



# Tech Info Library

## Macintosh: National Computer Security Center Ratings

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Security: Everyone

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TOPIC -----

What is the Macintosh computer's security rating?

DISCUSSION -----

The NCSC (National Computer Security Center) evaluation criteria define seven levels of trust called Classes. In increasing order of trust, they are: D, C1, C2, B1, B2, B3, and A1.

D	C1	C2	B1	B2	B3	A1
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not secure		increasing security				highly secure

D systems aren't trusted. A1 systems are extremely resistant to compromise.

Up to the level of B3, each Class introduces additional features and functions to counter specific threats that weren't countered by lower Classes. For example:

- C2 introduces the "audit" function.
- B1 adds "security labels" to all objects.
- B2 adds a "trusted path."
- B3 adds a "trusted recovery" feature.

Class A1 adds no features or functions over Class B3 system. The software system for a Class A1 system is identical to Class B3 system. However, the Class A1 system is more trusted because it is subjected to extremely rigorous design verification, threat analysis, construction, testing,

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inspection, distribution, and operational procedures covering hardware, firmware, and software.

AppleShare meets C1 class because it contains Discretionary Access Control (DAC). You may contact Apple Federal System Groups for more information on the secured Macintosh systems.

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