

Protect Max5 Application

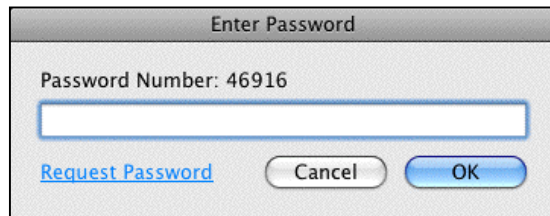
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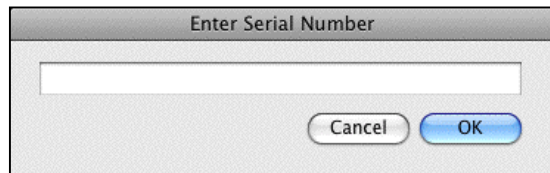
Max5 is an interactive graphical programming environment from Cycling 74. Mac or Windows applications created with Max5 can be protected with AppProtect or QuickLicense to ensure that only licensed users can run an application and the source code is hidden from hackers.

Software activation is the process of enabling newly installed software to run on a specific computer. Software vendors use an activation process to ensure that only paid customers can run their software and to enforce license restrictions.

For a low volume application, AppProtect can protect the Max5 application and present an Enter Password dialog on first launch. Each customer requires a computer-unique password that can be generated by the vendor with AppProtect from the Password Number shown on the customer's computer.



For higher volume applications, AppProtect can be used in conjunction with the Safe Activation service to fully automate the activation process. On first launch, a dialog can accept a Serial Number and activate the software license using an online activation server.



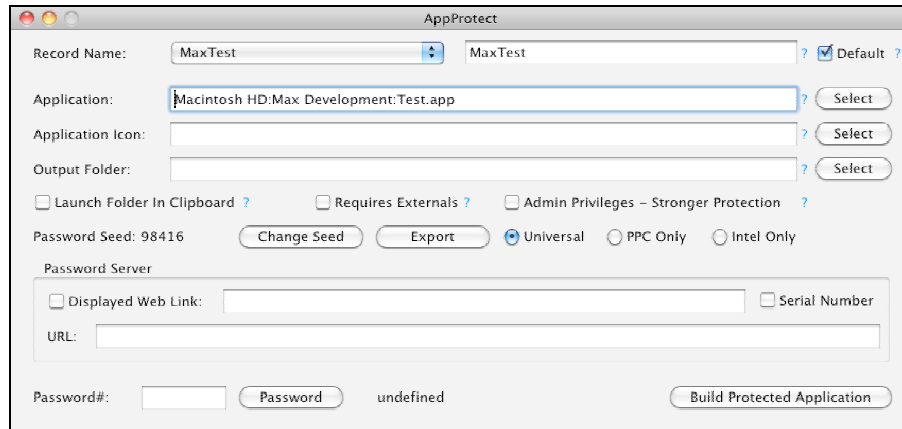
By using a computer-specific activation process, the Protected Application can only be used on licensed computers. Files cannot be copied and shared with other computers or users.

For more sophisticated licensing requirements, Max5 applications can be protected and licensed with QuickLicense. QuickLicense is part of a family of tools for software protection, license management and automated software activation. These tools support computer specific manual or online activation, time or execution limited Trial licenses, perpetual licenses, software subscriptions, floating licenses, plugin protection, secure license portability, business system integration and extensive vendor customization.

This paper shows how to quickly protect a Max5 application on Mac or Windows application with AppProtect using a simple Enter Password dialog. To fully automate the activation process, refer to the "*AppProtect and Safe Activation*" paper. A similar protection process can be applied using the AddLicense tool from QuickLicense with the ability to configure a wide range of license types.

Protect Mac Application

To protect a Mac application, double-click AppProtect to present its window. Click the **Select** button to pick the application that you want to protect. Click the **Build Protected Application** button. In this example, the name of the Max5 application was Test.app on Mac OS X.



Unless you specify a different output folder, the Protected Application is placed in the same folder as the original application. By default, the Protected Application gets "My " as a prefix to the application name, but you can rename it to anything you want.

The Protected Application can now be distributed to any user. On first launch, the Enter Password dialog is presented.

Enter the Password Number from that dialog into AppProtect to generate the computer unique password needed for that computer.

AppProtect can hold a separate named record for each Protected Application that you distribute to customers.



Protect Windows Application

To protect a windows application, launch AppProtect and select the application. Since Max5 applications require external support files, you must set the “Requires Externals” checkbox before clicking the **Build Protected Application** button.

The source code stored in the collective file of a Windows application is very easy to view with a word processor. The Max5 Encryptor can encrypt the main collective file. A Protected Application can read the main collective file using either mxf or mxfe format.

To encrypt this file before distributing it with your application, drag and drop the main mxf file on to the Encryptor application. The encrypted mxfe file is generated.



Include the mxfe file instead of the mxf file with your Protected Application on Windows. That step isn't required on Mac, since AppProtect automatically encrypts the collective file when building the protected application bundle.

Summary

AppProtect makes it easy to protect Max5 applications. To fully automate the activation process, link the Protected Application to the Safe Activation server. If you need more sophisticated licensing options like time-limited Trial editions, software subscriptions or floating licenses, use QuickLicense to configure the license, then apply it to the application with the AddLicense tool.

The Max5 Encryptor tool can be used with AppProtect Windows or the AddLicense tool from the QuickLicense Windows product. The runtime code built into a Protected Application automatically decrypts the mxfe file when reading it into the launched application.

Since mxf file encryption is built into the Mac edition of AppProtect and AddLicense (included with QuickLicense), the extra drag and drop step isn't required.