

It's frustrating when you wish to play games on your Mac, but the Steam app is not opening or fails to work. Several system glitches can cause Steam to keep crashing on macOS Sonoma. But don't worry! You can quickly fix the issue. Here, I've compiled a list of solutions for Steam not responding on your Mac. Let's get started!



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## 1. Check Steam server status

If you're having unexpected issues with Steam, it could be due to a server-related error. Steam servers may be experiencing downtime or temporary overload, causing the service to malfunction for users. Before moving on to other solutions, you should check Steam's server status on [steamstat.us](https://steamstat.us).

If the Steam servers face issues, wait until they are back online. Once the servers are up, Steam should function normally without further intervention.



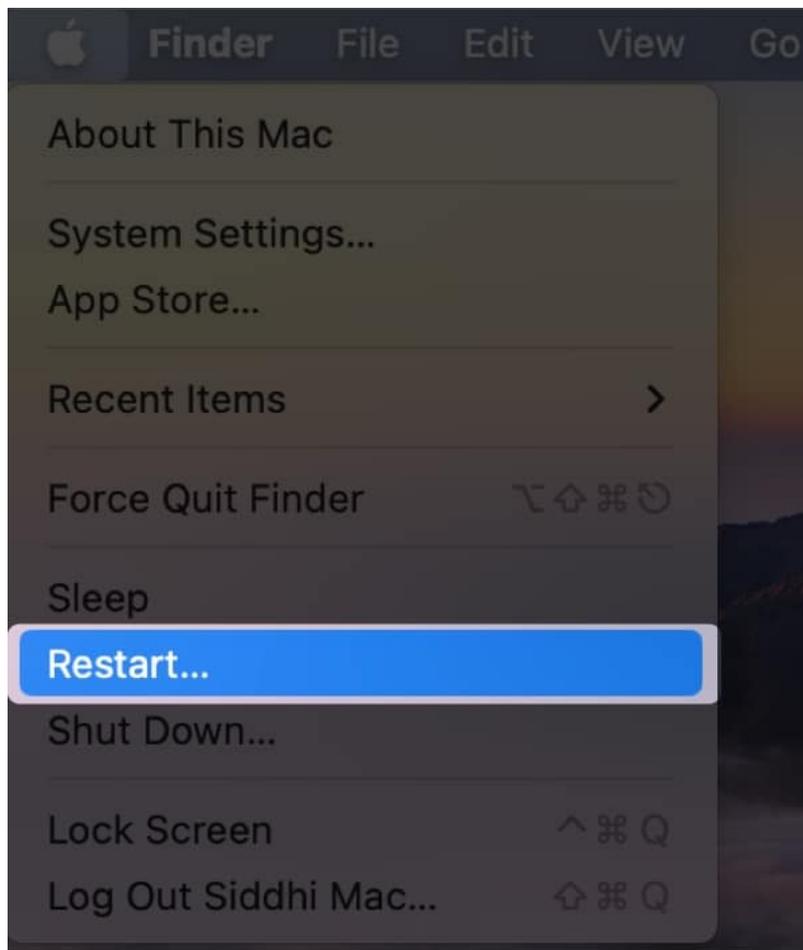
The screenshot shows the 'Unofficial Steam Status' website. The top navigation bar includes links for SteamDB, Sales, Charts, Patch notes, Upcoming, Donate, and When is next Steam sale?. The main header displays 'Unofficial Steam Status' with a refresh timer of 18 seconds and social media links for Discord and @SteamStatus. A blue banner below the header reads 'Browse and filter Winter Sale 2023 deals on SteamDB'. The main content is divided into two columns: 'Steam Services' and 'Region'. The 'Steam Services' column lists: Online on Steam (28,248,000), In-Game on Steam (8,263,000), Steam Store (Normal), Steam Community (Normal), Steam Web API (Normal), Steam Connection Managers (Normal), Counter-Strike API (Normal), and CS Sessions Logon (Normal). The 'Region' column is split into 'Europe' and 'Americas'. The 'Europe' section lists: AMS Amsterdam (OK), FRA Frankfurt (OK), HEL Helsinki (N/A), LHR London (OK), MAD Madrid (OK), PAR Paris (OK), STO Stockholm (OK), VIE Vienna (OK), and WAW Warsaw (OK). The 'Americas' section lists: ATL Atlanta (OK), ORD Chicago (OK), DFW Dallas (OK), LAX Los Angeles (OK), JFK New York (N/A), SEA Seattle (OK), and TAD Sterling (OK). A legend at the top right of the region table indicates 'CM' (Connection Manager) and 'CS' (Counter-Strike) status. A line graph at the bottom left shows '% of online CMs last two days'.

## 2. Restart the Mac to fix Steam

Restarting your Mac can often resolve minor glitches that may cause Steam to crash or not open. This feature clears the system memory, closes background tasks, and refreshes the system. So, any underlying issues that may interfere with Steam's operation are fixed.

To restart your Mac, click the **Apple logo** () on the menu bar → Select **Restart**. Once the

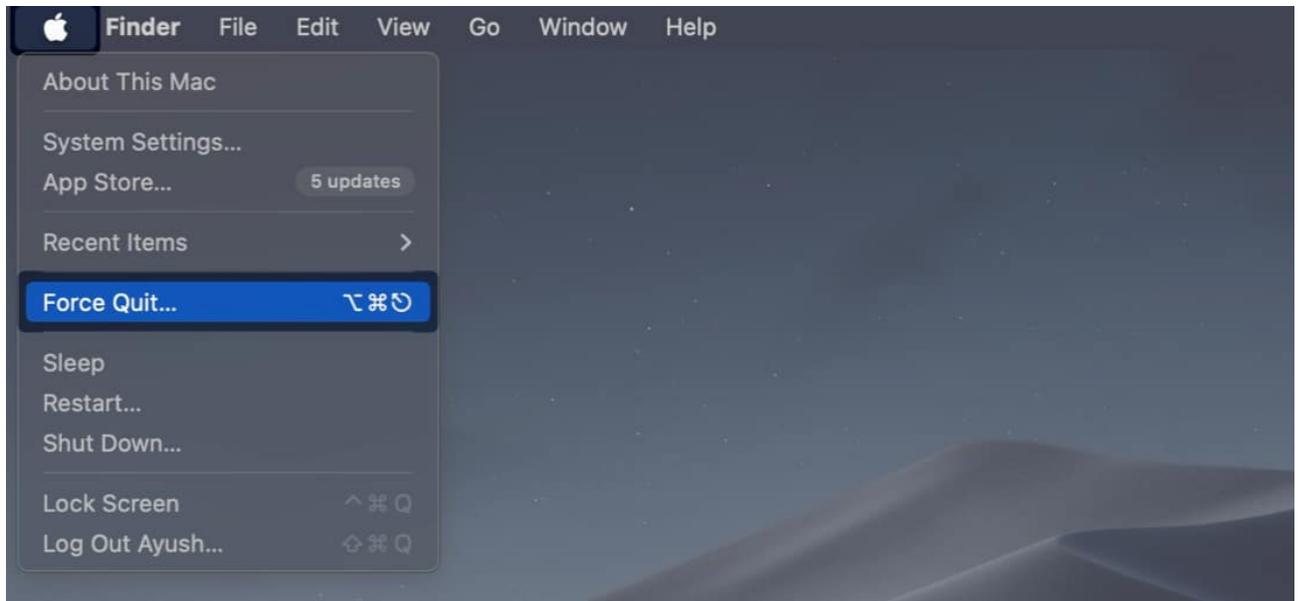
Mac starts, relaunch Steam to see if the issue is fixed.



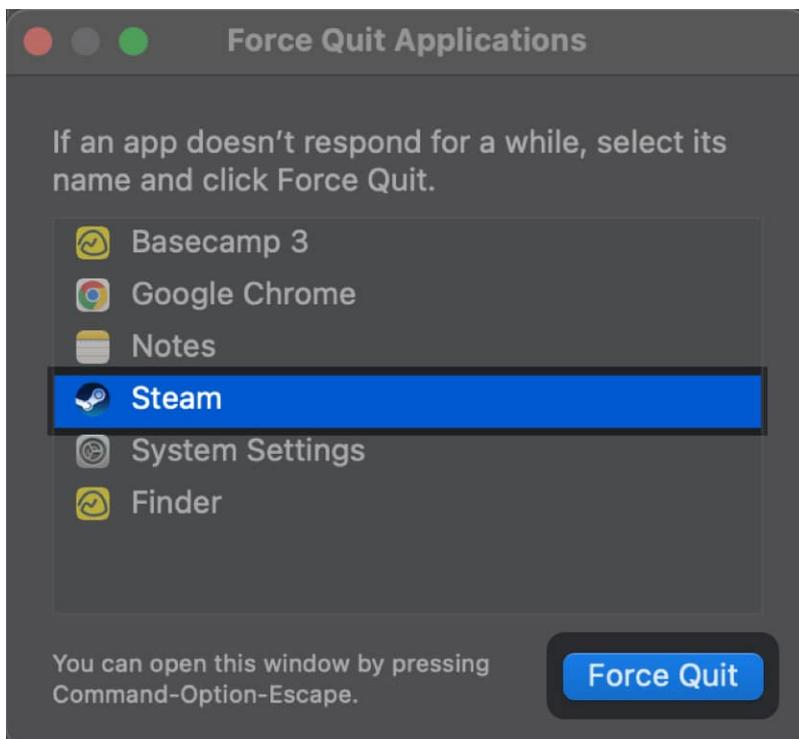
### 3. Force quit and relaunch Steam

If Steam doesn't work on your Mac, simply force quitting and relaunching the app can help resolve the issue.

1. Click the **Apple logo** (🍏) on the menu bar → Select **Force Quit**.  
*You can also use the **Command + Option + Esc** keyboard shortcut.*



2. Select **Steam** from the currently open apps → Click **Force Quit**.

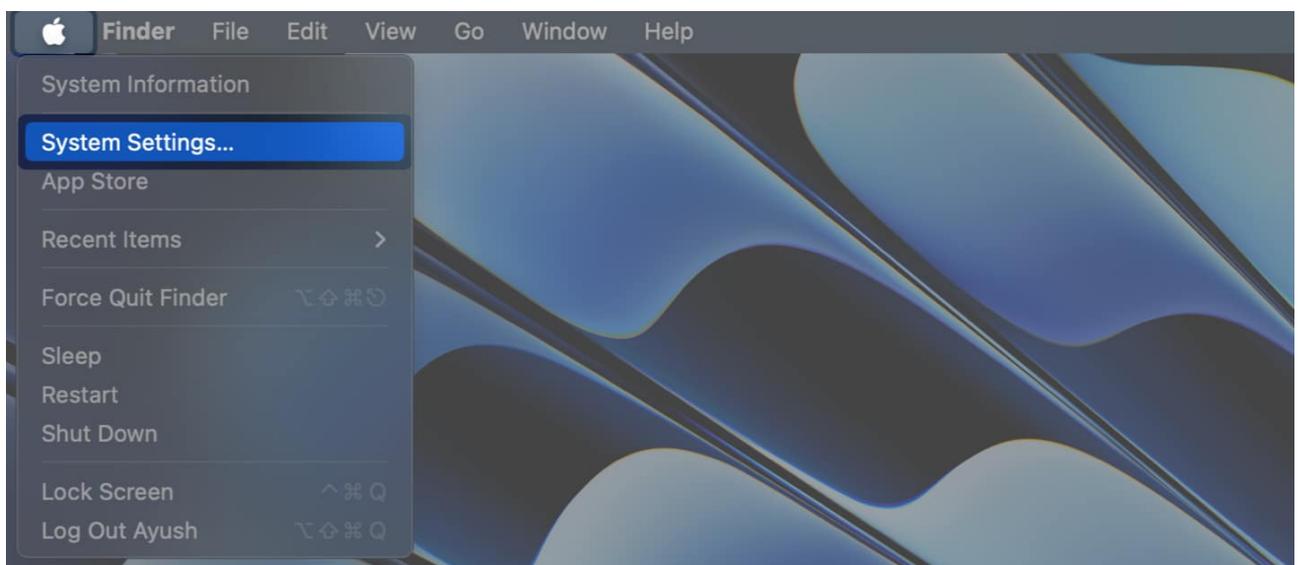


3. Then, relaunch **Steam** and check if the issues are fixed.

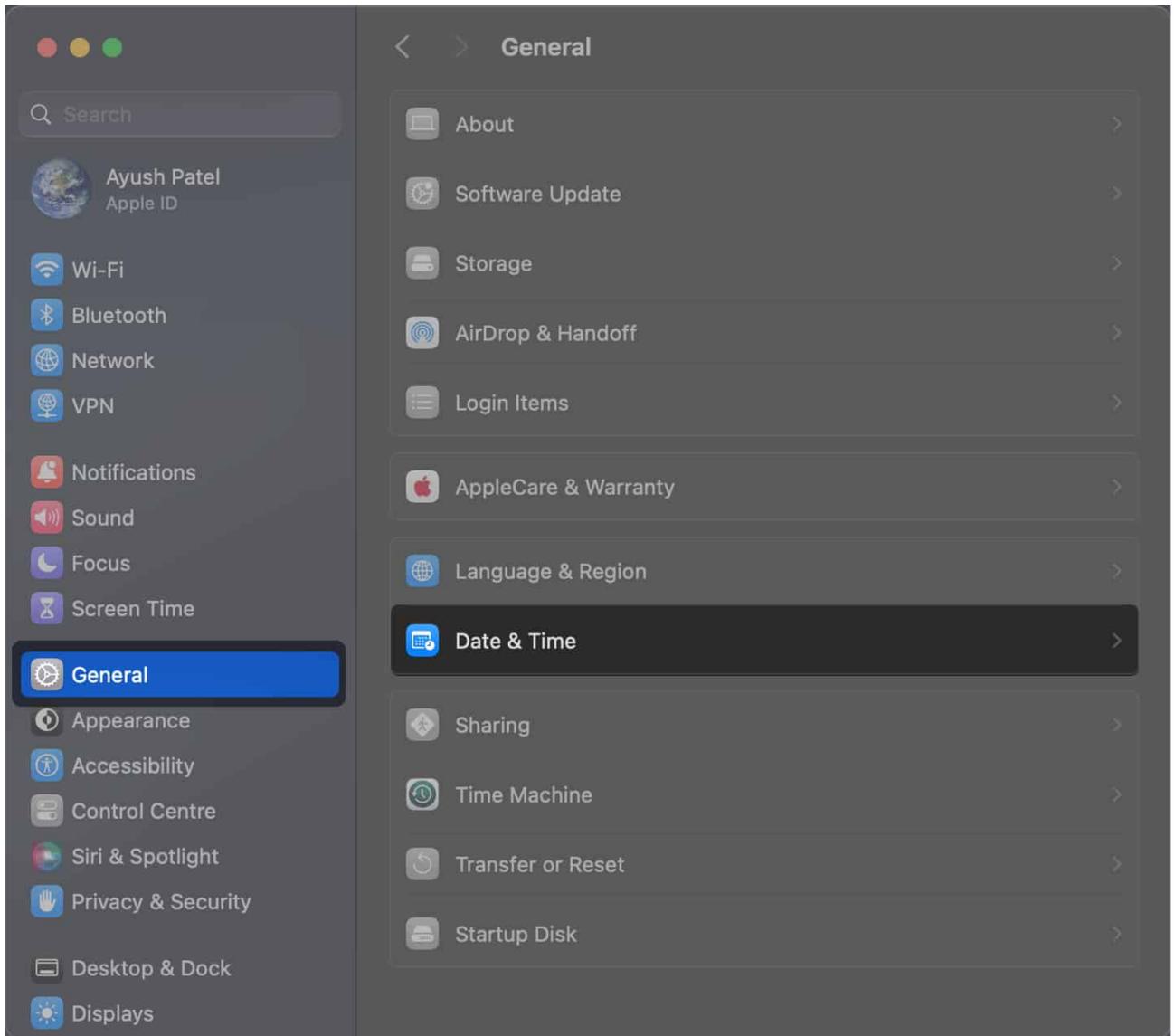
## 4. Check the Mac's date and time settings

Steam relies on accurate date and time settings to communicate with its servers. If your Mac's date and time are inaccurate, it can cause Steam to not work. To ensure this isn't the case, verify the accuracy of your date and time settings.

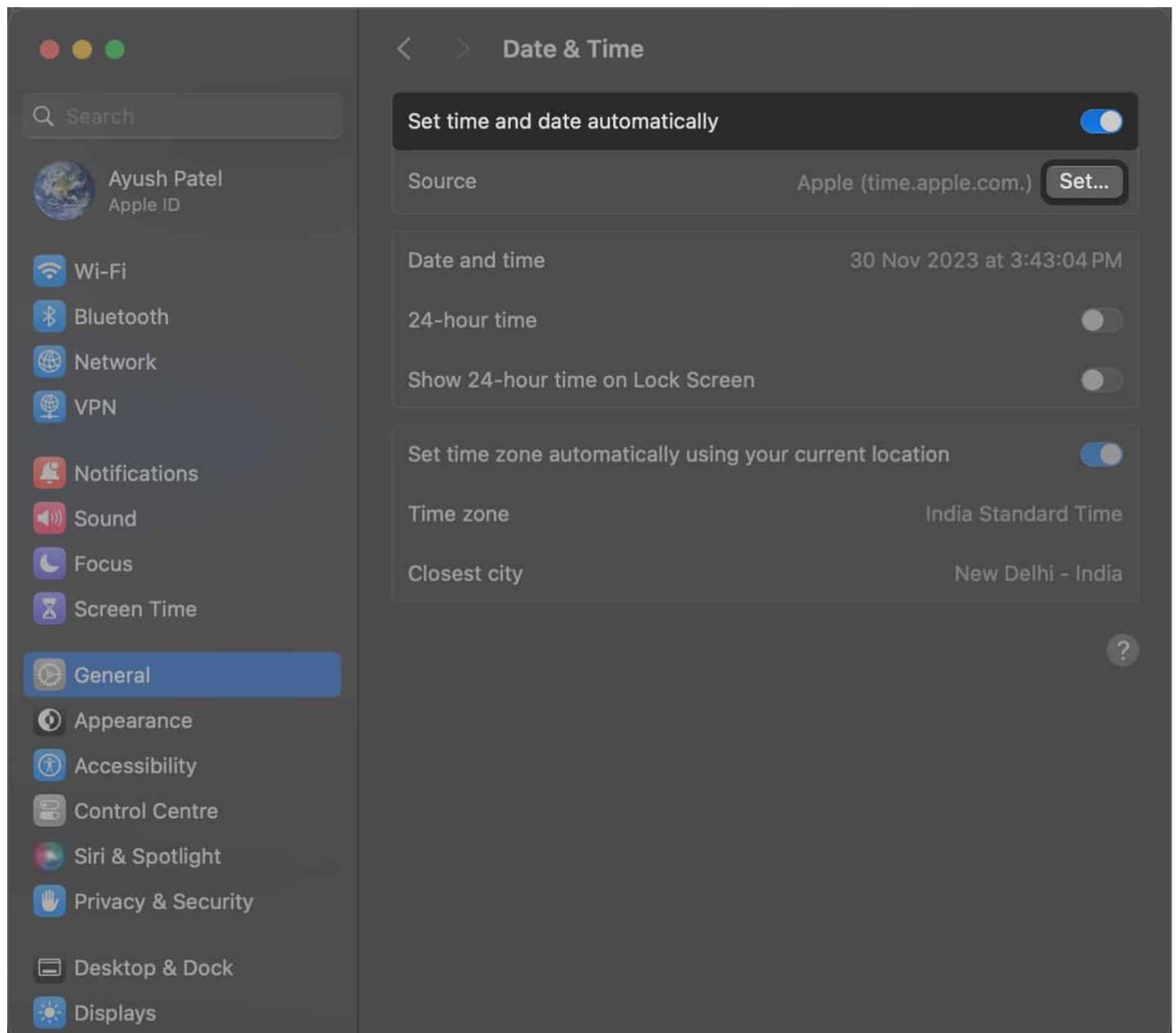
1. Click the **Apple logo** () in the menu bar → Select **System Settings**.



2. Click **General** from the sidebar → Select **Date & Time**.



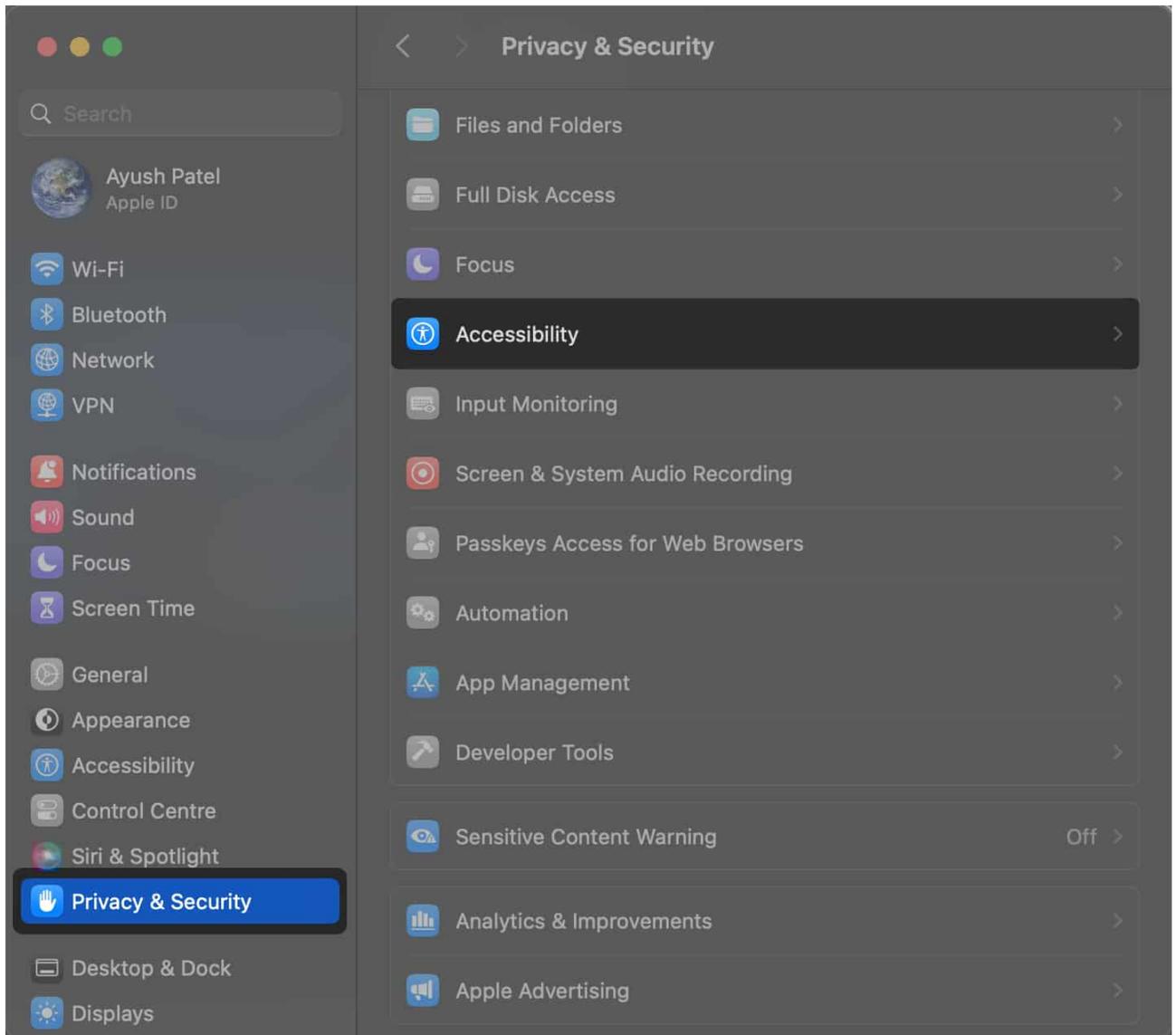
3. Toggle on **Set date and time automatically**.



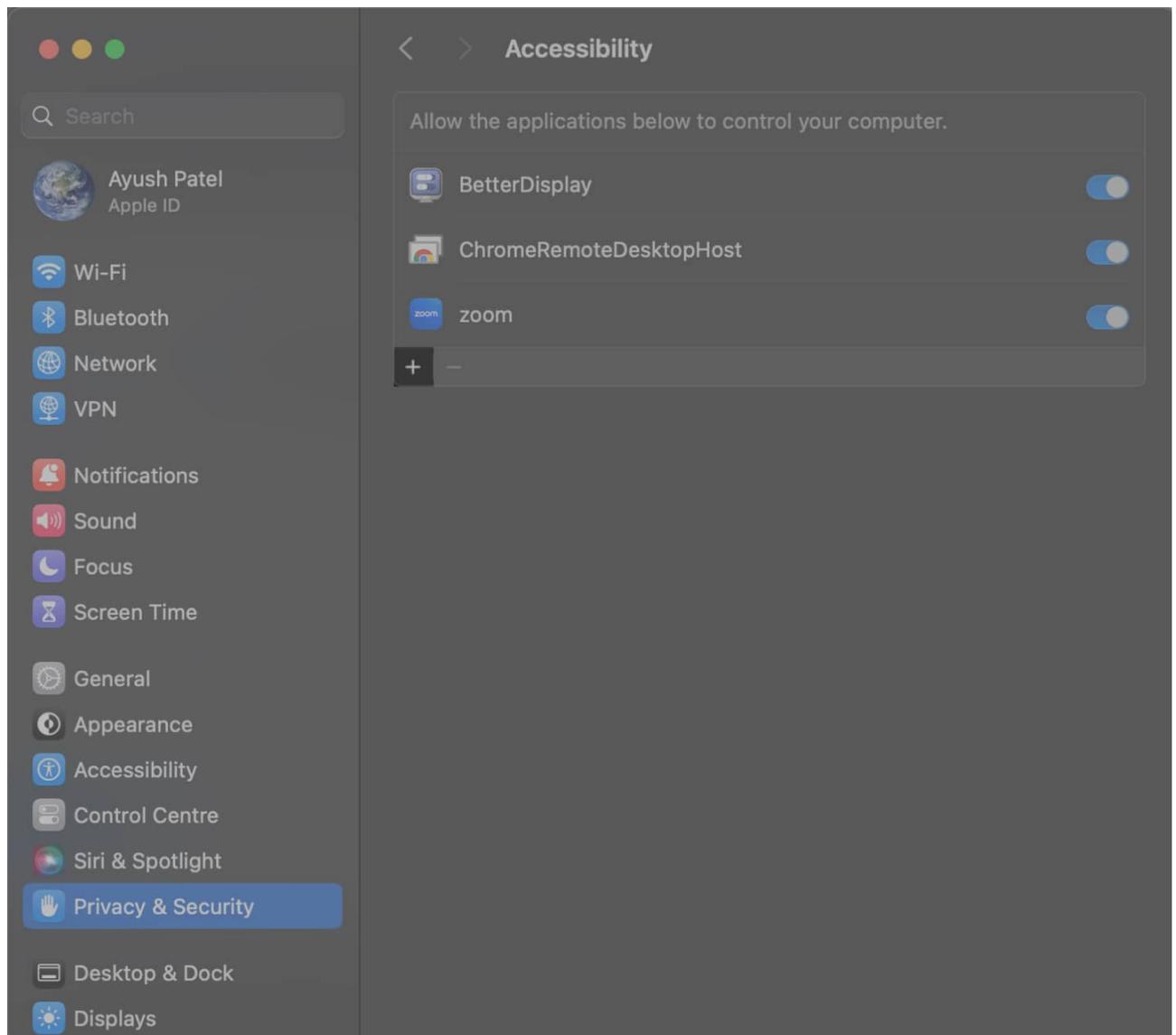
## 5. Grant Accessibility Permissions to Steam on Mac

Steam requires Accessibility Permissions to perform certain functions, like displaying overlays over game windows or detecting game controllers. If Steam is not opening on your Mac, it might be because Steam doesn't have the necessary Accessibility Permissions.

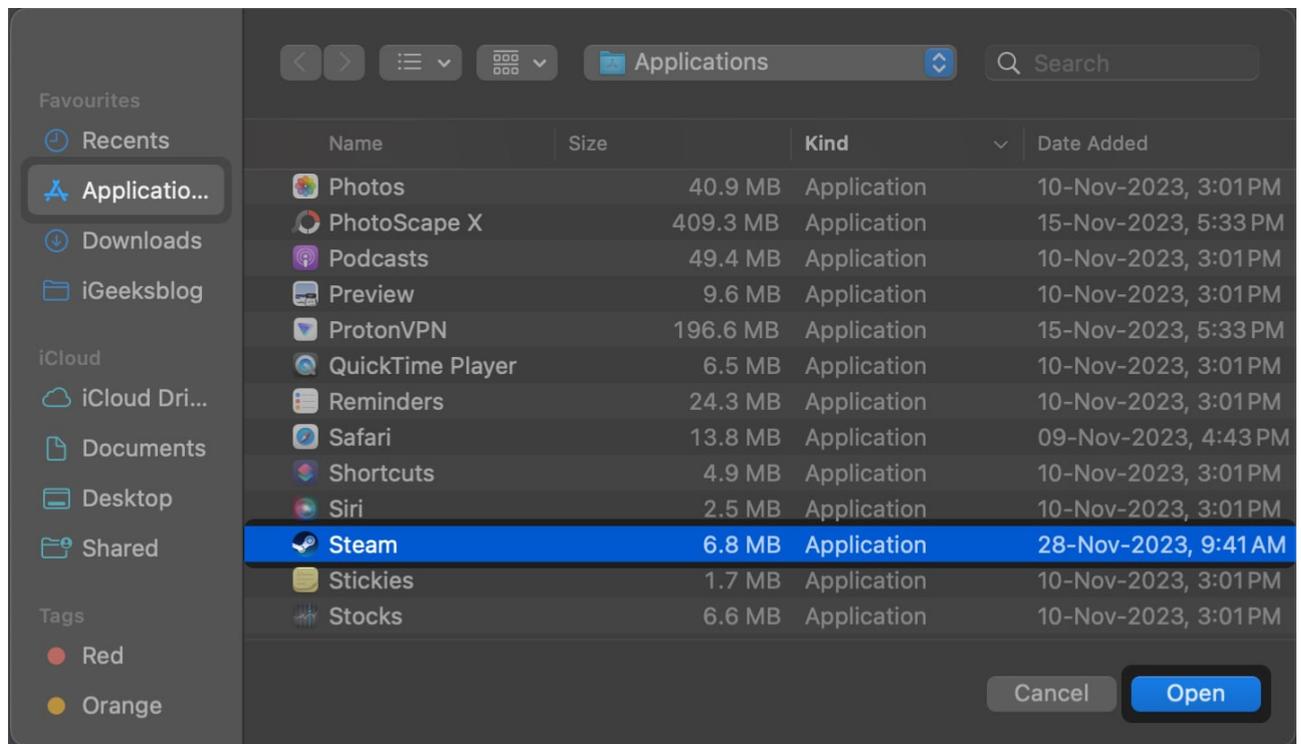
1. Click the **Apple logo** → Select **System Settings**.
2. Click **Privacy & Security** from the sidebar → Select **Accessibility**.



3. Click the **plus button (+)** under the list of allowed apps.



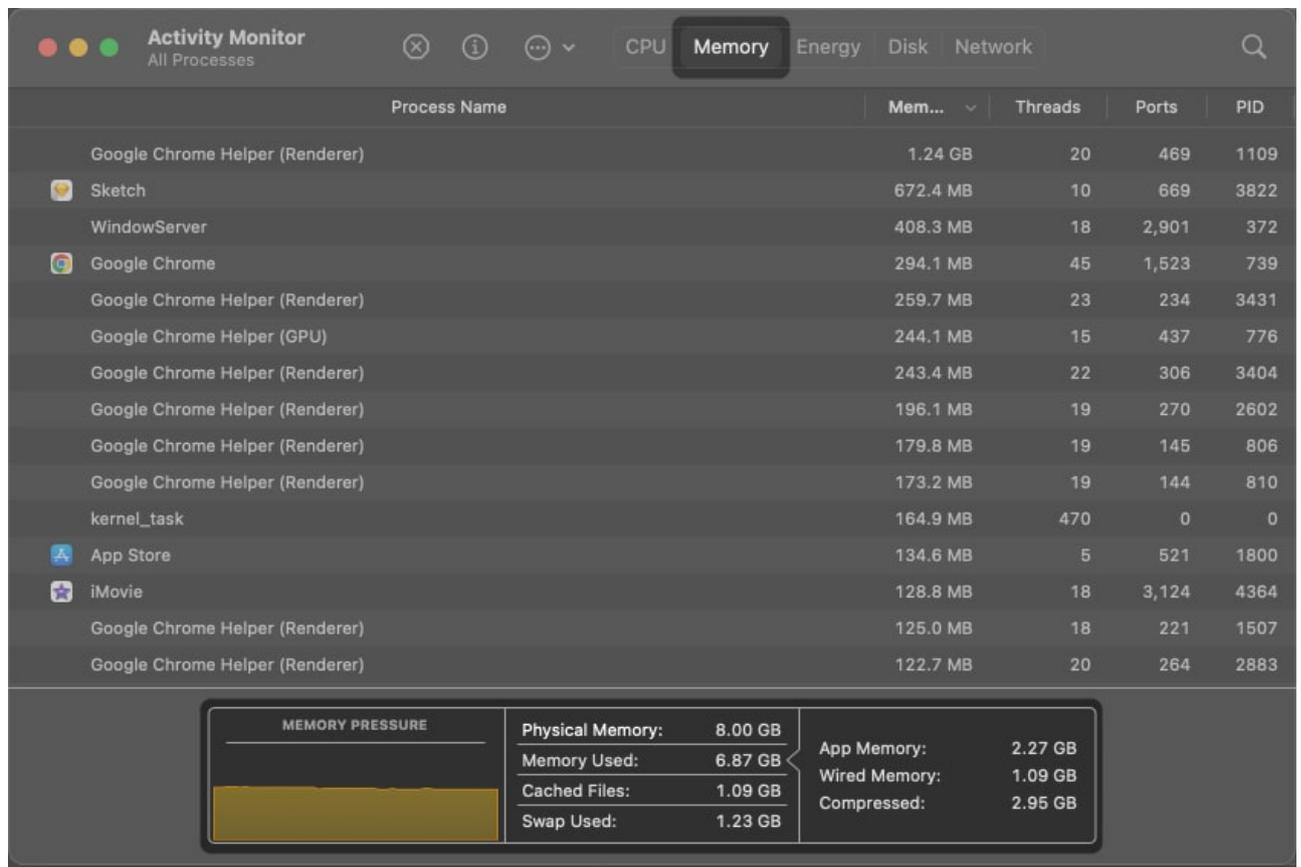
4. Go to **Applications** → Select **Steam** → Click **Open**.



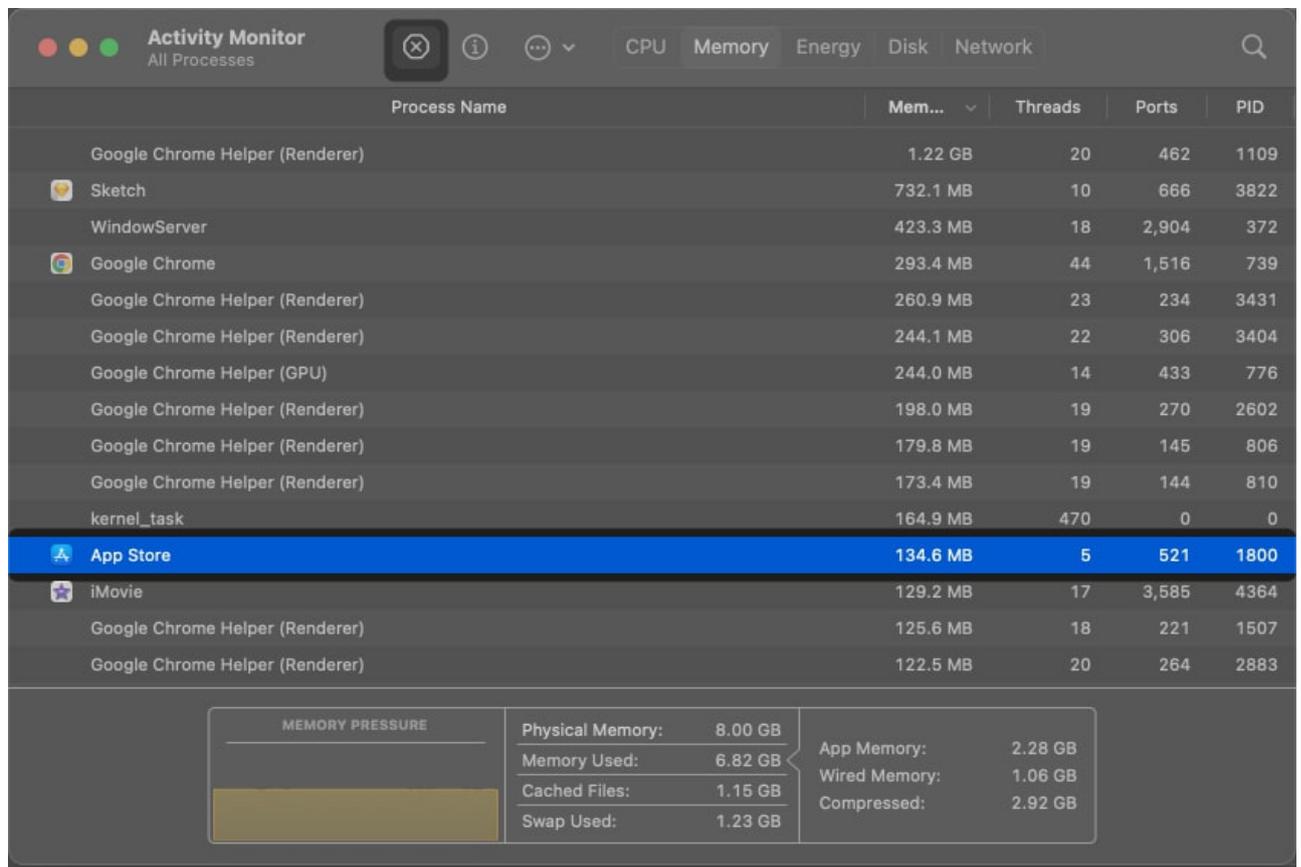
## 6. Ensure Mac has sufficient RAM

Steam is a pretty demanding app that requires a significant amount of RAM to run. If Steam keeps crashing or isn't responding on your Mac, you must check your current memory usage and close unnecessary processes to free the RAM.

1. Open **Activity Monitor** on your Mac using Spotlight or Launchpad.
2. Navigate to the **Memory tab** → Check the **RAM usage** at the bottom.



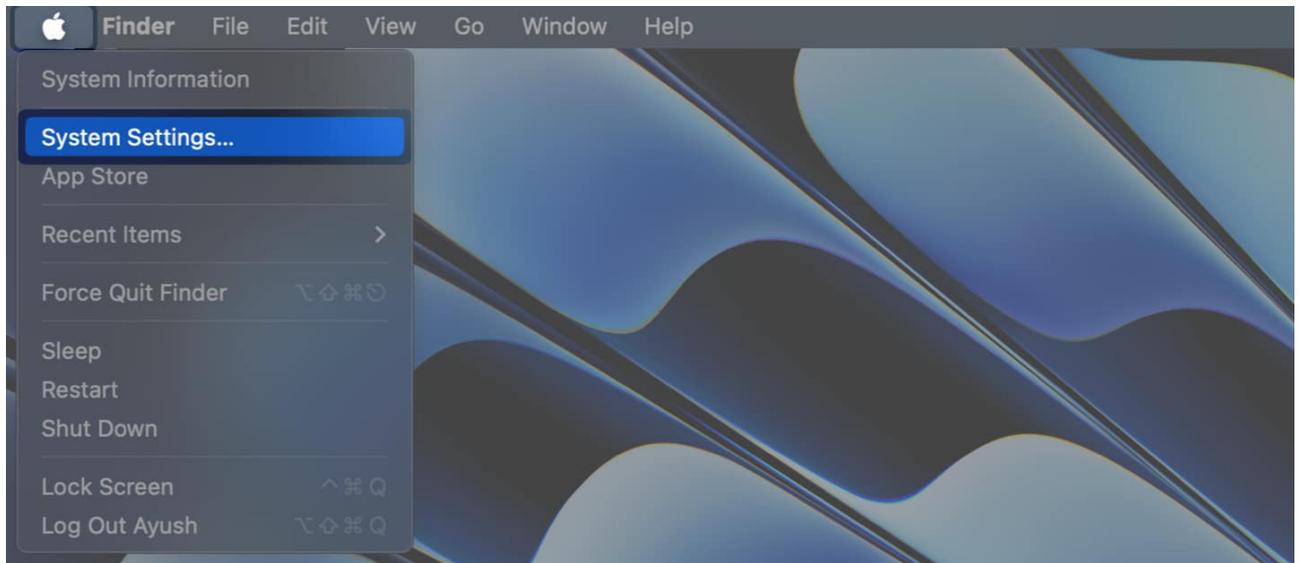
3. Select the **unused apps** → Click the **x icon** to close them.



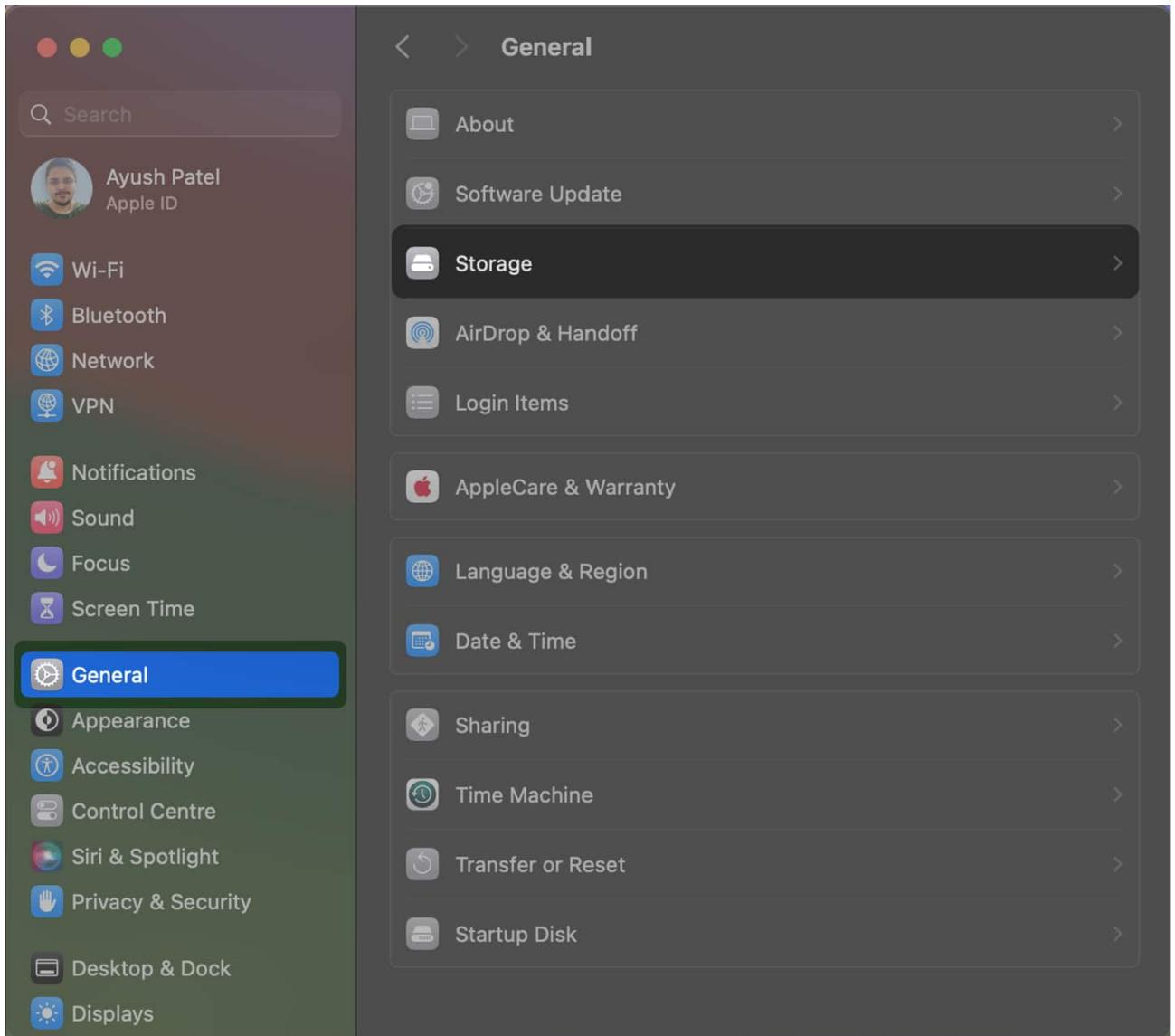
## 7. Ensure Mac has enough storage

Steam needs adequate storage space to install and run games smoothly. If your Mac's storage is running low or near capacity, Steam might encounter issues due to insufficient disk space. Hence, you must ensure that your Mac has enough storage capacity.

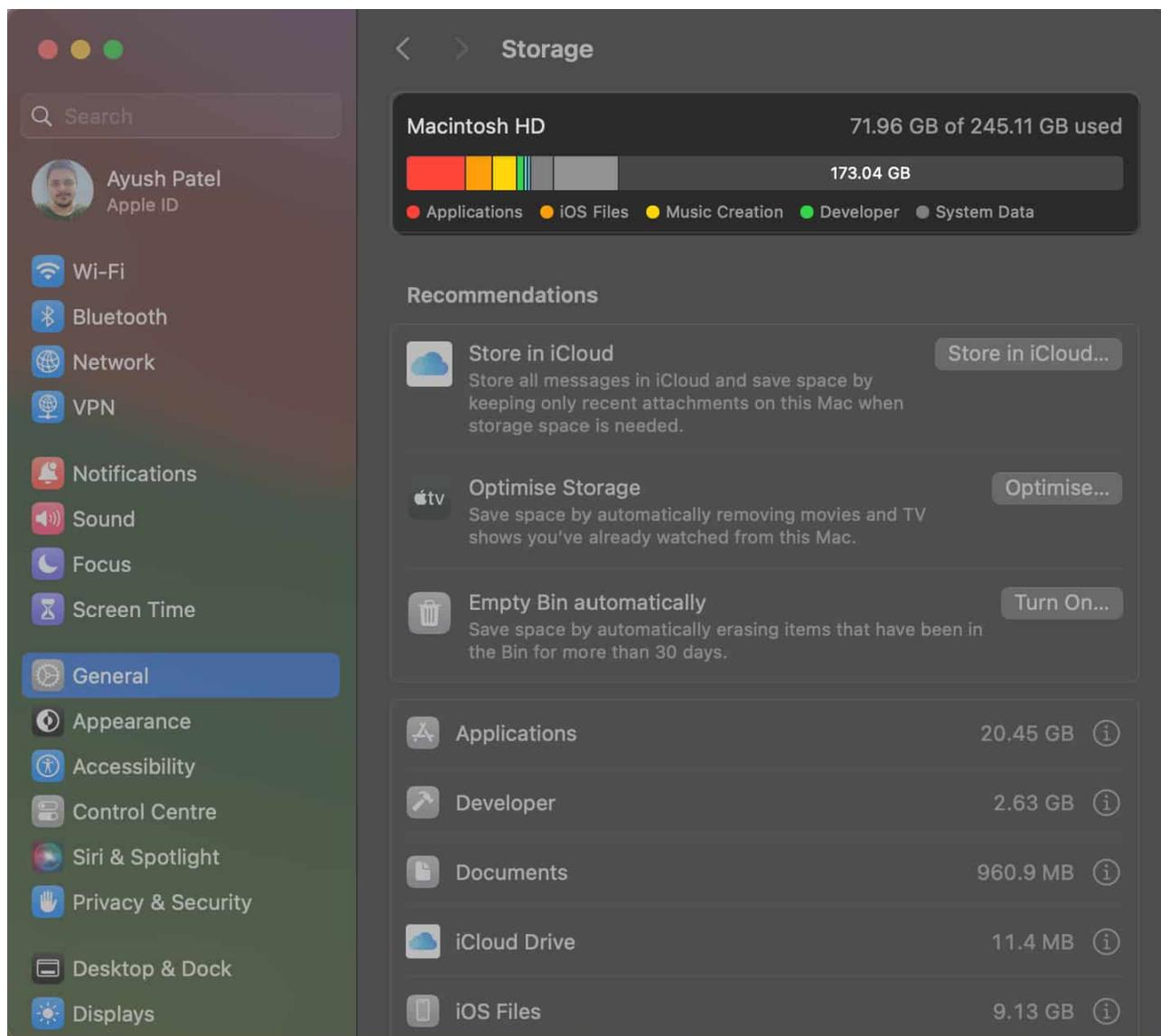
1. Click the  **Apple logo** in the menu bar → Select **System Settings**.



2. Click **General** from the sidebar → Select **Storage**.



3. Check if your Mac has sufficient **disk space** to run Steam.



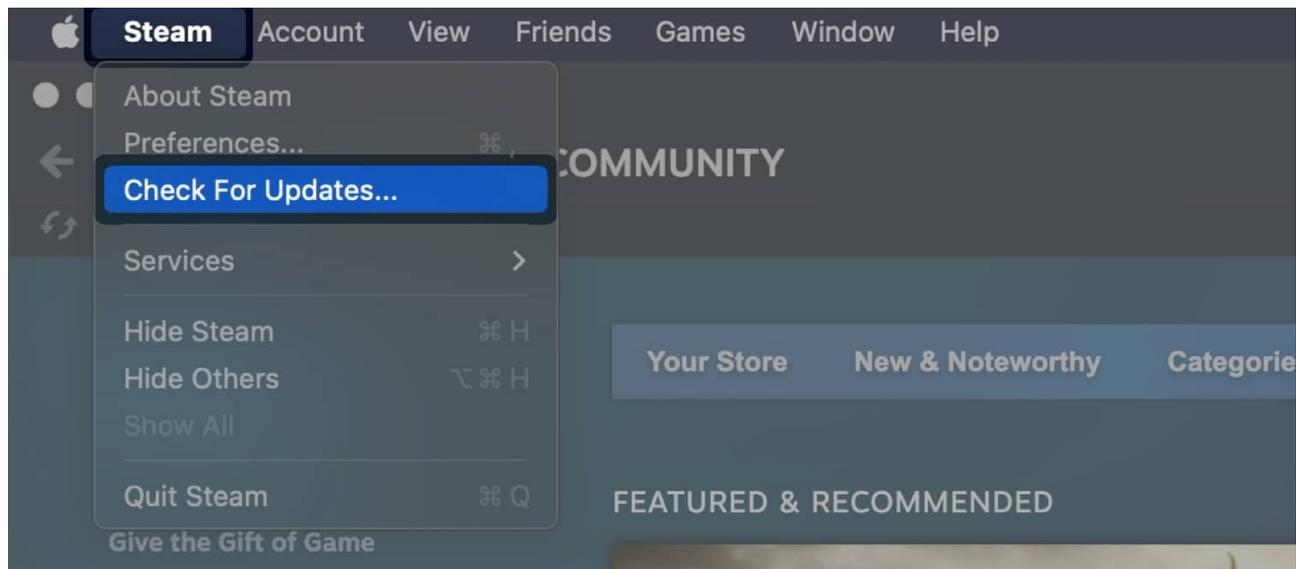
If your Mac is running low on storage, you may refer to our step-by-step guide to [free up space on your Mac](#). Once sufficient storage is available on your Mac, check if Steam works correctly.

## 8. Check for Steam and macOS updates

An outdated Steam version or macOS can lead to app crashing issues. So, keep them updated to prevent compatibility issues and resolve any potential bugs.

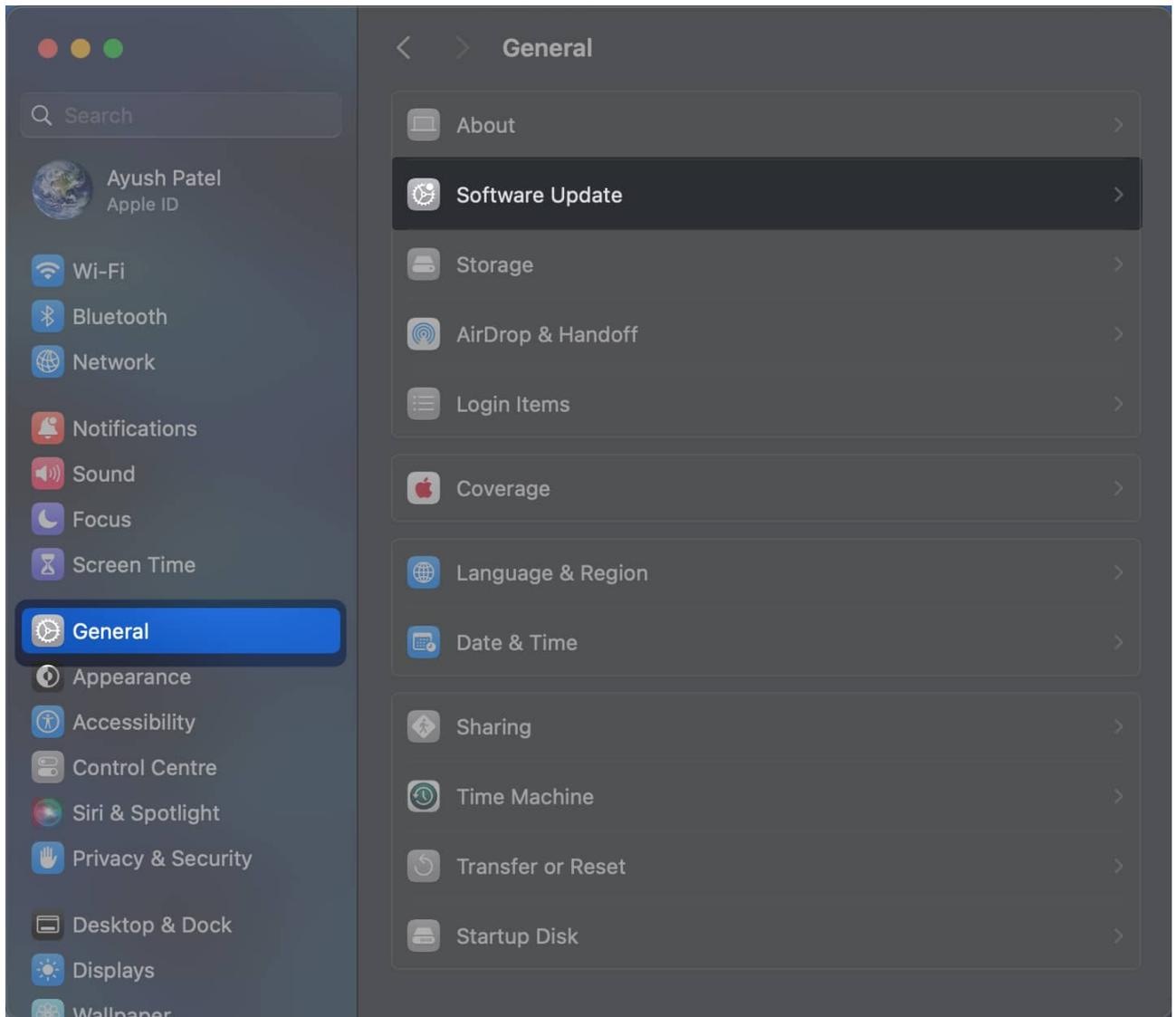
To install the latest version of Steam, you may follow these steps:

1. Open the **Steam client/app** on your Mac.
2. Click **Steam** on the Menu bar → Select **Check For Updates**.

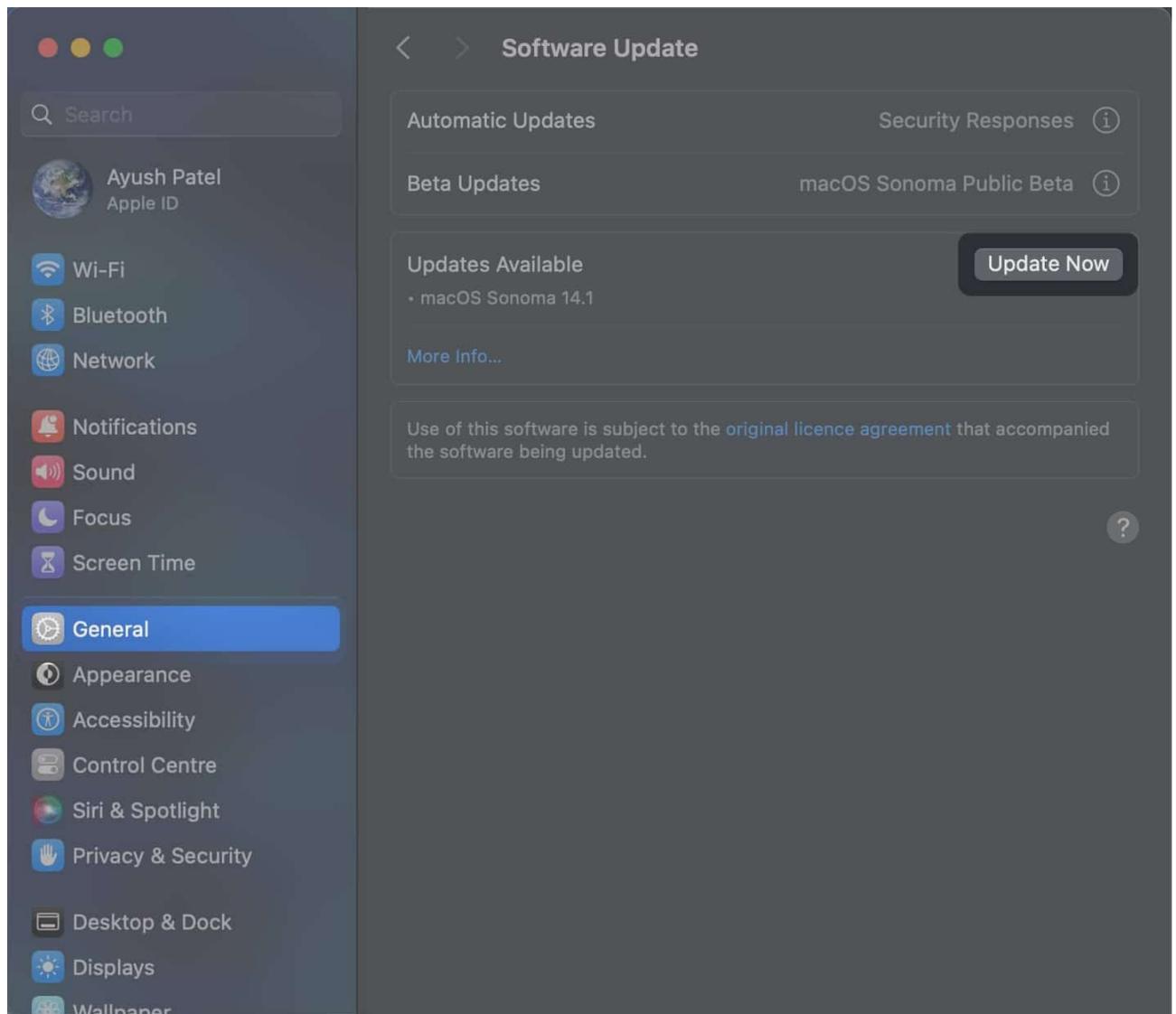


To [install the latest version of macOS](#), you may follow these steps:

1. Navigate to **System Settings** → **General** → **Software update**.



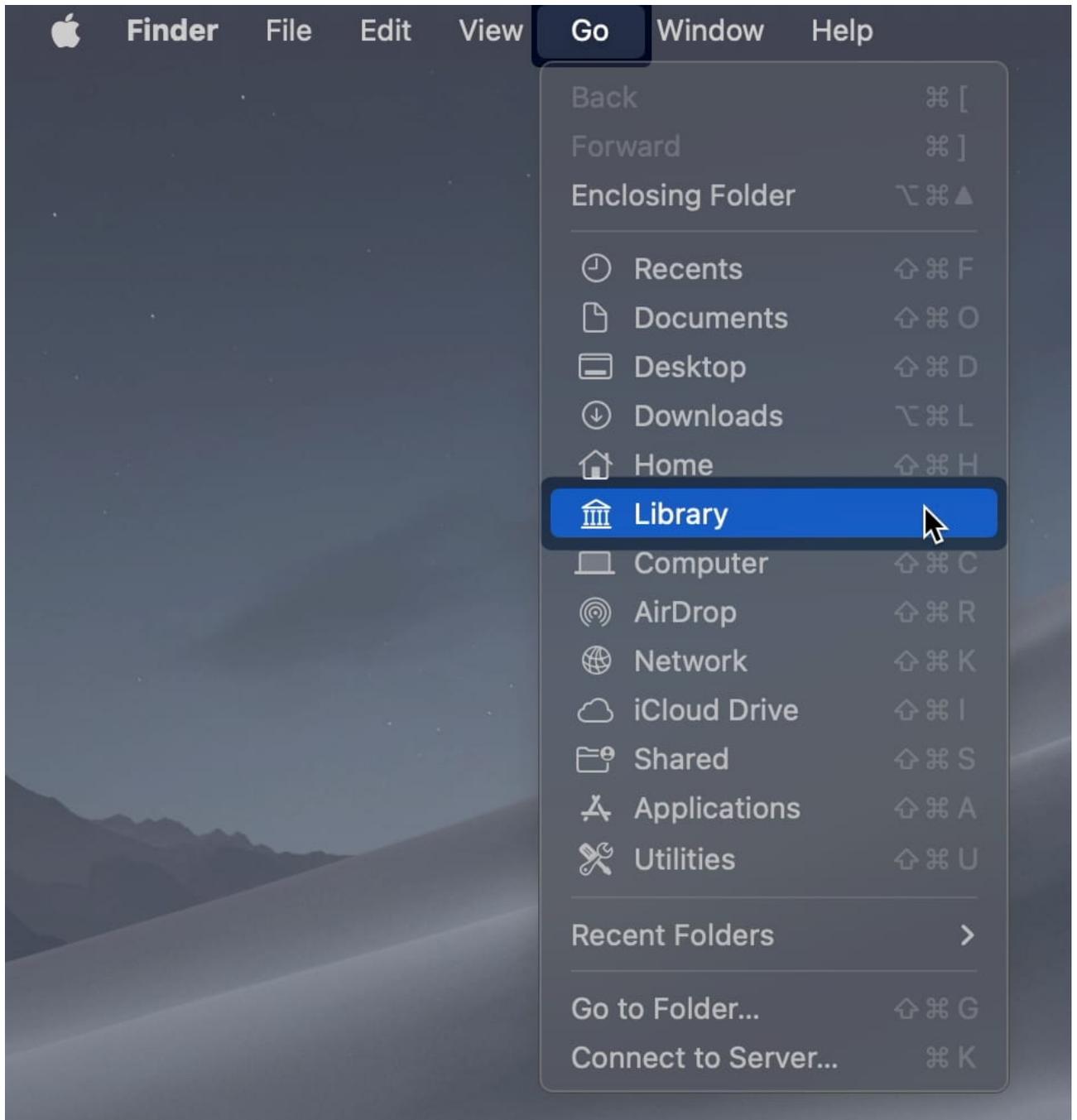
2. Click **Update Now** if a new macOS update is available.



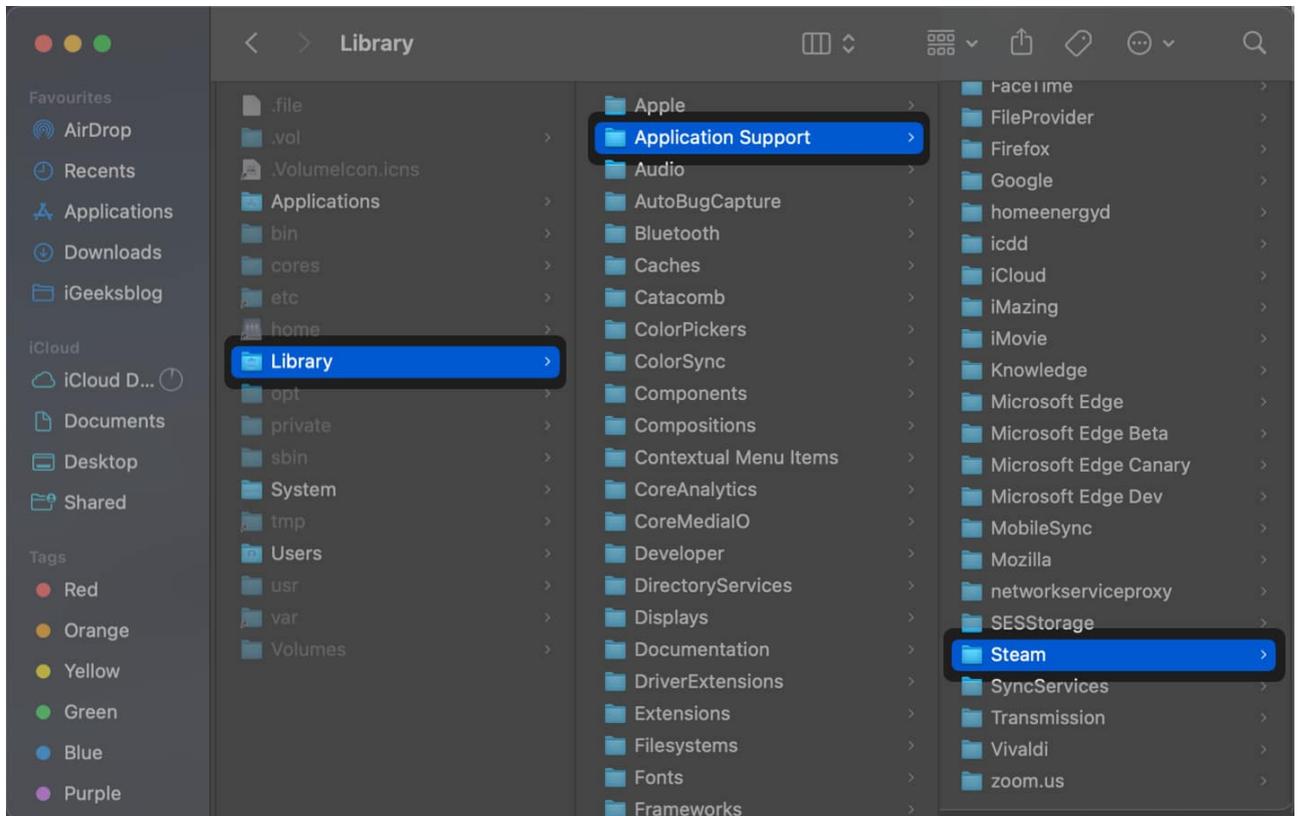
## 9. Delete Steam cache files on Mac

Corrupted cache files can sometimes prevent Steam from opening or working on your Mac. Deleting these files forces Steam to rebuild its cache, potentially eliminating corrupt data.

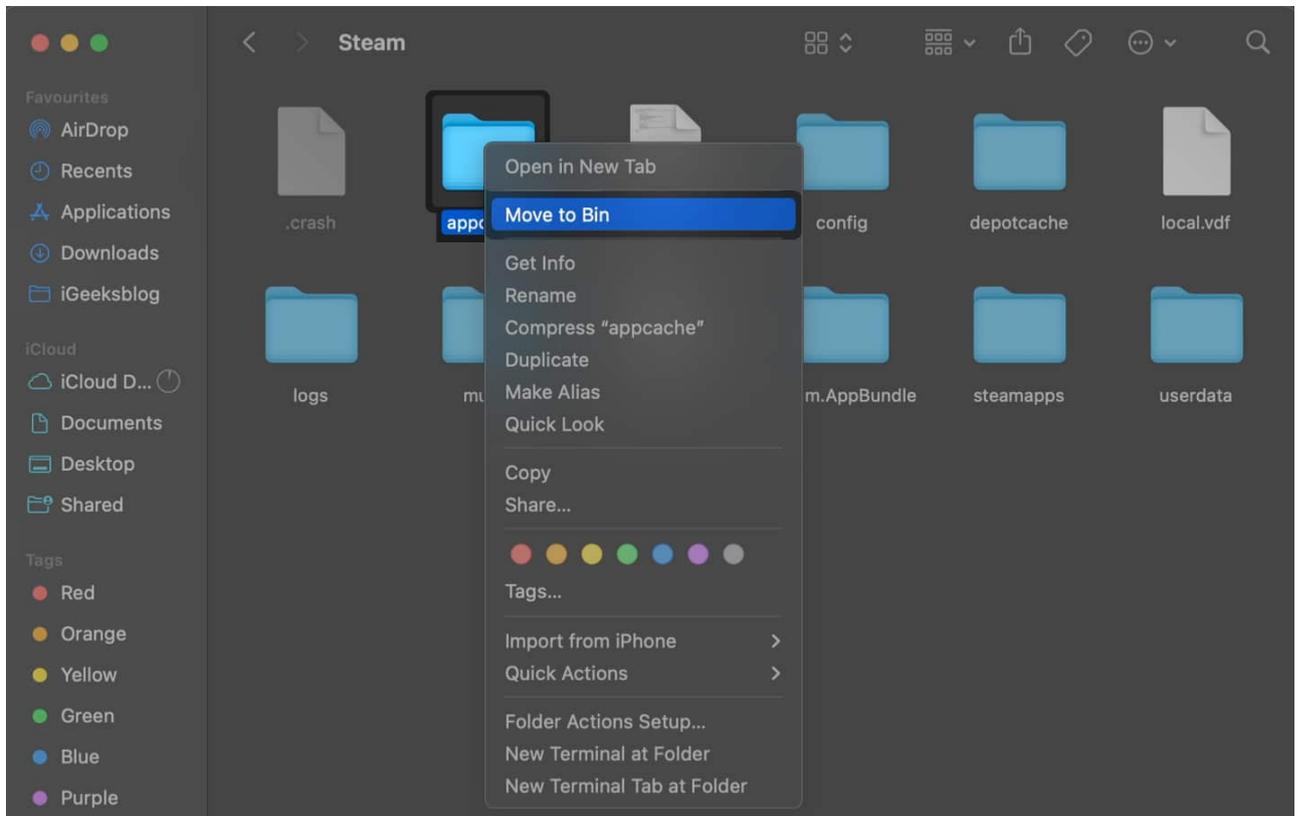
1. Open **Finder** on your Mac → Click **Go** from the Menu bar.
2. Hold the **Option Key** to reveal more options → Select **Library**.



3. Now, navigate to **Application Support → Steam**.

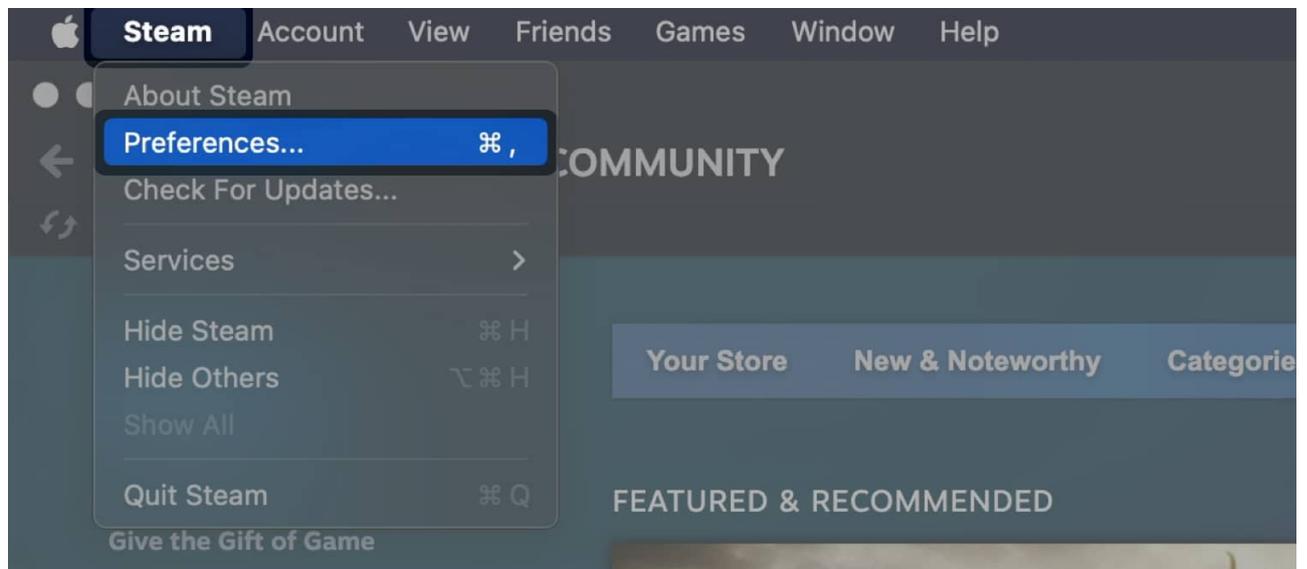


4. Right-click on the **appcache** folder → Select **Move to Bin**.

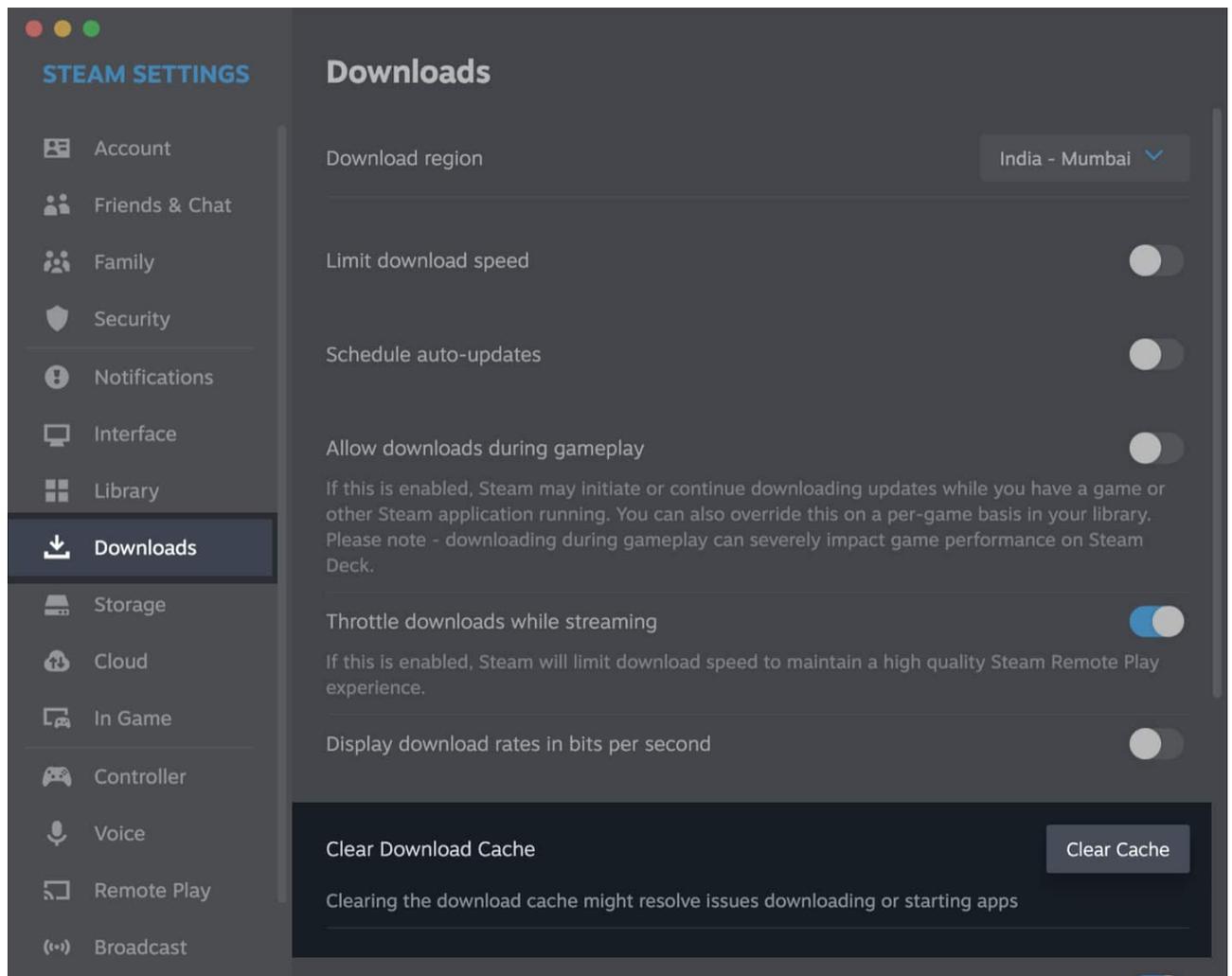


If deleting the cache folder didn't fix the issue, you may delete the Steam Download Cache as shown in these steps:

1. Open the **Steam client/app** on your Mac.
2. Click **Steam** on the Menu bar → Select **Preferences**.



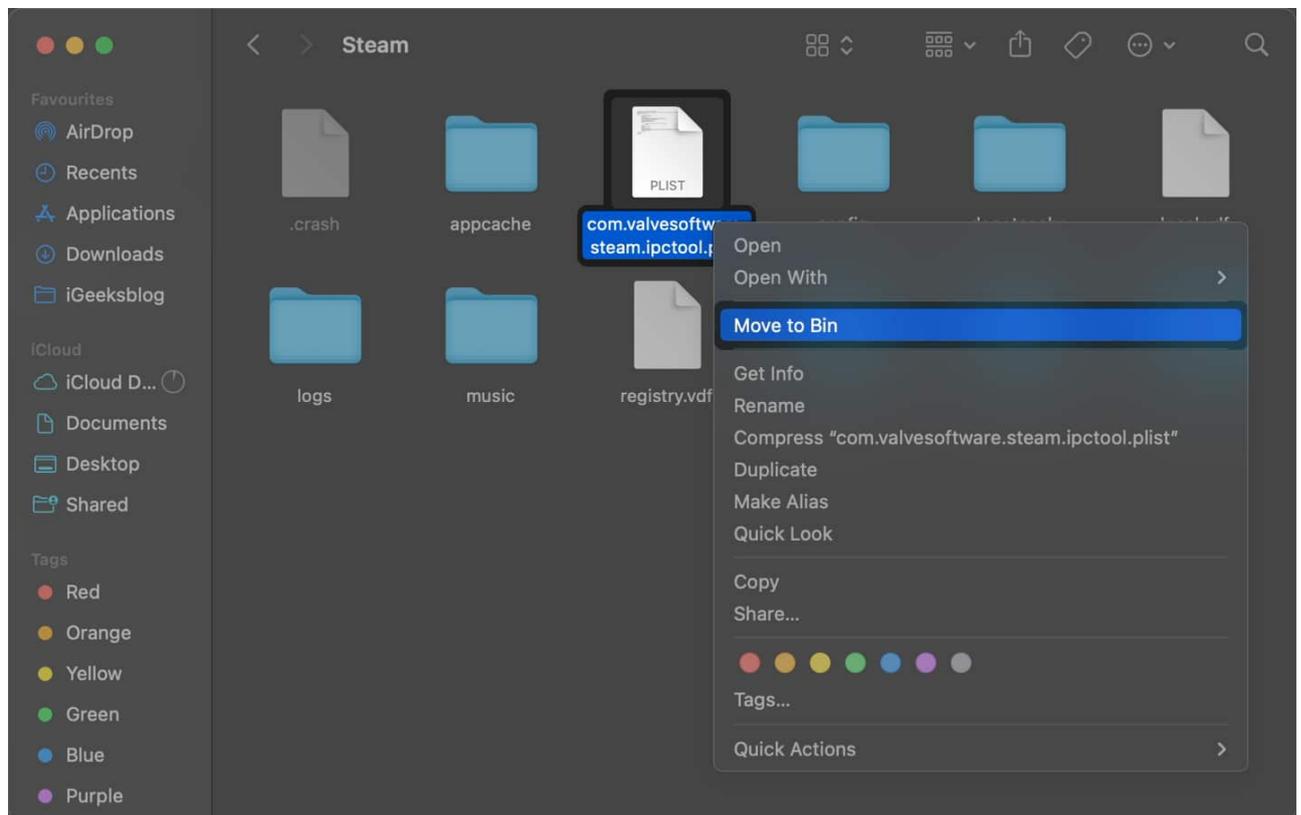
3. Select **Downloads** from the sidebar → Click **Clear Cache** → **Confirm**.



## 10. Delete Steam preferences

Glitches in Steam preference files can also cause it to experience crashes or startup problems. Deleting these files will reset the preferences to default settings, fixing any underlying issues.

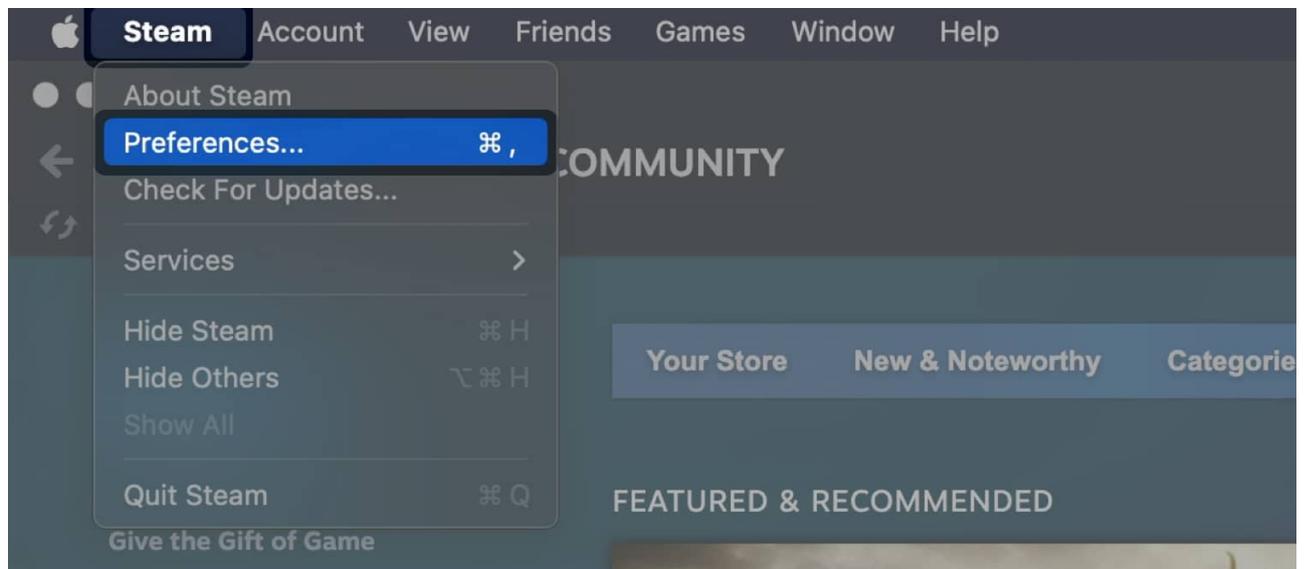
1. Open **Finder** → Click **Go** → **Go to Folder** from the Menu bar.
2. Enter **Library/Application Support/**
3. Select the **Steam** folder.
4. Right-click the **steam.plist** file → Select **Move to Bin**.



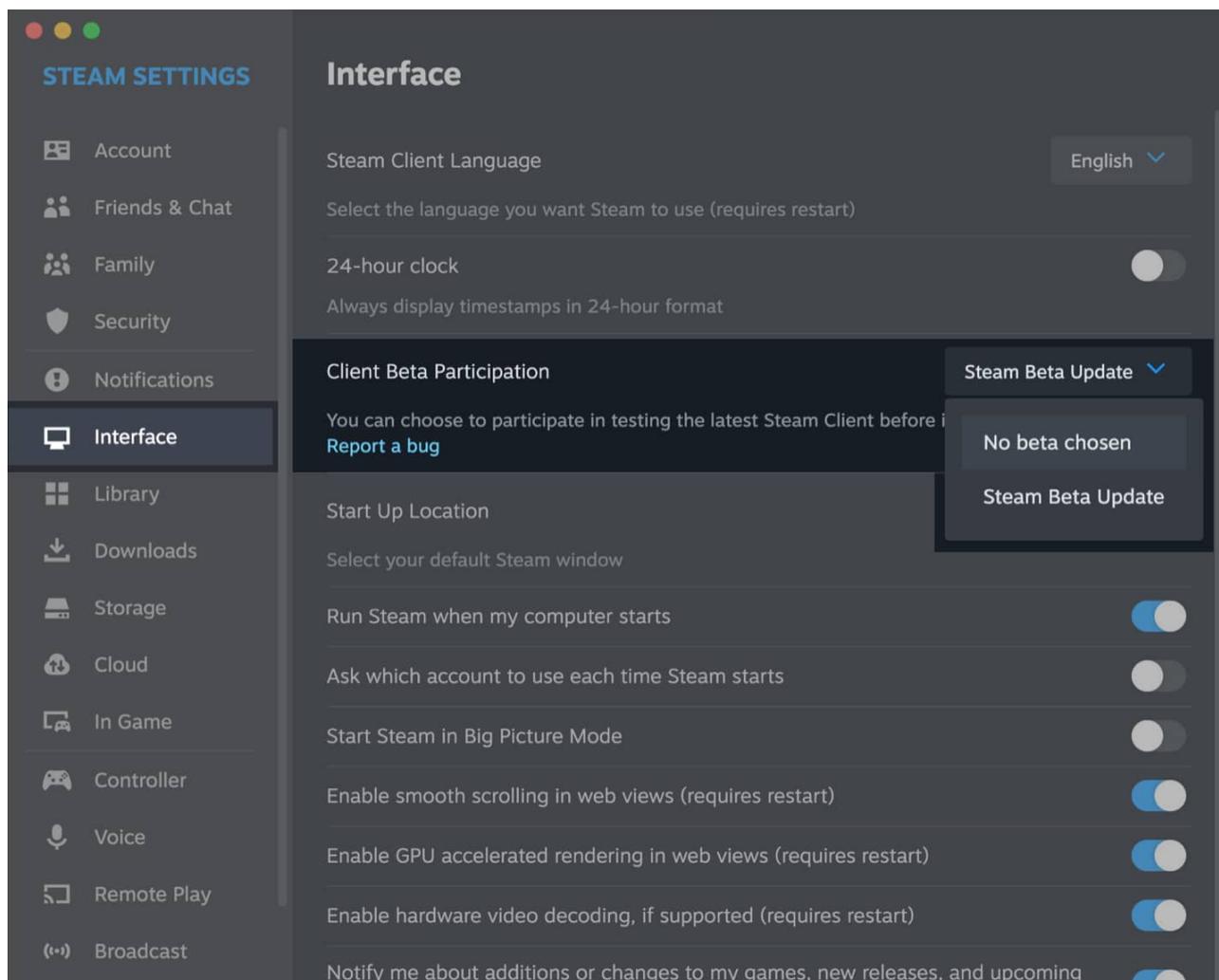
## 11. Opt out of Steam beta updates

If Steam is not working after the update, opting out of the beta version may resolve the issue. Beta updates are pre-release versions of Steam that may contain unfavorable bugs. By opting out, you can ensure that you're running a stable version of Steam, which is less likely to cause issues.

1. Open the **Steam client/app** on your Mac.
2. Click **Steam** on the Menu bar → Select **Preferences**.



3. Select **Interface** from the left sidebar.
4. Click **Client Beta Participation** drop-down → Select **No beta chosen**.



## 12. Reset SMC and NVRAM

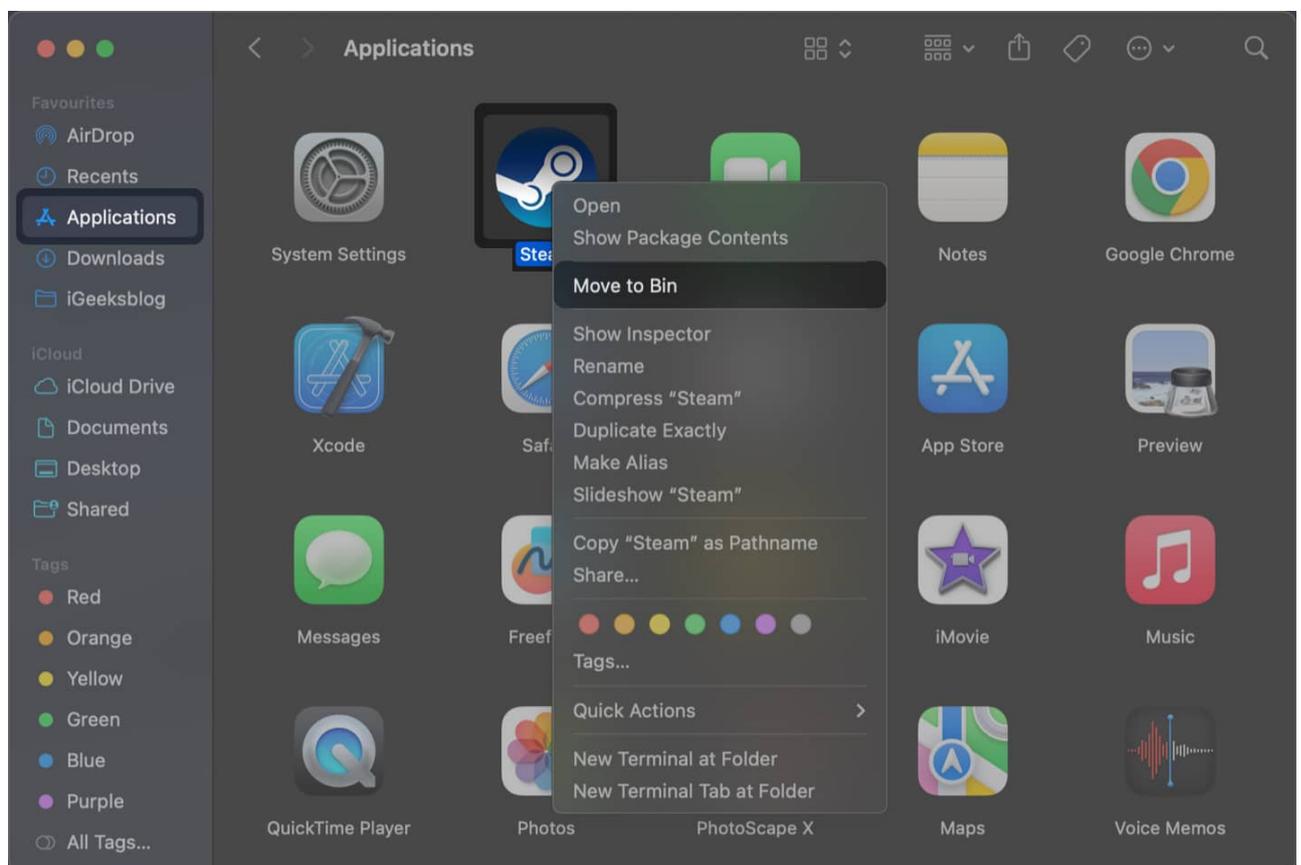
The NVRAM (Non-Volatile Random Access Memory) and the SMC (System Management Controller) are physical chips on the Mac that store various settings and control essential functions. Resetting these components can sometimes fix issues related to many pre-installed and third-party apps.

If you don't know how to do this, you should refer to our guide on [how to reset NVRAM on Mac](#), followed by our guide on [how to reset SMC on Mac](#).

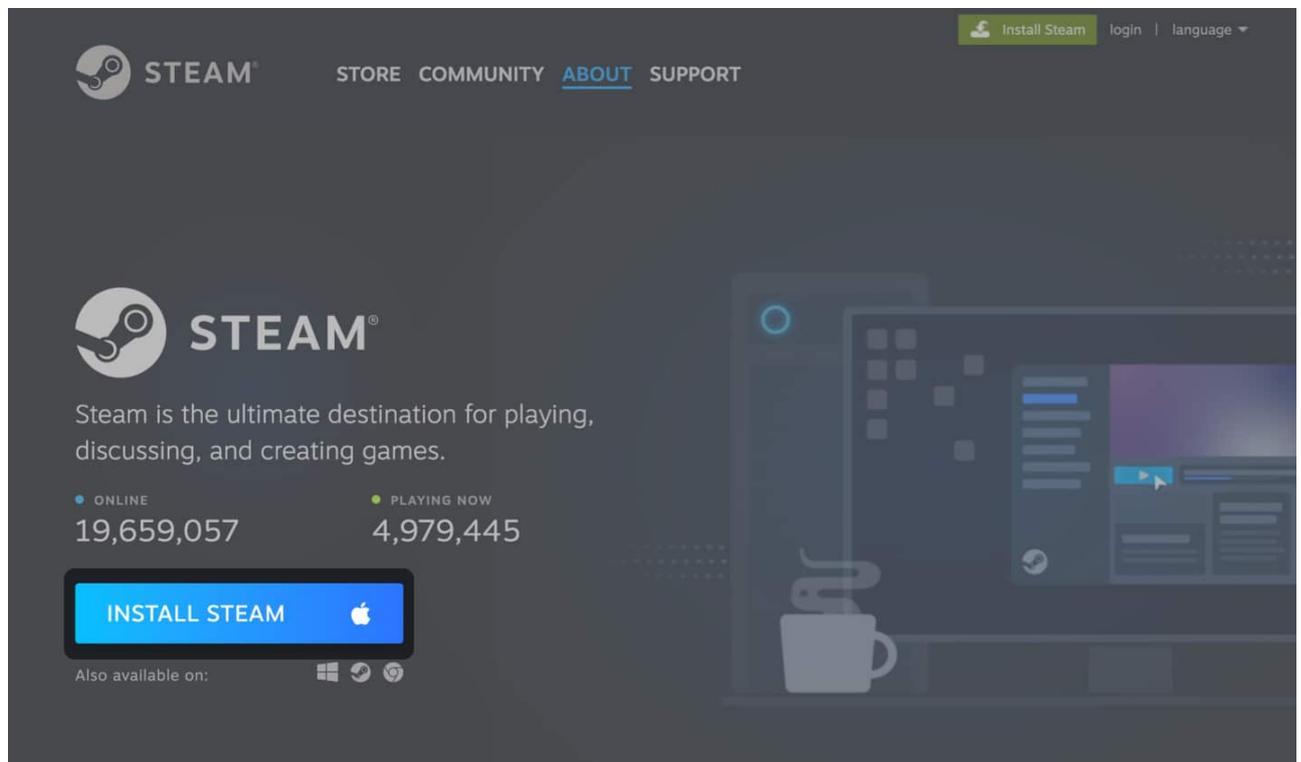
## 13. Delete and reinstall Steam on Mac

If you cannot fix Steam-related issues on your Mac after applying the previous solutions, deleting and reinstalling the app may help. This method will remove any corrupted or missing files that might be causing the issue and ensure that you have the latest version of the app.

1. Open **Finder** on your Mac → Select **Applications** from the sidebar.
2. Right-click **Steam** → Select **Move to Bin**.



3. Reinstall **Steam** from its [official website](#) and check if the issue is fixed.



## Wrapping up...

Issues with Steam are chaotic, especially when you're eager to dive into your favorite games. Fortunately, by following the troubleshooting steps in this guide, you should be able to identify and fix the underlying cause of the issue and get back to playing your games.

However, if Steam is still crashing or won't open on your Mac, please drop a comment below detailing your error. We'll do our best to assist you further and get Steam working smoothly on your Mac.

## Also read:

- [7 Best AAA FPS games for Mac](#)
- [How to play PS5 or PS4 games on iPhone using Remote Play](#)
- [How to check FPS in games on Mac?](#)
- [Best Mac games for game lover](#)