

# USABLE SECURE WEBMAIL

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ISRL

# Webmail

## Problem

- Sent in the clear
- Available to the provider



## Solution

- Familiar interface
- Easy deployment
- Key management

# Kiwi

- Secure Overlays
  - Existing email clients
  - Plaintext not accessible to email provider
- Easy deployment
  - No setup between the sender and recipient
  - Browser bookmarklet or plugin
- Key management
  - Key escrow
  - Symmetric key system



Search the Web

[Show search options](#)  
[Create a filter](#)

**Send**

Discard

## Tasks

Compose mail

Starred 

Sent Mail

### Drafts (1)

Follow up

Misc

Priority

4 more ▼

10

Search, add, or invite

- Alice Kiwi

Set status here

To:

[Add Cc](#) | [Add Bcc](#)

**Subject:**

 [Attach a file](#) Insert: [Invitation](#)

**B** *I* U  $\mathcal{F}$   $\tau\text{T}$  **T**                                  [« Plain Text](#) [Check Spelling](#) ▼

[« Plain Text](#)

Check Spelling ▼



Search Mail

Search the Web

[Show search options](#)  
[Create a filter](#)

Mail

Contacts  
Tasks

Compose mail

Inbox  
Starred ☆  
Important  
Sent Mail  
**Drafts (2)**  
Follow up  
Misc  
Priority  
4 more ▾

Chat



Search, add, or invite

● Alice Kiwi  
Set status here ▾

**To:** "Bob Kiwi" <bob@isrl.cs.byu.edu>

[Add Cc](#) | [Add Bcc](#)

**Subject:** Here is your password

Send

Save Draft



Here is the password you asked for: "superSecretPasswordThat\_Is-Re@llyLong&SuperSecur3!"



Search Mail Search the Web [Show search options](#)  
[Create a filter](#)

Mail  
Contacts  
Tasks

BYU Internet Security Research Lab Mail by Google [be Thursday](#) - 5 hours ago

Web Clip < >

← Archive Spam Delete + - Move to ▾ Labels ▾ More ▾

1 of 1 < >

Compose mail

**[Kiwi] Here is your password** Inbox | X



☆ **Alice Kiwi** [alice@isrl.cs.byu.edu](mailto:alice@isrl.cs.byu.edu) to me [show details](#) 9:11 PM (1 minute ago) [Reply](#) ▾

You have received an encrypted e-mail. In order to decrypt this e-mail please go to <https://kiwi.com/ws/> and follow the instructions there to read the email.

Encrypted Message:

```
eyJFbmNyeXB0ZWRNZNzYwZlIjp7IkVuY3J5cHRpb25JbmZvIjoiV1piZGg2
dnhISHYyRWZ1eFUx eHVDUT09IiwVmfSdWUOiJNMLJiaW
VqNE4wQmt4UWhhVm04ekYrZEJ2S2k1S2NvNGdScXdlSnM2
cmtXNzFqM0tST2s0WjNHS1M3N3NtQm83YmY3TmtObUVTMfdkVnprM0xodWZL
eDJjYUIwSWZlT23Jp UUp1NzUyQ1Y0VCTHb0xjd0dGbng2TF
VxWGxqbkbNiWm85TXJ2UnRGNDARZER5Mm1wSDkwT29SaE11
aUo2Mk1BZ0VrTExOWjB2R2R2NVQyMjFCdldjRFRhbmVvWHpuNUQifSwiQXR0
cmliidXRlcYi6W3si S2V5IjoiQ3JlYXRvcklkIiwVmfSdW
UiOiJhbGljZUBpc3JsLmNzLmJ5dS51ZHUifSx7IktleSI6
IlRpbWVzdGFtcCIiIlZhbHVlIjoiMjAxMS0xMi0wMVQwNDoxMTozMy4xODNa
In0seyJLZXkiOiJL ZXlTZXJ2ZXJvcmkjLCJWYXx1ZSI6Im
h0dHBzOi8va2l3aS5ieXUuZWZlL2tLyJ9LHsiS2V5Ijoi
Tm9uY2UiLCJWYXx1ZSI6InpUS21VY2Ja20NXa0V2bHRMc1Ewb2EyLzdpVmVC
SHEvQkNjdFVOL09m MGM9In1dLCJWwV3ZXJzIjpbeyJLZX
kiOiJLZmpBL090Sm90M0pGeG9aZi9QZ0R6ZUE1aFpvRGdF
QjNCMXFYbjdhM1pnPSIsIlZhbHVlIjpb7Ik1lc3NhZ2VLZXkiOnsiRW5jcmlw
dGlvbkluZm8iOiIv WlE2MnRYSHhBaGhWbndGMlp6SXh3PT
OiLCJWYXx1ZSI6IkRqYmNJeEzaY0lia2pvY2tmYk5NTUNq
```

Chat ▾ ▹

Search, add, or invite

● Bob Kiwi  
Set status here ▾  
📞 Call phone

# Future Work

- Usability studies
  - How usable and effective is a bookmarklet compared to a plug-in?
  - How will a user trust the initial encrypted message?
    - Spear phishing problem turned on its head
    - Personalized greeting to motivate receiver to install the bookmarklet
- Security analysis
- Key management comparison
- Standard Webmail API
  - Too difficult to stay up-to-date with webmail client changes
  - Attachments difficult to support