

MacOS Sonoma

PMUG Long Topic October 14, 2023

Slide Display Sources:

- Apple Website highlighting MacOS Sonoma
- My MacBook Pro 2022 M2

Compatibility for MacOS 14

- iMac 2019 and later
- iMac Pro 2017 and later
- Mac mini 2018 and later
- MacBook Air 2018 and later
- MacBook Pro 2018 and later
- Mac Pro 2019 and later
- Mac Studio 2022 and later

Sonoma, CA

- West of Napa and east of Petaluma and north of SF.
- It is in the heart of the coastal wine region.
- Varieties:

Chardonnay	(15,500 acres)
Pinot Noir	(13,000 acres)
Cabernet Sauvignon	(12,700 acres)
Zinfandel	(4,760 acres)
Merlot	(4,200 acres)
Sauvignon Blanc	(2,600 acres)
Syrah	(1,380 acres)



The Upgrades...

Screen Savers

- Apple TV - like screen savers of world-wide locations. This includes Sonoma, CA (who knew?!). These are the slow-motion fly overs.
- Shuffle feature for themes - earth (satellite), landscapes, cityscape, underwater.
- Not a big change but something long overdue.

Widgets

- They can be placed anywhere on the desktop!!
- Under MacOS 13 (Big Sur), they could only be placed in the right side of the screen and accessed by moving the cursor to the upper right corner of the screen.



Widgets on MacOS 13

Widgets Continued

- Widgets are now interactive. Previously clicking on the widget brought up the underlying app. Now, you can interact with the material on the widget itself without bringing up the app.
- iPhone widgets can be added to the Mac! You need the iPhone nearby and on the same Wi-Fi network.
- Open through notifications or through current widget “edit” feature.

Video Conferencing

- Presenter Overlay. Allows you to stay in the front while sharing your screen on FaceTime and on Zoom and other third-party apps.
- It does require Apple silicon for this feature.
- New “reactions.” Fun 3D effects = thumbs up & down, hearts, balloons, rain, confetti, lasers and fireworks. You can activate with the push of a button or hand gestures.

Safari & Passwords

- You can now create separate profiles such as work and personal. It will allow for separating history, cookies, extensions, tab groups and favorites.
- Web app feature - Save a site to the dock with an icon for faster access. This creates a simplified toolbar for easier browsing.
- Enhanced private browsing (similar to iOS) locks your private browsing windows when your not using them, blocks known trackers from loading and removes tracing that id's you from URL's.
- Password & passkey sharing allows you to easily share accounts with trusted contacts.

Messages

- Live Stickers sync from iOS and iPadOS to macOS.
- Search filters for people, keywords, photos or links.

Gaming

- Game Mode gives games the highest priority of the CPU and GPU, which delivers more consistent frame rates and lower latency to wireless controllers and AirPods.
- Must have Mac with the Apple Silicon.

Keyboard

- “Improved” ~~etecorrect automobile autoformat~~ AUTOCORRECT.
- Improved accuracy by leveraging a more powerful transformer-based language model.
- Improved dictation supports using your voice and keyboard together to enter and edit text.

AirPods

- For Mac:
- Improved automatic switching now detects the Mac up to 2X faster for AirPods 2nd and 3rd generation and AirPods Pro 1st and 2nd generation and AirPods Max (with latest firmware).

AirPods (General)

- Adaptive Audio feature dynamically blends Active Noise Cancellation and Transparency to tailor the noise control experience based on the conditions of your environment. (AirPods Pro 2nd Generation.)
- Conversation Awareness - lowers your media volume and enhances the voices of the people in front of you while reducing background noise. (AirPods Pro 2nd Generation.)

Privacy

- Sensitive Content Warnings can be enabled to help prevent users from unexpectedly viewing sensitive images in Messages. Note: this is currently available only on Apple apps.
- Once activated and you receive sensitive material, you will have options to view, obtain assistance and block contact.

Accessibility

- Live Speech lets you type what you want to say and reads it aloud in FaceTime calls or in-person conversations. Must activate in System Settings —> Accessibility

Other fun elements...

- One-time verification code auto-fill from “Mail” helps to quickly sign into sites in Safari without leaving the browser.
- Reminders - Grocery lists automatically groups items into sections as they are added.
- Reminders - Separate columns in a linear format option!
- PDF Support - docs and PDFs in Notes are presented in full-width so they are easier to view and edit. Now supports auto-fill.

- Visual look up in photos for recipes from pictures of your dishes!
- Pets can be added to the photo app “People” identification.
- The option now to say “Hey, Siri” or simply, “Siri.” (Apple silicon needed.)
- Item sharing in Find My allows you to share an AirTag with up to five other people.
- Home App - activity history displays recent history for door locks, garage doors, security systems and contact sensors.

For additional info

- <https://www.apple.com/macos/sonoma>

Thank you!

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