

How to determine what your Operating System Is

The Operating System is the software that runs your computer. There are two main companies that create and sell operating systems, Apple and Microsoft. The Apple Operating System is easily identified by the large 'Apple' logo on the outside of the case.

Like this one



Microsoft makes the Windows operating system. There are many versions and subversions of windows:

Windows 98

1. Windows 98
2. Windows 98 Second Edition

Windows XP

1. Windows XP Starter
2. Windows XP Home
3. Windows XP Professional
4. Windows XP Media Center

Windows Vista

1. Windows Vista Starter
2. Windows Vista Home Basic
3. Windows Vista Home Premium
4. Windows Vista Business
5. Windows Vista Enterprise
6. Windows Vista Ultimate

Windows 7

1. Windows 7 Starter
2. Windows 7 Home Basic
3. Windows 7 Home Premium
4. Windows 7 Professional
5. Windows 7 Enterprise
6. Windows 7 Ultimate

Windows 8

1. Windows 8
2. Windows 8 Professional
3. Windows 8 Ultimate
4. Windows 8 Enterprise
5. Windows RT

This document will help you determine which Windows Operating System you have.

The easiest way to determine this is the "Start Button" located in the bottom left hand side of the main screen when your computer boots.



For all versions of Windows 98, the start button looks like this



For all versions of Windows XP, the start button looks like this



For all versions of Windows Vista, the start button looks like this



For all versions of Windows 7, the start button looks like this



There is no start button in Windows 8