



First Look OS X El Capitan



OS X El Capitan refines the Mac experience and improves system performance in lots of little ways that let you work smarter and faster. Building on last year's landmark release of OS X Yosemite, El Capitan introduces enhancements to window management, built-in apps, and Spotlight search. Performance improvements also make everyday tasks—from launching apps to accessing your email—snappier and more efficient. And with Metal for Mac, you get faster and more fluid graphics performance in games, high-performance apps, and many other places.

Availability

Free download from the Mac App Store

New Features¹



Split View

With Split View, you can use two apps side by side in a full-screen space, so it's easy to reference websites while writing an email, or use Messages while creating a report. You can even adjust the width of each window to make the most of your display.



Mission Control

A simplified Mission Control spreads all of your windows out in a single layer. Click one to bring it forward. Or drag a window to the top of your screen to access Mission Control and create a new desktop space, take your window full screen, or go full screen with two apps in Split View.



Spotlight

Spotlight now shows results for weather, stocks, sports, web video, and public transit. It's also easy to find files by searching with the words you'd say naturally, like "documents I worked on yesterday." You can resize and move the Spotlight window to use alongside other apps.



Notes

An entirely new Notes app lets you create stylized notes with formatted text, useful checklists, and media-rich content. Add attachments to Notes with the Share button in other apps. And quickly scan all photos, sketches, maps, websites, audio, and files added to your notes in the Attachments Browser.



Safari

Safari in OS X El Capitan brings new tools for browsing the web. Keep your favorite websites open and accessible throughout the day with Pinned Sites. Quickly mute unwanted audio right from the Smart Search field. And use AirPlay to stream video from a web page to your HDTV.



Mail

New features make it easier to manage your inbox with a swipe, work in full screen, and search for messages. Mail even recognizes new contacts and events and helps you add them. An improved IMAP engine also brings your most recent emails to your mailbox up to 2 times faster.



Maps

Maps now comes with built-in public transportation maps, directions, and schedules, so you can get around select cities more easily. Choose a destination in Transit view and Maps gives you detailed directions that combine step-by-step walking, subway, bus, train, and ferry routes.



Photos

Photos now supports third-party extensions, so you can access editing tools from your favorite developers, right in the Photos app. It's also easier to name, organize, and sort your photos. And now you can get to your photos faster thanks to improved launch performance for large libraries.



Improved fonts

The new system font in El Capitan brings a fresh and consistent look across your Apple devices. Chinese users will enjoy a new system font designed for maximum readability. And new Japanese fonts give you more options to customize your documents.



Chinese and Japanese input

Chinese and Japanese are now easier to write on a Mac thanks to improved input methods and learning capabilities. The redesigned Chinese trackpad window lets you enter multiple characters at a time with your finger. And live conversion makes typing Japanese faster and more accurate.



Performance

Performance has been tuned across the system in El Capitan, making many of the things you do every day faster and more responsive. From launching and switching between apps to accessing email and opening PDFs, El Capitan makes your Mac feel fluid and more responsive.



Metal

New on OS X, Metal is an Apple software technology that delivers super-efficient access to the power of the graphics processor. Metal delivers richer graphics and enhances performance, opening up new possibilities for games and graphics-intensive apps.



Call out your cursor

Lost your cursor on your crowded desktop? Just shake your finger back and forth on the trackpad or give your mouse a shake, and the cursor gets bigger so it's easy to spot.

Additional Resources

- [OS X El Capitan](#)

¹ Some features may not be available for all countries. Some features require developer adoption.