Q&A

Everything You Need To Know About Passkeys

Why is everyone talking about passkeys?
A passkey is a more secure replacement for passwords, and it stops phishing in its tracks.

Why are passkeys so phishing-resistant?
A passkey is the credential itself, a digital file. An authenticator is where the passkey lives. For example, on a phone, laptop, hardware key, or other device.

What’s the difference between a passkey and an authenticator?
A passkey is the credential itself, a digital file. An authenticator is where the passkey lives. For example, on a phone, laptop, hardware key, or other device.

What passkeys do I use for what purpose?
- **Synced Passkeys**: Lives on a smartphone, tablet, laptop or other device where it can be copied and synced across many devices.
- **Hardware-bound Passkeys**: Lives on a USB key or other piece of hardware separate from everyday devices.

What’s the difference between a synced passkey and a hardware-bound passkey?
- **Synced Passkeys** can be used on multiple devices and offer platform flexibility.
- **Hardware-bound Passkeys** offer hardware attestation and are more secure in higher security environments like mobile-restricted, shared workstations, and "bring-your-own-device" scenarios.

Learn more at yubi.co/passkey