

## Are my Passwords Good Enough?

**Due: Not due for points**

This assignment is for your benefit above anything else. You can feel free to brush it aside if you'd rather, but I do hope you'll take a moment to make sure your password-protected accounts are secure.

We discussed password managers in class, and for this assignment I challenge you to download LastPass at <https://www.lastpass.com> and download the LastPass plugin for your browser of choice. You'll be asked to create an account, and specifically a "master password" that will unlock your LastPass "password vault", an encrypted list stored in the public cloud that contains all of the passwords you've told LastPass to remember. **Be sure to create a strong master password!** Creating a master password with insufficient length and complexity could actually reduce the level of security inherent by your password-protected accounts.

Once you've created a strong master password to go with your LastPass profile, start filling your password vault with your accounts, usernames and passwords. LastPass will automatically detect if you're visiting a website that it has the credentials for and let you fill in those credentials automatically. It can even store multiple accounts for the same website.

Once you've filled up your password vault, click on the LastPass plugin icon on your browser, go down to "Tools", and then click "Security Challenge". You will be prompted to take the security challenge. You will be asked to enter your master password, after which LastPass will open your password vault and assess all of your passwords. The score is based on the length and complexity each password has. You may be surprised to see how low your score is! If that's the case, use LastPass to change your account passwords by logging into your accounts and generating a new, long, complex password for LastPass to store (most of my passwords are 15 characters long with letters, numbers, and symbols).

As an added bonus, if you purchased a YubiKey for the 2FA or Nay assignment, you'll notice that you can use your YubiKey as a 2FA scheme for your LastPass account! This, in my opinion, is the ultimate form of password protection; barring any vulnerability discovered in LastPass, your passwords are almost certainly safe.