

TRANSPOSITION CIPHER

- In the transposition technique the positions of letters/numbers/symbols in plain text is changed with one another.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|--|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| <i>1</i> | <i>2</i> | <i>3</i> | <i>4</i> | <i>5</i> | <i>6</i> | | <i>4</i> | <i>2</i> | <i>1</i> | <i>6</i> | <i>3</i> | <i>5</i> |
| <i>M</i> | <i>E</i> | <i>E</i> | <i>T</i> | <i>M</i> | <i>E</i> | | <i>T</i> | <i>E</i> | <i>M</i> | <i>E</i> | <i>E</i> | <i>M</i> |
| <i>A</i> | <i>F</i> | <i>T</i> | <i>E</i> | <i>R</i> | <i>P</i> | | <i>E</i> | <i>F</i> | <i>A</i> | <i>P</i> | <i>T</i> | <i>R</i> |
| <i>A</i> | <i>R</i> | <i>T</i> | <i>Y</i> | | | | <i>Y</i> | <i>R</i> | <i>A</i> | | <i>T</i> | |

TRANSPOSITION CIPHER TECHNIQUES

1. Rail Fence Cipher

2. Columnar Transposition

- Simple Columnar Transposition
- Double Columnar Transposition

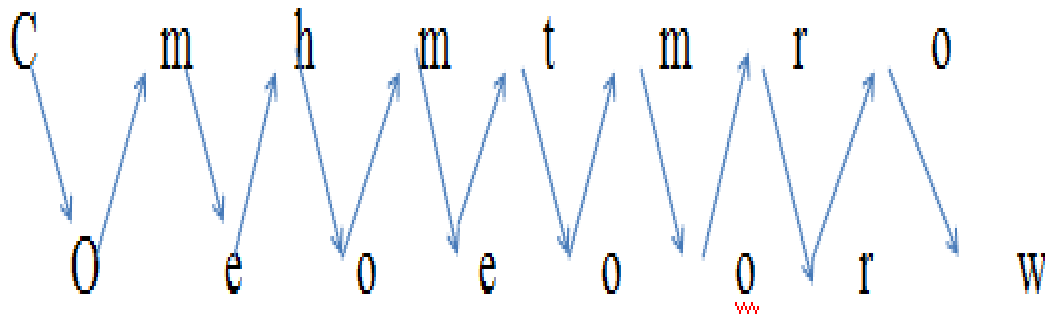
1. RAIL FENCE CIPHER

- In this method plain text is written downwards on “rails of fence “ , starting a new column when bottom is reached.
- **Algorithm:**
 1. First write down plain text message as a sequence of diagonals.
 2. Read the plain text written in first step as a sequence of rows.

1. RAIL FENCE CIPHER

Example:

Plain text: come home tomorrow



Cipher text: cmhmtmrooeoorw

1. Simple Columnar Transposition

- In this method the message is written in rows of fixed length and then read out column by column
- Column are selected in some in some scrambled order.
- The number of columns are defined by the length of key.
- **Algorithm:**
 1. Write the plain text message row by row in a rectangle of predefined size.(length of key)
 2. Read the message column by column according t the selected order thus obtained message is a cipher text.

1. SIMPLE COLUMNAR TRANSPOSITION

Key: ZEBRAS

plain text: welcome home

Order : 6 3 2 4 1 5

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| W | E | L | C | O | M |
| E | H | O | M | E | |

Cipher text: MLOEHCMWEOE

2.Double Columnar Transposition

- Single columnar transposition can be attack by guessing possible column lengths.
- Therefore to make it stronger double transposition is used.
- This is simple columnar transposition technique applied twice.
- Here same key can be used for transposition or two different keys can be used.

2.DOUBLE COLUMNAR TRANSPOSITION

- First apply simple columnar transposition

Key: ZEBRAS

plain text: welcome home

Order : 6 3 2 4 1 5

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| W | E | L | C | O | M |
| E | H | O | M | E | |

Cipher text: MLOEHCMWEOE

2.DOUBLE COLUMNAR TRANSPOSITION

Cipher text 1: MLOEHCMWEOE

Order : 6 3 2 4 1 5

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| M | L | O | E | H | C |
| M | W | E | O | E | |

Final Cipher Text: COELWEOMMHE

| Substitution Cipher | Transposition Cipher |
|--|--|
| A substitution technique is one in which the letters/number/symbols of plain text are replaced by other letters/numbers/symbols. | In the transposition technique the positions of letters/numbers/symbols in plain text is changed with one another. |
| It is easy to understand. | It is difficult to understand. |
| Methods: 1. Caesar's Cipher 2. Mono-Alphabetic Cipher 3. A Homophonic Substitution Cipher 4. A Polygram Substitution Cipher 5. A Polyalphabetic Substitution Cipher <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. e.g. Vigenere Cipher 6. One time Pad (Vernam Cipher) | Methods: 1. Rail Fence Cipher 2. Columnar Transposition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Simple Columnar Transposition – Double Columnar Transposition |