Your Password Health Score explained

A key feature of your Dashlane account is your Password Health score. You can find your score by navigating to the Identity Dashboard or Password Health sections under Security in the left-hand menu.

Keeping tabs on your Password Health Score is the easiest way to assess and improve your password security. While it’s easy to understand the value of your score, the way it’s calculated isn’t apparent in the app. So let’s break it down.

How do we calculate your Password Health Score?

Dashlane can calculate a Password Health Score only if you have “eligible” login credentials. Credentials are eligible when:

- You have five or more stored in Dashlane
- They’re complete (not missing passwords)
- They’re not manually excluded from the score

All of the following explanations assume that a login credential is eligible.

Password Health Score considers these 3 factors:

Compromised credentials

A credential is considered compromised if:

- the website it belongs to was impacted by a breach — public or private — that occurred after the credential’s password was last changed; and/or
- the password of the credential is similar to another credential’s password that has been compromised (see below).

Reused and similar credentials

Passwords are considered reused or similar if they are identical or if the number of edits it would take to turn one password into another — by deleting, inserting, or switching a character — is three or fewer. This number is known as the Levenshtein distance.

So for example, if one password is Password123! and another is password123, the Levenshtein distance is two, and the credentials would be considered similar and reused.

Weak credentials

A credential is considered weak if the zxcvbn score of the credential’s password rated 2 or lower. The zxcvbn score uses pattern matching and estimation inspired by password cracking software to rate password strength on a scale from 0 to 5, depending on how difficult it would be to crack.

So when is a credential safe?

A credential is considered safe only when it is none of the above! It must not be compromised, reused/similar, or weak.