

How to customize double tap on the Apple Watch

Double tap has arrived with watchOS 10.1. The gesture allows you to control your supported Apple Watch (Series 9 and Ultra 2) with a pinching motion, all without ever having to touch the display. The idea is to give you a way to interact with the watch if you don't have both hands free – like when you're cooking, carrying groceries, or are on a walk and holding a cup of coffee.

While the feature may seem familiar to Assistive Touch, there are a few key differences. I go into it in-depth here, but the gist is Assistive Touch is a full navigational system designed for people with limb differences, whereas double tap is more like double clicking on your computer mouse. You use it to perform the “primary” action of an app at a given moment. For example, if you've got an active timer, double-tapping will pause and restart it. When the timer goes off, you can use double tap to end the timer.

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For the most part, you don't get to choose what double tap does. Apple means for the feature to be contextual, so for this first iteration of the gesture, it's pretty much decided everything double tap will do for you. There are, however, two exceptions: music playback and the new widget Smart Stack in watchOS 10. With music, you can decide whether to pause or play a track or skip to the next one. For the Smart Stack, you

can opt to scroll through all your widgets or select the first one.

While I wish you could customize more, these are two scenarios where you really need a choice – and here's how to get started.

`a:hover]:text-black [>a:hover]:shadow-underline-black dark:[>a:hover]:text-gray-e9 dark:[>a:hover]:shadow-underline-gray-63 [>a]:shadow-underline-gray-13 dark:[>a]:shadow-underline-gray-63">`*Keep in mind that playback options are limited to Apple's Music and Podcast apps.*

`a:hover]:text-black [>a:hover]:shadow-underline-black dark:[>a:hover]:text-gray-e9 dark:[>a:hover]:shadow-underline-gray-63 [>a]:shadow-underline-gray-13 dark:[>a]:shadow-underline-gray-63">`*Selecting advance lets you scroll through the Smart Stack.*