

iTunes and the journey plummeted from the popular music player to an outdated remnant of the past

Apple has officially deleted the iTunes application on the latest version of macOS Catalina.

iTunes, the digital music library introduced in 2001, was officially dead.

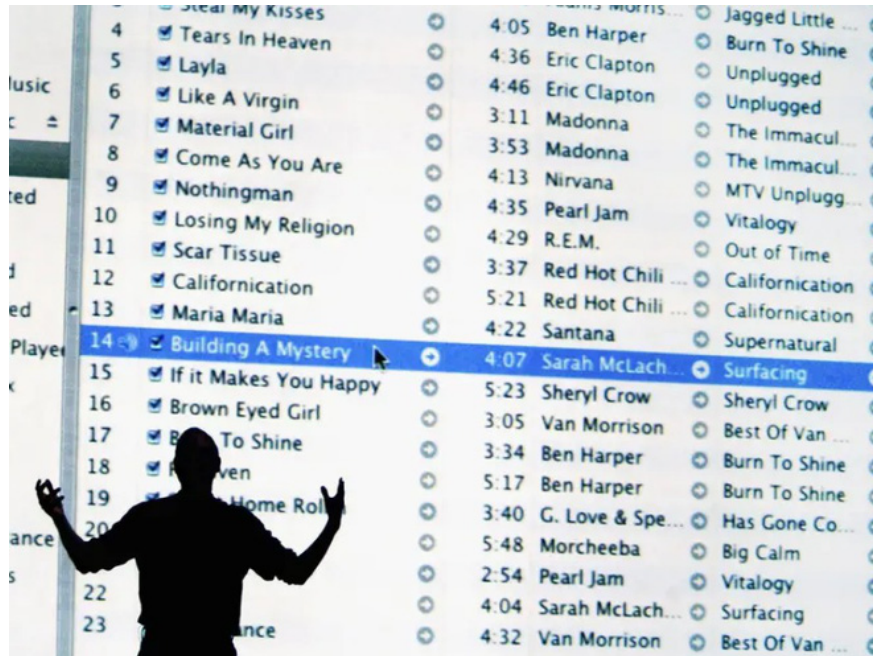
At WWDC in June, Apple announced that it would remove iTunes on Mac after doing the same thing on iPhone. On macOS Catalina, released earlier this week, iTunes has been replaced by three separate apps: Apple Music, Apple Podcasts, and Apple TV.

Former Apple CEO Steve Jobs announced iTunes at Macworld Expo in January 2001, calling it "*the best and easiest to use entertainment software in the world*". In 2003, iTunes 4 came out with a new feature called the iTunes Music Store, the first brick in Jobs' vision of a digital entertainment center where all your digital content is stored.

iTunes has changed the way we buy and listen to music, but it has also become a source of frustration for users. There are dozens of reasons why people hate iTunes and why you should leave this app.

Here is a brief history of iTunes, from the shocking launch to the hated years, then finally say goodbye.

Apple launched iTunes in 2001. This is a "jukebox" (digital music) software that allows Mac users to import songs, convert them to MP3s and store them on a computer.



" iTunes is ahead of every other jukebox application, and we hope its simpler user interface has brought more people into the digital music revolution," said Steve Jobs.



In October 2001, Apple released its first iPod, automatically syncing with iTunes. " With the iPod, listening to music will never be the same again," Jobs said.



In a press release, Apple called the iPod " *a groundbreaking MP3 player that can hold up to 1,000 CD quality songs in a super-convenient, 6.5-ounce design that fits in your pocket*".

The iTunes Music Store debuted in 2004, with thousands of songs priced at just \$ 0.99. " Consumers don't want to be seen as criminals, and artists don't want their precious work stolen. The iTunes Music Store provides a breakthrough solution for both," Jobs said.



The iTunes Music Store makes iTunes a model in legal music buying and downloading, according to TheVerge. "The *iTunes Music Store* offers revolutionary benefits so you can burn an unlimited number of CDs to your personal needs and put music on an unlimited number of iPods to listen on the go" - Steve Jobs to speak.

Apple dominates the online music sharing market, so much so that musicians like Thom Yorke of Radiohead have accused the company of making " *everything, including music and newspapers, worthless, in order to bring billions of dollars to them.* "

iTunes was also brought to Windows in 2004, making it accessible to users of the world's largest operating system for the first time. Jobs called it " *the best Windows application ever written*".

iTunes 5 and 6 are mostly bug fixes, but they also added podcasting and video playback functionality in 2005 and 2006.



Your 24-7 video store.

Seeing is believing. Now that you can browse, preview and download more than 3,000 music videos and select hit television shows from the iTunes Music Store, your favorites are always just a click away. Buy videos for \$1.99, watch them on your Mac or PC, then take them with you on the new iPod. Looks like fun.

Easy As It Looks

The virtual shelves of the iTunes Music Store now feature a video section. Music videos, Pixar shorts and select NBC Universal, Sci Fi Channel, USA Network, ABC and Disney television shows live right alongside songs, podcasts and audiobooks. Browse featured listings or search the archive to find just what you want. Read customer reviews or write your own, then click to buy. Once you do, you get stutter-free, ad-free video delivered directly to your desktop. From there, the sky's the limit, because you own purchased video forever. Watch as many times as you choose, share between five computers, burn to data CDs or sync to the new iPod. Instant gratification never looked better.



Video Features

- Shop for music videos, Pixar shorts or NBC Universal, Sci Fi Channel, USA Network, ABC and Disney television episodes
- Buy videos for just \$1.99
- Watch 20-second previews before you buy
- Read reviews and ratings from other fans, and post your own
- Download instantly to your iTunes library
- Watch in high-quality, H.264 QuickTime format
- Enjoy stutter-free playback, unlike streaming video
- Play videos on up to five computers
- Send videos as gifts to anyone with an email address
- Print a certificate with a

In 2006, iTunes 7 launched, introducing more features to the game, uninterrupted music playing, and more. This is also the year Apple launched the first iPhone. At the time, iTunes supported iPod Classic, Shuffle, Touch, Nano, and iPhone.



Download iTunes 7.4 now

Windows XP or Vista

- Email me New Music Tuesday and special iTunes offers.
- Keep me up to date with Apple news, software updates, and the latest information on products and services.

[Apple Customer Privacy Policy](#)

Email Address

Download iTunes Free

Macintosh Requirements

- Mac OS X 10.3.9 or later or Mac OS X 10.4.7 or later required for iTunes
- Mac OS X 10.4.10 or later required for iPhone
- 500MHz G3 processor or better
- QuickTime 6.5.2 or later
- 256MB RAM
- Combo/SuperDrive to burn CDs
- Broadband Internet connection (DSL/Cable/LAN) for buying and streaming music

Additional Video Requirements

- 1GHz G4 processor or better
- QuickTime 7.1.6 or later
- 16MB video RAM

Windows Requirements

[Get iTunes for Windows](#)



The entertainment capital of your world. For Mac + PC.

Buy music, movies, TV shows, and audiobooks, or download free podcasts from the iTunes Store 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Organize and play everything on your Mac or PC. Then sync it to your iPod or iPhone and bring it along. Anywhere.

New in iTunes



Ringtones

Turn songs from the iTunes Store into custom ringtones for your iPhone.



iTunes Wi-Fi Music Store

Download music from the iTunes Wi-Fi Music Store on your iPod touch or iPhone.

Shop the iTunes Store

Music

More than 6 million songs. 99¢ each.

Movies

New and classic films from \$9.99.

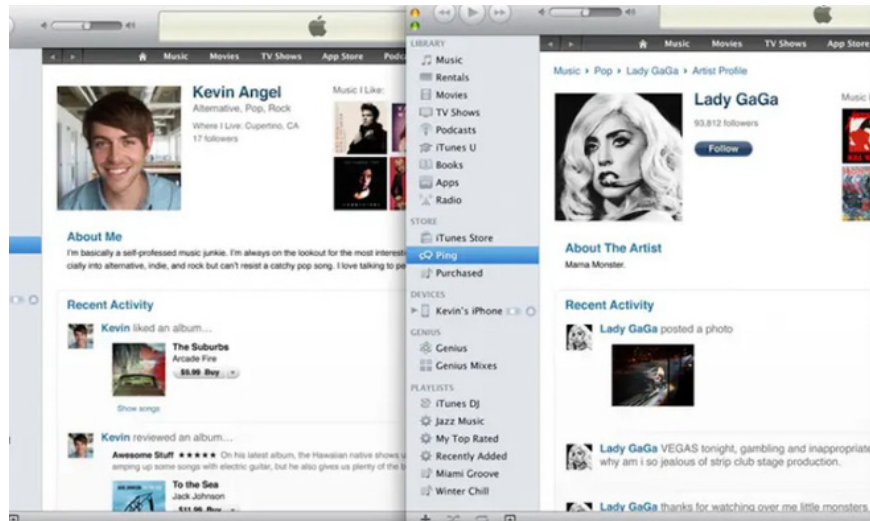
Music Videos

More than 11,000, \$1.99 each.

TV Shows

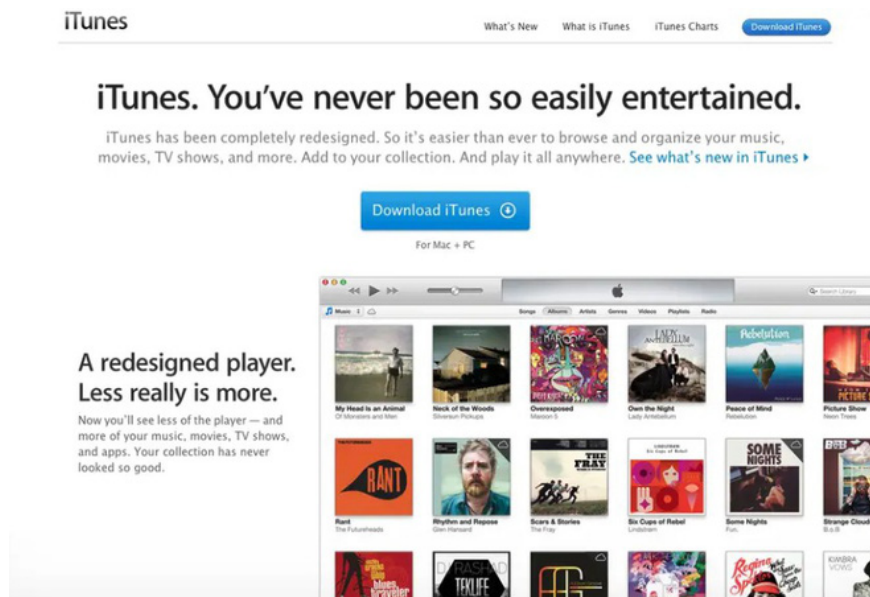
600 shows at \$1.99 an episode.

After iTunes 7, the software became more complex and received much criticism as it evolved from a music player to a multimedia platform. Sometimes iTunes was home to Ping, a social network for music that only existed for less than a year!

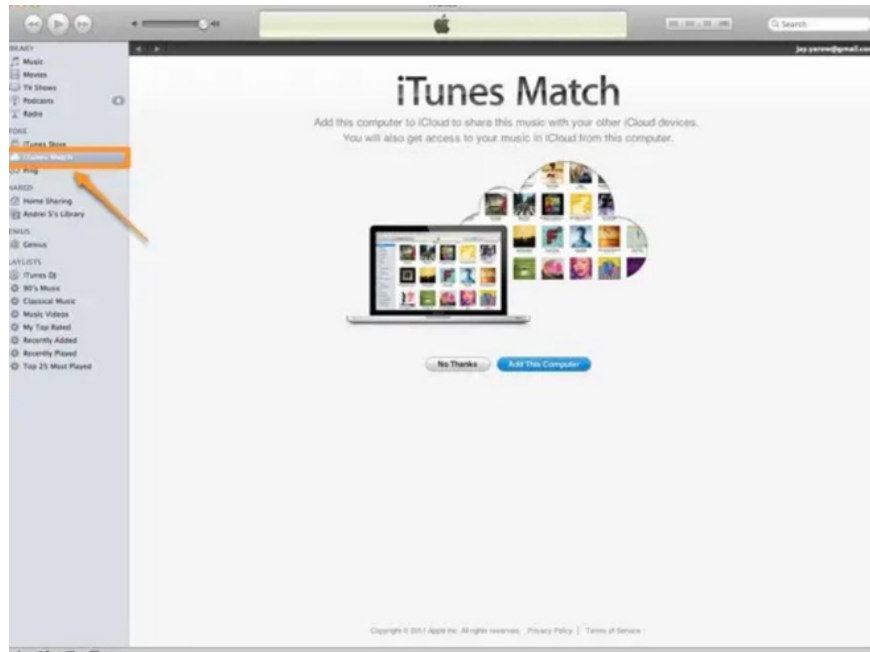


Ping is supposed to support connecting with Facebook, but users say it is too difficult to use, and it also does not display notifications so you know when your friends interact with you.

In 2012, iTunes 11 was redesigned, confusing users about how to access and organize their content. This content includes music, podcasts, TV shows and movies.



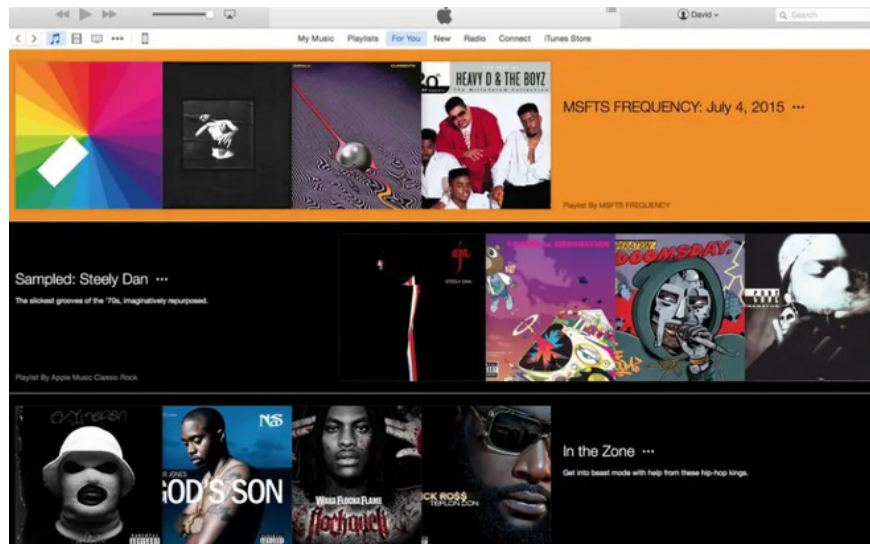
Apple also launched iTunes Match, a streaming service, along with Genius Sidebar, which is quite confusing. When he first introduced iTunes, Jobs once said other music apps were "too complicated, really hard to learn and use", but now that has happened with iTunes.



In 2014, Apple redesigned iTunes 12, confusing users, and tampering with carefully selected music collections because of the iCloud Music Library feature.



Apple finally got into the streaming game in 2015 with Apple Music, a standalone service, but fully integrated into the iTunes app on Mac. It has a separate application on iOS, and this application is separate from the player of the device.

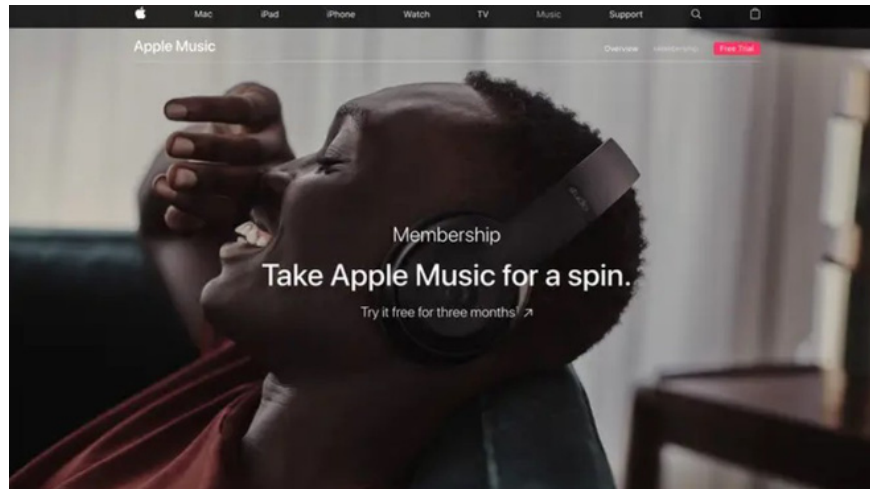


In a press release, music producer Jimmy Iovine said that " *online music has become a complex set of applications, services and websites. Apple Music brings the best features together to create an experience. experience that people who love music will love,* " but Apple did not respond to complaints that the iTunes application was too cumbersome and confusing.

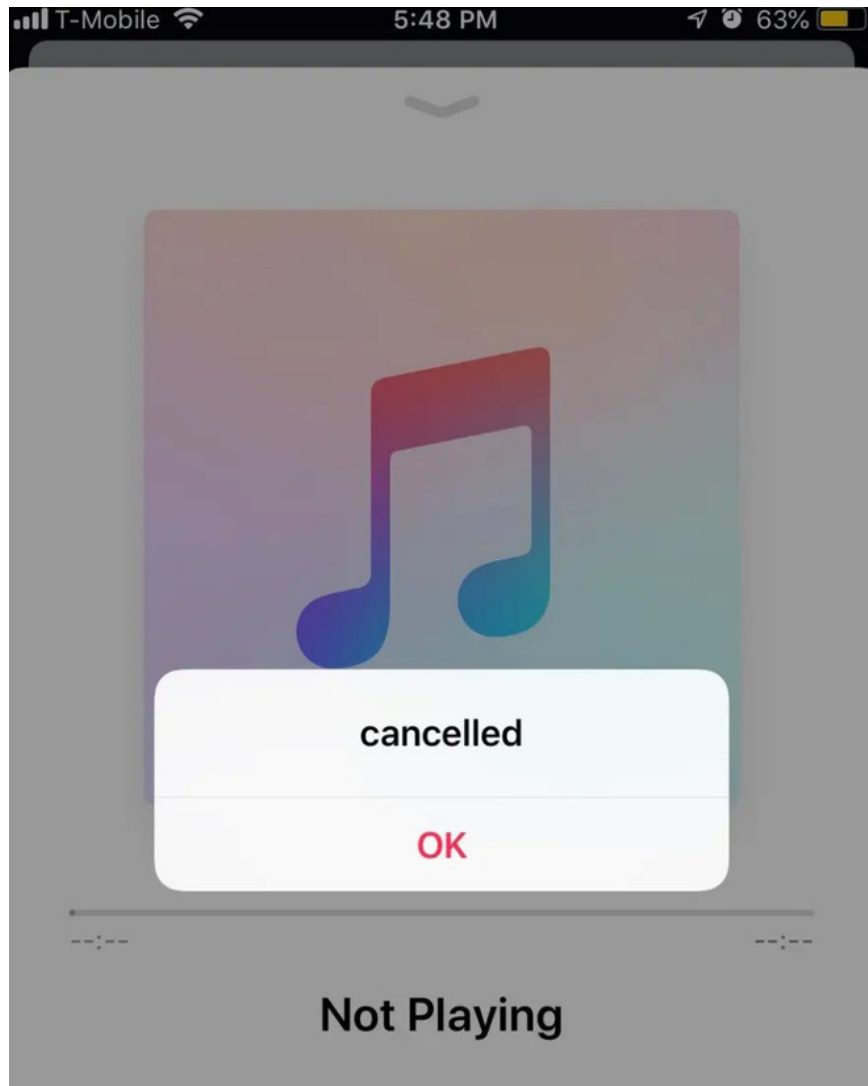
Some critics say that iTunes has gripped death since that time. " *People can't understand this hybrid app like Frankenstein. What are their songs stored in the cloud? Why do they need to re-enter the Apple ID every time they want to play an album? where?*" - Kevin Roose writes in The New York Times so.



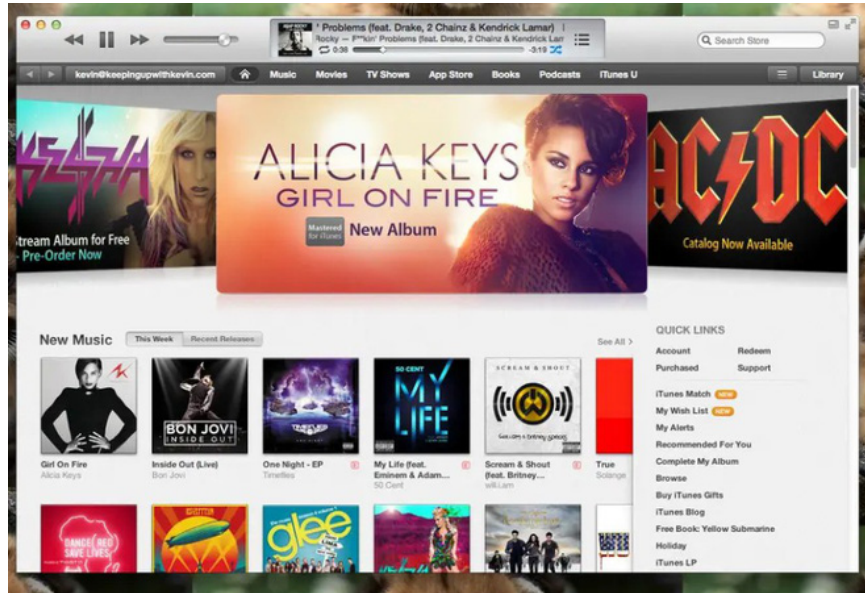
Apple-focused blogger Marco Arment called Apple Music a "hell," and The New York Times called the new version "iTunes a" nightmare of errors and confusion. " Issues with Apple Music have affected the iTunes experience because they are linked together in a single application.



Across the Internet, it is agreed that Apple has put too many features in iTunes, but none of them work really well. Verge called it " *Apple's most hated application,*" and Farhad Manjoo wrote in 2012 that " *Apple's horrible program needs to die.*"



Now, iTunes is in the past. Customers switched to streaming instead of buying music, and even the disc sold out better than iTunes sales earlier this year. Ebooks and Podcasts can be downloaded directly on the device and iPhone settings no longer require a link to this software, so iTunes is no longer a comprehensive hub like it used to be.



Reference: BusinessInsider

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