
Subject: How do I get control of the permissions on my Intel Mac Pro?

Posted by [smac0031](#) on Tue, 12 Mar 2019 09:07:10 GMT

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I bought a 2006 Intel Mac Pro that sort of works.

The fun started when I tried to use the Migration Manager to transfer my old files from my G5 to the Intel.

I got an error telling me that I needed to upgrade the G5 to a newer operating system in order to that to work. The G5 is already maxed out so that wasn't possible. I got around this by connecting the boot drive from the G5 in the Intel machine. Migration manager recognized it then but most of the files from the G5 were not useable on the Intel because the permissions were screwed up plus my ancient HL-1440 would not work and the Intel would not recognize newer drivers for it.

The only user available on the Intel is the system administrator, but it won't let me change any permissions for the other dimmed users or any non administrator files. This is territory I am not confident screwing with.

I tried working around this by getting another Sata drive and installing 10.6.3. This worked in recognizing the HL-1440 but none of the files from 10.6.3 work with the main boot drive and none of the files from the boot drive will work with 10.6.3 because because of the permissions.

I've tried messing with the terminal, but I really don't know what I'm doing. It would be nice to change all the permissions so the system administrator could have access to all the files on this computer and I don't have to deal with this multiple personality disorder. Getting the thing down to schizophrenia would be an improvement.

I'm pretty sure the Intel is running El Capitan. This allows it to communicate with my iPhone 8+. I think something may have been patched the person who sold it. For instance when I try to pull up "About this Mac" nothing comes up.

I had to get this thing because my Digital Audio G4 blew up. Then my G5 blew up, so this is my 3rd computer in a year.

Any ideas would help.

Thanks.

Mark M

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You received this message because you are a member of G-Group, a group for those using G3, G4, and G5 desktop Macs - with a particular focus on Power Macs.

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Subject: Re: How do I get control of the permissions on my Intel Mac Pro?

Posted by [Bruce Johnson](#) on Tue, 12 Mar 2019 17:05:25 GMT

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On Mar 12, 2019, at 2:07 AM, smac0031

<m.smurph001@gmail.com<<mailto:m.smurph001@gmail.com>>> wrote:

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something may have been patched the person who sold it. For instance when I try to pull up

"About

this Mac" nothing comes up.

This is the first problem. If you're starting with a messed up system, you're not going to make it better by trying to patch in stuff from an older one.

Start Terminal. Don't worry this one is easy!

type : `sw_vers` at the prompt and hit enter, it should tell you the version of software you have:

from mine:

```
dbdev2:~ johnson$ sw_vers
ProductName: Mac OS X
ProductVersion: 10.13.6
BuildVersion: 17G5019
```

Now, go to Apple's website, click on Support, (and presuming you are correct that it has El Capitan) enter 10.11 combo update (or the actual ProductVersion that you get from the above command, just the 10.nn part) which should take you to a page that lists a bunch of updates. Find the highest numbered one for your version, download it and install it.

An example: https://support.apple.com/kb/index?page=search&type=organic&src=support_searchbox_main&locale=en_US&q=10.11+combo+update

With luck this will fix the problems like 'it was customized' that you're seeing.

If it does not, then you'll need to find the full installer, nuke and pave the Intel Mac and then migrate the files over again.

It's a fair bit of work but you might find that this fixes all the issues you're having. If it doesn't come back and we'll try something else.

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Bruce Johnson
University of Arizona
College of Pharmacy
Information Technology Group

Institutions do not have opinions, merely customs

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