
Mac vs. Microsoft

Introduction

Mac is a part of Apple Computer Inc and was established in 1977 by Steve Wozniak and Steve Jobs. The background was the development in micro-electronics to render possible personal computers.

Microsoft Corporation established in 1975 by Bill Gates and Paul G. Allen. Microsoft developed a operative system called MS-DOS and grew when IBM decided to implement this system in their launch with personal computers in 1981.¹

Microsoft and Mac might look the same on the surface, but the differance is in the details on the inside. You will be able to read about the differences between the two systems further down. Mac that has Mac OS X at the time, and Microsoft with their Windows XP.²

Do you have complications with your computer? Microsoft and Mac deliver their computer with different software. Which is better?

Virus is a big problem today in the computer market. Which one of Mac and Microsoft handle the virus problem in the best way?

These questions will be answered further down in the text.

Enjoy your reading!

Body

1. No Complications

When you buy a PC, it is most often delivered with Microsoft Windows. Windows is full of software, but not the kind of software that you find usefull. Now you got a whole bunch of programs that you don't need. When you buy a Mac, you instead get a computer full of usefull software.

When you're unpacking your PC and run it you'll notice that it's full of software that you really don't need. Sure, it got a nice calculator and a pretty watch. They'll be usefull when you need to calculate the amount of time that you've spent on uninstalling all the software that you don't need.

When you buy a Mac you get over 200 built-in functions with you home. All you need is already there in your Mac, from the second you turn it on - even before.

This makes your computer ready to use the minute you got it. Just ask Walt Mossberg at The Wallstreet Journal. "From the moment I packed it up", says Mossberg, "Mac has better software for image, music, video and DVD creation than any Windows computer I've ever seen."

This is of course due to Apple's built-in software that uses the same technique as professional programs, such as Logic Pro and Final Cut Studio. In differance to all the editing programs that only provides simple clip art images, iLife has professionally designed themes that in a very simple and good way complement your photo album or your vacation movie, or what ever it is that you now choosen to create on your Mac.³

You don't need to pay extra for having fun with Mac!

2. The Operative System

Recently there was a performance test where the two operative systems were tested to their limits. The test compared Windows XP and Mac OS X with different programs and games. Almost all the games in the test performed better on Windows but that has an explanation. Windows is addicted to the graphic card in the computer and the computer in the tests had the newest available on the market. Mac on the other hand, performed more than two times better than Windows when it comes to graphic editing using programs like Adobe Photoshop and other design programs.⁴

Windows is kind of famous for their blue screen of death. The system has a strong tendency to crash. One really good example of that was when Bill Gates was demonstrating the new version of Windows 98 for a huge crowd of people, and the whole system crashed. However, Windows has come a long way since Windows 98 and has become an even opponent against the Mac OS X.⁵

3. Viruses

If you want to use a computer without being afraid of viruses every time you're getting on to the internet, Mac is the answer for you. Nowadays there's more than 114 000 known viruses for PC which in some way can harm your computer. No computer can be 100 % secure from viruses. But Mac OS X has with its solid UNIX-base a more secure technical core than what's used in Windows.

Many people think that there's not that many known viruses to Mac due to the low number of users, because hackers who's making the viruses concentrate's to PC instead of Mac. Nowadays there's more than 25 million people who uses Mac. Mac has really gained popularity the last few years. Some people think that the reason Mac isn't that vulnerable as Windows is because of its solid UNIX base. UNIX which been under development in over 30 years is based on open source. Because of that the system has been reviewed by security-experts world-wide to develop and secure the system.⁶

If you for an example make a macro-virus and save it in an ordinary Word document and open the document on a Windows machine the virus changes the system settings without your knowledge. If you take the same document on a Mac machine with OS X the system requires a password to make system changes, a password that only the owner knows. In this way you're more safe with a Mac.⁷

Information about Macro viruses: Macro virus is a Word or Excel document which have some commands which perform a settled function which can be harmful to your computer.

Conclusion

What's good with a Mac is that you don't need to buy any extra programs to use it, everything's already there when you get your Mac. But when the time comes for buying some new software for your Mac the prices for these programs are much cheaper than programs to Windows.

Another good thing with Mac is the virus protection. There's about 114 000 known viruses for PC. In March of 2006 850 new threats was discovered for PC. None for Mac.⁸ That much says it all about the security in the different systems.

Another reason to get a Mac is the way they handle graphics and design. First of all, the Mac OS X is kept simple and clean. It's really easy to find your way through the system. That's why most of the design companies choose Mac. But Mac keep it simple, and that's just what everyone wants.

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