

Why Windows?

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Windows = \$

- For most of us, Windows is a market niche
 - But a very large niche
 - And a potentially profitable one!

Here there be Dragons

- Most Mac people avoid servicing Windows
- It's different, and that = scary

Why Windows - Software

- Accounting (QuickBooks Pro or Premier/vertical)
 - Vertical market software (Legal, databases)
 - Engineering/Drafting (Solidworks, for instance)
 - MS Access
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- Plenty of software isn't cross-platform...

Ways to get Windows

- Boot Camp
- Virtualization (Parallels, VMware, VirtualBox, etc.)
- Packaging (WINE, CrossOver)

Boot Camp

- Simple. You're a PC.
- Boot between Windows and Mac
- Fastest possible performance, no Mac OS in the background
- Repartition drive on the fly to enable

Virtualization

- Two commercial options: Parallels and VMware
- Both allow simultaneous use of Mac and Windows, with integration between the two
- In general: Parallels is a little faster, VMware a little more stable. This can vary by release.

The downsides

- Bootcamp = no more Mac
- Virtualization = A PC is running, with all the support issues and malware threats that entails

The other choice

- WINE (WINE Is Not an Emulator) is a set of compatibility libraries that convert Win32 API calls to UNIX/native calls
- CrossOver is a commercialized implementation of WINE with support
- Both allow usage of certain popular Windows apps

How to choose?

- Boot Camp for performance and odd peripherals
- Packaging for one or two apps - if they work with it
- Virtualization for all the rest

Connecting to Windows

- Snow Leopard AD client
- Thursby Software - DAVE and ADmit Mac
- Exchange Clients (Apple, MS)

Forms of Connection

- SL has a basic SMB client built in (it's derived from SAMBA)
- Macs can authenticate against AD on a Windows server
- There is support for Home Directories on Windows servers - I'm not a fan

Adding to the Party

- DAVE is a more advanced SMB client for Macs. It also adds DFS support (replication and availability tech)
- ADmit Mac adds a robust AD client to DAVE

Management Tools

- Centrify
- Quest Software
- LANdesk and others

My preferred source for info: macwindows.com

What about Email?

- MS Exchange is more or less standard
- 3 common versions: 2003, 2007, 2010
- Compatibility differs, as we will see on the next slide:

- Exchange 2003: MS Entourage 2004, 2008
- Exchange 2007, 2010: Apple Mail/Address Book/iCal, Entourage 2008 EWS, Outlook 2011 (older Entourage should work as well)
- Exchange 2007 will require updates OOB to work with EWS clients

Exchange Note

- SSO doesn't really work with Macs and Exchange clients.
- EWS is a little exotic to a lot of admins, and needs to be set up just right
- EWS is not used by Outlook for Windows yet. Eventually it'll replace MAPI, but until then admins aren't really pushing it

Alternatives

- Snow Leopard Server-native services
- Kerio Connect
- Zimbra
- Communigate

Snow Leopard

- Email is compatible with any IMAP or POP client
- iCal Server works with CalDAV clients
- Address Book Server works with CardDAV clients
- Not great for Windows users

Kerio

(I'm biased - I sell a lot of Kerio)

- Works with native Mac client software
- Works with Outlook on Windows (via a MAPI shim)
- Works (as of 7.2) with Outlook for Mac
- Spam/AV part of licensing
- Also supports Blackberry and ActiveSync

Communigate

- Powerful, complex, expensive
- Has a very robust email engine
- MAPI support
- Spam and AV engines are extra cost

Zimbra

- Owned by VMware
- Uses either Zimbra Desktop client or standards client
- Scales big - it's what Comcast uses to provide email services

Selecting Windows

- Windows XP - mainstream standard, but no longer commonly available (with an EOL in 3 years)
- Windows Vista = meh.
- Windows 7 - needs resources, but your best option

Windows 7 versions

- Home Premium - what the average home PC comes with. Cheapest
- Professional - Has an XP emulation mode, supports Active Directory domains, includes backup
- Ultimate - Comes with all that plus encryption, multi-language

Generally I use/recommend Professional!

How to get Windows

- Easiest way to get it is with an “OEM/ Systembuilder” license
- Available from Amazon, NewEgg, or most good online retailers
- Equivalent to what comes with a factory PC, but the license is tied to the installation

Managing Windows

- You'll need virus protection

It's Windows, after all

- I recommend MS Security Essentials for most home/SMB users, but in a corporate setting you may have AV software pushed out by IT
- Save your license keycode in case of reinstall
- Moving a VM to a different Mac (through an upgrade, for instance) will likely trigger a re-activation

Managing Windows

- Backing up a VM isn't very Time Machine-friendly
- The OS is in a disk "container" file, which will be backed up in entirety for any byte level of change
(Entourage users will remember this dilemma)
- Separate backup is ideal, keep documents in the Mac folders for best results

Questions and Other

- Anything we need more depth on we can cover here, time permitting.
- Questions welcome!
- For more info and/or followups:

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