



Quick Start Guide

Install Harbor Protect, choose Free, Standard, or Pro, and protect your first creative project in minutes.

VERSION 3.0

For macOS. Keep this guide beside the Harbor Protect installer for easy reference.

IMPORTANT

Harbor Protect helps you organize, copy, monitor, and restore files. No backup tool can guarantee against every loss. Keep multiple verified copies of critical work and test restores regularly.

Install and activate

Use the installer and license information supplied with your Lemon Squeezy order.

1**Install Harbor Protect**

Open Harbor-Protect-3.0.dmg, then drag Harbor Protect into the Applications folder. Eject the disk image when copying is complete.

2**Open the app**

Open Harbor Protect from Applications. Because the app is signed and notarized, macOS should verify it at first launch. If macOS asks for confirmation, review the app name and publisher before opening.

3**Start Free, or activate Standard**

You can begin in Free mode, which protects one local backup item with full Analyze, Protect, and Restore. To unlock Standard, select the plan name in the toolbar (or the gear menu), then enter the email address used at checkout plus the license key shown on your receipt.

4**Keep the license key safe**

Store the receipt and license key with your software records. A Standard license can be activated on up to two Macs. Deactivate a Mac before moving the license when possible.

License help

If activation fails, verify the checkout email and license key exactly as provided. Confirm that the Mac is online, then contact support.harborprotect@gmail.com if the issue continues.

Harbor Pro

Pro builds on Standard with Automatic Backups, Dual-destination backup, and Version History — see the next page. Pro activates from the same license screen and will use the same checkout once it becomes available for purchase.

Before your first backup

Connect the destination drive, confirm it has enough free space, and create a clearly named folder for Harbor Protect backups. Avoid using the same physical drive for both the original files and the only backup. Free protects one item at a time; Standard and Pro remove that limit.

Protect your first project

1**Choose what to protect**

Add the project folder, DAW session, media library, or other source containing your original work. Organize folders from more than one drive into a Collection when a project depends on all of them.

2**Choose a destination**

Select a Local Folder with enough available space, or connect Amazon S3 for off-site storage (Standard and Pro). A mounted Dropbox or Google Drive folder also works as a Local Folder destination.

3**Run protection**

Review the selected sources and destination, then start protection. For grouped work, use Protect All so Harbor Protect processes the configured sources in order.

4**Read the status**

Wait for the operation to finish. Confirm that Harbor Protect reports the project as protected and review any warning, missing-drive, skipped-folder, or needs-attention message.

5**Verify independently**

Open the destination in Finder and confirm that the expected project structure is present. For important work, keep another independent backup in a different location.

Incremental backups

After the first complete protection run, Harbor Protect copies only changed files when possible. Reconnect required drives and protect again after meaningful work sessions.

Working rhythm

Before work: connect required drives. After work: run protection and confirm success. Regularly: test a restore and verify more than one independent copy.

Standard and Pro: extra protection

Standard and Pro add convenience and redundancy on top of Free's core protection.

Archive Protection (Standard)

Retire a finished project or drive from your active list without losing its backup history. Select the archive icon on a protection card, confirm Archive Protection, and find it later under Archived Protection in the gear menu.

Protection History (Standard)

A searchable, plain-English record of every protection run — outcome, destination, and timing — kept separately from the current session's Log. Select Protection History from the gear menu.

Automatic Backups (Pro)

Runs Protect All on its own, on a schedule you choose — every 6 or 12 hours, daily, or weekly at a specific time. Turn on Launch Harbor Protect at login so a scheduled run isn't missed. Select Automatic Backups... from the gear menu.

Dual-destination backup (Pro)

Keeps a second, independent copy of everything in your plan — a second drive or Amazon S3 — for simple 3-2-1 protection. Turn on Also back up to a second destination in Protect Your Work. Restore always reads from the primary destination.

Version History (Pro)

Keeps dated, restorable snapshots from before each protection run, instead of just the latest copy. Select Previous Versions from the gear menu to browse and restore an earlier version.

Plan requirement Archive Protection and Protection History require Standard or Pro. Automatic Backups, Dual-destination backup, and Version History require Pro. Free's gear menu shows a locked upsell for each instead.

Restore, move, and get help

Restore a file before you urgently need one. A successful test is the best evidence that a backup can be used.

1

Select a protected project

Open the project or backup record that contains the files you need. Confirm the correct source and protection date before continuing. On Pro, use Previous Versions first if you need an older snapshot rather than the latest backup.

2

Choose a restore destination

Restore to the original location when appropriate, or choose a different folder when you want to inspect recovered files before replacing anything.

3

Review recovered files

Open several restored files in their normal applications. Confirm that names, folder structure, and recent changes are present.

Moving your Standard or Pro license

On the old Mac, open the license screen and choose Deactivate License. Harbor Protect should return to Free mode and Lemon Squeezy should release that activation. Install Harbor Protect on the new Mac and activate it with the same checkout email and license key.

Need help?

Email support.harborprotect@gmail.com and include your macOS version, Harbor Protect version, what you were doing, and the exact error message. Do not send your full license key or private project files unless support specifically requests a safe diagnostic step.

Online and support

Website: harborprotect.studio
Support: support.harborprotect@gmail.com
Publisher: Renn Music Productions

Always maintain multiple verified backups of critical work.