Read Before You Install
Mac OS X Server

Read the following before you install Mac OS X Server. It includes information about supported computers, system requirements, and installing Mac OS X Server.

For more information about Mac OS X Server, visit this Apple website:

• www.apple.com/server/macosx/

Review the getting started guide (included with this product) and the Mac OS X Server Support website prior to installing Mac OS X Server. They contain additional installation information and instructions. The Mac OS X Server Support website is at:

• www.apple.com/support/macosxserver/

For information on migrating from earlier Apple server products, see the upgrading and migrating guide. This guide and other guides in the Mac OS X Server documentation suite describe services and provide instructions for configuring, managing, and troubleshooting the services. All the latest guides are available in PDF format at this website:

• www.apple.com/server/documentation/

Instructions from the guides, and updates to the guides, can be viewed onscreen as Mac OS X Server help. To view server help, choose Help > Mac Help in the Finder, then choose Library > Mac OS X Server Help in Help Viewer. To see documentation updates, click Late-Breaking News on the main Mac OS X Server help page while connected to the Internet.

For additional late-breaking information, search in Help Viewer to see articles from Apple's support organization. You can also search for these articles on the Mac OS X Server Support website.

For information about support, training and certification programs available for Mac OS X Server, see the Server Support Products Guide included with this product.

System requirements

You can install this version of Mac OS X Server on any Macintosh server or desktop

computer with:

- an Intel or PowerPC G4 or G5 processor

- 512MB of RAM

- 10 GB of available disk space

- built-in FireWire

Starting installation

Updating your computer's firmware

You may need to update your computer's firmware. If so, you must do it before you install Mac OS X Server. If you see a message that you need to update your computer's firmware after you start the Installer, quit the Installer and restart your computer using your current startup disk.

To find firmware updates for your computer, open the Apple Software Updates website:

- www.apple.com/support/downloads/

If you have already started the Installer and see a message that you need to update your computer's firmware, quit the Installer and restart your computer using your current startup disk.

Migrating from an earlier Apple server product

For information on migrating from earlier Apple server products, see the data migration options and instructions included in the updating and migrating guide.

Installing Mac OS X Server

To start installing Mac OS X Server, insert the Mac OS X Server install disc, double-click the Install Mac OS X Server icon, and follow the instructions displayed.

Quitting the Installer

If you need to quit the Installer before you click Install in the Easy Install or Custom Install pane, choose Quit from the Installer application menu, then click Startup Disk to select a startup disk for your computer.

If you have already clicked Install, wait until installation finishes.

Advice about installing Mac OS X Server

Installing on a computer with Mac OS X 10.4.7 or later preinstalled

When installing Mac OS X Server on a computer with Mac OS X 10.4.7 or later preinstalled, do not start up from the Mac OS X Server install disc. Instead start up the computer from the hard disk, as you would for normal use. Next, insert the Mac OS X Server install disc into the disc drive, then double-click the file named MacOSXServerInstall.mpkg in the Other Installs folder to begin installation. Follow the instructions displayed to complete the installation and configuration using Server Assistant.

Once the system is set up to access the Internet, open System Preferences and choose Software Update. Click Update Now and select and install any available software updates. Because some software updates are prerequisites for others, you should repeat the software update process until the computer is fully up to date.

Installing without a router

During the setup of Mac OS X Server you will be prompted to enter a network router address. If you do not have a router in your network, enter the IP address of the server as the router address.

Erasing and formatting your disk

When you install Mac OS X Server, you can choose to erase the destination disk you select. In the "Select a Destination" pane of the Installer, click the Options button. Select Erase and Install. Be sure you have backed up your files before you erase the disk.

Important Do not choose UNIX File System (UFS), as volumes in this format cannot be used for startup.

You can also divide your hard disk into several partitions before you install Mac OS X Server. Choose Open Disk Utility from the Utilities menu and click Partition. Partitioning the disk erases the entire disk, so be sure to back up your files first.

Using VNC viewer software

You can prepare the target computer's hard disk from another networked computer using VNC software. You can partition the hard disk into multiple volumes, create a RAID set, or erase the target disk or partition.

Start the target computer from the installation DVD for Mac OS X Server version 10.4.7 or later. Use your VNC viewer software to open a connection to the target server, identify the target server, and when prompted for a password, type the first 8 digits of the server's built-in hardware serial number (12345678 if none). If you're using Apple Remote Desktop as a VNC viewer, enter the password but don't specify a user name. When the Installer opens, choose Utilities > Disk Utility and use Disk Utility to prepare the target disk.

If you have problems starting up

If you cannot start up your computer after you install Mac OS X Server, insert the Mac OS X Server disc and restart your computer while pressing the C key. Choose Open Disk Utility from the Utilities menu, then click First Aid to repair the disk and disk permissions.

Advice about hardware compatibility

Installing on a computer with a third-party SCSI card

If you have a third-party SCSI card installed in your computer and you cannot start up Mac OS X Server, attach a disk or SCSI terminator to one of the card's ports. If you continue to have problems, try removing the card. Contact the manufacturer of the card for more information about using the card with Mac OS X Server.

Installing on a computer with a third-party video card

If you have a third-party video card installed in your computer, you may need to remove it before you install Mac OS X Server. Contact the manufacturer of the card for more information about using the card with Mac OS X Server.