12 Tip Top Apps for Christmas 2021

We have the World, and all its wonder and function at our fingertips. Here are the 12 apps that made it onto my mobile and/or tablet devices this year that if you don't use I recommend you take a look.

This year's 12 Apps has authentic social from BeReal, augmented visibility with mi Flight Radar Lite, geo tuned wikipedia with Geopedia, gamified activity for benefiting charity using CharityMiles, Crux news shorts, truly starting to make events hybrid with Padlet, reducing food waste with TooGoodToGo's magic bags, an app to listen to anything - Speechify, knowledge nuggets with Google's Primer, HD even 4K Iriun Webcam including something for everyone even Linux users

… and if that weren't enough a script reading app called TalkingScripts, the brainchild of Stefan Schwartz and Idris Elba, rounding off with an app that extends an already useful web service, Headliner, to turn audio files into audio wave responsive videos right from your mobile.
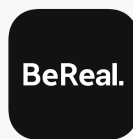
Merry Christmas for 2021

If you try and keep any of the apps in my 2021 list please give them a tweet. Including the hashtag #pcm12apps

---

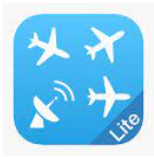**1. BeReal - http://bit.ly/pcm12apps21-01** (iOS & Android) - FREE

Follow

Social documenting apps morph and grow, rise and fall. Seismic, Posterous and Vine to mourn just a few. New champions enter the arena claiming to make social posting more authentic. This one has me posting daily since I discovered it just a few weeks before compiling this year's contenders.

Your Friends for Real. Everyday at a different time, everyone is notified simultaneously to capture and share a Photo in 2 Minutes. A new and unique way to discover who your friends really are in their daily life.

Join me BeRe.al/pcmcreative - It's the first time on social media I've used my birth name too. It felt right.

---

2. mi Flight Radar Lite - **https://apple.co/3Jaj8pK** (iOS only) - FREE

I live near an airport and frequently hear aircraft pass overhead, not coming into land fortunately. I read recently that 5Ghz broadband (not to be confused with 5G mobile) can be affected by airline radio traffic. I downloaded this to observe activity and see if the occasions my wifi drops out have any correlation to flight traffic. The visual radar appears delayed I suspect for security reasons but it's fascinating.

Turn your phone into your own flight radar. See flights near you or anywhere in the world. Augmented reality identifies planes in the sky.

---

3. Geopedia - **http://bit.ly/cfg-18** (iOS & WebApp) - FREE

Geopedia is an app that connects Wikipedia with OpenStreetMap. It shows geolocation referenced Wikipedia articles around you. Geopedia supports around 100 Wikipedia language editions so you can use it with most of the languages.

Geopedia is an app selected and featured in the Geo-Gaming eBook I've written for Cromford Mill this year. As a tourist app is especially handy when English is your second language. It easily allows you to switch to an alternative language edition to identify important spots.

---

4. Charity Miles - **http://bit.ly/pcm12apps21-04** (iOS & Android) FREE

Charity Miles is an iPhone and Android app that helps you turn all the miles you walk, run and bike anyway into money for charity. Gamifying expended energy is a great initiative. As the trustee of a charity I'm exploring how I get listed.

SafetyCurtain.org.uk **is a humanitarian charity supporting performing artists and creatives where the country they produce work is torn by conflict or natural disaster to keep the flame of culture alive in the darkest of times.**

With CharityMiles we would encourage performers and creatives to run the CharityMiles app in rehearsal rooms around the world. Until then I'm championing Autism Speaks, step by step. Please join my team CurtainRaisers on Charity Miles! https://miles.app.link/ZwhfVrXHamb or start your own.

5. Crux (also a version called InShorts) - **http://bit.ly/pcm12apps21-05** (iOS & Android) FREE

It's important that I have multiple news sources but also apps that make stories easy to pick out and digest the peripheral key points before I cross reference factual reference if needed. Crux is a news app that selects the latest and best news from multiple national and international sources and summarises them to present in a short and crisp 60 words format, personalised for you. Crux and InShort story summaries contain only headlines and facts, no opinions, to help you find what is new in current affairs at a glance.

---

6. Padlet - http://bit.ly/pcm12apps21-06 (iOS, Android, WebApp, Windows, Mac & Kindle)
x3 Boards for FREE

More than an app, Padlet is a software with apps and browser extensions people use to make, share content as well as contribute during activities in real time with others. Padlet is Easy and Intuitive, Inclusive, Collaborative, Flexible, Portable, Beautiful, Private and secure and Supportive. Padlet's web presence integrates its own platform to showcase the platform's possibilities superbly. In my opinion blended and hybrid events need a component such as Padlet to bridge the gap between digital and physical.

An element that both audiences are required to access to get the full experience. The 'Post It' note wall, 'leave your feedback' box, links and resources. Accessed via a QR code on screen for the audience to begin interacting with event components. Always start simple.

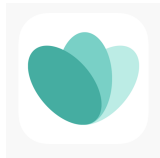BONUS BIT - Do you think any of the 12 Apps are useful? Which ones will you try out? #pcm12apps

To get more posts and opportunities to visit new horizons with me subscribe to my news & notices. In 2022 I'm using Revue which is a newsletter platform that connects directly to your Twitter profile.

Please Subscribe https://www.getrevue.co/profile/pcmcreative

7. TooGoodToGo - http://bit.ly/pcm12apps21-07 (iOS & Android) FREE

Too Good To Go has an ambitious goal: to inspire and empower everyone to fight food waste. Businesses with end of the day surplus can register on the app too. It's a great additional PR should you have unsold food items that need local community rescue.

Every day, delicious, fresh food goes to waste at cafes, restaurants, hotels, shops and manufacturers - just because it hasn't sold in time. The Too Good To Go app lets you buy and collect this food - at a reduced cost. You won't know exactly what's in your order until you pick it up - it's all part of the surprise.

Download the app to get started. Even living East Midlands based, in Long Eaton there are often Gregs, Coop and Morrisons. Why not share this app with your fav local independent cafe, bakery, grocer or restaurant.

---

8. Speechify - https://bit.ly/pcm12apps21-08 (iOS, Android, Chrome) *FREE
3 day premium trial, $139 p/yr

Speechify works seamlessly across Chrome, iPhone and iPad. Listen to anything Listen and lessen dyslexia distress. Breeze through any text, anywhere, anytime (Don't forget your headphones!) Once the Chrome extension is active everywhere from Twitter to GoogleDocs while using the Chrome browser will display a reassuring soft blue tucked in a circle play button. Read blogs or articles and with the mobile app scan pages or upload PDFs. *After the premium voices word count has been exceeded the free voices are tolerable.

---

9. Primer Google Learning - http://bit.ly/pcm12apps21-09 (iOS & Android) FREE

Learning new skills, benchmarking knowledge or filling in knowledge gaps. This app is self contained, Primer works offline too, so you can take a lesson on business planning, management, sales, digital advertising, social media, content marketing, SEO, analytics, branding, and more whenever you have 5 minutes free or when you have no signal on the train! - anytime, anywhere. Primer from Google is a free, fast and easy way to learn new business and digital marketing skills.

10. Iriun Cam - http://bit.ly/pcm12apps21-10 (iOS & Android) FREE for Windows, Mac & Linux

Use your phone's camera as a wireless webcam on your Window / Linux PC or Mac. It's super easy, install Webcam for Windows, Mac or Linux, download the Iriun Webcam app to your mobile phone and start using the phone with your favourite video applications. Since discovering mobile lifestreaming using my Nokia N95 as a webcam way back, using a mobile as a webcam through an app has been a good option if you don't have an HD webcam of suitable quality and focal distance.

Taking a fresh look for a reliable, easy to instruct for setting-up-offsite solution to improve a poor built in webcam for a performing artist/musician earlier in 2021 this was the clear winner.

---

11. Talking Scripts - http://bit.ly/pcm12apps21-11 (iOS) *FREE
premium HQ mode £3.99 p/mth - £38.99 p/yr

Talking Scripts is an app that reads PDF film and tv scripts to you. Built by two industry professionals for industry professionals. Director, Producer and Writer - Stefan Schwartz known for The Boys, Walking Dead, Luther and Actor, Producer, Director - Idris Elba known for his roles in Beasts of No Nation,Thor and Star Trek. The two of them have Luther in common and ... dyslexia. They both freely admit that reading scripts is a necessary chore, which is why they collaborated on developing Talking Scripts.

The app which 'reads' a script to you, knows male from female characters, allowing you to have different voices for men and women or change the gender. The app knows what parts of the script should not be read, like page headers or "continued". You can select the voice for each part to be read.

---

12. Headliner - https://bit.ly/pcm12apps21-12 (WebApp, iOS & Android) *FREE
x5 vids p/mth unwatermarked PRO unlimited $25.99 p/mth

Automatically turn Podcasts into shareable videos. This is a service I've used on my desktop for a few years to add dynamic audiograms for podcasts to give a visual appeal when uploaded to YouTube or embedded on a webpage. I discovered it has mobile app versions. It can generate 10 mins of captioning p/mth on the free tier and 10 mins per project on the premium tiers. It provides an animated voice wave which follows the audio. I use the captioning feature this year for a project.

For 10 min per project use my link and get 2 wks PRO access https://make.headliner.app/referral/pcmcreative_PGxcwB

Links all in one place

App	App Name	URLs	Apple Store	Google Play	Free
	BeReal	WEBSITE https://bere.al/en TWITTER https://twitter.com/bereal_app	https://apps.apple.com/us/app/bereal-uncontrollable-photos/id1459645446	https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.bereal.ft	✔
	mi Flight Radar Lite	No website available	https://apps.apple.com/us/app/mi-flight-radar-lite/id933992899	Not Available	✔
	Geopedia	WEBSITE https://www.geopedia.info WEB APP https://www.geopedia.app TWITTER https://twitter.com/realGeopedia	https://apps.apple.com/us/app/geopedia-app/id1099147690	Not Available	✔
	Charity Miles	WEBSITE https://charitymiles.org/ TWITTER https://twitter.com/charitymiles	https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/charity-miles/id505253234	https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.charitymilescm.android	✔
	Crux	WEBSITE https://www.inshorts.com/ TWITTER https://twitter.com/inshorts	https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/crux-app/id1549911965	https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.crux.app	✔
	Padlet	WEBSITE https://padlet.com/ https://padlet.com/about/apps TWITTER https://twitter.com/padlet	https://apps.apple.com/us/app/padlet/id834618886	https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.wallwisher.Padlet	✔

	App	Links	Apple	Google Play	Free
	ToGoodToGo	WEBSITE https://toogoodtogo.co.uk/ TWITTER https://twitter.com/TooGoodToGo_UK	https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/too-good-to-go/id1060683933	https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.app.tgtg	✔
	Speechify	WEBSITE https://speechify.com/ TWITTER https://twitter.com/Speechify_audio	https://apps.apple.com/us/app/speechify-text-reader-news-pdf/id1209815023	https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.cliffweitzman.speechify2	✔ * $139 1yr premium
	Google Primer	WEBSITE www.yourprimer.com TWITTER https://twitter.com/yourprimer	https://apps.apple.com/app/apple-store/id918628107	https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.google.android.apps.primer	✔
	Iriun Cam	WEBSITE https://iriun.com/ #iriunwebcam	https://apps.apple.com/us/app/iriun-webcam-for-pc-and-mac/id1439303579	https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.jacksoftw.webcam	✔
	Talking Scripts	WEBSITE https://www.talkingscripts.com #TalkingScripts TWITTER https://twitter.com/hotfootfilms TWITTER https://twitter.com/idriselba	https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/talking-scripts/id1506268510	Not available	✔ * £38.99 Premium 1yr
	Headliner	https://make.headliner.app/referral/pcmcreative_PGxcwB WEBSITE https://www.headliner.app/ TWITTER https://twitter.com/headlinervideo	https://apps.apple.com/us/app/headliner-video/id1485577013	https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=app.headliner.headliner	✔ * $239.88 PRO 1yr