

THE NEW iPad: AN ODD BEAUTY IN APPLE'S TABLET LINEUP

# Macworld

JANUARY 2023



THE SMARTWATCH  
TO BEAT ALL  
SMARTWATCHES  
—BUT IT'S NOT  
FOR EVERYONE

APPLE  
WATCH

# ULTRA

MACOS VENTURA: 7 MAC PREFERENCES THAT HAVE NEW HIDING SPOTS

**A**  
**little**  
**high**  
**is still**  
**too high**  
**to drive.**

If you feel different,  
you drive different.





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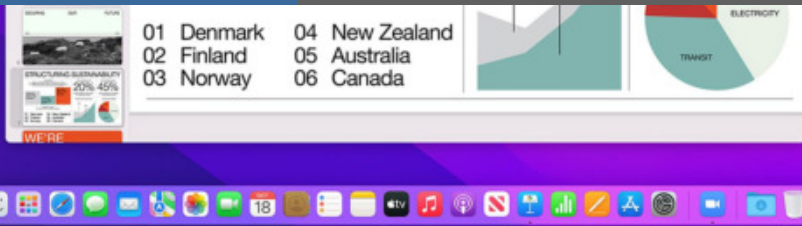


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## The Mac mini is in danger of becoming the next Apple product to die of neglect

It's time for Apple to show its smallest, most affordable Mac a little love.

BY ROMAN LOYOLA

**A**s a Mac enthusiast, the news that 2022 will end with no new Mac announcements ([fave.co/3UcAZ3W](https://fave.co/3UcAZ3W)) was disappointing. But what was even more

of a letdown is that we'll have to continue waiting—probably until March 2023—to see the rumored update to Apple's most affordable Mac, the Mac mini.



**The current design of the Mac mini hasn't changed since 2010.**

But even before the news, I was ready for more frustration. This unofficial delay only cements the sad fact that the Mac mini gets no respect from Apple. It's a shame because Apple's smallest computer was once its most exciting Mac—and it doesn't deserve to be so neglected.

## THE BYODKM MAC

The Mac mini was born in 2005 ([fave.co/3VqirOo](#)) and at the time, Apple was much more aggressive about increasing its share of the PC market. The Mac mini was marketed as an affordable Mac for users who were switching from a Windows PC. To convince skeptics that the switch could be easily made, Steve Jobs christened the Mac mini as Apple's new BYODKM Mac: Bring Your Own Display, Keyboard, and Mouse from your old PC

and hook it up to the Mac mini.

Two years later, Apple released the iPhone ([fave.co/3OxpFxM](#)), which eventually became the device to persuade Windows PC users to switch to the Mac (not

necessarily as a direct marketing point, but a subtle one). The switcher angle for the Mac mini (and all Macs, essentially) all but disappeared. But Apple still paid attention to its smallest Mac, with updates on a 12- to 18-month basis (2006, 2007, 2009), leading up to a redesign in 2010 to the form factor Apple still uses today (minus the optical drive), followed by updates in 2011, 2012, and 2014.

That's when Apple's attention started to wane. After an October 2014 that brought fourth-generation Intel Core processors and a lower price tag—it would then be *four years* until the next update in October 2018.

## WHERE IS THE LOVE?

Finally, in 2020, the Mac mini got a sign from Apple that it was still an important



member of its lineup. The Mac mini was one of three Macs to get the first Apple silicon M1 processor. This was a major change that shook the industry, and the fact that the Mac mini was an instrumental part of it made it feel like a viable Mac again. It was also a chance to put the Mac mini in the spotlight ([fave.co/33ho0Wq](https://fave.co/33ho0Wq)) by touting its small footprint, blazing performance, and affordable price.

But since Apple sells more laptops than desktop computers, the M1 Mac mini was still something of an afterthought. It didn't get a redesign or any new features, and it actually lost two Thunderbolt ports. Then there's the unexplained move where Apple didn't update the high-end \$1,099 Mac mini—to this day it has the same 3.0GHz 6-core Intel Core i5 Intel processor that arrived *in* 2018, making it the oldest processor in Apple's Mac lineup.

So, what's another five or six months for a Mac that turned four years old last month? Well, the fact that any company (let alone Apple) sells a four-year-old computer at its

original price is ridiculous. Maybe Apple's reasoning is that virtually no one is buying the \$1,099 Mac mini, so there's no harm in keeping it around. But there is harm—it's taking advantage of people who might not know better by selling them extremely outdated tech. It's a bad look for the Mac mini and for Apple.

## A FAN FAVORITE

Apple barely puts any effort into the Mac mini, whether it's with hardware developments or with marketing. In the rich lineup of Apple's Mac, the mini seems to be the model that is often neglected. That's unfortunate because it plays a vital role in Apple's Mac lineup.

At \$699, the Mac mini is Apple's most affordable Mac, although it does have the



**The Intel-based Space Gray Mac mini hasn't been updated in over four years, and Apple still sells it for its original \$1,099 price.**

caveat that the price doesn't include a display, keyboard, or mouse or trackpad. But you can easily find those components at prices that would keep a Mac mini setup well under \$1,000, which still makes it cheaper than the entry-level iMac.

Its diminutive size means you don't have to think twice about where it goes on a desk. In my house, we have a workplace setup that's really tight and there's no place for a tower computer, and even the 24-inch iMac's display is too big. But the Mac mini fits perfectly with a 19-inch display.

What's also overlooked is that the Mac mini's size lends it to some creative uses. I have a Mac mini connected to my TV in my entertainment center, and it houses my digitized DVD and Blu-ray collection. The Mac mini is also used as a network server,

in cars and robots, by mobile DJs, in kiosks, and in art installations. It's not as small as a Raspberry Pi ([fave.co/3guwNyG](https://fave.co/3guwNyG)), but because it runs macOS it's more accessible to users who are hesitant about programming a Pi.

Why can't Apple take these aspects of the Mac mini and play them up? Apple doesn't have to go on an all-out marketing blitz—it would be nice to see any kind of effort by the company to acknowledge that the Mac mini is just as important as the iMac and Mac Studio in its desktop lineup.

Maybe that'll change next year when the rumors of a new Mac mini ([fave.co/3tUqpUk](https://fave.co/3tUqpUk)) or two ([fave.co/3icw1GL](https://fave.co/3icw1GL)) finally pan out. But an unveiling isn't enough—I hope there will be a sustained effort to promote the Mac mini for a good period of

time, to go along with regular hardware updates. Even the slightest of attention would go a long way toward showing the Mac mini some love—before it's too late. We've seen plenty of Apple products wither until they're unceremoniously killed, and it would be a shame to see it happen to the Mac mini, too. ■



The Mac mini's form factor makes it suitable for a variety of uses.

# Best Buy is offering a MacBook ‘Upgrade+’ program

Upgrade+ is similar to Apple’s iPhone Upgrade Program for laptops.

BY ROMAN LOYOLA



**B**est Buy on Monday announced a new MacBook buying plan that lets customers finance a laptop for 36 months and at the end of the term have the choice of upgrading to a new laptop, paying off the current laptop, or returning it and ending the program ([fave.co/3tVfSlv](https://fave.co/3tVfSlv)). Best Buy’s plan, called Upgrade+, is similar to

Apple’s iPhone Upgrade Program ([fave.co/3Eyr7f2](https://fave.co/3Eyr7f2)).


When a customer enters the Upgrade+ program, the price of the MacBook is spread over 36 months, with the final payment due at the end of the plan. For example, an M1 MacBook Air at \$999.99 would have payments of \$19.99 per month for 36 months. At 37 months, a final

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The scheme is similar to Apple's iPhone Upgrade program.

payment of \$280.35 can be made to purchase the laptop outright. But customers can also choose to return the laptop and walk away, or return the laptop in exchange for a new model with its own 36-month payment plan.

Customers can also invest in AppleCare+ and "select Apple accessories," with the price of those items spread out over the 36 monthly payments. If you do not buy AppleCare+ at the time of the MacBook's initial purchase and you decide to buy it later, you'll have to pay for AppleCare+ separately.

The Upgrade+ plan is available with any new MacBook Air or MacBook Pro from Best Buy in the U.S. Plan participants can pay off the balance before the term is

up, but participants cannot upgrade to a new laptop before the 36-month term ends. MacBooks purchased through the plan can be returned as long as they are in accordance with Best Buy's return policy ([fave.co/3AH8pR2](https://www.bestbuy.com/3AH8pR2)). It's a bit like Apple's iPhone Upgrade Program, where the full cost of an iPhone with

AppleCare+ is spread out over 24 months. After 12 payments, customers can choose to upgrade to a new iPhone or keep it and continue to make monthly payments for another year.

Upgrade+ is now available as a purchase option at Best Buy. To learn more, visit the Best Buy Upgrade+ website ([fave.co/3F112qs](https://www.bestbuy.com/3F112qs)). ■



The Upgrade+ plan is available with any new MacBook Air or MacBook Pro from Best Buy.



# Even with record profits, Apple can't buy our trust

Will record earnings change Apple? Forget it, Jake, it's Cupertino town.

BY DAN MOREN

Apple's most recent financial quarter ([fave.co/3ietFal](https://fave.co/3ietFal)) has come and gone, and the company posted (yet again) record revenues, pulling in a zillion dollars and ending its latest fiscal year with just shy of \$100 billion in profit alone.

Let that sink in. A hundred billion dollars is such a large number as to be utterly incomprehensible to most of us who will never approach anywhere near even a

single billion in our lifetime. It's bigger than the gross domestic product of some countries—and not just a few, but more than half of the countries in the world. *Most* of them. And again, that's *profit*, not revenue, which was a soaring \$316 billion, putting it in around the top 40 countries.

On the one hand, good for Apple. There was a time in living memory when the company teetered on the brink of going out of business; it's since catapulted

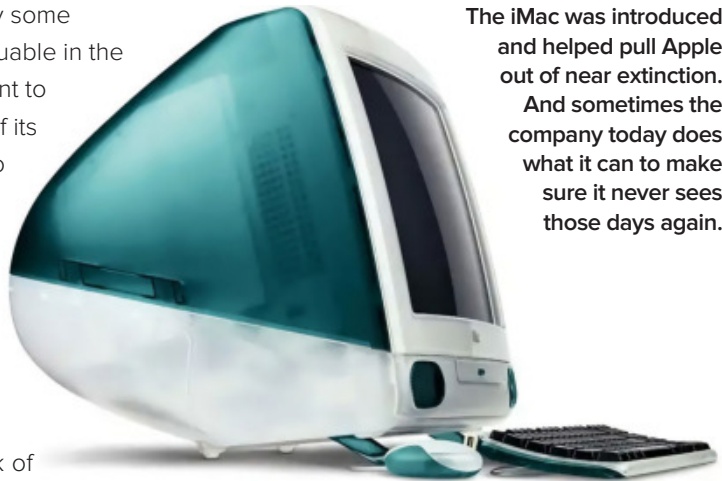
its way to becoming, by some estimates, the most valuable in the world. That's a testament to the business acumen of its leaders, yes, but also to the fact that it makes great products.

Which makes it that much more jarring to see some of the moves the company has lately made that feel, for lack of a better word, cheap: the almost pathological need to take its cut on every transaction of the App Store, the recent influx of advertising, raising prices on its services. All of these are tactics that might have benefited a hardscrabble company trying to eke out a living, but when it's applied to one that's making more money than most countries in the world, they come across instead as unseemly.

While there are a lot of reasons why this has been Apple's evolutionary path, to me it boils down to three main factors.

## NOT DEAD YET

When I was a teenage Apple fan in the 1990s—yes, yes, dinosaurs still roamed the earth and I'm shaking my fist at a cloud right now to tell it to get off my lawn—Apple was on the verge of bankruptcy.



**The iMac was introduced and helped pull Apple out of near extinction. And sometimes the company today does what it can to make sure it never sees those days again.**

The CEO's office had a revolving door, and the company regularly pinned all its hopes on technologies that were only a little better than vaporware. This was immensely distressing to those of us who considered its products vastly superior to the masses of PC clones out there.

Spoiler: Apple, of course, didn't go out of business. Instead, it purchased NeXT, bringing with it the return of Steve Jobs, and went on to achieve a cavalcade of hits like the iMac, the iPod, and of course, the iPhone.

But that near-death experience left an indelible mark on the company. Like Scarlett O'Hara declaring that, with God as her witness, she'll never go hungry again, Apple seems to labor under the paranoia that all these riches could someday suddenly vanish, leaving the company once again just steps from dissolution. The

*Titanic*, after all, took under three hours to sink (not to mix my cinematic metaphors).

That's the main reason, I believe, that the company sat on a gigantic cash hoard for so long: It wanted a cushion to soften the blow if its business was yanked out from underneath it. It's only relatively recently that the company has embarked on its attempt to reach a "cash-neutral" position—something that's proved remarkably difficult, since it turns out it's actually pretty hard to get rid of the sheer amount of money it has.

## THE WORLD GOES ROUND

When Apple averted its drop into the abyss, it was in no small part because of the return of co-founder Steve Jobs. Jobs brought with him a particular mindset, born in part from his own attitude, that served the company well in those days: Apple getting its cut. As my colleague Jason Snell recounted on the latest episode of the Upgrade podcast ([fave.co/3XueJ8p](https://fave.co/3XueJ8p)), Jobs seemed to hold the deep conviction that anybody making money off Apple products—accessory makers, developers, media companies—owed the company a share of those profits.

This led to things like the Made for iPod (and later iPhone) accessory licensing programs and the iTunes Music Store's 30 percent cut, which was later imported into the App Store.

The idea of a commission on transactions isn't new and it's not even that objectionable in theory: Retail outlets have always had markups on the goods they sell; it's how they pay overhead and make any profit. Agents and others regularly take a commission on their services.

And Apple's change in models brought benefits as well: For example, being a registered Mac developer used to cost at least \$500 a year and in some cases much more, but the success of the iPhone app marketplace encouraged the company to drop it to a more accessible \$99 per year, where it's remained to this day. (Yes, Apple takes its percentage of an app's proceeds to compensate, but that doesn't change the fact that the barrier to entry is lower than it was.)

But over the years, Apple has continued to be militant about taking 30 percent of every transaction on the App Store, regardless of its involvement, and, worse, has made it less and less customer friendly to those developers wanting to take alternative routes, cracking down on any attempt to exploits loopholes. It's so much so that the company has found itself in the crosshairs of antitrust regulators around the world.

All of this may have served Apple well in the days when it needed to count every penny, but again, that's far from the situation it's in now. Instead, the

aggressive tactics end up feeling uncomfortable and, at times, money-grubbing. Does the company really need to alienate its base of developers—all of whom, let's not forget, are also its customers—in order to bolster its revenue? Where does it end?

## GROWTH AT ALL COSTS

Not all of this is directly Apple's fault. We live, after all, in a capitalist society where maximizing shareholder profit is prized above everything else. (Knowledgeable scholars of Adam Smith's original treatises on the subject will point out that this mindset ignores his point that capitalism should go hand in hand with social betterment; [fave.co/3EZqAEd](https://fave.co/3EZqAEd).)

Wall Street demands growth, quarter upon quarter, year upon year—which feels ridiculous when your coffers are overflowing and you literally cannot spend money fast enough. It's akin to piling your holiday dinner table with more food than anybody could ever eat, and then demanding that next year's spread be even more lavish. It's a system that is, quite frankly, broken and perhaps even a little deranged.

And it comes at a price. There's also a flip side to the growth-at-all-costs mindset: one of those costs is customer trust. Tim Cook loves to trot out the customer satisfaction numbers for Apple's products as though they're the company's north star,

but that's a trailing indicator: In many cases, you don't know when you've burned through your customer trust until it's too late. Look no further than Twitter, which is currently experiencing an erosion of user trust in real time ([fave.co/3Va5Wa3](https://fave.co/3Va5Wa3)). Or Meta Platforms, the poster child for distrust in the tech industry, which is losing half of its share price. The simple fact is that no company grows forever.

The parallels are not exact, but there is a lesson to be learned here, and though changing an entire system is not a task that happens easily or quickly, who's better positioned to make those inroads than the most valuable company in the world, with enough money to weather any resulting storm? It just needs to decide to do so.

And it's tipped its hat in that direction. A few years back, Apple, along with 200 other large companies, puts its name on a statement that proclaimed there's more to business than profits ([fave.co/3Xx2Dv0](https://fave.co/3Xx2Dv0)), including protecting the environment, providing for employees, combatting economic inequality, and providing value to customers. While Apple has made great inroads in some of those, it's incumbent on the most valuable company in the world to make the biggest moves. Change, as they say, begins at home, and the folks in Cupertino should take a close look at what Apple is sacrificing for the sake of a few dollars more. ■





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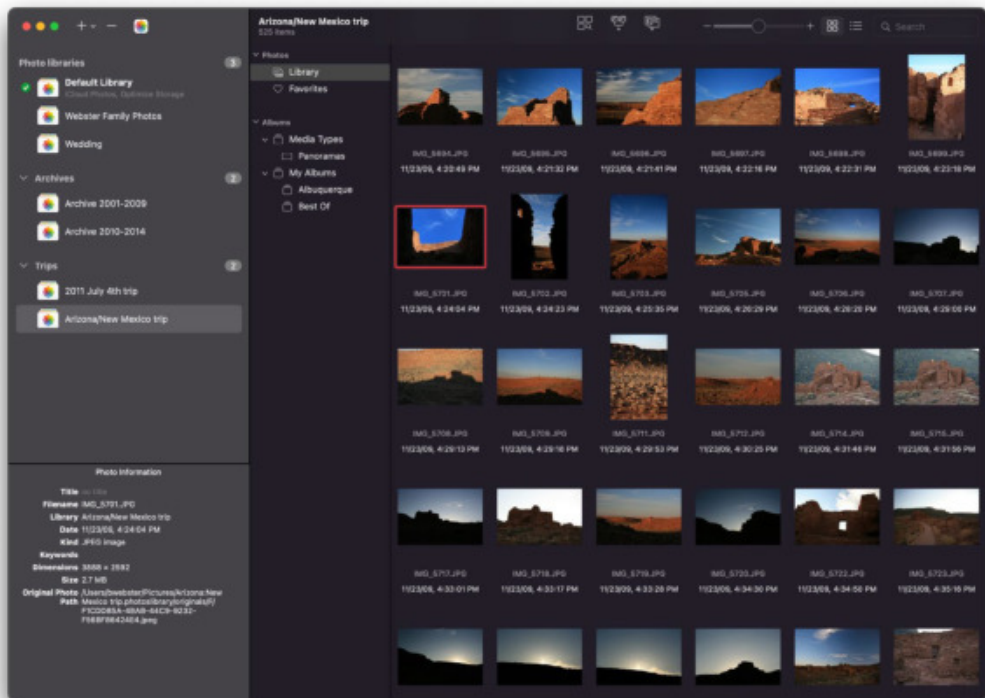
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PHOTOS LIBRARY MANAGER

# POWERPHOTOS 2.1 BRINGS EVEN MORE POWER TO PHOTOS LIBRARY MANAGEMENT

BY GLENN FLEISHMAN

**Macworld**  
**EDITORS'**  
**CHOICE**

Apple has matured its Photos app for macOS substantially in the several years since the company cut the thread for iPhoto and declared Photos its new approach. The current version mostly resembles the one introduced but with everything working reliably most of the time. However, Photos still has substantial missing pieces for managing libraries. Fat Cat Software's PowerPhotos ([fave.co/3XpwB4p](https://www.fatcatsoftware.com/3XpwB4p)) has filled that role since 2015, and the company released a major

update in 2022 to version 2 that offers even more refinement.

The app is the solution for many of the problems with Photos that people routinely write to us about at Mac 911. The program lets you merge Photos libraries, view multiple libraries without quitting Photos and re-selecting them (including in separate windows simultaneously), create libraries on external files, and move or copy images and videos among libraries without losing information you've added or edits you've made.

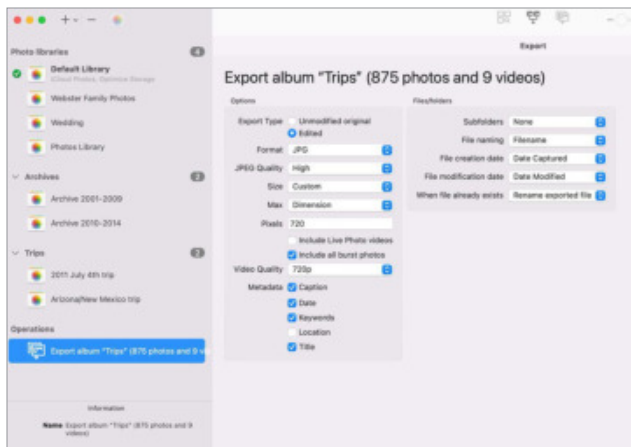
You might consider PowerPhotos a sidecar for Photos instead of a replacement for it: The two overlap only in certain ways. PowerPhotos relies on Photos as an engine to drive its management, search, and export options.

It also provides both a thumbnail- and list-based view, in contrast to Photos, which shows only thumbnails. But you'll turn to Photos for making and managing albums, viewing and applying metadata, and editing images and videos.

The new version of PowerPhotos enhances export options far beyond the limited, useful choices within Photos. The core de-duplication feature in PowerPhotos has expanded its utility by allowing visual matches that you can limit or refine based on image data, like dimensions or the embedded timestamp. (MacOS Ventura [[fave.co/3XsoQKN](https://fave.co/3XsoQKN)], iOS 16, and iPadOS 16 include a machine-learning–assisted Duplicates album, but as with most things Apple, it's automatic, quite useful, and cannot be configured.

Apple also doesn't expose its logic so you can understand why it selected some images as duplicates and others not.)

Version 2 also solves a problem that made the app useless to people who relied on iCloud Photos with optimization enabled. With version 1, PowerPhotos couldn't access media stored in iCloud; version 2 takes care of that. It allows previewing and other



**Enhanced export options in version 2 provide more detailed choices than in Photos.**

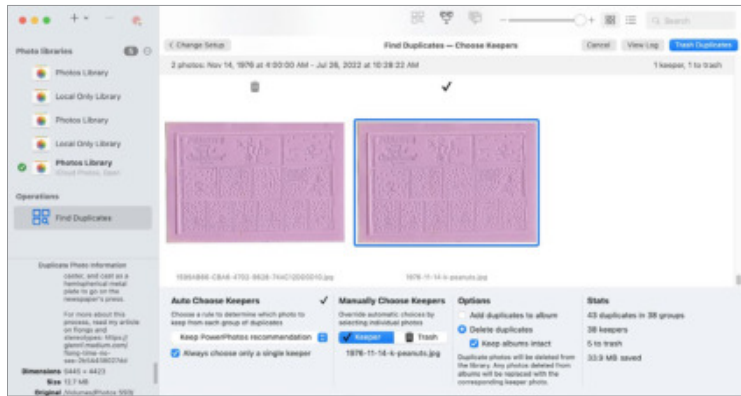
actions, and downloads any images or videos to your Mac when they're needed, just like Photos.

PowerPhotos's search controls offer an alternative to those in Photos. For simplicity, Apple either lets you search in a single field and

then refine it from a pop-up set of matching results or use a smart folder to add criteria for more complicated matching. PowerPhotos also has you start with a single search field. You can select to search against the full library, favorites, albums, or other subsets. After entering a search, PowerPhotos lets you constrain it to a filename, caption, keywords, or other elements.

## BOTTOM LINE

Not everyone needs PowerPhotos. It's well worth the price if you routinely experience frustration within Photos for tasks it lacks or is poor at, such as library management and searches. It's the only reasonable solution in



**After finding duplicates, PowerPhotos includes sophisticated review options so you can ensure you're retaining the right one.**

several circumstances: if you've created multiple Photos libraries for different purposes, broken up a huge collection into smaller pieces, or work with libraries stored in a combination of internal and external drives, particularly volumes you may generally keep offline.

You might also find the price tag worthwhile for a single merge of Photos libraries as there's no other way to accomplish the task. PowerPhotos 2 is \$29.95 for new users and \$14.95 to upgrade from PowerPhotos 1 or any version of its discontinued app, iPhoto Library Manager. It requires macOS 11 Big Sur or later, and version 2.1 is ready for macOS 13 Ventura. ■



### PowerPhotos 2.1

#### PROS

- Manages and acts on multiple Photos libraries.
- De-duplication of images.
- Open multiple libraries at once in separate windows.

#### CONS

- No metadata inspector.

#### PRICE

\$30

#### COMPANY

Fat Cat Software



USB RAID BOX

## UGREEN CM335 USB RAID BOX: TWO BAYS AND GOOD PERFORMANCE FOR THE PRICE

BY JON JACOBI

Established Mac-centric vendors have lately been forsaking hardware RAID for the more versatile but CPU cycle-stealing software variety. Hence our interest in UGreen's CM335 hardware RAID enclosure, which tips the monetary scales at a svelte \$149 yet won't tax your computer's CPU while doing its business. It's a good performer, albeit requiring high-quality cables.

### DESIGN AND FEATURES

The CM335 is inexpensive for what it is, though it sometimes shows. The

construction is all plastic but still manages to strike a reasonably elegant profile on the desktop. Being largely plastic also makes it light at around 5 pounds, although it's 8.4 inches deep by 5.3 inches wide by 5.7 inches (all approximate measurements).

But the lack of heft can also translate to a somewhat insubstantial feel, at least if you're populating it with 2.5-inch SSDs or HDDs. 3.5-inch hard drives, being significantly heavier, add the gravitas of feel that might otherwise be lacking.

On the front of the enclosure are the status lights (power and drive activity), and the drive bays featuring nonlocking, lift-handle, plastic slide-out pressure-fit trays. The trays use quick-fit, removable plastic mounting rails (long tabs with pins that fit into the hard drive's screw holes).

You'll need to remove one of the rails to mount a 2.5-inch drive, as the front pin prevents proper alignment. Keep the rails around as they're very handy for quickly installing HDDs should you ever switch. With 2.5-inch media installed, there's plenty of room inside the drive bay to stow them away.

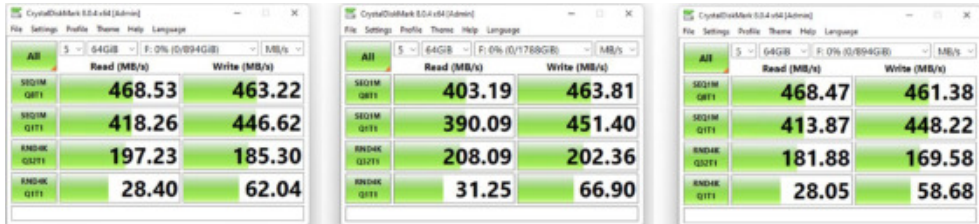
UGreen thoughtfully provides enough screws for four drives (there are only two bays), as well as a small

screwdriver should you be lacking. Nice touch. Tip: I've found that using a soft pencil on the contact areas of plastic junctions serves well as a non-oily lubricant.

On the back of the CM335 are the power jack (a 1.2 amp/12-volt adapter is included), momentary power button, recessed reset button, single USB Type-C port (5Gbps), and the dual dip switch used to configure the RAID mode. The options are RAID 0 (striped/fastest), RAID 1 (mirrored/single drive speed), Span (concatenated), and PM (port multiple), which treats the two drives as separate



**The back of the UGreen CM335.**



The CM335 was rated highly, though not a record-breaker on PCWorld’s storage test bed under CrystalDiskMark 8. Left to right: single drive, RAID 0, and RAID 1.

logical units.

The dip switch is a dead giveaway that the box is hardware RAID—that is, the RAID is handled onboard by a controller chip. We’ve been seeing a lot of newer enclosures (even smaller two- and four-drive units) that rely on the

operating system to provide RAID functionality. Software RAID is more versatile when you have more than two drives but also tends to decrease performance under heavy load.

On a dedicated file server, software RAID such as that offered by ZFS, UnRAID,

and so forth is fine, and indeed preferable. However, on a client computer doing a whole host of other CPU-intensive tasks, it’s less than ideal under heavy load.

## PERFORMANCE

Being USB 5Gbps, the UGreen theoretically has plenty of bandwidth for both SATA HDDs and SSDs—around 550MBps sequential throughput under optimal circumstances. The CM335 came close to that (approximately 470MBps on the PCWorld storage test bed) in our tests using two SSDs operating individually as well as in RAID 1.



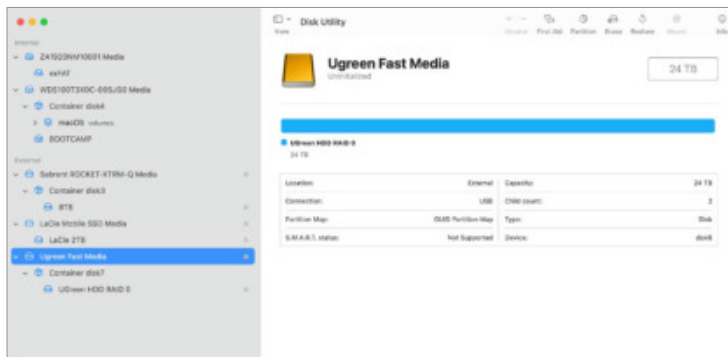
This is with a single SATA SSD—significantly lower numbers than on the PC.



By way of comparison, TerraMaster's d2-310 managed 510MBps in RAID 0. For some reason, as you'll see below, the CM335's read performance with SSDs actually suffered somewhat

in RAID 0 and there wasn't the usual jump in write speed offered by splitting or striping data across two drives.

Results on my 2015 iMac were lower than on PCWorld's test bed, but that's nearly always the case with USB storage; 320 to 370 MBps is a good number for tests on my machine. You might do better on a newer Mac, but not a whole lot. For some reason, Macs don't seem as facile



**Yup, that's 24TB in a single logical drive. There's still a place for HDDs.**

with USB.

As the CM335 is a very good fit for hard drives, I also tested with two 12TB HDDs in both RAID 1 and 0. In RAID 0, the box is almost as fast as it was with SSDs in terms of sequential throughput, albeit with comparatively pathetic seek and small file performance. That's the nature of the beast. Regardless, there's something about seeing a 24TB logical drive on my



The UGreen CM335 with HDDs installed under Blackmagicdesign's Disk Speed Test. Left to right: single drive, RAID 0, and RAID 1. Note how close they are to the SSD numbers.

Configuration	Read [MB/s]	Write [MB/s]
Seagate FireCuda SE SSD / Intel Core i7-6700K	377.21	344.21
UGreen 8 (1% used)	331.57	327.03
UGreen HDD RAID 0 (1% used)	60.95	52.69
UGreen HDD RAID 1 (1% used)	16.91	52.88
UGreen HDD RAID 0 (1% used)	371.40	301.76
UGreen HDD RAID 1 (1% used)	349.34	323.63
UGreen HDD RAID 0 (1% used)	6.29	4.81
UGreen HDD RAID 1 (1% used)	1.07	4.71
UGreen HDD RAID 0 (1% used)	255.61	224.40
UGreen HDD RAID 1 (1% used)	255.88	244.77
UGreen HDD RAID 0 (1% used)	2.91	2.21
UGreen HDD RAID 1 (1% used)	0.87	2.29

AmorphousDiskMark rated the CM335's speed higher than Blackmagicdesign's benchmark. Left to right: single drive, RAID 0, and RAID 1.

desktop that's still impressive.

Blackmagicdesign's Disk Speed Test tests only sequential throughput, which was quite good with the CM335, even with hard drives as shown below. Note that these were top-of-the-line WD and Seagate HDDs.

I do have to warn you to use the top-quality cable UGreen provides or another of similar character. Performance dipped mightily to 35 to 40 MBps with longer, thinner (and cheaper) USB cables. I only warn you so you don't freak if you see these slothful numbers using a cable you might already have attached.

AmorphousDiskMark (a CrystalDiskMark port for the Mac) does test random, small file ops. These are always far slower with hard drives, which need to shuttle a read/write head around platters. Compare the RND4K numbers to those in the

CrystalDiskMark 8/PC image at the head of this section to see how much slower HDD small file transfers are than an SSD's.

All totaled, the CM335's performance was very good, though the lower RAID 0 read performance was a bit of a puzzler. Given the price, though, we consider it a minor foible.

Our test unit suffered from a noisy fan bearing. UGreen seemed surprised about the issue, so we'll assume a one-off defect or shipping damage. There's a 30-day return policy if you purchase the CM335 on Amazon, which is actually the only place I've seen it for sale.



### Ugreen CM335

#### PROS

- Good performance.
- Affordable for a dual-bay hardware RAID.
- Hardware RAID 0, 1, concatenated and single drive modes.

#### CONS

- Plasticky construction.
- Noisy fan on our test unit.

#### PRICE

\$149

#### COMPANY

Ugreen

## BOTTOM LINE

The CM335 is decently speedy, affordable, and easy to set up, and despite the all-plastic construction, it doesn't look out of place sitting next to or behind a Mac. It's a good solid storage box for a reasonable price. ■

# Hot Stuff

What we're raving about this month

## WYZE MESH ROUTER

[wyze.com](https://wyze.com)

The Wyze Mesh Router is a dual-band Wi-Fi 6 router powered by a dual-core 1GHz ARM Cortex A53 processor. It supports more than 50 devices per router with up to 3Gbps of Wi-Fi bandwidth and 1Gbps of internet throughput. Available in a white low-profile shell with the “Wyze” logo stamped on top, each Wyze Mesh Router node offers up to 1,500 square feet of wireless coverage. You can set up and configure the Wyze Mesh Router using the Wyze app, which also lets you check the status of the router and prioritize which connected devices should get the most bandwidth. —**BEN PATTERSON**



# Hot Stuff

## LOGITECH MX MECHANICAL MINI FOR MAC

[logitech.com](https://www.logitech.com)

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Mechanical keyboards have a unique feel all their own, one that many users prefer. Logitech's first mechanical keyboard optimized for the Mac uses Tactile Quiet switches, which provide satisfying feedback while creating less noise. The backlight automatically adjusts to your workspace and is adjustable through Logitech's software. The keyboard connects via Bluetooth and can be connected to up to three devices at a time. It charges though USB-C, and a fully charged MX Mechanical Mini can last 15 days between charges. —ROMAN LOYOLA



## SPEAQUA BARNACLE X

[speaqua.com](https://speaqua.com)

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The Barnacle X measures between 4- and 5-inches in each dimension, and it sits on a hefty 4.25-inch suction cup so it can be attached to any smooth surface, such as those that abound on a boat. The Barnacle X has two audio modes—indoor and outdoor—and it can get decently loud thanks to its 20-watt Class D amplifier. Its audio reproduction isn't quite as sparkly as bookshelf speakers, but it's not bad. The mid-range is reasonably well-defined, and there's bass—not tons of it, but even sub-bass was rendered at times, though it tended to fade more quickly than the actual signal. —**JON JACOBI**





# AMERICA'S DEADLIEST SHOOTINGS ARE ONES WE DON'T TALK ABOUT

On any given day in America, an average of 65 of our mothers, brothers, partners, and friends are taken from us by gun suicide. But tomorrow's deaths could be prevented. Store your guns safely: locked, unloaded, and away from ammo.



[EndFamilyFire.org](https://EndFamilyFire.org)

**BRADY**  
UNITED AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE





## As Apple's prices keep going up, where will the value come from?

Old devices are the new bargains.

BY JASON SNELL

There's a line I like to use a lot when I'm responding to people who expect Apple to release low-cost products that appeal to the widest swath of the masses: "Apple's never going to be the low-price

leader." While people frequently complain about the prices of Apple products, in general they confuse Apple's unwillingness to reach down to the lowest price categories with offering a bad value.

Yes, you might pay a little more for an Apple product than a product from the competition—but you also get more. Still, there's no denying Apple's products are on the pricey side. As it has become one of the most profitable and valuable companies in the world, its skill in maximizing revenue growth has served it well.

But as Apple sees slowing revenue growth in most of its product categories ([fave.co/3EDCVfM](https://fave.co/3EDCVfM)), I have to wonder just how willing Apple might be to raise prices on its products in order to wring even more money out of its customers. The recently increased strength of the dollar has given Apple an opportunity to experiment with what happens when the price of Apple products increases.



Apparently this customer at the Apple Store in Singapore has yet to look at the price tag.

## FOREIGN-EXCHANGE LABORATORY

You'd think a strong dollar would be good for an American company like Apple. But while a strong dollar is good for American tourists—look, the entire U.K. is having a sale!—it's actually bad for companies like Apple, who sell consumer products in other countries. As long as the prices in those other countries remain the same, it means Apple is making *less* money in dollars on every sale.

At that point, Apple has only two real choices: Keep prices level and eat some of its profit margins, or raise prices and risk turning off customers in those countries due to the even higher prices of Apple gear. Read: Is Apple ripping off the rest of

the world with inflated prices ([fave.co/3H23Tkn](https://fave.co/3H23Tkn))?

Here in the U.S., Apple's prices have remained remarkably stable. But elsewhere in the world, they're on the upswing. "When we launch new products... we look at the [foreign-exchange] situation, and in some cases... customers in international markets saw some price



increases when we launched new products, which is not something that U.S. customers have seen,” Apple Chief Financial Officer Luca Maestri said last week during the Q4 2022 financial report. “And that’s unfortunately the situation that we are in right now with the strong dollar.”

So people outside the U.S., already used to Apple products being a bit on the pricey side, are now finding them even *more* expensive. This is Apple’s price-increase laboratory. In order to maintain its profit margins, the company increases the prices in various countries—and then watches to see how the market reacts.

The results are bad news if you value your bank account.

## INELASTIC, NOT FANTASTIC

What Apple seems to have found, according to Maestri, is a remarkable inelasticity ([fave.co/3EzFolh](https://fave.co/3EzFolh)) in demand for Apple products.

“One of the things that we’ve really appreciated...was the fact that in spite of this very strong dollar and the difficult [foreign exchange] environment, we have seen very strong performance in many international markets, particularly some very large emerging markets,” Maestri said. “It’s important for us to look at how



**Products such as the 10th-gen iPad (pictured) are even more expensive outside the U.S.**

these markets perform in local currency because it really gives us a good sense for the customer response to our products, the engagement with our ecosystem, and in general the strength of the brand. And I have to say, in that respect, we feel very, very good about the progress that we are making in a lot of markets around the world.”

Let me rephrase that, just to be clear: In many international markets (Maestri specifically cited India, Indonesia, Mexico, and Vietnam), Apple has raised prices, and the company still seems thrilled with the

response. The stuff is still selling, and even more than before.

Sure, maybe in emerging markets, Apple's price increases are met with a shrug because it's appealing to the wealthiest people in those countries, and there's a limited supply of those buyers. But maybe it also reveals something about Apple's brand and people's willingness to spend more to get Apple products. Sure, Apple's products are pricey now—but if they were even more expensive, would we still buy them? Early results say yes.

## YOU'RE GONNA PAY, PRO

Tim Cook's Apple is a remarkably relentless moneymaking machine. As a result, I fully expect Apple will continue to raise prices—but it will concentrate most of

it at the high end of the market. Apple has been pushing up the price of the MacBook Pro, the iPad Pro, and the iPhone Pro, and I suspect that will continue.

However, while Apple will never be the low-price leader, I do think Apple is very much aware that there are entry-level price points it needs to hit, and it needs to provide value at those prices. This is why the M1 MacBook Air, the ninth-generation iPad, and the iPhone 13 are still for sale, even though they've been replaced by newer models. Modern Apple knows how to grow its revenue by offering cutting-edge designs at high prices *and* last year's model for a bargain rate.

But it's hard to look at Apple's continued success in markets where it

keeps charging more and more and not imagine that the company will change its approach. In the future, expect more expensive, high-end products—the recent rumors of new 14- and 16-inch iPad models are a good indication of that—alongside choices that provide value at the expense of a little power or elegance. ■



**Apple sells older products, such as the M1 MacBook Air, to retain lower price points.**

# Apple to limit AirDrop ‘everyone’ setting to 10 minutes

The change is coming first in China, but will roll out to the rest of the world next year.

BY JASON CROSS



**A**irDrop is great. It's a fast and convenient way to send all sorts of data directly between Apple devices—contacts, photos, videos, web links, you name it. After the initial connection is made, the

data is sent directly over Wi-Fi between devices in a peer-to-peer connection.

By default, AirDrop is set to allow incoming connection requests from Contacts Only, but that setting can be changed to Everyone—popular among



**Starting with iOS 16.1.1, users in China will find that the “Everyone” option has changed to “Everyone for 10 minutes.”**

protesters and teens alike. Starting with iOS 16.1.1 ([fave.co/3EzRD05](https://fave.co/3EzRD05)), users in China will find that the “Everyone” option has changed to “Everyone for 10 minutes.” Apple won’t admit why this change is being made in China, but the peer-to-peer nature of AirDrop has made it popular for spreading anti-government protest material, and having to hop into your settings every 10 minutes to reenable the ability to receive AirDrop from strangers makes it a lot less useful for that purpose.

Importantly, this change is not going to be limited to China. Apple confirmed to Bloomberg’s Mark Gurman ([fave.co/3AJcHri](https://fave.co/3AJcHri)) that the change will go global

next year in an effort to reduce AirDrop spam and abuse. Having your AirDrop settings set to Everyone doesn’t mean anyone can send you anything—you have to confirm each transfer, after all. But it potentially lets your name and contacts image be seen by anyone looking to send via AirDrop, and it

shows a preview of the file before you accept the transfer, both of which can be avenues for abuse. ■



**Having your AirDrop settings set to Everyone potentially lets your name and contacts image be seen by anyone looking to send via AirDrop.**



# Emergency SOS via satellite FAQ: How to use and test Apple's new iPhone 14 feature

If you ever need to use it, here's what you need to know.

BY MICHAEL SIMON

Apple has announced that its newest iPhone 14 feature, Emergency SOS via satellite, is now available to users in the U.S. and Canada ([fave.co/3AJDnrR](https://fave.co/3AJDnrR)). Here's everything you need to know.

## DO I NEED AN iPhone 14 TO USE EMERGENCY SOS VIA SATELLITE?

Yes, the feature is only for the iPhone 14, iPhone 14 Plus, iPhone 14 Pro, and iPhone

14 Pro Max. It is not available on any other device, including the newest iPad Pros or Apple Watch Ultra.

## DO I NEED TO DOWNLOAD ANYTHING TO GET IT TO WORK?

Apple only says you need to be on iOS 16.1, which was released on Monday, October 25. You can update to iOS 16.1 in the Settings app by going to General and Software Update.

## HOW DO I KNOW IF IT'S ARRIVED ON MY IPHONE?

Go to Settings → Emergency SOS and scroll down to the bottom. You should see a new Emergency SOS via satellite section. If not, check if your phone has updated to iOS 16.1.

## DO I NEED TO TURN ANYTHING ON?

No, and you can't turn it off. The service automatically kicks in when you try to contact 911 and cellular service isn't available.

## IS THERE A FEE TO USE IT?

Not at the start. Apple is providing two years of service to anyone who buys an iPhone 14 from the time of activation.

## WHAT HAPPENS AFTER TWO YEARS?

It's unclear. There will presumably be a charge, but we don't know what it will be or who you will pay.

## HOW DOES EMERGENCY SOS VIA SATELLITE WORK?

**1.** If a 911 call fails, an "Emergency Text via Satellite SOS" icon will appear in the lower right-hand corner of your iPhone's screen. Tap that icon.

**2.** You'll be prompted to explain your emergency via a series of five multiple-choice questions.

**3.** Then you'll see a screen with a satellite animation that tells you to point your iPhone in the direction of the nearest satellite to send and receive a message.

## WHAT IF I MOVE OUT OF RANGE OF THE SATELLITE?

Your iPhone will buzz to alert you to move it to a new position.

## HOW LONG DOES THE MESSAGE TAKE TO SEND?

It varies. Apple says, "Satellites move rapidly, have low bandwidth, and are located thousands of miles away from Earth, so it can take a few minutes for even short messages to get through." In The Verge's hands-on with the feature ([fave.co/3i1Y3om](https://www.theverge.com/3i1Y3om)), the whole process took between three and five minutes.

## DO I TALK TO ANYONE?

No, Emergency SOS via satellite is text-only.

## CAN I TRY IT OUT?

Yes, head over to Settings → Emergency SOS → Emergency SOS via Satellite → Try Demo to test the feature in full.

## IS EMERGENCY SOS VIA SATELLITE COMING TO OTHER COUNTRIES?

The feature will be available in Germany, France, Ireland, and the U.K. in December. ■



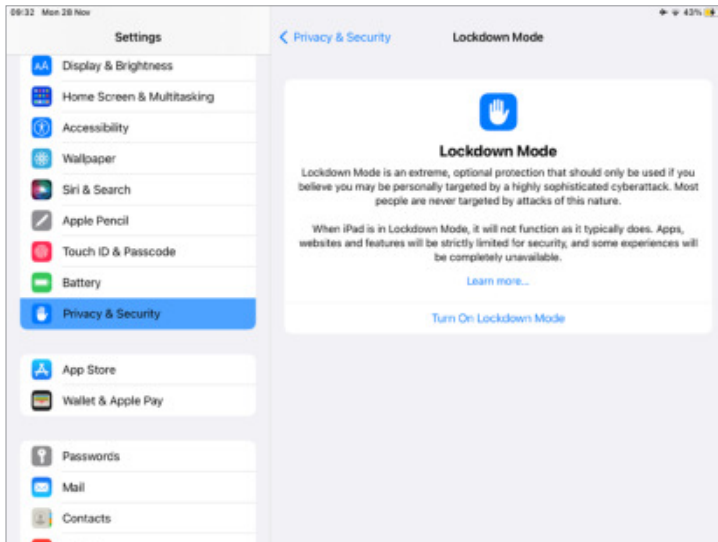
# How to turn on Lockdown Mode and protect your iPhone from a rare cyberattack

Apple's new Lockdown Mode will limit Messages, Safari, FaceTime, Apple services, and more to cut down the risk of sophisticated digital threats.

BY GLENN FLEISHMAN

Apple takes seriously the threat of targeted malware that hits its devices and extracts personal data from journalists, human-rights activists, opposition politicians, and others in the cross-hairs of repressive

governments, criminal rings, and even spies for hire. Beyond suing companies in 2021 ([fave.co/3V5jP9n](https://fave.co/3V5jP9n)) that Apple maintains produce “sophisticated, state-sponsored surveillance technology that allows its highly targeted spyware to



**Lockdown Mode is also available in iPadOS 16.1.**

surveil its victims,” and underwriting organizations countering cyber surveillance, Apple added a new high-security option to iOS 16 called Lockdown Mode ([fave.co/3OAr1YG](https://fave.co/3OAr1YG)). You’ll also find Lockdown Mode in iPadOS 16.1 when it ships (expected in October 2022) and macOS 13 Ventura (due out later this year).

The vast majority of people don’t need to use Lockdown Mode, as it is designed to protect against tailored and targeted attacks that rely on delivering payloads via Messages and other means exploiting previously undisclosed bugs (“zero-day” flaws). These kinds of attacks can gain nonconsensual access to stored data, the mic and camera, and decrypted data

within apps, like iMessages while you’re composing messages or after you receive them.

Lockdown Mode will slow down your devices ([fave.co/3F17LQV](https://fave.co/3F17LQV)) and make them unable to perform certain actions. Mostly, it prevents potentially risky inbound data or functions ([fave.co/3VoSxL5](https://fave.co/3VoSxL5)) from running on your

hardware, such as receiving non-image or video files in Messages, installing system profiles, or executing complicated Web page scripts. It also blocks “invitations for Apple Services” from people you haven’t initiated contact with: incoming FaceTime calls, an invitation to be part of a HomeKit “home,” and others.

## HOW TO TURN ON LOCKDOWN MODE

Unlike every other security method in iOS, iPadOS, and macOS, Lockdown Mode isn’t intended as a step up in protection for regular users. However, if you believe you’re in a position where you’re either susceptible to attack or



about to experience one, or if an expert tells you to protect yourself, you can engage Lockdown Mode for your safety for as long as the threat lasts:

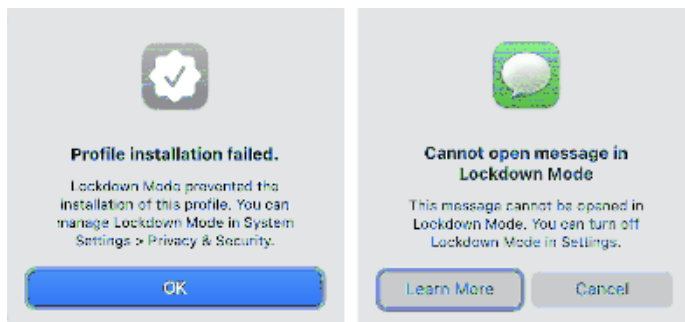
> In iOS and

iPadOS, go to Settings → Privacy & Security → Lockdown Mode. Read

the brief explanation, tap Turn On Lockdown Mode, peruse the more specific list of exceptions, and tap Turn On Lockdown Mode. One more time, confirm: Tap Turn On & Restart and enter your device passcode. Your iPhone or iPad restarts immediately.

> In the upcoming macOS Ventura, go to System Settings → Privacy & Security, read the description, click Turn On next to the Lockdown Mode label, enter your administrator password, and click Turn On & Restart. Your Mac goes right into restart mode.

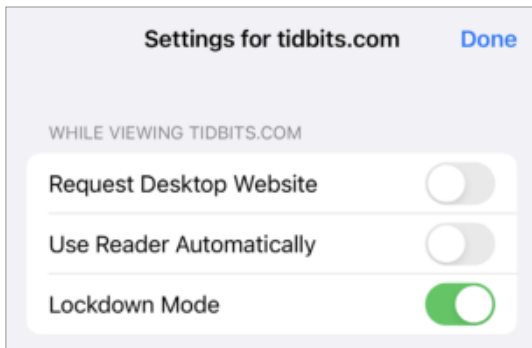
When your device starts up, and you enter your passcode or login password, you may notice it takes a bit longer to get itself ready—on the orders of tens of seconds, not minutes. In my testing, I found that performance was generally fine, but you'll see some herky-jerky behavior



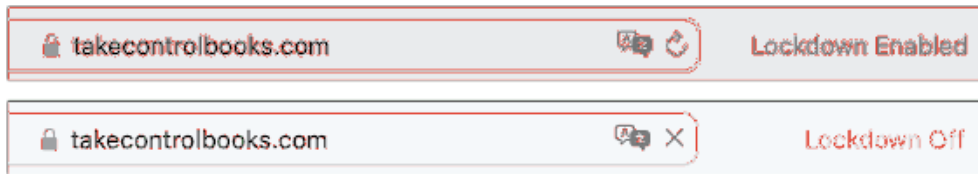
**Try to carry out an action Lockdown Mode prevents, and you'll see this error.**

at times that's not usual in any of the operating systems.

For most purposes, you won't notice anything different unless you try to carry out an act that's barred by the mode, such as installing a profile or opening an unapproved attachment type in Messages. In Safari, it's a bit more obvious: every site has Lockdown Enabled to the right or below the Location bar.



**Exclude a site by deselecting Lockdown Mode in the Reader View in iOS 16.**



Safari shows Lockdown Enabled next to every URL unless you disable the mode for a given site.

You can add exceptions if you need to use particular websites with their full capabilities, however:

> In iOS or iPadOS, tap the Reader View (AA) icon, tap Lockdown Mode, and confirm by tapping Turn Off. Use that method to reenable Lockdown Mode on the site, or go to Settings → Privacy & Security → Lockdown Mode → Configure Web Browsing to modify one or more exceptions you've made.

> In Ventura, Control-click or right-click in an empty area of the Location bar,

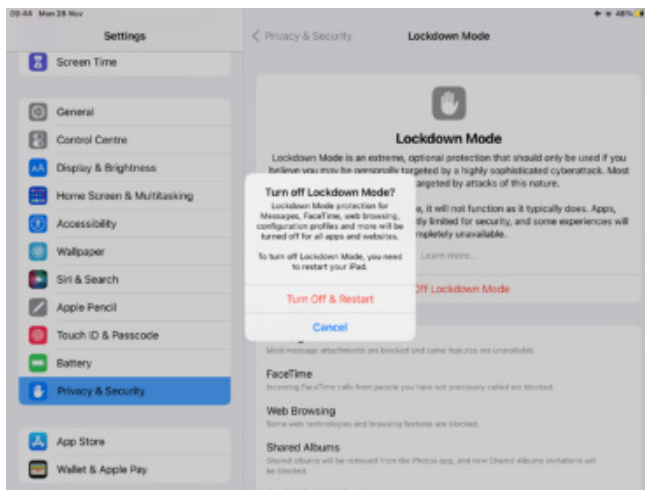
choose Settings for site name, and uncheck Enable Lockdown Mode, then confirm that choice. You can remove the exception in the same way, or go to Safari → Settings → Websites → Lockdown Mode to examine all Lockdown Mode exceptions.

When you believe the danger has passed, you can disable Lockdown Mode and restart again:

> In iOS or iPadOS, go back to Settings → Privacy & Security → Lockdown Mode, tap Turn Off Lockdown Mode, tap Turn Off

& Restart, enter your passcode, and your iPhone or iPad restarts into its normal mode.

> In Ventura, return to System Settings → Privacy & Security, click Turn Off next to Lockdown Mode, authenticate with Touch ID or enter your administrative password, confirm by clicking Turn Off & Restart, and your Mac restarts into its normal mode. ■



To turn off Lockdown Mode, you'll need to restart your device.



WHEN THE GAMES BEGIN.

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UNTIL THEY BUCKLE UP.**



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TRACKER

## KNOG SCOUT: A FIND MY TRACKER WITH A MOTION ALARM FOR YOUR BIKE

BY GLENN FLEISHMAN

**Macworld**  
**EDITORS'**  
**CHOICE**

Using a Find My item has often involved a trade-off. Apple's crowdsourced network of all its owners' iPhones, iPads, and Macs (that haven't opted out) provides robust tracking as long as somebody's device is occasionally nearby. Many travelers discovered in the summer of 2022 that an Apple AirTag or third-party Find My item in their luggage meant the difference between a "lost" bag

and being able to tell an airline where to find that bag.

But the tradeoff is that makers of Find My items have to conform to an array of Apple's rules and technology choices designed to balance tracking our stuff and the privacy and safety of others. For instance, Find My items that are away from the paired iPhone or iPad for between 8 and 24 hours will make a loud noise if moved, potentially alerting someone that there's a tracker near them. Likewise, if an AirTag or other item is near you while you're moving about and the owner's device isn't, you'll get a notification of an item moving with you—and you can play a sound on it to help find it.

Knog abides by these rules with its bike-tracking and bike-alarm, Scout ([fave.co/3UfEPZX](https://fave.co/3UfEPZX)), but adds an extra that justifies

**Knog lets you arm a motion sensor within Bluetooth range from the app.**



its price. You can enable an 85-decibel motion alarm separate from Find My. You can press a button on the device, or use a software button in the Knog app while within Bluetooth range. After activation, the slightest motion triggers the ear-piercingly sharp alarm pattern. If you're nearby with your phone, you receive a notification, and hear an alarm sound if the app is open. You can disarm at a tap.

When you add the Scout to Find My, you can also track its current location whenever you have an internet connection or are within Bluetooth range.

When mounting Scout on your bike, you can hide it. In a covert installation, remove the bright yellow cover and screw in a water-bottle cage over it. If you want others to be able to spot it as a deterrent, you can leave the cover on after attaching it without a cage on top. Knog's unique tamper-resistant screws and hard plastic case protect against casual removal or disabling.

The company provides solid step-by-step instructions on setting up the Scout, which is a bit more complicated than a standard Find My device due to the Scout's dual nature. Oddly, Knog doesn't link to the required iOS app ([fave.co/3VboiYc](https://fave.co/3VboiYc)) but tells owners to search for it on the App Store. That blip aside, it's straightforward to set up and use.

The app requires registration with an email address. Adding insult to complexity,

an “Opt in to marketing communications” box is prechecked. The company doesn’t support Sign in with Apple, which would be a natural way to balance privacy and registration confirmation.

Knog gets all the nuances right, from hardware to installation to the app. Instead of using replaceable batteries, the Scout includes a USB-C port under a very snug rubber seal to attach a cable. Knog says you should get six months between charges. The design allows you to recharge without removing the Scout from your bike. It has IP66 water resistance, suitable for the kind of rain and dust intrusion you might expect on a bike, and an operating temperature range of -4°F to 122°F (-20°C to 50°C).

It even offers some of the cleverest packaging I’ve ever seen. The Scout comes in a multi-layered cardboard block inside a die-cut insert. Remove the Scout, and beneath it is a cover with a finger hole to drag and lift up. The cover describes and shows an outline of the screwdriver for the anti-tamper screws, and offers a QR code to scan for instructions. Remove the cover and find the screwdriver nestled in its own cutout. The screws are driven into either side



**The Knog can be mounted underneath a water-bottle cage for stealthily surprising thieves with its shattering alarm.**



#### **Knog Scout**

##### **PROS**

- Fully compatible with Find My network.
- Provides battery and alarm status on device via LEDs.

##### **CONS**

- Requires email registration to use.
- Must retain tiny custom screwdriver to unmount easily.

##### **PRICE**

\$60

##### **COMPANY**

Knog

of the cardboard block. It’s quite remarkable and ostensibly fully recyclable.

## **BOTTOM LINE**

The Knog offers the best of two worlds: a loud alarm triggered by motion to scare off bike thieves, paired with crowdsourced global tracking in an optionally hidden form factor when the alarm isn’t active or isn’t enough to keep a bike rustler at bay. ■







REVIEW:  
**APPLE  
WATCH  
ULTRA**

NEARLY  
PERFECT  
NICHE

THOSE WHO ACTUALLY NEED  
A CHUNKY ACTION WATCH  
WON'T BE DISAPPOINTED.

**BY DAVID PRICE**



The Ultra is Apple's flagship smartwatch.

**Macworld**  
**EDITORS'**  
**CHOICE**

At Apple Park, this has been the year of the premium product, with the company aggressively pushing customers toward Pro versions of the iPhone and AirPods. The Apple Watch too has got its flagship product, and this time it actually offers some extra features beyond being made out of a costly material ([fave.co/3u6ZHYP](https://fave.co/3u6ZHYP)).

But the Apple Watch Ultra is a different proposition than the iPhone 14 Pro and AirPods Pro. The Apple Watch Ultra ([fave.co/3CutgYb](https://fave.co/3CutgYb)) isn't a straightforward upgrade where you pay more to add only

improvements; it's a niche device that some customers will love, but most absolutely shouldn't buy.

## A BIG CHANGE: DESIGN AND COMFORT

The Ultra is considerably bigger than any previous Apple Watch model. It's almost twice as heavy as the lightest Series 8 ([fave.co/3NlxG8w](https://fave.co/3NlxG8w)) model and weighs 19 percent more than even the heaviest. At 14.4mm, it's roughly 35 percent thicker than the standard 10.7mm chassis of all non-Ultra models from the Series 4 onward. It's worth bearing in mind that the

Ultra comes in only one physical flavor—49mm titanium—so there’s no option to pick a lighter or more petite edition. The Ultra is always big.

Perhaps it’s because I’ve worn the larger 44mm and 45mm sizes of previous Apple Watches, but I generally didn’t find the extra weight noticeable. Sometimes when I wore the strap slightly loose I could feel the extra momentum as it moved about, but I wasn’t aware of having to work hard to lift my arm up. Your mileage may and probably will vary if you’re used to a smaller model, but Apple has done a good job of hiding the weight.

I was far more conscious of the thicker chassis. For one thing, it’s more prone to get caught if you wear it under a sleeve, which is mildly annoying when trying to subtly check a notification without attracting the attention of muggers. It can also be distinctly awkward if you sleep, as I do, with your watch arm under the pillow. (I ended up rotating my arm so the watch wasn’t facing downward, but this wasn’t very comfortable.) Given the long battery life, it’s a shame that for some of us this is a less-than-ideal sleep tracker.

It’s worth pointing out that the Ultra isn’t really

designed for suburban use: The makers will have envisioned it strapped over a wet suit, not under a light spring jacket, and the long battery life is designed to last through multiple days of hiking, not for sleep tracking. But I record these observations for anyone who does have Series 8–style usage in mind and is expecting something that’s physically the same. It’s not.

## A (SLIGHTLY) BIGGER AND BETTER SCREEN

Of course, the extra bulk brings benefits. Aside from the larger battery, that chunky design means you also get a bigger screen—although not *proportionately* larger, because of the heavy-duty metal bezels around the edge. You get roughly 4 percent more display area and 7 percent more pixels than on the 45mm Series 8.



**This is a much thicker device than Apple Watch owners will be used to.**

(The figures are 31 and 36 percent respectively when compared to the 41mm model.) This means the interface is easier to read and watch faces can include more complications without losing legibility or being too fiddly to tap: I use and recommend the Ultra-exclusive Wayfinder face, which has room for eight complications.

As well as being bigger, the screen of the Ultra is brighter than those on other Apple Watches. It offers, according to Apple, up to 2,000 nits, which is twice what the Series 8 offers. While I wasn't conscious of this upgrade in general, the difference became obvious when I placed the two devices side by side.

I suspect that my enjoyment of the clarity and legibility of the Ultra's screen, which I assumed was due to its larger

size, has just as much to do with the improved brightness. Once you've tried the upgraded screen, you won't want to go back.

## TOUGH STUFF

The same factors that increase the Ultra's bulk—the chunky bezels and tough but heavy titanium—contribute to its robustness, which surpasses that of other Apple Watches. On paper, at least, this is a device that can stand up to some serious punishment. I've not actively tried to damage the Ultra, but I've not coddled it either, and after three weeks of testing it hasn't got a single scratch or blemish anywhere on its body.

It carries the same IP6X dust-resistance rating as the Series 7 and 8 (note that the SE does not have this rating), but it's

further undergone tests for altitude, high and low temperature, temperature shock, immersion, freeze/thaw, shock, and vibration under the MIL-STD 810H military standard.

Whereas the Series 8 is rated as water-resistant to 50m, the Ultra goes to 100m, and as for the "swimproof" claim made for the Series 8, the Ultra adds an EN13319



**The Ultra's display is bright, clear, and vivid—and slightly bigger than that of its predecessor.**

certification (the same that's used for diving accessories), so Apple says it's fine for recreational diving up to 40 meters. With the caveat that two out of three of the bundled bands are prone to retain water, this is a diving watch with excellent credentials.

If you're worried about physical damage, the screen is protected from impact by slightly raised edges. The Digital Crown, meanwhile, is shielded within a raised module, which also makes the side button easier to locate when wearing gloves.

## SWINGS AND ROUNDABOUTS: THE NEW BUTTON

Talking of buttons, there's a new one on the opposite side of the Digital Crown. The function triggered by this Action Button can be selected from a shortlist of seven options (Workout, Stopwatch, Waypoint, Backtrack, Dive, Torch, and Shortcut), but for several of these, you can further customize which app to use, which workout or shortcut to trigger, and so on.

The Waypoint, Backtrack, and Dive options are where the Action Button will really earn its keep. Since these are



**The Action Button is the first control to appear on the lefthand edge of an Apple Watch.**

single-press actions, pressing the orange button is much quicker than manipulating onscreen menus. Back in suburbia, I used it for starting workouts, which isn't much of a time-saver over using the Dock to jump quickly to the Workout app. So for me, it's very much a nice to have, not a must-have feature.

In fact, for some the Action Button may turn out to be more trouble than it's worth. Multiple times I've accidentally triggered a workout via this button, and sometimes not noticed until later. (No harm done, I suppose; it's not like you're going to accidentally buy an iPhone or start a FaceTime call with your boss.) Apple Watch owners will be used to the design convention where all the controls are kept to the righthand side of the display, which means you can use the left edge for

bracing your thumb. With the Ultra, this bit of muscle memory risks triggering an erroneous action.

This issue has lessened as I've grown more used to the Ultra, however, and on the whole, I'm glad that the Action button exists. I suspect, as I discussed in an article last month ([fave.co/3ViEiDx](https://fave.co/3ViEiDx)), that Apple's original decision to offer just one button was made on the basis of aesthetics rather than usability, and once we're used to this new design it will prove to be only positive. Now that the hardware is in place, Apple can brainstorm different functions that users can bind to the button, and you've always got the option to disable it entirely if false positives start to drive you mad.

## BATTLE OF THE BANDS

One last thing is worth discussing before we leave behind the physical side of things, and that's the range of bands that are offered with the Ultra. And my main takeaway here is that there's no single option that's as appealing as the classic Sport Band from previous Apple Watches, which is elegant, water-resistant, and reasonably easy to put on and take off.

The Trail Loop is familiar: It's a plain-looking Velcro band that's much like the Series 8's Sport Loop, with the addition of a pull tab. This is a popular option for comfort and ease of adjustment, but it's

not especially smart, and it absorbs, retains, and afterward gradually leaks water if you wear it in the shower.

The Alpine Loop, which I've been testing, has a similar outdoorsy, hard-wearing look to the Trail Loop, and the same annoying habit of absorbing water. Where the Alpine Loop particularly falls down, however, is on being a massive pain to put on and take off. The clasp is tricky to hook and unhook, while the doubling-back section next to the Ultra's body is reluctant to pass through the aperture. Tightening or loosening the band with one hand is awkward and slow, and I worry that the hook is liable to fray the fabric loops over prolonged use.

The last option, the silicon-like Ocean Band designed with swimmers and divers in mind, is the only option that's suitable for liquid immersion. But it's got a very niche look and a complicated clasp mechanism, and while I haven't tried it myself, this excellent and thorough review of the three bands ([fave.co/3Uwi3NL](https://fave.co/3Uwi3NL)) puts it in last place.

On the whole, the Alpine Loop has been the least satisfactory element of my Apple Watch Ultra experience, and even with the benefit of hindsight, I'm not sure which of the other two would have improved matters: probably the Trail Loop is the best of a disappointing bunch, but it's also, sadly, the least colorful option. On



**Your options, from left to right: Trail Loop, Alpine Loop, and Ocean Band.**

the plus side, the Ultra is compatible with 44mm and 45mm straps, so you can simply recycle a Sport Loop from an older device or bite the bullet and buy one—just be aware, as Apple warns, that the larger chassis of the Ultra means some bands will fit slightly differently, and you should try them on before buying if possible.

## SPECS AND FEATURES

The Ultra's feature set is largely the same as that of the Series 8, which means users can get cycle tracking via the new temperature sensor, as well as Crash Detection. As with the Series 8, I experienced no false positives with Crash Detection, but other users have been less lucky ([fave.co/3GWkkK2](https://fave.co/3GWkkK2)).

The Ultra also has the same processor as the Series 8: the S8, which delivers slick performance without being appreciably faster than the also-fast S7 on the Series 7

or the S6 in the Series 6. It also has the same wireless chip (W3) as the Series 8 and current SE, and the same U1 ultra wideband chip as the former. LTE connectivity is the same, too.

But this being a premium product, the makers have thrown in a few extras you won't see on other Apple Watches. Instead of a single speaker, you get two; instead of a single mic, you get three. And you can put those speakers to work blaring out an 86-decibel siren if you get lost and/or need assistance. Apple reckons this can be heard 600 feet away.

You should be less likely to get lost in the first place, however, thanks to the improved GPS that's also included. It's based on dual frequencies: L1 and L5, as opposed to the L1-only GPS offered on the other current Apple Watch models. Apple claims this will deliver "amazing" accuracy, although the accuracy I've

experienced with previous watches was already so strong that it was difficult to notice any improvement. Checking through maps from workouts with both the Series 8 and the Ultra, I'm seeing almost exactly the same pattern of frequent nodes closely matching the paths I've followed: the occasional drift away from this is a matter of meters and nothing that would cause any serious problems with navigation.

Finally, the Ultra caters to divers and swimmers with a depth gauge, which activates automatically when you submerge, as well as a water temperature sensor.

## BATTERY LIFE AND CHARGING

Since the Ultra is a bigger device than previous Apple Watches, there's space for a higher-capacity battery. With the



The Wayfinder face has a cool-looking Night Mode.

perilous exploration market presumably in mind, Apple boasts that it offers up to 36 hours of battery life, twice the standard 18 it has promised for every other model.

Justifying Apple's optimism, the Ultra passed our battery tests with flying colors. The Series 8, which we tested earlier this month, lasted 32.5 hours; the Ultra managed 72.5, scraping into three-day territory. Very few previous Apple wearables have managed even two days.

The Ultra's battery performance doesn't just beat the Series 8. It even beats older models from the days when Apple Watches didn't have to worry about power-draining sleep-tracking duties during the night...such as the previous record-holder, the Series 2 ([fave.co/3OL1vQA](https://www.fave.co/3OL1vQA)), which lasted 54 hours in our tests.

When you do come to charge the Ultra, however, you should budget for a longer session that is necessary with the Series 8—for understandable reasons, since you're topping up a larger cell. It's rated for fast charging, but these things are relative. Whereas the Series 8 reached 43 percent after 30 minutes and 73 percent after the full hour, the Ultra only got to 31 percent and 65 percent, respectively.



## BOTTOM LINE

The Ultra is a terrific but niche product, and if you fit the niche you should certainly buy one. The key word there is *if*.

The battery life may not be quite in Garmin's league ([fave.co/3EQ7Zck](https://fave.co/3EQ7Zck)), but it's a major step forward from that of Apple's more mainstream wearables and enough to make it a serious proposition for hikers and extreme athletes.

The large, bright screen is a pleasure to use outdoors, and the rugged design makes you far less worried about smashing it when you do so. The Action button is a pleasing concession for users wearing gloves or dealing with other impediments. And excellent facilities and physical upgrades make this a fine diving watch.

Combine these improvements with the existing advantages of buying an Apple Watch—the quiet excellence of watchOS, a solid range of third-party apps, and integration with Apple's ecosystem—and you have a convincing Garmin killer ([fave.co/3iyywHM](https://fave.co/3iyywHM)).

What the Ultra is not, however, is simply a premium



**The battery life makes the Apple Watch Ultra make a serious proposition for hikers and extreme athletes.**

edition of the Apple Watch for those with a higher budget. The upgrades and modifications mentioned above carry downsides, and if you don't plan to dive or sail or hike or spelunk with the Ultra, you're not getting the benefits to make those downsides worthwhile.

You'll find that it gets caught on your jacket sleeve, is uncomfortable in bed, triggers actions by mistake, and above all costs far more than it should.

If you're looking for a chunky action watch with good battery life and a strong feature set, this is an excellent and good-value choice. And it's on that basis that I'm going to give the Apple Watch Ultra 4.5 stars out of 5. ■



### Apple Watch Ultra

#### PROS

- Rugged design.
- Customizable Action Button.
- Excellent battery life.

#### CONS

- Bulkier than previous models.
- Action Button sometimes triggers by accident.

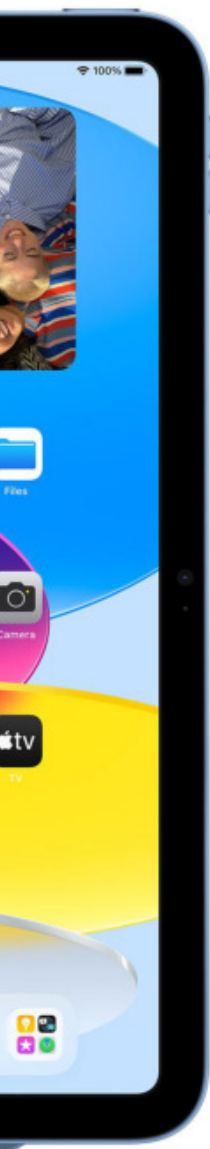
#### PRICE

\$799

#### COMPANY

Apple





# iPAD (10TH GEN)

A BEAUTIFUL  
DISAPPOINTMENT

APPLE'S NEWEST TABLET IS TOO EXPENSIVE TO BE A BUDGET OPTION AND TOO LIMITED FOR MID-MARKET BUYERS. **BY DAVID PRICE**



It can be hard to get excited about the cheapest model in a range. Apple's standard iPad has for years offered a blend of strong value and respectable specs without creating much of a buzz because the features it offers are either weaker than those on the Air, mini, and Pro models, or arrive several years later.

This latest iPad, however, may change that perception. It does some interesting things, particularly in terms of its position within the range—but not all of those things are good. Being interesting can be a mixed blessing.



**PODCAST: OOPS! ALL iPADS!**

Watch now at [fave.co/3lk69Je](https://fave.co/3lk69Je)

## DESIGN AND BUILD: BRIGHT, COLORFUL, AND MODERN

From very first impressions, it's clear that Apple has given the humble iPad a glow-up, particularly if you've got one of the bright new colors. I tested the pink model, which is vibrantly gorgeous in the flesh, but from publicity photos, the other colors look just as joyous. This is the first iPad in years to not offer even the choice of a black or dark-gray finish: your options are silver, pink, yellow, or blue—and these are much brighter shades than the comparatively somber blue, pink, and purple offered with the latest iPad Air and mini. (In our iPad Air review [[fave.co/3VfdisQ](https://fave.co/3VfdisQ)], I described its subtle purple hue as a “grown-up color.”)

There's a temptation to look at these brash, unapologetic colors and compare them to the unloved iPhone 5c ([fave.co/3EJvBzv](http://fave.co/3EJvBzv)) from 2013, which always seemed garish next to the understated elegance of the iPhone 5s. There's clearly something to that analogy: Apple evidently thinks that bright colors are a property of budget devices, and that pro users are too sensible to work on a device that's too flamboyant. All I can say is that I disliked the iPhone 5c's color options from the first moment I saw them, but I was instantly blown away ([fave.co/3ELmXAA](http://fave.co/3ELmXAA)) by my pink iPad. These are colors that are both bright *and* tasteful, and it seems a shame that buyers of the other iPad models don't get them.

Other than that, the iPad has seen a design overhaul that brings it in line with the iPad Air and mini. Most obviously, the Home button is gone and the Touch ID fingerprint sensor has been relocated to



Tablets don't come much pinker than this.

the power button on the top edge. On the iPad, I find this a superior position from an ergonomic point of view (the way you hold an iPhone, the Home button is easy to reach, but that was never the case with an iPad), but the narrower sensor makes it, in my experience, *fractionally* slower and less reliable at recognizing your fingerprint.

## SCREEN: BIGGER, BUT NOT REALLY BETTER

The departure of the Home button allows Apple to offer a larger screen without increasing the size of the case. Not significantly, anyway: The device's width has gone up by 5mm, while the height and length have dropped by 2mm, and it's fractionally thinner (7mm versus 7.5mm). The new iPad is a little lighter than last year's model, too (1.06 pounds versus 1.09 pounds).

The screen is now up to 10.9 inches, which is the same size as that of the iPad

Air; knowing Apple, that will likely jump up to 11 inches next year, while the iPad Pro gets bigger still. But for now, the iPad has parity. I can't say I noticed the extra space but I definitely noticed and enjoyed the more modern look. It's strange the way aesthetic

fashions affect you, but the Home button design was definitely showing its age.

Some will be relieved, incidentally, that there's no notch on the iPad. But the bezels around the edge of the screen are pretty wide and there's plenty of space to fit in the front-facing camera without one.

It may be bigger, but the display still isn't laminated, which means I have to talk about this perennial bugbear yet again. The iPads mini, Air, and Pro all have laminated screens, which means the glass sits perfectly flat against the display elements underneath. The standard iPad's screen, on the other hand, has a tiny but noticeable gap between the two. This means that when you press down on it, there's a very slight give as it yields downward.



The screen is bright and colorful, but the bezels are rather large.

Many people use unlaminated screens without being bothered by them, but once you've tried a laminated one, the alternative will feel cheap and plasticky by comparison. It's disappointing that Apple is still cutting corners in this one area, which is especially annoying because I was so conscious of it so much of the time. Taps and swipes lie at the very core of the iPad experience, and to be reminded that you're using a compromised model every time you do these fundamental actions is disheartening.

A more minor quibble with the unlaminated screen is the fact that it also affects performance when drawing or writing with an Apple Pencil, which is visibly further away from the line it's

making than would be the case with other iPads. We're talking a matter of millimeters, though, so this isn't a dealbreaker.

Also note that the iPad doesn't have ProMotion, the Apple tech that gives iPad Pro screens both higher refresh rates and the ability to adjust those rates on the fly to conserve battery life.



**Still just the one lens on the rear. And neither front nor back offers Portrait Mode.**

This was never going to happen, since even the iPad Air doesn't get the feature, but it's worth bearing in mind that ProMotion screens deliver a smoother experience with the Apple Pencil as well as for video and animation.

## **CAMERAS: CHANGES AND IMPROVEMENTS GALORE**

Apple has upgraded the iPad's rear camera from 8MP to 12MP, so it now matches the front-facing camera. It also gains a larger aperture ( $f/1.8$ , up from  $f/2.4$ ), 4K video recording, and support for the third version of Smart HDR, while the previous model doesn't support Smart HDR at all.

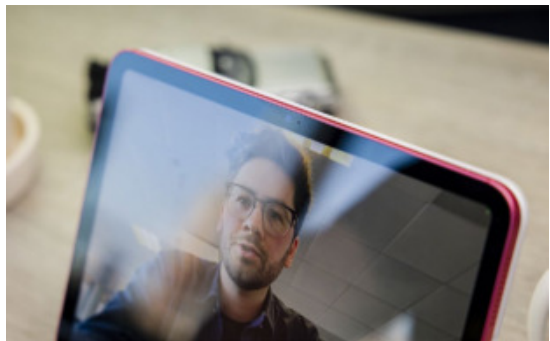
Smart HDR is Apple's clever AI tech for simultaneously capturing multiple different exposures in challenging lighting, then blending parts of each to deliver better image

quality. It's a godsend when shooting shaded subjects against a bright background, for example. As usual with the standard iPad, you're making a compromise here since Apple's top-tier devices have moved on to Smart HDR 4, but it's still far better than the camera on a tablet has any right to be.

Even when shooting directly into a bright morning sun, the

iPad's rear camera was able to pick out detail and capture accurate color on foreground objects. And in less demanding lighting, photos were superb: clear, vibrant, and richly detailed. It's likely to be the best camera that most people will never use.

The all-important front camera, meanwhile, gets significant changes of its own. Most obviously, it's moved and now sits in the middle of the long edge with



**The repositioned camera is perfect for video calls.**

Apple's Smart HDR is so good now that even deliberate sabotage can't stop it from taking a solid selfie.



the volume keys. This is genuine galaxy-brain thinking, recognizing that a tablet's most important camera duty is video calls in landscape mode, and ensures that you get a far better angle for such conversations: It's simply more natural to talk without having to think about the location of the camera.

The payoff, of course, is that you get bad angles when using the iPad in portrait mode, so selfies may suffer. (In fact, it's not just the angle that's a problem: For right-handed users, the camera is exactly where your thumb will go to press the exposure button. Righties should remember to turn the iPad "upside down" before shooting selfies to solve this issue.)

Despite the downsides, I love this change, and it's about time. Apple has long been the only mainstream tablet maker refusing to properly position the

camera in landscape orientation. But I wonder if everyone at Apple agrees—because for once, the standard iPad is the first member of the range to get this new feature. Perhaps it's viewed as a risk, and this is an experiment. Or perhaps Apple has research that shows expensive iPads are used for selfies more than cheap ones. Who knows?

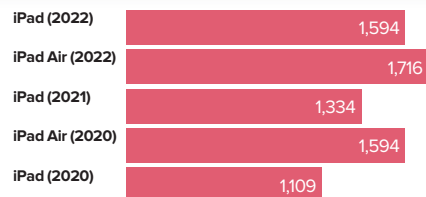
The front camera also gets Smart HDR 3, and I found that I could take a selfie with the sun behind me without losing the definition on the face. The angle was awkward, but the image quality (considering the conditions) was impressive.

## SPEED TESTS: FAST BUT NOT FUTURE-PROOFED

The new iPad gets a new processor, but we should probably put an asterisk next to the word "new." It's the A14 Bionic: an upgrade from the A13 in last year's iPad, certainly, but a chip that's been around for two years. For comparison, the current

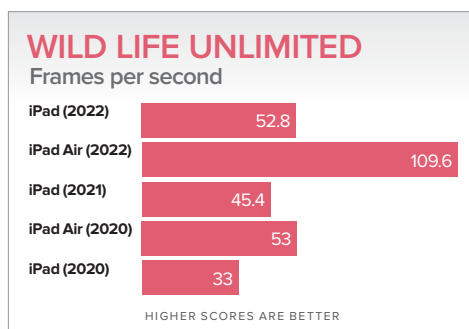
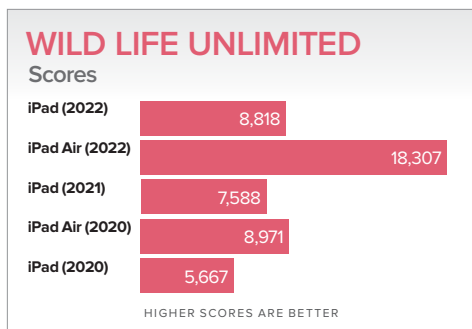
### GEEKBENCH 5

#### Single-core



HIGHER SCORES ARE BETTER





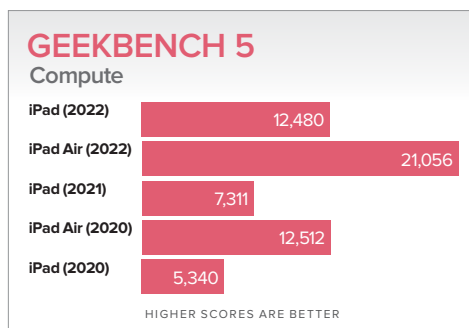
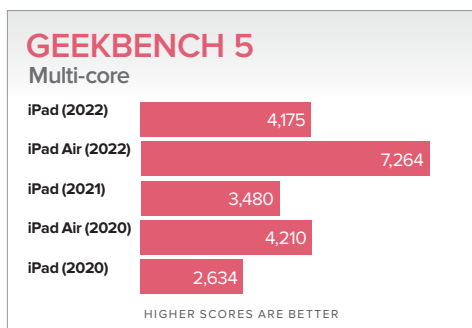
iPad mini (which itself is a year old) has the A15, while the Air and Pro have moved on to M-class Mac processors.

In other words, the brand-new 2022 iPad is the slowest iPad Apple sells, with the sole exception of its immediate predecessor. That doesn't mean it's objectively slow—it was slick and responsive in testing, and ran every app I threw at it with no worries at all—but it does mean there's less future-proofing.

This was all borne out in speed tests. The 10th-gen iPad scored 4,175 in the multi-core component of Geekbench 5,

for example, which is a solid 20% improvement on the 3,480 scored by last year's iPad but far behind the iPad Air's 7,264. In other areas, Apple is clearly trying to lift the iPad out of its budget origins, but for theoretical speed and processor future-proofing, it's still very much in that category.

It's a similar tale for graphics power, with the iPad outscoring last year's model by 16 percent in the 3DMark Wild Life Unlimited benchmark but lagging behind the iPad Air by a much bigger margin. Again, this is a perfectly decent iPad for



gaming right now, but that won't remain the case forever, and it will start to struggle with the most processor-intensive games a year or two earlier than the Air.

## BATTERY LIFE: NOT GREAT, NOT TERRIBLE

The iPad features a 28.6Wh battery, which Apple claims is good for up to 10 hours of web surfing on Wi-Fi, or 9 hours on cellular data if that applies. That's a standard claim, mind you: Apple says exactly the same thing about the iPad from 2021 (even though it features a larger 32.4Wh battery), the iPad Air from this year (28.6Wh again), and even the latest models of the iPad mini (19.3Wh) and 12.9-inch iPad Pro (40.88Wh!). Apple simply expects iPads to last for 10 hours.

For a more precise assessment, we turned to the Geekbench 4 battery test, in which the iPad lasted just 6 hours and 13 minutes.

This isn't as bad as it sounds, since real-world usage will be far less demanding; you can expect much longer life when using your iPad for writing documents, checking email, light gaming, and, as in Apple's claim, browsing the web over Wi-Fi. Rather than offering a prediction of battery life in everyday use (which is messy and unpredictable), the test is designed to provide a rigorous and consistent point

of comparison with other devices. It's a worst-case scenario, but it's fair.

The iPad Air, for example, fell short of the 10-hour mark too—although at 7 hours and 28 minutes it came closer. The ninth-gen iPad, meanwhile, lasted 8 hours and 5 minutes. In fact, none of the mid-size iPads we've tested over the past two years have hit the 10-hour mark in Geekbench 4, but all have lasted longer (by a clear hour or more) than the 10th-gen iPad.

This is clearly a disappointing performance, although subjective experience suggests it's not disastrous. In general testing, the iPad consistently lasted throughout the day, which is the key threshold for battery success or failure. When using it as a laptop replacement, it happily and repeatedly reached logging-off time without dropping below 20 percent (or in most cases getting even close to it). The device simply seems to have issues coping with processor-

### BATTERY LIFE

Minutes



HIGHER SCORES ARE BETTER

intensive activities, with the 3DMark benchmarking session mentioned above triggering an alarming dip in power levels.

Overall I'd describe the iPad's battery performance as OK. It's good for light use but runs out quickly when you push the processor to its limits.

## CHARGING AND DATA TRANSFERS: LIGHTNING NO MORE

When topping up your iPad's battery after a strenuous benchmarking session, you'll both gain the benefits and suffer the downsides of Apple finally completing the migration of its tablet range to USB-C. (The iPad Pro ditched Lightning years ago, and the Air and mini followed more recently; the vanilla iPad is as usual the last to join the party.)

On the plus side, USB-C supports a higher power delivery rate than Lightning. Of course, the actual speed at which your iPad charges is also dependent on other factors, such as the power adapter and the device's own capabilities, so don't expect a sudden transformation. Charging from empty using the bundled adapter and cable for 30 minutes lifted the iPad to 27 percent, and it reached 53 percent after a full hour. That's decent speed (last year's iPad managed only 19 percent in 30



**Yes, even the inside of the USB-C port is pink.**

minutes), but you should still budget a couple of hours for a complete charge.

USB-C is capable of faster data transfer than Lightning too, though Apple hasn't unlocked ([fave.co/3UhSRKv](https://fave.co/3UhSRKv)) more than USB 2.0 speeds here. Granted, high-speed transfers aren't really the target audience for Apple's cheapest model, so if that's your priority, you should be looking at the iPad Pro with its support for Thunderbolt/USB 4. Apple's use of a non-proprietary standard will also make it easier and cheaper for third parties to sell compatible accessories.

But on the negative side, Apple switching to USB-C will make many of your existing iPad accessories redundant, unless you're willing to bear the expense and/or inconvenience of dongles. And this includes, bafflingly, Apple's own first-gen Apple Pencil, which is the only model the new iPad supports. (You can't use the excellent second-gen Pencil [[fave.co/3u83THF](https://fave.co/3u83THF)], even though that

came out in 2018.) The first Apple Pencil, you will recall, charges by plugging directly and precariously into the Lightning port of its companion iPad, a method that is now impossible, so Apple has released a cheap but easily lost dongle (\$9 from [fave.co/3EHp2gK](https://fave.co/3EHp2gK)), which is required for pairing as well as for charging the stylus.

Tech fans are used to accessory obsolescence, and we knew our Lightning cables would be consigned to the drawer of oblivion at some point. But the way Apple has dealt with the Apple Pencil here is astonishing: Now was surely the time to extend an olive branch and build in support for the 2nd-gen Pencil. Chuck in the slightly weaker stylus performance you get because of the unlaminated, non-ProMotion screen, and I have to advise against buying this iPad if you're planning to use it with an Apple Pencil.



**It turns out there are sillier ways of charging an Apple Pencil than plugging it into an iPad.**

## JOINING THE MAGIC CIRCLE

There is some more positive news on the accessories front, however. This year the standard iPad gets its own keyboard accessory in Apple's excellent Magic Keyboard Folio (\$249 from [fave.co/3inoxB2](https://fave.co/3inoxB2)). The key feature here is the trackpad, which enables the iPad to act as a far more plausible laptop replacement than was the case with the older Smart Keyboard.

In the past, there have always been caveats and stumbling blocks when trying to use an iPad as a laptop. For sure, it was possible to work effectively using the Smart Keyboard; you just had to memorize the key shortcuts and build up muscle memory. But it was a thing you had to devote time to learning. With the Magic Keyboard Folio, you just open the iPad and start working on it as if it was a laptop because it basically is a laptop. Apple has removed the friction.

However, there are still some hurdles to clear. At \$249, the keyboard is expensive (though not quite as expensive as the Magic Keyboard) and makes the iPad less portable. But it's a transformative accessory.

## BOTTOM LINE

Should you buy the 10th-gen iPad?



**A trackpad makes life a lot more productive.**

In many ways, this is a fine tablet, with a stunning design and a clever webcam that's perfect for video calls. It boasts lots of significant upgrades over the previous model, from a larger screen and better cameras to a faster chip, and 5G...but those improvements come at a price—one so steep (from \$329 to \$449) that I would no longer view this as a budget tablet.

This is a shame because Apple already has a mid-market iPad: the iPad Air, which has a better screen, a much more future-proofed processor, and support for the second-gen Apple Pencil, yet is only \$150 more. Rather than competing with the Air, the standard iPad existed to

provide an affordable entry point and to appeal to those who just want a convenient gadget to sit on the coffee table and serve for checking email, web searches, and FaceTime calls with the grandkids.

Those needs are still served, of course, by the 9th-gen iPad, which remains on sale—albeit without the price drop we'd normally expect

when a product is superseded. But that does leave me wondering who this iPad is aimed at. It's not cheap enough for the budget market, and thanks to its two-year-old processor and unlaminated screen, it's realistically not good enough for the

mid-market. Battery performance was disappointing, too, and the less said about the Apple Pencil situation, the better.

There's presumably a subsection of consumers out there for whom the 9th-gen is too basic and the Air too expensive, but it can't be large. And it's hard to see how the people who are in the subsection will even realize, given the confusing nature of this opaque, overlapping range. ■



**iPad (10th gen)**

**PROS**

- Much-improved cameras.
- Beautiful color finishes.
- Magic Keyboard Folio support.

**CONS**

- Cheap-feeling unlaminated screen.
- Disappointing battery life.
- Bizarre Apple Pencil support.

**PRICE**

\$449

**COMPANY**

Apple

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## 7 key Mac preferences that have new hiding spots in Ventura's System Settings

They're still there, but in new places.

BY ROMAN LOYOLA

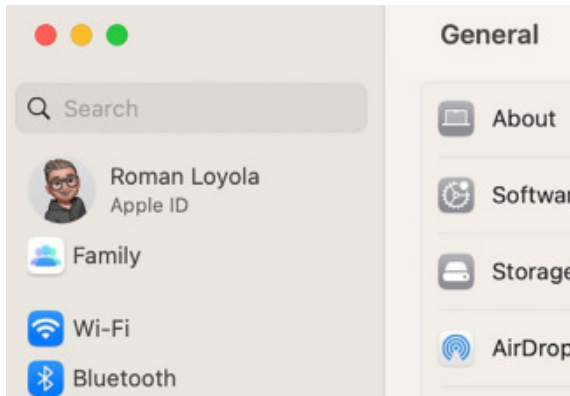
One of the major (and majorly controversial, [fave.co/3DiNdI2](https://fave.co/3DiNdI2)) changes in macOS Ventura ([fave.co/3zodJll](https://fave.co/3zodJll)) is a redesign of System Preferences. It's now called System Settings ([fave.co/3SpcvUJ](https://fave.co/3SpcvUJ)) and it's designed to better resemble the iOS Settings app.

Apple's desire to have more commonality between macOS and iOS is understandable, but the problem is that it's now a chore to find the settings you need. The years of muscle memory developed



**VIDEO: 7 HIDDEN MACOS VENTURA SETTINGS**

Watch now at [fave.co/3sFewkE](https://fave.co/3sFewkE)



**A Search box is located at the top of the left column in System Settings to help you find the setting you need.**

by Mac users are out the window and it's time to relearn where everything is.

You can find most of the frequently accessed preferences up front (Apple ID, Battery, Bluetooth, and Sound, for example). Others have been renamed to match the corresponding iOS setting, such as Security & Privacy, which is now Privacy & Security. But most notably, System Settings now uses a lot of subsections and lists, so the setting you need often isn't where you think it is. With that in mind, here's a list of often-used and important system settings and where to find them.

One important tip before we proceed: System Settings does have a search tool, located at the very top of the left column. It's helpful, but sometimes the search terms you're

using don't match what macOS thinks you're looking for.

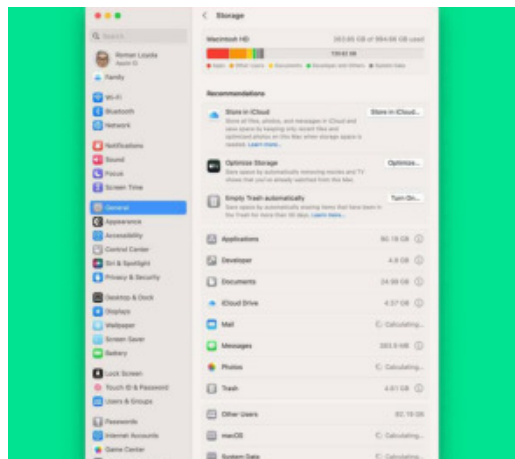
## 1. STORAGE

Before macOS Ventura, the About This Mac window (found in the Apple menu) had an obvious Storage section where you could manage your Mac's storage. It's a useful tool not just for clearing space, but to see how your storage is being used.

That tool is still in macOS Ventura, but if your muscle

memory takes to you About This Mac, things are a little different.

1. Click on the Apple menu and select About This Mac.



**The storage management tools in macOS Ventura can still be found using About This Mac. But getting there is a little different.**

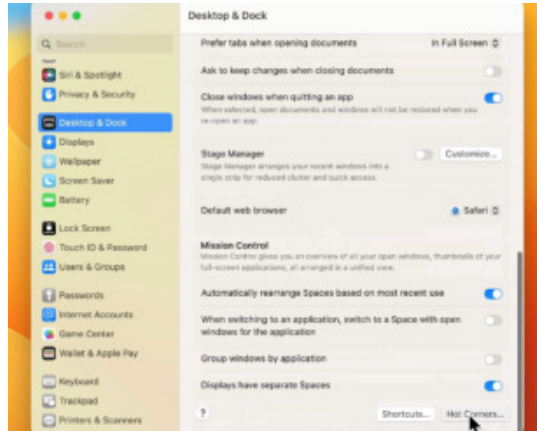


2. Click on More Info.

3. System Settings will open to the General tab. At the default window size, you won't see the Storage section in the main part of the window. Scroll down to the bottom, where you'll find the Storage section.

4. Click on the Storage Settings button and you'll find the storage management tools.

The faster way to get to these tools is to go to System Settings → General → Storage.



The Hot Corners setting is in Desktop & Dock.

## 2. HOT CORNERS

With Hot Corners, you can set macOS so that when you move the pointer to a corner of the screen, it triggers an action. For example, Quick Note, which was introduced in macOS Monterey ([fave.co/3flhXcZ](https://www.cnet.com/story/co/3flhXcZ/)), is set by default for the lower right corner. Move the pointer there, and you'll see a white box appear, indicating that a Quick Note can be created by clicking.

You can change the Hot Corner for Quick Note, and you can set other Hot Corner actions in System Settings. Here's how to access Hot Corners in macOS Ventura:

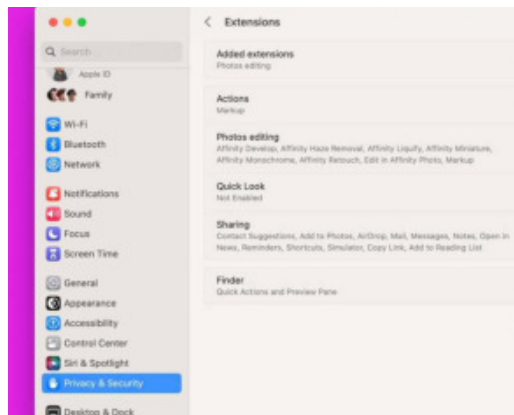
1. Go to System Settings, then click on Desktop & Dock in the left column.

2. In the main section of the window, scroll down to the very bottom.

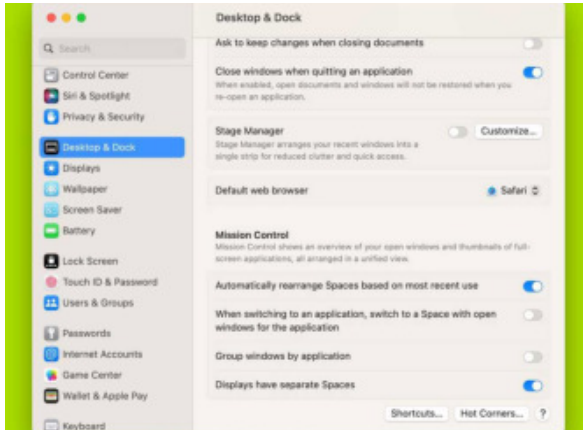
3. Look for the Hot Corner button in the lower right and click it.

## 3. EXTENSIONS

You can add systemwide functionality to macOS through extensions, which are



The Extensions system settings are found in Privacy & Security.



**Mission Control's settings are in the Desktop & Dock section of System Settings.**

often put into place when you install an app. You can manage these extensions through the Extensions system preference in macOS Monterey and older. But in macOS Ventura, Apple moved this into the Privacy & Security system setting. Scroll to the bottom to find it.

#### 4. MISSION CONTROL

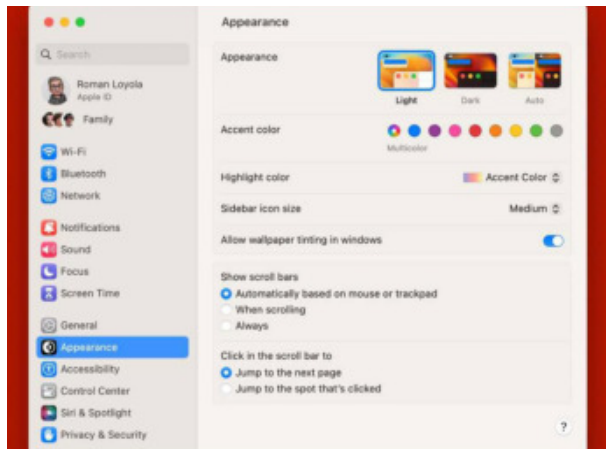
Mission Control is very helpful for users who often have a lot of windows open at once. Before macOS Ventura, Mission Control had its own preference pane. But in Ventura, Mission Control is located near the bottom of the Desktop & Dock system setting.

#### 5. APPEARANCE

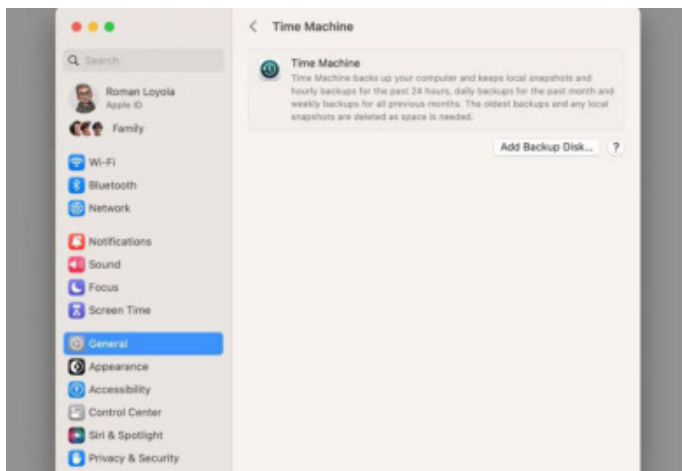
In macOS Monterey and earlier, Appearance was a section of the General system preference, where you could switch between Light, Dark, and Auto modes, pick accent and highlight colors, adjust the sidebar icon size, activate wallpaper tinting in windows, and adjust scroll bar settings.

But don't rely on your memory to get to these settings, because Apple decided to make Appearance its own

system setting in macOS Ventura. It's actually located below the General setting as if to make it obvious that Apple made this change.



**macOS Ventura has a new Appearance system setting for adjusting colors and scroll bars.**



Time Machine settings are now found in the General section.

## 6. TIME MACHINE

The opposite of what happened to Appearance happened to Time Machine.

Before, it was its own stand-alone system preference. In macOS Ventura, Time Machine is now located within the General system setting.

## 7. WARRANTY INFORMATION

In macOS Monterey and older, you can get information on your Mac's warranty by clicking on the Apple menu and then

selecting About This Mac → Support. In macOS Ventura, it's still in About This Mac, but as with storage, it's not as obvious.

After opening About This Mac in Ventura, click on More Info. That opens the About section of the General system setting. At the bottom of the first section is an entry for your warranty. Click on

Details to get more info on what your warranty offers and access Apple's support website. ■

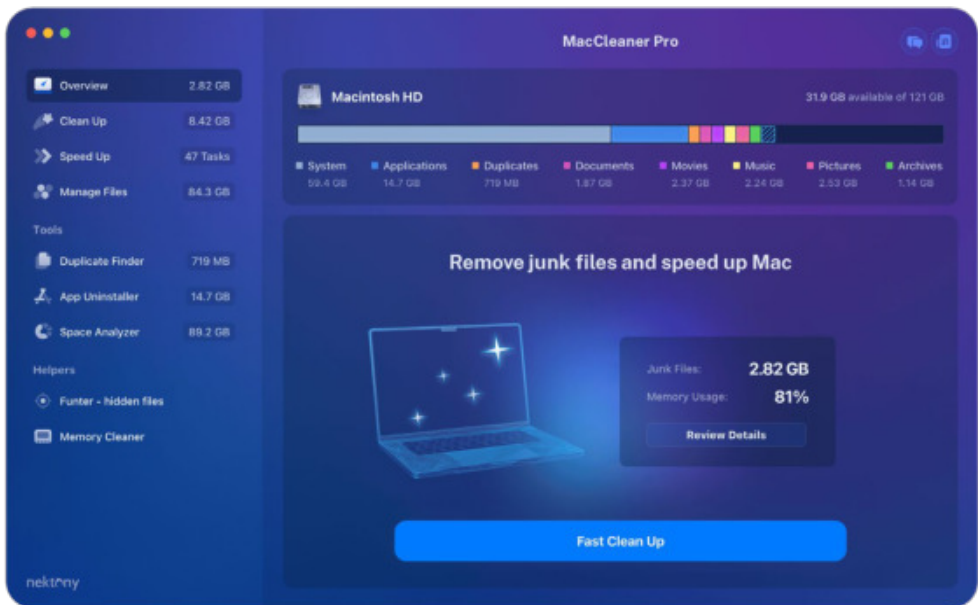


Information about your Mac's warranty is found in the General system setting in macOS Ventura.

# MacCleaner Pro: Get rid of the junk clogging up your Mac

A good interface and a good set of utilities for your Mac.

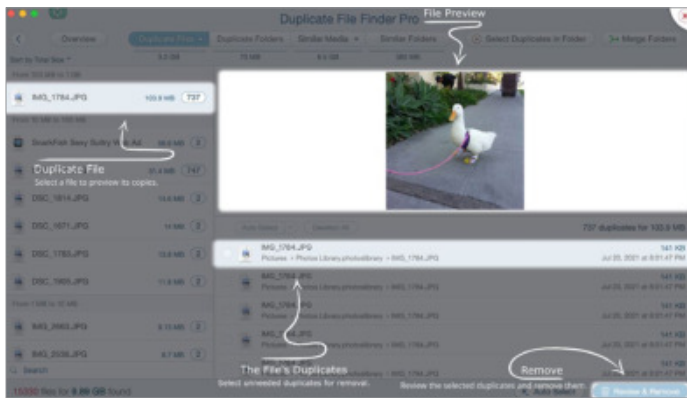
BY CHRIS BARYLICK



There's no shortage of cleaning and optimization utilities ([fave.co/3UiyU6m](https://fave.co/3UiyU6m)) for the Mac these days, and while Ukrainian developer Nektony's MacCleaner Pro ([fave.co/3ATBSYi](https://fave.co/3ATBSYi)) doesn't offer the most revelatory set of features, what's present here is a handy, powerful selection of

tools. MacCleaner Pro doesn't overextend itself by promising to remove malware or move into otherwise esoteric tasks that can't live up to their promise. These utilities are competent, clever, and run smoothly while delivering what's promised.

The suite hones in on several modules and functions (MacCleaner Pro itself, App



**A handy tutorial system shows you the highlights of each module when you open MacCleaner Pro for the first time.**

Cleaner & Uninstaller, Disk Space Analyzer, Funter, and Memory Cleaner) and executes them well, albeit at a price point that may be high for some users.

Each of the MacCleaner Pro tools is fairly powerful, and it has a good tutorial system that opens when you activate each new module for the first time. It's fairly easy to open a chat window to ask for help or pull up a YouTube instructional video on how to perform a task.

Once you give each tool full permissions and access to folders such as Downloads, Desktop, Documents, and others, they're free to go to work and dig around for files

that may be clogging up your Mac.

The general Overview and clean-up module was able to clear out over 10 gigabytes of disk space on my MacBook Pro, and the clean-up function clearly labels what types of files the software will work to purge (such as caches, unnecessary language

files, email attachments, and so on).

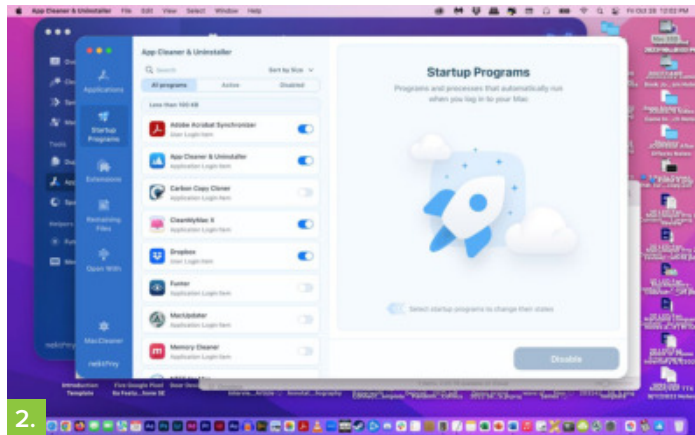
The Speed Up Mac module (1) allows you to perform tasks such as reindexing Spotlight, reindexing Mail, and managing your startup apps, internet plugins, and browser extensions, which would take some digging through the macOS operating system to do by hand. Both



standard and expert modes offer changes such as freeing up RAM, disabling obtrusive startup applications, reindexing your Mail database, disabling browser extensions, and others. This won't turn your Mac into an absolute speed demon, but it helps remove the kludge that makes your Mac run like an iron pig in mud.

The Manage Files module allows for easy viewing and access to assorted file types such as compressed archives, video, audio, pictures, documents, system files, and duplicate files, and it's easy to hone in on specific files and remove them. The other modules work as advertised, and I was able to easily hunt down an outdated copy of Adobe Premiere and remove it as well as its support files.

Nektony's Duplicate file remover proved to be excellent and shows you just how many extra copies of a single image might be occupying your hard drive. In one case, I wound up deleting over 700 cached copies of an image from my hard drive that were occupying over 100MB of space. Recovered space is tracked almost like a scorecard, thereby pushing you to



recover more space while you have the program open.

The Duplicate File Finder module isn't limited to what's on your Mac. I used it to track down and delete files across my iCloud account. As handy as iCloud storage is, there are times when the duplicates pile up, and the Duplicate File Finder module offered a handy readout of what files would be addressed and possibly removed. I was able to clear up gigabytes of space with this, but this module also takes some getting used to as well as customization, and you might have to specifically target what you want to remove, as I had to restore some data from a Time Machine archive to get data for an Adobe Premiere file I've been working on. This can lead to a bit of a shotgun scatter effect if you're not careful, and you might want to take the time to

specifically hone in on the duplicates you wish to nix from your hard drive or cloud storage space.

In the case of the Uninstall Applications module (2), it's easy to locate and remove unwanted applications. A handy toggle allows you to switch between standard mode and expert mode, which allows you to view application components and note where they're located on your Mac.

With the Analyze disk usage module, you can easily view and gauge which file types are taking up the most space on your Mac and work to slim them down. Another neat feature of this is that it was able to view and gauge the files that took up the most space on my Boot Camp partition, an unexpected bonus.

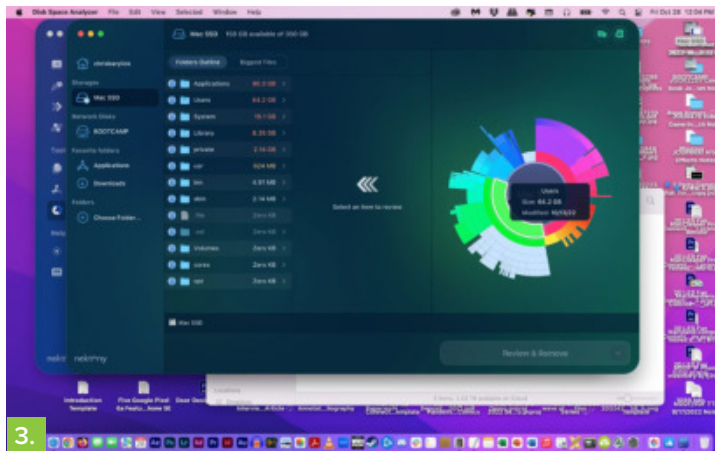
While I'm running a pretty lean system on my MacBook Pro, the Clean up Mac module was able to nix 3.28GB of

extraneous caches and language files. The application allows you to refine your search, choosing which folders are targeted for cleanup. While the module was able to get the vast majority of the files, it didn't have systemwide

permissions to remove five small files, which presented a small hiccup that needed to be worked around.

The Funter module loads and is accessible via the macOS Menu Bar, allowing for quick viewing and assessment of junk files, duplicate files, applications, and large and old files. It allows macOS to show and work with hidden files without having to unlock these via Terminal commands, which is useful in instances where you need to work with or remove these files. The module's name may be unusual, but the module itself comes in handy.

Finally, the Memory Cleaner module (3) allows you to quickly free up RAM on the fly, as well as monitors which programs are chewing up this resource. It works well in freeing up unassigned RAM, and can be configured to load at startup, which could be handy for some users.



A single Mac license is available as a one-year subscription for \$29.90/£33.26 or for a one-time purchase for \$74.95 (£83.24) via the Nektony Store ([fave.co/3XCgTTt](https://www.nektony.com/3XCgTTt)). While the MacCleaner Pro 3 suite offers a good array of tools, the asking price seems steep, and moving it into the subscription software arena when most users have historically paid a one-time price tag for their utility software comes as a bit of a harsh surprise. It's easy enough to transfer your activation license from one Mac to another if needed, but the price tag seems high, even with the company's specials and deals. The other irritation comes in the form of Nektony's marketing efforts, and it feels as there's an overabundance of menus that ask you to sign up to the company's email list.

## BOTTOM LINE

MacCleaner Pro comes as an unexpected surprise in a crowded field of utilities, complete with speedy replies to email requests, a good interface, and smooth operation. It may not be the flashiest thing out there, but it offers a good interface and a good set of utilities, and is worth your consideration.

MacCleaner Pro 3 is a worthy successor to a piece of software that proved to be a nice surprise in fall 2021. Like its predecessor, the suite hones in on several modules and functions (MacCleaner Pro itself, App Cleaner & Uninstaller, Disk Space Analyzer, Funter, and Memory Cleaner) and executes them well, albeit at a price point some users will find high. MacCleaner Pro 3 doesn't feel like a radical update to its previous version as much as a gradual update, and the tools remain the same, albeit with some improvements and a nice user interface overhaul.

Where things get sticky with MacCleaner Pro is the price tag and its marketing efforts. I feel as if the marketing department is leaning a bit too hard on the tiller where Mac Cleaner Pro 3 is concerned. Whether utility software falls into the category of subscription-based software is debatable, and just because the software industry is trending this way doesn't mean Nektony needs to follow suit. These are handy utilities and they do their job well, but if there's sticker shock attached to them, then the company risks scaring potential customers away. ■



### MacCleaner Pro

#### PROS

- Handy set of powerful tools.
- Ready access to tutorial and help files.

#### CONS

- Monthly and annual subscription fees can lead to some sticker shock, as can the one-time purchase fees.
- Overzealous marketing efforts in place as multiple options appear to encourage the user to subscribe to the email list.

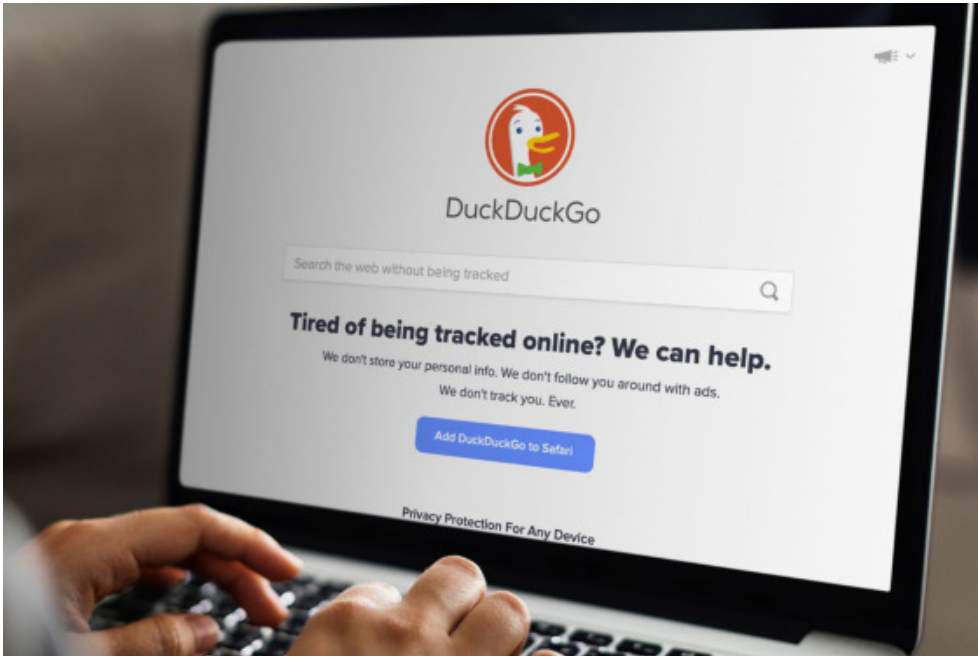
#### PRICE

\$74.95

#### COMPANY

Nektony





# DuckDuckGo's Mac browser is amazing for YouTube, but it still needs work

The beta of the privacy-minded browser includes a few nice features, but the lack of plug-in support or browser sync makes it hard to recommend yet.

BY JASON CROSS

**A**fter months of private beta testing, the DuckDuckGo browser for Mac beta is now available to anyone (grab it at [fave.co/3VQ1g9t](https://fave.co/3VQ1g9t) if you're interested in

checking it out). The company started as a privacy-oriented search engine and now offers mobile apps and browser extensions, all aimed at reducing the ability of companies to track your every move online.

The next logical step is for the company to make its own web browser, so that's exactly what it's doing. I spent a few days with the DuckDuckGo beta and, while I like what I see so far, it's not quite ready to be my everyday browser just yet. It's clean, simple, and performs well, but it lacks a few features that are table stakes in modern desktop browsers such as extension support and syncing bookmarks and passwords across devices.

## NOT JUST ANOTHER CHROMIUM BROWSER!

You'd be crazy to try to write an entire web rendering engine from scratch these days, so DuckDuckGo relies on the WKWebView API to render pages. That means it renders pages with Apple's WebKit implementation. But the rest of the browser—tabs, bookmarks, password management, and so on—is custom code written by DuckDuckGo. That has the advantage of not taking a lot of cruft along with it and remaining laser-focused on the company's mission of enhancing privacy on the web, but it also means a lack of compatibility with important third-party features like browser extensions or hooks into apps like password managers.

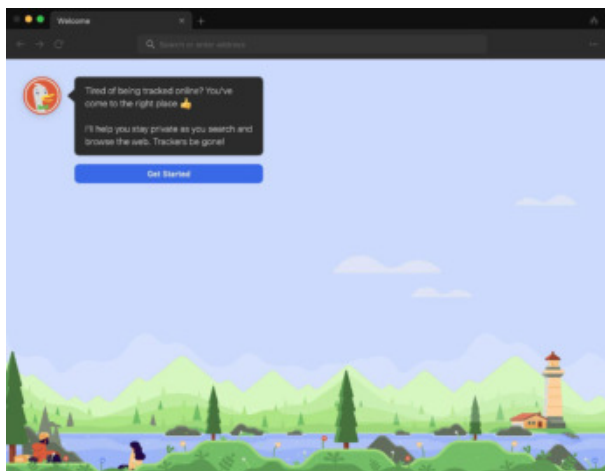
Those sorts of things are eventually coming (in a way that "meets our high standards of privacy and quality," the

company says), but it could make the first version of the browser a nonstarter for some users, depending on which other apps they use that are meant to work with your browser.

A number of features have been added since the invite-only beta began earlier this year, including pinned tabs and a bookmark bar. Since DuckDuckGo never saves your browsing history online, it implemented a browser history that is just a list saved to your local machine. Some of these things still need a bit of polish. For example, I'm a heavy bookmarks bar user, and I middle-click to open links in a new tab quite often. That works on web pages as expected, but middle-clicking bookmarks (from the menu or bar) does nothing.

## BLOCKING TRACKERS, ADS, AND MORE

The main conceit of DuckDuckGo is that it helps prevent you from being tracked online. It blocks what the company calls "invasive trackers" before they even load, which can save a lot of data transmission and make pages load faster and operate more smoothly. That doesn't mean everything is blocked—there are less-invasive trackers used for things like auditing web traffic, and nontracking plug-ins that do things like load fonts are allowed through.



### **DuckDuckGo's browser runs on WebKit and has built-in tracking blockers.**

This means that while DuckDuckGo doesn't specifically have an "ad blocker" built in per se, it ends up blocking most ads by default because most ads and ad networks are just loaded with trackers. The private beta had empty placeholders where ads should be, but the open beta version now removes them to make pages look better.

The desktop browser carries the Fire Button over from the company's mobile browsers. This is a one-click button to nuke all your browsing history and data. Unlike the mobile versions, the Mac browser gives you the option of clearing only data from sites visited in the current tab or current window. Since so many sites use cookies to save logins, you'll be asked

when you log in to sites if you want to "fireproof" the login—so the Fire Button removes everything but the cookie that keeps you logged in.

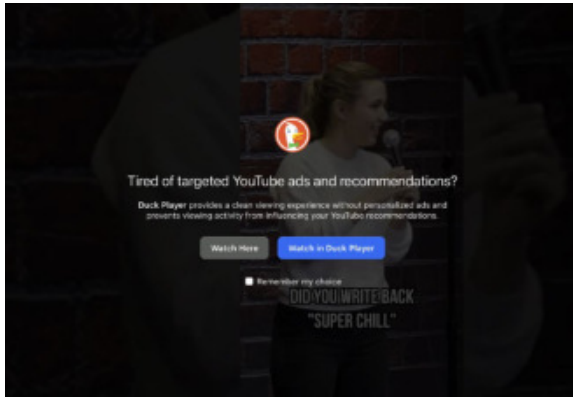
DuckDuckGo has some other nice blockers that you'll probably appreciate. Those cookie consent forms that pop up on every site? By default, the browser will detect them and automatically set preferences to maximize privacy, then close the pop-up. And Global Privacy Control automatically sets

those CCPA and GDPR options to prevent the transfer or sale of your data, but only for sites that respect GPC settings (hundreds of thousands do, but many do not yet). The browser also forces HTTPS where available.

These options are enabled by default, but if you run into problems where sites aren't working properly, you can always turn them off. Clicking the little shield button in the URL bar will let you see exactly what has been blocked on the site, and disable protections for that site.

### **THE GENIUS OF DUCK PLAYER**

Perhaps my favorite new feature of the DuckDuckGo desktop browser is something the company calls Duck Player.



**You can open any video in Duck Player for a less obnoxious experience.**

It opens YouTube videos in a nice large distraction-free view, and while it still uses the YouTube player, most of the tracking and identification code is blocked. It strips out all the targeted ad code and cookies. You can still get ads—they just won't be targeted at you based on your web use, but rather simply ads that paid to be on videos that match certain criteria. You know, the way advertising used to be on the web—ads pay to be on certain content, not to reach targeted individuals.

Because so many YouTube ads rely on deep individual targeting, you'll get a lot fewer ads. You'll also not get recommended videos that are based on your viewing history, so you won't fall down a rabbit hole of crazy conspiracy theories and other sensationalist nonsense. To be clear, your views are still counted and show up in your

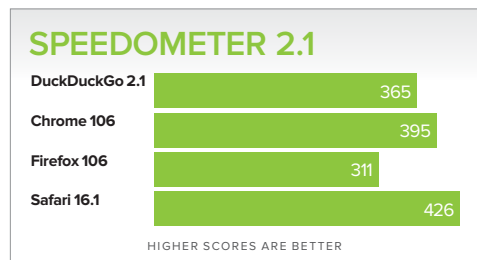
YouTube watch history. They just don't contribute to your individualized advertising profile, and personalized recommendations are blocked.

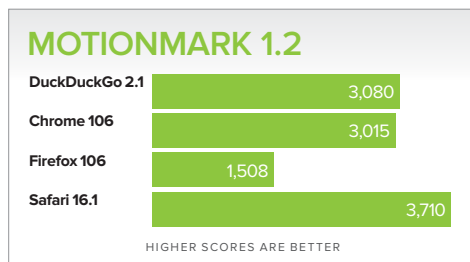
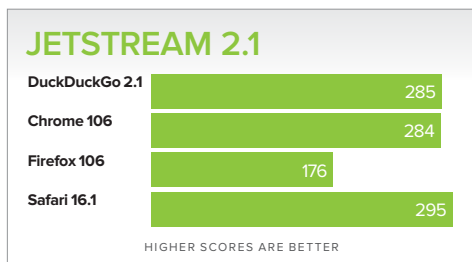
You'll get a pop-up asking if you want to use Duck Player any time you click on a YouTube link, but you can disable it entirely or set it to always play all YouTube videos. It really is a much more pleasant YouTube viewing experience.

## DUCKDUCKGO BETA PERFORMANCE

All the privacy features in the world don't mean a lot if a browser is slow and unresponsive. Though it's just a beta, I ran DuckDuckGo through all three web speed tests at [fave.co/3EH7ZLP](https://fave.co/3EH7ZLP) to compare it to Chrome 106, Firefox 106, and Safari 16.1. I used an M2 MacBook Air running macOS Ventura for these tests.

While it's based on Apple's WebKit API, DuckDuckGo is not nearly as fast as Safari





16.1—it’s not uncommon for WKWebView to lag behind the latest WebKit rendering optimizations you’ll find in Safari. But in these tests, DuckDuckGo is quite a bit faster than FireFox 106 and about on par with Chrome 106, which is an excellent result. Coupled with all the trackers and such that are blocked before they are loaded, DuckDuckGo feels very fast.

## BOTTOM LINE

As much as I love Duck Player and the way DuckDuckGo’s browser automatically handles all those cookie pop-ups for me, I find it hard to recommend just yet. I didn’t find a lot of fully broken sites, but the tracker blocking is so aggressive that it entirely blocks native video players and other useful things on some sites. You can always disable protections, but it’s hard to know what you need to if you don’t know which site features are missing.

More importantly, the browser simply doesn’t work with plugins at all yet. It has its own password manager, but that

doesn’t sync between devices yet. It will soon have integrated compatibility with Bitwarden, but if you don’t use that password manager, you’re out of luck. The universal autofill function of 1Password works, but that only fills in passwords; it doesn’t save or suggest new ones. And while you can import passwords from other browsers, that’s a one-way street.

Even bookmarks do not yet sync between devices. Until we get multi-device sync and a way to work with the most popular password managers, I can’t see myself doing more than dipping my toe in DuckDuckGo’s waters. The lack of support for other sorts of plugins is less cumbersome—ad and script blockers are the most common, and DuckDuckGo’s integrated privacy protections take care of most of that on their own.

As this is only version 0.30, we can expect DuckDuckGo to be in a beta state for perhaps another year or so. Given what I see at this early state, I’m hopeful for the eventual full release. ■

# How to create labels with Pages

It's easy to create and use standard labels with the program if you know a few tricks.

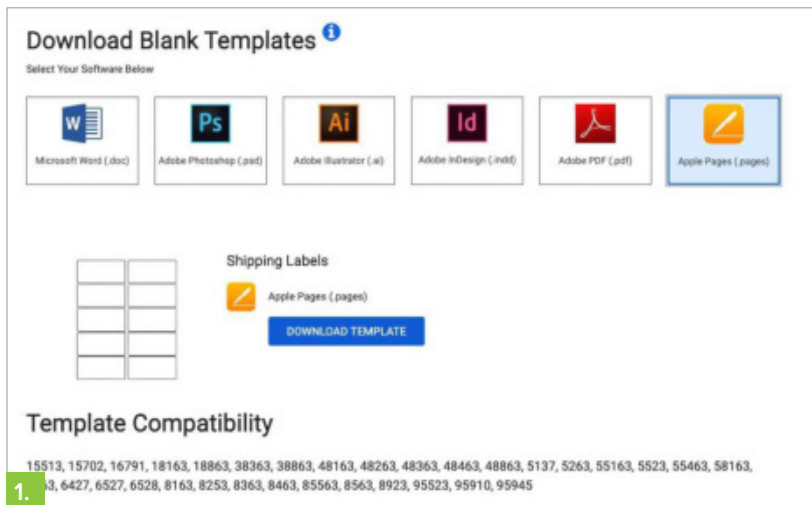
BY JEFFERY BATTERSBY



One gripe you'll hear about Pages, Apple's otherwise excellent word processing and page layout application, is that it provides little in the way of support for printing labels. While it's true that Pages doesn't ship with any built-in label templates, it's actually easy to create and use standard labels using Pages. Here's how.

## 1. CHECK FOR A PREMADE TEMPLATE

You might already know that you can download tons of Microsoft Word templates for the most common labels directly from the company's website. You can open a Word template in Pages, but you'll often need to adjust the measurements slightly to make the templates work. (If you choose to go this route, skip to Step 6.)



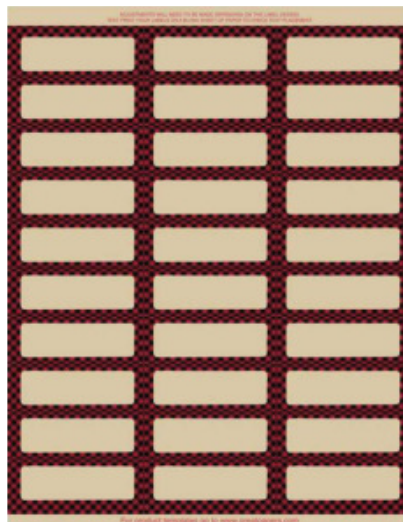
Check the Avery site for premade label templates designed for use with Apple's Pages. Sometimes you'll get lucky.

The Avery Label website ([fave.co/3gHxR29](https://fave.co/3gHxR29)) has a large selection of templates, and many non-Avery labels work with Avery templates. Avery also has a limited selection of templates in a Pages format, too. But often you'll find that there are no downloadable templates available for the label that you want to use. That's when you need to create a label from scratch.

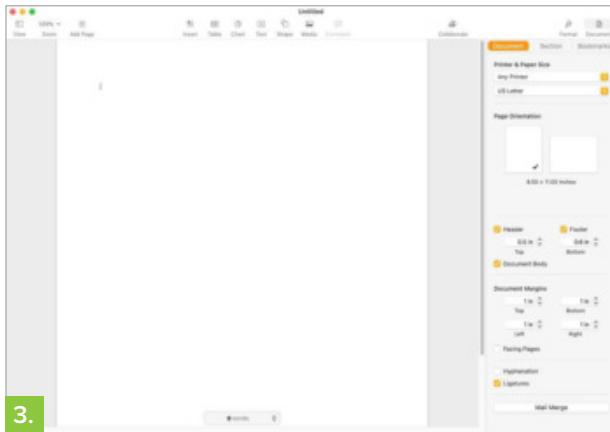
## 2. GET THE MEASUREMENTS

Labels with no templates typically have measurement information that you can use to create the template manually. For the purposes of this exercise,

we're going to use the information that ships with the Great Papers Buffalo Reindeer Plaid Address Labels ([fave.co/3GQwQPW](https://fave.co/3GQwQPW)), and you can substitute



A Word template is available for this label set by Great Papers, but for the purposes of this tutorial, we're going to manually create a template.



The Document Inspector in Pages appears on the right side of the window.

whatever numbers you need for the labels you want to use. Search the package for measurement information or use a ruler to take measurements of the label itself. You'll use this information to create the template.

### 3. CREATE A NEW DOCUMENT IN PAGES

To create your own template, launch Pages (in /Applications) and create a new, blank word-processing document. After the blank document appears, open an Inspector by clicking on the Document icon in the upper right, or choose View → Inspector → Document Setup. When you're done,

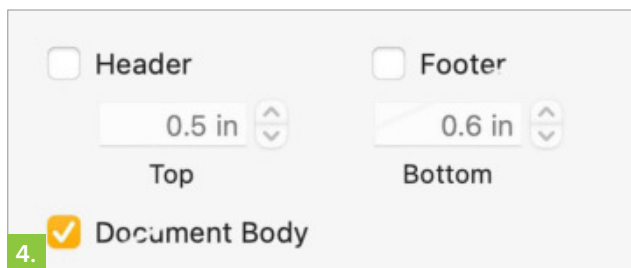
your workspace should look like the image above.

### 4. TURN OFF HEADER AND FOOTER

In the Document Inspector, make sure to remove the checks from the Header and Footer checkboxes as headers and footers limit the amount of printable space available to you on the page.

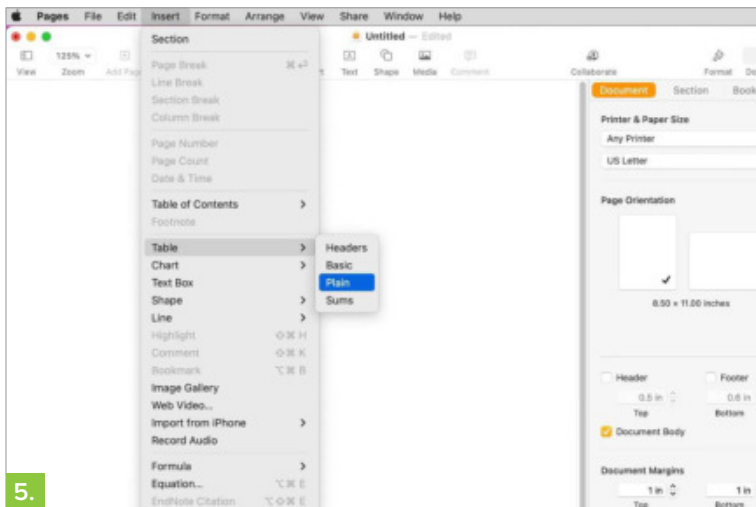
### 5. CREATE A TABLE

Add a new table to the document but don't use the Table button on the Toolbar. Use the Insert → Table → Plain menu. This way, you'll create a table without a header or footer. Click the table and switch the Inspector to Format (click the Format button at the upper right or go to View → Inspector → Format). In the Inspector, change the Rows and Columns to reflect the numbers on the label sheet. In our



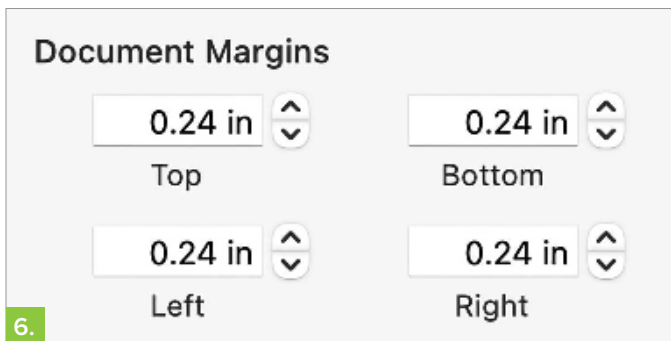
Turn off the Header and Footer.





example, a sheet has ten rows and three columns. Now take your label sheet and measure the width and height of a label, or figure out the measurements by looking at the packaging.

In Pages, go to the Row & Column Size section of the Inspector. Change the column width to the label width and the



You'll need to adjust the document margins.

row height to the label height. In our example, the width is 2.63 inches and the height is 1 inch.

You don't want each table to automatically resize if you add too much text, so uncheck the checkbox that says "Resize rows to fit cell

content." You'll need to make a few more tweaks, which we'll get to next.

## 6. TWEAK THE DOCUMENT'S MARGINS AND OTHER SETTINGS

Right now, the labels in our template don't all fit on a single page, even though we

entered the information exactly as it appears in the measurements on the labels package. To fix this, you'll need to adjust the document margins based on the measurements of the label sheet you'll need to take. So grab that label sheet again, and

measure from the edge of the sheet to the edge of the label. In Pages, go to the Document Inspector, and in the Document Margins section, enter the measurements.

Now print the template on a piece of paper with the table lines still visible, and hold it up to the light behind one of your labels so that you can compare the lines on your template to the actual lines on the label. Make any adjustments in Pages that you see fit. Adjustments are less a matter of science than one of judgment. Make smaller changes—0.1 inch here, 0.05 inch there—and remember that the Edit → Undo menu is your friend.

## 7. REMOVE CELL BORDERS AND THEN PRINT

Once you're satisfied with the fit of your template, it's time to remove the table gridlines. You can remove them now or you can do so after you've filled the table with all the addresses you want labels for.

In Pages, click on the table, but make sure that you don't have a single cell selected—if a single cell becomes outlined when you click on the table, then you've selected the cell. To make sure you have the table selected, click anywhere

else on the document outside the table; the rows and columns labels should disappear. Then click the table; the rows and columns labels should appear and a cell should not be outlined.

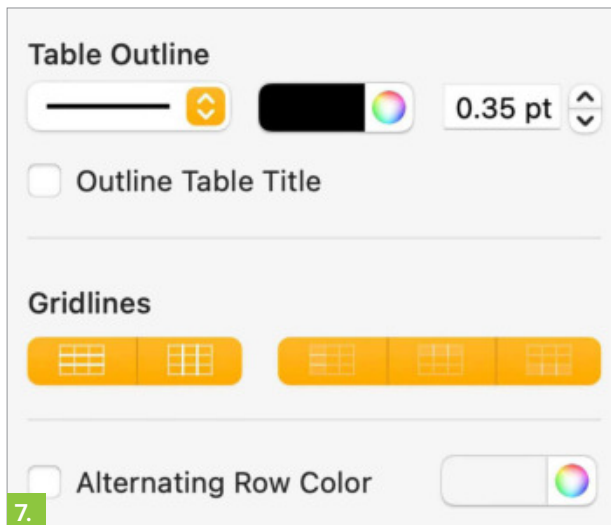
Click on Format to open the Format Inspector. Adjust the following settings:

**Table Outline:** Select None from the pop-up menu.

**Gridlines:** Click the boxes to deactivate them (they turn white). You may not need to click all of the boxes.

**Alternative Row Color:** Uncheck this box.

When you're satisfied with your work, save your new label as a Pages template so you can use it again in the future (File → Save as Template). Now you're ready to print out your labels. ■





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>> How a silver lining forms

>> It starts at sea.  
>> Tropical waters heat up.  
>> Warm air soars skyward.  
>> Cold air rushes to the void.  
>> Cold air warms up.  
>> Cycle repeats.  
>> Faster and faster—a 50,000 foot engine of air.  
>> At seventy four miles per hour it earns a name.  
>> Harvey, Irma, Katrina.  
>> Then landfall.  
>> Roads rendered useless.  
>> Buildings destroyed.  
>> Families stranded.  
>> But for a brief moment,  
>> A silver lining appears.  
>> People see neighbors instead of strangers.  
>> And labels that divide are forgotten.

>> But when rains ease,  
>> when clouds part,  
>> silver linings need not fade.

>> Let's embrace our shared humanity.  
>> Let's connect with one another.  
>> Let's find our love for each other.  
>> Every single day.

>> Come together at [lovehasnolabels.com](http://lovehasnolabels.com)





## Apple TV 4K (3rd generation): The best new feature is the price

Most of the improvements to the 3rd-gen Apple TV 4K will go unnoticed, but the new lower price won't.

BY JASON CROSS



Apple has the best streaming box out there. It's the fastest and most responsive, with the best audio and video quality (support for both Dolby Atmos and Dolby Vision), and with the update in 2021,

it finally has a great remote, too. The operating system works well, shows are consolidated neatly in the TV app for most major services (with the notable exception of Netflix), and the Siri voice commands are for the most part convenient and

reliable. If you use other Apple products, the synergy between them makes it even more delightful to use.

Unfortunately, the Apple TV 4K has also maintained its spot as the most expensive of the popular streaming platforms—by far. With a starting price of \$179, it was easily three or four times the price of the best streaming boxes from Roku, Amazon, or Google.

The new third-generation Apple TV 4K makes a number of minor but welcome improvements, most of which won't make much of a difference in your day-to-day use. But it also comes with a *much* reduced price—\$129 for the 64GB model and \$149 for the 128GB model. That's a \$50 reduction in price for a product that is better than the one it replaces. In today's world of inflation and higher prices, it's nice to see a product—an Apple product of all things—going in the opposite direction.

While it's still far more expensive than its contemporaries, the third-generation

Apple TV 4K is at least a better deal than ever—and easier than ever to recommend.

## SMALLER, FASTER, MORE STORAGE, AND USB-C

The new Apple TV 4K is more or less just like the second-generation model it replaces. It's physically smaller now and operates without a fan (not that you ever heard the fan on the old model). It's still a small, rounded black glossy square that fits neatly in your AV setup.

The processor has been updated from an A12 to an A15, a substantial leap in performance. But the A12 already handled every video app with ease and scrolled through photos or music tracks without hesitation. You'll only really notice the difference in performance if you play games on your Apple TV, which doesn't appear to be a very popular activity.

Storage has doubled on each model—the \$129 version now has 64GB, and the \$149 has 128GB. Again, this matters most

to those playing premium games on their Apple TV, as most media apps easily fit in the old 32GB limit with room to spare. Still, more is good and leaves room for the future.

The remote hasn't changed much since its upgrade in 2021 ([fave.co/3F62J5Q](https://fave.co/3F62J5Q)), but the Lightning charge port on the



The new Apple TV 4K (right) is smaller and lacks vents and a fan.

bottom has been replaced by a USB-C port, another welcome change.

In terms of technical capabilities, the only significant difference is the addition of support for HDR10+. That's mostly a Samsung-specific upgrade to the standard HDR10 format that allows for unique metadata per video. Dolby Vision, supported since the first-gen Apple TV 4K, is a more widespread and superior format.

In other words, there's no reason to upgrade if you have the second-generation Apple TV 4K unless you're in the very narrow group of users that plays premium games on your Apple TV 4K and frequently find yourself annoyed by poor performance and limited storage space.

## BOTTOM LINE

If you don't have an Apple TV 4K, this update is your best excuse to get one. The improvements may be relatively minor, but the starting price is now \$129, about 28 percent less than before despite the more powerful processor and double storage.

You should note that the \$129 model does not have an ethernet port or support for Thread networking ([fave.co/3VcUo5L](https://apple.com/apple-tv-4k)), but the \$149 model with 128GB of storage does. That's probably worth the



**The new remote (right) is just like the old one, but charges via USB-C.**

\$20 difference in price, even if you don't think you'll need those things right now.

So the story of the third-generation Apple TV 4K is much the same as that of the last two generations: This is the best streaming box, especially for those that have an iPhone or other products in the Apple ecosystem, but it costs more than twice what the competition does. Yet the

hardware refinements make this an even more clear-cut winner for the crown of best streaming box, and the reduced price, while not where it really needs to be, offers better value than before.

There's no need to upgrade if you already have an Apple TV 4K, but this is probably the best time to jump on board if you don't. ■



### Apple TV 4K

#### PROS

- Lower price.
- More compact design.

#### CONS

- Still a bit too expensive.
- Cheaper model lacks ethernet or Thread.

#### PRICE

\$179

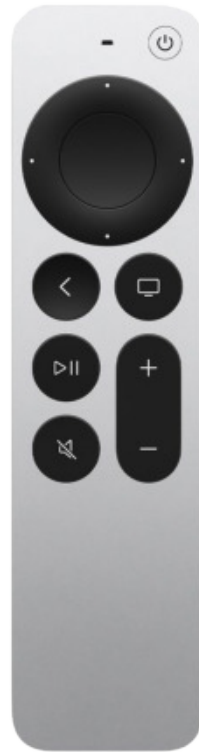
#### COMPANY

Apple

# Why I bought a 2021 Apple TV 4K instead of a new one

It may have been the smartest purchase I ever made.

BY MICHAEL SIMON



Recently I decided to update my 2017 Apple TV 4K to a newer 2021 model after writing about a killer Amazon deal: I bought the 32GB model for \$100 ([fave.co/3ENnwtm](https://www.fave.co/3ENnwtm)) on something of a whim.

But it was the smartest purchase I've ever made.

I didn't need it, mind you. Even with a five-year-old chip, my 2017 Apple TV box was as fast and responsive as it was on the day I bought it, and I had long



jettisoned the terrible first-gen Siri remote for a Caavo one. But for \$79 off, I decided to update to the 2021 model even though the 2022 update starts shipping today. Here's why it was one of my best calls.

## I NEED ETHERNET AND WANT THREAD

With the 2022 Apple TV, Apple made the surprising move to drop ethernet and Thread support from the entry-level model. Even if you don't care about using wired internet for the fastest possible connection, you should care about not being able to use your Apple TV 4K as a home hub. This might not seem like a big deal now, but as Matter support grows over the coming months, Thread will become more important.

My old Apple TV 4K was already hooked up to wired internet over ethernet so that's a necessity, which now means for me the cheapest Apple TV 4K model that Apple sells is \$149. At \$100 for the 2021 model with ethernet and Thread, it was a no-brainer.

## HDR10+ ISN'T WORTH IT

The main upgrade in picture quality for the 2022 Apple TV 4K is the addition of HDR10+. However, it's not really an exclusive feature—for one, the

Apple TV app on other devices was just updated to support HDR10+ and for another, it's mainly a feature for Samsung and some newer Hisense TVs that don't support Dolby Vision. I actually own a Samsung TV, but it's still not worth the upgrade. I can always use the Apple TV app built into my television if I want to watch "Ted Lasso" in HDR10+. And besides, I also got an upgrade to high-frame-rate HDR, which was introduced last year.

## THE SIRI REMOTE IS INCREDIBLE

Apple completely changed the Siri Remote with the 2021 model with a new design, new buttons, and new functionality. I hadn't used it until now and I can't say enough great things about it. It's one of the best remotes I've ever used, and it's already replaced my beloved Caavo remote that I



**The Siri Remote isn't just better than the old one—it's one of the best remotes ever made.**

bought for the previous model. It's simple yet highly functional, has a pleasant thickness, and feels good to hold.

The only new remote control feature in the 2022 model is the switch to USB-C instead of Lightning, but I have plenty of Lightning cables lying around—and besides, it needs to be charged so infrequently, I can dig up a Lightning cable when I need it.

### EXTRA STORAGE IS POINTLESS

Apple doubled the storage on the new Apple TV 4K, from 32GB and 64GB to 64GB and 128GB. That would be a bigger deal if it was an iPhone or iPad, but I use so little storage on my Apple TV, I could probably get away with 16GB.

### THE PROCESSOR IS MORE THAN GOOD ENOUGH

The new Apple TV 4K has an A15 processor. The 2021 model has an A12 processor. The 2017 model that I was using had an A10X Fusion processor. Apps launch and shows begin playing so quickly, I can barely tell the difference between the A10X and the A12. I can't imagine the jump to the A15 would matter much at all.

### THE HDMI PORT IS THE SAME

The 2021 Apple TV 4K featured an upgraded HDMI 2.1 port, but Apple

didn't actually add any features like 120Hz or Auto Low Latency Mode. The new model has the same HDMI 2.1 port, so any new features—such as QMS VRR, which lets TVs switch between different frame rates without needing to flash a black screen first—should come to both models.

### IT'LL LAST FOR AS LONG AS I NEED IT TO

As I said, I had my prior Apple TV 4K since 2017 and it was working just fine—better than fine, actually. Except for the remote, it's very hard to tell the 2017 and 2021 models apart, and the differences are even smaller with the 2022 model. I expect this model will last for years and years, since new TVs, and things like 8K and variable refresh rate, won't matter to me for a while. ■



The 2021 Apple TV 4K has the same HDMI 2.1 port as the new model.



# Apple's MLS Season Pass subscription will be cheaper for TV+ subscribers

The service launches on February 1 in over 100 countries and regions. It will cost \$14.99/month or \$99/season, but Apple TV+ subscribers can get it for \$12.99/month or \$79/season.

BY JASON CROSS

Apple and Major League Soccer have released new details ([fave.co/3XHplLHh](https://fave.co/3XHplLHh)) for its MLS Season Pass subscription service launching next year. For \$14.99 per month or \$99 per season, fans in more

than 100 countries and regions can watch every live MLS regular-season match, the entire playoffs, and the Leagues Cup. If you subscribe to Apple TV+, however, there's a discount bringing the cost down to \$12.99/mo or \$79/season.



**Subscribers will be able to watch on any Apple device.**

There will be no blackouts, although the Leagues Cup and Campeones Cup will not be available to viewers in Mexico. In addition to every game streaming live, there will be a pre-match and post-match show, and previously aired games will be available on demand after they're completed. Apple will promote the service by making some games free for anyone to watch without a subscription, including every match during the "MLS Is Back" opening weekend.

Subscribers to the service will be able to watch on iPhones, iPads, Macs, and Apple TVs, as well as smart TVs and game consoles that have access to the Apple TV app. Apple didn't mention broadcast quality, though it broadcast MLB games in 1080p at 60 fps using high-speed Phantom and high-resolution Megalodon cameras.

This is the start of a 10-year partnership between Apple and MLS. Each of the 29 MLS clubs will have an Apple TV sleeve patch. While soccer is the most popular sport globally, MLS (comprised only of clubs in the U.S. and Canada) is not as popular internationally as other soccer (football) leagues, and is the fourth most popular sports league in North America behind the NFL,

MLB, and NBA, having just recently surpassed the NHL in popularity. This deal is seen as another step in the aggressive push to grow the sport in the U.S. and the popularity of the league internationally.

The new MLS season begins on February 25, 2023, and the MLS Season Pass subscription will be available in the TV app starting on February 1, 2023. ■



**The MLS Season Pass subscription will be available in time for the 2023 season.**

# Study shows Apple's AirPods Pro can double as cheap hearing aids

Apple's \$249 earbuds can be a 'highly feasible and more affordable' alternative to high-priced hearing aids.

BY ROMAN LOYOLA



If you're someone who wears AirPods Pro ([fave.co/3XITLCC](https://fave.co/3XITLCC)) frequently, there's now a new reason for leaving them on when you're not listening to music. A recent scientific study found that the AirPods Pro can be just as effective as some prescription hearing aids in helping those with mild to moderate hearing loss.

In a study published by iScience ([fave.co/3Faafwn](https://fave.co/3Faafwn)) and reported by *The Wall Street Journal* ([fave.co/3UhbNEC](https://fave.co/3UhbNEC)),

researchers found that while the 21 adults who participated in the study had a preference for a \$10,000 hearing aid, the AirPods Pro used with Live Listen ([fave.co/3u8DSbf](https://fave.co/3u8DSbf)) turned on performed well compared with the other prescription hearing aids tested. Live Listen is a feature that uses the microphones on the iPhone to feed audio to the AirPods Pro. The study also involved sound and clarity tests, and the AirPods Pro met established

standards per the ANSI/CTA-2051 criteria for personal sound amplification products (PSAPs) in four of the five tests.

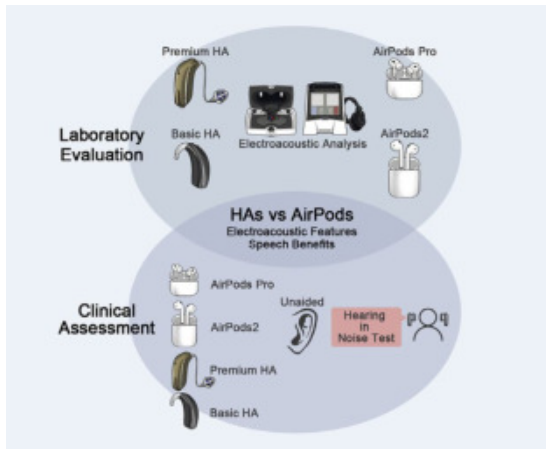
However, these results only apply to the AirPods Pro—the same study included the more affordable 2nd-generation AirPods ([fave.co/3nT0FUV](https://fave.co/3nT0FUV)), and the researchers found that the “outcome aided with AirPods 2 was poorer than hearing aids,” and that the AirPods met only two of the five ANSI/CTA-2051 criteria for PSAPs. (The 3rd-generation AirPods [[fave.co/3lrSfNP](https://fave.co/3lrSfNP)] were released a year ago and were not used in the study. It’s likely that they were not available at the time.)

The researchers admit that the study is limited by its small sample size, but they do believe that the results show “statistical power [that] was satisfactory.” The study

also mentions how expensive prescription hearing aids are, putting them out of reach for a lot of people. AirPods Pro could be used as a “highly feasible and more affordable option.”

As someone who’s had some hearing loss, which started after attending an Anthrax/Public Enemy concert ([fave.co/3OJVYtv](https://fave.co/3OJVYtv)) in 1991 and worsened over the years, I’ve actually used my AirPods Pro and Live Listen in a couple of situations and can personally attest to their ability to improve hearing in a conversation. I don’t use them as often as I could because, as the study points out, the person I’m talking to may think it’s rude that I’m still wearing my AirPods Pro. But now that this study proves their value, it’ll make me feel more comfortable leaving them on.

The study points out that there are limitations to using the AirPods Pro as a hearing aid, including relatively short battery life and a need for stronger microphones to pick up environmental sounds. However, as Yen-Fu Cheng at Taipei Veterans General Hospital in Taiwan, who co-wrote the study, says, the AirPods Pro are “a good way for people to experience what the world would be like if they could get some help, an upgrade for their hearing.” ■



**The study involved lab audio testing and clinical assessments with 21 participants.**



# Philips S7807: A rugged portable speaker with great sound

The revival of a legendary audio brand culminates in an outstanding portable speaker.

BY JAMES BARBER



Philips is one of the great legacy brands in the audiovisual world, pioneering radio manufacturing in Europe before World War II and television after the war. It invented the cassette tape in 1963 and later teamed with Sony to develop the compact disc. Philips owned the Mercury and PolyGram record labels until near the end of the 20th century and even produced a few well-regarded movies.

After deciding to concentrate on its healthcare business, Philips spun off its

Philips Hue smart lighting business (an operation now doing business as Signify), sold its small appliance business to an investment firm, and inked a brand licensing deal with the Chinese manufacturer TPV (operating in the U.S. as TP Vision, [fave.co/3imlZC4](#)). The Philips audio brand finally returned to the U.S. in early 2022.

The Philips S7807 portable Bluetooth speaker is a solid rectangle that feels more substantial than most speakers its size. The build quality and the excellent audio performance deliver a premium listening experience.



The Philips S7807 Bluetooth speaker is about 1.5 times the height of a large smartphone.

## HOW IS THE PHILIPS S7807 BLUETOOTH SPEAKER BUILT?

The Philips S7807 is a chunky rectangle measuring 4.1×11×4.1-inch (H×W×D) and weighing a hefty 4.18 lbs. That's very heavy for its size, weighty enough to be used as the conk-over-the-head murder weapon in the next *Knives Out* movie.

It's also big enough that a lot of people will have a tough time picking it up with one hand. The speaker does have a pair of posts that allow you to attach a carrying strap. There's an IP67 weatherization rating, meaning the speaker is entirely protected from

particulate matter and can be immersed up to about 3 feet of water for up to 30 minutes. In other words, it should survive extensive outdoor use.

## WHAT'S INSIDE THE PHILIPS S780 SPEAKER?

The speaker includes two 31mm mid-high and two 71mm mid/bass woofers, driven by a 20-watt-per-channel (RMS) amplifier. A pair of passive radiators delivers deep bass.

There's a 5000mAh Lithium-ion battery that promises 24 hours of playback time. A full charge takes 4.5 hours. You can use the USB-C port to charge your mobile device from the speaker's internal battery,



The Philips S7807 Bluetooth speaker comes with two USB-C cables: USB-C to USB-A (left) and USB-C to USB-C (right). You can charge your mobile device from the speaker's battery, but iOS users will need to provide their own cable for that.



but iPhone and iPad users will need to provide their own cable for that purpose.

## HOW DOES THE PHILIPS S7807 WORK?

The speaker uses Bluetooth 5.2 and supports the SBC and AAC codecs. There's a built-in microphone, so you can use the unit to take phone calls when it's paired with a smartphone over Bluetooth.

A rubberized strip of raised controls across the top of the speaker is easy to identify by touch. Four dots light up to show battery level; plus and minus buttons control volume; and the play/pause also answers and hangs up phone calls respectively. There's a Bluetooth pairing button, and a button for pairing the S7807 with a second S7807 for stereo performances. Finally, there's a power button.

I took the speaker out of the box, paired it with my phone straight away, and figured out all its functions before I even looked at the manual.

## WHAT'S INCLUDED WITH THE PHILIPS S7807?

There's a snazzy red-and-black woven shoulder strap, which should fix the carrying problem for anyone whose hands



The Philips S7807 Bluetooth speaker has an easy-to-use strip of controls across the top of the unit.

aren't big enough to get a good grip on the unit. There is also a pair of USB cables for charging: One is USB-C to USB-C; the other is USB-C to USB-A.

## IS THE PHILIPS S7807 MISSING ANY FEATURES?

There's no Philips app for Android or iOS, so users can't fiddle with the EQ or sound profile. Based on my listening tests, there's really no need for any such adjustments, TP Vision probably figures that most of its customers aren't interested in that level of control.

You don't get an Aux input, nor is there a USB port that would allow you to plug in a stick drive full of music files. The S7807 is 100 percent a Bluetooth-only speaker.

There are no LEDs on the S7808, so the speaker won't give you a light show



**The Philips S7807 Bluetooth speaker has an IP67 rating, which should make it waterproof.**

that pulses in time with the music. If you really need a light show, there are plenty of speakers that offer one, but remember that those lights are draining the battery every time you fire them up.

## LISTENING TO MUSIC ON THE PHILIPS S7807

I tested the speaker with Pitchfork's new The 250 Best Songs of the 1990s playlist ([fave.co/3VeyCPa](https://fave.co/3VeyCPa)), available on Spotify ([fave.co/3gKptio](https://fave.co/3gKptio)) and Apple Music ([fave.co/3F8PsJO](https://fave.co/3F8PsJO)). While I could raise serious complaints about a few of the choices, the playlist covers a wide selection of R&B, hip hop, alternative rock, electronic, and pop songs from the era. That made it a perfect choice to test the limits of this excellent speaker.

The Philips S7807's low end is consistently impressive across all

genres. TP Vision has designed a radiator that delivers the bass without any artificial processing. This speaker's low end compares favorably to what you'd get with much larger outdoor speakers, but in a much smaller package. The Philips S7807's volume topped out at approximately 97dB with zero distortion. That's loud

enough for any outdoor party.

I used the Apple Music playlist to get the higher-quality AAC stream, and the Philips S7807 consistently revealed details in tracks like Lauryn Hill's "Ex-Factor," Aaliyah's "Are You That Somebody," and TLC's "No Scrubs" that I didn't remember from hearing them on the radio back when they were hits.



**A strap makes it easier to carry the rather heavy Philips S7807 Bluetooth speaker.**

Songs that have been consistent parts of my listening habits over the decades (Pulp’s “Common People,” Underworld’s “Born Slippy,” My Bloody Valentine’s “Only Shallow,” DJ Shadow’s “Midnight in a Perfect World,” The Verve’s “Bitter Sweet Symphony”) come across with something approaching

CD quality, far better than what we heard in the early days of Bluetooth, when everyone was just impressed that we could play back low-res files without wires. Songs I know well sounded great for casual listening.

While the box suggests “Pair for Stereo,” the speaker’s two mid-high drivers actually deliver a stereo effect in the single speaker unit. Of course, they’re not far apart enough to deliver obvious stereo imaging, but testing with some old Enoch Light Bossa Nova tracks recorded during the early 1960s extreme stereo era confirm the separation.

## BOTTOM LINE

The Philips S7807 Bluetooth speaker delivers incredibly big sound for its size, and



The S7807 delivers huge sound for its size.

you’ll get consistent clarity and detail even at top volume. If you did buy a pair to get a full stereo effect, I’d bet the results would be more impressive than what you’d get from one of those giant \$500 portable speakers.

Build quality is excellent, and the unit both looks and feels like a high-end audio unit. If there’s a downside, it’s that you’re limited to Bluetooth playback because there’s no Aux input. Some Android users will be disappointed that there’s no support for aptX codec. If you’re looking for a versatile speaker that sounds great at low to medium volume for home use and can also crank up really high for outside events, the Philips S7807 is an outstanding choice. ■



### Philips S7807

#### PROS

- Exceptionally good sound.
- Plenty of bass.
- Great battery life.

#### CONS

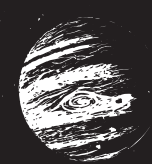
- Very heavy for its size.
- No aptX codec support.
- No Aux input.

#### PRICE

\$199

#### COMPANY

Philips



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## Mac 911

Solutions to your most vexing Mac problems.

BY GLENN FLEISHMAN



### **FACETIME GOT YOU UPSIDE DOWN? TURN THAT FROWN AROUND!**

The orientation lock is an easily overlooked option in iOS and iPadOS Control Center that lets you prevent apps from rotating their view when your device detects it's turned a corner. This can be useful when viewing a video, reading a book, or engaging in other activities during

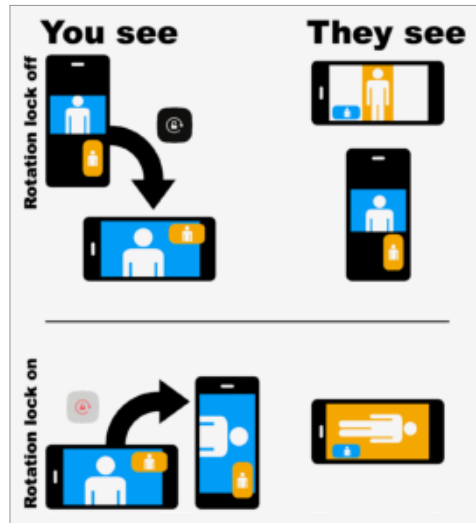
which you don't want to have the app reformat from portrait to landscape or landscape to portrait.

FaceTime honors the orientation lock in a way that might confuse other people: They always see your locked orientation. If you don't remember that you have orientation lock enabled, other participants in a call may think it's their fault that they can't get you in the right direction.

With rotation lock off, you can rotate your device, and you see yourself in the inset preview in the correct orientation to your iPhone or iPad, and the other person or participants see you the right way up.

However, enable rotation lock and rotate your phone or tablet 90 degrees clockwise or counterclockwise (or even 180 degrees upside down), and while you rotate in your preview, the view other people have of you is the original orientation—so you're sideways or upside down.

Their response would likely be to rotate their device to get you into the right position, but when they do that, FaceTime on their iPhone or iPad rotates you again to the “right” position relative to what



Having Rotation lock on in FaceTime can put you at right (or wrong) angles to other people in a call.

you're transmitting. The illustration might help (see top left).

### How to stay the right way up in FaceTime

The solution is simple:

1. Swipe to reveal the Control Center.
2. Tap the orientation lock to disable it (it will be black, not white, once disabled)

## CAN'T SYNC PHOTOS FROM A MAC WHILE TETHERED? SWITCH TO WI-FI

iCloud Photos synchronizes images and movies across all your linked Apple devices that have the feature enabled. It can



If Portrait Lock is on, the Lock icon will be white.



iCloud Photos syncs images across your linked devices.

sometimes be recalcitrant, requiring a real kick to restart syncing ([fave.co/3Olp5xm](https://fave.co/3Olp5xm)). But Photos should upload and download queue photos via iCloud almost any time it's connected to a network and there's enough power remaining in your iPhone, iPad, or Mac laptop.

There's an exception, though, that's hard to spot: when you're using cellular data from your iPhone or iPad to your Mac via USB. It's seemingly not a popular option, as most people rely on the Personal Hotspot feature that lets you connect via Wi-Fi to your iPhone or iPad, no cables required. However, I'm a fan of plugging in a USB-C to Lightning cable to charge my iPhone while using a cellular network connection. I find it more reliable, and I don't run out of juice during the sometimes heavy power draw required to relay cellular data.

In testing during a planned electrical outage at my house to upgrade service, I

discovered that iCloud Photos refused to sync while connected via USB. The solution was simple: Click the Control Center menu icon, click the right-pointing arrow next to the Wi-Fi section, and select your iPhone or iPad's Personal Hotspot. Once you've connected, syncing starts immediately.

## HOW TO REORDER THE PEOPLE IN YOUR FIND MY PEOPLE LIST

The Find My app is a bundle of former and new services for tracking your stuff and, with permission, other people. If you have several people or more in your Find My People list, you might opt to favorite them to have them appear at the top of the list.

But what if you want to have those favorites appear in a particular order or just alphabetically? Apple offers no option for this.

You can achieve it, however: Remove the favorite star from each of your Find My



Find My will only display people in the order in which you added them as favorites.

contacts, then add them as favorites again in precisely the order you want.

## HOW TO DISABLE ACTIVATION LOCK ON BROKEN AND MISSING APPLE HARDWARE

Activation Lock prevents someone who illicitly obtains your iPhone, iPad, Mac, or Watch from making it their own. Even after a device is erased, Activation Lock requires that the person setting it up enter the password for the associated Apple ID that enabled Find My.

However, when you intended to sell or give away a device, or you purchased one or received one you were entitled to use, this can be quite frustrating. There's an easy solution, so long as the hardware's owner retains access to their Apple ID

account—and as long as you can reach them if they're not you.

Apple lets you disable Activation Lock through Find My via the iOS, iPadOS, and macOS apps or using Find My iPhone at iCloud.com. (It's Find My Device, really, but labeled with "iPhone" on the site.) It's an indirect operation: You won't find a label that reads Disable Activation Lock. Instead, you select your device and set it to erase.

In iOS and iPadOS in the Find My app:

1. Select your device from the Devices list.
2. Tap Erase This Device.
3. On the Erase Device screen, tap Continue.
4. Skip entering your phone number since this isn't part of a process to get your device returned to you.
5. Tap Erase and confirm.

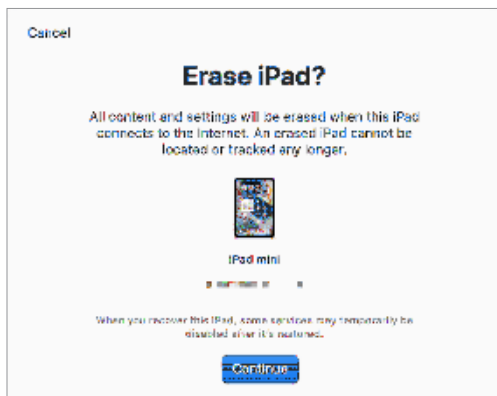
In macOS in the Find My app:

1. Control-click or right-click your device in the Devices list at left.
3. Choose Erase This Device.
4. Click Continue.
4. Skip entering your phone number.
5. Click Erase and confirm.

To use iCloud.com:

1. Go to the Find My iPhone page ([fave.co/3F8aKHh](https://fave.co/3F8aKHh)).
2. Enter your password for iCloud.com when prompted.
3. Choose your device from the All





### Erasing a device via Find My also disables Activation Lock.

Devices menu in the top middle area of the page.

**4.** In the device information pane that appears, click Erase Device.

**5.** Confirm by clicking Erase.

Once you've chosen to erase a device, the next time it has an internet connection, the device receives the command and erases itself. You'll receive a notification. To complete removing Activation Lock, return to a Find My app or iCloud.com and remove the device from your Apple ID-associated hardware:

**iOS/iPadOS:** Go to Settings → Account Name → Device Name and tap Remove from Account.

**In macOS Mojave and earlier:** Go to System Preferences → iCloud → Devices, select the device, and click Remove from Account.

### In macOS Catalina through

**Monterey:** Go to System Preferences → Apple ID, select the device in the left-hand list, and click Remove from Account.

**In macOS Ventura:** Go to System Settings → Account Name, select your device in the pane under the Devices label, and click Remove from Account.

### At the Apple ID site ([fave.co/3gQFINb](https://fave.co/3gQFINb)):

Go to the Apple ID site, click Sign In and authenticate, click the Devices link in the left-hand list, select your device, and click “Remove from account.”

Follow confirmation prompts to finish removing your device. Only then is Activation Lock disabled. ■

## Ask Mac 911

We've compiled a list of the most commonly asked questions we get and the answers to them: Check out [go.macworld.com/mac911faq](https://go.macworld.com/mac911faq) to see if you're covered. If not, we're always looking for new problems to solve! Email us at [mac911@macworld.com](mailto:mac911@macworld.com), including screen captures as appropriate.

*Mac 911* can't provide direct email responses or answers for every question and we don't provide direct troubleshooting advice. For that, turn to AppleCare, an Apple Store Genius Bar, or the Apple Support Communities.



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