

# CIS Google Android Benchmark

v1.5.0 - 09-26-2023

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# **Table of Contents**

Terms of Use	1
Table of Contents	2
Overview	4
Intended Audience	4
Consensus Guidance	5
Typographical Conventions	6
Recommendation Definitions	7
Title	7
Assessment Status Automated	7
Profile	7
Description	7
Rationale Statement	7
Impact Statement	8
Audit Procedure	8
Remediation Procedure	8
Default Value	8
References	8
CIS Critical Security Controls® (CIS Controls®)	8
Additional Information	
Profile Definitions	9
Acknowledgements	
Recommendations	
1.1 Ensure device firmware is up to date (Manual)	111214 anism) (Manual)
1.4 Ensure 'Automatically Lock' is set to 'Immediately' (Manual)  1.5 Ensure 'Power button instantly locks' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)  1.6 Ensure 'Lock Screen Message' is configured (Manual)  1.7 Do not connect to untrusted Wi-Fi networks (Manual)  1.8 Ensure 'Show passwords' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)  1.9 Ensure 'Developer Options' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)  1.10 Ensure 'Install unknown apps' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)	
1.11 Do not root a user device (Manual)	30

	1.12 Ensure 'Smart Lock' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)	32
	1.13 Ensure 'Lock SIM card' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)	
	1.14 Ensure 'Find My Device' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)	36
	1.15 Ensure 'Use network-provided time' and 'Use network-provided time zone' are set to 'Enabled'	
	(Manual)	
	1.16 Ensure 'Remotely locate this device' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)	
	1.17 Ensure 'Allow remote lock and erase' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)	
	1.18 Ensure 'Scan device for security threats' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)	
	1.19 Ensure 'Improve harmful app detection' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)	
	1.20 Ensure 'Ask for unlock pattern/PIN/password before unpinning' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)	47
	1.21 Ensure 'Screen timeout' is set to '1 minute or less' (Manual)	
	1.22 Ensure 'Wi-Fi assistant' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)	51
	1.23 Keep device Apps up to date (Manual)	
	1.24 Ensure 'Add users from lock screen' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)	
	1.25 Ensure 'Guest profiles' do not exist (Manual)	57
	1.26 Review app permissions periodically (Manual)	59
	1.27 Ensure 'Instant apps' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)	61
	1.28 Ensure 'Bluetooth' Pairing is Configured (Manual)	63
	1.29 Ensure that no 3rd party keyboards are installed (Manual)	65
	1.30 Review existing user profiles periodically (Manual)	66
2 An	droid OS Privacy Settings	67
	2.1 Ensure 'Lock screen' is set to 'Don't show notifications at all' (Manual)	
	2.2 Ensure 'Back up to Google Drive' is 'Disabled' (Manual)	
	2.3 Ensure 'Web and App Activity' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)	
	2.4 Ensure 'Device Information' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)	
	2.5 Ensure 'Voice & Audio Activity' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)	
	2.6 Ensure 'YouTube Search History' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)	
	2.7 Ensure 'YouTube Watch History' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)	
	2.8 Ensure 'Google Location History' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)	
	2.9 Ensure 'Opt out of Ads Personalization' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)	
3 An	droid OS Chrome Browser Settings	86
<b>O</b> A	3.1 Ensure 'Microphone' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)	
	3.2 Ensure 'Location' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)	
	3.3 Ensure 'Allow third-party cookies' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)	
	3.4 Ensure 'Safe Browsing' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)	
	3.5 Ensure 'Search and URL suggestions' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)	
	3.6 Ensure 'Do Not Track' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)	
<b>.</b>		
ippe	ndix: Summary Table	95
Inne	ndiy: Change History	108

# **Overview**

All CIS Benchmarks focus on technical configuration settings used to maintain and/or increase the security of the addressed technology, and they should be used in **conjunction** with other essential cyber hygiene tasks like:

- Monitoring the base operating system for vulnerabilities and quickly updating with the latest security patches
- Monitoring applications and libraries for vulnerabilities and quickly updating with the latest security patches

In the end, the CIS Benchmarks are designed as a key **component** of a comprehensive cybersecurity program.

This document, Security Configuration Benchmark for Google Android, provides prescriptive guidance for establishing a secure configuration posture for the Google Android OS. This guide was tested against the Android 13.0.0 OS. This benchmark covers Android 11 and higher and all hardware devices on which this OS is supported. In determining recommendations, the current guidance treats all Android mobile device platforms as having the same use cases and risk/threat scenarios. In all but a very few cases, configuration steps, default settings, and benchmark recommended settings are identical regardless of hardware platform. To obtain the latest version of this guide, please visit <a href="http://cisecurity.org">http://cisecurity.org</a>. If you have questions, comments, or have identified ways to improve this guide, please write us at <a href="mailto:feedback@cisecurity.org">feedback@cisecurity.org</a>.

#### **Intended Audience**

This document is intended for system and application administrators, security specialists, auditors, help desk, end users, and platform deployment personnel who plan to use, develop, deploy, assess, or secure solutions that use Android 11 or higher.

#### **Consensus Guidance**

This CIS Benchmark was created using a consensus review process comprised of a global community of subject matter experts. The process combines real world experience with data-based information to create technology specific guidance to assist users to secure their environments. Consensus participants provide perspective from a diverse set of backgrounds including consulting, software development, audit and compliance, security research, operations, government, and legal.

Each CIS Benchmark undergoes two phases of consensus review. The first phase occurs during initial Benchmark development. During this phase, subject matter experts convene to discuss, create, and test working drafts of the Benchmark. This discussion occurs until consensus has been reached on Benchmark recommendations. The second phase begins after the Benchmark has been published. During this phase, all feedback provided by the Internet community is reviewed by the consensus team for incorporation in the Benchmark. If you are interested in participating in the consensus process, please visit <a href="https://workbench.cisecurity.org/">https://workbench.cisecurity.org/</a>.

# **Typographical Conventions**

The following typographical conventions are used throughout this guide:

Convention	Meaning
Stylized Monospace font	Used for blocks of code, command, and script examples. Text should be interpreted exactly as presented.
Monospace font	Used for inline code, commands, or examples. Text should be interpreted exactly as presented.
<italic brackets="" font="" in=""></italic>	Italic texts set in angle brackets denote a variable requiring substitution for a real value.
Italic font	Used to denote the title of a book, article, or other publication.
Note	Additional information or caveats

# **Recommendation Definitions**

The following defines the various components included in a CIS recommendation as applicable. If any of the components are not applicable it will be noted or the component will not be included in the recommendation.

#### **Title**

Concise description for the recommendation's intended configuration.

#### **Assessment Status**

An assessment status is included for every recommendation. The assessment status indicates whether the given recommendation can be automated or requires manual steps to implement. Both statuses are equally important and are determined and supported as defined below:

#### **Automated**

Represents recommendations for which assessment of a technical control can be fully automated and validated to a pass/fail state. Recommendations will include the necessary information to implement automation.

#### **Manual**

Represents recommendations for which assessment of a technical control cannot be fully automated and requires all or some manual steps to validate that the configured state is set as expected. The expected state can vary depending on the environment.

#### **Profile**

A collection of recommendations for securing a technology or a supporting platform. Most benchmarks include at least a Level 1 and Level 2 Profile. Level 2 extends Level 1 recommendations and is not a standalone profile. The Profile Definitions section in the benchmark provides the definitions as they pertain to the recommendations included for the technology.

#### **Description**

Detailed information pertaining to the setting with which the recommendation is concerned. In some cases, the description will include the recommended value.

#### **Rationale Statement**

Detailed reasoning for the recommendation to provide the user a clear and concise understanding on the importance of the recommendation.

#### **Impact Statement**

Any security, functionality, or operational consequences that can result from following the recommendation.

#### **Audit Procedure**

Systematic instructions for determining if the target system complies with the recommendation

#### **Remediation Procedure**

Systematic instructions for applying recommendations to the target system to bring it into compliance according to the recommendation.

#### **Default Value**

Default value for the given setting in this recommendation, if known. If not known, either not configured or not defined will be applied.

#### References

Additional documentation relative to the recommendation.

## CIS Critical Security Controls® (CIS Controls®)

The mapping between a recommendation and the CIS Controls is organized by CIS Controls version, Safeguard, and Implementation Group (IG). The Benchmark in its entirety addresses the CIS Controls safeguards of (v7) "5.1 - Establish Secure Configurations" and (v8) '4.1 - Establish and Maintain a Secure Configuration Process" so individual recommendations will not be mapped to these safeguards.

#### **Additional Information**

Supplementary information that does not correspond to any other field but may be useful to the user.

#### **Profile Definitions**

The following configuration profiles are defined by this Benchmark:

#### Level 1

Items in this profile intend to:

- be practical and prudent.
- o provide a clear security benefit; and
- not negatively inhibit the utility of the technology beyond acceptable means.

#### Level 2

This profile extends the "Level 1" profile. Items in this profile exhibit one or more of the following characteristics:

- o are intended for environments or use cases where security is paramount.
- o acts as defense in depth measure.
- o may negatively inhibit the utility or performance of the technology.

### **Acknowledgements**

This Benchmark exemplifies the great things a community of users, vendors, and subject matter experts can accomplish through consensus collaboration. The CIS community thanks the entire consensus team with special recognition to the following individuals who contributed greatly to the creation of this guide:

#### Contributor

Jordan Rakoske Phil White Justin Brown Randie Bejar

#### **Editor**

Chantel Duckworth

# Recommendations

# 1 Android OS Security Settings

This section provides the security recommendation for Android OS.

#### 1.1 Ensure device firmware is up to date (Manual)

#### **Profile Applicability:**

• Level 1

#### **Description:**

Ensure that the device is kept up to date with security patch levels.

The recommended state for this setting is: Apply updates.

#### Rationale:

Firmware updates often include critical security fixes that reduce the probability of an attacker remotely exploiting the device. The device should be on the latest security patch level as applicable.

#### Impact:

None

#### Audit:

To verify that your device is updated to the most recent firmware version:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap System.
- 3. Tap Advanced.
- 4. Tap System update.
- 5. Verify that the Android Security patch level is current and that no new updates exist.

#### Remediation:

Follow the below steps to check and update the device security patch level:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap System.
- 3. Tap Advanced.
- 4. Tap System Updates.
- 5. Tap Check for update.
- 6. Apply the update if available.

#### **Default Value:**

By default, users are notified about security patch level updates but are not installed until the user initiates the process.

#### References:

1. <a href="https://source.android.com/security/bulletin/index.html">https://source.android.com/security/bulletin/index.html</a>

Controls Version	Control	IG 1	IG 2	IG 3
v8	7.3 Perform Automated Operating System Patch  Management  Perform operating system updates on enterprise assets through automated patch management on a monthly, or more frequent, basis.	•	•	•
v8	7.4 Perform Automated Application Patch Management Perform application updates on enterprise assets through automated patch management on a monthly, or more frequent, basis.	•	•	•
v7	3.4 Deploy Automated Operating System Patch Management Tools Deploy automated software update tools in order to ensure that the operating systems are running the most recent security updates provided by the software vendor.	•	•	•
v7	3.5 Deploy Automated Software Patch Management  Tools  Deploy automated software update tools in order to ensure that third-party software on all systems is running the most recent security updates provided by the software vendor.	•	•	•

#### 1.2 Ensure 'Screen Lock' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)

#### **Profile Applicability:**

Level 1

#### **Description:**

Enabling the Screen lock setting helps secure Android devices. This setting helps prevent unauthorized access to your device and protects data from being compromised.

The recommended state for this setting is: Enabled.

#### Rationale:

Enabling Screen Lock requires user authentication before interacting with the device. As a result, Screen Lock strengthens application and data protection and improves device security.

#### Impact:

A user will be prompted to unlock the device on every use.

#### Audit:

Verify that a Pattern, PIN or Password has been set for the device:

- 1. Tap Settings.
- 2. Tap Security.
- 3. Verify that Screen lock has Pattern, PIN or Password underneath the text.

#### Remediation:

To configure a Pattern, PIN or Password for the device:

- 1. Tap Settings.
- 2. Tap Security.
- 3. Tap Screen Lock.
- 4. Tap Pattern, PIN or Password.
- 5. Enter a complex Pattern, PIN or Password.
- 6. Tap Continue.
- 7. Enter in the same complex Pattern, PIN or Password again.
- 8. Tap ok.

#### **Default Value:**

By default, screen lock is not set.

#### References:

1. <a href="https://support.google.com/android/answer/9079129?hl=en&ref">https://support.google.com/android/answer/9079129?hl=en&ref</a> topic=7029556& visit id=636958548934918587-3326560713&rd=1

Controls Version	Control	IG 1	IG 2	IG 3
v8	4.3 Configure Automatic Session Locking on Enterprise  Assets  Configure automatic session locking on enterprise assets after a defined period of inactivity. For general purpose operating systems, the period must not exceed 15 minutes. For mobile end-user devices, the period must not exceed 2 minutes.	•	•	•
v7	16.11 Lock Workstation Sessions After Inactivity  Automatically lock workstation sessions after a standard period of inactivity.	•	•	•

# 1.3 Ensure 'Make pattern visible' is set to 'Disabled' (if using a pattern as device lock mechanism) (Manual)

#### **Profile Applicability:**

Level 1

#### **Description:**

Disable pattern visibility if using a pattern as device lock mechanism.

The recommended state for this setting is: Disabled.

#### Rationale:

Keeping device unlock patterns visible during device unlock can reveal the pattern and is vulnerable to shoulder surfing attacks. Therefore, is it not a best practice to make the device pattern visible.

#### Impact:

The user would have to be careful while entering the device unlock pattern since visual feedback would not provide clues for tracing pattern input.

#### Audit:

Follow the below steps and verify that device unlock pattern is not visible:

- 1. Tap Settings Gear Icon.
- 2. Tap Security.
- 3. If Screen lock has Pattern underneath the text, follow further steps. If not, then this recommendation is not applicable.
- 4. Tap the Gear Icon next to Screen lock.
- 5. Verify that the Make pattern visible switch is Disabled.

#### Remediation:

To disable device unlock pattern visibility, follow the below steps:

- 1. Tap Settings Gear Icon.
- 2. Tap Security.
- 3. If Screen lock has Pattern underneath the text, follow further steps. If not, then this recommendation is not applicable.
- 4. Tap the Gear Icon next to Screen lock.
- 5. Toggle Make pattern visible to OFF position.

#### **Default Value:**

By default, device unlock pattern is visible.

	rences:	
1.	https://support.google.com/android/answer/9079129?hl=en&visit_i 34918587-3326560713&rd=1	<u>d=6369585489</u>

#### 1.4 Ensure 'Automatically Lock' is set to 'Immediately' (Manual)

#### **Profile Applicability:**

Level 1

#### **Description:**

Immediately lock the phone as soon as the device goes to sleep.

The recommended state for this setting is: Immediately.

#### Rationale:

Automatically and immediately locking the device as soon as it goes to sleep ensures there is no delay between the device entering the sleep state and the device being locked.

This is an important security measure as it helps prevent unauthorized access to the device and protects sensitive data stored on it.

#### Impact:

Setting the "Automatically Lock" feature to a short interval, such as immediately, can be inconvenient for some users who may have to enter a passcode or unlock pattern frequently.

#### Audit:

Follow the below steps and verify that Automatically Look is set to Immediately:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Security.
- 3. Tap the Gear icon next to Screen lock.
- 4. Verify that Automatically lock has a text Immediately after sleep underneath it.

#### Remediation:

Follow the below steps and set Automatically Lock to Immediately:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Security.
- 3. Tap the Gear icon next to Screen lock.
- 4. Tap Automatically lock.
- 5. Tap Immediately.

#### **Default Value:**

By default, Automatically lock is set to 5 seconds after sleep.

Controls Version	Control	IG 1	IG 2	IG 3
v8	4.3 Configure Automatic Session Locking on Enterprise  Assets  Configure automatic session locking on enterprise assets after a defined period of inactivity. For general purpose operating systems, the period must not exceed 15 minutes. For mobile end-user devices, the period must not exceed 2 minutes.	•	•	•
v7	16.11 Lock Workstation Sessions After Inactivity Automatically lock workstation sessions after a standard period of inactivity.	•	•	•

# 1.5 Ensure 'Power button instantly locks' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)

#### **Profile Applicability:**

Level 1

#### **Description:**

Pressing the power button should lock the device instantly.

The recommended state for this setting is: Enabled.

#### Rationale:

Enabling Power button instantly locks setting ensures that the device is instantly locked as well. This avoid a possible situation where a device is asleep but not locked and would be vulnerable to unauthorized use.

#### Impact:

None - this is default behavior.

#### Audit:

Follow the below steps and verify that Power button instantly locks is Enabled:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Security.
- 3. Tap the Gear icon next to screen lock.
- 4. Verify that Power button instantly locks is Enabled.

#### Remediation:

Follow the below steps to enable the Power button instantly locks setting:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Security.
- 3. Tap the Gear icon next to Screen lock.
- 4. Toggle Power button instantly locks setting to ON position.

#### **Default Value:**

By default, Power button instantly locks setting is enabled.

#### References:

1. <a href="https://support.google.com/android/answer/9079129?hl=en&visit\_id=6369585489">https://support.google.com/android/answer/9079129?hl=en&visit\_id=6369585489</a> 34918587-3326560713&rd=1

Controls Version	Control	IG 1	IG 2	IG 3
v8	4.3 Configure Automatic Session Locking on Enterprise  Assets  Configure automatic session locking on enterprise assets after a defined period of inactivity. For general purpose operating systems, the period must not exceed 15 minutes. For mobile end-user devices, the period must not exceed 2 minutes.	•	•	•
v7	16.11 Lock Workstation Sessions After Inactivity Automatically lock workstation sessions after a standard period of inactivity.	•	•	•

#### 1.6 Ensure 'Lock Screen Message' is configured (Manual)

#### **Profile Applicability:**

Level 1

#### **Description:**

Set a message to be displayed on the locked screen.

The recommended state for this setting is: Configure Lock Screen Message.

#### Rationale:

When device screen is locked, a lock screen message helps to provide

- Deterrent warnings,
- Device recognition without needing to unlock the device
- Emergency contact information

Such information could be valuable to both your device security and personnel security. It is thus recommended to have a suitable lock screen message.

#### Impact:

Anyone who picks up the device can see the messages and emergency information without unlocking the phone.

#### Audit:

Follow the below steps and verify that Lock screen message is set:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Display.
- 3. Tap Advanced.
- 4. Tap Lock screen display.
- 5. Tap Lock screen message.
- 6. Verify that a suitable Lock screen message is set.

#### Remediation:

Follow the below steps to set up a Lock screen message:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Display.
- 3. Tap Advanced.
- 4. Tap Lock screen display.
- 5. Tap Lock screen message.
- 6. Write your message and tap save.

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By default, no message is set.

#### 1.7 Do not connect to untrusted Wi-Fi networks (Manual)

#### **Profile Applicability:**

Level 2

#### **Description:**

The Do not connect to untrusted Wi-Fi networks setting protects users from potential security threats when connecting to Wi-Fi networks. When this setting is enabled, the device will automatically avoid connecting to any Wi-Fi networks that it deems untrusted, based on a set of predefined criteria.

The recommended state for this setting is: Only connect to trusted networks.

#### Rationale:

Connecting a device to an open untrusted network through unsecured channels can increase the remote attack surface of the device. The cellular data network is a more difficult medium to inspect compared to Wi-Fi. If a user is going to be using public Wi-Fi, using a secure VPN is recommended. In most cases, you should avoid using a public, untrusted or free Wi-Fi.

#### Impact:

A user might have to use cellular data and would not be able to take advantage of public Wi-Fi networks.

#### Audit:

Follow the below steps to verify that Wi-Fi is either disabled or not connected to an untrusted network:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Network & internet.
- 3. Verify that the Wi-Fi switch is in the Off position or is connected to a trusted network only.

#### Remediation:

Follow the below steps to disable Wi-Fi or connect to a trusted network:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Network & internet.
- 3. Toggle Wi-Fi setting to the Off position or connect to a trusted network.

#### References:

1. https://support.google.com/android/answer/9075847?hl=en

#### 1.8 Ensure 'Show passwords' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)

#### **Profile Applicability:**

• Level 2

#### **Description:**

This setting controls whether passwords typed into a user's Android device are visible on screen or hidden. When this setting is disabled, the password is concealed, and only the most recent character is visible for a short time after it has been pressed.

The recommended state for this setting is: Disabled.

#### Rationale:

Disabling this setting prevents potential shoulder surfing attacks.

#### Impact:

Disabling the show passwords feature on Android may make it harder for users to enter passwords accurately on the small on-screen keyboard. Without visual feedback, users may have to rely solely on memory, potentially leading to increased frustration, errors, and login attempts.

#### Audit:

Follow the below steps to verify Show passwords is set to Disabled:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Privacy.
- 3. Verify that Show passwords slider is OFF.

#### Remediation:

Follow the below steps to disable show passwords:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Privacy.
- 3. Toggle show passwords to OFF position.

#### **Default Value:**

By default, passwords are visible.

#### 1.9 Ensure 'Developer Options' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)

#### **Profile Applicability:**

Level 1

#### **Description:**

The Developer Options is a hidden settings menu on Android devices that provides advanced tools and options for developers and advanced users.

The recommended state for this setting is: Disabled.

#### Rationale:

Enabling Developer Options allows a user to alter specific, very advanced settings on the device. This can severely affect how the device functions and expose additional developmental features to the user. This also exposes the device to respond to features such as USB debugging (when enabled) and other features that could be exploited to gain malicious access to the device sub-systems.

#### Impact:

None - by default, this option is hidden to prevent accidental changes to the device settings.

#### Audit:

Follow the below steps to verify that Developer Options is Disabled:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap System.
- 3. Tap Advanced.
- 4. Tap Developer options.
- 5. Verify that it is OFF.

#### Remediation:

Follow the below steps to disable Developer Options:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap System.
- 3. Tap Advanced.
- 4. Tap Developer options.
- 5. Toggle it to OFF position.

#### **Default Value:**

By default, Developer options is disabled.

#### References:

1. <a href="https://developer.android.com/studio/debug/dev-options">https://developer.android.com/studio/debug/dev-options</a>

Controls Version	Control	IG 1	IG 2	IG 3
v8	5.4 Restrict Administrator Privileges to Dedicated Administrator Accounts Restrict administrator privileges to dedicated administrator accounts on enterprise assets. Conduct general computing activities, such as internet browsing, email, and productivity suite use, from the user's primary, non-privileged account.	•	•	•
v7	4 Controlled Use of Administrative Privileges Controlled Use of Administrative Privileges			

#### 1.10 Ensure 'Install unknown apps' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)

#### **Profile Applicability:**

Level 1

#### **Description:**

The Install unknown apps setting in Android allows users to install apps from sources other than the Google Play Store.

The recommended state for this setting is: Disabled.

#### Rationale:

Disabling installation from untrusted distribution channels protects against the inadvertent installation of untrusted or malicious applications. Google Play Apps are vetted by the Google Security Team and are generally considered safe. Installing apps from other sources can increase the risk of downloading malware or apps that may compromise user privacy and security. Therefore, it is recommended that users avoid installing apps from untrusted distribution channels.

#### Impact:

None - this is default behavior.

#### Audit:

Follow the below steps to verify that Install unknown apps is Disabled:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Apps & notifications.
- 3. Tap Advanced.
- 4. Tap Special app access.
- 5. Tap Install unknown apps.
- 6. Verify that all of the apps in the list show Not allowed.

#### Remediation:

Follow the below steps to disable Install unknown apps:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Apps & notifications.
- 3. Tap Advanced.
- 4. Tap Special app access.
- 5. Tap Install unknown apps.
- 6. Tap any app showing Allowed.
- 7. Toggle Allow from this source to OFF position.

#### **Default Value:**

By default, Install unknown apps is disabled.

#### References:

1. <a href="https://support.google.com/pixelphone/answer/7391672?hl=en">https://support.google.com/pixelphone/answer/7391672?hl=en</a>

Controls Version	Control	IG 1	IG 2	IG 3
v8	2.3 Address Unauthorized Software  Ensure that unauthorized software is either removed from use on enterprise assets or receives a documented exception. Review monthly, or more frequently.	•	•	•
v8	2.5 <u>Allowlist Authorized Software</u> Use technical controls, such as application allowlisting, to ensure that only authorized software can execute or be accessed. Reassess bi-annually, or more frequently.		•	•
v7	2.6 Address unapproved software Ensure that unauthorized software is either removed or the inventory is updated in a timely manner	•	•	•
v7	2.7 <u>Utilize Application Whitelisting</u> Utilize application whitelisting technology on all assets to ensure that only authorized software executes and all unauthorized software is blocked from executing on assets.			•

#### 1.11 Do not root a user device (Manual)

#### **Profile Applicability:**

Level 1

#### **Description:**

Rooting an Android device means gaining administrative access to the device's system files and settings. This allows users to install custom firmware, modify system files, and perform other advanced operations that are not possible with a standard, unrooted device.

The recommended state for this setting is: Do not Root.

#### Rationale:

Rooting an Android device breaks the user-level restrictions set by Google. In addition, rooting enables any form of alteration to the device, which could allow privileged actions. As a result, rooting puts the device at greater risk because rooting can modify the device without restrictions. Rooting also voids the warranty and could make installing future security updates is problematic.

#### Impact:

While there is no direct impact to not rooting a device, returning to a non-rooted state often requires a full factory reset which likely results in complete data loss.

#### Audit:

Identifying a rooted device is not straightforward. You may need to install a terminal or root checker app to detect rooted devices. Alternatively, the device manufacturer may provide documentation describing how to detect rooting.

#### Remediation:

Follow your device manufacturer documentation to completely un-root a user device.

#### **Default Value:**

By default, devices are not rooted and run with user level restrictions.

#### References:

- 1. <a href="http://www.wikihow.com/Check-if-Your-Android-Cellphone-Is-Rooted-or-Not">http://www.wikihow.com/Check-if-Your-Android-Cellphone-Is-Rooted-or-Not</a>
- 2. http://www.wikihow.com/Unroot-Android

Controls Version	Control	IG 1	IG 2	IG 3
v8	5.4 Restrict Administrator Privileges to Dedicated Administrator Accounts Restrict administrator privileges to dedicated administrator accounts on enterprise assets. Conduct general computing activities, such as internet browsing, email, and productivity suite use, from the user's primary, non-privileged account.	•	•	•
v7	4 Controlled Use of Administrative Privileges Controlled Use of Administrative Privileges			

#### 1.12 Ensure 'Smart Lock' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)

#### **Profile Applicability:**

Level 2

#### **Description:**

smart Lock detects the device's presence and automatically keeps it unlocked even if it has a screen password, pin or pattern enabled. Using Smart Lock allows the device to be unlocked if preconditions are met.

The recommended state for this setting is: Disabled.

#### Rationale:

smart Lock detects the device's presence and automatically keeps it unlocked even if it has a screen password, pin or pattern enabled. Using Smart Lock allows the device to be unlocked if preconditions are met. As a best practice, do not set the device to unlock automatically. For example, if the device is stolen and taken to a location pre-defined in Smart Lock, it would automatically unlock. Similarly, if someone could replay the voice, the device would automatically unlock.

#### Impact:

The device would need to be manually unlocked every time.

#### **Audit:**

Follow the below steps to verify that Smart Lock is Disabled:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Security.
- 3. Tap Advanced.
- 4. Tap Trust agents.
- 5. Verify that Smart Lock (Google) is OFF.

#### Remediation:

Follow the below steps to disable Smart Lock:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Security.
- 3. Tap Advanced.
- 4. Tap Trust agents.
- 5. Toggle Smart Lock (Google) to OFF position.

#### **Default Value:**

By default, Smart Lock is enabled.

#### References:

 $1. \ \ \frac{\text{https://support.google.com/android/answer/9075927?hl=en\&visit\ id=6369594200}}{73607202-2748220419\&rd=1}$ 

Controls Version	Control	IG 1	IG 2	IG 3
v8	4.3 Configure Automatic Session Locking on Enterprise  Assets  Configure automatic session locking on enterprise assets after a defined period of inactivity. For general purpose operating systems, the period must not exceed 15 minutes. For mobile end-user devices, the period must not exceed 2 minutes.	•	•	•
v7	16.11 Lock Workstation Sessions After Inactivity Automatically lock workstation sessions after a standard period of inactivity.	•	•	•

## 1.13 Ensure 'Lock SIM card' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)

#### **Profile Applicability:**

Level 2

#### **Description:**

The Lock SIM card setting for Android devices allows users to protect their SIM card with a PIN code, which must be entered each time the device is turned on.

The recommended state for this setting is: Enabled.

#### Rationale:

Enabling the SIM card lock prevents unauthorized use of the SIM card by requiring a PIN to access it. If a SIM card is removed from the device, the PIN is required to use it on another device. Additionally, some users may choose to store personal data such as contacts and messages on the SIM card, making it crucial to safeguard this data by setting a custom PIN. By setting a SIM card PIN, users can ensure that their personal data is protected even if the device is lost or stolen.

**Note:** Only phones that are not locked by the service provider can lock the SIM card.

#### Impact:

The user will need to remember their SIM card PIN. If a user forgets the SIM card PIN, the user would need to contact the provider for support.

#### Audit:

Follow the below steps to verify that Lock SIM card is Enabled:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Security.
- 3. Tap SIM card lock.
- 4. Verify that Lock SIM card is Enabled.
- 5. If you have more than one SIM card, click on the 2nd SIM card tab and verify that Lock SIM card is Enabled there as well.

#### Remediation:

Follow the below steps to enable Lock SIM card:

- 1. Contact the SIM card provider and get the default SIM PIN.
- 2. Open phone's Settings app.
- 3. Tap Security.
- 4. Tap SIM card lock.
- 5. Toggle Lock SIM card to the on position.
- 6. Enter the default PIN provided by your SIM provider.
- 7. Press ok.
- 8. The Lock SIM card option will then be enabled.
- 9. Tap on Change SIM PIN.
- 10. Again, provide the default PIN provided (Old PIN) by your SIM card provider.
- 11. Type your new custom PIN.
- 12. Re-type your new custom PIN.
- 13. Press OK.
- 14. A custom SIM PIN is then set.
- 15. Repeat the process for the 2nd SIM, if applicable.

#### **Default Value:**

By default, Lock SIM card is disabled. Also, the SIM card has a default PIN set by the provider which is usually universally known.

#### References:

1. <a href="https://support.google.com/android/answer/6088895?hl=en-GB&visit\_id=636959420073607202-2748220419&rd=1">https://support.google.com/android/answer/6088895?hl=en-GB&visit\_id=636959420073607202-2748220419&rd=1</a>

## 1.14 Ensure 'Find My Device' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)

## **Profile Applicability:**

• Level 2

## **Description:**

Find My Device allows users to remotely locate, lock, or erase their device in case it is lost or stolen.

The recommended state for this setting is: Enabled.

## Rationale:

By enabling Find My Device, a user can remotely locate the device, ring the device, lock, or erase the device data. This helps to protect any sensitive data or personal information that may be stored on the device. It also increases the chances of recovering the device or having it returned to the owner, as it can provide location information to law enforcement or other authorities.

### Impact:

Google may track device location anytime.

#### Audit:

Follow the below steps to verify that Find My Device is Enabled:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Security.
- 3. Verify that the Find My Device is ON.

#### Remediation:

Follow the below steps to enable Find My Device:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Security.
- 3. Tap Find My Device.
- 4. Toggle slider to the ON position.

#### **Default Value:**

By default, Find My Device is not enabled.

#### References:

1. https://support.google.com/android/answer/6160491?hl=en

## 1.15 Ensure 'Use network-provided time' and 'Use network-provided time zone' are set to 'Enabled' (Manual)

## **Profile Applicability:**

Level 1

## **Description:**

The use network-provided time and use network-provided time zone settings allow the device to automatically update its time and time zone based on the network it is connected to. When these settings are enabled, the device will periodically check with the network to ensure that its time and time zone are accurate.

The recommended state for this setting is: Enabled.

#### Rationale:

Using the network-provided time setting fetches the date and time information from the cellular provider and is generally more reliable. In addition, precise date and time could help forensics device recovery through Android Device Manager and maintain application and logs in a time-sync manner.

## Impact:

None - this is default behavior.

#### Audit:

Follow the below steps to verify that use network-provided time and use network-provided time zone setting is Enabled:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap System.
- 3. Tap Date & time.
- 4. Verify that Use network-provided time setting is Enabled.
- 5. Verify that Use network-provided time zone setting is Enabled.

## Remediation:

Follow the below steps to enable Use network-provided time and Use network-provided time zone settings:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap System.
- 3. Tap Date & time.
- 4. Toggle Use network-provided time setting to ON position.
- 5. Toggle Use network-provided time zone setting to ON position.

By default, Use network-provided time and Use network-provided time zone settings are Enabled.

## References:

1. <a href="https://support.google.com/nexus/answer/2841106?hl=en">https://support.google.com/nexus/answer/2841106?hl=en</a>

## 1.16 Ensure 'Remotely locate this device' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)

## **Profile Applicability:**

Level 1

## **Description:**

The Remotely locate this device setting allows users to locate their lost or stolen device remotely, as long as it is connected to the internet. By enabling this feature, users can easily track the location of their device on a map, lock it remotely with a custom message and phone number, and even erase all data on the device to protect sensitive information.

The recommended state for this setting is: Enabled.

#### Rationale:

By enabling the Remotely locate this device setting users can quickly and easily locate their lost or stolen device, and take action to protect their data and privacy.

## Impact:

Enabling the Remotely locate this device setting on Android devices requires users to keep their location services enabled at all times, which could be considered a privacy issue by some users.

#### Audit:

Follow the below steps to verify that Remotely locate this device setting is Enabled:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Google.
- 3. Tap Security.
- 4. Tap Find My Device.
- 5. Verify that Remotely locate this device setting is Enabled.

## Remediation:

Follow the below steps to enable Remotely locate this device:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Google.
- 3. Tap Security.
- 4. Tap Find My Device.
- 5. Toggle Remotely locate this device setting to ON position.

By default, Remotely locate this device setting is enabled.

## References:

1. <a href="https://support.google.com/accounts/answer/3265955#location">https://support.google.com/accounts/answer/3265955#location</a>

## 1.17 Ensure 'Allow remote lock and erase' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)

## **Profile Applicability:**

Level 1

## **Description:**

The allow remote lock and erase setting allows users to remotely lock their device with a new passcode or erase all data in the event of loss or theft.

The recommended state for this setting is: Enabled.

#### Rationale:

Allow remote lock and erase setting helps a user to remotely lock a device or erase data through Find My Device. This helps to safeguard privacy and protect data from unsanctioned access.

## Impact:

Enabling the Remotely locate this device setting on Android devices requires users to keep their location services enabled at all times, which could be considered a privacy issue by some users.

#### Audit:

Follow the below steps to verify that Allow remote lock and erase setting is Enabled:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Security.
- 3. Tap Device admin apps.
- 4. Verify that Find My Device is Enabled and Allow remote lock and erase is listed underneath.

#### Remediation:

Follow the below steps to enable Allow remote lock and erase:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Security.
- 3. Tap Device admin apps.
- 4. Tap Find My Device toggle.
- 5. Tap Activate this device.

By default, Allow remote lock and erase setting is enabled.

## References:

1. <a href="https://support.google.com/accounts/answer/3265955#location">https://support.google.com/accounts/answer/3265955#location</a>

Controls Version	Control	IG 1	IG 2	IG 3
v8	3.5 <u>Securely Dispose of Data</u> Securely dispose of data as outlined in the enterprise's data management process. Ensure the disposal process and method are commensurate with the data sensitivity.	•	•	•
v7	13 <u>Data Protection</u> Data Protection			

## 1.18 Ensure 'Scan device for security threats' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)

## **Profile Applicability:**

Level 1

## **Description:**

The scan device for security threats feature on Android Google is a built-in security feature that allows users to scan their device for any potential security threats. When this feature is enabled, the device will periodically scan for malware, spyware, and other potential security threats.

The recommended state for this setting is: Enabled

#### Rationale:

Enabling Scan device for security threats setting ensures that the device is regularly scanned for potential threats, and any detected threats can be promptly addressed to prevent harm to the device and the user's personal information.

### Impact:

None

#### Audit:

Follow the below steps to verify that scan device for security threats setting is Enabled:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Google.
- 3. Tap Security.
- 4. Tap Google Play Protect.
- 5. Tap Settings Gear icon.
- 6. Verify that Scan device for security threats setting is Enabled.

### **Remediation:**

Follow the below steps to enable Scan device for security threats:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Google.
- 3. Tap Security.
- 4. Tap Google Play Protect.
- 5. Tap Settings Gear icon.
- 6. Toggle Scan device for security threats setting to ON position.

By default,  $\mbox{scan}$  device for security threats setting is disabled.

## References:

1. <a href="https://support.google.com/googleplay/answer/2812853?hl=en">https://support.google.com/googleplay/answer/2812853?hl=en</a>

Controls Version	Control	IG 1	IG 2	IG 3
v8	10.6 <u>Centrally Manage Anti-Malware Software</u> Centrally manage anti-malware software.		•	•
v7	8.1 <u>Utilize Centrally Managed Anti-malware Software</u> Utilize centrally managed anti-malware software to continuously monitor and defend each of the organization's workstations and servers.		•	•

## 1.19 Ensure 'Improve harmful app detection' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)

## **Profile Applicability:**

Level 1

## **Description:**

The Improve harmful app detection setting enables Google to scan apps on the device in real-time, analyze their behavior, and compare them against a database of known malicious apps.

The recommended state for this setting is: Enabled.

#### Rationale:

Enabling Improve harmful app detection setting sends anonymous information to Google about non-Google Play apps to enhance the detection and prevention of harmful apps, ultimately enhancing the security of Android devices and benefiting all users.

### Impact:

This setting may require user data to be sent to Google, which could potentially result in data charges based on the user's carrier. The data sent may include, but is not limited to, log information, app-related URLs, device ID, Android version, and IP address.

#### Audit:

Follow the below steps to verify that Improve harmful app detection setting is Enabled:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Google.
- 3. Tap Security.
- 4. Tap Google Play Protect.
- 5. Verify that Improve harmful app detection setting is Enabled.

## Remediation:

Follow the below steps to enable Improve harmful app detection:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Google.
- 3. Tap Security.
- 4. Tap Google Play Protect.
- 5. Toggle Improve harmful app detection setting to ON position.

By default,  ${\tt Improve\ harmful\ app\ detection\ }$  setting is disabled.

## References:

1. <a href="https://support.google.com/googleplay/answer/2812853?hl=en">https://support.google.com/googleplay/answer/2812853?hl=en</a>

Controls Version	Control	IG 1	IG 2	IG 3
v8	10.6 Centrally Manage Anti-Malware Software Centrally manage anti-malware software.		•	•
v7	8.1 <u>Utilize Centrally Managed Anti-malware Software</u> Utilize centrally managed anti-malware software to continuously monitor and defend each of the organization's workstations and servers.		•	•

# 1.20 Ensure 'Ask for unlock pattern/PIN/password before unpinning' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)

## **Profile Applicability:**

Level 1

## **Description:**

A user can pin an app and hand the device to a friend. With the screen pinned, the friend can use only that app. To use the other apps again, the user can unpin the screen.

The recommended state for this setting is: Enabled.

#### Rationale:

A user might lend their device to a friend or anyone else to carry out a single task, such as playing a game. Screen pinning, in such a situation, locks the user to a particular screen, preventing accidental or malicious unpinning and preserving the confidentiality of the device's data. Users cannot use the device outside of the pinned application until the screen is unpinned. Unpinning the screen should require user re-authentication.

## Impact:

None

#### Audit:

Follow the below steps to verify that Ask for pattern/PIN/password before unpinning setting is Enabled:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Security.
- 3. Tap Advanced.
- 4. Tap Screen pinning.
- 5. If Screen Pinning is On, then verify that Ask for pattern/PIN/password before unpinning setting is Enabled.

#### **Default Value:**

By default, Ask for unlock pattern/PIN/password before unpinning is disable, users can unpin a screen without having to provide their unlock pattern, PIN, or password.

## Remediation:

Follow the below steps to enable Ask for pattern/PIN/password before unpinning:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Security.
- 3. Tap Advanced.
- 4. Tap Screen pinning.
- 5. If you are using Screen Pinning, then toggle Ask for pattern/PIN/password before unpinning setting to ON position.

### References:

1. <a href="https://support.google.com/android/answer/6118421?hl=en">https://support.google.com/android/answer/6118421?hl=en</a>

## 1.21 Ensure 'Screen timeout' is set to '1 minute or less' (Manual)

## **Profile Applicability:**

Level 1

## **Description:**

The Screen timeout setting allows users to specify the amount of time that elapses before the device's screen automatically turns off.

The recommended state for this setting is: 1 Minute or less.

### Rationale:

Setting an inactivity timeout is a recommended security measure to prevent unauthorized access to the device when it's unattended. The inactivity timeout automatically turns off the screen after a specified period of inactivity and also activates other security features like a screen lock to safeguard the device. This helps protect sensitive information from unauthorized access and enhances the overall security of the device.

## Impact:

Users will need to unlock their device after the inactivity period is reached.

## Audit:

Follow the below steps to verify that screen timeout setting is set to 1 minute or less:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Display.
- 3. Tap Advanced.
- 4. Verify that Screen timeout is set to 1 minute or less.

#### Remediation:

Follow the below steps to set screen timeout setting to 1 minute or less:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Display.
- 3. Tap Advanced.
- 4. Tap Screen timeout.
- 5. Tap on time duration of 1 minute or less.

#### **Default Value:**

By default, screen timeout is set to 1 minute of inactivity.

## References:

- https://support.google.com/android/answer/9084191?hl=en
   https://www.androidcentral.com/how-change-your-android-phones-screentimeout-period

Controls Version	Control	IG 1	IG 2	IG 3
v8	4.3 Configure Automatic Session Locking on Enterprise  Assets  Configure automatic session locking on enterprise assets after a defined period of inactivity. For general purpose operating systems, the period must not exceed 15 minutes. For mobile end-user devices, the period must not exceed 2 minutes.	•	•	•
v7	16.11 Lock Workstation Sessions After Inactivity Automatically lock workstation sessions after a standard period of inactivity.	•	•	•

## 1.22 Ensure 'Wi-Fi assistant' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)

## **Profile Applicability:**

Level 1

## **Description:**

The Wi-Fi assistant setting allows users to automatically connect to high-quality open Wi-Fi networks.

The recommended state for this setting is: Disabled.

### Rationale:

Wi-Fi assistant connects to any open Wi-Fi and tunnels the connection through Google VPN servers. It is considered best practice to only connect to trusted networks manually and leave this setting disabled.

### Impact:

Disabling Wi-Fi assistant can improve the security and privacy of devices by preventing automatic connections to potentially untrusted Wi-Fi networks. However, it may also result in increased data usage and decreased convenience for users who frequently connect to open Wi-Fi networks.

**Note:** This setting is only available on Pixel and Nexus devices running Android 5.1 or later. Also, even on these devices this feature is dependent on the carrier and country so it may not be available or configurable in all cases.

#### Audit:

Follow the below steps to verify that Wi-Fi assistant is Disabled:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Google.
- 3. Tap Networking.
- 4. Verify that Wi-Fi assistant is turned OFF.

#### Remediation:

Follow the below steps to disable Wi-Fi assistant:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Google.
- 3. Tap Networking.
- 4. Toggle Wi-Fi assistant to OFF position.

By default, Wi-Fi assistant setting is enabled.

**Note:** On the Verizon variant this setting is disabled. Also, this feature is available only on Pixel phones and Nexus devices running Android 5.1 and up in the selected countries.

## References:

- 1. <a href="https://support.google.com/nexus/answer/6327199?hl=en">https://support.google.com/nexus/answer/6327199?hl=en</a>
- 2. <a href="https://support.google.com/android/answer/6188557?hl=en">https://support.google.com/android/answer/6188557?hl=en</a>

## 1.23 Keep device Apps up to date (Manual)

## **Profile Applicability:**

Level 1

## **Description:**

Regularly update device apps.

The recommended state for this setting is: Update apps.

#### Rationale:

Enabling Keep device Apps up to date ensures that apps are always up to date with the latest features and security fixes without the need for manual updates.

## Impact:

Users may incur data charges depending on carrier.

#### Audit:

Follow the below steps to verify that Apps are up to date:

- 1. Tap/slide up Launcher.
- 2. Launch Play Store App in the App drawer.
- 3. Tap Menu.
- 4. Tap My apps & Games.
- 5. Verify that all apps are up to date.

#### Remediation:

Follow the below steps to update all Apps:

- 1. Tap/slide up Launcher.
- 2. Launch Play Store App in the App drawer.
- 3. Tap Menu.
- 4. Tap My apps & Games.
- 5. If there are any updates pending, then tap Update All.

## **Default Value:**

By default, apps are automatically updated. If cellular data is not a concern or secure Wi-Fi is available, then you can leave the default Play Store app setting to auto update the apps to ensure that apps are updated automatically.

## References:

- https://support.google.com/googleplay/answer/113412?hl=en-IN
   https://developer.android.com/guide/playcore/in-app-updates

Controls Version	Control	IG 1	IG 2	IG 3
v8	7.3 Perform Automated Operating System Patch  Management  Perform operating system updates on enterprise assets through automated patch management on a monthly, or more frequent, basis.	•	•	•
v8	7.4 Perform Automated Application Patch Management Perform application updates on enterprise assets through automated patch management on a monthly, or more frequent, basis.	•	•	•
v7	3.4 Deploy Automated Operating System Patch  Management Tools  Deploy automated software update tools in order to ensure that the operating systems are running the most recent security updates provided by the software vendor.	•	•	•
v7	3.5 <u>Deploy Automated Software Patch Management Tools</u> Deploy automated software update tools in order to ensure that third-party software on all systems is running the most recent security updates provided by the software vendor.	•	•	•

## 1.24 Ensure 'Add users from lock screen' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)

## **Profile Applicability:**

Level 1

## **Description:**

The Add users from lock screen setting allows users to add new users to the device from the lock screen without having to enter the primary user's password.

The recommended state for this setting is: Disabled.

#### Rationale:

Users and the guest profile can do most of the same things as the device's owner, but each profile has its own storage space. As a result, guests could install malicious apps or carry out other activities that compromise overall device security. Therefore, adding users from the lock screen setting should be disabled.

### Impact:

Users will not be able to add additional users when the device is locked.

#### Audit:

Follow the below steps to verify that Add users from lock screen setting is Disabled:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap System.
- 3. Tap Advanced.
- 4. Tap Multiple users.
- 5. Verify that Add users from lock screen setting is Disabled.

#### Remediation:

Follow the below steps to disable Add users from lock screen setting:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap System.
- 3. Tap Advanced.
- 4. Tap Multiple users.
- 5. Toggle Add users from lock screen setting to OFF position.

#### **Default Value:**

By default, Add users from lock screen setting is enabled.

Refere	ences:
1.	https://support.google.com/pixelphone/answer/2865944

## 1.25 Ensure 'Guest profiles' do not exist (Manual)

## **Profile Applicability:**

Level 1

## **Description:**

Do not add any guest profiles on the device. Guest profiles allows users to create temporary profiles for guests or other individuals who may need to use the device without accessing the owner's personal data.

The recommended state for this setting is: Remove Guest profiles.

#### Rationale:

Users and the guest profile can do most of the same things as the device's owner, but each profile has its own storage space. As a result, guests could install malicious apps or carry out other activities that compromise overall device security. Therefore, adding any guest profiles on the device is not recommended.

#### Audit:

Follow the below steps to verify that the Guest profile do not exist:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap System.
- 3. Tap Advanced.
- 4. Tap Multiple users.
- 5. Verify that Guests is grayed out.

#### Remediation:

Follow the below steps remove the Guest profile:

- 1. Open Quick Settings drawer.
- 2. Tap the Profile icon.
- 3. Switch to Guest profile.
- 4. Open Quick Settings drawer.
- 5. Tap Remove guest.
- 6. Confirm removal by tapping remove.

#### **Default Value:**

By default, Guest profiles do not exist.

## References:

- https://support.google.com/pixelphone/answer/2865944
   https://support.google.com/pixelphone/answer/6115141?hl=en&ref\_topic=70834 08

## 1.26 Review app permissions periodically (Manual)

## **Profile Applicability:**

Level 1

## **Description:**

Review device app's permissions periodically. App permissions allow control over which capabilities or information apps could access on the device. Permissions can extend from using device hardware to accessing data.

The recommended state for this setting is: Review app permissions regularly.

#### Rationale:

Periodically reviewing all apps permissions ensures that those apps have legitimate permissions and only have access to data they actually need. Uninstall apps that may seek overbroad permissions.

## Impact:

Some apps request more than their required permissions. Such apps might not work if the additional unnecessary permissions are disabled. In some cases, the app will not function as expected and permissions may have to be restored or the app may require reinstallation.

#### Audit:

Follow the below steps to review app permissions:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Apps & notifications.
- 3. Tap See all apps.
- 4. Tap on each permission and review the apps that have them.

#### Remediation:

Follow the below steps to set app permissions appropriately:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Apps & notifications.
- 3. Tap App permissions.
- 4. Tap on each permission and review the apps that have them.
- 5. Disable the app permissions that are over-permissive.

#### **Default Value:**

By default, apps seek permissions on first use or during installation.

Refer	rences:
1.	https://support.google.com/googleplay/answer/6270602?hl=en-IN

## 1.27 Ensure 'Instant apps' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)

## **Profile Applicability:**

Level 1

## **Description:**

Instant apps allows users to use a portion of an app without having to install the full app. Instead, users can simply click on a link, and the necessary app module will be downloaded and run on their device.

The recommended state for this setting is: Disabled.

#### Rationale:

Exposure to an app like this is dangerous since a malicious link might be used to trick a user. Additionally, it can bypass enterprise security policies and safeguards that rely on controlling app installation. Therefore, it is recommended to disable instant apps.

## Impact:

Instant apps will not be available. Instead, the app links would open in the browser just as other regular links.

#### Audit:

Follow the below steps to verify that Instant apps is Disabled:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Apps & notifications.
- 3. Tap Advanced.
- 4. Tap Default apps.
- 5. Tap Opening links.
- 6. Verify that Instant apps setting is set to OFF position.

#### Remediation:

Follow the below steps to disable Instant apps:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Apps & notifications.
- 3. Tap Advanced.
- 4. Tap Default apps.
- 5. Tap Opening links.
- 6. Toggle Instant apps setting to OFF position.

By default, Instant apps is enabled.

## References:

- 1. <a href="https://support.google.com/googleplay/answer/7240211">https://support.google.com/googleplay/answer/7240211</a>
- 2. <a href="https://www.appthority.com/mobile-threat-center/blog/will-googles-instant-apps-undermine-enterprise-security/">https://www.appthority.com/mobile-threat-center/blog/will-googles-instant-apps-undermine-enterprise-security/</a>
- 3. https://developer.android.com/topic/instant-apps/index.html

Controls Version	Control	IG 1	IG 2	IG 3
v8	2.6 <u>Allowlist Authorized Libraries</u> Use technical controls to ensure that only authorized software libraries, such as specific .dll, .ocx, .so, etc., files, are allowed to load into a system process. Block unauthorized libraries from loading into a system process. Reassess biannually, or more frequently.		•	•
v8	2.7 <u>Allowlist Authorized Scripts</u> Use technical controls, such as digital signatures and version control, to ensure that only authorized scripts, such as specific .ps1, .py, etc., files, are allowed to execute. Block unauthorized scripts from executing. Reassess bi-annually, or more frequently.			•
v7	2.3 <u>Utilize Software Inventory Tools</u> Utilize software inventory tools throughout the organization to automate the documentation of all software on business systems.		•	•
v7	2.5 Integrate Software and Hardware Asset Inventories  The software inventory system should be tied into the hardware asset inventory so all devices and associated software are tracked from a single location.			•

## 1.28 Ensure 'Bluetooth' Pairing is Configured (Manual)

## **Profile Applicability:**

Level 1

## **Description:**

Bluetooth provides wireless connections to a wide range of devices like handsfree headsets, internet sharing and data transfer.

The recommended state for Bluetooth is: Disabled.

### Rationale:

Some Bluetooth profiles provide for transfer of data without encryption or may be in violation of organization security policies and therefore should be disabled.

## Impact:

Disabling Bluetooth could prevent the use of headsets or handsfree calling which are required in some locales.

#### Audit:

Verify that Bluetooth is configured according to site policies:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Connected Devices.
- 3. Tap Connection Preferences.
- 4. Tap Bluetooth.
- 5. Verify that Bluetooth is turned off or that all paired devices are authorized.

#### Remediation:

Follow the below steps to disable Bluetooth:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Connected Devices.
- 3. Tap Connection Preferences.
- 4. Tap Bluetooth.
- 5. Toggle Bluetooth setting to OFF position.

### **Default Value:**

Bluetooth is enabled by default

## References:

- https://www.verizon.com/support/knowledge-base-207387/
   https://support.google.com/android/answer/9075925?hl=en&sjid=133640991077 54713334-NA

Controls Version	Control	IG 1	IG 2	IG 3
v8	4.8 <u>Uninstall or Disable Unnecessary Services on Enterprise Assets and Software</u> Uninstall or disable unnecessary services on enterprise assets and software, such as an unused file sharing service, web application module, or service function.		•	•
v7	9.2 Ensure Only Approved Ports, Protocols and Services  Are Running  Ensure that only network ports, protocols, and services listening on a system with validated business needs, are running on each system.		•	•

## 1.29 Ensure that no 3rd party keyboards are installed (Manual)

## **Profile Applicability:**

• Level 1

## **Description:**

A number of 3rd party custom keyboards are available for Android devices.

#### Rationale:

Many 3rd party keyboards have been known to contain malware and provide an easy method to capture keystrokes.

#### Audit:

Verify that no 3rd Party keyboards are installed:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Apps & Notifications.
- 3. Tap See All Apps.
- Review the list of installed apps and verify that no 3rd party keyboards are installed.

#### Remediation:

Follow the below steps to uninstall 3rd party keyboards:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Apps & Notifications.
- 3. Tap See All Apps.
- 4. Review the list of installed apps and remove any 3rd party keyboards that are installed.

Controls Version	Control	IG 1	IG 2	IG 3
v8	2.3 <u>Address Unauthorized Software</u> Ensure that unauthorized software is either removed from use on enterprise assets or receives a documented exception. Review monthly, or more frequently.	•	•	•
v7	2.6 Address unapproved software  Ensure that unauthorized software is either removed or the inventory is updated in a timely manner	•	•	•

## 1.30 Review existing user profiles periodically (Manual)

## **Profile Applicability:**

• Level 1

## **Description:**

Review any user profiles on the device. Remove those that are no longer required.

#### Rationale:

Users and the guest profile can do most of the same things as the device's owner, but each profile has its own storage space. As a result, additional users could install malicious apps or carry out other activities that compromise overall device security. Therefore, reviewing and removing unnecessary user profiles should be done periodically.

#### Audit:

Review the list of user profiles.

Follow the below steps to view the list of profile that exist:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap System.
- 3. Tap Advanced.
- 4. Tap Multiple users.
- 5. Review the list of user profiles.

#### Remediation:

Follow the below steps to delete any unnecessary profiles:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap System.
- 3. Tap Advanced.
- 4. Tap Multiple users.
- 5. Tap any unnecessary profile.
- 6. Tap Delete User.

## 2 Android OS Privacy Settings

This section provides the privacy-related recommendation for Android OS.					

## 2.1 Ensure 'Lock screen' is set to 'Don't show notifications at all' (Manual)

## **Profile Applicability:**

• Level 1

## **Description:**

Disable notifications on the lock screen.

The recommended state for this setting is: Don't show notifications at all.

#### Rationale:

If the device is lost or unattended, disabling notifications prevents the information from appearing on the lock screen. This information might be confidential, and thus unwarranted disclosures could be avoided.

#### Impact:

The user will not see the contents of notifications on the lock screen, requiring the user to unlock the device each time.

#### Audit:

To verify notifications on the lock screen are not shown:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Apps & notifications.
- 3. Tap Notifications.
- 4. Tap Advanced.
- 5. Tap Lock Screen.
- 6. Verify that Lock Screen is set to Don't show notifications at all.

#### Remediation:

Follow these steps to set the lock screen to show no notifications:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Apps & notifications.
- 3. Tap Notifications.
- 4. Tap Advanced.
- 5. Tap Lock Screen.
- 6. Tap Lock Screen and set it to Don't show notifications at all.

#### **Default Value:**

By default, notification content is shown on the locked screen.

## References:

1. <a href="https://support.google.com/pixelphone/answer/6111294?hl=en&ref">https://support.google.com/pixelphone/answer/6111294?hl=en&ref</a> topic=70782 <a href="mailto:21">21</a>

Controls Version	Control	IG 1	IG 2	IG 3
v8	4.3 Configure Automatic Session Locking on Enterprise  Assets  Configure automatic session locking on enterprise assets after a defined period of inactivity. For general purpose operating systems, the period must not exceed 15 minutes. For mobile end-user devices, the period must not exceed 2 minutes.	•	•	•
v7	16.11 Lock Workstation Sessions After Inactivity  Automatically lock workstation sessions after a standard period of inactivity.	•	•	•

## 2.2 Ensure 'Back up to Google Drive' is 'Disabled' (Manual)

## **Profile Applicability:**

• Level 2

## **Description:**

Disable Backup to Google Drive.

The recommended state for this setting is: Disabled.

#### Rationale:

If a user can back up corporate device data to a personal Google account, the user can later restore the information to a new device. Because of privacy concerns, backing up personal data such as text messages, emails, photos, and contacts to any third party is not recommended.

## Impact:

A backup of the device will not be taken, and restoration will not be possible.

#### Audit:

Follow the below steps to verify Back up to Google Drive is Disabled:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap System.
- 3. Tap Advanced.
- 4. Tap Backup.
- 5. Verify that Back up to Google Drive is OFF.

## Remediation:

Follow the below steps to disable Back up to Google Drive:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap system.
- 3. Tap Advanced.
- 4. Tap Backup.
- 5. Tap Back up to Google Drive.
- 6. Toggle it to OFF position.
- 7. Tap ok on warning popup.

#### **Default Value:**

By default, Back up to Google Drive is disabled.

## References:

1. <a href="https://support.google.com/pixelphone/answer/7179901?hl=en">https://support.google.com/pixelphone/answer/7179901?hl=en</a>

Controls Version	Control	IG 1	IG 2	IG 3
v8	2.3 Address Unauthorized Software  Ensure that unauthorized software is either removed from use on enterprise assets or receives a documented exception. Review monthly, or more frequently.	•	•	•
v7	13.4 Only Allow Access to Authorized Cloud Storage or Email Providers Only allow access to authorized cloud storage or email providers.		•	•

# 2.3 Ensure 'Web and App Activity' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)

### **Profile Applicability:**

Level 1

#### **Description:**

Disable linking of web and app activity to your account when you are logged out.

The recommended state for this setting is: Disabled.

**Note:** This setting is applicable only for Google Pixel line of devices.

#### Rationale:

When this setting is enabled, searches and activity from other Google services are linked and saved to the Google Account. This could be privacy-invasive, so it is recommended to disable this setting.

#### Impact:

Web and App activities would not be linked to the account. This would result in not receiving a personalized user experience.

#### Audit:

Follow the below steps to verify that web & App Activity setting is Disabled:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Privacy.
- 3. Tap Advanced.
- 4. Tap Activity Controls.
- 5. Verify that Web & App Activity setting is Disabled.

#### Remediation:

Follow the below steps to disable Web & App Activity setting:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Privacy.
- 3. Tap Advanced.
- 4. Tap Activity Controls.
- 5. Toggle Web & App Activity setting to OFF position.

#### **Default Value:**

By default, Web & App Activity is enabled.

- 1. <a href="https://support.google.com/pixelphone/answer/6139018?co=GENIE.Platform%3">https://support.google.com/pixelphone/answer/6139018?co=GENIE.Platform%3</a> <a href="https://support.google.com/pixelphone/answer/6139018?co=GENIE.Platform%3">DDesktop&hl=en</a>
- 2. https://support.google.com/websearch/answer/54068

# 2.4 Ensure 'Device Information' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)

#### **Profile Applicability:**

Level 1

# **Description:**

Disable storing device information to your account.

The recommended state for this setting is: Disabled.

**Note:** This setting is applicable only for Google Pixel line of devices.

#### Rationale:

When the Device Information setting is enabled, contact lists, calendars, alarms, and applications are saved to provide a personalized experience. The Device Information setting saves this data and replicates the information on Google's servers. It is recommended to disable this setting as it could be considered a privacy issue for the organization.

#### Impact:

A user might not get a personalized experience.

#### Audit:

Follow the below steps to verify that Device Information setting is Disabled:

- 1. Tap Settings Gear Icon.
- 2. Tap Privacy.
- 3. Tap Advanced.
- 4. Tap Activity Controls.
- 5. Verify that Device Information setting is Disabled.

#### Remediation:

Follow the below steps to disable Device Information setting:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Privacy.
- 3. Tap Advanced.
- 4. Tap Activity Controls.
- 5. Toggle Device Information setting to OFF position.

#### **Default Value:**

By default, Device Information is enabled.

- 1. <a href="https://support.google.com/pixelphone/answer/6139018?co=GENIE.Platform%3">https://support.google.com/pixelphone/answer/6139018?co=GENIE.Platform%3</a> <a href="https://support.google.com/pixelphone/answer/6139018?co=GENIE.Platform%3">DDesktop&hl=en</a>
- 2. https://support.google.com/accounts/answer/6135999

# 2.5 Ensure 'Voice & Audio Activity' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)

### **Profile Applicability:**

Level 1

#### **Description:**

Disable saving your voice and other audio to your Google Account.

The recommended state for this setting is: Disabled.

**Note:** This setting is applicable only for Google Pixel line of devices.

#### Rationale:

Google records your voice and other audio when you use audio activations. Audio can be saved even when your device is offline. When <code>Voice & Audio Activity</code> is off, voice inputs won't be saved to your Google Account, even if you're signed in. Instead, they may only be saved using anonymous identifiers. It is recommended to disable this setting as it could be considered a privacy issue for the organization.

#### Impact:

This would result in not receiving a personalized user experience.

#### Audit:

Follow the below steps to verify that Voice & Audio Activity setting is Disabled:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Privacy.
- 3. Tap Advanced.
- 4. Tap Activity Controls.
- 5. Verify that Voice & Audio Activity setting is Disabled.

#### Remediation:

Follow the below steps to disable Voice & Audio Activity setting:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Privacy.
- 3. Tap Advanced.
- 4. Tap Activity Controls.
- 5. Toggle Voice & Audio Activity setting to OFF position.

#### **Default Value:**

By default, Voice & Audio Activity setting is enabled.

1.	https://support.google.	<u>.com/pixelphone</u>	<u>e/answer/61390</u>	<u> 18?co=GENIE.</u>	<u> Platform%3</u>
	DDesktop&hl=en				

2. https://support.google.com/websearch/answer/6030020

# 2.6 Ensure 'YouTube Search History' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)

### **Profile Applicability:**

Level 1

#### **Description:**

Disable storing YouTube Search History to a user's account.

The recommended state for this setting is: Disabled.

**Note:** This setting is applicable only for Google Pixel line of devices.

#### Rationale:

Turning on the YouTube Search History setting stores all YouTube searches to the user's Google account. YouTube and Google search history influences the recommendations seen on the YouTube homepage. It is recommended to disable this setting as it could be considered a privacy issue for the organization.

#### Impact:

This would result in not receiving a personalized user experience.

#### Audit:

Follow the below steps to verify that YouTube Search History setting is Disabled:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Privacy.
- 3. Tap Advanced.
- 4. Tap Activity Controls.
- 5. Verify that YouTube Search History setting is Disabled.

#### Remediation:

Follow the below steps to disable YouTube Search History setting:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Privacy.
- 3. Tap Advanced.
- 4. Tap Activity Controls.
- 5. Toggle YouTube Search History setting to OFF position.

#### **Default Value:**

By default, YouTube Search History setting is enabled.

- 1. <a href="https://support.google.com/pixelphone/answer/6139018?co=GENIE.Platform%3">https://support.google.com/pixelphone/answer/6139018?co=GENIE.Platform%3</a> <a href="https://support.google.com/pixelphone/answer/6139018?co=GENIE.Platform%3">DDesktop&hl=en</a>
- 2. <a href="https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/57711">https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/57711</a>

# 2.7 Ensure 'YouTube Watch History' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)

# **Profile Applicability:**

Level 1

#### **Description:**

Disable storing YouTube Watch History to a user account.

The recommended state for this setting is: Disabled.

**Note:** This setting is applicable only for Google Pixel line of devices.

#### Rationale:

Turning on the YouTube Watch History setting stores all YouTube watch history to the user's Google account. YouTube and Google watch history influences the recommendations seen on the YouTube homepage. It is recommended to disable this setting as it could be considered a privacy issue for the organization.

#### Impact:

This would result in not receiving a personalized user experience.

#### Audit:

Follow the below steps to verify that YouTube Watch History setting is Disabled:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Privacy.
- 3. Tap Advanced.
- 4. Tap Activity Controls.
- 5. Verify that YouTube Watch History is Disabled.

#### Remediation:

Follow the below steps to disable YouTube Watch History setting:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Privacy.
- 3. Tap Advanced.
- 4. Tap Activity Controls.
- 5. Toggle YouTube Watch History setting to OFF position.

#### **Default Value:**

By default, YouTube Watch History setting is enabled.

- 1. <a href="https://support.google.com/pixelphone/answer/6139018?co=GENIE.Platform%3">https://support.google.com/pixelphone/answer/6139018?co=GENIE.Platform%3</a> <a href="https://support.google.com/pixelphone/answer/6139018?co=GENIE.Platform%3">DDesktop&hl=en</a>
- 2. https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/95725

# 2.8 Ensure 'Google Location History' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)

# **Profile Applicability:**

Level 1

# **Description:**

Disable storing device location history.

The recommended state for this setting is: Disabled.

**Note:** This setting is applicable only for Google Pixel line of devices.

#### Rationale:

When the Google Location History setting is enabled, the device periodically sends diagnostic information to Google. This setting stores location history to provide results and recommendations across Google products. It is recommended to disable this setting as it could be considered a privacy issue for the organization.

#### Impact:

This would result in not receiving a personalized user experience.

#### Audit:

Follow the below steps to verify that Google Location History setting is Disabled:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Privacy.
- 3. Tap Advanced.
- 4. Tap Activity Controls.
- 5. Verify that Google Location History setting is turned OFF.

#### Remediation:

Follow the below steps to disable Google Location History setting:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Privacy.
- 3. Tap Advanced.
- 4. Tap Activity Controls.
- 5. Toggle Google Location History setting to OFF position.

#### **Default Value:**

By default, Google Location History setting is enabled.

- 1. <a href="https://support.google.com/pixelphone/answer/6139018?co=GENIE.Platform%3">https://support.google.com/pixelphone/answer/6139018?co=GENIE.Platform%3</a> <a href="https://support.google.com/pixelphone/answer/6139018?co=GENIE.Platform%3">DDesktop&hl=en</a>
- 2. https://support.google.com/accounts/answer/3118687

# 2.9 Ensure 'Opt out of Ads Personalization' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)

# **Profile Applicability:**

• Level 1

#### **Description:**

The Opt out of Ads Personalization setting allows users to control how their data is used for personalized advertising.

The recommended state for this setting is: Enabled.

#### Rationale:

Apps leverage the app/browsing data to build a profile for displaying personalized ads. Disabling this setting prevents building profiles from various app/browsing activities to protect privacy.

#### Impact:

Users would not receive a personalized user experience.

#### Audit:

Follow the below steps to verify that Opt out of Ads Personalization setting is Enabled:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Google.
- 3. Tap Ads.
- 4. Verify that Opt out of Ads Personalization setting is turned ON.

#### Remediation:

Follow the below steps to enable opt out of Ads Personalization setting:

- 1. Open phone's Settings app.
- 2. Tap Google.
- 3. Tap Ads.
- 4. Toggle Opt out of Ads Personalization setting to ON position.

#### **Default Value:**

By default, Opt out of Ads Personalization setting is disabled.

Refer	ences:
1.	https://support.google.com/ads/answer/2662922?hl=en

3 Android OS Chrome Browser Settings				

# 3.1 Ensure 'Microphone' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)

# **Profile Applicability:**

• Level 1

#### **Description:**

This setting controls if a site asks before accessing the microphone.

The recommended state for this setting is: Enabled.

#### Rationale:

Websites will have to ask permission before being allowed to access the microphone, which will help prevent unwanted access to the microphone and help protect against potential privacy concerns.

### Impact:

Users will be prompted each time a website requests access to the microphone.

#### Audit:

Follow the below steps to verify that Microphone is Enabled:

- 1. Tap Chrome Icon.
- 2. Tap Menu Icon.
- 3. Tap Settings.
- 4. Tap Site settings.
- 5. Verify that Microphone displays Ask first.

#### Remediation:

Follow the below steps to Enable the Microphone permission request:

- 1. Tap Chrome Icon.
- 2. Tap Menu Icon.
- 3. Tap Settings.
- 4. Tap Site settings.
- 5. Tap Microphone.
- 6. Toggle to the ON position.

#### **Default Value:**

# 3.2 Ensure 'Location' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)

# **Profile Applicability:**

Level 1

#### **Description:**

This setting controls if a site asks before accessing the location.

The recommended state for this setting is: Enabled.

#### Rationale:

Websites will have to ask permission before being allowed to access the location, which will help prevent unwanted access to the user's location and help protect against potential privacy concerns.

#### Impact:

Users will be prompted each time a website requests access to the location.

#### Audit:

Follow the below steps to verify that Location is Enabled:

- 1. Tap Chrome Icon.
- 2. Tap Menu Icon.
- 3. Tap Settings.
- 4. Tap Site settings.
- 5. Verify that Location displays Ask first.

#### Remediation:

Follow the below steps to Enable the Location permission request:

- 1. Tap Chrome Icon.
- 2. Tap Menu Icon.
- 3. Tap Settings.
- 4. Tap Site settings.
- 5. Tap Location.
- 6. Toggle to the ON position.

#### **Default Value:**

# 3.3 Ensure 'Allow third-party cookies' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)

# **Profile Applicability:**

• Level 1

#### **Description:**

A third-party cookie is sent by a domain that differs from the domain in the browser's address bar.

The recommended state for this setting is: Disabled.

#### Rationale:

Blocking third-party cookies can help protect users' privacy by eliminating several website tracking cookies.

#### Impact:

Blocking third-party cookies may adversely affect the functionality of some sites.

#### Audit:

Follow the below steps to verify that Allow third-party cookies is Disabled:

- 1. Tap Chrome Icon.
- 2. Tap Menu Icon.
- 3. Tap Settings.
- 4. Tap Site settings.
- 5. Verify that Allow third-party cookies displays Allowed, except third-party.

#### Remediation:

Follow the below steps to Disabled the Allow third-party cookies option:

- 1. Tap Chrome Icon.
- 2. Tap Menu Icon.
- 3. Tap Settings.
- 4. Tap Site settings.
- 5. Tap Allow third-party cookies.
- 6.

Uncheck the Allow third-party cookies checkbox.

#### **Default Value:**

# 3.4 Ensure 'Safe Browsing' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)

# **Profile Applicability:**

Level 1

# **Description:**

This setting controls the Safe Browsing feature.

The recommended state for this setting is: Enabled.

#### Rationale:

Google Safe Browsing helps protect devices by warning users when they attempt to navigate dangerous sites or download harmful files.

#### Impact:

Users will be shown a warning message before visiting a dangerous site or downloading a harmful app.

#### Audit:

Follow the below steps to verify that Safe Browsing is Enabled:

- 1. Tap Chrome Icon.
- 2. Tap Menu Icon.
- 3. Tap Settings.
- 4. Tap Privacy.
- 5. Verify that Safe Browsing checkbox is checked.

#### Remediation:

Follow the below steps to Enable the Safe Browsing feature:

- 1. Tap Chrome Icon.
- 2. Tap Menu Icon.
- 3. Tap Settings.
- 4. Tap Privacy.
- 5.

Check the Safe Browsing checkbox.

#### **Default Value:**

Refer	rences:
1.	https://safebrowsing.google.com/

# 3.5 Ensure 'Search and URL suggestions' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)

# **Profile Applicability:**

Level 2

#### **Description:**

Google Chrome uses a prediction service to show related searches, matches from browsing history, and popular websites while a user types in the address bar.

The recommended state for this setting is: Disabled.

#### Rationale:

Having search suggestions processed is considered a privacy concern.

#### Audit:

Follow the below steps to verify that Search and URL suggestions is Disabled:

- 1. Tap Chrome Icon.
- 2. Tap Menu Icon.
- 3. Tap Settings.
- 4. Tap Privacy.
- 5. Verify that Search and URL suggestions checkbox is unchecked.

#### Remediation:

Follow the below steps to Disable the Search and URL suggestions feature:

- 1. Tap Chrome Icon.
- 2. Tap Menu Icon.
- 3. Tap Settings.
- 4. Tap Privacy.
- 5.

Uncheck the Search and URL suggestions checkbox.

#### **Default Value:**

Enabled.

#### References:

1. <a href="https://support.google.com/chrome/answer/114836?hl=en&co=GENIE.Platform%3DAndroid">https://support.google.com/chrome/answer/114836?hl=en&co=GENIE.Platform%3DAndroid</a>

# 3.6 Ensure 'Do Not Track' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)

### **Profile Applicability:**

Level 2

#### **Description:**

When browsing the web on computers or Android devices, users can request websites not to collect or track browsing data.

The recommended state for this setting is: Enabled.

**Note:** Chrome doesn't provide details of which websites and web services respect Do Not Track requests and how websites interpret them.

#### Rationale:

Many websites will still collect and use browsing data to improve security, provide content, services, ads, and recommendations on their websites, and generate reporting statistics.

#### Audit:

Follow the below steps to verify that Do Not Track is Enabled:

- 1. Tap Chrome Icon.
- 2. Tap Menu Icon.
- 3. Tap Settings.
- 4. Tap Privacy.
- 5. Tap Do Not Track.
- 6. Verify that Do Not Track toggle is on.

#### Remediation:

Follow the below steps to Enabled the Do Not Track feature:

- 1. Tap Chrome Icon.
- 2. Tap Menu Icon.
- 3. Tap Settings.
- 4. Tap Privacy.
- 5. Tap Do Not Track.
- 6.

Toggle the Do Not Track to the ON position.

#### **Default Value:**

Disabled.

# References: 1. <a href="https://support.google.com/chrome/answer/2790761?hl=en&co=GENIE.Platform/%3DAndroid">https://support.google.com/chrome/answer/2790761?hl=en&co=GENIE.Platform/%3DAndroid</a>

# **Appendix: Summary Table**

CIS Benchmark Recommendation			et ectly
		Yes	No
1	Android OS Security Settings		
1.1	Ensure device firmware is up to date (Manual)		
1.2	Ensure 'Screen Lock' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)		
1.3	Ensure 'Make pattern visible' is set to 'Disabled' (if using a pattern as device lock mechanism) (Manual)		
1.4	Ensure 'Automatically Lock' is set to 'Immediately' (Manual)		
1.5	Ensure 'Power button instantly locks' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)		
1.6	Ensure 'Lock Screen Message' is configured (Manual)		
1.7	Do not connect to untrusted Wi-Fi networks (Manual)		
1.8	Ensure 'Show passwords' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)		
1.9	Ensure 'Developer Options' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)		
1.10	Ensure 'Install unknown apps' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)		
1.11	Do not root a user device (Manual)		
1.12	Ensure 'Smart Lock' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)		
1.13	Ensure 'Lock SIM card' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)		
1.14	Ensure 'Find My Device' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)		
1.15	Ensure 'Use network-provided time' and 'Use network-provided time zone' are set to 'Enabled' (Manual)		
1.16	Ensure 'Remotely locate this device' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)		

CIS Benchmark Recommendation		_	et ectly		
		Yes	No		
1.17	Ensure 'Allow remote lock and erase' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)				
1.18	Ensure 'Scan device for security threats' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)				
1.19	Ensure 'Improve harmful app detection' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)				
1.20	Ensure 'Ask for unlock pattern/PIN/password before unpinning' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)				
1.21	Ensure 'Screen timeout' is set to '1 minute or less' (Manual)				
1.22	Ensure 'Wi-Fi assistant' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)				
1.23	Keep device Apps up to date (Manual)				
1.24	Ensure 'Add users from lock screen' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)				
1.25	Ensure 'Guest profiles' do not exist (Manual)				
1.26	Review app permissions periodically (Manual)				
1.27	Ensure 'Instant apps' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)				
1.28	Ensure 'Bluetooth' Pairing is Configured (Manual)				
1.29	Ensure that no 3rd party keyboards are installed (Manual)				
1.30	Review existing user profiles periodically (Manual)				
2	2 Android OS Privacy Settings				
2.1	Ensure 'Lock screen' is set to 'Don't show notifications at all' (Manual)				
2.2	Ensure 'Back up to Google Drive' is 'Disabled' (Manual)				

CIS Benchmark Recommendation			et ectly
		Yes	No
2.3	Ensure 'Web and App Activity' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)		
2.4	Ensure 'Device Information' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)		
2.5	Ensure 'Voice & Audio Activity' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)		
2.6	Ensure 'YouTube Search History' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)		
2.7	Ensure 'YouTube Watch History' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)		
2.8	Ensure 'Google Location History' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)		
2.9	Ensure 'Opt out of Ads Personalization' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)		
3	Android OS Chrome Browser Settings		
3.1	Ensure 'Microphone' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)		
3.2	Ensure 'Location' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)		
3.3	Ensure 'Allow third-party cookies' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)		
3.4	Ensure 'Safe Browsing' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)		
3.5	Ensure 'Search and URL suggestions' is set to 'Disabled' (Manual)		
3.6	Ensure 'Do Not Track' is set to 'Enabled' (Manual)		

# **Appendix: CIS Controls v7 IG 1 Mapped Recommendations**

	Recommendation		et ectly
		Yes	No
1.1	Ensure device firmware is up to date		
1.2	Ensure 'Screen Lock' is set to 'Enabled'		
1.4	Ensure 'Automatically Lock' is set to 'Immediately'		
1.5	Ensure 'Power button instantly locks' is set to 'Enabled'		
1.10	Ensure 'Install unknown apps' is set to 'Disabled'		
1.12	Ensure 'Smart Lock' is set to 'Disabled'		
1.21	Ensure 'Screen timeout' is set to '1 minute or less'		
1.23	Keep device Apps up to date		
1.29	Ensure that no 3rd party keyboards are installed		
2.1	Ensure 'Lock screen' is set to 'Don't show notifications at all'		

# **Appendix: CIS Controls v7 IG 2 Mapped Recommendations**

	Recommendation	Se Corre	
		Yes	No
1.1	Ensure device firmware is up to date		
1.2	Ensure 'Screen Lock' is set to 'Enabled'		
1.4	Ensure 'Automatically Lock' is set to 'Immediately'		
1.5	Ensure 'Power button instantly locks' is set to 'Enabled'		
1.10	Ensure 'Install unknown apps' is set to 'Disabled'		
1.12	Ensure 'Smart Lock' is set to 'Disabled'		
1.18	Ensure 'Scan device for security threats' is set to 'Enabled'		
1.19	Ensure 'Improve harmful app detection' is set to 'Enabled'		
1.21	Ensure 'Screen timeout' is set to '1 minute or less'		
1.23	Keep device Apps up to date		
1.27	Ensure 'Instant apps' is set to 'Disabled'		
1.28	Ensure 'Bluetooth' Pairing is Configured		
1.29	Ensure that no 3rd party keyboards are installed		
2.1	Ensure 'Lock screen' is set to 'Don't show notifications at all'		
2.2	Ensure 'Back up to Google Drive' is 'Disabled'		

# **Appendix: CIS Controls v7 IG 3 Mapped Recommendations**

	Recommendation		et ectly
		Yes	No
1.1	Ensure device firmware is up to date		
1.2	Ensure 'Screen Lock' is set to 'Enabled'		
1.4	Ensure 'Automatically Lock' is set to 'Immediately'		
1.5	Ensure 'Power button instantly locks' is set to 'Enabled'		
1.10	Ensure 'Install unknown apps' is set to 'Disabled'		
1.12	Ensure 'Smart Lock' is set to 'Disabled'		
1.18	Ensure 'Scan device for security threats' is set to 'Enabled'		
1.19	Ensure 'Improve harmful app detection' is set to 'Enabled'		
1.21	Ensure 'Screen timeout' is set to '1 minute or less'		
1.23	Keep device Apps up to date		
1.27	Ensure 'Instant apps' is set to 'Disabled'		
1.28	Ensure 'Bluetooth' Pairing is Configured		
1.29	Ensure that no 3rd party keyboards are installed		
2.1	Ensure 'Lock screen' is set to 'Don't show notifications at all'		
2.2	Ensure 'Back up to Google Drive' is 'Disabled'		

# **Appendix: CIS Controls v7 Unmapped Recommendations**

	Recommendation	Se Corre	
		Yes	No
1.3	Ensure 'Make pattern visible' is set to 'Disabled' (if using a pattern as device lock mechanism)		
1.6	Ensure 'Lock Screen Message' is configured		
1.7	Do not connect to untrusted Wi-Fi networks		
1.8	Ensure 'Show passwords' is set to 'Disabled'		
1.13	Ensure 'Lock SIM card' is set to 'Enabled'		
1.14	Ensure 'Find My Device' is set to 'Enabled'		
1.15	Ensure 'Use network-provided time' and 'Use network-provided time zone' are set to 'Enabled'		
1.16	Ensure 'Remotely locate this device' is set to 'Enabled'		
1.20	Ensure 'Ask for unlock pattern/PIN/password before unpinning' is set to 'Enabled'		
1.22	Ensure 'Wi-Fi assistant' is set to 'Disabled'		
1.24	Ensure 'Add users from lock screen' is set to 'Disabled'		
1.25	Ensure 'Guest profiles' do not exist		
1.26	Review app permissions periodically		
1.30	Review existing user profiles periodically		
2.3	Ensure 'Web and App Activity' is set to 'Disabled'		
2.4	Ensure 'Device Information' is set to 'Disabled'		
2.5	Ensure 'Voice & Audio Activity' is set to 'Disabled'		
2.6	Ensure 'YouTube Search History' is set to 'Disabled'		
2.7	Ensure 'YouTube Watch History' is set to 'Disabled'		
2.8	Ensure 'Google Location History' is set to 'Disabled'		
2.9	Ensure 'Opt out of Ads Personalization' is set to 'Enabled'		
3.1	Ensure 'Microphone' is set to 'Enabled'		
3.2	Ensure 'Location' is set to 'Enabled'		
3.3	Ensure 'Allow third-party cookies' is set to 'Disabled'		
3.4	Ensure 'Safe Browsing' is set to 'Enabled'		

Recommendation		Set Correctly	
		Yes	No
3.5	Ensure 'Search and URL suggestions' is set to 'Disabled'		
3.6	Ensure 'Do Not Track' is set to 'Enabled'		

# **Appendix: CIS Controls v8 IG 1 Mapped Recommendations**

Recommendation		Set Correctly	
		Yes	No
1.1	Ensure device firmware is up to date		
1.2	Ensure 'Screen Lock' is set to 'Enabled'		
1.4	Ensure 'Automatically Lock' is set to 'Immediately'		
1.5	Ensure 'Power button instantly locks' is set to 'Enabled'		
1.9	Ensure 'Developer Options' is set to 'Disabled'		
1.10	Ensure 'Install unknown apps' is set to 'Disabled'		
1.11	Do not root a user device		
1.12	Ensure 'Smart Lock' is set to 'Disabled'		
1.17	Ensure 'Allow remote lock and erase' is set to 'Enabled'		
1.21	Ensure 'Screen timeout' is set to '1 minute or less'		
1.23	Keep device Apps up to date		
1.29	Ensure that no 3rd party keyboards are installed		
2.1	Ensure 'Lock screen' is set to 'Don't show notifications at all'		
2.2	Ensure 'Back up to Google Drive' is 'Disabled'		

# **Appendix: CIS Controls v8 IG 2 Mapped Recommendations**

Recommendation		Set Correctly	
		Yes	No
1.1	Ensure device firmware is up to date		
1.2	Ensure 'Screen Lock' is set to 'Enabled'		
1.4	Ensure 'Automatically Lock' is set to 'Immediately'		
1.5	Ensure 'Power button instantly locks' is set to 'Enabled'		
1.9	Ensure 'Developer Options' is set to 'Disabled'		
1.10	Ensure 'Install unknown apps' is set to 'Disabled'		
1.11	Do not root a user device		
1.12	Ensure 'Smart Lock' is set to 'Disabled'		
1.17	Ensure 'Allow remote lock and erase' is set to 'Enabled'		
1.18	Ensure 'Scan device for security threats' is set to 'Enabled'		
1.19	Ensure 'Improve harmful app detection' is set to 'Enabled'		
1.21	Ensure 'Screen timeout' is set to '1 minute or less'		
1.23	Keep device Apps up to date		
1.27	Ensure 'Instant apps' is set to 'Disabled'		
1.28	Ensure 'Bluetooth' Pairing is Configured		
1.29	Ensure that no 3rd party keyboards are installed		
2.1	Ensure 'Lock screen' is set to 'Don't show notifications at all'		
2.2	Ensure 'Back up to Google Drive' is 'Disabled'		

# **Appendix: CIS Controls v8 IG 3 Mapped Recommendations**

Recommendation		Set Correctly	
		Yes	No
1.1	Ensure device firmware is up to date		
1.2	Ensure 'Screen Lock' is set to 'Enabled'		
1.4	Ensure 'Automatically Lock' is set to 'Immediately'		
1.5	Ensure 'Power button instantly locks' is set to 'Enabled'		
1.9	Ensure 'Developer Options' is set to 'Disabled'		
1.10	Ensure 'Install unknown apps' is set to 'Disabled'		
1.11	Do not root a user device		
1.12	Ensure 'Smart Lock' is set to 'Disabled'		
1.17	Ensure 'Allow remote lock and erase' is set to 'Enabled'		
1.18	Ensure 'Scan device for security threats' is set to 'Enabled'		
1.19	Ensure 'Improve harmful app detection' is set to 'Enabled'		
1.21	Ensure 'Screen timeout' is set to '1 minute or less'		
1.23	Keep device Apps up to date		
1.27	Ensure 'Instant apps' is set to 'Disabled'		
1.28	Ensure 'Bluetooth' Pairing is Configured		
1.29	Ensure that no 3rd party keyboards are installed		
2.1	Ensure 'Lock screen' is set to 'Don't show notifications at all'		
2.2	Ensure 'Back up to Google Drive' is 'Disabled'		

# **Appendix: CIS Controls v8 Unmapped Recommendations**

Recommendation		Set Correctly	
		Yes	No
1.3	Ensure 'Make pattern visible' is set to 'Disabled' (if using a pattern as device lock mechanism)		
1.6	Ensure 'Lock Screen Message' is configured		
1.7	Do not connect to untrusted Wi-Fi networks		
1.8	Ensure 'Show passwords' is set to 'Disabled'		
1.13	Ensure 'Lock SIM card' is set to 'Enabled'		
1.14	Ensure 'Find My Device' is set to 'Enabled'		
1.15	Ensure 'Use network-provided time' and 'Use network-provided time zone' are set to 'Enabled'		
1.16	Ensure 'Remotely locate this device' is set to 'Enabled'		
1.20	Ensure 'Ask for unlock pattern/PIN/password before unpinning' is set to 'Enabled'		
1.22	Ensure 'Wi-Fi assistant' is set to 'Disabled'		
1.24	Ensure 'Add users from lock screen' is set to 'Disabled'		
1.25	Ensure 'Guest profiles' do not exist		
1.26	Review app permissions periodically		
1.30	Review existing user profiles periodically		
2.3	Ensure 'Web and App Activity' is set to 'Disabled'		
2.4	Ensure 'Device Information' is set to 'Disabled'		
2.5	Ensure 'Voice & Audio Activity' is set to 'Disabled'		
2.6	Ensure 'YouTube Search History' is set to 'Disabled'		
2.7	Ensure 'YouTube Watch History' is set to 'Disabled'		
2.8	Ensure 'Google Location History' is set to 'Disabled'		
2.9	Ensure 'Opt out of Ads Personalization' is set to 'Enabled'		
3.1	Ensure 'Microphone' is set to 'Enabled'		
3.2	Ensure 'Location' is set to 'Enabled'		
3.3	Ensure 'Allow third-party cookies' is set to 'Disabled'		
3.4	Ensure 'Safe Browsing' is set to 'Enabled'		

Recommendation		Set Correctly	
		Yes	No
3.5	Ensure 'Search and URL suggestions' is set to 'Disabled'		
3.6	Ensure 'Do Not Track' is set to 'Enabled'		

# **Appendix: Change History**

Date	Version Changes for this	