

Should You Consider a Mac Computer?

Windows users who own an iPhone or iPad might consider changing to a Mac computer. Read on...

What happens to Windows 10 on October 14, 2025?

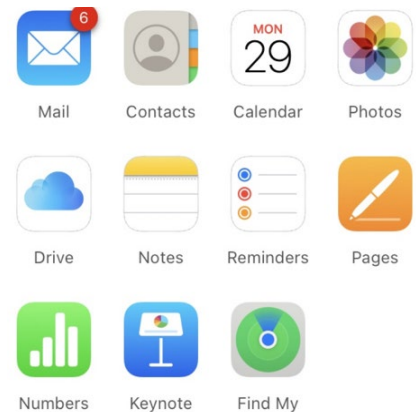
Folks who want to replace their computer often ask me what operating system they should consider: Windows 11 or Mac. I usually suggest they stay with their present operating system unless there's a compelling reason to change.

But I've recently rethought this because a Mac computer may be a better choice if you use an Apple iPhone or iPad (or both) because Apple's iCloud knits these devices together seamlessly. Furthermore, the corresponding iPhone, iPad, and Mac applications – Mail, Calendar, Reminders, and so on – all have the same look and feel.

Your iPhone photos will appear in the corresponding Photos App on the Mac computer. Plan a trip to Aunt Martha's in Bayonne on the Mac, and your iPhone can provide turn-by-turn instructions while driving. Alarms set on the iPhone will "ring" on the Mac and iPad (if you so desire). And if you start an email on the Mac, you can finish it on an iPad or iPhone.

Clipboard contents (the copy-and-paste repository) are instantly available on all devices. So are website passwords, address book entries, and Apple Notes. And, of course, you can access all your documents on the Mac, iPhone, and iPad.

You can even make phone calls on the Mac computer (via your iPhone) and send and receive text messages. And turn an iPad into a second Mac screen. It's all very handy, indeed.



iCloud knits together the information on all your Apple devices.

Yes, a Mac can handle your Windows Documents

You'll be heartened to know that Microsoft and Apple have collaborated on standard applications like Microsoft 365 and OneDrive so that Word documents, Excel spreadsheets, and PowerPoint slides created on a Windows PC will feel right at home on any Apple device. Even the menus are the same.¹

So, what are the downsides to the Mac?

Well, cost for one. A mid-range Windows laptop starts at around \$500, while the least expensive MacBook Air starts at \$1000. But the MacBook is blazingly fast, noiseless (there's no fan), and lightweight, and unless you do lots of photo or video editing, it will serve you well.

The Mac's menus and controls are a bit different, but within a week, you should be fine. (Besides, you can always ask us for help.) And there are dozens of YouTube tutorials on how to move from a PC to a Mac.

If you need help selecting a new computer—either Windows or Mac—just fill out the form at **Tech Lab – Center for Modern Aging Princeton** (cmaprinceton.org) to set up an appointment.

¹ I use both, so I know of what I speak.