

Startup key combinations for Intel-based Macs

Last Modified: February 24, 2010
Article: HT1533

Old Article: 303124



Summary

Learn about the startup key combinations you can use with Intel-based Macs.

Products Affected

Mac Pro, iMac (20-inch, Mid 2007), iMac (24-inch Mid 2007), iMac (Mid 2006 17-inch), iMac (Early 2006 20-inch), iMac (Early 2006 17-inch), iMac (24-inch, Late 2006), MacBook Pro, MacBook, Mac mini, iMac (20-inch Late 2006), iMac (17-inch, Late 2006 CD), iMac (17-inch, Late 2006), MacBook Air, Mac Pro (Early 2008)

Keystroke	Description
Press C during startup	Start up from a bootable CD or DVD, such as the Mac OS X Install disc that came with the computer.
Press D during startup	Start up in Apple Hardware Test (AHT), if the Install DVD 1 is in the computer.
Press Option-Command-P-R until you hear two beeps.	Reset NVRAM
Press Option during startup	Starts into Startup Manager, where you can select a Mac OS X volume to start from. Note: Press N to make the the first bootable Network volume appear as well.
Press Eject, F12, or hold the mouse (/trackpad) button	Ejects any removable media, such as an optical disc.
Press N during startup	Attempt to start up from a compatible network server (NetBoot).
Press T during startup	Start up in FireWire Target Disk mode.
Press Shift during startup	Start up in Safe Boot mode and temporarily disable login items.
Press Command-V during startup	Start up in Verbose mode.
Press Command-S during startup	Start up in Single-User mode.
Press Option-N during startup	Start from a NetBoot server using the default boot image.

Additional Information

For the best experience with startup keys, press the keys immediately after you hear the startup tone.



Still need help? Speak to an Apple Expert

Arrange a phone call with one of our Apple Experts who specializes in your exact question. Talk to us now or later at your convenience. We'll even call you.
Get started

NOTE: Callbacks are currently only available for U.S. and Canada phone numbers.