



Password Tips

Student Handout

Name(s)
Class
Date

Directions

Read the tips below on how to make and use strong passwords. Then read stories about Jessie and Krystal and answer questions about their passwords. Use the tips to make new passwords for Jesse and Krystal.

DO'S

- **DO** share your password only with you parents.
- **DO** create passwords with at least eight characters.
- **DO** use combinations of letters, numbers, and symbols, which are harder to crack than just words.
- **DO** change your password regularly – at least every six months.

DON'T'S

- **DON'T** give a password to anyone else – not even your friends.
- **DON'T** use passwords that are easy for people you know to guess, like your nickname or your pet's name.
- **DON'T** use any private identity information in your password.
- **DON'T** use a word in the dictionary as a password.

Use Common Sense!

Know the kinds of private identity information:

- Full (first and last) name
- Email address
- Passwords
- Credit card numbers
- Mother's maiden name
- Postal address
- Phone numbers
- Calling card numbers
- Social Security number



Password Tips

Student Handout

Smart Passwords?

Directions: Read the following stories and answer the questions.

Jesse lives in Lawrence, Kansas – the home of the University of Kansas. He has a pet rat named “Phil” and is a big fan of the Kansas Jayhawks men’s basketball team. Jesse chose “jayhawks” as his password. Did he make a safe choice? Why or why not?

Krystal lives in Miami, Florida. Her birthday is August 4, and she swims on a team. Her password is “krswim84.” How did Krystal choose her password? Was it a safe choice? Why or why not?

You Try It!

Directions: Using the tips above, make new passwords for Jesse and Krystal. Explain how Jesse and Krystal can remember their passwords.

Jesse _____

Krystal _____