

SECUR!OUS

**How to be
better at
passwords
than the
former
President of
the USA**



**Make your
passwords hard to
guess**

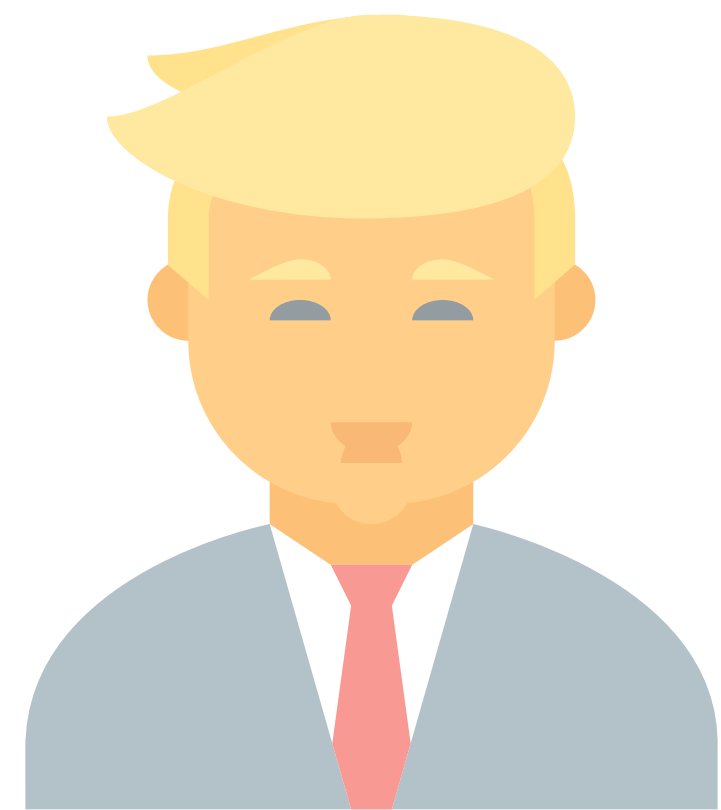


You'd have thought the guy who's been bemusing Twitter users across the world for years with explosive outbursts and random-word-generating brain farts would have been more than capable of applying the same level of unpredictability to his important passwords, but sadly not...

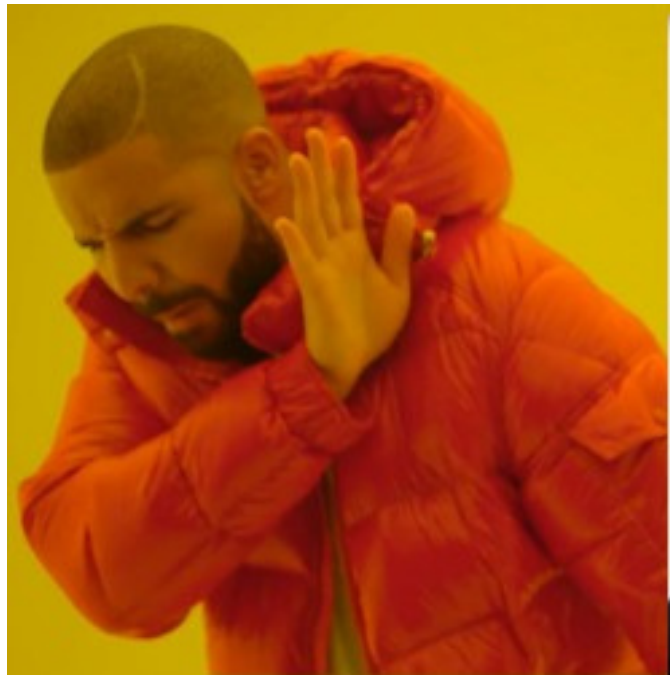
Trump instead had the same Twitter password as every one of the lads-on-tour who hit the beaches of Magaluf on a boozy boys holiday last year: MAGA2020!

It's the acronym for his campaign slogan, Make America Great Again, along with the year, 2020, and everyone's favourite piece of password punctuation: the exclamation mark. It took a Dutch ethical hacker just three attempts to successfully guess Trump's Twitter password.

Oh dear.

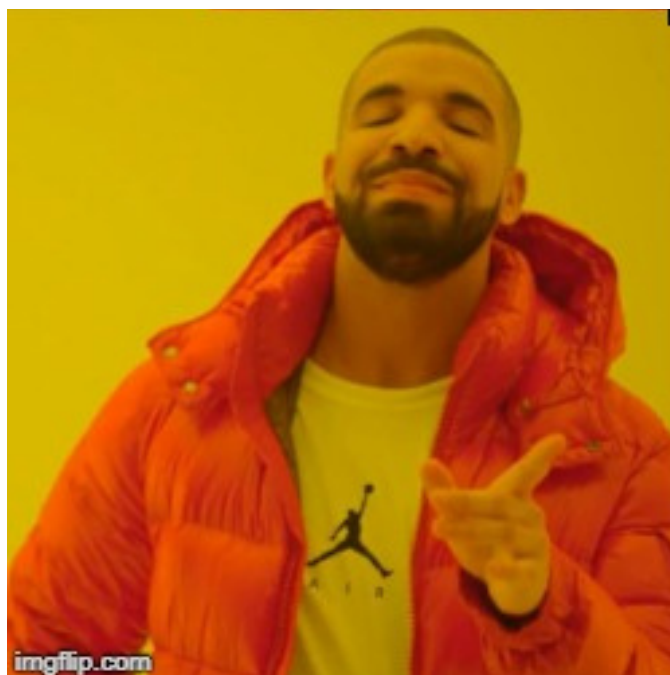


To create a hard-to-guess password...



Don't use

Your pet's name
Or your kid's name.
Not your birthday or
mother's maiden name.
And please, we BEG you, don't go
anywhere near 'querty',
'password123' or any of its siblings



DO

Get weird.
Think of your favourite types of
tree, or a combination of foods
only a psychopath would consider,
like pineapple on pizza.
Or maybe the last spot your dog
peed in - the more random it is
the better!

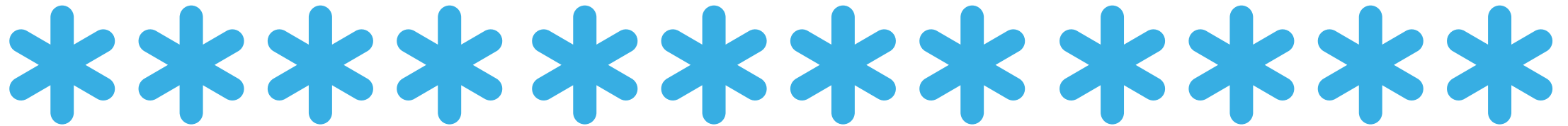
SECUR!OUS

**Okay, so you're
already better at
passwords than the
President of the USA.
Nice work!**

Unfortunately the bar was pretty low
and that's only the first step towards
nailing your passwords for good.
There are two more things you need
to know, so stay with us...



**Make your
passwords hard to
crack**



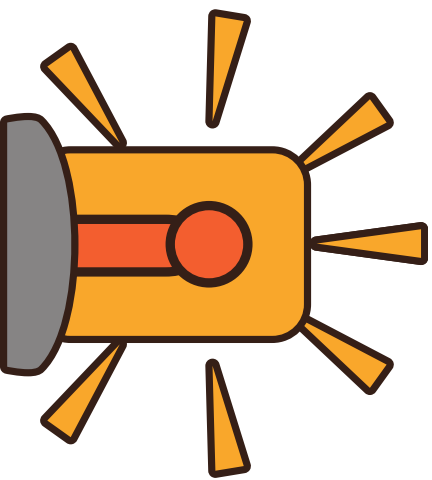
The longer your password is, the harder it'll be (and the longer it'll take) for a person or computer to crack. There's an explanation of this along with some fancy maths on our website, but all you really need to know is the longer your password is, the better.

Aim for a minimum of 15 characters for true peace of mind.





**Make sure your
passwords are all
different**



Though it's tempting to create one super-secure password and use it across all of your accounts, that's a really bad move.

If a criminal manages to get hold of the login details to any one of your accounts (which is still entirely possible, whether through phishing or targeting the user database directly), they'll then have access to every one.

That means you're putting the security of your bank, email, shopping or social media accounts in the hands of whoever owns that dodgy video streaming site you gave your super secure password to.

All it takes is one breach, and your whole digital life is wide open.



SECUR!OUS

But who in the world can be expected to remember all that?

Passwords are meant to make our
lives more secure - not more difficult.

But who has the brain capacity to
remember so many different
passwords, all of which are a minimum
of 15 characters in length?

Even the former President of
the USA couldn't do that!



Tip #1:

The National Cyber Security Centre recommends the 'three random words' approach.

It's pretty much as it sounds, suggesting you use a combination of three random words to make up your passwords.

To make it easier to keep track of your passwords, we recommend starting with updating the accounts that hold or have access to the most sensitive data, like your card details. Then work backwards from there to update all your accounts.

It might make it easier to remember which words go with which accounts if you can develop a formula or set structure.



Tip #2:

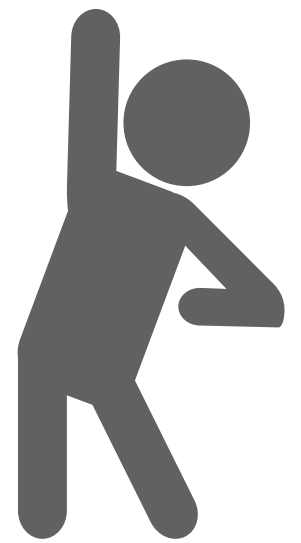
Use a reputable password manager. It takes all the headaches out of remembering your logins and passwords, keeping them accessible for you and encrypted - thus safe from cyber criminals.



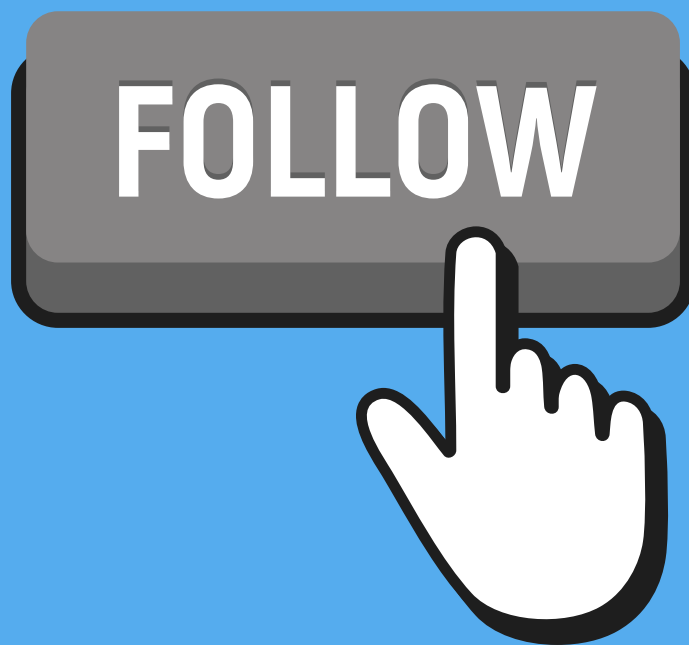
Tip #3:

Enable multi-factor authentication wherever you can (this means in order to login, you need both a password and, for example, a unique code sent via email, SMS or an authenticator app).

This doesn't improve the strength of your passwords, but it does further obstruct cyber criminals from accessing your accounts.



Want to know more?



Securious on LinkedIn

securious.co.uk