Password Worksheet

(Do not show other people your password worksheet.

First Name: _____

Last Name:_____

Today's Month___ Day___ Year _____

Significant year in your life (graduation, anniversary, birth day) _____

Write a personal slogan or a favorite quotation

Write a question that has one specific answer that will be obvious only to you.

Suggested user name: _____ (use the first.lastxxx where xxx is the last three digits of your significant year)

Principles for creating a secure password:

- Passwords shorter than six characters can be found by trial-and-error.
- Some sites don't allow passwords longer than eight characters
- Never use a password that is a name or is found in a dictionary
- Some sites won't accept special characters like !@#$% in a password
- MiXed cASe pAsSWOrdS are much harder to guess, but also much harder to remember
- Using numbers in passwords makes them harder to guess

One suggested pattern:

1. Last digit of the current year (so you can change your password from time to time)
2. First digit of the month
3. Take the first three letters from each word of your favorite slogan
4. If the month is greater than 9, capitalize the first letter of the slogan, otherwise capitalize the second letter of the slogan.
5. Take the first three letters from the web address (the part that comes after www).

Example: If your favorite phrase is "We the people," and today is June 8, 2010, and the account is Gmail, then your password is" 06wTpgma."