Intro to Android - Restricting Access

Guest Mode

The new guest mode feature allows you to have a generic user profile that your kids (or anyone else who needs to use your phone for something) can use. This profile is isolated from your personal profile so they can't see or mess with any of your data, pictures, videos, not even your apps. They can install apps from the Google Play store and if the app is already on your phone, it will be copied to the guest profile (instead of having to download it again). In addition to the Guest profile, you could actually create personal profiles for each of your kids so they can have their own set of apps, wallpapers, and other customizations.

To Set up Guest Mode

1. From the top of the screen, swipe down to reveal the notifications bar.

2. Double-tap your profile image from the top-right corner. Three icons will appear, your Google account, "Add guest" and "Add user".

3. Select the "Add guest" option.

4. Once you've selected the "Add guest" option, your device will probably take a couple of minutes to complete the Guest Mode setup process.

When you're finished with guest mode you can switch back to your profile by repeating the first two steps above.

Screen Pinning

Sometimes you need to hand your phone to someone to show them something but you don't want them to be able to exit the app and start nosing through your stuff. Maybe you want to let your kid play a game but don't want to give them the proverbial keys to the kingdom. For situations such as these, the new Screen Pinning mode is an ideal solution.

Screen pinning allows you to make it so that the current application doesn't allow the user to exit it without unlocking the phone. They can use the app that is "pinned" in place, they just can't exit the app without the unlock code:

To Set up Screen Pinning

1. From the top of the screen, swipe down to reveal the notifications bar.

2. Tap the date & time area of the notification bar, then tap the gear icon to open the Settings screen.

3. From the "Settings" screen tap "Security" > "Advanced" > "Screen Pinning" > and then set the switch to the "ON" position.

Using screen pinning

Make sure screen pinning is turned on. Open the screen you want to pin Tap Overview Swipe up and then tap the pin icon