

Protecting Your Locked iPhone

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Your iPhone lets you interact with it while it is locked — returning missed calls, answering messages, reading your incoming notifications and messages, using your digital wallet, asking Siri to do stuff, and changing any of the settings available in the Control Center.

The problem with this, is that by default your iPhone will let *anyone* who handles your phone do all of these same things *without unlocking it*. That includes letting anyone put it in Airplane Mode using the Control Center when they have it, making it impossible for you to track your missing iPhone.

Any and all of these Lock Screen interactions can be disabled while locked in the **FACE ID & PASSCODE** or **TOUCH ID & PASSCODE** section of Settings.

Disabling them won't inconvenience you because you can use the Home Button or Face ID to instantly unlock the phone and have full access to all of these actions.

However, you really should stop people who can't unlock your phone from performing these tasks.

Go to the **TOUCH ID / FACE ID & PASSCODE** area in Settings to disable them (turning them *off*). At least turn off access to the Control Center where someone could stop you from finding your missing iPhone by switching into Airplane Mode while they mess with it.

Remember, these settings only control what can be done while it's still locked. They are all still available to you as soon as you use Touch ID or Face ID to unlock it.

I have *all of these options turned off* on my iPhone Xs with Face ID. The instant I look at my phone it unlocks and lets me interact with all of this stuff, but my settings stop anyone who can't unlock my phone from using them.

If you have Touch ID (a Home Button iPhone) you'll have to touch the button to unlock these functions, but that's not a big deal compared to giving control of all this stuff to everyone who might touch your phone.

Apple gives us these options to keep our stuff both **safe** and **private**, but it's up to us to choose to do so. 

