MegaStat Frequently Asked Questions (Mac version)

This FAQ document will focus on questions related to installation, requirements, and current issues related to the most recent Apple Mac versions of MegaStat. Questions related to using MegaStat are found in Appendix B of the MegaStat User's Guide.

1. **How is the Mac version of MegaStat different than the Windows version?**

   The appearance is slightly different, but they are quite similar and have both have the same options and output formats. The Windows and Mac versions of Excel use the same file format, so a workbook created by one platform can also be used on the other platform.

   The Windows version uses a dedicated Help viewer, and the Mac version uses a web browser.

   MegaStat will not work with Excel for the iPad or iPhone since those versions do not support add-ins; however, they can be used to view/edit MegaStat output.

2. **What versions of Mac Excel are required for MegaStat on an Apple Mac computer?**

   MegaStat will work with Mac Excel 2016, 2019 or Excel from Microsoft 365 (formerly Office 365). If you have Mac Excel 2016 you must have version 15.26 or later. See item 3 below.

   It is expected that MegaStat will work with future versions of Excel.

   There was a version of MegaStat for Mac Excel 2011; however, it was discontinued January 2018. If you still need the Mac Excel 2011 version, contact your McGraw-Hill representative.

   Mac Excel 2008 did not support Excel add-ins and MegaStat will not work on Mac Excel 2004 or earlier versions.

3. **What is the difference between Excel 2016/2019 and Excel from Microsoft 365 or Office 365?**

   All of these versions are functionally the same regarding the use of MegaStat. Microsoft 365 is a subscription method of using Excel 2016/2019. If you check the version of Microsoft 365 using *Excel > About Microsoft Excel* it will indicate version 16.xx. Office 365 was renamed Microsoft 365 in May 2020.

4. **Is Mac Excel 2016 version 15.26 or later really required? What will happen if I use an earlier version?**

   The VBA portion of Mac Excel 2016 evolved after it was released. Version 15.26 (September 2016) was the first version where everything worked properly with MegaStat. Use *Excel > About Microsoft Excel* to check your version. MegaStat may install with version 15.25 and earlier but the earlier the version the more problems you will encounter.

5. **When I try to open the downloaded installer, I get a message saying it cannot be opened because it is from an unidentified developer. What should I do?**

    The message is because the download is not from the Apple app store. Open the Downloads folder with Finder, *right-click* or *control-click* the installer file (MegaStat_Installer_Mac.pkg) and click Open. A message box will allow you to open the file and proceed with the installation.

6. **Will MegaStat run on all versions of OS X / macOS?**

    MegaStat 10.4 was initially developed using OS X Version 10.11. In September 2016 OS X was renamed macOS. MegaStat should work with any OS X /macOS version 10.6 or later and probably earlier. If you can run Excel, you should be able to install and use MegaStat.

7. **MegaStat is an add-in program. What is an add-in?**

    An Excel Add-in such as MegaStat is a program that provides extended functionality to Excel. Once MegaStat is installed it will be available on the Data ribbon whenever Excel is opened.

    The advantage of having MegaStat as an add-in is that Excel is used for data entry, data manipulation, and printing. That allows MegaStat to be a relatively compact program that focuses on statistics and without having to deal with data management. Also, Excel is a very common data file format and many other file types can be converted to Excel files.

8. **Can MegaStat be moved to another ribbon or the Quick Access Toolbar?**

    This cannot be done with the current version (January 2023) of Mac Excel. It is possible that this feature will be implemented on future versions.

9. **How large is MegaStat?**

    MegaStat.xlam and the help files are less than 2MB. MegaStat does not require a large amount of memory. If you can run Excel, you can probably run MegaStat.

10. **Does MegaStat have data size restrictions.**

    MegaStat does not generally have arbitrary restrictions. MegaStat (and Excel) will work best with moderate size data sets. Computation can become slow with very large data sets.

11. **Will MegaStat run on a network?**

    MegaStat was not developed specifically for network use and is not supported for network use; however, some users have reported successful network usage.

    Check with McGraw-Hill regarding network licensing before attempting a network installation.

12. Where are the MegaStat files stored?

MegaStat for Mac Excel is installed in the Applications/MegaStat folder.

13. How does the MegaStat help system work with Mac Excel?

There are approximately 160 html files in the MegaStat Help folder. MegaStat uses the default browser (usually Safari) to display the files as needed. Apple Safari, Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge, and Firefox browsers have been tested; other browsers should work.

When displaying MegaStat help using Safari, and possibly other browsers, the browser focus may not be brought to the top so the help window will be partially or completely hidden by the MegaStat window. Click on the browser window or the browser icon in the Dock to bring the help window to the top. This does not happen with Google Chrome or Microsoft Edge and hopefully this issue will be fixed for other browsers with a future update.

Applications/MegaStat/MegaStat_Help/idh_MegaStatHelp.htm is the main help file and can be opened directly with your browser if you want to view the help system without running Excel and MegaStat.

14. Can MegaStat be used without running the installer program?

You need to initially run the installer (MegaStat_Installer_Mac.pkg) which will put the files in the Applications folder.   However, you can copy MegaStat.xlam and the help file folder to any folder and then Browse to that folder from the Add-Ins list.

15. I get errors when I enter decimal values, what is the problem?

This is probably caused by changing the decimal separator from a period to a comma. MegaStat requires that the decimal separator be a period.

16. Will MegaStat work with the Apple Numbers spreadsheet app?

No. MegaStat only works with Microsoft Excel versions that support VBA. The Numbers app can open Excel data files but does not support VBA or Excel macros. If Numbers is set as the default app for opening Excel files, then MegaStat will not install because Numbers will open the MegaStat setup file but will ignore the macro statements that initialize MegaStat.

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