

Big Tech antitrust heats up as a lawsuit claims Google, Apple colluded on search engine business

Article

The news: A lawsuit filed earlier this week in California claims **Google** paid **Apple** billions of dollars to use Google's search engines on **Macs** and **iPhones**, [per](#) Gizmodo.

More on this: According to the class-action suit, the Big Tech firms worked together to keep Apple from developing its own search engine software.

- “Meetings were undertaken to promote the shared vision that Apple and Google would act in effect as one company that was merged without merging,” the suit states.
- The lawsuit claims that the two companies worked together to suppress smaller search engines like **DuckDuckGo** and **Bing**, and that the two companies shared tens of billions in profits from search ads.

Why it's worth watching: Apple and Google have already come [under fire](#) in the UK for their smartphone “duopoly” with iOS and Android, respectively. However, there are currently no viable competitors to the two operating systems.

The big takeaway: Big Tech has come under intense scrutiny in the past year, facing fines and lawsuits in the [US](#) and [overseas](#). Expect increased government oversight and fees on companies that have continued to grow unimpeded for years. However, big changes aren't likely until they're ordered to start divesting their interests.