

# Deciding whether to lock a license to one or multiple HostIDs

Locking your licensed application to an Ethernet card, BIOS or harddisk HostID provides enough security to meet most needs. If you require more security, you may lock to multiple HostIDs using one of the following methods.

Method	Usage
Multiple HostIDs with 1:1 matching	With this method, all HostIDs must match exactly for the license to work. For example, if you lock the license to the license server machine hostname, Ethernet adapter, and BIOS HostIDs, all three HostIDs must match for the license to work.
Multiple HostIDs with advanced comparison	With this method, you use the HostID compare function, <a href="#">LMX_OPT_HOSTID_COMPARE_FUNCTION</a> , to specify multiple HostIDs in the license file and use them under custom conditions. For example, you might create a condition to lock to the Ethernet card if it is available, and if it is not available, lock to the harddisk. Another example is to include all available information about the machine in the license file, and then allow the software to run if the harddisk and Ethernet HostIDs match, and ignore all other information.
Multiple HostIDs using HostID match rating	With this method, you use the HostID match rating setting, <a href="#">HOSTID_MATCH_RATE</a> , to specify the percentage required for a successful match, from 0 (no matching required) to 100 (exact matching required). For example, SETTING HOSTID_MATCH_RATE="50" indicates that a 50% or better match must be achieved in order for the license to work. A strict 1:1 match provides optimal security, while a less strict match provides more flexibility, allowing users to run the software if, for example, only two out of three HostID values are valid.

For information about supported HostIDs and which is best for your needs, see [Determining which HostID to use](#).