

[5 Top Tips for Creating Passwords]

For nearly 60 years, passwords have been the common way we access our devices and services. Passwords have become second nature to most of us, but while their simplicity and familiarity are a strength, passwords suffer from many weaknesses as well.

Our simple infographic below gives you some quick and actionable tips on how to create the best possible password, keep it secure, and avoid those weaknesses.

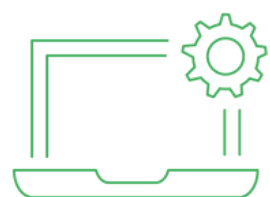
CREATE A STRONG PASSWORD

- Include punctuation marks and/or numbers
- Mix capital and lowercase letters
- Make an acronym from a phrase
- Include phonetic replacements, such as SK8ER4LYFE. (be creative!)
- Use substitutions like the number 3 for the letter 'E'
- Choose a password with more than eight characters



USE A PASSWORD GENERATOR

- If you're having trouble coming up with a strong password, use a trusted password generator, most are free.
- You can choose the number and types of characters to include and the generator will randomly select letters, numbers, punctuation and symbols.



UTILISE PASSWORD STRENGTH TOOLS

- If you're unsure about the quality of your password, run it through a strength test.
- Microsoft's Password Checker is free and easy to use.
- BE CAREFUL when entering your password into untrusted sources online. These sites could be phishing for your passwords and stealing them. Be vigilant.



KEEP YOUR PASSWORD SECURE

- Never show your password to anyone.
- Change your password regularly, especially when prompted.
- Be suspicious of links asking for a logins, passwords, or personal information. If you're unsure if the site is legitimate, type in the URL manually before entering account information.
- Call any company that emails you seeking personal information. Legitimate companies will never request personal information from you via email.



AVOID THE OBVIOUS

- Don't reuse the same password for at least a year.
- Never use the same passwords for multiple accounts.
- Never use a password with Personal Information
- Don't use keyboard patterns (QWERTY, ASDFG) or sequential numbers (12345).
- Make your password all numbers, uppercase letters or lowercase letters—Mix it up!



[Vaioni and Cybersecurity]

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