



MAC FACTS

from

Mac Help Desk

SUPPORT, SALES, TRAINING & SERVICE

(972) 783-9787 • (972) 783-7550 - Fax • (214) 249-9543 - Pager

e-mail address - machelpdesk@home.com

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

🍏 Apple Solution Experts 🍏

Volume 10, Number 9

September 2001

A Message from Dru

It has been a horrific September. One that *I'll* certainly never forget. I urge you to help those less fortunate than yourself by making a donation to the American Red Cross or the United Way or any of the other organizations that are helping the victims of this latest American tragedy. In many instances, America stands alone. Not this time, though. Go to our web site and click on "How the World feels about this tragedy". This time we're not alone. And all I can say whenever I see pictures of the devastation, or listen to the cries of anguish from the families or loved ones of the dead and missing, or hear a recounting of an escape from the Tower, "There but for the Grace of G-d, go I."

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Newbies from August: Hendrick-Long Publishing, Banker's Digest, Patricia Harvey, and Glenn Garrett. Not many in numbers, but they're a vocal bunch. Howdy all!

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To all of our Jewish client/friends – L'Shana Tovah - May you be inscribed in the book of life, prosperity and health, for this year and many more to come. We will be closed on Thursday September 27th for the Jewish Holy Day of [Yom Kippur](http://www.jewfaq.org/holiday4.htm). Traditionally on Yom Kippur, Jews atone for their sins to G-d. But sins to their fellow man are a different matter. If I have offended you or caused you pain or suffering, if I have slighted you or caused ill will, if I have done any act that displeased you, please accept my humblest apologies.

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First Saturday is October 6th. More to come on this later, but start thinking about the upcoming winter holidays. As my people say, "Why pay retail?"

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Wanna know all there is to know about your Mac? Join the Apple Corps of Dallas, one of the oldest Mac User Groups in the country. We meet (usually) the 3rd Saturday of each month at the Richardson Civic Center. Go to <http://www.acd.org> for more info.

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Many of you know that, in my copious amounts of spare time, I'm a musician. OK, some of you didn't know. Now you do. Betch didn't know I have a new CD out. Go to the band's website: <http://www.machelpdesk.com/lovesong>, and take a listen! (And maybe even buy a few...hint, hint)



Mac users aren't immune to viruses

by Glenn Fleishman

Mac owners look smug when their PC brethren discuss system security and computer viruses. "I have a Mac," they are wont to smirk. "I don't have a problem." Not quite, my friends.

The Mac is enjoying the longest stretch in its history without a serious form of attack against its innards, but it's not time to let down our guard. In fact, Macs remain susceptible to Microsoft Office macro viruses, network attacks and snoopers who want to intercept data.

The Mac OS suffers a dearth of enterprising disease creators and software crackers. But, as they like to say in the mutual-fund industry, previous performance does not predict future returns.

Viruses, worms and Trojan horses - programs that damage your machine, spread themselves, or arrive disguised as something else, respectively - may arrive as part of any file. They might appear inside software programs, word-processing documents, or even benign images that, when opened, crash a machine.

Files tend to arrive through our own devices, when we mount or insert a floppy disk or other removable disk, like a Zip; receive them via e-mail from someone we know (no candy from strangers, please); or download items from a Web site.

We've lost some of our edge in dealing with evil lurking within files because the last real Mac viruses and worms appeared in the last century. We never faced the variety and virulence of our Windows friends, but many of these viruses were destructive or irritating. (A Mac magazine distributed a "peace virus" that wished everyone would contribute to world peace.)

In this century, Mac owners remain highly vulnerable to receiving and transmitting Microsoft macro viruses that operate across platforms through the scripting language found in Word and Excel. Some companies and individuals make extensive use of macros to automate tasks, and Microsoft's protection in current versions of its software warns you and disables access.

It's also possible for Mac owners to be unaffected by Windows-style viruses embedded in documents they may view and pass on to comrades.

Both system and macro viruses, and maladies yet to be devised, may be defeated through anti-virus software, which you install to monitor files as they show up on your system, and as programs try to carry out tasks.

Four anti-virus programs are sold and regularly updated for the Mac OS: Intego VirusBarrier, Norton Anti-Virus for Macintosh (NAV) from Symantec, McAfee Virex, and Sophos Anti-Virus. Each software maker offers monthly and emergency virus updates. Most use an automatic system to scan for updates, although you can typically manually download patches as well.

Microsoft's Office v.X for Mac, featuring a bold new Aqua user interface. Major Mac OS X applications available today include Intuit Quicken Deluxe 2002, Alias|Wavefront's Maya, Microsoft Internet Explorer 5.1, Adobe Acrobat Reader 5.0, Macromedia Freehand 10, Aspyr's Tony Hawk's Pro Skater 2, Aladdin's Stuffit Deluxe, Pro Create Painter 7, FileMaker Pro, MYOB's AccountEdge, World Book Encyclopedia 2002 and a host of products from Symantec including Norton AntiVirus, Norton Personal Firewall and Norton Internet Security.

Mac OS X v10.1 delivers significant performance enhancements throughout the entire operating system. Everything is faster: applications launch two to three times faster; Aqua menus are up to five times faster; re-sizing of windows is up to five times faster; and file copying is up to twice as fast. Apple testing has shown substantial performance boosts to many other areas of Mac OS X including start-up, log-in, Classic start-up, OpenGL and Java.

Fine tuning of the Aqua interface in Mac OS X v10.1 delivers a better user experience including the number one most requested new feature - the ability to move the Dock from the bottom to the left or right sides of the screen. New system status icons on the menu bar provide consumers with easier access to commonly used functions such as the new volume control slider, display settings, date and time, easier access to Internet connection settings and convenient monitoring of wireless networks and battery charging. Sending, receiving, opening and reading any file type has never been easier with the new automated file extension management capability of Mac OS X v10.1.

Mac OS X v10.1 is the world's most powerful engine for the Digital Hub, with built-in support for burning CDs and DVDs, playing DVD movies, managing music, making movies and capturing photos from digital cameras. Mac OS X v10.1 is the first operating system to allow consumers to burn over 4 gigabytes of data to a DVD - storing seven times the amount of data as a CD. A new built-in Image Capture application automatically downloads and enhances pictures from digital cameras, and Mac OS X v10.1 now supports more popular digital camera models than any other operating system, including those from Canon, Nikon and Kodak. Apple's popular iTunes™ and iMovie™ 2 applications are now included as part of the installation instead of as separate downloads.

Based on open standards and UNIX, Mac OS X is the most compatible operating system available today. The Mac is now a first class citizen on Windows networks with the new SMB/CIFS client integrated with Mac OS X v10.1. Mac OS X v10.1 can connect to virtually any network system with support for AFP over TCP/IP, AFP over AppleTalk®, SMB/CIFS, NFS and WebDAV protocols. Mac OS X is also the only desktop operating system with built-in support for creating and displaying PDF files as well as the only one that comes complete with Java2.

Additional features new to Mac OS X v10.1 include:

- a new DVD Player with simplified interface compatible with Mac systems equipped with DVD-ROM drive and AGP graphics;
- burning of DVD-R data discs directly in the Finder™ on Mac systems with SuperDrive™;
- improved iDisk now based on the internet-standard HTTP web server extension WebDAV, providing users in schools and businesses with easier access to iDisk and the ability to stay connected, even behind corporate firewalls;
- easier printing with new print drivers from HP, Canon and Epson, automatic set-up for the most popular inkjet printers, and better support for professional-grade PostScript printers including PPD files for over 200 PostScript printers from HP, Lexmark and Xerox;
- enhanced 3D graphics performance with updated OpenGL software and full support for NVIDIA GeForce3; ColorSync® 4.0 with support for ICC color management and a simpler user interface;

- the most advanced audio architecture delivering high-resolution 32-bit/96-kHz audio, multi-channel support, low-latency performance, and built-in MIDI; and substantial improvements to AppleScript® throughout the system, and full support for Internet scripting using SOAP and XML.

Pricing & Availability

Mac OS X v10.1 will be available as a full retail product starting this Saturday, September 29, 2001 through the Apple Store® (www.apple.com), at Apple's retail stores and through Apple Authorized Resellers for a suggested retail price of \$129 (US).

All existing Mac OS X customers are eligible to receive a Mac OS X v10.1 upgrade package through Apple's Mac OS Up-To-Date program (www.apple.com). The Mac OS X v10.1 Up-To-Date package is available for a shipping and handling fee of \$19.95 (US) and includes a Mac OS X v10.1 upgrade CD, full install of the Classic Mac OS 9.2.1 CD, and an updated Developer Tools CD.

A free Instant Up-To-Date upgrade package is available for all existing Mac OS X customers starting this Saturday through Apple's retail stores and at participating retail outlets. The free upgrade includes both a Mac OS X v10.1 upgrade CD as well as a Classic Mac OS 9.2.1 upgrade CD. This Instant Up-To-Date product will be available through October 31, 2001 or while supplies last.

Mac OS X v10.1 requires a minimum of 128MB of memory and is designed to run on the following Apple products: iMac®, iBook®, Power Macintosh® G3, Power Mac™ G4, Power Mac G4 Cube and any PowerBook® introduced after May 1998.



Thanks for taking the time to read this month's newsletter. If you have any comments or suggestions for stories (or would even like to write a story - hint, hint), please send them to me at machelpdesk@home.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!



One Last note - Starting October 1, due to an increase of business, we will be expanding our hours of operation to include Sundays. Our new Sunday hours will be Sunday 12 noon - 5 pm.