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GIFTWORKS FOR MAC USERS

Ways to use GiftWorks on an Apple Computer

According to GiftWorks system requirements, you must have Windows in order to use the software. However, you can run Windows on newer Macintosh computer systems in order to use GiftWorks.

First, determine the processor model of your Mac.

If your Mac is a fairly new model, it probably has an Intel processor (Apple switched to Intel in 2005). To check if you have an Intel model, click on the Apple menu and look at "About This Mac". If the processor listed includes the word "Intel", you are good. **If you have a G4/G5, unfortunately, there is no way to run Windows, and therefore GiftWorks, on your machine.**

Option 1: Virtualization

The first option for using Windows on a Mac is to use "Virtualization" software. There are three products available: Parallels Desktop, Sun VirtualBox, and VMware Fusion (links below). Parallels and Fusion cost about \$80; VirtualBox is free. These programs (which work almost identically) allow you to run Windows in a window. They are easy to use, and when it's all set up, things are very fast. In *do good's* testing, GiftWorks had no problems running under VirtualBox. The advantage here is that you can do everything at the same time: work in the usual windows on your Mac, including GiftWorks in Windows.

Option 2: Boot Camp

If your Mac's operating system is Leopard (OS X 10.5) or Snow Leopard and it's an Intel machine, your other option is Boot Camp. This software is built into the Mac OS, and is designed to let you run Windows in a separate area next to the Mac OS. In this case, to run Windows, you restart your computer and then log into Windows. The advantage here is full native speed; the disadvantage is that you only run one - Windows OR Mac OS - not both at the same time. To switch between them, you have to quit what you are doing, shut down and reboot.

Regardless of which option you choose, you need to install a licensed copy of Windows. Keep this in mind when factoring in the costs.

<http://www.parallels.com/>
<http://www.vmware.com/products/fusion/>
<http://www.virtualbox.org>
<http://www.apple.com/macosx/compatibility/>

Paraphrased from the GiftWorks Knowledgebase

