

## MacStories Tweetbot Coverage

\*Beginning on [the last page of their tweetbot tag](#).\*

## Tweetbot for iPhone Review



I remember when I bought my first iPhone, Twittelator was the first Twitter client I downloaded

from the App Store. Back then I wasn't writing for MacStories, and I didn't know about Loren Brichter's Tweetie. I used Twittelator for months: it was a great app that had everything I needed. I saw no point in switching to another application, let alone start browsing the App Store looking for alternatives. Twitter was a young platform in the middle of expansion with lots of downtime issues, there were no lists or location features and the concept of "retweets" was just taking off thanks to the initiative of some users not affiliated with Twitter at all. For what I had to do, Twittelator was fine. Then I started MacStories, and the hunt for more compelling, alternative, different Twitter apps began.

Twitterrific came after Twittelator for me. I used it for a couple of months and then finally purchased Tweetie - which had seen a terrific rise in popularity thanks to an elegant UI design, a fast engine and a simple, yet powerful set of features. I fell in love with Tweetie: it was stable, fast, intuitive, continually updated. It received the support **of the entire Apple community**, and it quickly became a standard among iPhone geeks to have Tweetie on a device's homescreen. The rest is history: Tweetie 2 shipped and revolutionized the ecosystem with pull to refresh, gestures, a refreshed interface and, overall, the richest feature set available on the market. In the meantime, Twitter as a platform was growing to accommodate more users, more servers and - as a side effect to media starting to use the service to deliver news - more responsibilities. Without going back through all the changes that happened at Twitter HQ between 2009 and 2010, you might remember when the company announced **they were buying Loren Brichter's Tweetie** and putting him in the position of lead mobile developer. Twitter rebranded the app as "Twitter for iPhone", Tweetie 2 for Mac disappeared from our radars to eventually **come back as Twitter for Mac**. Twitter as a *company* has changed (so much that they don't even want **too many unofficial clients anymore**), but the core concept of the *service* stays the same: it's all about sharing content in real time. That hasn't changed at all. If anything, it got better.

This is why I'm looking back at the 2008 - 2010 period with a bit of nostalgia mixed with excitement for what's next: the developer community has always driven Twitter's innovation on mobile platforms. Twittelator, Twitterrific, Birdbrain, Tweetie, Osfoora, Tweet Library: these are some of the great apps that have changed the way we check on Twitter with our iPhones and iPads, and have created new uses and interfaces for a service that was initially meant for sharing short status messages. You can't say this for many companies nowadays, but third-party developers have been the greatest contribution to Twitter in the past three years.

On the other end of the spectrum, there's the personal aspect of the story. As Twitter was growing in 2009 and 2010, so was this website. Of course I'm not trying to compare Twitter's growth to MacStories' one - that would be silly - but I'm saying *I was there* when all those clients started coming out in the App Store, when Tweetie 2.0 was released, when Twitter launched **its criticized iPad app**. Those are pretty big milestones in the history of technology, moments of



innovation that a bad ranking on Google Search can't take away from us. I have installed dozens of Twitter apps, I have seen developers struggling to come up with the right features at the right time, or the best design to appeal new users in a market that was getting crowded very quickly. And you know, there are actual people behind the indie Twitter apps we usually cover – not faceless companies looking for easy funding and a solid exit strategy. From a blogger's perspective, the adoption of Twitter clients and the rise of Twitter as a real time communication service are quite possibly the most notable changes that happened in the tech scene in the recent years.

But as the timestamps on our tweets teach us, stuff in the real-time world gets old in a matter of minutes. And when something gets old and fails at keeping our attention span active, it's time to make room for the new. But make no mistake: if there's anything I've learned from iOS developers, it's that innovation doesn't stem from a "New & Noteworthy" label in the App Store. Shipping a new product isn't a proxy for innovation. It takes a lot of ideas, willingness to change the rules and, most of all, a real "leap of faith" to release something you're not sure it's ever going to catch on, but you feel in your heart and tired coding fingers was worth the effort.

Innovation comes from the stubbornness that don't accept what's been given to them.

Innovation is a big word when it comes to Twitter clients. The market has been saturated by thousands of copycats that don't add any new functionality to Twitter as a platform or service for iOS devices; the official applications are generally fine for average users who are looking for a way to tweet from their iPhones and iPads and Macs. Being an innovator in the mobile Twitter scene today means being able to disrupt what's already available. I can understand why that could be a risk not so many devs are willing to take, especially considering Twitter's aforementioned update regarding third-party clients. It's a tough call.

You may be wondering why I've already written 900 words to introduce you to the latest application from [Tapbots](#), makers of App Store hits like Pastebot and Convertbot. I mean, it's not a secret that I've been testing [Tweetbot](#) over the past months and that Mark Jardine and Paul Haddad were working on a Twitter app for iPhone. But I believe sometimes a proper introduction is needed, just like a beautiful landscape needs to be admired and examined before a shot. In the case of Twitter clients, looking back at the platform's history is necessary.

Innovation is a risk. True excellence, on the other hand, is exclusive to those who took risks in the past and know what they're facing now, when a new risk comes forward.

Tweetbot is the app I've been waiting for: an excellent innovator of the Twitter platform. My new favorite Twitter client.

There's a lot to do in **Tweetbot**, and several features to talk about. After months of development and testing in a private beta group, Tapbots has managed to release the most complete and functional Twitter client currently available on the App Store – a powerful application that is Tapbots' take on the whole Twitter experience. You can think of Tweetbot as Pastebot applied to your timeline: a beautiful app that shines on the Retina Display thanks to Mark Jardine's usual attention to pixels and taste, combined with a set of functionalities and new ideas that make Tweetbot the most innovative and disruptive Twitter app for iOS I've seen since Tweetie 2 came out years ago. I'm not afraid to call Tweetbot the "best Twitter client available for iPhone", as in these weeks spent testing it I've noticed a clear improvement in the way I can access and read Twitter from my iPhone, as well as being able to get actual work done on it.

## Settings

So let's start from the main screen. Tweetbot allows you to set up multiple Twitter accounts, and switch between them from the same page – which also contains a Settings tab to customize your Tweetbot experience and the various sharing options implemented by Tapbots. Adding a new Twitter account doesn't take you to an embedded Twitter web view, you just have to enter your username and password and wait for the app to authenticate you. One little touch I'm sure a very few people have noticed so far: if you enter the wrong username or password, the login popup will "fall" off screen. Try it. It's this attention to detail that make Tweetbot a great app.

The Settings are organized in General preferences that apply to every section of the app, and account-specific settings that you can tweak and customize for each account you've added in Tweetbot. I want to start from the Settings as I believe Tapbots has nailed this aspect of the app by providing many options that enable you to deeply personalize the experience, and make your Tweetbot different from someone else's – especially when it comes to touch gestures and sound effects. First off, Tweetbot can post tweets in the background: if you leave this preference set to "off", Tweetbot's new tweet window will stay on screen until a tweet is posted. But if you activate it, you'll be able to instantly return to the timeline or whatever window you're in after you've pressed the Send button. What's the benefit? Simple: when you're uploading media like videos and photos, the posting process might take a while. With background posting, Tweetbot gets out of the way, does its job in the background so you can keep interacting with the app while a tweet is being processed. Other options in the General settings include sounds, font size, display name, and triple tap preferences.

So here's what Tweetbot is doing to be the "innovative client" I described above: instead of simply relying on graphics to visually communicate the status of the timeline and your interactions with tweets and users, Tweetbot makes great use of sound effects to let you know

when a tweet has been posted, when new ones have arrived, or when you've successfully retweeted something. It may sound strange at first, but sounds add a whole new layer to Tweetbot - think of [Pastebot's](#) sound notifications for copy and paste actions and you get the basic idea. Yet in Tweetbot almost everything was given a proper sound effect, and quality is top notch. In the sound settings, you're given the option to choose whether you want effects for all actions, notifications only, or nothing. Why are sound effects such a big deal? Because I've found myself instantly recognizing what was going on in the app without even looking. I can scroll my timeline, hit retweet on something, keep scrolling and a few seconds later hear a sound effect and think "Hey, that retweet went through." Again: it's all about the details, and rethinking interaction schemes to innovate a platform that's been stagnant for too long.

I appreciate the fact that you can set font sizes and display users as real names, but I want to focus on tap actions. Like in Twitterrific for iOS, you can perform a triple tap on a tweet to *do something*. In Tweetbot, you can configure this triple tap to mark a tweet as favorite, initiate a reply, retweet, or translate. I keep mine set to "mark as favorite", and I love it.

Last, there are the account settings. In this window you can basically select all the additional services you want to use with your Twitter account, and Tweetbot has a great selection of URL shorteners, image / video upload websites and read later services to choose from. Instapaper and Read It Later are supported, but there's no Readability integration yet. For video upload, you can choose between Mobypicture, TwitVid and yfrog. Mobypicture and yfrog also work as image services, with the addition of [img.ly](#) (which I use), Plixi, Twitgoo and TwitPic. In the URL shortening section, you can log in with your CloudApp account (my favorite), [bit.ly](#) (no authentication), [goo.gl](#), is.gd, j.mp, Linkyy, l.pr and TinyURL. If you select a URL shortening service, all the links you post in Tweetbot will be automatically shortened.

And that's it for the Settings. Like I said Tapbots worked really hard to get as many options as possible out in the first version, and expect more coming in future updates. Right now, these settings help a lot in customizing how Tweetbot works for you, but it's when you get to the app's timeline that you notice why Tweetbot is, indeed, different.

Let me get back to the subject of taking risks for a minute: how do you break the rules and conventions in a Twitter client for iPhone, a well-established category that hasn't seen real innovations since the inception of swipe actions and pull to refresh? By **building on** those innovations, and trying to come up with something new that can "fix" the issues many people had with Twitter apps in the past. At the same time, you have to make sure your product is still accessible and easy to use, because new features added for the sake of being original at all costs can turn out to be a terrible idea. This was the risk - the challenge Tapbots had to accept. And with the final product in our hands today, I have to admit the Twitter experience offered by

Tweetbot is perfect. At least for me, I haven't seen any other app that's so well executed, beautiful, fast and useful for what I have to do with Twitter.

## Timeline & Actions

Tweetbot's timeline is based on three key features: lists, gestures, and actions. Together with these features, there are dozens of additional touches like pull to refresh, timeline resume and customizable tabs that are the proverbial icing on the cake. In Tweetbot, any Twitter list can become your main timeline in two taps. With a button in top toolbar that separates the "back" and "new tweet" buttons, you can access all your private / public lists you've created or subscribed to and make them a timeline that will replace the people you follow until you select the main Timeline again. Let's say I want to temporarily switch to a timeline based on a list collecting people that tweet about RIM: I tap on the timeline button, select the list, and there my main timeline is replaced by the RIM folks. I can go back at any time, choose lists - even create new ones and add users to them thanks to Tweetbot's full list management. Other Twitter clients in the past tried to play around with this concept of turning lists into timelines, but none of them got close to today's implementation in Tweetbot. It's simple, fun, and adds value to my productivity.

The timeline is organized in tabs: people you follow, replies, direct messages, and two customizable tabs. Instead of putting a tab for favorite tweets and then an obscure "More" tab to let you navigate between other sections like most Twitter clients do nowadays, Tapbots created a system that allows you to access **4 sections using 2 tabs**. Once you try it, it's genius: the last two tabs in the bottom bar have little arrows next to the main icon, which means these tabs can be "expanded" to reveal more sections. So let's say Tweetbot defaults my fourth tab to Favorites but I want to put Lists in there, all I have to do is tap & hold the tab, and choose lists (or the third item, retweets). It's a tiny, translucent menu that contains icons for the additional sections you might want to open and - guess what - it's got its own sound effect as well. In my opinion, this is incredibly better than having a More tab **to manually customize the contents of the tab bar** - Tweetbot has 5 tabs, but they're virtually 9. Also, the selected tab has a pressed state, and a blue highlight to indicate new tweets or direct messages. It looks great, it works equally well. Direct messages can be marked as read with a double tap, and they're presented in threaded conversation views. Thumbs up.

To quickly scroll to the top of the timeline, you can tap on the iOS status bar as you would expect from any iPhone app. But as you do that, you might notice something different about Tweetbot's timeline. First, there's a search field above the first tweet that enables you to filter down status updates based on specific keywords. If you keep scrolling up, you will stumble upon Tweetbot's version of the mythical pull to refresh gesture: it's got a spinning blue indicator

that visually tells you what's going on, and a timestamp with the last time you've refreshed the timeline. When the timeline is successfully updated, Tweetbot plays a "ping" sound but doesn't automatically scroll to the top: instead, it places a blue bar between the last tweet you read and the newly fetched ones telling you how many new tweets you have. Swipe up, and there you have some new tweets to read - refresh again, and the previous bar goes away making room for a new one indicating new tweets. It's a lot simpler than it sounds from a written review. Combine pull to refresh and the "new tweets" inline notification with Tweetbot's perfect resume function and you get the idea of why I love this app so much. You know when you leave Twitter for a few hours and you come back to find hundreds of new tweets, right? To me, that usually happens in the morning when I wake up and fire up Twitter for Mac. Now, in most Twitter apps for iOS the action of loading past tweets isn't well implemented at all: you have to manually scroll to the bottom, and keep scrolling until an API limit is reached and the app can't get any more tweets. In Tweetbot, you get a visual "break" between recent tweets and past ones in the form of an empty dark grey bar with a + icon in the middle. When you tap on that, the app begins loading tweets, "opens" the timeline with a cool animation and puts loaded tweets in there. Your position is maintained, and the process takes seconds even on 3G. In my tests, Tweetbot has always been reliable at keeping my exact position in the timeline even after days, and it always loaded new / past tweets correctly. For work purposes, this is simply great: I don't lose my position in the timeline, and I don't lose tweets. It's a win-win feature.

The best thing about Tweetbot, however, isn't the timeline itself: it's how you can do stuff with tweets that impressed me since the first beta I installed on my iPhone. It's how you can perform actions on tweets easily, quickly, with just a few gestures or taps without being forced to leave the timeline at all. And when you *do need* to leave the timeline to open another view that can't be displayed inline (for obvious reasons), Tweetbot makes sure you get there with ease. Everything in Tweetbot is intuitive. A big feature of version 1.0 is support for gestures: you can swipe right on a tweet to view a conversation, or swipe left to view "related tweets" - namely, all replies to the author. These features are useful and fun to use for three reasons: they have their own sound effects and indicators next to the main tweet; they're fast; they're so addictive you'll wonder why didn't anyone else think of them before. Ever since I started using Tweetbot, I tried to go back to other clients and I immediately missed Tweetbot's quick way of displaying a conversation with a single swipe. This is a functionality you can't understand from the screenshots - you have to try it and let it grow on you.

And then there's the **action drawer**. This is hands-down my favorite feature of Tweetbot and the one that's helping me save a lot of time when dealing with tweets related to MacStories or material I want to write about. It works like this: tap on a tweet, and the timeline collapses to reveal a drawer "beneath" a message. This action panel contains buttons to reply, retweet, mark as favorite, open the detail view for a tweet or "do stuff." The gear button, in fact, allows you to

send to a read later service, post a link to the tweet, copy an entire tweet, email it or translate it. The “copy tweet” functionality is the one that I’ve been using the most over the past months, as it enables me to copy tweets from the @macstoriesnet account and re-post them as they are. To dismiss the action drawer, tap again on the tweet. Why is Tweetbot’s action drawer any better than Twitter’s swipe-to-reveal menu? First, it doesn’t hide a tweet and it’s unobtrusive in the way it shows up on your timeline. More importantly, it contains functionalities that several clients only let you access from a “sharing” button in the tweet detail view, which in Tweetbot is entirely optional and doesn’t need to be opened. These actions can also be activated with a tap: tap & hold on a link to send to Instapaper, tweet the URL or open in Safari; tap on a link (while the action drawer is open) to view it in the built-in web view. On the other hand, if you tap & hold on a tweet you’ll get the same options from the gear button. But there’s more: tap&hold on a profile pic to check on follow status, unfollow, add to list, DM and report for spam; double tap to open a user’s profile. This view gives you all the information you need about a user: location and website (both tappable), picture, bio, followers, following count and lists. You can block users within Tweetbot, if you want. You can also view everyone’s tweets, replies, favorites and lists without leaving the app. Furthermore, the “find people” feature in the Search tab lets you find users and follow them with literally two taps. Of course, you can browse trends, interests and saved searches, too.

Last, there’s the tweet compose window. Tapbots went for a minimal approach here, with a simple design focused on letting you get a tweet out as fast as possible. However, there are many options behind the curtain: you can save and attach drafts (I love this); switch accounts with a single tap thanks to the user button at the top; you can upload photos or videos or – here comes one of the many big features of Tweetbot – remove the location the app automatically gets for you and choose coordinates or points of interests instead.

## Wrap-up

There’s a lot to do in Tweetbot, and many little design touches and interactions I haven’t mentioned. Like the way the app displays retweets, Boxcar integration, or the blue drawer that comes down from the status bar after you’ve posted a new tweet. They play an important role in the app, but they’re all part of a much sophisticated plan when you look at the big picture. Tweetbot comes from developers who decided they wanted to make the perfect Twitter client with a beautiful user interface, an amazing feature set, and an innovative approach to timelines. That’s what I call a *risk*. A challenge that’s been in development for more than a year, a huge risk considering Twitter’s intention to undervalue “regular clients” and focus on new uses for the platform.

Yet, Tapbots wanted to make a better client.



considering the portrait nature of the iPhone, landscape only works in three sections: compose. They succeeded. Tweetbot is everything I've ever wanted from a Twitter app: it looks great, it's fast on WiFi and 3G, it innovates in several aspects that have been regarded as "standards" from both users and developers for too long. Could Tweetbot be any better? Maybe. The developers could work on improving the speed of animations and refresh times as much as possible, or implement support for Readability and other URL shortening services. But as far as the Twitter experience goes, Tweetbot has got everything I'm looking for.

So go download it now. [Tweetbot](#) was a risk for Tapbots, but they managed to build the best Twitter client for iPhone I've ever had.

[Tweetbot for iPhone Review](#)

## Tweetbot 1.1 Released: Landscape Mode, CloudApp, Fixes



If you read my original [Tweetbot for iPhone review](#), you know it's a great Twitter client I'm in love with. Over the past weeks I had the chance to try out an early version of Tweetbot 1.1, [released today in the App Store](#), and once again Tapbots has managed to fit so many features into the app it'd be hard at this point to think of anything that didn't find its way into Tweetbot. Version 1.1 introduces the much requested support for landscape mode, but there's a catch:

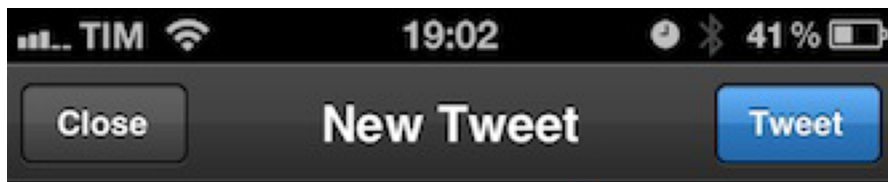
considering the portrait nature of the iPhone, landscape only works in three sections: compose window, for those who like to type with a larger keyboard; media, to view photos in landscape; web, to have a broader view of web pages. It makes sense to not offer landscape support in the timeline – you’d have to give up on viewing a certain amount of tweets in horizontal orientation, plus, let’s face it, it would just look weird. So landscape it is, but only for some sections of the app.

Tweetbot 1.1 is also rich in additions to the main experience. The app’s got new user and hashtag buttons added to the compose screen, to make it easier to include people of specific keywords in a tweet. The hashtag picker has been improved as well, if you’re into following Twitter trends, or have a set of tags you use often. More importantly, photos and videos can now be uploaded to CloudApp, meaning the service is not only being used for URL shortening anymore. In the timeline, Tapbots has fixed the location stuff to display more accurate locations and moved the “tweet gap” bar above old tweets, instead of below. I’m not sure I like the new gap bar better, but perhaps it’ll keep growing on me over the next weeks.

Overall, Tweetbot 1.1 builds on the excellent foundation of version 1.0 to deliver a powerful Twitter client that’s heavily based on Tapbots’ custom style, but it’s accessible for anyone who’s never used a Tapbots app before. The app is propagating now in the App Store, so check for updates in iTunes in a few minutes if it isn’t out for you yet.

**Tweetbot 1.1 Released: Landscape Mode, CloudApp, Fixes**

## **Tweetbot 1.2 Released With Several Enhancements**



Lazio, Italy



Tweetbot, the Twitter client from Tapbots we reviewed [here](#), has been updated to version 1.2, adding several features requested by users in the past weeks and fixing some of the minor gripes we had with the application when it first came out. Whilst version 1.1 [focused on adding CloudApp](#) and landscape support, Tweetbot 1.2 brings a series of refinements and enhancements across all the sections of the client that should dramatically improve the experience. For example, you can now undo retweets, and retweet from another account if you hold down the retweet button. That's quite handy: not only you can delete accidental retweets, you can also retweet quickly without constantly switching between accounts. And if you don't like Twitter's standard retweets, Tweetbot 1.2 has an option to send old "quote style" retweets.

Tweetbot 1.2 introduces absolute and relative timestamps, Google/Instapaper Mobilizer support for when you need to strip away all the clutter from a webpage and read it in a text-only

view, as well as integration with Bitly.Pro for those who keep a custom domain on the popular link shortening service. Besides the new great user & hashtag picker from the compose view (make sure to check out the animations), short link geeks should be happy to know Tweetbot 1.2 has support for custom API endpoints. Other features in this update include:

- Pinboard support in the read later options
- Pikchur image upload support
- Tapping on a success/failure message dismisses it instantly
- Added @username/listname for followed lists

Tweetbot 1.2 is [available now at \\$1.99 on the App Store](#).

[Tweetbot 1.2 Released With Several Enhancements](#)

## **Tweetbot 1.3 Released with New Features & Favstar Support**



It was only three weeks ago that we [covered](#) Tweetbot 1.2, an update to the popular Twitter client from Tapbots that added retweet undo options, old-style retweets, Pinboard support and a new user/hashtag picker in the compose screen. Today, another update to Tweetbot has been released, reaching version 1.3 and adding new design refinements, Twitter features, as well as general fixes aimed at improving the user experience.

Tweetbot 1.3 comes with a new account switcher popover that adds one extra step to go back to the account screen, but should prevent users from accidentally hitting the button when touching the top timeline bar. Tapbots received several reports of users annoyed by the fact that the button was too close to the timeline selector, and rather than removing it or replacing it altogether, they figured out a way to quickly switch accounts or go back to the accounts & settings page. It is an extra step but the trade-off should be worth it. Also improved in Tweetbot 1.3 are direct messages: you can now delete entire threads and single messages, copy them and translate them, but also enjoy a new recipient selector when composing a new DM. Obviously, Tweetbot has already been updated to include Twitter's recent policy changes and

OAuth login to use direct messages (if you haven't re-authorized the app, do it now).

Another new feature that had me excited to check out Tweetbot 1.3 is Favstar support: for those who don't know, [Favstar](#) is a fantastic ego-booster service that lets you see how many people have retweeted and marked your tweets as favorite. It provides a "most recent" list, as well as an all-time chart to see your most successful 140-character messages ever. I'm addicted to Favstar, and Tweetbot now comes with handy integration to invoke the "award tweet of the day action" (tap and hold the favorite button in the tweet drawer) and open your Favstar profile (double tap your profile tab). I love this.

Other changes in Tweetbot 1.3 include:

- Local trends
- "Add to List" feature improved and renamed to "Manage List Memberships"
- Added "go to user" feature in people search (shows when typing into the "Search People" box)
- Gaps now load above or below depending on position of gap when button is invoked.
- Compose Tweet from hashtag (by holding down on a hashtag in a tweet)
- Drafts button now displays # of drafts.

It's great to see Tweetbot getting better and more powerful on each release, and you can read more about the future of the app [here](#). Or, you can check out more screenshots of version 1.3 below and download the app [here](#).

[Tweetbot 1.3 Released with New Features & Favstar Support](#)

## Tweetbot Gets Initial Push Notification Support





Tweetbot, the Twitter client “with personality” we reviewed a while ago and followed as the developers introduced new features and fixes, has received a major update to version 1.4 that adds a new important functionality, highly requested by the app’s userbase: push notifications. Alongside various bug fixes, selected tabs now remembered when switching accounts, and lists from Twitter users viewable as tweets, Tweetbot 1.4 comes with a new Push Notifications service in the Settings that allows you to be notified about incoming DMs, replies, follows and unfollows, and so forth. The supported Twitter services are many, however the developers have decided to limit the rollout of push notifications for now, mentioning scaling issues and API limitations from Twitter. As Tapbots wants to ensure an optimal experience for everyone, make sure their push notification servers hold up to the new traffic (enabling push notifications for an app – especially a Twitter client – isn’t as easy as most people think) and avoid delays in notification delivery, the initial rollout of Tweetbot push notifications will allow 1,000 users to

sign up on a first come, first serve basis. In the following weeks, the limit will be raised to 10,000 users. Please keep in mind that right now - the app has just started propagating in the iTunes Store - notifications might take a while to become active as Tapbots set up the new service.

Tapbots [explained](#) the decision on their blog:

Yes, Tweetbot 1.4 has push, but not everyone will have access to it as soon as we launch. We need to make sure our code will properly scale. If we let everyone access the service at once, any small problem on our part may cause the servers to crash. Also, Twitter has only approved us to monitor 10,000 accounts via their site streaming service. Their service is in beta and they need to scale properly as well. We'll be working with them over the following weeks to increase this limit.

For launch, we are allowing around 1000 twitter accounts to access push notifications.

To enable push notifications, and see if they're still available to new users, head over to the app's settings, open the Push Notifications panel and try to activate a switch. Furthermore, Tapbots has also implemented nice in-app notifications that will slide from the top of the screen to show you an incoming DM or mention without specific to the Messages or Replies tab.

Another interesting addition to Tweetbot in version 1.4 is tweet notes. Users can now attach a note to tweets using services like CloudApp, twtmore or pastebin. Push notifications are a welcome addition to Tweetbot, and we'll keep an eye on the service as Tapbots scale their servers to accommodate more users. You can [download Tweetbot at \\$2.99 on the App Store](#).

**Update:** In a blog [post](#), the Tapbots developers say an issue with the 1.4 build is preventing push notifications from working. An update has been already submitted to the App Store to fix the error.

The push service isn't working in 1.4. Provisioning profile issues. Human error. We are truly sorry. We submitted a new build with a fix that will work. We've politely asked Apple to expedite the process so hopefully the wait won't be too long.

**Update 7/15:** Tweetbot 1.4.1 has been approved and it's now available in the App Store. The new build fixes the issues with push notifications reported yesterday, allowing access to the first 1,000 users to enable them. According to Tapbots, roughly 10 minutes after the release they were already halfway through the initial 1,000 users limit. Check out a screenshot of Tweetbot's in-app notification banner below.

## Tweetbot 1.5: Muting is Forever



Well, it's finally here. You asked for it – you wagged your finger about it – you hate the people you follow on Twitter so much that you don't want to hear another peep out of them, yet deep down you don't really want to get in one of those uncomfortable, "Why did you unfollow me!?" moments. Or maybe someone's had a little too much caffeine and you just need a break. With Tweetbot 1.5, you can mute those pesky over-tweeters and keep meme-esque hashtags from cluttering your timeline. Although I hear there's a self destruction mechanism built in if you ever mute.

Muting! It's like the unfollow no-one else but you has to know about. Let's look at Tapbot\_Paul for example: he's been going overboard with these Google + Motorola tweets. Yeah, I could miss out on some new Tweetbot news, but I'll take my chances and keep Paul out of my timeline for a day. Ah, peace and quiet! And if I miss the warmth of his tweeting voice, I can undo the mute at anytime.

So how does muting work? It works pretty similarly to reporting someone as spam: you hold down on that person's avatar (or alternatively visit their profile and hit the gear button), and select the mute option. If you want to see everything you've muted, there's a new button in the tab bar so you can manage everything and everyone. What about hashtags? Just hold on the hashtag, and mute that bad-boy too. Anyone who tweets with that annoying will be filtered from your timeline.

Say hello to muting Zen.

There's some additional goodies too, just in case muting wasn't enough. You've been able to email direct message conversations for a while now, but what if you only want to email a single message? You were once able to tap on a direct message and only get options to translate and copy the tweet, but now you have the additional option of emailing it off. This is great if you want to share directions, instructions, etc. without sharing the entire conversation about Godzilla vs. Mothra. I imagine this will be useful for a lot of you mobile lackeys.

Talking about lackeys (this is a terrible transition – I am so sorry ), those engineering-crazies over at Twitter are undoing this whole short URL business with a bunch of [t.co](#) links. Every link you post on Twitter will now be shortened with Twitter's magic shortener – if you want the “why” behind it all, read [here](#) and [here](#). I'm not crazy about [t.co](#), but other people love them. The nice thing about [t.co](#) links at least is that you won't notice them – Twitter's apps and Tweetbot automatically expand the URL so you can see what you're getting into.

Because of this short URL hoopla, there might be an unhappy person or two. Tweetbot, now in full support of [t.co](#) URLs, has cut down on the shortening services provided. Everything from [j.mp](#) to TinyURL has been gutted to support only a few services (including Twitter's own) for analytics outside of the Twitter ecosystem ([bit.ly](#) pro) or for CloudApp. In response to the, “OMG @\$#! WHY would you do this!?” exclamation-exclamations, the short answer is because [t.co](#) is going to [shorten links regardless of external short URL](#) you use.

While I sidestep the possible rage-face caused by the last dose of information, I can gladly say that Tweetbot has international hashtag support! At least for Japanese, Cyrillic, and Korean (I'm

not sure about other languages) – Twitter rolled out a feature not long ago that would allow you to see [English Tweets written in a more familiar language](#), and now Tweetbot can do it too.

So that's Tweetbot 1.5: Muting, [t.co](#) all the way, and international hashtag support ready for your grimey fingers in the App Store. Just hit the update button – it's sitting right there (or will be soon). If you don't have Tweetbot yet, you're missing out: slick animations, in-app notifications, and other goodies await. A great companion to your stockpile of Twitter clients, you can grab Tweetbot [for \\$2.99 in the App Store](#).

P.S.: We've unblocked Paul. *For now.*

[Tweetbot 1.5: Muting is Forever](#)

## Tweetbot 1.6 Gets Tweet Marker Timeline Sync



Following the [muting features and improvements](#) introduced in version 1.5, everyone's favorite Twitter client from Tapbots, [Tweetbot](#), has been updated to 1.6 to include timeline sync through Manton Reece's [Tweet Marker](#). For those unaware of such system, Tweet Marker is a fantastic free web service that allows developers to turn on a feature in their Twitter clients to enable

timeline sync for users. Best showcased in the Iconfactory's Twitterrific for Mac and iOS, Tweet Marker lets users effortlessly switch between apps or platforms (such as the iPad and Mac) while retaining the last-read tweet position. In Twitterrific, as we [detailed in our coverage](#), Tweet Marker integration means the app can either "show the marker", or automatically scroll to it.

Because Tweet Marker is cross-platform, your timeline position from Twitterrific (or any other app that will soon support the service) can be synced to Tweetbot, and vice versa. Tweetbot will automatically scroll to the last synced tweet in your timeline, and display a "marker" next to it. To enable Tweet Marker in Tweetbot a quick trip to the Settings is required, so you can activate "Sync" under Account Settings → Services. Furthermore, Tweetbot syncs mentions and lists as well through Tweet Marker, so future applications that will integrate this technology will have the opportunity to get further syncing besides the main timeline. As usual, Tweet Marker's sync is invisible, and fast. You won't even notice it once it's active, and it works really well combined with Twitterrific (which I'm a big fan of).

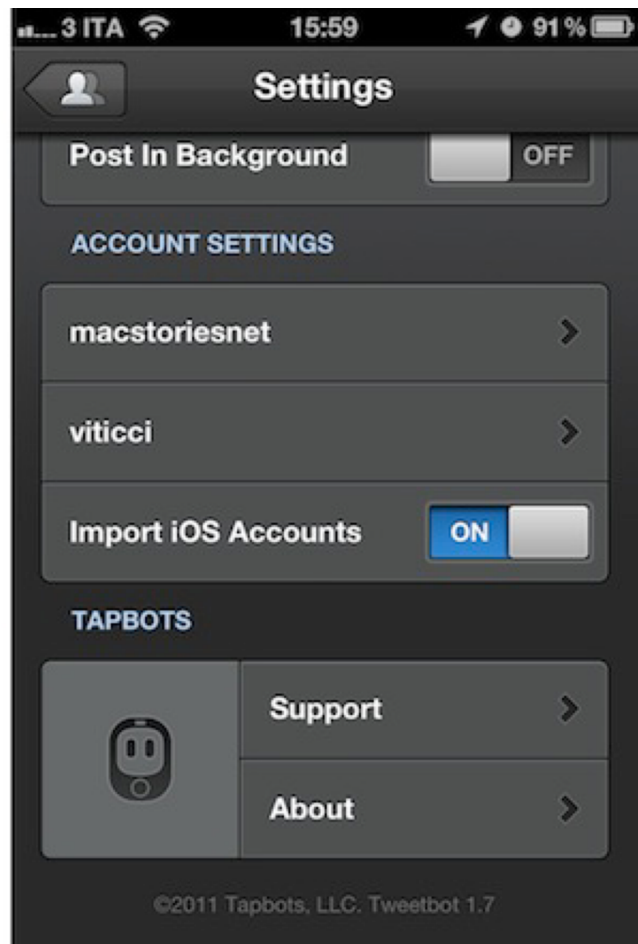
Tweetbot 1.6 also brings various improvements to username search in the compose view, which now uses your following list, and location. The latter has been refined to "stick" your location including POI across multiple tweets if you haven't moved. It's a nice touch.

The latest update to Tweetbot is nice, but it becomes a must-have if you're already hooked to Tweet Marker's usefulness and simplicity. Get it now [on the App Store at \\$2.99](#).

[Tweetbot 1.6 Gets Tweet Marker Timeline Sync](#)

## Tweetbot Gets iOS 5 Twitter Integration with Single Sign-On





iOS 5 is officially launching tomorrow, and the App Store's review team has been busy these past few days quickly approving app updates that take advantage of the new features available to developers. A first example was OmniFocus for iOS, **updated to include the location reminders** Apple will make popular with its own native Reminders app. Today another popular third-party app for the iPhone, Tweetbot, has been updated to include bug fixes and a new iOS 5-only feature - Twitter integration.

Whilst we'll have a detailed overview of Twitter integration in iOS 5 tomorrow, Apple has already announced that developers will be able to use a feature called single sign-on to let their apps fetch Twitter credentials directly from the operating system, which has a new Twitter panel inside the Settings. Thanks to single sign-on, if a Twitter account (or multiple ones) are already configured in iOS 5's Twitter settings, third-party apps like Tweetbot won't need to re-authenticate users through a clumsy web view as they've been forced to do until today. They can simply get the account-related information from iOS' Settings app.

So when you'll install iOS 5 tomorrow, try to add your Twitter account to the iPhone's settings - this will enable **other functionalities** that we'll also cover tomorrow in our overview. Then install the new Tweetbot 1.7, which is already available, and you'll notice you won't have to re-enter your Twitter credentials again - Tweetbot will ask you if it's okay to add the accounts already on your device. The procedure takes seconds, and is managed by an "Import iOS Accounts" option

in Tweetbot's settings. The best part is that because third-party apps are deeply integrated with Twitter in iOS 5, new accounts you'll add through Tweetbot will also be carried over the system's Twitter settings.

This kind of Twitter integration with the OS makes for a better first launch experience as users don't need to go find their Twitter passwords again and re-authorize every account on each Twitter-enabled app. Tweetbot is the first popular third-party client to take advantage of this, and you [get it now on the App Store for \\$2.99](#).

[Tweetbot Gets iOS 5 Twitter Integration with Single Sign-On](#)

## Tapbots Release First Ever #TweetbotSale



[Tapbots](#), creators of awesome iPhone apps such as Calcbot, Weightbot, Pastebot, and Convertbot have decided to promote their fantastic twitter client by having a limited time sale of [Tweetbot](#). Normally \$2.99, Tweetbot has a sale price of just [\\$.99](#). This comes after the official Twitter client for the iPhone was updated yesterday. Version 4.0 of Twitter has received much discussion on the internet in the last 24 hours. Cody did an [excellent review](#) yesterday that everyone should read regardless of your thoughts about version 4.0 of the official client.

If you are looking for yet another reason to try Tweetbot, here it is! It's \$0.99 for a limited time.[#TweetbotSale itunes.apple.com/us/app//id4288...](#)

– Tweetbot for iPhone (@tweetbot) December 9, 2011

Tapbots is hoping to gain even more users after many may be shopping for a new iPhone client. We at MacStories think that Tweetbot is **one of the best** Twitter clients available for the iPhone and if you haven't had the chance to pick up the app, you get it now on the App Store for **\$.99**.

Tapbots Release First Ever #TweetbotSale

## Tweetbot 2.0 Review



How do you improve something that's already great? You keep working on it, trying to look at your product from as many perspectives as possible. If you believe in it, you can make something great an even *greater* product. Last year, I **reviewed Tweetbot 1.0 for iPhone**, the Twitter client many of us had been impatiently waiting for:

Tweetbot is the app I've been waiting for: an excellent innovator of the Twitter platform. My new favorite Twitter client.

Tweetbot is everything I've ever wanted from a Twitter app: it looks great, it's fast on WiFi and

3G, it innovates in several aspects that have been regarded as “standards” from both users and developers for too long. Could Tweetbot be any better? Maybe. The developers could work on improving the speed of animations and refresh times as much as possible, or implement support for Readability and other URL shortening services. But as far as the Twitter experience goes, Tweetbot has got everything I’m looking for.

I have tried many Twitter apps in the past years, as [you may know](#), and I’ve never seen a third-party developer as committed to making their client *great* as Tapbots did with [Tweetbot for iPhone](#). Iteration. Tapbots listened to feedback, and managed to pull the old trick of implementing features without turning your original vision into a piece of software it wasn’t meant to be. With [version 2.0 of Tweetbot for iPhone](#), Tapbots has improved almost every aspect of the original experience, adding features, bug fixes, and refinements that still make Tweetbot the finest Twitter client available on the iPhone. Now faster, smoother, and more intuitive.

And it’s not like we didn’t see [Tweetbot 2.0](#) coming. In the past nine months, Tapbots has brought Tweetbot from a fantastic 1.0 release to a state-of-the-art Twitter app capable of suiting all kinds of needs when interacting with Twitter in short burst of tweets, or longer sessions aimed at catching up with hours worth of timeline updates. Let’s look back at Tweetbot’s history:

- Tweetbot 1.1 [brings](#) landscape mode.
- Tweetbot 1.2 [is released](#) with several enhancements all around the app.
- Tweetbot 1.3 [has new features](#) including Favstar support.
- Push notifications [are added](#) natively to Tweetbot, and they are fantastic.
- Tweetbot 1.5 [gets](#) muting features.
- Tweetbot 1.6 [syncs](#) with other Twitter clients using Tweet Marker.
- Tweetbot is one of the first clients to [get native Twitter integration](#) in iOS 5.

As you can see, Tapbots didn’t rest on its laurels, deciding to keep on building on the app’s momentum to deliver *the* Twitter client that could appeal to both power users and less tech-savvy citizens of the Twitterverse. I have already explained why Tweetbot is my Twitter client of choice: if anything, I’d like Tweetbot to take over the entire ecosystem to offer an integrated experience consistent across platforms.

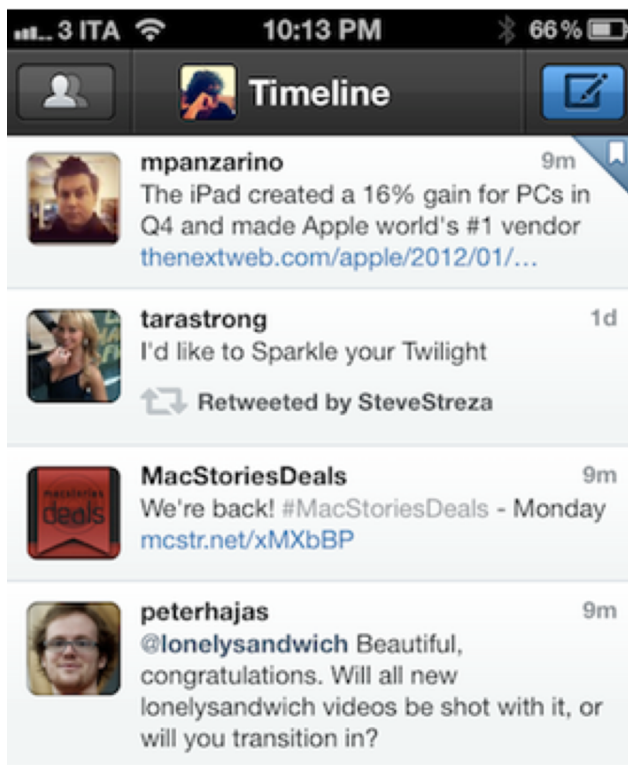
It would be easy to look at Tweetbot 2.0 and say it’s everything Tweetbot 1.0 should have been without considering the various milestones and updates that brought us to this release. Think of Tweetbot 2.0 as a natural evolution of Tweetbot, rather than just a collection of features that didn’t make it in version 1.0. Tweetbot 2.0 is the culmination of nine months of fine-tuning.

The biggest change in Tweetbot 2.0 is the timeline. What used to require two taps now needs only one, and the way retweets are displayed has been improved to increase interaction and overall navigation between original posters and retweeters. In Tweetbot 1.x, opening a @username or http:// link from a tweet in the timeline required a double-tap (or an initial tap to “expand” the tweet and reveal the tweet drawer), then a second one to tap on usernames and links. In Tweetbot 2.0, you can directly single-tap on links and usernames (which are a bit bolder than other words) without opening the drawer; you can always reveal more options by tapping somewhere else on the tweet, but this time single taps on usernames and links will open a user’s profile view or a web view, respectively. Similarly, single-tapping on profile pics in the timeline will take you to the profile view, whereas in Tweetbot 1.x this action would open the tweet drawer. Without sacrificing performances in any way (actually, Tweetbot 2.0 with its new tap actions and timeline UI feels faster than Tweetbot 1.x on my iPhone 4S – both in terms of scrolling, swiping, and image caching), Tweetbot’s improved tap behavior is more than a welcome change – it’s a terrific improvement over the previous version’s navigation system.

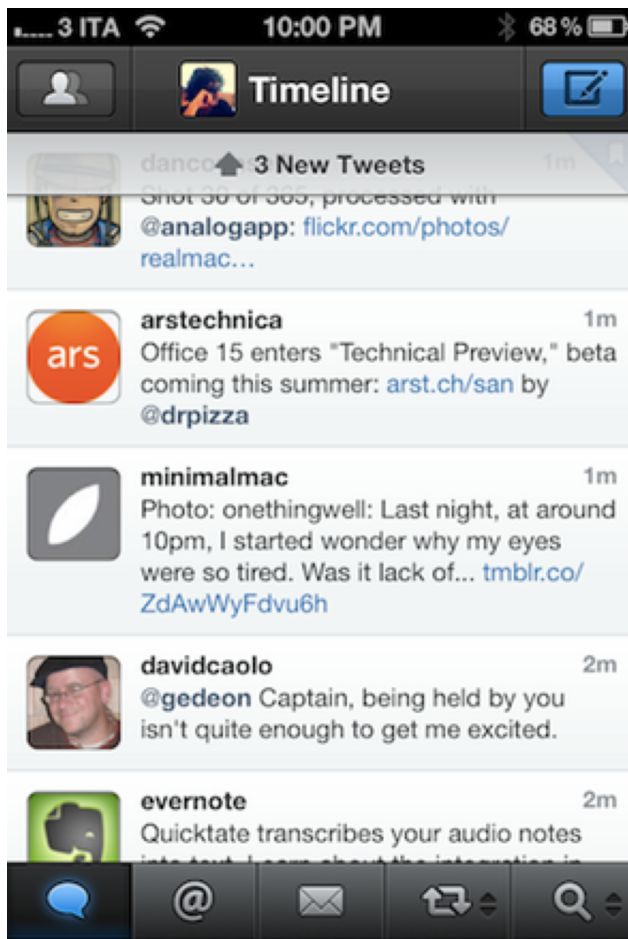
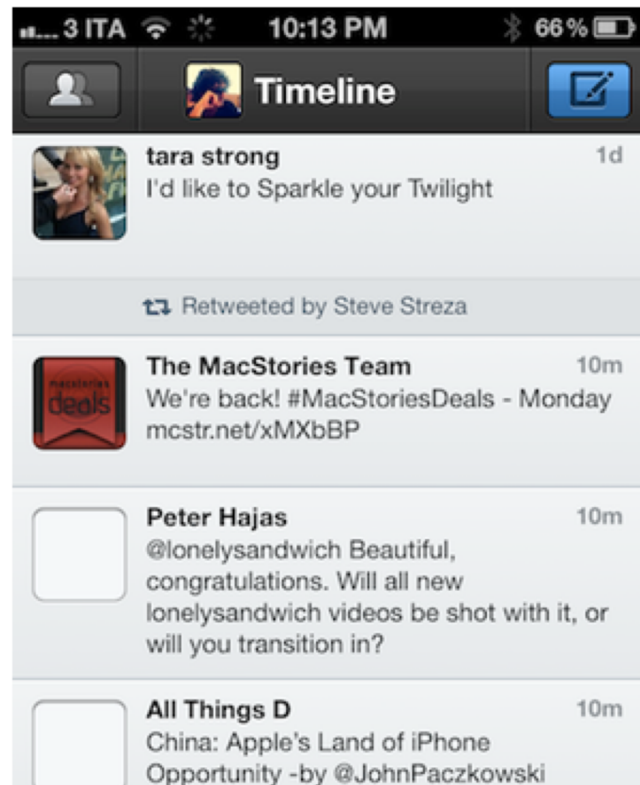
Links and usernames aren’t the only things you can now tap on – retweets, displayed natively in Tweetbot, have been redesigned to allow users to tap and tap & hold on the name of the user that retweeted a status update; furthermore, the entire retweet UI has been tweaked to integrate the “Retweeted by ...” indicator inside the message cell – take a look the screenshot below for comparison. If the people you follow often retweet stuff, this is another great improvement as it enables you to easily check the user who retweeted something you like.



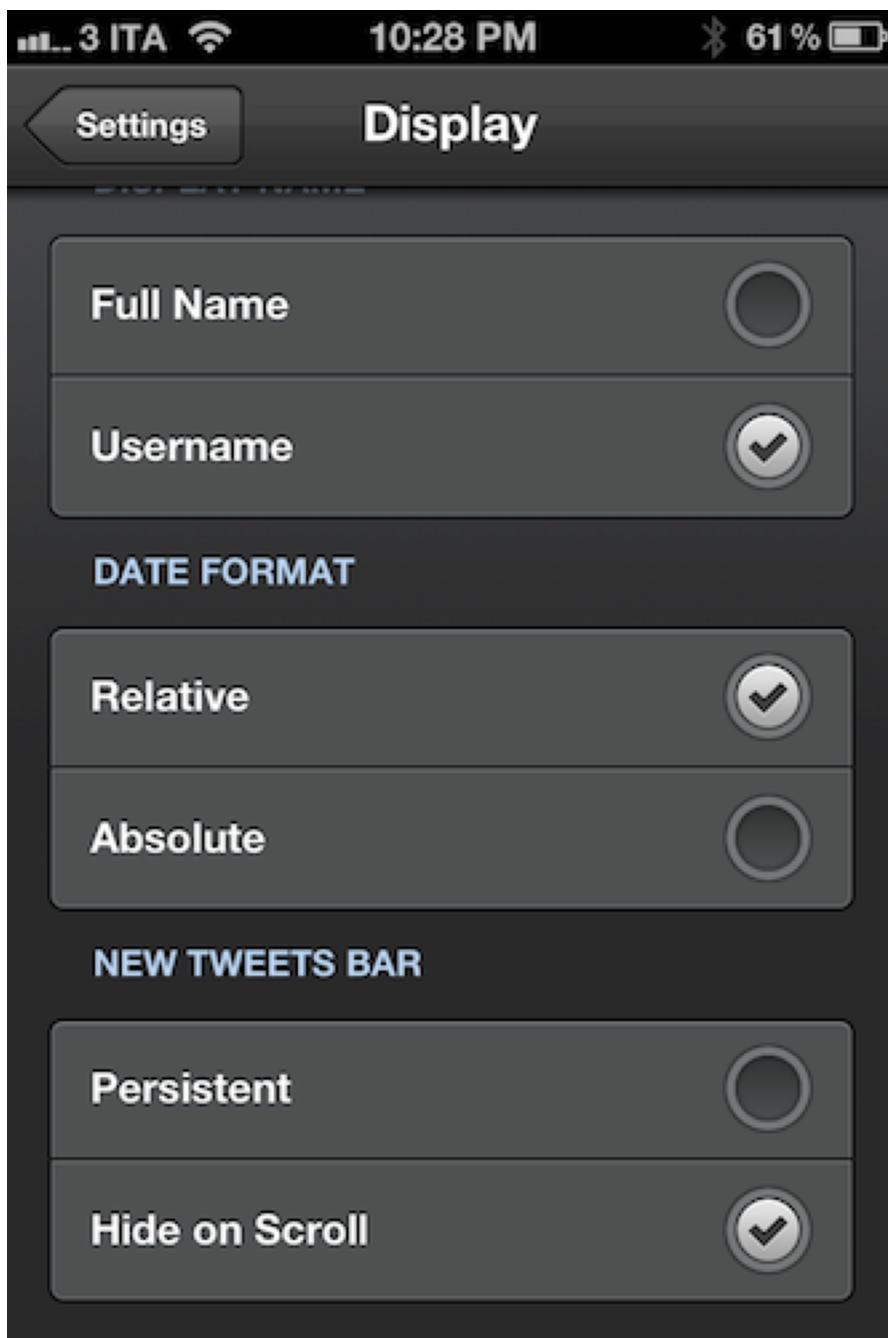
## Tweetbot 2.0



## Tweetbot 1.8







As you scroll Tweetbot's new timeline, you'll notice that another addition has found its way in this update: image thumbnails. How many times have you looked at Instagram links (or any picture link) and wondered if it'd be appropriate to open it, or if you'd be interested in it? Fear no more, as Tweetbot now displays thumbnails inline and allows you to tap on them to jump straight to the image viewer in full-screen. The image viewer itself is the same of Tweetbot 1.0; by tapping & holding the thumbnail, however, you're given some handy options such as Send to Instapaper (which becomes Pinboard or Read It Later depending on the service you've configured in Settings), Tweet URL, Open in Safari, Copy URL, and Email URL. Even with thumbnails, scrolling in Tweetbot's new timeline is smooth and fast.

But there's more. Remember the "new tweets bar" from the original Tweetbot, the blue stripe

that let you know how many new tweets you had in your timeline and loaded differently depending on gap behavior? It's gone. Instead, Tweetbot 2.0 features a new beautiful translucent tweets bar that works the same for gap loading (admittedly, still the best implementation on any iOS Twitter client) but that you can also hide on scroll or make persistent as you swipe down to reach the top of your timeline. Why is the new tweets bar useful? It provides a nice-looking and unobtrusive way of knowing how many tweets you still have to read - at least for me, this is **very** useful when I'm opening Twitter after hours of inactivity.

And then there are a lot of little changes and minor fixes. Overall performance, as I said, has been improved, making Tweetbot faster than ever and smoother in any kind of animation. Perhaps this will convince those who said Tweetbot was "heavy" that it's worth trying the app again. Even when the new tweets bar isn't hidden, you can tap on it to dismiss it. You can tap & hold on the gear icon in the tweet drawer to reveal two extra actions: Post Link to Tweet and View in Favstar, with Copy Link to Tweet now assigned to a single tap on the gear icon. Links in users' profiles are tappable and the visual Tweet Marker indicator is now always visible regardless of whether you've activated the service or not (obviously, you'll have to turn it on to sync to other clients).

I can go on with changes and enhancements. Direct Messages have been completely redesigned to load faster and have conversations displayed from top to bottom as in Messages.app. To reply to a DM in a conversation, Tapbots has brought a Messages-like text entry field to the DM view, which now also happens to refresh every 5 minutes as part of the timed auto-refresh feature that also works for Timeline and Mentions. In Tweetbot 2.0, when a DM fails the app will make it red, allowing you to tap on it to resend or delete. Readability has been added as a mobilizer service, and there is now a toggle in every web view to instantly switch between full site and mobilized view. I love this feature (but I use Instapaper for that). Oh, and *one more thing*: don't forget Tweetbot supports a variety of URL schemes, **more than you know**, and they work very well with **Launch Center**.

**Tweetbot 1.0** was packed with **features**, proving that Tapbots could make their distinctive style work in the saturated market of Twitter clients. Updates to Tweetbot 1.0 built on the original vision, adding new powerful features and interactions that allowed Tapbots to reach an even larger audience, especially since the addition of native push notifications. Tweetbot 2.0 accomplishes the difficult goal of dramatically enhancing Tweetbot 1.0 while keeping everything familiar and accessible, proving that Tapbots can still make the best Twitter client around.

Tweetbot 2.0 is **now available on the App Store at \$2.99**.

**Tweetbot 2.0 Review**

## More Tweetbot

### Top Paid iPad Apps

-  **Where's My Water?**  
Games  
Updated Feb 02, 2012  
Game Center  
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Games  
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-  **Tweetbot — A Twitter Cli...**  
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With the launch of Tweetbot 2.0 for iPhone and [Tweetbot for iPad](#), the team at Tapbots has once again set new standards for Twitter clients on iOS. We have taken [separate looks](#) at the two apps, but you can also check out other in-depth reviews at [The Next Web](#), [iMore](#), and [Wind on a Leaf](#). David Chartier makes a good point:

Speaking of lists, Tweetbot is one of the few clients I've used that truly integrates Twitter lists and makes them useful.

As for the iPad app's launch, the app is currently #5 in the Top Paid iPad Apps chart, up from #9 only a few minutes ago. Tapbots has already [confirmed](#) this is the fastest growing launch of their apps ever:

Tweetbot for iPad is the at #20 in the Top Paid iPad apps. That's faster than we've ever gone on the iPhone side of things.

The Next Web's Matthew Panzarino [has published a great interview](#) with Tapbots' Paul Haddad. I particularly liked this bit:

I think the biggest problem is that Google chooses to develop iOS apps using web technologies. This might work well on Android but it just makes for a crappy feel on iOS. If you want people to use and love your apps on iOS they should be tailored for iOS and should feel like an iOS app. You can't just hack together some cross-platform Javascript and HTML and

expect it not to feel like something that was hacked together.

On top of this they are an engineering focused company without a great history of design. This works really well on the Web where you just want to go in, search for some results and get out. But on an iPhone the interaction is much more intimate, people want something that looks and feels just right, the front end is more important than the back end.

Last, make sure to check out Rene Ritchie's fantastic side-by-side comparison of Tweetbot, Twitter for iPad, and Twiterrific [over at iMore](#). Rene goes in great detail to show all the differences between the three apps, and why one of them might be more suitable to your needs. [Tweetbot 2.0](#) and [Tweetbot for iPad](#) are available for download on the App Store.

[More Tweetbot](#)

## Tweetbot for iPad Review



Since its release two years ago, the iPad has always needed a better Twitter client. [Tweetbot for iPad](#) is the better Twitter app I have been waiting for, and it sets a new standard that future

Twitter clients will have to be compared with.

From a Twitter power user's perspective, the iPad came at an interesting point in the history of the platform. Twitter clients for iPhone and Mac had reached a kind of maturity and complexity that enabled users like me to demand a certain grade of efficiency from new Twitter apps for the tablet; Twitter itself was beefing up its first-party app portfolio with acquisitions and a fresh strategy based on making the official clients the go-to apps for the average Twitter user. Some notable Twitter clients came out on the iPad throughout 2010, including the excellent Twitterrific, which [we have reviewed](#) several times on MacStories.

In 2010, Twitter also released its very own application for the iPad; developed by Loren Brichter, the man behind Tweetie, Twitter for iPad launched to a (still ongoing) controversy as to whether iPad interfaces should adopt more courageous designs in displaying information and sections to the user. Taking the best features of Twitter for iPhone (fluidity, clean design, pull to refresh) and mixing them up with [new interaction schemes](#) such as panels and pinch gestures, Twitter for iPad collected rave reviews and considerable disapprovals because of its interesting use of classic Twitter elements (vertical timeline, separate section for Mentions) alongside a new model for driving users' taps around the app in the form of sliding panels, modal menus, and popovers. You can read more about it in [my original review](#) from 2010.

The problem with Twitter for iPad, I believe, is that it failed to appeal power users in the long term, stalling on the same feature set it had at launch without adding substantial improvement over what could have been a fantastic application. I, for one, used the official Twitter iPad app for months, but then I came at a point where I couldn't stand seeing decent third-party apps staying on top of new Twitter functionalities and "unofficial" services, and Twitter's own app left behind with Brichter [gone](#) and seemingly no interest from Twitter's mobile team in keeping it up to date – fixing the bugs and annoyances that were reported on day one. Some [improvements](#) and [new features](#) eventually found their way to the app, and word is that we are waiting for a major 4.0 redesign of the client which, I believe, will put the app on par with the disastrous [iPhone version](#). Tweetbot for iPad thus arrives in a landscape with no clear leader, but with some very good apps that have caught the attention of both power and average users in the past two years.

I wrote about this [before](#). I wish third-party developers would accept Tweetbot as the de-facto app for power users and move on to innovate on other areas of the service. I'm biased: I love Tweetbot, I use it every day on the iPhone, and I couldn't wait for an iPad version to be released. Today is kind of a dream come true for a Twitter nerd, but the question is – was it worth the wait? Not just good – is Tweetbot the *great* app the iPad was waiting for? Let's dive in.

Long story short: yes, it is. Tweetbot for iPad is an amazingly advanced and full-featured Twitter client that, in spite of its 1.0 version number, already sports a series of features most apps don't have. It's got Tapbots' distinctive design style applied to every aspect of the interface, and whilst some may quickly dismiss it as a non-native, Android-like look, I think it's beautiful. More importantly, Tweetbot comes to the iPad not to single-handedly reinvent Twitter clients and the entire Twitter ecosystem, but to provide a delightful experience optimized for the bigger screen.

That's not to say Tweetbot for iPad is a blown-up version of its iPhone counterpart – you'd be mistaken in thinking Tapbots simply took Tweetbot for iPhone and made its graphics bigger to fit the iPad. The two Tweetbots look similar to each other – some of interface elements are used consistently across both devices – but the experience offered by Tweetbot for iPad is uniquely built for a device that's swiped, touched, and held in a different way than an iPhone.

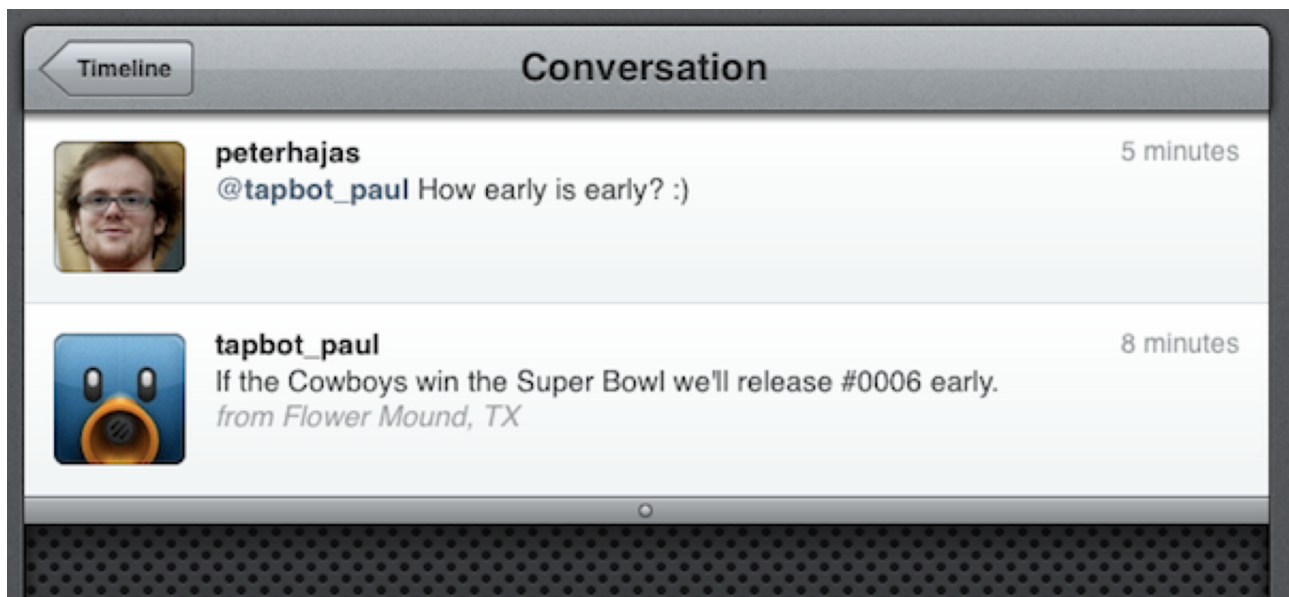
Those who use Tweetbot for iPhone will be instantly familiar with Tweetbot for iPad. In fact, I don't think it's necessary to go through the feature set of the app again as Tapbots managed to incorporate the same functionalities across the two platforms very cleverly: *what* the app does is the same, *how* it does it is different. I want to focus on how Tweetbot for iPad takes advantage of the features built by Tapbots to deliver the best Twitter experience on the iPad yet, rather than explain once again how you can turn a list into a timeline, or [iOS 5 Twitter integration](#). From a feature checklist standpoint, Tweetbot for iPad bears great resemblance to Tweetbot 2.0 for iPhone, which we have reviewed earlier today.

## The Timeline

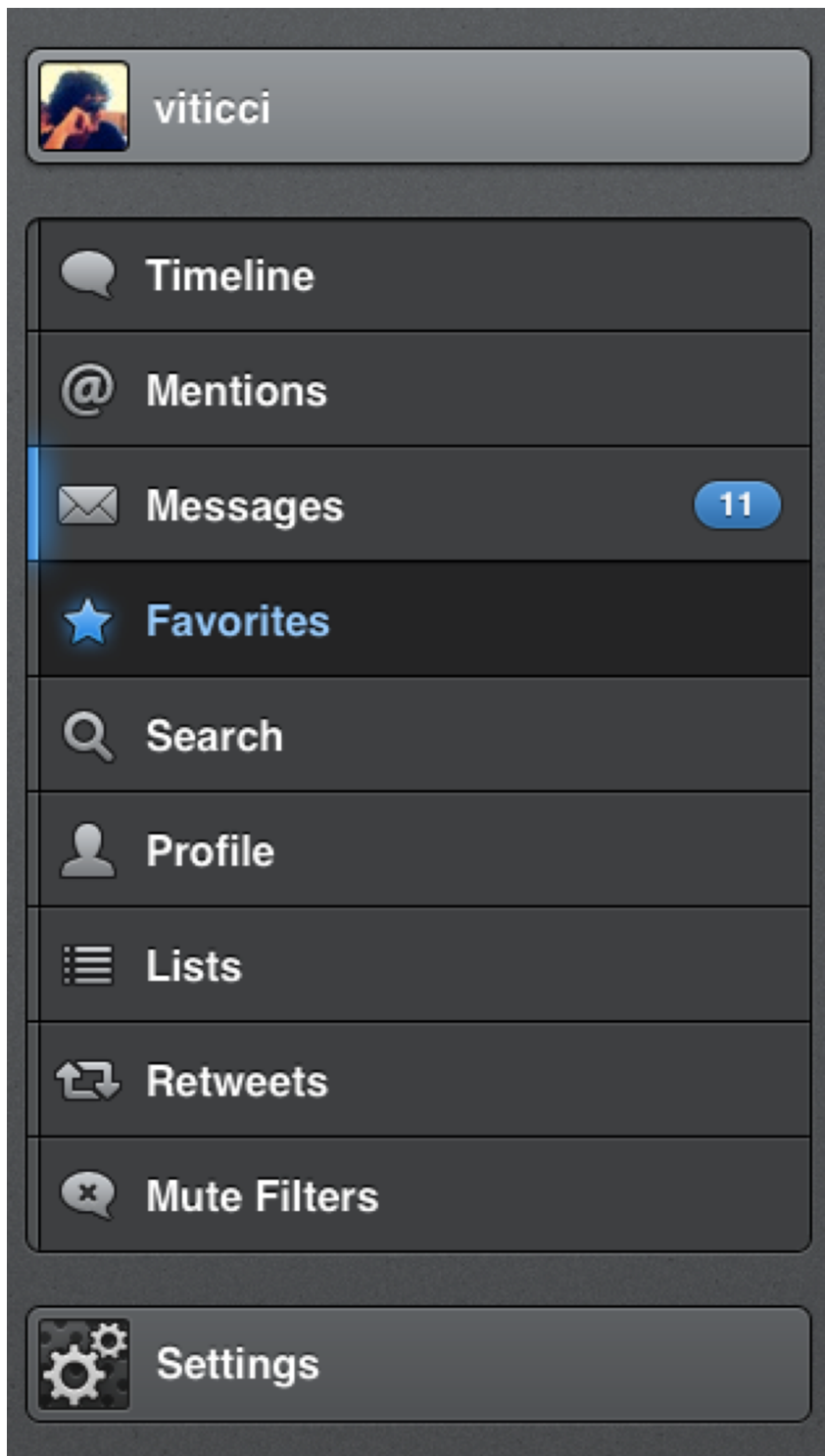
Like Twitterrific for iPad, Tweetbot takes a simple approach at displaying your Twitter timeline on the tablet's bigger screen. Rather than trying to break taps on usernames, mentions, or links into multiple panels that some users might find distracting, Tweetbot presents a clean, full-screen timeline design that can fit more status updates than an iPhone at once, and doesn't try to revolutionize the concept of vertically scrolling a list of messages and clicking on links. There are tabs for the various sections of Twitter – including some new stuff that Tapbots has prepared for this new Tweetbot release – but no panels for the actual interaction with content, meaning that tweet details, webpages, and conversations will load in full-screen in a single window, not a panel sliding into view. And here's where Tweetbot for iPad reveals one of its little design touches that manages to greatly enhance usability: because the iPad's screen is so big, forcing users to tap on a tiny Back button to load a previous level of navigation can be cumbersome.

To solve the problem of a bigger screen with tiny navigation buttons, Tweetbot for iPad implements "smart gestures" in the same way that the iPhone version allows you to quickly load

replies and conversations with a quick swipe, only adding new actions for going back one level or to the “root” of a section, such as your Mentions. Typically, when I’m sitting down with my iPad and fire up Twitter I like to explore around, engage in conversations and look up other people’s tweets. It’s not like I’m always in my timeline: I might open a link or two, load a conversation and follow a user’s profile from there – “nested views”, as they should be properly called, are frequent and they must be considered carefully from a usability standpoint as the app should always provide the user with an easily understandable way to go back. Tweetbot for iPad offers three: the Back button, tabs, and swipe gestures. Let’s say you’ve opened a conversation from your timeline, a user’s profile from that conversation (double-tap on avatar), and another conversation from the profile (swipe on a reply). Now, it’s likely that you’ll want to go back to Point A (your main timeline), or Point B (the conversation). Tweetbot offers a two-finger swipe gesture to go back one level, and three-finger swipe to go back to root. These gestures work amazingly well in any context, and they performed fluidly on my iPad 2 in any possible scenario.

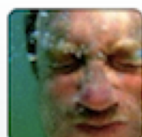






Of course, you can also use the aforementioned tabs and Back button to navigate if you don't feel comfortable with gestures: whilst simply tapping Back will "go back" one level, a tap & hold on the same button will go back to the root of a view; similarly, tapping a tab in the sidebar - whether it's in portrait or landscape mode - will always go back to the root. Tweetbot for iPad introduces a new option in Navigation settings that lets you hide tabs you don't want, so make sure to keep the ones you think you're going to use as a way to navigate back in the timeline. As for URLs: they open in full-screen mode à la Twitterrific and feature the same options seen in Tweetbot 2.0 for iPhone, new mobilizer command included (plus, they are colored and single-tappable).





**chockenberry**

@Digeratii YOU NEVER HAD A MASSIVE KILL STREAK IN CALL OF BOOTY THEN

1 day



**512px**

512 Pixels: On the iPad as a Personal Computer [512px.co/ztmlVx](http://512px.co/ztmlVx)

1 day



Reply



Retweet



Favorite



Actions



Details



**plexapp**

RT @tobiashieta: New version of PlexATV, PLEASE upgrade if you are 0.10 BETA! CRITICAL myPlex fixes in this one. [forums.plexapp.com/index.php/topi...](http://forums.plexapp.com/index.php/topi...)

1 day



**512px**

512 Pixels: On the iPad as a Personal Computer [512px.co/ztmlVx](http://512px.co/ztmlVx)

1 day



**plexapp**

RT @tobiashieta: New version of PlexA BETA! CRITICAL myPlex fixes in this on [topi...](#)



**gabeglick**

As usual, @shamusyoung has a good Triple Town being copied: "Copyrights a



**haterface**

Get it together developers [pic.twitter.com](http://pic.twitter.com) from Chicago, IL

<http://512px.co/ztmlVx>

Send to Instapaper

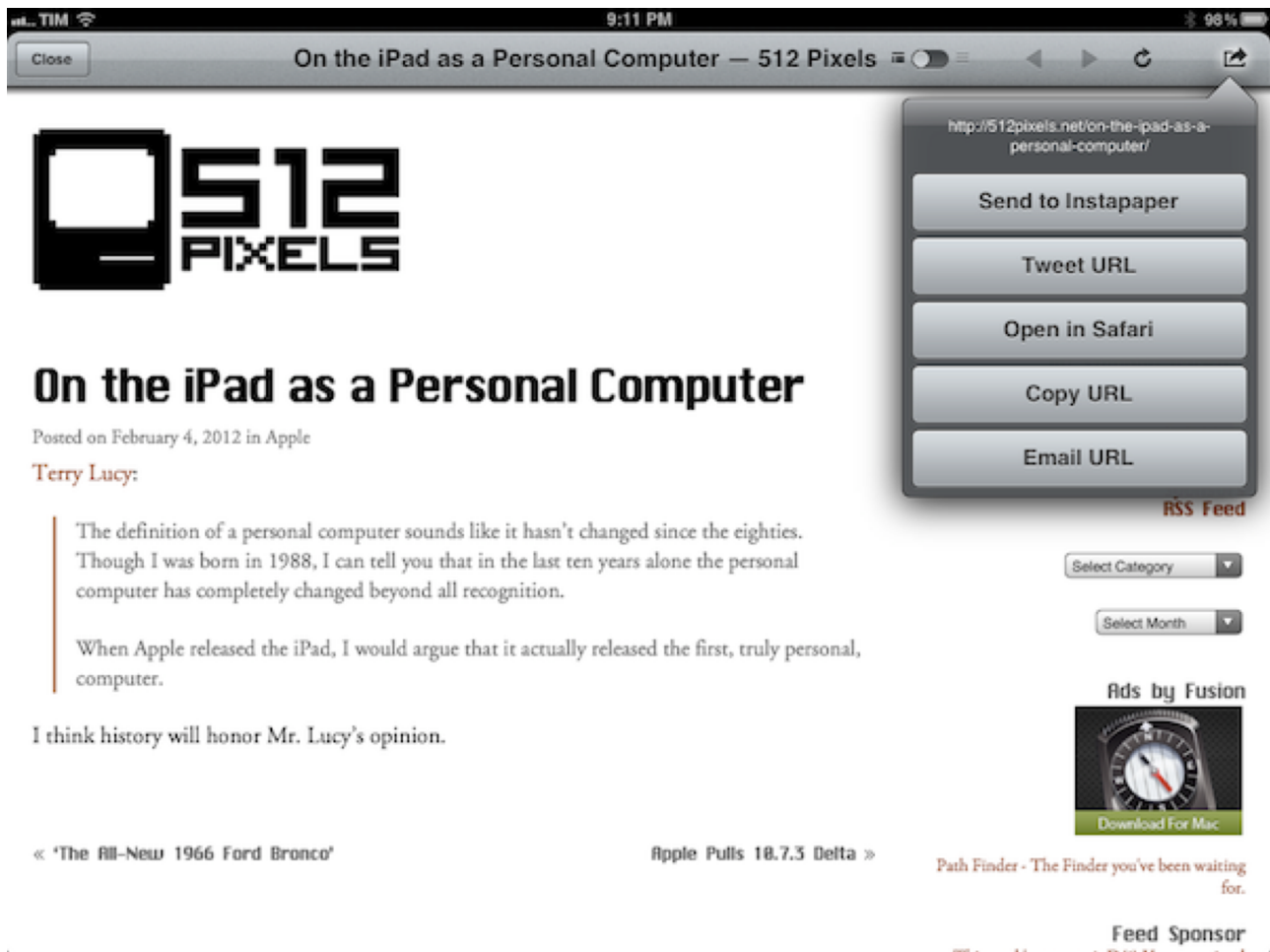
Tweet URL

Open in Safari

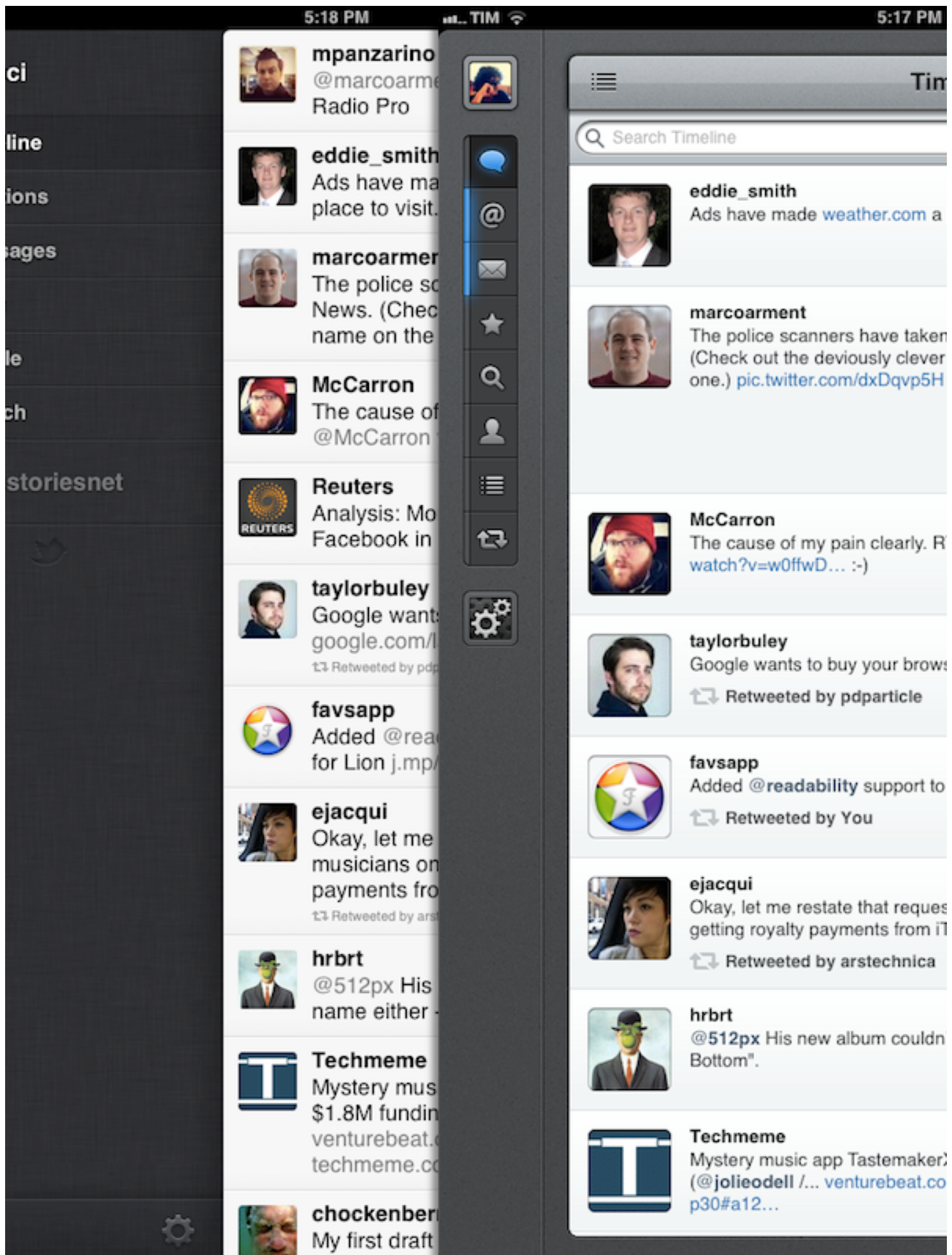
Copy URL

Email URL

No Matches



From a web view, you can take a look at Tapbots' custom popover menu design by tapping on the Sharing button in the upper right corner.



*Timelines: Tweetbot for iPad (right) offers font size controls and bigger profile pictures than Twitter for iPad (left).*

## Gestures

Because the iPad's screen is so big compared to an iPhone, some areas of Tweetbot might appear to be "wasting space" when there's nothing left to load – for instance, a conversation of only two tweets won't even fill half of the screen in portrait mode. In testing the Tweetbot beta, I initially didn't appreciate the choice of loading short conversations in their own dedicated view, because the rest of the window looked empty; with time though, I have developed a habit of using this empty space as a gesture area for navigation – it almost seems meant to be used that way. Otherwise, I don't have a problem with Tweetbot using the same timeline design of the iPhone app as long as more tweets are displayed – reinventing the wheel (in this case, the timeline design) is not necessary when you just want to focus on reading status updates.

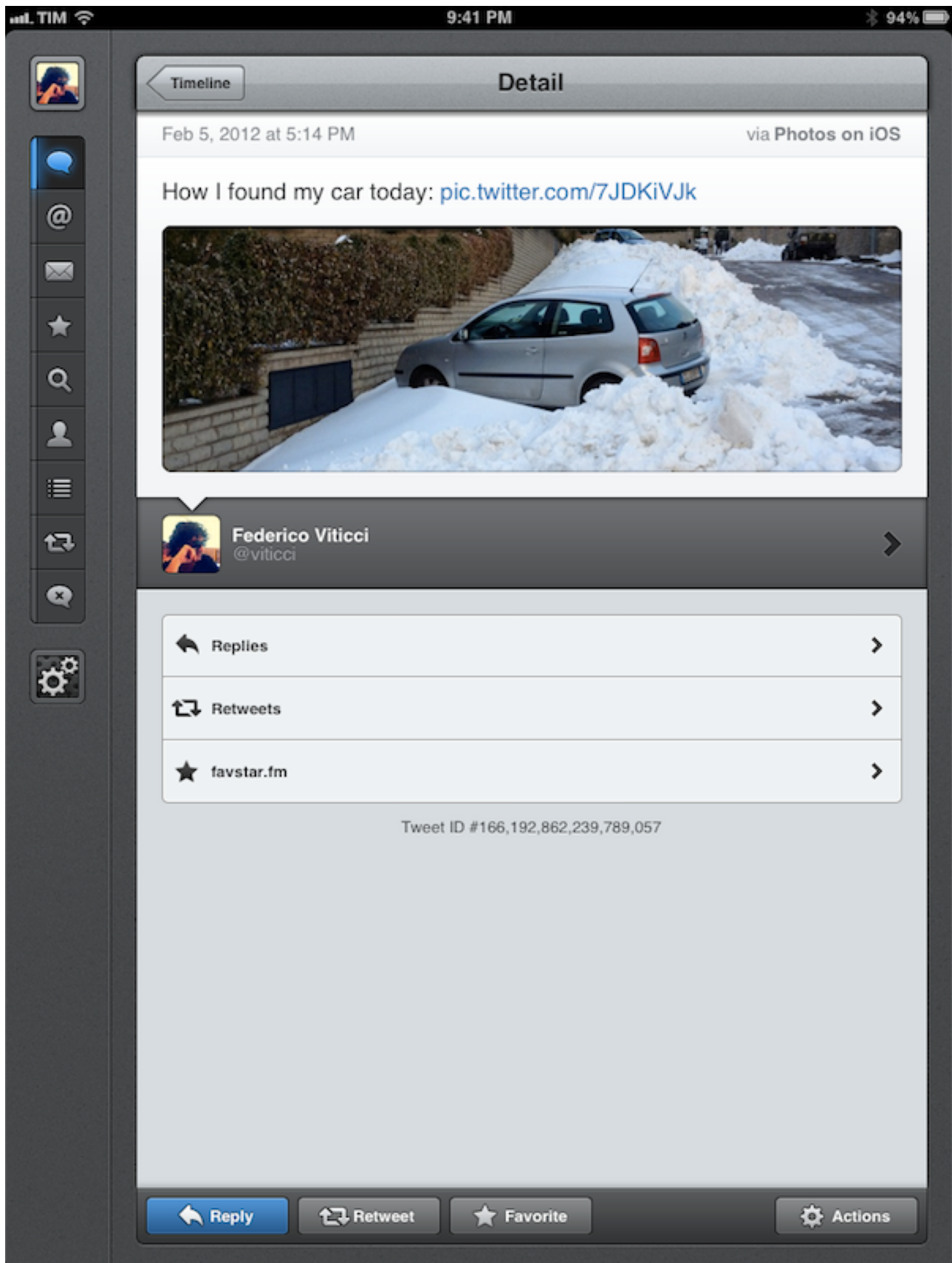
Touch interaction is a distinctive trait of Tweetbot, and I'm glad Paul and Mark have kept gestures consistent across the iPhone and iPad. I've already mentioned swipes; here's what you can do with taps:

- Tap a tweet to open the tweet drawer;
- Double-tap a tweet to open the Detail view;
- Tap a user's profile pic to open the Profile view;
- Tap usernames to open Profile view, tap links to open Web view;
- Tap & hold a link (or inline picture/link in user's Bio) to: Bookmark, Tweet URL, Open in Safari, Copy URL, or Email URL;
- Tap & hold a tweet to: Bookmark, Copy Link to Tweet, Copy Tweet, Email Tweet, or Translate;
- Tap & hold retweet button to retweet from a different account;
- Tap & hold favorite button to Award Tweet of the Day;
- Tap Actions button to: Copy Link to Tweet, Copy Tweet, Email Tweet, or Translate;
- Tap & hold Actions button to: Post Link to Tweet, or View in Favstar;
- Tap & hold a profile pic (or username/retweet author) to: Public Reply, Manage List Memberships, Mute, Follow/Unfollow;
- Double-tap a tab to scroll to the top;
- Double-tap Messages tab to Mark All Messages as Read;
- Tap & hold an image to: Save Image, Copy Image, View Website, or Tweet Link;
- Tap & hold hashtag to: New Post with Hashtag, or Mute;
- Tap & hold the "via..." client link in Detail view to mute a specific Twitter client;
- Tap the location button when composing a new tweet to Remove Location, Use Coordinates, select a Point of Interest, or choose a Location;
- Double-tap the Profile tab to open a user's Favstar page for recent tweets;
- Last, you can configure triple-taps in Settings for: Reply, Retweet, Favorite, Translate, or View in Favstar.

Support for gestures, tap actions, and a variety of different web services is essentially the reason why Tweetbot is so highly regarded as an app for power users; Tweetbot for iPad doesn't disappoint with a large selection of preferences and services to adjust and activate in the Settings. As on the iPhone, these options include Pinboard and Instapaper integration, support for upload services such as CloudApp and Moby, and mobilizer tools like Google and Readability. I particularly like how Tapbots figured out a way to implement a *lot* of settings and gestures without overwhelming the user experience. Going through all my settings for a newly added account takes only a couple of minutes (you'll find some new options in Tweetbot 2.0 and Tweetbot for iPad, like a switch to make the new tweets bar persistent or invisible on scroll), and the Welcome screen should get you up to speed on the most important gestures in no time.







I should also note that a kind of gesture Twitter for iPad implemented directly on the timeline, **pinch to reveal tweet**, is nowhere to be seen in Tweetbot, with Tapbots opting for more intuitive taps and swipes throughout the whole app. I think it's a good choice.

## Everything Else

Tweetbot is the best Twitter client I've ever used on the iPad for a number of reasons. I've already mentioned gestures, user interface design, and integration with many different services I use on a daily basis. Next on the list would certainly be fluidity and timeline gaps – two aspects I expect to find fully functional and stable in the Twitter client I want to use every day. In spite of its custom UI, I didn't find Tweetbot for iPad to be "heavy". Whilst some people are firmly convinced Tweetbot is a "heavy app", I think such purported "heaviness" can be subjective in terms of visual appearance, because as far as the engine that powers scrolling and animations goes, Tweetbot is extremely snappy and fluid both on my iPhone 4S and iPad 2. The beefy A5 processor certainly helps in getting views to load quickly and a timeline with hundreds of tweets to scroll fast, and I'll admit I haven't tested Tweetbot on the original iPad, but I'm also fairly certain a lot of optimization was done on Tapbots' side to make sure Tweetbot's custom graphics wouldn't interfere in any way with the UX.

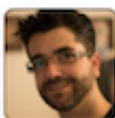




## Timeline



Search Timeline

**\_Everaldo**

39 seconds

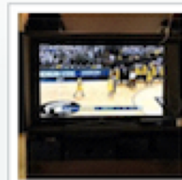
I'll definitely have to go back there and make it right.

**\_Everaldo**

1 minute

One more.. I'm so sad about those pictures. The location was fantastic. [twitpic.com/8g7gsh](http://twitpic.com/8g7gsh)**parislemon**

2 minutes

Sports before sports. [instagr.am/p/oblly/](http://instagr.am/p/oblly/)**peterhajas**

2 minutes

@tapbot\_paul How early is early? :)

**taptivate**

2 minutes

Thanks to @3dimension, @ph99ph, @mrkvs1, @mila\_ferichs, @tinyman392 you made the cut :) Enjoy the app and post some funny pics :)

**strngwys**

3 minutes

Someone knocked over the Vespa. Scratches and dents.

But, they left a note and called them. They win at karma.

**boxcar**

3 minutes

Following the #SuperBowl today? How are you using Boxcar to keep on top of the game news? We'd love to hear!

**arstechnica**

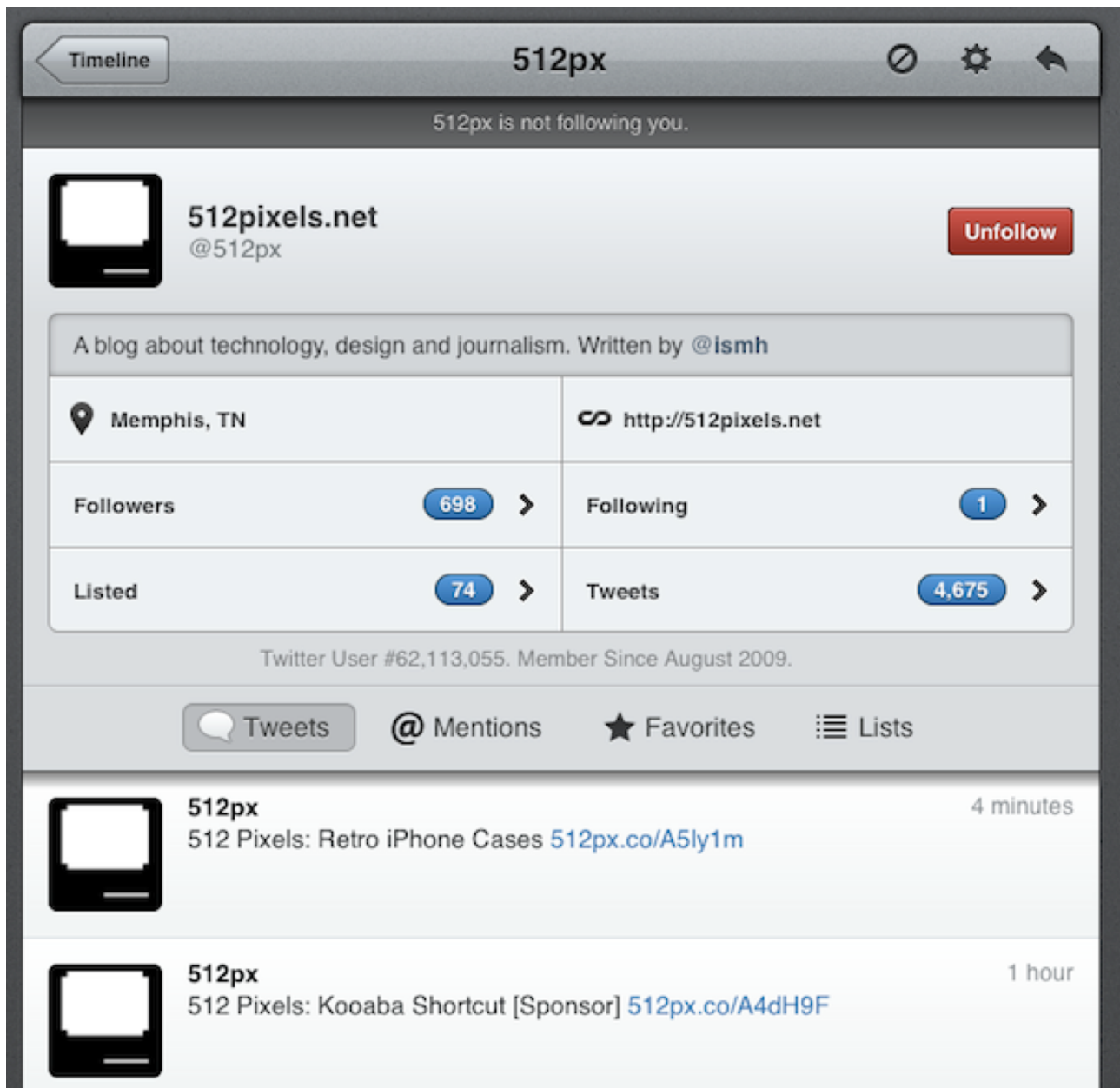
4 minutes

Weekend Time Western Solitaire Blitz brings excitement to lonely card clicking.



My coworkers often make fun of me because I'm always on Twitter. As *I have written elsewhere*, Twitter has become more than a simple social network for me – it's a *people* network that helps me connect with amazing individuals for work, discussion, or pure leisure. You see, I **need** a Twitter client that's capable of loading several hours of tweets with hundreds of status updates when I wake up. I need it to be fast at fetching these updates and stable at scrolling through them as I catch up with the news; I need it to be able to go back even 20 hours if I need to read older articles, and I want it to feature state-of-the-art timeline gap detection that picks up right where I left off, no matter how far in the timeline it is. Fortunately, Tweetbot nears perfection with its implementation of timeline gap that puts the competition to shame when it comes to loading past tweets while maintaining your previous position in the timeline intact. Twitter and Twitterrific never quite got gap detection right, and I'm glad this functionality of Tweetbot for iPhone has been ported over to the iPad. With the new tweets bar (which is dark gray on iPad), you also have a nice way to see how many unread tweets you have *while scrolling*.

As I said above, Tweetbot for iPad shares the same UI principles and feature set of Tweetbot for iPhone, but there are many things that are unique to it, especially in the interface design department, given the different screen real estate Tapbots had to work around. Several views aren't simply bigger, as the timeline could suggest, they are *different*.



Take the user profile view for example: rather than placing a single user's stream in a tab separate from the profile page, Tapbots is integrating tweets directly below the profile with a tabbed interface. In the upper section of the view, you can check out various information such as following and followers count, bio, web link, and other data. There's also a Follow button in the upper right corner, and the usual action icon will let you message people, mute them, or add them to a list. The profile view opens with the Tweets tab directly selected, so you'll see a portion of a user's tweets below the initial user info box. But as you scroll these tweets, the tabs will snap back to the top of the timeline so they will "stick" as you scroll, allowing you to easily switch between Tweets, Mentions, Favorites, and Lists. The effect is really neat, helps saving taps and precious interface space, and you should see it in action. As with the iPhone app, Tweetbot for iPad has solid list support with creation, management and deleting features built-in. You can create new lists on-device, manage users inside those lists, and subscribe to other people's lists without leaving the app. And of course, you can make a list Tweetbot's main timeline, which is another characteristic feature of the app iPhone users will immediately recognize.

[Tweet Marker](#) support, which was initially added to Tweetbot for iPhone, plays a big role in this iPad version if you own multiple iOS devices running Tweetbot, or a Mac with a Twitter client that has Tweet Marker sync. Now, the timeline position that the service saved from your iPhone's Tweetbot will be pushed to the iPad automatically (if you activate Tweet Marker) every time you launch the app. I have tested Tweet Marker pretty heavily (I use it every day), and Tapbots' implementation is flawless: getting the last synced position takes less than a second, and the app is capable of automatically scrolling to the last tweet you saw or mention you were about to reply to. We have covered Tweet Marker support in Tweetbot [before](#), and those who were waiting for cross iPad-iPhone compatibility in Tweetbot to start using Manton Reece's service finally have a reason to.

I should probably mention that one of the things Twitter for iPad did exceptionally well in my opinion was letting you load links in a separate panel and scroll the timeline at the same time. That was one of the most controversial features of Loren Brichter's app (animations weren't 100% smooth and the web panel could be lost by simply switching tabs), and I liked it a lot. Tweetbot doesn't take the crazy-innovative approach of Twitter for iPad, but I haven't found the absence of panel-based link opening to be a problem in daily usage. I did notice, though, that I've been marking a lot of tweets as Favorites lately, but I'm not sure that's related to Tweetbot.

Typically, I'd mention that a new app I am reviewing is pretty great, but has some flaws in its first version - which is completely normal. With Tweetbot, however, I tried to come up with things I didn't like in my three week period of testing - which involved several days of using only an iPad and hours spent on Twitter - but couldn't. Honestly, there's nothing "I don't like" about Tweetbot, just a few things I wish 1.0 already had, and that perhaps are coming in the future. Personally, I would like to finally be able to use both Pinboard and Instapaper as bookmarking services at once, and have some kind of Evernote integration for saving tweets and links. I also think it'd be neat to have real-time streaming for tweets, iCloud sync for settings, and an option to add tweets to [Storify](#) - even though I understand the latter may be asking *too much*. Like I said: I'm very happy with the workflow Tweetbot enables and I never found myself wishing a feature had been implemented differently.

## New Twitter Clients

In my [New Twitter Clients](#) piece, I wrote:

So here's another possible scenario. Let's continue to diversify the offer of available Twitter clients, and settle with one app for power users. Justin doesn't like Tweetbot, but perhaps one

year from now Tweetbot will be available on more platforms with changes and tweaks that everyone will like and use on a daily basis, even Justin. Around that Twitter client for power users, I imagine a flourishing ecosystem of innovative Twitter apps that don't simply focus on building an alternative to Tweetbot – a daunting task at this point – but provide a unique experience that can live alongside the main, full-featured client.

I've been using [Tweetbot](#) on my iPad for three weeks now, and it's good. More than good, it's the *great* Twitter client power users and those who simply didn't like the alternatives out there were waiting for. Tweetbot doesn't reinvent the genre and will look fairly familiar to those coming from the iPhone app; Tapbots brought the iPhone version's highly engaging experience and powerful features to the iPad, fine-tuning the interface and interaction for the bigger screen in the process. You have to despise Tapbots' style to not like this app, as anyone who's been around long enough in the industry can tell that, as a Twitter client, Tweetbot is an amazing achievement for its developers, and the third-party community as whole, which has now a new standard to be compared to.

Tweetbot for iPad is [available today at \\$2.99 on the App Store](#).

- [Tapbots website](#)
- [Promo video](#)

[Tweetbot for iPad Review](#)

## Interview: Tapbots' Paul Haddad Talks Tweetbot for iPad Launch



**Tapbots**  
@tapbots

Unfollow

We make useful robots for your iPhone.

 Silicon Valley, CA	 <a href="http://tapbots.com">http://tapbots.com</a>
Followers 61,970 >	Following 3 >
Listed 3,486 >	Tweets 1,986 >

Following yesterday's release of Tweetbot 2.0 for iPhone and Tweetbot for iPad (our reviews [here](#) and [here](#), more coverage [here](#) ), I was able to chat with Tapbots' co-founder Paul Haddad (@tapbot\_paul) about the launch of their first "real" iPad app, the reception of Tweetbot 2.0 for iPhone, and the iPad App Store.

Check out the interview below.

**MCSTR:** Hi Paul, congratulations again on the launch of Tweetbot 2.0 and Tweetbot for iPad. So how did yesterday go in terms of sales? Was the launch as successful as you hoped?

**PH:** Yeah I was surprised we hit #1 in the iPad App Store so fast, I was hoping we'd hit it at some point but wasn't expecting it to happen in 8 hours. It was pretty fast - the Top Paid is a moving average over what I think is 3 days, so to do it in less than one is pretty amazing.

**MCSTR:** I mean, it's not easy for a social networking app priced at \$2.99 to get the first spot over games and utilities (most of them sold at \$0.99), right?

**PH:** At least in the US I think the iPad market is certainly different than iPhone, not as heavily skewed towards the \$.99 games/apps.

**MCSTR:** Do you think with the current number of downloads you can stay on #1 for many days?

**PH:** I hope so, but don't really have any idea. The iPad App Store is virgin territory for us so we don't have many set expectations both in the short and long term.

I will say that yesterday was our second biggest day ever in terms of revenue.

**MCSTR:** Nice. I guess your biggest day ever was Tweetbot for iPhone launch? Or perhaps that Tweetbot sale you had last year?

**PH:** Tweetbot for iPhone launch was the biggest day, but that was also a full day Vs more or less a half day, so who knows what will happen today.

**MCSTR:** Yeah, it seems you guys are still #1 in the US Store, so that's promising. Besides the rave reviews, how has general reception been?

**PH:** Surprisingly good. It's really hard to gauge these things pre-launch and we're too close to the app to really get a feel for what other people will think of it. There certainly was a concern that people would dislike the idea of it being a separate app. But there have been very few

complaints about that.

Since it was our first large iPad app, I was also worried that people would feel our style wouldn't translate well on the device. But again – overwhelmingly positive responses.

**MCSTR:** How about Tweetbot 2.0? Obviously the iPad launch was bigger because it was a completely new app, but Tweetbot 2.0 is pretty sweet too.

**PH:** It was really cool to be able to do both at the same time. I think Tweetbot 2.0 answers a lot of the criticisms folks have had with the app, while still making it feel like Tweetbot. I'm really happy that we were able to make it look and perform better at the same time.

**MCSTR:** The obvious question is – now that we have two Tweetbots, will we get to see some sort of iCloud integration between them?

**PH:** We don't generally talk about future features because we don't really know how long things will take, or even if things are possible. I will say it's one of the things we are looking at.

**MCSTR:** Sounds good. Last question: Is there anything you would have done differently in Tweetbot 1.0 for iPad?

**PH:** I'm really happy with the way Tweetbot 1.0 came out. We actually have a very strong set of features planned out for the near future that will make it even cooler. But 1.0 is exactly what we wanted it to be, the best Twitter app for iPad and a solid base to grow from.

[Interview: Tapbots' Paul Haddad Talks Tweetbot for iPad Launch](#)

## Tweetbot Gets Streaming





Tweetbot, Tapbots' excellent Twitter client for iOS that we recently [reviewed](#) for the launch of its long-awaited iPad version and [2.0 update](#) on the iPhone, received today support for one of the most requested functionalities by its users: streaming.

Available today in version [2.1 of the iPad app](#), live streaming allows users to stay on top of the latest tweets thanks to Twitter's real-time push technology that can be seen in the new Tweetbot timeline, which, when on WiFi, will constantly check for new tweets and automatically load them above your timeline position. An option is available to disable streaming in the app's Settings, as well as a switch to enable "Pin to Top". In my tests, Tweetbot's new streaming feature has been extremely reliable – that is, unless Twitter itself was experiencing issues – and has enabled me to forego completely the need of manually refreshing or waiting for Tweetbot to update my timeline every few minutes. Like on Twitter for Mac, I think streaming is an invaluable tool if you're planning on getting the most out of Twitter's real time nature, and Tweetbot's implementation doesn't disappoint.

With streaming come a few other changes to make the experience of fetching and syncing tweets more pleasant. The new tweets sound, for instance, is now limited to mentions, direct messages, and tweets fetched with pull-to-refresh. The Tweet Marker service, which allows you to keep your Tweetbots (and other [supporting clients](#)) in sync, has been vastly improved. Generally, this means the process of getting your latest-seen tweet and timeline position should

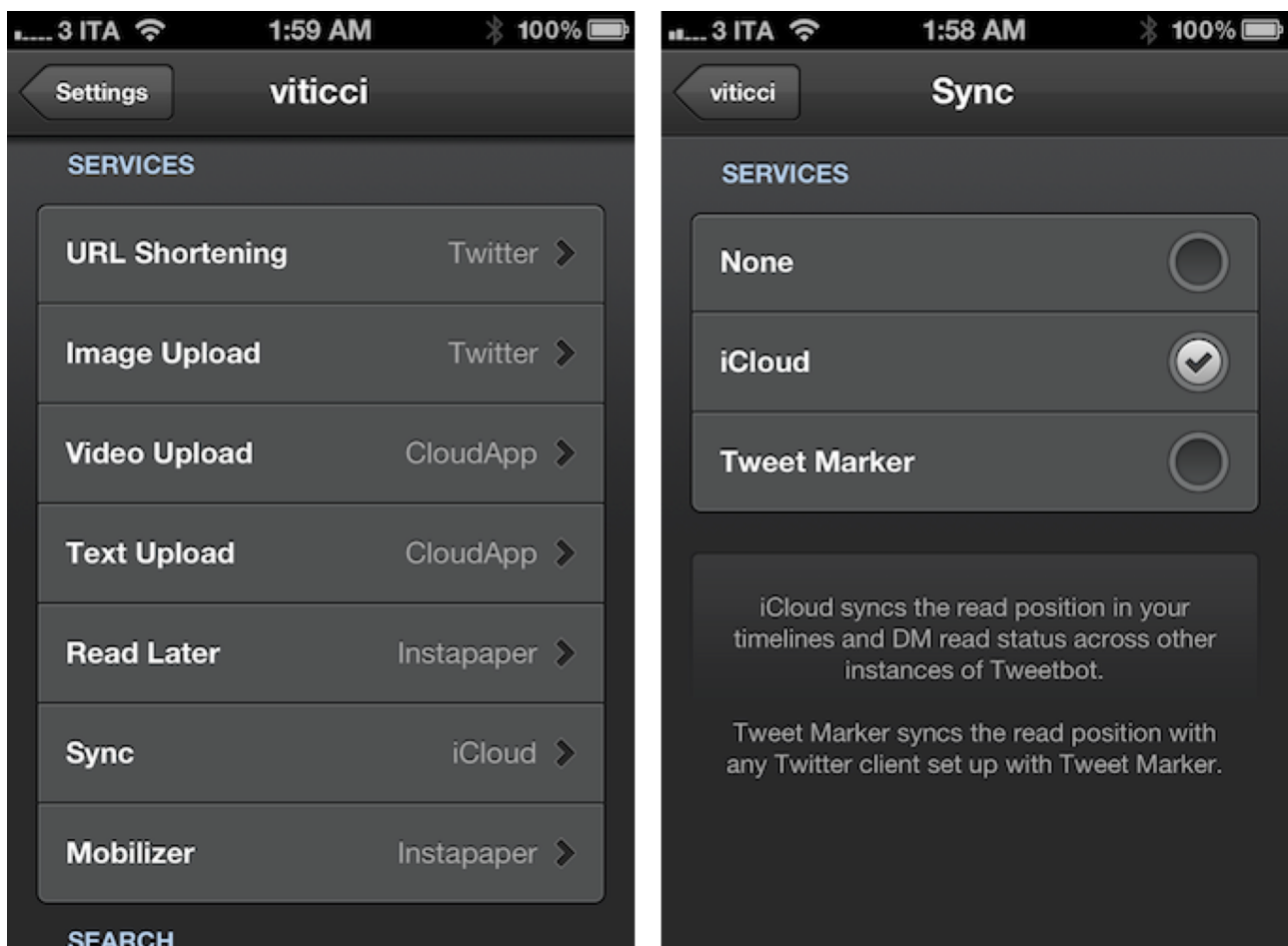
sync faster to the cloud and back to the app - in testing the latest Tweetbot, I can confirm Tweet Marker sync seems a little faster and more “accurate” than before.

Tweetbot is my favorite Twitter client on any platform, and streaming makes it a lot better from a user experience standpoint. You can get iPad update from the App Store now (the app’s graphics are also ready for the new iPad coming out later this week); version 2.1 of the iPhone app, sporting the same new features and [Camera+ 3.0 integration](#), is still waiting for approval in the App Store’s queue.

- [Tweetbot for iPhone](#)
- [Tweetbot for iPad](#)

[Tweetbot Gets Streaming](#)

## Tweetbot Gets iCloud Sync for Timelines, DMs, and Mute Filters



Two months ago, I took a look at [the state of iCloud-enabled apps](#) for Mac and iOS, sharing somewhat unsurprising results that showed few applications successfully were using iCloud sync

across devices (not to mention *platforms* ), and that developers were frustrated for the lack of extensive documentation by Apple. In these past 60 days, very little has changed on Apple's side - if anything, we've only seen more third-party developers trying to figure out ways to properly use iCloud and make it work in their apps. Tapbots, makers of Tweetbot (our reviews for [iPhone](#) and [iPad](#) versions of the app), are releasing today an update to their Twitter client, which brings iCloud sync for various Twitter functionalities to the iPhone and iPad.

I have been able to test iCloud sync in Tweetbot for a few weeks now, and whilst I was initially skeptical about the service, I am pleased to report that Tapbots has come up with a solid, clever system that might just convince you switch from [Tweet Marker](#) - the only third-party solution to sync Twitter timelines that's been widely adopted to date - if you're planning to use Tweetbot as your main client.

iCloud sync, unlike Tweet Marker, works exclusively inside Tweetbot across its iPhone and iPad versions. You won't be able to start iCloud sync on Tweetbot for iPhone and, say, find your timeline synced on Twitterrific. If you're still looking for a real cross-platform syncing solution for Twitter, Tweet Marker remains your best option. If you, however, are you using the two Tweetbots as your default Twitter apps anyway and happen to be intrigued by iCloud sync, you might want to consider giving this new option in version 2.2 a try. Once enabled in the Sync settings, iCloud integration will sync mute filters, timeline positions, and DM read status across all instances of Tweetbot. This means that, if you're using iCloud on your iOS devices running Tweetbot, the app will keep your position in the Twitter timeline synced similarly to how Tweet Marker works, only it will also sync your direct messages' read status (if you read a DM on your iPhone, it will also be automatically marked as read on the iPad) and mute filters set in the app's Preferences. In my tests, both Tweet Marker and iCloud have worked reliably when syncing timelines, but I switched to iCloud full-time for the added convenience of syncing DMs and filters across Tweetbot, and because of the lack of Tweet Marker-enabled apps (that I like) on my desktop. In fact, at least for the time being, I'm still using Twitter's official client on my Mac. With iCloud sync, I can keep more data synced across Tweetbot for iPhone and Tweetbot for iPad, which I use on a daily basis. Please note that, while iCloud is supposed to be "invisible" to the user, working all the time in the background, there may be a short delay of 10-15 seconds when syncing the timeline position across clients, although I have noticed this sporadically. I suggest you use Tweetbot as you normally would, switching from one client to another when you really need to, avoiding keeping both apps open at the same time just to see if iCloud is working.

Version 2.2 of Tweetbot also brings other improvements and bug fixes throughout the app; most notably, images can now be closed with a pinch gesture on the iPad (similarly to how you can close images in Photos) and both iTunes and YouTube links have gained thumbnail previews in the timeline.

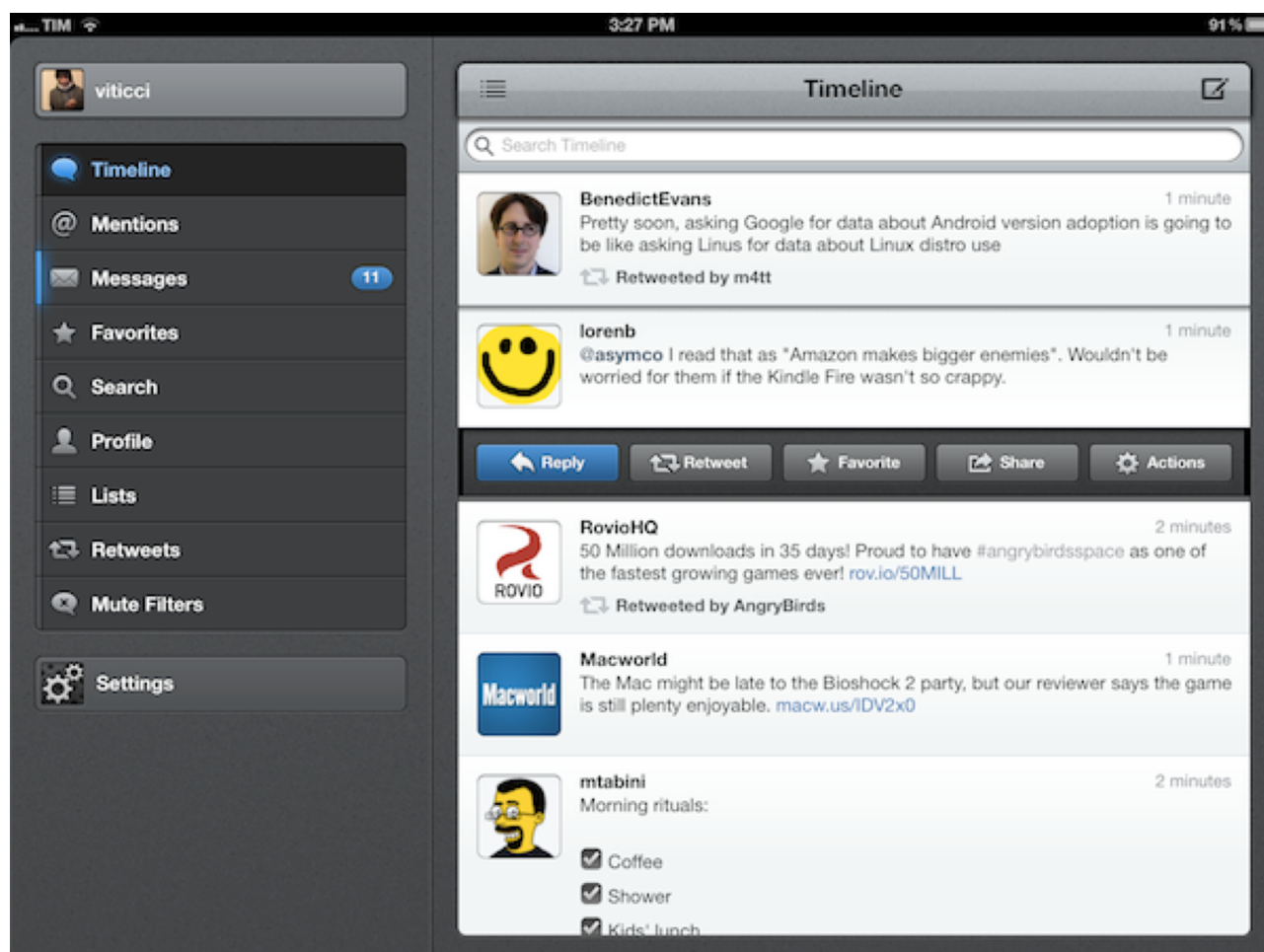
For the past months, I have been increasingly using my iPad as my primary computer, and thus Tweetbot has become the Twitter client I spend the most time using on my iOS devices. This newest update increases the overall stability and performances of the app, but more importantly it brings a native, consistent way to sync data across platforms that, at this point, can only get better in the future - and it's already working admirably now.

You can get Tweetbot 2.2 on the App Store today.

- Tweetbot for iPhone
- Tweetbot for iPad

Tweetbot Gets iCloud Sync for Timelines, DMs, and Mute Filters

## Tweetbot 2.3 Adds New Gestures, Integrations, UI Refinements



Less than a month after a major 2.2 update that **added** iCloud sync for timelines, DMs, and mute

filters, **Tweetbot** is back today with a significant update on the iPhone and iPad that redefines some of the gestures and interactions introduced with the original version 1.0 (2.0 on the iPhone). Overhauling the standalone tweet detail and conversation views that, based on intuitive gestures, were two of Tweetbot's hallmark features, Tweetbot 2.3 unifies single tweets, actions, replies, and conversations within redesigned screens that, with a bit of practice, I believe will ultimately help saving time and precious taps around the app.

## New Tweet Detail View

**Quick access: swipe right to left on a tweet.**

The single tweet view – the screen that displays a user's single tweet alongside the action bar, geo-location and client info, and other data – has been redesigned to accommodate inline conversations and replies. Providing the usual context for author, buttons to reply, retweet, fave, share, and view, the new tweet detail view elegantly puts a banner-like notification up top to indicate how many replies a specific tweet received; if the tweet belongs to a conversation, Tweetbot 2.3 displays a "In reply to..." section at the bottom (down to the original tweet that started the conversation), with additional replies *above*.

The developers have managed to cram a lot of information and elements into a single screen without sacrificing usability and clarity – unlike other apps, it's always clear which tweets belong to a conversation and which ones generated other replies.

To go back to the timeline from the tweet detail view, you can now quickly swipe with one finger from left to right. **Here's a recap** of all the gestures and tap actions supported in Tweetbot from our review of the iPad version (interactions are mostly the same on iPhone).

## New Conversation View & Sharing

**Quick access: swipe left to right on a tweet.**

Similarly, the new conversation view of Tweetbot 2.3 displays both conversations and replies inline. Accessible with the usual swipe-to-reveal action, the conversation view loads replies in a neatly separated section just like the aforementioned tweet detail view.

New in 2.3, conversations can now be uploaded directly to social curation platform **Storify** for further sharing with the world; the uploading process is automatic and doesn't require a

dedicated login, meaning that Tweetbot will simply publish a conversation, such as [this one](#), to Storify using your Twitter account. Whilst I hope for a future version of Tweetbot to let me save “all replies” to a specific tweet from the detail view (right now, it’s only enabled in the Conversation window), I think Tapbots did the right thing in simplifying the curation aspect of Storify and make it available as a direct option without additional configuration required.

Also new in the 2.3 conversation view (but enabled for single tweets and DMs as well): the app now has an improved email format when sending tweets to someone else via email.

## More Features in 2.3

Several additional refinements and improvements went into the development of Tweetbot 2.3. First off, Droplr support: for URLs, images, and videos, users have now the option to choose Droplr as a sharing service in the Settings. When shared, videos now have a dedicated “play” thumbnail to differentiate them from images, and thumbnail support has been added for Vimeo links, too.

The app now correctly recognizes \$stock links, allowing you to easily fire up a search for \$AAPL or your favorite stock, and save it for future usage.

The tweet drawer has been reorganized, with the last two buttons gaining more order in the process.

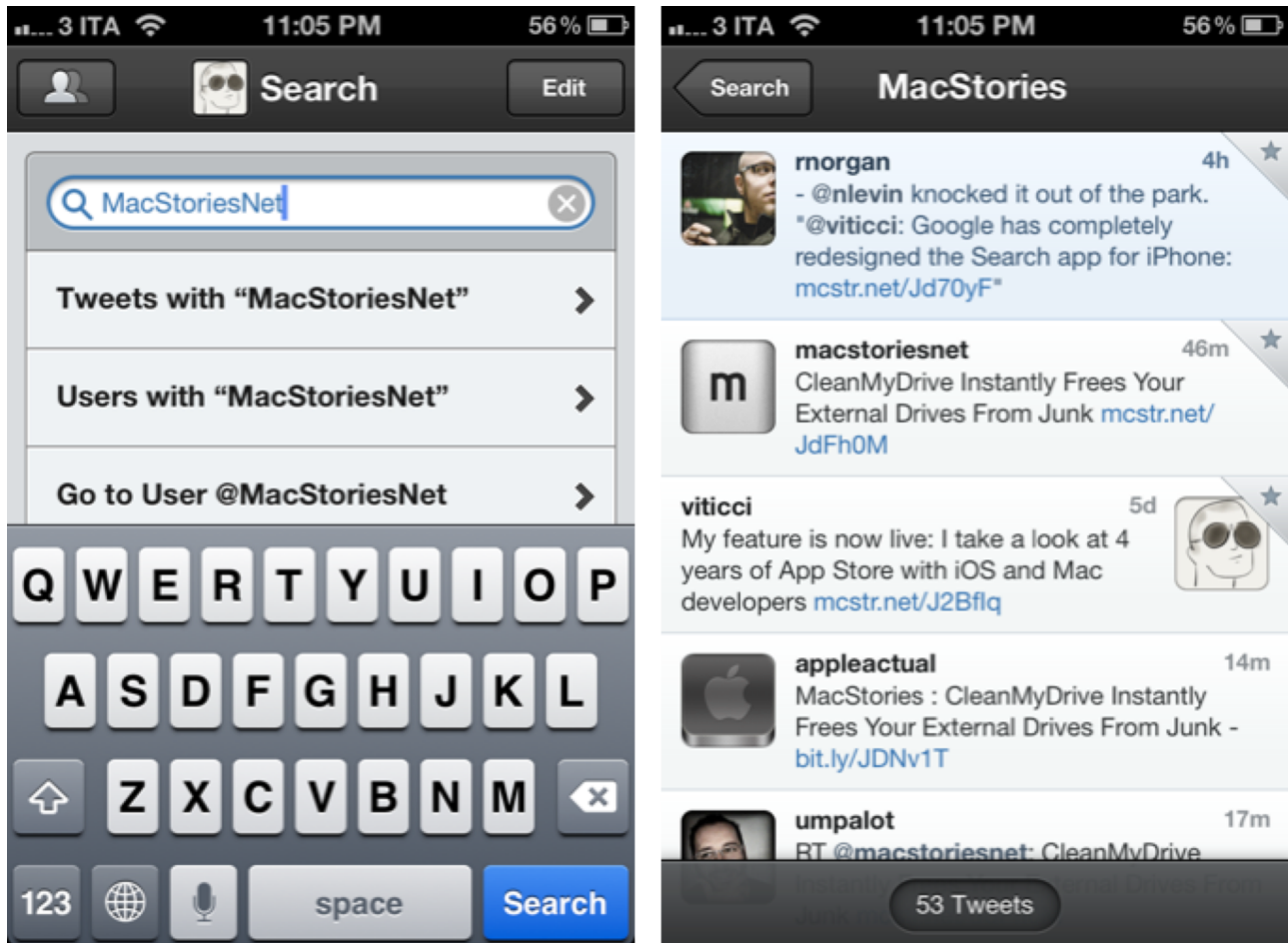
Last, some minor touches in version 2.3 will contribute to improving usability and to allowing users customize their timelines to their needs and tastes: retweets from specific users can now be disabled at any time, and it’s possible to quickly open the last saved draft by holding down the tweet compose button. The timeline sync bookmark icon is now an optional setting, and Tweetbot is capable of uploading high-res images when on WiFi.

With important improvements and UI refinements aimed at increasing the app’s ease of use and display of information, Tweetbot 2.3 is another solid and rich update that adds powerful functionality without compromising the app’s interaction and workflow. You can get Tweetbot 2.3 on the App Store today.

- [Tweetbot for iPhone](#)
- [Tweetbot for iPad](#)



## Tweetbot 2.4 Brings New Search View, Keyword Mute Filters, Refinements



Following updates focused on **iCloud sync** and **gestures**, Tweetbot 2.4, released today on the App Store ( **iPhone**, **iPad** ), brings an updated search view with additional location features, relocated Trends and People categories, and various improvements that make the client's search functionality more powerful and intuitive.

### Search

The new Search tab unifies Trends, People, and Top Tweets under a Browse section, with Saved Searches and the classic search box still available at the top of the screen. The dedicated Top Tweets option is quite enjoyable – I have indeed found myself browsing such flow of status updates on a couple of times for the occasional laugh or remarkably snarky tweet. Top tweets now also show up in regular search results, and they are marked by a silver star indicator.



Trends, on the other hand, can be changed to another location directly from the search view of Tweetbot 2.4 – I don't use Trends, but I assume the option will come in handy for those who, for some reason, like to check the recurring trend in Italy.

The big addition in Tweetbot's new search interface is support for nearby tweets. Here, you can view nearby tweets with the ability to change your location (just tap on the embedded Google Map), and you can perform location-based keyword searches for tweets containing specific words that also happen to be located near you. Unfortunately, Viterbo resembles a ghost town when it comes to looking for fellow local MacStories readers. I asked Tapbots, and they confirmed my town's insistence of loading @viticci as the only local MacStories tweeter isn't an app's bug.

There are two more little touches I like in Tweetbot 2.4: you can double-tap the search tab to open search with the keyboard, and the search box has been optimized to let you easily jump to tweets, users, or a specific @user without additional taps.

## Keyword Mute Filters

Tweetbot has been offering advanced mute filtering options for **quite some time now**. Version 2.4 now allows you to block specific keywords – not just users or clients – and there's even support for **regular expression** if you really want to make sure you're not reading about the latest spoilers in Game Of Thrones. Mentions can be muted as well.

## Miscellaneous

There are plenty of other refinements in Tweetbot 2.4. Offline support, for instance, will ensure tweets marked as favorite or sent to a Read Later service when no Internet connection is available will get "queued", then sent/favorited as soon as you come back online. Sure enough, while browsing my timeline in Airplane mode, I fave'd a couple of tweets, sent some links to Pocket, and Tweetbot queued them. When I turned WiFi back on, the app refreshed, the tweets were marked as favorites in my account, and they appeared in my Pocket.

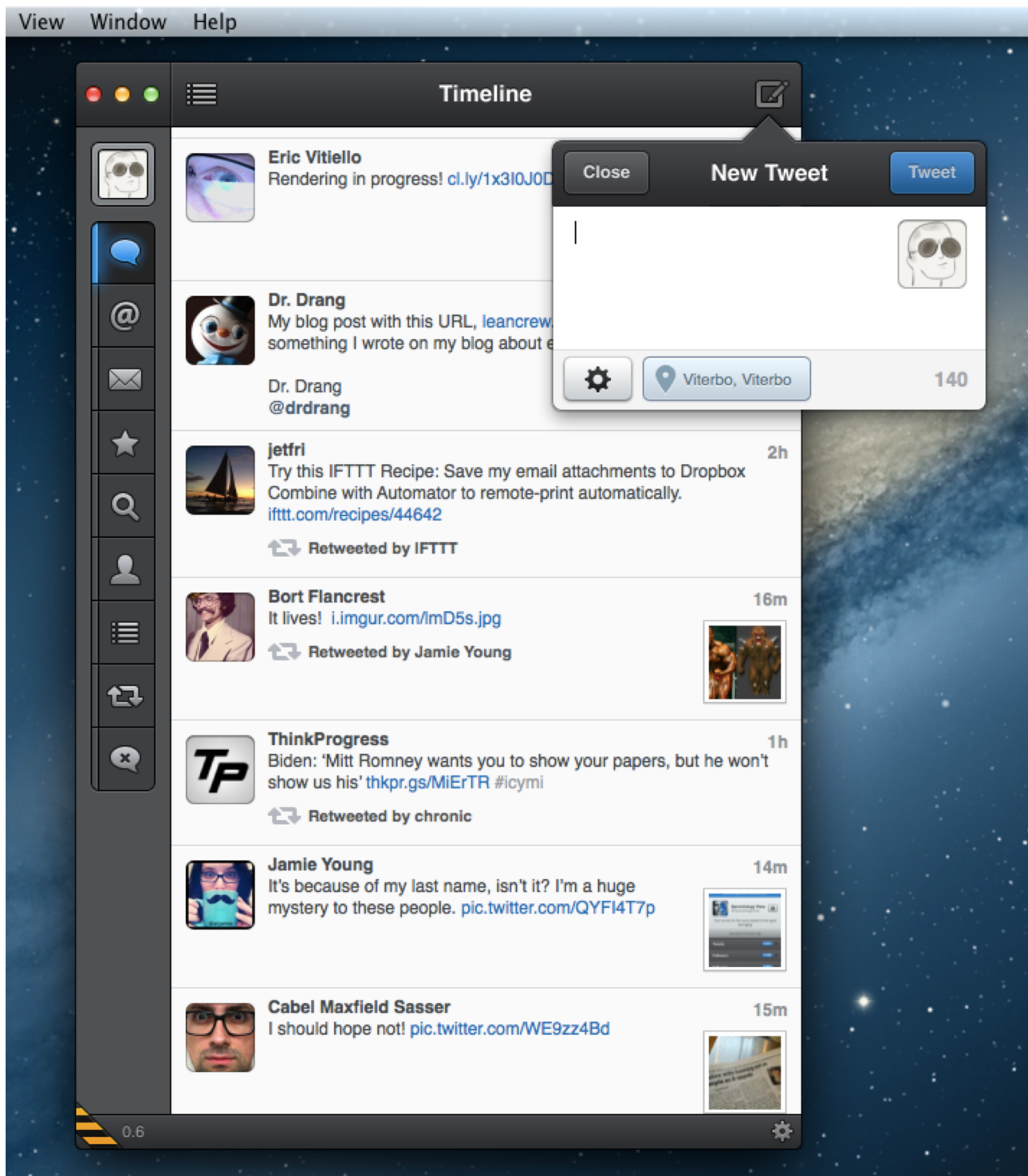
On the iPad, web and map views can now be dismissed with a two-finger swipe down gesture, which I found incredibly convenient and faster than reaching out for the Close button in the upper left corner. Also on the iPad, list views show one line of a list or profile description, and when viewing an image in full-screen, you can hold down for options.

Additionally, aside from the usual bug fixes, you can now swipe to the right on profile views to go back; items sent to Pinboard are marked as unread; and last, the compose screen comes with basic smart quote support (for quotes, em dash, and ellipsis).

With powerful new features and UI refinements added to an existing set of great functionalities, Tweetbot 2.4 retains familiarity while striving to remain the best third-party Twitter app for iOS. Get it [from the App Store today](#).

[Tweetbot 2.4 Brings New Search View, Keyword Mute Filters, Refinements](#)

## Tweetbot for Mac: Public Alpha Review



Today, **Tapbots** released the first public alpha of **Tweetbot for Mac**. This is *not a final review* of the app: being in the development stage – albeit ready to be tested by the public – Tweetbot for Mac is still lacking several features that will be available in the final Mac App Store version (such as iCloud sync and Notification Center support), and for this reason I'll save my full analysis of the app for the future.

However, I have been testing Tweetbot for the past week, and I can say that it already is the best Twitter client available on the Mac.

## Gimme Shelter

Ever since Loren Brichter (creator of the original Tweetie, [who sold his app](#) to Twitter and went on to work there) [left the company](#), Twitter for Mac – what [I had deemed](#) as the best Twitter client for OS X – fell into an unexplainable state of abandon and lack of updates. You would think it's in Twitter's best interest to keep a native client up to date with the latest features of the service; and yet, after a solid first version – which came after years of speculation on Tweetie 2 – Twitter started ignoring the app, failing to bring several of Twitter's new features (such as inline media and updated search) to the desktop. It only got worse recently: after many updates to Lion, Twitter for Mac has started showing new bugs and glitches that haven't been fixed by Twitter, alongside the ones that have always been there and were never corrected. And then with the release of the Retina MacBook Pro, Twitter's lack of support for high-res text and graphics became the proverbial final nail in the coffin of what used to be a great app.

The saddest part, however, is that in spite of its current state and overall “what could have been” feeling attached to it, Twitter for Mac still is, for many, the best shot at a decent native Twitter experience on the Mac. On OS X, there aren't as many Twitter third-party apps as on iOS, but still software like [Twitterrific](#), [Hibari](#) and [Osfoora](#) have provided good options to users looking outside the classic Tweetie environment. The problem is, there is a whole segment of Twitter for Mac users that, like me, [have been stuck with Tweetie's paradigms](#) and features for more or less three years now, as other desktop apps – while promising – have always lacked that feature or two that would make them a must-have. And it's likely that those users have only been able to use another equally feature-rich Twitter client on another platform: Tweetbot.

Thus, Tweetbot for Mac. I won't go into any more detail about Tapbots' success with Tweetbot on the iPhone and iPad: I have reviewed both apps [extensively here at MacStories](#), and their success is very much history at this point. Tweetbot, for me, is the best Twitter client ever produced on iOS; its design, feature set, and care for the details contribute to providing a fantastic Twitter experience for users looking for more than just scrolling the timeline or casually checking out a link or two. Tweetbot is made for people who see the richness in the information that travels across Twitter, and Tweetbot for Mac wants to offer the same powerful iOS experience on the Mac, with no compromises. As Cody [wrote in his review of Twitter 4.3](#), Tweetbot users want features – and Tweetbot for Mac aims at delivering on this premise, for all those users who have been impatiently waiting for it.

Like I said, it would be unfair to judge Tweetbot for Mac for what it is now as the app is still lacking several functionalities both because of Apple's own limitations (only Mac App Store apps can use iCloud and Notification Center; the latter is also exclusive to the upcoming

Mountain Lion) and due to the ongoing development of the client. For instance, there is limited support for keyboard shortcuts, there are some rough edges around the interface, and one of my favorite features of Twitter for Mac – being able to navigate and switch sections with gestures – isn't yet available. Indeed, [Tapbots say](#) that features like better management of multiple windows will be coming in the future, and they confirmed in a blog post that they are planning “on making everything as beautiful and pixel perfect” as they can. Don't be surprised if, in this version, some pixels will look misaligned or out of place. Eventually, it will all be fixed.

Notably, Tapbots wants you to keep in mind that this is a public alpha – a free trial of a piece of software that will be sold for a price on the App Store. While feedback and crash reports are welcome now, when the app hits 1.0, you'll have to decide whether or not it's worth your cash. According to Tapbots, a final price hasn't been set yet.

Today's public alpha of Tweetbot is definitely what it sounds like: an unfinished product that needs feedback and more testing before being ready for primetime. And yet the essence of what Tweetbot for Mac will be like is already here, and I can tell it'll make for a fantastic app.

## Back to the Mac

Tweetbot for Mac acts like [Tweetbot for iPad](#) for the most part. It looks like Tweetbot for iPad with a sidebar on the left for Timeline, Mentions, Messages, Favorites, Search, Profile, Lists, Retweets, and Filters; the timeline design is the same, sections inside the app look the same, user profiles and conversations look just like their iOS counterparts.

Tweetbot is a consistent experience across platforms.

Some features of Tweetbot for iOS have been ported to the Mac with no modifications. Double-clicking on the title bar will scroll to the top of any timeline, and clicking on one of the sections on the left when inside a conversation or multiple levels into navigation will go back to the “root” of the section, just like iOS. Unlike Twitter for Mac, navigation isn't implemented with breadcrumbs – it uses an iOS-like back button. Those familiar with [Favstar](#) and the double-tap action on Tweetbot's Profile tab will appreciate the same option available as double-click on Tweetbot for Mac.

The app makes use of an iOS-inspired popover to load lists that you can use as your main timeline: just click on the lists button in the title bar and choose between your lists, private lists, or followed ones. If you want to keep tabs on multiple timelines, you can open a separate window by hitting CMD-Shift-N; I found this option particularly handy to keep my personal

account in one window, and a special list (or the @macstoriesnet account) in another one. Tapbots said that, in future versions of the app, window management will be “much more elegant”.

A popover is also used for the compose widget, which resembles Twitter’s one but adds the typical options you’re used to seeing in Tweetbot: switching accounts and adding location and images to tweets. The popover can be detached, and you can keep multiple ones on screen simultaneously (notice how the little arrow disappears as you detach the popover).

You can add images through the action button in the compose widget, or via drag & drop. Once attached, an image will be displayed as a thumbnail in the compose area; images are also displayed inline in the timeline, and clicking on one will first display a new loading indicator, then a floating preview that you can resize and move around on screen.

Other features that underline the consistency of functionality and design choices chosen by Tapbots are shown in the Settings, which include more already-seen stuff like Tweet Marker sync, new tweets bar, font size options, and various online accounts to configure.

When you reach the top of the timeline, like on iOS, Tweetbot will show that it’s streaming, with no need to manually refresh.

If you’re familiar with Tweetbot on iOS, you’ll instantly know how to use Tweetbot for Mac.

That’s not to say, though, that Tapbots is simply taking a successful iOS app and putting a native Mac wrapper around it. Tweetbot for Mac wants to be a native Mac application, and for this reason Tapbots had to rethink some of the interactions that couldn’t be suitable for a point-and-click system such as the Mac.

Because on the Mac it is possible to implement the concept of “hover” through the cursor, the tweet drawer’s options (reply, retweet, fave, share, more) are shown when hovering over a tweet, and they are presented inside contextual menus: this helps reducing the number of clicks needed to navigate around tweets, and it stays true to the nature of OS X while adapting Tweetbot’s existing feature to different patterns and possible scenarios.

I hope the final version of Tweetbot will allow us to assign keyboard shortcuts to sharing actions, much like Reeder for Mac does for RSS articles (tweets can already be scrolled using the keyboard).

Similarly, direct messages are presented like on iOS, but as you click on a conversation the

cursor automatically focuses on the text field, so you can start typing, then send a message with CMD-Return (this also works with normal tweets). There are other instances of iOS features being slightly modified to work on OS X already, such as dictionary definitions with three-finger taps that work on any word in a tweet directly from the timeline, or keyboard shortcuts for switching sections. I'm sure there will be more cases of features coming from Tweetbot for iOS being slightly tweaked to work better on the Mac come the final version of the app.

What's really interesting for now, I believe, is the reason behind Tapbots' decision to do a public alpha. Typically extremely secretive about their releases, Tweetbot for Mac hasn't been Tapbot's best concealed effort to date, but there's a long way between [teasing app screenshots and icon](#) and doing a public alpha testing period. According to Tapbots' blog post, they released the public alpha to get the motivation to finish faster, and receive valuable feedback, as developing for the Mac is no easy task. I have no inside knowledge about Tapbots' decision, but I suspect it's somewhat related to [Twitter's controversial stance on its API](#) and letting developers build applications that compete with the native Twitter experience, offering apps that mimic functionality found in Twitter's own apps.

I don't think Twitter will ever completely kill off existing products like Tweetbot or Twittrific, but they may start looking into disapproving *future* new apps that don't comply with Twitter's policies. If this theory is correct, Twitter may keep the existing ecosystem intact by "grandfathering" apps, but there could be problems for developers of new apps. And again, if this will be the case, Tapbots may be thinking that, in order to fall into the category of apps that "Twitter can't kill", it was necessary to speed up development, build up a userbase in the meantime, and combine the benefits of public alpha testing (lots of feedback) with becoming an established player in the current Twitter API ecosystem.

As things stand right now, even if Tweetbot isn't available on the Mac App Store, I think it's here to stay no matter what Twitter decides to do in the future.

## Wrap-Up (For Now)

Tweetbot for Mac's first alpha feels good. Very good. It still doesn't offer some of the functionalities that former Tweetie/Twitter users may have become accustomed to, and, as I mentioned above, I'll be watching the development of the app closely, saving my complete review for the Mac App Store version. At the same time, however, this public alpha already sports a number of features and little touches that have enabled me to forego the *need* of using Twitter for Mac. In an unordered list of importance:



- Streaming
- Reliable gap detection
- View followers inside the app
- View conversations and replies to tweets separately
- Copy tweets and links to tweets
- Mute people, hashtags, keywords, and clients
- View retweets for a specific tweet
- Send to Instapaper and Tweet URL as contextual actions
- View any profile in Favstar

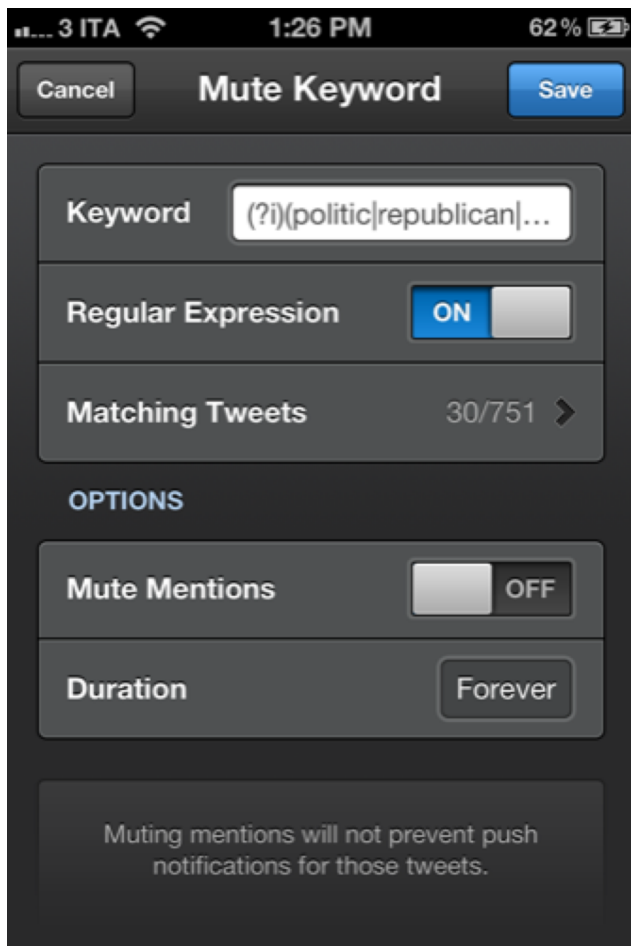
Right now, Tweetbot for Mac is, in my opinion, already superior to any other client for OS X – and it still can be improved. More importantly, Tweetbot makes better use of Twitter features than Twitter’s own Mac app, and that says a lot about the [importance of third-party clients](#) in this ecosystem.

If Tweetbot for Mac is an example of “iOS-ification” of Mac software, then I’m glad developers are bringing iOS-inspired features and design ideas back to the Mac. The strategy is working.

Download Tweetbot for Mac [here](#).

[Tweetbot for Mac: Public Alpha Review](#)

## Tweetbot Mute Filters For U.S. Elections



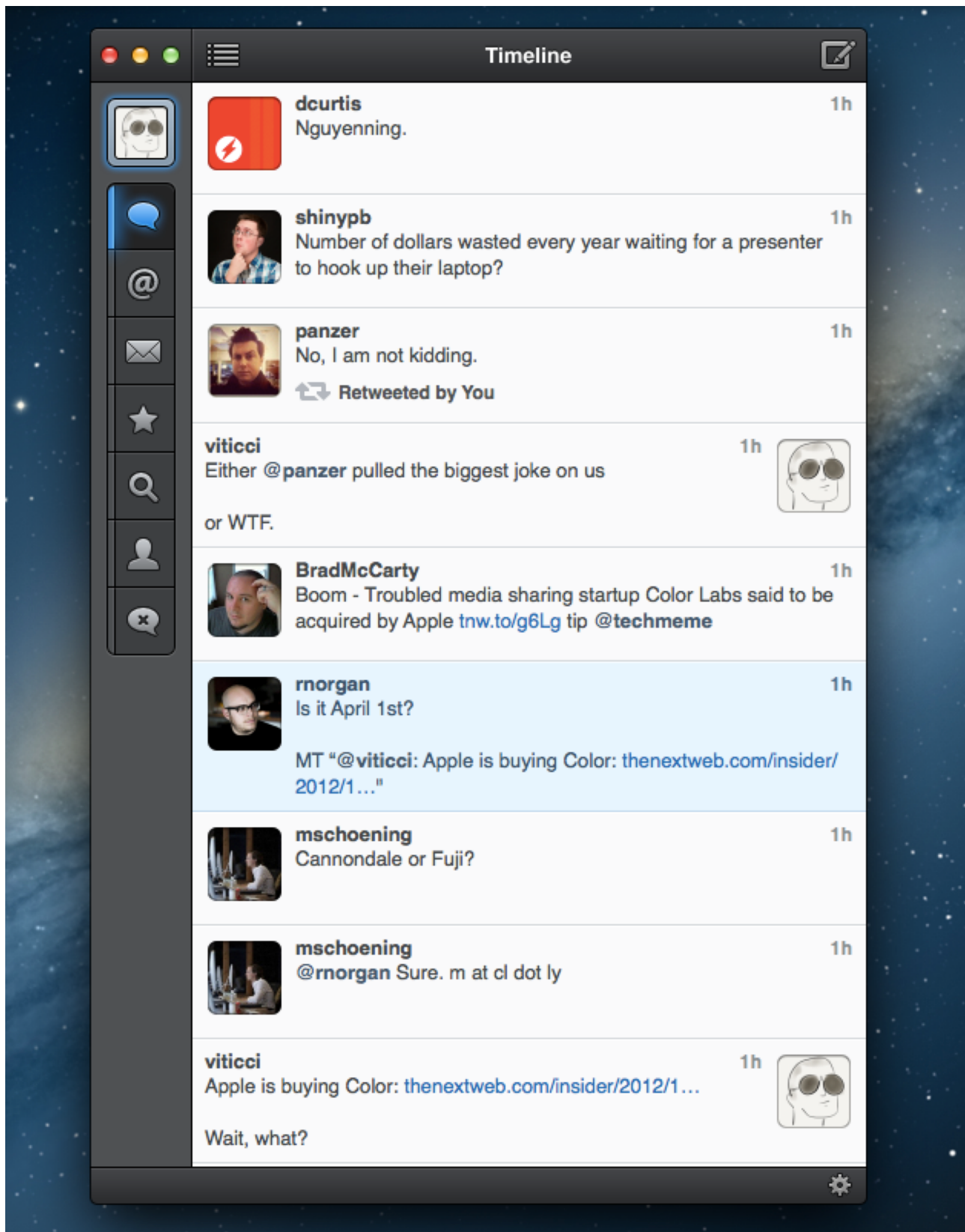
I've recently become annoyed with the amount of tweets in my timeline about the upcoming United States elections, so I set out to find a way to mute those tweets without necessarily unfollowing people. In case you missed it, [Tweetbot 2.4 introduced support](#) for keyword mute filtering, allowing you to mute (read: make invisible in the timeline) any keyword, with support for [regular expression](#). I manually added hashtags and keywords to the list of filters on my iPhone, iPad, and Mac, but it turns out someone already made a set of filters you can easily install on your devices.

Thanks to [Jono Hunt](#), you can head over [this GitHub page](#) and check out the 2012 U.S. elections regular expression he built for Tweetbot. You can add keywords in the middle if you feel like you should be blocking more from your timeline. To install the filter, open the Mute Filters view in Tweetbot, hit the Edit button, then the + button in the upper left corner and select Mute Keyword. Paste the filter, and turn on Regular Expression. You can set a duration (I chose "forever") and mute mentions for the filter as well. To make sure you're entering the expression correctly, Tweetbot will also display matching tweets *already* in your timeline.

Jono has built other mute filters for recurring tweets besides the elections, so check them out [here](#).

[Tweetbot Mute Filters For U.S. Elections](#)

## Tweetbot for Mac Review



When the first alpha of Tweetbot for Mac **came out in July**, I said I would take a look at the app again. Here we are, three months later, with the **final version of Tweetbot for Mac available on**

the App Store.

I concluded my review of the public alpha version with:

Right now, Tweetbot for Mac is, in my opinion, already superior to any other client for OS X – and it still can be improved. More importantly, Tweetbot makes better use of Twitter features than Twitter’s own Mac app, and that says a lot about the importance of third-party clients in this ecosystem.

In calling the alpha version of Tweetbot a “superior” product, I took quite a stance. I had been using the alpha for weeks before the public release, and I had the perspective and context to make a conscious and reasonable decision about my statement. I knew I was going to like Tweetbot and use it on a daily basis. Three months later, that’s still the case.

I’ll get to the point right away. Tweetbot is, in my opinion, the best Twitter client for Mac. From my perspective, no other app gets closer to the amount of polish and functionality that Tapbots poured into their latest creation, making it the most powerful, fast, and elegant Twitter app I’ve seen on OS X to date. In hindsight, it’s also a superior product than Twitter for Mac, which, as you may recall, *used* to be my go-to client. Three months ago I reviewed an app that I *knew* was going to be great.

In thinking about how I should approach this new review, I came to the conclusion that you don’t need me to go through the backstory of Twitter clients on the Mac. Here’s what I wrote, again, for context:

Ever since Loren Brichter (creator of the original Tweetie, who sold his app to Twitter and went on to work there) left the company, Twitter for Mac – what I had deemed as the best Twitter client for OS X – fell into an unexplainable state of abandon and lack of updates. You would think it’s in Twitter’s best interest to keep a native client up to date with the latest features of the service; and yet, after a solid first version – which came after years of speculation on Tweetie 2 – Twitter started ignoring the app, failing to bring several of Twitter’s new features (such as inline media and updated search) to the desktop. It only got worse recently: after many updates to Lion, Twitter for Mac has started showing new bugs and glitches that haven’t been fixed by Twitter, alongside the ones that have always been there and were never corrected. And then with the release of the Retina MacBook Pro, Twitter’s lack of support for high-res text and graphics became the proverbial final nail in the coffin of what used to be a great app.

Twitter for Mac still hasn’t received an update since last year. Some say it’s *no longer in development*.

In my review of Tweetbot Alpha, I briefly touched upon features that were missing from the app:

For instance, there is limited support for keyboard shortcuts, there are some rough edges around the interface, and one of my favorite features of Twitter for Mac – being able to navigate and switch sections with gestures – isn't yet available. Indeed, Tapbots say that features like better management of multiple windows will be coming in the future, and they confirmed in a blog post that they are planning "on making everything as beautiful and pixel perfect" as they can. Don't be surprised if, in this version, some pixels will look misaligned or out of place. Eventually, it will all be fixed.

It is with this standpoint that I want to look at Tweetbot again: you don't need me to know what Tweetbot is or what it looks like. Between the Mac and iOS, we've covered Tweetbot [extensively here at MacStories](#).

What follows is my review of Tweetbot 1.0 based on *how I use* the final version of the app. The little features and the details I've come to rely upon, and the overall functionality that makes Tweetbot the best Twitter client for Mac.

## Keyboard shortcuts

One of the key features missing from the initial alpha of Tweetbot was support for keyboard shortcuts. At some point, every Mac user – not necessarily [the "power" ones](#) – gets curious about keyboard shortcuts, as they can be fantastic timesavers. Tweetbot for Mac doesn't disappoint: it comes with many different shortcuts for timelines (i.e. "views") and tweets.

## Navigation and Views

**Command + 1...9** to open specific sections of the app. Sections are called "tabs", and they are available in the Window menu. Available tabs are: Timeline (1), Mentions (2), Messages (3), Favorites (4), Search (5), Profile (6), Lists (7), Retweets (8), and Mutes (9).

If you're already in a tab and you hit Command + 1...9 the app will go back to the top level of the view (eg. you're viewing someone's profile, the app will go back to timeline) so you don't have to hit the Back button. If you're already in the top level, the shortcut will scroll to the top.

Tabs available in Tweetbot's sidebar can be customized. From View > Displayed Tabs, choose the tabs you want to exclude from the sidebar by deselecting them. Even if a tab is hidden,

you'll still be able to access it with the shortcuts mentioned above.

A bunch of shortcuts are available in the View menu:

- You can scroll to top or bottom using **Command + Up** and **Command + Down**, respectively.
- You can move to the Next Tab using **Command + ]** and to the Previous Tab using **Command + [** - choosing "Previous Tab" when you're in the Timeline tab will cycle back to the bottom one (Mutes).
- If you add Shift to the Previous/Next Tab shortcut, you'll get Previous/Next Account.
- Not listed, but you can Page up and down using Space and Shift + Space; this also works with Home and End on keyboards with those keys.

In Tweetbot, you can open Tabs in new windows or columns. You can also open specific views such as user profiles or a saved search in columns or windows. To open the current view in a new window, use **Command + Shift + N**; to open in a new column, the shortcut is **Command + Option + N**. You can then remove specific columns from the View > Columns menu, or by hitting the gear icon in the bottom right corner of the main window. You can **tab** and **shift-tab** to move between columns.

Tweetbot's windows can be resized. However, the "separate" ones don't support shortcuts for changing tabs, as they are, essentially, single-purpose views turned into a window.

You can go to a specific user by hitting **Command + U** and typing its username. Tweetbot will try to autocomplete it.

## Actions

Tweetbot comes with several "action shortcuts" for tweets and integration with third-party services.

To compose a tweet, hit Command + N, and Command + W to close the compose box. If you've typed something in the box and try to close it, Tweetbot will ask you to save the tweet as a draft. Drafts can be opened with **Command + O**, which will display a separate window for all your saved tweets; click on one, and the tweet will open again in the compose box, ready to be sent.

You can perform various actions on selected tweets. Command + R will initiate a reply to the author of a tweet, with additional mentioned usernames selected so you can remove them instantly (it basically defaults to Reply All). Command + D will send a Direct Message to the author; **F** will mark a tweet as favorite; T will retweet, and **Option + T** will "quote" the selected

tweet. Command + K will mark all tweets in a tab as read.

Tweetbot uses streaming by default, but you can also manually refresh a view by pulling down tweets to unveil the loading bar, or by hitting Command + Shift + R. Please note, though, that if the app is streaming you can't actually pull to refresh: if streaming *fails*, you can. You can also pull to refresh views that don't stream, like Search and Lists.

When a tweet is selected, the entire app is navigable using the keyboard: up/down arrows will let you move between tweets, the right arrow key will open a tweet's detail view and left will always work as a "Back" button. If you are in the tweet detail view and you hit the right arrow, you'll go to the user's profile.

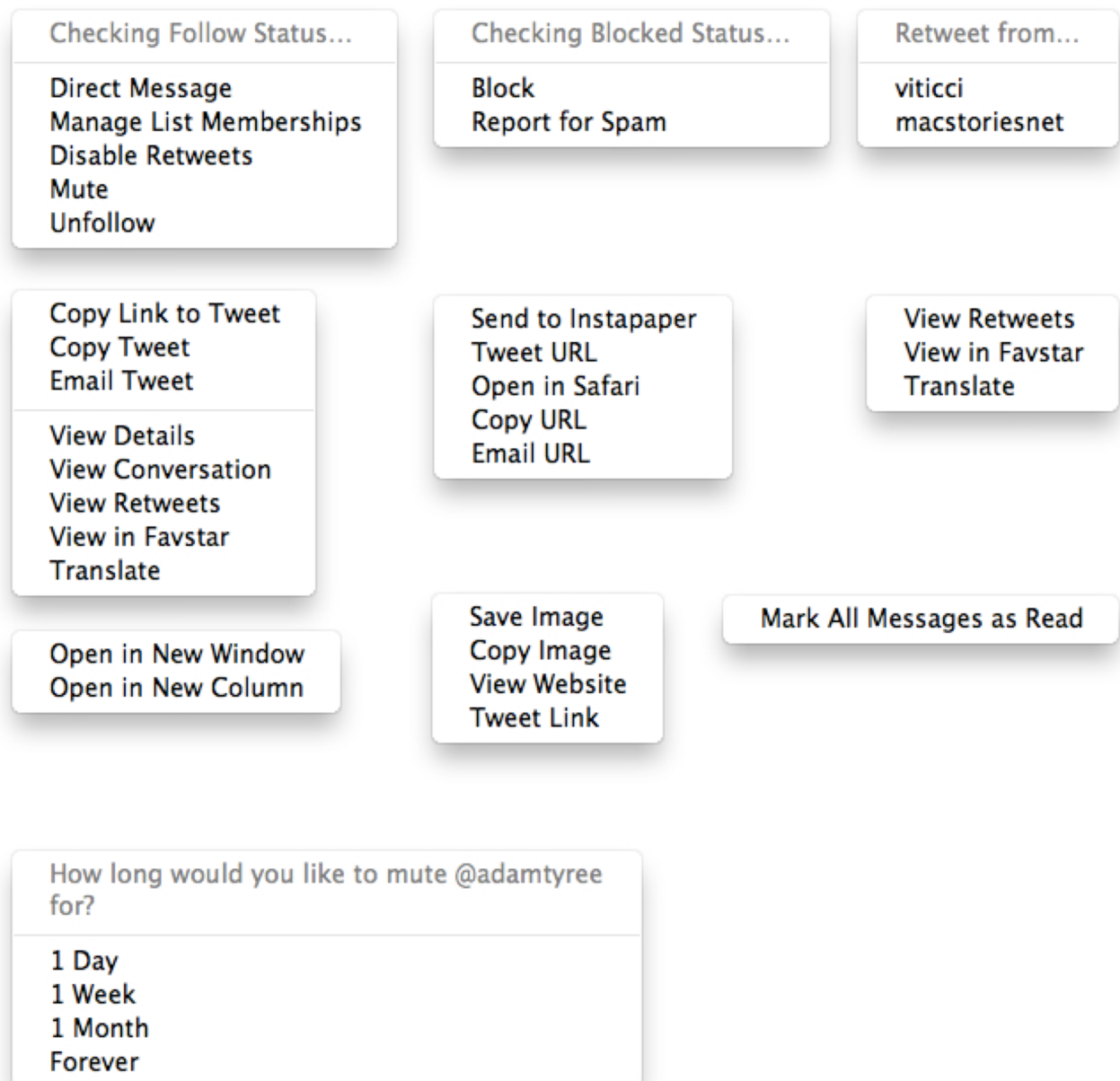
It gets more interesting with actions available inside the **Tweet > Action** menu. You can open the links contained in a selected tweet with **Command + Shift + L**: if the link is a regular http:// hyperlink, it'll open in the default browser; if it's an inline image, the shortcut will bring up the app's image viewer.

The image viewer comes with a sharing button to save the image (it'll be placed in your Downloads folder), copy it, view it on the web, or tweet the URL. To close the image, you can hit Esc or the Space bar. In this first version of the app, I've encountered a bug that, when the browser is minimized in the Dock, will bring it up in slow motion (I assume it's because the shortcut includes Shift, which triggers the slow-motion effect system-wide).

There are two more actions that have been assigned a keyboard shortcut: you can quickly open a user's profile by pressing **Command + Shift + U** on a tweet; and if a tweet belongs to a conversation, you can hit Command + Shift + C to view it.

## Contextual Menus





adamtyree, I haven't really blocked you. We're cool.

## Menus

Where Tweetbot doesn't get with keyboard shortcuts, it does with contextual menus. In July, I wrote:

That's not to say, though, that Tapbots is simply taking a successful iOS app and putting a native Mac wrapper around it. Tweetbot for Mac wants to be a native Mac application, and for this reason Tapbots had to rethink some of the interactions that couldn't be suitable for a point-and-click system such as the Mac.

Because on the Mac it is possible to implement the concept of "hover" through the cursor, the

tweet drawer's options (reply, retweet, fave, share, more) are shown when hovering over a tweet, and they are presented inside contextual menus: this helps reducing the number of clicks needed to navigate around tweets, and it stays true to the nature of OS X while adapting Tweetbot's existing feature to different patterns and possible scenarios.

In Tweetbot for iOS, you can tap & hold on certain elements to bring up additional options; in Tweetbot for Mac, tap & hold becomes right-clicking (or Control-clicking).

- A right-click on a tweet will let you: Copy Link to Tweet, Copy Tweet, Email Tweet, View Details/Conversations/Retweets, Open in Favstar, and Translate.
- If you right-click on a link, you can send to a Read Later service, Tweet the URL, Open in Browser, Copy, and Email the URL.
- Right-click on a user (link or profile picture) will check follow status, and offer options for DM, Manage in Lists, Disable Retweets, Mute, and Unfollow.
- Right-click on a sidebar tab will let you open it in a new column or window.
- Right-click on your own username will allow you to view your profile in Favstar; the same can be done by double-clicking on the Profile tab.
- Double-clicking any tab scrolls it to the top (or to last-synced position).
- Control-clicking on the retweet action icon in Timeline will let you choose the account to retweet from.
- Control-clicking on the fave action icon in Timeline will let you award the "Tweet of the Day" through Favstar.

Overall, I find the selection of Tweetbot's contextual menus rich and intuitive - it's in line with the iOS counterpart (therefore making it easy to switch between the two), yet, at the same time, it stays true to the nature of the Mac.

## Gestures

There's one area of the app where I think Tapbots could have done more: gestures. Right now, Tweetbot only supports:

- Two finger swipe -> Status details
- Two finger swipe <- Conversation

In my Twitter for Mac days, I quickly became a fan of the three-finger gesture that allowed you to swipe vertically to move between sections in the sidebar. I wish Tapbots did the same for tabs in Tweetbot. I'd also like to see gestures from iOS, such as triple taps, finding their way to the Mac. I do appreciate how Tapbots decided to render text natively in the app, thus enabling OS X

system features such as triple tap to define in Dictionary within the Timeline (however, text is only selectable in the tweet detail view).

To overcome the lack of vertical swipes to change tabs, I set up two [BetterTouchTool](#) gestures for the job: swipe up to go to the next tab, swipe down to go up (per Apple's own scrolling paradigm). On my computer, which has keyboard input set to Italian, I had to go with one extra step to pipe the shortcut for changing tabs through Keyboard Maestro, as I [showed](#) yesterday; if you don't want to use Keyboard Maestro, you could achieve the same "hack" using [BetterTouchTool](#) and [GUI scripting](#), or anything that associates gestures with Tweetbot's Previous/Next Tab menu. I also noticed a visual bug in which, occasionally, the selected tab won't be properly highlighted in the sidebar.

## Using Tweetbot

Here's how I use Tweetbot: I leave it open all day, reading my timeline and checking for links to interesting stuff that happens online. If someone mentions me, I want to double-check what I'm replying to, and I want to be able to see an entire conversation. I mark a lot of tweets as favorite (more [here](#) ), I have a saved search for "MacStories", and I mute a lot of hashtags or keywords I'm not interested into (such as sports and [politics](#) ). Every once in a while, I try to be a witty and funny guy with [Matthew Panzarino](#) or my colleague [Don](#).

I need a Twitter client that can handle the workflow described above and, more importantly, remember my position in the Timeline.

Tweetbot fits like a glove. Maybe it's because I got used to the app over time. Or perhaps I'm just particularly good at feature requests. Any way I look at it, I can't seem to find any other client that can achieve the same degree of functionality.

There's a fine line between consistency and uniqueness on each platform, and Tweetbot walks it gracefully. The design cues are the same, the interactions are shared across devices, but there's always a little implementation detail or a subtle graphical change that reminds you which Tweetbot is which. Quite paradoxically, there are more differences between various instances of Tweetbot than between Tweetbot and [Netbot](#).

## Columns

Tweetbot for Mac lets you put sections and views in columns. As those who've used apps like Tweetdeck before may remember, columns can become an important "productivity booster" for

people who use Twitter for, say, customer support and need to keep an eye on replies and saved searches.

With the aforementioned “Open in New Column” command, you can do exactly that. During major Apple events or news, for example, I like to keep columns open on saved searches and MacStories’ mention stream so I can stay on top of the tweets being shared.

In Tweetbot, columns “snap” onto an existing window on the right. You can create multiple columns, but you can’t switch the section focus of a column once it’s been created. To “detach” a column to make it a window and close it, grab the “handle” in the bottom bar and drag the column away. There are still some bugs with attaching columns of different sizes to the main window.

For a future version of the app, I’d like to see full-screen support, as it makes sense for layouts of 3+ columns.

## Custom Uploads

Tweetbot for Mac is, as far as I know, the only Twitter client that supports custom API endpoints for media uploads. I asked our [Don Southard](#) to put together a solution that would leverage our Rackspace CDN to handle images and videos; he came up with an easy way to share images in Tweetbot natively, using our own server. You can find his explanation of the feature below.

## Custom Uploads

Tweetbot is the only Twitter client for Mac (that I know of) that supports the ability to upload your photos to a custom image service of your choice. This includes the ability to host your own image sharing service on a web server with nothing more than a few lines of PHP. So what we made is a simple PHP script that we self-host; it accepts the image from Tweetbot and responds with the uploaded URL.

Tweetbot provides [short but useful information](#) about how it uses HTTP POST to upload the picture and what information is passed along with the image.

For the MacStories image upload service we opted to use our Rackspace Cloud Files account to host the images. They have a great PHP library that does all the hard work of getting the image objects on to the server. After the image is uploaded to Rackspace the script only needs to echo a JSON encoded response. This code is saved to a PHP file on your web server along with the [Cloud Files PHP library](#).

**Update 10/19:** Modified the scripts adding a check to make sure they can only receive images or videos (not scripts or other files). Keep in mind, the URL of the PHP file is private – don't share it with anyone.

```
<?php

// include the API

require('cloudfiles.php');


// Rackspace Info

$username = "USERNAME"; // username

$key = "XXX"; // api key


// Connect to Rackspace

$auth = new CF_Authentication($username, $key);

$auth->authenticate();

$conn = new CF_Connection($auth);


// Get the container we want to use

$container = $conn->get_container('Mobile_Uploads');


// store image information from Tweetbot

$localfile = $_FILES['media']['tmp_name'];
```

```
$filename = $_FILES['media']['name'];

// Image filetype check source:

// http://designshack.net/articles/php-articles/smart-file-type-detection-using-php/

$imginfo_array = getimagesize($localfile);

if ($imginfo_array !== false) {

    $mime_type = $imginfo_array['mime'];

    $mime_array = array("video/quicktime", "image/png", "image/jpeg", "image/gif",
"image/bmp");

    if (in_array($mime_type , $mime_array)) {

        $now = time();

        $uploadFilename = $now.'-'. $filename;

        // upload image to Rackspace

        $object = $container->create_object($uploadFilename);

        $object->load_from_filename($localfile);

        // Respond image URL to Tweetbot (Change to your URL)

        $outputFilename = 'http://files.domain.com/' . basename($uploadFilename);

        $response = array(url=>$outputFilename);

        echo json_encode($response);
```



```

    }

}

else {

    echo "This is not a valid image file";

}

?>

```

Most of you probably do not have a Rackspace Cloud Files account and that's not a problem because you can also just upload images directly to the web server with only a few tweaks.

Without the Rackspace dependencies this code is even simpler. Save this PHP code to a file (ie. upload.php) on your web server.

```

<?php

//server-side directory

$directory_self = str_replace(basename($_SERVER['PHP_SELF']), '',
$_SERVER['PHP_SELF']);

$uploadsDirectory = $_SERVER['DOCUMENT_ROOT'] . $directory_self . 'img/';

// Image filetype check source:

// http://designshack.net/articles/php-articles/smart-file-type-detection-using-php/

$tempFile = $_FILES['media']['tmp_name'];

```

```
$imginfo_array = getimagesize($tempFile);

if ($imginfo_array !== false) {

    $mime_type = $imginfo_array['mime'];

    $mime_array = array("video/quicktime", "image/png", "image/jpeg", "image/gif",
    "image/bmp");

    if (in_array($mime_type , $mime_array)) {

        //generate random filename

        while(file_exists($uploadFilename = $uploadsDirectory.time().'-'.
$_FILES['media']['name'])){$now++;}

        //upload the file to the webserver

        @move_uploaded_file($_FILES['media']['tmp_name'], $uploadFilename);

        //generate the filename that will be given to Tweetbot

        $outputFilename = 'http://image.yourdomain.com/' . basename($uploadFilename);

        //respond with JSON encoded media URL

        $response = array(url=>$outputFilename);

        echo json_encode($response);

    }
}
```

```
}

else {

    echo "This is not a valid image file";

}

?>
```

To get Tweepbot to send photos to your PHP endpoint, go to Account Settings > Image Upload > Custom.

Enter the full address to your PHP file:

```
http://image.yourdomain.com/upload.php
```

That's it. Tweepbot will send images to your server and you can enjoy the warm fuzzy feeling that comes with hosting, sharing, and owning your own photos online.

In addition to hosting your own PHP script for uploading images, you can also setup a custom domain. In your domain provider's DNS settings, simply forward that directly to the directory that will be hosting your images.

We have been using Tweepbot's custom uploads for weeks, and we're really enjoying it from both Tweepbot for iOS as well as Tweepbot for Mac.

## Services

Tweepbot for Mac upholds Tapbots' tradition to support a plethora of third-party services for sharing and bookmarking. Here are the ones supported in version 1.0:

### URL Shortening

- Twitter
- Bitly

- CloudApp
- Droplr
- Custom

### **Image Upload**

- CloudApp
- Droplr
- [img.ly](#)
- Lockerz
- Mobypicture
- Pikchur
- Posterous
- Twitgoo
- TwitPic
- Twitter
- yfrog
- Custom

### **Video Upload**

- CloudApp
- Droplr
- Mobypicture
- Pikchur
- Posterous
- TwitVid
- yfrog
- Custom

### **Read Later**

- bitly
- Instapaper
- Pinboard
- Pocket
- Readability

I think the selection is solid; however, I would like to be able to send links to both Instapaper

and Pinboard, without having to pick one.

## Sync and Notifications

Like the iOS version, Tweetbot for Mac supports Tweet Marker and Notification Center. The settings are exactly the same.

The Mac version also introduces iCloud sync on the desktop, which lets you keep timeline position, as well as read status on DMs and mute filters in sync. In my tests, I had some initial issues in getting Tweetbot for Mac and Tweetbot for iPhone to communicate with each other, and developer Paul Haddad reiterated how iCloud, in its current version, *is still far from perfect*. Indeed, it took a few restarts and forced quits before both versions were synced up correctly. After that, everything was pretty smooth and fast – I especially like the convenience of keeping filters consistent between devices.

As for notifications, I just like how they stay in Notification Center and allow me to go through them later.

## Tips & Tricks

Tweetbot's image viewer supports animated GIFs.

When someone faves one of your tweets, it gets the same yellow ribbon tweets *you* fave get. At first I thought I had accidentally faved a tweet of mine. Confusing.

Tweetbot's menubar item is quite powerful: it lists all your accounts and shows you, through badges, how many unread tweets you have in the Timeline, Mentions, and Direct Messages. It lets you jump to those sections by just clicking, and you can even tweet from the menubar item without launching the full app. I wish Tapbots made a keyboard shortcut for this.

From the tweet compose box, you can switch between accounts by clicking on your profile picture.

You can access the same location menu of Tweetbot for iOS by clicking on the location data in the tweet compose box.

Unfortunately, Tweetbot 1.0 doesn't have an AppleScript dictionary.

You can edit your Profile without leaving Tweetbot. Just open the Profile tab and click Edit in the upper right corner. You can also change your avatar from the app using the Mac's standard photo picker.

Clicking on a location in a tweet will open Google Maps in the browser. Same with Translate.

You can drag the compose box to wherever you like.

With the exception of Search, the same URL scheme of Tweetbot for iOS works on the Mac. It is documented [here](#). Below, you can find the code for two bookmarklets I have created to tweet a webpage's URL and a webpage's Title + URL (too add these, create a new bookmark and replace its address with the code below).

### **Tweet title + URL**

```
javascript:window.location='tweetbot:///post?text='+encodeURIComponent(document.title)+'  
'+encodeURIComponent(window.location.href)
```

### **Tweet URL**

```
javascript:window.location='tweetbot:///post?  
text='+encodeURIComponent(window.location.href)
```

You can drag tweets out of Tweetbot.

Dragging a tweet to the desktop will create a .webloc file pointing directly to the tweet's URL; dragging it into iMessage or Mail will insert the tweet's link as text; dropping a tweet onto Safari's icon in the Dock will open a new tab for the tweet. This also works with URLs - you can drag those out from within a tweet.

## **Still The Best**

Tweetbot for Mac isn't the app for people who casually check on Twitter every couple of days: it is [priced at \\$19.99](#), a clear signal as to the kind of audience Tapbots want to capture. On the other hand, it's also understandable why Tapbots may want to [save precious Twitter tokens](#) for users who really value the feature set of Tweetbot.

Three months ago, what we had was a great Twitter client with several missing features and some rough edges. But, following the premature demise of Twitter for Mac, it *already* was the



most powerful one, suggesting good things would be coming soon. Today, Tweetbot for Mac is faster, more reliable (albeit still not perfect, as **some graphical glitches** persist), and more functional. It is the rightful evolution of an app that showed its potential earlier this year.

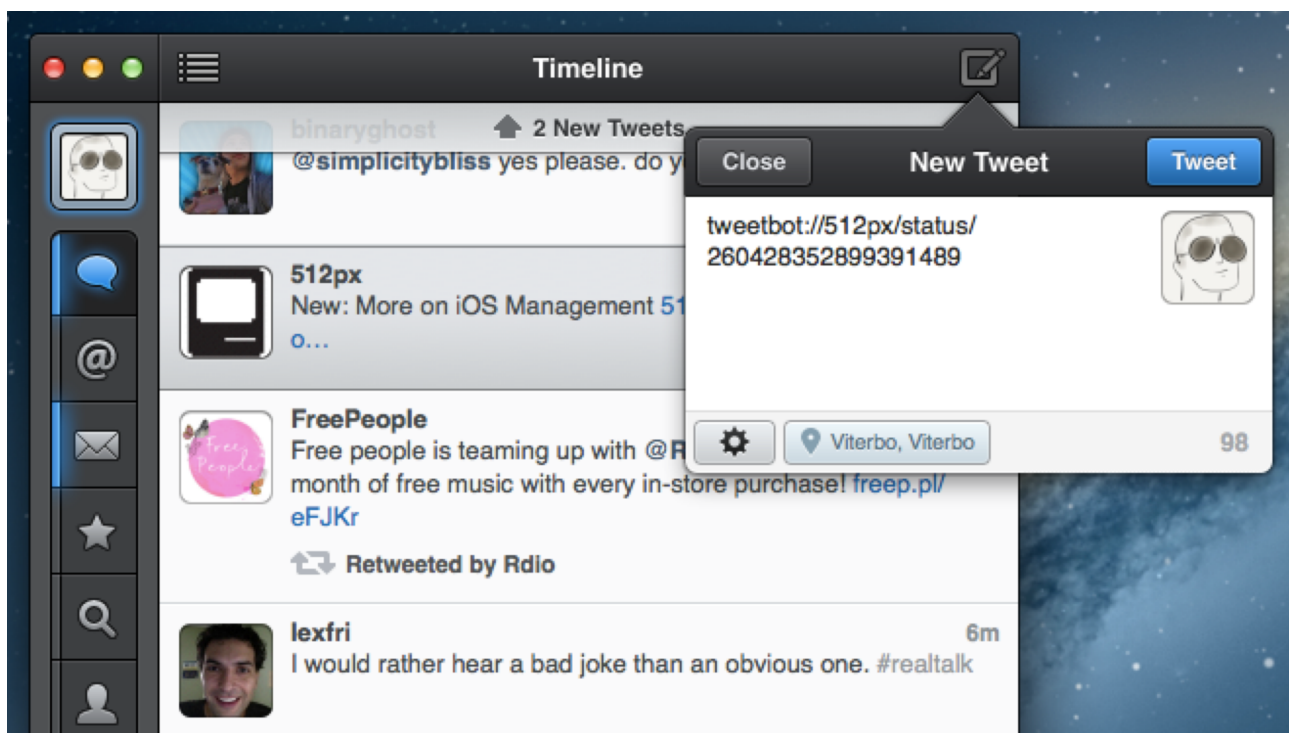
Twitter clients are a very personal matter. Using them on a daily basis, they become deeply entrenched in our workflows and, often, they turn into the apps we're least likely to give up on. Ask the people who still think Twitter for Mac will eventually get an update. For me, Tweetbot works because it's got what I need from a Twitter client.

With Tweetbot for Mac, I give my last and official goodbye to **the app that used to be Tweetie**.

We don't know what the future looks like for third-party Twitter clients. For now, with the Mac version, Tweetbot has created its own ecosystem inside Twitter.

**Tweetbot for Mac Review**

## Convert Twitter.com URLs to Tweetbot Links



I communicate with my team through iMessage. We've tried many "communication services" over the years, yet, since last Fall, we've always come back to Apple's solution. It's **not perfect for us**, its reliability is far from 100%, but it *works*.

As we keep using iMessage every day, there's one category of "media" we're constantly sharing:

Twitter URLs. We find some cool piece of information or news on Twitter, we share it with the team. Linking back to tweets has, in a way, become our favorite type of commentary for fun, news-hunting, and everything in between.

[Twitter.com](#) URLs, though, aren't the best way to jump back to a tweet, especially when you're on a mobile device. When you're on a Mac, clicking on a Twitter link will open a new browser tab, which doesn't really bother us as we're used to opening background tabs on our computers. But on the iPhone and iPad, it can become annoying: there's a limit of 8 Safari tabs on the iPhone, you get yanked out of Messages, and, most of the time, [mobile.twitter.com](#) URLs just don't work. In our team chat, we've speculated the "Not Found" errors we've seen may be related to how Tweetbot generates Twitter URLs when you hit "Copy Link to Tweet": instead of using `status` in the URL slug, it uses `statuses`, which seems to be the reason behind erroneous redirecting on mobile devices.

We've come to the conclusion that we want to be able to easily copy [twitter.com](#) URLs and turn them into links based on [Tweetbot's URL scheme](#). Using a simple `tweetbot://` URL, you can use Twitter's status ID – the same you receive when you copy a link – to open a single tweet **directly in Tweetbot**. And the best part is, the same URL scheme works consistently across Tweetbot for iOS and Tweetbot for Mac. As everyone on the MacStories team is already using Tweetbot, the solution seemed obvious – plus: no more browser tabs.

The problem was finding a way to convert [twitter.com](#) URLs easily, without having to remember complex combinations of keystrokes and commands. Furthermore, as I promised my team I'd come up with a way, I had to figure out a solution to do text conversion directly on iOS.

As a result, I've come up with an AppleScript, a [Keyboard Maestro](#) macro, and a simple Python script to transform Twitter URLs into their Tweetbot counterparts.

## AppleScript

In AppleScript, I had to use `text item delimiters` to identify Twitter-specific strings to replace in the text.

Remember, we want to turn `twitter.com` into `tweetbot://`, and `statuses` into `status`, because that's how Twitter's website likes links. Then, we want to be able to easily paste back the modified text so we can share it with someone, or just open the new URL.

Unfortunately, to make the process as automatic as possible, I had to settle on [GUI scripting](#).

Writing AppleScript commands that rely on visible user interface elements is never advised because a) menu and button names often change with app updates and b) there may be problems with localized apps (menus have different names). However, Tweetbot doesn't offer an AppleScript dictionary yet, and the "Copy Link to Tweet" action we're using doesn't have an associated keyboard shortcut. Which means we have to simulate clicking *an item of a submenu of a menubar dropdown*. Not the best solution, but it works. I look forward to improving this if Tweetbot ever gets AppleScript support.

```
tell application "System Events"

    set AppleScript's text item delimiters to ""

    -- MAKE SURE "ENABLE ACCCESS FOR ASSITIVE DEVICES" IS ENABLED

    tell application "Tweetbot"

        activate

        tell application "System Events"

            tell process "Tweetbot"

                click menu item "Copy Link to Tweet" of menu 1 of menu item "Share" of
menu 1 of menu bar item "Tweet" of menu bar 1

            end tell

        end tell

    end tell

    -- DELAY TO IMPROVE RELIABILITY OF COPY

    delay 1
```

```
set my_URL to the clipboard

--FIX THE URL

set the clipboard to my replaceText("https://twitter.com/", "tweetbot://",
"statuses", "status", my_URL)

end tell

(*)

=====

// UTILITY SUBROUTINES

=====

*)

on replaceText(searchStr, replaceStr, searchStr2, replaceStr2, my_URL)

-- SET VALUE FOR OLD DELIMITER

set oldDelim to AppleScript's text item delimiters

-- CHANGE TWITTER TO TWEETBOT URL

set AppleScript's text item delimiters to searchStr

set this_text to (text items of my_URL)

set AppleScript's text item delimiters to replaceStr

set bot_URL to (this_text as string)
```

```
-- FIX SLUG ('STATUSES' TO 'STATUS')

set AppleScript's text item delimiters to searchStr2

set this_text2 to (text items of bot_URL)

set AppleScript's text item delimiters to replaceStr2

set fixed_URL to (this_text2 as string)

-- CHANGE BACK TO ORIGINAL DELIMITER

set AppleScript's text item delimiters to oldDelim

return fixed_URL

end replaceText
```

As usual with quick script I've put together, I haven't added a check for assistive devices. Make sure the option is enabled in System Preferences > Accessibility.

Once I automated the part to copy the Twitter link, I needed to convert that link to the `tweetbot://` format with minimal effort. Using `text item delimiters` and a handler, the script can identify the portions of the URL we don't want, and replace them. The "fixed" URL is then placed on the clipboard.

The provided AppleScript works well with [Alfred](#). Create an extension (or [download this one](#)), and assign a hotkey to it. Then, in Tweetbot, select a tweet, press the hotkey, and a `tweetbot://` link to the tweet will be on your clipboard after a second. \*Thanks [Justin](#) for input and feedback.\*

## Keyboard Maestro

Keyboard Maestro comes with a "Search and Replace Clipboard" action that fits our needs for

this workflow. Once again using GUI scripting, I created a macro (and later, our Gabe Glick improved on it) to copy a tweet's link and turn it into `tweetbot://` format.

The macro is smart in that, if Tweetbot is at the front, it'll interpret the hotkey as a command to copy a selected tweet and convert the URL; if Tweetbot isn't the frontmost app, you can use the same hotkey to paste. I personally use this over AppleScript, as I can quickly generate a link, then switch back to Messages and hit the same hotkey to paste.

Download the macro [here](#).

## Pythonista

I'm new to Python, but I've been learning the basics in the past few weeks and I've been playing around with the fantastic [Pythonista](#) app on my iPhone and iPad. I've therefore created a simple Python script to replace occurrences of `twitter.com` (and its `mobile` and `https` variations), print the result, and launch the new URL directly in Tweetbot.

```
import clipboard

import console

import webbrowser

mytext = clipboard.get()

mytext = mytext.replace('https://twitter.com/', 'tweetbot://')

mytext = mytext.replace('statuses', 'status')

mytext = mytext.replace('http://twitter.com/', 'tweetbot://')

mytext = mytext.replace('http://mobile.twitter.com/', 'tweetbot://')

mytext = mytext.replace('https://mobile.twitter.com/', 'tweetbot://')
```

```
console.clear()

print mytext

webbrowser.open(mytext)
```

Once configured, it takes a few seconds to launch Pythonista, hit Run, and have the new URL ready in the output. Python users will have no problems modifying the script to, say, set the result to the clipboard.

## Wrap-Up

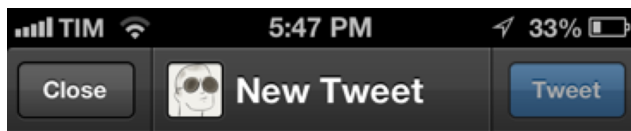
I like to find automated solutions for common problems that no one is fixing. Having to deal with [Twitter.com](#) tabs as a Tweetbot user was one of those problems, and I'm glad I've set up a system that improves my link-sharing workflow.

It's easy to modify the scripts and macro to work with other URL schemes, such as [Twitterrific's](#). As usual, [ping me](#) if you're inspired by this to build something new.

[Convert Twitter.com URLs to Tweetbot Links](#)

## Tweetbot for iPhone 2.6 Adds Custom POIs, Header Images





Tweetbot 2.6 is out today on the iPhone, and it's a minor update from the previous 2.5 version. There are, however, two changes I would like to cover.

Tweetbot 2.6 comes with support for Twitter's new header images for profiles. You'll have to upload them directly from Twitter's website - you can't upload new ones in Tweetbot - but the app will display them nicely in user profiles, just like Tapbots' other app, [Netbot](#).

Tweetbot 2.6 also lets you create custom POIs for locations. If you think a location is incorrect, or simply would like to customize the location Tweetbot finds, click on the location in the compose screen, and create a custom POI. Be aware that other Tweetbot users will then be able to use the POI, as it's based on Twitter's geolocation features and the address of the location.

Tweetbot 2.6 is a minor, but nice update. Get it [from the App Store](#).

[Tweetbot for iPhone 2.6 Adds Custom POIs, Header Images](#)

## Tweetbot 2.6.1 Tweaks UI



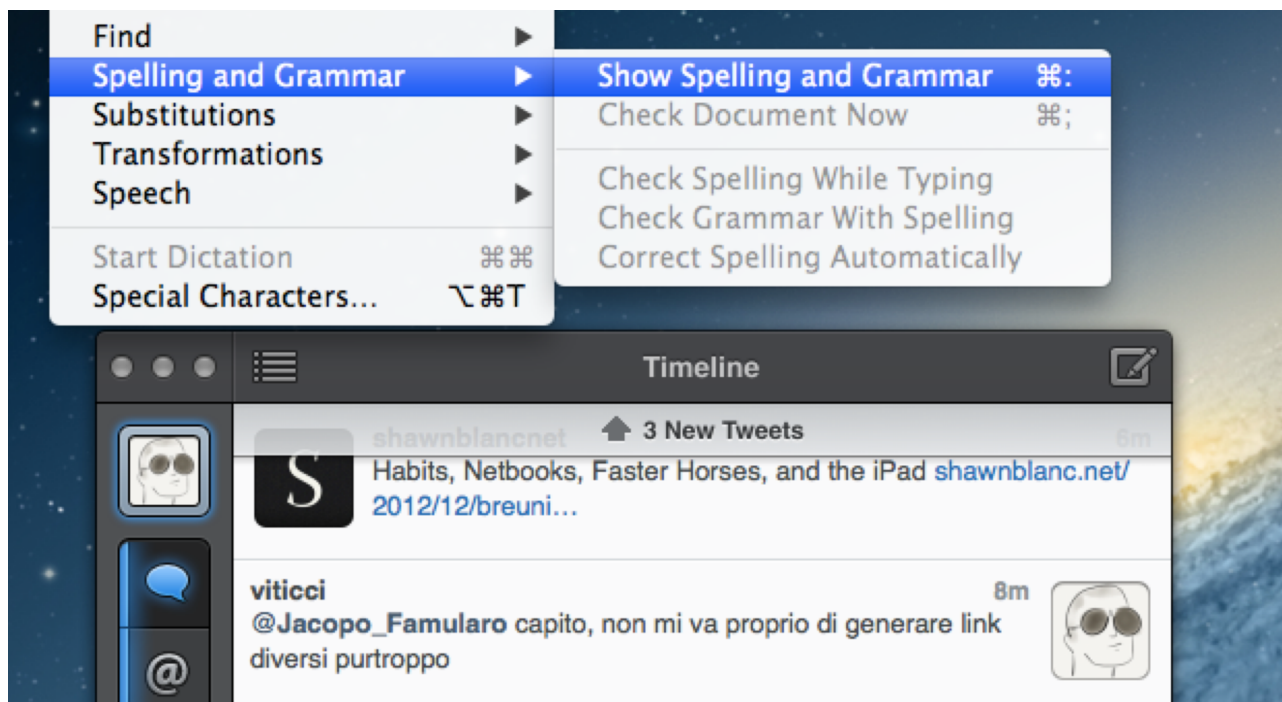
A minor update to Tweetbot **has been released today** by Tapbots: among bug fixes, version 2.6.1 introduces a slightly tweaked user interface with a different design for buttons and icons seen throughout the app. Unchanged since **the first version**, the new icons are similar to the old ones, yet somewhat more rounded and, in my opinion, peculiar.

Like I said, it is a very minor change. However, if you, like me, stare at Tweetbot for several hours a day, it is something you'll quickly notice upon updating to 2.6.1. It certainly contributes to subtly differentiating Tweetbot from **Netbot**, which I appreciate.

Tweetbot 2.6.1 is **available on the App Store**.

Tweetbot 2.6.1 Tweaks UI

# Disable Auto-Correct In Tweetbot for Mac



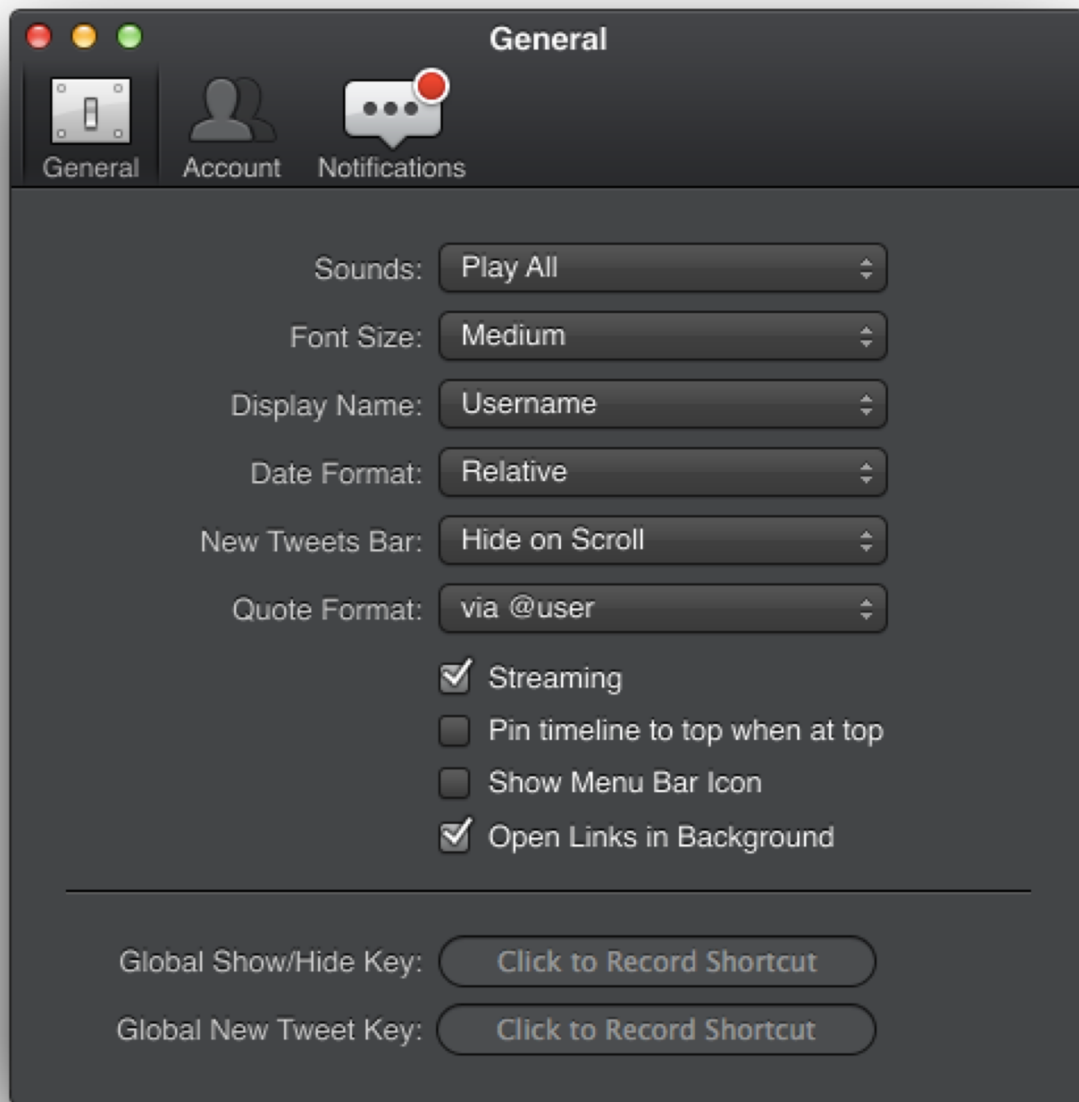
I write in English, but I live in Italy. Some of my Twitter followers are Italian, too, and I like to talk to them in my native language. In the past weeks, I noticed an annoying bug: Tweetbot for Mac, my [Twitter client of choice](#), couldn't disable auto-correct (Edit > Spelling and Grammar > Correct Spelling Automatically) permanently. The option is there, but it appears it "doesn't stick" after you enable it to send a tweet without auto-correct. This led to an increasing number of misspelled Italian tweets with English words mixed in (as per my Mac's system language).

Fortunately, I've found the solution [here](#). With a simple Terminal command, you can override Tweetbot's default setting and disable auto-correct (but not spell checking) automatically.

This is exactly what I was looking for, so make sure to [hit the source link](#) to check out the full command.

[Disable Auto-Correct In Tweetbot for Mac](#)

## Tweetbot 1.1 For Mac



An update to Tweetbot for Mac - my [go-to Twitter client](#) - was released today on the App Store. Tweetbot 1.1 doesn't bring major new features, but it's got a fair amount of bug fixes and minor improvements that I like.

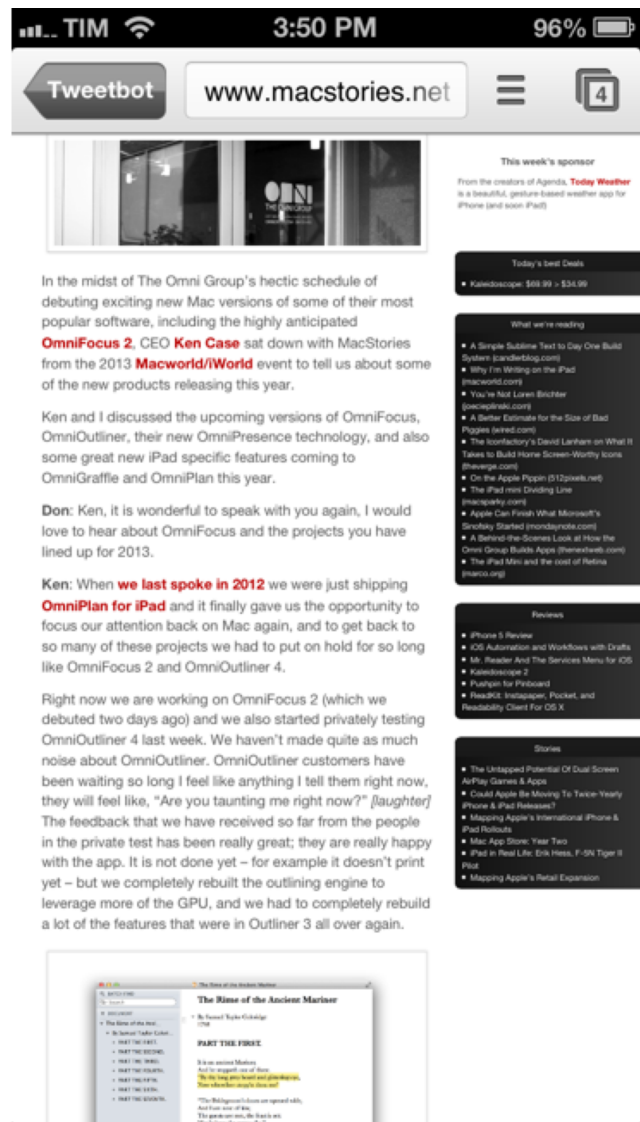
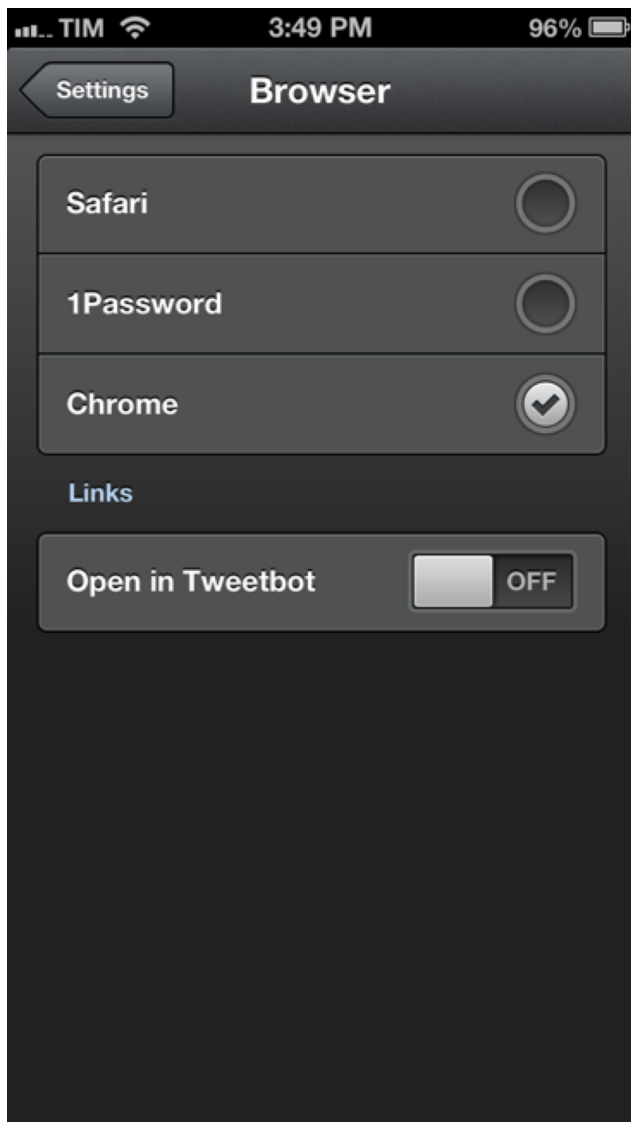
For Mountain Lion users, there's an "All Notifications" option in the Settings to, literally, receive all notifications for your stream. This means you'll see every tweet from every user you follow show up in Notification Center as soon as they tweet. I can't use this because I follow too many people (I would get a notification every few seconds), but it can be useful for timelines following less users. What I really like is the option to show a Visual Sync Marker (like on iOS) and to globally invoke the app/new tweet window with a hotkey.

Last, there are many other fixes and improvements such as new keyboard shortcuts, better "pin to top" for non-streaming columns, and better compatibility with [Moom](#). Tweetbot continues to

be my favorite Twitter client on the Mac and it's available at [\\$19.99 on the Mac App Store](#).

## Tweetbot 1.1 For Mac

# Tweetbot Adds Support For Chrome and 1Password Browsers, Vine and Flick Inline Previews



Tweetbot 2.7, released today for the iPhone and iPad, comes with a new Browser setting to specify an external app for opening links. I have been testing the feature and I'm a big fan of this update.

In the Settings, you can now choose to open links directly in Safari, Google Chrome, or 1Password. There are two ways to do this: you can choose to keep opening links in Tweetbot's own web view and *then* forward them to your browser of choice; or you can skip Tweetbot's web view altogether and go *directly* to a different browser upon tapping a link.



Opening links in Safari and 1Password doesn't have anything special to it aside from the fact that you'll be taken out of Tweetbot and into another browser. The 1Password integration is particularly useful as it is, essentially, the same idea behind [my bookmarklet](#), only available inside Tweetbot: if you see a link for a website that you also want to log into, you can use 1Password's built-in browser to access it.

Using Chrome alongside Tweetbot is my new favorite option, as it leverages Chrome's support for [x-callback-url](#) to enable a completely automated workflow to open Chrome and go back to Tweetbot. If you open a link in Google Chrome, a new tab will open showing a back button labeled "Tweetbot"; once you're done reading, you can hit that button to automatically close the tab and be taken back to your position in the Tweetbot timeline. Chrome is smart in hiding the back button if you navigate to other pages from the Tweetbot-created tab; the browser also remembers the "special" tab if you switch to other tabs and then go back to the one created by Tweetbot. There's a minor bug in this version that will redirect to the Tweetbot's Timeline when you open a link from Mentions, but Tapbots is aware of it. For me, this is a very welcome addition to Tweetbot as it allows my two most-used iOS apps to better communicate with each other without requiring me to manually move between apps. I can get all the benefits of using an external browser (Facebook sharing, using [bookmarklets](#) ) while still being able to go back to Tweetbot seamlessly.

For Flickr and Vine users, Tweetbot 2.7 also adds inline previews. Vine's short videos are shown with a standard iOS video player that has a play/pause button.

Tweetbot 2.7 is a minor, yet useful update for Chrome and 1Password users who have been wishing the app could open links in other browsers. You can find the update on the App Store ( [iPhone](#), [iPad](#) ).

[Tweetbot Adds Support For Chrome and 1Password Browsers, Vine and Flickr Inline Previews](#)