

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [Securing your HF Account for Noobs](#)

Power8 - May 6, 2016, 2:52 pm

PROTECTING
YOUR ACCOUNT
If you have any questions please feel free to PM me!
<https://hackforums.net/private.php?action=send&uid=2849820>

Table of ContentsFAQ
Securing Email
Summary

FAQ

*Please note Gauth is Required to be used at ALL TIMES on Hackforums, Stolen accounts can result in the closure of your Hackforums account, Read more here
<https://hackforums.net/misc.php?action=help&hid=17>

Q. What is Gauth?

A. Gauth is a security Application that requires you to enter a randomly generated code to access your account on Hackforums and Various other websites, This helps provide security by protecting any unauthorized access to your account at any and all times.

Q. How do I enable Gauth?

A. Please go here to enable Gauth <https://hackforums.net/gauth.php> (Edit: You will need to be upgraded in order to use Gauth - Read Here <https://hackforums.net/upgrade.php>)

Don't have a phone? That's Fine! Read Here!: <https://hackforums.net/showthread.php?tid=5259529>
(Credits: [dopepizza](#))

Q. I enabled Gauth on my HF account, What now?

A. Congratulations! You're account is now secured, but you are not finished!

Securing your Email

Securing your email is very important, As much as 974,977,798 databases are leaked that could possibly contain YOUR information.

Check to see if you information is leaked here:

<https://haveibeenpwned.com/> (Courtesy from [Gilli](#))
<http://www.leakedsource.com>

You will need to secure your account, To do so you can do the following:

1. Change your HF Email

You can create a brand-new email that will give you a fresh start. You can secure your email by making a very complex password. Recommended You should not use this email to sign up anywhere else, This should be used primarily for Hackforums.net , Do NOT share your information with ANYONE. You're account WILL be at risk.

2. Create a Complex Password for your HF Account

Creating your HF password is very important, Make sure you are making it very secure and that it is not used for any other website you signed up with. Even though Gauth is enabled on your account, This is still very important to make sure it is secured, To create your own complex password, Make sure you use various letters and numbers, Do not use your real information in your password such as your real name.

Example of a Complex Password

"7RYA92ai2912FKL9120B132"

This is a very complex password that could be used

Example of a vulnerable password

"Rudolf1234"

(May 6, 2016 03:17 PM)Retribute Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Most people tend to forget (or simply do not know) that priority should be given to length over complexity over the password.

Let us say that we have two passwords: C0mpl3x!

ThisIsMyPasswrđ

The latter would be harder to crack.

But of course, long and complex passwords are the best.

3. Creating Dump Emails

Dump Emails should be used when signing up to other websites, You should only use Dump-Emails when you are unsure if the website is safe or not, It's your judgment call. I recommend creating multiple dump emails to make sure that if your information is leaked, it will not be a serious problem as it does not contain any information used for your HackForums account.

4. Protection from Key-Logging

Key-Logging is a very dangerous security breach that is used to send information to the attacker, Whenever you type in sensitive information, It will log anything you wrote and will be sent to the attacker. This is a very common problem. One way to prevent this from happening is to scan your files BEFORE you Download/Install them.

File Scanning website:

<https://www.virustotal.com/>

Summary

Protecting your account is very important, This will help ensure your information on hackforums is safe, and that your information online will be secured.

You are still vulnerable online, There is no way around that, however, If you take the proper protocol to protect your privacy and keeping all information to yourself, you are very likely to be safe.

Stolen accounts always have a risk of being closed due to your own fault of not securing your information.

* As noted above, Please take the time to read the possible outcome if your account is compromised here : <https://hackforums.net/misc.php?action=help&hid=17>

Skirtt - May 6, 2016, 2:53 pm

Lool Omni is going to love this, nice work bro.

Vexane - May 6, 2016, 2:56 pm

I really can't believe this isn't common sense. None the less, great writeup and I'm sure it'll help those who can barely spell their last names.

Power8 - May 6, 2016, 2:58 pm

(May 6, 2016 02:56 PM)Visconti Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I really can't believe this isn't common sense. None the less, great writeup and I'm sure it'll help those who can barely spell their last names.

I was honestly one of those people before I joined HF Imao, My password was literally my Favorite football team with literally a couple of numbers in front of it.

Thank you though, I really put some work into this and I'll definitely be updating as-well.

Gilbo - May 6, 2016, 2:58 pm

(May 6, 2016 02:56 PM)Visconti Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I really can't believe this isn't common sense. None the less, great writeup and I'm sure it'll help those who can barely spell their last names.

This. It's pretty much common sense, but sadly nobody really enables Gauth to secure themselves.

Nice work writing this! =)

?Anna - May 6, 2016, 2:59 pm

Just a quick question, is Gauth a feature only available after upgrading your account?

Gilbo - May 6, 2016, 3:00 pm

(May 6, 2016 02:59 PM)killerdon Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Just a quick question, is Gauth a feature only available after upgrading your account?

Yes, It's a feature you get by upgrading! =)

?Anna - May 6, 2016, 3:00 pm

(May 6, 2016 03:00 PM)Gilli Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Yes, It's a feature you get by upgrading! =)

Oh right, thanks for the quick reply :)

Frukt - May 6, 2016, 3:01 pm

The thing is I don't even have a working phone and I'm not upgraded. Poor me.

Good job with the tutorial!

Power8 - May 6, 2016, 3:02 pm

(May 6, 2016 03:00 PM)killerdon Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Oh right, thanks for the quick reply :)
Was about to confirm this for you, I've edited that into the FAQ.

Pillows - May 6, 2016, 3:02 pm

(May 6, 2016 02:52 PM)Wuss Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) As much as 974,977,798 databases are leaked that could possibly contain YOUR information.
There is no way that 900 million databases exist in the web none the less hacked ones.

Quote:There are currently 974,977,798 records in our database.
Probably more than that in real life.

Power8 - May 6, 2016, 3:04 pm

(May 6, 2016 03:01 PM)KruktFPS Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) The thing is I don't even have a working phone and I'm not upgraded. Poor me.

Good job with the tutorial!
Check here!

<https://hackforums.net/showthread.php?tid=5259529>

Credit Obviously goes to [Dopepizza](#)

HFTetramorph - May 6, 2016, 3:05 pm

(May 6, 2016 03:02 PM)Pillows Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) There is no way that 900 million databases exist in the web none the less hacked ones.

Actually that may not be true, if you think about an average using creating several databases each for their own individual projects. Then all it takes is for the shared hosting server to be attacked and the attacker to dump all the customer's databases, and their records. Over time these add up, and generally I could believe it is much more than 900 million databases, most without any useful information at all.

Frukt - May 6, 2016, 3:09 pm

(May 6, 2016 03:04 PM)Wuss Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Check here!
<https://hackforums.net/showthread.php?tid=5259529>

Credit Obviously goes to [Dopepizza](#)

Thanks for the idea, never thought about it!

I can't browse HF on my iPad either then since I need access to my PC to use it.
You may ask why I don't use the iPad then? They take it when summer break comes. ?

Saving up for a phone to the summer.

Good luck! And once again, good tutorial!

Pillows - May 6, 2016, 3:11 pm

(May 6, 2016 03:05 PM)BinaryEvolved Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Actually that may not be true, if you think about an average using creating several databases for each individual project. Then all it takes is for the shared hosting server to be attacked and the attacker to dump all the customer's databases, and their records. Over time these add up, and generally I could believe it is much more than 900 million databases, most without any useful information at all.

If you need several databases for a single project, then there's something wrong there. For an average sized project the most you probably will need is 2. (1 is usually enough...but I'll be lenient

and say 2)

HFTetramorph - May 6, 2016, 3:17 pm

(May 6, 2016 03:11 PM)Pillows Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) If you need several databases for a single project, then there's something wrong there. For an average sized project the most you probably will need is 2. (1 is usually enough...but I'll be lenient and say 2)

My bad, mis-phrased that:

Meant to say "Several databases each for their own project"

I believe the most separate databases I have used for a single project was three.. In which one was for session management, another for standard record and user storage, and another used as a keyring for encryption means.

Retribute - May 6, 2016, 3:17 pm

Most people tend to forget (or simply do not know) that priority should be given to length over complexity over the password.

Let us say that we have two passwords:

C0mpl3x!

ThisIsMyPasswrd

The latter would be harder to crack.

But of course, long and complex passwords are the best.

Crypter_ - May 6, 2016, 3:23 pm

(May 6, 2016 03:17 PM)BinaryEvolved Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) My bad, mis-phrased that:

Meant to say "Several databases each for their own project"

I believe the most separate databases I have used for a single project was three.. In which one was for session management, another for standard record and user storage, and another used as a keyring for encryption means.

This would be why we have something called tables. You use one database and store different types of data in tables... Jesus. Depending on the database software you use you're also probably killing performance by doing this.

Pillows - May 6, 2016, 3:25 pm

(May 6, 2016 03:17 PM)Retribute Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Most people tend to forget (or simply do not know) that priority should be given to length over complexity over the password.

Let us say that we have two passwords:

C0mpl3x!

ThisIsMyPasswrd

The latter would be harder to crack.

But of course, long and complex passwords are the best.

The first one would actually be harder to crack.

Retribute - May 6, 2016, 3:25 pm

(May 6, 2016 03:25 PM)Pillows Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) The first one would actually be harder to crack.No, it wouldn't. It would be very easy to crack that.

Run it through <http://passfault.com/>

Pillows - May 6, 2016, 3:29 pm

(May 6, 2016 03:25 PM)Retribute Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) No, it wouldn't.

Run it through <http://passfault.com/>

<http://www.yetanotherpasswordmeter.com/>

<http://www.passwordmeter.com/>

Say other wise.

But of course every one will give different results.

Crypter_ - May 6, 2016, 3:29 pm

Going back to the actual post. You would need to "hack" every .com domain six times to actually get these many databases (not that you would get unique databases each time).

The number is obviously bogus in that context. The site leakedsource[.]com claims to have that many records, though, which makes much more sense (but is definitely inflated).

Retribute - May 6, 2016, 3:36 pm

(May 6, 2016 03:29 PM)Pillows Wrote: [\[CITE\] http://www.yetanotherpasswordmeter.com/http://www.passwordmeter.com/](#)

Say other wise.

But of course every one will give different results. This is a pretty accurate visual.
[img]http://imgs.xkcd.com/comics/password_strength.png[/img]

I also know Stanford recommends using Pass Phrases over complex passwords because the increased length provides so many possible permutations that a standard password-cracking program will not be effective.

<https://uit.stanford.edu/service/accounts/passwords>

Ciphered - May 6, 2016, 4:34 pm

Looks good, personal security is always key.

HFTetramorph - May 6, 2016, 5:06 pm

(May 6, 2016 03:23 PM)Crypter_ Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) This would be why we have something called tables. You use one database and store different types of data in tables... Jesus. Depending on the database software you use you're also probably killing performance by doing this.

Not at all.. More databases != lower performance. While over time the more and more data/sections for data can start to result in slower performance, adding different databases will not "kill" performance, as if it did then most would stop using MySQL for things like shared hosting.

The problem is you are preaching the idea of a perfect database being a thousand tables each allocated different users? That doesn't even remotely make sense and if separate projects are to be using the same database server, then they should likely have different databases to improve optimization over the different projects.

Why in any world would I want cross site session data to be in some random project's database? If I am going to create something that has more than one use for a specific project then it needs to be its own database, not only for neatness but it can also come down to a security factor as well. Example: My keyring I mentioned earlier does not allow any interaction with the files and is completely self contained. You provide it a UUID and the file, it does the rest and returns the decrypted raw data. The idea is to keep the Keyring on a separate self contained system in the event anything is vulnerable, the key ring is still safe. It makes sense, not only organizationally, but generally the point you are arguing over makes no sense to defend..

However, to continue this discussion I recommend creating a new topic or PMing me, as I do enjoy debating over this kind of thing for fun. Just thought if I were to make a reply, I would make it count :P

(May 6, 2016 03:29 PM)Crypter_ Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Going back to the actual post. You would need to "hack" every .com domain six times to actually get these many databases (not that you would get unique databases each time).

The number is obviously bogus in that context. The site leakedsource[.]com claims to have that many records, though, which makes much more sense (but is definitely inflated).

But not all databases are meant 1:1 per domain, I have a domain using 10 separate databases each for a separate project, If I do it, how many others do as well? Domains are as related to database usage as pizzas are. To have that many databases you need to have 500 million ate pizzas.. While domains and databases are both used in web services, they are not similar nor linked in any way other than DNS.

Crypter_ - May 6, 2016, 5:17 pm

Well, I can PM you about the first bit, but the exact number in the OP is literally cited as records on an external site, not databases. The OP just wrote the wrong units.

NurSpec - May 7, 2016, 7:18 am

Very informative thread, it's a shock that people don't know this stuff already however.

Vitani - May 7, 2016, 1:48 pm

This is a great thread, especially because of recent events regarding the possible leak. Thanks for making this thread man.

Power8 - May 7, 2016, 5:33 pm

Thank you to all who find this thread helpful!

I worked really hard to make it informative.