Quick Start Guide

Thank you for purchasing the Apricorn Aegis Secure Key. The Aegis Secure Key works by simply entering your desired 7-15 digit PIN directly onto the onboard keypad. The Aegis Secure Key can then be connected to any USB port on any computer. Should the drive be lost or stolen, rest assured that all data held on the Aegis Secure Key is safe and can’t be accessed by any unauthorized third party without the access PIN. The full user’s manual is located on the Aegis Secure Key itself. We recommend that you unlock the Key using the factory preset PIN (1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9) and download the manual to your computer prior to initial setup / changing default settings. Once the user’s manual is downloaded, be sure to create your own unique PIN prior to using your Secure Key. The Aegis Secure Key manual can also be found at: www.apricorn.com/media/uploads/ASK_Manual_9-13-2013.pdf

Creating / Changing your PIN Code

1. Beginning in standby mode, press the button to wake the drive. (The RED and GREEN LED will blink rapidly.)

2. Within 10 seconds, enter the default PIN if creating a PIN for the first time (1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9) or your User PIN if you’re changing your existing PIN.

3. Press the button. (GREEN LED will blink with correct PIN entry; RED LED will blink with an incorrect PIN entry.)

4. Press and hold the button for three seconds. (GREEN and RED LED will illuminate steadily.)

5. Enter the new PIN and press the button. (GREEN and RED LED will blink together.)

6. Enter the new PIN again to confirm and press the button once more. (GREEN LED will blink if new PIN is accepted; GREEN and RED LED will blink alternately if new PIN isn’t acceptable, in which case, repeat steps 4-6 and be sure that your new PIN meets length and complexity requirements outlined below in the PIN Requirements.)

Unlocking the Secure Key

1. Beginning in standby mode, press the button to wake the drive. (The RED and GREEN LED will blink rapidly.)

2. Within 10 seconds, enter your PIN (or default PIN if unlocking for the first time: 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9) and press the button for three seconds. (RED LED will blink with incorrect PIN entry.)

3. Enter the correct PIN entry. (GREEN LED will blink with correct PIN entry.)

With a correct PIN entry, the Key will remain unlocked and ready to be plugged into a USB port. (GREEN LED will blink; BLUE LED will either blink or stay on indicating use / activity. If not plugged into a USB port within 30 seconds of unlocking, the Key will return to sleep mode and automatically lock itself.

PIN Requirements

PINs must be a minimum length of 7 digits with a maximum of 15 digits and cannot contain all sequential numbers or all the same numbers (e.g. 123456789, 987654321 or 11111111, 22222222, etc.)

Sleep Mode

When the key is not in use, it will enter a sleep mode in which the key cannot be accessed. To put the key into standby mode and accept command inputs, press the button once. (The RED and GREEN LED will blink rapidly.)

Performing a Complete Reset

WARNING: PERFORMING A RESET WILL DESTROY ALL DATA ON THE DISK AND THE SECURE KEY WILL NEED TO BE INITIALIZED AND REFORMATTED AFTER A NEW ADMIN PIN IS CREATED. IF POSSIBLE, BE SURE TO BACK UP ALL IMPORTANT DATA PRIOR TO RESETTING THE SECURE KEY.

In the case that the User PIN has been forgotten, or if you would like to delete all data stored on the Key and configure a new User PIN, follow the instructions below. After reset is performed, a new User PIN will have to be defined in order to re-enable the Key. Additionally, the Aegis Secure Key will also have to be reformatted.

1. Beginning in standby mode, press the button to wake the drive. (The RED and GREEN LED will blink rapidly.)

2. Press the button. (RED LED will blink.)

3. Press and hold the button and the button for three seconds. (The GREEN and RED LED will both blink together.)

4. Press the button three times followed by the button. (No LEDs will be illuminated.)

5. Press the button. (The RED LED will illuminate solidly, indicating that it isn’t formatted.)

Setting Up a New Pin After a Complete Reset

Once the drive is reset either by the method above or if the drive was attacked by brute force means (10 unsuccessful attempts to unlock the Aegis Secure Key), a new User PIN will need to be created by doing the following:

1. Press and hold the button for three seconds. (The RED and GREEN LED will illuminate steadily.)

2. Within 10 seconds, enter your new PIN. (The RED and GREEN LED will illuminate steadily.)

3. Press the button. (The RED and GREEN LED will blink rapidly.)

4. Enter your new PIN again to confirm and press the button once more. (GREEN LED will blink if new PIN is accepted. Key will need to be reformatted upon insertion into a USB port. GREEN and RED LED will blink alternately if new PIN isn’t acceptable, in which case, return to step 1 and be sure that your new PIN meets length and complexity requirements outlined on page one in the PIN Requirements.)

Locking the Key

To lock the key, simply remove the Secure Key from its USB port, or wait 30 seconds after unlocking without inserting it into a USB port.

Note: The Aegis Secure Key will not be recognized by any operating system when inserted into a USB port while it’s in its locked state. Always remove from USB port to perform any key command functions.

Battery Note

The Aegis Secure Key has an internal rechargeable battery with a smart-charging circuit. The battery will automatically charge whenever it’s plugged into a powered USB port. Since the Secure Key is shipped with a minimal battery charge, it must be plugged into a powered USB port for 90 minutes to properly charge your battery prior to its first use.

Formatting the Key

The Aegis Secure Key comes preformatted in NTFS for Windows® and is ready for use. For the Mac OS, the Disk Utility should be used to reformat the hard drive to a Mac compatible file system.

Technical Support

Apricorn provides the following helpful resources:
1. Apricorn’s Website (http://www.apricorn.com)
2. E-mail us at support@apricorn.com
3. Call Technical Support at 1-800-458-5448 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. PST, M - F