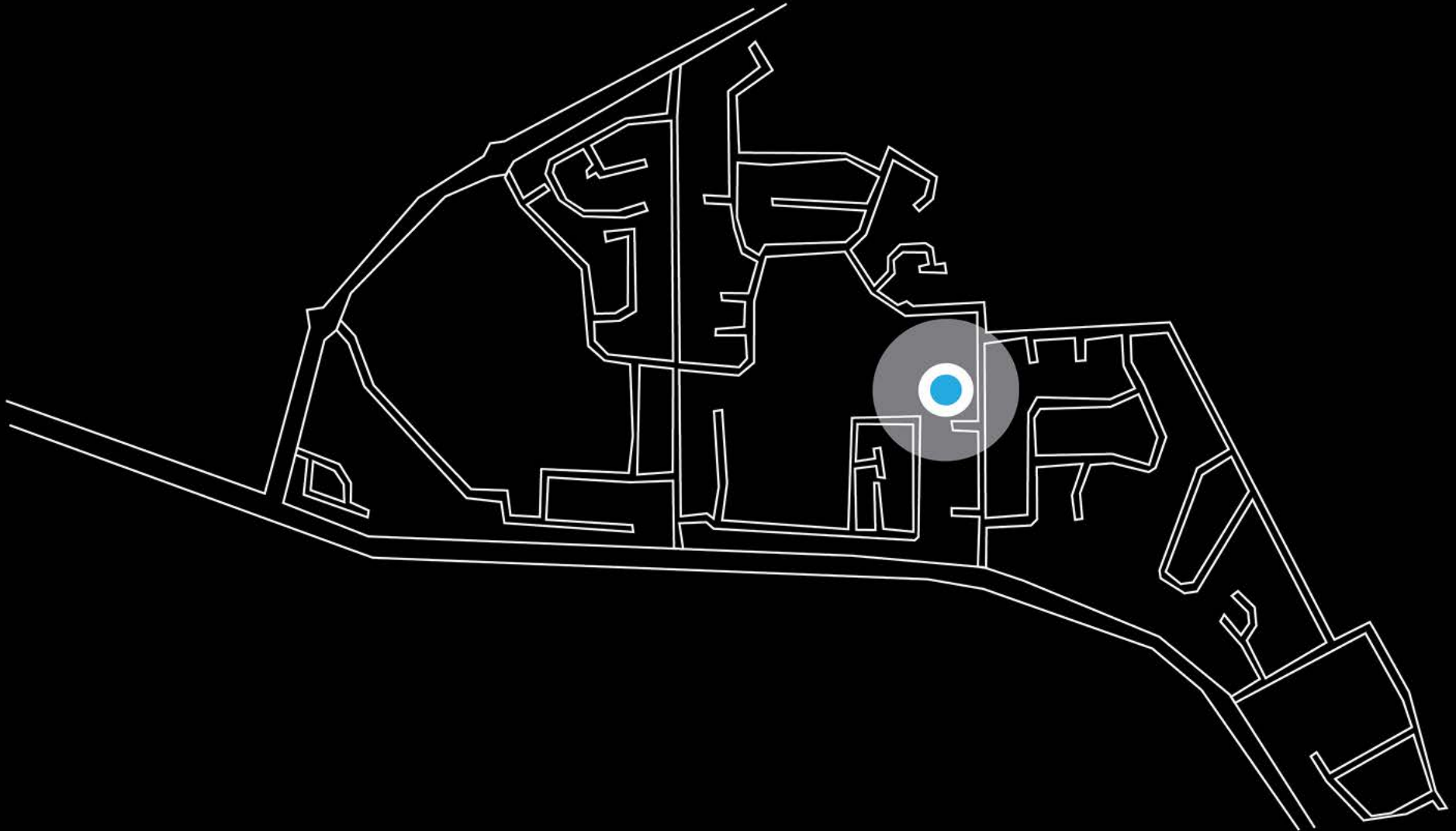


Jeanette D'Cunha

Hide and Seek

I know where you are,
do you know where I am?



Hide and Seek

Jeanette D'Cunha

Find my iPhone was initially released as an app in June 2010 for users of MobileMe. This service itself is embedded into iOS and macOS, which allows devices to be tracked by using either an iOS app or the iCloud website. In addition, locating a device, the service provides three key features:

Play Sound, which makes the device play a sound at maximum volume, makes flashing on screen even if it is muted.

Lost Mode allows any device to be pinned as lost or stolen, allowing the user to lock it with a passcode.

Erase iPhone is a feature that completely erases all content, settings and data from the device. This is useful if the device contains private information and the user has lost their device, with no idea of its whereabouts. However, after doing this, finding the device would be close to impossible; because once everything is erased, its location would be removed too.

An example of a real-life situation that had occurred in June 2018 was losing an iPhone 5s in a foreign country. The iPhone was then found by using Apple ID on another device to locate the iPhone's last location. However, finding the iPhone was made difficult due to no network and lack of internet connection. Although experiencing this problem first-hand, switching the iPhone into Lost mode and erasing the iPhone's data, gave us the guarantee, that no one could access the iPhone and its information. If the average Apple user and consumer are able to locate the device's last location in a foreign country, what are the chances that a stranger knows your current location now?

Having stated this, the Find My iPhone app has its advantages and disadvantages.

There have been many positive outcomes to this feature that has occurred over the past years since the establishment of the Find My iPhone app. In November 2011,



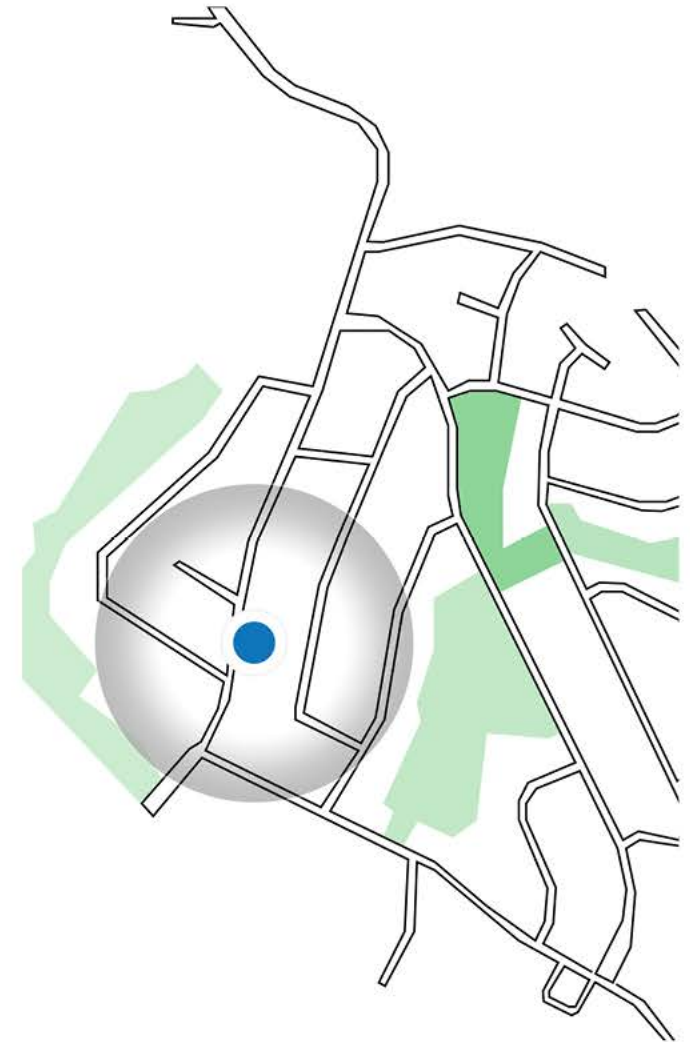
Police in Los Angeles were able to find an armed robbery suspect by using Find My iPhone on the victim's stolen iPhone. Another example is in September of 2012, two suspects were arrested in Atlanta, Georgia; for robbing 5 women at gunpoint. Police were able to locate the suspects by using Find My iPhone to find the stolen phones. Meanwhile, the disadvantages could involve the invasion of an individual's privacy. From your current location to accessing private information, strangers can connect and obtain everything contained in your phone.

Therefore, iCloud is an important aspect of Apple devices, as it controls whatever the user wants to save and store. Due to the fact that the 'Find My iPhone' app is run mainly through iCloud and location services, whoever has access to your Apple ID or iCloud information can access every device you own, from anywhere in the world. When you turn on Find My iPhone on an Apple device, the Apple ID is securely stored on Apple's activation

servers and linked to any of your devices. Does this mean that Apple knows what's in our phones and our whereabouts 24/7?

In summary, I believe that as technology develops and becomes more advanced day by day, the advantages of using the 'Find My iPhone' feature on Apple devices outweighs its disadvantages. Individuals now are more tech savvy and should be able to control the amount of information they choose to store on these devices, so the invasion of your privacy should be completely out of the question... right?

I know where you are, do you know where I am?



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iPhone app leads police to armed robbery suspect (22nd November, 2011). Retrieved October 16th, 2018 from <http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/lanow/2011/11/apple-iphone-app-helps-lapd-catch-armed-robbery-suspect-.html>

How to Use 'Find my iPhone'

Although the amount of space available on iCloud can be limited, the user is able to control what saves into the cloud. Individuals are able to have multiple devices stored in one apple ID, therefore, if a device is misplaced or stolen, the user is able to find it on any of their devices.

Turning on the 'Find my iPhone' feature in iCloud settings can help individuals to utilise this feature, through their Apple ID.

