Safety and Security

Simple ways to keep your data and identity safe

By Erik Christiansen

Outline

- What is security?
- Why secure your devices?
- Sharing information
- Creating backups
- Passwords
- Other security tools
- Privacy downsides
- Takeaways

What is security?

"Prevention of or protection against (a) access to information by unauthorized recipients or (b) intentional but unauthorized destruction or alteration of that information."

~ *Oxford Dictionary of Computing*

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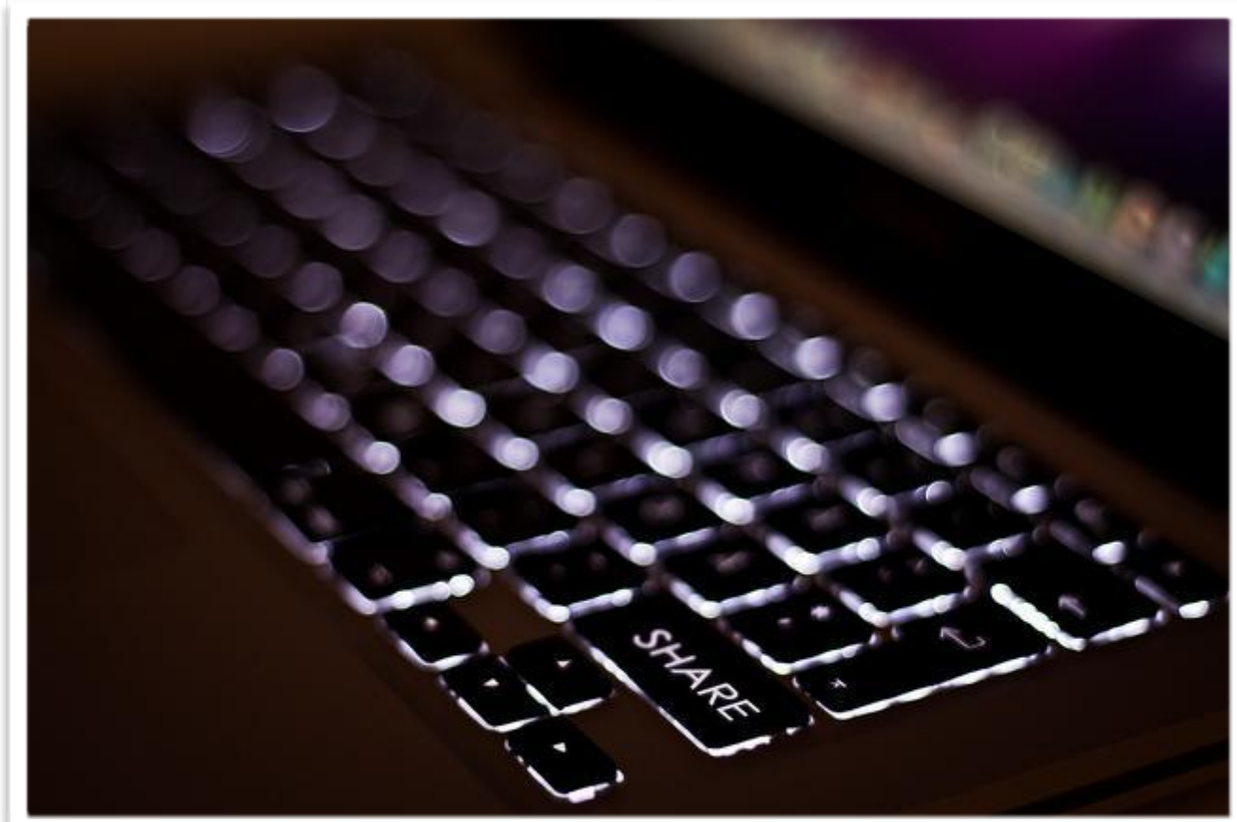
Why secure your devices?

- Keep your information and identity safe and secure:
  - Photos
  - Passwords
  - Financial information
  - Coursework
  - Personal and professional correspondence

Share information selectively

- Don't give out personal information such as your phone number, mailing address, or email when asked.

[Sharing information video]



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Backup your data!

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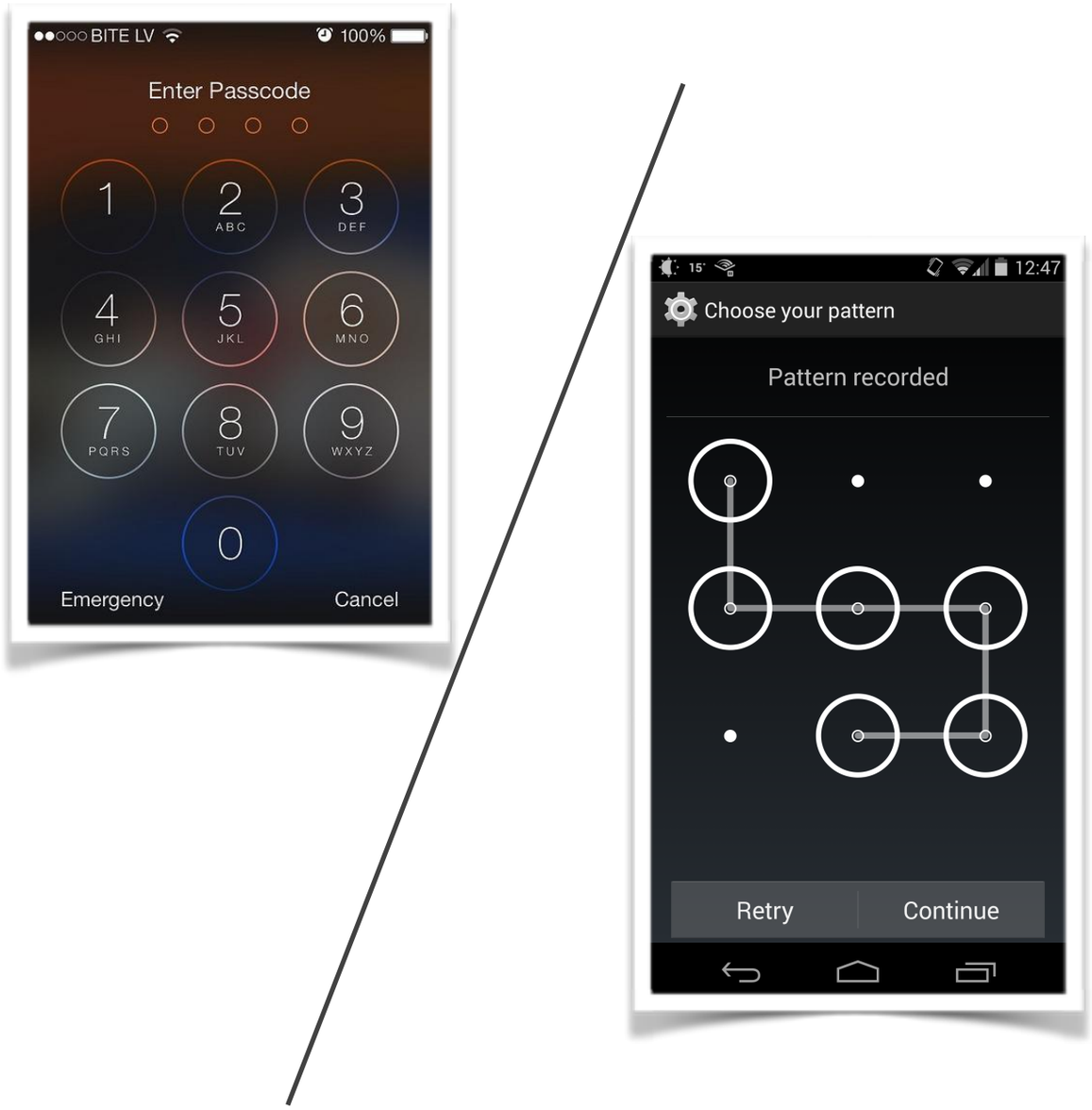
- Save all your work
- Make duplicates of your work
- Encrypt your files
- Keep a copy of your files off-site
  - Hard drive at home
  - Cloud backup: Google Drive, Dropbox, Carbonite, etc

Using a phone passcode

- Only about 50% of people use a password or passcode on their phone.



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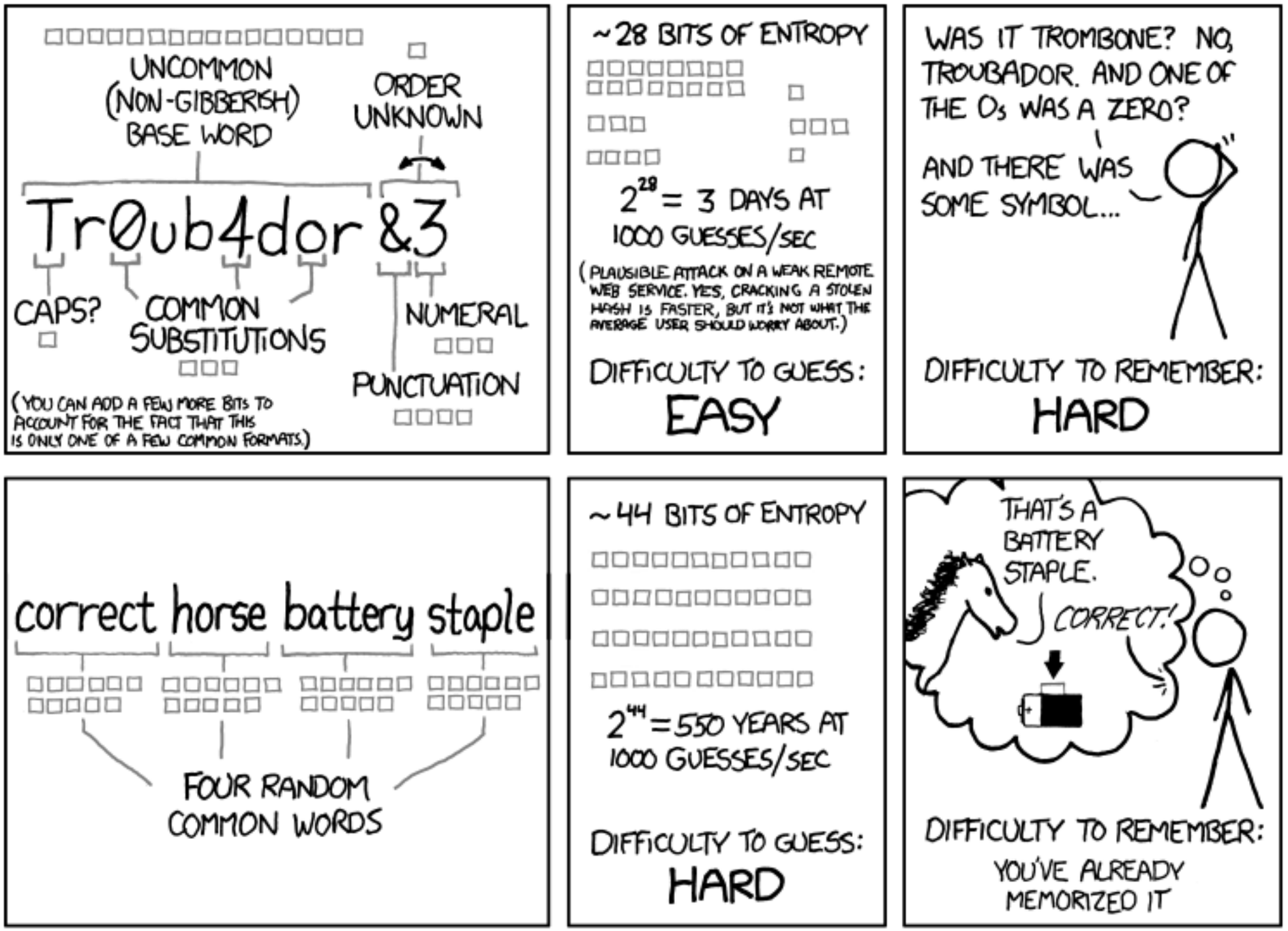
Password Poll

https://strawpoll.me/5209527



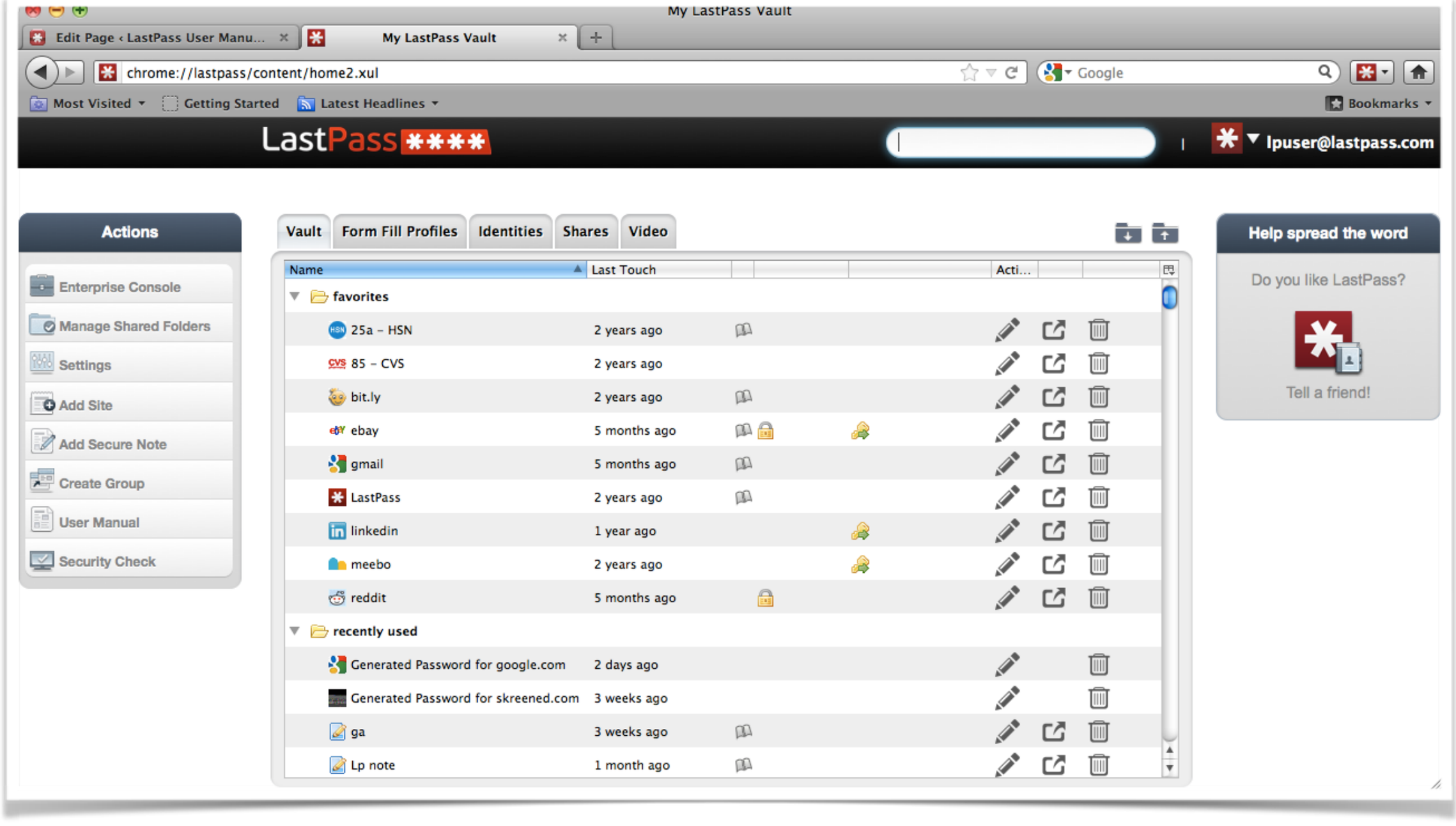
Source XKCD - http://xkcd.com/936/

Create strong passwords

Lorrie Faith Cranor: What's wrong with your pa$$w0rd?

- Create longer alpha-numeric passwords, using symbols and spaces.
- Use a password saver such as Last Pass or One Password.
    - Will auto generate secure passwords and log you into your sites automatically.

Last Pass


My LastPass Vault
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My LastPass Vault
chrome://lastpass/content/home2.xul
Google
Most Visited
Getting Started
Latest Headlines
Bookmarks
LastPass ****
lpuser@lastpass.com
Actions
Enterprise Console
Manage Shared Folders
Settings
Add Site
Add Secure Note
Create Group
User Manual
Security Check
Vault
Form Fill Profiles
Identities
Shares
Video
Name
Last Touch
Acti...
favorites
25a - HSN
2 years ago
85 - CVS
2 years ago
bit.ly
2 years ago
ebay
5 months ago
gmail
5 months ago
LastPass
2 years ago
linkedin
1 year ago
meebo
2 years ago
reddit
5 months ago
recently used
Generated Password for google.com
2 days ago
Generated Password for skreened.com
3 weeks ago
ga
3 weeks ago
Lp note
1 month ago
Help spread the word
Do you like LastPass?
Tell a friend!

Tip

"Have a separate email for your personal correspondence and your Internet accounts."

Security tools

- Search - Duck Duck Go
- Private browsing - HTTPS Everywhere
- Encrypted Messaging: Cryptocat
- Two-step authentication (Google authenticator)

Google Alert your name

- Create a Google Alert for your name.
  - Helps you maintain your reputation online.

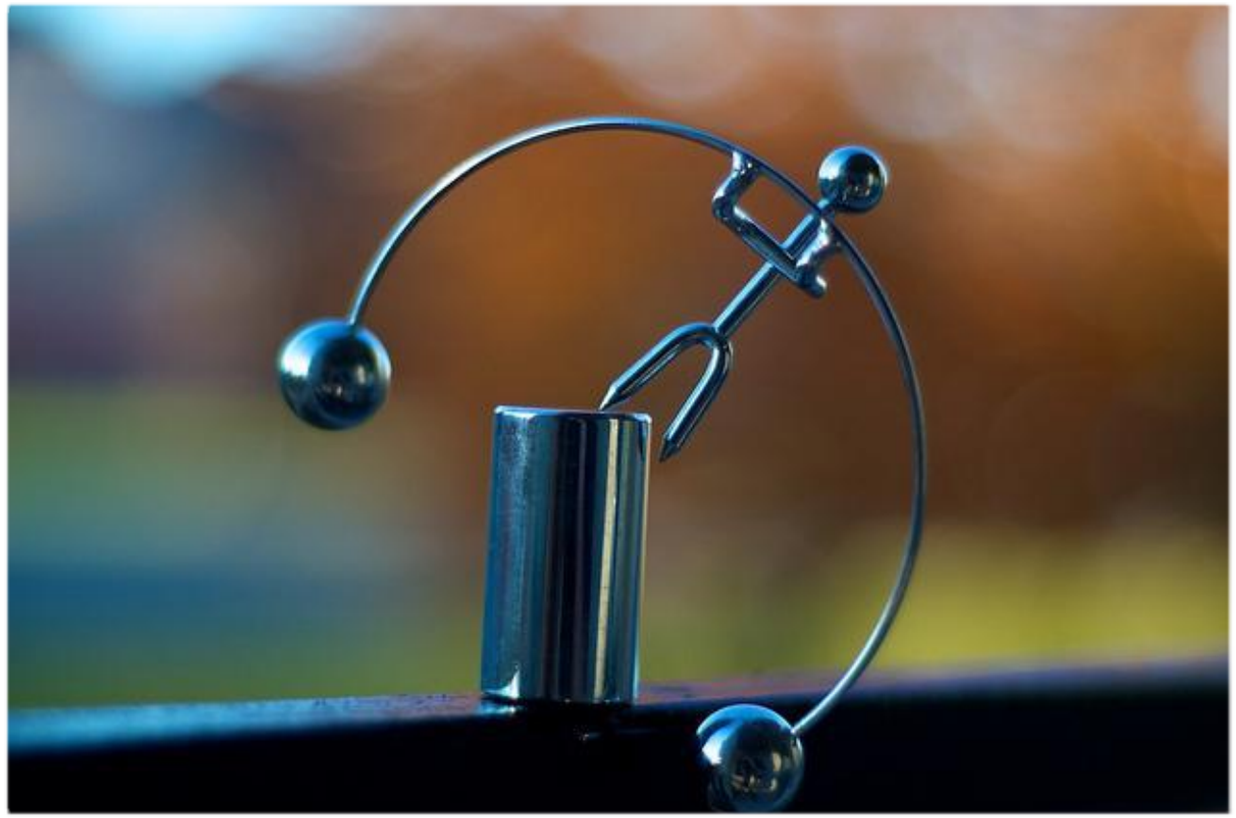
Downsides to privacy and security

- Limits the functionality of some web applications and social media tools.
  - Location information
- Hard to take control of your identity.
  - Participating and sharing professional information online will create a positive image potential employers will see.

Takeaways

"There is always a balance between convenience and security."

~ Leo Laporte (Tech Journalist)



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