

Geofencing apps and your device

Get the facts on how geofencing apps work and how they affect battery life, plus tips for using the apps properly.

What is a geofencing app?

A geofencing app uses GPS technology to trigger certain actions anytime you (and your phone) leaves or enters a specific location. You may have experienced this already when a company's app sends you a marketing coupon when you're near one of their physical stores.

In this case, we're talking about using geofencing to automatically clock in and out at different job sites, or to use location to send you a notification to start tracking time.

Why teams use geofencing to automate time tracking

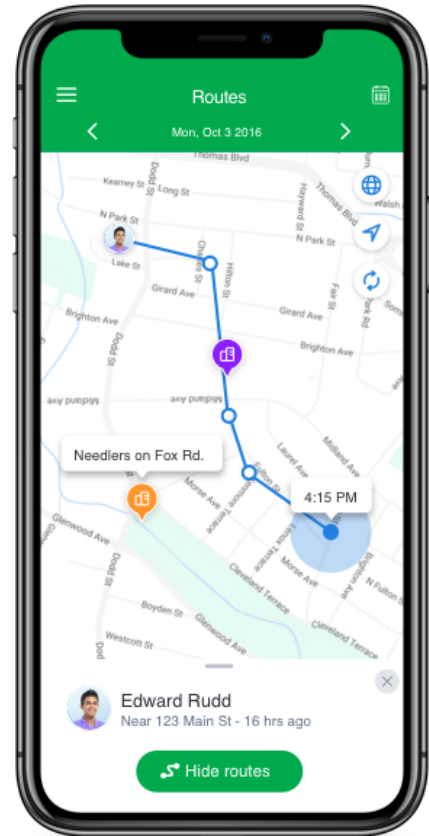
- It's easier: You don't have to remember to clock in, clock out, or keep track of everything you worked on that day.
- Payments are accurate: You'll get paid for the exact hours you worked.
- It helps build trust: Being able to show that you were where you say you were builds trust and gives you more freedom. You won't have a manager driving around to check in on you when it's easy to see if you're at work.

Will the Hubstaff app drain your battery?

The two main reasons why geofencing can drain your battery are that the apps must determine location, and then periodically refresh your location.

A well-designed app makes all the difference when it comes to preserving your battery life, even when tracking GPS and enabling geofencing.

Hubstaff is well-suited to the task, without killing battery life, because it's designed to:



1. Spend as little time as possible determining an employee's location; and
2. Refresh this location as little as possible to be useful while still conserving battery life.

We've reduced all-day battery usage of our geofencing app to [20%](#) (iOS) and [1.5%](#) (Android). We use location points provided by your phone's operating system, and create a new location pin only when you move more than 500m.

By using location points, the app spends less time determining your location and, therefore, less time consuming battery power.

While our geofencing app still needs battery power to run, it operates in the most efficient way possible to minimize the amount of power used throughout the day.

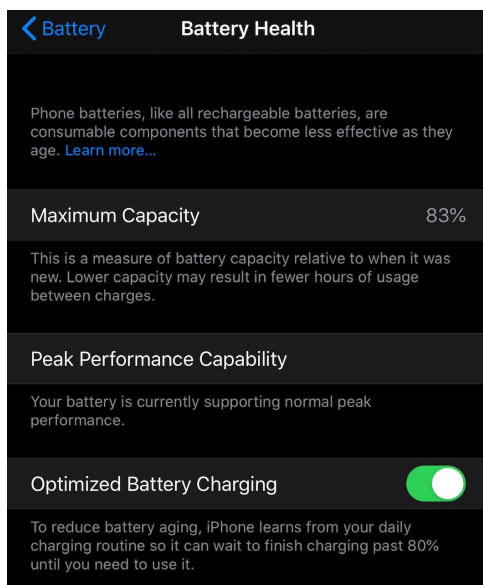
Tips to save battery life with a time and location tracking app

Tip 1. Run the app in the background

Here's how to set Hubstaff to run in the background.

1. Open your Hubstaff app
2. Begin tracking your time
3. Go back to the home screen
4. Your Hubstaff app is now running in the background

To help ensure seamless tracking, make sure your app is set to track location passively.
Tip: Do not manually close the app by swiping up.



Tip 2. Check your battery health

A phone's battery life reduces with time and use.

If you're suffering from a noticeably short battery cycle, ask their phone provider to check the battery health and replace it if necessary.

You can check your battery health and performance in iOS in the Settings menu.

Tip 3. Check other apps

Many other apps run in the background of your phone. Together, all the apps on your device download information, track location, and drain battery life without you realizing it. You can check

and amend which apps run in the background in your user settings.

Tip 4. Limit the apps you have installed

If you're using a work phone, you might want to restrict the number of non-work-related apps you have downloaded.

Social media and news-based apps drain a significant amount of battery life, especially when push notifications are enabled.

Tip 5. Reduce screen drain

Mobile phone screens use a high volume of power when switched on. Here are a few ways to help this:

- Turn down the screen brightness
- Turn off alerts and push notifications that cause the screen to light up
- Turn on auto-lock to power off the screen after one minute of inactivity

Tip 6. Enable battery saving mode

Most phones come with a battery saving mode that is manually or automatically switched on to conserve battery life. This is achieved by shutting down unused background apps, turning off notifications, and reducing screen brightness.

More questions?

If you still aren't sure about how the apps work or what is being tracked, you have some options.

- Ask your manager for more information about what they're tracking
- Ask for a demo with the software company so you can ask questions directly
- Ask for a trial period that will allow you to see how it works without using it officially

