

Restoring Mac OS X Computers

DET rollout OS X servers includes the facility to return the software installed on network computers to the original configuration.

This process uses the *NetBoot* facility to boot network computers, and the *NetRestore* application to transfer the software image to netbooted computers.

The standard server may include a number of software images, based on the DET “standard” image. These alternate images may include:

- a customised “medium” *PPC* image (OSX Only) suitable for use on older *Macs* with 20Gb HD and *PPC* processors. This image doesn’t include *iDVD*, *GarageBand* or *Worldbook*.
- a customised “classic” *PPC* image (OSX + *Classic*) similar to the medium image above, with *Classic* support;
- a customised “large” *PPC* image (OSX only) suitable for use with more recent *PPC iMacs*, *eMacs*, *iBooks* and *PowerBooks* with larger HDs (40Gb and above);
- a customised “large” *Intel* image suitable for use with the recent *iMacs* and *MacBooks* with *Intel* processors;
- a “standard” image as supplied by the DET.

This is the **first** document in a series of documents about the *NetRestore* process:

- a. Restoring a network computer from a DET OS X server;**
- b. Preparing an external *FireWire* HD to create a new image;
- c. Creating and deploying a new image with a server;
- d. Deploying a new image without a server.

IMPORTANT NOTES

If your server has been correctly configured, *Intel* and *PPC* computers will automatically “discover” the correct boot image on your server.

Contact your Technology Adviser for more details.

Any older computers which are having *Mac OS X* installed for the first time MUST have their firmware updated before the installation of *Mac OS X*.

Firmware updates are available at:

<http://docs.info.apple.com/article.html?artnum=86117>

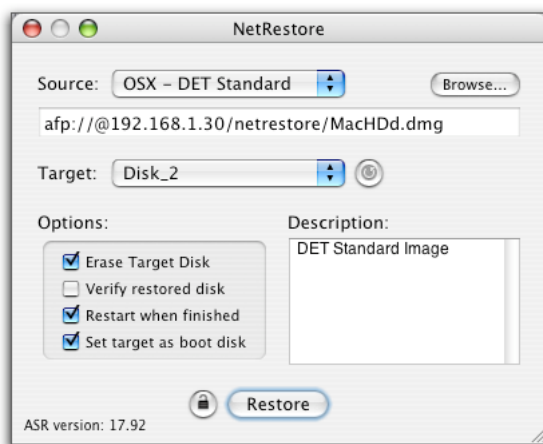
Restoring a network computer from a DET OSX server

This option requires that you have a *Mac OS X* server configured to provide the *NetBoot/NetRestore* service, and has DHCP enabled to distribute IP addresses to network computers. If restoring both *Intel* and *PPC* computers, your server must have both Netboot configurations installed (10.4 server only).

NOTE: The network connecting your workstations to your server MUST be certified to be a minimum 100Mb.

To restore a network computer to its original configuration:

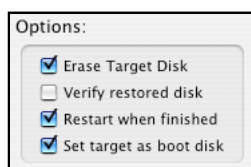
1. Restart the computer, while holding down the “N” key.
2. A spinning globe will indicate that the computer is booting from the server.
3. After a short delay, the *NetRestore* window will appear on the screen.



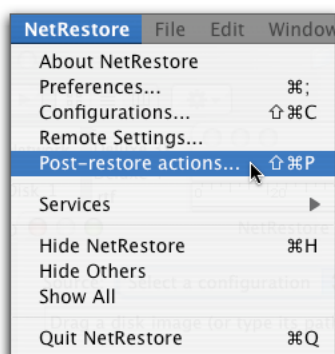
4. In the **Source** popup, select the software configuration which will be used to restore the software on the computer.



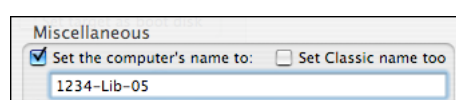
5. Check that the predefined options are correct.



6. Choose **Post-restore actions** from the **NetRestore** menu.



6.1. Enter a unique name for the computer, in the form *school code-location-computer number*. (eg 1234-Lib-05)



This name will make the computer easy to identify when using *Apple Remote Desktop* software.

Click on the **OK** button.

7. Click the **Restore** button to “restore” the computer from the selected disk image, which is stored on the server.

8. The computer will restart automatically when the restoration process has completed.

The amount of time taken to complete the restoration is dependent on the processor speed of the computer, the available bandwidth, and the number of computers being restored.

NOTE: Another option available, prior to clicking the **Restore** button, is to partition the Hard Disk, providing a “data” partition for the storage of large files which are not suitable for storage on the network server - eg movies, etc.

Partitioning the disk will provide the option of restoring the main drive at a later date without losing data stored on the second partition.

To partition the hard disk, choose **Launch Disk Utility** from *Netrestore's Tools* menu, and click on the **Partition** button.

