# SETTING UP 2FA WITH YUBIKEY

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# OVERVIEW

The YubiKey, developed by Yubico, is a physical two-factor authentication (2FA) device. It protects your online accounts from account compromisation and unauthorized access. In this article, we will explore the benefits of the YubiKey 5C series and provide step-by-step instructions on how to use it to enhance your digital security.

# VIDEO

- See my YouTube video below that walks through how to set up, and it contains the information/links to help you.

# BASIC NOTES

- The YubiKey 5C series is a compact USB authentication device that supports multiple protocols such as FIDO2/WebAuthn, FIDO U2F, OTP (One-Time Password), OpenPGP, and smart card (PIV).

- Yubikey devices are compatible with many ports, which are commonly found in modern laptops and smartphones.

- By requiring a physical key to access your accounts, the YubiKey 5C series adds an extra layer of security that is far more robust than traditional username and password combinations.

# SETTING UP AND USING YUBIKEY 5C

- Register your YubiKey with online services:
  - o Many popular online services, such as Google, Facebook, Dropbox, and GitHub, support the YubiKey 5C. To register your device, visit the account security settings for the specific service and look for the "Two-Factor Authentication" or "Security Key" section. Follow the on-screen instructions to add your YubiKey as a new security key.
- Install the Yubico Authenticator:
  - o For services that require one-time passwords (OTP), download and install the Yubico Authenticator app on your computer or smartphone. The app generates OTPs for your accounts and supports the OATH TOTP standards.
- Insert your YubiKey into the USB-C port (or other port based on the device you purchased and port you need:
  - o To use your YubiKey, simply insert it into the port on your device. When prompted for a security key or OTP, touch the gold contact on the YubiKey to authenticate.
- Configure additional protocols (optional):

- o If you wish to utilize OpenPGP or smart card (PIV) functionality, follow the documentation provided by Yubico to set up these features.
- Create a backup:
  - o It's essential to create a backup of your YubiKey, in case it gets lost or damaged. Consider registering a second YubiKey with your accounts or using another supported 2FA method as a backup option.
- Store your YubiKey securely:
  - o Keep your YubiKey in a safe place when not in use. It's also a good idea to use a protective case to minimize the risk of damage.

# TWITTER + YUBIKEY EXAMPLE

- Step 1: Enable Two-Factor Authentication (2FA) on Twitter
  - o Before setting up your YubiKey with Twitter, you need to enable two-factor authentication (2FA) on your account.
  - o Log in to your Twitter account.
  - o Click on your profile picture in the top right corner and select "Settings and privacy" from the dropdown menu.
  - o In the menu, click on "Security and account access."
  - o Click on "Security" and then on "Two-factor authentication."
  - o Choose a 2FA method (Authentication app or Security key) and follow the on-screen instructions to set it up.
    - ▪ RECOMMENDATION: DO NOT USE SMS/TEXT
- Step 2: Add Your YubiKey to Twitter
  - o After enabling 2FA on your Twitter account, you can now add your YubiKey as a security key.
  - o In the "Security and account access" settings, click on "Security" and then on "Two-factor authentication."
  - o Click on "Add security key" under the "Security key" section.
  - o Enter your Twitter password when prompted and click "Confirm."
  - o Connect your YubiKey to your computer's USB port (USB-A or USB-C, depending on your YubiKey model) or have your NFC-enabled smartphone ready if you're using a YubiKey with NFC support.

- When prompted to "Insert your security key," touch the gold circle or edge of your YubiKey to activate it. For NFC-enabled YubiKeys, hold the key near your NFC-enabled smartphone.
- Twitter will detect the YubiKey and register it as a security key for your account. You can give it a name for easier identification, then click "Done" to finish the process.

- Step 3: Using YubiKey for Twitter Login
  - Now that you've set up your YubiKey with Twitter, you can use it as an additional layer of security when logging in.
  - Visit the Twitter login page and enter your username and password as usual.
  - If you have multiple 2FA methods enabled, Twitter may first prompt you to use one of the other methods (such as an authentication app). If this occurs, click "Choose a different method" and select "Security key."
  - When prompted to "Insert your security key," connect your YubiKey to your computer's USB port or hold it near your NFC-enabled smartphone if using an NFC-compatible YubiKey.
  - Touch the gold circle or edge of your YubiKey to activate it.
  - Twitter will verify the YubiKey and log you into your account securely.

- Conclusion
  - Using a YubiKey with your Twitter account adds an extra layer of security, making it more difficult for unauthorized users