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## Smartphone Security Tips

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### **1. Keep your system updated.**

Often overlooked, keeping your mobile operating system updated with the latest patches and system upgrades helps protect your device from being exploited by the latest vulnerabilities. This has become a fairly easy task with the three major Smartphone operating systems (Blackberry, iPhone, and Android) really placing a priority on fixing issues as they are discovered.

### **2. Install a security application on your phone.**

Mobile phones are a prime target for criminals. Installing a security application goes a long way in preventing theft of data in the case of physical theft or remote exploitation. All major mobile operating systems have applications that can be installed to help prevent your data from being stolen.

### **3. Watch where you click.**

Be cautious of clicking on links sent to you in emails, on websites, and from unsolicited SMS messages. SMS messages can be spoofed just as easily as email messages.

### **4. Lock the device with a lock code.**

Placing a lock code on your Smartphone will prevent unauthorized access to your data and the phone itself. It can be a pain, but the thought of someone finding your Smartphone and having unrestricted access to your personal information puts it all in perspective.

### **5. Only install or obtain applications from trusted sources.**

One of the greatest things about a Smartphone is that it runs apps. Whatever you want to do with your phone there is probably an app for it. Be cautious when installing applications on your Smartphone, especially from sources outside of the control of your Smartphone-approved application portals. Even when installing applications from the approved channels, be aware of the permissions that are being requested by the app. If you are installing a new game and it states that it needs full access to your contacts and GPS history, you might want to think twice about that and question why access to that data is required.

*(Source: 10-D Security)*