

My minimum requirements for a password replacement system:

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| <b>MEMORYLESS</b> | Users should not have to memorize any secrets |
| <b>SCALABLE</b>   | Scalable to thousands of apps                 |
| <b>SECURE</b>     | At least as secure as passwords               |

Additional requirements if token-based:

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| <b>LOSS-RESISTANT</b>  | If token lost, user can regain access to services |
| <b>THEFT-RESISTANT</b> | If token stolen, thief can't impersonate user     |

Benefits promised by Pico in addition to the above:

(Usability-related)

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| <b>WORKS-FOR-ALL</b> | Works for <i>all</i> credentials, not just web passwords |
| <b>FROM-ANYWHERE</b> | The user can authenticate from any client                |
| <b>NO-SEARCH</b>     | The user doesn't have to select the correct credentials  |
| <b>NO-TYPING</b>     | The user no longer has to <i>type</i> the damn password  |
| <b>CONTINUOUS</b>    | Authentication is continuous, not just at session start  |

(Security-related)

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| <b>NO-WEAK</b>          | The user cannot choose a weak password                |
| <b>NO-REUSE</b>         | The user cannot reuse credentials with different apps |
| <b>NO-PHISHING</b>      | Phishing (app impersonation) is impossible            |
| <b>NO-EAVESDROPPING</b> | Network eavesdropping is impossible                   |
| <b>NO-KEYLOGGING</b>    | Keylogging is impossible                              |
| <b>NO-SURFING</b>       | Shoulder surfing is impossible                        |
| <b>NO-LINKAGE</b>       | Different credentials from same user can't be linked  |

Additional desirable properties that are not goals for Pico:

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <b>NO-COST</b>        | As cheap to deploy as passwords                |
| <b>NO-APP-CHANGES</b> | Deployable without changes to existing apps    |
| <b>NO-CLI-CHANGES</b> | Deployable without changes to existing clients |

Also worth considering for a fair comparison:

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <b>IMPLEMENTED</b> | This system was built, rather than just described |
| <b>OPEN</b>        | The code and design are available as open-source  |
| <b>WIDELY-USED</b> | Has been used by over a million individuals       |
| <b>NO-CARRY</b>    | Does not require the user to carry anything       |
| <b>NO-TTP</b>      | No reliance on a TTP who knows your credentials   |