



Session Timeout

Document version 2.1
Last updated: 30/10/2017

www.iamcloud.com

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1 Introduction

Session Timeout is an important security feature. Leaving workstations indefinitely logged into online services, or even simply leaving computers unmanned for periods of time, creates a security risk. Session Timeout exists to make sure sessions close when they are no longer in use.

The Session Timeout function adds significant benefit to the SAML/oAUTH/WS-Federation protocols. IT Administrators often don't have the control they would ideally want to set the session timeout to intervals that best suit their users' or organisation's requirements.

2 Functionality

There are two main types of timeout:

- Idle timeout, where the user is away from the system leading to inactivity, e.g. if the page hasn't received an user activity, or the mouse hasn't triggered any on-mouse events. This timeout countdown will reset whenever the user interacts with the web page. Ensuring idle users are logged out quickly significantly reduces system exposure to data breach.
- Force-response timeout, triggered after a certain period of time. This ignores the user activity and automatically prompts the user to remain logged in. If the users don't react to the prompt and acknowledge they wish to remain logged in, IAM Cloud will automatically sign them out.

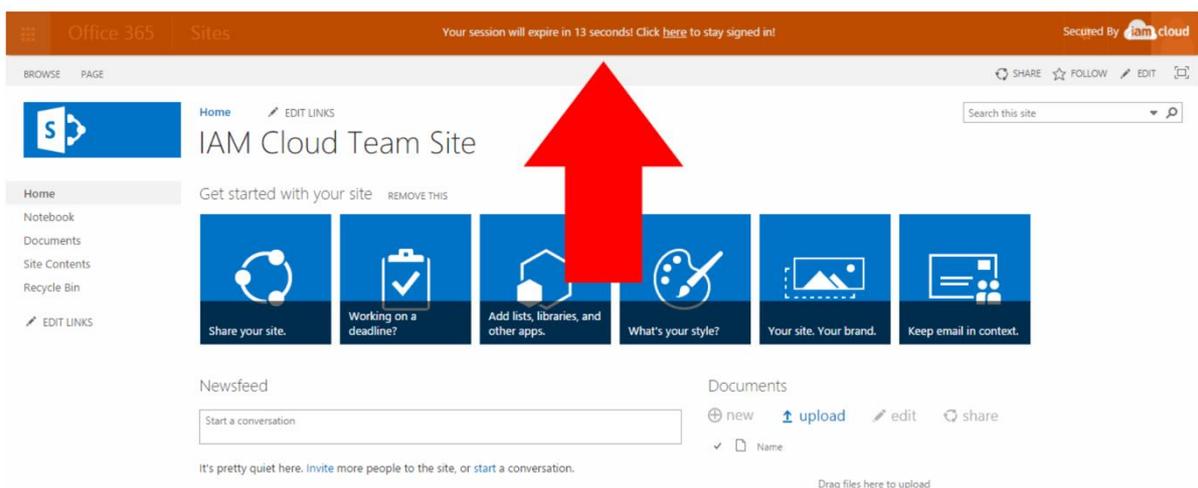
Organisations can choose to use either method, or both, and can set the time durations for each independently. So idle timeout could be set to 60 seconds, whereas force-response timeout could be set to 45 minutes.

2.1 User experience

When a timeout event begins, there are two types of alert.

2.1.1 Status bar notification

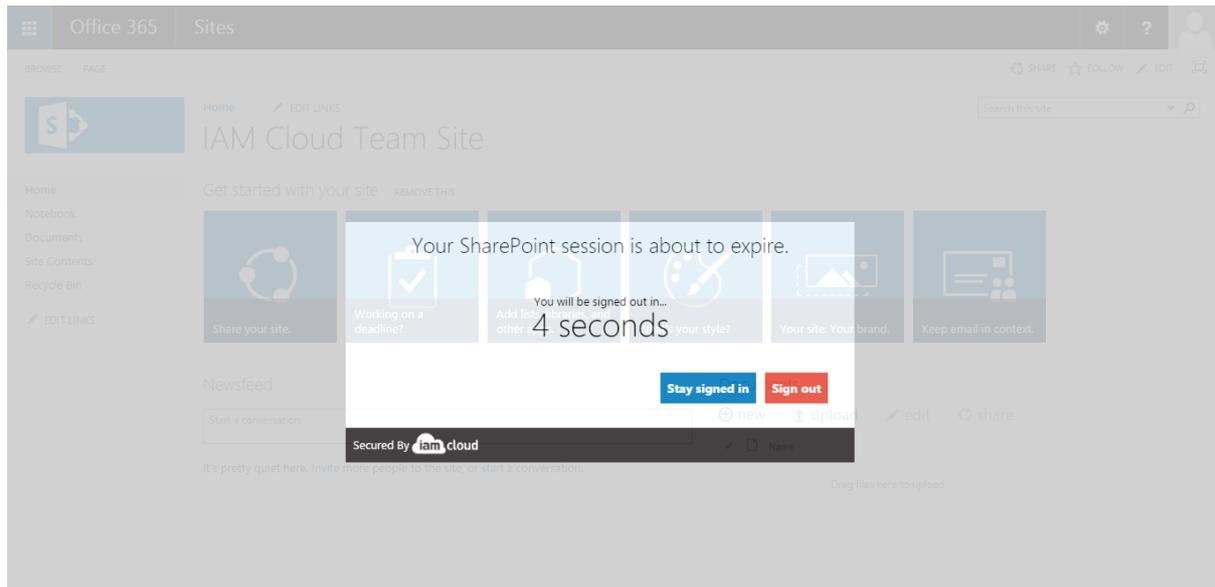
With status bar notifications, a stylish small notification bar appears across the top of their work window letting them know they need to act to prevent being logged out.



2.1.2 Popup alert.

The popup alert is significantly more overt than the status bar notification. It pops up

a modal window in the centre of the user's screen with a countdown timer until the session expires.



2.1.3 Custom parameters

Organisations can use either alert, or both. An organisation could set the status bar notification running 120 seconds before logout occurs, and then have it change to the popup alert with 15 seconds to go.

2.1.4 Mobile, tablet and BYOD-friendly

Session Timeout is fully compatible with mobile devices as well as desktop computers, and doesn't require any client installers so it works first time on BYOD devices too.

3 Applications

3.1 SharePoint and SharePoint Online

Microsoft SharePoint is a leading collaborative file management system, used by large number of mid-large organisations around the world.

By default, SharePoint has a 5 day session timeout. For a number of organisations this does not meet their security requirements. With on-premises SharePoint implementations it is possible to change this through scripting, but with SharePoint Online it is not. Not until now, anyway.

IAM Cloud provides organisations with total control over session timeout for SharePoint and SharePoint Online, among many other applications.

IAM Cloud gives IT administrators control to ensure their IT best meets the needs of their organisations. With the added security and control provided by IAM Cloud, organisations can confidently adopt the productivity and scalability benefits of the cloud, while greatly enhancing data security.

3.2 Other Applications

For other applications the IAM Cloud SSO toolkit can be used to integrate as needed and this will then in turn provide the same functionality to any desired application.

4 How it works

IAM Cloud's control over the federation and authentication of applications means it can introduce additional control measures that wouldn't normally be possible natively. Session Timeout Control is achieved through IAM Cloud's control of SAML/oAuth and WS-FS authentication tokens.

Importantly, this means that with Session Timeout Control there is no client install or even an add-on to SharePoint. It is achieved entirely through IAM Cloud's control of the SAML-based authentication process. This means it can be configured and deployed simply, quickly and securely without adding a burden to the IT Administrator. Plus, given this process happens at the core authentication level, and there's no client install, it means that Session Timeout Control works on any device.

4.1 Integration

Integrating Session Timeout is very simple, for SharePoint (2010/2013/2016) and SharePoint online you can simply add into the master files on the SharePoint Site Collection you want to protect.

*** Please note if you are integrated with a SharePoint application you can skip to point 8 and place that JavaScript into the header of the application. It will then follow the application around correctly.*

Download the relevant JavaScript from:

resources.iamcloud.net/downloads/sessiontimeout/iamcloud.js

Once you have downloaded the iamcloud.js file, open the file and go to line 32. Replace XXXXX with the IAM Cloud Logout Endpoint for the application which can be retrieved from the portal at portal.iamcloud.net.

This should then be uploaded to a suitable place within SharePoint – we recommend a part of the primary site collection.

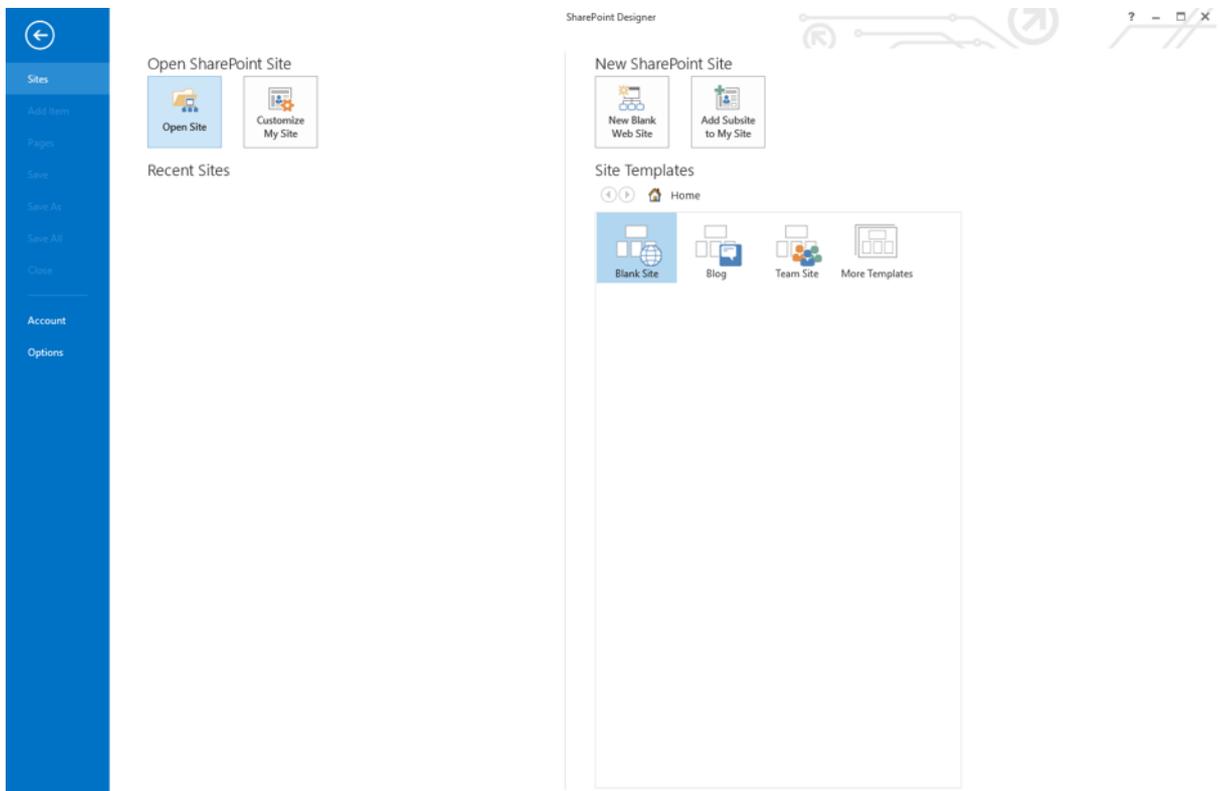
We can assume for the remainder of this document this location is <http://xxx.sharepoint.com/sites/yyyy/IAMCloud.js>

Xxxx = The SharePoint name

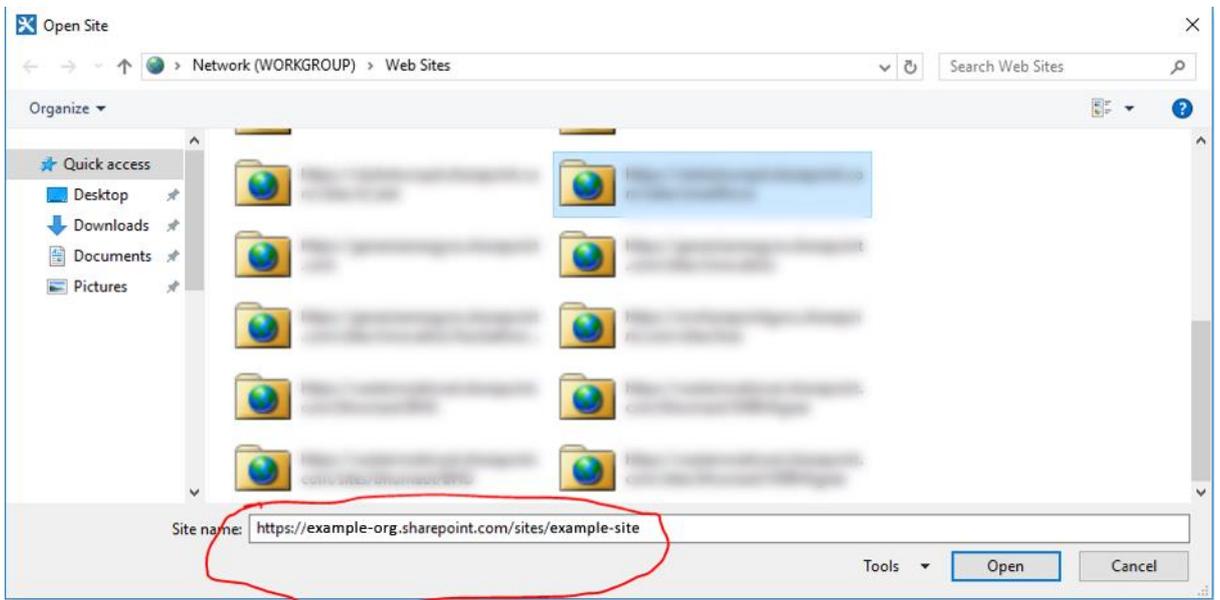
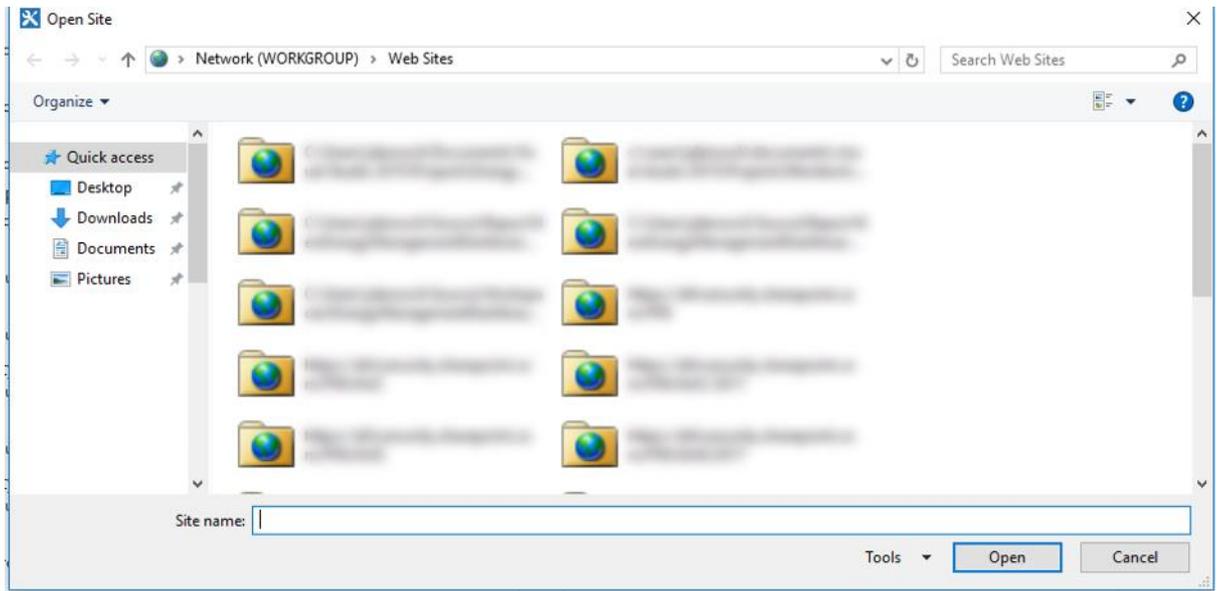
Yyyy = the site collection name – this can be omitted if you want to place directly on the master file.

4.1.1 Walk-through

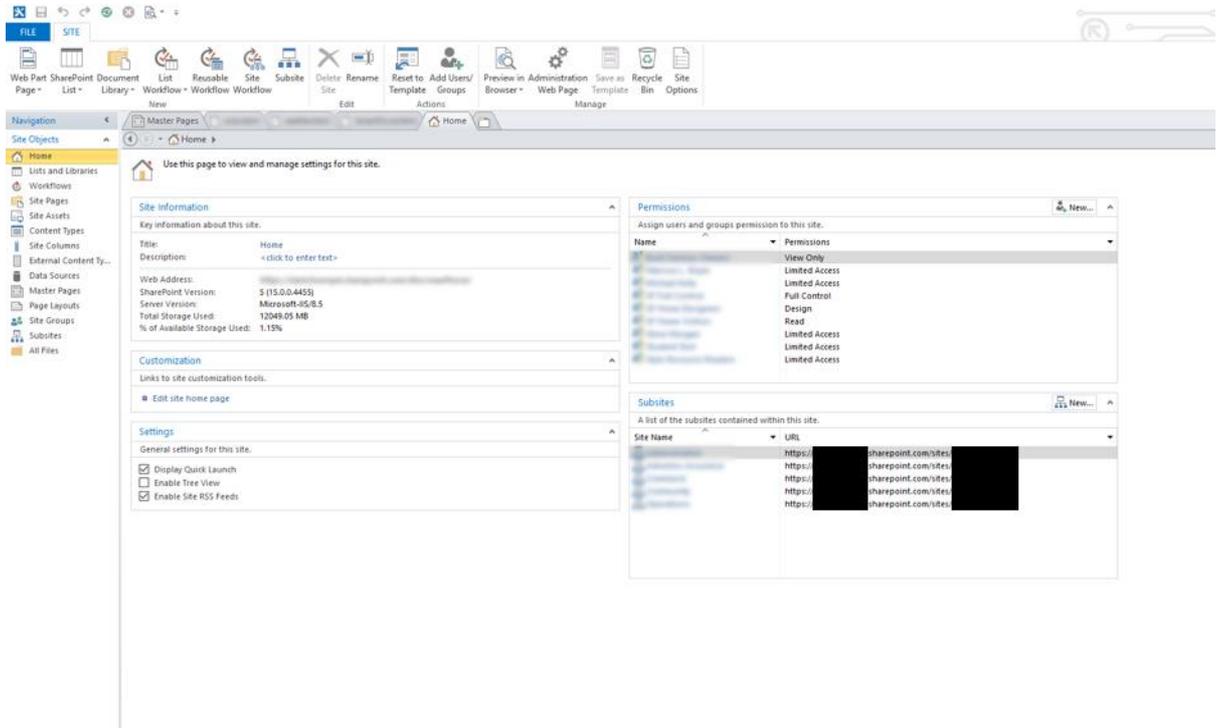
1. Download SharePoint Designer
<https://www.microsoft.com/en-nz/download/details.aspx?id=35491>
2. Open SharePoint Designer



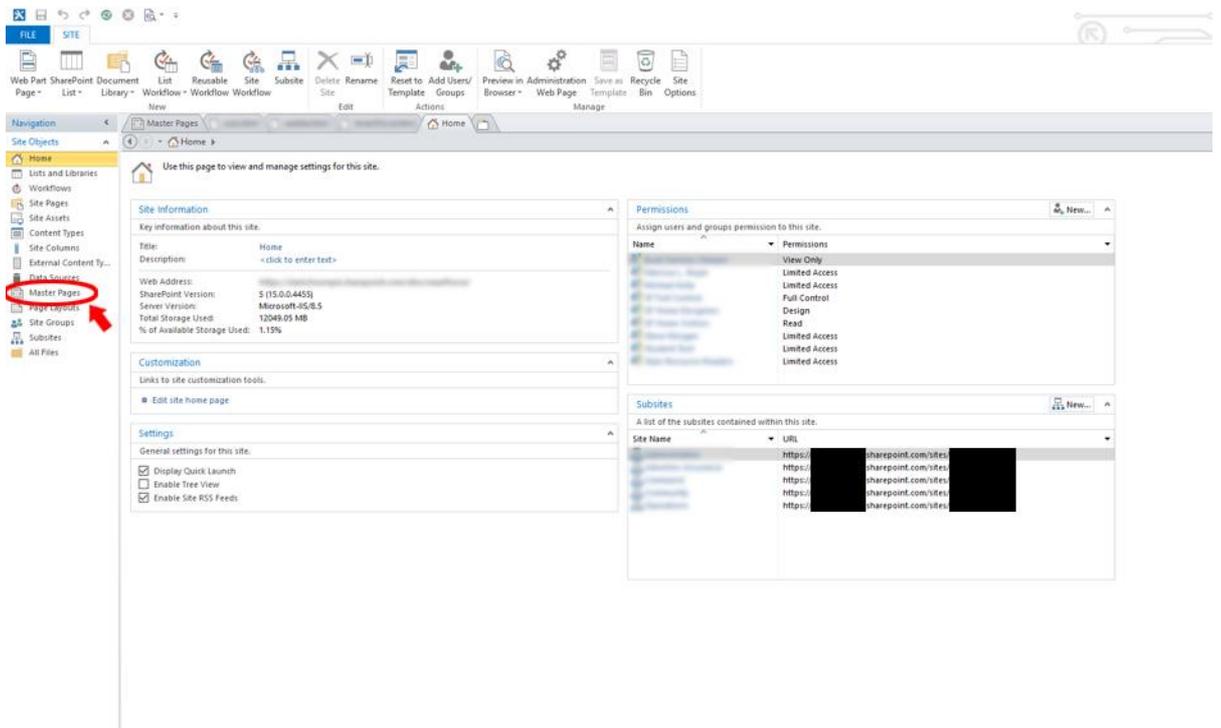
3. Click **Open Site**
A pop-up window will appear
4. Fill in the site URL



The Site Will Open in SharePoint Designer

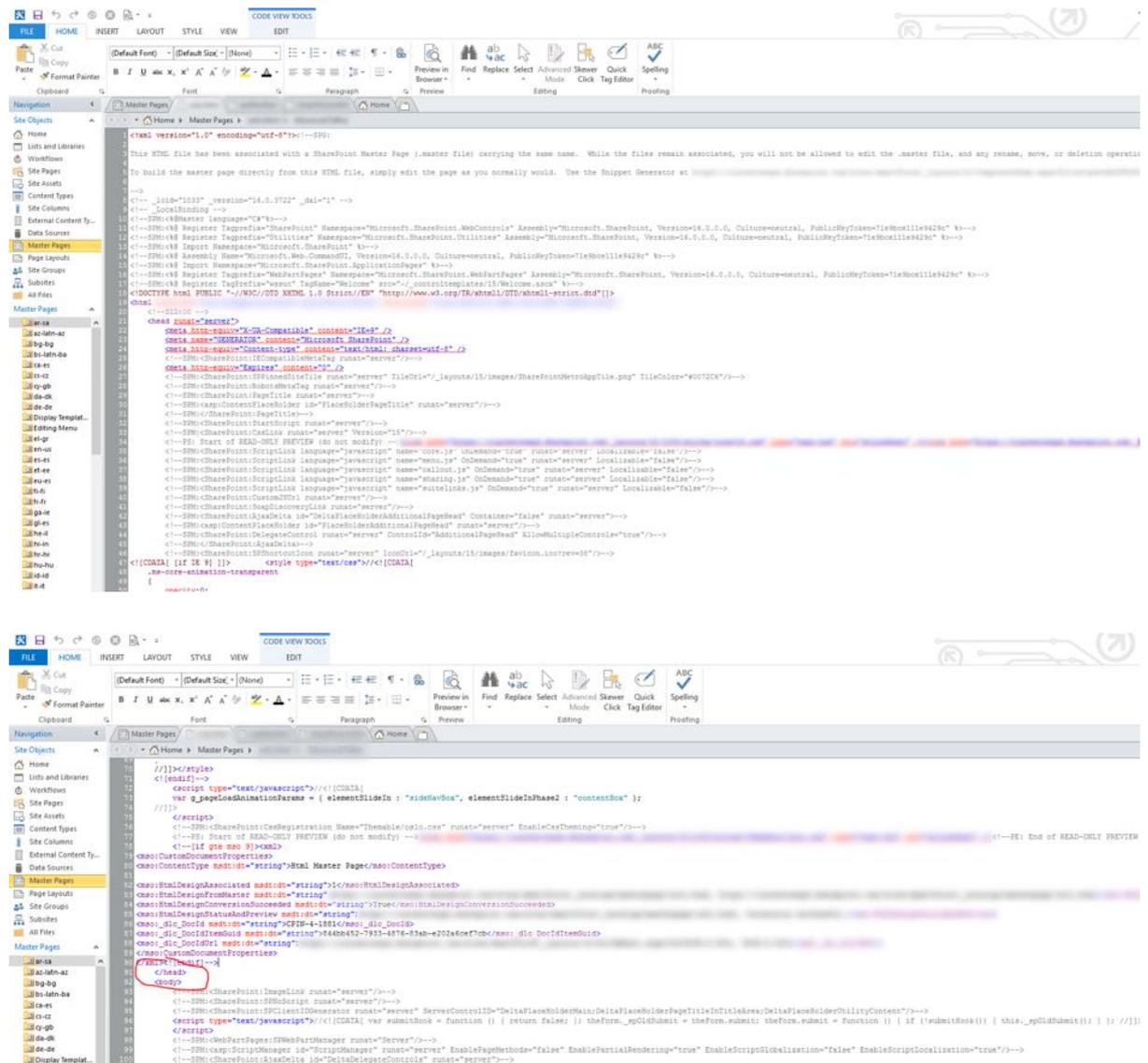


5. Click on **Master Pages**



Now the Master Page list will appear

You will be presented with the Code version of the Master Page. Scroll down to the section that has the closing head tag ("`</head>`")



8. Then simply add your JS file link as demonstrated below:

```
<SharePoint:ScriptLink ID="Scriptlink9" runat="server" name="
http:xxx.sharepoint.com/sites/yyyy/IAMCloud.js" language="javascript" />
```

9. Save the Master Page and you're Done.

Now the Script will load on every page where the master is used.

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