



USER MANUAL

Swiss Army cryptographic toolset for beginners



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This user manual will cover the five cryptographic tasks implemented within the cryptographic toolset. Down below you can see a screenshot of the main menu screen; from here you can select any of the five tasks that you wish to implement.

```
Welcome to the basic command line - based "Swiss Army cryptographic toolset for beginners". Different tasks
available are below:
Press 1 to Create a Certificate Signing Request (CSR)
Press 2 to Create a self-signed certificate
Press 3 to Encrypt a symmetric authenticated message via Fernet
Press 4 to Generate a Hash-based message using HMAC
Press 5 to Encrypt a message via AES

Press 0 to exit

Select task number you want to implement:
```

Task 1 – Create a Certificate Signing Request (CSR)

To Create a Certificate, the following libraries listed below are used to make this happen:

```
from cryptography.hazmat.backends import default_backend
from cryptography.hazmat.primitives import serialization
from cryptography.hazmat.primitives.asymmetric import rsa
from cryptography import x509
from cryptography.x509.oid import NameOID
from cryptography.hazmat.primitives import hashes
```

These X.509 certificates are used to authenticate clients and servers; commonly used for web servers that use HTTPS. The Certificate Authority (CA) allows you to obtain a certificate following these steps below:

1. Private/public key pair is generated.
2. Request for a certificate is created; signed by your key to prove its yours.
3. CSR is then given to a CA without the private key.
4. The resource you want a certificate for is validated by the CA.
5. Certificate is then signed and given to you by the CA. (Includes public key & resource)
6. Server is formed to use the certificate; sharing your private key to server traffic.

Getting Started: Firstly, the program generates a secret key and saves it as (key.pem) automatically by using RSA (AES-256) algorithm. Secondly, a CSR request (CSR.pem) that contains some sample user information is generated for further using.

```
Starting the process....
Generating private key....
Writing private key to path ./csr/key.pem file....
Generating CSR....
Writing CSR to path ./csr/csr.pem....
Now you can give CSR to Certificate Authority (CA), who will give certificate to you in return
```

User can also view the public value n and e for RSA algorithm.

```
Would you like to see the public values n and e?
Press 0 for No and 1 for Yes: 1
<RSAPublicNumbers(e=65537,
n=26062147996657511570769772731708787134659517365982594954571332716823173304661436359033943544620418989490871387400
01093502336350336526200045241029071556278124534151621651317265572968827875357989596200159720940996412599954008973578
81018088400247573045354539488348299333389785768610313407402881831344042424845463083548483019207656468136633082404336
67684084361500898344261639243513059320736673995699772107226525468024889483452614588132104237886314159514488345330336
98469629108866032235194162725957549743045891351910009752894344656140065862804692814488408371886993993621681759012907
766519601727520947920843360186146154531)>
```

[illegible]

In the previous task, in order to create a CSR, it was required to get it signed by the CA. This is not the case when you create a self-signed certificate. The private key is used to sign it instead by conforming to the assigned public key. However, a self-signed certificate is not trustworthy like a CSR. Although, self-signed certificates are generally used for local testing and can be easily issued effortlessly. Hence, trust is not the main priority for a self-signed certificate.

The certificate.pem and key.pem files can be found in the following path → ./self-signed-csr/

```
Starting the process....
Generating private key....
Writing private key to path .\self-signed-csr/key.pem file....
Generating Certificate, and signing with the private key....
Writing Certificate to path .\self-signed-csr/certificate.pem....
Now you have a private key and certificate that can be used for local testing

Would you like to see the public values n and e?
Press 0 for No and 1 for Yes: 1
<RSAParameters (e=65537,
n=282972190195192684284808562832924606267990934687356062840908530251946255757217042575367985098986033631263770129727
4440574638585809673534458372323824234701060767014465716219833103108885606346690446287655399160011259073966268435347
2829125465460148564759992439309696736002813337129475605112770851708877536018520460958163278283770661228671617210999
40169384991110242501314104466032832391005144675666983471564262805528313907550487417905774018739174043839035444038
5906745658564856687036489564085062588727743513215819854761559965593820422168265915601977996838460420107259764106
882101054343904720907417544528695159531>
```

Fernet implements symmetric encryption authenticated messages. Thus, the message can't be deployed or read without the secret key. Passwords are also an available option with Fernet if needed. Key derivation functions such as PBKDF2HMAC, Scrypt and bcrypt are capable of making this possible. Down below you can see the main library used for Fernet.

Getting Started: Task 3 encrypts user messages and display the result by using the secret key, which is preset to “mypassword”. Then a decryption process will be implemented and recover the user input.

Appendix – Source code

```
from cryptography.hazmat.backends import default_backend
from cryptography.hazmat.primitives import serialization
from cryptography.hazmat.primitives.asymmetric import rsa
from cryptography import x509
from cryptography.x509.oid import NameOID
from cryptography.hazmat.primitives import hashes, hmac
from cryptography.hazmat.primitives.kdf.pbkdf2 import PBKDF2HMAC
from cryptography.hazmat.primitives.ciphers import Cipher, algorithms, modes
import datetime
import base64
import os
from cryptography.fernet import Fernet

usecase = {
    "create_csr": "Usecase: These X.509 certificates are used to authenticate clients and servers; commonly used for web servers that use HTTPS. The Certificate Authority (CA) allows you to obtain a certificate following these steps below:\n1. Private/public key pair is generated.\n2. Request for a certificate is created; signed by your key to prove its yours.\n3. CSR is then given to a CA without the private key..\n4. The resource you want a certificate for is validated by the CA.\n5. Certificate is then signed and given to you by the CA. (Includes public key & resource)\n6. Server is formed to use the certificate; sharing your private key to server traffic.\n\n",
    "create_self_signed_csr": "Usecase: In the previous task, in order to create a CSR, it was required to get it signed by the CA. This is not the case when you create a self-signed certificate. The private key is used to sign it instead by conforming to the assigned public key. However, a self-signed certificate is not trustworthy like a CSR. Although, self-signed certificates are generally used for local testing and can be easily issued effortlessly. Hence, trust is not the main priority for a self-signed certificate.\n\n",
    "passwords_with_fernet": "Fernet implements symmetric encryption authenticated messages. Thus, the message can't be deployed or read without the secret key. Passwords are also an available option with Fernet if needed. Key derivation functions such as PBKDF2HMAC, Scrypt and bcrypt are capable of making this possible. Down below you can see the main library used for Fernet.\n\n",
    "hash_based_mac": "Hash-based message authentication codes allow you to validate the integrity and authenticity of a message. HMACs also let you calculate message authentication codes with a cryptographic hash function paired with a key. Down below you can see the main libraries used for HMAC.\n\n",
    "symmetric_aes": "In order to encrypt or conceal the sender and receivers' content, the same secret key needs to be used mutually. One disadvantage of Symmetric encryption is that it only provides secrecy but not authenticity. AES (Advanced Encryption Standard) is a great default option for encryption because it is secure and very fast. Down below you can see the main libraries used.\n\n",
}
```

```

def create_csr():
    print(usecase["create_csr"])
    print("Starting the process....")
    # Generate our key
    print("Generating private key....")
    key = rsa.generate_private_key(
        public_exponent=65537,
        key_size=2048,
        backend=default_backend()
    )
    # Write our key to disk for safe keeping
    print("Writing private key to path ./csr/key.pem file....")
    with open("./csr/key.pem", "wb") as f:
        f.write(key.private_bytes(
            encoding=serialization.Encoding.PEM,
            format=serialization.PrivateFormat.TraditionalOpenSSL,
            encryption_algorithm=serialization.BestAvailableEncryption(b"passphrase"),
        ))
    # Generate a CSR
    print("Generating CSR....")
    csr = x509.CertificateSigningRequestBuilder().subject_name(x509.Name([
        # Provide various details about who we are.
        x509.NameAttribute(NameOID.COUNTRY_NAME, u"US"),
        x509.NameAttribute(NameOID.STATE_OR_PROVINCE_NAME, u"CA"),
        x509.NameAttribute(NameOID.LOCALITY_NAME, u"San Francisco"),
        x509.NameAttribute(NameOID.ORGANIZATION_NAME, u"My Company"),
        x509.NameAttribute(NameOID.COMMON_NAME, u"mysite.com"),
    ])).add_extension(
        x509.SubjectAlternativeName([
            # Describe what sites we want this certificate for.
            x509.DNSName(u"mysite.com"),
            x509.DNSName(u"www.mysite.com"),
            x509.DNSName(u"subdomain.mysite.com"),
        ]),
        critical=False,
        # Sign the CSR with our private key.
    ).sign(key, hashes.SHA256(), default_backend())
    # Write our CSR out to disk.
    print("Writing CSR to path ./csr/csr.pem....")
    with open("./csr/csr.pem", "wb") as f:
        f.write(csr.public_bytes(serialization.Encoding.PEM))

```

```

print(
    "Now you can give CSR to Certificate Authority (CA), who will give certificate to you in
return")
user_input = int(input("Would you like to see the public values n and e?\nPress 0 for No and
1 for Yes: "))
if user_input:
    print(key.public_key().public_numbers())

def create_self_signed_csr():
    print(ucase["create_self_signed_csr"])
    print("Starting the process....")
    # Generate our key
    print("Generating private key....")
    key = rsa.generate_private_key(
        public_exponent=65537,
        key_size=2048,
        backend=default_backend()
    )
    # Write our key to disk for safe keeping
    print("Writing private key to path ./self-signed-csr/key.pem file....")
    with open("./self-signed-csr/key.pem", "wb") as f:
        f.write(key.private_bytes(
            encoding=serialization.Encoding.PEM,
            format=serialization.PrivateFormat.TraditionalOpenSSL,
            encryption_algorithm=serialization.BestAvailableEncryption(b"passphrase"),
        ))
    # Various details about who we are. For a self-signed certificate the
    # subject and issuer are always the same.
    subject = issuer = x509.Name([
        x509.NameAttribute(NameOID.COUNTRY_NAME, u"US"),
        x509.NameAttribute(NameOID.STATE_OR_PROVINCE_NAME, u"CA"),
        x509.NameAttribute(NameOID.LOCALITY_NAME, u"San Francisco"),
        x509.NameAttribute(NameOID.ORGANIZATION_NAME, u"My Company"),
        x509.NameAttribute(NameOID.COMMON_NAME, u"mysite.com"),
    ])
    print("Generating Certificate, and signing with the private key....")
    cert = x509.CertificateBuilder().subject_name(
        subject
    ).issuer_name(
        issuer
    ).public_key(

```

```

        key.public_key()
    ).serial_number(
        x509.random_serial_number()
    ).not_valid_before(
        datetime.datetime.utcnow()
    ).not_valid_after(
        # Our certificate will be valid for 10 days
        datetime.datetime.utcnow() + datetime.timedelta(days=10)
    ).add_extension(
        x509.SubjectAlternativeName([x509.DNSName(u"localhost")]),
        critical=False,
        # Sign our certificate with our private key
    ).sign(key, hashes.SHA256(), default_backend())
# Write our certificate out to disk.
print("Writing Certificate to path ./self-signed-csr/certificate.pem....")
with open("./self-signed-csr/certificate.pem", "wb") as f:
    f.write(cert.public_bytes(serialization.Encoding.PEM))
print("Now you have a private key and certificate that can be used for local testing")
user_input = int(input("Would you like to see the public values n and e?\nPress 0 for No and
1 for Yes: "))
if user_input:
    print(key.public_key().public_numbers())

```

```

def passwords_with_fernet():
    print(usecase["passwords_with_fernet"])
    print("Starting the process....")
    print("Using the password as `mypassword` for encryption with fernet....")
    password = b"mypassword"
    salt = os.urandom(16)
    kdf = PBKDF2HMAC(
        algorithm=hashes.SHA256(),
        length=32,
        salt=salt,
        iterations=100000,
        backend=default_backend()
    )
    print("Generating the key using password....")
    key = base64.urlsafe_b64encode(kdf.derive(password))
    f = Fernet(key)
    plain_text = input("Enter message that you want to encrypt: ")
    print("Encrypting plain text: {0:s}....".format(plain_text))

```

```

token = f.encrypt(plain_text.encode('utf-8'))
print("Encrypted text is: {0:s}\nDecrypting the text....".format(token.decode("utf-8")))
recovered_text = f.decrypt(token)
print("Decrypted text: {0:s}".format(recovered_text.decode("utf-8")))

```

```

def hash_based_mac():
    print(usecase["hash_based_mac"])
    key = input("Enter the key you want to use with HMAC: ")
    print("Generating the HMAC object....")
    h = hmac.HMAC(key.encode("utf-8"), hashes.SHA256(), backend=default_backend())
    message = input("Enter the message that you want to hash: ")
    h.update(message.encode("utf-8"))
    hash = h.finalize()
    print("The hash of the {0:s} is: ".format(message))
    print(hash)

```

```

def symmetric_aes():
    print(usecase["symmetric_aes"])
    print("Starting the process....")
    backend = default_backend()
    print("Generating the key and IV for the AES....")
    key = os.urandom(32)
    iv = os.urandom(16)
    cipher = Cipher(algorithms.AES(key), modes.CBC(iv), backend=backend)
    encryptor = cipher.encryptor()
    plain_text = input("Enter the message you want to encrypt: ")
    if len(plain_text) % 32 != 0:
        print(
            "Since size of plain text is not multiple of block length 32 bytes, adding trailing zeroes to plain text....")
        plain_text = plain_text + (32 - (len(plain_text) % 32)) * "0"
        print("Modified plain text: {0:s}".format(plain_text))
    cipher_text = encryptor.update(plain_text.encode("utf-8")) + encryptor.finalize()
    print("Cipher text:")
    print(cipher_text)
    print("Decrypting the cipher text....")
    decryptor = cipher.decryptor()
    recovered_text = decryptor.update(cipher_text) + decryptor.finalize()
    recovered_text = recovered_text.decode("utf-8").strip("0")
    print("Recovered text: {0:s}".format(recovered_text))

```

```

    user_input = int(input("Do you want to see the IV and Key of AES algorithm?\nPress 0 for No
and 1 for Yes: "))
    if user_input:
        print("key: ", key, "\niv: ", iv)

if __name__ == '__main__':
    tasks = {
        1: create_csr,
        2: create_self_signed_csr,
        3: passwords_with_fernet,
        4: hash_based_mac,
        5: symmetric_aes,
    }
    while True:
        print(
            "\nWelcome to the basic command line - based "Swiss Army cryptographic toolset for
beginners". Different tasks available are below:")
        print(
            "Press 1 to Create a Certificate Signing Request (CSR)\nPress 2 to Create a self-signed
certificate\nPress 3 to Encrypt a symmetric authenticated message via Fernet\nPress 4 to
Generate a Hash-based message using HMAC\nPress 5 to Encrypt a message via AES\n\nPress 0
to exit")
        number = int(input("Select task number you want to implement: "))
        if number == 0:
            print("Exiting the program....")
            break
        if number not in tasks:
            print("Invalid input try again....")
            continue
        print()
        tasks[number]()

```

Appendix: Web sources

Cryptography.io. (2018). *Tutorial — Cryptography 2.4.dev1 documentation*. [online] Available at: <https://cryptography.io/en/latest/x509/tutorial/>

Tutorial — Cryptography 2.4.dev1 documentation. (2018). Retrieved from <https://cryptography.io/en/latest/x509/tutorial/#creating-a-certificate-signing-request-csr>

RSA — Cryptography 2.4.dev1 documentation. (2018). Retrieved from <https://cryptography.io/en/latest/hazmat/primitives/asymmetric/rsa/>

Tutorial — Cryptography 2.4.dev1 documentation. (2018). Retrieved from <https://cryptography.io/en/latest/x509/tutorial/#creating-a-self-signed-certificate>

Hash-based message authentication codes (HMAC) — Cryptography 2.4.dev1 documentation. (2018). Retrieved from <https://cryptography.io/en/latest/hazmat/primitives/mac/hmac/>

Fernet (symmetric encryption) — Cryptography 2.4.dev1 documentation. (2018). Retrieved from <https://cryptography.io/en/latest/fernet/>

Symmetric encryption — Cryptography 2.4.dev1 documentation. (2018). Retrieved from <https://cryptography.io/en/latest/hazmat/primitives/symmetric-encryption/>