Migrate from macOS to Zorin OS Pro Linux

1. Pull your data off of macOS - pics/docs/contacts etc onto SSD drive / cloud

a. Use Time Machine to create a full backup of your macOS laptop. This ensures you have a complete copy of your data in case anything goes wrong during the transfer. (or backup all of your data to a separate external drive as discussed in section b.)

- Connect an external hard drive or Time Machine-compatible backup drive.
- Open Time Machine from the Applications > Utilities folder.
- Follow the prompts to create a backup. This method, some files may not be compatible on Linux.

b. Export any specific data to an external SSD drive: (preferred method)

Docs and Files, Photos, Email, Contacts, Music and Video, and make a list of Applications needed

Backup all of these files to external SSD drive or a cloud service of your choice

Export your contacts to a **.vcf** file format and copy to the SSD or cloud

Open Contacts, Ctl+A to select all, File > Export > Export vCard

From iCloud: login to cloud, click on Contacts, select all, click gear icon and Export vCard

Some issues with macOS to Zorin:

macOS uses **HFS+** or **APFS** for its file system, which is not natively supported by many Linux distributions.

- **Read/Write Support for APFS**: macOS uses APFS (Apple File System) for newer versions. To access APFS-formatted drives from Linux, you need third-party tools like **apfs-fuse** (for read-only access) or **apfs** (a more limited read-write solution). However, these tools are not always stable.
- **External Drives**: If transferring via an external USB drive, make sure it's formatted with a file system that both macOS and Linux support, such as FAT32, **exFAT**, or NTFS (though NTFS write support on Linux is imperfect without tools like ntfs-3g) **(this is the preferred method)**

To format your external SSD drive on macOS to prepare for data exfil:

Open Disk Utility (Applications > Utilities > Disk Utility)

Select your external SSD from the list on the left.

Click the "Erase" button.

Choose "ExFAT" as the format and give the drive a name.

Click "Erase" to format the drive.

For documents, consider converting them to more common formats like **PDF** or **Word (.docx)** before transferring to your external SSD or uploading to the cloud.

File Permissions:

After transferring files, you can check the file permissions on Linux using the `chmod` and `chown` commands:

```
sudo chown -R your_username:your_username /path/to/destination/folder
```

```
sudo chmod -R 755 /path/to/destination/folder
```

2. Core vs. Pro vs. Pro Lite

Core free: for a modern computer and needing a free and user friendly LinuxOS with Windows like UI

Pro: for those with a modern computer willing to pay for more features, tools and customization to look like macOS, Windows or many other UI options, and for those that need full functionality out of ZorinOS

Pro Lite: users with lower spec or older hardware who need lightweight but feature rich OS

Pro Features:

Office Suite

Zorin Connect - connect your phone

macOS and Windows lookalike Desktop Environments

Professional Grade Suite of Apps

Advanced Productivity Tools

3. Download and install Zorin 17 Pro

$47.99 for one time fee to download and use

There is no free trial, but works similar enough to Core version, which is always free to use

You can test your computer before purchase to ensure hardware is compatible

Simply download and run ZorinOS Core (free) and test it via live boot on your computer

Software updates until at least June 2027 - When Zorin OS 18 Pro is released, you will need to purchase it

If you want to keep your 17 Pro machine but upgrade to 18 Pro, you can do that without losing your data **here**

You can use it on multiple computers, but only one person per purchase may use it

Following payment methods:

- Credit Cards (MasterCard, Visa, American Express, Discover, JCB, etc.)
- Debit Cards (including prepaid Debit Cards)
- PayPal
- Google Pay (in Google Chrome only)
- Apple Pay (in Safari only)

- Alipay
- iDEAL
- Bancontact
- eCheck* (using PayPal)

After Download of Zorin 17 Pro, you should perform a **checksum.** You can view the SHA256 signature using the command below, check it against here to ensure that they match: https://zorin.com/os/download/

Command to check your download: `sha256sum Zorin-OS-17.2-Pro-64-bit.iso`

Download Balena Etcher and make a boot disk using the Zorin 17 Pro .iso image

On macOS, you must know which type of system you are on first:

Click Apple logo in the top-left corner of your screen and select 'About This Mac' from the dropdown menu

If you see **Apple M1**, **Apple M1 Pro**, **Apple M1 Max**, **Apple M1 Ultra**, or any other Apple chip, your

Mac is running on **ARM64** architecture.

If you see and Intel processor (**Intel Core i7, etc**) your Mac is running on **x64** architecture

To check via terminal instead: Applications > Utilities > Terminal - type: `uname -m`

Open Balena Etcher and select 'Flash from File' then select (carefully) the USB drive you wish to create the boot disk with, then simply click 'Flash!' and in about 5 minutes you'll have a boot disk that is ready to use. You will use this boot disk to install your purchase of Zorin 17 Pro on any laptop or desktop computer.

Entering BIOS/UEFI on Windows

Insert your boot disk with the target computer powered off, then press the power button to turn on your computer. As it begins to boot up, repeatedly press a certain key (see below) until it enters the BIOS/UEFI menu.

Common Boot keys: https://www.tomshardware.com/reviews/bios-keys-to-access-your-firmware,5732.html

Another link to common Boot keys: https://www.disk-image.com/faq-bootmenu.htm

- **ASRock:** F2 or DEL
- **ASUS:** F2 for all PCs, F2 or DEL for Motherboards
- **Acer:** F2 or DEL
- **Dell:** F2 or F12
- **ECS:** DEL
- **Gigabyte / Aorus:** F2 or DEL
- **HP:** F10

- **Lenovo (Consumer Laptops):** F2 or Fn + F2

- **Lenovo (Desktops):** F1

- **Lenovo (ThinkPads):** Enter then F1.

- **MSI:** DEL for motherboards and PCs

- **Microsoft Surface Tablets:** Press and hold volume up button.

- **Origin PC:** F2

- **Samsung:** F2

- **Toshiba:** F2

- **Zotac:** DEL

On some machines, none of those will work, in that case, you can enter BIOS this way:

1. **Navigate to the Advanced Startup** section of Settings. The easiest way to get there is by searching for "advanced startup" in Windows search and clicking the top result.

2. **Click Restart now** under the Advanced startup header.

3. **Click Troubleshoot.**

4. **Click Advanced options.**

5. **Click UEFI Firmware Settings.**

6. **Click Restart** to confirm.

Perform Installation of Zorin 17 Pro, and reboot

4. Upload your data from the external SSD drive (or download from the cloud)

Import your data from macOS onto your Zorin Pro computer

5. Install additional software

Install Thunderbird on Zorin

Visit the App Store and search for "Thunderbird" and click Install or,

Open a Terminal and enter: `sudo apt update && sudo apt install thunderbird`

Import contacts to Thunderbird (or email app of choice)

Thunderbird: Address Book > Tools > Import and choose the .vcf file

Check to ensure contacts and settings are configured in TB

Applications on Zorin 17 Pro

Zorin Pro uses APT (Advanced Package Tool) for system packages by default, and it also comes pre-configured with Flatpak support via the Flathub repository. To install any additional software, use either one of those repositories (think of them like App Stores), however you can also install AppImages and software from other repositories such as Snap, although some Snap packages are not open source. APT, Flatpak and AppImage are the recommended type of applications to install.

Apps that you may want to install in addition those already installed on Zorin 17 Pro:

Thunderbird (the most powerful, full featured email client on Linux)

Brave Browser (great all around browser, Chrome based)

Tor Browser (excellent browser for more anonymous searches and using .onion services)

Nomacs (lightweight and very useful image viewer, capable of basic edit functions)

gnome-tweaks (adds further customization of your desktop features)

`sudo apt install gnome-tweaks`

VeraCrypt or **Cryptomator** (powerful encryption applications for all of your private files)

FreeTube (excellent way to watch YouTube videos in a more private way)

Timeshift (creates restore points to easily roll back your system if it breaks)

4. Connect your phone

Open **Zorin Connect (laptop)**

Install **KDE Connect (mobile): https://kdeconnect.kde.org/download.html**
Fdroid is the version best for Android: **https://f-droid.org/packages/org.kde.kdeconnect_tp/**

Connect your phone and laptop to the same WiFi network
Open KDE Connect App / Open Zorin Connect (must be on same wifi network)
Grant any permissions needed on each device (devices should auto-detect each other)

Start Using Zorin Connect Features

After pairing, you can use various features of Zorin Connect, including:

- **File Transfer**: Transfer files between your laptop and Android phone.

- **Notifications Sync**: View your phone's notifications on your laptop.

- **Clipboard Sharing**: Copy text on one device and paste it on the other.

- **SMS Management**: Read and send text messages from your laptop.

- **Remote Control**: Use your phone as a remote control for the laptop.
  Ensure you are on same wifi network

    Check Firewall to ensure it's not blocking KDE app - Resart devices if they will not pair

    You can use both WiFi and Bluetooth to connect devices, with WiFi being primary and preferred

    Bluetooth can be a fallback, but will have much limited speeds, however still useful for notifications and the like

That's it! You'll want to continue on with updating Zorin periodically to ensure you have the latest version, and performing additional customization as desired. With Zorin Pro, you have lots of extra options for customizing your laptop to suit your needs. For any support to help troubleshoot issues, please visit the Telegram channel **t.me/MARK37public** and the chat channel **t.me/MARK37chat** and ask any questions over there.

For more information on using Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) technology, head on over to:

MARK37.com

GrapheneGoat.com

GrapheneGoat.com