

January 2024

# Welcome to Interfuture Security

As you may know, Interfuture Systems, is a long and well established IT support company, which has always offered a security service, however, as the threat landscape has continued to expand, it was felt that a more focused approach was necessary.

Interfuture Security (IS) has been launched in response to this growing need/demand for specialist protection, offering an holistic approach to strengthen security and safeguard businesses digital assets.

IS focuses exclusively on security issues 24/7 and has a highly trained, specialist team working solely on prevention, monitoring and detection. We are proud to be one of a very few specialist providers in the southeast, and are hoping to expand our team over the coming months.



### Girls in IT

Historically, a female IT engineer is a rarity, even more unusual is to find one that has specialised in IT security.

We are very lucky to have in our Team: Olivia, a specialist security analyst. In IT, and especially IT security, it is essential to keep up to date with the latest developments - since joining us in the summer, Olivia has collected an impressive 3 additional cyber qualifications and has no plans of stopping now.

Olivia says that she enjoys working in security because of the variety and challenge of staying ahead of cyber criminals - ultimately, she would like to specialise in forensic security which involves investigating and gathering evidence on how and why an attack occurred.

# Newsletter

Welcome to the new Interfuture Security newsletter. Each month, we will be updating you on the latest developments in the world of IT security, and bringing you news about our services, topical articles and useful tips and advice.

Bearing in mind the time of year, it is likely that many of you will be undertaking more internet activity than usual. This may require the use of <u>PASSWORDS</u>. I implore you ... please take this seriously – you can make your life easy (and safe) with a password generator/saver. I use Bitwarden – it's free.

Read on ...





## **Protect Yourself**

Apparently, over 80% of hacking-related breaches are due to weak or stolen passwords, so its very easy to dramatically improve security.

In theory, any password can be hacked, but cyber criminals will move on to easier victims, if yours presents a challenge. According to The World Economic Forum a 12-character password that has one uppercase letter, one number and one symbol would take a computer 34,000 years to crack and so is considered unbreakable.

The most common passwords (all of which can be cracked in less than 1 second) are: 11111, 2222 etc., 12345, 123456 etc., Qwerty, Qwerty123, Password, Password123 and 1q2w3e.

TIME IT TAKES A HACKER TO BRUTE FORCE YOUR PASSWORD IN 2023					
Number of Characters	Numbers Only	Lowercase Letters	Upper and Lowercase Letters	Numbers, Upper and Lowercase Letters	Numbers, Upper and Lowercase Letters, Symbols
4	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly
5	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly
6	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly
7	Instantly	Instantly	1 sec	2 secs	4 secs
8	Instantly	Instantly	28 secs	2 mins	5 mins
9	Instantly	3 secs	24 mins	2 hours	6 hours
10	Instantly	1 min	21 hours	5 days	2 weeks
11	Instantly	32 mins	1 month	10 months	3 years
12	1 sec	14 hours	б years	53 years	226 years
13	5 secs	2 weeks	332 years	3k years	15k years
14	52 secs	1 year	17k years	202k years	1m years
15	9 mins	27 years	898k years	12m years	77m years
16	1 hour	713 years	46m years	779m years	5bn years
17	14 hours	18k years	2bn years	48bn years	380bn years
18	6 days	481k years	126bn years	2tn years	26tn years

If you are struggling to come up with an original password we recommend that you use a password generator. There are many free versions on the internet, a number of which will also store your passwords safely and auto fill for you. All you have to do is remember the password that gets you into your password generator. No excuses!!