

Overview of the File Vault Program from Apple:

<http://www.apple.com/macosx/features/filevault/>

In the Dock menu, click the System Preference Icon. It is the Icon that looks like a metal plate with a switch on left side and picture of the Apple Logo on the right.

System Dock:



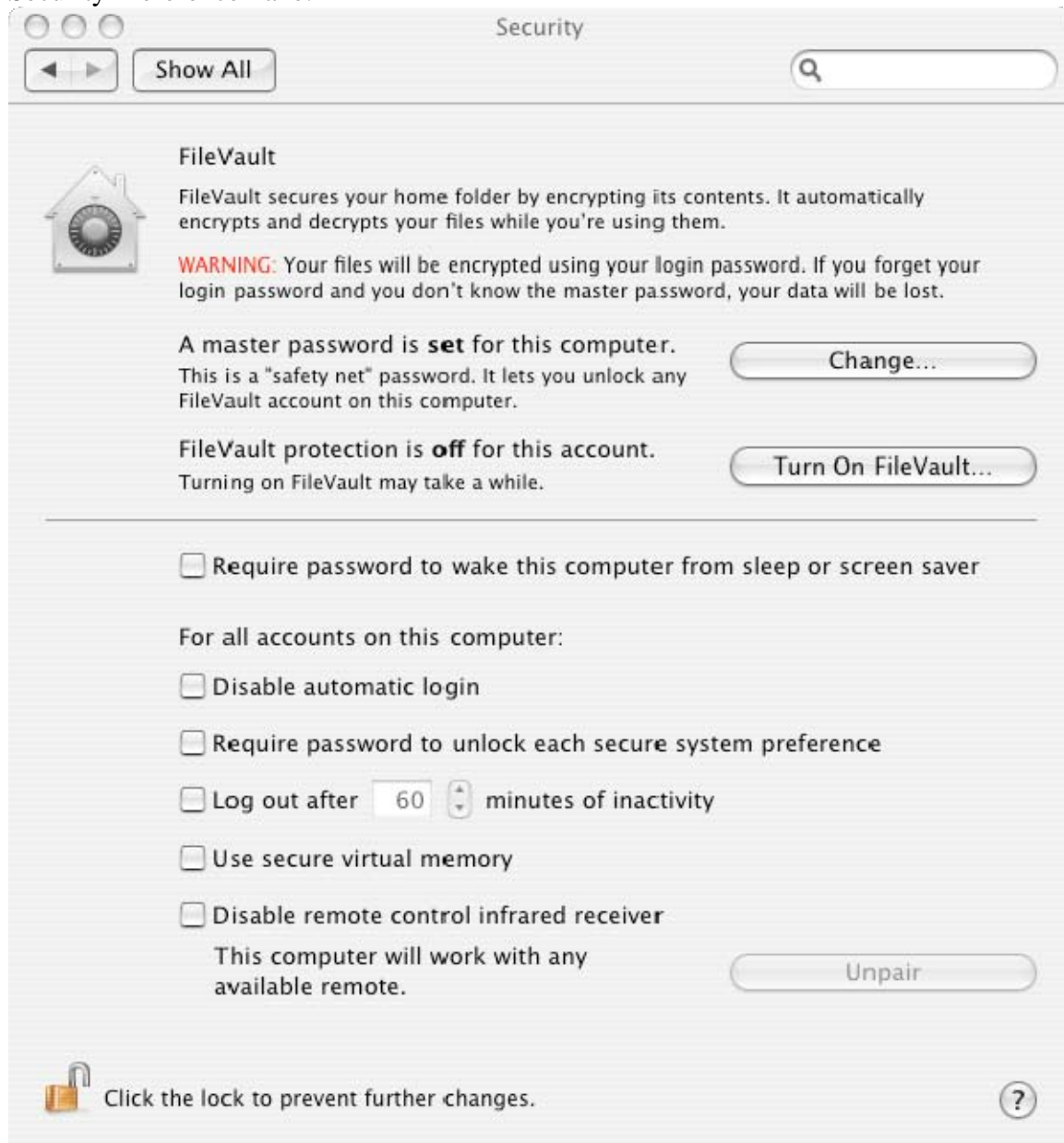
In the System Preferences Window, select the Security Icon under the Personal Options. It is the icon which looks like a house with a combination lock.

System Preferences:



This is the Security Preference Pane. The first thing you should do is set the Master Password.

Security Preference Pane:



Setting Master Password:



A dialog box titled "Change Master Password" with a light gray background. It contains four text input fields: "Current Master Password:", "New Master Password:", "Verify:", and "Hint:". The "New Master Password:" field has a small question mark icon to its right. At the bottom left is a question mark icon in a circle. At the bottom right are "Cancel" and "OK" buttons.

To utilize File Vault for the User, select the “Turn On FileVault” button located below the “Change” button for the Master Password.

User Password: (Enter password of user logged into system)



A screenshot of a macOS Security window. A modal dialog box is open in the center, titled "FileVault requires that you type the password for this user account." It contains a "Password:" label and a text input field, with "Cancel" and "OK" buttons at the bottom. In the background, the Security window shows a "Change..." button and a "Turn On FileVault..." button. Text in the background window states: "A master password is set for this computer. This is a 'safety net' password. It lets you unlock any FileVault account on this computer." and "FileVault protection is off for this account. Turning on FileVault may take a while."

File Vault Activation:



Steps that happen after Turn on File Vault:

1. User gets logged out.
2. System proceeds to encrypt user's home folder.
3. User is then allowed to log in.

Recent Articles regarding Apple File Vault:

1. <http://www.securityfocus.com/columnists/393>