

Creating Our Own Cypher

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A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

1 = A || 1 = G || 1 = M || 1 = S || 1 = Y

2 = B || 2 = H || 2 = N || 2 = T || 2 = Z

3 = C || 3 = I || 3 = O || 3 = U

4 = D || 4 = J || 4 = P || 4 = V

5 = E || 5 = K || 5 = Q || 5 = W

6 = F || 6 = L || 6 = R || 6 = X

! = ? - ? = ~ - . = %

Our cypher takes a rotation amount of 6. So every 6th letter, the counting starts over at one, as seen above. Symbols also do not represent themselves. For example, making a statement looks like a question (! = ?), and asking a question looks like you are pronouncing a word with an accent. You will never break our cypher... and we may not either.

“I love cryptology!”
'363453614236311?'

Part-3:

MySpace Security Breach - 2013

WHAT HAPPENED?

While MySpace was not as active and or much of a social media powerhouse in 2013 due to Facebook's greater strength and agility, this is when it faced its biggest security breach.

The breach did not even hit the headlines until 2016 after 360 million user accounts (probably yours!) were leaked onto both LeakedSource (a searchable database of stolen accounts) and put up for sale on the dark web market (The Real Deal) with an asking price of 6 bitcoin.. (which was only around \$3,000 at the time).

WHAT INFO WAS INVOLVED?

Email addresses , username,password,According to Facebook, users impacted included those whose accounts were created prior to June 11, 2013.

TECH FLAWS:

Troy Hunt of HavelBeenPwned.com states that the passwords were stored as SHA-1 hashes of the first 10 characters of the password converted to lowercase.

You must be wondering... was / is SHA-1 secure? Well, you are right to question it because it is absolutely NOT secure. In fact.. SHA-1 has not been considered secure against well-funded opponents since 2005. Do we really think that MySpace was just oblivious to the fact..? Or did our good old friend Tom see himself becoming a future Mark?

LeakedSource reports that MySpace passwords were stored with no salting. Which we learned today only makes hacking passwords exponentially harder! MySpace confirmed that the stolen data included "usernames, login information, personal information etc".

TODAYS PROTECTIONS

The company released a statement following the breach to help ensure that their users are safer and practice safer habits while using the internet; this was their statement - "If users use passwords that are the same or similar to your Myspace password on other online services, we recommend you set new passwords on those accounts immediately."

It is also said that MySpace released this statement following the breach of 2013 -
“Myspace is also using automated tools to attempt to identify and block any suspicious activity that might occur on Myspace accounts.”

So what is good old MySpace up to today? Thanks to Justin Timberlake, one could say he is “bringing sexy back!” as he recently acquired MySpace and it seems as though it is a place for artists of all kinds. Whether you are a musician, painter, blogger or whatever you may be, MySpace is now the place for you to promote yourself and your brand. In regards to their security, we were unable to find exactly what they are doing to ensure better security, though it seems that it is better than it was when it was under Toms reign.