Text Me Back: Cryptography

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Description

This beginner cryptography challenge is Valentine's Day themed and built around classic flip phone multi-tap texting. Instead of receiving a normal message, players are given a sequence of keypad presses and must decode it to recover the hidden Valentine phrase.

Github Path: Cryptography/Text_Me_Back

Prompt

Your Valentine tried to text you… but something went wrong.

Instead of a normal message, you find one saved on a flip phone. It isn't words, just a neat sequence of button taps, like someone typed it carefully and left you the button presses instead of the text.

Double spaces separate words. Decode what they meant to say.

Artifact:

7777 33 222 88 777 33 3 9 444 8 44 555 666 888 33

Format: flame{plaintext}

Hints

1. Think old-school flip phone texting (multi-tap).
2. Each number maps to letters (2=ABC … 9=WXYZ). Repeating the number chooses the letter.
3. Don’t overthink the spacing.

Solution

1. Use the classic keypad mapping:
   2 = ABC
   3 = DEF
   4 = GHI
   5 = JKL
   6 = MNO
   7 = PQRS
   8 = TUV
   9 = WXYZ
2. Split by double spaces into words.
3. 7777 33 222 88 777 33 3 → SECURED
   7777=S, 33=E, 222=C, 88=U, 777=R, 33=E, 3=D
4. 9 444 8 44 → WITH
   9=W, 444=I, 8=T, 44=H
5. 555 666 888 33 → LOVE
   555=L, 666=O, 888=V, 33=E
6. Plaintext: SECURED WITH LOVE

Flag

flame{secured_with_love}