

New iPhone instantly measures a person's height

8th December, 2022



Smartphones are a wonder of modern technology. They have many features that we rely on every day. They also have many hidden functions that we are unaware of. One such secret is on the new Apple iPhone 14 Pro. This has the ability to measure someone's

height. You just point your phone camera at a person, click on the Measure app, and get an instant measurement of how tall that person is. The person whose height you are measuring must be standing in front of the camera from head to toe. It is possible to measure your own height in a mirror, but this is not so accurate. It would be better for a friend to do it for you. The new Measure app could end arguments about who is the tallest.

The Measure app uses AR (augmented reality) and a special sensor that is inside the camera. The technology behind the sensor is called LiDAR. This is an acronym for "light imaging, detection, and ranging". LiDAR is also called 3D laser scanning. It is used to make digital 3D models of areas of the Earth's surface and of the bottom of the ocean. LiDAR measures a person's height by sending out pulses of light. These light pulses bounce off the person being measured and return to the LiDAR sensor. The app measures how long this took. The length of time helps the app to calculate the person's height. The website bgr.com joked that the app, "isn't as cool as drawing lines on a door" to find someone's height.

Sources: lifehacker.com / bgr.com / macrumors.com

Writing

It is very important for us to know our exact height. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

smartphones / wonder / technology / secret / height / camera / head / toe / friend / augmented reality / laser / sensor / light / 3D / Earth / ocean / calculate / line / door

True / False

- 1) The article says we often wander about modern technology. T / F
- 2) The new measurement app is available on iPhones 12, 13 and 14. T / F
- 3) The person you are measuring can be sitting or standing. T / F
- 4) Measuring yourself in the mirror is not so accurate. T / F
- 5) The new measurement app uses a sensor and augmented reality. T / F
- 6) The app's technology is used to make digital 3D models of the Moon. T / F
- 7) The app sends sound waves to calculate someone's height. T / F
- 8) A website joked that using a door to measure height is cooler. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1. wonder | a. at the back of |
| 2. rely | b. concealed |
| 3. hidden | c. disputes |
| 4. accurate | d. fashionable |
| 5. arguments | e. regions |
| 6. behind | f. miracle |
| 7. detection | g. work out |
| 8. areas | h. correct |
| 9. calculate | i. depend |
| 10. cool | j. discovery |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think of smartphones?
- b) What are the wonders of modern technology?
- c) How much do you rely on your phone?
- d) What do you think of the Measure app?
- e) Are you happy with your height?
- f) What are your favourite smartphone apps?
- g) Do you ever argue about who is the tallest?
- h) What advice do you have for app makers?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| 1. Smartphones are a wonder | a. is inside the camera |
| 2. They have many features that we rely | b. is the tallest |
| 3. You just point your phone camera | c. calculate the person's height |
| 4. The person whose height | d. on every day |
| 5. end arguments about who | e. you are measuring |
| 6. a special sensor that | f. drawing lines on a door |
| 7. make digital 3D models of areas | g. of modern technology |
| 8. The app measures how | h. of the Earth's surface |
| 9. The length of time helps the app to | i. long this took |
| 10. the app isn't as cool as | j. at a person |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- What are the wonders of old technology?
- Would you like to be a bit taller or shorter?
- What do you know about augmented reality?
- What other uses could the Measure app have?
- Is it better to be shorter or taller?
- Is it cooler to draw a line on a door to find your height?
- What questions would you like to ask an app developer?

Spelling

- a rdnwoe of modern technology
- features that we yelr on every day
- head to eot
- measure your own height in a omrirr
- this is not so racctae
- end mngsearut about who is the tallest
- The Measure app uses AR (augmented tyirael)
- a special esnors that is inside the camera
- 3D laser nncgansi
- the bottom of the oncae
- These light pulses obnuec off the person
- alceucalt the person's height

Answers – Synonym Match

1. f	2. i	3. b	4. h	5. c
6. a	7. j	8. e	9. g	10. d

Role Play

Role A – Height

You think a height app is best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their apps. Also, tell the others which is the least useful app of these (and why): blood pressure, eyesight or cholesterol.

Role B – Blood Pressure

You think a blood pressure app is best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their apps. Also, tell the others which is the least useful app of these (and why): height, eyesight or cholesterol.

Role C – Eyesight

You think an eyesight app is best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their apps. Also, tell the others which is the least useful app of these (and why): blood pressure, height or cholesterol.

Role D – Cholesterol

You think a cholesterol app is best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their apps. Also, tell the others which is the least useful app of these (and why): blood pressure, eyesight or height.

Speaking – Apps

Rank these with your partner. Put the best health apps at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| • Tooth decay | • Height |
| • Cholesterol | • Blood pressure |
| • Hearing level | • Stress levels |
| • Exercise advice | • Eyesight |

Answers – True False

1 F	2 F	3 F	4 T	5 T	6 F	7 F	8 T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.