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Click to viewSnar are we admit it or not, we are all at least a little in love with the iPhone. But far fewer of us are \$500-in-love with the iPhone. If your clunky old Windows Mobile phone is just sitting around collecting iPhone jealous dust, you can either snoop together 500 leafy Sacagaweas, or you can customize your Windows Mobile phone to emulate several of the iPhone's more interesting features, like the iPhone home screen, flick-scroll contacts, and fancy slide-to-unlock. Today I'll highlight a couple of methods of skinning your Windows Mobile phone to look and feel like an iPhone.* Hit the jump to see some videos of the Windows Mobile iPhone in action and to find out how to achieve the same results.* Note: No, no matter what you do, it still won't be an iPhone, and I agree, you shouldn't try to make an orange to an Apple (have). But some of the iPhone features implemented using the methods described below are, frankly, either better or more intuitive than the Windows Mobile standard, and I'm happy to get even an ounce of that usability to my smartphone. There are actually two methods I'll highlight, both of which produce good results, none of which are the definitive tools for the job (the Windows-Mobile-as-iPhone community is surprisingly active). One method is relatively simple, the other requires a little more legwork. Part 1: The simple wayThe simple method revolves around a shell (see the video for a closer look) that you can download here (look for res_ppc-custom.icons.zip link). From your download, you want to copy the following files to a folder on your Windows Mobile phone (you should be connected to your computer via ActiveSync): launcher.execonfig.iniGFX folderAfter you have copied the files to your smartphone, you can give it a quick test by navigating to the folder you have copied them to with File Explorer and running the launcher.exe. Launcher should give you iPhone-like home screen. However, you will notice by default that the buttons on the start screen will not all point to anything you can use, as each button points to a program, and some of them will not match anything on your Windows Mobile device. Fortunately, this just requires a few tweaking that we'll get to below. G/O Media can get a commissionNow download Slide 2 Unlock, the app that gives you that smart iPhone lock screen. This one is an installable .cab, so copy it to your Windows Mobile phone and install it. It should install itself in your Program Files directory. Now back to customizing the applications in our iPhone launcher. You can edit the program that each button points to by editing the config.ini file that is in the same directory as .exe. Since you can't open it directly from your device, just copy it back to your desktop and open it in your favorite text editor. It should look something like this:[Button Config]text=Windows\mailto.execalendar=Windows\calendar.exeetc... In order to edit that each button launches, just find the button in the config.ini file and edit the path to the to-be-launched application. For example, I don't need to press the Clock button to see my clock settings. Instead, I've mapped the watch to run Slide2Unlock, which has a big, beautiful watch. To accomplish this, the new line in the config file looks like this:clock=Program Files\Slide2Unlock\slide.exelf you wanted to take things even further, you can customize the images in the GFX folder that you copied to the same directory as the launcher.exe. Inside are all of the small BMP graphics that make up your interface. Just copy your own buttons in the GFX\Icons folder with the same name as the button you want it to replace (the names are hardcoded, so you'll have to keep with the same naming scheme). To change the actual text, you would need to edit the images in GFX\Res (it will be a bit boring if you take the customization to this level). That's really all there is to it. After you customize a button, you should get the idea of how you could customize any of the buttons (both visually and behaviorally). That said, here are my recommendations:Leave SMS, Calendar, Photos, Camera, Calculator, and Notepad that-is. These all pretty much link where most of us would like them out of the box. Map the Maps button to either Google Maps Mobile or Windows Live Search. (According to Gizmodo, Windows Live Search is better—at least on Windows Mobile devices.) Map button Clock to start Slide2Lock (as described above). This is certainly personal preference, but I prefer the Settings button to start the wireless communication manager tool. If you use your regular Settings tools more than I do, you might want to keep this the same. I remapped Phone to open up the flick-to-scroll contacts app, iContact. (You can always just turn on the Call key to get to the phone ringing the skin.) Map the web to any browser you prefer, from the built-in IE to Minimo or Opera (Safari may be in Windows, but don't look for it any time soon in Windows Mobile). To be honest, I'm not quite sure yet what to do with Stocks or Weather, because I actually don't know of any good and free Windows mobile apps that cover these areas; if you do, please tell us about them in the comments. Otherwise, you can safely change icons and programs they start completely if the mood strikes you. Finally, there is a great iPhone dialer skin available in the zip file made available in this more comprehensive, more complicated WinPhone tutorial (more below-you can also see it in action in the video below). If you are downloading the file, you should find the installable .cab file in the dialpad folder. Part 2: The harder way method I described above, however convoluted it may seem, is actually very easy, especially when it comes to Windows Mobile customization. If you really want to go all out in skinning your WinPhone to see more iPhone not that Steve Jobs nickname?)—from every detail down to the keyboard and and download and instructions available here. I was less lucky to set up my phone using this method (your mileage may vary), but as you can see from the video, the results are a bit more comprehensive. If you have time to install and troubleshoot, and you really want to iPhone your WinPhone, you might want to give it a go. And it is. While I can understand that this whole process may seem a little frivolous to some, I stand before you as a man who doesn't like Windows Mobile. The 15 minutes it took me to set up my phone with the first method will be well worth the refund I get in the long run from improved usability. If you love the iPhone interface and still don't see the point of tweaking you Windows smartphone thusly... well, June 29th is just a stone's throw away. Adam Pash is a senior editor of Lifehacker who is in the iPhone. His special feature Hack Attack appears every Tuesday on Lifehacker. Subscribe to the Hack Attack RSS feed to receive new repayments in your newsreader. Facebook users who want to access the social networking service on the go, but don't have smartphones, now have their own app in some countries. On Wednesday, Facebook introduced a mobile app for feature phones, the cheaper, internet-capable phones that outnumber smartphones in many parts of the world. Like Facebook apps for Apple iPhone and other smartphones, the Facebook for Feature Phones app is designed to provide easy navigation, fast scrolling of status updates and photos from friends, and synchronization of contacts with your phone. The app was announced in a Wednesday post to Facebook's official blog. While smartphones are widely used in the United States and some European and Asian countries, many mobile internet users elsewhere rely on feature phones. Last year, Facebook launched the mobile site, a stripped-down website for users on slower networks and less advanced phones. It is designed to work faster by using only text. Now Facebook offers these users a special application with more graphic content. The new app works on more than 2,500 handset models from Nokia, Sony Ericsson and other vendors, according to Facebook. But it will not immediately be available everywhere. Facebook will initially offer it through 14 airlines around the world, with nine of them offering the app immediately. They include operators in Sri Lanka, Ukraine, Poland, Singapore, Saudi Arabia, Hong Kong, Tunisia, dominican republic and Romania. Soon after, carriers in Canada, India, Mexico, Brazil and Bulgaria will make it available. For the first 90 days after launch, these service providers will not charge for data usage with the new app, Facebook said. When Facebook launched its slimmed-down mobile site, it announced 50 carrier partners in 40 countries, offering at least 12 months of free At the time, it said that the Us was left out of launch because Facebook was doing well with media-rich smartphone applications and was to provide a deeper experience to these users. Mobile is Facebook's biggest growth engine, head of mobile products Eric Tseng said at a conference last July. At the time, the company had about 150 million mobile users out of a total of 500 million members, he said. Note: When you buy something after clicking on links in our articles we can earn a small commission. Read our affiliate link policy for more details. Details.

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