

## **Data Masking**

### **What is data masking?**

Data masking is process of modifying actual data using some characters or numbers to protect the sensitive data. Data masking is also known as data obfuscation.

### **Why data masking is done?**

Data masking is used to protect sensitive data from threats while providing the similar functionality of the original version. It ensures sensitive information is not available beyond production environment.

### **Which techniques are used for data masking?**

- Data Pseudonymization
- Data Anonymization
- substitution
- Encryption
- Redaction
- Averaging
- Shuffling
- Date Switching
- Nulling out

### **Where data masking is implemented/When data masking is required?**

- Personally identifiable information
- Protected health information
- Intellectual property
- Payment card information

### **What are all the types of data masking?**

- Static data masking
- Dynamic data masking
- On the fly data masking,
- Deterministic data masking.

### **How data masking is implemented?**

Data masking is three step process:

- First, Sensitive information is identified.
- Secondly, appropriate data masking technique is applied on the sensitive information
- Finally, continuous auditing is done to ensure whether the required output is reached. In other words, continuously auditing is done to ensure whether data masking is working as expected.

**Where data masking is used?**

In user training, sales demos, software testing.