

# Adding Macs to Active Directory using Mac OS X 10.4

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## Configuring Directory Access

1. Open the Directory Access application located in /Applications/Utilities/.
2. Click the **Padlock** button to authenticate if necessary.
3. Check the box next to **Active Directory** and click **Configure...**
4. Enter iastate.edu in the **Active Directory Domain** fields.
5. Enter a **Computer ID** that you want to use. A computer object with this exact ID must be pre-created in Active Directory, which requires Domain Admin rights.
6. Click the **Show Advanced Options** button.
7. Click the **User Experience** tab if needed. Depending on your specific needs you may want to:
  - Check "Create a mobile account at login"
  - Uncheck "Require confirmation before creating a mobile account"
  - Uncheck "Use UNC path from Active Directory to derive network home location"
8. Click the **Administrative** tab and check the option to "Allow Administration by" if you want to allow domain admins or other specified domain users/groups administrative rights on this computer. Click the + (Add) button and type the name of the user or group you want to allow administration for. Repeat for each user or group needed.
9. Click **Bind...** You may be asked for a local Admin username and password. Enter this information and click **OK**.
10. You will then be asked for a Network Administrator username and password. This is simply an AD user with Domain Admin rights.
11. You may see the message "Kerberos file already exists". Click **Rename**.
12. You will see the message "Join existing account?". Click **OK**.
13. Click **OK** again to get back to the main screen of the Directory Access utility.
14. Click **Apply** and close Directory Access.
15. To test the setup, logout of the current user account and log back in with an Active Directory account. If you have problems you may want to try waiting a few minutes or even restart your Mac.

## Tips

This document is written with ISU's Active Directory (iastate.edu) in mind. Research has shown that no two Active Directory configurations are alike which may cause very different problems when adding a Mac to Active Directory. Some of the following tips are a few of the common ones found during this research.

- You do not need to create a local account before logging into Active Directory. The AD Plugin for Open Directory will automatically create one for you.
- The AD Plugin uses Kerberos to authenticate to Active Directory. Because of this and the fact that ISU's Active Directory was given the same name as the existing Kerberos Realm, IASTATE.EDU, you cannot use the AD Plugin and setup a Mac for use with other ISU Kerberos services at the same time.
- The built-in help for the Directory Access utility has some good info about the AD Plugin. Just open Help from within Directory Access, click "Accessing an Active Directory domain" and select "Learning about the Active Directory Plug-in".
- If you are having problems binding your Mac to Active Directory you should try turning on time synchronization in the Date & Time system preference and to make sure you have the correct Time Zone set.
- Some people have had better luck using short simple names for the Computer ID in Step 5. It may also be helpful, but not required, to make the Computer ID the same as the Computer Name in the Sharing system preference.

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