

Avast research: iOS and Android Scam Apps spreading via TikTok

Rogue TikTok accounts are promoting adware scam apps posing as “Shock Roulette” and “Wallpaper” apps

Android Apps

Name of App (+ link to app store), developer name, rating	Number of downloads, revenue (source: SensorTower)	Description of app behavior
<p>ThemeZone - Shawky App Free - Shock My Friends</p> <p>Developer name: Moteleb Inc.</p> <p>1.3 rating</p>	<p>Downloads listed on Google Play: +100K</p> <p>Downloads according to SensorTower: 418K</p> <p>Revenue according to SensorTower: \$15K</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Requests external storage via fake safety check screen - User is shown an ad for a ‘Shock your friends’ minigame with a free trial button - Upon clicking on the free trial offer, the user is taken to a payment gate asking for a weekly \$8-10 subscription fee - Once the user pays, the app is revealed to contain basic wallpapers and no ‘Shock your friends’ minigame - The app continues to display frequent ads even after payment
<p>Tap Roulette ++Shock my Friend</p> <p>Developer name: Go Best</p> <p>2.2 rating</p>	<p>Downloads listed on Google Play: +1M</p> <p>Downloads according to SensorTower 1.7M</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Requests permission to draw over other apps, which is then used to display device wide ads - App actually includes a ‘shock your friends’ minigame, but doesn’t shock people, just causes the phone to vibrate - Once a user plays the game, it activates the HiddenAds adware features and displays device wide ads while hiding the app icon
<p>Ultimate Music Downloader - Free Download Music</p> <p>Developer name: Go Best.</p> <p>3.2 rating</p>	<p>Downloads listed on Google Play: +100K</p> <p>Downloads according to SensorTower: 192K</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Requests permission to draw over other apps, which is then used to display device wide ads - Once a user plays a few songs, it activates the HiddenAds adware features and displays device wide ads while hiding the app icon

iOS Apps

Name of App (+ link to app store), developer name, rating	Number of downloads / earnings (source: SensorTower)	Description of behavior (based on reviews so far)
Shock My Friends - Satuna Developer name: Abdelsatar Abdalmotaleb 1.6 rating	Downloads according to SensorTower: 22K Revenue according to SensorTower: \$157K	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Charges \$8 to supposedly shock user and friends - Only causes the device to vibrate, doesn't offer any other features
666 Time Developer name: Abdelsatar Abdalmotaleb 3.0 rating	Downloads according to SensorTower: 10K Revenue according to SensorTower: \$57K	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Charges \$8 to supposedly shock user and friends - Only causes the device to vibrate, doesn't offer any other interesting features
ThemeZone - Live Wallpapers Developer name: Abdelsatar Abdalmotaleb 2.0 rating	Downloads according to SensorTower: 67K Revenue according to SensorTower: \$246K	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Charges \$2 for animated background wallpapers - Once purchased, the user has to pay another \$8 to access 'VIP' animated backgrounds - Based on user reviews, the backgrounds either don't work as advertised
shock my friend tap roulette v Developer name: Apps & Games Inc Unlimited Fun Free Games 1.6 rating	Downloads according to SensorTower: 44K Revenue according to SensorTower: \$52K	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Charges \$5 to supposedly shock user and friends - Only causes the device to vibrate, doesn't offer any other interesting features



Tik Tok and Instagram Profiles promoting scam apps

Name of Profile (+ link to profile)	Number of followers	Apps being promoted (name, OS)
7odestar (Tik Tok)	+330K	Shock My Friends - Satuna - iOS ThemeZone - Live Wallpapers - iOS 666 Time - iOS ThemeZone - Shawky App Free - Shock My Friends - Android
Dejavuuu.es3 (Tik Tok)	+28K	666 Time - iOS ThemeZone - Shawky App Free - Shock My Friends - Android
Marina90lazina (Tik Tok)	+3.5K	ThemeZone - Live Wallpapers - iOS ThemeZone - Shawky App Free - Shock My Friends - Android
Shockmyfriends.app (Instagram)	+5K	Shock My Friends - Satuna - iOS ThemeZone - Shawky App Free - Shock My Friends - Android