

Please e-mail your questions or comments to Bill Henry, Editor (henryw@bellsouth.net)



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JEOPARDY AND WHEEL OF FORTUNE GAMES RELEASED FOR MAC

Freeverse, Inc. announced the release of Jeopardy! Deluxe and Wheel of Fortune Deluxe, based on the hugely popular syndicated television game shows, for the Macintosh platform. Both Jeopardy! Deluxe and Wheel of Fortune Deluxe provide you with all of the thrills and excitement of the game shows from your own home! Free demos are available for download from the Freeverse website.

Test your knowledge with America's Favorite Quiz Show in Jeopardy! Deluxe. Featuring over 3,000 clues written by the TV show writers, Jeopardy! Deluxe is the closest you can get to the real thing. Just like the show, if you respond correctly you lead the game, but if you're wrong, your competitors control the board and you have to use your wits to jump back in command or you might find yourself in JEOPARDY!

Wheel of Fortune Deluxe lets you spin the wheel and experience the enhanced game play and vivid graphics in this updated version of America's #1 game show! Pick a consonant or buy a vowel to solve puzzles in three exciting new game modes: Road Trip, Group Play, and Puzzle of the Day. Create your own profile and earn trophies along with virtual cash! Look out for the dreaded Bankrupt and Lose-A-Turn wedges as you spin to win in the sparkling new version of this beloved game.

Jeopardy! Deluxe and Wheel of Fortune Deluxe will be available for \$19.95 each from the Freeverse online store. A free demo, as well as more information can be found at either the Jeopardy! Deluxe

or Wheel of Fortune Deluxe Product Page. 


Jeopardy! Deluxe:
<http://freeverse.com/games/game/?id=8002>

Wheel of Fortune Deluxe:
<http://freeverse.com/games/game/?id=8001>

MacBook Air with SSD price drops

The MacBook Air with solid state drive (SSD) price dropped \$500 from \$3098 to \$2598. The MacBook Air with SSD 64GB of flash memory saw the price drop due to the drop in flash memory prices and drop in processor prices.

The MacBook Air with SSD comes with 1.8GHz and 2GB of RAM.

The price of the 1.6GHz model with 80GB hard drive and 2GB RAM remains at \$1799. 



BAC July Meeting

The July 12th meeting of the Birmingham Apple Core at the Homewood Library subject TBA.

As always bring questions to discuss before and after the meeting.

Come enjoy coffee, donuts, cookies etc.

2007 BAC Board of Directors

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EPSON BLACK INK CARTRIDGES (2)

MADE FOR EPSON STYLUS COLOR PRINTERS 880/880i/83 Item No. T019 201

Contact Bill Henry

INTERNET EASTER EGG

Make sure you have your speakers turned up when you click on the exclamation point at the end of the Yahoo! heading on their website. 🍏

Garmin GPS-Maker Announces Expanded Mac Compatibility

Garmin announced that it has expanded its suite of Mac compatible applications to include waypoint, track, and route management. As with other Garmin applications, this new trip planning application is compatible with Mac OS X on Intel- and PPC-based Macs and may be used in conjunction with all Garmin USB devices.

Thanks to this new application, Mac users will now be able to transfer waypoints, tracks, and routes between their Mac and Garmin device and manage their data using Garmin's rich catalog of map products. Users can search for points of interest from the convenience of their Macs and then send the locations to their Garmin GPS via a USB cable. These favorite points of interest will then be available for quick and easy reference on their Garmin GPS. In addition, customers who want to save and view all of their favorite waypoints or tracks on their computer, rather than their GPS, can send these with a few simple keystrokes.

This new Mac trip planning application is being debuted as a pre-release version in time for the Macworld Conference & Expo. Garmin plans to include additional features to this application by the end of 2008 – such as route editing and find by address function.

Garmin, the world's leading GPS manufacturer, has released MapInstall, POI Loader, Training Center, WebUpdater,

Garmin Communicator and Retail Map Update for the Mac. In addition, Garmin released a utility Map-Converter, to convert your legacy PC based Garmin map products to Mac format. 🍏

http://garmin.blogs.com/my_weblog/applemac/index.html

<http://www8.garmin.com/macosex/>

UPDATES

MAC OS X 10.5.4

The Mac OS X 10.5.4 Update is recommended for Mac OS X 10.5, 10.5.1, 10.5.2, and 10.5.3 Leopard. It includes general operating system improvements that enhance the stability, compatibility, and security of your Mac. Security update 2008-004 and Mac OS X v10.5.4

Security Update

Available for: Mac OS X v10.4.11, Mac OS X Server v10.4.11

Firmware 7.3.2

Time Capsule, AirPort Extreme and AirPort Express for 802.11n only

About Time Capsule, AirPort Extreme and AirPort Express Base Station with 802.11n* Firmware 7.3.2

The Time Capsule, AirPort Extreme and AirPort Express Base Station with 802.11n* Firmware 7.3.2 updates include bug fixes. This update requires AirPort Utility 5.3.2. AirPort Utility 5.3.2 can be obtained via an automatic software update or as a manual download:

Firefox 3.0

Firefox 3.0 boasts faster speed, and uses less resources. Native look and feel in your operating system.

One-click bookmarking and other features 🍏

NEW TRAINING CDs AVAILABLE FOR RENTAL FROM BAC

Mac OS X Leopard 10.5

Volume Content Summaries

The world's most advanced operating system is now even better and we'll show you how Leopard is loaded with innovations and features that will transform your mac.

Access everything on your system using Cover Flow, view the contents of a file without even opening it using Quick Look, and use Spaces to group your application windows to stay clutter-free and organized.

Learn about Time Machine, the breakthrough automatic backup that's built right into your mac. We'll teach you the enhancements to Mail, iChat, and Safari, and all of the essentials for finding, arranging, and sharing everything on your computer. Instruction provided by Apple Certified Technical Coordinator Clair Crookston.

Volume 1

Pre-Install Checklist, Install Mac OS X Leopard, Using The Mouse, Menu Bar, Apple Menu, Main Menus, Contextual Menus, Desktop & Finder, Volumes & Directories, Windows, Sidebar, Dock

Volume 2

Directory Structure, Go Menu, Window Views & Modes, Finder Preferences, Exposé & Spaces, Dashboard, Spotlight, Personal Preferences, Hardware Preferences, Internet & Network Prefs, System Preferences, Third Party Preferences

Volume 3

Organizing Files, Customize Toolbar, Get Info, Burn Folders, Printer & Fax, TextEdit, Preview Application, User Configuration, Parental Controls, Libraries, Resource Management, Installing Applications


Volume 4

File Sharing, Personal File Sharing, Screen Sharing, Firewall, Internet Sharing, Keychains, Safari-Browsing, Mail & Address Book, iCal, iChat AV, Disk Utility, Time Machine

Another training CD available is:

Mac OS X Maintenance & Troubleshooting 10.5

Software Update, Uninstall Software, Disk Strategies, Backing Up, Permissions, Verify/Repair Directories, Scheduled Routines, Troubleshooting Checklist, Alternate User, Preference Files, Dumping Caches, Terminal Basics

The rental fee is \$5/month per CD. 

iPhone 3G What is missing?

As with most Apple products, the new iPhone will include features that you didn't know you needed, such as the ability to wipe your data remotely, so that the theft of your iPod won't necessarily mean the theft of your identity.

However, some features were excluded--features that many Apple watchers were hoping to see. So what's missing from the iPhone 3G?

- iPhone 3G users will still not have the ability to cut and paste text, a simple yet important task, especially since typing on the keyboardless iPhone is, for many, a challenge.

- Bluetooth is still extremely limited -- no support for stereo or digital audio streaming to headsets supporting A2DP, never mind other Bluetooth devices like wireless keyboards.

- The iPhone still can't act as a modem between the 3G network and another portable device, not via Bluetooth, or via Wifi. If you were hoping to get your PCMCIA-less MacBook Air onto 3G broadband, the iPhone's not going to play go-between for you. (Here's hoping the SDK will allow a third-party application to do it. But it should be a feature out of the box.)

And speaking of keyboards, stereo Bluetooth and A2DP would have given iPhone users the ability to use a wireless keyboard, in addition to turning the iPhone into an ad hoc modem. But the iPhone 3G only handles Bluetooth 2.0 + EDR.

- The iPhone 3G doesn't permit voice dialing, one of those features users expect from a smart phone.

- The videocamera that comes standard with most cell phones is lacking in the iPhone 3G. So much for capturing your own Zapruder film.

- Despite rumors of a potential front-facing camera, the new technical specifications have not listed this feature. A front-facing camera would allow you film yourself, so the lack of it means that even if a videocamera were installed in the iPhone, you still couldn't get your iPhone iChat.

- Storage capacity is limited to 16 gigabytes, a healthy amount, but with no mini- or micro-SD expansion slot, there's no chance for expansion or upgrades. With the cell phone industry moving toward larger capacities as well as wireless storage, 16 gig may soon seem quaint.

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iPhone 3G *cont'd from page 3*

- AT&T remains the only carrier for the iPhone. Unless you're willing to hack your iPhone, you're stuck with AT&T, a company that collaborated with the National Security Agency to illegally data-mine their customer's communications.

The release of the iPhone 3G will be an important step forward in making the smart phone even smarter. But it looks as if version 2.0 needs a 2.1. Gotta save something for next year! 🍏



The Command Key (?)

Possibly the greatest new feature of the redesigned iMacs is their new keyboard—no, not because of its sexy thin design, but because the Command key is now labeled “Command” and the Apple symbol has gone from it. Hoo-ray!

For those without the benefit of the history, the Mac has had a Command key since the very first model, and it has carried the little “clover leaf” Command symbol for all that time. At some stage during Steve Jobs' absence in the wilderness, some bright spark thought it would be a really good idea to put an Apple II-style Apple logo on the key—well, Windows PCs had a “Windows key,” so why not?

A few folks no doubt trying to “simplify” the issue for beginners started calling it the Apple key, which wasn't actually a heck of a lot of help, given that every technical book writer went right on calling it the Command key, and at no stage has any Apple documentation ever referred to it as anything but the Command key. As many of you will have noticed, I've spent a lot of ink writing “Command (?)” in these articles, in an endeavor to rub the point in and lessen the confusion. Still, some instructors have occasionally succumbed to the temptation to call it the Apple key simply because beginners could see an Apple logo there.

That's why I reckon the adoption of the word “command” together with the (?) symbol and without any further embellishment is arguably the best possible news for Mac beginners today.

~ Steve Cooper

AUSOM News, Melbourne, Australia

Don't Touch Your Mac During Software Updates

This tip's headline is a bit alarmist—so let us clarify. When you are running software updates, or installing new security patches, you shouldn't do anything with your Mac

while it's running through the last Optimizing System Performance phase of a software update. Launching applications while your Mac is performing this last phase of a software update can potentially damage system library files. In the worst case, there is a chance your Mac won't be able to start up again without significant troubleshooting.

So how should you run software updates?

We recommend you run security updates at the end of the day. Ideally after restarting and with no other software running at the time. While Apple's software update feature does not make it easy to tell when a particular update was released, we generally recommend waiting about a week after a major update is released before you install on your Mac. For our clients who schedule regular monthly maintenance visits, we generally run all software updates on each Mac once a month after a fresh reboot. ~ Creative Techs

LIMac Forum, Long Island, NY

Free Online Language Translations

Here's an interesting question I received recently: “I have a site that attracts visitors from all over the world, so I often receive emails in Spanish, French, and German. Is there a tool that will help me translate them to English? I also want to write back in their languages.”

Fortunately, there are some excellent (and free) online translation tools available. Remember the babel fish in “The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy”? It could instantly translate from one language to another. The web version of Babelfish can translate words, paragraphs or entire web pages to and from English, Chinese, French, German, Greek, Italian, Japanese, Russian, and Spanish. Page 4 • May/June 2008 www.mac-hints-tips.com

Babelfish can't translate text into Bostonese, Martian, Smurfish, Jive, Elmer Fudd, or Swedish Chef, but of course clever programmers have found a way. Read on to learn about Babelfish and eleven other online language translation tools here:

http://askbobrankin.com/free_online_translations.html

~ Bob Rankin

InternetTourbus.com via Mouse Tales, NorthCoast

MUG, Berea, OH

Email Attachments Made Easy

Do you use the Mail application in OS 10.3 or 10.4? Do you frequently send attachments? If so, this tip is dedicated to you. Actually, it's one the most popular tips we share in our Mac Basics classes. Even many advanced Mac users don't seem know about it.

If you want to attach a file to an email message, you can drag the file directly to Mail's icon in your Dock. This opens Mail and creates a brand-new email message window with that file already attached. Sweet! Better yet, even if you drag multiple attachments, they all attach to just one email

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Hints & Tips cont'd from page 4

message (rather than creating one message for each attachment, as in previous versions of Mac OS X).

Try it! It works great. And if you don't use Mail, this is another reason to consider using it. ~ Ed Shepard

Small Dog Electronics

Rosetta

If you have an Intel-based Mac, running Safari in Rosetta can also resolve some plug-in issues. First, quit the app if it's open, and then, in your Applications folder, select Safari and press Command/I. In the General area of the Safari Info dialog that appears (click the disclosure triangle if this area is not already expanded), select "Open Using Rosetta," and then close the Safari Info Dialog. Relaunch Safari.

Mac iLife Magazine via LIMac Forum, Long Island, NY

Don't Throw Out Your Broken iPod; Fix It via the Web

A few months ago, Stephen Ironside, a student at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville, confronted a minor but modern tragedy — the iPod that filled his life with song stopped working.

The device was out of warranty, and Apple would not fix it free. So he left it in a drawer until he happened to read a blog posting on Crunch Gear.com that described how he might fix it with a small, folded piece of paper. Mr. Ironside celebrated by posting thanks on the blog: "I've been on CDs for months. You saved my life (and my iPod)."

The author of the blog post, Matt Hickey of Seattle, says that using paper as a shim to put pressure on the hard drive has worked on about 70 percent of the failed iPods he has encountered, even though he is not sure why it works.

www.nytimes.com/2007/11/08/technology/personaltech/08basics.html

~ Peter Wayner

Mouse Tales, NorthCoast MUG, Berea, OH

Recent Conversions ▶

Area...
 Currency...
 Energy or Work... 
 Length...
 Power...
 Pressure...
 Speed...
 Temperature...
 Time...
 Volume...
 Weights and Masses...

Use Calculator to Convert

By Tom Nelson, About.com

Calculator, that often overlooked application included with OS X, can do much more than simple arithmetic. You can use Calculator to convert all manner of things, from the number of quarts of soil in a cubic foot, to what the U.S. dollar is worth against the Euro (you don't want to know).

Launch Calculator

1. Launch Calculator, located at /Applications.
2. Enter the number of units you want to convert, such as 1, for one US dollar.
3. Select the type of conversion you want to perform from the Convert menu. For this example, select 'Currency.'
4. In the From dropdown menu, select 'U.S. dollar.'
5. In the To dropdown menu, select 'Euro.'
6. Click the 'OK' button.


The answer will appear in Calculator's display.

In addition to currency, Calculator can also perform the following types of conversions:

- Area
- Energy or Work
- Length
- Power
- Pressure
- Speed
- Temperature
- Time
- Volume
- Weights and Masses

Note: The conversion menu does not activate until there is a number in the calculator window. See screenshot in to the left.

For more QuickTips go to:

<http://macs.about.com/cs/qt.htm> 

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