
Mac OS 9.0.4

Apple has released the long awaited maintenance release of OS 9 called Mac OS 9.0.4. The update is available from the OS 9 Software Update Control Panel as well as from the web (see below). Version 9.0.4 fixes all known bugs with OS 9 including DVD, USB and FireWire glitches. There are also fixes for the ATI video drivers. We recommend you let Precursor perform this update for you. Contact us to book a time.

<http://asu.info.apple.com/swupdates.nsf/artnum/n11610>

Adobe Illustrator 9

Adobe has announced it will deliver a major upgrade to Illustrator before June. Illustrator 9 will get a full injection of Internet/Flash tools as well as new transparency technology and productivity tools. Upgrade pricing will be \$149 US for existing owners. Preorders are being accepted at the Illustrator web site:

<http://www.adobe.com/products/illustrator/main.html>

IomegaWare 2.2.1

Iomega has updated its ZIP/JAZ driver to version 6.0.7. The package number is now 2.2.1.

<ftp://ftp.iomega.com/pub/english/maciom221en.hqx>

Communicator 6

To compete with the upcoming Microsoft Internet Explorer 5 Netscape has announced the April release of a public beta of Communicator 6 which will have a new HTML rendering engine.

<http://home.netscape.com/browsers/future.html>

Microsoft Internet Explorer 5

Microsoft has released its next generation browser MSIE 5. The new version has a new interface, new HTML engine and some Macintosh first features which include an Internet Scrapbook, and an Auction Manager. 128bit encryption for safe financial transactions is now standard equipment. Of course the best thing about it is: it's free!

<http://www.microsoft.com/mac/default.asp>

Microsoft Outlook Express 5.0.2

Outlook Express 5 has been freshened up with a 5.0.2 update to coincide with the arrival of MSIE 5 (see above). It now features increased e-mail security via Authenticated SMTP. Launch speed for large databases has improved and you can now import messages and contacts from Claris Emailer.

<http://www.microsoft.com/mac/download/en/default.asp>

Macromedia Shockwave 8.0.1d196

Macromedia's Shockwave web plug-in has been updated (silly numbering scheme) to get the latest version just hop over to the Macromedia Shockwave Download page and follow the instructions:

<http://www.macromedia.com/shockwave/download/>

Retrospect Express 4.2

Dantz has improved Retrospect Express (for single computer backups) in version 4.2. The new version has improved HTML Help, more device support, and finally changes its obtuse terminology to make the process clearer: "StorageSets are now backup sets, new backups are now new media backups, and full backups are now recycle backups."

ftp://ftp.dantz.com/pub/updates/express_42_updater.hqx

VST FireWire Driver 2.0.4

VST has updated its FireWire driver software to 2.0.4.

http://www.vsttech.com/vst/support/drivers/VST_FireWire_Updater_2.0.4.hqx

Apple Sleep Memory Extension

Apple has released a fix for a rare problem with waking from sleep in the iBook and PowerBook (FireWire) models.

http://download.info.apple.com/Apple_Support_Area/Apple_Software_Updates/English-North_American/Macintosh/System/Other_System/Sleep_Memory_Extension.smi.bin

Adobe Acrobat 4.0.5 Update 1

Acrobat 4.0.5 Update 1 fixes two small bugs in Acrobat 4.0.5 –which was a major free bug fix for Acrobat 4.0. registered owners of Acrobat 4.0 should have received a free 4.0.5 CD in the mail by now. If not, you can get the 4.0.5 update CD by calling Adobe Customer Support at 1-800-272-3623. For more info on how to get the 4.0.5 CD and what it fixes see:

<http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/updat405.html>

Acrobat 4.0.5 Update 1 only is available on-line:

<http://www.adobe.com/support/downloads/601e.htm>

Optima CDR Access Pro 4.1

Optima Technologies which resurrected itself only months ago has again updated its CCR Access software which permits Finder copies to CD Recorders. Version 4.1 is a free update to version 4.0 owners and offers compatibility with the new Mac OS 9.0.4 Update and better interface and file recovery options.

<http://www.optimatech.com/CDRAccess.html>

Yamaha 8424 CDRW firmware 1.0j

Yamaha has a firmware upgrade for its new CDR8424 SCSI drive.

http://www.yamaha.co.jp/english/product/computer/engfirm/ms8410j_e.bin

AGFA FotoLook 3.5

AGFA has provided an update for its higher end scanners like the Arcus and DuoScan models.

By going to the website you will be able to download FotoLook 3.5, FotoLook 3.5 Manuals and a special scanner driver package for your individual model.

<http://support.agfa.com/swPubDTP/>

UMAX VistaScan (USB) 3.5.4

Umax has updated VistaScan to deal with problems on the USB models. The new version is 3.5.4 (we have already reported on a version 3.6.1 which seems to be for SCSI scanners).

ftp://ftp.umax.com/scanners/vistascan/version_3.5.4/usb_interface/macintosh/vscan354.sea.hqx

FileMaker Pro 5.0v3

FileMaker's FileMaker Pro 5.0v3 update corrects a few bugs and provides Windows 2000 compatibility

<http://www.filemaker.com/support/updaters.html>

Markzware FlightCheck 3.79

Markzware has updated FlightCheck again for Mac OS 9 compatibility. Both FlightCheck and FlightCheck Collect 3.79 versions are available:

<http://www.markzware.com/data/download/updates/flightcheck.html>

<http://www.markzware.com/data/download/updates/collect.html>

ActionFiles 1.5.2

Power On Software has updated its excellent file utility ActionFiles for compatibility with OS 9.

<http://www.poweronsw.com/site2/html/products/af.html>

Orange Micro Grappler SCSI Update

Orange Micro has again updated its Grappler SCSI card drivers for compatibility with G4 Macs. The March upgrade fixes a problem interacting with ZIP drives. A single updater handles all cards this time.

<http://www.orangemicro.com/bin/update032100.bin>