



# MAC FACTS

from

## Mac Help Desk

SUPPORT, SALES, TRAINING & SERVICE

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**a Macintosh Solutions Provider company**

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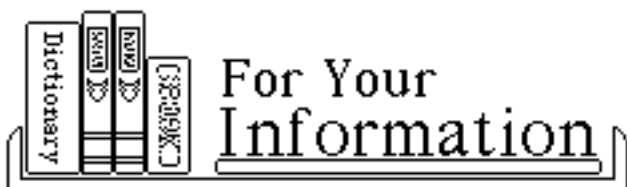
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### *A Message from Dru*

Wow whee kazowee! It time for Mac World. The new products announced in San Francisco are nothing short of fantastic. See Newsline for more info.



I'm gonna be on the News! – Channel 5 (NBC) did a feature story about the LoadPod business I'm involved with. What?!? You're not familiar with LoadPod?!? Shame on you. LoadPod loads all of your CDs into your iPod so you don't have to. Go to the web site at <http://www.loadpod.com> for more info. Don't know when it'll be broadcast, but when I *do* know, y'all be the 1<sup>st</sup> to know.



## **Simple steps to avoid being phished**

Phishing is an increasingly common type of spam that can lead to theft of your personal details such as credit card numbers or online banking passwords.

Phishing attacks work by the scam artist sending "spoofed" emails that appear to come from a legitimate website that you have online dealings with such as a bank, credit card company or ISP - any site which requires users to have a personal identity or account. The email may ask you to reply with your account details in order to "update security" or for some other reason.

The phishing email may also direct you to a spoofed website or pop-up window which looks exactly like the real site, but has been set up for the sole purpose of stealing personal information. Unsuspecting people are then often fooled into handing over credit card numbers, passwords or other details.

According to the Anti-Phishing Working Group ([www.antiphishing.org](http://www.antiphishing.org)) , phishers are able to convince up to five per cent of recipients to respond.

### How to protect yourself:

- **Never respond to emails that request personal financial information**

Banks or e-commerce companies generally personalize emails, while phishers do not. Phishers often include false but sensational messages (“URGENT - YOUR ACCOUNT DETAILS MAY HAVE BEEN STOLEN”) in order to get an immediate reaction. Reputable companies don't ask their customers for passwords or account details in an email. Even if you think the email may be legitimate, don't respond - contact the company by phone or by visiting their website. Be cautious about opening attachments and downloading files from emails, no matter who they are from. Sophos uses [SPF \(Sender Policy Framework\)](#). This is an anti-forgery solution which involves publishing a list detailing which servers are allowed to send Sophos emails.

- **Visit banks' websites by typing the URL into the address bar**

Phishers often use links within emails to direct their victims to a spoofed site, usually to a similar address such as mybankonline.com instead of mybank.com. When clicked on, the URL shown in the address bar may look genuine, but there are several ways it can be faked, taking you to the spoofed site. If you suspect an email from your bank or online company is false, do not follow any links embedded within it.

- **Keep a regular check on your accounts**

Regularly log into your online accounts, and check your statements. If you see any suspicious transactions report them to your bank or credit card provider.

- **Check the website you are visiting is secure**

Before submitting your bank details or other sensitive information there are a couple of checks you can do to help ensure the site uses encryption to protect your personal data: Check the web address in the address bar. If the website you are visiting is on a secure server it should start with "https://" ("s" for security) rather than the usual "http://". Also look for a lock icon on the browser's status bar. You can check the level of encryption, expressed in bits, by hovering over the icon with your cursor. Note that the fact that the website is using encryption doesn't necessarily mean that the website is legitimate. It only tells you that data is being sent in encrypted form.

- **Be cautious with emails and personal data**

Most banks have a security page on their website with information on carrying out safe transactions, as well as the usual advice relating to personal data: never let anyone know your PINS or passwords, do not write them down, and do not use the same password for all your online accounts. Avoid opening or replying to spam emails as this will give the sender confirmation they have reached a live address. Use common sense when reading emails. If something seems implausible or too good to be true, then it probably is.

- **Keep your computer secure**

Some phishing emails or other spam may contain software that can record information on your internet activities (spyware) or open a 'backdoor' to allow hackers access to your computer (Trojans). Installing anti-virus software and keeping it up to date will help detect and disable malicious software, while using anti-spam software will stop phishing emails from reaching you. It is also important, particularly for users with a broadband connection, to install a firewall. This will help keep the information on your computer secure while blocking communication from unwanted sources. Make sure you keep up to date and download the latest security patches for your browser. If you don't have any patches installed, visit your browser's website, for example users of Internet Explorer should go to the Microsoft website.

- **Always report suspicious activity**

If you receive an email you suspect isn't genuine, forward it to the spoofed organization (many companies have a dedicated email address for reporting such abuse).



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## NEWSLINE

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### **Apple Introduces Mac mini**

**Most Affordable Mac Ever Starts at  
Just \$499**



Apple introduced Mac mini, the most affordable and compact Mac ever. Starting at just \$499, Mac mini is the ideal desktop computer for anyone looking to get started with Mac OS® X and features iLife® '05, the latest version of Apple's innovative suite of software for managing digital photo and music collections, editing movies and creating music. Just two-inches tall and weighing only 2.9 pounds, Mac mini redefines design for the sub-\$1,000 desktop.

“Starting at just \$499, Mac mini is the most affordable way to enjoy Mac OS X and iLife,” said Steve Jobs, Apple's CEO. “Just plug in your display, keyboard and mouse and you've got an incredibly compact Mac for a price that almost anyone can afford.”

Every Mac mini includes iLife '05, which was introduced today, and is the must-have upgrade to Apple's award-winning suite of digital lifestyle applications with major new versions of iPhoto™, iMovie®, iDVD® and GarageBand™. iLife '05 also features the latest version of iTunes®, the world's best digital music jukebox software which includes the iTunes Music Store, the world's number one online music store.

Mac mini offers the processing and graphics performance to take advantage of demanding consumer applications with either a 1.25 GHz or 1.42 GHz PowerPC G4 processor and ATI Radeon 9200 graphics with 32MB of dedicated DDR memory. Both models come with a slot-load Combo drive for watching DVD movies and burning CDs, and up to an 80GB hard drive for storing digital media creations.

Mac mini includes one FireWire® 400 and two USB 2.0 ports for easy plug-and-play connections to popular peripherals such as Apple's market-leading iPod® digital music player, digital still cameras, digital video camcorders and printers. Mac mini offers a DVI interface that also supports VGA so customers can easily connect to a variety of LCD or CRT displays. The new Mac mini includes built-in 10/100BASE-T Ethernet and a 56K V.92 modem for easy Internet access, and offers optional support for an AirPort® Extreme Card for 54 Mbps 802.11g fast wireless networking\* along with an internal Bluetooth module for the latest in wireless communications.

Mac OS X version 10.3 “Panther” is pre-installed on every Mac mini and delivers breakthrough features including iChat AV desktop video conferencing, Mail, Safari web browser, Sherlock®, Address Book, QuickTime®, iSync, iCal®, DVD Player and the Classic environment. Mac mini

also comes with a collection of outstanding productivity and entertainment titles designed to meet the needs of the entire family, including Quicken 2005 for Mac, Nanosaur 2 and MarbleBlast Gold.

### **Pricing & Availability**

Mac mini will be available in the US on Saturday, January 22 and worldwide on Saturday, January 29 through the Apple Store® ([www.apple.com](http://www.apple.com)), Apple's retail stores and Apple Authorized Resellers in two standard configurations.

The 1.25 GHz Mac mini, for a suggested retail price of \$499 (US), includes:

- 1.25 GHz PowerPC G4 processor;
- 256MB of 333 MHz DDR SDRAM, expandable to 1GB;
- 40GB Ultra ATA hard drive;
- Combo (DVD-ROM/CD-RW) optical drive;
- ATI Radeon 9200 graphics processor with 32MB video memory;
- One FireWire 400 and two USB 2.0 ports;
- 10/100 BASE-T Ethernet networking and 56K V.92 modem;
- Internal support for AirPort Extreme wireless networking and Bluetooth;
- DVI or VGA out (adapter included), composite/S-video out with optional adapter; and
- Built-in speaker and headphone/line out.

The 1.42 GHz Mac mini, for a suggested retail price of \$599 (US), includes:

- 1.42 GHz PowerPC G4 processor;
- 256MB of 333 MHz DDR SDRAM, expandable to 1GB;
- 80GB Ultra ATA hard drive;
- Combo (DVD-ROM/CD-RW) optical drive;
- ATI Radeon 9200 graphics processor with 32MB video memory;
- One FireWire 400 and two USB 2.0 ports;
- 10/100 BASE-T Ethernet networking and 56K V.92 modem;
- Internal support for AirPort Extreme wireless networking and Bluetooth;
- DVI or VGA out (adapter included), composite/S-video out with optional adapter; and
- Built-in speaker and headphone/line out.

Build-to-order options and accessories include up to 1GB of RAM, SuperDrive™ (DVD±RW/CD-RW), AirPort Extreme Card, internal Bluetooth module, wired or wireless Apple Keyboard and Apple Mouse and the AppleCare Protection Plan.

Mac mini is also available to education customers in the US and Canada through the Apple Store for Education at [www.apple.com/education/store](http://www.apple.com/education/store) or by calling an Apple education sales representative at 800-800-APPL.

\*Actual speed will vary based on range from the base station, environmental conditions and other factors.

## Apple Announces iLife '05

### Major Upgrade Features New Versions of iPhoto, iMovie, iDVD & GarageBand

Apple® announced iLife® '05, the must-have upgrade to Apple's award-winning suite of digital lifestyle applications, featuring major new versions of iPhoto™, iMovie®, iDVD® and GarageBand™ and including the latest version of iTunes®. iLife '05 continues to lead the industry with the most innovative and comprehensive suite of software for organizing, editing and sharing digital photos; creating stunning digital movies and DVDs; and purchasing, managing and creating

digital music.

“iLife ‘05 is far beyond anything available on a PC, and is a must-have upgrade for every Mac user,” said Steve Jobs, Apple’s CEO. “If you have a digital camera, digital camcorder or create music, iLife ‘05 is built for you.”

iPhoto 5 adds advanced editing tools so you can perfect your photos without ever leaving iPhoto, including controls to set exposure, black and white points, saturation, tint, temperature and sharpness, while also showing users a histogram and providing the most intuitive way ever to straighten photos. iPhoto 5 adds support for uncompressed RAW photos throughout the entire application so that high-end users can exploit all the image data their cameras can capture. iPhoto 5 includes a new advanced slideshow builder which allows users to easily apply effects, transitions and durations to each individual slide. iPhoto 5 features an entirely new way to create affordable hardcover and softcover photo books, now starting as low as \$3.99. iPhoto 5 lets users choose from stunning new book layouts, all featuring double-sided printing, and easily place and rearrange their photos until perfect, then order their book online right from within iPhoto 5. With iPhoto 5, Apple is also cutting the price of individual 4x6 prints in half, from 39 cents to just 19 cents each.

With iMovie, Apple revolutionized movie-making by allowing anyone to import and edit digital video on their Mac®. Now iMovie HD leads the revolution again by allowing users to capture and edit stunning High Definition Video (HDV) from the new generation of HDV camcorders. iMovie HD also includes Magic iMovie, the easiest way ever to make a movie. With just a few clicks, Magic iMovie automatically imports your video into separate clips, adds titles, transitions and music, all in one step. iMovie HD imports video from HDV and standard DV camcorders, and from video cameras that generate MPEG-4 video.

iDVD 5 includes 15 amazing new themes featuring moving drop zones that can display video clips or photos in motion across DVD menus, just like the latest Hollywood DVDs. iDVD 5 also features OneStep DVD, which lets users create DVDs by simply plugging in a DV camcorder and clicking a button. iDVD 5 now supports all single-sided DVD formats including -R, +R, -RW and +RW with a compatible Apple SuperDrive™.

GarageBand put a complete recording studio on a Mac. GarageBand 2 adds 8-track recording, so users can record an entire band at once, plus pitch and timing correction to quickly fix those tracks that don’t sound perfect. GarageBand 2 now displays and edits musical notation in real time for people who know how to read and write music or want to learn. With Apple’s growing family of GarageBand Jam Packs, including the latest, Jam Pack 4: Symphony Orchestra, GarageBand users can create professional sounding music in their favorite genre.

iLife ‘05 also includes iTunes 4.7.1, the latest version of the world’s best digital music jukebox software with the iTunes Music Store inside. iTunes provides seamless integration with Apple's complete family of popular iPods, including the new iPod shuffle. With Apple’s legendary ease of use, pioneering features such as iMix playlist sharing, seamless integration with iPod and groundbreaking personal use rights, the iTunes Music Store is the best way for Mac and PC users to legally discover, purchase and download music online.

### **Pricing & Availability**

iLife ‘05 will be available in the US on Saturday, January 22 and worldwide on Saturday, January 29 for a suggested retail price of \$79 (US) through the Apple Store® ([www.apple.com](http://www.apple.com)), Apple’s retail stores and Apple Authorized Resellers. The iLife ‘05 suite of applications will be included with all new Macs, and an iLife Up-To-Date upgrade package is available to all customers who purchase a new Mac on or after January 11 that does not include iLife ‘05 for a shipping and handling fee of \$19.95 (US). Jam Pack 4: Symphony Orchestra is sold separately and will be available in the US on Saturday, January 22 and worldwide on Saturday, January 29 for a

suggested retail price of \$99 (US) through the Apple Store ([www.apple.com](http://www.apple.com)), Apple's retail stores and Apple Authorized Resellers. iTunes version 4.7.1 is currently available as a free download at [www.apple.com](http://www.apple.com).

iLife requires Mac OS® X v10.3.4 or later, QuickTime® 6.5.2 or later, a Macintosh® computer with PowerPC G3 (400 MHz or faster), G4, or G5 processor, 256MB or more physical RAM (512MB recommended) and a 1024x768 or larger display. A 600 MHz G3 processor or faster is required for GarageBand. A G4 or G5 processor is required for GarageBand software instruments and advanced iPhoto editing. An Apple SuperDrive or 733 MHz G4 processor is required for iDVD and a compatible SuperDrive is required to burn DVDs. High definition video requires Mac OS X v10.3.6, a 1 GHz G4 processor or faster, and 512 MB of RAM. RAW requires Mac OS X v10.3.6 and a supported RAW compatible camera. iPhoto books and prints are available in the US, Canada, Japan, and select European countries.



## Apple Introduces iPod shuffle

First iPod Under \$100



Apple® introduced iPod® shuffle, a breakthrough digital music player based on iPod's legendary shuffle feature which lets users experience their music in a million different ways. Smaller and lighter than a pack of gum, iPod shuffle comes with its own lanyard so it's ready to wear right out of the box. iPod shuffle works seamlessly with iTunes' innovative AutoFill feature which automatically selects songs from a user's music library to fill up iPod shuffle with just one click. iPod shuffle is the most affordable iPod ever and is available in two models: 512MB holding up to 120 songs for just \$99 and 1GB holding up to 240 songs for just \$149.

"iPod shuffle is smaller and lighter than a pack of gum and costs less than \$100," said Steve Jobs, Apple's CEO. "With most flash-memory music players users must use tiny displays and complicated controls to find their music; with iPod shuffle you just relax and it serves up new combinations of your music every time you listen."

iPod shuffle is based on iPod's pioneering and widely-used shuffle feature, which randomly selects songs from the user's music library or playlists. In addition, iPod shuffle works seamlessly with iTunes® and its innovative new patent-pending AutoFill feature, which automatically selects the perfect number of songs to fill iPod shuffle from a user's complete music library on their computer. And at any time, with a flip of a switch on the back of iPod shuffle, users can choose to listen to their music in order rather than shuffled, perfect for listening to a favorite new album.

Users can conveniently charge and transfer music from their Mac® or PC by plugging iPod shuffle directly into a USB port. iPod shuffle doubles as a portable USB flash drive with up to 1GB of storage space to back up personal files and exchange them between computers.

iPod shuffle is the newest member of Apple's wildly popular iPod family for both Mac and PC

which includes the fourth generation iPod, the iPod mini, the iPod U2 Special Edition and iPod photo. More than 10 million iPods have been sold since it was introduced, and it is the number one selling digital music player in the world.

The popularity of iPod has also created a booming accessory market, and iPod shuffle is being introduced with several optional accessories. In addition to the included lanyard, there is an optional armband that makes iPod shuffle perfect for many athletic activities. An optional sport case keeps iPod shuffle safely protected from outdoor elements with its clear case and neck strap. An optional dock serves as an elegant and convenient home base for syncing and charging iPod shuffle, and an optional USB power adapter easily charges iPod shuffle when it's away from the computer by simply plugging it into any electrical outlet. Users can extend the iPod shuffle battery life (up to 12 hours) with an optional battery pack that holds two AAA batteries and keeps the music playing for up to 20 additional hours.

### **Pricing & Availability**

The 512MB and 1GB models of iPod shuffle for Mac or Windows are now shipping for a suggested retail price of \$99 (US) and \$149 (US) respectively, and include earbud headphones, lanyard and a CD with iTunes 4.7.1 for Mac and Windows computers. iPod shuffle is available through the Apple Store® ([www.apple.com](http://www.apple.com)), Apple's retail stores and Apple Authorized Resellers. The iPod shuffle arm band, sport case, battery pack, dock and USB power adaptor optional accessories will become available over the next few weeks for a suggested retail price of \$29 (US) each.

iPod shuffle requires a Mac with a USB port and Mac OS® X version 10.2.8 or Mac OS X version 10.3.4 or later; or a Windows PC with a USB port, or a USB card and Windows 2000 Service Pack 2 or later, or Windows XP Home or Professional Service Pack 4 or later.



## **Apple & Leading Car Companies Team Up to Deliver iPod Integration in 2005**

### **Mercedes-Benz, Volvo, Nissan, Alfa Romeo & Ferrari Announce Integrated iPod Car Stereo Solutions**

Apple® announced it has teamed up with Mercedes-Benz USA, Volvo, Nissan, Alfa Romeo and Ferrari to deliver iPod® integration with their car stereo systems in 2005. The iPod Integration Kit for Mercedes-Benz will debut this April in the US with the newly redesigned 2006 Mercedes-Benz M-Class, and Volvo will offer two iPod connectivity options for their entire 2005 US model line. Nissan, Alfa Romeo and Ferrari will announce details of their iPod integration solutions later this year, allowing customers to enjoy high-quality sound through their car's stereo system, easily access their entire music library and control their iPod using their car's standard controls. These companies join BMW and MINI Cooper who began providing integrated iPod solutions in 2004.

“Almost every car company in the world is working to integrate iPod into their cars in 2005,” said Philip Schiller, Apple's senior vice president of Worldwide Product Marketing. “iPod customers want to take their entire music collection with them everywhere they go, including their car, so we're excited to be able to work with so many leading automotive companies to provide customers with integrated solutions.”

iPod is the world's most popular family of digital music players and the best way for Mac® or PC users to listen to music at home, on-the-go and in the car. Apple is working with leaders in the automotive industry to provide the best experience through car stereo systems, as the automobile is a perfect place for iPod users to listen to their music.

The iPod Integration Kit for Mercedes-Benz will debut this April in the US with the newly redesigned 2006 Mercedes-Benz M-Class, and for most other 2005 and 2006 models later this year. Mercedes-Benz is the first automaker to provide full iPod music navigation for drivers to listen to their entire iPod music collection through the Mercedes-Benz audio system, as well as select their music using artist, album or playlist with the multifunction controls on the steering wheel and the integrated multifunction display on their instrument cluster.

Volvo's two iPod connectivity options for their entire 2005 US model line allow iPod users to listen to their entire music collection through their Volvo audio system. The Volvo iPod Adapter will be available for S60, S80 and V70/XC70 models and will connect by simply plugging the iPod into a cable located in the car's glove compartment, while S40, V50 and XC90 owners can use a dashboard mounted FM transmitter. The Volvo iPod Adapter allows users to control their music through their Volvo sound system and steering wheel controls, and both options charge the iPod when plugged in.

Additional details on model availability, features and pricing will be provided by Nissan, Alfa Romeo and Ferrari at time of availability.



Thanks for taking the time to read this month's newsletter. Hope you enjoyed it. If you have any comments or suggestions for stories (or would even like to write a story - hint, hint, hint), please send them to me at [machelpdesk@comcast.net](mailto:machelpdesk@comcast.net) Feel free to share this newsletter with a friend. The newsletter archives are located at <http://www.machelpdesk.com/page6a.html>. Y'all come back now, y'hear.