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Mobile device security for iOS devices

Article #2191

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Mobile device security for iOS devices

Smartphones and tablets need to meet the same security standards as any computer. Otherwise they become unprotected access points to private and sensitive data, which can expose you to identity theft, or worse. If you own or use a smartphone or other mobile device, it's a good idea to protect it with a personal identification number (PIN) or password.

Important: Before beginning we advise that you ensure your iOS device has been backed up in case it is lost, stolen, or you forget your passcode, and has the latest updates. If you can not remember your passcode you will need to wipe the data from your phone and restore it to factory settings.

You can read how to back up your iOS device here:

<http://support.apple.com/kb/ht1766>

You can read how to wipe and restore your iOS device here:

<http://support.apple.com/kb/ht1414>

1. To set a passcode navigate to **Settings > General > Passcode Lock > Turn Passcode On.**



2. You will be asked to enter a four digit passcode twice and then returned to the **Passcode Lock** settings page.



3. **The following steps will provide you with additional layers of security:**

You can disable the **Simple Passcode** feature, enabling you to create a more complex passcode with spaces and alphanumeric characters, not just numbers.

From the same settings page you can also change the **Require Passcode** timing. This feature locks your phone after it has been inactive for the length of time you choose. 20 minutes or less is a common standard. Shorter intervals are better, because they will make your phone more secure.

At this location you can also enable the **Erase Data** feature, which will wipe your personal information from your phone after 10 failed passcode attempts.



4. From this time forward, your passcode will be required to unlock your iOS device once the screen has been turned off for the specified **Require Passcode** timing.



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