

Write-Up: Sus Patterns

Challenge Description

We were given an image containing strange geometric symbols and the following description:

A feather from Hedwig was found beside a parchment of shifting letters — repeat her name wisely, and the message will reveal itself.

desc

Cipher text:

DHB{TOUHHYR0CA_1P_BJKH}

Step 1: Identifying the First Cipher (Pigpen Cipher)

The screenshot shows the DCode website's search results for 'Pigpen Cipher'. On the left, a search bar contains 'e.g. type 'random'' and a list of results. The first result is '#0 HEDWIGISCUTE'. Below it, a table lists variants. On the right, the 'PIGPEN CIPHER' section features a video player, a 'Learn more' button, and a 'PIGPEN DECODER' section. The decoder section includes a grid of symbols for the Pigpen Alphabet and a 'PIG-PEN CIPHERTEXT' input field with a 'DECRYPT' button.

#N: Variants (see FAQ)	↑↓	↑↓
#0	HEDWIGISCUTE	
#1	HEDWIGISCVTE	
#2	HEDWIGIJCLKE	
#5	OIGTQMSEWUI	
#6	OIGTQMSEYUI	
#4	PMLEQOQAKCBM	
#3	URQJVTVPFHGR	
#8	PJHSRNRFTV-J	
#7	HED-IGI-C--E	
# #9		

The image provided contains geometric symbols made of grid and X-shaped structures. This pattern is characteristic of the **Pigpen Cipher**, also known as the Masonic cipher.

Steps:

1. Go to **dcode.fr**
2. Open **Pigpen Cipher Decoder**
3. Manually map each symbol from the image using the Pigpen chart.

After decoding the symbols from the image, we obtain the key:

HEDIWGISCU

This matches the hint in the description referencing Hedwig.

Step 2: Understanding the Hint

The description says:

| repeat her name wisely

This indicates:

- Use the decoded word as a key.
- Apply it repeatedly over the cipher text.
- The phrase "shifting letters" suggests a polyalphabetic cipher.

This strongly points toward the **Beaufort Cipher**.

Step 3: Beaufort Cipher Decryption

Search for a tool

★ [SEARCH A TOOL ON dCODE](#)

e.g. type 'random'

★ [BROWSE THE FULL dCODE TOOLS' LIST](#)

Results

HEDWIGISCUTE

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ (26)

EXC{DUMBLEDORE_1S_DUMB}

Learn more

Beaufort Cipher - [dCode](#)

Tag(s) : Poly-Alphabetic Cipher

Share

BEAUFORT CIPHER

Cryptography > Poly-Alphabetic Cipher > Beaufort Cipher

Learn more

BEAUFORT DECODER

★ BEAUFORT CIPHERTEXT

DHB{TOUHHYR0CA_1P_BJKH}

★ MODE ☒ BEAUFORT CLASSIC (KEY-TXT)

☐ GERMAN VARIANT (TXT-KEY)

★ LANGUAGE English

★ ALPHABET ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

▶ DECRYPT AUTOMATICALLY

DECRYPTION METHOD

☒ WITH THE CIPHER KEY: HEDWIGISCUTE

☐ WITH THE KEY-LENGTH: 6

☐ KNOWING A PORTION OF THE KEY (JOKER=?): K?Y

☐ KNOWING A PLAINTEXT WORD: CODE

☐ BEAUFORT CRYPTANALYSIS (KASISKI TEST + IC)

▶ DECRYPT

See also: [Vigenere Cipher](#) - [Caesar Cipher](#)

Cipher text:

DHB{TOUHHYR0CA_1P_BJKH}

Key (from Pigpen):

HEDIWIGISCUTE

Steps:

1. Open **Beaufort Cipher** tool on [dcode.fr](#).
2. Paste the cipher text.
3. Enter the key:

HEDIWIGISCUTE

4. Select **Decrypt**.

The output is:

```
EXC{DUMBLEDORE_1S_DUMB}
```