



**Steve's biography**

## Steve Wozniak

**Co-founder of Apple and the creative genius behind the Apple I and II**

The technological genius behind Apple Computers Inc., Steve Wozniak (affectionately referred to as 'Woz') has become an icon in the field of information [technology](#).

### Steve Wozniak's background

A Silicon Valley icon and philanthropist for more than thirty years, Steve Wozniak has helped shape the computing industry with his design of Apple's first line of products the Apple I and II. He also influenced the popular Macintosh. In 1976, Wozniak and Steve Jobs founded Apple Computer Inc. with Wozniak's Apple I personal computer. The following year, he introduced his Apple II personal computer, featuring a central processing unit, a keyboard, color graphics, and a floppy disk drive. The Apple II was integral in launching the personal computer industry.

In 1981, he went back to UC Berkeley and finished his degree in electrical engineering/computer science. For his achievements at Apple, Wozniak was awarded the National Medal of technology by the President of the United States in 1985, the highest honor bestowed on America's leading innovators. In 2000, he was inducted into the Inventors Hall of Fame and was awarded the prestigious Heinz Award for Technology, The [Economy](#) and Employment for single-handedly designing the first personal computer and for then redirecting his lifelong passion for mathematics and electronics toward lighting the fires of excitement for education in grade school students and their teachers.

Through the years, Wozniak has been involved in various business and philanthropic ventures, focusing primarily on computer capabilities in schools and stressing hands-on learning and encouraging [creativity](#) for students. Making significant investments of both his time and resources in [education](#), he adopted the Los Gatos School District, providing students and teachers with hands-on teaching and donations of state-of-the-art Technology equipment.

He founded the Electronic Frontier Foundation, and was the founding sponsor of the Tech Museum, Silicon Valley Ballet and Children's Discovery Museum of San Jose. In 2014, he was awarded the Hoover Medal, a prestigious honor given for "outstanding extra-career services by engineers to humanity," and was inducted into the IndustryWeek Manufacturing Hall of Fame. Steve was honored to be elevated to IEEE Fellow as of January, 2020.

Wozniak is a published [author](#) with the release of his New York Times best-selling autobiography, *iWoz: From Computer Geek to Cult Icon* by Norton Publishing. His television appearances include: ABC's

Dancing with the Stars and The Big Bang Theory, The Late Show with Stephen Colbert, Conan, and The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon. In October 2017, Steve co-founded Woz U.

## **Steve's talks**

- **The Founding of Apple**
- **Personal Vision for the Future of Technology**
- **iWoz, An Autobiography**
- **Thinking like an Entrepreneur within a Larger Company**
- [Robotics](#) and Automation
- **Wearables**

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