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Ever been in a situation when you mistake someone else’s phone ringing for yours because it has the same default ringtone? Android allows a lot of customization and this includes the ability to change your ringtone. You can simply choose one of the preset ringtones that your smartphone offers. Alternatively, you can set custom ringtones from your media files, or download a brand new ringtone using a third-party app for maximum personalization. Learn all the ways to set Android ringtones and change them as often as you like. How to Set Android Ringtones on If you find the default ringtone on your phone annoying, or maybe it simply doesn’t feel like your own, you can easily change it in your phone’s Settings. To change your Android ringtone, follow the steps below. Open Settings on your smartphone.Select Sound & vibration. Scroll down and select Ringtone. When you get the Permission request pop-up window, select Allow to proceed. Under Ringtones, you’ll find a selection of preset Android ringtones that you can choose from. Select one one by one to hear what they sound like and then choose the one you want. How to Set a Custom Android Ringtone You can also set your own custom ringtone on your Android phone through the Settings app. Note that before you can set a custom Android ringtone, you need to download the audio file to your smartphone. If you want to change your ringtone to something more personalized, follow the steps below. Open Settings on your smartphone.Select Sound & vibration.Scroll down and select Ringtone. Depending on what phone you have, there are different paths to set a custom ringtone on your Android. It might be a separate Custom section where you’ll find an option to Select from files, or it could be a + icon that you’ll need to select to add a custom ringtone. You’ll then see a list of all of your downloaded audio files. Select one of them to set as your new custom Android ringtone. How to Set a Custom Android Notification Sound After you set a custom Android ringtone, you might want to take it further and change the notification sound on your Android device as well. Make sure you first download a message tone or a notification sound that you want to use, then follow the steps below. Open Settings on your smartphone.Select Sound & vibration.Scroll down and select Default notification sound. Select Custom > Select from files and choose the audio file that you want to use as your new notification sound. You can repeat the same procedure to change your default message tone to a custom one as well. How to Set Android Ringtones for Specific Contacts If you want to know who’s calling before picking up your phone or even looking at it, you can set specific Android ringtones for different contacts. This will help you identify the caller easier, as well as save you from getting bored of hearing the same default ringtone all the time. To set an Android ringtone for a specific contact, follow the steps below. Note that the instructions might differ slightly depending on what smartphone you’re using. Open the Contacts app on your phone and find the contact you’d like to set the ringtone for. Open contact’s settings and select Edit. Scroll down and select Ringtone. Under Ringtones you can choose one of the preset ringtones, or select Custom and set a personalized ringtone from a media file for your contact. Once you’ve selected the right ringtone, go back to the Edit Contact page and select Save. Now you can repeat the procedure to set different ringtones for different contacts on your Android device. How to Change Android Ringtones Using Zedge You can also use third-party apps and websites to find and install new ringtones on your Android device. One of the widely-used apps like that is Zedge. It’s a customization app for Android that will help you create a unique look and feel to your smartphone, with an emphasis on wallpapers and ringtones. Zedge makes it simple for you to both download and set new ringtones in just a few clicks inside the app. There’s a free version that you can use if you don’t mind the ads, or pay for a subscription if you’re planning to use Zedge often. Here’s how to use Zedge to set new Android ringtones on your smartphone. Open Zedge on your phone. In the upper-left corner of the screen, open the menu and select Ringtones. You can browse the audio files using categories like music genres, popular tunes, or even countries, as well as search for a specific track within the app. Once you find the ringtone that you like, select it in the app. Select Save > Set Ringtone. Select Allow to give Zedge access to your media files. You’ll see a pop-up message Standardize ringtone updated, which means that you successfully changed your Android ringtone. You can also use Zedge to set custom notification, alarm sound, contact ringtone, as well as just save the ringtones that you like on your phone for future use. Change Your Default Ringtone to Something Fun Changing your ringtone isn’t just a way to personalize your smartphone. It can also improve your productivity. For example, if you set different ringtones for the personal and professional contacts on your Android device, it’ll help you keep the two worlds separate. If you’re feeling nostalgic over that one old Nokia that you used to have, you can also find the ringtone that sounds just like the real phone from the past. Do you often change ringtones on your Android? Which method of setting a new ringtone do you prefer: using the smartphone’s settings or a third-party option? Share your experience with Android ringtones in the comments section below. Android phones and tablets launch the Google Assistant when you long-press the Home button. But you can make this shortcut launch Cortana if you prefer Microsoft’s assistant instead. This option is a little hidden on Android 6.0 and later. It doesn’t work like the normal option for choosing default applications, but it is available in Android’s settings. On Android 6.0 and newer To do this on modern Android devices, you’ll first need to install the Cortana app from Google Play. Open Android’s Settings screen and tap “Apps”. RELATED: How to Set Default Apps on Android Tap the cog icon at the top-right corner of the Apps list. Depending on your phone manufacturer, you may need to tap an option named something like “Default Apps”, “Configure Apps”, or “Default App Settings” instead. Different devices have this option in different places. Tap “Default Apps” on the Configure apps screen. Tap “Assist & voice input” on the Default Apps screen. Tap the “Assist app” option here. If you don’t see this option, your phone manufacturer may have disabled access to it. Select “Cortana” to make Cortana your default assistant. When you long-press the Home button, Android will launch the Cortana assistant instead of Google. You can return here and select “Google App” to make Google your default assistant once again, if you like. On Android 5.x and Older On Android 5 and older, setting your default assistant works in the traditional way. When you install Cortana and long-press your Home button—or use whichever other Home button shortcut your particular device uses to launch its assistant—you’ll be asked whether you want to use Google or Cortana as your assistant. If you’ve previously chosen your default assistant, you’ll have to clear its defaults to choose your default assistant once again. For example, let’s say Google is your current default assistant. You’d need to head to Settings > Apps > Google App and tap “Clear Defaults”. When you use the Home button shortcut, you’ll be prompted to choose your default assistant once again. If Cortana is your default assistant and you want to change back to Google, you’d need to head to Settings > Apps > Cortana and tap “Clear Defaults” instead. At the moment, Cortana doesn’t support saying “Hey Cortana” from anywhere on the phone—it only works in the Cortana app itself, even if you’ve made Cortana your default assistant. Microsoft has experimented with this feature in the past before removing it, so they may restore it in the future. You’ve certainly experienced one of those cases when there is a really cool song you want to have as a ringtone, but the problem is that the part you like most begins somewhere around 1:36... Well, for these cases, you can now use RingDroid – an application for Android that allows you to quickly and easily create your own ringtones. The interface is pretty simple - the track appears as a waveform and you have two sliders to mark the start and end points. You can also zoom in or out for a better view. Once you have selected the part you want to have as your new ring tone, you simply need to save it. You can use RingDroid to edit WAV, MP3 and 3GPP/AMR audio files.If you find this app useful, you can download it here for free.source: GoogleCode via UAndroidEnVodafone (translated) RingDroid has a simple, easy to use interface Nokia may have released a dubstep version of their iconic ringtone, but undoubtedly the coolest ringtone you can have is one you made yourself. Here’s how to turn any MP3 into a ringtone for free on both the iPhone and Android. Bell Icon by Everaldo Coelho via Iconspedia.Make an iPhone Ringtone with iTunesWhile you can convert songs to ringtones in iTunes for \$0.99, you can just as easily do it for free with a few more clicks. you’ll need an unprotected song in iTunes for this to work (that is, a .m4a or .mp3 file, not .m4p). To turn it into a ringtone:Find the section of the song you want to use as a ringtone, and mark down the starting and ending time of that section. It should be less than 30 seconds long.Right click on the track and hit “Get Info”. Under the Options tab, set your Start Time and Stop Time to the correct values for the ringtone, and hit OK.Right click on the song and choose “Convert Selection to AAC”. If it says “Convert Selection to MP3” or “Apple Lossless” instead, head to iTunes’ Preferences, and switch it to the AAC Encoder, and try again. You should see the newly converted file pop up in iTunes, and it should be much shorter than the original. Right click on it and pick “Show in Windows Explorer” (or “Show in Finder” if you’re on a Mac). Change the extension of the file from .m4a to .m4r.Head back into iTunes and delete the shortened version of the song you just created. Since you changed the extension, iTunes won’t be able to find the file and will just remove it from your library. Then go to File > Add File to Library and navigate to the .m4r file you just created. It should show up in the Ringtones section of iTunes.The next time you sync your iPhone, your new ringtone should show up in Settings > Sounds > Ringtones. If you want to set different ringtones for specific contacts, you can head to the Contacts app, edit the contact you want to change, and choose a ringtone for them under “Ringtone”. If you want finer control over when your ringtone starts and ends, you can use GarageBand too, but only if you’re on a Mac. The above instructions should work for users on both Windows and OS X.Apple has introduced a simple and free way to create and sync your own custom ringtones to the...Read moreMake an Android Ringtone with RingdroidOn Android, you can download one of many apps to create a custom ringtone. We’re going to use Ringdroid. After downloading and installing it from the Market, the process is simple:Open up Ringdroid. You’ll see a list of every audio file on your device (if the song you want to use isn’t on your device, you’ll have to transfer it to your device). Pick the song you want to play and let Ringdroid load it.Tap and drag the two grey sliders to select the portion of the song you want to turn into a ringtone. It can be of any length. You can click Play at any time to hear it from the start of your selection.Hit the Save button and give your ringtone a name. It will now show up in your phone’s ringtone menus.To set the ringtone for your entire phone, just head to Settings > Sound > Phone Ringtone. If you want to set it for a specific contact, you can just open up that contact in the Contacts app, hit the Menu button, choose Options, and tap Ringtone.There are many ways to create your own ringtone on both platforms, but these are two pretty simple options that don’t require paying money. Just make sure that you keep your phone on silent or vibrate when necessary—there’s nothing more embarrassing than being the guy who’s pocket starts singing Miley Cyrus in the middle of Starbucks. Got your own preferred ringtone creation method? Let us know about it in the comments below. You can contact Whitson Gordon, the author of this post, at whitson@lifehacker.com. You can also find him on Twitter, Facebook, and lurking around our #tips page.