

CD Key Type of functionality

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I am interested in implementing a CD Key style installation process for my Access application.

Currently I use a procedure to write a key to the registry during installation and require a matching key be entered by the user during installation. Actually, the registry key is also embedded into the program code and I check the key against the embedded code and the key that is entered by the user as part of the installation. In this way, the installation checks all three keys and during a normal program launch the registry must match that of the embedded key. Now with the keys matching, a user must email with a registration information or the program disables some of its functionality until a new key value is sent upon a valid registration. On this registration, I send a application update which writes a new key in the program and registry. I maintain a database that records the key associated with a registered user.

Is there a better way for me to offer at least some protection of the application or should I even be wasting time and effort for something some they will get if they want something bad enough? I realize I cannot prevent crime, I just want to make a little more difficulty for those in the bail bond business who attempt compromise my work by installing multiple copies of one purchase license.

If this post could be better suited in another group, please inform me and I will repost in a more appropriate group.

Thanks

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