



# Mac OS X in Education

## The ultimate learning environment.

### 10 Reasons for Mac OS X in Education

Mac OS X advances learning for a new generation of students. Rich with built-in features and applications, it empowers students with tools for collaboration, communication, creative expression, and organization. It also offers easy integration as well as a full suite of built-in accessibility and security features. Mac OS X offers unparalleled stability, so educators and students can focus on what matters most—effective teaching and inspired learning.



#### 1. A smart investment.

Mac OS X provides a high value for education institutions, requiring far fewer resources for management, support, and user training. The Mac comes equipped for the classroom, with features and applications that boost productivity, support collaboration, and enable users to easily create digital content. And with built-in accessibility features, users of diverse abilities can be productive and engaged. All this adds up to full functionality right out of the box with no added expense.

#### 2. Easy to learn and use.

Mac OS X provides the ease of use that is the hallmark of Apple products. All Mac OS X applications share the same familiar interface and common menu commands. The Dock provides a convenient location to instantly access applications and frequently used files. Plus, if students ever need assistance while working on a Mac, the Help menu is always available. These are among the many features in Mac OS X that help students focus on learning content, not on operating technology.

#### 3. A rich suite of built-in applications.

Mac OS X includes many built-in applications that are ideal for teaching and learning. TextEdit is a word processing program that offers automatic spelling correction and a suite of formatting features to support writing across the curriculum. Reference tools—such as Dictionary, which includes a thesaurus and access to Wikipedia content—support students in their writing projects. The iCal calendar makes it easy for teachers and students to track school events, assignments, and to-do lists. For math support, Calculator (both general and scientific) is included, as well as Grapher—a full-featured graphing calculator. For on-demand access to information, Dashboard provides a host of mini-applications, such as a language translator and a conversion tool. The applications included with Mac OS X give students and teachers all the tools they need—at no additional cost.

#### 4. Support for diverse learning needs.

Mac OS X includes a range of accessibility features for students with disabilities and special learning needs. VoiceOver—a built-in screen reader that allows blind or low-vision students to hear a spoken description of onscreen content—can be controlled by a Multi-Touch trackpad, a keyboard, or a refreshable braille display. Text, graphics, and even video can be magnified up to 40x using Zoom. Students with physical or motor skills disabilities can customize the settings on a Mac to assist them with typing, clicking, navigating, and more. Deaf and hard-of-hearing students can receive visual alerts instead of audio and easily view open and closed captioning in QuickTime and DVD Player. Many more features, such as word completion, Summarize, and Text-to-Speech, can help students with a variety of learning disabilities, making Mac OS X accessible for everyone.

## 5. Media-rich collaboration.

Mac OS X opens up a whole new world of creative and collaborative possibilities. Students can use Photo Booth to capture a picture or video and add fun effects using the camera and microphone built into the Mac. iChat makes it easy to share ideas using text, audio, and live video chats, so educators can bring in guest speakers and students can collaborate on projects across the globe.<sup>1</sup> With iChat Theater, presentations can be delivered remotely—slides appear onscreen along with their live video image. Plus, screen sharing in iChat lets educators and students create work in tandem inside or outside the classroom.

## 6. Highly compatible.

Mac OS X fits easily into any existing computing environment. It offers extensive Windows compatibility, letting students share and print files and easily access Windows networks, without additional configuration or costs. Mac OS X also provides built-in support for the latest version of Microsoft Exchange Server,<sup>2</sup> so administrators, teachers, and students can have all their email, calendar invitations, and contacts in one place. Mac OS X runs the latest education software, as well as productivity software such as Microsoft Office.<sup>3</sup> And with Boot Camp, users can even run Windows-only applications on the Mac.<sup>4</sup>

## 7. Multiuser friendly and easy to manage.

Ideal for multiple users with varying needs, Mac OS X allows you to set up user accounts on a single computer that can easily be configured for individual students or groups. There is no need to dedicate a system to special needs students because settings can be configured to allow them to work at any computer. In addition, student access to applications, web content, and system preferences can be managed and monitored on the Mac.

## 8. Easy to stay organized.

Mac OS X offers features that help teachers and students stay organized and instantly find what they need. With Quick Look, they can browse, view, and page through files without opening them. Spaces provides a convenient way to set up multiple desktop windows so that they can move seamlessly among applications and documents without stacking them. And Spotlight makes searching for media and files—on the desktop and across the network—incredibly easy. It finds all files (and content of files) related to a search term when users type just a few letters.

## 9. Based on open standards.

Because Mac OS X is built on open and industry-standard protocols and the latest networking security standards, it's simple to support the Mac on your network. The rock-solid, time-tested UNIX foundation of Mac OS X provides unparalleled stability. Mac OS X includes built-in support for wireless access (including 802.11n); Bonjour, an instant network discovery technology; LDAP services for integration with managed network environments; and QuickTime X, which runs video files in the new H.264 video compression standard.

## 10. Safer by design.

Mac OS X doesn't get PC viruses and it protects itself from other malicious applications. Because every Mac ships with a secure configuration, you don't have to worry about understanding complex settings. IT departments will have a lot less to worry about—Mac OS X can be configured with an automatic firewall that never advertises its presence on the Internet. Also, nearly all system applications—including the Finder, Mail, Safari, iCal, and iChat—are built with 64-bit code, which uses advanced techniques to fend off malicious code. All in all, Mac OS X is built from the ground up to be secure.

**To learn more about Apple in education, visit [www.apple.com/education](http://www.apple.com/education) or call**

<sup>1</sup>Broadband Internet access required for video chat; fees may apply. <sup>2</sup>Microsoft Exchange Server sold separately. <sup>3</sup>Microsoft Office sold separately. <sup>4</sup>Boot Camp requires a Mac with an Intel processor and Windows XP with Service Pack 2 or Windows Vista (sold separately).