Set Up and Use an AI Tinkerers Passkey

Status: Canonical public guide for AI Tinkerers member passkey setup, sign-in, recovery, and removal.

Direct setup path: Sign in to your existing account by email, then open aitinkerers.org/passkeys and select **Add a passkey**. Your four-digit email code remains available as a fallback.

A passkey lets you sign in to AI Tinkerers with Face ID, Touch ID, Windows Hello, a device PIN, or a password manager such as 1Password or iCloud Keychain. It is optional. The four-digit email code remains available as a fallback, so adding a passkey does not make your account passkey-only.

If you have attended AI Tinkerers events before, use the same email address you used for those RSVPs. The passkey is added to that existing account, so your profile and event history stay with the same account.

Add a Passkey to an Existing Account

1. Open aitinkerers.org/signin.
2. Sign in with the email address already connected to your AI Tinkerers account and enter the four-digit code sent from `signin@aitinkerers.org`.
3. After sign-in, you may see **Skip the email code next time?** Select **Save a passkey**.
4. If that prompt does not appear, or if you previously skipped it, open aitinkerers.org/passkeys while signed in.
5. Select **Add a passkey**.
6. Follow the prompt from your browser, device, or password manager. Depending on your setup, this may ask for Face ID, Touch ID, Windows Hello, a device PIN, 1Password, iCloud Keychain, or another passkey provider.
7. Wait for **Passkey added** and confirm that the new passkey appears under **Your passkeys**.

The post-sign-in offer can be skipped for 180 days. Skipping the offer does not disable passkeys. You can still add one at aitinkerers.org/passkeys at any time.

Test the New Passkey

1. Sign out at aitinkerers.org/signout.
2. Return to aitinkerers.org/signin.
3. Select **Sign in with a passkey**.
4. Choose the passkey you just added and complete your device or password-manager verification.
5. Confirm that you are signed in to the same AI Tinkerers account.

The passkey button appears in browsers that support WebAuthn. A person who has not added a matching passkey can ignore the button and use the email-code option.

How the Passkey System Works

- AI Tinkerers uses the WebAuthn standard. Your device or password manager creates a public and private key pair.
- The private key stays with your device or passkey provider. AI Tinkerers stores the public key, a credential identifier, and a sign-in counter used to verify future sign-ins.
- Face ID, Touch ID, Windows Hello, and device PIN checks are handled by your device. AI Tinkerers does not receive or store your biometric data or device PIN.
- A passkey is attached to the AI Tinkerers account that is signed in when the passkey is created.
- You can add more than one passkey, which is useful for a second device or password manager.
- Email-code sign-in always remains available for recovery or for a device that does not have your passkey.

Use the Same Hostname

Passkeys are protected by the hostname where they were created. A passkey added at `aitinkerers.org` works at `aitinkerers.org`, but it may not be offered on a chapter subdomain or another custom domain.

For the most reliable setup and sign-in path, use these exact pages:

- aitinkerers.org/passkeys to add or remove passkeys
- aitinkerers.org/signin to sign in with a passkey

Add a Passkey on Another Device

If your passkey provider syncs passkeys, the existing passkey may already be available on the other device. If it is not:

1. Use the email-code flow to sign in on the other device.
2. Open aitinkerers.org/passkeys.
3. Select **Add a passkey** and save a passkey using that device or its password manager.

Remove a Passkey or Recover from a Lost Device

1. Sign in with another working passkey or with the four-digit email code.
2. Open aitinkerers.org/passkeys.
3. Find the passkey under **Your passkeys** and select **Remove**.
4. Add a replacement passkey if needed.

Removing a passkey from AI Tinkerers prevents that credential from signing in to AI Tinkerers. Your device or password manager may also have its own control for deleting its local copy.

Troubleshooting

- **No setup prompt after email sign-in:** Open aitinkerers.org/passkeys directly.
- **No passkey controls:** Try a current version of Chrome, Safari, Edge, or Firefox on a device with passkey support.
- **The passkey is not offered:** Make sure you are on `https://aitinkerers.org`, then check the device or password manager where you saved it.
- **The passkey is not recognized:** Sign in with the four-digit email code, open the passkey management page, and add a new passkey.
- **The device was lost or replaced:** Sign in by email, remove the old passkey, and add a replacement.
- **The email code does not arrive:** Check spam or junk for `signin@aitinkerers.org`, confirm the email address, and request a fresh code.