# HOW TO MAKE A STRONG PASSWORD

A strong password is your first line of defense against hacking. A weak password, on the other hand, leaves you and your private data extremely vulnerable. The shorter you make your passwords, the more complex they need to be to stay strong. Use these guidelines to help you decide how much

variety you need in your passwords.

## 7 or fewer **8-11**

#### number of characters

Use a longer password Use a mix of symbols, mixedcase letters, and numbers

Use mixed-case letters and numbers

12-15

Use mixed-case letters

16-19

Use whatever you want

#### A GOOD PROCESS

The strongest passwords are long and complex, so try this:

- 1. Slap together a few random words or phrases (full sentences work!)
- 2. Add a few more symbols and substitutions that you'll be able to remember.

### gAllygonzale\$tuBular+ight5

#### **PASSWORD MANAGERS**

Password managers are third-party applications that encrypt and store passwords for you - either ones you've made, or hacker-resistant, auto-generated ones. You only need to remember one password to access the others your password manager keeps. Popular options include LastPass, Keeper, Sticky Passwords, and Blur. Always do your research before choosing one, though.

> Church Educational System Security Operations Center