FileVault

FileVault 2 is available in OS X Lion or later. When FileVault is turned on, your Mac always requires that you log in with your account password.

Step by Step guide

1. Choose Apple menu > System Preferences, then click Security & Privacy.
2. Click the FileVault tab.
3. Click , then enter an administrator name and password.
4. Click Turn On FileVault.

5. If other users have accounts on your Mac, you might see a message that each user must type in their password before they will be able to unlock the disk. For each user, click the Enable User button and enter the user's password. User accounts that you add after turning on FileVault are automatically enabled.
6. Choose how you want to be able to unlock your disk and reset your password, in case you ever forget your password:

- Choose to Create a recovery key and do not use my iCloud account.
7. DO NOT STORE THE RECOVERY KEY ON THE MAC. Copy it to a USB flash drive and physically transfer possession of it to a member of the systems team or Matt Dell. He or she will store the recovery key in shared secure storage then will shred the file and return the key.

Encryption occurs in the background as you use your Mac, and only while your Mac is awake and plugged in to AC power. You can check progress in the FileVault section of Security & Privacy preferences. Any new files that you create are automatically encrypted as they are saved to your startup disk.

When FileVault setup is complete and you restart your Mac, you will use your account password to unlock your disk and allow your Mac to finish starting up. FileVault requires that you log in every time your Mac starts up, and no account is permitted to log in automatically.

Software can be loaded by first having the user login to the computer using their credentials and then using administrative privileges to install the software.

If you lose both your account password and your FileVault recovery key, you won’t be able to log in to your Mac or access the data on your startup disk.