

2008 Best App Ever Awards

Announcing the 2008 winners of the Best App Ever awards
Recognizing Innovation in iPhone Applications
<http://bestappever.com>

For Immediate Release

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The 2008 Best App Ever Awards winners have now been announced in the inaugural competition honoring the best iPhone apps and games released in the iTunes App Store in 2008.

“The goal of the awards was to help publicize some applications that people may never have seen. Some of the best apps have never been featured on the iTunes front page or in an iPhone TV ad, yet they deserve recognition and publicity for the great work the developers have done.” said Jeff Scott, founder of 148Apps.com and the Best App Ever Awards.

And it looks like this worked. We heard from many developers of nominated apps that their sales went up once they were nominated. One developer, Portegno Apps, developer of nominee Cartoonize Me, saw sales go up 25% after being nominated.

Sponsored by 148Apps.com, the voting saw an amazing 98,190 votes cast in the week that voting was open. Voters cast their votes for a variety of iPhone apps in 34 different categories covering applications and games. Categories such as Most Innovative App and Best Productivity Killer were extremely popular with voters.

The list of winners and nominees is available below and also as a PDF here: <http://bestappever.com/2008winners/2008winners.pdf> and a text file: <http://bestappevers.com/2008winners/2008winners.txt>

The Best App Ever Awards will return in the fall to help honor the best apps of 2009.

About BestAppEver.com

The mission of the bestappever.com site is to help recognize the best iPhone applications released to the iTunes App Store in 2008, not just the best selling. Nominees for each category were determined both by nominees submitted on the Best App Ever site and from a nomination committee. The nomination committee is comprised of industry people including bloggers and iPhone app developers. For a list of the members of the nomination committee, see bestappever.com. The name for the Best App Ever Awards comes from a friend of the site who would introduce the latest application he downloaded when showing friends as the best app ever.

About 148Apps.com

The mission of 148Apps.com is getting the word out about the very best in iPhone OS applications through editorial reviews and news. In addition to the reviews and news, 148Apps.com keeps track of what's currently popular, new, trends, and app prices changes in the iTunes App Store. Find out more at <http://www.148Apps.com>.

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Winners in each category:

Best App Ever :: Shazam by Shazam Entertainment Ltd.

Most Innovative App :: Shazam by Shazam Entertainment Ltd.

Most Useful App :: Air Sharing by Avatron Software, Inc.

Best Free or Ad Supported App :: Stanza by Lexcycle

Best 99 Cent App :: Ocarina by Smule

Best iPhone WOW App :: Shazam by Shazam Entertainment Ltd.

Best Productivity Enhancer :: Things by Cultured Code

Best Productivity Killer :: Facebook by Facebook

Best Feel Like A Local App :: Now Playing by Cyrus Najmabadi

Best Outdoor Use App :: RunKeeper Free by FitnessKeeper, Inc.

Best Musical Instrument App :: Ocarina by Smule

Best Social Networking App :: Facebook by Facebook

Best Photography App :: Pano by Debacle Software

Best Kid Distraction App :: iChalky by Eric Metois

Most Creative Use of iPhone Hardware :: Ocarina by Smule

Best Use of Location Services :: Urbanspoon by Urbanspoon

Most Original User Interface :: Weightbot by Tapbots

Best User Interface :: Twitterrific by The Iconfactory

Most Innovative Game :: Touchgrind by Illusion Labs
Best Original Game :: Fieldrunners by Subatomic Studios, LLC
Best Game Port :: SimCity™ by Electronic Arts
Best Casual Game :: Labyrinth by Codify AB
Best Long-Play Game :: Fieldrunners by Subatomic Studios, LLC
Best Free or Ad Supported Game :: Chess With Friends by Newtoy Inc.
Best 99 Cent Game :: Moto Chaser by Freeverse, Inc.
Best Game Graphics :: Rolando by ngmoco, Inc.
Best Game Controls :: Rolando by ngmoco, Inc.
Best Arcade Game :: Air Hockey by Acceleroto
Best Puzzle Game :: Enigmo by Pangea Software, Inc.
Best Traditional Game :: Texas Hold'em by Apple Inc.
Best Racing Game :: Cro-Mag Rally by Pangea Software, Inc.
Best Kids Game :: JellyCar by Walaber
Best Strategy Game :: Fieldrunners by Subatomic Studios, LLC
Best Word Game :: Chicktionary by Blockdot, Inc.

Full list of categories, winners, and nominees.

Best App Ever

The overall best app of the year. Nominees are the 10 apps that received the most nominations overall

Winner is: Shazam by Shazam Entertainment Ltd.

Other Nominees:

Fieldrunners by Subatomic Studios, LLC

Facebook by Facebook

Rolando by ngmoco, Inc.

Weightbot by Tapbots

Ocarina by Smule

Scoops by Ian Marsh
eWallet by Ilium Software
Pop by Nnooo
Scramboni by ByteClub LLC

Most Innovative App

The most innovative app on the iPhone OS platform

Winner is: Shazam by Shazam Entertainment Ltd.

Other Nominees:

Ocarina by Smule
Evernote by Evernote
RjDj album by Reality Jockey Ltd.
i. TV by i.TV
Rolando by ngmoco, Inc.
Obama '08 by
Weightbot by Tapbots
Twinkle by Tapulous
Colors! by Collecting Smiles

Most Useful App

The app you just can't live without

Winner is: Air Sharing by Avatron Software, Inc.

Other Nominees:

1Password by Agile Web Solutions
Simplify Media by Simplify Media
Nimbuzz by Nimbuzz
Weightbot by Tapbots
comiXology by Iconology, Inc.
Sketches by LateNiteSoft
eWallet by Ilium Software
Vlingo - Voice App by vlingo corporation
reQall by QTech, Inc.

Best Free or Ad Supported App

The best free or ad-supported application - must currently be free in the US App Store

Winner is: Stanza by Lexcycle

Other Nominees:

Pandora Radio by Pandora Media, Inc.
Tap Tap Revenge by Tapulous
i. TV by i.TV

NetNewsWire by NewsGator Technologies, Inc.
Twitterrific by The Iconfactory
TapDefense by TapJoy
PictureDialer by Inius, Inc.
Instapaper Free by Marco Arment
Joost by Joost, Inc

Best 99 Cent App

The 'I can't believe this only cost \$.99' app - must currently cost \$0.99 in the US App Store

Winner is: Ocarina by Smule

Other Nominees:

Koi Pond by The Blimp Pilots
Classics - A Collection of Literary Masterpieces by Andrew Kaz & Phill Ryu
Weightbot by Tapbots
Grocery iQ by Free State Labs
iRec Voice Recorder by iTech Development Systems
Measures - Unit Converter by Neuwert Media
Tipulator - the fun tip calculator by tap tap tap
FriendSync - Sync w/ Facebook by Omnigen Solutions
FriendBook by Tapulous

Best iPhone WOW App

The app makes your friends jealous (and want to buy an iPhone)

Winner is: Shazam by Shazam Entertainment Ltd.

Other Nominees:

Google Earth by Google
Labyrinth by Codify AB
Rolando by ngmoco, Inc.
Ocarina by Smule
Super Monkey Ball by SEGA
Touchgrind by Illusion Labs
Koi Pond by The Blimp Pilots
MotionX Poker by MotionX
Classics - A Collection of Literary Masterpieces by Andrew Kaz & Phill Ryu

Best Productivity Enhancer

The app that helps you get it done in half the time

Winner is: Things by Cultured Code

Other Nominees:

Evernote by Evernote

OmniFocus by The Omni Group
Todo by Appigo
Remember The Milk by Remember The Milk
Grocery iQ by Free State Labs
eWallet by Ilium Software
reQall by QTech, Inc.
Smart Dialler by Hiray Information
LDAPeople by Boneware

Best Productivity Killer

The app that prevents you from getting it done

Winner is: Facebook by Facebook

Other Nominees:

Fieldrunners by Subatomic Studios, LLC
Frenzic by The Iconfactory
Flick Fishing by Freeverse, Inc.
MotionX Poker by MotionX
7 Cities TD by Neptune Entertainment
React by doapp, inc
Dr. Awesome by ngmoco, Inc.
Pop by Nnooo
Kings Corners by Ilium Software

Best Feel Like A Local App

The app that helps the traveler find the local hot spots

Winner is: Now Playing by Cyrus Najmabadi

Other Nominees:

Urbanspoon by Urbanspoon
AroundMe by Tweakersoft
Yelp by Yelp
Where To? - GPS points of interest by tap tap tap
Goodrec by Goodrec Inc
OpenTable by OpenTable, Inc.
Locly by Acknack Ltd
SitOrSquat by Densebrain
twiddlerSF by

Best Outdoor Use App

The app that enhances travel, outdoor exploration or transit use

Winner is: RunKeeper Free by FitnessKeeper, Inc.

Other Nominees:

MotionX GPS Lite by MotionX
Nearby by Platial
Geocaching by Groundspeak Inc.
Trailguru by Trailguru
Trails by Felix Lamouroux
Carticipate by Carticipate, Inc.
Earthcomber by Earthcomber
Routesy San Francisco by Pixelcup
EveryTrail by GlobalMotion Media, Inc

Best Musical Instrument App

The app that turns the iPhone into a musical instrument, and you into a rock star

Winner is: Ocarina by Smule

Other Nominees:

Noise.io Pro by Amidio Inc.
BeatMaker by Intua
Band by MooCowMusic
Bloom by Opal Limited
PocketGuitar by Shinya Kasatani
iDrum: Ministry of Sound Anthems by iZotope, Inc.
Loopy by Tzi Software
miniSynth by Yonac
Harp by You Just Made Music

Best Social Networking App

The app that keeps you connected on the road

Winner is: Facebook by Facebook

Other Nominees:

Twitterrific by The Iconfactory
fring by fringland Ltd.
Tweetie by atebits
BeejiveIM by Beejive, Inc.
TwitterFon by Kazuho Okui
Twinkle by Tapulous
Brightkite by brightkite.com
Loopt by Loopt, Inc.
Tittelator Pro by Big Stone Phone

Best Photography App

The app that turns iPhone photography into masterpieces

Winner is: Pano by Debackle Software

Other Nominees:

CameraBag by Nevercenter Ltd. Co.

SteadyCam by Stepcase

Night Camera by Sudobility

Cartoonizeme by Portegno Apps

Darkslide Premium (formerly Exposure) by Connected Flow

Face Melter by Nico Becherer

PanoLab Pro by Originate Labs

Toy Camera by Takayuki Fukatsu

ImageTouch by Intellicore

Best Kid Distraction App

The app that keeps your kids happy (for a minute)

Winner is: iChalky by Eric Metois

Other Nominees:

Preschool Adventure by 3DAL, LLC

Preschool Pals - Henry & Hailey by 3PM Studios

Scoops by Ian Marsh

Sneezies - Bubble Popping Fun by Chilingo Ltd

Wooly Willy by Paze

I See Ewe by Claireware Software

Zoom Zoom by DAVA Consulting

Kineo (was Flickbook) by

Sapus Tongue by Sapus Media

Most Creative Use of iPhone Hardware

The app that does things with the iPhone hardware that the Apple would never have dreamed of

Winner is: Ocarina by Smule

Other Nominees:

Labyrinth by Codify AB

Rolando by ngmoco, Inc.

RjDj album by Reality Jockey Ltd.

Dynolicious by BunsenTech

SnapTell by SnapTell, Inc.

Urbanspoon by Urbanspoon

FourTrack by Sonoma Wire Works

MotionX Poker by MotionX

iFun by SGN

Best Use of Location Services

The app that uses the core location services in new and innovative ways

Winner is: Urbanspoon by Urbanspoon

Other Nominees:

Twinkle by Tapulous

OmniFocus by The Omni Group

Where To? - GPS points of interest by tap tap tap

MotionX GPS Lite by MotionX

Earthscape by Earthscape

Taxi Magic - Book Instantly by RideCharge, Inc.

Vicinity by ActiveGuru Ltd.

Locly by Acknack Ltd

Parallel Kingdom by PerBlue

Most Original User Interface

The app that redefines interface design

Winner is: Weightbot by Tapbots

Other Nominees:

JellyCar by Walaber

Classics - A Collection of Literary Masterpieces by Andrew Kaz & Phill Ryu

MotionX Poker by MotionX

Pennies by design by a knife

Photo Collage by Tapulous

Colors! by Collecting Smiles

React by doapp, inc

Loopy by Tzi Software

Tipulator - the fun tip calculator by tap tap tap

Best User Interface

The app with the best user interface in an application or game

Winner is: Twiterrific by The Iconfactory

Other Nominees:

Delivery Status touch by Junecloud

Deep Green (Chess) by Cocoa Stuff

FourTrack by Sonoma Wire Works

iSports by iSports, Inc.

Brushes by Steve Sprang

GuitarToolkit by Agile Partners

OldBooth by Luga

Record by Polar Bear Farm Ltd

Guitarist by MooCowMusic

Most Innovative Game

The game that has shown the greatest innovation on the platform

Winner is: Touchgrind by Illusion Labs

Other Nominees:

Rolando by ngmoco, Inc.

Topple by ngmoco, Inc.

Spore™ Origins by Electronic Arts

Soul Trapper: Episode 1 - Ollie Ollie Oxen Free! by Realtime Associates, Inc.

Trace by Kevin Calderone

Aurora Feint II: The Arena by Danielle Cassley and Jason Citron

Toy Bot Diaries by IUGO Mobile Entertainment Inc.

SPiN - Super Shape Puzzle by Secret Exit Ltd.

Shapium by MythPeople

Best Original Game

The best game that is original on the iPhone platform

Winner is: Fieldrunners by Subatomic Studios, LLC

Other Nominees:

Rolando by ngmoco, Inc.

Trism by Demiforce LLC

Touchgrind by Illusion Labs

Flick Fishing by Freeverse, Inc.

Aurora Feint II: The Arena by Danielle Cassley and Jason Citron

1112 episode 01 by Agharta Studio

Dizzy Bee 2 by Igloo Games

Dr. Awesome by ngmoco, Inc.

Dropship by ngmoco, Inc.

Best Game Port

The best game adapted from another platform or system

Winner is: SimCity™ by Electronic Arts

Other Nominees:

Enigmo by Pangea Software, Inc.

Bejeweled 2 by PopCap Games, Inc.

Frenzic by The Iconfactory

Vay by SoMoGa, Inc.

X-Plane 9 by Laminar Research

Warfare Incorporated by Spiffcode, Inc.

Orions: Legend Of Wizards by Chillingo Ltd

Pop by Nnooo

Blackbeard's Assault by

Best Casual Game

The game that is easy to pick up and play while you wait for your coffee to brew

Winner is: Labyrinth by Codify AB

Other Nominees:

Topple by ngmoco, Inc.

Scoops by Ian Marsh

MotionX Poker Quest by MotionX

Ivory Tiles by MunkyFun, Inc.

2079 by Eric Tong

Pop by Nnooo

Smiles by Sykhronics Entertainment

Sneezies - Bubble Popping Fun by Chillingo Ltd

Virus by Manta Research

Best Long-Play Game

The game that sucks you in and won't let you go until your battery dies

Winner is: Fieldrunners by Subatomic Studios, LLC

Other Nominees:

Rolando by ngmoco, Inc.

SimCity™ by Electronic Arts

Brothers In Arms® Hour of Heroes by gameloft (iDP)

Real Soccer 2009 by gameloft (iDP)

7 Cities TD by Neptune Entertainment

Hero of Sparta by gameloft (iDP)

Galcon by galcon.com

1112 episode 01 by Agharta Studio

Orions: Legend Of Wizards by Chillingo Ltd

Best Free or Ad Supported Game

The best free or ad-supported game - must currently be free in the US App Store

Winner is: Chess With Friends by Newtoy Inc.

Other Nominees:

Tap Tap Revenge by Tapulous

TapDefense by TapJoy

Aurora Feint The Beginning by Danielle Cassley and Jason Citron

Sol Free Solitaire by Smallware

JellyCar by Walaber

Trace by Kevin Calderone

SPACE DEADBEEF by I.D.P.
MazeFinger by ngmoco, Inc.
PapiJump by Sunflat

Best 99 Cent Game

The 'I can't believe this only cost \$.99' app - must currently cost \$0.99 in the US App Store

Winner is: Moto Chaser by Freeverse, Inc.

Other Nominees:

Touch Physics by Gamez 4 Touch
Tangram Puzzle Pro by The Embassy Interactive Inc.
Flick Bowling by Freeverse, Inc.
Tiki Towers by RealArcade
2079 by Eric Tong
Blue Defense! by John Kooistra
Sneezies - Bubble Popping Fun by Chillingo Ltd
Kings Corners by Ilium Software
UntangleManiak by Alexandre Minard

Best Game Graphics

The game with the killer graphics

Winner is: Rolando by ngmoco, Inc.

Other Nominees:

Brothers In Arms® Hour of Heroes by gameloft (iDP)
Hero of Sparta by gameloft (iDP)
Enigmo by Pangea Software, Inc.
X-Plane 9 by Laminar Research
Fastlane Street Racing by Atod AB
1112 episode 01 by Agharta Studio
7 Cities TD by Neptune Entertainment
Flick Fishing by Freeverse, Inc.
Pop by Nnooo

Best Game Controls

The game with the best use of the iPhone hardware for a game controller

Winner is: Rolando by ngmoco, Inc.

Other Nominees:

Touchgrind by Illusion Labs
Topple by ngmoco, Inc.
Real Soccer 2009 by gameloft (iDP)
Toy Bot Diaries by IUGO Mobile Entertainment Inc.

Dropship by ngmoco, Inc.
Snail Mail by Sandlot Games
Nanosaur 2 by Pangea Software, Inc.
2079 by Eric Tong
Pop by Nnooo

Best Arcade Game

The game that rocks the arcade or action genre

Winner is: Air Hockey by Acceleroto

Other Nominees:

Brothers In Arms® Hour of Heroes by gameloft (iDP)
Hero of Sparta by gameloft (iDP)
Dropship by ngmoco, Inc.
2079 by Eric Tong
Snail Mail by Sandlot Games
Platypus by Handmark, Inc.
Blue Defense! by John Kooistra
Venger by Wretched Games
AutoMangle by PHART GAMES

Best Puzzle Game

The game that makes puzzles exciting again

Winner is: Enigmo by Pangea Software, Inc.

Other Nominees:

Trism by Demiforce LLC
Frenzic by The Iconfactory
ChocChocPop by EpicForce
Ivory Tiles by MunkyFun, Inc.
Kraut by monsterkodi
Lumen by Bridger Maxwell
Burning Monkey Puzzle Lab by Freeverse, Inc.
PuzzleManiak Christmas Edition by Alexandre Minard
Marple by Mikko Kankainen

Best Traditional Game

The game that celebrates tradition-- card, board, casino, etc.

Winner is: Texas Hold'em by Apple Inc.

Other Nominees:

MONOPOLY Here & Now: The World Edition by Electronic Arts
UNO™ by gameloft (iDP)

Solebon Solitaire by Smallware
Deep Green (Chess) by Cocoa Stuff
MotionX Poker by MotionX
Aki Mahjong by Ambrosia Software, Inc.
Burning Monkey Casino by Freeverse, Inc.
Five Dice by Pelted Software
Hexy by Fifth Ace Productions

Best Racing Game

The game that gets your adrenaline pumping

Winner is: Cro-Mag Rally by Pangea Software, Inc.

Other Nominees:

Asphalt 4: Elite Racing by gameloft (iDP)
Fastlane Street Racing by Atod AB
Moto Chaser by Freeverse, Inc.
Ferrari GT: Evolution by gameloft (iDP)
Line Rider iRide by inXile Entertainment
Low Grav Racer by Cobra Mobile
GTS World Racing by Handmark, Inc.
Raging Thunder by Polarbit
AutoMangle by PHART GAMES

Best Kids Game

The game or educational app you want your kid to play

Winner is: JellyCar by Walaber

Other Nominees:

Trace by Kevin Calderone
Scoops by Ian Marsh
Air Hockey by Acceleroto
I See Ewe by Claireware Software
WaKi SNAP! by WaKi Apps Limited
Sneezies - Bubble Popping Fun by Chillingo Ltd
React by doapp, inc
Number 14 by JBB Productions
SPiN - Super Shape Puzzle by Secret Exit Ltd.

Best Strategy Game

The game that keeps you one step ahead

Winner is: Fieldrunners by Subatomic Studios, LLC

Other Nominees:

SimCity™ by Electronic Arts
TapDefense by TapJoy
Lux Touch by Sillysoft Games
7 Cities TD by Neptune Entertainment
Galcon by galcon.com
Warfare Incorporated by Spiffcode, Inc.
Orions: Legend Of Wizards by Chillingo Ltd
Stratery by iDrinkApp.com
Reign of Swords by Punch Entertainment, Inc.

Best Word Game

The game that lets you exercise your vocabulary

Winner is: Chicktionary by Blockdot, Inc.

Other Nominees:

Scramboni by ByteClub LLC
wurdle by Semi Secret Software
SCRABBLE by Electronic Arts
2 Across by Eliza Block
Imangi by Imani Studios, LLC
WordsWorth by 99Games Online Private Limited
Lexitron by digicide
Quordy by Lonely Star Software
Word Flow by 3VGAMES