

Re: How to create a serial number for a software?

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/DotNet/microsoft.public.dotnet.languages.csharp/2008-01/msg01538.html>

- *From:* "Chizl" <Chizl@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sun, 13 Jan 2008 03:48:19 -0600
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There is a few ways you can do it.. They way I like to do it, is take the person's name that is registering, encrypt it using your internal password, then hash it. The hash would be the serial used for the client to enter along with their registration name. This way it's unique person customer and you can verify it easily on the client side.

<sheper@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
<news:eafd3415-435d-42c5-ae64-ec6ee54a61a7@xx>

On Jan 11, 6:32 am, "Peter Duniho" <NpOeStPe...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
wrote:

On Thu, 10 Jan 2008 18:18:57 -0800, sheper...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

<sheper...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

[...]

I want my software to generate a code based on the hardware used and then when the customer enters that code in my web site, the web site gives a valid serial number which activates the software (or something like that). Any help or idea will be appreciated.

Google can find you lots of information. In this newsgroup alone it's been discussed to death, including very recently. Search for things like "license", "copy protection", "obfuscation", "unique id", etc.

The bottom line: what you're talking about is basically the same as Microsoft's "Product Activation" anti-feature, and even they can't get it to work perfectly.

A better approach is to write software that motivates people to want to motivate you to keep writing software by paying you for it, and to provided added value for the cost of the software in the form of customer

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support, documentation, and other added benefits.

Do not forget: whatever copy protection you incorporate, someone will figure out a way to bypass it. At that point, the only people who could possibly be inconvenienced by the copy protection will be your paying customers (and make no mistake, if you have any significant number of customers, copy protection will inconvenience at least some of your customers).

Pete

Hi,

Thanks for the help.

I know there is always someone who will bypass those protection methods, but there is not much of those ones around here. So if have a medium level of protection for my software it will work for me. Just I am puzzled where to start from.

Thanks again.