

# ?Don't Rely On an Unlock Pattern To Secure Your Android Phone?

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Security researchers at the U.S. Naval Academy and the University of Maryland Baltimore County have published a study in which they demonstrate the ease at which a shoulder-surfing snooper could visually detect and recreate an Android unlock pattern. The findings of this study indicate the different levels of security between an Android unlock pattern and other methods of unlocking a smartphone device such as using a six-digit PIN. This article further discusses this study and ways in which Android users could reduce the risk of successful snooping when using a pattern unlock.

[Wired reports "Don't Rely On an Unlock Pattern To Secure Your Android Phone"](#)

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