Updating Your Mac

Updates keep your Mac safe and fix small bugs. The newest version is macOS 27 Golden Gate (fall 2026) — but if yours runs an older version, that is fine. The steps below are the same either way.

How to check for updates

1. Click the Apple menu in the top-left corner, then System Settings.
2. Click General in the sidebar, then Software Update on the right.
3. It checks by itself. If an update is waiting, click Update Now (small fixes) or Upgrade Now (a whole new version).
4. Plug in the charger first. It takes a while — the Mac restarts on its own when it is done. Leave it alone until it finishes.

Older Macs

If you see System Preferences instead of System Settings, the path is Apple menu → System Preferences → Software Update. On very old Macs, updates are checked in the App Store app, under the Updates tab.

Let the Mac handle it by itself

On the Software Update screen you can turn on automatic updates — the Mac then installs small fixes overnight while you sleep. Big new versions still wait for your okay first, so nothing scary happens without you.

When to call Sean instead

- Your Mac offered an update and you are not sure whether to say yes.
- An update got stuck halfway or the Mac will not start after one.
- After updating, something that worked before does not work now.

Need a hand? Call Sean at **(813) 770-6082**.