

Minos Maze Maker

Press Kit

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Overview

Minos Maze Maker is a powerful Macintosh-based maze generator that can create beautiful mazes and their solutions. The user can print the mazes or export them into newsletters, puzzle-books, or school handouts. Mazes can be easily designed and customized creating unique professional-looking puzzles right away.

Users can add them to newsletters, make and sell their own books with them without any need for commercial licensing. The created puzzles are all free to distribute and sell. Users may add a credits reference to my software in their product if they wish, but I do not require it.

Users can create, edit, save, and re-open one or more maze document files, just like when using a word processor. Each document saves all the settings and other information to recreate and re-display the maze. When the software is started for the first time, it will open a new maze document with default settings for a maze. Users can then change these settings, build a maze, print it, and save the maze document to a file on the computer, so they can open it back up later. This allows them to create, lay out and save many different mazes of different shapes and difficulty levels, and return to them later by simply opening them from their saved documents.

Many Shapes and Sizes

Choose from many built-in maze shapes, several cell shapes, and the mazes can range in size from as small as 5x5 up to 50x50, or up to 80x80 in the Pro product.

Maze-Phrase Mode

Add a word or phrase, and it will be laid along the solution path. The rest of the maze will be filled with letters from your phrase, and only the solution path will contain the entire correct phrase.

Custom Detailing

Personalize mazes by choosing your own wall colors, thickness, and wiggleness, move the start and end spots anywhere, choose different solution path display styles, etc.

Royalty-Free High-Quality Exports

The user can export high-resolution images of your mazes and solution keys for layout/publishing in their own books, newsletters, social media/web/blog, classroom handouts, games, or CNC/laser-cutter machines. Supported export formats are PDF, PNG, JPEG, SVG, text/info, and POV-Ray. These mazes are royalty/copyright free for you to use for any purpose, no commercial licensing is needed.

Pretty Brainy

These are not just pretty mazes though. There is a powerful maze-generator under the hood with a unique maze-building algorithm. Just slide the "Difficulty to Solve" setting to whatever is needed, and Minos Maze Maker will quickly create easy, difficult, or diabolical mazes.

Note: The name "Minos Maze Maker" hints at the the story of the ancient Greek king Minos and his Minotaur who was hidden away in a labyrinth.

Reviewer - Free Promo Code

Please e-mail me to request a "Promo Code" if you wish to receive a free fully-functioning version of the software to review. <mailto:note@schwansongs.com>

Requirements/Pricing

Product Name: Minos Maze Maker

Hardware/Software Requirements: Runs on a Macintosh, Intel or Apple Silicon, under Mac OS 10.14 or newer.

Price:

- There is a free "Lite" version available with reduced functionality. See the enclosed "Feature Comparison" chart to review the feature differences between the pro, full and lite versions.
- \$14.99 USD for the Full version.
- \$29.99 USD for the in-app upgrade option to a "Pro" version for, which immediately adds batch-automation, larger maze sizes up to 80x80, alpha-numeric shapes, user-defined-shape designing option, and export of a text "info" file alongside the puzzle and answer files.

Latest Version: version 2.0.0, released October 2023

Download: The software is available directly on the Apple App Store. The Lite version is available on the Apple App Store, and can also be directly downloaded from the Product Web Page.

Feature List

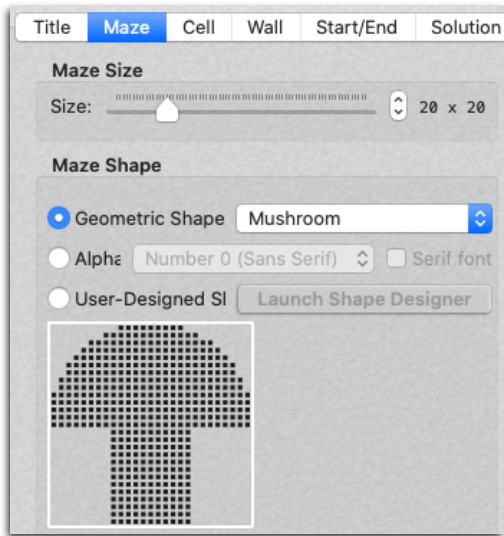
- Quickly create one, or dozens, or hundreds of wildly unique mazes.
- Choose from many built-in maze shapes: Square, Rectangles, Circle, Plus-sign, Square-hole, Donut, Heart, Bow-tie, Diamond, X, Pinwheel, UL-Wedge, LL-Wedge, UR-Wedge, LR-Wedge, Checkers, Crescent, Right-Arrow, Left-Arrow, Up-Arrow, Down-Arrow, Up-Triangle, Down-Triangle, Cross, Onion, 4-Clover, Square-Peg, Round-Peg, Mushroom, Oval-Easy, Oval-Up, Trapezoid, Pentagon, Hexagon, Octagon, 4-star, 5-star, 6-star, Chevron-Up, Chevron-Down, Chevron-Left, Chevron-Right, Rainbow-Up, Rainbow-Down. The Pro upgrade adds alpha-numeric shapes and your own user-designed shapes.

- Create mazes ranging in size from 5x5 up to 50x50 cells. The Pro upgrade increases that to 80x80.
- You are not stuck with boring old square cells... you can choose mazes to be built with square, hexagon, delta/triangle, or "octo-grid" cells.
- Draw normal walled mazes, or draw mazes with lines along all the inner paths.
- Easily choose the maze difficulty. Simply move a slider from "very easy" mazes to "very hard" mazes without worrying about all the details of how it works.
- No need for any extra commercial licensing, your generated puzzles are yours to distribute and sell.
- Maze-Phrase! You can add a word or phrase, and it will be laid along the solution path, with decoy letters along the wrong (dead-end) paths.
- Customize the cell wall colors and thicknesses, and even make them wiggly for that hand-drawn look.
- Turn on "Progress Animation" to watch the maze get built, step by step.
- Easy printing of the maze and/or solution right to your printer.
- Export high-quality images of your mazes and solution keys for layout/publishing in your own books, newsletters, social media/web/blog, classroom handouts, games, or CNC/laser-cutter machines. Supports PDF, PNG, JPEG, SVG, and POV-Ray file formats.
- Save a "snapshot" your custom layout settings so you can instantly build all future mazes with the same "look".
- Mazes will always be built with only one guaranteed solution, no islands here!
- Work without a net... You can run Minos Maze Maker anywhere... you never need an internet connection to create, save, and print your mazes.
- Supports Dark Mode and Full-Screen mode.
- Save your maze documents and share them with other Minos Maze Maker users, or open them again later to edit them to create whole new mazes.
- Includes a comprehensive built-in 40+ page User Guide, containing tutorials and tips and describing every option, getting you up-to-speed right away. Advanced features are explained, helping you create high-quality and uniquely personalized mazes.

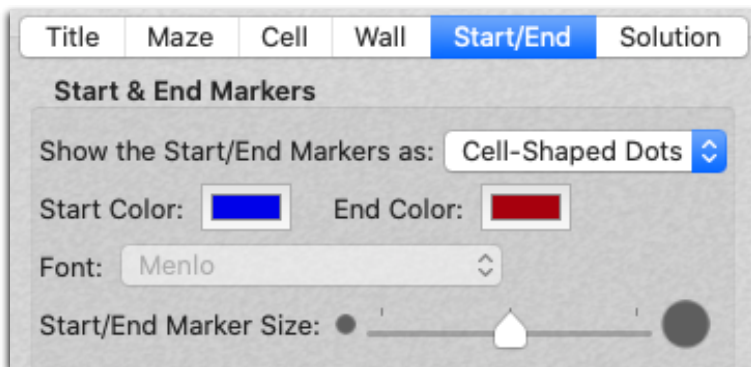
Quick Usage Tutorial

Here is a quick 5-step tutorial for creating your first maze. We will pick some settings for this tutorial, and you can try other shapes and sizes later. When finished, it will look like the image opposite.

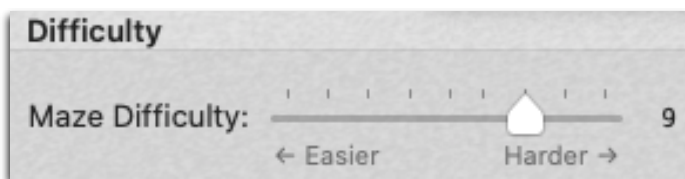
1. Lay out the size and shape of your maze: Tap the "Layout" tab, and under that, tap the "Maze" tab. Change the maze size (number of cells across and down) to 20x20, and change the maze shape to "Mushroom". Tap the "Cell" tab and set the cell shape to "Hex (Sigma)".



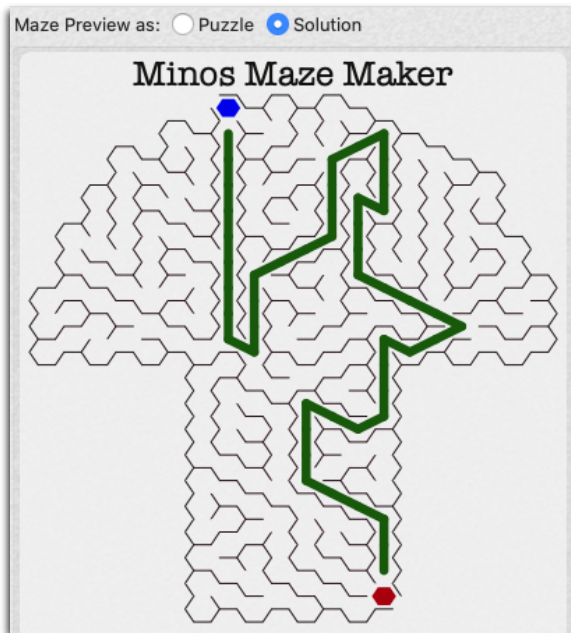
2. Choose how the Start marker, End marker and the Solution path will be displayed: Under the "Layout:Start/End" tab, set the Start/End markers to "Cell-Shaped Dots". In the "Layout:Solution" pane, set the "Show Maze Solution Path as:" to "Line", and choose a Green color for the Solution Path color.



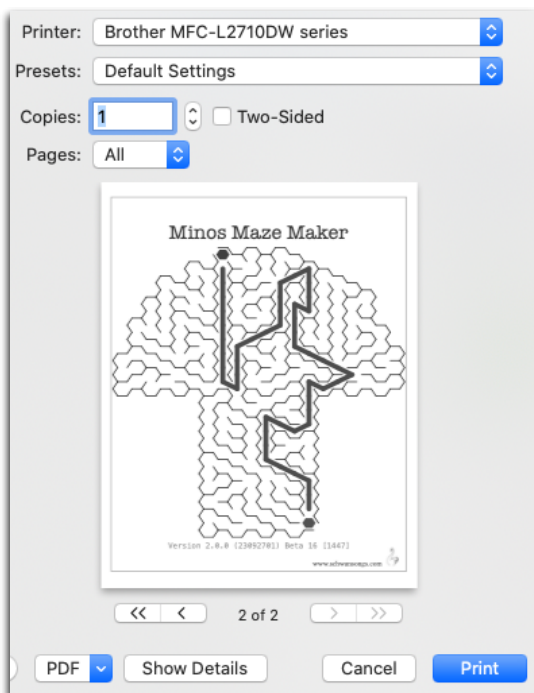
3. Now choose how difficult the maze will be to solve. Under the "Difficulty" tab, move the "Maze Difficulty" slider to 9, for "pretty difficult":



4. Tap the "Build" button, or type ⌘-B to build the maze, and wait a moment for it to build. Set the "Maze Preview as:" to "Solution", and here is a maze for you, ready to print! It will look something like this, with a different solution path. You can press the Build button a few times to see how it creates a different maze and solution path each time, and stop when you see one you like.



5. Under the "File" menu, choose "Print...", or type ⌘-P, and you should see the Print Preview screen, ready to print your maze to your printer.



Testimonials

“Minos Maze Maker is a game-changer for my religious education mission to children aged 3-11 worldwide. It's incredibly easy to use and offers a range of maze choices, sizes, and difficulties. The "exact-fit" feature is a standout, enabling one-path mazes that boost critical thinking. Its unique ability to incorporate religious verses and phrases into mazes makes learning both fun and meaningful, enriching the spiritual journey of young learners. I wholeheartedly recommend Minos Maze Maker for educators and parents in the global community.” — April Reinhardt

“Minos Maze Maker is an incredible maze program. I've used it for student worksheets thus far but look forward to making more mazes. What I enjoy most are the different levels of difficulty – ranging from super easy to exceptionally difficult – and the large variety of shapes (square, circle and octagon are my favorite!) I can even add color to the mazes. I can't wait to publish my first maze book!” - Jen Olson

Minos Maze Maker was such a fantastic tool as I created my memory-friendly activity books (for people recovering from stroke, or living with memory loss). My goal was to create a range of activities that looked fun, appealing, and adult, but were slightly easier and more achievable than they would be in a mainstream book. It was essential to get the clarity, size and difficulty just right. Minos Maze Maker was perfect for my mazes (thanks also to SchwanSongs' Whirlwind Word Search software!) - Clare Harris (Unforgettable Notes)

Useful Links

Product Web Page Link

<http://www.schwansongs.com/minosmaze/>

AppStore Links

Macintosh Version:

Full: <https://itunes.apple.com/app/id1520758121?ls=1&mt=12>

Lite: <https://itunes.apple.com/app/id1520758590?ls=1&mt=12>

Promo Video Link

N/A

FAQs

- *Can I make my own puzzle book with these mazes and sell the book without royalty or copyright issues?* - Yes you can... Any mazes you create using Minos Maze Maker are completely yours to give away or sell, no royalty payments or copyrights on your puzzles, you don't even need to mention this software.
- *Is this an interactive game I play on the computer?* - No, this is software that will print mazes and their solutions, or export them as image files.
- *Can I save the mazes as PDF files instead of printing them?* - Yes you can... Open your maze in Minos Maze Maker and choose the "File:Export:" menu and choose to export just the puzzle and answer key as a PDF file.
- *If I save a maze document, then later re-open it, will it keep the same solution?* - Yes, if you open a saved document, it will be laid out exactly the same way that you saved it.

About

SchwanSongs - The Company

SchwanSongs is a sole-proprietor-operated company, operated by myself, Eduard Schwan. I specialize in writing Macintosh and iOS software for education and entertainment. I have been writing software since I was a teenager (which would be several decades ago), and have worked at a variety of large and small companies like Jostens Learning, Gryphon Software, Intuit, GoPro, Globalink, Hewlett Packard, etc.

Eduard Schwan - The Author

I spent my first lifetime in San Diego California, USA, writing various kinds of software including educational, language translation, tax preparation, and video/photo editing, as well as raising children and publishing a computer graphics book.

I am now enjoying my second lifetime with my wife, surrounded by eagles and owls in the forests of Washington State. I am busily writing and publishing my own software and books, composing music, making music videos, photographing wildlife, perfecting my home-roasted coffee, traveling and exploring, and still learning and creating new things every day.

Contact Me

I have endeavored to offer as much information as I can think of here, but I may have missed something you need... please don't hesitate to e-mail me and I will answer any questions you may have!

Please contact me at:

Eduard Schwan, Sole Proprietor

e-mail: note@schwansongs.com or schwansongs@gmail.com

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