

Apple's iOS 26.2 Update Is Altering A Key iPhone Feature

David Phelan Dec 28, 2025 at 01:05pm EST

Updated Dec. 16 with further details of unrequested changes in iOS 26.2.

Apple released the latest iPhone update, iOS 26.2 — [unprecedentedly on a Friday](#) — and while [early reports](#) suggest it's a stable release, it's not without controversy. Some users are reporting that the update turns on automatic software updates without them asking for it. On the other hand, some users are finding the reverse problem. More on that later.



Apple iPhone 17 Pro
AFP via Getty Images

“At the Software Update Complete stage where you normally tap on continue to get to the Home Screen, there might be an extra little bit of information,” [MacRumors](#) reported.

[Forbes iOS 18.7.3 Release Date: Mystery Of iPhone Update Still Missing](#)
By David Phelan

“Some users are seeing a warning that future updates will be automatically downloaded and installed, with the

option toggled on automatically if the Continue button is tapped. There's a subtle ‘Only Download Automatically’ option that does not opt you into automatic updates if you're paying attention, but it's easy to miss,” it went on.

Many people already have automatic downloads turned on, and in that case there's no message when the new software is installed.

Why this matters is that people might not want to download and install updates as soon as they go live, preferring to wait and see what the reactions of other users are, in case there are reports of problems arising.

If you've installed iOS 26, the simplest and perhaps safest action is to check. Just open Settings, go to Software Updates and you'll see a panel marked Automatic Updates. If this says On, then at the next update, it will be downloaded and installed automatically.