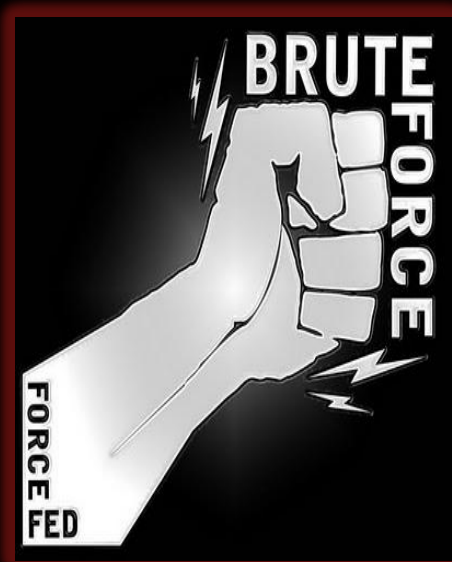


# Brute Force Attack

A brute force attack is one in which hackers try a large number of possible keyword or password combinations to gain unauthorized access to a system or file.



Brute force attacks are often used to defeat a cryptographic scheme, such as those secured by passwords. Hackers use computer programs to try a very large number of passwords to decrypt the message or access the system.

## How to prevent brute force attacks:

- ✓ Make your password as long as possible
- ✓ Use different types of characters (!@#\$\$%^&\*)
- ✓ Don't use dictionary words
- ✓ Don't use personal information
- ✓ Don't use your username

### Top 10 passwords

123456 = 1666 (0.38%)  
 password = 780 (0.18%)  
 welcome = 436 (0.1%)  
 ninja = 333 (0.08%)  
 abc123 = 250 (0.06%)  
 123456789 = 222 (0.05%)  
 12345678 = 208 (0.05%)  
 sunshine = 205 (0.05%)  
 princess = 202 (0.05%)  
 qwerty = 172 (0.04%)

### Top 10 base words

password = 1373 (0.31%)  
 welcome = 534 (0.12%)  
 qwerty = 464 (0.1%)  
 monkey = 430 (0.1%)  
 Jesus = 429 (0.1%)  
 love = 421 (0.1%)  
 money = 407 (0.09%)  
 freedom = 385 (0.09%)  
 ninja = 380 (0.09%)  
 writer = 367 (0.08%)



For comments or inquiries email [infosec@pjlhuillier.com](mailto:infosec@pjlhuillier.com)

-- End of Transmission --

Information Security: It's a Shared Responsibility

## REFERENCES:

- ☞ Sophos Ltd. (2012). Threatsaurus: The A-Z of computer and data security threats.
- ☞ <http://www.last.fm/music/BruteForce+Attack/+images/35168135>