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Android tablet security: OS features and Android security apps Part 1

What is Android?

Android is a software suite used for mobile devices that includes the operating system (OS), middleware and key applications. By providing an open development platform, Android offers developers the ability to build extremely rich and innovative applications. Developers are free to take advantage of the device hardware, access location information, run background services, set alarms, add notifications to the status bar, and much, much more.

Most of the native tools for securing Android tablets involve protecting the data on the device. But data protection alone is not sufficient for enterprise use. Android security apps can be infected by viruses and malware.

Native Android tablet security features

One way to improve Android tablet security is to prevent unauthorized access. The screen locks after a period of inactivity by default, but it does not require a PIN or password to unlock it. You can add this protection by selecting Lock Screen in the Location and Security settings.

In case a device is lost or stolen, the Find My Mobile feature found in the security settings menu allows user or admin to remotely connect to the tablet, lock it and even wipe its data. To use this feature, the tablet should be associated to an online account provided by the manufacturer. For example, on Samsung Galaxy, you'd set up a Samsung account to access the device remotely

The default Android tablet security settings do not use encryption, but you can easily change that by enabling encryption in the security settings menu. The initial encryption process will take at least an hour, and you need to make sure the tablet doesn't switch off during that time, so make sure to connect it to the charger. If the encryption process is interrupted, you will lose some or all of the data on the tablet.

Merry Christmas!

To be continued...Fighting malware with Android security apps...

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