



# OS X El Capitan: Updating OS X

## Introduction

Progress: ██████████

OS X El Capitan: Updating OS X	
Introduction	▶
Overview	▶
Mac App Store	▶
Types of Updates	▶
OS X Upgrades	▶
Quiz	▶
Summary	▶
Course Evaluation	▶



### Course Description

In the OS X El Capitan: Updating OS X course, you will learn about the difference between updates and upgrades, the different types of updates, and the role the Mac App Store plays in installing updates.

This course is part of the ACMT 2016 curriculum and is used to prepare for the Mac Service Certification Exam (MAC-16A).



Progress:

OS X El Capitan: Updating OS X	
Introduction	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Overview	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Mac App Store	<input type="radio"/>
Types of Updates	<input type="radio"/>
OS X Upgrades	<input type="radio"/>
Quiz	<input type="radio"/>
Summary	<input type="radio"/>
Course Evaluation	<input type="radio"/>





# OS X El Capitan: Updating OS X

## Overview

### Lesson Objectives

After completing this course, you should be able to:

- Identify the types of updates delivered by the Mac App Store.
- Configure the Mac App Store to send notifications about updates.
- Configure the Mac App Store to install updates.
- Use the Mac App Store to upgrade a Mac to the next reference release.
- Explain the difference between an update and an upgrade.

Audience	Prerequisites	Time Required	You will need...
 Service Technicians	 Successful completion of the Apple Service Fundamentals exam	 45 minutes	 No additional materials or equipment are required

This course is designed for technicians who do not have immediate access to a Mac running OS X El Capitan. If you do have access to a Mac running OS X El Capitan, it is recommended that you use it while reviewing the course.



Your course is organized by chapters and pages. Chapters are sections you see on the side navigation. Pages are now found within a chapter. You can navigate pages by clicking the grey radio buttons at the bottom of a window.



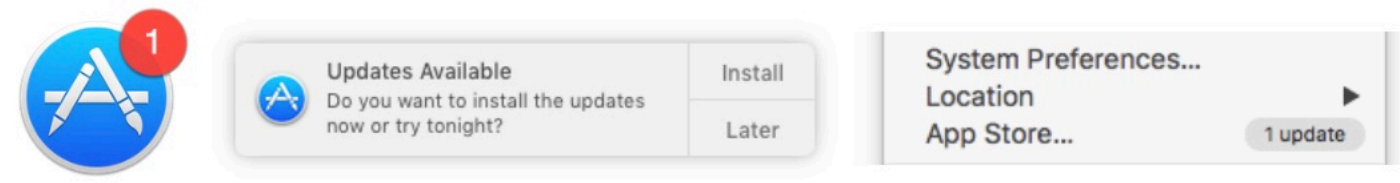
Progress: ██████████

OS X El Capitan: Updating OS X	
Introduction	✓
Overview	✓
Mac App Store	➔
Types of Updates	➔
OS X Upgrades	➔
Quiz	➔
Summary	➔
Course Evaluation	➔

# OS X El Capitan: Updating OS X

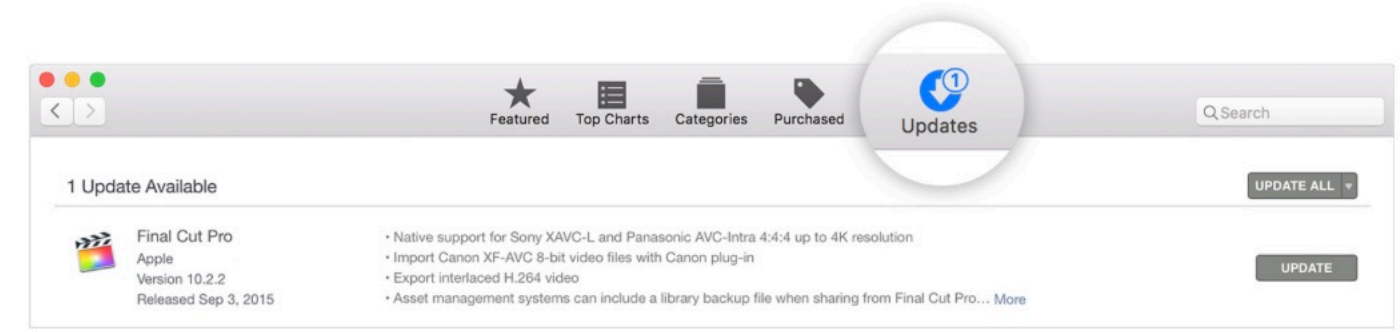
## Mac App Store

The primary method of updating OS X and applications is the Mac App Store. When updates become available, the Mac App Store will notify the user with badges on the app icon and in the Apple menu, as well as banner notifications.



The Mac App Store has a variety of ways to notify users of available updates.

Once in the Mac App Store, the Updates button on the Menu bar will also indicate if updates are available. All apps with available updates will be listed.



To install all updates, click the "Update All" button at the top of the screen. To install only certain updates, click the "Update" button next to that app.





Progress:

OS X El Capitan: Updating OS X	
Introduction	✔
Overview	✔
Mac App Store	➔
Types of Updates	➔
OS X Upgrades	➔
Quiz	➔
Summary	➔
Course Evaluation	➔

# OS X El Capitan: Updating OS X

## Mac App Store



To change the preferences for OS updates, go to System Preferences > App Store. Here, you can change which updates are installed automatically and specify when your Apple ID password will be required.

Note that for settings regarding an Apple ID, you must be signed in with your Apple ID to make changes.





Progress:

OS X El Capitan: Updating OS X	
Introduction	✔
Overview	✔
Mac App Store	➔
Types of Updates	➔
OS X Upgrades	➔
Quiz	➔
Summary	➔
Course Evaluation	➔

# OS X El Capitan: Updating OS X

Mac App Store



## Power Nap

Introduced with OS X Mountain Lion (10.8), Power Nap is a feature that allows your Mac to perform certain tasks while it is asleep. OS and app updates will download while your Mac is asleep and plugged in to an AC outlet.

For more information on Power Nap, including the machines on which it is supported, see Apple Support article, HT204032: [How Power Nap works on your Mac.](#)



## Updates and Upgrades

It is important to use the correct terminology when referring to the type of software being installed.

An **upgrade** is a major, stand-alone version of a software product. It is sometimes also referred to as a "reference release."

An **update** provides enhancements to the stability, compatibility, and security of your Mac.





Progress: ██████████

OS X El Capitan: Updating OS X	
Introduction	✓
Overview	✓
Mac App Store	✓
Types of Updates	▶
OS X Upgrades	▶
Quiz	▶
Summary	▶
Course Evaluation	▶

# OS X El Capitan: Updating OS X

## Types of Updates

### OS X Updates

Software updates are made available via the Mac App Store in OS X and typically provide fixes that enhance the stability, compatibility, and security of your Mac.

Keeping your Mac up to date is an important first troubleshooting step.





Progress: ██████████

OS X El Capitan: Updating OS X	
Introduction	✔
Overview	✔
Mac App Store	✔
Types of Updates	▶
OS X Upgrades	▶
Quiz	▶
Summary	▶
Course Evaluation	▶

# OS X El Capitan: Updating OS X

## Types of Updates

### App Updates

Apps downloaded through the Mac App Store will also make updates available through the Mac App Store. This can include Apple apps such as Keynote and Final Cut Pro, but also any apps from third party developers downloaded through the Mac App Store.



Updates to OS X or Apple applications can also be found at <http://support.apple.com/downloads>. This can be helpful if you would like to download the update more than once or download it to install on multiple Macs.





Progress: ██████████

OS X El Capitan: Updating OS X	
Introduction	✔
Overview	✔
Mac App Store	✔
Types of Updates	▶
OS X Upgrades	▶
Quiz	▶
Summary	▶
Course Evaluation	▶

# OS X El Capitan: Updating OS X

## Types of Updates

### SMC and EFI Firmware Updates

SMC and EFI Firmware updates are updates that make changes to the low-level processes that control things like power management. They require the computer to be restarted, and may also have special requirements such as ensuring your Mac is connected to power.



For additional information on EFI and SMC Firmware Updates, see the following Apple Support articles:

[HT201518: About EFI and SMC firmware updates for Intel-based Mac Computers](#)

[HT202040: About the SMC Firmware Updates](#)







Progress:

OS X El Capitan: Updating OS X	
Introduction	✔
Overview	✔
Mac App Store	✔
Types of Updates	▶
OS X Upgrades	▶
Quiz	▶
Summary	▶
Course Evaluation	▶

# OS X El Capitan: Updating OS X

## Types of Updates

### Security Updates

Security updates address vulnerabilities and other flaws found in the OS. Apple does not disclose, discuss or confirm security issues until a full investigation has occurred and any necessary patches or releases are available. Additional information on security updates can be found at the following links:

- [Apple Product Security](#)
- [Apple security updates](#)





Progress: ██████████

OS X El Capitan: Updating OS X	
Introduction	✓
Overview	✓
Mac App Store	✓
Types of Updates	✓
OS X Upgrades	➔
Quiz	➔
Summary	➔
Course Evaluation	➔

# OS X El Capitan: Updating OS X

## OS X Upgrades

Upgrading to the latest version of OS X is free of charge and done through the Mac App Store. To upgrade to a new version of OS X, follow these steps:



- Launch the Mac App Store.
- Click OS X El Capitan in the sidebar on the right side of the screen to go to the product page.



- On the app's page, click "Get."
- When prompted, sign in with your Apple ID and password. Your download will begin immediately.
- When your download finishes, the installer will launch. Follow the steps on screen to complete the installation.



For more information on upgrading to the latest version of OS X, including system requirements, visit <https://www.apple.com/osx/how-to-upgrade/> and Apple Support article, [HT201475: Upgrade to OS X El Capitan](#).

Some incompatible software is automatically disabled when you upgrade OS X. See [HT201861: About incompatible software on your Mac](#) for more information.



Progress: ██████████

OS X El Capitan: Updating OS X	
Introduction	✔
Overview	✔
Mac App Store	✔
Types of Updates	✔
OS X Upgrades	✔
Quiz	▶
Summary	▶
Course Evaluation	▶

# OS X El Capitan: Updating OS X

## Summary

Having completed this course, you should be able to:

- Identify the types of updates delivered by the Mac App Store.
- Configure the Mac App Store to send notifications about and install updates.
- Use the Mac App Store to upgrade a Mac to the next reference release.
- Explain the difference between an update and an upgrade.

This completes the Updating OS X course. For other courses in the ACMT 2016 curriculum, see Apple Support article, [HT205332: AppleCare Service Certifications](#), or search for ACMT 2016 in ATLAS.