

Use this guide to make a website shortcut on your iPhone homescreen.

You'll be prompted to name the shortcut before tapping the Add button. The shortcut can be dragged around and placed anywhere, including in app folders — just like a normal app icon. (To create app folders on iOS, touch-and-drag an app's icon onto another app's icon and hold it there for a moment.) When you tap the icon, it will load the website in a normal tab inside the Safari browser app.

Other browsers, like Chrome for iOS, don't offer this feature. Due the limitations in Apple's iOS, only Apple's own Safari browser is allowed to do this.

Windows 8, 8.1, RT

Windows 8, 8.1, and RT devices also offer a way to pin websites to your Start screen. This is obviously most useful on tablets, not on desktop PCs where you don't want to see the Start screen. On the Windows desktop, you can pin website shortcuts to your taskbar for easier access.

First, open the modern Internet Explorer browser — that's what you're probably using on a tablet, anyway, as it offers the most touch-optimized experience. Navigate to the website you want to pin, pull up the app bar — for example, by right-clicking or swiping up from the bottom of your screen — and tap the star icon. Tap the pin icon, enter a name for the shortcut, and click Pin to Start. The website will appear as a tile on your Start screen.

Tap the tile and the website will open in Internet Explorer. Some websites offer live tile support — Windows will use an associated RSS feed to display the latest headlines and updates from a site if you pin it to your Start screen. Most websites haven't been configured to support this feature. If they have, you'll see the updates after pinning it to your home screen.

Windows Phone

The process is similar on Windows Phone. First, open the website you want to pin in Internet Explorer. Tap the More (...) button and tap