

10.1.3 KHF_DRBG

10.1.3.1 Discussion

KHF_DRBG (...) specifies multiple uses of a hash function. The same Approved hash function **shall** be used throughout. The hash function used **shall** meet or exceed the security requirements of the consuming application. Table 1 in Section 10.1.1 specifies the entropy and seed length requirements that **shall** be used for each hash function in order to meet a specified security level.

KHF_DRBG (...) is specified using two internal functions: **KHF (...)** and **Update (...)**. Both are called during the instantiation, pseudorandom bit generation and reseeding processes to adjust the state.

10.1.3.2 Interaction with KHF_DRBG

10.1.3.2.1 Instantiating KHF_DRBG (...)

Prior to the first request for pseudorandom bits, the **KHF_DRBG (...)** **shall** be instantiated using the following call:

*(status, usage_class) = Instantiate_KHF_DRBG (requested_strength,
prediction_resistance_flag, personalization_string, mode)*

as described in Sections 9.6.1 and 10.1.3.3.3.

10.1.3.2.2 Reseeding a KHF_DRBG (...) Instantiation

When a **KHF_DRBG (...)** instantiation requires reseeding, the DRBG **shall** be reseeded using the following call:

status = Reseed_KHF_DRBG_Instantiation (usage_class, mode)

as described in Sections 9.7.2 and 10.1.3.3.4.

10.1.3.2.3 Generating Pseudorandom Bits Using KHF_DRBG (...)

An application may request the generation of pseudorandom bits by **KHF_DRBG (...)** using the following call:

*(status, pseudorandom_bits) = KHF_DRBG (usage_class, requested_no_of_bits,
requested_strength, additional_input, prediction_resistance_requested, mode)*

as discussed in Sections 9.8.2 10.1.3.3.5.

10.1.3.2.4 Removing a KHF_DRBG (...) Instantiation

An application may request the removal of a **KHF_DRBG (...)** instantiation using the following call:

status = Uninstantiate_KHF_DRBG (usage_class)

as described in Sections 9.X.X and 10.1.3.3.6.

10.1.3.2.5 Self Testing of the KHF_DRBG (...) Process

A **KHF_DRBG (...)** implementation is tested at power-up and on demand using the following call:

status = **Self_Test_KHF_DRBG** ()

as described in Sections 9.9 and 10.1.3.3.7.

10.1.3.3 Specifications

10.1.3.3.1 General

The instantiation and reseeding of **KHF_DRBG (...)** consists of obtaining a *seed* with the appropriate amount of entropy. The entropy input is used to derive a *seed*, which is then used to derive elements of the initial *state*. The *state* consists of:

1. The value *V*, which is updated each time another *outlen* bits of output are produced (where *outlen* is the number of output bits from the underlying hash function).
2. The values *K*₀ and *K*₁, which are updated at least once each time the DRBG generates pseudorandom bits.
3. The security *strength* of the DRBG instantiation.
4. A counter (*ctr*) that indicates the number of times that pseudorandom bits were generated since the DRBG instantiation was seeded, reseeded or prediction resistance was obtained.
5. A *prediction_resistance_flag* that indicates whether or not a prediction resistance capability is required for the DRBG.
6. (Optional) A transformation of the *entropy_input* using a one-way function for later comparison with new *entropy_input* when the DRBG is reseeded or prediction resistance is requested; this value **shall** be present if the DRBG will potentially be reseeded or a prediction resistance capability is required for the instantiation.

The variables used in the description of **KHF_DRBG (...)** are:

<i>additional_input</i>	Optional additional input.
<i>ctr</i>	A counter that records the number of times that pseudorandom bits were generated since the DRBG instantiation was seeded, reseeded or prediction resistance was obtained.
<i>entropy_input</i>	The bits containing entropy that are used to determine the <i>seed_material</i> .
Find_state_space (<i>mode</i>)	A function that returns a <i>usage_class</i> indicating an available state space. The <i>mode</i> indicates whether the request is made during normal operation or during testing.
Get_entropy (<i>min_entropy</i> , <i>outlen</i> , 2 ³⁵ , <i>mode</i>)	

	A function that acquires a string of bits from an entropy input source. <i>min_entropy</i> indicates the minimum amount of entropy to be provided in the returned bits; <i>outlen</i> indicates the minimum number of bits to return; 2^{35} indicates the maximum number of bits that may be returned; <i>mode</i> is used to indicate whether the bits are to be obtained during normal operation or during testing. See Section 9.6.2.
K_0, K_1	Values in the state that are updated when the DRBG generates pseudorandom bits.
len(string)	A function returning the number of bits in a string.
<i>M</i>	The number of bytes in the hash function input block.
<i>max_no_of_states</i>	The maximum number of states and instantiations that an implementation can handle.
<i>max_updates</i>	The maximum number of <i>state</i> updates allowed for the DRBG instantiation from one seeding, reseeding or prediction resistance operation.
<i>min_entropy</i>	The minimum amount of entropy to be provided in the <i>entropy_input</i> .
<i>mode</i>	An indication of whether a process is to be conducted for normal operations or for testing. <i>mode</i> = 1 = <i>Normal_operation</i> indicates that normal operation is required; <i>mode</i> = 2 = <i>Fixed_1</i> indicates that a predetermined value is to be used during instantiation, <i>mode</i> = 3 = <i>Fixed_2</i> indicates that a predetermined value is to be used during reseeding, <i>mode</i> = 4 = <i>Failure</i> indicates that a failure indication is to be returned. Note that the <i>mode</i> = 2 fixed values shall be different than the <i>mode</i> = 3 fixed values.
<i>N</i>	The number of bytes in the hash function output block.
<i>old_transformed_entropy_input</i>	The <i>transformed_entropy_input</i> from the previous acquisition of <i>entropy_input</i> (e.g., used during reseeding).
<i>outlen</i>	The number of bits in the hash function output block.
<i>Pad_0, Pad_1</i>	Zero padding used by the KHF (...) function.
<i>Padded_K₀</i>	K_0 padded with zeros to create <i>M</i> bytes.
<i>Padded_V</i>	<i>V</i> padded with zeros to create $M - 9$ bytes.
<i>personalization_string</i>	A string that may be used to personalize a DRBG instantiation.
<i>prediction_resistance_flag</i>	Indicates whether or not prediction resistance is to be

	provided upon request during an instantiation. 1 = <i>Allow_prediction_resistance</i> : requests for prediction resistance will be handled; 0 = <i>No_prediction_resistance</i> : requests for prediction resistance will return an error indication.
<i>prediction_resistance_requested</i>	Indicates whether or not prediction resistance is required during the actual generation of pseudorandom bits. 1 = <i>Provide_prediction_resistance</i> : prediction resistance required; 0 = <i>No_prediction_resistance</i> : prediction resistance not required.
<i>pseudorandom_bits</i>	The string of <i>pseudorandom_bits</i> that are generated during a single “call” to the KHF_DRBG (...) process.
<i>requested_no_of_bits</i>	The number of pseudorandom bits to be generated.
<i>requested_strength</i>	The security strength to be provided for the pseudorandom bits to be obtained from the DRBG.
<i>seed_material</i>	The data used as the <i>seed</i> .
<i>state(usage_class)</i>	An array of <i>states</i> for different DRBG instantiations. A <i>state</i> is carried between calls to the DRBG. In the following specifications, the state for a <i>usage_class</i> is defined as <i>state(usage_class)</i> = { <i>V</i> , <i>K</i> ₀ , <i>K</i> ₁ , <i>strength</i> , <i>ctr</i> , <i>prediction_resistance_flag</i> , <i>transformed_entropy_input</i> }. A particular element of the <i>state</i> is specified as <i>state(usage_class).element</i> ; e.g., <i>state(usage_class).V</i> .
<i>status</i>	The status returned from a function call, where <i>status</i> = “Success” or an indication of failure. Failure messages are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Invalid <i>requested_strength</i>. 2. Cannot support prediction resistance. 3. <i>personalization_string</i> too long. 4. No available <i>state</i> space. 5. Failure indication returned by the <i>entropy_input</i> source. 6. State not available for the indicated <i>usage_class</i>. 7. <i>Entropy_input</i> source failure. 8. HMAC_DRBG can no longer be used. Please re-instantiate or reseed. 9. <i>additional_input</i> too long 10. Too many bits requested.

<i>strength</i>	11. Prediction resistance capability not instantiated. The security strength provided by the DRBG instantiation.
<i>temp</i>	A temporary value.
<i>transformed_entropy_input</i>	A one-way transformation of the <i>entropy_input</i> for the DRBG.
<i>usage_class</i>	The usage class of a DRBG instantiation. Used as a pointer to an instantiation's <i>state</i> values.
<i>V</i>	A value in the <i>state</i> that is updated whenever pseudorandom bits are generated.

10.1.3.3.2 Internal Functions

10.1.3.3.2.1 The KHF Function

The KHF (...) function is used as a compression function and to distribute the effect of the bits in the input values across the entire output string. Let N be the number of bytes of output from the hash function, and M be the number of bytes of the hash function input block.

KHF(...):

Input: string (K_0 , K_1 , V).

Output: string V .

Process:

1. $Pad_0 = 0x00\ 00\dots00$. Comment: $M - N$ bytes of zeros.
2. $Pad_1 = 0x00\ 00\dots00$. Comment: $M - N - 9$ bytes of zeros.
3. $Padded_K_0 = K_0 \parallel Pad_0$. Comment: Since K_0 is N bytes in length, $Padded_K_0$ is M bytes long.
4. $Padded_V = V \parallel Pad_1$. Comment: Since V is N bytes in length, $Padded_V$ is $M-9$ bytes long.
5. $temp = Padded_V \oplus K_1$.
6. $V = \mathbf{Hash}(Padded_K_0 \parallel temp)$.
7. **Return** (V).

10.1.3.3.2.2 The Update Function

The **Update (...)** function updates the internal *state* of the **KHF_DRBG (...)** using the *seed_material*. The *seed_material* can be any input string of 2^{35} bits or less, including the Null string. **Update (...)** makes extensive use of both the **KHF (...)** and the **hash_df (...)** functions described in Sections 10.1.3.3.2.1 and 9.6.4.2, respectively. Let N be the output length of the hash function in bytes, and let M be the hash function input block size in bytes.

Update (...):

Input: string (*seed_material*, K_0 , K_1 , V).

Output: string (K_0 , K_1 , V).

Process:

1. $temp$ = the Null string.
2. While $((8 \times \text{len}(temp)) < N + M - 9)$ do:
 - 2.1 $V = \text{KHF}(K_0, K_1, V)$.
 - 2.2 $temp = temp \parallel V$.
3. $temp$ = The rightmost (least significant) $N+M-9$ bytes of $temp$.
4. $temp = temp \oplus \text{hash_df}(\text{seed_material}, 8 \times (N + M - 9))$.
5. K_0 = The rightmost N bytes of $temp$.
6. K_1 = The leftmost $M-9$ bytes of $temp$.
7. $V = \text{KHF}(K_0, K_1, V)$.
8. **Return** (K_0 , K_1 , V).

10.1.3.3.3 Instantiation of KHF_DRBG(...)

The following process or its equivalent **shall** be used to initially instantiate the **KHF_DRBG (...)** process. Let **Hash (...)** be the Approved hash function to be used. Let $outlen$ be the output length of that hash function in bits, and let N be the output length of the hash function in bytes. Let M be the hash function input block size in bytes.

Instantiate_KHF_DRBG (...):

Input: integer ($requested_strength$, $prediction_resistance_flag$, $personalization_string$, $mode$).

Output: string $status$, integer $usage_class$.

Process:

1. If ($requested_strength >$ the maximum security *strength* that can be provided by the hash function (see Table 1)), then **Return** ("Invalid $requested_strength$ ", 0).
2. If ($prediction_resistance_flag = Allow_prediction_resistance$) and prediction resistance cannot be supported, then **Return** ("Cannot support prediction resistance", 0).
3. If ($\text{len}(personalization_string) > 2^{35}$), then **Return**(" $personalization_string$ too long.")

Comment: Find state space.

4. ($status$, $usage_class$) = **Find_state_space** ($mode$).
5. If ($status = \text{"Failure"}$), then **Return** ("No available state space", 0).

Comment: Set the *strength* to one of the five security strengths.

6. If ($requested_strength \leq 80$), then $strength = 80$

Else if (*requested_strength* ≤ 112), then *strength* = 112

Else (*requested_strength* ≤ 128), then *strength* = 128

Else (*requested_strength* ≤ 192), then *strength* = 192

Else *strength* = 256.

Comment: Get the *entropy_input*.

7. *min_entropy* = **max** (128, *strength*).

8. (*status*, *entropy_input*) = **Get_entropy** (*min_entropy*, *outlen*, 2^{35} , *mode*).

9. If (*status* = "Failure"), then **Return** ("Failure indication returned by the entropy source", 0).

Comment: Perform a one-way function on the *entropy_input* for later comparison during reseeding.

10. *transformed_entropy_input* = **Hash** (*entropy_input*).

Comment: Set up the working values.

11. $K_0 = 0x00\ 00\dots00$.

Comment: *N* bytes of zeroes.

12. $K_1 = 0x01\ 01\dots01$.

Comment: *M* - 9 bytes of ones.

13. $V = 0x02\ 02\dots02$.

Comment: *N* bytes of twos.

14. *seed_material* = *entropy_input* || *personalization_string*.

15. *ctr* = 0.

16. (K_0 , K_1 , *V*) = **Update** (*seed_material*, K_0 , K_1 , *V*).

Comment: Set up the state.

17. *state* (*usage_class*) = {*V*, K_0 , K_1 , *strength*, *ctr*, *prediction_resistance_flag*, *transformed_entropy_input*}.

18. **Return** ("Success", *usage_class*).

If an implementation does not handle all five security strengths, then step 6 must be modified accordingly.

If no *personalization_string* will ever be provided, then the *personalization_string* parameter in the input may be omitted, and step 13 becomes *seed_material* = *entropy_input*.

If an implementation will never be reseeded using the process specified in Section 10.1.3.3.4, then step 10 may be omitted, as well as the *transformed_entropy_input* in the *state* (see step 17).

If an implementation does not need the *prediction_resistance_flag* as a calling parameter (i.e., the **KHF_DRBG (...)** routine in Section 10.1.3.3.5 either always or never acquires new entropy in step 7), then the *prediction_resistance_flag* in the calling parameters and in the *state* (see step 17) may be omitted, as well as omitting step 2.

10.1.3.3.4 Reseeding a KHF_DRBG(...) Instantiation

The following or an equivalent process **shall** be used to explicitly reseed the **KHF_DRBG (...)** process. Let **Hash (...)** be the Approved hash function to be used; let *outlen* be the output length of that hash function in bits, and let *N* be the output length of the hash function in bytes. Let *M* be the hash function input block size in bytes.

Reseed_KHF_DRBG_Instantiation (...):

Input: integer *mode* (*usage_class*).

Output: string *status*.

Process:

1. If ((*usage_class* > *max_no_of_states*) or (*state(usage_class)* = {Null, Null, Null, 0, 0, 0, Null})), then **Return** ("State not available for the indicated *usage_class*").

Comment: Get the appropriate *state* values for the indicated *usage_class*.

2. $V = \text{state}(\text{usage_class}).V$, $K_0 = \text{state}(\text{usage_class}).K_0$, $K_1 = \text{state}(\text{usage_class}).K_1$, $\text{strength} = \text{state}(\text{usage_class}).\text{strength}$, $\text{prediction_resistance_flag} = \text{state}(\text{usage_class}).\text{prediction_resistance_flag}$, $\text{old_transformed_entropy_input} = \text{state}(\text{usage_class}).\text{transformed_entropy_input}$.

Comment: Get the new *entropy_input*.

3. $\text{min_entropy} = \max(128, \text{strength})$.
4. (*status*, *entropy_input*) = **Get_entropy** (*min_entropy*, *outlen*, 2^{35} , *mode*).
5. If (*status* = "Failure"), then **Return** ("Failure indication returned by the *entropy_input* source").

Comment: Compare the old *entropy_input* with the new *entropy_input*.

6. $\text{transformed_entropy_input} = \text{Hash}(\text{entropy_input})$.
7. If ($\text{transformed_entropy_input} = \text{old_transformed_entropy_input}$), then **Return** ("Entropy_input source failure").

Comment: Set up the new working values.

8. $\text{ctr} = 0$.
9. (K_0 , K_1 , V) = **Update** (*entropy_input*, K_0 , K_1 , V).

Comment: Set the state values.

10. $\text{state}(\text{usage_class}) = \{V, K_0, K_1, \text{strength}, \text{ctr}, \text{prediction_resistance_flag}, \text{transformed_entropy_input}\}$.

10. **Return** (“Success”).

10.1.3.3.5 Generating Pseudorandom Bits Using KHF_DRBG (...)

The following process or an equivalent **shall** be used to generate pseudorandom bits:

KHF_DRBG(...):

Input: integer (*usage_class*, *requested_no_of_bits*, *requested_strength*, *additional_input*, *prediction_resistance_requested*, *mode*).

Output: string (*status*, *pseudorandom_bits*).

Process:

1. If ((*usage_class* > *max_no_of_states*) or (*state(usage_class)* = {Null, Null, Null, 0, 0, 0, Null})), then **Return** (“State not available for the indicated *usage_class*”, Null).

Comment: Get the appropriate *state* values for the indicated *usage_class*.

2. $V = \text{state}(\text{usage_class}).V$, $K_0 = \text{state}(\text{usage_class}).K_0$, $K_1 = \text{state}(\text{usage_class}).K_1$, $\text{strength} = \text{state}(\text{usage_class}).\text{strength}$, $\text{ctr} = \text{state}(\text{usage_class}).\text{ctr}$, $\text{prediction_resistance_flag} = \text{state}(\text{usage_class}).\text{prediction_resistance_flag}$, $\text{old_transformed_entropy_bits} = \text{state}(\text{usage_class}).\text{transformed_entropy_bits}$.

Comment: If $\text{ctr} \geq \text{max_updates}$, then reseeding could not be done in step 14 (below) during the previous call because of no available entropy source.

3. If (*requested_strength* > *strength*), then **Return** (“Invalid *requested_strength*”, Null).
4. If (*requested_no_of_bits* > 2^{35}), then **Return** (“Too many bits requested”, Null).
5. If ($\text{len}(\text{additional_input}) > 2^{35}$), then **Return** (“*additional_input* too long.”)
6. If ((*prediction_resistance_requested* = *Provide_prediction_resistance*) and (*prediction_resistance_flag* = *No_prediction_resistance*)), then **Return** (“Prediction resistance capability not instantiated”, Null).
7. If (*prediction_resistance_requested* = *Provide_prediction_resistance*), then
 - 7.1 $\text{min_entropy} = \text{max}(128, \text{strength})$.
 - 7.2 (*status*, *entropy_bits*) = **Get_entropy** (*min_entropy*, *outlen*, 2^{35} , *mode*).
 - 7.3 If (*status* = “Failure”), then **Return** (“Failure indication returned by the *entropy_input* source”, Null).
 - 7.4 $\text{transformed_entropy_input} = \text{Hash}(\text{entropy_input})$.

- 7.5 If (*transformed_entropy_input* = *old_transformed_entropy_input*), then **Return** (“Entropy_input source failure”, Null).
- 7.6 *ctr* = 0.
- Else
 - 7.7 *entropy_input* = Null.
8. *seed_material* = *entropy_input* || *additional_input*.
9. If (*seed_material* ≠ Null), then (*K*₀, *K*₁, *V*) = **Update** (*seed_material*, *K*₀, *K*₁, *V*).
10. If (*ctr* ≥ *max_updates*), then
 - 10.1 *status* = **Reseed_KHF_DRBG** (*usage_class*, *mode*).
 - 10.2 If (*status* ≠ “Success”), then **Return** (*status*, Null).
11. *temp* = Null.
12. While (**len** (*temp*) < *requested_no_of_bits*) do:
 - 12.1 *V* = **KHF** (*K*₀, *K*₁, *V*).
 - 12.2 *temp* = *temp* || *V*.
13. *pseudorandom_bits* = Leftmost (*requested_no_of_bits*) of *temp*.
14. (*K*₀, *K*₁, *V*) = **Update** (*seed_material*, *K*₀, *K*₁, *V*).
15. *ctr* = *ctr* + 1
16. *state*(*usage_class*) = {*V*, *K*₀, *K*₁, *strength*, *ctr*, *prediction_resistance_flag*, *transformed_entropy_bits*}.
17. **Return** (“Success”, *pseudorandom_bits*).

If an implementation will never provide *additional_input*, then the *additional_input* input parameter may be omitted, and step 8 becomes *seed_material* = *entropy_input*.

If an implementation does not need the *prediction_resistance_flag*, then the *prediction_resistance_flag* may be omitted as an input parameter, and step 6 may be omitted. If prediction resistance is never used, then step 7 becomes *entropy_input* = Null.

If an implementation does not have a reseeding capability, then step 10 **shall** be replaced by the following:

If (*ctr* ≥ *max_updates*), then **Return** (“HMAC_DRBG can no longer be used. Please re-instantiate or reseed”, Null).

10.1.3.3.6 Removing a KHF_DRBG (...) Instantiation

The following or an equivalent process **shall** be used to remove a **KHF_DRBG (...)** instantiation:

Uninstantiate_KHF_DRBG (...):

Input: integer *usage_class*.

Output: string *status*.

Process:

1. If (*usage_class* > *max_no_of_states*), then **Return** (“Invalid *usage_class*”).
2. *state(usage_class)* = {Null, Null, Null, 0, 0, 0, Null}.
3. **Return** (“Success”).

10.1.3.3.7 Self Testing of the KHF_DRBG (...)

[To be added later]

10.1.3.4 Generator Strength and Attributes

10.1.3.5 Reseeding and Optional Input