

WORKAROUND:
**How to Install Isaac/Mac on a computer
running macOS Big Sur**

December 2020

**THESE INSTRUCTIONS ARE ONLY FOR MACS
RUNNING macOS BIG SUR**

**IF YOUR MAC IS USING macOS CATALINA OR
EARLIER, DO NOT USE THESE INSTRUCTIONS**

INTRODUCTION

Isaac Mac 5.1 does not run natively on macOS Big Sur. This problem is due to driver incompatibilities from our software suppliers. We do not know when these incompatibilities will be corrected by the driver developers.

If your Mac is running macOS Big Sur these instructions provide a “workaround” that makes it possible to use Isaac/Mac on a computer running Big Sur. You will do four things:

- 1) Install the free version of the VMware Fusion app. VMware Fusion makes it possible to run a virtual machine version of macOS Catalina on your computer with Big Sur
- 2) Download the Catalina installer app
- 3) Install macOS Catalina on the VMware Fusion software. Catalina will then run as an independent virtual machine on your Mac
- 4) Install Isaac/Mac on the Catalina virtual machine

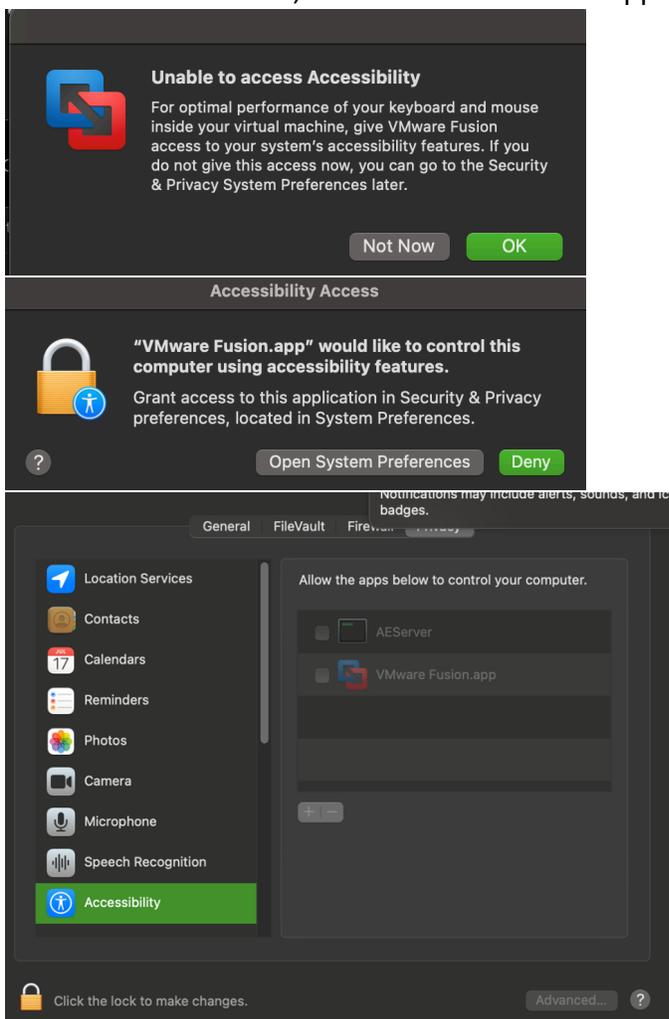
Once these three steps are completed, you will be able to use Isaac on your Mac running macOS Big Sur.

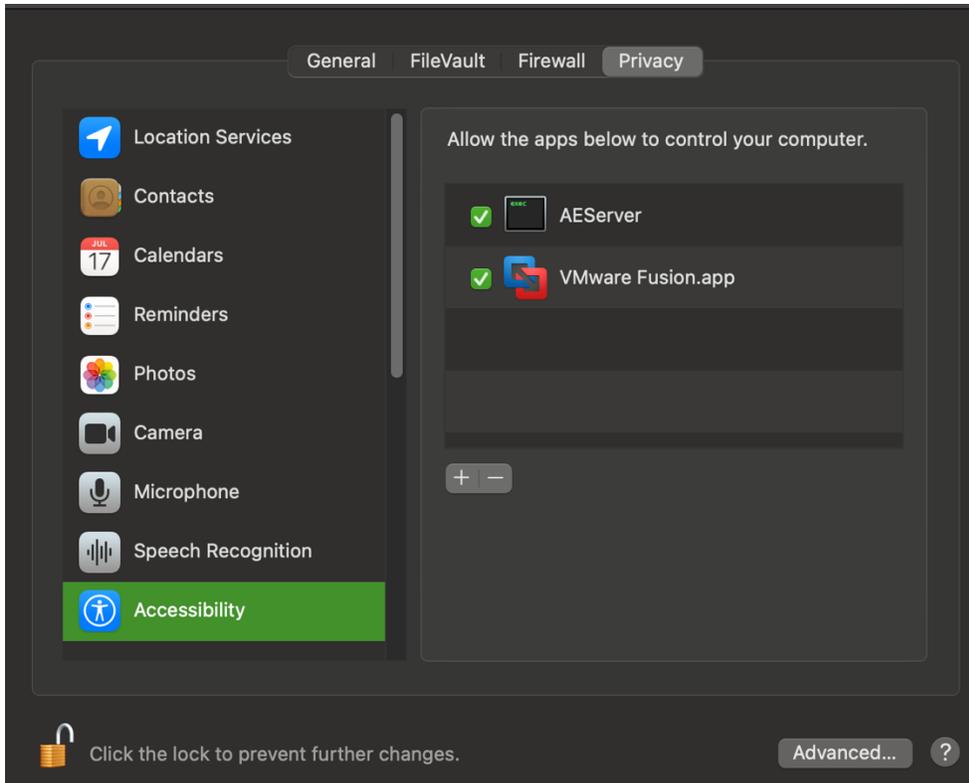
It will take one or two hours to install all of this software. Follow these instructions carefully, and you will be able to get Isaac/Mac working on your Big Sur Mac!

STEP 1. INSTALL VMWARE VIRTUAL MACHINE APP

VMWARE offers a no-cost version of its “Fusion” virtual machine software.

- A. Register a personal account on the [VMware site](#)
- B. Login to your account
- C. Search for “VMWare Fusion Player – Personal Use”. *This version of VMware Fusion is FREE*
- D. Obtain a license code for your software, then download VMware Fusion Player
- E. Double-click on the download to install VMware Fusion on your Mac.
- F. During installation you will get a message asking you to allow accessibility access to your computer. Click OK, then click Open System Preferences, then click Accessibility, then unlock the lock, then check “VMFusion.app





Once VMware Fusion is installed on your Mac, you will be able to install other operating systems that will run on VMware. You will install macOS Catalina on VMware Fusion.

STEP 2. Download macOS Catalina to your Big Sur computer

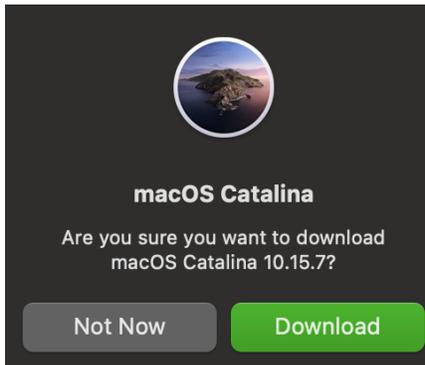
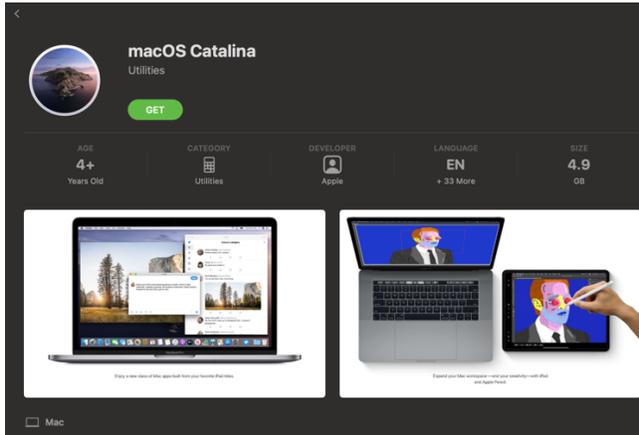
- A. Go to apple.com, and search for “Catalina Download”.

Download macOS Catalina from the App Store

Download macOS Catalina for macOS 10.9 or later and enjoy it on your Mac.

<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/macos-catalina/id1466841314?mt=12>

- B. You will be linked to the Mac App Store. Here is the [link to the Catalina download](#). Click “Get”, then click “Download”



- C. Catalina is a big file! Once the file is downloaded the installer will launch automatically, you'll get an Error Message, saying that you can't install Catalina on your Mac. DON'T WORRY—since you already have the more recent install of Big Sur, Apple isn't allowing you to install the “older” Catalina on your system. The Catalina file you downloaded will be intact, in your Applications folder.

STEP 3. INSTALL CATALINA ON VMWARE FUSION

- A. Click on your desktop so that you see “Finder” in the top left corner. Then click on “Go/Applications”.



- B. Scroll until you find the “Install macOS Catalina.app” Highlight this app but DO NOT DOUBLE CLICK.

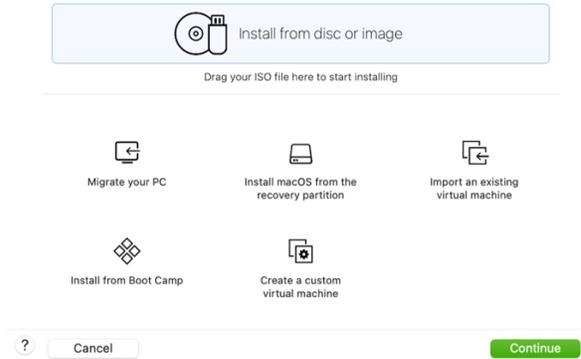
Name	Date Modified	Size	Kind
Dictionary.app	Jan 1, 2020 at 3:00 AM	2.8 MB	Application
FaceTime.app	Jan 1, 2020 at 3:00 AM	13.2 MB	Application
feedly.app	Sep 16, 2020 at 11:05 AM	1.7 MB	Application
Filters for Photos.app	Feb 18, 2018 at 4:45 PM	83.7 MB	Application
Find My.app	Jan 1, 2020 at 3:00 AM	18 MB	Application
Firefox.app	Dec 16, 2020 at 1:00 PM	210 MB	Application
Focus & Blur.app	Sep 3, 2020 at 4:16 PM	27.4 MB	Application
Font Book.app	Jan 1, 2020 at 3:00 AM	7.1 MB	Application
Freecell.app	Nov 19, 2018 at 2:56 AM	191 MB	Application
Gixen eBay Sniper.app	Apr 25, 2019 at 1:55 PM	11.4 MB	Application
Home.app	Jan 1, 2020 at 3:00 AM	5 MB	Application
Image Capture.app	Jan 1, 2020 at 3:00 AM	3.2 MB	Application
Install macOS Catalina.app	Today at 1:02 PM	8.26 GB	Application
Isaac for Mac.app	Aug 19, 2017 at 12:32 PM	252.5 MB	Application
Kindle.app	Oct 23, 2020 at 3:06 PM	212.9 MB	Application
Launchpad.app	Jan 1, 2020 at 3:00 AM	703 KB	Application
Mail.app	Jan 1, 2020 at 3:00 AM	26 MB	Application
Maps.app	Jan 1, 2020 at 3:00 AM	55.7 MB	Application

1 of 67 selected, 374.02 GB available

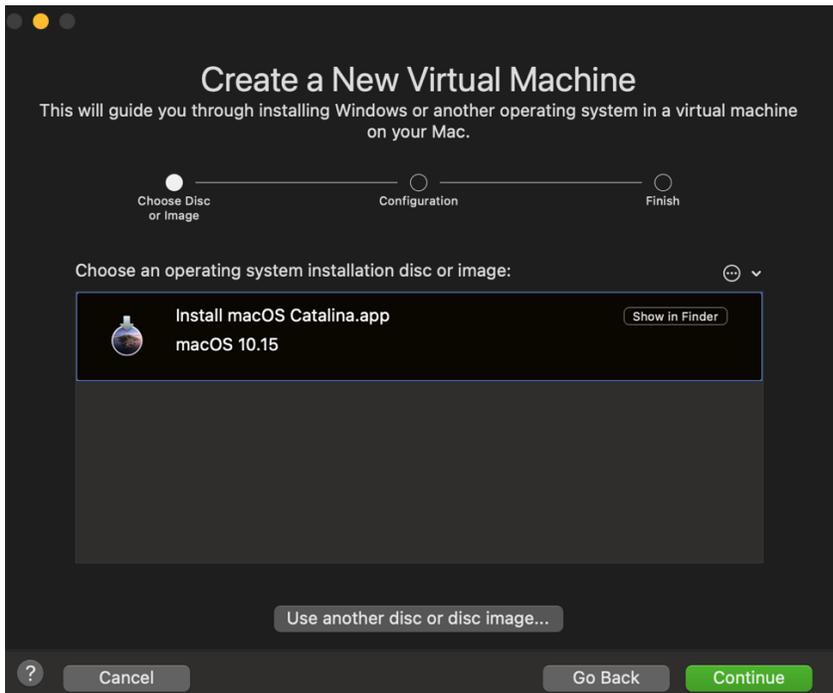
- C. Open the VMWare app. You should see the screen below; if you don't select "File/New" so that you'll see the "Select the Installation Method" screen



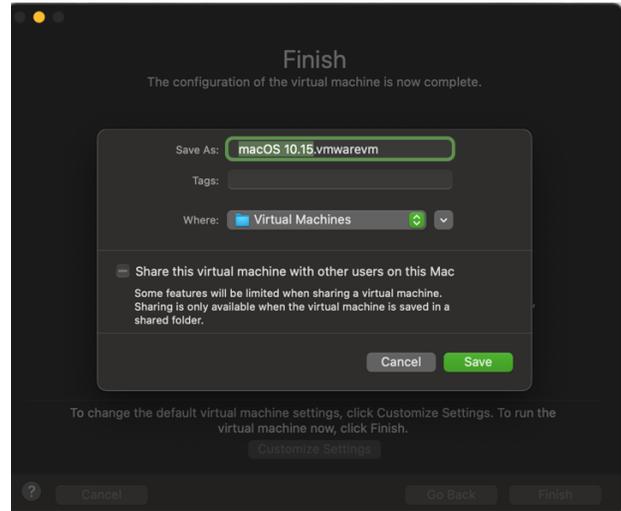
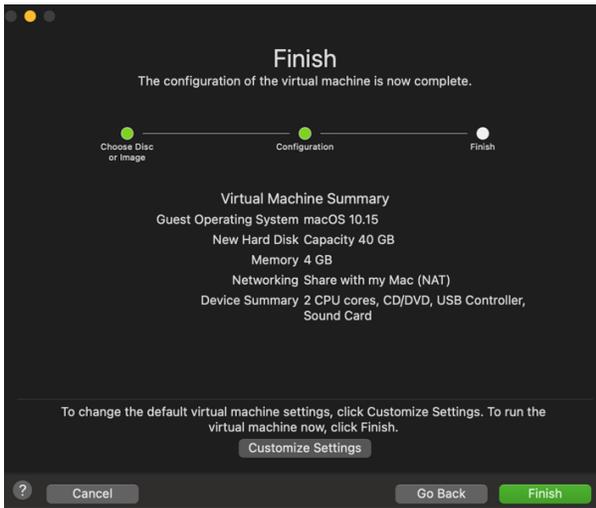
Select the Installation Method



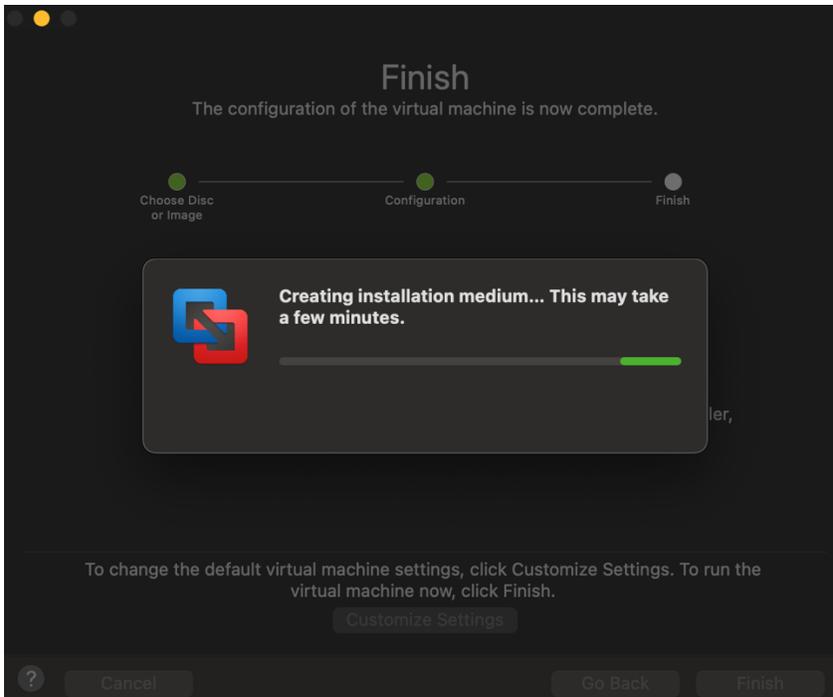
- D. Drag/drop the Catalina app from the App window into the "Install from disc or image" screen in the VMWare app. You will see this:



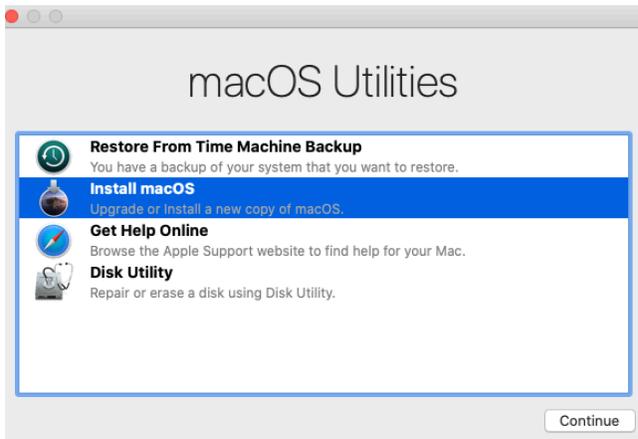
E. Click “Continue” then click “Finish”, then “Save”



F. VMWare will begin the process of creating the new Catalina virtual machine



- G. After a few minutes the Catalina installer will begin to run, and you will see this screen. Select “Install macOS”, then “Continue”



- G. After a bit you'll see the familiar Install window for macOS Catalina. Click the arrows to install Catalina on VMWare. This will take about 20-30 minutes

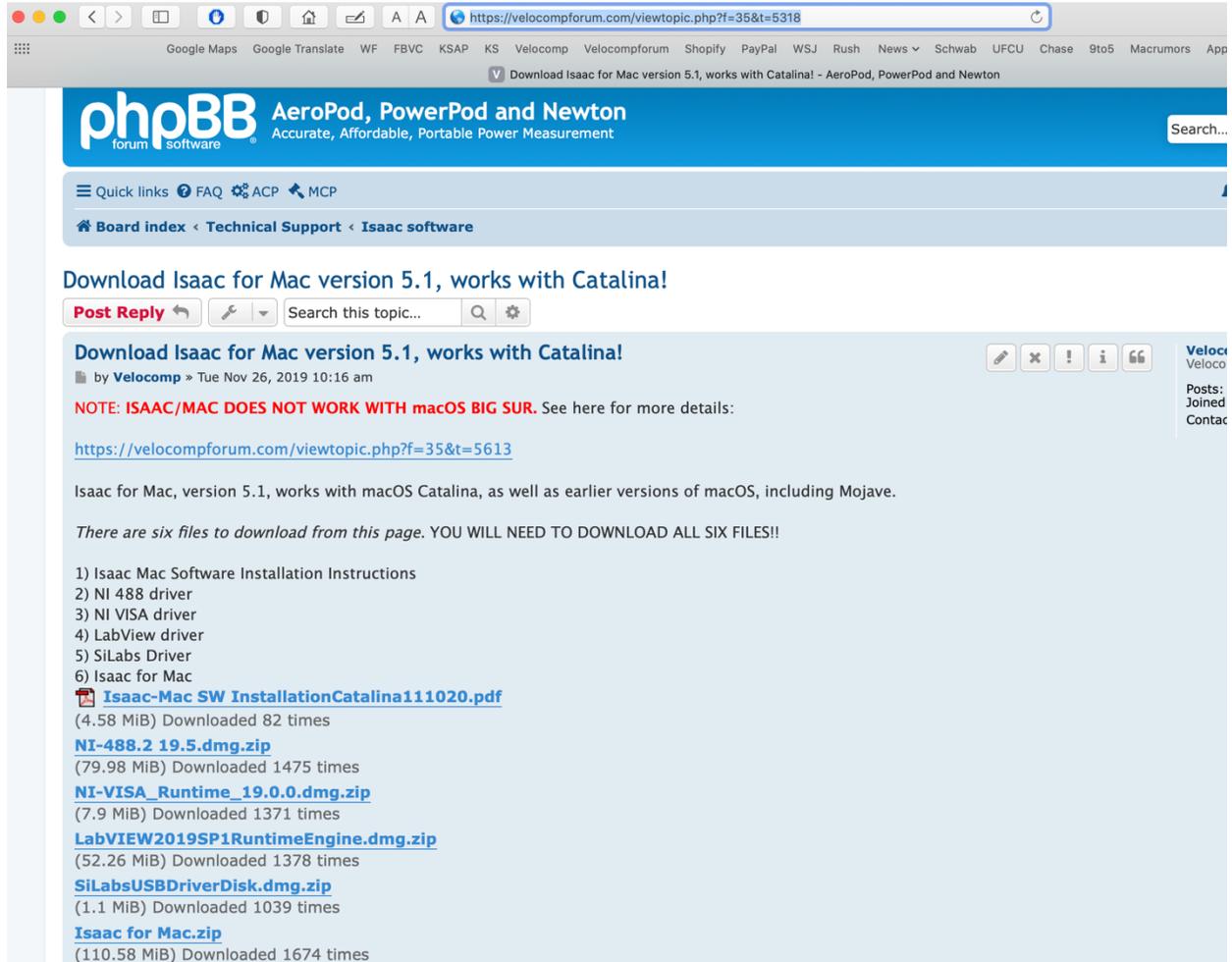


- H. After the installation is complete, eventually you'll get to the Catalina home screen, running in VMWare. You've installed Catalina as a virtual machine, running on your Big Sur computer!



STEP 4: INSTALL ISAAC/MAC ON YOUR CATALINA VIRTUAL MACHINE

- A. Click the Safari icon *on your Catalina virtual machine*, then go [this page](#) on velocompforum.com, where you will find the Isaac/Mac software files:



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying a forum post on velocompforum.com. The browser's address bar shows the URL: <https://velocompforum.com/viewtopic.php?f=35&t=5318>. The forum post is titled "Download Isaac for Mac version 5.1, works with Catalina!" and is by user "Velocomp" from Tuesday, November 26, 2019, at 10:16 am. A note states: "NOTE: ISAAC/MAC DOES NOT WORK WITH macOS BIG SUR. See here for more details: <https://velocompforum.com/viewtopic.php?f=35&t=5613>". The post content reads: "Isaac for Mac, version 5.1, works with macOS Catalina, as well as earlier versions of macOS, including Mojave. There are six files to download from this page. YOU WILL NEED TO DOWNLOAD ALL SIX FILES!!". A list of six files follows: 1) Isaac Mac Software Installation Instructions; 2) NI 488 driver; 3) NI VISA driver; 4) LabView driver; 5) SiLabs Driver; 6) Isaac for Mac. Below the list are links to download files: "Isaac-Mac SW InstallationCatalina111020.pdf" (4.58 MiB, 82 downloads), "NI-488.2 19.5.dmg.zip" (79.98 MiB, 1475 downloads), "NI-VISA_Runtime_19.0.0.dmg.zip" (7.9 MiB, 1371 downloads), "LabVIEW2019SP1RuntimeEngine.dmg.zip" (52.26 MiB, 1378 downloads), "SiLabsUSBDriverDisk.dmg.zip" (1.1 MiB, 1039 downloads), and "Isaac for Mac.zip" (110.58 MiB, 1674 downloads).

- B. Download, on your Catalina virtual machine, the six files listed
- C. **Follow the “Isaac-Mac SW InstallationCatalina111920” instructions** to install the six files, IN THE ORDER STATED IN THE INSTRUCTIONS, on to your Catalina virtual machine.

Once you have completed these four steps Isaac Mac will run on your Big Sur computer. You will be able to use Isaac/Mac to download and view data from your AeroPod/PowerPod/Newton.