

Google Fined a Record \$5 Billion by the EU for Android Antitrust Violations | The Verge

By Tom Warren

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Google has been hit with a record-breaking €4.3 billion (\$5 billion) fine by EU regulators for breaking antitrust laws. The [European Commission says](#) Google has abused its Android market dominance in three key areas. Google has been bundling its search engine and Chrome apps into the operating system. Google has also allegedly blocked phone makers from creating devices that run forked versions of Android, and it “made payments to certain large manufacturers and mobile network operators” to exclusively bundle the Google search app on handsets.

The European Commission now wants Google to bring its “illegal conduct to an end in an effective manner within 90 days of the decision.” That means Google will need to stop forcing manufacturers to preinstall Chrome and Google search in order to offer the Google Play Store on handsets. Google will also need to stop preventing phone makers from using forked versions of Android, as the commission says Google “did not provide any credible evidence that Android forks would be affected by technical failures or fail to support apps.” Google’s illegal payments for app bundling ceased in 2014 after the EU started to look into the issue.

Google now says it will appeal the decision. “Android has created more choice for everyone, not less. A vibrant ecosystem, rapid innovation, and lower prices are classic hallmarks of robust competition,” says a Google spokesperson in a statement to *The Verge*. “We will appeal the Commission’s decision.”

Source: [Google Fined a Record \\$5 Billion by the EU for Android Antitrust Violations | The Verge](#)