

	Code	Meaning	Example Reason (and practice that received this code)	Note
Context-dependent	as-needed	Participants take, abandon or make exceptions for the practice simply when they needed to, without specifying any reasons or frequency with which they do so. Vague phrases like "I do this when needed" indicate this code.	"yes when I needed to" (update)	
	because-of-risk	Participants say they use (or used) this practice/service only when they are at risk, such as facing the risk of identity theft, when engaging in dangerous behavior other than visiting websites, or simply "when something is wrong." Also includes cases in which the user does not trust the network, e.g., use VPN only when on public networks, such as when travelling.	"I have had to place a freeze on my credit last year when my information was stolen." (credit_freeze)	
	frequency	Participants simply specify the frequency of how often they take one practice/service, but do not explain why, e.g., I sometimes/often/rarely do this.	"I sometimes give a fake name." (real_name)	Only use frequency when no other code is available, i.e., participants mention the frequency but do not tell why. Frequency can also be used for "abandonment" cases.
	only-blocking	Participants adopt the practice to evade content blocking, censorship, geographic restrictions, access limitations (such as news site paywalls), etc.	"I used vpn to bypass my school's blocked sites" (anonymity_system)	
	only-email	The practice/service is only used when participants need to deal with email in general, such as when creating an account for an email address, when accessing an email account, when clicking on email links, etc.	"now i use a gmail account with fake info" (temporary_credentials)	
	only-entertainment	Information related to the participant's entertainment activities constitutes an exceptional case, such as accounts for social media and gaming. It may be the only context in which the practice is adopted, or not adopted.	"Sure, for sites like Reddit, where that is more the culture. Otherwise I try to avoid typing things out online that I wouldn't want attached to my name." (temporary_credential)	
	only-finance	The practice/service is only used when participants need to deal with financial information, such as banking sites and when shopping.	"I've encrypted financial documents I send to my accountant." (encryption)	
	only-required	Participants only adopt the practice when it is mandated or expected behavior (e.g., by employer or institution), or when it is otherwise forced upon them, such as by a website or service that requires 2FA, or when using a device or service on which another person has made the decision to adopt the practice.	"Use what my work provides." (antivirus)	
	only-sensitive	The practice/service is only used when the site requires sensitive or private information, or the site/software/etc is potentially incriminating e.g., porn sites, darkweb, etc. However it is not specified that the sensitive info is necessarily financial info (which takes precedence) or other data types.	"I have used a public library's computer and hotel lobby computers to look up sensitive information." (public_comp)	Sensitive owns high priority compared to suspicious
	only-suspicious	The practice/service is only used when participants feel the site is shady/suspicious/odd.	"I only check on it if the website feels suspicious." (check_URL)	
	platform-specific	Practice is or is not adopted depending on the platform (e.g., OS, browser, text messaging but not social media, etc.). For instance, a practice might not be adapted on platforms that are perceived to be secure, and on which the practice has low value or is irrelevant. Alternatively they may adopt the practice when it is offered by the platform.	"I currently have scripts blocked in Firefox, but not Chrome or IE." (extension)	
	site-specific	The practice is only used for specific sites/apps/software, without any indicator of what kind of sites/apps they are (e.g., sensitive, suspicious, finance, entertainment). Use practice-unavailable for situations in which the practice is adopted whenever it is made available by the site. If they adopt the practice only when the site explicitly presents them with the option to adopt it, use only-when-offered. This code applies to not only sites, but also other situations.	"Some of the time I use anonymity systems, it just depends on the sites." (anonymity_system)	Level of specificity: finance/entertainment > sensitive/suspicious > depend on sites
	unrelated-reason	The practice is not used for the intended purpose, but rather, when used, it is used for a reason unrelated to security, privacy, or identity protection, such as to improve the performance of the computer or browser, to fix problems in the browser, convenience, etc.	"When i am having problems with my browser." (cookies_disable)	This code is mostly for the adoption of a practice.
Practice-issues	unwilling	Participants say they cannot follow the practice because they are simply "lazy" or "busy". If they provide details that make it sound like the practice too impractical for them, use the code "impractical" instead.	"Sometimes I'm too busy to take the time to update right at that moment." (update)	
	when-offered-free	Participants will not proactively seek for this practice, but use it when it is offered to them, such as by being provided for free (e.g., like a free trial for antivirus). Similarly, they adopt the practice when it is conveniently offered as a simple choice, such as a pop-up option to disable facial recognition on social media, as compared to having to look through preferences to find the setting.	"Use what my work provides." (antivirus)	
	impractical	The practice is hard, too inconvenient, or too unusable to be adopted or implemented in real life. This also includes case of failure, where participants want to follow the practice but fail to do so in real life.	"Passwords are difficult to remember, I usually use totally different ones for each account, but sometimes I just change a letter or a character in the same password "core"/base." (unique_password)	If participants focus on impracticality in their reason and use substitute practices as partial compensation, code as "impractical" instead of "substitutes-available" since it is the core reason.
	not-needed	Participants simply say they do not need or want this practice anymore, perhaps indicating that it is of low value, without indicating specific reasons covered by other codes.	"I don't currently need credit monitoring." (credit_monitoring)	
	performance-issues	Practice slows device or some component of the device down significantly, or causes other performance issues, such as disk space or memory hogging	"Frequent, random updates are annoying and greatly slow down internet speeds and are disruptive."	
	practice-unavailable	Participants say they cannot always follow the practice because it is unavailable or non-functional in some (or in all) cases, or that they used the practice they used until it was discontinued or stopped working (in which case, if the company had continued to offer the product/service, they probably would have stayed enrolled).	"They discontinued the service." (identity_monitoring)	
	usage-interference	Adopting this practice will cause disruption of normal usage when it comes to browsing the internet or completing tasks on devices. These disruptions are more than mere inconveniences, they involve breaking existing functionality or impeding regular use of the device.	"I used it with Mozilla Firefox. For a while Java scripts and Flash were causing Firefox to crash. It seems to be fine now but the browser still asks me if I want to run them..." (extension)	
	using-substitute	The user has chosen to adopt a substitute practice that they feel can achieve the same purpose. The substitute need not necessarily be a sensible one, but the participant should at least implicitly think that it is.	"I use third party browser extensions such as privacy badger and ublock origin. So whichever cookies those allow by default are the ones not turned off." (cookies_disable)	
	account-or-device-sharing	Device, account, or password sharing is the primary factor in the participants decision to adopt, abandon or make an exception to the practice.	"If I am temporarily changing my password so a family member can access my account when away, I will temporarily use an easier password." (strong_password)	
	distrust-service	Participants express fear of negative outcomes that originate from using this practice, such as security or privacy problems, or system/software failures, explicitly mentioning that they do not trust whoever is behind the service.	"I dislike the feeling of someone being able to have access to my entire list of passwords which is extremely nerve-racking." (password_manager)	Buggy software updates that break functionality belong under usage-interference, as this is the essence of what is wrong.
User-issues	forgetting	Participants say they forget to use the practice without specifying why they do or do not forget. They may express that abiding by the practice does not occur to them on a consistent basis unless prompted by the software/tool they are using. Word indicators include "It slipped my mind", "It doesn't occur to me", "only when I am aware of the need"	"I wanted to check my credit report a few years ago and read you could do it for free. I did it that year and the next, but it slipped my mind since then." (credit_report)	If participants mention the reason for forgetting to use this practice, use the more specific code.
	just-started	Participants say they are in the process of adopting this practice but have not adopted it fully.	"I just started doing this and I still have some passwords that are not synced yet but will be soon." (password_manager)	
	own-judgment-sufficient	Participants disregard the practice when they trust more on the judgments and decisions made by themselves or other entities that make security decisions for them. Also used when the user abandons the practice because they have found it to be unreliable or inaccurate, implying they can do better on their own.	"I don't click on obvious spam e-mails, but I am willing to open e-mails that seem legitimate even if I don't know the senders." (attachment_clicking)	Only-sensitive takes precedence when relevant
	practice-by-default	Participants say they do not intentionally choose to use this practice because the practice is implemented by default.	"Since https is now default I rarely check unless it's specifically not green or padlocked." (HTTPS)	
Misc	other	Participants say something that we feel is still valuable to be coded, but none of the current codes applies.	n/a	The codebook was eventually modified to account for all cases coded as other, no "other" cases were in the final results.
	unapplicable	The participant believes that the described practice never arises for them or does not apply to their situation.	"I've never been asked for non-essential information." (hide_info)	
	unclear	Participants say something that can hardly be interpreted into any reasons, user describes nature of partial retention without stating why, or responses are not related to the question at all.	"Attempted virus installs have happened in the past. The installs were blocked, but malware is getting smarter so I don't trust my security program to always catch a virus attempt." (attachment_clicking)	