

Controlling mobile data usage on Android enabled devices

There are various measures you can take to avoid unnecessary data consumption.

TIP: Turn off mobile data when not in use



- To turn off mobile data, open the **'Settings'** application from the applications menu
- Click on **'Data Usage'**
- If you would like to turn off mobile data, simply **unselect** the **'Mobile data'** box found at the top of your screen.

TIP: Switch to a WiFi connection whenever this is available



- To connect to an available wireless network, open the **'Settings'** application from the applications menu.
- Click on the **Wi-Fi option** 
- If you would like to turn Wi-Fi on, simply flip the switch at the top to **'On'**. You will then be provided with a list of WiFi networks available in your area.
- **Choose a wireless network** from the list provided.
- If prompted, insert the **password**. Putting a check mark in the box by the **'Show Password'** option makes it easier to type a long, complex network password.
- Touch the **'Connect'** button in order to connect to your selected WiFi network. When the phone is connected, you see this Wi-Fi status icon  at the top of the screen.

TIP: Update any Apps whilst connected to WiFi

Automatic updates of your applications are often carried in the background and may consume a considerable amount from your data package. To avoid this, make sure that you update Apps using WiFi by following these simple steps.

- Open **'Google Play'**
- Tap on the three horizontal lines icon at the top left corner
- Choose **'Settings'**
- Under **'General'** choose **'Auto-update apps'** and select **'Auto-update apps over Wi-Fi only'**

TIP: Restrict background data

Some Apps may continue running in the background, even if they are not in use, and consequently will consume a considerable amount from your data package. In this case, you might want to restrict that particular App from using your mobile data.

- Click on the **'Settings'** menu and click **'Data Usage'** to view which App is consuming the most mobile data
- Select the Apps which are consuming the most data and scroll to the bottom. Check the box **'Restrict background data'**.

TIP: Turn off push notifications

Whenever you receive a new email or incoming news from your social media accounts, you will receive a notification. Such notifications will consume your mobile data. If you wish to turn off push notifications all you need to do is follow these simple steps.



- Open the **'Settings'** application from the **'Applications'** menu
- Tap on **'Sound & Notifications'**
- Scroll down and click on **'App notifications'**. Every App is listed here.
- Select the Apps which you would like to disable the push notifications and slide the toggle of the **'Block'** option to **'on'**.

TIP: Monitor your mobile data consumption

Monitor your data usage by using the in-built application on your mobile. Alternatively you can download other applications to track data usage.



- To access the data monitoring in-built application, open the **'Settings'** application from the **'Applications'** menu
- Click on **'Data Usage'**
- You can now navigate through this App to see how your data is being consumed and how much data has been consumed within a certain period of time

TIP: Setting mobile data consumption limits

Android's in-built application also has the facility to set data limits. This function is particularly helpful if you have a free data allocated within your tariff plan.

- From the **'Data Usage'** settings screen, select the checkbox **'Mobile Data'**.
- Select the checkbox **'Set Mobile Data Limit'**.

- **Drag the black warning bar** to set a **threshold of your choice** so that you will be alerted as soon as you reach this threshold, by means of a notification.
- **Drag the orange bar** to a **limit of your choice**. When reaching such limit, mobile data is automatically disconnected. However, if you wish to continue using mobile data, a warning message will be displayed on your screen to turn on data facility.

For more detailed information visit, www.mca.org.mt/bedatasmart