How to Manage Devices on macOS: Discover How to Use System Information and System Preferences

Device Manager is a tool commonly used in Windows environments to manage hardware devices, view their properties, and troubleshoot issues. However, macOS does not include a direct equivalent to Windows' Device Manager. Instead, macOS provides several built-in utilities and tools that allow users to manage and troubleshoot hardware devices effectively.

Understanding how to manage devices on macOS is crucial for maintaining system performance, ensuring compatibility, and resolving hardware issues. In this article, we will explore the macOS equivalents to Device Manager, specifically focusing on System Information and System Preferences. These tools offer comprehensive insights into the hardware and software configurations of your Mac, allowing you to manage devices efficiently.

Examples:

1. **Using System Information:**

System Information provides detailed information about your Mac's hardware, software, and network configurations. To access System Information:

- Click on the Apple logo in the top-left corner of the screen.
- Select "About This Mac."
- In the window that appears, click on "System Report."

Here, you can explore various sections such as Hardware, Network, and Software to get detailed information about your devices. For example, under the "Hardware" section, you can view details about your Mac's memory, storage, and connected peripherals.

2. **Using System Preferences:**

System Preferences is another essential tool for managing devices on macOS. It allows you to configure settings for various hardware components and system features. To access System Preferences:

- Click on the Apple logo in the top-left corner of the screen.
- Select "System Preferences."

Within System Preferences, you can manage settings for devices such as printers, keyboards, mice, and displays. For instance, to manage printer settings:

- Open "System Preferences."
- Click on "Printers & Scanners."
- Here, you can add, remove, and configure printers connected to your Mac.

3. **Using Terminal for Advanced Management:**

For advanced users, the Terminal application provides command-line access to manage hardware devices. For example, to list all connected USB devices, you can use the following command:

```
system_profiler SPUSBDataType
```

This command will display detailed information about all USB devices connected to your Mac.