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May 2001

MACinations

Club Mac Magazine $4



Photo courtesy of Apple

Jobs Saved in North Sydney **Better Graphics from Excel** **Connecting to Club Mac** **Installing Mac OS X** **Club Mac Talks with Apple Australia About Planning for the Future** **What happens in a Q & A SIG?** **OS X Tips, Tricks and Features** **Office 2001 for Mac Service Release 1** **Adobe Photoshop Elements & Premiere** **Tips to Excel** **FileMaker Pro - In Search of the Bullet-Proof Value List** **MACcess Report** **Tips and Tricks**



From the Editor

Andrew Pavey <andrew.pavey@clubmac.org.au>

The committee has decided to upgrade Club Mac's internet connection. Club Mac has just signed up with Pacific Internet who offer fixed a fixed IP address on an ADSL connection. In the next month or so it will be installed and then we should see faster connections from Club Mac to the internet.

Due to the nature of the public telephone system we won't be able to offer faster connections to Club Mac's BBS via the dial up lines, however members connecting over TCP/IP should see the difference in speed. This will affect web surfing, file up and downloads and email.

In this issue we continue to feature OS X, the biggest change in Mac OS since System 7. Many early adopters have been disillusioned, including myself. OS X is not yet ready in any serious way for day to day work. Too many things don't work, or don't work right. This has little to do with the interface changes, which themselves are like the curates egg, good in parts.

Apple has a lot of work to do to get back the functionality we've enjoyed in OS 8 and 9. The first tweaking has already happened, update 10.0.1 has been released. There are rumours that 10.1 won't be far behind.

It will be another few months before any of the major productivity apps get OS X native releases, and then things should improve.

Apple has to continue to bring Mac like functionality to the UNIX underpinnings of OS X. It's already getting to the stage where to change a number of settings, which are less than optimum in the installed software, you have to get your fingers dirty in the joys of the Terminal, typing arcane commands to achieve apparently simple things.

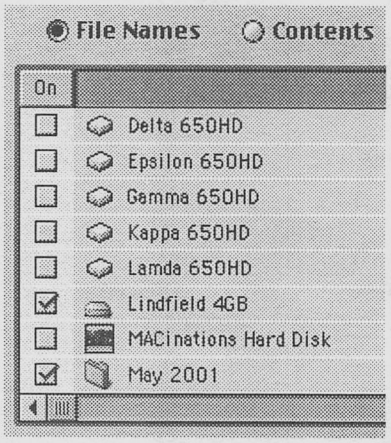
Apple should give urgent consideration to wrapping a lot of this UNIX stuff in a Mac like GUI. We shouldn't need to remember UNIX commands, they should be presented in a Mac like way, as menu choices (grayed out if not applicable), or radio buttons and check boxes as appropriate.

Tips and Tricks

Sherlock Search in a Specific Folder

To search the contents of a specific folder in the old Find File you could select a menu option on the drop down menu, but this disappeared when Sherlock was introduced. However, Sherlock continues to be able to search a specific folder and its subfolders. Drag the folder of interest into the pane in Sherlock which lists the volumes, it comes pre-checked, and uncheck the checkboxes for volumes (and folders) not of interest. Then hit the big button or the Return key to start your search.

Here I've dragged the folder May 2001 into the Sherlock window



"Windows is like a Mac in the same way that a transvestite is like a real woman. It's 95 percent the same, and actually what some people would prefer, but not really the same for those who care about small differences."

John Dvorak

Club Mac 2001 meeting schedule

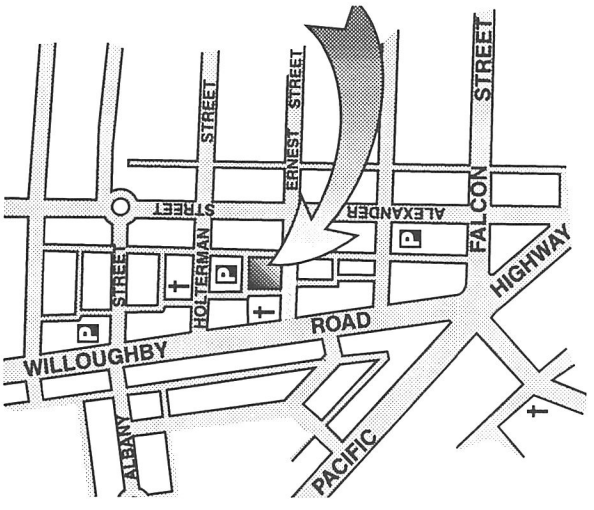
	1st Wed Q&A	2nd Wed Main	4the Wed Databases
May	2nd	9the	23rd
June	6the	13the	27the
July	4the	11the	25the
August	1st	8the	22nd
September	5the	12the	26the
October	3rd	**10the**	24the
November	7the	14the	28the
December	5the	12the	-

The next Club Mac meeting is May 9 th

Club Mac meets in the Johnson Hall (Level 2) of the Crows Nest Centre, 2 Ernest Place, Crows Nest, from 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm on the second Wednesday of the month,

The venue is adjacent to the multi-level car park in Holterman Street and behind the Baptist Church in Willoughby Road.

June Meeting: 13th June2001



Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

All SIGs meet at:

Unit 11/87 Reserve Rd, Artarmon.

- **Q&A Forum**
  Meets 6:30 to 8:30pm, on the first Wednesday of each month.
- **Database SIG** (largely FileMaker Pro)
  Meets 6:30 to 8:30pm, on the 4the Wednesday of the month.
- **Omnis SIG**
  Contact Reg Paling (telephone 9905 4405) or www.spelean.com.au/OMNIS/meeting.html for more information.

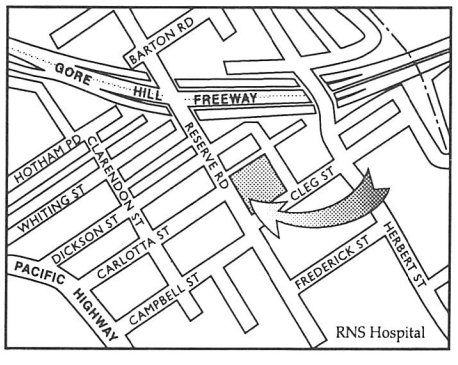


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Treasurer	Darryl Chrisp
PD Secretary	Ronald Forster
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Kath Harding, Greg Sharp

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(Appointed by Committee in accordance with Constitution)

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Club Mac Help Desk (02) 9475 0448

This is both a voice and a Fax service but is unmanned. Please leave a message and someone will deal with your problem as soon as possible. You can also contact the Help Desk at **<help@clubmac.org.au>**. This service is free, but we are **all** volunteers. When you call or fax, give essential information: **Given name and surname**; **membership number**; **full STD number** and **brief details of the problem** or **what is required**. If you don't, you may never hear back from us!

Some individual members have agreed to be resource people for particular areas but please restrict your contact to 6:00–10:00pm on weekdays and 10:00am–10:00pm on weekends. **Membership ,BBS, Telefinder** – Darryl Chrisp (02) 9363 2198; **Databases** – Hilton Brown (02) 9929 7296; **Beginners** – Marshall Ahern (02) 9969 9280.

Any difficulties should be reported to the Administrator at (02) 9363 2198.

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Jobs Saved in North Sydney

by Ray Graham, DOWNTIME ELIMINATORS, the techo who tells all <accounts@macright.com.au>

How old files nearly undid a North Sydney printing house and sent 15 people onto the dole queue

Fabiana (not her real name) sounded urgent. "The Mac's crashing," she said.

That made it urgent: Print Perfect (not its real name, either) only had one Macintosh - but what a job it does. It's a print art-house, with lots of pre-print runs, at the front end of the art works and pre-press material. And when that Mac goes down, much of the business stops. They have 15 or so employees, Fabiana is the only Mac operator, and about a quarter of the company's production - the quick, short jobs - depend on it.

I dropped everything to get there by noon. I know an emergency when I see one!

Both her Illustrator and Quark were crashing on opening. And that was a real turn-around: that PowerMac 9600/300, with OS 8.6, had been reliable for 18 months. Let's get straight into it.

First, the font Univers had become corrupted. It was undeletable. Bring in the Norton's (that's the universal fix-it software). It was gone almost instantly. Too easy. By force of habit, I then ran Virex, a virus-detecting utility. I was looking for the real cause and not sure where to head.

Alas, only too true. AutoStart 9805-A had infected five files. AutoStart is nasty one and it takes some cleaning up. It would have been at least another 90 minutes before the computer was up and running again - and still not perfectly.

Fabiana had been using older versions of the programs, and I suspected these might have become corrupted along the way. We phoned Adobe for support. As usual, they were the soul of help. They promised replacements and upgrades out there the next day.

Print Perfect had registered all of their software and hardware purchases as a matter of course, and this made getting help easy. This contrasts with years ago when filling in the warranty/registration cards was largely a waste of time. These days companies are keen to get your details for on-going marketing and research, but it can benefit the user as well.

Regrettably, that wasn't the end of it.

With all checkups complete, the system still continued to crash intermittently. We decided to re-install the operating system. That's relatively easy: just pop in the disk and in 15 minutes or so, re-start the system. We'd backed up as a precaution, but I've never lost files during a re-install. (I think of the anguish and pain on a customer's face if countless hours of work were to be lost!).

Re-starting and re-testing showed no improvement. We were into Stage II of the computer's re-build. Seeing the Old Girl had run so well for so long, it seemed disproportionate that AutoStart had done so much damage. It's a sad fact of life that once you start kicking sleeping dogs in an Operating System, you never know where the barking and biting ends.

Stage II is to do a clean Install, where the previous System Folder is replaced. This is tedious, because most of the Computer's settings need to be re-entered. For a quick fix, it is possible to patch over the relevant preferences, but you never know where the corruptions lie. This takes over an hour, so we did it.

Still no success. This demanded Stage III, and the backup becomes essential. We re-formatted the drive, re-installed the operating system and applications, and re-entered important settings. Warning: always backup a copy of your original System Folder (not bothering to keep the System File and Finder File.)

This is important because there are many important Preferences and Extras hidden in the System Folder, the importance of which only becomes evident when other parts won't work without them.

Fabiana and I sat throughout this process, drinking coffee and swapping yarns. Re-start and re-test. All's well. When it comes to Computer cures, there's nothing like re-format and re-build anew. (I do this to my own equipment, roughly every six months. But I am constantly installing and removing bit as I test for customers and experiment with all sorts.)

Part of the approach to handling viruses is that, once they're found on a hard disk, they have had to come from somewhere. We now systematically inserted every other disk in the office, and checked and cleaned them for everything. Only one other virus came to light, another AutoStart on a floppy.

It was late in the day by now, so we called it quits. We agreed to complete the installation and testing when the software arrived from Adobe in the next day.

Next afternoon it was up and running beautifully, but there were still some detail to attend to. For example, the Xerox printers attached to the Computer were missing essential drivers. Fabiana went off to the company's safe, and returned with the Xerox drivers. This business was well organised.

We popped the first floppy into the drive. The computer crashed and re-started itself. I had that sinking feeling, realising that these disks had NOT been cleaned. I suspected that Autostart was back in the Computer again. I couldn't charge Print Perfect for the extra time cleaning up this infection. How could I? It was my oversight, allowing the disks in the safe not to be checked. Bugger!

Tips to Excel

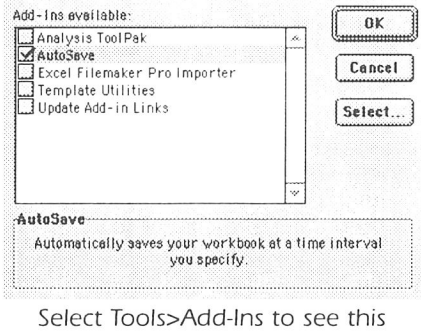
Graeme Nicholas gdnic@ozemail.com.au
Graeme is a former Club Mac Administrator and Treasurer, a former CFO and semi retired MYOB consultant

Having happily migrated back to the Mac OS, I now have a little more time to luxuriate over Microsoft Excel 98. So in the autumn of my youth, I'm trying to catch up on some of the mysteries of Excel 98 for myself and hopefully members who are not in the power user category.

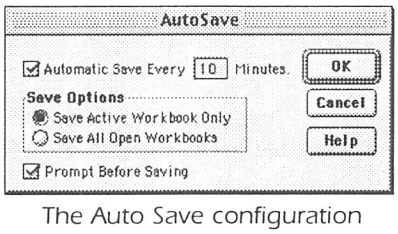
I am now in distinguished company with Macinations, so I trust I can assist in some small way with the evident resurgence of our magazine.

AutoSave

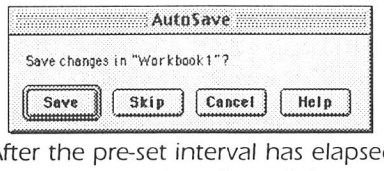
Occasionally Excel can crash or freeze and you lose all your work since the last SAVE. The solution is to get Excel to regularly Save your worksheets as you work. AutoSave is available from the Tools >Add-Ins menu. If the Add-In option is not there in the Tools menu, you will need to install the Value Pack from your install disk. Select Tools >Add-Ins and you'll get the Add-In dialogue box giving you a number of choices.



Select Tools>Add-Ins to see this dialogue



The Auto Save configuration dialogue

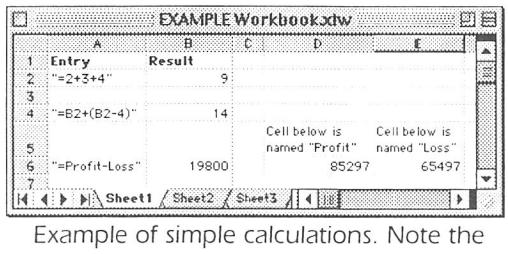


After the pre-set interval has elapsed you see this Auto Save dialogue

Perhaps it's because I still have negative memories from Excel 97, I suggest you keep the time spans fairly short between saves, like 2-3 minutes.

Simple calculations

Excel 98 re-introduced me to Excel 4's simple attribute allowing cell click compilations of simple formulae ie. Commencing with the equals (=) key.



Example of simple calculations. Note the quote marks are not required when entering a formula.

(You couldn't do that in 97, somehow I think, because the Alt key command is all pervasive and used to great effect in Windoze).

I suggest you can practise this simplified style of analysing your data in 98 using the num pad keys (incorporating the addition, subtraction, division and multiplication operators). Use the Microsoft Help resource if necessary and this will give you experience and greater confidence for bigger things when we discuss worksheet functions at greater length (eg. using the auto summation symbol Σ et al).

Simple Print layout

Now if you are relatively new to working in Excel, getting the best fit of data onto a page, normally in A4 portrait style, is relatively important, especially for business and financial data.

Margins and column widths will largely dictate just how much you get onto that important page, without spilling over and wasting paper into the bargain. You can reduce the output data simply by applying scaling criteria etc in the Page Set Up menu et al, but let's assume you first want to try and get it all reasonably onto one page without resorting to scaling to say, using the Landscape option.

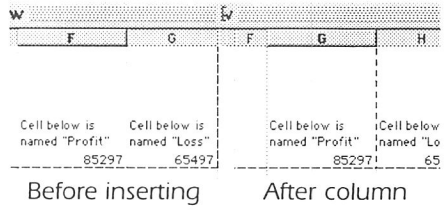
Strategies include:

* Work from a template that you've set up with the minimum margins you wish to use, leaving headers and footers at none unless off course you are creating a myriad of work files and you wish to keep track of which is which.

* If you don't need the year annotated in your date column, you can work off the default for the date formatting, dd-mmm. That takes up a column width of 8.0 points. Full dates including the abbreviated year as yy, take up 8.50 points. Half points may be critical on some worksheets. For productivity, use the division key from the keyboard and Excel converts entries to better looking minus slashes.

* Check the Tools>Preferences>View Tab, for the Window option to show page breaks. Then you can (always) test just how far you can broaden a page by stretching the right hand column of the worksheet until it falls outside the dotted line of the page break. You can then adjust that column appropriately and subsequently adjust a more critical column that needs attention to better fit the data on the page.

* To keep track of page length you can put a period (full-stop or dot) in an unused cell at the right hand bottom corner of the sheet. While you are working you'll add rows etc which push the subject dot into the next page. Remember to check its position before you print. Deleting some excess blank rows, or changing their height can pull that dot back onto the current page, and save you printing an extra mainly blank page.



Before inserting an extra column

After column insertion, col H falls outside the page

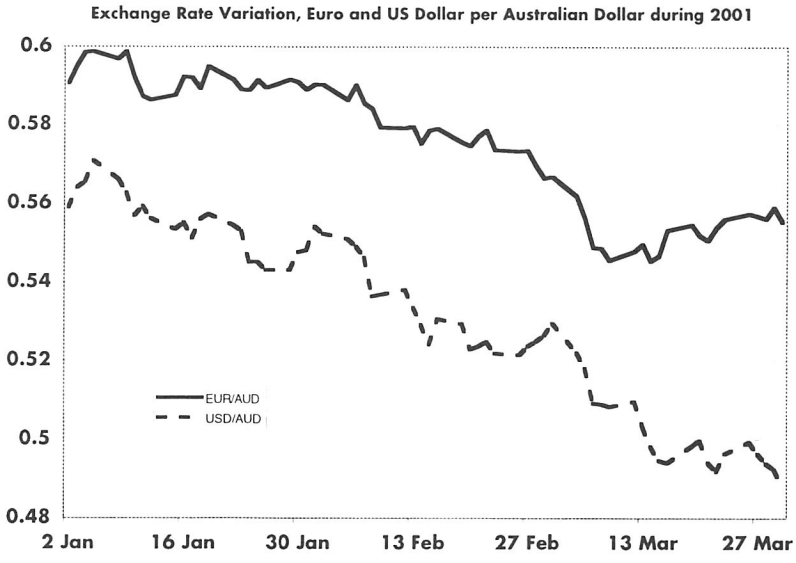


Better Graphics from Excel

© Andrew Pavey 2001 <andrew.pavey@clubmac.org.au>

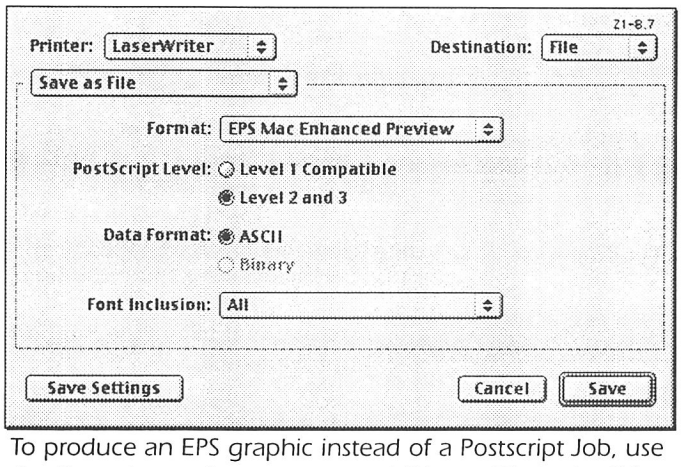
I recently had a project to create good quality graphics from an Excel chart. Excel has no way to save a chart as a graphic. The obvious way of getting a graphic from an Excel chart is to take a screen shot using Command-Shift-4 and use a photo editing application like Photoshop to crop and resize it.

Unfortunately this leads to a fairly ugly result. After trying a number of alternatives, including creating a pdf file via Acrobat Distiller, none of which provided a satisfactory job, I finally found an easy way to get a very good result using the options available in the Print dialogue.



The resulting high quality graphic will print well at almost any size.

In simple terms I "Printed" the chart to a disk file. With the Chooser set to Laserwriter, I picked the option on the main pop down menu "Save as File", in the resulting dialogue pane I selected "All" from the Font Inclusion pop down menu so that the resulting graphic could be printed anywhere, and in the Format pop down menu, which normally reads "Postscript Job", I selected "EPS Mac Enhanced Preview". Then from the Destination pop down I selected "File".



To produce an EPS graphic instead of a Postscript Job, use the Format pop down menu, and Print to File in the Print dialogue.

When I hit Save I was presented with a dialogue to pick where I wanted to save the file. The result was a high quality EPS file which I could place in PageMaker and get a high quality print job, not the low quality that results from a screen shot.

Acrobat Reader 5

The Portable Document Format is a publicly available file specification, invented by Adobe, which is used to display documents consistently on a wide variety of computer platforms. Adobe makes available a free Acrobat Reader software package which enables you to view PDF documents in web browsers, or for use as a stand-alone application.

Apple has adopted the PDF as its native format for documents under OS X, although it has developed its own software to save paying Adobe license fees!

Apple has been including Adobe's Acrobat Reader installer software with the System for some time, and it's probably on your HD somewhere.

Adobe also sells Acrobat authoring software which enables you to create PDF documents. The latest version, Acrobat Reader 5 is available from http://download.adobe.com/pub/adobe/acrobatreader/mac/5.x/. It contains a few new features, including:

* Ability to save copies of files downloaded in Web browsers
* Improved useability - drag-and-drop toolbar icons, dynamic thumbnails generation
* When windows are resized, text in Tagged Adobe PDF files reflows to fit the window for better on-screen reading
* Improved access to Web-hosted applications/online services
* Support for Adobe Illustrator 9.0 graphics that contain transparency
* Compatibility with previous versions of Acrobat Reader.

Office 2001 for Mac Service Release 1

Microsoft has released the Office 2001 for Mac Service Release 1, which updates the suite of applications for Mac OS 9.1 and Mac OS X compatibility, international language support, and other improvements. Word 2001 now correctly saves documents in Word 4.0 format and fixes a rare problem caused when documents with numbers were saved in Rich Text Format (RTF) and then opened in Word for Windows. Excel 2001 offers enhancements to the List Manager, printing, and when importing FileMaker data. PowerPoint 2001 better handles linked files and presentations created with PowerPoint for Windows, and improves the Save as Web Page feature.

Entourage 2001 fixes a host of problems ranging from application crashes to rebuilding Entourage databases, along with better support for working with various SMTP and IMAP servers. The Service Release 1 is a free update, and is a 6.9 MB download.
http://www.microsoft.com/mac/download/office2001/sr1_addressed.asp

Issues Addressed by Word 2001 SR 1

General Improvements

Microsoft Word 2001 Service Release 1 (SR 1) correctly saves documents in Word 4.0 for the Macintosh format when that format has been selected in the Save Word files as pop-up menu in the Preferences dialog box (Edit menu, Preferences command, Save tab). However, the Office Assistant must be turned off for this option to work properly. To turn off the Office Assistant, click Turn Assistant Off on the Help menu. Word 2001 SR 1 fixes a rare problem that sometimes caused documents containing numbers to lose data or become corrupted when they were saved in Rich Text Format and opened in Word for Windows.

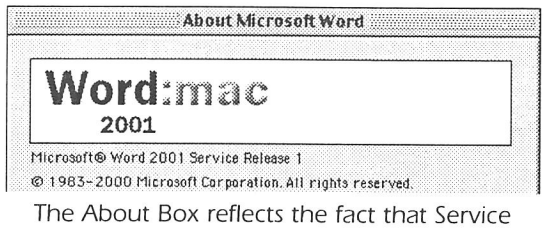
International Language Support Improvements

The English version of Word 2001 SR 1 provides users of Japanese multilingual documents with better text editing controls and improvements to Japanese language proofing tools. The Australian thesaurus works correctly in multilingual documents in Word 2001 SR 1. Word 2001 SR 1 fixes an issue that in some rare cases caused Word fields to disappear from documents shared between French, German, and English versions of Microsoft Word 2001 for Mac.

Issues Addressed by Excel 2001 SR 1

General Improvements

In Microsoft Excel 2001 Service Release 1 (SR 1), user-defined VBA functions no longer generate overflow errors for some fractional values. You can work with fonts in Excel 2001 SR 1 while Adobe Type Manager is installed on your computer and Excel will not stop responding. If you exit Excel 2001 SR 1 before saving your worksheet changes, and then choose to save the worksheet as a Web page, Excel will save your worksheet properly.



The About Box reflects the fact that Service Release 1 is installed.

FileMaker Import Improvements

FileMaker Import now handles larger databases as well as databases with records containing JPEG, PICT, or TIFF images. If you drag and drop a FileMaker Pro database into an Excel worksheet, Excel 2001 SR 1 can successfully save the worksheet.

List Manager Improvements

In Excel 2001 SR 1, List Manager objects have been enhanced to provide better compatibility with previous versions of Excel. Filtered lists update your worksheet without leaving "artifacts" on the screen. If you create a list object column with Text as the default data type, Excel 2001 SR 1 properly retains that setting. You can use a named range for list object data validation and successfully insert a row in the middle of that range. If you make a new entry at the end of a list object that keeps a total of the data, save it as a Web page, and then open that Web page for editing later in Excel 2001 SR 1, the list object will retain your new entries. If you import a text file that contains Double Byte Character Set (DBCS) characters, List Manager recognizes and imports the characters. If you create workbooks with List Objects in Excel 2001 SR 1, the worksheets can be opened and saved by using other language versions of Excel 2001.

Printing Improvements

Excel 2001 SR 1 allows you to drag an Excel chart into another Office application, and then immediately print the worksheet you dragged the chart from without causing your computer to stop responding. Excel charts that have been inserted into Word documents print at the printer's full resolution.

International Language Support Improvements

DBCS character support has been improved in Excel 2001 SR 1. Pivot Tables support input of DBCS characters. DBCS special sign (Unicode:301c) characters can be rotated into vertical text.

Cells containing both English and Japanese characters do not disappear when spelling is checked. Excel 2001 SR 1 handles the Korean currency symbol correctly. The Add Indent and Report Manager add-in programs work properly in the Japanese version of Excel 2001 SR 1. XL4 Auto_xxx macros created with the English version of Excel 2001 SR 1 execute correctly in other language versions of Excel.

Issues Addressed by PowerPoint 2001 SR 1

General Improvements

If you customize the Formatting toolbar, Microsoft PowerPoint 2001

Service Release 1 (SR 1) handles the changes properly. In PowerPoint 2001 SR 1, slides that contain images with white backgrounds and are exported to GIF or PNG format retain the white backgrounds of their images. Presentations that contain images with white backgrounds and are saved as Web pages also retain the correct white background for the images. PowerPoint 2001 SR 1 properly prints slides containing images that were copied and pasted from Adobe Photoshop. PowerPoint 2001 SR 1 correctly opens presentations with linked files if the linked files are in the same folder as the presentation. Even if you move presentations to another computer or another volume, PowerPoint can open presentations with linked files as long as the presentation and the linked files are in the same folder. Presentations with linked files include Microsoft PowerPoint 2000 for Windows presentations that have been saved by using the Pack and Go feature. PowerPoint 2001 SR 1 correctly opens and saves presentations that were created with PowerPoint for Windows and that contain OLE objects.

Save as Web Page Improvements

If you create a presentation by using a content template and save or preview that presentation as a Web page, the message "The file cannot be found" will not appear in PowerPoint 2001 SR 1. In PowerPoint SR 1, slide notes stay with the correct slide in Web presentations when slide order is changed. Web presentations created with PowerPoint 2001 SR 1 display correctly in Netscape Navigator even if you set the decimal separator to a comma in the Numbers control panel. PowerPoint 2001 SR 1 allows you to use the controls on the Formatting Palette to create hyperlinks to other files and other presentations. Extended characters entered into the Notes pane display correctly in Web presentations created in PowerPoint 2001 SR 1.

Improvements in Japanese Language Support

The Make Movie Wizard and Web Options dialog boxes now display correctly. In PowerPoint 2001 SR 1, text boxes display correctly when they contain text formatted with a Postscript font. The automatic spelling checker has been improved to properly check Single Byte Character Set (SBCS) characters following Double Byte Character Set (DBCS) characters, including characters in the slide master header and footer. PowerPoint 2001 SR 1 can open and save Web presentations that use Japanese encoding standards such as JIS, Macintosh, and Kana. DBCS characters no longer appear in the HTML source files.

Improvements in Support for European Languages

Web presentations created with PowerPoint 2001 SR 1 open and display properly in the French and Spanish versions of Microsoft Internet Explorer 4.5. PowerPoint 2001 SR 1 eliminates flickering on the screen when you use international versions of PowerPoint 2001 to change presentations.

Issues Addressed by Entourage 2001 SR 1

General Improvements

If you are working on more than one e-mail message and your Macintosh is reset, Microsoft Entourage 2001 Service Release 1 (SR 1) will recover all of the e-mail messages you were working on. Entourage 2001 SR 1 saves notes and searches through HTML e-mail messages faster. Entourage 2001 SR 1 fixes a problem that sometimes caused Entourage to stop responding when users switched identities. You can view different months in the Calendar in Entourage 2001 SR 1 when a day other than Sunday is selected as the first day of the week. Entourage 2001 SR 1 no longer stops responding when the address book or recent address list are used to enter extremely long names or e-mail addresses into a message. You can start Internet Explorer at the same time that Entourage 2001 SR 1 is running without causing the computer to stop responding. However, see the "Known Issues in Entourage 2001 SR 1" section of this Read Me file to learn more about starting Internet Explorer with the Microsoft Windows Media Player plug-in while Entourage is running. Entourage 2001 SR 1 can perform advanced rebuilds of Entourage databases and recover databases even if they are badly damaged. In Entourage 2001, custom categories imported from Palm Desktop were in some cases duplicated in the Entourage Category list each time the user synchronized with Entourage. This issue has been resolved in Entourage 2001 SR 1. Entourage 2001 SR 1 fixes a problem that sometimes caused Entourage to stop responding or return incorrect results when running a rule, advanced find, custom view, or find related items with more than 10 criteria.

Contact Improvements

Entourage 2001 SR 1 opens contacts and performs quick searches faster, especially for users with large contact lists.

E-mail Improvements

Entourage 2001 SR 1 properly retrieves messages from Eudora Internet Mail Server (EIMS), Netscape Messaging Server, and Lotus Domino IMAP Server. Entourage 2001 SR 1 correctly deletes mail folders stored on Sun and Mac.com IMAP mail servers. Microsoft Hotmail users can use Entourage 2001 SR 1 to send messages by using the Hotmail service. You can use Entourage 2001 SR 1 to connect to a SMTP server that requires authentication even if you use your full e-mail address as the account ID or include a domain name before the account ID. Entourage 2001 SR 1 does an even better job of importing and exporting messages to and from other e-mail programs, especially to and from Mailsmith and Eudora. Messages imported from Eudora's or Netscape's Sent Items folder can be marked as read in Entourage 2001 SR 1. Lines wrap properly in vCards in Entourage 2001 SR 1.

International Language Support Improvements

In some rare cases, Entourage users running a Japanese version of the Mac OS or a Japanese language kit experienced system lockups when running the spelling checker on sentences that contained characters in a specific sequence. This issue has been resolved in Entourage 2001 SR 1.

Andrew Pavey (compiled from info on the Microsoft website)

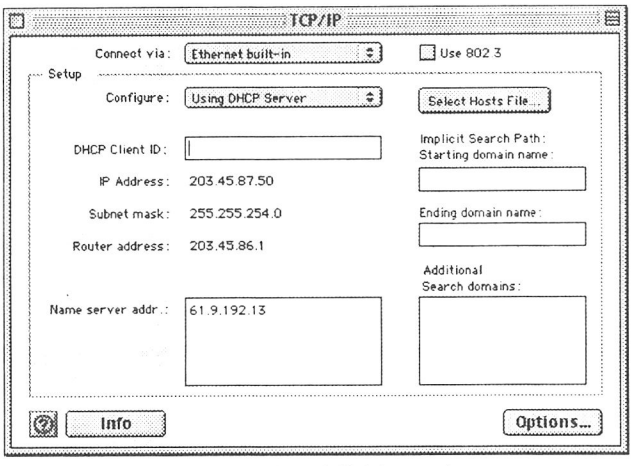


Connecting to Club Mac

© Greg Sharp 2001 <gsharp@bigpond.net.au>

In the transition to a fully internet service from Club Mac we're encouraging members to change from dialling in directly using TeleFinder, to dialling in via PPP. All existing services are still available, only the method of dialling is different

For those members using a 3rd Party ISP or a Cable modem who won't be connecting through the clubs PPP connection the following are the setup details. First set up TCP/IP as instructed by your ISP.



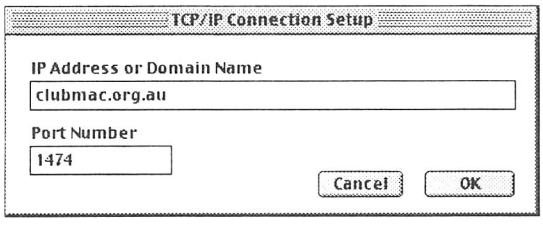
An example of Cable settings

Premium members:

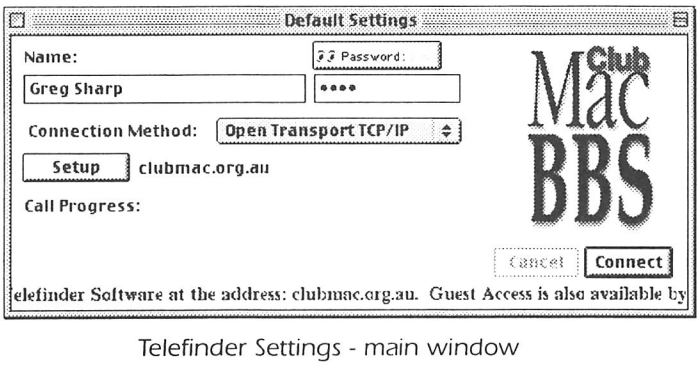
Once you are connected to your ISP you can access Club Mac's web site at http://www.clubmac.org.au which at the moment is untimed as well as any other sites on the web. To access member only sections you will be prompted to enter your username and password and you will then have access to the members only sections. Not all features are available but most of Telefinder's features plus in the future some new features will be migrated across.

If connected this way you can also simultaneously connect to Telefinder if you choose.

- open up Telefinder and from the "Connection Method" pop-up menu select "MacTCP" for older systems using dial up access or "Open Transport/TCP" for newer systems or if using Cable.
- Set the domain address to "clubmac.org.au" and leave the port number set at 1474
- Enter your username and password if needed.
- Click on connect!



TCP/IP Connection Setup



Telefinder Settings - main window

Basic members:

Although you can only visit the general public version of the web site and wont have access to the password protected areas you can always connect to Telefinder using the set up mentioned above. This way you have full access to all the bulletin board services and your free internet email account.

This would certainly be the preferred method if connecting from outside of Sydney as well as for those people who like a unified solution. Using this method means that traffic will be billed to your usual ISP at your normal download rates however most people are probably on unlimited plans or at least have a large download limit before being charged for excess downloads so it shouldn't be a problem for most members with a 3rd party ISP.

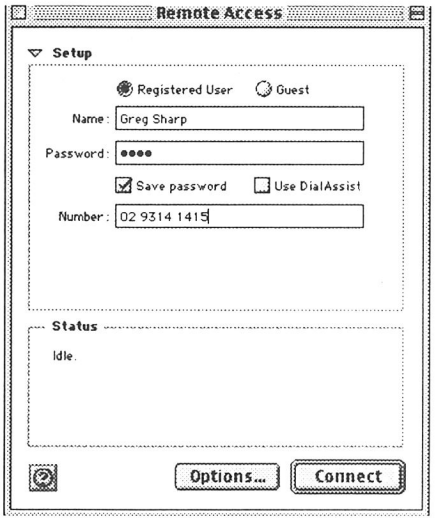
For those members without a 3rd party ISP or Cable modem connection follow the setup details below for connecting to the Club Mac via PPP allowing you access to the web (for premium members) and use of Telefinder (for basic and premium members). Depending on what version of the OS you use your access methods may vary. Currently users are not charged for excess downloads and your only limit is time based. Perhaps some review of this situation could happen in the future based on feedback or increased costs if downloads get out of hand.

If You Use FreePPP (older systems):

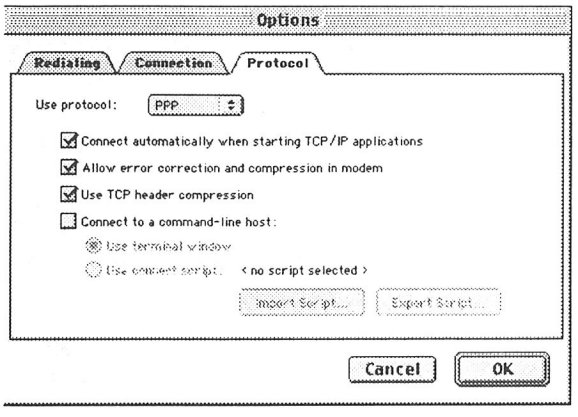
- Open FreePPP and click on the "Accounts" tab and then "New".
- Enter a name (e.g., Club Mac PPP) and the phone number 02 9314 1415.
- Enter your logon name and password to be the same as you use in your Telefinder software.
- Click OK.

PPP or Remote Access Control Panel (for newer systems):

- Select "Configurations..." under the "File" menu (Command K) and set up a new configuration by duplicating an existing one and renaming it (e.g., ClubMac PPP). Make it "Active" and enter the same logon name and password as you use in your Telefinder software.
- If you are the only one who uses your computer, check the "Save Password" box and enter the new Club Mac PPP dial-in number 02 9314 1415.



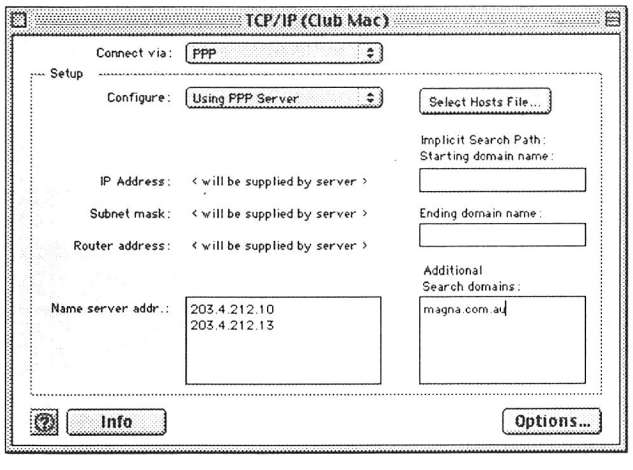
Remote Access Configuration



PPP Auto Connect option

• If you want your Mac to dial in to Club Mac as soon as you open your email or browser software, choose "Options" from the bottom of the window and check the box "Connect Automatically when starting TCP/IP applications".
• Click OK.

• Save the configuration by selecting "Configurations..." under the "File" menu (Command K), or closing the window, and clicking the "Save" button.



TCP/IP settings(PPP)

Next configure TCP/IP Control Panel:
• Open "Configurations..." under the "File" menu (Command K) and create a new configuration by duplicating and renaming an existing one. Make it "Active" and set the drop-down menu at the top to "PPP".
• Select "Using PPP Server" from the next drop-down menu and in the name server addr.: box type in:
203.4.212.10
203.4.212.13
• Tab to the "Additional search domains" box and type in magna.com.au
• Close the configuration and save it.

*note: when the club moves to ADSL in the coming months we will be changing our name server IP address entries and there will be no reference to magna.com.au in the additional search domains box. Watch out for future news on TCP/IP settings as we receive them from our new ISP Pacific.

Accessing the Internet via Club Mac:

• Use either the "PPP" (older systems) or "Remote Access" (MacOS 8.5+) control panel to select your Club Mac configuration and make sure it is active.
• If you have the Control Strip active at the bottom of your screen you can quickly select the Club Mac configuration and then click on "Connect" to initiate dialling into Club Mac.

Email:
• Connect via PPP (or using 3rd party ISP) and use Telefinder software.
• Connect via PPP (or using 3rd party ISP) and use your web browser to look at http://www.clubmac.org.au/member. Click on the Mail link and fill in your name and password when prompted.
• Configure a dedicated email program like Eudora with the POP and SMTP settings clubmac.org.au and connect via PPP.

Telefinder via PPP:
In your Settings document (the one you normally use to connect to Club Mac BBS), select in the pop-down menu "Open Transport TCP/IP" and click on Setup. In the top box enter clubmac.org.au and set the port to 1474. Now close the Setup window and click Connect.

BBS via Netscape or Internet Explorer:
Just type http://www.clubmac.org.au/member into the Location window and hit return. Click on a link and you'll be asked for your name and password.

Remember whether you choose to connect via PPP (to Club Mac on the 9314 1415 number, or even from another ISP halfway round the world!) you can still access all your favourite areas on the BBS using either Telefinder or your Web browser just like before depending on what level of access you have.

Out of the Box: Installing Mac OS X

Rita Lewis ritalewis@megapathdsl.net reprinted from from TidBITS#574

Rita Lewis is the author of over 20 Macintosh books, including the best-selling Mac OS in a Nutshell from O'Reilly. Rita began using Macs in 1984 as a part of her job, and has since applied her 15 years of fine arts schooling to the design of web sites and the publication of books about the Mac OS and networking. These varied experiences culminated in the publication of three best-selling books: PageMill 2.0 Handbook (Hayden Books), Sams Teach Yourself Mac OS 8.5 in 24 Hours, and Sams Teach Yourself iMac in 10 Minutes. Rita has a master's degree in cultural anthropology that she has applied to the study of corporate computer marketing departments; she has been preparing all her life to write the definitive Mac OS book. She is a member of Washington Apple Pi. user group her website is http://www.lewiswrite.com/

You've heard plenty online about Mac OS X from those who installed the Public Beta and those who took the jump before this. But now you've received your shiny white box with the big X, and after reading last week's article about Mac OS X, you're ready to install Apple's new operating system. My goal here is to help you install and set up Mac OS X in as painless a manner as possible. The process is a bit like Mac OS X itself - simple on the surface, but complex under the hood, as you can tell if you read through the TidBITS Talk threads related to installation. <http://db.tidbits.com/getbits.acgi?tbart=06372> <http://db.tidbits.com/getbits.acgi?tlkthrd=1327+1332>

System Recommendations

Officially, Apple says you need an original PowerPC G3 or G4-based Macintosh (other than the original PowerBook G3) with at least 128 MB RAM and 1.5 GB of hard disk space. As usual with new operating systems, the more processing power and memory you have, the better it operates. That's how Apple sells new hardware, right? Personally, I'm running Mac OS X on a 400 MHz iMac DV SE with 256 MB of RAM. I've also installed it with no problems on my 366 MHz Indigo iBook with 198 MB of RAM.

I wouldn't recommend running Mac OS X on non-Apple computers, but several Unix-experienced friends have reported success using Power Computing clones with PowerPC G3 upgrade cards, and others have managed to hack Mac OS X into running on Macs whose CPUs predate the PowerPC G3 as well. <http://homepage.mac.com/RyanRempel/OldWorld/Instructions.html>

As far as RAM goes, 128 MB of RAM is a realistic minimum. You might theoretically get away with less if you're not using Classic applications, since Mac OS X manages its virtual memory efficiently. But how many people won't be using Mac OS X's Classic mode at least some of the time? Since Classic puts the entire Mac OS 9.1 operating system in RAM when loading, Mac OS X needs at least 64 MB just for Classic. Initial reports indicate that memory beyond 128 MB improves performance.

Mac OS X itself requires about 1.1 GB of hard disk space for a default installation (you can opt out of installing extra printer drivers and the BSD subsystem, each of which



take about 80 MB), which it spreads across many thousands of files and folders. I assume Mac OS X requires the rest of the disk space for virtual memory swap space. Welcome to the wonderful world of Unix, and as you can tell, hard disk speed and possibly fragmentation level will play a part in overall performance, since Mac OS X will be hitting the disk constantly.

Advice for Testers

Before I delve into the basics of a safe installation process, let me make a few points for those who have tried one of the earlier releases. I have now installed every version of Mac OS X from Developer's Preview 1 to the official release, and I've come up with the following pieces of advice.

If you installed any version of Mac OS X prior to the Public Beta on a hard disk partition, you probably have a corrupted partition and should run the latest version of Norton Disk Doctor or Micromat's TechTool Pro and try to repair it. If these programs can't fix the damage, you must back up and re-initialise your hard disk, then restore from your backup. Frankly, that might be safest anyway.
<http://www.micromat.com/>
<http://www.symantec.com/nu/nu_mac/>

Although Mac OS X will install over the Public Beta, the process is much slower than installing from scratch because the installer has to work hard to figure out which of the many thousands of files have changed. Also, there have been reports of performance problems and other weird behaviours from such an approach. Although installing over the Public Beta retains all your settings (not a big deal unless you used it heavily), you won't get some new stuff. For instance, on an iBook, if you install over the Public Beta, you won't get the battery monitor in the Dock by default, as you do after doing a clean install.

Preparing for Mac OS X

Now, for everyone else... Unless you are installing on a Mac containing no useful data, the first thing you should do is back up everything (not just important data) to a location from which you can restore easily. Despite the similarities in the way you use it, Mac OS X is a vastly different environment from any previous version of the Mac OS, and although you should not lose data, it is possible. Be smart and back up.

The next step is to decide whether you want to install Mac OS X on the same partition as your existing copy of the Mac OS, or if you'd prefer to separate the two by

partitioning your hard disk and installing Mac OS X on a different partition. I've seen no difference in the safety of data, but it's easier to customize or even get rid of a Mac OS X installation entirely if you've dedicated a partition to it. Of course, if you have working data on your hard disk, you'll need that backup to restore your data after reformatting and partitioning with Apple's Drive Setup utility.

If you're not running Mac OS 9.1 currently, you'll need to install it before installing Mac OS X, and it's generally easiest to find, download, and install any necessary updates to the programs you use while you're in a familiar environment. I recommend starting with the newest versions of your programs when upgrading versions of the operating system because it saves you grief in the long run. Otherwise, you might have crashes from, for instance, an old extension that isn't compatible with the new operating system, and you don't want to see crashes as soon as you've finished installation. One additional suggestion - if you see a Mac OS X version of a program while downloading an update, snag the Mac OS X version at the same time. You'll want it eventually, and again, it's easier to work in your familiar environment right now.

VersionTracker is the first place to look for and download updates. If you don't mind spending some money, you could purchase either Insider Software's US$50 UpdateAgent 8 (it also runs under Mac OS X as UpdateAgent X) or Casady and Greene's US$40 Chaos Master (which uses VersionTracker to compare versions). These programs scour your hard disk and return a list of applications that have updates available. Then it is just a matter of spending hours downloading patches and running their installers.

<http://www.versiontracker.com/>
<http://www.insidersoftware.com/>
<http://www.casadyg.com/products/chaosmaster/>

Still assuming that you're not already running Mac OS 9.1, you'll need to install it next. Apple has made it easy by including a Mac OS 9.1 CD-ROM in the box with Mac OS X. (Note, however, that PowerBook G4, Power Mac G4 (Digital Audio) and iMac (Early 2001) machines that come pre-installed with Mac OS 9.1 cannot boot from the Mac OS 9.1 CD included with Mac OS X.) There are a few interesting changes in Mac OS 9.1, but the two that affect you the most with Mac OS X are the way it rearranges your folder structure (the Applications folder becomes "Applications (Mac OS 9)" and the Internet, Utilities, and Apple Extras folders move inside it) and the new Startup Disk control panel that enables you to switch between Mac OS 9.1 and Mac OS X. It's a good idea to move all your custom Mac OS 9 folders inside Apple's default folder hierarchy to avoid file permissions problems. The top level of your hard disk should thus contain only Applications (Mac OS 9), Documents, and System Folder. Also, be sure to run the Software Update control panel to check for any recent updates, such as the essential Startup Disk 9.2.1 control panel Apple released last week.
<http://asu.info.apple.com/swupdates.nsf/artnum/n12078>

Also noteworthy, on the Mac OS 9.1 CD-ROM in the CD Extras folder, there are a number of firmware updaters for the blue & white Power Mac G3, the iMac, the iBook, the Power Mac G4, and the PowerBook (FireWire). Apple recommends using these firmware updates, but if you have third party RAM in your Mac, the potential of having that RAM disabled outweighs the benefits, so hold off on those until Apple addresses the problems.

At this point, you should have Mac OS 9.1 running, with all of your extensions and control panels. They're some of the most likely things to break under Mac OS X's Classic mode, so shut them all off by using Extensions Manager to switch to a Mac OS 9.1 All set of extensions. Those should work under Mac OS X, and once you're in Mac OS X's Classic mode, you can create a set which contains just the Mac OS 9.1 extensions and control panels you need, and to which you can slowly add your third-party extensions. (Casady & Greene's Conflict Catcher 8.0.8 knows about Mac OS 9.1 and can even switch between extension sets depending on whether you're in Mac OS 9.1 or in Classic under Mac OS X, but a bug means you have to enter your registration information in Classic each time if you're using a single-partition approach.)

<http://til.info.apple.com/techinfo.nsf/artnum/n106149>

One last thing. Although you should do so before installing any software, be sure to read the READ BEFORE YOU INSTALL.pdf file located on the Mac OS X CD-ROM for information about things you might want to do before installation (especially with beige Power Mac G3 and the PowerBook G3 Series machines with large partitioned hard disks). If you launch right into the installer and read this info at the start of the installation process, you won't be able to back out without restarting the Mac.

Phew! You are now ready to install Mac OS X itself. Luckily, that's much easier than all the preparation.

Setup and Installation

The actual process of installation is almost trivially easy, although it can take some time (half an hour or more). You can start the installation while booted into Mac OS 9.1, though the installer immediately re-boots from the Mac OS X CD-ROM; or, you can just boot from the Mac OS X CD-ROM directly by holding down the C key during startup. Apple recommends the latter as a troubleshooting approach should the initial attempt fail for some reason.

At the initial startup, Mac OS X provides you with a new version of the Setup Assistant that Apple has used for years. Each screen of the Setup Assistant asks for different information, such as your time zone, your localization requirements (language and keyboard), and so forth.

The Setup Assistant also walks you through creating your user account - remember, Mac OS X is inherently a multiple user system - and in the User Account pane, you must enter a long name (for File Sharing purposes) as well as a short name (but not "root" or, possibly "wheel", both of which are special accounts in Unix) and password. Write these down on paper and store them in a secure location! The short name and password are very important because they give you authority to change important preferences and set up how other users can access your Mac. Luckily,

Mac OS X makes this account an administrator-level account (so you can set up and manage preferences and access) and defaults to an automatic login, so you don't have to enter a password on every restart.

In previous versions of the Mac OS, a separate Internet Setup Assistant helped you configure your Mac for use on the Internet. In Mac OS X, the main Setup Assistant does this as well, so make sure you know your email address, mail server addresses, DNS addresses, modem access numbers, passwords, and so on. One departure from the previous Internet Setup Assistant is that Mac OS X's Setup Assistant asks you for your iTools account (and lets you sign up for one if you haven't already). This is worthwhile - access to your iDisk is built into the Mac OS X Finder in the Go menu, and Apple is already making software like iTunes and iMovie available via iDisk.

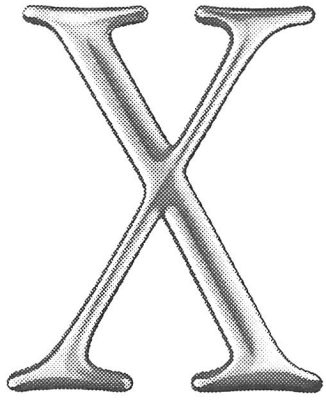
Switching Back and Forth

The details of using Mac OS X are beyond the scope of this article (and of course, if you've bought into Apple's rhetoric, Mac OS X is utterly intuitive, right?), but there is one important task you need to know how to perform - how to switch back to Mac OS 9.1. If you're like almost everyone else, you'll need to do that on occasion when you run into software that doesn't work in Mac OS X's Classic mode. And, if you've installed the new operating system on your primary Mac, you may find that working in Mac OS 9.1 is necessary to get your work done efficiently.

To switch from Mac OS X back to Mac OS 9.1, choose System Preferences from the Apple menu (or click its icon in the Dock). Click the Startup Disk icon in either the toolbar (Apple set it as one of the favourites that appears there no matter what other control panel you're using) or in the collection of control panels below. You'll see a list of System Folders that can boot your Mac (at least one for Mac OS X and one for Mac OS 9.1, and possibly more, depending on your setup). Select one with Mac OS 9, and then choose Restart from the Apple menu to restart the Mac.

When the Mac re-boots, you'll notice that some new files and folders have appeared at the top level of your hard disk (assuming you installed on a single partition). Along with the Mac OS 9.1 System Folder, Documents, and Applications (Mac OS 9) folders, you'll see a new Applications folder that holds Mac OS X applications, a System folder that contains much of the guts of Mac OS X, a Users folder that holds folders and sub-folders for each user, and a Library folder that contains folders for shared files like fonts. Also at the top level are two files - mach and mach.sym - that are part of Mac OS X and are invisible when you're in Mac OS X.

Feel free to explore the new Mac OS X folders while in Mac OS 9.1 - you'll probably find navigating in the familiar Mac OS 9.1 Finder to be much faster and more fluid. However, do _not_ move or delete anything! In previous versions of the Mac OS, there were a few files that were dangerous to move, such as the



System and Finder and any enablers or Mac OS ROM files, but short of those, you couldn't do much serious damage. That's totally not true of Mac OS X - move or delete the wrong file while in Mac OS 9.1 and the whole thing may cease to work. Worse, there aren't yet many people out there who will be able to help).

Plus, Mac OS X uses many more invisible files and folders, which means that if you end up with a bad installation for some reason and want to erase it, just deleting visible Mac OS X files and folders while in Mac OS 9.1 won't completely uninstall Mac OS X. First, make sure to switch to Mac OS 9.1 in the Startup Disk control panel (this is important), re-boot, and then start deleting things, including all those invisible files and folders (utilities like DiskTop and Greg's Browser can display and manipulate invisible files and folders). This is the point at which having Mac OS X on its own partition would save some time and uncertainty, since you could just choose Erase Disk from the Finder's Special menu.
<http://www.prgrsoft.com/pages/disktop.html> <http://db.tidbits.com/getbits.acgi?tbart=05843>
<http://www.kaleidoscope.net/greg/browser.html>

When you're finished in Mac OS 9.1 and ready to return to Mac OS X, just open the Startup Disk control panel in Mac OS 9.1, click the disclosure triangle to reveal the different valid operating systems, choose the Mac OS X System folder, and click the Restart button. A few minutes later, you'll be back in the watery wonderland of Mac OS X.

Go West, Young Mac

Where to go from here? I'd encourage you to explore Mac OS X on your own first - there's nothing like personal experience to help you make up your own mind what you think about Apple's efforts at redesigning the Macintosh interface. For additional tips, opinions, and a moderated forum for asking questions, subscribe to TidBITS Talk (send an email message to <tidbits-talk-on@tidbits.com>), where the Mac OS X discussions have been going strong. And of course, I'm sure additional articles about Mac OS X will be forthcoming in TidBITS over the next few months.
<http://db.tidbits.com/getbits.acgi?tlkthrd=active>

People have been saying "two steps forward, one step back", but it's more like we swapped out our 15 year old Ford engine for a brand new Porsche one, and then poured 1 ton of wet cement on top of it, and then strapped 2 tons of tinsel to the roof rack.
gschueler on www.macintouch.com

OS X Lingo



Andrew Pavey andrew.pavey@clubmac.org.au

OS X introduces a number of new concepts, known in side Apple by code names. While the cognoscenti smirk, the rest of us shake our heads in wonder. Here I've tried to explain a few of the important parts of OS X.

Aqua

Aqua is the name given to the new GUI elements like the semi-translucent menus, Finder windows with Toolbars, windows with drop shadow edges, bubble buttons (translucent gel jelly beans), translucent, non-modal sheets for Print and Save dialogues, window title-bar pinstripes, etc

Quartz

Quartz is the new engine for drawing to the screen which replaces the venerable Quickdraw. Quartz does not use Postscript as its internal graphics representation language. Instead, it uses Adobe's Portable Document Format (PDF) standard which is a superset of Adobe Postscript. PDF has several advantages over Postscript, including better colour management, internal compression, font independence, and interactivity. PDF it is also a free and open standard, which saves Apple from paying Postscript licensing fees.

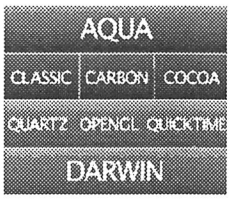
Darwin

Beneath the glitzy Aqua and Quartz based interface of Mac OS X, you'll find a UNIX-based foundation, called Darwin, that is built from the ground up for superior stability and performance. Darwin is a robust, modern operating system foundation to help your Mac run faster and more reliably than ever.

Darwin features a protected memory architecture that allocates a unique space for each application. When applications are isolated in their own memory space, you don't need to restart your computer if something goes wrong. Darwin simply shuts down the offending application, letting you continue working or playing without interruption.

Darwin also knows how to give priority to your primary application, but still crunch away at other jobs in the background. Previously, a complex task like rendering a transition in iMovie or compressing video — jobs that can take several minutes or even hours — would fully consume the processor until complete. But with Mac OS X pre-emptive multitasking, the system remains responsive, so you can still check email, work in another application or surf the web while processing the task in the background.

Darwin features a super-efficient virtual memory manager. So you no longer have to worry about how



much memory an application such as Internet Explorer needs to use plug-ins. When an application needs memory, the virtual memory manager allocates precisely the amount needed by the application. Automatically.

Darwin offers built-in support for dual-processor Power Mac G4 computers. It might use one processor to run a complex image transformation and the other to create a new MP3 file. All applications benefit from the higher performance a second processor offers — and multi-threaded, complex image transformations, video compression or MP3 encoding operations can run almost twice as fast using Mac OS X on a dual processor Power Mac G4.

At its core, Darwin uses BSD UNIX. If you really want to, and have an understanding of UNIX, the full command set is available from the Terminal application in the Utilities folder.

Darwin is distributed under Apple's Open Source license, so many programmers around the world can help Apple make Mac OS X the best operating system on the planet.

Cocoa

Cocoa is an object-oriented programming environment which makes programs more intuitive to design, faster to develop, more amenable to modifications, and easier to understand.

It uses the Objective-C language, an object-oriented programming language based on standard C.

Every object-oriented development environment worthy of the name consists of at least three parts:

- A library of objects and software frameworks and kits
- A set of development tools
- An object-oriented programming language

Cocoa is an extensive library. It includes several software frameworks containing definitions for objects that can be used "off the shelf" or adapted to your program's needs. These include the Foundation Framework, the Application Kit Framework (for building a graphical user interface), and others.

Mac OS X also includes some exceptional development tools for putting together applications. There's Interface Builder, a program that lets you design an application graphically and assemble its user interface on-screen, and Project Builder, a project-management program that provides graphical access to the compiler, the debugger, documentation, a program editor, and other tools.

Carbon

Carbon is a set of programming interfaces used to build Mac OS X applications that also run on Mac OS 8 and 9 (versions 8.1 and later). Carbon includes about 70 percent of the existing Mac OS APIs, covering about 95 percent of the functions commonly used by applications. Carbon allows programmers to take advantage of many advanced Mac OS X features while preserving their investment in Mac OS 8 and 9 source code. Because Carbon supports the Mac OS 8 and 9 and Mac OS X runtime environments, a single executable will run on both Mac OS 8/9 and Mac OS X.



Club Mac Talks with Apple Australia About Planning for the Future

Ronald Forster , Leader Club Mac Planning Team <ronald.forster@clubmac.org.au>

Following a letter from Club Mac to Apple Australia's CEO Dianne Ryall telling her of Club Mac's planning effort and requesting a meeting to discuss whether Apple wished to be involved, the club president, Marshall Ahern and the leader of the planning team, Ron Forster met with Apple Australia representatives, Richard Stonley - Marketing Development Manager, Third Party Solutions and Geoff Winder, Product Sales Manager, at Apple's office French's Forest on Tuesday 3rd April 2001.

Marshall spoke of the formation of Club Mac's Planning team with the principle objective of developing Club Mac into the future with a strategy for on-going innovation, over time, commensurate with the resources we can muster. Our first step was to review our Club's own services and to survey the user group scene which has invariably brought us into contact with all the Apple registered User Groups in Australia and also with the Apple user group programme in the USA. He wrote to Apple Australia, on behalf of Club Mac, seeking a meeting because we believed that they too might be planning the development of their user group programme.

Geoff Winder stated that Apple recognises the value of establishing and maintaining good relationships with user groups whose members are loyal customers of Apple but unlike USA, there is not a paid member of the staff of Apple Australia whose sole job it is to manage a user group programme. Instead Geoff Winder will assume the role of liaison with user groups nationally, whilst the State branch offices will continue to develop relationships with groups in their States.

Ron Forster took the opportunity to comment on the apparent disadvantage felt by NSW groups which, because of the lack of a local branch office, didn't seem to have the same opportunity to develop as close a relationship as other States user groups have with their local offices. He accepted that it must be difficult for Head office to act in the role of a local branch office. This was acknowledged as a problem needing to be addressed, Geoff Winder will deal as the direct contact for NSW Groups in addition to his overview of the national programme.

Geoff Winder then stated that indeed they are planning to strengthen their support of Apple user groups, they have drawn up some preliminary proposals which Apple will announce soon. It is believed that the introduction of these proposals will be advantageous to all Australian Apple User Groups.

This opened the opportunity for Ron Forster to present his Notes for Discussion which he had previously presented to Club Mac's management committee .

He referred to the contact and correspondence being conducted between Club Mac Planning Team and all the Apple registered user groups in Australia and the User Group Advisory Board (USA) through its Chairman. As a result, the Australian user groups and the UGAB know of our intention to meet with Apple Australia to discuss the possibility of doing some joint planning, with a view to establishing some means of bringing about a closer relationship leading to cooperation and sharing of experiences and possibly resources.

It is hoped that all of this will happen with the cooperation and involvement of Apple Australia, and that it will include the establishment of effective involvement in Apple's User Group Programme which Apple (USA) is now extending internationally.

Ron then referred to the following matters:

Marketing:

Could Apple consider helping to market user groups, which at the same time would have the effect of marketing Apple, by -

a) Advising user groups on how to establish a marketing strategy.

b) Bundling trial memberships of Apple user groups with sales of hardware.

c) Persuading Apple's developers and retailers to do likewise with similar offers of trial membership to purchasers of hardware and software.

d) Ensuring that user groups are given the opportunity to man a stand at AppleEvents like the recent Expo & Seminar.

e) Make advance announcements of user group events in say Apple e-news or similar and issue advance notice of Apple and other Events in time for them to be published in user group magazines, newsletters etc.

Geoff Winder acknowledged that these are good suggestions which would certainly be considered.

He referred to item d) above, user groups involvement in Apple Events, stating that it would be essential for Apple to receive a commitment which guaranteed that a user group would front up and be present at every centre where an event is held.

Comparison with User Group Programme (USA):

Ron spoke of the apparent disadvantages experienced by Australian user groups compared with their counterparts in North America and cited some examples taken from Apple's (USA) User Group web site.

"We send a bi-monthly CD"

-Is this sent to Australian Groups?

If yes! Who is it sent to? Who sends it - Apple Australia or Apple USA

If it is not sent to Australian groups, why not?

Ron pointed out that in addition to this Apple had sent a copy of MAC OS X to each North American user group.

Richard Stonley professed not to know anything about it. He will check with Diane Cohn, Apple's Manager of the User Group Programme, on what the content of the CDs is and whether it is possible to send it regularly to Australian User Groups.

"we mail out marketing materials for events and merchandise for raffles"
How does this operate?

Apple representatives said they used to do this but a lot of work is entailed and they now haven't got enough people to do it.

"We provide training materials"
How does this operate?
Who is the responsible Apple Australia contact?
Apple representatives gave a similar reply re lack of people to put it together.

"we host user group events at Macworld,"
This obviously applies to USA but why does Apple Australia not provide for some user group presence, activity and promotion at its Expo and Seminar events?

See previous discussion above re user group involvement in Apple Events.

"we offer a Macintosh User Group Store (the MUG Store) with special deals and license our software updates to user groups for distribution"

Can Apple Australia organise a similar service for user groups in Australia?

Apple Australia noted this and are giving it their consideration.

"We also point customers to Apple user groups on collateral, via e-mail auto responders through feature stories on the web and with web site links throughout www.apple.com."
Can this be done more positively for Australian user groups through Apple Australia?

Apple Australia will consider.

"To keep up with what Apple is doing with user groups, subscribe to the Apple User Group through a monthly e-mail publication..."
As the above mentioned publications namely, the AUG Bulletin and the AUG Digests are naturally more orientated to USA, can Apple Australia, as a supplement to the above, run an Apple Australia User Group Bulletin?
and/or
Take space on the User Group Bulletin from USA specifically allocated to Australian User Groups?

Ron commented that whilst it appeared that members of Australian user groups are free to participate to a limited extent directly in the now worldwide Apple User Group Programme through the Bulletin and Digests mentioned above, it would seem to be better that Australian groups have the opportunity do so more fully with the full knowledge and participation in some way, of Apple Australia. After all, in the spirit of cooperation sought with Apple Australia it wouldn't help this relationship for user groups to appear to act behind Apple Australia's back.

The Apple representatives acknowledged that Club Mac's planning team was obviously well prepared in this area and that the Apple Australia representatives needed to have more information about these matters.

Richard Stonley said he would contact the Apple User Group Programme Manager, Diane Cohn and discuss this and other matters raised during our meeting.

Joint Apple and Australian User Group Co-operation

It was suggested that Apple Australia should take the initiative in the formation of some sort of federation of all the registered Apple user groups in Australia. Such an Association, formalised in some way through Apple, would appear to have worthwhile potential benefits , allowing sharing of experience, supportive joint action when necessary, sharing of resources and the extension of services to members which may not be viable for each Group to provide from its own resources. This would be in addition to each Group maintaining its individual identity, its own membership and its own services.

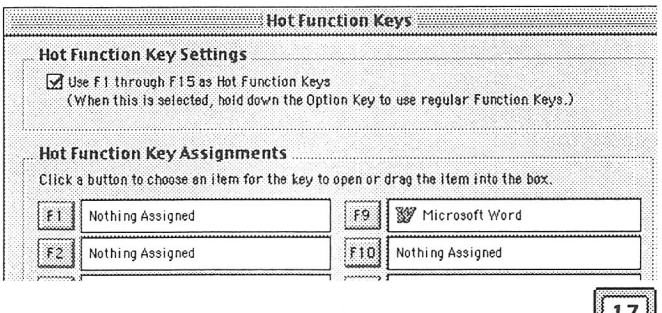
Apple representatives will consider this as part of their planning action.

All agreed that the meeting had proved useful and that arrangements should be made for a follow up after Apple has had time to consider the matters raised.

Club Mac representatives left the meeting feeling that Apple Australia is sincere in its stated intention to strengthen its support of its user groups. Who knows? Perhaps by the time you read this report in MACinations, Apple may already have announced user group

Function Keys With ADB Keyboard

Under Mac OS 9.1, you can now launch applications with a Function Key on ADB keyboards. This previously worked only with USB keyboards.
Select Keyboard from the Control Panels submenu and then press the Function Keys button that appears in the resulting window. To assign applications to F-keys, just drag applications to the various slots in the Hot Function Keys window.



What happens in a Q & A SIG?

Kath Harding kath.harding@clubmac.org.au

Each month at the Q&A SIG a wide range of topics is covered in response to members questions. The meetings are held at Unit 11/87 Reserve Rd, Artarmon on the first Wednesday of the month from 6:30 pm to about 8:30pm. This is Andrew Pavey's workplace, and he answers most of the questions.

At the February meeting some of the topics covered during the evening included:

Trying to mount a CD brought from overseas.

Resetting the PRAM - hold down command/option/P/R when restarting until the computer 'bings' twice.

Printing from Netscape came out postage stamp size - check in printing preferences for a check box for page filter. When unchecked the printing came out perfectly.

Computer clock going back to 1956 - need a new battery which can be bought from Dick Smith or Tandy and fitted yourself, or alternatively an Apple dealer will do it.

Running out of disc space - did a defrag but got a system error and a computer freeze. Then had to re-install system 9 from the CD. Did a clean install and even though message indicated everything OK lots of things were missing.

Do a backup first, particularly of any custom settings that you have done and want to keep, or anything that takes more than a couple of minutes to create. This would include bookmarks in the browsers, e-mail files, attachment files, history (sites you've visited), preferences, custom dictionaries, Macro program (eg Quickeys or KeyQuencer) preferences, any programmes where logs are kept, etc. If your hard disc fails you can reinstall applications from the CD's but not your created work. You should have an alternate set of at least three backup media - a set for each day, each week and each month, so if one media fails you can go back to a previous one. You can also go to the system folder, favourites folder, fax folder, etc, and just drag what you want to save out onto the desktop, but it is still advisable to do a backup. A clean install puts all your settings into a 'previous system folder' but 9.1 wipes out many of your settings. Preserve all these things before reinstalling the system, or do a clean install and get them back from the 'Previous System folder'. Macintosh System Installer Helper goes through and reinstalls all the things from your previous system folder. Mac-OS-Installer-Helper.sit (from the BBS) will label moved files and trash duplicates. It has 'test it' and 'do it' buttons to try it out. Don't trash the previous system folder until you're quite sure that you're got everything you need.

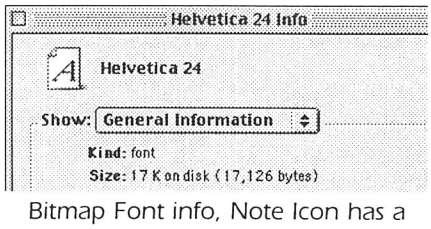
Dealing with fonts - traditional Apple style fonts - bitmap fonts come in different sizes. They have a single letter A in the icon and a size after it. True type fonts have 3 A's in the icon and can be used in any size. A postscript font has a mathematical formula and it doesn't matter what size you want. With laser printers you need the suitcase and the postscript descriptions - drop them into the system folder, true type fonts will print because they already have the information in them. To install an individual font just drop it into the fonts folder in the system folder. It will then be available for all your programmes which have a font menu. The programme needs to be closed at the time. Some programmes give a few free fonts which will be placed in the fonts folder at the time of installing the programme. There is a difference between screen fonts and postscript fonts, so whilst it may look fine on the screen when the printer gets it the document can be different. There is software for the Mac which will allow you to produce your own fonts, but it is complicated and unless you send the fonts with the document, nobody else can see the document the way you do, if you send it to them. Be aware that each font file counts as a file, so if you're on an older Mac with an older system you run out of the allotted 384 files to be opened at the one time if you have too many fonts. System 9 now allows about 8000, so it doesn't matter how many fonts you have. Suitcase, Master Juggler, Adobe Type Manager Deluxe allow you to access sets of fonts, so you only need to load what you want to use at a particular time.

Do you have to be on line to send faxes - effectively if you want to send faxes you need to be on line. If you want to receive them the computer has to be on and running, not asleep, with the fax programme open, to know that a fax is coming in. Fax STF comes free with recent Macs. You can send and receive faxes, read them on the screen, and print them. What about faxing a graphic? The fax is a word processing document and stores a low resolution image on the screen, which it sends to the fax, and what you get at the other end is not very good. Faxes send dots - you would do better to send it as an e-mail attachment. The downside is that, with a fax you get a confirmation back straight away when the fax is unsuccessful, whereas the receiver might not check their e-mail , or the e-mail server might take five days before it tells you that it couldn't get through.

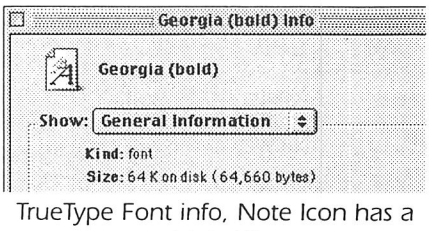
How to remove warning whilst



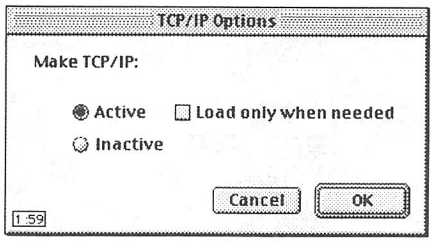
PostScript Font info



Bitmap Font info, Note Icon has a single 'A'



TrueType Font info, Note Icon has a triple 'A'



Un checking the "Load only when needed box, can often solve problems with internet connections.

on-line that you will be disconnected after 120 seconds. Suggestions were to trash preferences. Also to go to TCP/IP under control panels, select User Mode under edit, click on Advanced, select options and make Active, and de-select "Load only when needed".

Discussion about OS X - there was no Apple menu in the Public Beta but this has now been restored. The dock holds your programmes.

How can you scan thousands of 35 mm slides. A $35,000 scanner was the suggested answer! Not much effort has been put into bolt-ons for flatbed scanners and consequently they are not very practical for this job. You need to minimise the number of steps taken because you lose resolution each time. Kodak will scan slides onto a Photo CD which will hold 100 at about $2 each.

How can I stop a long e-mail coming in - command period. But you can do other things whilst it is downloading. However it will be much slower. Use the Application Menu to select another open programme.

To close all open windows - option/click in go away box; or option/command/W. All these shortcuts can be found in Mac Help.

I have a Zip drive which will not read my zip discs any more - what can I do. The drive had the "Click of Death" syndrome, it was suggested to get an Imation Super Drive which reads 120 MB discs as well as floppy discs. Or alternatively get a CD burner. CD's come in two types writable and re-writable. Re-writables will not play in your audio CD player. Use MP3 format with iTunes which is supplied by Apple, but you must have System 9. Toast software was demonstrated, it offers options to write to CD Mac Files and Folders, Mac Volume, ISO 9660, Mac/ISO Hybrid, Audio CD. Choose the last to play in your audio CD player. MP3 can be a Mac Volume.

Brief discussion of SCSI.

Explanation of Messageclosing.txt in Telefinder.

Query re software which records how many calls you make on line - none known at this stage.

Then we closed with a demonstration of iTunes.

So if you ever wonder how to do things with your Mac, or have questions you can't solve, come along to a Q&A SIG and use the expertise of the Club's members to help solve your problem.

If I were to wish for anything, I should not wish for wealth and power, but for the passionate sense of the potential, for the eye which, ever young and ardent, sees the possible... what wine is so fragrant, so intoxicating, as possibility!
Soren Kierkegaard

Letters to the Editor

Help with a PDA

For many years I yearned for a small, portable computer with basic software that I could carry with me at all times to make use of otherwise idle moments, to permit access to a range of data that I did not want to carry in their paper format, and to allow easy entry of information for future reference without subsequent re-keying. This demanded at least a word processor, spreadsheet and database.

For some 15 years the only machines available were either too big, too expensive, too heavy on batteries, lacking in file transferability with Macintosh's, or lacking in one or more of the three vital apps. Finally, in 1996 I bought a Psion 3a and associated file transfer software. This satisfied all my requirements (except for a spreadsheet sort function).

Unfortunately, my Psion finally succumbed to its built-in redundancy. Repeated flexing of the screen cable through opening and closing the lid finally produced a broken circuit. Believing the advertising hype I bought a Psion 5, and the software to allow file transfer with Macs. It was only then I realized that file transfer was not enough: file translation was also needed. While the 3a had had file translators built in, the series 5 (like AppleWorks 6 ;-)) did not. After waiting for two years for Psion to provide a remedy, it became obvious that Psion were not interested in Macintosh customers.

Having read reviews of the Palm machines, I have recently taken advantage of a discount offer and bought a Palm IIIxe and folding keyboard. These work well, but the Palm has no inbuilt word processor, spreadsheet or database. And although there are many such third party programs available those I have tried only play lip service to Macintosh file exchangeability.

Can anyone suggest any Palm word processor, spreadsheet or database apps which synch files effortlessly with Macs, or some other form of PDA which can do so?

Cyril Catt cscatt@hunterlink.net.au
Fax/phone (02) 4952 1861



FileMaker Pro Corner

Hilton Brown hilton.brown@clubmac.org.au

In the March 2001 issue of MACinations we published an article by M. Bridget Eley. Bridget has kindly allowed us to publish another of her articles which she has written recently, and members who have a fascination with FileMaker Pro will find it very interesting. I commend it to you.

In Search of the Bullet-Proof Value List

©2001 M. Bridget Eley turtletank@mail.com

Pop-up lists are great. They not only speed data entry and ensure accuracy in terms of spelling but also provide a reliable means of maintaining consistency of classification in records within a single file and between records in one file and their related records in other files.

The Problem

The problem with ordinary value lists made using the "Use custom values" option in the Define Value Lists dialogue is that when a value in the list is changed, existing records to which that value has already been assigned are not automatically updated. Failure to manually update records (using the Replace command in the Mode Menu) can have dire consequences. Records that used to have the old value and should now have the new value cannot be found using a search on the new value, will sort into a different group to the new value, and will be treated like a separate value in summary reports. If this field is used as the match field in a self-join relationship or for a relationship with another file that uses the field as its value list, changing values in either the master file or the related file will have the effect of orphaning related records from the master records to which they should be associated.

Another problem with ordinary value lists is that they cannot be referenced as pop-up lists when the same field is placed in a portal in another file (as at version 4). You can use the field itself as the value list but it may have different values to the ordinary value list since ordinary value lists can include values that are not in any record and, conversely, records can include values not in the ordinary value list. There is no easy way of checking this, let alone of correcting it, especially if the field contains multiple return-separated values.

A final less important but nonetheless annoying problem of the ordinary value list is that it doesn't automatically sort into alphabetical order (although this can be desirable in certain instances). If users are permitted to edit and add new values to the list, it can quickly fall into disorder.

"Use values from a field" option

Some of these problems can be overcome simply by selecting the "Use values from a field" option in the Define Value Lists dialogue (see Figure 1) then selecting the same file and the same field (see Figure 2). In the example used in this article, the Category field becomes both the field which is formatted as a pop-up list and the value list which it references.

There are several advantages to referencing a field as its own value list:

1. The value list always shows all values actually in that field in all records in the file (regardless of whether they are in the current set, and including multiple return-separated values in a single field), and only those values, which means that the value list is always accurate and up to date.

2. New values can be added by double-clicking the field of a new or existing record, and adding them to that field (if more than one value is entered into a single field, the values must be separated by a return to be recognised as separate values in the value list).

3. It is relatively easy to pick up anomalies through regular use of the value list. For example, the misspelling of one category ("aple" instead of "apple") would be fairly obvious as both spellings would appear in the list

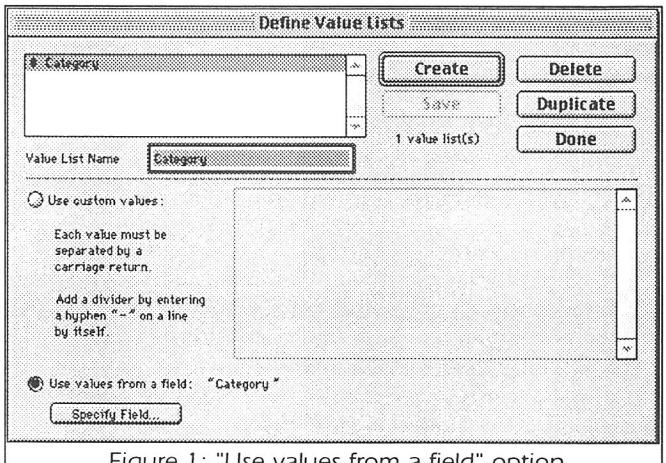


Figure 1: "Use values from a field" option

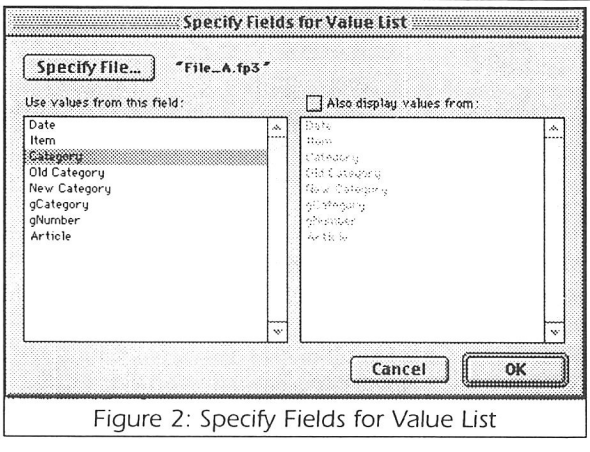


Figure 2: Specify Fields for Value List

and usually be close to each other.

4. The field can be referenced as a value list for the Category field when it is placed in a portal in another file, as well as for other fields in other files.

5. The values are always automatically sorted into alphabetical order.

The disadvantage of this type of value list is that records which contain values that need to be edited or removed still have to be manually updated in the same manner as the ordinary value list.

The Solution

By creating three global fields, a new layout, and a few simple scripts, you can create a dynamic and nearly bullet-proof value list that , in addition to the five advantages listed for '"Use values from a field" option', above, has the following advantages:

6. Values can be edited and records updated simultaneously.

7. Values can be deleted from records and value list simultaneously.

8. Two categories can be combined into one automatically (or one category can be split into two manually).

9. It works for multiple return-separated values in a single field which can in turn be used to set up many-to-many relationships, including self-join relationships (see "Using Multiple Values", below).

10. It maintains referential integrity if the field is used as the match field in a self-join relationship or for a relationship with another file that uses the field as its value list (see "Using a Value List in a Self-Join Relationship" and "Using a Value List to Ensure Referential Integrity", below).

How To: Fields

Create four fields as follows:

Category (text)
Old Category (global text)
New Category (global text)
gNumber (global number)

You can limit the values that can be entered into the Category field by going to File | Define Fields, selecting the Category field from the list of fields in Define Fields for "Value Lists" , selecting Options, then Validation, then "Member of a value list" (select Category value list) and "Display custom message if validation fails" (see Figure 3).

If you decide to make the validation strict using the "Strict: Do not allow user to override validation" option, you must have already created records containing all the values that you need for the value list. If a record containing the only instance of a value is deleted, the value will no longer be available. If the database is ever cloned, you will not be able to create new values in the clone until the "Strict" option is unchecked.

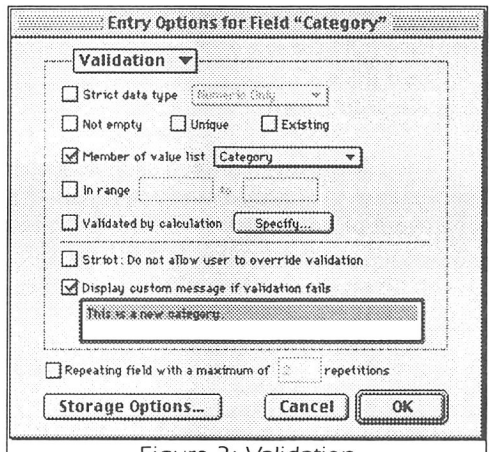


Figure 3: Validation

The Category field should be placed in whichever form and/or list views that require it.

The Old Category and New Category fields should be placed on a special purpose "Edit Categories" layout consisting of a single panel (see Figure 4).

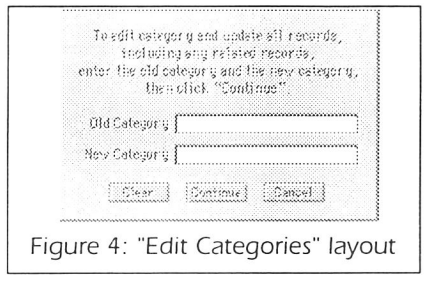


Figure 4: "Edit Categories" layout

The Old Category field should be formatted as a pop-up list which also references the Category field as its value list.

The global number field does not need to be placed on any layout.

How To: Scripts

• Button: Edit Category (placed wherever the Category field appears):

```
Set Field [gNumber, Status(CurrentLayoutNumber)]
Set Field [Old Category, ""]
Set Field [New Category, ""]
Go to Layout [Edit Categories]
```

The first Set Field script step records the number of the current layout so that it can be returned to later. The next two Set Fields script steps clear the contents of the Old Category field and the New Category field ready for data entry. The Go to Layout step goes to the Edit Categories layout.

• Button: Clear (placed on the Edit Categories layout):

```
Set Field [Old Category,""]
Set Field [New Category,""]
Exit Record/Request
```

The Clear button allows users to quickly erase the contents of the Old Category and New Category fields in the event of data-entry mistakes. It is not strictly necessary but it adds a user-friendly touch to the layout. It can be safely omitted without breaking the solution.

• Button: Cancel (placed on the Edit Categories layout):

```
Go to Layout [gNumber]
```

The Cancel button simply returns to the original layout, which it remembers because its layout number was placed in the global number field in the first script.

• Button: Continue (placed on the Edit Categories layout):

```
If [IsEmpty (Old Category)]
    Show Message: There is no Old Category. Buttons:
    "OK","","",""
    Exit Script
End If
```

The first part of this script checks to see if there is anything entered into the Old Category field. If there isn't, it informs the user and exits the script. It effectively forces the user to either enter an old category or click "Cancel" to return to the original layout.

```
If [IsEmpty (New Category)]
    Beep
    Show Message: There is no New Category. Warning:
    proceeding with script will remove all
    instances of the Old Category from all records which
    have that value in the
    Category field without replacing it with anything.
    Buttons: "Cancel","Proceed","",""
    If[Status (CurrentMessageChoice) = 1]
      Exit Script
    End If
End If
```

The next part of the script checks to see if there is anything entered into the New Category field. If there isn't, performing the rest of this script would have the effect of removing the old category from the Category field of all records which contain it without replacing it with anything. Why is this important? Let's say a user is trying to change a category from "Urgent" to "Priority 1" but forgets to fill in the New Category field before clicking on the Continue button. Let's also say there are over 1000 records in the file with over 100 of them categorised as "Urgent". There are also over 300 records with no category at all. Suddenly, there are 400 records with no category, and no way to distinguish between them other than by memory, and no way to recategorise them other than by going through them one by one. In other words, to proceed with the script at this point would be potentially destructive, and so the user is alerted with a warning beep and a warning message, and the default button is set to "Cancel". However, since it is possible that this is precisely what the user wants to do, they are also given the option to proceed.

```
Freeze Window
Go to Layout [gNumber]
Enter Find Mode [ ]
Set Field [Category, Old Category]
Perform Find Request [ ]
```

In this part of the script, the Freeze Window step hides from view the actions of the remaining script steps while simultaneously speeding up the process. After returning to the original view using the number in the global number field to locate it, the script enters Find Mode, sets the Category field to the old category and then finds all records with that value*. It is not strictly necessary to perform this part of the script as the Replace script steps in the next section will work without it. It serves mainly to reduce the current set to only those records that contain the old category which makes it easier to check the results for data-entry errors or other anomalies, or to review the records for that category afterwards. It may also produce performance gains in large databases. (*An alternative method for finding all records with the same value as the old category would be to use a self-join relationship based on the Old Category field on the left side and the Category field on the right side, then using the Go to Related Record script step set to show only related records.)

```
Replace [No dialog, Category, Substitute(Category, Old
Category, New Category)]
```

This is the script step that does most of the work by removing all instances of the old category from the Category field of all records in the current set (which by this stage contains only records that contain that category) and simultaneously replacing them with the new category. NB: Replace works on all records in the current set, and is much faster than a looping script. However, for the Replace script step to work, it must be performed in a layout that contains the field on which it acts, which is why it was necessary to return to the original layout earlier rather than later in the script.

```
Replace [No dialog, Category, Substitute(Category,"¶¶","¶")]
Replace [No dialog, Category, If(Left(Category, 1) = "¶",
Right(Category, Length(Category) - 1), Category)]
Replace [No dialog, Category, If(Right(Category, 1) = "¶",
Left(Category, Length(Category) - 1), Category)]
```

If there is more than one value in the Category field, the Replace script step will have the effect of leaving extraneous return characters either in the middle, at the beginning, or at the end of the field.

It is important to keep return-separated lists of values free of extraneous returns, since returns are often used by calculations to count values or to parse individual values.

The next three Replace script steps take care of extraneous return characters. The first Replace script step substitutes one return for every sequence of two returns. The second Replace script step checks to see if the first character in the Category field is a return and if so, removes it. It does this using the Right function to extract the Length of the field minus 1. Otherwise, it leaves the Category field alone. The final Replace script step checks to see if the last character in the Category field is a return and if so, removes it. It does this using the Left function to extract the Length of the field minus 1 (which is the opposite of the previous calculation). Otherwise, it leaves the Category field alone.

Exit Record/Request

The Exit Record/Request script step deselects any field that is selected in the current record while remaining in the current record. Its function in this instance is purely aesthetic. It prevents the script from ending but leaving the Category field of the last record in the current set still selected with its pop-up list revealed.

The advantage of using two scripts (Edit Categories and Continue), rather than one script that pauses for user input and then continues, is that it doesn't depend upon the status area or rely on users knowing to use the Enter key or the Return key to make the script continue. It also prevents users from exiting the Edit Categories layout by way of the layout menu in the Status Area while still in Find Mode.

Combining two categories into one

Combining two categories into one is a relatively simple process. If you want to add one category to another, just change it to the second category. If you want to combine two categories into a new category, change each category to the new category in turn.

Splitting one category into two

The first part of splitting one category into two must be performed manually. Find all records with that category and omit those that you want to belong to the other set. Then manually change the category of the current set using the Replace command in the Mode Menu. If you want the other set to retain the existing category, that is all you have to do. If you also want to change the category of the other set, you can now use the Edit Category button to change it.

Using Multiple Values

FileMaker Pro recognises multiple values entered into a single field as separate values as long as they are separated by returns. This feature can be extremely useful for setting up many-to-many relationships used in self-join relationships (see "Using a Value List in a Self-Join Relationship", below), or for any number of uses in relation to other files. However, only one value can be selected from a pop-up list at a time. If you try to select another, it will replace the original value. To add another value, you have to double click the field and manually type a return followed by the new value, increasing the possibility of data-entry errors.

A more efficient alternative would be to create a special-purpose layout that contains the Category field formatted as check boxes. Make the field as big as the maximum number of categories possible (stretch it beyond the window size if necessary), then create buttons to quickly toggle between layouts. Users will then be able to quickly go to the multiple-values layout, select as many values as necessary from the check boxes (or click again to remove them) and return to the original layout again.

Using a Value List in a Self-Join Relationship

The same value list can be used in either a standard or a filtered portal based on a self-join relationship:

Standard Portal

For the purpose of this section, a standard self-join portal is a portal that uses the Category field as the match field for both sides of the relationship. The portal always automatically shows all other records with the same Category as the current record. The portal is often placed directly in a record view with the record on one side and the portal on the other, and is usually set up so that clicking on an icon in a portal row (or sometimes anywhere in the portal row) takes the user to that specific record.

Changing the category of the current record to another category by selecting another category from the pop-up list will not affect other records with the original category. However, because the record now belongs to a different category, the other records which have the original category will disappear from the portal. If there are any other records with the new category, they will appear in the portal.

Adding a new category to the current record (by double clicking the field, deleting the current category and manually entering a new one) will not only change the category of that record but also add that category to the value list. However, the portal will now only show the current record because it is the first record to have been assigned the new category.

Deleting the category of the current record will only remove it from that record. The other records with that category will be unaffected but will disappear from the portal since they no longer have the same category.

Editing the category using the Edit Category and Continue buttons (see above) will update all records with that category to the new category and change the value in the value list simultaneously.

Removing a category using the Edit Category and Continue buttons (see above) will remove the value from all records with that category and from the value list simultaneously, but will also dissociate the records from each other.

Filtered portal

For the purpose of this section, a filtered portal is a portal that uses a global text field on the left side of the self-join relationship and the Category field on the right. The global text field is formatted to show the Category field as a pop-up list, enabling users to select any category and have the portal instantly show all records for that category independently of the current record. The filtered portal is often placed on a special-purpose layout where current record details are not displayed, and is usually set up so that clicking on an icon in a portal row (or sometimes anywhere in the portal row) will take the user to that specific record in another view.

An example of this type of portal is demonstrated in the technique file accompanying this article {see below ... Ed.}. Both types of portals can be applied to portals located in other files as well.

Using a Value List to Ensure Referential Integrity

If the Category field is the match field for a relationship with another file that also uses the field as its value list, changing the value of a category in the master file will not alter the category of its related records but will alter the category in its value list. As a consequence, existing related records will become orphaned from their master record. In order to maintain referential integrity, there needs to be a way to update the category in the related records at the same time as the category is edited in the master file. This can be achieved by defining a relationship between the Old Category field in the master file and the Category field in the related file, then adding a few script steps after the Perform Find script step in the Continue script:

```
If [not IsEmpty (Related
Records::Category)]
Go to Related Record [Show only
related records, File_B]
Perform Script [Sub-scripts, External:
"File_B.fp3", External: Update Related
Records]
End If
```

This script checks to see if there are any related values. If there are not, it does nothing. If there are related records, it goes to the related records in the related file, then runs an external script within the related file that acts on those records, as follows:

```
Replace [No dialog, Category,
Substitute(Category, File_A::Old
Category, File_A::New Category)]
Replace [No dialog, Category,
Substitute(Category,"¶¶","¶")]
Replace [No dialog, Category,
If(Left(Category, 1) = "¶",
Right(Category, Length(Category) - 1),
Category)]
Replace [No dialog, Category,
If(Right(Category, 1) = "¶",
Left(Category, Length(Category) - 1),
Category)]
```

This script updates the related records in the same way that the records of the current file are updated, except that it uses the old category and new category values from the master file through a reverse relationship to it (File_B Category field on the left and File_A Category field on the right).

NB: There should be a separate Perform Script script step in the master file for every related file that will be affected by the change, and a separate External Script in each of the related files.

The Category field in the related file (or files) could be set to validate by value list and not to allow user override. If necessary, you can add an Edit Category script to that file which would simply perform the Edit Category script in the master file as an external sub-script, attach it to a button and place it next to the Category field.

Other Applications

This technique can be partially adapted to ordinary value lists. Values should be changed in existing records using the Edit Category button and the (modified) Continue button before manually changing the value in the value list.

The technique can also be adapted to a more general-purpose search-and-replace function for text fields that are used to contain large text entries.

Conclusion

This technique will not be suitable for all solutions which require value lists (for example, value lists that are used in calculations and that must therefore remain static). However, it is ideal for any solution that requires or allows for occasional to frequent alteration of values but at the same time demands classification consistency within a single file and/or referential integrity across a multi-file solution.

{Accompanying FileMaker Pro technique files are available on request from turtletank@mail.com... Editor}

2001 DATABASE SIG MEETINGS

Meetings of the Database Special Interest Group (SIG) are held on the 4the Wednesday of every month except December. We meet in Unit 11, 87 Reserve Road, Artarmon from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm.

25 May	27 June	22 August	24 October
23 May	25 July	26 September	28 November



MACcess Report

Compiled by Ronald Forster ronald.forster@clubmac.org.au

Apple's release of Mac OS X has come and gone and we can see the result of a fairly long period of development of the system which included beta testing by adventurous souls, some of them members of Club Mac. You will have seen their comments on the Forum , some of which are included in this report. You will also have had the opportunity to read Andrew Pavey's review in the April edition of MACinations and his advice that you don't need to rush into being a pioneer user, for there is still much development to do. It seems to be the strategy of many software developers to introduce new products, ready or not, and Microsoft and Apple are no exception.

Maybe it is just because I tend to be conservative in such matters that I tend to stick with what is working well for me. I stuck with OS7.1.3 and didn't risk upgrading through the 7's until OS 8.1 . I don't like all the problems reported to be associated with OS 9.0 & 9.1 and intend to stay with OS 8.6 which gives me no trouble.

I wonder how we would all feel if car and aircraft designers followed the precedent adopted by software designers by making a practice of offering for sale say the latest model Holden, Ford or Boeing, before making sure that there was absolutely nothing wrong with it? Could they argue that it was OK to issue updates after gaining experience from the odd disaster or crash or two? Is this the way to build customer confidence in your product? Or is it accepted that computer users expect to be used as experimenters and unpaid developers?

Selections from the BBS Forum

This month's selections from the BBS Forum begins with a plea for better subject headings for Forum topics, followed by discussion of problems being experienced with Virtual PC; Word 2001; Web Sites; email; CD-RW Burners and of course Mac OS X. On Club Mac member's behalf, a big thank you to Mac OS X pioneers for displaying great intestinal fortitude in your belief of its ultimate success. I just wonder - did Apple take any notice at all of comments submitted by its voluntary Beta testers?

To: All
From: Alex Brown
Subject: Forum Subject Headings

Any chance of typing sensible descriptive subjects for your postings!

I'm so sick of wasting my time waiting for messages and threads to open, only to find an irrelevant wank. Or conversely, finding a subject like "Re. Amazing" or "Re. Here's one for you Bob" when the content is in fact useful!

Replies:

Hilton Brown:- There's no accounting for human behaviour ... and no way to control it to fit your criteria, however logical!

(Your MACcess reporters comment:- Yes Alex, I agree that a little more thought in choosing a subject heading would be helpful. But wandering off the subject at public meetings is all part of the ethos of public forums. Politicians are famous for it. Wonder what the subject was at the Roman Forum when Nero fiddled as Rome burned?)

To: All
From: Peter Spain
Subject: Virtual PC

I have a G4 with built in Zip drive and Mac OS 9.1. To use Zip cartridges inside Win98 in Virtual PC 4, do I have to install IomegaWare? I'm a bit wary of installing hardware drivers into VPC because we are warned not to install drivers for 3rd party mice, &c.

How else can I use Zips in VPC? They do not mount at the moment in Windows.

Replies:

Rae Luckie

Peter I don't know about VPC 4, but in VPC 3 you have to actually make your Zip disk a 'shared folder' then it shows up in VPC. To do this, you hold down option as you launch VPC and use the 'shared folder' option. You actually designate the (PC formatted) disk. Check your manual, as it may be different with VPC 4. You don't have to add the Iomega hardware.

Peter Spain

I guess that means either you have a zip inserted prior to starting the VPC virtual machine or from within VPC you need to navigate to the zip manually through a new share folder. Would you need a share folder named for every one of the zip disks you are likely to use? From your comments there is no way a zip disk can appear in Windows Explorer, on insertion, as a zip disk capable of being managed by Iomega's tools. I'm trying to find a solution that shows a Zip disk in Windows as easily as a CD-ROM.

I will try your suggested method. However, I think I will install IomegaWare in Windows if only to satisfy myself of the wisdom or otherwise of doing so. Who cares about a little OS corruption? I've done hundreds of OS reinstalls necessitated by my failed experiments. What's another failure?

Peter Spain's Trial Run:

Further to my last post: Installing IomegaWare in VPC4 + Win98 to access one's Zip drive does nothing as VPC lacks the hooks to tell Windoze about the drive. Compared to using the CD drive, VPC does nothing for Zips.

Setting up a Shared Folder based on your Zip drive works - just; but I found it is a little less fiddly to use your primary Shared Folder to pass files to the PC and back, no matter if they came from the Zip drive or elsewhere. So I'm gunna stick to only using the Zip drive on the Mac side.

Whenever I startup or shut down a virtual machine in VPC4, Remote Access tries to connect to the Internet for no apparent reason. I disallow the attempt.

My main workhorse virtual machine running Windows 98 has networking enabled so that I can connect to some other local PCs via TCP/IP. I understand if I turn off the networking setting in VPC that I'll be no longer troubled by the attempted logons. Unfortunately, I need networking enabled. So how do I stop VPC from wanting to see the Internet?

VPC3 didn't have this problem, also, neither VPC3 nor VPC4 network connections allow successful use of the host Mac's TCP/IP configuration - I'm forced to manually supply an IP address in Windows Networking. VPC3 required manual IP configuration and then successfully connected to my small LAN. VPC4 refuses to connect either through the Mac's IP link or by manually supplying its own IP address.

VPC4 is definitely harder to configure for networking than V3 and until I sort something out, I'm unable to print to my network printer.

Any help would be most appreciated.

Rae Luckie:-

I guess this may not help, but I haven't had any problems with networking et al that you talk about (VPC 3 and Windoze 98, Mac OS 8.6). The zip/folder works quite well for me, I just have a dedicated Zip disk on which I make any backups or files I want to move between platforms, and yes I guess you'd have to make each disk a shared folder.

However, it was my understanding that VPC4 and system 9 allowed you to access Zip USB drives and @@###%%## I've just purchased OS 9 ready to upgrade to VPC 4 but I think right now I'll forget it in view of your problems.

Colin Lee:-

There is a VPC extra (on the CD) which makes your Mac hard drive visible to the Windoze side of things so you can save and open files directly from the Mac. You can also move files between platforms.

Rae Luckie:- Colin what a blessing. Is this just with VPC 4?

Colin:- No, it's available in VPC 3. It should be in your VPC folder>Extras>Virtual PC Additions, but you'll need to access it through Windoze. Read the 'Read Me' files (Mac) for correct installation and refer to the manual.

There are several functions that can be set up, the most useful being mounting Mac disk through Windoze and cutting and pasting between platforms. It can be a tricky install. It worked first time for me on one machine, but took many times on another. The trick (I think) was to do the restart yourself rather than let the installer do it. Hope this helps.

To: All
From: Bruce Madden
Subject: **School Project Material (Conversion Windows to Mac)**

My nephew needs to be able to buy & use school project material which apparently only comes on Windoze CDs. Does anybody have experience with these? He has a Quadra 650, would this be able to read the files or do they have software only which needs a Wintel machine?

I thought a Windoze emulation may be a solution if it is software. He will start high school next year so an iBook might be required in the future but for now I would like a cheap solution for the Quadra.

Reply:

Andrew Pavey :-

The windows emulation route is the only one likely to work, however I don't think any of that software ie RealPC, SoftWindows, Virtual PC, will run on anything less than a PPC 200MHz model, probably with 64MB RAM.

The reason is most of these type Windoze CDs run a specific .exe file to create the screen info, choices etc and the actual data ie text and pictures, is often encrypted in some way so you can't just pop the CD in the drive and read the text etc.

If they have set it up with HTML it would be fine, but I suspect for copyright reasons they'll use the encrypted method otherwise every school kid will swap with their friends and they won't sell many CDs!

Bruce Madden:- Thanks for the info. Looks like we need to save up for an iMac

To: All
From: Joey Tengco
Subject: **Word 2001**

How can I assign keyboard shortcut to Word 2001 menu.

Command+B used to be "clear" in word 98, now it's "bold"

Command+K was "delete row", now it's some link of some sort.

it gets frustrating when you're used to certain keyboard shortcuts and they're changed.

Replies:

Albert Willis:-

I would have said Command + B was Boldface for some ten years.

Murray Wale:- Yes, but Microsoft did the same thing in Excel 98 (used Command + B) to clear a cell and I still can't get used to it!!!! The reverse of Joey's problem... :)

Andrew Pavey:- MS Made the shortcuts more uniform between the various components of the Office Suite. Basically for these commands you now use Control B to blank a cell in Excel instead Command B, similarly for the Kill command it's Control K

Joey Tengco:- I'm sorry, what I meant was Excel 2001. Command-B was clear, and Command-K was delete, now they're different. So, Albert, Murray & Andrew, is there a way to change these shortcuts?

Andrew Pavey:- I haven't tried it, but Word has a Commands tab which allows you to change the keyboard shortcuts for any Command in Word, even the ones not normally shown on a menu. I suspect you could do the same in Excel, but why bother? Why not learn to use Control K to kill a row?

To: All
From: Hamish Ta-me
Subject: **Web Site Problems**

I have finally learnt some web design skills and have managed to use the FTP to load the html pages onto my web pages icon in the mail box. However I also have to upload the images in folders, these will not load up any ideas?

Replies:

Andrew Pavey:-

The most likely answer is that the path to the images recorded in your html pages is wrong because you didn't keep the relative paths between the html pages and the image folders the same when you uploaded them.

eg the link in your html says something like <A HREF="../images/fred.jpg"> fred picture</A>

This means the browser has to look up one level, find the images folder go into it to find your picture, but when you uploaded the html you put it at the same level as the images folder so the correct line should be <A HREF="images/fred.jpg"> fred picture</A>.

The way to fix it easily is to make sure you have correctly copied the folder hierarchy of where you created the pages and the image links, on the webserver.

Bruce Madden:-

See p.19 March, 1999 MACinations if you still have it.

TeleFinder won't let you transfer folders. You have to make a new folder in the 'Web Space' folder while you are online. Change the name to the same as on your hard drive, then put your files into it. You can create new folders inside folders using this method if you require. Any problems, let me know.

Hamish Ta-me:- Thanks Bruce. They are all loaded and happily sitting there. However I cannot find my site when I look for it under www.clubmac.org.au/hamish_ta-me or www.clubmac.org.au/~hamish_ta-me

I have loaded my web site onto the web space icon in my mail folder. This took me ages to work out, and I wouldn't have worked out how to load the image files without help (create a new file within web space icon then transfer images to that folder and rename same as on HD) Thanks Bruce. But now when I look for my site by typing in www.clubmac.org.au/~hamish_ta-me an BBS error message comes up. It is the same error message that comes up when I try to look at most of the members web sites. Either I have something incorrectly set up or MOST of the listed members' web sites don't exist. If so lets dump the list and start again. Any tips?

Andrew Pavey (Webmaster):- The problem is that members don't inform me when they put up their website.

So I've resorted to listing the Premium Members, (that I know about).

IF I take everybody who doesn't have a site UP off the list, no doubt there will be howls like Hamish's when the members do put their site up.

In Hamish's case I suspect part of the problem is his name (with the hyphen in it). However equally likely is that he hasn't named his home page correctly.

The correct reference for a home page is http://www.clubmac.org.au/~your_name/homepage.html

(See "how to set up your website.txt" in the Help & Information area).

If Hamish likes to email me with the details of what he's got in his "Web Space" folder I'll see if I can help. For privacy reasons I don't have access to the folder so I can't see what the problem might be....

To: All
From: Alex Brown
Subject: **email Problems**

This morning when trying to send/receive email in Entourage, I get the message...

Error - Mail could not be sent using the account "ClubMac".

Explanation - A connection error has occurred. Error: -3280

But my connection to the internet, browser, etc is fine. I have checked and rechecked my Entourage account settings.

Any suggestions please?

Reply:

Andrew Pavey :- Have you asked our Sysop to set your mailbox to POP?

To: All
From: Rae Luckie
Subject: **CD-RW Burner**

I was told that Apple have developed their own 'burning' software that works on a CD-RW similar to a PC (i.e., it can be accessed rather like a hard drive.)

Does anyone know if it can be downloaded and if so whereder yerget it...if it works with system 8.6 and a Iomega Zip CD-RW...

Reply:

Daniel Hanna:-

Rae, check out http://asu.info.apple.com/swupdates.nsf/artnum/n12018 for info on Apple's Disc Burner 1.01. You can also download the software from there.

It will work on Iomega ZipCD 650 drives. However you need OS 9.1 to run it.

The software lets you format a CD and drag files to it in the finder. When finished, you tell the Mac to 'burn CD' from the Special menu and it writes to the disc. That's VERY limited compared to how you might use a floppy - you can't erase or move files at will, and you can't save to the CD from applications. You also can't add data to a CD you've already written, even if it's only half full.

Rae, my advice to you is to stick with Toast till Apple refines the software to make CD-RWs work just like floppies.

To: All
From: Peter Spain
Subject: **Mac OS X**

As one of Apple's pre-orderers for OS X, I am concerned about when various drivers will be updated for it. I have a big list of hardware which will require updating before I switch from OS 9.1

How about my Wacom tablet, Griffin iMate, Epson 1270 printer, HP 2100M Laserjet, Epson Expression 1600 scanner, my NetComm modems, my CompactFlash reader, my Sony memory stick reader, etc.

And software. I have spent some serious money on software and the only one that is even Carbon so far, let alone, Cocoa, is Appleworks 6.

I don't expect to seriously use OS X for at least a year. And until ALL my drivers and software are upgraded I will not be using OS X as my preferred OS.

I refuse to fiddle about with Classic Mode as it will be buggy and troublesome. So I'm gunna stay with 9.1 for a long, long time. The idea of switching back and forth depending on which software and drivers I have updates for or not, is not something I will gladly tolerate.

As a retired person, financial resources mean I will not be falling over myself in a rush to upgrade software. Unless Cocoa versions of my software cost only nominal handling charges to upgrade, I will be forced to stay with present incompatible software. If Apple wants us all to adopt OS X, it will have to pressure the software companies not to charge for Cocoa upgrades.

I seriously wonder why I am getting OS X! The only reason, it seems to me, is because Apple says we must, to stay current. But then Apple was never one to be concerned about previous owners of Apple hardware and software. Apple thinks we all have very thick wallets. Not so, Apple.

I suspect a lot of us are in the same position as I am regarding concerns about moving to full-time use of OS X.

Replies:

Andrew Pavey :-

There has been pressure on Apple for a long time to deliver a "modern OS". Remember Copeland? But just because Apple has bitten the bullet and decided to run with UNIX, doesn't mean you have to. Your existing computer, with its existing peripherals will do what it does now for at least another 10 years. You don't need to go to Mac OS X, unless some killer app comes out that you really must have, and it only runs on OS X. Or perhaps if your existing computer dies and you need to replace it and all you can buy at the time is a new Mac

running OS X. In that case you'll be in a bind, and need new drivers etc for your existing now obsolete peripherals.

The reality is that neither of these things will happen, so don't worry (be happy).

On past experience Apple did a reasonably good job of making things backward compatible (remember FAT applications) when we moved from 680x0 processors to PPC ones. There were some rough edges, but generally it worked well. I suspect it will be much the same with Mac OS X. I for one certainly won't be jumping in fast, for similar reasons to you. My concern is that if I need to get a new computer at work, I'll ONLY be able to get a Mac OS X model, and then I'll have software update costs etc. SO I'm investing in the current generation of Macs, so I won't have to face that problem for a year or two. This will enable the software manufacturers to work out the bugs in their v1.0 releases of OS X compatible software, and for hardware manufacturers to sort out driver issues etc.

William Moppett:-

I have to await Australia Post for delivery of my OS_X pre-ordered from AppleStore & despatched Friday, according to email.

There are some serious deficiencies mentioned in reports, and these will be rectified over the next few months.

Some 'developers' already have a 5L60 'build'. Also there is some scuttlebut about OS 9.2, an upgrade to OS 9.1

Bursting with excitement. Apparently a 'hack' is required to relegate the dock to menu bar. I have taken note & this will be my first project. What a stupid blunder.

I think it an ego trip by programmers obsessed by the capabilities of the new graphic interface. I for one would be more impressed without the dog ! At least the Apple menu & menubar clock are back.

Andrew Beavis:-

expert advice is ....boot from a system 9 OS...copy all data to a backup disk...apply ROM updates, format disk, reinstall clean OSses (9.1/X)...copy back data from backup disk...reinstall software. email expletives to Apple.

Andrew Pavey:-

I fronted a dealer on Saturday, played with their Mac and OS X for an hour, bought OS X and went to work and installed it in a clean partition in about half an hour. That includes reading the manual, and installing OS 9.1 first!

It needs about 1.4 GB of space for all this.

The new interface certainly takes up more screen real estate that OS 9.1, what with the bigger icons, Dock, Toolbars in Finder windows etc.

New applications include a 3D Chess game, email client called Mail, and Grab for doing screenshots. I couldn't get it to do a Window only screen shot but it has a timer function so you can capture pop down menus and the like, if you want the whole screen!

Photoshop runs, but some other stuff didn't.

Apple has a series of Tech notes on OS X, one of which acknowledges that Grab won't do window only screen shots, their suggested work around is shoot the whole screen and use an image editing app to extract just the window. Hah!

Appleworks, iTunes and iMovie2 for OS X links appear on apple.com and I've downloaded iTunes and installed it. It works, but they warn you if you want to use your previous music to use an alias of your old iTunes folder and put it where the OS X version needs to access it.

Andrew Pavey:- OS X first days

My experience so far. The miracle is that things run. ie I opened Pagemaker, Photoshop, Illustrator, Word, Excel, Telefinder in Classic over OS X. TF connects to BBS fine using TCP/IP over the Cable modem, but you can't connect to the internal modem to dial in direct from TF. Even Acrobat Distiller 3 worked.

Timbuktu will only access other Macs on our network via IP, Appletalk works for a while after launch of Classic but drops out. I also have to connect to network servers over IP, 'cos they don't show up unless IP is enabled on the server.

I've had Classic crash a couple of times without bring OS X down. The symptom is that apps just disappear from the Dock, no error dialogues or anything.

I don't like the new navigation aspects of the GUI. The Dock is nowhere near as useful as a Launcher type app. Luckily the one I use in Classic, Zmac's Quicklaunch still works.

The big icons for disk drives which was bugging me can be fixed in the Prefs by using a continuous slider to alter icon size - quite nifty compared to Classic where you got a couple of choices of fixed size icons. At least I can reclaim some desktop real estate. I'd hate to use OS X on a 14" screen.

William Moppett:-

I am not a happy camper !

Some day OS X will be the way to go. Foolish me, I was happy with Public Beta, but the release version is.....

Let me just say: "Unresolved kernel trap(cpu0)...." was never seen in beta, but seems a regular feature now !

I just hope Apple can fix this bug and fill in some of the holes. (like DVD support, ..)

If you don't need it, I endorse Andrew Pavey's remarks, just wait for better times !

The biggest bugbear is the loss of functionality in my Classic Internet access with Outlook Express.

Concealing The Recipient List In Eudora

If you want the list of e-mail addresses to be concealed from the recipients: Create a new Address Book entry and type something in the Name field (eg Undisclosed Recipients). Then, when you send something out to this address book entry, all the recipients will see is what you typed in the Name field (eg the email will be received as "To: Undisclosed Recipients;:"). Note: this only works if you have more than one e-mail address in the list for this entry.

"Duct tape is like the Force. It has a light side, and a dark side, and it holds the universe together."
- Carl Zwanzig

OS X Tips, Tricks and Features ;-(

compiled from various sources by Andrew Pavey

OS X - The first update

Apple has released Mac OS 10.0.1, a set of fixes for Mac OS X available via the Software Update mechanism:

Warning: at least 300MB is required on your boot disc to run this installation, otherwise the installer just quits and you have to do the download again.

"Improvements include better support for third party USB devices, Classic compatibility and overall application stability as well as support for the popular Secure Shell service. For Japanese users, an update to the Epson printer drivers is also available.

Revealing abbreviated file names in OS X

In the OS X Finder, you can reveal the complete text of an abbreviated file name by holding down the Option key, or by pausing a moment, with the mouse over the name. This works in all Finder view types.

Don't change the "shortname"

You should NOT try to change the "shortname" (System Preferences- Users - Edit User Pane) of a user. OS X's entire directory structure for a user (and therefore login) is based on this short name (you picked it during the install). SO -if you have only one user on the machine, and you change the short name, you now have a dead box . OS X cannot find a valid home directory (and lots of other stuff) with which to start up the box.

The "workaround" is quite simple. Make sure you set up multiple users on the machine (who have admin privileges) AND make REALLY sure you are NOT logged in as the user you are about to kill off AND that the default user login is also someone OTHER than the user you are about to kill off (sounds obvious doesn't it), then kill off the old user and OS X will move those directories back to an admin user, then make a new user with the desired shortname and move the user's files back into that home directory.

OS X Keyboard-Dock shortcut

Command-click on an application in the Dock and the Finder will display the folder in which that application lives.

List View Bug

In list view in the new Finder, typing in the first few letters of a file name doesn't bring that item into view in the open window if, as it seems, the item is alphabetically below what you're already looking at. You have to scroll down to the item manually, whereupon you'll find it's selected as you would expect. Alternatively, after typing part of a file name in a finder window, press either the up or down arrow, the window will now scroll to the highlighted filename in the list. However, if you type a letter when there is no file beginning with that letter, it will not select the next closest letter and this workaround doesn't work.

Feedback

The Mac OS X feedback page does still exist - it's http://www.apple.com/macosx/feedback/

Force Quit From the Dock

You probably know that you can press Command-Option-Shift-Escape or choose Force Quit from the Apple menu to force-quit an application in OS X. You can also force-quit an application by holding down the Option key, clicking and holding on the application's icon in the Dock, and choosing Force Quit from the pop-up menu.

Speed Boost

A substantial speed boost can be had by running the Developer Tools installer included with Mac OS X on the second CD. The bulk, if not all, of the acceleration comes from the installer performing an "Optimizing System Performance" operation — essentially, the installer "prebinds" objects in the system and applications, locking them into a form where they can be executed most efficiently.

You don't actually have to run the Dev Tools Installer to get this speed boost — you can run it any time you wish by typing "sudo update_prebinding -root /" at the command line in the Terminal application. After installing a slew of new Cocoa applications, for example, you may want to run this operation to prebind their objects and optimize them.

OS X Finder Features

Unlike the Classic Finder the Finder in Mac OS X does not allow you to empty the Trash with locked files by holding down the Option key.

Unlike the Classic Finder the Finder in Mac OS X does allow you to Shift Click to select a range of files, and then Command Click to unselect files, causing a discontiguous selection. This now works the way Apple's 1985 Macintosh User Interface Guidelines said it should be done!

If a file is locked and you try and empty the Trash you get a misleading message "You don't have privileges for some of these files": The work around is to Get Info on the files and uncheck the "Locked" check box.

Pick a System

Just press the Option key when starting up to choose OS's to boot into eg 9.1 or OS X.

Late Note: *Apple has released OS X 10.0.1. It's a 4.1 MB update available via Mac OS X's Software Update control panel (which itself requires a 700K update before it gets the 10.0.1 Update). According to Apple, improvements include better support for third party USB devices, improved performance, better overall application and Classic-mode stability, enhanced support for iTunes, and support for the Secure Shell service.*

Club Mac Levels of Membership

	Access Level:	Guest	Basic	BBS	Additional e-mail address	Premium
	Annual Fee:	**$0**	**$45**	**$75**	**$45**	**$120**
General:						
	MACinations	•	•	•		•
	HelpDesk	•	•	•	•	•
	PD on disk or CD-ROM (by post)	•	•	•	•	•
Meetings:						
	Monthly General meeting including supper	•	•	•	•	•
	Q&A Forum	•	•	•	•	•
	Database SIG	•	•	•	•	•
	Omnis SIG	•	•	•	•	•
	Christmas pizza meeting	•	•	•	•	•
BBS:			(Note 1)			
	Daily connection period	15	90	90	90	120
	Modem dial-in connection	•	•	•	•	•
	PPP connection (through third-party ISP)	•	•	•	•	•
	Telefinder BBS e-mail	•	•	•	•	•
	Forwarding e-mail to another e-mail address			•	•	
	Full Internet e-mail address		•	•	•	•
	Domain Name Hosting (Note 2)					•
	5 meg Personal Web Site					•
	Local Forums		•	•	•	•
	Live Chat Rooms		•	•	•	•
	Internet Newsgroups (UseNet) (Note 3)		•	•	•	•
	PD Latest Additions			•	•	•
	PD Library			•	•	•
	PD CD-ROMs			•	•	•
WWW: (through Club Mac)	Daily connection period					60
	PPP connection to WWW					•
	PPP connection to Club Mac BBS					•
	Access to e-mail through browser					•
	Access to e-mail through e-mail application (POP3)					•

Notes:
1. Available to all Basic members by written request
2. Additional ISP charges apply
3. Limited Newsgroups

Club Mac Membership Application Form

Complete this form and send it, together with the appropriate fee, to:
The Administrator, Club Mac Inc., GPO Box 4523, Sydney, 2001.
Please allow time for the Application to be processed.

Surname.....Given or preferred Name/s.....

Postal Address .....

.....Postcode .....

Phone (Home) (.....) .....(Work) (.....).....

(Mobile) .....(Fax) (.....).....

e-mail .....

Does your Mac have a floppy drive? ☐ Yes ☐ No Member No. .....

How did you hear about Club Mac? .....

Method of Payment (we prefer by cheque)

☐ Cheque ☐ Money Order ☐ Credit Card ☐ Bank Cheque ☐ Cash (meetings)

(BankCard, MasterCard & VISA only. The type of your card is indicated by its number)

Card number ☐☐☐☐ ☐☐☐☐ ☐☐☐☐ ☐☐☐☐

Name on card.....Expiry Date .....

Signature .....Amount $ .....

☐ New Member (Not a current member)

☐ Renewal (Membership soon to expire)

☐ Joining Fee $10 (payable only once)

☐ Basic Membership $45

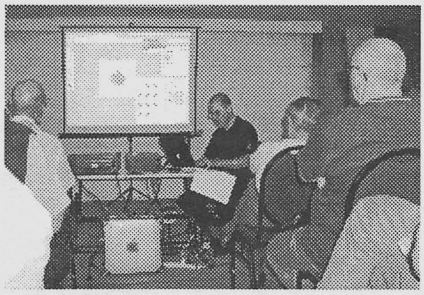
☐ Basic + BBS $75

☐ Basic + Premium Membership $120

☐ Additional e-mail address $45

April Meeting

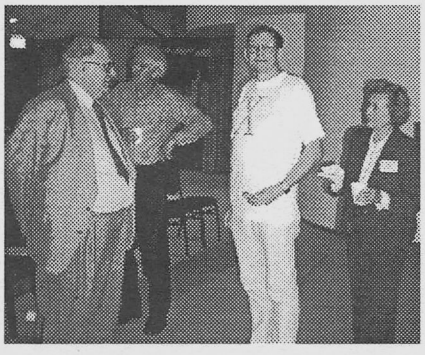
Andrew Pavey



Michael demonstrates PhotoShop Elements.



Michael answers members questions



Discussing OS X, during the break.



Members chat during the break.

Michael Stoddard from Adobe was the guest presenter at the April meeting. He covered some of the features of the new **Photoshop Elements** software. This is a "lite" version of Photoshop which will only work with RGB images. Its intended audience is hobbyists and people preparing images for use on web sites, or for downloading and editing photos from digital cameras.

One especially neat feature was an in built function to automatically straighten photos scanned at an angle. Another "wow" feature was the ability to stitch together several photos taken in sequence, eg of a landscape to create a composite panorama where the edges matched. This feature even has sufficient built in intelligence to determine automatically how to arrange a set of images horizontally and/or vertically to assemble the panorama.

Recognizing that one of the hardest things is to learn how to use major software applications, Adobe has included a Hints palette which provides context-sensitive illustrations and tips that explain how to use Photoshop Elements tools. There is also a Recipes palette which interactively teaches you how to perform a variety of multistep tasks, such as adding gradient effects, yet still gives you full control throughout each task. A simplified File Browser lets you find photos by viewing thumbnails.

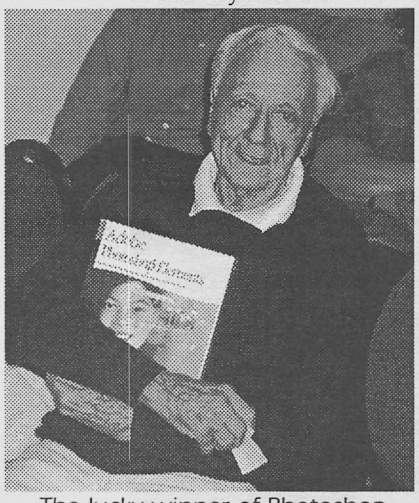
Also demonstrated was Adobe's answer to Apple's Final Cut Pro. This software package, **Premiere** has some impressive features for video capture and editing, including the ability to save in almost any format. For example, without changing anything in your project except the export settings, you can export a RealVideo file for distribution on the Web, a QuickTime video for distribution on CD, and an MP3 file of the audio tracks, and then export the Timeline to videotape.

Naturally you can do all the usual things like merging video and fancy transitions on scene cuts, view individual clips, set In and Out points, set markers, add and remove clips from the Timeline, trim clips, and preview the Timeline. Premiere includes a good range of transitions, including blends, wipes, and doors. To add a transition to your video you just drag it from the Transition palette to the Timeline.

Michael also showed how to create titles, and rolling credits. When you save a title, Premiere automatically adds it to the open Project window and applies the appropriate transparency key for easy superimpositions.

Michael was fully occupied answering many questions during the break.

After the break, Andrew tried completely unsuccessfully to demonstrate OS X. There was no way we could get it to boot at the meeting. The suggested possible cause was that OS X is very sensitive to the continued presence of whatever monitor was on the computer when it was installed. In this case the Apple Cinema Display was not at the meeting and OS X choked on being presented with the 640x480 video from the projector. The final action for the night was to raffle off the copy of Photoshop Elements donated by Adobe.



The lucky winner of Photoshop Elements



We had a good roll up for the meeting