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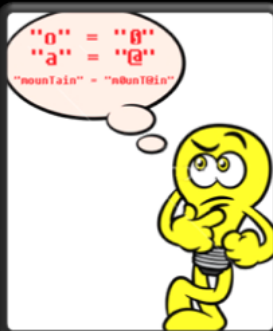
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Pump Up Your Passwords – Final Part

Continuation...

Here are some ideas on how to create strong passwords. Pick an 8-character word that is easy to remember and make it strong. For example, we will use the word "mountain." Note that the word can be found in the dictionary. It is also composed of alphabets only. Let's pump it up!

Change at least one letter to uppercase (you don't want to pick the first letter, as that would be more common and easy to guess). The revised password is now "mounTain."

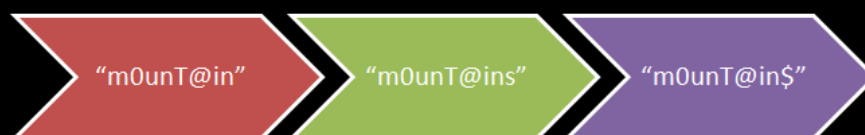


Add at least one number to it by replacing the "o" with zero, "0", making the revised password "m0unTain."

Finally, include a symbol or a special character. Replace the "a" with the symbol "@" making our new password "m0unT@in."

We now have a much stronger password using a combination of upper and lower case letters, numbers and symbols. While an 8-character password is a good length, it best to make it longer. The longer the password, the stronger it becomes.

Let's make it more secure by adding another character. The word "m0unT@in" could become "m0unT@ins", or even better "m0unT@in\$", where we can swap the "s" for a "\$". Many people also put an "!" at the end of any password or a "+" at the beginning and end of all their passwords.



The general idea is to choose a word or phrase that you will be able to remember and a simple algorithm for converting it to a strong password. Even the best encryption systems in the world are not going to protect your data if you are using weak passwords.



The key to the safety of your data is how you secure it. Remember not to write your passwords on a piece of paper and just post it anywhere. Never share your password to anyone. Change your password from time to time. Pumping up your password can be as easy as the steps discussed but will keep security of your data.

-- End of Transmission --

Information Security: It's a Shared Responsibility

References: [Pump Up Your Password](#)

Enterprise Information Security Manual

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