

Qualified Apple Mac Systems for Media Composer 8.6.X

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System	GPU	Earliest MC Version Supported*	DNxIO	Nitris DX	Mojo DX	ISIS	Notes**
Mac Desktops							
Mac Pro 3.5 Ghz 6-core, 3.0 Ghz 8-core, or 2.7 Ghz 12-core "Ivy Bridge" CPU	Dual AMD FirePro D300, D500, D700	6.5.4.1 or 7.0.3	Thunderbolt 2	Sonnet DX Thunderbolt Adapter Required* see Config guide for limitations	Sonnet DX Thunderbolt Adapter Required*	Yes	16, 32 or 64 GB DDR3-1866Mhz ECC memory (4 DIMMs required) 12-core model on Mac OSX 10.10.x (Yosemite) has known performance issues with playback, render, and transcode of RED material. Other high-res material performance issues have been rectified as of MC 8.4. Sonnet and Magma Thunderbolt Expansion chassis supported for: - Atto R680 SAS adapter to Avid VideoRaid - Myricom 10Gb Ethernet - RED Rocket video accelerator 10 Gb Ethernet Thunderbolt adapters not supported for ISIS. You must use a Mryicom card in an expansion chassis
Mac Pro dual 6-Core 2.66 GHz "Westmere"	ATI Radeon HD 5770	5.0.3	PCIe	Yes	Yes	Yes	6GB, 12 GB, or 24 GB DDR3 1333 ECC (3 DIMMs per CPU) RAM This model on Mac OSX 10.10 (Yosemite) has known performance issues with playback, render, and transcode of higher resolution material.
iMac Retina 5K 27" 4.0 Ghz i7 Quad core Late 2015	Radeon M390, M395, M395X	8.5	Thunderbolt 2	No	Sonnet DX Thunderbolt Adapter Required*	Yes	8/16/32 GB 1600Mhz DDR3

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iMac Retina 4K 21.5" 3.3 Ghz i7 Quad core Late 2015	Intel Iris Pro 6200	10.11	Thunderbolt 2	No	Sonnet DX Thunderbolt Adapter Required*	Yes	8/16 GB 1867Mhz DDR3
iMac Retina 5K 27" 4.0 Ghz i7 Quad core Late 2014	Radeon M290X, M295X	7.0.4	Thunderbolt 2	No	Sonnet DX Thunderbolt Adapter Required*	Yes	8/16/32 GB 1600Mhz DDR3
iMac 27" 3.2,3.4 GHz i5 or 3.5 Ghz i7 Quad core Late 2013 - Thunderbolt	Nvidia GeForce GTX 775	6.5.4.1	No	No	Sonnet DX Thunderbolt Adapter Required*	Yes	8 or 16 GB 1600Mhz DDR3 Memory
iMac 21.5" 2.9 GHz i5 or 3.1 Ghz i7 Quad core Late 2013 - Thunderbolt	Nvidia GeForce GTX 750	6.5.4.1	No	No	Sonnet DX Thunderbolt Adapter Required*	Yes	8 or 16 GB 1600Mhz DDR3 Memory
iMac 27" 2.9GHz Quad-core Intel i5*, 3.2Ghz Quad-core Intel i5*, 3.4 GHz Quad Core Intel i7 Late 2012	NVIDIA GeForce GTX 660M or 675MX	6.5	No	No	Sonnet DX Thunderbolt Adapter Required*	Yes	8 GB or 16 GB RAM 1600MHz DDR3
iMac 21.5" 2.9GHz Quad-core Intel i5*, 3.1GHz Quad-core Intel i7 Late 2012	NVIDIA GeForce 650M	6.5	No	No	Sonnet DX Thunderbolt Adapter Required*	Yes	8 GB or 16 GB RAM 1600MHz DDR3

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Mac mini 2.3/2.6GHz quad core Intel i7 Late 2012	Intel HD 4000	6.5.2	No	No	Sonnet DX Thunderbolt Adapter Required*	Yes	8 or 16 GB RAM 1600MHz DDR3
Mac mini Server 2.0GHz quad core Intel i7 Mid 2011	Intel HD 3000	5.5	No	No	Sonnet DX Thunderbolt Adapter Required*	Yes	4 or 8 GB RAM 1333MHz DDR3

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Mac Laptops						
MacBook Pro 15" 2.2 Ghz and higher i7 quad core Mid 2015 - Retina & Thunderbolt	HD5000 AMD Radeon M370X	7.0.4	Thunderbolt 2	Sonnet DX Thunderbolt Adapter Required*	Yes with Apple Thunderbolt Ethernet Adapter	16 GB 1600Mhz DDR3L Memory
MacBook Pro 15" 2.3 Ghz and higher i7 quad core Retina Late 2013 and Mid 2014	Nvidia GeForce GT 750M & Intel HD5000	6.5.4.1 or 7.0.3	Thunderbolt 2	Sonnet DX Thunderbolt Adapter Required*	Yes with Apple Thunderbolt Ethernet Adapter	8 or 16 GB 1600Mhz DDR3L Memory
MacBook Pro 15" Retina quad-core i7 2.3 Ghz and above Mid/Late 2012	Intel HD 4000 GeForce GT 650M	6.5	No	Sonnet DX Thunderbolt Adapter Required*	Yes	8GB or 16GB 1600Mhz DDR3

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Mac Laptops						
MacBook Air 13" - 1.7Ghz and higher i7 dual core* Mid 2013 - Thunderbolt	Intel HD 5000	6.5.4	No	Sonnet DX Thunderbolt Adapter Required*	Yes with Apple Thunderbolt Ethernet Adapter	8 GB 1600Mhz DDR3L Limited Performance**
MacBook Air 13" Intel i7* 2.0 GHz dual core and above Mid 2012	Intel HD 4000	6.5	No	Sonnet DX Thunderbolt Adapter Required*	Yes with Apple Thunderbolt Ethernet Adapter	8 GB RAM Single stream HD playback, Limited Performance**

* Note: The Avid branded [DX Thunderbolt Adapter](#) is still supported, just no longer available for purchase.

** Dual-core i7 processors are only qualified for limited functionality and not supported for Media Composer | Cloud. These processors are recommended for cuts only editing with minimum effects and layers. Workflows involving HD baseband capture, Background Transcode, Dynamic Media Folders, Long GOP media editing, XAVC, J2k, full-frame stereoscopic 3D, FrameFlex 4k, Raw format AMA plug-ins and other high-performance workflows will not be supported.

3rd Party Open IO Supported Hardware: Each vendor qualifies their own hardware to work with various host CPUs. For updated lists of supported 3rd party hardware configurations visit the vendor's website. See the [Open IO Frequently Asked Questions on the Knowledge Base for links to their websites.](#)

Configuration Guides: http://avid.force.com/pkb/articles/en_US/user_guide/en269631

Minimum Requirements

Mac OS X

- **Computer:** [Avid-qualified Mac-based computer](#)
- **OS:** Mac OS X Yosemite (10.10) and Mavericks (10.9)
- **Processor:** Intel quad-core i7 or Quad Core Xeon
- **Memory:**
 - 8 GB RAM minimum
 - 16+ GB RAM minimum required to support [Media Composer | Cloud](#), background transcoding/render, Dynamic Media Folders, full-frame stereoscopic 3D, FrameFlex 4K workflows, Raw format AMA plug-ins, Long GOP media editing, and other high-performance workflows
 - RAM listed is what Avid tested as part of the qualification process. Adding more memory is supported as long as it adheres to the manufacturer's recommendation

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- **Graphics card**¹: NVIDIA GeForce family, Intel HD4000, ATI Radeon family (as supported by Apple), or AMD
- **Internal hard drive**: Minimum 250 GB 7200 rpm SATA drive, 128 GB SSD

Revision	Rev	Change
5/11/2014	1	Initial rev
11/21/2014	2	Mac OSX 10.10 (Yosemite) performance notes for 12-core Ivy Bridge and dual 6-core Westmere
12/2/2014	3	Changes for MC 8.3 release
2/3/2015	3	Sonnet DX Thunderbolt Adapter available
3/6/2015	3	iMac Retina 5K qualification, Mac Pro "Ivy Bridge" GPU update
3/25/15	3	MC Cloud specs, high-core Yosemite Note update
8/21/15	3	2015 MacBook Pro update
9/2/15	3	DNxIO Qualifications
9/25/15	3	Removed Thunderbolt 1 machines from DNxIO qualification column
6/1/2016	3	Added support both the 5k 27" and 4k 21" iMac
6/30/2016	3	Removed iMac 21.5, Mac Book Pro 15" and 17" early model 2011

¹ Full-screen playback requires a minimum 128 MB of graphics memory. For information regarding the graphics card supported with your specific configuration, please refer to the Avid-qualified Windows-based computer list or Avid-qualified Mac-based computer list.

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