

Password Hints

Beware! All my IDs / Passwords / Memorable Questions etc. disappeared when my 'vintage' 7 year old Apple computer could not be repaired!

Basic Principles.

1. As we get older it becomes harder to remember which password fits with which ID, so we all need to store reminders on a piece of paper, not as part of my **WISDAM**[®] record; but somewhere else that is safe.
2. **But NEVER, EVER, write an actual password down if you can possibly help it.**
Instead write down something to remind us. For example, for pin numbers, I use my high school kitbag number, or my parents' phone number when a teenager (It is well known that we best remember things which happened when we were teenagers) Year of school leaving or qualification may suggest suitable numbers. For names: Holiday places or somewhere that only close friends and family are likely to know about. Or start at a symbol on your keyboard which only you know and then dance through the keyboard in a zig-zag way that only you know for example start with the letter U and zig-zag backwards, with one capital letter and the rest lower case, ending with a number or character e.g. "Uhygtfrde3£".
3. The strongest passwords are 12 or more characters long. They are a mixture of upper and lower case letters and include things like "\$" or "!" or "@" or "%" etc. It might be best to choose just one of these symbols e.g. "%" as your favourite so you do not need to write it down.
4. It is important to make sure a trusted relative or friend has a copy of this page and that a copy is safely filed. Someone I know recently died, and no-one could access precious photos.

Reminders

A. My usual PIN number(s) *Write something to remind you - not the number itself*

PIN Reminder(s):

B. My Bank Account(s) *This must not be used for anything else and must be very strong. If you use more than one bank account then use a different password for each*

Bank Password Reminder(s):

C. My "Other" Financial Dealings *A different password is useful for other financial dealings e.g. Amazon or eBay*

'Other' Financial Reminder:

D. My Simple Password *Some places require a password even though they do not involve money. e.g. when accessing Facebook or using Twitter or "blogging" or writing to a newspaper. It seems sensible to use a shorter and more easily remembered password for this*

Reminder of Simple Password:

E. Any other Standard Passwords I use

This page should not be stored in my **WISDAM[®] Folder, but should instead be kept in some alternative secure place.**

WISDAM[®] Password Hints.

