

iPad security and privacy

Secure your iPad with a passcode and your own fingerprint.

A passcode or fingerprint can secure your iPad to keep all your personal data safe. You can think of the passcode as a key to unlock your tablet. When your iPad is locked, no one else can use it.

If you already have a passcode set up on your iPad, you can follow along with this course to learn how to change your passcode.

What you will need

Before you begin, check that your iPad is fully charged and showing the **Home** screen. Your operating system software should also be fully up to date.

To check your system software is up to date, select **Settings**, then **General**, then **Software Update**. Your iPad will then check for any updates required, and you can select to download and install if necessary. The option **Automatic Updates** should be set to on so that your iPad can keep itself up to date.

We recommend you only use your home Wi-Fi to do these updates to save your data and to protect your privacy.

First steps

Your iPad security options are controlled from the **Settings** app. To open it:

1. Find the **Settings** app icon on the **Home** screen and tap it.
2. Once the Settings app is open, scroll down the menu on the left of the screen until you see **Touch ID & passcode** and tap it. It might be called **Face ID & passcode**, depending on your iPad model.

If you already have a passcode on your tablet, the next few steps are similar to those for changing it, so it's a good idea to follow along.

Turning on and choosing a passcode

To use a passcode, you need to tell your tablet to activate the passcode security feature, and then you need to type in a new passcode for the first time.

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1. First, tap **Turn passcode on**.
2. A passcode can be more than just numbers! You can get some more information about what makes a good passcode by tapping **Passcode options**. For this course, we're going to use a six-digit code of just numbers.
3. Using the number pad, tap in a six-digit passcode. If you make the passcode too easy (for example, 123456) your iPad might warn you about it! If this happens, tap **Change passcode** and try again!
4. Your iPad wants to be sure you remember your passcode, so **Enter the passcode again**.



Find out what makes a great and safe passcode by tapping here

Your iPad and personal information are now protected by your new passcode!

Your six-digit passcode should be easy for you to remember but hard for others to guess. To create a strong passcode, use random numbers and avoid number patterns, and for added security, keep a record of your passcode in safe place.



Changing the lock delay

If you don't use your iPad for a period of time, it will lock automatically. To keep using it, you'll need to enter your passcode. This keeps your data safe, but it's not always convenient! You can choose how long your tablet remains unlocked after you stop using it.

When you set up your new passcode successfully, your iPad returned to the **Touch ID & passcode** screen, so let's continue from there:

1. Find **Require passcode** and tap on it.
2. A short delay time offers good security and convenience. Tap **After 5 minutes** to make your iPad wait five minutes to lock.
3. Tap the **Back** arrow at the top left of the right-hand window to go back to the **Touch ID & passcode** screen.

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How to change your passcode

If you're worried that someone has found out your passcode, it's easy to change it.

1. Tap **Change passcode**.
2. Follow the steps to set a new six-digit passcode.

Testing your new passcode

Now let's test your new passcode to make sure it works.

1. Press the **Power** button on the top of your iPad so the screen goes dark. This locks your iPad. Don't hold the button for too long, or your tablet may switch off completely.
2. Press the **Home** button once to wake up your iPad. The **Lock** screen will appear, and ask you to **Press home to unlock**.
3. Press the **Home** button again, and a number pad will appear.
4. Carefully enter each number of your passcode using the number pad. If you enter the passcode incorrectly, the passcode will shake and you'll need to try again. If you enter the wrong passcode six times in a row, you might be locked out of your iPad. It's a good idea to keep a record of your passcode in a safe place.
5. After you enter your passcode correctly, the **Home** screen will appear, and you can use your iPad.

Setting up Touch ID

The **Touch ID** feature on your iPad allows you to unlock it using your fingerprint. Touch ID can be a faster and more convenient way to unlock your iPad than a passcode. However, you will still need a passcode to keep your information secure. Your passcode can always unlock your iPad, even when Touch ID security is set up.

1. To set up **Touch ID**, find and open the **Settings** app like you did earlier in this guide.
2. From the **Settings** menu, find the **Touch ID & passcode** option and tap it.
3. You need to enter your passcode to prove it's you!



Press and lift your finger on the Home button a few times. The scan is finished when the fingerprint has turned completely red.

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4. When the **Touch ID & passcode** screen appears, tap **Add a fingerprint**.
5. The **Touch ID** screen appears. Follow the on-screen instructions by placing your finger on the **Home** button to scan your fingerprint.
6. You need to press and then lift your finger on the **Home** button a few times.
7. When the screen says **Adjust your grip**, tap **Continue**. Then start pressing the **Home** button off-centre to capture the edges of your fingerprint.
8. When the screen says **Complete**, tap **Continue** to finish and return to the **Touch ID & passcode** screen.

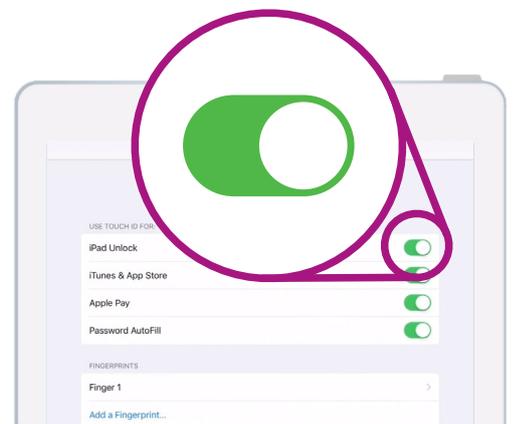
Extra Touch ID features

Now your fingerprint is registered with **Touch ID**, you can use it for a range of things.

You can use your **Touch ID** to:

1. **Unlock** your tablet.
2. Buy things from **iTunes** and the **App Store**.
3. Buy things at the counter in some shops using **Apple Pay**.
4. **Autofill passwords** for some apps and websites.

To change any of these settings, tap the green switch next to the setting to turn it off.



The green switches show which **Touch ID** features are turned on

Testing Touch ID

Now let's test your **Touch ID** to make sure it works.

1. Press the **Power** button on the side to lock your iPad.
2. Now press the **Home** button to show the **Lock** screen, and press it again to show the passcode number pad.
3. You can unlock with your passcode here, but this time press the **Home** button again to use **Touch ID**.
4. Your iPad will scan your fingerprint, and in a second or two, it will unlock and show the **Home** screen.

Congratulations! You should now know how to protect the personal data and information on your iPad using a passcode, and Touch ID.