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Hey, Siri!

Everything you should know about your virtual assistant.

The Promise



Siri is a feature within most apple devices that promises the user full-time assistance implementing reminders, alarms, voice recognition and connections through inbuilt apps. Over the years Apple has been giving the virtual assistant a variation of upgrades to suit the fast pace change the brand itself accommodates.

One of Apple's recent aims was to create a hands-free assistant built into a variety of apple devices and to trigger access by greeting the bot. One of Siri's famous features consists of the versatility amongst the device itself, being able to locate apps, set reminders and assist the user with searching for knowledge all hands-free from the device.

What can I activate Siri on?

As previously mentioned Siri can be accessed in a various amount of ways depending on the device. In previous updates, Siri used to be activated by pressing the home button for a few seconds, after a few updates Siri allows you to activate it via voice command, on most models of the iPhone that is. On AirPods, Siri can be activated by double-tapping the right-hand side of the device. On both models of the MacBook.

Siri can also be activated in two ways similar to the iPhone through touch and voice. The apple watch also features the virtual assistant and can be used just like the phone and laptop through touch or vocal command.



References:

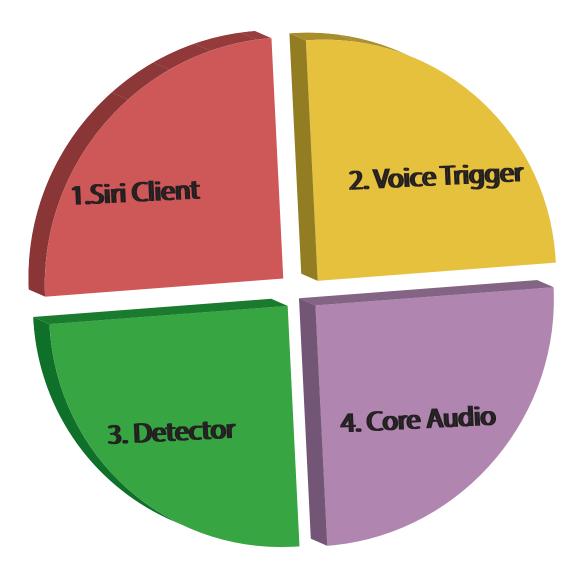
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So how exactly does Siri initiate itself when spoken to and answer us?

Well, Siri's features can be broken down into four main figures:

Siri client, Voice trigger, detector and core audio. Essentially meaning Siri needs to be alerted with a greeting only it will detect, through the settings app Siri allows you to undergo a voice verification beforehand adjusting itself to the voice and sound waves of the user to accurately respond and recognise the owner. Siri is available in many countries offers accents within the settings and can be adjusted to the language of the user as well as the iPhone.

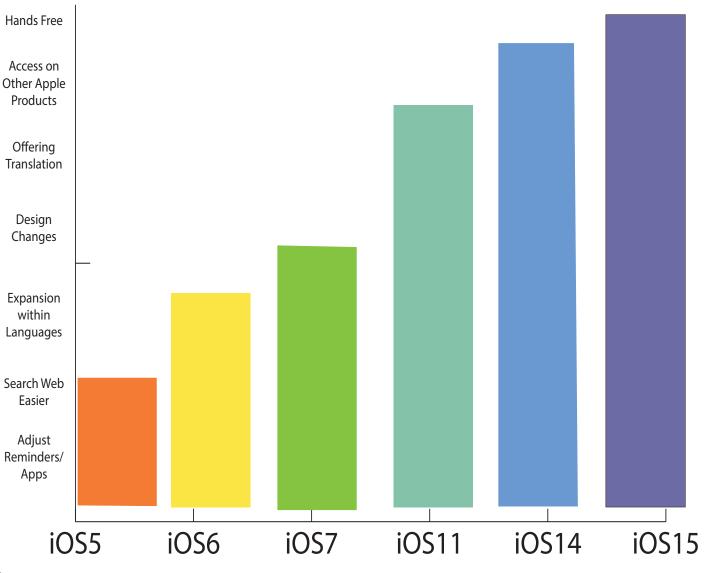
Siri also allows the user to change the gender of the voice to either masculine or feminine tone of voice.

Siri had to on go a large process called the "acoustic model training" to recognise speech and transcribe our own words to gain a better understanding and accuracy of the user's voice.

"The output of the acoustic model provides a distribution of scores over phonetic classes for every frame." - Siri Team

How many years did it take to upgrade Siri?

Siri was originally developed in 2011, available for iOS5 to be accessed through the press and hold feature of the home button. Through each iOS update, Siri had essentially been upgraded to suit every update since iOS5, all together Siri has gone through ten updates along with each device it is available on. Siri's logo had also changed alongside the voice options, functions and information essentially suiting the theme of the assistant.



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