

How to get started with YubiKey and Google Accounts



Setting up a YubiKey to secure your Google Account is super easy, and within minutes you can protect your account with strong two-factor authentication. Here's how:

Requirements

- A browser that natively supports U2F (Google Chrome, Opera, Firefox).
- A Google account (such as Gmail, Google Docs, YouTube, Blogger, Google Ads)

Note: If your Google Account is a managed account—such as with G Suite, Google Cloud, or Google for Education—your administrator must have enabled two-step verification (also known as two-factor authentication) before you can use your YubiKey. If the option to select 2-step verification is not available (as described in the steps below), ask your administrator to enable this security option.

Set up your Google Account

1. Turn on 2-step verification. If you already have set up 2-step verification, continue with the next step.
 2. Add a security key. We recommend that you add two YubiKeys, or Security Keys. They can be used interchangeably, or one can be your primary device, and one a backup device.
 3. Be sure to print and save backup codes (you will use these if you are ever logging in without your YubiKey). To do this, scroll down after you have added your YubiKey(s) and, under Backup codes, click Show Codes. Click Download or Print, and save the codes in a safe location.
- You can also set up Google Authenticator to generate verification codes if you don't have your YubiKey. The Authenticator app can receive codes even if you are not connected to the internet.

Your YubiKey is now registered to your account as your default Two-Step Verification device on supported browsers! The screen now displays all devices that are registered to your account, so you can easily add another Security Key, or remove registered keys. If you accidentally lose a YubiKey, remove that YubiKey from your account on <https://myaccount.google.com/security>. No one would be able to log on to your account though, because they would still need to know your username and password.

Log in to your Google Account

Logging in to your Google Account with your YubiKey is refreshingly simple.

1. The next time you need to log in to your Google account, insert your YubiKey.
2. Enter your username and password, and click Sign in.
3. When the YubiKey begins to blink, tap it.
 - If you want to trust this computer for a short period of time, so you do not have to insert your YubiKey each time you log in, check the box to Remember this computer for 30 days.
 - If you do not have your YubiKey with you, click Use a verification code or Authenticator app instead.

To learn more about how to protect your business with Two-Factor Authentication, read [Google's guide](#) and the [dedicated page](#) on Yubico's website.