Apps Installed After GrapheneOS Setup

This article lists and reviews the apps I installed after setting up GrapheneOS. If you are looking for privacy-friendly, essential, or recommended apps for a de-Googled Android experience, this is the place to start.

Once GrapheneOS is installed, you have a basic phone but not much else. The Graphene App Store is minimal. I installed their **Messaging** app and a **PDF Viewer**, but GrapheneOS focuses on the OS, not bundled apps—which is one of the reasons I chose it.

Important: You will be downloading a lot of apps. I turned on WiFi and connected my phone to my home network—much faster and cheaper than using mobile data.

Choose and Install Apps

Next, I customized the phone by installing the apps I use. These are mostly the same privacy/security-focused apps I used on stock Android. Your choices may differ, but here's my list:

App	Description
Davx5	Syncs NextCloud with Contacts and Calendar using DAV
FreeOTP+	Excellent OTP program
K-9 Mail	My go-to program for mail on smartphones
Monocles Chat	Good XMPP chat program for my job
NC Password	Not as secure as I'd like, but still a good password manager
Nextcloud	Access your files from your cell phone
Nextcloud Notes	Good note-taking app (markdown) from NextCloud
Calendar	Nice and clean Calendar program available on F-Droid
OSMAnd	Mapping program with trip planning
VLC	Excellent cross-platform media player
Sky Map	Nice replacement for Stellarium?
wX	Weather tool (actually, for storm chasers)
µlogger	Lets family see where I am on long trips

All of these were installed using F-Droid. The first task was to download and install F-Droid:

- Open https://f-droid.org using Vanadium (the default browser)
- Download F-Droid to the Downloads folder
- Open Downloads folder
- Install F-Droid
- Open F-Droid and wait while it downloads the software catalog (may take a while)

Once F-Droid was installed, I installed the rest of the software from the list above. Downloading and installing all the apps took longer than the GrapheneOS install itself!

Configure Apps

Some were simple, some were hard.

Nextcloud

Davx5, Nextcloud, NC Password, and Nextcloud Notes were fairly simple for me to set up since I've used Nextcloud for a while. Open each program, point it to your Nextcloud instance, and you're ready to go.

When configuring Davx5, you choose which calendars and contacts you want on your phone. Syncing can take a while—after about half an hour, all my calendar and contact entries were present. I did have to re-mark my 'favorites' in the Contacts list.

If you're coming from Google, you can export your contacts as vCard and your calendars as CalDAV, then import them into Nextcloud.

µlogger

I host the µlogger server on my website, so I knew the URL and credentials. No need for export/import.

wX

Had to set up my location, but that was simple. Just make sure you're outside so the GPS can find you.

FreeOTP+, Monocles Chat, K-9 Mail

For these apps, I exported the configuration on the old phone to the Nextcloud client, then imported it on the new phone by opening the app and doing an import.

K-9 requires you to re-enter your passwords, but everything else is configured just by export/import.

OSMAnd

This was a pain—mainly because it's a large, complex program that I didn't have much experience with. Plan on spending some time downloading maps. I'm in North Texas and travel to Oklahoma and New Mexico, so I downloaded maps for all of those.

VLC, Sky Map

No configuration needed.

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