



iCal Server

Standards-based scheduling platform for sharing calendars, coordinating events, and reserving resources.

Features

Standards-based calendaring

- Support for open CalDAV standard and interchange formats, such as iCalendar, iMIP, and iTIP
- Compatibility with iCal 3 in Mac OS X v10.5 Leopard
- Integration with enterprise-class directory services, including LDAP, Open Directory, and Active Directory
- Single sign-on authentication using Kerberos

Powerful event and resource scheduling

- Scheduling of individuals, groups, conference rooms, and shared equipment—even across multiple time zones
- Directory integration for finding shared company information
- Free/busy lookup for proposing events at times with best availability, as well as support for availability constraints
- Read-write and read-only permissions delegation
- Support for attaching files to events
- Optional encryption of shared calendars using SSL

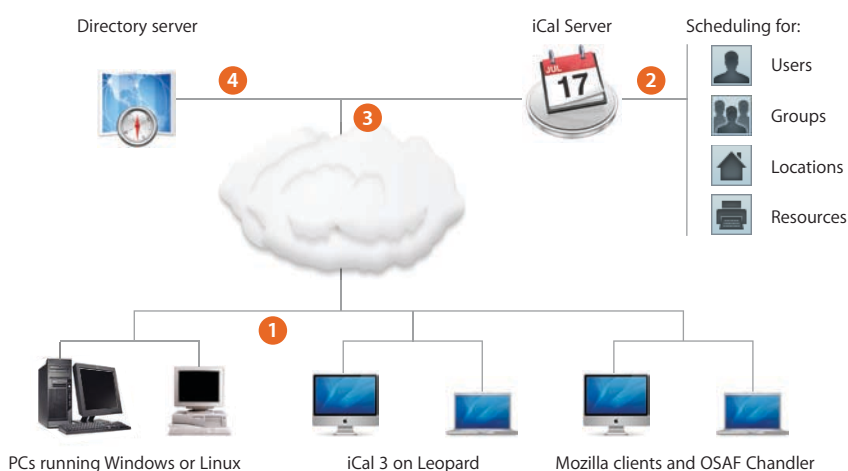
Scalability

- Support for large numbers of users
- High performance and availability with Xsan, Apple's clustered file system
- No per-user license fees

Mac OS X Server version 10.5 includes a complete calendaring platform that makes it easy for individuals and groups within a department, small business, or large corporation to share calendars. Built on the open CalDAV standard, iCal Server integrates with popular calendaring programs, giving your organization a choice in calendaring clients. And unlike other calendaring solutions, iCal Server doesn't impose a per-user license fee, so you can add users freely as you expand, at no additional cost.

Using iCal Server, colleagues can arrange meetings, book conference rooms, reserve equipment, and use their time more effectively. Working in conjunction with the Directory application in Mac OS X v10.5 Leopard, iCal Server allows users to find any building, meeting room, or employee in your company and to search for their available times. While proposing an event, users can even attach files, such as agendas or to-do lists, to the invitation. iCal Server also interacts with the directory so users can book a specific conference room and look up a map of its location—or reserve shared equipment, such as printers, scanners, televisions, and cars.

iCal Server at a Glance



- 1 iCal Server supports popular CalDAV calendaring solutions on Mac, Windows, and Linux systems.
- 2 Colleagues can use iCal Server to invite users and groups to an event, book a conference room, and reserve equipment.
- 3 iCal Server sends invitations—which can include attachments such as an agenda, a presentation, or even a movie—and tabulates replies.
- 4 iCal Server works with the existing directory server for looking up users and groups, meeting rooms, and shared equipment.

Technology Brief

Mac OS X Server: iCal Server



Industry-standard calendaring

The first commercial CalDAV server, iCal Server demonstrates Apple's commitment to open standards-based calendaring and scheduling protocols.

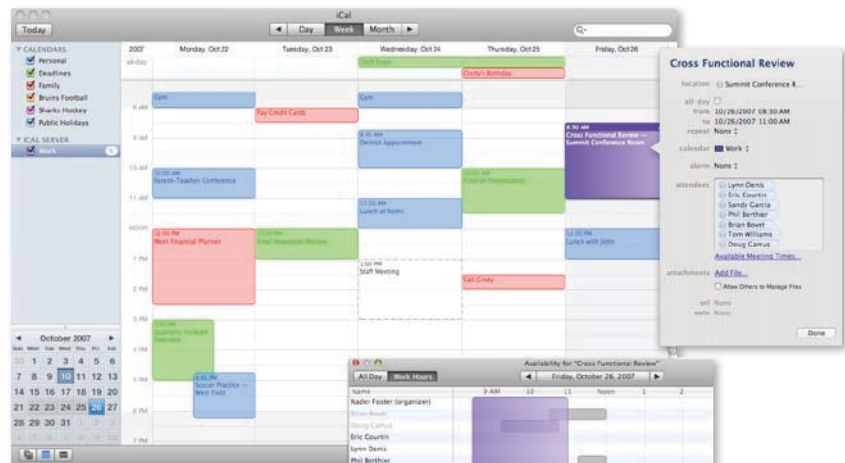
Standards-Based Calendaring

iCal Server uses open calendaring protocols for integrating with leading calendar programs, including iCal 3 in Leopard and popular CalDAV clients from Mozilla, Open Source Application Foundation, and others.

As a member of the CalConnect Consortium, Apple is committed to open standards-based calendaring and scheduling protocols. To further the widespread adoption and deployment of these standards, complete source code has been released to the open source community as part of the open source Calendar Server project, hosted on the macosforge.org website.

Using iCal Server

iCal Server adds even more power to iCal 3 in Leopard. For example, with iCal Server, users can delegate read-write and read-only permissions to other users, such as their boss or their employees. Time zone support makes it easy to schedule meetings and coordinate with colleagues across multiple time zones. iCal Server also allows users to constrain their own available time or the availability of resources or locations—so their time is always off limits, for example, on weekends and before 9:00 a.m. and after 6:00 p.m. on weekdays.



When any Leopard user in your organization sets up a group, Mac OS X Server automatically creates a group calendar. Members of the group can view the calendar on its own page of the group's wiki.

Integration with Directory Information

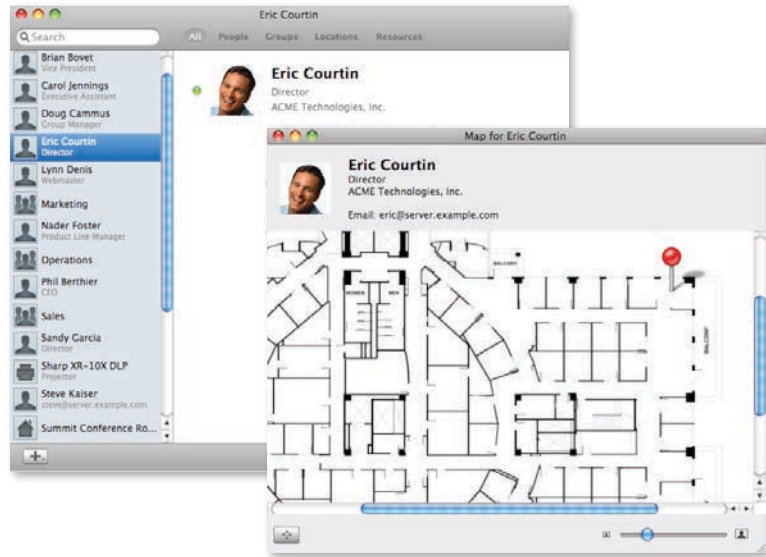
It's easy to integrate iCal Server into your organization, whether you have a small business, a project team within a large organization, or an IT department standardizing on open calendaring protocols. For organizations without an existing directory service, Mac OS X Server includes Open Directory, which is preconfigured with the necessary schema for iCal Server. Networks with an existing directory service, such as Active Directory, can deploy Mac OS X Server for local hosting of all calendar and collaboration data, while continuing to use their directory for user login and authentication.



Security and authentication

To protect against unauthorized access to shared calendars, iCal Server integrates with Open Directory for user authentication—no additional configuration is required. iCal Server also supports single sign-on authentication using Kerberos.

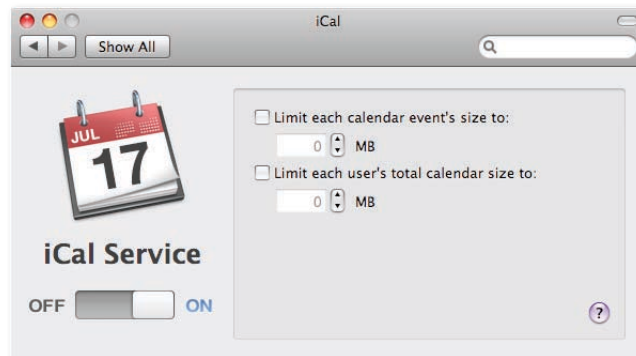
Mac OS X Server unlocks the capabilities of the new Directory application in Mac OS X v10.5 Leopard by allowing shared access to organizational information, such as contact information, user pictures, conference room locations, and even maps showing where to pick up a projector or a TV for a meeting. Any user can change their own account information, share it with others, and create and manage groups, locations, and resources—there's no need for administrator support. And since iCal Server works in conjunction with the directory, users can easily schedule conference rooms, reserve shared resources, and set up meetings with individuals or groups.



For example, Leopard users in your organization can start a group, assign users, specify access controls, and set up a group calendar. When resources—such as projectors, printers, or cars—are added to the directory, others can use iCal to book them, whether as part of an event or not. The same thing applies to buildings, conference rooms, or office locations; and visitors can always reference a convenient map to find their way.

Managing iCal Server

Mac OS X Server administrators can use the iCal pane in Server Preferences to turn the calendar service on or off. To conserve disk space on the server, administrators may choose to constrain the size of any single event or the total size of each user's calendar—since presentation files and other media attachments can result in very large shared calendars.





Xsan file system for Mac OS X

Xsan is Apple's enterprise-class storage area network (SAN) solution, allowing multiple computers to concurrently access terabytes—even petabytes—of storage over high-speed Fibre Channel.

Scalability and High Availability

iCal Server is designed to handle extremely large loads. In fact, a single Xserve running iCal Server can support thousands of users. To maximize service scalability and to prevent service downtime, iCal Server is optimized for use with Xsan, Apple's clustered file system. When used with Xsan, multiple iCal Servers can read and write to the same volume, making it easy to increase performance and improve service reliability by simply scaling out with additional servers. In this scenario, iCal Server can be deployed across multiple Xserve systems to handle tens of thousands of users. And since there are no per-user license fees with Mac OS X Server, businesses and institutions can grow without worrying about straining their budgets.

Apple Server Solutions

iCal Server is a robust scheduling application built into Mac OS X Server, Apple's UNIX® server operating system. Combining the latest open source technologies with Mac ease of use, Mac OS X Server unleashes the power of Xserve, Apple's rack-optimized server hardware. With phenomenal performance, massive storage capacity, high-bandwidth I/O, and integrated remote management tools, Xserve running Mac OS X Server is the ideal solution for education, small businesses, and enterprises alike.

For More Information

For more information about Mac OS X Server, Xserve, and other Apple server solutions, visit www.apple.com/server.