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Printing double-sided documents is a great way to save paper, reduce clutter, and present professional-looking documents. Most modern <u>printers that work with Mac</u> support double-sided printing, which is also referred to as duplex printing on some devices. Double-sided printing is especially handy for long documents, reports, or when you want to create booklets.



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However, enabling this feature can sometimes be a bit tricky. Depending on the application you're using, the location of the double-sided printing option can vary. This guide will show you how to print double-sided on a Mac easily.

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Pre-requisites

- **Duplex-Capable Printer:** Make sure your printer supports double-sided printing. You can check the printer's specifications or user manual to confirm this.
- Proper Connectivity: Ensure your printer and Mac are connected to the same Wi-Fi

network for seamless printing. Alternatively, if your printer doesn't support wireless printing, make sure it's either available on the same wired network or is connected to your Mac via USB.

Note: If your printer doesn't support duplex printing, don't worry! You can still print double-sided manually. We'll cover that later in this article.

How to print double-sided on a Mac

If your printer supports duplex printing, printing double-sided from a Mac is straightforward. Here's how to go about it.

- 1. Open the document you want to print.
- 2. Click on **File** \rightarrow **Print**. Alternatively, you can press the **Cmd** + **P** keys on your keyboard.



3. In the print dialog box, look for the **Double-sided** option.

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- 4. In the drop-down box next to it, select **On**. Alternatively, you can select **On** (**Short Edge**) per your preferences.
- 5. Finally, click on **Print**.

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Tip

Long-edge binding prints both sides of the paper in the same orientation, making it easy to flip the pages like a book. On the other hand, Short-edge binding prints the top of one page on the opposite edge of the next page, perfect for flipping the paper up to read the other side. For most documents, Long-Edge binding is the best choice, which is the default choice when you set double-sided printing to On.

It's worth noting that certain applications have their own Print configurations. However, there's always an option to use the default method as described above. For instance, if

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you're printing from Google Chrome, follow these additional steps.

1. Inside Google Chrome, click on the three dots in the upper right corner and click on **Print**. Alternatively, you can press the **Cmd + P** keys on your keyboard.



2. Click on More Settings.

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3. Inside, scroll down to the bottom, and click on **Print Using System Dialogue**.



And that's it. You can now proceed with the steps mentioned above to enable double-sided printing.

How to manually print double-sided on a Mac with a non-duplex printer

If your printer doesn't support duplex printing, you can still print double-sided by manually reinserting the pages. Here's how:

- 1. Open the document and go to the Print dialog as shown previously.
- 2. Here, scroll down and expand the **Paper Handling** section.
- 3. Inside, change the **Sheets to Print** section to **Odd Only**. Depending upon your language settings, this option might show as **Pages to Print**.
- 4. Once done, print the document.

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- 5. After the odd pages are printed, carefully stack them in the correct order, and reinsert the printed pages into the printer's input tray. Make sure to place them in the correct orientation so that the next set of pages prints on the back.
- 6. Return to the Print dialog and select **Even Only** in the **Sheets to Print** section.
- 7. Print the document again.



Signing Off...

If you already own a duplex printer, double-sided printing is just a simple toggle away. However, even without the feature, the actual process isn't that hard. At the end of the day, double-sided printing is a simple yet effective way to save paper, while also making your documents look more professional.

FAQs

Why can't I see the double-sided option?

If you don't see the double-sided option, it's possible that your printer doesn't support duplex printing. Check your printer's manual or specifications to confirm its capabilities.

Can I print double-sided from all applications?

Most applications that support printing will allow you to print double-sided, but the location of the option can vary. If you can't find the option, it's best to try using the system print dialog.

How can I set double-sided printing as the default on my Mac?

If your printer supports double-sided printing, it will automatically be set as the default choice for printing.

Also read:

- Best AirPrint printers for iPhone and Mac
- How to print from an iPhone and iPad wirelessly
- Best printing apps for iPhone and iPad