Smartphone Smart Card

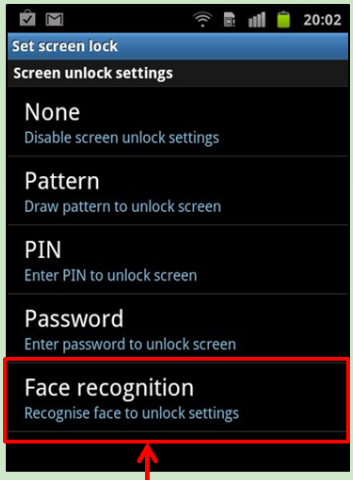
Do's and Don'ts

- Smartphones are not impenetrable. Secure your smartphone with a password, and utilize apps such as *Find My iPhone* and *AndroidLost* to locate lost or stolen devices.
- All smartphones have cameras and microphones that can be remotely activated. Caution should be used when smartphone is near sensitive information.
- Bluetooth and wireless capable smartphones are convenient but easily exploitable by hackers. Use a VPN if possible and avoid public wireless networks, especially when accessing sensitive information.
- Prior to downloading apps on your smartphone, read the developers permissions. Many apps now require permission to access your camera, microphone, text messages, and phone contacts.
- Keep your locations services turned off until they are actually needed. Otherwise, your daily movements are likely being tracked.
- If you have a google account, you can use your google credentials to login at maps.google.com/locationhistory to see your phones location history for the last year or more.

Physical Exploitation

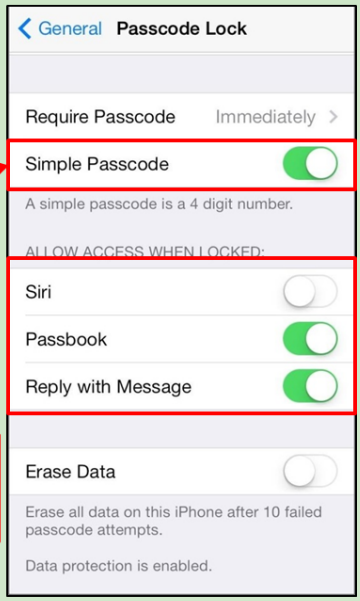
The first line of defense in preventing unauthorized access to your data is to protect your smartphone with a passcode. Each operating system has different methods of security, both achieving the same goal. Always set your smartphone to require a passcode immediately and use an alpha-numeric passcode.

Android 4.4.4



Face Unlock is not secure; a picture of you will allow access to your phone.

iPhone 8.0.2



DISABLE Simple Passcode and secure device with a longer alpha-numeric passcode.

Turn these settings OFF; they allow anyone to access areas of your phone without a passcode.

Lost/Stolen Phone

In the U.S., it has been reported that over 100 cell phones are stolen or lost every minute. This fact alone proves it is necessary to keep your device secure and locked with a passcode. There are apps available for both Android and iPhone platforms that allow the user to manage their smartphones remotely in the event their phone is stolen or lost.

Android 4.4.4

Androidlost

- Wipe phone
- Lock phone
- Erase SD Card
- Locate by GPS or Network
- Email when SIM is charged
- Take picture
- Record sound from microphone
- Google.com/device

iPhone 8.0.2

Find My iPhone

- Wipe phone
- Lock phone
- Activate alarm
- Activate camera
- Locate by GPS or Network
- Backup data through iCloud

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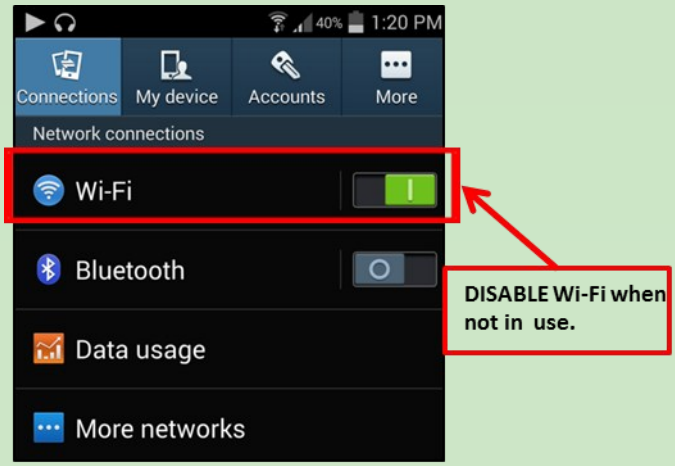
Wireless Networks

If possible, public Wi-Fi networks should be avoided due to the risk of interception by third parties. If public networks must be used, avoid logging into accounts that require passwords, as log-in credentials are easily exploited by hackers. Always use a VPN client to encrypt on-line transactions.

Android 4.4.4



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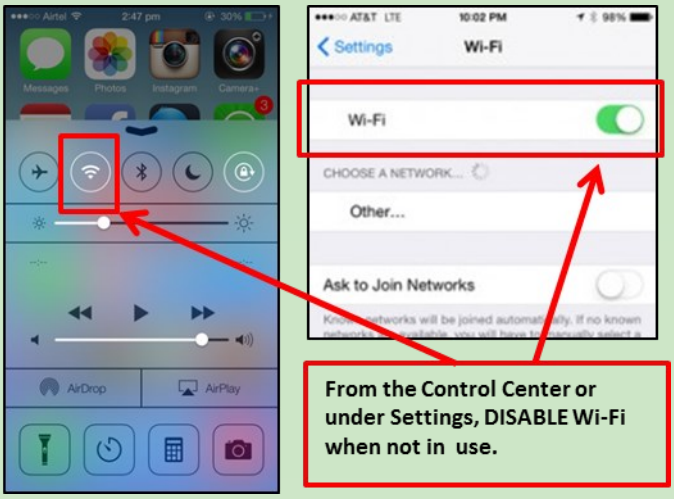
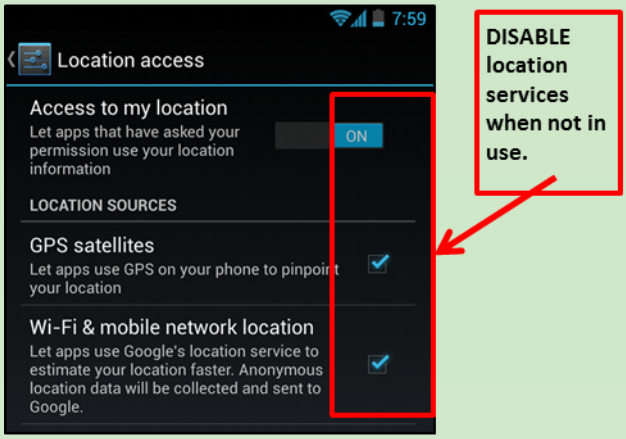


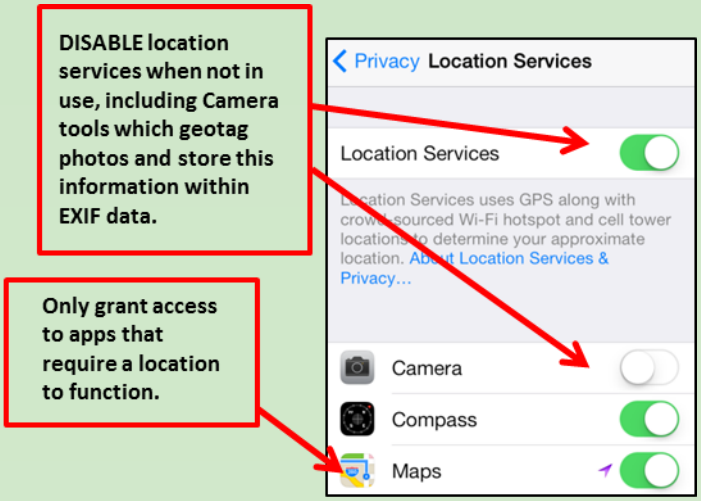
Location Tracking

Many applications will ask permission to use your current location. Users should avoid granting access when possible. Turn off all location services when they are not in use.

Android 4.4.4



iPhone 8.0.2



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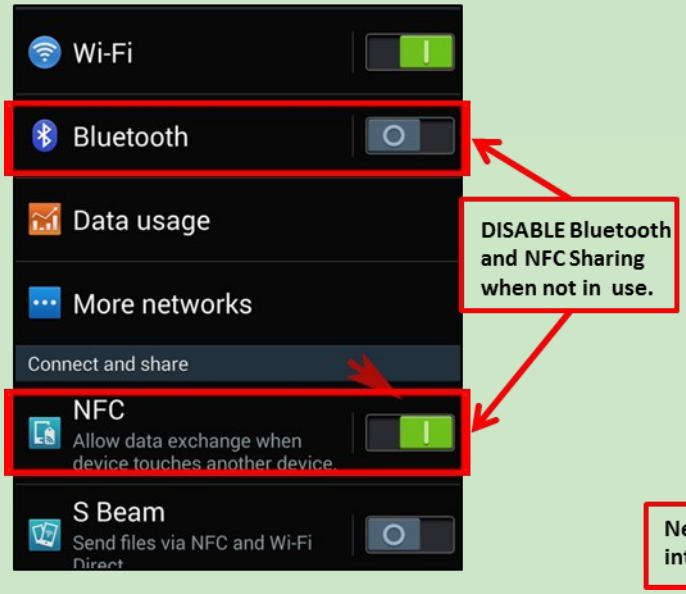
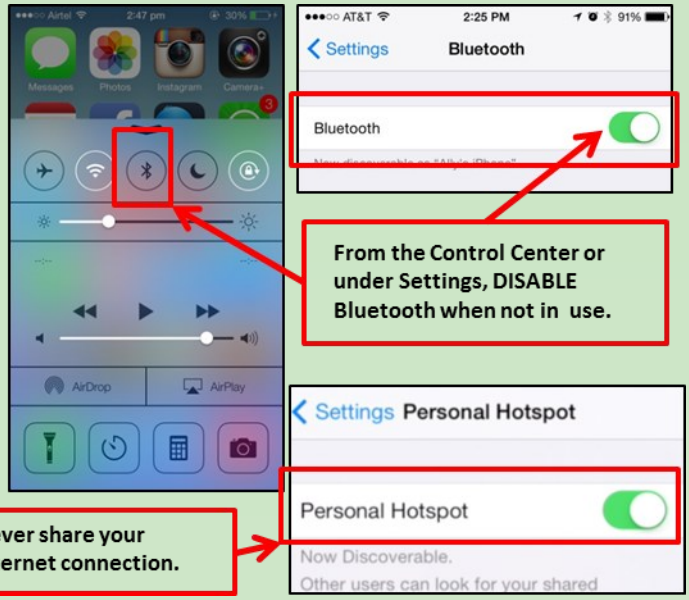
Bluetooth

Bluetooth is a wireless technology standard for exchanging data over short distances from fixed and mobile devices. When Bluetooth is enabled on your smartphone, hackers could gain entry to your device and obtain contacts, messages, calendars, photos, and notes without you even knowing.

Android 4.4.4



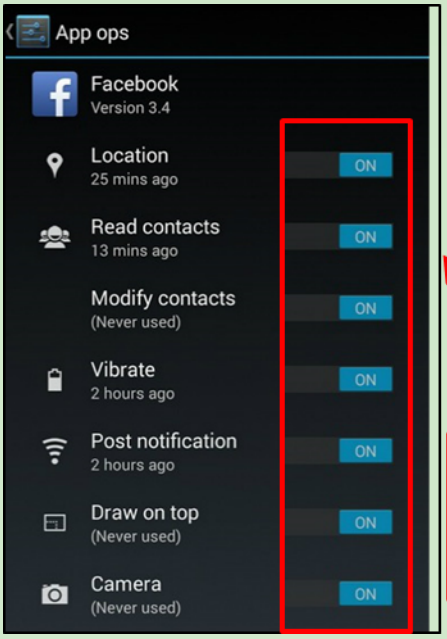
iPhone 8.0.2



Data Retaining Applications

Downloaded applications often collect users' personal information (e.g. name, email addresses, contacts lists, credit card numbers, device information, etc.) and allow third parties to access this private and sensitive data. Even personal assistant applications, like Siri and Google Now, collect and retain user data. Siri voice clips are transferred to Apple's data farm and kept for up to two years. Google Now collects data from web searches, calendar appointments, photos, contacts, text messages, shopping habits, and book/movie/music choices. Review and manage applications to see what information is being collected and what permissions you have allowed.

Android 4.4.4



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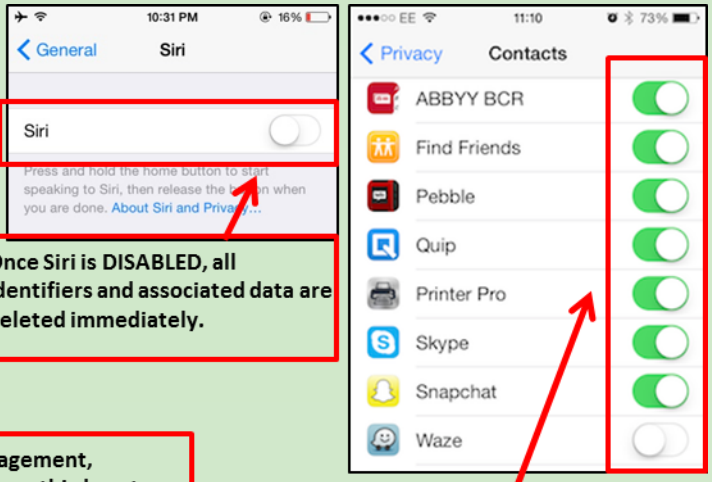

Permissions management, through Apps Ops or third-party tools, are possible with Android 4.4.2 and up only with root access to the device.

Turn OFF access for apps that you do NOT want using your information.