

Bad Bug in Mac's Big Sur 11.5  
2021-07-23

This new version has several big flaws.  
The previous version had only the #1 flaw below.

1) I can't get it to display the Documents directory by clicking on it in the Favorites menu.

2) I can't get it to rename a .docx file using highlight > right-click > choose Rename  
It says "This operation can't be completed. An unexpected error occurred (error code -8072)."

3) After failing at the rename error I can't open that docx file by highlighting it and using File > Open. Trying File > Open with results in NO OPTIONS for opening with any application.

4) I was successful opening that .docx file using MS Word for Mac and File > Open Recent but when I tried to change the filename using the dropdown window next to the top-menu name of the file, I got a box saying "Grant File Access" and "Additional permissions are required to access the following files:" followed by the name of the FOLDER in which the file was located, NOT the name of the file. It then said "Microsoft Word needs access to the folder named "Presentations". Select the item to gain access."

So I clicked Select, it gave me a directory listing with the folder name highlighted. I clicked Select and got the message "You are about to update the file format (which I had not asked it to do; the file extension remained the same. It also said "To preserve the layout of your document, click Cancel, and then in the Save As dialog box, select the check box labeled Maintain compatibility."

So I clicked on Cancel and got the message "Can't Rename File. This file can't be renamed now. Please try again later." Aaaargh!

So I tried File > Save As. This gave a strange result. Although the Microsoft Word header strip for the displayed file showed to name that it wouldn't let me change in #2 above, The Save As entry-box in the Save As window showed the name I had tried to change it to previously in #2 above. I clicked on Save and got the same error message as in #4 above. This time I clicked OK. However, the name of the file remained the original name in the directory listing.

5) I tried to open the file (showing as the original name) by double-clicking on it in the Directory -- no success. I opened Microsoft Word for Mac and in the File > Open Recent listing I saw the filename that I wanted it to be changed to (but was not displaying in the directory) and clicked on it. It opened and it displayed in the Microsoft Word header strip the name I wanted it changed to.

I clicked on File > Save, but the directory remained unchanged (displaying only the original file name). I made a small change, saved the file, still no change in the displayed directory. I closed the file, directory remained unchanged. I double-clicked on the displayed old filename; it still would not open. I opened Microsoft Word for Mac and in the File > Open Recent clicked on the new filename (which was not shown in the directory, and it opened showing the small change I had made.

CONCLUSION: Big Sur 11.5 seems to have a hidden directory which is used to save renamed files. This allows the user to see the old filename on the user-accessible directory but that file is inaccessible for further editing. The user CAN access the file in the hidden directory through the Recently Edited function of Microsoft Word for Mac. This is a clumsy work-around and perhaps impossible for files whose names were changed several days prior to when you try to edit them. THIS NEEDS FIXING ASAP.