

Generally speaking, the strength of a password is determined by three things: the length of the character set used, the length of the password itself, and to a lesser extent, the variety in characters chosen. Most passwords allow you to use all characters on your keyboard so the character set in most cases would be all lowercase letters, uppercase letters, digits, and special symbols such as asterisks and ampersands. The same concept applies when choosing a password. A character set in this sense is basically what it sounds like: a set of characters from which you can pull from to create your password. Longer character sets allow for stronger passwords when properly utilized. First, let's discuss the length of the character set. Which would be easier to guess correctly? The answer, of course, is the number from 1 to 10 because there are fewer possible numbers to choose from. Think of it this way: say someone asks you to pick a number from 1 to 10 and another number from 1 to 100.