

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



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Apple Announces Incredible New iPod shuffle World's Smallest Music Player Now Talks to You

CUPERTINO, California—March 11, 2009—Apple® today introduced the all-new iPod® shuffle, the world's smallest music player at nearly half of the size of the previous model, and the first music player that talks to you. The revolutionary new VoiceOver feature enables iPod shuffle to speak your song titles, artists and playlist names. The third generation iPod shuffle is significantly smaller than a AA battery, holds up to 1,000 songs and is easier to use with all of the controls conveniently located on the earphone cord. With the press of a button, you can play, pause, adjust volume, switch playlists and hear the name of the song and artist. iPod shuffle features a gorgeous new aluminum design with a built-in stainless steel clip that makes it ultra-wearable.

“Imagine your music player talking to you, telling you your song titles, artists and playlist names,” said Greg Joswiak, Apple’s vice president of iPod and iPhone™ Product Marketing. iPod shuffle is based on Apple’s incredibly popular shuffle feature, which randomly selects songs from your music library. And now, when you can’t remember the name of a song or an artist playing, with the press of a button iPod shuffle tells you the name of the song and artist. iPod shuffle can even tell you status information, such as battery life. With the ability to hold up to 1,000 songs and the VoiceOver feature, you can now easily switch between multiple playlists on your iPod shuffle.

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iPhone Tip

Copy a Phone Number to a Contact

The iPhone currently doesn't have a way to copy and paste a phone number from one application to the next. However, if you want to add a phone number from an email message (or a web page in Safari) to an existing contact, tap the phone number to dial it; then tap End Call immediately. The call will show up in your Recents call list in the Phone application. From there, tap the right arrow to the right of the phone number and select Add to Existing Contact (or Create New Contact, if you want to create a new contact with that phone number). 🍏

World's Newspapers

View the front pages of newspapers around the world.

<http://www.newseum.org/today-sfrontpages/default.asp> 🍏



🍏 BAC April Meeting 🍏

The April meeting of the Birmingham Apple Core will begin at 10:00 am on April 11th and the topic will be “Cool Stuff with Numbers” presented by Kurt Fattig. Numbers is the spreadsheet component of Apple’s iWork suite.

Arrive early and enjoy coffee, doughnuts and enlightening discussions.

2009 BAC Board of Directors

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For Sale/Wanted

Do you have computer related items for sale or is there an item that you would like topurchase? We will list the item in this space free of charge to current BAC members.

Send information by the 25th of each month to the editor at: henryw@bellsouth.net.

Treasurer still needed for Board of Directors

BAC PROGRAMS NEEDED

The BAC is constantly in need of program ideas and speakers. A few of our planned topics for the coming year are:

- Presentations with Keynote
- iPhone development
- Cool stuff with Numbers
- Toast

If you have any ideas or contacts with potential presenters please let the board know. 🍏

Don't forget our new training CDs for Leopard MAC OS X 10.5.

Also we still have the OS X 10.4 "Tiger" training CDs available as well. Contact Luther Fuller for more information or go to our website. 🍏

iTunes HD Movies for Sale & Rent

iTunes® customers can purchase and rent box office favorites in stunning HD on the iTunes Store (www.itunes.com). Movie fans can purchase box office blockbusters for download in HD for \$19.99 from iTunes, and films will be available as iTunes Movie Rentals in HD for \$4.99 within 30 days after release. Customers can enjoy these films in HD on their Mac® or PC and on their widescreen TV with Apple TV®, as well as in standard definition on their iPhone™ or iPod® with video.

Pricing & Availability

iTunes 8.1 for Mac and Windows includes the iTunes Store and is available as a free download. Video availability varies by country. iTunes Movie Rentals are \$2.99 (US) for library titles and \$3.99 (US) for new releases, and high definition versions are priced just one dollar more with library titles at \$3.99 (US) and new releases at \$4.99 (US). 🍏

Apple Previews iPhone OS 3.0

Apple® previewed its iPhone™ OS 3.0 software and announced the immediate availability of a beta software release to registered developers. The iPhone OS 3.0 beta release includes an updated Software Development Kit (SDK) with over 1,000 new Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) including In-App Purchases; Peer-to-Peer connections; an app interface for accessories; access to the iPod® music library; a new Maps API and Push Notifications. Apple also announced over 100 new features that will be available to iPhone and iPod touch users this summer including cut, copy and paste; MMS;* landscape view for Mail, Text and Notes; stereo Bluetooth; syncing Notes to the Mac® and PC; shake to shuffle; parental controls for TV shows, movies and apps from the App Store; and automatic login at Wi-Fi hot spots.

The iPhone OS 3.0 beta release will also include a new Voice Memo app and expanded search capability for all key iPhone apps, as well as Spotlight™ search across the iPhone or iPod touch. 🍏



iPod Shuffle cont'd from page 1



iPod shuffle can speak 14 languages including English, Czech, Dutch, French, German, Greek, Italian, Japanese, Mandarin Chinese, Polish, Portuguese, Spanish, Swedish and Turkish.

The new iPod shuffle comes in silver or black and features a sleek and ultra-wearable design with a built-in stainless steel clip. iPod shuffle is the smallest music player in the world and is incredibly easy to clip to almost anything and take with you everywhere you go. iPod shuffle features up to 10 hours of battery life.*

Pricing & Availability

The third generation 4GB iPod shuffle is now shipping and comes in silver or black for a suggested price of \$79 (US) through the Apple Store® (www.apple.com), iPod shuffle comes with the Apple Earphones with Remote and the iPod shuffle USB cable. iPod shuffle requires a Mac® with a USB 2.0 port, Mac OS® X v10.4.11 or later and iTunes® 8.1 or later; or a Windows PC with a USB 2.0 port and Windows Vista, Windows XP Home or Professional (Service Pack 3) or later and iTunes 8.1.

The previous generation iPod Shuffle with 1GB of memory are still available for \$49.00.

Proper Email Etiquette

Following are good instructions: Are you sure you already follow proper procedures? These are important things to do when emailing. Do you really know how to forward emails? 10% do; 90% do not.

Do you wonder why you get viruses or junk mail? Do you hate it? I know I do.

Every time you forward an email there is information left over from the people who got the message before you, namely their email addresses and names.

As the messages get forwarded along, the list of addresses

builds, and builds, and builds. All it takes is for one person on that list to get a virus or a Trojan Horse, and, without even knowing it, their computer can send it to every email address that has come across their computer.

How do you do your part to help stop it? Well, there are several easy steps to make routine:

1. When you forward an email, delete all of the other addresses that appear in the body of the message (at the top). It only takes a second. You must click the "Forward" button first or you won't be able to edit the message at all.

2. Whenever you send an email to more than one person, do NOT use the "To:" or "Cc:" fields for adding email addresses. Always use the "BCC:" (blind carbon copy) field for listing the email addresses. This is the way the people you send to will only see their own email address. If you don't see your "BCC:" option, click on where it says "To:" and your address list will appear. Highlight the address and choose "BCC:" and that's it — it's that easy. When you send to "BCC:" your message will automatically say "Undisclosed Recipients in the 'To:' field" of the people who receive it.

3. Remove any "FW:" in the subject line. You can re-name the subject if you wish or even fix spellings.

4. Always hit your "Forward" button from the actual email you are reading. Ever get those emails that you have to open 10 pages to read the one page with the information on it? By forwarding from the actual page you wish someone to view, you stop them from having to open many emails just to see what you sent. I wish everyone would do this. I hate opening all those forwards and finding junk.

5. Have you ever gotten an email that is a petition? It states a position and asks you to add your name and email address and to forward it to 10 or 15 people or your entire address book. The email can be forwarded on and on and can collect thousands of names and email addresses.

A fact: the completed petition is actually worth money to a professional spammer because of the wealth of valid names and email addresses contained therein. If you want to support the petition, send it as your own personal letter to the intended recipient, legislator, or organization. Your position is likely to carry more weight as a personal letter than a laundry list of names and email address on a petition. Actually, if you think about it, who's supposed to send the completed petition to whatever cause it supports? If you don't know, it's probably going to a spammer.

And don't believe the ones that say that the email is being traced — it just isn't so! I simply won't sign those petitions! I recommend that you don't sign them either. Even if you keep getting them, just ignore them and delete them.

6. Have you received emails that end with something like, "Send this email to 10 people and you'll see something great run across your screen." Or sometimes they'll just tease you by saying "something really cute will happen." It's not going to happen!!!! This is a trick to get you to supply a list of

Proper Email Etiquette *cont'd from page 3*

email addresses to spammers.

It's the same thing for the ones that ask you to "keep this prayer going" or "show your support for our troops" ... if you really want to send a prayer or support something, send a personal email directly to the people or organization that you support.

It is all about getting more spam, DON'T DO IT.

7. Before you forward an "Amber Alert" or a "Virus Alert," or some of the other warnings, stories, or news items floating around nowadays, check them out. Most of them are junk mail that's been circling the net for years! Just about everything you receive in an email that is questionable can be checked out at one of the fact checking websites for accuracy.

Just go to www.snopes.com or www.truthorfiction.com

It's really easy to find out if it's real or not. If it's not, please don't pass it on.

Taking these few easy steps and making them daily email etiquette practice will help keep you and your friends off spam lists. One person won't stop spammers, but if we all do this, it takes away their easiest source of email addresses.

Finally, here's an idea!!! Let's send this to everyone we know. 🍏

Virginia Chilcote, MouseBytes, St. Petersburg, FL

**Find Out How**

While a good book is arguably the best medium for learning new things about your Mac, it can be good to have easily accessible, bite-sized pieces of information that provide an illustrated introduction to various topics.

Apple has recently consolidated its copious and varied tutorial materials, both text and video, in a website at <www.apple.com/findouthow>.

In browsing the introductory "Basics" page with its many links below the main graphic, don't overlook the fact that there are links to other main sections of the site (Photos, Movies, Web, Music etc.) above that graphic.

Each page on the site has considerable depth, so don't forget to scroll down as you browse.

It would certainly take quite a while to chew through all that's there. Just be mindful of your download allowance if you enjoy the videos!

AUSOM News, Melbourne, Australia

Memorex CD-R media

There have been multiple reports of people buying Memorex CD-R media and getting "Not Verified" messages after trying to burn various types of media to them.

Professional Portfolios

When you need a truly professional, bound, hardcover book of your best work, try Paper Chase. They focus on professional photographers and designers, producing the highest quality books in fabric, vinyl, and leatherette, with optional foil stamping, debossing and dust jackets.

One letter-sized 24-page book costs \$66, with additional copies priced at \$45. They offer sizes from 4"x 4" to 12"x 18", with matte or glossy pages. They also offer softcover books, at \$13 each with a minimum of 25 books.

www.paperchase.net

via Design Tools Monthly

Transfer of Programs

When copying various programs from iMac to MacBook, I found several where the registration code did not work. Very likely, I had it written down incorrectly, but what to do about it? The information that one has paid and registered is often hidden in Library > Preferences, in a preference file for the program, or in some file with a name like "com.programname.plist." If so, then copying that file over to the new computer transfers the registration information. (But I still don't know what was the lost registration code!)

AUSOM News, Melbourne, Australia

Save the Dead Hard Drives

I recently had a customer bring in his lime iMac G3 stating that his computer had just died. We booted his machine and all we got was a gray screen, proving that there was a hardware failure. Sensing that it was related to the hard drive, because of the burned component odor, I unplugged the IDE and power cable to his hard drive, and voila! The computer booted fine from a CD. The problem was that the customer was a school teacher and he wanted all of the info on his hard drive.

Well, that caused us a different problem. There are basically two types of hard drive failures, the ones that fail mechanically with the internal components giving way, and the ones that have the external controller board that burns up. The first failure can be corrected by spending a lot of money at companies like DriveSavers (whom I use) where they actually rebuild your hard drive in those special places where they get to wear those funny suits like you see on the old Intel commercials. The second method is a lot cheaper and typically has me rummaging through our recycling basket looking for old parts that I, like any typical native Vermonter, just hate to see things go to waste.

Hints & Tips *cont'd from page 4*

I was able to take the customer's hard drive out of his iMac and remove the burned out IDE controller board from it. Then, on my way down to the warehouse to my secret stash of good garbage, I pulled a good controller board from another hard drive and was able to get the information back, and his iMac is working again. I saved his important info and was able to recycle all at the same time! ~ Troy Kingsbury

Small Dog Electronics

Apple Downloads

Apple has a downloads section which has many types of free or shareware downloads available.

One screensaver found is Holding Pattern - Coach Class it turns your idle computer into an airplane window with realistic views.

http://www.apple.com/downloads/macosx/icons_screensavers/holdingpatternscreensavercoachclass.html

Art Hendrickson Small Dog Electronics

Privacy Tip — Instantly Darken Your Monitor

From Matt: If you're working on a confidential document and someone walks into the room who shouldn't see your screen, you can instantly turn the screen down to minimum brightness (totally dark) by pressing Control/Shift/Eject. To turn the brightness back to where it was, press any key.

This is a small time saver for those of us conserving battery power. Whenever you're on the phone or otherwise idle at the computer, consider turning the screen off with this tip. Dimming your screen is the easiest and most effective way to increase battery life!

AppleCare: You Can't Afford to be Without It

AppleCare is an extended warranty and more. Is it a good deal? Should you buy AppleCare with your new or refurbished Macintosh computer or Apple iPod?

We are asked these questions all the time. Let me state from the start that I generally have a negative impression of extended warranty plans and get annoyed when I am buying something at a retailer and am pressured to buy some extended service plan. I think that in most cases, they are just a waste of money.

I want to make the case, though, that AppleCare is very different and is an excellent value that you should consider for your Mac. In fact, one noted consumer publication called AppleCare the only extended warranty worth considering.

There are two basic benefits of AppleCare.

Hardware Warranty

The hardware portion of the AppleCare Protection Plan extends the one-year warranty on your new or factory-refurbished Mac from one year to three years. It adds two additional years of coverage. (iPod AppleCare adds one year.)

This ensures that you will have access to genuine Apple repair parts and qualified Apple service technicians, should your Mac require service. You will be able to take your Mac to any Apple-authorized service center or send your Mac to Apple directly for depot service. Both parts and labor are covered for the three years.

Unlike many manufacturers of consumer electronics products, Apple maintains a comprehensive network of service organizations in virtually every corner of the USA. Just about all Apple resellers are also service authorized and can repair or facilitate repair of your computer.

Technical Support

New and factory-refurbished Apple products come standard with 90 days of free technical support via telephone (Apple recently changed iPod tech support to a single incident in the first 90 days). AppleCare Protection Plans extend that to three years as well (two years in the case of the iPod). This is the real hidden value of the AppleCare Protection Plan.

You get direct telephone access to Apple's own technical support group. AppleCare representatives can help troubleshoot Apple hardware, the Mac OS, including Mac OS X, and many Apple-branded consumer applications, including iPhoto, iMovie, iTunes, iDVD, Garage Band, QuickTime, and iWork. Technical support is available seven days a week from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM central time. The plan is comprehensive and includes the whole system: mouse, keyboard, AirPort Card and Base Station, and up to two Apple displays with your Mac Pro.

To qualify for AppleCare, you have to still be within the one-year Apple warranty period on your new or factory-refurbished Mac. Veronica here at Small Dog Electronics sends an AppleCare reminder letter to each of our customers just before their warranties expire.

The Apple display is covered only if it is purchased at the same time and same location as the Mac that you are using, there is also a separate AppleCare Protection Plan now for Apple displays.

The AppleCare Protection plan is valid in both the USA and Canada.

With the cost of the most common repairs on any Mac far in excess of the cost of AppleCare Protection, it takes only one failure of a component to justify the protection and peace of mind that AppleCare Protection provides. Small Dog Electronics takes this protection one step further, too.

If you buy any Mac from Small Dog Electronics and buy AppleCare with it, we will provide a free loaner Mac if your computer ever needs to come into Small Dog Electronics for service. This means you will never be without a Mac during the course of your AppleCare agreement!

Also, we often bundle AppleCare with every Mac along with RAM upgrades, printers, and more. These bundles are priced very competitively; this is the least expensive way to buy AppleCare.

Don Mayer Small Dog Electronics



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PERRY COMPUTER SPECIALS OF THE MONTH

MACBOOK 13IN 2.4GHZ C2D/2G/160GB/SD/WHITE Normal price \$1299.00 now \$1050.00

Leica Camera C-Lux 3 \$100.00 Rebate ends February 31, 2009

Leica Camera D-Lux 4 \$150.00 Rebate ends February 31, 2009

Leica Camera M8 \$1500.00 Rebate ends February 31, 2009

Leica Lens For M8 Some have a \$300.00 rebate ends February 31, 2009

Some iPods are on sale.

Also, Meade telescopes are in stock.



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*Attend the BAC
Monthly Meeting*

Be sure to check your mailing label for your BAC renewal month.
To renew, mail \$30 to BAC, 3417 Wisteria Drive, Birmingham, AL