

To Set a Password-Protected Screen Saver for Mac OS 10.0 - 10.5

1. Open **System Preferences** (the same as Control Panel in the previous versions of the Mac OS)
2. Click on the **Security** icon.
3. Check the **Require password to wake this computer from sleep or screen saver** field.
4. Return to the **System Preferences** and choose the **Desktop and Screen Saver** icon.
5. Select the **Screen Saver** tab.
6. Set the amount of time you want to pass before the screen saver starts at 15 minutes.
7. Click on the **Hot Corners** button to set the corner you have to move the mouse to for the screen saver to start instantly.

When the screen saver activates after the required time period has lapsed and/or you want to unlock your computer move the mouse, click on a key to logon to your computer.

To set a screensaver in Mac OS X Snow Leopard:

1. Open System Preferences from the Apple menu or Dock.
2. Click on Desktop & Screen Saver in the top row.
3. Click on the Screen Saver tab. Screensaver options are revealed.
4. Select the patterns, pictures or words you want to see from the Screen Savers column on the left. The Preview at the right shows an example of what that option will look like. To see a full-screen demo click the Test button.
5. Set the Start screen saver time slider to a delay before activating the screensaver. The shortest delay is 3 minutes.
6. If you wish, select a Hot Corner as explained below.

Now you have the screensaver in place. It will start either after a delay when you haven't done anything on your Mac for a while, or immediately if you move the mouse to a hot corner.

But at the moment, all you have to do is move the mouse to stop the screensaver and then all the information on your Mac is readily available to anyone who looks.

Now what you need is to 'lock' the screensaver in place, so only authorized users can stop it.

Lock the screensaver



Screensaver lock.

To lock the screensaver in place requires a trip to the Security settings.

To lock a screensaver in Mac OS X Snow Leopard:

1. Open System Preferences from the Apple menu or Dock.
2. Click on Security in the top row.
3. Click on the General tab. Many security options become available.
4. If necessary, click the padlock icon at bottom left of the window to be able to change settings. You will have to enter the username and password for an administrator to unlock the General settings tab.
5. Check the box beside Require password after sleep or screensaver begins.
6. Choose a time period from the drop-down menu. Select 15 minutes.

Now after the screensaver starts you will have to enter a password to stop it, although you may have up to 4 hours 'grace'. For example, if you chose immediately then as soon as the screensaver starts it requires a password to stop it. Since you chose 15 minutes then in the first 15 minutes after activating the screensaver you would only need to move the mouse to stop it, after that you'd need the password.