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Smartphone Security Smackdown: iPhone Vs. Android

In the Smartphone platform wars, which side can claim the better security? Both Apple iOS and Google's Android were designed to offer strong security out of the box. "They each employ far more elaborate security models than are designed into their core implementations," according to a Symantec report that can be read here: [Symantec Report](#). "The ostensible goals of their creators: to make the platforms inherently secure rather than to force users to rely upon third-party security software."

According to the report, which assesses each platform's strengths and weaknesses, the end result is still "a mixed bag." For example, Apple offers full protection against malware attacks, offers good encryption and access-control capabilities, but is only moderately good at isolating applications, enforcing permission-based access control, and preventing resource abuse.

Meanwhile, Google Android offers little protection against malware or data attacks, and doesn't have much in the way of encryption. But unlike iOS, Android runs applications in full isolation, which restricts their ability to inappropriately interact with sensitive systems and other applications.

Both platforms make security tradeoffs. "On the one hand, these platforms have been designed from the ground up to be more secure - they raise the bar by leveraging techniques such as application isolation, encryption, and permission-based access control," according to the report. "On the other hand, these devices were designed for consumers, and as such, they have traded off their security to ensure usability to varying degrees. These tradeoffs have contributed to the massive popularity of these platforms, but they also increase the risk of using these devices in the enterprise."

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Tech Tip Of The Month - 5 Tips to a Healthy Windows System

A little preventive maintenance can go a long way toward keeping a machine optimized and problem-free. Note: Do not try this at work as you may delete pertinent data to your companies operations. However, if you are tech-savy, try these steps at home. Here are some basic but vital steps to follow.

1. Keep antivirus and anti-malware definitions up to date: New viruses pop up almost daily. If virus definitions are not set up to automatically update nightly, change them to do so. If this is not an option, make sure that they update once a week at minimum.

2. Clean up the registry: The registry is a crucial component to Windows and it can become corrupted or broken easily. Removal programs, virus infections, rootkits, Trojans, improper computer shutdown...

there are so many possible ways to corrupt a registry. But how to keep it clean? Plenty of tools are available to clean up the Windows registry (doing the job manually would be nearly impossible). One of the programs we use is [Piriform's Ccleaner](#). This tool allows for the quick and easy cleanup of the Windows registry. Just be very careful not to remove any programs that you need.

3. Clean out temporary Internet files: People are always surprised at how much their browser saves. Between cookies, images, and other cached files, a Web browser can really clog up a user's C drive. This can obviously cause problems when space becomes an issue, and it can cause significant slowdown of the Web browser.

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Get Paid on the Go with GoPayment

GoPayment is a credit card reader that attaches to a compatible mobile phone so small business owners can process credit card payments on the go. GoPayment was created by Intuit and they are offering a free card reader and waiving the monthly service fee.

"By offering a free card reader and no monthly service fees, we want to give more small businesses a head start in the new year by enabling them to take mobile payments without any upfront investment," said Chris Hylen in a statement.

GoPayment offers a few features designed to save time. Customers can create and sell from a list of frequently sold items, automatically apply sales tax, and send customized receipts through either text or e-mail. Funds processed through GoPayment are typically deposited into the customer's bank account within two to three business days. GoPayment is also compatible with the latest versions of QuickBooks, so that customers don't need to manually enter their transactions.

Security is covered as well, says Intuit. Credit card details aren't stored on the phone, and the data itself is encrypted once through the card reader and a second time through the GoPayment mobile app.

The GoPayment card reader works with more than 40 popular mobile devices. Customers can also opt to buy more robust card readers, such as the



Mophie reader for the iPhone 4, which is designed for businesses that need to process a heavy volume of payments.

Since GoPayment's debut, small businesses have processed almost \$80 million in mobile payments using the service, according to Intuit.

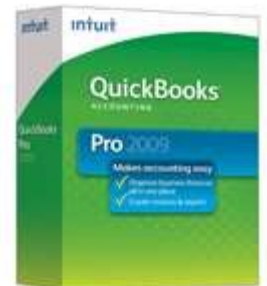
How does it work? You need just four things:

1. Your mobile device (with a data plan),
2. The Free GoPayment mobile app,
3. The Free GoPayment card reader,
4. QuickBooks Pro or Premiere 2009 account.

Users will need to apply for an Intuit GoPayment account. Approval is fast and users will get an immediate confirmation email. The GoPayment mobile app can be downloaded for free. Once the card reader arrives just plug it into the audio jack on your mobile device, turn up the volume, and you're ready to get paid.

To accept a payment just log into the app, swipe the credit or debit card and enter the amount you want to get paid. That's it! There's no payment limit, card authorization is instantaneous, and an email or SMS receipt can be sent automatically.

QuickBooks Pro or Premiere 2009 is required. We at Innovative do sell QuickBooks and can set up an account for you. For more information about QuickBooks, please visit: <http://quickbooks.intuit.com/>.



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Keeping these cached files cleared will help a machine run more smoothly, and it will allow for a better Web browsing experience.

The browser cache can be cleared from the Tools/Internet Options tab. Some browsers can be set to auto-clear the cache upon exit. If yours does have that option, set it up.

4. Defragment drives: Depending on what Windows Operating System you are using, XP, Vista or Microsoft 7, your computer may automatically defragment the drives. If your computer does not already auto-defrag, you will need to manually schedule it to auto defrag at least once a week.

5. Run a disk check: This one is not really for the new users. You should let the professionals do this one. Otherwise, you might cancel the check disk run - or worse, shut down the machine in the middle of the check.

Basic maintenance: It really isn't all that hard to keep a Windows machine healthy, but it does take a bit of time and, in some cases, a bit of patience.

For many of our customers, we perform these maintenance steps regularly. If you notice your machine running slow or acting quirky, please contact us. We can remotely check your computer and help it to run smoothly again. 909-287-7900 or support@innovative411.com.

Electric Cars to Power Homes

Rather than cranking up a generator during a blackout, Nissan Leaf drivers may be able to tap into the electric car's batteries.

The Leaf's car charger will be adapted so it can draw energy from the battery to power a home.

Nissan unveiled its Nissan Leaf to Home system, which it plans to commercialize in Japan within a year.

The system uses the Leaf charging station to draw from the car's lithium ion batteries and feed current into a home's electricity distribution panel. The 24 kilowatt-hours of energy storage in the Leaf is enough to power an average Japanese home, which uses about half the energy of an average U.S. household, for about two days.

Nissan expects to make the two-way

charging system available to Leaf owners in other countries after it's been adapted to local electricity systems.

If a person pays a higher price for electricity during peak times, it's possible that charging a battery at night and drawing on it during peak times could save consumers money. That's the vision of many battery companies which envision home energy storage as a way to store energy from the grid or solar panels.



"Dear Trevor, How have you been? Your mom and I are fine. We miss you. Please turn off your phone and come downstairs for something to eat. Love, Dad."

SmartPhone Smackdown - Continued from pg. 1 ...

When it comes to Smartphone security, it's unclear if one platform could reasonably be declared the winner. Asked that question directly, report author Carey Nachenberg, a VP at Symantec, said, "I want to stay away from saying one is better than the other."

But he did say that there's another way they could both make a large security improvement. "The one thing that most devices could probably use is the ability to segment enterprise data from consumer data, so devices could be used in an enterprise, and have a certain set of data locked down and inaccessible to any part of the device that's consumer-owned," said Nachenberg.

So, as an example, a Smartphone's locally stored enterprise address book or calendar appointments could be saved in the enterprise section, featuring full encryption, remote wiping, and fronted by a mandatory pass-

word. Meanwhile, personal information could be saved to a section that allowed the user to set whichever level of security protection they wanted.

"RIM, with the BlackBerry Balance, has a system like this that they're trying to roll out," said Nachenberg. "The idea is that they segment enterprise and consumer-owned content."

Baking enterprise security capabilities into Smartphones offers one strategy for addressing what appears to be widespread resistance to adding 3rd party security tools to Smartphones. Notably, only 15% of Smartphone users had added mobile antivirus tools to their Smartphones.

On the other hand, Trend Micro recently upgraded its security system for desktop computers to rely heavily on cloud-based detection and protection, and now it's bringing that same network to Android devices.

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- Customer Tracking and Accounting Software Solutions
- AltiGen Phone Systems - VOIP, SIP, Fax Servers, Computer Integration and Line Analysis
- DirectTV - Delivering the best HD channels - and more of them than anyone.
- QuickBooks Certified

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Trend Micro Mobile Security for Android secures your device in four ways. It offers a "Safe Surfing" feature that prevents phishing attacks and illicit access to your identity and banking information. It also powers the parental controls for Web site content blocking. There's a customized blacklist for call and text filtering, and a download guard that prevents malicious or fraudulent apps from installing on your device.

Free 3rd party security tools are: [Smart Surfing](#), [Lookout](#) and [Panda Cloud](#). [Trend Micro Mobile Security for Android](#) runs \$29.99 for a 1 yr subscription. The premium version of [Lookout Mobile Security](#) starts at 2.99 per month or \$29.99 for a 1 yr subscription.

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