I come from the..

- copyright... → world
- academic.. → world
- activism... → world
- anything-but-information-security → world

So, WHAT ARE ALL THESE SECURITY THINGS!!!!

The slightly commented zine of INFORMATION SECURITY FOR NON INFOSEC PEOPLE 101

Before diving in the maybe boring technology, we prefer to introduce some basic premises:

NOTHING IS 100% SECURE #TheHorror!!!

🔥😱🔥

Sorry for the sensationalism... can't help it

Technology, as anything else made by humans is susceptible to be vulnerable. When someone says that "something is secure", it means "until today there is no evidence that something is compromised"

Technology changes, and *REALLY FAST*

See previous point

What is super "secure" and advanced today, in a couple of years will be obsolete and easier to cheat

📟 555-5555 📠 💿 💾

With doubts on this?

Just make some searches:

blueborne 🔍

our precious ᛒ vulnerable

heartbleed 🔍

hundreds of millions websites exposing info

krack attack 🔍

WPA2

our wifi exposed

A Chain is no stronger than its WEAKEST LINK

Imagine that you have a house with super fences and great locks, but you left the back door open or a key under the carpet

Your security could be "good" but a single vulnerability can compromise the entire system

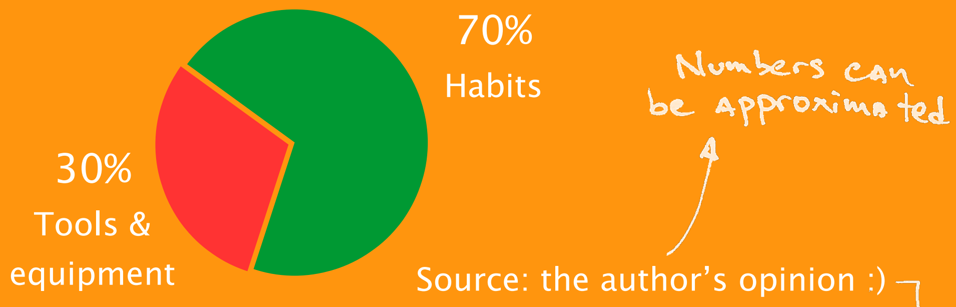
Information security works in the same way.. i.e. You can protect your mail account with a great password, but your security questions are easy to guess? How protected is your recovery account?

The habit issue

As with the house example, it doesn't worth much having the best gear if we don't have the habit of closing all doors before leaving, this could be challenging at first but if you want to be more secure this "inconvenience" will pay off

security
S
C
convenience

For some people, a good security is about...



Source: the author's opinion :)

but some people agree with me

Now, imagine that your house have:

- Super fences
- Angry dogs
- Great locks
- Barbed wire
- Sharks with lasers
- Cameras
- CCTV
- You close all doors before closing
- Biometrical access
- Guards
- The key is not under the carpet
- thanks

Maybe, just maybe

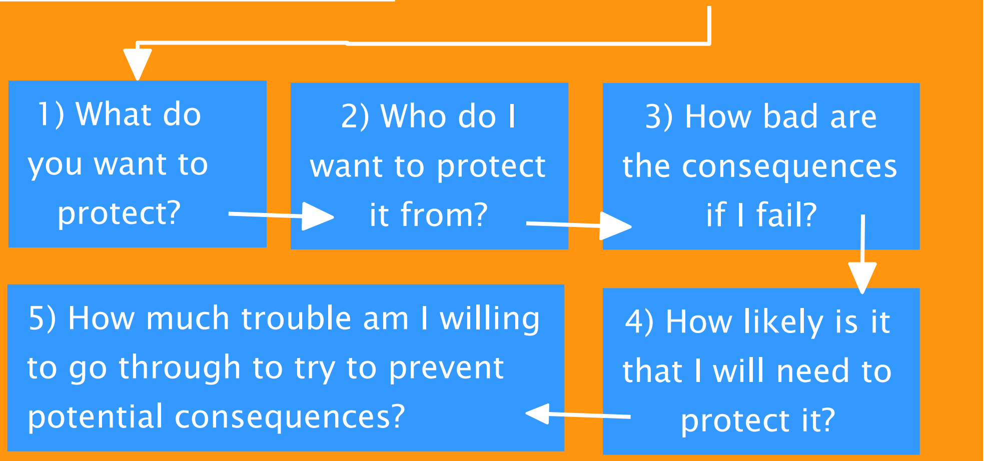
People will think you have more valuables than you actually have

It will be too expensive, uncomfortable and invasive

You don't need all of this

It could help if you build a **threat model**

It could be a little more complicated but to simplify, you can ask yourself



1) What do you want to protect?

2) Who do I want to protect it from?

3) How bad are the consequences if I fail?

4) How likely is it that I will need to protect it?

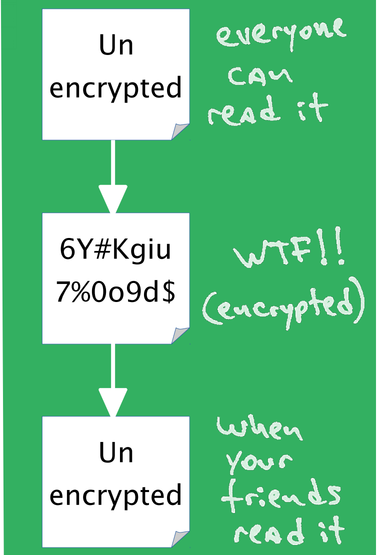
5) How much trouble am I willing to go through to try to prevent potential consequences?

Source: SURVEILLANCE SELF-DEFENSE guide (EFF) https://ssd.eff.org

Now, with this knowledge you can decide if these strategies are fine within your threat model and include habits that you can build:

Use the best encryption that you can

The ability to transform a message so it only can be legible to those that you chose


Un encrypted

everyone can read it

6Y#Kgiu 7%0o9d$

WTF!! (encrypted)

Un encrypted

when your friends read it

Use HTTPS

https://example.com

Encrypt the communication between you and the sites you visit

Encrypt your chats

When possible use Signal

If not, Whatsapp

If you feel that sh... got real:

Use GPG for mail

GnuPG

Encrypt your files

Veracrypt

Encrypt your computer

Filevault Mac

BitLocker Windows

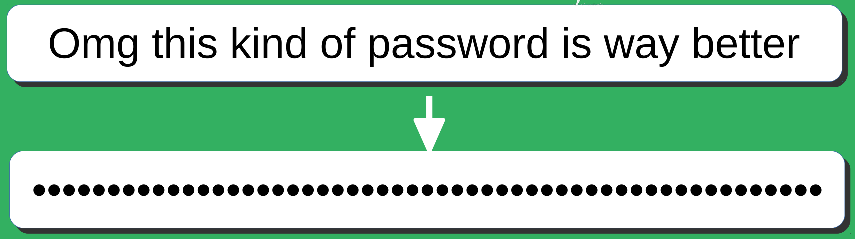
LUKS Linux

Talking about your accounts:

Use good passwords

10 characters passwords are gone forever, try something better like passphrases, like this example:

please don't use exactly this one


Omg this kind of password is way better

•••

Check these password habits

- Don’t reuse passwords
- Also Secure your recovery accounts
- Review your security questions, they are easy to guess? Answers are in your social media? Try changing them by lies or passwords

we know this can be pretty hard, because of that we suggest

- Use a password manager

This is just the tip of the iceberg, there is so much more to learn :))

super super important

2 factor authentication

Secure Browsing

Secure file erasing

VPN

Malware

Phishing

Metadata

And much more..

read it with infomercial voice

If you are interested in knowing more of this you can check these sites

https://ssd.eff.org

https://securityinabox.org

websites

https

great!

Umbrella App

Android App