

Cryptography for Dummies

From Classical to Modern

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Classic Definition of Cryptography

Cryptography, or the art of “hidden writing,” comes from Greek hiding the contents or existence of messages from an adversary

Encryption makes a message unintelligible to anyone not possessing some secret information

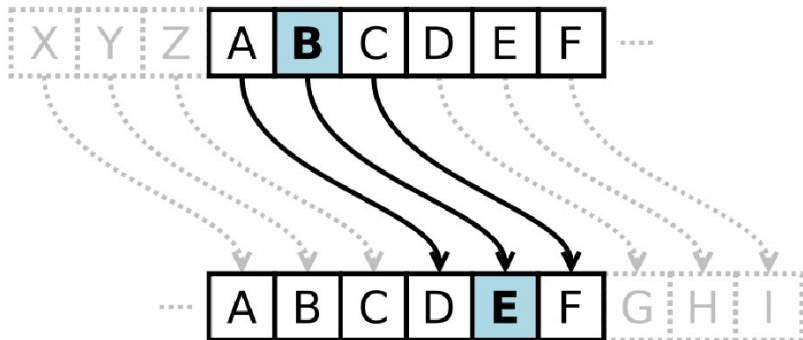
Decryption undoes the scrambling

Steganography, or “covered writing,” is concerned with hiding the existence of a message – often in plain sight.

Scytale transposition cypher



Caesar Substitution Cipher



Caesar Substitution Cipher

E	T	T	U	B	R	U	T	E
↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
H	W	W	X	E	U	X	W	H

Vigenère Polyalphabetic Substitution

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
A	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
B	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A
C	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B
D	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C
E	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D
F	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E
G	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F
H	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
I	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
J	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
K	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
L	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
M	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
N	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
O	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
P	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
Q	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P
R	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q
S	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
T	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S
U	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T
V	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U
W	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V
X	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W
Y	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X
Z	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y

Key:

SECRET

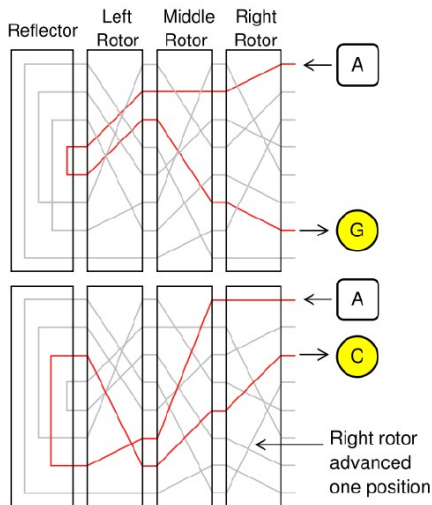
Plaintext:

PARTY TODAY

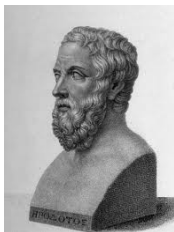
Ciphertext:

HETKC MGHAP

Enigma machine



Steganography



- Herodotus tattoo and wax tablets
- invisible ink
- microdots
- “The Finger”
- Low order bits

Code book

Codes replace a specific piece of plaintext with a certain code word. They can also replace several letters at once.

- “Yes” if by land, “no” if by sea
- Beale code
- number stations
- electronic code book (ECB) mode

Kerckhoff's Principle

A cryptosystem should be secure even if everything about it is public knowledge except the secret key.

It contrasts to “security through obscurity.”

KeeLoq[®] used by: Chrysler, Daewoo, Fiat, GM, Honda, Jaguar, Toyota, Volvo, VW

Attack: Listen in a parking lot for about 60 minutes, then use your computer for two days. Scary, isn't it?

One-time pads

- Invented several times before and after the II World War
- used even through the cold war
- *one time* means *one time*
- needs separate keys for each message, and for each recipient
- keys are as big as messages (disposable keypads)



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- **key distribution**: the number of keys grow enormously with the number of participants.

Modern Cryptographic Era

- cryptography now is an everyday commodity
- new cryptographic primitives
- asymmetric and public cryptosystem
- standardization, formalization
- internet and wireless communication
- liberalization of cryptographic restrictions

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How do you get the public keys?
Why should you trust the encrypted message?
How will you know that it was *not* modified?
- Authentication
How do you know that a message was sent by your bank?
How do you know that it has not been altered?