Password managers: Overview

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This article reviews what a Password Manager is and how to use one.

See also:
- Two-Factor: Getting Started with Duo

What is a password manager?

A service or feature that stores and autofills your credentials.

LITS highly recommends using a dedicated password manager service, rather than one built-in to a browser.

Why? How are they different?

Common Features

- **Securely store** usernames, passwords, and other information
- **Automatically store** newly created accounts
- Securely **autofill credentials** when logging in
Generate unique, complex, secure passwords

How do I use a password manager?

The following is a generalization and may not apply to all managers. The following screenshots were taken from LastPass.

- Passwords are stored in a centralized Vault
  
  ![LastPass screenshot](image)
  
  The Vault is accessed via desktop...
The Vault is unlocked with a master password
Logging into a new website prompts the manager to automatically store the credentials. Stored credentials will autofill when you login into that site.

Popular options

- LastPass
- 1Password
See how they compare

Questions?

If you have any additional questions or problems, don't hesitate to reach out to the Help Desk!

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