Personal Password Manager in the Private Cloud

By Schougaard,

The Issue

- Passwords are either...
 - Too easy to guess
 - Too easy to bruteforce
- Or...
 - Too difficult to remember

Use a password manager

- Trusting someone else with your data
 - Synchronization by upload to remote server
- No synchronization of data
 - Stored on the local device

Hosting A Solution Yourself

- Private Cloud
- Not that expensive anymore
 - Small low-powered devices such as Raspberry Pi
- Complete control of data

What do we need?

(excerpt from the complete list of requirements)

- Distributed password database
- Multi-user support
 - Albeit solution should be aimed at individuals
- Password organization, in multiple levels
- Password sharing (for convenience)
- Passwords only ever appear in clear text client-side
- Auditing
- Two-factor authentication

And most importantly... Something the user *wants* to use!

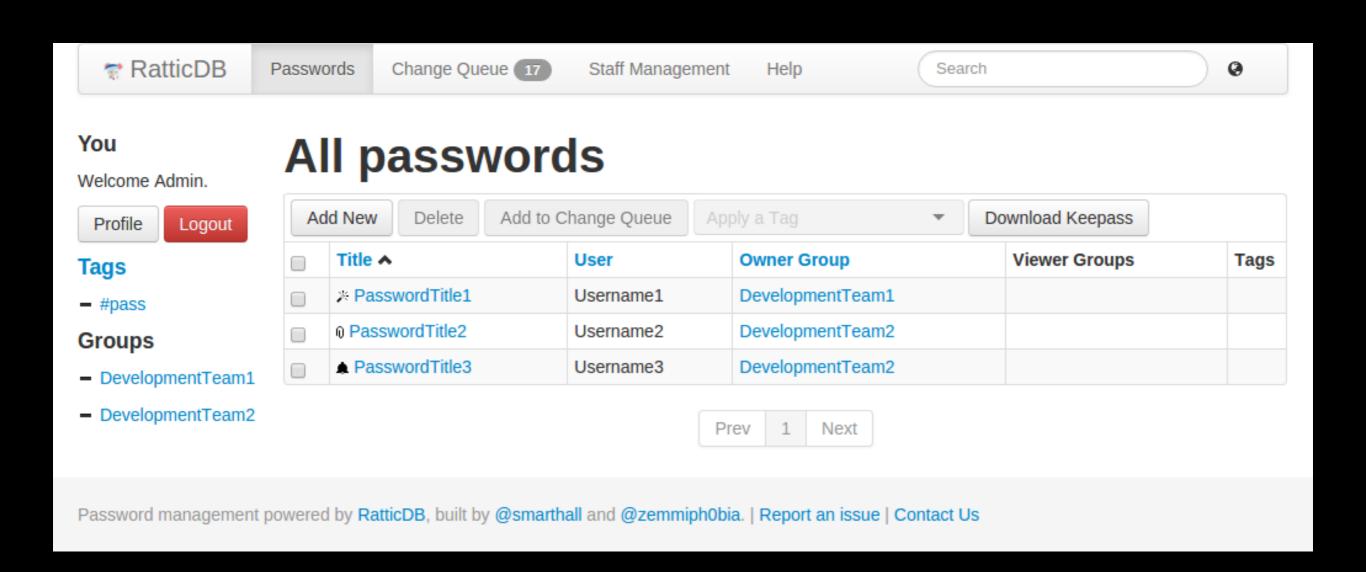
So... What already exists?

Reviewed Commercially Available Tools

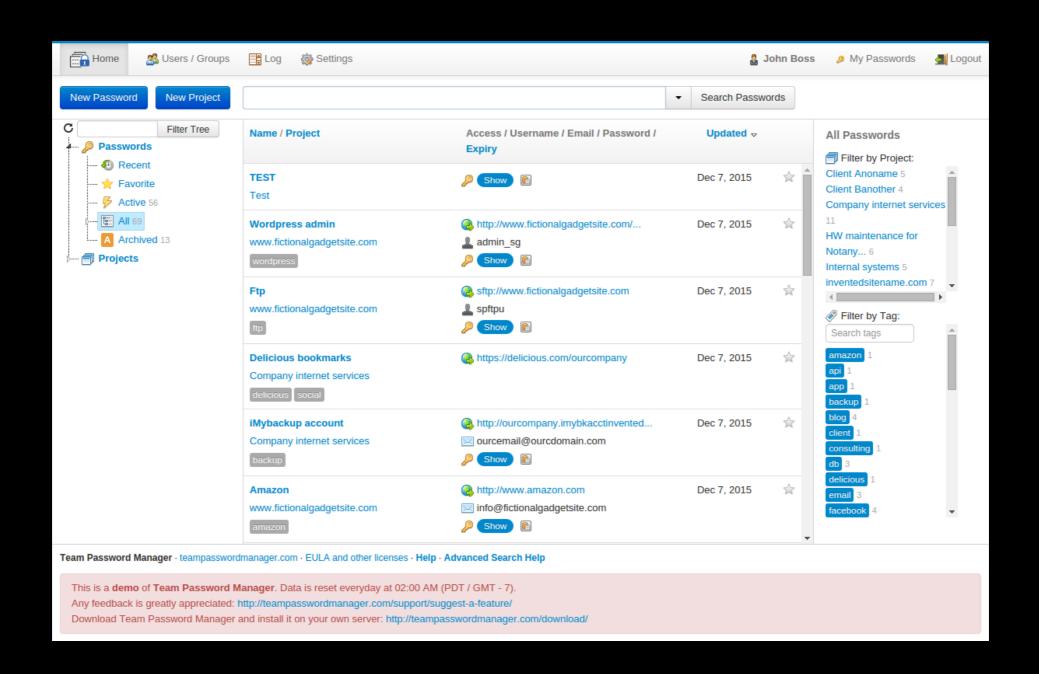
- In-Browser Password Managers
- LastPass, and Similar Solutions
- KeePass, and Similar Solutions
- Rattic
- Encryptr
- Vault
- TeamPasswordManager

... But none fulfill the requirements in a satisfactory way!

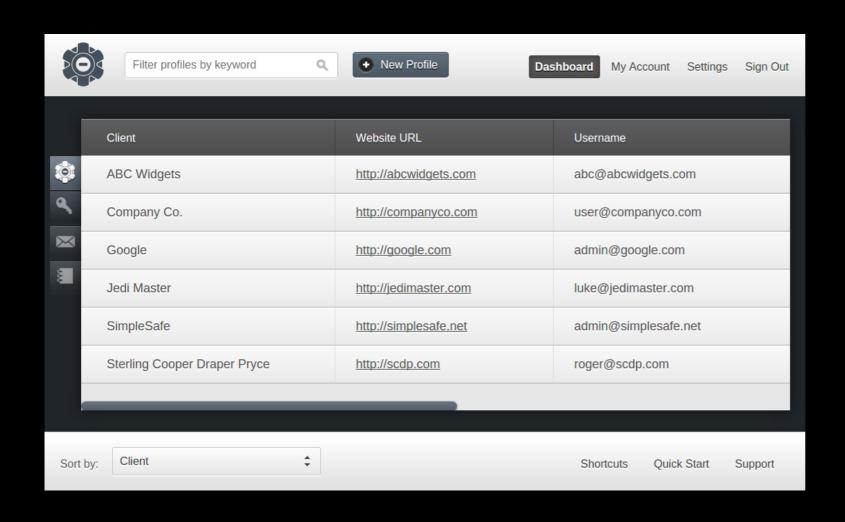
Most are aimed at teams



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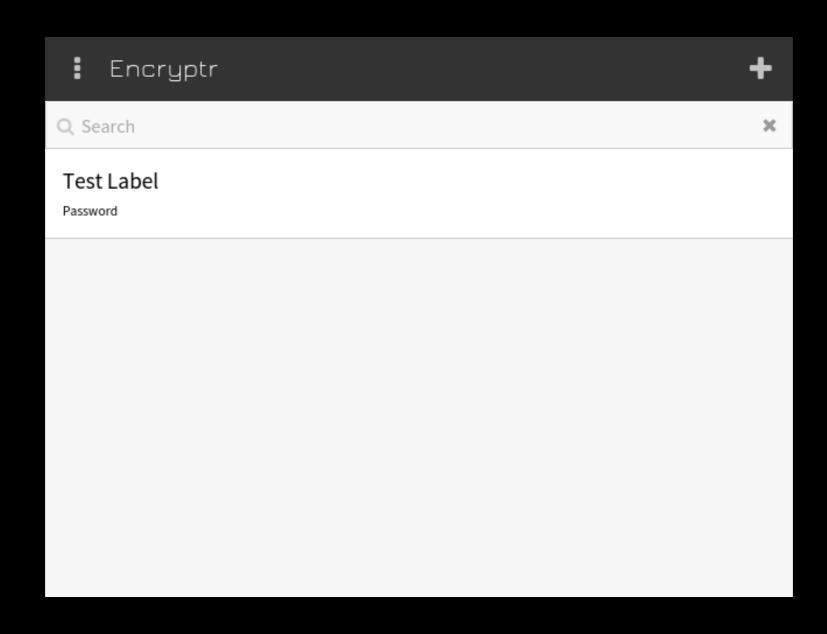


Some have simply been discontinued since...

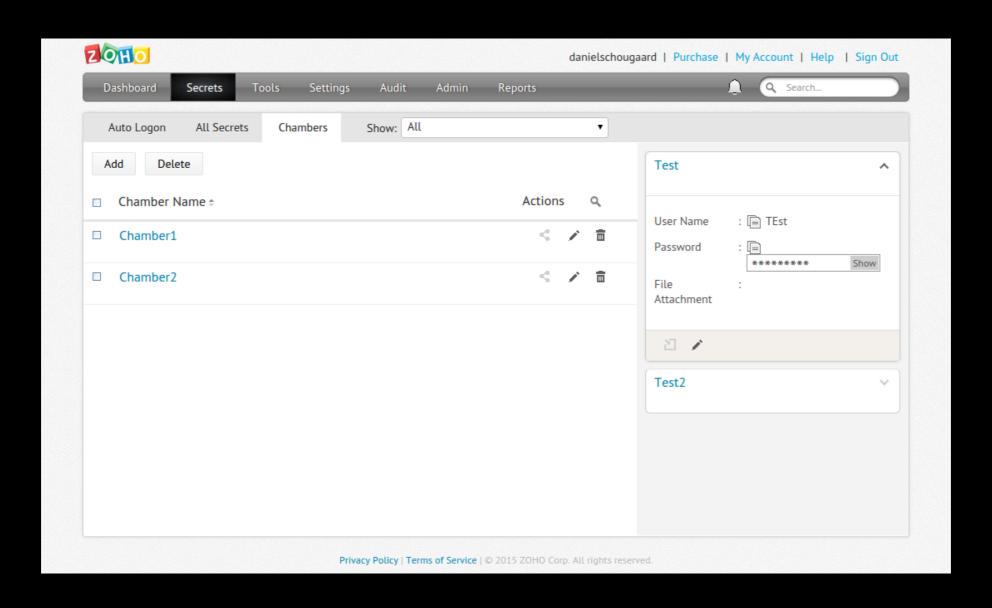


"..., we have made the tough decision to remove SimpleSafe for sale and cease to actively develop the product."

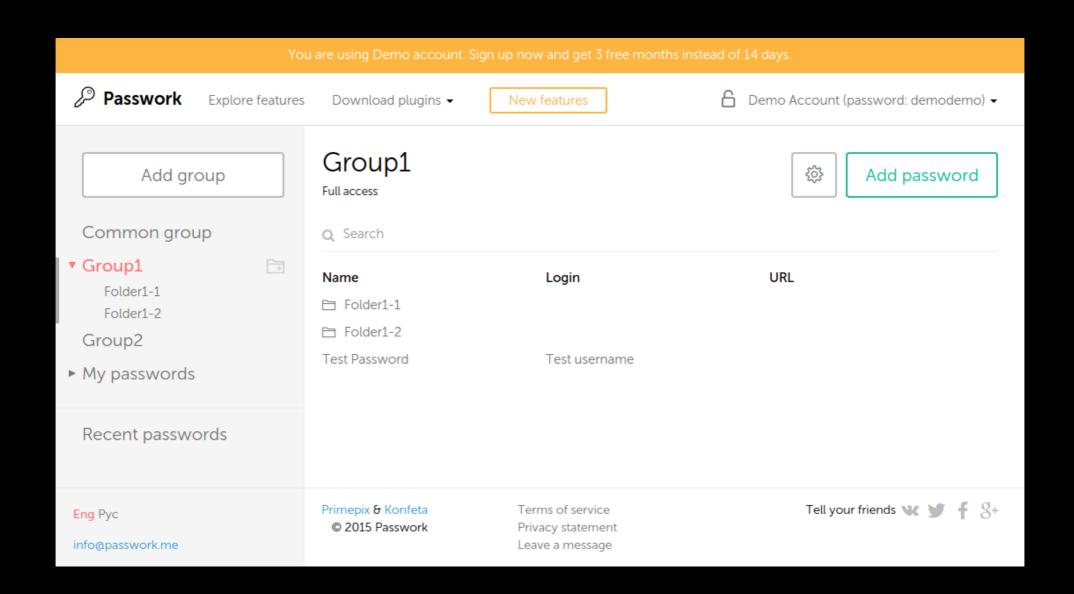
Some lack organization



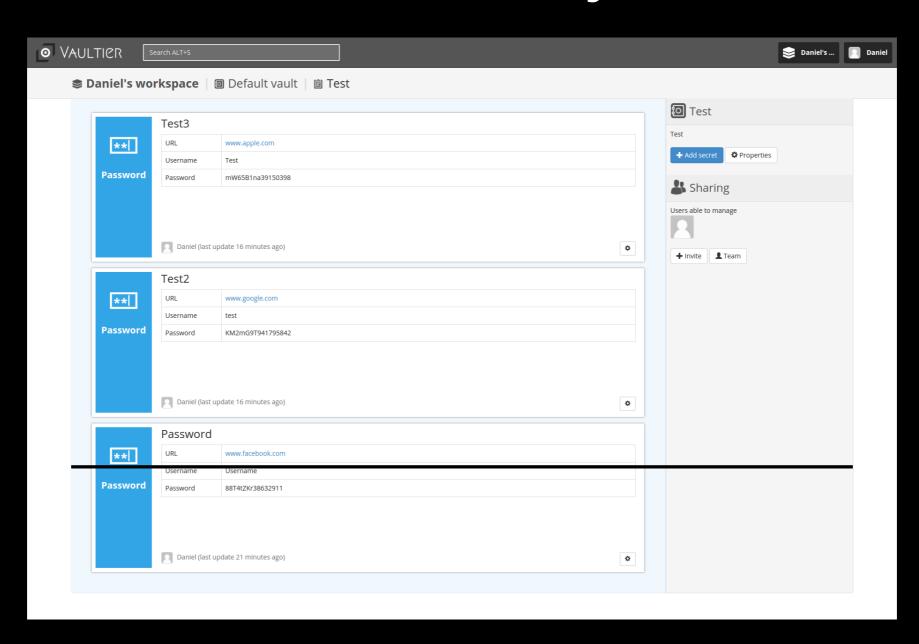
Some invent their own organization



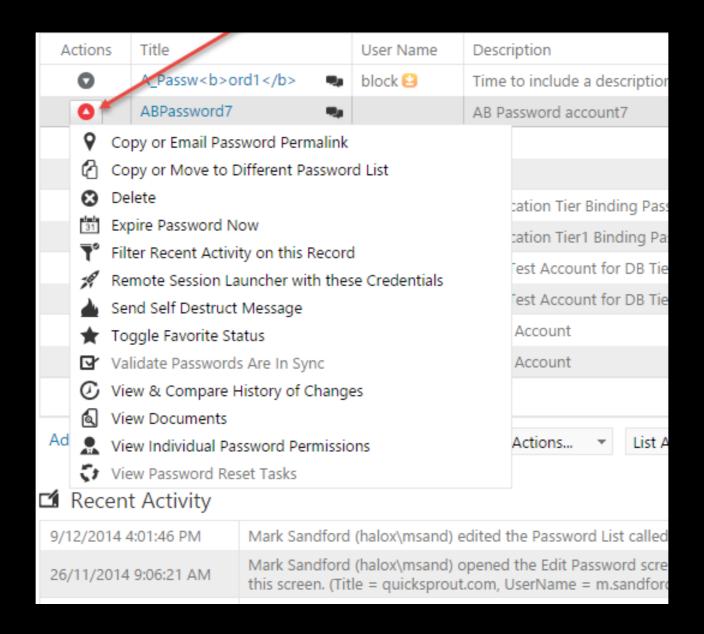
Some doesn't even tell which platform it runs on



Some have no regards for usability



Some are WAY to complex



And some are just plain horrible



Reviewed Academic Solutions

- Tapas: Design, Implementation, and Usability Evaluation of a Password Manager
- Using CardSpace as a Password Manager & Implementing PassCard
 a CardSpace-based Password Manager
- Stronger Password Authentication Using Browser Extensions
- Sesame: A Secure and Convenient Mobile Solution for Passwords
- All Your Browser-saved Passwords Could Belong to Us: A Security Analysis and a Cloud-based New Design

- Passpet: Convenient Password Management and Phishing Protection
- Cloud Based Manager Using Privacy-Preserved Biometrics
- A Password Manager that Doesn't Remember Passwords
- Password Management Using Doodles
- PALPAS -- PAssword Less PAssword Synchronization
- Cloud-based Storage-Free Browserbased Password Manager
- CredProxy

And the academics...?

Solution name (or paper name, if no name given)	Reason to dismissal
Tapas	Does not support multiple
CardSpace	Restricted to the Windows
PwDHash	Password derivation tool.
Sesame	Intended for smartphones, tablets, smart watches, and etc.
All your browser-saved	Relies on third party servers.
Passpet	Only works for website logins, in the browser.

And the academics...? Cont.

Solution name (or paper name, if no name given)	Reason to dismissal
Cloud password manager using privacy-preserved biometrics.	Not all devices has biometric inputs.
Versipass	Low amount of permutations and im-practical.
Doodles	Does not support multiple devices
PALPAS	Assumed dependency on third party servers and limited to native applications

And the academics...? Cont.

Solution name (or paper name, if no name given)	Reason to dismissal
Toward a secure and usable cloud-based password manager for web	Only works for website logins, in the browser.
CredProxy	Ambiguity in implementation details, no support for multiple

Summing up the academics

- None of them suggest a "full" solution
 - Either there is no multi-device support
 - Or...
 - They solve it by uploading it to a server the user does not control
- Highly platform dependant solutions

So unfortunately.... None of them fit the bill

So... What then?

- We need something new
- Something better
- Something that actually fulfills the requirements