

# Made the blue dot disappear from the menu bar after installing macOS Sonoma

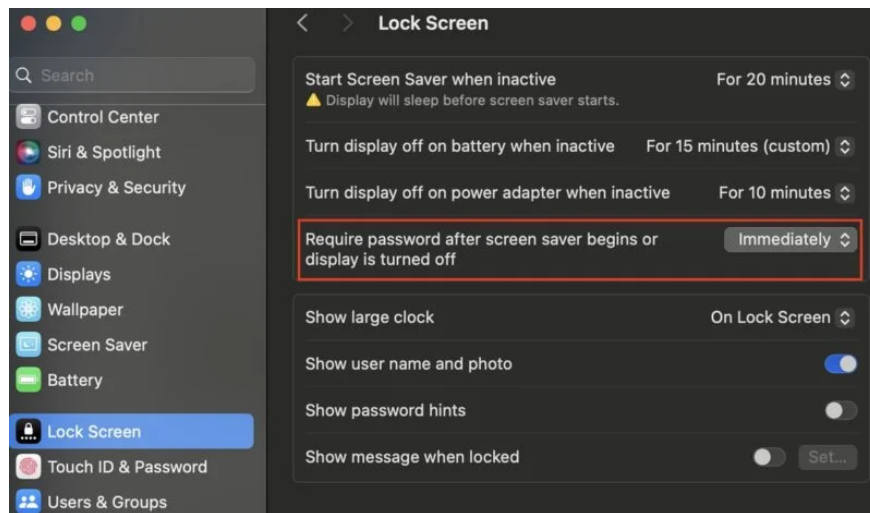
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Since updating to macOS Sonoma, some people have noticed a green dot constantly appearing in their Mac's menu bar. It persists even after closing the app and looks like the camera is active 24/7. This unwanted addition can disrupt workflows and cause privacy concerns. This guide provides solutions to make the blue dot in Sonoma disappear forever, ensuring peace of mind and a smooth user experience.

## Put your Mac into Sleep mode

This is the best solution to the persistent blue dot problem in Sonoma. Most people who reported this problem to Apple said that putting their Mac to Sleep effectively removed the blue dot.

To put your Mac to Sleep, open the **Apple** menu , then go to **System Settings -> Lock Screen** . Adjust your Mac's Sleep settings to activate it immediately and minimize the time it takes to wake up again. Under **Require password after screen saver begins or display is turned off** , select **Immediately** .



Close the lid of your Mac to enter Sleep mode, then open your Mac and log back in. Check to see if the green dot has disappeared.

If the problem persists, try these steps. From the **Apple** menu in the upper left corner of the screen, select **Sleep** to put your Mac into Sleep mode.



Re-enter your login details when you wake your Mac to reactivate it.

If you're having trouble waking your Mac from Sleep, try plugging in a charger or starting it in Recovery mode.

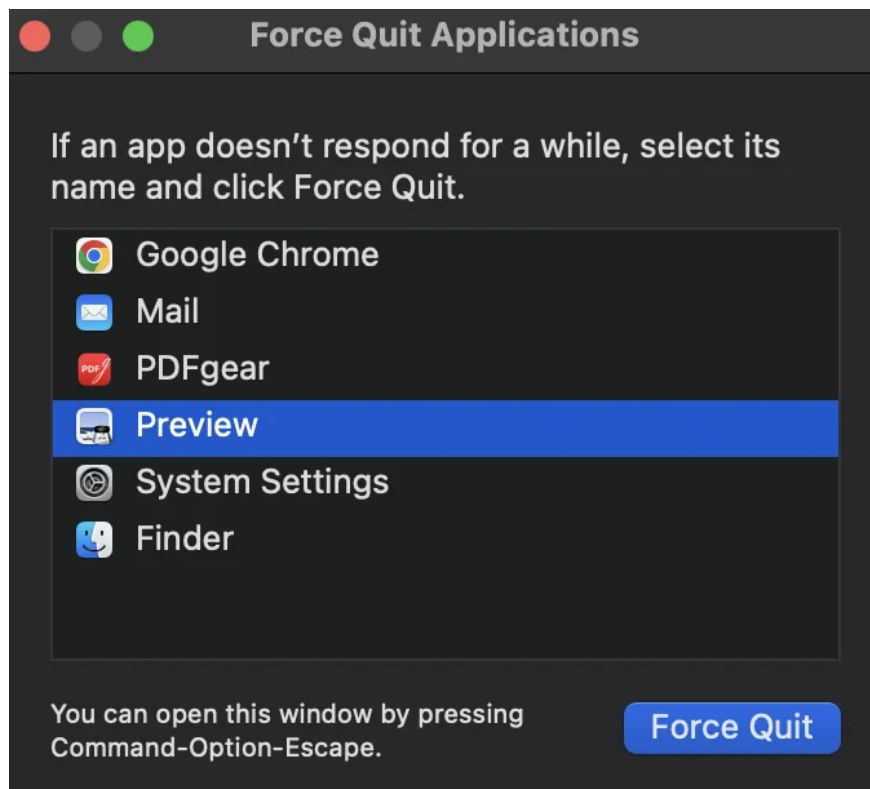
## Check if the application is open

If you don't want to put your Mac into Sleep mode, the first option is to check to see if you have any apps open that are causing a green dot to appear in the menu bar. Pay special attention to apps that are actively using your Mac's camera, microphone, and system recording tools.

If you find applications that use those systems, close them in the following way.

Hover the cursor over the icon of each suspected application that may be using the camera, microphone, or system recording tool. Right-click on it or press the **Control** key and click on application. Select **Quit**.

If closing the app doesn't solve the problem, force quit by opening the **Apple** menu and selecting **Force Quit** from the drop-down menu. Highlight the open applications you want to close and click **Force Quit** again to terminate the selected applications.



## Use Activity Monitor to stop application processes

A green dot in your Mac's menu bar may be caused by a long application process. Terminate them using Activity Monitor.

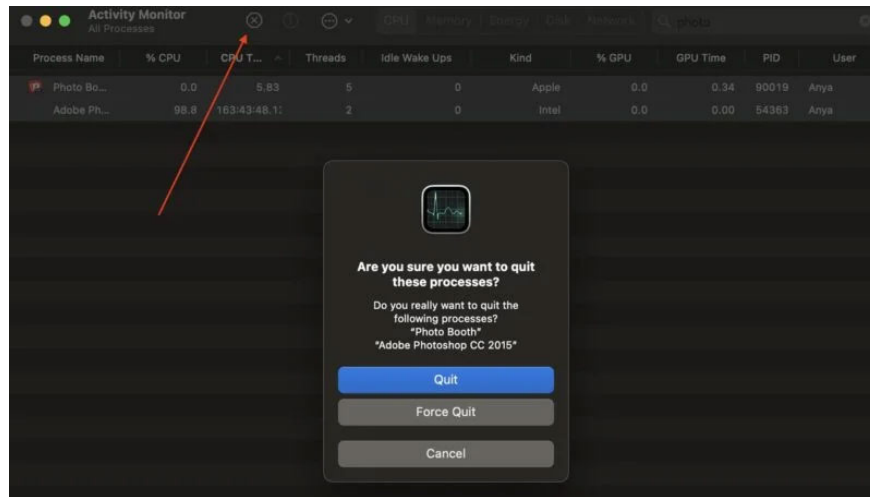
Launch Activity Monitor. (Find it in the application list in Finder or use Spotlight).

Use the search bar to locate any processes associated with applications that may be using camera, microphone, or audio recording capabilities. Check the **CPU** , **Memory** , **Energy** , **Disk** and **Network** tabs for related processes.

Process Name	% CPU	CPU Time	Threads	Idle Wake Ups	Kind	% GPU	GPU Time
Adobe Ph...	96.2	163:42:45.71	2	0	Intel	0.0	0.00
Photo Bo...	55.3	3.00	30	237	Apple	0.0	0.06

Once you have identified the relevant processes, press the **Command** key and highlight each process.

Click the stop icon (X) located near the top of the Activity Monitor window to terminate selected processes.

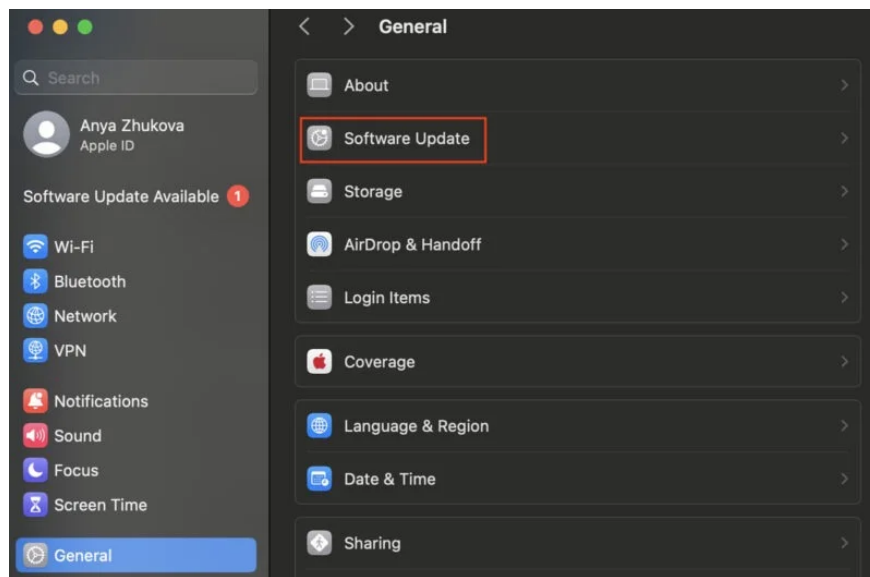


When prompted, click **Quit** in the pop-up window to end the process. If the process persists, select **the Force Quit** option instead .

## Check for software updates

When encountering persistent problems like the blue dot error on macOS Sonoma, the best solution is to always update the system to resolve those problems.

To check for macOS updates, go to **System Settings** –> **General** -> **Software Update** .



In the **Software Update** section , click **Check for Update** to see if a new version of macOS is available.

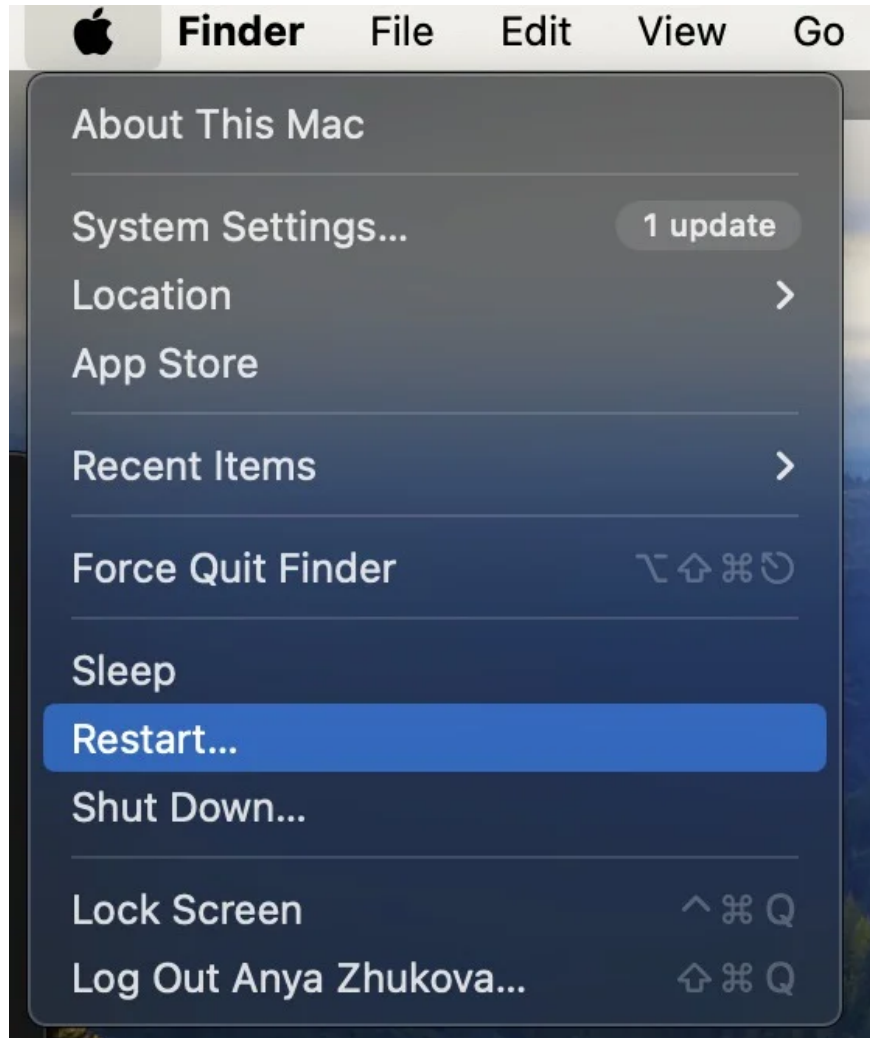
If an update is found, select **Update Now** . Follow the prompts to accept the license agreement and proceed with the update. Allow the software to download and install. Depending on the size of the update and your Internet connection speed, this process may take some time.

Once the update is complete, verify that the macOS version is updated in **System Settings** .

## Restart your Mac

A simple reboot sometimes works wonders and can help get rid of the green dot in the menu bar.

To restart your Mac, click the **Apple** icon in the upper left corner of the screen, then choose **Restart** from the drop-down menu.



A pop-up window will ask you to confirm the restart. Click the blue **Restart** button.

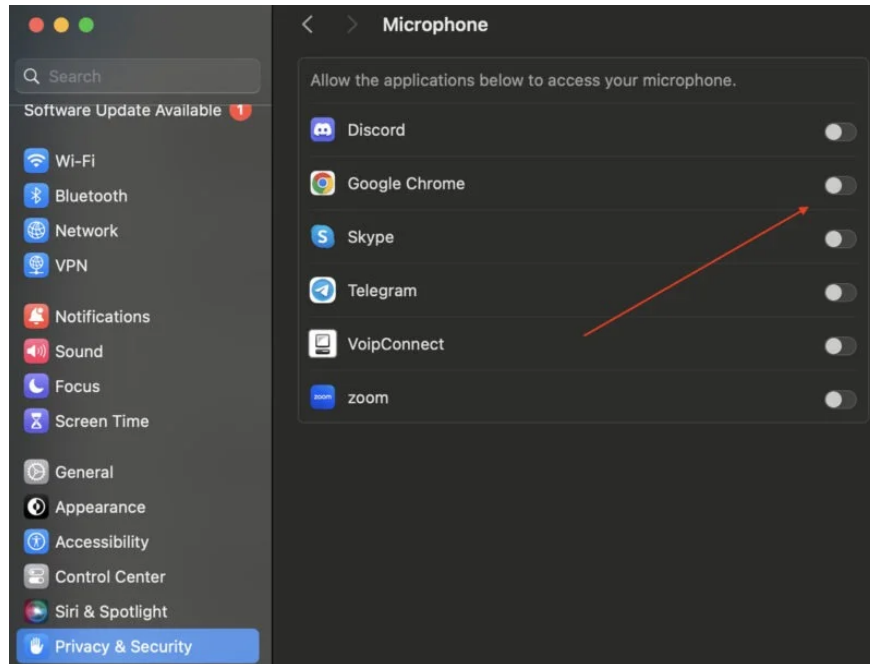
Allow your Mac to shut down and restart. Once your Mac has restarted, log in as usual and check the menu bar to see if the green dot problem still exists.

By restarting your Mac, the fresh boot process often resolves minor software problems.

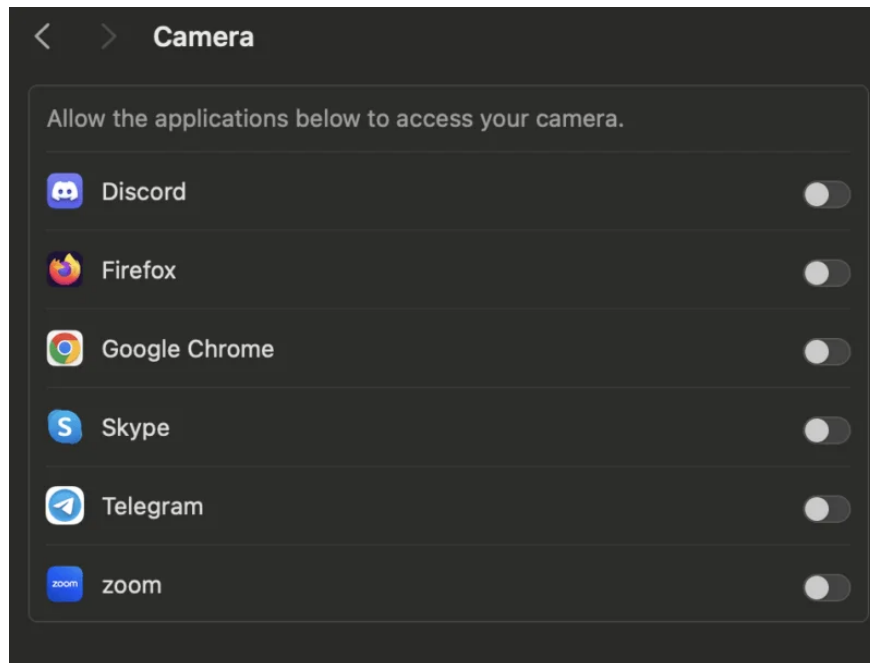
## Disable camera and microphone access for linked apps

If the previous steps don't resolve the problem, dive deeper into the system settings. Follow these steps to temporarily revoke camera and microphone access for linked apps.

Navigate to the Apple menu and select **System Preferences** . Click **Privacy & Security** on the left side of the screen. Go to the **Microphone** tab to see the list of apps with microphone access. Turn off the switch for each app that has permissions.



Go to the **Camera** tab and repeat the process by turning off camera access for each app.



After adjusting the settings, restart your Mac to apply the changes. If the green dot disappears from the menu bar, you may have resolved the problem.

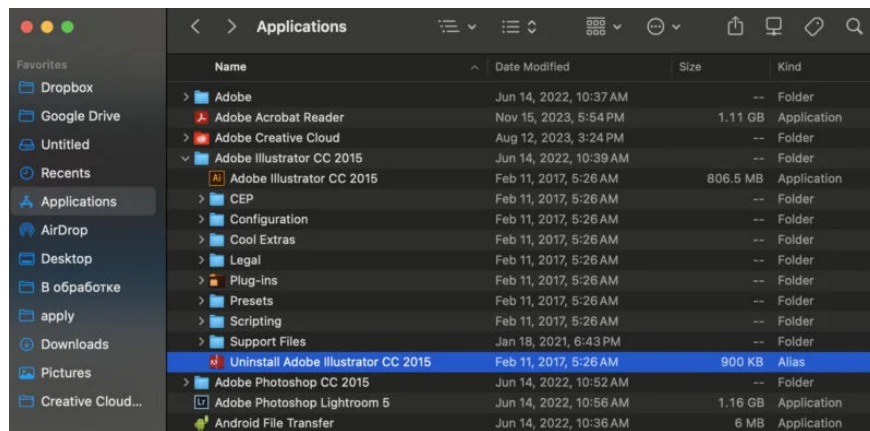
Remember to re-enable camera and microphone access for essential apps once the issue is resolved.

# Uninstall apps that use the camera

Uninstalling apps that are accessing the camera or microphone can be the solution to the annoying blue dot problem. While native apps like FaceTime cannot be uninstalled, third-party apps can be removed and reinstalled later.

Drag and drop the problematic application into the **Trash** folder . Confirm deletion when prompted. Alternatively, navigate to **Finder -> Applications** , locate the application, and drag it to **the Trash** . Once you've moved the app to **Trash** , empty it to complete the deletion process.

With some third-party applications, it may be necessary to use an official uninstaller to remove them from your Mac. Go to **Finder -> Applications** , then find the app with the uninstaller in the list. Click the arrow next to the application name and open **Uninstaller** . Follow the on-screen instructions to remove the app.



After removing the app, restart your Mac to make sure the changes take effect.

By uninstalling these apps, check if any of them are causing the persistent green dot on the menu bar. If successful, reinstall the applications and continue using them.

The menu dots will disappear as soon as you stop using the application that prompted them to appear. Usually, just exiting the application solves the problem. If you're still seeing the green dot, even after trying the techniques outlined in this article, it's best to contact Apple support for further assistance.

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