



Software by Design

Nextcloud-Apps

Personal app home screen

HomeCheck

User manual

End-user documentation for the web app

App version

1.0.41

Language

English

Date

10 September 2026

Contents

Introduction	i
1 Roles and permissions	1
2 First steps	1
3 Your personal home screen	2
4 Folders and hidden apps	3
5 HomeCheck as start page	5
6 Admin start template	5
7 Errors, FAQ and glossary	6
8 Accessibility	6
About Software by Design	7
Support & how to contribute	7
Index	9

Introduction

HomeCheck is a Nextcloud app for your personal app home screen: arrange apps in tiles and folders, hide what you do not need, and optionally open HomeCheck after sign-in — including sync with the top menu bar. The web app is free (AGPL); administrators may store an optional start template; afterwards every person keeps full control of their own layout.

Audience: signed-in users · NC administrators (template) · browser with JavaScript.

How to read this manual (8 chapters): Ch. 1 Roles and permissions · Ch. 2 First steps · Ch. 3 · Ch. 4 · Ch. 5 · Ch. 6 · Ch. 7 · Ch. 8.

HomeCheck **1.0.41**, as of 10 September 2026, language English.

Register: This handbook uses professional English. HomeCheck’s UI sometimes addresses you informally (e.g. desklet wording) — quoted UI follows the app; running text stays formal.

Quick start: HomeCheck → **Edit** → rearrange or hide tiles → **Done** → **Use as home**.

Also covered: save/conflict live region · folders including delete confirmation · hiding/limits · menu-bar sync · admin seed template (JSON) · skip link and keyboard focus · FAQ for error messages.

1 Roles and permissions

HomeCheck separates the *personal home screen* (every signed-in person) from the optional *admin template* (Nextcloud system administrators only).

Capability	Signed-in user	NC system administrator
Edit layout / folders / hide	yes (own account)	yes
Set start page / menu-bar sync	yes	yes
Read/write admin start template	no	yes

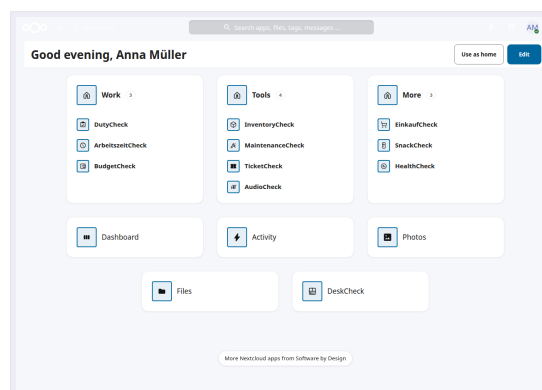
Takeaway: Layouts are per account. The admin template applies only once — on first open without a saved layout. Without sign-in, APIs respond with 401. Saving uses a revision number; conflicts are covered in chapter 7.

Day-to-day use needs only the signed-in person's rights (chapters 2–5); the admin template concerns system administrators only (chapter 6).

2 First steps

2.1 Finding HomeCheck

1. Sign in to Nextcloud and open **HomeCheck** in the app bar.
2. The home screen shows a greeting, tiles and, if applicable, the start-page prompt.

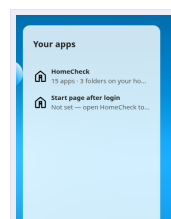


Greeting, tiles, **Edit** / **Use as home**.

On first visit, HomeCheck builds a layout from your visible apps; if none is stored, the optional admin template may apply once (ch. 6).

2.2 Dashboard desklet „Your apps“

On the Nextcloud dashboard: short status (apps/folders, start page) and **Open launcher** — documented once here (not again in ch. 3).

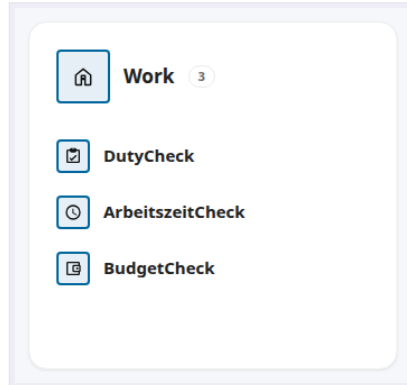


Desklet **Your apps** (app UI may use informal wording; see introduction).

3 Your personal home screen

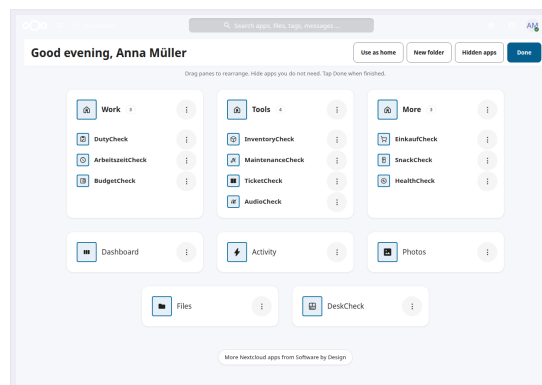
3.1 View and edit modes

In view mode, app tiles open the app; folders show their apps inline or in a dialog.



Folder tile with contained apps (view).

1. **Edit** opens the toolbar (**New folder**, and if needed **Hidden apps**).
2. Rearrange by drag-and-drop or the three-dot menu (**Move left**, **Move right**).
3. **Done** leaves edit mode.



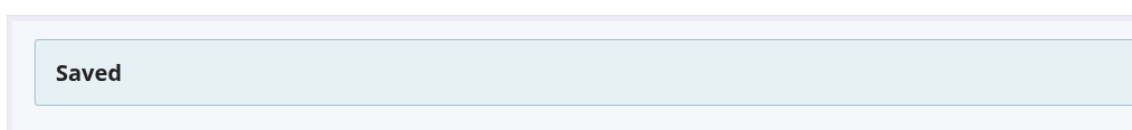
Edit mode with hint line and **New folder**.

3.2 Save status and conflicts

Changes save automatically. Live region: **Saving...** → **Saved**. On a version conflict (second tab): **Someone changed the layout — reloading**. Menu-bar sync failure: „Saved (top-bar sync failed — try again)“.



Live region: **Saving....**



Live region: **Saved**.

Someone changed the layout — reloading

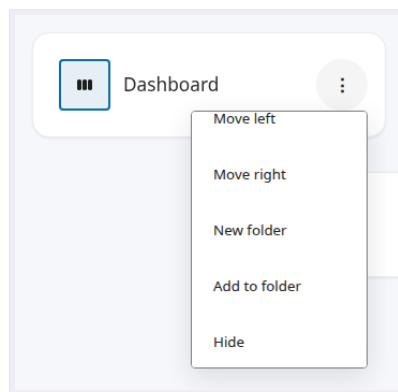
Live region: conflict banner.

Saved (top-bar sync failed — try again)

Live region: menu-bar sync failed.

3.3 Tile menu (edit)

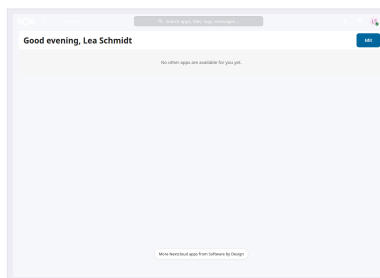
On an app tile the three-dot menu shows exactly: **Move left**, **Move right**, **New folder**, **Add to folder**, **Hide**; for folders also **Open folder**, **Rename**, **Delete folder**.



Tile menu (edit): **Move left**, **Move right**, **New folder**, **Add to folder**, **Hide**.

3.4 Empty home screen

„No other apps are available for you yet.“

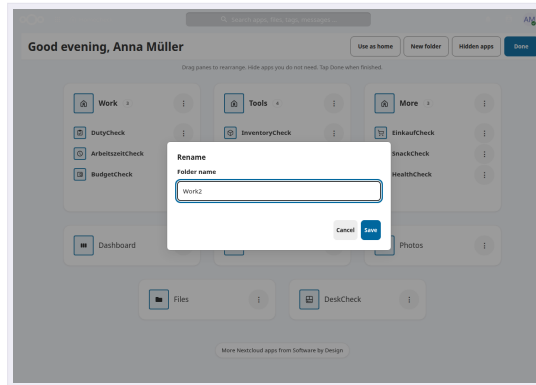


Empty state with no visible apps.

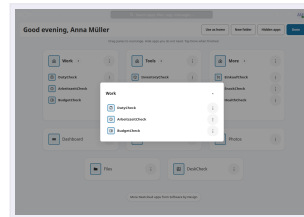
4 Folders and hidden apps

4.1 Create, open, delete folders

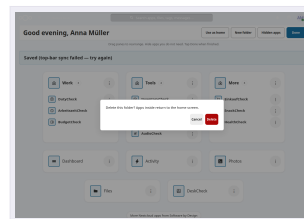
1. **Edit** → **New folder** (created immediately with a default name).
2. Three-dot menu → **Rename**; name 1–40 characters; **Save**.
3. **Open folder** shows contained apps; **Delete folder** asks for confirmation — apps return as tiles.



Rename / Folder name.



Open folder dialog.

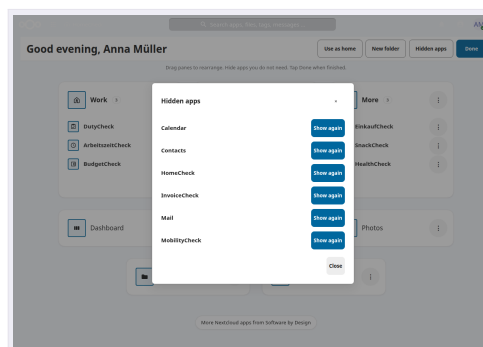


Confirmation **Delete folder.**

With exactly one folder, **Add to folder** places the app there automatically; with several, **Choose a folder** appears.

4.2 Hiding and limits

In edit mode: **Hide**; restore via **Hidden apps** → **Show again**. Limits: max. 100 top-level items, 40 apps per folder, 50 hidden folders; no nesting.

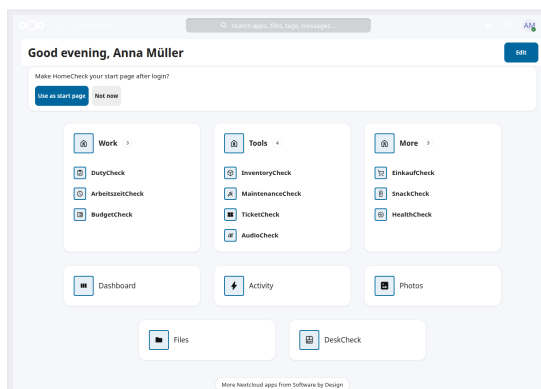


Hidden apps / Show again.

5 HomeCheck as start page

5.1 Banner and toolbar

On first visit a banner may ask whether HomeCheck should open after sign-in: **Use as start page** / **Not now**. In the toolbar: **Use as home** sets `core/defaultapp`; **Unset as home** clears it.



Use as start page / **Not now**.

Status messages (app UI): „HomeCheck is your start page“, „HomeCheck is no longer your start page“, „Could not update start page“ — informal UI wording; see introduction.

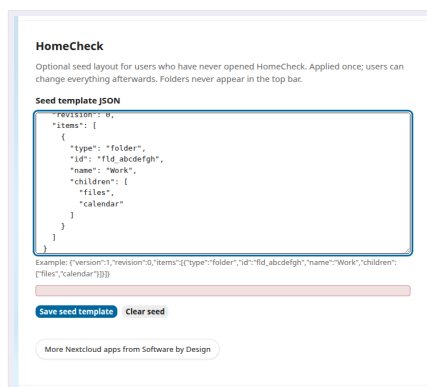
5.2 Menu-bar synchronisation

HomeCheck aligns app order in the top bar (folder contents omitted). On sync failure the live region from ch. 3 appears: „Saved (top-bar sync failed — try again)“ — up to three automatic retries.

6 Admin start template

6.1 Access and maintenance

Administrators open Nextcloud *Settings* → *Administration* → *Additional settings* → **HomeCheck**. Field **Seed template JSON**, **Save seed template**. Applies only to accounts without a personal layout. **Clear seed** removes the global template; existing layouts stay.



Seed template JSON, **Save seed template**, **Clear seed**.

Errors: „Invalid JSON“ / „Save failed“. Non-admins receive 403.

7 Errors, FAQ and glossary

7.1 Common error messages

Could not save — try again	Please try again. Network or server error while writing the layout (PUT). Reload the page and repeat the step.
Layout changed elsewhere	Please reload. HTTP 409 (version conflict); the local view is replaced by the server version (figure in ch. 3).
Unsafe app link	The target URL breaks security rules — open the app via normal navigation.
Too many items / apps in folder	Schema limits (ch. 4).
Invalid folder name	Name empty, longer than 40 characters, or with invalid characters.

7.2 FAQ

Why is an app missing?

Not visible in Nextcloud, hidden, or inside a hidden folder.

Menu bar differs from HomeCheck?

On save, HomeCheck syncs `core/apporder`; manual changes may be overwritten.

After uninstall?

HomeCheck settings and the start-page entry are removed; menu-bar order remains.

7.3 Glossary

Tile App or folder presentation on the home screen.

Layout JSON (`homecheck/layout_v1`) with items, revision, hidden entries.

Revision Optimistic lock — increases on every save.

Seed Admin seed (`seed_template_v1`) for first-time users.

Desklet Dashboard widget „Your apps“.

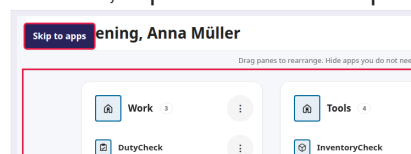
Live region Status line with `role="status"`.

8 Accessibility

HomeCheck uses Nextcloud theme tokens for contrast and focus:

- **Skip link** „Skip to apps“ jumps to `#hmk-main`,
- keyboard operation for toolbar, dialogs and tile menus,
- live region (`role="status"`) for save and errors,
- semantic `<dialog>` windows for folders, confirmation and input.

If you hit screen-reader or focus issues, report them via Help navigation or on GitHub.



Skip link visibly focused; target `#hmk-main` with focus ring.

About Software by Design

Software by Design builds Nextcloud apps for organisations that want to host their own data — from time tracking and projects to inventory, fleet management and customer relations. Every app runs entirely on your Nextcloud instance; the web interfaces are free (AGPL).

Company

- **Website:** <https://nextcloud.software-by-design.de/>
- **Partner & quotes:** <mailto:info@software-by-design.de>
- **Report a bug / suggest an improvement:** <mailto:dev@software-by-design.de>

Support & how to contribute

HomeCheck remains free on your Nextcloud (AGPL). Bug reports and sensible ideas via GitHub or email are part of open-source maintenance — without a guaranteed response time.

In the app

Under **Settings** → **Help & support** (navigation chip may still read **Support us**) you find the same options as on our website: partner quote, onboarding, commissioned feature and voluntary support.

Check Partner (invoiceable)

If your organisation needs predictable help with an invoice — setup, hour packages, prioritised email — choose **Check Partner**. That is a professional service with quote and invoice, not a donation.

- Packages and terms on the support page: <https://nextcloud.software-by-design.de/en/support/>
- Request a partner quote: <mailto:info@software-by-design.de?subject=Partner%20inquiry>

Other invoiceable options

- **Onboarding & training** — remote setup or workshop for your team.
- **Commissioned feature** — scoped change with acceptance criteria and delivery date.
- **Official mobile & terminal licences** — where offered for HomeCheck; named seats with invoice.

GitHub Sponsors (voluntary)

Voluntary support without an invoice SLA — appreciated, but optional:

<https://github.com/sponsors/aSoftwareByDesignRepository>

Legal note

This manual does not replace legal, tax or compliance advice. Third-party product names and trademarks belong to their respective owners.

Index

Accessibility, 6
Administrator, 1
Dashboard, 1
Desklet, 1
Done, 2
Edit, 2

FAQ, 6
First steps, 1
Hidden apps, 3
JSON, 5
Not now, 5

Permissions, 1
Roles, 1
Seed template JSON, 5
Use as home, 5
Your apps, 1