

APRIL 2023 - WHAT TO DO *BEFORE* YOUR PHONE IS STOLEN

Because so much of our personal information is on or accessed via our smartphone here are several steps you can take now that will enable you to quickly recover from losing it:

1. Turn on **Remote Tracking** – on most Android phones it's called **Find My Device**; on iPhones it's called **Find My iPhone**. Look in your phone's Settings app and search for the relevant feature.
2. Protect the **Lock Screen** – Keep the screen timeout setting as short as possible. Also, use a PIN, a pattern, a fingerprint, or your face to unlock it. On Android phones look under **Security & Location**; on iPhones it's under **Face ID & Passcode** (or **Touch ID & Passcode**).
3. **Back Up Your Data** - On Android, go to **Settings** then tap **System, Advanced**, and **Backup**. On iOS, go to **Settings** then tap your name, then your device, then **iCloud Backup** (if you've enabled iCloud on your device, which you should).

For other measures to take, check out [Everything You Should Do Before You Lose Your Phone | WIRED](#) on Wired.com.