

Q & A: Using A .fmp12 File With Other FileMaker, Inc. Applications

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The FileMaker 12 family of products supports a new file format identified by a .fmp12 file extension. The .fmp12 file format is not backward compatible with the previous .fp7 file format that was used in the following versions of FileMaker Pro:

- FileMaker Pro 7 / FileMaker Server 7
- FileMaker Pro 8 / FileMaker Server 8
- FileMaker Pro 8.5
- FileMaker Pro 9 / FileMaker Server 9
- FileMaker Pro 10 / FileMaker Server 10
- FileMaker Pro 11 / FileMaker Server 11

In order to use a FileMaker Pro .fp7 file with FileMaker Pro 12, the .fp7 file must be converted to the .fmp12 file format. If a .fp7 file is opened in FileMaker Pro 12, the user will be prompted to convert the file to a .fmp12 file format. Once a file has been converted to the .fmp12 file format, that same file cannot be opened in a .fp7 compatible version of FileMaker Pro. [Consult this knowledge base article](#) for additional information on converting files for use with FileMaker Pro 12.

The following article answers many questions about the usage of the new .fmp12 file format and its compatibility with previous versions of FileMaker products. This article refers to previous versions of FileMaker Pro as "FileMaker Pro 11" but is applicable to all the previous versions of FileMaker Pro listed above.

FileMaker Pro Specific Questions and Answers:

I have converted my .fp7 file to a .fmp12 file. Can I save my .fmp12 file so that I can open it in a previous version of FileMaker Pro?

No. FileMaker Pro does not have the ability to save a file so that it is compatible with a previous version of FileMaker Pro. However, you can export your data out of FileMaker Pro and import the same data into a previous version of FileMaker Pro or any other compatible application. In addition, if you have a copy of the .fmp12 file in a .fp7 format, you can export your data out of the .fmp12 file and import it into the .fp7 file.

Can I use a copy of FileMaker Pro 11 to open a file that is being shared / hosted by FileMaker Pro 12 or FileMaker Server 12?

No. FileMaker Pro 11 can only open files that are shared by FileMaker Pro 11 or FileMaker Server 11. You would need to use FileMaker Pro 12 or FileMaker Go 12 to access a file being shared by FileMaker Pro 12 or FileMaker Server 12. In addition, if applicable, you can also access a .fmp12 file using Instant Web Publishing.

Why can't I see the files I have hosted with FileMaker Pro 11 or FileMaker Server 11 with a copy of FileMaker Pro 12?

Files that are open and shared with FileMaker Pro 11 or FileMaker Server 11 can only be accessed by others using FileMaker Pro 11. Someone using FileMaker Pro 12 will not be able to access a file that is being shared by FileMaker Pro 11 or FileMaker Server 11.

Can I use FileMaker Pro 12 to open a .fp7 file?

No. If you open a .fp7 file in FileMaker Pro 12 you will be prompted to convert the file to a .fmp12 file. FileMaker Pro will leave your .fp7 file untouched and will create a new .fmp12 copy of it. This allows you to go back and edit your .fp7 file if need be to correct any pre-conversion issues that are identified.

Can I use an older copy of FileMaker Pro to open a .fmp12 file?

No. You can only use FileMaker Pro 12 to open a .fmp12 file.

Can FileMaker Pro 11 and FileMaker Pro 12 be installed on the same system at the same time?

Yes. FileMaker Pro 11 and FileMaker Pro 12 are two separate applications and therefore can co-exist on the same Windows or Mac OS machine. In fact, multiple versions of FileMaker Pro can be installed on the same system at the same time. However, you may find that multiple versions may not run at the same time - especially those that share the same file format.

FileMaker Go Specific Questions and Answers:

Can I use FileMaker Go 11 to open a file that is open and shared in FileMaker Pro 12 or FileMaker Server 12?

No. FileMaker Go 11 is not compatible with the .fmp12 file format. FileMaker Go 12 must be used on your iOS device if you want to access a file that is shared using FileMaker Pro 12 or FileMaker Server 12.

Can I use FileMaker Go 12 to open a file that is open and shared using FileMaker Pro 11 or FileMaker Server 11?

No. FileMaker Go 12 is not compatible with the .fp7 file format. FileMaker Go 11 must be used on your iOS device if you want to access a file that is shared using FileMaker Pro 11 or FileMaker Server 11.

Can FileMaker Go 11 and FileMaker Go 12 be installed on the same iOS device at the same time?

Yes. FileMaker Go 11 and FileMaker Go 12 are two separate applications and therefore can co-exist on the same iOS device. However, the file formats that these two applications use are not compatible.

Can FileMaker Go 12 open a .fp7 file?

No. You cannot open a .fp7 file in FileMaker Go 12. In addition, FileMaker Go 12 will not automatically convert a .fp7 file into a .fmp12 file. All file conversion needs to take place using a copy of FileMaker Pro 12 or FileMaker Pro 12 Advanced.

FileMaker Server Specific Questions and Answers:

Can FileMaker Server be used to host .fp7 and .fmp12 files at the same time?

No. FileMaker Server can only open and share files that it is compatible with. FileMaker Server 12 can only open and host files that are in the .fmp12 file format. You must use a copy of FileMaker Server 11 in order to open and host .fp7 files.

Can FileMaker Server 11 and FileMaker Server 12 share files at the same time on my network?

Yes. As long as FileMaker Server 11 and FileMaker Server 12 are installed on separate machines, they can co-exist and share files on the same network. This environment would allow the co-existence of FileMaker Pro 11 and FileMaker Pro 12 solutions if need be.

Can I install a copy of FileMaker Server 11 and FileMaker Server 12 on the same machine?

No. FileMaker Server 11 and FileMaker Server 12 use the same system resources and therefore cannot co-exist on the same machine. Only a single version of FileMaker Server can be installed on a system at one time. You will need to uninstall one version of FileMaker Server before you can install a different version of FileMaker Server.