



HYPACK License Options: Hardlock vs. Soft License

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For a few years now, HYPACK customers have had the option to choose between traditional hardlock USB dongles and soft licenses.

Although we are all familiar with soft licenses (e.g. your Windows activation), customers may still be unsure which option to select that better suits their needs.

Here are a few advantages and things to consider for each license type.

Hardlock Licenses:

- In the form of a USB dongle, so you receive a piece of hardware.
- Must be accompanied by a valid license file, which is periodically renewed.
- Vulnerable to damage/wear and tear.
- Lost hardlock licenses will not be replaced, and the license itself is lost (similar to how a lost phone is not replaced).
- Easily move the license from one PC to another, just plug into a different PC.
- Exchange a defective key for a new one, however the old key must be returned. This will take a few days.

Soft Licenses:

- This is a digital license, which eliminates the need for a USB dongle. You will only receive an email with an activation code, and use HYPACK's License Manager program to activate the license.
For more information on soft licenses, refer to the [HYPACK Soft License Tutorial by Daniel Tobin](#).
- Easiest to activate if computer is connected to the internet.
- Can be activated if computer is offline by smartphone or tablet with internet.
- Once activated, can remain offline for up to 90 days.
- Sometimes problematic with strict IT programs.
- Only works with HYPACK® 2021 Q1 and newer versions.
- Easily move the license between PCs. Just deactivate it on one PC and then activate it on another.
- Cannot get lost. We can deactivate a license from our side and issue a new license.

If you are interested in buying a new soft license or transferring your hardlock license to a soft license, please contact HYPACK Sales at sales@hypack.com or +1 (860) 635-1500.