

FA2023 Week 09 • 2023-10-26

Physical Security and Lockpicking

Emma, Nick, and Sam

Announcements

- Workshop with Ceasar Creek Software TOMORROW!
 - Siebel CS 2405 at 6-7 PM
 - Free pizza! 🍕

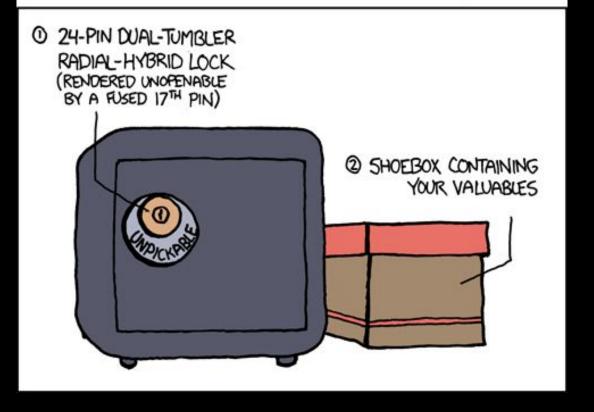




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HACKER SHIELD GEEK-PROOF SAFE SYSTEM:





What is Physical Security?

- Deterring threat actors for a physical thing rather than a virtual one
 - Theft/espionage of funds or company secrets, physical harm, etc
 - Very often intersects (IoT/embedded systems)
- Threat models vary widely, what you realistically need is not what a government office needs
 - "Gates, guards, and guns" not the correct answer for everyone



Access Control



- Only allow people you want inside
- Fences, gates, and walls are basic forms of physical access control
- Can get more complicated
 - Keys suitable for most civilians
 - Keycard entry



Surveillance

- Deters more noticeable forms of entry
 - "Just break a window/door/wall"
 - Lock bypass can be time consuming
- Cameras
 - Vanilla security cameras
 - "Smart" cameras, cloud
- Guards



"Know Your Rights"



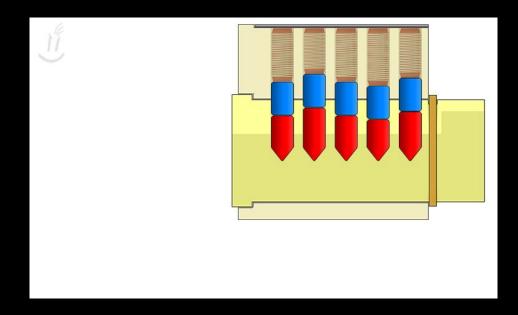
- Different states have different laws on owning lockpicks
- Charges can be made worse if lockpicks are found on you
- Bump keys are explicitly illegal in Illinois, I will not be demoing them
- https://www.toool.us/lockpi cking-laws.php for more details about about U.S. lockpicking law
- I am not a lawyer

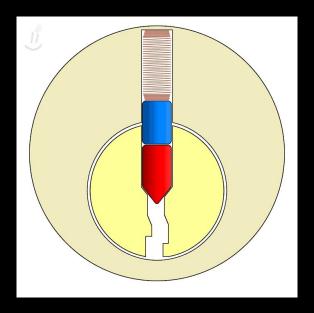
Don't Get Yourself (or Us) In Trouble

- If a lock is not owned by you, it is probably a felony to pick it
 - University locks
 - Dorm/apartment locks
 - You have permission to pick our challenge locks today
- Try not to pick anything you rely on to work
- Give us back our lockpicks/locks when you're done
 - We will give you a kit, you can share them but please don't mix tools
 - If we don't get all the picks back, we will have to notify building staff and we don't want to have to do that
 - If you want to solve these challenges outside of the meeting we have weekly locksport meetups on Mondays 8 - 9 PM
 - If you want your own lockpicks, check out our group buy

Pin Tumbler Locks

- When you think of a lock and key, probably this
- Cylinder holds pins that are cut at certain points, set in right place by key
- Tiny imperfections misalign the holes, allowing for lockpicking







Now Let's Talk Lockpicking



Lockpicking

- Goal: perform the roles of the key without having it
 - Physical object performing the turning action
 - Pins in the spot they need to be to turn the lock
- Manufacturing defects allow you to set pins one at a time without always having the key in place
- Method:
 - Provide tension to turn the keyway using tension
 - Set pins in place using a lockpick



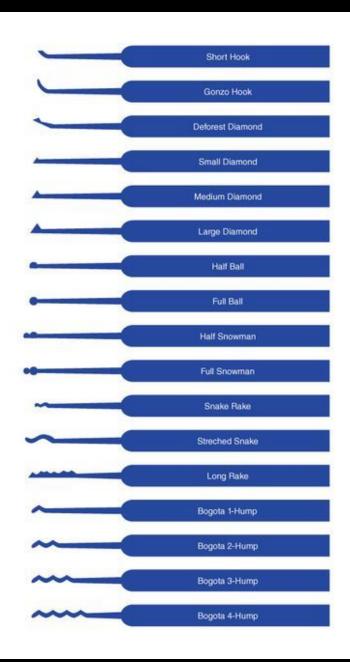
Tension

- More important than the picking itself
- Two types: bottom and top of keyway
 - Affect the environment your lockpick sits in and how you receive feedback
- The amount of pressure you give is crucial
 - Too much will make it hard to push the pins, too little will make it hard to receive feedback



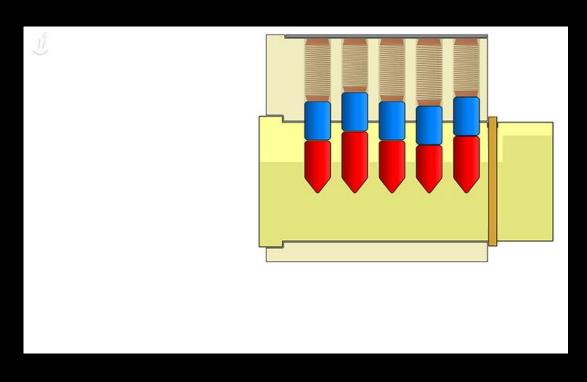
Lockpicks

- Single pin
 - Hooks
 - Diamonds
 - Ball/snowmen
- Rakes
 - Long rakes
 - Snakes
 - Bogata





Single Pin Picking



- 1. Grab a properly sized tensioning tool and a short hook
 - a. The crowbar shaped thing and the hook shaped one
- 2. Put the tensioning tool either at the top or bottom of the

 - keyway and turn

 a. Your picks go at the bottom

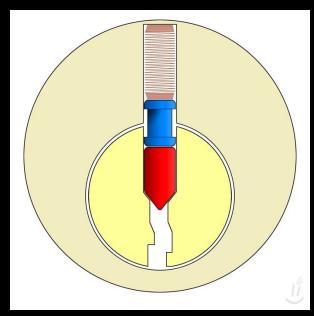
 b. Don't push too hard, just hard

 enough that you'll feel feedback

 Feel for the pin with the most
- tension and bring it up until it clicks
- Continue the process until the lock is picked

Security Pins

- Deters low-skilled attacks by making picking harder
- Come in many shapes, all designed to trick you into thinking the lock is partially picked
- Makes lockpicking more fun!





Demo: Picking a Lock



Lock Gutting

- Lock gutting is the practice of disassembling locks
- Used for variety of purposes
 - Rekeying
 - Intelligence/data gathering
 - Modification
- DO NOT GUT A LOCK YOU'RE USING FOR SOMETHING



Demo: Gutting a Lock

Featuring Nick



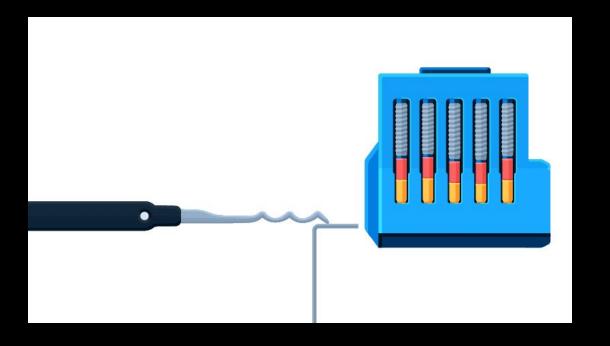
Bypass Crash Course

Non-picking techniques that still get locks open



Raking

- The power of probability!
- Gently rock the wavy shaped pick inside the lock until you can turn it open with the tensioning tool
- Very effective with low security locks, becomes less reliable when you face security pins



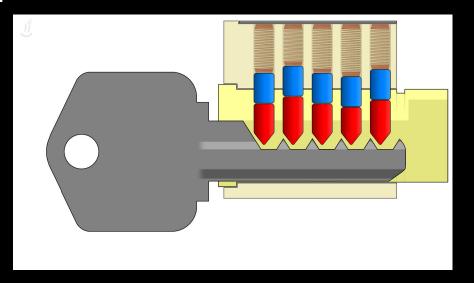


Demo: Raking a Lock



Bump Keys

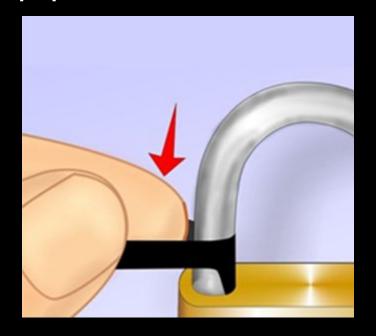
- Bounce all the top pins above the shear line at the same time
- Turn the bump key
- Must correspond to the specific lock





Shimming

- Unprotected lock shackles
- Separate latch from shackle, open without touching the cylinder at all
- Works well on cheap padlocks, not so much on higher grade





Knife Bypass

- Use a thin implement to directly manipulate locking mechanism
- Lock-specific bypass

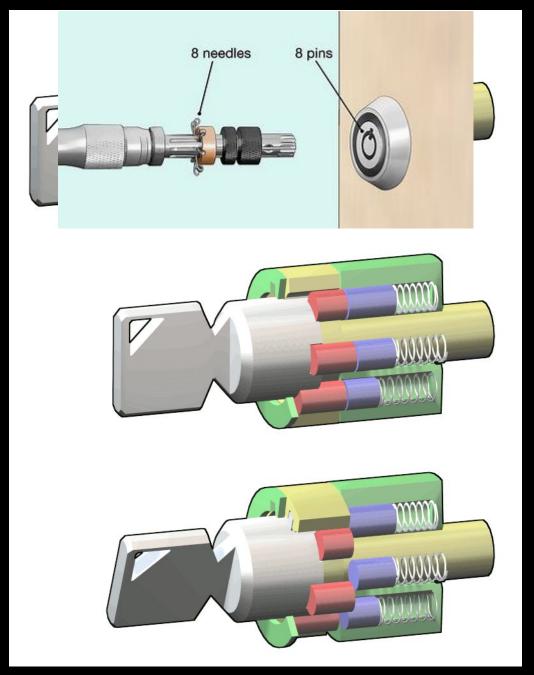


Other Weird Locks



Weird Locks

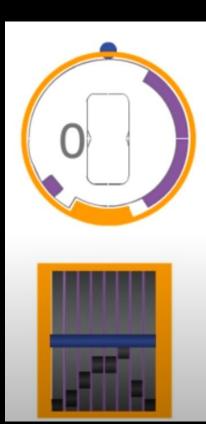
- Tubular Locks place the pinstack parallel to the keyway
- Same idea overall, just different orientation
- Horribly weak and extremely pickable
- You can tension the core and single-pin pick by depressing the pins
- OR, by a \$4 dollar tool that acts as a master key





Weird Locks

- Considered "more secure," Disk Detainer locks are found in high end locks, and most bike locks (Kryptonite, etc.)
- A bar (blue) prevents the core from rotating
- Each disk has a cut at a certain rotation
- Once all disks align, the bar drops and the core rotates
- Pickable with speciality tools:
 - Same principle as tumbler locks, use one disk to tension the core, while manipulating other disks
 - Disks will click into place as you slowly lower the bar
 - A rotating manipulator allows you to rotate disks



Now You Try!

- Clear lock
 - What's happening inside the lock when you feel feedback?
- Progressive locks
 - Work your way up towards 4 and 5 pin locks
- Master Lock No 3 (blue)
 - Your first real-world lock!
- Master Lock 140 (gold)
 - Your first security pin!
- Brinks Lock
 - More security pins
- Door Locks
 - How secure is your door?
- Safes
 - Try your hand at tubular locks and safe cracking



Next Meetings

2023-10-27 • Tomorrow!!

- Workshop with Ceasar Creek Software
- Learn about Ceasar Creek and grab some pizza!

2023-10-29 • No Sunday Meeting

- Enjoy your Halloweekend!

2023-11-02 • Next Thursday

 Forensics workshop with CrowdStrike and UIUC Tech Services



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Meeting content can be found at sigpwny.com/meetings.

