



Computer Operating Systems

A beginner's guide to the major desktop operating systems



What Is an Operating System (OS)?

- An operating system (OS) is the main software that runs your computer
- It manages hardware (like keyboard, screen, and memory)
- It allows you to open apps, browse the internet, write documents, and more
- Without an OS, your computer wouldn't know what to do!

 **Note:** This session is about laptop and desktop computers — not mobile devices or tablets, which run different software (like iOS or Android).

The Big 3



Windows

Made By: Microsoft
Common On: Most PCs & laptops



macOS

Made By: Apple
Common On: MacBooks, iMacs



Linux

Made By: Open Source (many versions)
Common On: Tech hobbyists, developers, servers



Versions Over the Years



Windows:

- Early: Windows XP, Vista, 7
- Mid: Windows 8, 8.1
- Recent: Windows 10 (2015–), Windows 11 (2021–present)



macOS:

- Early: Mac OS X Tiger, Leopard, Snow Leopard
- Mid: Yosemite, Sierra, Mojave
- Recent: macOS Ventura (2022), macOS Sonoma (2023)



Linux:

- Many versions (called “distros”): Ubuntu, Mint, Fedora, Debian
- Versions are updated frequently and vary by distro



Versions Over the Years

Windows OS History

| | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
|  Windows 1.0 (1985) |  Windows 3.1 (1992) |  Windows 95 (1995) |  Windows XP (2001) |
|  Windows Vista (2006) |  Windows 7 (2009) |  Windows 8 (2012) |  Windows 10 (2015) |

 **Windows 11**

Windows 11 (2021)

Versions Over the Years



Apple macOS History

BIG CATS

- Cheetah
- Puma
- Jaguar
- Panther
- Tiger
- Leopard
- Snow Leopard
- Lion
- Mountain Lion

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CALIFORNIA LOCATIONS

- Mavericks
- Yosemite
- El Capitan
- Sierra
- High Sierra
- Mojave
- Catalina

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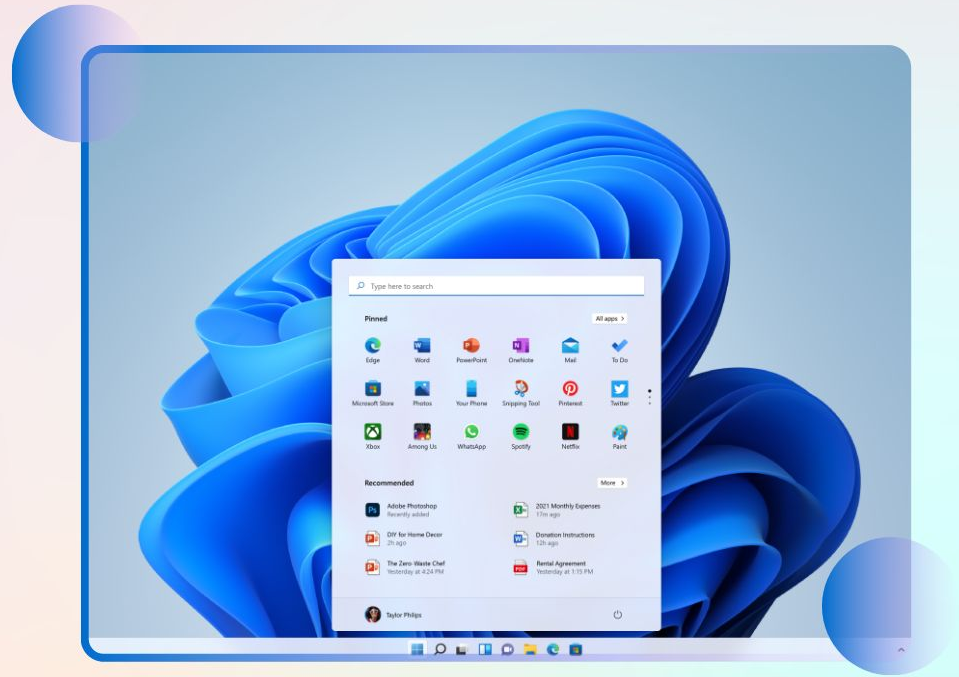
- Big Sur
- Monterey
- Ventura
- Sonoma
- Sequoia

INTEL & ARM CPU SUPPORT

Current Versions 2024-2025

■ Windows 11 – Modern look, better for touchscreens, security updates

📌 Note: Windows 10 is still supported (until Oct 2025) and still used widely



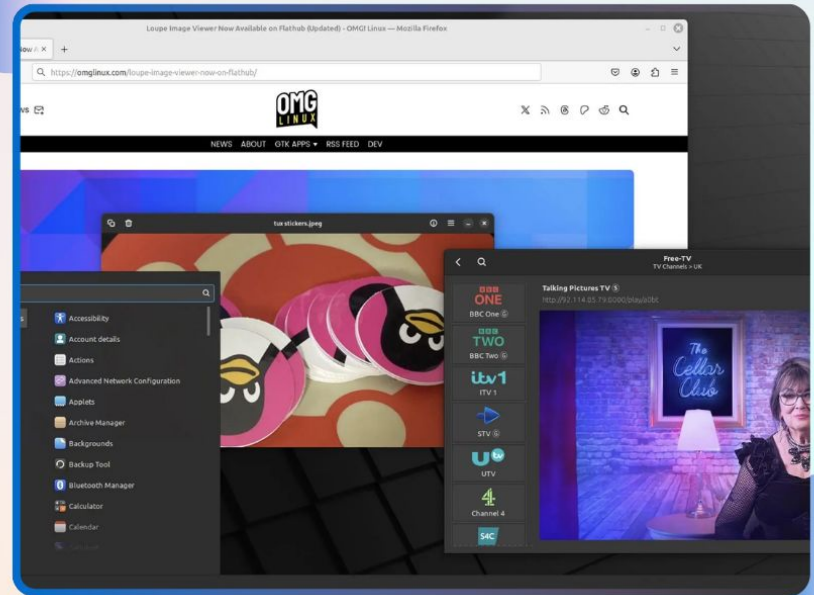
Current Versions 2024-2025

🍏 macOS Sequoia – Smooth animations, app organization, privacy tools



Current Versions 2024-2025

 Linux (Ubuntu 24.04, Mint 21.3, etc.) – Lightweight, customizable, free



Which versions still exist today?

Still in use, but outdated:

- Windows XP, 7, and 8 (mostly offline or in older systems)
- macOS Leopard/Snow Leopard still exist on very old Macs
- Older Linux versions live on older or specialized devices

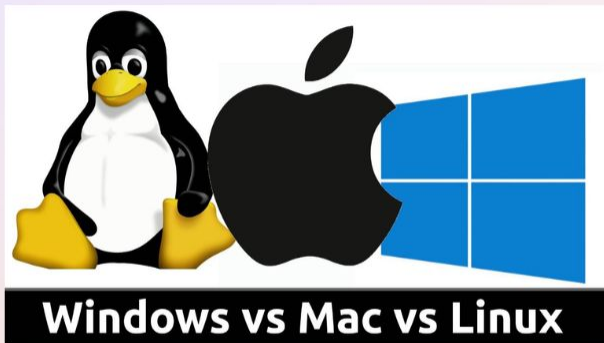
⚠ Caution: Using older systems may mean no updates or security patches



Which OS is better?

| Category | Windows | macOS | Linux |
|------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Ease of Use | ✔ Familiar to many | ✔ Clean interface | ⚠ Varies by version |
| Customization | ⚠ Limited | ⚠ Limited | ✔ Highly customizable |
| Software Support | ✔ Broad support | ✔ Apple ecosystem | ⚠ Some limitations |
| Security | ⚠ Needs antivirus | ✔ Built-in security | ✔ Very secure |
| Price | \$ License required | \$ Only with Apple hardware | 🆓 Free & open source |

Things to Consider when choosing an OS



- 🎓 Learning curve – Are you comfortable with change?
- 💻 Hardware – What kind of computer do you have?
- 💰 Budget – Linux is free, Macs are premium
- 🛠 Software needs – Some programs only run on Windows or Mac
- 🛡 Security & updates – Choose something still supported

Bottom Line

- Windows is best for general users and business environments
- Mac is great for creative professionals and Apple users
- Linux is ideal for tech-savvy users or lightweight setups



- ✓ There are many versions of Windows, Mac, and Linux
- ✓ Modern versions offer speed, security, and stability
- ✓ Your “best” OS depends on your goals, skills, and devices
- ✓ You don't need to upgrade everything, but keeping systems current helps protect you

Summary





Final Thoughts & Q&A

- 💡 There's no one "best" OS — just the best fit for your needs
- 🔄 You can even try different OS types on older devices
- 🧠 Stay curious — understanding your OS helps you use your computer better!

🗣️ Q&A – What operating system are you using today?
Want to try something new

Thank You.
Thank You.
Thank You.