. Service Made Personal.

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SUMMARY

The 60-Second Version

The time, date, and weather should be a glance, not a hunt. Use widgets — live panels on your screens — to show a big clock and weather without opening an app. On iPhone, hold the home screen, tap +, and add large Clock and Weather widgets; on Android, hold the screen, tap Widgets, and drag a large clock-and-weather widget.

Turn on an Always-On Display so the clock is always visible, use StandBy to make a charging iPhone a bedside clock, and add clock widgets to your computer and a clock screensaver to the TV. Always pick the largest size, and make sure the weather is set to your own town.

1 The Short Version

A clock and the weather are the two things most of us want to check most often, and they should be effortless to see. Using widgets — the panels that sit right on your screens — you can have a big clock, the day and date, and today's weather on display without opening anything. Set them large and they are readable from across the room.

You can do this on the phone's lock and home screens, on a tablet left on the counter, on your computer, and even turn an old phone or tablet into a bedside clock. This guide covers them all.

- Widgets show the time, date, and weather without opening an app.
- They can be made large and placed where you will glance.
- A phone or tablet can become a bedside or kitchen clock.
- Computers and smart displays can show a big clock too.

TIP

Put a large clock-and-weather widget at the top of your phone's home screen first. It is the screen you look at most, so a glance there gives you the time, the date, and whether to grab an umbrella.

2 Why a Glance Should Be Enough

Hunting for the time — waking the phone, finding the clock app, squinting at small numbers — turns a two-second question into a small chore. The same goes for the weather, buried in an app behind a tap or two. For something you check a dozen times a day, that friction adds up and is wholly unnecessary.

Widgets exist precisely to put this information on the surface, big and always visible. Setting them up once means every glance at a screen answers “what time is it, what day is it, what's the weather” without a single tap. It is a small change that makes the whole day smoother.

GOOD TO KNOW

Widgets are not apps you open; they are live panels that sit on your home or lock screen and update themselves. A weather widget always shows the current weather; a clock widget always shows the current time. You just look.

3 Big Clock on the iPhone Lock Screen

The iPhone lock screen — what you see the moment you pick up the phone — already shows a large clock, and you can add the date and weather around it so a glance tells you everything.

1. Wake the phone and press and hold the lock screen until the Customize option appears.
2. Tap Customize, then the lock screen.

3. Tap the area above or below the clock to add widgets, and choose Weather and a Date widget.
4. Tap Done to save.

> **GOOD TO KNOW**
>
> The lock-screen clock is already big; adding a weather widget just above it and a date beneath means the first thing you see when you pick up the phone is the time, the day, and the weather, all at once.

4 Big Clock and Weather on the iPhone Home Screen

On the home screen you can place large clock and weather widgets among your app icons, so even without unlocking fully you get the information.

1. Press and hold an empty part of the home screen until the icons jiggle.
2. Tap the plus (+) button at the top.
3. Search for Clock and add a large clock widget; do the same for Weather.
4. Drag them to the top of the screen and tap Done.

> **GOOD TO KNOW**
>
> Widgets come in sizes — small, medium, and large. Choose the large size for the clock and weather so the numbers and temperature are easy to read from arm's length or across a room.

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5 Big Clock and Weather on Android

Android phones make this especially easy, and most come with a large clock-and-weather widget already on the home screen that you can enlarge.

1. Press and hold an empty part of the home screen.
2. Tap Widgets.
3. Find the Clock and Weather widgets (there is often a combined one) and drag a large size onto the screen.
4. Drag the corners to make it as big as you like, and place it at the top.

TIP

Many Android phones have a single large widget that shows the time, date, and weather together. Dragging it bigger makes the numbers and the temperature easy to read at a glance — often the simplest option of all.

6 Keep the Clock Always Showing

Many phones can keep a dim clock on the screen even when the phone is asleep, so you never have to wake it just to check the time — the clock is simply always there.

- iPhone (recent Pro models): Settings, Display & Brightness, Always-On Display.
- Android (many models): Settings, Display, Always-on display, where you can choose the clock style.
- You can often pick a large, clear clock face for the always-on display.
- It uses very little battery and saves constantly waking the phone.

GOOD TO KNOW

An always-on display shows a dim clock around the clock, so the phone sitting on the table is also a clock. If your phone offers it, it is one of the nicest small conveniences there is.

7 Turn an iPhone Into a Bedside Clock

Set an iPhone on its side while charging and it can become a big, glanceable bedside clock — a feature called StandBy — showing a large clock, the weather, or your next alarm in easy-to-read digits.

1. Connect the iPhone to its charger.
2. Turn it on its side (landscape), resting in a stand or propped up.
3. StandBy appears; swipe to choose a large clock face or a clock-and-weather view.
4. In a dark room it dims to a soft red clock that is easy on the eyes at night.

TIP

A cheap stand that props the phone on its side turns StandBy into a proper nightstand clock while the phone charges overnight. The big dim clock is easy to read if you wake in the night without being too bright.

8 Turn a Tablet or Old Phone Into a Clock

A tablet on the kitchen counter, or an old phone you no longer carry, makes a wonderful big clock-and-weather display with the right free app.

- Install a large-digit clock or “nightstand clock” app that shows time, date, and weather.
- Set the screen to stay on while charging (in the display or developer settings, or the app's own setting).
- Prop it where you pass by — the kitchen, the hallway, the bedside.
- Keep it plugged in so it never runs flat.

WATCH OUT

Choosing a clean, ad-free clock app and setting an old device to stay on safely while charging takes a little care — some apps are cluttered or drain the battery. I am glad to pick a good one and set up a spare device as a reliable household clock.

9 Clock and Weather on Your Computer

Your computer can show the time, date, and weather clearly too, so you are not reaching for the phone while you work.

- Windows shows the clock and date in the corner of the taskbar; you can add a Weather panel to the taskbar or Start menu.
- Mac shows the clock in the top corner; you can add a large Clock and Weather widget to the desktop or Notification Center.
- Set the clock to show the day and date, not just the time, in the date-and-time settings.
- A large desktop clock widget is readable from across the room.

TIP

On a Mac you can drag big Clock and Weather widgets right onto the desktop, so they sit behind your windows and are visible whenever you clear the screen. A quick swipe shows them any time.

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10 Let a Smart Speaker or Display Show the Time

If you have a smart display — an Echo Show, a Google Nest Hub, or similar — it makes an excellent big clock and weather station, and you can simply ask it aloud as well.

- A smart display shows a large clock and the weather on its screen by default.
- You can choose a big, clear clock face in its settings.
- Ask it out loud: “what time is it?” or “what's the weather today?”
- Many will read you the forecast and the day's schedule when you ask.

GOOD TO KNOW

A smart display earns its keep as a kitchen or bedside clock even if you use nothing else on it — big time, big weather, and the ability to just ask. It is one of the friendliest clocks in the house.

11 Show a Clock on the TV

When the TV is idle, many sets and streaming boxes can show a clock screensaver, turning the big screen into the biggest clock in the house.

- Look in the TV's or streaming box's screensaver settings for a clock option.
- An Apple TV, Roku, or Fire TV often has a clock or photo-and-clock screensaver.
- Set it to appear after a few minutes of no activity.
- The large numbers are readable from anywhere in the room.

GOOD TO KNOW

A clock screensaver on the TV means that even when nothing is playing, a glance at the big screen tells you the time — handy in a living room where the TV is the thing you can see most easily.

12 Make the Numbers Truly Big and Clear

Whatever screen you use, a few choices make the time and weather as readable as possible for tired eyes.

- Always choose the largest widget or clock-face size available.
- Prefer a plain digital clock with bold numbers over a fancy analog face if numbers are easier for you.
- Raise the overall text size on the device so widget labels grow too.
- Pick high-contrast clock faces — light numbers on dark, or bold dark on light.

GOOD TO KNOW

A big, bold digital clock with the day and date spelled out leaves nothing to squint at or puzzle over. If an analog clock face is hard to read quickly, a digital one removes all doubt.

13 Fine-Tune Your Everyday Glances

Once the clocks and weather are in place, a little arranging makes them serve you best all day.

- Put the clock and weather where your eyes naturally land — top of the phone, kitchen counter, bedside.
- Keep the bedside clock dim at night so it does not disturb sleep.
- Make sure the weather widget is set to your own town, not a default city.
- Check that the time updates automatically for daylight-saving changes.

WATCH OUT

A weather widget set to the wrong city is a common little annoyance. Make sure it is showing your own town's weather — in the weather app's settings or location — so the forecast you glance at actually applies to you.

14 When to Call Bill

Each widget is simple to add, but setting big, readable clocks and the right local weather across your phone, tablet, computer, bedside, and TV — all consistent and all genuinely easy to read — is a satisfying little project to do together, and you will glance and know.

I come to you, add large clock-and-weather widgets to your lock and home screens, set up a bedside clock and a kitchen display if you want them, put a clock on the computer and the TV, and make sure the weather is for your own town. You will leave with the time, the day, and the forecast a glance away on every screen.

- You want big, readable clocks and weather on your phone and tablet.
- You would like a spare phone or tablet set up as a bedside or kitchen clock.
- Your weather widget shows the wrong town and you want it fixed.
- You want the time and weather easy to see on your computer and TV too.

CHEAT SHEET

Everyday Cheat Sheet

Keep this handy. Add a big clock-and-weather widget where you glance most — start with the phone.

I want to…	Do this…
Big clock on iPhone	Home screen: hold, tap +, add large Clock and Weather widgets
Big clock on Android	Hold the home screen Widgets drag a large Clock/Weather widget
Always-on clock	iPhone/Android: Settings Display Always-On Display
Bedside clock (iPhone)	Charge it on its side to start StandBy; pick a big clock face
Clock on the computer	Add a Clock/Weather widget (Mac) or taskbar weather (Windows)
Fix the weather's town	Open the Weather app settings and set your own location
Get help	Call Bill: (330) 200-8042

BEFORE YOU GO

A Note From Bill

A quick note from Bill. I write these guides to make home tech a little less frustrating, and I do my best to keep every step accurate and up to date. Still, every home, device, and setup is a bit different, so I can't promise a guide will match yours exactly or fix your particular problem. These guides are for general information only — they're not professional, legal, or financial advice, and they don't replace your device's own manual or the manufacturer's instructions. Please go slow, use your own good judgment, and use everything here at your own risk. If a step involves electrical wiring, a gas appliance, a water heater, plumbing, or climbing a ladder — or if anything just doesn't feel safe — please stop and call a licensed professional (or give me a call at 330-200-8042). Bill's Home Tech and Bill Davis can't be responsible for any damage, data loss, or injury that results.

HOW I CAN HELP

Your Visit — and My Promise

You don't have to remember all of it — just that a friendly, patient person is one call away, whenever you'd rather have a hand.

KEY SPECS

In your home — $99 flat for the first visit, no contracts and no surprises, with a 30-day come-back-free follow-up. In-home visits cover Portage County, Ohio and nearby communities.
Outside the area? Remotely — $49 for a screen-share session (free for Support Plan members, $39/mo), refundable if I can't fix it — and credited toward a visit if you'd rather have me in person. Book either at billshometech.com/book.

GOOD TO KNOW

My promise — If you're not 100% satisfied with your visit, I'll come back at no charge, or refund the full $99. No questions, no awkwardness. That's how I'd want to be treated.

Whenever you're ready, I'll come to your home anywhere in Portage County, Ohio and nearby communities, at your pace. Too far for a house call? I also help remotely. Book at billshometech.com/book or call (330) 200-8042. — Bill

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