

# Verbal Password Study - Research Consent Form

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## 1. What is a verbal password?

A verbal password is a type of password that is spoken out loud, rather than typed or written down. Unlike a conventional password scheme, verbal passwords are often used as a means of authentication or identification, particularly in situations where it is not practical or secure to use a written or typed password. They are used in various situations, such as to access a secure building or system, or to confirm a person's identity over the phone.

## 2. Study Purpose

The purpose of this study is to understand the way users set their verbal passwords. In this study, users create their own verbal passwords using a speech-to-text system and authenticate themselves using the verbal password when using a mock banking application. This is Part 1 of our user study, and the study takes about 10 minutes to complete.

### **Important Notice about Password Collection:**

Please be aware that as part of this research study, your verbal passwords will be collected and stored in plain text format. This means that your passwords will be stored in a readable, unencrypted format to enable our research analysis. While we implement strict security measures to protect this data, you should be aware that we will have direct access to your verbal passwords. DO NOT use any verbal passwords that you currently use or plan to use for any real accounts or services.

## 3. Participant Compensation

There are three parts associated to this user study in total:

- Part 1: £1.00 for successful completion
- Part 2: £0.50 bonus for successful completion (invitation sent 2 days after Part 1)
- Part 3: £0.50 bonus for successful completion (invitation sent 7 days after Part 2)

Total potential compensation: £2.00 (£1.00 + £0.50 + £0.50)

Please note that your reward will not be given immediately since we will check your responses and reward you through Prolific. The invitations for Part 2 and Part 3 will be sent to you via Prolific email address and message, so please make sure to check your Prolific email and message box regularly.

## 4. Data Collection, Management, and Disposal Policy

At our institution, we recognize that data privacy and ethical considerations are of paramount importance when conducting research. We have established a comprehensive policy that includes:

- **Survey Responses and Auxiliary Data:** All survey responses, passwords, and authentication-related data (e.g., authentication time, number of attempts) will be recorded and analyzed for research purposes.
- **Plain Text Password Storage:** Verbal passwords will be stored in plain text format strictly for research purposes. This enables analysis of password patterns and characteristics.
- **Data Isolation and Secure Storage:** All collected data is stored on dedicated, access-controlled servers within our institution's secure data center.
- **Encryption in Transit:** Data transmitted from the study's web interface to our secure servers is encrypted using TLS/SSL protocols to ensure security.
- **Restricted Access and Audit Trails:** Only authorized research team members have access, with strict credential management and regular security audits.
- **Secure Handling and Training:** All research personnel undergo specialized data protection training and sign confidentiality agreements.
- **Data Retention and Disposal:** Data is retained only for the necessary duration and securely disposed of afterward.

## 5. Voluntary Participation

We respect our participants' right to voluntary participation in our study, and no adverse consequences will befall those who decline to take part. Those who choose to participate will provide verbal password information and related questionnaires, which will be collected in a secure and confidential manner.

## 6. Email Address Collection

As part of our research, we will collect participants' Prolific email addresses to invite them to a follow-up user study. We assure you that the Prolific email address will only be used for notification purposes, and we will dispose of it securely once the study concludes.

## 7. Confidentiality of Personal Information

We understand the sensitivity of personal information and the need for confidentiality. Our research procedures ensure that any information that may reveal the identity of our participants will be strictly used for research purposes and will be treated with the utmost confidentiality. We take all necessary precautions to prevent unauthorized access to personal information and ensure secure storage and encryption to protect against breaches.

## 8. Contact Information

If you have any questions or concerns about our Data Collection, Management, and Disposal Policy, please contact us at:

Email: [eskim86@skku.edu](mailto:eskim86@skku.edu) or [seclab.skku@gmail.com](mailto:seclab.skku@gmail.com)

## 9. Important Requirements

- You MUST use your SMARTPHONE for this study (PC attempts will not work)
- The study requires microphone access - you must allow this when prompted
- You MUST correctly enter your Prolific ID (payment cannot be processed without correct ID)
- Submitting survey answers alone is not sufficient - ensure you receive the completion code from the Prolific link
- Unfinished submissions or missing/wrong codes will not be accepted

## Consent Decision

- ☐ I have read and understand all of the above information, and I agree to participate in this research study.
- ☐ I do not consent to participate in this study.