

Secure passwords



The password is your 'identity' and the key

Without it, you can't access your account or other services. It's your key to your digital identity. If someone else gets it, they can impersonate you and do anything you can do.



Every password can be cracked. It's only a question of time. Decryption programs offer two ways to do it:

1. Dictionary attack

The program checks the password against a list of words from a dictionary. The smaller the dictionary, the faster the program can find the password. It also works on words that are not in the dictionary.

2. 'Brute force'

The program checks every possible combination of characters until it finds the password. It can take a long time to crack a password with many characters.



Examples of weak passwords

Password	Average time needed to crack it *
Sweetie	10 minutes on a standard computer
LeedsUtd	10 minutes on a standard computer
August2020	10 minutes on a standard computer
Sunshine	10 minutes on a standard computer



Examples of secure passwords

Password	Average time needed to crack it *
Fourteen€99ine	100 years on a standard computer
2-DinNerpl@tes	100 years on a standard computer
1234567890	100 years on a standard computer
qwertyuiop	100 years on a standard computer



* Times based on computer power of 2 billion attempts per second. Cyber criminals use botnets or server farms in the cloud to achieve this rate.

How to create secure passwords



- Use a mix of uppercase and lowercase letters, numbers, and symbols.
- Make it long (at least 12 characters).
- Don't use common words or phrases.
- Don't use the same password for multiple accounts.
- Use a password manager to generate and store strong passwords.
- Change your password regularly.

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Interesting links

[Kaspersky password checker](#)