

# printout

Keystone MacCentral Macintosh Users Group ♦ <http://www.keystonemac.com>

## KeyMac Christmas Party!

**Our** December meeting will be a combination Christmas party and regular meeting with the ever-popular Q&A and some interesting presentations as well. We are requesting that each of you bring a side dish, snack, or dessert to share. If you can cook or bake, please do so. If that is not your strong point, buy some of your favorite snacks. Keystone Mac will provide the soda, snacks, cups, plates and napkins. We will all enjoy the variety of items as we have in previous years. December 18th is party time, so join us for a great meeting!

Our presentations will include:

CONDENSED VERSION OF THE OCTOBER IPAD AND  
MAC PRESENTATION IN NEW YORK

We will show a condensed version of the presentation. After that some short videos regarding the new Mac Mini and a quick video from iFixit showing what can be upgraded on the new MacBook Air.

### IS IT TIME TO CONSIDER A PASSWORD MANAGER?

The latest scam/extortion on the Internet is the ominous letter that implies that a hacker now controls your identity and is going to destroy your life. Included in said letter is most likely a password that is familiar to you.

*"Dear User, I am a spyware software developer.*

*Your account has been hacked by me in the summer of 2018.*

*I understand that it is hard to believe, but here is my evidence:  
- I sent you this email from your account. - Password from  
account your-current-email@your-account.com: oneOfYour-  
REALPasswords (on moment of hack)...etc.*

We'll have a short demo of a common encryption standard and how easy we can crack it online with free tools. Then we'll view a short video about password hacks and some good advice on how to create good password. After this we will open up a roundtable discussion by our members about their experience with Password Managers. 🛡️

Meet us at

**Bethany Village Retirement Center**

Education Room

5225 Wilson Lane, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

**Tuesday, December 18<sup>th</sup> 2018 6:30 p.m.**

**Attendance is free and open to all interested persons.**

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Keystone MacCentral is a not-for-profit group of Macintosh enthusiasts who generally meet the third Tuesday of every month to exchange information, participate in question-and-answer sessions, view product demonstrations, and obtain resource materials that will help them get the most out of their computer systems. Meetings are free and open to the public. The *Keystone MacCentral printout* is the official newsletter of Keystone MacCentral and an independent publication not affiliated or otherwise associated with or sponsored or sanctioned by any for-profit organization, including Apple Inc. Copyright © 2018, Keystone MacCentral, 310 Somerset Drive, Shiresmanstown, PA 17011.

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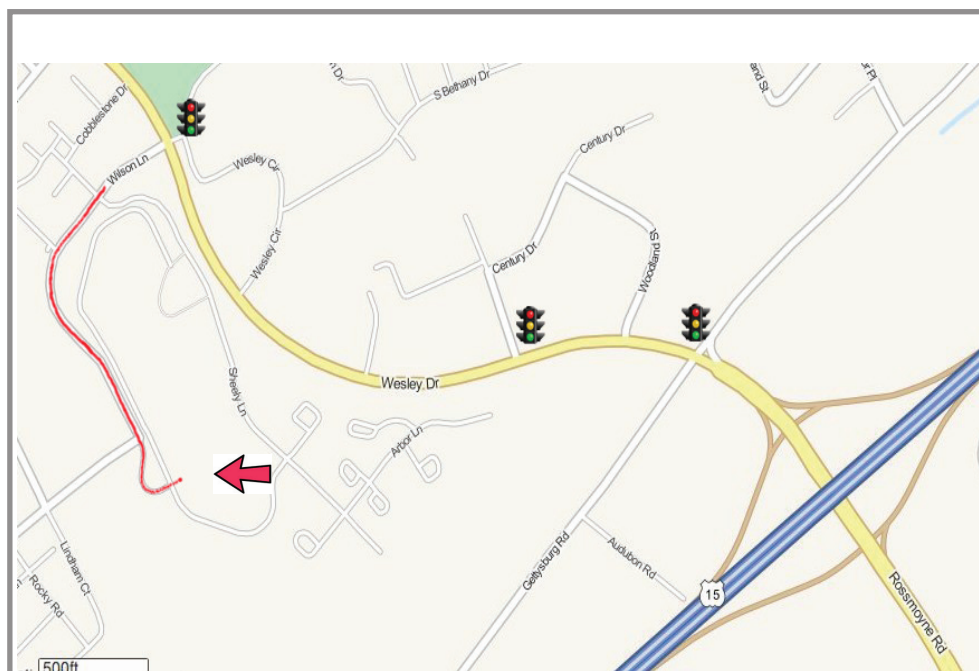
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## Keystone MacCentral Essentials

### Meeting Place

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5225 Wilson Lane  
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# New MacBook Air Is a Compelling Upgrade in a Confusing Laptop Lineup

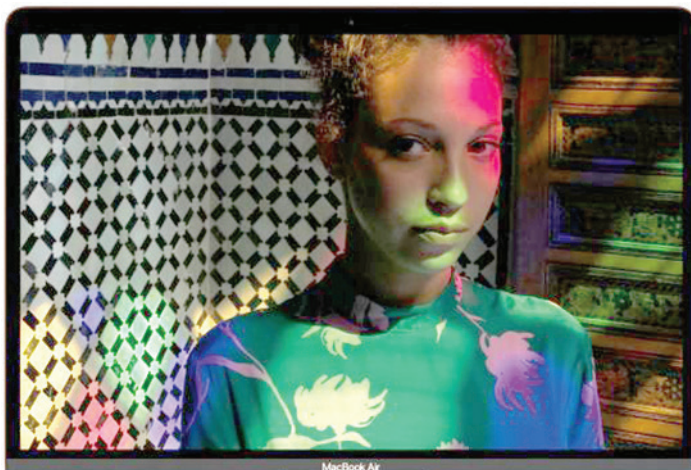
At the company's scheduled special event at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, Apple executives and attendees alike were unusually energetic and enthusiastic. That may have been due in part to quantities of jet-lag-busting caffeine for those flying in from the West Coast, or the presence of lots of Apple retail employees in the hall, but we'd like to think it was more due to the excitement surrounding the update to the [MacBook Air](#).

With all due respect to the MacBook Pro, Tim Cook called the MacBook Air "the most beloved notebook ever" and invoked the memory of Steve Jobs pulling the original MacBook Air out of an envelope. Fans of the model, including many of us here at TidBITS, have waited a long time for an update—the previous version of the 13-inch MacBook Air remained untouched since June 2017 with the release before that coming in March 2015.

Put simply, Apple delivered a revamped 13-inch MacBook Air that answered nearly every concern about the previous models. It's a compelling upgrade except for how it fits into Apple's increasingly large and muddled laptop lineup, where its \$1199 starting price puts it between the previous MacBook Air, which remains for sale at \$999, and the aging 12-inch MacBook and the non-Touch Bar MacBook Pro at \$1299. (Apple discontinued the 11-inch MacBook Air almost exactly 2 years ago on 28 October 2016 and did not resurrect it.)

## Retina Display

The most significant change to [the new MacBook Air's specs](#) is the inclusion of a 13.3-inch Retina display. Previously, the display maxed out at a resolution of 1440 by 900; now it boasts a native resolution of 2560 by 1600 at 227 pixels per inch.



Specs don't do Retina displays justice, however, and speaking as someone who has used a non-Retina MacBook Air for many years, I think this change alone will make the new MacBook Air significantly more competitive with Apple's other laptops.

## CPU, Storage, Graphics, and RAM

Driving that screen is an eighth-generation 1.6 GHz dual-core Intel Core i5 processor with Turbo Boost up to 3.6 GHz and 4 MB of L3 cache. The previous model had a 1.8 GHz dual-core Intel Core i5 whose Turbo Boost only went up to 2.9 GHz and that had only 3 MB of L3 cache. However, you could also bump the previous model to a 2.2 GHz dual-core Intel Core i7; there is no CPU upgrade option for the new MacBook Air.

In its [press release](#), Apple talks about performance only generally, saying "delivering the performance you need for everyday activities like organizing your photos, browsing the Web, creating presentations or viewing and editing videos." Reading between the lines, that says to me that the new MacBook Air isn't notably faster than the previous model when it comes to pure processing power. Check out the comments for benchmark discussions.

However, Apple does say that the SSDs in the new MacBook Air are up to 60% faster than the previous model, which will speed up launching apps and opening large files. Also, the previous model's SSDs maxed out at 512 GB, whereas the new model starts at 128 GB and lets you upgrade to 256 GB for \$200, 512 GB for \$400, or 1.5 TB for \$1200.

In terms of graphics processing, Apple moves from the previous model's integrated Intel HD Graphics 6000 to Intel UHD Graphics 617. The company said nothing about how that might affect performance, so again, I suspect it's not significantly better. If you want faster graphics, you can connect an eGPU (external GPU) via Thunderbolt 3. I can't see anyone bothering to do that with a MacBook Air; if you care deeply about faster graphics, get a 15-inch MacBook Pro, which comes with a Radeon Pro and can soon be configured with a Radeon Pro Vega for even more performance.

Finally, the previous MacBook Air started with 4 GB of RAM and let you upgrade to 8 GB when you ordered. The new model starts at 8 GB and lets you upgrade to 16 GB for \$200. Frankly, I recommend the 16 GB — you won't regret it. The new RAM is also faster, at 2133 MHz, up from 1600 MHz.



## Touch ID and T2

There's no Touch Bar in the new MacBook Air—it seems that Apple isn't really serious about it as an alternative control device for the Mac in general. However, the new MacBook Air does feature a Touch ID sensor in the upper-right corner of the keyboard. That will improve security and ease working with Touch ID-capable software like 1Password.

To make Touch ID possible, the MacBook Air includes Apple's T2 security chip with a Secure Enclave. Although the T2 could in the future prevent repair by shops that aren't authorized by Apple, it offers some very real improvements right away. It ensures that software loaded during the boot process hasn't been tampered with, encrypts all data stored on the SSD, and enables "Hey Siri."

Although Touch ID is extremely welcome, it's interesting that Apple chose not to jump to Face ID as it did for the new iPad Pro, which has roughly the same physical limitations. We suspect that Face ID may be more expensive or that there may be engineering challenges with integrating it into macOS, but it's hard to imagine Apple won't go there in the future.

## Butterfly Keyboard and Force Touch Trackpad

The main change that gave us pause is Apple's reliance on the third generation of its butterfly-switch keyboard, which has proved controversial in the MacBook Pro due to short key travel and key failures. If keyboard feel is all-important to you, you'll want to give this one a try in person before buying.

The company made a big deal about how each key is backlit with its own low-power LED for more accurate illumination, but I have to say, accuracy in key backlight levels doesn't even appear on my priority list.

Apple's switch to the new Force Touch trackpad is largely uncontroversial. We've heard hardly any complaints about it, and those were mostly about it being too big. It's 20% larger than the Multi-Touch trackpad in the previous model and provides additional capabilities.

## Connectivity

Unsurprisingly, Apple dropped nearly all the ports from the previous model, replacing USB-A, Thunderbolt 2, Mag-Safe 2, and an SDXC card slot with a pair of Thunderbolt 3 ports on the left side. As with the MacBook Pro, you'll use the Thunderbolt 3 ports for charging and connectivity. Those Thunderbolt 3 ports also support up to one 5K external display or two 4K displays.

Although the new MacBook Air suffers from the same annoying dongle requirements as the MacBook Pro, the audience for this Mac is less likely to be stressed about it. However, if you want to connect an external display and a hard drive for backup while still charging, you're going to need a special cable or Thunderbolt 3 dock.

The only other port is the 3.5mm audio jack, which moves to the right side. However, you might not have to pop in those earbuds since the new MacBook Air features redesigned stereo speakers that are 25% louder and have twice the bass. It also has three microphones, up from two in the previous model, and retains the 720p FaceTime camera.

## Physical Size

Gone is the aluminum bezel around the screen — the new MacBook Air has a much thinner black bezel. Apple took advantage of that change to reduce the size of the MacBook Air significantly, boasting that it's 10% thinner, has 17% less volume, and at 2.75 pounds (1.25 kg) is about 7% lighter. So it's quite a bit smaller and lighter than the previous model, which is welcome. The industrial design, which is thicker at the hinge and tapers to the front edge, remains the same, although it's a touch thinner in the back and thicker in the front.

Apple spent quite a bit of time in the presentation talking about how the aluminum case in the MacBook Air is now made entirely of 100% recycled aluminum. That's a good thing.

## Price and Availability

The new MacBook Air starts at \$1199 for a configuration that includes 128 GB of storage and 8 GB of RAM as the only build-to-order options. However, you can choose from space gray, gold, and silver, which, happily, don't affect the price at all.

You can place an order now for delivery starting on 7 November 2018.

## The MacBook Lineup Gets More Confusing

During the presentation, everyone in our SlackBITS channel was extremely positive about the changes Apple brought to the MacBook Air, and in general, I agree. However, as I was writing this article and comparing the new model against other machines in Apple's laptop lineup, I'm a bit more conflicted. It's not the specs; it's that \$1199 price.

That's because the non-Touch Bar MacBook Pro costs only \$100 more and bests the new MacBook Air in nearly every way other than Touch ID, a 1.5 TB SSD option, and 120 grams of weight. That MacBook Pro offers significantly better performance thanks to its 2.3 GHz dual-core Intel Core i5 or 2.5 GHz dual-core Intel Core i7. Also, its Retina display can display more colors and at 500 nits is brighter than the MacBook Air's 300-nit screen.

For \$200 less, you can still buy the older model of the MacBook Air, which has all the old ports but is larger and heavier, and lacks the new model's Retina display and Touch ID. Even more oddly, Apple has retained the 12-inch MacBook, an overpriced, underpowered machine hobbled by a single USB-C port. At \$1299, it's more expensive than the MacBook Air, and the only reasons to buy it remain its diminutive size and weight.

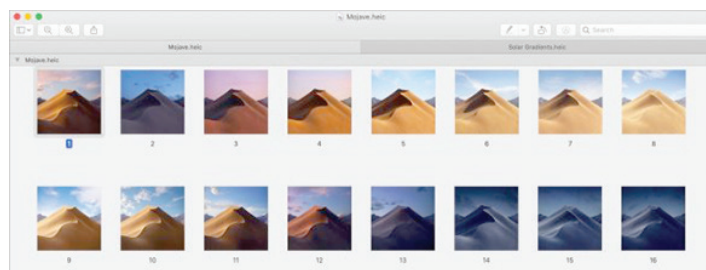
If you look at Apple's [Mac model comparison page](#), you can see that the company is now selling six laptops in five form factors, and it's now even harder to decide among

them. We could see that as an embarrassment of riches, or we could just wish that Apple would better differentiate its models by price, size, and performance. 🍷

by Adam Engst

# How to Create Mojave's True Dynamic Desktops with GraphicConverter

At some point during the betas of macOS 10.14 Mojave, I became curious about what was behind Mojave's new Dynamic Desktop feature that slowly changes the desktop picture throughout the day. A quick trip to /Library/Desktop Pictures revealed that Mojave's two dynamic desktops—called "Mojave" and "Solar Gradients"—were HEIC files instead of JPEGs. I double-clicked one and it opened in Preview, showing that the main HEIC file was, in fact, a container for 16 individual HEIC images.



HEIC is the filename extension for High Efficiency Image File Format, which is an image container format—for more details, see Glenn Fleishman's "[HEVC and HEIF Will Make Video and Photos More Efficient](#)" (30 June 2017). I played briefly with trying to duplicate Apple's file and replace the images, but those experiments proved fruitless, so I turned to an expert. Not just any expert, but the guru of image conversions and author of [GraphicConverter](#), Thorsten Lemke.

When I pointed out that the Dynamic Desktop feature seemed to be a relatively simple collection of images, Thorsten promised to look into it more. A beta of GraphicConverter arrived soon after, and we went back and forth a few times before he figured out both the image requirements and the necessary metadata to make it all work. [GraphicConverter 10.6.5](#) is now available with this feature when running in Mojave.

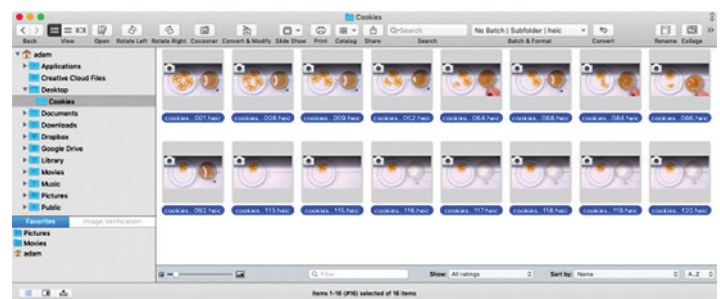
(You may see tutorials for making dynamic desktops merely by putting photos in a folder, selecting that folder in System Preferences > Desktop & Screen Saver > Desktop > Folders, and then enabling the Change Picture checkbox and choosing an interval. This approach may provide much the same effect, but it has been available for many years—feel free to give it a try if you're not yet running Mojave.)

## Building and Testing a Dynamic Desktop

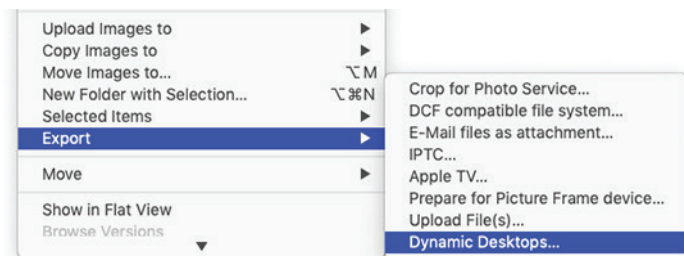
The first step in making your dynamic desktop is acquiring the necessary images. You'll need 16 separate images. At one point in the betas, GraphicConverter wanted them all to have a resolution of exactly 5120 by 2880 pixels, but that doesn't seem to be necessary anymore. Just make sure they'll look good at the full size of the screen. The file format of those images also isn't important but put them all in a folder for easy access. Regardless, collecting your images will be the hardest part of creating a dynamic desktop.

As you can see in the screenshots of Apple's dynamic desktop files above, you'll want to name your images so their order starts at the beginning and continues through to the end—whatever beginning and end mean to you. Both of Apple's examples map to hours in the day, but I could easily imagine a dynamic desktop image of a sunflower tracking the sun across the sky or a construction project progressing over many months.

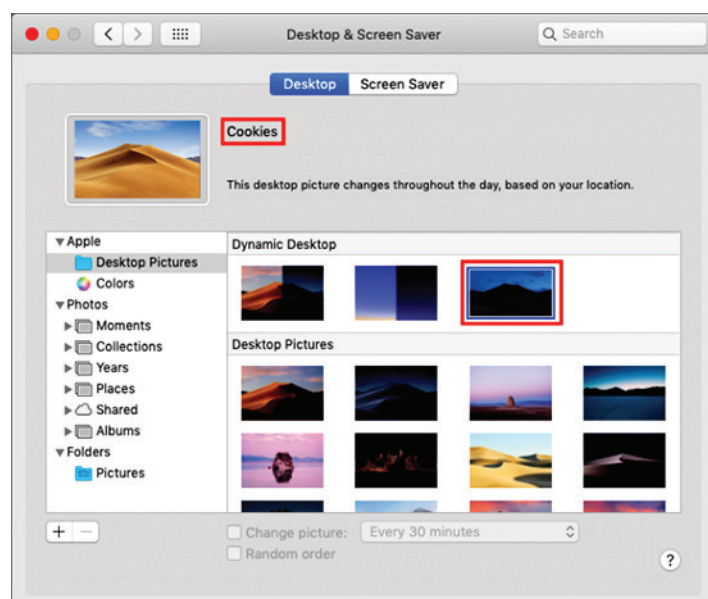
Once you have your 16 images, open GraphicConverter 10.6.5, choose File > Browse, and navigate to the folder that contains your images.



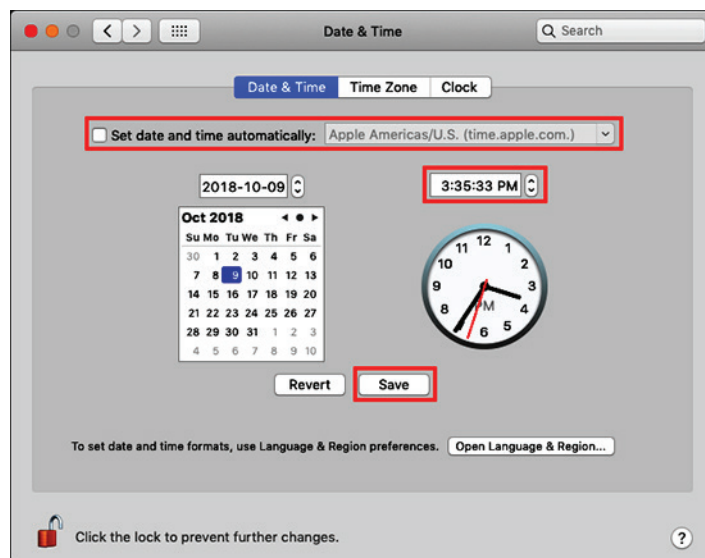
Select all the images, Control- or right-click one of them, and in the large contextual menu that appears, scroll way down and choose Export > Dynamic Desktops. Name your file, navigate to /Library/Desktop Pictures as the destination folder, click OK, and wait a bit, since it takes GraphicConverter some time to convert all the images to HEIC and assemble them into the container file.



After GraphicConverter finishes saving the HEIC file in /Library/Desktop Pictures, open System Preferences > Desktop & Screen Saver > Desktop. You'll notice an additional Mojave icon in the Dynamic Desktop section; select it and you'll see the name of your file above. Apple told Thorsten that the API needed to set the icon and preview aren't yet public, so he doesn't know what's necessary to get them to display properly.



Despite this cosmetic confusion, Mojave will display one of the images from your file on the Desktop itself. To confirm that your file is truly dynamic, open System Preferences > Date & Time > Date & Time, disable "Set date and time automatically," set the time back a few hours, and click the Save button. Keep changing the time by a few hours and saving to see different images appear on the Desktop. When you're done, make sure to turn on "Set date and time automatically" again.



That's all there is to making a true dynamic desktop with GraphicConverter. If you're interested in learning more, Marcin Czachurski has written a two-part article about his explorations into the Dynamic Desktop file format as well. 🗑️

by Michael E. Cohen

## Apple Introduces Redesigned iPad Pro and Apple Pencil

Even though it weighs in at a svelte 1.03 pounds (468 g), the new 11-inch **iPad Pro** that Apple announced at its October 30th event in Brooklyn packs a burly set of features, as does its 12.9-inch sibling, which is just 1.39 pounds (631 g). These new additions to the iPad lineup mark several big breaks with prior models.

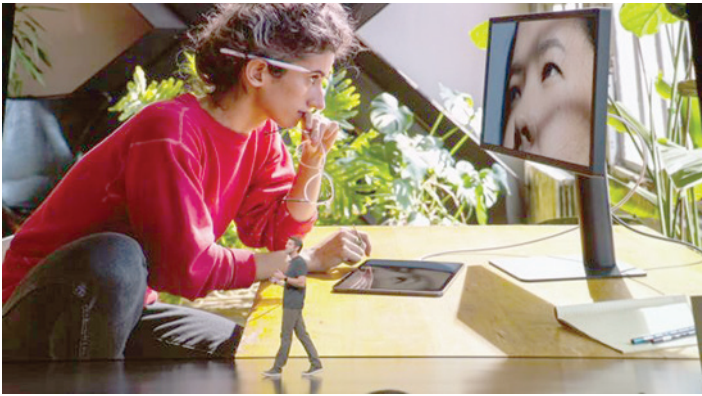
### Breaking with the Past

First of all, the new iPad Pro has neither a Home button nor Touch ID unlocking. Instead, behind the screen's thin black bezel is a new 7-megapixel TrueDepth camera that handles Face ID authentication like the iPhone X series and enables support for Animoji, Memoji, 1080p HD video recording, Portrait Mode, and Portrait Lighting stills. It

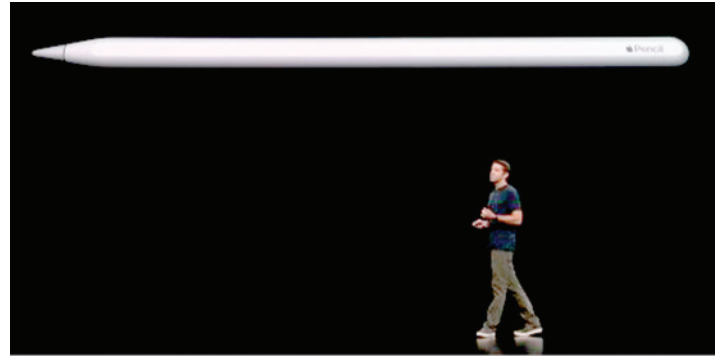
even has a flash for low light, employing screen lighting with a feature Apple calls Retina Flash. Also, unlike the iPhone, the iPad Pro can detect faces in both portrait and landscape orientation.

Second, there's no more Lightning connector. Instead, the iPad Pro now has a USB-C connector for charging and connecting with peripherals. This makes the new iPad Pro more compatible with third-party charging devices and lets you easily connect an external monitor. It also allows Apple to sell yet another dongle (a [USB-C to 3.5mm headphone jack adapter](#)).





Instead, you just set the flat edge of the Apple Pencil on the magnetized side of your iPad to dock it, charge it, and pair it via Bluetooth. It's now a quintessential Apple device, with no ports, connectors, buttons, or moving parts of any kind. And that flat edge means it won't roll off the table anymore.



Third, the new iPad Pros sport a magnetic attachment area and wireless charging capability for the new Apple Pencil, which no longer needs to hang precariously off the bottom of your iPad as you give it a quick charge. Speaking of charging, one of these new iPad Pros, with the appropriate USB-C-to-Lightning cable, can now charge an iPhone.

Finally, although the 11-inch iPad Pro retains the physical footprint of its 10.5-inch predecessor despite its larger screen, the 12.9-inch iPad Pro keeps the same screen size and slims its dimensions down to the point where it's roughly the same size as an 8.5-by-11-inch piece of paper. Both models have flat edges with rounded corners, a design approach last seen in the iPhone 5s.

### True to Its Heritage

What isn't a big break with the past is the array of incremental enhancements Apple also packed into these next-generation tablets. These include:

- An improved 12-megapixel rear camera to take advantage of Apple's latest computational photography capabilities, like Smart HDR. Alas, it does stick out of the back slightly, much like the newer iPhones.

- Liquid Retina 264 pixel-per-inch displays featuring Apple's True Tone and ProMotion technology, low reflectivity, and rounded corners

- Four speakers and five microphones

- An advanced Apple-designed CPU: the new A12X Bionic chip with embedded M12 coprocessor and Neural Engine that Apple claims is faster than 92% of the laptops currently sold

### Evolved Peripherals

With these new iPad Pros come new peripherals: a new Apple Pencil and new Smart Keyboard Folio.

The new Apple Pencil features several welcome evolutionary enhancements. It incorporates a touch-sensitive surface so you can double-tap it to change drawing modes, a feature already supported in Apple's iOS 12.1 apps and coming soon in third-party apps. The easy-to-lose cap is gone since, as mentioned earlier, you no longer plug it in to charge it.

Along with a new Apple Pencil is a new keyboard, the Smart Keyboard Folio. Attaching magnetically to the back of the new iPad Pro models, these keyboard covers use a redesigned Smart Connector and provide two viewing angles when deployed as a keyboard. Unlike the previous Smart Keyboard, the Smart Keyboard Folio protects both the front and the back of the iPad Pro when closed.



### iPad Pro Pricing and Availability

Naturally, such technological richness doesn't come at bargain prices. Here's what you can expect to pay for these new devices:

**11-inch iPad Pro:** The smaller model starts at \$799 for a Wi-Fi-only model in silver or space gray with 64 GB of storage. Want more space? 256 GB will cost you \$949. 512 GB breaks the thousand-dollar barrier by a fair amount, running you \$1149, and the 1 TB model will deplete your savings by an impressive \$1549. Add \$150 per model for cellular connectivity.

**12.9-inch iPad Pro:** For a larger screen, add \$200 to the price of each of the 11-inch models. For example, the base model of the 12.9-inch iPad Pro starts at \$999

and tops off at \$1749—for a Wi-Fi-only device. Again, cellular capability adds another \$150 per model.

**Apple Pencil and Smart Keyboard Folio:** Apple's accessories got more expensive. The new Apple Pencil will set you back \$129, up from \$99, and the new Smart Keyboard Folio costs \$179 for the 11-inch Pro and \$199 for the 12.9-inch Pro tablet, up from \$159 and \$169, respectively.

Although you can place an order for one of these new iPad Pro tablets now, they won't arrive until at least 7 November 2018, according to the Apple online store, and some configurations are now reporting arrival dates as late as 21 November 2018. So if you want one soon, get your order in quickly. Or, if you want to save \$150, you can still purchase last year's 10.5-inch iPad Pro for \$649. 📱

by Josh Centers

# Apple Releases iOS 12.1, macOS 10.14.1, watchOS 5.1.1, and tvOS 12.1

Along with the Macs and iPads it unveiled at its special event in Brooklyn, Apple today released a slew of operating system updates: iOS 12.1, macOS 10.14.1 Mojave, watchOS 5.1, tvOS 12.1, and iOS 12.1 for HomePod. Collectively, they add Group FaceTime, more emojis, and other features to the Apple ecosystem.

As always, it's wise to wait a few days to see what issues might crop up from these updates before installing. Lending credence to our advice is the fact that watchOS 5.1 bricked enough devices that [Apple pulled the update temporarily](#) and has [now replaced it with watchOS 5.1.1](#).

## iOS 12.1

iOS 12.1 brings the delayed Group FaceTime feature, dual SIM support for the iPhone XS and XR, camera improvements, new emoji, and more. The update weighs in at 438.9 MB on the 10.5-inch iPad Pro and 470.1 MB on the iPhone X, and you can obtain it in Settings > General > Software Update or install it through iTunes.



**iOS 12.1**  
Apple Inc.  
470.1 MB

iOS 12.1 introduces Group FaceTime, adds over 70 new emoji, and includes support for Dual SIM with eSIM for iPhone XS, iPhone XS Max, and iPhone XR. This update also includes bug fixes and improvements.

## Group FaceTime

The marquee feature of iOS 12.1 is Group FaceTime, which Apple delayed from the initial iOS 12 release (based on our internal testing over the summer, with good reason!). Note that while all iOS 12 devices support Group FaceTime, older devices are limited to audio-only calls. That set includes the iPhone 5s, iPhone 6, and iPhone 6 Plus, along with the iPad mini 2, iPad mini 3, and iPad Air.

To start a Group FaceTime call, tap the + button in the FaceTime app, enter a contact name in the To field, and then, after choosing a contact, simply start adding another. When you're ready to start the call, tap Audio or Video to kick things off.

You can also start a Group FaceTime call from a group Messages conversation by tapping the group name at the top of the screen and then tapping the revealed FaceTime icon.

Each participant's picture appears in a tile. Audio-only callers are represented by an icon with their initials. During a call, you can tap the More (•••) button to reveal the Add Person option.

If you're invited to a Group FaceTime call, you receive a silent notification or message that you can tap at any time to join. If things don't seem to be working, tap the green camera icon to start the call.

Group FaceTime works on the Mac too, with macOS 10.14.1 Mojave or later. More on that below.

We tried Group FaceTime last week, but we're sad to report that we can't recommend it right now—it was confusing to use, worked poorly, and was visually annoying when it did work. Some of the problems may be teething pains, but the usability issues will require software updates. We'll keep trying it, but Google Hangouts remains our preferred solution for group video calls.

## Camera Improvements

On the iPhone XS and XR, you can now adjust the depth control in real time before you take a photo in addition to adjusting it in the captured image. To do so, tap the f-stop control in the top-right corner of the screen, drag the depth control slider to adjust the image, and when you're satisfied, tap the shutter button to take the picture.

Apple also claims that it has fixed excessive skin smoothing in selfies taken with the iPhone XS and XR, a problem dubbed (sigh) "Beautygate" by the press. Apple says that



it was caused by a bug in the software's Smart HDR processing.

## Dual SIM Support

The iPhone XS and XR boast Dual SIM functionality, which lets you have two phone numbers (even with two different carriers) on the same phone. It could be ideal for anyone who has to carry both work and personal phones, or for people who regularly travel to other countries. However, Dual SIM support comes with a number of caveats:

You must have an iPhone XS or XR.

To use two different carriers, your iPhone must be unlocked.

**Your carrier must support eSIM.** In the United States, that means AT&T, T-Mobile, and Verizon.

If a CDMA carrier (like Verizon) provides your first SIM, your second SIM won't support CDMA. (You may be able to use Voice Over LTE on the second SIM with Verizon, but your network coverage will be reduced until Verizon goes all-LTE in 2020.)

Dual SIM functionality is a bit finicky and complex, but Apple has a [thorough guide on how to use it](#).

## New Emoji

iOS 12.1 adds over 70 new emoji, such as red-haired people, bald people, superheroes, and even bagels. Yay. Emojipedia offers a complete list of every new emoji in iOS 12.1.

## And More

iOS 12.1 also sports other changes that:

Improve cellular connectivity for the iPhone XS and XR

Let you use Face ID or Touch ID to reset a child's Screen Time passcode

Fix a bug that caused messages to be merged into one thread when two users were signed in with the same Apple ID on multiple iPhones

Address a bug that prevented some voicemails from appearing

Resolve a bug that could cause a phone number to appear in the Phone app without its corresponding contact name

Fix a Screen Time bug that prevented reporting on specific Web sites in the Activity report

Add a performance management feature to prevent the iPhone 8, 8 Plus, and X from shutting down

Tell you if your iPhone XS or XR battery is counterfeit; look in Settings > Battery > Battery Health

Improve the reliability of VoiceOver in Camera, Safari, and Siri

Fix an issue that could cause MDM Device Enrollment to report an Invalid Profile error for some enterprise users

iOS 12.1 also features 24 security fixes.

## macOS 10.14.1

The highlights of the [macOS 10.14.1 update](#) are Group FaceTime and the aforementioned new emoji. To install the 3.33 GB update, go to System Preferences > Software Update — you can no longer update from the App Store app.



By the way, if you were running a beta of Mojave, 10.14.1 won't appear in the Software Update preference pane. Instead, as [Dan Moren noted at Six Colors](#), you need to get Mojave from the App Store app first, which will cause Software Update to install 10.14.1.

The way you initiate Group FaceTime calls in Mojave is nearly identical to iOS 12, except that in Messages, you click Details to reveal the FaceTime buttons.

The macOS 10.14.1 update [includes 52 security fixes](#).

## watchOS 5.1.1

Now that Apple has released watchOS 5.1.1 to address the problems suffered by version 5.1, you can once again consider updating, although we still recommend waiting a few more days, just in case.

The key new features of the 133 MB [watchOS 5.1.1 update](#) would seem to be support for Group FaceTime audio and the aforementioned new emoji, but Apple's release notes don't even mention them.



Instead, Apple says that watchOS 5.1.1:

Fixes an issue that could cause an incomplete installation of the Walkie-Talkie app for some users

Resolves an issue that prevented some users from being able to send or receive invitations on Walkie-Talkie

Addresses an issue where some previously earned Activity awards were not showing in the Awards tab of the Activity app for some users

Oddly, the release notes also say:

*Apple Watch Series 4 automatically contacts emergency services if you are immobile for about a minute after detecting a hard fall. The watch will now also play a message that informs the responder that Apple Watch has detected a fall and shares your location coordinates when possible.*

As far as we know, fall detection shipped with watchOS 5.0, so we're not sure why Apple is calling it out now.

The watchOS 5.1 update also included [14 security fixes](#).

### tvOS 12.1

The [tvOS 12.1](#) update "includes general performance and stability improvements" and [11 security fixes](#). If automatic updates aren't on, you can update your fourth-generation Apple TV or Apple TV 4K by going to Settings > System > Software Updates.

### iOS 12.1 for HomePod

Finally, in an almost entirely silent update that will install itself automatically if you don't get to it first via the Home app, iOS 12.1 for the HomePod "includes general improvements for stability and quality." Bet you didn't see that new wording coming! 🗑

## Software Review

### Pro Video Formats 2.0.7

**Nov 15, 2018 — 7.3 MB**

System Requirements  
– OS X 10.11

Pro Video Formats includes support for the following professional video codecs:

- Apple Intermediate Codec
- Apple ProRes
- AVC-Intra 50 / 100 / 200 / 4:4:4 / LT
- AVC-LongG
- XAVC
- XF-AVC
- DVCPRO HD
- HDV
- XDCAM EX / HD / HD422
- MPEG IMX
- Uncompressed 4:2:2

Pro Video Formats also includes the following MXF support:

- Support for SMPTE ST 377-4 audio channel tagging in MXF files
- Improved stability for MXF file reading
- Support for XF-AVC 4:2:0, XAVC 4:2:0 high frame rate, and XF-AVC slow motion MXF files

### macOS Mojave 10.14.1 Supplemental Update for MacBook Air (2018)

**Nov 7, 2018 — 1.3 GB**

System Requirements  
– macOS 10.14.1

The macOS Mojave 10.14.1 Supplemental Update improves the stability and reliability of MacBook Air (2018) computers and is recommended for all users. 🗑

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