

# Passwords: From Simple to Super

**Purpose:** Understand the difference between strong and weak passwords.

Can you tell the difference between a strong password and a weak password? First, color and cut out the signs on the next page that say **WEAK** and **STRONG**. Now, get your signs ready! Raise your **WEAK** sign when your teacher shares a password that you think is weak. Raise your **STRONG** sign when your teacher shares a password that you think is strong.

Take a look at the tips below for clues!

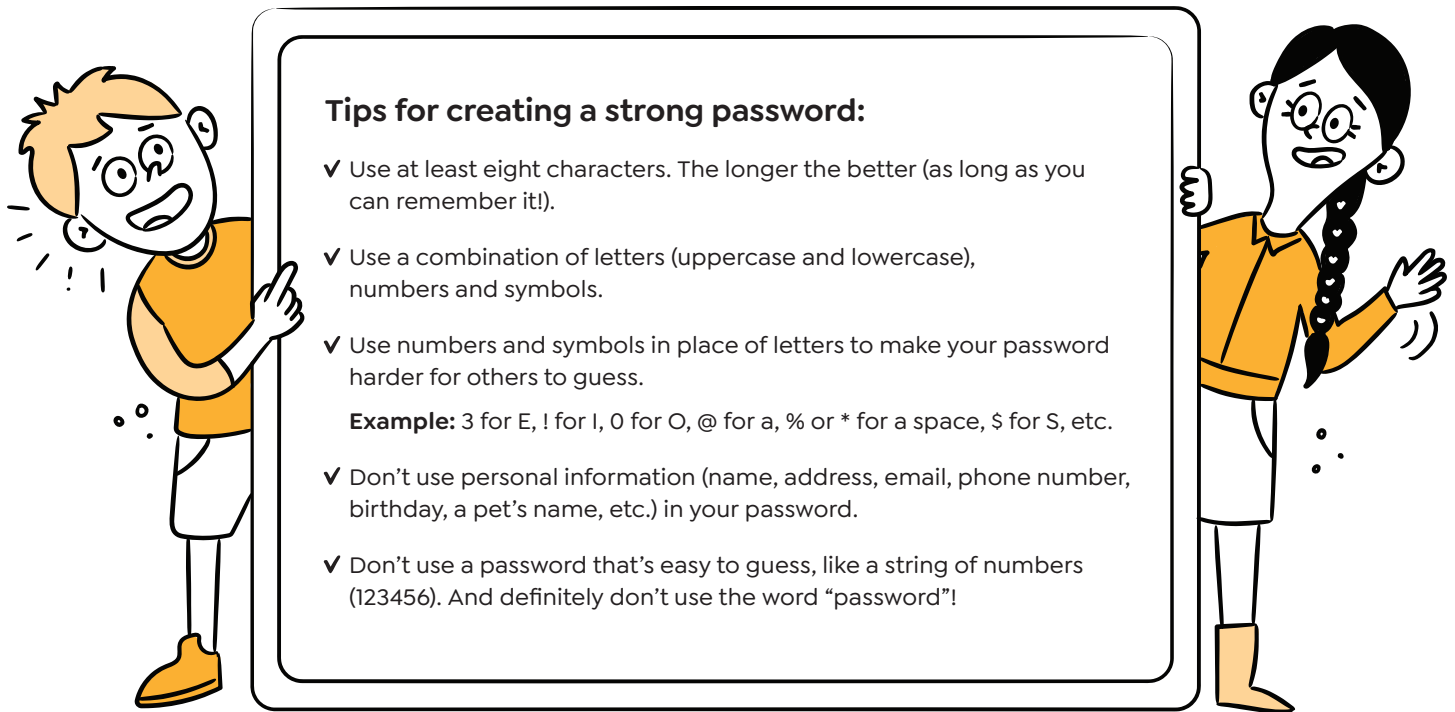
## What's the difference between strong and weak passwords?

**Strong passwords** use a combination of letters and numbers and are hard for others to guess. A strong password can be based on a word or phrase that you can remember.

**Example:** "I went to Jones Elementary School for grade 3" could be used to build a password like: Iw2JES4g3

**Weak passwords** include personal information such as your name or favorite sports team. Weak passwords are easy for others to guess.

**Example:** GoEagles! or Ilikechocolate

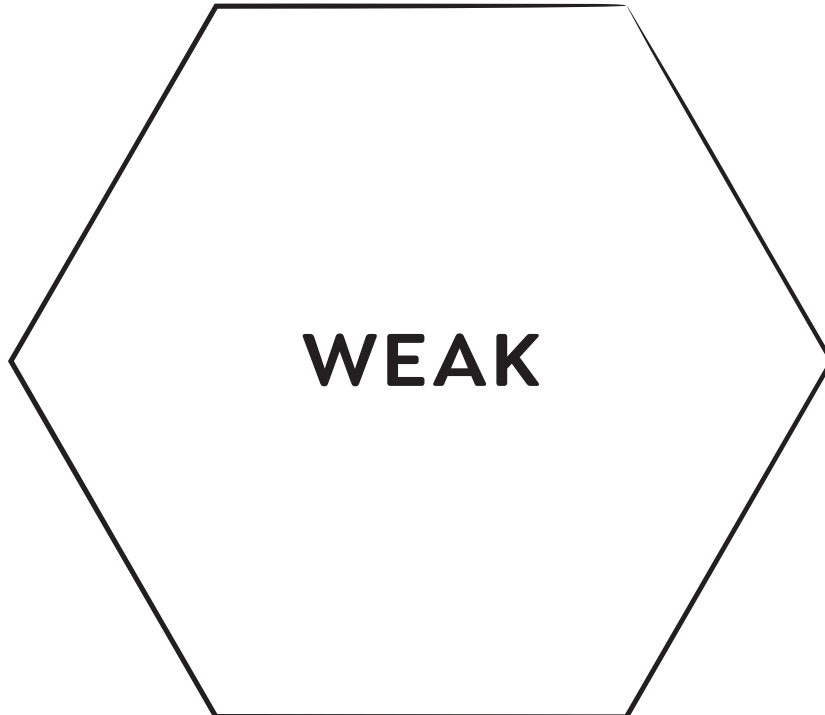


**Tips for creating a strong password:**

- ✓ Use at least eight characters. The longer the better (as long as you can remember it!).
- ✓ Use a combination of letters (uppercase and lowercase), numbers and symbols.
- ✓ Use numbers and symbols in place of letters to make your password harder for others to guess.  
**Example:** 3 for E, ! for l, 0 for O, @ for a, % or \* for a space, \$ for S, etc.
- ✓ Don't use personal information (name, address, email, phone number, birthday, a pet's name, etc.) in your password.
- ✓ Don't use a password that's easy to guess, like a string of numbers (123456). And definitely don't use the word "password"!

**Challenge:** When you identify a weak password, talk about ways to make it stronger!

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# Answers:

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For educators only (don't share with students before they complete the activity):

Weak Passwords	Strong Passwords
password	Z3br@Stripes
hello123	\$h1pWr3cK
IPLAYSOCCER	GUiT@r\$1
qwerty	Un1C0rn%\$t@r1ghT
fluffy2014	pUMpKINp!3
Quarterback7	ilt3Hc@d!