

# How to set up Apple Watch for children and family members who don't have an iPhone

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Apple Watch owners typically need their own iPhone to pair with the watch during setup. However, a feature called Family Setup provides a solution to that requirement so you can set up an Apple Watch for a child or another family member who doesn't own an iPhone.

There is no limit to the number of family members you can add. For school-aged children, you can also enable an option called Schooltime to set limits to determine when and how long your child can use the watch.

Any Apple Watch you set up through this process can make and receive calls, send and receive messages, and use many of the watch's features, including Health, Activity, App Store, Emergency SOS, Fall Detection and Noise Notifications. Here's how to set up an Apple Watch for someone else.

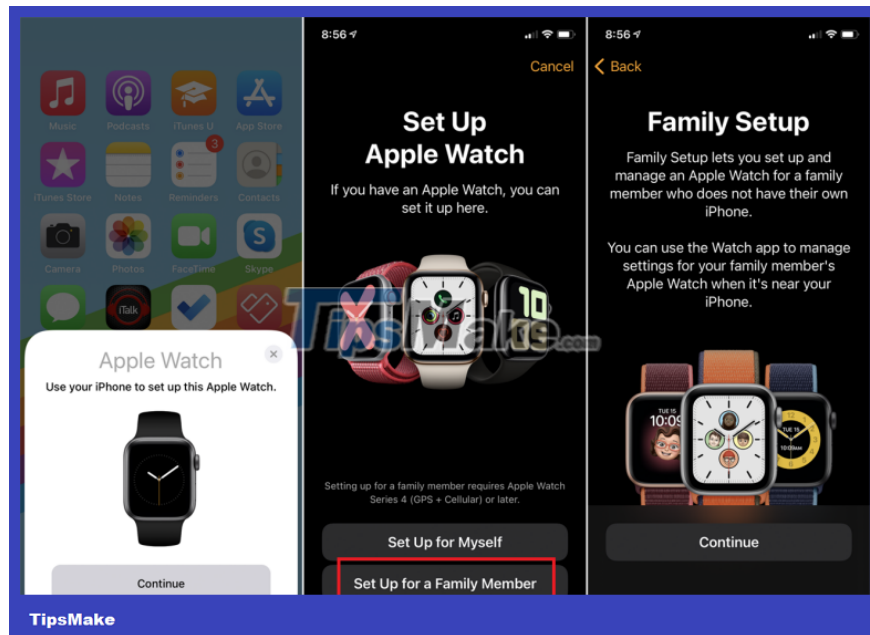
## Requirements for Family Setup

Although an iPhone is not necessary for everyone involved in the process, certain conditions must still be met. You will need at least an iPhone 6s or later running iOS 14 for the initial setup process. On your phone, go to **Settings > General > Software Update**. Your phone will indicate that your software is updated or prompt you to download and install the latest update.

Each person will need an Apple Watch Series 4 or later with Cellular capability or an Apple Watch SE with Cellular capability and watchOS 7 or later. Open the Watch app on your iPhone and go to **General > Software Update**. Your iPhone will indicate that you have the latest update for your watch or it will prompt you to download and install it.

A cellular plan is not required to set up a watch for a family member, but is required for certain features. Furthermore, everyone will need an Apple ID with Family Sharing enabled.

## Pair your iPhone with their Apple Watch



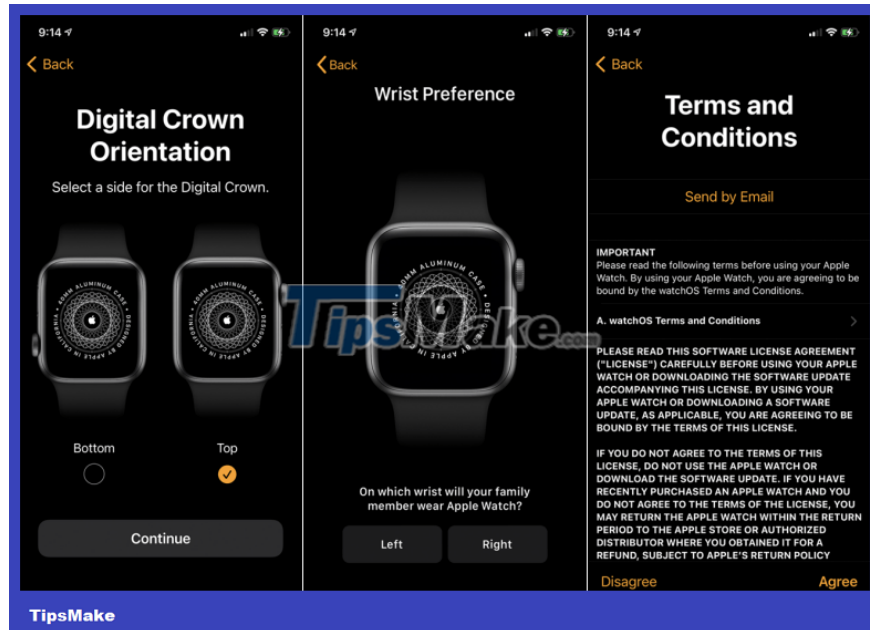
Power on the watch you want to set up and place it near your iPhone. Wait until you see the message Use your iPhone to set up this Apple Watch on your iPhone then tap **Continue** . **If this notification doesn't appear, open the Watch app on your phone, tap the All Watches link at the top, then tap the Add Watch link . Click Set Up for a Family Member .** On the next screen, click **Continue** .

**Read the Data & Privacy screen . Click Learn More to read more information about Apple data and privacy.** If you feel comfortable continuing, tap **Continue** , read the 'How Family Setup Works' screen, then tap **Continue** .



On Apple Watch, select a language and region, then tap the **Start Pairing** button if necessary. Move your phone above the watch until the camera captures the swirling circle. You'll then receive a notification that your Apple Watch has been paired. Click the **Set Up Apple Watch** button .

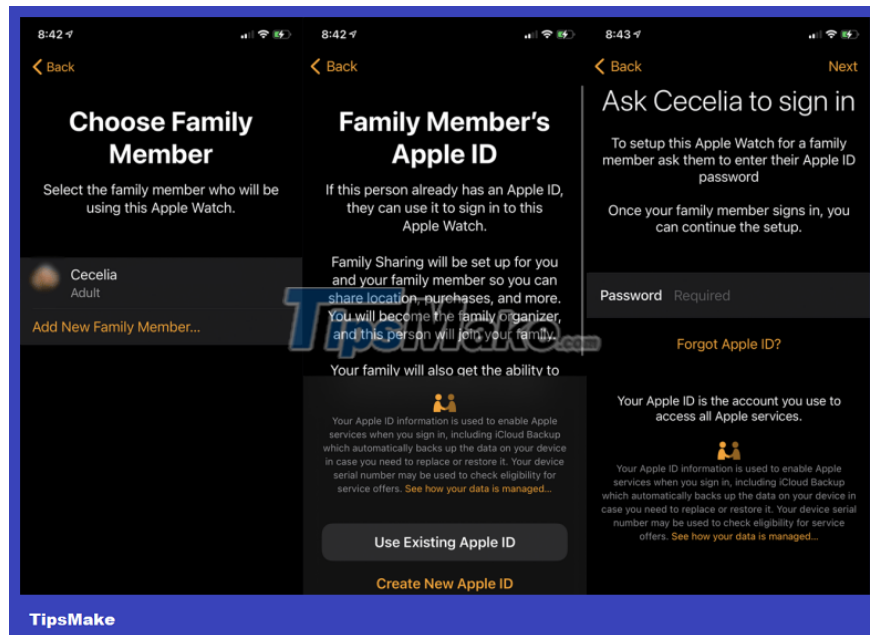
# Set up Apple Watch for your loved one



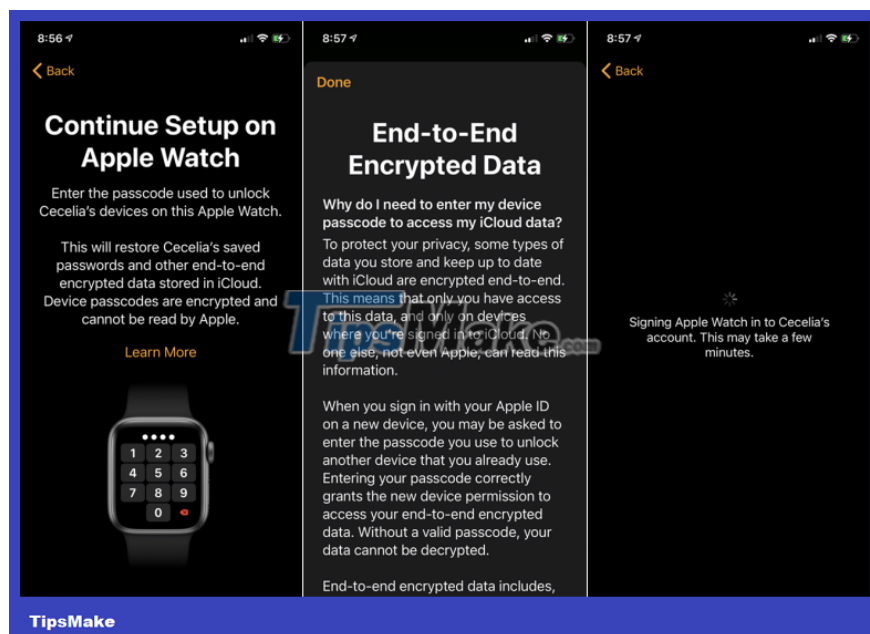
Choose the direction of the Digital Crown and determine whether the watch will be on the left or right wrist. Click **Continue** and agree to the terms and conditions. Move the slider to select the text size and decide whether you want to enable **Bold Text** or not. Click **Continue**, select **Create a Passcode** and enter the password on the watch.



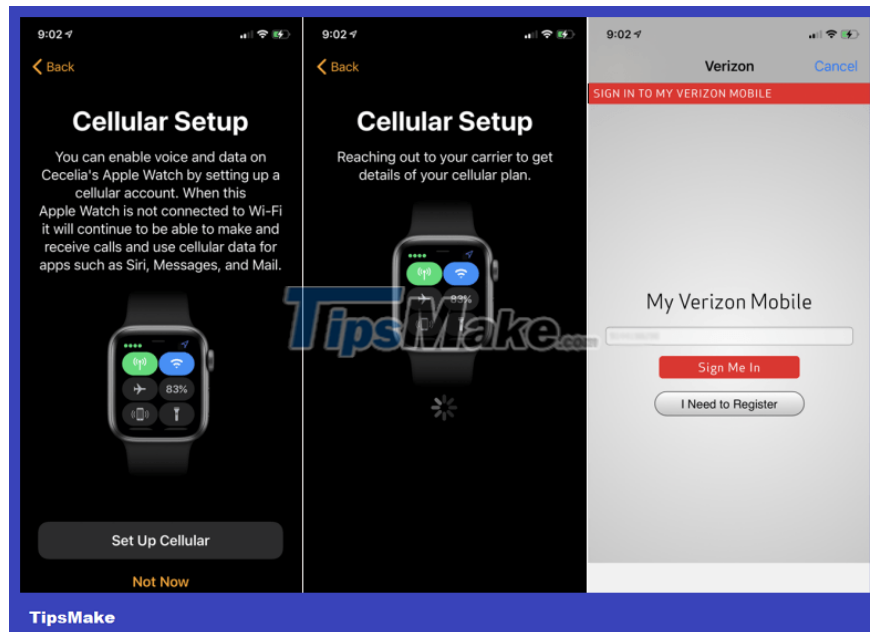
You then have to select the family member for whom you are setting up this watch. Here, you can also choose to add new family members. On the next screen, ask the family member to sign in with their Apple ID password and then tap **Next**.



If a family member is using an Apple device like an iPad, a temporary verification code will be sent to that device. Enter that code to continue. If the person has iCloud set up, another screen will appear titled **Continue Setup on Apple Watch** to handle backups and encryption.



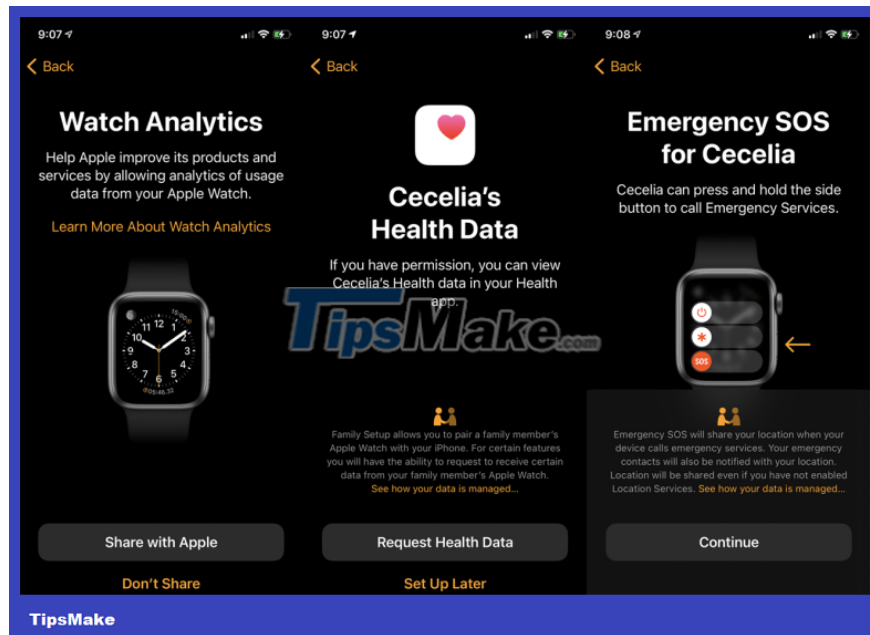
**You can click the Learn More link** to learn more about how to recover personal data in iCloud. If not, continue with setup on the watch by entering the passcode the person uses for their Apple device. This action will log them into their Apple account and restore all saved passwords and other encrypted data stored in iCloud.



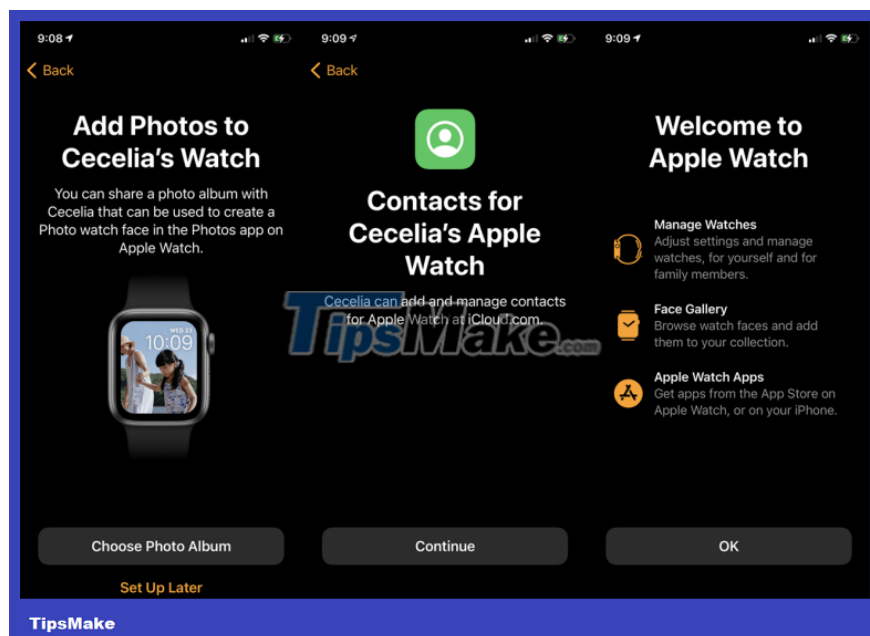
The Cellular Setup screen explains that if the watch is not connected to a WiFi network, users can still make and receive calls and use cellular data for apps like Siri, Messages, and Mail. Tap **Set Up Cellular** and log in to the person's cellular account with their carrier. If not, you can click **Not Now** to temporarily skip this process.



Next, tap the **Share** button to share the WiFi password for your local network with the watch. You can then turn location services on or off and choose to use Siri. You can also choose to share analytics with Apple and enable or disable Messages in iCloud.

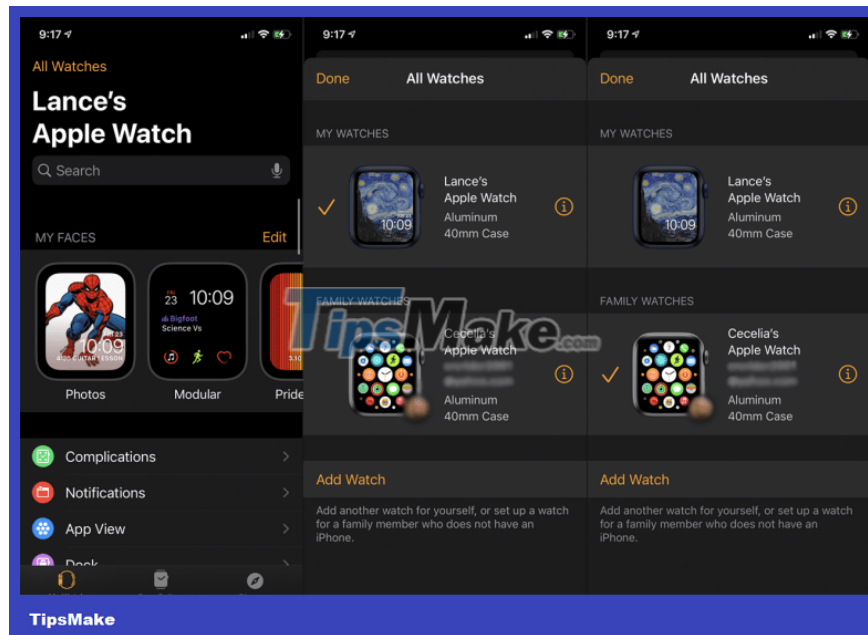


On the next screen, tap the **Request Health Data** button to allow family members to view their health information on the watch. Click **Continue** on the Emergency SOS screen. Click **Choose Photo Album** to set up a photo album to use as a watch face. Tap **Continue** to allow that person to add and manage contacts via iCloud.

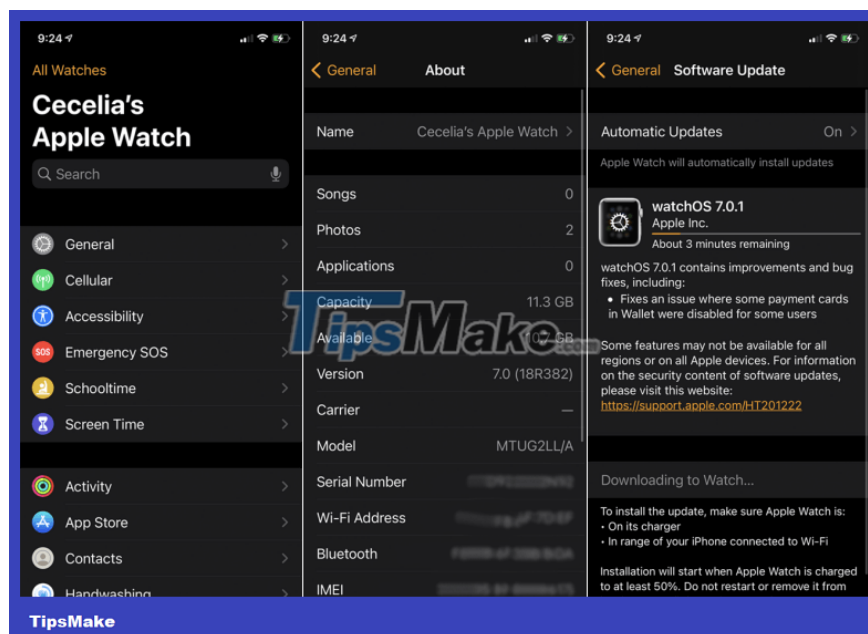


Finally click **OK** at the Welcome to Apple Watch screen to complete the setup process. The watch is now ready and can be used by family members.

## Customize Apple Watch for your loved one

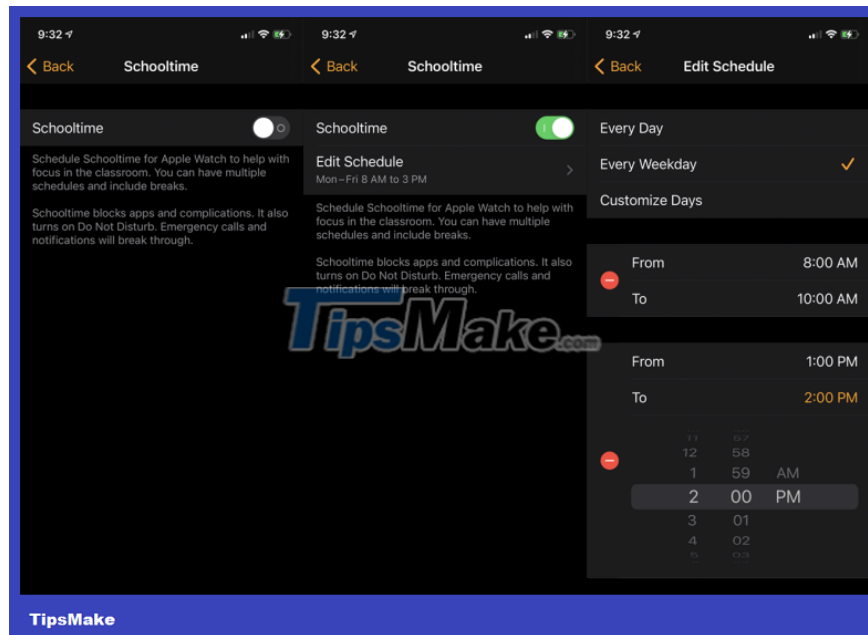


Once set up, you can customize, control, and manage your watch through the Watch app on iPhone. To do this, open the Watch app. The All Watches screen may appear automatically. If not, tap **All Watches** . You'll see both your own and your family members' watches. Tap your family member's watch then click **Done** .



You will now see a full screen to manage your family member's watches. From here, you can adjust options for Activity, App Store, Contacts, Handwashing, Health, Messages, Workout, and other apps and features. Go to **General > About** to change the name; Click **Software Update** to update the clock.

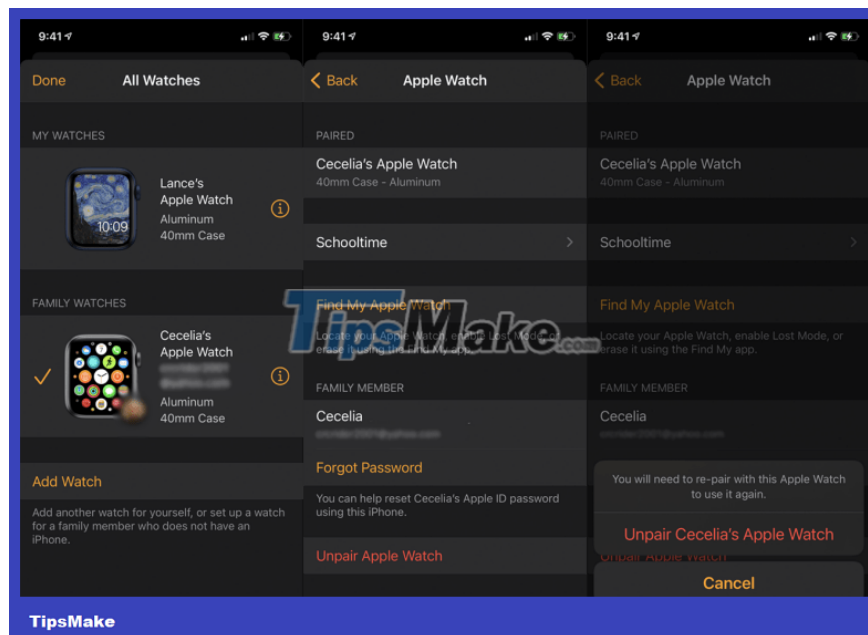
## Activate Schooltime on your child's Apple Watch



If you want to eliminate distractions on your child's watch by turning on Do Not Disturb mode and making the watch face unchangeable, you can turn on Schooltime. Select the Schooltime option from the Settings screen, then toggle the switch and tap **Edit Schedule** .

Here you can enable Schooltime schedules for each day, each day of the week, or on a custom basis. Then choose the time to turn this feature on and off each day.

## Unpair Apple Watch



If a family member already has an iPhone and wants to use it with their watch, you can unpair it from your own iPhone. To do this from the Watch app on your phone, go to **All Watches** and tap the **Info** icon next to the person's phone.

Tap **Unpair Apple Watch** , then enter the person's Apple ID password. Wait for the watch to be unpaired and the person can set up the watch using their own iPhone.

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