

Jamf Pro - Restricting upgrades to macOS

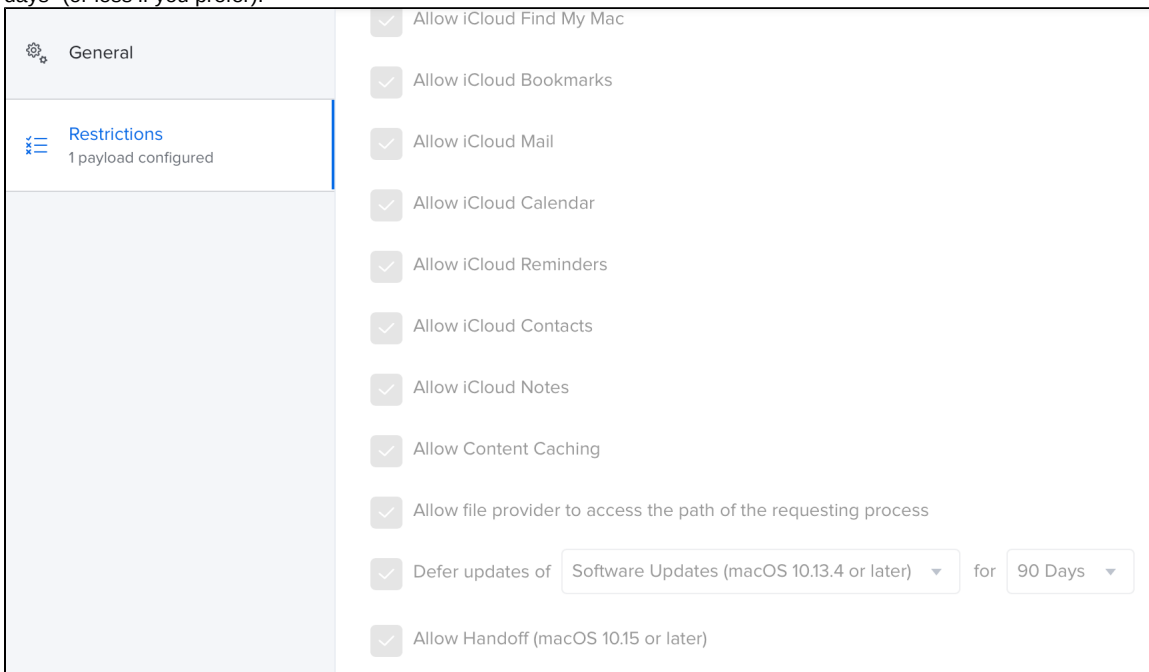
Jamf Pro - Restricting upgrades to macOS

If you need to prevent users from installing the latest version of macOS immediately, you can create a configuration profile in Jamf Pro to defer updates for up to 90 days after release. Using this profile, you can choose to defer minor updates (e.g. 13.5 to 13.6), major upgrades (e.g. 13.6 to 14.0), or both

You can also create a Restricted Software entry in Jamf to block users from launching macOS installer .app, but note that this only applies to legacy Macs. Apple Silicon Macs running macOS 12.3 or later will be able to perform major upgrades without running the .app installer, so the configuration profile is the only way to block major upgrades on those Macs.

Configuration Profile setup

1. Go to the Configuration Profiles section of Jamf Pro and click New.
2. In the Restrictions payload on the left, click Configure.
3. Under the Functionality tab, scroll down and check the "Defer updates" box. Set the menu options to "Software Updates" and "90 days" (or less if you prefer).



The screenshot shows the 'Restrictions' configuration page in Jamf Pro. On the left sidebar, 'Restrictions' is selected under '1 payload configured'. The main area displays a list of settings, all of which are checked. The 'Defer updates of' setting is expanded, showing a dropdown menu with 'Software Updates (macOS 10.13.4 or later)' selected and a 'for' dropdown with '90 Days' selected. The other settings include 'Allow iCloud Find My Mac', 'Allow iCloud Bookmarks', 'Allow iCloud Mail', 'Allow iCloud Calendar', 'Allow iCloud Reminders', 'Allow iCloud Contacts', 'Allow iCloud Notes', 'Allow Content Caching', 'Allow file provider to access the path of the requesting process', and 'Allow Handoff (macOS 10.15 or later)'.

Setting	Status
Allow iCloud Find My Mac	✓
Allow iCloud Bookmarks	✓
Allow iCloud Mail	✓
Allow iCloud Calendar	✓
Allow iCloud Reminders	✓
Allow iCloud Contacts	✓
Allow iCloud Notes	✓
Allow Content Caching	✓
Allow file provider to access the path of the requesting process	✓
Defer updates of	Software Updates (macOS 10.13.4 or later) for 90 Days
Allow Handoff (macOS 10.15 or later)	✓

4. If you would like restrict the updating to a major OS update (e.g. macOS 12 Monterey to macOS 13 Ventura) while allowing minor OS updates, simply select "Only major software updates"

Options

Scope

Restrictions

1 payload configured

Font

Not configured

AirPlay

Not configured

Login Items

Not configured

Login Window

Not configured

Dock

Not configured

Mobility

Not configured

Notifications

Not configured

Printing

Not configured

☒ Allow iCloud Bookmarks

☒ Allow iCloud Mail

☒ Allow iCloud Calendar

☒ Allow iCloud Reminders

☒ Allow iCloud Contacts

☒ Allow iCloud Notes

☒ Allow Content Caching

☒ Allow Erase All Content and Settings (macOS 12 or later, Supervised)

☒ Allow file provider to access the path of the requesting process

☒ Defer updates of

Only major software updates

 for

60 Days

☒ Allow Handoff (macOS 10.15 or later)

- Click on the Scope tab, and select the computers or groups you want this restriction to apply to.
- Save.

The configuration profile should be installed and take effect as soon as the target computers are connected to the Internet.

Restricted Software



If you wish to restrict upgrades on Apple Silicon Macs running macOS 12.3 or later, you must use the configuration profile method described above. The following steps are only effective on older Macs.

- Go to the Restricted Software section and click New. Depending on your OS you can enter the following:
- In the "Process Name" field, enter e.g. **"Install macOS Sonoma.app"** or **"Install macOS Ventura.app"**
- Check the "kill process" box.
- Add a message to display to the end user if they try to launch the macOS installer.

Computers : Restricted Software

← macOS Ventura

Options Scope

Display Name Display name for the restricted software record

macOS Ventura

Site Site to add the restricted software record to

None

Process Name Name of the process to restrict (e.g., "Chess", or "Chess.app"). The asterisk (*) can be used as a wildcard character

Install macOS Ventura.app

When targeting a process in an application bundle, enter the name of the application bundle (e.g. "Chess.app").

☒ **Restrict exact process name**
Only restrict processes that match the exact process name. The match is case-sensitive and recognizes the asterisk (*) as a literal character

☐ **Delete application**
Delete the application running the restricted process

☐ **Send email notification on violation**
When the process is found, send an email notification to Jamf Pro users with email notifications enabled. An SMTP server must be set up in Jamf Pro for this to work

☒ **Kill process**
Terminate the process when found

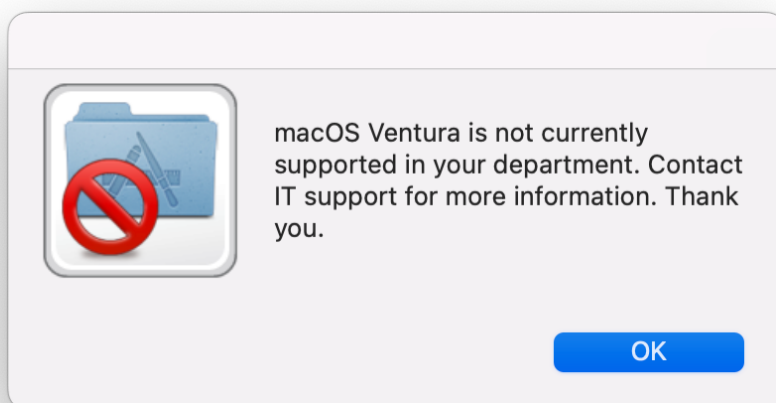
Message Message to display to users when the process is found

macOS Ventura is not currently supported in your department. Contact IT support for more information. Thank you.

Cancel Save

5. Click on the Scope tab, and select the computers or groups you want this restriction to apply to.
6. Save.
7. If you'd like to restrict more than one version, clone this and edit the process name. For example, you may wish to restrict the beta version of macOS 14 with **"Install macOS Sonoma beta.app"** as well as the final release with **"Install macOS Sonoma.app"**.
 - a. Note: While it is possible to use a wildcard to catch both the beta and final release, we have found it more reliable to enter the app name exactly, and recommend avoiding wildcards.

Software restrictions should take effect on computers after their next check in, which normally happens about once every half hour.



When a user tries to run the macOS installer, it will quit instantly and the user will see the message you specified.

Have Questions or Still Need Help?

- If you need assistance creating restrictions or have any questions, please contact the End User Computing team at euc-help@mit.edu.