

Cypherpunks

The Cyberpunk Project

*Their goals are political, their means are technical
and they operate brilliantly in both modes.*

The word "cypherpunk" comes from words "cipher" + "cyberpunk".

A cypherpunk is someone interested in the uses of encryption via electronic ciphers for enhancing personal privacy and guarding against tyranny by centralized, authoritarian power structures, especially government. Cypherpunks operate in spite of all regulations, for the respect of private life which, from their point of view, is dependent on an easier access to communication, information, and encoding methods.

This is accomplished by cryptographic systems. A cryptographic system (or cipher) is a method of encoding messages. A means of making conversation and exchanging information across the network regardless of censorship, and in complete respect of privacy. [PGP](#) is cypherpunks favorite tool for cryptography. A GNU project called The GNU Privacy Guard has also produced a PGP compatible free cryptographic program [GnuPG](#). Because it's an Open Source program, it cannot be weakened by any government.

References

[A Cypherpunk's Manifesto](#)

[Coding Up a Bit of Privacy](#)

[Cypherpunk rising : WikiLeaks, encryption and the coming surveillance dystopia](#)

Links

[Vince Cate's Cryptorebel/Cypherpunk Page](#)

Lots of links of interest to cypherpunks.

[Indecent Communications](#)

An electronic novel about Internet censorship, anarchy, bondage, Taoism and other fun things. By Lewis Call.