

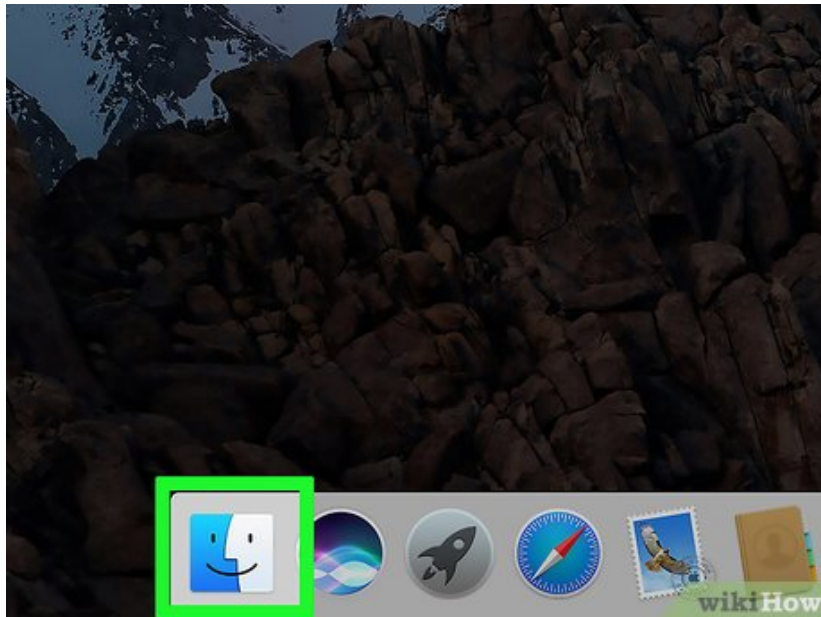
# How to Uninstall Programs on Mac Computers

This wikiHow teaches you how to uninstall a program that is installed on your Mac. You can uninstall programs by putting them in the trash bin, or if they came with their own uninstaller, you can run the uninstaller program. Apps that...

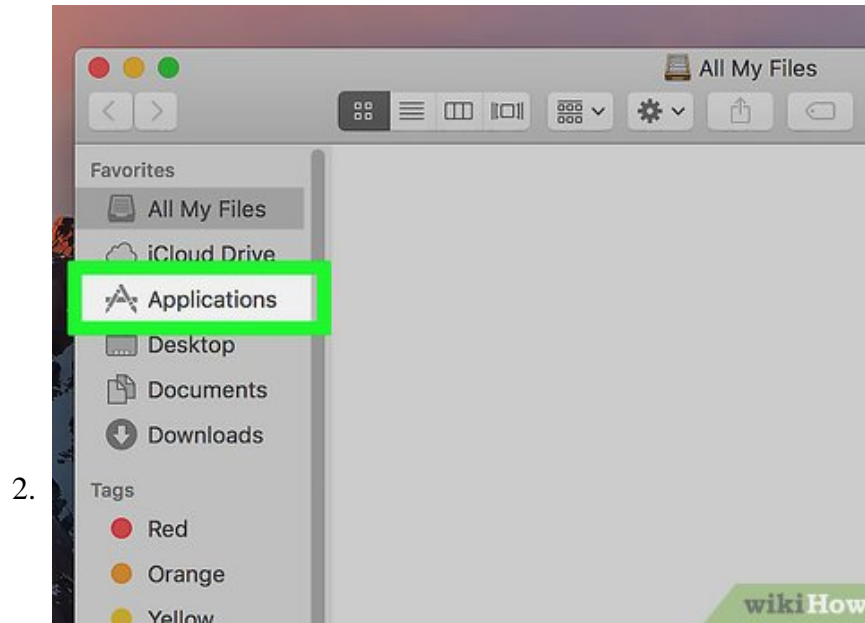
Part 1 of 3:

## Using the Trash

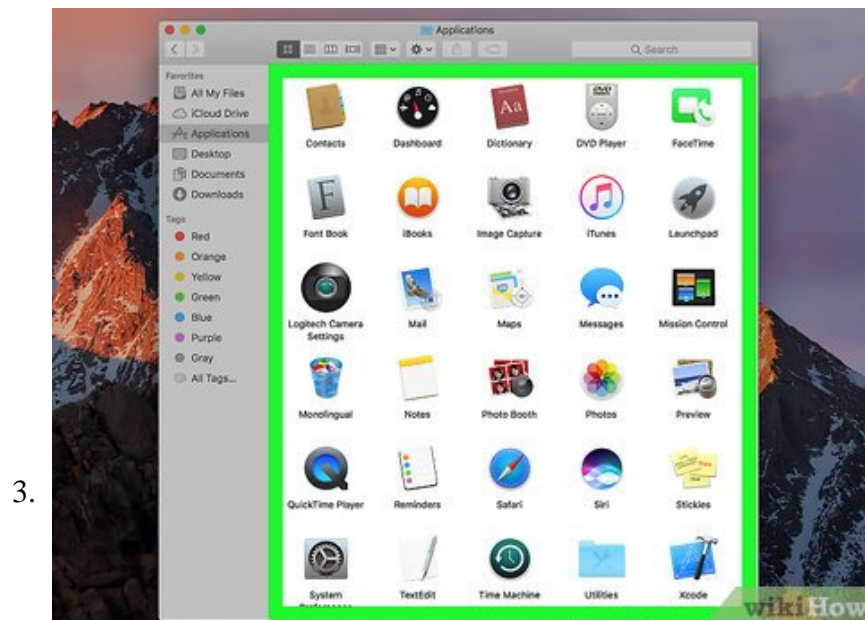
1.



**Open Finder.** Click the Finder application, which resembles a blue face.



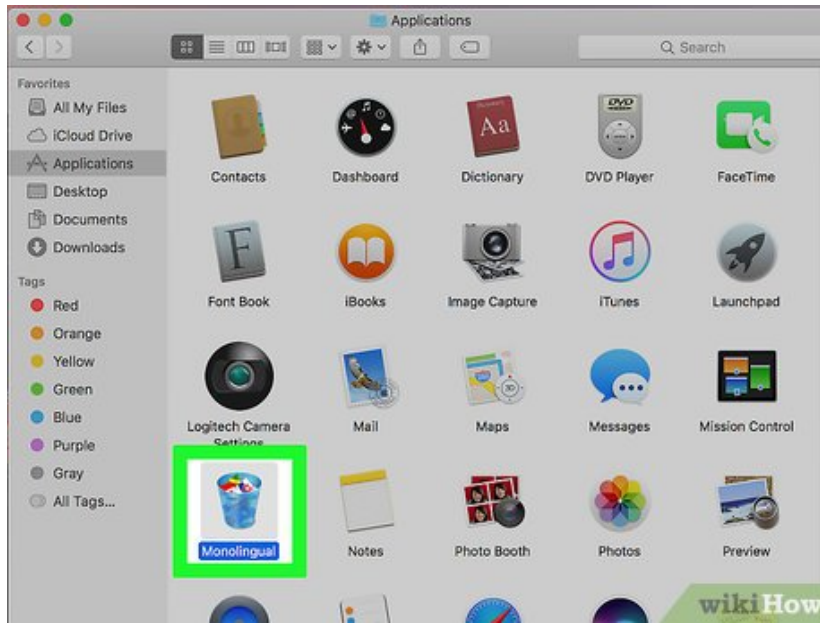
Click **Applications**. It's a folder on the left side of the Finder window.



**Find the program that you want to uninstall.** Scroll through the programs here until you find an icon for the program that you want to remove.

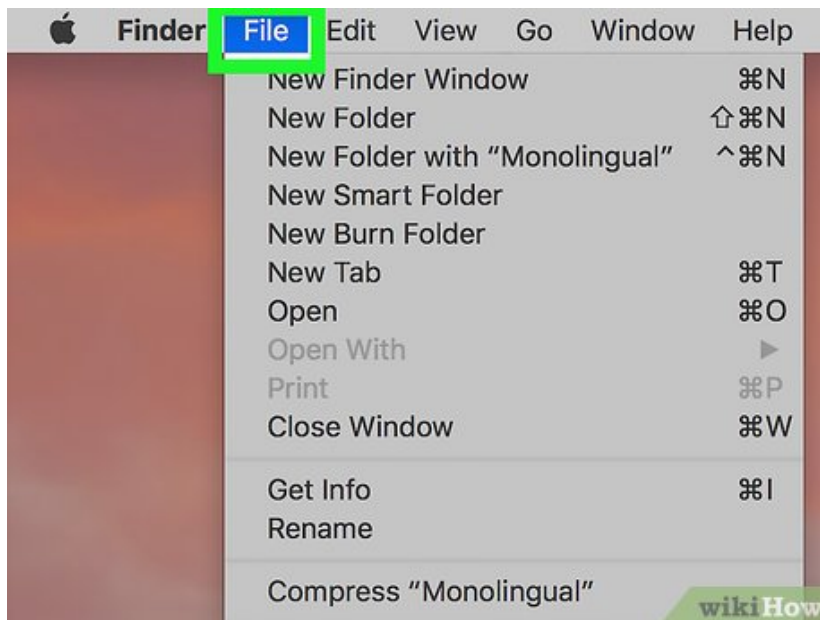
1. If the program is inside of a folder, double-click the folder to open it and look for an uninstaller application. If there is an uninstaller application, skip to the next section.

4.



Select the program's icon. Click the program's icon once to select it.

5.



Click **File**. It's a menu item in the top-left corner of the screen. Doing so prompts a drop-down menu.  
EXPERT TIP

Picture 6 of How to Uninstall Programs on Mac Computers

Chiara Corsaro  
General Manager of macVolks, Inc.

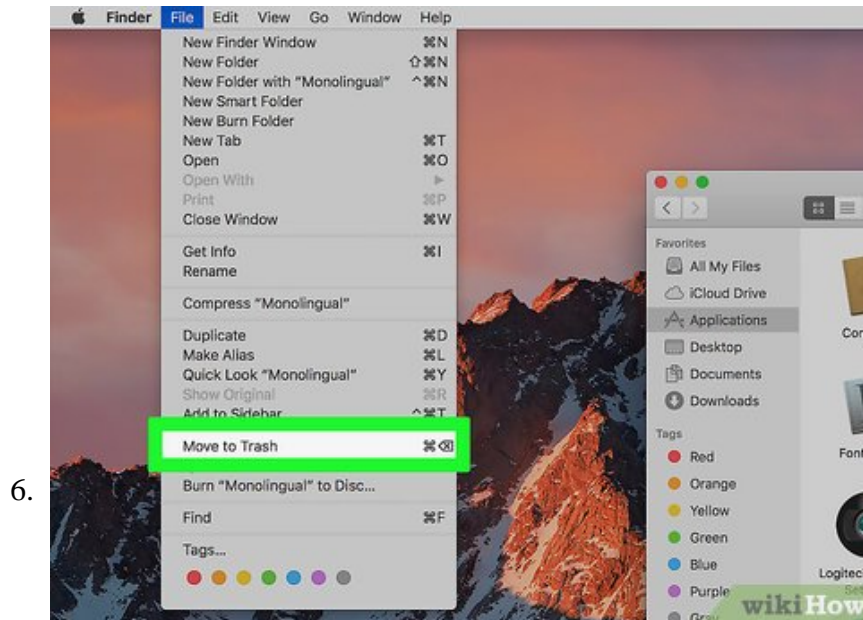
Chiara Corsaro is the General Manager and Apple Certified Mac & iOS Technician for macVolks, Inc., an Apple Authorized Service Provider located in the San Francisco Bay Area. macVolks, Inc. was founded in 1990, is accredited by the Better Business Bureau (BBB) with an A+ rating, and is part of the Apple

Consultants Network (ACN).

### Picture 7 of How to Uninstall Programs on Mac Computers

Chiara Corsaro  
General Manager of macVolks, Inc.

**Try dragging the program to the trash bin for a quick shortcut.** Go into your Applications folder, select the application that you want to uninstall from your computer system, then drag it to the trash.



Click **Move to Trash**. You'll find this near the bottom of the **File** drop-down menu.

1. You can also press **Command + Delete** on your Mac's keyboard to send the file to the Trash.
- EXPERT TIP

### Picture 9 of How to Uninstall Programs on Mac Computers

Chiara Corsaro  
General Manager of macVolks, Inc.

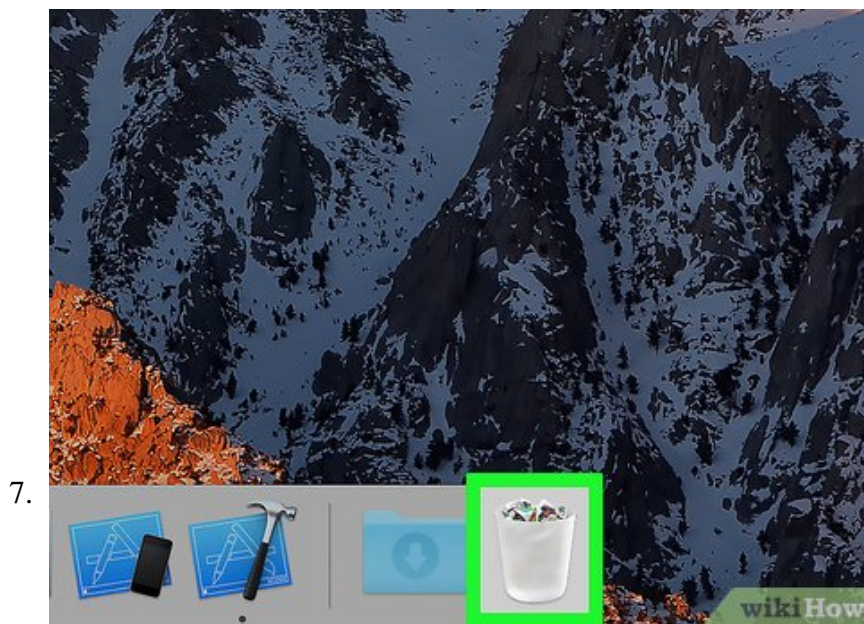
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### Picture 10 of How to Uninstall Programs on Mac Computers

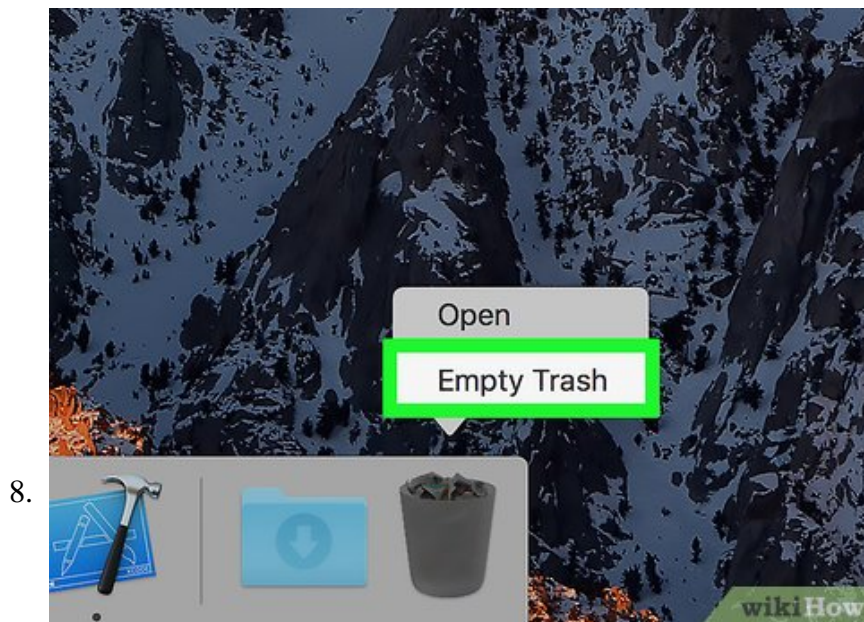
Chiara Corsaro  
General Manager of macVolks, Inc.

**You may need to enter your password after doing this.** Sometimes when you're uninstalling a program from your computer, you may be prompted to enter in the password for your account to confirm you want

to delete the application; this is usually the same password you use to log into your Mac, providing you have administrator privileges.



**Click and hold the Trash icon.** The Trash icon is in your Mac's Dock. After a second of holding, a pop-up menu will appear above the Trash icon.



**Click** . It's in the pop-up menu. Doing so deletes the Trash's contents, including the program that you just sent to the Trash. The program is no longer installed on your Mac.  
**EXPERT TIP**

Picture 13 of How to Uninstall Programs on Mac Computers

Chiara Corsaro

General Manager of macVolks, Inc.

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## Picture 14 of How to Uninstall Programs on Mac Computers

Chiara Corsaro

General Manager of macVolks, Inc.

**Restart your Mac once you're finished.** Once the trash has been emptied, the program has been uninstalled. However, we typically recommend restarting your machine at that point to clear out any temporary cache files.

Score

0 / 0

### Part 1 Quiz

Where can you find an uninstaller application?

Inside a folder in "Applications."

Correct! The uninstaller application is often found inside program folders, and not in the main "Applications" program. If the program icon you want to uninstall is located inside a folder, look to see if there is an uninstaller application there, too. Then, use that to uninstall the app. Read on for another quiz question.

Under the "File" menu.

Nope! You won't typically find an uninstaller application under the "File" menu. Instead, in the "File" menu you will find the option for "Move to Trash," which you will use to remove programs that do not have an uninstaller application. Try another answer...

In the popup menu when you click and hold the "Trash" icon.

Not quite! The popup menu under the "Trash" icon won't show you an option for an uninstaller application. Instead, when you click and hold the "Trash" icon, you'll see a menu listing "Open" and "Empty Trash." Use "Empty Trash" to finish uninstalling your application. Guess again!

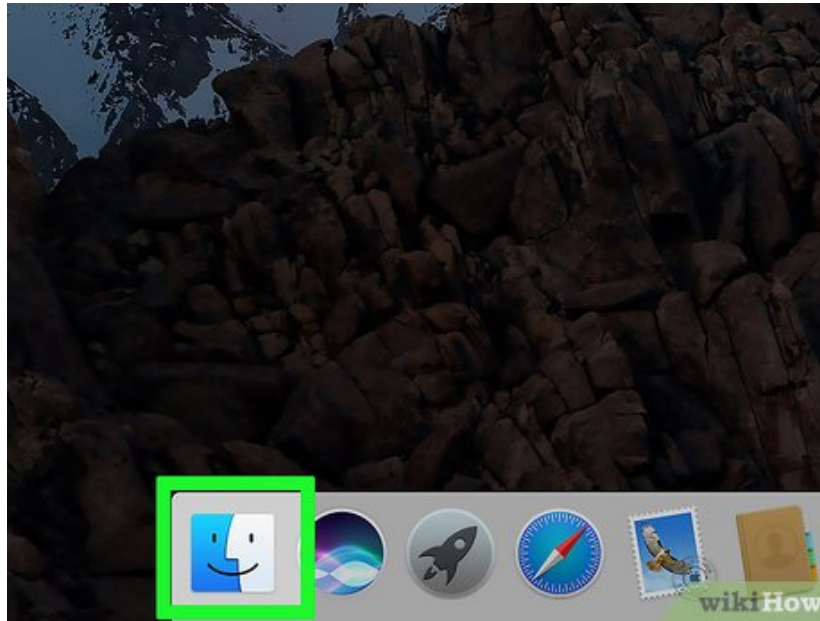
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Part 2 of 3:

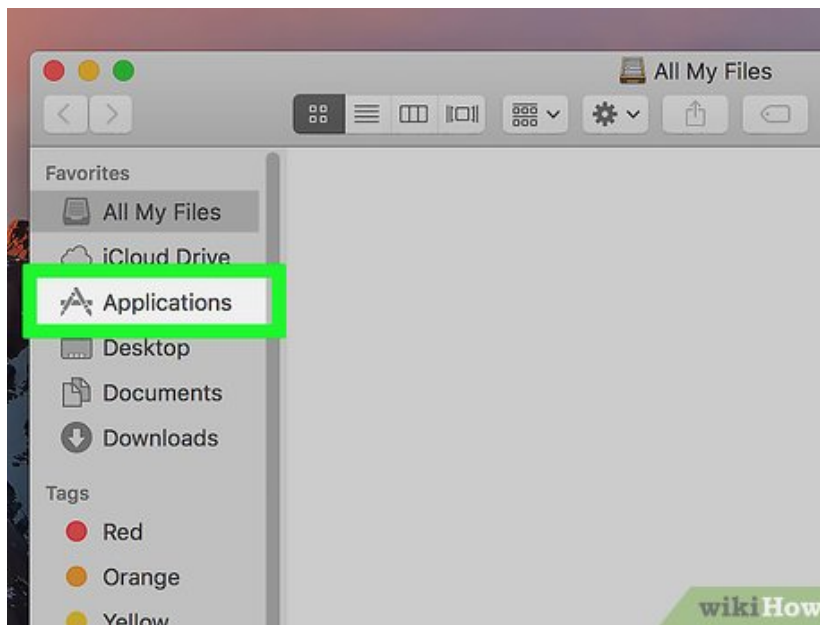
## Using an Uninstaller

1.



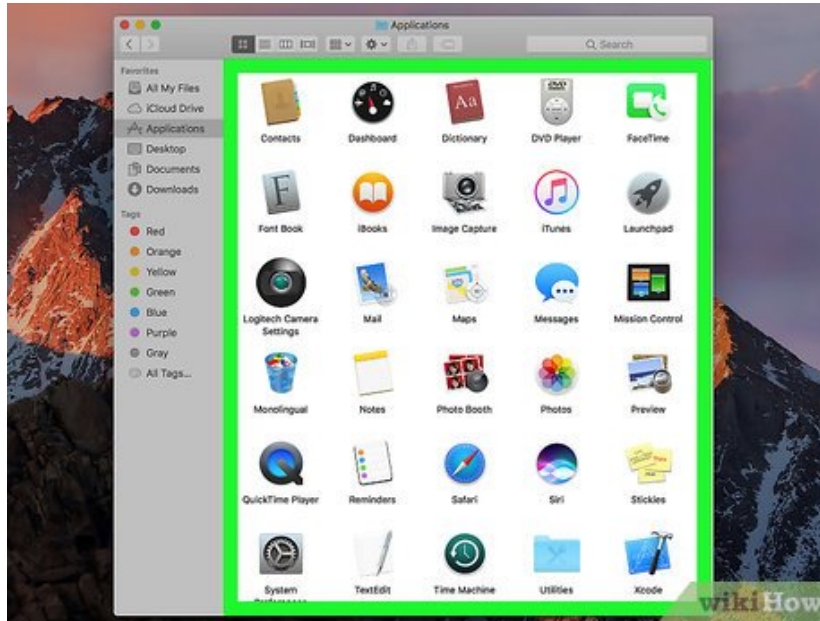
**Open Finder.** Click the Finder application, which resembles a blue face.

2.



**Click `Applications`**. This folder is on the left side of the Finder window.

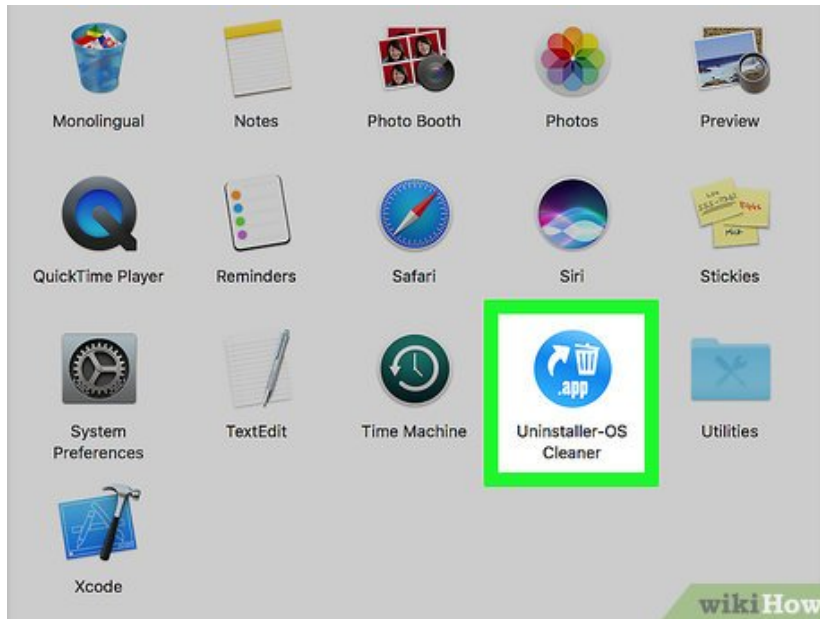
3.



**Double-click the application's folder.** Doing so opens the application's folder. You should see the uninstaller application inside.

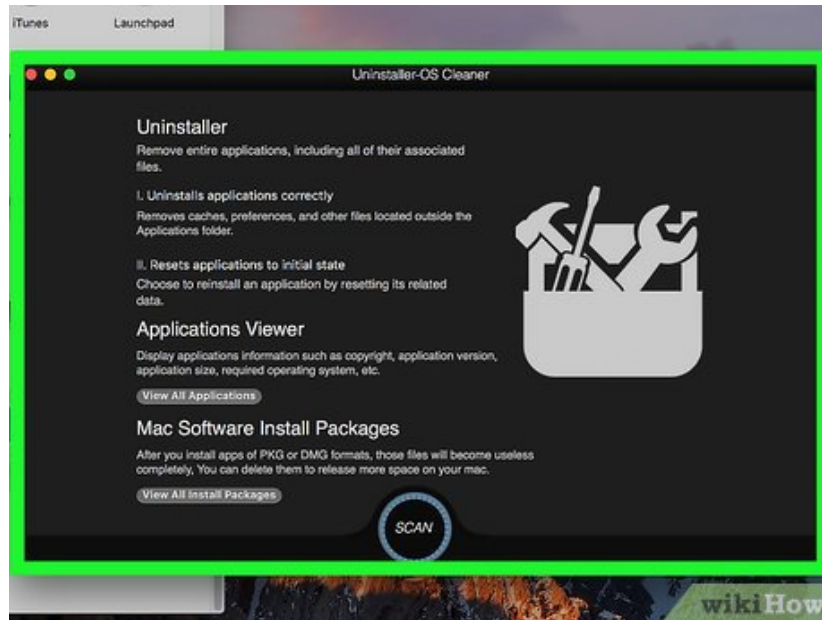
1. If you don't see an uninstaller application, select and delete the program like usual.

4.



**Double-click the uninstaller application.** It should open to a new window.

5.



**Follow the on-screen instructions.** Since each program will have different uninstall criteria, the steps you have to take here will vary.

1. To completely uninstall the program, make sure you check the "Delete files" option if available.

Score  
0 / 0

## Part 2 Quiz

What should you do if the folder you're using doesn't have an uninstaller application?

Search for the uninstaller application in a different folder.

Nope! If the program you're trying to delete is in a folder, that folder is the only location you should look for an uninstaller application. If the folder does have an uninstaller application, choose that icon and follow the on-screen instructions to uninstall the program. There's a better option out there!

Choose a different icon in the folder to move to the "Trash" icon.

Not exactly! You should avoid trying to move a different icon to the "Trash" icon. To properly delete a program with an uninstaller application, you should use that application and follow the instructions. If the program does not have an uninstaller application, you should uninstall the program differently. Choose another answer!

Delete the program by following the steps in method one.

Yes! If your program folder does not have an uninstaller application, you can go ahead and delete the program the way method one describes. Choose the icon then choose "Move to Trash" under the "File" menu, and then empty your trash as normal. Read on for another quiz question.

Move all of the icons in the folder to the "Trash" icon one at a time.

Try again! Individually moving the icons to the "Trash" icon is time-consuming and doesn't typically uninstall your program. There's another way to properly uninstall the program if you want it completely removed from your Mac. Pick another answer!

Want more quizzes?  
Keep testing yourself!

Part 3 of 3:

## Using Launchpad



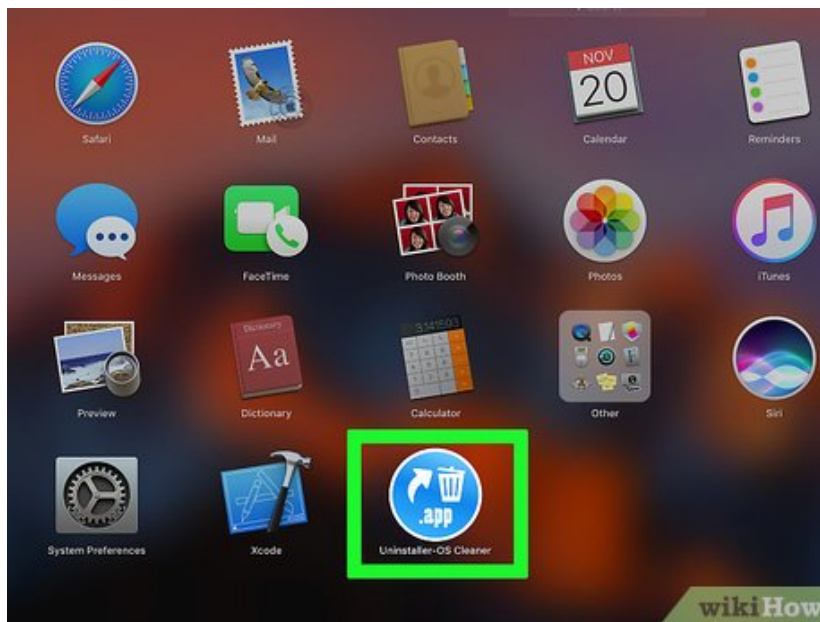
**Open Launchpad.** Click the spaceship-shaped icon in your Mac's Dock. A list of your currently installed apps will open.

2.



**Find the app that you want to delete.** You can scroll left or right through the list of apps to find the app that you want to delete.

3.



**Click and hold the app.** After a moment, the app will start shaking.

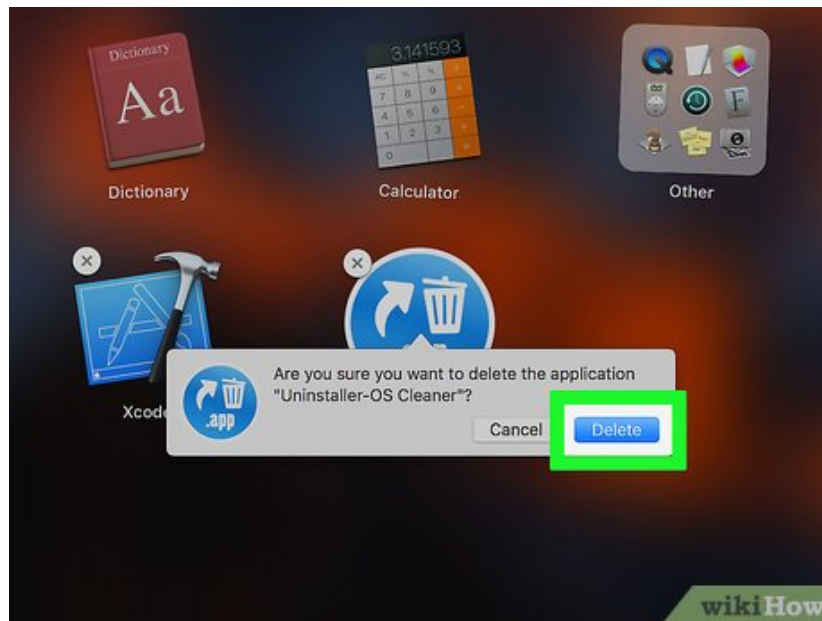
4.



Click . It's in the top-left corner of the app icon.

1. If there's no **X** floating above the icon when it's shaking, then you didn't install this app from the App Store and it can't be uninstalled from Launchpad.

5.



Click  when prompted. This will uninstall the app from your Mac.

Score  
0 / 0

### Part 3 Quiz

What does it mean if the program you're trying to delete doesn't have a floating "X" above the icon?

You didn't install the program through the App Store.

You're partially right! Launchpad will only allow you to uninstall programs that you downloaded directly from the App Store on your Mac. If there is no floating "X" above your program after you click and hold the app, you cannot uninstall the program through Launchpad. This is true, but there is also a different result when your icon is missing a floating "X." Choose another answer!

You have to follow a different method to uninstall the program.

You're not wrong, but there's a better answer! If you click and hold the app inside Launchpad and a floating "X" doesn't appear, you'll have to use a different method to remove the program. Launchpad only allows users to uninstall specific apps through the program. While this is correct, there is also another consequence of your program missing a floating "X." Try another answer...

Launchpad won't allow you to uninstall the program.

Almost! If you can't find a floating "X" above the program you want to remove, you won't be able to uninstall the program through Launchpad. Launchpad only allows you to uninstall certain apps from the computer. However, there are also other reasons why you might not have a floating "X." Read on for another quiz question.

All of the above.

That's right! Launchpad shows you all of your currently installed applications but only allows you to remove the programs you downloaded through the App Store. To check whether you can uninstall the program through Launchpad, click and hold the icon and check for a floating "X" above the icon. If the "X" is present, click it to remove the program. If the "X" is missing, you have to use a different method to remove the app. Choose another answer!

Want more quizzes?  
Keep testing yourself!

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