# Lock and Encrypt a Document



This manual contains pertinent information about Locking and Encrypting sensitive documents.

January 2023

# St. Lawrence College

# **Lock and Encrypt files**

#### **About**

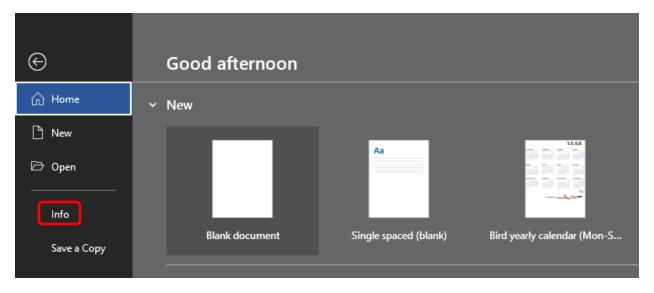
When dealing with sensitive information, it is important to be aware of the security of your files. Below you will find instructions on locking and encrypting Microsoft Office files.

#### **How to Lock and Encrypt Files**

1) To Lock and encrypt the file, you will need to have the document open on your screen. In the top left corner, click on the **File** tab.



2) This will then open the File Menu. On the first screen that loads, click on 'Info.

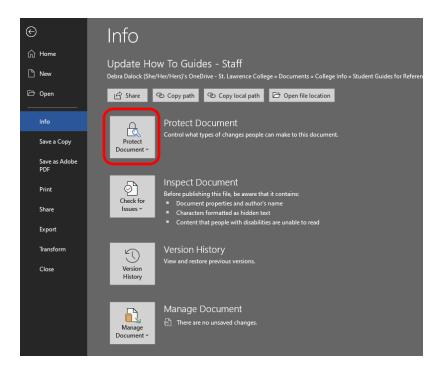


© St. Lawrence College 2023 2 of 4

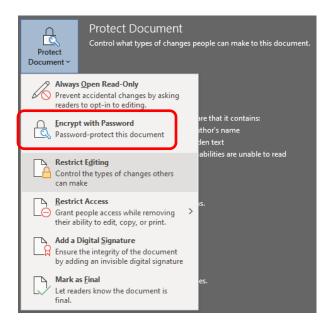


# **Lock and Encrypt files**

3) You will have options to Protect the Document, Inspect the Document, view Previous Versions, and Manage the document.



4) When you click the 'Protect Document' button, a new window will open. On this menu, you will need to select **Encrypt with Password** 



© St. Lawrence College 2023 3 of 4

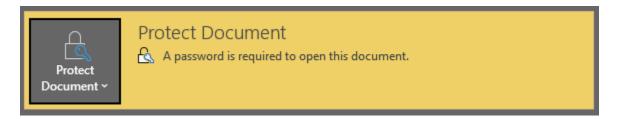


# **Lock and Encrypt files**

5) You will then see a dialog box opening with a field for you to enter a password. You will need to enter the chosen password twice. Next, click on 'OK'



6) You will then notice a message under Protect Document saying "A password is required to open this document".



The document is now locked and encrypted. If you are sharing the document, all users will need to use the same password.

<u>A word of caution:</u> If you Password Protect (Encrypt) the document, and lose the password, you will no longer be able to open the document!

© St. Lawrence College 2023 4 of 4