

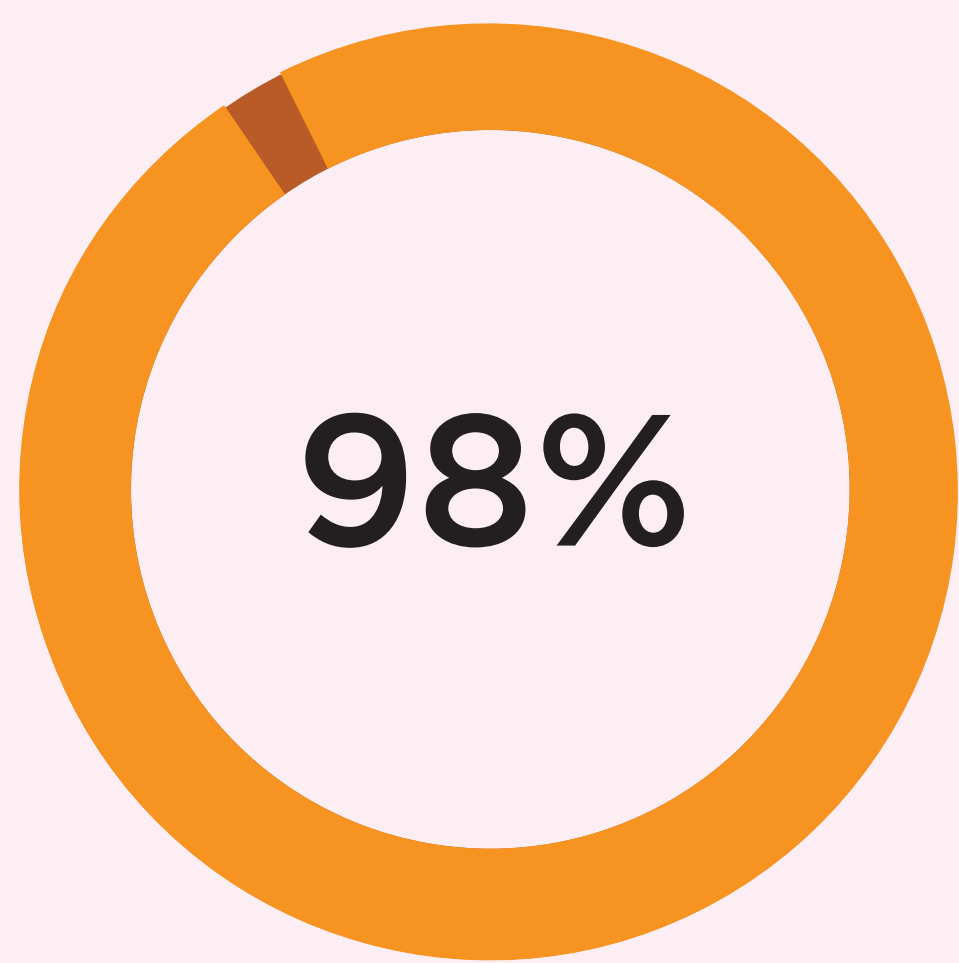
Password Security

A strong password is critical for keeping your private information secure, whereas a weak password invites criminals to steal your data. Below, we've listed some of the best and worst password practices.

Don't

Use predictable passphrases, like 123456

Commonly used words and numbers are more easily cracked. Instead, combine random uppercase and lowercase letters, numbers, and symbols.

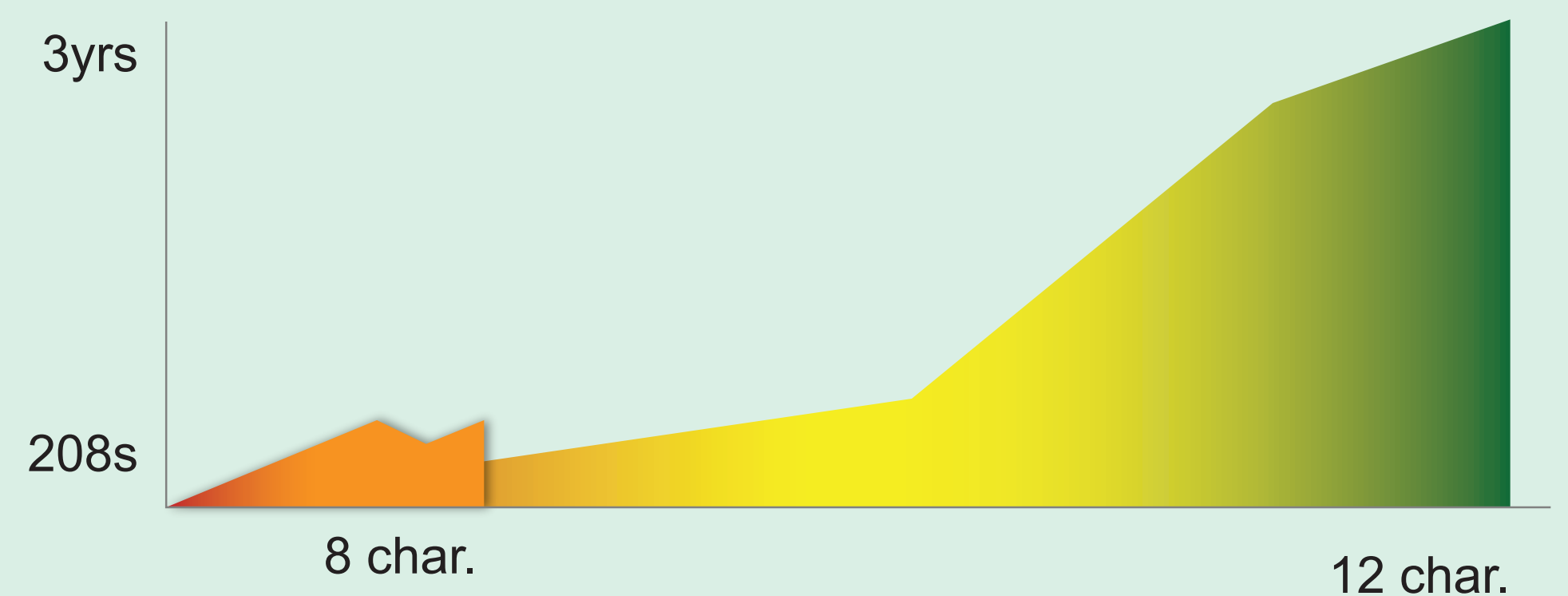


98% of accounts using 1 of the 10,000 most common passwords.

Do

Lengthen your password

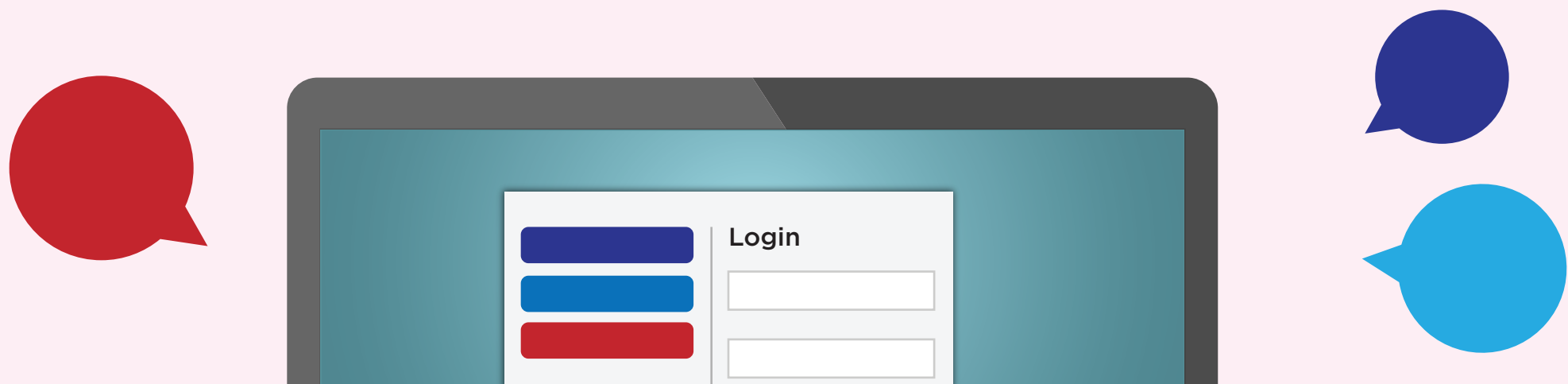
Every character you add to your password makes it exponentially more difficult to crack.¹



Don't

Use a social login

Social engineers can identify your common passwords based on information shared on your profile. With access to your social profile, they have access to everything.



Do

Use a unique password for each account

Otherwise, every account using the same password is vulnerable if one is breached.

Average User's Number of Accounts



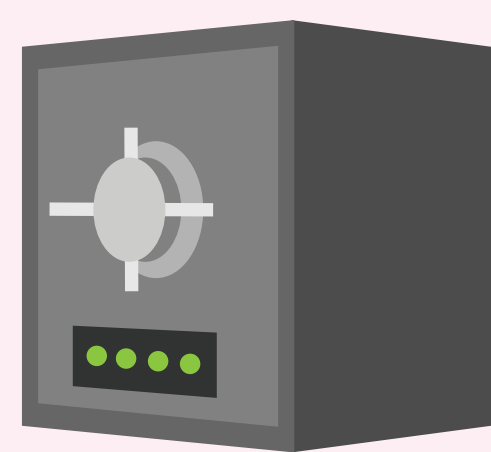
Average User's Number of Passwords



Don't

"Remember" your password in a web browser

If you do, anyone with remote or physical access to your computer can use your passwords. Instead, use a secure password management app to keep track of your passwords.



Do

Change your password periodically

It can take months to learn about a data breach, so stay ahead of the news. It can take up to 205 days before the average data breach is detected.



Remember:

Never give out your password when it is solicited via email. It's probably a phishing scam. If you believe you've been targeted by a spear phisher, play it safe and report it immediately.

<http://finance.yahoo.com/blogs/the-exchange/password-isn-t-safe-90-vulnerable-hacking-213820350.html>, <http://www.businessinsider.com/90-percent-of-passwords-vulnerable-to-hacking-2013-1>, <http://www.techradar.com/us/news/internet/online-fraud-too-many-accounts-too-few-passwords-1089283>, <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2014/04/14/more-online-americans-say-theyve-experienced-a-personal-data-breach/>, <https://www2.fireeye.com/rs/fireeye/images/rpt-m-trends-2015.pdf>