

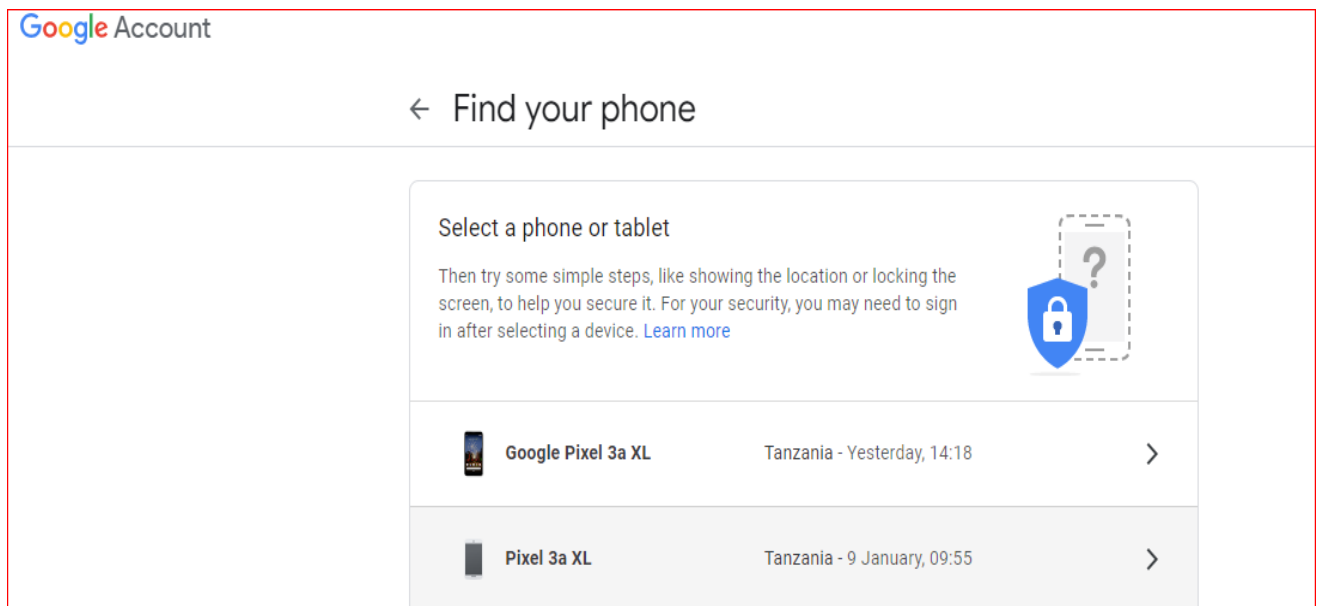
Find your lost phone

By GODWIN S ARUGA

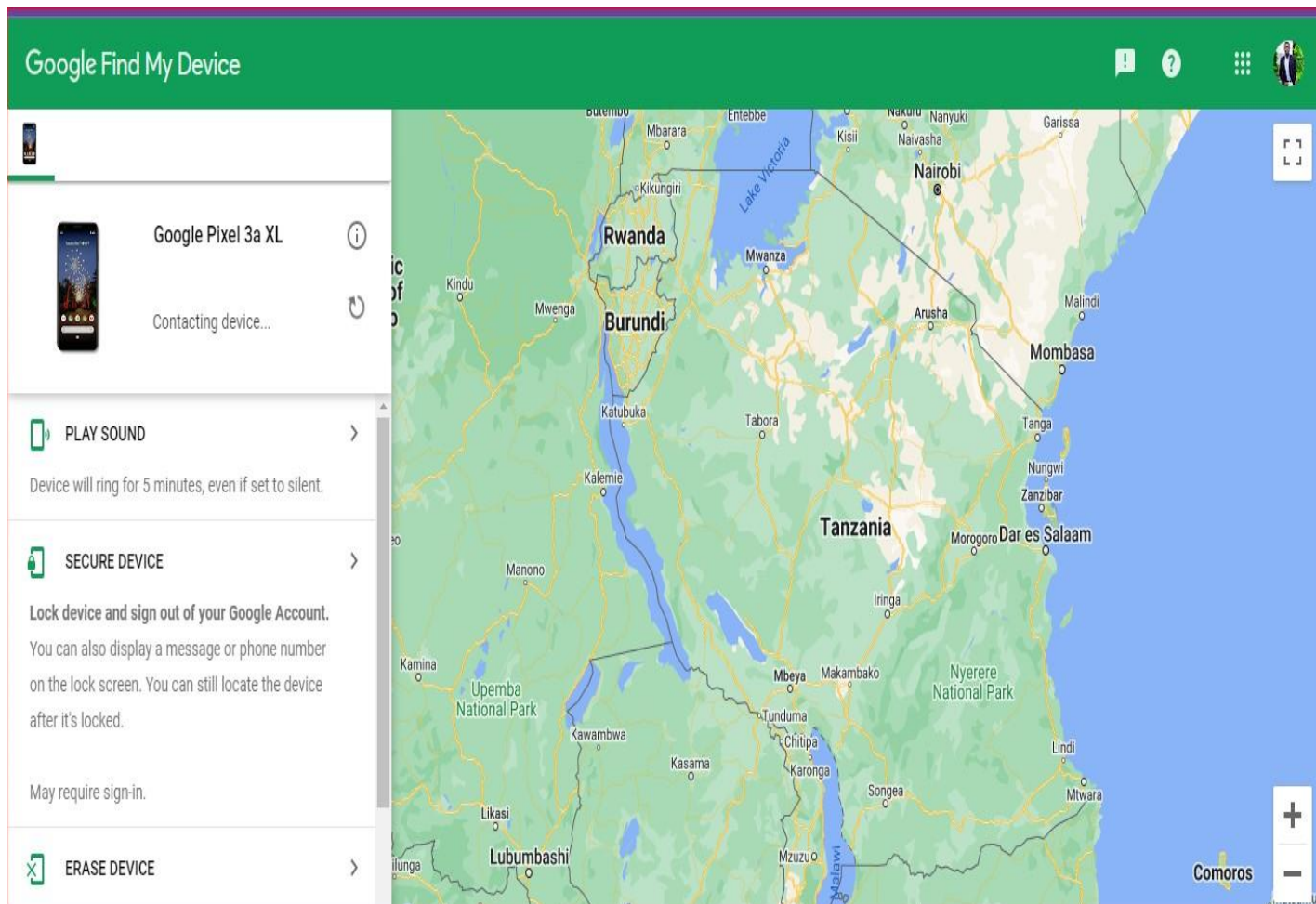
CyberShield Tanzania inc.

Your phone contains a lot of personal information, so you don't want it falling into the wrong hands. Considering the privacy risk prior to your lost phone. Here's how to locate an Android phone using options from Google and Samsung.

If your phone is ever lost or stolen, you have multiple ways to track it down. Google provides an app and website called **Find My Device**, which lets you seek out your missing Android, secure it, and erase all data. Samsung devices have an additional feature called **Find My Mobile**, which allows you to track down your lost device. Here's how to use Find My Device and Find My Mobile in order to track down your missing phone.



Google's Find My Device service is available as an android app and standalone webpage and works with any Android device. If you're already signed into your Google account, you should see a map with all your registered devices automatically displayed. From here, you can select the image of the device you want to find, and track location on the map.

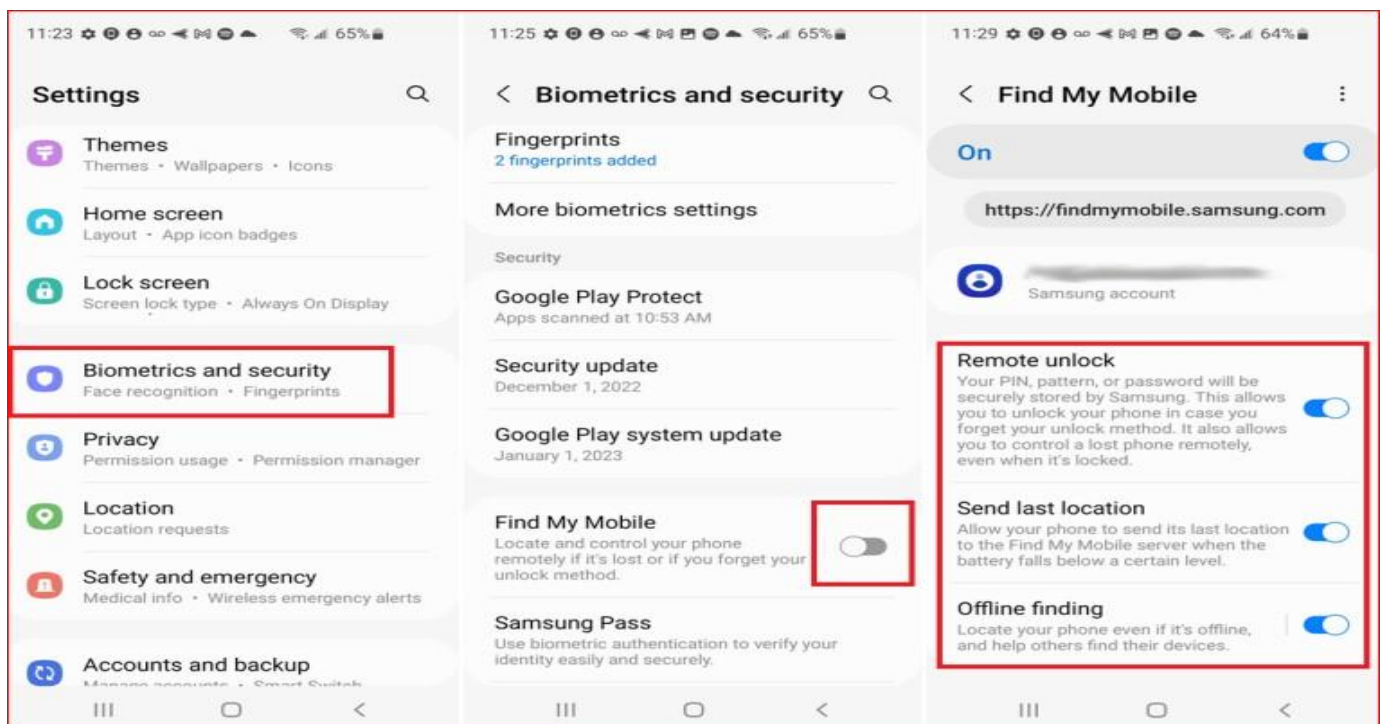


You can then **play a sound** to ping your device, **lock it and display a message on the screen**, or **wipe all personal data**. Google has some [additional information](#) you can reference if you need to find, lock, or erase your Android phone. If you think the device is within

earshot, tap **Play Sound** to ping the phone or tablet. You can then follow the sound to your device. Even if the device is not in your immediate area, the ping may alert a Good Samaritan who may find it. When done, tap the **Stop sound** button.

You may be asked if you want to review your Google Account. Tap the **Security Checkup** link and go through the security steps. If you change your mind about erasing your device, tap **Dismiss**.

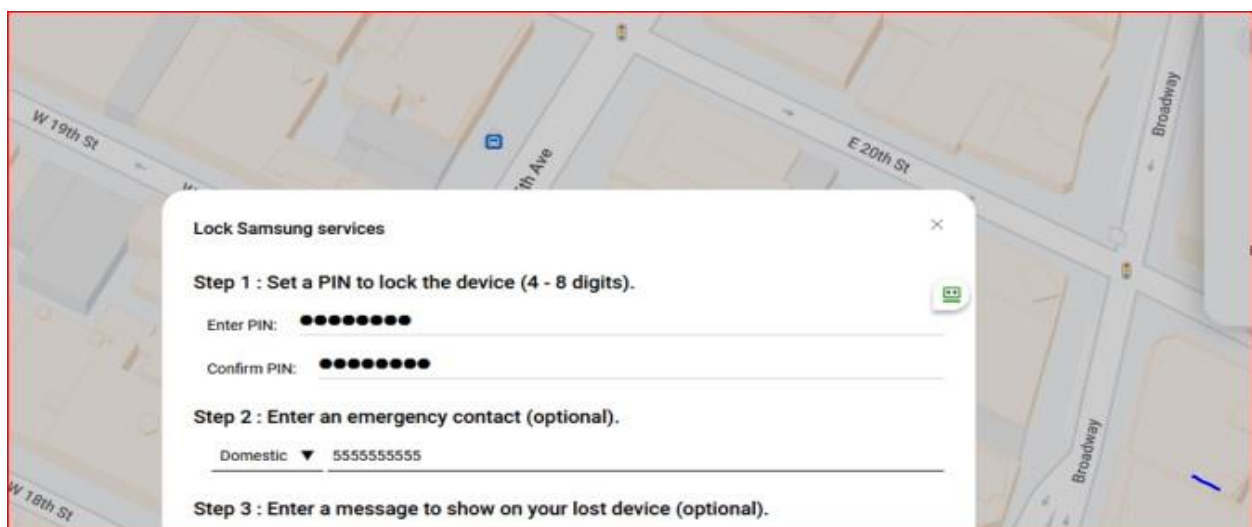
If you have a Samsung phone, you can also make use of a special feature called Find My Mobile to track down a lost device. Set this up on your phone by going to **Settings > Biometrics and security** and turn on **Find My Mobile**. Note that this feature requires a Samsung account.



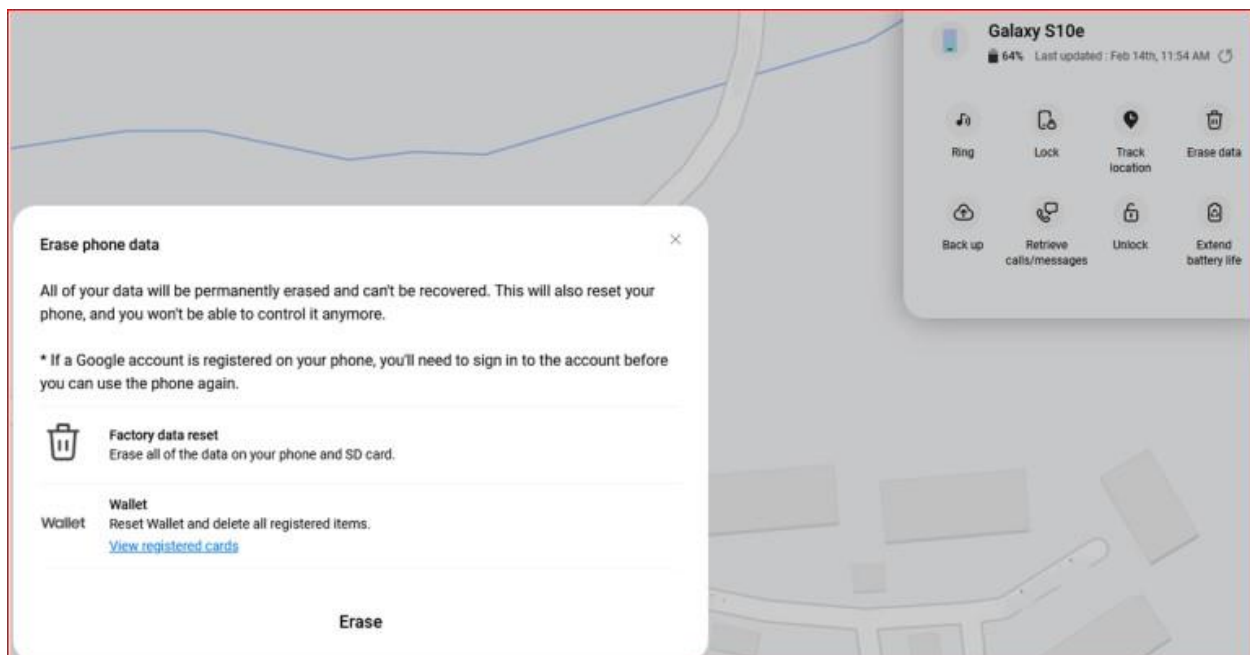
Open the Find My Mobile settings and turn on **Remote unlock** to be able to unlock your phone and control it remotely. Turn on the option for **Send last location** to receive the last known location of your phone if the battery drops below a certain level. Enable **Offline finding** to be able to locate your phone even if it's offline.

Once enabled, use the SmartThings Find [website](#) or [app](#) to track down any Samsung device connected to the same Samsung account. The service should display the location of your Samsung phone on the map, which includes other controls to help you with your missing device.

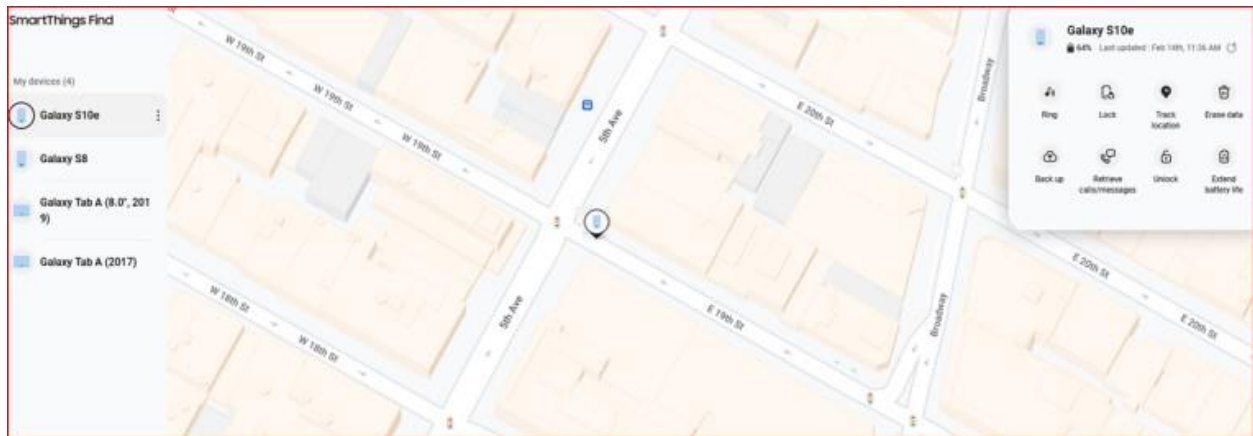
Choose the **Ring** option, then press **Start** to ping your phone. It will then start ringing to help you track it down if it's nearby or allow someone else to notice it. You can also select the **Lock** option to set a PIN to unlock your device, enter a contact phone number where you can be reached, and add a message that will display on the Lock screen.



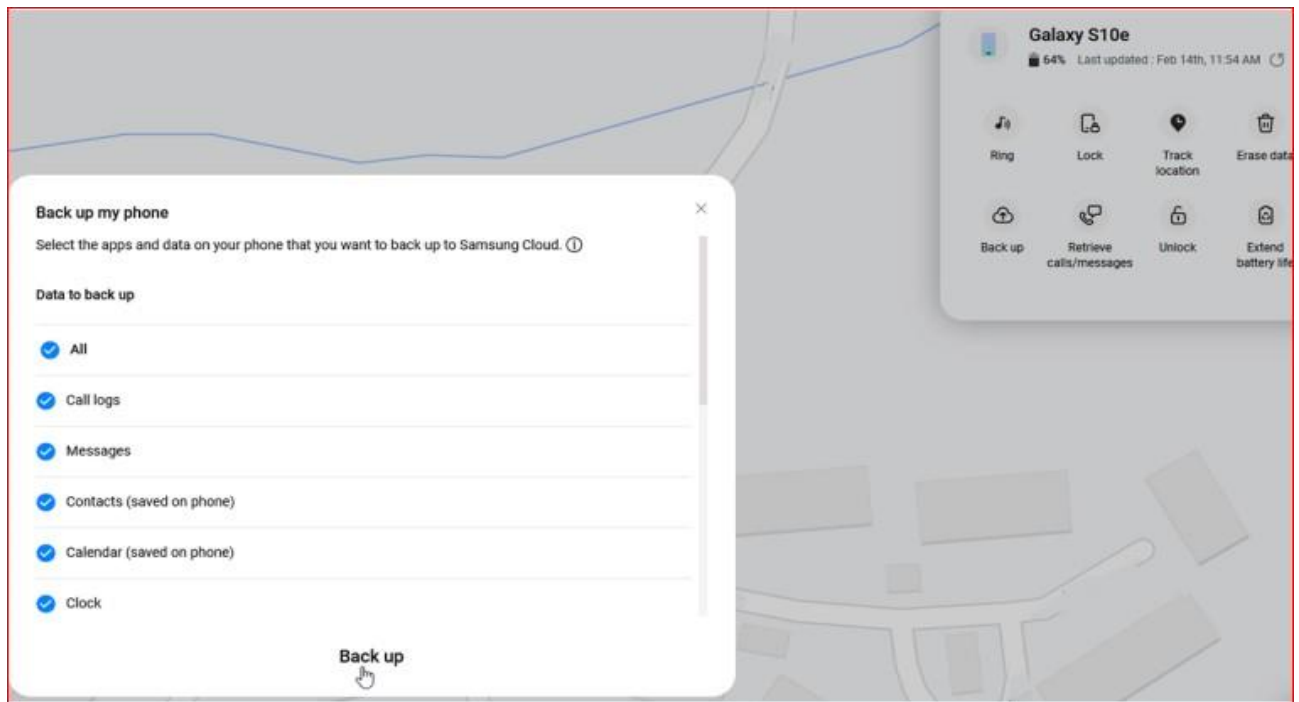
If you think your phone is being moved to a different location, you can choose **Track location** to get an updated view of your phone's location every 15 minutes. You can also wipe the phone clean if you're worried about someone gaining access to your data. Hit the **Erase data** icon to [reset the phone back to factory settings](#).



If you plan to erase your phone or don't believe you will ever retrieve it, you can back up the data remotely. Click the **Back up** icon, then set up [multi-factor verification](#), if you haven't already done so. Click the website link in the notification to receive backup codes that can be used to sign in, even if your phone is lost or stolen.



Select all the data points you wish to back up, such as messages and contacts, and then select **Back up** to send your data to be stored on the [Samsung Cloud](#) service. Remember to make these settings early when you buy a new phone to help you in either way.



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