

How To Limit Phone App Permissions

Written By: AUCSSCD Student Intern

App permissions can provide extended functionality for applications: whether it asks for access to location, notifications, or access to view or edit files, granting too many permissions can put a device at risk. If an app is compromised and has access to one's location or files, this can allow threat actors access to a user's data. Conversely, if the app does not have permission, this limits the damage an attacker can perform through a third-party risk.

The process of limiting phone app permissions once an app is installed is simple: On Apple and Android devices, users can deny permissions when prompted on the initial launching of the app.

| Before you continue, Waze needs access to your location. Turn on Location Services in your device settings. "Waze" Would Like to Access Your Motion & Fitness Activity | | Allow APP to access photos, media, and files on your device? |
|--|--|--|
| Used to automatically save your parking location | | Allow |
| L Don't Allow OK | | Deny |

However, once a user grants permission to an app, far more effort will be required to disable app permissions.

<u>Android</u>

Users can change app permissions on their Android by performing the following:

- 1. Open Settings, and scroll down to Apps.
- 2. Click on "App Management"

NOTE: If the device goes directly to a list of apps, skip this step.

3. Next, click the desired app, and then select "Permissions". From there, users can change their permissions.





<u>iPhone</u>

Users can change their app permissions on their iPhone by performing the following:

- 1. Open Settings
- 2. Scroll down to find the desired app, and click on it
- 3. From there, users can allow/limit access

Alternatively, users can change their permissions by doing the following:

- 1. Open Settings
- 2. Clicking on "Privacy & Security"
- 3. Clicking on "Tracking"
- 4. Users can then allow or deny all permissions for each app





Option 1

Option 2

It is that simple to limit app permissions and take control of one's privacy!