

A GUIDE TO PASSING THROUGH UK BORDERS WITH PRIVACY

THE RIGHT TO PRIVACY IS A FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT
HERE ARE SOME PRACTICAL STEPS TO HELP MAINTAIN YOUR PRIVACY

1. TRAVEL LIGHT

- Only take devices that you need.

2. USE A STRONG PASSWORD

- Ensure all your devices and accounts are password protected
- Strong *passphrases* are around 20 characters or more in length, easy to remember, but difficult to guess.

3. BACKUP ALL CONTENT ON YOUR PHONE

- Download all your photos and videos from your phone to a hard drive or laptop.
- Back up all other data to the cloud (for example: emails, contacts, calendar and browser history).

4. WIPE YOUR PHONE

Now you need to wipe your device, depending on your preferences there are two ways you can do this:

| BASIC |
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| While at home or en route: |
| Specifically delete all your cloud based apps. You will have to: 1. Sign out of the apps manually and 2. Delete the apps. Do not forget to delete your SMS and call history manually. Once completed: soft reset your phone |
| Once arrived at destination – restore your phone’s content |
| Connect to wifi and begin reinstalling those apps you deleted Then sign into each app again. Everything should work from there onwards |

| ADVANCED |
|---|
| While at home: |
| Factory reset your phone while you have time at hand. It will mean that you will be offline from this point onwards. |
| Once arrived at destination – restore your phone’s content |
| Ensure you have a steady wifi connection and then restore your phone from the cloud. You should allow 1-2 hours for this process, depending on the speed of your connection. |

WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE ASKED FOR YOUR DEVICES

If you're stopped under Schedule 7 on your journey and you have followed the above steps, then your phone will either:

1. **Be totally blank due to factory reset or**
2. **Have content but all the cloud and messaging apps are deleted.**

Under Schedule 7 you may be asked to surrender your passwords. If you do not comply, you risk committing an offence. However, if you have followed the above steps most of your confidential information will remain private.

If after this there is still confidential or work material on your phone you are allowed to assert confidentiality and officers should cease search.

You may be without your devices for a week, so be prepared for that too.

If you are stopped under Schedule 7, make sure you contact a lawyer and get in touch with CAGE.

For more information on Schedule 7, see [here](#).