

SIM Change Detection — Android Background Service

Continuously monitor SIM state changes to help mitigate SIM-swap account takeovers. Runs silently in the background and sends only non-sensitive metadata for risk scoring.

High-level flow

1. User installs/opens the banking app with the SDK.
2. A lightweight **background service** starts automatically (and after reboots).
3. Service periodically checks SIM state allowed by Android.
4. If the current SIM differs from the baseline, an event is triggered.
5. Event (NO_CHANGE | SIM_CHANGED | UNKNOWN) + session metadata is sent securely to the backend.

Required permission (AndroidManifest.xml)

```
<uses-permission android:name="android.permission.READ_PHONE_STATE"/>
```

Notes: Android 10+ restricts some identifiers; behavior varies by OEM.

Event types

- `NO_CHANGE` — SIM unchanged
- `SIM_CHANGED` — SIM differs from baseline
- `UNKNOWN` — SIM info unavailable on device/OS

Example payload to backend

```
{  
  "device_id": "abcd-1234",  
  "timestamp": "2025-09-16T15:00:00Z",  
  "sim_status": "SIM_CHANGED",  
  "carrier": "CarrierName",  
  "os_version": "Android 14",  
  "sdk_version": "2.1.0"  
}
```

Security & privacy

- No SMS/contacts/phone numbers are read; only SIM status + technical metadata.
- TLS 1.2+ for transport; designed for data minimization.

Limitations & compatibility

- Android-only; newer Android versions/OEMs may mask info.
- Dual-SIM devices may complicate detection; not available on iOS.
- Maintain a tested device/OS compatibility list and validate before rollout.

Next steps

1. Add permission.
2. 2) Initialize background service at app start.
3. 3) Ingest events server-side.
4. 4) Combine with other signals for scoring.
5. 5) Validate on your device matrix pre-production.

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