

The iMac₅₁₂ Classic

My report on Mac OS 8.5 on the iMac

The latest Mac OS upgrade is worth it's weight in gold and more!

What it did for me...

It saved me time. A lot of time! It has solved a few problems I have been having with my iMac. I learned ways around these, but Mac OS 8.5 now prevents me from doing this. I just turn on my iMac and work with all of the applications I have.

Steve Jobs was right, I have a new Mac! I faxed it in if you can, it took 6 days for me to get my copy of Mac OS 8.5.

More detail

The problems I have had:

Photoshop LE - It would lockup while opening a document if Open Transport was loaded.

Presto! applications - These came with my Umax Astra 1220U scanner. They launched like a 68040 Macintosh. Once Mac OS 8.5 was installed, they acted like PowerPC versions. Fast!

Virtual PC - Switching from Virtual PC to another Mac program is now fast. Otherwise it would wait about 10-20 seconds before the other Mac application would activate.

My applications work with no problems. They include: Norton Utilities 4.0, Norton AntiVirus 5.0, PageMill 2.0, SiteMill 2.0, Microsoft Office 98 Macintosh Edition, PhotoShop LE, Presto! PageManager, Umax VistaScan, PhotoDeluxe 1.1, Netscape Navigator 4.0, Internet Explorer 4.0, Outlook Express, ClarisWorks 5, Spring Cleaning 2.0, Disk Doubler 4.0, Timbuktu Pro 4.0, and Lords of the Realm II.

What's Cool!

The installation worked flawlessly. It preserved my settings in the Control Panel, my preferences and my Internet setup.

New toys to play with:

- Sherlock - The ultimate search tool! Make sure you visit Apple's site of Sherlock! It lets you search for a file, information inside of a file, or information on the Internet. A single source of searching!
- Internet Control Panel - This lets you organize your Internet settings and lets you pick which browser you want!

- Network Browser - This tool lets you see all of the volumes on a file server without going back to the Chooser for additional volumes.
- Application menu - This menu can be placed anywhere showing you which applications are open.
- Appearance Control Panel - This will let you have sounds for opening a window, picking out a menu bar, etc. Plus it lets you smooth your screen fonts out, so they will appear a bit more smooth.
- File Exchange Control Panel - More compatible with the Windows files you might need to work with.

The bottom line

I feel this upgrade is worth it. The speed it gave my iMac is unbearable. I can't stand it!

Mac OS 8.5 Clean Install option

I have detailed the steps below on finishing a clean install when you upgrade to Mac OS 8.5 on the iMac. Thanks to Allen for suggesting me to do this!

Step #1 - The 8.5 CD

The Mac OS 8.5 CD is the starting place. HFS+ is something you should consider, it will reduce the amount of space that is used on your hard drive. All of the major hard drive utilities now support is fully. There is no reason not to anymore.

Be prepared to re-enter some of your settings; this includes software keys or registration numbers, phone numbers and passwords.

When you run the Install application, you will have an option buried in there to do the clean install.

🔍 Click on the Options button at the Select Destination screen.

🔍 You will see the following dialog box, click and checkmark the Perform Clean

Installation. Then press the OK button.



This will create a new System Folder on your iMac hard drive.

Follow the steps and choose what else you want to install. If you want more control of what gets loaded, click on the Customize button at the Install Mac OS 8.5 screen. It will present you with this window:



You can choose what you want to install.


Items you might want to install:


-  Mac OS 8.5 (79.5MB) - You need this for the new Operating System

This includes: Sherlock 2.0, QuickTime 3.02, Location Manger 2.0, Iomega Drivers 6.12, Disk First Aid, Drive Setup and the Mac OS Help

-  Internet Access (28.1MB) - If you want to get on the Internet, you must load this.


This includes: Internet Explorer 4.01, Outlook Express 4.0, Stuffit Expander 4.5, DropStuff installer, Internet setup Utilities and the Web fonts

-  Apple Remote Access (2.7MB) - This will allow you to dial up your Internet Service Provider. The above should of loaded this for you, in my opinion.


-  Personal Web Sharing (1.4MB) - If you want to have a mini-web server, this is for you!

-  QuickDraw 3D (6.6MB) - This will show you 3 dimensional images.


-  Text-to-Speech (10.3MB) - The iMac will talk to you for any dialog boxes that need attention, or the iMac can read you any text you want.

-  Mac OS Runtime for Java (15.7MB) - If your web browser does not support Java and you want to run Java applets, load this.

-  ColorSync (1.8MB) - This helps you view consistant color on your monitor, scanner and printer.

-  QuickDraw GX (4MB) - Unfortunately the Apple world is slowly moving away from QuickDraw GX. It lets you do cool printer stuff with any QuickDraw printer that you can do with PostScript printers.

-  English Speech Recognition (15.8MB) - Lets you control your iMac with your voice. Cool!

 Multilingual Internet Access (15.8MB) - Lets you see web pages using their default language; (French, Chinese, etc.)

Once you have made your choices, proceed to load Mac OS 8.5

Step #2 - Figure out what you need

Remember after doing a clean install, all of your preferences and installed system stuff will be in the Previous System Folder on your iMac hard drive. Open it up and let's look inside.

Control Panel: This lets you change settings on your iMac.

Extensions: This is enhancements to the Mac OS by Apples or third-party products.

Preferences: This is the settings which applications and Control Panels make.

Startup Items: Anything which autostarts on the iMac start up process.

Shutdown Items: Anything you run during the iMac Shutdown process.


Fonts: All the fonts you can use go here.

There are more folders, many applications create a folder for its own use, keep track of these.


If you want to see how much stuff you replaced, label all of the existing files a blue color. Use red for the stuff you are placing in there.

Step #3 - Moving the good stuff


What to move:

 Anything which resembles something you will need to change in the future. If it already exists, don't replace it.

Examples include: Norton FileSaver, Color SW 1500 (printer file), iMac Demo Extension, MacLinkPlus.

 Move any folders inside the above folders that don't exist, as the applications probably need these too.

Examples include: Norton folders, RealAudio folder, Microsoft (MS) folders, Modem Scripts folder, any AntiVirus folders, Timbuktu folder.


 Move any other folders which you don't have in the System Folder.

Examples include: CMSCP folder, Espresso folder, Microsoft (MS) folders.

 Move any loose files which you don't have in the System Folder.

Examples include: Advance.set, @UMAX_Preview, CWReg.dat.

 The scrapbook file is the holding tank for the Scrapbook, move it if you have placed something in the Scrapbook and you want it saved.

 The Preference folder is the most important folder. Without some of the files in there, your registered applications will think you have not registered them.

 *Move any application specific folder.*

Examples include: Explorer, Extension Manager Preferences, Location Manager Prefs, Netscape Users, any Antivirus folders, Translated Documents.

 Move any files you need that you recognize for any application or system file.

Examples include: Virtual PC Prefs, Display Prefs, any file with Registration in it, ColorSync Prefs, ClarisWorks prefs, Internet Prefs, Netscape Registry, Quicktime Prefs.

Microsoft Office 98 for Macintosh will self-heal itself. It will re-install anything that is missing. A good idea, except Microsoft did not do this with any version of their Windows software. On the Mac first!

Results

Your applications will work again as if you did a regular upgrade install. If there were any applications which did not work under the Mac OS 8.1, they should under Mac OS 8.5. I found this out with some of my applications which did not work well. (Photoshop LE, Presto! apps)

If an application still does not work, you probably missed something it needs. Try experimenting with the not so obvious items.

If that still does not work, re-install the application. Find them below...

I can't find everything that came with the iMac!

Some of the software that came with the iMac is located in certain spots. This area covers the Revision "A" iMacs, I don't have a Revision "B" or later iMac.


The CDs which came with the iMac has all of the software somewhere on them.

Software Restore CD (to find these, double click on the iMac HD.img icon in the Configurations folder, it will mount):


In the Applications folder:

 Adobe Acrobat, ClarisWorks (AppleWorks), FAXstf, Nanosaur, Quicken Deluxe 98, WS Guide to Good Cooking

In the Apple Extras folder:

 Mac OS Runtime for Java, QuickDraw 3D, Mac OS Tutorial, Mac OS Info Center and Applescript

In the Internet folder:

 Netscape Navigator, Outlook Express, Internet Explorer, America Online, Stuffit Expander and Total Access

In the Utilities folder:

 Disk First Aid and Drive Setup

On the root of the Macintosh HD:

 QuickTime and Remote Access Client

Software Install CD:

In the Applications folder:

 Adobe Acrobat, ClarisWorks (AppleWorks), FAXstf, and Nanosaur


In the Internet folder:

 America Online and EarthLink


In the Utilities folder:

 Disk First Aid, Drive Setup and Disk Copy

In the Software Installers folder:

 Remote Access Client, English Text-to-Speech, Info Center, Internet Access, Location Manager, Mac OS Runtime for Java, Mac OS Tutorial, OpenDoc, Personal Web Sharing, QuickDraw 3D, QuickDraw GX, and various System Software including; Open Transport, LaserWriter, iMac, ColorSync, Mac OS 8 and Mac OS 8.1 Update

In the CD Extras folder:

 CD Player, Hypercard Player, iMac Game Controller Support, Internal Modem, QuickDraw 3D Extras, QuickTime, Spanish Txt-to-Speech and the Universal Access.

Software that had it's own CD:

Williams-Sonoma Guide to Good Cooking, Quicken Deluxe 98, Kai's PhotoSoap and MDK.





If you need to re-install some pre-loaded software, you can do it!

The bottom line

If you do an upgrade install and everything works fine, great!

If you did and the iMac is not as fast as it was under Mac OS 8.1, or if something does not work maybe trying the clean install will help.

If the clean install does not work:

-  Boot up the iMac with the iMac Software Restore CD
 -  Trash the present System Folder
 -  Rename the Previous System Folder to System Folder
 -  Restart the iMac. Everything should be back to normal.
-

Thank you for your time!

This “The iMac 512 Classic” PDF document is copyright 1999 by G.Younk. Permission is needed to reproduce this on any electronic or printed medium.