## How to encrypt an external USB drive using BitLocker in Windows

- 1. Plug in the USB drive you want to Encrypt.
- 2. Open My Computer, right click on the USB drive and click on **Turn on BitLocker**.

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File Home Sh	are View	Manage	
Pin to Quick Copy Past access	Cut Copy path Paste sho	n Move rtcut to v	Copy to * Organize
$\leftrightarrow \rightarrow \cdot \uparrow \Rightarrow$	USB TO ENCRYP	PT (D:) >	
<ul> <li>&gt; A Quick access</li> <li>&gt; Dropbox</li> <li>&gt; C OneDrive - Dougla</li> <li>&gt; This PC</li> <li>&gt; USB TO ENCRYPT</li> </ul>	Name New f	ölder	^ Date 9/6/2
> 🤿 Network	Expand		
_	Turn on B	litLocker	
	Open Aut	oPlay	

3. Check mark the first option **Use a password to unlock the drive** and then enter the password and click on Next.

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~	Reveal BitLocker Drive Encryption (D:)	
	Choose how you want to unlock this drive	
	Use a password to unlock the drive	
	Passwords should contain uppercase and lowercase letters, numbers, spaces, and symbols.	
	Enter your password	
	Reenter your password	
	Use my smart card to unlock the drive	
	You'll need to insert your smart card. The smart card PIN will be required when you unlock the drive.	
	Next Cance	

4. In this step, you need to save your recovery key in a safe location. This key will be required to access your drive in case you forget your password. Click on **Save to a file** to store the key and then click on Next.

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←	Real BitLocker Drive Encryption (D:)	
	How do you want to back up your recovery key?	
	<ol> <li>Some settings are managed by your system administrator.</li> </ol>	
	If you forget your password or lose your smart card, you can use your recovery key to access your drive.	
	$\rightarrow$ Save to a file	
	$\rightarrow$ Print the recovery key	
	How can I find my recovery key later?	
	Next Cance	I

5. Select the option **Encrypt entire drive** and click Next.

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÷	RitLocker Drive Encryption (D:)
	Choose how much of your drive to encrypt
	If you're setting up BitLocker on a new drive or a new PC, you only need to encrypt the part of the drive that's currently being used. BitLocker encrypts new data automatically as you add it.
	If you're enabling BitLocker on a PC or drive that's already in use, consider encrypting the entire drive. Encrypting the entire drive ensures that all data is protected—even data that you deleted but that might still contain retrievable info.
	O Encrypt used disk space only (faster and best for new PCs and drives)
	Encrypt entire drive (slower but best for PCs and drives already in use)
	Next Cancel

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6. Select **Compatible mode** and click Next.

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←	RitLocker Drive Encryption (D:)	
	Choose which encryption mode to use	
	Windows 10 (Version 1511) introduces a new disk encryption mode (XTS-AES). This mode provides additional integrity support, but it is not compatible with older versions of Windows.	
	If this is a removable drive that you're going to use on older version of Windows, you should choose Compatible mode.	
	If this is a fixed drive or if this drive will only be used on devices running at least Windows 10 (Version 15 or later, you should choose the new encryption mode	11)
	O New encryption mode (best for fixed drives on this device)	
	Compatible mode (best for drives that can be moved from this device)	
	Next Canc	el

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7. Click on **Start encrypting** to begin the encryption process. The time taken will vary depending on the size of the disk.

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←	Reference BitLocker Drive Encryption (D:)	
	Are you ready to encrypt this drive?	
	You'll be able to unlock this drive using a password.	
	Encryption might take a while depending on the size of the drive.	
	Until encryption is complete, your files won't be protected.	
	Start encrypting Cancel	

8. Once the encryption process is finished, unplug the USB drive and plug it in again, you will notice that this time you will be asked for a password to access the drive. Your device is now encrypted.

BitLocker (D	)		
Enter password	o unlock this	drive.	
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More options			
More options			