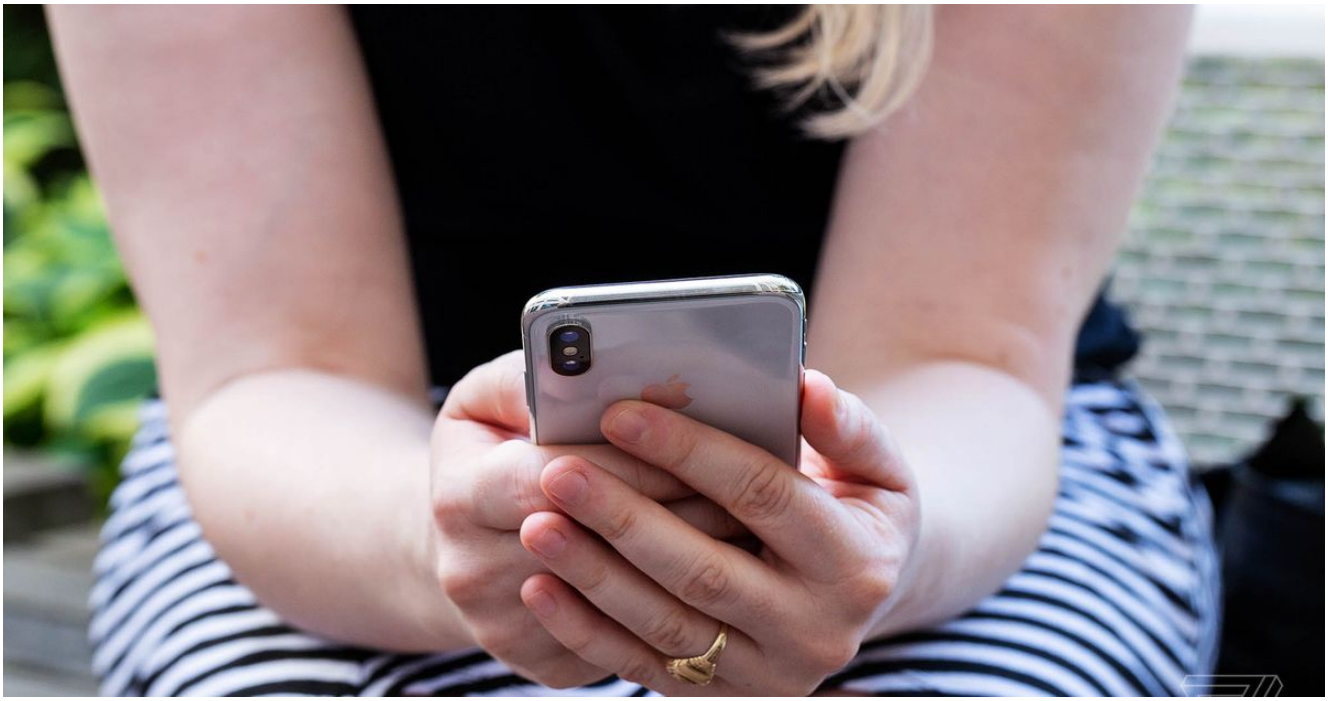
Apple sues startup for creating a software copy of the iPhone



For more than a year, a company called Corellium has been offering hackers a virtual iPhone. For a price, you could summon up a virtual iPhone on your computer, changing the model or iOS version through a simple menu tab.

Now, Apple is suing to shut that virtual iPhone down. In a lawsuit first reported by *Bloomberg*, Apple alleges that Corellium's virtual iPhone replica infringes on the company's copyright of iOS and related technology. It would be near impossible to use Corellium's system as a replacement for an iPhone (it's not mobile or SIM-accessible, for a start), but it still copies iOS directly, giving Apple grounds for a claim.

"The purpose of this lawsuit is not to encumber good-faith security research, but to bring an end to Corellium's unlawful commercialization of Apple's valuable copyrighted works," Apple's counsel argues in .

Some of Apple’s concern over the product may have been what Corellium was really being used for: bug-hunting. According to reports last year from *Motherboard* and *Forbes*, Corellium’s virtual iPhone was primarily used by researchers looking for vulnerabilities in iOS and the iPhone itself, which were often sold to third-party exploit traders rather than reported to Apple.

Still, it remains to be seen how Corellium will respond. As noted by *Bloomberg*, Corellium updated its public Intellectual property policy just last month. A summons was issued in the wake of Apple’s filing, giving Corellium 21 days after delivery to respond to the suit.

https://www.theverge.com/2019/8/16/20809109/apple-corellium-startup-company-lawsuit-court-virtual-iphone-software-copy