

OTA

# TECH TALK

HOW TO MAXIMIZE YOUR  
VOICE ASSISTANTS – SIRI,  
ALEXA & GOOGLE ASSISTANT

Voice Power: Making Siri, Alexa & Google  
Assistant Work for You



# SESSION GOALS



By the end of this session, participants will:

- Understand the core functions of Siri, Alexa, and Google Assistant
- Learn practical everyday and productivity-focused commands
- Explore smart home integration basics
- Discover accessibility features for hands-free support
- Set up routines, shortcuts, and preferences to personalize experience

# MEET YOUR VOICE ASSISTANTS

Assistant	Platform(s)	Wake Phrase
<b>Siri</b>	iPhone, iPad, Mac, Apple Watch	“Hey Siri”
<b>Alexa</b>	Amazon Echo, Fire TV, apps	“Alexa”
<b>Google Assistant</b>	Android, Nest devices, iOS app	“Hey Google” or “OK Google”

📌 All three are AI-powered voice assistants that can perform actions, answer questions, and integrate with devices and services.

# CORE FUNCTIONS ACROSS PLATFORMS

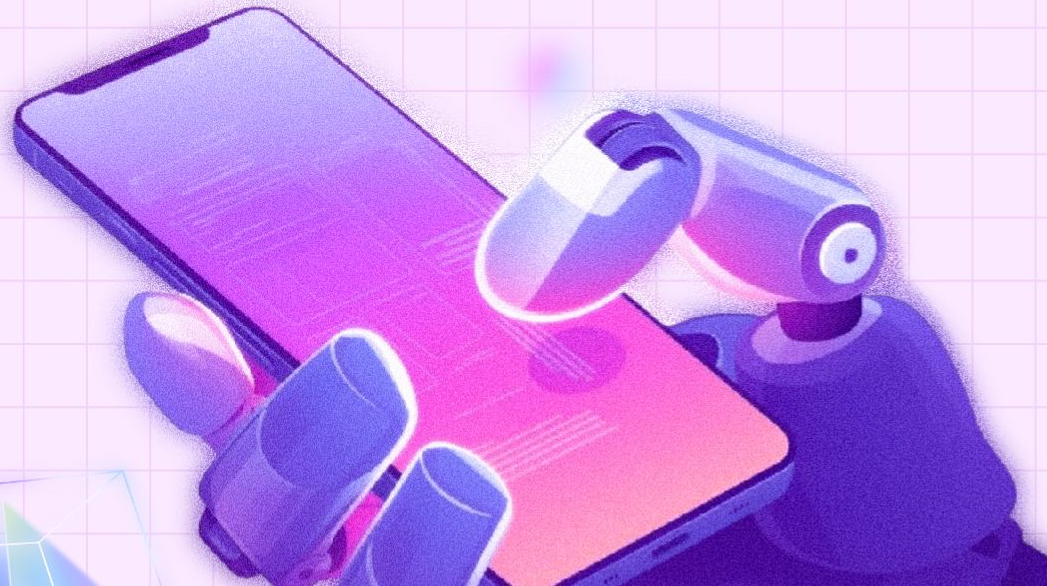


Task	Siri	Alexa	Google Assistant
Set timers/alarms	✓	✓	✓
Make calls/send texts	✓ (iPhone only)	✓	✓ (Android best)
Play music	✓ (Apple Music)	✓ (Amazon Music)	✓ (YouTube Music)
Ask questions/web search	✓ (Safari)	✓ (Bing/Wiki)	✓ (Google Search)
Control smart devices	✓ (HomeKit)	✓ (Alexa Skills)	✓ (Google Home)

◆ Each assistant works best when used with its ecosystem (Apple, Amazon, Google).

- 📅 "What's on my calendar today?"
- 📄 "Remind me to take medicine every night at 8PM"
- 🎧 "Play relaxing music"
- 🔍 "What's the weather tomorrow?"
- 🍵 "How many cups in a quart?"
- 📦 "Where's my Amazon order?" (Alexa only)
- 📝 "Open Notes and start a new grocery list" (Siri)

# BEYOND THE BASICS: TOP EVERYDAY USES

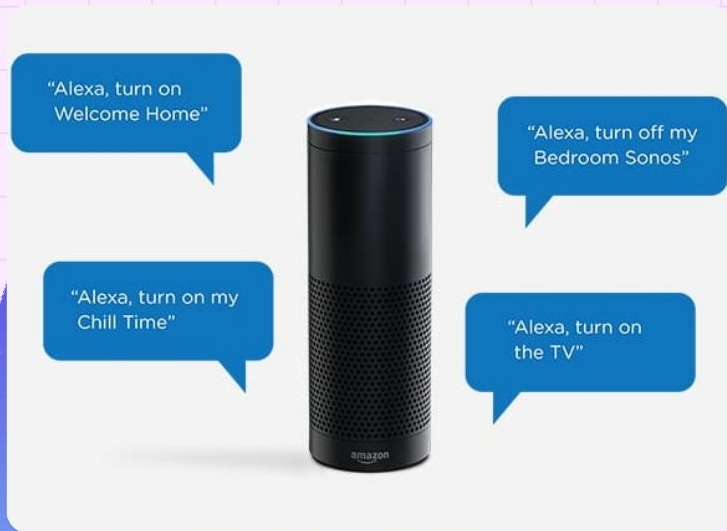


# SMART HOME INTEGRATION BASICS

Category	What You Can Control	Sample Command
<b>Lights</b>	Smart bulbs, lamps	“Turn off the living room lights”
<b>Thermostat</b>	Nest, Ecobee, Honeywell	“Set thermostat to 72 degrees”
<b>Locks</b>	August, Yale, Level	“Is the front door locked?”
<b>Plugs &amp; appliances</b>	Coffee maker, fan, etc.	“Turn on the coffee maker”
<b>TV &amp; Speakers</b>	Fire TV, Roku, Chromecast	“Play Stranger Things on Netflix”

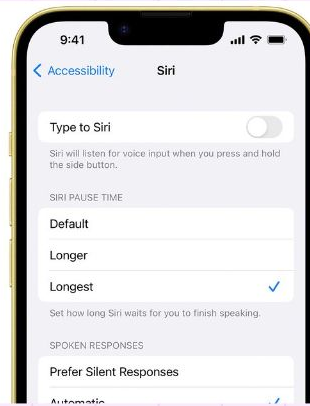
📌 Start with one smart plug or bulb and expand as needed.

# PERSONALIZATION & ROUTINES



- Alexa Routines (Amazon app):
    - Trigger multiple actions with one phrase
    - "Alexa, good morning" → lights on, weather, news brief
  - Google Assistant Routines (Google Home app):
    - Automate tasks like turning off lights and locking doors
  - Siri Shortcuts (Shortcuts app):
    - Create custom voice triggers for iOS actions
    - "Hey Siri, heading home" → maps + text + music
- 📌 Routines let you control your environment with a single phrase

# ACCESSIBILITY FEATURES



## Adjust Siri Pause Time

Settings > Accessibility > Siri





Siri not available in all countries or regions

Accessibility Support	Siri	Alexa	Google Assistant
Hands-free calling	✓	✓	✓
Screen reader integration	VoiceOver	VoiceView	TalkBack
Visual + sound alerts	✓	✓	✓
Voice control navigation	Full iOS control	Limited	Android Control

✦ Voice assistants offer independence and convenience for users with vision, mobility, or cognitive needs.

# SAFETY & PRIVACY TIPS



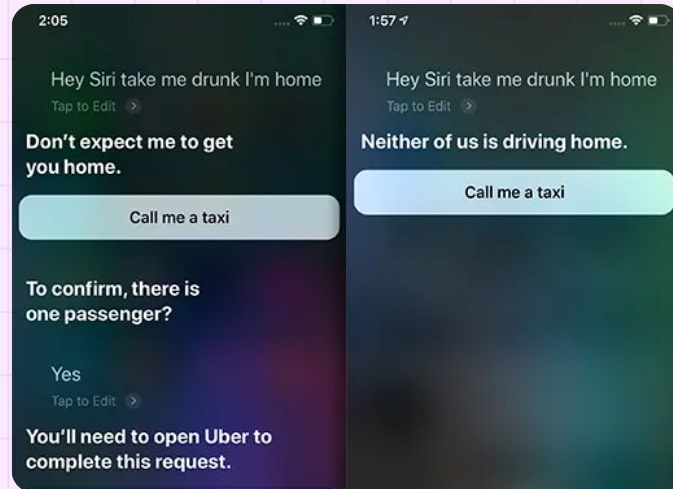
-  Review voice history and delete recordings
  - Siri: Settings → Siri & Search → Siri History
  - Alexa: Alexa app → Settings → Privacy
  - Google: MyActivity.google.com
-  Mute microphones on smart speakers when not in use
-  Limit access: Set up voice recognition and household profiles
-  Be cautious with account linking (especially shopping or banking)





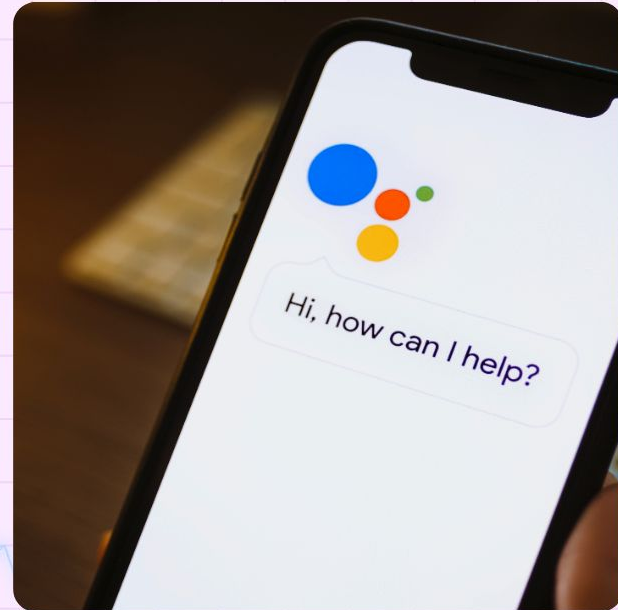
# FUN & UNEXPECTED FEATURES

- Siri: Flip a coin, roll a die, tell a joke, control Apple Watch
  - Alexa: Games like “20 Questions,” “Jeopardy,” or “Animal Sounds”
  - Google Assistant: Riddles, translations, sing songs, ambient noise (“play fireplace sounds”)
- 📌 Voice assistants can also be your entertainer and stress-reliever.



# HOW TO GET STARTED OR LEVEL UP

- 🗣️ Practice daily commands (“Hey Siri, what’s the weather?”)
- 🗣️ Start with one smart plug or routine
- 📱 Explore the companion apps (Shortcuts, Alexa, Google Home)
- 🔄 Update your device and app for latest features
- 📖 Visit help pages:
  - [support.apple.com/siri](https://support.apple.com/siri)
  - [alexa.amazon.com](https://alexa.amazon.com)
  - [assistant.google.com](https://assistant.google.com)



# FINAL TAKEAWAYS



- Siri, Alexa, and Google Assistant are powerful tools for simplifying daily life
- Use voice to:
  - Stay organized
  - Control your home
  - Get answers and reminders
  - Support accessibility
- The more you use them, the more they adapt to you
- 📌 Your voice is the remote for your life — why not use it?

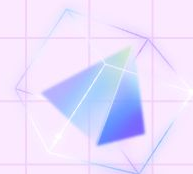


# PANEL



MARCI STRAUGHTER &  
EVAN FLANDERS

Q&A





**THANK YOU**

**FOR YOUR ATTENTION!**