

Vulnerabilities in Android allow malware to read device information even without permission

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Discovered by Nightwatch Cybersecurity, this vulnerability affects every version of Android, except the newly released OS is Android 9 or Android Pie. The vulnerability code is CVE-2018-9489 and the possibility is not fixed.

"The vendor will fix the bug on Android P / 9, because it will have to change API a lot, so there are no plans to fix it on previous Android versions. Users should upgrade to Android 9 / P or newer versions," Nightwatch Cybersecurity said.

With this vulnerability, malicious applications can bypass the level of user information access, read device information, from WiFi network names, IP addresses to DNS server information, MAC address. Researchers warn that it will open the door for malicious behaviors such as tracking device location.



Users only have to update Android Pie if they want to patch this security hole

'The MAC address is unchanged, tied to the device, so it can be used to identify and monitor Android devices even when using a random MAC address. Network name and / or BSSID can be used to locate users by searching on databases such as WiGLE or SkyHook. Other network information can also be used to find out, attack WiFi networks'.

This security vulnerability has been reported to Google since March this year, but has only been overcome by the tech giant on the latest Android version. So the only way to secure your device is to update it to Android Pie. However, this is not easy because most OEMs are still planning to update the OS, maybe a few months away.

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