

**I support exemptions** for jail breaking any electronic device.

I believe anyone should be able to modify their devices to suit their purposes. It does not matter if it is a phone, game console, or computer. Phones, tablets, and game consoles are no different from computers anyway and I can have admin rights on my computer.

I am a user of desktop computers, laptops, game consoles, digital cameras, and smart phones.

**Reasons to root:**

- I currently have a Motorola triumph smart phone. The carrier is Virgin mobile. Every time I booted up the phone, it would shout “Virgin Mobile” and every time I shut it down, it would shout “bye”. This was incredibly irritating and there was no way to modify it. It was one of the first things I changed when I rooted the phone. I replaced the startup and shutdown sound files with files that only had silence in them.
- I also added backup software to my phone that can backup my apps and my system settings. System settings can only be backed up with root level permissions. I have customized my phone a lot and I do not want to redo the work if an over the air update breaks my phone or even if I do something to break the phone.
- I use a firewall app that blocks some of the permissions that apps grant themselves during installation. A number of apps have permissions to access the internet, sms messages and to make calls- all of which costs me money. Some apps can access the gps coordinates, phone id, and contacts on the phone. I see no reason why these apps need these permissions in order to function properly. The only way to block the apps is with root.
- I like to use soothing sound apps when I sleep and I use a night display on the phone to show a clock when I travel. The soft buttons on the phone are very bright and the only way to disable them is with root permissions.
- And just for fun, I modified the start screen to show a little android under a flower instead of the Motorola “M” logo. After all, it is my phone and has enough Motorola logos all over it.
- My phone is not a hugely popular phone and is not likely to receive operating system updates from Motorola. It is already far behind and I have no expectation that it will receive an update for Ice cream sandwich even though the hardware is capable of running it. Someday, I will probably update it myself just like I put Windows 7 on my computer when it came out.

**Fallacy of arguments against root:**

I have heard some arguments against rooting the phone include the desire to prevent piracy and the avoidance of providing tech support.

**Piracy:**

Piracy is already illegal so there is no reason to prevent people from rooting their phones in order to prevent piracy. I am sure those people who wish to break the law in order to steal material will also be willing to break the law to root their phones. There are those who make modifications to their cars for illegal street racing and yet we are not all told we cannot change our own oil or add our own radios and gps units. Telling me I cannot have admin rights on my device is equally ridiculous.

**Tech Support:**

The types of people who generally root their phones are also the same type of people who have low expectations of tech support. These people are more likely to reach out to other phone users in online forums than to call tech support for assistance when rooting does not go well. And the phone manufacturers have already addressed this by voiding the warranty on phones that are rooted which is another policy I do not fully agree with.

In closing, I want to point out again that it is my device. I paid for it. I should be able to do what I want with it as long as I am not engaging in illegal activities.

Please support the copyright exemption for our devices.