Overview
If your PC is eligible, you just need to enable BitLocker, choose an unlock method, and set a few other options. Once enabled, files are encrypted as they are added.

Requirements to Use BitLocker

1. Correct Windows Version
   • Win 10 - Education, Professional, or Enterprise
   • Win 8 - Professional or Enterprise
   • Win 7 - Enterprise or Ultimate

2. Enabled Trusted Platform Module (TPM)
   a. Check Your TPM Status
      1. Go to the Start menu.
      2. Type TPM.msc in the search box. The status should be ready for use.

3. Administrator access
   a. Check Your Access
      1. Go to the Start menu.
      2. Type user accounts in the search box and then select it.
      3. Select Manage User Accounts.
      4. The access should be Administrator.

Enabling BitLocker
If you meet the requirements in 1, 2, and 3, follow the steps below.

1. Press the Windows button and E (Win + E).
2. Scroll down on the left column.
3. Right-click on the C drive and then select Turn on BitLocker.
4. After BitLocker scans your PC follow the steps in the pop-up wizard.
5. Choose an Unlock Method then select Next.
6. Follow the steps to back up your recovery key then print or save it to your Microsoft OneDrive.

7. Select Encrypt entire drive unless the PC is new. Future files will encrypt with either method.

8. Select Continue.
9. Select Run BitLocker system check and then select Continue.

10. To start the encryption process, restart your computer once you are prompted to do so. You can use your computer while your drive is being encrypted.

Lost your unlock method?
• The recovery key will unlock your PC.

Lost your recovery key too?
• Data recovery is not guaranteed.
Logging in
If you chose to automatically unlock your drive on startup then nothing will change for you.
If you chose to enter a PIN or insert a USB flash drive you will need to do so at startup before entering your Windows password.

Lost/Forgotten PIN or Flash Drive
Press the escape button on your keyboard when the prompt screen displays. You will then be able to enter your recovery key.

Disabling BitLocker
1. Go to the Start menu.
2. Type Manage Bitlocker in the search bar and then select it.
3. Select Turn Off BitLocker.
4. Select Turn Off Bitlocker on the pop-up window to start the decryption process.

Encrypt your Windows PC with BitLocker
BitLocker, a Microsoft Encryption program that scrambles data so only someone with the right encryption key can unscramble and read it.

Contact the WashU IT Help Desk at 314-933-3333 if you need assistance.