



1.3.1 Uses of Hashing

1. A website stores login details of its users in a database. The user's password is passed to a function that generates a hash.

a) Describe what is meant by the term 'hash'.

[1 mark]

- A result that is generated by applying an algorithm to a value

b) Describe one advantage to storing the password as a hash.

[2 marks]

- Hash functions cannot be reversed
- If someone gains access to the database they can only see the hashed password and not retrieve any user's password

2. Describe the steps involved in adding a record to a hash table.

[5 marks]

- Hash algorithm applied;
- to key value
- result is location in table where the record should be stored
- if location is not empty
- then use next free location Accept. description of any feasible collision resolution method

