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How to force-quit an Application under OS X

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If an application hangs, you may need to **force-quit** and relaunch the application, in order to continue using it. For more information on application hangs, see [this knowledge base article](#). The easiest way to force-quit an application is by following these steps:

1. Hold the **command** and **option** keys.
2. Press the **escape** key.
3. Pressing these keys will raise a dialog displaying a list of currently-open applications. In the list, locate the application you are concerned has hung.
4. Double-check that the application's name in the list appears in **red** and is followed by the message **(not responding)**. If neither of these things appear in the list for the application you are concerned has hung, the application may still be responding (it is still possible, though, to force-quit an application that is still responding).
5. Select the name of the application in the list and click the **Force Quit** button.
6. A prompt will appear, to confirm that you would like to force quit the application (and to notify you that any unsaved changes in the applications will be lost). In this prompt, click **Force Quit**.

After you have completed these steps, the name of your application should disappear from the list in the Force Quit dialog, and any windows associated with your application should disappear. You can now close the Force Quit dialog.