Useful Android Apps

Dropbox

Plex

Pocket

Brief Description of each App

Dropbox App

Dropbox remains the best app for seamlessly syncing files to and from your portable devices. It works across the web, Windows, macOS, iOS, and of course Android, which means you need never find yourself without access to an important file. You can use Dropbox to automatically back up your photos and videos to the cloud, keep that important set of PDFs with you, or take notes that sync back to your laptop. On the negative side, the free Dropbox plan only offers a miserly 2GB of storage. However, if you need more space, premium plans start at $10 per month for 1TB of storage.

Plex App

Plex makes it easy to stream music, movies, TV shows, photos, and more from your computer to your Android device. You need to set up the app on your Windows or macOS computer first, and then you can beam any content stored on the hard drive to your phone—no matter where you happen to be. That said, there are a couple of caveats. Although you can stream files to other computers for free, to send them to your Android phone—while avoiding limits on your file sizes—you'll need a $5 per month Plex Pass subscription. Also, you must have all your content downloaded to the computer disk, because Plex can't work with protected videos purchased from Google, Apple, or Amazon. Finally, you'll rely on a pretty fast connection to avoid too-long buffering times.

Pocket App

You never have enough time to catch up on all those online articles. Instead of leaving tabs to proliferate, Pocket lets you save articles from any browser, whether it's on your computer, tablet, or phone. Then read these pieces at your leisure on the Android app. You can even sync the items so they'll be accessible when you're offline. What's more, Pocket strips out all the advertising and other distractions from webpages to give you a clean reading experience that's easy on the eyes. Extra features, such as advanced search and auto tagging, require a premium $5 per month subscription. It also has the added bonus of removing the ads from the Pocket app.