

Opening Underdrive on your Mac

Underdrive isn't from the App Store, so the first time you open it, your Mac asks you to confirm that you trust it. It takes about a minute, and you only do it once.

First, on every Mac

STEP A

Double-click **Underdrive-macOS.zip** to unzip it. Your browser may have done this already.

STEP B

Drag **Underdrive**, on its own, into your **Applications** folder.

STEP C

Always open it from **Applications**, not from Downloads.

Not sure which macOS you have? Open the Apple menu and choose **About This Mac**.

macOS 15 Sequoia, 26 Tahoe or later MOST MACS

Five steps the first time. Afterwards Underdrive opens like any other app.

1

Double-click **Underdrive** in Applications. A box says **"Underdrive" Not Opened**.

Click **Done**. Don't click **Move to Trash**, and don't press Return: Move to Trash is the highlighted button.

"Underdrive" Not Opened

Apple could not verify "Underdrive" is free of malware that may harm your Mac or compromise your privacy.

Done

Move to Trash

Simplified illustration · click Done

2

Open the Apple menu and choose **System Settings**. Click **Privacy & Security** in the sidebar (you may need to scroll the sidebar), then scroll down to the **Security** heading.

3

Next to **"Underdrive" was blocked to protect your Mac**, click **Open Anyway**.

The button only appears after you try to open Underdrive, and stays for about an hour. If it isn't there, do step 1 again.

Security

Allow applications from
App Store & Known Developers

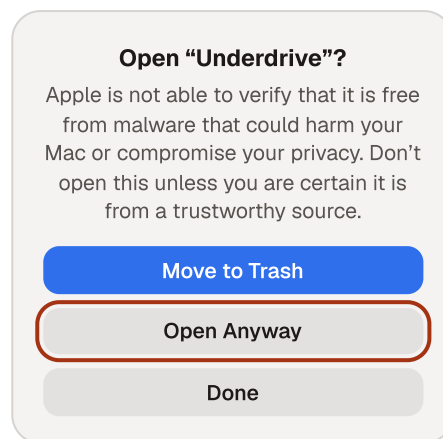
"Underdrive" was blocked to protect your Mac.

Open Anyway

Simplified illustration · click Open Anyway

- 4 A second box asks **Open “Underdrive”?** (it may say “Underdrive.app”).

Click **Open Anyway**, the middle button. The highlighted top button is Move to Trash.



Simplified illustration - click Open Anyway

- 5 A box titled **Privacy & Security** asks you to approve. Use **Touch ID**, or click **Use Password...** and type your Mac login password.

This needs an administrator. If your account isn't one, the Mac's administrator types theirs.

That's it

Underdrive opens. From now on, a normal double-click is all it takes.

Right-click > Open doesn't work on these versions. It just shows the same “Not Opened” box. Use the steps above.

macOS 12 Monterey, 13 Ventura or 14 Sonoma

Older versions still have a shortcut in Finder.

- 1 Open your **Applications** folder in Finder. Don't use Launchpad: it has no right-click menu. Control-click (or right-click) **Underdrive** and choose **Open**.

- 2 A box asks if you're sure, along the lines of **macOS cannot verify the developer of “Underdrive”. Are you sure you want to open it?**

Click **Open**. If asked, enter your Mac user name and password.

That's it

From now on, a normal double-click opens Underdrive.

Double-clicked first? You'll see a warning like **“Underdrive” cannot be opened because the developer cannot be verified**. Click **Cancel** (not Move to Trash), then do step 1.

If something goes wrong

“Underdrive” is damaged and can't be opened.

Click **Cancel**. Delete Underdrive, unzip a fresh copy (or download it again), drag it into Applications and start over. If it keeps happening, ask the person who sent it to you for a new copy.

There's no Open Anyway button.

It only appears after you try to open Underdrive, for about an hour. Double-click Underdrive again, click **Done**, then go straight back to Privacy & Security.

I clicked Move to Trash by mistake.

No harm done. Double-click the zip again for a fresh copy (or download it again), drag it into Applications and start over.

It asks for a password I don't know.

Approving an app needs an administrator of this Mac. Ask them to type their name and password.

A new version of Underdrive is a new download, so your Mac may ask again. Repeat the same steps.

For confident users: the Terminal shortcut

This removes the “downloaded from the internet” mark from Underdrive, so macOS skips its first-open check. Only do it for a copy you got directly from someone you trust.

1 Make sure Underdrive is in Applications. Open **Terminal** (Applications > Utilities > Terminal).

2 Type this, with a space at the end:

```
xattr -dr com.apple.quarantine_
```

3 Drag **Underdrive** from Applications onto the Terminal window, then press **Return**. Nothing is printed when it works. Now double-click Underdrive.

Or paste the whole command: `xattr -dr com.apple.quarantine /Applications/Underdrive.app`

This doesn't fix a “damaged” message. For that, get a fresh copy.

Please don't turn off your Mac's protection

There's no need to allow apps from “Anywhere” or to switch off any security setting. The steps above approve Underdrive on its own and leave everything else as it was.

Why does my Mac ask?

Apple checks apps from registered developers before they reach you, a step called notarization. Underdrive is shared directly and hasn't been through it, so your Mac asks you to confirm the first time you open it.