

Mac OS 15.x Sequoia



Introduction:

- + Sequoia 15.x is the latest Macintosh operating system from Apple.
- + Previous Systems:
 - + OS X 10.8 Mountain Lion
 - + OS X 10.9 Mavericks
 - + OS X 10.10 Yosemite
 - + OS X 10.11 El Capitan
 - + Mac OS 10.12 Sierra
 - + Mac OS 10.13 High Sierra
 - + Mac OS 10.14 Mojave
 - + Mac OS 10.15 Catalina
 - + Mac OS 11 Big Sur
 - + Mac OS 12 Monterey
 - + Mac OS 13 Ventura
 - + Mac OS 14 Sonoma

Introduction:

- + Unlike 10.8 and before; THIS ONE IS FREE!
- + Sequoia is a major upgrade to the Mac OS; and its main claim is Apple Intelligence, which is Apple's version of Artificial Intelligence. It should be noted there are many changes not related to Apple Intelligence in this version. Note that the version number is now 15.

Introduction:

- + Normally one would expect to have to get new programs to run on the M1-M4 mac. This was handled by Rosetta 2 in Big Sur Monterey, and Ventura and Sonoma. Rosetta 2 continues this support on Sequoia.
- + Nothing definitive from Apple, or even the press, one would assume that Rosetta 2 would continue at least through the next version.

Requirements:

- + Models supported: (Changes from Sonoma)
 - + iMac (2019 or newer)
 - + iMac Pro (2017 or newer)
 - + MacBook Pro (2019 or newer)
 - + MacBook Air (2020 or newer)
 - + Mac mini (2018 or newer)
 - + Mac Pro (2019 or newer)
 - + Mac Studio 2022+
 - + Looks like support for Macbook Pro 2018 and Macbook Air 2018 and 2019 dropped
- + At least 20 to 30 GB available free Hard drive space

Requirements (cont'd):

- + Memory (Ram) requirements probably 8 GB.
 - + Could not find stated Apple Requirements
 - + My research found compatible machines shipped with at least 8 GB
- + Apple is now shipping all New Macs with 16GB memory; this implies some of Apple Intelligence will require this amount
- + Again more RAM is desirable. If you have only 8 GB of upgradeable RAM, Upgrade if you are a medium to power user!

Upgrading:

- + A common question is can you upgrade from versions before the last one OS X 14 Sonoma? Yes. The earliest system that was shipped with the supported Macs was Mac OS 10.13 High Sierra.

Upgrading (cont'd):

- + Check to make sure that your software, especially third party software (non Apple) will work in Mac OS 15.x Sequoia
 - + Check Vendors websites. You have not been able to run PPC apps since OSX 10.6
- + Check your printer. May need Vendor driver, Airprint, Gutenprint, or may not be supported at all.
- + See issue with 32 Bit Apps! Next slide.

Catalina onward 64 Bit Apps only!:

- + If you were using OSX 10.13.4 High Sierra or OSX 10.14 Mojave you should have seen pop up messages saying the 32 bit app you just launched was not optimized for the Mac and needs to be updated.
- + If you were running OS 10.15 Catalina, none of your 32 Bit apps worked, so presumably you found replacement 64 bit apps.
- + There are third party apps like Go64 that list the 32 bit apps that are on your computer.

Tips:

- + Have a least one, preferably more Backups before updating!
- + Power off and remove external Hard drives before installation.
 - + Hard drives have been messed up, and external Hard drives could hang up installation process. It happened to me on OSX 10.8
- + It is a big download ~ 14.45+ GB! It will take awhile.
- + The post download installation will take some time too

Tips (cont'd):

- + Clicking on the Install button will force a restart
- + There might be more restarts:
- + You may see additional updates after you install Sonoma.

Why Upgrade?

- + To Use and enjoy the new features in MacOS 15.x! Have the “latest and greatest!”
- + However I know many have strong opinions on not upgrading
 - + “If its not broken don’t change”
 - + But the issue is the rest of the industry does change and fast
 - + Yes you still can drive a 1950’s car today, but something like a Mac Plus is more like a Roman Ox cart!
 - + TurboTax 2024 will require Mac OS 13 Ventura or later
 - + Office 2024 from Microsoft requires Ventura or later
 - + AI requires the latest OS 15 Sequoia

Why Upgrade? (cont'd)

- + Security
- + Apple is only supplying current updates for the following OS's:
 - + 13.x Ventura
 - + 14.x Sonoma

When to Upgrade?

- + Question is hard to answer.
- + Software can't be perfect out of the gate.
 - + If you wait till 15.1 or better 15.2 version a lot of large bugs are fixed
 - + Ideally all third party software vendors would have updates ready to go with the release date of a new Mac OS.
 - + However big vendors can run into issues of bureaucracy etc.
 - + Small vendors (1 or few persons) may have too much work to finish on time.
- + But if you have more than one Mac, select one for the upgrade, then evaluate upgrading the rest.
- + Note that we are will be seeing features introduced in 15.3 that were missing in previous versions.

What's New? - Introduction

- + New:
 - + iPhone Mirroring App
 - + Passwords App
 - + Windows Tiling
 - + Apple Intelligence (AI)
- + Changed
 - + Safari
 - + Calculator/Math in Notes
 - + Chess App
 - + Calendar
 - + Gatekeeper
 - + Apple ID becomes Apple Account
 - + Photos

New Features- iPhone Mirroring App

- + Per Apple: "With iPhone Mirroring, you can wirelessly interact with your iPhone and its apps and notifications from your Mac. Your iPhone stays locked, so no one else can access it or use it to see what you're doing."
- + Requirements:
 - + Any Sequoia capable Mac except 2019 iMac (Lacks T2 Chip)
 - + IOS 18 on iPhone
 - + Same iCloud Account
 - + Same WiFi and Bluetooth for Mac and iPhone
- + Only Pairs with one iPhone at a time
- + Demo

New Features-Password App

- + Apple's Keychain has been around a long time
 - + iCloud Keychain introduced 2013
 - + Sonoma added Keychain to System Settings
- + Apple has added this Password Manager into its own App in Sequoia
- + Will offer Autofill extension for Chrome and Edge browsers
- + Requires touch ID or Password to open
- + <https://support.apple.com/en-us/120758>

New Features- Windows Tiling

- + Windows, Chrome OS and others have had Windows Tiling (AKA Snapping) Apple has added this in Sequoia
- + You can turn it off by going to Systems Settings> Desktop and Doc. Scroll down to Window Heading and turn off the switches.
- + <https://support.apple.com/guide/mac-help/tile-app-windows-mchlef287e5d/mac>
- + Demo

New Features- Apple Intelligence

- + The biggest new feature in Sequoia
 - + Requires a Mac with Apple Silicon Chip (M1,M2,M3,M4)
- + Rolling out with each update 15.1, 15.2, 15.3 and more with 15.4 and beyond.
- + With 15.1 and 15.2 you must Opt In. System Settings > Click Apple Intelligence & Siri, then click Get Apple Intelligence. Reports state Apple Intelligence is on by default in 15.3
- + <https://support.apple.com/guide/mac-help/get-started-with-apple-intelligence-mchl46361784/mac>

New Features- Apple Intelligence (cont'd)

- + Voice Memo and Notes Transcriptions and summary
- + Writing Tools. Proofread, Rewrite text in a different tone, Friendly, Professional, Concise
- + Cleanup Photos
- + Image Playground & Genmoji
 - + Create Original Images/Emojis
- + Use Chat GPT with Apple Intelligence
 - + If you use this without an account, Apple insures privacy
- + Webpage and Audio Summaries

Changes: Safari

- + Highlights and Reader Summaries
- + Hide Distracting Items
- + Safari Web Apps support links and Extensions now
- + Video Viewer take video and make it full screen

Changes: Calculator, Math in Notes

- + The Calculator now has rounded buttons
- + While iPad and IOS calculators have a new Math Notes within the App, the updated Calculator has a Math Notes view that launches the Notes App
- + The Notes app can do math operations. Define variables if wished, enter math formula, and add equals sign at end. Results calculated in yellow
- + Demo

Some Application Changes:

- + Chess App:
 - + New textures, rendering, lighting effects
- + Calendar App
 - + Integration with Reminder App, Scheduled Reminders will show up in the Calendar app.
- + Gatekeeper more Strict
 - + "In macOS Sequoia, users will no longer be able to Control-click to override Gatekeeper when opening software that isn't signed correctly or notarized," the brief note reads. "They'll need to visit System Settings > Privacy & Security to review security information for software before allowing it to run."

Some Application Changes (cont'd)

- + Apple ID

 - + Now Called Apple Account

- + System Setting:

 - + Reorganized

- + Photos App

 - + Days tab gone leaving Months and Years

 - + Utilities Group in Sidebar: find select types
duplicates, receipts, handwriting etc.

Final Comments

- + This is Major Update, especially with AI. Note AI will continue to roll out.
- + Two unanswered questions are is this the last release to support Intel machines, and will Rosetta 2 continue support in future releases?
 - + Last Intel Mac Mini discontinued Jan 2023
- + <https://arstechnica.com/gadgets/2024/09/macOS-15-Sequoia-the-ars-technica-review/>
- + <https://support.apple.com/en-us/120283> list of Sequoia release history

Appendix:

- + Sonoma Mac OS 14 Requirements:

- + Models Supported

- + iMac (Late 2019 or newer)
- + iMac Pro (2017 or newer)
- + MacBook Pro (2018 or newer)
- + MacBook Air (2018 or newer)
- + Mac mini (2018 or newer)
- + Mac Pro (2019 or newer)
- + Mac Studio 2022 or Newer