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Face Your Fears

Is Face ID as secure as it is made out to be?



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With a simple glance, Face ID securely unlocks your iPhone X. Face ID is a facial recognition system designed and developed by Apple Inc using advanced machine learning to map the geometry of your face to give the user the ability to unlock their IOS device and third-party apps that require authentication. This article will delve into the aspects of the “most secure facial authentication ever.”

Apple calls it “future of how we will unlock our smartphones and protect our sensitive information”. But is it as secure as they say?

Upon the launch of the iPhone X, Apple announced Face ID would be the new replacement of Touch ID to enhance the idea of ‘security made simple” and to tie in with their promise to continuously improve their products and change the way users interact with their devices. With its **biometric authentication technology***, Apple has stated the probability of someone unlocking a phone with Face ID is 1 in 1,000,000 as opposed to Touch ID at 1 in 50,000.

“Much of our digital lives are stored on iPhone and it’s important to protect that information.”

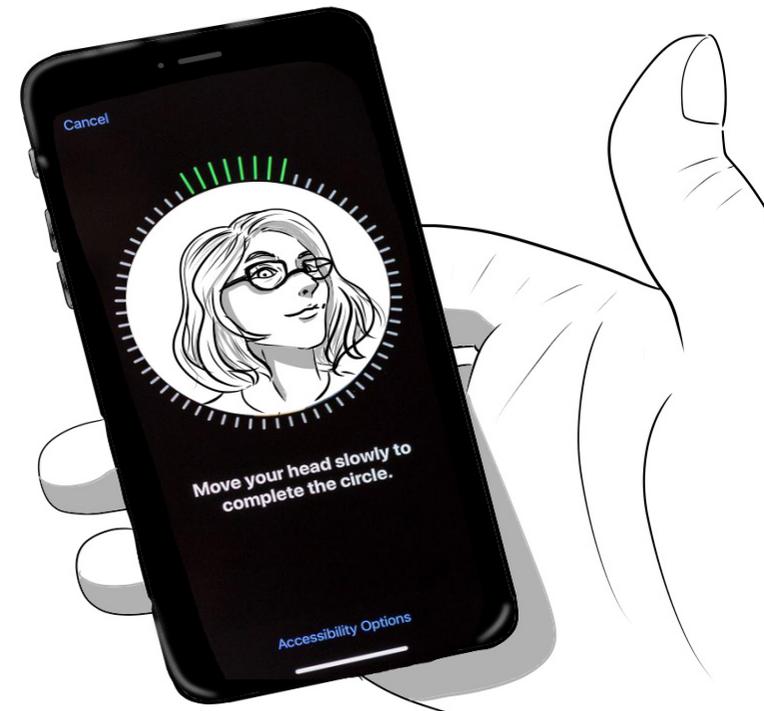
The benefits of this feature include the improved security as their less chances of theft and incentive to steal as well as the overall convenience in simply the setting up/ activation process for consumers who are constraint in living a fast-paced world. By only really needing to look directly at their phone, Apple pushes technology to move forward and continuously compete with the desire of safe and secure products.

Advanced technology has helped improve the way consumers access their phones by creating TrueDepth Camera which accurately captures facial data through projecting and analysing over 30,000 invisible dots to create an in-depth infrared image of your face whilst also being able to adapt to an individual’s change in appearance such as cosmetic makeup or facial hair — an advantage compared to their competitor Android, which introduced an iris scanner that could easily fail with something as simple as glasses.

Accessibility is an essential concern for Apple and have created "Accessibility Options" for users with physical limitations, this eliminates the need to capture a full range of head motion to still be able to access Face ID. Apple has also addressed visually impaired users can activate VoiceOver during the initial set up which will prompt the consumer with instructions on how move their head for a complete scan.

"Face ID does so much more than unlock your iPhone. So, you can forget about typing user names and passwords. Now all it takes is a look."

Overall, during the initial release of the iPhone X in 2017, customers were reluctant to adapt to the idea of Face ID over Touch ID with concerns over the protection of sensitive and personal information. However, after a year of its release users are expressing their enjoyment of how seamless and efficient it is to unlock their phone. Requiring no physical interaction between the user and the phone, it enhances and challenges the evolution of technology.



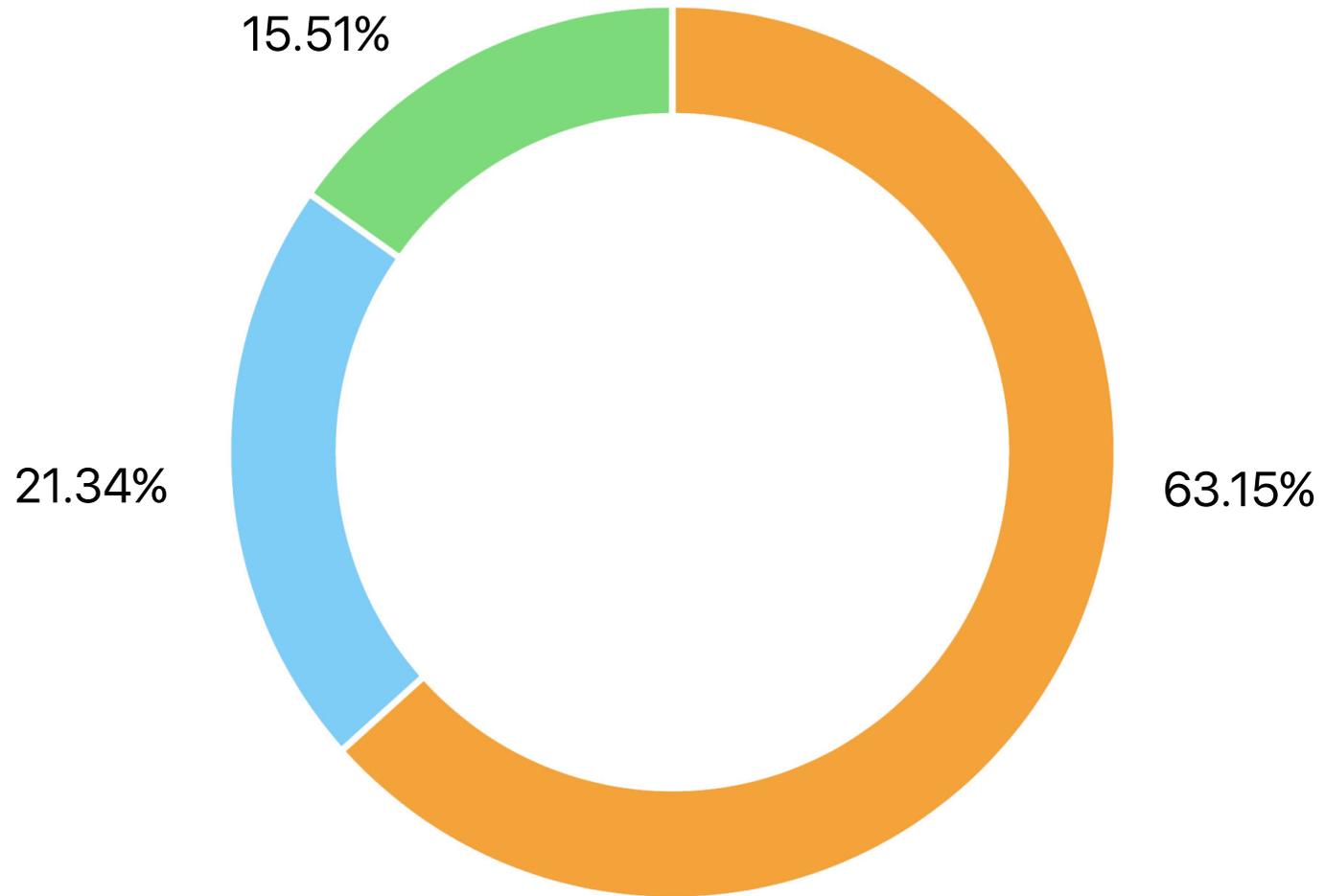
*a security process that relies on the unique biological characteristics of an individual.

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Is Face ID an adequate successor to Touch ID?



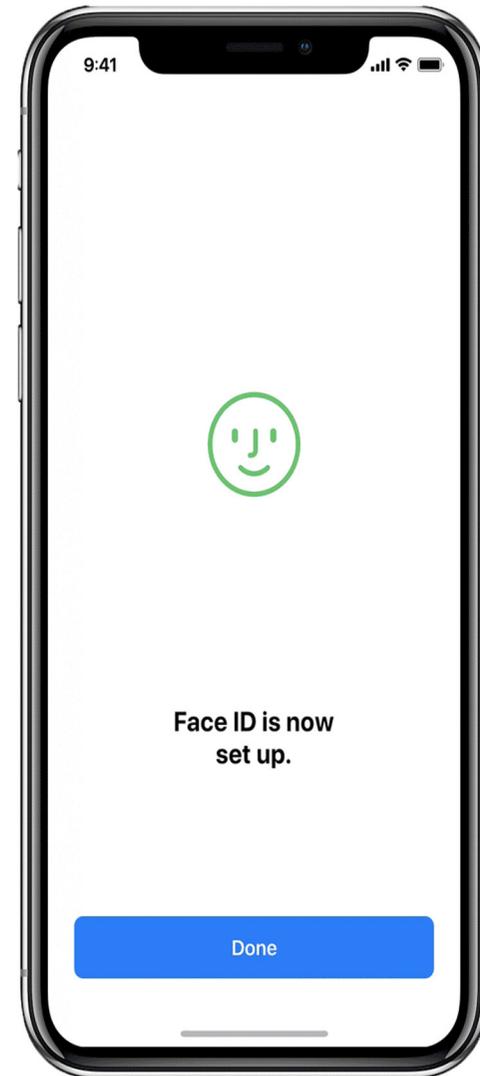
Yes, Face ID is the future.

No, Face ID is a downgrade from Touch ID.

Still undecided.

How to Set Up Face ID

1. Ensure there isn't anything covering the TrueDepth Camera or your face (Face ID is designed to work with glasses and contacts)
2. Go to Settings > Face ID & Passcode. If asked, enter your passcode
3. Tap Set Up Face ID, then position your face in front of your device and tap Get Started.
4. Look straight into your iPhone and place your face inside the frame. Gently move your head to complete the circle. If you're unable to move your head, tap Accessibility Options.
5. When you finish the first Face ID scan, tap Continue.
6. Gently move your head to complete the circle for a second time.
7. When Face ID setup is complete, tap Done.



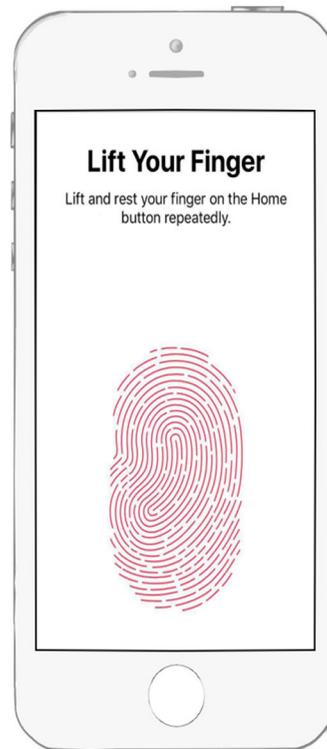
Evolution of iPhone Security

2010



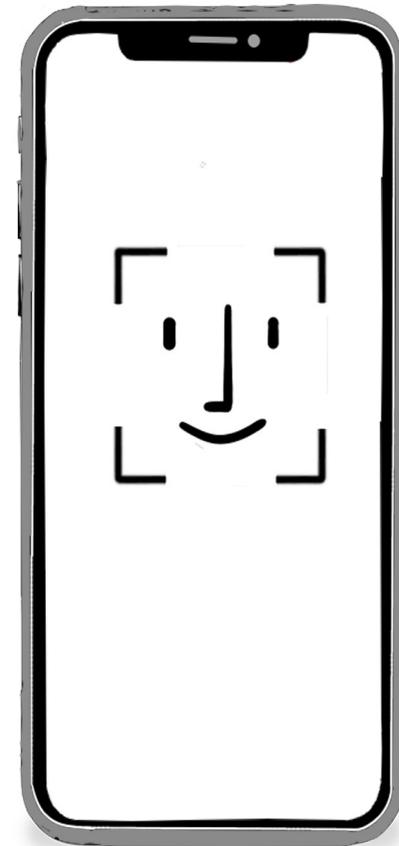
iPhone 4
PIN code

2013



iPhone 5s
Fingerprint scanning
Touch ID

2017



iPhone X
Facial recognition
Face ID