



# The Dual Factor Duel: Phone SMS vs. Microsoft Authenticator App



In today's interconnected world, protecting your valuable online information is more important than ever. That's where Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) comes into play. By adding an extra layer of security, MFA helps safeguard your accounts from unauthorized access and potential data breaches.

Two popular MFA methods, phone SMS and the Microsoft Authenticator app, offer different approaches to enhance your online security. Phone SMS relies on sending a one-time code to your phone, while the Microsoft Authenticator app provides various options like push notifications, one-time codes, and approval requests. While both methods have their advantages and drawbacks, it's crucial to remember that user error remains a challenge. Therefore, staying informed about evolving security measures and adapting to new protocols is essential.



## Don't leave your accounts vulnerable, embrace MFA now!

### Microsoft Authenticator App



#### Pros

- Just requires an app
- Most secure phone-based option
- Blocks the majority of attacks
- Hard to intercept codes

#### Cons

- Less convenient to set up
- Can be vulnerable to MFA fatigue attacks
- Not resistant to phishing
- Difficult to recover if deleted

### Phone SMS

SMS

#### Pros

- Very convenient and user-friendly
- Blocks the majority of attacks
- Provides good security when used with a password
- Is getting more secure

#### Cons

- Vulnerable to codes being intercepted (SIM Swaps)
- Restricted for use by NIST
- Does not support 'passwordless' authentication
- Not resistant to phishing

Implementing Dual Factor or Multi Factor Authentication is a crucial step in safeguarding against cyberattacks, with the potential to prevent up to 99.9% of such threats. At Intrada Technologies, we highly recommend users to adopt this security measure for both their professional and personal accounts. If you would like to learn more about available MFA options and how to secure your accounts, please reach out to us.

