



Security Awareness Passwords

**State of Illinois
Central Management Services
Security and Compliance Solutions**

BCCS
Keeping You Connected



- A strong password is:
 - 8 or more characters
 - Uppercase and lowercase
 - Numbers and letters
 - Odd character(s)





■ Password Cracking

- Find weak passwords
- Verify the use of good passwords

Characters (complex)	Estimated time to crack
7	15 minutes
8	2 hours
14	9 hours
15	209 days

HACKERS
AHEAD

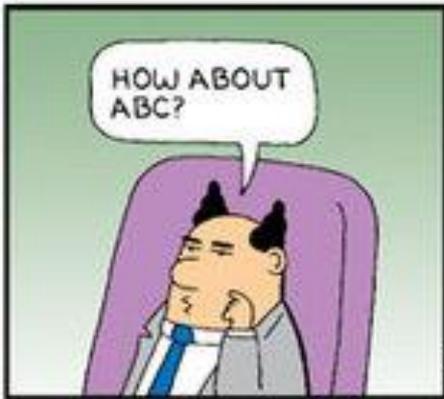
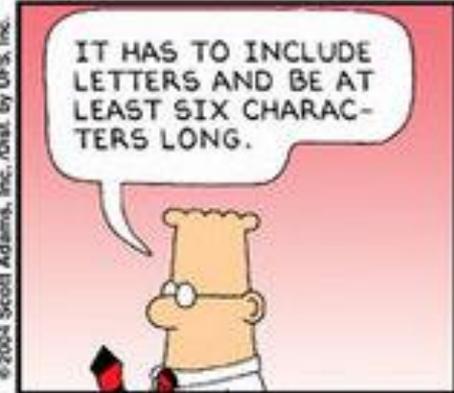
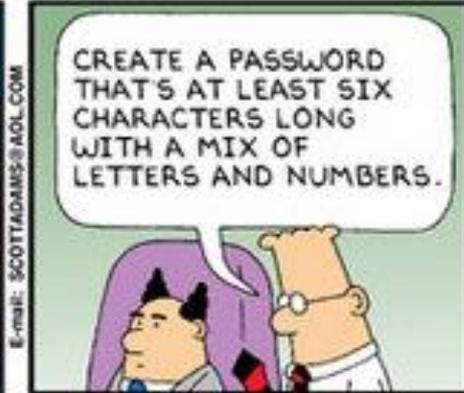
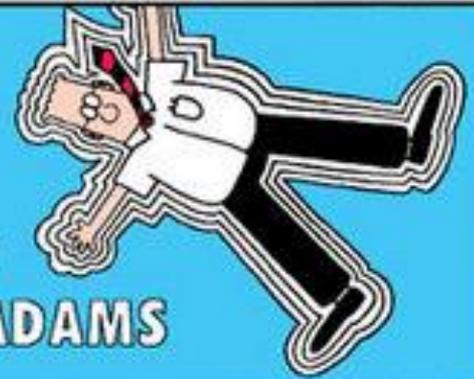
DO NOT
PICK
UP
VIRUSES

Passwords



DILBERT®

BY
SCOTT ADAMS





- Group Policy (Honor system doesn't work)
 - Require 8 characters
 - Require complexity
 - Disable LM hashing
 - Or make your password >15 characters



◦ Cracking Techniques

- Blank
- Joe (user = password)
- Dictionary (English, Taiwan, etc)
- Default
- Reverse (PASSWORD – DRWOSSAP)
- Double (PassPass)
- Number substitute – (Pass, P4ss, Pa5s, P45s)
- Case perms – (Pass, pAss, paSs, PaSs, PASS)
- Two numbers (Pass0, Pass1...Pass99)



• Techniques

- Color + number + sport – (Red4Cardinal)
- Two words separated by a number -(Work4Life#)
 - Six7Eight
 - six#7eight
- First letter of each word in a sentence (4Sa7ya123)
- Avoid uppercase – (fun&games10, fun&g4m3s)
- Two word leet (B@seb@llGame)
- Random password generators



- o 10 most common passwords

- password
- 123456
- qwerty
- abc123
- letmein
- monkey
- myspace1
- password1
- link182
- (your first name)





- Do's

- Encrypt passwords (password safe)
 - passwordsafe.sourceforge.net
- Use different passwords for different systems

- Don'ts

- No sticky notes
- No Spreadsheets (easily cracked)
- Share
- Assign the same password to different users





Security Awareness Material

- www.illinois.gov/bccs/services/catalog/security/assessments/Pages/awareness.aspx



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