

What do you want to encrypt? / Method	BitLocker (Windows)	FileVault (Mac)	VeraCrypt (Mac, Windows, Linux)	7-zip (Mac, Windows, Linux)	MS Office (Windows, Mac)	Windows EFS	Hardware Encryption	Phones/Tablets
Hard Drive / Logical Drives								
External / USB Drives								
Volumes (create a volume on a drive)								
Files (portable)								
Folders (non-portable, non-sharable)								
Archives								
Hidden volumes								
	<p>1. BitLocker is only available on certain versions of Windows. 2. If your version does not have BitLocker, use VeraCrypt to encrypt your hard drive.</p>	<p>Mac only.</p>	<p>1. VeraCrypt is free 2. It is very versatile, and is good for encrypting HDs, volumes and external devices. 3. You cannot use it for encrypting individual files. 4. A VeraCrypt volume cannot be used simultaneously by different users.</p>	<p>1. 7-Zip is less than ideal if you are repeatedly altering files in the encrypted volume, as they must be manually extracted, altered and re-added every time they are changed. 2. While 7-zip is *only* for Windows, there are variants for Mac and Linux, and the files are transferable between the different operating systems.</p>	<p>1. Any Office document in the modern format (e.g. .docx, .xlsx, .pptx) can be easily encrypted to AES-128 bit. 2. Use 'File' - 'Info' - 'Protect Document' - 'Encrypt with Password'. 3. Make sure the password is complex! 4. Do NOT use with the old .doc, .xls, .ppt formats. The encryption is weak and easily crackable. 5. If you're using this in order to send documents to someone else, send the password via a different method (e.g. phone, text)</p>	<p>1. Native to Windows OS - within folder/file properties: 'General' - 'Advanced' attributes. 2. Files can't be shared between users. 3. Use with extreme caution! 4. If used on shared storage (e.g. P Drive. \\Deptshared) the encrypted files won't get backed up. Also, if you lose the computer used to encrypt the folder, you lose access to the folder. There is no way to regain this access.</p>	<p>1. If your Windows device contains a 'TPM' chip, encryption performance using BitLocker will be enhanced 2. You can purchase external hard drives and USB sticks that use hardware encryption, which increases performance and means they are independent of any computer-based software</p>	<p>1. If you set a PIN or passphrase on an iPhone or iPad, the storage will be automatically encrypted 2. Android devices have built-in encryption that can be used to encrypt the storage</p>

NOTE: In all cases, make sure to keep a copy of your encryption password/key. If you lose it, you lose access to the data forever!

NOTE: Wherever possible, use encryption algorithm AES-256.

Key:

	Best fit
	May be some issues
	Only use with extreme caution
	Not available using this technology