

Respondus LockDown Browser and Quiz Security in MyCanvas

Respondus LockDown Browser is a customized browser that increases the security of online quizzing in MyCanvas. When students use LockDown Browser to take a quiz, they are unable to print, copy, go to another URL, or access other applications until the quiz has been submitted. As an instructor, you can choose which of your MyCanvas quizzes will require students to use LockDown Browser.

When you configure a quiz in MyCanvas to require LockDown Browser, a student must:

- Exit their current browser
- Launch LockDown Browser. LockDown Browser must be available on the computer on which the student is taking the quiz.
- Navigate to the course and specific quiz, and choose to **Take the Quiz**.

The use of LockDown Browser is only one component to help ensure the validity of testing and grades. More strategies are discussed below in “**Making Online Quizzes Even More Secure**”.

Functionality of LockDown Browser

The use of Respondus LockDown Browser effectively creates a secure testing environment for MyCanvas and includes the following features:

- Assessments are displayed full-screen and cannot be minimized
- Browser menu and toolbar options are removed, except for Back, Forward, Refresh and Stop
- Prevents access to other applications including messaging, screen-sharing, virtual machines, and remote desktops
- Printing and screen capture functions are disabled
- Copying and pasting anything to or from an assessment is prevented
- Right-click menu options, function keys, keyboard shortcuts and task switching are disabled
- An assessment cannot be exited until the student submits it for grading
- Assessments that are set up for use with LockDown Browser cannot be accessed with other browsers

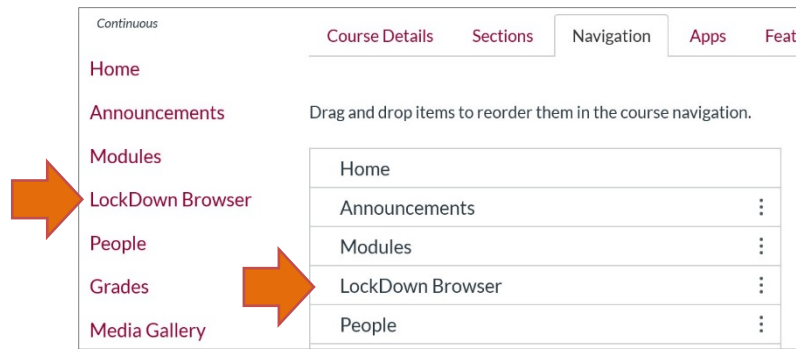
LockDown Browser should only be used by students to take quizzes; it should not be considered a replacement for a regular web browser.

Enabling LockDown Browser for a Quiz

To require students to use LockDown Browser for a MyCanvas quiz, you must enable LockDown Browser for the quiz.

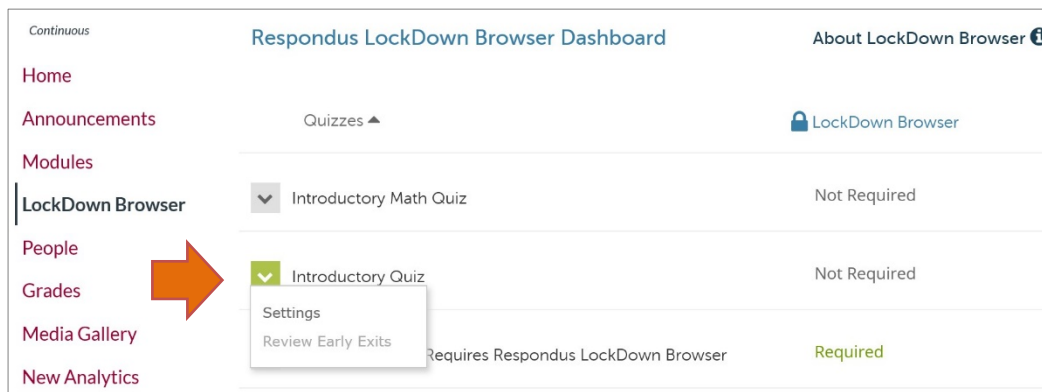
1. Ensure that the LockDown Browser link is visible on the Course Navigation menu. If the link is not available:
 - Visit **Settings** from the Course Navigation menu
 - Choose the **Navigation** tab

- Drag the **LockDown Browser** item from the hidden section to the visible section. Note that even when enabled this way, the link will not be visible to students.



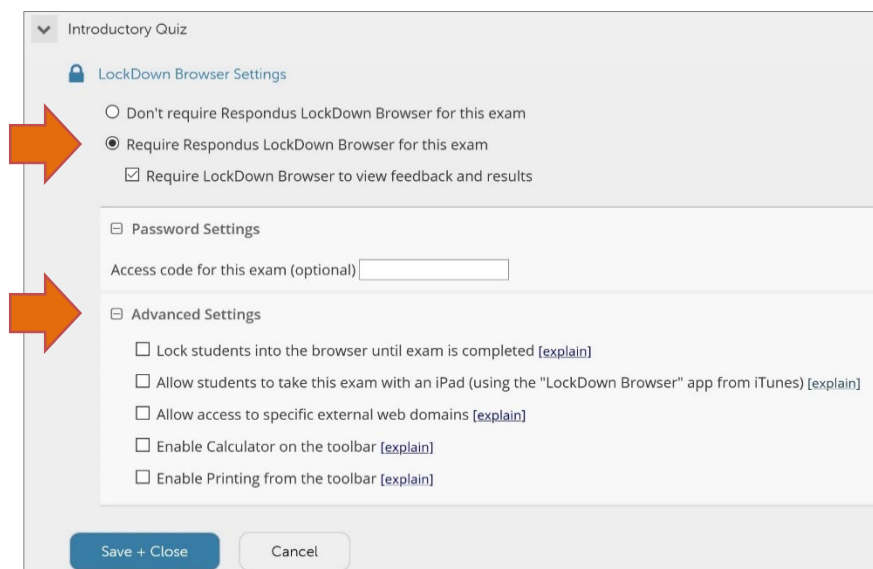
Enable LockDown Browser on Course Navigation

- **Save** your changes.
2. Visit the LockDown Browser link on the Course Navigation menu to view a list of all the quizzes in the course. Select the **actions dropdown menu** immediately to the left of the quiz name.



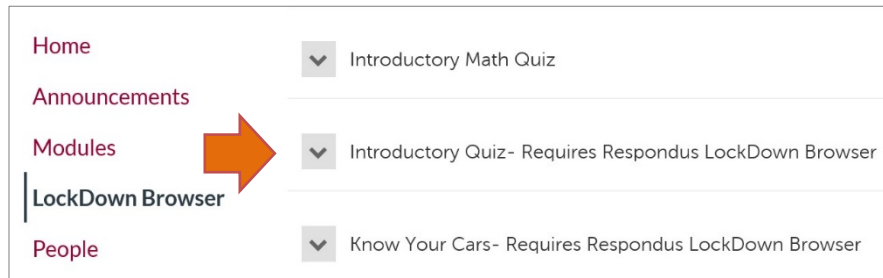
Open LockDown Browser from Course Navigation and open the Settings for the quiz

3. Click or press **Settings**, and select **Require Respondus LockDown Browser for this exam**. Open the **Advanced Settings** to open an additional set of options and select them as desired. To learn more about each option, click or press on the **[explain]** link beside the option.



Enable LockDown Browser and configure settings

4. Click or press **Save + Close**. You can confirm that LockDown Browser has been successfully applied when you see that the quiz name has updated, in the LockDown Browser listing and throughout MyCanvas, to include **"Requires Respondus LockDown Browser"**.



Confirm that LockDown Browser has been successfully applied

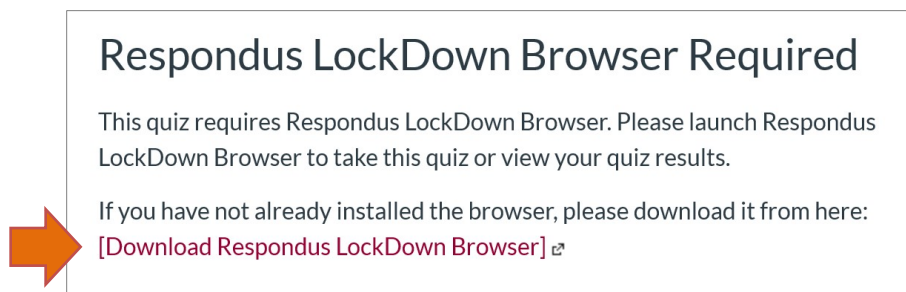
Testing the Configured Quiz

It is advisable to test the quiz with the MyCanvas student test account to confirm the correct configuration. If configured correctly, you should be **unable** to start the quiz with a standard web browser when you click or press **Take This Quiz**.

The Student Experience

Make sure students know, well in advance, if quizzes in your course will require LockDown Browser, especially if they will be required to install LockDown Browser to their own computer. It is also good practice to create a short, perhaps non-graded demo quiz that requires the use of LockDown Browser, and allow students to test the browser before you require it for a graded quiz.

Students will be presented with a warning message and a link to download LockDown Browser.



Students will see this message and the download link

When you configure a quiz in MyCanvas to require LockDown Browser, a student must:

- Exit their current browser
- Launch LockDown Browser and login to MyCanvas
- Navigate to the course and specific quiz, and choose to **Take the Quiz**.

[Here is a video](#) from Respondus that details the student experience of using LockDown Browser.

Making Online Quizzes Even More Secure

Respondus LockDown Browser is an important tool for preventing cheating on MyCanvas quizzes, but it's not a total solution. For example, students working from remote locations could use two computers at once (one for taking the exam, the other for accessing other applications). Students could use digital cameras to capture the screen content, send text messages on mobile phones, or simply refer to printed notes.

Additional methods can be employed that further reduce the risk of cheating, and each approach below provides another layer of security. Even one or two of these items can often provide sufficient security for most assessments.

- **Weighting:** Make electronic quizzes a small proportion of the grade, and reduce the incentive to cheat by allocating a lesser weight.
- **Digital Devices:** Maintain a no-device policy during quizzes.
- **Quiz Passwords** (MyCanvas quiz setting): A quiz password prevents students from accessing the exam until a password has been supplied. Quiz passwords can be typed by the proctors themselves (for added security) or conveyed to the student at the start of the exam.
- **Attempts Allowed** (MyCanvas quiz setting): By only allowing one attempt for a quiz, students won't be able to determine the questions in the quiz, look up the answers at a later time, and then retake the quiz.
- **Required to View Quiz Feedback and Results with Respondus LockDown Browser** (MyCanvas quiz setting): A quiz that requires the LockDown Browser be used for viewing feedback and results will prevent students from printing or copying questions after the quiz has been delivered.
- **Randomize Options** (MyCanvas quiz setting): Answer choices to multiple choice questions can easily be randomized. This setting is selected at the time a question is created.
- **Question Randomization** (MyCanvas quiz setting): Question randomization ensures that the question order is different for each student. To create a randomized quiz, you need to build your questions in a Question Bank first, then create a question group in your quiz, and draw the questions from the bank into the quiz.
- **IP Restriction** (MyCanvas quiz setting): If quizzes are being delivered from a central location, the IP address (or a partial address) for those computers can be specified, thus preventing access from other locations.
- **Availability Dates and Times** (MyCanvas quiz setting): This setting restricts the availability of the quiz to a specific date/time range.
- **Proctors:** Having students take an exam in a room being monitored by a proctor is a major deterrent to most forms of cheating.