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## Five Cool Apps For Your Next Trip or Anytime

by TFB EDITORS on OCTOBER 9, 2012

By Jan Ross



My [iPad](#) is absolutely one of the best investments I have ever made. It's light and portable, slips into my purse, and I don't even have to take it out when I go through security, unlike a laptop. I can use it constantly for a variety of purposes. Sometimes I wonder how I managed without it!

My husband literally has dozens of apps on his iPad and [iPhone](#) and is constantly amazed at how few apps I have on mine. But since I use it mostly for reading and other quick things, like checking my email, I don't need dozens of apps.

However, there are a few that I love and that you might find helpful as well. They're not necessarily travel apps, although there are plenty of those. These are just apps that I like and use all the time – and they're all free.

### 1. Overdrive and Audible

Everyone knows about the reading apps, such as [iBooks](#), the [Nook](#) and [Kindle](#), but I was pleasantly surprised recently to find that I can borrow digital library books from my local library using the [Overdrive app](#). Free, current books – how great is that! Just install the Overdrive app and find your local library in the list of participating libraries, then check out books using your library card.

[Audible](#) is an app that lets you check out audio library books – so great to listen to when you're walking on the treadmill and bored out of your mind.

### 2. Mapquest

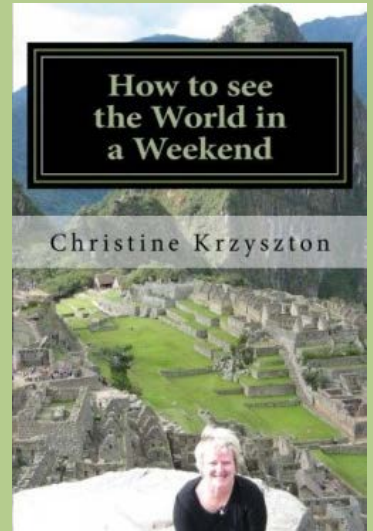
I got a [Garmin GPS](#) for Christmas this year and that device has traveled all over the U.S. with us. But when I went on a girlfriends getaway recently, the GPS let us down because a resort we were visiting had a name change, which resulted in the name of the access road also changing. My SIL went on her cell phone and accessed the [MapQuest app](#), which sent us directly to the resort. It even gave us audio instructions. This app is just as good as a GPS, the only disadvantage is that the maps are a little hard to read on your iPhone since they're kind of small.

### 3. Grocery Gadget

When we first got our iPhones, my husband would email me a grocery list. I would attempt to access it, and then proceed to delete it accidentally and have to email him to send it to me again.



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That's not a problem anymore with the [Grocery Gadget app](#). We have it on our iPhones and iPads and we can update it from anywhere. I just pull it up on either device while I'm in the grocery store then delete items as I purchase them.

#### 4. Feddler

Is anyone else obsessed with reading all kinds of blogs? I have an extensive list in my [Google Reader](#), but it's so much easier to read them in [Feddler](#). For one thing, you can skim all the titles and delete them all if nothing sounds appealing, which is impossible to do in Google Reader. Such an easy way to keep up with your blogs!



#### 5. Trailers

Is anyone else a huge fan of movie previews? I'm always astonished at the people who come in late to the movies and miss the previews. Seriously? They're the best part! If you love them as much as I do, you need the [Trailers app](#), which keeps up with the latest movie previews and is just complete fun.

**What about you? What are your favorite apps or terrific new ones you've discovered? Please tell us about them in the Comments section.**

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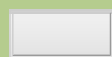
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