

Parallels Desktop for Mac versus CrossOver for Mac

"Run Windows and Mac OS X at the same time. Parallels Desktop for Mac is Fast, Secure & Flexible."

Product	Parallels Desktop for Mac	CrossOver for Mac
Company	Parallels	CodeWeavers
Competitive Advantage Summary	<p>Competitive advantage of Parallels over CrossOver:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parallels; a cool product that allows users to run Windows side-by-side with Mac. - Time to Market: Lead time associated with providing support to new Windows Applications thru CrossOver for Mac. - Breadth of Software that is available to customers compared to the limited amount of Software that is available thru CrossOver. - CrossOver for Mac does not support any Drivers or Windows Hardware/Devices. This prevents customers from being able to use printers, synchronize their PDA & Cell Phone, Use Gaming Controls to play games...etc. 	<p>Competitive advantage of CrossOver over Parallels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CrossOver customers do not require a Windows Operating System to run Windows Software. - CrossOver customers do not need to share files and folders since they have one Operating System.
Price	\$79.99, <i>free 15 day trial available</i>	\$59.95
Host System	Mac OS X 10.4.5 or later NEW! Support for developer build Mac OS X 10.5 "Leopard" NEW! Full Support 64-bit Mac Pro Towers & 64-bit iMac	Mac OS X 10.4.6 or later
Guest OS	Windows 3.1, 3.11, 95, 98, Me, NT, 2000, XP, 2003, Linux, FreeBSD, OS/2, eComStation, Solaris, MS-DOS, OPENSTEP RC2 update – Experimental Windows Vista support P	No Operating System – Limited Windows Software MS Office 2000 – Gold Support MS Office Pro XP, Visio 2000, Quicken 2003 – Silver Support MS Office 2003, Quicken 2005, Games – Bronze Support
Processor	Intel x86, Intel VT-x	Intel x86
Performance	Near-Native <i>Most average users won't notice the difference</i>	Near-Native
Optimization Tool	Parallels Compressor Free Optimize performance & Hard Disk space Reduces virtual drive size by 50% or more.	None
Download Size	23 MB	128 MB
Solution	Virtualization - no hardware partitioning required <i>Users Increase PC utilization thru virtualization</i>	CrossOver uses WINE , which is an Open Source implementation of the Windows API on top of X and Unix. Users are able to run Windows applications on their Mac without the need to install Windows Operating System.

Walt Mossberg, The Wall Street Journal

Windows/Mac OS Integration	Instantly switch between Windows & Mac without restarting File Sharing between Windows & Mac is simple Cut and Paste between Windows & Mac	There is no need for file-sharing since CrossOver does not include Microsoft Windows Operating System. Users can store their Windows files and open them from Mac OS X.
Hardware/Devices	USB 1.1, Mac hardware support, web camera, Windows Mobile 5, CD/DVD (read data disc & installations) Support will be added for 3D Accelerator, CD/DVD Optical Media (music CD's & DVD videos), USB 2.0, & multiple NIC's	No support for any Hardware/Devices that run on Windows Operating System. Printer drivers are not supported. Mac Hardware and Device Support.
Security	Disable File Sharing to prevent Malicious software from damaging your Mac files.	Malicious software running on CrossOver might do limited damage to your Mac computer.
Networking	Networking & Internet access pre-configured	N/A
Support	Email, discussion forums, online documentations & per-incident phone (\$29.99)	CrossOver online documentations, Chat Support & Forums.

- *Each Parallels virtual machine works exactly like a stand alone machine, and works with its own RAM, processors, CD/DVD drive, etc. – everything a real computer contains.*