Switching Phones to Visible — Checklist

Oct 13, 2026 · @Steve Rock

Why switch

Switching to Visible+ cuts our phone and subscription costs from about $210 to about $107 a month — roughly $1,240 a year — on the same Verizon towers we use now. Visible is owned by Verizon.

	Now (Verizon)	After switch
Phone service, 3 lines	$163.00	$90.00 (Visible+, $30/line)
Verizon surcharges and taxes	$20.57	$0 (included in Visible price)
YouTube Premium	$12.00 (Verizon perk)	$15.99 (direct)
Apple One Individual	$15.00 (Verizon perk)	— (cancelled)
iCloud+ 50GB, shared	— (part of Apple One)	$0.99
Total per month	**≈ $210.57**	**≈ $107**

The Verizon total assumes the $10/line loyalty credit is gone, which it is as of September 25, 2026.

Before you start

A few checks before cancelling anything. None of these cost money.

- [ ] Confirm all three iPhones are unlocked (Verizon: My Verizon → Devices). Phones paid off are normally unlocked already.
- [ ] Start Visible's free 15-day trial on each phone. It runs as an eSIM alongside Verizon, so nothing changes yet.
- [ ] Test coverage at home, at the office, and anywhere else we spend time.
- [ ] Test the hotspot from a phone with a laptop, to make sure it's good enough for an internet outage.
- [ ] Spot-check music on Steve's phone: tap ••• on a few songs. Any showing "Add to Library" or the Apple Music logo will disappear when Apple One is cancelled.

Switching, step by step

Do not cancel Verizon yourself — moving each number to Visible closes that Verizon line automatically.

Get ready

- [ ] Generate a Number Transfer PIN for each line (My Verizon app → Account → Number Transfer PIN). Write down the Verizon account number too.
- [ ] Optional: call Verizon and say we're moving to Visible. If retention gets the total well under $150, reconsider; otherwise proceed.

Steve's line first

- [ ] Sign up for Visible+ (monthly, not annual) at visible.com, choosing "bring your own phone" and "transfer my number."
- [ ] Enter promo code **5OFF5** at checkout ($5/mo off for 5 years). The offer ends October 29, 2026.
- [ ] Activate the eSIM and confirm the number transferred (calls and texts work, Verizon line shows closed).
- [ ] In the Visible app, create an Inner Circle.

The other two lines

- [ ] Each person signs up for their own Visible+ account with their own number and PIN (and 5OFF5, if eligible).
- [ ] Steve invites both to the Inner Circle; each accepts within 24 hours.
- [ ] In Inner Circle, Steve sets up paying for both lines.

Finish up

- [ ] Confirm the final Verizon bill closes out with no remaining lines.
- [ ] Keep Wi-Fi Calling turned on in each iPhone's settings (works the same on Visible).

Subscriptions

Order matters here: set up iCloud storage before cancelling Apple One, or the family's backups drop to the free 5GB.

- [ ] Subscribe to iCloud+ 50GB ($0.99/mo) in Settings → [name] → iCloud, and turn on sharing with Family Sharing. We use 23.5GB of 50GB.

- [ ] Sign up for YouTube Premium ($15.99/mo) on youtube.com in a browser — not inside the iPhone app, which has cost more.
- [ ] Cancel the YouTube Premium and Apple One perks in My Verizon (or they end when the Verizon lines close).
- [ ] Confirm Apple One is no longer billed through Verizon or Apple.
- [ ] Keep Amazon Prime. Subscribe to Peacock or Apple TV only for a month when there's something to watch.

Good to know

- **What changes:** no stores and no phone support — help is by chat, 24/7. Each of us has a separate Visible account and app login.
- **Hotspot:** unlimited, up to 10 Mbps. Fine for email, browsing and video calls during an outage; not for streaming to a TV.
- **When our son graduates:** he keeps his account and number and simply takes over paying. He can stay in the Inner Circle for the discount.
- **Discounts don't stack:** 5OFF5 and the Inner Circle discount are both $5/mo off, but only one applies at a time. Either way, $30/line.
- **Open question:** whether Verizon counts as an "eligible carrier" for 5OFF5 (Visible is Verizon-owned). Check Visible's promotions help page; if not, Inner Circle gives the same $30.

Sources: Visible plans · Visible Inner Circle · Apple TV and Apple One price increase