

## System Optimization & Troubleshooting (macOS)

### Situation

My Mac system had become unstable: some applications no longer launched, user permissions were malfunctioning, and various user accounts and settings were conflicting. I decided to perform a complete system restructuring—without data loss—with the goal of creating a stable, efficient, and secure working environment.

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### Actions and Approach

- Created a **new primary user profile** and configured it step by step.
  - Used Terminal and system preferences to remove outdated profiles, adjust permissions, and restore key system settings.
  - Regained access to an external SSD and reconfigured it for both general storage and Time Machine backups.
  - Reinstalled applications, carefully restoring user data and preferences (including save files, personal settings, and configurations).
  - Analyzed and resolved system issues and crashes, including those caused by graphic engines and wrapper environments (e.g. Wine/Porting Kit).
  - Documented all system preferences (e.g. Finder behavior, screenshot paths, text replacement, audio settings) and re-applied them.
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### Outcome

- The system is now clean, stable, and optimized for long-term, professional use.
  - All data and user preferences were preserved or successfully migrated.
  - Backups and a logically structured work environment are in place.
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### Skills Demonstrated

✅ **Technical Understanding:** Navigated file systems, permissions, user account structures, disk utilities, and command-line tools

✅ **Analytical Problem Solving:** Diagnosed issues, interpreted error behavior, and tested effective fixes

✅ **Structured Thinking:** Broke down the problem into clear steps and tracked each change

- ✓ **Independence:** Completed all work self-directed, including research and testing
  - ✓ **Learning & Adaptability:** Regularly reviewed and adapted methods based on what worked
  - ✓ **Stress Resilience:** Kept calm and focused through technical frustrations and setbacks
  - ✓ **Clear Communication:** Documented all steps clearly and explained reasoning—valuable for team settings in IT and analytics
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### **Relevance to Data Analysis and IT**

While this project wasn't focused on data, it shows essential habits and skills needed in data-related roles:

- Carefully diagnosing and solving complex issues
  - Working independently but with structured documentation
  - Managing systems and environments (important when using tools like SQL, Jupyter, or Power BI)
  - Handling technical configurations—useful in both analytics workflows and low-code platforms
  - Thinking in terms of long-term maintainability and system clarity
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### **Conclusion**

This project not only restored my Mac, but helped me prove to myself that I'm capable of working through complex technical problems independently and with structure. It reaffirmed that I enjoy working in this kind of environment—combining logic, focus, and problem-solving—and that these are core strengths I can bring into the IT and data analytics field.