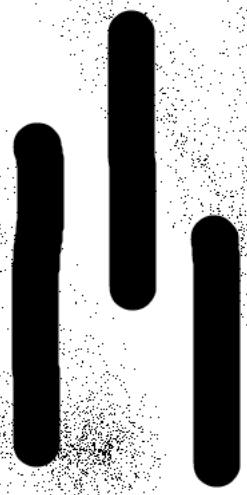


Digital Security at Protests



1. Device

- a burner phone is a good idea so that protest activities are not linked to daily life
 - the simplest phone that can install a messenger and browser is best
- It's important to understand that your phone and those of the protesters around you are powerful surveillance devices. A simple burner phone minimises the amount of information you can leak.

Carry a phone that you're happy to lose/throw at a moment's notice. If that happens, have a way to let your friends know you're ok - pick a designated time/place to meet.

Useful resources:

- EFF's surveillance self defence site ssd.eff.org
- privacytools.io have good advice on various privacy tools

2. Anonymity

when browsing online

- Use Tor browser. It hides your location by routing your internet queries through several locations. Tor is generally what you need if you think you need a VPN.
- VPN does not keep your browsing anonymous. When using a VPN, you just move your trust from your normal internet provider, to the VPN provider. VPN also often has a money trail that can be linked back to you. If you insist you need a VPN to gain a little privacy from only your internet provider, use Wirecutter.

9. Nothing to hide is not gonna cut it anymore

In a protest situation, security depends on everyone doing their best.

Your lack of security can leak a lot of information about you and those around you. It's as important to protect your fellow protesters as it is to protect yourself.

- Avoid using Google/Facebook
- Avoid taking photos of protester's faces
- Dress discreetly
- Stay aware that you're walking around with a powerful surveillance device in your hand Use it wisely.

3. Messaging Apps

Always use an encrypted messaging app.

- Signal is good. It has pretty good security, and many people use it now, so you are likely to find everyone you need there.
 - Telegram, LINE, Viber, Whatsapp, and SMS are bad.
- There are various reasons why these are bad, but most notably, they are not always free and open source - we can't check what's going on inside which makes it hard to trust them.

5. It is really hard to hide your location if you have a smartphone but there are some things that help.

- Search online how to disable location tracking on your phone.
- Delete all (except messaging/browser) from your phone during protest times.
- Pay cash if you need to buy something

4. Social Media

Twitter and Facebook are very useful for gaining and following information but are becoming increasingly censored and less reliable.

- Mastadon is gaining popularity as the best twitter alternative. It's free and open source. You can set up your own server, or join a trusted instance to make sure no censorship or tracking can happen.