

How to shut down Your Mac after a crash

(a.k.a. The 3 Fingered Shut Down)

For various reasons your Mac may freeze up and nothing happens when you move the mouse or press keys on the keyboard (a “crash” or “bomb.”) Here’s how to shut your computer down and get to a re-start.

1. Press the Option key, the Apple key (⌘) and the keyboard power key at the same time (the “three finger shut down.”)
2. Your Mac doesn’t really like this method but sometimes it is all you can do.
3. On re-start you will see an alert box. The text in the box will tell you that your computer was shut down improperly (as if you didn’t know, duh!) and that you should use the power key on your keyboard.
4. Click the “Okay” button and let your Mac resume the start up process.

If your Mac repeatedly freezes up - that’s the topic of another “Nitty-Gritty.”

The Interrupt Switch

When the system crashes press the interrupt switch (⌘ -power.)

You will get a special empty dialog box containing nothing but a > symbol. This dialog box is a mini-debugger.

If you type G FINDER or G F then press Return, its supposed to get you back to the Finder safely.