

Tips for getting out of password hell

The number one reason I get into password hell from time to time is because I'm juggling so many passwords and I mix them up. That said, I think it is sometimes hard to determine if my password hell is caused by human error or an error on the end of the entity I'm trying to log into. Company's like Microsoft, Adobe & Apple juggle millions of passwords that they have to pass along between their websites, user accounts and applications. It doesn't always work smooth, they are not honest about glitches in this system and there is not a lot of info on the web. Most web searches direct you to a page to reset your password, sometimes creating an infinite loop of resetting the password, trying to log in, resetting again etc.

Watch out, not every website lets you copy and paste a password or store passwords with browser or keychain.

Example: [readkit](#) & paypal don't let you paste. Results will be wrong, that's how their site is coded to prevent spammers.

[Read this great times article about creating good passwords.](#)

Apple

Apple is famous for it's [password loops](#), sometimes it happens on the iphone/ipad sometimes with appstore/itunes. They seem to have problems passing passwords along to the different parts of their servers. Biggest lesson I learned recently is: **Reset your password on an Apple device!** The browser [iforgot](#) solution is glitchy.

Problem: When changing your apple ID password in a browser you get message:

"your password contains unacceptable characters"

even though the green buttons are all lit and the password

checker says "strong"

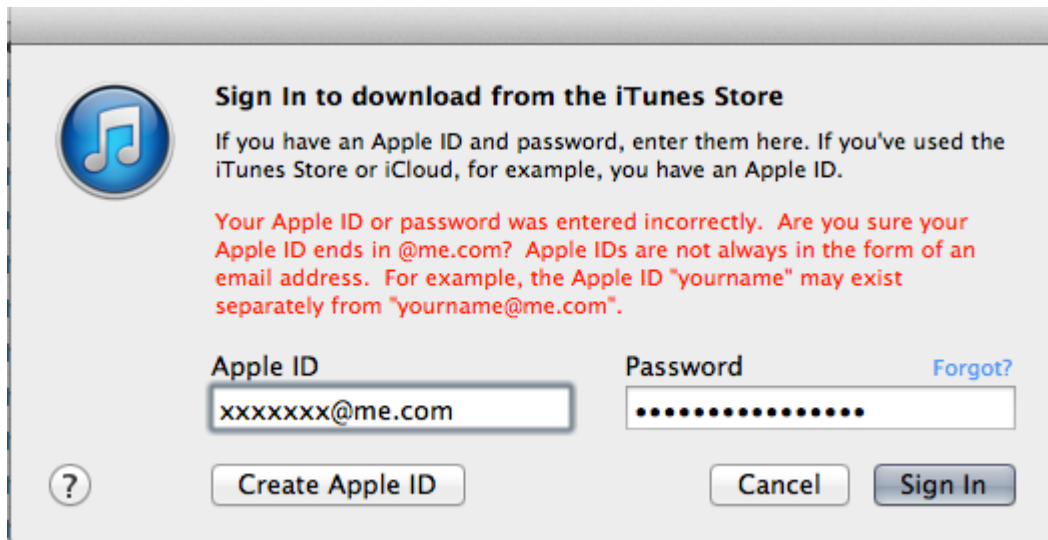
Solution : reset password on an Apple device instead.

Problem: Sometimes you unknowingly created multiple Apple ID's because you thought you where giving an alternate email address.

Solution: pay attention to the email address Apple replies to, when you reset your password.

Problem: Even though you just successfully changed your Apple ID password, your iphone, ipad, mail application or itunes reject the password.

Solution: reset password on an Apple device.



The image shows a screenshot of the 'Sign In to download from the iTunes Store' dialog box. It features the iTunes logo on the left. The main text asks the user to enter their Apple ID and password. Below this, a red error message states: 'Your Apple ID or password was entered incorrectly. Are you sure your Apple ID ends in @me.com? Apple IDs are not always in the form of an email address. For example, the Apple ID "yourname" may exist separately from "yourname@me.com".' There are two input fields: 'Apple ID' containing 'xxxxxxx@me.com' and 'Password' with masked characters. A 'Forgot?' link is next to the password field. At the bottom, there are three buttons: a help button with a question mark, 'Create Apple ID', 'Cancel', and 'Sign In'.

Sign In to download from the iTunes Store

If you have an Apple ID and password, enter them here. If you've used the iTunes Store or iCloud, for example, you have an Apple ID.

Your Apple ID or password was entered incorrectly. Are you sure your Apple ID ends in @me.com? Apple IDs are not always in the form of an email address. For example, the Apple ID "yourname" may exist separately from "yourname@me.com".

Apple ID: xxxxxxx@me.com

Password: [masked] [Forgot?](#)

[?](#) [Create Apple ID](#) [Cancel](#) [Sign In](#)

iPhone email



Problem: Can't send email using PoP/IMAP: "A copy has been placed in your Outbox. The sender address "xxx@xxx.com" was rejected by the server."

Solution: Fill username (your full email address) and password in on the smtp part of the email settings even though it says "optional"

WordPress (self hosted blog)

[WordPress \(wp-login.php\) brute force attacks are common place lately.](#)

[Read this login trouble article](#)

[13 Vital Tips and Hacks to Protect Your WordPress Admin Area](#)

In WP always try to change passwords from within the admin page.

New Password

If you would like to change the password type a new one. Otherwise leave this blank.

Type your new password again.

Medium

Hint: The password should be at least seven characters long. To make it stronger, use upper and lower case letters, numbers and symbols like ! " ? \$ %

^ &).

If you're caught in a loop, can't get in or password new user doesn't work then go in [using phpMyAdmin](#). That should always work because it lets you edit the password database direct. Make sure you edit the correct database! (I use unique email addresses for each user to make it easy to double check)

Adobe

Adobe creative cloud seems to have propagating issues similar to Apple's.

Problem: You can log in to Application manager on one machine but not another.

Solution: Reset password on the computer that you want to work on. (and deal with the other machine later.)

Google

Google is great when it works and their servers are up, it sucks when they are down. They are not transparent about ongoing problems and because everything is free, there is nobody to yell at over the phone.