

Topic 2: Good Password Sense

A good password is a strong, secure password. Passwords are constructed from at least three of the following characteristics and will be at least 8 characters long:

- **Numeric character** (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 0)
- **Special character** (/, [, -, =, +, !, #, \$, etc.),
- **Lowercase character** (a, b, c, d, e, f, g, etc.)
- **Uppercase character** (A, B, C, D, E, F, G, etc.).

A good password is more than strong construction. A good password is a secure password; **one that is not shared with anyone**. When users share their passwords with others, they put all the information that is protected by that password at great risk. Sharing passwords can cause unwanted break-ins from unknown individuals and, sometimes, by known individuals. For example, an ex-boyfriend who decides to use your password to your e-mail account, pretending to be you and breaks up with your current boyfriend!

A secure password is one that is not posted, written down, or shared. Experienced hackers know to look for exposed passwords that are taped on monitors, hidden under keyboards, or even in a desk drawer.

The following methods are very useful when creating a new password:

- Choose a password that is easy to remember. Mnemonics provide the ability to associate meaningful data with a password. For example, "one fish two fish red fish blue fish" becomes **()F2f|Fbf**. Books and movies provide great passwords, as do phrases such as "I-40 was slow as molasses this morning" which becomes **I4()W\$AMtM**.
- Try to avoid converting letters to numbers, like changing "e" to 3 or "o" to 0. Instead use special characters that resemble the letter, such as changing "o" to (), and "r" to |2. **The password should not contain your username, or any part of your full name.**
- **Do not base the password on personal information** (spouse's name, favorite sports team, etc.).

If you need to change your TU TigerWeb or MyTU email password, please visit Kenney Hall 70-214. Please bring your ID. You may call x8040 for direction to this location.

ROOM 70-406

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