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Getting Started with QuarkXPress 2027

November 2026

Contents

Related Documents 1

System Requirements 3

System requirements: macOS 3

- Software 3
- Hardware 3
- Other 3

System requirements: Windows 3

- Software 3
- Hardware 3
- Other 4

Installation for macOS 5

Installation for Windows 6

Installing XTensions Modules 7

- macOS 7
- Windows 7

License Management in QuarkXPress 8

Subscription Licensing 8

Quark License Management Console 8

- Licensing Model 8
- Viewing License Information 8
- Viewing Active Assigned Users 9
- Adding New Users 9
- Deactivating Users 10
- Removing Users 10

User-Based Activation 11
Managing Licenses in QuarkXPress 11
In-App License Transfer 12
Concurrent Licensing 13

Activation 14
QuarkXPress Activation Process 14
Proxy Settings 15
Offline Activation 16
Reactivation 17

Deactivation 18

Free Trial Mode 19
AI features 20

Uninstalling 21
Uninstalling: macOS 21
Uninstalling: Windows 21

Preferences 22

QuarkXPress (App Store) 23

Troubleshooting 30

Related Documents

For more information about using QuarkXPress, refer documentation/resources listed below.

Document Name	Description	Location
QuarkXPress User Guide	The complete guide for learning about QuarkXPress features and how to use them.	*https://www.quark.com/support/documentation/quarkxpress*
What's New in QuarkXPress	A summary of new features in QuarkXPress.	
Release Notes	A brief description of new features and enhancements in the current release	
Digital Publishing with QuarkXPress	A guide to Digital Publishing with QuarkXPress.	
Known and Resolved Issues in QuarkXPress	A comprehensive list of the known issues and issues reported by users	
Getting Started with QuarkXPress	A guide to set up QuarkXPress for getting started	
QuarkXPress System Requirements	Minimum system requirements for QuarkXPress	
A Guide to XPress Tags		
Keyboard Command Guide: macOS	Keyboard shortcuts to use QuarkXPress features	
Keyboard Command Guide: Windows		
QX.js API Reference		
QX.js Scripting Guide		

Document Name	Description	Location
Apple Events Scripting		

System Requirements

System requirements: macOS

Software

- macOS® 27.x (Golden Gate), macOS® 26.x (Tahoe) and macOS® 15.x (Sequoia)

Hardware

- Apple silicon (M-series) or Intel processor with dual cores or more (Intel-based Macs are supported on macOS 26 and macOS 15 only; macOS 27 requires Apple silicon)
- 8 GB RAM available for QuarkXPress
- 11 GB hard disk space for installation

➡ For better performance with long, complex (graphic-heavy) documents, we recommend 16 GB of RAM or more, and an SSD with at least 20 GB of free space for working files and caches. An Apple silicon M-series Pro or Max processor gives the best performance.

Other

- An Internet connection is required.

System requirements: Windows

Software

- Microsoft® Windows® 11 version 24H2 (64-bit) or later, or Microsoft® Windows® 10 version 22H2 (64-bit)
- Microsoft® Windows Server® 2022 (64-bit)
- Microsoft .NET Framework 4.8 or later (installed automatically if missing)

Hardware

- CPU with dual cores or more

- 8 GB RAM available for QuarkXPress
- 8 GB hard disk space for installation

➡ For better performance with long, complex (graphic-heavy) documents, we recommend 16 GB of RAM or more, and an SSD with at least 20 GB of free space for working files and caches.

Other

- An Internet connection is required.

Installation for macOS

To install QuarkXPress for use with the appropriate macOS:

1. Disable any virus protection software. If you are concerned about a virus infecting your computer, run a virus check on the installer file, then disable your virus detection software.
2. Double-click on the installer dmg. Drag the QuarkXPress app (a single App bundle) to the "Applications" folder or to a directory of your choice.

QuarkXPress 2027 requires macOS 15 (Sequoia) or later. On macOS 14 and earlier, macOS doesn't open it.

If you run QuarkXPress on a newer version of macOS that Quark hasn't certified yet, QuarkXPress shows a message that this version of macOS isn't supported. Click **Continue** to keep working, or **Download Installer** to check for an updated version.

For IT administrators: to always allow QuarkXPress to launch on newer macOS versions that haven't been certified yet, run defaults write com.quark.QuarkXPress QXPAllowUnsupportedMacOS -bool YES. This setting doesn't override the macOS 15 minimum.

Installation for Windows

To install QuarkXPress for use with the appropriate Windows OS:

1. Disable any virus protection software. If you are concerned about a virus infecting your computer, run a virus check on the installer file, then disable your virus detection software.
2. Double-click the installer icon and follow the instructions on the screen. QuarkXPress is installed for all users of the computer, with all its components.
3. Quark Update is installed with QuarkXPress, so you can get updates when they are available. It has its own entry in Settings > Apps, and stays installed if you remove QuarkXPress.

Installing XTensions Modules

QuarkXPress ships with a default set of XTensions modules. You can also install additional XTensions software developed by Quark or by third-party companies.

Most XTensions come in two parts, one file for the functionality of the XTensions module, and another file for its user interface. The name of the user interface module typically ends in "UI". XTensions modules that do not have any user interface do not have to have a UI file.

macOS

QuarkXPress2027 is released as an "App Bundle" for macOS. In order to make this possible, all the supporting folders, including the default XTensions, have been moved inside the self-contained app bundle. QuarkXPress 2027 will load third-party XTensions from the following two locations:

- ~/Library/Application Support/Quark/QuarkXPress 2027/XTensions
- /Library/Application Support/Quark/QuarkXPress 2027/XTensions

If the XTension is placed in the main library path, it will be available to all the users on that Mac. If deployed in the user's library path, the XTension will only be available to that particular user. If the same XTension exists in both of these locations, then the one in the user's library location will get precedence.

➡ The XTensions must be placed in one of these folders for QuarkXPress 2027 to load them. Do not make a change in the QuarkXPress app bundle. Newly installed XTensions modules will load the next time you launch.

➡ The disabled XTensions will be recorded in the following file:

~/Library/Application Support/Quark/QuarkXPress 2027/XTSettings.plist

Windows

To install XTensions modules on *Windows*, place them in the XTensions folder within your application folder. Newly installed XTensions modules will load the next time you launch.

License Management in QuarkXPress

QuarkXPress can be purchased as either a perpetual license or a subscription license. The email-based licensing model allow new and existing users to start using QuarkXPress using email credentials without the need for activation through the validation code process.

Subscription Licensing

In addition to a traditional perpetual license, Quark now offers a prepaid annual subscription for QuarkXPress. Customers who prefer the perpetual licensing model may continue to purchase or upgrade in that manner, with or without a QuarkXPress Advantage Plan for software maintenance and support. Those who want more budget flexibility in addition to scalability may opt for the subscription.

Quark License Management Console

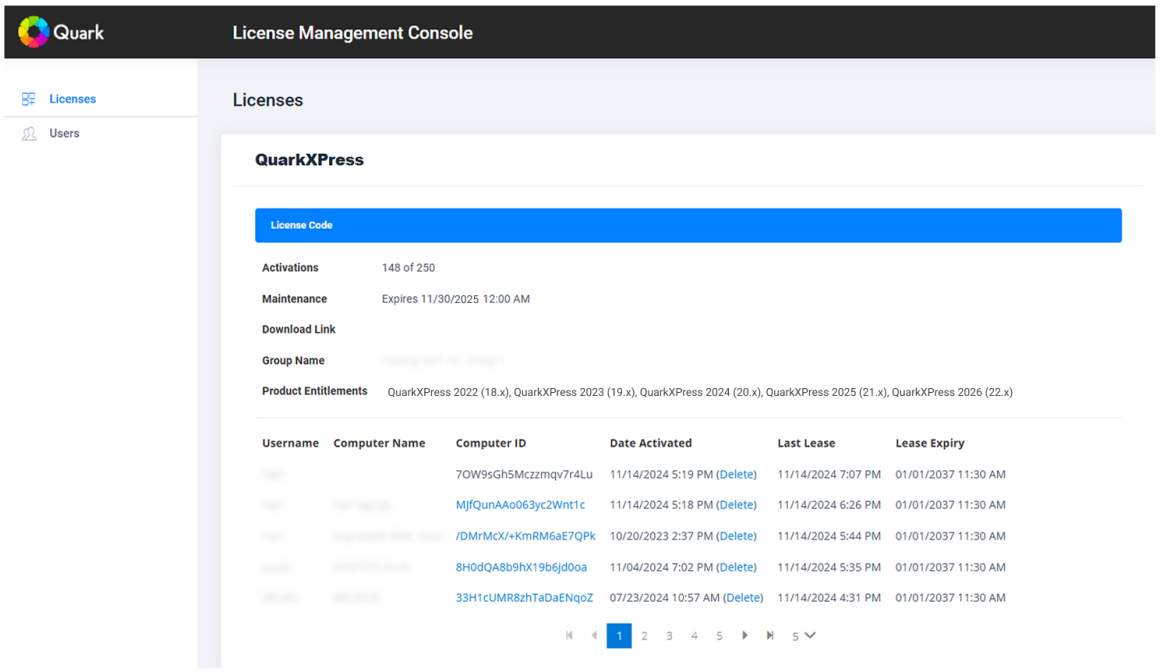
No matter if QuarkXPress users own 1 or 10 licenses, it is easier to manage every single one of them through a dedicated web-based license management console. The new, in-product license management console will provide a central location with complete control to manage and view all the QuarkXPress licenses, add/remove users, activate/deactivate devices, and assign users as needed.

Licensing Model

- Customer will receive login credentials on email to activate QuarkXPress, with a link to a web-based licensing console
- Customer can manage the volume of licenses from a single dashboard
- Validation code is no longer required for activating QuarkXPress
- No need to get in touch with tech support for activation

Viewing License Information

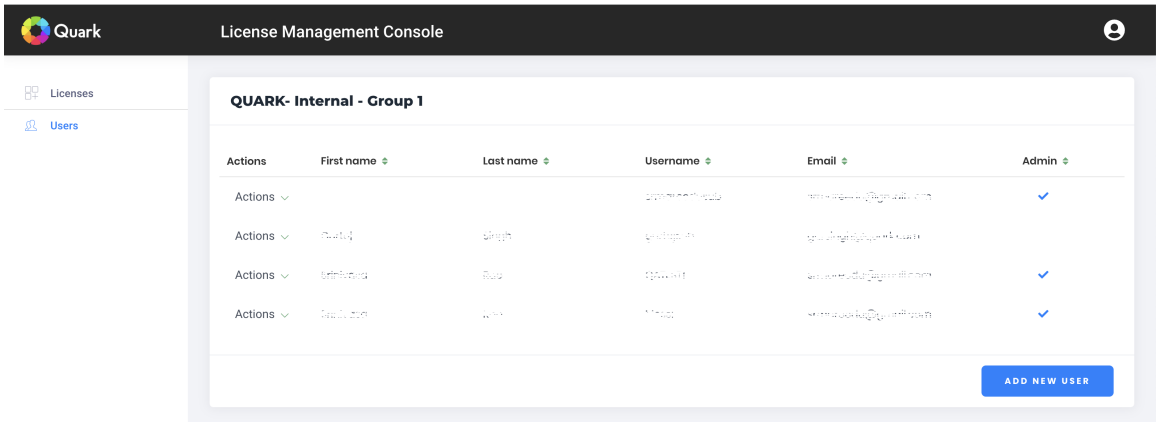
View detailed license information for QuarkXPress, including Maintenance expiration dates and active machines.



Viewing License Information

Viewing Active Assigned Users

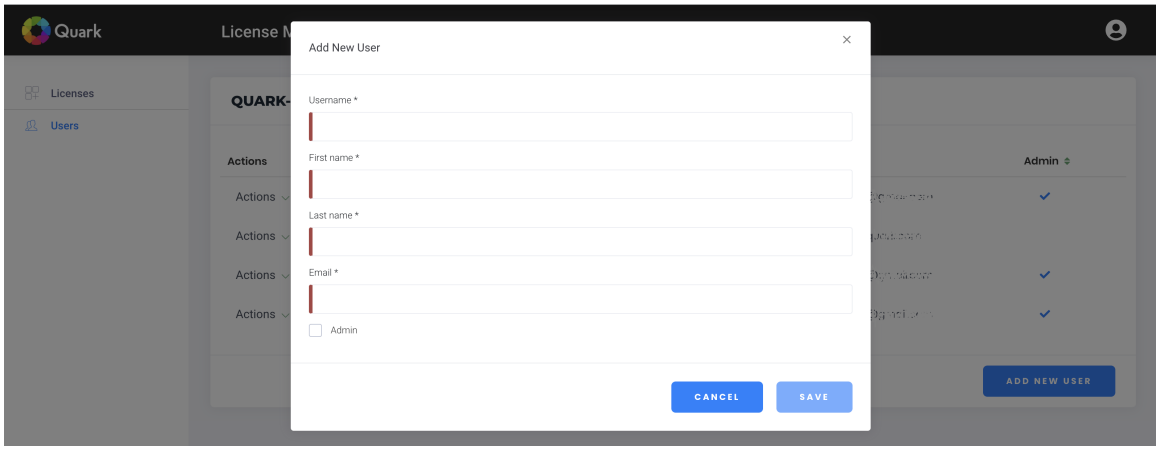
Manage user assignments for individual licenses by assigning and controlling their access as per business requirements.



Viewing Active Assigned Users

Adding New Users

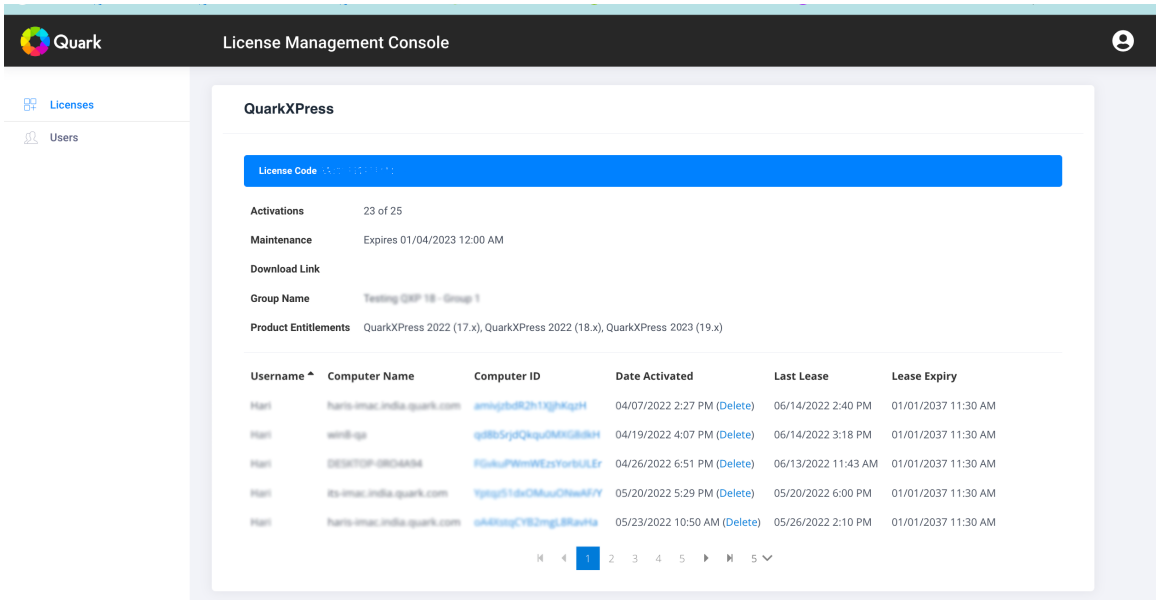
Quickly add new users to the license group to allow QuarkXPress access.



Adding New Users

Deactivating Users

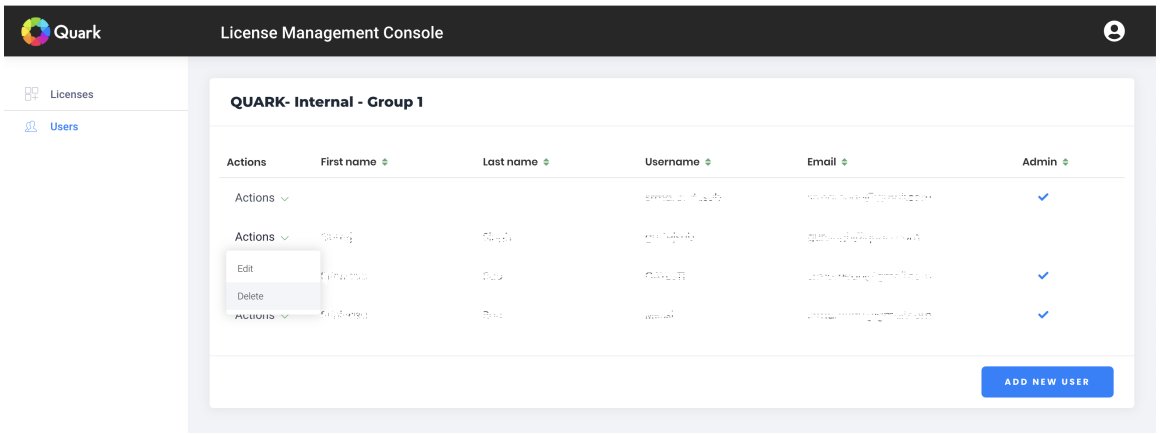
When required, you can deactivate a user from the Licenses dashboard by deleting his license entry.



Deactivating Users

Removing Users

From the Users dashboard, you can delete a user after deactivating the user from the Licenses dashboard.



Removing Users

User-Based Activation

QuarkXPress does not rely on validation codes. Instead, users will activate the software with a username and password. After logging in, they will have access to the User Console and view information such as:

- Total Activated and Available Licenses
- Expiration Date of Maintenance Subscription
- Link to Download QuarkXPress
- List of Active Users/Computers

Managing Licenses in QuarkXPress

In QuarkXPress, you can manage the subscriptions, licenses to different members of your team through the **Manage Account** option in the **Help menu** (Windows OS) and **QuarkXPress menu** (macOS) (not in the Mac App Store version) which will redirect you to the license management portal (*https://myaccount.quark.com/account/login*) or by directly accessing the portal through web. Once you log in to the portal, you can edit your password and profile.

In the **Licenses** pane, you can view the details about the number of Activation of QuarkXPress and other products being currently used in your subscription, and the Maintenance Date of these products. You can find the details of the user assignments along with the computer name, computer ID and date of activation for both the products. In case you are an admin user, you can delete a user assignment and that license will be automatically returned to the pool.

In the **Users** pane, you can find details of all the registered users in your organization. In case you are an admin user, you can add new users or delete existing users or change their privileges.

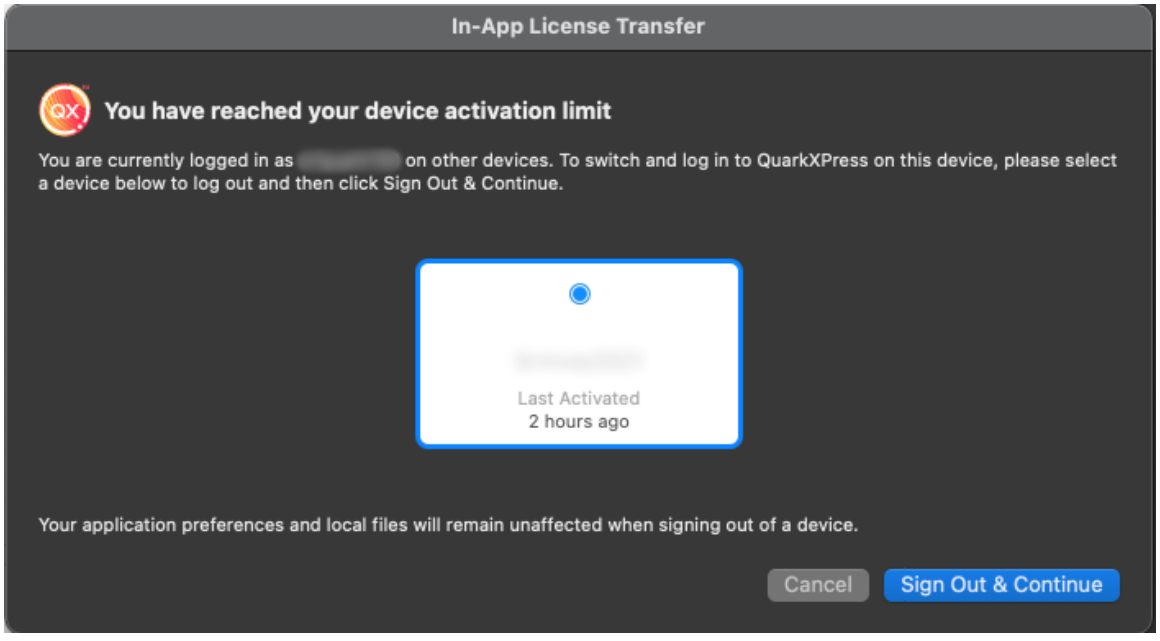
In-App License Transfer

Previously, when a user was not able to activate QuarkXPress due to limitations in the number of activations in use, the Administrator had to deactivate users' licenses from the Admin Portal of the License Management Console and then allow the current user to activate his QuarkXPress application.

Now, QuarkXPress allows the license transfer to be done from within the application. When a user exceeds the device activation limit, a dialog displaying already-activated devices appears, allowing them to deactivate any of the already signed-in devices and sign into another device. Thus, making it easy to log in and out across devices.

To sign in to a new device:

- Launch QuarkXPress. (Enter your Username and Password).
- If you have exceeded the device activation limit, you will be asked to select a device to sign out of from the list of already signed-in devices.
- Select the device name and click OK.
- You will be signed out from that device and can continue using QuarkXPress on the current device.



In-App License Transfer

Concurrent Licensing

For users running QuarkXPress in a VDI environment, there is a provision for Concurrent Licensing. A license with n number of activation will be generated and associated with an email id. The license can be used on n number of machines. Once all licenses have been allocated, on the subsequent activation, the user will get alert that 'The maximum number of licenses has exceeded'. Once the user quits the application and it will return the license back to the pool. Subsequently, a new machine can be activated with the same license/email id. On launching the application, an activation window will be displayed, and once activated, the number of activation will be decremented by 1. On quitting the application, the license would be returned silently, and the number of activation will be incremented by 1. In case of a crash, the licensing server will wait till the lease time is over, and then the license will be returned to the pool.

Activation

After you have installed QuarkXPress, you must activate the software. Activation is a process that authorizes QuarkXPress to run indefinitely on the computer on which it was installed till the application has deactivated.

When you launch the QuarkXPress application after installation, the QuarkXPress Activation dialog will be displayed. In the QuarkXPress Activation dialog, you will see QuarkXPress with its version icon as your Product of Configuration.

QuarkXPress Activation Process

The first step to activate QuarkXPress is to check your welcome email and complete the email-based activation procedure. Once finished, click **Continue**.



QuarkXPress Activation

Note: You can also choose to **Activate QuarkXPress** application from within the application through the **Help menu** (Windows OS) and **QuarkXPress menu** (macOS) *once you start using QuarkXPress after activation.*

In the next window, you have to enter your login credentials that has been shared within the email.

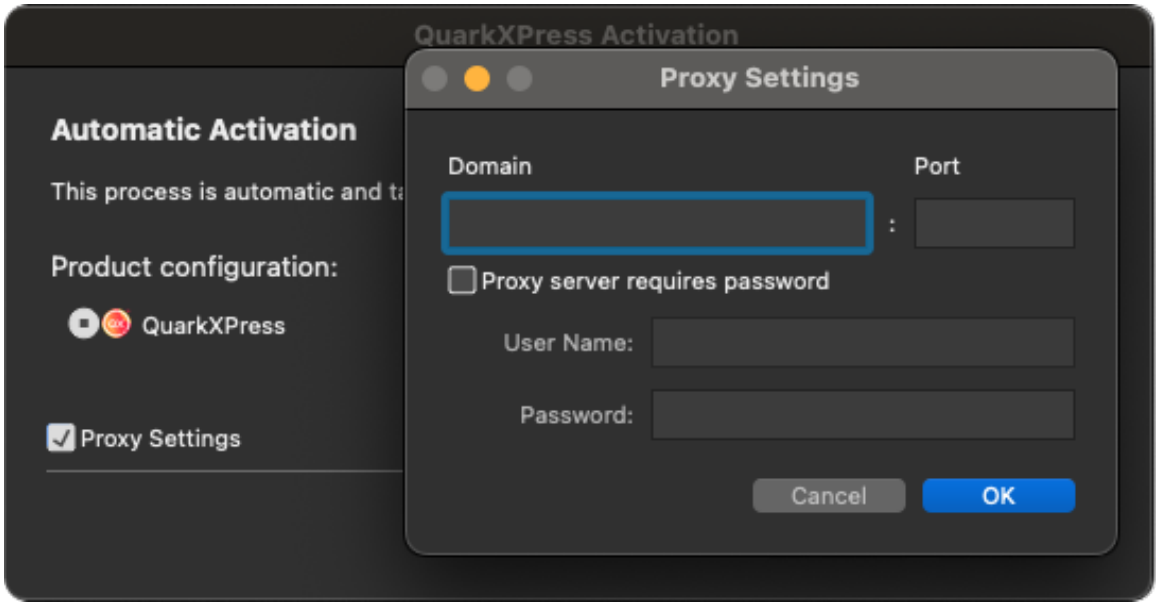


Sign In to QuarkXPress

➡ Canceling the QuarkXPress Activation dialog without selecting a valid configuration will quit the application.

Proxy Settings

In case you are working behind a proxy firewall, you can define the Proxy Settings while configuring your product through QuarkXPress Activation dialog. You can select the **Proxy Settings** option and this will invoke the **Proxy Settings dialog**.

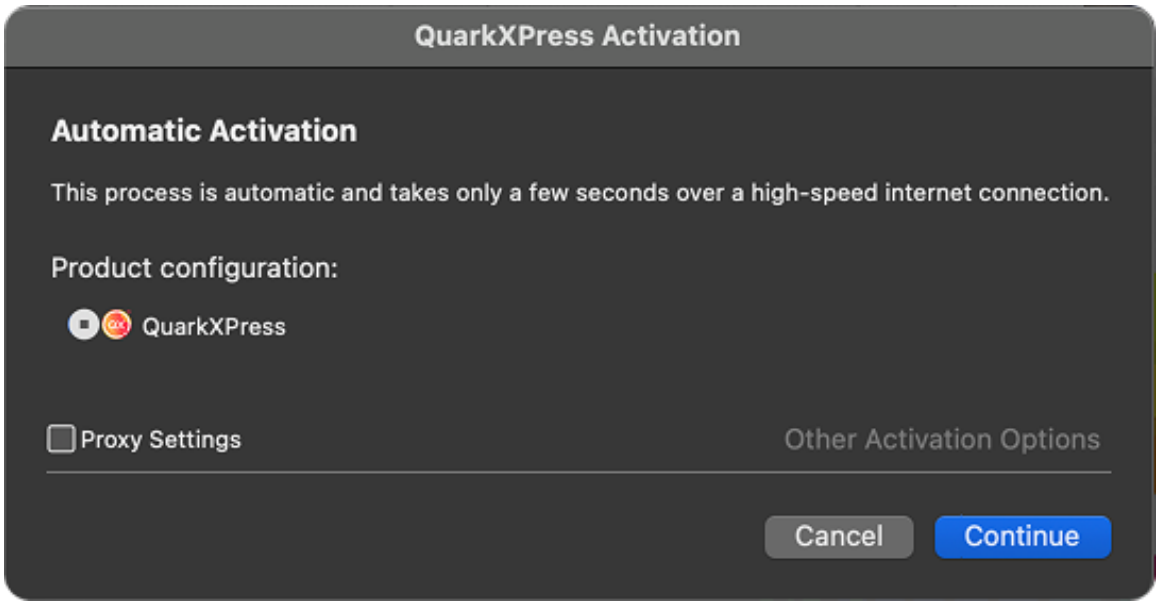


Proxy Settings Dialog

You can define the proxy settings including IP/Domain, port, username and password will be saved in the xml file. Also, you can connect to the proxy server by manually specifying the proxy server values in the xml file. The saved proxy values will get removed from the xml file if you uncheck proxy settings in **QuarkXPress Activation dialog**.

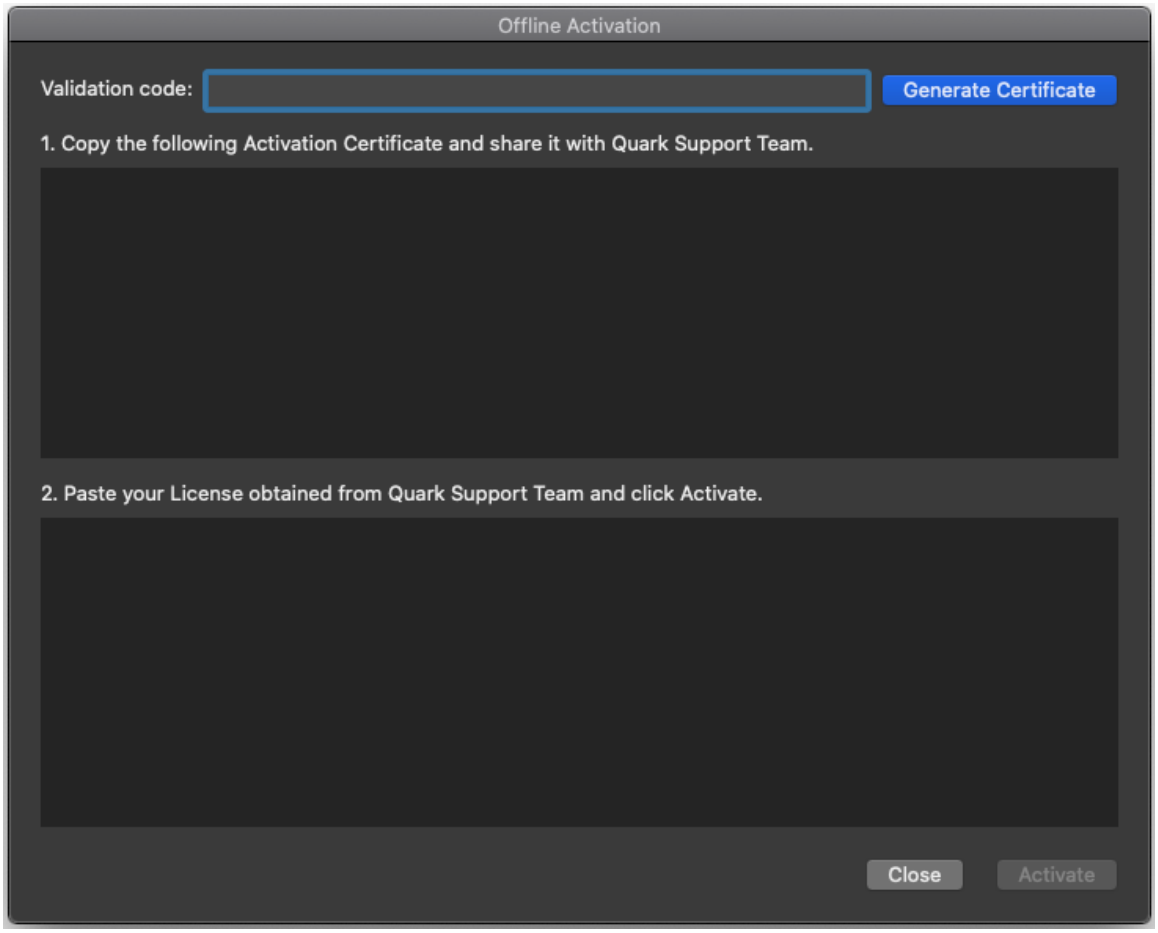
Offline Activation

There are organizations where users have restricted internet access, and they are required to use QuarkXPress in offline mode. To cater to their needs, there is an offline activation option available in QuarkXPress. On launching QuarkXPress application in offline mode, an '**Other Activation Options**' button will be displayed.



other Activation Options

On clicking this button, the **Offline Activation dialog** will be displayed.



Offline Activation Dialog

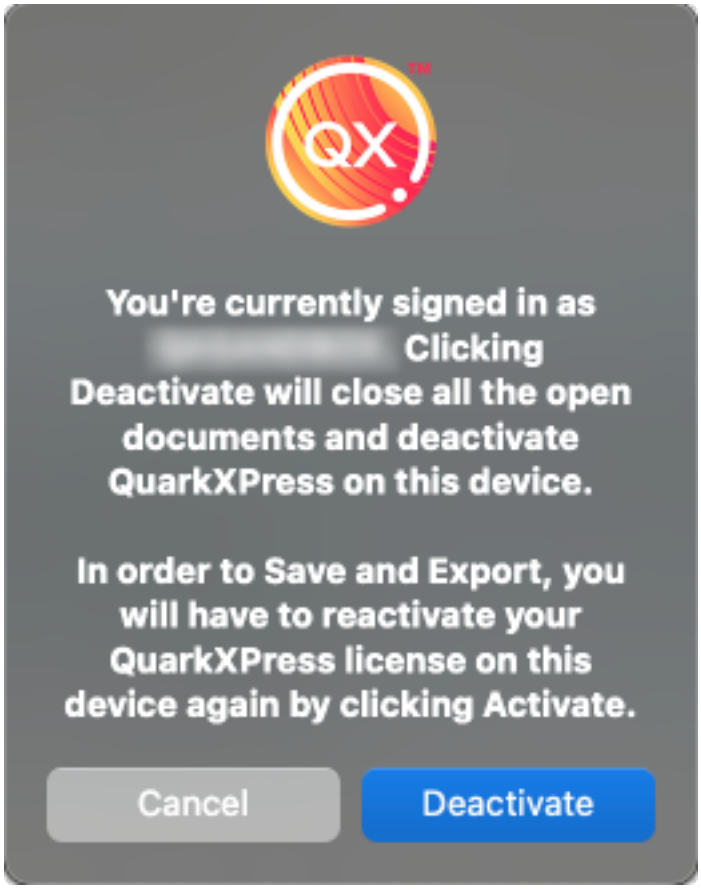
The user is required to input the license code and generate its corresponding activation certificate. The user has to copy and share activation certificate with Quark Support Team. In response, the Quark Technical Support Team will share license against that activation certificate. The user is required to paste the license and click **Activate** to activate his copy of QuarkXPress.

Reactivation

After activation, QuarkXPress verifies the validity of the activation key each time it is launched. If QuarkXPress detects that the activation data has been modified or is missing or corrupt, the application displays the QuarkXPress Activation dialog and prompts you to reactivate QuarkXPress. You can uninstall and reinstall an activated copy of QuarkXPress on the same computer as many times as you want without reactivating the application. If the activated copy of application is moved to different location, then on launching the application, the activation dialog will be displayed again.

Deactivation

In case, you wish to install and use QuarkXPress on a tertiary computer, you need to deactivate the software on one of the two computers and then activate it on the new computer. To deactivate the software, you need to choose the **Deactivate** QuarkXPress option from the **Help menu** (Windows OS) and **QuarkXPress menu** (macOS) (not in the Mac App Store version).



Deactivation Dialog

In case there is a hardware change or your computer crashes and you are unable to deactivate the software, you would need to contact the Quark Technical Support Team to help you deactivate the software.

Free Trial Mode

In Free Trial mode, the following functionalities are restricted:

* Files cannot be saved/downsaved.

* The Revert to Saved feature is disabled.

* Files cannot be output as PDF, EPS or Print.

* You cannot perform Export as Image and Export Picture.

* You can edit settings in the Save pane of the Preferences dialog box under QuarkXPress/Edit menu, but projects will not be auto-saved or backed up using these settings.

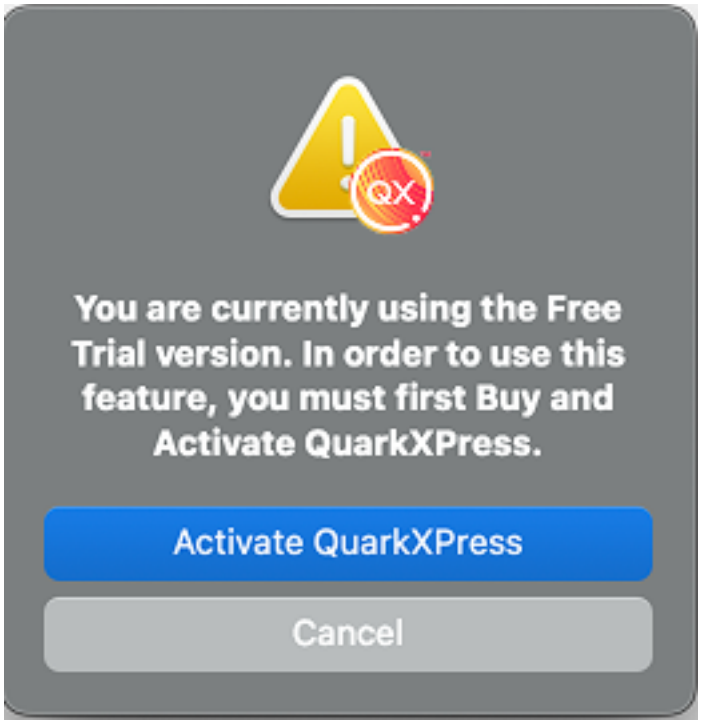
* You cannot perform a Collect for Output.

* You cannot create a Library.

* You cannot add chapters to a Book.

* Digital Layouts cannot be exported as HTML5/ePub/iOS App/Android App. The Preview HTML5 Publication option is disabled.

* You cannot perform Export as IDML.



Free Trial Mode

AI features

With the free trial of QuarkXPress, you can explore AI-powered features that enhance your design workflow. During your trial, you'll have access to:

* **Quarky** – Generate up to 150 AI pages for content creation and layout suggestions.

* **Font Pairing** – Experiment with 200 AI-generated font pairings to find the perfect typography match.

To learn more about these features, visit our User Guide for detailed instructions or check the **User Guide** for a shorter overview. You can also find useful videos, and other resources on our *QuarkXPress tutorials page*.

Uninstalling

Uninstalling: macOS

To uninstall QuarkXPress, open the “Applications” folder on your hard drive (or the folder in which QuarkXPress was installed) and drag the QuarkXPress App to the trash.

Uninstalling: Windows

To uninstall QuarkXPress:

1. Choose **Start > QuarkXPress 2027 > Uninstall QuarkXPress 2027**. Alternatively, open **Settings > Apps > Installed apps**, select QuarkXPress 2027, and click the … button next to it, and then click **Uninstall**.
2. Click **Yes**. The uninstaller gathers the information necessary for uninstalling and then an alert displays to notify you that the contents of the QuarkXPress application folder will be deleted.
3. Click **Yes** to continue or **No** to cancel.

- You can also uninstall by running the installer again.
- If the uninstaller detects a running instance of the application, an alert displays. Close the application before you begin to uninstall.

Preferences

QuarkXPress Preferences for each user is stored in their user's profile. If you have multiple versions of QuarkXPress installed, you will see separate folders for each version.

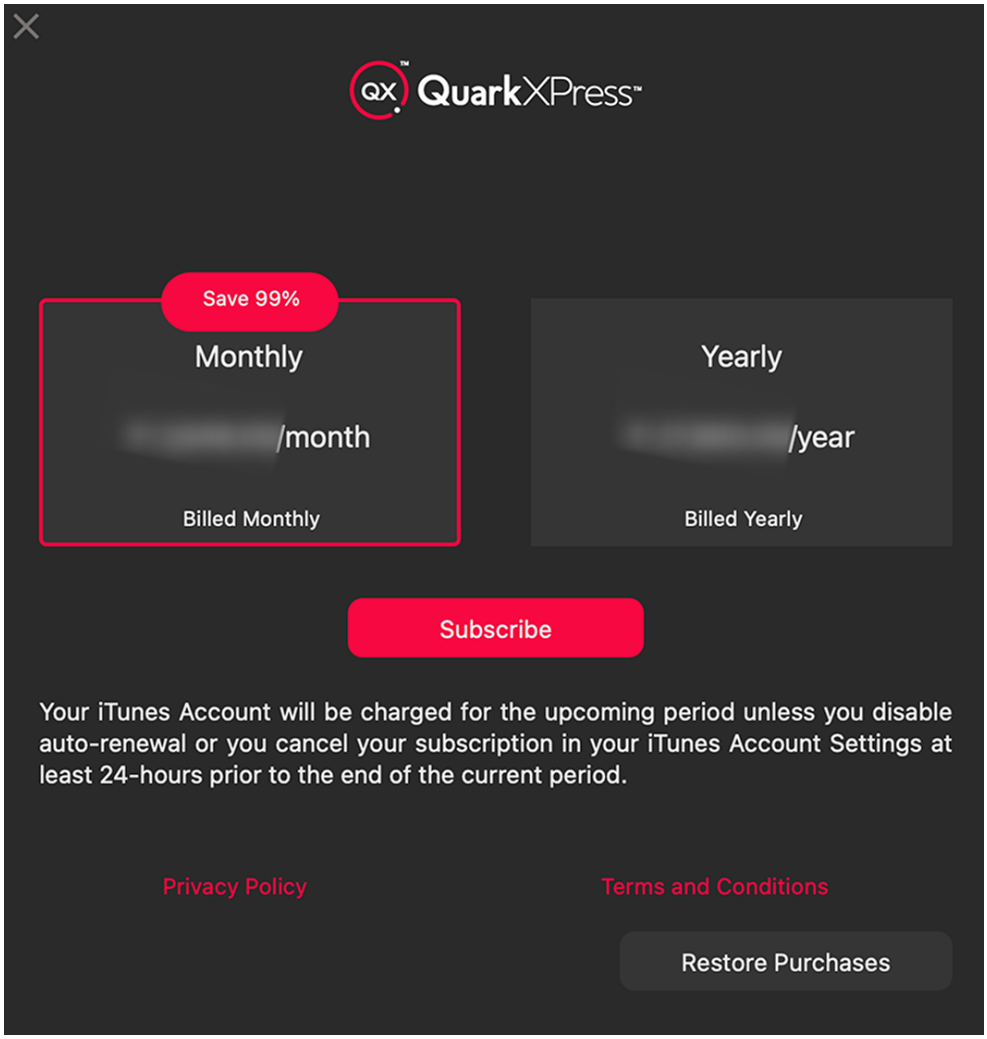
If you create a folder called Preferences on the same level as the QuarkXPress 2027 app bundle (in the Application folder), then QuarkXPress will use this folder as a global Preferences folder (which is used by all users of the machine).

If you do not want the Preferences folder in the Application folder, create a subfolder, QuarkXPress 2027 and place the application (bundle) and Preferences folder there.

QuarkXPress (App Store)

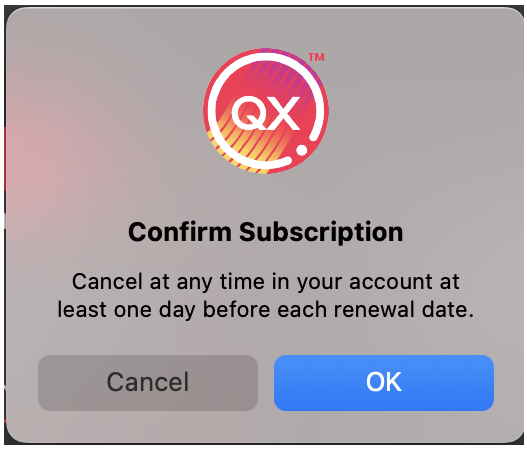
QuarkXPress (App Store) differs from the standard version in the following ways:

- QuarkXPress (App Store) is a subscription-based version of QuarkXPress.
- After downloading it from the AppStore, launch the app. A **Subscription dialog** is displayed and you can choose either a **Monthly** or a **Yearly subscription** plan.



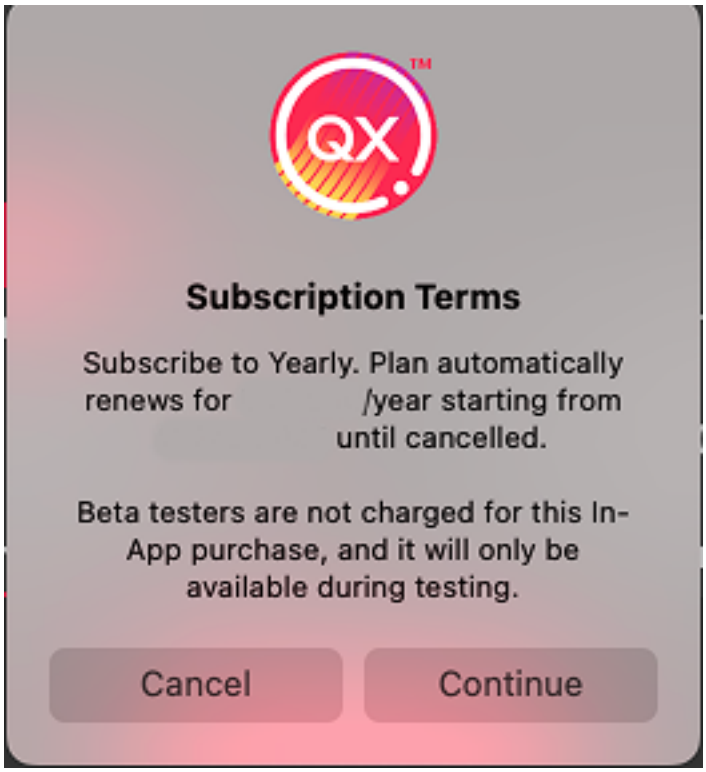
Subscription Screen

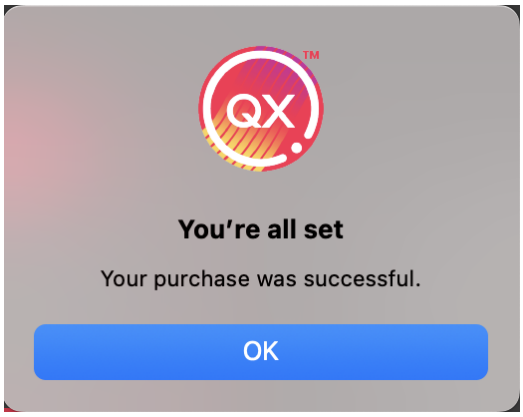
- Once you click **Subscribe**, purchase confirmation alert will be displayed.



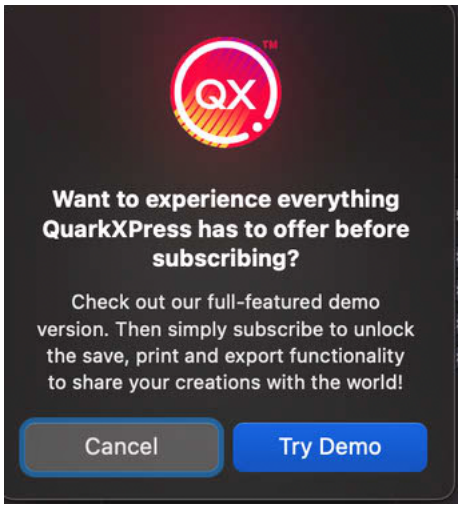
Subscription Confirmation Screen

- The subscription will automatically auto-renew unless the subscription is canceled at least one day prior to end of the subscription period.



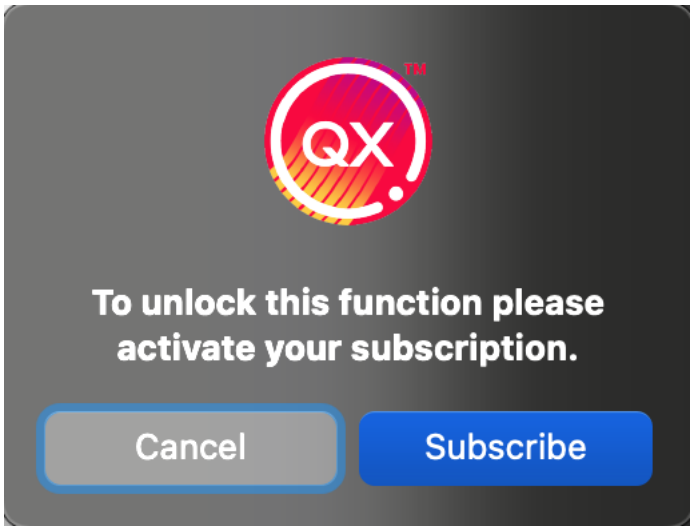


- In case, the user doesn't wish to subscribe at that time, user can choose to cancel the subscription dialog by clicking on the 'X' button. An alert for 'Demo mode' will be displayed and the user can choose the **Try Demo** option to run the full-featured demo version.

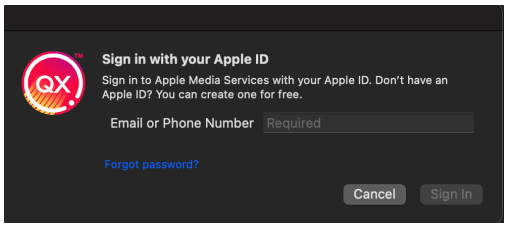


Demo Mode

- Whenever the user tries to use save, print and export functionalities in a **demo version**, an alert to **unlock the functionality** will be displayed. The user can choose the **Subscribe** option and the subscription dialog will be displayed.



- If you wish to use the purchased App on multiple machines, you can choose the **Restore Purchase** option in the Subscription dialog. You will be prompted to input the Apple account details for the purchased app. Family sharing feature makes it easy for up to six family members to share a purchased app.



Restore Purchase

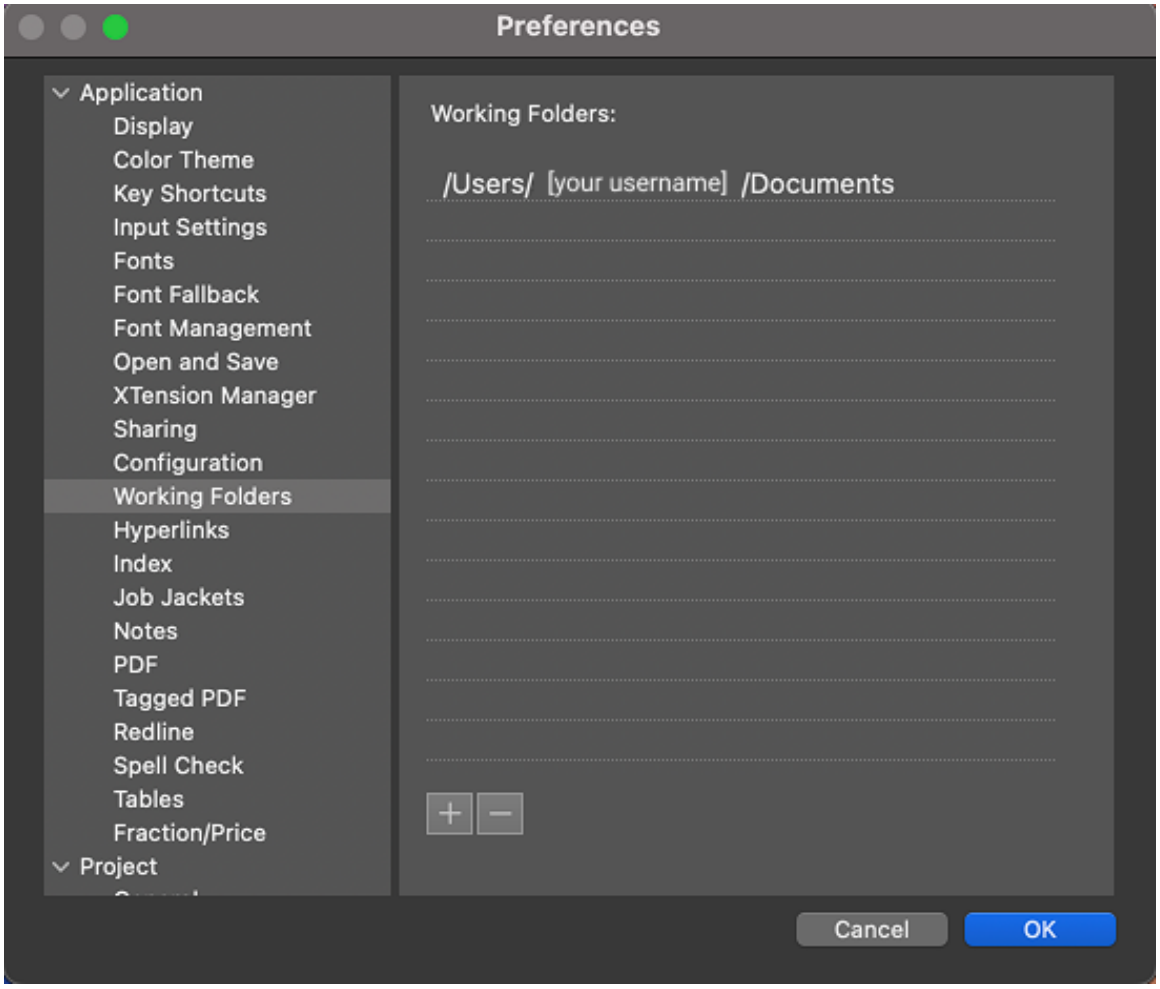


- When the App is launched for the first time, you will be asked to select a default Working Folder.

➡ *You must have at least one working folder to run the App. If you delete all of your working folders, you will see this message again, the next time you launch the App.*



- Once you launch the application, you can add more Working Folders in application Preferences under Application > Working Folders.



Working Folders

- Quark Cache Cleaner is not supported.
- App resources like Preferences, XTensions and other dependencies are located under ~/Library/Containers/QuarkXPress/Data/Library.

Troubleshooting

If you experience issues with QuarkXPress, there are several things you can try out:

- **Delete the image cache and preferences using the Quark Cache Cleaner tool**
- **(macOS) Send a crash report:** if QuarkXPress crashes, send Quark Support the crash report from the rescue folder on your desktop, together with the QuarkXPress log file. QuarkXPress now records crash details in its log file, which helps Support find the cause. The log file is ~/Library/Logs/Quark/QuarkXPress 2027.log. Also send the .bak file in the same folder, which holds older entries. On Windows, the log file is %APPDATA%\Quark\Log\QuarkXPress 2027.log.
- **Get help while you work:** choose **Help > QuarkXPress Help & Support**. Search the QuarkXPress guides, or contact Quark Support from the same palette.

macOS

1. In QuarkXPress access the **Quark Cache Cleaner** from the **QuarkXPress** menu.
2. You will be asked to save any open projects.

➡ If the QuarkXPress application is closed and the application has been added to the Dock, then you can invoke the context menu for the QuarkXPress application from the Dock and run the QuarkCacheCleaner.

Windows

1. Quit QuarkXPress, if running.
2. Navigate to QuarkXPress application folder: QuarkXPress 2027/Tools
3. Run **QuarkCacheCleaner** and click **Yes.**

➡ If you want to also delete Preferences, check the **Preferences** option.

- **Delete preferences manually**

macOS

1. Quit QuarkXPress, if running.

2. Navigate to Macintosh HD/Applications/QuarkXPress 2027. Delete the "Preferences" folder, if any. (Do not create the Preferences folder again)
3. Hold down the option key, and click **Go -> Library**. Then go to Preferences, then Quark. Delete the "QuarkXPress 2027" folder with all of its content.
4. Re-launch QuarkXPress.

If everything runs fine, make a backup of the "QuarkXPress 2027" folder and the next time you experience issues, you won't need to delete the folder, you can just replace its content with the backup.

For QuarkXPress (App Store version)

1. Quit QuarkXPress, if running.
2. Navigate to ~/Library/Containers/QuarkXPress/Data/Library/Preferences/Quark. Delete the "QuarkXPress 2027" folder with all of its content.
3. Re-launch QuarkXPress.

Windows

1. Quit QuarkXPress, if running.
2. Open C:/Program Files/Quark/QuarkXPress 2027. Delete the "Preferences" folder, if any. (Do not create the Preferences folder again)
3. Go to **Start > Run** and type **%localappdata%**, enter.
4. Go to the Quark folder. Delete the folder named "QuarkXPress 2027" with all of its content.
5. Re-launch QuarkXPress.

If everything runs fine, make a backup of the "QuarkXPress 2027" folder and the next time you experience issues, you won't need to delete the folder, you can just replace its content with the backup.

If you are still experiencing issues, please visit *https://support.quark.com/support* for further options.



If a quark – in science – is the basis for all matter, then Quark – the company – is the basis for all content. The company revolutionized desktop publishing and today provides content design, automation and intelligence software for end-to-end content lifecycle management. Customers worldwide rely on Quark to modernize their content ecosystems so they can create complex print and digital layouts, automate omnichannel publishing of mission-critical documents, and analyze production and engagement insights for the greatest return on their content investments.

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