

By now, you are probably used to protecting your computer from a wide variety of threats, but what about your phone? Most people rely on their mobile phones to communicate, socialize, work, store pictures and contacts. Mobile phones are also a portal for doing a range of online tasks like banking and shopping. However, most people don't protect their mobiles from the threat of malware.

This lack of action could be a mistake. Mobile threats - both offline and online - are prevalent and growing. With these threats growing it is important to consider a mobile security application for your mobile device.

Consider that people are 15 times more likely to lose their mobile phones than their laptops. In the U.S. alone, it's been estimated that 113 phones are lost every second, and 12,000 smartphones are found in airports each week. Additionally, losing your phone doesn't just mean losing the personal and confidential information stored on it, but also your ability to communicate.

What's more, losing your mobile phone could lead to identity theft if you have personally identifiable information stored on it, such as your date of birth or driver's license number, or if you have your phone's browser set to automatically log you in to banking and shopping sites.

Given that researchers found that almost a quarter of consumers store their computer or banking passwords on their mobile devices, and around 11% store personally identifiable information, and even credit card numbers, these risks are very real.

Beyond the risk of loss, mobile users should also be concerned with the growing amount of malware aimed at mobile devices, which is increasing exponentially. Mobile malware threats can be very similar to those directed at your computer. You could accidentally install a dangerous application that includes malicious code or spyware, or you could connect to an unsecure wireless network, allowing a cybercriminal to potentially access your information. You could also fall victim to a phishing attack that tricks you into handing over your personal information or financial details.

Given these risks, it's important to take steps to protect yourself. Antivirus software aimed specifically for mobiles is now available from leading digital security experts. These mobile security packages can backup and restore the information that's stored on your mobile as well as wipe all data if the phone is lost or stolen. This software will also block dangerous websites and prohibit you from clicking on harmful links.

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