

QUICK TIPS

- Think before you post! Whatever you post online can be copied and shared; thus it can be permanently available online.
 - Control which apps have access to the information on your phone. This includes locations services, contacts, calendar and photos, amongst others.
 - Respect others' privacy; ask before sharing photos of others.
 - Take the required precautions to limit any undesired App related purchases.
 - Children may be more vulnerable to the risks associated with owning and using a smart phone. Instill a sense of responsibility in your children by discussing the risks involved.

For further information call Helpline 179
or send an email to 179.appogg@gov.mt

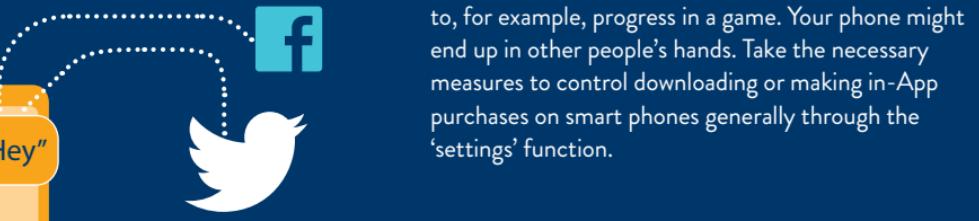
PONSMBLE USE

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. Having an Internet connection,
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line. Remember that what you share
ed by everyone, even strangers.

In order to safeguard your privacy, it is important to be aware of what other mobile functions or data the App is connecting to. Apart from the location based services, Facebook, for example, also asks to connect to the contact list on your phone in order to synchronise this information with the respective Facebook profiles. Furthermore, some apps seamlessly integrate amongst themselves. Thus, a picture taken on Instagram may be automatically uploaded onto your Facebook timeline if this is set accordingly.

EXTRA CHARGE Calls, SMSes and data usage are not the only things you can spend money on. It is of utmost importance to remember that even if apps are downloadable for free, some offer in-App purchases. These purchases might include the possibility of buying an ad-free version of the app or a virtual gift.



ng the functions of your smart phone will help
ake full use of its potential in a safe manner.
hly recommended that you read through

sure that you've thought about the necessary
actions, such as setting a pass code in order
to prevent anyone tampering with your phone or

As explained, when used well, mobile devices
can help you protect your privacy. However,
if you intend to buy a smart phone or tablet,
it is important to remember that these devices
might also pose some dangers:

- One has to keep in mind that

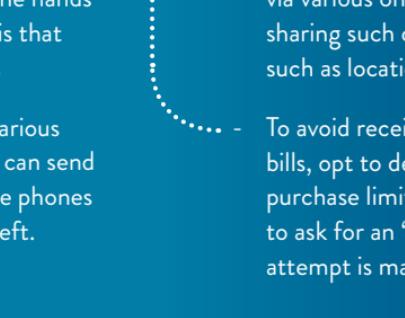
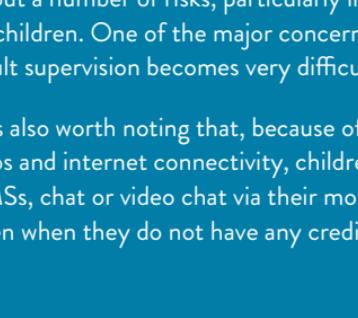
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An illustration on a teal background featuring a smartphone in the center. The phone's screen shows the word "Secure" above a numeric keypad with the numbers 0 and three asterisks (*). Below the keypad, the words "Pass code" are displayed. Dotted lines connect the phone to a blue padlock icon to its right and a blue folder icon labeled "USER MANUAL" to its left.

SMART



- Although location services are useful for you, they can also be used to track your children. It's important to let them know this information could be used if children might be lost.
 - Photos and video can easily be shared online via various online services. Sharing such content can be useful, such as location information.
 - To avoid receiving unexpected bills, opt to do some research before purchase. It's also a good idea to ask for an estimate before attempting to make a purchase.



be SMART
ONLINE!

GOING ONLINE GOING MOBILE SAFELY



Co-funded by the
European Union through
the Safer Internet Programme



INTRODUCTION

The majority of mobiles on the market are smart phones. These mini-computers give users 24/7 access to the Internet and also offer other features which make life easier especially when on the move. Furthermore, if the smart phone does not contain all the functions that you need, you are highly likely to be able to download an application, more commonly known as an App, that would do exactly what you require.



WHAT CAN SMART PHONES DO?

Over and above the features offered by standard mobile phones, smart phones can offer additional features that can add to your safety and peace of mind. However, it is important to know the implications of these value-added features.

APART FROM ALLOWING PEOPLE TO MAKE CALLS AND SEND SMSs, SMART PHONES OFFER A HOST OF OTHER FEATURES THAT DISTINGUISH THEM FROM CONVENTIONAL MOBILE PHONES.

CONNECTING TO THE INTERNET

All service providers offer mobile data Internet. This technology allows you to connect to the Internet from practically anywhere. Such connections reach speeds fast enough to make it possible to engage in activities that are usually undertaken on much larger devices, such as laptops.

Smart phones can also connect to any available free Wi-Fi hotspot without the need for a data connection.



LOCATION BASED SERVICES

These services utilise the Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver built into smart phones. Through this system your phone can receive a signal from one of the four GPS satellites and identifies the time and your exact location, anywhere in the World.

It is important to respect others' privacy. You should not take pictures of others and circulate them without their permission. Once a picture has been sent to friends through Bluetooth, or is shared online, you lose control of it. It may be shared further beyond your network of friends. The same principle applies to posting and sharing your own pictures online.



PHOTOS & VIDEOS

Nowadays most mobile phones offer the facility to take and capture high quality photos and videos.

What is captured can be easily shared via Bluetooth or the Internet.

Unless you want everyone to know your whereabouts in real time, it is important to be aware of which apps have requested access to this information and it is up to you whether or not to accept such requests.

APP STORES & PURCHASES

When connected to the Internet, Apps can be downloaded onto your smart phone. These Apps enhance the existing functionality of your mobile.

Apps are downloadable from the following online stores which can be accessed directly from your smart phone: **App Store** for iOS devices, **Google Play** for Android devices, **Apps+Games Store** for Windows devices, and **Blackberry World** on the Blackberry operating system.

