

iMac 2020 vs 2021

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The M1's GPU is pretty hard to compare. For example, I am coming from a Radeon VII and based on compute and 3D benchmark results you wouldn't expect the M1 GPU to reach or exceed the VII performance in any kind of workload - yet it does. For example in Final Cut. Rendering a typical 4k60 timeline with no 3D stuff in it is up to 3(!) times faster compared to the Hackintosh I used previously. I have also seen people reporting the M1 outperforming Intel MacBooks with Polaris and Navi GPUs in Blender. So clearly, benchmarks don't tell the whole story and there are tons of workloads where the Apple GPU is exceeding expectations. I can only imagine how things turn out with the next and more powerful Apple Silicon SoCs.

As for Windows on Apple Silicon I wouldn't worry about it. Windows 10 ARM is running great virtualized with the Parallels technical preview. And I am 100% sure we will see native Windows support within the next two years. Apple just recently did final preparations for enabling booting of custom unsigned kernels on Apple Silicon. Microsoft would be stupid not to use the Mac to get their ARM flavor of Windows going. So far the main reason it didn't take off was the lack of decent performing ARM PCs. Apple Silicon Macs are the perfect solution to make Windows 10 ARM more relevant.