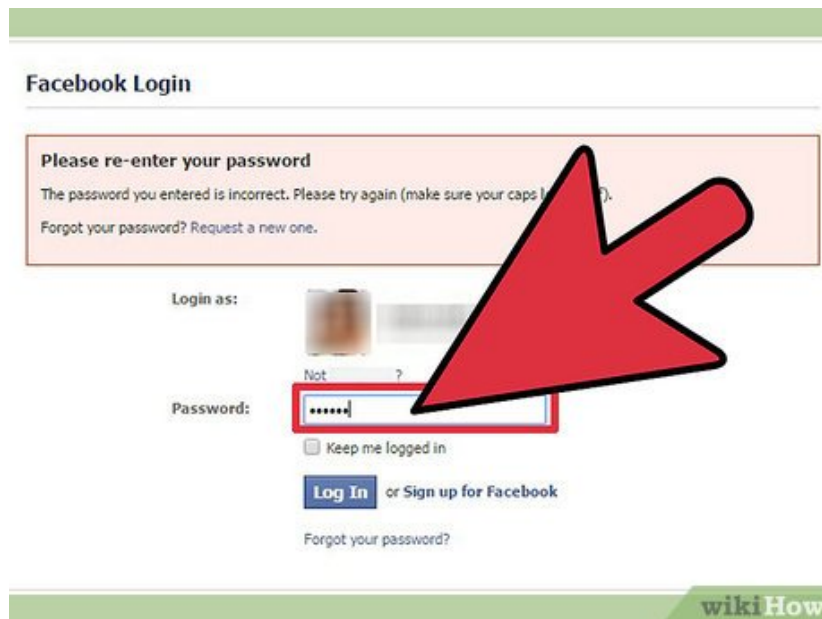


How to Guess a Password

Though there's no guaranteed way to guess a password, there are several methods that can lead you in the right direction. If you want to know how to guess a password, just follow these steps and you'll be on your way. Guess the most common...

Method 1 of 2:

Common Tricks



1.

Guess the most common passwords. At the end of every year, a list of the 25 most common passwords is released. These passwords are the easiest to guess and thus the most commonly hacked. Though you should avoid picking any of these passwords for yourself, try guessing from this list of passwords:^[1]

1. Password
2. 123456@
3. 12345678
4. abc123
5. qwerty
6. monkey
7. letmein
8. dragon
9. 111111
10. baseball
11. iloveyou

12. trustno1
13. 1234567
14. sunshine
15. master
16. 123123
17. welcome
18. shadow
19. Ashley
20. football
21. Jesus
22. Michael
23. ninja
24. mypassword
25. password1

The image shows a registration form with two main sections. The first section, labeled '2 PICK A NAME', has a 'Nickname (3-15 chars)' field containing 'CherryRedkiss' with a green checkmark. The second section, labeled '3', has a 'Password' field with a red error message: 'X Letters and numbers required'. A large red arrow points from the error message to the password field. The form also includes a footer with 'Information' links (About us, Advertise with us, Contact us, Cookies, Stardolls Sitemap), a 'PRIVACY POLICY (Incl)' link, and a 'wikiHow' logo.

2.

Use some common password tricks. Other than guessing the most obvious passwords, there are a few tricks that are used by professional password guessers. They know, for example, that there's at least a 50% chance that a user's password will have one or more vowels. Here are a few other tricks that you should know:[2]

1. If the password has a number in it, it will be usually be a 1 or a 2 and it will be at the end of the password.
2. If there's a capital letter in the password, it will usually be at the beginning -- often followed by a vowel.



See if the password has to meet any requirements. See if the password has to be a certain length (typically passwords have to be at least 6 characters long), and if it has to have at least one number or one symbol or a special character. If you're not sure, you can try setting up your own account at the site where you're trying to guess the password from, and you'll be told the requirements of the password.

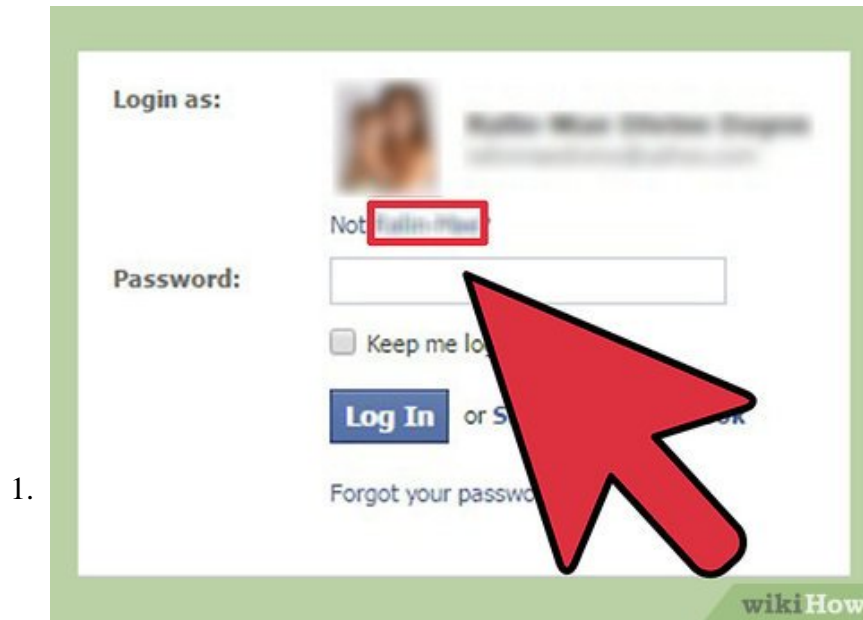


Ask for a hint. If the password has a "hint" option, then ask for a hint to guide you in guessing the password. The hint question can be something like, "What is your mother's maiden name?" or "What is the name of your first pet?" These questions can help narrow down your guessing; though you may not know the name of the person's first pet, you can guess from a number of pet names. Or, if you want to be extra sneaky, you can try to bring up first pets in a conversation with that person.^[3]

1. The hint can narrow down your search quite a bit if you know some personal information about that person. For example, if the question is, "Where were you born?" you may already know the person's birth state -- or even his birth city.

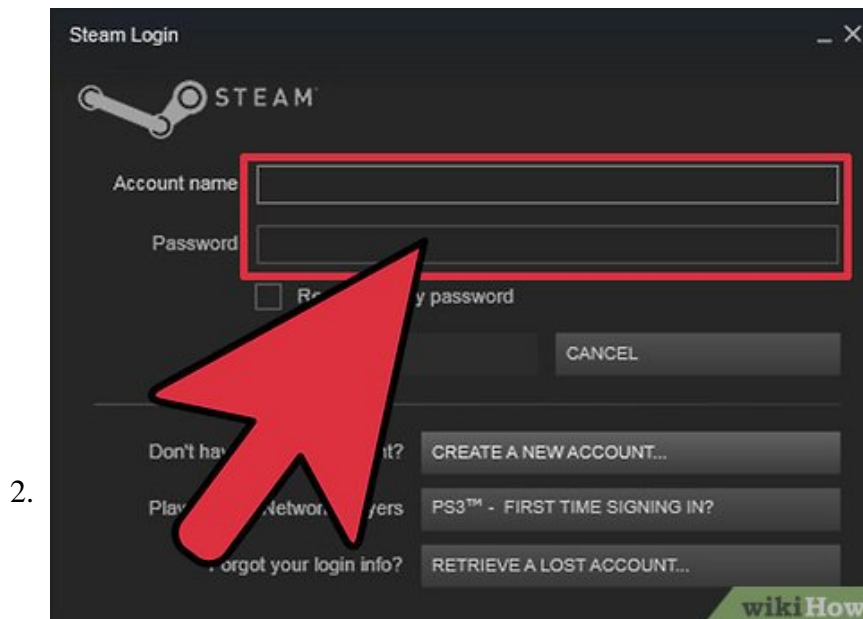
Method 2 of 2:

Reading Clues



Guess personal names. Many people, and especially women, have personal names in their passwords. Most people wouldn't put their own names in a password, but you could try those anyway. Here are some other names to try when you're guessing a password:

1. The name of the person's significant other or spouse
2. The names of the person's siblings
3. The name of the person's current or favorite pet
4. The name of the person's (especially a male's) favorite athlete
5. The person's childhood nickname or current nickname



Guess the person's hobbies and interests. You can also guess a password by thinking of the person's hobbies or interests. Here are some tricks to try:

1. Try combining a man's favorite athlete with his favorite sport. For example: "Tigergolf" or "Kobeball."
2. Guess the name of a woman's favorite TV show, or the name of a favorite character on that show.
3. Guess the name of a person's favorite athletic hobby. If the person loves to swim, try "Swimmer" with some numbers after it.



Guess important numbers. Many people use numbers in their password, indicating a date or a lucky number. Some people even make their whole password consist of numbers. You can try these numbers on their own, or add them to the end of one of the words that you guessed. Here are some ways to guess a person's password based on numbers:

1. Guess the person's birthday. For example, if the person's birthday is 12/18/75, type in "121875" or "12181975."
2. Try the person's street address. The person's street address, such as 955, could be a part of the password.
3. Try the person's lucky number. If the person has been vocal about what his lucky number is, try it.
4. If the person played a sport, try his jersey number as part of the password.
5. Try a part of the person's phone number.
6. Try the person's graduating class from college or high school.



4.

Guess the person's favorite things. You can also guess the person's password by guessing from a number of the person's favorite things. Here are a few favorite things to try:

1. The person's favorite TV show.
2. The person's favorite movie.
3. The person's favorite food.
4. The person's favorite book.

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