

// MOBILE DEVICE HARDENING

ANDROID 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 Android version and manufacturer. If a setting isn't where indicated, search its name in the Settings search bar.

// CONNECTIONS 01

SETTINGS › WI-FI › ADVANCED

Manage networks REVIEW
Remove unused or unrecognized

Hotspot 2.0 TURN OFF

Allow WEP networks TURN OFF

NFC AND CONTACTLESS PAYMENTS

Secure NFC TURN ON

NFC when not in use TURN OFF

MOBILE NETWORKS

Data roaming TURN OFF

Allow 2G service TURN OFF

MOBILE HOTSPOT AND TETHERING

Mobile hotspot TURN OFF

Bluetooth tethering TURN OFF

MORE CONNECTION SETTINGS

Nearby device scanning TURN OFF

Private DNS SET VALUE
Set to: 1.1.1.1 or dns.quad9.net

BEST PRACTICE

Avoid public Wi-Fi. If unavoidable, ensure a trusted VPN is active before connecting.

// CONNECTED DEVICES 02

SETTINGS › CONNECTED DEVICES › NOTIFICATIONS

Continue on other devices TURN OFF

Camera share TURN OFF

// SECURITY & PRIVACY 03

SETTINGS › SECURITY AND PRIVACY

Auto Blocker TURN ON
Blocks unauthorized apps, USB commands & malware

Lock network and security TURN ON
Prevents Wi-Fi being disabled while locked

Show lockdown mode option TURN ON
Disables biometrics & notifications when activated

MORE SECURITY SETTINGS

Block USB connections while locked TURN ON

Make passwords visible TURN OFF

Enhanced data protection TURN ON
Encrypts backup and synced data

MORE PRIVACY SETTINGS

Personal data intelligence TURN OFF

Send diagnostic data TURN OFF

Android personalization service TURN OFF

Permission manager REVIEW
Audit camera, mic & location per app

Ads › Advertising ID DELETE

Usage and diagnostics TURN OFF

// LOCK SCREEN & BIOMETRICS 04

LOCK SCREEN › NOTIFICATIONS

Lock screen notifications HIDE CONTENT
Prevent content preview while locked

SCREEN LOCK AND BIOMETRICS

Screen lock type REVIEW
PIN, password, or pattern recommended

Face recognition › Require open eyes TURN ON
Prevents unlock while unconscious or coerced

SECURE LOCK SETTINGS

Auto lock when screen turns off IMMEDIATELY

Lock instantly with side button TURN ON

Extend unlock TURN OFF

// SAFETY, EMERGENCY & SOFTWARE 05

SETTINGS › SAFETY AND EMERGENCY

Unknown tracker alerts TURN ON

SETTINGS › SOFTWARE UPDATE

Check for latest updates CHECK REGULARLY
Closes known exploit vectors

// GOOGLE SERVICES 06

GOOGLE › SEARCH, ASSISTANT & VOICE › PRIVACY & SAFETY

Location accuracy TURN OFF

Personalize using shared data TURN OFF

Search personalization TURN OFF

Screen context TURN ALL OFF

Contact info from your devices TURN OFF

Devices & connected apps CONFIRM INTENDED

Web and app activity TURN OFF

GOOGLE › THEFT PROTECTION

Theft detection lock TURN ON (OPT.)
Locks device if theft motion detected

Remote lock TURN ON

Contextual suggestions TURN OFF

// GEMINI AI 07

SETTINGS › GOOGLE › GEMINI

Talk to Gemini hands-free TURN ALL OFF

Use Gemini without unlocking TURN OFF