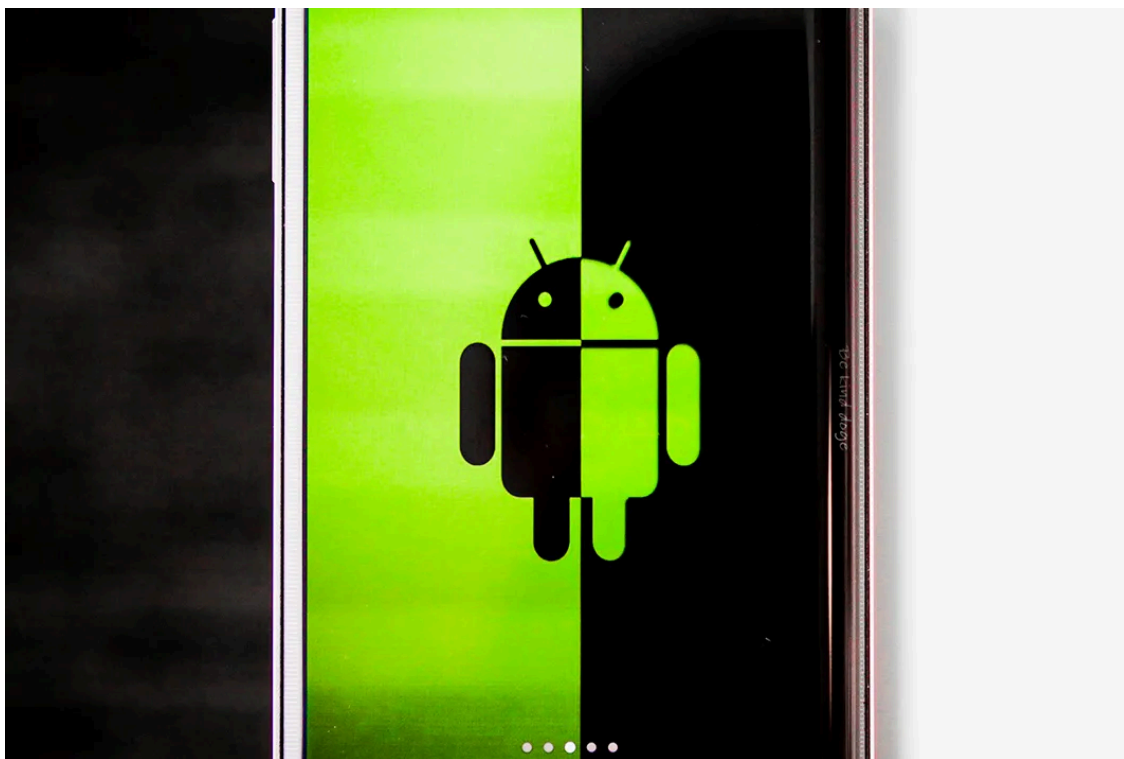


## Hack Brief: Emergency-Number Hack Bypasses Android Lock Screens

By Andy Greenberg

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A new lock screen bypass technique requires little more than typing a long string of characters and repeatedly pressing the camera shutter button.



A Samsung Electronics Co. Galaxy Note Edge smartphone running the Android mobile operating system is arranged for a photograph in New York, U.S., on Tuesday, July 28, 2015. A researcher at a security firm revealed a hole in Android's source code that hackers can exploit, if they have a phone's number, with a text. Photographer: Chris Goodney/Bloomberg via Getty ImagesChris Goodney/Bloomberg/Getty Images

If you protect your Android phone with a password rather than an unlock pattern or PIN, you may want to keep it in your sight a little more carefully than usual. A new, dead-simple attack could allow anyone who gets their hands on it to bypass that password lock with no more skill than it takes to cut and paste a long string of characters.

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