



IMPORTANT: Read in entirety before activating your *stuy.edu* account.

Account Usage Guidelines

- ★ Communicating through your *stuy.edu* address, **you represent Stuyvesant. Act accordingly;** uphold our tradition of excellence.
- ★ **You are expected to check this account regularly for official school communication.** Maintain a strong password. Should you suspect your account has been compromised, change your password immediately. *You are responsible for your account.*
- ★ **Misuse will result in account suspension or termination.** Misuse includes (but is not limited to) harassment/bullying, sending spam/phishing email, storing or transferring digital property to which you do not have ownership rights, and storing media inappropriate for a scholarly environment.
- ★ **By logging into your account, you signify you have read and understood these guidelines and will abide by them.**

Bookmark:

- ❖ mail.stuy.edu
- ❖ drive.stuy.edu
- ❖ classroom.stuy.edu
- ❖ calendar.stuy.edu

For peace of mind and security, **install a password manager and learn to use it.** Recommended:

- ☐ bitwarden.com
- ☐ lesspass.com
- ☐ lastpass.com

Since we are a community of nerds, here is a relevant *xkcd* for optional enlightenment:

The comic consists of six panels arranged in a 2x3 grid. The top row shows a password 'Tr0ub4dor &3' which is easy to guess (~28 bits of entropy) but hard to remember. The bottom row shows a password 'correct horse battery staple' which is hard to guess (~44 bits of entropy) but easy to remember. The comic concludes that current password practices are hard for humans but easy for computers.

Top Row: 'Tr0ub4dor &3'

- Panel 1:** A tree diagram showing the construction of the password. It starts with 'UNCOMMON (NON-GIBBERISH) BASE WORD' (Tr0ub4dor) and 'ORDER UNKNOWN' (&3). The password is broken down into 'CAPS?', 'COMMON SUBSTITUTIONS', 'NUMERAL', and 'PUNCTUATION'. A note says: '(YOU CAN ADD A FEW MORE BITS TO ACCOUNT FOR THE FACT THAT THIS IS ONLY ONE OF A FEW COMMON FORMATS)'.
- Panel 2:** '~28 BITS OF ENTROPY'. It shows a small number of possible combinations. Calculation: $2^{28} = 3 \text{ DAYS AT } 1000 \text{ GUESSES/SEC}$. A note: '(PLAUSIBLE ATTACK ON A WEAK REMOTE WEB SERVICE. YES, CRACKING A STOKEN HASH IS FASTER, BUT IT'S NOT WHAT THE AVERAGE USER SHOULD WORRY ABOUT.)'. **DIFFICULTY TO GUESS: EASY**
- Panel 3:** 'WAS IT TROMBONE? NO, TROUBADOR. AND ONE OF THE 0s WAS A ZERO? AND THERE WAS SOME SYMBOL...'. **DIFFICULTY TO REMEMBER: HARD**

Bottom Row: 'correct horse battery staple'

- Panel 4:** A tree diagram showing the construction of the password from 'FOUR RANDOM COMMON WORDS'. Each word is shown with its own set of possible combinations.
- Panel 5:** '~44 BITS OF ENTROPY'. It shows a large number of possible combinations. Calculation: $2^{44} = 550 \text{ YEARS AT } 1000 \text{ GUESSES/SEC}$. **DIFFICULTY TO GUESS: HARD**
- Panel 6:** 'THAT'S A BATTERY STAPLE. CORRECT!'. **DIFFICULTY TO REMEMBER: YOU'VE ALREADY MEMORIZED IT**

THROUGH 20 YEARS OF EFFORT, WE'VE SUCCESSFULLY TRAINED EVERYONE TO USE PASSWORDS THAT ARE HARD FOR HUMANS TO REMEMBER, BUT EASY FOR COMPUTERS TO GUESS.

*Activate your *stuy.edu* account:*

1. From a workstation (*i.e.*, not a phone) go to mail.stuy.edu and enter your email address. Upon logging in, you will be prompted to change your password...
2. **Pick a long password.** (PROTIP: Have your password manager generate it and save it.)
3. **Verify your new credentials:** a) log out b) close browser c) reopen d) log back in.