



OpenCore

Reference Manual (0.8.6.7)

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equivalent. Toggling screen reader support in both the OpenCore picker and the macOS bootloader FileVault 2 login window can also be done by using the Command + F5 key combination.

Note: The screen reader requires working audio support. Refer to the [UEFI Audio Properties](#) section for details.

8. PollAppleHotKeys

Type: plist `boolean`

Failsafe: `false`

Description: Enable `modifier hotkey` handling in the OpenCore picker.

In addition to `action hotkeys`, which are partially described in the [PickerMode](#) section and are typically handled by Apple BDS, modifier keys handled by the operating system bootloader (`boot.efi`) also exist. These keys allow changing the behaviour of the operating system by providing different boot modes.

On certain firmware, using modifier keys may be problematic due to driver incompatibilities. To workaroud this problem, this option allows registering certain hotkeys in a more permissive manner from within the OpenCore picker. Such extensions include support for tapping on key combinations before selecting the boot item, and for reliable detection of the `Shift` key when selecting the boot item, in order to work around the fact that hotkeys which are continuously held during boot cannot be reliably detected on many PS/2 keyboards.

This list of known `modifier hotkeys` includes:

- `CMD+C+MINUS` — disable board compatibility checking.
- `CMD+K` — boot release kernel, similar to `kcsuffix=release`.
- `CMD+S` — single user mode.
- `CMD+S+MINUS` — disable KASLR slide, requires disabled SIP.
- `CMD+V` — verbose mode.
- `Shift+Enter`, `Shift+Index` — safe mode, may be used in combination with `CTRL+Enter`, `CTRL+Index`.

9. ShowPicker

Type: plist `booleanstring`

Failsafe: `falseAlways`

Description: Show a simple picker to allow boot entry selection—:

- `Always` — Always show picker.
- `Never` — Never show picker.
- `SkipOnHibernateWake` — Like `Always`, however doesn't show picker if waking from macOS hibernation.

Notes for `SkipOnHibernateWake`:

- Only supports macOS hibernation wake, Windows and Linux are currently out of scope.
- Should only be used on systems with reliable hibernation wake in macOS, otherwise users may not be able to visually see boot loops that may occur.
- Highly recommended to pair this option with `PollAppleHotKeys`, allows to enter picker in case of issues with hibernation wake.
- Visual indication for hibernation wake is currently out of scope.

10. TakeoffDelay

Type: plist `integer`, 32 bit

Failsafe: 0

Description: Delay in microseconds executed before handling the OpenCore picker startup and `action hotkeys`.

Introducing a delay may give extra time to hold the right `action hotkey` sequence to, for instance, boot into recovery mode. On most systems, the appearance of the initial boot logo is a good indication of the time from which hotkeys can be held down. Earlier than this, the key press may not be registered. On some platforms, setting this option to a minimum of 5000–10000 microseconds is also required to access `action hotkeys` due to the nature of the keyboard driver.

If the boot chime is configured (see audio configuration options) then at the expense of slower startup, an even longer delay of half to one second (500000–1000000) may be used to create behaviour similar to a real Mac, where the chime itself can be used as a signal for when hotkeys can be pressed. The boot chime is inevitably later in the boot sequence in OpenCore than on Apple hardware, due to the fact that non-native drivers have to be