## Introduction

What do you mean — install Android? I already have Android on my phone!

Yeah, well, ... actually we are going to install CyanogenMod (CM) in place of whatever was there when you bought the phone. CM is a version of Android created, maintained and continuously modified with tweaks and security fixes by the CM community<sup>1</sup>.

An indeterminate amount of the information on the web is confused, incomplete, contradictory or outof-date. Everything has to be verified, not because the procedure did not work when the blogger tried it, but because when they came to document it they left out some step or other. In this talk we shall try out procedures from the web and document one that works.

## Three Cases Examined

You can get a good understanding of Android from the ANDROID HACKER'S HANDBOOK<sup>2</sup>. I have direct experience of working with three devices, so for interest and completeness this is what we shall do:

Root an older Android smartphone: a Samsung Galaxy S Duos GT-S7562.

Install CM-11 on an older Android tablet: an ASUS Transformer Pad Infinity XF700T.

Install CM-12 and Upgrade it on a recent smartphone: a Motorola Moto G 2014 XT1068.

# Why would you do this?

Lots of reasons:

- to get timely updates
- to get rid of bloatware
- to make readable backups

### How things work on a mobile phone

Your mobile phone is a small computer.

If you purchase a laptop computer with a pre-installed operating system (OS) and want to change it you need to know: the laptop boots to a filesystem on a device and executes an init program; this can be an installer to the HDD. Typically the OS can be on an SD card, easily swapped for one of your choice.

If you purchase a mobile phone or tablet with a pre-installed OS and want to change it you need to know: the phone or tablet boots to a filesystem in ROM and executes an init program; this ROM needs replacing by one of your choice.

Because of this difference in the underlying engineering, replacing the OS is a little more complicated for the phone and tablet.

### **Host Computer Preliminaries**

You'll need some extra tools. On my Debian Jessie linux computer I did this:

linux:~# apt-get install android-tools-adb android-tools-fastboot
linux:~\$ which fastboot adb
/usr/bin/fastboot
/usr/bin/adb

http://www.cyanogenmod.org/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> by Drake, Fora, Lanier et al, ISBN 978-1-118-60864-7, published by Wiley in 2014

Let's summarize the manuals for fastboot and adb.

#### fastboot

NAME fastboot - manipulate the non-volatile flash partitions  ${\tt DESCRIPTION}$ 

fastboot is a program used to manipulate (list, install, erase) the non-volatile memory such as flash filesystem partitions on devices that adhere to the fastboot protocol, via a USB connection from a host computer. It requires that the device be started in a boot loader mode with the fastboot protocol enabled. Once connected to the device, the program accepts a specific set of commands sent to it via the USB using the fastboot program on the host.

fastboot is primarily used for installing the operating system binary 'images' into the non-volatile flash memory of the devices. The partition adheres to a specific layout. fastboot is designed for use with phones & tablets running the Android operating system.

### adb

NAME adb - android debug bridge SYNOPSIS adb [ options ] command

DESCRIPTION adb is a command line tool that lets you communicate with a connected Android device. It is a client-server program that includes three components: (1) a client, which runs on your host machine. You can invoke a client from a shell by issuing an adb command; (2) a server, which runs as a background process on your host machine. The server manages communication between the client and the adb daemon running on a device; (3) a daemon, which runs as a background process on each device.

For the full and up to date documentation visit: http://developer.android.com/guide/developing/tools/adb.html

# Case 1: Root an Older Android Smartphone

The Samsung Galaxy S Duos GT-S7562 was to be retired because I was sick of not getting prompt security updates. When the StageFright vulnerabilities<sup>3</sup> were exposed, I downloaded the StageFright detector program<sup>4</sup>, ran it, and saw ... VULNERABLE in red. I no longer wanted that. I also wanted to save its contacts and messages in a readable format. As we shall see, we only need to root the phone<sup>5</sup> to do this.

- boot the phone into "download" mode
- transfer the rooting program into ROM
- confirm the installation

### Boot the phone into "download" mode

The less said about the frustrating procedure<sup>6</sup> using the samsung ODIN program the better. I advise you to make friends with someone who has an old XP system, or it will be you who are rooted, not your phone.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>http://www.androidcentral.com/stagefright

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.zimperium.stagefrightdetector

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>install a suitable version of the linux 's witch user' or 'su' program

They can perform most of this procedure on their Windows computer much better than a Linux hacker can. In any case, you'll find that it is physically tricky to get the timing right, but after about ten attempts it eventually worked for me.

# Transfer the rooting program to the phone

Continue to follow the procedure mentioned above, from the XP computer.

### Confirm the installation was successful

• First, make sure you can use the USB cord for access:

```
get developer options menu [tap on build number 4-7 times] open developer options tap ok to warning tick usb debugging
```

• Check that the phone is recognised when connected with a USB cord:

```
linux:~$ adb devices
* daemon not running. starting it now on port 5037 *
* daemon started successfully *
List of devices attached
    35da7a4b device
```

• Then find out where the **su** program has been installed:

• And finally try it out.

```
shell@android:/ $ su
shell@android:/ $ whoami
shell@android:/ $ shell
```

• Oops! Not quite root yet. Go to settings, Developer options, Root access. Select Apps and ADB. Return to terminal.

```
shell@android:/ $ su
root@android:/ #
```

Seems to be installed OK.

• Now go back to settings and disable Root access for security ...

# Copying Contacts and Messages

Now let's use su to get at our data. For security, contacts and messages are not readable by an ordinary user, so to get at them we need root permission. But, for the same reason, we cannot run a root shell from outside. However, we always have universal read/write access to the /sdcard directory (with no need for an actual card). So here is the trick<sup>7</sup>.

 $<sup>^{7} \</sup>rm http://stackoverflow.com/questions/12266374/backup-full-sms-mms-contents-via-adb$ 

• connect phone to linux, start a user shell and then become root:

```
linux:~$ adb shell
shell@android:/ $ su
shell@android:/ #
```

• copy data from location on phone to sdcard directory using the cat command, as there appears to be no cp command in this phone:

• quit both shells and copy data from sdcard back to the linux computer:

```
shell@android:/sdcard # exit
shell@android:/ $ exit
linux:~$ adb pull /sdcard/mmssms.db .
   6940 KB/s (585728 bytes in 0.082s)
linux:~$ adb pull /sdcard/telephony.db .
   3828 KB/s (167936 bytes in 0.042s)
linux:~$ file mmssms.db contacts2.db
   mmssms.db: SQLite 3.x database, user version 58
   contacts2.db: SQLite 3.x database, user version 629
```

These two files containing your contacts and messages may now be explored using sqlite<sup>8</sup>, 9.

## Case 2: Install CM-11 on an older Android Tablet

I have used an ASUS Transformer Pad Infinity XF700T for some years. We essentially follow this procedure  $^{10}$ :

- 1. unlock the tablet
- 2. install a recovery program
- 3. install version CM-11
- 4. confirm the installation

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup>http://stackoverflow.com/questions/11455164/how-to-install-sqlite-on-debian

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>http://www.sitepoint.com/getting-started-sqlite3-basic-commands/

 $<sup>^{10}</sup> https://wiki.cyanogenmod.org/w/Install\_CM\_for\_tf700t$ 

#### unlock the tablet

For reasons best known to themselves, ASUS provides a procedure for unlocking this particular tablet.

```
unlocked ok from asus [follow proc.]

no need to root the phone
linux: "$ file UnLock_app_V8.apk
UnLock_app_V8.apk: Java archive data (JAR)
linux: "$ jar tvf UnLock_app_V8.apk
2771 Thu Dec 22 14:22:18 ACDT 2011 META-INF/MANIFEST.MF
2813 Thu Dec 22 14:22:18 ACDT 2011 META-INF/CERT.SF
1690 Thu Dec 22 14:22:18 ACDT 2011 META-INF/CERT.RSA
3212 Thu Dec 22 14:22:18 ACDT 2011 AndroidManifest.xml
32772 Thu Dec 22 14:22:18 ACDT 2011 classes.dex
...
...
329276 Thu Dec 22 14:22:18 ACDT 2011 resources.arsc
```

On booting, you'll see very small print in the top left corner which says The Device is UnLocked.

## install a recovery program

I installed this recovery image<sup>11</sup>.

```
linux:~$ fastboot -i 0xb05 flash recovery twrp-2.8.7.0-tf700t.img
sending 'recovery' (7372 KB)...

OKAY [ 2.824s]
writing 'recovery'...

OKAY [ 2.204s]
finished. total time: 5.028s
```

### install version CM-11

```
linux:~$ adb push cm-11-20151108-NIGHTLY-tf700t.zip /sdcard/
1078 KB/s (220266276 bytes in 199.375s)

linux:~$ fastboot -i 0x0B05 flash staging ww_bootloaderblob
sending 'staging' (1576 KB)...

OKAY [ 0.338s]
writing 'staging'...

OKAY [ 9.234s]
finished. total time: 9.571s

linux:~$ fastboot reboot
rebooting...
```

# install suitable version of gapps

I chose the mini version of gapps so it would fit easily on the tablet.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup>https://dl.twrp.me/tf700t/twrp-2.8.7.0-tf700t.img

linux:~\$ adb push open\_gapps-arm-4.4-mini-20151115.zip /sdcard/
1302 KB/s (231439445 bytes in 173.512s)
linux:~\$ adb reboot recovery

Now install *via* the **teamwin** recovery program you installed before ... and success!! You get playstore access, phone, sms, etc.

#### confirm the installation

Run StageFright detector ... NOT VULNERABLE in green. Check settings - about tablet - cyanogenmod version 11-2016-0111-NIGHTLY-tf700t - Android security patch level january 1st, 2016.

Check root access: tap settings - tap about phone - tap tap build number about 7 times until you see you have enabled developer options - tap settings - tap developer options - tap root access - tap Apps and ADB. Now connect tablet to linux computer by the original USB cable.

linux:~\$ adb devices
List of devices attached
019d376e4456660d device
linux:~\$ adb shell
shell@tf700t:/ \$ su
Permission denied
1|shell@tf700t:/ \$ su
root@tf700t:/ # whoami
root
root@tf700t:/ #

Seems OK.

# Case 3: Install CM-12 and Upgrade it on a Recent Smartphone

The Motorola Moto G (2nd generation) was selected because: it is very cheap (\$239); it is unlockable (q.v.); it was on sale at Dick Smith; and it is well supported for this sort of endeaver, both by Motorola and by the user community.

# **Installing Procedure**

In what follows I go through the procedure<sup>12</sup> to make sure it works and highlight important details. When the StageFright vulnerabilities<sup>13</sup> were exposed, I downloaded the StageFright detector program<sup>14</sup>, ran it, and ... saw VULNERABLE in red. I no longer wanted that.

The procedure is:

- connect via USB
- prepare for unlocking
- unlock the phone
- reboot to recovery

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup>For installation, see https://wiki.cyanogenmod.org/w/Install\_CM\_for\_titan

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup>http://www.androidcentral.com/stagefright

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup>https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.zimperium.stagefrightdetector

- root the phone
- install recovery program and then install cyanogenmod via recovery program
- install gapps via recovery
- reboot to system via recovery

connect via USB Connect your phone by USB to linux and check that all is recognised by running:

```
linux:~# /usr/bin/fastboot devices
ZC098A548E fastboot
```

**prepare for unlocking** To deal with your phone you need to boot it into a special state instead of the normal boot state. You also need to tell it to run a daemon that can attend to your requests.

All phones are different. On the Moto G-2 you first arrange for a daemon to deal with your requests. Go to settings and scroll to About phone; go to the bottom item Build number; tap this item a few times until it says you are now a developer. When this happens, a new menu item appears under Settings: Developer options. Go into this and tick USB debugging and answer OK to the warning notice.

Power the phone off. Now you can boot it into the fastboot mode by holding the volume-down whilst powering on. You will see some text saying AP Fastboot Flash Mode (S) and so on.

In yellow will show Device is LOCKED. Status Code: 0.

Once there you can connect a USB cable *via* the micro-USB slot in the phone to your laptop. You should see USB Connected on the phone.

Check that all is recognised by running:

```
linux:~$ /usr/bin/fastboot devices
ZC098A548E fastboot
```

unlock the phone Now go to Motorola's unlocking portal<sup>15</sup>, and follow the instructions (they work fine).

```
linux:~# /usr/bin/fastboot oem get_unlock_data
(bootloader) 0A40040192024205#4C4D3556313230
(bootloader) 3037373136303130333232329#BD00
(bootloader) 8A672BA4746C2CE02328A2AC0C39F95
(bootloader) 1A3E5#1F5328000200000000000000
(bootloader) 0000000.

UKAY [ 0.136s]
finished. total time: 0.136s
```

Paste your unlock data (sample shown below) but put it all in one long line, into the unlock portal, and receive your unlock code by email from Motorola.

 $<sup>^{15}</sup> motorola-global-portal. cust help. com/app/standalone/bootloader/unlock-your-device-allocations and the contraction of the contraction of$ 

reboot to recovery linux: "# adb reboot bootloader

UNLOCK CODE: C292BCCD14F018F6943D

linux:~# fastboot oem unlock C292BCCD14F018F6943D

OK

The phone is now unlocked. When it reboots you should see a warning screen WARNING: BOOTLOADER UNLOCKED.

root the phone Go to a site with a good version of the su (switch user) command<sup>16</sup> and download the version<sup>17</sup> for the Moto G. This works for Android 5.0, which was on my phone when I bought it.

```
# /usr/bin/fastboot boot image/CF-Auto-Root-titanumtsds-titanretaildsds-xt1068.img
downloading 'boot.img'...

OKAY [ 0.399s]
booting...

OKAY [ 0.559s]
finished. total time: 0.958s
```

Power the phone off. Boot it into the fastboot mode by holding the volume-down whilst powering on. This time you will see some text saying AP Fastboot Flash Mode (S) and so on. In yellow will show Device is UNLOCKED. Status Code: 3. The next time it boots normally you'll get a white screen WARNING: BOOTLOADER UNLOCKED, WARRANTY VOID which stays there for at least half a minute.

install recovery program then install cyanogenmod via recovery program We shall replace the Motorola OS with CyanogenMod. There is a very comprehensive list of phones, models and suitable versions at this CyanogenMod download site<sup>18</sup>.

Let's get a recent stable version for our phone. If we look down the left hand side, we come to Motorola and find the model Moto G 2014 (titan). Selecting that we go to the download page<sup>19</sup>. Here we find a stable snapshot of the version<sup>20</sup> and recovery image<sup>21</sup>, both of which we need, along with SHA-1 checksums. The link to the wiki gives more information about what we are doing.

Download these two files (253MB and 9MB), created on 2015-10-07, from the site $^{22}$  onto our linux computer.

Transfer both files to phone:

```
linux:~$ adb push cm-12.1-20151007-SNAPSHOT-YOG4PA0338-titan.zip /sdcard/
linux:~$ adb push cm-12.1-20151007-SNAPSHOT-YOG4PA0338-titan-recovery.img /sdcard/
```

(this takes about one minute) Now install both, recovery first:

```
linux:~# adb reboot bootloader
linux:~# fastboot devices
ZC098A548E fastboot
```

linux:~# fastboot flash recovery cm-12.1-20151007-SNAPSHOT-YOG4PA0338-titan-recovery.img

 $<sup>^{16} \</sup>rm http://download.chainfire.eu/603/CF-Root/CF-Auto-Root/$ 

 $<sup>^{17}\</sup>mathrm{CF-Auto-Root-titanumtsds-titanretaildsds-xt}1068.zip$ 

 $<sup>^{18} \</sup>rm https://download.cyanogenmod.org/$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup>https://download.cyanogenmod.org/?device=titan

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup>cm-12.1-20151007-SNAPSHOT-YOG4PAO338-titan.zip

 $<sup>^{21}\</sup>mathrm{cm}\text{-}12.1\text{-}20151007\text{-}SNAPSHOT\text{-}YOG4PAO338\text{-}titan\text{-}recovery.img}$ 

 $<sup>^{22} \</sup>rm https://download.cyanogenmod.org/get/jenkins/129282/$ 

Now install CM-12: Hold Volume Down and Power simultaneously. On the next screen use Volume Down to scroll to recovery and then use Volume Up to select. In Team Win Recovery Project, select menu choices by tapping on the appropriately labelled button. Select Wipe and then Factory Reset. Select Install. Navigate to /sdcard and select the CyanogenMod .zip package. Follow the on-screen notices to install the package.

install gapps Transfer gapps to phone:

```
linux:~$ adb push open-gapps-arm-6.0-nano-20151212.zip /sdcard/
```

(this takes about three minutes)

install gapps via recovery similar to above for CM-12.

reboot to system via recovery

This version CyanogenMod 12.1 needs extra work because the GPS requires a signal lock to function correctly. According to this blog<sup>23</sup>, to get the GPS to work, simply add:

```
linux:~# fastboot erase modemst1
linux:~# fastboot erase modemst2
```

# Now Let's Explore the Phone a bit

Connect the moto g to linux via USB to see the commands available on the phone, by using the abd program:

```
linux:~$ adb devices
List of devices attached
ZX1D23JPLK device
linux:~$ adb shell
shell@titan_umtsds:/ $ su root
[this will ask you to grant root; you have to physically tap on the phone itself]
root@titan_umtsds:/ #
```

First, list the shell built-in commands:

root@titan\_umtsds:/ # help help -a|grep usage [and extract the second field] acpi base64 basename blkid blockdev bzcat cal cat chattr chcon chgrp chmod chown chroot cksum cmp comm cp cpio cut date dd df diff dirname dmesg dos2unix du disk echo grep env expand expr fallocate fdisk grep find flock free freeramdisk fsfreeze fstype ftpget ftpput ftpget ftpput getenforce getprop grep groups head help usage host hostname hwclock id ifconfig inotifyd insmod install ionice iorenice kill killall ln load\_policy logname losetup ls lsattr lsmod lsof lsusb makedevs md5sum mkdir mkfifo mknod mkswap mktemp modinfo more mount mountpoint mv nbd-client nbd-client netcat netcat netstat nice nl nohup nproc od partprobe paste patch pgrep pidof pivot\_root pkill pmap printenv printf ps pwd pwdx readahead readlink realpath renice reset resize restorecon rev rm rmdir rmmod route runcon sed seq setenforce setprop setsid sha1sum sleep sort split stat strings swapoff swapon switch\_root sync sysctl tac tail tar taskset tee telnet test time timeout top toybox show touch tr traceroute traceroute truncate tty umount uname uniq unix2dos uptime usleep vconfig vmstat watch wc which logname xargs xxd xzcat yes

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup>http://forum.xda-developers.com/showpost.php?p=58376017&postcount=731

Second, list all the other commands:

```
root@titan_umtsds:/ # echo $PATH
PATH=/sbin:/vendor/bin:/system/sbin:/system/xbin
root@titan_umtsds:/ # for d in /sbin /vendor/bin /system/sbin /system/bin /system/xbin
> do
> [ -d $d ] && ls $d
```

> done

adbd healthd mkfs.f2fs ueventd watchdogd ATFWD-daemon PktRspTest StoreKeybox [ adsprpcd am ap\_gain.bin ap\_gain\_mmul.bin apanic\_annotate.sh aplogcat aplogd app\_process app\_process32 app\_process32\_original app\_process\_init applypatch appops appwidget atrace batch batt\_health bcc blkid bmgr bootanimation brctl btnvtool bu bug2go-bugreport bug2go-bugreport-oem bugreport cat charge\_only\_mode charger\_monitor chcon checknmount chmod chown clatd clear cmp cnd content cp cplay curl dalvikvm dalvikvm32 date dbvc\_atvc\_property\_set dd debuggerd dex2oat df dhcpcd diag\_callback\_client diag\_dci\_sample diag\_klog diag\_mdlog diag\_mdlog-getlogs diag\_mdlog-wrap diag\_socket\_log diag\_uart\_log dmesg dnsmasq dpm drmserver dropboxd dropboxhelper du dumpstate dumpsys e2fsck ebtables esdpll fm\_qsoc\_patches fmconfig fmfactorytest fmfactorytestserver fsck.f2fs fsck\_msdos ftmdaemon ftmipcd getconfig getenforce getevent getprop getsebool gpsone\_daemon grep gzip hardware\_revisions.sh hci\_qcomm\_init hd hostapd hvdcp id idmap ifconfig iftop ime ims\_rtp\_daemon imsdatadaemon imsqmidaemon input insmod install-recovery.sh install-recovery\_original.sh installd ioctl ionice ip ip6tables ipInfo iptables irsc\_util isdbtmmtest keymaster\_test keystore kill kpgather linker lmkd ln load\_policy location-mq log logcat logd logwrapper ls lsmod lsof make\_ext4fs masterclear mbm\_spy mcStarter md5 md5sum mdnsd media mediaserver mkdir mknod mkswap mm-qcamera-app mm-qcamera-daemon mm-qjpeg-dec-test mm-qjpeg-enc-test mm-qomx-idec-test mm-qomx-ienc-test mm-vdec-omx-test mm-venc-omx-test720p mm-video-driver-test mm-video-encdrv-test monkey moto\_com.sh motobox mount mount\_ext4.sh mpdecision mtpd mv n\_smux nandread ndc netcfg netd netmgrd netstat newfs\_msdos nohup notify oatdump patchoat ping ping6 pm pppd printenv ps ptf ptt\_socket\_app qmi\_motext\_hook qmuxd qrngd qrngp qrngtest qseecom\_sample\_client qseecom\_security\_test qseecomd racoon radish readlink reboot renice requestsync resize2fs restorecon rfs\_access rild rm rmdir rmmod rmt\_storage route run-as runcon schedtest schedtop screencap screenrecord sdcard sendevent sendevent2 sensord sensorservice service servicemanager setconfig setenforce setfattr setprop setsebool settings setup\_fs sh simg2img sleep smd stacker start stop subsystem\_ramdump surfaceflinger svc swapoff swapon sync tc tcmd tcmdhelp test test\_diag thermal-engine time\_daemon timedexec tinycap tinymix tinypcminfo tinyplay toolbox top touch uiautomator umount uncrypt updater uptime vdc vmstat vold watchprops wcnss\_filter wcnss\_service wdsdaemon wipe wm wpa\_supplicant xtwifi-client xtwifi-inet-agent bttest daemonsu dexdump su sugote sugote-mksh supolicy 127|root@titan\_umtsds:/ # reboot

To find out how to use a command, you may use help commandname instead of the unavailable man commandname. For example, to see options for the tr command:

```
shell@titan:/ $ help tr
usage: tr [-cds] SET1 [SET2]
Translate, squeeze, or delete characters from stdin, writing to stdout
-c/-C Take complement of SET1
-d Delete input characters coded SET1
-s Squeeze multiple output characters of SET2 into one character
```

# **Upgrading Procedure**

Upgrading to a new release of CM is a breeze. To update to the latest nightly build, we:

- check for latest update;
- install latest update;
- confirm updated details.

# check for latest update

Connect your phone to the internet *via* your home modem. Tap settings; tap about phone; tap CyanogenMod updates. Check for update by tapping the reload circle icon. Available update should then show [eg] cm-13.0-20160206-NIGHTLY (new). Download it to phone by tapping the download icon to its right. The CM Updater downloads the latest version (about 250MB, takes about 25 mins).

### install latest update

When it reports Downloaded to phone, tap the oblong download icon. It shall warn you are about to Apply update; tap UPDATE. It reboots to recovery mode; you'll see Warning: bootloader unlocked warning. You'll see the blue teamwin splash screen running openrecovery script; this all happens automatically (takes a few minutes). Then it reboots; you'll see the CM face icon for a few minutes; see Android is upgrading as it optimizes all your apps. Finally the home screen appears ... All Done!

# confirm updated details

To check status: tap settings – tap about phone – see [eg] Android version 6.0.1 – see [eg] CyanogenMod version 13.0-20160206-NIGHTLY-titan – see [eg] Android security patch level February 1, 2016. Run the StageFright detector program and see NOT VULNERABLE in green.

Can make phone calls, SMS, browse web, access playstore, use GPS ... configure the system.

Quite wonderful, indeed!

Enjoy a better Android!