Allow application installations and temporarily disable Gatekeeper in OS X 10.9 to 10.11

Allow application installations and temporarily disable Gatekeeper in OS X 10.9 to 10.11

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Overview

OS X 10.9 features a new security feature called Gatekeeper which prevents the installation of malware by controlling the types of software that can be installed. According to Apple:

> *The safest place to download apps for your Mac is the Mac App Store. Apple reviews each app before it's accepted by the store, and if there's ever a problem with an app, Apple can quickly remove it from the store. When you download software from any other place on the Internet, Gatekeeper makes that safer, too. Developers can get a unique Developer ID from Apple and use it to digitally sign their apps. The Developer ID allows Gatekeeper to block apps created by malware developers and to verify that apps haven't been tampered with. If an app was developed by an unknown developer — one with no Developer ID — Gatekeeper can keep your Mac safe by blocking the app from being installed.*

By default in 10.9, Gatekeeper is enabled and set to allow only "Mac App Store and identified developers," which prevents some software from installing. When an app installation is blocked, a screen similar to the following is displayed.

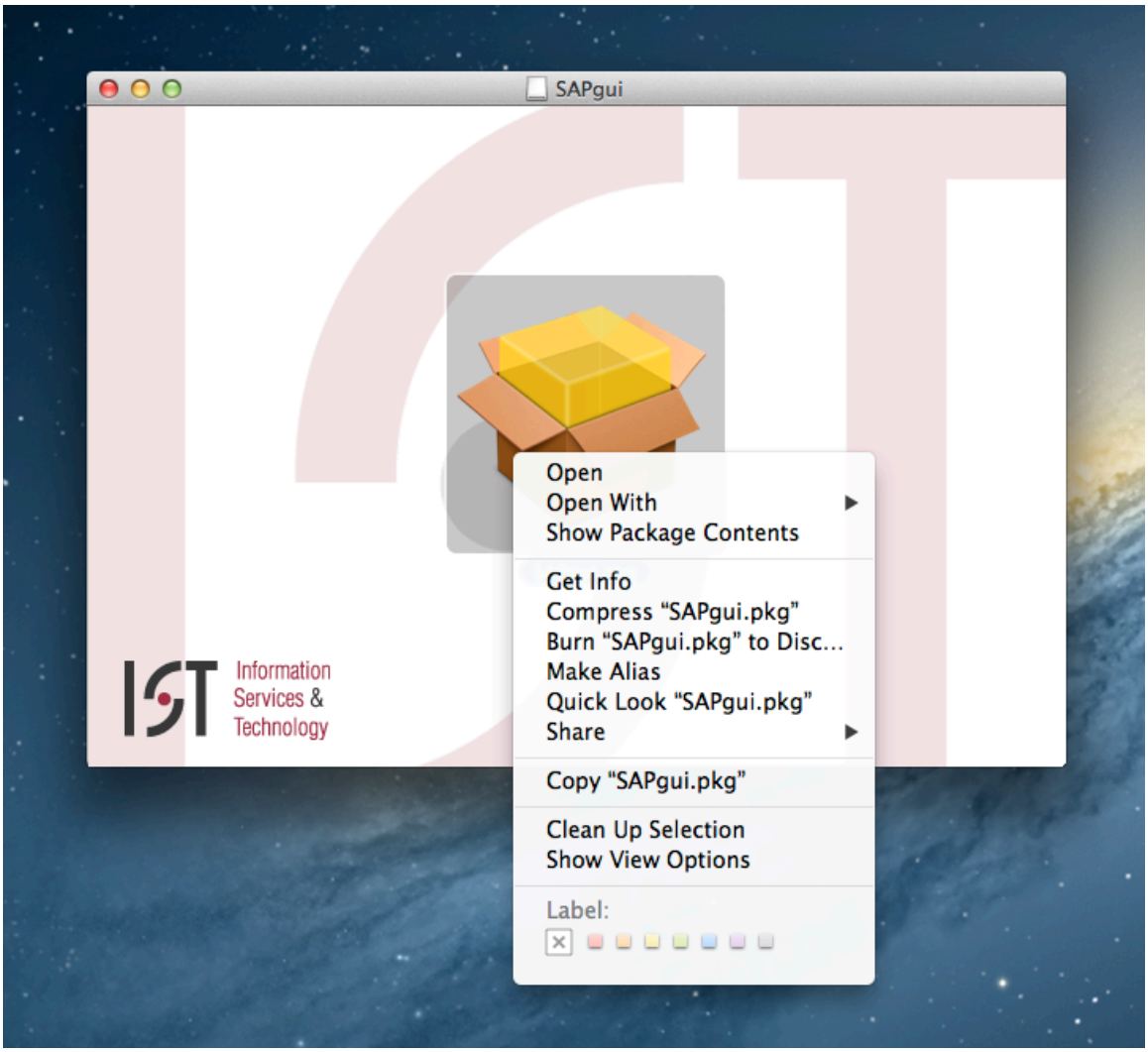
To open an application that is blocked from opening by Gatekeeper, please use one of the following workarounds:

For High Sierra, see OSX Daily's: How to Allow Apps from Anywhere in macOS Sierra Gatekeeper

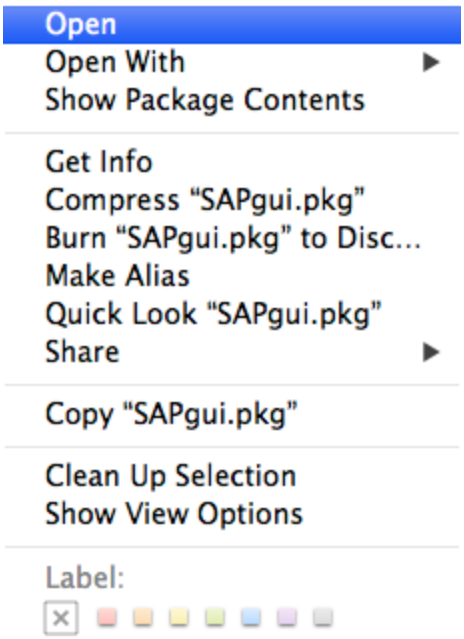
Workarounds

Option 1: Right-Click and Open

1. Navigate to the application you would like to open and right-click or control-click on its icon.

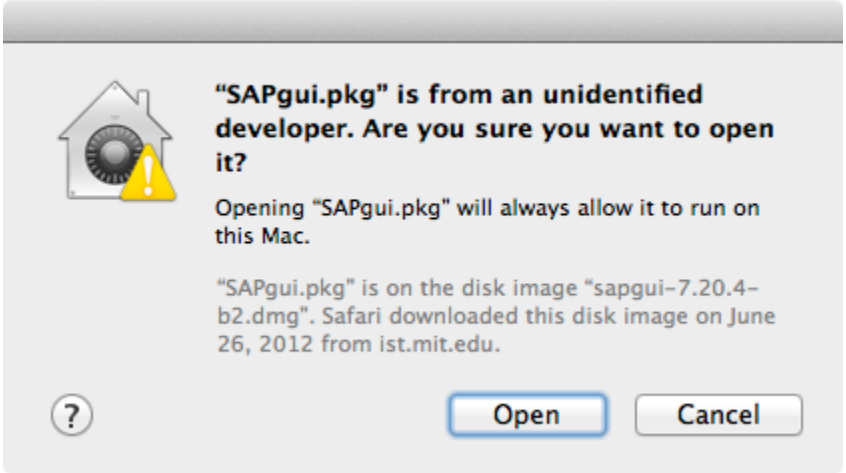


2. Select **Open** from the contextual menu.



Result: You will be prompted with a screen asking if you're sure you want to open the application.

3. Select **Open**.

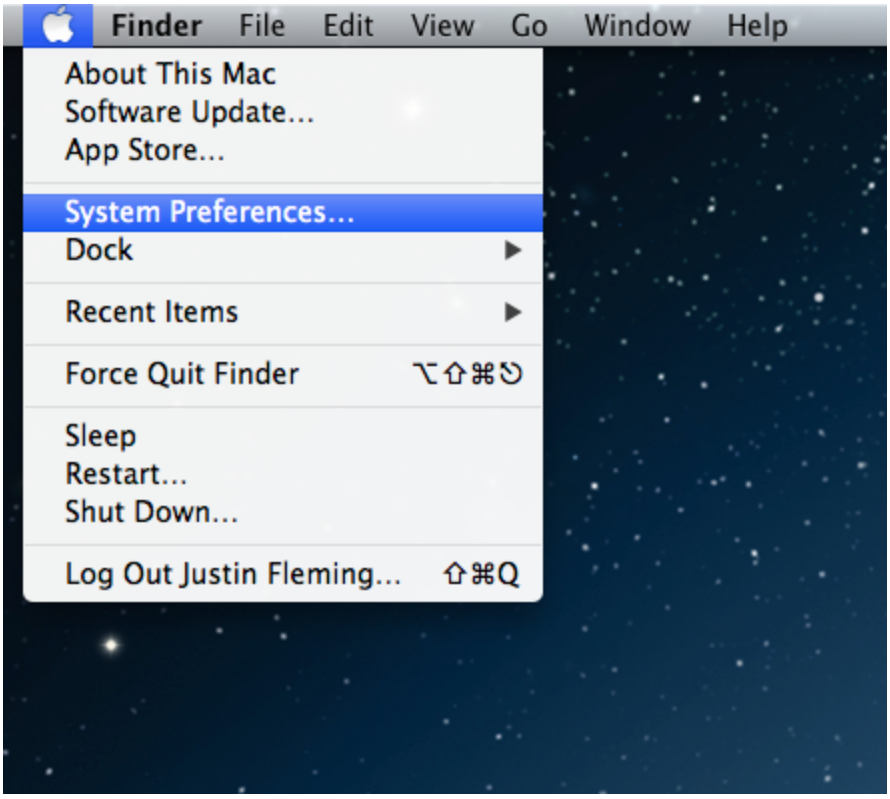


Option 2: Launch the installer to run through System Preferences

If you've already tried to run the installer, and received the error above, you can launch the installer by going to **Apple menu > System Preferences > Security & Privacy** and click **Open Anyway**.

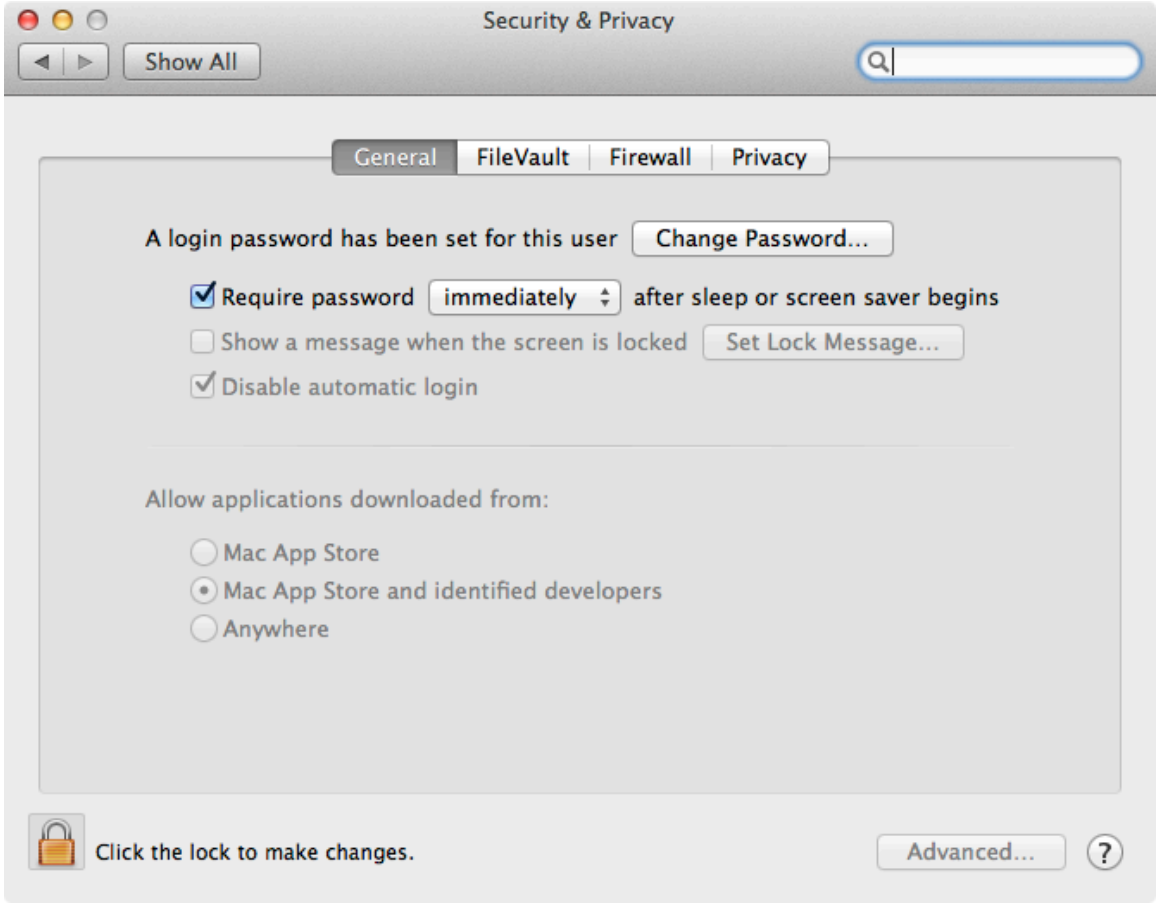
Option 3: Disabling Gatekeeper

1. Navigate to **System Preferences** from the Apple Menu or from the Dock.

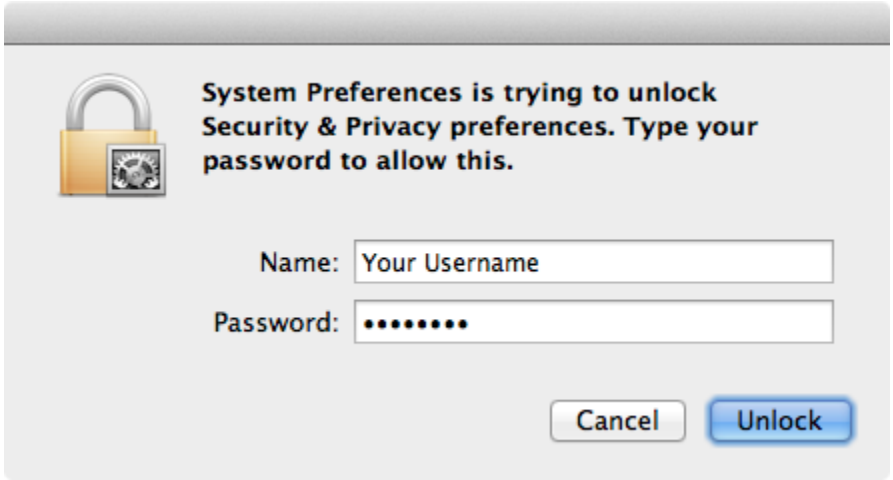


2. Click on the **Security & Privacy** preference pane, under the Personal header.

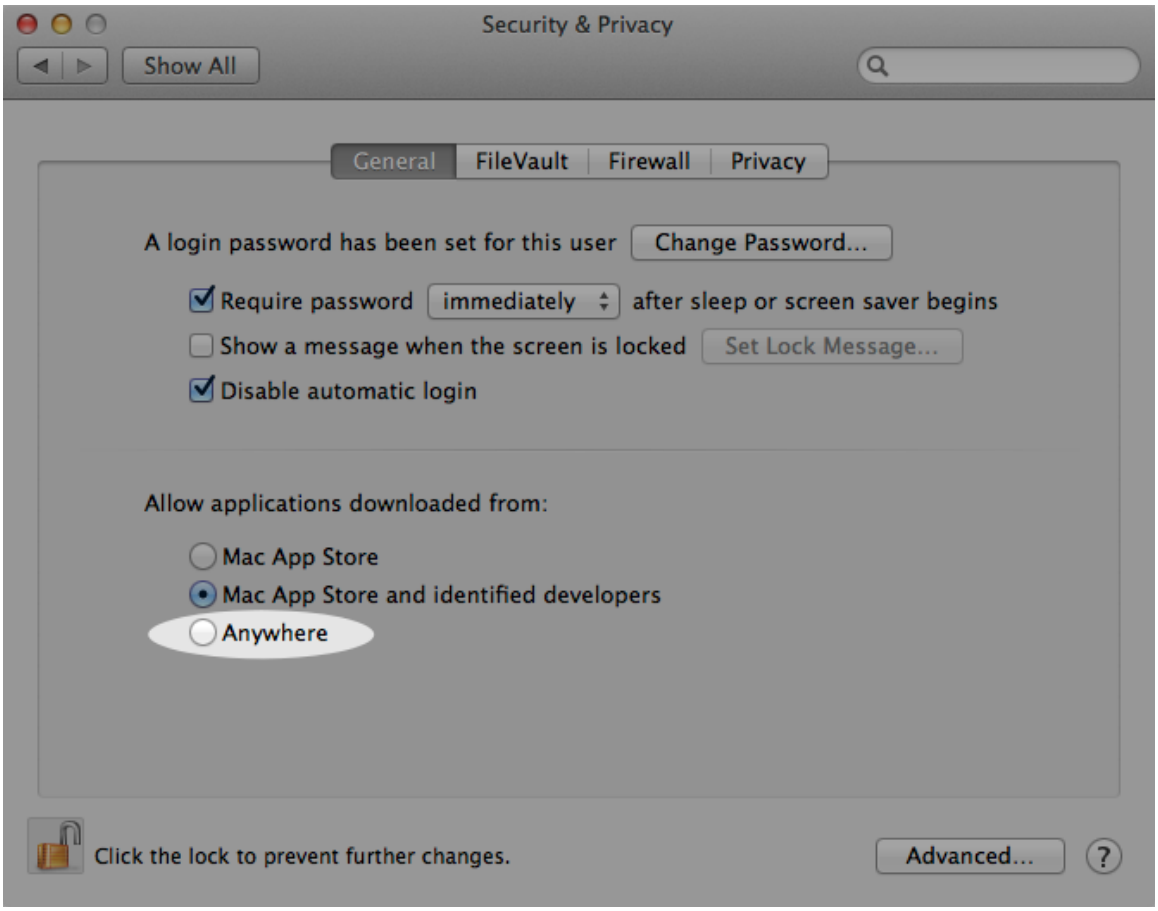
3. In the Security & Privacy pane, click on the **Lock icon** on the bottom-left.



4. Enter your Mac's username and password and click **Unlock**.

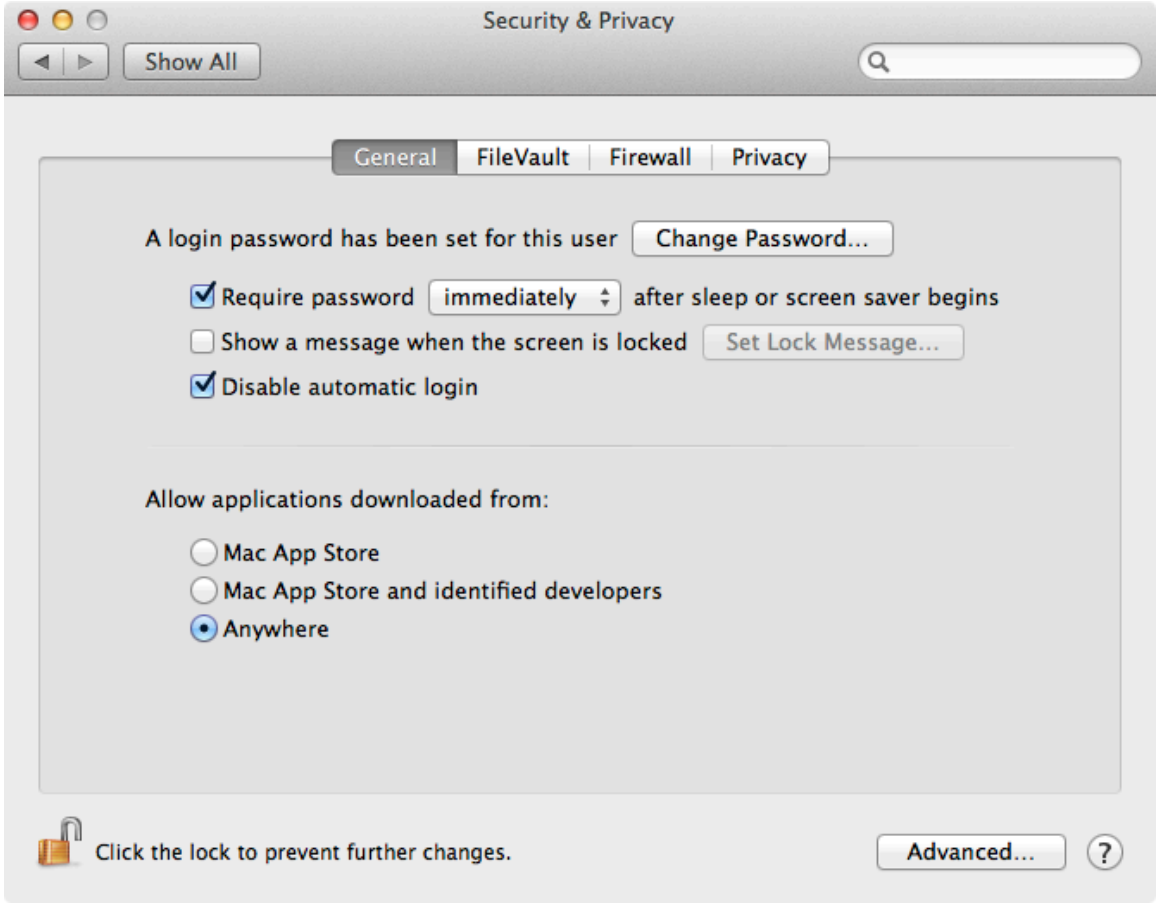


5. Click the radio button next to "Anywhere".



6. When prompted, click **Allow From Anywhere**.

Result: The radio button next to "Anywhere" will be selected.



7. You can now install any compatible application on your Mac without the installation being blocked. Once your application installation is complete, please use the following directions to re-enable Gatekeeper.

Re-enabling Gatekeeper

Follow the above instructions until step 5, and click the radio button next to "Mac App Store and identified developers".