Something You Are: Biometric: 2. Iris Scan

- 2nd technique used: scan their iris.
- Here, a camera takes a picture of a person's iris and stores certain features about it in the system.
- Studies show iris scan more socially acceptable than the palm scan.
- User is required to actually put her hand on the reader for a few seconds, while in the iris scan, a camera just takes a quick picture of the user's iris.
- The iris scan is less intrusive since the user does not have to do anything except look in a particular direction.

Something You Are: Biometric: 3. Retina Scan

• Another biometric technique is a retinal scan, in which infrared light is shot into a user's eyes, and the pattern of retinal blood vessels is read to create a signature that is stored by a computer system.

• In a retinal scan, the user puts his head in front of a device, and then the device blows a puff of air and shoots a laser into the user's eye.

Something You Are: Biometric: 4. Fingerprint

• In fingerprinting, the user places her finger onto a reader that scans the set of curves that makes up her fingerprint.

 Fingerprinting is not as socially accepted as other biometric identification techniques since people generally associate taking fingerprints with criminal activity.

• Fingerprinting provides less information than a palm scan.

Something You Are: Biometric: 4. Voice

 Voice identification is a mechanism in which a computer asks a user to say a particular phrase.

• The computer system then takes the electrically coded signals of the user's voice, compares them to a databank of previous signals, and determines whether there is close enough of a match.

Possible Problem?

Something You Are: Biometric: 4. Face

 Facial recognition involves a camera taking a picture of a person's face and a computer system trying to recognize its features.

Something You Are: Biometric: 5. Signature

 Another technique, signature dynamics, records not only a user's signature, but also the pressure and timing at which the user makes various curves and motions while writing.

• The advantage of signature dynamics over simple signature matching is that it is far more difficult to replicate.

Something You Are: Biometric: Disadvantages

- Key disadvantages to these biometric authentication techniques are
 - the number of false positives,
 - number of false negatives generated,
 - their varying social acceptance, and
 - key management issues.

Something You Are: Biometric: Disadvantages

- A *false negative* occurs when a user is indeed an authentic user of the system, but the biometric authentication device rejects the user.
- A *false positive* occurs when an impersonator successfully impersonates a user.
- Tradeoff needed for both (Tutorial)
- Social acceptance is another issue to take into account when considering biometric authentication techniques.
- All the biometric authentication techniques discussed here are less socially accepted than entering a password.