

MACFACTS

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(972) 783-9787 • (214) 336-7162 - Cellular

e-mail address - support@machelpdesk.com

Web site - <http://www.machelpdesk.com>

a Macintosh Solutions Provider company

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'One More Thing...'

A MESSAGE FROM DRU

Wishing you and yours a happy and safe Thanksgiving.

As we sit before a meal on Thanksgiving, whether large or small, please take a moment, however brief, to say a prayer of thanks. Despite everything that may be happening in our lives, whatever threats or terrors; loss of work or loved ones; success in business or relationships; ups; downs; goods; bads; for better or worse we live in the greatest nation this world has ever seen. We live in a nation that was founded on the concepts of 'life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.' We live in a nation that recognizes that each person be allow to worship in the faith and the manner of their choosing. We live in a nation that is often divided, but unites to help it's own and others of the world. We live in a nation where might doesn't make right and that all citizens have an opportunity to become whatever their destiny chooses. We live in a nation that may not be perfect, a nation that has a dynamic constitution (and a

dynamic Constitution), and a nation that is a beacon of hope to every people locked in countries whose idea of human rights is allowing you to live for another day to serve the State. So take a moment with family and friends and count your blessings. We have much to be thankful for. I urge you to take a moment during this Thanksgiving season to remember the reasons that our forefathers came to this country, why you came to this place, and to try to share a bit, however small, of our health, wealth, good fortune, with those who are less fortunate.

.....

I also wanted to take a moment of your time to once again say, "Thank You" to all y'all! As we enter this winter season of holidays, I can say that all that Mac Help Desk was, is, and will become is due to your unrelenting support. As we end our 19th year of service (it's not a job, it's a calling), I shall continue to provide the best Mac Support, Sales, Training, and Service that I can.



PAGE 2 - FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Files suddenly gone? No backup? Here's what to do...

by Topher Kessler

If you find yourself in a situation where you have lost very important files that you do not have backed up, they should still be present on the drive itself and may only be removed from the drive's index. This is useful because it means the files are still present and can be recovered; however, before you can start the recovery process there are some data safety considerations to keep in mind.

Since the space for the files has been designated "free for use" to the system in the drive's index, the first and foremost thing to do is reduce the drive's use to a bare minimum until you are set up to perform the file recovery. Booting or running applications from the drive will create temporary files such as caches and write virtual memory, which may overwrite any files that are in space that has been designated "free for use" in the drive's index. As such, the safest method for data recovery is to access it from another computer as a secondary drive, and not use it as a boot drive.

To do this, you will first need the following items:

- 1 A second Mac
- 2 Cloning software capable of block-level cloning
 - a. Carbon Copy Cloner
- 3 A spare external HD that is at least the same size as the original
- 4 File-recovery software
 - a. DiskWarrior
 - b. Stellar Phoenix Mac Data Recovery
 - c. Data Rescue

- 5 A Firewire cable (and possibly a FireWire 400-to-800 adaptor)

The procedure:

1. Set up the second Mac to recover files
Once again, do not use your Mac with lost files since doing so may overwrite the lost files. Instead, get access to another Mac that has firewire connections and install the cloning and recovery software on it.
2. Connect the first Mac to it as an external hard drive.
Start up the Mac with lost files and hold the "T" key down at startup to get to Target Disk mode. This will allow the internal drive to be mounted as an external drive when connected to another computer with a firewire cable.
3. Perform a block-level clone of the drive from another computer
With the cloning software, perform a block-level clone of the drive (not a file-level clone). This is important because it will ensure all data (visible and hidden) is copied to the new drive. Once the drive has been cloned, unmount it by dragging it to the trash. If you need to re-clone, you can use Disk Utility to mount the drive again.
4. Run a file recovery program on the clone
Using your file recovery program, run a recovery routine on the cloned drive. Save the files to your second Mac or to the cloned drive, and be sure they are intact and contain the data you need.

5. Backup and restore
With the files recovered, back them up on the second Mac or to the cloned drive so they can then be restored to the original Mac once you boot it back up normally.

If you do not have firewire capability on your system (MacBook and MacBook Air models), you can still perform these steps by removing the drive and putting it either in an enclosure or directly in another Mac; however, this may require you to disassemble your system.

Unfortunately, taking a drive with lost data in to any service department (including an Apple store) may not be the best idea, because they may not take proper precaution to safeguard the data in their efforts. I've heard frustrating reports where service centers have just wiped drives clean and zeroed them out, instead of properly recovering the files. Despite this, for Macs without firewire you may have no choice so be sure to discuss the concerns about data recovery with the technicians before letting them take over.

As a preferred alternative to any service bureau, there are a number of data recovery services which specialize in file recovery. These can be expensive (hundreds to thousands of dollars, depending on the problems) but should be able to extract any data if possible.

PAGE 3 - NEWSLINE

Apple asks judge to shutter Psystar's clone business

Wants injunction that bars Mac OS X systems, says it's owed \$2.1M in damages

by Gregg Keizer

Apple wants a federal judge to shut down Psystar's Mac clone operation and order the company to pay more than \$2.1 million in damages, according to court documents.

The move was the first by Apple since U.S. District Court Judge William Alsup ruled that Psystar violated Apple's copyright and the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) when it installed Mac OS X on clones it sold. Alsup's Nov. 13 order, which granted Apple's motion for summary judgment and quashed Psystar's similar request, was a crushing blow to the Florida company's legal campaign.

In a motion filed Monday, Apple asked Alsup to grant a permanent injunction that would force Psystar to stop selling any computer bundled with Mac OS X; using, selling or even owning software that lets it crack Apple's OS encryption key to trick Mac OS X to run on non-Apple hardware; and "inducing, aiding or inducing others in infringing Apple's copyright."

Apple also asked Alsup to award it \$2.1 million in damages, even though Apple acknowledged that it's unlikely to collect from the financially-strapped company.

"Psystar's whole business is premised on stealing from Apple," the motion read. "Psystar pirates Apple's software, circumvents Apple's technological protection measures and illegally benefits from the good will and reputation Apple has built. Psystar's

conduct, if permitted to continue, will both tarnish Apple's reputation for excellence and lead to the proliferation of copycats who also will free ride on Apple's investments, infringe Apple's intellectual property rights and cause further irreparable injury."

Apple argued that the injunction is the only way to make Psystar stop infringing its copyright. "Psystar has announced its intention to continue infringing (and to contribute to the infringement of) Apple's copyrights in, and circumventing the technology protections measures in, the current upgrade of Mac OS X, version 10.6," said Apple.

Psystar previously conceded that Apple could get an injunction to bar it from using Mac OS X, but said that that would apply only to Mac OS X 10.5, aka Leopard, not the newer Snow Leopard. Like Apple, Psystar has moved beyond Leopard and has been putting Snow Leopard exclusively on its clones since that operating systems' release last August.

At that time, Psystar sued Apple in a Florida federal court, claiming Apple illegally tied Snow Leopard to Mac hardware, essentially a repeat of moves it made in Alsup's California court during 2008. Alsup tossed out Psystar's countersuit last year -- the clone maker's first major legal defeat -- but in September 2009, he ruled for Psystar by refusing to stop the Florida lawsuit.

Apple this week again urged Alsup to disregard the Florida-based clone maker's slight-of-hand over Snow Leopard. "Psystar's admission that it has moved on to infringing subsequent versions of Mac OS X confirms that any injunction must extend beyond Mac OS X Leopard," Apple said in the motion for an injunction.

Philip Schiller, Apple's head marketing executive, spelled out the company's stance in a statement appended to the motion. "Apple should not be required to file a new lawsuit to stop Psystar from infringing Apple's intellectual property each time Apple releases a new version of Mac OS X," Schiller said in his declaration. "Requiring Apple to file multiple lawsuits to stop the same infringing conduct would be unfair, expensive, and a waste of the Court's and the parties' resources."

Besides the injunction, Apple is seeking \$2.1 million in damages, less than half what it said was the maximum, as a sop to "a swift resolution of the issues." But it admitted it might have trouble collecting even the smaller amount. "There is compelling evidence that Psystar will not be able to pay any statutory damages," it said in the Monday motion. Apple cited the bankruptcy filing Psystar made last summer, then withdrew, as proof that Psystar may not be able to pay the money. It also used that purported inability to pay as another argument for an injunction.

Psystar and Apple have been tangling in court since July 2008, when Apple sued the clone maker over copyright and software licensing violations. Psystar started selling Intel machines with Mac OS X preinstalled in April 2008.

While Apple didn't spell out the impact on Psystar if an injunction were granted, it hinted that one would drive the small firm out of business, saying that by its estimates, 80% of the company's business is in Mac clones. It had no sympathy for Psystar, however.

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PAGE 4 - ASK THE TECH



Q: I just received the install disc for Mac Snow Leopard. Do you recommend that I back up my data first?

A: You betcha! 99 times out of 100 an upgrade of this sort goes without a problem, but who knows, you could be #100 and lose all your data. So back up, first!

Q: I built a web site using iWeb and want to host it on the GoDaddy. How do I go about doing that?

A: Hosting is the third part of the “Let’s Build a Web Site” trilogy. Once you’ve purchased your (domain) name and created your web pages, you need a place to stick those pages where everyone can see them. In other words, a host.

You could, possibly, host your web site on your personal computer, but in most cases this will violate your user service agreement with your internet service provider. For that, and many other reasons, most people select a provider to ‘host’ their web sites. GoDaddy is one of the best (IMHO - **In My Humble Opinion**).

So call GoDaddy and tell them you want them to host your site. Prices range from \$3.50/month and up. Yeah, it’s that cheap. And you get other benefits, too. You’ll get all the set up info from GoDaddy and then you’ll

need a FTP (File Transfer Protocol) program to transfer the web pages from your computer to GoDaddy’s. My favorite FTP program is Fetch. Upload the web site and in almost no time at all the world will be beating an electronic path to your virtual portal.

Q: We upgraded the office computers to Snow Leopard on Friday, and our networked laser printer stopped working. Turns out Apple Talk is not supported anymore in SL, but when I tried 18,000 other ways to connect it, it wouldn’t work. I even bought an ethernet to USB cable from the Apple store, and it still doesn’t recognize it. I’m wondering if it’s the network card inside the printer.

A: Probably not. In most instances of this sort, it’s a driver problem. “Drivers” are those little bits of software that allow the computer to ‘talk’ with peripherals like printers, scanners, cameras, etc. Your best bet is to go to the printer manufacturer’s web site and see if there’s a new driver for Mac OS X 10.6 (a.k.a. Snow Leopard) and download it and install it.

Q: How do you open a Mac Mini? Need to add some RAM to one.

A: First things first, you need Apple’s official Mac mini Upgrade Tool Kit (otherwise known as “two very thin putty knives”).



There are no screws holding the Mac mini’s aluminum and plastic shell onto its body; it’s kept in place by 15 small, plastic clips—six on each side and three on the front. (The back of the

mini is “loose.”) To open the case, you need to turn the Mac mini upside-down and then somehow press the tabs on the left and right sides inward until they release; you can then safely lift the back panel of the Mac mini up, which will release the tabs in the front.

How do you do this? For lack of a better tool, with the putty knives. I’ve seen claims around the Web that you can accomplish this task with a single putty knife—working first on one side and then on the other—but I had much better luck with two. After turning the Mac mini upside down, I first inserted one putty knife on the left side, in the very thin crease between the aluminum case and the white plastic base, towards the back of the mini, and then inserted the other putty knife in the same gap on the right side, also towards the back. (Note that you need thin putty knives to do this without damaging either surface.) I then slowly, but firmly, pried the putty knives outward in order to press the white connecting tabs inward to release them. (You’ll hear a few loud pops as this happens successfully; loud cracks, on the other hand, probably mean you’ve broken the tabs.) After the body of the Mac mini begins to lift out of the shell, you may need to slide the putty knives towards the front and repeat this motion to release all of the tabs on each side.

Once you’ve released all the tabs on the left and right sides, the body of the Mac mini lifts out fairly easily, and you’re rewarded with an unobstructed view of the marvel of miniaturization that it really is.



PAGE 5 - PRODUCT REVIEWS

27-inch, quad-core iMac is the best one yet

by Dennis Sellers



Wow. That's the first word that comes to mind when you see the gorgeous, new 27-inch iMac. WOW! That's the second word that comes to mind when you use one of the quad-core models.

I've had the chance to test drive one of the 2.8GHz, i7 quad-core processor versions, and let me tell you, this baby screams. The i7 boasts Turbo Boost technology; if an app isn't using every available core, the cores that are just sitting around shut off, and the active cores speed up. Performance is also enhanced by the powerful ATI Radeon HD 4850 discrete graphics in the 27-inch model. The new iMac line now also features 4GB of 1066 MHz DDR3 memory and capacity up to 16GB across four SO-DIMM slots.

You can have multiple apps open (as I do) and all of them perform with no lag time involved. You can check out the Speedmark and Cinebench tests at the Macworld and Bare Feats web sites. But to sum it up: this iMac is 1.5% faster overall than the 2.26GHz 8-core Mac Pro and only slightly slower than the 2.93GHz quad-core Mac Pro. Forget the consumer designation; the high-end iMac is a pro machine for professionals who don't need expansion capabilities.

Despite all this power, the iMac is practically noiseless. It operates at just 18 decibels when idle. The larger

chassis (more on that in a moment) has allowed Apple to add more space between heat-intensive components for improved cooling.

The new iMac features LED-backlit displays with a 16:9 aspect ratio, which is great for watching high definition movies and TV shows—or editing and watching your own videos or photos using iLife or iMovie. The 27-inch iMac sports a 2560-by-1440 pixel display that offers 60% more pixels than the previous 24-inch model. It also has amazingly consistent color across a 178 degree viewing angle. What's more, the screens feature LED backlighting, which lets them instantly achieve full brightness.

The screens on the new iMac also use in-plane switching (IPS). The technology, developed by Hitachi, reduces the amount of light scattering in the screen matrix, which gives IPS its characteristic wide viewing angles and good color reproduction.

However, it's in regards to the screen that the iMac should have had some extra build-to-order options. First, users should be able to order a matte alternative to the default glossy screen, but Apple doesn't make this available.

Admittedly, the glossy screen is great for watching videos. In fact, Apple correctly says the display offers "better than high def." Unfortunately, Apple doesn't offer a Blu-ray option. But I'll come back to that.

Even the speakers in the new iMac are better. There are two built-in stereo speakers with internal 17-watt, high efficiency amplifiers. They're don't equal speakers with a separate subwoofer, but they do offer richer, clean sound with better bass response and less distortion. (BTW, I plan on connecting one of the new BassJump portable subwoofers from TwelveSouth

to the iMac to see how that affects the speaker output.)

One of the most interesting features of the 27-inch iMacs is that the you can use the Mini DisplayPort to connect an external display, including the Apple LED Cinema Display, to your iMac for even more screen real estate (but you'd better have a really big desk). The same port offers input, too. So you can connect any external source that has DisplayPort output—including a MacBook or MacBook Pro—and use your iMac as a display. It's anticipated that we'll soon see display adapters for the iMac to allow input from more than just your MacBook or MacBook Pro. Will you be able to connect a video game console or Blu-ray player? We'll see.

The 27-inch iMac is a great computer that can double as a great entertainment system. I often watch TV and videos on mine, which has EyeTV software installed for TV viewing and Bose speakers for better sound. But I can't watch my Blu-ray discs, and that peeves me. After all, Apple has made the iMac a computer that fits in your living room as well as your office; the 27-inch models are compatible with VESA-compliant wall mounts commonly used for flat-screen TVs.

I've said it before and I'll say it again: if Apple doesn't want to offer a Blu-ray playback option in hardware, it should put the necessary hooks into Mac OS X so that third parties can offer a drive that both records and plays Blu-ray discs (you can get burn-only devices now). I'll bet OWC would be up to the job.

Obviously, Apple wants you to buy your flicks from the iTunes Store. The store does offer 720p downloads, but that's still not the 1080p quality you get with Blu-ray.

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PAGE 6 - HINTS & TIPS

Six ways to watch movies on your Mac

by Christopher Breen

At one time the idea of watching movies on a Mac seemed both quaint and inconvenient. After all, you already had a TV and its accouterments in the rumpus room. Why gather friends and family around the desk in the corner of the living room to watch movies on a 17-inch iMac?

But times are changing. A home media center that includes a Mac mini is no longer a crazy idea. Nor would anyone look askance if you moved your 27-inch iMac into that same rumpus room and devoted some of its time to entertainment.

Once you accept the notion of a Mac as a home media player, your next thoughts naturally turn to movies and, likely, the iTunes Store. But the Store isn't the end-all-and-be-all of online movie sources. Although outfits such as CinemaNow and Blockbuster demand that their content be watched on devices that don't bear the Apple brand, there are a handful of other sources for movies that you can play on your Mac. Step up to the ticket booth and check out these options.

1. The iTunes Store

We can hardly begin without mentioning what the iTunes Store provides. Of any source, the iTunes Store is the most Mac friendly. Offering thousands of movies for purchase or rental, the Store's movies are playable on a Mac, Windows PC, Apple TV, iPod, and iPhone. You can transfer them to and play them on any computer authorized with the Apple ID used to purchase or rent the movie. The Store sells and rents both standard definition and HD movies. There are currently more than 280 HD movies, available in the 720p (1280 by

720) format. Many feature 5.1 surround-sound soundtracks as well.

Apple's prices are based on a movie's age and format. Apple characterizes movies as being library (meaning older) or new. Prices generally shake out as follow: standard-definition library titles cost \$10 to purchase; new standard-definition titles are \$15; all HD titles cost \$20; iTunes Extras movies, which contain bonus DVD-like material, cost \$15 in SD format or \$20 in HD (there are some exceptions to iTunes Extras pricing, however).

As for rentals, standard-definition library titles cost \$3, and new library titles in standard definition cost \$4. Library HD rentals cost \$4, and new HD rentals cost \$5 (iTunes Extras content is not available for rentals).

After you download a rental movie, you have 30 days to watch it. After you start watching it, you have 24 hours to finish it; the movie is automatically removed from your Mac after that period. During those 24 hours, you can watch the movie as many times as you like.

Like all videos sold at the Store, you can't burn movies in a form playable on a DVD player. You can, however, burn purchased movies as data for backup purposes.

2. Amazon Video On Demand

Amazon's Video On Demand service is one of the few movie services other than the iTunes Store that's not actively hostile to the Mac. It can afford to be magnanimous because it streams movies via a Web browser, even one that sits on your Mac. You can also watch the service's movies on TiVo, Roku players, compatible Sony Bravia devices, Panasonic TVs that support Viera Cast, and compatible Samsung HDTVs.

You're allowed to download videos to up to two compatible devices—a TiVo and Windows PC, for example. Regrettably a Mac isn't one of those compatible devices. Clearly, Amazon Video On Demand is not the ideal service for Mac users, but it does offer a couple of advantages over the iTunes Store. For one, if you purchase a movie it's accessible to stream on any Internet-connected computer, so can watch it on your laptop while visiting the in-laws without having to remember to copy it to that Mac's hard drive. Another—particularly if you're willing to broaden your video diet to include TV shows—is price. Amazon, like the iTunes Store, sells individual TV episodes for \$2 (SD) and \$3 (HD). But purchase a season and you'll save money at Amazon.

For example, the first season of *Mad Men* costs \$20 (SD) and \$35 at the iTunes Store. Amazon charges \$18 (SD) and \$28 (HD). *Dexter Season 2* at the Store is \$24 (SD) and \$36 (HD). The same season costs \$19 (SD) and \$29 (HD) at Amazon. Even if you're interested in movies only, Amazon also offers deals on current movie rentals. For example, recently you could rent *Orphan* for \$2. The Store's rental price that day was \$4.

One could very reasonably argue that the iTunes Store provides more value—you actually have the content on your hard drive rather than in the cloud, and you can play them on an iPod, iPhone, and Apple TV. But if your intention is to watch the video only on a TV connected to a computer or on the Mac's screen itself, Amazon could be the better deal, provided that you have fast and reliable broadband. (To stream HD content you should have a broadband connection of 5mbps or better.) Also, those Amazon videos are available to you wherever you have a computer and fast Internet connection

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PAGE 7 - ONE MORE THING...

Judge's ruling, cont.

A defendant whose entire business is premised on misappropriation of Apple's intellectual property cannot claim it suffers hardship by being forced to stop such infringement," Apple contended.

"Psystar has illegally profited from Apple's efforts rather than investing in developing its own products and building its own good will," Apple said.

Alsop will hear oral arguments Dec. 14 from both parties on Apple's request for an injunction. The case is slated to go to trial in January 2010.



iMac, cont.

And some of us still like a physical copy of our music and movies. So, c'mon, Apple.

Anyway, every new iMac ships with a wireless keyboard and the all new wireless Magic Mouse. The latter is the world's first mouse with Multi-Touch technology pioneered by Apple on the iPhone, iPod touch and Mac notebook trackpad.

Instead of needing mechanical buttons, scroll wheels or scroll balls, the entire top of the Magic Mouse is a Multi-Touch surface. Using gestures, a user can scroll through long documents, pan across large images or swipe to move forward or backward through a collection of web pages or photos. The Magic Mouse can be configured as either a single button or two button mouse, according to your needs and wishes. The wireless keyboard and Magic Mouse work with the iMac's built-in Bluetooth capabilities.

Both the mouse, and the teeny keyboard (which is akin to the keyboard on Apple's laptops) take a bit

of getting used to. However, once you acclimate yourself to them, I think you'll love 'em. I do.

There are also some cosmetic changes. The 27-inch iMac—which measures 20.4x25.6x8.15 inches—has a smaller "chin" than the previous iMac. The previous chin didn't bother me, but some folks found it too big in comparison with the rest of the computer frame. Also, the new iMac is "unibody." In other words, it's no longer plastic on the back. The back is the same metal frame as used on the front. What's more, the black glass extends right to the very edge like a high-end HDTV. These aren't earthshaking changes, but they're aesthetically pleasing ones.

Naturally, every iMac features a built-in iSight video camera, mic and stereo speakers integrated into the thin aluminum and glass design. iMac includes built-in AirPort Extreme 802.11n Wi-Fi networking, Bluetooth 2.1+EDR, Gigabit Ethernet, a total of four USB 2.0 ports, one FireWire 800 port and a new built-in SD card slot. (FireWire 400 has disappeared and will push those with legacy devices to get an adapter.)

Overall, the 27-inch, i7 iMac is a gorgeous, powerful machine. It's certainly boosting Apple desktop sales and shows that, when it comes to bang for the buck, desktops still trounce laptops. Heck, if it weren't for the lack of non-glossy screen and Blu-ray playback options, I'd say this was the perfect desktop.



Movies, cont

3. Netflix

The-DVD-in-the-mailbox company, Netflix, has offered movie streaming for a couple of years through its Watch Instantly feature. If you have a Netflix

plan starting at \$9 (one DVD at a time) you're welcome to use this service, which offers more than 20,000 movies and TV episodes.

Not all that long ago, much of this content was Grade B material and/or ancient, but Netflix is making efforts to bring better content to the service. Recent release movies are starting to appear. And although you won't see last night's episodes of your favorite shows (or likely anything from the current season) Netflix does offer season packages of such popular shows as *Heroes*, *Weeds*, *Californication*, *Lost*, *The Office*, and *Dexter*. (Regrettably, no HBO content is offered for streaming.)

On a Mac you'd normally watch Netflix streams via a Web browser. However, both the Boxee and Plex media center applications allow you to watch Netflix Watch Instantly content. Or, if you'd like to use Apple's media center application, Front Row, you can install the open-source Understudy, which adds both Netflix Watch Instantly and Hulu Desktop to Front Row.

The visual quality of Netflix's content doesn't match that of either the iTunes Store or Amazon Video On Demand—both of which look quite good. The faster your Internet connection, the better the picture. But even with a reasonably fast connection I've yet to see a stream that comes close to the look of a DVD (or iTunes or Amazon content), much less HD. But it's hard to beat the price, particularly if you're already a Netflix subscriber.

4. YouTube

Of course YouTube has movies... no, real movies. Okay, some are real old movies, but movies nonetheless. And they're free.

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PAGE 8 - MORE STUFF

Movie, cont.

If you've been wanting to catch up on your spaghetti westerns or B-movie drive-in fare (and a few gems thrown in for good measure), point your browser at YouTube's Movies channel. And keep YouTube bookmarked. Reports are that YouTube is talking to major movie studios about offering movies for rent.

5. Boxee

As mentioned earlier, Boxee is a media center application rather than a source for videos. However, it includes a couple of plug-ins that can lead you to movies scattered across the Web. For example, install the Internet Archive plug-in and you can view a vast number of old films (including silent films) that are now in the public domain. The Public Torrents plug-in allows you to download this same kind of content and view it within Boxee. All content available through Boxee is free.

Speaking of Boxee, with the Apple TV 3.x update, the popular (and free) Apple TV hack that allowed you to run Boxee and XBMC, atvusb-creator, broke. Its creators are working to make it compatible, but in the meantime, the \$50 aTV Flash hack does work with the Apple TV 3.0.1 update.)

6. Hulu

A popular destination for watching TV episodes and clips, Hulu also offers full-length movies. Similar to YouTube's movies, the films available from Hulu aren't recent blockbusters or Oscar-winning fare, but you're sure to find a handful of movies to kill an evening. Like Hulu's TV shows, these movies are free and include the occasional short advertisement.

You're welcome to watch Hulu from within a Web browser, but Hulu Desktop, Boxee, or Plex provide the better viewing experience. Of the three

avenues, Hulu Desktop is the most reliable because, unlike with Boxee and Plex, the people running Hulu actually want it to work. Hulu has taken pains in the past to break other applications' access to the service.

Roll 'em

It wasn't long ago that video-on-demand was a pipe dream. Yet, almost without realizing it, that dream has become reality thanks to faster broadband and the increasing number of gadgets that can take advantage of it. With these resources at your disposal, your Mac becomes an important—if not primary—component of that dream.

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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@tx.rr.com

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.