

From: Devin Allman
Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2018 9:59 AM
Subject: Weekly Cybersecurity Tips

Weekly Cybersecurity Tips

According to a 2016 CIO study, the five (5) passwords most commonly used by home users to access personal information, e.g., social media, banking accounts, medical information, etc., are listed below:

- 123456
- 123456789
- password
- pass123
- 12345678

Today, in 2018, it takes password “*cracking*” software approximately .29 milliseconds to correctly guess a seven (7) digit, all lowercase password, *example: abcdefg*. Below are the “*crack*” times for 8, 9, 10 and 11 character passwords:

- 8 characters – 5 hours
- 9 characters – 5 days
- 10 characters – 4 months
- 11 characters – 1 decade

These “*crack*” times are why password length and a combination of uppercase, lowercase, special and numerical characters are so important – by replacing a lowercase letter in an eight (8) digit password with a special character, the “*crack*” time is increased from five (5) hours to 2.5 months; replace another lowercase character with an uppercase character and the “*crack*” time further increases from 2.5 months to 9.75 years.

Keep these statistics in mind the next time you create a new password – today’s best rule of thumb is a ten (10) character password, which includes at least one special, numerical, upper and lowercase character.

– The IT Department



Tickets: support.lancastercountysc.net
E-mail: support@lancastercountysc.net