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Tame its annoying
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Is Spotify **really**
the ultimate in
free music? **p80**

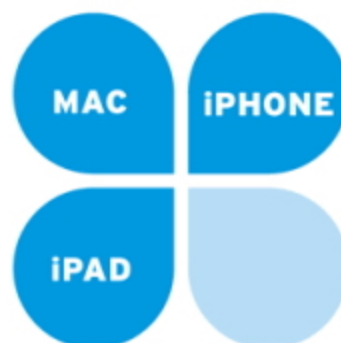


REVIEWED: New
MacBook Air & Mac mini,
p64



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OCTOBER 2011 NO.57



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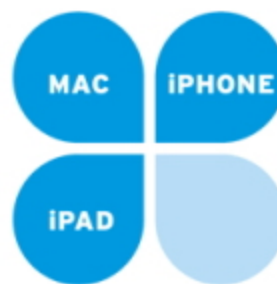
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The Hottest Articles on MacLife.com

How to Make Lion More Like Snow Leopard

Change is good, but sometimes change can be jarring—especially if it messes up your workflow. Solve that by making Lion act more like Snow Leopard. http://bit.ly/ML_LionLeo



How to Enable Disc Sharing in Lion

Who needs to purchase an external optical drive when you have a perfectly good Mac you can share the optical drive with? http://bit.ly/ML_shareOp



The Mac|Life Show

Your weekly video about everything going on in the world of Apple—brought to you by Robbie, Flo & the Mac|Life staff.

http://bit.ly/ML_Show



Apple Event Live Blog

We expect the next Apple event to happen in early September. Hopefully we'll see the long-awaited iPhone 5 and iOS 5. And iPods too!

http://www.maclife.com/ios_liveblog_11



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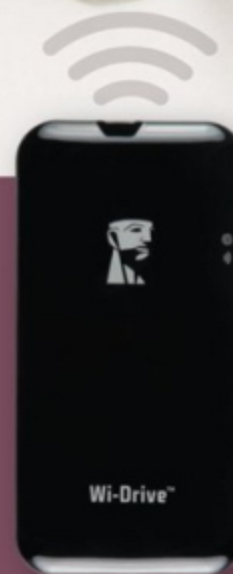
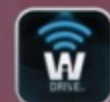
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THE EARLY DAYS OF LION

Admitting this makes me a little sheepish, but I have to confess that upgrading to Lion hurt a bit. While tinkering with its new features was as rewarding as always, the leap from Snow Leopard to Lion was still slightly disorienting.

The plainest answer to “why?” is that even while Apple is busily launching impressive new features, it can’t seem to stop itself from taking away smaller ones that really matter. I immediately liked the new gestures, and in an office where we constantly pass around just-completed articles, screenshots, and so on, Air Drop was instantly essential. Mission Control is, at last, the mature realization of Spaces, and although Auto Save and Versions will be more interesting when more non-Apple software supports them, their future already looks bright.

But then the body blows started landing...and no, I’m not talking about Apple’s goofy and much-skewed decision to reverse the orientation of scrolling. That was the kind of ham-fisted approach to “progress” that’s part of the Apple we know and mostly love, and I was just glad a checkbox was all it took to restore OS X’s sanity. But the real madness descended when I launched iCal... and found the mini-month sidebar permanently ripped out of the week view. I’d forgive you for calling that a small gripe, but I do almost all of my calendar “stuff” in that sidebar, and it felt to me like a limb had been ripped off iCal. I found plenty of irate forums that agreed, and while I’m hoping that an update will repair the damage, it’s more likely that I’ll just switch to BusyCal.

Worse, the entire *MacLife* staff had network issues of some kind or another with Lion—typically, they were solved by reconnecting to the server via Finder’s Go > Connect to

Server command, then trashing and re-creating our old server shortcuts...but where did *that* come from? I’m also pretty comfortable calling Launchpad “pointless,” at least until Apple decides to add an option that lets you dictate what it displays.

Bottom line: I don’t remember having this many grievances the last few times I upgraded OS X—in contrast, iOS updates typically feel like a wonderland of new toys (excepting that whole mute-switch debacle, of course). And while the scope of iOS is

I was just glad a checkbox was all it took to restore OS X’s sanity.

inherently smaller, it’s fair to say that Apple’s done a better job there of introducing new features at a more

steady pace and with fewer jarring side effects.

As promised last month, you’ll find a helpful solution for dealing with life without Rosetta on p47, and you’ll also find a fascinating survey of why many of you were so troubled by Rosetta’s departure on p8 (a big thank-you to everyone who wrote in). The, uh, lion’s share of you were concerned about your decade-plus of Quicken data that would no longer function under Lion, so next issue, we’ll present the results of our group test of Quicken replacements that actually function in OS X’s new world order.

Next, I’d love to hear from you on what else troubles you about Lion (or anything Apple-related), and we’ll use your responses to craft our next wave of how-to stories. Please drop me a line at paul@maclife.com—while I can’t always reply, I read every email, and your input really does help us create stories tailored for you. Thanks in advance, and enjoy the issue!

Paul Curthoys, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

>>>OVERHEARD AT MAC|LIFE THIS MONTH...



“It’s getting to that point in the day where I have to increase font size to edit anything on my computer screen. Where’s my walker?” —Flo, lamenting how old she’s getting, but not really.



“If puppies had computers, this is the computer they would have.” —Ray, remarking on the undeniable cuteness of the new MacBook Air.



“Since I shouldn’t block the Apple Store on Firefox, I’ll just freeze my credit card in a jug of water.” —Susie, resisting the urge to buy herself a new MacBook Air. For now, anyway.



“This wallet’s getting bulky. I just wish I had... less cash?” —Nic, realizing the error of his ways mid-sentence.



“I’m looking around for Annette Funicello and Frankie Avalon because I’m seeing spinning beach balls everywhere.” —Lion isn’t working as well as Robbie had expected.



“Honestly, I’m more excited about my new Mac than the Lion that came with it.” —Robin’s take on the new cat in her life.



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Lion Upgrade? Yes!

Amen (to "To Upgrade or Not To Upgrade," Sep/11, p6). Look what happened to Windows' supporting ancient legacies too long, such as DOS-naming conventions, IRQ interrupts, and 10,000 other half-baked inelegant technologies. I don't advocate being on the bleeding edge unless you're a beta tester; however, people better recognize and accept that the only constant in our technology future is change...and upgrades.—*Ed Poppitt*

Lion Upgrade? No!

The bottom line is that change is not necessarily progress! Should you change your language to Chinese and give up English because it is the major language? I love Macs. Steve went to my school as kid...but software is a tool. A 9/16 wrench has worked on many, many things for over 100 years. What it works on has changed, but not the tool. Computers

should accommodate the tools, not the other way around. Thanks for your views, too.—*John Nichols*

I agree that change isn't always progress, but I'd argue that shedding older technologies like Rosetta is an important part of progress. Software evolves at a far more rapid clip than languages or wrenches, and if a mechanic's work was hampered by a wrench designed for steam engines, I'd understand it being chucked in favor of something that worked better on the latest electric cars.

Similarly, I understand Apple shedding what it probably views as dead weight to make Lion leaner and meaner, and if Rosetta were a tool I needed, I'd simply stick with Snow Leopard—or run Snow Leopard on another drive, as we suggest on p47. We received a ton of email on this subject, and all of it was thoughtful and thought-provoking. Thanks everyone!—Paul

What Rosetta's Good for...

My most important app doesn't work anymore: Office 2004. I'm forced to buy Office 2011 now. Sure, TextEdit lets me open Word docs, but the formatting is all screwed up. My advice: look at the list of Lion-compatible apps at roaringapps.com/apps:table and then decide whether the upgrade is worth it.—*Jay L.*

My problem with Lion is Canvas X. In the years I've used it for my model railroad, for genealogy, and most importantly, for engineering design, I have created scores of documents that I need. I agree with you that Apple needn't be hung up by ancient history, but I'd like to know why Rosetta (or a third-party equivalent) couldn't be made to work with Lion.—*John Moore*

I read with great interest your take on Apple no longer supporting PowerPC apps, and I agree that Apple's five-year support was time enough for most people to upgrade. However, as an educator in the practically bankrupt state of California, this presents some real problems for me.

I run an eMac computer lab at a middle school, and I have personally prepared approximately 300 step-by-step individual lessons all based on Office X. This took me several years, and I have four more years of teaching before retiring, so perhaps it would be simpler to pick up another home computer to use as my "Rosetta tool." Anyway, I just wanted

to give you another perspective on how Lion will affect those with limited resources and multiple machines.—*Tom Maggio*

I know I'm not alone in lamenting your support for Apple dropping Rosetta from Lion, specifically relating to Adobe's marked-for-death FreeHand application. Without the use of FreeHand, I won't be looking for new software. I'll be looking for a new career.—*Tom Long*

The PowerPC software that's essential to what I do is Canvas. I design embroidery, and I do all my diagramming and directions in it. I have thousands of files saved in their format, and I've found no other program that will do everything I want to do in one program. Of course, the developer didn't issue Canvas for Mac after Canvas X, and Canvas 12 is out now for the Dark Side (PCs). So I'm stuck with my Mac addiction and years of files, and I'm out in the cold unless I do the partition thing or buy a PC laptop just to run this program.—*Carole Lake*

I was not aware Apple was discontinuing support for PowerPC apps until after I installed Lion. There are two apps I noticed almost immediately not working: X-Word Deluxe and MP3 Rage. My wife and I play Scrabble every day using X-Word, and I use MP3 Rage to rename the filenames of my MP3s according to the tags. My solution has been to whip out the old Power Mac G4 in the garage I have been meaning to get rid of and place it in the dining room to use the old stuff. Lots of trouble, but it works.—*Ray Silva*

Thanks so much to everyone who wrote in about Rosetta, including the countless other emails we didn't have space to print. As technology journalists, we're constantly focused on the Next Big Thing, so it's a terrific reminder that, for many of you, older tech has many indisputable reasons for sticking around. We agree with Carole and Ray that partitioning or running a second, older machine are some of the best solutions at the moment, but if any developers out there are working on a third-party solution for PowerPC support in Lion, please let us know.—Susie

WRITE TO US: letters@maclife.com or *Mac|Life*, 4000 Shoreline Court, Suite 400, South San Francisco, CA 94080

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Setting up an old Mac (like this sweet Power Mac G4 Cube) as a second machine is a great way to keep running any legacy apps you need.



This is your iPad

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with iWOW 3D**



"It's like someone took a squeegee and wiped the dullness from your music, making it sparkle."

MacWorld.com - May 9, 2011

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FEED YOUR MIND. FEAST YOUR EYES.



THE MAC APPS WE CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT

Whether you just got a new computer or a new iTunes card, you'll get more out of your Mac with our editors' collection of the most essential, indispensable software.

BY THE MAC|LIFE STAFF

The day you get a new computer can be a day of elation. Everything smells like an Apple Store, your computer's body is flawless—even the keys are more clicky. But it's also a day where you find out how much your old computer was customized, personalized, and tailored to the way you use it. And you might wonder...are you really using the best, most cutting-edge software out there? To help beef up a new Mac or just put a shine on an older one, we took a look at our current computers and decided which apps we couldn't live without.

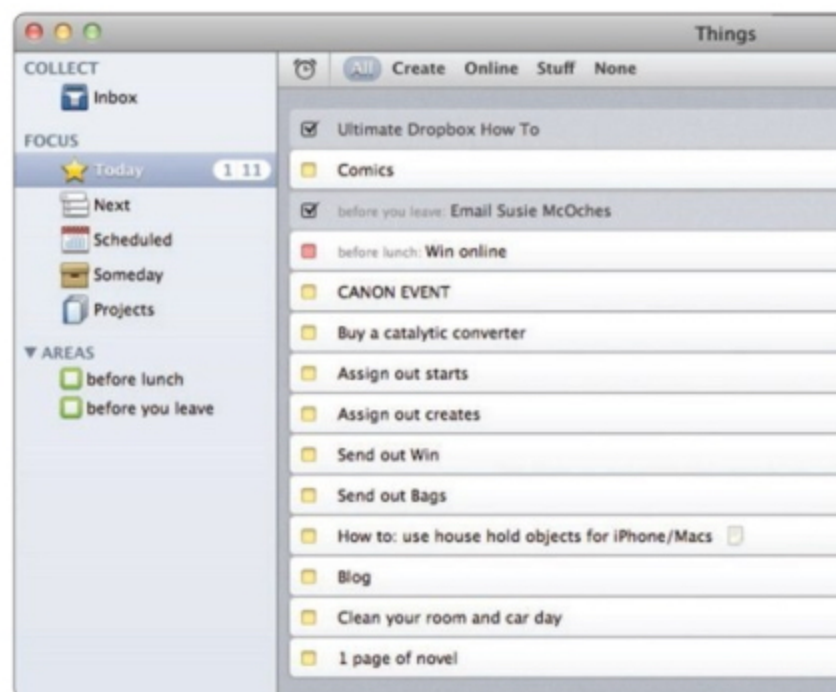
PAUL



>>Things
Cultured Code
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Things isn't just an app—it's my memory. My whole life—work, family, and even "someday I'll do that" dreams—resides in this lean, simply designed to-do software. There's no bloat here, just elegantly spare functionality that makes it become second nature to store everything from reminders to pack concert tickets right on down to the 13 assignments that were due yesterday. Gulp. You can also purchase the

iPhone or iPad app and sync your lists to them over Wi-Fi, and it's been a lifesaver more than once to have that info with me on the road.



This digital memory allows me to focus on the work at hand, not the things I might be forgetting.

SUSIE



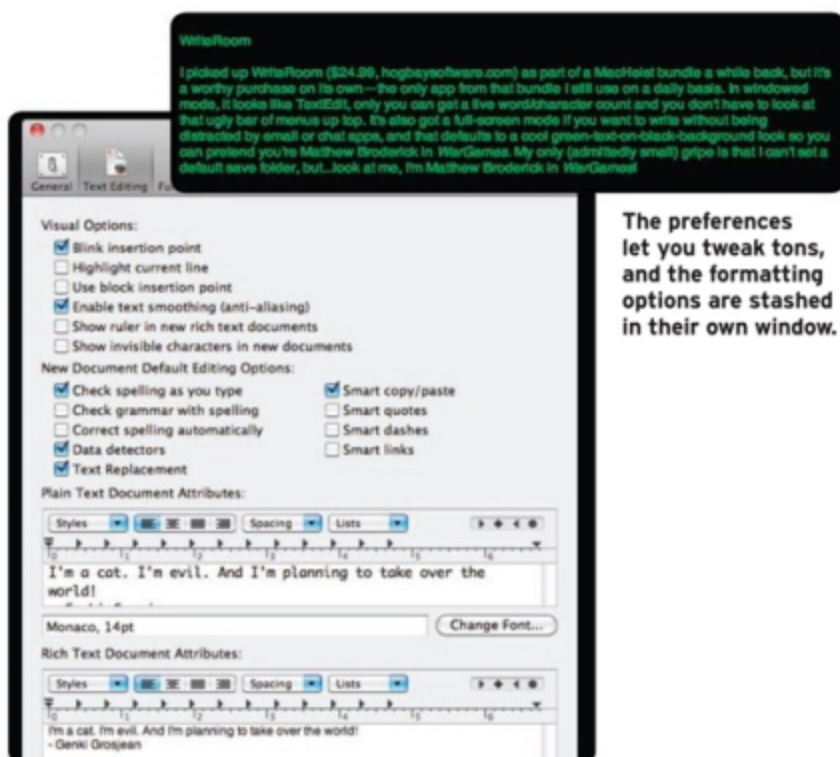
>>WriteRoom

Hog Bay Software

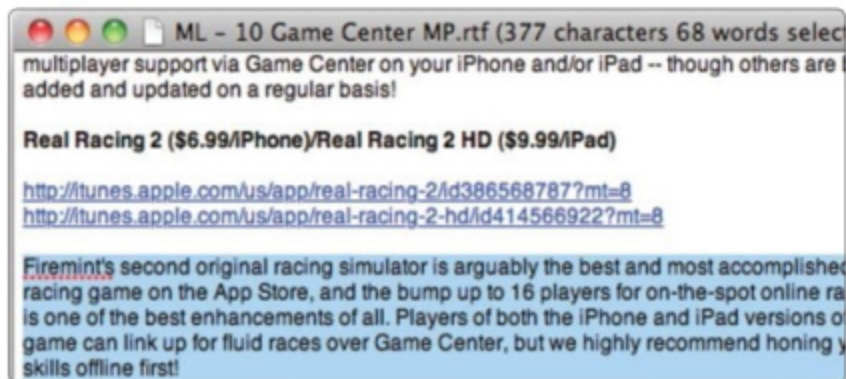
\$24.99

hogbaysoftware.com

I picked up WriteRoom as part of a MacHeist bundle a while back, but it's a worthy purchase on its own—it's the only app from that bundle I still use on a daily basis. In windowed mode, it looks like TextEdit, only you can get a live word/character count and you don't have to look at that ugly bar of menus up top. It's also got a full-screen mode if you want to write without being distracted by email or chat apps, and that defaults to a cool green-text-on-black-background look so you can pretend you're Matthew Broderick in *WarGames*. My only (admittedly small) gripe is that I can't set a default save folder, but...look at me, I'm Matthew Broderick in *WarGames*!



The preferences let you tweak tons, and the formatting options are stashed in their own window.



The live character counts are awesome when, for example, your website only accepts 500-character photo captions.



>>I Love Stars

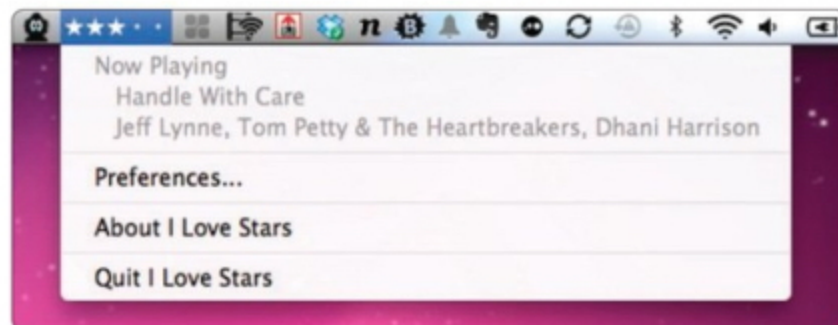
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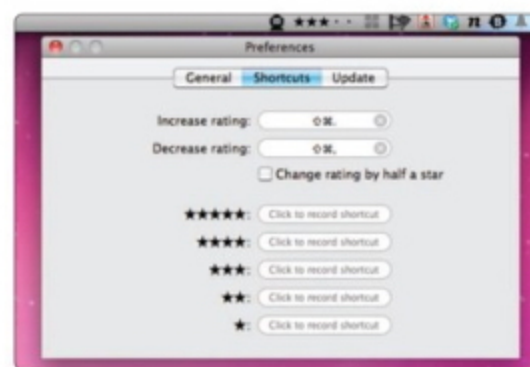
Since I own an iPad, an iPhone, a couple of older iPods, and 943 iOS apps and counting, I'll literally never be able to quit using iTunes. But even with all its shortcomings, I still love some things about it, like smart playlists... and I also love I Love Stars. It chills out in my menu bar and lets me

adjust the star rating of the currently playing song. In a typical workday, I can rate so many songs without having to keep stopping what I'm doing and popping over to iTunes—you can even set keyboard shortcuts and rate songs that way. The majority of my smart playlists take ratings into account (3- to 5-star R&B, for example), so I Love Stars is a huge help.

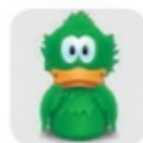


If you click I Love Stars in the menu bar, it reminds you what's playing.

The preferences let you set shortcuts and even use half-stars.



RAY



>>Adium

Adium

Free

adium.im

Even though all my coworkers sit within a 25-foot radius of my desk, we're all messaging each other constantly throughout the day. For most things, instant messages are quicker than email, and there's no extra cruft left in my already-overflowing email box. Everyone in the office uses an iChat account, but with freelancers spread across a multitude of other services, Adium lets me keep connected to all of them, whether they use AIM, Google Talk, Facebook, or practically any other chat platform. Adium's easy to use, and the deep configurability means it adapts to me, not the other way around.



Adium connects to every chat network in the known universe and offers an amazing level of customizability.

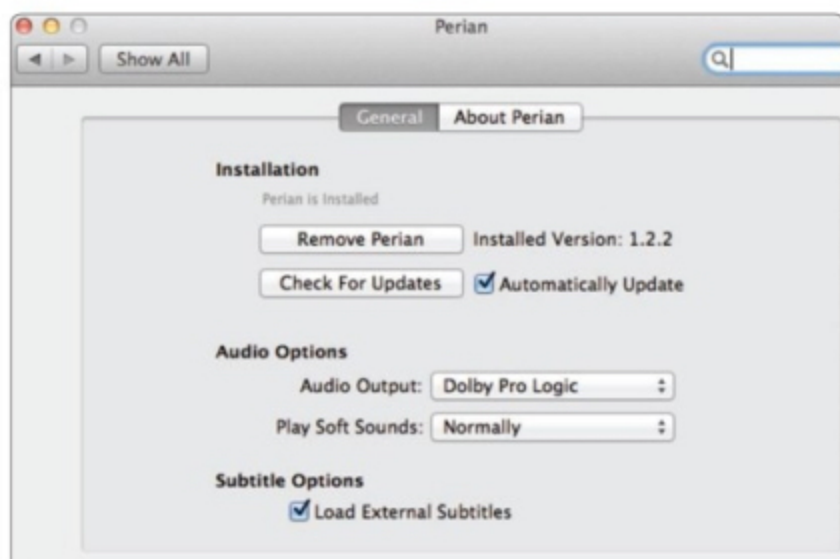
ROBERTO



>>Perian

Perian Project
Free
perian.org

If you have to edit or even view a multitude of video types on your Mac, the Perian QuickTime component is a must-have. The free component allows me to use QuickTime to play AVI, DIVX, FLV, MKV, and other video formats that sound funny when said aloud.



Perian resides in your System Preferences where it releases the awesome.

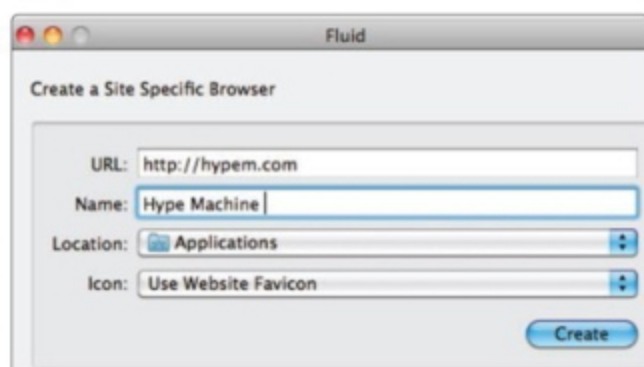
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Free
fluidapp.com

I'm a big fan of music-streaming sites like HypeMachine, Grooveshark, and Pandora, but none of them have their own native application. So instead of keeping them in a browser tab to hog up my memory and slow down my work in Firefox, Fluid lets me create a separate application process out of any URL, which is then placed in my Applications folder as its own entity. You can also use Fluid for things like your Google RSS feed, having more than one account logged in to a web-based email account, or hosting a streaming site like Hulu. There's no reason your favorite site should keep crashing your unstable browser—give it the power to stand all on its own!



A simple app that allows you to make applications out of a URL!

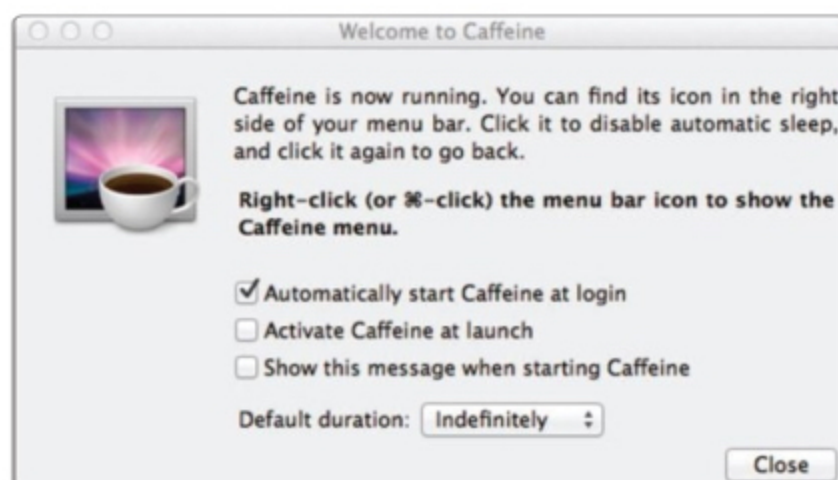
NIC



>>Caffeine

Lighthouse Software
Free
lighthousew.com

Without a doubt, my most essential Mac app is Caffeine. Whenever it's on, it keeps my screen from dimming, and it can be turned on and off in the menu bar with a simple click. Since I do a majority of my work on a laptop, this comes in handy any time I'm watching a YouTube video or wracking my brain trying to write that next sentence. It's free, weighs in at a measly 0.3 megabytes, and is absolutely irreplaceable.



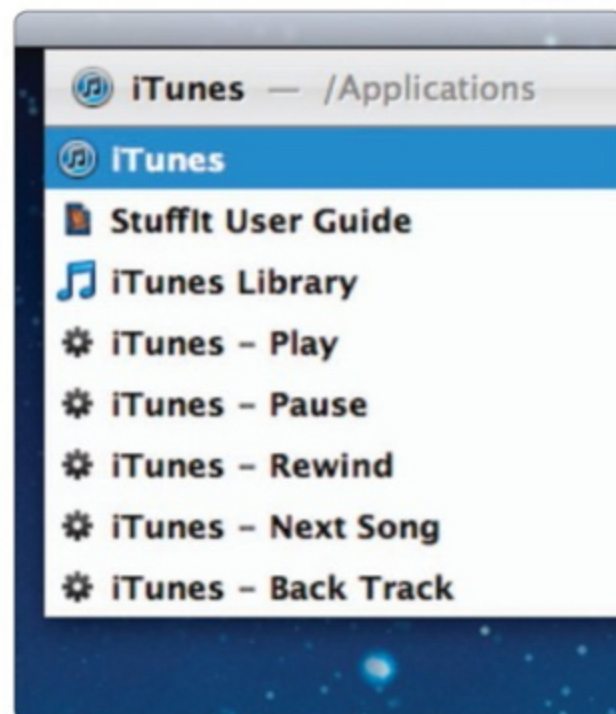
Caffeine has plenty of preferences to keep the setting specialists satisfied.



>>LaunchBar 5.1

Objective Development
\$35
obdev.at/launchbar

LaunchBar is the quick-launch application that I can't get enough of. I use it to change songs in iTunes, open applications, or even do simple mathematical equations. Despite the fact that I use this to open almost everything (and that it puts Launchpad to shame), this little application is so full of features I'm sure I'm still not using it quite enough.



LaunchBar is the Swiss Army knife of launch applications.

WIN

YOU RISE TO THE CHALLENGE. WE REWARD YOU WITH COOL PRIZES.

The boss KNS-8400s could be yours for the low price of one comment! >>>

This issue, we're giving away some fabulous **KNS-8400 headphones** by KRK Systems. These \$250 bad boys garnered top praise in our reviews, earning a score of 4 out of 5 (Sep/11, p72). They're truly a great pair of mid-priced cans, and they might be yours soon! Details on how to enter are in the top right corner of this page.



OUR CONTESTS ARE ONLINE!

For more details on this month's contest—including rules and how to enter—visit maclife.com/Oct_11_Win

And don't forget to check out our Facebook page for even more special contests with awesome prizes (facebook.com/maclife).

Who's a Winner?

In the Jul/11 issue, we gave away a "band in a box" featuring some amazing products from IK Multimedia. These products, ranging from **AmpliTube** to the **iRig Mic**, will turn a longtime Beatles' fan, Mel, into a very capable shredder. Congrats, Mel!



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Audioengine 2 (A2) Premium Powered Desktop Speakers

Closes the gap between computer speakers and home audio

"These are the best speakers for your desktop, computer, or media player."
— Connect Reviews



\$99

Audioengine W2

Premium Wireless Adapter for iPod

High-quality wireless for your iPod, computer and all your audio gear

"Super fast setup and the uncompressed sound is pretty remarkable."
— Uncrate



\$99

Audioengine W1

Premium Wireless Audio Adapter

Works with all your gear • Cables included • 30-day audition • 3-year warranty

Visit our website for more product info, reviews, and awards: audioengineusa.com

©2011 Audioengine Ltd. iPod touch not included. iPod is a trademark of Apple Inc., registered in the U.S. and other countries. "Made for iPod" means that an electronic accessory has been designed to connect specifically to iPod and has been certified by the developer to meet Apple performance standards. Apple is not responsible for the operation of this device or its compliance with safety and regulatory standards.



>>>Start

Crave

THE GEAR WE'RE LUSTING AFTER...THIS MONTH



FLORENCE

IPHONE 4 SLR MOUNT

photojojo.com
\$249

>>>Photo-filter apps for your iPhone are practically overflowing from the App Store, but nothing will ever beat using real, quality glass. And now you can shoot iPhone photos with your existing SLR lenses, thanks to Photojojo's new SLR Mount. It'll work with either Nikon or Canon EOS lenses, and there are even mounting points for adding a standard camera strap.



ROBERTO



SCS.4DJ

stantondj.com

\$499.99

>>>Tons of the DJ controllers out there work with your Mac, but Stanton's SCS.4DJ can also work without it. Plug in a USB drive of music files—or even an iPod—and the onboard software will let you go from zero to party-rocking in minutes. It's also a MIDI controller, so the SCS.4DJ will work with your favorite Mac-based DJ setup, too.

SUSIE



G CONNECT

g-technology.com

\$199.99 (500GB)

>>>Expand your iPad's capacity to near-infinity with this Wi-Fi drive from G-Technology. You can stream in HD to three devices or send standard-def streams to up to five devices. It also has an Ethernet port and will work as a Wi-Fi access point. Pretty slick for something that easily slips into a pocket.

NIC

OPENA CASE

openacase.com

\$39.95

>>>Just when I thought I'd seen everything an iPhone can do, the Opena adds "open a beer" to that list. The stainless steel opener slides out from the back of the iPhone case, meaning that I'm only nanoseconds away from a cold one at any time. It even slides completely out of the way, so I can charge my phone without removing the case. Cheers!



RAY



iW1

ihomeaudio.com

\$299.99

>>>The iW1 works with AirPlay, so you can wirelessly transmit music from your iOS device to the unit. But that's only the second-coolest feature on this new speaker dock. It also features an internal rechargeable battery, which means you can make your tunes truly wireless by lifting the unit off the charging base and taking it with you, indoors or out.

Accessorize your MacBook®, iPad®, iPhone® and Apple® devices

HyperJuice External Batteries for MacBooks

\$170 (60Wh) - \$250 (100Wh) - \$350 (150Wh) - \$450 (222Wh)

Go off the grid without worrying about where the next wall outlet is. This external battery works with all models of MacBook, MacBook Pro and MacBook Air®. Available in 4 different capacities (60/100/150/222Wh). These external batteries also come with a high power 10W USB port that powers any USB device (e.g. iPad, iPhone) simultaneously.



HyperJuice Micro and Mini

\$69.95 (Micro) - \$99.95 (Mini)

Recharge your iPad, iPhone, iPod® and USB devices in style! The Micro and Mini both have a 10W (5V/2.1A) USB port for making sure you stay up and running no matter where you go. The Micro (3600mAh) can recharge the iPhone 3 times or power the iPad for 5 hours. The Mini (7200mAh) doubles that. With a wide color selection, you can have your pick at just about any color under the sun!



HyperThin HDMI Cable

\$19.95 (0.8m) - \$39.95 (2.5m)

World's thinnest, most compact and most flexible HDMI cable delivers the maximum high definition digital video and multi-channel digital audio performance for the Apple TV, iPad, iPhone 4, iPod touch 4, Mac mini and other portable electronics. It fits easily in the smallest of pockets and flexibly connects it in the tightest of spaces.



HyperJuice Stand

\$129.95

More than just a stand for the iPad, this sleek creation has a built-in 40Wh battery which extends the iPad's battery life by an additional 16 hours! It also has a 10W USB port for charging the iPad, iPhone and other USB devices. Two rubberized slots hold the iPad at 18° and 45° angles (portrait or landscape positioning). Works with both original iPad and iPad 2.



HyperShield Back Cover for iPad 2

\$19.95 (11 colors)

HyperShield Back Cover works perfectly with the Apple Smart Cover to offer complete protection of the iPad 2. Made of durable thermoplastic polyurethane (TPU), its gel-like shock absorbing properties protect the iPad 2 back from bumps and scratches. Unlike silicon, TPU retains shape, form and color after repeated use, removals and insertions. It is only 1.4mm thin, dirt-proof and washable. Available in 11 colors to match the Apple Smart Cover.



HyperDrive Hard Drive for iPad

From \$99.95

A USB 2.0 hard drive that connects directly to the iPad. Navigate hard drive contents on the iPad's screen and transfer up to 1TB of high definition video and photo to the iPad, without using a computer, additional apps or a jailbroken iPad.



HyperShield Snap-on Back Cover for iPad 2

\$29.95 (12 colors)

This stylish polyurethane leather HyperShield Back Cover easily snaps on and off the iPad 2. A strong polycarbonate structure with soft corduroy inner lining protects the iPad's back from scuffs. An ultra slim profile makes it barely noticeable. Available in 12 colors and works perfectly with Apple Smart cover.



HyperDrive ColorSpace for iPad

From \$249

A USB 2.0 hard drive that connects directly to the iPad and transfers up to 750GB of high definition videos and photos to the iPad (no computers required). HyperDrive is also a memory card backup device with 2 card slots to backup directly from 12 different card types (no computers required) and a 3.2" color LCD screen for RAW/JPEG photo viewing and file management.



HyperShield 3-in-1 Smart Pen

\$19.95 (6 colors)

Available in 6 different eye catching colors this stylus works with the iPad and any capacitive screens. Its soft rubber tip makes it perfect for writing, tapping and drawing on the iPad. Thanks to a magnetized tip, a simple stroke of the Smart Pen will also wake up the iPad 2. Remove the cap to reveal an exquisite ballpoint pen for traditional writing on paper.



HyperShield Logo Back Cover for iPad 2

\$39.95 (9 colors)

Crafted with genuine leather, this Apple Smart Cover compatible HyperShield Back Cover features a circular opening on the back to reveal the iPad 2 Apple logo. This ultra slim case snaps on and off the iPad 2 easily. Its strong polycarbonate structure with rubberized interior protects the iPad 2 aluminum back from scuffs. Available in 9 colors.



>>> GO ALL iPad, ALL THE TIME!

A computer magazine advocating ditching your laptop for an iPad? It's not just possible—it's awesome!

BY PAUL CURTHOYS, ANDREW HAYWARD, MICHAEL SIMON & NIC VARGUS

If hotcakes were selling like iPads, IHOP would be the hottest investment on the block. But hold the maple syrup—despite the higher price tag on most Macs, Apple's making more money off iPads these days. Its Q3 2011 iPad earnings were \$6.05 billion, up 179 percent since the previous year. Meanwhile, Mac sales raked in \$5.1 billion...representing gains of only 16 percent.

What's driving the iPad's explosive growth? The "cool factor" is certainly part of it, but the iPad's utility is the foundation of its success. It's terrific as a second computing device (the first being a Mac or PC), and for many of us, it's taking the spotlight as our primary platform for work, email, browsing, and beyond. Thanks to the cutting-edge offerings in the App Store (15 billion downloads served!), it's even more practical than ever before to handle all your productivity needs with an iPad. We're talking photographing checks to deposit them, piping video calls to your TV, and loads more. But how?

That's the beating heart of this story. Whether you want your iPad to become your work machine or you simply want to be sure you're wringing every last drop of productivity out of it, we'll show you how to set up the apps and accessories you'll need to put your iPad front and center.





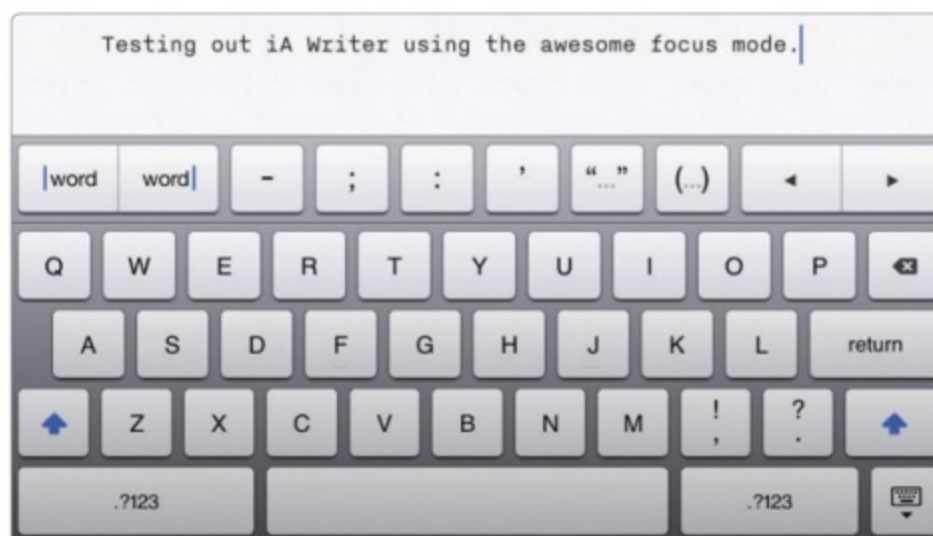
THE BEST PRODUCTIVITY MONEY CAN BUY

These must-have apps will help you work smarter with your iPad.

When switching to an iPad as your central computing device, the biggest adjustment from a traditional computer may be typing up documents and staying productive; after all, the App Store is always there to tempt you with a large number of amazing distractions. That's why we've unearthed several well-designed apps that'll keep you focused and working.

Apple's own iWork suite—comprised of **Pages (\$9.99)**, **Numbers (\$9.99)**, and **Keynote (\$9.99)**—is considered the gold standard for productivity on the iPad, and its polished apps take after the Mac originals while also taking into consideration the touchscreen and form factor of the device. Pages puts easy document creation at your fingertips and includes support for Microsoft Word files, while Numbers lets you create spectacular-looking spreadsheets and Keynote puts snazzy presentations within reach. All three apps also now work on the iPhone and iPod touch, giving you easy access to documents wherever you are.

But if you're seeking worthwhile alternatives to Apple's apps, fear not—stellar substitutions are plentiful. For writing, we love **iA Writer (\$4.99)**, a



Cut the noise with iA Writer's excellent Focus Mode.

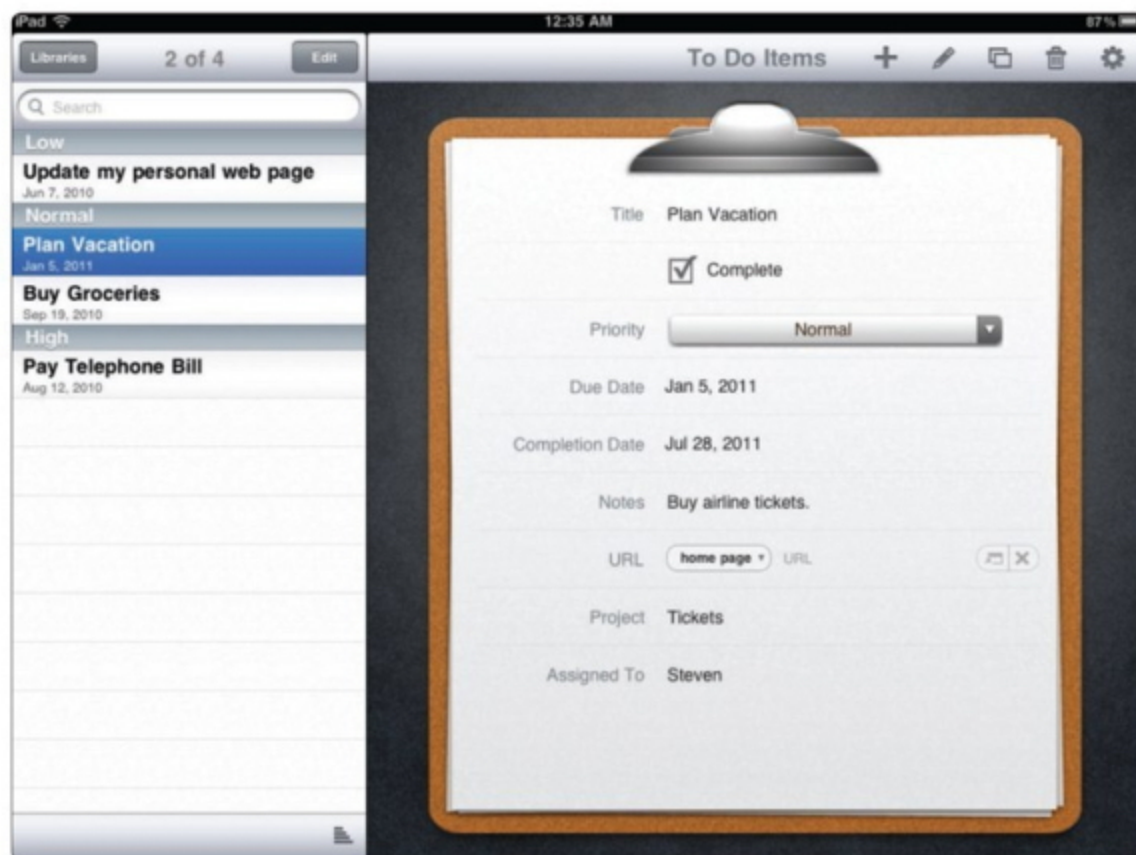
no-nonsense option that includes hugely helpful additional keyboard functions, along with a Focus Mode that only displays the last couple of lines for distraction-free, stream-of-consciousness typing. And if you're a power user looking to take control of your data and present it with stylized graphs and diagrams, consider **OmniGraphSketcher (\$14.99)** and **OmniGraffle (\$49.99)**, which both put a lot of creating power on the iPad's touchscreen.

But let's say you're just looking to take quick notes instead of writing out an entire

paper or document. **Evernote (free)** is an excellent way to jot down text notes and quick audio recordings and have them be automatically transferred between devices. So you can write up a quick shopping list at home on your iPad and then check it on your iPhone without thinking about syncing. The core service is free, but premium subscription options are also available for heavy users.

If you prefer to physically write down your notes, however, be sure to snag **Notes Plus (\$4.99)**, a well-produced app that gives you virtual notebook pages upon which to scribble your every thought and sketch. Thoughtful features like undo and redo functions and natural palm-led scrolling make this app easy to love. Be sure to grab an iPad-compatible stylus to make the most of the experience—for our preferred stylus, flip to p26.

And since staying on point can be difficult when the iPad offers so many entertaining diversions, we dug up several worthwhile task-management apps that can help you stay on target. One of the best is **Things for iPad (\$19.99)**, which lets you easily build a detailed to-do list (as well as larger, multi-step projects) and check off items as they're completed. Things also syncs wirelessly with the Mac version, in case you're also using it at home or work. But if you want something a bit more affordable, **Bento for iPad (\$4.99)** is a smart and attractive option, and it also provides note-taking and contact-listing elements alongside its basic to-do list functionality.



Bento is a gorgeous all-in-one productivity app.

UTILIZE THOSE UTILITIES

Bridge the gap between iPad and computer with apps for everything from security to printing.

A few choice utility apps can help ease the transition from a traditional computer to the iPad, especially if you need to stay both productive and protected. The handy **1Password for iPad (\$9.99)** stores and encrypts all your private information and lets you automatically log into websites without racking your brain for user names and passwords. And with its auto-lock feature, you don't need to worry about spreading



You can rest easy when your iPad's encrypted with 1Password.

secure data if your iPad is ever lost or stolen.

If you plan on regularly using your iPad to read PDF documents and other files, **GoodReader for iPad (\$4.99)** is an absolute must. This robust app effortlessly displays a wide variety of file types—including PowerPoint presentations, books, and even audio and video clips—and it supports a large number of PDF annotations, so you'll generally lose little in translation.

And while many apps print directly to the select line of AirPrint-compatible printers, you'll want **PrintCentral for iPad (\$8.99)** if you have an older or incompatible wireless



GoodReader is aptly named.

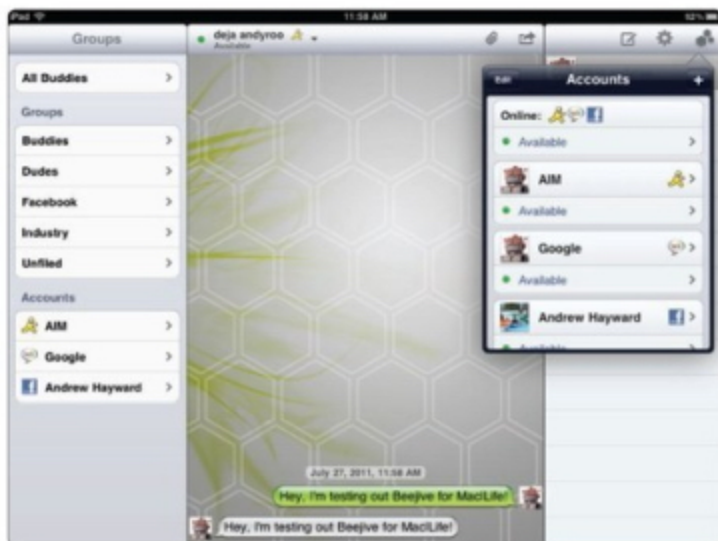
printer—it makes printing a snap on most such models. Even older wired printers can get in on the mix, though you'll need to download a free program on a nearby computer. Still, it's a lot cheaper than buying a whole new printer just for the iPad!

COMMUNICATION IS TRANSACTIONAL

Keep your friends close with the right App Store purchases.

Keeping up with all your friends and work contacts is easy as pie on the iPad, and you don't need multiple apps to juggle your IM conversations across different networks. Simply use **BeejiveIM for iPad (\$4.99)**, an all-in-one option that supports AIM, MobileMe, MSN, Google Talk, Facebook, and other

services, making quick chats a breeze. And since push notifications are built in, you'll never miss an important message when you're typing up a document or surfing the web.



BeejiveIM supports almost every IM channel and looks gorgeous doing it.

But if visual and vocal communication are needed, turn to the old standby **Skype (free)**. The recently released iPad

version delivers video-chat functionality using both the front and back cameras of the iPad 2, as well as VoIP voice calls via Wi-Fi or a 3G data plan. Plus, it'll work with all your contacts on computers,



Uploading clips to YouTube has never been easier.

iPhones, and other devices. And if you have a camera-less iPad 1, everything except video chatting works just fine—you'll receive incoming video feeds, but obviously you can only transmit audio.

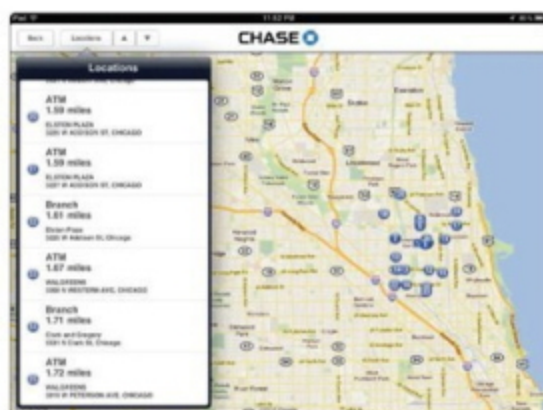
You don't have to look far to find unique communication options on the iPad 2, though. We all know about Apple's **FaceTime (free)**, but did you realize you can hook up your iPad 2 to a TV with the **Apple**

VGA Adapter (\$29) or **Digital AV Adapter (\$39)** for large-scale video chats? Along those lines, Apple's basic **Camera** app lets you upload your recorded clips directly to YouTube, giving you a quick and easy way to share home videos with friends—or the world!

MORE MONEY, FEWER PROBLEMS

The right apps will make the iPad your new digital wallet.

If you're running a small business—especially a mobile one without a dedicated retail location—the free **Square** app can be an absolute necessity. Using the free credit card reader attachment (obtained by mail at squareup.com), you'll be able to swipe cards anywhere using a customizable and detailed point-of-sale app; Square takes 2.75 percent of the sale price as the total commission for the service. Customers can even open tabs or leave tips, as well as sign for the card right



Chase Mobile deposits your checks right from the couch.

The **Bloomberg** app is almost as impressive as those Apple stocks.

on the screen. It's easily one of the most impressive iPad apps in any category.

If you're just looking to manage your own personal finances, however, several helpful apps out there can be your bookkeeper. For simple budgeting of your monthly income and expenditures, try **PocketMoney (\$4.99)**, which lets you manually input your various debts and transactions and track them over a large period of time. And if you play the stock market, be sure to snag the free **Bloomberg for iPad** app, which lets you track various stocks and includes up-to-the-minute details on prices and fluctuations, as well as scads of recent news stories regarding each listed company.

Many large banking institutions in North America have their own dedicated (and free)



iPad apps, including **Bank of America for iPad**, **Citibank for iPad**, and **Chase Mobile**, the last of which actually lets you deposit paper checks by photographing them with the iPad 2 camera. It'll save you time and a trip to the bank, but it's also a damn cool innovation! Other banks have their own dedicated apps as well, so search around the App Store—or switch to one of these modern, iPad-supporting banks.

HEAD IN THE CLOUDS

Keep your important files handy even when your Mac is far away.

Until iOS 5 moves our documents to the iCloud and Apple finally dispenses with iTunes' clunky, multi-step file-sharing method, we'll all just have to rely on App Store solutions for a little longer. Of course, there's always **Dropbox (free)**, but anyone who uses it for more than storage knows that actually using files on your iPad sours the whole experience a bit.

There are, however, elegant solutions that'll let you dump the MacBook and still work on your files back home. **Phone Drive (\$1.99)**—a web-based storage platform with quick uploads (more than twice as fast as Dropbox), customized view settings,



Phone Drive: your files, right away.

built-in text editing and audio recording, and a web download manager—is like a Swiss Army knife for your documents. It does so much, in fact, we half-expected its proprietary browser to load all those Flash movies we can't watch with Safari. (It doesn't.)

But it does offer a unique level of integration with your files and the closest thing to syncing this side of iCloud. Let's say you have a *MacLife* deadline tomorrow

but a day at the beach planned for today. Upload your documents (Pages files need to be converted for in-app editing), graphs, pics, and whatever else you need through your Mac's browser, FTP client, or personal

hotspot (in case you're out of range of a secure Wi-Fi signal).

When you get to the shore, just launch the Phone Drive app on your iPad and start working. And when you get home, download the edited file to your Desktop and email it to your editor—all without getting sand in your MacBook's keyboard.



Phone Drive's built-in text editor makes Dropbox users green with envy.



NeatDesk[®] FOR MAC

DESKTOP SCANNER +
DIGITAL FILING SYSTEM



This high-speed, duplex scanner lets you scan multiple paper types all at once, or even insert up to 50 pages for lightning-fast batch scanning.



NeatReceipts[®] FOR MAC

MOBILE SCANNER +
DIGITAL FILING SYSTEM



At less than one pound, the USB-powered scanner fits easily in your laptop bag and is perfect for the road, home, or office.

STOP WORKING WITH A PAPER MONSTER

All that paper piling up in your office can quickly grow to beastly proportions. But Neat[®] helps you stay organized and clutter-free at work, at home, or on the go. Our patented scanner and software solutions extract key details from your paper, then organizes it all in a digital filing cabinet. Good for productivity. Bad for Paper Monsters.

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SYNC TO THE TOP

Take everything on your Mac while leaving the hardware at home.

As great as our iPads' screens are for writing emails and watching the latest episode of *Jersey Shore*, iOS doesn't quite measure up to the Desktop experience we enjoy on our Macs. For the most part, it's an acceptable tradeoff—after all, there are enough apps to fill almost every void—but there are still those times when we wish we could

transform our iPad into one of our Spaces.

Sadly, OS X's not quite there yet, but **iTeleport for iPad's (\$19.99)** fantastic VNC client is the next best thing. Simply download the accompanying iTeleport Connect server (free) on your Mac, sign in with a Gmail account, and your iPad masterfully mirrors your OS X Desktop, complete with Multi-

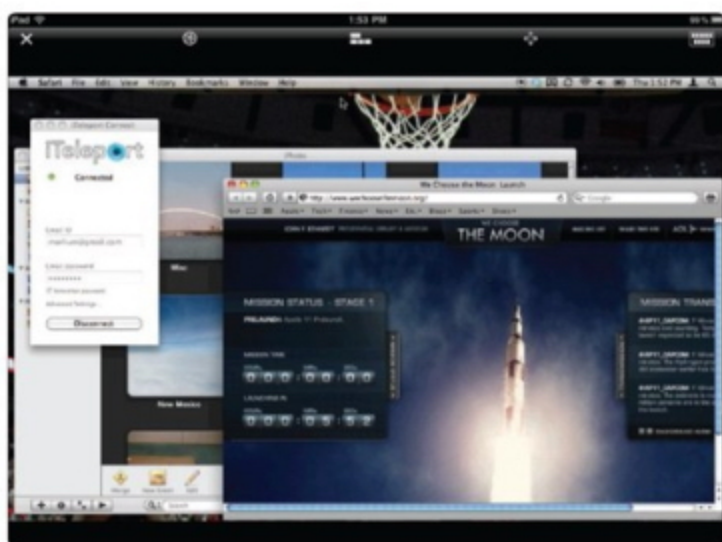
Touch gestures and multitasking support. Plus, it's one of the only ways to play Flash on your iPad, though it works about as well as Steve said it would.

As with any VNC/VPN client, usability is largely dependent on the speed of your network—and things can get wonky, especially over 3G—so, if you need fast access to your files without all the magic, check out **Presence (free)**, an enormously useful app that bridges the gap between simple file sharers and full-fledged virtual computing clients.



Presence is the closest thing to the Finder you'll find on your iPad.

Like iTeleport, Presence links with a Mac or PC desktop client (**\$40**), but instead of bandwidth-hogging VNC, this sophisticated remote-access app strips your Desktop down to its bare files. Readable documents open right in the app, and non-iPad-supported files can either be downloaded for offline use or opened in the appropriate app. (Media files, however, are pretty useless.) You can even search with Spotlight and send edited Pages files back to your Mac using WebDAV.



With iTeleport, the iPad runs Flash sites about as well as an Android tablet.

AN APPLE FOR THE DOCTOR?

The iPad might just hold the cure for what ails you.

The debate over the iPad as a consumption or creation device might never be settled, but a large chunk of its 30 million-plus users are using it at their jobs to break new ground every day. Take Dr. Henry Feldman. If you see him using his iPad at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston, he's probably not playing Angry Birds.



This is your brain on iPad. Any questions?

When Feldman is working on a patient's diagnosis, he's immersed in **OsiriX HD (\$29.99)**, which he calls "probably one of the coolest apps for the iPad." OsiriX (image-processing software dedicated to the industry-standard Digital Imaging and Communications in Medicine protocol) lets him "view and manipulate CT scans, MRIs, and other digital radiography images" without having to worry about his laptop running out of juice. "This is extremely helpful for showing a colleague an image on a case when we aren't sitting at a computer," he explains.

Another essential app on the doc's iPad is **ModalityBODY (free, with paid content)**, which "lets me carry my classic anatomy



Modality is there when your doc needs a helping hand.

atlas on the wards." Feldman uses Modality as the perfect complement to his bedside manner, showing patients drawings and images to "make complex imaging studies understandable...This is what really drives my use of the iPad—being able to bring all this to the bedside in the hospital."

Feldman also uses **Mediquations Medical Calculator (\$4.99)** and

Universal Doctor Speaker (\$5.99) when he needs to tell a patient "something simple" in their native language, but the real killer app for the doctor is **FaceTime**. Utilizing the iPad 2's camera, Feldman can bring a team of doctors right to the bedside. Second opinion? There's an app for that.

Even Macs need backup power: Ours.



Introducing the reinvention of backup power — the APC Back-UPS: unsurpassed protection for iMacs and more.

Reliable power backup for 24/7 availability

Whether creating digital projects, updating your Facebook® status, or working furiously to meet a deadline, you depend on your iMac® every day, all day. That's why APC by Schneider Electric™ has designed battery backup units that protect that uninterrupted availability you expect from your iMac. Introducing the reinvention of backup power protection: the APC Back-UPS™!

Energy-efficient protection for peace of mind

When the power goes out, our Back-UPS units go to work. They instantly switch your iMac to emergency power, allowing you to work through brief power outages or safely shut down so you won't lose valuable files. They also feature surge outlets to safeguard your electronics and data from "dirty" power and damaging power surges — even lightning. Plus, their energy-efficient design reduces electricity use, so you start saving money the minute you plug in a Back-UPS. And power-saving outlets automatically shut off power to unused devices when your iMac is turned off or in standby, eliminating wasteful electricity drains.

Trusted insurance for what matters most

Our units protect your iMac and much more, including MacBook™ computers, wired and wireless networks, DVRs, gaming consoles, and external storage devices. APC Back-UPS is the trusted insurance you need to stay up and running and protected from unpredictable power and energy waste!



Keep your electronics up and your energy use down!

Back-UPS models are available with the features and runtime capacity that best suit your application, and many models have been designed with power-saving features to reduce costs.

The High-performance Back-UPS Pro Series

High-performance Back-UPS Pro units deliver cost-cutting, energy-efficient features. Power-saving outlets automatically shut off power to unused devices when your computer is turned off or is in standby, eliminating wasteful electricity drains. (BR700G shown above)

The energy-efficient ES 750G

The Back-UPS ES 750G boasts innovative power-saving outlets, which automatically shut off power to unused devices when your computer is turned off or is in standby, eliminating wasteful electricity drains.

- 10 outlets
- 750 VA/450 watts
- 70 minutes maximum runtime
- Coax and telephone/network surge protection



The best-value ES 550G

The Back-UPS ES 550 uses an ultra-efficient design that consumes less power during normal operation than any other battery backup in its class, saving you money on your electricity bill.

- 8 outlets
- 550 VA/330 watts
- 43 minutes maximum runtime
- Telephone surge protection



Power up to **WIN 1 of 7 APC BR700G Battery Back-UPS units (a \$130 value)!**

Visit www.apc.com/promo Key Code **f727v** • Call 888-289-APCC **x4016** • Fax 401-788-2797

APC™
by Schneider Electric

THE HARDWARE YOU NEED

Seven essential accessories that'll keep your iPad working as busily as a bee

Now that you're all set with the productivity apps you need to put your iPad to work full-time, the final step is collecting the hardware accessories that put the perfect finishing touches on what you need your tablet to do. We've selected seven of our staff's most prized accessories for adding critical functionality to your iPad, but we're also going to quickly mention one more: Apple's **iPad Camera Connection Kit (\$29)**. Despite its name, it lets you wire USB devices—including keyboards and headphones—to your iPad, so if you have a favorite USB peripheral already, try hooking it up. You'll be surprised how many work!



>>> Qmadix Portfolio with Removable Bluetooth Keyboard

qmadix.com, \$149.99

The current wunderkind of iPad cases, Qmadix's Portfolio does so many things in one classy, professional, leather package. It's got the protection thing down cold, but it also includes a small, rechargeable Bluetooth keyboard that you can link to your iPad 2 wirelessly. It's magnetically held in place, so you can tug the keyboard loose to get some elbow room or leave it snugly in place in tight spaces like airplanes. And the case even folds into a stand that props up your iPad at the perfect angle for typing. Talk about a package deal!



>>> Scuba Sleeve

timbuk2.com, \$35

If you don't want your iPad to be semi-permanently embedded in a case like the Qmadix Portfolio, you'll still need a sleeve that provides sturdy protection and easy access. While you'll find mountains of options, our pick is Timbuk2's Scuba Sleeve, which keeps our tablets safe inside bigger bags thanks to its neoprene exterior and cuddly faux-fur interior.



>>> HyperJuice Stand

hypershop.com, \$149.95

When you're on the road, it's easy to live in fear of your iPad's battery icon turning red. But the HyperJuice Stand kills that bird and another by shaping this external battery in the form of a stand that holds your iPad at either 18- or 45-degree angles in portrait or landscape mode. The 40Wh battery provides 1.5 times the battery capacity of the iPad (according to Sanho, its manufacturer), and it weighs only 12.7 ounces.



>>> Candy Stylus+Pen

hardcandycases.com, \$34.95

If you want to use a note-taking or sketching app, you'll need a touch-capacitive stylus. But who needs another pen-like object to worry about losing? The elegant, ergonomic Candy Stylus+Pen solves that by putting a pen in one end and a stylus in the other so you can write on paper and touchscreens. Just don't lose it.



>>> BookArc

twelvesouth.com, \$29.99

Sometimes you just need a stand...but that doesn't mean you should resort to Apple's ugly lump of white plastic. TwelveSouth's lovely BookArc makes your iPad look beautiful even when it's just sitting there doing nothing, and it's easy to drop in your bag and take it on the road (though at almost a pound, it's not exactly a feather). But we love how perfectly it re-creates the monitor experience with four options for the viewing angle.



>>> Apple Wireless Keyboard

apple.com, \$69

You can find cheaper Bluetooth keyboards, but we still love Apple's for its clean, lovely lines and excellent portability. It'll sync to your iPad in a jiffy, and it can even pull double duty for those times when you're using a Mac instead.



>>> iD9 Speaker Stand

ihomeaudio.com, \$99.99

If you're looking for a more laptop-like experience, the iD9 packs a powerful combo of speakers, charger, and stand. It props up your iPad in the portrait position while also recharging the iPad's battery thanks to its own internal lithium-ion rechargeable battery, and iHome's known for quality audio, so your tunes, games, movies, and so on sound great.



HOW iOS 5 REDEFINES PRODUCTIVITY

Will its productivity upgrades turn us all into workaholics?



OS 5 is packing over 200 features, and more than a few of them will help you be more productive than ever before. Whether you're looking for a to-do list that will flawlessly integrate with the OS, notifications that will finally get out of your way, or even an improved iPad keyboard, iOS 5 will dramatically increase the speed with which we do everyday processes on the iPad. Apple is taking significant strides to turn our iOS devices into devices we can use for serious work, and iOS 5 marks the biggest step yet. Here's what to expect:

>>>Reminders

Some seriously awesome to-do list apps populate the App Store—so many, in fact, that the Mac|Life staff can't reach a consensus on which is "best"—but that might be about to change. With the Reminders app, Apple is stepping into the (admittedly crowded) to-do list space to offer something none of the alternatives can—a deep-seated integration with the OS and a shine that only an app developed by Apple has. That's why this simple app is one of the top features we're excited about in iOS 5.

Reminders might just replace our favorite similarly aimed iOS apps.



>>>Wireless Syncing and the Cloud

Say goodbye to the outrageously unwieldy File Sharing. With iCloud and wireless syncing, we don't even have to see our computer when we want to save documents, photos, and music. Lose your phone? Restoring has never been easier thanks to the ability to grab backups from the cloud. As if that's not exciting enough, iCloud will replace the sometimes-horrendous MobileMe and help us manage our calendars, contacts, and mail—without the snafus (we hope!). Goodbye and good riddance!

Imagine snapping a picture and wirelessly transferring it to every iOS device and Apple computer you own. We can't wait either.

>>>Better Notifications

Ever tried to spend quality time writing a document, only to be bombarded by Game Center friend requests, text messages, tweets, and other unimportant push notifications? We have, and that's why we're so darn excited for the revamped Notification Center. Improved notifications stay out of your way when you need them to, making this feature far more than a cosmetic upgrade.

Notification Center won't interrupt us while we're working—or playing Cut the Rope.



>>>iMessages

Say you're working in an Apple-friendly office, and you want to shoot a message to your coworker, whom you can see is working on an iPad. With iOS 5, you won't have to send an email (which have quickly become the voicemails of the internet). Instead, you can simply open up iMessages and send free messages. As in iChat, you can tell if someone's typing to you so you don't have to stay glued to your computer, refreshing your inbox waiting for that next message to come in.

If you threw instant messaging, texting, and BlackBerry Messenger into a blender, iMessages would be the result.



>>>Reading List

Everyone who works in a wired office knows how dangerous the internet can be. Within minutes, you can go from plugging away on your next big deadline to being completely and utterly derailed. That's why some of us worried that our productivity might actually decrease when multitasking was first released on the iPad. Luckily, iOS 5 will come loaded with Reading List—a folder of bookmarks that allows us to quickly mark something we want to read—and then, hopefully, keep working.

Reading List is a much better solution than a browser crowded with temporary bookmarks.



>>>Multitasking Gestures

If Lion has taught us anything, it's that gestures are our best friend. Apple understands their importance, too, which is why they're coming to the iPad. Using four or more fingers, swiping left or right will switch between open apps, swiping up will show the multitasking bar, and pinching will return to the home screen. For those who work on their iPads, these three little gestures will save tons of time each day.

Switching between apps on the iPad will feel almost identical to switching between full-screen apps in Lion.



>>>Split Keyboard

No matter how hard we try, typing on an iPad has always been a bit too slow for us. Some of us have become experts of hunt and peck, while others have just resorted to iPad keyboards. But all that's about to change as iOS 5 has created an option to split your keyboard in half, meaning you can finally type with your thumbs. This simple option will make typing on an iPad about as fast as an iPhone, but also provide a more comfortable way to type while you're on the go—you'll no longer be required to set your iPad down every single time you want to type a few words.

iOS 5—now with reasonably fast typing on the iPad.





DiscLabel lets you decide which image to present to the world.

It may be a family photo album, an important business presentation, or a CD of your songs

for only your closest friends: it still deserves the best label you can create. DiscLabel makes it easy.

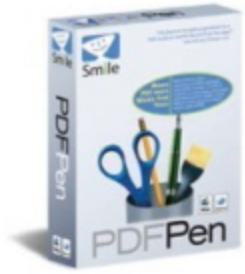


Download a trial version of DiscLabel today...
www.smilesoftware.com/maclife



Software that's just right

PDFpen: Feature #7 – Reduce Bloated Scans



The affordable
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Time to put your bloated PDFs on a diet?

You can have too much of a good thing. Images and scanned pages in PDFs, for example, make unnecessarily large files. Thanks to PDFpen, you can indulge in

visually-rich PDFs without the guilt and extra bytes. A few clicks will reduce resolution and color depth. Try PDFpen today and see just how easy it can be to slim down.

To see all the top 10 features of PDFpen, visit us at: www.smilesoftware.com/pdf



Software that's just right



THE TRUTH ABOUT

MORE ONLINE!

For more handy Lion help and tutorials (how to use Screen Sharing, Disc Sharing, fix MobileMe settings, and many more), head to <http://www.maclife.com/tags/lion>. Got more questions? Email ask@maclife.com.



LION

WHETHER YOU'RE AN EARLY ADOPTER, OR A "WAIT TILL VERSION 10.7.1" TYPE, WE'LL SHOW YOU HOW TO GET YOUR PAWS ON THE BEST OF MAC OS 10.7 LION.

BY ADAM BERENSTAIN, CORY BOHON, J.R. BOOKWALTER, SUSIE OCHS & NIC VARGUS

It's probably a little too poetic (slash dramatic) to say that Mac OS 10.7 is as mysterious as the big cat it's named after. Still, many of its best improvements lurk under the hood—security enhancements, for example (see p44). And a good chunk of its 250 new features are cosmetic or inconsequential at best. (Plus, who did the counting? Full-screen apps is one feature, then full-screen Terminal is cited as a separate feature? Whatever.) One of the biggest differences is how it's sold—only via the Mac App Store, only to users

of Snow Leopard, and only as a digital download—until Apple starts offering a \$69 thumb drive with it installed, which we were still waiting for as we went to press, but should be out by the time you read this.

Still, the king of the OS jungle was a success out of the gate, with Apple boasting one million sales on the very first day. And whether you're still on the fence, you've taken the plunge and are still getting used to things, or you just wanna know how to make a backup DVD like we always had before, our guide has the answers.

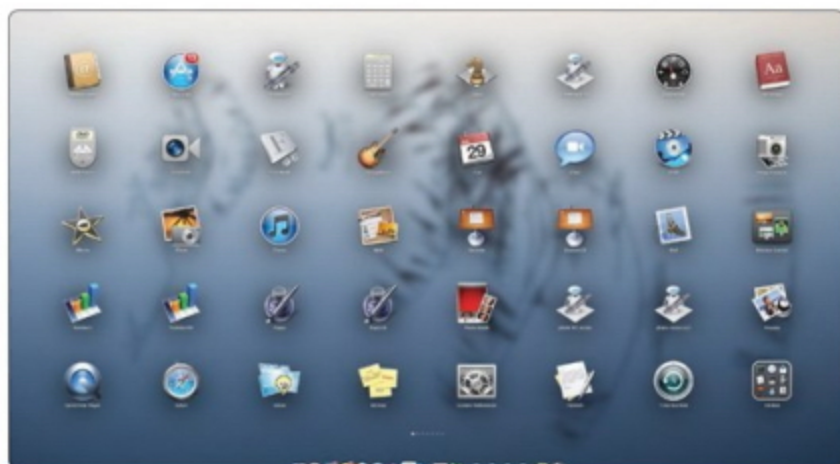
SHARPENING THE CLAWS

Lion brings with it a litter of new features—here's how to get started with them

Lion's Mission Control is perhaps the best reason for desktop Mac users to shell out \$69 for the Magic Trackpad. Swipe up with three fingers (mouse users can also click the Mission Control icon in the Dock or set up a keyboard shortcut in System Preferences > Mission Control) to invoke the Mission Control screen, which shows all your open apps and their windows. From there you can also navigate to your Dashboard, or other Desktops—each app you have running in full-screen mode counts as its own Desktop, or you can hover over the upper-right corner for a plus sign that lets you add more Desktops, which work like Spaces (just drag apps from one Desktop to another). But you don't even need Mission Control to switch between Desktops; just swipe left or right with three fingers on your trackpad. And if you want certain applications to stay in certain Desktops, just right-click (or tap with two fingers) on the app's Dock icon to assign it to This Desktop, All Desktops, or None.



Mission Control shows you every open application window, full-screen app, and Desktop you have going.



If you've used an iPhone or iPad, this should look familiar...

LAUNCHPAD

This totally optional bell and/or whistle is essentially an iOS home screen for your Mac. Launch it by clicking the Dock icon, and your Desktop clears, making way for a grid of apps in your Applications folder. You can swipe between pages with the trackpad, and click any app to open it. And just like in iOS 4 and later, you can drag one app icon over another to put them in a folder. (The folder isn't re-created in your Applications folder, only in Launchpad.) To reorder items (icons or folders), click and hold one until they all wiggle, then drag them to their new locations. And once the icons are wiggling, you can tap the X at the top-left corner of an icon to remove it from your Mac—but only apps bought from the Mac App Store have that X. Weirdly, you can't invoke Launchpad with a key command, but the free System Preferences pane application Launchpad-Control (donations accepted, chaospace.de) at least lets you hide apps you don't want to show up in Launchpad but you also don't want to delete entirely.

AIRDROP

MobileMe's iDisk and Back to My Mac work just like they always have, until the shutoff date of June 30, 2012. And Snow Leopard and previous iterations of Mac OS X had a Public folder set up for every user, which other users could find via Bonjour and drop in files. So AirDrop isn't really new, just a spiffier presentation. To access it, open a Finder window and click AirDrop in the sidebar. Other Macs within 30 feet or so show up once they open AirDrop, and you can drop files onto their profile pictures to send 'em over. The recipient clicks Decline, Save, or Save and Open, and all incoming files are saved in the Downloads folder.

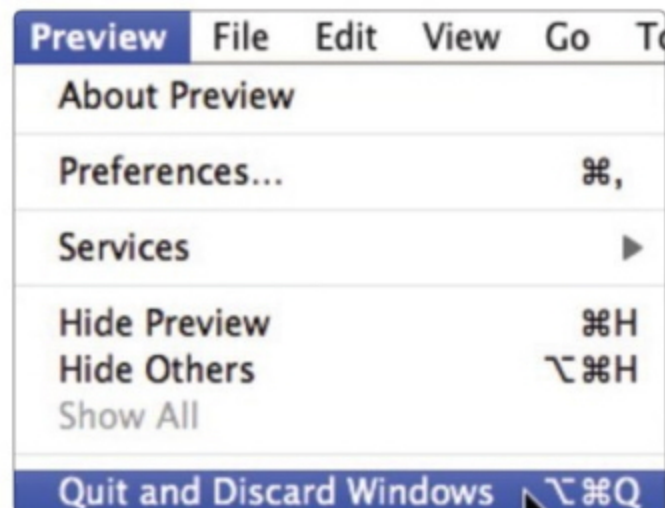


Dropping files like they're hot.

RESUME

The Resume feature is awesome—when you restart your Mac, everything you had open before you shut it down...opens right back up. It's particularly great when you want to apply a Software Update that requires a restart. Windows you had open in your apps also reappear the next time you relaunch that app. Of course, if you'd rather start fresh, you can head to System Preferences > General and uncheck the box that says, "Restore windows when quitting and reopening apps." Or quit apps with Command-Option-Q when you don't want the windows restored next time you launch it.

If you don't want your session saved, press Command-Option-Q. It doesn't work with every app, just the Apple ones so far.



AUTO SAVE & VERSIONS

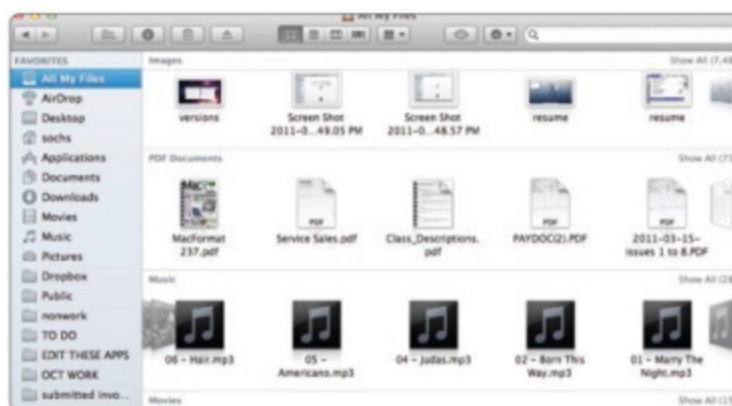
Auto Save is another built-in timesaver, but it's not in every app on your Mac—just the Apple ones, like iWork and TextEdit. Other developers need to add it to their applications in updates. But in those apps, you just save it once, then click the tiny triangle (or the word Edited) you'll see when you hover over the title bar to quickly jump to the last saved version. Selecting Browse All Versions opens the Time Machine-like Versions screen, where you can browse through every version of the document and get back the one you want.



Go back, back, back to old versions.

FINDER

The Finder should be mostly familiar, with a few differences. Your main hard drive and attached drives are no longer shown on the Desktop, but that's reversible in Finder > Preferences > General. Your Finder sidebar has a new view, All My Files, that sorts every file on your Mac into categories. If you're using the icon view (Command-I), you can even navigate them with gestures, scrolling up or down the categories with two fingers, scrolling left or right with two fingers in each category, and double-tapping a file to open it. And you can right-click a file or folder in the Finder for a New Email With Attachment option in the contextual menu. Select it, and your Mac will launch Mail and start a new message with the selected file or folder already added as an attachment.

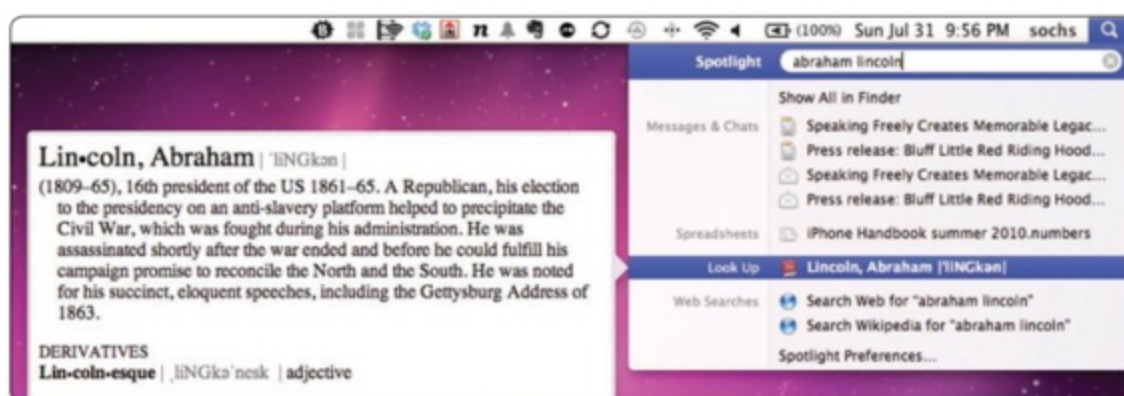


The Finder's All My Files view lets you scroll through categories with a Cover Flow-like carousel.

SPOTLIGHT

Spotlight (the magnifying glass at the top-right corner of your screen, or Command-Space) is still a great place to search your Mac and launch applications, but it's got a few more teeth in Lion. Press Command-Space to open a Spotlight query popup, and start typing some text. Toward the bottom of the search results window you'll see "Search Web for," which launches a Google search for that text in your default browser, and "Search Wikipedia for," which launches the Wikipedia entry in Dictionary.app. You can also hover over any item in the Spotlight search results for a Quick Look-like preview popup.

Lion's Spotlight lets you search for information, instead of just searching for files.



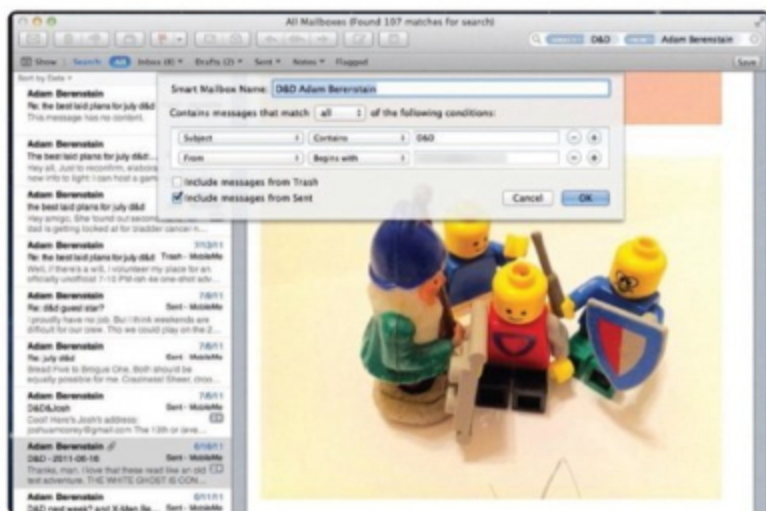
BUILT-IN APPS

Mail, Safari, and the other Apple apps got fresh new looks—and features—for Lion

With its latest OS update, Apple took the opportunity to revamp the built-in applications (iChat, Safari, Mail, and others) to better match the aesthetics of corresponding apps in iOS, which seem designed to be “touchable.” Address Book looks like a paper address book, for example, and iCal’s views actually have tiny chunks of torn-paper trim that make it look like you’ve been ripping pages off a paper calendar. But the changes aren’t all in the looks department.

MAIL

Think of Mail as the MacBook Air of Lion’s new apps, redesigned to be sleeker, faster, and easier all around. The two-pane design puts the focus on your inboxes and your messages, especially in full-screen mode. Important folders are conveniently stashed in a Favorites bar, and the optional third pane holds your Trash, Smart Folders, and more. Everything stays out of sight until you need it. Generous message previews give you the gist of new emails at a glance, and you can preview embedded links in roomy, scrollable popups before opening them. The new Conversations view is an elegant way to follow back-and-forth discussions, even across multiple mailboxes.



The upgrades to search may take some getting used to, but the results are worth it. Safari-style autocomplete now dynamically suggests matches as you type contacts, dates, subjects, and more. Selecting a suggestion turns it into a “token,” a persistent (and editable) search term that can be combined with other tokens to build detailed, refined searches. These, like any Mail queries, can be saved as Smart Mailboxes with a click, letting you quickly get back to your messages.

The upgrades to search may take some getting used to, but the results are worth it. Safari-style autocomplete now dynamically suggests matches as you type contacts, dates, subjects, and more. Selecting a suggestion turns it into a “token,” a persistent (and editable) search term that can be combined with other tokens to build detailed, refined searches. These, like any Mail queries, can be saved as Smart Mailboxes with a click, letting you quickly get back to your messages.

Mail searches are more powerful than ever thanks to tokens.

iCAL

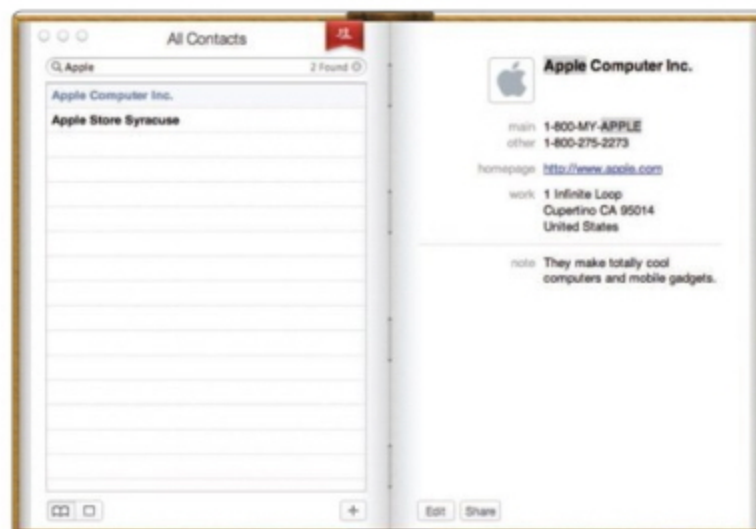
Apple’s scheduling app got an iOS makeover, ditching the space-hogging sidebar for a very functional desk calendar motif. A new color-coded yearly view shows your busiest days at a glance, and the revamped daily view rocks, displaying your day’s schedule, upcoming events, even a monthly mini-calendar, so you can skip through dates without jumping through hoops. Creating events is easier, too, thanks to natural language input that can turn “Apple Genius appointment tomorrow 2pm” into an item on your schedule. Faster, simpler to use, more functional? Yeah, we can make time for that.



iCal’s new yearly view says August is busy. How’s September for you?

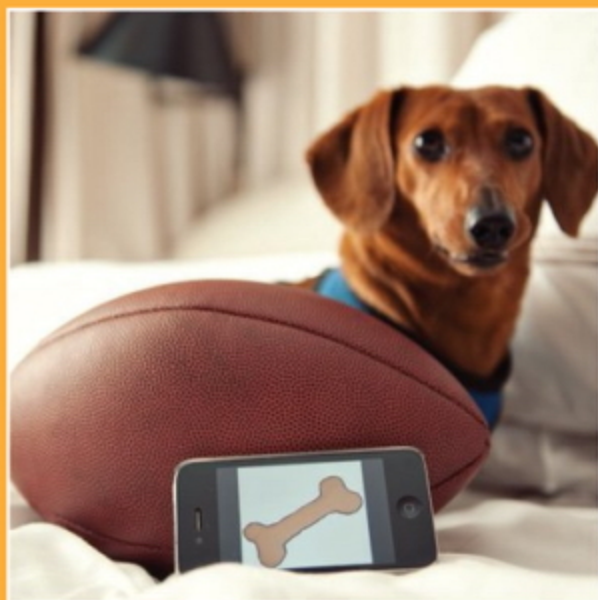
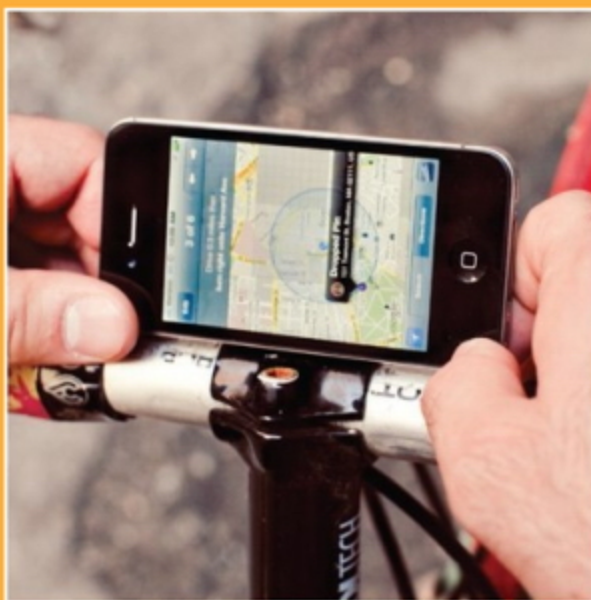
ADDRESS BOOK

Before Lion, you picked a group in Address Book, viewed its contacts, then clicked a contact to see its information, all in one convenient window. What was unspectacularly functional is now...well, it’s a clone of the iPad’s Contacts app, and we have to click a bookmark-like icon to see our contact groups, then click again to view contact info in that group. If Apple’s designers keep up this literal streak, we’ll be browsing websites in Safari through the mud-spattered windshield of a Jeep Wrangler. But iOS users will be right at home here, which we suspect is the point.



Looks like someone’s been hanging out at the stationery store too much.

We **buy** loved iPhones



gazelle

Get cash for your iPhone at **gazelle.com**

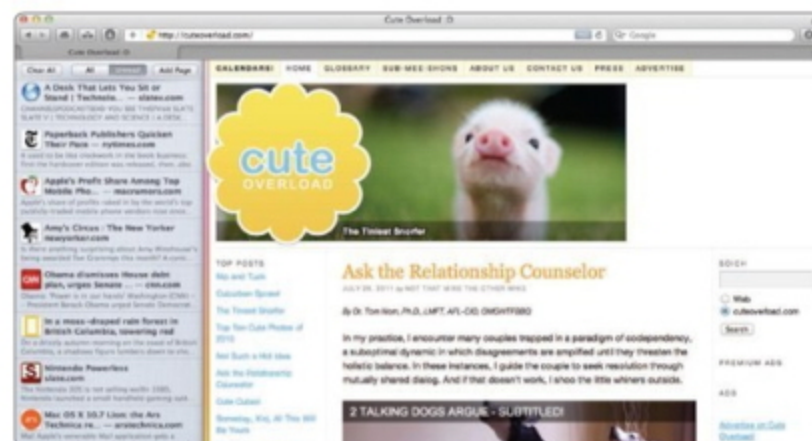
Great Price ♦ Free Shipping ♦ Fast Payment

BUILT-IN APPS CONTINUED...

SAFARI

Beyond under-the-hood improvements that increase compatibility, speed, and security, Cupertino hasn't added much to Safari's bag of tricks. Full-screen mode makes for a cozier, more iPad-like experience during lengthy browsing sessions. New Multi-Touch gestures include tap-to-zoom, which brings iOS-style focus to reading busy webpages. Text automatically looks sharp even at high magnification, unlike the jaggy zoomed text in earlier versions of OS X.

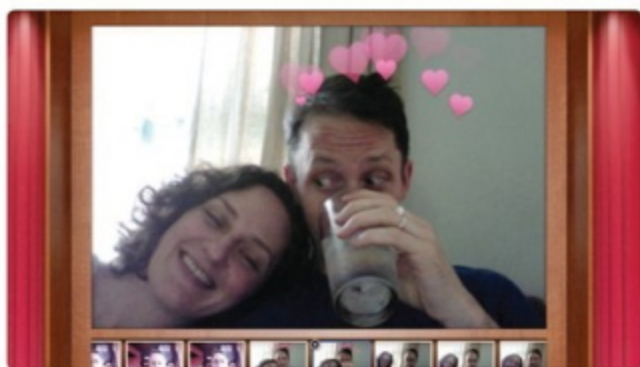
Downloaded files are now whisked with a cool animation to the toolbar, where you can watch their progress in a pop-up window that not only eliminates clutter, but also lets you move files from the Downloads folder to any location in the Finder. We approve. But we're still warming up to Reading List, which saves pages you're interested in today for perusal tomorrow. It's a nice feature, but right now it feels a little like Bookmarks Pro—at least until iOS 5, when pages saved to Reading List will sync across all our devices. Until then, we wish we could simply click an icon in Safari's toolbar to add pages to Reading List (as with Instapaper's bookmarklet). Having to burrow through the menu bar's Bookmarks menu feels so 20th century.



When you're overloaded for time, Reading List can keep your stories straight.

PHOTO BOOTH

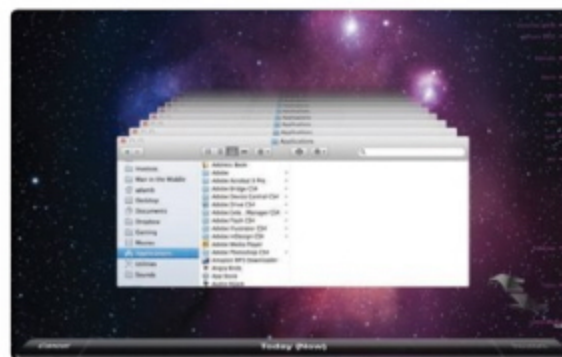
Photo Booth's new face-detecting, head-tracking effects are awesome, turning you and your friends into bug-eyed aliens, love-struck sweethearts, and more. But full-screen mode changes up Photo Booth's interface a little more than we'd like. At least you can disable the screen flash when you absolutely, positively have to shoot goofy pictures without disturbing other passengers on your red-eye flight. They'll appreciate it.



We've fallen in love with Photo Booth's new effects. You will, too.

TIME MACHINE

When you're on the road with your laptop, away from your Time Capsule or backup drive, Time Machine keeps local copies of files you create, modify, or delete so revisions don't just disappear. When you get home, changes are merged with your main backup drive as if you never left. Naturally, Time Machine supports Lion's new Versions feature, allowing you to set when documents are locked to prevent



Purple text on a purple background off to the side of the screen, huh? Mmmkay.

accidental revisions in Auto Save-aware apps. Now if Apple would just fix the purple-on-purple text in the new Time Machine window, we'd feel even better.

FACETIME

Freed from the Mac App Store and bundled with Lion (there's \$0.99 we'll never see again!) Apple's iOS-and-Mac video chat app is much the same as in Snow Leopard. You're still stuck viewing contacts



organized in only one way, but now at least the contact search field pops up automatically. Full-screen calls appear in their own Spaces and pause when you swipe to another app.

FaceTime? Built into Lion? Good show, old boy.

THE MAC APP STORE

Once a bold experiment in software distribution, the Mac App Store earned its stripes by serving up a million copies of Lion on launch day. We kinda miss the old Snow Leopard animation that lobbed apps into the Dock to be downloaded. More practically, we'd like to see better organization and—dare to dream—the ability to gift applications. But until then, we'll remain loyal customers. After all, where else are

we going to get the next version of OS X?



We miss the Dock animation, but we still love us some Mac App Store.

REALM™

by **SCOSCHE**

It's Our Heritage:

Scosche's 30 years of rich history in the car audio industry has taught us a lot about how music should be heard. In 2007 we launched REALM, a high-end series of car audio amplifiers, speakers and low-frequency transducers.

The sheer quality and performance of the REALM series inspired us to create a line of headphones and in-ear monitors that allow users to enjoy the same impeccable audio everywhere. These headphones have been designed by audio enthusiasts for audio enthusiasts.



Be in full control of your iPod, iPhone or iPad with the tapLINE III remote & mic. Whether it's taking a phone call or controlling your music, the separate remote & mic offer a seamless user experience.



RH1056md
Realm Headphones with
tapLINE III Remote & Mic

40mm drivers deliver full range
acoustic reproduction

6.5ft gold plated audio cable
with tapLINE remote & mic

Genuine leather ear cushions made of
viscoelastic memory foam to conform
to your unique shape



RH1056md (shown)
RH1056m (white)



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SCOSCHE

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HOW TO MAKE A LION INSTALL DISC & THUMB DRIVE

If not having an emergency backup disc makes you nervous, don't sweat it. You can make one.

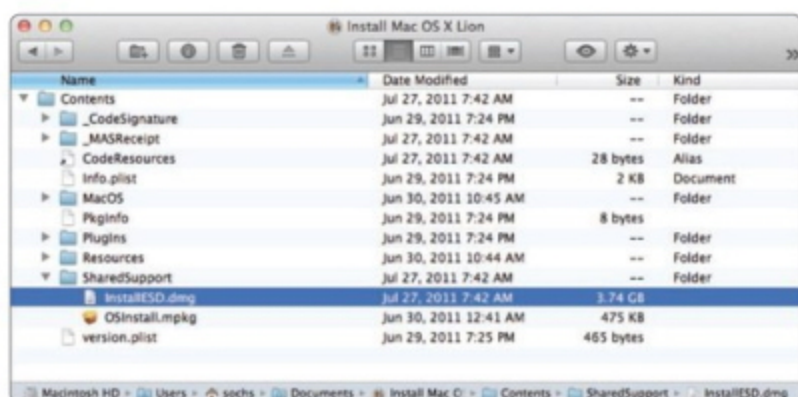
Lion is Apple's first disc-less distribution of Mac OS X. That's great if you have broadband, but a pain if you don't. Apple sells a Lion USB drive for \$69, or you can create your own install disc or drive. Note: After Lion is installed, the installer file in your Applications folder is deleted automatically. So either follow these steps *before* installing Lion, or move the installer from the Applications folder to prevent the auto-delete. If it's already gone, try signing into your Mac App Store account on a Snow Leopard Mac and downloading the installer again.

WHAT YOU NEED

- » A blank DVD-R or 8GB or larger USB thumb drive
- » Lion installer (\$29.99, Mac App Store)

1 CRACK OPEN THE INSTALLER FILE

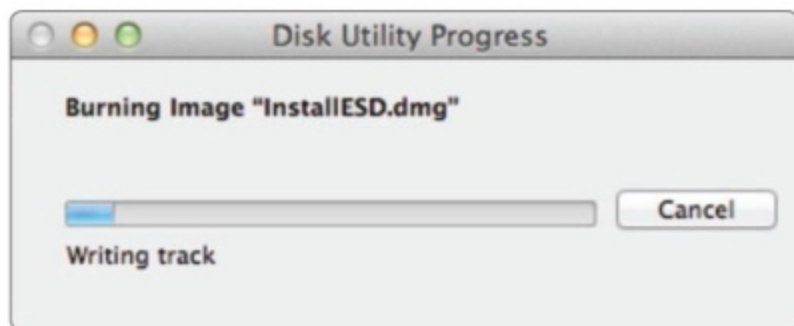
The first thing you need to do is locate the Install Mac OS X Lion application icon in your Applications folder on your Mac. Right-click it and select Show Package Contents. In the resulting folder, navigate to Contents > Shared Support. Drag InstallESD.dmg to your Desktop—this is the file that we will burn to the blank DVD.



Drag this to the Desktop.

3 BURN, BABY, BURN

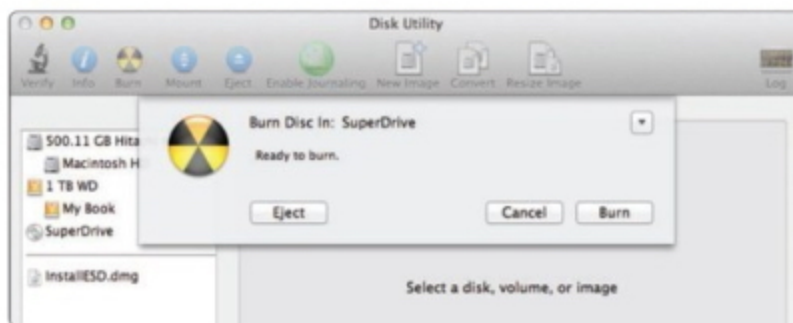
After the disc has been successfully burned, it will be ejected from your Mac and ready to be placed in another Mac for installation. Insert the disc and restart your Mac while holding down the C key to boot into the installer disc you just created.



The burn will take a while. Ours took about half an hour.

2 OPEN DISK UTILITY

If you are using a USB thumb drive, skip this step and go to Step 4. Insert your blank DVD and launch Disk Utility. Click the Burn button in the toolbar to open a file chooser. Select InstallESD.dmg on the Desktop. In the resulting window, click the Burn button to begin the burning process. It'll take a while because it's writing over 3GBs of data to the disc.

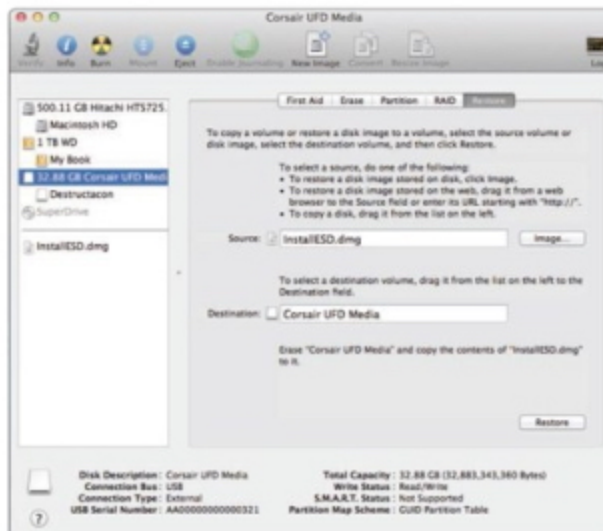


Ready to burn? Click Burn. That was easy, wasn't it?

4 PORTABLE LION

If you want to create a bootable USB thumb drive installer instead of a DVD, Disk Utility will gladly oblige. Open Disk Utility, select your blank thumb drive in the sidebar, and click the Restore tab. In the Source area, click the Image button and select the InstallESD.dmg file on your Desktop. Next, drag your thumb drive from the sidebar to the Destination field. When you have done this, click Restore to have the image "burned" onto your thumb drive. The only thing left to do is to

plug it into your Mac, boot up your machine while holding down Option, and choose your thumb drive to install Lion.



You could buy a Lion thumb drive from Apple for \$69. Or make your own.

Looking for a high performance storage upgrade for your Mac?

There's an **SSD** for that.



"The OCZ Vertex 3 spans the competition with up to 69% faster speeds in real-world conditions and has firmly established itself as the fastest SATA SSD we've seen."

- Storage Review



PERFORMANCE

2.5" SATA III



AFFORDABILITY



PORTABILITY

1.8" SATA II



MAINSTREAM

OCZ SOLID STATE DRIVES

Why hold back your state-of-the-art Mac with archaic storage? Even today's best hard drives can't come close to the speed of SSD technology, and OCZ Solid State Drives offer unparalleled performance for a faster and more responsive computing experience. But more than just a speed boost, an OCZ SSD promotes cooler, quieter, and more energy efficient conditions compared to traditional mechanical hard drives. Upgrading is a snap, and OCZ makes it easy to find the perfect fit with a wide range of capacities and price points to choose from.

OCZ
Technology
OCZTECHNOLOGY.COM

the SSD experts!

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amazon.com

buy.com

microcenter.com

ncix.com

tigerdirect.com

TAMING THE CAT

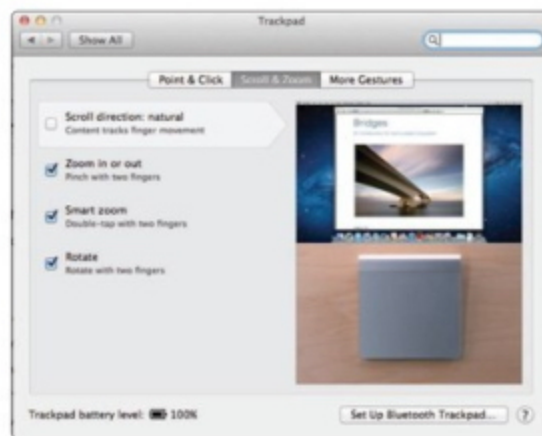
How to fix Lion's annoying little quirks

Any new OS can take a few days to get used to. But Lion especially introduced a few changes that have left us scratching our heads. Don't pull your mane out—here's how to fix them.

SCROLLING

By default, Lion reversed the way you scroll content in long windows, to match iOS. They call it "natural scrolling," but it sure does feel weird. Two fingers scrolling up actually moves your view in the window down, as if you were pushing the content up in the window to see what's below. It's very iOS-like, but then again in iOS you don't push one finger around a trackpad to position the cursor—you just tap things. So if you can't get used to "one-finger scroll up moves cursor up; two-finger scroll up moves content down," just turn off Natural Scrolling in System Preferences > Trackpad (or Mouse, if you're not using a trackpad of any kind).

Just because Apple finds it natural doesn't mean you will.



FINDER

Your hard drive and mounted volumes no longer show up on your Desktop in Lion, and the default view when you open a new Finder window is the new All My Files. Head to Finder > Preferences for a list of checkboxes that can put your drives back on your Desktop (and/or in your sidebar), and while you're there you can change the default for new Finder windows back to your Home folder, Documents folder, or whatever you prefer.

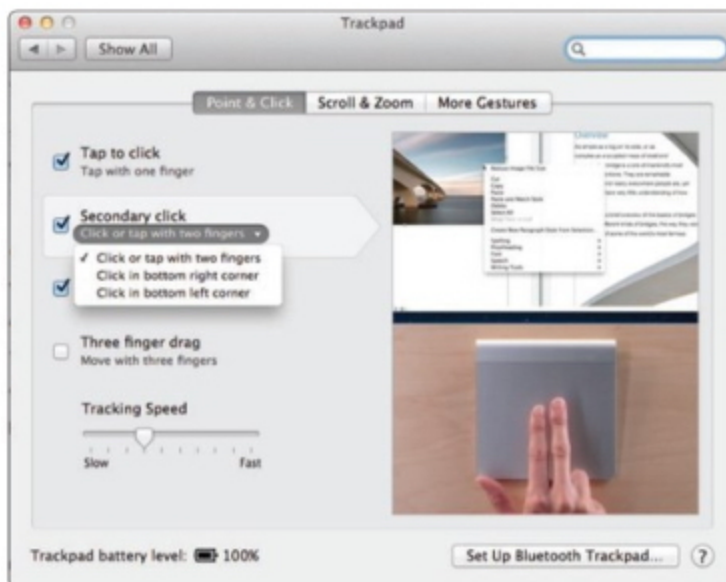
This tab and the Sidebar tab have lots of options.



GESTURES

If you had tweaked your trackpad gestures (tap to click, and so on), Lion may have untweaked them a little. Head to System Preferences > Trackpad and examine all three tabs to set things up the way you like. While you're there, watch the demo videos for all the new and changed gestures in Lion. Our whole staff loves them (well, we're a bit divided on the Natural Scrolling thing), but it helps to get to know them first.

Every gesture has a helpful demo video.



FONT SIZES

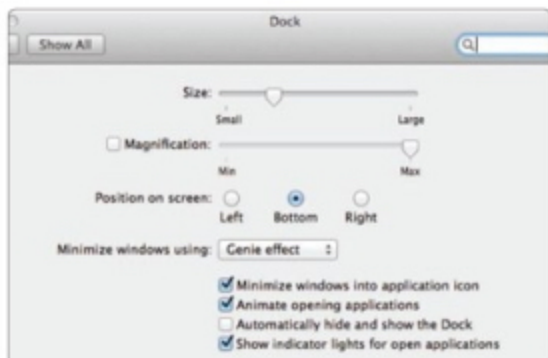
Lion uses a larger font size in the Finder sidebar than Snow Leopard. But if it bugs you, it's an easy fix—just don't go looking in the Finder preferences. Instead, open System Preferences > General, and set the Sidebar Icon Size to small.



You'll find lots of useful options in System Preferences > General, too.

DOCK

System Preferences > Dock has a new option, to ditch the little blue indicator lights that appear by the Dock icons of applications you have open. By default they're still on, as they were in Snow Leopard. And we like it that way, as a visual reminder of which apps are taking



up resources. But if you prefer, you can uncheck "Show indicator lights for open applications" and never see 'em again.

"When the lights go down in the city..."

ANIMATIONS

Lion's kind of a show-off, with more fancy animations than Pixar. If you get bored of them, you can find a checkbox to kill the bouncing Dock icons as applications open in System Preferences > Dock. Apple apps like Safari and Preview have a new-window animation that you might find cheesy—to stop that one, open Terminal and type this command (all on one line), then press Return.

```
defaults write NSGlobalDomain
```

```
NSAutomaticWindowAnimationsEnabled -bool NO
```

You'll have to reopen affected apps to see the change, and to get the animations back, repeat the Terminal command but replace NO with YES.

Mail's Send and Reply animations can likewise be turned off in Terminal, with these commands. (Each line below is a single command, so type it on one line and press Return.)

```
defaults write com.apple.Mail DisableReplyAnimations -bool YES
```

```
defaults write com.apple.Mail DisableSendAnimations -bool YES
```

Again, restart Mail to see the difference, and to turn the animations back on, just repeat either of those commands with NO instead of YES. And one more: if the space-changing animation annoys you (we actually dig that one), you can turn it off with these two Terminal commands (type the first, starting with "defaults" and press Return, and then type the second, "killall Dock" and press Return again).

```
defaults write com.apple.dock workspaces-swoosh-  
animation-off -bool YES
```

```
killall Dock
```

To get the space-switching animation back, repeat those two commands, but in the first one, change YES to NO.

LOVE OR LOATHE?

THE STAFF REACTS TO MAC OS X LION



"Lion is a great stepping-stone OS and I'm excited to see what comes next. But certain features, like the new Spaces, still feel a little wonky." —Nic



"Surprisingly, I don't hate the 'backward' scrolling like I thought I would. It only took about a day to get used to. iCal's new look is a bit too gimmicky, but the redesigned Mail interface is my new BFF." —Ray



"As long as my Wacom tablet still works—and it does—I'm happy. Mice and finger trackpads are for amateurs. *I am Pen-Man!*" —Roberto



"The Resume feature has already changed my habits. I'm much more likely to respond to Software Updates right away since I know my apps and windows will come back after a restart." —Susie



"Transitioning to Lion takes a little more time than previous upgrades did, but it's worth it. Auto Save can be really handy, and I'm enjoying the interesting new gestures on my Magic Trackpad." —Paul

SECURITY IN LION

Lion is the most secure version of Mac OS X ever, keeping you safe without slowing you down

Security isn't the most compelling OS feature to read about, but it sure is important. Lion's new security improvements are relatively unsung—they toil away in the background, and you might not even notice them unless something goes wrong. Our advice is to check them out (System Preferences > Security & Privacy) when you get started with Lion, then go back to forgetting they're there.

Although security may not have received as much attention as flashier additions like Mission Control and Multi-Touch gestures, Lion includes an arsenal of new features to keep users safe from harm. Just how secure is Lion? According to researchers, Mac OS 10.7 represents a major overhaul of the operating system's security that trumps even those in Microsoft Windows 7 or Linux Ubuntu—and so Mac users are encouraged to part with their \$29.99 as soon as possible.

"It's a significant improvement, and the best way that I've described the level of security in Lion is that it's Windows 7, plus, plus," Dino Dai Zovi, coauthor of *The Mac Hacker's Handbook* told *The Register*. "I generally tell Mac users that if they care about security, they should upgrade to Lion sooner rather than later, and the same goes for Windows users, too."

Lion's most visible security component is FileVault 2, a new version of the built-in encryption software found in System Preferences. While users care about security, they tend to care more about speedy

methods. Malware screening alerts are built right into Safari, Mail, and iChat, giving you a chance to opt out of launching an application that may not have your best intentions in mind. Lion also introduces "sandboxing," a technique already used by iOS to restrict the actions of an application, limiting file access and what other programs can be

APPLE MADE THE FILEVAULT 2 ENCRYPTION/DECRYPTION PROCESS FASTER AND LESS OBTRUSIVE, SECURING YOUR COMPUTER IN THE BACKGROUND AS YOU WORK.



Be sure to peruse all the options in System Preferences > Security & Privacy.

performance. And the previous FileVault had a noticeable impact on many systems. Apple made the FileVault 2 encryption/decryption process faster and less obtrusive, securing your computer in the background as you work, even giving up valuable processor cycles to higher-priority tasks such as web browsing or file copying.

FileVault was also limited to encrypting only the user's Home folder, leaving system-level support files vulnerable. FileVault 2 brings strong XTS-AES 128 encryption to your entire drive structure, with support for external USB or FireWire drives, including your precious Time Machine backup. FileVault 2 also adds instant wipe, the ability to remove an encryption key from your Mac and scrub the entire drive prior to selling or otherwise disposing of your Mac.

Lion also works hard to keep intruders from getting in via other

launched from it. Sandboxing also prevents browser plug-ins such as Adobe Flash Player from crashing and taking down all of Safari with it. (Rejoice!)

Privacy features in System Preferences > Security & Privacy allow you to control which apps have access to your location data. Safari also includes its own set of options (Safari > Preferences > Privacy) to limit or block cookies and website access to location services.

Of course, none of these security features would be worth much if they were complicated for the user. So Apple made it as simple as flipping a switch in the System Preferences > Security & Privacy pane for turning off automatic login, updating the safe downloads list, or even logging you out of the computer after a specified amount of time.

Perhaps Apple's greatest tool in the fight against malware is the existing Software Update mechanism we all know and love. Following the Mac Defender malware scare at the beginning of May, Cupertino responded quickly with Security Update 2011-003, subsequently rolled into both Mac OS 10.6.8 and now 10.7 Lion. Long considered a bastion of freedom from viruses and malware, Apple has moved quickly to plug holes in their software as soon as they rear their ugly heads.



Safari's preferences let you block websites from leaving cookies and grabbing your location data.

Bowers & Wilkins

Air your tunes



Zeppelin Air Zeppelin is back, and it's better than ever. Apple's AirPlay® technology allows music to be streamed wirelessly from your Mac or PC to Zeppelin Air. You can even bypass the computer entirely, and stream high-quality audio directly from your iPhone®, iPad®, or iPod touch®. All without the need to dock the device. If you have more than one Zeppelin Air, you can use them in a simple to set up multiroom system. **Listen and you'll see.**

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"WHY DOES LION HATE ME?"

With the release of Lion, along came the reader questions. Here we tackle your biggest concerns.

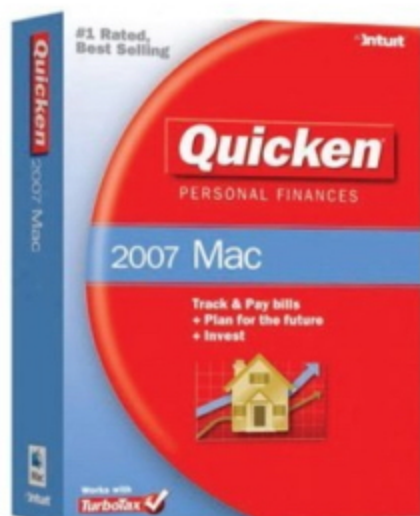
Early adopters take one for the team, and Lion had a lot of them, with one million copies served up from the Mac App Store on Day 1. The Mac|Life editors were all able to upgrade smoothly, but some of our faithful readers ran into snags or had some...concerns. We're here for you.

MISSING ROSETTA

We heard from a lot of users upset about Lion's lack of Rosetta support (see p8), which means that applications written for the old PowerPC architecture won't run anymore—readers cited some classic games and of course many mentioned Quicken 2007, the last "true" version of Quicken for Mac if you don't count last year's anemic Quicken Essentials. We even heard from an Apple Specialist who couldn't run his store's point-of-sale software, PIMS, on Lion, so while the demo machines have it, the company's own Macs are stuck on Snow Leopard.

You still have a few options. In the case of Quicken, you could run the (superior, we must admit) Windows version via Boot Camp or a virtual machine (see "Another Tasty Combination," May/11, p44). You could ditch Quicken for a Lion-friendly alternative—we're doing a group test of Mac personal finance software packages in our next issue. Or if you're really desperate, you could put Snow Leopard on a

thumb drive and boot from that whenever you need to run your Rosetta-required application. See our how-to on the next page—just remember, running an OS off a thumb drive can be a slow, frustrating experience. But it works in a pinch.



Quicken 2007: Do you really, really need it?

DON'T (KERNEL) PANIC

Right after installing Lion, I had a kernel panic. I restarted and everything seems fine, but should I be worried that more are on their way?

Lion's installation is designed to be easy, but it never hurts to do some spring cleaning before—and after—you upgrade, just to minimize the possibility of snags. Northern Softworks makes a handy, highly regarded utility called Lion Cache Cleaner (\$9.99, northernsoftworks.com) that can clean out cache files used by your Snow Leopard installation, plus repair disk permissions and perform other maintenance tasks. It requires Mac OS 10.4 or later, so you can run it once on Snow Leopard and again under Lion.

UNHAPPY BOOT CAMPER

I have a Boot Camp partition installed, and the Lion installer gave me a weird error when I tried to install it to Macintosh HD: "This disk cannot be used to start up your computer." But I start up from that disk every day! What gives?

Apple posted details on this error at <http://support.apple.com/kb/TS3926>, so you're not alone. You basically have two options. You



This error message makes no sense.

could back up your entire hard drive and reformat it prior to installing Lion, or try the less-aggravating workaround: fire up Disk Utility, and repartition your hard drive, making one side slightly smaller, say, by 128MB. You won't lose any data doing it that way, and then when you try again to install Lion, it should work.

SPACE: THE MISSING FRONTIER

In Snow Leopard, the Finder windows had a bar at the bottom that showed how much space was left on my hard drive. Now that's missing, and I can't seem to figure out how to get it back. Is it a Terminal command?

We noticed that too! Luckily you don't need any Terminal tricks to get that back. And we agree that it's annoying that Lion turned it off

instead of leaving it on by default and giving you the option to turn it off. Anyway, to get it back, open a Finder window, then head up to the View menu and select Show Status Bar.



That little bar at the bottom of a Finder window is called the Status Bar, huh? Now we know.

HOW TO CREATE AN EMERGENCY 10.6 BOOT DRIVE

Just in case you have a legacy app you can't run without Rosetta support

So you've upgraded to Lion only to discover the PowerPC apps you've been running since the days of Bondi iMacs no longer launch. That's right: Rosetta, the emulation layer that kept PowerPC code chugging well into the 21st century, is gone for good. Don't panic! With a little effort, you can install Snow Leopard on that USB flash drive in the back of your desk drawer to run those old applications and rescue their data.

WHAT YOU NEED

- >> A 16GB or larger USB flash drive
- >> A Mac OS 10.6 installation DVD

1 COLLECT YOUR DATA

Gather the documents belonging to your PowerPC applications and copy them to a Dropbox folder, your iDisk, or burn them to a CD. You won't be able to easily access the files on your current Lion drive from your future Snow Leopard drive, so having that data on some sort of removable media will help you quickly get to it down the road.

3 BOOT FROM THE INSTALLER DVD

Next, choose Restart from the Apple menu, then hold down the Option key as your Mac reboots until you see the Startup Manager. Choose the installer DVD, then wait while the installation process

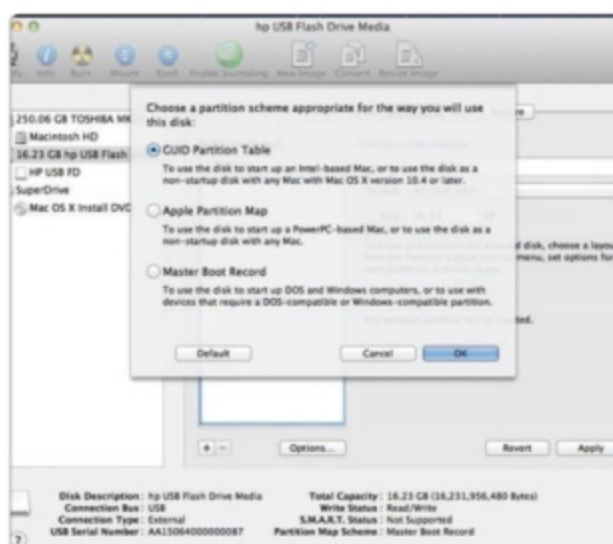


loads. And wait, and wait. Maybe Apple's not so crazy to phase out optical media after all?

You can't double-click the Snow Leopard DVD's installer from Lion, so you need to reboot.

2 REFORMAT YOUR FLASH DRIVE

Insert the installer DVD and your flash drive into your Mac, then launch Disk Utility from Applications > Utilities. Select the USB drive in the sidebar, and click the Partition button. Select 1 Partition in the Partition Layout pull-down menu, then click Options and choose GUID Partition Table to use the drive as a startup disk. Choose the format Mac OS Extended (Journaled) and name the disk something



obvious, like Snow Leopard. Click Apply to repartition the drive, then quit Disk Utility when you're done.

This step is crucial.

4 START YOUR INSTALLATION ENGINES

When the installer is ready, choose your flash drive in the Install Mac OS X window, then click Customize. In the resulting window, be sure to check the box to install Rosetta. Uncheck other boxes to keep extraneous components (like unnecessary language packs, fonts, and printer drivers) from adding several gigabytes to your installation. When you're done, return to the main window and begin the installation.

5 GET YOUR DATA BACK

After the installation, reboot your Mac (hold down the Option key and select the Snow Leopard thumb drive) and plow through 10.6's welcome movie and introductory settings. When asked if you want to transfer information, choose Do Not Transfer My Information Now. It'll be much faster to drag and drop from the copies you made in Step 1. Once the Finder is ready, select Go > Utilities from the menu bar, then launch Terminal and type `sudo mdutil -a -i off` to kill Spotlight indexing. (It's only making an already poky system run slower.) Then transfer your old data (from Step 1) to your new Snow Leopard Home folder. Remember that OS X will feel much slower running from the USB drive, so allow a little extra time for your clicks and drags to register. With the files copied, launch the corresponding PowerPC applications from the Applications folder on your Lion hard drive (Macintosh HD) to access your documents.



Booyah! Back in 10.6, your old applications will open slowly, but they'll open.

11 THINGS WE WANT FROM OS X COUGAR

The bars aren't the only place we want to see more Cougar. Bring on OS 10.8!

Just because Lion was freshly released into the wild doesn't mean we don't already have some ideas for Apple's forthcoming feline. We put our heads together to compile a list of things we want from it.

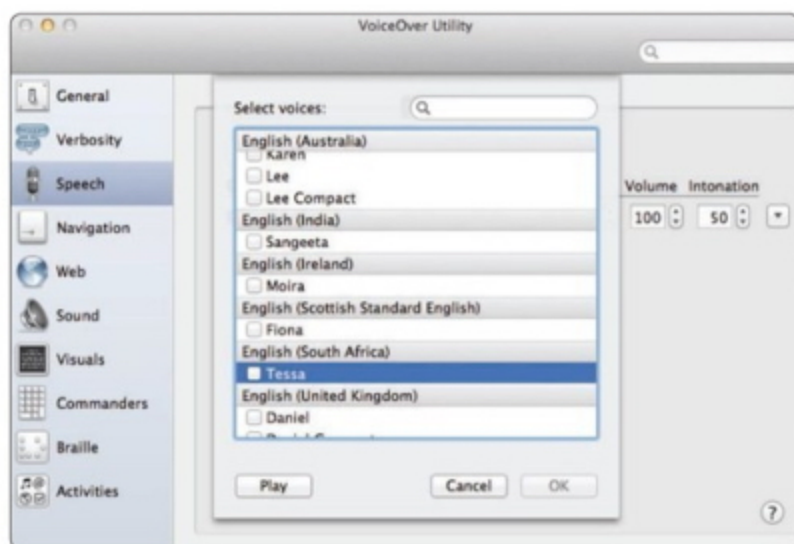


1. SCREEN SPLITTING

We're accustomed to Windows picking up and implementing OS X's scraps, but in this case we'd be happy to see it the other way around. Windows 7's window-splitting feature, Snap, is genius and would cut our window shuffling substantially. Sure, considering Apple's focus on full-screen apps it's an unlikely addition, but we just can't silence the yearning in our hearts.

2. SEXY COUGAR VOICES IN UNIVERSAL ACCESS

We love some of the new additions to Universal Access (we're looking at you, Tessa), but the options are still only "good," not "great." In the next iteration, we'd like some improved voices, and—in sticking with a theme—we wouldn't mind if those voices were modeled after some real-life cougars (Courtney Cox voice, anyone?).



For now, we're happy to have Tessa.

3. REMINDERS FOR DESKTOP

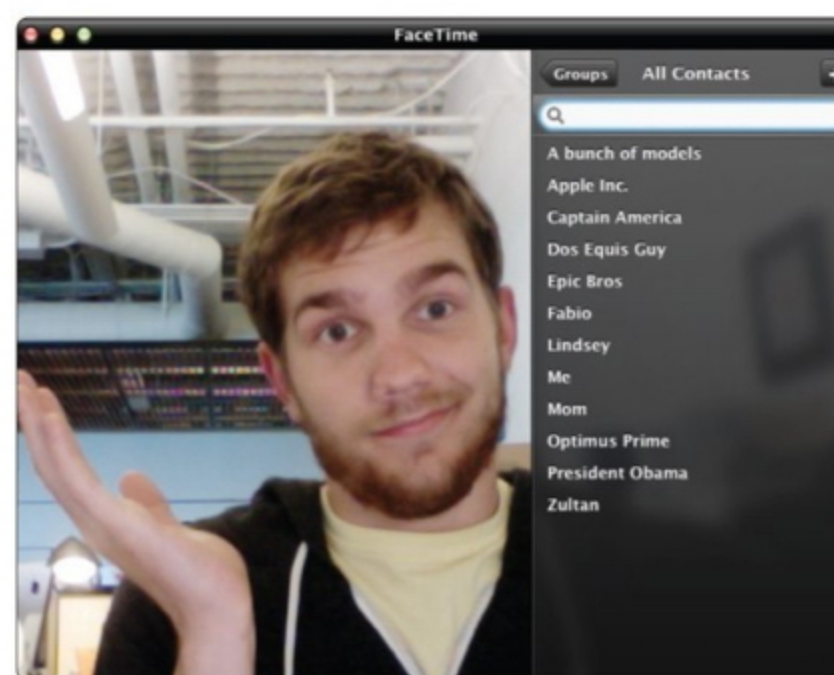
Reminders for iOS 5 looks like an absolute treat for our productivity (see p28), but why stop at iOS? All of our favorite to-do lists, like Things and OmniFocus, are cross-platform and feature tight integration on the computer side. Apple's should too.

4. SPEECH TO TEXT

The current best solution, MacSpeech's Dictate, works okay but requires a decent amount of training. If anyone's going to do speech-to-text right, it's probably Apple. Until then, we'll just hold tight.

5. IMPROVED FACETIME CALLS

Some people never use FaceTime—some people just lament its shortcomings. Calling via an email address is impractical, and we still much prefer iChat's video chat, but we're excited to see how FaceTime for Mac will improve.



Nobody would accept my calls, maybe because Apple still hasn't made it an open standard.

6. SEPARATED iTunes AND APP STORE

It doesn't take a rocket scientist to realize we don't really like iTunes. Heck, it doesn't even take a very avid reader. We bust on the bloatware in darn near every issue, and for good reason. iTunes tries to be the Swiss Army knife of Apple software but feels more cluttered than our kitchen utensil drawer.



Please notice: music on the left, apps on the right. Run in different programs. Let's complete the separation with iOS apps also in the App Store, not our iTunes.

7. AIRPRINT EVERYTHING

iOS 4.2 was released last fall, with the promise of AirPrint functionality on all computers running OS 10.6.5. The feature got pulled at the last minute, and we're still waiting. Jobs wrote in an email, "Lots more coming soon. It's what it takes to make a giant leap into driverless printing, which is huge." We're ready when you are, Cupertino.

8. FRONT ROW SUCCESSOR

If Lion is an attempt to fuse the best parts of iOS and OS X, then the discarding of Front Row really doesn't make a lot of sense. All the functionality of Front Row is delegated to specific apps on iOS, and Apple has refined it several times for Apple TV. By the time Cougar is out, we'll be ready for Front Row's triumphant return.



Apple TV has its own version of Front Row—why not Macs?



9. BUILT-IN iOS UTILITIES

If iOS 5 has taught us anything, it's that Apple isn't afraid to "borrow" ideas from developers. We'd like to see iPhone and iPad utilities like Magic Mouse and Air Display polished to that familiar Apple gleam.

10. GESTURES

Lion turned the last of us gesture holdouts into finger-swiping madmen and now we can't get enough. We wouldn't mind a simpler way to show the Desktop than the "four-finger fan," and of course, it couldn't hurt to add more!



Not only would we like custom gestures, but it'd be great to have more options for the ones that are there.

11. iOS-STYLE FOLDERS

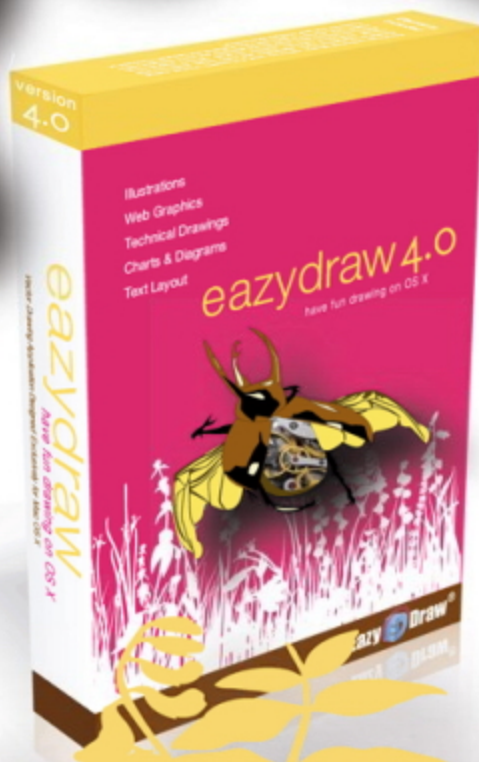
Launchpad includes iOS-style folders in Lion, but for some reason they're not right on the Desktop. We can't help but think Lion's attempting to ease those of us who have never used iOS devices into the new folder types. But ease no more, because we're ready for them on our Desktops!

Imagine iOS folders
right on the Desktop.
We're ready.

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New: Full Lion Support (fun)
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Childproof Your MAC

Kids of all ages love using Macs—and that means risking them seeing, doing, and deleting things they shouldn't. This comprehensive guide shows you how to keep your beloved hardware safe—oh, and your kids too!

BY GARY MARSHALL & ROB MEAD-GREEN



FIRST STEPS

It only takes a few simple steps to keep the kids away from unsuitable content and reduce the risk of disasters.

Your Mac's sheer ease of use is a blessing and a curse. On the one hand, kids love it. On the other...kids love it. That gives parents an interesting challenge: encouraging our children's computer use without letting them cause chaos. However, the good news is that it doesn't take much effort to protect your Mac from inquisitive young minds.

The single best thing you can do is give everybody their own login in System Preferences > Accounts. That keeps everybody's files, folders, applications, and iLife libraries separate, so there's no danger of anyone

meddling with the wrong stuff. It also allows you to limit the applications and websites your children can use, and it gives everybody their own space that they can tweak to suit their personal preferences.

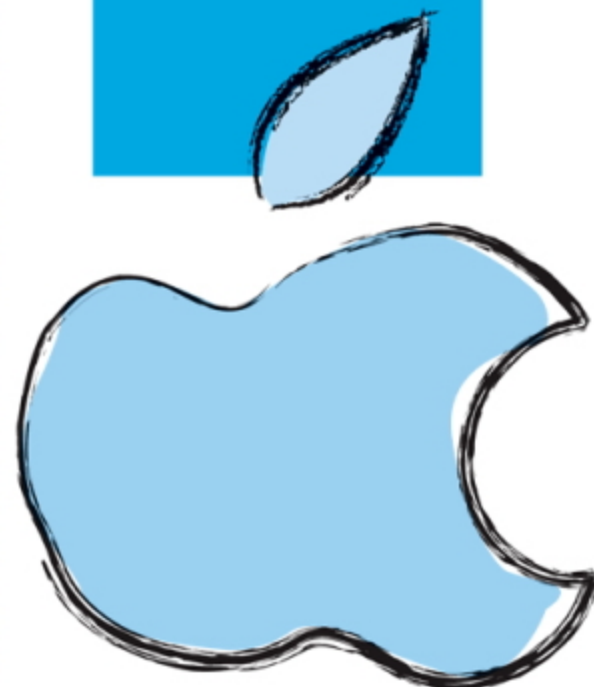
Next, give everyone a password—if you don't, anyone can log in as anyone else—and use System Preferences > Security > General to password-lock your screen saver, sleep mode, and System Preferences.

Childproofing your Mac is also about simplicity. You can disable Spaces in System Preferences to avoid

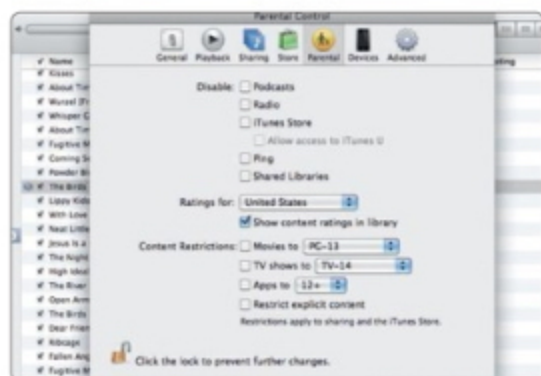
confusion, and you can also use OS X's Parental Controls to activate the stripped-down Simple Finder mode and prevent changes to the Dock. Third-party software can help here, too. Lockey (\$7, getlockey.com) disables your Mac's keyboard to stop accidental keystrokes from interrupting movies and TV shows, KidsMenu (\$20, bit.ly/pVC3e7) provides a kid-friendly program launcher, and both AlphaBaby (free, alphababy.sourceforge.net) and BabySafe II (\$20, batista.org) create safe spaces for babies to interact with sounds, shapes, and colors.

QUICK TIP

Protect your ports—children aren't always gentle when trying to plug in gear. Choosing wireless peripherals or using an external USB hub can keep precious USB ports safe.

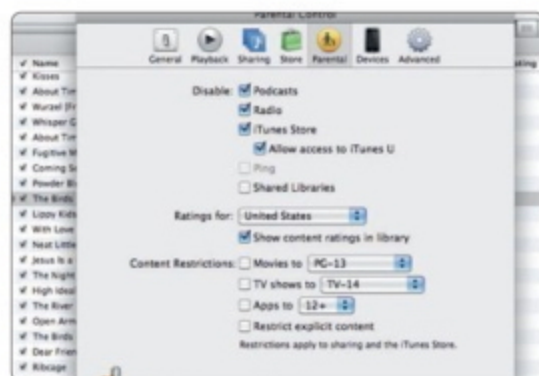


USING PARENTAL CONTROLS IN iTunes



1. BLOCK iTunes FEATURES

iTunes has excellent parental controls. Go to iTunes Preferences > Parental Controls to disable access to iTunes' features and content ratings. For example, you can prevent your kids from accessing your podcasts, other Macs' shared libraries, Ping, or the iTunes Store.



2. APPLY AGE RATINGS

For content you've bought from the iTunes Store, you can enforce age ratings—so you can limit movies to PG only or block access to apps rated for adult content, for example. However, note that such ratings don't apply to content from elsewhere, such as ripped DVDs or CDs.



3. SHARE SPECIFIC THINGS

If you use iTunes' sharing options (Preferences > Sharing) and share specific playlists, other users can access those playlists from iTunes when they log in to their own account. So, for instance, you can share music but not movies, TV shows, or podcasts.

PARENTAL GUIDANCE

Parental controls block smut and stop your kids from racking up too much screen time. You can also hide drives and prevent accidental edits.

As your children get older and more tech-savvy, you'll need to take things up a notch to keep your stuff, your Mac, and your kids safe. You can add third-party software like the child-friendly browser BumperCar (\$29.95, freeverse.com) or the parental control system MacMinder (\$29.95, bit.ly/pXFSC4), but if you're running OS X Leopard or Snow Leopard, you already have some superb parental control features.

Parental controls are on a per-account basis, which means you can have different levels of restrictions for each child. You can restrict how many

send messages via Mail to on a per-contact basis, and you can even prevent them from seeing profanity in the OS X Dictionary—although the options to stop users from burning CDs and DVDs, changing the printer settings, or changing their login password seem more useful to us.

Parental controls can also log your children's activities so you can keep an eye on what they've been doing—or attempting to do. If you click on the Apps, Web, or People tab in Parental Controls, you'll see the Logs button at the bottom-right corner of the window. Click on Logs, and you'll have four

options to choose from: websites visited, websites blocked, applications, and iChat. You can then view logs from the last day, week, month, or since

isn't supposed to be used by anybody under 13. If there are sites you really want the kids to access, you can override the block by adding their IP addresses to the Always Allow These Websites list. Remember too that if you enable Parental Controls on your own account, you can end up limiting your own internet connection, blocking your applications, and generally annoying yourself.

You can hide external drives by unticking them in Finder's Preferences > General and Preferences > Sidebar, but if you'd like more robust protection, select the external drive on your Desktop and hit Command-I. Under Sharing and Permissions, you can now change what people can and can't do with the drive, and you can do it per user—just click on the plus sign, select the person, and then specify whether they should get full access, read-only access, or write-only access. You can do the same with files and folders.

No matter how careful you are, accidents can and probably will happen—which is why we'd strongly recommend you get hold of an external hard disk and use it with OS X's superb Time Machine, which has saved our necks on countless occasions. If a file or folder gets damaged or deleted, Time Machine allows you to travel back in time, find an intact copy, and bring it back to the present day. >>



The child-friendly browser BumperCar is packed with filtering options to ensure your children don't see any websites they shouldn't.

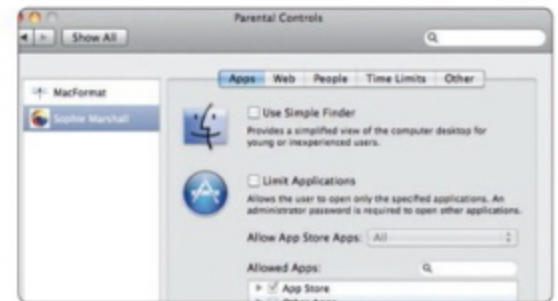
hours per day each child can spend on the computer, lock them out altogether at specific times, limit which applications they use (something that's particularly handy with older children who might want to use applications such as BitTorrent clients for dodgy downloads), and control the kinds of websites they can look at.

There's more. You can put limits on whom your children may iChat with and

the day you first turned on Parental Controls.

It's not all perfect, unfortunately. Creating a list of approved sites can take an eternity, and an old, unfixed bug means Parental Controls' attempts to block adult sites also blocks some secure HTTP connections. That can prevent perfectly legitimate websites from working: we've encountered problems with Gmail and Facebook over secure HTTP, although of course Facebook

GETTING STARTED WITH PARENTAL CONTROLS



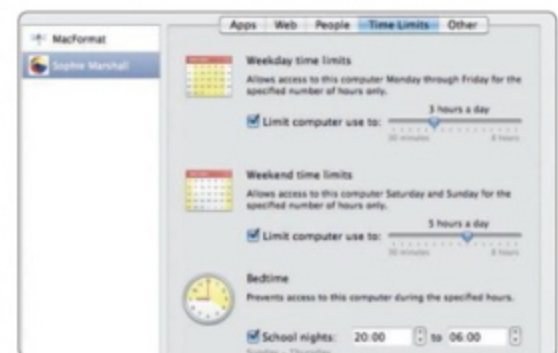
1. CHOOSE THE CHILD

Parental controls are tied to individual accounts, and you need at least one user account—excluding your own—before you can apply restrictions. Open System Preferences, select Parental Controls, and click the lock. Select the user account you'd like to change.



2. ALLOW SPECIFIC APPS

The first screen lets you control the apps a user can open. Ban App Store apps or limit them by age. You can use the Allowed Apps panel to specify which apps this person can access. Enabling Simple Finder makes the OS X Desktop friendlier for younger kids.



3. WATCH THE CLOCK

The Time Limits feature makes your Mac off-limits when your kids are supposed to be studying, sleeping, or walking the dog. The Time Limits tab lets you specify how many hours per day each user is allowed, and Bedtime blocks access at specific times.

PARENTAL GUIDANCE (continued)

Time Machine has another ace up its sleeve: you can restore your system from a Time Machine backup to a completely different Mac via the OS X Migration Assistant. That means if the worst happens and your Mac gets damaged or destroyed, you can get up and running on a different machine while you wait for your Mac to be repaired or for your new one to arrive (see p56 for more).

SAFELY SHARE PHOTOS, VIDEOS, AND MUSIC

We've explored various ways of keeping your children away from things, but what about the content you do want to share—the movies you've made, the photos you've taken, or the tunes you're trying to force them to like? When you create multiple user accounts, everybody gets their own iLife libraries, so when your children open iPhoto for the first time, they'll see a blank library, rather than your library. That's very easy to change.

For iLife sharing to work, you'll need Fast User Switching enabled in System Preferences > Accounts > Login Options. This allows you to switch between user accounts without having to close your open applications and log out.

In iPhoto, click on Preferences > Sharing > Share My Photos and specify whether you want to share your whole library or specific albums. Leave iPhoto running, switch to your child's account, and then launch iPhoto. In

Preferences > Sharing, click on Look for shared photos. Your library or shared albums should now appear in the source panel, and you can drag images from the shared library to the local one.

The same trick works with iTunes. If you enable sharing in iTunes (Preferences > Sharing > Share my library on my local network), your children can access your shared music. If you're sharing with younger children, you might want to share specific playlists rather than your entire library. Remember too that your iTunes library, if you share the whole thing, will include movies and TV shows.

The downside to iLife sharing is that you need to remain logged in with all the relevant applications running in order to share a few files. Another option is to store things in OS X's Shared folder. Anything you save in Macintosh HD > Users > Shared is available

to every user, which is useful for files that everybody wants or needs to access. It might be a good idea to stick your iTunes library in there. It's easier to maintain, organize, and protect a single shared iTunes library than multiple individual ones.

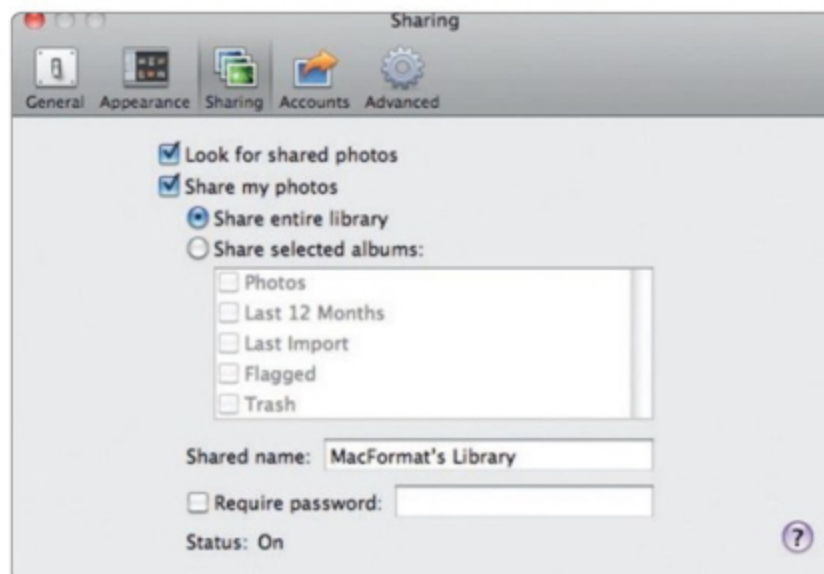
The exception to all of this is iMovie. The easiest way to share iMovie projects is to save them on an external hard drive that everyone can access. You can also export projects to iTunes or the iLife Media Browser from iMovie's Share menu. >>

QUICK TIP

Parental Controls automatically records the sites your children visited, any websites that were blocked, apps they ran, and whom they've been chatting with.



Keep iMovie projects on an external drive so they're accessible to all and don't clog up your Mac's hard disk.



Sharing iPhoto and iTunes libraries is easy—go to Preferences > Sharing and select what you want to share.

QUICK TIP

To make the web safe for younger children, restrict what websites very young children can see by creating a list of age-appropriate sites in Parental Controls > Web.

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GROWN-UPS ONLY

Older children are fearsome opponents, but you can still take steps to secure your personal data and prevent them from accessing sites they shouldn't.



When your kids know as much about Macs as you do, keeping your stuff safe can be incredibly difficult—but it isn't impossible. Software such as WatchMac (\$19.95, bloo7.com/apps/watchmac) can let you know about authentication failures such as somebody trying to guess your password, while Parents Remote (\$39.95, subrosasoft.com) even enables you to spy on the kids to see what they're up to.

We'd rather outsmart our kids than spy on them, however, and there are plenty of ways to do that. Apple's own Firmware Password Utility can prevent simple tricks that your kids might try to bypass the parental controls you've so diligently created. And changing your router's DNS provider from your ISP to OpenDNS (free,

opendns.com) allows you to filter web content to screen out inappropriate content. Alternatively, Internet Security Barrier (\$79.95, intego.com) delivers an excellent set of per-account filtering tools, though it isn't cheap.

You can protect sensitive data by hiding it or encrypting it. Secret Folder (\$24.99, apimac.com/secretfolder) makes hiding folders easy, while Apple's own FileVault takes care of the latter option. To enable FileVault, go to System Preferences > Security > FileVault and click the Turn On FileVault option to encrypt and password-protect your entire home folder. Be aware, though, that by switching on FileVault, you lose the ability to recover individual files in Time Machine.

Lastly, you can create a new, encrypted disk image on your Mac, on an external disk, or on a USB flash drive in Apple's Disk Utility to stash your stuff. Another option, Knox (\$34.99, agilebits.com), lets you create, access and Spotlight-search multiple "vaults." If you want to encrypt files and access them on other platforms such as Windows, the cross-platform TrueCrypt (free, truecrypt.org) is the way to go.

KEEP YOUR STUFF SAFE WITH TIME MACHINE

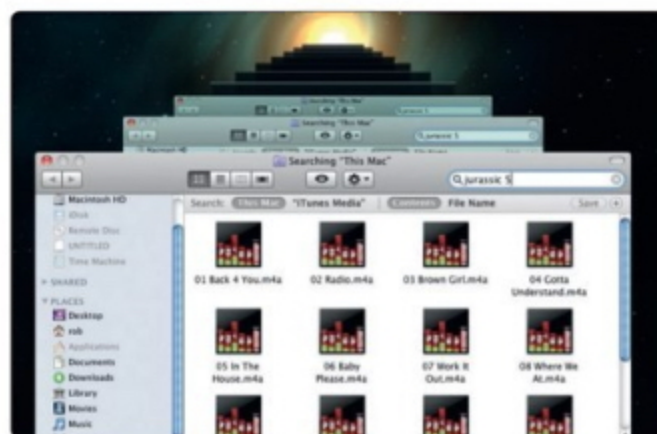
1. GET IT RUNNING

You can control Time Machine from System Preferences > Time Machine. Select your hard disk (or network volume) and use Options to specify which folders don't need backing up. We skip Applications, Downloads, and Library to keep things speedy.



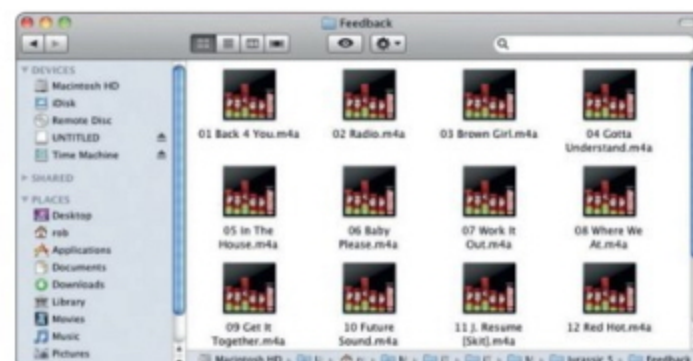
2. TRAVEL BACK IN TIME

If you or your little darlings delete or damage an important file or folder, you can go back to when your file was intact. Open the folder where the intact file used to be, then run Applications > Time Machine to travel back in time.



3. RESTORE THE FILE

Time Machine keeps hourly, daily, and weekly backups (depending on how much disk space is available). Click on the arrows to move backward in time until your file appears, then Control-click on it and select the Restore option to bring it back.



QUICK TIP

If your Mac has been a single-user Mac, you might have automatic login enabled. Remember to disable it if you're creating separate accounts for everyone.

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DISCOVER THIS MONTH'S MOST
INTERESTING IPHONE & IPAD APPS!

PINBALL PARADISE

THESE IOS SILVERBALL SIMS ARE NO MERE TOKEN EFFORTS. BY EDDIE WALLACE

Ever since I was a young boy, I played... well, you know the rest. But sadly, the ubiquitous pinball parlors of the '70s and '80s have steadily disappeared; if you want a good game of pinball today, you're more likely to find it in the App Store.

Every pinball app we tested was easy enough to control—just tap your thumbs in the lower corners to activate the flippers, shake the device to nudge the table, and enjoy either landscape or portrait play—but they all take different approaches and represent different eras of pinball design.

Pinball Tristan. This'll look and feel familiar to old-school Mac gamers; it was a popular System 7 title in 1991, which explains

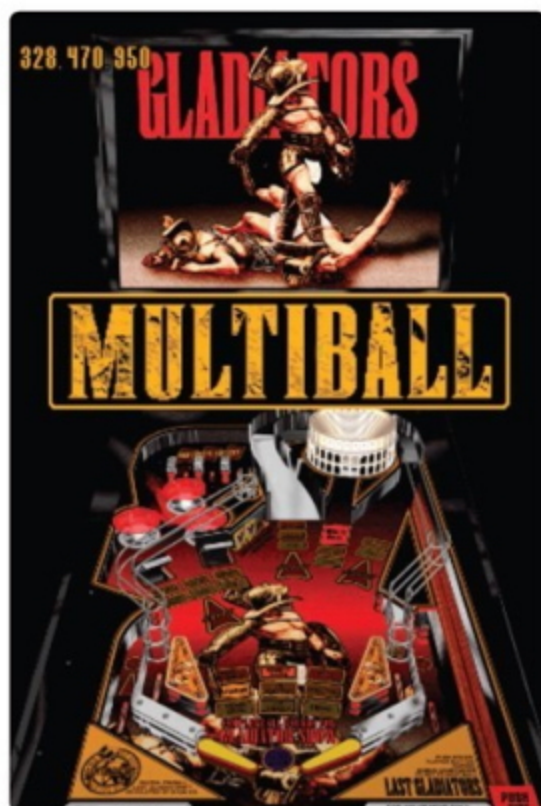
the appearance of the Chicago font and the simplistic, brightly colored graphics. The visuals received a clean update, but the audio is an odd mix of dated sound effects and pleasantly modern guitar music. The novel Rock'n'Play mode changes the dynamic of the game altogether—you simply tilt the playfield to direct the ball and get your revenge on those pesky drop targets, as if this was a marble labyrinth game. That's fun once or twice, but it's the standard mode's balanced table layout and keen physics that will keep you coming back. With the simple, '60s-style playfield design (a few bumpers, a few drop targets, and a few kick-out holes), and faux-mechanical scoring reels, Pinball Tristan doesn't look

modern, but it's still surprisingly fun after all these years.

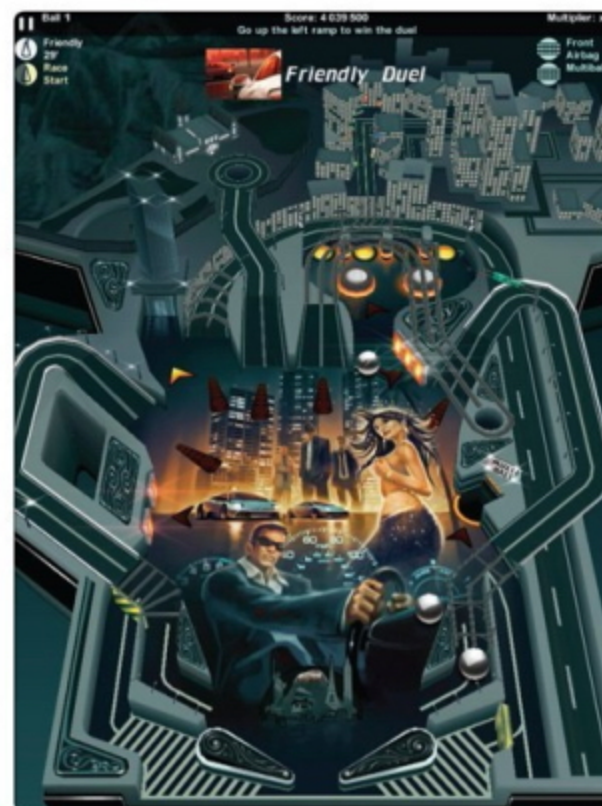
Last Gladiators Ver.2010. Another port of a game designed for another system (this time the mid-'90s Sega Saturn console), Last Gladiators features a heavy metal soundtrack and the flashy dot-matrix displays of an early '90s machine. It's pretty slick and looks authentic. But its main issue is not presentation—it's the small hiccups in the animation, where it seems like the ball is not flowing in a perfectly smooth line. The ball's 2D sprite scales to give the illusion of depth on the table, but you'll see the "hitch" as it changes size. Since it's most visible right in front of the flippers, when you need your



Pinball Tristan's ball reflects the table around it, a trick the other sims don't do.



The flashy and impressive dot-matrix displays of Last Gladiators sometimes cover up too much screen real estate, especially on the iPhone.



Pinball Ride's slick look, camera cutaways, and achievement supports give it a modern feel.

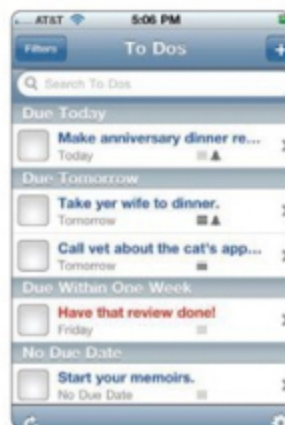
BUSYTODO

iOS 5-style task syncing...today!

As great as iOS is, it's had one missing feature since the days of the original iPhone: lack of built-in to-do management. That will change with iOS 5's upcoming Reminders app, but you can take charge of tasks today with BusyToDo, which brings familiar to-do management to your iDevice. How familiar? Picture iCal's to-do features, then imagine them transplanted to a no-nonsense iOS app.

BusyToDo uses your MobileMe account or a Snow Leopard CalDAV server to sync to-do items from iCal (and BusyMac's own desktop calendaring app, BusyCal) to your iOS device and back. Once tasks are synced, you can search and filter them according to due date, priority, calendar, and more. Of course, you can edit these items, make new ones with the same criteria, and configure customizable default settings that fit the entries you make most often. If you're the forgetful type (and let's face it, if you need an app like this, you probably are), you can assign alarms to your

tasks that can occur at specific or relative times before or after important events. Heck, even unimportant events are supported.



If you use iCal's to-do features, this is an easy way to sync 'em to your iPhone.

You can also create repeating tasks, a feature currently unavailable in iCal. However, BusyToDo's developers (and an unmissable in-app message) warn that repeating items created in BusyToDo can't be edited in iCal without risking data loss; future instances of the to-do may get wiped out in the process.

Until iCal supports the feature, you'll need to use BusyCal (\$49.99, busymac.com) to edit them back at your Mac. If that isn't a deal-breaker, you'll find the rest of BusyToDo is seamless. It just works, so much that it feels like a native Apple app.

That brings us to the big changes coming this fall from Cupertino. MobileMe will be available until June 30, 2012, but before that, its data-syncing features will be replaced by iCloud. BusyMac's developers plan to make BusyToDo compatible with the new service when iCloud officially drops.

The bottom line. If you're a MobileMe subscriber who needs to manage tasks on the go, BusyToDo is a smart choice.

—Adam Berenstein



OUR FAVORITE APPS

Each month, the MacLife staff gives you a peek inside our iPhones, iPads, and iPod touches to show you the latest gems, oddities, and WTFs that we've uncovered in the App Store.



SUSIE

Monopoly Here & Now: The World Edition



This \$9.99 iPad app isn't so different from regular Monopoly—the properties are cities around the globe, and everything costs way more—except that every time I finish a game, I want to start another. Great presentation, tweakable house rules, plenty of strategy, and iPad and iPhone users can play together.



FLO

Photosynth



Staring at a picturesque landscape and wish you could fit the whole thing into one photo? Why not take a panorama picture? Free iPhone app Photosynth lets you take several photos in a row and then pieces it together for you instantly. Then share it with your friends on Facebook and see them ooh and aah at scenes from your cool nature hikes.



RAY

Ticket to Ride



I can't stop playing the \$6.99 iPad game Ticket to Ride. Based on the German-style strategy game, the goal is to build connected railroad lines. The excellent graphics and in-app add-ons keep things exciting, but I wish the online component included turn-based play. If you're in the mood to beat a beginner, I'm RAguilera on Game Center—let's be pals.



NIC

Tiny Tower



Tiny Tower (free, universal) is one of my favorite freemium games. Instead of spending your time collecting smurfberries or something else totally lame, you build little restaurants and apartments in a Tiny Tower—that doesn't sound lame, right? Even if it does, the excellent 8-bit graphics will draw you in faster than you can say, "It's not that tiny."



PAUL

Bay Area News



At last, the kind of lean, light, speedy newspaper app I've been hoping for since the iPad launched! Bay Area News pulls stories from newspapers in the San Francisco area—for free—and its terrific interface nicely captures the newspaper-reading experience. It's finally time to stop paying someone to chuck treeware in my driveway every morning...

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THE BEST IPOD APPS

In honor of the iPod's 10th birthday, let's party it up with apps that rock on the iPod touch. **BY SUSIE OCHS**

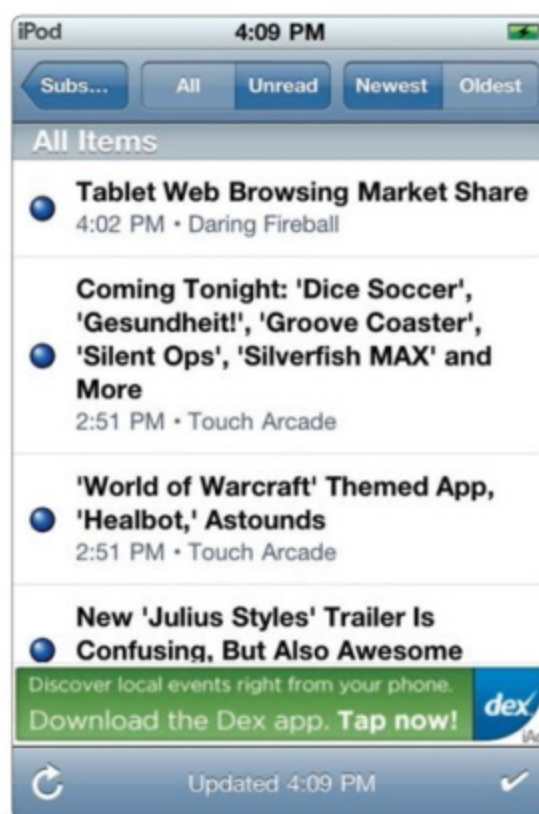
My first iPod was a fourth-gen 20GB model—I still have it, mostly for nostalgia reasons. Its “killer app” was...playing music. ‘Cause that’s all it did. My husband’s fifth-gen iPod (with video!) can play clickwheel games—I still catch him playing Solitaire on it now and then. But it took until the pinnacle of iPod design, the mighty iPod touch (\$229 to \$399, apple.com), for the device to transform from a music player into an A4 processor-sporting, iOS-running, pocket-sized computer capable of just about anything.

So I swapped my trusty iPhone for an iPod touch for a few days to see what would happen. And it was great! The latest iPod touch (fourth gen) has a gorgeous Retina display and speedy graphics processing, making it perfect for any apps that don’t require the iPhone’s persistent network connection. Plus, it’s thin enough to use as a letter opener. Bonus.

Of course, out of the box, it won’t take calls. But **Google Voice** (free) lets me forward my iPhone’s number to my Google Voice number and still get calls if I’m in a Wi-Fi zone. When I’m not, Google Voice takes a voicemail and emails me a transcription, and it even has free text messaging (take that, AT&T!). The iPod touch I’m using only has 8GB of storage (although they go up to 64GB), so I also grabbed the **Spotify** app (free) for streaming music. My



Discover Apps lets you start with an app you love and find related ones you might love even more.



Feddler can sync Google Reader feeds for offline reading.

\$9.99/month Premium account lets me sync music for offline listening, and when I’m on Wi-Fi, I can listen to anything in the vast catalog of 15 million tracks, give or take.

To make sure I have plenty to read, online or off, **Instapaper** (\$4.99, universal) keeps a list of articles I came across online and saved to read later, and **Feddler** (free) taps into the RSS feeds in my Google Reader account. Both require Wi-Fi to sync, but once a fresh batch of articles are cached, they work great offline, and sync new changes when I get Wi-Fi again.

This fourth-gen iPod touch is the first to get a camera, although it can’t take the 5-megapixel still photos that the iPhone 4 can. It’s still fun for goofy snapshots; I had a blast taking old-school strips of photos with **Pocketbooth** (\$0.99) and constructing comics out of any of the pics synced to my Photos app with **ComicBook!** (\$1.99, universal).

But the iPod touch really shines as a game machine. Hardcore, action-packed games like **Infinity Blade** (\$5.99, universal), **Real Racing 2** (\$6.99), **Zombie Gunship** (\$0.99), **Street Fighter IV Volt** (\$6.99), and **Chaos Rings** (\$12.99) have quicker loading times and snappier performance on the iPod touch than even the iPhone 4. And if you run out of games



The iPod touch’s camera takes lower-resolution pics than the iPhone 4’s, but with apps like Pocketbooth, that doesn’t really matter.

The iPod touch is great for apps that don’t need a persistent connection. Plus, it’s thin enough to open letters. Bonus.

to play, grab **Discover Apps** (free, universal), a recommendation engine that shows you apps based on ones you already love.

I thought I couldn’t live without my iPhone 4. Turns out I was wrong—once you get used to the idea of not having 3G network access, the iPod touch is just as good—and in some ways, better. Too bad my iPhone is still under contract.



Real Racing 2 screams. It really does feel real!

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Lif' S.P.E



Social Networking

Dry Fire Trainer



Sports

RM Monitor



Business

My Days Pay



Lifestyle

Color Car Mania



Games

Obama Tickle



Entertainment

Hypnosis on the Run



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>>>Reviews

TOUGH TESTING, TRUSTED RATINGS

2.3GHZ CORE i5 MAC MINI & 1.6 GHZ CORE i5 MACBOOK AIR

Apple's new starter machines run the gamut from sexy to predictable

Add the MacBook to the long list of things Apple has killed off. Toss it on the pile, alongside floppy drives, ADB ports, and (soon, we're betting) optical drives. While the death of the MacBook was shocking at first, what's even more shocking is to realize that the SSD-equipped MacBook Air is Apple's new budget laptop. It's the sexiest, smallest, and yep, the cheapest too. But the Air isn't the only thing Apple has overhauled. Their starter desktop has also gotten a makeover. The 2011 Mac mini now sports a Core i5 processor, but like the laptop line, Apple has trimmed some of the fat—in this case, the optical drive.

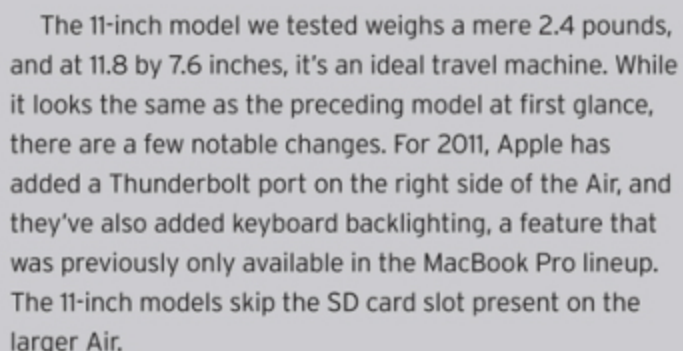
No one ever would have guessed that the Air, which debuted in 2008 for \$1,799, would become Apple's starter laptop. We're usually not big on spoilers, but we'll go ahead and say it: we love the new Air. Which isn't to say the Air doesn't have its weak points—more on that in a bit. But it's rather telling that there are several Mac|Life editors desperately trying to figure out how to fit a new Mac into their budgets after working with our demo unit. >>



For detailed definitions of every score on Mac|Life's ratings scale, go to maclife.com/ratings.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY MARK MADEO





Like the MacBook Air, the Mac mini has its own fair share of changes. It sports the same-sized 7.7x7.7x1.4-inch aluminum chassis as the previous version, but like the Air, it's also been upgraded to the Core i5 (the higher-end mini can be customized with a 2.7GHz i7). The Mini DisplayPort has been replaced with a Thunderbolt I/O port, and the mini now also supports Bluetooth 4.0. But perhaps the most noticeable change is the removal of the optical drive. The mini still offers a single HDMI output, but its usefulness as a compact media center machine is pretty much obliterated by the lack of a DVD drive. Between that

Performance-wise, the 2011 mini does exactly what an inexpensive Mac should. We tested the base 2.3GHz model with 2GB of RAM. It posted decent if not exiting results in all of our tests. With an overall GeekBench score of 6364, the Mac mini is fine for everyday computing, although some of our more intensive tests like our Photoshop

MacBook Air

(Right side)

MagSafe Power

USB

Audio Out

Speaker

The bottom line. Apple's entry-level machines now cover both ends of the spectrum. For portability and speed, we prefer the 11-inch Air, but the tradeoff is limited storage space. If your Documents (or Music) folder is filled to overflowing, the Mac mini is a competent, if unsexy, budget machine, that unfortunately loses its way as a near-perfect media center with this latest revision.

—Ray Aquilera

Apple
apple.com
Price: \$599
Specs: 2.3GHz Intel Core i5, 2GB DDR3 SDRAM, 3MB shared L3 cache, 500GB 5,400-rpm hard drive, Intel HD Graphics 3000 with 288MB shared DDR3 SDRAM, Thunderbolt port, HDMI output, 4 USB 2.0 ports, FireWire 800 port, 802.11n Wi-Fi networking, Gigabit Ethernet, audio in/out, Bluetooth 4.0+EDR

Dude, where's my DVD drive? OS X Lion eliminates Front Row, making the mini much less attractive as a media center.

GOOD

Apple
apple.com
Price: \$999
Specs: 1.6GHz Intel Core i5, 2GB DDR3 SDRAM, 3MB shared L3 cache, 64GB flash storage, Intel HD Graphics 3000 with 256MB shared DDR3 SDRAM, 1366x768-pixel glossy 11.6-inch LED-backlit display, Thunderbolt port, 2 USB 2.0 ports, FaceTime Camera, 802.11n Wi-Fi networking, headphone port, Bluetooth 4.0, backlit keyboard and ambient light sensor

64GB of storage is just not enough. No SD card slot. Standard-def FaceTime camera.

GREAT



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OLYMPUS LS-20M PCM RECORDER

Better audio...with a side order of HD video

If you use a pocket camcorder, you're used to crummy, tinny audio being captured alongside your HD video. So, what if manufacturers turned such low consumer expectations on their ear and designed a high-quality audio recorder that just so happens to do video—complete with a bump to 1080p HD? Olympus' new recorder is just that—a capable video device for audio enthusiasts that's unfortunately hampered by one unique design decision.

Olympus bills the LS-20M as a "PCM Recorder" (for pulse-code modulation, the method used by digital audio devices for capturing analog signals), despite the fact that it also records full 1080p digital video using removable SD or SDHC cards. About an inch taller and three-eighths of an inch thicker than Apple's iPhone 4, the LS-20M resembles a souped-up Flip camera with extra buttons, although the back of the unit swaps a 16mm speaker grill for the camera lens.

The lens is mounted at the very top of the unit, sandwiched between a pair of microphones capable of recording stereo sound at up to 24-bit, 96KHz linear PCM in WAV format (MP3 recording is also available). Although it's sold as an audio recorder, the quarter-inch, 5.32 megapixel CMOS image sensor mostly trumps similar video shot with the FlipMino HD. A bright, two-inch color LCD display for selecting options also doubles as a monitor for video recording and playback. A smaller monochrome backlit LCD below lets you keep tabs on audio levels, playback/record time, and battery life at all times.

Unfortunately, the main display doesn't swivel or adjust, so you're forced to hold the camera horizontally while shooting video, looking down at the display. It's an odd compromise by the designers, although it does allow for clever shots you might not get otherwise. But yes, it feels awkward.

The included 2GB SD card is capable of recording up to 55 minutes of WAV audio only at the highest quality (three hours at 44k 16-bit WAV or 16 hours at 256kbps MP3 setting), or 15 minutes of 1080p video (30 minutes in 1280x720 or a full hour in 640x480). The audio quality is indeed excellent—you'll hear details in full stereo that are simply lost with the iPhone 4 or Flip cameras. The LS-20M also includes a Magic Movie mode for live effects using one of four presets (Rock, Pop, Sketch, and Pin Hole), a typically so-so 4x digital zoom, mini-HDMI port, tripod mount, and a choice of three visualizers for audio playback.

The bottom line. If you need to do budget-minded, quality field audio recording with the option for HD video, the LS-20M makes for an enticing package. The top-mounted lens is a fairly serious limitation for frequent users, especially considering the price, but

you'll be hard-pressed to find another pocket-friendly recorder capable of such uncompromising audio quality coupled with HD video. —J.R. Bookwalter



Quickly switch between video and audio modes with a button on the side.

LS-20M PCM RECORDER

Olympus

olympusamerica.com

Price: \$299.99

Requirements: Mac OS 10.4 or later; USB port

Excellent audio recorder at a budget price. 1080p HD video recording is a nice bonus, and image quality is on par with iPhone 4 and better Flip cameras. Nice variety of features, including tripod mount and 1/8-inch mic and headphone jacks.

Top-mounted camera lens limits video shooting in many situations. A few too many buttons. Recording video requires extra button press to switch to camera mode.

SOLID ■■■■■

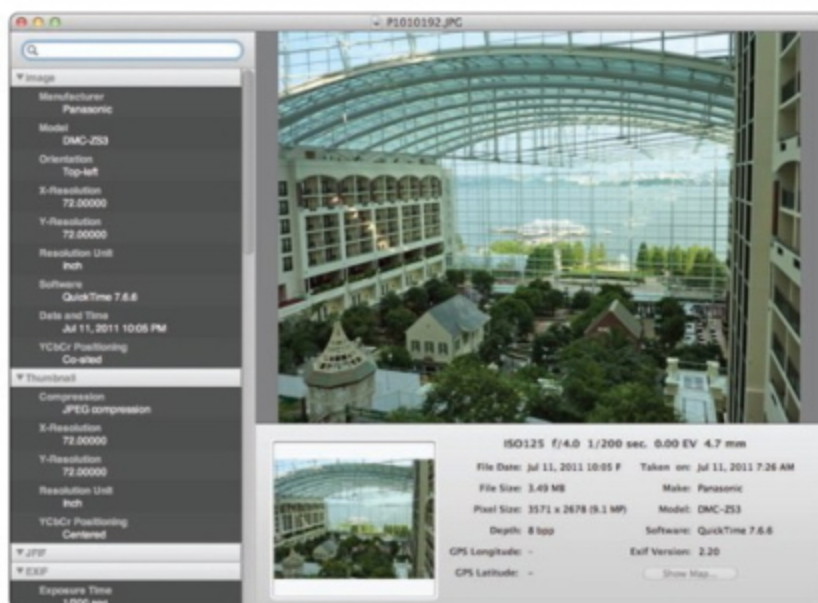
iEXIFER METADATA READER

See what your photos have to say

We hate to be the ones to tell you this, but not everything about your Vegas vacation stayed in Vegas. iPhoto's Info button can show your pictures' resolutions, shutter speeds, and so on—but it can also reveal more private stuff, like the location of your hotel room and the time an image was captured. That's metadata, and there's plenty to explore inside every photo on your Mac. To see it all, you'll need a metadata reader like iExifer. Apple's Preview can do the job for free, but iExifer's interface tweaks make it worth a look when looking into your pics.

iExifer reads EXIF and IPTC metadata, two popular formats used by cameras and some image-editing apps like Photoshop.

There's also limited support for maker data—proprietary camera info that varies by manufacturer—for cameras from Nikon, Canon,



iExifer's roomy previews show off pics and their metadata, but they also eat up screen real estate.

Olympus, and Fujifilm. iExifer's Image Browser is like a Finder window that displays only supported image files on your Mac (RAW Canon CR2, Nikon NRW and NEF, Pentax PEF, and JPEG and TIFF formats), complete with resizable thumbnails beside their metadata. You can also launch files in their own windows, though too many of these will quickly fill up small screens (a Preview-style window letting you view multiple full-size images at once would be welcome). Whichever view you choose, shots with location data can be viewed on a map, just like iPhoto. But iExifer offers no direct integration with your iPhoto library, so you'll have to export those pictures to the Finder or drag them directly to iExifer's Dock icon to see their information.

Metadata is organized by collapsible categories that let you see at a glance what's in your shots. If you know what you're looking for, you can also search metadata to drill down to specific images. Better still, unlike Preview, iExifer lets you copy metadata to other apps. But there's the rub—most of that data can already be found in Apple's catch-all image app, Preview. Still, iExifer displays a handful of minor data types Preview doesn't, and its layout is much easier to read.

The bottom line. If you're looking for more metadata than iPhoto offers but don't want to click through Preview's cramped Inspector window to get it, iExifer fits the bill nicely, especially for a mere two bucks. —Adam Berenstein

iEXIFER

CocoaWithChurros
cocoawithchurros.com

Price: \$1.99

Available in the Mac App Store

Requirements: Mac OS 10.6 or later

Searchable, easy-to-read metadata can be copied to other apps. Large preview of images with thumbnails.

Reproduces many features in the free Preview app. Can't view multiple images in a single window.

SOLID ■■■■■

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DOMKE F-3X SUPER COMPACT BAG

A shooter's new best friend

Your DSLR shoots luscious pictures...so why do you dread taking it with you? Blame your camera bag. Chances are, it's bulky, boxy, and not all that comfortable to carry. That explains why the Domke F-3X won me over so completely when I recently used it to schlep my gear while shooting in the misty hills of Iceland and the rainy streets of Sweden. The bag's waterproof coating quickly emerged as a priceless feature, but over time, what I dug most is how comfortable it is to wear for prolonged periods, even when loaded to the gills. Its stylish, super-cool looks also just smoke the boxy chunkiness of most other DSLR bags out there.

Domke's F-3X Super Compact Bag has nine compartments and pockets for storing your equipment, and there's even an upside-down zipper pouch on the inside flap that's perfect for a tiny pair of headphones.

I took the bag out on daily photo adventures and marveled at how much stuff fit in such a compact bag.

Inside, I kept a Canon Rebel XTi fitted with a 50mm lens, plus an extra 28-135mm lens and a Diana Mini with its attachable flash unit and a few rolls of film. The main compartment features a padded partition that can be maneuvered to fit whatever gear you're carrying—or removed completely to make one big giant compartment. I even used the bag to carry a picnic lunch one day.

In the outside pockets, I stored a 16-ounce water bottle, an iPod touch plus an external battery pack, and a phone. At the front of the bag, there's also a slot where I kept a small accessory pouch, a notebook, and a pen. Even loaded with all that gear, my back and my shoulders never

ached because the thick, non-slip strap is comfortable for long photo treks. But keep in mind that the leanly constructed F-3X is built more for transport than protection, so proceed with caution when you load up the Domke bag with your lenses.

The bottom line. Heavy-duty shooters

might want to look for something with a little more protection for their glass, and Domke makes other bags that have better padding for your equipment if you're the sort who accidentally drops your gear bag. But for many photographers, the roomy, highly functional, and stylish F-3X is a delight.

—Florence Ion



DOMKE F-3X SUPER COMPACT CAMERA BAG

Tiffen

tiffen.com

Price: \$174.99

Requirements: A camera to put inside. Maybe two or three.

+ Fits up to two small DSLRs plus two lenses. Water resistant. Removable padded partition wall. Comfortable shoulder strap. It's not ugly.

- Not enough padding on the bottom and around the walls of the bag.

EXCELLENT 

PHOTOGRAPHY BY PATRICK KAWAHARA



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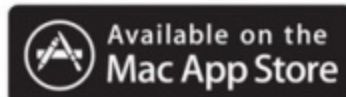
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*Although our yellow icon could easily be mistaken for cheese, Home Inventory is not a pizza. In fact, Home Inventory is not food of any kind and should never be ingested. This is probably impossible since Home Inventory is software for your Mac that is made up of a bunch of virtual bits. However if you could eat it, we bet it would be pretty tasty.

A case for everything, and everything in this case

the straps, where the combination of the elastic and the rubber keeps 'em from moving around. And even if you add bulky things like the charging brick, iPad dock, or even a small paperback book, the cover stretches right over them. It's pretty neat. Pun intended.

The Grid-It Wrap is a definite winner for traveling with your iPad, but it's not perfect. The neoprene kept off-gassing a funky chemical smell, and for such a stylish design, it's a shame it only comes in one color—Cocoon calls it black, but ours is darkish gray with black trim. And at more than a pound, it's certainly not the lightest iPad case out there, but it's really functional, and it even works with your Smart Cover in place.

The bottom line. For \$30, the Grid-It Wrap is a great deal, whether you're protecting your gadgets from the ickiness of life on the road or just trying not to lose anything in your daily travels.—*Susie Ochs*

Cocoon
cocooninnovations.com
Price: \$29.99
Requirements: iPad or similarly sized tablet, various accessories

+ Reasonable price. Good design. Stretchy cover, soft lining, versatile elastic grid. Holds a lot of stuff in a compact design.

➤ Weird smell took forever to go away. Only available in one color at press time.

GREAT 

The Wrap's stretchy neoprene cover closes with Velcro, and its lining is soft. Your iPad, Kindle, or other tablet slides into its own pocket in the back, behind Cocoon's Grid-It panel. The Grid-It is entirely covered with overlapping elastic straps with little rubber bumps woven into them. **Slide your accessories underneath**



SCOSCHE MYTREK WIRELESS PULSE MONITOR

iDevice control at your fingertips

Running isn't fun. Buying accessories to help you pretend you'll start running is fun, though. Who needs fitness when you've got a box filled with cobwebs and dangly sport-cessories? But the Scosche MyTrek might never end up collecting those cobwebs because it's the kind of accessory you'll actually want to use.

In the box, there's a very small pulse monitor, a USB charger, and directions to download your free iPhone app. Standard fare maybe, but what makes the pulse monitor special is its position on your body. Most heart rate monitors sit awkwardly on your chest, but MyTrek straps to your forearm and uses dual LEDs to display your pulse in real time. It's either high-tech or voodoo magic, but it's not much heavier than a sweatband and

even looks roughly like one.

Three large, rubberized buttons control volume and play or pause your music. Unfortunately, there's no way to change songs from the armband, and we're spoiled enough to constantly notice that it doesn't have a retina display. Luckily, we weren't looking at it much as the audio prompts told us which fitness zone we were in without necessitating any fidgeting with our iOS device.

The bottom line. If you're serious about fitness, a heart-rate monitor is invaluable. At \$130, the MyTrek is an expensive toy to neglect, but it's so lightweight and so convenient to slip on your forearm that there's a good chance it'll remain a part of your everyday workout.

—Nic Vargus



The MyTrek is surprisingly small and lightweight.

SCOSCHE MYTREK

Scosche

scoschemytrek.com

Price: \$129.99

Requirements: iPhone 3GS, iPhone 4, or iPod touch (third- or fourth-gen); MyTrek app (free)

+ On-arm monitor is more comfortable. Easy-to-use controls on the headphone cable. Well-made iOS app.

- A bit pricier than its competition. Can't navigate tracks with MyTrek buttons.

GREAT

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BURN ZOMBIE BURN

Prepare for the zombiepocalypse!

It's hard to say what you'd do in the event of a zombie apocalypse, though most people agree that they'd arm themselves to the teeth—and perhaps set the undead hordes on fire. As you do in *Burn Zombie Burn*, a third-person strategic shooter in which you fight wave after wave of assorted zombies. Initially you have a revolver and a torch, then upgrade to assorted Uzis, shotguns, clubs, explosives, flamethrowers, chainsaws, lawnmowers, mind control rays, and Gatling guns.

While Bruce's torch may be a poor weapon to fall back to, remember that the undead are afraid of fire. Even if completely surrounded, you can charge through a crowd of zombies to help clear a path. This is where things get interesting. While lighting your undead opponents on fire might wipe out a good chunk of your opposition in other games, the end result here

is a horde of flaming zombies that keeps chasing you—plus, now they move faster. **But disposing of flaming zombies earns you better item drops and additional bonus points, a neat risk-versus-reward tradeoff.**

With four game modes (Free Play, Timed, Defend Daisy, and Survival), achievements, and unlocks, *Burn Zombie Burn* pushes you to keep playing, and we love its absurd, tongue-in-cheek sense of humor. But we still have complaints: multiplayer functionality has yet to be

incorporated as of version 1.2.0, and remapping the keys is trickier than it should be.

The bottom line. These shortcomings aside, *Burn Zombie Burn* remains a killer value for \$6.99—it's deeply fun and the kind of game that becomes a perfect way to waste an ever-increasing amount of time laying waste to the undead hordes.

—Chris Barylick



My, what a big gun you have.

BURN ZOMBIE BURN

Doublesix Digital Publishing

burnzombieburn.com

Price: \$6.99

Available in the Mac App Store

Age Rating: Mature (ESRB);

12+ (Mac App Store)

Requirements: Intel processor,
Mac OS 10.6.6 or later

Good graphics and sound, cool weapons, wide variety of enemies, tons of unlocks, and nifty risk-versus-reward basis make for a completely fun game.

Current lack of multiplayer support (version 1.2.0). Key settings prove difficult to remap and will need to be looked up in order to learn.

GREAT



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mce2011 VER.18

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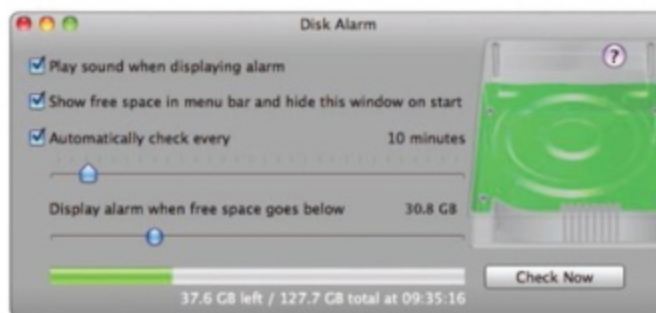
DISK ALARM

Save space before it's too late

What once seemed like a gargantuan hard drive three years ago probably doesn't seem quite as big anymore. As media collections grow and our iPhoto libraries bulge with higher-resolution images—and now, HD video—the time will come when your hard drive begins to creak under the weight of its contents. Aside from being a storage problem, a chock-full hard disk can also slow down your system. While OS X will alert you when available space reaches critically low levels, Disk Alarm can help you keep a closer eye on your storage scenario.

Unlike Apple's warning, which pings you when you are within megabytes of your drive's capacity, you can set Disk Alarm to warn you long before things get serious. Disk Alarm's simple interface lets you set it and forget it, using a slider to configure the size or percentage of drive space you want to use as a buffer. With the option to launch and then hide Disk Alarm at startup, you never need to know it's running aside from a small menu bar icon that can also be set to show the amount of free space available.

The basic one-window interface shows your main drive's stats and also allows you to set how frequently Disk Alarm monitors your drive. Unfortunately, it only



Visible and audible warnings let you know when space is scarce.

checks your main drive, ignoring secondary or external disks, but the developer assures us that support for multiple drives is on its way. Once Disk Alarm is doing its thing, you can add new files with wild abandon, knowing that the application will send up warning flags when your available capacity dwindles.

The bottom line. For video editors or MacBook Air owners, Disk Alarm can serve as a handy early warning system...although you could save yourself a few bucks and keep an eye instead on the capacity gauge at the bottom of every Finder window.

—Ben Harvell

DISK ALARM

Manuel Carrasco Molina
pomcast.biz

Price: \$3.99

Available in the Mac App Store

Requirements: Intel Mac; Mac OS 10.6 or later

+ Useful for laptop and old-Mac users. Customizable interface.

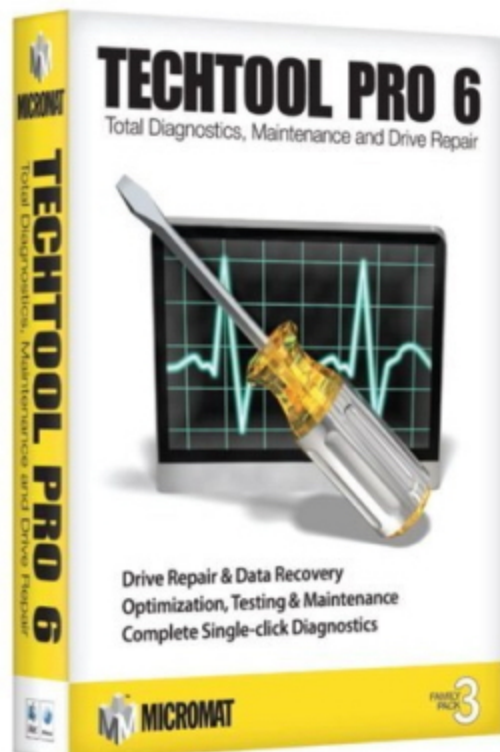
- Only scans startup drive. Not necessary for careful users.

GOOD [4 stars]

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SLEEPTRACKER ELITE WATCH

Wake up refreshed...for a change!



I am not a morning person. The daily transition from horizontal to vertical is usually accomplished by sheer force of will, and I have grown to despise the obnoxious electronic beep my alarm clock emits when it's time to wake up. Well, at least that's how I used to feel. Since I've been using the Sleeptracker Elite, waking up has been significantly easier—and I feel better overall. Not bad for something as simple as a digital watch.

Though it may look like a relic from 1983, the Sleeptracker is a bit of a modern marvel. It works on the premise that as you sleep, there are certain points in your sleep cycle that are easier to wake from than others. A traditional alarm jolts you to consciousness at the same time every day—well, like clockwork. But Sleeptracker allows you to set an alarm “window” and tries to wake you at an optimal time. An onboard accelerometer tracks your movements through the night, and the alarm goes off in the morning when you're tossing and turning, which is, unsurprisingly, when you're in the least-deep phase of sleep.

In several weeks of testing, the Sleeptracker was a rousing success when it came to waking me up. Using the included software, I could track my periods of deep sleep and record factors that may have contributed to particularly successful (or unsuccessful) slumbers. Analyzing the data over time helped identify conditions for optimal rest. But ultimately, the data isn't all that illuminative because the software doesn't offer tools to slice and dice data in useful ways—and

it didn't yet run under Lion when we tested it.

To download data, you'll have to connect the watch to your Mac via a non-standard cable.

Disappointingly, the Sleeptracker only stores one night's data, so you'll have to hook it up every day. At

179 bucks, we'd expect Sleeptracker to offer more memory—

not to mention other digital conveniences. It lacks tons of features that other digital watches offer for less than a tenth of the price. There's only one alarm, and no stopwatch or timer functions. The crystal scratches easily, and the alarm snooze only works if you've been woken up early in your designated window. If it goes off at the set time, snoozing the alarm will turn it off, but it won't sound again—which can have a catastrophic effect on your ability to get anywhere on time.

The bottom line. Sleeptracker can definitely help you wake up feeling more rested than a standard alarm clock, but the device is hampered by limited features and aesthetics straight from a time machine.—Ray Aquilera

SLEEPTRACKER ELITE

Sleeptracker
sleeptracker.com

Price: \$179

Requirements: Mac OS 10.6,
USB port

✦ Wakes you up when you're more likely to feel refreshed. Vibrating or beeping alarm. Syncs to your Mac for stats analysis.

✖ Looks ugly and cheap. Limited memory forces you to sync every day, or lose data. Crystal scratches easily. Quirky snooze feature makes it easy to oversleep. No second alarm, stopwatch, or other common digital watch features. Software incompatible with Mac OS 10.7 at press time.

SOLID ■■■■■

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MCTIVIA WIRELESS MAC-TO-TV CONNECTION

The dream stream?

No, it's not a yogurt that makes your Mac, um, run more smoothly. But McTiVia could dramatically improve how much you enjoy your Mac by wirelessly beaming your Mac's display to your TV. There's a catch or two, but just take a moment to think about how awesome it'd be to slap your OS X Desktop on your big screen and watch videos, surf, or even check email while your Mac hums away efficiently in another room.

Impressively, McTiVia can pull that off for up to eight Macs or PCs at a time. You connect this router-like black box to your TV via HDMI, then install its lean display-mirroring software back on your computer. The manual emphatically warns that connecting the McTiVia to your computer via an Ethernet cable will provide the best performance, and while that makes perfect sense, it causes a momentary logical disconnect. After all, if you can run Ethernet from your Mac to a McTiVia that's wired to your TV, why wouldn't you instead run video cables directly to the TV and save about \$200?

Fortunately, the McTiVia runs smoothly over Wi-Fi—if you set it up properly. At first,

we used AirPort to connect directly to the McTiVia, and the extreme lag and stuttering made the Mac unusable even when simply moving around the cursor. Next, we used the McTiVia's AP-Client Mode to connect it to an 802.11n Wi-Fi router that was wired to our Mac via Ethernet, and suddenly, the problems vanished. And we have to say, using our TV as a

58-inch monitor is cool enough to be worth the effort. Add in a wireless keyboard and mouse, and you can comfortably control your Mac from the couch.

A few other caveats apply. The McTiVia only supports HDMI 1.2 output, and the primary downside of that is no Dolby or DTS surround sound. Also, when you activate the McTiVia's app, which mirrors your display on your TV, the picture back on your regular monitor gets pretty funky. That'll restore just fine when you stop streaming to McTiVia, though your applications' windows will be resized and messily rearranged. Lastly, you'll need to use the McTiVia's Projection Quality, PC Screen Resolution, and TV Offset Compensation options to make OS X look right on your TV, but those are quick chores.

The bottom line. Physical cables still work better and cost way less than the McTiVia's \$200 price tag. But if your Mac and TV can't be connected that way—and if you have a wireless-N router—the McTiVia's a wonderful way to put OS X on your big screen.—Paul Curthoys

MCTIVIA

Awind

awindinc.com

Price: \$199.99

Requirements: 2.0GHz dual core Intel CPU or better; Mac OS 10.5 or later; Nvidia or ATI graphics card with 64MB VRAM or better; for wireless, 802.11n router

➤ Wirelessly connects up to eight computers to your TV!

❌ Connection via AirPort isn't usable. Somewhat expensive, yet doesn't include HDMI cable. A bit fiddly to set up and use.

GOOD ■■■■■

McTiVia looks like a router, but it has much cooler tricks up its sleeve.



SENNHEISER CX880i HEADSET

Small earbuds with surprising punch

After months of impatience and even a few pangs of longing, music fans in the U.S. can finally use Spotify, the European music-streaming phenom that promises access to any song, any time, anywhere (see review, p68). But of course even the latest and greatest in online streaming isn't terribly impressive when you're listening through the equivalent of a tin can and some string, so we were pleased when Sennheiser's CX880i iPhone headset arrived just in time for us to pull some double duty testing them both.

First off, the CX880i isn't just a pair of earbuds—it's a headset. That means there's an inline three-button remote for playing music and a mic for picking up phone calls on your iPhone. The remote functions as it should, and we had no trouble navigating tracks, changing the volume, or using the iPhone's built-in Voice Control with the CX880i.

As plain Jane as that sounds, the CX880i can be surprising. Tipping the scales at a mere .38 ounces, the headset both looks and feels light. **But fortunately, "lightweight" isn't a word we'd use to describe the sound.** Bass is tight and deep, easily standing up to even the throbbing ultra-low Roland 808 bass from '80s hip-hop gems like the song "Boyz-n-the-Hood." The



It doesn't take gigantic headphones to pump good bass.

overall sound quality is great—our only real gripe is that, even after a significant break-in period, the higher frequencies still feel a bit overpowering when you crank the volume up.

The bottom line. Don't let these little guys fool you. The sound is big and bold—and just like Mom told you—best at moderate volume.—Ray Aguilera

CX880i

Sennheiser
sennheiserusa.com

Price: \$179.95

Requirements: iPhone or other device with 1/8-inch audio jack

Excellent bass. Light and comfortable to wear. In-line mic and remote.

Treble frequencies are overpowering at higher volume. Thin wires easily transmit friction noise.

GREAT

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SPOTIFY MUSIC STREAMING SERVICE

Was it worth the wait?

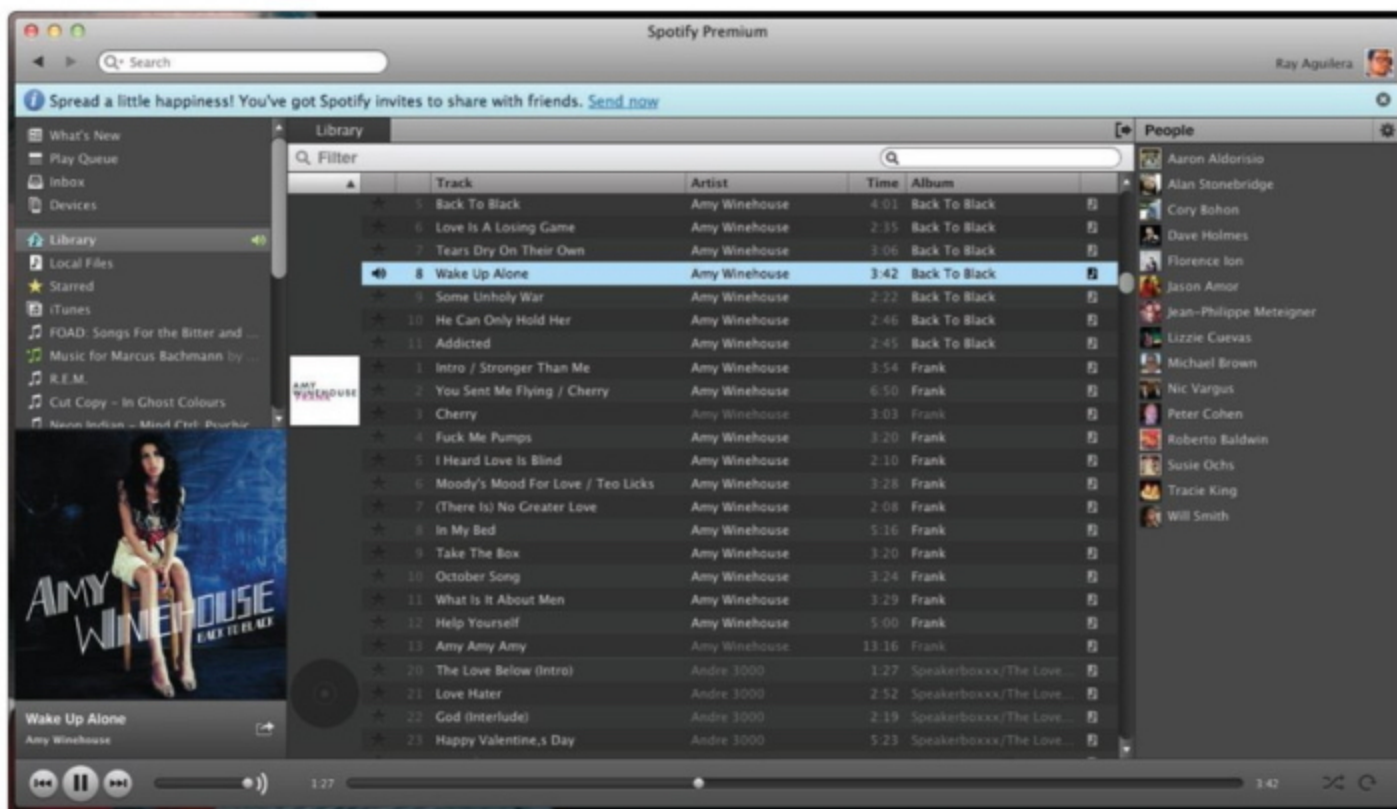
Being jealous of Europeans is not something we Americans typically excel at. Maybe that's why Spotify became something of a *nerd cause célèbre*—watching longingly as friends in Europe shared favorite tracks and playlists on Facebook and Twitter led to too much fantasizing about all of the awesome musical riches that we'd share once American record labels finally

end-all, be-all celestial jukebox we've been promised for years. At least not yet.

But Spotify still has its high notes. Free accounts offer unlimited streaming (with occasional ads) for six months, then once you're hooked, you'll be limited to 10 hours per month. Premium accounts (\$4.99/month) remove the time restrictions and ads, while the Unlimited plan

(\$9.99/month) adds the ability to sync tunes to a Mac or iOS device for offline listening. The sound quality is great (up to 320kbps with Premium accounts), and thanks to peer-to-peer streaming, tunes usually start up lightning-fast. We also love the one-click sharing of tracks, albums, and playlists to social networks. You can even create collaborative playlists so that your friends can help concoct the perfect set for your next road trip.

Which brings us



You'll get lots of practice with Lion's reverse scrolling in Spotify's gigantic lists of tracks.

stopped doing their head-in-the-sand routine. And at last, Spotify has landed on U.S. shores...but while we were waiting, another impressive option popped up, leaving us to wonder if Spotify was worth the wait.

Spotify's black-and-grey interface looks like iTunes: Darth Vader Edition. Sources and playlists are over on the left, and the main middle section is where you'll find a list of tracks. The far-right pane presents your People list. Once you've signed in with Facebook credentials, you'll see friends who also have Spotify accounts. You can add Spotify friends manually, but it's unintuitive. To find another Spotify user, you type `spotify:user:username` in the Search field. Got that? Yeah, neither do we.

Spotify also claims a gargantuan library of 15 million songs—but it's something of a red herring. Searches for even the most minor pop hits usually also return multiple karaoke versions or terrible "re-recorded" versions made for those cheap compilation CDs sold in gas stations. That said, we did find most of the music we were looking for in Spotify's catalog, whether it was '80s pop, jazz standards, or modern electronica. But missing albums, tracks, and artists were common enough that we can confidently say that Spotify is certainly not the

to Spotify's big problem. The service lends itself well to sharing, but as a browsable collection, it's disappointing. Playlists are great, but they're also the only real way to organize tracks. There's no simple way to browse beyond scrolling through lists—and even with folders, your sidebar quickly overflows with lists for each of your favorite albums. Imagine iTunes if there was no browser to quickly select a specific artist or album. Ouch, right?

Also, New Releases only offers a handful of options that aren't really that new, and there's no central list of what's popular among all your friends at once, though you can click on any friend to see their top songs and artists. Undoubtedly, some of these kinks will get worked out as the service matures, but there was so much hype around Spotify that we can't help but be surprised that more recent upstarts like Rdio (3.5 stars, May/11, p76) are nailing the music-discovery angle so much better.

The bottom line. As long as you already know what you want to hear, Spotify is great. Easy sharing and free accounts will probably make it the Facebook of music services, but if you're looking for recommendations based on your social connections or browsable lists of new and popular releases, try Rdio.—Ray Aguilera

SPOTIFY

Spotify
spotify.com
Price: Free; \$4.99, Unlimited; \$9.99, Premium
Requirements: G4 processor or faster, Mac OS 10.4 or later, broadband internet connection

➤ Easy sharing. Three pricing tiers. Quick playback. Also plays tracks from your existing iTunes library.

➤ Difficult to browse by artist. Few tools for discovering new music. Library is stuffed with karaoke tracks and cheesy "re-recorded" cover versions.

SOLID ■■■■

FANTASTICAL CALENDAR UTILITY

Teach iCal to speak English

You don't have to be Don Draper to get a great-looking assistant to hang on your every word. You can turn to Fantastical, which syncs with iCal, Outlook, Entourage, and—through iCal—BusyCal to make it easy to view and create appointments from anywhere on your Mac.

Fantastical displays a calendar above a scrollable, searchable list of your events. Mousing over or clicking shows more information—when events occur, whether they're all day or timed, which calendars they're associated with, and more—all with subtle animations that look great without distracting from your data. The flexible event list lets you view a range of upcoming appointments or upcoming days. While events can't yet be revised or deleted in Fantastical 1.0.2 (the dev promises those features in a free update), double-clicking opens your default calendar app for editing.

But there's more than just easy access to your calendars. **Fantastical lets you quickly add detailed events to your schedule by typing naturally in plain English.** Entering "Coffee with Steve at Starbucks Monday noon" creates a date for the following Monday, instantly filling in the time and location fields. Since Fantastical recognizes Address Book contacts as you type, you can invite guests by clicking their names. You

can also specify exact dates and times, or ranges—even assign events to a particular calendar. Optional alarms for each event you enter mean you'll never miss a

rendezvous—something Don Draper himself would no doubt appreciate.

The bottom line.

Sleeker than iCal and vastly more capable than its Dashboard widget, Fantastical is a great way to keep your schedule at hand while you work.

—Adam Berenstein



Lots of info in a pretty, useful package.

FANTASTICAL

Flexibits

flexibits.com

Price: \$19.99

Available in the Mac App Store

Requirements: Mac OS 10.6 or later

Let's you create appointments just by typing. Many ways to display your schedule. Beautiful, lively interface.

Can't edit or delete events in Fantastical version 1.0.2.

EXCELLENT



OPTIONAL ALUMINUM BASE SHOWN



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- Our tablet mount is built around the most technologically advanced vacuum mount on the planet. These mounts are surprisingly powerful and have a history of use in critical applications like holding dive tanks secure on boats, attaching bike racks to cars, and even assisting our military in the desert in ways we can't even tell you about.
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- Unique multi-dimensional mounting platform allows for unparalleled location flexibility!

AppleMount.com

NO brackets or clips.

Mounts in seconds & removes in one!



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PATENT PENDING

Let Your iPad Run Naked!

>>> Ask

TECH SUPPORT & TECHSPLANATIONS

>>> MOVING MY DOCUMENTS FOLDER

I upgraded my MacBook Pro with a solid-state drive for speed, but it's too small to hold all of my files. I know how to move music and photo folders to an external drive, but how do I move my Documents folder? I created a Documents folder on an external drive, but no matter what, the system defaults back to using my Documents folder residing in my home directory on the startup drive. Is there anything I can do to fix this?

You can very easily move your Documents folder to an external drive and then create what is known as a "symbolic link" to the external drive's Documents folder in your home folder. The symbolic link is a feature of Unix, which is what Mac OS X is based upon. A symbolic link creates a hard link to another file location, which will allow you to move your Documents folder without changing how OS X works. The easiest way to create a symbolic link is with an application called SymbolicLinker (bit.ly/ml_symbolic).

After installing SymbolicLinker, copy your current Documents folder to your external drive. In the Finder, right-click on the folder on the external drive and select Services > Make Symbolic Link. A symbolic link will appear, called "Documents symlink." Next, rename the old Documents folder on your Mac, and then drag your new symbolic link into your home folder, renaming it "Documents." From then on, OS X will save everything to your external Documents folder. Once you're comfortable that everything is working as it should, you can delete the old renamed Documents folder on your Mac to conserve space.

Be careful, though. If you use this setup on a portable Mac, you probably won't have the external drive connected all the time. If you try to access your Documents folder without the external drive attached, you'll get an error message. And keep in mind that many applications are set to write to the Documents folder by default, so you could wind up encountering errors inadvertently, which could cause bigger problems.

If you can't manage to work with the space you have, explore online document-storage options. We would recommend using a service like Google Docs, Amazon's Cloud Storage, or the

Documents in the Cloud feature of upcoming iCloud to store your data. Alternatively, a network attached storage (NAS) drive with web-based interfaces will allow you to access files from a drive on your home network from anywhere you can get a Wi-Fi signal.—Cory Bohon

Reveal Selected Item in Raskin
New Email With Attachment
Folder Actions Setup...
Send File via DropCopy
OmniFocus: Send to Inbox
Share using Pogoplug link
Share using Pogoplug
Deliver to Youtube
Deliver to Flickr
Deliver to Ember
Open Repository URL
Make Symbolic Link
Upload File
Include When Mirroring
Ignore When Mirroring

SymbolicLinker adds a Make Symbolic Link option.

Using FileVault and Time Machine

I've never enabled FileVault because I've heard that it made backing up with Time Machine difficult. Is there a way to make FileVault and Time Machine play nice with each other?

It's true that FileVault and Time Machine have historically not played well together, but with OS X Lion, Apple has thankfully fixed these issues. Time Machine now has the ability to back up your Mac even if a FileVault user is logged in. This works because FileVault 2 encrypts the entire disk, instead of encrypting data on a per user basis. In addition, you can also browse your Time Machine backups in the Time Machine interface, something that wasn't possible when using FileVault with older versions of Mac OS X. Previously, you had to browse your backups manually in the Finder.—Cory Bohon



Lock down your Mac with FileVault—and still use the automatic backup of Time Machine.

iPhone on the Cheap

Are there any websites that sell the iPhone 4 at a discounted price?

Even though you may not know it, that \$199 iPhone you can buy from apple.com already is discounted. In the United States, most cell phones are sold at a subsidized price. Though they won't discuss specifics, both AT&T and Verizon pay Apple quite a bit more than your \$199 when you buy a new iPhone—but they know they'll make the money back by locking you into a two-year contract. Phone subsidies explain why contract-free iPhones sell for several hundred dollars more from Apple—and why you can't purchase a new phone every year for the "discounted" price from your carrier.

As for discounts beyond the subsidy, those are hard to come by. Every now and then, mass market retailers like Walmart or Best Buy might shave a few dollars off the cost of new iPhone hardware, but those discounts are hardly worth waiting around for, and they still require a contract. If you break your phone in the middle of your contract, a used model from eBay can save you money from the unsubsidized price of a new phone that you'd otherwise pay.

The one way to really save money on an iPhone is to buy a last-gen model. At press time, Apple was selling the 8GB iPhone 3GS for a mere \$49, and by the time you read this, the next-gen iPhone model will probably be bringing down the price of an iPhone 4 considerably.—Ray Aquilera



Your best deal on an iPhone is usually last year's model.

S.E.M. audio laboratories

Since 1988, S.E.M. Audio Laboratories has always focused on the fundamentals of clean design and purist audio.

We create every product layer by layer, starting with acoustic performance at its soul, built upon precision engineering & wrapped in an artistic designer exterior.

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INSIDE THE BOX...

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to bring you a true to life sonic experience.

WWW.SEMAUDIOLABS.COM



iPhone Docking System with Built-in Subwoofer



iPad + iPhone Docking System with Built-in Subwoofer

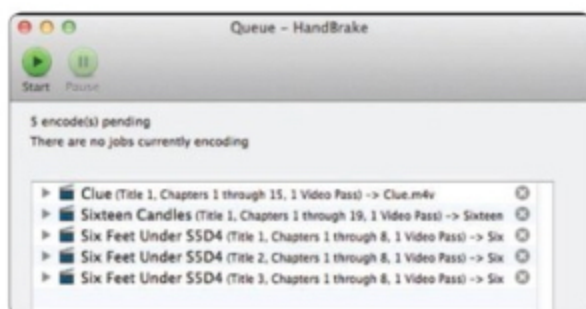
Encoding Video with HandBrake

I use HandBrake to create a manageable library of movies, but when there's nothing on television, I'd like to watch some of the movies that I have on my hard drive through VLC while HandBrake is busy ripping. Can I actually do that?

You can, although if you're forced to convert movies while watching other movies, we wonder a few things. For one, just how many movies are you converting? And two, do you ever sleep?

If you have a Mac with decent horsepower, running VLC and HandBrake at the same time is possible, although your conversions in HandBrake will take longer when it's running alongside a video that's playing back in VLC. You also might run into occasional stutters in playback. You'll essentially be asking your Mac to read and write to the hard drive for two separate processes at the same time. It'll work, but you'll get better performance all around if you stick to one disk-intensive task at a time.

Instead, what you can do is use Riplt (thelittleappfactory.com) or another DVD ripper to create Video_TS folders from your DVDs, and then use HandBrake's Queue feature to line up a bunch of video conversions. That way, you can watch whatever you want, and fire up HandBrake's queue to convert videos overnight or some other time when you won't be watching movies on your machine. Your conversions will go faster, and you'll avoid having to listen to your DVD drive spinning while you're watching your favorite flicks. —*Ray Aquilera*

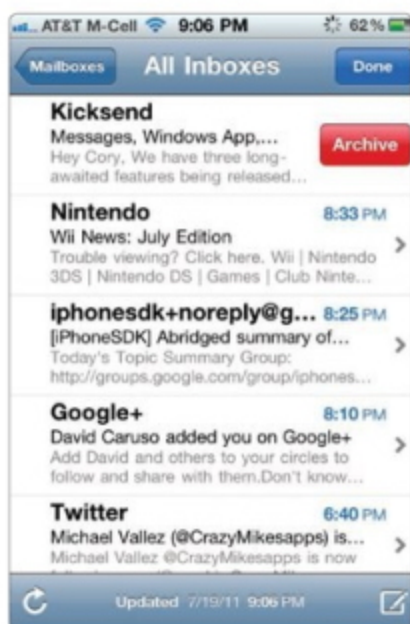


Use the queue to line up batches of video conversions.

Deleting Messages in iOS

How can I trash an email from my Gmail account on my iPhone? Instead of deleting messages, the Mail app in iOS sends everything to Gmail's Archive.

Starting with iOS 4.0, Apple added the ability for you to archive Gmail emails, and by default, switched the swipe right button to Archive instead of the standard Delete button that was previously in Mail. To



reverse that, navigate to Settings > Mail, Contacts, Calendars. Select your Gmail account and flip the switch labeled Archive Messages to the Off position.

Now, whenever you swipe in a list view, you'll get a Delete button, and when viewing individual messages, the Trash icon will banish unneeded email with a single tap.—*Cory Bohon*

Where is my Delete button? Ahh...now, there it is.

Seriously, What's Up with the "i"?

What's the deal with the "i"? Why does Apple call everything i-something (iMac, iCal, iPhone), and when did that start?

To understand where the “i” in Apple’s product names comes from, we need to take a stroll back to 1998. *Mac|Life* was known as *MacAddict*, and Apple had just hired Steve Jobs back as interim CEO. Apple’s future looked pretty bleak at the time, but it had a surprise up its sleeve. The first product released under Steve Jobs’ new reign was a little something called iMac.

This machine completely changed the computer industry. A huge hit, it reversed Apple's fortunes—and it was also the first Apple product to feature the notorious “i” prefix. In those days, the “i” stood for “internet” because the new iMac was built with the internet in mind. It was the first Mac to ditch the not-quite-antiquated-yet floppy drive, and the iMac also brought USB to the Mac for the first time.

Perhaps because of the success of the iMac (the company's first successful product launch in years) or because the "i" just made everything sound cool, Apple ended up sticking with this naming convention. While the "i" in the product name may still stand for "internet," we think Apple may have shifted away from this meaning. These days, the "i" seems to exist to say "Hey, remember the iPod/iPhone/iCloud? We made all that stuff too!"—*Cory Bohon*



Pretty retro, huh? Before the iMac, no one really bothered to think much about what your computer looked like.

Tagging Classical Tunes

iTunes is most definitely not designed for classical recordings. Is there a better way to create more accurate tags for my music collection?

ID3 tags are a standard way to tag digital audio tracks, and Apple does support this standard with iTunes, but unfortunately, Apple does abuse



MusicBrainz Picard gives you full control over editing the tag information and provides a track-lookup service.

the standard a little by writing the track information in an XML file that iTunes reads, instead of updating the ID3 tag information in the actual audio track itself. This makes things more difficult for people who then want to share tracks from their iTunes library.

You can get around this problem by using an application specifically designed for tagging tracks—we like Tagalicious (bit.ly/ml_tagging). This application integrates nicely with iTunes, allowing you to update tag information in iTunes directly from the Tagalicious application using information provided by Gracenote. If you're looking for something that can give you more control when editing track information, take a look at the MusicBrainz Picard (bit.ly/ml_picard) application, which allows you to edit the finer details of your track information or look up the track information using the MusicBrainz service. —Cory Bohon

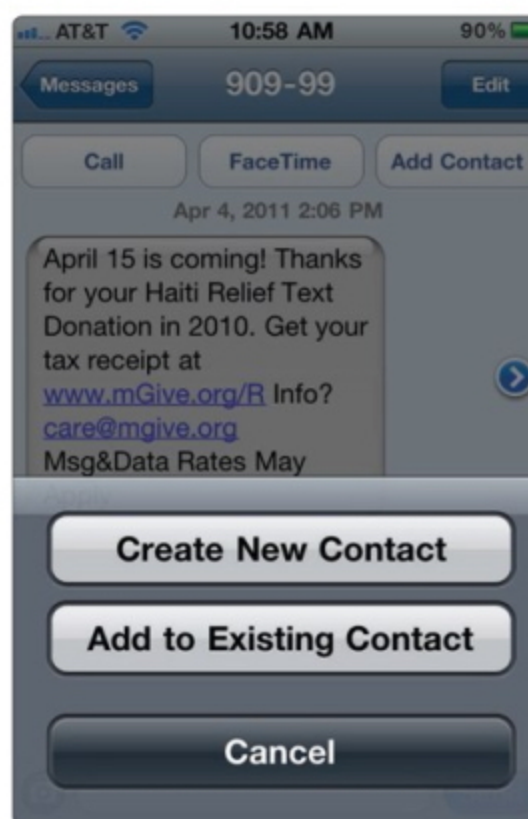
Contacts from Text Messages

Is there a way to add someone who has sent you a text message to your address book?

Yep. It's easy, if not particularly intuitive, to add a new number to Contacts right from the message itself. To do it, first drag the message downward on your iPhone. You'll uncover three buttons at the top of the message screen: Call, FaceTime, and Add Contact. If you've had a lengthy exchange with someone, tap on the menu bar of the Messages app to jump to the beginning of the conversation. Tap Add Contact, and iOS will offer controls to Create New Contact or Add to Existing Contact. Choosing either will send you to the appropriate screen within Contacts, where you can fill in contact details, or attach the telephone number to an existing contact.

Once you've added a contact for a particular number, the Add Contact button will change to Contact >, which you can tap to take you to that person's entry in Contacts. It's a quick way to make a call when you're in the middle of a text conversation.

—Ray Aguilera



Create a new contact or add to an existing one right from Messages.

GOT A TECH QUESTION OR A HELPFUL TIP TO SHARE?

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IGG
Software

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Schedule payments • Create reports • Budget spending

Forecast savings • Review expenses • Track stocks

Analyze investments • Export to TurboTax • Sync to iPhone

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iBiz™ 4

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- manage jobs, clients, receivables

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HOW TO DO ANYTHING ON YOUR MAC, IPHONE & IPAD

Three Tools that Improve and Expand Dropbox

Expand your Dropbox usage by requesting files, printing directly from Dropbox, and even using it with iWork on your iPad



When it comes to the cloud, Dropbox has been making it rain for years. We sync and store everything in that little blue box, but that doesn't mean we're entirely satisfied with it. With a few impressive third-party tools, you can do lots of new things—like linking iWork for your iPad, printing directly from Dropbox, or requesting files from others and stowing them directly in your Dropbox account. **BY CORY BOHON**

>>>WHAT YOU NEED

LEVEL:
easy

- >> DropDAV account (\$5/month; free trial available)
- >> Printopia for Mac (\$19.95; free trial available)
- >> FileStork account (free)

Access your Dropbox account through WebDAV

>> dropdav.com



DropDAV is the only subscription service on the list, but it's also a no-brainer for iPad owners looking to get work done. For \$5 a month, this service enables you to access your Dropbox account through the WebDAV standard that Apple uses in iWork for iPad applications. That means you can upload those documents right to your Dropbox. But that's not all—other applications, like OmniFocus, can also take advantage of this connection method.

1 Sign Up and Link Your Dropbox Account

To begin, sign up for a DropDAV account at DropDAV.com. If you're unsure if the service will be worth the money, there's a 14-day free trial for you to put it through its paces.

Next, you will be taken to Dropbox where your DropDAV and Dropbox accounts will be linked together. Linking lets DropDAV access your files in order to deliver them through the WebDAV service. DropDAV will present you with login details for signing in to your new WebDAV account. The important bits that you will need to copy down for future

reference are server address, user name, and password.



Click Allow to continue linking your accounts.

2 Connect in iWork for iOS

To set up WebDAV in iWork for iOS, first launch one of the iWork apps—we'll launch Pages, but the process is the same for any of the apps. After launching the application, tap on the small plus sign in the upper-left corner. In the pop-up window, select WebDAV.

Pages will present you with a place to fill in your WebDAV login information. Put in the server address, user name, and password that DropDAV gave you when you signed up. Then tap the Sign In button.



After entering your information and signing in to DropDAV, you'll be presented with your files. From here, you'll be able to download and upload files to your Dropbox for storage off your iOS device.

Linking your iWork account to your new WebDAV account is a cinch.

Print from iOS devices directly to your Mac's Dropbox folder

>> ecamm.com/mac/printopia/



Printopia is a Mac app that functions as a small System Preferences pane with some huge benefits. Once installed, Printopia will give you access to non-AirPrint printers directly from your iOS device, and includes a feature to print directly from your Dropbox folder on your Mac.

1 Install Printopia

Printopia can be downloaded from the developer's website (bit.ly/printopia). It costs \$19.95 for the full version, but a free trial is also available. After installing, you will get a new System Preferences pane. If you already have Dropbox set up on your computer, the "Send to Dropbox on Mac" option will automatically be turned on and shared by default. You may configure other settings as needed.

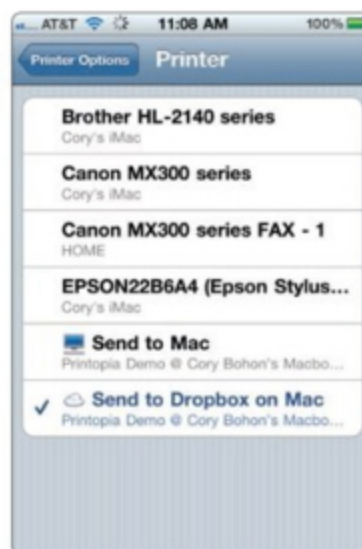


Check the boxes next to the printers or services you wish to activate.

2 Print a File from iOS

On your iOS device, open the Printer dialog in any application. We used Safari on an iPhone, but you can use any iOS device running iOS 4.

After selecting Printer, you will be able to select "Send to Dropbox on Mac." Now, when you print, the file will automatically be added to a Printopia folder in your Dropbox and opened with Preview on the Mac you printed to. Note that because Printopia works just like AirPrint, this will only work when your iOS device is connected to the same network that your Mac is also connected to.



If you set up a password for your Dropbox "printer" in Printopia, you will need to enter that login information before continuing.



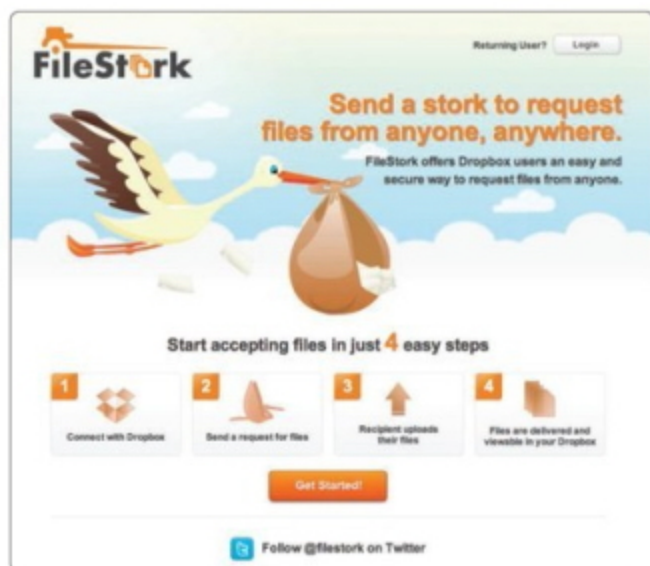
Let others upload files to your Dropbox with FileStork

>> filestork.net

FileStork is a free web service that allows you to bypass shared folders in Dropbox. If your friend doesn't have a Dropbox account or you want multiple people to be able to submit files, you can create an online "file request form" in which the files get fed right into your Dropbox account. An email with the form link can then be sent to one or more email addresses. The recipient will be able to upload the file through a simple web form, bypassing any email size limitations. It all sounds pretty hardcore, but really it's just an easy way to set up a one-time file exchange without sharing a Dropbox folder.

1 Link Your Dropbox Account and Create a Request

After heading to FileStork.net and linking your Dropbox account, you'll be able to create a new request,



either a one-time request or a standalone one. A one-time request will allow the recipient to use the form once to upload a file to your Dropbox account; a standalone request, however, will allow multiple uploads from the same form. Pick your poison, then fill out the form, which lets you optionally set a password for the form. Click the Create Request button at the bottom of the page to have your requests delivered to the recipients.

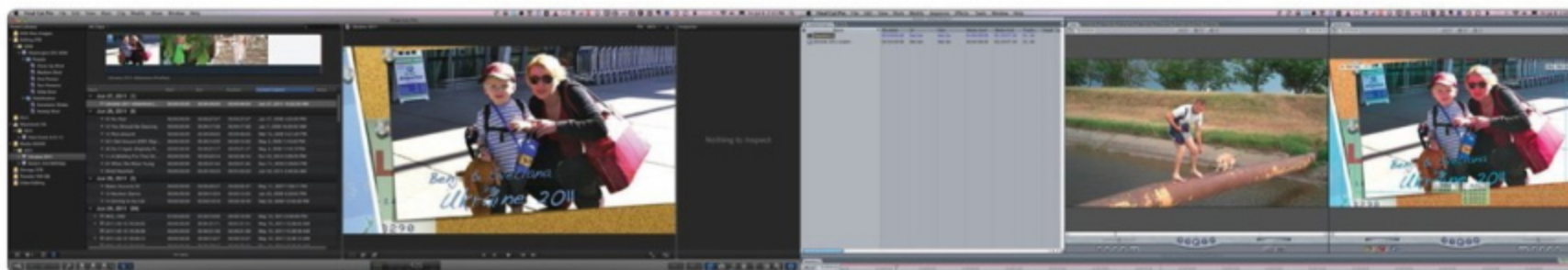
You will log in to FileStork using your Dropbox account.

2 Wait and Receive

Your recipients will receive an email with a link to your FileStork upload webpage. After visiting the site, the recipient will be able to simply select files and send them to you. If you selected to be notified when a new file is uploaded, you'll get an email from FileStork.

Make Final Cut Pro X More Like Final Cut Pro 7

Have you switched to Final Cut Pro X but still miss functions from the last version? Our expert tips will make the new app more like the old one.



Apple unleashed a firestorm of controversy with the release of Final Cut Pro X, as professional video editors were up in arms over missing features and the inability to open legacy project files. As it turns out, some of the so-called “missing features” are simply tucked away in the new interface, which has created confusion for legacy users. That’s why we’re showing you some ways to make the revamped app function a little more like Final Cut Pro 7. **BY J.R. BOOKWALTER**

>>>WHAT YOU NEED

LEVEL:
easy

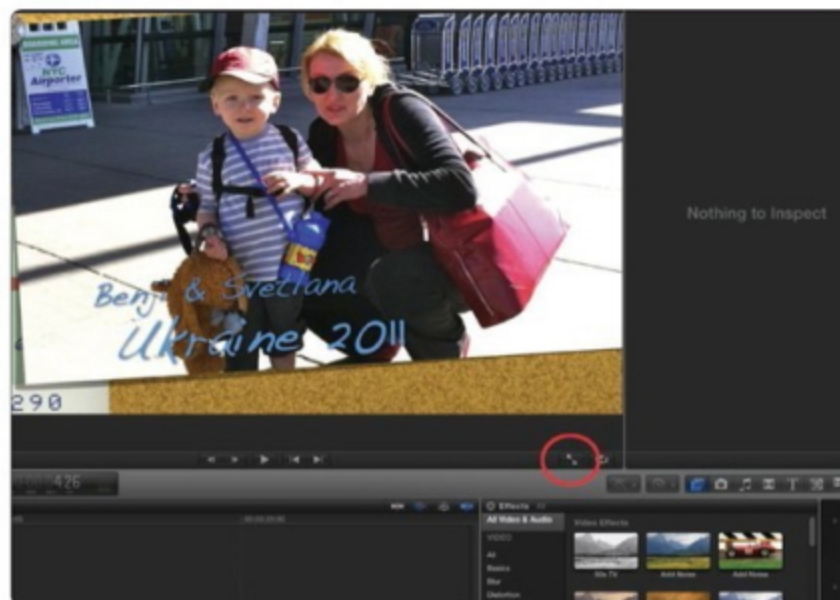
- >> Final Cut Pro X (\$299.99, apple.com/finalcutpro)
- >> Mac with OS 10.6.7 or later, 64-bit processor

1 How to Get a Dual-Monitor Display

Early reports claimed Final Cut Pro X couldn’t display video on a second monitor, which isn’t entirely true. While we wait for third-party hardware manufacturers to provide solutions for getting broadcast video to external monitors, users with two computer displays can at least get a full-screen view of their work right now.

After selecting Window > Show Viewer on Second Display, you’ll notice the entire Viewer window has moved to your extra display, including playback controls. Click the “Play full screen” button in the bottom-right corner, and your current selection will start playing back full screen, just like in Final Cut Pro 7. To get things back to normal, press the Esc key to return to windowed mode, then select Window > Show Viewer in the Main Window.

Single-monitor users can also join in the fun with a full-screen preview of your timeline or clip by clicking the same “Play full screen” button in the Viewer. Now you’ll see a clutter-free view of your work on your display so you can make sure things are working the way you want.



The Clip Appearance popup can be used to determine the appearance of clips in your timeline.

A PICTURE IS WORTH 1000 WORDS

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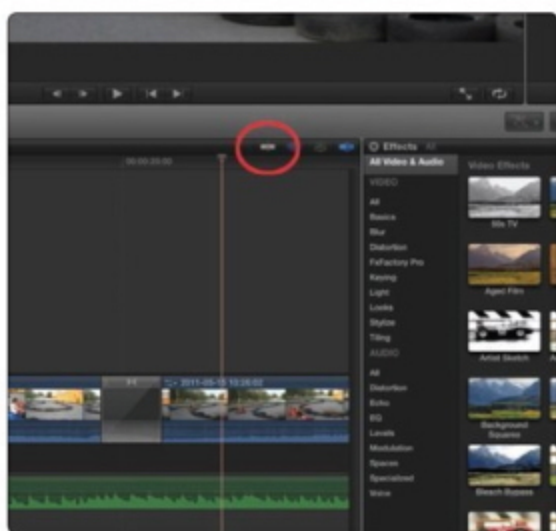


Make Final Cut Pro X More Like Final Cut Pro 7 (continued)

2 Making the Timeline Look and Feel More Familiar

Longtime Final Cut Pro users are rightfully frustrated by Final Cut Pro X's new Skimmer tool, which skims through audio and video on the timeline as you move across it. While you can easily turn audio skimming off to make it a less noisy affair, the better solution is to turn skimming off entirely in the upper-right corner of the timeline window for a more familiar editing experience. Now grab the playhead or use the traditional J, K, L keys to move across your timeline like it's 2010.

If you prefer Final Cut Pro 7's classic sequence look, you can use Clip Appearance at the bottom of the screen to get things looking right again. In addition to turning Clip Connections on or off and adjusting clip height, users can also select from six timeline presets, including audio waveform only, blank clip, or any combination of the two.



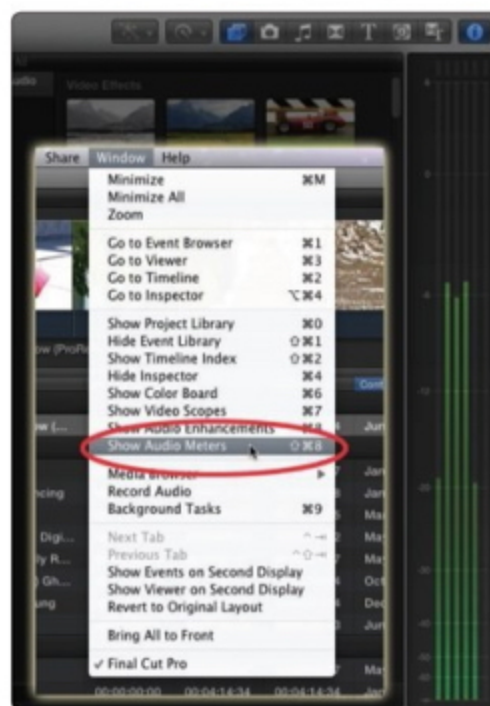
Turning off the Skimmer function returns Final Cut Pro X to Final Cut Pro 7-style navigation with just the playhead.

3 Reclaim the Audio Meters

By default, Final Cut Pro X hides the audio meters to keep the user interface clean. Thankfully, a visit to Window > Show Audio Meters brings them back to their comfortable lower-right corner spot on your display.

While Apple has eliminated audio track assigning in this initial version, you can use the Pan Mode to move a clip around in either stereo or 5.1 surround. Select a clip and visit the Audio tab in the Inspector, then look for Pan Mode under "Volume and Pan." If you have music or ambient effects, Apple has included presets to put them in just the perfect space in your surround mix—or you can

break out the Surround Panner to push audio anywhere you'd like.



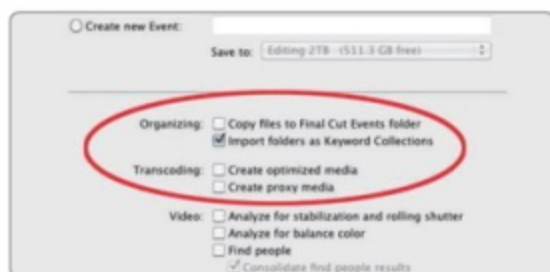
Final Cut Pro X defaults to the audio meters being hidden, but here's how to get them back again.

4 Keep Your Media in Place When Importing

Final Cut Pro X's simplified media management has bewildered many longtime users, but you can retain some control over your media if you know how. When importing existing media on a drive you already use for editing, simply choose File > Import > Files and make sure "Copy files to Final Cut Pro Events folder" is unchecked under Organizing; this will assure your media stays where it is, and Final Cut Pro X will simply link to the location in question. Likewise, "Create optimized media" under Transcoding should also be unchecked so Final Cut Pro X doesn't create new media files when you don't want them.

Older versions of Final Cut Pro used scratch disks to determine where render files wound up; Final Cut Pro X keeps them together with your project file, so make sure to select a large, fast drive when starting a new project, which may not be the internal hard disk on your computer

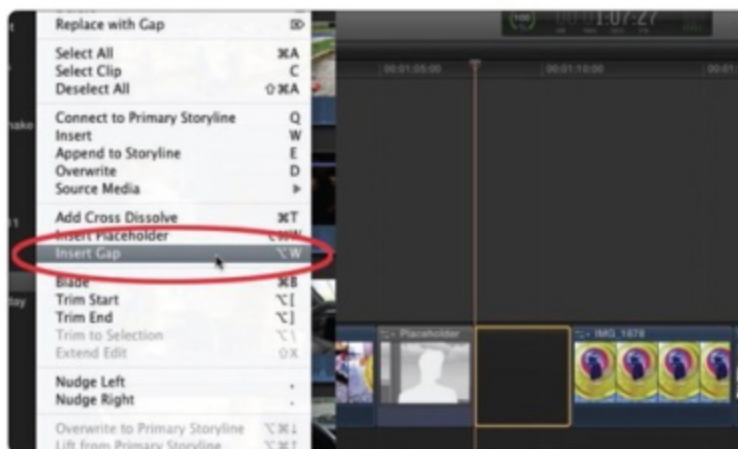
as you've probably done in the past.



Unchecking two import options will keep your imported media where it currently is.

5 How to Get the Slug Function Back

Veteran Final Cut Pro editors get plenty of use out of the Slug function for filling out gaps in a sequence. Sadly, the Slug function (not to mention the sequence!) is gone in Final Cut Pro X, but fear not: you can evoke the spirit of that tool by choosing Edit > Insert Gap, which places three seconds of black in your timeline at the playhead location. Even better, Edit > Insert Placeholder can be used for roughing out missing scenes, complete with options for framing, people, gender, background, sky, and even interior or exterior locations.



The Final Cut Pro 7 Slug function may be gone, but you can still insert three seconds of black via Insert Gap.

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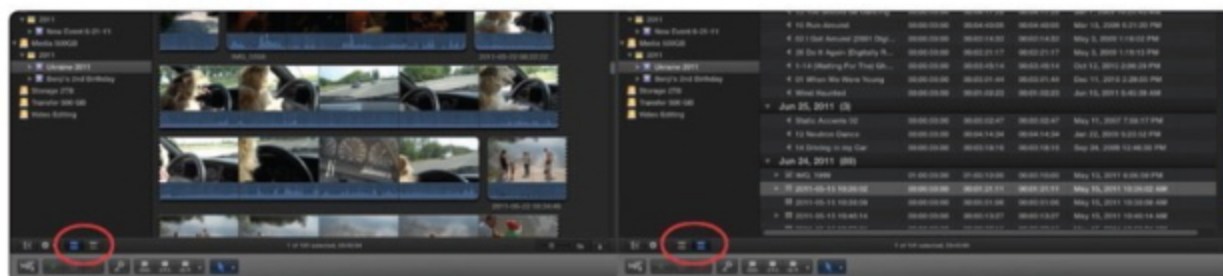
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Make Final Cut Pro X More Like Final Cut Pro 7 (continued)

6 How to Display Event Media with List View

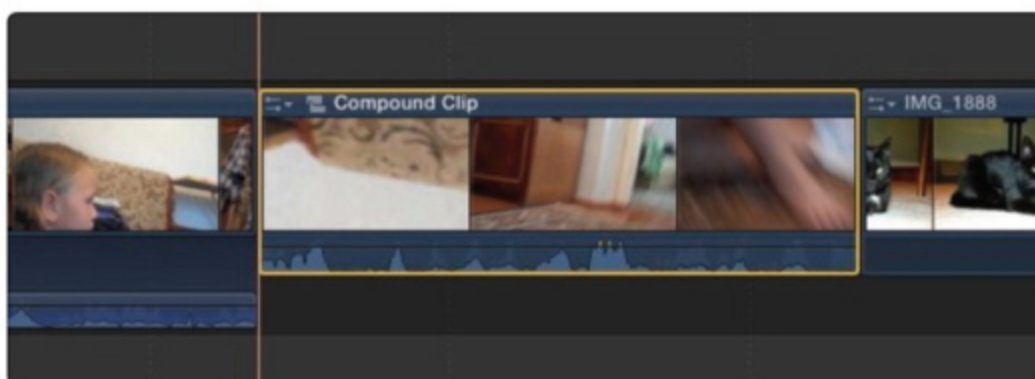
Final Cut Pro X defaults to displaying Events in iMovie-like strips, but pros generally prefer to see more details. Select "Show clips in List View" at the bottom of the Events pane to get a more familiar, detailed list view of your media, which can be grouped or arranged in a number of different ways with the Action pop-up menu.



Final Cut Pro veterans can see clips in a list view (right) with a simple click of a button at the bottom of the Events pane.

7 Emulating Multicam Editing with Compound Clips

Multi-camera editing is MIA from Final Cut Pro X, although Apple promises the real thing is coming in the next major update. In the meantime, you can simulate multicam for simple workflows by using automatic clip synchronization, which uses the audio waveforms of multiple video and audio clips to create a Compound Clip that can be edited in a similar style.



Apple recommends using Compound Clips to sync footage from multiple cameras until it brings the feature back to Final Cut Pro X.

8 Get Back Those Lost Keyboard Shortcuts

Unhappy that Apple changed your favorite Final Cut Pro keyboard shortcuts? You can get most of them back with a visit to Final Cut Pro > Commands > Customize, which opens the Command Editor window. Here you'll get a view of all assigned keys on your attached keyboard, and you can configure them to your heart's content and even save those configurations for others to import into their own workflows.

Final Cut Pro X allows you to reclaim lost Final Cut Pro 7 keyboard shortcuts via the Command Editor.



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THE LIFER



Ten years ago, Apple Computer made a left turn into digital music players and discovered a superhighway to success. **Rik Myslewski** looks back at the last decade to show...

How the iPod Saved Apple

Most folks say that May 6, 1998—the day that Steve Jobs introduced the then-revolutionary iMac to a wowed Cupertino crowd—was the day that Apple was reborn. They're wrong.

The iMac did indeed pull Apple Computer out of its seemingly irreversible death spiral, but the computer maker remained a small player

in a field dominated by others. The day that today's Apple was born occurred 10 years ago this month.

On October 23, 2001, Steve Jobs pulled a 6.5-ounce chunk of stainless steel, white plastic, and electronic goodness out of his left jeans pocket, introducing a crowd of reporters to the iPod. That moment began the transformation of Apple Computer into the company that Jobs renamed on January 9, 2007, when he told a Macworld Expo crowd, "The Mac, iPod, Apple TV, and iPhone. Only one of those is a computer. So we're changing the name." To simply Apple.

Knowing as we do now how the original iPod and its successors went on to dominate the then-nascent market for digital music players, it's hard to remember that the little white brick was tepidly received. At \$399, it was expensive. In its first incarnation, it lacked an equalizer. Its open FireWire port was a pocket-lint magnet.

One by one, all of those objections were overcome, and the iPod went on to become wildly successful.

Its earbuds were, to be kind, suboptimal. And in a Windows-dominated world, its Mac-only syncing was a market-limiting millstone.

But one by one, all of those objections were overcome, and the iPod—mini, photo, shuffle, nano, touch, classic—went on to become wildly successful. As it did, Apple transformed itself from

a computer maker into what Steve Jobs described late last year as "a very high-volume consumer-electronics manufacturer" that listed its hardware line in a recent filing with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission as the "iPhone, iPad, Mac, iPod, Apple TV." Note the reordering of those offerings since Jobs' 2007 renaming.

That same SEC filing reported that Apple earned \$5.1 billion from Mac sales between April and June of this year. Its consumer-electronics line—the iPod, iPhone, iPad, and li'l ol' Apple TV—

brought in \$21.2 billion. Of that haul, the iPod—now well past its prime—earned a mere \$1.3 billion.

It may be fading, but the iPod blazed Apple's resurgent trail. Without its success, there may have never been an iPhone, let alone an iPad. And there may have never been the revival of the Mac, which continues month after month to far outpace the sales growth of Windows-based PCs.

But there was one other sea change that the iPod unleashed, one that was not-too-subtly hinted at in a warning printed in English, French, German, and Japanese on the plastic wrapping of that first 5GB iPod of late 2001: "Don't steal music." Nice sentiment, but it didn't work.

When Napster appeared in June 1999, it taught the music-consuming masses that tunes could be freely, easily, and speedily passed around the internet. Individual songs were liberated from filler-filled albums—legally or illegally, but mostly illegally—

musicians could distribute their creations without label-controlling middlemen, and millions of iPods could pump those tunes over thin white cables into uncomfortable white earbuds, feeding the auditory canals of a new generation of consumers.

In 1999, the U.S. music industry raked in \$14.6 billion. By 2010, that had dropped \$6.3 billion. The day that the iPod was introduced, Apple's stock price was \$9.07 per share. Today it's hovering around \$400. At the iPod's tenth birthday, we're celebrating. The Recording Industry Association of America? Not so much.



Rik's original iPod: old, but still at play.

»Rik Myslewski was editor-in-chief of MacAddict from 2001 until it transformed into MacLife in 2007, and now writes for The Register, which is "biting the hand that feeds IT" daily at www.theregister.co.uk.



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