

# Managing your passwords

## WHAT IS A PASSWORD MANAGER?

1. Stores your usernames and passwords in a secure vault, much like a bank vault.
2. The vault is usually found online in the cloud (offline vaults are also available).
3. Because the vault is stored online it can be accessed from multiple locations.
4. Fills in the relevant username and password when you visit a site that requires a login, like Facebook.
5. You only need to remember the master password to the vault. This means you can use super-secure passwords for all your logins.

## 4 THINGS ABOUT PASSWORD MANAGERS

1. There are a bunch of password managers on the market. There are free and paid options. Paid password managers give you access to a greater range of services but don't necessarily mean they are more secure than free options.
2. The biggest advantage of using a password manager is convenience. You don't need to remember all your super-secure passwords, and it automatically generates super-secure passwords so you don't have to do it manually.
3. The biggest risk of using a password manager is its potential vulnerability. Your master password could be hacked, and password managers are an obvious target for hackers.
4. Deciding whether convenience outweighs vulnerability depends on your experience and personal circumstances.

## KEY TAKEAWAYS

1. To reduce your vulnerability online, make sure your passwords are super-secure.
2. There is no absolute security. Being a smart user is the best defence.
3. Using a password manager is one way you can do this.

## 3 WAYS TO MAKE YOUR PASSWORDS SUPER-SECURE (EVEN IF YOU DON'T USE A PASSWORD MANAGER)

1. Use a different password for each account or login.
2. Make your passwords super-secure by using a diceware passphrase or random password generator
3. Change your passwords regularly, such as on your birthday.

## WANT TO KNOW MORE?

1. This video gave me a [really good overview of why I would want to use a password manager](#).
2. How to [create a super-secure password using dice](#)
3. Have you [considered a combination of password security options](#) for different types of passwords?

If you...	Then you should...
Think it is too risky to store your passwords online	<p>Use a different password for each account or login.</p> <p>You should also make your passwords super-secure by using a diceware passphrase or random password generator. Then write them down and keep them somewhere safe (not underneath your keyboard, or in a text file on your desktop).</p> <p>Using super-secure passwords is more important than where they are stored.</p>
Use passwords that are easy to remember	<p>Use a different password for each account or login.</p> <p>You should also make your passwords super-secure by using a diceware passphrase or random password generator.</p> <p>A password manager will make this much easier.</p>
Use the same (or slightly changed ) password more than once	<p>Use a different password for each account or login.</p> <p>You should also make your passwords super-secure by using a diceware passphrase or random password generator.</p> <p>A password manager will make this much easier.</p>
Have been hacked in the past	<p>Use a different password for each account or login.</p> <p>You should also make your passwords super-secure by using a diceware passphrase or random password generator.</p> <p>A password manager will make this much easier.</p>
Want to temporarily share passwords with someone ie social media teams, email, or parental access to bank account.	<p>Never share your username and password details with anyone even your partner or parents.</p> <p>If you can't create a separate account to grant them access, use a password manager for teams, or a password manager that allows sharing.</p>
Regularly ask for your passwords to be reset because you can't remember them all	<p>Consider using a password manager.</p> <p><b>WARNING:</b> You need to remember your master password. A master password cannot usually be reset.</p>
Write down your passwords but forget to take them with you when you are based at a different location	<p>Consider using a password manager as it can be accessed from multiple locations and devices.</p> <p>Or perhaps put your passwords in your purse so they travel with you.</p>