

// MOBILE DEVICE HARDENING

IPHONE HARDENING GUIDE

A step-by-step configuration reference for reducing your device's digital exposure. Each setting reflects best practices for principals, family members, and anyone in a high-visibility role.

Note: Settings vary by iOS version. If a setting isn't where indicated, search its name in the Settings search bar.

// GENERAL & SOFTWARE 01

SETTINGS › GENERAL › SOFTWARE UPDATE › AUTOMATIC UPDATES

iOS updates › Automatically download TURN ON

iOS updates › Automatically install TURN ON

System files › Automatically install TURN ON

SETTINGS › GENERAL › AIRPLAY & CONTINUITY

AirDrop CONTACTS ONLY

Automatically AirPlay NEVER OR ASK

Bringing devices together TURN OFF

Apple Intelligence & Siri TURN OFF

SETTINGS › VPN & DEVICE MANAGEMENT

Unknown configuration profiles REMOVE

SETTINGS › GENERAL › HANDOFF

Handoff TURN OFF

// FACE ID & PASSCODE 02

SETTINGS › FACE ID & PASSCODE

Stolen device protection TURN ON

Face ID with a mask TURN OFF

Require attention for Face ID TURN ON

Attention aware features TURN ON

Require passcode IMMEDIATELY

Allow access when locked TURN OFF ALL OPTIONS

Passcode type REVIEW

Use custom alphanumeric code or 6+ digits

// APPLE ID 03

SETTINGS › [YOUR NAME]

Sign-in & security › Trusted phone number REVIEW

Two-factor authentication TURN ON

iCloud backup TURN ON

Private relay TURN ON

Advanced data protection TURN ON

May require updating all connected devices first

iCloud.com REVIEW

Associated devices REVIEW

Remove old or unknown devices from account

// PRIVACY & SECURITY 04

SETTINGS › PRIVACY & SECURITY

Location services › Location alerts TURN ON

Tracking TURN OFF

System services › Significant Locations TURN OFF

System services › Product improvement TURN OFF ALL

Contacts access CONFIRM APPS

Microphone access CONFIRM APPS

Photos access CONFIRM APPS

Camera access CONFIRM APPS

Confirm no apps set to Always

MORE PRIVACY SETTINGS

Journaling suggestions TURN OFF

Analytics & improvements TURN OFF

Apple advertising TURN OFF

Background security improvements TURN ON

Discoverable by others TURN OFF

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