

# Fuck surveillance: your friendly guide to defeating Gait Recognition - your “walking fingerprint” - using one neat trick! Protect your privacy and anonymity.

Greetings, Reddit. I am a software engineer with a background in computer vision and pattern recognition. Among the many things I've done, including cancer research and space robots, I've worked on video surveillance algorithms for NIST. **In this post, I will teach you how to protect your privacy and anonymity when you have reason to believe that it might be violated.**

## What is Gait Recognition?

Simply put, your *gait* is the way you walk. Everyone has a unique gait, similar to how we have unique fingerprints. **Even if your face is covered with a mask *or* too far away for a camera to capture in detail, we can still use your *gait* to identify you.**

Various *features* (mathematical descriptors) are calculated from recorded video and passed through machine learning algorithms in order to match an identity.

## How do I defeat Gait Recognition?

With this one neat trick! No, really, I'm serious.

Walk with your toes first. With each of your steps, make sure your toes touch the ground before your heels. It should feel similar to some styles of dancing  . It takes just a little bit of practice, but that's all you need to do.

Break the movement down into these parts:

1. Touch the ground with your toes.
2. Put all your weight on your toes while your heel is still off the ground.
3. Place your weight on your heel while it lowers to the ground.

**Use this trick in situations where you have reason to believe that your privacy and anonymity may be violated.** I'll leave it up to you to decide when that might be. **The key is to walk normally in other situations.**

# Why does this work?

The calculated *features* I described above effectively get scrambled. It's not quite that simple, but in concept, that's basically it.

Best of luck to all the good people out there.

Fuck fascism.