

# PASSWORD PROTECTION

## How Strong is Strong Enough?



Wouldn't it be great if we could just press a button on our computer keyboard to secure our electronic information? Unfortunately, we can't, and our growing reliance on conducting business online and from various electronic devices requires us to create strong passwords.

### Strategies for a Strong Password

The first step in making a password secure is to memorize it and not have it written or electronically saved anywhere. If a password is recorded only in your head, it can't be stolen. To make memorization easier, select a password that is meaningful only to you, like a favorite old movie, a hobby, or a memorable event. Then work it into an acronym or sentence that you can manipulate so that it's unique to you and difficult to hack but easy for you to remember. Once you think you've achieved the perfect password, go a step further and test your password creation skills by visiting one of the many secure password-testing websites. In addition, try to change your passwords at least every 90 days, and when you leave a website, don't "X" out...log out!

**Strong passwords are the key to keeping your account and sensitive financial information secure. Stay creative and vigilant so you don't become vulnerable.**

### MAKE A SENTENCE

- 1 Something only you know and can remember:  
**My 23rd birthday was the best ever!**
- 2 Remove excess words and spaces and capitalize selected letters:  
**my23bDaywas#1**
- 3 Phonetically spell out words and add special characters:  
**mi23bDaywz#1!**

**At RiverLand, we do everything we can to safeguard your account information. However, when using an ATM, Mobile Banking, "TONEY" or Online Banking...YOU PLAY THE MOST IMPORTANT ROLE IN KEEPING YOUR PASSWORDS SAFE!**



### How Fast Can Your Password Be Cracked?

Length	Lowercase Letters Only	Uppercase Letters	Numbers & Symbols
6 Characters	10 Minutes	10 Hours	18 Days
7 Characters	4 Hours	23 Days	4 Years
8 Characters	4 Days	3 Years	463 Years
9 Characters	4 Months	178 Years	44,530 Years