

## Making Secure Passwords

Secure passwords have four main ingredients: digits, special characters, uppercase letters, and lowercase letters. We will make a secure password in a moment. Take a look at the message below.

```
7H15 M3554G3
53RV35 70 PROV3
HOW OUR M1ND5 C4N
D0 4M4Z1NG 7H1NG5!
1MPR3551V3 7H1NG5!
1N 7H3 B3G1NN1NG
17 WA5 H4RD BU7
NOW, ON 7H15 LIN3
YOUR M1ND 1S
R34D1NG 17
4U70M471C4LLY
W17H 0U7 3V3N
7H1NK1NG 4B0U7 17,
B3 PROUD! ONLY
C3R741N P30PL3 C4N
R3AD 7H15.
PL3453 FORW4RD 1F
```

*U C4N R34D 7H15.*

We can take the concept of this message and use it to make a more secure password. How did they make the message so alien and computer like? Just a few letters were changed and suddenly you have a wildly different reading experience all together. So which letters shifted?

A was turned into a 4. You could also use the @ symbol instead.

E was turned into a 3

I was turned into a 1

O was turned into a 0 (zero)

S was turned into a 5

T was turned into a 7

Generally, when a site requires a strong password it needs six to eight characters, an uppercase letter and a special character to satisfy the security requirements. Let us

take the word “teacher” as our example password. Here is how you could potentially modify the word to act as a more secure password.

734CH3R (The T, E, and A were changed)

734ch3r

T3@ch3r

T34ch3r

Let us now modify the word “student” for our password purposes.

57UD3N7 (The S, T, and E were changed)

57ud3n7

S7ud3n7

So what have we learned? It is super easy to increase a password’s security just by changing a few letters around. In the future, try modifying these letters to create a more secure password for yourself.

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