

My public key is $n = 47,880,953$ and $e = 24,523$. I am encrypting text using groups of three letters encoded by 01=A, 02=B, 03=A, and so on up to 26=Z, and 27=space. I use only letters and spaces (no distinction between uppercase and lowercase, and no punctuation). The “groups of three letters” is important; see the example, below.

An Example

This is an example of how one would encrypt a message using my public key $(e, n) = (24523, 47880953)$.

1. **The message in text:** We start with a phrase. For this example, we’ll encrypt the phrase CAT IN A HAT. I first break it into manageable chunks of three letters: CAT, _IN, _A_, and HAT.
2. **The message as a number:** These are converted to (unencrypted) numbers as 030120, 270914, 270127, and 080120. Thus the *plaintext* (unencrypted message) is:

$$\{030120, 270914, 270127, 080120\}$$

3. **The encrypted message as a number:** These are then *encrypted* using the RSA scheme:

$$\begin{aligned} 030120^e &= 030120^{24523} \equiv 5570542 \pmod{n} \\ 270914^{24523} &\equiv 8898498 \pmod{n} \\ 270127^{24523} &\equiv 2834110 \pmod{n} \\ 080120^{24523} &\equiv 22663854 \pmod{n} \end{aligned}$$

Thus the encrypted message or *cyphertext* is

$$\{5570542, 8898498, 2834110, 22663854\}.$$

4. **Decryption of the encrypted text:** I can recreate the plaintext from the cyphertext, since I know my private key (d, n) . In order for you to recover the plaintext, you would either need to guess d (ha!), guess $m = \phi(n) = (p-1)(q-1)$ (ha! again), or factor $n = pq$. (This is simplifying things, of course. These are the *straightforward* options you have.)

Text To Decrypt

I have encrypted a short message using my private key. Use my public key (given above) to decrypt it. (This is part of homework 6; see that page for more information and challenges.) The encrypted text is:

$$\{20892288, 21817312, 9196332\}$$