



# SECURITY FIRST PRINCIPLES

INFORMATION HIDING - ENCRYPTION

TJ NEL

# SECURITY FIRST PRINCIPLES

- Domain Separation
- Process Isolation
- Resource Encapsulation
- Layering
- Modularization

- Least Privilege

- **Information Hiding**



- Abstraction
- Simplicity of Design
- Minimization

# WHAT IS INFORMATION HIDING?

- Any attempt to prevent people from being able to see information. It can be hiding the content of a letter, or it can be applied to hiding how the letter is delivered. Both ways can prevent people from being able to see the information.

# INFORMATION NOT HIDDEN

Kevin Curran, Astronauts (Offering a Box of Tissues), 2006, animated neon, 20 x 24 x 2 inches. Courtesy the artist. © Kevin Curran. "Give Voice" Postcard Project. neumeraki.com

Dear Representative Tenney,  
I grew up in the Village  
of New Hartford, where my  
mother still lives. I am  
concerned about the proposed  
health care reforms, to Medicare  
in particular, that would make  
it harder for her to afford the  
care she needs. I also feel  
that our elected representatives  
must embrace collaboration  
across party lines. By listening  
to one another and trying to  
find common ground, everyone  
could get some of what they  
want, rather than no one  
getting anything they want.  
As Otto Von Bismarck might say

I make some,  
Sausages!  
Sincerely,  
Kevin Curran



Representative Claudia Tenney  
555 French Road  
Suite 101  
New Hartford, NY  
13413



# INFORMATION HIDDEN



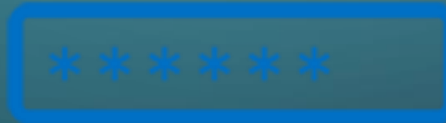
[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/c/c8/Russia\\_-\\_Latvia\\_1914-11-18\\_censored\\_cover.jpg/753px-Russia\\_-\\_Latvia\\_1914-11-18\\_censored\\_cover.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/c/c8/Russia_-_Latvia_1914-11-18_censored_cover.jpg/753px-Russia_-_Latvia_1914-11-18_censored_cover.jpg)

# WHY WOULD YOU WANT TO HIDE INFORMATION

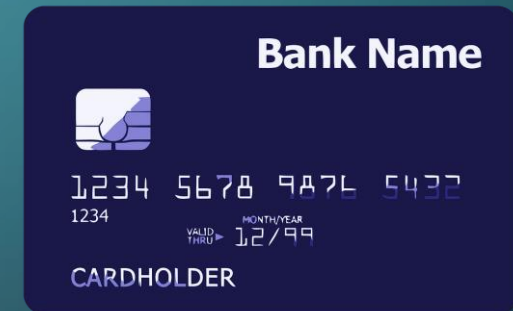
- Sensitive or personal information can be used by an attacker to
  - Sell for profit
  - Manipulate you into doing something against your will
  - Discredit you or expose unwanted information
  - Gain a strategic advantage against you



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-SA-NC](#)



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-SA](#)



# ENCRYPTION

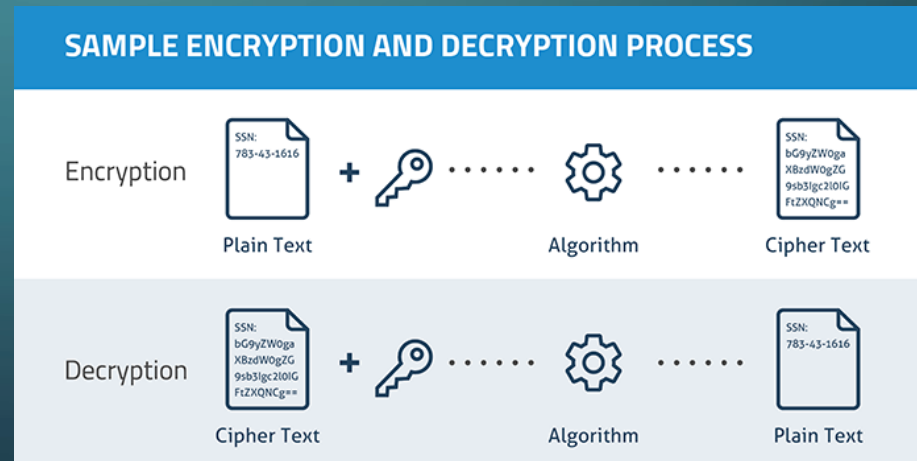
en·cryp·tion

/in'kripSH(ə)n,en'kripSH(ə)n/

*noun*

the process of converting information or data into a code, especially to prevent unauthorized access.

"I use encryption to protect sensitive information transmitted online"



# TYPES OF ENCRYPTION

## SYMMETRIC

- Symmetric-key algorithms are algorithms for cryptography that use the same cryptographic keys for both encryption of plaintext and decryption of ciphertext.

## ASYMMETRIC

- Asymmetric cryptography, is any cryptographic system that uses pairs of keys: public keys which may be disseminated widely, and private keys which are known only to the owner.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Public-key\\_cryptography](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Public-key_cryptography)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Symmetric-key\\_algorithm](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Symmetric-key_algorithm)



# HOW DOES ENCRYPTION WORK?

## SAMPLE ENCRYPTION AND DECRYPTION PROCESS

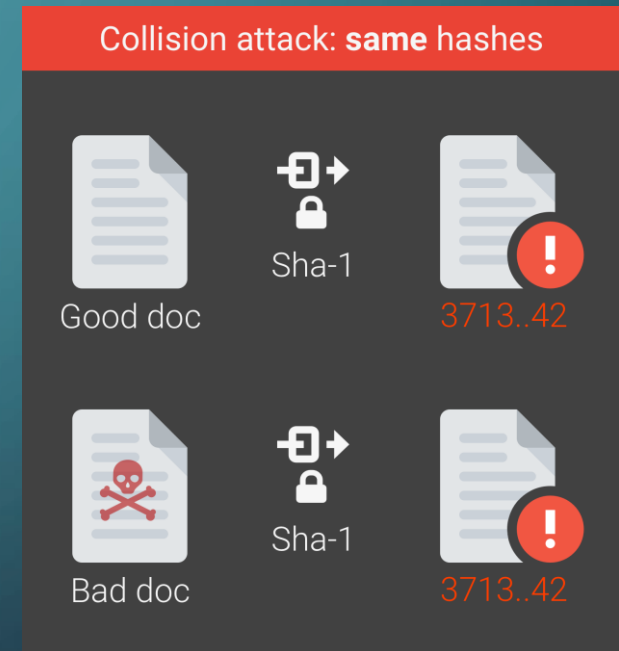


# NOT ALL ENCRYPTION IS THE SAME

- There are numerous encryption algorithms and varying degrees of protection.
- All of these algorithms differ in how they work and the keys they use for encryption/decryption tasks.
- Some of these algorithms are so weak they can be broken and should not be used
  - Weak Encryption
    - SHA-1
    - RC2
  - Strong Encryption
    - AES
    - SHA-256

# SHA-1 GOT... **SHATTERED**

- SHA-1 Cryptographic Hash Algorithm. A cryptographic hash (sometimes called 'digest') is a kind of 'signature' for a text or a data file. **SHA1** generates an almost-unique 160-bit (20-byte) signature for a text.
- It is now practically possible to craft two colliding PDF files and obtain a SHA-1 digital signature on the first PDF file which can also be abused as a valid signature on the second PDF file.



# HOW TO USE ENCRYPTION

- Take this encrypted secret message
  - gwzd zd nohavugzro
- We don't know what this represents
  - We could send this to someone else without them knowing our secret
- In order to decrypt, we really need to know:
  - What type of encryption
  - If there are keys needed for this

# WHEN WE GET THE INFO WE NEED

- Encryption Information
  - Encryption type: Affine Cipher
  - Alphabet:  
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
  - A COEFFICIENT: 3
  - B COEFFICIENT: 1
- When you enter this into the algorithm you get the message
  - this is encryption

**Affine Decoder**

★ AFFINE CIPHERTEXT

gwzd zd nohavugzco

★ ALPHABET ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

☐ TRY ALL COEFFICIENTS (BRUTEFORCE DECRYPTION ATTACK)

☒ I KNOW THE VALUES FOR AFFINE COEFFICIENTS

★ A COEFFICIENT 3

★ B COEFFICIENT 1

DECRYPT

**Results**

$f(x)=3+1$

this is encryption



# YOU CAN APPLY ENCRYPTION TO REAL WORLD COMMUNICATIONS



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-SA](#)



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-SA-NC](#)



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-SA](#)



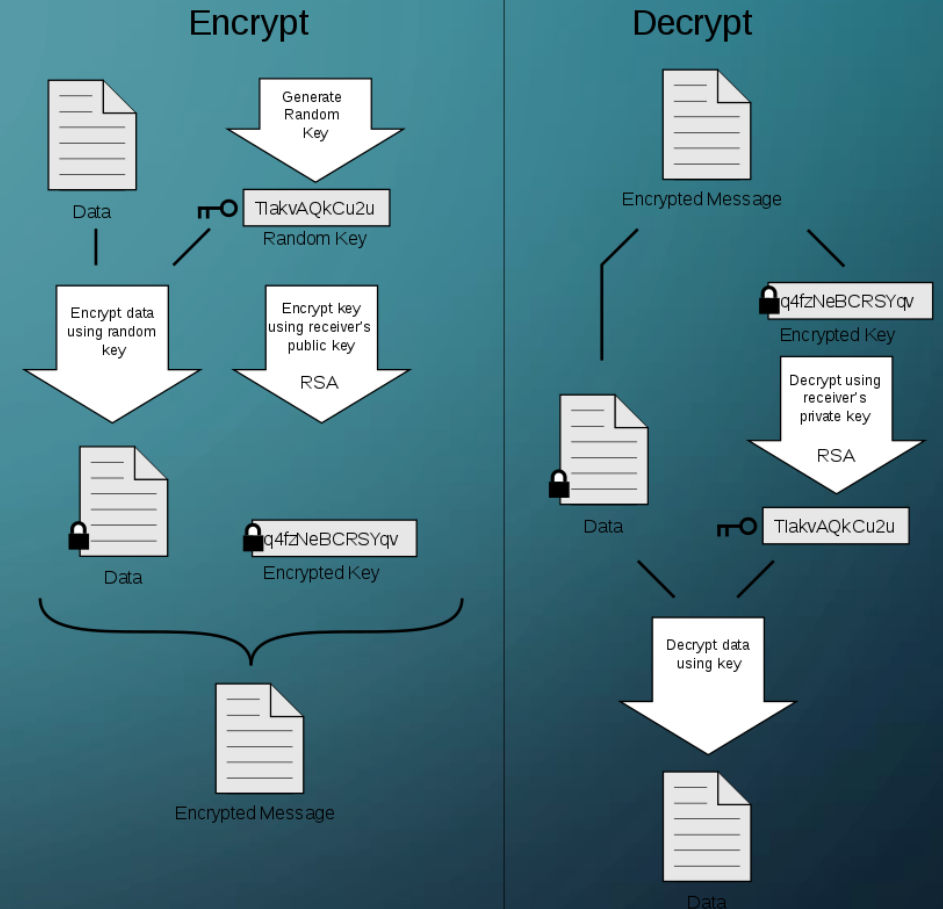
[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-SA](#)



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-SA](#)

# PGP PROTECTING EMAIL

- Pretty Good Privacy (PGP) is an encryption program that provides cryptographic privacy and authentication for data communication. PGP is used for signing, encrypting, and decrypting texts, e-mails, files, directories, and whole disk partitions and to increase the security of e-mail communications. Phil Zimmermann developed PGP in 1991.



# ATTACKING ENCRYPTION

ATTACKERS CAN OBTAIN UNAUTHORIZED ACCESS TO INFORMATION USING SOME KNOWN ATTACK STRATEGIES

- Ciphertext Only Attacks
- Known Plaintext Attack
- Chosen Plaintext Attack
- Dictionary Attack
- Brute Force Attack
- Birthday Attack
- Man in Middle Attack
- Side Channel Attack
- Timing Attacks
- Power Analysis Attacks
- Fault analysis Attacks

THESE CAN BE USED TO GAIN INFORMATION ON THE DATA PROTECTED BY THE ENCRYPTION ALGORITHM

# KNOWN PLAINTEXT ATTACK EXAMPLE

- Alice sends a message to Bob encrypted with his public key. Eve overhears an encrypted communication from Bob to Alice, and later observes them meeting at Baker Street . Eve can now guess that the communication contained the word "baker street" somewhere, a form of known plaintext attack.
- Using this information Eve may be able to figure out the encryption and necessary parameters for decryption.
- Affine Cipher is vulnerable to this

- COMPLETE EXERCISES 1-3  
AND ASSESSMENT