

i am an information technology professional by trade. and the way i see it, it's a matter of things being purchased. i support the extension of jailbraking (rooting, unlocking, etc.) of any personal electronic devices.

locked devices remove a great deal of freedom from the hands of consumers who are unable to upgrade and bend to the whims of the manufacturers, who at the time have more freedoms than the consumers who purchase their devices.

i have nothing against them voiding warrantys becuase of unlocking, it's a matter of understanding the risks and their inability to take care of serviceing devices that are doing things that they were not designed or expected to do.

the problem that i have is a part of the following.

A) ipad:

i have an ipad that is over the warranty period, a recent update to 5.0.1 has made the device unusable. weither this is by design or simply coincidence is not what i am here to argue, however the fact of the matter is that apple will no longer help me with this problem.

by jailbreaking the device i was able to go in, and remove the features that i did not need in order to make the device usable. apples only responce was to get a new ipad. were it not for jailbreaking i would be stuck with a device that they refuse to support after their update that is nearly forced upon my ipad rendered it close to unusable.

the following were the problems that appeared.

- slow system performance
- apps not releasing memory causing more of the above
- apps that were supposedly disabled, such as icloud, were actually running in the background on stock install without jailbreaking
- inability to add features not approved through a not so clear apps store submission process. while this is not entirely a problem with jailbreaking it is a problem nonetheless.

after jailbreaking i was able to make the deivce usable within 10 minutes. apple would of course preferr i update to the new device that does not seem to have the problems to begin with, and has more memory if they were to be a problem. this is of course using the latest ios 5.0.1 for the ipad original

B) tmobile g2 cellphone (android based):

tmobile and HTC has ended full support for this device, understandably to make room for new devices. however htc has locked the boot loader on newer versions of the os that were made after i had rooted (jailbroken) my device. if i were to have updated after that i would have been unable to make changes to my device for the sake of fixing new problems.

this practice of locking the device has also limited user choice.

since locking the bootloader with latter updates, there have been unfixed problems that can cause the device to not behave properly. if they were to unlock the bootloader, then the user would be able to choose an alternative operating system to recieve updates. as it stands now that is not an option if the latest software was loaded.

since i rooted my device before the latest series of updates (that have since stopped with the ceasing of support for the device.)

- i am able to freely choose the os version i wish to run
- i am able to look into optimizing the device as i see fit to my own usage
- i am able to take care of problems as they come up, and help others with problems if they experience something i have seen before
- i am able to provide support that neither company will prvide to myself and thus continue the usage of a device i

paid \$550 cash for.

they do not allow unlocking of the device and have gone so far as to prevent it with their updates. (windows is doing the same if you are interested, with their next mobile os)

without unlocking the device, rooting or even jailbreaking if you prefer. i would be unable to use new features or take advantage of the memory my phone has on it. by default without rooting i would be unable to remove features that make the phone run slow, are simply annoying, or taking up space i would rather use for something else.

i would also be unable to achieve the battery life i have gotten without rooting. with light usage i could make it almost 3 days, the same usage on stock would require two recharges to make it through one day.

as noted above, i paid full price for my phone, i own the hardware as it is. i do not rent it, and i did not lease or sign a two year contract for cell service to obtain the device. it should be mine to do with as i please should it not?

C) tmobile my touch 3g slide

i purchased the device outright with cash also, this was before i was having money problems, and this device is in use by my mother at the time of this writing.

the device was updated and the bootloader locked in a way the community of android developers is unable to reverse or unlock. this prevents certain things from being done to the phone, as of this writing it appears there is no way to trick the device into changing the bootloader so it can be unlocked.

along with this lock, htc and tmobile have announced that they are ending support for the device. while it is old, the device appears to have been limited with the original firmware, and thus made to force the user to upgrade to a newer phone.

at times this device has gotten 1 hour of standby on the stock os, runs slow, and many features that were working before appear not to work. this of course is not happening to everybody, but it appears to be a major problem with the last update for the device.

through a painstaking procedure that risks killing the device, i was able to make it work for the most part, but since i am unable to unlock the bootloader, i am unable to finish the procedure and get cyanogenmod 7 fully working as it should.

htc and t-mobile refuses to address this problem, and at the time, i have managed to get it working well enough to work for my mom, who is unwilling to purchase another phone because of the problems she has had, and the expense involved. thus she is stuck with a phone that is not supported, and was blacklisted for support before her warranty had run out because of the failed update.

the refusal to support her device was not because of the fact i had rooted it as i had not done that at that time. i did not know the device was having problems at that time at all, and she is not the sort to attempt to root her device which requires a bit of technical knowledge she does not have.

but there are other problems on the horizon that may come to take our freedoms away, such as the prevention of used games on the xbox and other systems on future versions. this is rumor now, but will it be that way later?

these devices are ours in that we purchased them, but in the long run, the companies want nothing more than to abuse their own customers by forcing them to update before the device is even outdated in some cases. outdated is a bit of a loose term here, but were it not for the update that nearly crippled my mom's phone, then she would have been able to keep using it as she did not want or need more.

then again, were it not for me being able to at least unlock it to a certian extent then she would have been forced to buy a new phone simply to have something usable and i have no doubt in my mind she would have wanted a smart phone.

i would like to know if anyone has an answer, how long companies will be able to force the less tech savy into an upgrade by making their phone unusable with a supposed update?