

Can an iPad Replace a Laptop?

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December 8, 2025*

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Premise

- ♦ What do we mean
 - ♦ Use an iPad for everything?
 - ♦ Exactly like the laptop?
 - ♦ With compromises?
 - ♦ How much?
 - ♦ Where do you draw the line

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Define an iPad

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| ♦ Not a desktop computer | ♦ Thin form |
| ♦ Not a laptop | ♦ Portable |
| ♦ Not a large iPhone | ♦ Designed for handwritten notes |
| ♦ Some have Cellular capability | |

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Early iPads

- ◆ File Systems
 - ◆ Each app had its own files

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Early iPads

- ◆ Multitasking - NOT REALLY
 - ◆ Each app ran in full screen mode
 - ◆ When switching to a different app
 - ◆ Prior app ceased running
 - ◆ The OS runs in the background
 - ◆ If you gave app permission it could update in the background if no other app was active
 - ◆ As time passed the OS slowly closed down parts of the app to preserve memory

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Early iPads

- ◆ Keyboards
 - ◆ Until Bluetooth keyboards came out only the virtual keyboard existed
 - ◆ CMD and other key shortcuts didn't exist

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Evolution of the OS

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- ◆ File systems
 - ◆ Document & download folders added to iCloud Drive to share Mac files with an iPad
 - ◆ Files app added
 - ◆ SSDs & powered HDDs could be attached for additional storage (Demo)

Evolution of the OS

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- ◆ Preview app added in iPadOS 26
 - ◆ Can look at and update files like a laptop
 - ◆ Demo

Evolution of the OS

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- ◆ Can set default app for file types
 - ◆ Allows you to select which app opens a file type by default
 - ◆ Can select another app to open a file.
 - ◆ Demo

Evolution of the OS

- ♦ Multitasking
 - ♦ 1st major step
 - ♦ Stage Manager
 - ♦ 2 apps could be opened side by side, but only one was actually running
 - ♦ A third app could be shown as a “slide over”
 - ♦ Cursor was an imprecise ball
 - ♦ Mouse and trackpad could be used

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IPadOS 26 - What a change!

- ♦ Windowing
 - ♦ Select “windowed apps” in Control Center’s Multitasking
 - ♦ Can have 8 active windows
 - ♦ Can move windows around and resize them
 - ♦ Can rearrange and group them
 - ♦ Similar to MacOS and Microsoft Windows
 - ♦ Presented and controlled differently
 - ♦ Drop down menu
 - ♦ Demo

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Evolution of the iPad

- ♦ Keyboards
 - ♦ Physical “wired” keyboards added
 - ♦ 3 contact magnetic connection
 - ♦ Keyboards have most of the Mac keys with shortcuts (Copy, Paste, Print etc.)

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Evolution of the iPad

- ◆ These changes open up the iPad to be used more like a “normal” computer
- ◆ At each iteration people asked “Can I now replace my laptop with an iPad?”

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Where is Apple going?

- ◆ Originally the iPad
 - ◆ Ran apps one at a time
 - ◆ Touch screen was the main (only) UI
 - ◆ When added the Apple Pencil was useful for
 - ◆ Art, handwriting and precision cursor placement

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Where is Apple going?

- ◆ Many users want the iPad to run MacOS and be a very portable Mac
- ◆ Apple hasn't gone that way, but
 - ◆ iPadOS has become more Mac like
 - ◆ MacOS has added some iPad features and looks more similar to iOS every year
 - ◆ Macs and iPads work together much better than before

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Where is Apple going?

- ♦ The Mac is still touchless
- ♦ Steve Jobs didn't like reaching out to the screen on a desktop or laptop Mac
- ♦ He thought using a stylus out in front of you was awkward

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iPad Strengths

- ♦ Better to view media
- ♦ Artwork using an Apple Pencil
- ♦ Handwriting
- ♦ Thin Form
- ♦ Portability
- ♦ Cellular connectivity

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Mac/Laptop Strengths

- ♦ Can be very Powerful
- ♦ More options to customize hardware
- ♦ More complex Operating System
- ♦ Allows software to be installed from anywhere, not just at the App Store

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Merging the Two?

- ♦ The OSs are getting closer, but if combined?
- ♦ Will this compromise either's effectiveness?

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Where does that leave us?

- ♦ It Depends
- ♦ What do you need from your devices?
- ♦ Are you comfortable with change ?
- ♦ How much of that will you accept?
- ♦ Where is the line you will draw?
- ♦ Are you willing to invest in learning new ways to do what you want?

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My Journey

- ♦ Retired in 2006 I replaced my PC with an iMac
- ♦ 2007 - I replace my Palm Pilot and flip phone with an iPhone
- ♦ 2010 - bought the first iPad
 - ♦ Ran into all the issues we have discussed
- ♦ 2015 bought a MacBook 12" as my first laptop

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My Journey

- ♦ Bought a very powerful iMac 17" in 2017 to do video editing for OLLI Distance Learning
- ♦ iPad Pro 12.9" 2nd generation in 2018
- ♦ Bought a 14" MacBook Pro M2 in 2022
- ♦ Bought an iPadPro 12.9" M2 in 2023

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My Journey

- ♦ Early on I wanted to only carry my iPad and iPhone
 - ♦ Didn't work
 - ♦ Needed power and the convenience the iPad wouldn't give me

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My Journey

- ♦ I still use my MacBook Pro for
 - ♦ Heavy video editing
 - ♦ For my classes where I want to show my iPad and iPhone on the AV screen

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My Journey

- ♦ The cost of not using my MacBook Pro as much as I did before
 - ♦ A learning curve on how to best do what I want
- ♦ Is the iPad the best of all worlds?
 - ♦ NO, but I can live with the change

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And how about you?

- ♦ Are you near a decision point?
 - ♦ Windows 10 obsolete and you can't upgrade
 - ♦ A device is getting old or no longer works as well as you would like?
 - ♦ Got money to burn? (Just joking)

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To Do

- ♦ Look at what you do on each machine
- ♦ Can they be done on the iPad?
 - ♦ If special software is needed and unavailable for an iPad
 - ♦ Do you really need that software or are you just used to doing it that way?
- ♦ Should you rethink how you do things
- ♦ What are the negatives of a change?
 - ♦ Is it harder, inconvenient or is it just a change you can accept

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