

What, me worry?



Passwords

Mac OS X passwords

Keychain

Password managers

Auto-fill Forms



“Take Control of Passwords” ebook from

www.takecontrolbooks.com \$10

10% discount on all books using CPN31208MUG

Why Passwords?

- ❑ Identity: So a web site knows you
- ❑ Security: To lock sensitive information
- ❑ They can be stored in:
 - ❑ Apple's keychain
 - ❑ 3rd party password managers
 - ❑ Password database of many web browsers



Online Banking

member number:

password:

log

What's your RISK?

and what do you have to lose?

Security	Simplicity
High crime area	Low crime area
Sensitive financial, personal & business info	No sensitive info
Laptop	Desktop
In hotels, airports	At home
Shared with students or coworkers	Only trusted family

The Simple Life

- ❑ NO personal or sensitive info or email
Nothing to hide
- ❑ Use automatic login
- ❑ Use a blank password when possible;
otherwise use the same, simple password
- ❑ Tape it to your computer
- ❑ Keep your Mac home; no one else uses it
- ❑ NO file sharing or wireless

Default Installation

When you get a new Mac



- ❑ One Administrator account.
Long name, short name & password
- ❑ Auto login is enabled.
Some may forget they have a password
- ❑ Keychain password is the same as login
- ❑ Default is OK for a low-risk user.
High-risk users should change it

User Accounts - You can have several

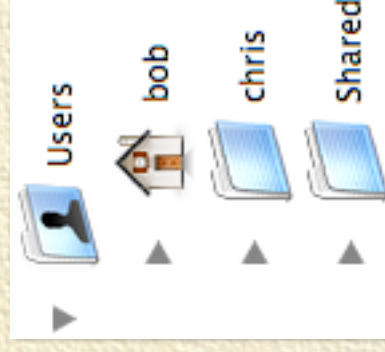
Default installation: one administrator account.

Admin can install apps & change the System

Add accounts for other users

Keeps their stuff separate

Allow user to administer this computer



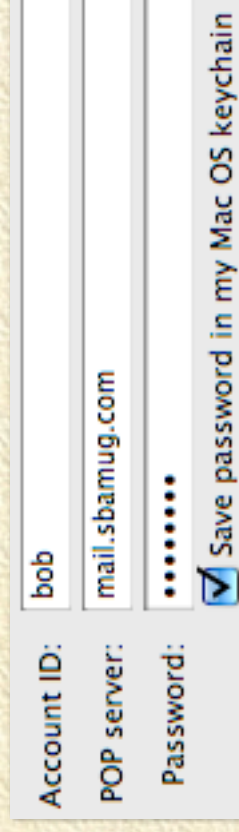
A second account is useful for troubleshooting

Each account has its own private space with a name and password.

Manage accounts in System Preferences

Keychain stores passwords

- ❑ A system wide repository for passwords



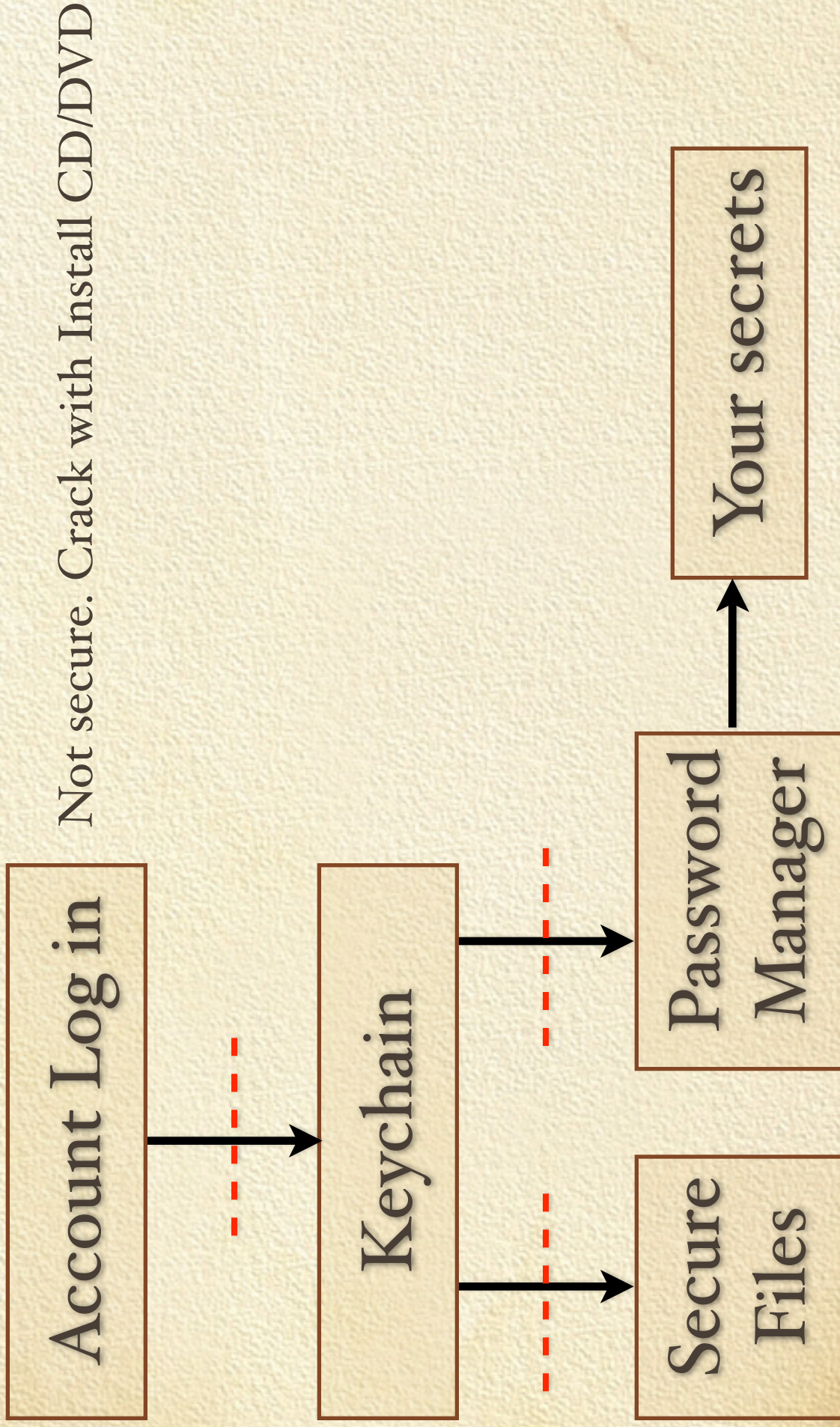
A screenshot of a Mac OS Keychain password dialog box. It contains three text input fields: 'Account ID:' with the value 'bob', 'POP server:' with the value 'mail.sbamug.com', and 'Password:' with a masked password of ten dots. Below the password field is a checked checkbox labeled 'Save password in my Mac OS keychain'.

- ❑ A keychain is created for each user account
- ❑ **Default password is the login password.**
- ❑ Unlocked automatically - not very secure
- ❑ Change it with “Keychain Access”

Keychain Limitations

- ❑ Not all applications support it
- ❑ Some web sites thwart autofill
- ❑ Not as secure as other methods, but still pretty strong
- ❑ Lots of 3rd-party password managers

The Weakest Link



Passwords - How strong?

Simplicity versus security

- ❑ Benign uses: Use a simple password
- ❑ High risk requires strong passwords.
 - ❑ Strong: Ed552C%^”Bn
 - Medium: npspfrcr
 - Easy: fido
- ❑ Hard to remember? Use a password manager
- ❑ Passphrase: Easy, yet secure

SBAMUIGmeetingoever\astwedsinRB

Password Manager: a special database

- Use a strong master password (phrase) to open

- May auto-lock after a set period

- Organize passwords by category

- Stores URL, ID, password and notes

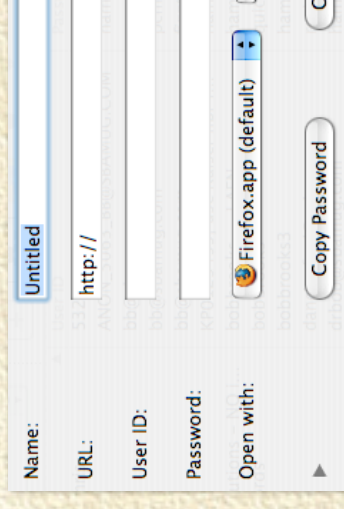
- Click or auto-paste URL, ID & password

- Export to text, dot mac, iPods, Palm etc.

- Find box

I have over 200 items in Web Confidential

- Creates secure passwords



Password Managers

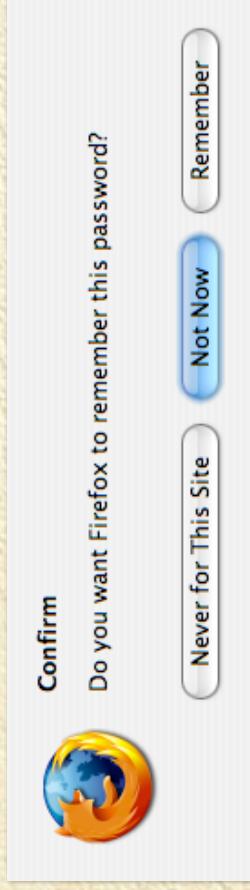
- ❑ Web Confidential, \$20
- ❑ iPasswrd, \$30
- ❑ PasswordVault, \$15
- ❑ Password Wallet, \$18
- ❑ Vault is free



- ❑ Yojimbo, \$39, but it's much more than a PM

Autofill Forms & Passwords

- ❑ Some browsers automatically insert personal information. Safari uses Address Book.
- ❑ Some browser (e.g. FireFox) save passwords.



- ❑ Master password option.


Firefox can remember login information for web pages so that you do not need to re-enter your login details every time you visit.

Remember Passwords

When set, the Master Password protects all your passwords – but you must enter it once per session.

Set Master Password...

Secure your Files

- ❑ See August 2006 newsletter for “how to do it”
- ❑ Put the files in a folder
- ❑ Create an encrypted disk image 
- ❑ Put (copy) files inside and delete originals


Backup

- ❑ Back up your password files.
Keychain: `library>keychains`
`user>library>keychains`
- ❑ Keep your master passwords in a safe deposit box or with a loved one. Make sure they know how to use it.
- ❑ Write it on page (birth) of favorite book, or
`1 tbsp s8#gU14Bx5; 3 tbsp ground pepper`

Protect your Email address

A little off the topic

- ❑ Hundreds of sites want your email address
- ❑ Worried about spam?
- ❑ Use disposable addresses. www.jettable.org



The image shows a blue interface for creating a disposable email address. It features a white text input field labeled "Email address:", a "Life span:" dropdown menu currently set to "One day", and a white button labeled "Create your disposable email address".