

How to Turn On Power to Your Mac Computer

1. Every Macintosh computer has a power-on/off switch and a re-set button.
2. In addition, there also may be a power key on the keyboard. This key is marked with a triangle. Most recent Mac keyboards have this key.
3. Usually you will turn on your computer by pressing your keyboard's power-on key. It's useful to know about the alternative method (for example, when you have a broken or missing keyboard.) On most Mac models, the alternate power switch is the small, round, slotted button in back of the computer. It's about the size of a pea, usually in the lower-left corner of the back panel as you look at it. On some models (such as the tower-style Quadras, the 630-series, and early Power Macs), it's at the *top* left —and on recent Power Macs and clones, it's on the *front* panel. On PowerBooks, there's usually a bizarre-looking plastic button that looks like a dash (—) on the back panel. In a pinch, such as when the system has crashed, you can turn the Mac off using this button.
4. Locate the re-set button and the alternative power switch on your Mac.
5. The power switches control the electrical power to your computer.
6. The re-set button will restart your computer without turning off electrical power to the machine.

To Turn your Mac on:

- A. Check to be sure your Mac is plugged into electrical power.
- B. Press the power-on key on the keyboard. Hold it down for 1 -2 seconds. In some models of Macintosh holding it down too long starts the computer in a “developers mode” and you don't need that.
- C. You will hear a start up sound and the hard drive will start spinning.
- D. Your Mac will now go into its start up sequence. It does a self-check and loads things that are in the System Folder. Be patient. Soon it will be ready for you to use!

SIDE NOTE: What happens when your Mac starts up?

The following is the sequence that occurs when your computer starts up:

- Startup "chime" is played
- The hardware ROM (read only memory) is loaded into memory
- The hardware RAM (random access memory) is tested
- The ADB (Apple desktop bus for the keyboard/mouse) port is queried for attached ADB devices and "reset"
- The SCSI (small computer system interface) port is queried for attached SCSI devices
- The Printer and Modem ports are queried for attached devices
- The PCI (peripheral component interconnection) expansion card slots are queried for installed PCI cards
- The computer searches for a bootable System Folder. It looks first to the floppy disk drive, then the device selected in the Startup Disk control panel, then internal SCSI ID 0, then 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, and 1, then the external SCSI chain (if your Mac has one) in the same order.

NOTE: Holding the mouse button down at startup ejects any floppy currently in the floppy drive; holding the "c" key forces the Mac to use a System Folder on the internal CD-ROM drive; shift-option-⌘-delete forces the computer to ignore whatever device is located at SCSI ID 0 (usually the internal hard drive) when looking for a System Folder.

- The smiling Mac is drawn on the screen
- If a System Enabler is present, it is loaded
- Extensions located in the Extensions folder are loaded in alphabetical order
- Control Panels located in the Control Panels folder are loaded in alphabetical order
- Extensions and Control Panels located loose in the System Folder are loaded in alphabetical order
- The Finder is loaded/launched
- Items in the Startup Items folder are launched
- File Sharing starts up (if selected)
- The Desktop appears on the monitor screen.