THREAT MODELING

READ MORE ABOUT ASSESSING YOUR RISKS AT HTTPS://SSD.EFF.ORG/

THREAT MODELING helps you identify threats to the things you value and who you need to protect them from. When building a threat model, you can ask yourself the following questions.

- What do I want to protect?
- Who do I want to protect it from?
- What are the consequences if I fail?
- How likely are these consequences?
- How can I address the most likely risks?

THREAT MODELING GLOSSARY:

Asset: What I want to protect
Adversaries: Who I want to protect my assets from
Threats: What are the potential consequences if I fail?
Risk: The likelihood that a particular threat against a particular asset will actually occur
Adversary capability: What an adversary is able to do to achieve its aim. For example, a country's security services might have the capability to listen to telephone calls while a neighbor may have the capability to watch you from their window. To say that an adversary "has" a capability does not mean that they will necessarily use that capability. It does mean that you should consider and prepare for the possibility.

Try it! Make a threat model for a jewelry store owner:

THREAT MODEL FOR A JEWELRY STORE OWNER

YOU inherit a JEWELRY STORE in the city.
The JEWELRY STORE has:

- $1 million worth of diamonds.
- A staff of five people.
- An alarm system.
- A safe.
- A cash register.
- A camera monitoring the door.
- A pin-protected alarm for the door.

1 What assets are you protecting?

- $1 million worth of diamonds
- Money in the safe
- Alarm code
- **Anything else?**

2 Who are your adversaries?

- Jewelry thieves
- **Anyone else?** (Consider: Who might have access to the jewelry store safe? What about cleaning crews, or maintenance staff?)

3 What are the consequences if you fail?

- Theft of jewelry
- Any other **threats?** (What if the safe code or alarm code is stolen?)

4 How likely are these consequences?

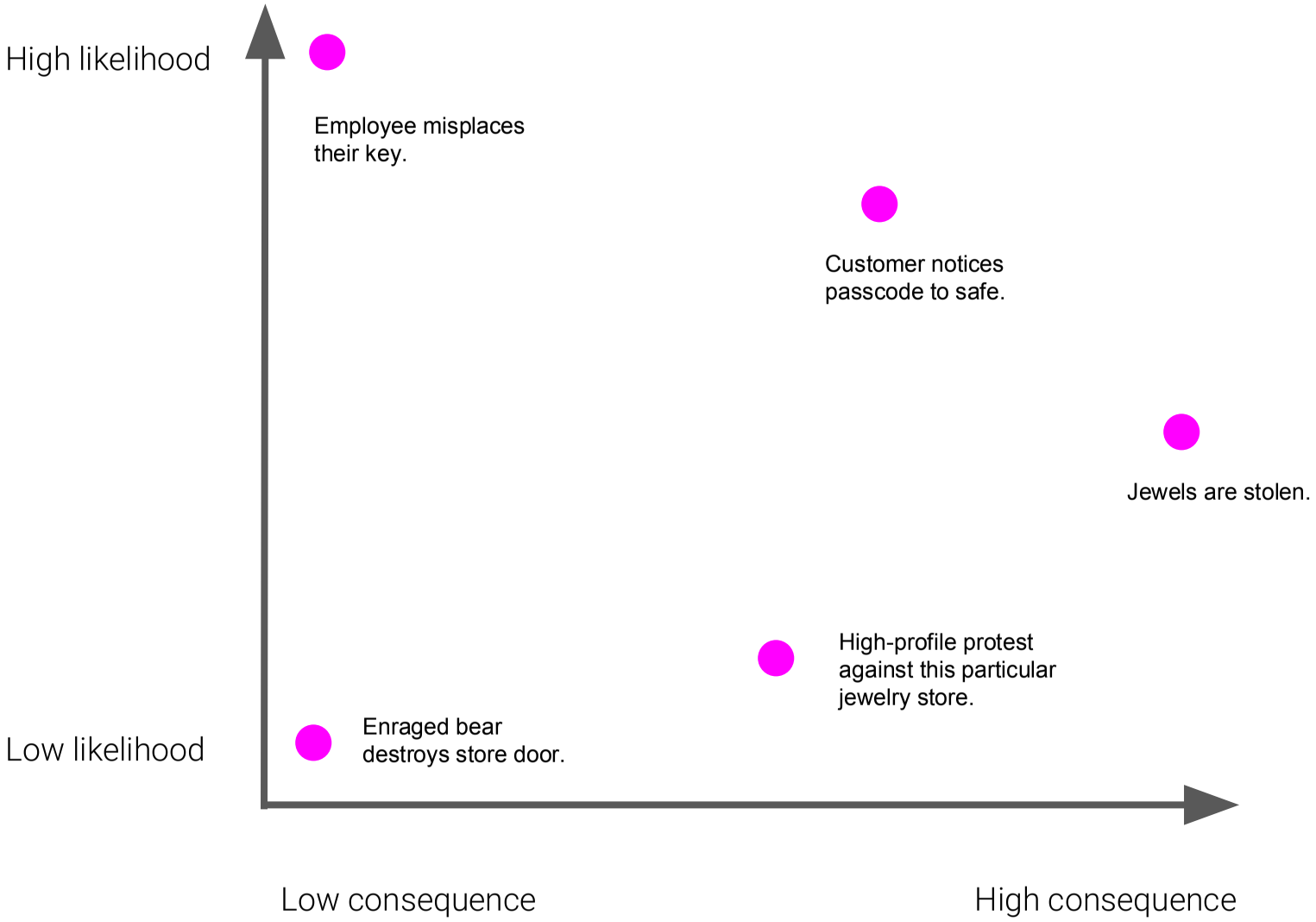
Map the likelihood of these threats occurring on the back!

5 How can you address the most likely risks?

- Changing the passcode every month, and after an employee leaves.
- **What else?**

Risk

How likely are these consequences? This depends on your adversaries' **capabilities**.



Threat

ASSESSING YOUR RISKS

1 ASSETS: What do you want to protect?

2 ADVERSARIES: Who do you want to protect it from?

What would motivate your adversaries?

What are your adversaries' capabilities?

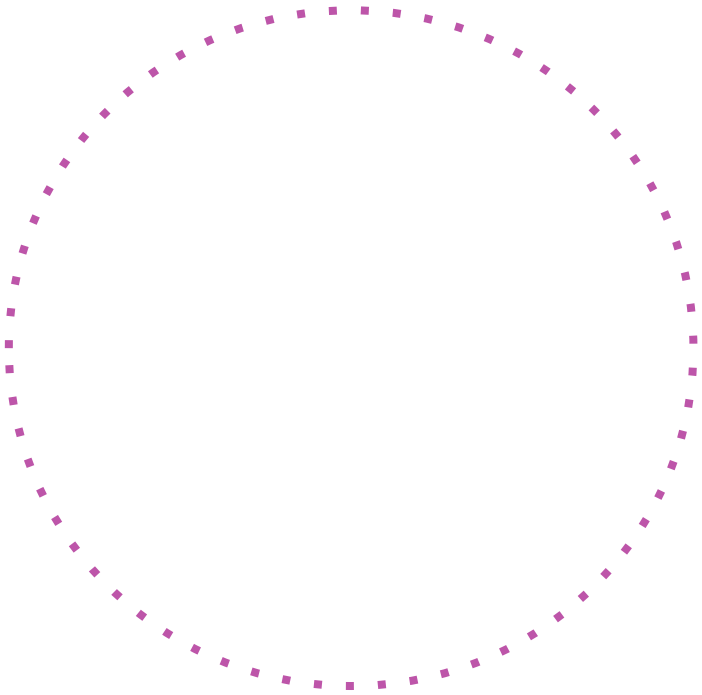
3 THREATS: How would they threaten your assets?

Map the likelihood of the threats on the next page!

4

5 What kinds of protections make sense in response?

Fill this section out after completing #4 on the back.
Determining appropriate measures depends on your appetite for risk.



6 Technologies and threats change. Plan to reassess your risks.

I will reevaluate my threat model on: _____

Risk

4 How likely are these threats? This depends on your adversaries' **capabilities**.