

THE INVESTIGATOR

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Taking Security Measures for Protection

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BCSI is considered the platinum standard of the industry based on the quality and the wide spectrum of its services as well as the expertise of the investigators.

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In taking precautions to securing your smartphone, here are a collection of 6 suggested strategies that step up the level of security on your phone and lower the risk of you privacy being invaded.

6 Security Measures

1) Set Lockscreen

- Physically leaving your phone unattended for even a couple of minutes can prove to invite strangers, colleagues, peers, etc. to access your information for whatever reason ranging from harmless anecdotes to intentional hacking. By setting a lockscreen PIN or Password, it lessens the chance of your data being stolen/viewed. It is also found that devices such as Samsung, they have fingerprint recognition which can also be activated to enhance security.

2) Turn Off Settings

- When not using WiFi, mobile data or your location services, it is advised to turn them off as hackers have less of a chance of stealing your information when you are not connected to cyberspace.

3) Application Reputation

- When considering downloading an app, be aware of the company name and the developer. Some apps may trick users with titles such as "New and Improved" or "Updated/Latest version". It may be beneficial to read to comments about the app and if the app does not have any reviews, it may be fake and you may want to consider not downloading it.

4) Suspicious Links

- Be vigilant about your phones activities. Some apps may have a virus hidden with them that run in the background and relay information about your activities. Android systems allow third party apps so Android users may increase their risks of mobile security.

5) Loss of the Phone

- This for smart phone cellphone users being common knowledge, losing your phone or having it stolen can of course lead to multiple issues such as identity theft, financial theft and fraud. It is crucial a smartphone user install PINs/passwords to protect their data in case of loss/damage/theft of their phone. A app designed by the company "Lookout" created this app which sends victims of theft of their phone a photo and the location of the thief. "The theftie" app will be accompanied by a map and the phone's front-facing camera is triggered by a thief entering a wrong password, taking out the SIM card, turning it off or engaging 'airplane mode'. This app does cost \$3 a month and is available on iPhones and Android handsets.



6) Security Software

- Security software may aid in decreasing the dangers linked to smartphone usage as they are tailored to target issues that are unique to cellular phones. As well as installing security, they do also provide a location for if/when the phone is lost/stolen.

In conclusion, these issues raised do not occur to every smartphone user but the need to be consciously aware of the dangers to not only your phone but possibly a loved one's phone need to be understood and preventative measures need to be taken in an attempt to stop possible malicious activities/events occurring.