

Cyber Security Series

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Password Managers

I know that I have a significant number of passwords that I must track and change periodically. There are a few good housekeeping habits that we can consider in handling the daunting task if we want to protect our digital identity.

Password Managers was a key suggestion from a recent book I read by Sean M. Bailey and Devin Krupp titled *Hack-Proof Your Life Now!*

Password managers allow you to remember and change one password and keep the rest available. You can keep all your passwords either in an encrypted file on your computer or in the cloud or both. It can assist in helping you to manage all the passwords and login's needed. Once it is set up, you only need to know one. This has a cost associated with it, possibly under \$30 per year, but you can sync your manager to your tablet, phone and computers.

Are they safe? Well, how safe is safe. They do encrypt all your passwords, so even internally they cannot gain access. Since each password is encrypted separately, hackers would have to unwind each one separately. There are much easier fish to fry. If you use the two step verification process for the financial transactions, you still should be safe even if they get the password. Never a guarantee, but better than a series of stickie's on your computer screen.

Key Change: Consider using a password manager. (To read previous suggested Key Changes, refer to prior editions of our Cyber Security Series at <http://www.edu4retirement.com/p/newsletters.>)

A couple of password managers to consider. This is not an endorsement, just a place to get started. You can do a search on the internet to determine others that may be available.

Dashlane has a free and for-payment version. The for-payment version has a back-up in the cloud and not just on your device. This makes it handy for multiple devices.

LastPass has the same free and for-payment versions. LastPass differs in that it only stores in the cloud and can be used by family members.

1Password has two versions, one for single use and one for families. The family plan can have 5 users. This also has a two-step process and autofill and password generator.

iCloudKeychain is Apple's version of a password manager and can be used by most Apple product users. You need to make sure you have current devices with updated software. Not all system can use this yet but they are expanding.

KeyPass is a more open but do-it-yourself program that takes more effort and is more suited for the more technical computer user.

Take a look at a password manager if you are maintaining a plethora of passcodes and identification codes. It may help you in managing the daunting task!

Throughout our income earning years, we take the necessary steps so that we may retire comfortably, both financially and emotionally. We all do our best to keep our finances and information secure, but a small mistake or absent minded click can put us into Cyber Chasm that could take years to fix and be very expensive, draining you of all your efforts. We are providing this series of our Client and Advisor Newsletters to alert you about some actions you should take to protect your own personal data so that what you worked so hard for can be protected.

Our comprehensive program at Edu4Retirement, Inc. is designed to teach people about retirement and the various issues that confront each person as they make their solo journey into retirement. To obtain copies of other series, visit our website at <http://www.edu4retirement.com/p/newsletters>.

We are forever learning as we go through this process, since family dynamics, personal desires and amounts involved can be infinitely different. However, the patterns we see in personal behavior and decisions of our clients make our experience very helpful to most.

We hope you enjoy the personal journey as we cover each of these issues. Please rely upon us to help deliver the decisions that fit your desires and ultimately helping you to feel **empowered** about your retirement. Michael Callahan and Steve Tillona are available for any questions that may arise as you make this journey. You may contact us at:

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