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MacAddict

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**HIDDEN
POWERS!**



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ON THIS MONTH'S
DISC!**

REVIEWED:

- W800i WALKMAN MEDIA PHONE ↑
- inMotion iM7 iPod speaker
- Myst V: End of Ages
- ...and 14 more



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- Make Mice and Drives out of Toys
- Remotely Access Your Home Network

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(That Won't Break Your Bank)

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Despite what your mom may have taught you, sometimes it's good to say, "I told you so!" ("Neener, neener!" optional.)

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80 Shut Down

Heading to the Mac Expo? Here's the essential gear you'll need to survive the madness.

QUICK TIPS

FROM THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

➔ TRICKSY MAIL

If you want to make an email app other than Apple's Mail your default reader, change a preference within Mail first.

From *Ask Us*, p56.



➔ WALKMAN BLUES

If your new W800i Walkman phone causes your Mac to freeze, try the donationware app K750iGrabber. Use FinderCleaner if music files won't play.

From *Reviews*, p42.



➔ NO NEED TO GO PRO

If you have iLife '05 and regular QuickTime, you don't need to buy QuickTime Pro to convert videos for your iPod.

From "Get Videos onto Your iPod," p64.

➔ BRAIIINNNNS!

If you have an army of the undead at your command, send it headfirst into a gang of gun-toting humans while you eat their brains from the side.

From *Get Info*, p12.



the disc

Take a quick gander at the *loong* list below—it's packed with 107 apps, demos, trials, and more. Enhance your creativity. Work more productively. Have some fun. This month's Disc has you covered.

Peak LE 5 *trial*

This baby brother to BIAS's Peak Pro offers high-quality audio-editing features.



AUDIO & MUSIC

Album Cover Finder 3.3.5 *trial*
 Apple Loops 1.0 *freeware*
 AudioFinder 3.9.1 *donationware*
 AudioFinder 3.3.9 *donationware*
 Guitar Rig 2.0.0.005 *demo*
 iSweep 1.3 *shareware*
 iTunes Dupes Barrier 1.1.2 *shareware*
 Mac Audio Toolbox (OS X) 1.8 *shareware*
 Peak LE 5 *trial*
 SoundSource 1.0.5 *freeware*
 WireTap Pro 1.1.3 *shareware*

DEVELOPMENT

REALbasic 2005 R4 *demo*

FUN & GAMES

Arithmetris (Classic) 1.0 *shareware*
 Arithmetris (OS X) 1.0 *shareware*
 Big Kahuna Reef 1.0 *demo*
 Bloxter 1.2.2 *trial*
 BusyBee 3.5 *freeware*
 ComicBookViewer 0.7 *beta*
 Gambit 1.0 *shareware*
 GeoParty 1.0.1 *freeware*
 Germs 1.0 *shareware*
 iDice 3D 1.1 *shareware*
 Magic Dice 1.0.1 *demo*
 Petal Palace 1.0.1 *shareware*
 Poker Academy Pro 2.0 *demo*
 Ricochet Lost Worlds 1.0 *demo*

GRAPHICS & MULTIMEDIA

ArtRage 1.1 *freeware*
 Comic Life 1.2.2 *trial*
 DeBabelizer Pro 6.0 *trial*
 DeBabelizer Pro Server 6.0 *trial*
 EasyCrop 1.9 *shareware*
 EasyFrame 1.2 *shareware*
 iDive 1.4.5 *shareware*
 Image Tricks 1.1 *freeware*
 JAlbum 4.6 *freeware*
 Photo Drop 1.0 *donationware*
 Picture Arena 1.3.5 *trial*
 X-ray 1.0 *demo*

Staff Video: MouseRider

MacAddict's How-To Editor, Niko Coucouvanis, is no fan of Apple's Mighty Mouse—except as a vehicle and a target of the Pitching Wedge of Banishment. Join him on his, um, "rustic" video odyssey.



Comic Life *trial*

Liven up photos, create a comic for your kids, or even create a MacAddict-style how-to.



INTERFACE

A Better Finder Rename 7.0 *trial*
 Default Folder X 2.0.4 *demo*
 Default Folder X 1.8 *demo*
 FinderCleaner 1.6 *freeware*
 MyControls 1.0.0 *shareware*
 WindowShade X 4.0.2 *shareware*

INTERNET & COMMUNICATION

1-Click Answers 1.0 *freeware*
 1-Click Answers 1.0 *widget*
 Advanced Link Manager 1.1 *trial*
 Chat Transcript Manager 1.0 *freeware*
 Cyberduck 2.5.2 *freeware*
 FileChute 1.9.2 *shareware*
 GarageSale 1.9.4 *shareware*
 iChatUSBCam 2.0.6 *trial*
 IOXWebcam X 1.1 *trial*
 iTuneMyWalkman 0.8 *shareware*
 Little Snitch 1.2.1 *shareware*
 MailSteward 3.8.2 *demo*
 PC-Mac-Net FileShare X Lite 5.1.2 *freeware*
 Speed Download 3.0.14 *shareware*
 Watcher'84 1.4 *shareware*
 Yummy FTP 1.1.5 *shareware*

PRODUCTIVITY

Atomic Mac 6.3.1 *shareware*
 AuctionSieve 1.6 *freeware*
 Budget 4.6.2 *shareware*
 Chirp 2.1.0 *trial*
 Diet Sleuth 4.3.1 *shareware*
 Digital Alarm Clock 2.5 *trial*
 HyperTranscribe 1.0 *demo*
 iFlash 2.6 *trial*
 iList Studio 3.0 *demo*
 iOrganize 6.1.3 (OS 10.4.x) *shareware*
 iOrganize 5.5.5 (OS 10.2.x or 10.3.x) *shareware*
 iOrganize 4.4.7 (OS 10.1.x) *shareware*
 LargeType 1.0 *freeware*
 Mellel 2.0.1 *trial*
 NoteBook 2.0 *demo*
 PCalc 3.0.2 *shareware*

iList Studio *demo*

Databases needn't be difficult to build and use—and iList Studio is proof.



Phonebook 3.7.4 *shareware*
 PocketMac for BlackBerry 3.5 *demo*

SessionTimer Pro 4.4 *freeware*
 Shoebox 1.2 *shareware*
 TapDex 1.2.5 *freeware*
 TaskTime3 3.6 *trial*
 Textpander 1.2 *freeware*
 The Omni Group Software Bundle *demo*
 TimeNet Pro 3.2.8 *shareware*
 Tinderbox 3.0 *demo*
 TopXNotes (OS X) 1.0.4 *trial*
 TopXNotes (Classic) 1.0.4 *trial*
 VelaTerra 1.1 *demo*

UTILITIES

BurnX 1.5 *freeware*
 Data Rescue II 1.0 *demo*
 Defaults Manager 1.0 *beta* *shareware*
 DiskTracker (Classic) 2.3.2 *shareware*
 DiskTracker (OS X) 2.3.2 *shareware*
 Filegazer 1.1 *trial*
 Font Tools (OS 10.4.x) 4.1 *demo*
 Font Tools (OS 2.x or 10.3.x) 4.1 *demo*
 FontThing 1.4.5 *demo*
 Google Maps Plugin for Address Book 1.0 *donationware*
 Mac Pilot (OS 10.2.x or 10.3.x) 2.0 *demo*
 Mac Pilot (OS 10.4.x) 2.0 *demo*
 menuCal 0.8.3 *beta* *freeware*
 MenuCalendarClock for Entourage 2.1.0 *shareware*
 MenuCalendarClock for iCal 2.1.1 *shareware*
 Password Retriever 5.0.7 *demo*
 Preferential Treatment 1.1.5 *freeware*
 TechRestore Demo Video

SPONSORS

Big Kahuna Reef 1.0 *demo*
 Data Rescue II 1.0 *demo*
 MyControls 1.0.0 *shareware*
 NoteBook 2.0 *demo*
 Peak LE 5 *trial*
 Phonebook 3.7.4 *shareware*
 Poker Academy Pro 2.0 *demo*
 Ricochet Lost Worlds 1.0 *demo*
 TechRestore Demo Video
 The Omni Group Software Bundle *demo*
 TopXNotes (OS X) 1.0.4 *trial*
 TopXNotes (Classic) 1.0.4 *trial*

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ULTIMATE Software Store

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MacAddict

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Catch the Wave



In case you missed it—though I doubt you, as a true Mac addict, did—respected analyst Charles Wolf of the investment-banking and asset-management firm of Needham & Company announced in mid-November that over one million Windows users had switched to the Mac in the first three quarters of 2005.

Welcome, guys 'n' gals!

Apple's on a roll—and those of us who've stuck with our Macs through thick, thin, and Amelio have good reason to celebrate. I, for

one, am trying hard not to bellow "I told you so!" to the petty pundits who've dissed Apple over the years and are now dealing with the difficult task of eating crow while they have egg on their faces.

How wrong have they been? Take a quick trip with me to The Mac Observer's Apple Death Knell Counter (www.macobserver.com/appledeathknell), which chronicles some of the more-ludicrous errors of punditorial excess. For example:

- When asked in 1997 what he would do if he were CEO of Apple, Michael Dell said, "I'd shut it down and give the money back to the shareholders." In the first three quarters of 2005, Apple's stock value rose over 100 percent; during that same period, Dell Computers' stock sank about 25 percent.
- In 2001, BusinessWeek (www.businessweek.com) published a commentary entitled "Sorry, Steve: Here's Why Apple Stores Won't Work." At the beginning of 2005, 101 Apple Stores were already hosting one million visitors per week.
- A year or so ago, while writing about the iPod and Apple for CBS MarketWatch (www.marketwatch.com), John Dvorak predicted that "milking this one pricey and faddish device is going to ruin the company." Uh, not quite, John—and I hope MarketWatch-reading investors didn't follow your advice.
- BusinessWeek again, this time as 2000 drew to a close: "Steve Jobs has no white rabbits left in his hat. Apple appears to be facing a dead end." The next year, Apple introduced the iPod—and it was white.

I could go on, but you get the idea. Of course, what goes up must come down—but we'll stick with what was emblazoned on the cover of the first *MacAddict* back in 1996: "The Mac's Future Is Bright."

Enjoy, *R.k*

coming soon: march 2006

Here's what our editors are preparing for the next issue of *MacAddict*.

Next month we'll take you **behind the scenes at Mac Expo**, where we'll dig into **Apple's new stuff** and ferret out the **best new products** from other folks. We'll also let you in on the **secrets of Microsoft Office**—tips, tricks, and fixes for Word, Excel, and their co-conspirators. Our Field Guide will identify **the most-useful AppleScripts** and show you how to make them work for you. Then we'll **create killer charts** in OmniGraffle; **hack OS X's unhackables** with Rezilla, the new-age resource editor; make **your Mac act like a TiVo**; and **migrate files and system settings** to that new iMac that Santa left under your tree. Finally, we'll have in-depth reviews of Apple's **Aperture**, a pile of **iPod nano cases**, Ableton's **Live 5**, and Zizzle's dizzy **iZ**.

STAFF RANTS

Q. What should Apple do to become even more successful?



Niko Coucouvanis SLOW MOE

What should Apple do to become even more successful?

That's easy: Reinvent the wheel. Sure, everybody warns against messing with that time-proven round design, but I remember hearing similar warnings about computers and their beigeness. Come on Apple, wow me with an iWheel!



Sean Molloy CREATIVE SOLUTION SYNERGIZER

What should Apple do to become even more successful?

Simple, really—in addition to Pixar, Steve Jobs just needs to become the CEO of EMI, A&M, Sony, Rhino, Dreamworks, Arista, Paramount, Doggystyle, Universal, Atlantic, RCA, Warner Bros., and every other media company whose content he'd like to offer in the iTunes Music Store. Might as well take over the RIAA while he's at it.



Roman Loyola IVE LEAGUE CHEERLEADER

What should Apple do to become even more successful?

Apple needs to do whatever it takes to keep design guru Jonathan Ive happy. He's the reason why the iMac and iPod are so hot, and he'll have important influence on future Apple hardware. Don't let that guy go!



Mark Rosenthal SEÑOR EL CHEAPO

What should Apple do to become even more successful?

Apple needs to come out with some cheaper versions of its products. Sure, they've captured all the consumers who have \$250 burning a hole in their pockets, but what about the kids who want to spend \$39.95?



Jake Widman FREQUENT SHOPPER

What should Apple do to become even more successful?

First, make this whole Intel thing come off without a hitch—that way Apple can maintain the momentum it already has. Then, find a way to let the Mactel machines do something the PowerPC machines can't—like run a full-blown virtual Windows machine—without obsolescing existing Macs. That should do it.



Peter Marshutz ANTI-PUNDIT

What should Apple do to become even more successful?

My advice to Apple is keep on doing what it does best: "Think Different." It's been working great so far, so don't change course. And also, keep ignoring the Chicken Littles who've been predicting Apple's demise.



Max BIG DREAMER

What should Apple do to become even more successful?

Buy Microsoft—the company, not the stock. Then put Longhorn, Vista, or whatever they're calling it this week out of its misery, open up Mac OS X to run on any Intel-based hardware, and the long white-knuckled nightmare that has been Windows will be over. How much would Microsoft cost? Hey, I'm an idea guy—don't bother me with details.

The video iPod hasn't sparked a portable-media revolution quite yet—or has it?

There's a common belief that while Apple isn't often the first to do something, it's often the first to do it *right*—and while you can certainly say that about the iPod shuffle, the new media-centric iMac, and lots of Cupertino's other recent fare, you can't necessarily say it about the new video-capable iPod—yet. Sure, it's an impressive piece of technology, but months after its release, all we're able to download from the iTunes Music Store are music videos, some Pixar shorts, and a smattering of TV shows. As of this writing (in early December), ABC and Disney still offer only five shows (one of which, *Night Stalker*, has already been cancelled); and just before *MacAddict's* mighty presses began to roll, Apple announced that it was adding 11 shows from NBC, USA, and the SciFi Channel (including *Law & Order*, *Monk*, and “vintage” fare like *Knight Rider*) to its catalog—but 16 shows barely scratch the surface of what could be playing on your 'Pod. What good is a video player if you can't watch anything you want, any time you want?

While the arrival of the video iPod hasn't yet triggered a portable-video revolution, it has caused some ripples that could indicate what's to come. Here are some of the more-interesting phenomena to crop up in its wake.

TiVoToGo. TiVo raised eyebrows in November when it announced that it would soon allow users to transfer recorded shows onto a video iPod or PSP. At first glance, that's awesome news—but it comes with some catches: The service (which is actually an extension of an existing service called TiVoToGo) will be available only to direct TiVo subscribers with a Series2 box—no one who gets TiVo through DirecTV will be able to use it. Also, the current TiVoToGo service only works by first transferring TiVo programs to a Windows-based PC; the new service

is expected to work the same way (TiVo hasn't explicitly said it would be a “direct to iPod” service). Furthermore, a Mac version of the required software won't be ready until “some time next year.”

Battle of the network superlawyers. One potential roadblock: The networks, who (according to an article in *Variety*) are “none too happy” with TiVo's announcement. Some networks, including NBC, responded by threatening legal action; other networks, such as The WB, are simply taking TiVo's

move as a sign that portable video is something consumers want.

While Apple, ABC, and now NBC are already pettily partnered in 'Pod TV, other major networks are already making moves that indicate they may not want to board the iTunes Music Store express—possibly because they've heard the complaints of their music-business buddies who feel that iTMS has a restrictive lock on digital-music distribution and pricing. Not even a month after the video iPod's



release, CBS revealed it was in talks with Google to feature its shows in a video-on-demand service. Meanwhile, nearly every network has dabbled in free day-after downloads of some of its shows: The WB recently offered up *Supernatural*; UPN handed out downloads of *Everybody Hates Chris*.

GUBA GUBA Hey! If you can't wait for the networks to get their ducks in a row and you don't mind swimming in legally murky waters, there are alternatives. One of them, GUBA (www.guba.com), acts as a gateway to the Usenet, the Internet's unregulated dumping ground for files of all shapes and sizes. Your \$14.95-per-month subscription gives you access to every newsgroup under the sun (including plenty of unsavory



With the addition of 11 NBC, USA, and SciFi Channel shows makes the iTunes's video selection look (a little) more healthy.

ones) through an easy-to-use interface with handy slide-show thumbnails of a video's content, and play-in-a-Flash-window previews. The real kicker: Most videos have a Download For iPod button so you can download the video in 'Poddable MP4 format with no muss or fuss.

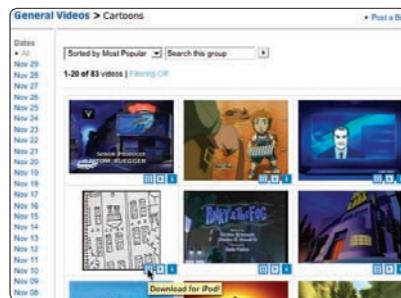
GUBA comes with a giant warning sticker, however: The Usenet is rife with illegal rips of commercial DVDs, film bootlegs, and other copyrighted material. Even downloading freely aired, unencrypted network-television shows is of questionable legality. Some conspiracy theorists speculate that Apple is secretly rooting for "unofficial" channels to flood iPods with content—more reason for networks and studios to hop on the iTunes express sooner rather than later.

In the meantime, if you're looking for conscience-friendly iPod fare, Veoh (www.veoh.com) recently released a catalog of 3,000 public-domain and

user-produced videos, while Flixpo (www.flixpo.com) similarly offers a gallery of amusing commercials, stand-up snippets, machinima, and more.

What about *What About Bob?* Many critics agree that the video iPod's biggest weakness is the lack of support for ripping commercial DVDs like you can rip CDs you've purchased—why buy an iPod if you can't put content you already own onto it? Movie studios are in no rush to make their films available as online downloads for portable players.

This has prompted companies such as Makayama Interactive to release software such as iPod Media Studio (\$32.95, www.makayama.com), which purports to break the encryption scheme on commercial DVDs you own so that



GUBA is a gateway to all the video on the Usenet, whether it's legally available—or morally acceptable—or not.

you can import them into your iPod. In a similar vein, TVMyPod (www.tvmypod.com) sells new video iPods preloaded with DVDs—you get the actual DVDs, too. Both of these tread on majorly questionable legal ground, since the Digital Millennium Copyright Act says it is illegal to break any encryption scheme, even if you only intend to make a backup of your own media (though that provision is currently up for review by the U.S. Copyright Office)—that's just one reason you probably won't see DVD-ripping built into iTunes anytime soon.

There's no doubt that the arrival of the video iPod has dredged up more murk, sludge, and FUD than viable content—and don't be surprised if gnarly digital-rights questions keep you from downloading movies for another year or more. But when it comes to portable video, Apple may be setting a trend instead of refining one—whether it wanted to or not.—Sean Molloy



A jazzy lil' drive with plenty of zip.

▶ **SAVE ON THE NETWORK**

StorCenter
\$199.95 (160GB), \$298.95 (250GB)
www.iomega.com

Available: Now
This network-attached hard drive uses Gigabit Ethernet to connect to your network. Use it to share files between Macs, or use the included Iomega Automatic Backup Pro software to back up your files.



The second in the Didi & Ditto series.

▶ **LEAVE IT TO BEAVERS**

Didi & Ditto: First Grade
\$19.99

www.kutoka.com
Available: Now
Kids can help Didi and Ditto bring an end to the Wolf King's rule over the Valley by solving math, reading, writing, science, and other puzzles geared toward first graders.



The successor to Nikon's D100.

▶ **10-MEGAPIXEL SLR D200**

\$1,699.99
www.nikondigital.com

Available: Now
This impressively speedy digital SLR can shoot up to five frames per second. It has a 23.6mm-by-15.8mm 10.2-megapixel CCD, 2.5-inch LCD, and 11 areas of focus.

DROOLWORTHY

Sexy Stuff We Can't Wait to Get Our Mitts On

'Book Armor →

Axio's **Hardsleeves**
(\$119.95 to \$129.95,
www.axio-usa.com)

are tough polycarbonate-plastic cases for your PowerBook or iBook. Inside each case is an EVA foam compartment so your 'Book is comfy, cozy, and uncrunchable. Each Hardsleeve also has a guitar-style quick-release shoulder strap and detachable case for your iPod or power adapter.



IMAGE COURTESY OF AXIO

Building Blocks ↓

LaCie's **Brick Desktop Hard Drives** (\$119.99 to \$399.99, www.lacie.com) are the brainchild of French designer Ora-Itō, who clearly found inspiration in a famous childhood toy. These USB 2.0 drives are available in 160GB (white), 250GB (red), 300GB (blue), and 500GB (red)—equally patriotic whether you're in France or the U.S. of A.



IMAGE COURTESY OF LACIE



PLAY THE GAME, GET THE MUSIC

► Serious gamers know you can get great game soundtracks (such as the Final Fantasy saga) on iTunes. Now Electronic Arts is teaming up with Nettwerk Music Group to bring EA's musical library to iTunes and other online music providers. Soon you'll be able to download the soundtracks to 007 Nightfire, the Medal of Honor series, The Sims, and even Tiger Woods PGA Tour 2005 (you know how those golfers love to get down—especially John Daly).—*Matt Osborn*

GAMELINESS IS NEXT TO GODLINESS

► In **Black & White 2**, you must choose between ruling your followers with kindness or dominating the world through fear—every move that you (and your animal-god avatar) make affects the land and its people. With highly detailed environments and weather effects, new technologies and miracles, more emphasis on military strategy, and new creature tricks (such



as fertilizing forests), **Black & White 2** is designed to be easier to play and harder to stop playing.—*MO*

Black & White 2

Price	TBD
Available	Spring 2006
Feral Interactive www.feralinteractive.com	

COMBAT MISSIONS FOR A MODERN ERA

► When a coup eliminates the Syrian government and the United Nations calls for removal of the new hostile leaders, you must choose sides (the NATO alliance or Syria's opposing forces) and get ready for urban warfare in **Combat Mission: Shock Force**, a hybrid turn-based/real-time 3D WWII strategy game (a HTBRT3DWWIISG?). This latest entry in the Combat Mission series features missile systems, on-the-fly targeting paths, armored-vehicle defenses, and the same brand of deeply tactical gameplay that we've come to associate with the Combat Mission name.—*MO*



Your mission: combat.

Combat Mission: Shock Force

Price	TBD
Available	2006
Battlefront.com www.battlefront.com	

TIPS & TRICKS: STUBBS THE ZOMBIE IN REBEL WITHOUT A PULSE

What is a pissed-off, undead salesman to do in the city of tomorrow? Bowl for dollars at the local Bowl-O-Rama, or create a lethal army of the walking dead? **Stubbs the Zombie in Rebel Without a Pulse** (\$39.99, www.aspyr.com) invites you to do the latter, and these tips can help you cash in on all those brains you collect.—*MO*

- Your undead army is expendable. Push your zombies toward cops and other gun-toting humans to draw their fire, then attack from the side.
- Have your decapitated arm hop onto the head of a human to possess him, and then use the human's firearms to clear the area.

GAME
TIPS

NEW RAZR ROCKS

Now *this* is closer to what we were expecting when we first heard about a mobile iTunes phone—one of Motorola’s wicked-cool RAZR phones, not the mini-brick ROKR. The RAZR V3i (price TBD, www.motorola.com) has features to drool over, including external and internal color LCDs, a mini-USB headset, Bluetooth, MP3 ringtone support, and more—but a Motorola rep wouldn’t confirm or deny whether iTunes tunes could be used as ringtones. The built-in 1.23-megapixel digital camera (with 8X digital zoom, video capture, and a full-screen viewfinder) is also an improvement; its specs alone embarrass the ROKR’s 640-by-480-pixel joke of a camera.

Now the bad news: The V3i uses the same iTunes client as the ROKR, so it still has the same 100-song limit. And you still can’t purchase songs through the phone; you connect the V3i to your Mac and use iTunes to transfer your songs. One last catch: According to Motorola’s Web site, “iTunes is not available on all models in all regions.”

As for the ROKR, *BusinessWeek* reported that Motorola and Cingular are working on a revamped ROKR with a 1-megapixel camera and enough storage capacity to hold 1,000 songs.

—Roman Loyola



What the ROKR should’ve been.

Bug of the Month

WHEN OS UPDATES GO BAD

It happens when you least expect it—something goes wrong while you’re installing the latest Mac OS X update. Perhaps the install simply fails during the process, or you get a mysterious message saying the update wasn’t complete. Here’s what to do to fix the problem.

TRY AGAIN Run the updater again, even if your system appears to work normally after the failed update—all appropriate system components may not have been updated, which may cause problems later on.

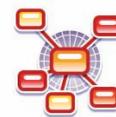
TRY, TRY AGAIN If the above still results in a failed install, try booting from an alternate startup volume, and then run the updater—you can use another Mac or an external hard drive with OS X installed to boot the problematic system in FireWire target disk mode. Once booted from an alternate drive, select the problematic volume in the Finder, and press Command-I. Check the box marked Ignore Ownership Permissions On This Volume, and run the updater once more.

FOURTH TIME’S A CHARM That didn’t work either? Boot from the alternate startup volume again, but before you install the update, use a third-party disk-repair utility such as Alsoft’s DiskWarrior (\$79.95, www.alfsoft.com) or Prosoft’s Drive Genius (\$99, www.prosofteng.com) to rebuild the problematic volume’s directory.

WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS If you experience more-severe issues after the failed update, try booting from the Mac OS X install disc, run the installer, and choose Archive And Install, which replaces your OS with an entirely fresh one. Then install the Mac OS X combo updater—and the *next* time Apple releases an update, don’t check email, surf the Web, render video, play iTunes music, or do anything else while you’re installing it. Just let the updater run; that will minimize the chances of an installation failure.



What’s New



Tinderbox 3 helps you organize your thoughts.

- Eastgate Systems’ **Tinderbox 3** (\$149, on the Disc, www.eastgate.com) is a content manager that helps you organize your notes, ideas, and plans. It now has better outlining tools, adjustable tab stops, and new query extensions, and more.
- Plum Canary’s **Chirp 2.1** (\$79, on the Disc, www.plumcanary.com) is a tool that helps you track the work being done by your project’s workers. New features include flexibility in controlling access to project info, a better data display, and keyboard-shortcut improvements.

- Intex Publishing’s **Faktura vX Pro 4** (\$179, www.intex-publishing.de) is a FileMaker-based enterprise-planning system with modules for partners, products, orders, letters, contacts, and much more.
- MYOB’s **AccountEdge 2006** (\$299, www.myob.com) is a management and accounting app for small businesses. This new version features the ability to track seven years of transaction history, a new ordering and receiving inventory process, and new timesheets.
- To The Point Software’s **TaskTime3** (\$15, on the Disc, www.ttpsoftware.com) tracks the time you spend on the work you do for your clients. New features include interface changes and an autosave that can be activated at specific intervals.
- Sony Software’s **Bookends 8.1.3** (\$99, www.sonnysoftware.com) saves and formats references for bibliographies or footnotes. It works with Microsoft Word, Nisus Writer Express, and other word processors.



—Michelle Victoria

SHAREWARE PICK OF THE MONTH

iOrganize www.brunoblondeau.com \$19.95

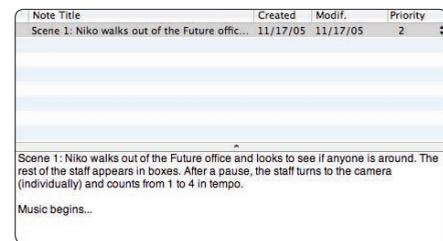
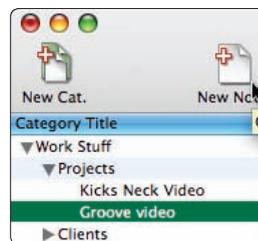
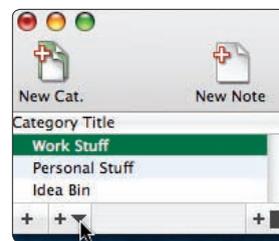
If you do a lot of writing, you're probably looking for a better way to store and organize your notes and ideas than just saving random files on your hard drive. You're probably looking for something like iOrganize.—*Andrew Tokuda*

1 After you launch iOrganize, click the **New Category** icon to add a category. Add as many categories as you need.

2 To make a subcategory, highlight the category under which you'd like to add a subcategory (**Work Stuff**, in our example) and click the plus-sign/arrow button at the bottom.

3 Highlight the category or subcategory under which you'd like to store your notes, and click the **New Note** icon.

4 When you type your note in the large, white **Notes** field, iOrganize automatically fills in the **Note Title** field for you. Double-click the **Note Title** to rename it something that makes more sense to you.



Intel 101



A MONTHLY GUIDE TO INTEL BUZZWORDS

VT

What it is: In the Intel world, VT stands for “Virtualization Technology,” known in an earlier incarnation as Vanderpool Technology.

Virtualization technologies allow you to run more than one operating system on the same computer. Although current schemes are software

based, Intel is in the process of designing hardware-based VT for implementation in its upcoming processor lines.

What the Mac equivalent is: In the Mac universe, virtualization is handled by software such as Microsoft’s Virtual PC, Lismore Software’s Guest PC, and others. The major Mac-based virtualization (aka emulation) apps allow you to run Windows on your Mac, but there are other emulators that support DOS, Apple II software, or even console games.

Why you should care: In addition to improving VT performance, hardware-based VT could allow you to boot different operating systems at different times, all running on the same Mac or PC. Current emulators such as Virtual PC run on top of Mac OS X, not independent of it. Theoretically, on a VT-enabled, Intel-based Mac, you could independently boot and run, say, Mac OS X, Windows XP, and Linux. Whether or not future Macs allow you to do so may be decided more by Apple marketing than by Intel engineering.—*Rik Myslewski*



ILLUSTRATION BY JAMES F. KRAUS

IPOD CASE OF THE MONTH

The **iSkin Duo** (\$29.95, www.iskin.com) offer two layers of different-colored silicone to protect your iPod nano, complete with grip bumps so your nano won't fly out of your hands—but if it does, that's OK, since the two silicone layers absorb most of the shock from a fall (at least that's what iSkin says). You also get a polycarbonate screen protector, RevoClip2 belt clip, and iSkin Wheel Cap to cover the nano's clickwheel.—*Michelle Victoria*



Layered for your protection.

SUBMIT YOUR CASE Whether your iPod case is a custom-made one-off or mass produced, you can submit it for Case-of-the-Month consideration—just send it to iPod Case of the Month, *MacAddict*, 4000 Shoreline Ct., Ste. 400, South San Francisco, CA 94080. Please note that we cannot return cases.



Clip 'n Save!



52 MUST-HAVE APPS!

(That Won't Break Your Bank )

Good software doesn't have to be

expensive. Meet the bargain apps

we voted Most Deserving of a

Place on Your Mac.

by Jake Widman

Every year, a new crop of low-priced apps—shareware, freeware, donationware, and more—go out to face the world. Their developers look on proudly and hopefully as their creations vie for the hearts of Mac addicts everywhere (and maybe earn their creators some dough). We've examined the current contenders—both brand-new and updates—and found 52 that deserve a space in your Dock. From improving your health to helping your Mac run better, these apps will work hard for you—without costing you an arm and a leg. And they all work with both Mac OS 10.3 (Panther) and 10.4 (Tiger), except where noted.

 **ON THE DISC**
Most of the apps mentioned in this story can be found on this month's Disc.

Graphics Tool Kit

Sometimes you need to do a lot to an image; sometimes you only want to do one or two things. Whatever your needs, these apps have you covered.

ON THE DISC

Free!

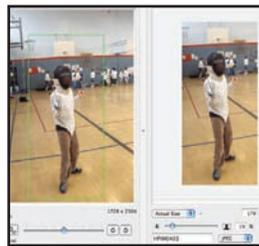


Image Tricks 1.1

www.beightsoft.com (Tiger only)
Image Tricks adds an interface to Tiger's Core Image filters—now you can use Pinch Distortion to turn your dining room into a funhouse.

ON THE DISC

\$12

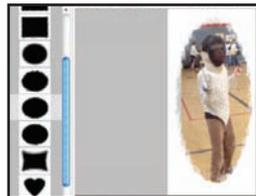


EasyCrop 1.9

www.yellowmug.com
Drag a file onto one side to crop it, adjust the scaling on the other side, and drag away the new version, ready to email.

ON THE DISC

\$20



EasyFrame 1.2.5

www.yellowmug.com
Ever thought a photo on your Web site would look cooler with a torn-paper edge? Are you a scrapbooker looking to make an old-fashioned photo-corner effect? Open a photo in EasyFrame, pick a frame from the drawer, adjust it to your liking, and save your framed photo in the format of your choice.

Free!



Linotype FontExplorer X

www.linotype.com
Dealing with fonts in OS X isn't fun, and most of the good ways to make it easier cost money. FontExplorer X, from one of the oldest and most-respected names in the font biz, makes things easier with its informative main screen and creative sample possibilities.

The Free Three

Scott Moschella's **GIMPshop** (left) is a version of the open-source GIMP (GNU Image Manipulation Program) that looks and works like Photoshop—check out the familiar tool icons. The open-source **Inkscape** (center) is an Illustrator-like vector-graphics editor with a strong array of object-manipulation features. (Both GIMPshop and Inkscape require X11, which is available free from www.apple.com/downloads/macosx/apple/x11formacosx.html.) **ArtRage** (right) lets you choose from six art-creation tools—from left to right, a paintbrush, crayon, chalk, marker, palette knife, and pencil—to make just about any kind of picture you want.

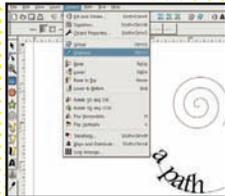
GIMPshop 2.2.4

aka the Photoshop alternative
(free, <http://plasticbugs.com>)



Inkscape 0.43

aka the Illustrator alternative
(free, www.inkscape.org)



ArtRage 1.1

aka the Corel Painter alternative
(free, www.ambientdesign.com)



A Handful of Widgets

Dissing Dashboard may be the attitude du jour, but here are some widgets that might change your tune. First, when you start typing a name into **EasyEnvelopes** (right), it finds matching entries in your Address Book and automatically creates an envelope for you to print. **PCalc** (top) can handle more calculations than most of us will ever need—or even know the purpose of. (The download also includes a standalone version.) **pearLyrics** (center) searches the Web to find the lyrics to the song you're listening to in iTunes. With **SnippetComposer** (bottom), you enter HTML code into the top window and get a quick preview of the results at the bottom—if it looks the way you want, click the C button to copy it to the Clipboard. And after you've done all that productive stuff, unwind

with **SuperBrain** (left), a widgetized version of the game Mastermind with a variable number of colors and columns.



PCalc 3 \$19 ON THE DISC
<http://pcalc.com>

EasyEnvelopes 1.0.1 Free!
www.ambrosiasw.com

pearLyrics 0.6 Donationware
www.pearworks.com

SuperBrain 1.6.1 Free!
www.power4mac.com

SnippetComposer 1.0.1 Free!
<http://andrew.hedges.name>

Home and Lifestyle

Whether pursuing your hobbies, running your home, or keeping tabs on your weight, one of these apps can brighten your day.

ON THE DISC

Free!



AuctionSieve 1.7.4

www.auctionsieve.com
Tell AuctionSieve what you're looking for on eBay, wait for it to retrieve all the auctions that match your criteria, then shop till you drop.

ON THE DISC

\$29.95



Budget 4.6.2

www.snowmintcs.com
Set up an account envelope for whatever money's coming in and virtual envelopes for your regular bills, and hope there's enough in the former to fill all the latter—just like in real life. At least you won't have to budget much for this app.

ON THE DISC

\$34.99



Diet Sleuth 4.3.1

www.blackcatsystems.com
It's a little ugly and a little clunky, but it's got a database of just about every food you're likely to eat. Just select food items from the menus and enter them into meals, and you can keep track of the calories, fat, and sugar you consume each day—if you dare.

ON THE DISC

\$24.99



GarageSale 1.9.4

www.iwascoding.com
You can use GarageSale to prepare one or more auctions for eBay offline, preview them, and then upload them all at once. Included templates make it easy to post a nice-looking listing.

A/V Club

Now that your Mac is the center of your listening, viewing, and editing world, these apps are here to help.

Free!

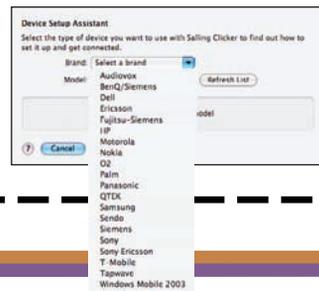
HyperEngine-AV 1.5

www.arboretum.com
This is primarily a video-editing app, but it also does a fine job with plain old audio. You import clips, select the parts you want, set transition and fade effects, and then export your results in any of several formats.

Movie to 3G
Movie to AVI
Movie to Hinted Movie
Movie to iPod (320x240)
Movie to MPEG-4
Movie to QuickTime Media Link
Movie to QuickTime Movie
Sound to AIFF
Sound to AU

Salling Clicker 3

www.salling.com
Upload the app to your Bluetooth-enabled PDA or cell phone; then use your PDA or phone as a remote control for your Mac.



\$23.95

Indy

<http://indy.tv>

Indy streams songs by bands you've (probably) never heard of; rate songs, and Indy adjusts its playlist accordingly. Best of all, it even saves all the songs you hear.

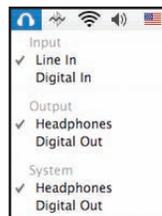


Free!

ON THE DISC

SoundSource 1.0.5

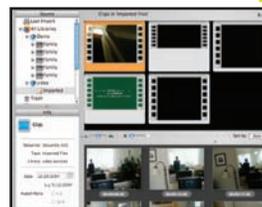
www.rogueamoeba.com
If you've got more than one input or output device connected to your Mac, SoundSource gives you an easy menu-bar way to switch between them or assign different kinds of output to different devices.



Free!

ON THE DISC

\$69.95

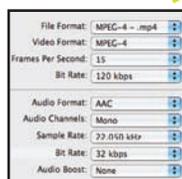


iDive 1.4.5

www.aquafadas.com
Need an album for all your digital video? iDive is like iPhoto for video, offering thumbnails that you can scrub through, labeling, and more.

Kinoma Producer 3

www.kinoma.com
Convert your digital video into a format you can play on your Palm OS PDA with Kinoma Player 3 EX (\$19.99)—or just save it in MP4 or AAC format.



\$29.99

Web Tool Kit

The complet Web surfer requires more than just a browser. Here are some tools that'll help you navigate the 'Net smarter and better.

Donationware ✨

ON THE DISC



Taboo 0.3

www.ocdev.com

Firefox users get a warning message when they try to close a window with multiple tabs open. Safari users don't—unless they've installed Taboo, that is.

JAlbum 6

http://jalbum.net

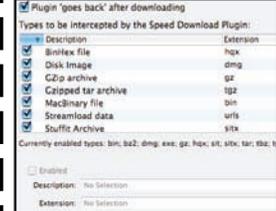
Quickly build a photo album from a folder of images that can be read by any browser. JAlbum comes with 25 album skins, and its built-in FTP capability lets you publish your album to the Web.



Free! ✨

ON THE DISC

\$20 ✨



Speed Download 3

www.yazsoft.com

By opening multiple connections to a server (when it's possible), Speed Download does just what it says: It downloads things faster. It also offers direct file sharing with other Speed Download users.

ON THE DISC

\$24.95 ✨



Little Snitch 1.2.1

www.obdev.at

Firewalls are for stopping what comes into your Mac over the Internet—Little Snitch tells you what goes out. You can keep applications from checking with their developers' sites, stop cookies from reporting your habits, or prevent any other communication you're feeling paranoid about.

URLwell 1.2.1

www.enigmarelle.com

When you run into a URL in an email or on a Web site that you want to check out later, just drag it to URLwell in your menu bar. It'll stay there until you visit that link, after which you can delete it if you want.



Free! ✨

ON THE DISC

\$14.95 ✨



Watcher'84 1.4

www.brunoblondeau.com

Got a few sites you like to check in on for breaking news? Watcher'84 keeps an eye on them for you and alerts you whenever anything changes in the live (non-advertising) area of the page.

Fit the Purpose

Our two favorite FTP clients are easy to learn, simple to use, and have all the basic tools you need to transfer files and sync folders. Transmit has a few more features, but which interface you prefer is a matter of taste.

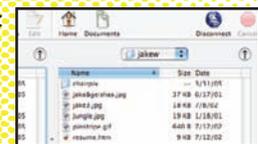
Cyberduck 2.5.2

donationware, <http://cyberduck.ch>



Transmit 3.2.1

\$29.95, www.panic.com



Bargain Glossary

Bargain software comes in all forms, from low-priced commercial apps to absolutely free apps from the open-source movement. Here's a guide to some of the shopping terms you'll run into.

Demo "A special version of a program (frequently with some features crippled) which is distributed at little or no cost to the user for enticement purposes." (Source: Answers.com)

Donationware "Donationware authors ask that anyone using their software make a donation to the authors or a third party." (Wikipedia)

Freeware "Freeware is computer software which is made available free of charge. Freeware is typically proprietary, distributed without source code, and often carries a restrictive license." (Wikipedia)

Nagware "The variety of shareware that displays a large screen at the beginning or end reminding you to register, typically requiring some sort of keystroke to continue." (Answers.com)

Shareware "Software distributed on a trial basis through the Internet, online services, BBSs, mail-order vendors, and user groups. Shareware is software on the honor system. If you use it regularly, you're required to register and pay for it, for which you will receive technical support and perhaps additional documentation or the next upgrade." (Computer Desktop Encyclopedia)

Trial "A trial version, trial, or piece of trialware is a ... version of a product that only works for a limited period of time (and sometimes has reduced functionality)." (Wikipedia)

WareZ "Pirated software distributed over the Internet." (TechEncyclopedia)

Real-World Shareware

Your Mac isn't the only place you can run into shareware's "try it out and only pay for it if you like it" concept. Here are some other opportunities to put the shareware ethic to the test:

- Charity address labels
- Cards with instructions for sign language
- Prizes for attending a time-share presentation
- Food samples at the farmer's market, Costco, or department-store basements in Japan
- Tiny-spoon tastes at your local ice cream parlor

App Extenders

Commercial software developers could learn a thing or three about convenience from these feature-enhancing cuties.

ON THE DISC

\$15*

ON THE DISC

\$18.95*

ON THE DISC

\$20*

ON THE DISC

Donationware*



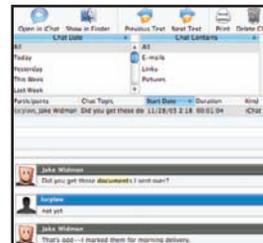
FileChute 1.9.2

www.yellowmug.com
Drop a file into FileChute, and the app uploads the file to your iDisk and generates a link that you email to whomever you want to retrieve the file. FileChute also works with other WebDAV or FTP servers; it can even make archives of multifile uploads on the fly.



MenuCalendar Clock 2.1.1

www.objectpark.net
Need to check your calendar quickly? MenuCalendarClock puts iCal in your menu bar—click the drop-down calendar to open the full iCal. (And it's also available for Entourage.)



Chat Transcript Manager

www.unsanity.com
Instant messages are instant, but that doesn't mean they have to be temporary. Chat Transcript Manager saves transcripts of your chats and lets you search by person, date, content, or other criteria.



Google Maps Plugin 2.2.1

www.briantoth.com
Once installed, this plug-in lets you Control-click any address in your Address Book and choose Google Map For from the pop-up menu to see where the address is—assuming Google Maps knows the address.

ON THE DISC

\$9*

ON THE DISC

Free!*

ON THE DISC

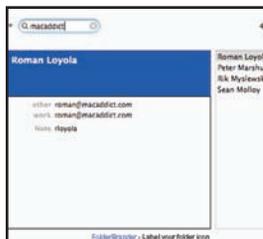
Free!*

Album Cover Finder 3.3.16

www.amphonicdesigns.com/albumcoverfinder
(Tiger only)



Play a song in iTunes, and Album Cover Finder retrieves the cover art from Amazon, ready to drag into iTunes. It can also get the album's track listing and a catalog of all the artist's album covers.



TapDex 1.2.5

www.yellowmug.com
Here's a quick way to look someone up: Press a hot key to bring up the little TapDex window, start typing a name from your Address Book, and get a list of possible matches instantly.



1-Click Answers

www.answers.com
After you install 1-Click Answers, you can look something up on Answers.com by selecting the text or term and pressing the 1-Click Answers hot key; you can also choose *application name* > Services > 1-Click Answers. It comes in widget form, too.

Interface Enhancers

Sure, Mac OS X's Aqua interface is dandy—but no true Mac addict can resist the compulsion to tweak it to his or her individual taste.

\$19.95 ✖

Docktopus

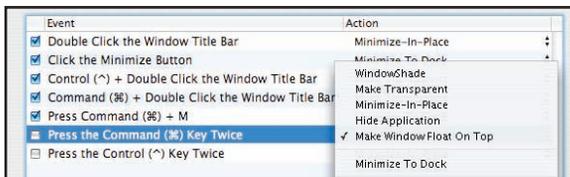
www.startly.com (Tiger only)



You know the little “badge” that tells you how many unread messages are waiting in Mail’s Inbox? Docktopus adds new “badges”—not just to Mail—that give you message previews, let you pause iTunes or see what’s playing, and more.

ON THE DISC

\$10 ✖



WindowShade X 4.0.2

www.unsanity.com

Who doesn't miss the window-shade effect from the pre-OS X days? WindowShade X brings it back and pumps it up, letting you minimize in place with transparency or apply other groovy effects.

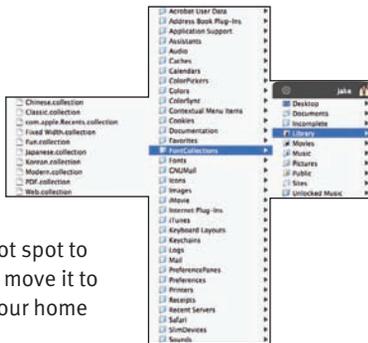
ON THE DISC

\$19.95 ✖

Filegazer 1.1

www.donelleschi.com

If you're fond of hierarchical menus (and who isn't?), you'll find what you're looking for in Filegazer. Move your mouse to one hot spot to see your whole disk; move it to another to see just your home directory.



It warms MacAddict Features Editor Jake Widman's little heart to see how many people write free software for the Mac just because they want to make using it a better experience.

Free! ✖

Mouse Locator

www.2point5fish.com



When we come back to our 20-inch iMac screen after some time away and can't find our cursor, we're grateful for Mouse Locator. One tap of a hot key (or just moving the mouse) pops up a couple

of green circles (or our choice of downloadable graphics) around the cursor's arrow—ah, *there* you are!

ON THE DISC

Donationware ✖

Textpander 1.2

www.petermaurer.de

Most of us have to type some kind of boilerplate text from time to time: “Yours truly,” “I’m so, so sorry,” “You’ll be hearing from our lawyers,” and so on. Textpander lets you assign text and graphics to a short keystroke sequence so you can drop in your oft-repeated text on the fly.



ON THE DISC

Donationware ✖

LargeType

www.coldpizzasoftware.com

Ever looked up a phone number on your Mac, but your phone's across the room? LargeType



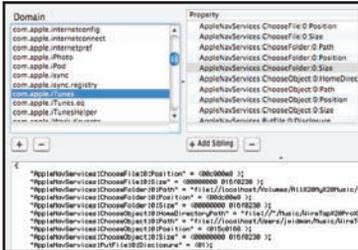
can help; it displays the phone number (or any text you select) large enough to be seen from a distance.

Maintenance Tool Kit

Think of these apps as dietary supplements for your Mac—not absolutely necessary, but health promoting.

ON THE DISC

\$20*

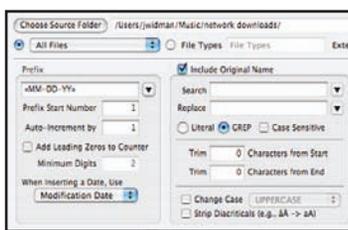


Defaults Manager Beta 8

<http://kuwan.net>

If you know what you're doing in Mac OS X's User Defaults database, use this to tweak the preferences. If you don't know what you're doing, steer clear—you could seriously harm things.

\$12.50*

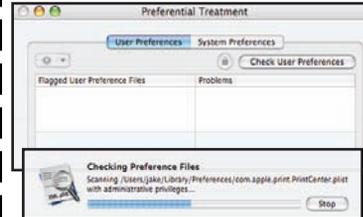


Name Those Files 2.0.6

<http://homepage.mac.com/jonn8/ntf>

If you ever need to rename a whole bunch of files (such as a roll of photos) at the same time, this is the way to go. The combination of custom and automatic settings gives you a broad range of flexibility.

Free!*



Preferential Treatment 1.1.6

<http://homepage.mac.com/jonn8/as>

Corrupt Preferences files can cause all kinds of hinkiness. Preferential Treatment (a front end to Unix's plutil command) scans both your user and system preferences and lets you root out corruption.

Canadian and Czech Army Knives

Several front ends to the built-in OS X maintenance routines are available (yeah, we know we can run the routines from the Terminal if we want; we don't). These two sacrifice some of the others' eye candy, but they're the most straightforward and easiest to understand we've seen.



Mac Pilot 2

\$9.95, www.koingosw.com (Tiger only)



Support 3

\$19, www.computer-support.ch

Oddball

Sometimes the most-interesting apps aren't easy to categorize. Here's a sampling of some quirky goodies.

ON THE DISC

\$11.95*



iFlash 2.6.3

www.loopware.com

Got a test coming up? Use your Mac as a study aid by bringing flash cards into iFlash. Make your own, or download prebuilt decks of cards for subjects ranging from cervical radiology to Latin poetry.

ON THE DISC

\$24.99*



Atomic Mac 6

www.blackcatsystems.com

It's elemental: Atomic Mac lets you see the periodic table of the elements the usual way or color-coded by properties you choose. Everything you ever wanted to know about aluminum is just a double-click away.

Donationware*

ON THE DISC

\$19.95*



Fluid 2.6.1

www.concepthouse.com

You thought the Flurry screen saver was trippy? Wait'll you see Fluid. Crank up the Copper theme, or set up your own combination of surface, reflection, 3D depth, and so on—and enjoy.



Germs 1.2.5

www.factor-software.com

Get rid of all the germs before they multiply and overrun your environment. Germs is simple but addictive, just like a good game should be.

iTunes M



PHOTOGRAPHY BY S. AMANTHA BERG



aster Class

There's more to everyone's favorite jukebox than meets the eye.

By Brad Miser

Like all of Apple's iApps, iTunes is easy to use, and a lot of power hides beneath its brushed-aluminum hood—power you may not even realize is there. Want to fill your iPod with iTunes tunes from more than one computer? Are you a fan of an online radio show that doesn't provide podcasts, but you want to listen to it in iTunes and on your iPod? Ever put a playlist in a folder and couldn't get it out again? Want to use iTunes to create smaller versions of your songs and audiobooks for your shiny new iPod nano? How about using iTunes to watch TV shows and movies that you've recorded? If these and other iTunes questions keep you up at night, prepare to sleep soundly after you learn a few lessons at iTunes University.

Manage Multiple Macs Manually

Q. Can I add songs to my iPod from different iTunes Libraries running on more than one computer—including PCs?

A. Sure—but you'll pay for it in convenience. When you use one of iTunes' automatic iPod-update options (iTunes > Preferences > iPod > Update All Songs And Playlists or Update Selected Playlists Only), a link forges between the iTunes Library through which the option is set and the iPod. Although an iPod can be linked to only one iTunes Library at a time, you can still add tunes to it from iTunes running on multiple Macs or PCs—but you'll have to do it manually.

When one of the two automatic-update options is set and you connect your iPod to a different iTunes Library on a different Mac or PC, iTunes will prompt you asking if you want to change the link to the Library on this second computer. If you click Yes at this prompt, iTunes will change the link and replace the music—all of the music—on your iPod with music from the second computer's Library—not good if you're a Twista fan and this second computer is stuffed with the collected works of Celine Dion. If you click No, the link will not change—and neither will the music on your iPod.



The iPod "ipod_mini" is linked to another iTunes music library. Do you want to change the link to this iTunes music library and replace all existing songs and playlists on this iPod with those from this library?

Do not ask me again

No Yes

When you connect an iPod that's linked to one computer to a different computer, you'll see this.

When you click No, your iPod will mount on the second computer and appear in the Source list. To add songs to your iPod from the second computer's Library, go to iTunes > Preferences > iPod, and set the iPod's update option to Manually Manage Songs And Playlists—you'll then be able to add songs from the second computer's Library to the iPod by dragging them onto its icon. After the manual update option is set, you can connect the same iPod to as many computers as you'd like—Windows PCs included—and manually move songs onto it from each. The only kicker is that you can no longer use one of the automatic update options to keep the iPod updated; you have to keep it on manual update. If you turn on automatic update again, the iPod will link to the computer to which it is connected, and all its music will be replaced. ▶

► When you reconnect your iPod back to your original Mac, you'll see that the iPod is still set to manually update, since that information is stored on the iPod, not the computer. You can reset it to update automatically if you want, but you'll replace all the songs you added manually from those other computers—unless you copy them off first using an app such as Podworks (\$8, www.scifihifi.com).

Dope Out Dupes

Q. What's the best way to find and eliminate duplicate songs from my iTunes Library?

A. Choose Edit > Show Duplicate Songs. The Content pane will now show only songs in the Library that have identical names. (You'll also see a Show All Songs button at the bottom of the window—click it to leave Displaying Duplicate Songs mode.)

Because iTunes identifies what it considers duplicate songs only by name, be careful about deleting them. For example, if you have one studio and one live version of the same song, iTunes will identify them as duplicates if they have the exact same name—you should display more information in the iTunes Content pane to determine if songs are really duplicates or not. To do so, choose Edit > View Options. In the View Options dialog, check columns that will help you better identify duplicates. At minimum you should select Album, Artist, Bit Rate, Composer, Kind, Time, and Year. Then click OK.

Name
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Great American Novel
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> He Covers Me
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> He Covers Me
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> He's All You Need
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> He's All You Need
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Here Without You
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Here Without You
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> It's Not Me
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> It's Not Me
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jump
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jump
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kryptonite

Here are songs that iTunes thinks are duplicates—some really are, but some of them aren't.

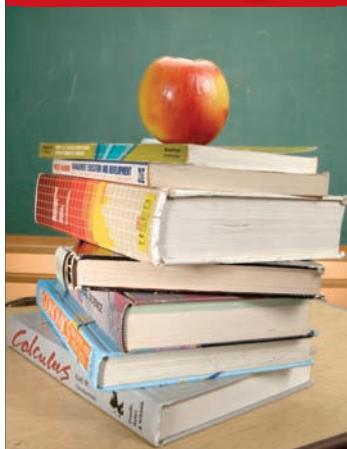
The columns you selected will appear in the Content pane—drag them around to arrange them in a more-useful order. For example, move the Artist, Time, and Kind columns to the left of the pane because these quickly identify songs that are really duplicates; for example, if the Time is different, the odds are that the songs are different versions. If all three of these columns are the same for two songs with the same name, there's a good chance the songs are duplicates—but you might want to look at the other columns to make sure; for example, compare the Bit Rate to see if you have same song at a different encoding setting—you may want to keep both (see "Shrink to Fit," p33).

If all the song info is exactly the same, it is very likely that the songs are duplicates and you can get rid of one or more of the duplicate versions. If you want to be even more precise about identifying and removing duplicates, there are apps that'll help you locate duplicate tracks—take a look at iSweep (\$15, on the Disc, www.davtri.com/index.py/softwaredetail?id=3) or iTunes Dupes Barrier (free, on the Disc, www.hyperbolicsoftware.com).

Tip

You can enter info for multiple songs by selecting those tracks together, pressing Command-I, and then entering the common information into the appropriate fields.

Quick Tune Tips



Q. I put a playlist in the wrong folder in my Source list. How do I get it out?

A. Drag the playlist that you want to move out of a folder to the left edge of the Source list; when you reach the correct location, the Source list will become highlighted with a thin blue box. Release the mouse button and the playlist will be moved outside the folder.



When you drag a playlist to the left edge of the Source list, it will move out of the folder it was in.

Q. My PowerBook died before I could deauthorize it. Now I can only play iTunes tunes on four Macs. Help!

A. *No problema!* Simply go to the iTunes Music Store and access your Account Information screen. If you've authorized five Macs, a Deauthorize All option will appear—click it to deauthorize all of them. You'll need to reauthorize all your other computers, however, and you can only do this once a year.

Q. Is there a quick way to find out what playlists I've put a song into?

A. Of course! Control-click any song's title. A Contextual Menu will pop up that gives you instant access

Share and Share Unlike

Q. I share my Mac with several other users. I'd also like to share my iTunes music with them. Can this be done? Can all the users on the same Mac share the same music files?

A. The answer to both questions is "Yes." You can use iTunes Sharing to enable anyone who uses your Mac (or is on your network) to listen to all the music in your Library or only to specific playlists. They can't, however, copy it into their own Libraries in order to create playlists, burn CDs, and so on. If you want users who have accounts on your Mac to be able to create their own playlists from the same music files, then you'll need to set up iTunes so that all users can fully share music files.

Sharing the easy way: iTunes sharing. To enable other users of your Mac to simply listen to your music, choose iTunes > Preferences > Sharing, and then check Share My Music. If you want to share all of your music, click Share Entire Library; if you want to share only selected playlists, click Share Selected Playlists and check the box for each playlist you want to share (only those playlists will appear in the other users' Source lists). Type a name for your music source in the Shared Name field. To require a password before another user can listen to your tunes, check Require Password, and enter the password in the field. Click OK. The music you selected will be available for other users—but if you're sharing over a network, playing tunes from the iTunes will require authentication by the purchaser.

to functions such as converting files and assigning ratings, as well as what you're looking for: a list of all the playlists that include that particular song.



Contextual Menus provide both information and power.

Q. Can I change what I want to put on my iPod shuffle even when it's not attached?

A. You can display your iPod shuffle in the Source list at all times by choosing iTunes > Preferences > iPod and checking Keep This iPod In The Source List. When you unmount the shuffle, its icon will remain in the Source list, and you can update it as if it were physically connected. The next time you plug your shuffle into your Mac, it will update to include the songs you added.

Q. I'm bored with the iTunes Visualizer—can I change it?

A. Sure—you can download Visualizer plug-ins from the Internet. Search the Web for *iTunes Visualizer*, or simply go straight to www.trinfinitysoftware.com/itunesplugins.shtml. Put the plug-ins and supporting files in `/user name/Library/iTunes/iTunes Plug-Ins`, launch iTunes, choose the visualizer you want from the bottom of the iTunes Visualizer menu, choose Visualizer > Turn Visualizer On, and then groove to your heart's content.



Not all visualizers are psychedelic. Some of the best, like Jewel Case (donationware, www.opticalalchemy.com) are both attractive and useful.



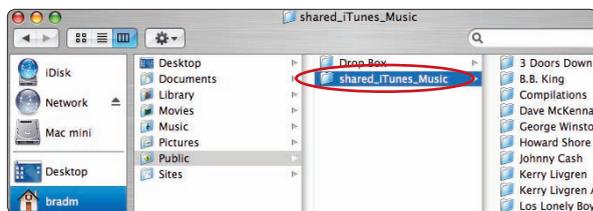
Show others how great your music taste is by sharing your music with them.

If your account is playing a tune and another user logs in using Fast User Switching, that user can switch tunes—but when you switch back to your account, your music will resume right where you left it.

Sharing the not-as-easy way: sharing music files. Instead of using iTunes Sharing, you might want to have all the users

Tip

The Browse button is replaced by the Burn Disc button when you select a playlist, but you still can access the Browser—just press Command-B.



This music folder is accessible to anyone using this Mac.

on your Mac share the same music files. Why? Several reasons. Maybe you and other users want to create playlists and burn CDs using the same music. Perhaps you want to save disk space by storing songs only once. It's also possible that you want to keep an eye on what your kids add to their Libraries—can't have the wee ones strobin' to Fiddy's "Poor Lil Rich," now can we?

To share files, move your iTunes Music folder to your Public (`/user name/Public`) folder. Rename the folder so it is more recognizable—we named ours `shared_iTunes_Music` (poetic, aren't we?). Open iTunes > Preferences > Advanced > General. The path shown in the iTunes Music Folder Location field should be that of the new location of the renamed folder (which should end in `Public:your renamed folder`). If it's not, click Change, navigate to `/Public/your renamed folder`, and click Choose. Uncheck Copy Files To iTunes Music Folder When Adding To Library. If you're prompted to have iTunes move and rename the files in your new folder, click Yes.

Now log into another user's account on your Mac. Open that user's iTunes Music folder and drag any folders it contains into `/Public/your renamed folder`. You'll be prompted to authenticate the action; click Authenticate, enter an administrator name and password, and click OK. The music folders will be moved to the public location. While still logged in under that account, launch iTunes, choose iTunes > Preferences > Advanced > General, and click Change. Navigate to `/Public/your renamed folder`, select it, click Choose, uncheck Copy Files To iTunes Music Folder When Adding To Library, and then click OK. At the prompt, click Yes. Now choose File > Add to Library. In the resulting dialog, navigate to `/Public/your renamed folder`, select it, and click Choose. All the music in that folder will become available in that user's Library, and he or she can do anything with the music except delete it.

Log into any other user accounts and repeat the previous steps to configure those accounts to use the same folder. Then switch back to your own account. In iTunes, choose File > Add To Library. In the resulting dialog, navigate to `/Public/your renamed folder`, select it, and click Choose. Any music the other users had that wasn't already in your Music library will be added to it.

With iTunes set up like this, only you will be able to add new music because you'll be the only one who has permission to change the music folder. When you want to import a CD or purchase music from the iTunes Music Store, do so from your account. You'll then need to have the other users use the Add To Library command to add that new music to their libraries.

Tip

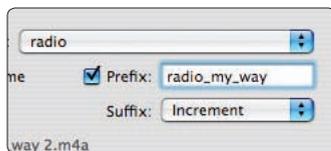
Enter *Vanilla Ice* in the Search field. Press Return, then Command-A; choose Edit > Clear, and click Remove in the dialog that appears. You'll feel better about yourself.

Wiretap the Web

Q. Some of my favorite radio shows don't offer podcasts; they provide episodes on their Web pages only in RealPlayer or Windows Media formats. How can I put these episodes in my iTunes Library so I can move them onto my iPod?

A. While many online radio shows have jumped on the podcasting bandwagon, some of your favorites might not have. Fortunately, you can use Ambrosia Software's WireTap Pro (\$19, on the Disc, www.ambrosiasw.com) to record any audio you can play on your Mac and add those recordings to your iTunes Library and iPod.

Install WireTap Pro, and make sure you have the audio app used by your target radio show—some use RealPlayer (www.real.com/player), some Windows Media Player (www.microsoft.com/mac), and some their own transparent proprietary



With these settings, recorded audio will be stored in the radio playlist, and each file will be named radio_my_way sequential number.

Open WireTap Pro, choose WireTap Pro > Preferences, click the Source tab, and choose Mac Audio in the Source pop-up menu. Click the Saving tab, choose iTunes in the Save File To pop-up

scheme—from WireTap's point of view, it doesn't matter. Next, open iTunes and create a playlist into which you'll store the show's episodes—say, The Gentle Wit of Howard Stern.

Now it's time to configure WireTap Pro to store recordings in the playlist you just created.

menu, and check Automatically Save Recordings. In the Playlist pop-up menu, choose the playlist you created earlier. Check the Application Name box and Prefix box, give your files a name in the Prefix field, and then select Incremental in the Suffix pop-up menu to number them sequentially when they're added to iTunes.

Finally, click the Format tab, and choose AAC or the format of your choice in the File Format pop-up menu. (You may also need to configure the format using the Settings button.) Click OK to save your preferences. Note that if you use an external USB sound-input device, you'll need to set the output of your system to use the Mac's internal sound circuitry by opening System Preferences > Sound, clicking the Output tab, and selecting Built-In Audio Port. You're now ready to record.

Open WireTap Pro, browse to your favorite show's Web site, and then click the link for RealPlayer, Windows Media, or another audio format. The audio will begin to play in the default app. While that's happening, move back into WireTap Pro and click the Record button. When you want to stop recording, click WireTap Pro's Stop button, and WireTap Pro will process the file and store it in your iTunes Library in the playlist you told it to in WireTap Pro's Preferences.

Move into iTunes, and select the playlist you created to store the audio; you'll see each file you just recorded, named



While WireTap Pro is recording, you'll see information about the audio being recorded at the bottom of the window.

Boob-Tube Booty

Q. I want to add my favorite TV shows to my iTunes Library so I can watch them on an iPod. How can I pull this off?

A. With some expense and a little bit of work, you can put any TV show into iTunes and move it from there onto a video-capable iPod. Here's how.

Adding TV recording capabilities to your Mac. First, you'll need to get that late-night, cable-access program about Jell-O—wrestling



philatelists onto your Mac. There are a number of ways to do this, but our favorite is by using one of Elgato's EyeTV systems, which includes the hardware and software you need to watch and record TV on your Mac. There are several variants of EyeTV, starting with the EyeTV EZ (\$149, www.elgato.com) and moving up to the EyeTV 200 (\$329) or EyeTV 500 (\$369) for HDTV. Note that the EyeTV EZ relies on software encoding, unlike the pricier 200

With EyeTV, you'll be able to watch TV and move programs to your iPod.



The low-cost EyeTV EZ (left) uses software encoding, while the EyeTV 200 (right), encodes in hardware.

and 500, which both do hardware encoding for noticeably better-quality recordings.

Installing and configuring an EyeTV system is a no-brainer. Connect the EyeTV hardware to a TV-signal source such as cable or an antenna, and then connect it to your Mac using USB or FireWire. After that, you install the EyeTV software and configure it using its Setup Assistant, which leads you through selecting the type of input you are using, identifying the channels you receive, and configuring the onscreen guide for your TV source. When that process is

complete, EyeTV will begin displaying live TV on your Mac.

To configure the EyeTV's encoder, first choose EyeTV > Device Settings. In the Encoding pane of the resulting dialog, choose your EyeTV device from the top pop-up menu. Then choose the quality level at which you want to record using the Quality pop-up menu—a good



Configure EyeTV to use an encoding option; higher quality settings use more disk space.

according to your preferences. You can play the audio within iTunes or move it to your iPod—to do the latter, make sure the desired playlist is among those you’ve configured to be updated on the iPod.

Shrink to Fit

Q. I’ve imported an entire unabridged audiobook of *War and Peace* at 160 Kbps, but now I want to shrink the files to 96 Kbps so I can fit everything on my iPod nano. Can I just convert them, or do I have to re-import them?

A. You can convert audiobook chapters or songs from one format to another without re-importing them. But before you do, realize that each time you convert a song, you create another copy of it and add another entry in your Library, making file-management more complicated. But if you want to be able to listen to a higher-quality version on your Mac while having a smaller version for your iPod, it can be worth the hassle.

To convert songs to a smaller file size, choose iTunes > Preferences > Advanced > Importing, and then choose the encoder you want to use (such as AAC Encoder or MP3 Encoder) from the Import Using pop-up menu. Then use the Setting pop-up menu to choose a lower quality level (and thus a smaller file size), such as Spoken Podcast for AAC or Custom > 96 kbps for MP3. Click OK. Select the songs you want to shrink, and then from iTunes’ main menu, choose Advanced > Convert Selection To *encoder* (the encoder will be the one you selected previously). During the conversion, the Converting icon will appear in the Source list; when the conversion is complete, you’ll see two versions of each of the songs you converted.

option with the EyeTV 200 is Standard (DVD 120 Min).

Now you’ll need to select a volume on your Mac (preferably one with lots of available disk space) on which to store your saved TV files. Choose EyeTV > Preferences, click the Storage tab, click Change, and use the Choose A Folder dialog to choose where you want to store EyeTV programs. Check the Keep Live TV Buffer In RAM check box, and enter a reasonable-size buffer in the Live TV Buffer Size field. We recommend 50MB or more, but if you’re tight on RAM, you’ll have to use a smaller value—or buy more RAM, cheapskate. Click OK.

Recording TV shows on your Mac.

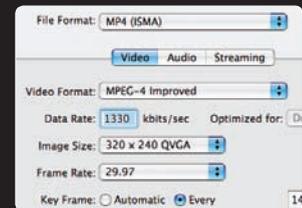
After you’ve configured your EyeTV, using it to record TV programs is a snap. There are several ways to record:

- While watching a show, click the Record button on the EyeTV Remote. The program will record and show up on the EyeTV Programs list. This is a good option for serendipitously capturing obscure stuff such as the aforementioned *Phighting Philatelists*.
- Open the online content guide, Control-click a program’s listing to bring up its Contextual Menu, and choose Record. The program will be scheduled for recording—your EyeTV will record it automatically. (Alas, you can’t tell EyeTV to record an entire series automatically.)
- Choose Window > EyeTV Programs. Click the New button. Use the New Program Info window to schedule a recording by time and channel—if, of course, you already know the time and channel of your target program.

Whichever method you use, the programs you record will be listed in the EyeTV Programs window.

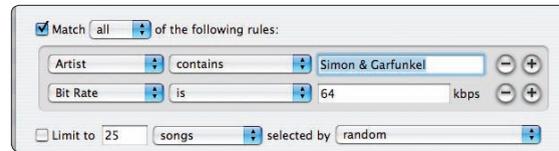
Exporting TV shows for an iPod.

In the EyeTV Programs window, select the program you want to put on your iPod. Choose File > Export. In the Save As dialog, choose MPEG-4 in the Format pop-up menu, name the file, and choose a location to save it. Click Options, and in the MPEG-4 Export Settings dialog, choose 320 x 240 QVGA in the Image Size pop-up menu. Click OK, and then click Save. Depending on the length of the program and the power of your Mac, the export process can take a few minutes or quite a while. When the process is complete, the show will open in QuickTime Player (if you didn’t disable that preference).



Use this dialog to configure an exported show for your video-capable iPod.

Moving recorded TV shows onto an iPod. After the show has been exported, moving it from iTunes to your video-capable iPod is simple. Open iTunes and choose File > Add To Library. Navigate to and select the TV show you exported from EyeTV, then click Choose. The exported file will be added to your iTunes Library. The next time you update a video-capable iPod, the program will be moved onto your iPod—prepare to be amazed at the image quality of the show.



Add Bit Rate to the search criteria of smart playlists to organize music of which you have multiple versions.

Dealing with multiple versions of the same songs can be confusing. To determine which version is which, select a song and press Command-I to open the Info window. In the Summary tab, you’ll see the Bit Rate and Format for that song. Here are some suggestions for handling multiple versions:

- Add a notation to the names of the lower-quality versions of your songs so they’re easy to spot—LQ, for example.
- Create a smart playlist with a single criterion—the Bit Rate of the lower-quality music—to collect all the lower-quality music in one playlist. Use it to create other playlists.
- Create smart playlists based on Artist, Album, or whatever, and add Bit Rate to the search criteria. This will collect songs of the same quality level into those smart playlists.

If you want to fit more music on your iPod, use the lower-quality versions. The easiest way to do this is to set your iPod to automatically update only selected playlists, and then choose only the lower-quality playlists. ■

Tip

To incrementally back up items as you add them to the iTunes Library, create a smart playlist that finds files added in the past x days, and burn it to CD or DVD.

When he isn’t watching TV in iTunes or on his video-capable iPod, Brad Miser writes books such as *Absolute Beginner’s Guide to iPod and iTunes*. Contact him at bradmacosx@mac.com.

Image Is Everything

By Johnathon Williams

Use an image-editing app, and you can quickly get lost in a forest of arcane terminology—an indigestible mix of darkroom lingo from the pre-digital era, gnarly geek speak, plus a little bit of English thrown in for fun. Here, we've compiled some of the repeat offenders into a handy translation guide. Keep it next to your Mac, and fix your photos without fear.

Darkroom Lingo

Photographers were editing images long before the invention of the Mac. These digital tools and techniques are throwbacks to those analog days—and no image-editing app is complete without them.

BRIGHTNESS

The overall lightness of a photograph. Increasing brightness lightens the tonal range of a photograph across the board, reducing *contrast* (see below). Too much brightness makes a photograph look faded and washed out.

BURNING AND DODGING

Techniques for darkening or lightening an area of a photograph, respectively. Originally, photographers accomplished these tasks during print making by exposing parts of the print for longer (burning) or lesser (dodging) periods of time.

CONTRAST

The tonal distance between the brightest and darkest values in a photograph. Increasing the contrast widens that distance, expanding the tonal range. A little more contrast is almost always good.

CROP

A technique for removing unwanted sections of a photograph by redrawing its boundaries—anything outside the new boundary is discarded.

EXPOSURE (OVER- AND UNDER-)

An overexposed photograph is one that was shot with too much light—colors appear washed out and bleached. An underexposed photograph is one with too little light—colors appear dark and faded.

PANORAMA

An extremely wide-angle photograph, often produced by stitching together a series of individual photographs.

RED EYE

When a flash is fired into a subject's eyes at close range, the subject's retinas reflect the red portion of the light. That reflection is captured in the photograph—making your subject look like a demon.

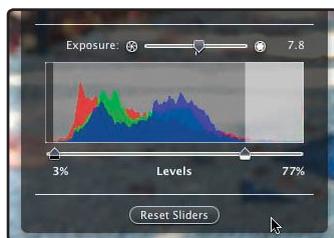
SHARPEN

A software-based filter that enhances detail by increasing the differences in color and contrast of adjacent pixels. Sharpening can make an out-of-focus photograph presentable or tease more detail out of an already-presentable picture. Too much sharpening can make a photo look grainy.

HISTOGRAM

A histogram is a graph of the amount of image data throughout the tonal range of your image, with darker values on the left and lighter values on the right. A flat area or break indicates a part of the spectrum that doesn't appear in your image.

TIP: To improve your photo using iPhoto's histogram, move the right-hand slider to the left until it just meets that end of the graph. That sets the whitest point in the image. Move the left slider to the right to set the blackest point. Finally, use the Exposure slider (or Photoshop's middle slider) to set the middle ranges to your liking.

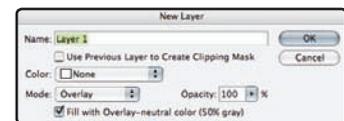


Manipulate the histogram to bring out more detail in your photo.

TIP: BURNING AND DODGING

The dodge and burn tools (see definition, above) in Photoshop work fairly well, but they have one big drawback: They permanently alter the pixels you use them on. Here's a risk-free way to achieve the same effect.

From the Layers palette, choose New Layer. (For this trick, you can't use the New Layer button at the bottom of the palette). Choose Overlay from the Mode pull-down, and check the box below to fill it with 50% gray. Next, choose a soft brush of an appropriate size and set the Opacity to about 5%. Set your Foreground and Background colors to black and white. Paint with black on the new layer, and watch your image gently darken; paint with white to lighten it. If you paint it too dark, just go back over it with white.



An Overlay layer lets you darken or lighten your image without fear.

Geek Speak

Digital photography and editing have created a slew of terms that would have left Ansel Adams scratching his head. These are the ones you can't live without.

ANTI-ALIASING

Technology that creates the appearance of a smooth edge on graphics, type, and other images. Anti-aliasing blends the colors of pixels along a line or edge to provide a more-gradual transition and reduce the appearance of the stair-step pattern often referred to as *jaggies*.

COLOR PROFILE

A file that defines the *gamut* (see below) and color calibration of a particular monitor or printer. Magazine publishers, poster printers, and other professional prepress environments use profiles to ensure that color is accurately translated from the screen into print. With an advanced printer such as the Epson Stylus Photo R800 and an advanced image-editing app such as Adobe Photoshop, you can take advantage of profiles, too.

FEATHERING

A method for softening the edges of a selected area within an image. Feathering is especially useful when cutting out an element for pasting into another photograph; meddling becomes less obvious as the seams become less defined.

GAMUT

The range of color that can be captured or reproduced by a particular device. A digital camera, LCD display, and color printer all have different gamuts. The greater the gamut offered by a device, the more realistic its image reproduction can be.

GAUSSIAN BLUR

A softening filter that blurs an image according to a Gaussian, or bell-shaped, curve. (The math behind the curve is based on the work of German mathematician Carl Gauss.) A gentle pass

with this filter can create smooth-looking skin in a portrait—think glamour shots—but too much makes an image appear out of focus. Gaussian Blur is also useful for making digital noise less prominent.

MASKING

A technique for blending separate images together using the boundaries of one image to define a transparent area in another. This is also a way of protecting bounded parts of an image from changes you're making to other parts.

RAW

The image-file format of choice for professional photographers, RAW captures all of the data recorded by a digital camera's sensors with zero compression. The result is larger file size (compared to JPG, though not to TIFF) and unparalleled quality. Once the exclusive purview of high-end cameras and image editors, it has since become available in midrange products.

RESOLUTION

The size of a digital image measured in horizontal and vertical pixels. Because greater resolution provides more detail in an image and more options for print size, the higher the resolution of your digital camera or scanner, the better chance you have of getting a high-quality image.

UNSHARP MASK

Contrary to its name, this filter increases the sharpness of an image. It differs from the ordinary sharpening filter by offering more-advanced controls that allow the user to select which pixels are sharpened and fine-tune the degree of sharpening.

LAYERS

Layers separate elements in an image so that they can be adjusted independently of one another. In Photoshop, you reveal or hide layers by clicking the eye icons in the Layers palette; controls at the top let you determine how a layer interacts with the one below it. You can change the order by dragging them up or down the list in the Layers palette.

TIP: The Background layer is a stubborn one! It won't budge—unless you double-click it in the Layers palette. After that, it will behave like any other layer.



Layers can be dragged to alter the order in which they appear.

TIP: HIGH-PASS SHARPENING

Unsharp Mask (see definition, above) is a sophisticated tool that can be difficult to use. Here's a different way to sharpen that gives excellent results—and is permanently undoable. First, copy your image onto a new layer (Command-J). Go to Filter > Other > High Pass, and choose a radius of about 7.0. Click OK. Then choose Soft Light from the blending-mode pull-down menu. Bam! Your image is sharper. Reduce the opacity of the top layer if you think the effect is too strong. Because this method mostly sharpens your image's edges, it doesn't create as much noise. Plus, you can always delete the sharpening layer if you want to abandon ship.



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You'll be impressed.



You'll be satisfied.



You'll be disappointed.



You'll be pissed off.

What's better than a product with immediate visual impact? How about a product that backs up its good looks with excellent execution, such as Altec Lansing's inMotion iM7 (pictured)? The same can be said about Palm's new TX handheld PDA and Apple's Power Mac G5 Quad. Freeverse's Comic Life Deluxe Edition may not sound like much, but trust us—software should always be this fun and easy. Next month, we'll take a look at Apple's Aperture, cases for your iPod nano, Ableton's Live 5, Canon's Huey (Dewey and Louie were no-shows), and a lot more.

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PLUS: TheHotList

55 The best of the best from recent reviews.



PHOTOGRAPH BY MARK WADEO



Compatible with Mac OS X or later.



Compatible with Mac OS 9 or earlier.



We'd spend our own hard-earned money on this product.

Power Mac G5 Quad 2.5GHz



POWER-PACKED TOWER MAC

How many PowerPC processors does it take to make the world's fastest desktop Mac? Four. OK, on paper, the Power Mac G5 Quad 2.5GHz has two processors, but as we explained in "New Power Mac G5s: Big Iron" (Jan/06, p27), each of the Quad's IBM 970MP processors is essentially two processors

cheaper, third-party reseller and install it yourself, which is a snap). The stock video card is a 256MB nVidia GeForce 6600 that's capable of running Apple's 30-inch Cinema Display (●●●●● Feb/05, p36). You get dual Gigabit Ethernet ports so you can, for example, connect to an Xsan storage network

other recent top-of-the-line Power Macs, we didn't notice these subtle speed improvements.

We first ran a series of tests using popular apps on both the Quad and a dual 2.7GHz Power Mac G5 with the stock 512MB RAM configuration. (We ran all of our tests with the processor performance set to Highest in System Preferences > Energy Saver > Options.) We saw an 11-percent speed increase on the Quad when performing a complex Photoshop CS2 Action on a 100MB file and a 25-percent increase when exporting video in iMovie HD. The Quad was 11-percent faster when running Unreal Tournament 2004's flyby and botmatch tests. When creating a DVD image in iDVD and importing Alex Wise's *Front Porch* music CD in iTunes, both Power Macs clocked similar times—the SuperDrive is the performance bottleneck.

However, if you use apps that can take advantage of a load o' RAM, you'll see bigger improvements. For example, Adobe Photoshop's performance increased dramatically—by 40 percent—when we boosted the Quad's RAM from 512MB to 1GB. When we went from 512MB to 4GB, we saw an 80-percent increase. "Wow!" is an understatement.

Like previous top-of-the-line Power Macs, the Quad is liquid cooled. We noticed fan noise during processor-intensive tasks, but it's not as apparent as it is with the dual 2.7GHz Power Mac G5. The Quad makes the most noise when you insert a disc into its SuperDrive—it reminded us of a plane taking off.

The bottom line. With its \$3,299 price tag, the Quad isn't for everyone, and adding RAM (you'd be crazy not to) pushes the price up further. The Quad is ideal for pros who process large files on a regular basis—video, audio, images, 3D art and animation, and so on. There's a whole lotta power under this baby's hood.—*Roman Loyola*



Remember Apple's Quadra line? It's back—sorta.



Added slots: One more Ethernet and one more USB.

and the Internet at the same time. Bluetooth and AirPort antennae are now internal—a nice touch. Finally, PCI Express (aka PCIe) expansion

slots replace the older PCI-X and AGP slots; the new serial architecture is fast, but unfortunately, PCIe isn't backward compatible with PCI and AGP cards.

Speed. In general, everything about the Quad feels noticeably faster than the dual 2.7GHz Power Mac G5—Finder windows are snappier, apps with notoriously long startup times (such as Adobe's Photoshop) launch faster, and documents open more quickly. It may seem trivial to point that out, but we're pointing it out for a reason: When testing

on one chip. Two dual-core processors equal four single-core processors, giving the aptly named Power Mac G5 Quad the processing power of four G5 processors.

That's not the only thing to get excited about. There's a lot of new hardware in the Quad, such as DDR2 memory and a maximum RAM capacity of 16GB (the Quad comes stock with 512MB—you'll probably want to buy more from a

COMPANY: Apple
CONTACT: 800-795-1000 or 408-996-1010, www.apple.com
PRICE: \$3,299

SPECIFICATIONS: Two dual-core 2.5GHz PowerPC G5 processors, 512MB of 533MHz DDR2 SDRAM, 1MB L2 cache per core, 250GB SATA hard drive, SuperDrive, 256MB nVidia GeForce 6600 video card

GOOD NEWS: Four processors in one Mac! Woo hoo!

BAD NEWS: Pricy. Built-in PCIe is not backward compatible with AGP and PCI-X cards.



LaCie silverscreen

SIMPLE-BUT-EFFECTIVE MEDIA PLAYER

There's a confounding disconnect between your TV and the audio, pictures, and videos on your Mac. Fortunately, there's LaCie's silverscreen, a hard drive with a built-in software interface that offers a refreshingly manageable way to display your Mac media on your TV.

To load video, photos, or audio files onto silverscreen, you simply connect it to your Mac via USB with the included USB cable. (If your USB port doesn't provide enough juice to power the silverscreen, LaCie includes a dual-port USB plug that connects to both the USB cable and an included power adapter.) Once the drive mounts on the desktop, you drag the files into the appropriate folders: photos (JPEGs only) into Pictures, audio (WAV, MP3, AC3, and unprotected AAC—sorry, no music from the iTunes Music Store) into Music, and video (AVI, DivX, and XviD MPEG-4; AVI, VOB, and ISO MPEG-2; and MPEG-1) into Movies.

There is one catch: The silverscreen is preformatted as a FAT32 drive, so that means it has a file-size limit of 4GB. If you have videos that are bigger than 4GB, either figure out a way to cut down the size, or reformat the silverscreen as an HFS+ drive. You can do this with the included silverscreen software CD, but that comes with another caveat: LaCie preformats with FAT32 because it's the only format that offers cross-platform reading and writing. HFS+ can't mount on Windows PCs. If you have access to Windows, you can opt to reformat the silverscreen as an NTFS drive—but then your Mac would only be able to read from the silverscreen and not write to it.



Here's the link between your television and the music, pictures, and videos on your Mac.

LaCie includes a cable that lets you connect the silverscreen to your TV via composite video or S-Video; it also includes a standard European Scart RGB adapter. You use the included power adapter to power the silverscreen when it's attached to your TV. The silverscreen also comes with an S/PDIF cable so you can play audio through your home-theater receiver, but you'll need a TV and the included remote to navigate the interface. Simply select one of the four onscreen icons—Movies, Music, Pictures, and Settings—to get going.

The remote control is chock-full of buttons, but unfortunately, it's not intuitive. We had to constantly look at the remote to press the correct navigational buttons, and there's no tactile way to tell the difference between buttons. Some of the buttons, such as the volume controls, felt awkwardly placed. And while the remote is light and thin, it has no backlight, making it almost impossible to see in a dark room.

That's entertainment. While the remote is confusing, the silverscreen software interface is a breeze to navigate—it's a lot like navigating through a DVD movie. After you select

the media icon from the opening screen, you're taken to a list of the appropriate files on the silverscreen. For example, if you select Pictures, the next screen shows a list of pictures, each with a thumbnail. To play or view the file, you select it using the navigation buttons and press Play Enter on the remote. Automatic slide shows (sans music—boo!) for pictures and shuffle for audio are also available.

When manually navigating through a series of photos or sound files, we experienced noticeable lag. For example, when viewing pictures, there was a five-second gap between the time we pressed the remote's Next button and when the image appeared. Unfortunately, there's no visual indicator to tell you that a file is loading—that would have stopped us from mashing the remote buttons because we thought the silverscreen didn't receive the remote's signal.

Pictures and movies from the silverscreen look great, and audio is quite good. Overall playback quality, of course, depends on the quality of your files—what bit rates you used for sound, compression levels for your JPEGs, and so on—but the silverscreen doesn't degrade media quality.

The bottom line. Despite some of its quirks, the silverscreen takes little effort to set up and use, and the payoff is big. It's nice to have a simple method of viewing media from your Mac on your TV. No muss, little fuss.—*Roman Loyola*



Silverscreen's software interface makes it easy to get to your picture, movies, and music.



COMPANY: LaCie
CONTACT: 503-844-4500, www.lacie.com
PRICE: \$219.99 (40GB), \$279.99 (80GB, tested)

REQUIREMENTS: USB-equipped Mac; Mac OS 9.x or later; display or TV with RCA, S-Video, Scart, VGA, or YPbPr input

GOOD NEWS: Compact. Easy to use. Offers drag-and-drop file transfers.

BAD NEWS: Can't play music with slide shows. Can't navigate controls while playing music. Confusing remote.

MacAddict RATED



TX handheld & Z22 handheld

CONTRASTING PALM PDAS



Whether the TX (right) or Z22 (left) is the right handheld for you depends on what you want your PDA to do.

Palm's new PDAs, the TX handheld and Z22 handheld, are two very different devices geared toward two very different users. The TX is a feature-rich, viable alternative to your iBook, while the Z22 simply acts as a digital replacement for your paper-based date and address books.

TX handheld. Not everyone wants to lug a laptop on the road just to check email. The TX proves to be a sturdy, affordable alternative. Equipped with Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, and a luxuriously large screen, the TX lets you quickly browse the Web or catch up on email whenever you're in range of a Wi-Fi hotspot.

Measuring 4.8 by 3.1 by 0.6 inches and weighing 5.25 ounces, the TX packs powerful features into its slim package. It has a simple matte black finish that provides a nice, subtle frame for the ultrabright, gorgeous 320-by-480-pixel display. A row of buttons along the bottom of the screen lets you easily call up the writing area (or onscreen

keyboard) when you need it, as well as turn the display to landscape mode for reading email, browsing Web pages, or looking at horizontal photos.

Using the TX's built-in Wi-Fi couldn't be simpler. To enable it, you just click the Wi-Fi button located at the bottom of the screen to scan for nearby networks. Calling up the Blazer Web browser or checking for email automatically prompts the TX to connect to a network. Because Blazer is a full-on HTML browser (most handheld devices have special browsers

playing MP3s; unfortunately, there's no support for music purchased from the iTunes Music Store. To listen, just load your music up on an SD card and stick it into the unit's SDIO slot. Tunes play through the integrated speaker, or you can plug headphones into the jack on top. Unlike on some previous Palm devices, music played smoothly—without stopping or stuttering—even when we were browsing the Web or sending files via Bluetooth. We do have one aural complaint, however: The

that render special Web pages designed for the small screen), we had to do a lot of scrolling to find what we were looking for on CNN.com's overcrowded home page. The VersaMail email app is a breeze to set up thanks to the inclusion of profiles for common services, including Mac.com, Gmail, and AOL. All we had to do was enter our user name and indicate that we had a .Mac account—the TX filled in the rest, and we were receiving mail within a minute. The TX syncs contact information with your Mac, so VersaMail autofills any email addresses that you have stored.

The TX isn't all business. It also has the Pocket Tunes music player for

TX handheld

COMPANY: Palm
CONTACT: 800-881-7256, www.palm.com
PRICE: \$299
REQUIREMENTS: USB-equipped Mac, Mac OS 10.2.8 or later



GOOD NEWS: Wi-Fi. Beautiful high-res screen. Email and Web on the road.

BAD NEWS: Odd speaker location. So-so battery life.



Z22 handheld

COMPANY: Palm
CONTACT: 800-881-7256, www.palm.com
PRICE: \$99
REQUIREMENTS: USB-equipped Mac, Mac OS 10.2.8 or later



GOOD NEWS: Affordable. Simple controls. Super small and lightweight.

BAD NEWS: Chintzy body. Hideous low-res display.





With its great music player and 2-megapixel camera (above), the W800i is everything the ROKR should've been—and then some.



W800i Walkman

FEATURE-PACKED MUSIC-PLAYING MOBILE PHONE

We're truly smitten with the W800i Walkman. This little wonder isn't just a phone, music player, and 2-megapixel camera in one small, convenient package—it's what Motorola's ROKR iTunes phone (Dec/05, p40) should have been, and proof that a mobile phone can indeed replace other gadgets in your pockets.

The W800i's music player is its best feature. The included 512MB Memory Stick Pro Duo card holds about 110 songs (you can buy cards with more capacity). To transfer songs to the phone, just connect it to your Mac with the included USB 2.0 cable, and then either use the Finder to drag MP3 or unprotected AAC files to the phone's mounted memory card, or get a third-party utility such as Dreamsicle (\$11.95, <http://kaisakura.com>) or

iTuneMyWalkman (free, on the Disc, <http://ilari.scheinin.fidisk.fi>) to transfer music and existing playlists from iTunes. You can easily build playlists directly in the phone, as well.

Music limits. Sadly, the W800i can't play the copy-protected tracks you buy from the iTunes Music Store. Freeware apps such as JHymn (free, <http://hymn-project.org>) can strip copy protection from your iTunes tracks so you can play

TIP

W800i UTILITIES

If your Mac freezes when you disconnect the W800i, run K750iGrabber (donationware, <http://www-users.kawo2.rwth-aachen.de/~razzfazz/k750igrabber>) to fix the problem. If music files don't play, use FinderCleaner (free, on the Disc, www.boswortels.tk) for an easy fix.

them on the W800i, but such tampering is illegal—at least in the United States.

To play tunes, just press the W800i's Walkman button, and then use its straightforward menus to choose a track, artist, or playlist. Music plays through in-ear headphones that include a mic for voice chats—the sound quality is slightly weaker than what you get through iPod buds. You can tweak the sound with a built-in equalizer, and the phone's tiny stereo speakers sound surprisingly good. The W800i's menus and other features work smoothly while it's playing music, and the phone can pause music when you make or take a call. The W800i has no bookmark feature, however, which makes it a bad choice for long-form audiobooks and podcasts.

Shutter to think. The W800i's camera is first-rate. Use the phone's 178-by-220-pixel screen to frame your subject, and snap your pic with a dedicated shutter button (you can turn on a flash-like light for shots in dim settings).

The W800i's pics are the sharpest we've seen from a camera phone, and at 2 megapixels, they're big enough to crop and still maintain detail—or even print. You can use a wireless Bluetooth connection to transfer pics to your Mac, but using a USB connection automatically triggers iPhoto, which recognizes the W800i as a camera so you can import pics straight into your photo albums.

The W800i's battery lasted us a couple of days, despite hours of phone chats and music listening. The phone's menus are speedy and well organized, and we had no problems using iSync and Bluetooth to transfer our iCal events and Address Book contacts, including street addresses and multiple phone numbers per contact.

The bottom line. The W800i is the first phone we've found that can truly replace our iPod shuffle for casual music listening and our point-and-shoot digital camera for fun snapshots. The only thing we can't warmly praise is the W800i's \$499 price tag—but we think it's worth the cost.—*Helmut Kobler*

IMAGE COURTESY OF SONY ERICSSON



COMPANY: Sony Ericsson
CONTACT: 866-766-9374,
www.sonyericsson.com
PRICE: \$499

REQUIREMENTS:
USB-equipped Mac

GOOD NEWS: Small, well-designed phone. Easy syncing with Mac data. Good battery life.

BAD NEWS: Doesn't play iTunes Music Store tunes. No bookmark feature. Pricey.





The ultimate tool for large media-processing tasks.

technical support was very responsive and attributed some of the glitches to known issues with Mac OS X. The company also assured us that the problems would be fixed in an upcoming update.

DeBabelizer Server.

Any discussion of DeBabelizer Pro 6 would be incomplete without mentioning DeBabelizer Server, a

new product that lets DeBabelizer Pro 6 users send their media-processing jobs to a server, which then delivers the resulting files to any offline location or FTP site. DeBabelizer Server also automatically compresses processed files and sends them to colleagues and clients via email. Configuring DeBabelizer Server is not a simple plug-and-play operation, but once you get it working, it's a production juggernaut. You can set up hot folders on the server or create aliases of hot folders on client machines, and then drag and drop individual files, folders, or entire volumes onto a hot folder for processing on the server. Other features include the ability to create Joblets (similar to Droplets) for drag-and-drop server processing or job-status notification via text message or email. DeBabelizer Pro 6 includes a free 15-day trial version of DeBabelizer Server, so you can try it without shelling out any cabbage.

The bottom line. If your image-conversion needs are modest, you can probably get by with Photoshop or Lemkesoft's GraphicConverter. However, neither of these products holds a candle to DeBabelizer Pro 6 when it comes to industrial-strength media-processing capabilities.—*John Cruise*

DeBabelizer Pro 6

MAMMOTH MEDIA-PROCESSING SOFTWARE

DeBabelizer Pro 6 is a comprehensive tool for file conversion, image editing, and media optimization. It supports an impressively large number of graphic, animation, and video formats and is capable of handling large media-processing jobs. It also includes powerful automation features that can reduce the most complex conversion job to a simple drag-and-drop operation.

While mastering DeBabelizer's feature set is a daunting task, getting started can be as simple as dragging files or folders onto any of DeBabelizer's 44 sample Droplets (AppleScripts that execute one or more DeBabelizer actions), and you can execute a Droplet without launching DeBabelizer. Sample Droplets include Convert RGB To CMYK, Convert CMYK To RGB With Alpha, Rotate Left, Rotate Right, and Trim Solid Color Edges. All Droplets are also available as Automator Actions, which means Tiger users can employ them (and any custom-built Actions) in multi-app workflows.

Power center. If your work requires more than what Droplets offer, you

can create a custom sequence of DeBabelizer actions called a *workflow*. The ability to create workflows and use them with DeBabelizer's Batch feature (which lets you group files from multiple folders) is the heart of DeBabelizer's power, but it's also where things start to get less intuitive. The good news is that DeBabelizer's interface is replete with context-sensitive help. The bad news is that if you need more information than the help offers, the PDF user's guide provides little in the way of context—it's more of a reference manual. The electronic help file, which ties into Apple's anemic Help system, is essentially a carbon copy of the PDF guide. Equilibrium would do well to look at the robust help system for Adobe's Creative Suite 2.

Speaking of stuff that needs a little work, the software has a few glitches. One simple test Droplet we created occasionally crashed the app, and when it did work, the auto-naming feature incorrectly produced duplicate file names. To its credit, Equilibrium



COMPANY: Equilibrium
CONTACT: 415-332-4343,
www.equilibrium.com
PRICE: \$399.95 (full), \$199.95 (upgrade)

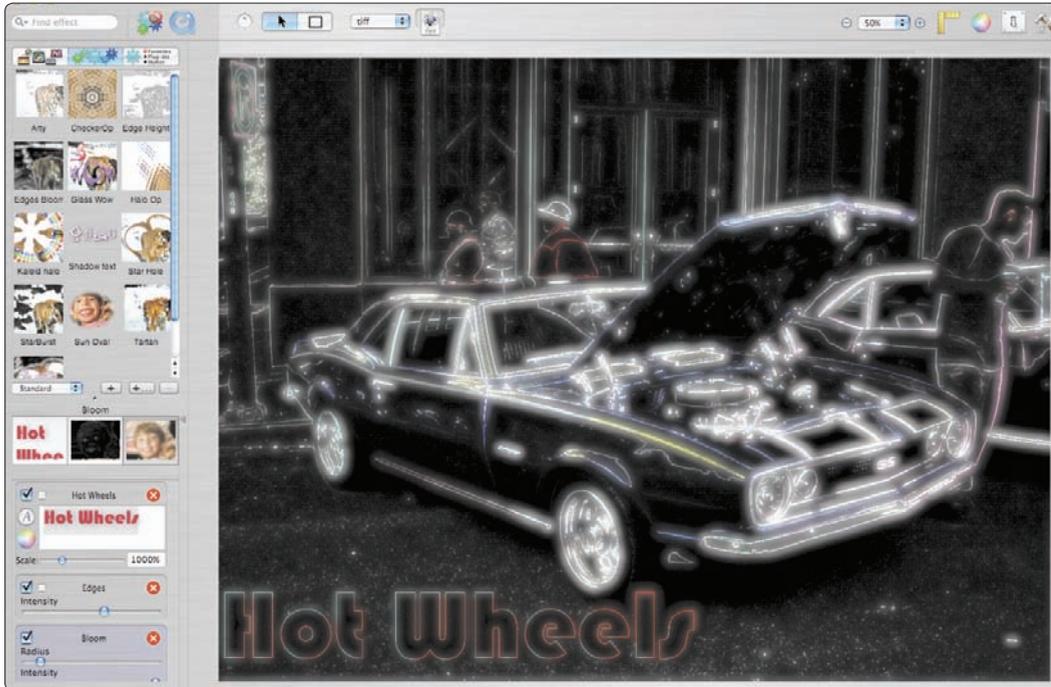
REQUIREMENTS: G3, Mac OS
10.3 or later, 128MB RAM, Internet
connection

GOOD NEWS: Extensive feature set. Many graphic formats supported. Powerful automation capabilities.
BAD NEWS: Learning curve is difficult. Comprehensive documentation is not user-friendly. Some bugs need fixing.



iMaginator

SIMPLE IMAGE EDITOR



iMaginator makes it easy to create cool effects, but it lacks layer-management skills.

Apple added some seriously cool visual mojo to Mac OS 10.4 (Tiger) with Core Image, a boatload of image-processing routines built into the operating system. Stone Design's iMaginator is a simple front end to these effects (and even a few more), and it's a nice way to see Core Image in action. But iMaginator's limitations prevent it from becoming a serious image editor.

Getting started with iMaginator is as effortless as it gets—simply load an image (JPEG, TIFF, or PICT, though iMaginator surprisingly doesn't support PICT for export) into the main working window and start playing. A nicely categorized list of effects appears on the left side of the main document window. We like that you can search for a specific effect by name without having to wade through the long list of all the Core Image effects—100 of 'em, which should keep you busy for a bit—and

Stone Design even includes nine effects of their own: Polka Dots, for example, is a fun way to break an image up into colored dots; Stone's masking plug-ins, on the other hand, are less impressive. Specific combinations of effects can be saved together as effects "chains" in the app's library, allowing them to be used as effects macros on other images—a nice touch.

Edit tools. iMaginator has basic tools for creating text; it also has some rudimentary painting tools with two brush shapes (square and round), though their performance is downright glacial even on our dual 2GHz Power Mac G5. The seemingly cool QuickTime animation option automatically animates a selected Core Image Effect and lets you save the results as a QuickTime movie, but you have no significant control over the process; iMaginator decides what it will and won't animate.

For example, when an effect has multiple control sliders, iMaginator animates only the first control slider and completely ignores the others. The tool ends up being a cute toy that's completely meaningless when it comes to actual animation work.

Which brings us to our interface gripes: Forget about reordering multiple images in a stack, changing the opacity of a single layer, or applying effects to a single layer at a time—an applied effect changes everything in a layered document, and while there are

some lengthy workarounds, this is far less than stellar behavior in an app designed to apply filters to images. If this were version 1.0, we might understand, but this is 2.0. Fortunately, Stone Design provides free upgrades for the life of the company; hopefully we'll see a more-robust interface in the future.

You need Tiger to get the most out of iMaginator, but the app will still work if you're using an older version of OS X—it'll just work more slowly. The trick is that Tiger makes everything work pretty much in real time, although we started running into slowdown when more than a few layers and a handful of effects were loaded into a document.

The bottom line. iMaginator gives you inexpensive access to Core Image routines, but there are freeware apps available such as LiveQuartz (www.rhaposoft.com) that do so at no cost.

—David Biedny



COMPANY: Stone Design
CONTACT: 505-345-4800,
www.stone.com
PRICE: \$49

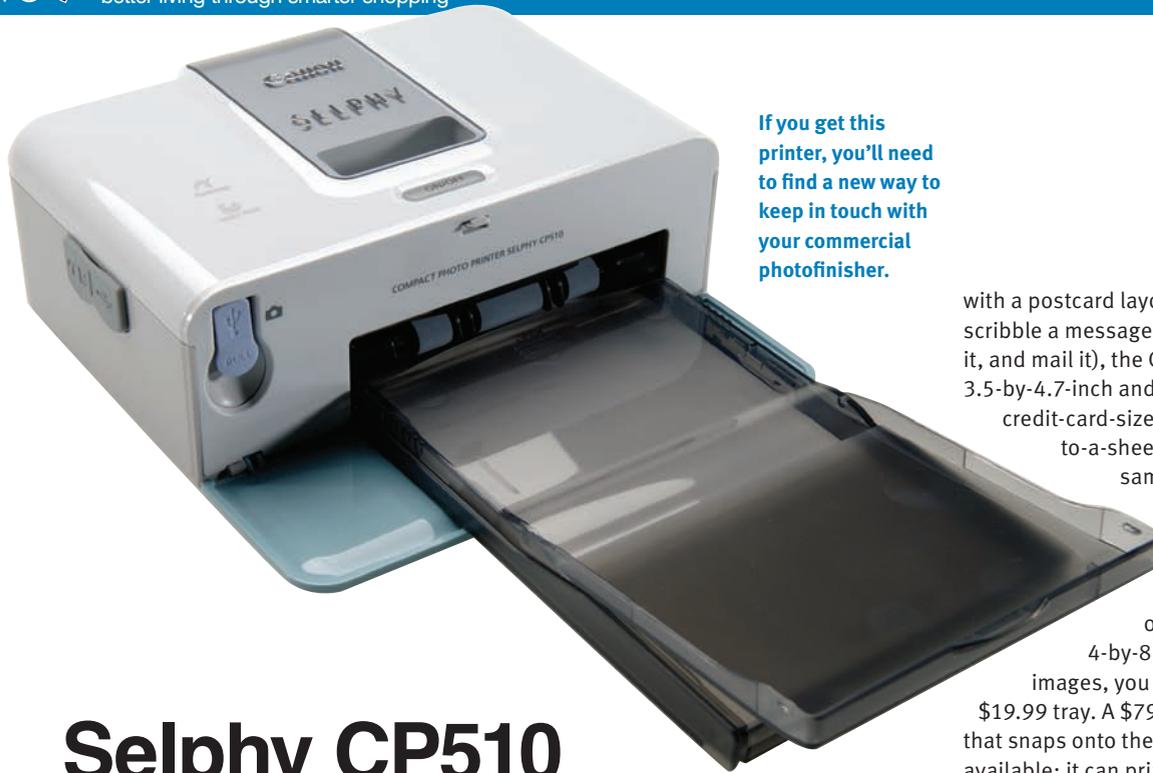
REQUIREMENTS:
Mac OS 10.4 or later

GOOD NEWS: Good Core Image support. Effects chaining. Inexpensive. Free upgrades for the life of the company.

BAD NEWS: Weak layering capabilities. Tepid QuickTime animation. Crippled layering interface.

MacAddict RATED

50-50



If you get this printer, you'll need to find a new way to keep in touch with your commercial photofinisher.

with a postcard layout so you can scribble a message, address it, stamp it, and mail it), the CP510 also prints 3.5-by-4.7-inch and 2.1-by-3.4-inch credit-card-size pictures or eight-to-a-sheet labels, all with the same media and the same supplied paper cassette—even though the manual says otherwise. If you print 4-by-8-inch panoramic images, you need an optional \$19.99 tray. A \$79.99 battery pack that snaps onto the printer is also available; it can print around three-dozen 4-by-6-inch photos before it needs recharging.

Selphy CP510

SUBLIME PHOTO PRINTER

Canon's Selphy CP510 printer is an ideal companion for any PictBridge-compliant camera. In under a minute, you can have beautiful 4-by-6-inch borderless prints that rival those from commercial photofinishers.

The CP510 prints via dye sublimation, a technology in which a print head vaporizes cyan, magenta, yellow, and black dye on ribbons to produce an image. You'll need to leave room behind the CP510 for the print media to move back and forth as each dye color is used—something the manual fails to mention. Coated dye-sub prints can last as long as conventional film prints and don't smear when they get wet.

No fuss. The CP510 is extremely compact (7 by 5.2 by 2.5 inches, though it grows to 12.5 inches in length with the paper carrier installed) and weighs only 33 ounces. Setup is easy—just plug in the printer, insert the included dye-sub ribbon cartridge, load the included five sheets of media into a carrier, push the carrier into a front slot on the printer, and press the power button. The five-print starter kit won't get you far—you'll

want to buy Canon's 108-sheet color-and-ink package for \$29.99.

The C510 has three different USB attachment schemes. The first is a too-short retractable cable that plugs into most cameras. If yours isn't a match, a standard USB-A port lets you use the cable that came with your camera. A separate USB-B port can tether the printer to your Mac. You also get Mac-compatible driver software, an image browser, and a panorama-stitching app.

In addition to 4-by-6-inch photos and postcards (the back side is preprinted

Fast. We plugged a Canon PowerShot A410 (see *Reviews*, p52) into the printer, selected an image, and pressed the print button on the camera. Our print was done 58 seconds later—just like Canon said it would be. Of course, that's what we expected when two Canon products interfaced—you'll only get prints that quickly when using a Canon camera with a Digic II processor. To see how long it would take to print images from other cameras, we plugged in an Olympus Evolt E-300 (●●●●● May/04, p41), selected its PictBridge mode in the menu, chose a picture, and issued the print command. It took 42 seconds longer, but it worked without a hitch. Ditto for a Pentax *istDS.

As for the image quality—did you not catch the “prints that rival commercial photofinishers” statement at the beginning of this review? The CP510 yields accurate, vibrant colors and excellent detail.

The bottom line. If you're looking for an inexpensive printer that quickly outputs small-size, high-quality photos on the cheap, the CP510 is the way to go.—Arthur Bleich

TIP

PREP YOUR CAMERA FOR PRETTY PRINTS

To get top-notch image quality for printed photos, you need to start at your camera. Ditch its bundled memory card and get one with a larger capacity. You'll need it, because high image quality means large file sizes. If your camera offers you a choice of file formats, don't pick JPEG—instead, pick TIFF or RAW. Your files will be large, which is why you'll need a more-capacious memory card.



COMPANY: Canon
CONTACT: 800-652-2666,
www.canonusa.com

PRICE: \$99
REQUIREMENTS: USB-equipped
Mac, Mac OS 10.2 or later

GOOD NEWS: Affordable. Fast setup. Works perfectly right out of the box. Excellent print quality.
BAD NEWS: Comes with a measly five sheets of paper. Short built-in camera cord.

MacAddict RATED
●●●●●
GREAT

Mercury Elite-AL PRO 800 RAID

SPEEDY AND SOLID RAID ARRAY

With hard drives getting less expensive every day and your video, audio, and image collections steadily growing, it may be time to consider an entry-level RAID array such as the Mercury Elite-AL PRO 800 RAID. You can get a 160GB setup for a mere \$239.99 or max out at 1TB for \$949.99. If you edit media, you'll definitely appreciate the speed benefits of this out-of-the-box RAID 0 system (you can also switch to RAID 1 with a firmware upgrade from OWC's Web site).

The Mercury Elite isn't the only RAID array that has an industrial-strength aluminum case that looks similar to the Power Mac G5—there's also Huge Systems' MediaVault U320-R (●●●●● Dec/04), though Huge's RAID 0/3 array

has higher-end customers in mind than the RAID 0/1 Elite. The Elite comes with two FireWire 800 ports and one FireWire 400 port. A pair of 7,200-rpm Seagate Barracuda hard drives (each with an 8MB buffer) lie under the hood.

We tested the \$599.99 800GB model using Xbench (free, www.xbench.com), a popular benchmarking utility, on a dual 2.7GHz Power Mac G5. Over FireWire 800, the Mercury Elite posted sequential 256KB uncached-write data-transfer speeds of around 50 MBps—pretty decent, and just a tad slower than the 55-MBps



No cheese-grater jokes, please—this drive is built for speed.

speed posted by the Power Mac's internal 250GB Maxtor Serial ATA drive. But in the sequential 256KB uncached-read data-transfer test, the Mercury Elite posted a speed of 81 MBps—much faster than the 55 MBps of the Mac's internal drive.

The bottom line. If you're working with large files, using a RAID 0 array such as the Mercury Elite can help you work efficiently—and it looks stylish next to your Power Mac G5.—*Roman Loyola*



COMPANY: Other World Computing
CONTACT: 800-275-4576,
http://eshop.macsales.com

PRICE: \$239.99 (160GB) to \$949.99 (1TB)
REQUIREMENTS: Mac OS 8.6 to 9.x or 10.1 or later, Mac OS 10.2 or later for FireWire 800

GOOD NEWS: Fast FireWire 800 support. Looks good. Well built.
BAD NEWS: Firmware change required to switch from RAID 0 to RAID 1.

MacAddict RATED
●●●●●
GREAT

inMotion iM7

TERRIFIC IPOD SPEAKER STAND

The inMotion iM7 is one of the best iPod speaker stands we've seen. It's attractive, sounds great, boasts a super set of features—and has only a few minor annoying quirks.

The 16.5-by-6.5-by-6.5-inch iM7 houses a pair of one-inch tweeters, two three-inch midrange drivers, and a four-inch subwoofer that blasts bass out the left side. All the components combine to produce some of the best sound quality we've heard from iPod speakers—full, booming bass; clean mids; and crisp highs. It has no problem loudly filling a room, and we didn't notice any distortion at high volumes.

The iM7's dock opens and closes to securely hold your compatible iPod (you can put a iPod nano inside, though it looks odd), and it comes with a short-

range (about 15 feet) remote control that handles a limited number of iPod functions—you'll need to get up off your butt and use the iPod's controls to access playlists, change EQ settings, and fiddle with other deep-access options. Also, the iM7's volume, bass, and treble controls don't provide any visual feedback, so you'll sometimes find yourself button-mashing the remote, missing the setting you want.

The iM7's rear has S-Video and composite-video ports so you can play slide shows from your iPod photo and videos from your video-capable iPod,



EDITORS' MacAddict CHOICE

Dude! The iM7 is totally tubular!

a headphone jack (which we wish was on the front), and an auxiliary port for connecting other audio devices. The ports lie beneath the iM7's handle, which you shouldn't use if you need to haul the iM7 long distances—it's too uncomfortable. The iM7 draws its power from an included universal adapter or eight D batteries, which lasted 10 hours, 6 minutes in our testing.

The bottom line. Even with the iM7's shortcomings, the sound it produces is just too good to pass up.—*Roman Loyola*

COMPANY: Altec Lansing
CONTACT: 570-296-6887,
www.alteclansing.com
PRICE: \$249.95

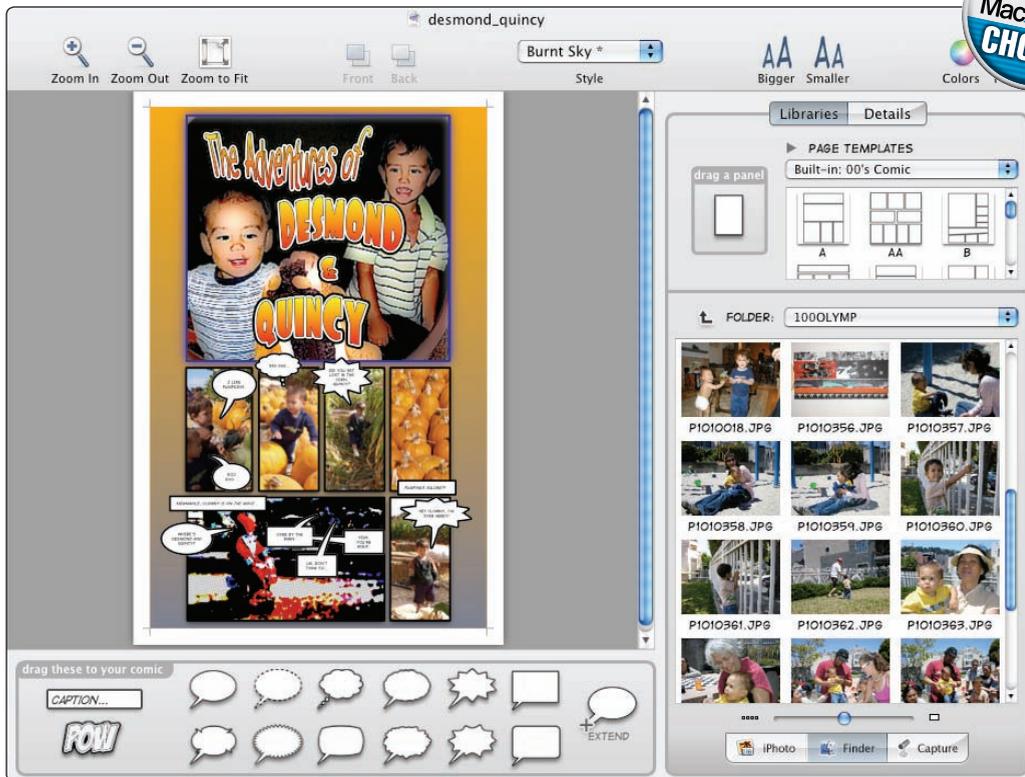
REQUIREMENTS: Third-, fourth-, or fifth-generation iPod, iPod mini, iPod nano, or iPod photo

GOOD NEWS: Stylish. Excellent sound. Universal power adapter. Can use batteries.
BAD NEWS: Short remote range. No indicators for controls. Uncomfortable handle.

MacAddict RATED
●●●●●
GREAT

Comic Life Deluxe Edition

FUN-AND-EASY COMIC-CONSTRUCTION SOFTWARE



The story.
Our favorite step comes

next: adding dialog balloons, captions, and lettering to tie everything together. Comic Life comes with 12 varieties of dialog balloons to drop into your comic pages, including a dotted oval for whispers and a cloud shape for conveying thoughts. Movable balloon tails make it easy to connect balloons to the proper subjects, and you can extend a balloon or attach an additional balloon to a pre-existing one—great when you want to lengthen a conversation within a single panel. Playing around with lettering is fun, too, as you can stretch, warp, and rotate words to your heart's

Comic Life provides the easy-to-use tools; you provide the creativity.

For many of us, life seems to imitate art, so wouldn't it be cool to meld the two? With Comic Life Deluxe Edition, you can transform your personal photos into colorful comics—and it's fun, easy, and extremely addicting.

You start building your comic by laying out panels to hold photos or

You'll almost hear the "POW!" coming right off the page.

simply picking from the 322(!) included templates, which range from traditional grids to more-conceptual constructs, such as heart and fish shapes. Panel attributes (and attributes for all other elements in a comic, for that matter) can be changed to spiff things up—you get to



adjust colors, drop shadows, borders, and the overall shape of your comic.

Once you set the framework, it's time to import your photos. Just drag and drop pics from Comic Life's file browser, located at the bottom-right corner of the app's main window—navigate to the appropriate location on your hard drive, or dive into your iPhoto Library with one click of a button. If you have a video camera such as an iSight or DV cam, Comic Life can capture images directly from it. After you place a photo in the appropriate panel, you can move the pic around or zoom. You can even add some visual punch by applying one of 17 image filters. Want an authentic comic look? Choose Comicify. Feel like going psychedelic? Select Pop Art '05. It's fun to experiment, but filters only work in Mac OS 10.4 (Tiger).

content. Done right, you'll almost hear the "POW!" coming right off the page.

For the masses. When your comic is ready, the only thing left to do is publish it—you can print it out, save it as an image, create a QuickTime movie (just a video slide show of all your comic pages), export it to HTML so you can put it on the Web, or send it straight to your .Mac account. If you plan to publish regularly on .Mac, Comic Life gives you convenient access to sort comics, delete older ones, and rename your home page.

The bottom line. Comic Life is a remarkable app, and we love it. You can save \$5 and buy the standard edition directly from the developer, Plasq (www.plasq.com), but you get fewer fonts, styles, and templates. Splurge—get the Deluxe Edition.—*Gil Loyola*



COMPANY: Freeverse
CONTACT: 212-929-3549,
www.freeverse.com
PRICE: \$29.95

REQUIREMENTS: Mac OS 10.3 or later (Mac OS 10.4 or later for photo filtering)

GOOD NEWS: Easy to use. Fun, fun, fun!
BAD NEWS: Image filters require Mac OS 10.4 (Tiger).



PowerShot A410

SERENDIPITOUS POINT-AND-SHOOT CAMERA

Canon's 3.2-megapixel PowerShot A410 is like a magician's hat—just when you think there can't possibly be anything left in it, out pops a rabbit. No, silly, rabbits don't actually pop out of the A410—we're making an analogy: The A410 is a great point-and-shoot camera that will surprise you with its unusual visual tricks.

on a 35mm camera) telescopes out in less than a second after you press the power button. With a large maximum aperture of f/2.8 (at full wide angle), you can capture images in most low-light situations without the flash. But when the flash is needed, it takes a full five seconds to recycle between shots, and its reach is only about 10 feet.

per second and keep on clickin' until it runs out of memory-card space—and that's going to happen in a wink with the wimpy 16MB MultiMediaCard that Canon supplies. We used a 128MB SanDisk Ultra II SD (interchangeable with an MMC) that gave us 74 high-resolution images instead of the eight we could fit on the bundled card.

The A410's Achilles' heel is that its slowest shutter speed is only one second; there's no bulb setting that allows for longer exposures. Some low-light night scenes we shot were underexposed. On the up side, there's a fast 1/2000-second setting to freeze action, which is more relevant to everyday shooting. There are also eight scene modes (including Portrait, Landscape, and Action), a setting for panoramas, and a supermacro mode for taking close-up shots up to a half-inch from your subject.

Tricks. And then there are those extra tricks we mentioned earlier. Photo Effects can make pictures more vivid, desaturate them, capture them in sepia or black-and-white, or just soften the outlines. My Color settings push the envelope further by allowing you to swap one color for another or drop out every color except the one you choose for a neat color-accent image. It can even save both the full-color image and the one you've chosen to accent.

Once we had worthwhile shots, we rolled out some impressive 11-by-14-inch prints on an Epson Stylus Photo 2200. We then connected the camera to the \$99 Canon Selphy CP510 printer (see *Reviews*, p48), selected an image to output, pressed the A410's Print/Share button, and in less than a minute had a beautiful 4-by-6-inch borderless photo.

The bottom line. The A410 is a great entry-level or second camera with excellent color, sharp definition, and low noise. Best of all, it has some unique features that'll let you perform some great visual magic.—Arthur Bleich



It looks like a simple point-and-shoot camera, but Canon's PowerShot A410 has a few tricks up its sleeve.

Ergonomically, the A410 is just the right size: not a teeny-weenie boutique that cries out for baby fingers, and not a big, clumsy brick. The optical viewfinder is a great alternative to the 1.5-inch LCD, which can vanish in bright sunlight.

The A410's 3.2X optical-zoom lens (the equivalent of 41mm to 131mm

Little lag. There's practically no delay (shutter lag) between when the moment you press the shutter button and when the picture is actually taken. You can take your next picture in about a second—fast for a point-and-shoot. When set to continuous mode, the camera can blaze along at 2.5 frames



Dropping out all the colors except the one you choose to keep (in this case, yellow) is one of the A410's many creative features.



COMPANY: Canon
CONTACT: 800-652-2666,
www.canonusa.com
PRICE: \$149.95

REQUIREMENTS: USB-equipped
Mac, Mac OS 8.6 to 9.x or 10.1 or later

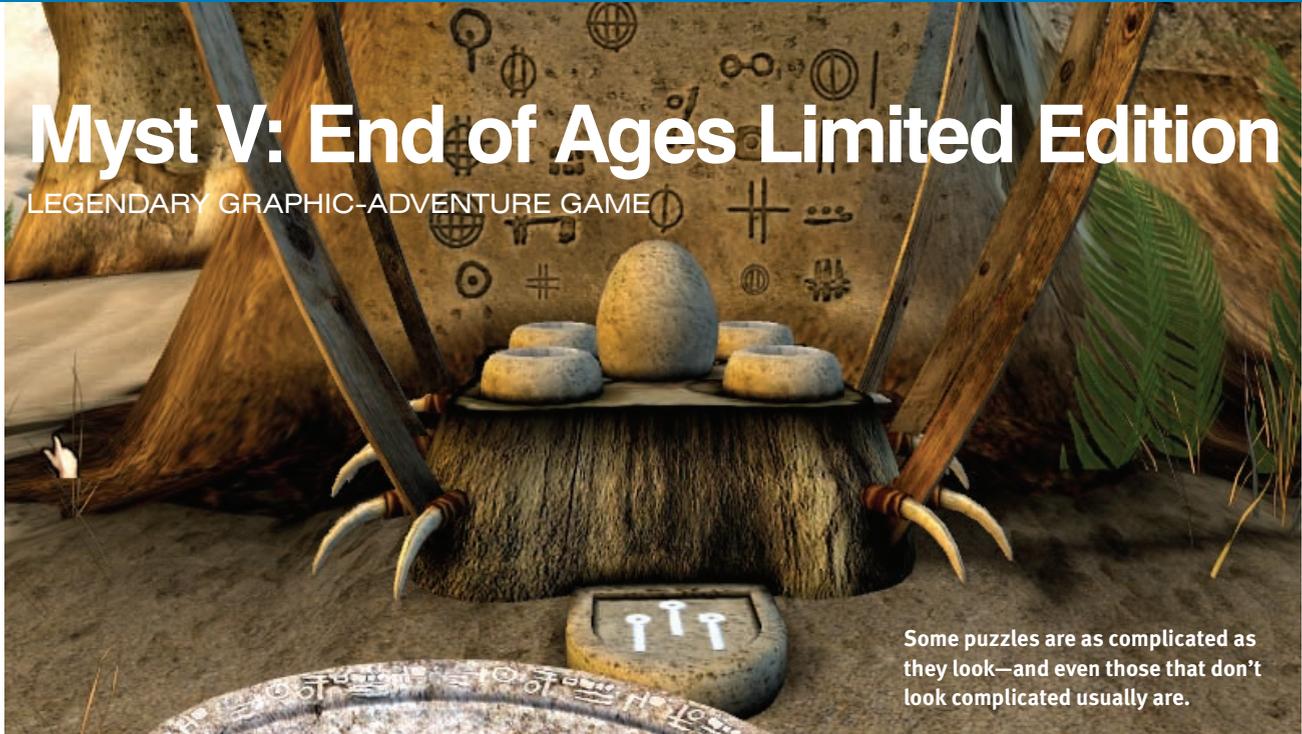
GOOD NEWS: Feature-rich without being overwhelming.
Fast. Fine picture quality. Cool photo effects.

BAD NEWS: No video out. Jerky movies without sound. Flash
has long cycle time. Bundled with wimpy 16MB memory card.



Myst V: End of Ages Limited Edition

LEGENDARY GRAPHIC-ADVENTURE GAME



Some puzzles are as complicated as they look—and even those that don't look complicated usually are.

In the beginning, a weird book fell through a rip in the sky and transported us to a mysterious island filled with abstract puzzle after abstract puzzle—that's how millions of gamers fell in love with (and plenty of others learned to loathe) the puzzle-laden world of Myst over a dozen years ago. For fans of the series, *Myst V: End of Ages* ends the saga triumphantly, but if you've ever tried and hated a Myst game before, you'll find nothing here to make you want to open this book again.

Myst V begins with a voiceover by Atrus that introduces you to the story, offering newbies a crash course in Myst-tory. As you play, two other people emerge as central figures in your quest: Yeesha, the daughter of Atrus and heroine of previous games, who urges you to release a great Tablet to renew the D'ni culture; and a new guy named Esher, who has other ideas about how you should use the powers of the Tablet. You go through seven Ages, each with its own distinctly awesome visual theme and fiendishly abstract puzzles, trying to unlock the Tablet's secrets and decide whom to trust.

You move around the world in three different ways: Classic Myst mode offers the familiar point-and-click style;

Classic Plus mode unlocks the pointer from the center to view and interact with objects; and a new Free-Move mode (our favorite) uses the keyboard to move and the mouse to guide you, like in a first-person shooter—you can't, however, invert the mouse.

Myst V's puzzles can be mind-blowingly difficult, and they often require you to communicate (through written symbols scrawled with your mouse) with another species called the Bahro, whose powers can do things like melt snow to create steam to power a machine, or mystically turn the reflection in a puddle into a writing decoder. Using the mouse as a stylus can be tricky, but luckily the Bahro can read handwriting with more accuracy than the Newton ever could. A personal log helps you remember the symbols you encounter, and you can even store notes and pictures of locations—very useful.

The Limited Edition is the only way Mac addicts can get their Myst fix—the

standard edition is for peeces only—but it's completely worth the extra ten bucks. The set contains the game on a single hybrid DVD, a game-soundtrack CD, a (rather short) DVD on the history and making of the game, an official strategy guide, developer interviews, a Myst timeline, concept sketches, and an

individually numbered collector's lithograph. The strategy guide is an especially worthwhile goodie, as the well-written walkthrough gives you just enough help to complete the game without solving it for you outright—and the lithograph isn't just a screen shot from the game, but a stained-glass-style D'ni illustration. Nice stuff.

The bottom line. If you've hated Myst from day one, *End of Ages* probably won't change your mind. If you've followed Myst and enjoyed the ride, then you simply have to get this final

installment. And if you've never played a Myst game, you don't need to know the complete back story to enjoy *End of Ages*—just don't expect any nostalgic chills.—*Matt Osborn*



David Ogden Stiers (aka Major Winchester from the TV show *M*A*S*H*) provides the voice of Esher.



COMPANY: Ubisoft
CONTACT: 415-547-4000,
www.ubi.com
PRICE: \$59.99

REQUIREMENTS: 1GHz G4, Mac OS 10.2.8 or later, 256MB RAM, 32MB ATI Radeon 9600 or nVidia FX 5700 or better, 4.1GB disk space

GOOD NEWS: Awesome 3D environments and graphics. Great puzzles.

BAD NEWS: Some puzzles are too hard. This game marks the end of the saga.

MacAddict RATED



the HotList

THE BEST OF THE BEST FROM RECENT REVIEWS

SHOPPING?
HERE'S WHAT WE
RECOMMEND

NEW THIS MONTH



Kontakt 2

Pro musician David Biedny calls this app “the most awesome and complete software sampler we’ve ever seen.”

Tiger Woods PGA Tour 2005



MacAddict Reviews Editor and dedicated duffer Roman Loyola says that the latest Tiger “is a game every golfer should have.”

Flash Professional 8

According to veteran designer Nathan Moody, “Flash is the best cross-platform, cross-browser, rich-media-delivery platform on the planet.”



iH5

Gadget goddess Cathy Lu says, “We dig the iH5.”



SOFTWARE

AUDIO

Apple Soundtrack Pro	\$299.00	Sep/05, p40	This is one of our favorite components in the Final Cut Studio suite.
Arturia ARP2600 V	\$310.00	Nov/05, p52	The legendary analog synth is back, now digital and polyphonic.
Bias SoundSoap 2	\$99.00	Jul/05, p37	SoundSoap Pro's little brother is a capable audio cleaner.
Native Instruments Absynth 3	\$339.00	Sep/05, p45	This surreal electronic synth has great surround-sound support.
Native Instruments Kontakt 2	\$449.00	Jan/06, p43	Native Instruments scores again with this superb software sampler.

GAMES

Aspyr Doom 3	\$49.99	Jun/05, p48	Hellish, scary fun—but not for the faint of hardware.
Aspyr The Sims 2	\$49.99	Oct/05, p36	The sequel to the megapopular simulation is loaded with new goodies.
Aspyr Tiger Woods PGA Tour 2005	\$39.95	Jan/06, p46	Not just a great golf game, but a great game, period.
Blizzard World of Warcraft	\$49.99	Apr/05, p40	This rich online role-playing game is more addictive than nicotine.
MacSoft Close Combat: First to Fight	\$39.99	Sep/05, p38	One of the most intense squad-based tactical shooters around.

GRAPHICS & LAYOUT

Adobe InCopy CS2	\$249.00	Aug/05, p42	This workflow app amps up any InDesign team's productivity.
Adobe InDesign CS2	\$699.00	Aug/05, p40	A strong upgrade to the world's most feature-rich layout app.
Adobe Photoshop CS2	\$649.00	Aug/05, p38	A raft of new photo-focused features makes this upgrade rock.
Adobe Photoshop Elements 3.0	\$89.99	Mar/05, p36	Adobe's affordable image editor gets a significant upgrade.
Corel Painter IX	\$429.00	Feb/05, p38	This natural-media champ is now faster and more capable.
Macromedia Dreamweaver 8	\$399.00	Dec/05, p42	The best Web-authoring tool you can buy, be you pro or newbie.
PixelGenius PhotoKit	\$49.95	Nov/05, p48	A great photo-fixer, especially if you shoot in black and white.
PixelGenius PhotoKit Color	\$99.95	Dec/05, p52	Take your color photos to new heights with this pro plug-in pack.

PRODUCTIVITY & UTILITIES

Bare Bones Software BBEEdit 8.0	\$199.00	Jan/05, p36	By far the most powerful text editor money can buy.
Microsoft Office 2004	\$399.00	Aug/04, p42	Enhancements to every app add up to a worthy upgrade.

VIDEO & ANIMATION

Apple Final Cut Express HD	\$299.00	Jul/05, p32	This low-cost editor adds HDV support, Soundtrack, and LiveType.
Apple Final Cut Pro 5	\$999.00	Sep/05, p36	If you want to work with HD or multicamera editing, get this now.
Macromedia Flash Professional 8	\$699.00	Jan/06, p42	Media designers should run, not walk, to get this potent update.

HARDWARE

ACCESSORIES

Epson P-2000	\$499.99	Aug/05, p46	This media player's gorgeous display is a photographer's dream.
Palm Treo 650	\$659.00	May/05, p44	It's the best PDA-and-cell-phone combination on the market.

AUDIO & VIDEO

iHome iH5	\$99.95	Jan/06, p57	This great-sounding clock radio includes a dock for your iPod.
Mitsubishi HC100U	\$1,495.00	Aug/05, p52	This projector/screen combo is the perfect home-theater pair.
Sonos Digital Music System	\$1,199.00	Jun/05, p36	Pricey, yes—but it's the best music streamer you can buy.

DIGITAL CAMERAS

Canon EOS Digital Rebel XT	\$999.00	Sep/05, p44	A compelling reason to switch from your old point-and-shoot.
Canon PowerShot A85	\$299.99	Mar/05, p40	This 4-megapixel point-and-shoot beauty takes great pictures.
Nikon D70 Digital SLR	\$1,299.00	Jul/04, p50	It's as close to perfect as any digital SLR camera we've seen.

PRINTERS

Brother International HL-2070N	\$169.99	Sep/05, p53	This affordable laser printer is great for text, charts, and graphs.
Canon Pixma MP780	\$249.00	Dec/05, p48	Scan, fax, and print both business docs and photos beautifully.
Epson Stylus Photo R1800	\$549.00	Sep/05, p43	If you're a serious photog, this midrange inkjet is a bargain.
Epson Stylus Photo R2400	\$849.99	Dec/05, p44	The successor to Epson's great Stylus Photo 2200 is even better.
Konica Minolta magicolor 2430 DL	\$499.00	Oct/05, p44	Want fast photo-quality laser images at a good price? Here y'go.

STORAGE

ILY SlimDVDup	\$699.00	Apr/05, p45	Quickly duplicate CDs and DVDs without tying up your Mac.
LaCie d2 DVD±RW Double Layer	\$129.00	Feb/05, p48	Cram 8.5GB of data onto DVDs with this speedy burner.
Newer Technology miniStack 400GB	\$349.99	Nov/05, p42	This speedy Mac mini-style drive is also a FireWire and USB hub.
OWC Mercury Elite-AL Pro 400GB	\$359.99	Nov/05, p50	Speed, a great case, FireWire 800/400, and USB 2.0—good stuff.
Sony DRX-710UL/T	\$229.95	Jun/05, p46	This double-layer burner has scorching single-layer performance.
WiebeTech TrayDock	\$169.95	May/05, p49	This slick hard-drive enclosure provides the ultimate in flexibility.

ask us

iCHAT, U(SB) CHAT

I have an old USB Webcam. Can I use it with iChat AV to videoconference?

iChat AV supports pretty much any FireWire video camera you can plug into a Mac, which is slick—unless your Webcam works over USB. For the



Psst. I've got some USB video chat for ya.

USB-cam crowd, Ecamm Networks' iChatUSBCam (\$10, on the Disc, www.ecamm.com/mac/ichatusbcam) is the ticket, though the quality isn't as good as a fast FireWire camera. Plus, iChatUSBCam only works if you already

have driver software for your camera installed. If you have a USB cam but no driver, try IOExperts' IOXWebcam X (\$19.95, on the Disc, www.ioexperts.com) or, if you've got more chutzpah than cash, try the open-source macam (free, on the Disc, [http://webcam-osx](http://webcam-osx.sourceforge.net)

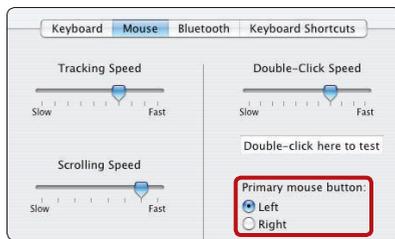


.sourceforge.net), which supports tons of USB cameras—including ones we've never even heard of.

SQUIRRELY MOUSY

I have a weird problem: Whenever I click a file on my desktop, I get a little box offering different options such as Open or Move To Trash. What gives?

Sounds like a problem with your mouse or its driver software. What's happening is that you are invoking Contextual Menus, whether you want to or not. Normally, you invoke a Contextual Menu by right-clicking or clicking an item while holding the Control key. In your case, first check your mouse's settings in System Preferences > Keyboard & Mouse or in your mouse manufacturer's proprietary preference pane; you can designate a left or right click as your Primary Mouse Button; the other button



Keep this in mind next April Fools' Day.

will summon the Contextual Menu. If all's well, check with the manufacturer to see if the mouse's driver has been updated—and make sure you're not accidentally pressing the Control key with your elbow.

SOUND ADVICE

My new iMac has gone mute. It doesn't even make that *bwong* noise at startup.

First, double-check your settings in System Preferences > Sound. The iMac's audio-out port does double duty, providing line or digital-audio out, depending on what kind of speakers you have attached. If you don't have any attached speakers, the iMac uses its internal speakers. If you use external speakers, double-check that they're correctly connected and powered up. The last resort is resetting your iMac's PRAM (parameter RAM), which stores various low-level settings such as video and audio output. To clear your PRAM and restore the Mac's default settings, restart while holding down Command-Option-P-R (all together) until you hear the startup sound chime. Keep holding the keys down until you hear the chime a second time—you'll then need to reset some display, video, time zone, and possibly a few other system-level settings (such as your startup disk).

MAIL MADNESS

How on earth do I set my default email application in Mac OS 10.4 (Tiger)?

I don't want to use Apple's Mail!

In Mac OS 10.3 and 10.4, your default-email-client setting actually lives in Mail's Preferences. You read that right—you need to open Mail (/Applications/Mail) in

quick answers

BERRY GOODS

Can I use a BlackBerry PDA with my Mac?

Yes, but you'll need to purchase Pocket Mac for BlackBerry (\$30, on the Disc, www.pocketmac.net/products/pmblackberry/). This slick connection kit



supports OS X's iSync for easy syncing of contacts, calendars, and notes.

TOASTY DVDS

Can I make audio DVDs in iTunes?

Nope. Technically speaking, an audio DVD is just like an audio CD, only longer:



It can play on your Mac, in your car, or in almost any component

Toast ties directly into iTunes for seamless burning.

DVD player. iTunes can burn audio CDs, but not audio DVDs; try Toast 7 Titanium (\$79, www.roxio.com), which can burn audio DVDs from your iTunes library or from song files you drag into the app.

PASSWORD PROTECTION

I have over 100 passwords stored in my Keychain—some of which are for Web-site logins. Can I print up a list of passwords to take with me?

That wouldn't be very secure, now would it? Apparently Apple doesn't think so either, because there's no way to do it. If you forget a password, you can



No whining—anyone can do this!



It'll take some effort, but you can do it.



This stuff's for the pros.



order to tell your Mac that you don't want to use it. The real rub is that you have to waste a few minutes entering account information before you can access Mail's preferences—valid information, no less, as Mail will contact the servers to verify your info before it lets you proceed. (Tip: If you unplug your network connection first,



Mail won't let you break it off with a simple Dear John letter.

Mail lets you slide on the verification). After you feed Mail an account name, password, and server addresses, the New Account assistant appears to help you Create Another Account or Import Mailboxes—at this point, you can finally access Mail's preferences (Mail > Preferences). Click the General tab, and use the Default Email Reader pull-down menu to choose a new default email app.

II EMU

I used to play an old Apple IIGS game that has no Mac OS X equivalent. How can I run it on my new iMac?

Believe it or not, you can play old games like Teenage Queen and Vegas Gambler on a modern Mac running OS X—all via emulation software that creates a virtual IIGS within OS X. That's the easy part;

retrieve it by launching Keychain Access (/Applications/Utilities) and double-clicking the title of the password you want to retrieve. In the resulting window, check the box next to Show Password, and supply an administrator-account password to see the password you forgot.

JUST IN CASE

I need to look inside a font suitcase from my old Mac OS 9 system to extract a particular font—how can I open a font suitcase in Mac OS X?

We've got just the ticket: FontThing (\$10, on the Disc, www.pidog.com/fontthing).

UNIX UNIVERSITY

WORD PLAY, UNIX STYLE

I can't legally use the ROM files to emulate an Apple IIGS and play old games (see "II Emu," below). Got a consolation prize for me?

You bet. Unix is full of fun, retro games—and as with most things Unix, the first step is to launch the Terminal (/Applications/Utilities). To start the fun, type `emacs -batch -l dunnet` and press Return. This will enter you into a hidden text-adventure game built into the emacs text editor. When the game starts, you will see some text describing a location. You enter simple commands to explore and play the game. For example, type `get shovel`

and press Return to get on your way. Type `help` and press Return at any time for some pointers.

Better yet, one of the all-time kings of text-only adventure gaming, Zork, has been rediscovered and is now playable on Mac OS X. But the catch—you guessed it—is that you have to use the Terminal and Unix. Rob Griffiths of Mac OS X Hints (www.macosxhints.com) has compiled Zork and its two sequels and made the whole series available for free at <http://homepage.mac.com/rgriff/homepage.mac.com/rgriff/zork.html>. You can also download the instructions you need to get your text game on. Thanks, Rob!

```
Last login: Sun Nov 13 09:34:52 on ttty1
Welcome to Darwin!
6532116hfc202:- zoller$ emacs -batch -l dunnet

Dead end
You are at a dead end of a dirt road. The road goes to the east.
In the distance you can see that it will eventually fork off. The
trees here are very tall royal palms, and they are spaced equidistant
from each other.
There is a shovel here.
>|
```

homepage.mac.com/rgriff/zork.html. You can also download the instructions you need to get your text game on. Thanks, Rob!

Text-only gaming is just a few words away.

what you really need is the legal right to use the IIGS software, which means you should own a IIGS (originally \$1,498 with an RGB display or \$999 without; currently \$10 to \$50 on eBay). If you don't own a IIGS, you're technically not allowed to use the ROM file that makes emulation on a newer Mac possible. With that out of the way, go download KEGS-OSX (free, www.casags.net) and follow the directions in the read-me file to install the emulator, and add your IIGS ROM file to enable it. Now go get

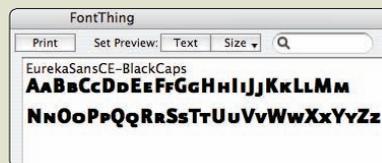


Party like it's 1989—IIGS style!

some games—we found loads at www.whatisthe2gs.apple2.org.za (but again, remember that you need to own copies of them to be able to legally use them). Follow KEGS-OSX's instructions to install and play 'em.

Buz Zoller is a graphic designer living in Florida. He has been a devoted Mac user for over 10 years and has worked for both Apple and Power Computing.

Submit technical questions or helpful tips directly via email (askus@macaddict.com) or c/o MacAddict, 4000 Shoreline Court., Ste. 400, South San Francisco, CA 94080.



Need to open and look inside those old font suitcases? FontThing's the thing.

You can use this handy little utility as a font manager to preview, activate, or deactivate fonts; it also can open your OS 9-era font suitcases.



Hack Your Toys

TRICKY

by Niko Coucouvanis

Did the holidays leave you with another case of fruitcake-induced indigestion and a pile of dumb toys somebody mistakenly thought you'd like? Or are you still scrambling to create some unique, heartfelt (and belated) homemade gifts for the folks back in Fargo? Good: Here's how to turn a USB flash drive into a fun-filled action figure and transform your leftover one-button mouse into a rubber rat. Mind you, these are just the toys we had lying around—a Barbie doll or rubber chicken would probably work just as well.

WHAT YOU NEED

Action figure	Strong adhesive*
Rubber rat	Sharp knife or X-Acto blade
USB thumb drive	Quick-dry modeling clay
Apple Pro Mouse	Pencil with eraser

*hot-glue gun, spray mount, duct tape, or rubber cement

Part 1: Doll Up Your USB Drive

1 Off with His Head

USB flash drives are everywhere, and we can think of plenty of places to cram them. But in the interests of family fun and entertainment, we'll just show you how to rip off an action figure's head and stuff the drive down his neck. First, pop off the head, and bore the inside of the body with an X-Acto blade or sharp pocketknife until the cap of the USB drive fits snugly inside—be careful not to dig too deep. Now insert the cap of the USB drive into body of the doll—if your doll is hollow,



wrap duct tape around the cap to make it fit. If you'd rather put the drive's cap in the doll's head, feel free to do so—just reverse these instructions.

Steady now...

2 Amateur Chiropractic

Now give the head the same treatment—bore it out until you can insert the drive (be careful not to go too far, or you'll probably need extra tape). Make sure to seat the USB drive at the right depth in the doll's head so that the drive and its cap fit together securely—that way, your new storage buddy won't lose his head. If either piece feels loose in the doll, remove it and apply liberal amounts of glue (we prefer to use a hot-glue gun). Let the glue set for five to 10 minutes, and then place the USB drive pieces in their respective body parts. Gently put the head/



drive on the body/cap, and tweak the cap and/or drive placement until the head and neck fit together somewhat naturally—just don't push too hard until the glue dries.

Make sure to leave the drive exposed enough that you can use its USB connector.



He used to be dumb as a foxhole, but now our hero has a mind like a steel trap.

Part 2: Make Your Mouse a Mighty Rodent



Upgraded to a multibutton mouse? There's still a use for your old Apple Pro Mouse after all: edutainment!

1 Flay the Prey

Now that Santa brought you a real (multibutton) mouse, you can turn your old Apple Pro jobbie into the rat that it is. This hack works on most any mouse—if you're using a non-Apple mouse, you'll usually find screws under the footpads on the bottom; remove them to open the mouse.

On the Apple Pro Mouse, wedge a screwdriver or other stiff, slim tool into the seam where the flat white bottom sled meets the clear-plastic upper piece, and pry the mouse apart. Don't worry about breaking the top pieces—it's the bottom flat piece you want, as it contains the important bits (the USB cord, button switch, optical sensor, and lens). Keep in mind that the



lens is usually attached to the bottom sled rather than to the circuit board, and the lens needs to be positioned *just so* relative to the sensor, or the mouse won't function.

Unless you need a new soap dish, don't worry about thrashing the upper pieces.

2 Slap It on the Sled

Since we found the perfectly sized and shaped rat—her feet are far enough apart to straddle the mouse sled, and her belly hangs all the way to the ground to accommodate most of the mouse's original hardware—all we had to do is cut out the



belly to make room for the sled and its electronics. The rat's belly is expendable here, so start your hole small—it's much easier to cut plastic away than it is to put it back. You still need to access the rat's insides, so don't glue anything yet.

No actual rats were harmed in the hacking of this mouse.

3 Build the Button

Now comes the trickiest part: extending the delicate button switch on the circuit board so that you can trigger it by pressing the top of the rat's back. To accomplish this feat, you'll be gluing a pencil inside the rat, positioned so that pressing on the rat's back triggers the mouse-button switch below.

Use your X-Acto to cut a nickel-size hole in the rat's back directly above the circuit board's button switch. (You'll reattach this piece as the button, so cut carefully, and don't lose the piece.) Now grab a pencil, poke the eraser end into the button hole you just cut, and click the switch a few times to get a feel for it. Now rest the pencil on the switch, and—making sure the



switch is not pressed—mark the pencil at the point where it comes out the rat's back. Cut the pencil to that length.

If this part's too tricky, you can cut a smaller hole and just let the pencil stick up through it.

4 Seal the Deal

Now glue the pencil to the underside of the button piece you cut from the rat's back. Let it dry completely. With the pencil attached, put the piece you cut out back into the hole, and flip the rat onto its back. Tape the button piece back where it was before you cut it out, using copious amounts of duct tape on the inside of the rat to secure it in place. Remember the button has to trigger the switch, so precision is key. Finally,



glue the rat's body to the mouse sled, taking extra care to keep the pencil/button rig aligned correctly. Now that's one righteous rat!

If the pencil doesn't hit the switch, convince it with some more duct tape.

ADVANCED HACKERY: PLUG RELOCATION

When stuffing computer peripherals into toys, you may need to route a cable through an opening that's smaller than the cable's plug. The neatest way to accomplish this is to sever and then rebuild the cable. Cut the plug end off of the cable, run the cable where you want it, and then splice its wires back together, hiding the splice inside the vessel. You could also go all out and carefully remove the plug from the cable, snake the cable where you want it, and solder the plug back on—obviously, take extra care to note which wire goes where in the plug assembly. If you're splicing wires, you can just match up the colors.

Yes, Niko Coucouvanis is old enough to know better. Why do you ask?

Tap Into Your Home Network Remotely TRICKY

by Niko Coucouvanis

WHAT YOU NEED

- Mac OS 10.3 or later
- Internet connection (cable or DSL recommended)
- AirPort Extreme Base Station or similar router (optional)



Tapping into your home network from work or the road isn't always as easy as we magazine folks make it out to be.

Don't you just hate it when know-it-all magazine writers drop bombs like, "Just log into your home Mac from work"? Depending on your network setup, remote access can be a pain to set up—and a security risk if done incorrectly. Here's how to get into your Mac from afar.

1 Connect Directly

If you plug your DSL or cable modem directly into your Mac, you set everything up in Mac OS X's System Preferences. Select System Preferences from the Apple menu, and click Sharing; in the Services pane, decide how you'd like to access your Mac (straight Mac- or Windows-based Personal File Sharing, more-secure Remote Login, FTP Access, and so on). Highlight a service in the Service list, and click the Start button to enable the service.

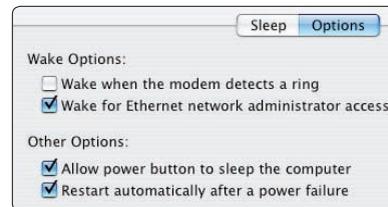


Next, click the Firewall tab, click the Start button to lock everything down, and then check the appropriate boxes to enable the specific services you turned on.

If you don't use a router, all of the magic happens in System Preferences.

2 Dude, What's My IP?

Now you need to lay a breadcrumb trail so you can find your way in from points unknown. If your ISP provides a static IP (one that's always on and never changes), simply use that number in another Mac's Connect To Server dialog (in the Finder, select Go > Connect To Server) to log in. If your account provides a dynamic, changing IP, you'll have to note your current IP address and hope you don't lose the connection. Either way, in System Preferences, click Energy Saver, and then click the Options tab. Check the Wake For Ethernet Network Administrator Access and Restart Automatically After A Power Failure boxes. Then, go to System Preferences > Network, select



Network Status from the Show pull-down menu, and jot down the reported IP address.

You can't access your Mac if it's shut down.

3 DMZ for You and Me

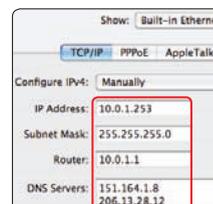
To access a Mac on a home network that uses a router, you need to designate that Mac as the DMZ (demilitarized zone)—or Default Host in AirPort Extreme parlance. Launch the AirPort Admin Utility (/Applications/Utilities), log into your Base Station, and click the AirPort tab. Click the Base Station Options button, check the box labeled Enable Default Host At, keep the default setting (10.0.1.253), and click OK. If you're using a dynamic-IP account, click the Internet tab, check the Always Stay Connected box, and click Update. After the Base Station refreshes, note the IP address reported in the Configure TCP/IP section—that's the server address you'll use to connect from afar.



Once you enable a default host or DMZ, the router's firewall will let you right in.

4 Router Runaround

Now set your Mac's IP address to match the designated default host address, so that when you enter your Base Station's or router's IP address (from step 3), the router automatically forwards the traffic to the default host Mac. Open System Preferences > Network, and select Built-In Ethernet from the Show menu. Select Manually from the Configure IPv4 menu. Enter 10.0.1.253 in the IP Address field, leave the Subnet Mask at 255.255.255.0, and enter the router's IP address on your local network. AirPort Extreme uses 10.0.1.1; Belkin and D-Link routers use 192.167.0.1; consult your router's manual for help. Finally, enter a DNS Server or two—get some from your ISP.

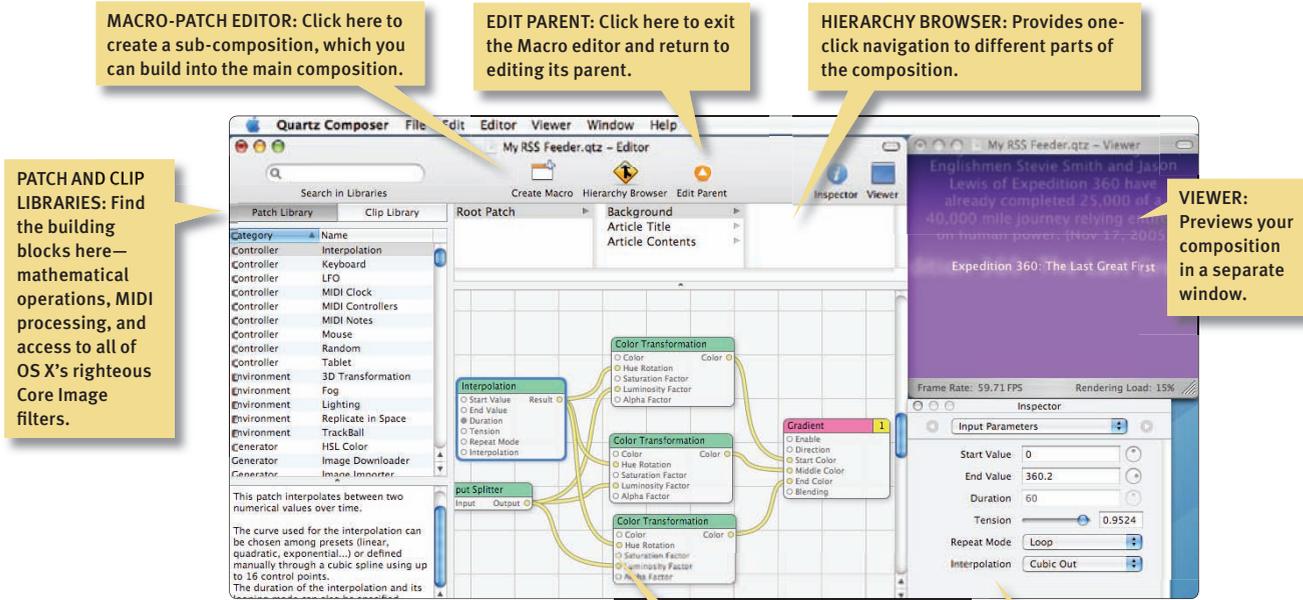


The router expects a specific IP address, which you can force on any connected Mac.

Niko Coucouvanis vastly prefers networking with his Macs to networking with suits at cocktail parties.

Dig Into Quartz Composer TRICKY

by Erick Tejkowski



WHAT YOU NEED

Mac OS 10.4 or later (\$129, www.apple.com)

Quartz Composer (free with Mac OS 10.4, installed with Developer Tools, <http://developer.apple.com>)

QuickTime 7 (free, www.apple.com/quicktime)

COMPOSITION EDITOR: Drag Patches or Clips into this window; then draw lines of association to wire patches together.

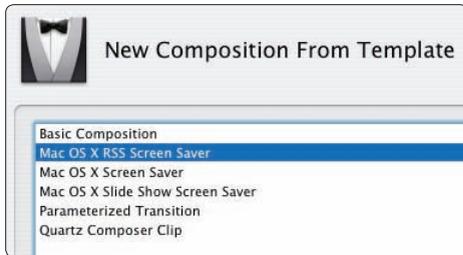
INSPECTOR: Provides easy access to patches' Information, Settings, and Input Parameters.

Apple's Quartz graphics technology is the talk of the town—but what the heck *is* it, exactly? Follow us into the belly of Quartz Composer, a free tool from Apple that helps developers create Mac OS X's eye-popping screen savers, QuickTime multimedia content, and other visual treats. Need a groovy title background for your next iMovie documentary? Some eye candy for your video-capable iPod?

Perhaps you desire a new screensaver that displays information from your favorite Web site? Quartz Composer has you covered for all of this and more. We'll show you how to get started with Quartz Composer by customizing an animated 3D screen saver and preparing a movie clip for an iMovie project. As you might guess, we're just scratching Quartz Composer's surface here, but the principles will take you far into this cool tool.

1 Get the Goods

Quartz Composer is part of Apple's Xcode Tools developers' toolkit; if you haven't installed Xcode Tools, you can find it in the Xcode Tools folder on your Mac OS 10.4 (Tiger) installation disc. You can also download it after registering for a free Apple Developer Connection online membership account at <http://developer.apple.com>. After installing the package, find Quartz Composer in /Developer/Applications/Graphics Tools, and double-click to launch it. If you don't see the New Composition From Template Assistant first, select File > New From Template to open it. Click Mac OS X RSS Screen Saver in the template list, and click Next. Enter a name for your composition, and specify whether you'd like to install the



Good artists create, but great artists steal—er, use templates.

final screen saver for your own exclusive use or for all of the user accounts on your Mac. Click Finish.

2 Enter the Editor

Composer's Editor includes a library of all the elements you can use in your compositions. *Patches* are the basic building blocks of a composition; *clips* are pre-assembled mini-compositions (such as a glowing Apple logo or a spinning 3D cube). Patches do everything from displaying graphics to computing insanely complex vector algorithms. Patches can also apply any of OS X's celebrated Core Image filters. All patches have ports on them, which appear as small, labeled circles. You connect patches to one another by dragging from an output port on the right side of one patch to the input port on the left side of

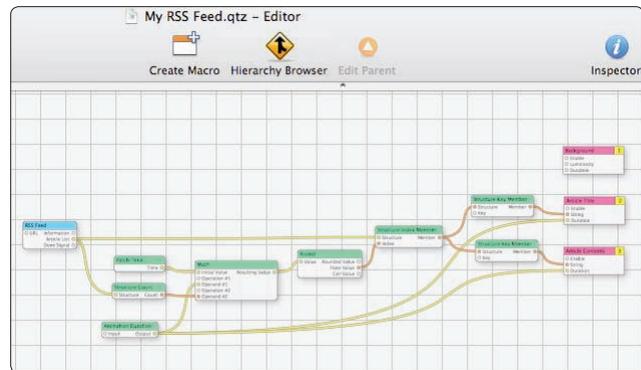


A simple patch: Notice the input and output ports and their groovy connectors.

another patch. If the two patches aren't connectable, Composer won't draw the connector for you. Since you're using a template, some patches are already in place; select Editor > Zoom Out to see the entire patchwork that creates the RSS-feed screen saver.

3 Pinch the Patch

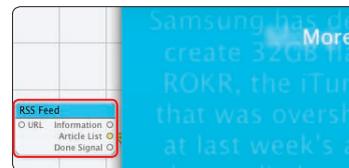
In the sample composition that we're repurposing, Apple has already done the hard work of wiring together a composition that gathers RSS data from Apple's Web site and scrolls the text up the screen on a swirling animated background. To change the content, simply find the RSS Feed patch (it's on the far-left side of the Editor window), and double-click the port circle next to the URL; this spawns an editable field where you can enter a different RSS feed to fuel your screen saver. Enter <http://www.macaddict.com/index.xml> to keep tabs on *MacAddict's* home page, and press Return to accept the edit. Verify the changes in the Viewer window, and if you like what you see, select File > Save (Command-S) to save the screen saver and automatically add it to the list of choices in System Preferences > Desktop & Screen Saver.



Rather than recreate this bear, we'll simply tweak one of the patches.

4 No News Is Good News

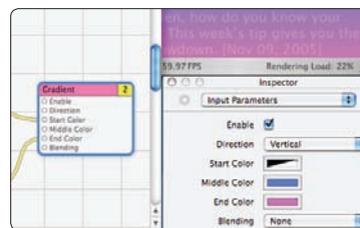
Quartz Composer isn't just for screen savers. Now it's time to modify this project and save it as a clip that you can use in other Composer compositions, such as an iMovie documentary chronicling the electrifying saga of the three-toed sloth. To remove the dynamic RSS feed, select its patch and press Delete. Poof! It's gone.



Delete this patch, and the words will instantly disappear from the Viewer window to the right.

5 Crank the Color

Some patches provide an incredible amount of customization options, including nested Macros, which are well beyond the scope of this article (but feel free to experiment on your own). Start with an easy patch to change your composition's color: First, click the Hierarchy Browser button, and select Background in the resulting column. The main editing window will refresh itself to show the patches that control the background. Select the Gradient patch, and click the Editor's Inspector icon to open the Inspector window; select Input Parameters from the top pull-down menu. Now you can enable or disable the gradient and easily select Start, Middle, and End



When you select the Gradient patch, the Inspector provides handy adjusters, and the Viewer updates in real time.

colors while the Viewer window updates to match. You can use similar tactics on any patch in any composition.

6 It's Not Just for Screen Savers

Now that you've created the perfect rolling-gradient animation, it'd be a shame to relegate it to mere screen-saver duty. To free your creation, select File > Export To QuickTime, enter a name, select where you want the file saved, and click Save. In the resulting Export window, you can adjust the clip's duration and dimensions. For good ol' American NTSC DV format, enter 720 by 480. Finally, click Export to save the movie. Now you've got a MOV file ready to import into any iMovie project. Note that if you simply save a Composer project rather



Quartz Composer exports to QuickTime. Next stop: iMovie!

than exporting to QuickTime, the resulting QTZ file is completely QuickTime friendly—but you'll have to re-export it out of QuickTime Pro (\$29.99, www.apple.com) for iMovie use.

 Erick Tejkowski remembers a day when we needed screen savers to protect our screens, not to make us look cool.

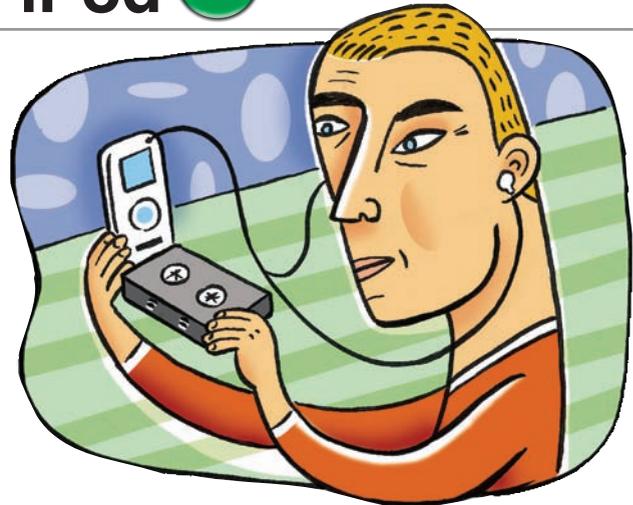
Get Videos onto Your iPod EASY

by Niko Coucouvanis

WHAT YOU NEED

- Fifth-generation (video-capable) iPod
- Video files or DVDs
- QuickTime Pro 7.0.3 (\$29, www.apple.com) or iMovie HD (\$79.95 as part of iLife '05) and QuickTime 7.0.3 (free)
- Handbrake 0.7.0 (free, <http://handbrake.m0k.org>)

The video-capable iPod is finally here, but content options are sorely limited—a handful of TV shows, music videos, and movie trailers. Wouldn't it be sweet if you could create your own content out of repurposed video clips (TiVo, anyone?) and backups of your commercial DVDs? Read on.

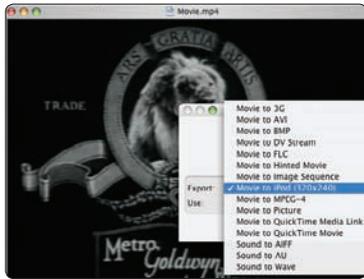


Dissatisfied with the official iPod video fare? Make your own.

ILLUSTRATION BY SUSAN SYMARSKI

1 The Quick(Time) Way

Simply encoding a video for iPod playback is surprisingly easy; the hardest part is coughing up \$29 for QuickTime Pro, which contains a handy method to export movies to your iPod right in its menu—just open your clip in QuickTime Pro, and select File > Export > Movie To iPod (320 x 240). When it's done, drag your finished M4V file into iTunes. Find your clip in iTunes' Videos list, and click on it to check it out in the video-preview window. If all's well, drag the file from the Videos list onto your iPod's icon in the Source list (remember that last part—you'll need it in the following steps to get the files onto your iPod).



It doesn't get much easier than this.

2 Move It in iMovie HD

If you don't have QT Pro, you can still get your movies onto your 'Pod if you have QT 7.0.3 (non-Pro) and iMovie HD (part of iLife '05). Launch iMovie HD and click Create A New Project. Leave the Video Format at its default. Save the empty project, and import your movie file by dragging it into the iMovie HD window. Once your clip appears in iMovie's clip drawer, click the Timeline button to open the Timeline Viewer, and drag your clip from the clip drawer to the Timeline. Select File > Share. In the resulting dialog, click the QuickTime button and select

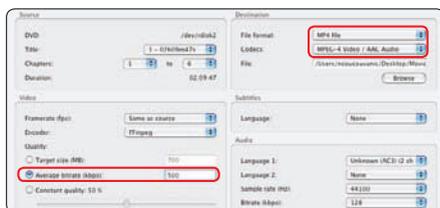


Expert Settings from the pull-down menu. Finally, click Share, and select Movie To iPod from the resulting Export menu.

If you have iLife '05, you don't need QuickTime Pro.

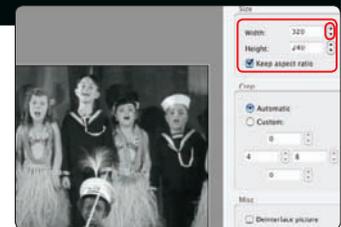
3 Do Your DVDs

This next step is for personal use only. Don't illegally share your commercial DVDs—remember, Santa's making a list and checking it twice. Insert a DVD into your Mac's DVD drive, wait for it to mount on the desktop, and then fire up Handbrake (free, <http://handbrake.m0k.org>). Your disc should appear in Handbrake's Detected Volume menu. Follow the onscreen instructions with the following guidelines: Set the File Format to MP4



Fair's fair, and in our book, making a backup is a right, not a privilege.

Codecs > MPEG-4 Video / AAC Audio from the Codecs menu; in the Video section, tweak the framerate if you like, leave the encoder at its default (FFmpeg), click the Average Bitrate button, and enter a value lower than 768 (any higher won't play on an iPod; 500 Kbps gave us a good-looking video). Finally, click the Picture Settings button and change the movie's dimensions to 320 by 240—note that you can't directly edit the fields, so you have to use the up and down arrows. The above guidelines are the baseline requirements, but you're free to twiddle any other settings.



Don't forget to tweak the Picture Settings.

Niko Coucouvanis can't wait for Apple to unveil the real video

LETTERS

FICTIONARY

I was reading Rik's editorial in the Oct/05 issue, and in the second paragraph, he uses the phrase "one skanky shameuse after another." What the heck does *shameuse* mean? I can't find a definition, and Google shows only two hits—both imply that it's a made-up word.—*Steve*



Left: chanteuse. Right: shameuse.

Rest assured that we editorialonians at *MacAddict* don't tolerate neological identifications, especially those regarding such weightilicious topics as sham vocalisticators.—*Max*

WEIRD SCIENCE

I just have to say that Niko Coucouvanis is a genius. Through the years, his how-tos have taught me how to overclock my Mac mini, extend my AirPort range with a Pringles can, and power my iPod shuffle with a 9V battery. He embodies

the spirit of the Mac-user: hardcore, insane, and willing to ruin expensive hardware in the name of science.—*Brendan Fox*

BATTERY DILATION

I've always loved how optimistic my PowerBook G4 is just after it's woken up from a good, long sleep (see screenshot below). Of course, reality kicks in after just a few seconds—but still, I feel special for just a little while!—*Misha*

Are you sure that you and your iBook weren't moving at or near the speed of light? That can really mess with your sense of time.—*Max*



The theory of relativity can extend the life of your battery.

IS YOUR MAC RUNNING?

It seemed of late that I was seeing the Technicolor wheel spinning on my G5 more than I was seeing my husband. Then I followed many of the steps outlined in "Clean Up Your Mac" (Oct/05, p16), and I cannot get over the difference! While I miss my desktop picture, my applications now leave skid

'BOOK SIGNING

Here's how to create your very own iBook G4 Woz Limited Edition, just like those charming old Woz Limited Edition IIGS systems. Check out www.floodgap.com/retrotech/mac/wozibook.—*Cameron Kaiser*

Hmm, that beats the "Etch Your iPod nano's Screen with the Signature of the Guy Who Designed the Mighty Mouse" how-to we had planned for this month.—*Max*



Although Mr. Kaiser Wozified his 'Book, you can just as easily create a Limited Edition iBook featuring Steve Jobs, Burrell Smith, or any of your favorite Apple characters.

marks when starting up. I still don't see my husband that much—but I'm working much better!—*Leslie Ocko*
Glad we could help, and if you're looking for a good divorce attorney, call 555-749-3890. Ask for Bubba.—*Max*

IBLINDNESS

Putting an iSight camera in the iMac might sound like a good idea, but lots of workplaces (such as

military contractors) don't allow you to have cameras. I was looking into getting a few new iMacs in my place of business, but I wasn't allowed—my building has a "No Cameras Allowed" policy for security reasons.—*Richard Kirkham*

How about taking a tip from Odysseus's playbook—the part where he meets the Cyclops?—*Max*

MOVING VIOLATION

I don't think you should have said the AirClick remote is "good for biking" ("Pod People," Dec/05, p30). In most states, it's illegal to wear headphones while biking. Here in Illinois, your license could get suspended.—*Charles*

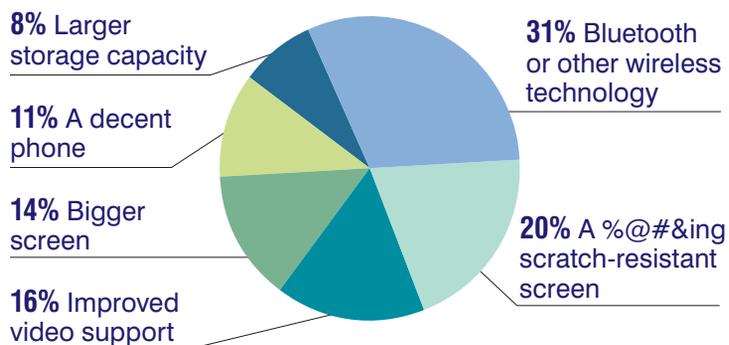
STOP WHISPERING

After reading "Make Your Mac a GarageBand Singer" (Nov/05, p64), I felt I should point out another use of the Mac voice as a singer. On

Survey Says

Here are the results of our October 2005 survey. Check out www.macaddict.com each month for a new online poll.

WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO SEE IN THE NEXT-GENERATION IPOD?



1,075 respondents

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MacAddict, 4000 Shoreline Court, Ste. 400,
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Radiohead's 1997 album *OK Computer*, frontman Thom Yorke used his Mac's default voice to produce the vocals on the track "Fitter Happier." Of course, this had to be recorded onto a studio tape, as GarageBand was still five years away.

—Jesse Staples

Indeed, the voice used in Radiohead's "Fitter Happier" sounds very much like Mac OS X's Fred, though when we tried typing the lyrics and having Fred read them, we noticed subtle inflection differences. Back in 1997, Mr. Yorke would have been using OS 8 or a late-model System 7, so we suspect Fred may have evolved since then.—Max



Fred? Is that you?

REGARDING YOUR ACCOUNT

We are pleased to inform you that we have located a few girls within a couple miles of your location that are willing to meet with you. Some wish to meet discreetly ;-). Please be advised that this is not your typical dating service; privacy is of the utmost concern, and your satisfaction and discretion is top priority.—Jessica Wholesale Prescription Medications! No Prior Prescription Required! OUR DOCTORS WILL WRITE YOU A PRESCRIPTION FOR FREE! (And after meeting with Jessica's friends, you may need it.)—Max



Dufrene-approved: \$7.49 at www.amazon.com.

THAT MAGIC SHINE

I finally found something that really cleans my iBook: a Mr. Clean Magic Eraser. I am a stay-at-home dad with three kids (ages six, three, and one). I bought it to remove the crayon caveman drawings on the wall; from there I tried it on everything, then it hit me—my iBook—and bingo! It totally takes away palm prints and all.—Chris Dufrene

ARITHMILARIOUS

Your pi humor (*Shut Down*, Dec/05, p80) was really great to a retired 74-year-old physicist who had forgotten Count Avogadro's given name. I remember his number as 6.023×10^{23} , but 6.02×10^{23} is close enough.—Charles Crume

Alas, we only had enough time to search through the first 8,152,090 digits of pi to find that 6021023 sequence. And wouldn't you know it, 60231023 showed up at position 46,629,088—but by the time we realized it, our deadline had passed. Ho-ho, ain't that always the way?—Max

SIGHTS AND SOUNDS

I couldn't agree more with Rick's November 2005 editorial ("Take Time to Whistle," p10). While I listen to my iPod when running, it's left behind all other times. Has anyone ever heard the sound of silence? It's a beautiful thing.—Basil O. Gordon

WIN!



Win a Wacom Graphire4!

If you've never used a graphics tablet, you don't know what you're missing—and if you have, you know that Wacom tablets work great with Macs. Just write the best caption to the image below, and you can start tabletizing with not only a 6-by-8-inch Wacom Graphire4 tablet, mouse, and pen (\$199.95, www.wacom.com), but also a software bundle that includes Adobe Photoshop Elements 3, Corel Painter Essentials 2, nik Color Efex Pro 2 GE, and more. **Only one entry per contestant.**

Entry Form

Write a caption for this picture.



CONTESTANT INFORMATION

Full Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____
Zip: _____
Email or telephone: _____

Send email entries to: contest@macaddict.com with the subject: Wacom Contest (Don't forget to include your address information!)
Send snail-mail entries to: Wacom Contest, MacAddict magazine, 4000 Shoreline Court, Suite 400, South San Francisco, CA 94080.
Deadline for entry: February 28, 2006.
Contest results will appear in our June/06 issue.

Contest Rules The judges will be MacAddict editors and will base their decision on 33 percent humor, 33 percent originality, and 33 percent creativity. All entries must be received no later than February 28, 2006, with the winner announced around June 2006. By entering this contest, you agree that Future US, Inc. may use your name, likeness, and Web site for promotional purposes without further payment. All prizes will be awarded, and no minimum number of entries is required. If two or more people enter identical winning captions, the entry received first will be awarded the contest prize. Prizes won by minors will be awarded to their parents or legal guardians. Future US, Inc. is not responsible for damages or expenses the winners might incur as a result of this contest or the receipt of a prize, and winners are responsible for income taxes based on the value of the prize received. A list of winners may also be obtained by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Future US, Inc. c/o MacAddict Contest, 4000 Shoreline Court, Suite 400, South San Francisco, CA 94080. This contest is limited to residents of the United States. No purchase necessary, void in Arizona, Maryland, Vermont, Puerto Rico, and where prohibited by law.

Winner! Congratulations to Robert Tomsick, who won an Epson Stylus Photo R1800 (\$549, www.epson.com) with a droll Unix pun that tickled our geeky editors. (If the joke eludes you, think Macaulay Culkin.) Better luck next time to the 65 readers who riffed on Apple's move to Intel chips.



~/ Alone

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Mac Expo Survival Kit

If you're planning on braving this year's Mac Expo in San Francisco's sprawling Moscone Center, be sure to stop by the *MacAddict* booth to pick up your Mac Expo Survival Kit—but hurry, supplies are limited! (And by "limited," we really mean "nonexistent.")

BS Detector

Complete with mute button—trust us, you'll need it.

Kee-Note™ Pass (One)

Your falsified ticket to Steve's Big Important Speech—just don't let the security guards look too closely.

Chintzy Souvenir

Prove how much you love the City by the Bay by purchasing a tchotchke an actual resident wouldn't be caught dead with.

Numbing Juice

When you've seen one math-tutoring teddy bear too many, remember that good things come in small bottles.



Lusty Lady Tokens

After a long day of product demos, kick back with the lovely ladies of the only unionized, worker-owned strip joint in the nation—soooo San Francisco!

Spare Change

Make your way through the homeless throng gathered outside the convention-center doors with these shiny objects.

Street Sheet

Bought a convention-center hot dog, and now you're strapped for cash? Hawk a few copies of San Francisco's finest vagabond-distributed news rag, and you'll be back on your feet in no time.

Dr. Scholl's Gellin' Massaging Gel Pads

Because the Moscone Center contains over 700,000 square feet of exhibit space.

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Because you can't spell *Apple's* convention without *constant* pain.

PHOTOGRAPH BY SAMANTHA BERG