SPS now requires that instructors using Blackboard online tests use a password for high stakes exams that comprise 20% or more of the overall grade. This guide covers how to set a password (See Step 3) as well as other recommendations for how to make sure your exam is as secure as possible.

Ensuring the Security of Tests in Blackboard

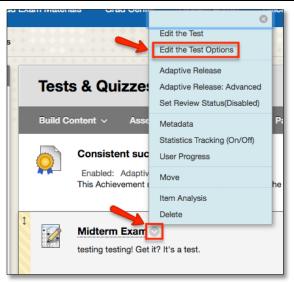
This guide assumes that you have already created your tests. For step-by-step instructions on how to create a test, see Blackboard's support site.

General Testing Advice: We recommend that you <u>create a large test pool</u> and that you <u>randomize the questions in each test</u> (see hyperlinks for more step-by-step instructions). The size of your test pool depends on the number of questions in your test, so if your students will be presented with 10 questions, create a pool of 50 questions. Also, **modify imported test banks** by changing questions and adding your own as appropriate.

Step Number and Description Step 1

To add a password and take other steps to ensure your test is as secure as possible, navigate to the area of your course where your test is deployed, click on the downward facing arrow that appears to the right of the test name, and click on "Edit the Test Options" in the menu that pops up.

Screenshot



Step 2

To ensure students cannot leave the test and come back, we recommend you not allow multiple attempts and that you check the box next to "Force Completion."

Note: If a student requires an additional attempt, you can allow them to retake the test; with randomization, the student will not receive the same questions when they retake it.

☐ Multiple Attempts
☐ Allow Unlimited Attempts
☐ Number of Attempts
☐ Score attempts using Last Graded Attempt
☐ Force Completion
☐ Once started, this test must be completed in one sitting.

Step 3

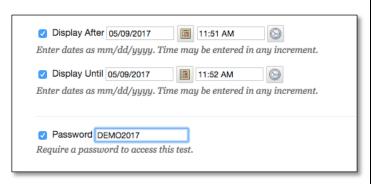
Step Number and Description

To ensure everyone accesses the test at the same time, set "Display After" and "Display Until" dates and use a password.

To set display dates, check the box next to "Display After" and "Display Until" and enter in the appropriate dates.

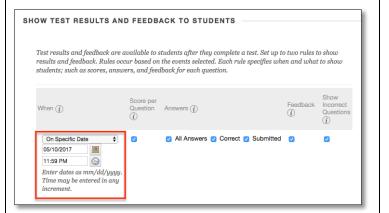
To set a **password**, check the box next to "password" and enter in the password you'd like to use. Share the password with your students close to when the test will be administered—you can include it in in the test's instructions if they are timed to appear, or post it in an announcement as close to the date as is appropriate.

Screenshot



Step 4

To prevent students from sharing answers, delay making specific feedback on test questions available until everyone has completed the test. To set the date when users can view test questions and feedback, scroll down to the "Show Test Results and Feedback" section of the Test Canvas page. Under "When," select "On a Specific Date" and select a time from the drop down menu that is after all testing is over.



Step 5

Finally, under "Test Presentation," tick the boxes next to "Prohibit Backtracking," and "Randomize Questions" to ensure fair access to all questions.

