

# Password Security Basics

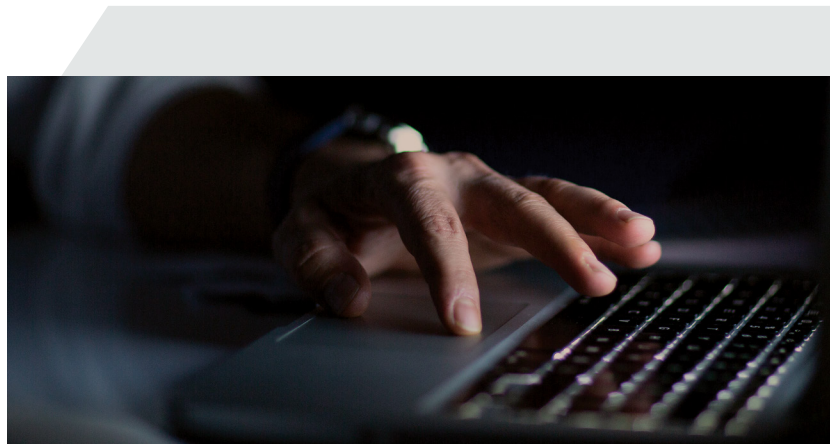
## The Importance of Strong Passwords

Strong passwords are your first line of defense against cybercriminals. The weaker the password, the easier it is for a hacker to crack and access your information.

## Password Managers

It's tempting to create and reuse the same simple passwords across multiple accounts. But if a hacker cracks your weak password on one account, then they have access to any other account that uses that password.

Password managers are designed to securely capture, store, and organize a user's passwords across various online accounts and devices. They can also suggest secure passwords and auto-fill account credentials when a user returns to a site.



## Password Best Practices

- 1. Long, complex** passwords that contain uppercase and lowercase letters, numbers and special characters are stronger.
- 2. Passphrases** are a great way to create long, memorable passwords.
- 3. Avoid common** passwords or keystrokes (e.g., 123456, password, qwerty).
- 4. Avoid using personal** interests, family/pets names, or dates shared on social media.
- 5. Have a unique** password for each account.
- 6. Change passwords** often and be sure to update them after a site you use has been breached.
- 7. Use a password manager** to help you with all of the above.
- 8. Adopt multifactor authentication** on as many accounts as possible.



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