

This Week's Topic: *iOS 11 Best Practices*

Update Corner: *October Software Updates*



A Bi-Monthly Snapshot into Emerging Threats and Trends

Digital Update



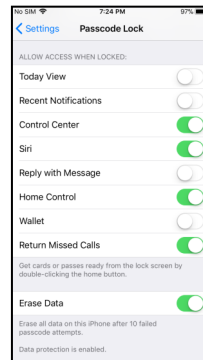
iOS 11 Best Practices

New iOS, New Rules

With the update to iOS 11 many things have changed; some for the worse and some for the better. We are going to explore all of the new options with iOS that specifically affect your privacy or security and you can decide whether or not you want to take the convenience or security route. If you have any questions or comments, contact admin@tpidg.us

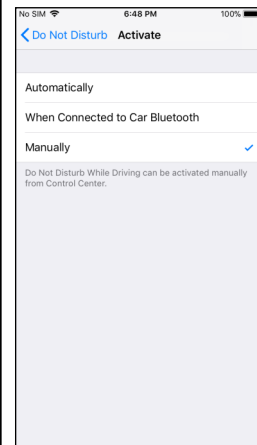
Control Center (Settings -> Control Center)

The Control Center has been changed significantly in the new version of iOS. They have made it slightly more customizable, but there are still major limitations. One thing they have added that is a welcome addition is a switch for cellular data. However, they have watered down the Wi-Fi and Bluetooth buttons by changing them to only act as disconnection buttons. Instead of turning off the interfaces, now they will only disconnect you from a Wi-Fi network or Bluetooth device. It's very important to no longer rely on these buttons. Head straight to settings to turn off the interfaces manually whenever not in use. Another handy tool on the new Control Center is the ability to add apps such as wallet or alarms. These apps get added to the bottom of the Control Center and push it up as more are added. If you are going to add a whole lot of apps to it, we recommend you remove Control Center from your lock screen as well most of the other options by going to **Settings -> Touch ID & Passcode** and scrolling to the bottom. Things like Wallet, Siri and Reply with Message can be exploited to either access or gather information from your device without having to enter your passcode. The more you can limit your attack surface, the better.



Do Not Disturb While Driving (Settings -> Do Not Disturb -> Activate)

Do Not Disturb has been improved to add an automatic option. When "Automatically" is selected, iOS uses your Bluetooth connection to your car to determine when you are driving. If Bluetooth is off, iOS uses your accelerometer and nearby Wi-Fi networks to determine if you are driving. While this is a great feature to keep people from texting and driving, we recommend changing this to "Manually" and keeping your phone in a faraday bag while you drive. Having your phone in a faraday bag has the same effect as do not disturb while not collecting any information in the process.



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-EFF

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-Bleeping Computer

EVENTS >>>

ToorCamp 2018

June 20-24 2018, San Juan, WA

Black Hat USA 2018

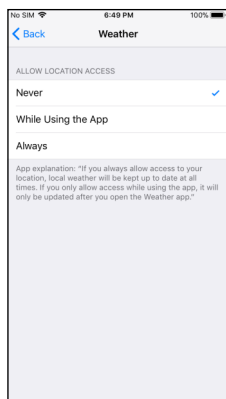
Aug 4-9 2018, Las Vegas, NV

DEF CON 26

Aug 9-12 2018, Las Vegas, NV

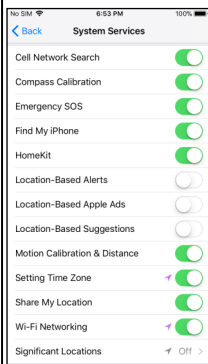
iOS 11 Best Practices

Location Services New Feature (Settings -> Privacy -> Location Services)

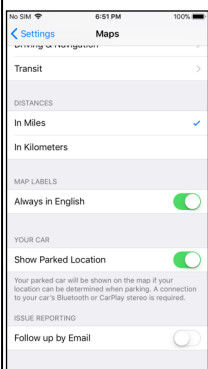
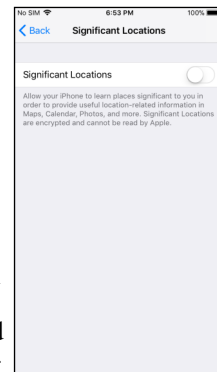


What was once an optional setting for app developers to include in their apps, “While Using The App” is now a mandatory setting for Location Services. With “While Using The App” enabled for any app, the app will not be able to collect location data after you close it, only while it is still open and being used. This means that apps such as Uber can no longer [track your location five minutes after you close the app](#). Many apps have just done away with the “Always” option and only have “While Using The App” and “Never” available. Some apps such as the Weather app will benefit greatly from having Location Services always on, so it can pull weather information for your current location in the background, but it's not necessary. Even with this new safeguard, you should be keeping your Location Services off when not in use. Do not rely on this to give you the peace of mind that having your Location Services completely off gives you. Just because apps cannot access your location does not mean system services are not still accessing it. (see below)

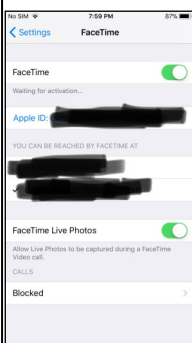
System Services Accessing Location (Settings -> Privacy -> Location Services -> System Services)



While not a completely new addition to iOS 11, it is a good idea to check your system services to make sure most, if not all of the location-based services are turned off. Location-Based Alerts, Ads and Suggestions must be switched to the off position permanently. Other services like Wi-Fi Networking, Share My Location, Motion Calibration & Distance, HomeKit and Cell Network Search can be turned off as well without many worries. For Emergency SOS, Find My iPhone and Setting Time Zone, you will need to weigh your options. If you are injured and you call 911, are you going to be able to explain where you are? Do you want to be able track your lost phone? And how accurate do you want your clock to be? If you scroll down on the same page (not shown), you have options for product improvement. Apple is not going to be upset if you disable those options. If you enable the last option on the page, “Status Bar Icon”, you will get the location icon every time a System Service accesses your location. On the same page under Significant Locations, you may find that your iPhone has compiled a list of places that are significant to you based off of your location data. It does this “...to provide useful location related information...”. While this information is encrypted and cannot be read by Apple, we still recommend disabling this option. Just because Apple can't read it doesn't mean it's a good idea to keep all of the places you frequent on a device that you carry everywhere with you. Significant Locations is also used to locate your parked car using a new feature in Apple Maps. The “Show Parked Location” features requires that Significant Locations is turned on and your phone was previously paired via CarPlay or Bluetooth to your car. You can turn off this setting under **Settings -> Maps**.



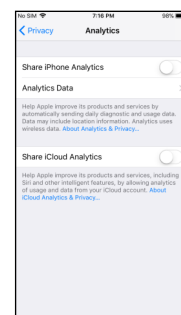
Facetime Live Photos (Settings -> FaceTime)



You now have the ability to take a photo during a live FaceTime call. While you shouldn't be using FaceTime in the first place (Wire and Signal support Video Calls), you can turn this option off and it will disable it on both sides. This option is on by default and should be turned off.

Apple Analytics (Settings -> Privacy -> Analytics)

Apple added an additional option under Analytics for “Share with App Developers”. As the name implies, this option should be turned off as it gives Apple permission to share data about your device and your usage with any app developer that asks. If you disable “Share iPhone Analytics”, it also disables “Share With App Developers”.



iOS 11 Best Practices

UPDATE CORNER >>>

Software Updates

We preach updates in every class, so here's a list of security software updates for the month of October accompanied by sha256 checksums.

TOR Browser Bundle

Version: 7.0.8

Released: October 24th, 2017

[torbrowser-install-7.0.8_en-US.exe](#)

19175a24c707ae3b343db06861d54bae1069d35dfa8158a3bb0fa574c1e11380

[TorBrowser-7.0.8-osx64_en-US.dmg](#)

11ad9163a5bfb82c5c3985b6c7c5f258b9677b4ae1ccfa3a5ace6dfc12e09d80

[tor-browser-linux64-7.0.8_en-US.tar.xz](#)

c249d76c2072c0e93d9322b2ecccfa5846787b349b5fb9a5d22e02a22aa1242e

Firefox

Version: 56.0.2

Released: October 26th, 2017

[Firefox Setup 56.0.2.exe](#)

cc25c263124c1a149971bd84d805548f30b9fd1f6f70766b3232cbf0e73bddd

[Firefox 56.0.2.dmg](#)

1a11c1bb57c8bc7c538f1f8e88a29e64ab5a4d1f9879fa617e6b57559d6e5d5

[firefox-56.0.2.tar.bz2](#)

547b60180da45bdb06724b1bb53d9a9582266d619ce84c7f4670dd18e05c6858

CCleaner

Version: 5.36

Released: October 24th, 2017

[ccsetup536.exe](#)

03d8b1eafddb81140afe512122c20d048863ba861f976f97d28697f9e44a9e5b

[CCMacSetup114.dmg](#)

be3411c927b919d1332cd29e01b526c3529139c99f8a0c9db1e12918259ce70

READER QUESTIONS >>>

Have a specific **question** you would like us to answer?

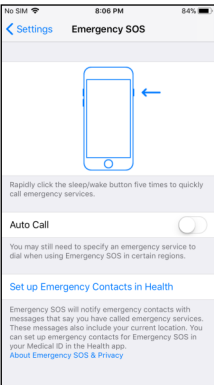
Have a suggestion for a **topic**?

Want to **contribute** to the digital update?

Let us know at
digitalupdate@tpid.g.us

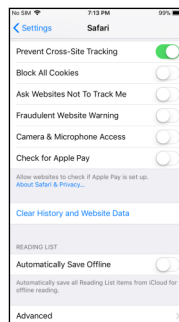
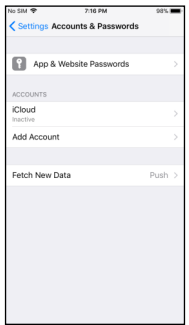
Emergency SOS (Settings -> Emergency SOS)

An innocent new feature for iOS 11 called Emergency SOS allows you to rapidly press a button on your iPhone five times to put your device in emergency mode. You have to option to allow your iPhone to auto call emergency services for your area or if you prefer, you can swipe to call. It might be best to leave auto call off if you have children. When you call emergency services, they will be sent your location whether or not Location Services were on before you called. If you have emergency contacts set up, they will be alerted and sent your location as well if you choose to notify them. While this is great if there's an emergency, there is a hidden feature to it. When you put your device in emergency mode, it completely disables Touch ID as an unlock option. When you unlock your phone next, it will force you to enter your PIN or password to your device, similar to how it works when rebooting your device. This is great if you get yourself in a situation where you are compelled to use your fingerprint to unlock your device. Throw it in emergency mode and your fingerprints won't work.



New Safari Options (Settings -> Safari)

Apple did two major things with Safari in iOS 11. Firstly, they added an option to "Prevent Cross-Site Tracking" under Safari settings. What this does in a nutshell is it prevents advertising websites from tracking you from site to site by intelligently dealing with third party cookies. While it's not a replacement for a privacy browser (such as Firefox Focus), it's a step in the right direction. The second major change was the split off of the saved passwords from the browser. iOS 11 now has a device wide password manager for Safari and any apps that require logins. This is a good thing and a bad thing. A device wide password manager is a welcome addition and we are glad it got implemented in iOS 11, but it should not be a replacement for an actual password manager like MiniKeePass. iOS's password manager still lacks a few things such as a separate master password and the ability to generate long and unique passwords.



Better, Faster, Stronger Siri (Settings -> Siri & Search)

Siri has gotten a bit of a revamp and now has more access than ever. Under Siri Settings, the options "Suggestions in Search" and "Suggestions in Lookup" use Siri to suggest things to you when you search or lookup something by sending information to Apple, processing it, and returning relevant information. These options should be turned off as every time you search something, Apple gets notified. Beneath those options, you have every application on your phone with corresponding Siri Search options. Unless the option "Search & Siri Suggestions" is disabled, your device is collecting information from each one of your applications to help provide relevant search suggestions based on usage and data. It will be a lengthy process, but it's worth disabling this option within all of your apps. Some apps such as Maps, Contacts and News have additional options specific to their purpose. For instance, Maps has an option called "Find Locations in Other Apps". This allows Siri to suggest certain locations based on your web browsing history and your app usage. It is recommended that you uncheck all of these options as well to prevent Siri from tracking app usage.

