

# REVERSE THE THREAT

STAYSMARTONLINE

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## Keep Your Devices and Apps Up-to-Date

**80%** OF  
ANDROID  
USERS & **23%** OF  
IOS USERS

haven't installed the latest  
**software updates\***

\* Symantec, Internet Security Threat  
Report Volume 23 (April 2018)

### Installing the latest software updates for your computers, devices and apps is one of the best ways to protect yourself from being hacked.

Spending a couple of minutes now updating  
your software could save you thousands in  
lost money and time recovering.

### What are software updates?

Software updates are available for your phone,  
the programs on your computer and apps you've  
downloaded. They add new features, install bug  
fixes and most importantly fix security holes  
that could let cybercriminals in.

### Why is it important to install software updates?

Hackers, along with malicious programs or viruses,  
can find weaknesses in your software (called  
vulnerabilities) that they then use to access your  
computer, smartphone or tablet. Installing updates  
fixes these vulnerabilities and helps to keep you secure.

Installing software updates as soon as they become  
available limits the amount of time hackers have  
to find and use these weaknesses.

### Protect yourself by making software updates a top priority

- Take the time to install software updates as soon  
as they become available.
- Better still, set your system to update  
automatically – then you don't have to think  
about it.
- Common software to keep updated includes:
  - Operating systems (for example, Windows,  
Mac OS, iOS, Android)
  - Antivirus and security software
  - Browsers (for example Chrome, Firefox, Internet  
Explorer, Edge or Safari)
  - Web plugins (for example, Adobe Flash, Adobe  
Reader, Skype, Apple QuickTime, iTunes, Java,  
ActiveX)
  - Other types of applications (for example,  
Microsoft Office)
- When you purchase a new device, check for  
updates straight away as part of initial set up  
and ensure you enable automatic updates.

For more information  
on how to reverse the  
threat of cybercrime and  
Stay Smart Online, please visit:  
[staysmartonline.gov.au/  
reversethethreat](https://staysmartonline.gov.au/reversethethreat)



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