

Android Third-Party Apps Forensics REFERENCE GUIDE

The aim of this poster is to provide a list of the most interesting files and folders in the "Data" folder for the most commonly used third-party apps.

DFPS_ANDROID-APPS-v11_04-21
This poster was created by Mattia Epifani (@mattiaep) with support from the SANS DFIR Faculty.
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Android apps can be installed from the Google Play Store, from other App stores, and also directly on the device via the ADB or SD Card. Apps are organized based on categories (e.g., Communications, Social Networking, Business/Productivity, and so on).

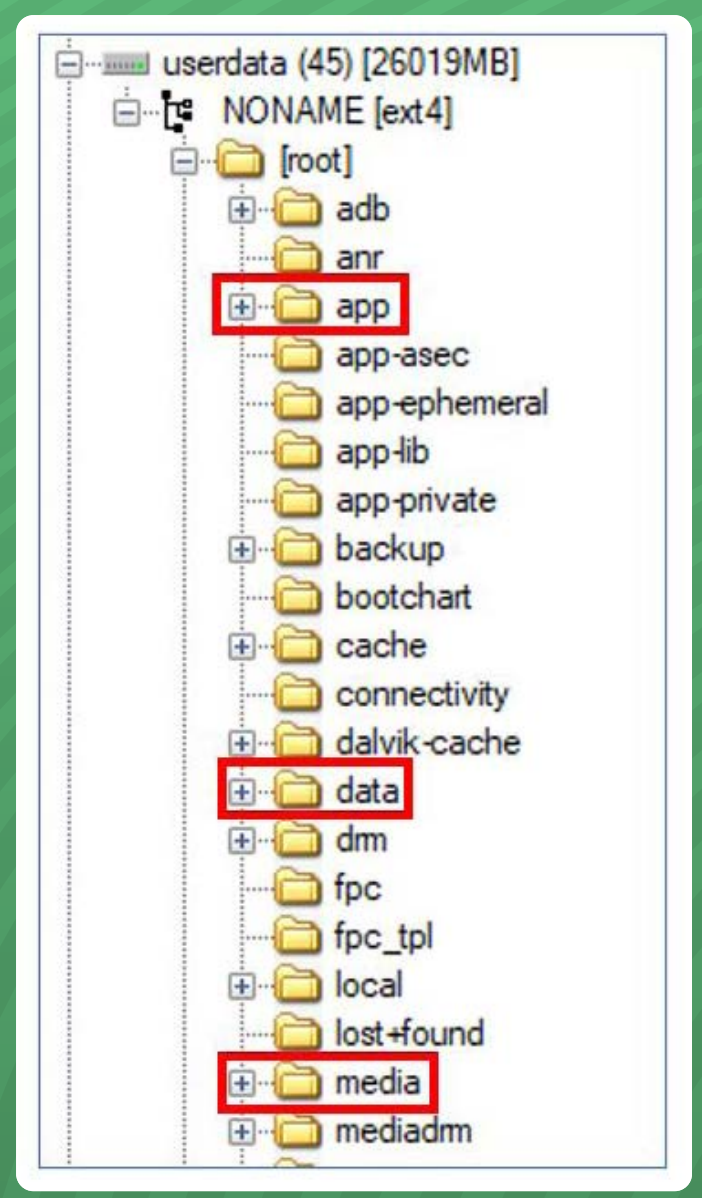
Once an app is installed on an Android device:

- App APK is stored in the USERDATA partition in a subfolder of the "/app" folder
- App Data is stored in the USERDATA partition in a subfolder of the "/data" folder (app Sandbox)

The App Data folder uses the package name (e.g., "com.whatsapp," "com.facebook.katana," "org.telegram.messenger").

The "/data/com.android.vending/database/localappstate.db" file contains information about installed packages.

Once installed, an app can request permissions to read and write data in the "/media" folder in the USERDATA partition.



Entertainment/Photo & Video

<p>Apple Music</p> <p>PLAY STORE URL: https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.apple.android.music</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Internal App Path</th> <th>File Name</th> <th>File Type</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>/data/com.apple.android.music/</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>/databases/</td> <td>accounts.sqlitedb</td> <td>SQLite</td> </tr> <tr> <td>/databases/</td> <td>bookkeeper.db</td> <td>SQLite</td> </tr> <tr> <td>/databases/</td> <td>MediaLibrary.sqlitedb</td> <td>SQLite</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Internal App Path	File Name	File Type	/data/com.apple.android.music/			/databases/	accounts.sqlitedb	SQLite	/databases/	bookkeeper.db	SQLite	/databases/	MediaLibrary.sqlitedb	SQLite	<p>Imgur</p> <p>PLAY STORE URL: https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.imgur.mobile</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Internal App Path</th> <th>File Name</th> <th>File Type</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>/data/com.imgur.mobile/</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>/cache/image_manager_disk_cache/</td> <td>*</td> <td>Various</td> </tr> <tr> <td>/cache/ohhttpcache/</td> <td>*</td> <td>Various</td> </tr> <tr> <td>/cache/videooplayer/</td> <td>*</td> <td>Various</td> </tr> <tr> <td>/databases/</td> <td>imgur.db</td> <td>SQLite</td> </tr> <tr> <td>/shared_prefs/</td> <td>com.imgur.mobile_preferences.xml</td> <td>XML</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Internal App Path	File Name	File Type	/data/com.imgur.mobile/			/cache/image_manager_disk_cache/	*	Various	/cache/ohhttpcache/	*	Various	/cache/videooplayer/	*	Various	/databases/	imgur.db	SQLite	/shared_prefs/	com.imgur.mobile_preferences.xml	XML															
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Business/Productivity

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/databases/	domobile_elock.db	SQLite																																												
/files/Media/	<User_ID>	SQLite																																												
/shared_prefs/	com_domobile.aplock_preferences.xml	XML																																												
Internal App Path	File Name	File Type																																												
/media/																																														
/MySecurityData/dont_remove/	*	Various																																												
/domo0/bitile/dont_remove/	*	Various																																												
Internal App Path	File Name	File Type																																												
/data/com.google.android.apps.chrome.cast.app/																																														
/databases/	account_notifications.db	SQLite																																												
/databases/	growth.db	SQLite																																												
/shared_prefs/	com.google.android.apps.chrome.cast_app_preferences.xml	XML																																												
/shared_prefs/	com.google.android.apps.chrome.cast_app_preferences_no_backup.xml	XML																																												
<p>Burner</p> <p>PLAY STORE URL: https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.adhoclabs.burner</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Internal App Path</th> <th>File Name</th> <th>File Type</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>/data/com.adhoclabs.burner/</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>/databases/</td> <td>burners.db</td> <td>SQLite</td> </tr> <tr> <td>/shared_prefs/</td> <td>GeneralPreferences.xml</td> <td>XML</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Internal App Path	File Name	File Type	/data/com.adhoclabs.burner/			/databases/	burners.db	SQLite	/shared_prefs/	GeneralPreferences.xml	XML	<p>iSharing</p> <p>PLAY STORE URL: https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.isharing.isharing</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Internal App Path</th> <th>File Name</th> <th>File Type</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>/data/com.isharing.isharing/</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>/databases/</td> <td>com.hypertack.companion.device_logs.db</td> <td>SQLite</td> </tr> <tr> <td>/databases/</td> <td>isharing_talk</td> <td>SQLite</td> </tr></tbody></table>	Internal App Path	File Name	File Type	/data/com.isharing.isharing/			/databases/	com.hypertack.companion.device_logs.db	SQLite	/databases/	isharing_talk	SQLite																					
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/databases/	burners.db	SQLite																																												
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/databases/	com.hypertack.companion.device_logs.db	SQLite																																												
/databases/	isharing_talk	SQLite																																												

Social Networking



Facebook

PLAY STORE URL: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.facebook.katana>

Internal App Path	File Name	File Type
/data/com.facebook.katana/		
/app_compactdisk/		Various
/app_light_prefs/	logged_in_<User_ID>	JSON
/cache/compactdisk/	*	Various
/cache/compactdisk/	*	Various
/cache/compactdisk/	*	Various
/cache/compactdisk/	*	Various
/databases/	admined_pages.db	SQLite
/databases/	bookmarks_db2	SQLite
/databases/	contacts_db2	SQLite
/databases/	data_usage.db	SQLite
/databases/	events.db	SQLite
/databases/	fb.db	SQLite
/databases/	local_media_db	SQLite
/databases/	nearbyfiles.db	SQLite
/databases/	newfeed.db	SQLite
/databases/	omnistore_<User_ID>_v01.db	SQLite
/databases/	prefs.db	SQLite
/databases/	search_bootstrap.db	SQLite
/databases/	threads_db2	SQLite
/databases/	time_in_app_<User_ID>.db	SQLite
/databases/	uploadmanager.db	SQLite
/files/ExoPlayerCacheDir/	*	Various
/shared_prefs/	com.facebook.orca_preferences.xml	XML

Internal App Path: /media/ File Name: File Type: /DCIM/Facebook/ * Various

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<https://onlinebrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/1556-4029.13267>
<http://cheeky46monkey.blogspot.com/2014/01/facebook-facebook-messenger-android-app.html>
<http://freeandroidforensics.blogspot.com/2015/02/facebook-for-android-artifacts.html>
https://www.academia.edu/10726810/Social_Media_Forensics_on_Mobile_Devices
<https://www.oreilly.com/library/view/learning-android-forensics/9781782745781/ch07s3.html>
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/00450618.2015.1066854>

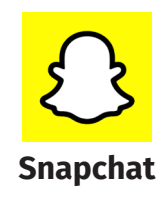


Skout

PLAY STORE URL: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.skout.android>

Internal App Path	File Name	File Type
/data/com.skout.android/		
/cache/cache1/	*	Various
/databases/	skout.db	SQLite
/databases/	skoutDatabase	SQLite
/shared_prefs/	LOGIN_PREFS.xml	XML
/shared_prefs/	USERID_PREFS.xml	XML

REFERENCES:
<https://onlinebrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/1556-4029.13267>
<https://bebinaryk6.blogspot.com/2010/05/app-skout-on-android.html>
<https://media.kasperskycontenthub.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/58/2017/10/21180944/1505.02906.pdf>



Snapchat

PLAY STORE URL: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.snapchat.android>

Internal App Path	File Name	File Type
/data/com.snapchat.android/		
/databases/	armyodb	SQLite
/databases/	gallery_database.db	SQLite
/databases/	journal.db	SQLite
/databases/	main.db	SQLite
/databases/	memories.db	SQLite
/databases/	tcspah.db	SQLite
/files/file_manager/	*	Various
/shared_prefs/	com.snapchat.android_preferences.xml	XML
/shared_prefs/	user_session_shared_pref.xml	XML

Internal App Path: /media/ File Name: File Type: /Snapchat/ * Various

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<https://onlinebrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/1556-4029.13267>
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1878699713110061.pdf>
<https://thebinaryk6.blogspot.com/2019/06/01/two-snaps-and-a-twist-an-in-depth-and-updated-look-at-snapchat-on-android>
https://www.researchgate.net/publication/317549540_Snapchat_Analysis_to_Discover_Digital_Forensic_Artifacts_on_Android_Smartphone
<https://courses.csail.mit.edu/6.857/2016/Files/11.pdf>
<https://www.oreilly.com/library/view/learning-android-forensics/9781782745781/ch07s6.html>

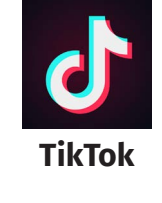


Houseparty

PLAY STORE URL: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.houseparty>

Internal App Path	File Name	File Type
/data/com.houseparty/		
/cache/image_manager_disk_cache/	*	Various
/databases/	instabug.db	SQLite
/files/	default.realm	Realm
/shared_prefs/	instabug.xml	XML

REFERENCES:
https://www.researchgate.net/publication/343018157_NEW_AND_EMERGING_MOBILE_APPS_AMONG_TEENS_-_ARE_FORENSIC_TOOLS_KEEPIING_UP



TikTok

PLAY STORE URL: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.zhiliaoapp.musically>

Internal App Path	File Name	File Type
/data/com.zhiliaoapp.musically/		
/databases/	<User_ID>.im.db	SQLite
/databases/	aweme.db	SQLite
/databases/	download.db	SQLite
/databases/	db_im_xx	SQLite
/databases/	TIKTOK.db	SQLite
/databases/	video.db	SQLite
/files/	*	Various
/shared_prefs/	aweme_usxml	XML

Internal App Path: /media/ File Name: File Type: /Android/data/com.zhiliaoapp.musically/cache/ * Various

REFERENCES:
<https://thebinaryk6.blogspot.com/2018/11/finding-tiktok-messages-in-android.html>
<https://github.com/labrignol/FDR-SQL-Query-Repo/tree/master/Android/TIKTOK>
https://www.researchgate.net/publication/34385672_Post-mortem_digital_forensic_artifacts_of_TIKTOK_Android_App



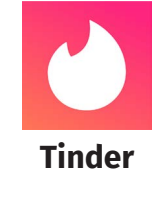
Instagram

PLAY STORE URL: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.instagram.android>

Internal App Path	File Name	File Type
/data/com.instagram.android/		
/cache/	ManifestFree-<User_ID>.json	JSON
/cache/	tmp_photo_*.jpg	JPG
/cache/images/	*	JPG
/cache/original_images/	*	Various
/databases/	contacts_db2	SQLite
/databases/	direct.db	SQLite
/databases/	fileregistry.db	SQLite
/databases/	time_in_app_<User_ID>.db	SQLite
/databases/	transactions.db	SQLite
/files/music/	*	Various
/files/rendered_media_images/	*	Various
/files/rendered_videos/	*	Various
/shared_prefs/	<User_ID>.xml	XML
/shared_prefs/	<User_ID>.USER_PREFERENCES.xml	XML
/shared_prefs/	<User_ID>.usersbootstrapService.xml	XML
/shared_prefs/	com.instagram.android_preferences.xml	XML

Internal App Path: /media/ File Name: File Type: /Movies/Instagram/ * Various

REFERENCES:
<https://pscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1757-899X/10/07/102116/pdf>
<https://www.techscience.com/cvse/v2n2/41447.pdf>
https://www.researchgate.net/publication/3474116_Investigation_on_Instagram_Android-based_using_Digital_Forensics_Research_Workshop_Framework



Tinder

PLAY STORE URL: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.tinder>

Internal App Path	File Name	File Type
/data/com.tinder/		
/cache/picasso-cache/	*	Various
/databases/	tinder.db	SQLite
/shared_prefs/	SP.xml	XML

REFERENCES:
<https://media.kasperskycontenthub.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/58/2017/10/21180944/1505.02906.pdf>



MeWe

PLAY STORE URL: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.mewe>

Internal App Path	File Name	File Type
/data/com.mewe/		
/cache/image_manager_disk_cache/	*	Various
/databases/	app_database	SQLite
/shared_prefs/	SGSession.xml	XML



Whisper

PLAY STORE URL: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.whisper>

Internal App Path	File Name	File Type
/data/sh.whisper/		
/databases/	adb	SQLite
/databases/	wdb	SQLite
/shared_prefs/	sh.whisper_preferences.xml	XML

REFERENCES:
<https://onlinebrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/1556-4029.13267>
<https://www.nw3.org/docs/research/whisper-application.pdf>



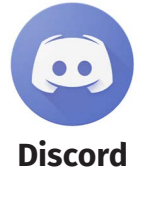
Pinterest

PLAY STORE URL: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.pinterest>

Internal App Path	File Name	File Type
/data/com.pinterest/		
/cache/picasso-cache/	*	Various
/cache/video/	*	Various
/databases/	pinterest-db-Number	SQLite
/shared_prefs/	pinterest_invite_preferences_manager.xml	XML
/shared_prefs/	pinterest.xml	XML

REFERENCES:
<https://onlinebrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/1556-4029.13267>

Communications



Discord

PLAY STORE URL: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.discord>

Internal App Path	File Name	File Type
/data/com.discord/		
/cache/app_images_cache_small/	*	Various
/databases/	com.discord_preferences.xml	XML
/shared_prefs/	prefsSessionDurable.xml	XML

Internal App Path: /media/ File Name: File Type: /Pictures/Discord/ * Various

REFERENCES:
<https://abrignoni.blogspot.com/2017/07/discord-app-forensic-artifacts-in.html>
<https://www.nw3.org/docs/research/discord.pdf>



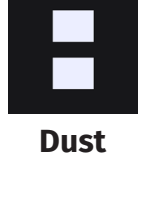
Skype

PLAY STORE URL: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.skype.raider>

Internal App Path	File Name	File Type
/data/com.skype.raider/		
/databases/	s4-live-User_ID.db	SQLite
/files/llw@3-User_ID/	esscasce.db	SQLite
/files/llw@3-User_ID/	main.db	SQLite
/files/llw@3-User_ID/	qk_main.db	SQLite
/files/llw@3-User_ID/media_messaging/	*	Various

Internal App Path: /media/ File Name: File Type: /Pictures/Skype/ * Various

REFERENCES:
<https://onlinebrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/1556-4029.13164>
<http://cseeser.xj.psu.edu/viewdoc/download?doi=10.1111.402.6279&rep=rep1&type=pdf>
<https://bebinaryk6.blogspot.com/2020/01/skype-on-android-images-in-web-cache.html>
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https://www.researchgate.net/publication/32854424_Skype_Forensics_in_Android_Devices
https://www.researchgate.net/publication/32856858_Forensics_Analysis_of_Skype_Viber_and_WhatsApp_Messenger_on_Android_Platform
<https://www.oreilly.com/library/view/learning-android-forensics/9781782745781/ch04s107/b445cd1-808-4dfe-59f-b6e4c63d1.html>



Dust

PLAY STORE URL: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.radicalapps.cyberdust>

Internal App Path	File Name	File Type
/data/com.radicalapps.cyberdust/		
/cache/image_manager_disk_cache/	*	Various
/databases/	room-db	SQLite
/shared_prefs/	AppPreferences.xml	XML

REFERENCES:
<https://www.nw3.org/docs/research/dust.pdf>



Facebook Messenger

PLAY STORE URL: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.facebook.orca>

Internal App Path	File Name	File Type
/data/com.facebook.orca/		
/app_light_prefs/	logged_in_<User_ID>	JSON
/cache/audio/	*	Various
/cache/fb_temp/	*	Various
/cache/image/	*	Various
/databases/	call_log.db	SQLite
/databases/	contacts_db2	SQLite
/databases/	omnistore_<User_ID>_v01.db	SQLite
/databases/	prefs.db	SQLite
/databases/	threads_db2	SQLite
/databases/	titan_db_<User_ID>	SQLite
/files/image/	*	JPG
/files/ExoPlayerCacheDir/	*	Various
/shared_prefs/	com.facebook.orca_preferences.xml	XML

Internal App Path: /media/ File Name: File Type: /Pictures/Messenger/ * Various

REFERENCES:
<http://cheeky46monkey.blogspot.com/2014/01/facebook-facebook-messenger-android-app.html>
<http://freeandroidforensics.blogspot.com/2015/02/facebook-for-android-artifacts.html>
https://www.academia.edu/10726810/Social_Media_Forensics_on_Mobile_Devices
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/00450618.2015.1066854?src=recsys&journalCode=taf20>
<http://jps.jaaxy.com.tw/contents/jps-v2-ns/jps-2020-v2-ns-p828-837.pdf>
<https://www.oreilly.com/library/view/learning-android-forensics/9781782745781/ch05t4.html>



Google Hangouts

PLAY STORE URL: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.google.android.talk>

Internal App Path	File Name	File Type
/data/com.google.android.talk/		
/databases/	Babel-*.db	SQLite
/shared_prefs/	accounts.xml	XML

REFERENCES:
<https://www.oreilly.com/library/view/learning-android-forensics/9781782745781/ch05t0.html>
<https://onlinebrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/1556-4029.13164>



imo

PLAY STORE URL: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.imo.android.imoos>

Internal App Path	File Name	File Type
/data/com.imo.android.imoos/		
/databases/	accountdb.db	SQLite
/databases/	imofriends.db	SQLite
/files/	*	JSON
/shared_prefs/	com.imo.android.imoos_preferences.xml	XML

Internal App Path: /media/ File Name: File Type: /IMO/ * Various

REFERENCES:
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S1742287630100994>
<https://pr.chen.gov.pk/spuq/btstream/12345689/13429/1/Muhammad%20Asad%20Qan%20Sadat%20lect%20on%202019%2019%2015%2019%2019.pdf>
<https://onlinebrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/1556-4029.13164>



kik Messenger

PLAY STORE URL: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.kik.android>

Internal App Path	File Name	File Type
/data/com.kik.android/		
/databases/	<User_ID>.contactProfileEntries.db	SQLite
/databases/	<User_ID>.kikDatabase.db	SQLite
/databases/	<User_ID>.userRosterEntries.db	SQLite
/shared_prefs/	<User_ID>.kikPreferences.xml	XML

Internal App Path: /media/ File Name: File Type: /Kik/ * Various

REFERENCES:
https://www.researchgate.net/publication/321268908_Forensic_Analysis_of_Kik_Messenger_on_Android_Devices
<https://www.oreilly.com/library/view/learning-android-forensics/9781782745781/ch07s20.html>
<https://onlinebrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/1556-4029.13164>



LINE

PLAY STORE URL: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=jp.naver.line.android>

Internal App Path	File Name	File Type
/data/jp.naver.line.android/		
/databases/	call_history	SQLite
/databases/	naver_line	SQLite
/databases/	read_notification	SQLite
/databases/	search.sqlite	SQLite

Internal App Path: /media/ File Name: File Type: /Pictures/LINE/ * Various

REFERENCES:
http://www.croc.org.tw/journal/JOC9_1/JOC-901-02.pdf
https://www.researchgate.net/publication/28999482_LINE_LiM_app_Forensic_Analysis
<https://qjs.umad.ac.id/index.php/IJK/article/download/53164/33065>
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Signal

PLAY STORE URL: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=org.thoughtcrime.securesms>

Internal App Path	File Name	File Type
/data/org.thoughtcrime.securesms/		
/cache/log/	*	TXT
/databases/	call_history	SQLite
/databases/	signal.db	SQLite
/files/avatars/	*	JPG
/shared_prefs/	org.thoughtcrime.securesms_preferences.xml	XML
/shared_prefs/	SecureSMS-Preferences.xml	XML