



Macintosh System 7.5.5 Update

Installation Tips, Overview, and Frequently Asked Questions.





System 7.5.5—Installation Tips

This document gives you late-breaking news about installing System 7.5.5 Update. Follow the instructions here to make installing System 7.5.5 Update as smooth as possible.

Do Not Install System 7.5.5 Update On Apple Workgroup Servers

System 7.5.5 Update is not currently approved for installation on Apple Workgroup Servers.

Install System 7.5.5 Update On U.S. English Systems Only

System 7.5.5 Update will incorrectly install over systems based on languages other than U.S. English. You should not attempt to do this, as it may disable your system. Apple





expects localized versions of System 7.5.5 Update to be available in many countries within 90 days after the U.S. introduction. Please contact your local Apple support center for local availability.

Installation Using Energy Saver Version 1.2 and Earlier

If you have Energy Saver version 1.2 or earlier on your system, you may experience problems installing System 7.5.5 Update. To determine the version of your Energy Saver, follow these steps:

- 1 Make sure you are in the Finder by choosing Finder from the Application menu at the top right of your screen.
- 2 Open your hard disk.
- 3 Open the System Folder.
- 4 Open the Control Panels folder.





- 5 Look for the Energy Saver control panel. If you don't see it, close the Control Panels window, open the Control Panels (disabled) folder, and look for the Energy Saver control panel. If you don't see the control panel in this folder either, you can install System 7.5.5 Update now.
- 6 Click the Energy Saver icon once to select it and choose Get Info from the File menu.
- 7 Look at the section called Version in the middle of the Info window.

If the version number is 2.0 or higher, you can install System 7.5.5 Update now. If the version number is 1.2 or lower, follow these steps:

- 1 Drag the Energy Saver control panel out of your Control Panels folder to your desktop.
- 2 Install System 7.5.5 Update.





- 3 Restart your computer.
- 4 Drag the Energy Saver control panel back to your Control Panels folder.
- 5 Restart your computer.

System 7.5.5 Update Does Not Install QuickTime 2.5

System 7.5.5 Update is ready to work with QuickTime 2.5. However, the update does not install QuickTime 2.5. You must install QuickTime 2.5 separately. You can download QuickTime 2.5 software from Apple Computer's web site at <http://www.quicktime.apple.com>.

System 7.5.5 Update Does Not Install On the PowerBook 1400

The System 7.5.5 Update, released in September of 1996, was not designed for the PowerBook 1400. The System 7.5.5





Update installer will correctly prevent installation on a PowerBook 1400, but will incorrectly report, "This Installer will only update System 7.5.3."

The correct message should read, "This update will not install on this machine."





Apple Ships System 7.5.5 Update Overview

Apple has released System 7.5.5 Update, a set of system software enhancements that significantly improves the overall reliability and performance of Apple Macintosh and Mac OS-compatible systems.

Significance

System 7.5.5 Update has been developed in response to feedback from end users and developers and demonstrates a commitment by Apple to continually improve the Mac OS. This update is the third in a series of regularly scheduled system software update releases Apple has delivered since March, 1996. It provides one update for all computer systems currently running System 7.5.3 and integrates all





improvements found in the System 7.5.3 Revision 2 update, released June 1996.

Numerous Improvements

System 7.5.5 Update provides reliability improvements for all systems by eliminating some causes of system freezes and improves the reliability of sharing a printer over the network.

Performance enhancements include:

a revised version of virtual memory that can result in significantly better performance when performing some tasks, such as launching an application, especially for PowerPC-based systems using SCSI drives; a revised Code Fragment Manager that enables some large PowerPC-native applications to launch faster and some applications to be





launched in low-memory situations; the Universal System Folder, a single user-created system folder stored on an external hard disk or removable-media drive and used to boot up a wide variety of Macintosh and Mac OS-compatible systems, that has been enhanced to support the latest Apple computers, including the Apple Macintosh 5400 and 6400 series.

Reliability enhancements include:

more dependable use of the floppy drive on DOS-compatible systems, improved floppy formatting and better reliability during system startup for 180MHz or higher 604 or 604e microprocessor-based systems, a reduction of Type 11 errors on PowerPC-based systems, better use of sound-intensive applications for Macintosh Quadra and Centris systems updated with the Apple Power Macintosh Upgrade Card, more dependable operation of the remote control





included with the Apple TV tuner and Macintosh TV.

Network-specific improvements include:

more reliable operation of Ethernet controllers in the 5400 and 6400 series systems, better data integrity when accessing a 5400 series system over the network.

System Requirements

System 7.5.5 Update will install only on computers currently running System 7.5.3, including System 7.5.3 Revision 2. Once the update is installed, the system software version will be changed to System 7.5.5 as indicated in the "About this Macintosh" window.

With the release of System 7.5.5 Update, Apple is delivering its final system software release for the Macintosh Plus, SE,





Classic, Portable, PowerBook100, SE FDHD, SE/30, LC, II, IIx, and IIcx. Future Mac OS releases will require 68030-, 68040-, or PowerPC-based systems that support 32-bit memory addressing, which includes all other Macintosh models.

In response to customer feedback, Apple has standardized how the version number will change for future system software releases. If major architectural changes are being delivered, the first digit of the version number will be incremented. If new features are added to a system software reference release without major architectural changes, the second digit will be incremented. When system software updates are delivered with only reliability and performance improvements, the third digit will be incremented. System 7.5.4 Update was not made available to the general public due to a problem with the software.





Availability and Pricing

A free copy of System 7.5.5 Update can be downloaded from Apple's File Transfer Protocol sites on the Internet at: [ftp.info.apple.com/](ftp://ftp.info.apple.com/) or [ftp.support.apple.com/](ftp://ftp.support.apple.com/) and Apple's World Wide Web sites at: <http://www.info.apple.com/> or <http://www.support.apple.com/>. It can also be found on Apple sites on America Online (keyword--applecomputer), CompuServe (shortcut - GO APLSUP) and AppleLink (AppleLink Services to Software Sampler to Apple Support Forum). In the United States, customers can order System 7.5.5 Update on a floppy disk set for U.S. \$13 by calling 800-293-6617, ext. 1322. Localized versions of this release are expected to be available in many countries within 90 days.





System 7.5.5 Update: FAQ's

This article contains the answers to frequently asked questions (FAQ) about System 7.5.5 Update.

Questions in this FAQ

- 1 What is System 7.5.5 Update?
- 2 Who should install System 7.5.5 Update?
- 3 Should I install System 7.5.5 Update if I do not have System 7.5.3?
- 4 What improvements does System 7.5.5 Update deliver?
- 5 Why can't I see performance improvements when I run MacBench with the new Virtual Memory?
- 6 I sometimes have problems playing Audio CDs with Energy Saver installed. Does the updated Energy Saver





control panel fix this?

- 7 The "About System 7.5.5 Update" document says that I may have to increase the preferred memory size of some applications by 23K. Why?
- 8 What is different about this new math library?
- 9 What tips are there to ensure I have a more trouble-free installation of System 7.5.5 Update?
- 10 Can I install the U.S. version of System 7.5.5 Update on a system which has a non-U.S. version of the system software?
- 11 Why is there no "custom install" and "custom remove" option for the installer?
- 12 The installer says "optimizing system for speed" during the installation. What does this mean?
- 13 When will System 7.5.5 Update be available in other





languages beside U.S. English?

- 14 If I have any system running System 7.5.3, will I have all of the latest system software improvements after installing System 7.5.5 Update?
- 15 How can I tell if my system has been updated with System 7.5.5 Update?
- 16 How can I tell if a product which I purchased from Apple has the enhancements provided by System 7.5.5?
- 17 Along with the announcement of System 7.5.5 Update, it has been stated that this is the last system software release for the Macintosh Plus, SE, Classic, Portable, PowerBook 100, SE FDHD, SE/30, LC, II, IIx, and IIcx systems. Why are future versions of the Macintosh system software not supporting these systems?
- 18 If I have installed MODE32 on a Macintosh II, IIx, IIcx, or SE/30, does this mean my system will be supported





by future releases of the Macintosh system software?

- 19 Are there any known problems with installing this update which I should be aware of?
- 20 What happened to System 7.5.4?
- 21 Where can I get System 7.5.5 Update?
- 22 What are the system requirements for System 7.5.5 Update?
- 23 Where can I get more information about the Mac OS?

Discussion

1) Question: What is System 7.5.5 Update?

Answer: This is a three-disk set of system software enhancements that delivers improvements in stability and performance improvements for Macintosh and Mac OS-





compatible computers. This important update is for all Macintosh and Mac OS-compatible computers running System 7.5.3, and will update a system to System 7.5.5.

2) Question: Who should install System 7.5.5 Update?

Answer: Apple is recommending that any Macintosh or Mac OS-compatible computer with System 7.5.3 install this update.

3) Question: Should I install System 7.5.5 Update if I do not have System 7.5.3?

Answer: You must have System 7.5.3 in order to install this software. You can tell if you are currently using System 7.5.3 on your system by choosing "About This Macintosh" from the Apple menu. In the top right-hand side of this window will be the system software information. Your system has System 7.5.3 installed if it reads: System





Software 7.5.3

If you have System 7.5, 7.5.1, or 7.5.2, you can update to System 7.5.3 by obtaining System 7.5 Update 2.0. If you have a version earlier than System 7.5, you will need to purchase it from an Apple reseller, or by calling the Apple Order Center. In the U.S. call 800-293-6617.

4) Question: What improvements does System 7.5.5 Update deliver?

Answer: System 7.5.5 Update provides reliability improvements for all systems by eliminating some causes of system freezes and improves the reliability of sharing a printer over the network. In addition, there are a number of improvements which only affect certain models, including:

- More reliable use of the floppy drive on DOS-compatible systems
- Improved floppy formatting and better reliability during





- system startup for high performance (180MHz or higher) 604 or 604e microprocessor-based systems
- Improvements in the reliability of the remote control included with the Apple TV tuner and Macintosh TV
 - The elimination of a cause of Type 11 errors on PowerPC-based systems
 - More trouble-free networking with the 5400 and 6400 series systems
 - Improvements in data integrity when accessing a 5400 series system over the network
 - More reliable use of sound-intensive applications for Macintosh Quadra and Centris systems which have been updated with the Apple Power Macintosh Upgrade Card.
 - A revised Energy Saver control panel which removes references to the EnergyStar program.

The performance improvements provided in System 7.5.5 Update are primarily for people who use Virtual





Memory(VM). The VM offered in System 7.5.5 Update will deliver significantly better performance when performing specific tasks than the VM provided in earlier versions of the system software. Areas where you may see performance include launching large applications, switching between large applications, switching between large documents in applications, and accessing SCSI devices. However this improvement will vary greatly depending on the amount of RAM installed in the system , the amount of virtual memory allocated, and the applications being used. A revised Code Fragment Manager enables some large PowerPC-native applications to launch faster, while enabling some applications to be launched in low-memory situations. The Universal System Folder, which let customers with System 7.5.3 create a single system folder on an external hard disk or removable-media drive and use it to boot up everything from Macintosh Plus to a Power Macintosh 9500, has been enhanced to support the latest Apple computers, including





the Apple Macintosh 5400 and 6400 series.

5) Question: Why can't I see performance improvements when I run MacBench with the new Virtual Memory?

Answer: The performance measurements made in MacBench do not measure the particular type of performance improvements delivered with System 7.5.5 Update. Other bench marking programs also may not measure these particular performance improvements.

6) Question: I sometimes have problems playing Audio CDs with Energy Saver installed. Does the updated Energy Saver control panel fix this?

Answer: On some occasions when playing an Audio CD on a Macintosh with Energy Saver installed, the CD will play for a while and then stop, resetting to track 1 and time 0:00. This problem is caused by the Energy Saver control panel





and will be fixed in a future system update. This can affect all PCI-based Power Macintosh computers. The problem can be avoided by opening the Energy Saver control panel, deselecting "Shutdown instead of Sleep", and then closing the Energy Saver control panel.

7) Question: The "About System 7.5.5 Update" document says that I may have to increase the preferred memory size of some applications by 23K. Why?

Answer: System 7.5.5 Update includes a new library of mathematical routines. Certain applications which use this library may require 23K additional memory in order to run. You do not need to change the preferred memory size of every application you use. Only change the preferred memory size for applications which report an insufficient memory message when you try to launch them.

8) Question: What is different about this new math library?





Answer: This library includes more efficient routines for calculating certain mathematical functions. You may see a slight performance increase when using applications that use these improved mathematical routines.

9) Question: What tips are there to ensure I have a more trouble-free installation of System 7.5.5 Update?

Answer: It is very important to read the "About System 7.5.5 Update" document which comes with the update, and follow the directions on installing System 7.5.5 Update.

In general, it is best to not to rename or move files around within your System Folder. The System 7.5.5 Update Installer makes some assumptions that certain files will be in certain places, and if these files are moved or renamed, files that System 7.5.5 Update installs could be placed in the wrong place, or not installed at all.





10) Question: Can I install the U.S. version of System 7.5.5 Update on a system which has a non-U.S. version of the system software?

Answer: No.

11) Question: Why is there no "custom install" and "custom remove" option for the installer?

Answer: System 7.5.5 Update only updates the existing installed components on your computer. It does not add functionality. These updates are necessary to ensure your computer is operating optimally based on your installed configuration. A custom install option is only available when an installation provides new features that you may not wish to install, such as those found in System 7.5.3. Because System 7.5.5 Update adds no new features to your computer, the custom install and custom remove options are not provided.





12) Question: The installer says "optimizing system for speed" during the installation. What does this mean?

Answer: Some resources installed in your System file by System 7.5.5 Update are compressed. The installer expands these resources to increase system performance.

13) Question: When will System 7.5.5 Update be available in other languages beside U.S. English?

Answer: Apple expects localized versions of System 7.5.5 Update to be available in many countries within 90 days after the U.S. introduction. Please contact your local Apple support center for local availability.

14) Question: If I have any system running System 7.5.3, will I have all of the latest system software improvements after installing System 7.5.5 Update?





Answer: Yes.

15) Question: How can I tell if my system has been updated with System 7.5.5 Update?

Answer: If you have installed System 7.5.5 Update on to your system, there is a very easy way to verify that it has been installed. Choose "About This Macintosh" from the Apple menu. In the top right-hand side of this window will be the system software information. Your system has System 7.5.5 Update installed if it reads: System Software 7.5.5 Updated

16) Question: How can I tell if a product which I purchased from Apple has the enhancements provided by System 7.5.5?

Answer: If you purchased a system from Apple which has the System 7.5..4 Update enhancements already included, the "About This Macintosh" window will read: System Software 7.5.5





17) Question: Along with the announcement of System 7.5.5 Update, it has been stated that this is the last system software release for the Macintosh Plus, SE, Classic, Portable, PowerBook 100, SE FDHD, SE/30, LC, II, IIfx, and IIfx systems. Why are future versions of the Macintosh system software not supporting these systems?

Answer: Future Mac OS releases will require a 68030, 63040, or PowerPC-based system which support 32-bit memory addressing, this includes all other Macintosh models. However, while future system software releases will not install on these older systems, Apple will still fully support customers with these systems by providing telephone assistance.

18) Question: If I have installed MODE32 on a Macintosh II, IIfx, IIfx, or SE/30, does this mean my system will be supported by future releases of the Macintosh system software?





Answer: No. System 7.5.5 Update is the last release which will support these hardware systems, regardless if MODE32 is installed.

19) Question: Are there any known problems with installing this update which I should be aware of?

Answer: Customers are encouraged to read the document which accompanies the update, titled "About System 7.5.5 Update". It has a "known problems section" which documents issues which Apple wants to make sure are brought to our customers' attention.

20) Question: What happened to System 7.5.4?

Answer: System 7.5.4 Update, which delivers System 7.5.4, was released by Apple Computer to a limited distribution, prior to an anticipated general release. Shortly after this limited distribution, a bug in the software was found which





required a revision. This revision was named System 7.5.5 and replaces System 7.5.4. System 7.5.5 Update will install on computers which have System 7.5.4 installed.

Since System 7.5.4 was released to a limited audience, there needs to be a way to easily identify this release in the event one of our customers installed it and are having specific problems. In order to make identification of 7.5.4 easy, the version number was incremented to System 7.5.5.

21) Question: Where can I get System 7.5.5 Update?

Answer: System 7.5.3 Revision 2 is available electronically via:

- Apple ftp and World Wide Web sites
 - [ftp.info.apple.com](ftp://ftp.info.apple.com)
 - <http://www.info.apple.com>
- Most on-line services, including America Online, CompuServe, and AppleLink.





In the U.S. customers also may order the update on three floppies for \$13 by calling 1-800-293-6617, ext. 1322. Outside the U.S. contact your local Apple support center for further information.

22) Question: What are the system requirements for System 7.5.5 Update?

Answer: In order to install the update, you must have System 7.5.3. System 7.5.5 Update cannot be installed on earlier versions of System 7.5.

23) Question: Where can I get more information about the Mac OS?

Answer: More information can be obtained about the Mac OS on the Internet at: <http://www.macos.apple.com/macos/siteindex.html>

