

Managing Your Android Phone

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Ottawa PC Users' Group

Motorola G3





- MotoG3 2015 (Osprey)
- Android Lollipop 5.1.1
- QualcommSnapdragon 410
- Quad-core, 1.4 GHz
- 8 GB storage,1 GB RAM

Android



- Operating system for mobile devices (touch screens)
- Developed by Android Inc.
- Purchased by Google (2005)
- Based on the Linux kernel
- Recent Android versions:
 Marshmallow, Nougat, Oreo,
 Pie, 10, 11

Android

- Android Open Source Project (AOSP)
- Designed for small screens, limited storage and battery life
- Comprehensive system, easily modified
- Android Software Development Kit (SDK)
- Multiple versions "vanilla" Android, but can also have add-ons, remix, etc.

Biggest Downsides

- Over-the-air (OTA) updates are only available for a limited time
- OEM's are slow to upgrade
- End-of-life schedule is not well understood (When will your phone's Android OS no longer be supported?)
- Often, there is no path to a new release of the Android OS (So, what then? – There is a solution!)

Google's EOL Policies

Nexus/Pixel devices:

Version updates for at least two years

(three years for Pixel)

Security patches for three years

(or 18 months after a device is no longer being sold)

The rest of us:

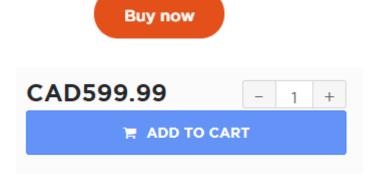
Updates are managed by the manufacturer

System updates may take two weeks

Version updates may be discontinued after 18 months



Octa-core CPU 128 GB 48/25 Mpx





We know what you're thinking. "Will my device receive an upgrade? How?" Never fear...all the information's right here.

Motorola is committed to regular and timely security upgrades as recommended by Google/Android. While phones cannot be upgraded indefinitely, we provide security upgrades within the industry standard on both our regular and our Android One devices.



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Basic Apps

- Phone
- Message (SMS)
- K-9 Mail* (E-mail)
- Opera* (Browser)
- Contacts
- Camera
- Settings
- Play Store

* User-installed apps

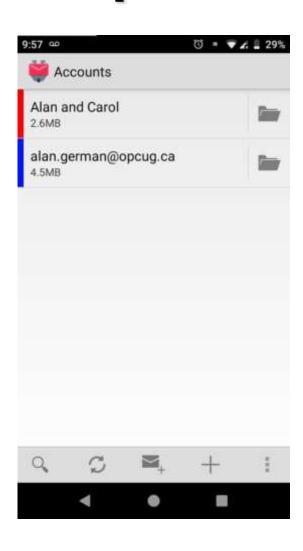
User-Installed Apps

The default apps bundled with the Android OS don't necessarily provide all the required/desired functionality.

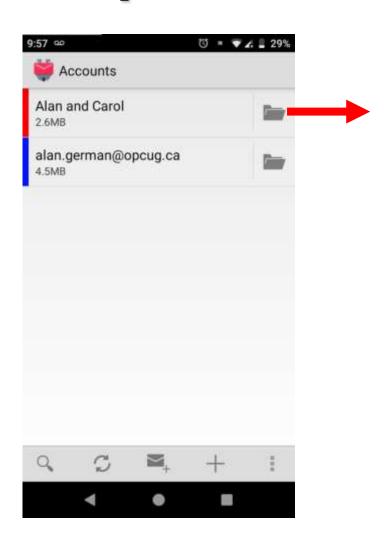
Other apps are available from Google's Play Store (and some third parties – including OPCUG!)

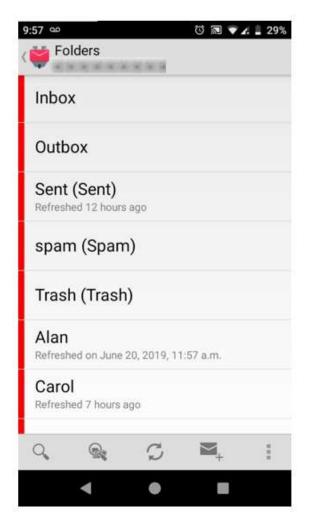


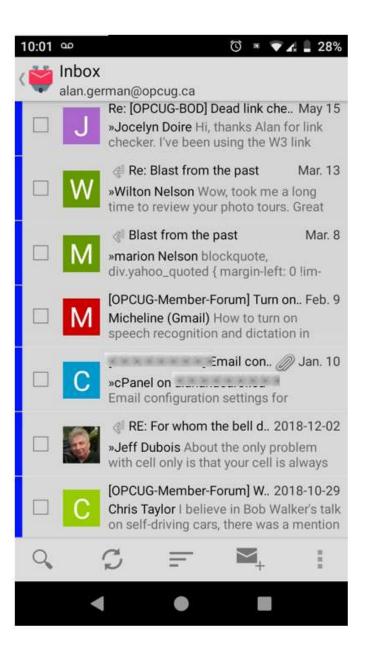
K-9 Mail Multiple accounts and folders



K-9 Mail Multiple accounts and folders

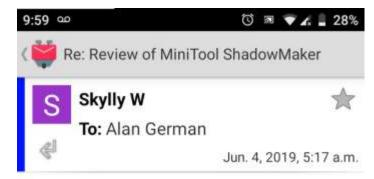






By default, the Inbox is displayed for any account

Click on any message to display the message content



Hi Alan,

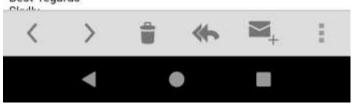
Thanks for your detailed review for MiniTool ShadowMaker, Today, I just want to you can review for MiniTool partition wizard v11.4 on your website.

Today, We are glad to tell you that the MiniTool partition wizard V11.4 has been released, This new V11.0 comes with 4 excellent new features including Data Recovery, Disk Benchmark, Space Analyzer, supports French language and some bug fixes. This is a huge changes with MiniTool partition wizard, you could check more information here:

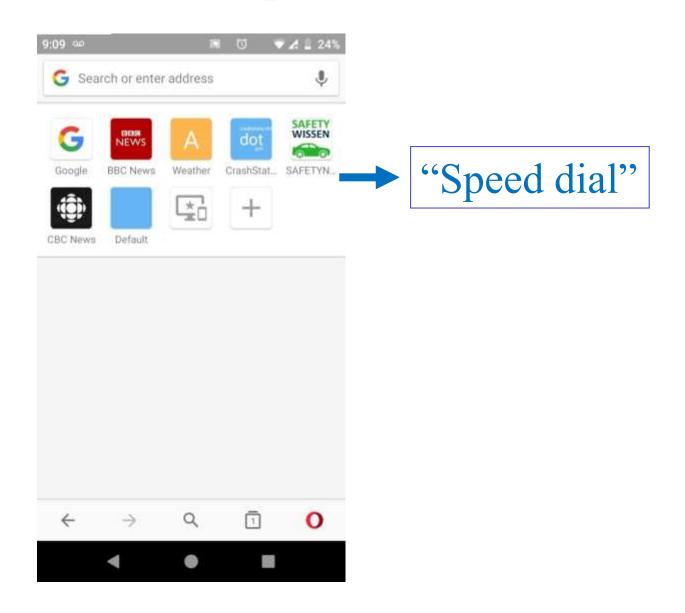
https://www.partitionwizard.com/free-partitionmanager.html.

I sincerely invite you to check our MiniTool partition wizard V11.4. I would appreciate for your any suggestions about our software. No matter if it is positive answer, It is great to help us, thank you.

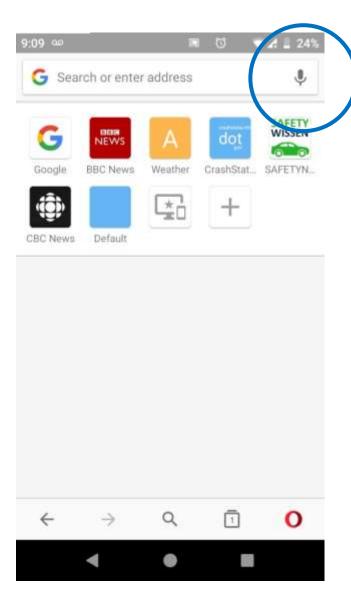
Best regards



Opera

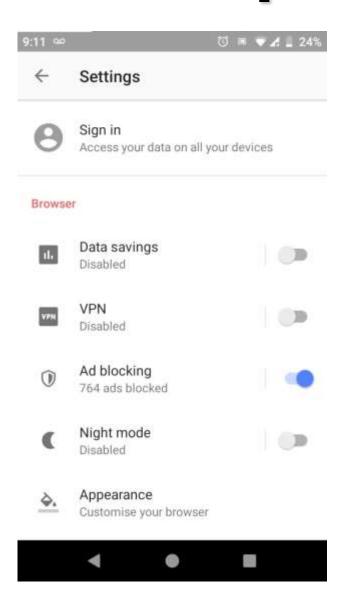


Opera



Google search with dictation

Opera



Note options for:

Built-in VPN

Ad blocking

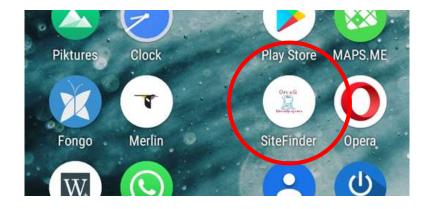


Where is opcug.ca?



Where is opcug.ca?

We have other technology for that!



SiteFinder

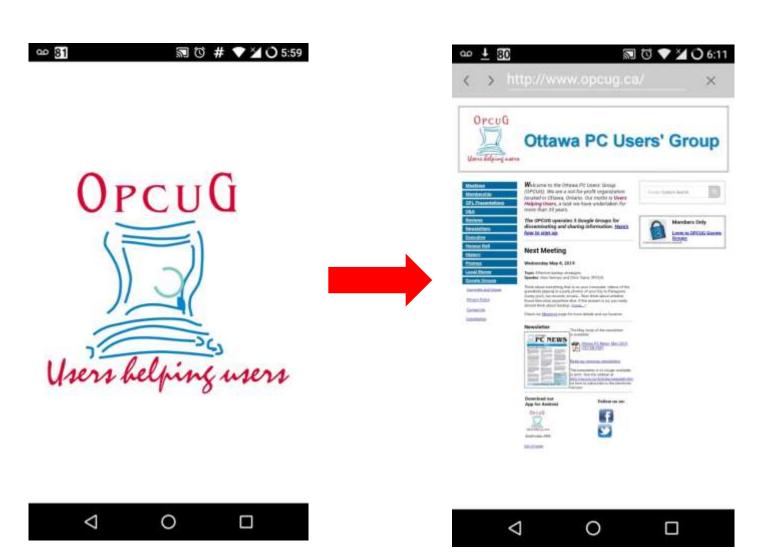






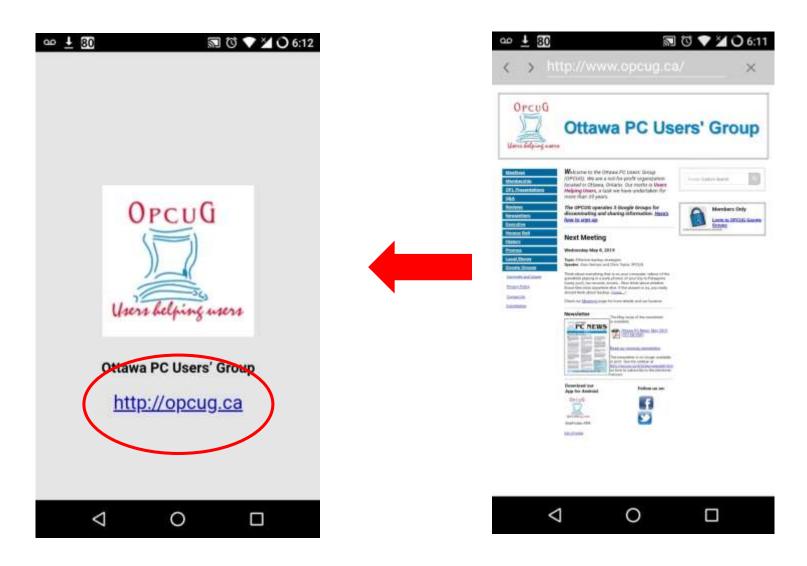


Splash screen



Splash screen





Live link

Back button

Some other very useful apps...



MapFactor Navigator - GPS Navigation Maps

Off-line maps

Worldwide OSM

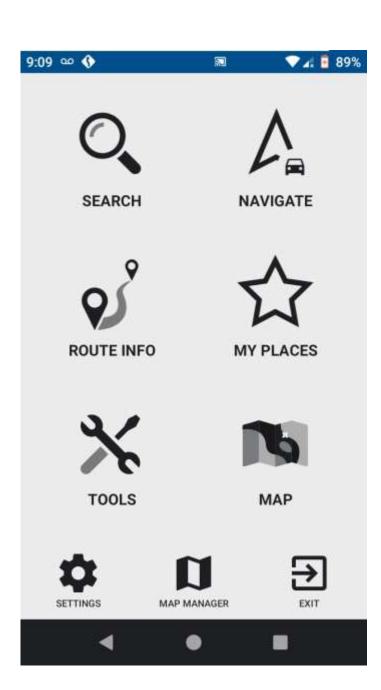
(or TomTom)

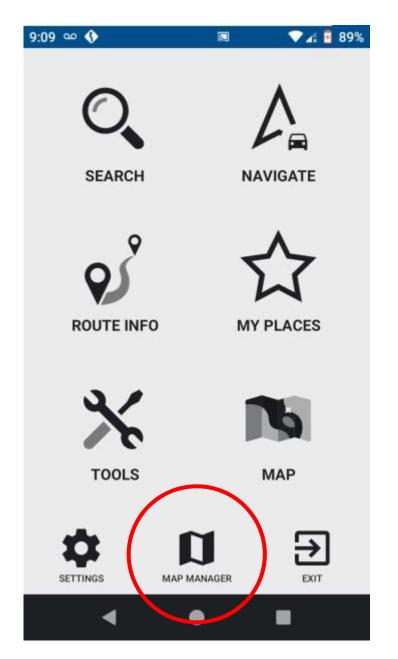
Search address or POI

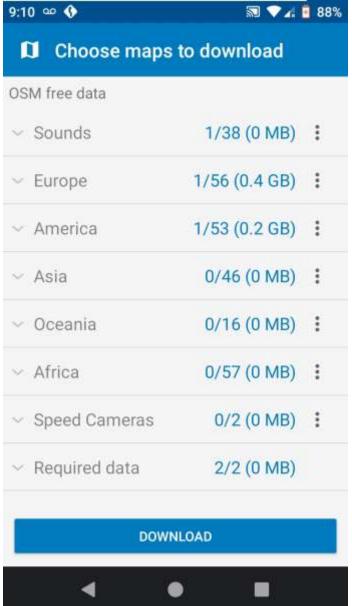
Turn-by-turn navigation

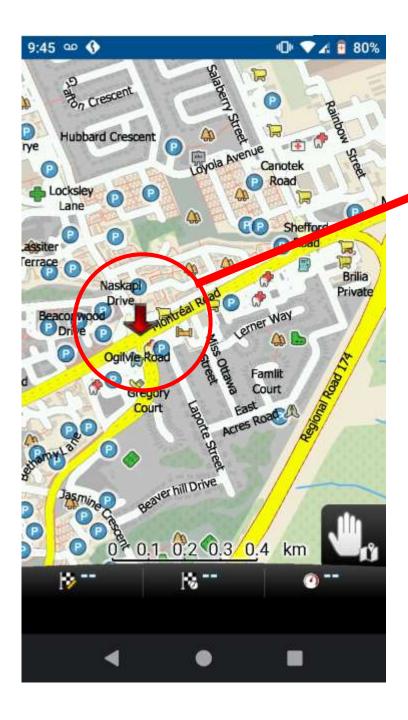
My Places (Favourites)

Speed/camera warnings



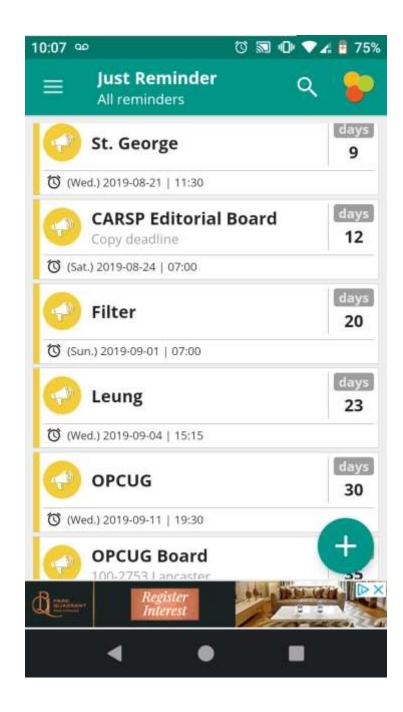






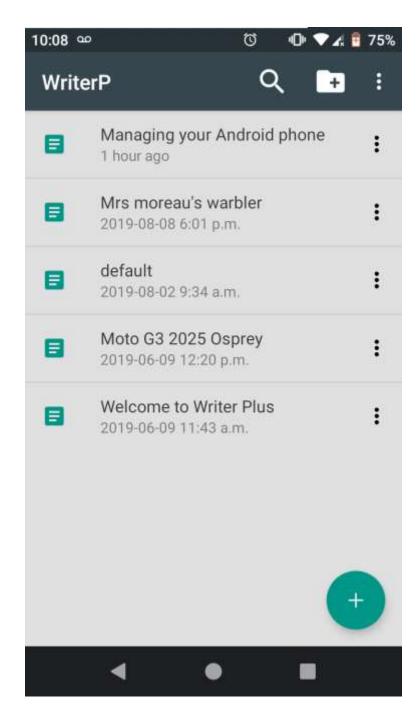
"Home" from My Places

[Actually, just a major intersection near my house]



Just Reminder with Alarm (AppHouse Co)

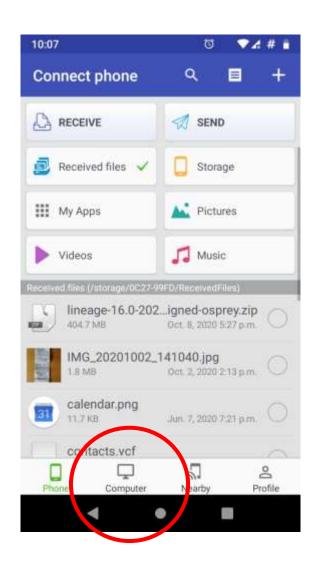
Task reminder/to-do list
Configurable alarm
(hours/minutes prior)
Categories
(e.g. birthdays, bill payments)



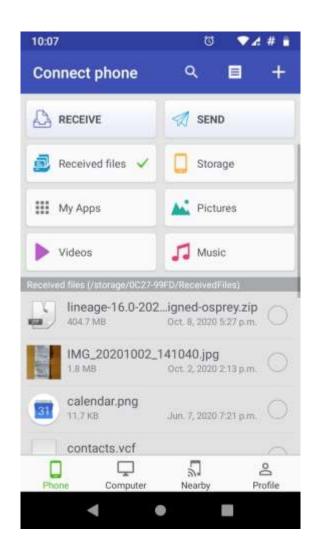
Writer Plus (Write on the Go) (Easy4U Ltd.)

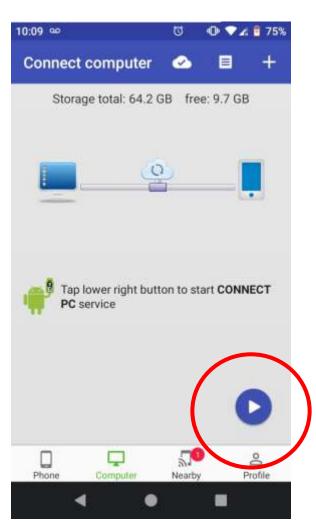
Local text editor
Open/edit/save plain text
Make notes "on-the-fly"
Markdown (e.g. bold, italic,
bullets, numbered lists)
Folder support

Software Data Cable (DAMI APP)



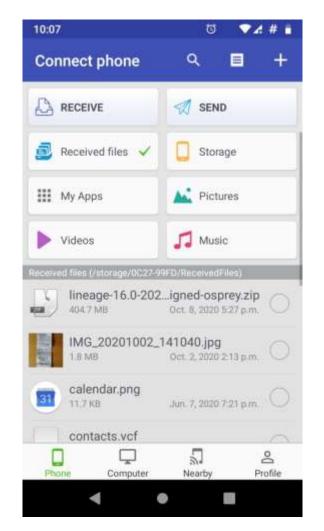
Software Data Cable (DAMI APP)





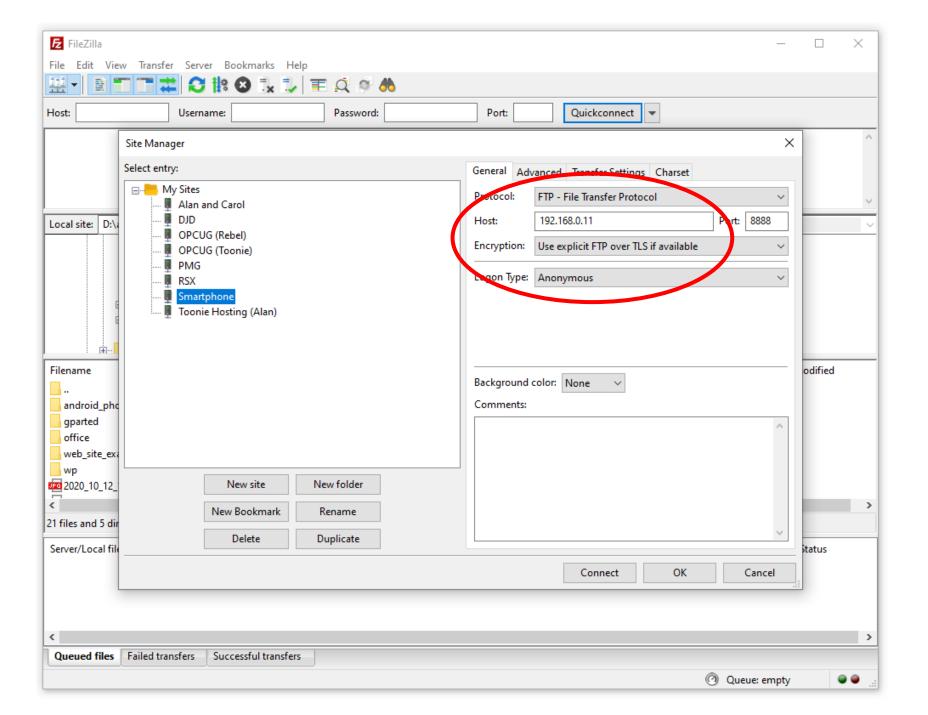
Software Data Cable

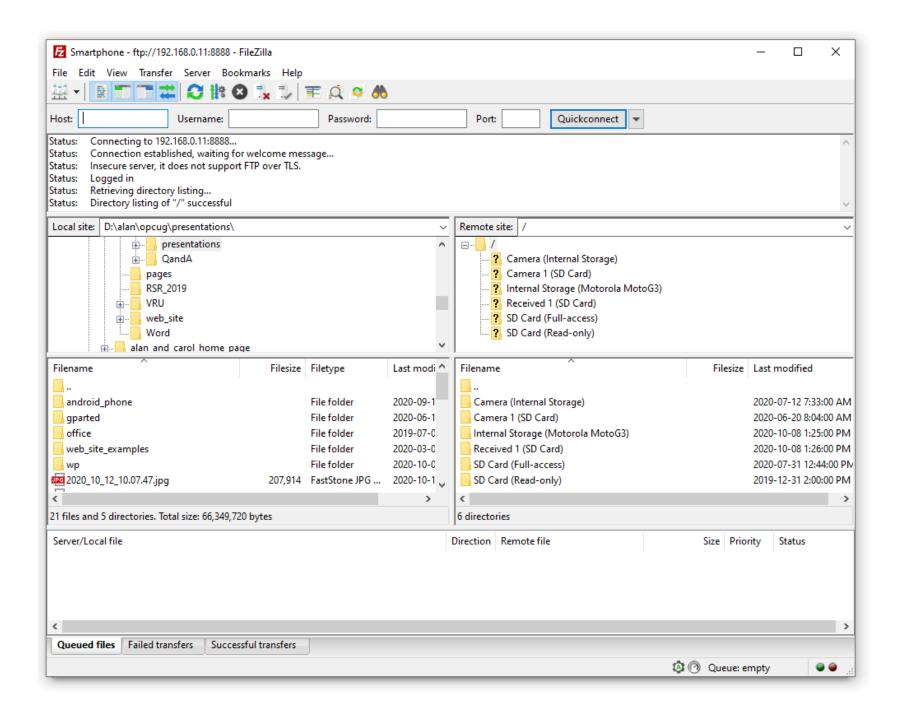
(DAMI APP)

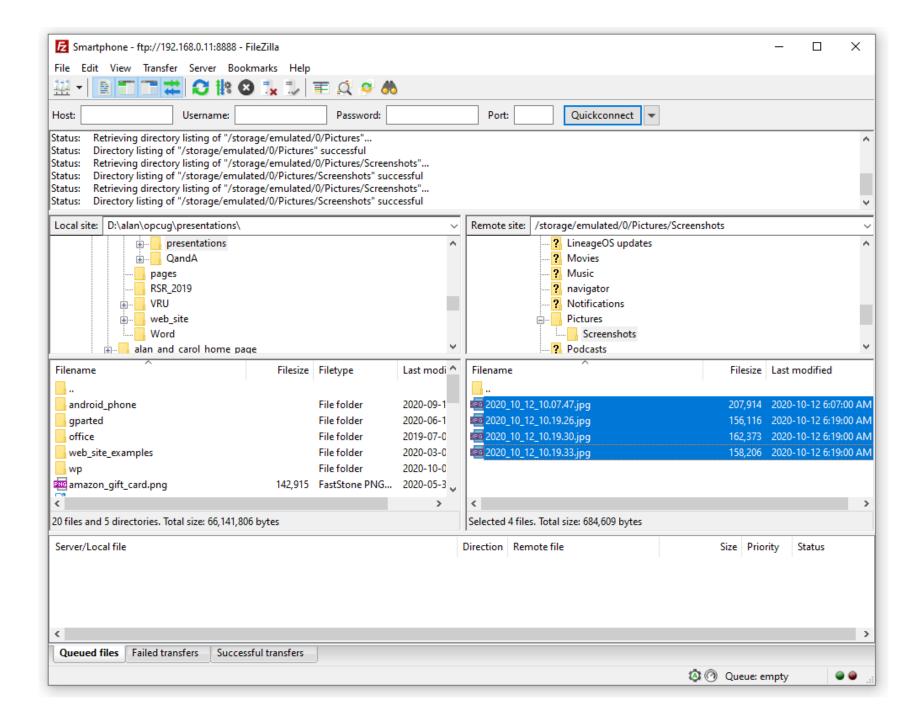


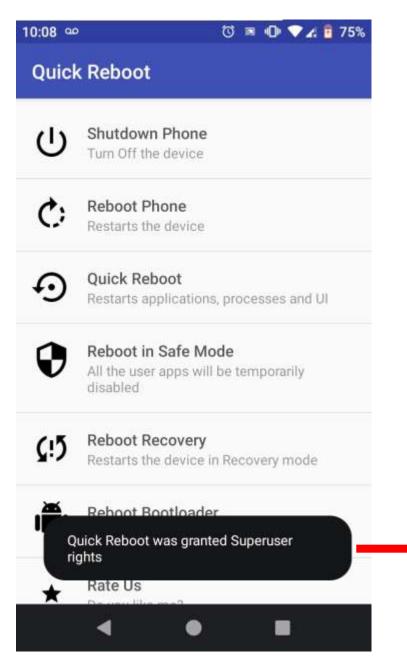








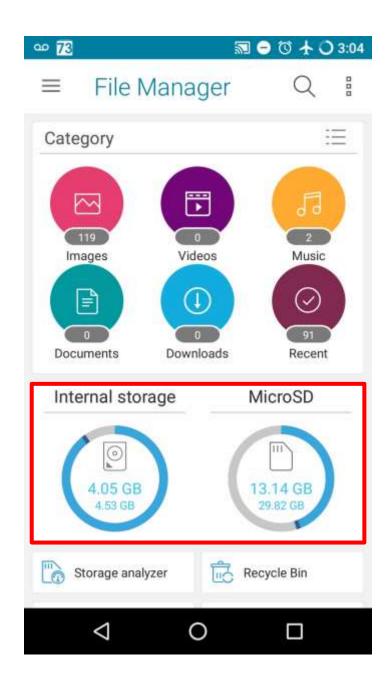




Quick Reboot (Awiserk)

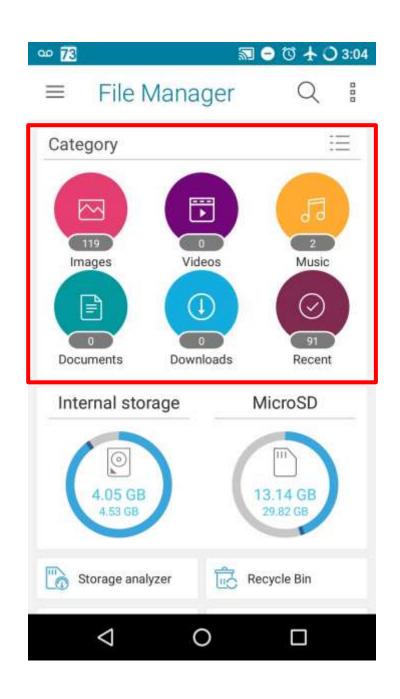
Shutdown/Restart
using the touchscreen
Reboot to recovery mode
to flash software
(e.g. Custom ROM)

Needs root access!



File Manager (ASUSTek Computer Inc.)

Supports internal memory, SDcard, LAN, Cloud



File Manager (ASUSTek Computer Inc.)

Supports internal memory, SDcard, LAN, Cloud Selectable categories



File Manager (ASUSTek Computer Inc.)

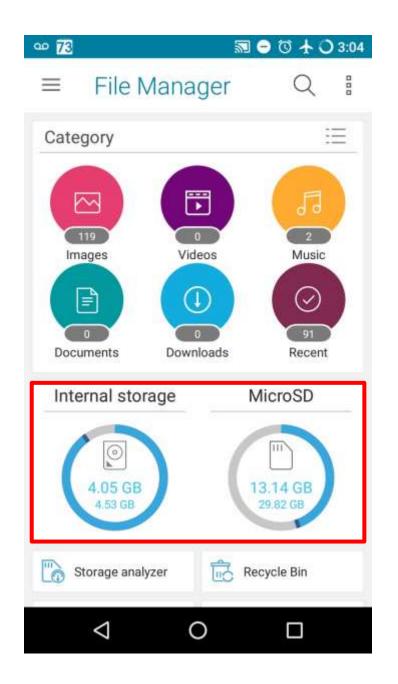
Supports internal memory, SDcard, LAN, Cloud Selectable categories

Storage analyzer

File sizes by category

Folder sizes

Large files, duplicates...



Main storage = 4.53 GB Micro-SDcard = 29.82 GB

BUT, the MotoG3 is supposed to have 8 GB of on-board storage!

Am I losing my mid

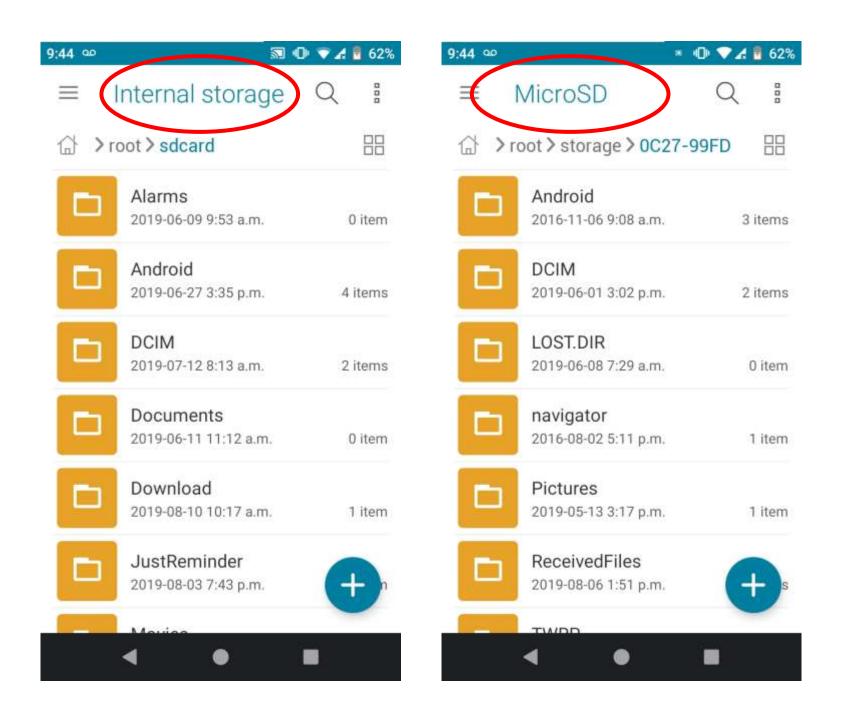
Android File Structure

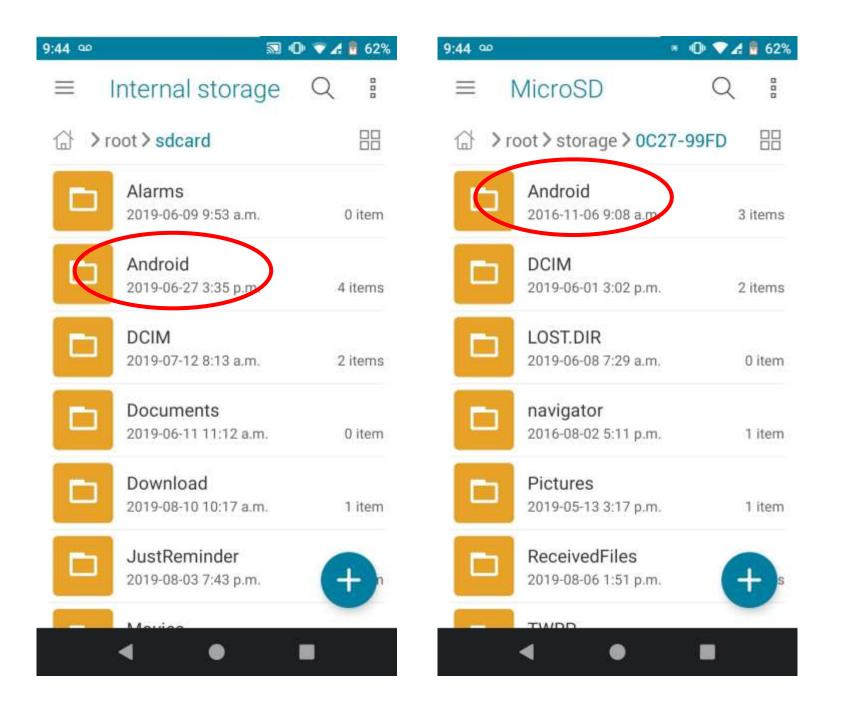
- My 8 GB MotoG3 can only account for about 4.5 GB of "internal storage"
- Where are the other GB's and what are they used for?
- Many of Android's folders are "empty"
- Much of the file system is hidden
- A mystery!

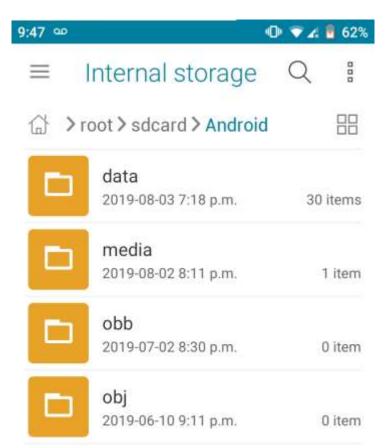


Android File Structure

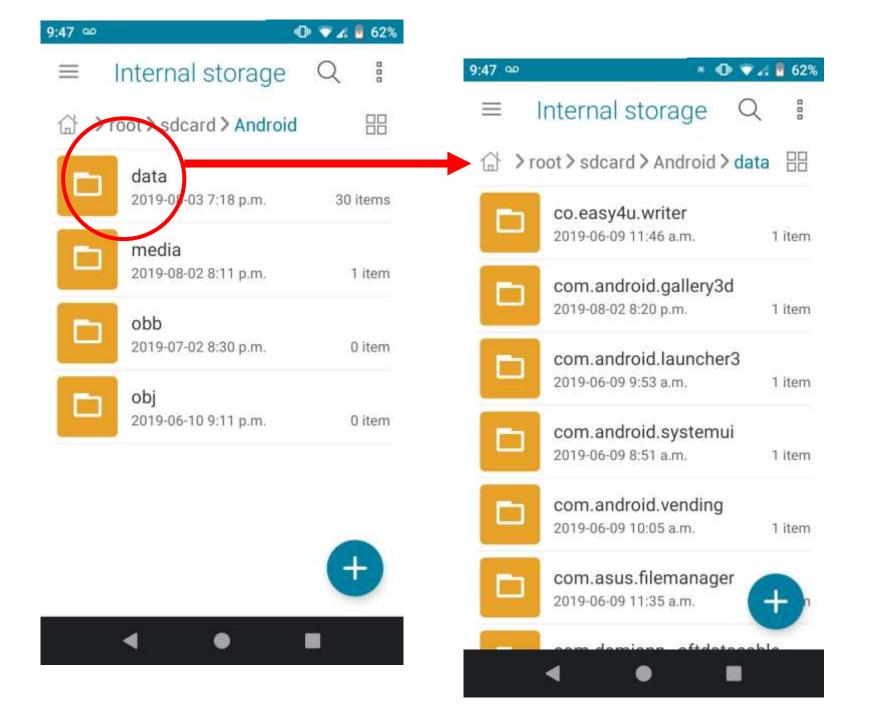
- A mystery?
- Actually a Linux file system
- The main storage is labelled
 - > root > sdcard
 - while the Micro SDcard is labelled (on my phone)
 - > root > storage > OC27-99FD
- Each drive has multiple folders...

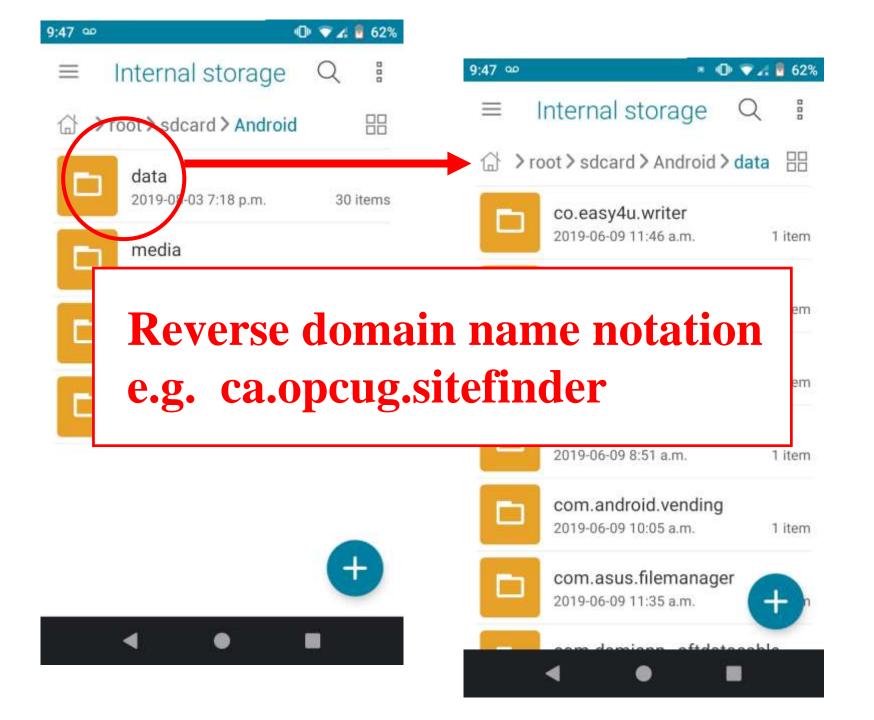


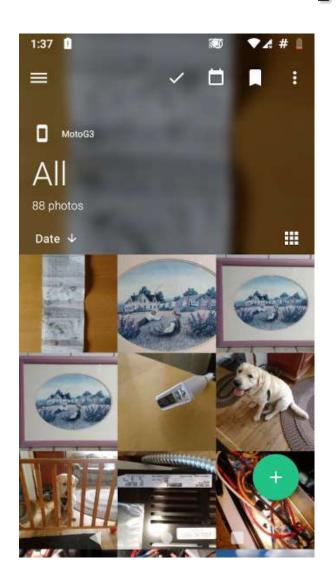






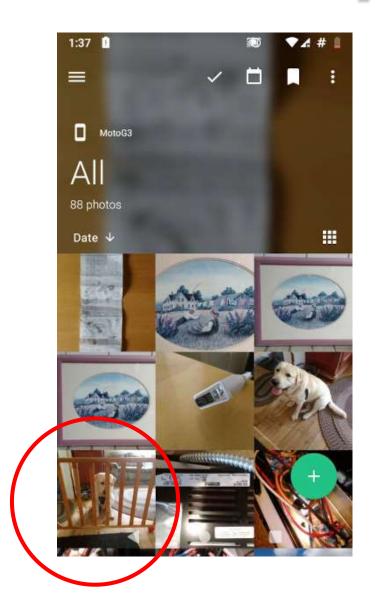


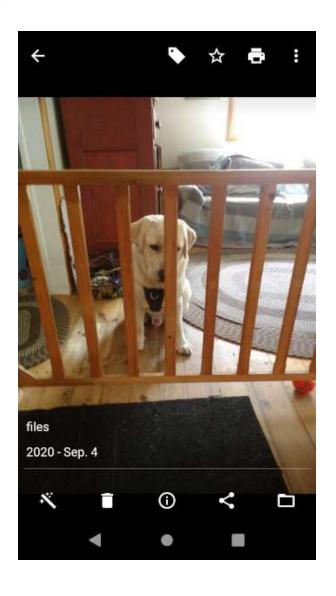




This is the *Piktures:*Gallery, *Photos* &
Videos app

It provides access to all the photos found on the phone



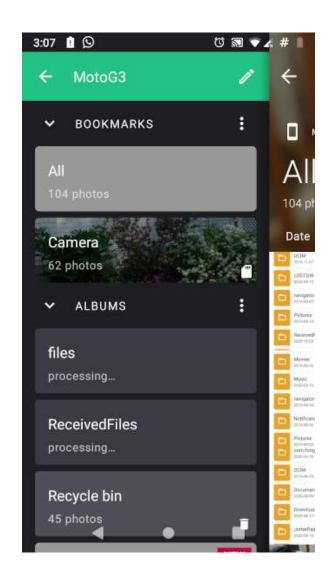


Piktures has several locations (bookmarks and albums) for photos

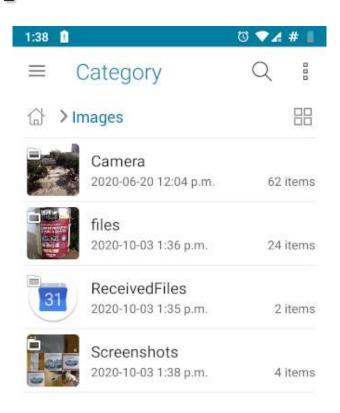
ReceivedFiles is a folder set up to transfer files

What is files?

Note that it also sees photos in the Recycle bin!



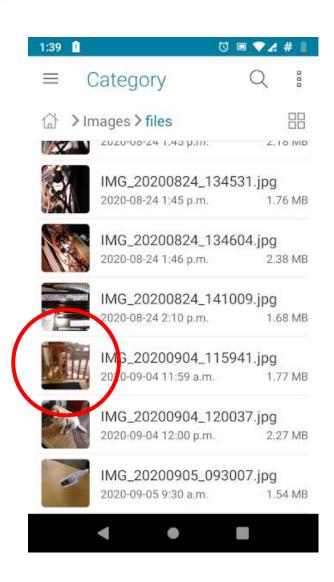
This is the view of the image category in Asus File Manager

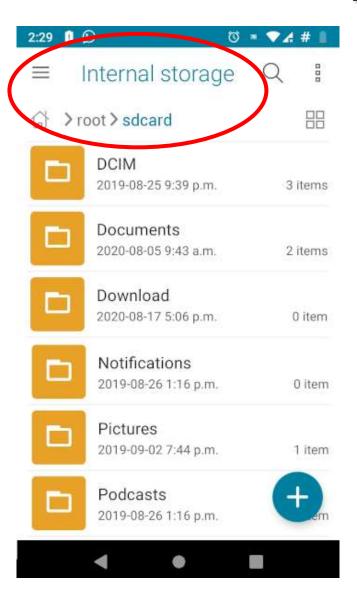


Our jailbird is located in *Images/files*

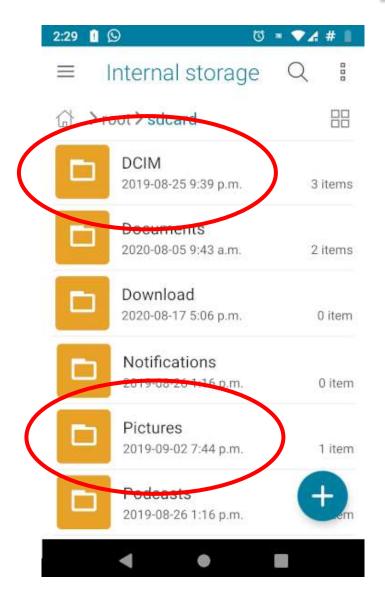
This is probably the "files" folder

But, where is this in the actual file system?





Internal storage is the phone's main memory

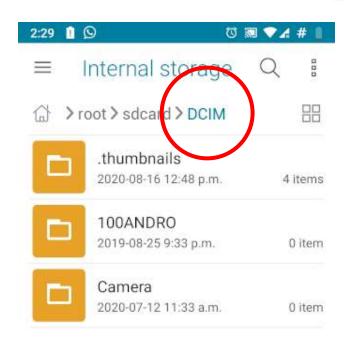


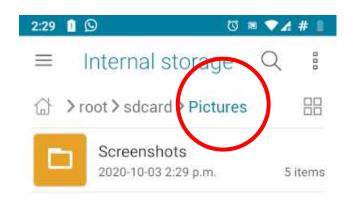
Internal storage is the phone's main memory

Images could be in:

DCIM

Pictures



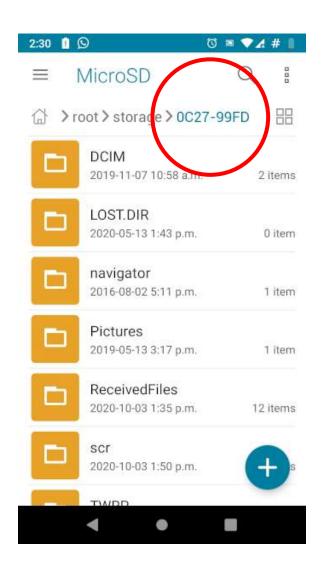






But, wait!

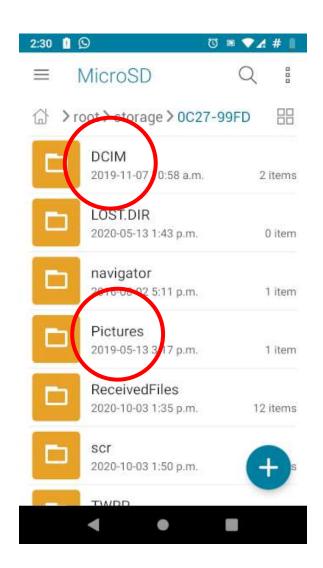
OC27-99FD is the phone's micro-SDcard

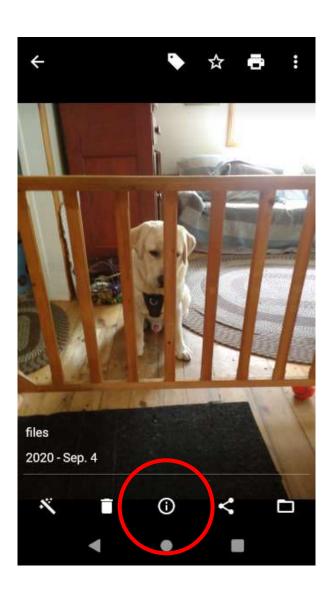


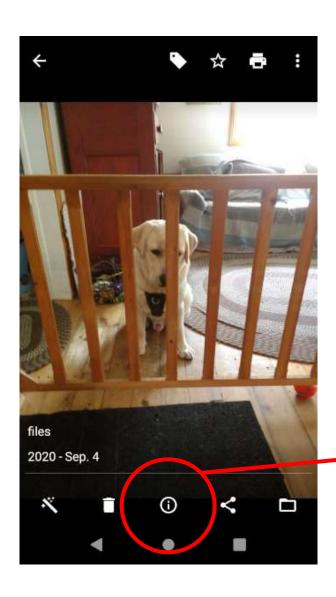
But, wait!

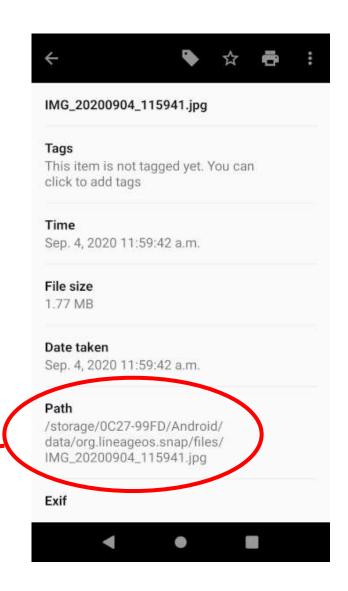
OC27-99FD is the phone's micro-SDcard

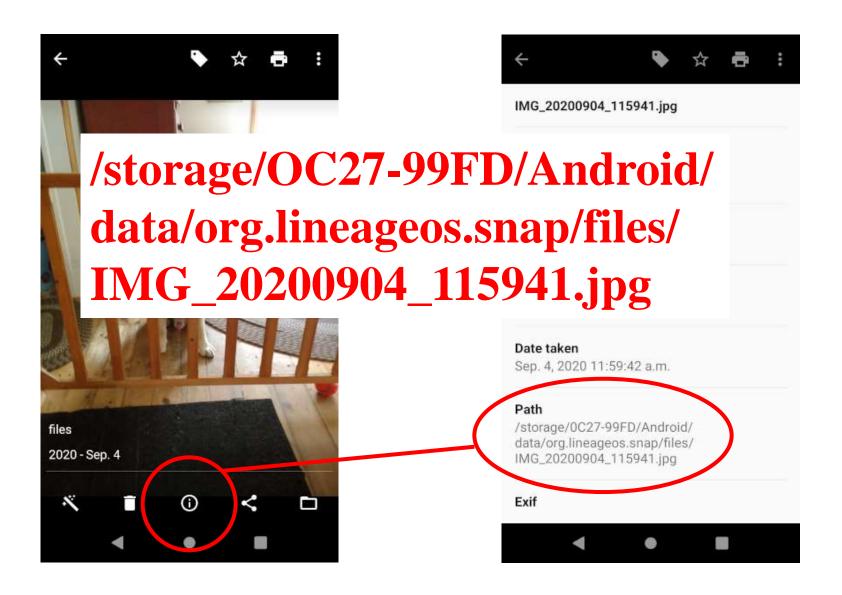
It also has *DCIM* and *Pictures* folders!











Confused yet?

/storage(OC27-99FD)Android/data/org.lineageos.snap/files/IMG_20200904_115941.jpg

This is the micro-SDcard

Confused yet?

/storage(OC27-99FD)Android/data/org.lineageos.snap/files/IMG_20200904_115941.jpg

This is the micro-SDcard

But, there is an **empty** folder at:

/root/sdcard/Android/data/ org.lineageos.snap/files/

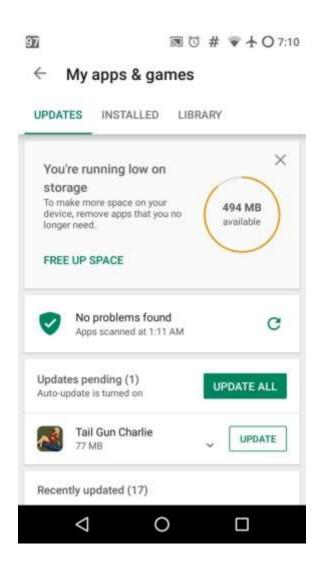
Android Annoyances

Android apps don't always work "as advertised" – and certainly not always as desired!

Where are apps stored?

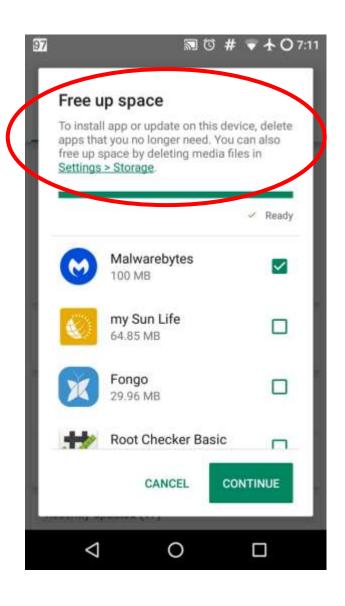
- Many apps are stored in the phone's main memory
- But, this can be a problem when internal storage is limited
- For example, my MotoG3 has 8 GB, but, the OS, the pre-installed apps, and just a few user-installed apps leave about 500 MB free!

Annoyances — "Free" space



- Play Store
 My apps & games
 Updates pending
- 494 MB available in main storage
- Pending update
 is 77 MB but
 much smaller
 updates also cause...

Annoyances — "Free" space

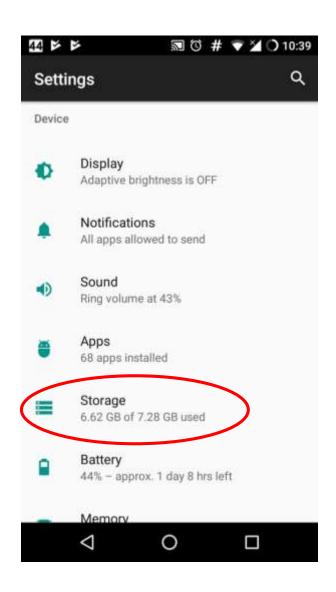


 Nice of Android to suggest that I remove the virus scanner!

• Why do I need to remove anything?

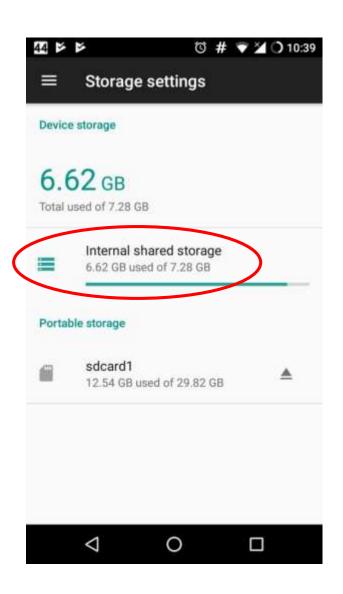
494 MB >> 77 MB!

Workaround – Clear cache

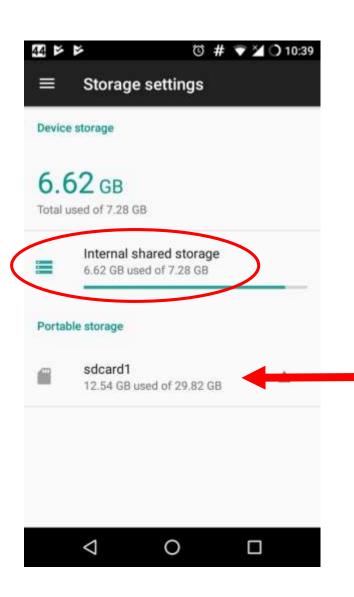


- Settings
- Storage

Workaround – Clear cache

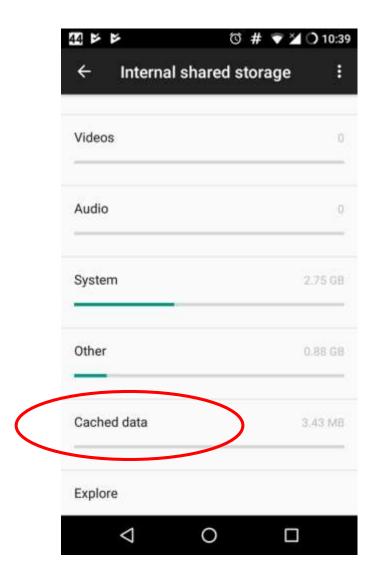


- Settings
- Storage
- Internal shared storage

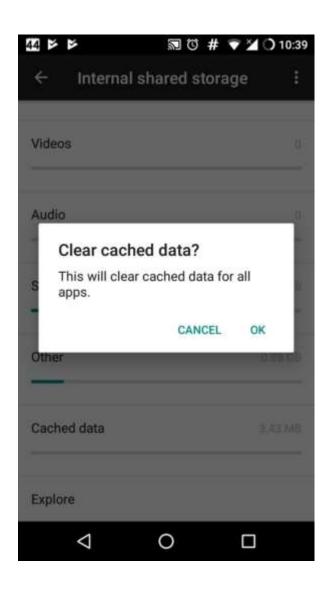


- Settings
- Storage
- Internal shared storage

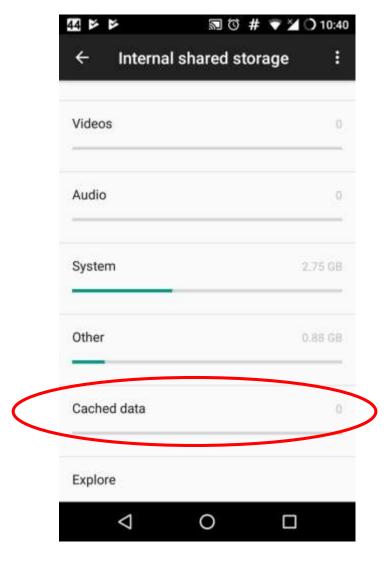
[Note that the SDcard has 17 GB free!]



- Settings
- Storage
- Internal shared storage
- Cached data

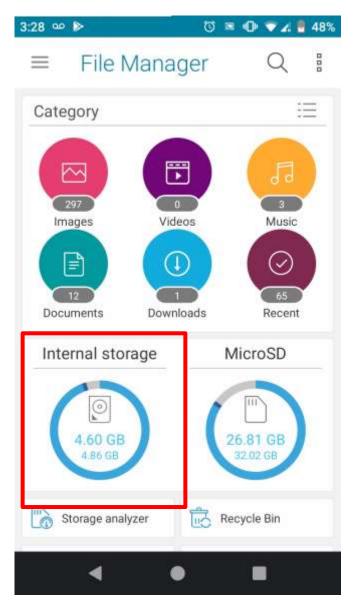


- Settings
- Storage
- Internal shared storage
- Cached data
- Clear cached data OK



- Settings
- Storage
- Internal shared storage
- Cached data
- Clear cached data OK
- Cached data = 0*
- * Sometimes the cache has to be cleared twice to get to zero

Workaround – Move photos

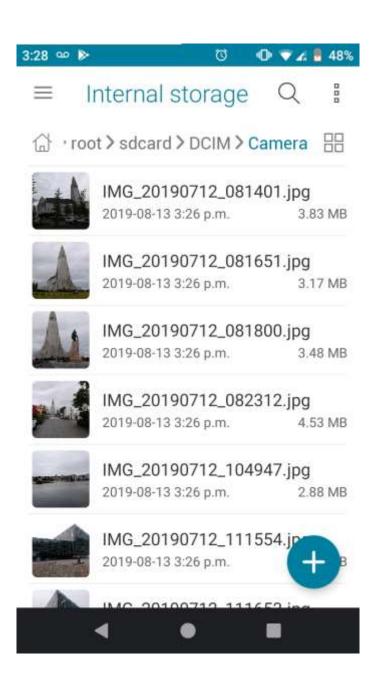


Internal storage

Available = 4.86 GB

Used = 4.60 GB

Free = 260 MB

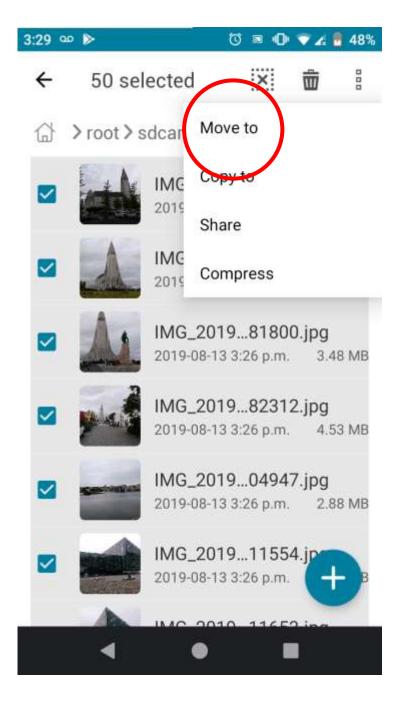


Locate photos from camera stored at: Internal storage*

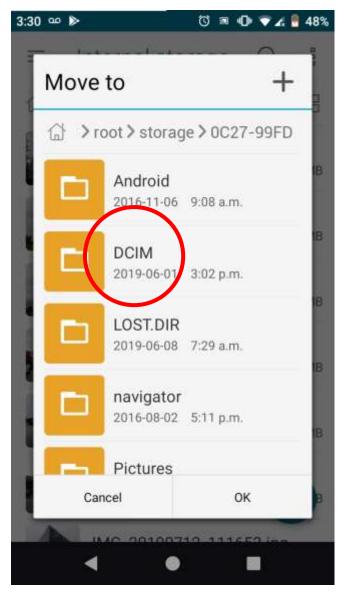
(root/sdcard)

DCIM/Camera

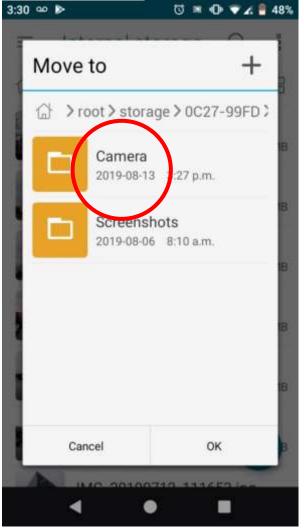
* Note – There is no option in the stock camera to store the photos, on the Micro-SDcard

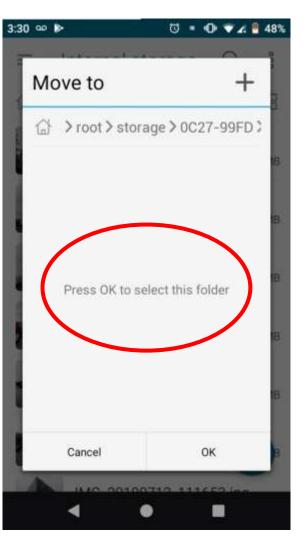


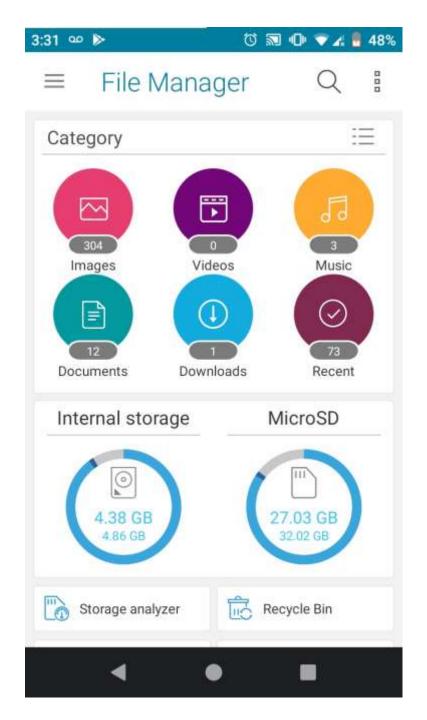
Tag all the photos
Select first photo.
Select all (icon)
Select menu (three dots)
Select "Move to"



OC27-99FD is the Micro SDcard







Internal storage

Available = 4.86 GB

Used = 4.38 GB

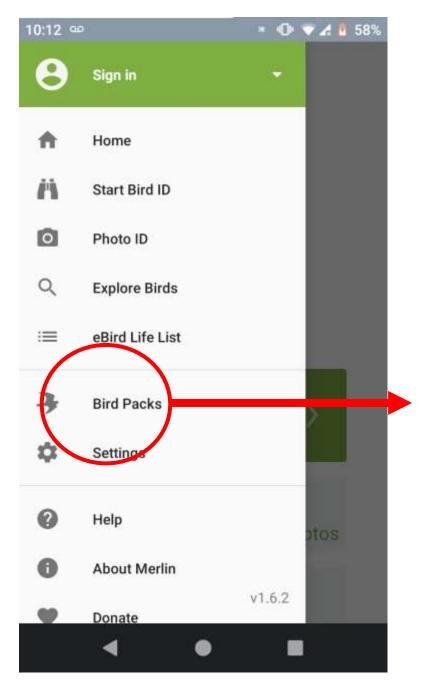
Free = 480 MB

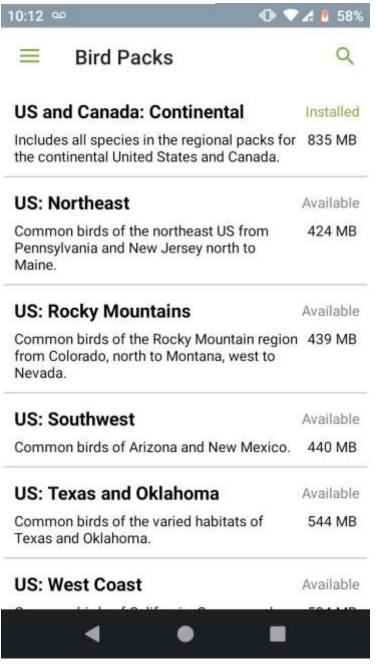
* Note that we still have about 5 GB free on the Micro SDcard

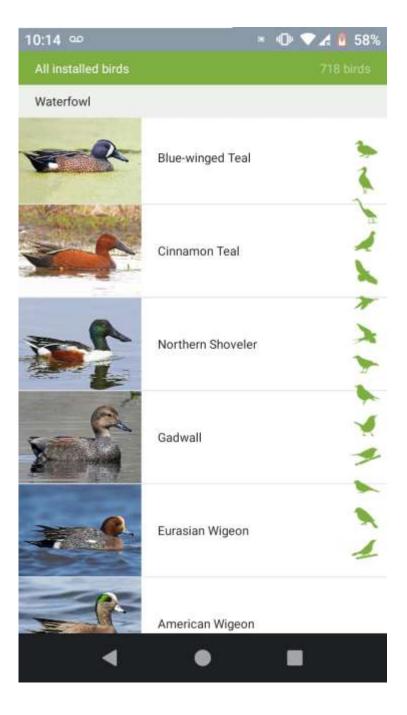
Other storage solutions?



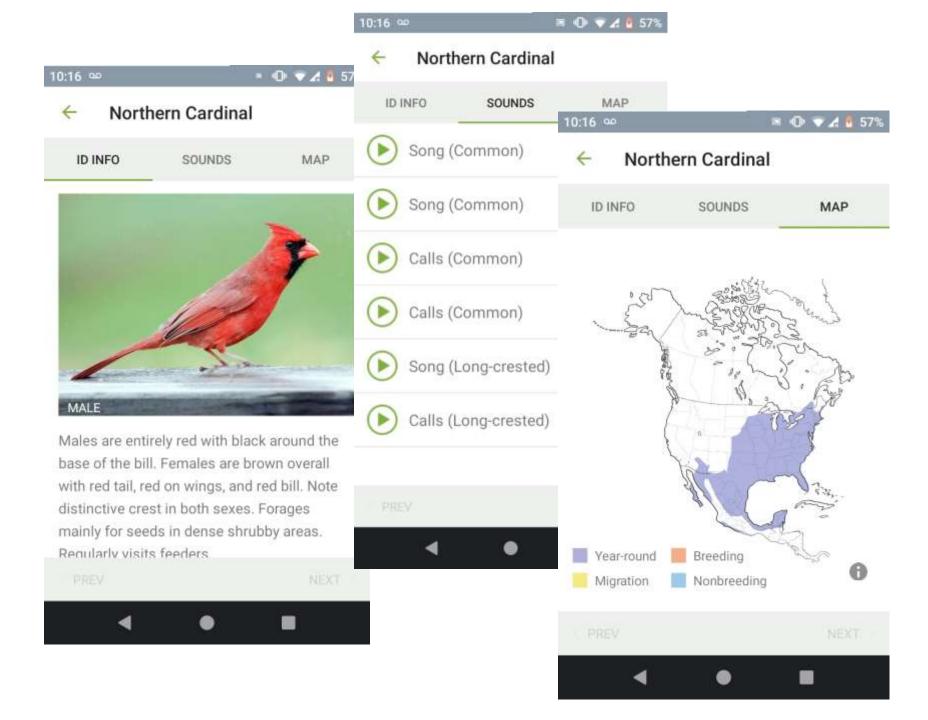
Bird field guide Multiple locations e.g. Canada, US, Mexico, UK... Multiple guides! (bird packs)



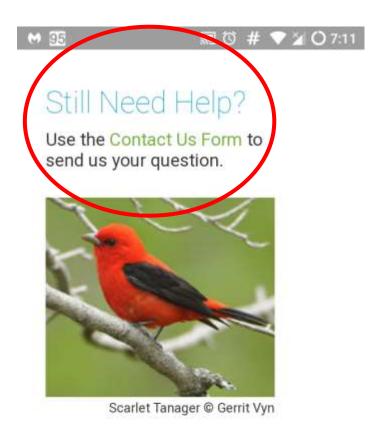


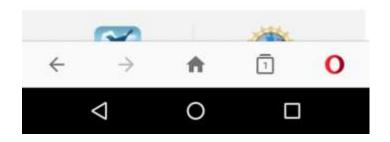


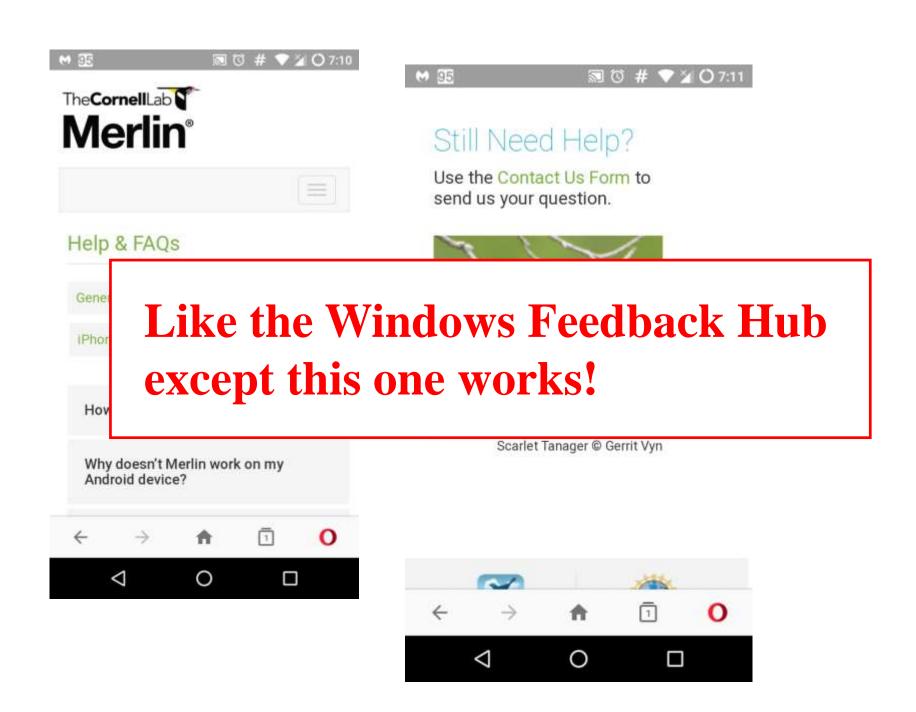
Species lists
Photographs
Descriptions
Songs
Range maps









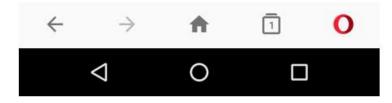




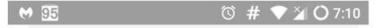
Updated version...

Can I move the app to SD storage?

Merlin Bird ID looks at your devices storage options when installing new packs. If you have an SD card with available space, Merlin will install the downloaded Bird Pack there. If there is no SD card, the Bird Pack will be installed on internal storage.



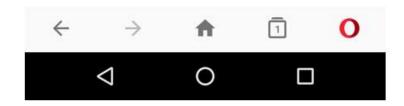
Updated version...



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More Android Annoyances

Sometimes, there's a workaround. The alternative may be to find a different app...

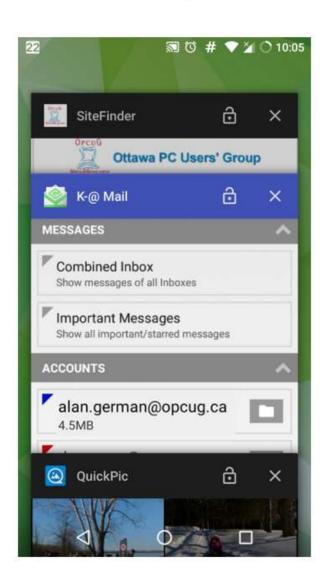
Annoyances – Camera

Google doesn't like Micro SDcards! Stock camera (Oreo and Pie) won't save to the SDcard

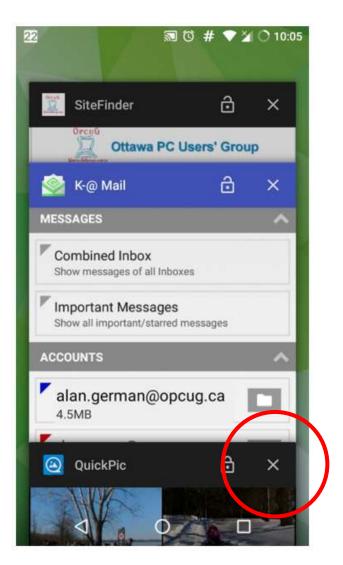
Workaround:

Download a different camera app Set Micro SDcard as (extended) internal storage



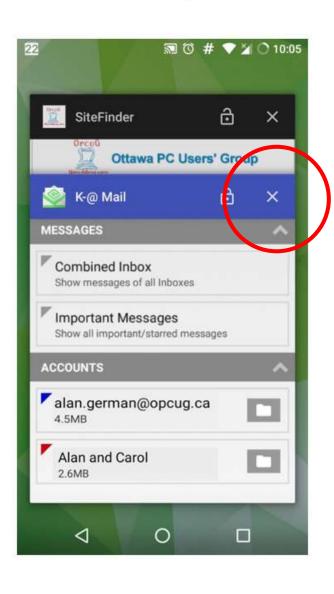


We have three apps open



We have three apps open

Let's clear
 QuickPic by
 hitting the "X"



 Now, we have two apps open

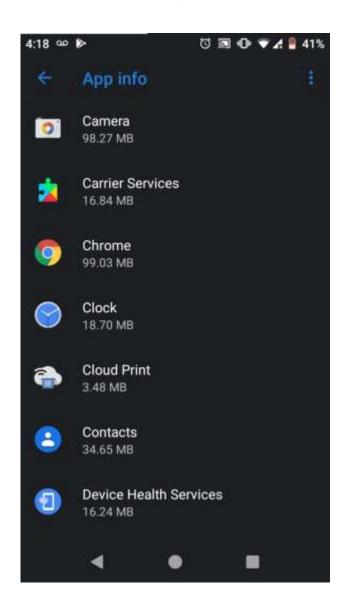
Let's clearK-@ Mail



We have one app open

 And now we can "CLEAR ALL"

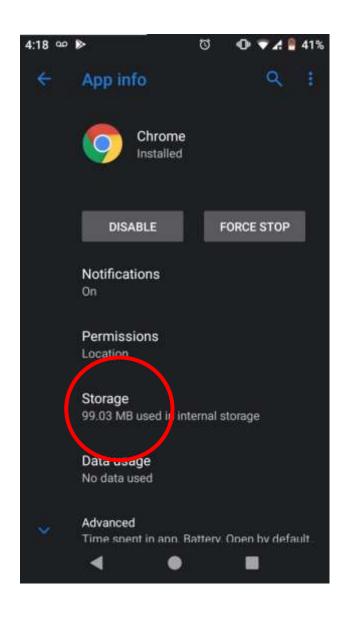
Aaghh!!!!



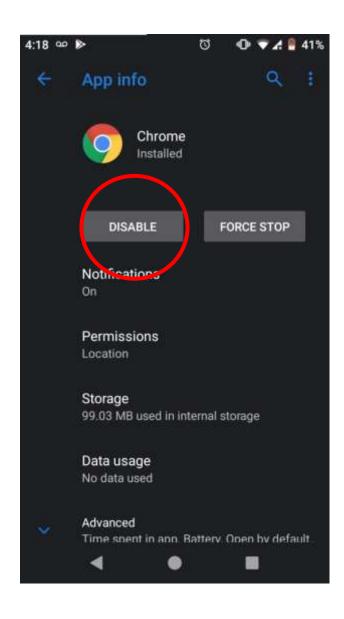
Default apps are "sticky"
Pre-installed Google apps
can't be uninstalled
There are lots of Google
apps!

There are many that I don't use

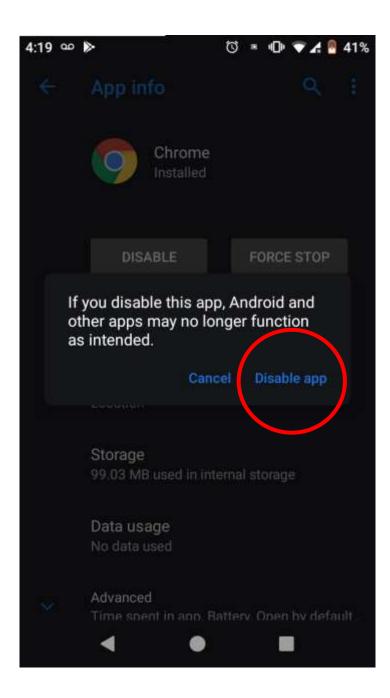
They take up lots of internal storage space!

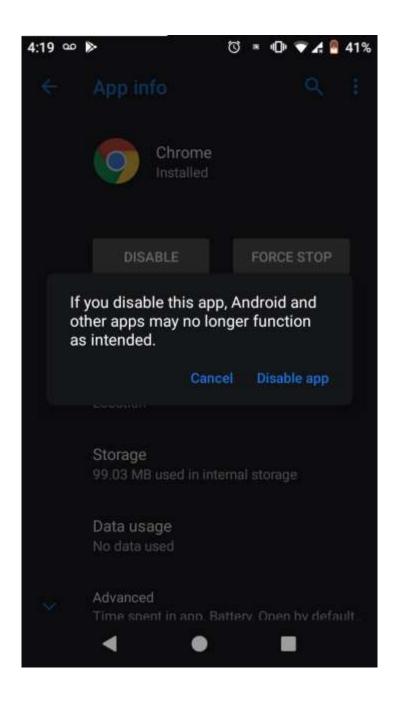


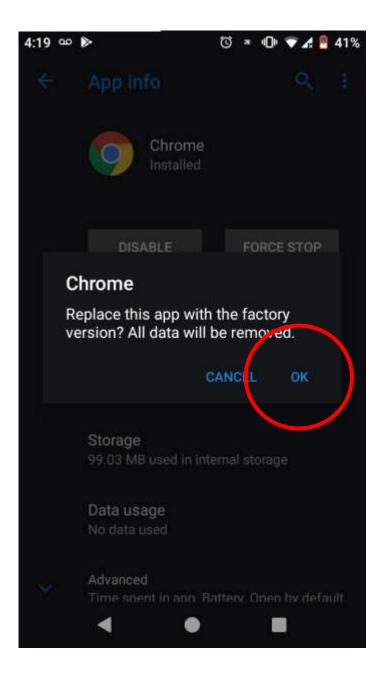
Chrome browser (My preference is to use Opera) Uses 99.03 MB of internal storage There is no uninstall option

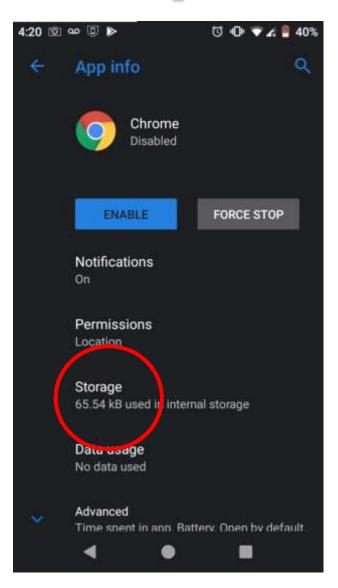


Chrome browser (My preference is to use Opera) Uses 99.03 MB of internal storage There is no uninstall option But, we can "disable" the app









"Factory version" Now uses only 65 kB of internal storage It will not receive updates (saves time and storage space) We can re-enable the app (doesn't need re-installing)

More Android Annoyances

Sometimes, there's a workaround. The alternative may be to find a different app...

More Android Annoyances

Sometimes, there's a workaround. The alternative may be to find a different app... or a different version of Android!

Custom ROM's

- Android is open-source
- Third-party developers create custom ROM's (i.e. different versions of the OS and the apps)
- Bootloader must be unlocked (phone not tied to a specific carrier)
- Custom ROM is flashed to phone
- Phone can be rooted (if desired)

Custom ROM's

Installing a custom ROM will void the phone's warranty



* Not a problem if the phone is already out of warranty!

Custom ROM's

- Unlock the bootloader
- Install recovery software
 (TWRP TeamWin Recovery Project)
- Install custom ROM
 (XDA Developers support forums,
 specific for any given smartphone)
- Install Open GApps (Google apps)

Moto G3 - Process is crazy!

- Enable USB Debugging Mode
 Settings About Phone –
 Build Number
 Tap on the build number 7 times
 "You are now a developer!"
- Install the latest USB drivers
- Obtain the unlock code

Moto G3 - Process is crazy!

- Use Android Debug Bridge (ADB) and Fastboot
- Powershell command:
 - .\fastboot oem get_unlock_data
- Fastboot returns the "Device ID"

Device ID!

Our task is now to convert this to a single string of alpha-numeric characters, eliminating "(bootloader)", all spaces, and the line-feed characters

Device ID!

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Why not just give us the actual code string?!

Moto G3 - Process is crazy!

- Copy and paste the string to Motorola's web site
- Request an unlock key
- The unlock code is sent by E-mail! (U6LLR4MDUC2EVZ5Q5DIY)

Moto G3 - Process is crazy!

- Copy and paste the string to Motorola's web site
- Request an unlock key
- The unlock code is sent by E-mail! (U6LLR4MDUC2EVZ5Q5DIY)

Why not send the unlock code in the first place – sigh...

Moto G3 - Process is crazy!

Powershell command:

```
.\fastboot oem unlock
U6LLR4MDUC2EVZ5Q5DIY
```

- "Phone is successfully unlocked"
- Reboot…



Your device's bootloader has been unlocked, allowing critical software components to be altered in a manner that may cause damage to the device or result in injury to users.

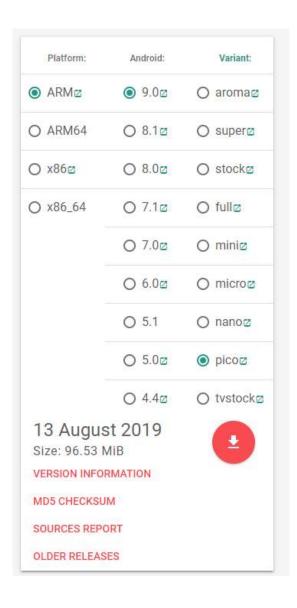
Motorola disclaims any liability for harm to person or property resulting from use of this device. Except for Developer Edition devices, all warranties are null and void.

Visit www.motorola.com/unlockbootloader for more information, and a copy of the applicable legal agreement.

Moto G3 – Now, the process gets more rational

- Run TWRP
- Make a full system backup
- Wipe the system (but not the Micro SDcard!)
- Install (flash) the custom ROM
- Install Open GApps...

Open GApps



Version of GApps must be compatible with: CPU (e.g. ARM) Version of Android (e.g. 9.0 = Pie)Multiple variants (e.g. stock, pico...)

GApps Variants

Application Name	gapps-config keyword	p i c	n a n o	m i c r	m i n i	f u I	s t o c k	s u p e r
Google System Base		X	X	X	X	X	X	Х
Google Play Store		X	X	Χ	X	X	X	X
Google Calendar Sync	CalSync	X	X	+	+	+	+	+
Google Play Services		Х	Х	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	X
Sounds⁴		X	X	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ
Device Health Services	BatteryUsage		X	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ
Google Calendar ¹	CalendarGoogle			0	0	0	0	0
Google Exchange Services ¹	ExchangeGoogle			0	0	0	0	0
Gmail	Gmail			X	X	X	0	0

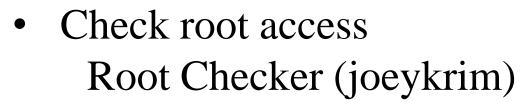
Rooting the phone

- Obtain root (superuser) access to the OS and file system
- Various methods:

SuperSU

Magisk/Magisk Manager

AddonSU (LineageOS)





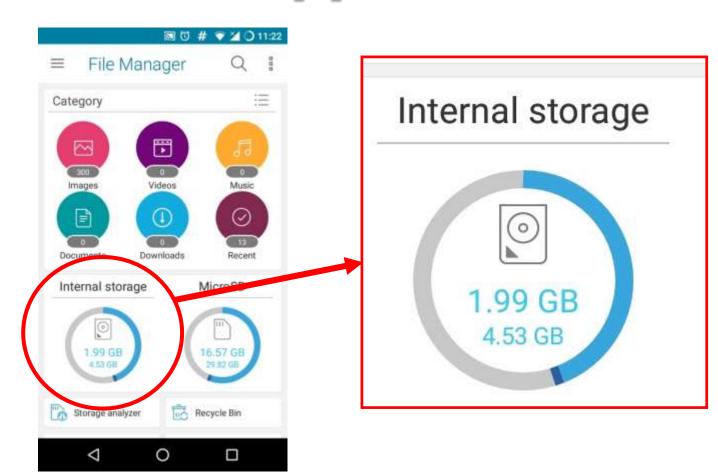
Benefits of Custom ROM/Root

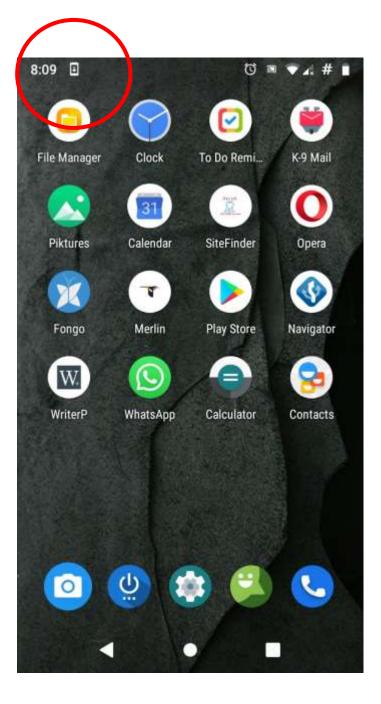
- Install a newer version of Android with more, better features
- Obtain regular security updates for the custom ROM
- Root allows running specific software
 (e.g. Quick Reboot, Titanium Backup)

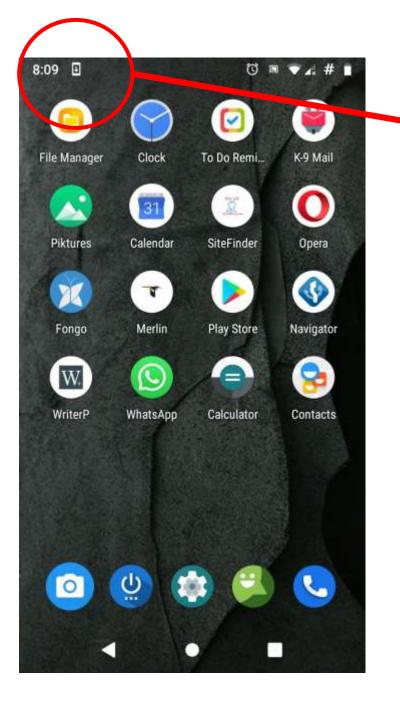
Quick Reboot

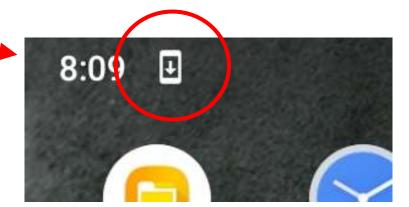
Shutdown Phone
Turn Off the device

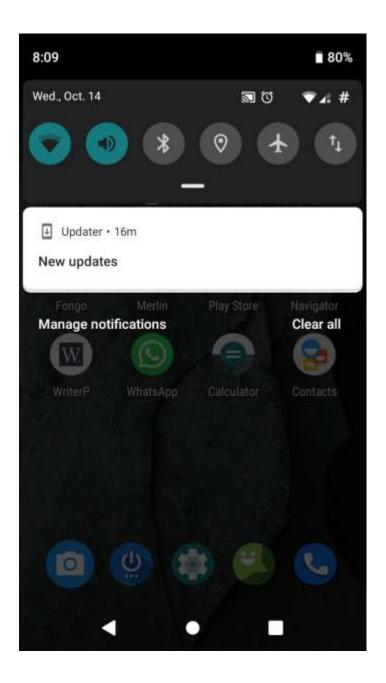
LineageOS 14.1 with Pico-Gapps

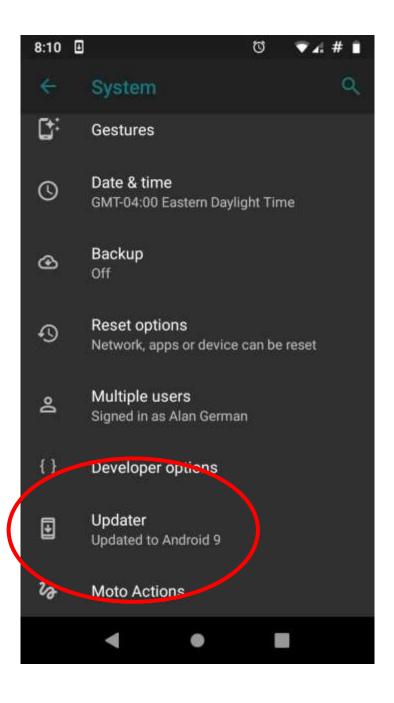








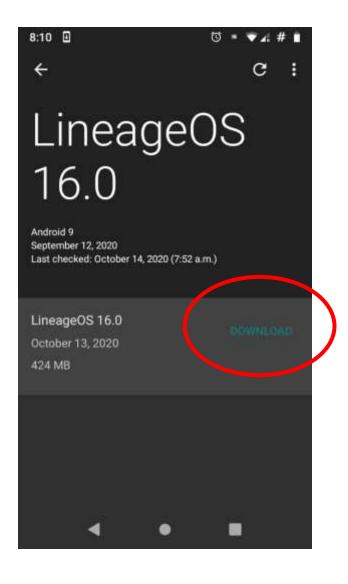




Navigate to:

System -Settings -Updater

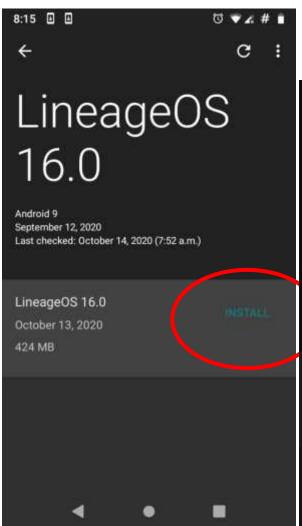


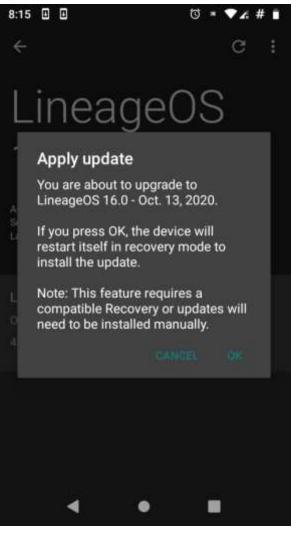






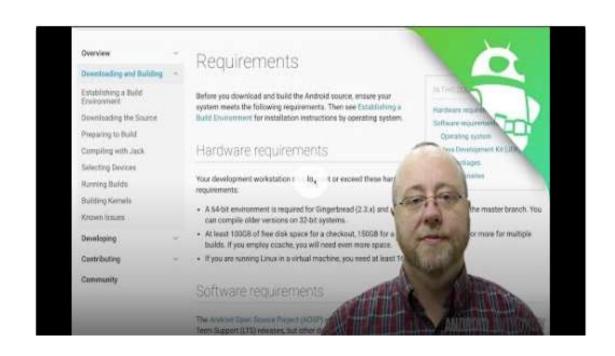






The Ultimate Solution?

How to build your own custom Android ROM https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=99LUjX63LhU



Hardware requirements



Your development workstation should meet or exceed these hardware requirements:

- A 64-bit environment is required for Android 2.3.x (Gingerbread) and higher versions, including the master branch. You can compile older versions on 32-bit systems.
- At least 250GB of free disk space to check out the code and an extra 150 GB to build it.
 If you conduct multiple builds, you need additional space.

Software requirements



OS

If you're developing against the AOSP master branch, use either Ubuntu 14.04 (Trusty) or the latest versions of macOS and Xcode with command line tools installed.

JDK

Key packages

Device binaries

Build toolchain

Hardware requirements



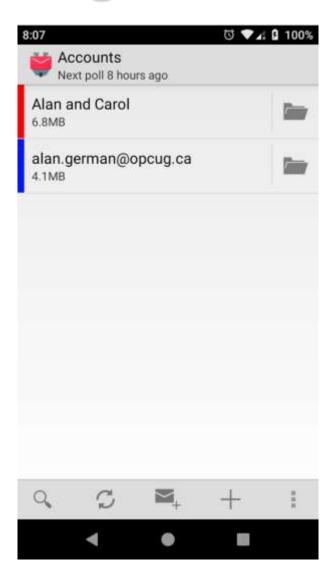
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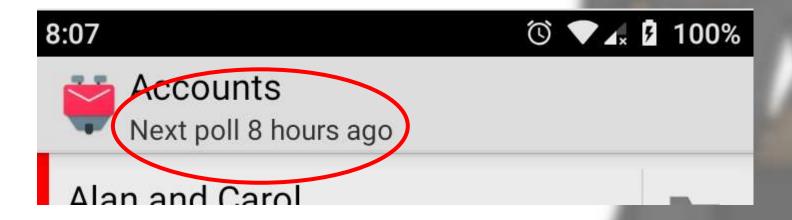
Software requirements

Linux with 8 GB+ RAM and 120 GB+ free disk space Know about makefile, Java compiler... Lots of time/patience!

Finally What's wrong with this picture?



Sometimes, Android is just a mystery!





Any questions?