WhatsApp privacy settings

Controls & Settings guide

WhatsApp privacy settings allow you to restrict who can see your child's messages and location. There are also ways to block delete or report users on the platform. Please note, **WhatsApp new privacy policy** has come into effect starting May 15.

What do I need?

A WhatsApp account

Chatting

Downloading file sharing

Location sharing

Privacy

Privacy and identity theft

Step by Step instructions

These steps were produced on an iPhone.

Control who sees your information

How to block contacts

How to report contacts

How to change group privacy settings

Disable automatic photo or video downloads

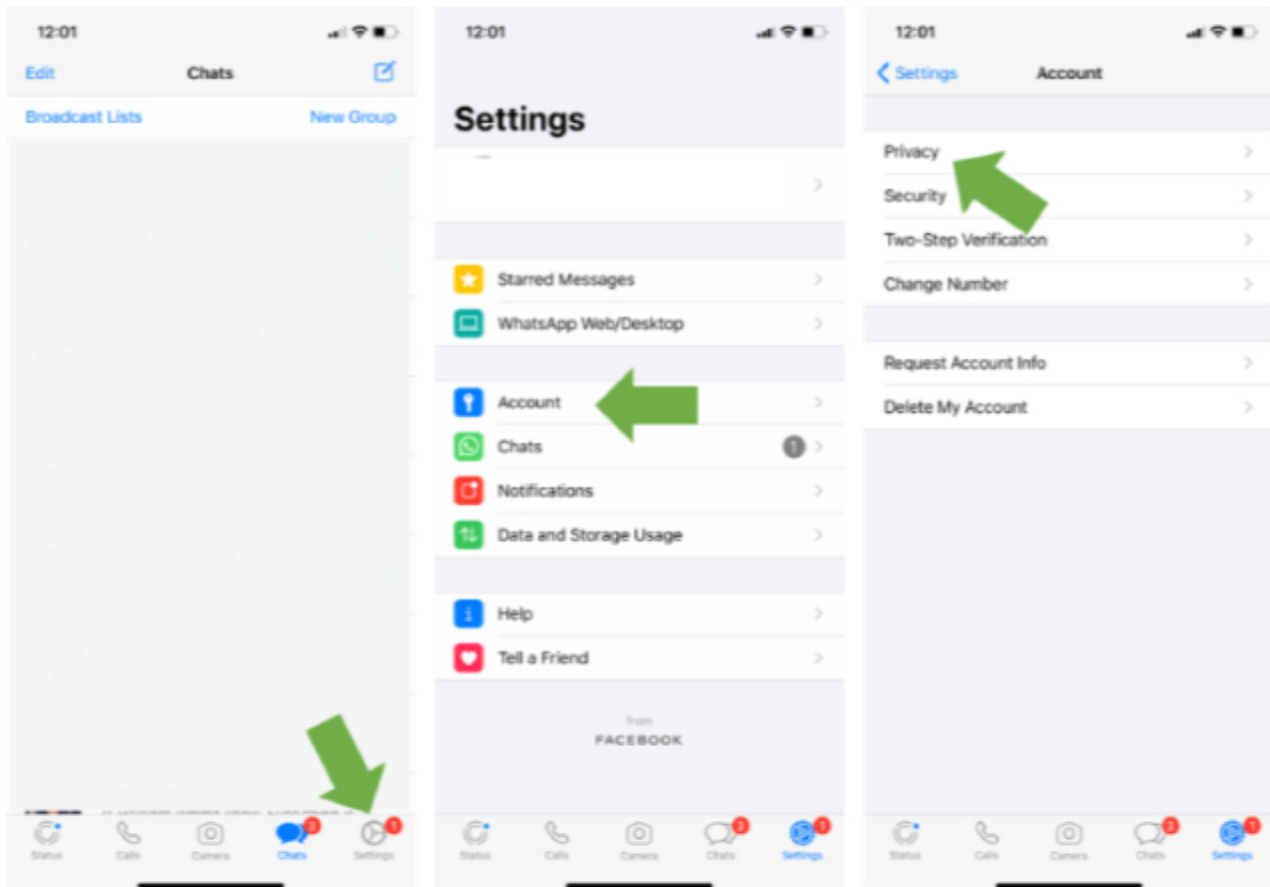Enable Screen Lock

Disable Live Location

1 Control who sees your information

You can set your last seen, profile photo and/or status to the following options:
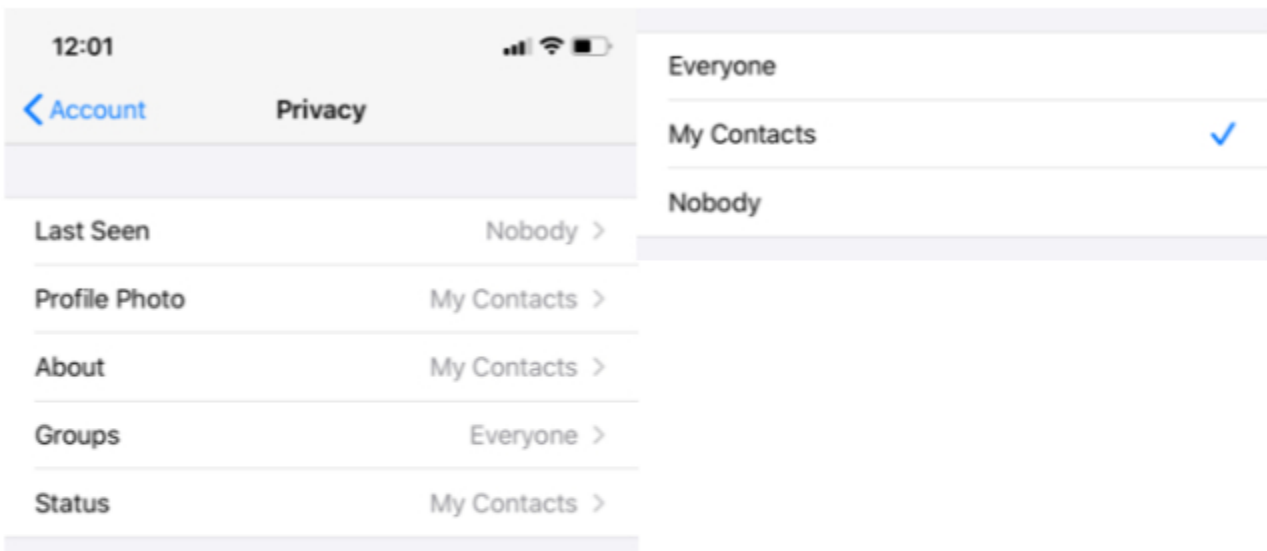
Everyone, My Contacts and Nobody:

1. Open WhatsApp and go to your Settings, tap Account, then tap Privacy.

2. Next, tap your selected option, then choose from either option: 'Everyone', 'My Contacts' or 'Nobody'.

3. The changes will be applied automatically.

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12:01

< Account **Privacy**

Last Seen	Nobody >
Profile Photo	My Contacts >
About	My Contacts >
Groups	Everyone >
Status	My Contacts >

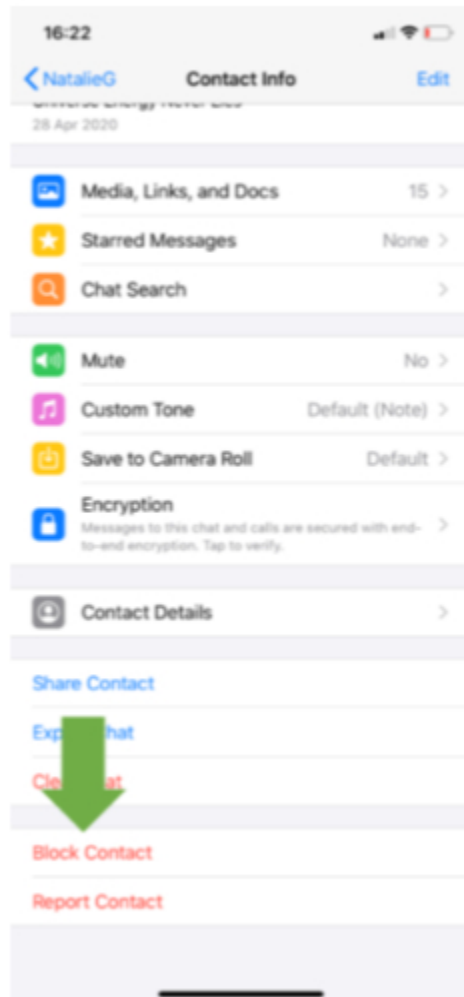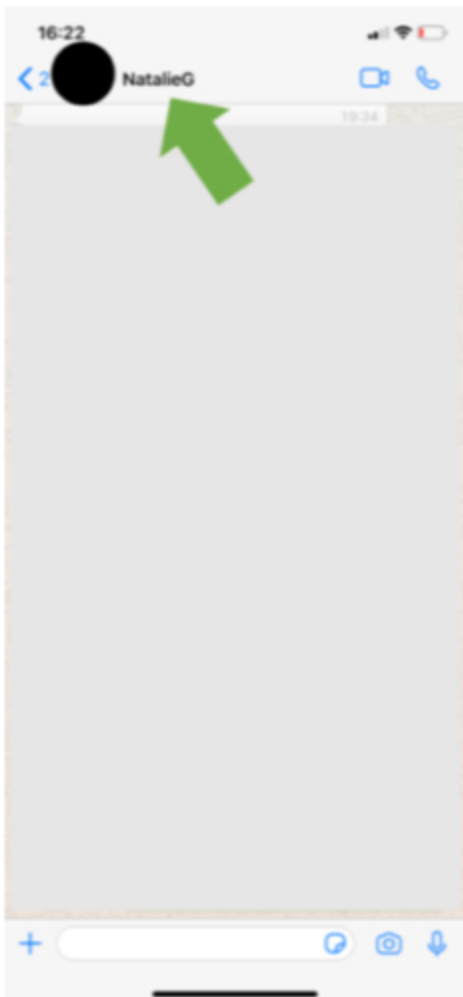|	
Everyone	
My Contacts	✓
Nobody	

2

How to block contacts

You can stop receiving messages, calls and status updates from certain contacts by blocking them.

Open WhatsApp, choose the person you want to block either by searching or scrolling through your chat list.

2. Tap on their name, then scroll down and tap Block Contact.

16:22

< 2 NatalieG

16:22

< NatalieG **Contact Info** Edit

28 Apr 2020

Media, Links, and Docs		15 >
Starred Messages		None >
Chat Search		>
Mute		No >
Custom Tone		Default (Note) >
Save to Camera Roll		Default >
Encryption	Messages to this chat and calls are secured with end-to-end encryption. Tap to verify.	>
Contact Details		>

Share Contact

Export Chat

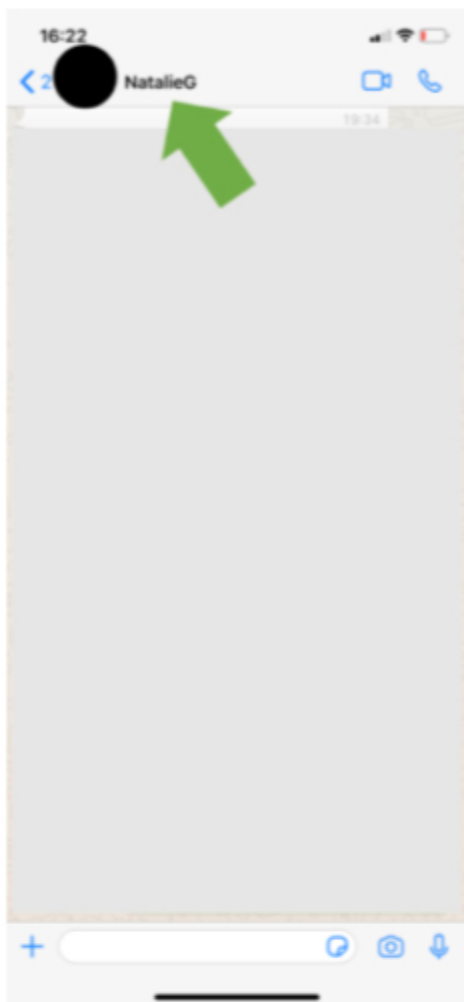Clear Chat

Block Contact

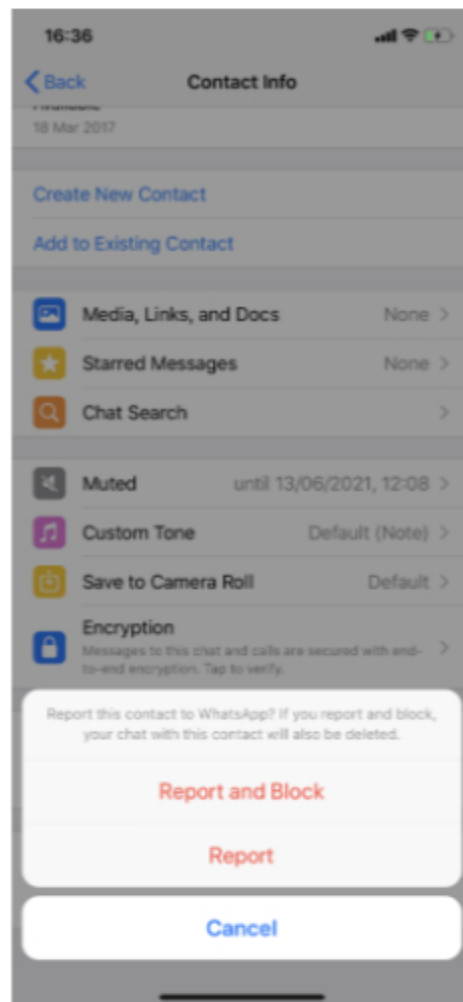Report Contact

③ How to report contacts

1. Open WhatsApp, choose the person you want to report either by searching or scrolling through your chat list.

2. Tap on their name, then scroll down and tap Report or Report and Block Contact.

Please note, if you report and block, your chat with this contact will also be deleted.

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②

4 How to change group privacy settings

You can decide who can add you to groups by selecting your preferred option.

Open WhatsApp, go to **Settings**, tap **Account**, **Privacy** then **Groups**.

2. Next, choose from either option:'Everyone', 'My Contacts' or 'My Contacts Except...'

Admins who can't add you to a group will have the option of inviting you privately instead.

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12:01

‹ Account   **Privacy**

Last Seen   Nobody ›

Profile Photo   My Contacts ›

About   My Contacts ›

Groups   Everyone ›

Status   My Contacts ›

4

16:43

‹ Privacy   **Groups**

WHO CAN ADD ME TO GROUPS

Everyone   ✓

My Contacts

My Contacts Except....   ›

Admins who can't add you to a group will have the option of inviting you privately instead.

Status   Calls   Camera   Chats   Settings
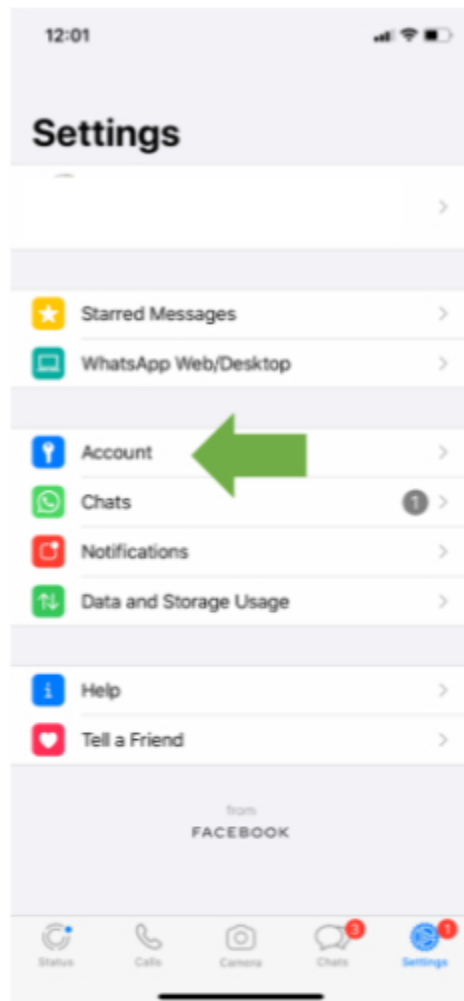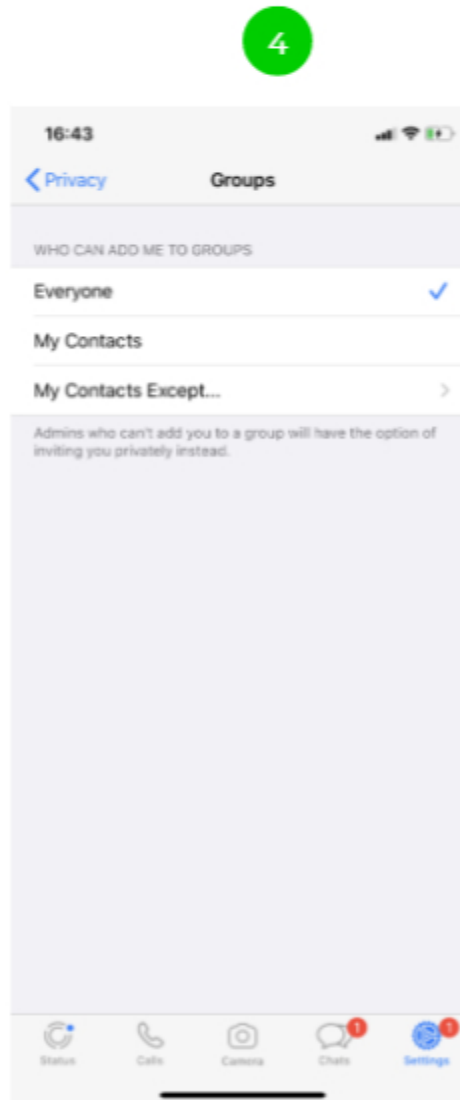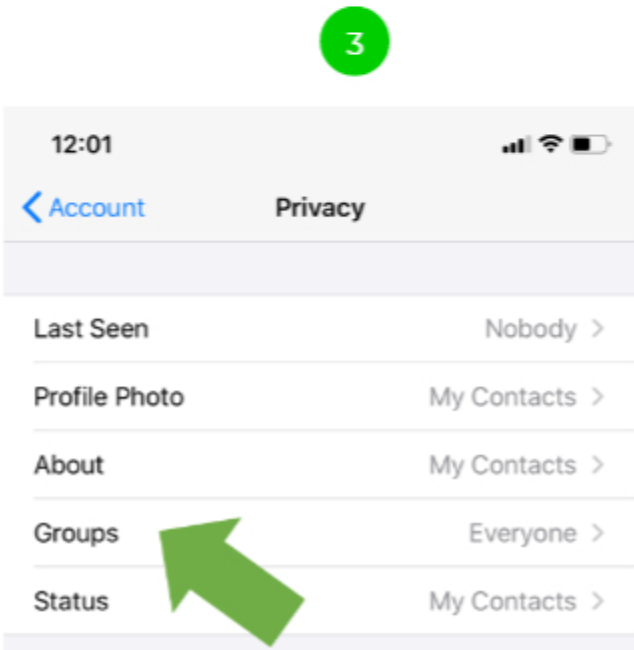
5 Disable automatic photo or video downloads

The default settings for WhatsApp is that photos and videos you receive are automatically saved to your camera roll. To disable this:

Open WhatsApp, go to Setting, tap Chat, next to Save to Camera Roll, slide to toggle off.

If prompted, tap DONE or tap OK.

Group privacy settings aren't available on WhatsApp Web or Desktop.

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12:01				
Edit	Chats			
Broadcast Lists		New Group		

2

Settings

⭐ Starred Messages
💻 WhatsApp Web/Desktop

🔵 Account
🟢 Chats
🔴 Notifications
🔄 Data and Storage Usage

ℹ️ Help
❤️ Tell a Friend

from
FACEBOOK

3

‹ Settings   Chats

Chat Wallpaper

Save to Camera Roll

Automatically save photos and videos you receive to your iPhone's Camera Roll.

Chat Backup

Archive All Chats

Clear All Chats

Delete All Chats

6 Enable Screen Lock

When enabled, you'll need Face ID to unlock WhatsApp.

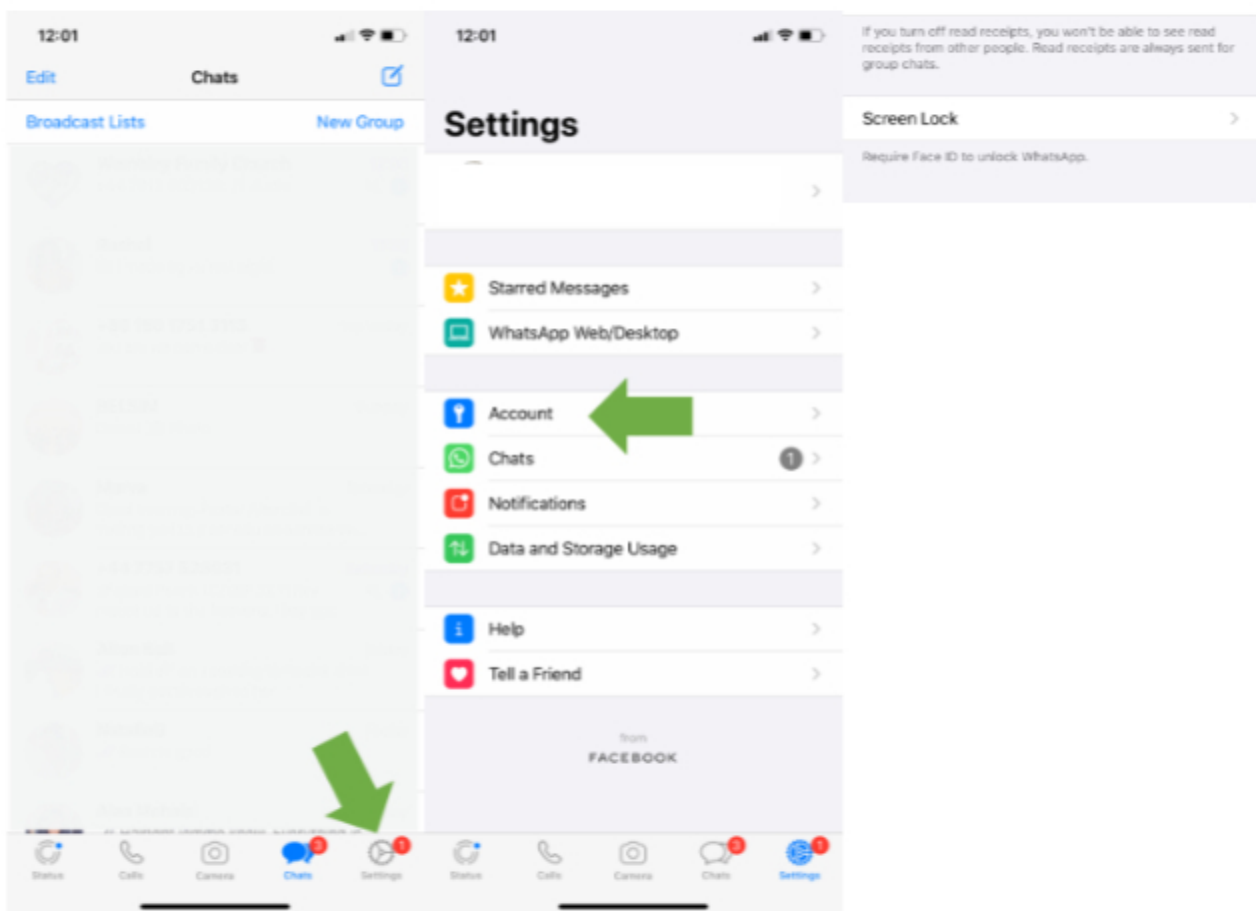Open WhatsApp, go to Settings, tap Account, Privacy then tap Screen Lock.

Swipe to switch the feature on, then tap the time you want to apply.
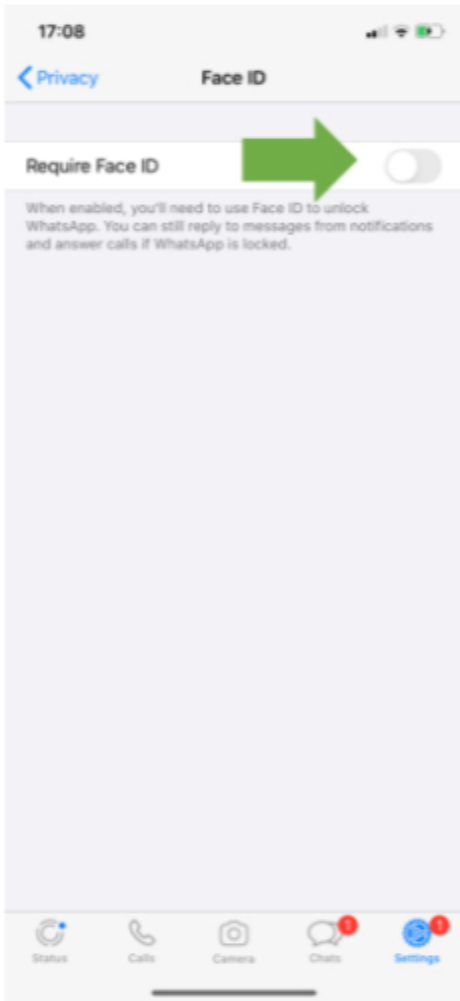
These changes are automatically applied.

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4

17:08

< Privacy   Face ID

Require Face ID ....→ ⬜

When enabled, you'll need to use Face ID to unlock WhatsApp. You can still reply to messages from notifications and answer calls if WhatsApp is locked.

Status   Calls   Camera   Chats   Settings

5

17:09

< Privacy   Face ID

Require Face ID   🟢

When enabled, you'll need to use Face ID to unlock WhatsApp. You can still reply to messages from notifications and answer calls if WhatsApp is locked.

Immediately   ✓

After 1 minute

After 15 minutes

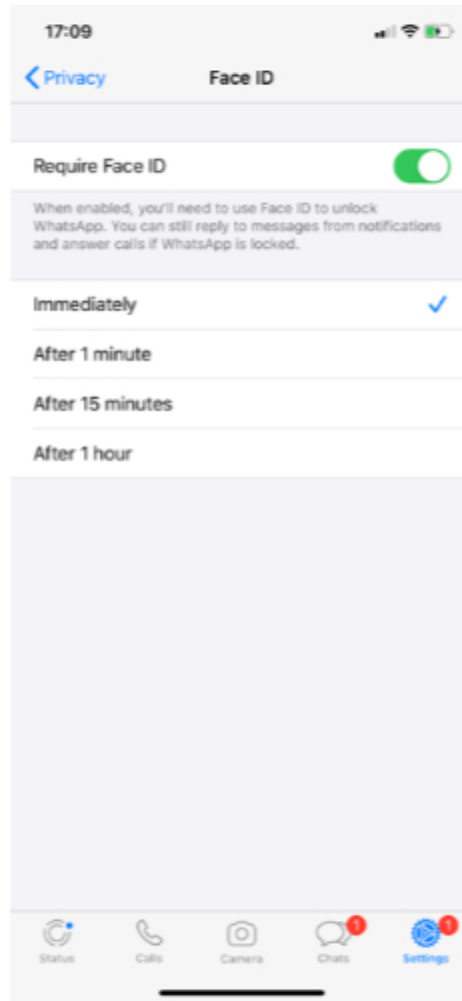After 1 hour

Status   Calls   Camera   Chats   Settings

7 Disable Live Location

Live location requires background location which can be managed from your device settings:

Go to your device Settings, then scroll down to WhatsApp, tap this then tap Location. To turn off location select the Never or Ask Next Time option.

Go back to WhatsApp to check the location is switched off. Go to Settings, Account, Privacy then Live Location.
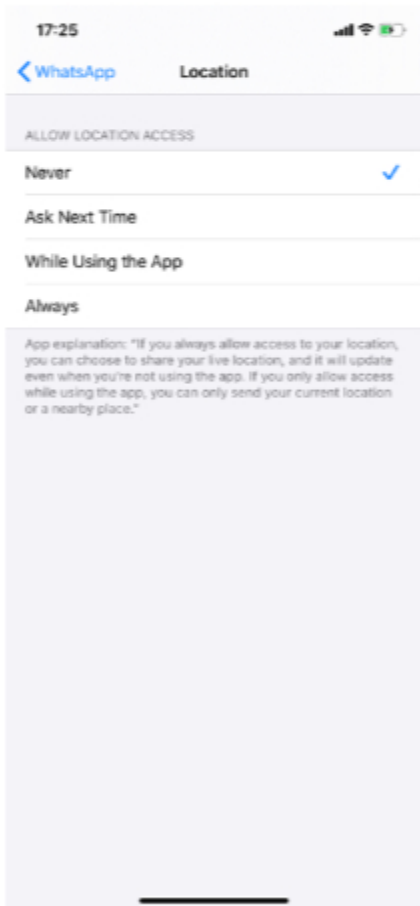
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17:25

‹ WhatsApp **Location**

ALLOW LOCATION ACCESS

Never   ✓

Ask Next Time

While Using the App

Always

App explanation: "If you always allow access to your location,
you can choose to share your live location, and it will update
even when you're not using the app. If you only allow access
while using the app, you can only send your current location
or a nearby place."

17:27

‹ Privacy **Live Location**

You aren't sharing live location in any chats.

Live location requires background location. You can manage
this in your device settings.

Status Calls Camera Chats Settings