

Google Wallet PIN Retrieval

Nikolaus Stemm

February 13, 2012

What is Google Wallet?



- Stores Credit Card information on your phone
- Near Field Communication (NFC) to pay
- PIN to make it "safer"

Security Element

- Designed for phones with Near Field Communication, currently only Samsung Nexus S 4G



- Such phones have a "Secure Element" to store and encrypt data
- SE is new, and highly tamper resistant (maybe self-destructing)
- Credit Card information stored here
- Currently, very secure

So what's the problem?

- Joshua Rubin and zveloLabs did some poking around on rooted phone
- Found data stored in database on phone
- "metadata" included lots of encrypted data likely used for storing SE information, like card info
- More importantly, contained easily parsed data:
 - ① Unique User IDs

So what's the problem?

- Joshua Rubin and zveloLabs did some poking around on rooted phone
- Found data stored in database on phone
- "metadata" included lots of encrypted data likely used for storing SE information, like card info
- More importantly, contained easily parsed data:
 - ① Unique User IDs
 - ② Google account information

So what's the problem?

- Joshua Rubin and zveloLabs did some poking around on rooted phone
- Found data stored in database on phone
- "metadata" included lots of encrypted data likely used for storing SE information, like card info
- More importantly, contained easily parsed data:
 - ① Unique User IDs
 - ② Google account information
 - ③ Cloud to Device Messaging account info ("push" notifications)

So what's the problem?

- Joshua Rubin and zveloLabs did some poking around on rooted phone
- Found data stored in database on phone
- "metadata" included lots of encrypted data likely used for storing SE information, like card info
- More importantly, contained easily parsed data:
 - ① Unique User IDs
 - ② Google account information
 - ③ Cloud to Device Messaging account info ("push" notifications)
 - ④ Google Wallet Setup status

So what's the problem?

- Joshua Rubin and zveloLabs did some poking around on rooted phone
- Found data stored in database on phone
- "metadata" included lots of encrypted data likely used for storing SE information, like card info
- More importantly, contained easily parsed data:
 - ① Unique User IDs
 - ② Google account information
 - ③ Cloud to Device Messaging account info ("push" notifications)
 - ④ Google Wallet Setup status
 - ⑤ Secure Element status

So what's the problem?

- Joshua Rubin and zveloLabs did some poking around on rooted phone
- Found data stored in database on phone
- "metadata" included lots of encrypted data likely used for storing SE information, like card info
- More importantly, contained easily parsed data:
 - ① Unique User IDs
 - ② Google account information
 - ③ Cloud to Device Messaging account info ("push" notifications)
 - ④ Google Wallet Setup status
 - ⑤ Secure Element status
 - ⑥ The big one: PIN information

What kind of PIN information?

- 1 SHA256 hash string

What kind of PIN information?

- ① SHA256 hash string
- ② long integer salt

What kind of PIN information?

- ① SHA256 hash string
- ② long integer salt
- ③ A PIN is only 4 digits

What kind of PIN information?

- ① SHA256 hash string
- ② long integer salt
- ③ A PIN is only 4 digits
- ④ Only 10,000 possibilities

What kind of PIN information?

- ① SHA256 hash string
- ② long integer salt
- ③ A PIN is only 4 digits
- ④ Only 10,000 possibilities
- ⑤ Easy to brute force

- Created Google Wallet Cracker app to prove it
- Takes under 2 seconds to find PIN
- Video: http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=P655GXnE_ic

How to fix it?

Just need to move the PIN to the Secure Element

- Need to get code digitally signed by manufacturer - takes time, but not difficult
- Moving PIN may be "change of agency" - banks now responsible for PIN security
- Banks may choose to allow security risk to continue to avoid liability

What to do in the meantime?

Slow bad guy down to give you time to call your bank!

- 1 Don't root phone

What to do in the meantime?

Slow bad guy down to give you time to call your bank!

- 1 Don't root phone
- 2 Lock Screens

What to do in the meantime?

Slow bad guy down to give you time to call your bank!

- ① Don't root phone
- ② Lock Screens
- ③ Disable debugging

What to do in the meantime?

Slow bad guy down to give you time to call your bank!

- ① Don't root phone
- ② Lock Screens
- ③ Disable debugging
- ④ Encrypt disk

What to do in the meantime?

Slow bad guy down to give you time to call your bank!

- ① Don't root phone
- ② Lock Screens
- ③ Disable debugging
- ④ Encrypt disk
- ⑤ Install updates!

The End

Questions?

[http:](#)

[//nakedsecurity.sophos.com/2012/02/09/google-wallet-pins-easily-stolen-from-rooted-devices/](http://nakedsecurity.sophos.com/2012/02/09/google-wallet-pins-easily-stolen-from-rooted-devices/)

<https://zvelo.com/blog/entry/google-wallet-security-pin-exposure-vulnerability>

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=P655GXnE_ic

<http://www.google.com/wallet/>