

HOW TO REMEMBER COMPLEX PASSWORDS WITH EASE

WHAT YOU'LL LEARN IN THIS MODULE

- How to Memorize Any Complex Password
- How to Create Your Own Complex Password
- How to Mentally "Link" Your Password to a Website



• After this module, you will have the confidence have to use and remember complex passwords so you don't get hacked.



- To memorize a complex password, you will create a bizarre story using the characters (letters, numbers, symbols) of the password.
- If you use or create complex passwords. Here's how to memorize it:

Example: H&nPX4ar^

*I generated this password at passwordsgenerator.net



Break it down into chunks and create a story with the characters

H&nPX4ar^

H&n	<u>H</u> arry (Potter) <u>&</u> a <u>n</u> arwhal	
PX	flew a giant <u>P</u> lane that crossed (<u>X</u> 'd) over	
4ar^	4 <u>a</u> lligators in the <u>r</u> iver, eating carrots (<u>^</u>)	



- H&nPX4ar^
- = $\underline{\mathbf{H}}$ arry Potter $\underline{\mathbf{\&}}$ a $\underline{\mathbf{n}}$ arwhal flew in a giant $\underline{\mathbf{P}}$ lane that $\underline{\mathbf{X}}'$ d over $\underline{\mathbf{4}}$ alligators in the $\underline{\mathbf{r}}$ iver eating carrots ($\underline{\wedge}$)
- Break it down into parts, write down whatever comes to your mind.
- Story doesn't have to make any sense. The more bizarre the story, the more it will stick in your mind.



- Tips:
- Capital Letters can be proper nouns (names, locations, etc.). Examples: Chicago, Michael, Adele
- Special characters

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! = yelling, anger, excitement
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? = confusion, questionable decision

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* = star
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= tweeting (hashtag) or phone (pound sign)



- You don't need to attach these images to a Journey
- Towards the end of the module, I will teach you how to memorize it using the linking method



CREATE YOUR OWN COMPLEX PASSWORD

- You're going to use a personal memory that's special to you. A memory that other people won't know about or think of.
- Think of:
 - An embarrassing moment
 - An accomplishment
 - A memory of someone
- Once you have a memory, abbreviate it into a password...



CREATE YOUR OWN COMPLEX PASSWORD

• Example of a memory: I caught a 6 lb. smallmouth bass at Willow Lake in 2007

$$6 lb = 6#$$

smallmouth bass = sb

Willow Lake = WL

$$2007 = 07$$

• Password: 6#sb@WL07



- To remember your password with the website it's used for, you need to create a link (the linking method)
- First, create a trigger image.
 - What do you associate with the website you're logging in to? (facebook, twitter, bank...)
- Whenever you see that website login you want your memory to think of that trigger image.



- Example:
- The Chase Bank website.
- Password: 6#sb@WL07 (6 lb smallmouth bass at Willow Lake in 2007)

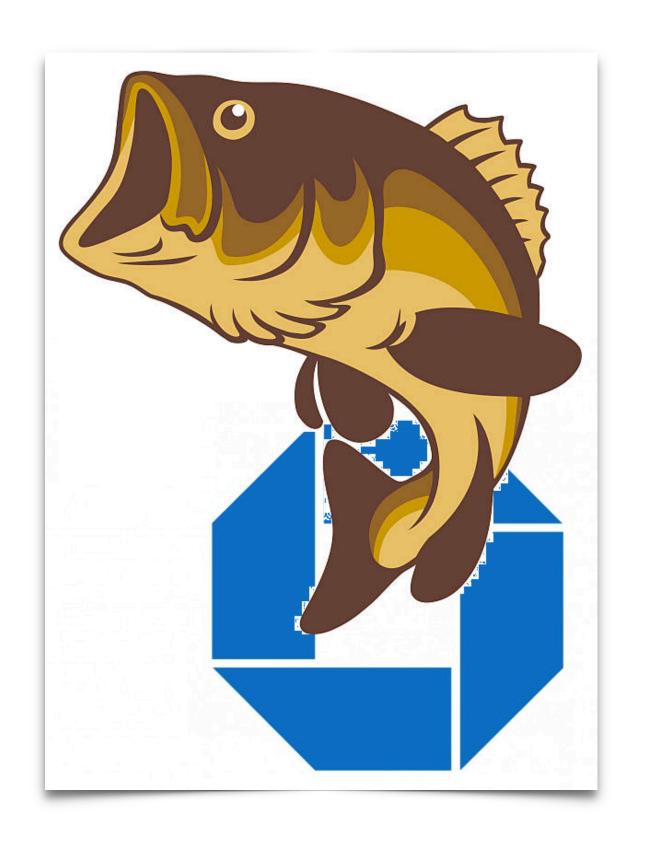


- What do you think of when you hear Chase Bank?
 - bank vault / bags of money
 - the blue Chase logo
 - your friend Chase
- Choose one of these to be your "trigger"
 - I choose the blue logo.
 - This logo is unique to Chase, so you won't confuse it with other logins.





- Link your "trigger" image to your password.
- Trigger image = Chase logo
- Password = 6 # sb@WL07 (6 lb bass)
- <u>Link</u> = When you see the Chase logo, imagine you are catching your bass from the blue logo.



- Another example:
- Password = H&nPX4ar^ (Harry & narwhal)
- Trigger = Chase logo
- LINK = Harry Potter & narwhal are flying thru the hole in the Chase logo.



- Look at your trigger image and imagine the link. Review it a few times.
- Every time you login to Chase Bank, you'll think of the "trigger image" which is linked to your password story.
- The linking method doesn't require you to use a Journey to memorize passwords (unless you want to).
- Instead of attaching to a Journey checkpoint, you are linking the images of your password story to the trigger.



UPDATING PASSWORDS

- If/when you're required to update a password, here are a few ideas on how:
 - Add or change a character: H&nPX4ar^ becomes H&nPX4dr^

- Rearrange order of the story: H&nPX4ar^ becomes (4ar)^PXH&n
- Create a new password & trigger
- It's important to review new changes in your head a few times so they stick



KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Create a bizarre story based on the characters of the complex password
- or Create your own complex password from a personal story
- Link your password story to a website "trigger image"
- The "trigger image" is something you think of/notice about the website
- The Journey method is not required. Simply link the "trigger image" to your password story



ACTION ITEM

- Transition to using complex passwords for <u>all</u> of your logins.
 - Never use "password123" again
- Your mind is a vault now, ready to safely store all of your personal complex passwords in your memory

