

PIN-Master

Overview

PIN-Master is a small Excel sheet (incl. some VBA makros), which allows it to encode up to eight numbers (PINs) with one or several passwords. The result is a coding card of the size of a credit card, which can be printed and used to decode quickly a PIN supplying the password. The PIN cannot be deduced without using the correct password.

Requirements

PIN-Master requires the installation of MS Excel incl. VBA.

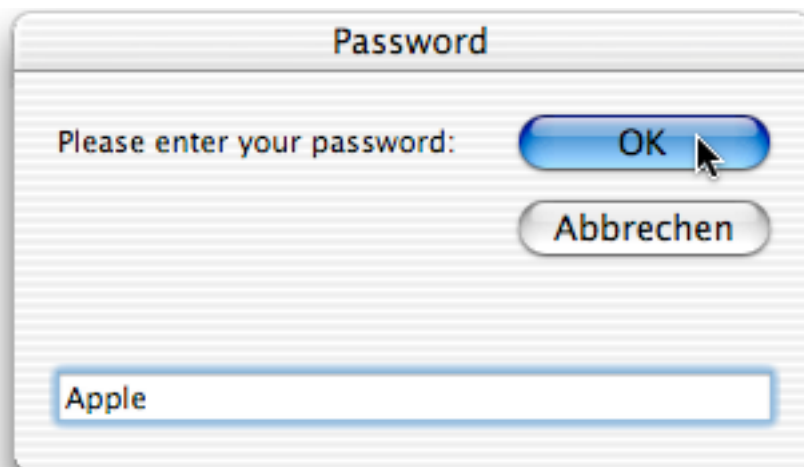
Versions

Version 1.0, 1998 first and only version up to now

Usage

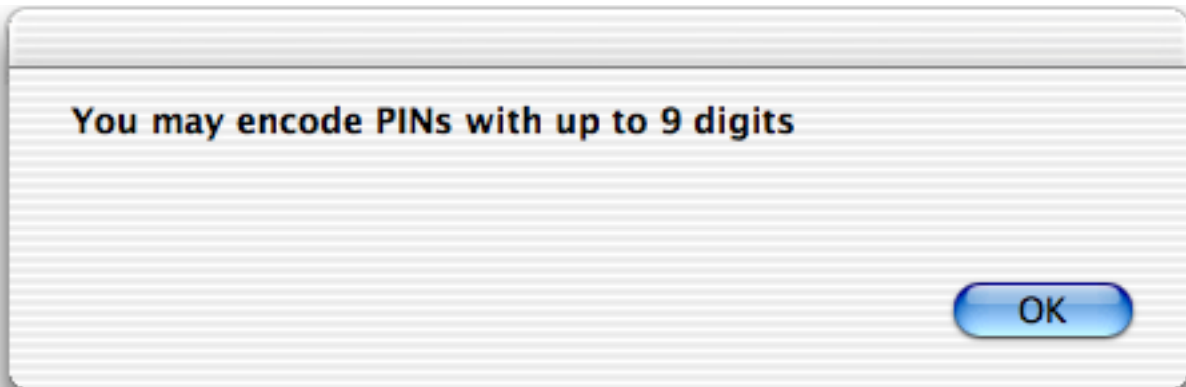
PIN-Master is a coding card where every letter of a password will be related to a digit of up to eight PINs.

In the beginning PIN-Master is an empty letter card. We have to press the button “Enter a PIN” or select the corresponding sub-menu from the menu “PIN-Master” to encode a PIN:

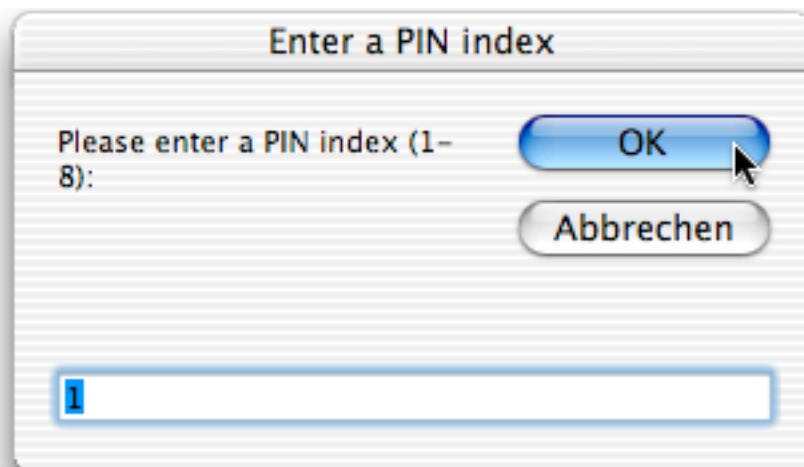


Let's take for example the password "Apple". Oops, that doesn't work. Passwords with repeating letters are illegal since there can be only one digit related to a letter in one

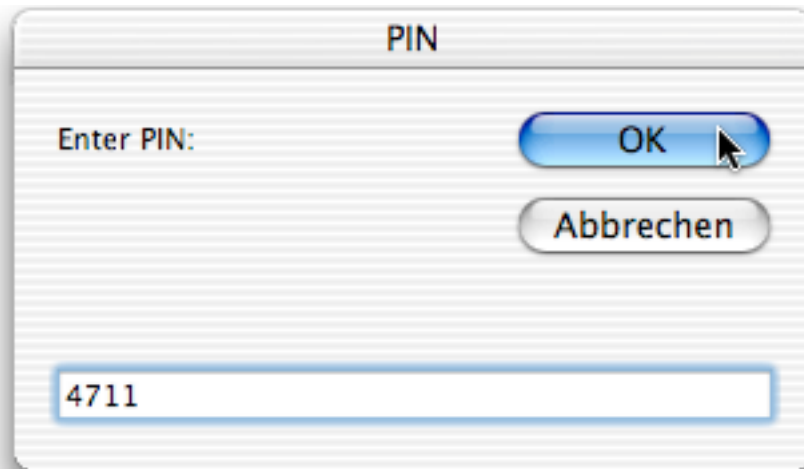
PIN. Let's use the password "Mactintosh" instead. That's much better; PIN-Master reminds us that we can encode PINs with up to 9 digits using this password:



Now we have to choose an index between 1 and 8 for the PIN we want to encode. Let's take 1 in this example:

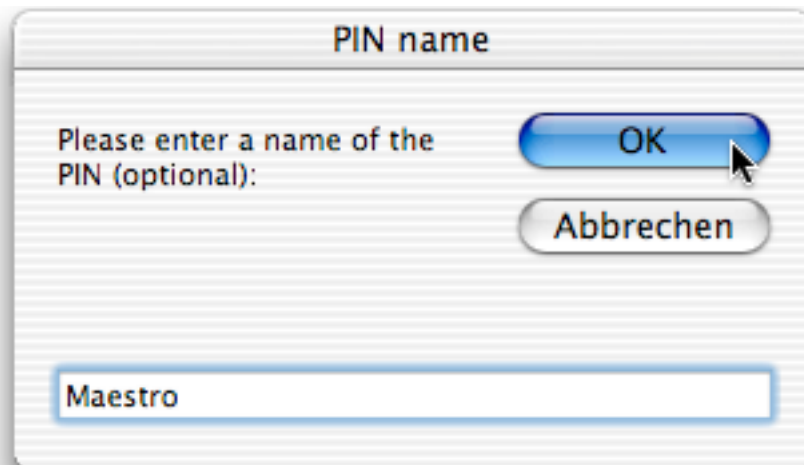


Now we need the PIN to encode. In our example we take "4711":



A dialog box titled "PIN" with a light gray background and rounded corners. It contains a label "Enter PIN:" on the left. To the right of the label are two buttons: a blue "OK" button with a mouse cursor pointing at it, and a gray "Abbrechen" button below it. At the bottom of the dialog is a text input field containing the number "4711".

Finally we can name this PIN (please do not use the password):



A dialog box titled "PIN name" with a light gray background and rounded corners. It contains a label "Please enter a name of the PIN (optional):" on the left. To the right of the label are two buttons: a blue "OK" button with a mouse cursor pointing at it, and a gray "Abbrechen" button below it. At the bottom of the dialog is a text input field containing the word "Maestro".

and our PIN is encoded:

7 A	0 B	1 C	9 D	2 E
9 F	3 G	5 H	1 I	9 J
1 K	2 L	4 M	9 N	2 O
5 P	4 Q	0 R	8 S	6 T
4 U	6 V	0 W	8 X	2 Y
5 Z	0 À	7 Ö	4 Ü	7

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At the first letter of our password (“M”) we will find the first digit of our PIN (“4”). At the second letter (“A”) there is the second digit (“7”) and so forth (always the orange colored cells). The other digits are randomly distributed. For the other PINs we are using the same procedure but select a different index, e.g. “7” for PIN “0815” of our MasterCard and the same password “Macintosh”:

7			0			1			9			2		
A			B			C			D			E		
8			0			1			7			8		
9			3			5			1			9		
F			G			H			I			J		
6			3			0			5			3		
1			2			4			9			2		
K			L			M			N			O		
4			8			0			7			0		
5			4			0			8			6		
P			Q			R			S			T		
0			7			9			3			7		
4			6			0			8			2		
U			V			W			X			Y		
7			1			0			8			6		
5			0			7			4			7		
Z			A			Ö			Ü					
0			9			5			0			4		

Maestro

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MasterCard

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The digits of this PIN populate the grey cells. We could have used a different password to increase the security. If an unauthorized user of our card knows already one of our PINs (e.g. the one of our Maestro card) the possible solutions for the other PINs are drastically reduced. If this person knows the Maestro PIN (4711) already he can deduct from the card that the first digit of the MasterCard PIN must be a 0 or a 7 if we have used the same password because the orange cells containing a 4 are related to grey cells with a 0 or a 7 in it.

With the button or the menu “Delete one PIN” we can delete one selected PIN. With “Delete all PINs” the encoding card will be erased completely.

Disclaimer and License

Users of PIN-Master must accept this disclaimer of warranty:

“PIN-Master is supplied as is. The author disclaims all warranties, expressed or implied, including, without limitation, the warranties of merchantability and of fitness for any purpose. The author assumes no liability for damages, direct or consequential, which may result from the use of PIN-Master.”

PIN-Master is Freeware. If you like it please send me an E-Mail.

Frank-Peter Poschmann

<mailto:Frank-Peter.Poschmann@fpposchmann.de>