

# PHYSICAL SECURITY FOR LAPTOP COMPUTERS: SECURITY SLOTS AND SECURITY CABLES

by Francis Chao  
fchao2@yahoo.com



Web location for this  
presentation:

<http://aztcs.apcug.org>

Click on

“Meeting Notes”

# SUMMARY

Yu can use security hardware such as security slots and security cables to prevent/reduce thefts of laptop computers.

# TOPICS

- Typical scenarios with risks for thefts of laptops
- Three types of security slots on laptop computers
- Security cables for a specific type of security slot
- Universal security cables
- "HXN Round Fastener"
- Use regular chains and padlocks

# TYPICAL SCENARIOS WITH RISKS OF THEFTS OF COMPUTERS

- Your realtor needs to do show an occupied house to a prospective buyer
- Contractors need to enter your home or business to perform work while you or your employees are not there

# THREE TYPES OF SECURITY SLOTS IN LAPTOPS

- TYPE 1:  
KENSINGTON SECURITY SLOT
- TYPE 2:  
NANO SECURITY SLOT
- TYPE 3:  
NOBLE WEDGE-SHAPED  
SECURITY SLOT



**Kensington Security Slot**



**Kensington Mini Security Slot**



**Noble Lock Slot**

# THREE TYPES OF SECURITY SLOTS IN LAPTOPS (continued)

- TYPE 1:  
STANDARD KENSINGTON  
SECURITY SLOT  
= "Kensington Slot"  
= "K-slot"  
= "Standard Security Slot"  
= "T-bar" slot  
= "Classic T-bar Slot"  
= "Universal Security Slot"



# THREE TYPES OF SECURITY SLOTS IN LAPTOPS (continued)

- TYPE 2:

## NANO SECURITY SLOT

= "Kensington Nano Security Slot"

= "Nanosaver Slot"

= "Kensington NanoSaver Slot"

= "Kensington Mini Security Slot"

= Noble "Scissor Lock Slot"

= Lenovo's Ideapad 310S/510S,  
Lenovo's ThinkPad X1 Tablet,  
and Lenovo's Flex 3 laptops

# THREE TYPES OF SECURITY SLOTS IN LAPTOPS (continued)

- TYPE 3:  
"NOBLE WEDGE SECURITY SLOT  
= Noble Lock Slot  
= Noble Ultra Compact Wedge Lock  
= N17 slot  
= a few Dell laptops, including  
the Latitude 14 7000, Precision  
M3800 and the entire XPS line,  
Dell Inspirons,  
some Chromebooks

# THREE TYPES OF SECURITY SLOTS IN LAPTOPS (continued)

# THREE TYPES OF SECURITY SLOTS IN LAPTOPS (continued)

- <https://www.laptopmag.com/articles/laptop-lock-guide>
- <https://www.computersecurity.com/laptop/cables.htm>
- [https://connectivitycenter.com/product-category/security-products/smart-keeper-series/port-locks/?gclid=EAlaIQobChMIobP5ufrx-glVnAatBh0pcwS2EAMYASAAEglgr\\_D\\_BwE](https://connectivitycenter.com/product-category/security-products/smart-keeper-series/port-locks/?gclid=EAlaIQobChMIobP5ufrx-glVnAatBh0pcwS2EAMYASAAEglgr_D_BwE)

# THREE TYPES OF SECURITY SLOTS IN LAPTOPS (continued)

- <https://www.computerhope.com/issues/ch001012.htm>

# MOST SECURITY CABLES WILL ONLY WORK WITH ONE OF THE THREE TYPES OF SECURITY SLOTS

- Read the fine print at the manufacturer's Web site for the specific model of security cable that you are interested in buying

# UNIVERSAL SECURITY CABLES

- Universal Security Cables are ones that work with all three types of security slots:



StarTech.com 6.5'  
(2m) 3-in-1  
Universal Laptop  
Cable Lock - 4-  
Digit  
Combination  
Laptop/Desktop  
Security Cable  
Lock Compatible  
w/K-Slot, Nano &  
Wedge Slot  
Computer - Anti-  
Theft Steel Cable



1



StarTech.com 6.5'  
(2m) 3-in-1  
Universal Laptop  
Cable Lock - 4-  
Digit  
Combination  
Laptop/Desktop  
Security Cable  
Lock Compatible  
w/K-Slot, Nano &  
Wedge Slot  
Computer - Anti-  
Theft Steel Cable  
(LTULOCK4D)


\$42<sup>51</sup>

\$13.69 deliver

10. [Details](#)

 [Select deliver](#)

Only 15 left  
order soon.

Qty: 1 

Add

Bu

 [Secure tran](#)

Ships from

Sold by

Return policy: |

Jan 31, 2023

# UNIVERSAL SECURITY CABLES

- [https://www.amazon.com/StarTech-com-Universal-Laptop-Cable-Lock/dp/B08CY955WR/ref=sr\\_1\\_2?crid=2B8YRH8HN1JZV&keywords=StarTech.com+Universal+Laptop+Cable+Lock+Keyed+-+K-Slot%2FNano%2FWedge+Computer&qid=1667362529&qu=eyJxc2MiOilwLjUxliwicXNhIjoiMC4wMCIsInFzcCI6IjAuMDAifQ%3D%3D&srefix=startech.com+universal+laptop+cable+lock+keyed+-+k-slot%2Fnano%2Fwedge+computer%2Caps%2C112&sr=8-2](https://www.amazon.com/StarTech-com-Universal-Laptop-Cable-Lock/dp/B08CY955WR/ref=sr_1_2?crid=2B8YRH8HN1JZV&keywords=StarTech.com+Universal+Laptop+Cable+Lock+Keyed+-+K-Slot%2FNano%2FWedge+Computer&qid=1667362529&qu=eyJxc2MiOilwLjUxliwicXNhIjoiMC4wMCIsInFzcCI6IjAuMDAifQ%3D%3D&srefix=startech.com+universal+laptop+cable+lock+keyed+-+k-slot%2Fnano%2Fwedge+computer%2Caps%2C112&sr=8-2)

# "HXN ROUND FASTENER"

- A "HXN Round Fastener" can connect a security chain or cable to almost any threaded screw hole in the back of a desktop computer without requiring any drilling or gluing:

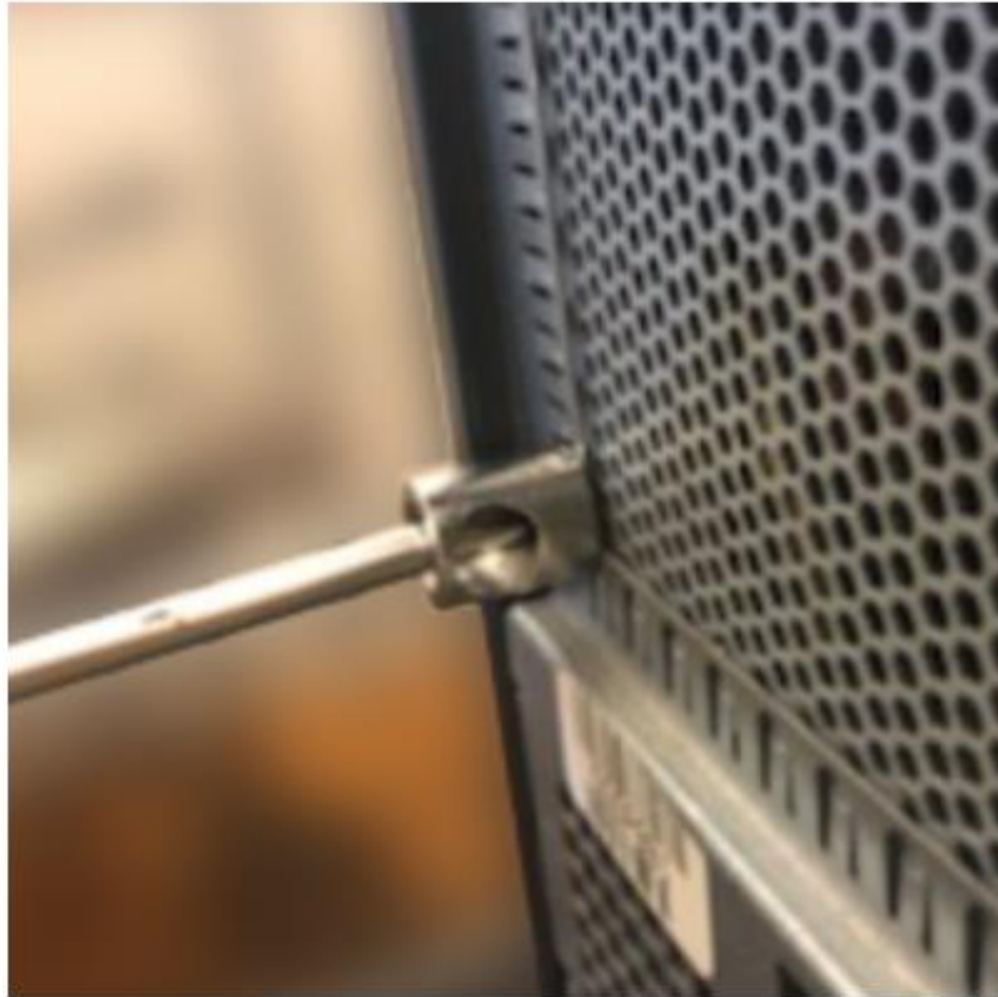




Remove any available existing screw



Insert the screw you just removed into the bottom hole of the HXN fastener



Screw it back into the existing hole in the device you are securing





The screw will bottom out inside the fastener, allowing you to pass a security cable through



# "HXN ROUND FASTENER" (continued)

- Available at <https://www.computersecurity.com/cables/acc.htm>
- and
- <https://www.padlockoutlet.com/secure-it-hex-cone-nut-hxn-5101-hex-security-fasteners.html>

# USE REGULAR CHAINS AND PADLOCKS..

- ..TO EXTEND THE LENGTH OF LAPTOP SECURITY CABLE
- ..TO SECURE ITEMS THAT DO NOT HAVE A SECURITY SLOT
- ..TO TIE TOGETHER VARIOUS ITEMS TO MAKE ALL OF THEM HARDER TO STEAL

# USE REGULAR CHAINS AND PADLOCKS.. (continued)

- ..TO EXTEND THE LENGTH OF LAPTOP SECURITY CABLES
- ..TO SECURE ITEMS THAT DO NOT HAVE A SECURITY SLOT
- ..TO TIE TOGETHER VARIOUS ITEMS TO MAKE ALL OF THEM HARDER TO STEAL



## Safety Cable Lock 98" Long , Luggage Lock Safety Cable Lightweight Braided Stainless Steel Double Loop by Ovener

Brand: Ovener

★★★★★ 100 ratings

\$11<sup>88</sup>

✓prime One-Day

FREE Returns ▼

Get a \$150 Gift Card. Pay \$0.00 \$11.88 upon approval



# Safety Cable Lock 98" Long ,Luggage Lock Safety Cable Lightweight Braided Stainless Steel Double Loop by Ovener

Brand: Ovener



100 ratings

---

\$11<sup>88</sup>



# Product details

<b>Brand</b>	Ovener
<b>Special Feature</b>	Lightweight, Waterproof
<b>Material</b>	Stainless Steel, Polyvinyl Chloride
<b>Color</b>	Clear
<b>Finish Type</b>	Pvc
<b>Item Weight</b>	0.05 Pounds

- LENGTH: 98 Inch (8.2 feet or 2.5 meters) Diameter: 2.5mm , and completely sealed with a 0.5mm clear PVC smooth coating for additional protection against the elements.

# USE REGULAR CHAINS AND PADLOCKS.. (continued)

- <https://www.computersecurity.com/computer-lock/guardian-desktop-cable-lock.htm>
- <https://www.computersecurity.com/cables/acc.htm>
- <https://www.fjmsecurity.com/Computer-Locks.php>

# USE REGULAR CHAINS AND PADLOCKS.. (continued)

- <https://www.tufnut.com/com-sec-cab/>
- <https://www.insight-security.com/cablock-computer-lock-down-pack-tslp>