

QR Codes Basics

Activity 3: How to Scan a QR Code



In this lesson, Carl will learn how to scan a QR code using an iPhone and Android mobile device.

You will have a chance to practice scanning a QR code in this lesson if you have a smartphone. If you don't have a smartphone don't worry, you can watch this activity without scanning the code.



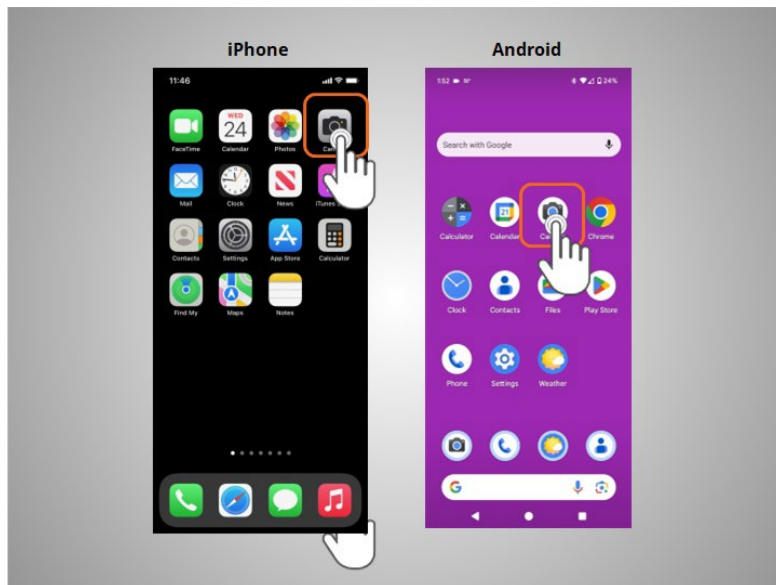
"Help! How do I scan this?" Carl is at the library, looking at a QR code for online training courses.



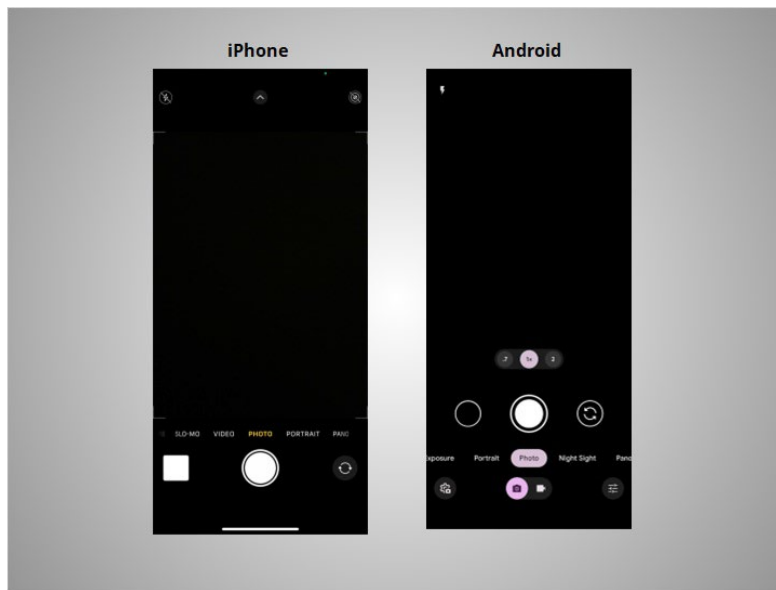
He taps the screen of his smartphone to wake it up



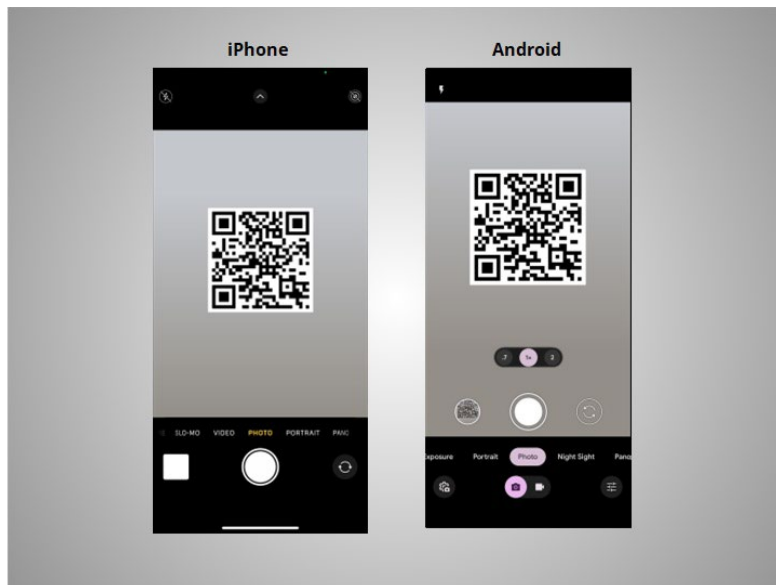
then taps the camera icon with his finger.



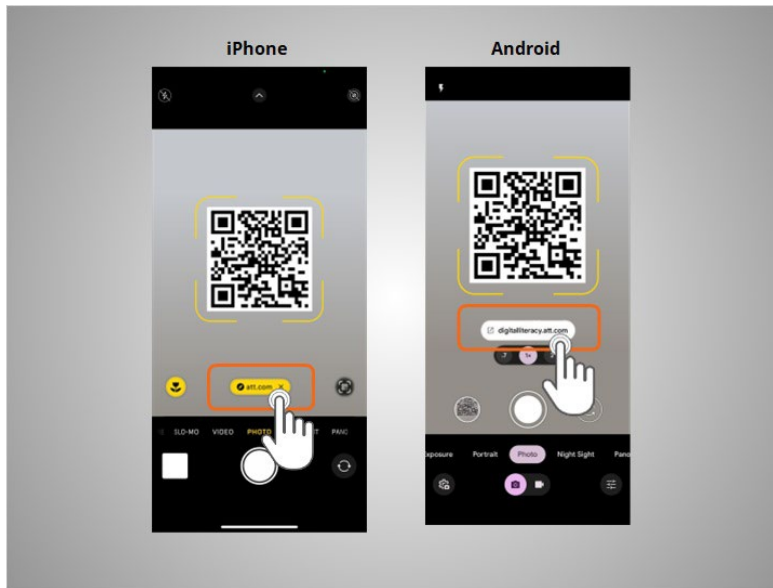
Another way to access the camera app is from the home screen. Carl looks for the camera app and taps it,



and the camera app opens.

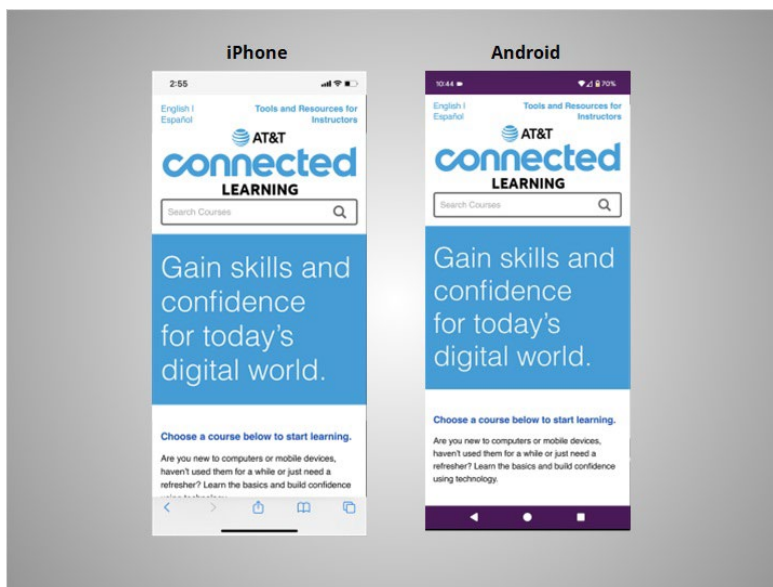


Carl holds his device so that the QR code appears in the camera's viewfinder, making sure the entire code is visible on the screen. Even if the code is upside down, the camera can read it!

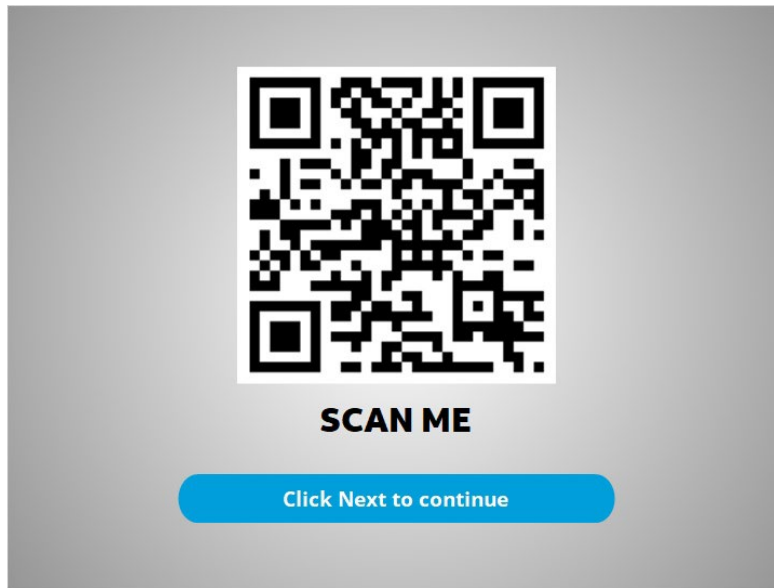


The device automatically detects that it is a QR code and displays a link. Carl will not take a picture of the QR code.

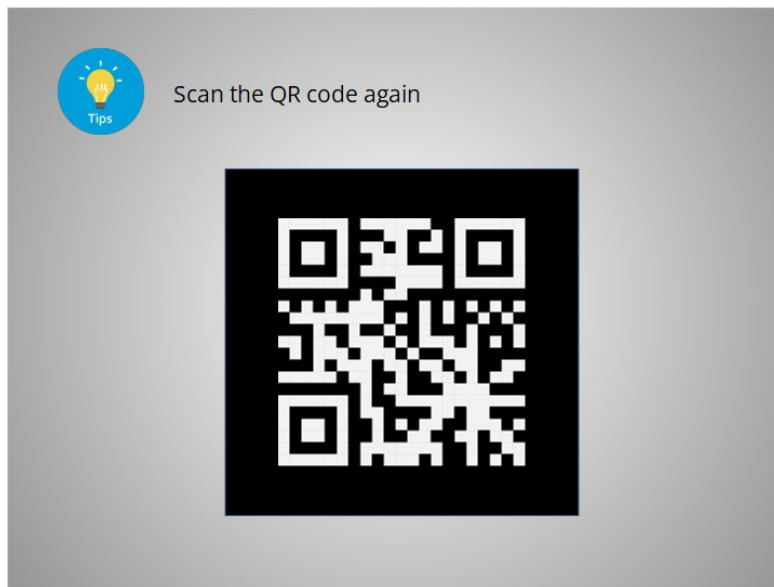
Instead of taking a picture, Carl taps the link on the screen



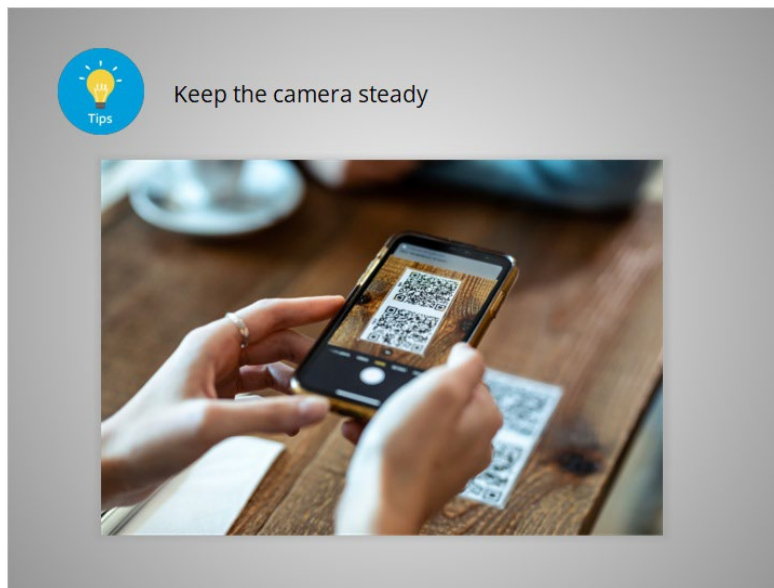
and it takes him to the AT&T Connected Learning website.



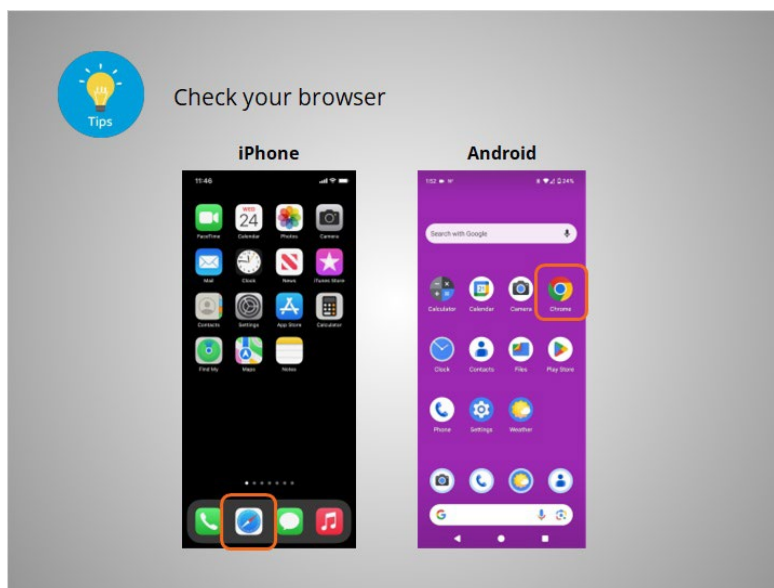
Let's practice! Use your mobile device to scan this QR code. Remember: wake your phone, open the camera, point, and tap the link. When you're done, click Next to continue.



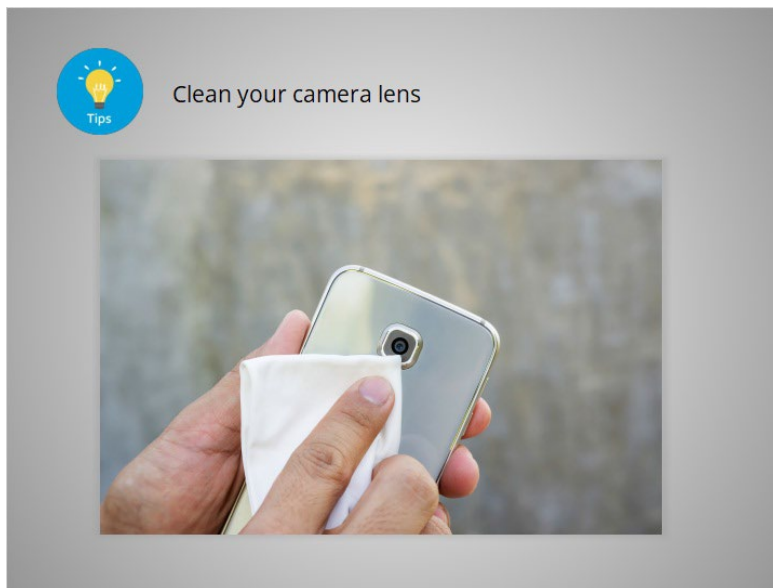
Let's review some tips to help you successfully scan a QR code.
If you accidentally take a picture of the code, don't worry. Just scan the code again.



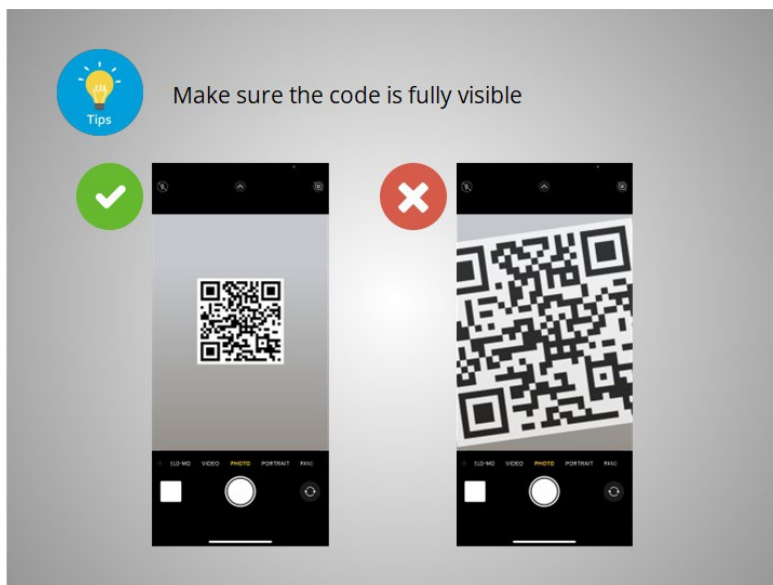
Keep the camera steady. The camera can't read the code if the image is moving or blurry.



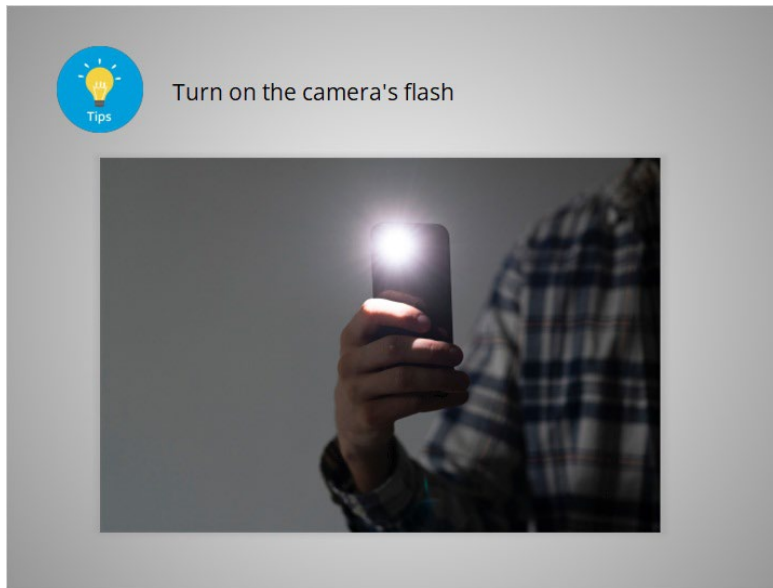
If you click the link and nothing happens, check your device's web browser for the web page. In this example, the browsers are Apple Safari and Google Chrome. If you still can't find it, scan the code again.



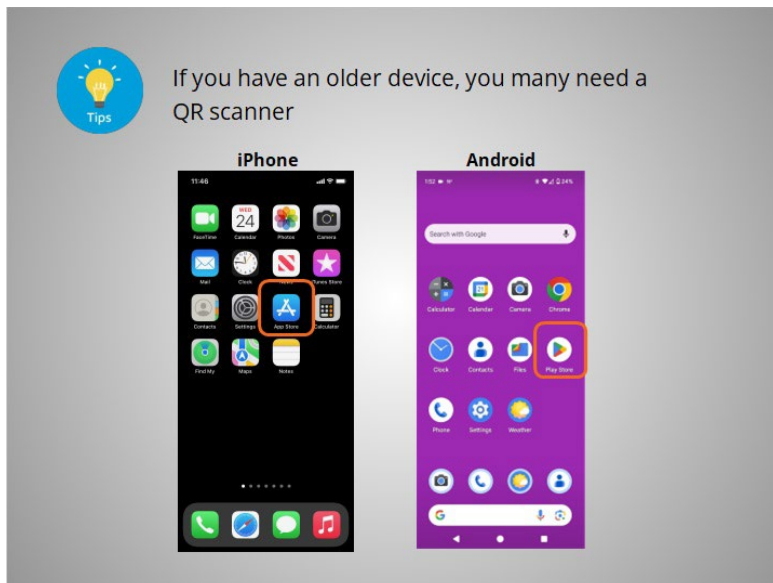
Make sure the camera lens is clean.



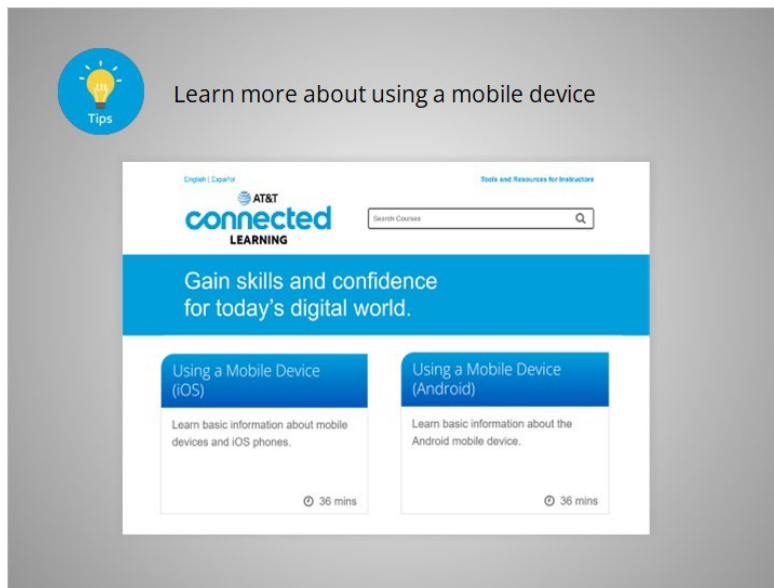
Make sure the entire code fits in the screen with a little space between the code and the edge of the camera screen.



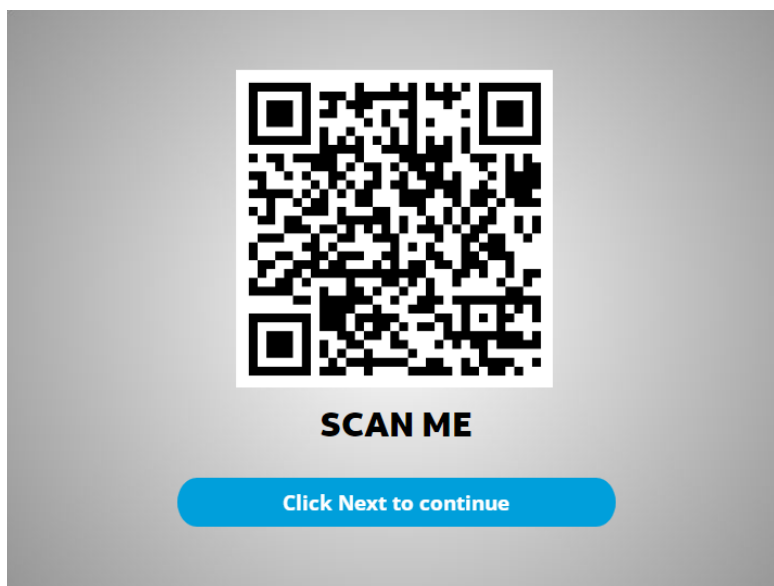
If you are in a location with little light, turn on the camera's flash!



Most modern smartphones can scan QR codes directly using the camera app. However, some older devices might require a separate QR code scanning app. If your device isn't scanning the QR code with the camera, you can find a scanning app on your device's app store.



You can learn more about how to use your mobile device by watching the course Using a Mobile Device.



Why not practice by scanning a few codes? Wake your phone, open the camera, point, and tap the link. When you're done, click Next to continue.



Carl now has lots of tips for scanning a QR code with his mobile device. In the next lesson, he'll learn to use a QR code safely and securely.