ANDROID

How To Automate Your Android Smartphone To Do Just About Anything

By Ryan Dube / October 24, 2012 24-10-2012 / 6 minutes

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Engineering. He's worked 13 years in automation engineering, 5 years in IT, and now is an Applications Engineer. He's spoken at national conferences on Data Visualization and has been featured on national TV and radio.

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Having a smartphone can make your life a whole lot more convenient. When you're lost, it can help you find your way home. When you're in a strange town that you don't know and want to find a good restaurant or a gas station to fill your tank, your smartphone is there.

With all of its wonder and conveniences, sometimes smartphones and tablets can also be a little bit clunky to use. Sometimes, you're at home and want to use your Wi-Fi, so you aren't consuming data from your cellular data plan. On the other hand, when you're on the road, you want your phone to turn off things like Wi-Fi and GPS to save batteries.

Here at MakeUseOf, we've offered plenty of tips about managing your phone connections, like Erez' article on finding good Wi-Fi networks with Android. One solution to manage those network connections is by automating your Android smartphone with programs like Llama to automatically switch them.

Improve Your Wi-Fi Signal at Home & Outside with These **Android Apps**

Looking to improve the Wi-Fi signal in your home or find a Wi-Fi connection when you're out? This article has you covered.

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However, if you're going to start automating your Android smartphone, you might as well take that process beyond network switching and use automation to automatically launch apps, open up web pages and open up files on a set schedule. The more tasks you automate with your smartphone, the less you have to remember, and the less likelihood that you'll forget important tasks.

Automating Your Android Smartphone

The most common type of Android phone automation is setting it up so that it automatically connects to the Wi-Fi networks that you use whenever you are within range of those networks.

The problem with GPS-based apps that automatically enable or disable Wi-Fi connections based on your GPS location is that they need your GPS enabled, which can really burn down your battery level pretty fast.

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misHaps: Provide Info To Your Lost Phone's Finder To Help Him/Her To Return It [Android 2.2+]

By MOin / October 24, 2012 24-10-2012 / 1 minute

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Have you ever found somebody's lost smartphone? If you have, then you are already aware of how problematic it can be to return the phone. Because of the auto-lock feature in nearly every phone that is protected by a password, you cannot access the phonebook. If you could access the phonebook, then you could try contacting people and learn who the phone belonged to which would make it easier to return it.

To make sure that others can view your contact information if your phone is lost, you can make use of an app called misHaps.



misHaps is a smartphone application for Android devices. The application is sized at nearly 800 KB and requires Android version 2.2 or later. misHaps displays numbers to contact in case your phone is lost or there is an emergency. In addition to your phone being lost, a situation in which the password protected auto-lock feature is extremely disadvantageous is in the case of emergencies. For instance, when a person is involved in an accident, somebody close by should be able to access the phone and contact the concerned people and update them about what has happened.

Taking these things into consideration, the application lets other people handling your phone view your contact information in case your phone is lost and the contact information of an emergency contact in case of an emergency.



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