Protect Your Accounts: Creating Passphrases – notes

Materials: dice, laptops, projector, handout, pens
Maximum participants: 10

Notes:
Discussion: Have you heard or read about why it's important to create strong passwords? Has anyone had their password stolen? What happened?

We're going to go over a way to create really secure passwords today called Diceware. It might sound complicated, but it's something you can all do.

[*Definitions* slide]

[*Why use a passphrase?* slide]
Discussion: Have you tried either of those methods?

[Activity/worksheet – show example of dice rolling, then allow time for participants to roll dice and look up words in word list]

Discussion: What do you think of this method? Do you have any ideas for how to remember your passphrase?

[*Keep your passphrase secure* slide]

[Time for discussion/questions]

What We'll Cover

- What is a passphrase?

- Why make a passphrase?

- How to make a passphrase

- More resources

Definitions

- A *passphrase* is a series of words used in place of a single password

  - Example: skirt important coastline zippy landowner chewy

- *Dice* are the kind you roll, either physical or virtual

- A *word list* is a collection of words assigned to strings of numbers

```
34536    impromptu
34541    improper
34542    improve
34543    improving
34544    improvise
34545    imprudent
34546    impulse
```

Why use a passphrase?

- Phrases or words that have meaning to you can be easier to guess (for instance, your pet's name or favorite song title), even when you substitute numbers for letters (like 0 for o) and add special characters and capital letters
  - Tr0ub4dor&3
- Random strings of letters are relatively easy for computer programs to figure out
  - 5n*6fjtTW&20jL
- Passphrases of six or more words are very hard for computers to crack
- They are easier to remember than random strings of letters and numbers

Keep your passphrase secure

DO

- Consider using a password manager (see resources)

- If you need to write your passphrases down, that's okay! Just make sure you keep the list somewhere safe.

DON'T

- Reuse a passphrase for multiple accounts

- Share your passphrase(s) with anyone

Protect Your Accounts: Creating Passphrases

How to create a passphrase with dice and a word list:
- Roll dice – five real or five virtual at https://www.random.org/dice/
- Write down the numbers you've rolled in the Dice Roll column below. For instance, if you roll

 write down: 1 4 1 1 6

- Repeat this process five more times for a total of six five-digit numbers
- Navigate to your wordlist at https://www.eff.org/files/2016/07/18/eff_large_wordlist.txt
- Press CTRL+F to open the Find tool
- Type in your first number in the Find box (for instance, 14116)
- Write down the word next to that number in the Word column (in this case, *boxer*)
- Repeat five more times for a total of six words

Congratulations, you've created your first passphrase! Repeat for as many accounts as you need. If you want to write them down, you can use the table on the next page. *Remember to keep the list somewhere safe!*

Dice Roll   **Word**

___ ___ ___ ___ ___   _____

___ ___ ___ ___ ___   _____

___ ___ ___ ___ ___   _____

___ ___ ___ ___ ___   _____

___ ___ ___ ___ ___   _____

___ ___ ___ ___ ___   _____

Protect Your Accounts: Creating Passphrases

Resources for more information:

Dice and words lists: https://www.eff.org/dice and https://ssd.eff.org/en/module/creating-strong-passwords

Passwords and password managers: https://securityinabox.org/en/guide/passwords/

Password managers: https://ssd.eff.org/en/module/animated-overview-using-password-managers-stay-safe-online

Or, set up a MyLibrarian appointment!

--cut here--

Account	Passphrase