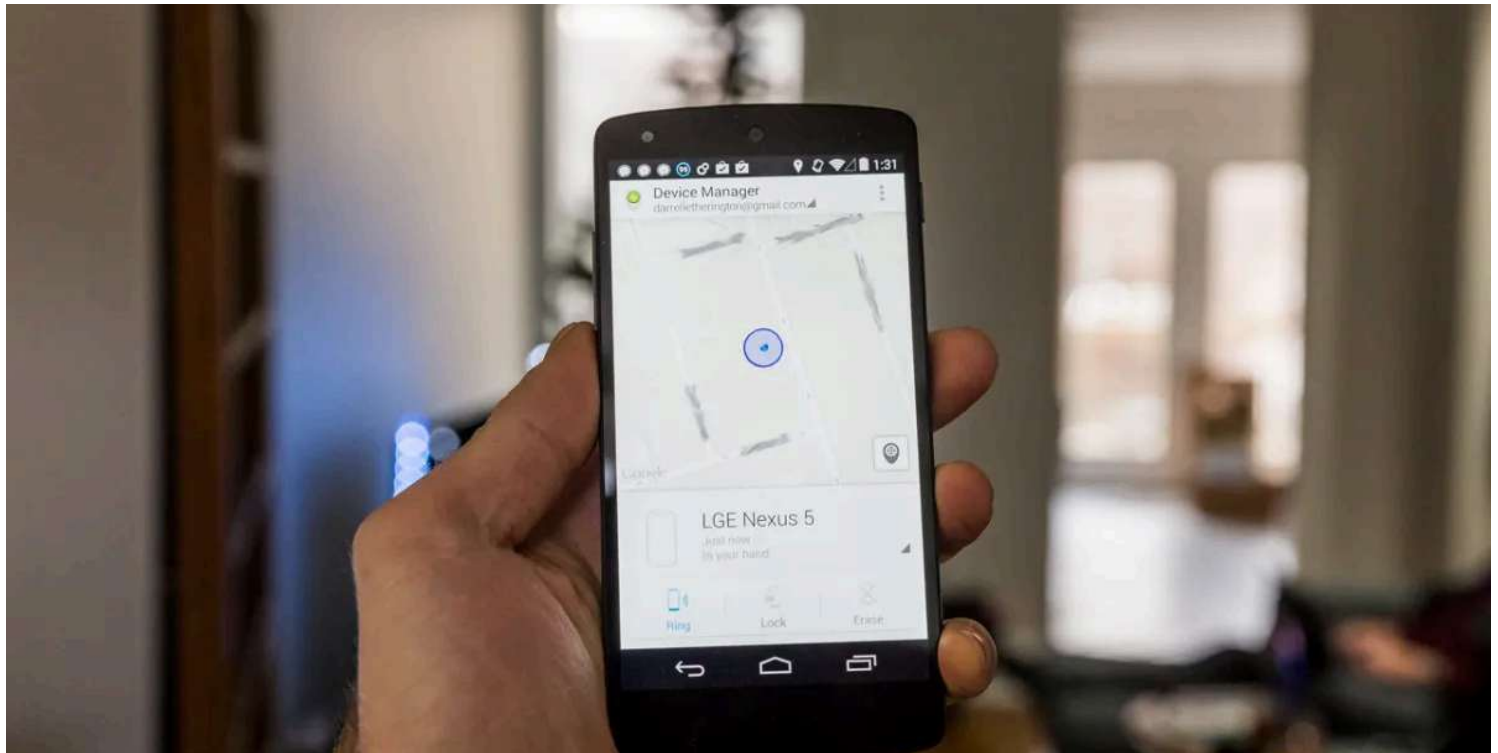


Latest Security
Startups AI
Venture Apps
Apple Disrupt 2025

Events
Podcasts
Newsletters

Advertisement



×

Advertisement

Google Releases Its Find My iPhone-Style Android Device Manager App In The Play Store

Darrell Etherington 10:37 AM PST · December 11, 2013

Google launched [Android Device Manager back in August](#), but it curiously made the tool web-only, eschewing a native Android app and causing a lot of confusion in doing so. The Android Device Manager is [now in the Play Store](#), and does most of the things that Apple's Find My iPhone service does, but for Android gadgets instead of iOS-powered devices.

The new app, like the web interface, lets you locate your Android device on a map, see when it was last located and when it was last used, as well as ring, lock and wipe the device. Plenty of people I spoke to about the service early on were excited it was finally bringing some device security features to Google's mobile OS, but also confused when they searched the Play Store only to find that no actual app for the service existed.

Advertisement

Advertisement

Of course, in theory having it operate on the web makes more sense: if you've lost your phone, an Android app running on it won't do much good in terms of helping you track it down. It makes more sense to have an Android Device Manager on the web, where it was born, but people were bound to look for it on the Android mobile app store, especially given the example provided by Apple's competing service. Having an app also means that people who have multiple Android devices, including tablets, will have faster access to the security features contained therein.

Topics: [android device manager](#) [find my android](#) [Google Play](#)

[Media & Entertainment](#)



Darrell Etherington

Editor at Large

Writer covering space, science and health tech. Formerly covering automotive and mobility tech, and previously an employee of Apple and also of Shopify.

[View Bio](#) >

Advertisement

Advertisement

 DISRUPT**October 27-29, 2025 | San Francisco**

Founders: land your investor and sharpen your pitch. **Investors:** discover your next breakout startup. **Innovators:** claim a front-row seat to the future. Join 10,000+ tech leaders at the epicenter of innovation. Register now and save up to \$668.

Regular Bird rates end September 26[Register Now](#)

Most Popular



Musk's \$1T pay package is full of watered-down versions of his own broken promises

Scale AI's former CTO launches AI agent that could solve big data's biggest problem

OpenAI announces AI-powered hiring platform to take on LinkedIn

Google brings Material 3 Expressive to Pixel 6 and newer devices, along with other features

Tesla's 4th 'Master Plan' reads like LLM-generated nonsense

BMW, I am so breaking up with you

Advertisement

US and Indian VCs just formed a
\$1B+ alliance to fund India's deep
tech startups

Loading the next article



TechCrunch

Staff

Contact Us

Advertise

Crunchboard Jobs

Site Map

Terms of Service

Privacy Policy

RSS Terms of Use

Telsa

Anthropic

Telex

Klarna

MrBeast

Tech Layoffs

ChatGPT

Advertisement

© 2025 TechCrunch Media LLC.

Advertisement