Phone Sync — Sharing an App Between Your Phones

One shared total on both parents' phones. Optional, free, and you can turn it off any time.

By Greg Snyder, Ph.D. · A Perspective Behavioral Health resource

What it does

Right now, each phone keeps its own copy. Turn on **Family Sync** and both parents' phones share the same one — tap a job, a fine, or an earn on one phone, and it shows up on the other a second later.

It works the same way in all three tools: **Points & Prize Jar**, **Game Time**, and **Weekly Allowance**. Each app syncs on its own, so turn it on in each app you use. If you never turn it on, nothing changes — the app keeps working exactly as it does now.

APP	WHERE TO FIND IT	WHAT BOTH PHONES SHARE
Points & Prize Jar	⚙️ → **Sync**	The point jar, jobs, prizes, PIN, and activity log
Game Time	⚙️ → **Sync**	Banked minutes, the live gaming countdown, earn & lose items, streak
Weekly Allowance	⚙️ → **Sharing**	The week's balance, sticks, rules, bonuses — plus a live screen for your teen

Before you start

- **Use the home-screen icon.** Set up sync inside the app icon you actually tap every day. (iPhones keep home-screen apps separate from Safari, so setting it up in Safari won't carry over to the icon.)
- **Start on the phone that has the data you want to keep.** Whatever is on that first phone comes along.

- **Be online for the first step.** After that, it works without a signal too.

Turn it on

1. On the first phone, open the app and tap the gear **(⚙️)** → **Sync** (in Weekly Allowance it's called **Sharing**).
2. Tap **Start a family**. You'll see a family code like `K7M2-PQ9X-4HTW`, and a green **Synced** dot appears at the top of the app.
3. Tap **Invite parent** and text the link to the other parent.
4. On the second phone, open that link and tap **Join family**. (Or open the app, go to ⚙️ → Sync, and type the code under **Join with a family code**.)
5. Try it: tap something on one phone and watch it appear on the other.

> **Don't see "Start a family"?** Your app is set up for invited families only. Type the family code you were given under **Join with a family code** instead.

If both phones already have data

When the second phone has been in use too, it'll ask which version both phones should keep:

- **Use the family's** (recommended) — this phone switches to what the first phone has.
- **Use this phone's instead** — this phone's data replaces the other phone's.

Either way, the app tucks away a copy of that phone's own data first, just in case.

Your teen's screen (Weekly Allowance)

After sync is on, tap ⚙️ → **Sharing** → **Send teen link**. Open that link on your teen's phone and add that page to their home screen. It shows the live balance, sticks, and the week's activity — but it can't fine, add bonuses, or change settings, and it stays that way.

Reading the dot at the top

● **Synced** Both phones are up to date.

Offline · will sync — No signal right now. Keep using it — your taps are saved and catch up when you're back online.

Sync problem — Open ⚙️ → Sync to see what's wrong (see below). The app still works on its own meanwhile.

Good to know

- **Tapping at the same time is fine.** If both parents tap at once, both taps count — nothing gets lost or doubled.
- **Settings sync too** — set the PIN, prizes, or rules once and both phones get them.
- **Keep the code between the two of you.** Anyone who has it can see and change that app's numbers.
- **To stop:** ⚙️ → Sync → **Stop syncing on this phone**. That phone keeps its current copy and goes back to working on its own. The other phone isn't affected.

If something's not working

YOU SEE	WHAT TO DO
"Family Sync isn't set up on this website yet"	Sync hasn't been switched on for this site yet. The app works fine on its own in the meantime — check back later, or let Perspective Behavioral Health know.
"That family code was refused" or "isn't active"	Double-check the code (dashes and capital letters don't matter). If you were given the code, ask whoever gave it to you.
"Can't reach the internet right now"	Joining needs a connection the first time. Try again once you're online.
Joined, but the home-screen icon isn't synced	You probably set it up in Safari. Open the home-screen icon and join from there.

A note on privacy: sync is off until you turn it on. When it's on, that app's numbers are stored in a private family record on Perspective Behavioral Health's Google Firebase

database, and only phones with your family code can open it. Nothing is public, and you can stop syncing any time.



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