

5 tips to make 'Find My' on iPhone more accurate

When Find My becomes inaccurate or unreliable, apply a few tweaks to make it more accurate when it's needed most.

Have you ever had your iPhone show your location as being a block away—or worse, in the wrong neighborhood? When Find My becomes inaccurate or unreliable, there are a few tweaks you can make to make it more accurate when you need it most.

5. Turn on "Send Last Location"

Send Last Location is a toggle on your iPhone that automatically sends the last known location of your device to Apple just before the battery dies or gets critically low. This feature ensures that even if your device's battery dies, you can at least know where it was before it shut down, giving you a much better chance of recovering it.

To turn on Send Last Location, open the Settings app and navigate to [Your Name] > Find My > Find My iPhone , then turn on Send Last Location .

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Settings

Q Search



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Apple Account, iCloud and more



Airplane Mode



Wi-Fi

KDY Maina >



Bluetooth

On >



Mobile Service



Personal Hotspot

Off >



Battery



General



Accessibility



Camera



Control Centre



Display & Brightness












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< Settings

Apple Account

-  Personal Information >
-  Sign-In & Security >
-  Payment & Shipping Visa >
-  Subscriptions >

-  iCloud 5 GB >
-  Family Set Up >
-  Find My >
-  Media & Purchases >
-  Sign in with Apple >

-  Alvin's iPhone >
This iPhone 13 Pro
-  Alvin Wanjala's iPhone >
iPhone 11
-  DRSTRANGE40 >
Windows
-  MacBook Air >
MacBook Air 13"

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< Find My

Find My iPhone



Locate, lock or erase this device and supported accessories. This device cannot be erased and reactivated without your password. [About Find My & Privacy...](#)

Find My network



Participating in the Find My network lets you locate this iPhone even when it's offline, in power reserve mode and after shutdown.

Send Last Location



Automatically send the location of this iPhone to Apple when the battery is critically low.

With this setup, you'll at least have a reference point if your device is lost or powered off.

4. Always keep Bluetooth on

It may seem unrelated, but Bluetooth plays a big role in how accurately Find My can track your iPhone—especially when it's offline. Apple's Find My network uses Bluetooth to detect nearby Apple devices. This allows other nearby devices to anonymously report your phone's location, even when your iPhone isn't online.

That's why it's important to keep Bluetooth on at all times, especially when your device is offline, as it can help improve Find My's accuracy. Go to **Settings > Bluetooth** , then turn on the Bluetooth toggle on the next page.

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< Settings



Bluetooth

Connect to accessories you can use for activities such as streaming music, making phone calls and gaming. [Learn more...](#)

Bluetooth



AirDrop, AirPlay, Find My and Location Services use Bluetooth.

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< Settings



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Bluetooth



This iPhone is discoverable as "Alvin's iPhone" while Bluetooth Settings is open.

DEVICES 

To pair an Apple Watch with your iPhone, go to the [Apple Watch app](#).

3. Turn on Wi-Fi or mobile data

Turning on Wi-Fi or cellular data also helps improve Find My's accuracy. Find My uses a combination of GPS, Wi-Fi, cell towers, and Bluetooth signals to help determine your iPhone's exact location.

Wi-Fi plays an important role in determining precise location, especially indoors or in areas where GPS signals are weak or obscured by buildings. Cellular data provides triangulation using cell towers, complementing GPS and Wi-Fi signals to refine the accuracy of your iPhone's location.

But most importantly, for Find My to track your iPhone in real-time, your device needs to be connected to the Internet, either via Wi-Fi or cellular data.

2. Turn on location services

If GPS is turned off, your device may not report its real-time location, making it more difficult (or impossible) to find if it's lost or stolen. For best accuracy, you'll need to turn on location services so Find My always knows where your phone is.

To turn on GPS on your iPhone, follow these steps:

1. Navigate to **Settings > Privacy & Security** and select **Location Services** .
2. On the next page, turn on the switch next to **Location Services** .
3. Finally, select **Find My** from the list of apps and on the next page, set it to **While Using the App** .

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< Settings



Privacy & Security

Control which apps can access your data, location, camera and microphone, and manage safety protections. [Learn more...](#)



Location Services

2 while using



Tracking



Calendars

None



Contacts

1 full access



Files & Folders

None



Focus

1 app



Health

None



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Location Services

Location Services



Location Alerts



Location Services uses GPS, Bluetooth, and crowd-sourced Wi-Fi hotspot and mobile phone mast locations to determine your location. [About Location Services & Privacy...](#)

Share My Location



Sharing your location from this iPhone is disabled. Turn on Location Services to enable it, or choose another device.

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Share My Location



This iPhone is being used for location sharing.



App Clips

0



App Store

While Using



Authy

When Shared



Find My

While Using



Siri

When Shared



System Services

System services that have requested access to your location will appear here.

A purple arrow indicates that an item has recently used your location.

A grey arrow indicates that an item has used your location in the last 24 hours.

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Find My

ALLOW LOCATION ACCESS

Never

Ask Next Time Or When I Share

While Using the App



App explanation: "Your location will be used to show your location on the map and see how far away your friends, devices and items are. This does not change the accuracy of the location shared to others."

Precise Location



Allows apps to use your specific location. With this setting off, apps can only determine your approximate location.

The last step is important because Find My requires constant access to your location for best results.

1. Turn on Precise Location

Even with **Location Services** turned on , your iPhone may only report an approximate location unless **Precise Location** is turned on. Separating your device's approximate and precise location is convenient when working with some third-party apps that only need to know your general area, not your exact location.

However, for Find My, you need to grant access to your specific location if you want to track your iPhone's exact location at any time. To enable precise location:

1. Go to **Settings > Privacy & Security > Location Services** .
2. Scroll down the page and select **Find My** from the list of apps.
3. Finally, turn on **Precise Location** .

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Allows apps to use your specific location. With this setting off, apps can only determine your approximate location.

This setting allows Find My to pinpoint your device's location to within a few meters. This is an important setting, useful when you're trying to locate a lost iPhone using Find My in a crowded area or inside a building. It ensures that the Find My app doesn't just show a vague blue circle on the map, but shows a much more accurate location.

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