Developer Tips

Ron Fybish

Easy Steps

HOW ARE PASSWORD STORED?

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Do you want to know how to keep a user password safe?

Let's explore!

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The **primary** security mechanism when storing passwords **Is not**

❌ **Encryption**

But rather

✅ **Hashing**

Here's the reason why

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Encryption

Encrypting a text means that it is possible to get the text back by decrypting it

An authorized person can know the user's password by decrypting it if they know the key

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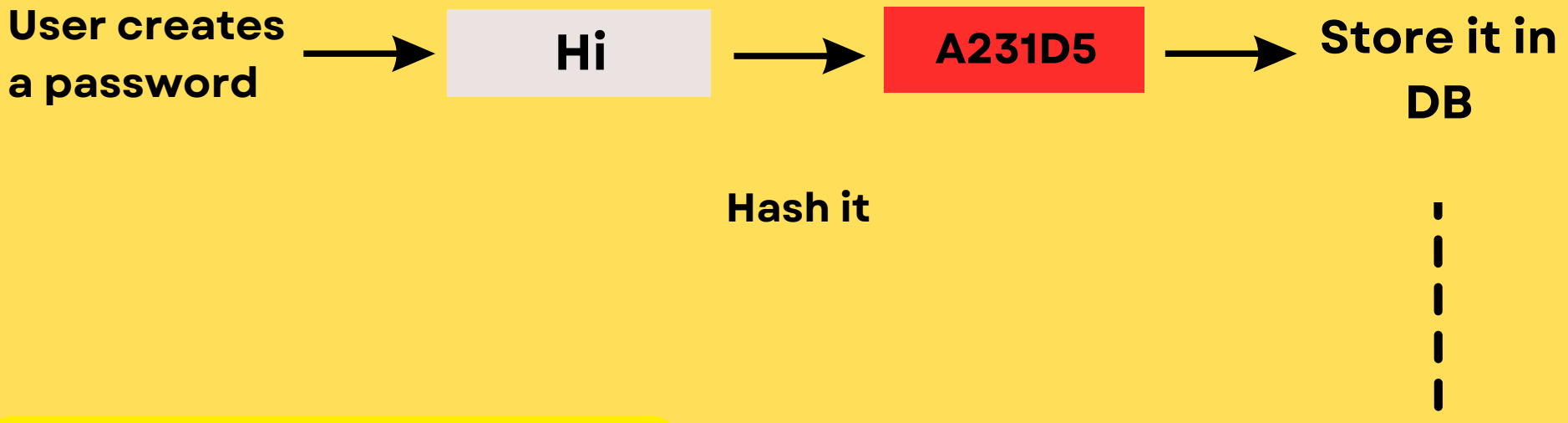
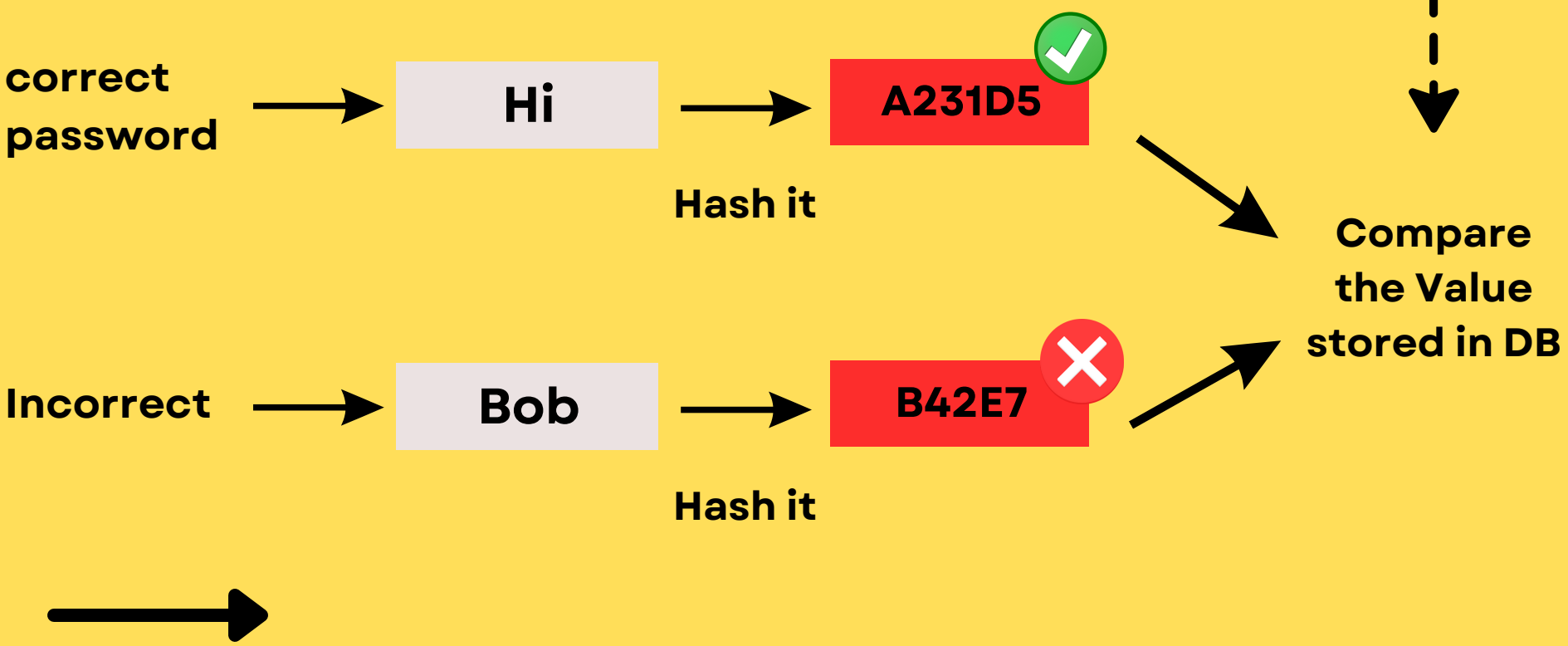
Hashing

Hashing is a way to encrypt text. When we hash something, it produces a digest. But you cannot decrypt the text from the digest.

When a user creates an account:



When user logs in:



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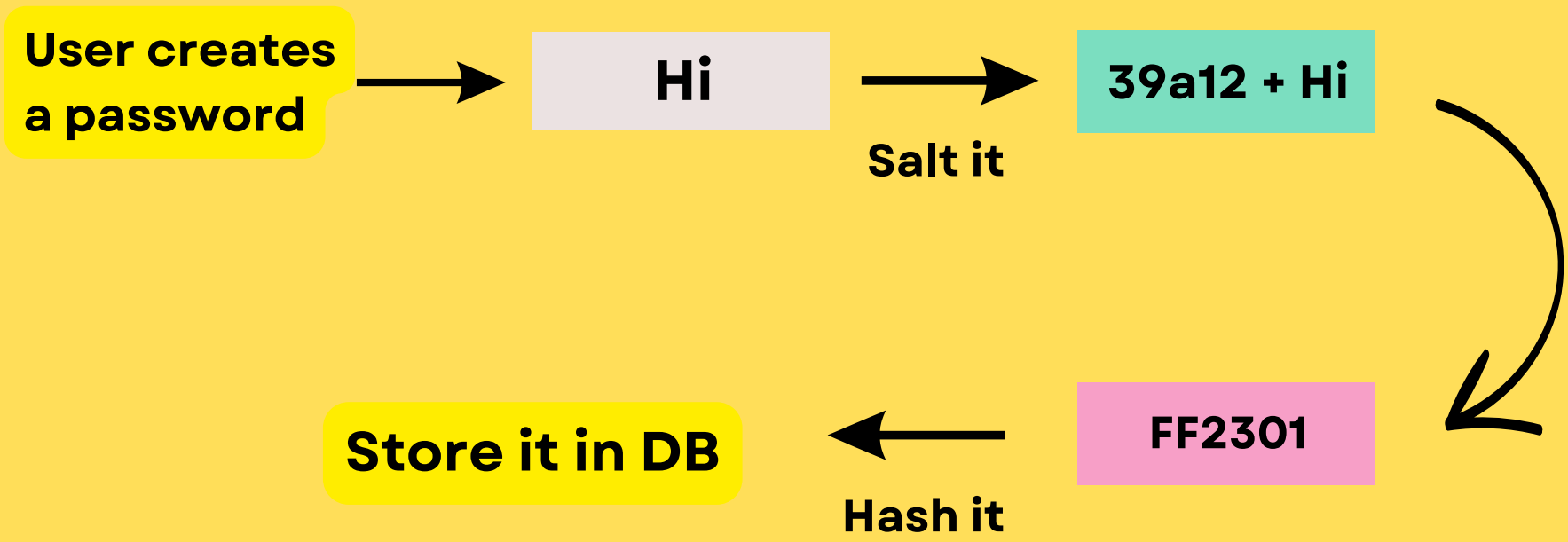
In addition to Hashing the password, you can also Salt it.



Salt is a unique piece of data for each user and is added to the password before it is hashed. This will also ensure that no two passwords have the same hash.

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Libraries

The most popular password-hashing algorithms are:

- **PBKDF2**
- **bcrypt**

They are suitable for password hashing and have a built-in salting mechanism.

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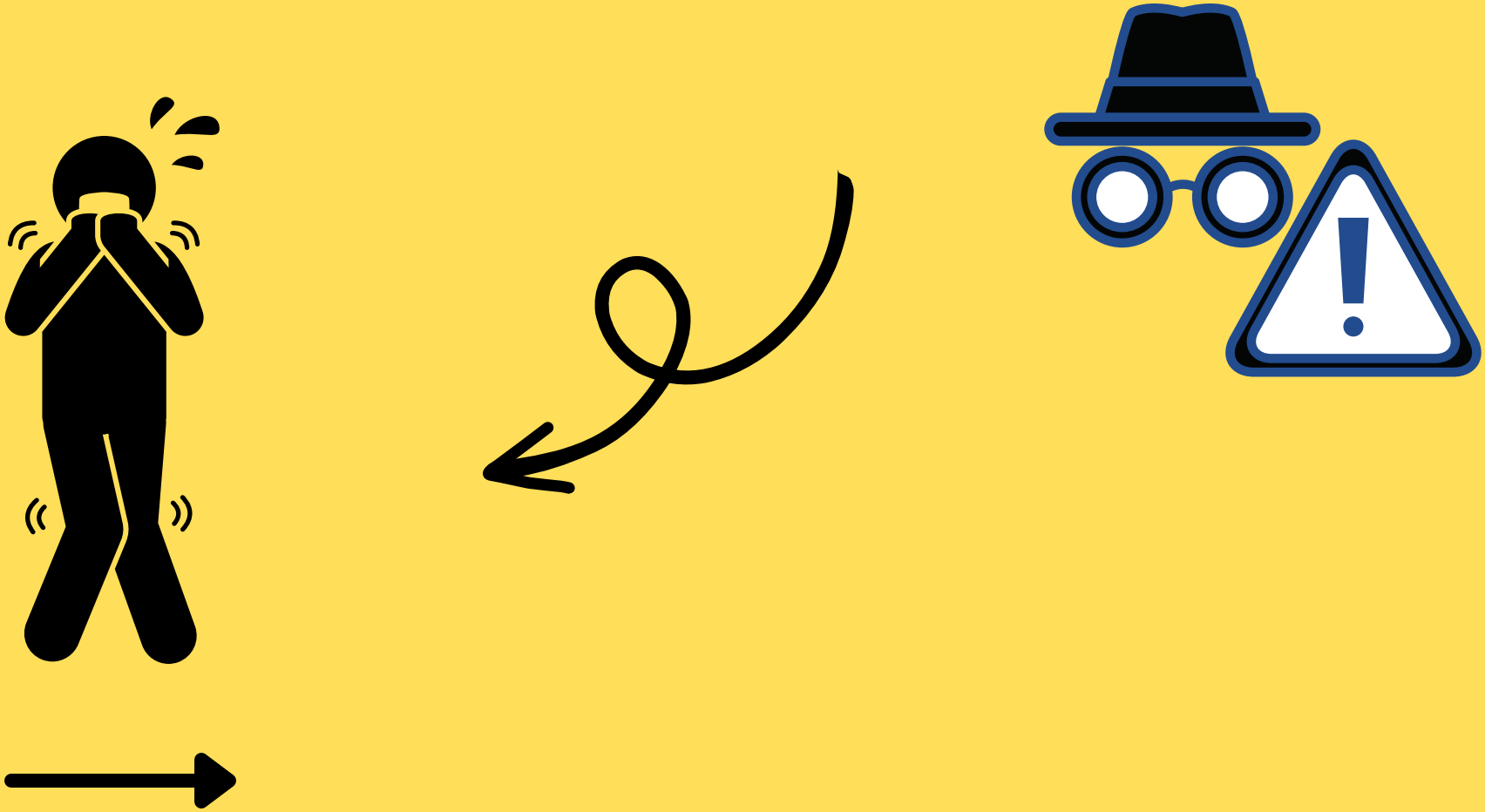
Using a library for hashing passwords is always recommended instead of trying to implement your own



Ron Fybish
Developer Advocate

What do You Think About This Post?

I hope this helps! Comment below
to let me know what else you like to learn.
Follow @ronfybish to get updated :)