



GEO-TAGGING

For those of us who consider privacy a safety issue, Facebook is not the only technology you need to be concerned with. You may be unknowingly giving up much more information than you realize right from your own cell phone. Modern cellphones come standard with GPS software that allows us to find our way to just about anywhere. But what you may not know is that other applications on your cellphone may also be using your GPS location. Your cellphone may be giving away vital location information such as your home address through a process called geotagging. Geotagging is the process of storing geographic locations in cellphone pictures in the form of latitude and longitude

Let's assume you have taken a picture with your cellphone in your home or property and shared your image on Facebook, Twitpic, Flickr or some other social network. Anyone with access to the Internet can extract the geographic location data from your picture and use [Google Maps](#) or similar applications to discover your home address. Now, let's suppose you post a status saying that you have left for work, gone on holiday or out for the evening. You now have one or more individuals with the knowledge of your home address who know you are not at home.

Disable Geotagging -

Iphone — Tap on Settings > Tap on General or Privacy > Tap on “Location Services”

Select the On/Off switch next to “Camera” so that the switch is set to OFF > Exit settings.

Android phone - If you have an Android phone, disabling geotagging in your photos is fairly simple. Just start your camera application and slide open the menu. Now select Settings and check to see that the Geo-Tag Photos option is set to OFF. If not, set it to OFF.

Blackberry - If you are a Blackberry user to turn off geotagging simply start your camera application from the home screen, press the Menu button, then select Options. Scroll to the geotagging setting and set it to Disabled.

Windows Phone 7 and 8 - Go to Settings>Navigate to Applications>Scroll down to Pictures & Camera>Set “include location (GPS) info in Pictures you take” to “Off”

Safeguarding your privacy is important - *Turning off geotagging on your cellphone is a smart thing to do. Unless you have a specific need for having geographic location data in your pictures. **Don't forget to check your spouse's and your childrens cellphones as well.***