Apple has updated Final Cut Pro X ready for the new Mac Pro



The update features performance enhancements, a new Metal engine and more.

The release of macOS Catalina grabbed the major Mac news headlines on Monday, but Apple also announced updates to Final Cut Pro X that could be foreshadowing a release of the new Mac Pro.

According to Apple, FCP X now supports up to 28 CPU cores (the maximum core configuration of the new Mac Pro) and multiple GPUs. Compared to the previous Mac Pro with a maximum of 12 cores, Apple says FCP X rendering is 2.9 times faster, and transcoding is 3.2 times faster.

The FCP X update also takes advantage of the new Afterburner card in the upcoming Mac Pro. Editors can play up to 16 streams of 4K ProRes 422 video or three streams of 8K ProRes

RAW video.

Test your Metal

The FCP X update includes a new Metal-based engine for video playback and graphics acceleration. The company says that on the 15-inch MacBook Pro – the most popular system for Final Cut Pro users – you could see a performance boost of up to 20 percent. iMac Pro users could see an improvement of 35 percent.

Apple also touted the benefits of using FCP X with the upcoming Pro Display XDR, which will support 1,000 nits of brightness, 1,600 nits peak brightness and a 1,000,000:1 contrast ratio. FCP X also work with the new Sidecar feature in macOS Catalina that lets users use an iPad as an external Mac display.

Other new FCP X features include (from Apple's press release):

- Grade high dynamic range video with enhanced colour mask and range isolation tools.
- View high dynamic range video tone-mapped to compatible standard dynamic range displays when using Final Cut Pro, Motion or Compressor on macOS Catalina.
- Select which internal or external GPU is used to accelerate graphics processing.

The FCP X update is free for current users of the software. FCP X can be for £299.99/$299.99. Apple has also released free updates to and .

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