Locking your computer screen prevents unauthorized individuals from accessing your data. It is a good idea to get in the habit of locking your screen any time you step away from your workstation, even if only for a few moments.

**Windows Key + L**

Another way to lock your computer screen is to press the Windows key and the L key at the same time. The Windows key appears on most keyboards designed to use with Windows machines. The key is labeled with a Windows logo inside an embossed circle. It is located to the left of the spacebar next to the Alt key. Some keyboards also have a Windows key on the right side of the spacebar.

This keyboard shortcut is very easy to use. Press the Windows and L key at the same time and your logon screen will appear immediately. (The image below is a generic version of the log on screen.

When you return to your computer, log on as usual.