



PASSWORD MANAGEMENT

To help maintain your privacy and security on-line, you should use strong passwords that are different for each account or service (see the dedicated Passwords paper for more details and examples).

It is not unusual to have hundreds of different passwords used over many, many sites, apps and services so raising the issue of managing your passwords safely and securely but easy to retrieve when needed.

Major web browsers (including Safari, Chrome, Edge and Firefox) offer to save passwords for individual sites and retrieve them when next visiting a site with a saved password. As all the mentioned browsers use strong encryption to store login and password details such facilities are safe provided your device is protected by secure password or biometric login.

Additional safety is provided when using 2 SV (two-step verification also called two factor authentication or 2FA). To ensure your stored password list is secure you should use a password for the list (usually on by default).

Many apps require a password to login and these can also be stored by your device and filled in by entering your PIN or (better) using biometric access (such as face id or fingerprint).

Notwithstanding password storage provided by your browser or device(s), you may wish to keep them all in one place for reference - this can be achieved by installing a Password Manager app (most of which will synchronise your data across multiple devices).

Basic password manager apps are available free (search 'free password managers'); those with more advanced features are available for a one-off purchase or an annual fee. Advanced features include password generation and auto completion of login for web sites. The market is competitive ensuring that all products deliver the promised features; your choice will best be determined by pricing and look-and-feel.

Your password manager is the key to all your on-line activity so must itself be protected with a very strong password!

For more Police advice on on Passwords tap here; on 2SV tap here.

