

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [Secret Identity Member](#)

Xerotic - February 3, 2020, 4:52 pm

Today we introduce a new feature to Hack Forums called Secret Identity Member (SIM).

This is a feature that any member can take advantage of. You simply visit the [change username](#) page and click the checkbox labeled "Switch to a Secret Identity Member". When you do that your username will become SIM-UID where UID is your account User ID (UID). For example, my username would be SIM-175033 as a Secret Identity Member.

All members have the option to change their username to a Secret Identity Member for greater anonymity.

Thank you.

rsx - February 3, 2020, 4:53 pm

Was wondering what this was all about. Probably won't use this but good feature.

Charger - February 3, 2020, 4:53 pm

This seems so pointless.

If I wanted to be SIM-400724 I could just change my username to that ?

Natas - February 3, 2020, 4:54 pm

I all ready miss Xerotic I hope you change your name back

Xerotic - February 3, 2020, 4:55 pm

(Feb 3, 2020 05:53 PM)Charger Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) This seems so pointless.

If I wanted to be SIM-400724 I could just change my username to that ?

Secret Identity Member is an ability that non-upgraded members have as well. However, an upgrade is still required to change to a custom username.

Charger - February 3, 2020, 4:56 pm

(Feb 3, 2020 05:55 PM)SIM-175033 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Secret Identity Member is an ability that non-upgraded members have as well. However, an upgrade is still required to change to a custom username.

So for those that signup with firstNameLastName that ask for a name change can technically get their name fixed? I see now.

BreadMaker - February 3, 2020, 5:02 pm

I like this feature, been wondering if something like this would be brought in only a few weeks back

Yin Yang - February 3, 2020, 5:05 pm

But isn't a username an alias? I'm not seeing the use case here, but I'm all for anonymity.

Nas - February 3, 2020, 5:05 pm

(Feb 3, 2020 06:05 PM)Yin Yang Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) But isn't a username an alias? I'm not seeing the use

case here, but I'm all for anonymity.

Guessing for non-upgraded members who signed up using Discord and etc.

Xerotic - February 3, 2020, 5:06 pm

(Feb 3, 2020 05:56 PM)Charger Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) So for those that signup with firstNameLastName that ask for a name change can technically get their name fixed? I see now.

That's right. An option exists now.

(Feb 3, 2020 06:02 PM)BreadMaker Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I like this feature, been wondering if something like this would be brought in only a few weeks back

Here it is.

(Feb 3, 2020 06:05 PM)Yin Yang Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) But isn't a username an alias? I'm not seeing the use case here, but I'm all for anonymity.

Depends what you are going for. Not everyone has the same purpose online.

Natas - February 3, 2020, 5:06 pm

(Feb 3, 2020 05:55 PM)SIM-175033 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Secret Identity Member is an ability that non-upgraded members have as well. However, an upgrade is still required to change to a custom username.

Ahh I see that is really cool and nice of you guys tbh

Dotexe - February 3, 2020, 5:41 pm

(Feb 3, 2020 06:40 PM)M0HX Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) does our current username be reserved after changing it to SIM so no one can take it?

Yes

Xerotic - February 3, 2020, 5:41 pm

(Feb 3, 2020 06:40 PM)M0HX Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) does our current username be reserved after changing it to SIM so no one can take it?

Yes, in the same way it is saved when changing your username normally.

Prepper - February 3, 2020, 6:00 pm

(Feb 3, 2020 05:55 PM)SIM-175033 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Secret Identity Member is an ability that non-upgraded members have as well. However, an upgrade is still required to change to a custom username.

When I check your trust scan it still shows your previous username, so I don't know how secret it really is if upgraded members at least can see your previous username in trust scan?

Nuworld - February 3, 2020, 6:04 pm

Nice feature, i like it.

However buy using the new SIM and not changing ones avatar (Most older members know our avatars) one would still know who we are.

Correct?.

Example, Even though you have a SIM-175033.

I still know who you are.

Cooligan - February 3, 2020, 6:06 pm

Awesome new feature especially for non-upgraded members, I can definitely see many members finding this useful.

Something I just thought of though and might as well address while on this thread, is maybe change

the "sim" part of it to something else? I know that would call for a new name for it in general and all that, it's just that unfortunately we all know what the first thing is that comes to mind after reading the word "sim" in today's day. It might just give off the wrong impression to those who don't know what it is exactly.

Thoughts on that?

(Feb 3, 2020 06:45 PM)M0HX Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) awesome, if i remember its only few days tho before its available again for anyone to take. I think for this it should be reserved forever so we can switch to our current username at anytime.

Yeah this is a good idea.

Those of us that've had our username for years now definitely would not want to lose it. For this feature it should definitely be a permanent storage of the name.

SIM-3762503 - February 3, 2020, 6:08 pm

(Feb 3, 2020 05:52 PM)SIM-175033 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Today we introduce a new feature to Hack Forums called Secret Identity Member (SIM).

This is a feature that any member can take advantage of. You simply visit the [change username](#) page and click the checkbox labeled "Switch to a Secret Identity Member". When you do that your username will become SIM-UID where UID is your account User ID (UID). For example, my username would be SIM-175033 as a Secret Identity Member.

All members have the option to change their username to a Secret Identity Member for greater anonymity.

Thank you.

This new feature is really cool. I will try it later in the day when I reach home. ?

Dotexe - February 3, 2020, 6:09 pm

(Feb 3, 2020 07:06 PM)Cooligan Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) *snip*
Long Live Cooligan

Cooligan - February 3, 2020, 6:09 pm

(Feb 3, 2020 07:04 PM)Nuworld Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Nice feature, i like it.
However buy using the new SIM and not changing ones avatar (Most older members know our avatars) one would still know who we are.
Correct?.

Example, Even though you have a SIM-175033.
I still know who you are.

This is true. If you were to change it I'd know who you are immediately when seeing your avatar. I'm also honestly very familiar with older users awards as well, like yours, Xero's, iNviZ, Kill Joy, etc., so just by the awards I'd be able to tell who it is too.

However I think this is more geared towards people who don't know the older members like we do. To the blind eye and uninformed eye it definitely looks like a random custom username so there's definitely some benefit to this.

Dotexe - February 3, 2020, 6:10 pm

(Feb 3, 2020 07:09 PM)Cooligan Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) This is true. If you were to change it I'd know who you are immediately when seeing your avatar. I'm also honestly very familiar with older users awards as

well, like yours, Xero's, iNviZ, Kill Joy, etc., so just by the awards I'd be able to tell who it is too.

However I think this is more geared towards people who don't know the older members like we do. To the blind eye and uninformed eye it definitely looks like a random custom username so there's definitely some benefit to this.

Same goes for me, ugh ?

Cooligan - February 3, 2020, 6:11 pm

(Feb 3, 2020 07:10 PM)SIM-2580014 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Same goes for me, ugh ?

Woah is this .exe?!

Wait no it's just Dotexe.

?

Dotexe - February 3, 2020, 6:12 pm

(Feb 3, 2020 07:11 PM)Cooligan Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Woah is this .exe?!

Wait no it's just Dotexe.

?

Sh*t, im doxxed ?

Astrogen - February 3, 2020, 6:15 pm

It would be also nice to be able to hide the awards so we can hide ourselves.

It's also cool to be able to set custom avatar, sig, usertitle, and more, then save it so whenever we want to go secret, we can click one button and everything will change as we have set before.

Nuworld - February 3, 2020, 6:19 pm

(Feb 3, 2020 07:09 PM)Cooligan Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) This is true. If you were to change it I'd know who you are immediately when seeing your avatar. I'm also honestly very familiar with older users awards as well, like yours, Xero's, iNviZ, Kill Joy, etc., so just by the awards I'd be able to tell who it is too.

However I think this is more geared towards people who don't know the older members like we do. To the blind eye and uninformed eye it definitely looks like a random custom username so there's definitely some benefit to this.

Correct, I forgot about our awards.

I too can spot older members by Avatars and awards.

However, Here is a little note: Just did a trust scan on OP.

We can no longer see "Last Username Change" It just says "Today"

This could be very interesting.

Edit: NVM. it still works.

Nuworld - February 3, 2020, 6:36 pm

(Feb 3, 2020 07:25 PM)M0HX Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) But even if it's not implemented that way, I think the main reason for this feature is for those who signed up with a name that reveals their private info and want to change it without having to pay for an upgrade.

As we upgraded members can change our usernames anytime we want I don't think its a problem.

plus username changes on profile disappear after 6 months. so ye.
Correct: We can just to it the old fashion way.

Change Username, Avatar and reorder our awards.
Take a 6 months vacation ban and relax during that time.
Come back after the 6 months and no ones would would know the difference??

High Council - February 3, 2020, 6:38 pm

So for a non-upgraded member like myself , if I were to change my name to my secret identity can I revert it back or change my username ?

Xerotic - February 3, 2020, 6:41 pm

(Feb 3, 2020 07:38 PM)DEM00N Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) So for a non-upgraded member like myself , if I were to change my name to my secret identity can I revert it back or change my username ?

As a non-upgraded member if you choose the "Secret Identity Member" option then you will not be able change your username after that. You will require an upgrade.

Blogger - February 3, 2020, 6:48 pm

For complete anonymity, it should be a blank profile. Remove the avatar, signature, awards, etc. That would be a cool feature, but I see how that could be abused. Conundrum. ./

Charger - February 3, 2020, 6:48 pm

So what keeps me from changing my username to SIM-xxx where XXX is a random user?

Krueger - February 3, 2020, 6:51 pm

[Xerotic](#)

When we login do we use our current username or the SIM one. Does both work ?

I think its cool tbh good work.

Xerotic - February 3, 2020, 6:57 pm

(Feb 3, 2020 07:48 PM)Charger Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) So what keeps me from changing my username to SIM-xxx where XXX is a random user?

Stanley is smart enough to not allow that, I hope.

Xerotic - February 3, 2020, 6:57 pm

(Feb 3, 2020 07:51 PM)SIM-63026 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) [Xerotic](#)

When we login do we use our current username or the SIM one. Does both work ?

I think its cool tbh good work.

The SIM username replaces your new username. You would use the SIM.

Cooligan - February 3, 2020, 6:57 pm

(Feb 3, 2020 07:47 PM)SIM-420 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Great feature you've added, [Xerotic](#)

Keep making HF great.

Not gonna lie you'd have to change your whole profile to not know what your username is lmao.

Anyone could literally just guess by looking at your avatar and motto ?

(Feb 3, 2020 07:51 PM)SIM-63026 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) [Xerotic](#)

When we login do we use our current username or the SIM one. Does both work ?

I think its cool tbh good work.
Had a good feeling you'd like this feature lol. :P

Venture - February 3, 2020, 7:00 pm

I love the new feature; do you have any safety tips for new members, in the case someone abuses this feature?

Krueger - February 3, 2020, 7:02 pm

(Feb 3, 2020 07:57 PM)Cooligan Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Not gonna lie you'd have to change your whole profile to not know what your username is lmao.

Anyone could literally just guess by looking at your avatar and motto ?

Had a good feeling you'd like this feature lol. :P
Yeah lol i guess its useful for non upgraded members haha.

Thanks Xero btw make sense for the login.

NoSuchAgency - February 3, 2020, 7:51 pm

(Feb 3, 2020 07:51 PM)SIM-63026 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) [Xerotic](#)

When we login do we use our current username or the SIM one. Does both work ?

I think its cool tbh good work.
You could also just sign in with your email, that's what most of us who have had special characters in their usernames would do. ?

Krueger - February 3, 2020, 7:55 pm

(Feb 3, 2020 08:51 PM)Nicolas Flamel Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) You could also just sign in with your email, that's what most of us who have had special characters in their usernames would do. ?
Oh yeah you're right lol forgot about this one i rarely logout.

Mr Kewl - February 3, 2020, 8:48 pm

Will this show up on username changes?

If yes, how will it help with privacy of a user who was trying to hide his FirstLastName

Zeus - February 3, 2020, 10:45 pm

Great work xerotic thought you got simmed bro ?

Zero - February 3, 2020, 11:01 pm

(Feb 3, 2020 09:48 PM)Mr Kewl Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Will this show up on username changes?

If yes, how will it help with privacy of a user who was trying to hide his FirstLastName
As of right now, it does show old username if you check trust scan.

Tbh I don't really think people will actually use this. I feel like most upgrade members will never use this feature and non upgrade most likely won't even know this exists.
Anyways it's a smart idea and every extra feature is great to improve the forum!

Thanks

omy11 - February 3, 2020, 11:07 pm

(Feb 3, 2020 07:41 PM)SIM-175033 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) As a non-upgraded member if you choose the "Secret Identity Member" option then you will not be able change your username after that. You will require an upgrade.

I honestly wish i read this before changing it to the Secret Identity Member... and because of this i have a suggestion.

There should be a warning for non-upgraded users that you cannot revert back to your old username without upgrading.

Money- - February 3, 2020, 11:08 pm

(Feb 4, 2020 12:07 AM)SIM-4533593 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I honestly wish i read this before changing it to the Secret Identity Member...

Time to pay HF some BTC.

omy11 - February 3, 2020, 11:09 pm

(Feb 4, 2020 12:08 AM)Money- Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Time to pay HF some BTC.

You are correct and that is in fact what i am going to do. ?

Soaaponarope - February 3, 2020, 11:22 pm

Definitely a super cool feature! Guess I'll switch SIM for abit.

Evanescent - February 3, 2020, 11:40 pm

I want to know if my original username will be retained. Sorry if it is already answered (please add FAQ to OP).

Bossk - February 3, 2020, 11:42 pm

Can't reeally see the point with this one, but doesn't hurt! As someone mention, this can useful to non-upgraded members who sign up with real names.

eXceptional - February 4, 2020, 12:30 am

(Feb 3, 2020 07:57 PM)SIM-175033 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) The SIM username replaces your new username. You would use the SIM.

Keeping both can be limited to V3nd0rs maybe?

My logic:

I need my username and I wouldn't want anyone else to take on. Maybe keep the last username reserved forever if changed to SIM.

If Current Username = SIM-xxx

Then switch username old = disallow (60 days)

EDIT: Would @Xerotic@ work now?

^^ This would be a test edit using @USERNAMEEE@ and not UID.

Vitani - February 4, 2020, 1:49 am

I get the idea by the feature, but I doubt that it's going to be used by a lot of members. It's only really useful for newer members that haven't upgraded yet, and those rarely care enough to change their current username to something that's mostly as anonymous as it is now.

That being said, if the feature was expanded to hide other things or even better, change the username in quoted posts as well, that would really be a useful change. I recon that would be a

huge query for the DB though, which is probably the reason that this doesn't happen by default.

Deany - February 4, 2020, 1:52 am

I wish this was the default on nearly every online platform.

Elitas - February 4, 2020, 3:38 am

Does it increase your username count?

Does this mean someone else can take your old username, or is it reserved? I don't want someone copying my username, but I'd like to temporarily change to something like this. Does it show in username search? As that would defeat the purpose.

vyactor - February 4, 2020, 3:45 am

I don't find this to be a great addition.

People who've been scamming others and is upgraded may use it for their own beneficial purpose to hide their identity. People who've already been here for a bit long and been scammed, they are supposed to be familiar with UID things and should have noted the UID of the scammer while in other hand, newbie who're actually unknown about UID may face several problems and maybe become a victim of another scam.

Edit:

What I prefer is make it available for only those people who've more than X number of Business Rating so that anyone who just joins, upgrades to L33t or either directly after joining goes on scamming spree can be controlled and minimized.

AV1 - February 4, 2020, 3:49 am

I don't see a single use for this.

Unless you make it as an extension to do anonymous posts and hide your name and your profile.

flavoral - February 4, 2020, 6:39 am

Imma snag Xerotic in a week i guess ?

Dotexe - February 4, 2020, 6:41 am

(Feb 4, 2020 07:39 AM)flavoral Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Imma snag Xerotic in a week i guess ?

Oh sweet, flavoral on my profile will be much better

spiral - February 4, 2020, 7:04 am

(Feb 3, 2020 07:06 PM)Cooligan Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Those of us that've had our username for years now definitely would not want to lose it. For this feature it should definitely be a permanent storage of the name.

??maybe even you won't have your name anymore.. fake contests result in closure right?

Kill Joy - February 4, 2020, 7:04 am

I know a few people that would have loved this in the past. Hope people do realize the worth.

Good update.

Zero - February 4, 2020, 7:24 am

(Feb 4, 2020 08:04 AM)spiral Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) ??maybe even you won't have your name anymore.. fake contests result in closure right?

oh boy... rip..

spiral - February 4, 2020, 7:28 am

(Feb 4, 2020 08:24 AM)Zero Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) oh boy... rip..
he just lost his account over about \$30.. sucks but he knew the consequences

Dotexe - February 4, 2020, 7:37 am

(Feb 4, 2020 08:28 AM)spiral Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) he just lost his account over about \$30.. sucks but he knew the consequences
He isn't closed ?

spiral - February 4, 2020, 7:38 am

(Feb 4, 2020 08:37 AM)Dotexe Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) He isn't closed ?
fake contests usually get you closed

Geralt - February 4, 2020, 7:45 am

Great feature for new members

Zero - February 4, 2020, 7:46 am

(Feb 4, 2020 08:37 AM)Dotexe Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) He isn't closed ?
You get banned for 6 months until Omni personally review this

Omniscient - February 4, 2020, 9:15 am

Quote:If I wanted to be SIM-400724 I could just change my username to that
Regular members have no username change option. Now they do. I also wanted to have something more standard sort of like 4Chan's Anonymous.

Quote:So for those that signup with firstNameLastName that ask for a name change can technically get their name fixed? I see now.

That is technically where this concept was born out of.

Quote:But isn't a username an alias

Yes, but apparently people are dumb fucks. It's funny that someone creates a handle like "DooDoo Peanuts" then uses it on 10 sites, then eventually they are known by that handle and feel their personal information is exposed. Dumb dumb dumb imho but I get people asking me all the time to change their handle because it exposes their private information. Actually very frustrating for me personally having to deal with stupid people, hence we now have SIM-UID.

Quote:Something I just thought of though and might as well address while on this thread, is maybe change the "sim" part of it to something else? I know that would call for a new name for it in general and all that, it's just that unfortunately we all know what the first thing is that comes to mind after reading the word "sim" in today's day. It might just give off the wrong impression to those who don't know what it is exactly.

Assume you think of "sim" as a cell phone card chip device. Sim is also commonly a short version of simulation which imho represents the spirit of this feature. But in any case it's actually an acronym for Secret Identity Member.

Quote:It would be also nice to be able to hide the awards so we can hide ourselves.
Hm...I suppose I can consider that.

Quote:I think the main reason for this feature is for those who signed up with a name that reveals their private info and want to change it without having to pay for an upgrade.

Yes, that's the main reason.

Quote:For complete anonymity, it should be a blank profile. Remove the avatar, signature, awards,

etc.

Upgraded members can really make a lot of changes themselves. This feature was more for non-upgraded members who do not have access to Username Change page. But I am open to some awards removal/hide option.

Quote:do you have any safety tips for new members, in the case someone abuses this feature? Abuses this how?

Quote:Will this show up on username changes? If yes, how will it help with privacy of a user who was trying to hide his FirstName

Yes it will. Google doesn't crawl or index the username history page. Username History is also a page which only display last 6 months of changes so eventually the previous username will be hidden.

Quote:Tbh I don't really think people will actually use this. I feel like most upgrade members will never use this feature and non upgrade most likely won't even know this exists.

I get frequent contacts from new members asking where they can change their username. Realize that they don't even get the navigational link to the page since they had no permission. Now they do and it tells them to upgrade or use SIM. Even if something saves me 10 minutes a week of aggravation then eventually the time taken to execute this feature is worth it.

Quote:That being said, if the feature was expanded to hide other things or even better, change the username in quoted posts as well, that would really be a useful change

It takes 4-6 hours to run one query to change one word in the entire posts table. Because of how MyBB does quotes and the size of HF it's technically difficult to execute that. We could read every quote mycode in parsing of a new page then query the database for username history and do a live preg_replace. But that's also resource intensive and then you have to consider what do you do if someone is Vitani now, then changes to SIM, but someone else takes Vitani in 2 years, and there are quoted posts from 5 years ago. Which account do you quote replace? On the technical side, not something plausible as a feature.

Quote:Does it increase your username count?

Yes, it's technically a username change.

[quote=vyactor People who've been scamming others and is upgraded may use it for their own beneficial purpose to hide their identity. [/quote]

I think that's ridiculous if a scammer can take advantage of a username change to scam more. It takes a real moron to not look at a Market Profile before doing a deal. Only thing that should matter is B-Rating and Contract history. If you're doing deals based on username, you're an idiot.

btw, I am also considering just making all closed accounts SIM-UID.

Charger - February 4, 2020, 9:17 am

Wouldn't it be beneficial to have this as an option on the register page?

Like choose a username or default to your UID blah blah can't change again unless you upgrade.

flavoral - February 4, 2020, 9:19 am

(Feb 4, 2020 10:15 AM)Omniscient Wrote: [CITE](#) btw, I am also considering just making all closed accounts SIM-UID.

Wouldn't this might make it bit harder to history search a user to know if they're ban evading/multi? Especially if they were closed for scamming.

On the other hand tho, this could help free-up usernames for people to grab.

SIM-4577611 - February 4, 2020, 10:04 am

This feature is good. I just made the switch.

Zeus - February 4, 2020, 10:28 am

No way is this a wild xerotic, he's been set free ??

Omniscient - February 4, 2020, 10:44 am

Quote:Wouldn't this might make it bit harder to history search a user to know if they're ban evading/multi? Especially if they were closed for scamming.

Not a lot of accounts closed for scamming which return with the same username.

Lrrr - February 4, 2020, 12:03 pm

Not exactly sure how this helps anonymity, but it's a handy feature to allow non-upgraded users the ability to have a 1-time username change.

Cyber Coder - February 4, 2020, 12:14 pm

don't really see how this is anonymous when your uid remains the same and anyone can use internetarchive to check back your old username linked to your uid or just look on your quoted posts but i can see it being useful for new members tho

SIM-4398566 - February 4, 2020, 12:35 pm

I see how this is useful to non-upgraded members, after reading replies. Not any use to anyone who is upgraded really.

Lrrr - February 4, 2020, 2:15 pm

I just think the name is a bit misleading since 4chan is actually anonymous and this is linked to your UID and user name history. The idea is fine and serves a purpose to users who cannot otherwise change their name but the words you used to describe it are a bit misleading.

Mix - February 4, 2020, 5:27 pm

as much as I understand this feature may be useful to many members, I am not the biggest fan. But great to see another new feature!

SoulZeh - February 4, 2020, 5:33 pm

(Feb 4, 2020 01:14 PM)Cyber Coder Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) don't really see how this is anonymous when your uid remains the same and anyone can use internetarchive to check back your old username linked to your uid or just look on your quoted posts but i can see it being useful for new members tho

Not too sure if you read through the posts or whatnot but it's useful a lot more for newer members.

SoulZeh - February 5, 2020, 5:56 am

(Feb 5, 2020 06:33 AM)xadamxk Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) This is what I was thinking when I first saw this.

I just don't understand why people are really saying it's not a good feature, I mean it is an amazing feature for newer members, it's a shame old fags like us it is not so handy but still it's the thought that counts...

Fire - February 6, 2020, 11:47 am

Want to make a real secret identity, then hide the profile picture, hide the awards, hide the post count, essentially make everything non-clickable. Otherwise, I don't see the use case for this.

Who Soup - February 6, 2020, 12:08 pm

I feel like this is an unnecessary cosmetic effect that won't actually add to a user's account security.

Kind of creative though, I'll give you that.

After finally having the time to read through the thread I guess it fits it's intended purpose which is for non upgraded to "change their name"; nothing more nothing less.

They should just be aware that the more that they post the less secure they will get as their UID will eventually get indexed on google where their previous username can easily be found.

Omniscient - February 6, 2020, 12:20 pm

You idiots. This is a free username change for non-upgraded members who complain their username exposes their identity. How difficult is that to comprehend?

If you have username change permissions, then this is a feature you likely would not use. DUH!

Morons.

Vitani - February 6, 2020, 12:41 pm

(Feb 6, 2020 01:20 PM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) You idiots. This is a free username change for non-upgraded members who complain their username exposes their identity. How difficult is that to comprehend?

If you have username change permissions, then this is a feature you likely would not use. DUH!

Morons.

Why the hostility? The OP suggests it's a feature every user can take advantage of, when it most likely won't be used/useful for older/upgraded members.

Like you said, it was made as a feature for newer/unupgraded and probably future members.

Just a simple misunderstanding based on the original post.

SIM-3323508 - February 6, 2020, 1:05 pm

(Feb 6, 2020 01:41 PM)Vitani Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Why the hostility? The OP suggests it's a feature every user can take advantage of, when it most likely won't be used/useful for older/upgraded members.

Like you said, it was made as a feature for newer/unupgraded and probably future members.

Just a simple misunderstanding based on the original post.

He can speak as hostile as he wants, dont let that mentor ub get to your head.

Vitani - February 6, 2020, 1:25 pm

(Feb 6, 2020 02:05 PM)MMLF Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) He can speak as hostile as he wants, dont let that mentor ub get to your head.

Never said he couldn't, so I'm not sure what your point is. I'm not sure what my usergroup has to do with it either.

Don't you think it's better to work towards understanding eachother? The point I'm making is that there wasn't ill intent.

SIM-3323508 - February 6, 2020, 1:28 pm

(Feb 6, 2020 02:25 PM)Vitani Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Never said he couldn't, so I'm not sure what your point is. I'm not sure what my usergroup has to do with it either.

Don't you think it's better to work towards understanding eachother? The point I'm making is that there wasn't ill intent.

If you dont like how the board owner speaks leave Imao my point is why do you think you have any place to say he is speaking hostile or not. Stay in your lane.

uTrip - February 6, 2020, 1:37 pm

(Feb 6, 2020 02:05 PM)MMLF Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) He can speak as hostile as he wants, dont let that mentor ub get to your head.

let me know when you get your head out of omni's ass bro ?

Vitani - February 6, 2020, 1:38 pm

(Feb 6, 2020 02:28 PM)MMLF Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) If you dont like how the board owner speaks leave Imao my point is why do you think you have any place to say he is speaking hostile or not. Stay in your lane.

You're being childish. I've made my point and I'll leave it at that. No need to drag this out any further.

SIM-3323508 - February 6, 2020, 1:38 pm

(Feb 6, 2020 02:37 PM)James 'Ghost' St. Patrick Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) let me know when you get your head out of omni's ass bro ?

Its a permanent resident there, care to join?

Prepper - February 6, 2020, 1:39 pm

(Feb 6, 2020 02:28 PM)MMLF Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) If you dont like how the board owner speaks leave Imao my point is why do you think you have any place to say he is speaking hostile or not. Stay in your lane.

Alright lets cool down.

Vitani is allowed to have an opinion just as every other member on here. While I respect Omniscient and what he and the staff are doing for this site it does not mean every member has to agree with the actions of Omniscient or any other staff member and vice versa.

Misunderstandings and different opinions/disagreements happen, its part of life.

Invisible - February 6, 2020, 2:14 pm

(Feb 6, 2020 02:05 PM)MMLF Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) He can speak as hostile as he wants, dont let that mentor ub get to your head.

You're blind to his point, the mentor ub is irrelevant in this situation.

Who Soup - February 6, 2020, 2:16 pm

After finally having the time to read through the thread replies I guess it fits it's intended purpose which is for non upgraded to "change their name"; nothing more nothing less. Users should just be aware that they increase their chance of people finding their previous username the more that they post as google will eventually index your username and UID together.

It's an innovative update for what was intended. No concept is bulletproof in it's first introduction, and I hope you're able to continue to work with this feature in the future.

Good update. ?

Herbert - February 6, 2020, 6:16 pm

This is a great addition for privacy control

Perspective:

-Finding your old posts in certain search engines linked to your alias.

Lorem Ipsum - February 9, 2020, 9:41 am

(Feb 6, 2020 02:39 PM)Prepper Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Alright lets cool down.

Vitani is allowed to have an opinion just as every other member on here. While I respect Omniscient and what he and the staff are doing for this site it does not mean every member has to agree with the actions of Omniscient or any other staff member and vice versa.

Misunderstandings and different opinions/disagreements happen, its part of life.

Well said my man. I don't have any issues with either Vitani (sponsored my previous contest with 15k Bytes / former Staff which is a sign that Omni would respect / respected him before) nor with MMLF (a great member in my personal opinion, doing a lot for HF including donates) nor Omniscient (no explain needed I think), but we should have the right to disagree or agree with whoever we want, as long as it's no harassment or threat to anybody in person, privacy or in any way at all.

About the feature;

I think this is a great update in perspective for those who worry about their family, work, etc. to 'find out' about their HF usage in the past with a certain (user)name, yet I do agree with the fact that some members could have the wrong intentions with this, but on the other hand, it's their choice and not the features intention to encourage that.

I'm happy with any privacy update that's online, especially with all these non-privacy platforms like most of us use.

lurking - February 9, 2020, 9:59 am

Pretty neat feature I think, especially for those without access to upgrade for free.

Vyrkfrir - February 10, 2020, 2:28 am

Not something I'd see myself using, but definitely very handy for the privacy conscious members.

TCP - February 10, 2020, 2:42 am

Enhanced privacy features are always an improvement

Skyline - February 10, 2020, 2:45 am

Neat feature, cheers for implementing.

Accord - February 10, 2020, 3:15 am

Hi [Xerotic](#), my suggestion about this feature is, when i use this for the first time, i thought ticking the checkbox and hitting the submit button will do, but i receive error saying to choose either use the sim or the username.

Isnt it easy to just by ticking the checkbox then hit submit button? It still cool tho.

kaminelis - February 11, 2020, 12:38 pm

nice key typer aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa

meister - February 12, 2020, 6:46 pm

Pretty cool feature if you ask me

Richie - February 18, 2020, 8:57 pm

How does this stop someone from going stealth mode and scamming, or just doing anything to where their identity cannot be known?

?BADMAN? - February 22, 2020, 2:42 am

Looks like that this action cant be restored.

Goku - February 22, 2020, 4:11 am

(Feb 18, 2020 09:57 PM)Richie Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) How does this stop someone from going stealth mode and scamming, or just doing anything to where their identity cannot be known? This I'm also concerned about. People are gonna be scammed because of such features. Just don't use your first & last name on HF if you don't want to be recognized.

?BADMAN? - February 22, 2020, 4:35 am

(Feb 22, 2020 04:45 AM)Fictional Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) That's cool, but how does it help in anyway? You are convinced into purchasing upgrade to get back the desired username.

passCODE - February 22, 2020, 4:50 am

Oh, this is why there's so many SIM members here, I thought it was someone spamming accounts on the forum.

Honestly, I don't get this, why would anyone use this? What's the difference (anonymity wise) calling yourself some random username or SIM-xxxx ? It's not like we're forced to have our full name as a username.

webdev77 - February 22, 2020, 8:04 am

(Feb 22, 2020 05:11 AM)Goku Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) This I'm also concerned about. People are gonna be scammed because of such features.

Just don't use your first & last name on HF if you don't want to be recognized.

The contract system prevents username changes from mattering what so ever.

Goku - February 22, 2020, 8:28 am

(Feb 22, 2020 09:04 AM)webdev77 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) The contract system prevents username changes from mattering what so ever.

That's good to hear.

We shall see how this is going to pack out.

Personally, I would feel sad if there would be a lot of SIM-!234456 users here. It would feel less like a forum and more like a darkweb chatboard.

I just think that use-case just doesn't fit with why I use HF, that's why I'm disagreeing with this feature.

webdev77 - February 22, 2020, 8:39 am

(Feb 22, 2020 09:28 AM)Goku Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) That's good to hear.

We shall see how this is going to pack out.

Personally, I would feel sad if there would be a lot of SIM-!234456 users here. It would feel less like a forum and more like a darkweb chatboard.

I just think that use-case just doesn't fit with why I use HF, that's why I'm disagreeing with this feature.

Anecdotaly I have seen zero reports regarding SIM usernames. A username shouldn't matter because UIDs are still intact.

SIM-4807019 - December 20, 2020, 5:46 am

lol how to uncheck that option? checkbox is broken now

what is this? i cant even login using my username Dr.cha0s anymore i cant remember all those numbers?? LOL

Xerotic - December 20, 2020, 7:16 am

(Dec 20, 2020 06:46 AM)SIM-4807019 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) lol how to uncheck that option? checkbox is broken now

what is this? i cant even login using my username Dr.cha0s anymore i cant remember all those numbers?? LOL

Upgrade to L33t to change your username to something other than a SIM name.

SIM-4807019 - December 20, 2020, 7:37 am

(Dec 20, 2020 08:16 AM)Xerotic Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Upgrade to L33t to change your username to something other than a SIM name.It didnt say anywhere that i was not able to revert it back without paying! i will never upgrade to l33t! scam!

spiral - December 20, 2020, 8:04 am

(Dec 20, 2020 08:37 AM)SIM-4807019 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) It didnt say anywhere that i was not able to revert it back without paying! i will never upgrade to l33t! scam!

<https://hackforums.net/showthread.php?tid=6046495&pid=59391595#pid59391595>

Literally the fifth post on this thread.

SIM-4807019 - December 20, 2020, 8:08 am

(Dec 20, 2020 09:04 AM)spiral Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#)

<https://hackforums.net/showthread.php?tid=6046495&pid=59391595#pid59391595>

Literally the fifth post on this thread.

LOL not in first post or not even in correct page

<https://hackforums.net/usercp.php?action=changenname>