

Turning on encryption for an iPhone, iPad or iPod Touch

Enabling encryption on Apple's iPhone, iPad or iPod Touch devices is simple.

Hopefully you'll find it's already all been set as part of the initial set up and configuration process when you got the phone or tablet but you can check, and turn it on if it's not already activated, by following the steps below.

The moment you set a passcode or enable Touch ID on the device running iOS 8 and above, the full device encryption is turned on automatically without you having to do anything.

If you've not set an unlock code you can do so by.

Step 1: Launch the **Settings app** on your iPhone, iPad or iPod touch.

Step 2: Select Touch ID & Passcode from the list of available options.

Step 3: Now simply tap **Turn Passcode On** and enter in a passcode of your choice. A longer alphanumeric passcode is recommended but a six-digit PIN code will do as well. **Avoid four-digit PINs** as your passcode. (You can change this from Passcode Options in Set Passcode screen).

Additionally, you can also opt to utilise Touch ID for authentication if your device comes equipped with Apple's Touch ID sensor.

Step 4: To confirm if encryption is enabled or not, head to **Settings -> Touch ID & Passcode** and then scroll to the bottom of the screen. Here you should see **"Data protection is enabled"**

That's it. Your iOS device should now be fully encrypted.

To remote wipe

Before you can locate and wipe your devices, you need to set up iCloud and turn on Find My iPhone (or Find My iPad) on each of your iOS devices.

On your device's Home screen, tap **Settings**, then tap **iCloud**.

If you're asked to sign in, enter your Apple ID

If Find My iPhone (or Find My iPad) is turned off, tap the button to turn it on.

Once Find My iPhone (or Find My iPad) is turned on, you can access the lost or erase functions through a web browser by going to iCloud.com. You can select your device from the list in the centre of the screen, once the device is found (you will see a green dot) you can activate lost mode or, in the case of a stolen device, you can issue an erase command. The erase command is permanent and will restore your device back to factory settings with all data securely removed.