Password^{12}
Password survey in Norway

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The Norwegian Centre for Information Security

• Responsible for coordinating activities related to information security awareness in Norway

• Target groups:
  – Norwegian corporations both private and public and inhabitants in Norway.

• The main activities:
  - To obtain an overall impression of threats towards Norwegian ICT systems
  - spread information, expertise, and knowledge about possible threats and relevant countermeasures
  - establish contact and cooperation with organizations providing similar services in other countries.
Deliveries from NorSIS

• News
  – In media and on own web site
• E-mail information and alerts
• Guidance, Instruction manuals
• Presentations, seminars, conferences, live demonstrations
• Projects
• National security month (October)
Slettmeg.no (delete.me.no)

- For people that has been offended, bullyed or has got their privacy invaded on the internet
- 600 - 800 calls/e-mails pr month
- Gives us good statistics
NorSIS password survey 2012

1003 respondents

Data collected by YouGov

Special thanks to Kirsi Helkala at HIG
Occupation

- Employed - officeworker (49%)
- Employed – craftsman trading/commercial (42%)
- Self employed – manager owner (9%)
Number of employees

- 1-9 ansatte: 15%
- 10-49 ansatte: 20%
- 50-99 ansatte: 10%
- 100-249 ansatte: 10%
- 250 eller flere ansatte: 35%
- Vet ikke: 5%
Employment description

- Regular employee
- Head of department
- Project manager
- Manager
- Executives

Other
Education - Highest

- Primary school: 30%
- High School: 32%
- University 3 year: 1%
- University 4 year - more: 33%
- Will not tell: 3%
Gender and age

- Male: 43%
- Female: 57%

- 18-34 år: 31%
- 35-49 år: 28%
- 50-64 år: 41%
Total numbers of passwords
Average min. numbers of private passwords per person
Average min. numbers of work passwords per person
Password security
How did you get education on how to make good passwords

- No answer: 35
- Do not remember: 10
- Other: 5
- Web sites/papers: 25
- Friends/Colleagues: 15
- At work: 20
- When studying: 10
According to the majority of the participants a good password is:

“A mix of letters an numbers”
Description of a good password

- 10,1% Would not tell
- 3,6% Did not know what a good password are
- 86,3% Had an “opinion”....

For those who had an “opinion”:

- 0,6% Think that 1 character set is enough
- 21,5% Think that 2 character sets (numbers and letters) are enough
- 47,0% Think that 3 character sets are enough (Capital, small letters and numbers)
- 17,2% Think that 4 character sets must be used (incl. special characters)
- 13,7% Had no opinion about character sets
Description of a good password (II)

• 9,0% said that a password needs to be long
• 21,1% did give a specific minimum length
• 69,6% said nothing about length

  – Average length: 8,1 characters
    • Min length: 4 characters
    • Max length: 22 characters

• 17,9% said that personal info should not be used
• 1,7% said that personal info should be used
• 80,4% said nothing about personal info
Description of a good password (III)

- 12.1% said that words not should be used
- 8.0% said that words should be used
- 79.8% said nothing about words

- 9.8% said that a god passwords should be easy to remember
- 4.8% said something about remembering techniques
- 85.3% said nothing about remembering

- 5.5% had some information in addition that could improve the password e.g e --> 3
Does your password fulfill own requirements of a good password

- Yes, all passwords: 25%
- Yes, most of the passwords: 38%
- Yes, some of the passwords: 24%
- No: 5%
- Do not know: 8%
Services that needs extra strong passwords
Do you use extra good passwords for services that you think need extra protection?

- Always: 31%
- Usually: 19%
- Some times: 19%
- No: 27%
- Do not know: 5%
Use of the same password

- 62% Yes, some times
- 15% Yes, always
- 12% Seldom
- 9% Never
- 2% Do not know
I always remember my passwords

I do not always remember all my passwords and therefore I write them down

I do not always remember all my passwords but if so I ask to get them resent via e-mail, sms etc.

I only remember my inlogging password (PC/Phone). The rest comes automatically because I have checked the «remember me» box.

Other
If written down, how do we store?

- Do not know
- Other
- I use a computer program for storing
- I have stored them in a textfile on my PC/Phone
- I have written them down on a note I bring with me
- I have written them down on a note I store at home or at work
### Who do we share our passwords with?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wife/partner</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Own children</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friends</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colleague</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My boss</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplier</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IT-Department</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anyone</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do not share</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Conclusions...

- To many use the same password on different services
- A strong password can not save you
- We need to invest in research and education

- Do not fall for a scam......
Questions?