

EXIT TICKET

How Passwords Get Cracked

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Today you learned how passwords get cracked and what makes one hard to crack. Read the situation, then answer the questions.

Situation

Attackers steal the password file from a gaming site. The site stored salted hashes. Monica's password was Tigers2026!, and Rhett's was a passphrase of six random words.

1. A sign-up page says your password must include a capital letter, a number and a symbol. What do NIST's current rules say about a requirement like that?

- (A) Sites shouldn't require it, because people meet it in predictable ways.
- (B) Sites must require it, or the password is too weak to use.
- (C) Sites should require it only for passwords under 15 characters.

2. Lydia's music app is breached, and the attacker steals a file of salted hashes. What does the attacker have to do to learn her password?

- (A) Read it straight from the file, because the file holds passwords.
- (B) Guess it, by hashing guesses until one matches her hash.
- (C) Ask the app to turn her hash back into the password.

3. Whose password is the attacker more likely to crack, and why? Write 2 sentences.