

News Article

Lost Smartphone Could Cost You



What would it cost you if you lost your smartphone? How about your tablet or laptop? You might be able to replace the physical device for a few hundred, or a couple thousand, depending on the device--but that only scratches the surface of what may be lost when your smartphone, tablet, or notebook vanishes.

What about your personal photos, vast music library, personal information like bank and investment account data, and other sensitive--or even irreplaceable--data? A new survey from McAfee found that the average value users place on such information is \$37,438. In the United States consumers value their 'digital assets' at nearly \$55,000.

McAfee teamed up with MSI international to survey 3,000 consumers from 10 countries

around the world about the digital information and assets on their mobile devices, and their attitudes toward protecting it.

"Most parents wouldn't dream of leaving a stack of their child's photos, their family bank statements, online passwords and other personal information just lying around for strangers to sift through," said Jennifer Jolly, consumer technology expert. "But that's what you're risking when you walk around with unprotected smartphones, tablets and other digital devices. Your digital assets are precious, why wouldn't you safeguard them?"

According to the findings of the survey more than a third of the respondents are not protecting their data on all of their devices, and seven percent have no security in place at all. The number one reason cited for not protecting data was that respondents just don't feel it is necessary, followed closely by cost.

The reality, though, is that malware cost consumers \$2.3 billion last year, so apparently there is some need to guard

against it. When it comes to cost, security tools may cost money but it is significantly less than the \$37,000 in digital assets that



consumers claim they will lose if a mobile device is lost or stolen.

"Consumers recognize the value of their digital assets. While they are more likely to secure their PCs, they often neglect protection for their other Internet-enabled devices," said Gary Davis, director of consumer product marketing at McAfee. "It's like installing an expensive home security alarm on the front door, but leaving the windows and back door wide open. It just takes one open window to allow a virus, hacker, or identity thief to wipe out all the digital assets on any given device, having their personal and financial info compromised as a result."

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Tips for the Office



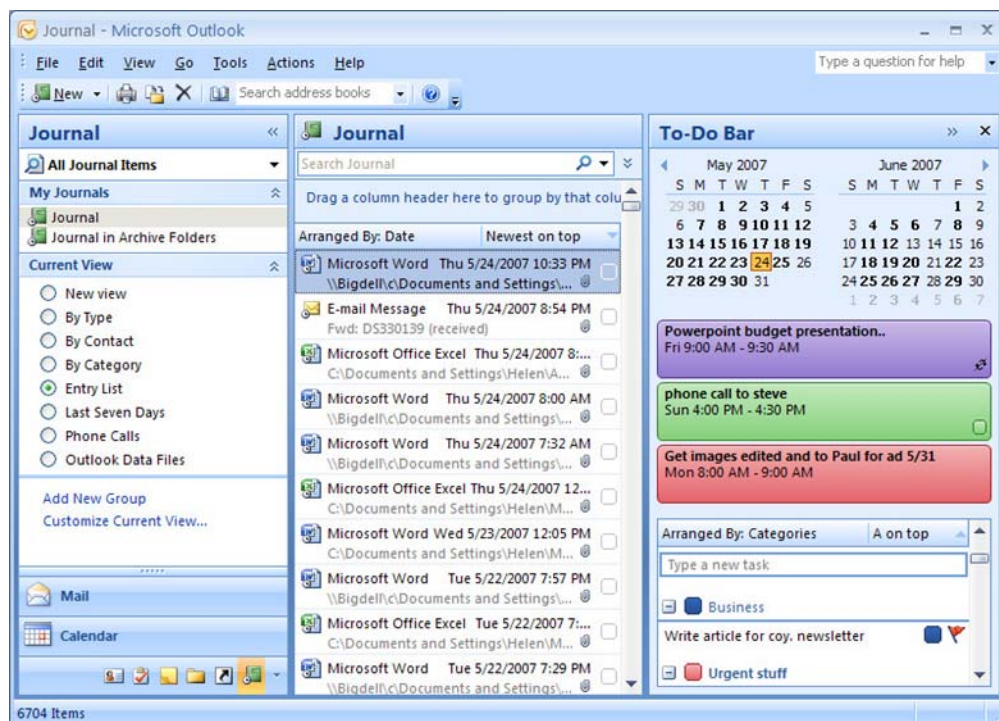
Outlook 2007 To Do

The new Outlook To Do bar is highly visible on the right side of your Outlook screen. If you use a large display there is plenty of room for the To Do bar to sit there as you work. If you're using a small screen clicking the double chevron indicator in its top right corner can collapse it, but it stays handy so you can access it with a single click.

The To Do bar gives you the tools you need to organize your day all in one place. It contains mini calendars as well as a list of upcoming appointments and tasks awaiting completion.

For the first time the Outlook task list is where it should be — right in front of you so it's a tool you can easily use. To add a new task, click in the 'Type a new task' box, type the task description and it will be added as a task to be performed today. To configure more detail about the task, double-click it to open the task dialog and make your changes.

A task that you don't complete today is automatically rolled forward to tomorrow and will continue to appear in the list until it is complete — this is a new and much overdue feature. You can color code your tasks to show the category it relates to (see below) and the Follow Up flag color indicates the task's urgency — the darker red the flag color, the closer is its due date.



Did your know...

Advice for Businesses on Securing Smartphones

Mobile or smartphone technology has moved from a curiosity to a highly visual device that attracts many users and many opportunities for unsecure communication. Unlike PC's that are in one location, smartphones by their very nature move from location to location. So they are always vulnerable. A smartphone is a mobile device that allows users to make telephone calls, but also adds in other features that users might find on a personal digital assistant (PDA) or on a computer, such as the ability to send and receive email and edit Office documents. Smartphones have an operating system and software. They are able to access the web; they often have a QWERTY keyboard, and they can send and receive text messages. However, another feature that is important is smartphone security.

Smartphone Vulnerabilities

While the smartphone is moving into PC communications territory, it is moving away from PC security protocols. The main reason is location, or specifically, relocation. In some ways, mobile phones are like laptops; they can go anywhere. However, laptops have security features. They have firewalls, encryption software, access points for wireless with security features like WEP. If you were to scale it from 1 to 10, with 1 being unsecured, and 10 highly secure, then PC'S are about a 7; laptops about a 5 and mobile phones about a 3. Anyone determined to hack into a PC, laptop, or mobile phone can do so. That is an unfortunate fact of life. However, PC's and laptops have many security features enabled to prevent unwanted access. Mobile phones, because they roam around, are going to be exposed from multiple locations. Smartphone content is open to theft or loss. Some of the common elements of a network are access codes, user names and passwords, and they are often unsecured or set for automatic log-on. Other times, users who break into phones to customize features or carriers may leave themselves open to root password hacks. The very nature of mobile communication leaves the call exposed to random pickups. Once the call is in the air, it is vulnerable.

Smartphone Protection Technologies

Users and businesses would do well to have some security policies in place to minimize the impact of an outsider hooking up and intercepting the calls. Under no circumstances should anyone send confidential communication, like texting, or sending files without encryption. Security SSL VPN should be in place to guarantee the confidentiality of the transmission. Decryption should use DPI SSL.

Smartphone Security Policies

There are other security policies that should be in place. Security administrators should scan all smartphone traffic with the use of a firewall; then maximize firewall bandwidth throughput in order to eliminate application latency. Latency can open the door to hack attacks. Security administrators should establish controls over smartphone application traffic. In this case, application control technology should be in place in the network to report how much application usage is occurring on the smartphones.

Keeping That Data Safe

In order to establish a corporate smartphone policy for security, businesses should understand the range of vulnerabilities that a smartphone is open to. By their very nature, smartphones are more prone to information theft, password compromises, hacks, and theft in general. The policy should take into account ways to minimize how unsecured information is transmitted and how to handle the smartphone. A policy of only secure information transmission should be the highest goal of the company.



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Question of the Month



Question: How do I set a password on my blackberry?

Answer: BlackBerry smartphones support individual security passwords between 4 & 14 characters in length. The BlackBerry smartphone rejects less secure passwords, such as those composed of identical characters or those that consist of natural sequences (for example, 1234).

1. From the Home screen of the BlackBerry smartphone, click Options.
2. Click Security Options.
3. Click General Settings. *Note: If you are running BlackBerry Device Software 4.0.2 or earlier, click Options, then Security.*
4. Change the Password field to Enabled.
5. Display the menu and click Save.
6. Type your new password and click Enter.
7. Verify your new password by typing it again and click Enter



"Your spell-checker had a nervous breakdown."

Quote of the Month

Lack of money is no obstacle. Lack of an idea is an obstacle.

- Ken Hakuta -

Product of the Month

Blackberry Bold 9900/9930

The power of touch

Create and connect like never before, swiping, pinching and zooming on the Liquid Graphics™ touch screen. Together with a 1.2 GHz processor, and a 24-bit high-res display, Liquid Graphics gives you fluid animations and instant response times.

The thinnest BlackBerry smartphone yet

With an elegantly brushed stainless steel frame, sculpted surfaces and advanced composite backing, the BlackBerry® Bold™ 9900/9930 smartphones are as lightweight and durable as they are feature-packed.

Superior performance

Fast and powerful

Faster loading, faster scrolling, faster zooming. It's the fastest BlackBerry experience to date. The premium BlackBerry Bold 9900/9930 smartphones feature the most powerful engine ever in a BlackBerry smartphone.

Boldly go anywhere

Move from home to the coffee shop to the airport and to the office without missing a beat while connecting to Wi-Fi® hotspots wherever they're available.

BlackBerry 7 OS

Breakthrough technologies

BlackBerry® 7 is the next generation BlackBerry OS, packed with powerful new features and innovative apps. Augmented reality introduces exciting new ways to interact with the world around you, and with Near Field Communication₁ (NFC) built-in, you can connect with other NFC-enabled devices and smart tags.

A balancing act

When you're done with work, turn your attention to the weekend - your BlackBerry Bold smartphone switches gears right with you. With BlackBerry® Balance™ technology, your work life and private life never mix—letting you use your BlackBerry smartphone for whatever life throws at you.

Capture life in HD

Inspiring, special and funny moments happen on the fly. Capture it all with 720p HD video recording and an impressive 5 MP camera.

Works the way you do

You're a natural-born multitasker, and so is your BlackBerry® smartphone. Whatever you're busy doing, all of your messages, updates and notifications keep coming through. Easily bounce from one thing to another—all at once.



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