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Nintendo Download Later option is convenient. For one thing, downloading games in sleep mode is a little easier on the Nintendo 3DS battery. For another, you can queue up more games to download. Then you can close the 3DS and make a sandwich. Whenever you want to check the status of the queued downloads, all you need to do is open the 3DS. Installing an APK file on Android is as simple as clicking on the file on your phone. There are, however, a few things to consider before you can do so successfully. First, you'll need to prepare your phone settings. Second, get the file on Android. And finally, find the file to open it. The information below should apply regardless of who made the Android phone: Samsung, Google, Huawei, Xiaomi, etc. An APK (Android Package Kit) is a type of file that installs an app for Android. If you are technically savvy, it is like a file that you run to install programs on Windows or Mac (known as executable (EXE) for Windows, or an installation package (PKG) for Mac). In this case, the APK file is simply the installation file that you click to install apps on your Android device. Here's a simplified explanation of what an APK is, but it helps you understand why clicking on the file on your Android device will install an app. If you've ever installed an Android app from the Google Play store, then you've already used an APK file without you realizing it. When you click the green install button, Google Play automates the process of transferring the APK file to your phone and running it for you. But what if the app on you want to install it is not available on Google Play? Then you'll have to take matters into your own hands. In this article, you will learn three ways to run an APK installation file to install any non-Google Play app on your phone. Because your phone considers any app outside of Google Play an unknown, unknown app, you must tell your phone to allow you to install unknown apps. Go to Settings. Tap Security (or Lock and Security Screen). Scroll down to the Device Administration section and turn on Unknown Sources. Go to Settings. Then apps and notifications. Select Install unknown apps (or Install other apps). Now that you've set up your phone to allow you to install unknown apps, you'll also need a way to find that app file (APK file) on your phone so you can run it. Android phones usually come with a File Manager app that you can use. But if you don't have one, open Google Play on your phone and search for File Manager. You'll see a lot of options available. Some of the best options include: Cx File ExplorerEZ File ExplorerFile Manager Install any of these file managers so you can locate the APK file after you've transferred it to your phone. The easiest way to install an APK file on Android is to download the file using your Android browser. After you find a website that offers an Android app, you'll see a link to download the APK file. You might see a pop-up that asks if you want to allow your browser to save files to your phone's storage. Accept that. You'll also see a warning that this type of file may harm your device. Just click OK to continue. If your phone's web browser doesn't give you the option to open the file after downloading, open the explorer app you installed and go to the Downloads folder on your device. Tap the APK file. Allow the app all the necessary permissions it requires. Then, at the bottom of the installation window, click INSTALL. You'll see a confirmation that the app is installed. Now you'll see the app available in the list of installed apps. If you don't have Internet access on your phone or for any other reason, you can't use your browser to download the file, you can still install apps from your computer. Using your computer's web browser, download the APK file exactly as described above. After it's downloaded, you'll need to connect to your Android phone and transfer the file. If you've never connected Your Android to your computer, you'll need to turn on USB troubleshooting. Depending on the age of the device, there are two ways to do this. Android 4.1.x and smaller: Click Settings, then tap Apps, tap Development, and finally turn on USB troubleshooting. Android 4.2.x and later: Click Settings, scroll down to About Phone, and tap Generate number seven times. This allows the Developer menu. Go back to Settings, tap Developer Options and USB troubleshooting. Turn on the USB troubleshooting check box. Once this is enabled, you can connect your phone to your computer with a USB cable and you will mount the phone just like a memory stick. Once your phone is connected to your computer, it will appear as another drive in your computer's file Explorer. Move the APK file you downloaded from the app's website to your phone. Find the downloaded APK file on your computer. Right-click the file and click Copy. Find your new phone drive file explorer. Expand each folder until you find the /sdcard/download folder. Paste the APK file into that folder. After the file is transferred, use the explorer app on your phone, as described in the previous section, to tap the APK file and install the app. If you don't have a USB cable, another solution is to install WiFi FTP Server from Google Play, and then use an FTP client on your computer (such as FileZilla) to transfer the APK file from your computer to the /sdcard/download folder on your phone. However, this is an advanced option and requires an understanding of how to ftp files. If, for any reason, APK Setup doesn't run when you tap it on your phone or the app launcher has failed and your phone isn't working properly, there's an advanced emergency solution that will work. You can install the APK file on Android from your computer using a tool called Minimal ADB and Fastboot. First, you'll need to follow the steps in the previous section to connect your phone via USB and turn on USB troubleshooting. Then download and install the latest version of Minimal ADB and Fastboot on your computer. Run the tool and a command window will be launched. With your phone connected to your computer with the USB cable, type the adb devices. If the tool can detect your phone, you'll see an ID for the device listed under the List of Attached Devices. You are now ready to transfer the APK file. Using Windows File Explorer, find the downloaded APK file on your computer. Right-click the file and click Copy. Using Windows File Explorer, navigate to the Minimum ADB and Fasboot folder (usually c:\Program Files (x86)\Minimal ADB and Fastboot). Paste the APK file into that folder. Rename the APK file to something short so that it's easy to type as a command. Back in the same command window that you opened before, type the adb install <name-of-file.apk> command. Replace <name-of-file.apk>with the name of the APK file. When you see the word Success, the app is installed on your phone! There are many websites where you can find non-Google Play apps to install. Three of the most popular are APK Pure, Reddit's APK Directory and APK Mirror. Don't forget to do your research before installing any app. Often, a quick Google search can let you know if an app (or company that makes the app) has a questionable reputation. Seriously, do research before you download and install APK on your own Android device. Android: Google Play blocks apps from installing apps on your Android device, either for phone incompatibility or for blocking the region. APK Downloader Extension bypasses these restrictions and is easier than lateral loading. This extension works with any Android browser. When you encounter an app open it in a browser on your phone or tablet. Go to the Share menu, select APK Download Extension, and on the next screen, tap the Get button. That is, the app will be downloaded to your phone. APK Downloader Extension requires Google Play< Services/<name-of-file.apk> , </name-of-file.apk> , </name-of-file.apk> If you don't have it installed, you'll need to sign in with your Google Framework ID. App settings also have the option to automatically install everything you download. APK Downloader Extension does not work with paid apps, it will only download free apps. 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