Chapter 8

Using Your Android Tablet Wherever You Go

So far in this book, you have learned how to make your tablet be the center of your Google experience, as well as how to have some fun with it. Your Android tablet can replace many of the functions that you would normally have to sit in front of a computer to do: managing e-mail, surfing the Web, video chatting, and much more. But, your tablet is capable of doing much more for you. In fact, many users are replacing their laptops with tablets when they are on the go, because they are so portable.

In this chapter, you will learn how your tablet can extend your desktop, as well as provide new tools that you can use to explore the world around you.

Making Your Tablet More Like Your Desktop

More and more things are done on our computers every day. Fewer people open the Yellow Pages than go to www.YellowPages.com to look for an address or phone number anymore. Google’s search engine is one of most used web sites on the planet for this very reason. Using your computer is great for getting information quickly, but unless you decide to print that information or write it down, it stays on your computer. If you have an Android tablet, there’s a quick and easy way to accomplish the same goals without printing or writing.

Alternatively, say you need access to documents on the go. You could e-mail the files back and forth to yourself or walk around with a flash drive in your pocket, but if you have a tablet, there are tools at your disposal to be smarter about how you handle those documents. In this section, we’ll look at tools for syncing your tablet with other Google apps and for storing documents where they can be reached from any device.
Sync Your Tablet with Google Chrome

If you use the Web a lot, chances are good your web browser has saved a few things for you. You probably have a couple of bookmarks for your favorite sites, or maybe when you order something off the Internet, your address is already saved on the web site. Maybe when you log in to Facebook, you find that you are already logged in because your browser has saved your spot. These are all really nice features to have, but they go away immediately when you move to a new device, since nothing is saved. If you use Google Chrome with an Android tablet, this is not the case at all.

Open Google Chrome, like we did in Figure 8–1, and click the wrench icon to the far right of your toolbar. Head to the bottom of the list that just popped up and select Settings. The Options tab will open in Chrome, showing you all of the things you can change in Chrome. Select Personal Stuff from the left and select SYNC, the first option to appear on the new page.

![Chrome Sync setup form on a computer](image)

Once you have enabled syncing from your web browser, you will be able to activate it on your tablet and begin transferring information. From your home screen, tap the clock in the bottom-right corner and select the Settings icon from the pop-up. Find Accounts & Sync in the list and tap it, revealing the option to select an account. Tap your account to continue to the options for your account, and select “Sync browser” from the list.