



Play Windows games in Parallels Desktop for Mac

- Parallels Desktop for Mac Pro Edition
- Parallels Desktop for Mac Business Edition
- Parallels Desktop for Mac Standard Edition

If you have a Mac with Apple silicon, you might be hesitant to play Windows games on your computer due to compatibility concerns. However, rest assured that Parallels Desktop allows playing hundreds of Windows-only games thanks to the built-in Windows 11 emulator and enhanced performance capabilities of Mac computers with Apple silicon. Those games include but not limited to the following titles:

- Minecraft
- League of Legends
- Half-Life 2
- Age of Empires II Definitive Edition
- Age of Empires III Definitive Edition
- GTA V
- Rocket League
- Fall Guys
- Roblox
- A Plague Tale: Innocence
- Alien: Isolation
- CS:GO
- Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 3
- Dishonored
- FIFA 19
- Hitman: Absolution
- Hollow Knight
- Mass Effect Legendary Edition
- Metal Gear Rising: Revengeance
- Tekken 7
- Warhammer 40,000: Dawn of War and many more.

See a larger list of games that Parallels Desktop users tried on a Mac with Apple silicon on this community-driver wiki portal: www.applegamingwiki.com

Limitations

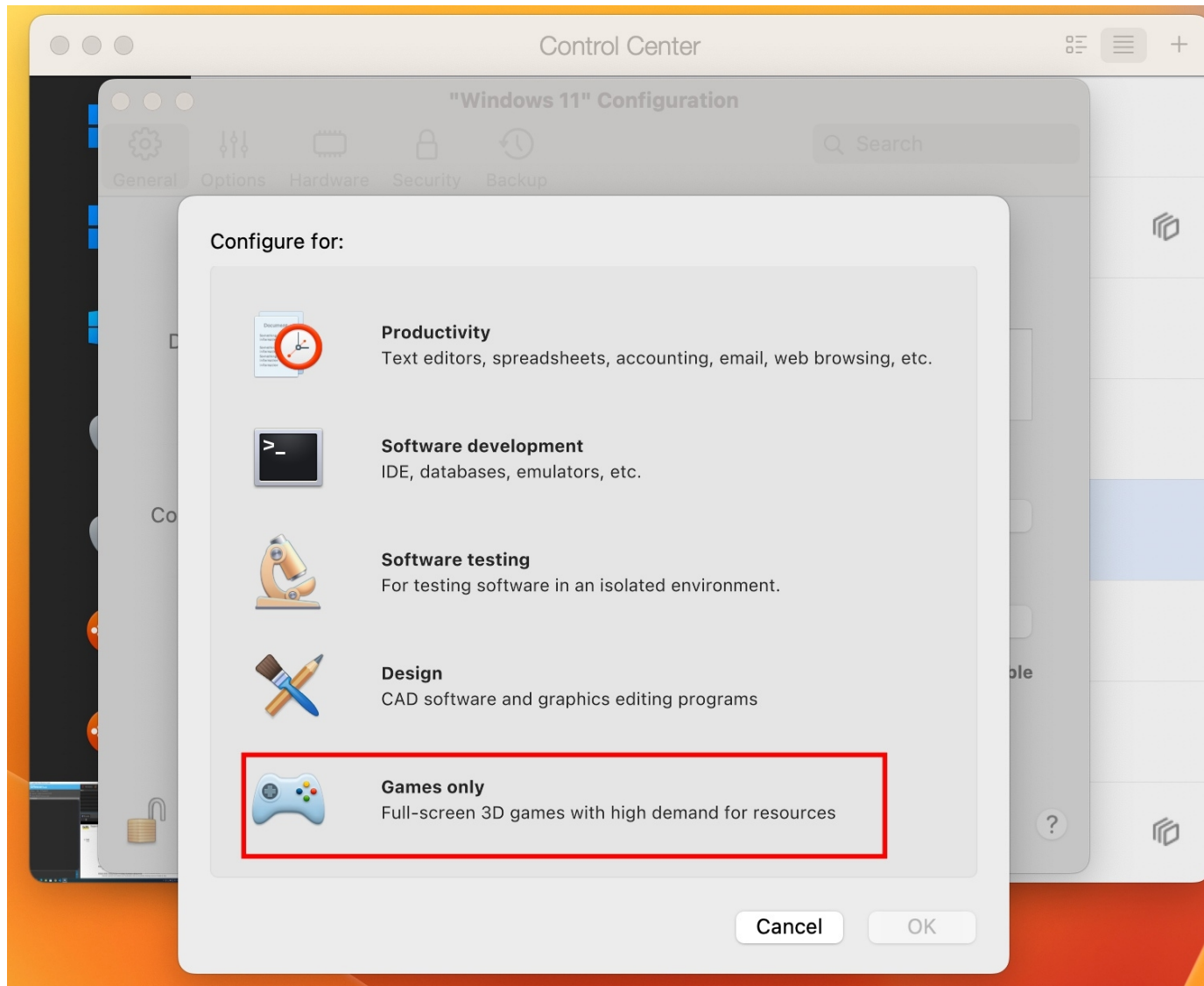
Please note the following limitations around playing Windows games on a Mac with the help of Parallels Desktop:

1. Currently, Parallels Desktop supports DirectX graphics up to version 11 and OpenGL graphics up to version 4.1.
2. Most anti-cheat software won't run in a virtual environment. Try looking for a way to play a game without anti-cheat software if possible.
3. On Mac computers with Apple silicon, some games may not run due to computer architecture incompatibilities. Learn more in [KB 128796](#).

Tune Performance Settings

To ensure that your Windows 11 virtual machine provides optimal gaming performance and experience, please follow the steps below to tune Windows 11 for the best performance:

1. Shutdown Windows virtual machine (**Actions** > **Shut down**).
2. Open the virtual machine's configuration > General > click the **Change...** button > select **Games only** profile > OK.



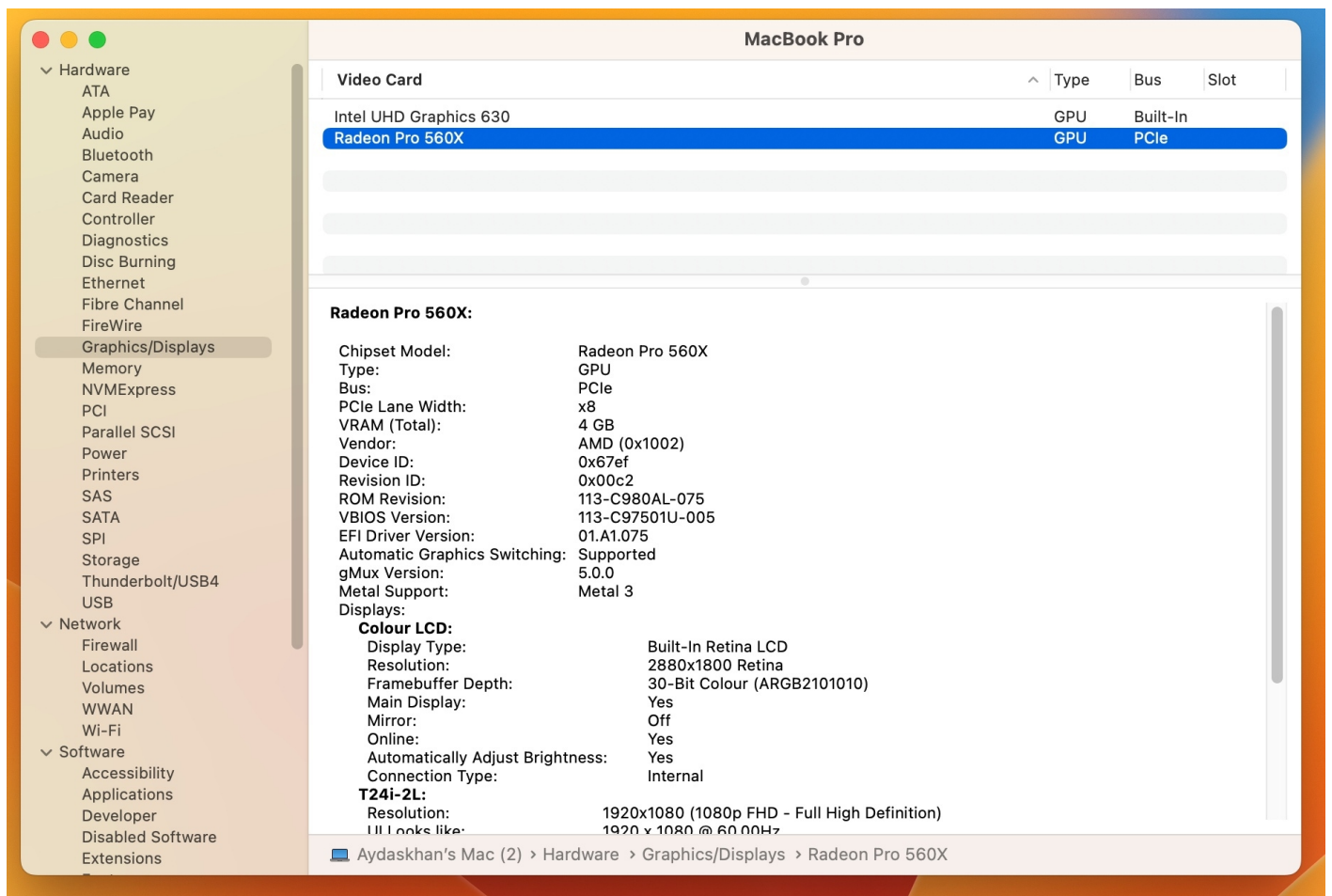
Note: this profile changes macOS and Windows sharing settings. If you want to enable Shared Applications and Shared Profile, open the configuration of the virtual machine again > **Options** tab > update **Sharing** and **Applications** settings respectively.

For Mac computers with Intel processors

Most DirectX 11 games are hardware-stressful applications. Thus, their performance is directly related to Mac hardware (GPU, CPU, and hard disk).

To check what Processor and Graphics your Mac is equipped with, go to  > About This Mac > More info... > System Report... > Graphics/Displays.

It is recommended that your Mac has a dedicated PCIe graphics adapter:



Note: Alternatively, you can use an external graphics processor with Mac. [Learn more...](#)

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