

MacFormat Checklist

Use this handy look-up guide to check your Mac's specifications against the system requirements mentioned in any of our reviews.

What to look out for

CPU: what type of processor is fitted? All Macs and Mac-compatibles now use a PowerPC chip.

Speed: what's the clock speed?

RAM: how much RAM is installed?

Max RAM: ... and how much could you install in total?

Expansion: what are the main expansion slots and how many are there? Choose between PCI, NuBus, PDS, USB for iMac and PC Card for PowerBooks.

FPU: the Floating Point Unit speeds up complex maths work like 3D graphics. Is one included, either as part of the processor or as a maths co-processor? Or can you add

one as an option?

Mac OS: what is the latest version of the Mac OS your Mac can run? Some older Macs are not capable of running Mac OS 7.6 or 8, for example. (Note that you'll still need at least 8MB of RAM just to run Mac OS 7.6, and as much as 12MB to run Mac OS 8, even if your processor's up to the job.)

Mac OS 8.5: Apple is approving only its own PowerPC-based Macs for use with Mac OS 8.5; although most Mac-compatibles should be able to use the new operating system without difficulty, we list Apple's last official recommendation of Mac OS 8.1 in our listing below.

MODEL	CPU	SPEED	RAM	MAX RAM	EXPANSION	FPU	MAC OS
Apple Compact Macs							
Classic	68000	8MHz	1MB	4MB	None	No	6.0.7
Classic II	68030	16MHz	2MB	10MB	None	Optional	7.6.1
Color Classic	68030	16MHz	2MB	10MB	1 LC-PDS	Optional	7.6.1
Macintosh	68000	8MHz	128K	not exp	None	No	3.2
Macintosh 512	68000	8MHz	512K	not exp	None	No	3.2
Macintosh Plus	68000	8MHz	1MB	4MB	None	No	6.0.7
Macintosh SE	68000	8MHz	1MB	4MB	1 PDS	No	6.0.7
Macintosh SE/30	68030	16MHz	1MB	128MB	1 PDS	Yes	7.5.5
Apple Macintosh II series							
Macintosh II	68020	16MHz	1MB	68MB	6 NuBus	Yes	7.5.5
Macintosh IIfx	68030	25MHz	1MB	128MB	3 NuBus	Yes	7.6.1
Macintosh IIfx	68030	16MHz	1MB	128MB	3 NuBus	Yes	7.5.5
Macintosh IIfx	68030	40MHz	1MB	128MB	6 NuBus, 1 PDS	Yes	7.5.5
Macintosh IISI	68030	20MHz	1MB	65MB	1 NuBus/PDS	Optional	7.6.1
Macintosh IIvx	68030	16MHz	4MB	68MB	3 NuBus	Optional	7.6.1
Macintosh IIvx	68030	32MHz	4MB	68MB	3 NuBus	Yes	7.6.1
Macintosh IIX	68030	16MHz	1MB	128MB	6 NuBus	Yes	7.5.5
Apple LC series							
LC	68020	16MHz	2MB	10MB	1 LC-PDS	Optional	7.5.5
LC II	68030	16MHz	4MB	10MB	1 LC-PDS	Upgrade	7.6.1
LC III	68030	25MHz	4MB	36MB	1 LC-PDS	Optional	7.6.1
LC 475	68LC040	25MHz	4MB	36MB	1 LC-PDS	Upgrade	8.1
LC 630	68LC040	33MHz	4MB	36MB	1 LC-PDS	Upgrade	8.1
Apple Centris series							
Centris 610	68LC040	20MHz	4MB	68MB	1 NuBus/PDS	Upgrade	8.1
Centris 650	68040	25MHz	4MB	136MB	3 NuBus, 1 PDS	Yes	8.1
Apple Performa series (non-PowerPC)							
Performa 200	68030	16MHz	2MB	10MB	None	Optional	7.6.1
Performa 400	68030	16MHz	4MB	10MB	1 LC-PDS	Upgrade	7.6.1
Performa 450	68030	25MHz	4MB	36MB	1 LC-PDS	Optional	7.6.1
Performa 475	68LC040	25MHz	4MB	36MB	1 LC-PDS	Upgrade	8.1
Performa 600	68030	32MHz	4MB	68MB	3 NuBus	Optional	7.6.1
Performa 630	68LC040	33MHz	4MB	36MB	1 LC-PDS	Upgrade	8.1
Apple Quadra series							
Quadra 610	68040	25MHz	4MB	68MB	1 NuBus/PDS	Yes	8.1
Quadra 650	68040	33MHz	4MB	136MB	3 NuBus, 1 PDS	Yes	8.1
Quadra 660AV	68040	25MHz	8MB	68MB	1 NuBus/PDS	Yes	8.1
Quadra 700	68040	25MHz	4MB	64MB	2 NuBus, 1 PDS	Yes	8.1
Quadra 800	68040	33MHz	8MB	146MB	3 NuBus, 1 PDS	Yes	8.1
Quadra 840AV	68040	40MHz	8MB	128MB	3 NuBus	Yes	8.1
Quadra 900	68040	25MHz	4MB	256MB	5 NuBus, 1 PDS	Yes	8.1

MODEL	CPU	SPEED	RAM	MAX RAM	EXPANSION	FPU	MAC OS
Apple Quadra series (continued)							
Quadra 950	68040	33MHz	8MB	256MB	5 NuBus, 1 PDS	Yes	8.1
Apple PowerPC Performa series							
Performa 5200	PPC 603	75MHz	8MB	64MB	1 PDS	Yes	8.5.1
Performa 5260/100	PPC 603e	100MHz	12MB	64MB	1 PDS	Yes	8.5.1
Performa 5260/120	PPC 603e	120MHz	12MB	64MB	1 PDS	Yes	8.5.1
Performa 5300	PPC 603e	100MHz	8MB	64MB	1 PDS	Yes	8.5.1
Performa 5320	PPC 603e	120MHz	16MB	64MB	1 PDS	Yes	8.5.1
Performa 5400/160	PPC 603e	160MHz	16MB	136MB	1 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
Performa 6200	PPC 603e	75MHz	8MB	64MB	1 PDS	Yes	8.5.1
Performa 6320	PPC 603e	120MHz	16MB	64MB	1 PDS	Yes	8.5.1
Performa 6400/180	PPC 603e	180MHz	16MB	136MB	1 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
Performa 6400/200	PPC 603e	200MHz	16MB	136MB	1 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
Apple iMac							
iMac "Revision A" (September 1998)	PPC 750	233MHz	32MB	384MB	2 USB	Yes	8.5.1
iMac "Revision B" (November 1998)	PPC 750	233MHz	32MB	384MB	2 USB	Yes	8.5.1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Apple replaced the original iMac with a revamped version, although no official distinction between the two releases is being made. See Startup, MacFormat 72, for more details.							
iMac "Revision C" (January 1999)	PPC 750	266MHz	32MB	384MB	2 USB	Yes	8.5.1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Available in five colours; see Startup, MacFormat 74, for more details.							
Apple Power Macintosh series							
PowerMac 4400/160	PPC 603e	160MHz	16MB	96MB	2 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac 4400/200	PPC 603e	200MHz	16MB	96MB	2 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac 5500/225	PPC 603e	225MHz	24MB	128MB	1 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac 5500/275	PPC 603e	275MHz	32MB	128MB	1 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac 6100/60	PPC 601	60MHz	8MB	72MB	1 NuBus/PDS	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac 6100/66	PPC 601	66MHz	8MB	72MB	1 NuBus/PDS	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac 6500/250	PPC 603e	250MHz	32MB	128MB	2 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac 6500/275	PPC 603e	275MHz	24MB	128MB	2 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac 6500/300	PPC 603e	300MHz	64MB	128MB	2 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac 7100/66	PPC 601	66MHz	8MB	136MB	3 NuBus, 1 PDS	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac 7100/80	PPC 601	80MHz	8MB	136MB	3 NuBus, 1 PDS	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac 7200/75	PPC 601	75MHz	16MB	256MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac 7200/90	PPC 601	90MHz	16MB	256MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac 7300/166	PPC 604e	166MHz	16MB	512MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac 7300/200	PPC 604e	200MHz	32MB	512MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac 7500/100	PPC 601	100MHz	16MB	512MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac 7600/132	PPC 604e	132MHz	16MB	512MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac 8100/80	PPC 601	80MHz	8MB	264MB	3 NuBus, 1 PDS	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac 8100/100	PPC 601	100MHz	8MB	264MB	3 NuBus, 1 PDS	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac 8100/110	PPC 601	110MHz	8MB	264MB	3 NuBus, 1 PDS	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac 8200/120	PPC 601	120MHz	16MB	256MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac 8500/120	PPC 604	120MHz	16MB	512MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac 8500/180	PPC 604e	180MHz	16MB	512MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac 8600/200	PPC 604e	200MHz	32MB	512MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac 8600/250	PPC 604e	250MHz	32MB	512MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac 9500/120	PPC 604	120MHz	16MB	768MB	6 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac 9500/132	PPC 604	132MHz	16MB	768MB	6 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac 9500/200	PPC 604e	200MHz	32MB	768MB	6 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac 9600/233	PPC 604e	233MHz	32MB	768MB	6 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac 9600/300	PPC 604e	300MHz	64MB	768MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac 9600/350	PPC 604e	350MHz	64MB	768MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac 9500/180 MP	2 x PPC 604e	180MHz	32MB	768MB	6 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac 9600/200 MP	2 x PPC 604e	200MHz	32MB	768MB	6 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac Web Authoring Solution	PPC 604e	200MHz	32MB	512MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
Apple Power Macintosh G3 series							
PowerMac G3 Desktop	PPC 750	233MHz	32MB	192MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac G3 Desktop	PPC 750	266MHz	32MB	192MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac G3 Minitower	PPC 750	266MHz	32MB	384MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac G3 Minitower	PPC 750	300MHz	64MB	384MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac G3 Minitower	PPC 750	300MHz	128MB	384MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
PowerMac G3 Minitower	PPC 750	333MHz	128MB	384MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
"Blue" PowerMac G3 Minitower	PPC 750	300MHz	64MB	1GB	4 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
"Blue" PowerMac G3 Minitower	PPC 750	350MHz	64MB	1GB	4 PCI	Yes	8.5.1
"Blue" PowerMac G3 Minitower	PPC 750	400MHz	128MB	1GB	4 PCI	Yes	8.5.1

MODEL	CPU	SPEED	RAM	MAX RAM	EXPANSION	FPU	MAC OS
Apple PowerBook series							
Macintosh Portable	68000	16MHz	2MB	9MB	Modem slot	No	7.5.5
PowerBook 100	68000	16MHz	4MB	8MB	Modem slot	No	7.5.5
PowerBook 140	68030	16MHz	4MB	8MB	Modem slot	No	7.6.1
PowerBook 145	68030	25MHz	4MB	8MB	Modem slot	No	7.6.1
PowerBook 150	68030	33MHz	4MB	40MB	Modem slot	No	7.6.1
PowerBook 160	68030	25MHz	4MB	14MB	Modem slot	No	7.6.1
PowerBook 165	68030	33MHz	4MB	14MB	Modem slot	No	7.6.1
PowerBook 170	68030	25MHz	4MB	8MB	Modem slot	Yes	7.6.1
PowerBook 180	68030	33MHz	4MB	14MB	Modem slot	Yes	7.6.1
PowerBook 190	68LC040	33MHz	8MB	40MB	2 PC card	No	8.1
PowerBook 520	68LC040	25MHz	4MB	36MB	Modem slot	Upgrade	8.1
PowerBook 540	68LC040	33MHz	4MB	36MB	Modem slot	No	8.1
PowerBook 1400/117	PPC 603e	117MHz	12MB	64MB	2 PC card	Yes	8.5.1
PowerBook 1400/133	PPC 603e	133MHz	16MB	64MB	2 PC card	Yes	8.5.1
PowerBook 1400/166	PPC 603e	166MHz	16MB	64MB	2 PC card	Yes	8.5.1
PowerBook 3400/180	PPC 603e	180MHz	16MB	144MB	2 PC card	Yes	8.5.1
PowerBook 3400/200	PPC 603e	200MHz	32MB	144MB	2 PC card	Yes	8.5.1
PowerBook 3400/240	PPC 603e	240MHz	16MB	144MB	2 PC card	Yes	8.5.1
PowerBook 5300	PPC 603e	100MHz	8MB	64MB	2 PC card	Yes	8.5.1

Apple PowerBook Duo series

PowerBook Duo 210	68030	25MHz	4MB	32MB	Modem slot	With Dock	7.6.1
PowerBook Duo 230	68030	33MHz	4MB	32MB	Modem slot	With Dock	7.6.1
PowerBook Duo 250	68030	33MHz	4MB	32MB	Modem slot	With Dock	7.6.1
PowerBook Duo 270c	68030	33MHz	4MB	32MB	Modem slot	Yes	7.6.1
PowerBook Duo 280	68LC040	33MHz	4MB	40MB	Modem slot	No	8.1
PowerBook Duo 280c	68LC040	33MHz	4MB	40MB	Modem slot	No	8.1
PowerBook Duo 2300c	PPC 603e	100MHz	8MB	56MB	Modem slot	Yes	8.5.1

Apple Duo Docking Stations

PowerBook Duo Dock	-	-	-	-	2 NuBus	Optional	N/A
PowerBook Duo Dock II	-	-	-	-	2 NuBus	Yes	N/A
PowerBook Duo Dock Plus	-	-	-	-	2 NuBus	No	N/A
PowerBook Duo MiniDock	-	-	-	-	None	No	N/A

Apple PowerBook G3 series

PowerBook G3	PPC 750	233MHz	32MB	192MB	2 Type II PC card	Yes	8.5.1
PowerBook G3	PPC 750	233MHz	32MB	192MB	2 Type II PC card	Yes	8.5.1
PowerBook G3	PPC 750	233MHz	32MB	192MB	2 Type II PC card	Yes	8.5.1
PowerBook G3	PPC 750	250MHz	32MB	192MB	2 Type II PC card	Yes	8.5.1
PowerBook G3	PPC 750	266MHz	64MB	192MB	2 Type II PC card	Yes	8.5.1
PowerBook G3	PPC 750	292MHz	64MB	192MB	2 Type II PC card	Yes	8.5.1
PowerBook G3	PPC 750	300MHz	192MB	192MB	2 Type II PC card	Yes	8.5.1

Computer Warehouse Mac-compatibles

B-Machine	PPC 604e	200MHz	32MB	160MB	5 PCI	Yes	8.1
Boston	PPC 604e	200MHz	32MB	160MB	5 PCI	Yes	8.1
Cannes	PPC 604e	200MHz	64MB	160MB	5 PCI	Yes	8.1
Harvard	PPC 603e	200MHz	16MB	160MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.1
Hollywood	PPC 604e	200MHz	96MB	160MB	5 PCI	Yes	8.1
Manhattan	PPC 604e	200MHz	96MB	160MB	5 PCI	Yes	8.1
Nashville	PPC 604e	200MHz	96MB	160MB	5 PCI	Yes	8.1
New York	PPC 604e	200MHz	64MB	160MB	5 PCI	Yes	8.1
Paris	PPC 604e	200MHz	48MB	160MB	5 PCI	Yes	8.1
Rome	PPC 604e	200MHz	16MB	160MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.1
Stanford	PPC 603e	240MHz	16MB	160MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.1
Tokyo	PPC 604e	200MHz	96MB	160MB	5 PCI	Yes	8.1

DayStar Mac-compatibles

Genesis MP600	4 x PPC 604e	150MHz	0MB	1.5GB	6 PCI	Yes	8.1
Genesis MP720+	4 x PPC 604e	180MHz	0MB	1.5GB	6 PCI	Yes	8.1

Motorola Mac-compatibles

StarMax 3160	PPC 603e	160MHz	16MB	160MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.1
StarMax 3180 Desktop	PPC 603e	180MHz	16MB	160MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.1
StarMax 3180 MiniTower	PPC 603e	180MHz	32MB	160MB	5 PCI	Yes	8.1
StarMax 3200 Desktop	PPC 603e	200MHz	16MB	160MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.1
StarMax 3200 MiniTower	PPC 603e	200MHz	32MB	160MB	5 PCI	Yes	8.1
StarMax 3240 MiniTower	PPC 603e	240MHz	32MB	160MB	5 PCI	Yes	8.1
StarMax 4160 Desktop	PPC 604e	160MHz	16MB	160MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.1
StarMax 4160 MiniTower	PPC 604e	160MHz	32MB	160MB	5 PCI	Yes	8.1

MODEL	CPU	SPEED	RAM	MAX RAM	EXPANSION	FPU	MAC OS
Motorola Mac-compatibles (continued)							
StarMax 4200 Desktop	PPC 604e	200MHz	16MB	160MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.1
StarMax 4200 MiniTower	PPC 604e	200MHz	32MB	160MB	5 PCI	Yes	8.1
StarMax 5000/225	PPC 603e	225MHz	32MB	160MB	5 PCI	Yes	8.1
StarMax 5000/275	PPC 603e	275MHz	32MB	160MB	5 PCI	Yes	8.1
StarMax 5000/300	PPC 604e	300MHz	32MB	160MB	5 PCI	Yes	8.1
Pios Mac-compatibles							
Magna 200	PPC 604e	200MHz	16MB	160MB	5 PCI	Yes	8.1
Magna 250	PPC 750	250MHz	48MB	160MB	5 PCI	Yes	8.1
Magna 275	PPC 750	275MHz	80MB	160MB	5 PCI	Yes	8.1
Magna 300	PPC 604e	300MHz	80MB	160MB	5 PCI	Yes	8.1
Keenya 604/200	PPC 604e	200MHz	16MB	160MB	5 PCI	Yes	8.1
Keenya 604/200 3D	PPC 604e	200MHz	32MB	160MB	5 PCI	Yes	8.1
Keenya 604/200 Pro	PPC 604e	200MHz	32MB	160MB	5 PCI	Yes	8.1
Keenya Star	PPC 603e	200MHz	16MB	160MB	5 PCI	Yes	8.1
Power Computing Mac-compatibles							
Power 100	PPC 601	100MHz	16MB	256MB	3 NuBus	Yes	8.1
PowerBase 180	PPC 603e	180MHz	16MB	160MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.1
PowerBase 200	PPC 603e	200MHz	16MB	160MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.1
PowerBase 240	PPC 603e	240MHz	16MB	160MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.1
PowerCenter 120	PPC 604	120MHz	16MB	256MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.1
PowerCenter 132	PPC 604	132MHz	16MB	256MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.1
PowerCenter 150	PPC 604	150MHz	16MB	256MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.1
PowerCenter 166	PPC 604	166MHz	16MB	512MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.1
PowerCenter 180	PPC 604	180MHz	16MB	512MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.1
PowerCenter Pro 210	PPC 604e	210MHz	16MB	512MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.1
PowerTower 200	PPC 604	200MHz	16MB	1GB	6 PCI	Yes	8.1
PowerTower Pro 225	PPC 604e	225MHz	32MB	1GB	6 PCI	Yes	8.1
PowerTower Pro 225 MP	2 x PPC 604e	225MHz	32MB	1GB	6 PCI	Yes	8.1
PowerTower Pro 250	PPC 604e	250MHz	32MB	1GB	6 PCI	Yes	8.1
PowerWave 150	PPC 604	150MHz	16MB	512MB	6 PCI	Yes	8.1
Shaye Mac-compatibles							
Cheetah	PPC 604e	200MHz	96MB	160MB	5 PCI	Yes	8.1
Jaguar	PPC 604e	200MHz	48MB	160MB	5 PCI	Yes	8.1
Jaguar AV30	PPC 604e	200MHz	48MB	160MB	5 PCI	Yes	8.1
Leopard	PPC 604e	200MHz	32MB	160MB	5 PCI	Yes	8.1
Lion	PPC 604e	200MHz	16MB	160MB	5 PCI	Yes	8.1
Lynx	PPC 604e	200MHz	64MB	160MB	5 PCI	Yes	8.1
Panther	PPC 604e	200MHz	16MB	160MB	5 PCI	Yes	8.1
Puma	PPC 604e	200MHz	64MB	160MB	5 PCI	Yes	8.1
Tiger	PPC 604e	200MHz	32MB	160MB	5 PCI	Yes	8.1
Umax Mac-compatibles							
Aegis 200	PPC 604e	200MHz	32MB	160MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.1
Apus 2000/160	PPC 603e	160MHz	16MB	144MB	2 PCI	Yes	8.1
Apus 2000/180	PPC 603e	180MHz	16MB	144MB	2 PCI	Yes	8.1
Apus 2000/200	PPC 603e	200MHz	16MB	144MB	2 PCI	Yes	8.1
Apus 3000/200	PPC 603e	200MHz	16MB	144MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.1
Apus 3000/240	PPC 603e	240MHz	16MB	144MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.1
Apus Movie Maker	PPC 603e	200MHz	32MB	144MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.1
Apus Multimedia Studio	PPC 603e	200MHz	32MB	144MB	3 PCI	Yes	8.1
Pulsar 150	PPC 604	150MHz	16MB	1GB	6 PCI	Yes	8.1
Pulsar 166	PPC 604e	166MHz	16MB	1GB	6 PCI	Yes	8.1
Pulsar 180	PPC 604e	180MHz	16MB	1GB	6 PCI	Yes	8.1
Pulsar 200	PPC 604e	200MHz	16MB	1GB	6 PCI	Yes	8.1
Pulsar 200 DP	2 x PPC 604e	200MHz	32MB	1GB	6 PCI	Yes	8.1
Pulsar Express 275	PPC 750	275MHz	32MB	1GB	6 PCI	Yes	8.1
Super Pulsar 233	PPC 604e	233MHz	32MB	1GB	6 PCI	Yes	8.1
Super Pulsar 233 DP	2 x PPC 604e	200MHz	32MB	1GB	6 PCI	Yes	8.1
Super Pulsar 250	PPC 604e	250MHz	32MB	1GB	6 PCI	Yes	8.1
Super Pulsar 750	2 x PPC 604e	200MHz	32MB	1GB	6 PCI	Yes	8.1