

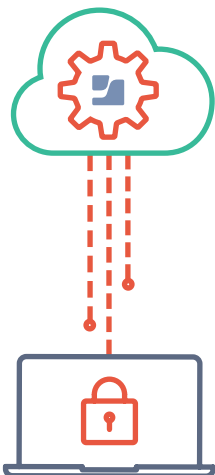


Managing Microsoft Office 2019 on Mac

Microsoft software and Mac hardware are intertwined

The world runs on multiple devices and applications. Now more than ever, users want an interconnected ecosystem experience with their technology.

When you look at the enterprise, the two dominant ecosystems in business are Microsoft and Apple. Microsoft is often regarded as having the best productivity software and Apple the best hardware. Each tool has its role in the workplace, yet they are mutually exclusive technologies. This relationship, in the past, has presented challenges for both IT teams and end users.



HERE'S THE GOOD NEWS

Today, it's never been easier to marry the best productivity software with the best hardware. In early 2019, Apple added Microsoft Office 2019 applications to the Mac App Store, simplifying the steps IT admins need to go through to purchase, license, deploy and secure Office apps for users.

In this white paper, we examine the enterprise demand for a better Apple and Microsoft collaboration, the history of managing and deploying Microsoft apps on Mac, and show you the tools available to secure your apps and hardware — without negatively impacting the user experience.



MODERN WORKPLACE DEMANDS HAVE EVOLVED

User demands have been the driving force behind an improved Microsoft experience on the Mac. It starts with employees' desire to choose the hardware that makes them most productive and comfortable. The concept of an [employee-choice program](#) gained prominence when IBM offered one of their own and discovered that employees wanted Mac over PC, and each time they made a Mac selection, [IBM saved money](#). Recent surveys have backed IBM's claim, and cite that [72 percent of employees](#) will choose a Mac over a PC if given the chance, because it makes them more productive, creative and collaborative.

While users choose Mac over PC, this doesn't mean they want to give up the best part of the PC experience — the Office applications. They want them to be better integrated with their Apple hardware. So, a better Microsoft and Apple solution becomes imperative.

On the IT side, this Mac demand must be met in an efficient and effective manner. That means discovering new and better ways of rolling out hardware, providing all the software and apps users need, and ensuring devices are secure and protected.

HISTORY OF MANAGING AND DEPLOYING OFFICE ON MAC

While the why of Microsoft on Mac is clear, next came the how. Integrating software and hardware with the same brand is straightforward but trying to put Microsoft software on Mac hardware was more of a curvy road. Microsoft software solutions offered a limited feature set on Mac devices, which prevented users from getting the most out of the applications and took away from the user experience.

Previously, with Office applications on Mac, it was a bit of a challenge for technology teams to properly manage Office apps. A couple areas of discontent:

- 1. Downloading and deploying the full .pkg:** Many organizations had to manually download the Office applications, package the file(s) and then deploy to each user in need of these productivity tools.
- 2. Ongoing app monitoring, maintenance and patching:** All apps require upkeep. To maintain the highest level of security and to best protect data, apps must be updated and re-deployed each time a version is made available — often referred to as patch management.

Both of these areas required time-consuming and hands-on workflows for each app on every device, but were necessary to keep users productive and reduce the risk of security vulnerabilities due to out-of-date software.

DELIVER MODERN PRODUCTIVITY SOFTWARE TO MODERN HARDWARE

Apple, Microsoft and device management providers have made large strides to alleviate the complexities of deploying and managing Office on Mac. For starters, Jamf Pro — a best-of-breed Apple device management solution — enables the use of configuration profiles to manage Office settings. For example, configuration profiles deployed from Jamf Pro can:

- ✓ Enforce Microsoft AutoUpdate settings to silently download and install updates, keeping Office applications up-to-date and secure automatically.
- ✓ Assist Outlook users with configuring their Office 365 email accounts, reducing user support calls and misconfigured accounts.
- ✓ Prevent sending sensitive data outside the corporate network when using Microsoft's integrated online services with the Office apps.

Jam Pro also provides app management and security benefits for macOS and third-party apps:

- ⚠ **Patch alerts and notifications:** Receive notifications when apps are available so you can take immediate action to update.
- 📦 **Patch packaging:** Deploy updates using vendor-supplied packages or custom packages made with a simple point-and-click interface.
- 🏗️ **Patch distribution:** Ensure software version consistency by distributing patches to individuals or groups. You can even make software patches available to users on demand or push directly to devices.
- 📄 **Patch reporting:** View reports on all software titles and versions installed. See which computers are on the latest version and which aren't, giving you the ability to demonstrate compliance or take action.

Plus, with Office now available in the Mac App Store, organizations and schools can leverage Apple's deployment programs: Apple Business Manager or Apple School Manager. Jamf Pro seamlessly integrates with these Apple programs so organizations can automate device deployment, app deployment and purchasing, and content distribution.

With Jamf and Apple programs, IT pros can easily purchase Office apps in bulk from the App Store and deliver directly to users.

1. Sign up for Apps and Books via Apple Business Manager or Apple School Manager and add your Jamf server to your portal.
2. Add licenses for Office apps from the Apps and Books section of the Apple Business Manager or Apple School Manager portal.
3. Leverage an existing Office 365 account to activate your Office apps.
4. Assign apps directly to devices or to a user's Apple ID by inviting them to participate in your Apps and Books deployment via email or push notification.
5. Users can find apps assigned to their Apple IDs in the Purchased section of their account in the App Store.



Unique Jamf and Microsoft partnership

Aside from the streamlined Apple integration, Jamf Pro also has a unique partnership with Microsoft to provide a secure compliance solution for any managed Mac attempting to access Office 365 applications hosted in Azure Active Directory (AD).

In the past, organizations have feared unprotected Mac devices accessing Office 365 and other cloud and on-premises resources. The Jamf and Microsoft partnership eliminates this worry by bringing conditional access to the Mac. This means that only trusted users, from compliant devices, using approved apps, are accessing company data.

These simple and automated steps allow organizations to identify unmanaged and non-compliant Mac devices and remediate them.

1. Mac is managed by Jamf Pro
2. Mac is registered with Microsoft Intune
3. Jamf sends macOS device inventory to Microsoft Intune
4. Microsoft Intune evaluates compliance, generates a report, and enforces conditional access via Azure AD
5. Allow access from compliant devices
6. Block access from noncompliant devices, and provide a user-friendly remediation experience powered by Microsoft Intune and Jamf

With the merging of powers, Mac hardware and Microsoft software now work in perfect harmony

A BETTER HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE EXPERIENCE HAS ARRIVED

The best hardware, productivity software and management solution are no longer mutually exclusive. With Jamf Pro, users get newer features faster, making them more productive in their day-to-day job responsibilities. And IT teams are armed with technology that helps mitigate issues and tighten security system-wide.

Request a free trial of Jamf Pro and see for yourself why organizations are trusting Jamf to help them offer an employee-choice program, secure their Mac devices, and get the Office productivity apps to users the second they need them.

[Request Trial](#)

Or contact your preferred authorized reseller of Apple devices to take Jamf for a test drive.



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To see how you can successfully and securely integrate your Mac and Windows environment, [visit **jamf.com/products/jamf-pro/microsoft**](https://www.jamf.com/products/jamf-pro/microsoft).