

How to Install & Set Up Bitdefender Antivirus for Mac

This article guides you on how to download and install the Bitdefender Antivirus for Mac app on macOS devices. We've got a short video that shows you how to install and configure Bitdefender Antivirus for Mac, or you can read the steps below.

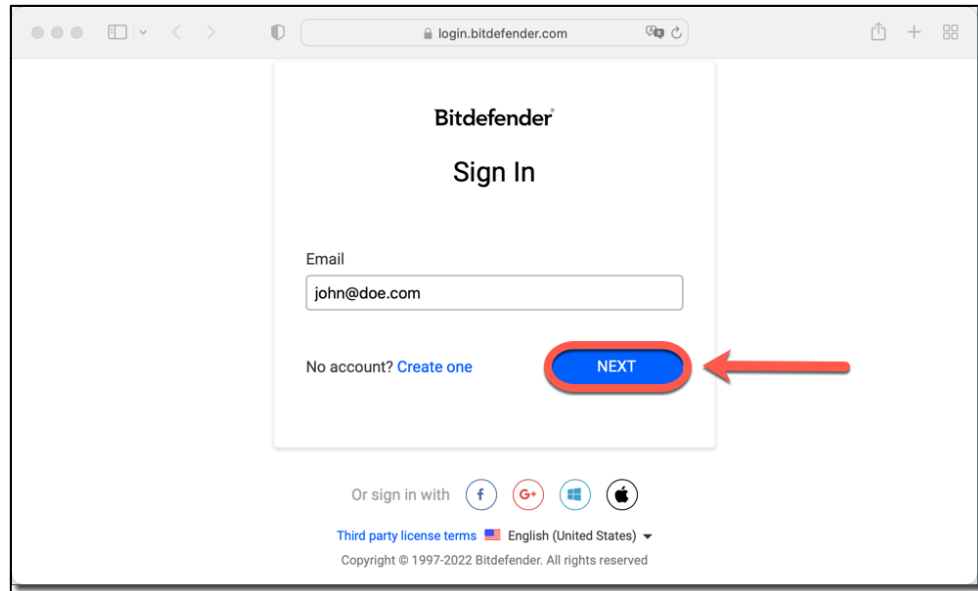
Note: Before installing Bitdefender Antivirus for Mac, make sure your Mac meets the [system requirements](#) and that you have an active Bitdefender Antivirus for Mac subscription in your Bitdefender account. The product you install will validate its subscription from your account. You can find all subscriptions in the 'My Subscriptions' section of Bitdefender Central. For more information, see – [How do I activate my Bitdefender Subscription?](#)

Video tutorial

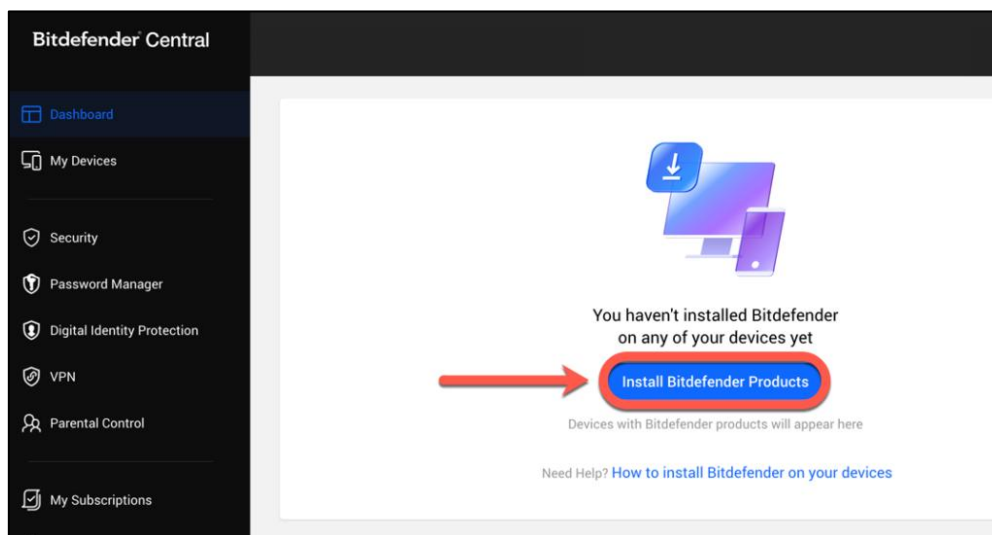
How to Install and Set Up Bitdefender Antivirus for Mac:

Installing Bitdefender Antivirus for Mac

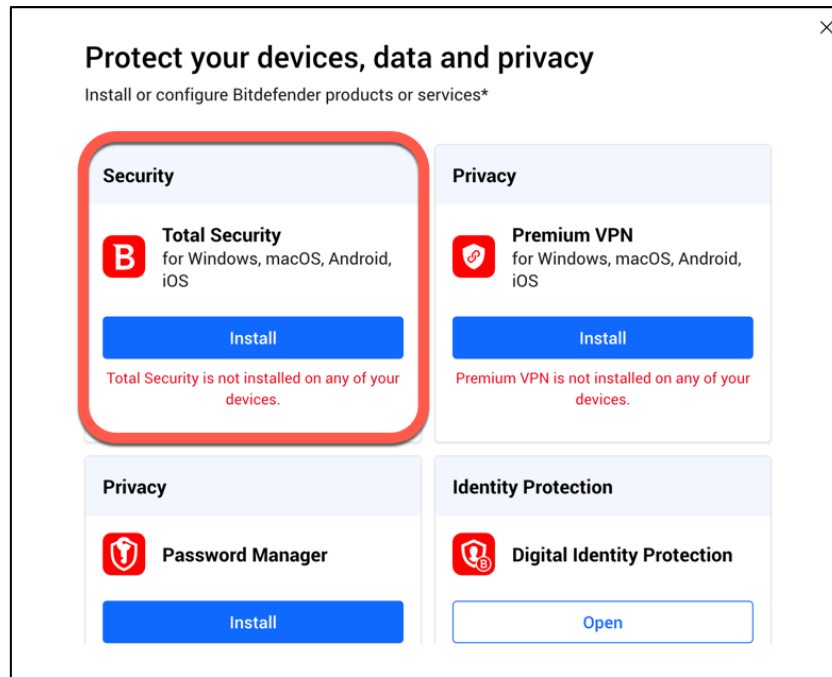
1. On the Mac you want to protect, visit <https://central.bitdefender.com> and sign in to your Bitdefender Central account. If you don't have an account already, please create one. [What is Bitdefender Central & How do I use it?](#)



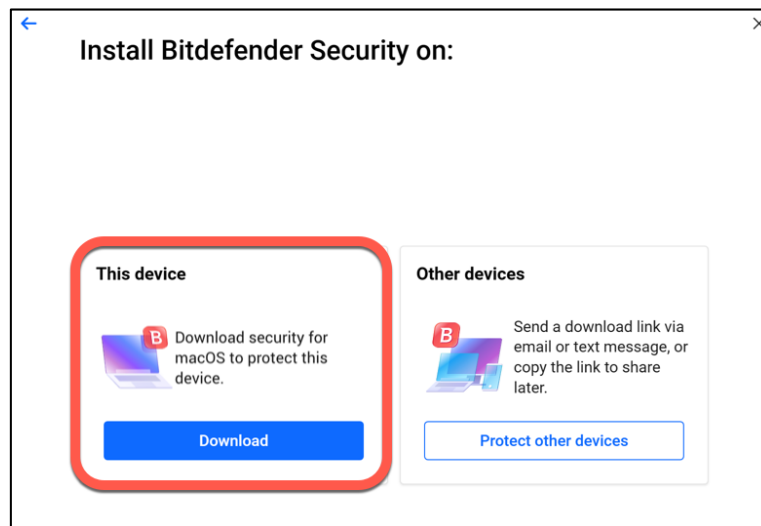
2. On the Bitdefender Central homepage, click the **Install Bitdefender Products** button.



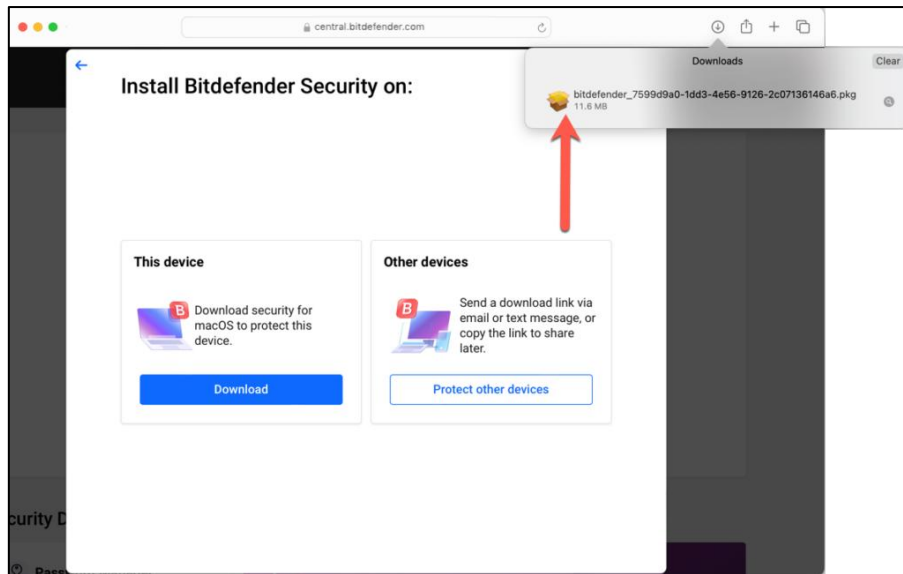
3. A window will appear, showing your Bitdefender subscription products. Within this window, press the **Install** button located in the **Security** panel.



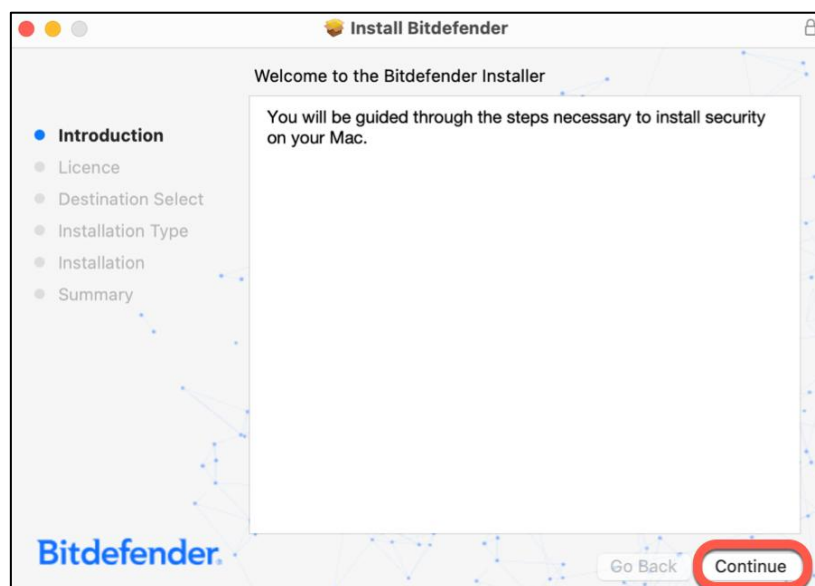
4. Then choose **Download** to save the Bitdefender installer to your Mac.



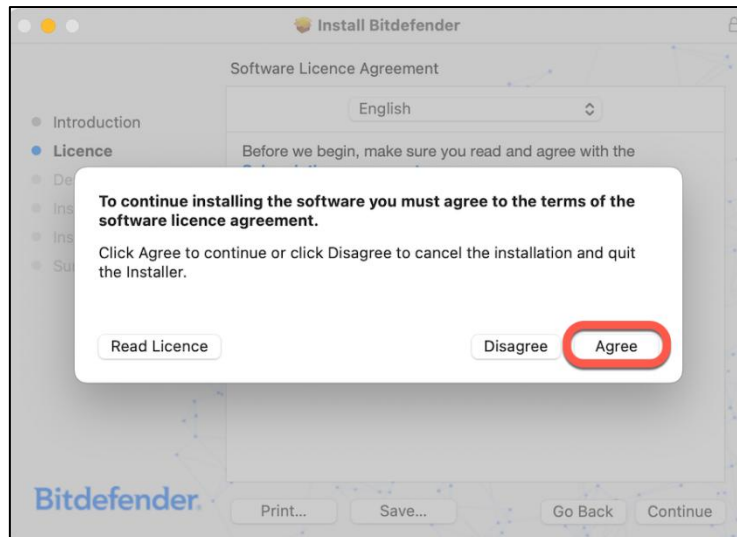
5. Once the download is ready, double-click the **bitdefender_...** file you've just saved to begin the installation.



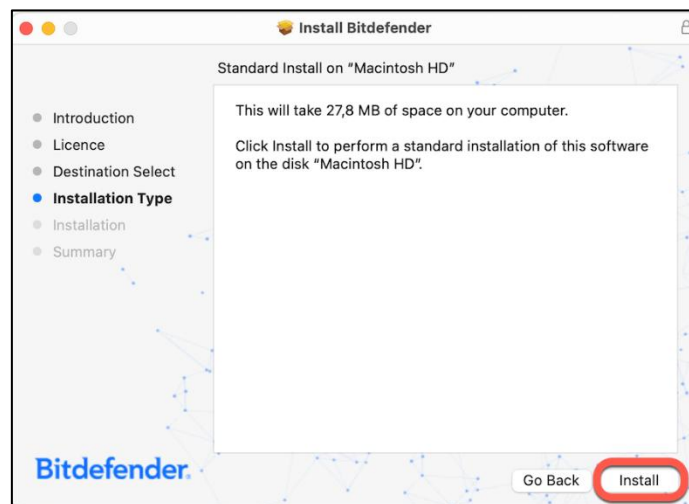
6. Follow the on-screen steps to install Bitdefender Antivirus for Mac. Click **Allow** if prompted, then click **Continue**.



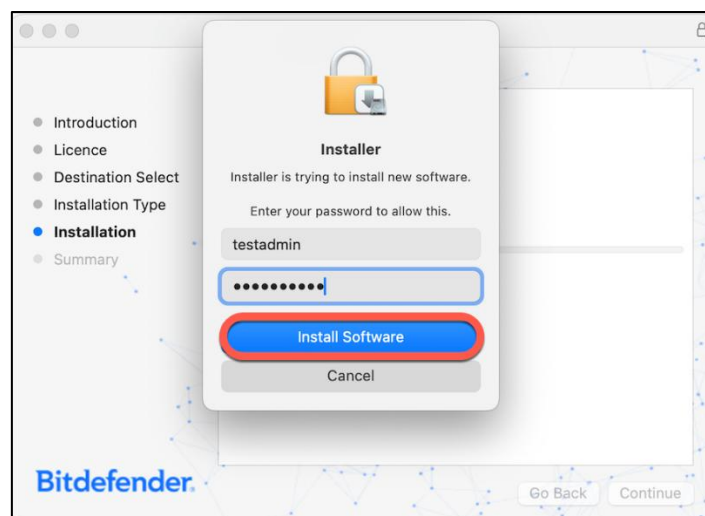
7. In order to continue the installation, you will have to agree to the terms of the software **Subscription Agreement**.



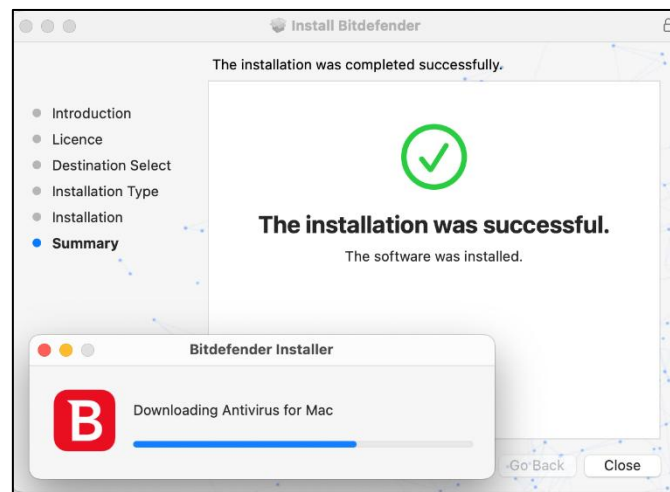
8. Click on **Continue**. After that, click **Install**.



9. When prompted, input your administrator name and password, then press the **Install Software** button.



10. A small window will appear and **Bitdefender Antivirus for Mac** will automatically download and install on your Mac.

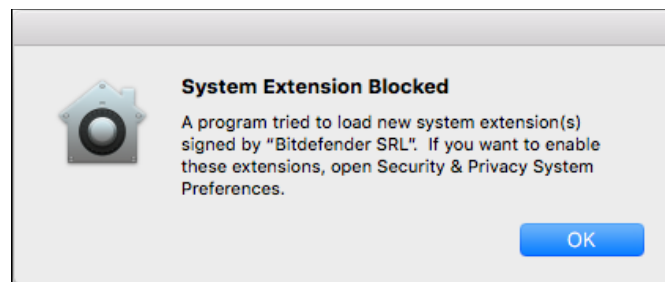


The installation is now complete if you have Yosemite (10.10), El Capitan (10.11), or macOS Sierra (10.12).

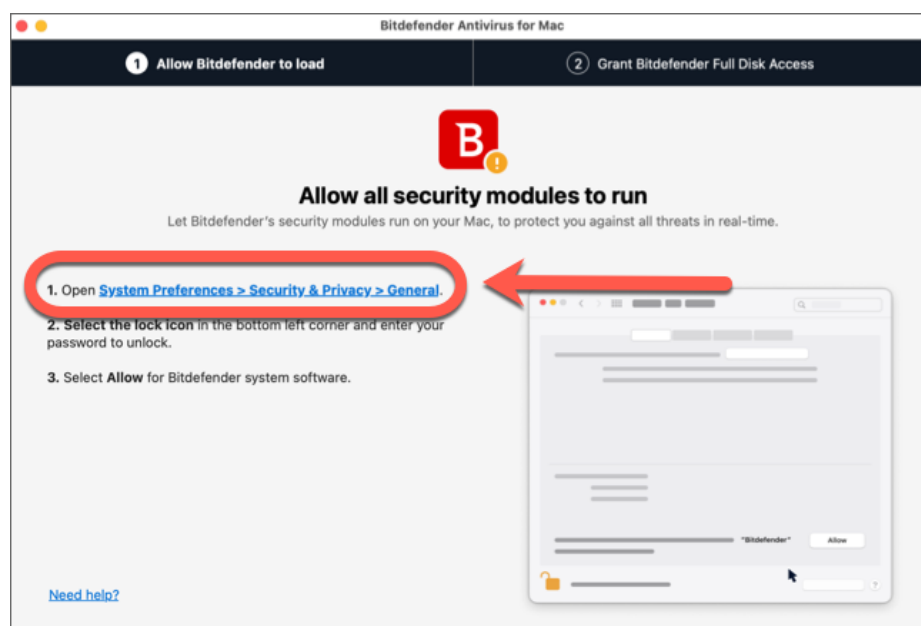
① **Note:** Follow these additional steps only if your Mac is running macOS High Sierra or a more recent version such as Mojave, Catalina, Big Sur, Monterey, Ventura, Sonoma, Sequoia, Tahoe – [Find out which macOS your Mac is using](#).

Continuing the installation on macOS High Sierra (10.13)

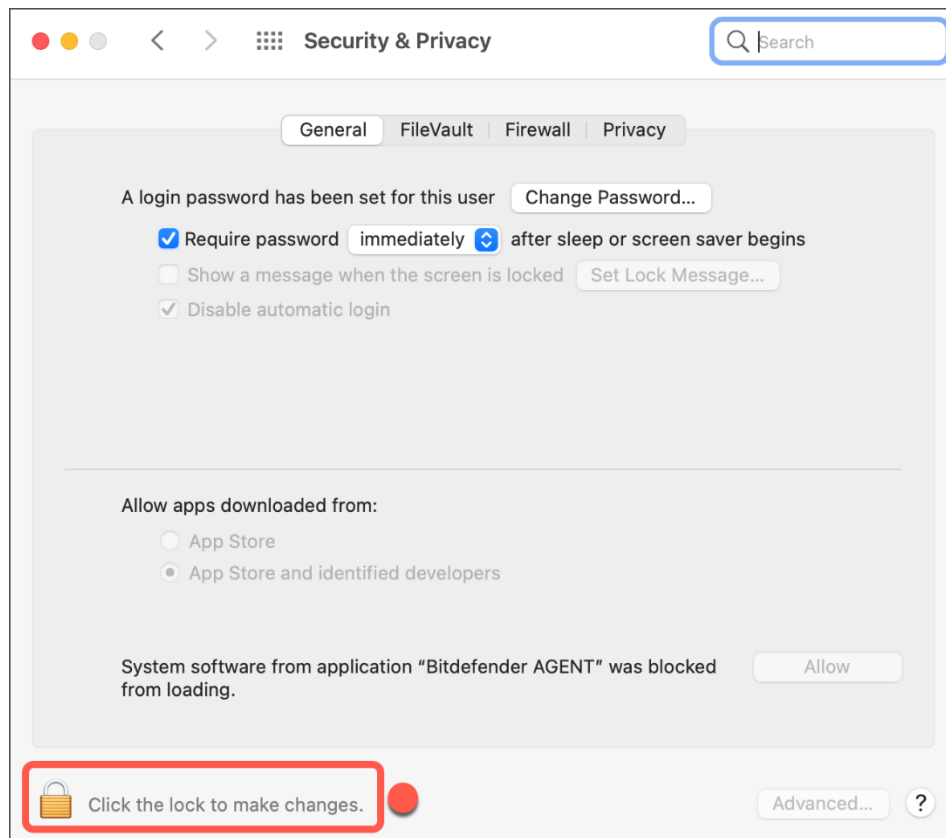
11. If you have High Sierra, you will be notified that a system extension signed by Bitdefender has been blocked. This is not an error, just a security check. Click on **OK**. The notification appears because of a new feature introduced with High Sierra. This feature enforces that only kernel extensions (KEXT) approved by the user will be loaded on a system. When a request is made to load an extension that the user has not yet approved, the request is denied and macOS displays an alert similar to the one shown below.



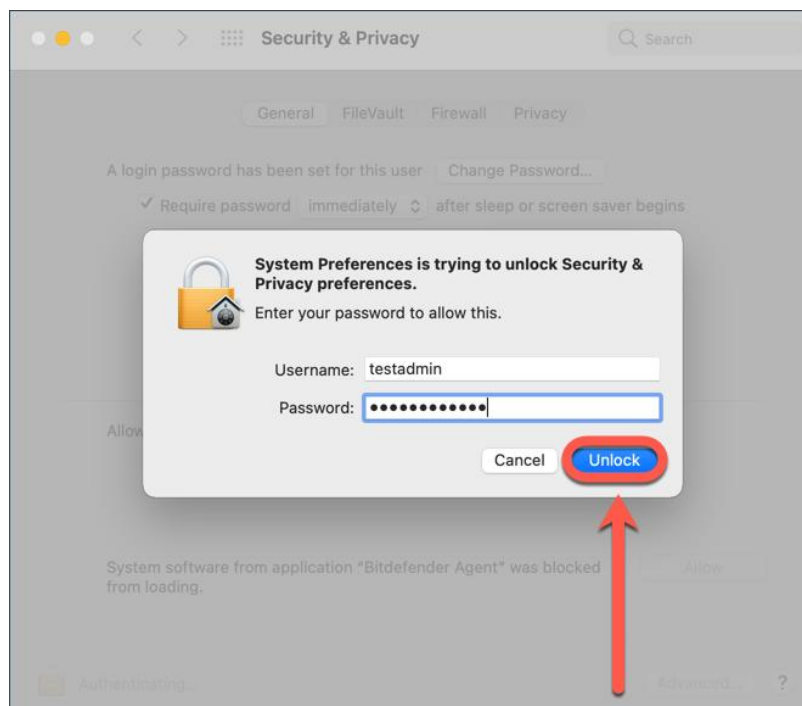
12. The setup assistant will display a window indicating the next steps. Click on **System Preferences > Security & Privacy > General** as shown below.



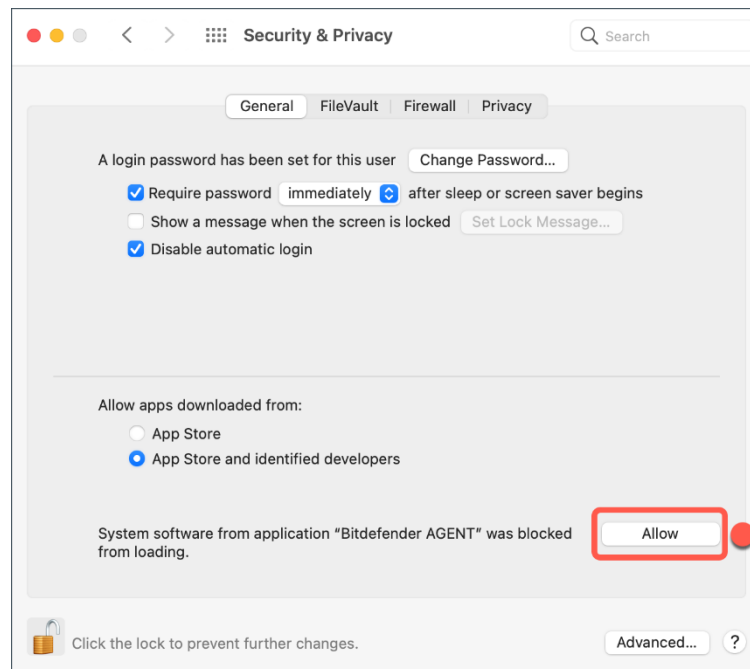
13. The Security & Privacy window will appear on your screen. Click the **padlock** icon in the bottom left corner to make the changes.



14. When prompted, input an administrator name and password, then press the **Unlock** button.



15. Click the **Allow** button, in the lower part of the window.



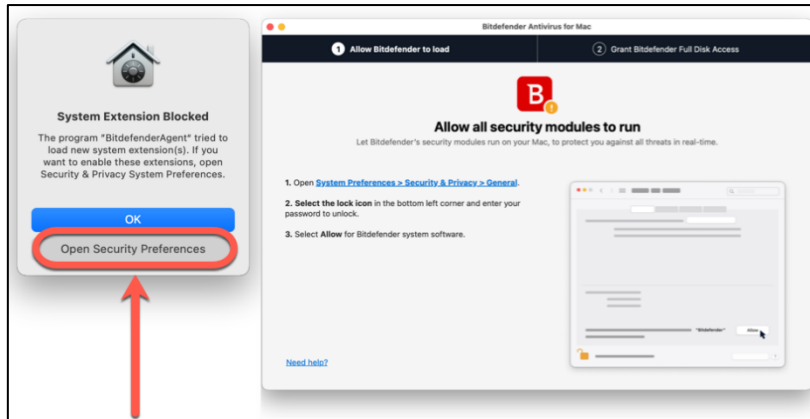
Note: If more than one system software requires your attention, select Bitdefender in the list, then click on **OK** to allow it.



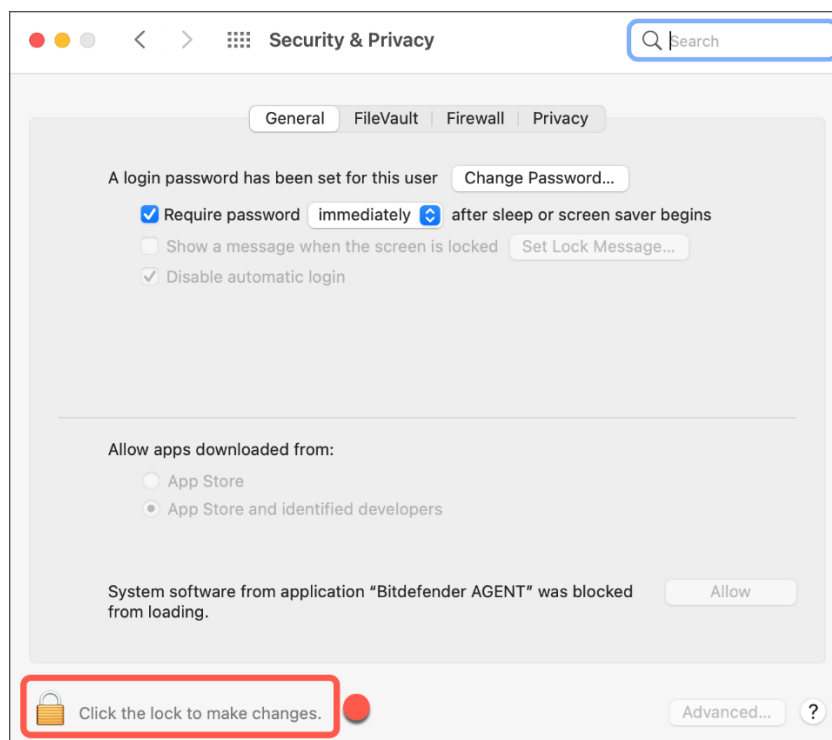
Congratulations, you have successfully installed Bitdefender Antivirus for Mac on High Sierra!

Continuing the installation on macOS Mojave (10.14) up to Monterey (12)

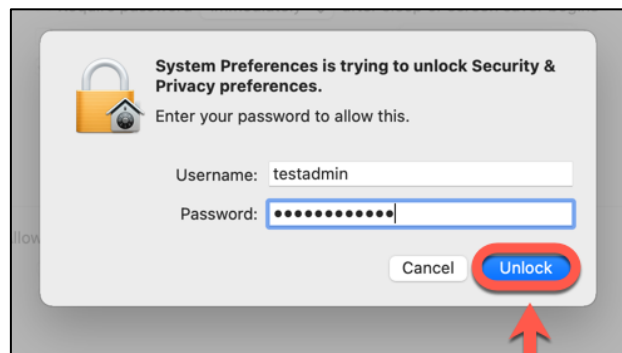
11. If your Mac is using macOS Mojave (10.14), Catalina (10.15), Big Sur (11) or Monterey (12) you will be notified that a system extension signed by Bitdefender has been blocked. This is not an error, just a security check. Click **Open Security Preferences** in the small pop-up.



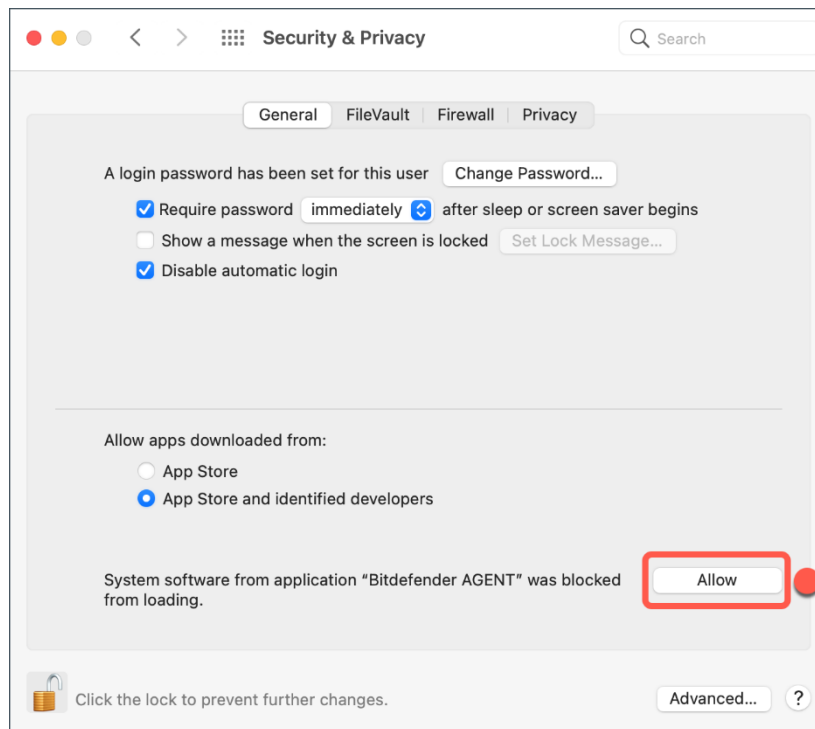
12. This will open the Security & Privacy window. Click the **padlock** icon in the bottom left corner to make the changes.



13. When prompted, input an administrator name and password, then press the **Unlock** button.



14. Click the **Allow** button, in the lower part of the window.



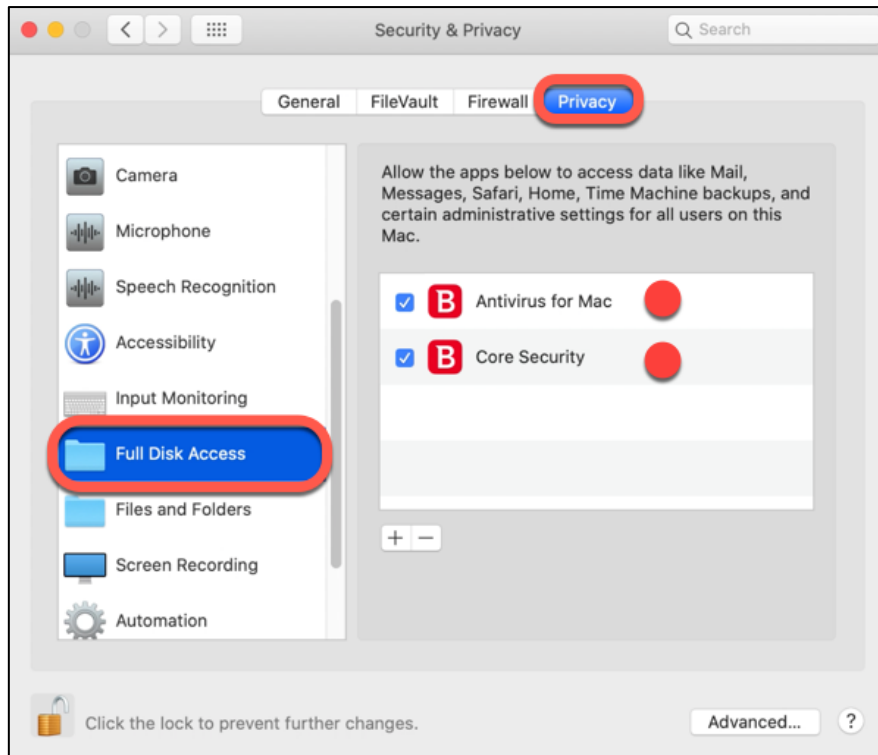
① **Note:** If more than one system software requires your attention, select Bitdefender in the list, then click on **OK** to allow it.



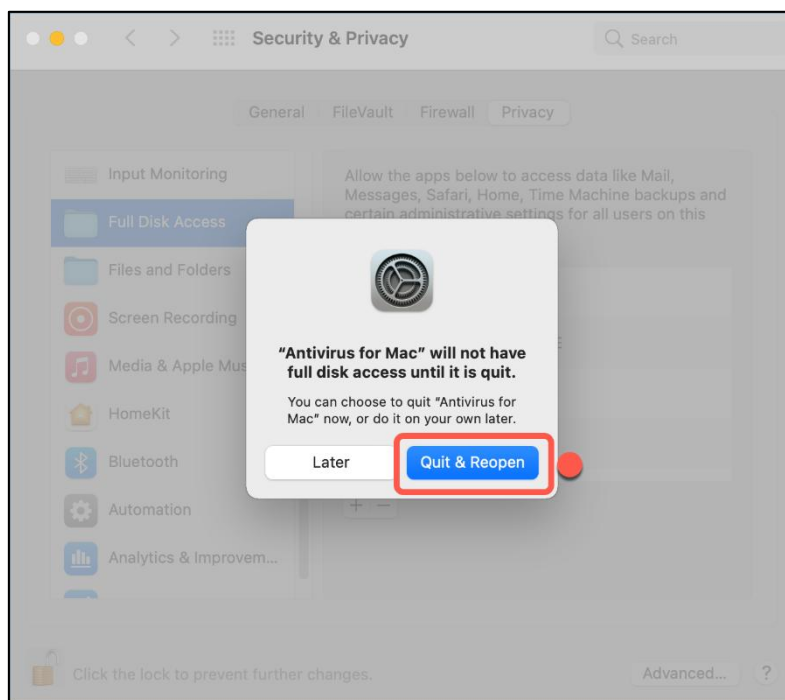
15. Next, open the **Privacy** tab and select **Full Disk Access** in the column on the left.

16. In the list of applications that require full disk access, check:

- **Antivirus for Mac**
- **Core Security**



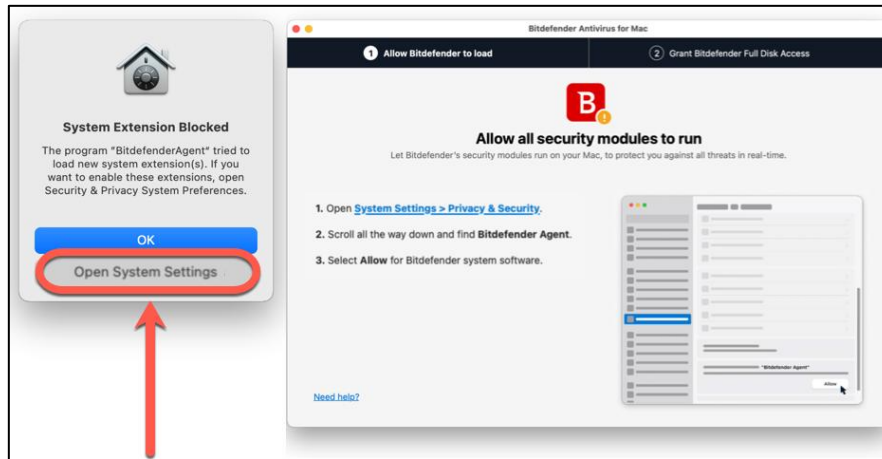
17. The following message appears: “Antivirus for Mac” will not have full disk access until it is quit. Press **Quit & Reopen**.



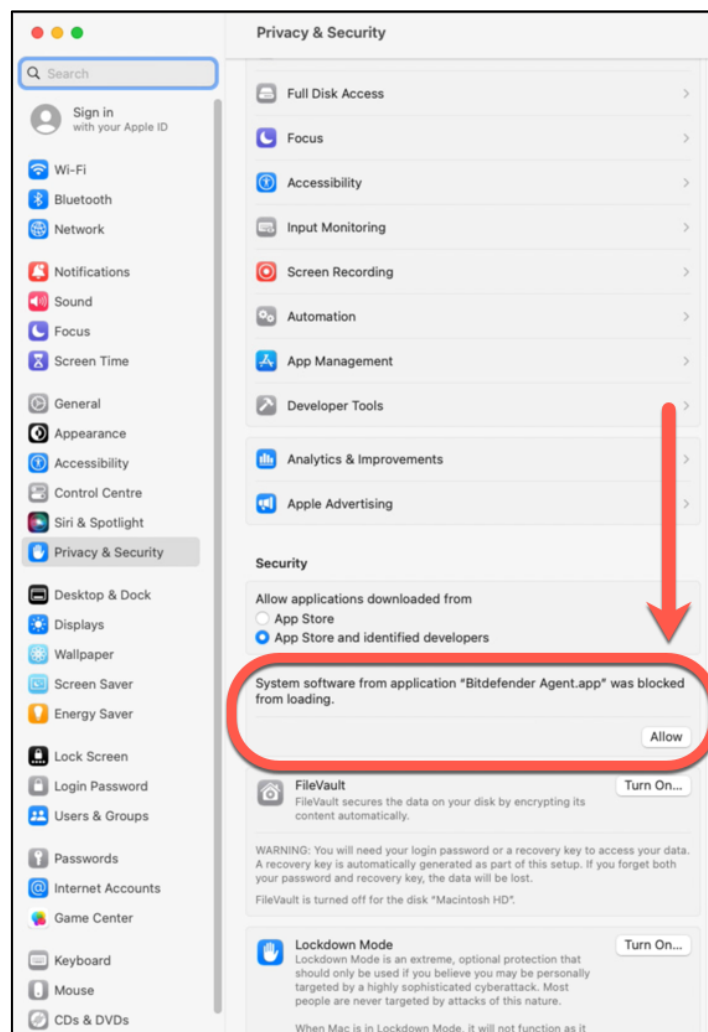
Congratulations, you have successfully installed Bitdefender Antivirus for Mac!

Continuing the installation on macOS Ventura (13), Sonoma (14)

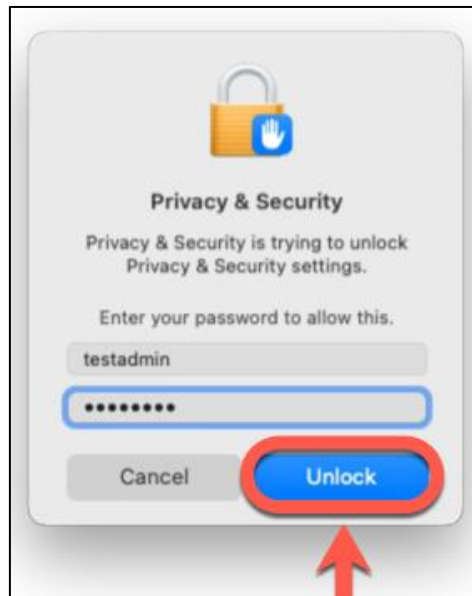
11. If your Mac is using macOS Ventura (13) or macOS Sonoma (14) you will be notified that a system extension signed by Bitdefender has been blocked. This is not an error, just a security check. Click on **Open System Settings**.



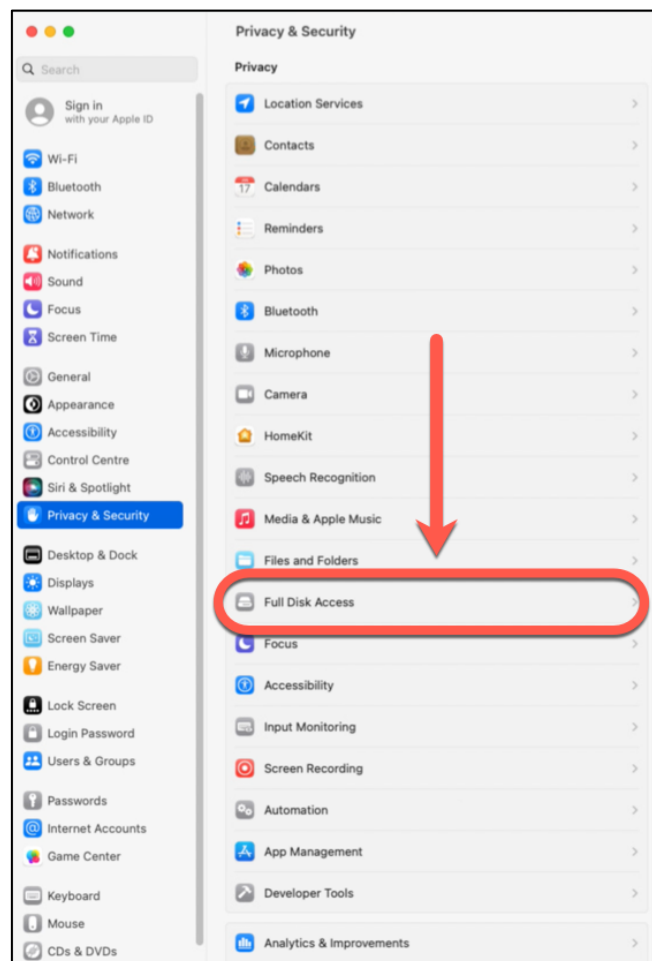
12. The **Privacy & Security** window will pop up. Scroll all the way down to the **Security** section and click the **Allow** button.



13. When prompted, input an administrator name and password, then press the **Unlock** button.

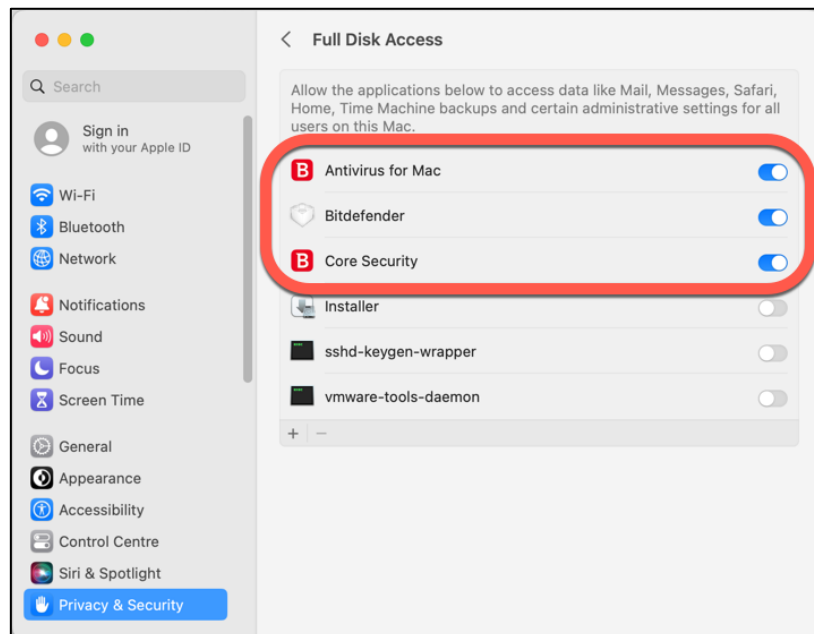


14. While still in the **Privacy & Security** window, scroll up and click on **Full Disk Access** in the **Privacy** section.

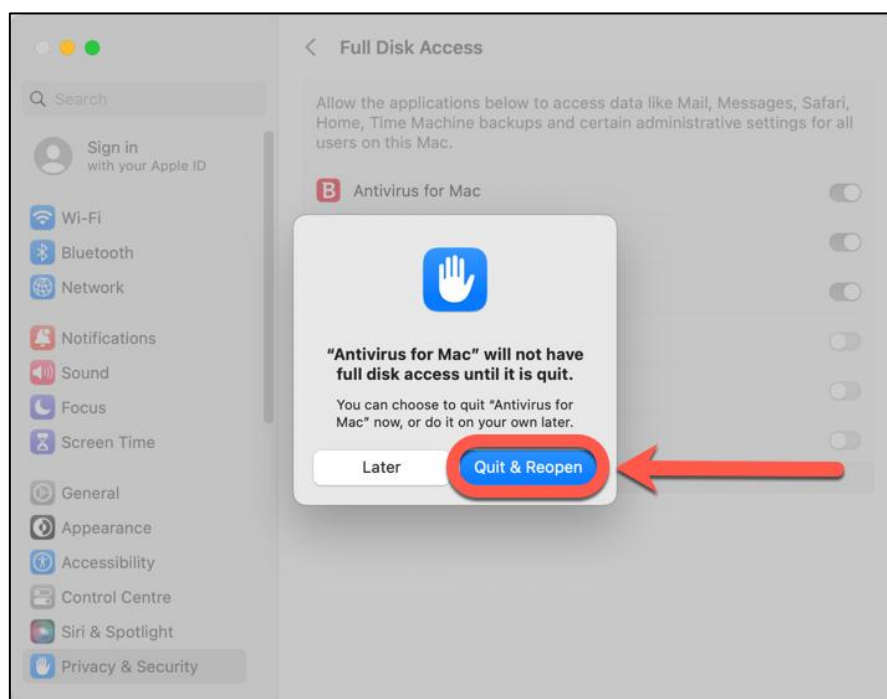


15. Next, in the list of applications that require full disk access, toggle to the on position (blue switch):

- **Antivirus for Mac**
- **Bitdefender**
- **Core Security**



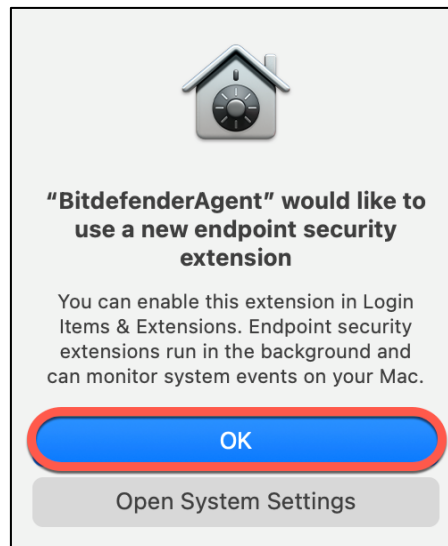
16. The following message appears: Antivirus for Mac will not have full disk access until it is quit. Press **Quit & Reopen**.



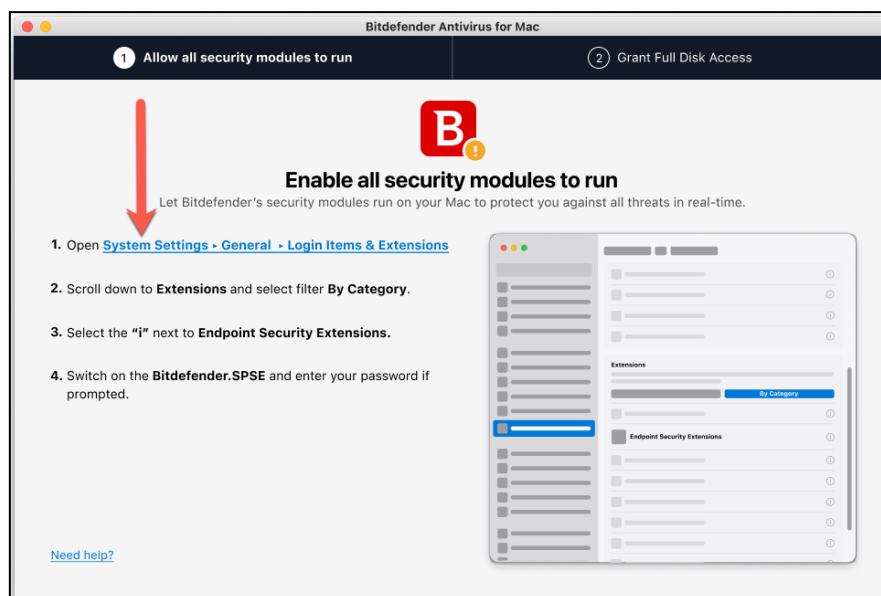
Congratulations, you have successfully installed Bitdefender Antivirus for Mac!

Continuing the installation on macOS Sequoia (15), Tahoe (26)

11. If your Mac is using macOS Sequoia (15) or macOS Tahoe (26) you will be notified that BitdefenderAgent would like to use a new endpoint security extension. This is not an error, just a security check. Click **OK** in the small pop-up.



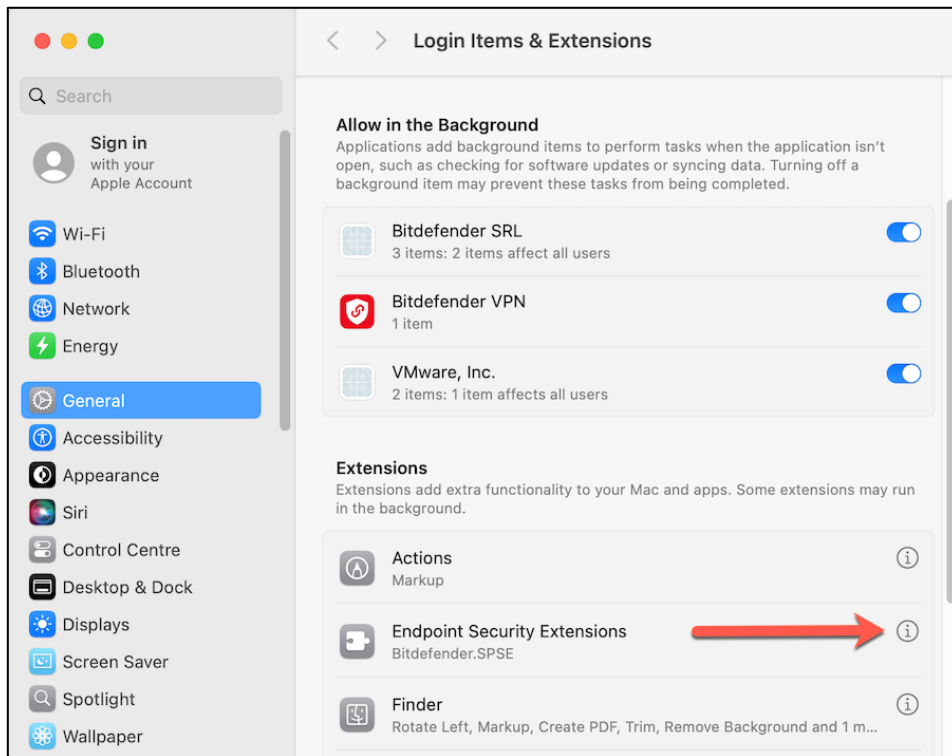
12. The setup assistant will display a window indicating the next steps. Click on **System Settings** as shown below.



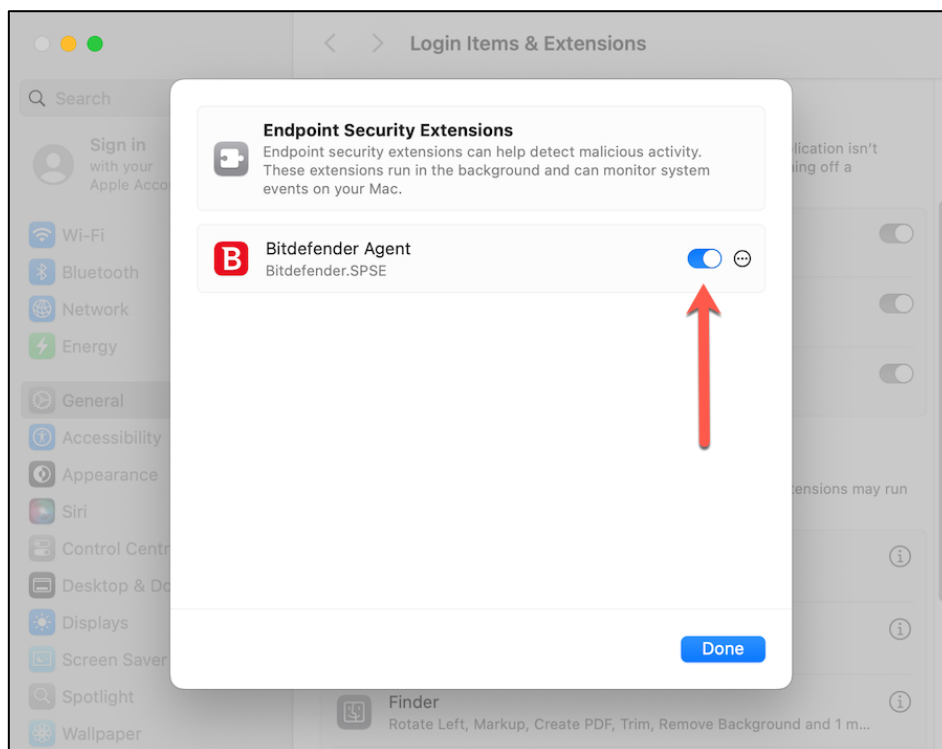
13. The **Login Items & Extensions** window will appear on the screen.

- On **macOS Sequoia**: Scroll down to the **Extensions** section and click the information icon ⓘ next to **Endpoint Security Extensions**.

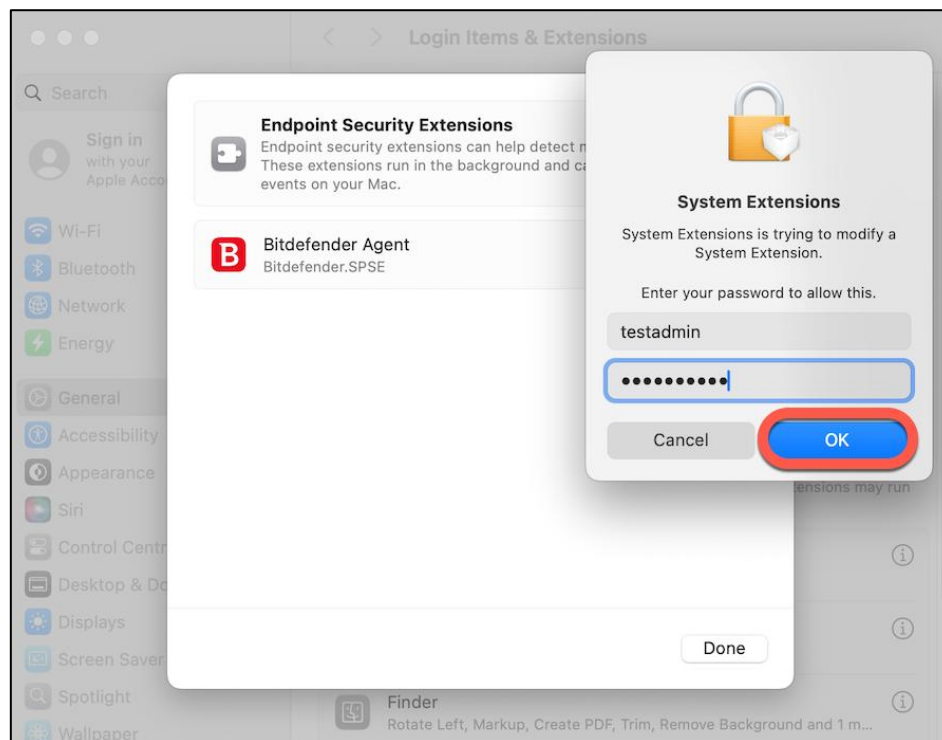
- On **macOS Tahoe**: Scroll down to the **Extensions** section, select **By Category**, and then click the information icon ⓘ next to **Endpoint Security Extensions**.



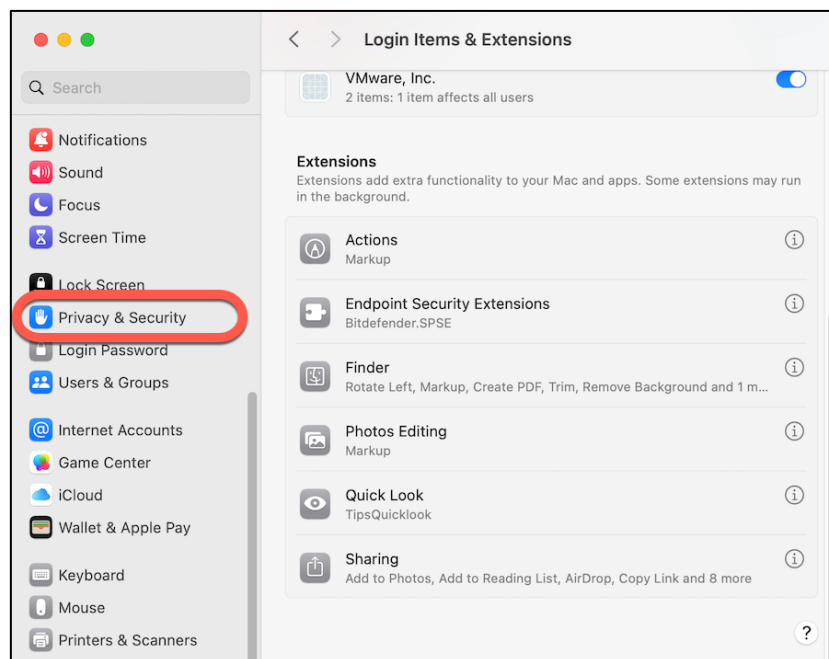
14. Toggle **Bitdefender Agent** to the on position (blue switch).



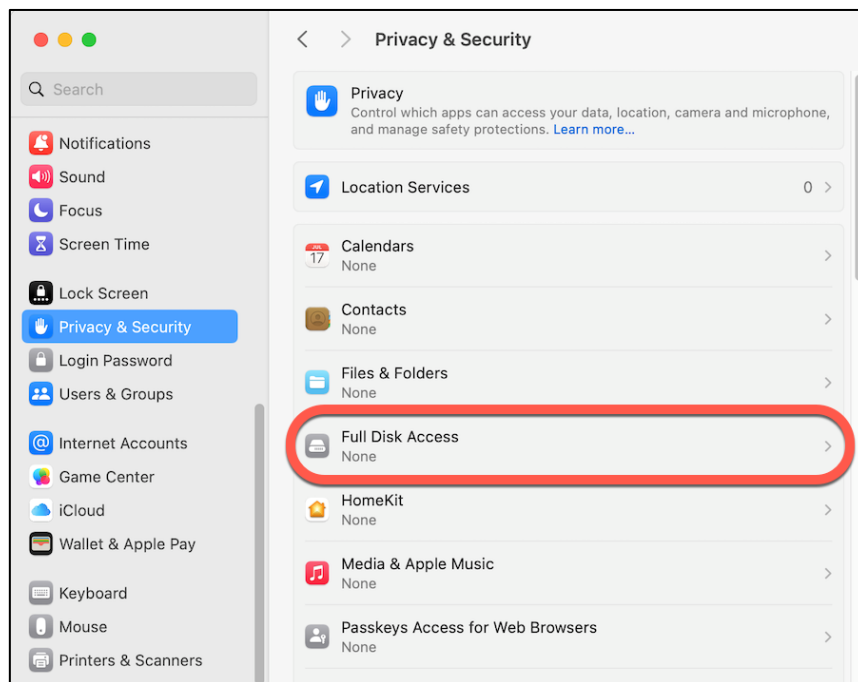
15. When prompted, enter your [administrator name and password](#), then click **OK**. After enabling Bitdefender Agent, click **Done** to exit the Endpoint Security Extensions window.



16. Next, click on **Privacy & Security** on the left side menu (scroll down until you see this option).

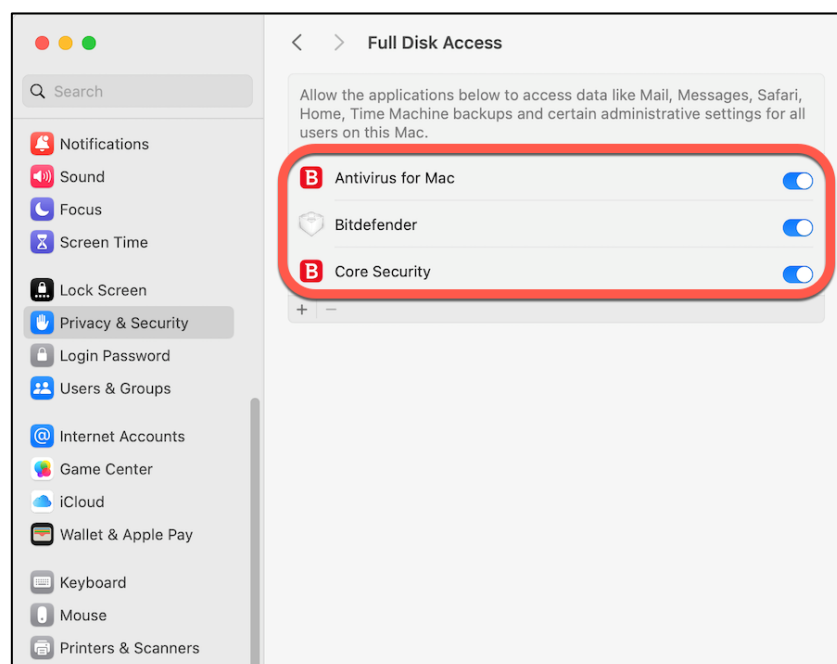


17. After opening the **Privacy & Security** section, click on **Full Disk Access** on the right-side menu.

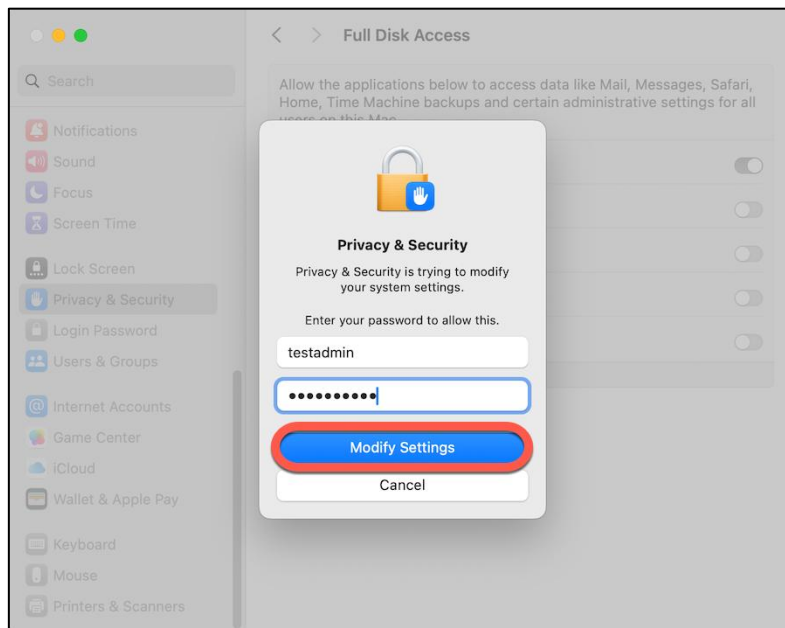


18. In the list of applications that require full disk access, toggle to the on position (blue switch):

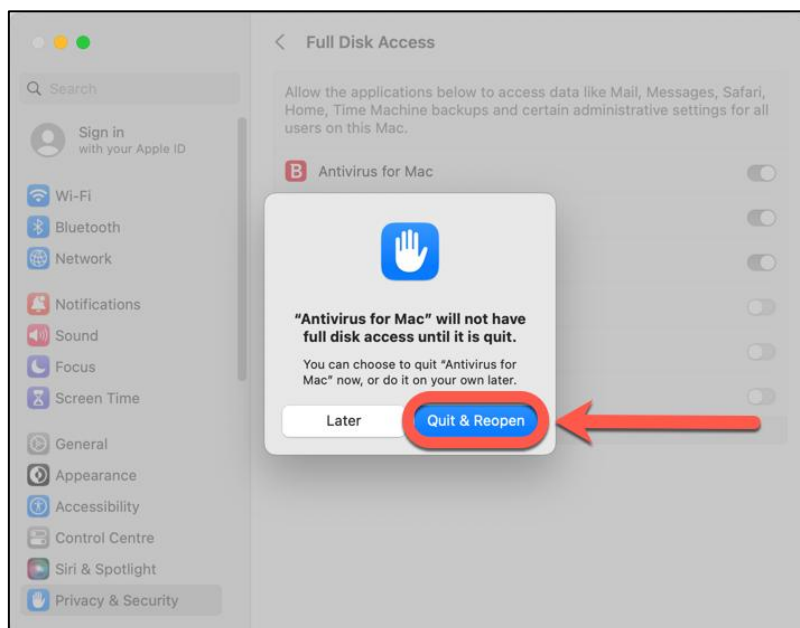
- **Antivirus for Mac**
- **Bitdefender**
- **Core Security**



19. Enter your [administrator name and password](#) to modify settings.



20. Choose **Quit & Reopen** when you see the message Antivirus for Mac will not have full disk access until it is quit.



Congratulations, you have successfully installed Bitdefender Antivirus for Mac!

Once Bitdefender Antivirus for Mac is installed, you'll also want to protect your browsers by enabling the [Traffic Light](#) browser extension, which blocks dangerous websites and flags unsafe links in your search results.