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X adds support for passkeys globally on iOS

Sarah Perez / 7:21 AM PDT • April 9, 2024

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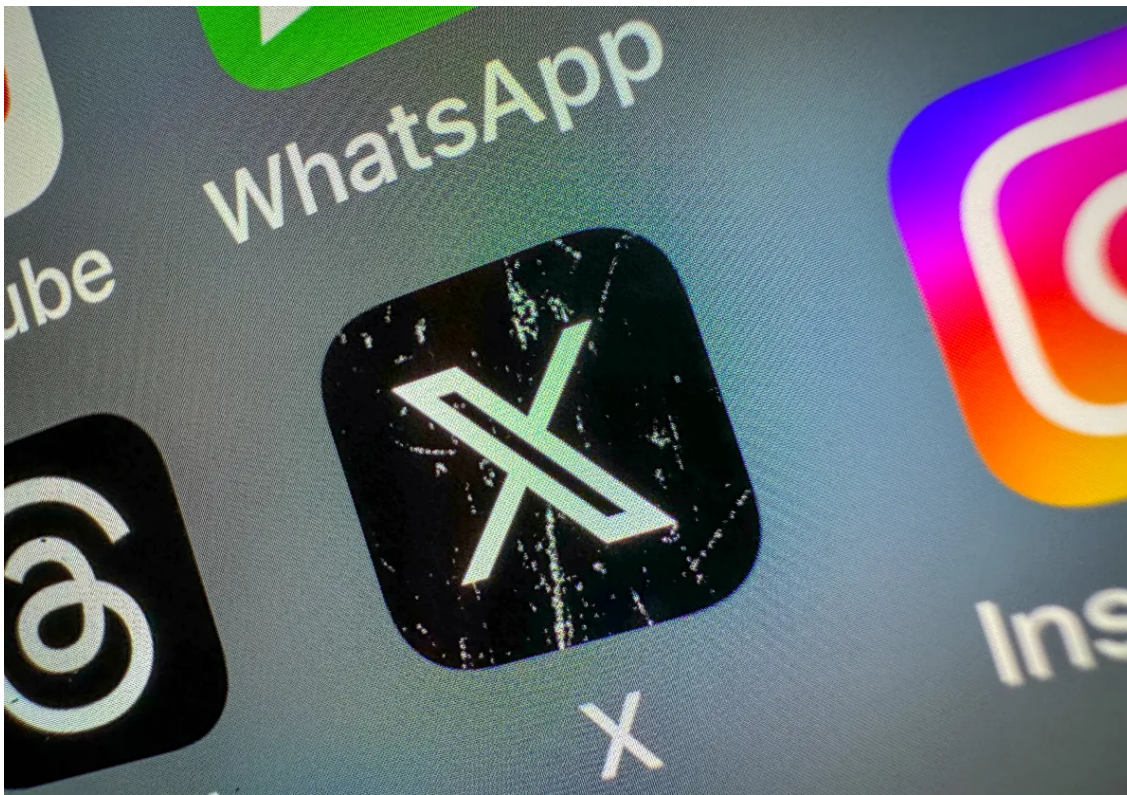


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X, formerly Twitter, is [rolling out support for passkeys](#), a new and more secure login method compared with traditional passwords, to all iOS users globally. The option debuted in [January](#), but only for iOS users in the U.S.

In an update to the [X @Safety account](#) on Monday, the company shared that passkeys are now available as a login option for global iOS users. Similar technology has already been added to other popular apps and services, including [PayPal](#), [TikTok](#), [WhatsApp](#), [GitHub](#) and others. [Google last fall made passkeys](#) the default sign-in option for all users. [Apple](#), [Microsoft](#), [Amazon](#) and other companies also support the option.

Update: Passkeys is now available as a login option for everyone globally on iOS! Try it out. <https://t.co/v1LyN0l8wF>

— Safety (@Safety) [April 8, 2024](#)

Passkey technology was initiated by Google, Apple, Microsoft and the FIDO Alliance, alongside the World Wide Web Consortium. The idea is to make passwordless logins available across different devices, operating systems and web browsers. Unlike traditional logins, which require a username and password combination, passkeys use biometric authentication like Face ID or Touch ID, a PIN or a physical security authentication key to validate logins. The process combines the benefits of two-factor authentication (2FA) into a single step, making logins more seamless while maintaining increased security.

For X, the addition could help users protect their accounts against hacks from bad actors. The social network has seen a number of high-profile hacks over the years, including one in January where the U.S. Securities and Exchange's X account shared an unauthorized post [regarding Bitcoin ETF approval](#). Donald Trump Jr.'s X account was also hacked [to post a fake message saying that Donald Trump had passed away](#). There was also a 2020 crypto scam that saw many larger accounts compromised, including [Apple's, President Biden's and X owner Elon Musk's account](#), among others.

The addition could also help X users who previously relied on SMS 2FA to re-secure their accounts, as X announced last year that option would be removed for non-paying users. X had [argued](#) that the cost-cutting measure could be abused by bad actors, such as in the case of [SIM swaps](#). But the reality is that it made X less secure.

X offers users [instructions on how to get started with passkeys on iOS](#). There's no word yet on when Android users will have the option.

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[Twitter](#), [Apps](#), [iOS](#), [X](#), [Passkeys](#)

Robotics

Robotics investments are gaining speed after post-pandemic slowdown

Brian Heater
8 hours ago

The first six months of the year have seen \$4.2 billion invested in robotics, putting this year well on track to beat 2023's 12-month total of \$6.8 billion.



Startups

Hebbia raises nearly \$100M Series B for AI-powered document search led by Andreessen Horowitz

Hebbia, a startup using generative AI to search large documents and return answers, has raised a nearly \$100 million Series B led by Andreessen Horowitz, according to three people with...



Marina Temkin
9 hours ago

Robotics

Agility's humanoid robots are going to handle your Spanx

Digit's first job will be moving totes around a Connecticut Spanx factory — which is most definitely not a euphemism.

Brian Heater
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Fundraising

MagicSchool thinks AI in the classroom is inevitable, so it's aiming to help teachers and students use it properly

These days, when you hear about students and generative AI, chances are that you're getting a taste of the debate over the adoption of tools like ChatGPT. Are they a...

Ingrid Lunden
11 hours ago

AI

In the conversation, Zuckerberg said there needs to be a lot of different AIs that get created to reflect people's different interests.

Zuckerberg disses closed- source AI competitors as trying to 'create God'

Sarah Perez
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Fundraising

Andrew Ng plans to raise \$120M for next AI Fund

Kyle Wiggers
11 hours ago

AI big shot Andrew Ng's AI Fund, a startup incubator that backs small teams of experts looking to solve key problems using AI, plans to raise upward of \$120 million...

Transportation

VW taps Rivian in \$5B EV deal and the fight over Fisker's assets

Kirsten Korosec
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Welcome back to TechCrunch Mobility — your central hub for news and insights on the future of transportation. Sign up here for free — just click TechCrunch Mobility! Am I...

Hardware

FCC rule would make carriers unlock all phones after 60 days

Specifically, according to the FCC, carriers would simply have to provide unlocking services 60 days after activation.

Devin Coldewey
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Transportation

As battery startups fail, Sila snaps up \$375M in new funding

Rebecca Bellan
12 hours ago

Amid a fraught environment for battery startups, Sila has raised \$375 million to finish construction of a U.S. factory that will scale its next-generation battery technology for customers like Mercedes-Benz...

Security

Startups scramble to assess fallout from Evolve Bank data breach

Lorenzo Franceschi-Bicchierai,
Mary Ann Azevedo
13 hours ago

Fintech-friendly Evolve Bank disclosed a data breach, saying it may have impacted customers and partners.

Apps

Meta starts testing user-created AI chatbots on Instagram

Ivan Mehta
13 hours ago

Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg announced on Thursday that the company will begin to surface AI characters made by creators through Meta AI studio on Instagram. The tests will begin in...

Climate

Rondo Energy funding shows a new way across the climate startup 'valley of death'

Tim De Chant
13 hours ago

Climate tech startups especially those building hardware, face a particular challenge when trying to move beyond the prototype or pilot phase and start selling finished products to customers.

Biotech & Health

Amazon consolidates Amazon Clinic into the One Medical brand

Lauren Forristal
13 hours ago

Amazon is folding its Amazon Clinic telehealth service into its primary care business One Medical, the company announced on Thursday. The company explained in today's blog post that, to simplify...

Apps

Just in time for the debates, Meta fixes bug impacting users' political content settings on Instagram and Threads

Sarah Perez
14 hours ago

Meta has fixed the bug that caused people to believe the company had adjusted their selections in a political content settings tool without their consent. The issue had impacted users...

Apps

YouTube Premium upgrade adds smart downloads and picture-in-picture mode for Shorts

Ivan Mehta
14 hours ago

YouTube is adding several new features for Premium users, including smart downloads and support for picture-in-picture mode for Shorts, as well as a wider rollout of its “Jump Ahead” feature...

TechCrunch Disrupt 2024

TechCrunch Disrupt joins forces with Google Cloud for Startup Battlefield 200

TechCrunch Events
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TechCrunch is joining forces with Google Cloud as its lead partner for Startup Battlefield 200. This event will highlight and support the most promising startups from around the globe at...

Apps

Character.AI now allows users to talk with AI avatars over calls

Ivan Mehta
14 hours ago

a16z-backed Character.AI said today that it is now allowing users to talk to AI characters over calls. The feature currently supports multiple languages, including English, Spanish, Portuguese, Russian, Korean, Japanese...

Apps

TikTok to challenge Amazon Prime Day with its own sales event in July

Aisha Malik
15 hours ago

TikTok is gearing up to challenge Amazon's Prime Day event in July. The social network announced on Thursday that TikTok Shop is holding a "Deals For You Days" sales event...

Media & Entertainment

Reliance Jio, Airtel kick off Indian telecom price hike

Manish Singh
15 hours ago

Reliance Jio and Airtel, the two largest telecom operators in India, have initiated what analysts expect to be an industrywide increase in tariffs in the world's second largest wireless market,...

Biotech & Health

SoftBank forms AI healthcare JV in Japan with Tempus

Kate Park
16 hours ago

SoftBank Group founder Masayoshi Son announced on Thursday that the Japanese tech giant has set up a joint venture in the country with Chicago-based health tech company Tempus. Together, the...

Venture

As Spain gets its latest VC fund, Southern Europe appears to be on a roll

Mike Butcher
16 hours ago

While startup valuations have plummeted since the bull run of 2021-2022, a factor that's hit the European startup ecosystem particularly hard, there's one region of Europe where the correction has...

Startups

Illumex is using GenAI to ease pain of getting good data into LLMs

Ron Miller
16 hours ago

By now we know how crucial it is to have quality data for use by large language models (LLMs), but getting data ready for the models has been an early...

Startups

Directo turns a TikTok travel hack into a deal-finding Chrome extension

Sarah Perez
16 hours ago

A travel hack that went viral on TikTok teaches users how to save money on hotels and Airbnbs by booking directly with the properties themselves. Now, a new startup, Directo,...

AI

Axelera lands new funds as the AI chip market heats up

Kyle Wiggers
16 hours ago

Axelera designs AI-running chips and systems for applications like security, retail, automotive and robotics.

AI

ChatGPT: Everything you need to know about the AI-powered chatbot

Kyle Wiggers, Cody Corral, Alyssa Stringer
16 hours ago

ChatGPT, OpenAI's text-generating AI chatbot, has taken the world by storm since its launch in November 2022. What started as a tool to hyper-charge productivity through writing essays and code...

AI

Orby is building AI agents for the enterprise

Kyle Wiggers
17 hours ago

Orby AI, is building a generative AI platform that attempts to automate a range of different business workflows, including workflows that involve data entry, documents processing and forms validation.

Security

PortSwigger, the company behind the Burp Suite of security testing tools, swallows \$112M

Ingrid Lunden
17 hours ago

Sometimes the most successful startup ideas come from people building tools to solve their own needs. Such was the case with Dafydd Stuttard, a security expert who goes by Daf. ...

Commerce

Amazon hit with fresh class action-style suit in UK — \$3.4B in competition damages sought for 200,000+ sellers

Natasha Lomas
18 hours ago

Amazon is facing another competition lawsuit in the U.K. The latest claim, which was filed Thursday, is seeking more than £2.7 billion in damages — or around \$3.4 billion at...

Enterprise

Odaseva raises \$54M to secure Salesforce users

Ingrid Lunden
18 hours ago

Securing cloud services remains a challenge for enterprises. That's why several companies have been working on security solutions that specifically address that need. In the latest example of that, Odaseva...

Fundraising

Austin-based Ironspring Ventures raised \$100M to invest in the industrial revolution

When Ironspring Ventures launched in 2020 to back startups in industrial sectors like construction and manufacturing, it was one of very few early-stage venture firms paying attention to those capital-intensive...

Rebecca Szkutak
19 hours ago

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