



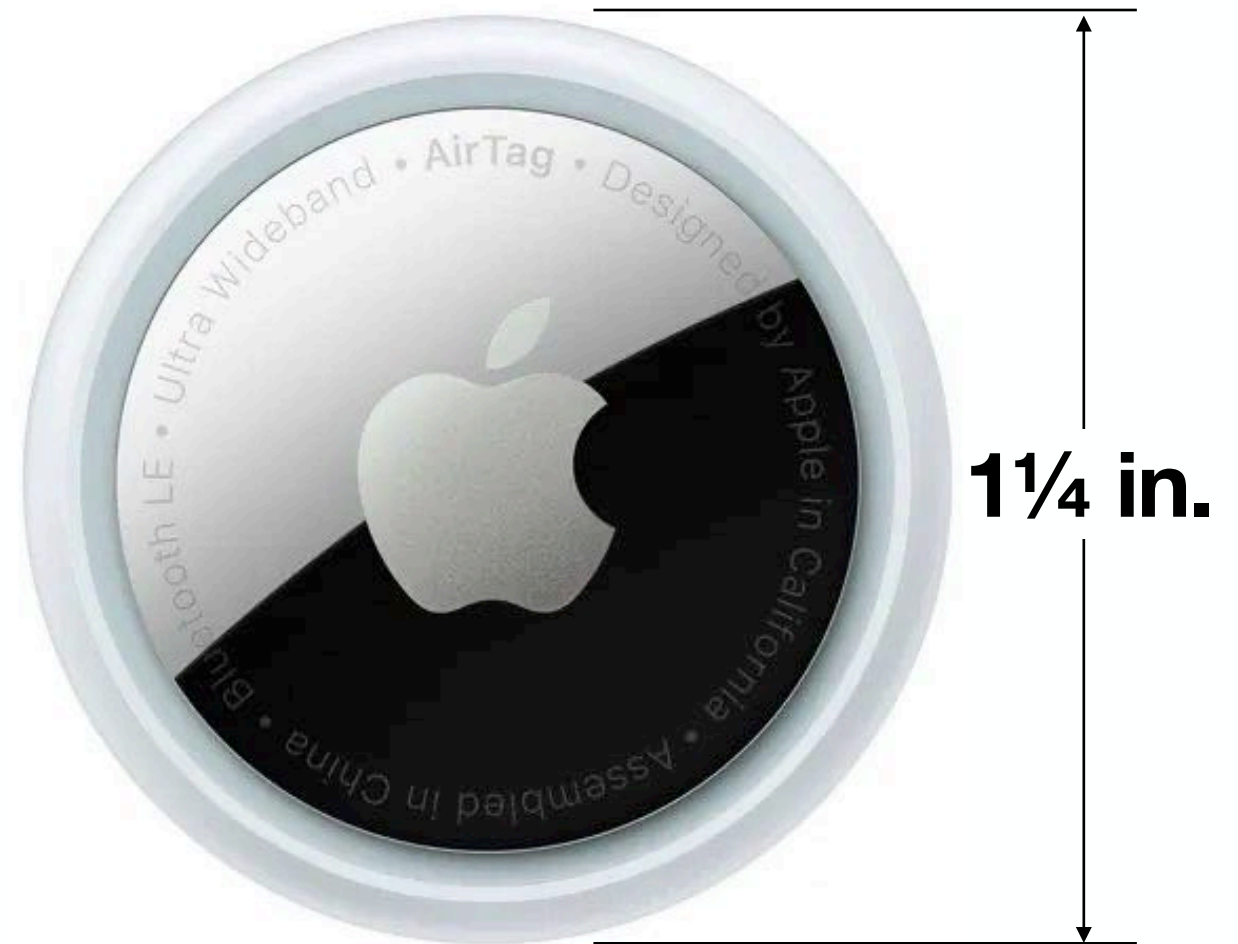
# AirTags

Do you remember the James Bond movie where Q gave 007 a homing beacon for the heel of his shoe? Today homing beacons are available off the shelf!

# Topics:

- **Dimensions**
- **Cost**
- **Battery**
- **How an AirTag works**
- **Adding an AirTag to your iPhone**
- **Uses of AirTags, accessories**
- **Safety**



# Dimensions



**0.3 in. thick; 1/3 oz**

An Apple AirTag is 1 1/4" in diameter and 0.3" thick, and it weighs about 1/3 oz. So it's a little bigger than a quarter, and it weighs about the same as a sheet of printer paper.

# Cost

	1	4-pack
	\$29	\$99
	\$23	\$75

AirTags can be bought singly or in 4-packs, and it pays to shop around.

Apple charges \$29 for a single AirTag and \$99 for a 4-pack. Apple may be more expensive, but they offer free engraving.

On Amazon a single is \$23, and a four-pack is \$75.

**\* free engraving**

# Battery



- **CR2032 “coin” battery**
- **lasts about a year**
- **4-pack for \$5**

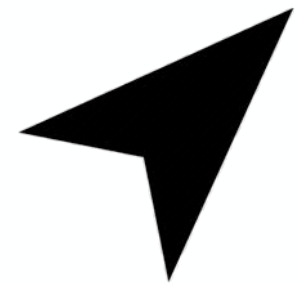
An AirTag runs on a CR2032 cell battery, often called a coin or button battery. After you activate an AirTag, the battery will last about a year.

When it quits working you don't need to replace the AirTag. The metal side of an AirTag unscrews, and the battery can be replaced.

A four-pack of these batteries costs \$5.

# Add to Apple Account

- **BlueTooth ON**
- **Location Services ON**
- **Internet connection**



Setting up an AirTag with your iPhone is easy. First, be sure BlueTooth and Location Services are ON and your iPhone is connected to the Internet.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OyP8HYR3Dug>



# Add to Apple Account

- Pull plastic strip



Each AirTag comes with a plastic strip that insulates the battery. Pull out the strip, and the AirTag emits a chirp.

# Add to Apple Account

- **Find My** app
- **Bring AirTag close to iPhone, Connect**
- **Continue**
- **Finish**
- **Open **Find My** > Items**



The Find My app should already be on your iPhone. Bring the AirTag close to your phone, and a prompt will appear to guide you through setup. Your phone will ask you to Connect. Give your AirTag a name, such as Steve's Suitcase. You can even select an emoji. (I picked one that actually looks like a suitcase.) Tap Continue, then Finish.

Open the Find My app on your phone, select Items tab at the bottom, and you'll see the location of your AirTag on the map.



# How AirTags Work

**AirTag > Bluetooth > nearby phone >  
Internet > your iPhone's Find My app**

AirTags take advantage of the vast number of smart phones all around us at any time. Those phones unwittingly form a mesh network. An AirTag uses Bluetooth to connect to that network and transmits its location to your phone over the Internet. All those phones that are part of the network are not affected, and their locations are not revealed.

Incidentally, the range of Bluetooth is about 35 feet, though the latest version (Bluetooth 5.0) has a range of about 1300 feet.



# Clever Uses

- **Suitcase, carry-on, purse**
- **Laptop bag**
- **Pet collars**
- **Small children, elderly family members**
- **Detect trespassers**
- **“Beacon” for visually impaired**
- **Track a stolen vehicle**

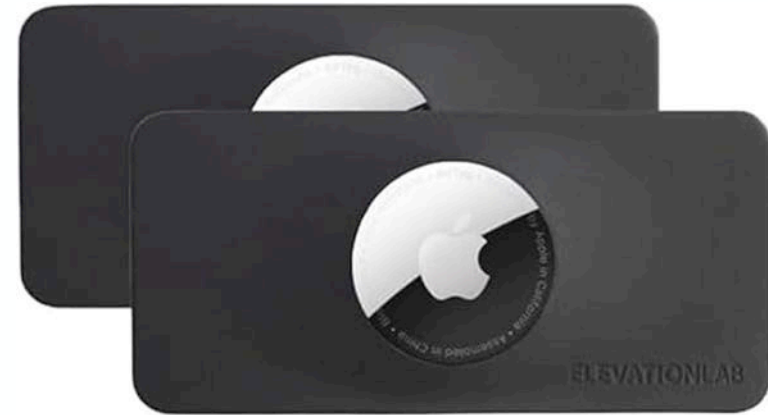
People have come up with some inventive ways to use AirTags. The most common way is in a suitcase, a wallet, a purse, a laptop bag, or on a key ring. You can attach one to the collar of a pet that likes to run off. Some parents like to track their child's location. An AirTag can track a family member with dementia. Place one in abandoned property and a trespasser with a smartphone will cause the AirTag to send you an alert. Visually impaired users can use VoiceOver to receive directions to a misplaced item—like an audible homing beacon. If your car does not have a Locate Vehicle feature, put an AirTag in it in case your car is ever stolen or if you forget where you parked.

# Accessories



**Key chain  
\$4**

**Wallet  
\$10**



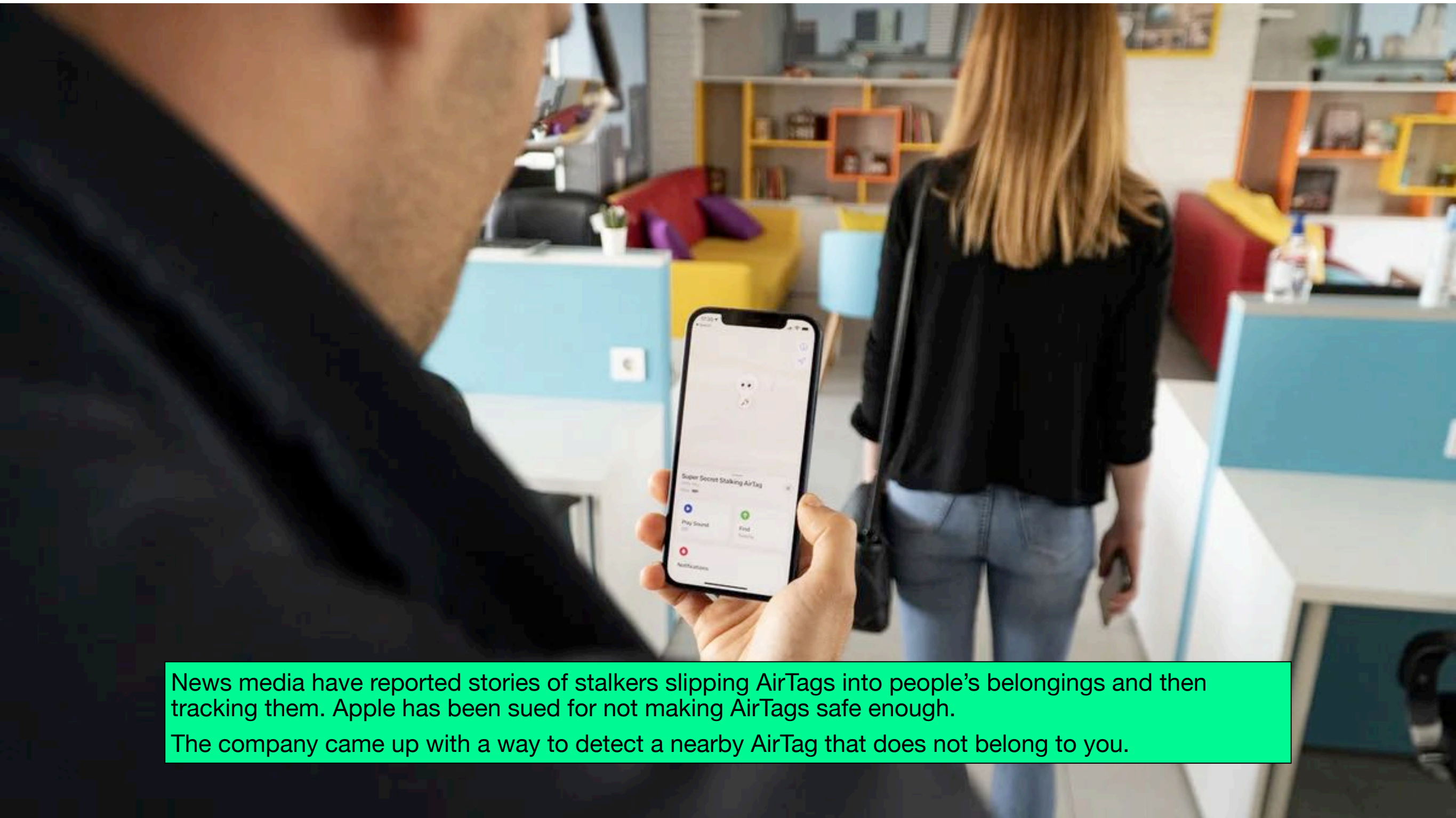
**Pet collar  
\$5**



If you get an AirTag you may want to get a holder depending on where you plan to use it. For just a few dollars you can attach an AirTag to your key chain, slip one into a credit card slot in your wallet, or attach one to the collar of your pet.

You can also get holders with an adhesive surface, though I just used packing tape to stick my AirTag inside the lining of a suitcase.

# Safety Concerns



News media have reported stories of stalkers slipping AirTags into people's belongings and then tracking them. Apple has been sued for not making AirTags safe enough.

The company came up with a way to detect a nearby AirTag that does not belong to you.

# Safety Concerns

## To receive alerts:

- **Settings > Privacy & Security > Location Services > ON**
- **Location Services > System Services > Significant Locations > ON**
- **Settings > Bluetooth > ON**
- **Find My (app) > Me (tab) > Tracking Notifications > ON**
- **Be sure Airplane Mode is OFF**

The slide shows how to set up an iPhone. It's not as complicated as it looks. You've probably done most of these steps already. Everything is done in Settings.

# Safety Concerns



Once you have your phone set up it will detect an AirTag that doesn't belong to you and is moving with you. You won't get an alert in a crowded area because there may be a large number of AirTags nearby. But if the same unfamiliar AirTag is persistently nearby, *then* you will get a notification and audible alert, "AirTag Found Moving With You." iPhone also detects non-Apple trackers.

<https://pixelprivacy.com/resources/airtags-and-tile-trackers-stalking/>



# What I covered:

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***Questions?***