

USER MANUAL

MacToolSuite

Every tool, the licence and the Agent, step by step.



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Before you start

This chapter covers what happens only once: checking that your Mac is supported, installing the app, choosing its language and giving the permissions some tools need. It also explains which tools are free, how the 14-day trial works and how updates arrive.

01.01

Requirements

- macOS 27.
- A Mac with Apple silicon. The app does not run on Intel-based Macs.
- An internet connection to activate the license and check for updates. The tools work offline.
- For the Agent's Apple model, Apple Intelligence turned on in System Settings. The Agent can also use Claude or ChatGPT with your own account (chapter 4).

MacToolSuite is distributed outside the App Store, signed and notarized by Apple. Most of its tools could not work inside the sandbox the App Store requires.

01.02

Install from the zip

1. Download `ToolSuite-latest.zip` from the MacToolSuite page on toolboxdesign.dev (toolboxdesign.dev/plataformas/toolsuite).
2. Double-click the zip. `ToolSuite.app` appears.
3. Drag `ToolSuite.app` to the Applications folder.
4. Delete the copy left in Downloads and empty the Trash.
5. Open `ToolSuite.app` from Applications. macOS asks whether you want to open an app downloaded from the internet: confirm.

The app is called ToolSuite in the Finder and in the Dock; the window says MacToolSuite.

Keep it in Applications. The privileged helper (below) can only be approved if the app is there, and a second copy in another folder can make macOS start the wrong helper.

First launch

The window opens on **Home**. An icon with two gears appears in the menu bar: it is the menu bar panel (chapter 3).

The 14-day trial of the paid tools starts at that moment. It asks for no card and no sign-up.

The app starts in English, whatever language macOS uses. To change the language:

1. In the sidebar, click **Settings**.
2. On the **General** tab, find the **Language** card.
3. Choose a language.

This manual uses the app's English strings.

Language and appearance

You change both in **Settings**, on the **General** tab.

- **Language:** English, Français, Español or System. System follows the macOS language. Changing the language here does not change the language of macOS.
- **Appearance:** **System**, **Light** or **Dark**. **System** follows the macOS appearance. Light or dark only affect the MacToolSuite window.

The translation is in progress. Screens that are not translated yet stay in English, and some messages (mostly those with figures or names inside) appear in English even if you choose another language.

The privileged helper

What it is for

Some tasks need administrator (root) permissions. MacToolSuite does not run as administrator: those tasks are done by a separate, signed component called the privileged helper. You install it once and it stays registered in macOS.

The helper can do exactly this:

- Run the maintenance commands that require root: flush the DNS cache, reindex Spotlight and purge inactive memory.
- Read a whole disk, sector by sector, for Forensic Clone.
- Write a macOS installer or an image to an external disk, for Bootable USB Creator.
- Remove a root-owned app that you have chosen in App Uninstaller.
- Set the Time Machine destination disk for Backups & Rebuild.

What it cannot do

- It does not run free-form commands or a shell. Only a closed list of system commands, with fixed arguments.
- It does nothing on its own. It only accepts requests from the signed MacToolSuite app; any other program is refused.
- It does not write to the startup disk or to internal disks when it writes images or installers. It does not accept single partitions or mounted disk images as a destination.
- It quits by itself after two minutes without use.

Which tools need it

Maintenance Scripts (only for the three tasks marked **Root**), Bootable USB Creator, Forensic Clone, Backups & Rebuild (only to set the destination), App Uninstaller (only for root-owned apps) and Optimize (root maintenance steps are skipped without it). The other tools do not use it.

While it is not installed, the sections with these tools show a notice with the **Set up helper** button, and the **Worth a look** panel on Home flags it as **Not set up**.

How to install it

1. Open **Settings** and choose the **Privileged helper** tab. The page is titled **Privileged helper**.
2. Step 1: click **Register**. macOS asks for your administrator password once.
3. Step 2: click **Open System Settings**. Go to System Settings → General → Login Items & Extensions → Allow in the Background, and turn on ToolSuite.
4. Go back to MacToolSuite. macOS does not tell the app when you approve the helper: the page checks by itself every two seconds.

5. Step 3: the page verifies that the helper answers, that it belongs to this version and that it only accepts the signed app. When it finishes, it says the helper is installed and verified.

If it does not answer

- If macOS reports it as turned on but it does not answer, click **Repair**: it registers it again. You may have to approve it again.
- If the page lists other copies of `ToolSuite.app`, delete them, empty the Trash and click **Repair**.
- After an update, the app registers the helper again by itself. If it still does not answer, click **Repair**.
- If it still fails: in Terminal, `sudo sfltool resetbtm`, restart the Mac and register it again.
- **Copy diagnostics** copies the helper's status to the clipboard, to send to support.

The **Advanced** tab in Settings has diagnostic controls for the helper: **Ping**, **Repair** and **Unregister**.

Remove it

On the helper page, **Remove helper...** and confirm with **Remove**. The tasks that require root stop working until you register it again. Nothing else changes.

01.06

Full Disk Access and other permissions

macOS protects some data even when you are the one asking for it. A few tools need you to give MacToolSuite Full Disk Access:

- Privacy Cleaner, for Safari history and cookies. Without the permission, the scan leaves them out and the tool says so.
- Permissions & Privacy, to read the list of macOS permissions. Without it, the page shows **Full Disk Access required**.
- Disk Space Analyzer, to see the whole boot volume. Without it, the map is incomplete and says so.
- Folder Sync, if macOS does not allow a watched folder to be used. In that case, allow it in Privacy & Security > Files & Folders, or give Full Disk Access.

To give it:

1. Open System Settings → Privacy & Security → Full Disk Access.
2. Add ToolSuite.app and turn it on.
3. Go back to the tool and click **Refresh** or scan again.

Other permissions macOS may ask for the first time:

- Local Network, for LAN Scanner, NAS Servers and Screens. Without it, LAN Scanner finds no devices.
- Access to folders and external volumes, when a tool opens them for the first time.
- The macOS keychain may ask for permission the first time MacToolSuite reads a saved secret.

MacToolSuite does not install kernel extensions.

01.07

Free and paid tools

Ten tools are free and always work, with or without a license:

- Resource Monitor, Startup Items, Password Vault and Maintenance Scripts (System).
- Storage Cleaner (Disks).
- File Unlocker and Folder Structures (Files).
- Network Diagnostics and NAS Servers (Network).
- SSH Hosts (Remote).

NAS Servers and SSH Hosts are free up to three servers and three hosts. With a license they have no limit.

The other tools and the Agent are paid. On the section pages they carry the **Pro** label.

The 14-day trial

For 14 days from the first launch everything is open, without limits. The sidebar shows **Pro trial** with the days left and the **Buy Pro** button.

After the 14 days, the app keeps working as the **Free version**:

- The free tools stay the same.
- The paid ones show **Pro license required**. When you open them you see **Pro tools are locked** and two buttons: **Buy Pro** and **I have a key**.

- NAS Servers and SSH Hosts keep the first three items; the rest wait for the license.

Your work is not lost: history, scheduled tasks and settings stay where they were.

The first-launch date is stored in the keychain. Deleting and reinstalling the app does not restart the trial. If the Mac's clock is set back to a date before the first launch, the trial is treated as over.

To activate a license, see chapter 2.

01.08

Updates

MacToolSuite checks for updates by itself, in the background. When there is a new version, it offers it to you; it is never installed without your say-so. Updates are signed and the app checks the signature before installing them.

To check by hand:

- **Settings, Updates** tab, **Check for updates...** button. Above it you see **This build**, with the version and build number.
- Or in the **ToolSuite** menu, **Check for Updates....**

Updates within the same major version are included in the license.

The license

The license unlocks the paid tools and the Agent on your Macs. You buy it on the web, activate it with one click from the purchase email or by pasting the key, and it works offline for days. This chapter also explains how to move it to another Mac and what to do if you lose the key.

02.01

Plans and purchase

There are two plans, both with a perpetual license:

- Basic: all the tools and the Agent on one Mac.
- Pro: the same on two Macs.

Updates within the same major version are included.

To buy, click **Buy Pro**. It is in the sidebar while you have no license, in **Account** and in every locked paid tool. The button opens the plans on toolboxdesign.dev, in the app's language. **Compare plans**, in **Account**, opens the same page.

Payment is handled by Stripe. After paying you receive an email, in the language you bought in, with your key and a button to activate.

02.02

Activate with the email link

1. Open the purchase email on the Mac where you will use MacToolSuite.
2. Click **Activate MacToolSuite**.
3. The browser opens a page that passes the key to MacToolSuite. If the browser asks for permission to open the app, give it.
4. MacToolSuite opens (even if it was closed or had no window), activates the license and takes you to **Account** with the result: **Pro license active on this Mac** (or Basic).

The key travels in the link after the `#` sign. The browser does not send that part to any server, so it is not left in any log.

Activate with the key

The key looks like this: STK-XXXXX-XXXXX-XXXXX-XXXXX.

1. Open **Account** in the sidebar.
2. In **I have a key**, paste the key.
3. Click **Activate**.

It does not matter if you paste it with spaces, line breaks or in lowercase: the app removes them.

Activating needs an internet connection.

What Account shows

Without a license, the plan card is at the top:

- During the trial: **Pro trial**, the date it ends, the days left in large type, a bar and **Buy Pro**.
- Afterwards: **Free version**, **Pro tools are locked** and **Buy Pro**.

Below it, **I have a key**.

With a license, the card says **MacToolSuite Pro** (or Basic) and **Active on this Mac**, with three dates:

- **Activated**.
- **Valid until: Perpetual** on the Basic and Pro plans.
- **Works offline until**: how long this Mac can work without connecting (see below).

Below it, a card with this Mac: its name, the macOS version and a short identifier. **Deactivate this Mac...** is there.

With a license, the sidebar no longer shows the trial or **Buy Pro**, and **Account** carries the plan badge.

On how many Macs

Basic, on one Mac. Pro, on two. Each Mac that activates the key takes a seat.

If you activate the key on one Mac more than your plan allows, the activation fails with the code `device_limit`. First free a seat from the Mac you no longer use (next section).

02.06

Move the license to another Mac

On the Mac that gives up the license:

1. Open **Account**.
2. Click **Deactivate this Mac....**
3. Confirm with **Deactivate**.

You see **This Mac was released: the seat is free for another Mac**. The paid tools lock on that Mac.

On the new Mac, activate with the email link or with the key.

You do not need to type the key to deactivate: the Mac uses its own code, received when it activated. Only Macs activated with a version earlier than 0.8.1 lack that code; on them, the sheet asks for the key to free the seat.

If the old Mac no longer works or you no longer have it, write to support@toolboxdesign.dev from the purchase email address and we free the seat.

02.07

Offline use and background renewal

MacToolSuite checks the license on the Mac itself, without asking any server. That is why it works offline.

Each activation has an offline period: the **Works offline until** date in **Account**. The server sets the period; today it is 30 days.

The app renews that period by itself. When the license has gone a week without renewal, it tries when it opens and then every six hours. If there is no connection, nothing happens: it tries again later.

MacToolSuite only needs to be open with a connection at some point between that first week and the **Works offline until** date for the period to start again.

If the period runs out:

- **Account** shows **The license needs to be verified again** and **The offline period is over: activate again with a connection.**
- The paid tools lock until it is renewed.
- With a connection, the app renews by itself when it opens. On a Mac activated before 0.8.1, paste the key again in **I have a key**.

Renewal stops working, and the app goes back to the free version, if the Mac was released, if the key was reissued or if the license was revoked or refunded.

02.08

If you lose the key

Write to support@toolboxdesign.dev from the email address you bought with. We send you a new key to that same address, never to another.

The previous key is revoked and the Macs that used it are released. Activate the new one on each Mac.

02.09

What is sent to the server

When activating, the app sends:

- The license key.
- A SHA-256 fingerprint of the Mac's identifiers. Never the serial number in plain text.
- The Mac's name, the same one you see on the **Account** card.

When renewing and deactivating, it sends this Mac's renewal code and the same fingerprint; not the key.

The server stores a fingerprint of your key, not the key. The app does not store the key either: the Mac's keychain only keeps the license receipt and the renewal code.

More detail in chapter 12.

The window

The window has two parts: the sidebar on the left and the page on the right. From the sidebar you reach Home, Activity, the seven tool sections, Account and Settings. This chapter goes through each part, plus the menu bar panel, scheduling tasks and Optimize.

03.01

The sidebar

From top to bottom:

- **Home**: your start page, with the panels and tools you choose.
- **Activity**: what is running, what is scheduled and what has finished. While jobs are running, it shows how many.
- **Tools**: the seven sections. **Transfers, Files, Disks, Network, Remote, System** and **Recovery**.
- **Search**: the tool finder.
- Without a license, the trial or free version card, with **Buy Pro**.
- At the bottom, **Account** and **Settings**.

While a long job is still running (a copy, a sync, a scan), two spinning gears appear above the bottom, with the name of the job or **N jobs running**. A click takes you to **Activity**. The indicator stays there even if you leave the tool's page.

The sidebar has three modes: with names, **Icons only** and hidden. The sidebar button (at the top) switches between them, as does . In icon mode, each row's name appears when you hold the pointer over it. The app remembers the mode.

The Agent is not in the sidebar: it opens with the  button at the top right, from any page (chapter 4).

03.02

Home

Home is a grid you shape yourself, like an iPad Home Screen. It holds panels (status, jobs, reports), tools and SSH hosts. You can have all of them or none.

At the top you see the Mac's name and its macOS version. On the right, the customize icon.

Sizes

Each piece has a fixed size: small (one cell), medium (two wide), large (two by two) or wide (four wide). Each panel accepts only some sizes. Tools and hosts are always small.

Pieces are placed in order, each in the first gap where it fits whole. Nothing overlaps.

Customize

1. Click the customize icon (**Customize Home**). Each piece shows a dashed border.
2. To move a piece, drag it from any point. An outline shows where it will land and how the rest rearranges.
3. To change the size, drag the right edge, the bottom edge or the corner. The outline shows the nearest valid size.
4. To remove it, click – in its top-left corner.
5. Click the icon again (**Done**) to finish.

With VoiceOver you have the same actions: **Move earlier**, **Move later**, **Change size** and **Remove**.

Add panels and tools

1. Click **+ Add**, always after the last piece.
2. **Add to Home** opens, with three lists: **Panels**, **Tools** and, if you have any, **SSH Hosts**.
3. Click **+ Add** on each row you want. The button changes to **Added**; clicking it again removes it.
4. Go back with **← Back to Home**.

The list does not reorder while you add. The tools already on Home come first.

The panels

- **Space recovered**: what was recovered in 30 days, the disk's free space and a chart by day. Opens Disk Space Analyzer.
- **Drive health**: the last S.M.A.R.T. reading and its age. With no reading it says **Not checked**, with the **Check drives** link; after 30 days, **Old reading**. It never reports a disk as healthy without a date.
- **System now**: CPU, memory and disk live, every two seconds. Opens Resource Monitor.

- **Most used:** the tools you open most in 30 days that are not on Home. **Pin** moves them to Home. Until there are openings, **Nothing yet**.
- **Running now:** what is running, or **Nothing is running**.
- **Recent work:** the latest runs, with icons to export the report and to go to **Activity**.
- **Worth a look:** disks with no reading, with problems or with an old reading; a backup older than seven days, or none; the privileged helper not set up. Each row opens the place where you fix it.
- **Optimize:** when the last one ran and **Run now**. While it runs, the step, **Show progress** and **Stop**.
- **Watched folders:** each watched Folder Sync pair with its state. The ones that need you appear as a warning.
- **Scheduled tasks:** the active ones, the next one first. ► runs one now.
- **NAS Servers:** your servers and their folders.
- **Agent:** a field to ask and the latest chats. Only offered if the Agent can work on this Mac.

Default Home: Space recovered, Drive health, System now; Fast Copy, Offline Disk Catalog, Batch Rename and Folder Sync; Most used, Running now, Recent work and Worth a look.

03.03

The sections

Each section shows all its tools as keys: symbol, name, and below it the last run or **Not run yet**. A click opens the tool.

- Paid tools carry **Pro** in the corner. With no license and no trial, they say **Pro license required**.
- At the bottom, a bar describes the tool under the pointer.
- If the section has tools that need the privileged helper and it is not installed, a notice with **Set up helper** appears at the top.
- **System** also has the **Optimize...** button (see Optimize, below).

Inside a tool, the bar at the top shows the section and the name. Click the section name, or press ⌘[, to go back.

Search

1. Press **⌘K** from any page, or click **Search**. If the sidebar was in icon mode or hidden, it opens.
2. Type part of a tool's name or of what it does.
3. Return opens the first match. Esc clears the field.

The finder also finds the hosts you have in SSH Hosts, by name or alias; choosing one opens a session with it.

If nothing matches, it offers **Ask the Agent** with what you typed. With no Agent available, it says **No tool matches**.

Activity

Activity brings together three blocks:

- **Running now**: the live jobs and when they started. You stop them from their tool's page, where the engine allows it; there is no stop button here.
- **Scheduled tasks**: each task with its **Next** run, or **Paused**, and **Run now**. **Manage** takes you to Settings, where they are set up.
- **Results**: the finished runs, from newest to oldest. Each row has a result icon, the tool, the summary, the date and **Open**. The **All | With problems** filter keeps only what did not finish well. Above them, a line with the space recovered in the last 30 days.

Export report saves the whole history to a text file (`toolsuite-activity.txt`).

Every run, manual or scheduled, leaves one line. The history is stored on your Mac, in `~/Library/Application Support/ToolSuite/runs.jsonl`.

Schedule tasks

Seven jobs can be scheduled. You schedule them from their tool, with **Schedule...**:

- Storage Cleaner and Privacy Cleaner: everything the scan finds, to the Trash.

- Maintenance Scripts: the checked tasks (**Schedule checked...**).
- S.M.A.R.T. Health: a reading of the disks.
- Folder Sync: the selected pair.
- Backups & Rebuild: a Time Machine backup.
- Optimize: the saved profile.

In the **Schedule** sheet:

1. Type a **Name**.
2. Choose the **Repeat: Daily, Weekly** (with its **Day**) or **Every N hours**.
3. Choose the time.
4. Decide whether to check **Run when the Mac was off at that time (as soon as the app is running)**. It comes checked.
5. Click **Save**.

A scheduled task never deletes permanently: what it cleans goes to the Trash.

Tasks run while MacToolSuite is open or lives in the menu bar. With the app closed nothing runs. So that they are not missed, turn on **Keep running when the window is closed** and **Open at login** in Settings. They run one at a time.

You manage them all in **Settings**, on the **Scheduled tasks** tab (page **Scheduled tasks**): each row's checkbox pauses or resumes it, and the table shows **Task**, **Repeat**, **Next**, **Last** and **Missed**. Select a row to **Run now** or **Delete**.

03.07

The menu bar panel

The two-gear icon in the menu bar opens a panel with the same grid as Home, in two columns and with its own layout.

- At the top: MacToolSuite, the Mac's name and its system, the Agent's ✦ button and the customize icon.
- In the middle: panels and tools. You move, resize and remove them just as on Home (without the wide size). + **Add** opens **Add to the menu bar** inside the panel, with ← **Back**.
- At the bottom: **Quit MacToolSuite** (icon), **Open MacToolSuite** (⌘O) and **Settings** (icon).

A tool in the panel opens the window on that tool. **Run now** in the Optimize panel opens the window on Optimize, so you can see the progress, and sends a notification when it finishes.

By default it has: Space recovered, Drive health, System now, Optimize, Storage Cleaner, Recent work and Scheduled tasks.

To remove the icon, turn off **Show ToolSuite in the menu bar** in Settings.

03.08

Optimize

Optimize runs a saved list of steps from start to finish: the profile. It only offers non-destructive steps: caches and traces that the scanners already consider safe, fixed maintenance commands and a health check of the disks. None of this touches your documents.

You open it from **System > Optimize...**, from the **Optimize** panel on Home or in the menu bar, and from Settings.

The profile

There is only one profile. You edit it on the Optimize page itself, in **Profile**, or in **Settings**, on the **Optimize profile** tab (page **Optimize profile**). The possible steps:

- **Storage Cleaner — move everything the scan finds to the Trash** (Storage Cleaner). On by default.
- **Privacy Cleaner — browser and chat artifacts (needs Full Disk Access for Safari)**. Off by default.
- **Maintenance**: the quick tasks of Maintenance Scripts, one checkbox per task. By default: Flush DNS cache, Reset Quick Look thumbnails and Clear font caches. The ones marked **Root** need the privileged helper. Reindexing Spotlight and verifying the boot volume are not offered: they are slow.
- **S.M.A.R.T. health check**. On by default.

How to use it

1. Click **Check**. It reads what each step would find without deleting, moving or changing anything, and shows it in **What this profile will do**: one line per step, with what was measured.
2. Click **Run Optimize**.

3. **Steps** shows each step with its state and its time; **Current step**, what is being done now.
4. **Stop after this step** finishes the current step and skips the rest.

When it finishes it leaves a single line in **Activity**, with the space freed.

Schedule... creates a task with the saved profile.

What it does and does not do

- What it finds always goes to the Trash. Optimize never deletes permanently.
- Without the privileged helper, the maintenance steps that need root are skipped and it says so. The rest continues.
- A file in use or protected by macOS is skipped and counted in the result.
- Each step has a time limit. If it runs over, the step is marked as failed and Optimize moves on to the next one.

03.09

Settings

Settings has a column of tabs on the left:

- **General**: **Show ToolSuite in the menu bar**, **Keep running when the window is closed** (needed for scheduled tasks; you quit from the menu bar or with ⌘Q), **Open at login**, **Language** and **Appearance** (chapter 1).
- **Privileged helper**: install, verify, repair or remove the privileged helper (chapter 1).
- **Scheduled tasks**: all the scheduled tasks (above).
- **Optimize profile**: the Optimize steps (above).
- **Updates**: the installed version and **Check for updates...** (chapter 1).
- **Advanced**: helper diagnostics.

With **Keep running when the window is closed** turned off, closing the window quits the app. Even so, the app stays open while there are watched folders in Folder Sync or open SSH sessions.

Account

Account shows your plan, the trial or the license, the **I have a key** field and, with a license, this Mac with **Deactivate this Mac....** At the bottom, **Compare plans** and the support email. All of this is in chapter 2.

The Agent

The Agent is a chat that knows the MacToolSuite tools. You ask it what fills the disk, why the Mac is slow or whether your servers answer; it looks at the tools, explains what it finds and, if you ask, acts, always after asking you. It answers in the language you write to it in.

Paid (the 14-day trial includes it) · Needs: Apple Intelligence turned on, or your own Claude or ChatGPT account.

04.01

Which model answers

The Agent does not bring its own AI or resell one. It uses one of these models, and you choose it in each chat:

- **On this Mac:** Apple's model, on your own Mac. Private, free and offline: nothing leaves the Mac. It needs Apple Intelligence turned on in System Settings. It is the one used by default.
- Claude with your API key: Claude Sonnet 5, Claude Opus 5.5 or Claude Haiku 4.5, with an Anthropic API key. Usage is charged to your Anthropic account.
- Claude with your plan (Claude Code): the same Claude model, through the official Claude Code program, with your Claude plan's session. That usage spends your plan's Agent SDK credits.
- ChatGPT with your plan (Codex): through the official Codex program, with your ChatGPT plan's session.

With Claude or with ChatGPT, your questions, attachments and what the tools look up go to Anthropic or to OpenAI, with your account. With Apple's model, nothing leaves. More detail in chapter 12.

Set up the models

Open the Agent and click **Models** (at the bottom of the chat list, or at the end of the model menu).

- **On this Mac** says **Ready** or what is missing: **This Mac cannot run Apple Intelligence., Turn on Apple Intelligence in System Settings.** or **Apple's model is still downloading. Try again in a while.**

- **Claude:**
 - **Model:** Claude Sonnet 5, Claude Opus 5.5 or Claude Haiku 4.5. It applies to both the API key and the plan.
 - **Claude plan · Claude Code:** the program's status (see below).
 - **API key:** paste the key and click **Save**. It is stored in the macOS keychain and nowhere else; the **Key in the keychain** badge confirms it. **Remove** deletes it. **Get a key in the Anthropic console** opens the Anthropic console.
- **Codex (ChatGPT plan):** the program's status.

For Claude Code and Codex, the card shows one of three things:

- **How to install it**, if the program is not on this Mac. It opens its installation page.
- **Sign in...**, if it is installed without a session. It opens Terminal with the program's sign-in command; you sign in yourself, in the program. Then click the arrow (**Check again**).
- **Signed in**. From then on it appears in the model menu.

MacToolSuite runs these programs as they are, without modifying them, and never touches your account. It only lets them use the app's tools, with the same permissions as the other models: they do not use their own tools or read files on their own.

04.02

Open the Agent

- The ♦ button at the top right of the window, from any page.
- The same button in the header of the menu bar panel.
- The **Agent** panel on Home or in the menu bar: type and send; the answer continues on the Agent page.
- The sidebar finder: if it finds no tool, it offers **Ask the Agent** with what you typed.

If no model can answer (no Apple Intelligence, no key and no programs signed in), the page says what is missing, offers **Open System Settings** if Apple Intelligence is off, and the **Use Claude with your Anthropic key** link.

Chat

On the left are the chats: **Search chats** (by title and by text), the **New chat** button and the **Pinned** and **Recent** lists. At the bottom, **Tools**, **Profiles** and **Models**.

On the right, the open chat. In its bar: the title, the profile, the model, **Pin**, **Export as Markdown** and **Delete chat**.

1. Type in **Ask or request something...** and click **Send**. In an empty chat, the suggestions ask with one click.
2. The answer is written as it arrives. **Stop** cuts it off and keeps what was written.
3. When it looks at a tool you see **Looking at ...**, and then **Looked at: ...** with its name.

More things you can do:

- **Attach images, PDFs or text**, with the paper clip or by dragging them into the chat.
- Change the model in the model menu, also before the first message. The one you choose stays for new chats. If you change in the middle of a chat, the conversation continues: Claude Code and Codex receive a summary of what was said.
- Change the profile in its menu (see **Profiles**).
- Rename: the model proposes a title after the first question; click the title to change it. From then on it no longer changes by itself.
- Delete: **Delete chat** asks for confirmation and sends it to the Trash.

Below the field, a thin bar shows how much of the model's context the chat uses. Near the limit, the Agent summarizes what came before (**What came before was summarised**) and the chat continues. Apple's model has a small context, so this happens to it sooner than to the others.

Chats and their attachments are stored on your Mac, in `~/Library/Application Support/ToolSuite/Agent/chats/`. They are still there when you close and open the app.

What it looks up on its own

Without asking you, the Agent only reads. These tools change nothing:

- **Disk usage, Drive health, System now, Recent work and Scheduled tasks.**
- **SSH hosts, Screens and NAS servers:** the ones you have added.
- **File search:** searches by name with Spotlight and returns the first matches.

Actions: it asks first

Everything that changes something asks in the chat before doing it:

- **Open a tool.**
- **Scan caches:** scans caches, logs and leftovers, without changing anything.
- **Mount a NAS folder.**
- **Connect over SSH:** opens a terminal session in SSH Hosts.
- **Run a command over SSH:** without a terminal, 30 seconds at most. If the host asks for a password and you do not have it saved in the keychain, the command cannot ask you for it and fails.
- **Sync a pair** of Folder Sync.
- **Schedule a task:** only the S.M.A.R.T. reading, Optimize and the Time Machine backup, daily or weekly, on the hour.

The question appears as a card: **The agent wants to use** · ..., what it is going to do and the details (the SSH command, the pair, the schedule). You answer with:

- **Allow:** it does it this time.
- **Always in this chat:** it does it and does not ask again about that action in this chat. In another chat, it does ask.
- **No:** it does not do it. The Agent does not insist.

Delete: always to the Trash

Two actions move things to the Trash:

- **Clean caches:** what Storage Cleaner finds.

- **Move files to the Trash:** the files the Agent proposes to you.

Both always ask, with the list in view and the space each item takes. The button says **Move to the Trash**. They have no **Always in this chat** and cannot be approved in advance. Nothing goes beyond the Trash: you can put it back where it was.

Limits of **Move files to the Trash**:

- Only items that exist inside your home folder.
- Never the home folder or its main folders: Library, Desktop, Documents, Downloads, Pictures, Movies, Music, Public, Applications, `.ssh` and the Trash.
- 50 items at most at a time.

A path outside those limits is refused without asking, and the Agent tells you which one.

04.07

Profiles

A profile sets the Agent's instructions and which tools it can use. You change it in the profile menu, inside the chat.

Four come with the app:

- **General:** all the lookups, **Open a tool** and **Scan caches**. It does not clean or move anything to the Trash.
- **Maintenance:** disk space, drive health, speed and backups. It can clean caches, move files to the Trash and schedule tasks. It looks before proposing and proposes the smallest, safest step.
- **Networks and servers:** SSH hosts, screens and NAS. It can mount folders, open sessions and run commands over SSH. It prefers commands that only read and says what each one does before running it.
- **Files:** find, sync and organize files. It can mount NAS folders, sync pairs and move files to the Trash. It never proposes sending whole folders to the Trash.

In **Profiles** you can change each one's name, **Instructions** and **Tools**. **Duplicate** creates an editable copy. **Remove profile** deletes the ones you created; the four default ones cannot be removed. Their names and instructions follow the app's language until you edit them.

Tools and log

Tools opens a sheet with two tabs.

Tools lists them all, in three groups:

- **Read: Without asking.**
- **Act: Ask, Always allow or Never.** **Always allow** applies to all chats.
- **To the Trash: Asks every time.** It cannot be changed.

Each row's checkbox turns it on or off. A tool that is turned off disappears for the model in all profiles. With **Never**, the Agent tells you where to turn it on if you need it.

Log shows each call: the chat, the tool, what was asked and the decision (**Read, Allowed, Allowed always, Refused or Turned off**).

Limits

- The Agent only uses the tools on this list. It does not read files on its own or run commands on this Mac.
- The figures come from the tools: if one cannot measure something, the Agent should not make it up, but a model can get the explanation wrong. Check in the tool before deciding anything important.
- Apple's model is small: it answers specific questions well and summarizes sooner in long chats. Some languages may not be available (**The model does not work in this language yet.**).
- With Claude or ChatGPT you need a connection, and your account's usage limits may apply.

Transfers

Transfers is for copying material to several destinations and keeping folders in sync. It has two tools: Fast Copy, which appears in the sidebar as **Copy material**, and Folder Sync, which appears as **Sync folders**. Both show what they are going to do before writing anything and record each run in **Activity**.

05.01

Fast Copy

Fast Copy (in the sidebar, **Copy material**) copies files and folders to several destinations at once, with a single read of the source, and tells you what arrived at each one.

Paid · Needs: access to the folders you choose.

How to use it

1. Click **Add sources...** or drag files and folders onto the window. A folder is copied whole, with its name, inside each destination.
2. Click **Add destination...** once for each folder that should receive the copy. Each destination receives a full copy.
3. In **If a file exists**, choose **Skip** (the default), **Overwrite** or **Keep both**. Check **Verify (SHA-256)** if you want to check each copy.
4. In **Advanced**, **APFS clone when possible** and **Preserve metadata** come turned on.
5. Click **Review copy...** **Before copying** shows files, folders, size per destination and the total to write, and warns you if a destination lacks space or does not report it.
6. Click **Copy**. You see the progress, the speed and the time left. **Stop** stops the copy.
7. The result gives one line per destination: written, replaced, skipped, failed and, if you asked to verify, verified. **Show in Finder** opens each destination. **Copy again** repeats the same copy; **New copy** goes back to the start.

What it does and what it never touches

- The sources are only read. A destination inside the source is refused.
- On the same APFS volume, files are cloned: instantly and without taking extra space.

- Each file is written with a temporary name and only takes its name when it is complete. With **Overwrite**, the old file is replaced when the new one is whole; nothing is deleted before that.
- **Keep both** gives the new copy a numbered name.
- **Skip** compares names, not contents.
- With metadata turned on, dates, extended attributes (such as Finder color tags), ACLs and flags travel too.
- Symbolic links inside folders are not followed or copied.
- You can switch pages: the copy continues and is recorded in **Activity**.

Limits

- There is no resume. If you stop, the half-written file is deleted and the result says how many finished; the folders already created stay. To complete it, copy again with **Skip**.
- Verification reads the source and each copy again once everything is written and compares their SHA-256 fingerprints. macOS may serve part of that read from memory: it proves the copy matches the source, not the long-term health of the disk.
- A copy that does not match is left in the destination for you to compare and does not count as written.

05.02

Folder Sync

Folder Sync (in the sidebar, **Sync folders**) mirrors one folder into another, in one direction only, and shows you the plan before writing anything.

Paid · Needs: access to the folders you choose.

How to use it

1. Click **New pair**. Type a **Name** and choose **Source folder** and **Destination folder** with **Choose...**
2. Check the options you want: **Delete items in destination that no longer exist in source (to Trash)**, **Compare contents, not just size and date (slower, exact)** and **Watch source and sync automatically after changes**.
3. Click **Save**. An unsaved pair is not watched and cannot be scheduled.

4. Click **Preview**. **Before syncing** counts new files, changed files, files to delete in the destination and files already the same, and what is going to be written; below it, the **Plan** file by file. If you change the pair, the plan is discarded.
5. Click **Sync now**. **Stop** interrupts it. The result counts new, updated and sent to the Trash.

Watching and scheduling

- With watching turned on, changes in the source are synced 2 s after the last one, with the same rules. What changed while the Mac was asleep or the app was closed is synced on waking, when the app opens or when the disk is mounted.
- Watching works in the menu bar app: it continues with the window closed, not with the app closed. For it to continue after restarting, click **Open at Login** next to the checkbox.
- Each pair shows its state: **Watching**, **Source away**, **Destination away**, **No permission**, **Stopped for review** or **Failed**. If the destination is missing, the changes wait for it to come back.
- If an automatic sync would move 20 items or more, and at least half of the destination, to the Trash, it stops and warns you. Syncing by hand removes that brake.
- **Schedule...** creates a **Daily**, **Weekly** or **Every N hours** task, with the same checks and the same brake. You manage it in **Settings** › **Scheduled tasks**.

What it does and what it never touches

- The source is never touched. Copies go through a temporary file and keep extended attributes, ACLs, flags and dates.
- It only deletes if you checked the option, and always to the Trash.
- It ignores symbolic links and refuses a source and a destination that contain each other.
- **Remove** deletes only the pair's configuration.

Limits

- It is not a backup: it keeps no versions, and a deletion in the source reaches the destination. For history, use Time Machine with Backups & Rebuild.
- Without content comparison, two files with the same size and date (± 2 s) are treated as identical.

Files

Files brings together five tools to find, rename, compare and organize files, even on disconnected disks. In the sidebar they appear with a short name: **Unlock a file**, **Create folders**, **Find files**, **Rename** and **Find duplicates**. All of them show what they are going to do before touching a file, and the only one that removes files, Duplicates & Diff, sends them to the Trash.

06.01

File Unlocker

File Unlocker (in the sidebar, **Unlock a file**) tells you which app holds a file, a folder or a disk open, and lets you quit it. It helps when the Finder says an item is in use or that a disk cannot be ejected.

Free · Needs no special permissions and no privileged helper.

How to use it

1. Drag the item onto the window, click **Choose...** or paste its path in the **Drop a file, folder or volume here, or paste a path** field.
2. Click **Check**. When you drag or choose, the check starts by itself.
3. The table lists each process: **App**, with its name and its PID, and **Open items**.
4. Click **Quit** to ask the app to quit. If it has unsaved work, it asks you what to do.
5. If it does not respond, click **Force Quit**. The process ends at once and anything it had not saved is lost.
6. Both actions ask for confirmation. A second later, the tool checks the item again.

What it does and what it never touches

- It only reads who has the item open, with the macOS `lsopf` command.
- In a folder it counts everything inside; on a volume, everything open on that disk.
- It does not delete or modify files.
- It only quits processes of your user, and never MacToolSuite itself. Those of another user carry the **Other user** label and their buttons are disabled.

- If no process has it open, you see **Not in use**. If the Finder still refuses, the lock is a permission or an iCloud sync.
- If the check fails, you see **The check could not be completed** and **Check again**, never an assumed "not in use".

Limits

- Without administrator privileges, `ls -oF` may not see the files opened by processes of other users or of the system: what is visible is shown.
- In very large folders, the check can take a while.
- At most 20 open items are listed per process.

06.02

Folder Structures

Folder Structures (in the sidebar, **Create folders**) stores templates of folders and files and creates them wherever you want in one step, without overwriting anything.

Free · Needs: permission to write to the destination folder.

How to use it

1. Choose a template from the list or click **New**. The first time there are three examples to edit.
2. Type the **Template name** and, if you like, some **Notes (optional)**.
3. Type the structure in the editor, one line per item:
 - Indent a line to put it inside the folder above.
 - End the name with `/` to create a folder.
 - `name: text` creates a file with that text; `\n` is a line break. Without text, the file is empty.
 - A line that starts with `#` is a comment.
4. The **Preview** shows the resulting tree. A syntax error appears in the toolbar and blocks **Save**.
5. Click **Save** (⌘S).
6. Click **Deploy to...** and choose the folder. The **Create "... here?** sheet shows the **Destination**, what **Will be created** and what is **Already there (left untouched)**, item by item.
7. Click **Create N item(s)**.

What it does and what it never touches

- It creates folders and files only inside the chosen destination; it refuses names with `..` or `/`.
- What already exists is not overwritten, moved or deleted: it is skipped and counted.
- If something fails halfway, it carries on with the rest and tells you what it created, what already existed and what it could not create.
- If the folder does not allow writing, it warns you before creating anything.
- **Delete** removes only the template, never the folders already deployed.
- Templates are stored in `~/Library/Application Support/ToolSuite/FolderTemplates/`.

Limits

- A file's content is written on a single line of the template.
- It does not copy existing files into the structure: it only creates folders and text files.

06.03

Offline Disk Catalog

Offline Disk Catalog (in the sidebar, **Find files**) indexes a disk once and lets you search its files whenever you want, even when it is disconnected.

Paid · Needs: access to the disk or folder you index.

How to use it

1. Connect the disk and click **Index volume or folder...** The progress counts files and size; **Stop** halts it.
2. The list of catalogs shows the name, **Connected** or **Not connected**, the number of files, the size and the **Indexed** date.
3. Type in **Search all catalogs (2+ characters)**. In the **ext** field you can filter by extension, without the dot: `jpg`.
4. The results show **Name**, **Catalog**, **Path**, **Size** and **Modified**. Within each catalog the largest come first.
5. If the disk is connected, **Reveal** opens the file.
6. With a secondary click on a catalog: **Re-index** (only with the disk connected) or **Delete catalog...**

What it does and what it never touches

- It only reads the disk. The index is stored on your Mac, in `~/Library/Application Support/ToolSuite/Catalogs/`.
- It recognizes the disk by its volume identifier, not by its name: it is still the same disk even if you rename it or it mounts with another name.
- It does not follow symbolic links. A package, such as an app, counts as a single item.
- If you stop, nothing half-done is saved.
- **Delete catalog** removes only the index; the disk does not change.

Limits

- The catalog is a snapshot of the disk at the moment of indexing. To bring it up to date, use **Re-index**.
- The search is by name, not by content.
- The first 500 matches are shown; if there are more, a bar asks you to narrow the search.
- The first time you index an external disk, macOS may ask you for permission to access removable volumes.

06.04

Batch Rename

Batch Rename (in the sidebar, **Rename**) renames many files with rules, with a live preview, and can be undone.

Paid · Needs: access to the folders you choose.

How to use it

1. Click **Add files...** or drag files onto the window. A folder adds the files it contains, without the hidden ones. **Clear** removes them all.
2. Click **Add rule** and choose: **Find & replace**, **Prefix**, **Suffix**, **Number sequence**, **Change case**, **Template with tokens**, **Trim whitespace**, **Remove accents** or **Extension lowercase**.
3. The rules apply from top to bottom; change their order with the arrows. **Find & replace** accepts **Regex** and **Case sensitive**.
4. In a template, the tokens are replaced by data from each file: `{name}` current name, `{n:3}` position in the list, `{date:yyyy-MM-dd}` modification date, `{exif}` photo date, `{width}` and `{height}` image size, `{title}`, `{artist}`, `{album}` and `{track:2}` audio and video tags, `{parent}` folder.

5. Check the table: **Current**, **New name** and the **Rename** mark, **Same** or the conflict.
6. Click **Apply** and confirm with **Rename**.
7. **Undo last** restores the previous names.

What it does and what it never touches

- It only changes the name of the files you added, within their own folder.
- It never overwrites. **A file with this name exists, Same name as another file, Invalid name** and **Name too long** are conflicts: that file keeps its name.
- Metadata is only read.
- Name swaps (a ↔ b) work, also when undoing.
- Undo is still available after closing the app. If an old name is already taken, that file keeps the new one and you are told which.
- If it fails halfway, it tells you how many it renamed and where it stopped; **Undo last** reverts the ones done.

Limits

- Only the last apply can be undone.
- Other apps may lose track of renamed files: recents, projects, photo, music or video libraries, and scripts. Finder aliases usually follow them.
- If a photo has no EXIF date, {exif} uses the creation date.

06.05

Duplicates & Diff

Duplicates & Diff (in the sidebar, **Find duplicates**) finds identical files so you can choose which copy to keep, and compares two folders.

Paid · Needs: access to the folders you choose.

How to use it: duplicates

1. In the mode menu, choose **Duplicates**.
2. Click **Add folder...** as many times as you like. In **Min size**: choose 1 KB, 100 KB, 1 MB or 10 MB.
3. Click **Scan**. **Stop** halts the search.
4. The groups are sorted by wasted space. The magnifying glass shows each file in the Finder.

5. Check the copies you do not need, or use **Auto-select copies**: the newest, the oldest or the one with the shortest path in each group is kept.
6. Click **Trash selected** and confirm with **Move to Trash**.

How to use it: compare folders

1. In the mode menu, choose **Compare folders**.
2. Click **Left...** and **Right...** to choose the two folders. **Compare contents** comes checked.
3. Click **Compare. Differences** or **All** filters the table. The L and R buttons show each file in the Finder.

What it does and what it never touches

- Two files are duplicates when their content matches, not their name: first the size, then the first 64 KB and finally a full SHA-256 fingerprint.
- It never lets you check all the copies in a group.
- It only moves to the Trash; it does not delete permanently.
- It does not follow symbolic links or look inside packages, such as apps.
- Folder comparison pairs files by relative path and deletes nothing.
- If you stop, the screen says so: the list is incomplete.

Limits

- Without **Compare contents**, two files with the same size are treated as identical.
- Files that cannot be read are left out.

This section brings together everything to do with your disks: what fills them, their health, disk images, partitions, RAID sets and disks formatted in Windows or Linux. Several of these tools really erase a volume, a whole disk or the members of a RAID; the startup disk and the system volumes are always out of their reach, and every erase asks you to type a word to confirm it. Which disk you choose, and having a backup of what is on it, is up to you.

Disk Space Analyzer

Disk Space Analyzer (in the sidebar, **Free up space**) shows on a map what takes up space in a folder or a volume, so you can find the big items.

Paid · Needs: Full Disk Access to see the whole boot volume.

How to use it

1. Choose what to scan: **Home** (your home folder, the fastest), **Boot volume** (can take a few minutes) or **Choose folder...**
2. While it scans, the bar counts files and size. **Stop** halts the scan.
3. The map divides the space into rectangles: the bigger, the more it takes. Hold the pointer over one to see its path and size. A click on a folder goes into it; a double-click shows it in the Finder.
4. The path at the top takes you back to any earlier folder. On the right, the list sorts the same items by size.
5. The menu on each row of the list offers **Reveal in Finder**, **Open** (for folders) and **Move to Trash...**. Confirm with **Move to Trash** or go back with **Cancel**.

What it does and what it never touches

- It only reads. The only thing that changes anything is **Move to Trash...**, and it always asks first.
- It never deletes permanently. What you move can be put back from the Trash; the space is freed when you empty it.
- After you move something, the map and the totals update.
- It measures what each file takes on disk, not its length.

- It does not follow symbolic links or go into other volumes mounted inside the folder.
- Apps and other packages count as a single block.

Limits

- Without Full Disk Access, part of the boot volume cannot be read. The path marks it with **Some items unreadable** and the map is incomplete.
- If you stop the scan, you see only part of the disk: the bar adds **partial** next to when the scan was done.
- The map shows the 200 largest items in each folder and the list, the 500 largest. A bar at the bottom says how much is left out.
- The figures are those at the time of the scan. If the disk changes afterwards, scan again.

07.02

Disk Images

Disk Images (in the sidebar, **Disk images**) creates, mounts, encrypts, converts and verifies disk images (DMG, ISO/CDR, sparse and uncompressed).

Paid · Needs no permissions and no privileged helper.

How to use it

1. The table lists the mounted images: type, where they are mounted and device. **Show system images** adds those of macOS and of the Xcode simulators, hidden by default.
2. To create an image, click **Create from folder...** Choose the **Source folder** with **Choose...** and the **Destination (.dmg)** with **Save as....** If you leave **Volume name (optional)** empty, it takes the folder's name. Choose the **Format** and click **Create**.
3. To encrypt it, check **Encrypt with AES-256** and type the **Password** and **Confirm password**.
4. **Mount...** opens an image you already have. If it is encrypted, macOS asks for the password in its own window.
5. **Convert...** changes the format: **Source image**, **To format** and **Destination**. For an ISO, convert to CD/DVD master and rename the `.cdr` to `.iso`.
6. **Verify...** checks an image.
7. Create, convert and verify show the progress; **Stop** stops them.

8. On each row, **Reveal** and **Eject**. When ejecting you choose **Eject**, **Force eject** or **Cancel**.

The formats are: compressed (zlib or LZMA, read-only), read/write, sparse (grows as it fills), CD/DVD master and uncompressed read-only.

What it does and what it never touches

- Everything goes through `hdiutil`, the macOS disk image tool.
- The password travels through standard input, never on the command line, so no other process sees it.
- It does not delete images or source folders.
- If the destination already exists, it asks. With **Replace**, the file that was there goes to the Trash before the new one is written.
- If you stop a creation or a conversion, the half-made image is removed.
- The newly created image is not left mounted: mount it with **Mount**....

Limits

- If you lose the password of an encrypted image, the image cannot be recovered. Keep it, for example, in Password Vault.
- **Force eject** can lose unsaved changes in the apps using the volume.
- Verify only reports the image as good if it carries a checksum and it matches. If it has none, it tells you the image opens without errors but its content cannot be checked.

07.03

Storage Cleaner

Storage Cleaner (in the sidebar, **Clean caches**) removes user caches, logs and temporary files to recover space.

Free · Needs no permissions and no privileged helper.

How to use it

1. Click **Scan**. The table lists what was found, with its category (Caches, Logs, Temporary) and its size. Nothing is left checked.
2. Check what you want to remove: row by row, with the category cards at the top (one click checks or unchecks the whole category) or with **Select all**. **Search category or path** filters the table; with a filter set, **Select all** only checks what is visible.

3. Click **Review removal**.... You see how many items there are, how much space they take and which categories they are from.
4. In **What to do with them**, choose **Move to the Trash** (the suggested option) or **Delete permanently**. The main button says what it is going to do. **Change selection** takes you back to the list.
5. The result says how many items were removed and how much space. What could not be removed appears in **Problems** with its reason. **Scan again** starts over.

Schedule... creates a recurring task, which you manage in Settings › Scheduled tasks. Optimize (chapter 3) includes this same step.

What it does and what it never touches

- It only acts inside three folders: `~/Library/Caches`, `~/Library/Logs` and your user temporary folder. It never deletes those folders themselves, or anything outside them, or in `/Library` or `/System`.
- It does not empty the Trash or touch Downloads or documents.
- It does not list what you cannot modify, some system folders or the Safari cache.
- If macOS refuses an item, it appears as **Protected** in the next scan, and the review warns you if you choose it again.
- If moving to the Trash fails, it tells you; it never turns it into a permanent deletion.
- A scheduled task and Optimize do not wait for your review: they move everything the scan finds to the Trash. They never delete permanently.

Limits

- Apps create their caches again, and some take longer the first time you open them afterwards. You gain space, not speed.
- With the Trash, the space is recovered when you empty it. A permanent deletion cannot be undone.
- Scheduled tasks run while the app is open or in the menu bar.

07.04

S.M.A.R.T. Health

S.M.A.R.T. Health (in the sidebar, **Drive health**) reads each disk's wear, temperature, hours of use and errors from its controller, and tells you whether there is reason to worry.

Paid · Needs no permissions and no privileged helper.

How to use it

1. When the page opens, the physical disks are read. **Refresh** reads them again, for example after connecting one.
2. On the left, each disk with its verdict: **No problems**, **Warning**, **Failing** or **Not checked**.
3. Choose a disk to see its details: model, device, capacity, bus, serial number, firmware, where the data comes from and a table with each metric, its value and notes. The metrics that worsen the verdict carry a triangle.
4. The notice at the top sums up the worst case and the time of the reading. If no disk gives data, it says so: nothing can be said about their health.
5. **Copy report** copies to the clipboard a text with all the metrics of all the disks.
6. **Schedule...** creates a recurring check. Its result is kept in Activity.

What it does and what it never touches

- It only reads. It does not write to any disk, run disk tests or change their settings.
- It reads through IOKit, without a kernel extension and without root.
- Opening the page does not write to the history; only **Refresh** and scheduled tasks do.
- **Warning**: wear of 90 % or more, temperature of 70 °C or more on NVMe or 60 °C or more on ATA, media errors, or reallocated sectors on ATA.
- **Failing**: the disk itself gives a critical warning, the spare block reserve reaches its threshold, there are pending or uncorrectable sectors, or a pre-failure attribute reaches its threshold.
- **Not checked**: the disk gave no data. That is not the same as "no problems".

Limits

- Disks behind a USB or Thunderbolt bridge usually give only the pass/fail bit from `diskutil`. The details show it as "diskutil only".
- **No problems** holds for the time of the reading, not for later.
- To cross-check, you can use `smartctl -a /dev/disk0` if you have it installed.

NTFS · ext4 · Btrfs

NTFS · ext4 · Btrfs (in the sidebar, **Windows & Linux disks**) finds Windows and Linux partitions on your disks, says what macOS can do with each one and mounts what can be read.

Paid · Needs no permissions and no privileged helper. For ext4, macFUSE and ext4fuse, which you install yourself.

How to use it

1. Connect the disk and click **Rescan**. The table lists each foreign partition with its file system, size, **macOS support**, where it is mounted and a **Note**.
2. Choose a partition and click **Mount**. NTFS mounts read-only; exFAT and FAT, read/write; ext2/3/4, read-only in `~/Volumes/<name>` through ext4fuse.
3. The row says how it ended up: **Mounted read-only**, **Mounted read/write** or **FUSE RO**.
4. **Reveal** opens the volume. **Unmount** unmounts it.
5. At the bottom, **Drivers on this Mac** lists the ones you have installed (macFUSE, ext4fuse, ntfs-3g, Paragon, Tuxera). If there are none, it says what to install.

What it does and what it never touches

- It recognizes the type by reading the signature at the start of the partition, read-only: NTFS, exFAT, FAT, ext2/3/4, Btrfs, XFS, Linux swap and LVM.
- On internal disks it cannot read the signature without root. It infers the type from the partition table and marks it **inferred**.
- It never writes to a foreign partition or formats it.
- It does not install drivers or kernel extensions.
- From here, NTFS always mounts read-only, even if you have a driver with write support installed.

Limits

- Without ext4fuse, **Mount** is disabled for ext4. Install macFUSE and then ext4fuse (Homebrew).
- Writing to NTFS or ext4 needs Paragon or Tuxera, which are used on their own.

- Btrfs and XFS have no usable macOS driver: make an image of the partition and read it in a Linux virtual machine.
- Swap and LVM are not mounted.

07.06

Partition Manager

Partition Manager (in the sidebar, **Partitions**) shows disks, APFS containers and volumes in a tree, and lets you mount, rename, add volumes and erase a volume or a whole disk.

Paid · Needs no permissions and no privileged helper.

How to use it

1. The tree starts collapsed: expand a disk to see its APFS container and its volumes, with identifier, type, size, space used and mount point.
2. **Show** chooses what is visible: **Internal disks**, **External disks**, **Disk images** and **System volumes**. By default, only internal and external disks. The choice is saved.
3. Select a row. The bar at the bottom repeats, after **Selected:**, what you are going to act on. The menus only act on that row.
4. The **Volume** menu has **Mount**, **Unmount**, **Rename...** and **Add volume...** (on an APFS container, with the option to **Encrypt with a passphrase**).
5. The **Erase** menu has **Erase...** (a volume), **Delete volume...** (an APFS volume) and **Erase disk...** (the whole disk, with a GUID map). When erasing you choose the **Name after erase** and the **Format**: APFS, Mac OS Extended (Journaled), ExFAT or MS-DOS (FAT32); encrypted APFS only when erasing a volume.
6. To confirm, type the word asked for: **ERASE**, or **ERASE DISK** for the whole disk. Before that, **Erase entire disk** lists the **Volumes that will be lost** by name.

What it does and what it never touches

- Everything goes through `diskutil`. Passphrases travel through standard input.
- The startup disk is always locked: it is not erased and no volumes are added to it.

- It does not touch the system volumes either (System, Data, Preboot, Recovery, VM...), those managed by macOS, or those mounted at `/` or in `/System/Volumes`.
- Internal disks are not erased and do not receive volumes until you check **Allow internal disks**. Even so, the startup disk stays locked.
- The **Lock** column says why a row is locked. Actions that are not allowed appear disabled and give the reason when you hold the pointer over them.
- A row that is collapsed or hidden by the filter receives no actions.
- Erase and delete leave a line in Activity with the volumes lost.
- If `diskutil` fails, for example with a volume in use, you see its message as is.

Limits

- It does not resize or move partitions. On APFS there is no need: the volumes in a container share its free space.
- Erasing cannot be undone. The protection covers the system, not your data disks.
- A name accepts up to 64 characters, without `/` or `:` and not starting with `-`. A passphrase, at least 4 characters.

07.07

RAID Manager

RAID Manager (in the sidebar, **RAID**) creates and manages AppleRAID sets (mirror, stripe and concatenated): the status of each member, spare disks and rebuilding.

Paid · Needs no permissions and no privileged helper.

How to use it

1. The table lists each set with its level, status, size and rebuild, and below it its members. A member with problems carries a triangle and the page warns at the top.
2. **Create set...**: type the **Set name**, choose the **Level** and check the disks. Mirror and stripe need at least two; concatenated, one. Type **ERASE** and click **Create**.

3. With a set selected, the **Set** menu offers:
 - **Add disk...**: one more member or, in a mirror, **Add as hot spare (mirror only)**. It asks for `ERASE`.
 - **Remove member...**: in a mirror, the set keeps working, degraded. In stripe or concatenated sets the set's data is destroyed, and it asks for `ERASE`.
 - **Repair mirror...**: the disk you choose is erased and rebuilt as a copy; the mirror stays usable in the meantime. It asks for `ERASE`.
 - **Auto-rebuild: on** or **Auto-rebuild: off** (mirror only): with it, a spare disk steps in by itself when a member fails.
 - **Delete set...**: the disks are released and their content is lost. It asks for `DELETE`.

What it does and what it never touches

- Everything goes through `diskutil appleRAID`.
- As candidates it only offers disks that Partition Manager would allow erasing. Never the startup disk. Internal ones, only with **Allow internal disks**, and even then never the startup disk. Nor disks that are already members of a set.
- Each disk that joins a set is erased and formatted as Mac OS Extended (Journaled).
- Remove, repair and delete leave a line in Activity.

Limits

- AppleRAID only: mirror (RAID 1), stripe (RAID 0) and concatenated. macOS has no RAID with parity (RAID 5/6).
- In a stripe set, if any disk fails everything is lost.
- A software RAID is not a backup. For that, Backups & Rebuild.
- Whatever is on the disks you choose is lost when you create, add or repair. Checking that they are the right ones is up to you.

Network

The Network section is for diagnosing the connection, seeing what is on your local network and which apps use it. It also brings together your NAS servers, with their folders mounted in one click. None of these tools changes anything on other computers: they query, measure or mount.

08.01

Network Diagnostics

Network Diagnostics (in the sidebar, **Test a connection**) checks whether you can reach a computer or a domain, and which way the connection goes, without opening Terminal.

Free · Needs: no special permissions.

How to use it

1. Type a host, an IP or a URL in the field; for example `apple.com`. If you paste a full URL, the tool keeps only the host name.
2. Choose the test:
 - **Ping**: 5 pings; gives the latency and the packets lost.
 - **Traceroute**: the path to the host, hop by hop, up to 20 hops.
 - **DNS lookup**: the A, AAAA, MX, NS and TXT records, with the system resolver.
 - **WHOIS**: the registration data of a domain or an IP.
3. Click **Run** (or press `↵`). The output appears line by line. **Stop** cuts it off.
4. When it finishes, a notice sums up the result in one sentence; for example: "Reachable: 5 of 5 replies, average 12.3 ms, 0 % lost." The full output stays below and can be selected.
5. **Copy** puts the whole output on the clipboard. **Clear** removes it from the screen.

What it does and what it never touches

- It uses the macOS tools (`ping`, `traceroute`, `dig` and `whois`) with fixed options. It only queries the network; it changes nothing on the Mac.
- Before running anything, it refuses whatever is not a valid host name or IP: text that starts with a hyphen, has spaces or is malformed.
- When you leave the page, the running test stops.

Limits

- A ping with no reply does not always mean the computer is off: many servers block pings. The notice says so.
- If the last hops of a traceroute do not answer, they may be blocking the probes or the route may end there.
- WHOIS shows the server's answer as is, without a summary.
- If the URL has a port, it is ignored: the tests go to the host.

08.02

NAS Servers

Registers your SMB and NFS servers and mounts their shared folders with one click, or by themselves whenever they are needed.

Free up to 3 servers; from the fourth, **Pro** · Needs: Local Network permission to discover servers.

How to use it

1. Click **Add server**.
2. In **Automatic**, choose one of the servers the network announces. In **Manual**, type its **Address**: `nas.local`, `smb://ana@nas.local/Proyectos`, `nfs://nas.local/volume1/x` or `nas.local:/volume1/x`. SMB or NFS is worked out from the address, as in the Finder's "Connect to Server".
3. For SMB, type **User** and **Password**; with the user empty you sign in as **Guest**. Leave **Remember** checked if you want to save the password in the keychain. NFS asks for no account.
4. Click **Connect**. The app reads the folders the server shares. Check the ones you want and click **Save**: they mount at that moment. If the server is a Mac that refuses the account this way, the system window opens for choosing folders; what you mount there arrives checked.
5. Each folder has its row. When mounted, it shows the usage and the free space, with **Open** (in the Finder) and **Eject**; if not, **Mount**.
6. Check **Automatic** for the folder to mount when the app opens, when the Mac wakes and when the network comes back.
7. **Check** looks at whether the servers answer. **Edit** connects again and shows the folders, with the registered ones checked.

A folder's states are **Not mounted**, **Mounting...**, **Needs the account** and **Server not found**; the server's, **Online** or **Not answering**. With **Needs the account**, the folder is not retried by itself: click **Mount**.

What it does and what it never touches

- It mounts and ejects the same way the Finder does, without administrator privileges.
- It stores the list of servers in `~/Library/Application Support/ToolSuite/NetworkShares/servers.json`. Passwords go only to the keychain, and only if you check **Remember**.
- It never touches the files in the mounted folders, `/etc/fstab` or `autofs`.
- **Remove server** asks for confirmation, deletes its saved password and does not eject what is mounted.
- The **NAS Servers** panel on Home and in the menu bar mounts and ejects with one click.

Limits

- The free version keeps 3 servers. With 3, **Add server** is disabled and **Buy Pro** appears. If the license expires with more than 3, the first three keep working; the rest are marked as Pro, unmounted.
- Automatic mounting is done by the app: it needs to be open or in the menu bar.

08.03

LAN Scanner

LAN Scanner (in the sidebar, **Explore network**) lists the devices on your local network: name, maker, address and common open ports.

Paid · Needs: Local Network access (macOS asks the first time).

How to use it

1. Connect to a Wi-Fi or Ethernet network. The bar shows the interface and the subnet that will be scanned.
2. Leave **Probe common ports** checked if you want to know which services each device offers.
3. Click **Scan network**. A /24 subnet takes about 10 seconds; probing ports adds a few more. **Stop** halts it, and the list stays incomplete.
4. The table shows **Name** (or the maker, if there is no name), **Address** (IP and MAC), **Latency** and **Open ports**. The router carries the **Gateway** mark; your Mac, **This Mac**.
5. **Filter** searches by IP, name or maker.

6. The ... menu on each row offers **Copy address**, **Copy MAC** and, if a web port is open (80, 443 or 8080), **Open in browser**.

If nobody answers, the page says so and offers **Open Local Network Settings**: without that permission, macOS blocks the sweep and no device appears.

What it does and what it never touches

- It only reads: a ping to each address, the system ARP table, names by reverse DNS and a TCP connection attempt, of 400 ms at most, to 14 common ports (22, 53, 80, 443, 445, 548, 3389, 5000, 5900, 7000, 8080, 8443, 9100 and 62078).
- It changes nothing on the devices, sends no raw packets and needs no administrator permissions.

Limits

- It scans only the subnet of the active interface. On networks larger than /22, it is limited to 1024 addresses.
- The maker comes from a table of about 300 common prefixes. Outside it, "—" appears; random MAC addresses appear as private.
- It probes those 14 ports, not all of them: it is not a full port scanner.

08.04

Bandwidth Monitor

Bandwidth Monitor (in the sidebar, **Traffic by app**) shows live how much each app uploads and downloads.

Paid · Needs: no special permissions.

How to use it

1. Open the page: measuring starts by itself. The first figures arrive within a few seconds; after that they update every 2 seconds.
2. The table shows **App**, **Download** and **Upload** per second, with a bar proportional to the highest value at that moment, and **Total in** and **Total out**.
3. An app's helper processes are added to it. Expand the row to see them, each with its PID.
4. In the **View** menu, **Group by app** groups the processes this way and **Active only** hides those with no traffic. Both options come turned on.

5. The sort menu sorts by **Download**, **Upload** or **Total**. **Search process** filters by name.
6. **Pause** freezes the figures at the last sample; **Resume** goes back to live.

The bar shows the Mac's total download and upload.

What it does and what it never touches

- It reads the kernel's per-process counters with `nettop`, the macOS tool. Read-only: it does not intercept, block or slow down traffic.
- It installs no network extensions and asks for no administrator permissions.
- When you leave the page, measuring stops.

Limits

- It measures per process, not per connection: it does not say which server each app is talking to.
- The totals count from when each process started. If a process resets its counters, that sample shows 0.
- It only counts traffic with the outside, not traffic from one program to another inside the Mac.

Remote

The Remote section is for reaching other computers: terminal sessions over SSH and their screens. SSH Hosts is free up to 3 hosts; Screens is paid. The passwords you decide to save go to the macOS keychain, never to a file of the app.

09.01

SSH Hosts

Registers your computers and connects with one click in a terminal with tabs, using the Mac's own `ssh`.

Free up to 3 hosts; from the fourth, Pro · Needs: no special permissions.

How to use it

1. Click **Add host**. Type a **Name** and, in **Connection**, `user@address` (with `:port` if needed). **Group** organizes the list.
2. Click **Connect**. The app tries your keys first. If the host asks for a password, **Password** appears: type it, leave **Remember** checked to save it in the keychain and click **Connect** again. **Save** registers the host without connecting.
3. In **Advanced options**: **Alias** (for `ssh alias` in any terminal), **Key** and **Through** (a jump host). **Create and install my key** creates `id_ed25519` if you have none and installs it on the host.

The terminal

- A click on a host opens a connected tab; another click, a second session. **This Mac** heads the list and opens your shell, like a new Terminal window.
- Tabs stay alive when you switch pages. Closing a tab ends its session; if the session ends, **Session ended** and **Reconnect** remain.
- The button with the sidebar icon collapses the list and leaves the terminal full width.
- When you hold the pointer over a host, **Open in Terminal** (or iTerm), edit and remove appear, plus the linked screen, if it has one.

Keys, import and scripts

- **Keys** lists those in `~/ .ssh`: **Copy public key**, **Install on** a host, or create a new ed25519 key, with **Passphrase (optional)**.
- **Import from** `~/ .ssh/config` brings in the `Host` entries you already have, without wildcards.
- **Scripts** runs a script from a folder (`~/Scripts` until you choose another) on several hosts or groups at once, also on **This Mac**. After **Run on N**, each host leaves a row with its state, exit code, time and output.

What it does and what it never touches

- It uses the macOS `ssh`: fingerprints, agent, keychain and configuration are the system's.
- It writes its own block at the start of `~/ .ssh/config`, between `# >>> MacToolSuite` and `# <<< MacToolSuite`, and the first time it saves a copy in `~/ .ssh/config.mactoolsuite-backup`. What is outside the block does not change.
- It does not modify your keys; it only creates the ones you ask for. Passwords never go to the list or to the command line.
- Removing a host asks for confirmation and takes it out of the block, Home, the menu bar and the keychain.

Limits

- The free version keeps 3 hosts; **This Mac** does not count. With 3, **Add host** and **Import from** `~/ .ssh/config` are disabled.
- A script stops after 5 minutes; closing the sheet does not stop it.

09.02

Screens

See and control other Macs and VNC screens inside the app, or open them in Screen Sharing.

Paid · Needs: Local Network permission to find screens.

How to use it

1. Click **Add screen**. The Macs on the network appear as buttons and fill in name and address.

2. Type **Address** (also `ip:port`), **User** (the Mac account; empty for VNC) and **Password**. **Connect** saves it and opens it; **Save** only registers it.
3. In **Advanced options**: **Name**, **Port**, **Wake address** (the computer's MAC address) and **Same computer as**, which links it with one of your SSH hosts and fills in its details.
4. The page shows one card per screen, with the last image of its session. A click opens it inside the page.
5. If the screen asks for an account, **Sign in to...** appears: a Mac asks for user and password; a VNC server, only a password. **Keep in the keychain** stops it asking again.
6. In the viewer's bar: **View only** cuts off keyboard and mouse;   sends Force Quit to that Mac; then come full screen, **Open in Screen Sharing** and **Disconnect**. With several monitors a menu appears: **All displays**, **Display 1...** The choice is remembered for that computer.
7. **Screens** () or **Disconnect** go back to the grid.

A screen that is off shows **Not answering**. If it has a wake address, **Wake** tries to turn it on over the network.

What it does and what it never touches

- It stores the list in `~/Library/Application Support/ToolSuite/RemoteScreens/screens.json`, the thumbnails next to it and the passwords in the keychain.
- It touches nothing on the other computer beyond what you do in the session. It does not connect in the background to make thumbnails.
- Keyboard, mouse, scroll wheel and clipboard work in the session.
- **Open in Screen Sharing** uses Apple's app.

Limits

- If the account or password is not accepted, it is not saved; **Reconnect** asks for it again.
- The monitor menu only appears if the other computer describes its monitors.
- In the free version, the page shows the Pro lock. The 14-day trial includes it.

System

System brings together the tools that look inside the Mac itself: processes, what starts in the background, passwords, maintenance, privacy, permissions and installed apps. Resource Monitor, Startup Items, Password Vault and Maintenance Scripts are free; Privacy Cleaner, Permissions & Privacy and App Uninstaller are paid.

10.01

Resource Monitor

Resource Monitor (in the sidebar, **System monitor**) shows live how hard the Mac is working and which processes keep it busy, and quits the processes that are yours.

Free · Needs: nothing.

How to use it

1. At the top there are three gauges: **CPU** (cores and load), **Memory** (used, total and pressure) and **Boot disk** (free space and total). Below them, a sentence sums up the reading: whether the processor is idle, busy or flat out, which process is the most active and how memory pressure is doing. If the boot disk is low on space, it says so too.
2. The first CPU figure takes a couple of seconds: it is the difference between two samples. After that, everything updates every 2 seconds.
3. Sort the table with the menu (**CPU**, **Memory** or **Name**), check **My processes only** or type in **Search process**. Each row shows the app, the process name and its PID, and the columns **CPU**, **Memory**, **Threads** and **User**.
4. **Pause** freezes the data; **Resume** starts it again.
5. To quit processes, select one or more of yours and click **Quit** or **Force Quit**. Confirm in the dialog.
 - **Quit** asks the process to quit (SIGTERM), so it can save first. If it has an unsaved document, the app itself asks you.
 - **Force Quit** stops it at once (SIGKILL). Anything not saved is lost.
6. A notice says how many processes were asked to quit, how many had already ended and how many refused.

What it does and what it never touches

- It only reads system counters. It changes no settings and does not use the privileged helper.
- It only quits processes running as your user. Those of the system, of root, of other users and MacToolSuite itself are read-only: with one of them selected, the buttons stay gray.
- With a mixed selection, only yours are quit; the button's help says how many of the selected ones it would quit.

Limits

- To quit a root process, use Activity Monitor, which asks for the administrator password.
- It does not show temperature or energy use per process.
- The data only refreshes while the page is open.

10.02

Startup Items

Startup Items (in the sidebar, **Startup items**) shows the programs macOS starts in the background and turns off or back on the ones that depend on you.

Free · Needs: nothing.

How to use it

1. The list loads by itself when you open the tool; **Refresh** reads it again.
2. Each row shows the app it belongs to, if recognized, with the launchd label below; the **Kind**; the **Program** it starts, and the **State**: whether it is loaded now and whether it has **Keep alive** (launchd starts it again if it quits). Apple's items carry the **Apple** badge.
3. Filter with **All**, **Enabled** or **Disabled**, or type in **Search label or program**. The counter says how many items are visible and how many are enabled.
4. Use the switch in the **On** column to turn an item off or back on. A notice confirms the change.

What it does and what it never touches

- It reads three folders: `~/Library/LaunchAgents`, `/Library/LaunchAgents` and `/Library/LaunchDaemons`.

- Turning off uses launchd overrides: no file is deleted or modified, and the same switch undoes it.
- When turning off, it also tries to stop the agent right away. When turning on, it loads it without waiting for the next login.
- Agents in `/Library/LaunchAgents` are turned off only for your user.
- It never touches `/System/Library`, which macOS protects.

Limits

- The change takes full effect at the next login.
- The daemons in `/Library/LaunchDaemons` are read-only: their switch is gray.
- To fully remove the agent of an app you uninstall, use App Uninstaller.

10.03

Password Vault

Password Vault (in the sidebar, **Passwords**) generates strong passwords, keeps secrets in the macOS keychain and audits your SSH keys.

Free · Needs: nothing. The first time you copy a saved secret, macOS may ask you to allow MacToolSuite to read it from the keychain.

How to use it

The tool has three tabs: **Generator**, **Vault** and **SSH keys**.

1. In **Generator**, choose **Characters** or **Passphrase**.
2. With **Characters**, set the length (from 8 to 64; it starts at 20) and check the classes: **a-z**, **A-Z**, **0-9**, **Symbols** and **Avoid ambiguous**, which removes the characters that get confused, such as 0 and O or 1, l and I. With **Passphrase**, choose from 3 to 10 words (it starts at 5); they are English words joined by hyphens.
3. The password is regenerated with every change; the arrow button generates another one. Below it you see its bits of entropy.
4. **Copy** puts it on the clipboard.
5. To save it, type the **Site or service** and, if you like, the **Account (optional)**, and click **Save generated**.
6. **Vault** holds what you saved, with service, account and date. **Copy** retrieves the secret; **Delete** removes it from the keychain after you confirm, and it can no longer be recovered.

7. **Add existing...** saves a password you already have: service, account, **Secret** and **Save**.
8. **SSH keys** lists the keys in `~/ .ssh` with type and bits, whether they have a passphrase, comment and fingerprint. **Weak** marks RSA keys under 3072 bits, DSA keys and ECDSA keys under 256.

What it does and what it never touches

- Passwords come from the system's cryptographic generator.
- It saves to your login keychain, as a generic password, only on this Mac and readable only while the Mac is unlocked.
- It only lists what MacToolSuite saved. Keychain items of other apps are not listed or read.
- When you copy, a countdown warns you: the clipboard is cleared after 30 seconds, or when you quit MacToolSuite, if it still holds what you copied. If you copy something else in between, it is left alone.
- SSH keys are only read: for each one, its `.pub` file and, of the private key, the header, to know whether it has a passphrase. Nothing is modified.

Limits

- Saved secrets do not move to other Macs.

10.04

Maintenance Scripts

Maintenance Scripts (in the sidebar, **Maintenance**) runs the maintenance commands built into macOS, one per click, and says in words what it achieved.

Free · Needs: the privileged helper for the three tasks marked **Root**. You install it once from Settings (chapter 1).

How to use it

1. Each task has its name, a line explaining what it is for and, where relevant, the **Root** (goes through the privileged helper) and **Slow** badges.
2. Click **Run** on the task and confirm; the dialog repeats what it does.
3. The **Result** panel says what was fixed or why it failed. Below it you can expand the command's output; **Clear** removes summary and output.

4. To schedule tasks, check their box and click **Schedule checked...**
The checkbox only chooses what the scheduled runs and Optimize (chapter 3) include; it runs nothing.

The tasks:

- **Flush DNS cache** (Root): empties the name cache. Useful when a website loads from an old address.
- **Rebuild Launch Services database**: removes duplicates from the "Open With" menu and fixes wrong default apps.
- **Reset Quick Look thumbnails**: deletes the saved previews; the Finder makes them again.
- **Clear font caches**: deletes your user's font cache and restarts the font server. Fixes text that looks wrong.
- **Restart Finder** and **Restart Dock**: relaunch them. The Finder gets its windows back; with the Dock, Mission Control restarts.
- **Reindex Spotlight (boot volume)** (Root, Slow): deletes and rebuilds the startup disk's index. Search is incomplete until it finishes, close to an hour.
- **Purge inactive memory** (Root): frees inactive memory. Rarely needed.
- **Verify boot volume** (Slow): checks the startup disk read-only. It takes a few minutes and changes nothing.

What it does and what it never touches

- Only that closed list: each task runs fixed system programs with fixed arguments, never a shell. The helper refuses any other command.
- Without the privileged helper, the Root tasks stay gray with a notice; the others work. **Refresh helper status** checks again.
- Every run is kept in Activity.

Limits

- A command that does not finish within an hour is stopped and the task counts as failed.
- The slow tasks cannot be scheduled.

Privacy Cleaner

Privacy Cleaner (in the sidebar, **Clear traces**) deletes browser history and cookies and the Slack and Discord caches, without touching anything else.

Paid · Needs: Full Disk Access for Safari.

How to use it

1. If you use Safari, first grant the permission in System Settings › Privacy & Security › Full Disk Access. Without it, the page warns you at the top and in the review: what the scan finds does not include Safari.
2. Quit the browsers and apps you are going to clean.
3. Click **Scan**. The table shows each trace with its **Category** and its **Size**. Nothing is left checked.
4. Choose what to delete: each row's checkbox, one card per category above the table (one click checks or unchecks the whole category) or **Select all**, which with a search in **Search category or path** only checks what is visible.
5. Click **Review removal...** **Before removing** says how many items there are, how much space they take and what happens: without history, the sites visited and the address bar suggestions are lost; without cookies, you are signed out of websites, which forget settings such as language or consent; without the chat caches, images and files are downloaded again when needed.
6. In **What to do with them**, choose **Move to the Trash** (the suggestion) or **Delete permanently**, and click the button, which carries that same name. **Change selection** goes back.
7. The result says how many items were moved or deleted and, for those that were not, why.

Schedule... creates a recurring task. Scheduled tasks and Optimize always move to the Trash.

What it does and what it never touches

- Only these paths: Safari history and cookies; history and cookies of Chrome's Default profile; `places.sqlite` and `cookies.sqlite` of each Firefox profile; the Slack and Discord caches.
- It does not touch saved passwords, extensions or downloads. In the chat apps, messages and the session stay.

- Firefox keeps bookmarks in the same file as the history. When it opens, it restores them from its automatic backup; bookmarks changed since then may be lost.
- If one of these apps is open, its data is skipped and the result says so.

Limits

- For Chrome, only the Default profile.
- Other browsers and apps are not on the list.

10.06

Permissions & Privacy

Permissions & Privacy (in the sidebar, **Permissions**) lists the privacy permissions macOS has given each app and resets them so it asks again.

Paid · Needs: Full Disk Access.

How to use it

1. Grant the permission in System Settings › Privacy & Security › Full Disk Access and click **Refresh** (the arrow button). Without it, the page says **Full Disk Access required**.
2. Each row shows the **Permission**, the **App** (name and identifier or path), the **Target** (for automation, the app being controlled), the **Decision**, the **Scope** (your user or the system) and the date of the last change (**Changed**).
3. **Sensitive** marks the permissions that give a lot of control over the Mac: accessibility, full disk access, screen recording, input monitoring, camera, microphone, app management, developer tools and sending keystrokes.
4. Filter with the first menu: **Allowed** (when it opens), **Sensitive** (the sensitive ones that are allowed) or **All**. The second menu keeps a single one or **All permissions**. You can also type in **Search app or permission**.
5. To reset one, click **Reset** on its row and confirm.
6. For several, select them with ⬆ or ⌘ and choose **Reset N Selected...** in **Actions**.
7. A notice says how many were reset and which ones failed.

Actions › **Open System Settings...** takes you to the Privacy & Security pane.

What it does and what it never touches

- It reads the two macOS permission databases (TCC) read-only: your user's and the system's.
- Reset uses `tccutil`, Apple's tool. The app loses the permission until it asks for it again and you approve it; if it is open, it may need restarting.
- It never grants a permission or writes to those databases. To give a permission, use System Settings.

Limits

- Permissions registered by path, not by app identifier, cannot be reset: their button is gray and, in a selection, they are skipped.

10.07

App Uninstaller

App Uninstaller (in the sidebar, **Uninstall apps**) removes apps together with the files they leave in your Library folder and the agents that keep starting in the background.

Paid · Needs: the privileged helper, only for apps installed by an administrator (owned by root).

How to use it

1. Click **Scan**. Each app in `/Applications` and `~/Applications` appears with its size, and its leftovers. Nothing is left checked.
2. Above the table there is one card per app with how many items it has and how much space they take. A click checks the app with all its leftovers. You can also check single rows, use **Select all** or filter with **Search category or path**.
3. Click **Review removal....** **Before removing** says how many **Applications**, the **Items to remove** and the **Space they take**.
4. In **What to do with them**, choose **Move to the Trash** or **Delete permanently**. The button repeats it: **Uninstall N app(s) to the Trash** or **Uninstall N app(s) permanently**.
5. The result lists what could not be removed, with its reason.

What it does and what it never touches

- It looks for exact leftovers, by the app's identifier or by its name, in these folders of ~/Library: Caches, Preferences (its .plist), Logs, Application Support, Saved Application State and Containers.
- It also looks for its agents in ~/Library/LaunchAgents. Before deleting one, it stops it, so it does not keep running until the next login. The agent of another app with a similar name is not touched.
- It never deletes a whole folder such as Application Support.
- It does not list system and protected apps (Safari, Mail, Messages, FaceTime, System Settings, Finder, Terminal) or the Utilities folder.
- An open app is not touched: quit it first.

Limits

- A root-owned app can only be removed by the privileged helper, and the helper cannot move it to your Trash. With **Move to the Trash** it is not removed and the result says so; choose **Delete permanently**. Without the helper, the error says so.
- It only sees the apps at the top level of those two folders: an app inside a subfolder does not appear.
- It does not look for leftovers outside your user folder, or in ~/Library/LaunchDaemons.

Recovery

The Recovery section brings together backups, startup media, forensic images, file recovery and secure erasing. Several of these tools erase or overwrite data with no way back: they ask for confirmation and leave out the startup disk, but choosing well what gets erased is up to you. All of them are paid.

11.01

What the app protects and what is up to you

TOOL	WHAT IT DESTROYS	WHAT THE APP PROTECTS	WHAT IS UP TO YOU
Backups & Rebuild	Nothing	Never uses the startup disk as a destination	Choosing the destination disk; when you change it, the previous one stops receiving backups
Bootable USB Creator	The whole destination disk	Only offers whole external disks; asks you to type ERASE	Checking that the chosen disk holds nothing you need
Secure Shredder	The files and folders on the list	Refuses system locations; asks you to type SHRED	Reviewing the list; knowing that on an SSD it is not a guarantee
Forensic Clone	Nothing: the source is only read	Never offers the startup disk; never overwrites an image	Having free space for an image the size of the disk
Data Carving	Nothing: the image is only read	Only writes to the output folder	Saving what is recovered to another disk

Bootable USB Creator and Forensic Clone need the privileged helper; Backups & Rebuild, only to set the destination. You install it once: chapter 1 explains how, in "The privileged helper". Until it is ready, these pages say so and the button that needs it is disabled.

Backups & Rebuild

Backups & Rebuild (in the sidebar, **Backups**) handles Time Machine from the app and checks whether you have everything you need to rebuild the Mac from a backup.

Paid · Needs: the privileged helper, only to set the destination.

How to use it

1. In **Destination** you see the Time Machine destinations; the one in use carries **Current**.
2. To set one, choose a disk in **Set destination** and click **Apply**. Only mounted external volumes are offered. If there was already a destination, the app asks; **Replace destination** replaces it: the previous disk keeps its backups, but stops receiving new ones.
3. **Back up now** starts a backup; the bar shows the progress. **Stop backup** stops it, and that backup is left incomplete.
4. In **Exclusions**, **Add folder...** leaves a folder out of the backups; **Remove** includes it again. The exclusion follows the folder if you move it.
5. **Schedule...** creates a daily, weekly or every-few-hours task. It runs while MacToolSuite is open or in the menu bar.
6. **Rebuild this Mac from a backup — readiness** checks the destination, the age of the last backup (it warns if it is more than 7 days old), that there is a full macOS installer in /Applications and an external disk for the USB. Below it, the rebuild steps.

When a backup finishes, the page gives the time. If Time Machine stops without a new backup, it says so.

What it does and what it never touches

- It uses `tmutil`, the Time Machine tool. Time Machine manages its folder on the destination; the app does not touch that content.
- The destination disk keeps its files: Time Machine adds a backups folder.
- It never uses the startup disk as a destination.

Limits

- On Apple silicon there are no bootable clones: the system volume is sealed. Rebuilding means creating a USB installer, reinstalling macOS and bringing your data back with Migration Assistant from the Time Machine backup.
- The page does not restore: macOS does that when it installs.
- The list of exclusions shows the ones you added from this page.

11.03

Bootable USB Creator

Bootable USB Creator (in the sidebar, **Bootable USB**) creates a macOS installer on a USB stick, or writes an ISO or IMG image to an external disk. It erases the destination disk completely.

Paid · Needs: the privileged helper.

How to use it

1. Choose the mode: **macOS installer** or **ISO / IMG image**.
2. In **Source**:
 - Installer: choose an "Install macOS..." app from /Applications in **Installer**. If there is none, download it from the App Store or with `softwareupdate --fetch-full-installer`. It takes 10 to 30 minutes.
 - Image: click **Choose...** and pick a `.iso`, `.img`, `.raw`, `.cdr` or `.dmg`. Leave **Verify after writing (reads the whole image back)** checked.
3. In **Target disk (will be erased)**, choose the disk.
4. Click **Write**. The confirmation sheet names the **Volumes that will be lost**, as you see them in the Finder. Type ERASE and click **Write**.
5. While writing, do not disconnect the disk. When it finishes, the app says you can eject it; with verification, it confirms that each block matches the image.

What the app protects

- It never offers the startup disk, an internal disk, a single partition or a mounted disk image. The helper refuses them even if asked.
- Before touching the disk it checks that the image can be read and that it fits. If not, it says so and the disk is left intact.

- It only runs `createinstallmedia` if the installer is in `/Applications` and is signed by Apple.
- A `.dmg` is first converted into a raw copy; the original is not modified.

What is up to you

- Everything on the chosen disk is destroyed. Copy what you need first.
- If you stop the writing, the disk is left half-written: erase it before using it.

Limits

- Installer mode needs a mountable volume on the destination. If there is none, erase it first as Mac OS Extended with Partition Manager.
- It does not prepare Windows images: a Windows ISO written as is does not boot on UEFI PCs without further preparation.
- The converted copy of a `.dmg` stays in the system's temporary folder.

11.04

Secure Shredder

Secure Shredder (in the sidebar, **Secure erase**) overwrites files and folders before deleting them, so their content is harder to recover. It cannot be undone.

Paid · Needs: write permission on what you choose.

How to use it

1. Click **Add items...** or drop files and folders on the page. **Clear** empties the list.
2. Choose the **Scheme**: one random pass, DoD 5220.22-M (3 passes, the default), DoD 5220.22-M ECE (7) or Gutmann (35).
3. Click **Shred**. The sheet counts the files and the size inside, reminds you that there is no Trash and warns you about SSDs. Type SHRED and click **Shred now**.
4. The bar shows the pass and the progress. **Stop** halts the job; what has not been started is not touched.

What it does

- It overwrites each file in place with the scheme, forcing the write to disk on each pass. Then it renames it to a random name and deletes it. Folders, file by file; then the folder.

- Nothing goes through the Trash.
- For a symbolic link it deletes the link, never its target.

What the app protects

- It refuses, with the **Refused** mark: the root of the disk, /System, /Library, /usr, /bin, /sbin, /Applications, your home folder and its standard folders (Library, Desktop, Documents, Downloads, Pictures, Music and Movies). It refuses those folders, not their contents.
- It asks for no privileges: what you cannot write to fails with an error.

What is up to you

- Everything else you add is destroyed, including whole folders in your home folder or on an external disk.
- On an SSD or an APFS volume, overwriting does not guarantee reaching the old blocks. What protects them is FileVault; this tool raises the bar, it does not replace encryption.
- It only acts on the items on the list: other copies of the same file, in backups or on other disks, stay where they are.
- If you stop in the middle of a file, that file is left partly overwritten.

11.05

Forensic Clone

Forensic Clone (in the sidebar, **Clone a disk**) creates a sector-by-sector image of a whole disk, with its SHA-256 fingerprint. It is for preserving a disk exactly as it is, or for recovering data from the image instead of the disk.

Paid · Needs: the privileged helper.

How to use it

1. In **Source disk (read-only)**, choose the disk. Each one carries **Internal**, **External** or **Disk image**, and **Mounted** if it has mounted volumes.
2. Click **Destination...** and choose where to save the image. The page shows the free space and what the image will take: at least the size of the disk.
3. Click **Image**. If the source has mounted volumes, the app names them and asks; **Unmount and image** ejects them and starts.

4. When it finishes, a `.sha256` file is left next to the image; **Reveal** shows it.
5. **Stop** cancels and deletes the half-made image.

What it does and what it never touches

- It reads the whole disk read-only: partitions, free space and deleted data. It writes nothing to the source; the only change is unmounting its volumes.
- Unreadable blocks are retried sector by sector, filled with zeros and counted. If there are any, the notice says so: the image is not a faithful copy of the disk.
- It writes a new file, owned by you. It never overwrites one that already exists.
- The `.sha256` follows the `shasum` format: you can verify the image with `shasum -a 256 -c`. If it cannot be written, the app shows the hash for you to keep.
- The startup disk is never offered as a source.

Limits

- It does not use reverse reading or adaptive skipping, as tools specialized in failing disks do: it reads in order.
- The image is not compressed or encrypted. To convert it, use Disk Images.
- If the destination has no space, the app says so before starting.

11.06

Data Carving

Data Carving (in the sidebar, **Recover files**) recovers deleted files from a disk image by looking for their signatures in the bytes, even if the file table is damaged.

Paid · Needs: to read the image and to write to the output folder.

How to use it

1. Get an image of the disk: create it with Forensic Clone, or use an uncompressed `.dmg`, an `.img` or an `.iso`.
2. Click **Image...** and choose the image. Click **Output folder...** and choose a folder, preferably on another disk.

3. In **Types**, check what you are looking for: JPEG, PNG, GIF, PDF, ZIP (also docx, xlsx and pptx), MP4 (also MOV and HEIC), WAV and BMP. All come checked.
4. Click **Scan**. The bar shows what has been read and what has been found.
5. Each find shows **Type**, **Offset** (its position in the image), **Size**, **File** and **Status**: **Complete**, **Damaged or cut** or **Not checked**. **Preview** opens it; **Reveal** shows it.
6. **Stop** halts the scan. What has been recovered up to then stays, unchecked, and the rest of the image is left unread.

What it does and what it never touches

- It opens the image read-only and writes only to the output folder: one subfolder per type, with each file named after its position in the image.
- It does not read disks directly, always an image. It does not need the privileged helper.
- Each type has a maximum size, so as not to create huge files from false headers.

Limits

- It only recovers files saved in one piece. Fragmented ones come out cut or damaged.
- It does not recover names or folders, or formats without a signature.
- **Complete** means the file's structure adds up, not that the content is intact.
- If the output folder is the image's folder, the app warns you: a folder of its own keeps what is recovered apart.

Privacy

MacToolSuite works on your Mac. On its own it only connects for two things: the license and updates. It sends no telemetry, analytics or crash reports. This chapter says what leaves the Mac in each case and what stays on it.

12.01

What does not leave the Mac

What the tools do happens on your Mac. None of this is sent anywhere:

- Your paths, your files or their content.
 - The browsing history or the cookies that Privacy Cleaner scans.
 - The list of installed apps.
 - The run history and the scheduled tasks.
 - Your chats with the Agent when you use Apple's model.
-

12.02

The license

When activating, the app sends to the Toolbox Design license server:

- The license key.
- A SHA-256 fingerprint of the Mac's identifiers. Never the serial number in plain text.
- The Mac's name, the one you see on this Mac's card in **Account**.

When renewing (in the background, chapter 2) and when deactivating, it sends this Mac's renewal code and the same fingerprint. Not the key.

For each activation or renewal, the server also records the country it comes from and the app version. Never the IP address. That record is kept for 400 days.

The server stores a fingerprint of the key, not the key. On your Mac, the key is not stored either: the keychain only keeps the license receipt and the renewal code. The 14-day trial does not connect to anything: its start date is in the keychain.

12.03

Updates

To check for updates, the app queries the Toolbox Design update server, with the app and macOS versions, without any identifier. The download comes from the same server.

12.04

Purchases

Payment is handled by Stripe as merchant of record: Toolbox Design does not see card numbers. The email address, the plan bought, the order reference and the fingerprint of the key are kept, to be able to reissue a key or process a refund. They are not sold or shared.

12.05

The Agent

- With Apple's model (**On this Mac**), the conversation is processed on the Mac. Nothing leaves.
- With Claude or ChatGPT, your questions, attachments and what the Agent looks up on your Mac go to Anthropic or to OpenAI, with your own account and under their terms. With Claude Code and Codex they go through their official programs; with the API key, straight to Anthropic.
- Toolbox Design receives nothing from those chats. They are stored on your Mac.
- Your Anthropic API key is stored in the macOS keychain and nowhere else.

What the Agent looks up on its own is in chapter 4. When you use Claude or ChatGPT, those lookups are part of what is sent.

12.06

Tools that use the network

Some tools connect, but only to what you point them at:

- Network Diagnostics, to the address you type (ping, traceroute, DNS, WHOIS).
 - LAN Scanner, to the devices on your local network.
-

- NAS Servers, SSH Hosts and Screens, to your own servers and computers.
- Folder Sync and Fast Copy, to the network volumes you have mounted.

macOS asks for the Local Network permission the first time one of them explores the network.

The NAS, SSH host and screen passwords you save with **Remember** or **Keep in the keychain** go to the macOS keychain.

The app's links (**Buy Pro**, **Compare plans**, the Anthropic console, the Claude Code and Codex installation pages) open in your browser.

12.07

Where everything is stored

- Run history: `~/Library/Application Support/ToolSuite/runs.jsonl`.
- Scheduled tasks: `~/Library/Application Support/ToolSuite/schedules.json`.
- Agent chats and their attachments: `~/Library/Application Support/ToolSuite/Agent/chats/`.
- In the macOS keychain: the license receipt, the renewal code, the trial start date, the Anthropic API key and the passwords you save.

The full privacy policy is at toolboxdesign.dev/legal/privacidad. For any question about your data: contact@toolboxdesign.dev.

Support

If something does not work as this manual says, or you cannot find how to do something, write to us. This chapter says where to write, what to include so the answer comes sooner and what to do in the most common cases: a lost key, refunds and the license agreement.

13.01

How to ask for help

Write to support@toolboxdesign.dev.

The link is also in the app: **Account**, at the bottom, support@toolboxdesign.dev. It opens your email program with the address filled in.

If your question is about the license, write from the email address you bought with: with it we find your license.

13.02

What to include

- The app version: **Settings, Updates** tab, **This build** (for example, "ToolSuite 0.8.2 · build 35").
- The macOS version and the Mac model.
- Which tool you were using and which steps you followed.
- What you expected and what happened, with the exact text of the message you saw. A screenshot helps.
- The activity report, if the problem is a run that failed: in **Activity, Export report** saves `toolsuite-activity.txt`. Attach it.
- The helper diagnostics, if the problem is the privileged helper: in **Settings, Privileged helper** tab, **Copy diagnostics**, and paste it into the email.
- For S.M.A.R.T. Health, **Copy report** copies the reading of the disks.

Do not send passwords or your Anthropic API key. For license matters you do not need the key: the purchase email address is enough.

13.03

If you lose the key

Write to support@toolboxdesign.dev from the purchase email address. We send you a new key to that same address, never to another.

The previous key stops working and the Macs that used it are released. Activate the new one on each Mac, from **Account › I have a key** (chapter 2).

13.04

If it will not let you activate another Mac

Your plan has a number of Macs: one on Basic, two on Pro. Free a seat with **Deactivate this Mac...** on the Mac you are leaving (chapter 2). If that Mac no longer works or you no longer have it, write to us from the purchase email address and we free the seat.

13.05

Refunds

You can ask for a full refund within 14 days of purchase. Write to support@toolboxdesign.dev from the purchase email address.

With the refund, the license is deactivated and the Macs that used it are released. The app goes back to the free version, or to the trial if its 14 days have not passed yet.

13.06

The license agreement

The MacToolSuite license agreement is at toolboxdesign.dev/plataformas/toolsuite/licencia. You accept it when you buy. Among other things, it says:

- The license is perpetual, for the number of Macs in your plan.
- The free tools are used without a license. The 14-day trial is for evaluating the program.
- Updates within the same major version are included.
- Several tools can erase, overwrite or destroy data. They warn you and ask for confirmation, but having backups and answering for what you confirm is up to you.
- The program sends no telemetry.

The privacy policy is at toolboxdesign.dev/legal/privacidad (chapter 12).

Something doesn't match what you see in the app? Write to us and we'll fix it.

support@toolboxdesign.dev ·
toolboxdesign.dev/plataformas/toolsuite

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