

# The Reason why Hiding SSIDs Does **NOTHING** for Security

## It only hides the name, not the traffic

Beacons will show with the expected BSSID and SSID set to a wildcard value (any)

```
> Fixed parameters (12 bytes)
✓ Tagged parameters (340 bytes)
  ✓ Tag: SSID parameter set: Wildcard SSID
    Tag Number: SSID parameter set (0)
    Tag length: 0
```

## Other frames still show the name

Probe Requests/Responses and Association Requests show the name in the "SSID parameter set" tag. One association from a client reveals the name

Transmitter	Receiver	Frame Type	SSID
MyPhone	Broadcast	Probe Request	"HidingSSIDTest"
APwithHiddenSSID	MyPhone	Probe Response	"HidingSSIDTest"
MyPhone	APwithHiddenSSID	Association Request	"HidingSSIDTest"
APwithHiddenSSID	MyPhone	Association Response	