

Password Cracking

AKA how to be a real hackerman

Husnain

Have you ever gotten an email like this?

unexpected_victim

I have your password

Hello \$FIRST_NAME,

I know that your password is \$YOUR_OLD_PASSWORD. I have installed a virus on your computer that hacks into your webcam and all of your online accounts, and I also have gotten all of your contacts. To stop me from doing bad things with this, please send \$10,00,0000,00000 in bitcoin to \$BITCOIN_WALLET. Alternatively, please send one (1) Amazon gift card code containing the amount to buy ten (10) boxes of Tostino's pizza rolls because I've run out of pizza rolls and they ran out of them at the store please I really want pizza roles please don't deny me of pizza rolls i need it

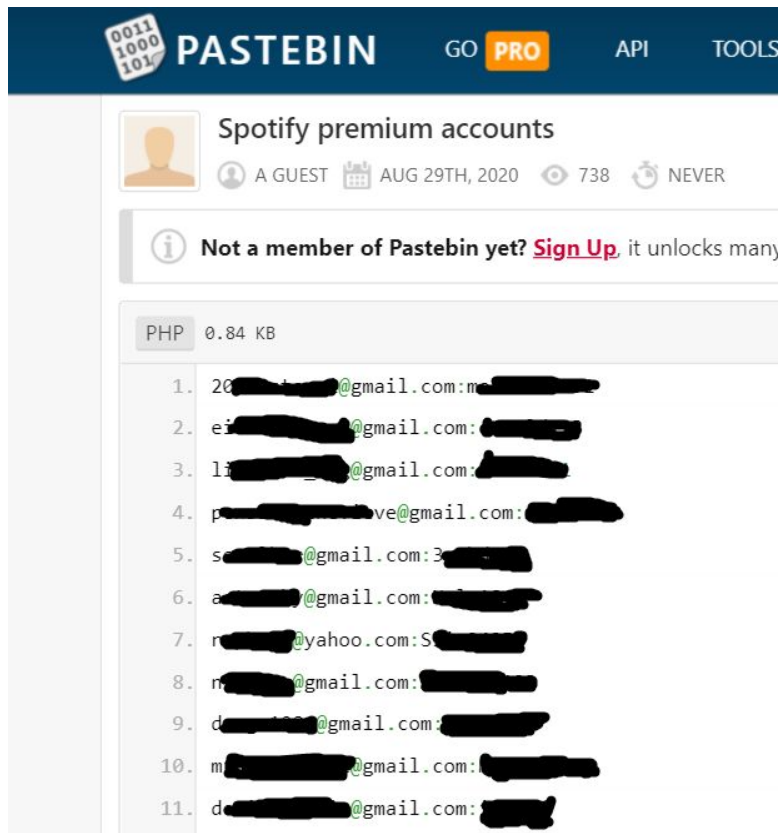
Thanks,

Mr. Totally Legit Hacker Marj

How did they get the password in the first place?

Password dumps.

<https://haveibeenpwned.com/Passwords>



The image shows a screenshot of a Pastebin post. The header is dark blue with the Pastebin logo (a notepad with '0011 1000 101') and the text 'PASTEBIN'. To the right are links for 'GO PRO', 'API', and 'TOOLS'. The post title is 'Spotify premium accounts' with a user icon, 'A GUEST', a date of 'AUG 29TH, 2020', a view count of '738', and a refresh icon labeled 'NEVER'. Below the title is a message: 'Not a member of Pastebin yet? [Sign Up](#), it unlocks many...'. The main content is a PHP file of 0.84 KB containing a list of 11 entries, each with a number, an email address, and a password. The email addresses are partially obscured with black boxes, but the domain is visible as '@gmail.com' or '@yahoo.com'. The passwords are also obscured with black boxes.

```
1. 20[redacted]@gmail.com:m[redacted]
2. ei[redacted]@gmail.com:[redacted]
3. li[redacted]@gmail.com:[redacted]
4. p[redacted]ve@gmail.com:[redacted]
5. s[redacted]@gmail.com:3[redacted]
6. a[redacted]@gmail.com:[redacted]
7. r[redacted]@yahoo.com:S[redacted]
8. r[redacted]@gmail.com:[redacted]
9. d[redacted]@gmail.com:[redacted]
10. m[redacted]@gmail.com:[redacted]
11. d[redacted]@gmail.com:[redacted]
```

How do hackers get these dumps?

How do websites store passwords?



How do websites store passwords?

Username

Password

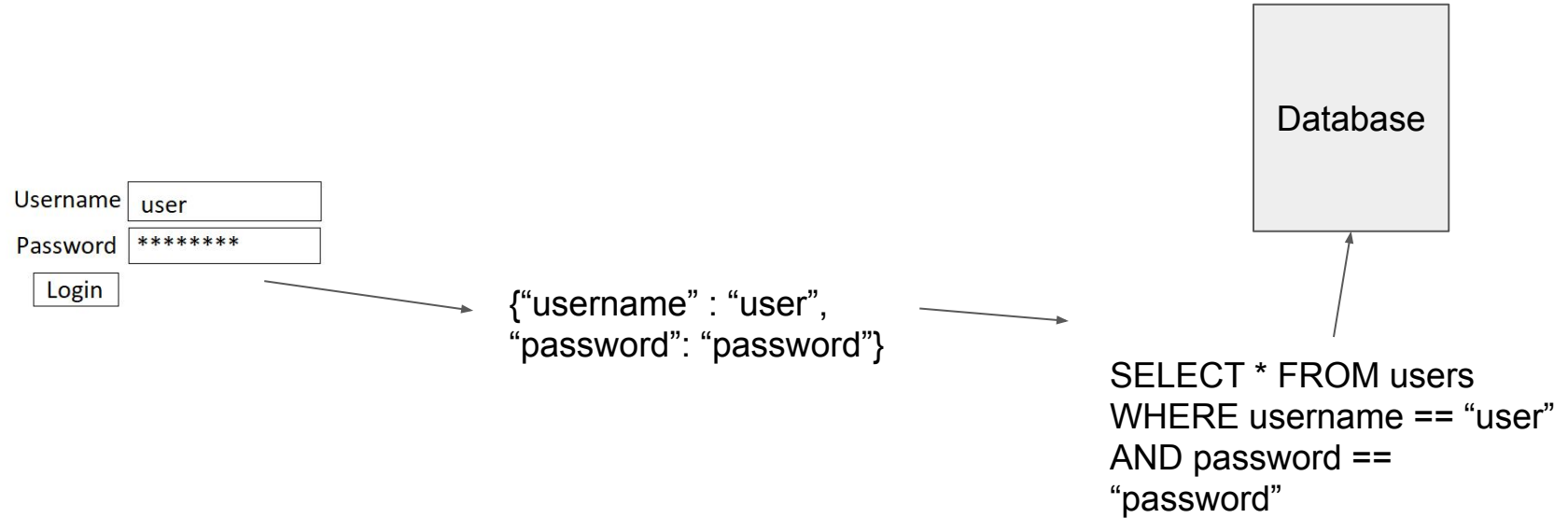
How do websites store passwords?

Username

Password

{“username” : “user”,
“password”: “password”}

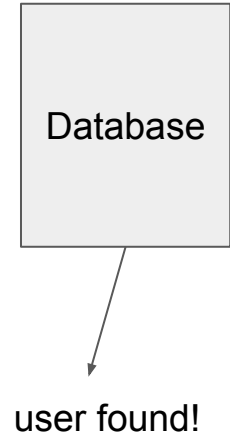
How do websites store passwords?



How do websites store passwords?

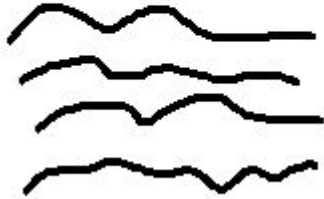
Username

Password



How do websites store passwords?

Sensitive Info



user found!

redirect to actual page



SQL - language that databases speak

Name	Bio
alice	this is alice's bio
carl	this is carl's bio
dania	this is dania's bio

```
SELECT  
username, bio FROM users  
WHERE username LIKE "%a%"
```

input



SQL Injection

we don't sanitize user input...

Name	Bio
noob	this is noob's bio
alice	this is alice's bio
bob	this is bob's bio
carl	this is carl's bio
dania	this is dania's bio

```
SELECT
username, bio FROM
users
WHERE username LIKE
"%%%"
      ↙
      matches any string
```

SQL Injection

so we can get arbitrary code execution!

bob	this is bob's bio
carl	this is carl's bio
dania	this is dania's bio
noob	this is noob's bio

```
SELECT
```

```
username, bio FROM
```

```
users
```

```
WHERE username LIKE
```

```
"%" UNION SELECT
```

```
1,2;--%"
```

Table Enumeration

so we can get arbitrary code execution!

Name	Bio
1	CREATE TABLE users (username text primary key not null, password_hash text not null, hint text not null, bio text not null)
alice	this is alice's bio
bob	this is bob's bio
carl	this is carl's bio
dania	this is dania's bio
noob	this is noob's bio

```
SELECT
username, bio FROM
users
WHERE username LIKE
"% " UNION
```

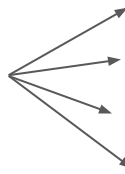
```
SELECT 1,sql FROM
sqlite_master WHERE
type='table'
;--%"
```

table name



```
CREATE TABLE users (  
username text primary key not null,  
password_hash text not null,  
hint text not null,  
bio text not null)
```

column names



How to leak passwords?

Left as exercise

Hashing

If things go wrong, an attacker can leak all passwords on a server

Therefore, most websites don't store raw passwords, but hashed ones

From Wikipedia: “A hash function is any function that can be used to map data of arbitrary size to fixed-size values.”

Basically, a function that is easy to calculate one way but hard to go back the other way*

Example: MD5

md5("password") = 5f4dcc3b5aa765d61d8327deb882cf99

md5("Password") = dc647eb65e6711e155375218212b3964

Don't use MD5

- Hashcat - open source software designed to crack hashes
- To use Hashcat, it's best to have a faster computer with a GPU, or just use Google Colab and use their free GPUs `_(ツ)_/`

<https://github.com/mxrch/penglab>

* Computers are very fast

```
!hashcat -b -m 0
```

```
hashcat (v6.1.1-98-g3dd89bc6) starting in benchmark mode...
```

```
Benchmarking uses hand-optimized kernel code by default.  
You can use it in your cracking session by setting the -O option.  
Note: Using optimized kernel code limits the maximum supported password length.  
To disable the optimized kernel code in benchmark mode, use the -w option.
```

```
nvmlDeviceGetFanSpeed(): Not Supported
```

```
CUDA API (CUDA 10.1)
```

```
=====
```

```
* Device #1: Tesla T4, 14969/15079 MB, 40MCU
```

```
OpenCL API (OpenCL 1.2 CUDA 10.1.152) - Platform #1 [NVIDIA Corporation]
```

```
=====
```

```
* Device #2: Tesla T4, skipped
```

```
Benchmark relevant options:
```

```
=====
```

```
* --optimized-kernel-enable
```

```
Hashmode: 0 - MD5
```

```
Speed.#1.....: 21217.8 MH/s (62.67ms) @ Accel:32 Loops:1024 Thr:1024 Vec:1
```

```
Started: Thu Sep 24 18:58:06 2020
```

```
Stopped: Thu Sep 24 18:58:16 2020
```

We can crack 21 *billion* hashes per second!

Brute-force attack

Assuming your password contains just uppercase characters, lowercase characters, and numbers ([A-Z],[a-z],[0-9]), we have:

Number of Characters	Number of Possible Passwords	Time to Crack
3	238328	nearly instantly
4	~14 million	nearly instantly
5	~900 million	43 milliseconds
6	~56 billion	2.7 seconds
7	~ $3.5 \cdot 10^{12}$	2 minutes
8	~ $2.2 \cdot 10^{14}$	3 hours
9	~ $1.4 \cdot 10^{16}$	7.5 days

Live demo (brute force)

Dictionary attack

If people use a password on a compromised site, they probably have used it on another website

rockyou



The screenshot shows the CrackStation website's 'Password Cracking Dictionary' page. The header features the 'CrackStation' logo and navigation links for 'Defuse Security' and 'Twitter'. The main content area is titled 'CrackStation's Password Cracking Dictionary' and contains the following text:

I am releasing CrackStation's main password cracking dictionary (1,493,677,782 words, 15GB) for download.

What's in the list?

The list contains every wordlist, dictionary, and password database leak that I could find on the internet (and I spent a LOT of time looking). It also contains every word in the Wikipedia databases (pages/articles, retrieved 2010, all languages) as well as lots of books from [Project Gutenberg](#). It also includes the passwords from some low-profile database breaches that were being sold in the underground years ago.

The format of the list is a standard text file sorted in non-case-sensitive alphabetical order. Lines are separated with a newline "\n" character.

You can test the list without downloading it by giving SHA256 hashes to the [free hash cracker](#). Here's a [tool for computing hashes easily](#). Here are the results of cracking [LinkedIn's](#) and [eHarmony's](#) password hash leaks with the list.

The list is responsible for cracking about 30% of all hashes given to CrackStation's free hash cracker, but that figure should be taken with a grain of salt because some people try hashes of really weak passwords just to test the service, and others try to crack their hashes with other online hash crackers before finding CrackStation. Using the list, we were able to crack 49.98% of one customer's set of 373,000 human password hashes to motivate their move to a better salting scheme.

Download

Note: To download the torrents, you will need a torrent client like Transmission (for Linux and Mac), or uTorrent for Windows.

Torrent (Fast)
GZIP-compressed (level 9). 4.2 GiB compressed. 15 GiB uncompressed.

HTTP Mirror (Slow)

Checksums (crackstation.txt.gz)

MDS: 4748a72706ff934a17662446862ca4f8
SHA1: efa3f5ecbfba03df523418a70871ec59757b6d3f
SHA256: a6dc17d27d0a34f57c989741acdd485b8aee45a6e9796daf8c9435370dc61612

Smaller Wordlist (Human Passwords Only)

defuse.ca/ /cracking-linkedin-hashac-with-

Live demo (dictionary attack)

Rule attack

password

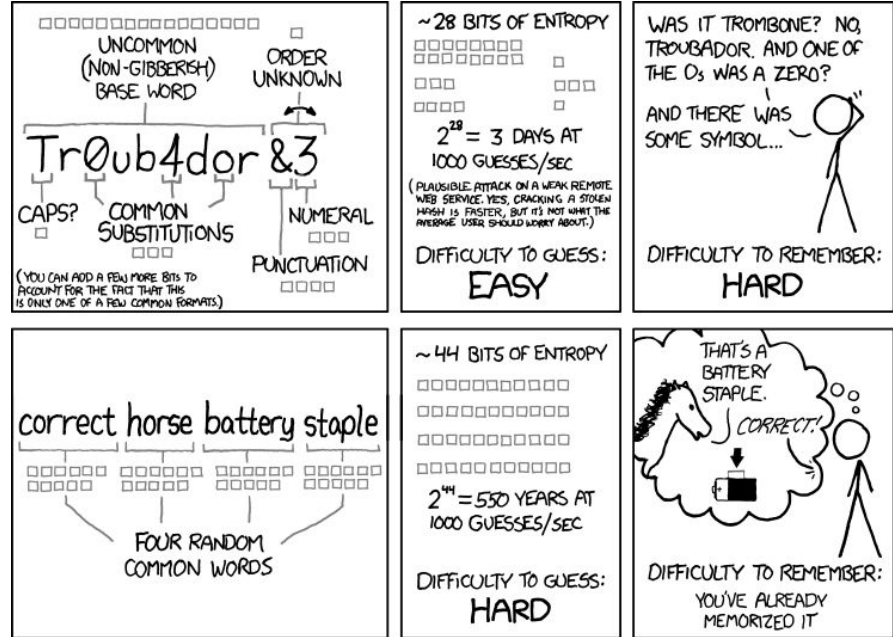
- password123
- password00
- p@ssword
- pa\$\$word
- Password
- P@\$s\$word
- Pa\$\$w0rd
- P@\$s\$w0rd
- 123Password123
- 123password123
- ...

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
4	6	0	1)	3	1=	6	/-/	1	1	12	1	1v1	1V1	o	1*	0	2	5	7	8	1/	1V/	8	3	2
Λ	8	<	10	6	ph	6	[1-	!	1	16	6	ew	7/	11	10	0_	12	6	+	1_	1/	1V/	><	1/	1_
@	13	(2	6	1	C+	1-1	1	1	11	1_	1V1	//1V/	oh	1*	0_	17	2	-1-	13M	1V/	1V/	10	1	3
Λ	13	(1)	6	1*	9	1-1	eye	6	1	1	1V1	1V/	11	1*(0)	61	12	5	1	1	1	1V/	10	1/	1_
+	13	(0)	1)	6	(*	C-	1-1	3p0	6	1_	1	1V1	1V/	11	1*	0ue	12	chd	11	1	1	1V/	10	1/	1_
ayo	6	aaa	13	1-	1=	gaa	1-1	mi	1/	17	1	1V1	1V/	11	1*	0	1*	0ue	12	chd	11	1	1V/	10	1/
2	13	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1V1	1V/	11	1*	0	1*	0ue	12	chd	11	1	1V/	10	1/
ci	1:	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1V1	1V/	11	1*	0	1*	0ue	12	chd	11	1	1V/	10	1/
λ	13	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1V1	1V/	11	1*	0	1*	0ue	12	chd	11	1	1V/	10	1/
Z	13	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1V1	1V/	11	1*	0	1*	0ue	12	chd	11	1	1V/	10	1/

Live demo (rule attack)

How to protect yourself

- Sanitize input in web apps
- Make good passwords
- Don't reuse passwords
- Use a password manager



THROUGH 20 YEARS OF EFFORT, WE'VE SUCCESSFULLY TRAINED EVERYONE TO USE PASSWORDS THAT ARE HARD FOR HUMANS TO REMEMBER, BUT EASY FOR COMPUTERS TO GUESS.

Obligatory XKCD reference

Questions?