

This brief applies to all Volume Licensing programs.

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Summary

This licensing brief addresses the commonly asked questions about licensing the Windows operating system and Microsoft Office to run on an Apple Mac operating system computer.

What's New in this Brief

This replaces a previous version published in January 2012 and includes updated references to the Windows 8 operating system and Microsoft Office 2013 suites.

Details

Licensing of the Windows Operating System for the Mac

Microsoft distinguishes between a *full* operating system that is complete and bootable and an *upgrade* operating system that is installed over a previously installed full operating system.

Full Windows operating system licenses are not available through Microsoft Volume Licensing programs. You can obtain full Windows operating system licenses by having Windows preinstalled on your PCs by the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM). For existing PCs with a licensed and installed [qualifying operating system](#), you can purchase the Windows 8 Pro Upgrade License through Volume Licensing.

The Apple Mac operating system is considered to be a qualifying operating system; therefore, you can purchase the Windows 8 Pro Upgrade License for Macs that have a licensed and installed Mac operating system.

Licensing Windows and Microsoft Office for use on a Mac

Scenarios

Your options for licensing Windows to run on a Mac depend on the specific scenario. The following explains the most common scenarios.

Note: If you require full installation media for deploying your Windows upgrade acquired through Volume Licensing, you may download the files from the [Microsoft Volume Licensing Service Center \(VLSC\)](#), or order physical media through your Microsoft reseller.

Scenario 1: Installing and Running Windows as a Second Full Operating System under Apple Boot Camp on an Apple Mac

You can install Windows as a second full operating system on a Mac using Apple Boot Camp in addition to the already installed Mac operating system. To acquire the necessary Windows software license to accommodate this scenario—which allow you to keep the Mac operating system on the computer—purchase Windows Pro Upgrade with Software Assurance through Volume Licensing. Software Assurance for Windows permits you to run Windows Pro on a computer even if the qualifying operating system is still installed and running on that computer.

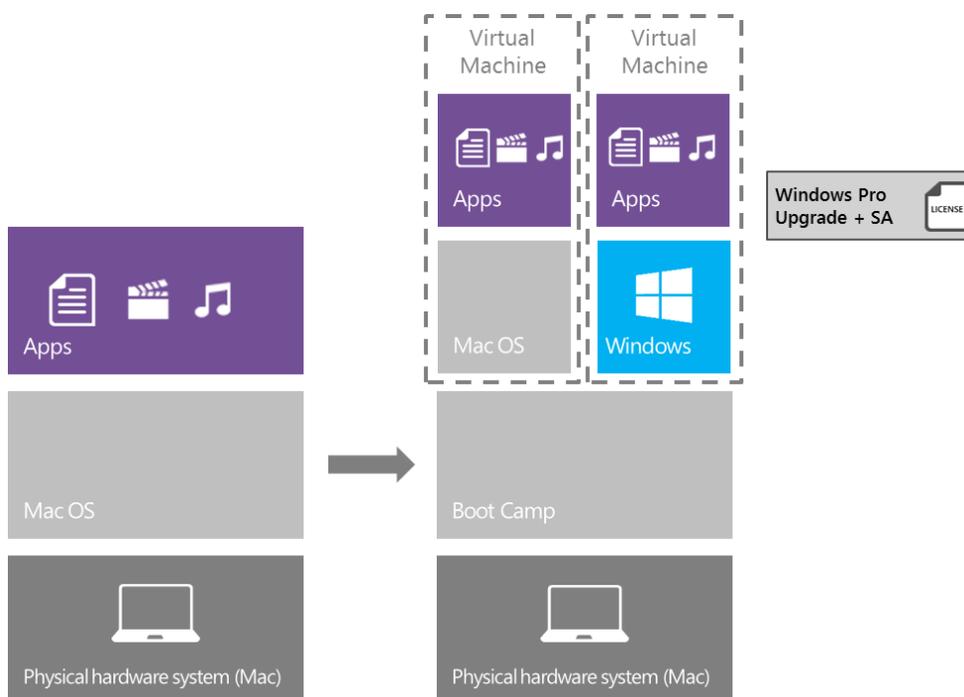


Figure 1: Installing and running Windows as a second full operating system under Apple Boot Camp on a Mac

Scenario 2: Installing Windows to run with Third-party Virtualization Software

Another option for running Windows on a Mac is to install Windows as a second full operating system to run as a guest operating system in a virtual machine. In this scenario, the full Windows operating system must be licensed and installed. As with Scenario 1, you can acquire the necessary license for this scenario by purchasing Windows 8 Pro Upgrade with Software Assurance through Volume Licensing.

Licensing Windows and Microsoft Office for use on a Mac

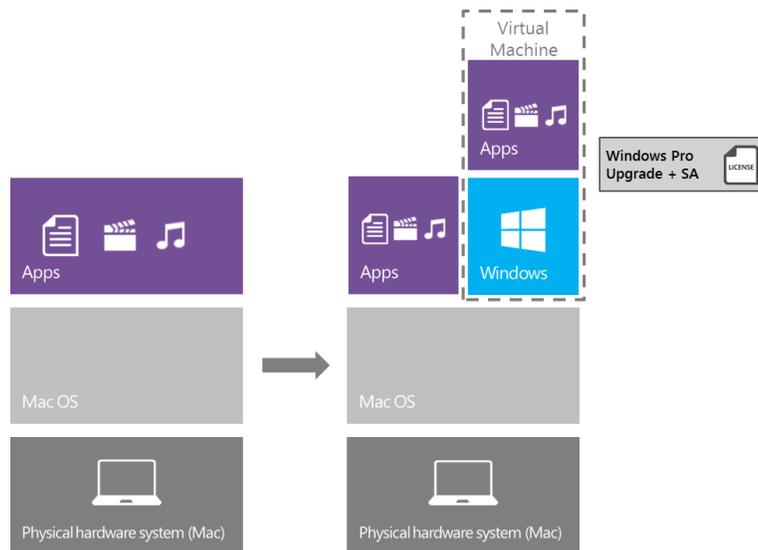


Figure 2: Licensing Windows to run with third-party virtualization software

Scenario 3: Replacing Apple Mac Operating System with (Upgrading to) Windows

Note: This is not a common scenario due to technical difficulty, but it is allowed under the terms of Microsoft Volume Licensing.

If you have purchased a Windows Pro Upgrade license (without Software Assurance) for your Mac, the terms of the upgrade license require that you first remove the qualifying operating system (for example, Mac operating system) before you can deploy the Windows Pro Upgrade. Because the Windows upgrade software is not designed to install over a non-Windows operating system, Volume Licensing customers can request media (software) for the full Windows operating system from Microsoft to perform this upgrade.

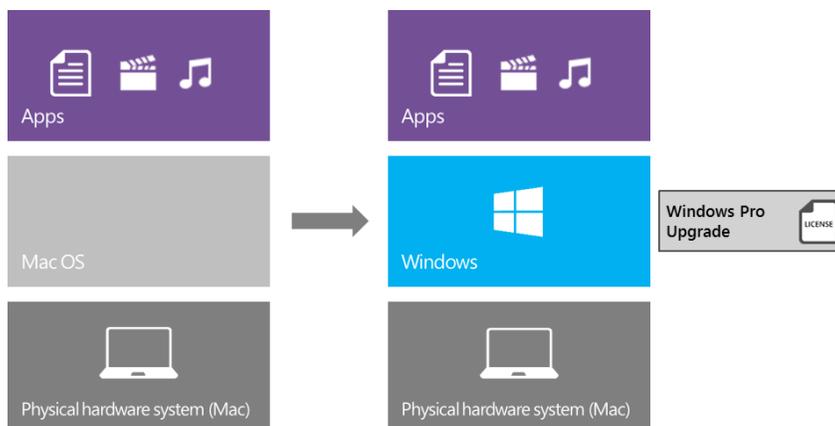


Figure 3: Replacing Mac OS with Windows

Scenario 4: Accessing a Windows Virtual Machine (VM) Remotely from a Mac

By licensing the Mac with the Windows Virtual Desktop Access (VDA) subscription license, you receive rights to remotely access a Windows virtual machine running on server in the data center through Virtual Desktop Infrastructure (VDI).

Licensing Windows and Microsoft Office for use on a Mac

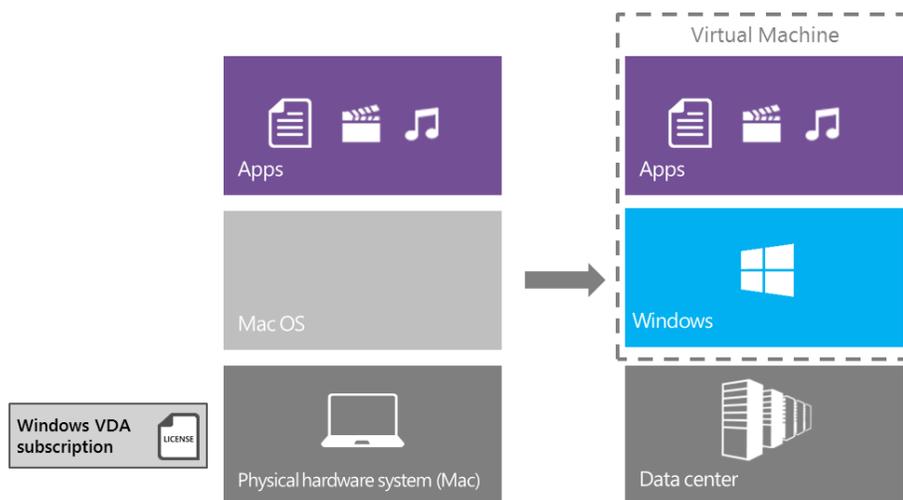


Figure 4: Accessing a Windows virtual machine running on server remotely from a Mac

Licensing of Microsoft Office for Windows and Microsoft Office for Mac

The Microsoft Office for Windows and Microsoft Office for Mac products are licensed on a “per device” basis. Each Microsoft Office license must be assigned to a single physical hardware system (“Licensed Device”) before using the software.

When acquired under a Volume Licensing agreement, licenses for the Microsoft Office products are considered Platform Independent Licenses. These include Microsoft Office Standard for Windows, Microsoft Office Professional Plus for Windows, Office for Mac, and the individual Microsoft Office programs: Microsoft Office Word, Microsoft Office Excel spreadsheet software, Microsoft Office PowerPoint presentation graphics program, and Microsoft Office Outlook messaging and collaboration client software for both Windows and Mac.

You can use software under a Platform Independent License on any computer platform (for example, PC or Mac) as long as the version being used is the same or earlier than the originally licensed product version. For example, if you have a license for Office Standard 2010 for Windows, you can use Office Standard 2007 for Windows or Office for Mac 2008, but cannot use Office for Mac 2011 Standard. The exception is if you had active Software Assurance coverage on your Office Standard 2010 for the Windows license at the time Office 2011 for Mac was released.

Under Volume Licensing, you also have the right to install and use any number of copies of the software and of any prior version of the software on the Licensed Device in physical and/or virtual environments.

In the context of Platform Independent Licenses, you can run one or more copies of a different available platform version of the product instead of the version licensed. Again, the version must be the same or earlier than the originally licensed product version. It must also be run on the same Licensed Device.

The components of a product suite can vary by platform version. As a result, if you are exercising this cross-platform right, you can use only the components common to both platform versions. For example, if a customer licensed with Office for Mac Standard 2011 chooses to run Office Standard 2010, the customer may only run the components that are included with Office Standard 2010. For example, they do not have the right to run Lync, but they do have the right to run OneNote.

Licensing Windows and Microsoft Office for use on a Mac

Licensed Product	Equivalent Edition under Platform Independence
Office Professional Plus 2013 for Windows	Office for Mac 2011
Office Standard 2013 for Windows	Office for Mac 2011
Office Professional Plus 2010 for Windows	Office for Mac 2008
Office Standard 2010 for Windows	Office for Mac 2008
Office Enterprise 2007 for Windows	Office 2004 for Mac Professional
Office Professional Plus 2007 for Windows	Office 2004 for Mac Professional
Office Standard 2007 for Windows	Office 2004 for Mac Standard Edition
Office for Mac 2011 Standard	Office Standard 2010 for Windows
Office 2008 for Mac	Office Standard 2007 for Windows

Frequently Asked Questions

1. As a Volume Licensing customer, what license do I need to run the Microsoft Office for Windows on a Mac under Boot Camp or using a third-party virtualization program?

Volume Licensing customers need to acquire a new license or use their existing license for the Microsoft Office for Windows to install and run it on their Macs with Apple Boot Camp or using a third-party virtualization program. The Windows operating system also needs to be properly licensed with active Software Assurance (see above).

2. If I have a license for Office for Mac 2011 Standard, am I licensed to run Microsoft Office 2010 for Windows on my Mac?

Because Office 2011 for Mac is the most recently launched version of Microsoft Office (on either platform), if you are who are licensed for Microsoft Office 2011 for Mac through Microsoft Volume Licensing, you are permitted to install and use any prior version of Microsoft Office, including Microsoft Office 2010, on the Licensed Device, regardless of platform.

Because the components of a product suite can vary by platform version, when exercising this cross-platform right, you can use only the components common to both platform versions. For example, if a customer licensed with Office for Mac Standard 2011 chooses to run Office Standard 2010, the customer may only run the components that are included with Office Standard 2010. For example, they do not have the right to run Lync, but they do have the right to run OneNote.

3. I have a license for Office for Mac 2011 with active Software Assurance. Can I run Microsoft Office 2013 for Windows on my Mac?

If Office Standard 2013 for Windows was released during your term of active Software Assurance coverage for Office for Mac 2011, you are permitted to use Office Standard 2013 for Windows.

4. I have a license for Office Standard 2010 for Windows with active Software Assurance. May I use Office for Mac 2011?

If Office for Mac 2011 was released during your term of your active Software Assurance coverage for Office Standard 2010 for Windows, you are permitted to use Office for Mac 2011.

5. I have a license for Office 2011 for Mac. Can I simultaneously use Office 2010 for Windows on my Mac under Boot Camp or a virtual environment?

If you acquired your Microsoft Office licenses through Microsoft Volume Licensing, you are permitted to install and use any prior version of Microsoft Office (regardless of platform) simultaneously on the Licensed Device in a physical or virtual environment. Again, you can run only the components of a product corresponding to the components of the equivalent platform version you are licensed for.

Licensing Windows and Microsoft Office for use on a Mac

6. I am an Enrollment for Education Solutions (EES) customer with the Education Desktop Platform. Can I install and run Windows as a second full operating system under Boot Camp on my Mac? And which versions of Microsoft Office can I use on my Mac?

Because EES includes Software Assurance, you can run up to four instances of the Windows operating system without uninstalling the Mac operating system. Under the Education Desktop Platform license, you can install and run either Microsoft Office 2010 for Windows, Office for Mac 2011 Standard, or both on your Mac.

7. I am a Microsoft Enterprise Agreement (EA)/Open Value (OV) Company-wide/Organization-wide customer with the Professional Desktop Platform. Can I install and run Windows as a second full operating system under Apple Boot Camp on my Mac? What if I am a Select Plus or Open License customer?

EA/OV Company-wide/Organization-wide customers and Select Plus and Open License customers with active Software Assurance can run up to four instances of the Windows operating system, without uninstalling the Mac operating system. The right to run both operating systems simultaneously expires with the EA/OV agreement or Software Assurance coverage.

8. I am an EA/OV Company-wide/Organization-wide customer with the Professional Desktop Platform. Am I licensed to run Office for Mac in addition to Office for Windows?

Yes. Because the Professional Desktop Platform licenses are Platform Independent Licenses, you are licensed to run Office for Mac and Office for Windows.

9. What if I need full version installation bits for deploying my Windows upgrade acquired through Volume Licensing?

If you require full installation bits for deploying your Windows upgrade acquired through Volume Licensing, you can download the files from [VLSC](#) or order physical media through your Microsoft reseller.

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