

## My Upgrade from Panther To Tiger by Kevin Warrene

Here is my review of the upgrade process from OS 10.3.9 Panther to OS 10.4 Tiger.

### **My Setup:**

12" Powerbook 867/G4  
256MB RAM  
Mac OS 10.3.9

### **First things first:**

Before the installation process there were a few things that needed to get done. Mainly some preventative maintenance steps.

1) I launched Back-Up 3 and backed up my Personal Data & Settings. You may want to back up all of your important data from your hard drive.

2) Launch Disk Utility and run Repair Permissions.

3) Being that this is a laptop installation, I decided to run Onyx.

<http://www.titanium.free.fr/pgs/english.html>

Since the standard night Unix jobs are not run on a normal schedule, I wanted to use this freeware application to take care of these standard jobs. I ran a complete optimization, all maintenance scripts and updated the Locate & WhatIs databases. I then cleaned out all browser cache & history, temporary files, user cache and system cache.

4) It was also recommended that you delete third party start up items, which I did.

### **The installation:**

I inserted the DVD and proceeded to read the Read Me First file. I then started the installer. Once started you now can select your preferred language, go over the read me file and review the license agreement. Now you have a choice to make when you go to install with 1) Upgrade the Mac OS X (this is the default), 2) Archive & Install and 3) Erase & Install.

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About Upgrade to Mac OS X

The Installer will present one of the above choices to you, depending on which volume you've selected for installation. If a previous version of Mac OS X is on the selected volume, "Upgrade to Mac OS X" appears (unless the installed version can't be upgraded).

Upgrading to Mac OS X takes a little longer than installing it on a volume without Mac OS X, but it is the least intrusive way to install Tiger—most of your existing settings and applications are left untouched during an upgrade. In other words, you won't have to configure a lot of settings afterwards. If you're having issues with your currently-installed version of Mac OS X, upgrading may not resolve those issues. Instead, you might benefit more from doing an Archive and Install installation.

### About Archive and Install

This type of installation moves existing System files to a folder name Previous System, then installs a new copy of Mac OS X. You cannot start up your computer using the Previous System folder.

Archive and Install installations require the greatest amount of available disk space because you need to have room for your existing System and the new one you are installing. This is a good choice if you've already backed up your important files and are trying to resolve an existing issue.

### About Erase and Install

This option completely erases the destination volume, then installs a new copy of Mac OS X. You should always back up important files on the target volume before using this type of installation.

This is the fastest way to install Mac OS X, but it may take some time to set up your computer after installation. You will have to configure all of your computer settings, install your third-party and iLife applications, and restore your personal files from the backup you made.

More on installing OS 10.4 is at <http://docs.info.apple.com/article.html?artnum=301270>

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I then clicked on install after selecting the destination for the installation.

### **Installation Complete:**

Now that the installation was complete, I restarted the computer. I did launch Disk Utility once again and run Repair Permissions. I did have to work briefly on getting back onto my existing wireless network, but, eventually got it back up and running. I did have to go back through and put back my login items again. I also had to deal with some preferences set ups throughout the system. I did wait until Spotlight indexes the hard drive and I went back to Software Update to check for new software. I downloaded the latest Mac OS 10.4.3, a Java Update and a DVD Player Update. Restarted and ran repair disk permissions one last time.

All seemed to go very smoothly and from start to finish did take about three and a half hours to complete this upgrade.

Well worth it to get the latest and greatest operating system. Get the information at: <http://www.apple.com/macosex/>

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