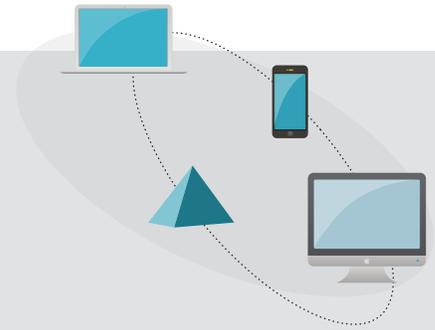


10 Things to Consider *before* Choosing a Mac and Mobile Management Solution



There are several things to consider when deploying and managing Mac and mobile devices across an enterprise environment. Before you select a management solution, it's important to plan ahead and identify any potential challenges. This list covers 10 different aspects of Mac and mobile management and can be used to evaluate the capabilities of potential solutions.

1 Active Directory-based Integration

Integration into Active Directory means IT can leverage existing infrastructure for seamless authentication for Mac and mobile device users. If the solution is not tied into existing Microsoft management software, there will be duplicative activities which may lead to gaps in security and diminished manageability.

2 Cloud-based Policy Enforcement

If you have users who travel or work off premises, having a cloud-based option for enforcing policy on Macs and mobile is needed for users that are remote or not connected to the corporate network.

3 Same Tool Set for Mobile Devices

Integration into the existing infrastructure is desirable if mobile devices are to be managed in the same way as on-premises devices. Carefully consider products which require special servers to manage mobile devices as the software and services can be very different and incompatible with the ones used to manage on-premises devices.

4 Role-based Administration

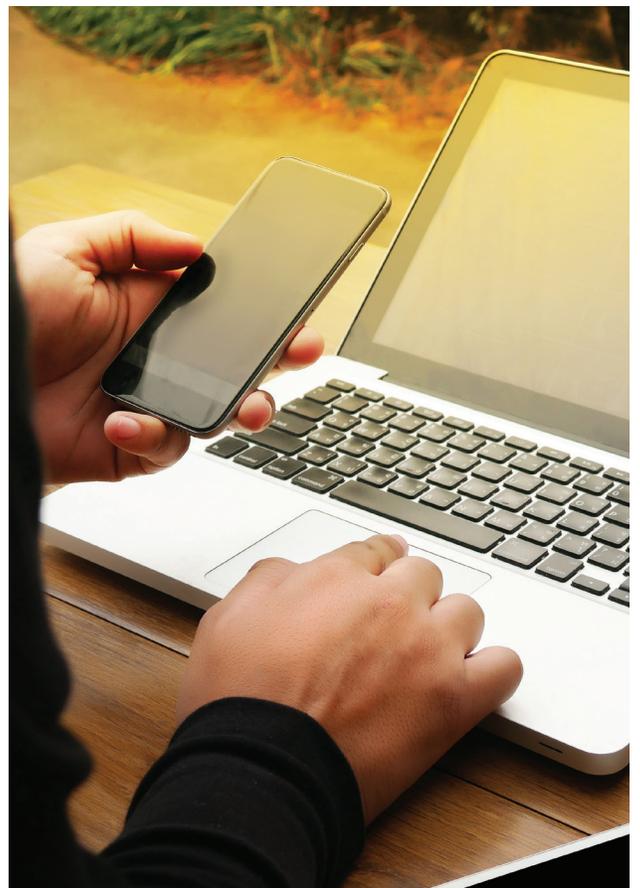
Breaches and data security is a top concern for many organizations. Products that provide permissions by role allow users to access specific areas of the system without requiring access to your database.

5 Cross-platform Policy Support

If a different management solution has to be installed for each new platform, complexity, lack of management predictability and security challenges may result in increased costs and elevated exposure to the organization. Look for a solution that supports group policy across all platforms, including Macs, PCs, iOS, Android, Linux and UNIX.

6 Single Sign-on for Apps

With thousands of apps in existence, single sign-on as well as auto app deployment and configuration on authenticated devices is a must. Having single sign-on capability for web-based SaaS apps leveraging AD authentication would insure the same management infrastructure as those for Macs, mobile, apps and PCs.



7 Centralized FileVault 2 Management
Full disk encryption is standard for protecting user data and typically isn't complex or costly to implement. A solution should offer centralized management of FileVault 2.

8 Availability of Self-service Tools
Web-based management tools should exist to automate tasks for both IT and users, including adding new devices, changing passwords and enforcing a remote wipe on a device that's been lost or stolen.

9 Reporting Capabilities
Having a standard reporting system is important — and in some cases required — to monitor access to sensitive applications and data, and to ensure that the right users have access to the appropriate resources. A solution should be able to monitor users, devices, application use, and resource access in addition to other key IT uses.

10 Simplicity of Use
Ease of use should be a primary consideration for any solution. Some could work well from an IT perspective but leave workers confused. If it's hard to use, slows down systems or requires substantial training or new skills for end users, you will have pushback.



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