MY ACCOUNT > LOG IN & UNLOCK

Vault Timeout Options

Vault Timeout Options

Vault timeout determines how your vault will behave after a specified period of inactivity. Timeout is set individually for each Bitwarden app:

⇒Web app

Navigate to **Settings → Preferences** to set your vault timeout and vault timeout action.

⇒Browser extension

Navigate to **Settings → Account security** to set your vault timeout and vault timeout action.

⇒Mobile

Navigate to **Settings → Account security** to set your session timeout and session timeout action.

⇒Desktop

- On macOS, navigate to **Bitwarden → Settings** to set your vault timeout and vault timeout action.

- On Windows or Linux, navigate to **File → Settings** to set your vault timeout and vault timeout action.

> 💡 **Tip**
>
> If you are logged-in to multiple accounts in your Bitwarden app, timeout and timeout action are set on an account-by-account basis. Learn more.

When configuring your vault timeout settings, you can set both the timeout and timeout action:

Vault timeout

Vault timeout determines how long Bitwarden can be inactive before timing out. "Inactivity" is determined by time since interacting with Bitwarden, not system idle time. Each app has standardized options (for example, 1 minute, 15 minutes, 1 hour) as well as options specific to certain apps (for example, On System Idle) and a custom input. Enterprise organizations can implement a maximum allowable timeout.

> ⓘ **Note**
>
> On Chromebooks, there is no way to fully close or restart the browser. Therefore, the **On Browser Restart** option will only lock the extension when you restart your device.
>
> For Microsoft Edge users, browser restart does not take place when closing the browser. In order for Bitwarden Vault Timeout to occur On Browser Restart, two Microsoft Edge settings must be disabled:
>
> - **Startup Boost**
>
> - **Continue to run background extensions and applications after Microsoft Edge is closed**

Web and browser extension timeouts

Due to the web app and browser extension depending on your web browser, there are unique "timeout" scenarios to consider:

1. **If you refresh your browser** (`CMD/CTRL + R`), your web app will lock. Refreshing will not affect a browser extension.

2. **If you close your browser tab**, you will be logged out of your app vault. Closing a single tab will not affect a browser extension.

3. **If you close your browser window**, you will be logged out of your web app and your browser extension will timeout.

> 💡 **Tip**
>
> By default, **if you close your browser window**, your browser extension will require you to login or unlock with your master password regardless of your selected vault timeout action.
>
> You can allow the browser extension to unlock with a PIN after closing the browser window by unchecking the **Lock with master password on browser restart** option that is presented when you setup your PIN.

4. **If your device is set to use a screen saver**, your browser extension will interpret activation of the screen saver as a system lock and will timeout if the **On system lock** option is selected.

Vault timeout action

This option determines what Bitwarden will do once the vault timeout is reached. Options include:

- **Lock** (default)

  Locking your vault will maintain vault data on the device, so unlocking your vault can be done offline. You will be required to enter your master password or PIN, or use biometrics, but won't need to use any active two-step login methods.

- **Log out**

  Logging out of your vault completely removes all vault data from your device. Logging back in will require you to re-authenticate your identity, so logging in can only be done when online. You will be required to enter your master password and any active two-step login method.