

LOOKING AFTER YOUR MOBILE PHONE

Mobile Phone Insurance comes in handy when your mobile suffers from accidental damage, breaks down or is stolen. But there are a few things you can do to reduce the risk of it getting dropped, stolen or damaged in the first place:

KEEP YOUR MOBILE DRY

Water damage can stop your phone from working properly, so avoid walk and talking whilst it is raining and carrying your mobile phone near open water. Be cautious whilst in the bathroom, ideally keep it out of there entirely.

TURN OFF THE RINGER

Ensure you set your phone on silence during meetings and other times when it should not go off. This will reduce the risk of dropping or damaging the phone whilst you are frantically trying to turn it off.

WATCH OUT FOR THOSE POCKETS

Don't put keys and coins in the same pocket as an unprotected phone or you'll wind up with a scratched screen. If your phone is in your back pocket, be careful not to sit on it. Check your pockets before you do laundry to avoid inadvertently washing your phone. And when you slide your phone into your pocket, look to make sure that's what you're really doing—and not just "sliding" it to the floor.

USE A SCREEN PROTECTOR

This is an adhesive film you apply on your phone screen to protect it from scratches.

USE A MOBILE PHONE CASE

Cases come in many styles, thicknesses and materials, offering varying degrees of protection if dropped or exposed to weather. Use a case to prevent scratches and scuffs. Drops aren't the only risk to your mobile's surface; loose items in a bag could also damage the screen and exterior casing.

ALWAYS TAKE YOUR PHONE WITH YOU

Treat your phone with care, never let it out of your sight, never leave it unattended in a public place and avoid lending it to other people.

Even if your phone is under your supervision, it could get dropped and damaged – keeping it out of other people's hands could help reduce that risk.

PROTECTING YOUR PHONE FROM THEFT

There were 742,000 victims of mobile phone theft in England and Wales according to the 2012/13 Crime Survey for England and Wales.

Some estimates put the value of data held on typical smartphones at more than the value of the phone itself which is why it is critical for businesses to protect themselves.

REGISTER YOUR MOBILE DEVICE FOR FREE AT Imobilise.com

This helps the police to identify you as the owner if it is recovered and allows you to keep a record of your IMEI number, which you will need if your mobile is lost or stolen.

INSTALL A TRACKER/SECURITY APPLICATION

This can help trace your device and allow you to wipe personal data if your device is stolen. If you are unsure which app to install, seek advice from the manufacturer of your smartphone.

USE SECURITY FEATURES PROVIDED BY MANUFACTURES

- Protect the handset using secure login features, please ensure these are not easily guessed
- Trace the location of a stolen handset
- Wipe data from a stolen handset remotely
- Lock the handset remotely using another internet enabled handset
- Ensure that handset functionality remains completely locked until a separate password or account ID is used to unlock the handset, therefore preventing thieves from by-passing security features by simply resetting the handset to its factory setting.

IF YOUR PHONE IS STOLEN, REPORT IT TO YOUR NETWORK IMMEDIATELY

Also report it to the police, telling them if you have a tracker app installed. Ensure you have the IMEI number available for the police. Your network will provide this free of charge.

*Awareness, common sense, a durable case and a screen protector can prevent most accidents and help you protect your phone.
For the rest, there's insurance for your device...*