Software Updates for Mountain Lion (OS 10.8)

Not sure which operating system (OS) your computer uses? Open the Apple menu in the top menu bar. Go to About This Mac and under Mac OS X, the computer’s OS version is shown. If you are running Mountain Lion (Version 10.8), read on.

With the release of 10.8, software updates are now done through the App Store. This being the case, you'll need an Apple ID and use it to log into the App Store. An Apple ID is easy to get and it's free. You may even have one already.

It’s simply a registration with Apple so they recognise you as a legitimate user of their product. The same ID is also used for any purchases you may make through the App Store or iTunes Store.

Go to the Apple menu and open Software Update. You will be directed to the App Store; select Updates. You'll be shown which updates are available. When you click on Update, you’ll be prompted to log in with your Apple ID or create one.

It may be wise to establish a new Apple ID, to avoid having to use your existing one, which may be linked to a credit card. We don’t want to allow children any opportunity for spending your money online. Apple IDs may be set up on a computer without linking a credit card.

Apple’s policy is that a person needs to be 13 years old to have an Apple ID. One way of dealing with this requirement is to create a new ID using your name and personal details, just for the purposes of completing software updates. You'll need a separate email address to do this. If you’d like us to organise this at school, we’re more than happy to do so. Just let us know.