FaceTime Video Messaging and Skype

Your iPhone 4 brings many new capabilities to your life, some of which seemed like science fiction just a few years ago. For example, video calling is now not only possible, but extremely easy to use with the new FaceTime feature. As long as you and your caller are on iPhone 4s and you’re both on a Wi-Fi network, you can have unlimited video calls. In this chapter, we will show you how to enable and use FaceTime, as well as how to start having fun with this great new feature.

New services that provide similar functionality are sprouting up almost daily. In this chapter, we will take a look at Fring, a new, cross-platform video chat app that works very similarly to FaceTime.

Making calls over Wi-Fi is also possible with Skype, the popular video calling and chat program that many of us use on our computers. We will also show you how you can use the Skype app.

Speaking of video, your iPhone 4 is a very capable video recorder. You can record and export HD video up to 720p. You can then publish that video straight to YouTube or MobileMe or even send it to an email recipient. We will also show you how to shoot and quickly “trim” your videos, as well as upload them.

New to the iPhone 4 this year is the iMovie app that Mac users have been using for some time. With iMovie, you can actually create movies by joining movie clips, adding pictures and transitions, and then adding your own audio track. When you’re finished, you can upload the movie to the Web.

Video Calling

For many years, we have watched TV episodes and movies debut future technology like this. For example, many of these episodes and movies show people talking on small,
portable phones and having video conversations. Even *The Jetsons* cartoon in the 1970s had this as a future concept.

The iPhone 4 makes that future thinking a reality today. There are a few apps that enable you to make video calls on your iPhone using the front-facing camera. At this time, only one app allows you to use both the front-facing camera and the rear camera: **FaceTime**.

**Video Calling with FaceTime**

**FaceTime** is the proprietary feature app highlighted in many of Apple’s iPhone 4 commercials. Essentially, **FaceTime** is free over Wi-Fi calling that allows you to see the caller on the other end of the conversation through the phone’s front-facing camera.

**NOTE**: For now **FaceTime** is only available for iPhone 4 to iPhone 4 calls, and it’s only available over a Wi-Fi network. Apple says it is exploring expanding this service, so it works over standard 3G networks in the near future; however, this will also depend on carriers.

**Enabling FaceTime calling on your iPhone**

When you first use your iPhone, **FaceTime** is not yet enabled. To enable the iPhone to receive and make **FaceTime** calls, follow these steps:

1. Go to your **Settings** icon and touch it.
2. Scroll down to the **Phone** option tab.
3. Toggle the **FaceTime** switch to the **ON** position.

**Using FaceTime**

Once **FaceTime** is enabled, you will see it as an option with every call you place from the iPhone. The **FaceTime** icon will be part of the option display on all phone calls. **FaceTime** will only work, however, if the other caller is on an iPhone 4, and the **FaceTime** feature is enabled on both phones.