

What You Need To Know About... Information Security for Mobile Devices

Ofcom's – Lost or stolen phone page

<http://consumers.ofcom.org.uk/2013/03/lost-or-stolen-phone/>

Contains video guides on how to set passwords for popular mobile devices:

Sites to help detect lost or stolen phones

These sites can help you locate a lost or stolen phone. They may also enable you to lock the device remotely and erase the data on it.

Find my iPhone

<https://itunes.apple.com/gb/app/find-my-iphone/id376101648>

BlackBerry Protect

<http://worldwide.blackberry.com/ap/protect/>

Android Device Manager

<https://www.google.com/android/devicemanager>

Windows Find My Phone

<http://www.windowsphone.com/en-gb/how-to/wp7/basics/find-a-lost-phone>

These can sometimes force the device to ring which is really useful if you've dropped or misplaced your phone somewhere, show where it is on a map, and some will let you send a message to the phone so that if it's found, the finder knows who to contact even though the screen may be locked.

Your phone's unique number

Every smartphone has a unique 15 digit I-M-E-I or emi number. This can help identify the rightful owner and it can also be used by the network operators to bar calls from that phone. You can find your phone's IMEI number behind the battery or enter *#06# on the phone's keypad and it will show you the number.

Registering your IMEI number

In the UK you can register your smartphone on the immobilise website [Search: police register phone] Every time the police recover a lost or stolen phone they search the immobilise database to see if the phone is registered on it and find out who it is registered to.

The UK National Mobile Phone Crime Unit's website allows you to register your phone on their database which is searched when stolen or lost phones are recovered by the police.

<http://www.nmpcu.police.uk/immobilise/>

Passwords held in browsers

If you use Chrome, put this <chrome://settings/passwords> into your address bar. It will show the websites that you've stored passwords for. Hit 'show' and you can see the password.

Correct as of: 30/12/13

Password security

73% of people use the same password for multiple sites

The average password has 6 characters and takes about 3 minutes to crack

Source: <https://lastpass.com/>

Signs that your device may be infected with malware

Your phone sensor receives strange messages

The battery drains more quickly than usual

Strange or unknown charges on your phone bill

Call history with calls you didn't make – often international calls

Apps that don't open properly when you try to use them