

John Sonchack

The iPhone is a very advanced phone running a BSD based operating system. Apple, however, places severe restrictions on what programs one can install and develop for the iPhone. By "jailbreaking" the iPhone, we can overcome these restrictions and install third party software onto the device. These third party applications can do many things beyond what the official SDK supports, such as enabling programs to run in the background, enabling copy/paste functionality, using the camera as a video camera, and internet tethering.

In this paper, I would like to discuss how apple enforces these restrictions on the iPhone and how people have managed to bypass them through jailbreaking. I will also talk about some of the downsides to jailbreaking, including the constant work that must be done as apple comes out with new versions of the iPhone operating system.

(And possibly some of the disadvantages of using unofficial development methods.)