

What's New in macOS Tahoe

1. macOS Tahoe

- 1.1. Any Apple silicon Mac can run Tahoe; just a few Intel Macs are still supported
- 1.2. Backup first using Time Machine or some other method
- 1.3. Install on your Mac
 - 1.3.1. Apple > System Settings > General > Software Update

2. Liquid Glass design

- 2.1. A new design applied to all of Apple's operating systems
- 2.2. macOS seems to be impacted the least
- 2.3. A glass-like material overlaying content in sidebars and toolbars
 - 2.3.1. Prevalent in Music, TV, Photos, Safari other apps...but not all apps, such as Mail and Books
- 2.4. Rounder windows
- 2.5. Redesigned app icons
 - 2.5.1. Everything fits in a squircle
- 2.6. Customizable icons and widgets
 - 2.6.1. System Settings > Appearance
 - 2.6.2. Default, Dark, Clear, and Tinted icons
 - 2.6.3. Automatic folder color aligns with Theme color
- 2.7. Customizable folders
 - 2.7.1. File > Customize Folder
 - 2.7.2. Add a icon or emoji
 - 2.7.3. The color of the latest tag is also applied to the folder

3. Menu bar

- 3.1. System Settings > Menu Bar
- 3.2. No background by default
- 3.3. Hide or show menu bar controls
- 3.4. Add additional controls, including from third parties
- 3.5. View Live Activities from your nearby iPhone in the menu bar
 - 3.5.1. Keep track of events like a flight, rideshare, or sports game in the menu bar
 - 3.5.2. To see more information or take action, click the Live Activity

4. Control Center

- 4.1. System and app controls can be configured to appear both in Control Center and the Menu Bar
- 4.2. Open Control Center and click Edit Controls or System Settings > Menu Bar, then click Add Controls...
- 4.3. Drag controls into, out of, and within the Control Center
- 4.4. Control-click a control to resize it
- 4.5. Add additional Control Center panels by clicking  in the menu bar

5. Apple Intelligence

- 5.1. Live Translation
 - 5.1.1. Messages
 - 5.1.1.1. Automatically translate incoming texts, including group messages
 - 5.1.1.2. Type in your preferred language; your message will be delivered in both the original and translated languages.
 - 5.1.2. FaceTime
 - 5.1.2.1. See translated captions in your preferred language
 - 5.1.2.2. Within FaceTime and during a call, click , then choose Live Captions
 - 5.1.3. Phone
 - 5.1.3.1. Follow along with spoken and text translation in your preferred language
 - 5.1.3.2. Within the Phone app, click , then choose Live Translation.
 - 5.1.3.3. Choose the language spoken by the caller and your preferred language.
 - 5.1.3.4. Click Start Translation
- 5.2. Genmoji
 - 5.2.1. Mix emoji to create something new
 - 5.2.2. Open the emoji keyboard, then click 
 - 5.2.3. Describe your Genmoji, or double-click a suggestion, or pick a person from the Photos app upon which to base the Genmoji
- 5.3. Image Playground
 - 5.3.1. Add expressions (e.g., happy, sad, shocked) to images of people

5.3.2. Add different styles using ChatGPT, such as watercolor or oil painting

5.3.3. Create Genmoji in Image Playground

6. Phone

6.1. The Phone app comes to the Mac

6.2. Continuity allows cellular phone calls to be relayed to your Mac

6.3. App is similar to Phone app on iPhone

6.4. Favorites, recents, voice mail (summaries provided by Apple Intelligence), keypad—all synced from your iPhone

6.5. Unified layout (optional on iPhone)

6.6. Unknown callers filter

6.6.1. Screened calls from unknown numbers are placed in a new area of your call list and out of your way

6.6.2. Click ≡ > Manage Filtering and click Turn On Filtering

6.6.3. Click ≡ > Unknown Callers to review if any number should be marked as known

6.7. Hold Assist

6.7.1. Keep your spot in line while you wait for a live agent

6.7.2. Once a live agent becomes available, the Phone app rings you to return to the call and lets the agent know that you'll be there shortly

6.7.3. Phone > Settings > Hold Assist Detection

6.8. Call Screening

6.8.1. Screen incoming calls from unknown numbers

6.8.2. Call Screening picks up the call for you and asks for a name and reason for the call before the phone even rings

6.8.3. Make an informed decision on whether to pick up, decline, or ask for more information

6.8.4. Phone > Settings > Screen Unknown Callers > Never I Ask Reason for Calling I Silence

6.9. Live Voicemail

6.9.1. See a transcription of the message someone is leaving you and answer the call before it ends

- 6.9.2. Respond from the incoming call screen
- 6.9.3. Phone > Settings > Live Voicemail

7. Spotlight

- 7.1. Enhanced beyond search to allow for browsing apps, taking actions, running shortcuts, and clipboard history
- 7.2. Search
 - 7.2.1. Result types listed together and intelligently ranked; includes windows and tabs you have open
 - 7.2.2. Click an app, file type, folder, etc. to narrow the search
 - 7.2.3. With Spotlight open, press the up and down arrows to move through a list of past searches
 - 7.2.4. Search third-party cloud services such as Dropbox and OneDrive (include the name the service in the search)
 - 7.2.5. Enter a website name to search it (e.g., Amazon Post-It Notes, YouTube Frank Sinatra)
 - 7.2.6. Access screenshots with /screenshots command
 - 7.2.7. Get answers from Siri or ChatGPT (“Can’t get sprinkler valve to shut off”)
- 7.3. Browsing
 - 7.3.1. Applications button to the right of Spotlight’s search field replaces Launch Pad; also a new icon in the Dock for Apps
 - 7.3.1.1. Apps organized by category
 - 7.3.2. Files button shows a list of suggested files and recent files
- 7.4. Actions
 - 7.4.1. Click the Shortcuts button to perform system actions, app actions, and menu bar commands from the active app
 - 7.4.2. Add Quick Keys (up to 12 characters) to an action to perform an action more quickly (e.g., cn for Create Note)
 - 7.4.2.1. Looks like it’s up to you to remember them....
- 7.5. Clipboard
 - 7.5.1. Browse through text, images, links, and files you recently copied
 - 7.5.2. Items are retained in the list for eight hours

- 7.5.3. Click the copy button  to place an item on the clipboard for pasting

8. Messages

- 8.1. Add background images to iMessage conversations, including groups
 - 8.1.1. Pick a color, photo, suggested image, or use Image Playgrounds to create one
- 8.2. Conduct polls (Apple Intelligence required); click  next to iMessage field
 - 8.2.1. macOS 26 required to respond to polls
- 8.3. Screen unknown senders
 - 8.3.1. Messages > Settings > Screen Unknown Senders
 - 8.3.2. Screened messages from unknown numbers are placed in a new area of your conversation list and out of your way
 - 8.3.3. Once you approve a screened number, they can call or text you across Phone, FaceTime, and Messages.
- 8.4. Text filters
 - 8.4.1. Organize messages from unknown senders by opting in to sorting messages into Promotions (offers, marketing, subscriptions) and Transactions (receipts, bills, confirmations)
 - 8.4.2. Enable on iPhone: Settings > Apps > Messages > Text Message Filter > On
 - 8.4.3. Also creates a Drafts filter for messages you haven't finished yet
 - 8.4.4. Access via the Filters button 
- 8.5. Allow Notifications
 - 8.5.1. Select which types of messages—Time Sensitive, Personal, Transactions or Promotions—from unknown senders you want to be notified about
 - 8.5.2. Messages > Settings > Notifications...
 - 8.5.3. Messages in the selected categories will show notifications and appear in the main conversation list for eight hours

9. Journal

- 9.1. Originally on the iPhone, now on the Mac (and iPad)
- 9.2. Multiple journals
- 9.3. Syncs through iCloud

10. Photos

- 10.1. Pin collections you use the most (control-click a collection and click Pin)
- 10.2. Customize the Collections view
 - 10.2.1. Click collections in the sidebar
 - 10.2.2. Click the More button ⋮
 - 10.2.3. Choose a layout (emphasize the top row, or opt for a denser layout)
 - 10.2.4. Click Reorder then drag the collections to reorder them

11. Anything else?

12. Good places for help

- 12.1. Apple Support: apple.com/support/
- 12.2. Tips app—*all* the user guides are here
- 12.3. Apple's macOS webpage: <https://www.apple.com/os/macOS/>
- 12.4. Me: Mike Matthews mamattews@icloud.com (925) 876-4098

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