Computer & Network Security
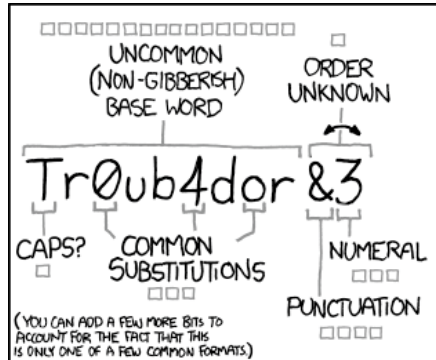
Lecture 7-1

Computers & Society (CPSC 430)

Kevin Leyton-Brown

https://www.cs.ubc.ca/~kevinlb/teaching/cs430

Password Strength
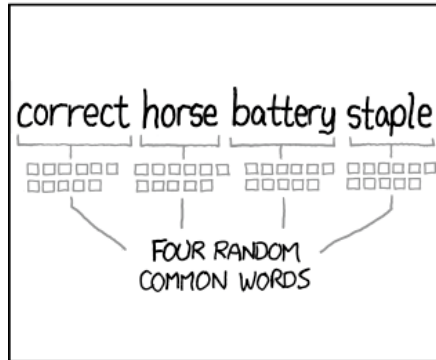
Hackers

- Hacker (original meaning):
  - Explorer, risk-taker, technical virtuoso
  - Values free exchange of information; mistrusts authority; values technical skill; holds an optimistic view of technology

- Hacker (ultimate meaning):
  - Teenagers accessing corporate or government computers
  - Stealing and/or destroying confidential information

- What hasn't changed: hackers' public image
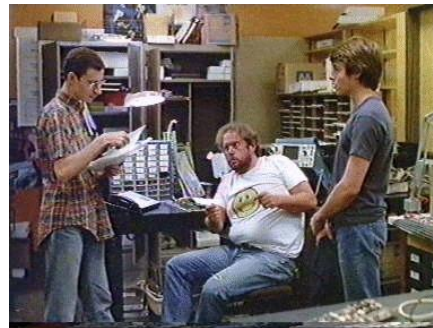
Ethics of Hacking

- Parallels between hackers/phreaks & MP3 downloaders
  - Establishment overvalues intellectual property
  - Use of technology as a "joy ride"
  - Breaking certain laws considered not that big a deal
  - (Guess what the police, RIAA thinks about these arguments?)

- *Have you ever hacked anything?*

- *Which, if any, forms of hacking do you consider ethical?*

- *Is it wrong to learn hacking or phreaking skills, if these skills are never put to use?*

Malware: Evil Code that can Run on Your Computer

- **Viruses**
  - What is a virus?
  - *Have you ever (knowingly) gotten one?*

- **Worms**
  - What is a worm? How is it different from a virus?
  - *Is it wrong to distribute a virus or worm that doesn't harm anyone?*

- **Trojan Horses**
  - What is a Trojan horse? How is it different from the first two?

- *Do the victims of a virus/worm/Trojan horse share responsibility for being attacked if their system is not up to date?*

Malware II: More Evil Code

- **Spyware/Adware**
  - What is spyware? What is adware?
  - *Is it ever moral to install spyware/adware on a user's computer without their consent?*

- **General-purpose Defensive Measures**
  - security patches
  - anti-malware tools
  - firewalls
  - *Anything else?*