

Mobile Device Security

Technology has jumped by leaps and bounds since the advent of cellphones and mobile devices. At one time a flip-phone was considered cutting edge if it had a camera and the ability to text. Nowadays, phones are like handheld laptops, able to browse the internet and tablets are used to control other IOT devices.

Security on phones and mobile devices is as important as it is on desktop and laptop computers, even more so because of the additional functionality that comes with an internet-connected device that can go almost anywhere.

Here are a few things to consider with regard to mobile devices:

- Virus protection is extremely important on cellphones as they utilize third-party networks while roaming and connect to an average of 160 different IP addresses daily.
- Physical security is equally important since devices are small and can be easily slipped out of sight by a would- be thief.
- Mobile Device Management (MDM) software should be used to be able to track devices (through GPS) and usage, and even be able to remotely wipe or take photos if the device is lost or stolen.
- Additional anti-theft software can be installed to further protect the device and data, and even remains installed after a factory reset.
- Practice the same 'think-before-you-click' mindset on your mobile devices that you have on your desktop and laptop machines. Some phishing specifically targets mobile devices.
- Never do any online banking on a smartphone or tablet; only use a wired connection for added security.
- Utilize any encryption that the device has built into its settings (usually under Security).
- Never connect to unknown WiFi networks,
- Only turn on Bluetooth when you need to use it (i.e. making phone calls in a car).

MOBILE DEVICE CYBERSECURITY

#1 perceived weakest link in IT is *mobile devices* (CyberEdge Group)

Mobile devices are the fastest growing *enterprise vulnerability*



25% of all mobile devices encounter *a threat* each month

increase in mobile *malware rates* in 2014 (Lookout) **75%**

9 times more mobile banking Trojan attacks in 2014 (Kaspersky Lab)



Android had **188%** increase in vulnerabilities and iOS had a **262%** increase in vulnerabilities compared to 2011 (FireEye) 

1.4 Billion people now use Android, according to Google CEO Sundar Pichai

