



Hints & Tips

www.mac-hints-tips.com

Welcome!

Apple's new operating system, OS X 10.4 (known as Tiger) has finally been released. I have been using it for three weeks now without incident. There are a few applications that you will need to update, but the list is relatively small.

The best sources that I have found for updating information are: <http://www.macintouch.com/tigerreview/incompatibility.html> and <http://www.macworld.com/2005/05/news/tigerupdates/index.php>.

Several hundred new tips are added to the Hints & Tips Database each month, with 60–70 of them featured in this monthly newsletter.

If you haven't used the searchable Database of tips available on this website, I urge you to give it a try. For \$4.95, you can access the entire library of tips for a month. For \$48, you can have access for a year.

If you like this newsletter, the best way to support it is to subscribe to the Database.

— Paul Taylor
paul@mac-hints-tips.com



Feedback

VHS to Computer

In Video Smidio there is much discussion about various ways to go from VHS to computer. The best solution, by far is to just use a modern video camera into a VCR and copy the VHS to DVtape. Then plug the DV camcorder into the computer and, voila, you have digital video to edit, etc.

Is there an assumption here? Yes. But anyone who uses a Mac Mini, iMac, emac, iBook or Powermac can do this without buying extra hardware for their Mac. It isn't like Mac owners interested in using iMovie are going to be buying video cameras that don't support Firewire.

Larry S. Steinke

Having Wake from Sleep Grief

I have found the program "Cocktail" useful, feature-rich and, on only a few weeks use, totally reliable. It clears all caches in one operation ...either run manually or on a timed basis. I use it always before a backup.

No commercial connection, of course — just a happy user.

Ted Davison

Factual Corrections

I discovered your website by accident. Great stuff. I'll refer lots of folks your way. However, there are a few factual corrections I'd like to send your way:

1) The 'theory of the universe' quote is from The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy,

by the late Douglas Adams. Appropriate credit should be given.

2) Label Replacement. Labels have been back since Panther (OSX V10.3)

Otherwise a great publication. Keep up the good work!

James Jepsen, Designer/Consultant

Opening Customize Toolbar Window

The tip with the above title from the May issue does not work on my machine [G5 desktop running 10.3.9]. Holding the shift key and clicking the "Old Finder Mode" button does nothing other than clicking the button with no modifier key depressed -- toggling between Toolbar items/Sidebar on & off.

However, if I hold the Command key down and click that lozenge, something interesting happens. The Sidebar stays in place and the Toolbar cycles through two sizes each of icon & names, icons only, and names only.

Kewwelll, huh?

Phredd, Nawfuk, Virginny

Googling

I found 2 word pairs that gave one and only one web site: antisestablishmentarianism xanthene; and cardozo xanthene

Jerry Kerrisk

FSCK — File System Check

I tried this, on iMac with Panther — had to hold down Apple key and S — got the screen OK, typed in as above and it said the hard drive was journaled and

suggested using `fsck -f` which forces the check, did it OK, took 3 times to get “the volume. OK — then hit Return (Enter key), nothing happened — had to force quit and upon restart all was fine. Did I do it OK? Was it ok to use the Apple key and “S” and force quit at the end???

Emanuel Friedman



General

Tiger Help and Tips

The first place that I went to find out more about Mac OS X 10.4 was the .Mac web site. Apple has posted some really good tutorials for .Mac subscribers. These give a great first look at how to do things like add Widgets, create an Automator script, etc. www.mac.com

The Take Control has a new ebook, Take Control of Customizing Tiger, which looks like it will be a big help in working with Tiger. This is a \$5 book, but you’ll get a coupon for \$5 off your next Small Dog order, so it’s free! www.takecontrolbooks.com/tiger-customizing.html

MacOSXHints.com has the best collections of tips for Mac OS X 10.4 that I have found. Hints range from the very simple (all the “slow-motion enabled” Tiger actions) to the more technical (adding your home town to the World Clock Widget). www.macosxhints.com

Dashboard Exchange is a good place to go for Widgets and tutorials. www.dashboardexchange.com/index.php

Apple’s support page for Mac OS X 10.4 has gotten pretty plump with info. Topics include Installation, Using Mail, Connecting to the Internet, Printing, Faxing, Accounts, Passwords, Security and Networking. In addition there are

also support pages for Automator, VoiceOver, Address Book, iCal, iChat AV, iSync, Safari, Font Book, QuickTime, Classic Environment, and Disc Burning. www.apple.com/support/tiger/

— Dawn D’Angelillo

SmallDog Electronics

CD Session Burner is Back!

Using the Finder’s elegantly simple method of burning a CD, you can burn only a single “session.” That is, you can’t add more data to that already burned, even though you’d think the CD ought to have plenty more space on it.

I’ve written several times in the past about methods of burning multiple-session CDs. You can do it via Disk Utility, but it’s just more complicated than it should be. Then just when I thought I’d found the perfect way, Jaguar came along and it stopped working. Now I’m happy to say that version 2.0 of James Sentman’s CD Session Burner is available, and works with OS X 10.2 and later <www.sentman.com/burner> .

Burning multiple sessions with CD Session Burner is just as simple as burning a single session with the Finder — drag a bunch of files into CD Session Burner’s window, choose your burner (if you have more than one) from a list, name the session, and click “Burn.” Adding subsequent sessions on the same CD uses precisely the same method. Why doesn’t Apple do it this way?

One reason might be that although the first session on a CD burned this way should be readable on a Windows machine, subsequent sessions will not be. Still, that’s not a problem for most users.

Don’t forget that when you insert

a multi-session CD into your Mac, you’ll see one desktop icon for each session burned — not just one for the whole CD. This is true no matter which method you use to burn the disc.

AUSOM News, Melbourne Australia

Find Out What’s On Your Computer

Apple System Profiler (on the Apple menu) has details on extensions and applications among other information.

Using Apple System Profiler, you can determine if you have duplicate files and duplicate applications. By removing duplicates, you will improve the speed and efficiency of your computer and reduce the number of crashes.

Betsy Mill, SDMUG Member

The Multi-Talented Eject Key

Most of us using an Apple Pro keyboard use the Eject key for ejecting the optical drive and nothing else, but did you know that used in concert with other keys, the Eject key does more than simply eject the optical drive tray?

Option/Eject on a dual-optical machine will eject the lower drive. By default just pressing the Eject key opens the upper drive.

—Russ White (smalldog.com)

*Charlotte MacWorkshop,
Charlotte NC*

Interesting G5 iMac Tip

Adding RAM to the new iMac G5 doesn’t require you to add matching RAM values, so you can add different values in the two available slots. That sets up two 64-bit paths addressing each DIMM individually to maximize the total data path to the RAM. The interesting part is, if you decide to

add matching values, such as two 1 Gb DIMMS, your iMac will set up a single 128-bit path to service and address the two DIMMs as a single block of RAM, which of course is faster than 2 separate 64-bit paths!

*Charlotte MacWorkshop,
Charlotte NC*

Eject = Power Button?

When you press your keyboard's Power key, your Mac pops up a dialog box that lets you Sleep, Restart or Shut Down. On keyboards that have an Eject key, but not a Power key, you can sometimes use the Eject key as a Power key: press Control/Eject to bring up the Sleep/Restart/Shut Down dialog box. Also, you can instantly put your Mac to sleep with either Command/Option/Power button or Command/Option/Eject.

Design Tools Monthly

Apple's Customer Installable Parts Support Page

Apple's Customer Installable Parts support page offers a wealth of information on how to install various parts, including hard disks, memory, batteries, AirPort cards and more, and it is all available in QT video, .html and .pdf formats.

For example, installation primers for the PowerMac G4 (digital audio) include battery, ATA and SCSI hard drive cables, Airport Card, video card, CD/DVD Drives, hard drive (ATA, SCSI), Zip Drives, front panel board, memory, and power supply.

www.info.apple.com/support/cip/
This is a very valuable resource for both consumers and pros.

Insanely-Great.com

Don't Space

Q: How do you type names with spaces in the Terminal?

A: Either type double quotes (" ") around a file name that contains spaces, or insert a backslash (\) and a space in place of every space in the name.

MacAddict Magazine

Print Font Previews

Q: How do I print a list of all my fonts so that I know what they look like?

A: Lemke Software's FontBook 4.1 (\$10, www.lemkesoft.de) lets you view and print font samples. It can print up to 75 fonts per page using whatever sample text you give it, though a pangram (a sentence that contains every letter of the alphabet) is the most-useful choice. Our favorite is "Pack my box with five dozen liquor jugs."

MacAddict Magazine

Supporting Homemade Hard Drives

Q: I put a 40GB hard drive into an external USB enclosure, but it doesn't work with my iMac running Mac OS 8.6 Why?

A: Mac OS 8.6 doesn't include the software needed to access your particular USB hard drive. You need to install USB Mass Storage Support 1.3.5 (<http://docs.info.apple.com/article.html?artnum=60394>). Mac OS X already includes drivers for external USB drives.

MacAddict Magazine

Kill the Improper Shutdown

Have you ever wanted to kill the Improper Shutdown check after a forced restart? Just press Command/Period. This skips the checking process and causes the "Done" button to appear. Press your keyboard's Return key and the Shutdown Check dialog box disappears. (You can disable this

automatic operation in the General Controls control panel, by the way.)

MacVIEWS, Ft. Wayne IN

No More Finder Pop

Turly Software's Web site for Finder Pop, the excellent OS 9 shareware program, was made defunct by Apple's transition of Mac to a paid service.

MacVIEWS, Ft. Wayne IN

Put That Back!

The next time you find that you have selected the wrong file or are inadvertently moving an icon that you didn't mean to move, here's a quick fix:

Just move your cursor to the very top of the screen and release the mouse button. The file(s) will automatically drop back to where they started. Another approach is to hit the Escape key during the dragging action, and this will cancel the move. Thanks to Mac-in-Awe for this tip!

Mad Mac News, Madison, WI

Caring for CD-Rs

The CD-Recordable disc (or CD-R) is physically different from a regular manufactured CD. Though the CD-R specifications require that an audio CDR play back in any audio CD player, there are some CD players (usually older and/or in disrepair) that will have problems playing these discs. People have tested these discs in more than 30 different CD players and only found one that had problems with these discs (that same player no longer functions at all).

A CD-R has a layer of dye, which when hit with a laser will emulate the pits and lands of a manufactured CD. This makes the CD-R more vulnerable.

Also, it should be noted that, whereas most DVD players will play manufactured CDs, some DVD players will not play CD-Rs. Only DVD players with dual optics (one of the optical readers is optimized for reading CDs) will be able to read CD-Rs.

If you follow these simple suggestions, your CD-Rs will enjoy a long and healthy life:

The data side (bottom) of the disc must remain free from scratches, fingerprints, dust, etc.

Cleaning the disc can damage it, consult a professional if this becomes necessary. Never touch either surface of a CD-R. Always handle a CD-R by the edges (or center hole).

Never set a CD-R down on a hard surface. Always return disc to jewel case when done.

Never write on the data side of the disc.

If you must write on a disc, write only on the label side (top) of a CD-R and only with an approved marking device such as felt-tip, non-toxic permanent ink. Never use a ballpoint pen!

Never leave an unprotected disc in direct sunlight.

Do not expose a CD-R to excessively hot and/or humid environments.

Mouse Droppings, Corvallis OR

Sync Different

Q: A client of mine using OS X needs to synchronize his Entourage email, calendar, and contact data on the iBook he carries on the road and the iMac in his office. Data changes on both machines when he's traveling (he works on the iBook and his assistant uses the iMac), so rewriting one of the files completely (as OS 9's File Synchronization

would do) is not an acceptable route. I'm stumped. Any ideas?

—Jason Tertadian

A: You mean other than contacting Microsoft and suggesting that future versions of Entourage let you import only new data from a copy of Entourage running on the network? Well, yes, I have an idea, but it may seem clunky.

In order for these two Macs to collaborate, you must create two identities on each of them — one for the stay-at-home iMac and one for the footloose iBook. It just so happens that Entourage (as well as Outlook Express) allows you to create just such multiple identities.

To create a new identity in Entourage for OS X, select Switch Identity from the Entourage menu (in pre-OS X versions of both Entourage and Outlook Express, you'll find this command under the File menu).

When you're greeted with the "Are you sure you want to switch identities?" message screen, click on Switch. In the resulting dialog box will be a list of your current identities (if there is only one, it will be called Main Identity). You'll also see the New button. Click on this button to name and create a new identity, and click on OK. Up pops the Setup Assistant, asking you for the settings necessary to send and retrieve e-mail.

When you come back from your next trip, you can go to the home directory of each Mac and open Documents: Microsoft User Data: Office X Identities. (If you are running Outlook Express or Office 2001 in OS X's Classic mode, look for Identities or Office 2001 Identities, respectively.) Copy the appropriate identity to the same folder on the other Mac. In this

case, you'll copy the iMac identity to the iBook and vice versa.

When you perform this copy operation, you'll overwrite the original files. If for some reason you don't want to lose those originals, you should move them to another location before you start copying. You will now be able to read the other computer's email or look at new contacts and calendar events by switching identities.

Unfortunately, moving data back and forth between identities is anything but elegant. For e-mail, you can select all new messages, drag them to a folder on your desktop, switch identities, and then drag them back into the appropriate mail folder (Inbox, for example). Calendar events are even goofier.

Drag all new calendar events into a folder on the desktop, switch identities, return to the Finder, select all your events, and then double-click on them. This process will open each event in a separate Entourage window and place it in the current identity's calendar.

To move Address Book entries, once again you drag new entries to the desktop, switch identities, open Entourage's Address Book, and then drag the names into the upper pane of the Address Book window.

Mouse Droppings, Corvallis OR

Adding a Web Page to Your Desktop with WebDesktop

If you've ever used Windows, you're probably familiar with the ActiveDesktop that allows you to display a web page as the desktop. And even though Mac OS X itself doesn't have that ability, a cool little freeware application does. WebDesktop 2.0 (available at <http://stevenf.com/index.php?node=WebDesktop>) allows you

to layer a web page directly over your Mac OS X desktop.

Using WebKit (the same HTML rendering engine as Safari), WebDesktop displays pages the same as the browser with active links, forms, and menus. This allows you to watch stock quotes, monitor a Webcam or weather service, even stay abreast of your active eBay auctions. You specify how opaque the background image is and how often the site refreshes.

Then, whenever you wish to bring the page to the forefront, you just click on the WebDesktop icon in the Dock.

TMUG Insider, Pleasanton CA

Rules of Thumb About Color

Find a basic introduction to color theory to help those who are just getting started making design decisions and want to learn some basic terminology, concepts, and background with some great classic painting to explain them.
www.writedesigntonline.com/resources/design/rules/color.html

Unknown

A Damaged CD

I recently inserted a previously used CD into my Mac. I could tell it had been used because there are coloration differences on the back side. The coloration differences are between the areas that have and have not been recorded over.

There was no indication on the front of the CD what it contained, so I was just checking to see what was there. It slid into the computer and started whirling. It whirled, and whirled, and whirled, and whirled, and...

Pretty soon I figured out I had a problem. I couldn't drag it to the trash to eject it because nothing

showed on the desktop. I couldn't do a force quit for the same reason. Hitting the escape key didn't work. At this point I figured either I had to solve this or my lap top was going to take off for a quick flight around the room.

Fortunately I was able to access the help option in my tool bar and the solution was very simple. All I had to do was hit the F12 key. The other option from help was to hold down the mouse button while restarting the computer, but that seemed to be a bit of overkill when the F12 key solved the problem.

*Mouse Tales,
NorthCoast MUG, Berea, OH*

How Do Mac Users Recycle?

At Mac World San Francisco there was a protest group complaining that Apple Computer wasn't doing enough to recycle used computer components, and comparing the company to what Dell Computer is doing. Since Dell is located in Austin, TX, where I live, there was some local interest by the newspaper and I was contacted for a quote.

It is my personal opinion that Apple does a lot toward recycling and a lot of what Dell claims to be "free recycling" is smoke and mirrors. It is only free if you buy another Dell.

Anyhow, I got a call about this and my initial response was that to most Mac users recycling our computers means handing them off to someone else because they last for years and hardly ever break down. To my surprise they actually used my words. Maybe it has something to do with the fact that they use Macs in the newsroom.

*Mouse Tales,
NorthCoast MUG, Berea, OH*



Mac OS X

Automatic Conversions

Do you want a bit of fun using OS X? Here's your chance to forget about arithmetic for conversions. If you want to know how many inches in a mile or how many milliliters in a metric container, there is an easy built-in way using OS X.

Open your Terminal program, type in units, press the Enter key, enter the number of units and units of measurement, and press the Enter key again. Once you have done that, enter the unit of measurement you wish to convert to and press the Enter key. The answer and the multiplier necessary to perform similar conversions will show up. This feature can convert over 500 different measurements. However, it can only do conversions that use multiplying; thus, alas, it can't help you to convert Celsius to Fahrenheit while traveling in Europe. (Aw shucks!)

*ApplePRESS, Diablo Valley MUG,
Concord, CA*

Networking in Panther 10.3.3

If you run any kind of network, even just a simple one to connect two Macs or to share an Internet connection, you'll know that networking is the "black art" of computing — there are so many variations in network design and function, and so many things to go wrong, that it sometimes seems a wonder it ever works at all.

In that context it's reassuring to note that OS X's networking arrangements just get better with every update. It may also help to know that the 10.3.3 update resolves a significant oddity that existed in earlier 10.3 versions.

Before 10.3.3, there were two

ways to mount a networked volume in Panther — you could use the Finder Browser (i.e. click the Network icon in a Finder window and work from there), or you could use the menu Go > Connect to Server. The problem was that servers mounted by one method would behave somewhat differently from those mounted by the other method. For instance, the icons of volumes mounted via the Finder Browser did not appear on the desktop, and it was often unclear how you were supposed to dismount them. Further, you couldn't make an alias of a volume mounted in this way, to speed subsequent access.

Apparently, the reason for these differences was that Browser-mounted volumes were “soft-mounted” — a technique which meant that no problem resulted from a networked volume's suddenly going off-line, which could cause a freeze if the volume was “hard-mounted.”

Whether the method of mounting has changed or not, the behavior of volumes mounted by either method in 10.3.3 is identical. Their icons appear on the desktop and you can alias them.

The result of all this is that networking in 10.3.3 now works as everyone thought it ought to — a networked volume can be accessed from the Network icon in a Finder window, and once mounted, it appears in the Volumes list in the Finder sidebar. It can be dismounted either by dragging it to the trash or using the Eject button beside its name in the Finder sidebar. You can also alias a mounted server to speed subsequent connections.

AUSOM News, Melbourne Australia

4 Ways to Minimize a Window

1. Click on the Minimize (-) button on the Title Bar
2. Double-click the window's Title Bar
3. Choose Window > Minimize Window
4. Command/M

If you press the Option key as you perform any of these techniques, you minimize all of your program's open windows. Click on the window on your Dock to bring it back. Click on the Dock icon of that application, and all of its windows will come back.

*David Pogue's Mac OS X:
The Missing Manual*

OS X's “Folder from Hell”

There is a phenomenon that you will sometimes see in the classical Mac OS called “The Folder from Hell.” A folder that you put in the Trash cannot be deleted no matter what you do. There are various ways of dealing with this — the most effective that I know is to start your Mac from a different volume (e.g., your System CD-ROM) and empty the Trash from there.

So, this is a glitch from the bad old days, and it never, ever happens in OS X, right? Wrong! The Folder from Hell is alive and well in modern Unix-based OS X. (It happens when File permissions get messed up, and in Unix everything is a file!) Even worse, the old methods of deleting these diabolical items no longer work. What to do?

There is, of course, an easy solution that involves firing up the Terminal window and boldly entering text on the Unix command line that lurks just under the placid surface of the Aqua.

Luckily for those who would prefer to keep the Hell Folder

hanging around their computer forever, rather than venture into Unix, there is an Aqua answer to the problem. A little freeware application called BatChmod will exorcise the Hell Folder with the greatest of ease. It will also easily alter vital parameters like the aforementioned file permissions, as well as changing the file's Owner and Group, and will even pass on these changes to everything enclosed inside a folder.)

To get rid of that Folder from Hell, just install BatChmod and put its icon in the Dock. When the program is running, its Dock icon becomes a “Dockling,” an OS X application that works from the Dock. Clicking and holding on the icon brings up a menu that includes Force Empty Trash. Choose that option, enter your Administrator password when asked, and the Hell Folder will return to the flames from whence it came! You can find out more about BatChmod and download the program at VersionTracker.com.

MacTalk, Victoria BC

10.1.4 & MS App Crashes

To those experiencing problems with 10.1.4: I would suggest that, before trying Norton Disk Doctor or anything, use the built-in program ‘fsck’:

- Start the computer, holding down the command & S keys (this will boot you into a command-line single-user mode;
- When you get to the prompt, type ‘fsck -y’ (without the quotes) and press the return key. It will check your computer, and if it finds problems, it will state ‘The system was modified’. If you receive that message, run fsck again.

- When you get the message ‘The system appears to be OK’, you can type ‘reboot’ (again, without the quotes), and hit the return key, which will start you up in OS X again.

I installed the Office X updater, and Entourage would always hang when quitting. Rebuilding the database (hold down the option key while starting up the application) solved my problems.

*Raymond Drainville,
Argument from Design*

Panther Keyboard Tricks

Sometimes you might wish to open a specific folder in your Mac, but it is a pain to double-click the hard drive and then navigate to the folder and application or file that you need. But in the Finder (when the Finder is the active application), you can use a simple key grouping to get to where you want to go instantly.

Hold down the Shift, Command, and “H” keys to take you to your Home Folder.

Likewise, you can hold down the Shift, Command, and “A” keys to take you immediately to your Applications folder. The same two keys plus the “U” key will get you to the Utilities folder and so forth. Just one more great feature of Panther.

*ApplePRESS, Diablo Valley MUG,
Concord, CA*

Drag-and-Drop Desktop Printing

Want the ability to print a document right from your desktop (without opening the application first)? OS9 users that took advantage of this great feature were sorely disappointed by OS X’s seeming inability to do this task.

Here’s the step-by-step quick and

easy way to get that functionality back into your Mac:

Go under the Apple menu, under System Preferences, and choose Print & Fax. When the preference pane appears, click on the Printing button, then click the Set Up Printers button.

Now your printer will appear in the Printer List dialog. Click on it, then go up under the Printers menu (in the menu bar) and choose Create Desktop Printer. A standard Open/Save dialog will appear asking you where you want to save it (I save mine on the desktop). Click Save and an icon for your printer appears on the desktop.

To print a document, just drag-and-drop it on this icon. Some documents, such as TextEdit files and PDFs, will go straight to the printer. Other files will launch their default application and open the Print dialog.

*Scott Kelby’s Mac OS X Killer Tips
via MacCHUG Line, Chico CA*

From Here to There (and Back)

Q: How do I network a Windows PC with Mac OS X 10.3.3? I have only a regular network cable and a crossover cable. –Greg Rusher

A: At the risk of sullyng these pages with instructions for mucking with a PC, I’ll show you how to connect your Mac to a computer running Windows XP Home Edition.

Use Windows’ Help and Support (found in the Start menu) to learn how to install the proper network protocol (TCP/IP in this case) so your network interface card works with an Ethernet connection. Now string that crossover cable between your Mac and PC.

To share a folder on the PC, right-click on the desktop, select

New from the resulting contextual menu, and then select Folder from its submenu. Name the folder, using 12 or fewer characters. Right-click on the folder and select Network And Sharing from the contextual menu. In the window that appears, enable the Share This Folder On The Network option and, if you want to change files in the shared folder, enable the Allow Network Users To Change My Files option.

To view this folder from your Mac, select Connect To Server from the Finder’s Go menu. Click on Browse. In the resulting Network window, double-click on the folder with the name of your Windows workgroup (likely called MSHOME or WORKGROUP).

Inside this folder, you’ll see an icon with the name of your PC. Double-click on this icon and an SMB Mount window will appear. Select the name of your shared folder from the window’s pop-up menu, and click on OK. That folder will appear on your Mac’s desktop as a networked volume.

*Chris Breen’s Mac 911
via Fat Bits, Ventura CA*

9 Pre OS X

Desktop Folder

When you connect to another Mac over a network, you will see an additional folder on the hard drive called Desktop Folder. This usually invisible folder can be seen when mounting a shared volume. Opening this folder will show you all items on the desktop of that shared volume. Sometimes you might wish to view this window in list view to see all the available items.

*The Finder, Mid-Columbia MUG,
Kennewick WA*



Internet

How Old Are You?

We all know how many years we've been around, but what about comparatively speaking? Use this cool Age Gauge to get broader perspectives on your life, such as how much younger you are than Pope John Paul II and how old you were during the O.J. trial.

www.frontiernet.net/~cdm/age1.html

Mouse Droppings, Corvallis OR

Get Listed

www.SelfPromotion.com has helpful tips on how to get listed in search engines and which ones are important. Topics include meta tags, file size, graphics, and the use of keywords in the title, description, and body of your Web pages.

*PC Graphics Report
via Design Tools Monthly*

Great Literature for Free

You can download a vast quantity of free books including Harvard Classics, poetry, non-fiction, fiction, and more for free from here:

www.bartleby.com.

Unknown

Want to Brush Up on Your Italian?

The BBC has an impressive language site at www.bbc.co.uk/languages that offers free language lessons in Italian, French, Spanish, German, and Chinese, along with a few others. You can opt for a quick refresher or take on a full self-taught online course.

You can also search for travel information, and then print out a list of common phrases to carry with you on your next European adventure. While your French class in high school might not have

been too much fun, this site makes learning new languages interesting and accessible to anyone.

TMUG Insider, Pleasanton, CA

Theory of Relativity in Word of Four Letters or Less

Those of you who know me probably know that I am a big Einstein fan. The following post is not, I repeat not, for consumption during working hours, especially if you are supposed to be billable! Big time waster, but quite fun for hard-core geeks.

www.muppetlabs.com/~breadbox/txt/al.html

Unknown

Free DHTML Slider Control

Sliders are useful controls for choosing a value in a range of values. You can download a free excellent one for use in your own web pages at: <http://webfx.eae.net/dhtml/slider/slider.html>.

Unknown



Internet Explorer

MSIE Quick Change Favorites

The Favorites Bar is the bar located under the address bar that holds web sites you frequent. To add a site, drag the @ symbol from a current site in the address bar down to the favorites bar. To change the name or delete a favorite, hold down the Control key and click on the favorite. To rearrange favorites, click on the @ symbol in the favorites bar and drag the link to the left or right.

*The Finder, Mid-Columbia MUG,
Kennewick WA*



Netscape

Using JavaScript in Netscape 6

There are certainly advantages to

using JavaScript: you can view all those cool displays. However, there are some disadvantages too in terms of web page speed and potential invasion.

In Netscape 6, you can easily turn on or off JavaScript. Just choose Edit > Preferences. When the Preferences dialog box opens, click Advanced and then select or deselect (depending on what you want to do) the check boxes labeled "Enable Java" and "Enable JavaScript for Navigator".

Click OK to close the dialog box and save your new preferences.

*The Finder, Mid-Columbia MUG,
Kennewick WA*



Address Book

Transfer Address Book from Netscape Communicator to Outlook Express

I recently moved my address book from Netscape Communicator v4.5 to Outlook Express 5.1.3 with the following procedure that I found on Cox support:

1. Open your Netscape Email
2. Go to the Address book
3. Click on File, then Export
4. In the window that appears, you will see a field called "save in." You will want to select Desktop.
5. In the "file name" field below, type "address" (without the quotes).
6. In the "save as type", select LDIF
7. Click OK, or Save
8. Close Netscape

Now you will need to import this file to Outlook Express:

1. Open Outlook Express
2. Click on Tools > Address Book
3. Click on File > Import > Address Book

4. Click once on “LDIF-LDAP Data Interchange format” to highlight it
5. Click Import
6. Make certain “Desktop” is displayed in the “look in” field at the top
7. In the box beneath, double click on the “address.ldif” file
8. Click on OK to acknowledge the operations completion
9. Click Close to close the import box This should do the trick

Randall Kelly, SDMUG Member



Safari

Bookmark Mess

Q: Is there a way to create folders in the bookmark bar in Safari, instead of having just the website names? I have a whole roster of bookmarks that spill off the bar, and I’d really like to put them in folder. Is there a tip or trick I am missing? —Joe Mecham

A: Yes, you can easily add folders to the bookmark bar to help keep things organized. At any point in time, you can choose Add Bookmark Folder from the Bookmarks menu, and clicking the Bookmark icon at the left of the Bookmark Bar allows you to organize your bookmarks.

Here, you can drag and drop your many bookmarks into folders, and arrange them in a logical order. It’s really quite simple!

macHOME HotTips

Safari Bookmark Folders

Q: How can I get my Safari bookmark folders to show up in the Bookmarks menu?

A: Select “Show All Bookmarks” from the Bookmarks menu, then highlight and drag your folders from the Collections window on

the left into the main Bookmark window on the right.

MacAddict Magazine



Email

StuffIt Down Their Throats

Q: I have an iMac (333MHz) and am using Outlook Express. The other day I sent some JPEGs to our friends, and they were unable to view them. It looks like StuffIt is compressing the JPEGs. What is happened? Can you help?

—Geri Lawicki

A: Outlook Express attempts to compress all attachments using StuffIt. There are two ways to get around the problem you’re having with your friends.

The first is to tell them to download and install StuffIt Expander for Windows (www.stuffit.com). It’s free, and it will allow them to open any attachment they get from you. On the other hand, you can tell Outlook Express not to compress the attachments. In the new message window, below the subject field, you’ll see the word “Attachment.” Click the blue caret to expand the section. At the bottom, you’ll see “Encode for any computer (Apple Double); Macintosh (StuffIt) compression.” Click this heading, and you’ll see the encoding and compression options. If you want to ensure your friends get the images, choose Encode > Windows (MIME/Base 64) and Compression > None. This should do the trick.

macHOME HotTips

Top-Post or Bottom-Post? What Does That Mean?

You get an email and you hit “Reply,” and the entire content of the incoming email is quoted. Do you reply above (on top) or below (at

bottom) of the quoted text? David Pogue’s New York Times column on this drew 2,000 emails.

To indicate that one can do it “anyway you want,” one responder said “I often reply below the original quote, dialogue style. I use smileys, too. I also, on occasion, wear seersucker pants.”

There is one thing that I do which I wish others would do. I wish incoming emails would not include a half dozen headers! Honestly folks, unless you use Outlook Express, you can easily delete all those headers when you forward email. If you do not know how, call me!!!

While I am on the topic, you could also get TextSoap, which shows up in your Services in Cocoa applications, such as Mail and TextEdit. This allows you to make ordinary paragraphs out of incoming email containing all those > > characters and funny line endings where one word becomes a paragraph (dozens of them in a single email).

You can clean up a forward using Text-Soap on the outgoing message before you click Send.

One more email suggestion for today. When you send a joke or an interesting article to a group of people, do you really want each recipient to see a list of everyone you sent the article to? Probably not. So use BCC. In Mail you keystroke Command/Shift/B. This way all addresses are hidden from all recipients. Try this, and include yourself as a recipient, so you can see what I mean.

Back to top— or bottom— posting. Like many people responding to Pogue, I choose to do a little of each, depending on the content of the incoming. Sometimes

I snip down to the part I want to answer and reply beneath the snip. Sometimes I answer on top. One day I will develop my own rules.

Mouse Droppings, Corvallis OR



Apple Mail

Mail Rules

If you attempt to apply a rule to a large number of email messages in OS X's Mail application and the rule appears not to work with all the messages you've selected, try selecting fewer messages. Apple suggests that you choose 256 messages or less when manually applying rules.

MacVIEWS, Ft. Wayne IN

Micro Mail Print

Q: When I print from Apple's Mail program in Mac OS X, the print is microscopic. How can I make my prints readable?

A: Resize your email window. If you make the email window larger, the type will print larger. If you make the email window smaller, the type will print smaller.

MacAddict Magazine



iLife

Tips and Tricks for iLife

I love searching the Internet for new tricks. Here are tips and tricks web sites for each of the iLife applications.

iPhoto

<http://digitalphotography.weblogsinc.com/entry/1234000457026093/>

<http://www.mactipsandtricks.com/tips/display.lasso?mactip=112>

http://www.storyphoto.com/digital_photo/iphoto_tips_MWSF03.html

<http://www.vigay.com/support/iphoto.html>

iMovie

http://mac.oreilly.com/news/imovietips_0102.html

http://www.kusd.edu/district/departments/instrnl_tech/imovie_tips-tricks.html

<http://www.danslagle.com/mac/iMovie/index.shtml>

iDVD

<http://www.philafcpug.org/mt/archives/000290.html>

<http://raven.ubalt.edu/departments/corpCom/labMan/iDVD/tips.html>

iTunes

<http://www.apple.com/itunes/hottips/>

http://www.cynics.info/journal/2003/05/itunes_tips_gripes_and_tidbits

http://yabb.jriver.com/interact/index.php?topic=25877.0;prev_next=prev

<http://www.plasticbag.org/archives/448.xml>

<http://www.isaack.info/archives/2004/02/18/itunes-tips/?source=IsaackInfo>

GarageBand

<http://www.synthtopia.com/Articles/GaragebandTips.html>

<http://www.macidol.com/tips.php>
<http://www.stargeek.com/item/64512.html>

<http://www.gaslo.com/journal/2005/03/07/garageband-recording-tips/>

Small Dog Electronics



iMovie

Undo in iMovie

You have ten undos in iMovie. Just keep pressing Command/Z over and over until you get back to where you need to be. Panther may let you have more than ten undos.

Mouse Droppings, Corvallis OR



iPhoto

Music in Exported QT Slide Show

With previous versions of iPhoto, when you export an album as a QuickTime slide show, you could specify including the "currently selected" sound file. So, you add background music or vocal comments to the resulting QT movie. But, with iPhoto 5, that does not work. The QT movie contains no audio track.

However, with QuickTime Pro, you can paste a sound track into your slide show movie. You can "Open" a sound file using the QT Player. Then using the small track markers, select the desired starting point and ending point of the sound track, and Copy that to the clipboard. Then transfer the track from the Clipboard to the QT slide show. There are some options (Paste, Add, Add Scaled) and you can learn the functions of these from the help file.

All this assumes that you have purchased QT Pro and registered your version of QT. Most likely you already have QT Pro, from when you installed QuickTime, But, the unregistered version does not allow access to all the menu items.

It is best to edit the sound file (if you can) and note the playing time. You can adjust the slide viewing time so that the sound file and QT movie have about the same time duration. —Cyrus Roton

Apple Barrel, Ridgecrest, CA



iTunes

Music To Sleep By

I like to fall asleep to the music playing on my Mac, but I wanted that music to switch off once I'd fallen asleep. Enter AppleScript.

I make a lullaby-inducing script by launching Script Editor (Applications: AppleScript) and typing the following:

```
Tell application
    "iTunes"
    Delay 5400
    Quit
    End tell
```

Then I select the “Save As” command from the File menu and save the script as an application with the “Startup Screen” and “Stay Open” options deselected. You can put the application anywhere that’s convenient for you.

The next time you want to fall asleep to your iTunes playlists, just launch iTunes, start playing, and then launch your AppleScript. Exactly 90 minutes (5,400 seconds) later, iTunes will quit.

—Christian Brescia

*Chris Breen’s Mac 911
via Apple Barrel, Ridgecrest CA*

Radio Presets

Q: It’s such a hassle to navigate through all of the genres among the streaming radio stations inside iTunes. How can I set up iTunes to show only my favorites?

A: You can treat iTunes radio stations just like any other music files—simply add them to your Library via drag-and-drop. You can even create a Playlist that contains only your favorite stations.

MacAddict Magazine

iTunes and MP3 CDs

Using iTunes 2.0 or later, you can burn a disc as an MP3 CD. MP3 CDs can hold 150 songs (about 10 hours of music) on a single CD-R disc, whereas a typical audio CDs can only hold about 15 songs, or 74 to 80 minutes of music. (MP3 CDs hold more songs because

the songs are compressed.) You can play MP3 CDs on other computers and on consumer CD players that are compatible with the MP3 CD format. To find out how, check out Apple Knowledge Base Article 60924-iTunes 2: How to Burn a MP3 CD. <http://docs.info.apple.com/article.html?artnum=60924>

MacVIEWS, Ft. Wayne IN

Can’t Download Music

If you’ve tried to purchase and download music unsuccessfully, it’s worth running “Repair Permissions” in the “First Aid” tab of Disk Utility.

After that, make sure that the user you’re logged in as has “write” permissions on the Music folder, or, more specifically, the Music Folder that iTunes uses to store new music (check the “Advanced” tab in the iTunes Preferences dialog).

You might even try changing that Music Folder to another folder into which you’re sure you can add files.

If that doesn’t work, remember that you can contact iTunes Music Store Customer Service by choosing “Music Store Customer Service” from iTunes’ Help menu and following the appropriate link.

— Adam C. Engst

TidBITS.com



InDesign

Glyph Scaling

No one can tell if you horizontally scale some of your text by one or two percent. That’s why I recommend changing the Glyph Scaling settings (inside the justification dialog box, which you can get to from the Paragraph palette) to 99/100/101. That way, if InDesign needs to scale some text a tiny bit to make it fit a column

better, it can. Type purists will scowl at you, but do you really even need to tell them?

*David Blatner’s Tips & Tricks
by ALAP, Inc.*

Erasing Part of an Object

The Eraser tool (it’s hiding under the Pencil tool in the Tool palette) lets you erase part of a line or frame. For example, if you want to turn a circle into a “C” you could select the frame and drag the Eraser tool over part of its right side. (Even though the tool looks like a Pencil, don’t forget that it’s the back end — the eraser — that does the erasing.)

*David Blatner’s Tips & Tricks
by ALAP, Inc.*

Duplicate Fonts

If you have two fonts with the same name — one TrueType and one Type 1 PostScript — InDesign displays both in its Font menus. Fortunately, it puts a TT or a Ti after the name.

*David Blatner’s Tips & Tricks
by ALAP, Inc.*



QuarkXPress

Changing Views

You’re not going to the Tool palette to use the Magnifying Glass, are you? To zoom between 100% and 200% (two of the most useful views), simply Command/Option/Click. Wherever you click becomes the center of the monitor. To “fit in window,” use Command/Zero. My favorite view changer command is Control/V to highlight the page view percentage in the lower left corner. Then all I have to do is type in the percentage of view I want. If you simply must use the Magnifying Glass, hold down

the Control key and your cursor changes into the Glass. If you click-and-drag while holding down the Control key, you can select the area you want blown up. Quark 4 will zoom in up to 800%, while Quark 3 goes up to 400%.

David Creamer of I.D.E.A.S.

Two-Page Spreads

Yes, you can make a two-page spread without having a blank page before it. Before you add a second page, simply section the first page (Page > Section... or via the Document Layout palette) to page number 2 (or any even number). It will jump from the right to the left side of the Document Layout palette. Now, add the second page on the right side. If you already have a spread built, section the left page to an even page number, then delete the blank first page.

David Creamer of I.D.E.A.S.

Quick-Change Font

You have a series of text boxes in which you need to replace the font but it's not a global change that can be done through the Usage Dialog box. Here's a little trick that can help speed things up. Select some of the text that's in the new typeface, go to the Measurements panel, highlight the name of the typeface in the font window and use Command/C to copy the typeface name. Now, simply select the text whose typeface you need to change, highlight the typestyle name in the Measurements palette, hit Command/V and the typeface will be changed. —Angus McKelvey

Mac Design Magazine

Proportional Re-Size

To grow or shrink an object proportionally, hold the Shift key

down and grab any of the control handles and then re-size the object.

—Angus McKelvey

Mac Design Magazine



Illustrator

Resizing Arrowheads

You can make arrowheads two different ways in Illustrator, with different results when resized. If you create a line and then select Filter > Stylize > Add Arrowheads, the arrowhead will not change size when you resize the line. If you use Effects Filters > Stylize > Add Arrowheads, the arrowhead will grow or shrink with the line weight.

PC Graphics Report

via Design Tools Monthly

CD & DVD Templates

The Illustrator CD contains templates for many useful purposes, including packaging for CDs, DVDs and cassettes. Find it in Extras > Templates > CD-ROM & Cassette.

PC Graphics Report

via Design Tools Monthly

Colorize Artboard

In Illustrator you can change the background color of the Artboard to simulate colored paper stock. Go to File > Document Setup, choose Transparency from the pop-up menu, and turn on Simulate Paper. To change the Artboard color, edit the top box next to the transparency grid. —David Creamer

Mac Design

via Design Tools Monthly

Multiple Strokes

In Illustrator 9 and 10, a path can have multiple fills and multiple strokes, and fills and strokes can have different levels of transparency

or effects applied to them. So, for example, creating a railroad track is much easier than in previous versions of Illustrator. You control these fills and strokes in the Appearance palette. You can change the stacking order by dragging an item in the list up or down in the palette, which means that you can position a fill in front of a stroke. Interesting...

Design Tools Monthly



Photoshop

Keep the Same Size

Sometimes I get working on a project where each Photoshop document I create needs to be exactly the same size (baseball cards for example). The problem is that the File > New dialog box bases its width, height, resolution and mode settings on whatever I copied last (the contents on the clipboard really). Well, as long as the last document you created is your target size, then you can hold the Option key when choosing File > New to have it ignore what you copied last and instead just use the same settings you used the last time you created a new document. I usually just type Option/Command/N because it's much faster than using the File menu.

Ben Willmore's digitalmastery.com

Get a Free CD on Retouching Techniques

I'm in the middle of developing new retouching techniques that will be used in a series of CD-ROM-based educational products that should be available in the next month or so. If you'd like a chance to get a FREE copy of one of these products, then please send me

images that you've had retouching challenges with and I'll send you a FREE CD if I end up using your image as a project image on the CD. For details on how to submit your images, point your browser to www.digitalmastery.com/submit.

Ben Willmore's digitalmastery.com

Transparency in 5.5 or 6.0

If you have an image on a layer and you want the background behind it to appear transparent when you put it on a Web page, all you have to do is go to the Layers palette and delete the Background layer. This leaves your object as the only layer in the Layers palette, and when you choose Save for Web, or if you choose Indexed Color from the Image menu, under Mode, the Transparency checkbox is now checked (it's normally unchecked and grayed out). Now your background will not appear white, it will appear transparent when put on the Web. —Scott Kelby

Mac Design Magazine

Special Effects

If you ever need to create something that resembles cowhide, try the following:

1. Type "D" to reset your foreground and background colors to Black/White.
2. Choose Filter > Render > Clouds.
3. Choose Filter > Artistic > Smudge Stick and set the three sliders to somewhere around 2, 0 and 3.
4. Choose Image > Adjustments > Hue/Saturation, turn on the "Colorize" checkbox and set the three sliders to 35, 25 and 0.

If you'd like to add a sketch line effect to a photograph then do try these steps:

1. Choose Filter > Artistic > Colored Pencil (experiment with settings).
2. Immediately after applying that filter, choose Edit > Fade, set the pop-up menu to "Luminosity" and adjust the Opacity setting if necessary. Here's another variation on the previous technique:

1. Choose Filter > Artistic > Dry Brush (experiment with settings).
2. Immediately after applying that filter, choose Edit > Fade Dry Brush, and set the pop-up menu to "Hard Light."
3. Choose Edit > Fill, set the "Use" pop-up menu to "History" and set the "Mode" pop-up menu to "Color." (If History is not available, then you must have changed the mode or dimensions of your image since you've opened it... don't do that!)

To add an interesting edge to an image, do the following:

1. If the layer you're working on is called Background, then double-click on its name in the Layers palette and change it before proceeding. (That's because what we're going to do won't work on the background layer.)
2. Use the Marquee tool to make a selection that is somewhat smaller than the document you have open.
3. With that selection still active, choose Layer > Add Layer Mask > Reveal Selection.
4. Choose Filter > Brush Strokes > Spatter and experiment with the settings. (I used 20 and 5.)
5. Choose Filter > Blur > Radial Blur, set the "Method" to "Zoom" and then experiment

with the Amount setting. (I used 2.)

To add a high-contrast, soft-focus look to an image, try this:

1. Choose Filter > Noise > Median and adjust the slider until you wipe away most of the fine detail but can still recognize the subject of the photo. (I used 14 for a high-res image.)
2. Immediately after applying that filter, choose Edit > Fade Median and set the mode to "Hard Light."
3. Next, choose Edit > Fill, set the "Use" pop-up menu to "History" and set the "Mode" pop-up menu to "Color."
4. Repeat all the steps until you like how soft the image looks.

Ben Willmore's digitalmastery.com

More on Color Adjustments

With our heads still swirling with thoughts of color, we're going to expand on the ideas I taught you in the last tip, so if you didn't read that one, be sure to visit www.digitalmastery.com/tips and catch up with the tip from 12/19/04 before continuing.

Last time around, I showed you a basic concept for how many of Photoshop color adjustments can work. The main idea was that the Info palette can show you which general colors you'll shift your image towards when you are adjusting Red, Green or Blue in the Curves dialog box (although the same thing applies to Levels). Now, let's see how the numbers that show up in the Info palette can help us figure out how to shift the color of an image towards a specific color.

Go find two images that include people and open them in Photoshop. Make sure that skin tones in the

photos look different. Maybe one includes a tan person and the other includes someone who has pale white skin (although try not to mix races, otherwise you'll be starting with a rather difficult adjustment instead of one that's appropriate for this tip). We're going to end up shifting the color of the first person's skin so that it looks similar to the second person's skin. Before moving on, arrange the two photos so you can see both of them at the same time and choose Window > Info to make the Info palette visible.

With the photo you want to shift active, make a selection of part of the skin using the Marquee tool. The selection does not have to be accurate; it's just there so we don't shift the entire image. With that selection still active, choose Layer > New Adjustment Layer > Curves. Now, remember back to the previous installment of my Extra-Strength Tips... Remember that you could Command/click to add a dot to the curve? Well, for this image, we want to add a dot to each of the Red, Green, and Blue curves. To accomplish that, hold the Command key to indicate that you want to add a dot, then add the Shift key (which indicates that Photoshop should add a dot to all three of the R, G, and B curves) and click within the skin of the image you want to change. It won't look like anything happened, but if you change the menu at the top of the Curves dialog box, you should find a dot on each of the Red, Green, and Blue curves. Now let's see how we can use those dots to precisely shift the color of the skin.

While you're still in the Curves dialog box, release the keys you were holding down, move your mouse over the second image and

click in an area that has a similar brightness as the first image. With the mouse button still held down, look at the RGB numbers that appear in the Info palette and write them down. Those numbers indicate the exact formula that Photoshop uses to make the color of skin your mouse was over. Now, back in the Curves dialog box, set the Channel pop-up menu at the top of the Curves dialog box to "Red" and then change the number that appears in the Output field at the bottom of the dialog box to the first number you wrote down from the Info palette. Next, change the pop-up menu to "Green" and change the Output number to the second number you wrote down. Repeat this process with the menu set to "Blue" and use the third number you wrote down. The image will look rather weird until you get all three numbers entered into the respective Red, Green, and Blue output fields. Once you have them entered, the area of skin the first photo should be close to matching the color of the skin in the second.

Before you click "OK" in the Curves dialog box, cycle through the Red, Green, and Blue curves one more time and look at their overall shape. If any of them have what I call a "hard landing" (where the curve suddenly bottoms out), then click within the flat area of the curve and drag the resulting dot close to the dot you added earlier until the shape of the curve looks nice and smooth.

Finally, click "OK" in the Curves dialog box to apply the adjustment and then choose the Paintbrush tool. With the newly created Adjustment Layer active in your Layers palette, paint with white on any area of the skin that didn't change color, or

paint with black on any non-skin areas that shifted but shouldn't have.

This tip has only covered about 4% of what you'd learn if you would either read the Color Manipulation chapter in my Photoshop CS Studio Techniques book or watch my Mastering Color DVD. If you're interested in expanding your knowledge of color, then visit www.digitalmastery.com for info on my books and DVD's.

Or if you'd rather learn about a wider variety of Photoshop techniques, check out my new on-line class at <http://www.betterphoto.com/photocourses/BEN01.asp>.

Ben Willmore's digitalmastery.com

Change Background Color

When you have an image open in Photoshop and press F on your keyboard, the image is displayed in "Full Screen Mode with Menu Bar." By default, this shows the image against a gray background. Did you know that you could change that color? Select the desired color as the Foreground color, grab the Paint Bucket tool, and Shift/click in the background. Works in all recent versions of Photoshop, too.

—Peter Bauer

Mac Design Magazine

Layer Links, Groups, and Sets

The difference between Layer Links, Layer Groups, and Layer Sets can be classified as repositioning, masking, and unification. Linking layers allows you to reposition the linked layers as a single unit. Grouping layers allows you to use the transparent areas of the lowest grouped layer as a mask, and Layer Sets unify and organize multiple layers for duplication, movement, or visibility. —Daniel Giordan

Photoshop User Magazine

Custom Pattern Maker Patterns

The random nature of the Pattern Maker engine (Filter > Pattern Maker) frustrates some people who may be looking for a specific effect. One way to gain back some control is to save multiple patterns as presets by clicking the “Save Preset Pattern” button in the Pattern Maker control window at the bottom left-hand corner of the “Tile History” section. Apply these saved presets to separate layers of a single file and use Blending Modes and Masks to add scale and size variation. —Daniel Giordan

Photoshop User Magazine



Printers

Renaming Printers

A feature found in the old Apple Printer Utility is back — renaming printers! To rename a printer, open Print Center (Applications > Utilities) and select the printer. Then select Printer > Show Info (or hit Command/I) to open a Printer Info window. From there, you can change the printer’s name, PPD file, etc. The bad news for people on networks is that only “local” printers can be renamed. — Rich Lenoce

*Connecticut Macintosh Connection,
Hartford CT*

Is PostScript Software Better?

Q: What is appropriate scan resolution for an image that will print on the EPSON 2200? Also, The Epson 2200 does not necessarily require PostScript software, but I need to know if Postscript software will enhance detail in my prints? I would be grateful if you could comment on these issues. —Jason Van Hollander, Illustrator, Artist
A: Scanning resolutions depend

on the quality and the size of the original. So, I would scan at the true optical resolution of the scanner you are using and test the output to see if you’re happy with the quality. Scanners vary greatly in their ability to scan flat art like your line drawing/illustrations. So, you need to make sure you’re starting with good quality files. As an old printer told me when I was first starting in this industry, “Garbage in equals garbage out.”

A PostScript RIP won’t add detail or resolution; however the RIP will visually show detail in the output that will not be visually seen on the output without a RIP. I believe the best solution for black-and-white output on Epson printers is the ColorByte RIP. The web site URL is www.colorbytesoftware.com. It will handle your needs perfectly. Also make sure that you also have a high-quality color calibrated monitor. My recommendation is the Sony Artisan. — Helene DeLillo

Digital Imaging Magazine

Older Serial Printers

If you have an older Macintosh and your serial printer has died, you have a problem. In most cases the printer is not worth fixing and the printer makers no longer produce a Macintosh serial printer. You can purchase a used serial printer, if you can find one. You can buy a new or used laser printer, but it will not be color. If you have a PCI slotted Mac, you have another option. You can install a PCI USB card and use any of the new Inkjet USB Mac printers. The cards run from \$29 to \$45 and requires System 8.6 or above.

Mad Mac News, Madison WI

Printing Tips and Cartridges

Need to hook up a dot matrix

printer to your G4 or any PC printer to your Mac? Try Strydent software’s PowerPrint program. They offer both a serial and USB version. Includes drivers for many PC printers. <http://www.strydent.com/strydentsoftware-products/powerprint-products.html>

For the Apple StyleWriter 2400 and 2500, the units are actually made by Canon and you can easily substitute the more affordable and high quality ink. Listed below are the Canon stock numbers:

- BC-20 Large black only ink tank
- BC-21E Cartridge with print head that holds a black tank and a color tank
- BC-21C Color ink tank that fits in BC-21E
- BC-21BK Black ink tank that fits in BC-21E

For the Apple StyleWriter 1200, the cartridge is a BC-02

The same holds true for the LaserWriters that were made by HP and Canon mostly. Find out what yours is internally and by the cheaper and more easily available equivalent. By all means a good quality generic is also something you might want to consider.

- Apple LaserWriter II uses the same as HPLJ II/IID/III/IIID, Canon, LBP-8 Mark III, Brother HL-8
- Apple LaserWriter Pro 600/630/16/600PS uses the same as HP LaserJet 4/4M/4+/5/5N/5M, Canon LBP-8 Mark IV, LBP-850, Brother 1260/1660
- Apple Personal LaserWriter 300/320 uses the same as HP LaserJet 4L/4LC, Canon LBP 40/430
- Apple LaserWriter Select 300/310/360 uses the same as a Xerox 4505/4510

AppleCore, Memphis TN

Credits & Special Thanks

These Hints and Tips are compiled from a variety of sources including:

User Group Newsletters:

- *Mouse Droppings*, newsletter of the Corvallis Macintosh User Group in Corvallis, Oregon, one of the oldest and most active user groups in the country. *Mouse Droppings* is the home of Phil Russell, a respected Macintosh writer and the main source of hints and tips published by me over the years, as well as other MUG newsletters throughout the world.
- *Apple Barrel*, newsletter of the Ridgecrest Apple User Group, Ridgecrest, California.
- *AppleCore*, newsletter of AppleCore of Memphis, Tennessee.
- *ApplePRESS*, newsletter of the Diablo Valley Macintosh User Group in Concord, California.
- *AUSOM News*, newsletter of Australia's largest Macintosh User Group, Apple Mac Users' Society of Melbourne, Australia.
- *Charlotte MacWorkshop*, newsletter of the Macintosh Users Group in Charlotte, North Carolina.
- *Connecticut Macintosh Connection*, newsletter of the Connecticut Macintosh Connection in West Hartford, Connecticut.
- *FatBits*, newsletter of CVMUG, the nation's first user group. Camarillo, California
- *The Finder*, newsletter of Mid-Columbia Macintosh User Group in Kennewick, Washington.
- *MacCHUG Line*, newsletter of the Macintosh Chico User Group in Paradise, California.
- *MacCORE*, newsletter of the Macintosh Users Group in Leawood, Kansas.
- *MACtalk*, newsletter of the Victoria Macintosh Users Group, Victoria BC, Canada.
- *MacVIEWS*, newsletter of the Professional Macintosh Users Group of Northeastern Indiana in Fort Wayne, Indiana.
- *Mad Mac News*, newsletter of the Madison Macintosh User Group in Madison, Wisconsin.
- *Mouse Tales*, newsletter of the North Coast Mac Users Group in Cleveland, Ohio.
- *TMUG Insider*, newsletter of the Tri-Valley Macintosh Users Group in Pleasanton, California.

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- Randall Kelly, SDMUG, San Diego, California
- Phredd, Nawfuk Virginny
- Jerry Kerruk
- Emanuel Friedman
- Raymond Drainville, Argument from Design
- Betsy Mill, SDMUG, San Diego, California

Websites:

- *Small Dog Electronics*, an Apple Specialist and resellers of Apple Macintosh computers, peripherals, and software. www.smalldog.com.
- Ben Willmore's *DigitalMastery.com* — Ben is the author of the Photoshop Studio Techniques books, one of the top Photoshop instructors, and one of the expert trainers at the National Association of Photoshop Professionals (NAPP) Photoshop World Expo.
- Michael Flaminio's *macnews@insanely-great.com* — A Macintosh newswire service that provides daily news updates on everything Macintosh. Subscribe to free daily emails by going to: www.insanely-great.com/macnews.php
- *TidBITS.com* — A free email and Web publication covering the Macintosh Internet community.

Magazines:

- Jay J. Nelson's *Design Tools Monthly* — An executive summary of graphic design news which includes Mac news and rumors, new software and hardware announcements, upcoming seminars and shows, interesting websites, and other valuable information. You may request a free sample copy of this monthly newsletter by going to www.design-tools.com or calling 303.543.8400.
- *Digital Imaging Magazine* — the essential resource for the imaging professional, is published by the Cygnus Imaging Group, the world's largest publisher of photographic and imaging business publications. www.imaginginfo.com.
- *MacAddict Magazine*. "A better machine. A better magazine." Every issue of *MacAddict* is packed with in-depth how-to articles, fact-filled features, and expert reviews, plus a monthly CD of hot product demos, tutorials, freeware, and video how-to stories and interviews. www.macaddict.com
- *Mac Design Magazine* is the top graphic design magazine published today, and it is published for Mac users only. *Mac Design* is edited by Scott Kelby, the President of the National Association of Photoshop Professionals and also editor of *Photoshop User*, the NAPP's excellent newsletter.
- The *macHome Journal*, the ultimate magazine for the Macintosh consumer, offering practical advice for everyone. *MacHome Journal* offers excellent how-to articles and advice on purchases, and Hot Tips on line. www.machome.com.
- *Macworld Magazine*. The ultimate resource for Mac users. Each issue is packed with practical how-tos, in-depth features, the latest troubleshooting tips and tricks, industry news, future trends, and is home of Chris Breen's Mac 911 columns. www.macworld.com.
- *PC Graphics Report*. A short, easy-to-read summary of the latest news, reviews, tips, and tools for graphics, digital photography, and web design. www.pcgraphicsreport.com.
- *Photoshop User Magazine* is the newsletter of the National Association of Photoshop Professionals. If you use Photoshop, you should belong to NAPP. Find them on the web at www.photoshopuser.com.

Authors:

- David Blatner's *Tips & Tricks* by ALAP, Inc. — An InDesign plug-in from A Lowly Apprentice Production Inc. (ALAP), a leading provider of extended technology for the publishing and graphic design industries, and source of many excellent plug-ins for InDesign, QuarkXPress, and Photoshop. www.alap.com
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- Helene DeLillo is a professional photographer with many high-profile clients including those in the beauty, fashion, and entertainment industries. Her digital images have appeared in the pages of *Rolling Stone*, *Entertainment Weekly*, and *Time Digital*, as well as on the covers of *Digital Camera*, *Photoshop User*, and *Studio Photography & Design* magazines.
- Scott Kelby is Editor-in-Chief of *Photoshop User Magazine* and *Mac Design Magazine*, President of the NAPP, and the author of numerous books including *Mac OS X Killer Tips*, *The Photoshop Book for Digital Photographers*, and *Photoshop Down & Dirty Tricks*. www.scottkelby.com.

Books:

- *Mac OS X Killer Tips*, written by Scott Kelby, author of numerous books including *The Photoshop Book for Digital Photographers*, and *Photoshop Down & Dirty Tricks*. and Editor-in-Chief of *Photoshop User Magazine* and *Layers Magazine*. www.scottkelby.com.
- *Mac OS X: The Missing Manual*, written by David Pogue, computer columnist for the New York Times and creator of the *Missing Manual* series, is the #1 best-selling Macintosh author.

If you are not a member of a Macintosh User Group, I highly recommend that you find one in your area and join. User groups are the greatest source of information and help available to all Mac users — from novices to experts. You can find one in your area by going to apple.com/usergroups/find.