

Top 5 Social Apps for BlackBerry

BlackBerry, the enterprise phone, is often dismissed as the “other” brand within social media communities. But worldwide, BlackBerrys still outnumber iPhones -- approx. 36 million to 21 million -- and RIM has made major strides in recent years to become more social-friendly.

I use my BlackBerry not only for business, but for most of my social media. I’ve found it to be downright kickass at both, made even better by a full keyboard, and great global coverage.

There are many social media-related apps available for BlackBerry, and it can be tough to pick only the good ones. To cut through the others, here are my top-5 social apps for BlackBerry:

1. BlackBerry Messenger

My clear number one choice for this list, I use BlackBerry Messenger almost exclusively when I travel out of the US. The app is basically a free SMS-alternative, to and from any point on the globe.

Additional features on the newest version include picture-sharing, group creation, voice notes, and a way to find people based on name or barcode (each device has its own). If you’re like me -- a modern nomad -- or you have friends and family spread out across the world, BlackBerry Messenger is a must-have.

Price: FREE

2. Facebook

This is Blackberry’s own Facebook client, which comes already installed on most phones. The newest version is even nicer and cleaner than before, getting closer to the user experience you’d expect on the web.

Features of the Facebook BlackBerry app include adding updates, mobile picture uploads, ability to like and comment on posts, search for people, add new friends, and flip through the profiles of your old ones.

If you’re the type of person to update your status at every red light, you probably need help. But you also probably need this app.

Price: FREE

3. UberTwitter

UberTwitter is the best and most used Twitter client for BlackBerry. UberTwitter basically gives you all the twitter functionality you'd expect, including writing updates, viewing profiles, replying or DMing to specific users, and viewing your own timeline.

There's more, though. The additional features of UberTwitter include geotagging, search, trending topics, and photo uploads (handled through TweetPhoto). Considering what else is out there, this app is a no-brainer.

Price: FREE

4. Evernote

Evernote is a memo recording and organization app, that stores the information you input into your mobile, on the web. You can take down what you don't want to forget, sort it by tags, and have it accessible again when you need it.

Features in the Evernote BlackBerry app include the ability to create text, photo, and voice notes, search and find notes you've already made, and tag and organize your notes in a system that works best for you.

Evernote makes life easier to organize. If you're always scattered with your information, or you want to share information easily with work partners or friends, Evernote will do the trick.

Price: FREE

5. Pandora

Pandora makes the list because of social features like sharing songs and stations... and because we have to listen to something while we're tweeting, right?

Pandora is still the best and most-usable online radio client out there, and the BlackBerry app puts it right in your palm. Pandora for BlackBerry allows you to access and manage your stations, and create new ones from root songs or artists.

Just make sure, for the sake of the rest of us, that you have a good pair of headphones. And, course, an unlimited data plan.

Price: FREE

Honorable Mention -- Posterous

Posterous is a mini-blogging site, that you can add to and manage through your email client. Think one step beyond Twitter, and one step behind personal blogging.

You can post pictures, quotes, and quick thoughts to Posterous, as well as manage subscribers, and follow other users. Starting an account is as easy as one email, and keeping it up-to-date is simple and fun to do.

It didn't make the list because there's no dedicated app for it, but I love using my account, and find it super easy to manage from my BlackBerry. If you're looking for a new, easy blogging platform, you should check it out.

Price: FREE