## Google to introduce QR-based login for Gmail, will soon stop sending SMS Codes

With tech giants embracing passkeys in favour of the not-so-trustworthy text-based passwords, it looks like Google is planning to ditch SMS authentication codes in favour of QR codes. According to a recent report by *Forbes* citing "privileged conversation with Google insiders", the publication claims that the tech giant will be moving away from SMS-based authentication methods for Gmail sometime later this year.

In a statement to *CNET*, Ross Richendrfer, the head of security and privacy public relations at <u>Google</u> confirmed the change and said that the tech giant will be reimagining how it verifies phone numbers by asking users to scan a QR code. This is much more secure than the current two-factor authentication method via SMS, which requires users to type in a code after entering their password.

However, it won't be the first tech giant to ditch SMS-based authentication. In the last few years, X (formerly Twitter), Signal, <u>Apple</u> and <u>Microsoft</u> have ditched SMS-based authentication in favour of more secure alternatives like one-time codes generated by authenticator apps.

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