

Re: Template Security

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Word/microsoft.public.word.docmanagement/2004-08/0187.html>

From: Jezebel (*dwarves_at_heaven.com.kr*)

Date: 08/03/04

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It seems perverse to say you'd "not bother" using a password for fear that you'll forget the password. There are downsides to password-protecting a template, but assuming we're dealing with a serious intentions, **that** isn't one of them. If you can't control your passwords then you can't control **anything** in a multi-user environment.

Of course there are situations in which Word is not appropriate for controlling "high-risk transactions" — all of them. As already stated Word doesn't even begin to provide security to deal with any serious risk.

Your examples omit the most common reason for protecting the template: namely to hide the code, either to prevent someone stealing it outright, or to prevent them duplicating it and then running it with modifications. Write-protecting the file or folder obviously won't help with that.

"Rob Schneider" <rmschne@removetheones_b1e1e1b.net.net> wrote in message news:Os9TOMSeEHA.236@tk2msftngp13.phx.gbl...

- > *This probably would work, but I guess I would not bother since it runs*
- > *risk of this password being forgotten and then everyone is locked out of*
- > *the template file.*
- >
- > *I would recommend you step back and figure out what risk you are*
- > *concerned with and then mitigate that risk.*
- >
- > *If you are concerned that someone will change the template so that it it*
- > *is messed up for future users ... then consider protecting the template*
- > *file via the server permissions to ensure users can't write back to the*
- > *source template file.*
- >
- > *If you are concerned that someone will change modify the document on*
- > *which the template is based and do something "bad" ... then this a*
- > *different risk. I can imagine where this would be very easy to do no*
- > *matter what permissions/security you put on the template. In certain*
- > *situations I can also imagine where Word would not be the appropriate*
- > *tool for controlling high-risk transactions.*
- >
- > *Bottom line: focus on the "what", then work the "how".*

>
> *Hope this is useful to you. Let us know.*
>
> *rms*
>
>
>
>
>
> *Jezebel wrote:*
>> *Open the template itself. Switch to VBA. Select the template project in the*
>> *Project Explorer window. Go to Tools > Project Properties. Select the*
>> *Protection tab. Enter a password.*
>>
>> *Note that this is not brilliant security: it's sufficient to prevent most*
>> *unauthorised access, but it is defeatable.*
>>
>>
>>
>>
>> *"Scott" <scott.birch@sai-global.com> wrote in message*
>> *news:9e5101c4790e\$8a88ca20\$a401280a@phx.gbl...*
>>
>>> *Hi All,*
>>>
>>> *Does anyone know of a way in which I can password protect*
>>> *a template so that it can't be modified by an unauthorised*
>>> *user?*
>>>
>>> *I have looked into password protecting the document via*
>>> *the "password to Modify" switch, but this can be easily*
>>> *removed by a user and also presents users with a message*
>>> *box whenever they open a document based on the template.*
>>>
>>> *It would be preferable if no macros, styles or autotext*
>>> *could be modified by an unauthorised user.*
>>>
>>> *Kind Regards,*
>>>
>>> *Scott*
>>
>>
>>