Siri and Beyond:

Using Speech and More to Control your iOS Device

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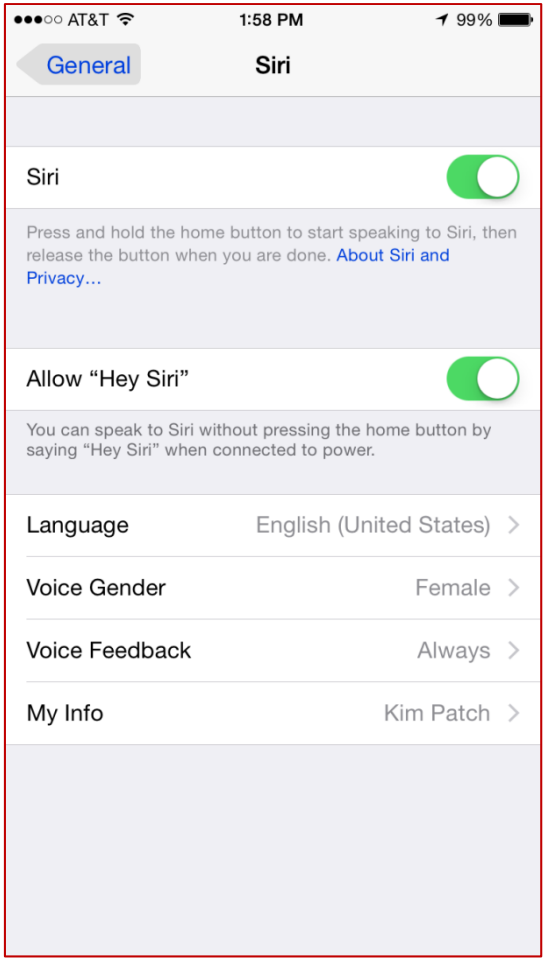
iOS and Speech

- Long press Siri
- Hey Siri (only when your phone is plugged in)
- Keyboard speech button
- Silent options
- Peripherals
- Apps (efficiency, timeshifting and macros)

Siri Settings: Settings/General/Siri



Long Press Siri

Two types of long presses

1. Hold

   Hold on the button while you say your question, then release when you are done

2. Release (easier on your hands)

   Hold down the button until you hear the Siri beep, then release. Siri will sense when you are done or you can press the button again when you are done.

Long Press Siri

If there's only one thing you remember from this talk, here's the thing to remember:

Don't speak until after you hear Siri beep.

Long Press Siri

Two types of things you can say

1. Questions

   Based on your question, Siri decides whether to do a web search, a Wolfram Alpha search or use an app to give you an answer

2. Commands

   Ask Siri to open an app, show you a deeper look into an app, or use an app to carry out an action

Command Wording

- It’s important to be consistent with commands
- So they become habit
- So you can lower cognitive load

Consistency = habit = easier

Siri Commands That Work Well For Me

- Open
  - Any app (but not home screen icons that you add)
- Show
  - A deeper view of some apps (notes, email, calendar, reminders, alarms)
- Action
  - Carry out an action in some apps (write a note, reminder, calendar item, alarm, or email, call someone, get directions, search the web)

Siri Commands That Work Well For Me

Open and show command syntax:

- Open <app name>

- Show notes/reminders/calendar/alarms/email
- Show notes/reminders/calendar/email <month> <#>

- Show email from <name>

- Alarm <time> AM/PM

Siri Commands That Work Well For Me

Open and show command examples:

- Open Safari
- Open Settings

- Show Calendar
- Show Alarms
- Show Email January 5

- Show Email from Eric

- Alarm 3 PM

Siri Commands That Work Well For Me

Action commands:

- Note <anything>
- Add to Note · <anything>

- Reminder <anything>
- Reminder/Calendar <time> AM/PM · <anything>
- Reminder/Calendar <time> AM/PM tomorrow/next <day>/<month> <#> · <anything>

- Set Alarm <time> AM/PM

- Message/Email <Name>
- Message/Email <Name> · <anything>
- Call <Name> home/work/mobile

- Directions Home/<anywhere>
- Nearby <anything
- Search Web/Wikipedia · <anything>

Siri Commands That Work Well For Me

Action command examples:

- Note don't forget to talk about notes
- Add to Note talk about reminders too
- Reminder 3 PM tomorrow feed cat
- Calendar 12 o'clock Wednesday lunch with Adam
- Set Alarm 3 PM

- Message Eric hi, how are you doing?
- Email Eric Gmail hi, how are you doing?

- Directions Cambridge Brewing Company
- Search Web tiger pictures

Hey Siri

Hands-free speech…

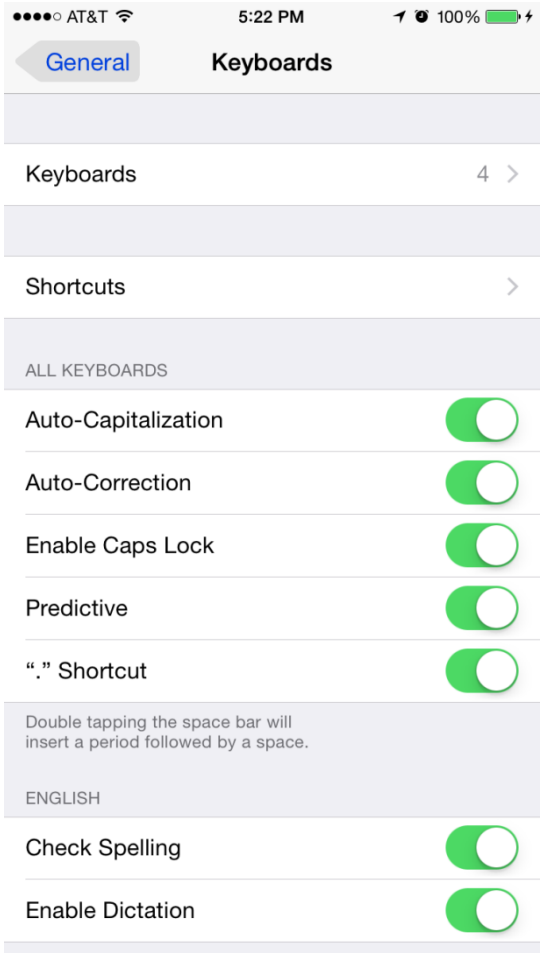
When your phone’s plugged in.

You can plug into the wall, car, your computer.

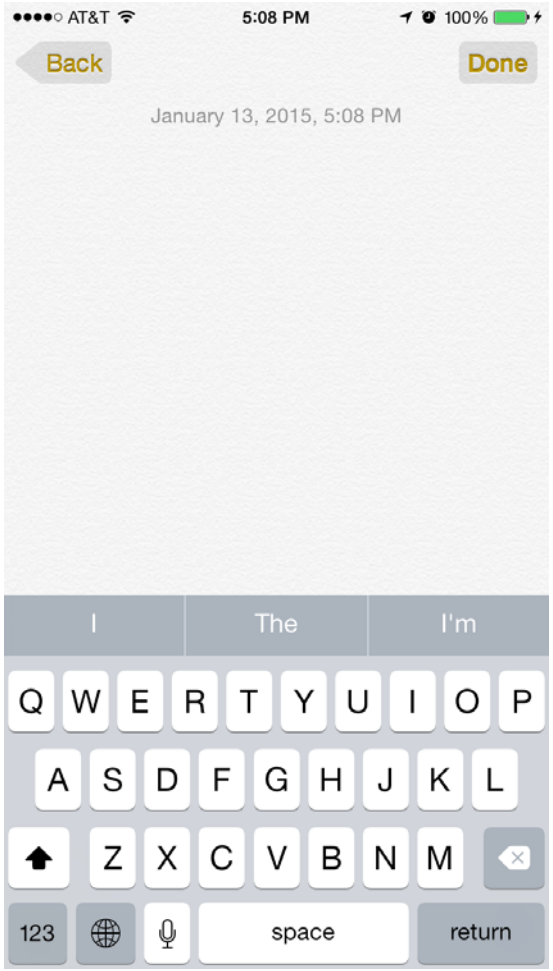
Say “**Hey Siri**” instead of doing a long press.

You don’t have to pause after saying hey Siri, for example “**Hey Siri, open calendar**”

Keyboard button settings: Settings/General/Keyboards



Keyboard Speech Button



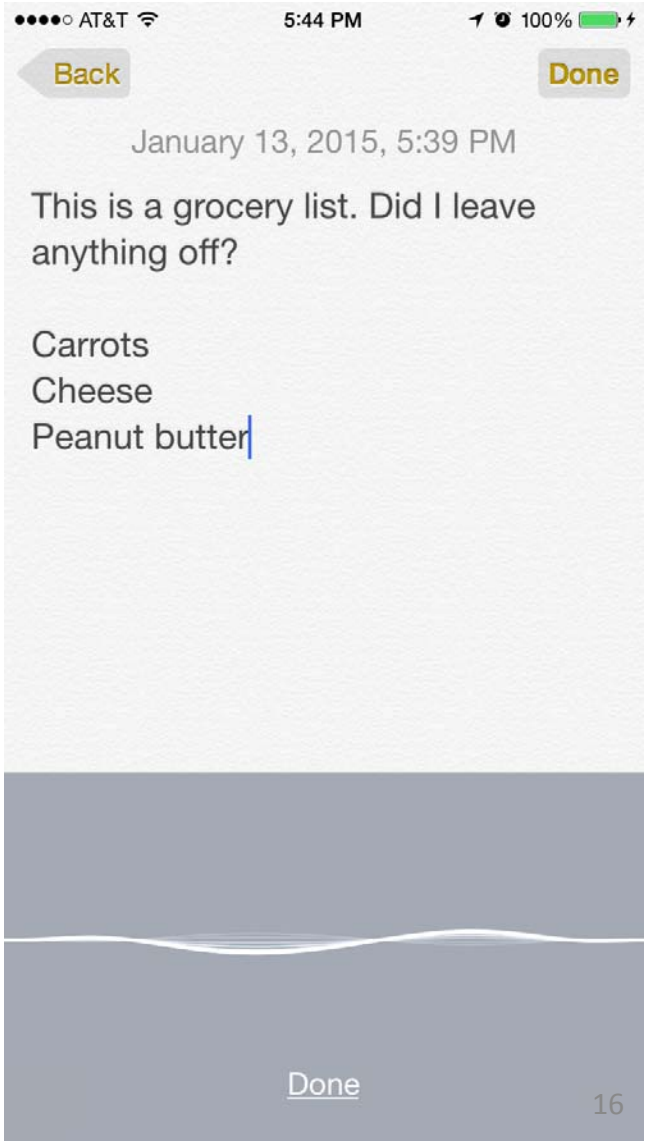
Dictating text

Speak punctuation, line and paragraph commands without pausing.

Example:

This is a grocery list period did I leave anything off question mark

new paragraph carrots new line cheese new line peanut butter



The Silent Option

The Sylencer microphone

talktech.com/speech-recognition/

It's not completely silent, but it lets you mumble unintelligibly.

Downsides: you have to hold it to your mouth, and it's not that comfortable, but it works when you need it

Peripherals

- **Stylus R Us**
  Very soft touch stylus
  http://beststylus.com/index.html

- **SpiderMonkey** phone and tablet stand
  Helps the headdown problem
  www.octa.com/products/spidermonkey.html

- A couple of futures: crowd funded wireless controllers
  Flic: button www.indiegogo.com/projects/flic-the-wireless-smart-button
  Flow: swipe, gesture, dial www.indiegogo.com/projects/flow-the-world-s-most-magical-controller

Input Efficiency

- Steps

  Think about workflow

- Cognitive effort
  - Do you have to correct computer errors?
  - How much attention do you need to pay to the input method to avoid garble you can't decipher later?
  - How well do built-in shortcuts work with an input method?

- Stress

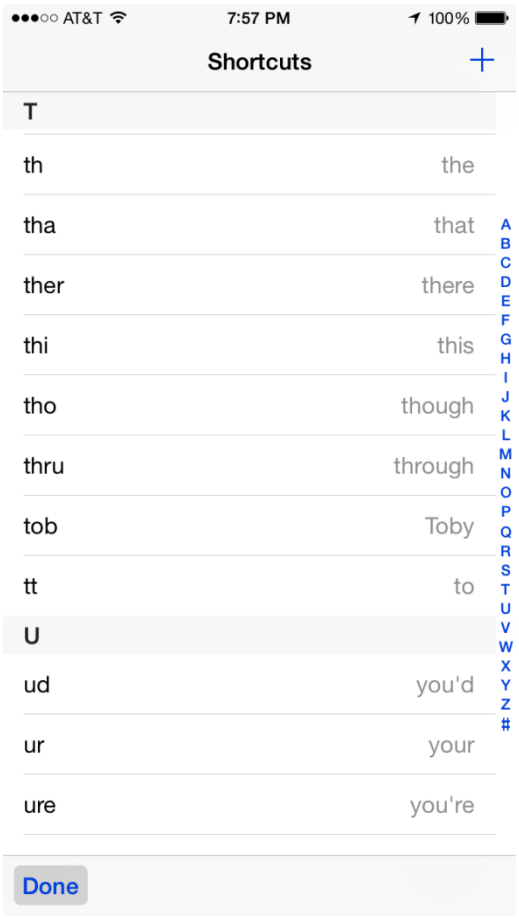
  Do you lose work if you miss something?

Keyboard Silent Options

- Swype vs. Tap
- Stylus increases visibility, but can get lost
- Handwriting either changes on the fly or changes all at once and keeps a copy of the original
  - SmartNotes App lets you keep a copy

Settings/General/Keyboard/Shortcuts

Use Shortcuts to increase keyboard input efficiency.



4 rules to keep things consistent:

- Stop typing when relatively unambiguous
- Skip apostrophes
- Hit a key twice for a common small word
- Use shorthand that you commonly use when handwriting

Apps

- Timeshifting App

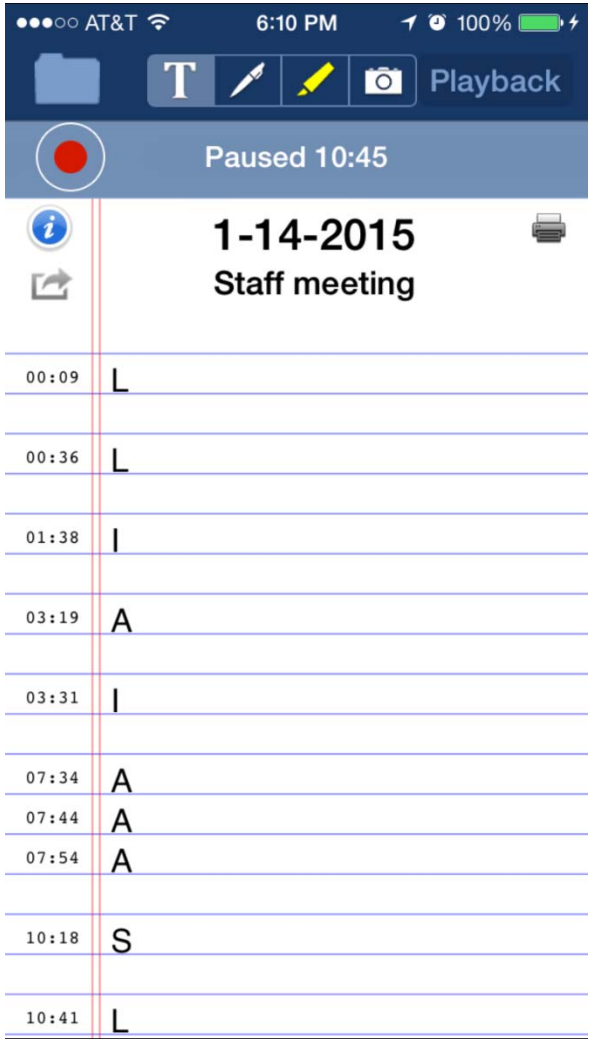
  - AudioNote: recorder that automatically timestamps when you take notes; versions for iOS, Mac, PC

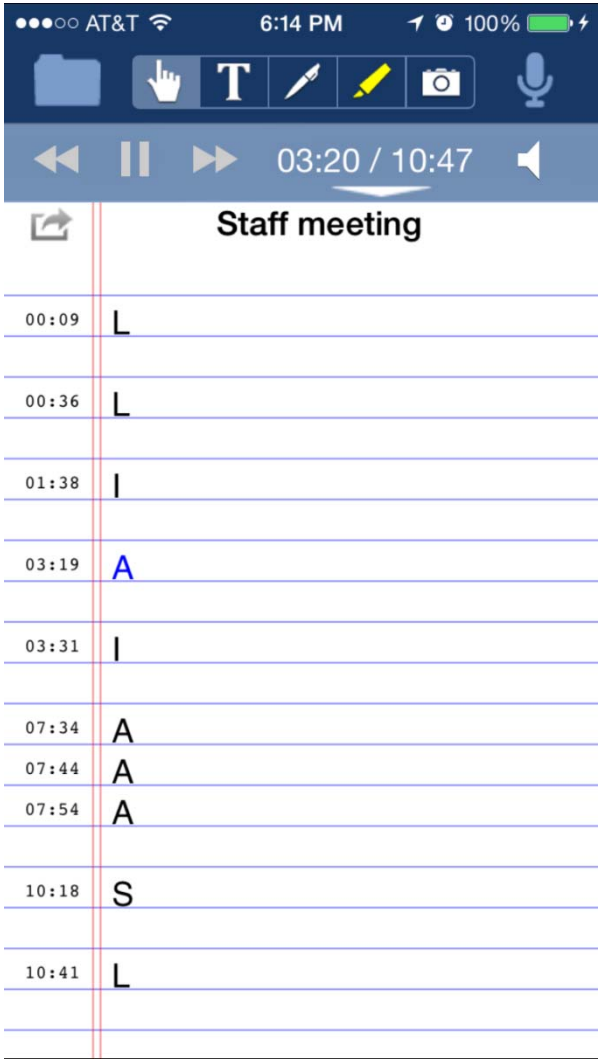
- Macro Apps

  - Workflow: macros for the iPhone

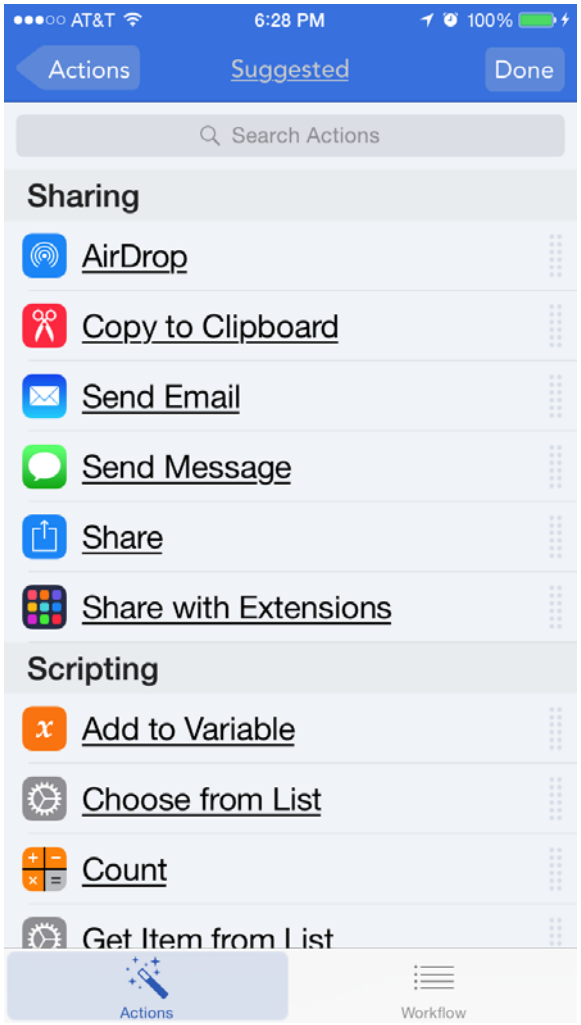
  - Editorial: word processor with macros

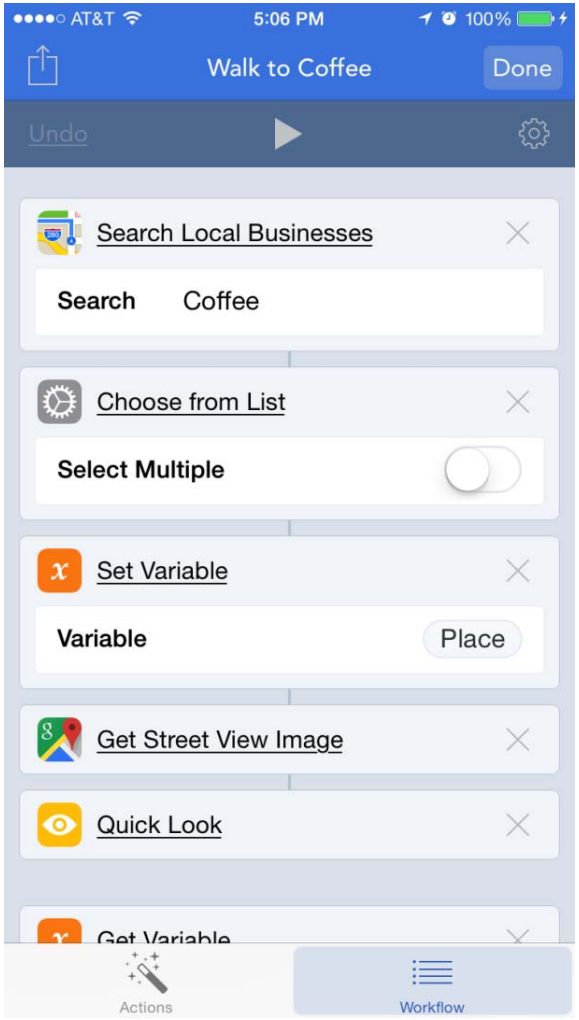
AudioNote

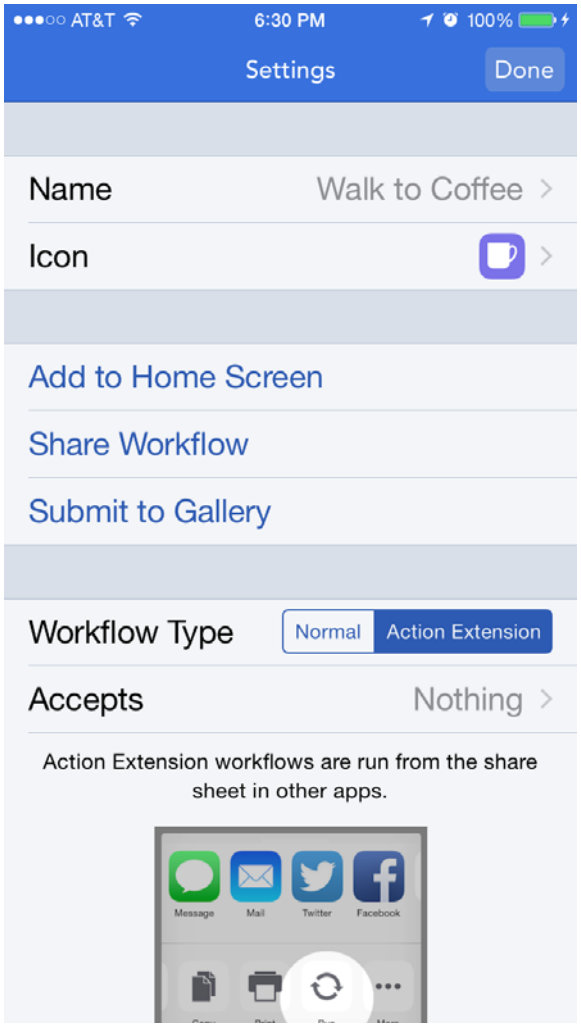

AT&T 6:10 PM 100%
Playback
Paused 10:45
1-14-2015
Staff meeting
00:09 L
00:36 L
01:38 I
03:19 A
03:31 I
07:34 A
07:44 A
07:54 A
10:18 S
10:41 L


AT&T 6:14 PM 100%
03:20 / 10:47
Staff meeting
00:09 L
00:36 L
01:38 I
03:19 A
03:31 I
07:34 A
07:44 A
07:54 A
10:18 S
10:41 L

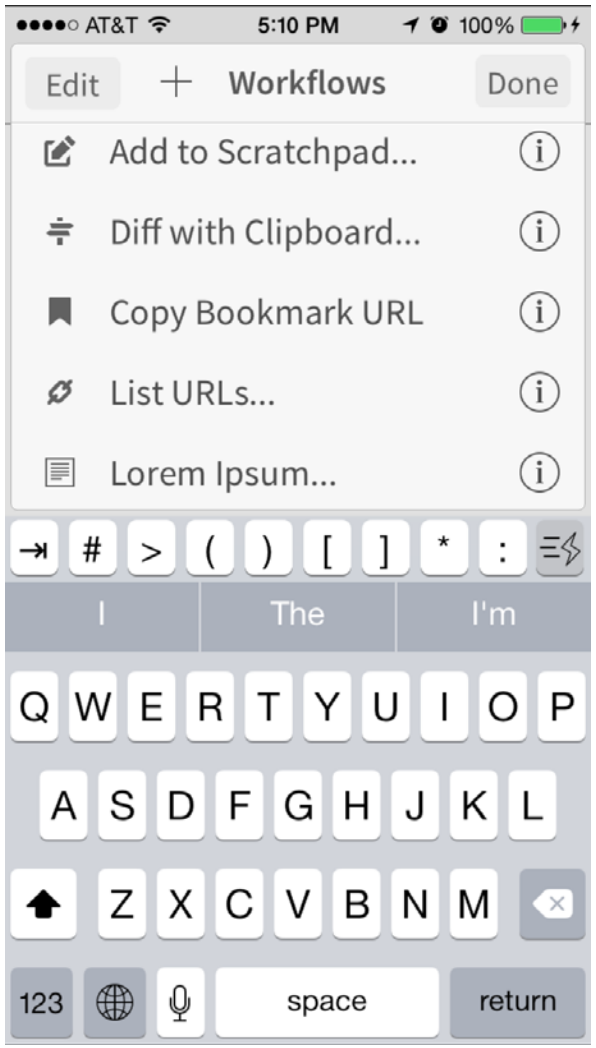
Workflow

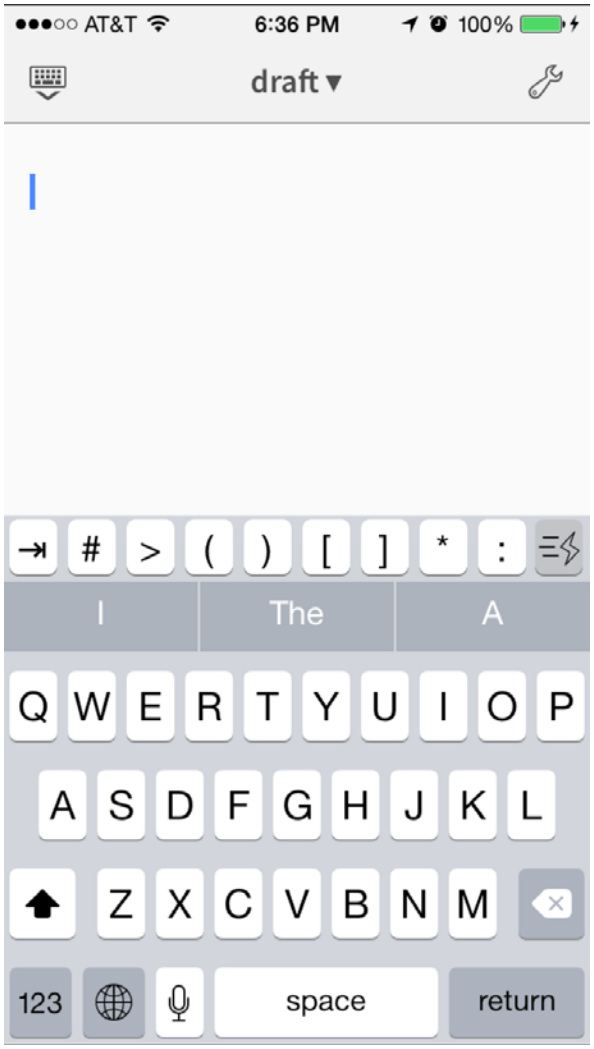

AT&T 6:28 PM 100%
Actions
Suggested
Done
Search Actions
Sharing
AirDrop
Copy to Clipboard
Send Email
Send Message
Share
Share with Extensions
Scripting
Add to Variable
Choose from List
Count
Get Item from List
Actions
Workflow

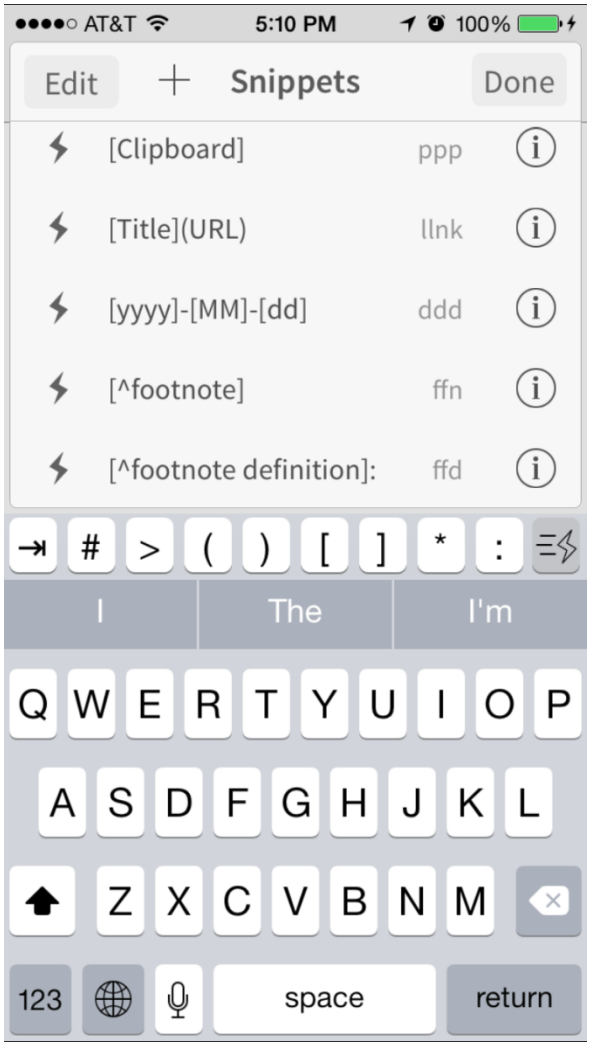

AT&T 5:06 PM 100%
Walk to Coffee
Done
Undo
Search Local Businesses
Search Coffee
Choose from List
Select Multiple
Set Variable
Variable
Place
Get Street View Image
Quick Look
Get Variable
Actions
Workflow


AT&T 6:30 PM 100%
Settings
Done
Name
Walk to Coffee
Icon
Add to Home Screen
Share Workflow
Submit to Gallery
Workflow Type
Normal
Action Extension
Accepts
Nothing
Action Extension workflows are run from the share sheet in other apps.
Message
Mail
Twitter
Facebook

Editorial


AT&T 5:10 PM 100%
Edit
Workflows
Done
Add to Scratchpad...
Diff with Clipboard...
Copy Bookmark URL
List URLs...
Lorem Ipsum...
I
The
I'm
space
return


AT&T 6:36 PM 100%
draft
I
The
A
space
return


AT&T 5:10 PM 100%
Edit
Snippets
Done
[Clipboard] ppp
[Title](URL) llnk
[yyyy]-[MM]-[dd] ddd
[^footnote] ffn
[^footnote definition]: ffd
I
The
I'm
space
return

Improving IOS Speech

- Request for the keyboard speech button
  - Two key speech commands to change dictated text:
    1. Select a number of words back, e.g. “1-10 words”
    2. Redo dictation, e.g. “Resume with <any words>”
- Requests for Siri
  - “Open” command should open user-created home screen icons (like those you can make using the Workflow app).
  - Let the user manage a list of home screen icons that can be activated by voice
- Please pester Apple for these things

Keep in mind

You have to be connected to use Siri. If you don't have a cell or wifi connection it doesn't work. Your query is going out to a server, which is interpreting the speech and sending back the answer. If those servers are slammed there will be delays.

Another improvement to speech that I'm watching for is local speech. This is also something to pester Apple about. In theory the idevice processor is powerful enough to do local speech.

(Check for local speech: put your phone in airplane mode and see if you can dictate.)

Every input method can be overdone

- Pay attention to how you feel
- Keep hydrated
- Take breaks, move around
- Tai Chi and yoga help

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