



# PasteGuard

## User Guide

*Your clipboard knows too much. Clear it.*

Korerium LLC

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This guide covers everything PasteGuard does and how to get the most out of it. Use the sections below to find what you need.

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# What is PasteGuard

PasteGuard is a native macOS privacy tool that monitors your clipboard and automatically clears it after a configurable period of time. Every time you copy something -- a password, an API key, a social security number, a credit card number -- that content sits on your clipboard until something else replaces it. PasteGuard removes it on a timer you control, or instantly on demand.

PasteGuard lives in your menu bar. It has no dock icon, no main window, and no cloud dependency. It is a one-time purchase with no subscription.

## Who is PasteGuard for?

- Anyone who regularly copies passwords, credentials, or sensitive data and wants automatic protection against accidental exposure.
- Developers working with API keys, tokens, and connection strings who want them cleared from the clipboard after use.
- Professionals handling client data, financial information, or personal records who need a lightweight clipboard hygiene tool.
- Privacy-conscious users who want full control over what stays on their clipboard and for how long.

## How PasteGuard Works

PasteGuard monitors your clipboard using a lightweight one-second polling interval.

When new content lands on the clipboard, PasteGuard reads its type, displays a summary in the popover, and optionally starts an auto-clear countdown.

### Auto-Clear

When an auto-clear interval is selected, PasteGuard starts a countdown the moment new content is detected. When the countdown reaches zero, PasteGuard clears the clipboard automatically. You can also clear it immediately at any time by clicking Clear Now in the popover.

## Sensitive Detection

When Sensitive Detection is enabled, PasteGuard analyzes text content as it lands on the clipboard and checks it against a set of patterns for common sensitive data types. If a match is found, a warning banner appears at the top of the popover identifying what was detected. PasteGuard never stores or transmits the content it analyzes.

## What PasteGuard Detects

Type	Description
API Keys	OpenAI, Anthropic, GitHub, Slack, Google API keys and tokens
Private Keys	RSA, EC, OpenSSH, and PGP private key blocks.
Credit Cards	Visa, Mastercard, Amex, and Discover numbers validated with Luhn check.
Social Security Numbers	SSN patterns with invalid range filtering.
Password	Single-line strings with mixed case, digits, and symbols over 10 characters.
AWS Keys	Access key IDs with AKIA, ASIA, and AROA prefixes and secret keys.
JWT Tokens	JSON Web Token format detection.

## System Requirements

Requirement	Minimum
macOS	macOS 26 or later
Architecture	Apple Silicon (M1 or later)
Storage	15 MB for the application
Memory	4 GB RAM recommended for large batches
Internet	Not required for use

# Getting Started

On first launch PasteGuard places a clipboard icon in your menu bar. There is no dock icon and no main window. Click the menu bar icon at any time to open the PasteGuard popover.

## License Activation

PasteGuard includes a five-use trial so you can verify it works before activating. A trial use counter appears in the popover while in trial mode. To activate, open Settings from the popover footer, scroll to the License Information section, enter your name, email address, and license key, then click Activate License.

## First Run Checklist

- Click the PasteGuard icon in the menu bar to open the popover.
- Copy any text to see the clipboard status update in real time.
- Select an auto-clear interval or leave it on Manual.
- Toggle Sensitive Detection on to enable clipboard analysis.
- Click Clear Now to immediately wipe the clipboard.
- Open Settings to configure preferences and activate your license.

# The PasteGuard Popover

The popover is PasteGuard's entire interface. Click the menu bar icon to open it. It is divided into five sections from top to bottom: the header, clipboard status card, auto-clear timer, sensitive detection toggle, session stats, and footer.

## Header

The header shows the PasteGuard name and tagline. When an auto-clear timer is active, a countdown ring appears in the top right corner showing the remaining time. When the clipboard is cleared, a brief Cleared badge appears in its place.

# Clipboard Status

The clipboard status card shows the current state of your clipboard at a glance.

## Content Type

Icon	Meaning
Text	Text content is on the clipboard. A preview of the first 40 characters is shown.
Image	An image is on the clipboard.
File	One or more files are on the clipboard. The filename or file count is shown.
Empty	The clipboard is empty. Clear Now is disabled.

## Sensitive Content Warning

When Sensitive Detection is enabled and a match is found, the clipboard status card border turns amber and the subtext identifies the detection type. A warning banner also appears at the top of the popover. Dismiss the banner by clicking the X. The warning reappears if new sensitive content is copied.

# Auto-Clear Timer

The auto-clear timer controls how long content stays on your clipboard before PasteGuard wipes it automatically.

## Timer Options

- 30 seconds
- 1 minute
- 5 minutes
- 15 minutes
- Manual -- PasteGuard does not auto-clear. Use Clear Now to wipe the clipboard on demand.

## Changing the Timer

You can change the timer interval at any time, including while a countdown is active. Selecting a new interval cancels the current countdown and starts a fresh one with the new duration. Selecting Manual cancels the current countdown without clearing the clipboard.

## Clear Now

Click Clear Now to immediately wipe the clipboard regardless of the timer setting. If a countdown is active, the button reads Cancel and Clear Now, which both stops the timer and clears the clipboard in one action.

# Sensitive Detection

Sensitive Detection analyzes text content as it arrives on the clipboard and checks it against patterns for common sensitive data types. It is opt-in and can be toggled directly in the popover or in Settings.

## How Detection Works

Analysis runs locally on your Mac in real time. PasteGuard never stores the content it analyzes, never logs detections, and never transmits clipboard data anywhere. When a match is found, the detection reason is shown in the warning banner and in the clipboard status card subtext.

## Session Detections

The session stats block tracks how many sensitive detections occurred during the current session. This counter resets when PasteGuard is quit. No detection history is stored between sessions.

# Session Stats

The session stats block shows three counters for the current session.

Stat	Description
Cleared	Number of times the clipboard was cleared this session, including auto-clears and manual clears.
Detected	Number of sensitive content detections this session. Shown in amber when greater than zero.
Last Cleared	Time elapsed since the last clear. Shows Never in bold until the first clear occurs.

Session stats reset when PasteGuard is quit. They are not stored between session.

## Settings

Open Settings by clicking the Settings link in the popover footer. Settings replace the popover content in place. Click the X in the top right to return to the popover.

### Preferences

- Launch at Login: Start PasteGuard automatically when you log in to your Mac.
- Default Auto-Clear: Set the default timer interval applied when PasteGuard detects new clipboard content.
- Sensitive Detection: Enable or disable clipboard content analysis.

### License Information

The License Information section shows your current activation status. If activated, it shows your name, email, and a thank you message, along with an Edit Name option to update your display name. If in trial mode, it shows how many trial uses remain and provides fields to enter your license key.

### About

The About section shows the current PasteGuard version and build number, with links to [korerium.com](http://korerium.com) and support.

## Danger

Reset All Settings clears your license activation and all preferences. This cannot be undone. You can also reset preferences manually by running the following command in Terminal:

```
defaults delete com.korerium.PasteGuard
```

# License Activation

PasteGuard includes a five-use trial. After five uses you will need to activate a license to continue using the app.

## How to Activate

- Click the PasteGuard menu bar icon to open the popover.
- Click Settings in the footer.
- Scroll to the License Information section.
- Enter your first and last name.
- Enter the email address you used to purchase PasteGuard.
- Enter your license key exactly as it was delivered -- including the dashes.
- Click Activate License.

Activation is verified entirely offline using a cryptographic key derived from your email address. No internet connection is required.

## License Key Format

License keys are 35 characters in the format:

```
XXXXXXXX-XXXXXXXX-XXXXXXXX-XXXXXXXX
```

## Support

If you have trouble activating, contact [support@korerium.com](mailto:support@korerium.com) with your order confirmation and the email address used to purchase.

# Privacy Statement

PasteGuard is a local-first application. It does not collect, transmit, or store any data about you, your clipboard content, or your usage.

## What PasteGuard Does Not Do

- Does not connect to the internet for any purpose during normal operation.
- Does not send usage analytics or telemetry.
- Does not upload clipboard content to any server.
- Does not store clipboard content at any point during or after analysis.
- Does not require an account, email address, or login for normal use.
- Does not retain any detection history between sessions.

## What PasteGuard Stores Locally

PasteGuard stores your preferences -- auto-clear interval, sensitive detection toggle, launch at login setting, and license activation -- in your Mac's standard preferences system (NSUserDefaults). This data never leaves your Mac. You can reset it at any time in Settings under Danger, or by running the Terminal command above.

## License Verification

License key validation is performed entirely offline using HMAC-SHA256 cryptography. Your email address and license key are never transmitted to Korerium or any third party. Validation happens on your Mac using a locally computed cryptographic signature.

## Contact

Questions about PasteGuard's privacy practices can be directed to [support@korerium.com](mailto:support@korerium.com)