

Title:

Keep Jailbreaking Legal and Expand it to all Devices. Consider making it Illegal to Lock Device Software so no Jailbreaking is Needed.

Imagine for a moment, a future where everyday actions suddenly become illegal. Servicing your car at an independent mechanic becomes illegal. Hiring an independent company to replace the carpet in your home with hard wood floors becomes illegal. Putting a bigger hard drive in your computer becomes illegal. Customizing your jeans becomes illegal. Cooking your own food becomes illegal.

What could possibly make all these everyday actions illegal in the future? Because the corporations that manufactured your car, house, computer, jeans, and sell prepared food consider the aforementioned actions to "severely degrade the experience" of those items. In other words, these corporations want you to lock all your devices and freedoms so they control every device and freedom you previously owned - from large to small. This control means one thing to the corporations: profit.

If corporations control your device and how you service it or modify it they control how they profit from you.

Imagine if servicing your brakes at an independent mechanic voids the warranty on the entire car. Putting hard wood floors in your home voids the warranty on your home. Changing the hard drive in your computer voids the warranty on the entire computer.

Welcome to the world that Apple envisions. What I've described above seems impossible, but it is exactly how Apple views their iPhones. **Apple believes that even though you own may your phone outright, they have some right to control the way the phone is used and the software that is installed on it.** They want to profit from it. They believe that "jailbreaking can severely degrade the experience" of their iPhones. Apple states that "the vast majority of customers do not jailbreak their iPhones as this can violate the warranty and can cause the iPhone to become unstable and not work reliably."

In Apple's response to the legalization of Jailbreaking, there is no mention that Jailbreaking gives users the freedom to install a new App Store on their phones, enabling installation of software (both free and paid) written by legitimate developers not associated with Apple. They make no mention of the fact that this makes their iPhones operate in the way we are used to operating our PC s, Macs, or Linux Computers. Apple has and continues to work towards illegalizing jailbreaking. This is not so that people will have better experiences with their iPhones but rather so that they can handcuff users to their own App Store so that every purchase of software for the iPhone yields Apple 30% of the purchase price. Many developers come up with groundbreaking ideas for iPhone software yet are turned away from Apple's App Store. The Cydia Store for Jailbroken devices is the only place they have to sell their software. Apple often steals their ideas and banning their ideas from the

App Store. The Jailbreak community is where Apple hired developer Peter Hajas to create the Notification Center for the current iOS 5.

I am a father of two and a business owner. I use my iPhone every day to take pictures of my children and to manage my business. My iPhone is jailbroken. When I was choosing a new smartphone I was choosing between Android and Apple. I finally made the decision to buy an iPhone (I was already a Mac user) when my friend showed me his jailbroken iPhone. He explained to me how it unlocks the software, allowing one to purchase Apps from the Cydia Store as well as the App Store. It gave me the choice I needed. I bought an iPhone for myself and my wife and we purchase Apps from both stores.

As a business owner and part time University lecturer, I have three main email addresses - business, university, and personal. In the business and academic world, email signatures are your calling card. It was imperative for me to have the ability to use separate signatures for my business, academic and personal email accounts without having to paste the signature into the email everytime. Effectively, I wanted my iPhone's email program to function like any other mail program on a PC. It seemed like such a simple request yet there was no proper solution until I Jailbroke my iPhone and bought Developer Stefan Mollenkamp's MailEnhancer App through the Cydia Store. After buying MailEnhancer Stefan helped me configure the HTML code of my signatures and the program has run beautifully since - just as though it was built by Apple.

Recently Apple introduced the iPhone 4S with iOS 5. I did not purchase this iPhone until just before the jailbreak came out, and only because Jailbreak developers were confident that the Jailbreak was about a week or two away. When the Jailbreak was released it worked perfectly the first time and I was able to run MailEnhancer once again, but on my new iPhone 4S. At that time I also bought my wife a new iPhone and Jailbroke it also. We continue to purchase apps from both stores and our iPhones work beautifully.

I convinced my brother to buy an iPhone because there was a jailbreak for the iPhone4 and he wanted to use MailEnhancer as well as other useful apps from the Cydia Store that enhance rather than degrade the user experience of the iPhone.

My family has purchased a total of five iPhones in the last year. This is a total of five more iPhones than we would have purchased if Jailbreaking were illegal or unavailable.

Yes, some people use Jailbreaking to get free Apps on their iPhones. People also download "cracked" apps on their PCs, Macs, and Linux Computers. Does that mean that every computer in the world should be locked and people be forced to buy apps from an "App Store" controlled by a corporation? Apple should go after the people that download these apps and the websites that distribute them.

My experience with my Jailbroken iPhone is a far cry from the severely degraded experience that Apple warns us about. It has been the exact opposite - a substantially enhanced experience.

In my case as an iPhone user, Apple has done nothing but profit from Jailbreaking for otherwise I would have simply purchased an Android device.

I firmly believe that the legality of Jailbreaking must be continued on iPhones and it should be expanded to any and all electronic devices including video game consoles to minimize the probability of anti-trust actions by Apple and the many other corporations that produce these devices.

Additionally the legality of locking device operating systems so that users have only one option for purchasing apps should be seriously considered.

Perhaps locking operating systems on devices ought to be what is illegal, not unlocking them.

I close with a comment by the developers of WeekCalendar, the most popular Calendar App in Apple's App Store: @_bolle_ we have changed it, but this is how Apple operates: when they copy ideas, they kick out the original from the store.

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