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**Celebrating over
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YEARS
of Service and
Satisfied
Customers!**



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Fred Holzager,
IT Director
Holzsager Technology Services
and
Publisher of
The Tech Insider

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Snapple Real Fact #705

"Every ton of recycled paper saves about 17 trees."

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The Tech Insider



Password spraying is a complex type of cyber attack that uses weak passwords to get into multiple user accounts without permission. Using the same password or a list of passwords that are often used on multiple accounts is what this method is all about. The goal is to get around common security measures like account lockouts.

Attacks that use a lot of passwords are very successful because they target the weakest link in cybersecurity: **people and how they manage their passwords.**

What Is Password Spraying and How Does It Work?

A brute-force attack called "password spraying" tries to get into multiple accounts with the same

password. Attackers can avoid account shutdown policies with this method.

Attackers often get lists of usernames from public directories or data leaks that have already happened. They then use the same passwords to try to log in to all of these accounts. Usually, the process is automated so that it can quickly try all possible pairs of username and password.

Password spraying has become popular among hackers, even those working for the government, in recent years. Because it is so easy to do and works so well to get around security measures, it is a major threat to both personal and business data security. As cybersecurity improves, it will

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www.tech4now.com/we-love-referrals, contact us by phone at 201-797-5050**



Quotations

"You learn a lot about someone when you share a meal together."

—Anthony Bourdain

"Just got back from a pleasure trip: I took my mother-in-law to the airport."

—Henny Youngman

"Time is more value than money. You can get more money, but you cannot get more time."

—Jim Rohn

"The battleline between good and evil runs through the heart of every man."

—Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn

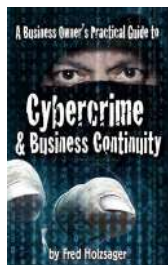
"Man is the only kind of varmint sets his own trap, baits it, then steps in it."

—John Steinbeck

"Our government...teaches the whole people by its example. If the government becomes the lawbreaker, it breeds contempt for law; it invites every man to become a law unto himself; it invites anarchy."

—Louis D. Brandeis

Read Fred's Book!



If you would like to have us speak to your organization and give away some free copies to attendees, give us a call. For more details on the contents and how to get your own copy, please visit our special web page at www.tech4now.com/cybercrime

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Password Spraying

(Continued from page 1)

become more important to understand and stop password spraying threats.

How Does Password Spraying Differ from Other Cyberattacks?

Password spraying is distinct from other brute-force attacks in its approach and execution.

While traditional brute-force attacks focus on trying multiple passwords against a single account, password spraying uses a single password across multiple accounts.

Understanding Brute-Force Attacks

Brute-force attacks involve systematically trying all possible combinations of passwords to gain access to an account. These attacks are often resource-intensive and can be easily detected due to the high volume of login attempts on a single account.

Comparing Credential Stuffing

Credential stuffing involves using lists of stolen username and password combinations to attempt logins.

How Can Organizations Detect and Prevent Password Spraying Attacks?

Detecting password spraying attacks requires a proactive approach to monitoring and analysis. Organizations must implement robust security measures to identify suspicious activities early on.

• Implementing Strong Password Policies:

Organizations should adopt guidelines that

Password spraying uses a single password across multiple accounts [used by a single entity].

ensure passwords are complex, lengthy, and regularly updated.

• **Deploying Multi-Factor Authentication.** Multi-factor authentication (MFA) significantly reduces the risk of unauthorized access by requiring additional verification steps beyond just a password.

• Conducting Regular Security Audits.

Regular audits of authentication logs and security posture assessments can help identify vulnerabilities that could facilitate password spraying attacks.

• **Enhancing Login Detection.** Organizations should set up • detection systems for login attempts to multiple accounts from a single host over a short period. Implementing stronger lock-out policies that balance security with usability is also crucial.

• **Educating Users.** Users should be informed about the risks of weak passwords and the importance of MFA.

• **Incident Response Planning.** This plan should include procedures for alerting users, changing passwords, and conducting thorough security audits.

Taking Action Against Password Spraying

To enhance your organization's cybersecurity and protect against password spraying attacks, contact us today to learn how we can assist you in securing your systems against evolving cyber threats.

QUICK SECURITY TIPS: If you repeatedly use the same or similar passwords for multiple accounts, you may fall prey to a Password Spraying attack. **Play it safe! Use UNIQUE passwords for ALL of your Accounts. If it's too hard to employ, get a password manager.**

"I DIDN'T KNOW"

Unfortunately, That Excuse Doesn't Replenish Your Bank Account, Resolve A Data



Breach Or Erase Any Fines And Lawsuits.

It's coming ...

- That day a hacker steals critical data, rendering your office useless
- That day when your bank account or credit card is compromised
- Or that day when your customers' private lives are uprooted

Cybercriminals and hackers are constantly inventing NEW ways to infiltrate your company, steal your assets and disrupt your life. The ONLY way to STOP THEM is this:

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More Cringeworthy and Ponderances from Dad

How many times have you heard a quick one or two liner that made you cringe or ponder? How about some more? *Many memes are from friends Andy T. and Joel S.*

- ☺ No, I can't do Snapchat or Tiktok, but I can write in cursive, do math without a calculator and tell time on a clock with hands.
- ☺ I got myself a senior's GPS. Not only does it tell me how to get to my destination, it tells me why I wanted to go there.
- ☺ My wife is blaming me for ruining her birthday. That's ridiculous, I didn't even know it was her birthday!
- ☺ People who ask me what I'm doing tomorrow probably assume that I know what day of the week it is.
- ☺ What do you call 10 bunnies walking backwards?
—A receding hare line.
- ☺ Did you know muffins spelled backwards is what you do when you take them out of the oven?

☺ A woman fainted at the airport and fell onto the baggage carousel —It's OK, she's slowly coming around.

- ☺ I wonder what normal people think about.
- ☺ Want to get noticed? Go jogging without moving your arms.
- ☺ Have you ever noticed people won't take the time to look up important information, but they will spend 15 minutes taking a quiz to find out what kind of potato they are.
- ☺ I'm not a hoarder, I'm a 'this might be used later' Specialist.
- ☺ Do regular dogs see police dogs and think, "Oh no, it's a cop!"
- ☺ It's been a pretty weird day today... First off, I found a hat full of money. Then, I got chased by an angry man with a guitar.
- ☺ Just caught myself rinsing a ZipLock plastic bag to reuse it later because it wasn't that dirty. It's happened. I've turned into my parents!

☺ Sometimes, I like my steak undercooked... But that's rare.

- ☺ A good way to prepare yourself for parenthood is to talk to rocks because they have similar listening habits.
- ☺ Remember, no matter how good the hand soap smells, never walk out of a bathroom sniffing your fingers.
- ☺ Just before sweet potatoes are mashed, they become very quiet. This is known as "The Silence of the Yams."
- ☺ My car has all the bells and whistles including a button labeled REAR WIPER. I've always been too afraid to push it!
- ☺ I'm at the age now where picking up a hottie at the Club means buying a rotisserie chicken at Costco.
- ☺ Don't worry about your smartphone and TV spying on you. Your vacuum cleaner has been gathering dirt on you for years!

Quick Productivity Tips


How Can I personalize my Windows 11 screen?

Most of my readers have upgraded their computers to Windows 11 in anticipation of Windows 10 going End-of-Life on October 14, 2025. This is a concern for any user subject to regulatory controls for their industry.

Now that I'm off of Windows 10, **what can I do to have my machine emulate Windows 10?**

Personalize your Taskbar

The first change you'll want to move is the **START** icon to the left side of the Taskbar. There are two ways to get to Settings > Personalization.

- Click on the  icon + I (opens Settings), then select Personalization in the left column.
- Right mouse click on the desktop, select "Personalize" from the pop-up menu.

In Personalize, select Taskbar > Taskbar behaviors. In the Taskbar alignment, click the dropdown menu and select "Left." Now, your Start button will appear on the left side as desired. To restore to center, simply follow these same steps and change the dropdown back to "Center."

NOTE: Most of the other items below the alignment options are safe to leave as the default. They are safe to change and revert should wish wish to test them.

Other System Tray Icons appear above the Taskbar behaviors. Click on the v [down arrow] to reveal your additional options. These icons will appear to the left of the Clock in the lower right corner of your screen [System Tray]. You may select a limited group of icons, just keep in mind that what you show will limit the display of your active applications on the left side of your taskbar. Remember, this is valuable space and should be used sparingly.

For example, if you use three (3) icons and there are more to show, you can expect to see an up arrow (^) with the "hidden" icons revealed when you click on the arrow.

Hidden Power Buttons

NOTE: It is best to read this column while at your computer for a better understanding of the content presented. *Enjoy!*

Personalization > Start

The Start Menu displays a full screen with all of your pinned and recently used apps on top and your recently used files & folders on the bottom.

At the top of the Start Menu is the Search bubble where you may enter a file name or an application you are searching for on the computer. You may adjust the display on the Start Screen by visiting the Settings: Personalization > Start. Choices will include the **Layout** and how you want your pins and recommendations to appear. Above is DEFAULT.

At the very bottom of the Start Screen is the Folder Power Buttons. You may select the buttons you wish by visiting the **Folders** section on this same page.

You can select from the following icons for that space:

- Power (always ON)
- Settings
- File Explorer
- Documents
- Downloads
- Music
- Pictures
- Videos
- Network
- Personal Folder

To toggle any of the Power Buttons, simply slide the toggle from Left (Off) to Right (On). It's that easy!!



We hope this has given you enough to start with. As your curiosity grows, so will your ability. If you have any questions, feel free to contact us for more information. Enjoy **Windows 11!**



Find Out
with a Complimentary
Dark Web Scan

Did you know...?

- Cyber-attacks have continued to grow in cost, size, and impact—causing 60% of SMBs to go out of business within 6 months of a cyber incident.
- Over 80% of data breaches leverage stolen passwords as the principal attack vector—often acquired on the *Dark Web*.
- Far too often, companies that have had their credentials compromised and sold on the Dark Web don't know it until they have been informed by law enforcement—but then, it's too late.
- To help keep your critical business assets safe from the compromises that lead to breach and theft, we are offering a complimentary, one-time scan with **Dark Web ID™ Credential Monitoring**.

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- ✓ Voice over IP phone systems

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"Fred Holzager has been an invaluable asset to our company. His extensive knowledge and expertise in solving a wide range of technical issues have saved us on numerous occasions. Whether it's a minor glitch, complex computer problem, or installing completely new computers for our office, Fred always has the solution, and he's incredibly responsive. His dedication to ensuring our systems run smoothly is truly appreciated, and we feel secure knowing that Fred is just a call away. We couldn't ask for a more reliable and skilled IT professional!"—David Kessler, Kessler Properties, Clifton, NJ

June 2025

The Lighter Side...

A Twisted Standard

So, let me get this straight. I go to the grocery store and buy:

A pound of sliced roast beef in a plastic bag, a loaf of bread in a plastic bag, a gallon of apple cider in a plastic jug, a pack of paper napkins in a plastic wrap, a store made coleslaw in a plastic tub, and a plastic bottle of ketchup, but they won't give me a plastic bag to carry it all home because the plastic bag is bad for the environment?!

NOTE: Please use reusable shopping bags, Plastics really ARE a problem

The Cowboy from the Saloon

A cowboy rode into town and stopped at a saloon for a drink.

Unfortunately, the locals always had a habit of picking on strangers, which he was.

When he finished his drink, he found his horse had been stolen. He went back into the bar, handily flipped his gun into the air, caught it above his head without even looking, and pointed it at the ceiling.

"Which one of you sidewinders stole my horse?!" he yelled with surprising forcefulness.

No one answered.

"Alright, I'm gonna have another beer, and if my horse ain't back outside by the time I finish, I'm gonna do what I dun in Texas! And I don't like to have to do what I dun in Texas!"

Some of the locals shifted restlessly. The man, true to his word, had another beer, walked outside, and his horse had been returned to the post. He saddled up and started to ride out of town.

The bartender wandered out of the bar and asked, "Hey there partner, before you go... what happened in Texas?"

The cowboy turned and said, "I had to walk home."

Quotes from Actual Performance Evaluations

- ⊗ Since my last report, this employee has reached rock bottom and shows signs of starting to dig.
- ⊗ His men would follow him anywhere, but only out of morbid curiosity.
- ⊗ I would not allow this employee to breed.
- ⊗ This associate is really not so much of a has-been, but more of a definitely won't be.
- ⊗ He would be out of his depth in a parking lot puddle.
- ⊗ This young lady has delusions of adequacy.
- ⊗ This employee should go far—and the sooner, the better.
- ⊗ This employee is depriving a village somewhere of an idiot.
- ⊗ He sets low personal standards and then consistently fails to achieve them.

In the Pet Store

A cute little girl walks into a pet store and asks in the sweetest little lisp, "Excuse me, mitther, do you keep widdle wabbits?"

As the shopkeeper's heart melts, he gets down on his knees, so that he's on her level, and asks, "Do you want a widdle white wabby or a thoft and fuwwy bwack wabby or maybe one like that cute widdle bwown wabby over there?"

She, in turn blushes, rocks on her heels, puts her hands on her knees, leans forward and says in a quiet voice, "I don't fink my pet python weally gives a thit."

At the Home Depot

A man walked into a hardware shop and picked up a can of fly spray.

"Is this good for hornets?" he asked the assistant.

"Not really," he replied, "it kills them."