

Introduction

i-protected: The access control tool.

Control access to files through shortcuts. Protect and manage your shortcuts easily.

Features:

- **User-friendly interface:** access all your shortcuts in a snap, using outlook-style buttons, and no menus.
- **Protect your shortcuts with password, or insert a message before they are run.** Users can be warned before using a program, or advised on particular matters.
- Manage all the shortcuts from the same place. **Administrators can easily protect and manage their users' shortcuts.**
- **Keep track** of who's running a program, and when, and for how long. And make sure the system is shut down, or the screen saver is activated, when finishes.
- **Customize** the message box. **Choose a skin**, or create your own, edit the text for each user, and much more.
- **Backup and restore** selected Desktop or Start Menu shortcuts, or revert them to their original state.
- **100% unobtrusive.**
- · And much more!

Available for Windows 9x/ME/NT/2000/XP.

Installation / Uninstallation

To install the program, execute SETUP.EXE, and follow the directions that appear on the screen.

To uninstall use the normal procedure: go to **Add/remove programs** in the **Control Panel**. Remember to close "i-protected", first.

Important note: protected icons will stop working, until "i-protected" is reinstalled. Remember to revert them, if necessary, **before** uninstalling.

What's new?

Changes in i-protected 2.0, June 2002

- Full XP support.
 - New Drag&Drop feature.
 - Fixed a bug when showing user list on NT machines.
 - Fixed a problem when the Opening Screen would not disappear at startup.
 - New product name.
 - New skins.
- Other minor fixes and changes.

Changes in Shortcut Master 1.01, November 2001

- Fixed registry access bug when using users protected shortcuts.
- Fixed bug that prevented F5 from refreshing logview panel.
- Other minor fixes.
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Changes in Shortcut Master 1.0, September 2001 First release.

Shortcut view

This is the main window of the program. From here you can manage and protect your shortcuts.

Basic procedures

- **Shortcut protection:** select the desired items with your mouse and press the Right-Click button, then select Protect and choose the corresponding option, depending on your needs. See User settings.
- **Restoring shortcuts to original state:** select the desired protected items and press the Right-Click button, then select Revert.
- **Backup / Restore:** you can backup selected shortcuts to a safe directory, and restore them, by using the corresponding options on the Right-Click menu.
- **Drag and Drop:** drag and drop shortcuts to the Shortcut View to protect any item easily. For example, Start Menu shortcuts, Taskbar shortcuts, etc.
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Toolbar items

- **Selecting a different user's desktop:** in the middle of the toolbar at the bottom, there's a selection box containing the list of all the user names available on the system. Just click on each one to show the corresponding desktop shortcuts. You can easily copy shortcuts between users by using "Copy" and "Paste". Select All Users, if present, to access the desktop shortcuts available to everybody.
- **Browsing through folders:** you can manage shortcuts in any folders on your system by clicking on the folder icon next to the browse caption. Right-Click to show a list of most recently used folders.
- **Browsing through the Start Menu:** Right-Click on the folder icon, and select Start Menu then press the folder button, and browse through the Start Menu folder.

Configuration

The configuration section provides you with general program settings. For additional options, see the [User settings](#) section.

Basic procedures

- **Saving Configuration changes:** Just press the left button in the toolbar at the bottom of the screen.
- **Protecting "i-protected" with password:** Check the [Authentication required](#) box, and enter a password in the [password](#) box.

The context menu

When activated, you will be able to right-click on any shortcut and protect -or revert- it at once, from the Explorer, or the Desktop, without running "i-protected".

- **Protecting shortcuts independently :** Select a shortcut, for example in the Start Menu, or the Explorer, and Right-Click on it with your mouse. A pop-up menu will appear including two new options: [Protect](#), and [Remove protection](#). Click the one you need, and that's it. [All users \(default\) settings](#) will be used by default, check [Per-user settings](#), to use different settings depending on the user that runs the shortcut.

Skins

Choose your preferred skin for the message box that will be shown in protected shortcuts. Skins can be of different sizes, colors, etc, see more about [how to create or edit skins](#).

User settings

From this window you will be able to enter different texts, passwords, and settings, for each user on the system.

When you protect shortcuts using the option: Per-user settings, from the Shortcut view section, or using the Shell Extension option, they behave in a different manner depending on the user that runs them.

- **Editing the settings of each username:** Select a username, and then enter the password and the text, and activate the selected flags. Press the save button at the bottom of the screen before selecting another user, or the changes will be lost.
- **Use the same options for all users:** Select the username All users or Default, and then type a password, enter the message to be shown, and activate the desired flags. Then use the All users (default) settings option when protecting shortcuts.

Flags

- **Using a log:** Check the Use log box.
- **Show message only:** If you don't want to protect shortcuts with password, and just show a message before they are run, check the Message only box.
- **Show no message (stealth mode):** Shortcuts will appear to be run as normal, without messages, or passwords. Still, other flags apply. Check the Nothing (stealth) box.
- **Perform special actions on exit:** When the user finishes using the shortcut, a special action can be performed. Just select one of the available actions in the On Exit branch.

Text message

Enter here the desired message, taking into account the following:

- By default, when showing the message a password is required.
- If your message does not require a password, just check the flag Message only.
- You can modify the selected text type to **Bold**, *Italic* or Underlined, just use the Right-click menu.
- Add special -local- tags to the message, like: current user name, current time, or current date. Just browse the Right-click menu.

View log

Keep track of who's running a program, and when, and for how long, and which action was taken when he or she finished using it.

In order to activate the log, just check the [Use log](#) flag on the appropriate username. See the [User settings](#) section.

- **Username:** The name of the user that executed the shortcut.
- **Executed:** The precise name of the program, file, doc, etc. that was run when the user executed the shortcut. Not the shortcut name, which can be easily changed, but the protected name of the target of the shortcut, which cannot.
- **Started:** The time and date when the executed file was started.
- **Finished:** The time and date when the executed file was closed.
- **Action:** If available, the action that was activated just after the executed file was closed.

Getting started

After starting "i-protected", you will be presented with the main window, and the Shortcut view selected by default. Click the left-side buttons to move between sections. Each one has a corresponding toolbar at the bottom, from where you can save, or modify basic settings.

Sections:

- Shortcut view: This is the main window, where you can manage and protect your shortcuts.
- Configuration: Choose a general password, select a skin, activate the shell extension, etc.
- User settings: Configure users settings: password, text message, settings *-flags* - like log, window type, action...
- View log: Access the log data, to know who executed which program, when, for how long, etc.
- **About**: Show the logo screen, to register your copy, contact us for tech support, or to read this help file.
- **Exit**: Leaves the program.

How to protect a shortcut

Run "i-protected", and select the desired icon. Right-click and select the option Protect... and then All users (default) settings, in case you want to use the settings defined for all users (or default user), or select Per-user settings, in case you want to use specific settings for each user.

Then press the button User settings, select a username, and set the password, text message, and flags. Press the save button.

Note that you can protect the shortcut with password (default setting), or just show a message before the program is run, or show no message at all, see the Window type branch on the flags.

Shortcuts can also be protected from outside "i-protected", by using a context menu (right-click menu). Just activate the corresponding option on the Configuration screen.

How to restore a shortcut

Run "i-protected", and select the desired icon. Right-click and select the option Revert. Or click the Restore option, if available, and shortcuts in the backup directory will be copied to the current dir.

Shortcuts can also be restored from outside "i-protected", by using a context menu (right-click menu). Just activate the corresponding option on the Configuration section.

Note that, if "i-protected" is uninstalled, protected shortcuts will no longer work. Remember to restore them before uninstalling.

How to create a new skin

Skins can be easily created, and edited.

Needed files

You need the file skin.xml and 3 images, one for the main window, one for the button, and one for the button with the pressed effect.

All of them must reside inside a folder in the skins directory, where "i-protected" is installed.

Editing the skin.xml file

The following entries (in **bold**) can be edited; do not change anything else, and leave the quotes in place:

- skin ... name = "**name of the skin**" author = "**author of the skin**"
- window background = "**filename of the main window in BMP format with extension (filename.bmp)**"
- .
- .

The **text** branch defines where (x, y) and how (width, height) the space reserved for the message should be, also:

- maxlength = "**maximum number of characters per line**"
- color = "**text color, hexadecimal value (RGB)**"
- .
- .

The **inputbox** branch defines where (x, y) and how (width, height) the password entry box should be, also:

- color = "**text color, hexadecimal value (RGB)**"
- .
- .

The **button** branch defines where (x, y) and how (width, height) the button image should be, also:

- button_up = "**filename of the button image when it's unpressed, in BMP format with extension (filename.bmp)**"
- button_down = "**filename of the button image when it's pressed, in BMP format with extension (filename.bmp)**"
- color = "**text color, hexadecimal value (RGB)**"
- .
- .

The **link** branch defines where (x, y) and how (width, height) the internet link should be, also:

- text = "**the text of the link, for example *Click here to go to my web site*** "
- url = "**the target of the link, for example *mailto:contact@anfibia.net* to send e-mails, or *http://www.anfibia-soft.com* , to access a web site**"
- color = "**text color, hexadecimal value (RGB)**"
- .
- .

Remarks

- The main-data filename must be skin.xml.
- Use one of the available skins as a reference.
- The **maxlength** entry needs some testing to adjust the lines properly. Try a low number and test your skin with a shortcut to see if the text fits, and increase the number until you reach the desired length.
- All quotation marks must include some appropriate data in between, otherwise an error will be shown.
- If you don't want an item to appear on the message box, just send it out of the boundaries of the skin: x = "**1000**" y = "**1000**".
- The hexadecimal value of colors is defined like this: "#RRGGBB", where R means Red, G means Green, and B means Blue. Thus "**FF0000**" is Red, "**00FF00**" is Green, "**000000**" is Black, "**FFFFFF**" is White, etc.

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This non-registered program is a "full-featured" release. Meaning that the same capabilities available in the registered software are present in the non-registered software. This allows you to try out all the features in it to confirm that they work to your satisfaction before registering.

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Print and send this form by e-mail and proper mail, please:

Product: _____

Version: _____

Date: _____

Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Country: _____

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Where (web, magazine...) did you find this product?

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Deliver registration key...

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TOTAL: _____

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How to register

Recommended method of registration: On-line, via a secure server. Fast and easy.

Registering by postal mail

- Print out and complete the supplied order form.
- Send completed order form with an international check (only US dollar) to the following address:

·
·
Apdo. de correos 316
08290 Cerdanyola
Barcelona
Spain.

Registering by phone or fax (RegNow)

RegNow is located in Issaquah, near the sunny setting of Seattle, Washington.

Fax

Our Toll Free Fax Number in the US is 1-888-353-7276.
Internationally you can fax us at (425) 392-0223.

Phone

Our Toll Free Number in the US is (for Phone Orders only) 1-877-353-7297.
Internationally you can reach us at (425) 392-2294.

Postal mail

Register Now!
P.O. Box 1816
Issaquah, WA 98027
USA

Program updates

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<http://www.anfibia-soft.com>

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To be informed of product updates you may join our mailing list. **No spam**, just individual messages when new releases are ready to download.

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Thank you, and sorry for any inconvenience.

Tech Support

Do not hesitate to report problems or bugs.

Also, if you have any suggestions or comments to improve this program send us an e-mail.

Technical support

tech@anfibia.net

Contacting Anfibia

Web

<http://www.anfibia-soft.com>

<http://www.anfibia.net>

General inquiries

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Thank you for using this program.

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FAQ

Frequently Asksed Questions

Q: How can I disable this or that Desktop or System feature?

A: We recommend using Deskman, along with "i-protected". Deskman is a full-featured security application with many interesting possibilities. Just try it.

Q: I need stronger protection.

A: Try a specialized protection application, like Watchman.

Q: Some shortcuts lose their original icons when protected. Why?

A: There are many shortcut types, and we cannot test all the occurrences. But you can manually edit the shortcut and find the appropriate one, or just one from the default list. See in the Configuration section: "Use selected icon instead of original one ...".

Q: In some entries of the log file the "total" section is filled with "n/a". What does it mean?

A: When you see "n/a" in the log file, it means that "i-protected" couldn't determine the precise moment when the "executed" file was closed.

Q: I checked an "action" flag, but when the shortcut program is closed nothing happens. Why?

A: Same as above.

