

# PureTidings FAQ - Desktop & Mobile Guide

This FAQ addresses common questions about security, features, Nextcloud synchronization, and configuration for **PureTidings Desktop & Mobile**.

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## 1. Security & Privacy

### Is PureTidings really 100% local and free of monthly subscription fees?

Yes. PureTidings is a standalone native application built with **Tauri v2** and **Rust**. All RSS feed downloads, IMAP email connections, full-text web scraping, and storage execute directly from your computer or mobile device. There are no intermediary cloud servers, user accounts, or recurring subscription fees.

### How does the IMAP email & newsletter integration work?

PureTidings connects directly to your mail server (Gmail, Fastmail, ProtonBridge, iCloud, or custom corporate domains) using native Rust TLS ( `imap` , `native-tls` , `mail-parser` ). Your email credentials and messages never touch third-party servers. Marking an email as read in PureTidings synchronizes the `\Seen` flag back to your server in the background.

### Is my Gemini API Key safe?

Yes. Your Google Gemini API key is stored strictly on your local device (in high-capacity IndexedDB storage) and is only used to make direct, authenticated requests from your computer to Google's Generative AI API.

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## 2. Nextcloud & WebDAV Cross-Device Cloud Sync

### What gets synchronized across my devices?

The entire application state is synchronized:

- **Complete Feed & Folder Hierarchy** ( `feedTree` ): All custom folders, subfolders, feed assignments, and order.
- **Article States**: Read marks ( `readLinks` ), starred favorites ( `favoritedLinks` ), and AI summary cart ( `summaryLinks` ).
- **Configuration & Rules**: Keyword filter rules ( `rules` ), connected IMAP email inboxes ( `emailAccounts` ), and UI language ( `appLanguage` ).

### Should I use my normal Nextcloud password or an App Password?

We strongly recommend creating a dedicated **App Password** in Nextcloud:

1. Log into your Nextcloud web interface.
2. Go to **Personal Settings > Security > Devices & sessions** (or *Geräte & Sitzungen*).
3. Under *Create new app password*, enter a name (e.g. `PureTidings` ) and click **Create**.
4. Copy the generated token and paste it into PureTidings under **Settings > Backup & OPML > App Password / Token**.

### Why did Nextcloud log a "TooManyRequests" (HTTP 429) error?

Nextcloud includes an automated **Brute Force Protection** system ( `oc_bruteforce_attempts` ). If a client makes many rapid probing requests or fails authentication, Nextcloud temporarily throttles that IP address with `OCA\DAV\Connector\Sabre\Exception\TooManyRequests` .

- **PureTidings Solution:** PureTidings features an intelligent in-memory endpoint cache ( `ENDPOINT_CACHE` ) that resolves the working WebDAV endpoint once and reuses it permanently, eliminating repetitive probing and preventing brute-force triggers.
- **If throttled:** Ask your Nextcloud administrator to reset your IP in *Admin Settings* > *Security* > *Brute-Force Protection* (or run `sudo -u www-data php occ security:bruteforce:reset <IP>` ). The temporary ban also expires automatically after 30–60 minutes.

### Can I save the sync file in a subfolder?

Yes! You can specify any target path in Settings, such as `/NEXTCLOUD PureTidings sync/puretidings_sync.json` . PureTidings proactively creates any missing parent directories on your server via WebDAV `MKCOL` before uploading.

### How does PureTidings resolve sync conflicts between desktop and mobile?

PureTidings employs formal **Last-Write-Wins (LWW-Element-Set)** reconciliation using dual timestamp maps ( `favoritedArticleUrls` vs. `unfavoritedArticleUrls` , `summaryArticleUrls` vs. `unsummaryArticleUrls` , `readArticleUrls` vs. `unreadArticleUrls` ). Every interaction carries an exact microsecond timestamp ( `Date.now()` ). If you star an article on Android and later sync with your desktop, your mobile action mathematically takes precedence over older cloud states, permanently preventing reverted read/favorite marks.

## 3. Gemini AI & YouTube Summaries

### What is the difference between an Article Summary and an AI Report?

- **Article Summary:** A concise breakdown with key bullet points for a single article or newsletter in Reader Mode.
- **AI Report:** A comprehensive, synthesized report covering multiple articles collected in your **Summary Cart** (Clipboard icon), identifying overarching themes and connections.

### Why are YouTube transcripts temporarily unavailable during batch refreshes?

When refreshing many YouTube channels simultaneously, YouTube's servers may temporarily trigger an anti-bot check ("Are you a human?" verification) and withhold transcripts for a brief cooldown period (typically 5–15 minutes). After this window passes, transcript fetching and AI summaries automatically resume.

**Tip:** Keep "🎲 **Randomize fetch timing (±20% jitter)**" enabled in *Settings* > *Automation* to spread requests naturally.

### Where are saved AI summaries stored on mobile?

On Android, PureTidings writes saved summaries and articles directly into your device's public `Download/` folder ( `/storage/emulated/0/Download/` ) via native Rust IPC ( `save_download_file` ), with optional Share Sheet ( `navigator.share` ) and clipboard fallback.

## 4. Search, Rules & Organization

### What do the search operators (+, ,, -) mean?

- **+** (**AND**): `Apple + Earnings` finds headlines containing both words.
- **,** (**OR**): `Fed , Inflation` finds headlines containing either word.
- **-** (**NOT**): `Tesla - Musk` finds headlines about Tesla but excludes those mentioning Musk.

## How do I reorder feeds and folders on a touchscreen?

Every feed and folder in Settings includes dedicated 1-tap **Up (▲)** and **Down (▼)** buttons that instantly swap positions within their sibling group. You can also nest folders or move them back to root using the **Parent Folder** dropdown selector with automatic cycle prevention.

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## 5. Backups & Data Sovereignty

### How do I backup and restore my data?

Open **Settings**  > **Backup & OPML**:

- **OPML 2.0:** Standard feed exchange format compatible with all feed readers.
  - **Full Backup (JSON):** Exports your entire environment—feeds, custom folders, reading history, IMAP inboxes, keyword rules, and language settings.
  - **Scheduled Automated Backups:** Configure a dedicated folder on your hard drive for automated daily backups without browser download prompts.
  - **Mobile Clipboard Paste:** Use " **Paste OPML**" and " **Paste Backup**" on mobile devices to restore data instantly from clipboard text.
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## 6. Desktop Browser Satellite Extension (Companion)

### What is the PureTidings Browser Satellite?

The Satellite is a lightweight companion browser extension located in `puretidings-extension/` for Chromium desktop browsers (Google Chrome, Brave, Microsoft Edge). It connects directly to PureTidings Desktop via a local HTTP loopback port ( `http://127.0.0.1:41789` ), offering an instant toolbar reader, unread badge counter, 1-click feed subscriptions, and bidirectional sync of read states, favorites (★), and AI summary cart.

### Will the Satellite extension work on Android?

**No, the Satellite extension does not work on Android and is neither possible nor required there:**

1. **No Mobile Extension Support:** Google Chrome on Android does not support browser extensions or the Chrome Web Store.
2. **Loopback Server Compiled Out on Android:** The local HTTP bridge ( `127.0.0.1:41789` ) is deliberately disabled on Android ( `#[cfg(not(target_os = "android"))]` ) to prevent battery drain and abide by mobile OS process suspension policies.
3. **Android is Already the Full Standalone App:** On Android, PureTidings operates as a native standalone app ( `PureTidings_aarch64.apk` ) with its own Rust networking, IMAP engine, and Gemini AI.
4. **Cloud Synchronization:** Cross-device synchronization between your Android phone and desktop PC is handled smoothly by **Nextcloud & WebDAV Cloud Sync** with Last-Write-Wins (LWW) conflict resolution.

### Does the Satellite extension require an internet connection to communicate with PureTidings Desktop?

No. The Satellite communicates entirely on your local machine over `127.0.0.1` (localhost). Your data never leaves your computer, and the extension requires zero external cloud accounts.