

IMEI stands for International Mobile Equipment Identity and helps identify a specific phone across all mobile networks.

Think of it as a social security number for your phone, or a fingerprint. It's a 15-17 digit number that allows networks to identify a phone and get information on what kind of phone it is, including where it was manufactured and its model.

**1) Checking your phone's compatibility with a wireless service.** With your IMEI, you can do things such as check whether your current phone is compatible with a new wireless service.

That's because IMEI numbers reveal the brand, model, year of release and other important details about each device that networks need to know to make sure your phone is compatible with them

**2) Finding a lost or stolen phone**

**3) Buying a used phone.**

## Internet protocol

The Internet Protocol (IP) is a [protocol](#), or set of rules, for routing and addressing [packets](#) of data so that they can travel across networks and arrive at the correct destination. Data traversing the Internet is divided into smaller pieces, called packets. IP information is attached to each packet, and this information helps [routers](#) to send packets to the right place. Every device or [domain](#) that connects to the Internet is assigned an [IP address](#),

