

Exchange for the Macintosh – Overview of Options

Option	Mail	Cal	What it is	Advantages	Limitations
Entourage 2004 with SR1 (Support Release 2 coming, shows promise)	√	√	Microsoft's Exchange client for the Mac	Fulllest integration and feature support of Mac clients	Lack of tight Macintosh integration
				Uses Exchange Global Address Book	Problematic when mailbox accessed via multiple clients
				Can manage delegated (proxied) accounts	Client must be updated to SR1 or above to fix data loss bug that can unexpectedly delete mail for some users.
					Cannot set up proxies
					Some users have reported problems with calendar (deleting items, adding items back in)
		Slow performance			
Mail.app (and other imap clients)	√		Exchange supports the imap standard and so it can be used with standard imap clients, including Mail.app	Familiar Macintosh integration	No integration with calendar
					Problems with Public Folders (look into this)
iCal		√	Exchange supports the iCal standard and so it can be used with standard iCal clients, including iCal.	Familiar Macintosh integration	No integration with email
					Meetings or events in iCal are not recorded on the Exchange server
					Cannot propose meetings with other Exchange users
GroupCal		√	GroupCal is a commercial product (www.snerdware.com) used with iCal to provide some of the functionality missing in iCal	Allows proposing meetings via iCal	Extra cost
				Supports free/busy searches	Not supported on Tiger
					Flaky (technical term); not recommended for heavy use

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Outlook Web Access	√	√	This Outlook web client can be used with any browser	No client installation/configuration	Basic Version only, with limited features
				Uses native Macintosh tools	No rules support
					No delegation capability
					No integration with other calendars
					No offline access
RDP client / Terminal Services	√	√	The unit may choose to run a Terminal Server for Macintosh access to Outlook 2003 via the Remote Desktop Protocol	Full Outlook 2003 functionality	No Mac integration
				Full delegation support	No offline access
					Must provide Terminal Server

You might hear of these options, but the limitations are so serious that we recommend against them and will not support them.

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Classic OS 9 with Outlook 2001	√	√	Running the Mac in Classic mode allows use of the older Microsoft Outlook 2001 client	Integration of mail and calendar	Does not work in our environment (Exchange 2003)
Virtual PC with Outlook 2003	√	√	By running a virtual Windows machine on the Macintosh, you can use the full-featured Microsoft Outlook 2003 for Windows program.	Full Outlook 2003 functionality, including mail and calendar	Security concerns with running instance of Windows in a way that it may miss security patches
				Full delegation support	Slow performance
				If already using Virtual PC, easy addition	Requires lots of RAM
					No Mac integration
					Extra cost