

Search 🔍

TechCrunch+

Startups

Venture

Security

Crypto

Apps

Gift Guides

Events

Advertise

More

# LastPass says hackers stole cust password vaults

It's time to start changing your passwords

Zack Whittaker @zackwhittaker / 9:46 PM UTC • December 22, 2022

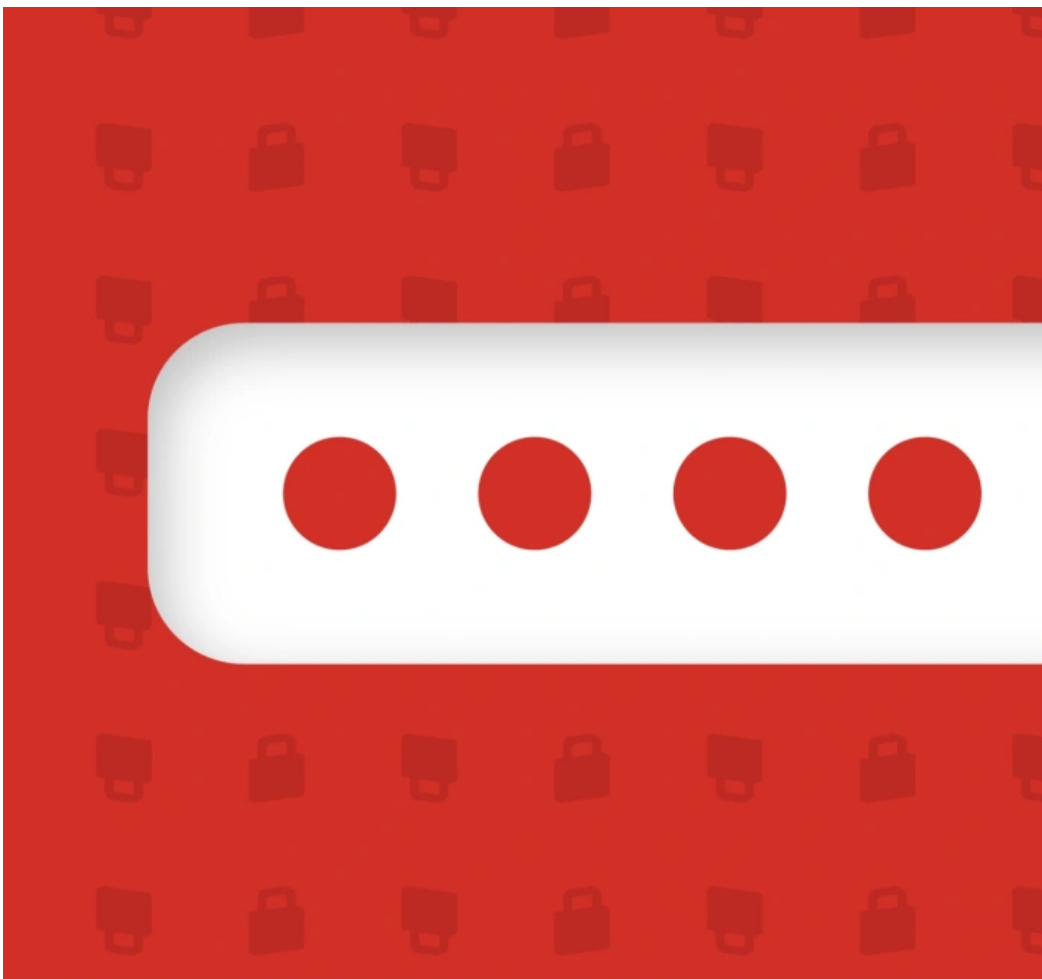


 Image Credits: Bryce Durbin / TechCrunch



**password manager giant** LastPass has confirmed that cybercriminals stole its customers' encrypted password vaults, which store its customer secrets, in a [data breach](#) earlier this year.

In [an updated blog post](#) on its disclosure, LastPass CEO Karim Toubba said that a copy of a backup of customer vault data by using cloud storage keys stolen from an employee. The cache of customer password vaults is stored in a “proprietary format” that contains both unencrypted and encrypted vault data, but technical and security details of the proprietary format weren’t specified. The unencrypted data includes [vault-store](#) files, but it’s not clear how recent the stolen backups are.

LastPass said customers’ password vaults are encrypted and can only be unlocked with their customers’ master password, which is only known to the customer. But the company said that the cybercriminals behind the intrusion “may attempt to use brute force to guess your master password and decrypt the copies of vault data they took.”

Toubba said that the cybercriminals also took vast reams of customer data, including email addresses, phone numbers and some billing information.

Password managers are [overwhelmingly a good thing](#) to use for storing your passwords. Your passwords should all be long, complex and unique to each site or service. But security incidents are a reminder that not all password managers are created equal and can be attacked in different ways. Given that everyone’s threat model is different, no one person’s requirements are the same as the other.

In a rare situation (not a typo) like this — which we spelled out in [our parsing breach notice](#) — if a bad actor has access to customers’ encrypted password vaults, they need a victim’s master password.” An exposed or compromised password vault is useless without the encryption — and the password — used to scramble it.

The best thing you can do as a LastPass customer is to change your current LastPass password to a new and unique password (or passphrase) that is written down in a secure place. This means that your current LastPass vault is secured.

If you think that your LastPass password vault could be compromised — such as if your password is weak or you’ve used it elsewhere — you should begin changing the passwords in your LastPass vault. Start with the most critical accounts, such as your email and phone plan account, your bank accounts and your social media accounts, and then work down the priority list.

The good news is that [any account protected with two-factor authentication](#) will be difficult for an attacker to access your accounts without that second factor, such as a texted or emailed code. That’s why it’s important to secure those second-factor accounts like your email accounts and cell phone plan accounts.

Join  
TechCrunch+

Login

Search 🔍

- TechCrunch+
- Startups
- Venture
- Security
- Crypto
- Apps
- Gift Guides
- Events
- Advertise
- More

## Parsing LastPass' data breach notice



Two weeks ago, the password manager giant LastPass disclosed its second time this year. Back in August, LastPass found that an employee compromised to gain unauthorized access to the company's developer some of LastPass' source code. LastPass CEO Karim Toubba said the reading



[Join TechCrunch+](#)

[Login](#)

[Search](#) 🔍

[TechCrunch+](#)

[Startups](#)

[Venture](#)

[Security](#)

[Crypto](#)

[Apps](#)

[Gift Guides](#)

[Events](#)

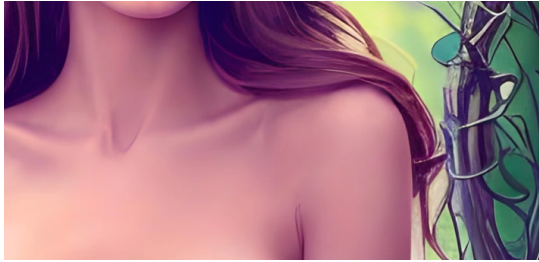
[Advertise](#)

[More](#)

---

### More TechCrunch

---



Search 🔍

April 20, 2023 Boston, MA

**Register Now**

TechCrunch+

Startups

Venture

Security

Crypto

Apps

Gift Guides

Events

Advertise

More

---

## Sign up for Newsletters

See all newsletters

- Daily
- Week in Review
- Startups Weekly
- Event Updates
- Advertising Updates
- TechCrunch+ Announcements
- TechCrunch+ Events
- TechCrunch+ Roundup

Join  
TechCrunch+

Login

Search 🔍

- TechCrunch+
- Startups
- Venture
- Security
- Crypto
- Apps
- Gift Guides
- Events
- Advertise
- More

Email \*

<https://tcrn.ch/3Ve0eDr> [Copy](#)

## Tags

[cybersecurity](#) [data breach](#) [LastPass](#) [password manager](#)

## Backed by Electrolux, Mila raises at a \$52M valuation to add smarts to fresh air

Haje Jan Kamps

5:32 PM UTC • December 23, 2022

**TC+** Market Analysis

## While Amazon had a rocky year, AWS remains a reliable cash cow

Ron Miller

5:00 PM UTC • December 23, 2022

## Questions linger over Facebook, Twitter, TikTok's commitment to uphold election integrity in Africa, as countries head to polls

Annie Njanja

4:58 PM UTC • December 23, 2022

## Clean energy investments may close 2022 hitting new heights, setting stage for lofty 2023

Tim De Chant

3:00 PM UTC • December 23, 2022

## Tesla announces a \$300 charging mat that can recharge 3 devices at once

Matt Burns

2:52 PM UTC • December 23, 2022

## India's Reliance backs US-based AI startup Exyn in \$35 million funding

Manish Singh

1:30 PM UTC • December 23, 2022

## Headcount growth is slowing as startups prepare for worst-case scenarios

Eddie Ackerman

1:00 PM UTC • December 23, 2022

## Facebook parent Meta to settle Cambridge Analytica class action lawsuit for \$725M

Paul Sawers

9:55 AM UTC • December 23, 2022

## Google appeals India's fine over 'unfair' business practices on Android

Manish Singh

8:06 AM UTC • December 23, 2022

## Persistent Jack Sweeney brings back @ElonJet (but delayed) to Twitter

Connie Loizos

6:12 AM UTC • December 23, 2022

Join  
TechCrunch+

Login

Search 🔍

TechCrunch+

Startups

Venture

Security

Crypto

Apps

Gift Guides

Events

Advertise

More

## Twitter Blue users can now upload 60-minute videos

Ivan Mehta

6:03 AM UTC • December 23, 2022

## Flipkart and PhonePe complete separation

Manish Singh

5:04 AM UTC • December 23, 2022

## Daily Crunch: 2 former SBF associates plead guilty to fraud and are cooperating with US federal prosecutors

Christine Hall, Haje Jan Kamps

11:05 PM UTC • December 22, 2022

## The FCC can finally hammer predatory prison phone call companies, thanks to just-passed bill

Devin Coldewey

10:55 PM UTC • December 22, 2022

## Tesla's \$7,500 discount feels desperate, and it's giving investors the ick

Rebecca Bellan

8:49 PM UTC • December 22, 2022

## 'Tis the season for more FTX charges

Jacquelyn Melinek

8:00 PM UTC • December 22, 2022

**TC+** Investor Surveys

## 3 Black investors talk about what they're looking for in 2023

Dominic-Madori Davis

8:00 PM UTC • December 22, 2022

Join  
TechCrunch+

Login

Search 🔍

TechCrunch+

Startups

Venture

Security

Crypto

Apps

Gift Guides

Events

Advertise

More



Join  
TechCrunch+

Login

Search 🔍

- TechCrunch+
- Startups
- Venture
- Security
- Crypto
- Apps
- Gift Guides
- Events
- Advertise
- More

## Notes on robotics research

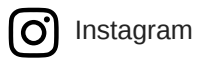
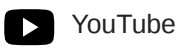
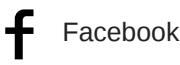
Brian Heater  
7:30 PM UTC • December 22, 2022

TC+ Fundraising


## Pitch Deck Teardown: Card Blanch's \$460K deck for its angel round

Haje Jan Kamps  
7:00 PM UTC • December 22, 2022

- |              |              |                 |
|--------------|--------------|-----------------|
| <b>About</b> | <b>Legal</b> | <b>Trending</b> |
| TechCrunch   | Terms of     | <b>Tech</b>     |
| Staff        | Service      | <b>Topics</b>   |
| Contact Us   | Privacy      | Tech            |
| Advertise    | Policy       | Industry        |
| Crunchboard  | TechCrunch+  | Layoffs         |
| Jobs         | Terms        | Google          |
| Site Map     | Privacy      | Search On       |
|              | Dashboard    | Event 2022      |
|              | Code of      | Amazon          |
|              | Conduct      | Fall Event      |
|              | About Our    | 2022            |
|              | Ads          |                 |





Search 

TechCrunch+

Startups

Venture

Security

Crypto

Apps

Gift Guides

Events

Advertise

More