

Apple Intelligence

Apple has incorporated artificial intelligence into its newest operating systems. Here's how it works.

The recently introduced MacOS 15.1 (Sequoia), iPad 18.1, and iOS 18.1 add major AI features called Apple Intelligence. The M-series microprocessor Apple has employed in its Mac computers since 2020 includes a “neural engine,” which supports AI features such as predictive text (anticipating what you will type based on the phrases you use most often) and image recognition in the Photo's app. Now it can do much more.

Apple Intelligence draws on your personal context – how you write, your personal information, and tasks – to help you take action across applications. For instance, Apple Intelligence can summarize your emails and notifications, provide tools that can proofread what you write, and offer suggestions that improve clarity (see example below).

What Apple Intelligence learns is shared among your devices via iCloud, but **none of this information is uploaded to other internet servers, nor is available to Apple.** You can turn most of these features off, but I tend to use them. And they're getting better.

Here's an example of how I used Apple Intelligence to write a memo:

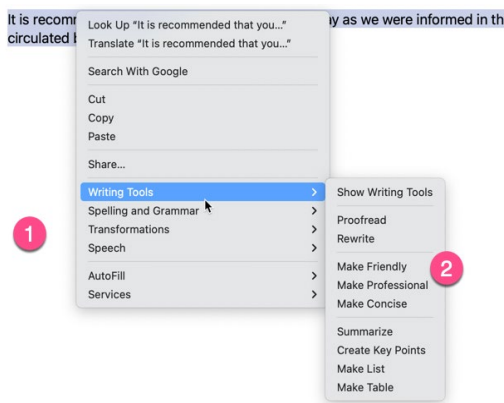
First, I drafted this ponderous memo in MS Word that's festooned with passive voice and general yuckiness.



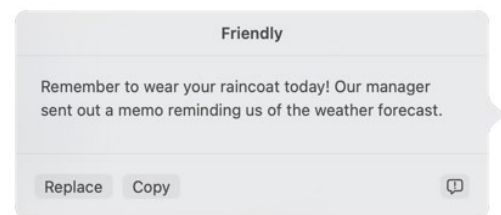
Sadly, Steve didn't get the memo.

“It is recommended that you wear your raincoat today as we were informed in the memo that was circulated by our manager.”

Then I highlighted the text, RIGHT CLICKED **Writing Tools**, and selected **Make Friendly**.



Within seconds, Apple Intelligence popped up with a “friendly” version.



The result of Apple Intelligence recommendation.

These writing tools are available throughout your applications – including Apple Mail, MS Word, PowerPoint, Notes, etc. They're also incorporated into later model iPads and iPhones.

Next month, I'll discuss Microsoft's approach to AI via its Copilot application and Copilot+PC computers.

If you need computer help just fill out the form at **Tech Lab – Center for Modern Aging Princeton** (cmaprinceton.org) to set up an appointment.