

'Be Safe' - Create strong passwords

It may sound obvious, but many people don't always do it. All too often employees create weak passwords to login to work systems, as well as to access personal email and applications via the Internet while at work. The risks are great: hackers can quickly expose these weak passwords and gain access to corporate data via malware and related attacks.

One of the options that can assist in protecting your laptop or pc is to use complex passwords and don't leave your passwords lying around. At Russell Brennan Keane, we enforce the expiration of passwords every 41 days and all staff must change their network passwords.

When creating a password ensure it is a complex password as it is one of the first options accessing your computer, network or any online logon.

Here are some steps you can take to create a strong password.

Length Make your passwords long with eight or more characters.

Complexity Include letters, punctuation, symbols, and numbers.

Use the entire keyboard, not just the letters and characters you use or see most often, the greater the variety of characters in your password, the better.

However, password hacking software automatically checks for common letter-to-symbol conversions, such as changing "and" to "&" or "to" to "2."

Variation To keep strong passwords effective, change them often.

Set an automatic reminder for yourself to change your passwords on your email, banking, and credit card websites about every three months.

Variety Don't use the same password for everything.

Disclosure Never disclose your password to anyone



Microsoft has an option to check your password

Check your password – is it strong?

<https://www.microsoft.com/security/pc-security/password-checker.aspx>

We can help you enforce a stronger network password policy for your business.

For further information on how to improve your Network Security please contact us at email:

helpdesk@rbk.ie or Tel: 00353 90 64 80692