Mac OS X: Locking Your Computer Screen

If you want to stay logged into your computer while you are away from it, but need to prevent others from using it, you can lock the screen. When you return to the computer, type your name and password to continue working.

1. Click on the **Apple Menu** at the top left of the screen and select **System Preferences** from the menu. Once the **System Preferences** window opens, click on **Security**.



2. Select "Require password to wake this computer from sleep or screen saver."



A person with an administrator account can use their name and password to unlock the screen.

Locking the screen does not prevent other users from turning off the computer and restarting it, then logging into their own account. If you think this could happen, be sure to save your work before you leave your computer.