

If you're smart you're using 2-factor authentication to sign in to your bank, email and other online accounts. If you try to log-in to your Google account for example, you'll have to wait to get a text with a secret code that you have to enter. There's a better, and more secure, solution. Google introduced it today, called a security key which allows you to sign into those accounts with your fingerprint.

trt 128  
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super  
0-8 Jamey Tucker

## **ANCHOR INTRO**

GOOGLE INTRODUCED SOMETHING TODAY (thursday) THAT'S SUPPOSED TO MAKE IT EASIER TO SIGN INTO YOUR ACCOUNTS, AND AT THE SAME TIME, BE MORE SECURE THAN A PASSWORD.

IT'S CALLED A SECURITY KEY. OUR CONSUMER TECHNOLOGY REPORTER JAMEY TUCKER SHOWS US HOW IT WORKS, AND WHETHER IT'S RIGHT FOR YOU.

## **package**

When you're using your personal computer, it's fairly secure, but your computer at work, or another shared computer like at a library or hotel, can be risky. Google's new security key, allows you to log in to your accounts on any computer...with just a tap of your finger.

The Titan Security Key uses a person's fingerprint to log in to Google and other online accounts. I haven't gotten my hands on Google's version, but the technology is identical to the Yubikey which I do use.

Rather than needing to get a code sent to your phone before signing in to Google or Facebook or Dropbox, you simply put the security key into a USB port, and tap your finger. That will log you into your accounts quickly and securely.

Biometric sign-ins, like your fingerprint or facial recognition is much more secure than even a strong password. To use one of these keys, you simply log into your Google account, or Facebook or Dropbox, and register your key.

You'll need to use two-factor verification so when you do sign into an account on a new computer or phone, Google will send you a text message with a secret code. Now, rather than needing to do all of that, just enter your email address and tap the key. It generates a one-time password. Like this: each time I tap, the Yubi-key enters a long password that is used just once.

The Yubikey works with all of these online services, Google's Titan Key will be adding some of these as well. Both the Titan Key and the Yubikey fit conveniently on your keychain.

So who needs one of these security keys? Anyone who's especially worried about their online security, anyone who uses shared computers, and anyone who insists on using weak passwords, the same password on multiple accounts, or if you're just annoyed needing to get a special code sent to you before you can log-on. Security keys are both easy...and secure.

That's What the Tech? I'm Jamey Tucker

## **ANCHOR TAG**

GOOGLE'S SECURITY KEY IS 50-DOLLARS AND WENT ON SALE TODAY (thursday), BUT IT SOLD OUT AND THERE'S NOW A WAITING LIST. THE YUBI-KEY IS ALSO 50 DOLLARS AND CAN BE PURCHASED ONLINE.

## **WEB STORY**

Google introduced a new security device Thursday aimed to make it easy for users to log into their accounts on shared computers.

The Titan Security Key uses 2-factor verification and a person's fingerprint to login securely to many services online including Google, Dropbox and Facebook. The key is similar to the Yubikey which has been on the market for a few years now.

Both of these devices are registered to the owner when they log into their Google accounts. Rather than needing to wait on a security code to be sent to their phone when

they log into a computer they haven't used before, a user will insert the Yubikey or Google Titan Security Key and tap it with their finger. The key will generate a one-time password of about 20 characters which will securely log into their accounts. Using biometrics as sign-ins is much more secure than using even strong passwords.

The Google Titan Security Key is on sale for \$50 in the Google Store but as of Thursday afternoon, it was already sold out and Google is accepting names and purchases on a waiting list. The Yubikey is also \$50 and is available at many online retailers including Amazon.

The Yubikey also works with Dropbox, Facebook, Microsoft and Firefox and will unlock accounts when logging on from a mobile device by tapping the key on the back of the phone.