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03.2001

# Macworld

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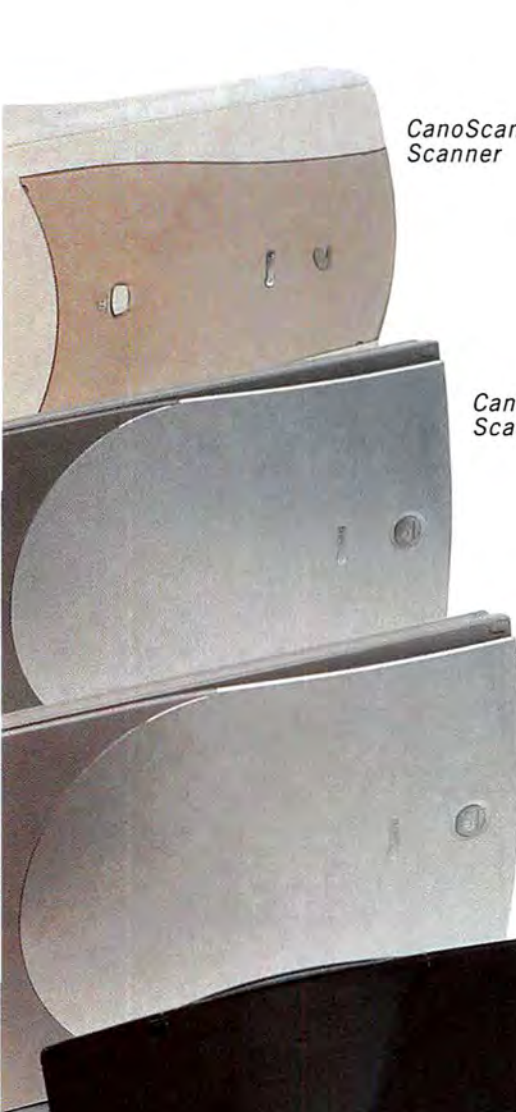
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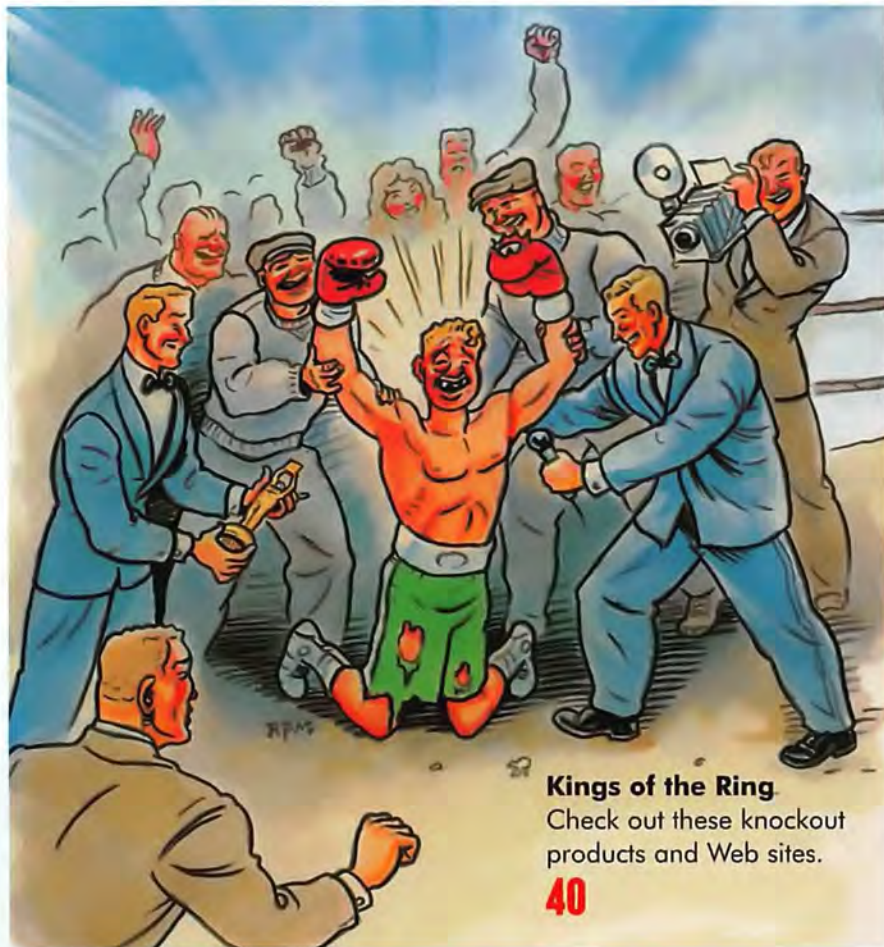
CHRISTOPHER BREEN Learn how to take control of the fonts on your desktop, HotSync a Palm device and a PowerBook, and more.

March 2001

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### Web Design for Both Sides of the Brain

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**T**he Beatles' *Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band*, Genesis's *The Lamb Lies Down on Broadway*, Brian Eno's *801 Live*, The Who's *Tommy*, Alanis Morissette's *Jagged Little Pill*: in the history of music, there have only been a few perfect albums.

That's not to say there haven't been many perfect songs. Just look at the file list in my MP3 library at home, a folder that's 20GB and still growing, and it becomes readily apparent that at least in my musical universe the perfect song is not that hard to find. But the perfect album, a collection in which not just every song is perfect, but even the way the songs fit together is perfect—that's a rare commodity indeed.

At Macworld Expo in January, Apple delivered what has got to be the computer industry's equivalent of the perfect Album. iTunes and iDVD, plus the does-it-all SuperDrive make it not only possible, but incredibly simple, for users to become personal media publishers. And, of course, my personal favorite, the PowerBook G4, is sex, drugs and rock and roll carved out of a wafer-thin titanium shell.

#### Mobile Mercury

Like a portfolio formed of pure mercury, the new PowerBook G4 is so very different than those that came before: Barely an inch thick, this portable comes with a 15.2-inch wide aspect ratio active-matrix screen, DVD-ROM drive, a 400- or 500-MHz G4, 128 MB or 256 MB of RAM, and it weighs five pounds. *Five pounds!* I mean, I've got hard drives that weigh more than that.

It's a no compromise, all-in-one portable that requires no dongles

ANDREW GORE

# Apple Goes Platinum

IT'S GREAT TO SEE  
APPLE NOT JUST  
THINKING DIFFERENT  
BUT THINKING BETTER



to do things like play DVD movies ... or CD-ROMs, for that matter. It has an enormous screen perfect for viewing movies, and it's even thinner than the Vaio Z505. Take that, Sony!

The industrial design is brilliant. The PowerBook G4 is the first portable actually made of titanium, stronger than steel and lighter than aluminum. Apple has addressed many quibbles users have had about past Mac portables, too. The new keyboard is crisp and precise, and is connected to the internal superstructure using magnets—no more spongy, bowing keyboards. The battery slides in underneath instead of on the side, eliminating the chance of premature power ejection, and the headphone port is on the side again.

They even got the logo on the cover right. When you flip up the lid, the crystal Apple is no longer upside down. Right on!

My only disappointment with the PowerBook G4 is Apple has left me nothing to complain about. This is the PowerBook I've been asking Apple to make for eight years.

#### Eine Kleine iTunes

It's true that Apple missed the revolution this Holiday by not getting CD-RW drives into their computers. But with Dylanesque timing, the company has now leapt ahead of the competition by not only bundling CD-RW in all G4 desktop Macs, but by making the process of burning CDs so much easier.

Apple learned an important lesson with iMovie: that hardware technology is basically worthless without seamless integration.

*continues*



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**Macworld**

## Opinion

## The Vision Thing

gration with software. Let's face it: we've been able to burn CDs on the Mac for years. But the combination of applications required to pull it off meant that only those dedicated to the process were ever going to bother.

And there were critical things missing from the process, especially a searchable library of music files. As mentioned above, I have a lot of music on my computer. And I use that music to burn CDs for my car or to download music to my MP3 player for when I run. And being the fickle audiophile that I am, I change those playlists often. The process of compiling a new playlist from the hundreds of songs on my hard drive used to take hours. Now it'll take minutes. And I'll be able to concentrate on the important stuff, like musing about if Pink Floyd's "Interstellar Overdrive" really does sound good following ELP's "Toccata."

And the process of going from MP3 to CD is so, so simple in iTunes, that shortly I won't need to wait for someone else to create my perfect album; I'll just do it myself.

### Media Magnate

Probably the most easily misunderstood new product announced by Apple in January is iDVD. In the simplest terms, iDVD will be to DVD-R what iTunes is to CD-RW: it transforms an intriguing but difficult-to-use technology into something that anyone with a need can easily do.

Burning DVDs that can play on standard home DVD players is hard, not because the burning process itself is all that complicated, but because consumer DVDs require their own custom interfaces to operate. Building these interfaces used to be the purview of programmers; it

was not unlike building a web page in HTML.

iDVD changes all that. Just point, click and drag, and you've got a DVD that's got your iMovie of trip to Hawaii, slides of the kids, and a cool QuickTime movie of little Emily's recital on a disc your mom can pop into her DVD player and enjoy on the living room TV.

This means on a computer that costs less than just what the DVD-R burners were costing a few months ago, you can publish images and motion with an interface you can create yourself with just a few clicks. This is the kind of stuff that not only will sell a bunch of computers, but can change the landscape of the marketplace.

Mark my words, the PC market will be playing catch-up on this one for years to come.

### Double Platinum

It seems, then, that the trick to creating the perfect album is understanding what you, as an artist, are really good at. Apple finally understands what it takes for them to have a hit . . . and it's not to invent new technology, which Apple has rarely done successfully. Rather, it's to take other people's inventions and make them so that everyone can enjoy and take advantage of them.

ANDREW GORE is editor in chief of *Macworld*. To comment on this column, please visit the Vision Thing forum at [www.macworld.com/columns/visionthing/](http://www.macworld.com/columns/visionthing/).

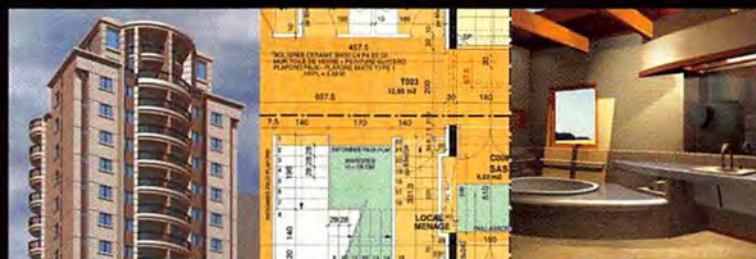


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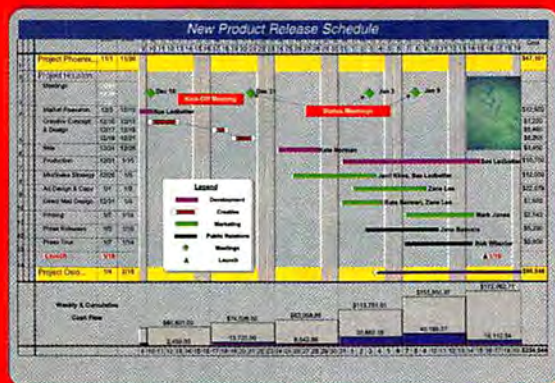
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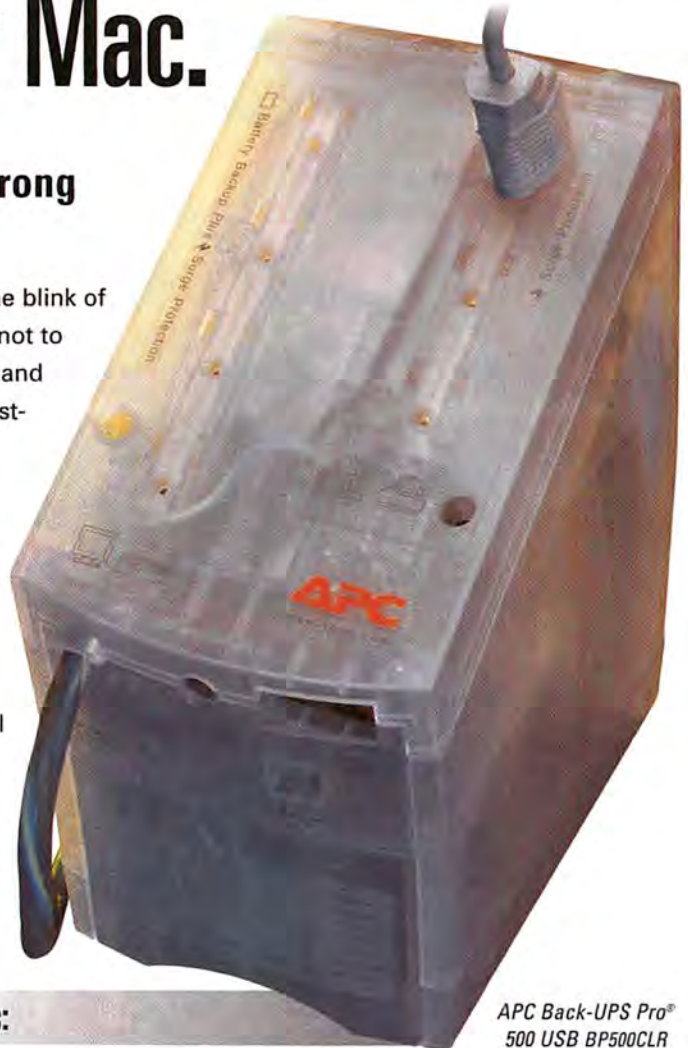
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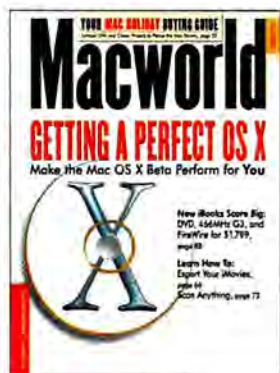
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# Feedback



## The Great Debate: Mac OS X

The topic of Mac OS X is white-hot. Our mailboxes and online forums are overrun with arguments for and against the next generation of Mac OS. If you want to speak your mind, visit our Mac OS X subject page at [www.macworld.com/subject/macosex](http://www.macworld.com/subject/macosex).

### Beta Blues

**H**enry Bortman's discussion of the Mac OS X public beta was very disappointing ("Classic Confusion," in "OS X—Beta Survival Guide," December 2000). Of course Mac OS X was not meant for daily use. Apple released a *public beta* so users could test it out and send feedback, bug reports, general comments, feature requests, and the like. I think this is a great step—it's better than having to sit around and hold your breath.

Considering that users get protected memory, preemptive multitasking, and rock-solid Unix underneath the operating system, it seems Bortman was quick to judge the Mac OS X public beta.

**Simone Manganello**

Mountain View, California

**A**pple gets my applause for the changes it's making to the design of the user interface in OS X. Every day, I help casual Mac users through the trials of operating

a computer. This new operating system is a clearer, more logical approach to computing.

However, I use a Mac every day for my own work, and I see the new OS as something that won't help my productivity—its interface changes will clutter my screen and make it more difficult to do what I need to.

At this point in computer development, it's ludicrous to expect one OS design to be the best both for novices and professionals. I hope Apple recognizes this fact.

**Thomas Payne**

Waverly, Iowa

### Shh

**D**avid Pogue is reckless and irresponsible to dismiss the threat that increasingly invasive electronic surveillance plays in our lives (*The Desktop Critic*, December 2000). In an age when our children are subjected to ads in the classroom, in their textbooks, and on the playing field, we shouldn't be asking for "targeted"

Web ads—we should be demanding *less* advertising! And the Web pages I visit—naughty or not—are, quite simply, none of anyone's business. I can also assure Pogue that his friend who pays cash is *not* being hurt by his paranoia—he's simply not receiving [the credit card company's] 2-percent reward for being a good little unquestioning consumer. In the long run, I'd wager, he's better off.

Pogue sounds as though he has surrendered to the system and is desperately trying to find some rationalization for his lack of outrage. I recommend visiting the Electronic Frontier Foundation ([www.eff.org](http://www.eff.org)) for a healthy injection of inspiration.

**Eric Hoffsten**

Brooklyn, New York

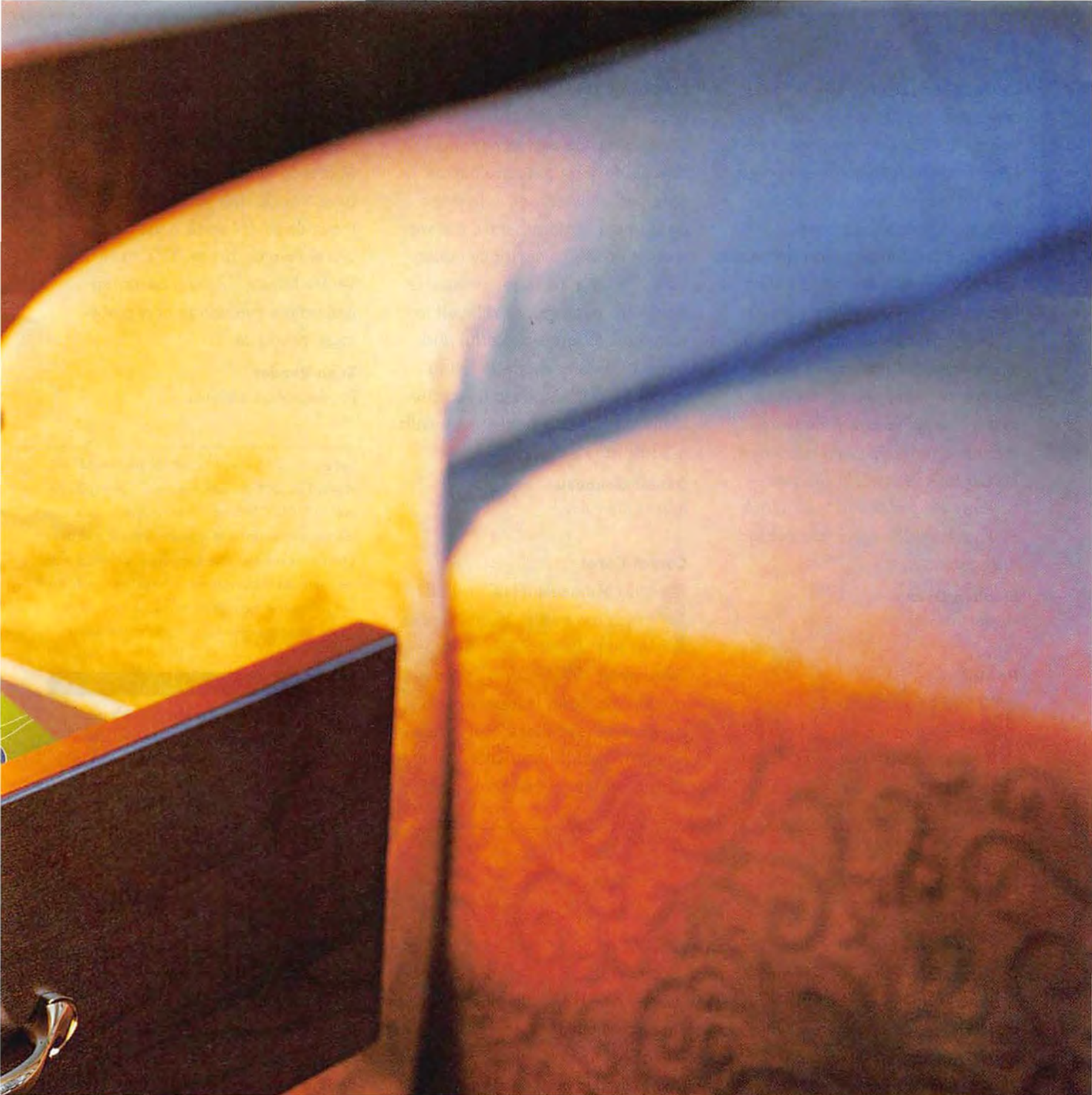
**P**ogue hit the nail right on the head in his excellent column on Internet privacy. I have been quite exasperated by the mindless reports on this issue, and govern-  
*continues on page 22*





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continued from page 19

ment involvement is especially worrisome. The government should not restrict the information that companies can obtain about my surfing habits (without authorization).

Frankly, I *want* information gathered about what I like and what I don't. Is that so wrong?

A company's ability to tailor its site to specific individuals would be greatly restricted under many of the Internet-privacy measures that have recently been proposed. Pogue took *Macworld* readers beyond the surface to take a look at what is really occurring behind the scares.

**Stephen Dean**  
via the Internet

#### Panic?

**W**hile I agree with Andrew Gore that it's too soon to panic about Apple's future (*The Vision Thing*, December 2000),

I disagree that the G4 Cube can not be the "something new for consumers" he says is needed. The Cube's unique style makes it immediately attractive to many consumers. Unfortunately, it is way too expensive as currently configured. Today's average consumers have firm budgets; it's difficult to lure them to more-powerful and more-expensive models. Trying to sell \$1,800 Cubes to iMac customers is a losing battle, even with a \$300 rebate.

**Daniel Gonneau**  
Astoria, New York

#### Corral Corel

**P**hilip Michaels lets Corel off much too easily ("Corel Draws Up Mac Battle Plan," *Buzz*, December 2000). Corel Spokeswoman Meredith Dundas would have us believe that Corel is "a company with a reputation for strong Mac products." I find that to be an

odd statement, considering that Corel purchased WordPerfect—really the only solid competition Microsoft Word has ever had—from Novell, only to let it rot on the shelves. If I were a user of Corel Painter, Bryce, KPT, or KPT Vector Effects, I would begin an immediate evaluation of replacement products.

**Zeph Bender**  
Los Angeles, California

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#### C O R R E C T I O N S

In our review of FireWire CD-RW drives (*Reviews*, November 2000), the drives' speeds are listed in the following order: write, rewrite, and read. **m**

## The Feedbag

Coke versus Pepsi. The Sharks versus the Jets. Al Gore versus George W. Bush. And now, we can add to that pantheon of great rivalries the struggle between Apple Pro Mouse users and partisans of the old hockey-puck-shaped mouse. After all, when something new comes along, it's only natural to complain about how great things used to be.

Take *Macworld.com* forum poster "Greg," who likes the puck mouse because it "alleviates soreness that can happen for us *full-time, pistol-packing, Windows-dissin', baby-kissin' Mac users*." Presumably, after typing those words, Greg spiked his keyboard, downed a six-pack, and spit purposefully.

His words made forum poster Andrea Pergo conclude that Greg is the type of person who would say, "OS X was developed by aliens from Vulcan with pointed ears."

We're assuming you haven't seen photos of the OS X development team, Andrea.

But the *Macworld.com* forums aren't just a place for mouse users to settle their blood feuds. You can also get handy advice from readers such as "Mblackmore," who says that problems with the PowerBook TrackPad jerking back and forth could have something to do "with static electricity" and that when he grounded himself, "the problem would always go away." Yikes! Our mamas taught us to never ground ourselves in public.

Meanwhile, the OS X controversy rages on, and some readers are even threatening to get rid of their Macs. But don't go tossing out that new G4 just yet. Another "Greg"—not the pistol-packing, Windows-dissin' Greg we've already met—has generously offered to "pull [his] car up to your door" and "take your piece-of-trash G4." He'll also take any of those old-style \$20 bills off your hands, freeing you to fill your wallet with the new, stylish twenties that are so popular with the kids today.





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THE YEAR AHEAD

## MAC TO THE FUTURE

**T**ime to break out the Ouija boards and predict what's in store for Apple in the next 12 months. Our panel of experts includes *New York Times* Senior Writer John Markoff, *San Francisco Chronicle* Technology Reporter Henry Norr, TechTV Host Leo Laporte, and *Macworld* Contributing Editors Henry Bortman, Christopher Breen, Adam C. Engst, Tom Negrino, and Franklin N. Tessler.

News, Views, and  
Chatter from  
the World of Macs

### WHAT WILL BE THE BIGGEST HARDWARE PRODUCT IN 2001?

Norr says it will be a major iMac makeover, while Laporte and Breen insist it'll be faster desktops. "Unless consumers see Macs branded with a GHz rating by the end of 2001, I'm afraid Apple is going to lose more market share," Breen warns. Markoff expects a lighter, faster laptop; both he and Engst think Apple could unveil a subnotebook—a scaled-down version of its portable products. And don't rule out new processors. "We may see the first Mac powered by a non-Motorola CPU," Tessler says.

### WHAT ABOUT SOFTWARE?

Nearly all of our panel says that Mac OS X will be the biggest software story in the coming year. "Everything depends on the success of OS X," Breen says. But Bortman says Carbonized applications such as Microsoft Office 2001 will be the real story: "OS X won't have much real meaning to most users until Office ships as a set of native apps."

### WHEN WILL A FINISHED VERSION OF OS X SHIP?

Before Steve Jobs's Macworld Expo announcement of a March 24 release date, our panelists' predictions

ranged from spring to September. Engst, who'd bet on July, offered a caveat: "If I'm wrong on the late side, I'll make like a PC journalist and claim that Apple rushed the first finished version out the door."

### AND THE MOST IMPORTANT NEWS TO COME OUT OF APPLE THIS YEAR?

OS X, contend Bortman and Breen. Laporte foresees an OS X-for-Intel-processor scenario. "Don't think of me as a PC bigot," he says. "Think of me as a poor fool who has invested in a bunch of PC hardware and is still looking for a usable OS." Like Tessler, Markoff thinks Motorola's PowerPC chip may have some company. "Apple will add a second-processor architecture," he says, "and it will be from an unexpected source." Negrino doesn't know what Apple will do, but he thinks it needs to "broaden the Apple brand and make some inroads into the business market." Engst says that could mean forays into consumer electronics. Norr, meanwhile, guesses that the biggest Apple news won't be a product at all, but "the resignation of Steve Jobs." Apple without Steve Jobs? Talk about a grim future.—PHILIP MICHAELS

#### More Info:

[www.macworld.com/2001/03/buzz/predict.html](http://www.macworld.com/2001/03/buzz/predict.html)

See our panel's complete predictions for what Apple might do in 2001.

LINK

KIM STRINGFELLOW



# What Can You Do with Your Aging iMac? GO FISH!

Nine years ago, Macworld columnist Andy Ihnatko published detailed instructions on how to turn a Mac Classic into a fish tank. Since the first-generation iMac is turning three this year, we asked Andy if it was time for the 233MHz Bondi blue machine to join its older sibling and become the world's most colorful aquarium.—Ed.

My original Bondi blue iMac is by far the most reliable of the half-dozen Macs operating round-the-clock in my office. Maybe that's because it's the only one I haven't inflicted some sort of bizarre pre-alpha operating system upon.

But I think its consistent performance is due to the fact that it sits on the same table as my iMacQuarium Prototype C. It steals nervous glances at this identical iMac, whose brains and guts have been ripped out, and it suddenly thinks, "You know, maybe this stack-override error I'm experi-

encing isn't really worth throwing a whole Restart hissy-fit over."

I had to build an iMacQuarium. The whole top naturally lifts off like a cake stand's for easy access! It's already empty inside—no cutting or slicing necessary! And with all that inside volume, there's enough water for a few tropical fish and a heater!

Still, an iMacQuarium isn't the same beast as a MacQuarium. When I developed the original MacQuarium plans, Mac Classics were good for little more than becoming fish tanks. An original iMac is still a credibly swift G3 Mac. And with so many nonprofits subsisting on computers made of twigs and dried animal skins, it's hard to rip up a perfectly functional iMac without imagining that karma is filling a sock with nickels and eyeing a spot just behind your left ear.

Still, I'm on my third proto-

type, working toward a design that's so simple to build, anyone can slap one together. Will I feel guilty about iMacs potentially going early to their reward? Maybe. Or I could just focus on the fact that every iMac destroyed instead of passed on is another new iMac that Apple can sell to someone's disappointed friend or relative.—ANDY IHNATKO



CHIP SIMONS

**More Info:**  
[www.cwob.com](http://www.cwob.com)

Visit Andy Ihnatko at his online home.

LINK

## The Year in Macs



### DECEMBER 1999

- This product brought to you by Microsoft: Stung by the success of the free Microsoft Outlook Express e-mail client, Qualcomm releases a free, ad-supported version of Eudora.
- Somewhere, Kai Krause weeps: MetaCreations announces it will sell off Painter, Bryce, and other applications to focus on 3-D Web graphics.
- And just in time for the holidays, too: Intuit discontinues its MacInTax for Business software.

### JANUARY 2000

- The search process must have been grueling and extensive: After two-and-a-half years as Apple's interim CEO, Steve Jobs takes the job on a permanent basis.
- Forget OS X; this is the future: At Macworld Expo, Jobs unveils Apple's iTools, which include online greeting cards.
- You've got merger: America Online snaps up Warner Brothers in a \$190 billion deal.



### FEBRUARY 2000

- That's great, Steve, but tell us some more about the greeting cards: Apple unveils changes to its PowerBook and iBook models.
- Didn't we report this last year? After a Motorola processor shortage delayed its fall 1999 debut, the 500MHz G4 desktop is finally released by Apple.
- You'd think Adobe and Macromedia were rivals or something: Adobe unveils its "Flash killer" Web animation tool, LiveMotion.

### MARCH 2000

- Act now and we'll throw in an Arby's coupon: Adobe lets some InDesign users upgrade to version 1.5 for free, after they balk at the upgrade price.
- Scary stuff: Simon & Schuster publishes Stephen King's *Riding the Bullet* in electronic form only, but Mac users wait two weeks for a Mac-friendly version of the novella.
- We're getting the band back together, man: A cadre of Apple vets team up at Eazel to build a user-friendly interface for the Linux operating system.



continues



## Fantastic Plastic

The colored plastic casing and stand-at-attention antennae make it look like something you might find hidden at the bottom of your favorite breakfast cereal.

But the Kima, from Akoo.com (708/583-9600, [www.akoo.com](http://www.akoo.com)), is a tad more sophisticated than the free decoder ring that came with your corn flakes.

Kima's base unit transmits audio wirelessly from your computer—or any audio source with an eighth-inch

stereo mini-jack—to the device's remote unit. Place the receiver next to a stereo up to 1,000 feet away, and tune it to one of the two FM frequencies



Kima supports. Your stereo will belt out that MP3 playlist of thrash-metal polkas you've been storing on your Mac. At \$150, Kima costs a bit more than running a cable from your computer to your stereo. But its dancing lights will give your party guests something to enjoy long after the nachos run out.—JONATHAN SEFF

JEANENE SCOTT



[CLICK HERE](#)

## Desktops on Display

You spend more time staring at your computer screen than anything else—friends and loved ones included. So why shouldn't your computer desktop reflect your personality, instead of just your bleary-eyed expression? K10k.com, also known as Kaliber 10000, gives you a peek at what others are staring at when they boot up. Renowned for its irreverent discussion of design, K10k's On Display section highlights a vast collection of customized desktops from around the world. You'll find screens designed by everyone from minimalists to abstractionists, neat freaks to file misers. If your desktop's appearance has evolved from the default Mac OS's into a form of creative expression, consider contributing to the exhibitionism by submitting your creation to the collection.—LISA BAGGERMAN

[www.k10k.com](http://www.k10k.com)

## The Year in Macs



### APRIL 2000

- Well, they did a great job with WordPer... oh: Corel buys Painter, Bryce, KPT, and KPT Vector Effects from MetaCreations.
- Upon hearing the news, Kevin Costner immediately bought a G4 to finish *The Postman II*: Apple makes iMovie available as a free download.
- Bet you they end up calling it Entourage: Microsoft says that its upcoming Office update will include a new PIM application.

### MAY 2000

- Lars Ulrich for the plaintiff, Your Honor: Metallica asks Napster to ban users of the file-sharing service who illegally download songs.
- It slices! It dices! It offers preemptive multitasking! Apple unveils a preview version of Mac OS X with a more Mac-like finder and tweaks to the Aqua interface.
- Mourners should send flowers to Corel: Switching its focus to graphics programs, Corel ends development of WordPerfect for the Mac.



### JUNE 2000

- And then write *I will not abuse my monopoly power* 100 times: Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson orders Microsoft to be split in two.
- When it rains in Redmond, it pours: Sun Microsystems says it will put out a Mac version of StarOffice, its free productivity suite.
- Why let that antitrust thing slow you down? Microsoft purchases longtime Macintosh gaming developer Bungie.

### JULY 2000

- Anyone want to buy a warehouse full of tangerine knickknacks? Apple ditches its old iMac flavors for new colors—indigo, ruby, sage, and snow.
- And, may we add, it looks really cool: Apple unveils the G4 Cube, a 450MHz machine that takes up very little desk space.
- Not that this is a warning sign the stock will plunge in a month or two: Apple's third-quarter profits of \$200 million fall short of analysts' expectations.





# Waiting for Motorola

Since Apple introduced the first Power Mac G4 generation—and the PowerPC MPC7400 processor inside—more than a year ago, Mac users have watched as Pentium and Athlon processor speeds soared to more than 1GHz. So has anything new happened on the PowerPC front during that time?

Not really.

Sure, Apple added a second MPC7400 processor to the dual-processor systems. But under Mac OS 9, most applications—not to mention the OS itself—don't take advantage of that second CPU. Mac OS X will change that, but for the foreseeable future, dual processors won't be of much benefit to

the majority of Mac users.

The PowerPC MPC7410, which Motorola announced in September 2000, is little different from its older sibling, except for lower power consumption. It, too, goes no faster than 500MHz.

Still, megahertz aren't everything. The PowerPC G4 generation can still hold its own, computationally speaking, against 1GHz processors from Intel and AMD.

But if PowerPC chips can compete with processors running at twice their speed, why aren't they running at the same speed and offering more than twice the performance?

If Motorola could make faster G4 processors, it

almost certainly would.

But since those faster chips aren't available, Occam's Razor tells us that Motorola is having problems making them.

Motorola is almost pathologically vague about its future plans. It claims to have a 75XX series in the works (the vaunted, mythical G5), but the company steadfastly refuses to even hint at when it will ship. Add to this IBM's apparent lack of interest in AltiVec—Motorola says IBM has a license to make chips with the performance-boosting technology, but chooses not to—and it

looks as if Apple may have painted itself into a corner. By killing the clone business, Apple made itself the only

major desktop PowerPC customer. Rarely are single customers enough to keep companies the size of IBM and Motorola interested for long.

The PowerPC is not out of the race yet, but it does lag a bit behind. It's hoped that the G5, whenever it appears, will make up for lost time and will arrive before Intel and AMD have a chance to build a real performance lead.—STEPHAN SOMOGYI



## More Info:

[www.macworld.com/2000/11/features/mp\\_mac.html](http://www.macworld.com/2000/11/features/mp_mac.html)

Are two brains better than one? Macworld examines Apple's dual-processor G4s.

Buzz

LINK



## AUGUST 2000

- But we're still waiting for our Mac-friendly copy of *Riding the Bullet*: Electronic books dominate the news at the Seybold San Francisco conference.
- Marbury versus Madison, Brown versus Board of Education, and now this: Adobe sues Macromedia for allegedly violating a patent on tabbed palettes.
- And in minor product upgrade news: Adobe releases Photoshop 6, adding a new Options tool bar and integrated vector drawing tools to the flagship application.

## SEPTEMBER 2000

- Imagine the reaction when a finished product ships: Within the first week of the OS X beta's release, Apple takes more than 80,000 orders for the operating system.
- What's green and white and revved all over? Apple beefs up its iBook line and adds a new color—the eye-catching key lime.
- But enough about my day—how was your afternoon, Mr. Jobs? Apple's stock plunges by 52 percent in one day.



## OCTOBER 2000

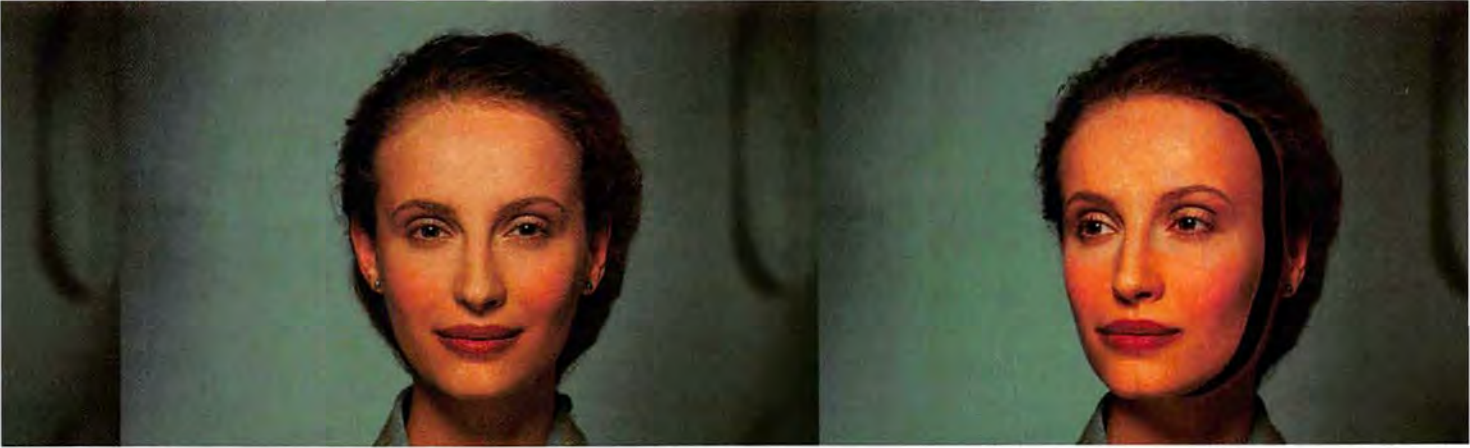
- Well, the *Venus de Milo* has no arms, and they call that art: Some G4 Cube owners complain about faint lines that appear in the computer's plastic casing.
- Steal music different: A Mac version of Napster debuts.
- The saddest Denver retirement since John Elway's: Quark founder and chairman Tim Gill steps down from the desktop-publishing-software company.

## NOVEMBER 2000

- Then they linked arms and sang an illegally downloaded version of *Kum Ba Yah*: Napster reaches an agreement with music publisher Bertelsmann.
- Let's see . . . lawsuit, lawsuit . . . ah, product updates: Macromedia's upgrades of Fireworks, Dreamweaver, and Dreamweaver UltraDev sport a common interface and tighter integration.
- And if that doesn't work, we can always bring back the Newton: Apple offers rebates to spur slow hardware sales.



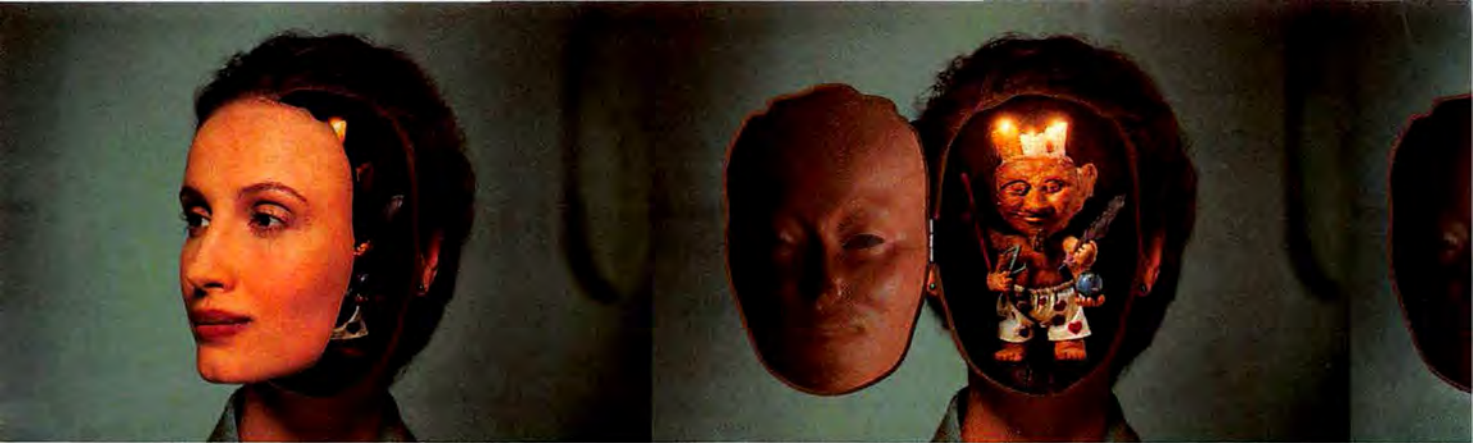




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Alton Brown took a backward approach to finding fame as the host of a TV cooking show—he spent ten years as a cameraman and TV-commercial director before going to cooking school. “I watched a lot of television shows about food and decided that I thought they were all rotten,” Brown says. “I went to culinary school specifically to get the background to make the show that I make.” The result? *Good Eats*, the Food Network program Brown hosts and writes—with the help of his 366MHz iBook SE.—CHRIS RYWALT

**Q: How does the Mac figure into production of *Good Eats*?**

A: Well, here in my office is a souped-up 9600; my iBook; and my wife’s iMac, from which she runs our company—so I’m about as entrenched in Macintosh technology as I can be. If I have a brand loyalty, it’s to Macintosh. And maybe that’s

PRO FILE

# Add Apples for Flavor

Q&A with ALTON BROWN

because my computer skills and the way my life has changed through my ability to use computers have been so attached to Macintoshes that . . . I feel about them the way a lot of farmers feel about Ford trucks. You’ve got certain tools that you have to have, and so you’re very, very picky; and once you make up your mind about what you’re going to go with, you stick with it.

**Q: What purpose does your iBook serve for you on the show, aside from being where you write?**

A: Well, for me that’s a pretty huge thing. A huge amount of my research runs through that computer, certainly Internet stuff. I really like using Sherlock for research. It helps me weed through the Web very quickly, and it’s fast and reliable. I also use Final Draft, which is kind of an industry-standard screenwriting program. And the other thing I really like about the iBook is that it was an extremely affordable machine. I’ve got the Special Edition graphite, which is perfect for me, and

it cost \$1,700. I could spend almost four grand for a full-blown PowerBook, but to tell you the truth, I don’t need that. And I like the fact that the iBook’s got a handle on it—I can toss it around; it’s extremely durable physically. It’s got a great screen, I don’t need a floppy drive, it’s got CD-ROM, and I’m a huge USB fan. I never did understand all those plugs. We use some digital photos

on the show, so I’ll be downloading digital photos in Photoshop from my Olympus camera while I’m backing stuff up on a Zip drive, and I’ve got maybe ten things plugged up to that iBook all at one time, which is really pretty spectacular. And the other thing about the iBook is that it’s just cool looking. The more I like the looks of a tool, the more likely I am to use it.

## WEIRD STUFF

### Watch Where You Point That

Back in the day, simply owning a personal digital assistant was the expressway to geek cred—you whipped out that Newton, and folks knew you were someone to con-



tend with. But now, with everyone from high-school students to presidential candidates slinging Palm Pilots, the true nerd needs a little something extra—such as an adjustable plastic finger nipple, say. The three-for-\$4.95

Stinger Stylus, from Orbit Industries (973/324-9896, [www.stingerstylus.com](http://www.stingerstylus.com)), lets you tap away on your PDA with a small stylus that attaches to your finger. The Stinger not only eases hand strain, stores effortlessly, and comes in a variety of colors, but also sets you apart as the biggest geek in the room.—GREG KNAUSS

**More Info:**

[www.macworld.com/2001/03/buzz/brown.html](http://www.macworld.com/2001/03/buzz/brown.html)

Alton Brown says he’s a nerd at heart. Find out why in our extended interview.



# Fire Drill

Most people lack the intestinal fortitude to try a stunt like this, but late one evening we decided to gather up every FireWire device in the building and see just how many we could connect to a single port. We had a stack of 18 hard drives, an iMac in FireWire Target Disk mode, a CD-R drive, and a camera hooked up before the system choked.

In setting up this monstrosity, we discovered that one drive doesn't always equal one device. We found that some hard drives—the VST, for instance—take up two device IDs. And each device requires its own external power brick.

The moral of the story? You may never need to approach FireWire's theoretical limit, but it is possible to wind up with 520GB of storage—and one hell of a mess to clean up.—JAMES GALBRAITH AND GIL LOYOLA



# What's HOT

A QUICK LOOK AT THE WORLD OF TECH

1. **Stephen King stops work on his pay-per-installment online novel, *The Plant*, after sales slump.** But watch for King's next macabre tale, *The Terror of the Web-Surfing Deadbeats*.
2. **Microsoft appeals last year's antitrust ruling.** To prove that it isn't a monopoly, the company offers to abandon its hotels on Park Place and Boardwalk while selling off the Water Works.
3. **Apple may open a chain of Mac retail stores.** Its slogan: "Our prices aren't just insane—they're insanely great!"
4. **Intel ships the 1.5GHz Pentium 4 chip.** Not to be outdone, Motorola engineers step up work on faster, more resilient breed of hamster.
5. **Steve Jobs brings down the house with his Macworld Expo keynote.** Though things got awkward after the Apple CEO claimed an Electoral College victory and started picking cabinet members.

navigation tool. The software sells for \$20.

● **Virtual Ink's mimio** (877/696-4646, [www.mimio.com](http://www.mimio.com)): **mimio 1.5** is new companion software for the electronic white-board. It adds plug-in support and the capability to export mimio files to QuickTime. Version 1.5, which will ship in the first quarter of 2001, is free to current mimio owners. The electronic white-board costs \$599.

● **Virtual PC from Connectix** (800/950-5880, [www.connectix.com](http://www.connectix.com)): **Virtual PC 4.0 for Windows 98** offers faster performance than version 3 and the ability to run multiple operating systems. It sells for \$199; users can upgrade from previous versions for \$79.



## ANNOUNCED

● A bankruptcy filing by Lernout & Hauspie (781/203-5000, [www.lhsl.com](http://www.lhsl.com)): The Belgian parent company of speech-recognition-software maker Dragon Systems filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in the United States. Dragon announced in February 2000 that it would not make a Mac OS 9 version of its NaturallySpeaking software and that it would wait until OS X's release to decide if it would continue to develop for the Mac.—Compiled by PHILIP MICHAELS

BUZZ

## MAC STUFF

### Boys and the Hood

When there's a disputed call in a pro football game, the ref heads to a canvas-covered monitor for a private screening of the replay. That hood, from Hoodman (800/818-3946, [www.hoodmanusa.com](http://www.hoodmanusa.com)), cuts glare from sunlight or the pale skin of shirtless fans. Hoodman also makes smaller models for cameras and laptops. The \$40 E-2000 fits easily over iBooks or PowerBooks—perfect for Mac users who cart their laptops around the great outdoors or wish to privately watch their own videos.—ANTON LINECKER



## Product WATCH



### RELEASED

- Voice-recognition software from MacSpeech (603/672-9100, [www.macspeech.com](http://www.macspeech.com)): **iListen** lets users dictate documents and use voice commands to control applications and edit scripts. The software sells for \$99 without a headset and \$139 with one. Version 1.1 should ship in early 2001, priced at \$129, or \$169 with a headset.
- A Palm OS version of FileMaker from FileMaker (800/325-2747, [www.filemaker.com](http://www.filemaker.com)): **FileMaker Mobile** lets users synchronize data between **FileMaker Pro** databases and Palm OS-based handhelds. It sells for \$49.

● Mac OS X drivers from Newer Technology (316/943-0222, [www.newer-tech.com](http://www.newer-tech.com)): The **Newer MaxPowerX** drivers allow Newer G3 ZIF and PCI upgrades to support the OS X public beta in the Power Mac G3, 7500, 8500, 9500, 7600, 8600, and 9600 models. The drivers work only with Newer upgrade cards and the OS X beta.



### UPDATED

● **Kiplinger TaxCut Deluxe** from Block Financial (818/779-7223, [www.taxcut.com](http://www.taxcut.com)): The Tax Year 2000 Edition adds enhanced planning features, a streamlined interview process, and a new



Apple Gives  
PowerBooks a  
Faster Processor  
Inside, a Shiny  
New Look Outside



# Rewriting the BOOK

**W**hen you look at Apple's new Titanium PowerBook G4, your first instinct may be to compare it with its predecessor, the PowerBook G3. But Apple would like you to measure it against subnotebooks—such as the Sony Vaio—instead.

That's because Apple considers the new laptop to be more than just an upgrade to its venerable Power-

Book line. It's a shot across the bow of makers of subnotebooks—tiny laptop computers that lack the functionality of a full-bodied portable. With the PowerBook G4, Apple seems to be saying that you can have a slim laptop without sacrificing power.

"We have the most powerful notebooks in the world," Apple CEO Steve Jobs said. "But [Sony] has the

[sex appeal]. We want both."

The result is a PowerBook that comes in two standard configurations—a 400MHz model that sells for \$2,599 and a \$3,499 500MHz version. Both PowerBooks, which should be shipping by the time you read this, feature 8MB of graphics RAM, an ATI Rage Mobility 128 chip, two USB ports, and one FireWire port.

## More Power, Less Book

How do the new G4 PowerBooks stack up to their predecessors? Take a look at the numbers.

	PROCESSOR SPEED	BUILT-IN RAM	STORAGE	SIZE (IN INCHES)	DISPLAY SIZE	MAXIMUM RESOLUTION	WEIGHT	INTRODUCTORY PRICE
PowerBook G3 (September 2000)	400MHz	64MB	10GB	10.4 × 12.7 × 1.7	14.1 inches	1,024 × 768 pixels	6.1 pounds	\$2,499
PowerBook G3 (September 2000)	500MHz	128MB	20GB	10.4 × 12.7 × 1.7	14.1 inches	1,024 × 768 pixels	6.1 pounds	\$3,499
Titanium PowerBook G4 (January 2001)	400MHz	128MB	10GB	13.4 × 9.5 × 1.0	15.2 inches	1,152 × 768 pixels	5.3 pounds	\$2,599
Titanium PowerBook G4 (January 2001)	500MHz	256MB	20GB	13.4 × 9.5 × 1.0	15.2 inches	1,152 × 768 pixels	5.3 pounds	\$3,499



More important, the PowerBook's G4 processor comes equipped with Velocity Engine, allowing it to render, encode, and calculate faster than a G3 can—provided you're running an application that's been modified to take advantage of it. It remains to be seen whether a G4 processor can run cool enough to not overheat a PowerBook—a model we got our hands on in January was quite hot to the touch.

Gone is the heavy, black plastic of the old PowerBook, replaced by a sleek, silvery titanium case. Just an inch thick, the PowerBook G4 also includes a 15.2-inch wide-screen—

**"We have the most powerful notebooks in the world . . . but [Sony] has the [sex appeal]. We want both."**—Apple CEO Steve Jobs

format display—by far the largest display ever seen on an Apple portable.

The differences between the new PowerBook and the old models are stark (see "More Power, Less Book"), but compare the new PowerBook with Sony's Vaio Z505, and things get tick-tight. The Vaio has a smaller display than the PowerBook and a thicker frame, for roughly the same price. But the Vaio also weighs 3.75 pounds, noticeably lighter than the new PowerBook. In any event, Apple's full-performance computer in a sleek, slender package can give any subnotebook on the market a good fight—and it leaves laptops in its own weight class on the canvas.—PHILIP MICHAELS

## G4 DESKTOPS

# The 700MHz Club

Two complaints have shadowed Apple's Power Mac G4 desktops. First, the computers have topped out with PowerPC processor speeds of 500MHz, while rival chips have soared above 1GHz. Second, unlike most PCs, desktop Macs don't ship with built-in CD-RW drives.

So how did Apple answer these criticisms? By unveiling a new line of desktops with clock speeds as fast as 733MHz and drives that can write to CDs—and, in one special case, to DVDs.

The new G4s feature processor speeds of 466MHz, 533MHz, 667MHz, and 733MHz. The first two models began shipping in early January; the latter two may be available by the time you read this. "You know as well as I do that we've been coasting along at 500MHz for 18 months," said Apple CEO Steve Jobs. "That's way too long." (See "Waiting for Motorola," *Buzz*, elsewhere in this issue.)

But the speed boost comes with an apparent step backward—no dual-processor machines like the one introduced by Apple last summer. Apple says there aren't enough chips to make multiprocessor 733MHz G4s in a timely

fashion. It plans to make a dual-533MHz configuration available soon as a build-to-order option.

All of the new desktop machines will come standard with CD-RW drives. "We're late to this party, but we're here," Jobs said. The 733MHz G4 comes with a different attraction—something Apple has dubbed "SuperDrive." It lets users write CDs and write DVDs that can be played back in consumer DVD players.

With the new CD-RW drives, Mac OS 9 formats blank CDs automatically. Users can drag and drop files onto the disk, writing them onto the CD either by selecting Burn Disk from the menu bar or by ejecting the CD from the drive.

"You shouldn't be applauding," Jobs told the Macworld Expo crowd as it cheered the simplicity of the drive. "This is how it ought to work."

Nvidia graphics processors will be included in the three fastest G4s (see "Four of a Kind" for more information on configurations). Each machine also adds a fourth PCI card slot to go with its AGP 4x graphics slot.—MATHEW HONAN

**"You shouldn't be applauding. This is how it ought to work."**—Apple CEO Steve Jobs

## Four of a Kind

	MEMORY	STORAGE	GRAPHICS	DRIVE	PRICE
466MHz Power Mac G4	128MB	30GB	ATI Rage 128 Pro	CD-RW	\$1,699
533MHz Power Mac G4	128MB	40GB	Nvidia GeForce2MX	CD-RW	\$2,199
667MHz Power Mac G4	256MB	60GB	Nvidia GeForce2MX	CD-RW	\$2,799
733MHz Power Mac G4	256MB	60GB	Nvidia GeForce2MX	SuperDrive	\$3,499





COMING SOON

# March 24: X-Day

If you've followed Apple's efforts to bring a next-generation operating system to the Mac, then circle March 24 on your calendar—that's when Apple begins selling the finished version of Mac OS X for \$129. And while the ship date may have been the flashiest OS X news out of Macworld Expo, it pales in importance beside the changes Apple is making to its operating system.

## Apple's iDVD

## DISC WARRIOR, COME OUT TO PLAY

SURE, iMOVIE IS GREAT—but after you've spent hours editing a digital video masterpiece, it *hurts* to transfer it to a lousy analog videotape. Apple's new iDVD software may ease the pain.

Using iDVD—a simple DVD-authoring application that will ship with the Power Mac

G4s that have Apple's new SuperDrive—you can quickly create DVD interfaces for your digital videos, as well as slide shows of digital images. It all happens via a drag-and-drop interface; iDVD will even encode your movie in MPEG-2, the video format required by DVD players. Apple will also sell certified DVD discs for \$10 a pop.

You can customize the appearance of the DVDs you create by setting font, button, and background styles for each disc. You can even drag pictures into iDVD to use as backgrounds for your DVD pages.

**Apple Menu:** In the OS X public beta, the Apple logo in the menu bar was just a monochromatic lump plopped down in the center. The logo has moved back to the left side of the screen and regained some functionality, with commands such as Sleep, Restart, Shut Down, and Log Out, as well as shortcuts to Dock preferences, the System Preferences panel, and Location Manager.

**Finder:** The tool bar atop Finder windows is smaller. Users also can modify tool bars. Clicking on a new, white button on the far right of a window collapses the tool bar entirely, leaving an old-fashioned Finder-style window. With the tool bar closed, the Finder opens new windows just as it did in Mac OS 9.

**The Dock:** Pop-up menus now appear when you click on and hold an icon in the Dock, replicating some of the functionality of OS 9's Control Strip. Clicking on a folder or drive icon, for example, lets you navigate through its contents via menus. Clicking on the Display Preferences icon lets you reset your monitor's resolution and bit depth on-the-fly.

Apple CEO Steve Jobs expects an "avalanche of Mac OS X apps" to appear in July. That's good news, because starting this summer, Apple will ship hardware with Mac OS X preinstalled—taking Mac users into the brave new world of OS X, whether they like it or not.—JASON SNELL

Compressing DVD-quality video takes a lot of horsepower. But Apple says that iDVD encodes at a rate of 2x—this means that an hour of video takes only two hours to encode. But iDVD can fit only an hour of video on a disc—Apple probably decreased iDVD's compression rate in order to speed things up.

For professional customers who need to author DVDs, Apple also announced DVD Studio Pro, a \$995 professional product due at the end of January; it's meant as a companion to Apple's Final Cut Pro editing software.—JASON SNELL





## RELEASED

● Removable disks from Iomega (888/446-6342, [www.iomega.com](http://www.iomega.com)): The **Peerless** drive system, which includes a base station and disks in 5GB, 10GB, and 20GB capacities, is roughly the size and shape of a PDA. It offers up to ten times the performance of CD-RW, DVD-RAM, DVD-RW, and DVD+RW drives. The drive, with interface module, sells for \$249, while Peerless disks will sell for \$129, \$159, and \$199. It will ship in mid-2001.

● A cross-platform networking application from Connectix (800/950-5880, [www.connectix.com](http://www.connectix.com)):

**DoubleTalk** lets Mac users link up to Windows networks without PC-networking knowledge. DoubleTalk sells for \$99.

● A combination hard drive and removable-media drive from QPS (800/559-4777, [www.qps-inc.com](http://www.qps-inc.com)): The **Que D2 Dual** is available with a built-in LS120/LS240 SuperDisk or a 640MB MO drive. Users can access the hard drive and removable-media drive through a single FireWire cable. It's priced at \$499 for the LS120/LS240 configuration and at \$599 for the MO combination.

● A suite of products from Casady & Greene (831/484-9228, [www.casadyg.com](http://www.casadyg.com)): **MacCare Unit** features seven utilities, including Conflict Catcher 8, Chaos Master, Copy Agent, DiskWarrior, PlusOptimizer, Net Barrier, and Virus Barrier. It sells for \$130.



## UPDATED

● Mac OS from Apple (800/692-7753, [www.apple.com](http://www.apple.com)): **Mac OS 9.1** adds a Startup Disk control panel, a new process manager to speed up switching between applications, and new looks for both the General Controls and Sound Control panels. The update is free to Mac OS 9 users.

● InDesign by Adobe (800/833-6687, [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com)): **InDesign 1.5.2** adds non-PostScript printing capabilities and integrates more tightly with standard prepress applications including Artwork Systems ArtPro, ScenicSoft Preps, and TrapWise, as well as hardware from Agfa, CreoScitex, Heidelberg, Harlequin, HP, and Xerox. The downloadable update is available free to existing InDesign users.



## OS X NEWS

● An updated PIM for OS X from Power On Software (800/344-9160, [www.poweronsoft.com](http://www.poweronsoft.com)): **Now Up-To-Date & Contact 4.0** for OS X adds an Aqua-like interface and new features. The \$100 software will be available once OS X ships.

● Graphics-tablet support for OS X from Wacom Technology (800/922-6613, [www.wacom.com](http://www.wacom.com)): The maker of the **PL400** and **PL500** LCD pen tablets will release free drivers once OS X ships.

● A Carbonized version of **FastTrack Schedule** from AEC Software (800/346-9413, [www.aecsoft.com](http://www.aecsoft.com)): An OS X-ready version of the project-management software will ship after OS X's public release.

● A suite of OS X tools from Stone Design (505/345-4800, [www.stone.com](http://www.stone.com)): **Stone Super 7 Suite** applications offer layout, Web publishing, photo-management, time-tracking, PDF-conversion, file-compression, and Web animation tools. It will sell for \$499 through March 1 (list price, \$1,295).—Compiled by PHILIP MICHAELS

## iTUNES

## Apple's Music Man

First came iMovie, which brought easy video editing to the masses. Now here's iTunes, another slick, free Apple program—this one devoted to MP3 playing and CD burning.

With iTunes, you can convert audio from your CDs into MP3 files to store on your hard drive. iTunes will even look up track listings via the Internet.

The program's interface is a single, brushed-aluminum-style window dominated by a playlist, with a tool bar at the top and a Source pane (for Internet broadcasts, portable MP3 players, audio CDs, and playlists) on the left. You can browse your collection by artist or album, or filter your list by entering text in a search field. The iTunes main window can also be collapsed to a tiny, floating player window.

Once you build a playlist, you can click on the Burn button, and iTunes burns an audio CD. However, the current version supports only the CD-RW drives bundled with



Apple's new systems. Plug-ins for popular CD-RW drive models should appear on Apple's Web site soon.

The software also supports connections with many popular MP3 players, including Creative Labs' Nomad II, Nomad II MG, and Nomad Jukebox; SonicBlue's Rio 500, Rio 600, and Rio 800; Nike's PSA/Play; Nakamichi's SoundSpace 2; and USB player Iomega HipZip.—JONATHAN SEFF



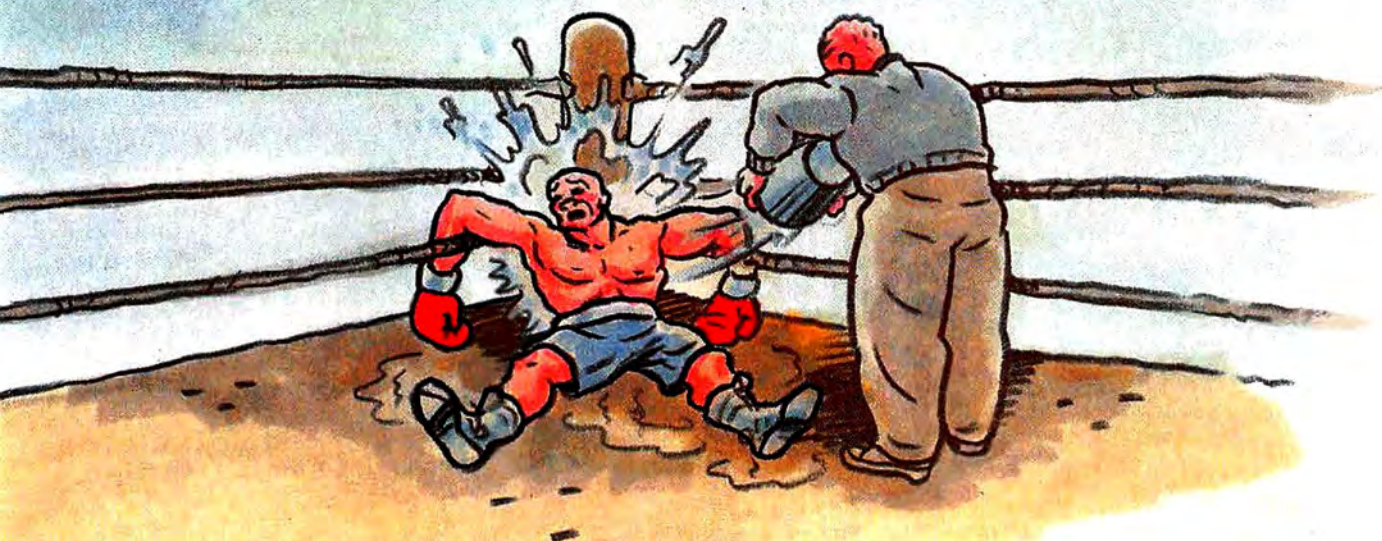
# KINGS OF





# THE RING

**Macworld Editors Choose the Best  
Products and Web Sites of the Past Year**



**ILLUSTRATIONS BY ROSS MACDONALD**

**O**NCE AGAIN, IT'S TIME TO REVEAL *Macworld's* picks for the best products of the year—both hardware and software—as well as our special awards for the people and products that have had the greatest impact on the Macintosh community.

And now that so much can be done for free or inexpensively on the Web—things that used to require buying software—we thought it was time to share some of our favorite Web sites as well. (We did not consider any sites owned by Mac Publishing, L.L.C., *Macworld's* parent company.)

Join us as we salute the Macintosh products and services that make our lives easier, better, and more fun.





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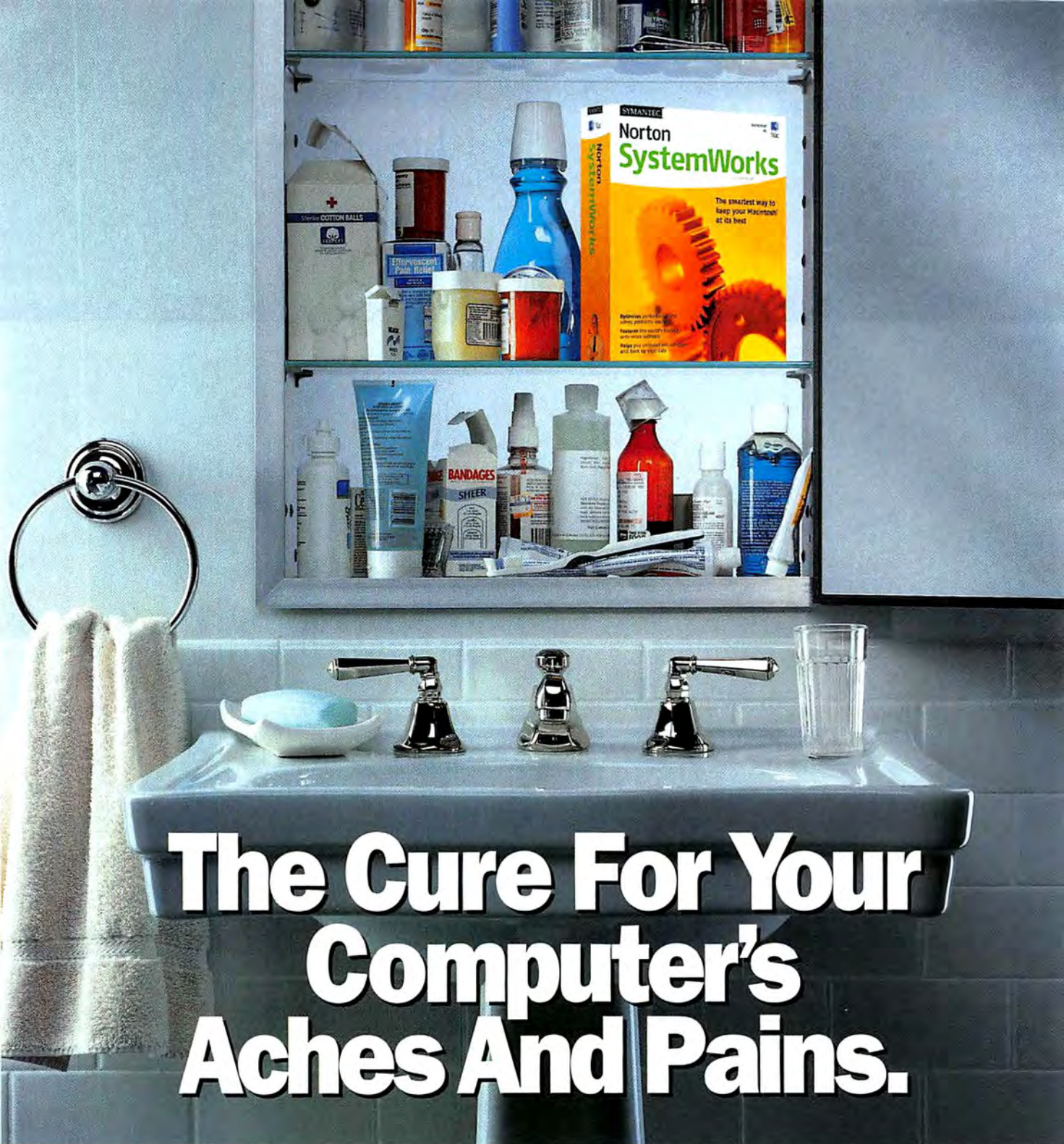
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viruses, while preventing it from getting sick in the first place.

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Compatible with Mac OS 8.1 or greater.

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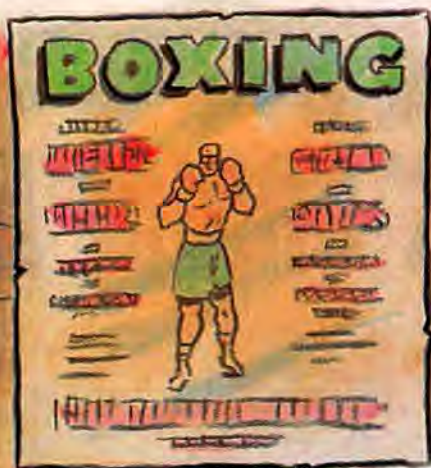
# THE 16TH ANNUAL EDITORS' CHOICE AWARDS



**M**AC USERS BURST INTO THE YEAR 2000 ENERGIZED AND CONFIDENT—with good reason, as it turned out. The year brought breakthrough Mac products such as AirPort, Font Reserve Server, and Voodoo5 5500, as well as impressive updates to programs such as the already well-established Microsoft Office suite and Adobe Photoshop.

The editors of *Macworld* are pleased to recognize this innovation and excellence with our annual Editors' Choice Awards. We surveyed every Mac product released between November 1, 1999, and November 1, 2000, to determine our nominees and winners in each category. These are the products that will inspire the next millennium.





## creative/publishing

### Publishing Software

**WINNER** Managing fonts for a large team was always a headache until DiamondSoft released this breakthrough product. The TCP/IP-based **Font Reserve Server** (\$1,200, server software; \$130 per client; [www.diamondsoft.com](http://www.diamondsoft.com), 415/381-3303) eliminates font conflicts, manages access privileges and font licenses, and lets you create font sets that users can work with almost instantly. The server software is Windows NT-based, but the administration and client software is Mac-only.

**RUNNERS-UP** **ImagePort 1.0** (\$100; [www.alap.com](http://www.alap.com), 888/818-5790), from A Lowly Apprentice Production, is the only XTension out there that lets you tweak the layers, channels, and paths of most Adobe Photoshop files without leaving QuarkXPress. If PDF files are part of your prepress workflow, look to **Adobe Acrobat InProduction 1.0** (\$699; [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com), 888/724-4508). It combines PDF preflight and color-correction tools formerly available only in several separate third-party applications, and introduces a few new aids.

### Graphics Software

**WINNER** Adobe Photoshop 6.0 (\$609; [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com), 888/724-4508) is one of the strongest upgrades this standard-bearer graphics program has seen in years. Previous versions of Photoshop specialized exclusively in bitmapped image editing, but version 6 introduces a new set of vector tools for creating precise shapes that remain editable. Designers will also appreciate the vastly improved text controls, layer effects, and color-management tools.

**RUNNERS-UP** For Web-graphics designers, **Macromedia Fireworks 3** (\$199; [www.macromedia.com](http://www.macromedia.com), 800/457-1774) was the best tool to choose (a new version is now available). It offered an improved interface, better control of bitmapped image editing, and a History palette that allowed you to undo any number of steps in a single click and quickly turn your actions into executable scripts for reuse. **Adobe Illustrator 9.0** (\$399; [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com), 888/724-4508) makes an impact with the most-powerful and most-complete set of transparency tools around.

### 3-D-Graphics Software

**WINNER** From its speedy renderer to its manipulation of NURBS (Non-uniform Rationalized B-Splines), Maxon's **Cinema 4D XL Version 6** (\$1,695; [www.maxoncomputer.com](http://www.maxoncomputer.com), 877/226-4628) packs enough bells and whistles to make more-expensive 3-D applications envious. Notable improvements include a highly customizable interface, new interactive polygon-modeling tools, improved bones and deformation tools, a construction history, a rewritten lighting system, and even a sound-editing capability.

**RUNNERS-UP** From Newtek, **LightWave 6** (\$2,495; [www.newtek.com](http://www.newtek.com), 800/862-7837) remains a must-have for 3-D-production and -animation professionals. It boasts numerous new features and tools, including UV texture mapping, radiosity rendering, new surface and graph editors, and powerful morphing. Ashlar's **Vellum Solids 2000** (\$3,995; [www.ashlar.com](http://www.ashlar.com), 800/877-2745) is the only game in town for serious industrial design. It excels at working with the curvy free-form solids and surfaces prevalent in today's industrial designs.

### Audio Software

**WINNER** Casady & Greene's **SoundJam MP Plus 2.5.2** (\$50; [www.soundjam.com](http://www.soundjam.com), 800/359-4920) is the best and most approachable application for Mac users who want to play and encode their own MP3s. This time around the company added an impressive list of features, including Internet broadcast and an automatic timer, as well as support for MP2 and WAV files, more hardware MP3 players, and multiprocessing. There's even a karaoke function that lets you drop the vocals from most MP3s and sing your heart out.



**RUNNERS-UP With Peak 2.53 VST** (\$499; [www.bias-inc.com](http://www.bias-inc.com), 800/775-2427), Berkley Integrated Audio Software has made an already great two-track editor even better. Version 2.53 includes support for the widely used VST plug-ins (it comes with 25), has an improved interface, and ships with ASIO drivers. Best of all, you no longer need a pesky floppy-disk key to authorize the program. Mark of the Unicorn's **Digital Performer 2.72** (\$795; [www.motu.com](http://www.motu.com), 617/576-2760) takes MIDI and audio sequencing to the next level with its new drum editor, additional audio effects, and very accurate MIDI time stamping.

### Digital-Video Software

**WINNER** Apple's **iMovie 2** (\$49; [www.apple.com](http://www.apple.com), 800/692-7753) revolutionizes digital video by bringing video-editing power and a host of user-friendly features to the home-movie set at an unheard-of price. QuickTime transitions and the Timeline Viewer feature make for marked improvements over the last version. iMovie 2 also lets you layer two soundtracks for voice-over-background-music capability. No longer is video editing the domain only of professionals with expensive equipment. **RUNNERS-UP** Terran Interactive's **Cleaner 5** (\$599; [www.terran.com](http://www.terran.com), 800/577-3443) is an excellent upgrade to what was already an excellent product—Media Cleaner Pro. Cleaner 5's superb compression algorithm, support for many formats, ease of use, and thorough documentation make it a necessary part of any video producer's tool kit. Pinnacle Systems' **Commotion 3.0** (\$1,995; [www.pinnaclesys.com](http://www.pinnaclesys.com), 888/484-3366) is more than a fabulous rotoscoping tool for video producers who want to create special

effects: the program also facilitates workflow and includes new compositing features.

### Digital-Video Camera

**WINNER** When choosing a MiniDV camcorder, you'll usually pay more for portability. The Canon **ZR10** (\$999; [www.canondv.com](http://www.canondv.com), 800/652-2666) is exceptional because it's both tiny and affordable. The Canon is the perfect introduction to the new MiniDV format—it even gives you an analog line so you can convert your old tapes to MiniDV.

**RUNNERS-UP** Optical image stabilization and a Progressive Scan photo mode make the Canon **Optura Pi** (\$1,799; [www.canondv.com](http://www.canondv.com), 800/652-2666) a great mid-priced MiniDV camera. Helping to nurture the world of nascent filmmakers, the **Sony DCR-VX2000** (\$3,199; [www.sony.com](http://www.sony.com), 800/222-7669) is a standout, with entry-level 3-chip quality. This camera lets average folks produce professional-looking films.

### Consumer Digital Camera

**WINNER** The number of features Canon packs into the 3.5-by-2-by-1-inch metallic body of the **PowerShot**

**S100 Digital Elph** (\$499; [www.usa.canon.com](http://www.usa.canon.com), 800/652-2666) is definitely groundbreaking. You get a 2.11-megapixel CCD for brilliant shots, a 2x optical/4x digital zoom to get in close, multiple shooting modes, and a bright LCD screen. The S100 is the perfect combination of compact size, ease of use, and excellent image quality.

**RUNNERS-UP** The **Coolpix 990** (\$1,000; [www.nikonusa.com](http://www.nikonusa.com), 800/645-6689), from Nikon, continues to balance quality, ease of use, and price. The latest model boasts a 3.34-megapixel CCD and a 3x optical zoom lens. Olympus's **Camedia C-211 Zoom Digital Printing Camera** (\$799; [www.olympusamerica.com](http://www.olympusamerica.com), 800/622-6372) is a hit at any party, with a built-in printer for instant Polaroid shots. In QuickTime mode, the Camedia can capture up to 15 seconds of movie footage.

### Professional Digital Camera

**WINNER** Canon's **EOS D30** (\$3,599; [www.usa.canon.com](http://www.usa.canon.com), 800/652-2666) is the most advanced digital camera on the market today. Canon successfully implements a

*continues*

## Impact Award

If 1999 was the year of the MP3, then 2000 was surely the year that Internet file sharing got its turn in the limelight. And nothing had a bigger impact on file-sharing technology than **Napster**, the online service that lets users search for and download music directly from each other's computers.

The software that Napster founder Shawn Fanning wrote in his dorm room at Northeastern University has revolutionized the way people exchange—or pirate, as some argue—music across the Internet. Napster may have raised the ire of the recording industry, but it has done more in the past year to change the course of digital music distribution than any closed-door corporate board meeting.



## Hardware Product of the Year



The newest generation of iBooks has graduated from cute to kick-ass. Our favorite is the 466MHz **iBook Special Edition** (\$1,799; [www.apple.com](http://www.apple.com), 800/692-7753). This time Apple has added FireWire ports and powerful perks such as ATI's Rage Mobility 128 graphics chip. The improved iBook line features a 12.1-inch screen, a 10GB hard drive, 64MB of memory (expandable to 320MB), and a 56K modem. The iBook SE goes even further with a 466MHz G3 processor with 256K of

on-chip level 2 cache and a DVD-ROM drive. And each iBook comes with iMovie 2, AppleWorks 6, and other titles. While we're picking our favorite model, we'll let you pick the color of the year: key lime or graphite?

## Software Product of the Year



In the realm of Mac software, 2000 was the consumer's year. But no program broke new ground quite like Apple's iMovie, the first program to make digital video editing both easy and affordable.

This year Apple started to sell the program, in addition to bundling it with new Macs. iMovie 2 (\$49; [www.apple.com](http://www.apple.com), 800/692-7753) offers sophisticated movie-editing capabilities, including insert edits, audio edits, and QuickTime effects. Add the plummeting price of digital camcorders and storage, and we'd say there's a revolution in the making.

3.25-megapixel CMOS sensor for crisp images and outstanding color reproduction. On top of that, Canon adds 11 shooting modes, 3-point auto-focusing, a 1.8-inch color LCD, and IBM Microdrive support.

**RUNNERS-UP** The only 4-megapixel camera with a custom-designed lens for digital imaging, the **Olympus Camedia E-10** (\$1,999; [www.olympusamerica.com](http://www.olympusamerica.com), 800/622-6372) has great image quality and many top-level features. Professional film photographers will feel at home

with Nikon's first professional camera, the **D1** (\$5,900; [www.nikonusa.com](http://www.nikonusa.com), 800/645-6689), since it shares many features with its 35mm counterparts.

### Display

**WINNER** The world of LCD computer displays is getting wider, thinner, lighter, and brighter. Nothing demonstrates this better than the amazing **Apple Cinema Display** (\$3,999; [www.apple.com](http://www.apple.com), 800/692-7753). This 22-inch LCD monitor weighs only 25 pounds and takes up very little space

on a desktop. It also features super-wide viewing angles, 1,600-by-1,024-dpi resolution, and a single cable that handles monitor power, video signal, and USB connectivity.

**RUNNERS-UP** The bright and stylish 18.1-inch **Senergy 850** LCD display from Princeton Graphic Systems (\$2,999; [www.princetongraphics.com](http://www.princetongraphics.com), 800/747-6249) gives users both digital (DVI) and analog (VGA) connections, with a DVI-out connector for mirroring displays or connecting to a projector. The **Wacom PL 500** pen-tablet system (\$3,999; [www.wacom.com](http://www.wacom.com), 800/922-9348) combines the abilities of a pen tablet with the instant feedback of an LCD screen. Yes, that means you can draw right on your screen. This new version of the pen tablet provides millions of colors, and at 15.1 inches, it's large enough to be your primary display.

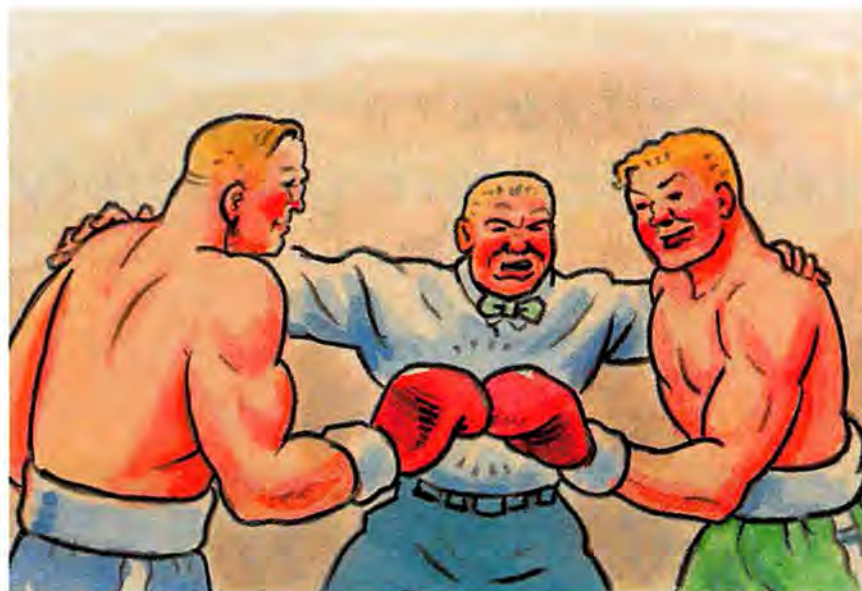
### Printer

**WINNER** This year, color ink-jet printers plummeted in price without losing quality. Our choice for best in overall print quality is Hewlett-Packard's **DeskJet 932C** (\$199; [www.hp.com](http://www.hp.com), 800/752-0900). For less than \$200, you can enjoy photo-realistic prints and sharp black text from its 2,400-by-1,200-dpi print resolution.

**RUNNERS-UP** The **Olympus**

**P-400** (\$999; [www.olympusamerica.com](http://www.olympusamerica.com), 800/622-6372) has a convenient LCD panel for previewing and selecting images from SmartMedia, PC Card, Compact Flash, or Memory Stick. It uses dye-sublimation technology to produce photo-quality, full-size prints. The **Epson Stylus Photo 1270** (\$499; [www.epson.com](http://www.epson.com), 800/873-7766) features six-color printing as well as solid black text with resolutions as high as 1,440 by 720 dpi. It offers a maximum print area of 12.76 by 43.76 inches for banner-size prints.





## general

### Utility Software

**WINNER** PGP Security's **PGP 7.0 Desktop Security Enterprise Edition** (\$74; [www.pgp.com](http://www.pgp.com), 888/747-3011) is more than just an encryption utility. The latest version provides—among other features—e-mail and volume encryption, a personal firewall, and intrusion detection. Most important, it's the only Mac client to support the IPsec network encryption standard for Virtual Private Networks.

**RUNNERS-UP** Connectix's **CopyAgent 1.0** (\$39; [www.connectix.com](http://www.connectix.com), 800/950-5880) resurrects the most compelling feature of Connectix's old Speed Doubler 8, namely, the ability to duplicate only new or changed items. CopyAgent goes further to offer speedy network copying. Intego's **NetBarrier 1.6** (\$70; [www.intego.com](http://www.intego.com), 877/946-8346) offers comprehensive firewall protection for individual users. NetBarrier filters incoming traffic, and it is the first utility to check outgoing traffic as well, to protect your personal data from theft.

### Business-Productivity Software

**WINNER** Even hard-core Microsoft haters will have to admit that **Microsoft Office 2001 for Mac** (\$499; [www.microsoft.com](http://www.microsoft.com), 800/426-9400) is a top-notch Mac product. Containing Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Entourage, it remains the only serious choice for serious business use. From the applications' uniform interface to a host of Mac-only features, this Office clearly laps its competition.

**RUNNERS-UP** AEC Software's **FastTrack Schedule 7.0** (\$299; [www.aecsoft.com](http://www.aecsoft.com), 800/346-9413) is simple enough to make first-time users productive but feature-rich enough to keep sophisticated users happy. Voice recognition on the Mac platform still needs some work, but IBM's **ViaVoice for Macintosh, Enhanced Edition** (\$141; [www.ibm.com](http://www.ibm.com), 800/825-5263) improves on the original ViaVoice by adding direct dictation into any Macintosh application, AppleScript support, and a USB-ready headset.

### Data-Management Software

**WINNER** After a five-year absence from the Mac market, SPSS's **SPSS 10.0** (\$999; [www.spss.com](http://www.spss.com), 800/543-2185) returns with a vengeance. No other program can compete with SPSS in terms of the number-crunching power that it brings to your desktop. SPSS includes a wealth of statistical and charting options, extensive help, and excellent tutorials.

**RUNNERS-UP** MYOB Accounting **Plus Version 9** (\$199; [www.myob.com/us](http://www.myob.com/us), 800/322-6962) remains the best accounting program for small and midsize businesses. Enhancements include multiuser support, recognition of foreign currencies, and improved search functions. AEC Software's powerful **Details 3.0** (\$299; [www.aecsoft.com](http://www.aecsoft.com), 800/346-9413) is a specialized project-tracking database that serves novices and experienced users alike.

### Education Software

**WINNER** Every desk needs scissors, tape, and Grolier's **Multi-media Encyclopedia 2001 Deluxe Edition** (\$30; [www.grolier.com](http://www.grolier.com), 800/353-3140), from Grolier Interactive. Multiple navigation options make it easy to search for and find what you want. And the program supplements the extensive information on its two CD-ROMs with links to the Internet.

**RUNNERS-UP** With guided tours of 25 rooms and 3,000 images and illustrations, Montparnasse Multimedia's **Louvre: The Virtual Visit** (\$50; [www.montparnasse.net](http://www.montparnasse.net), 800/843-2665 for Barnes&Noble.com distribution) is the next best thing to seeing the French museum in person. The DVD-ROM software is easy to navigate and offers a wealth of information about art and history.

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*Yes, this is actually money.  
It got redesigned a  
couple of years ago.*

*This is your mom and dad. By the way,  
you have a little brother now.  
(His name is Steven.)*





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***This is your girlfriend. She's dating Mark Warren now.***

***This is the sun. It provides heat for the entire planet. Cool, huh?***





I'd heard a lot of buzz about ATI's new RADEON™ MAC EDITION, it's stunning 3D acceleration, 32MB DDR graphics memory and flexible display support. I wondered, would this graphics accelerator really make designing, easier and faster? Wow! it didn't take long to find out. RADEON™ MAC EDITION, rendered the most complex 3D elements faster than I'd ever seen, even when working in 32-bit true color! My projects literally sprang to life with incredible detail and realism. But RADEON™ MAC EDITION isn't all work and no play. The 3D gaming — on my lunch break of course, is just as incredible with noticeably faster frame rates. With the fastest rendering speeds available, animations are fluid and life-like. Plus, I can hook up to a TV for a big-screen experience. 3D rendering performance, awesome gaming and display flexibility make RADEON™ MAC EDITION one wicked card!



# Gimme Radeon!

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[www.xlr8yourmac.com](http://www.xlr8yourmac.com), October 16, 2000



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Edmark's **Talking Walls** (\$80; [www.edmark.com](http://www.edmark.com), 800/362-2890) successfully blends text, audio, and video to teach kids history; topics range from cave painting to the Vietnam War.

## Resource Software

**WINNER** Writers with visions of Oscars and Emmys couldn't ask for a better resource than Screenplay Systems' **Movie Magic Screenwriter 2000** (\$269; [www.dramatica.com](http://www.dramatica.com), 800/847-8679). In addition to a wealth of sample scripts, the program offers useful tools such as a character-name bank and a chat feature that lets you work with a remote writing partner.

**RUNNERS-UP** For people who make their living writing, producing, and creating, Official Software's **Official Copyright 1.5** (\$71; [www.officialsoftware.com](http://www.officialsoftware.com), 888/325-5445) is a straightforward and informative tool for protecting intellectual property. ISI ResearchSoft's **EndNote 4** (\$299; [www.isiresearchsoft.com](http://www.isiresearchsoft.com), 800/554-3049) is an improvement on what was already the best bibliography-management application available. This version adds some welcome interface changes and beefed-up search functions.

## Game

**WINNER** Few games have generated as much buzz—or have proven to be as addictive—as Aspyr Media's **The Sims** (\$50; [www.aspyr.com](http://www.aspyr.com), 888/212-7797). There's a reason for that: the game combines a seemingly endless variety of situations and characters with great sound effects and fun graphics. The Sims is the first game to re-create real life with this much detail. Some people find it more compelling than their own lives.

# Lifetime Achievement Award



Without Tim Gill, our Mac world would be a much different place. Gill launched Quark in 1981 with a \$2,000 loan from his parents. In 1987 Quark released the product with which it has become synonymous, QuarkXPress. XPress created and enabled the desktop-publishing revolution. While it has had competition over the years, it has remained without equal. This year Gill stepped down as chairman and chief technology officer in order to devote his energy to the Gill Foundation, a nonprofit agency he started in 1994. The Gill Foundation funds work in education and supports gay and lesbian rights. We're pleased to honor this legendary Macintosh figure.

**RUNNERS-UP** Surpassing the original Diablo might seem like a nearly impossible task, but Blizzard Entertainment's **Diablo II** (\$45; [www.blizzard.com](http://www.blizzard.com), 800/953-7669) pulls it off. This sequel improves upon the original's lush graphics and adds new adventures and characters. Activision's **Quake III Arena Mac** (\$46; [www.activision.com](http://www.activision.com), 800/656-5426) doesn't reinvent the wheel, but it is a masterful first-person shooter game. Great graphics and network play help this game stand out from the crowd.

## Storage Product

**WINNER** Storage area networks have been primarily the realm of server clusters and graphics professionals with lots of dough. All that changed with MicroNet's **SANcube X-stream** (\$4,099 for 270GB; [www.micronet.com](http://www.micronet.com), 949/453-6100), which uses your Macintosh's built-in FireWire port to connect as many as four users to a six-drive RAID array. **RUNNERS-UP** EZQuest's **Boa CD-RW 12x10x32x FireWire PM** (\$369; [www.ezq.com](http://www.ezq.com), 714/694-0031) takes the fear of ruining discs out of CD-R

burning by using a Plextor mechanism with BURN-Proof technology. Microtech International's **IBM 1GB Microdrive** (\$499; [www.microtechintl.com](http://www.microtechintl.com), 800/626-4276) is impressively small on the outside but big on the inside. IBM introduced this PC Card-size drive last year, but pushing it to an amazing 1GB capacity this year puts it in a class of its own.

## Personal Digital Assistant

**WINNER** Our winner, Handspring's **Visor Prism** (\$449; [www.handspring.com](http://www.handspring.com), 888/565-9393), boasts a processor that's significantly faster than its predecessors, plug-and-play expandability via its Springboard expansion slot, and the ability to display more than 65,000 colors. The unmatched screen quality and built-in photo program make the Prism a great portable photo album.

**RUNNERS-UP** The **Palm m100 Handheld** (\$149; [www.palm.com](http://www.palm.com), 800/881-7256) is an outstanding value, offering almost everything its more expensive competition does (except mail and expense software) at an entry-level price. It's bundled

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with Mac desktop software and a Mac adapter. For those who crave Internet access, the **Palm VIIx Handheld** (\$449; [www.palm.com](http://www.palm.com), 800/881-7256) is a dream come true. With it, you can surf the Web using text-only Web clippings. You can also send and receive e-mail through a Palm.net account or access POP accounts using third-party software.

### Acceleration Product

**WINNER** Though two of the companies in this category had some financial troubles last year, they made some stellar products that deserve recognition. With its debut product for the Mac, the **Voodoo5 5500 PCI Card** (\$229; [www.3dfx.com](http://www.3dfx.com), 888/367-3339), 3dfx expands the horizons of graphics professionals and 3-D gamers alike. Pixel-processing horse-

power makes for smooth game play and quick redraws. The card's full-screen antialiasing feature provides stunning 3-D graphics at the highest screen resolutions. Support for new DVI flat panels and standard monitors has made it this year's coveted card. **RUNNERS-UP** The Newer Technology **iMaxpower G4** (\$699; [www.newertech.com](http://www.newertech.com), 877/605-0010) is the only way to turn an iMac into a G4 with the Velocity Engine. The **ATI Radeon Mac Edition 32MB DDR AGP** (\$279; [www.ati.com](http://www.ati.com), 905/882-2600) makes a leap in graphics-card speed and power. This card will inspire a new generation of games and 3-D-design applications.

### Input Device

**WINNER** Kensington Technology's **TurboRing Trackball** (\$136; [www.kensington.com](http://www.kensington.com), 800/235-6708)

seamlessly blends form and functionality. The TurboRing offers easy scrolling, while its companion software allows you to customize the trackball's cursor response and configure its three buttons. What's more, the angled ball and ring reduce arm and wrist strain.

**RUNNERS-UP** Apple wised up and ditched the crippling round input device that shipped with its computers, in favor of the **Apple Pro Mouse** (\$59; [www.apple.com](http://www.apple.com), 800/692-7753). With high precision, the sleek-looking optical mouse glides across any surface, and it makes mouse pads obsolete. **Microsoft Trackball Explorer** (\$75; [www.microsoft.com](http://www.microsoft.com), 800/426-9400) was the first trackball to use optical technology. It comes equipped with Microsoft's excellent Intellipoint mouse software.



## internet & development

### Internet Client Software

**WINNER** With Internet Explorer 5 Macintosh Edition (free; [www.microsoft.com](http://www.microsoft.com), 800/426-9400), Microsoft has given the Mac community the most standards-compliant browser available. It fully implements

HTML 4 and CSS-1 standards, has a sleeker new look, and loads pages noticeably faster than its predecessor. **RUNNERS-UP** In addition to traditional chat tools, **AOL Instant Messenger 4.1**, a free utility from America Online ([www.aol.com](http://www.aol.com),

800/827-6364), offers voice-chat and file-transfer capabilities and the ability to send images and sound files instantly. **AvantGo Mobile Internet Service for Macintosh 3.3** (free; [www.avantgo.com](http://www.avantgo.com), 888/884-8812) lets you take the Web anywhere by downloading Web content to any Palm OS handheld.

### Web Publishing Software

**WINNER** Macromedia **Dreamweaver 3** (\$299; [www.macromedia.com](http://www.macromedia.com), 800/457-1774) was a Web tool that appealed to both visual designers and code purists (a new version is now available). It featured near-infinite customization abilities via JavaScript, excellent integration with Macromedia graphics tool Fireworks, and the Easy Undo tool. Add the site-administration features, and you have an award-winning product.

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**RUNNERS-UP** Why pay for a program to build, post, and update your Web site when you can use Pyra Labs' **Blogger** (free; [www.blogger.com](http://www.blogger.com), 415/538-8404)? **Lasso Studio 1.5 for Dreamweaver 3** (\$349; [www.blueworld.com](http://www.blueworld.com), 425/646-0288), from Blue World Communications, gives users without database knowledge an easy way to add database functionality to Web sites; Lasso includes a wizard for building a new database or connecting to an existing one.

### Web Motion Software

**WINNER** **Macromedia Flash 5** (\$399; [www.macromedia.com](http://www.macromedia.com), 800/457-1774) makes designing interactive Web content much less painful. Its streamlined interface speeds up simple tasks, and its new programming language and scripting tools add professional power and flexibility to the program. The new Movie Explorer and Shared Libraries features help you keep track of complicated projects in large work groups.

**RUNNERS-UP** Newcomer **Adobe LiveMotion 1.0** (\$299; [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com), 888/724-4508) is the first program to let you produce animations in the Flash file format (SWF) without the steep learning curve of Macromedia Flash. The multimedia-authoring application **iShell 2** (free to individuals, varying prices for commercial use: \$975 for Silver membership and \$2,750 for Gold; [www.tribeworks.com](http://www.tribeworks.com), 800/807-4458), by Tribeworks, combines object-oriented design with QuickTime media and allows you to create custom interfaces for streaming media.

### Networking Product

**WINNER** With Apple's **AirPort Base Station** (\$299; [www.apple.com](http://www.apple.com), 800/692-7753), you can dial into your ISP

from the backyard, get 11-Mbps wireless access to your office network, and share an IP address with multiple users. This silvery hub is endowed with a 56K modem and an Ethernet port and can support as many as ten remote computers wirelessly.

**RUNNERS-UP** The **Linksys EtherFast 4-Port Cable/DSL Router** (\$179; [www.linksys.com](http://www.linksys.com), 800/546-5797) is easy to install and easy on the wallet. It also has four auto-sensing, 10/100 ports. Dartware's **InterMapper 3.0** (\$295, up to 10 devices; \$1,995, unlimited; [www.dartware.com](http://www.dartware.com), 603/643-2268) is the best network manager for the Mac—or maybe for any platform. It gives you an instant visual representation of your network.

### Development Software

**WINNER** Late Night Software's **Script Debugger 2.0** (\$189; [www.latenightsw.com](http://www.latenightsw.com), 888/999-3210) adds tools that make advanced AppleScript users even more produc-

tive and lower the barrier to entry for novices. It can debug local variables and, through its unique Dictionary Explorer, give you unprecedented insight into the innards of AppleScriptable applications.

**RUNNERS-UP** Already a popular environment for HTML developers, Bare Bones Software's **BEdit 6.0.1** (\$119; [www.barebones.com](http://www.barebones.com), 781/687-0700) is also an excellent editing tool for Java and JavaScript, PERL, PHP3, WAP, XML, C, and C++. And it's faster than its predecessors. Metrowerks' **CodeWarrior for Mac OS, Professional Edition, v.6.0** (\$499; [www.metrowerks.com](http://www.metrowerks.com), 800/377-5416) updates this multi-lingual integrated development environment for Mac OS with more standards-compliant compilers. Most important, CodeWarrior 6 lets developers create applications for Mac OS X. **m**

Director of Product Evaluation KRISTINA DE NIKE managed this year's awards.

## Technology of the Year



With impressive engineering and a shockingly low price, Apple transformed a wireless technology standard with a daunting name—802.11—into a friendly, low-cost way to network without wires: **AirPort** (\$299; [www.apple.com](http://www.apple.com), 800/692-7753).

The AirPort family provides speedy network connectivity without wires. You can surf the Net at full speed from your backyard, and people with difficult-to-wire homes can set up far-flung networks

without having to trip over Ethernet cables.

At the heart of the AirPort is the versatile AirPort Base Station, but this award also recognizes Apple's \$99 AirPort card, as well as the company's efforts to make all currently shipping Macs AirPort-compatible.



# Think Storage

(then think lots of storage for lots of users)

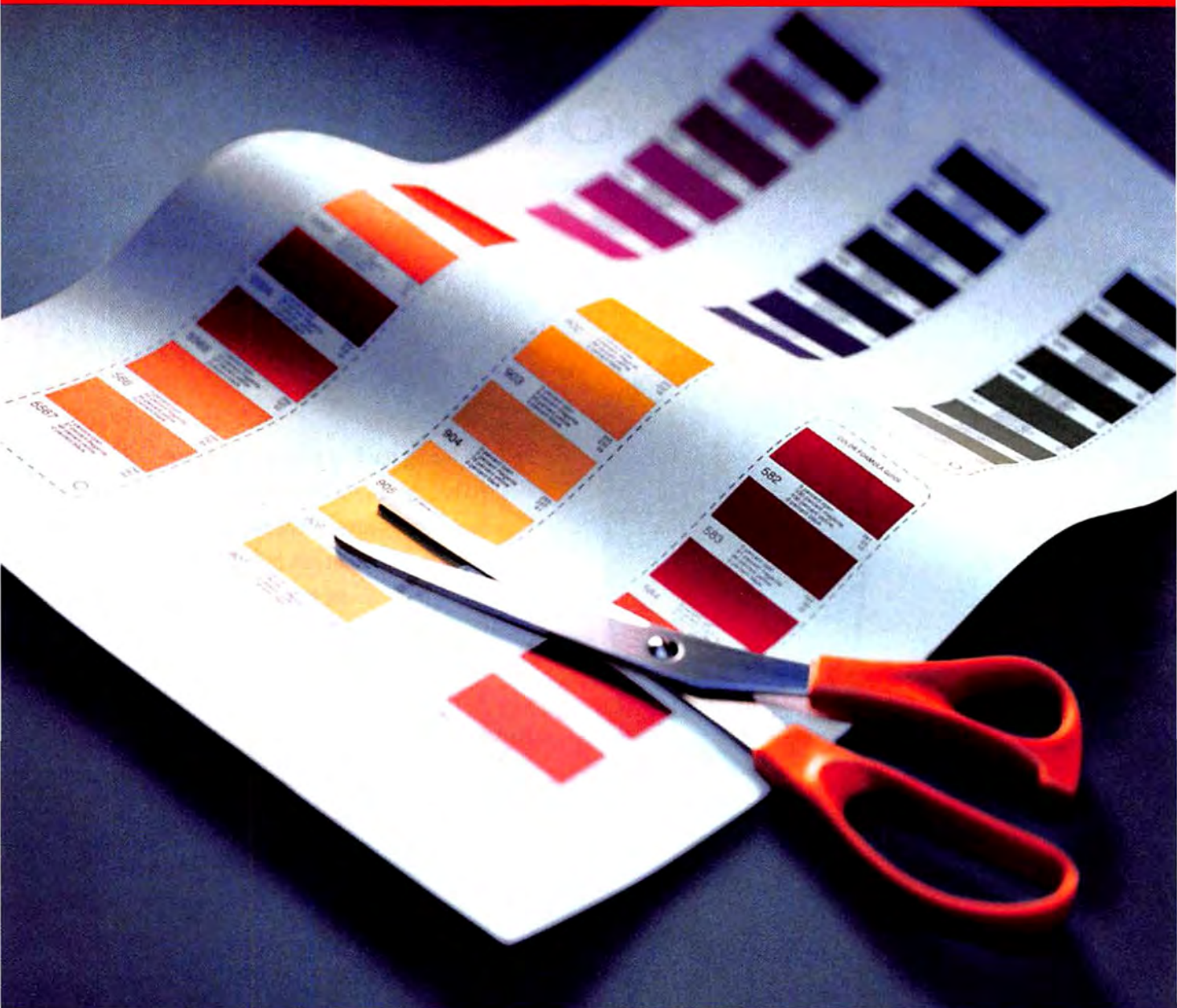


Introducing the first Ethernet SAN for the Mac, the 3ware NSU. The Network Storage Unit delivers consolidated, scalable storage that can be accessed by all your MAC users. Now you can keep all your data online – not stored on CD's, Zip cartridges or tape. From 240 GB to terabytes if you need it, the 3ware NSU provides high performance, reliable storage that's easy to install and manage. What could be more simple?

**When you think storage, think 3ware.**







## Just how accurate is the MINOLTA-QMS magicolor® 330 laser printer?

The MINOLTA-QMS magicolor® 330 color laser printer was designed with the most particular people in mind—designers. You folks set the standard for “picky.” And we are happy to oblige. The magicolor 330 produces 11”x17”, full-bleed color printing at 1200 dpi x 1200 dpi and is ICC-compliant with the most popular color management systems, including Apple ColorSync® and Windows® ICM. An integrated network interface delivers up to 4 ppm color and 16 ppm monochrome and the 330’s manual duplex capabilities make two-sided designs effortless. And with each magicolor 330 you purchase, you’ll get a set of PANTONE® color tables, automatic density control, and Colorific® monitor calibration software.

In your business, the printed piece is often the final representation of your work. When designing the 330, we kept that in mind. For more information about the 330 or the complete family of MINOLTA-QMS printers, visit us at [www.minolta-qms.com](http://www.minolta-qms.com) or call 1-800-435-0965.



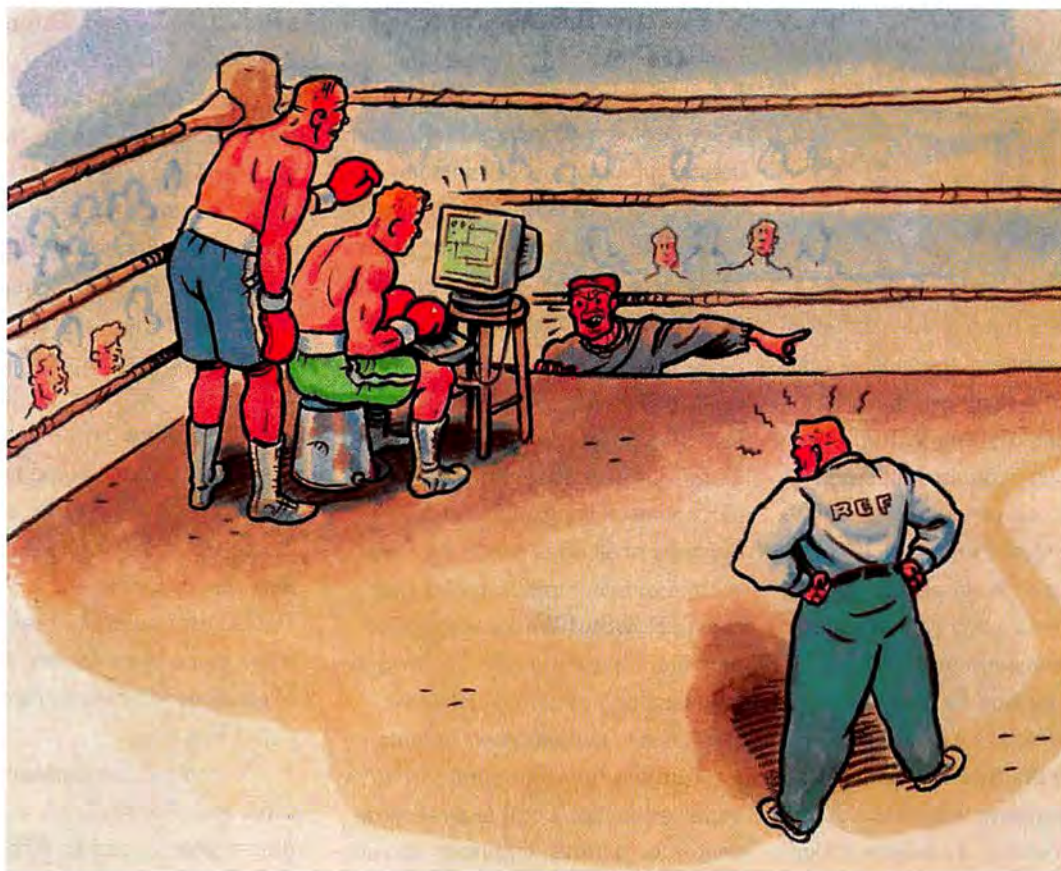
**The essentials of imaging**



# THE MACWORLD



# WEB AWARDS



**W**E MACWORLD EDITORS SPEND A LOT OF TIME ON THE WEB. We go online not only for pleasure, like millions of others, but also as an important part of our jobs. Whether it's through keeping up with rumors about future Apple products or, once in a while, playing a Flash-animated game or checking our stock portfolios, we have experience with many sites.

We've assembled a list of some of our favorite sites from around the Web for home, work, play, and technical use. This list is by no means comprehensive, and it isn't meant to represent the be-all, end-all best of the Web. Rather, it's a list of sites we've come to know and love. We're betting that you'll find many of these sites surprisingly useful, entertaining, or both—just as we *Macworld* editors did when we came together to pool our lists of Web favorites.





# home

## Apparel

Sure, those hot-pink pants look fantastic on the Web, but will they actually fit you? This is one of the most agonizing questions we face when buying clothes online. With **My Virtual Model** ([www.myvirtualmodel.com](http://www.myvirtualmodel.com)), you can try out clothes on an eerily accurate simulated image of yourself—just answer a simple questionnaire about your body type or enter your exact measurements.

If you're looking for that hard-to-find bright-red corduroy jacket, head over to the **Interactive Custom Clothes Company** ([www.ic3d.com](http://www.ic3d.com)), where you can buy duds from super-cool to traditional, all made-to-order. Or send in your favorite jeans and IC3D will make their mirror image, minus the holes and rips.

Even glasses get online treatment at **Eyeglasses.com** ([www.eyeglasses.com](http://www.eyeglasses.com)). Upload a photo of your face and virtually try on the huge selection of frames. You may even decide not to switch to contacts.

## Community

Forging your own community has never been easier than it is at **eGroups** ([www.egroups.com](http://www.egroups.com)), the

site that makes mailing lists simple to join and manage. Choose from thousands of groups based on interest or location, or start a new list.

Since 1995, **PlanetOut** ([www.planetout.com](http://www.planetout.com)) has been the online resource for the gay and lesbian community. With news, advice, personals, message boards, shopping directories, and even a pets section, PlanetOut provides an online meeting place.

Likewise, **ThirdAge** ([www.thirdage.com](http://www.thirdage.com)) is a community site targeting a specific demographic: baby boomers. ThirdAge gives visitors health, financial, news, romance, and travel resources tailored for the aging boomer. The site's community forums let participants share personal advice or meet others with similar interests.

## Education

Ever wondered how a car's engine works? Or pondered the inner mechanics of your refrigerator? Students of all ages can learn about such fascinating topics at Marshall Brain's **HowStuffWorks.com** ([www.howstuffworks.com](http://www.howstuffworks.com)). Get the lowdown on everything from artificial-snow machines to nuclear power plants.

**Familyleducation.com** ([www.familyleducation.com](http://www.familyleducation.com)) is a resource center for parents, teachers, and students in grades K–12. Teachers can put their grade books online and give students and parents password-protected access to their grades. The site also offers homework help, educational games, and project ideas.

When it comes time to leave the nest for the hallowed halls of higher education, you'll want to check out **Embark** ([www.embark.com](http://www.embark.com)). Embark leads you through the entire process of applying for college, from finding a school that fits your personality to footing the bill. You can even apply directly to many schools online.

## Family

Digging up your roots is easier than you'd think with **FamilyTreeMaker.com** ([www.familytreemaker.com](http://www.familytreemaker.com)). The site includes research advice, database searches, and an online community of others seeking their ancestors.

Whether you're considering starting a family, parenting a ten-year-old, or watching your youngest leave for college, you'll find good advice and helpful resources at **iParenting.com** (<http://iparenting.com>). You can join the online parenting community and get lots of invaluable information about mom- or dadhood.

A bit more daring is the offbeat and brutally honest site **Hip Mama** ([www.hipmama.com](http://www.hipmama.com)), where birth stories, music reviews, forums, and articles round out the superhip coverage.

## Food and Wine

Need an obscure recipe fast? **SOAR** (<http://soar.berkeley.edu/recipes>), the Searchable Online Archive of Recipes, probably has it. With nearly 70,000 user-submitted recipes, SOAR is the place to go for everything from Mississippi Mud Pie to Moroccan Chick Pea Soup.

To find out the perfect wine to serve with Peking Duck at your next dinner party, head to **WineToday** ([www.winetoday.com](http://www.winetoday.com)). The online wine magazine, from New York Times Digital, provides reviews and information on specific wines, wine storage, and wineries. It also has useful features for wine newbies, such as a glossary that tells you what the heck tannin is.

**Epicurious** ([www.epicurious.com](http://www.epicurious.com)) is a more general food and wine resource. Shop for specialty food items, prepare a meal from one of the many gourmet recipes, or read a review of the best American bourbons, all in one convenient place.



## Health

For consumers and health professionals alike, **Medlineplus Health Information** ([www.medlineplus.gov](http://www.medlineplus.gov)) is a comprehensive reference tool for all your medical questions. You can look up arcane medical terms and more than 9,000 prescription and over-the-counter drugs. The information is up-to-date and authoritative, drawn from the National Library of Medicine—the world's largest medical library.

Had a bad experience with a physician and want to warn others away? At **Health Grades** ([www.healthgrades.com](http://www.healthgrades.com)) you can share ratings of your experiences with physicians, hospitals, nursing homes, and more. Or, look up individual health-care providers in your area to find information such as board certification and any record of sanctions.

Specializing in alternative medicines, **WholeHealthMD.com** ([www.wholehealthmd.com](http://www.wholehealthmd.com)) provides a more holistic approach to your health. You can search for remedies according to health condition, find healing recipes, ask for advice from experts, and search for a local practitioner.

## Home Repair and Decor

Your home may be your castle, but even castles need occasional remodeling. **DoItYourself.com** ([www.doityourself.com](http://www.doityourself.com)) is the first place to go if you're feeling handy. The site has planning and how-to information on all aspects of home repair and improvement. Some of the projects even have short, illustrative video clips. For jobs you can't handle by yourself, the site helps you find a contractor and get an estimate.

If you're looking for some good advice about a home project, go to **Ask the Builder** ([www.askbuild.com](http://www.askbuild.com)). Based on Tim Carter's nationally syndicated column, the site

offers detailed instructions on home-improvement projects, all delivered with Tim's homespun charm.

**Better Homes and Gardens** ([www.bhg.com](http://www.bhg.com)), the Web site for the popular monthly magazine, has a bit of everything. There's an excellent gardening section, with a complete garden planner and a guide to trees and shrubs. Other great resources include a how-to encyclopedia of projects.



# tech

## Customize/Hobbyist

If you're itching to customize the look of your desktop, make sure to check out **ResExcellence** ([www.resexcellence.com](http://www.resexcellence.com)). This site includes themes, icons, start-up screens, and lots of other goodies that will give your Finder a whole new look. You can even submit a snapshot of your own desktop to show off to the world.

For a total makeover of your Mac, stop by **Applefritter** ([www.applefritter.com](http://www.applefritter.com)). Covering inventions from a 21-inch iMac to the Macquarium, this site has tons of information on how to decorate your old Mac.

Want to add another hard drive

or change your existing CD-ROM drive? Explore **AccelerateYourMac** ([www.xlr8yourmac.com](http://www.xlr8yourmac.com)), with its huge compatibility databases of hardware that works on a Mac. The site also includes news and forums about readers' experiences with both hardware and software.

## Glossary/Reference

It calls itself an "IT (Information Technology) resource," but don't let that frighten you—**WhatIs?com** ([www.whatis.com](http://www.whatis.com)) is an in-depth dictionary of technology terms. With a quick search, you'll soon know the difference between "Gigabit Ethernet" and "Fast Ethernet."

An impressive resource of Internet-related terms is **Webopedia** ([www.webopedia.com](http://www.webopedia.com)), where you can finally learn what "DNS" stands for and what the heck it means.

The **ComputerUser.com High-Tech Dictionary** ([www.computeruser.com/resources/dictionary/](http://www.computeruser.com/resources/dictionary/)), formerly the Computer Currents Dictionary, is an old standby. It's got definitions for a vast assortment of confusing computer terms from both sides of the Mac-PC fence.

## Mac Resource

Mac news junkies start the day right, fortified by links from **Mac Surfer's Headline News** ([www.macsurfer.com](http://www.macsurfer.com)). This one-stop shop corrals the best of Macintosh news, providing an at-a-glance digest of the day's top stories from all the Mac news sites that matter—as well as from a few that don't. Links to computer and technology articles of potential interest to a broader audience round out this site's Mac-centric mission.

A comprehensive and easy-to-use site from the United Kingdom, *continues*



**Computer Arts** ([www.computerarts.co.uk](http://www.computerarts.co.uk)), is rife with rated reviews, forums, and tutorials. It also offers very practical information for graphic artists. Print, Web, and 3-D media are represented, along with handy, downloadable tutorial files useful to beginners and more-advanced users alike.

Helping to nurture real-world skills among the Macintosh creative crowd is **Creative Mac** ([www.creativemac.com](http://www.creativemac.com)), a source for breaking news, tips, and weekly reviews. How-tos for print and motion graphics, along with a smattering of professional-grade video tutorials, help balance this relatively new site.

## Searching

With **Google** ([www.google.com](http://www.google.com)), you're certain to find what you're looking for. It searches more than 1 billion URLs; has a simple, uncluttered interface; and offers an advanced search feature for even more-specific results. If you're "feeling lucky," try an option that will take you directly to the Web page that's Google's top match to your query.

**Go2Net** ([www.go2net.com](http://www.go2net.com)) scans more than ten search engines, including AltaVista, Excite, and Infoseek, to find your results. It offers helpful tools, such as a Yellow Pages guide and classified ads. You can even customize the content to keep track of your stock portfolio and the local weather.

The intuitive **LookSmart** ([www.looksmart.com](http://www.looksmart.com)) lets you explore the Web either by keyword or by topic (*entertainment, work, or money*, for example). For a more personal approach, pose your question to other users, or take a stab at answering their questions.



# work

## Creative Tools

Creative professionals know that the key to finding work is getting your portfolio into the right hands at the right time. At **portfolios.com** ([www.portfolios.com](http://www.portfolios.com)) you can share your portfolio online, and the site attracts people looking for specific talent.

If you're desperately seeking an elusive stock photograph, stop by the Random Eye **Image Grabber** (<http://imagegrabber.randomeye.com>), which searches through more than ten major photography shops with one click and delivers your results in tabbed pages, with thumbnails.

For fonts, look no further than **MyFonts.com** ([www.myfonts.com](http://www.myfonts.com)). It offers links to all of the major foundries, and it also identifies fonts you've scanned and uploaded—no more guessing whether that ad you saw used Desdemona or Funky Fresh.

## Financial Resources

Sites that offer stock-market tips are a dime a dozen, but few make investing as accessible and fun as the online home of **The Motley Fool** ([www.fool.com](http://www.fool.com)).

Featuring lively user forums, Fool.com gives you news, opinion, and investment strategies—all written clearly enough to benefit both novice investors and experienced traders.

Finding a home or apartment can be an ordeal. But finding your way through **Realtor.com** ([www.realtor.com](http://www.realtor.com)) is a much easier pursuit, thanks to links for everything from mortgage and finance information to moving-expense calculators. The site's Real Estate 101 links are especially helpful to first-time buyers and sellers.

Although some of **Quicken.com's** ([www.quicken.com](http://www.quicken.com)) online tools won't work in Mac OS, it's still an extremely useful site for Mac users tracking their finances. Tight integration with Quicken 2001 Deluxe and TurboTax add value to this personal-finance resource.

## Freelancing Resources

If you're a freelancer who works at home, some might say you have it easy—you get to roll out of bed when you want, work in your sweats, and spend quality time with your cats. But occasionally you must confront such issues as marketing your services, itemizing deductions, and insuring your PowerBook. For wisdom on these and other matters, stop by **Entrepreneur.com** ([www.entrepreneur.com](http://www.entrepreneur.com)), a voluminous resource with access to assorted experts and other freelancers.

Another well-equipped freelancing resource is **guru.com** ([www.guru.com](http://www.guru.com)). Not only will it help you find projects, but it also will help project managers find you.

And if you're new to working on your own, or thinking of taking the plunge, check out **Free Agent Nation** ([www.freeagentnation.com](http://www.freeagentnation.com)). It has practical information, lists of helpful resources, and other support.



## Job Search

Working your way through a giant job-hunting site can be time-consuming and daunting. But **WetFeet.com** ([www.wetfeet.com](http://www.wetfeet.com)) lets you perform extensive research on employment fields as well as companies, so you can find out exactly what "excellent opportunity for building communications skills" means in different jobs.

The **InternetSourcebook.com** ([www.internetsourcebook.com/jobs/](http://www.internetsourcebook.com/jobs/)) offers an uncluttered, simple way to find job openings in specific fields and locations. It searches the employment pages of a variety of sites, giving you an idea of who's hiring and what they're offering.

**JobWeb** ([www.jobweb.com](http://www.jobweb.com)) caters to the relocation-minded. Its simple interface and plain-text listings lead users to geographically specific job listings sorted by job type.

## Nonprofit

Looking for volunteer opportunities in your area? **VolunteerMatch** ([www.volunteermatch.org](http://www.volunteermatch.org)) is a free service from Impact Online that helps you find what you're after, using just a ZIP code and answers to a few simple questions. And if you can't carve out time to leave the house, check out the Virtual Volunteering section for ways to help by doing work on your computer.

You can locate articles on nonprofit fund-raising, managing, and training at **PhilanthropySearch.com** ([www.philanthropysearch.com](http://www.philanthropysearch.com)). Use the Speed Search links to find information about organizations you're interested in or to discover new ones.

Whether you manage a nonprofit or just have some spare time to offer, **idealist** ([www.idealists.org](http://www.idealists.org)), from Action Without Borders, is where you can find or post jobs and learn

about upcoming events. Its Tools for Nonprofits section has information on running your organization smoothly and using the Internet to become more visible.

## Online Tools

For online storage, it's hard to beat the 300MB of space offered for free by **Myspace.com** ([www.myspace.com](http://www.myspace.com)). Besides dwarfing what rival sites give away, Myspace makes it easy to share files with other members.

Many online calendaring applications suffer from clutter—but not **MyPalm** ([www.palm.net](http://www.palm.net)), which has a clean interface and simple-to-use commands.

With **eFax.com** ([www.efax.com](http://www.efax.com)), you can get voice mail and faxes by e-mail—a useful tool for PowerBook-toting business travelers who want to stay in touch while on the road.



# play

## Games

Looking for game news, previews, and reviews? Check out **Inside Mac Games** ([www.imgmagazine.com](http://www.imgmagazine.com)). The site also offers juicy tips, hints, and cheats. If you want to talk with

other enthusiasts, turn to the forums.

When you're itching to play games online, head to **Shockwave.com** ([www.shockwave.com](http://www.shockwave.com)), featuring arcade classics such as Spy Hunter and Robotron. You can also play newer games, such as South Park Snowballs or Deer Hunter. First-time users must download the Shockwave plug-in before enjoying the site—a small price to pay for hours of free fun.

The myriad games at **flipside.com** ([www.flipside.com](http://www.flipside.com)) include some inspired by current Hollywood films, plus networked games you play over the Internet. Registering on the site allows you to rack up points, which can be redeemed for prizes.

## Movies

If you have the bandwidth to view movies on the Web, click over to **AtomFilms** ([www.atomfilms.com](http://www.atomfilms.com)). You'll be able to watch a variety of short films and animations, ranging from Academy Award nominees to obscure gems from around the corner or around the world. Filmmakers note: if AtomFilms accepts your submission, you get paid!

Owners of DVD players will find **DVD Review** ([www.dvdreview.com](http://www.dvdreview.com)) to be a gold mine of information. You can check on upcoming releases, read reviews, and even chat with other DVD owners. Our favorite part of the site reveals the hidden features, or "Easter eggs," in some DVDs.

When you want your entertainment on the big screen, **MovieFone** ([www.moviefone.com](http://www.moviefone.com)) delivers the goods: you can check show times and buy tickets for movies at this site. But in case you're not yet ready to venture outside, MovieFone also provides reviews, star gossip, made-for-the-Web movies, and chat rooms.

*continues*





## Music

You might want to set aside some time before checking out the **All music guide** ([www.allmusic.com](http://www.allmusic.com)). Use a band's name as a search term to get a biography page with links to all the members, other bands they've played with, their influences, discographies with reviews, track listings, credits, and more.

If it's live music you seek, then **Tourdates.com** ([www.tourdates.com](http://www.tourdates.com)) is a must. Search for shows by city, date, club, or artist. You can post scene reports for your area; sell, swap, or beg for tickets; and read reviews of shows headed your way.

If you'd rather make your own music, launch Netscape and go to Thomas Dolby's site, **Beatnik** ([www.beatnik.com](http://www.beatnik.com)). Beatnik's MixMan software allows you to remix popular songs. Now you can hit Pat Benetar with your best shot until you get it right. After recording your mix, send it to your friends with Beatnik's Netscape plug-in.

## Online Dating

Hundreds of sites offer online dating—as long as you're willing to pay. But if you're saving your money for that first dinner date, check out these free sites that cover all the basics.

**Yahoo! Personals** (<http://personals.yahoo.com>) has a good interface that lets you narrow your search for a dream date to within four miles of where you live.

**Love@AOL** (<http://love.aol.com>) features an in-depth search-criteria engine, and you can choose to view only listings with pictures—to narrow your search even further and sneak a peek at your potential new squeeze.

If all this is new to you, **Way Too Personal** ([www.waytoopersonal.com](http://www.waytoopersonal.com)) will show you some prizes and pitfalls of online dating. It has examples of

scary responses people have gotten, as well as sage online-dating advice, chat rooms, and links to help you find your virtual soul mate. Good luck!

## Online Magazines

Can a site's navigational tools be too good? Visit **Salon.com** ([www.salon.com](http://www.salon.com)), and find out. Each polished, well-researched story offers plentiful (and irresistible) links to related stories, and the inviting design encourages visitors to settle in and stay awhile. With sections devoted to politics, media, sex, and breaking news, this addictive site has something for everyone.

Less well-organized but worth a daily visit is **Feed** ([www.feedmag.com](http://www.feedmag.com)), a collection of consistently well-written, in-depth reports and essays on culture, science and technology, and entertainment. A daily feed keeps you current on the latest happenings; special issues focus on topics ranging from open-source software to DNA.

Francis Ford Coppola's literary magazine, **Zoetrope: All-Story** ([www.zoetrope-stories.com](http://www.zoetrope-stories.com)), will appeal to both aspiring writers and anyone who appreciates the short-story genre. Listen to a live reading, download a PDF of the latest issue, or submit your own story for critique—possibly by an agent or producer. Great community features give this site a homespun feel, while big-name contributors (David Bowie art-directed one issue) give it an edge.

## Sports

The **NHL's** home site ([www.nhl.com](http://www.nhl.com)) is a fantastic resource for hockey fans. It contains up-to-date information on players and teams, and you can even listen to the home and away teams' radio broadcasts for the season in RealPlayer format.

If you're into the nitty-gritty of football, **NFLFans.com** ([www.nflfans.com](http://www.nflfans.com)) carries the latest buzz and stories, as well as chat rooms and links to fantasy football sites.

If those don't cover your sports interests, **ESPN.com** ([www.ESPN.com](http://www.ESPN.com)) will fulfill your needs. Whether it's golf, horse racing, or high-school sports, ESPN has coverage of almost every sport imaginable. If you don't find what you need on the main page, try the links to more-specific sports areas such as soccer ("football," to the rest of the world), extreme sports, and boxing.

## Travel

Where can you find a four-and-a-half-pound steak that's free if you eat it in less than an hour? Or a building that's shaped like a shoe? At **roadsideamerica.com** ([www.roadsideamerica.com](http://www.roadsideamerica.com)), these off-beat tourist destinations and many others are listed. Ideal if you're planning a road trip or simply have a penchant for the unusual.

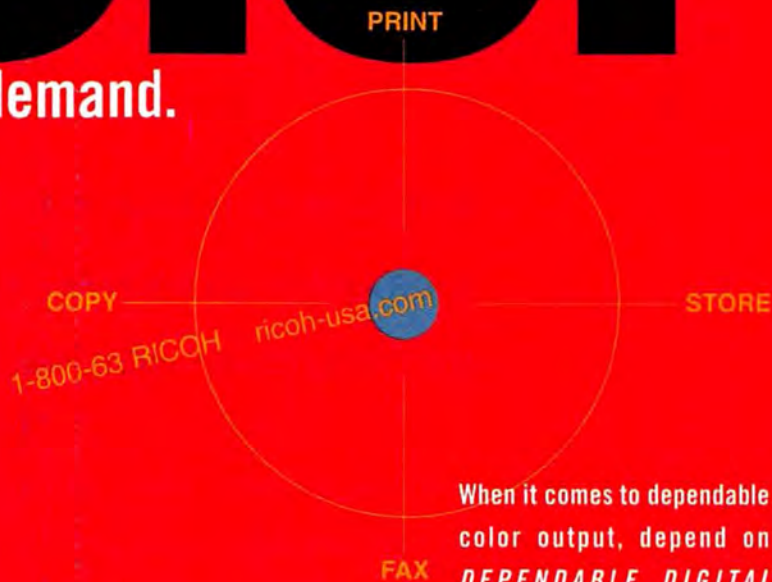
The **Travel Channel's** Web site ([www.travel.discovery.com](http://www.travel.discovery.com)) caters to anyone interested in travel—in the United States or abroad. Impressive photography shows you what to expect at a variety of destinations, and live Web cams broadcast from a number of locations, including Loch Ness in Scotland and the Little White Chapel in Las Vegas.

Whether you want to know what's going on where you live or to plan a trip out of town, **citysearch.com** ([www.citysearch.com](http://www.citysearch.com)) is a comprehensive Web site that covers major cities in the United States and abroad, from San Francisco to St. Louis and Reykjavik to Rio. Listing restaurants, movie show times, and much more, citysearch.com is expansive and easy to navigate. **m**



# color digital

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# WEB DESIGN FOR BOTH SIDES OF THE BRAIN

WHETHER YOU'RE A CODE CRUNCHER OR  
A GRAPHIC DESIGNER, DREAMWEAVER 4  
HAS THE TOOLS YOU NEED **BY JASON SNELL**

EVERY CREATIVE FIELD HAS ITS PURISTS. SOME PHOTOGRAPHERS scorn digital retouching; some actors insist on doing their own stunts; and some television writers . . . well, OK, maybe not every field.

When it comes to Web design, the purists are hand coders—HTML mavericks who distrust any code generated by software instead of a human brain. Of course, their suspicion is easy to understand. Early WYSIWYG Web design programs did a decent job of approximating basic Web designs, but they generated HTML code that was junky, complicated, and sometimes just plain wrong. Although today's advanced Web design tools are much smarter when it comes to writing HTML, most serious Web coders still refuse to rely solely on a visual page editor.

The new Macromedia Dreamweaver 4 (\$299; 800/457-1774, [www.macromedia.com](http://www.macromedia.com).) appeals to both sides of a Web designer's nature: the part that needs hands-on editing of HTML, and the part that appreciates easy-to-use visual tools for building complex

#### IN THIS SECTION:

**74** PAINLESS POP-UP  
MENUS

**76** TRACK YOUR  
PROGRESS WITH EXCEL

**80** REVIVE YOUR FILES



"10" cellpadding="

the field



designs. Dreamweaver 4 has a load of new features that make page design easier even if you never look at a single HTML tag. But if you *are* concerned with code, it also gives you the control you crave.

### Integrated Code

In previous versions of Dreamweaver, the only way to view and edit a page's HTML code was to pop open the floating Code Inspector window. Although it was useful, this code view had some limitations. First, you could examine only one document's code at a time. And since the common window-closing keyboard shortcut  $\mathbb{H}$ -W didn't work for the Code Inspector window, designers sometimes closed their documents by mistake.

Dreamweaver 4 provides a new option for accessing your code. You

can mix Code and Design views in a split-pane view that shows the HTML code in one half of the window and the graphical representation in the other, so you can readily observe what effect one is having on the other (see "A Code with a View").

This split view is a real boon to designers who like to code pages by hand but also appreciate Dreamweaver's visual approach to page design. However, it does have constraints: for one, it requires a large display. At a screen resolution of 1,024 by 768 pixels, the combination of Dreamweaver's main window and all its floating panels (the new term for palettes) already crowd the monitor. Now imagine that editing window cut in half—only a sliver of your Web page is visible at any given time.

In addition, when you're editing code, the Design view doesn't update the display automatically to reflect your work—you must either click on the Refresh button in the Properties Inspector window or press the F5 key. (Modifications you make in the Design view appear automatically in the Code view, so you can watch Dreamweaver write code as you work.)

### Quick Coding Help

With code, the devil is in the details. And there are a *lot* of details. But Dreamweaver 4's tool bar includes a collection of new features that will be welcome relief to anyone without a photographic memory.

If you ever struggle to remember the precise syntax for a JavaScript command or the difference between cell padding and cell spacing in

# REPORT Your Web Site

CREATING SITES THAT ARE ACCESSIBLE TO PEOPLE who are blind or visually impaired is a growing responsibility for Web developers (see "Create a Barrier-Free Web Site," *Create*, August 2000). And one of the easiest steps to creating an accessible site—using the **alt** tag to add text descriptions to images—is also the easiest to overlook. But with Dreamweaver 4's new Site Reports feature, you can quickly locate missing **alt** tags (plus several other troublesome code gaffes) throughout your Web site.

To get the most out of your site reports, make sure to first define a local site in Dreamweaver. This advanced site-management option will keep track of your site's files and simplify updating and link management.—DAVID SAWYER MCFARLAND

**1 Create Your Report** To start a new report, open the Site menu and select Reports. In the Reports window, specify which page or pages you want to examine. To have Dreamweaver check all of the pages in your site, select Entire Local Site from the Report On pop-up menu **A**.



Next select the type of report you wish to generate. You can include as many criteria as you like for each. To find images that are missing a text description, click on the Missing Alt Text check box **B**. Generate the report by clicking on the Run button **C**.



HTML tables, you'll appreciate Dreamweaver's new Reference panel. It's stocked with three reference guides from the coding geek's favorite publisher, O'Reilly & Associates. This panel provides context-sensitive information about the proper use of HTML, Cascading Style Sheets (CSS), and JavaScript.

Say you're creating an HTML form and you can't recall what code to write so the form data display in the URL, rather than being sent invisibly. You simply type `<form` in the Code view, and then either press shift-F1 or click on the Reference button in the tool bar. Up pops the Reference panel with useful details on the `<form>` tag, including the code you seek: `method=get`. Even better, the guide explains that you're not supposed to use `method=get`

anymore, because it's frowned on in HTML 4.0. That's a lot of information at your fingertips.

The new tool bar also provides quick access to other common tasks, including shortcuts to upload and download commands, browser previews, and all three view options. You can open the new in-browser JavaScript debugger to test your script for errors (it works only with Netscape Navigator on the Mac). The tool bar even has a Title box, so you can name your page without having to choose Page Properties from the Modify menu.

### Tables in a Hurry

Perhaps Dreamweaver 4's most intriguing new feature is the Layout view. Activated from the Objects panel, the Layout view lets you create HTML tables—the design build-

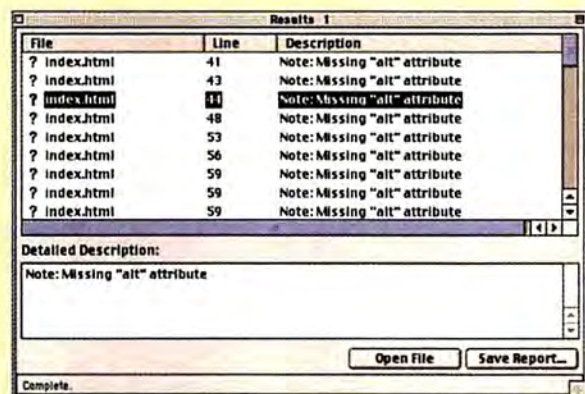
ing blocks for almost every page on the Web—simply by drawing them on your screen. Layout view actually incorporates two different tools: the Draw Layout Table tool, with which you define the boundary of your table, and the Draw Layout Cell tool, which you can use to add cells to those tables in free-form fashion. As you add cells, Dreamweaver rejiggers the number and size of rows and columns in the table to accommodate what you draw (see "Setting Your Table").

While in the Layout view, you can specify the width of each column. For a more fluid approach, you can instead set column widths to *Autostretch*. Then columns will resize on-the-fly based on the width of the viewer's browser window—so your

*continues*

# 2

**Get the Results** Dreamweaver will scan all of the selected files and list its findings in the Results window. For each instance, the report includes the file name, the line number, and a description of the problem.



To fix the missing `alt` text, double-click on the corresponding line in the report.

# 3

**Repair Missing Tags** Dreamweaver opens the errant file with the offending image **A** already selected. Type a description for the image into the Alt field **B** of the Property Inspector.



**TIP:** If you use small, transparent images to help control the layout of your page, type in a single space for `alt` text. This will help your pages comply with accessibility guidelines, but it won't confuse users with unnecessary descriptions.





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page will look good when displayed at any window width or resolution.

Meticulous table designers will probably find the Layout view a needless complication. But anyone who's ever gotten a headache trying to organize myriad rows and cells to get a table's design just right may find Dreamweaver's new alternate approach useful. Even if you prefer to manually specify your table widths in Dreamweaver's standard view—or in the code itself—you can use this approach to generate the fundamental structure of tables in a hurry, freeing you to sweat the details.

### Flash . . . without Flash

Macromedia's Flash allows designers to create bandwidth-efficient, vector-based animations and embed them in Web pages. Until recently the only way to build even the simplest Flash files (which use the SWF file format) was to buy—and learn—a Flash animation program such as Macrome-



**A Code with a View** Dreamweaver 4's new two-in-one view lets you peruse your Web site's visual design and the underlying code simultaneously.

choices range from hypnotic, pulsating buttons to finely beveled designs. (Flash users can also make new templates by saving Flash Generator format files to the Flash Templates subfolder within Dreamweaver's Configuration folder.)

The second is Insert Flash Text, which generates text in the SWF format. Traditionally, you couldn't be absolutely sure that type would display correctly on your Web page unless you either used one of a handful of commonly available typefaces (Arial, Helvetica, and Times are the usual suspects) or saved the text as a GIF image file. But because Flash uses vectors, Insert Flash Text lets

you embed text files that are smaller than comparable GIF images and that stay true to their original font—as long as the browser on the other end can display SWF format.

And that's the catch with both of these new features. For all the advantages of Flash, it's a data format that you can't view without a plug-in. Given that GIF images aren't that

much bigger—and that file size is becoming less of a concern as Internet connections continue to speed up—adding Flash buttons and text to your Web site may not be worth the risk of compatibility problems.

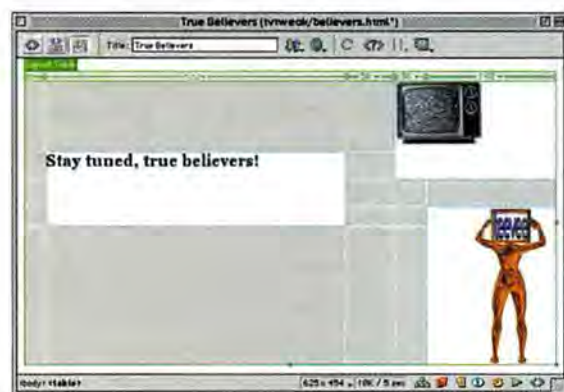
### Work with Fireworks

Among the other changes in Dreamweaver 4 is tighter integration with Fireworks 4, the latest version of Macromedia's

Web graphics application. (To learn what's new in Fireworks 4, go to [www.macworld.com/2000/11/13/fireworks.html](http://www.macworld.com/2000/11/13/fireworks.html).) You can now pass graphics files and their accompanying HTML code between the two programs seamlessly.

For example, let's say you've created a complicated layout in Fireworks, divided the image into slices, and imported these slices into Dreamweaver. You then deleted several placeholder images and replaced them with text, or perhaps you modified the hyperlinks for some of the images. In previous versions of both programs, once such modifications were done, it was impossible to reconcile the current version with the original Fireworks file. This created problems if you needed to return to Fireworks to tweak the original design.

But version 4 lets you transfer items back and forth between programs without losing any changes. When you're editing a table that was generated by Fireworks 4, Dreamweaver's Properties Inspector includes an Edit In Fireworks button. When you click on this button, Fireworks opens and displays a version



**Setting Your Table** The Layout view offers a simple click-and-drag interface for creating complex table designs.



of your table—including all the changes you've made within Dreamweaver—beneath a text banner that reads, "Editing from Dreamweaver." When you've finished your editing, simply click on the Done button and the changes you've made in Fireworks are automatically sent back to Dreamweaver.

This all adds up to a major change in graphics and Web workflow. If you need to modify an image long after a graphic designer has passed off the work to you, reconciling changes made in Dreamweaver with the original Fireworks file is no longer an arduous process.

### Other New Features

Dreamweaver 4 also contains a raft of small but useful additions that will improve the way you work. The new Assets panel, for example, offers a convenient way to organize and access your site's vast and unwieldy assortment of images, colors, and hyperlinks. You can even group your most commonly used assets into a list of favorites so you don't have to search the entire haystack every time you need one. Other improvements include a new Site Reporting feature that scans sites for errors (see "Report Your Web Site"); an improved window-management system that places windows out of the way of floating panels; and a command that automatically integrates nested tables into the structure of their parent tables.

### The Last Word

Dreamweaver 4 is a major update with a mix of subtle and snazzy new features. Some items, such as Flash Text and Buttons, are heavier on style than on substance. But when it comes to geeky additions—such as the Code view, the Layout view, and online reference materials—

# EXPANDING Dreamweaver's Horizons

## DREAMWEAVER IS SO EXTENSIBLE

and customizable, users have written hundreds of Dreamweaver extensions to add features or quick workarounds for otherwise tedious tasks. And these chunks of downloadable code aren't little add-ons relegated to a Scripts or Plug-ins menu: Dreamweaver extensions are fully integrated into the program. In fact, most of Dreamweaver's built-in features are actually extensions themselves.

At November's Thunder Lizard Dreamweaver Conference 2000, we asked several of the gathered Dreamweaver users and conference panelists for their favorite extensions. Here are five top picks, all offered as free downloads at Macromedia's Exchange Web site ([www.macromedia.com/exchange](http://www.macromedia.com/exchange)):

**FAVORITES MENU** This extension lets you access important and often-used files from a Favorites menu in Dreamweaver. The Favorites menu works just like your Web browser's Favorites bar, allowing you to quickly add and organize menu contents.

**OBJECT MAKER** You can cut down on redundant tasks by saving bits of code—for example, table designs—as reusable objects. This extension takes any selection from a Dreamweaver document and places it in your Objects panel for quick access.

**CREATE LINK FROM TEXT** With this extension, you can turn a word into a hyperlink without having to retype it. You need to determine only the appropriate prefix (such as <http://www.>) and suffix ([.com](http://www.com)).

**RESOLUTION REDIRECT** This extension takes some of the uncertainty out of the viewer's experience by inserting a script into the document's Head content. The script detects the viewer's screen resolution and redirects users to pages designed specifically for that resolution.

**CHECK PAGE FOR ACCESSIBILITY** Federal law now requires government Web sites to be accessible to users with disabilities. This extension checks for potential accessibility troubles, and generates an accessibility report with links to problem areas in the page's source code.—KELLY LUNSFORD

Dreamweaver 4 has taken great strides. The program is a serious tool for serious Web designers—even those designers who would never admit to using anything but a plain old text editor. **m**

Macworld.com Editor JASON SNELL has been publishing on the Internet since 1991 and covering Web publishing since 1993.

### More Info:

[www.macromedia.com/exchange](http://www.macromedia.com/exchange)

Download hundreds of useful (and some not-so-useful) extensions to Dreamweaver, ranging from new Objects panel items to entire menu commands.



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# Painless Pop-up Menus

## Fireworks 4 Writes the JavaScript for You

Web pages can scroll on forever, but that does not mean your readers will. A savvy designer makes the most of screen real estate. Pop-up menus are one way to pack a lot of information into a small space; when visitors to your site mouse over a button that hides a pop-up menu, a new group of buttons or text links appears with additional menu options.

Pop-up menus can also streamline your users' interactions, allowing them to quickly jump to the pages they need. Say you're developing a nutrition Web site illustrating the Food Guide Pyramid. You build six buttons representing the food groups. When a visitor mouses over a button, such as the one for the Grain group, a pop-up menu appears with additional choices, such as Rice and Pasta. The visitor can scroll down to one of those menu items and go directly to that page.

Macromedia's Fireworks 4 (800/457-1774, [www.macromedia.com](http://www.macromedia.com)) makes it easy to create pop-up menus. You create the images for the buttons, and then Fireworks automatically writes and exports the JavaScript that powers the buttons. In just three steps, you can use Fireworks 4 to create a working Web-page interface with a space-saving pop-up menu. **m**

LISA LOPUCK is an author, Web designer, public speaker, and founder of eHandsOn ([www.ehandson.com](http://www.ehandson.com)), an online training company for the professional Web and creative developer.

# 1

**Inserting Hotspots** To insert a pop-up menu, you first need to add a hotspot to your main button. These interactive elements trigger pop-up menus. In this step, you'll add six hotspots to the fictitious nutrition site.



**A**

Select the Rectangle tool, and create six rectangles, which will become your buttons. With the Text tool, enter the descriptive labels **Fat, Oil & Sweets; Dairy; Meat; Vegetable; Fruit; and Grain** **A**. For detailed instructions on using the Rectangle and Text tools, see [www.macworld.com/2001/03/howto/fireworksbutton.html](http://www.macworld.com/2001/03/howto/fireworksbutton.html).

Group each text label with its rectangle by holding down the shift key while clicking on both the text label and the rectangle, and then choosing Group from the Modify menu. Click on the background to deselect the group. Repeat this for each button.



**B**

Select all six buttons with the Pointer tool by holding down the shift key while clicking on each label. Choose Insert: Hotspot from Fireworks' main menu. The window that appears asks whether you want a single large hotspot or multiple ones. Click on Multiple. You should now have six hotspots of the exact size of your buttons **B**. Click once on the background to deselect them.

**More Info:** [www.webstandards.org](http://www.webstandards.org)

Not all browsers support JavaScript, so check this site to see which versions can properly display your pop-up menus.

**LINK**



# 2

**Inserting a Pop-Up Menu** With all six hotspots in place, you can add a pop-up menu to each one.

Select the hotspot for the Grain button and choose **Insert: Pop-Up Menu** from the menu bar. In the **Set Up** window, type the first item for the menu, **Bread**, in the **Text** field, and then enter a link in the **Link** field—here it's **bread.html**. To add the item to the menu list, click on the + icon **A**.



Now enter the additional choices you want under **Bread**. Type **Wheat**, add a link (here **bread/wheat.html**), and click on the + icon. With the **Wheat** menu item highlighted, click on the **Create Menu** icon **B** to make **Wheat** a submenu of **Bread**. **Wheat** will then be indented below **Bread**. Now type **White**, enter **bread/white.html**, and click on the + icon. To move an item up in the pop-up hierarchy, click on the **Promote Menu** icon **C**.

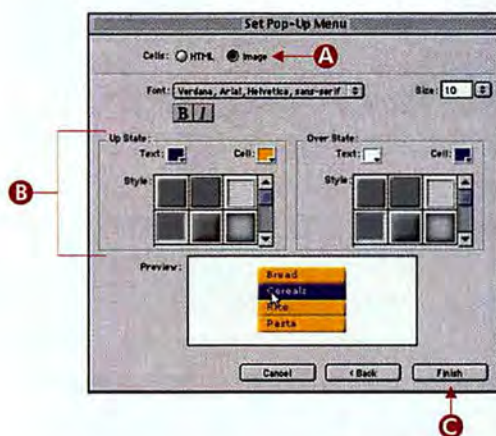


Continue in this way until you've completed all the submenus for the Grain category. Click on the **Next** button **D** to continue.

# 3

**Finishing and Previewing Your Pop-Up Menu** The last step is to fine-tune the pop-up menu's appearance. **Fireworks** gives you a choice of an **HTML** or a "button-like" look and lets you control the font and font size.

You can apply various format settings to your pop-up menu. Select the **Image** option **A**. Choose a font style from the font list, and change the font size to whatever looks best with your typeface. If you feel adventurous, play with the image and color options **B**. Otherwise, click on the **Finish** button **C** to return to your document.



Back in the document, you'll see a light-blue outline representing your pop-up menu. With the **Pointer** tool, click and drag it to where you want it to appear **D**.



Repeat steps 2 and 3 to add pop-up menus to the remaining five buttons. To preview your buttons, choose **File: Preview In Browser**. Then just admire your **Fireworks** handiwork **E**.





# Track Your Progress with Excel

## Formulas and Graphs Are at Your Fingertips

By Microsoft's own admission, Excel gets more use as a simple list-management tool than as a real spreadsheet. Why is that? It's as if millions of people bought four-wheel-drive SUVs just to drive to the supermarket—but maybe that's a bad analogy.

We can't help you justify your SUV, but if you're one of the millions of Excel owners who have never entered a formula or generated a graph, here's a chance to road test Excel 2001's interface with a simple project. It's actually a complement to a spreadsheet called Daily Food Diary, which Microsoft ships with Excel. The idea is that if you're trying to lose a few pounds through a sensible diet, it helps to record your progress, keep yourself motivated, and make sure you aren't losing weight too fast. This spreadsheet will let you do all of those things—and teach you some Excel skills you can apply to other tracking projects, financial or otherwise. You'll see how using formulas is both more interactive and more fun than simply making a list. Of course, you have to do the weighing yourself—USB-equipped scales are still on the drawing boards. **m**

JAMES BRADBURY is the former editor of *MacUser* and a shadow of his former self.

# 1

**Create a New Worksheet** Office 2001 ships with a Project Gallery that's full of useful templates. We're going to modify one called Daily Food Diary, an Excel template designed for keeping track of what you eat.

First, open the Project Gallery. Under the File menu, select **Planners: Meals-Diets: Daily Food Diary**. Insert a new worksheet into the file (**Insert: Worksheet**). By default, Excel places the worksheet's tab before that of the Daily Food Diary and labels it **Sheet 1**. Double-click on the tab to rename the worksheet. You can change the order of the worksheet tabs by clicking and dragging to new positions. Save this new workbook (which is what Excel calls a file) under a new name with the **File: Save As** command.



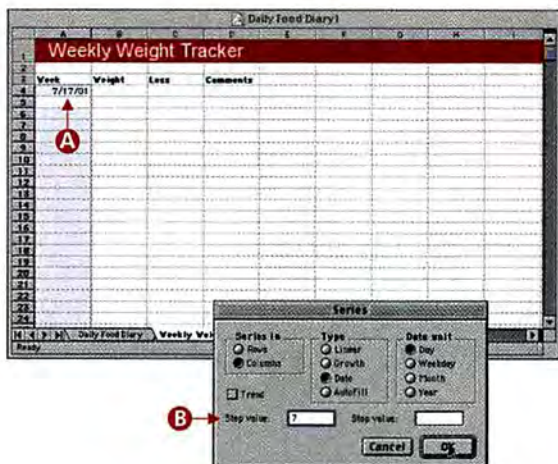
For consistency of style, select, copy, and paste the main header of the Daily Food Diary worksheet into cell A1 of your new worksheet. Then change the wording by double-clicking on the cell and typing **Weekly Weight Tracker** **A**. In the same manner, enter the four column headings in their cells as shown **B**. Select and style them as bold.



# 2

**Get Your Fill** The Fill commands (listed under Edit: Fill) are some of the most powerful time-savers in Excel. They automatically copy the contents of one cell to a selected group of adjacent cells, whether those contents are text, data, or a formula.

*In the first column, you'll use Fill: Series to set up a weekly schedule. Start by typing the first date you'll weigh yourself under the Week heading, in cell A4 (A).*



Then, select cells A4 through A25 by drawing a marquee with the cursor (selected cells will be outlined). Choose the Fill: Series command from the Edit menu. Enter 7 (for days in a week) in the Step Value field (B), and click on OK. Excel then automatically generates weekly tracking dates.

# 3

**See You Later, Calculator** The Calculator, which is new to this version of Excel, makes creating even complicated formulas easy. But first we'll try it out on something simpler.

*For the Weight column, enter your starting weight in the first cell (B4) (A). Then highlight the next cell down (B5) and click on the Calculator in the Formula tool bar. (If you don't see the Formula tool bar, you can turn it on under the View menu.)*



With the Calculator showing, click on cell B4 in the spreadsheet so that the formula displayed in the Calculator result window becomes =B4 (B). Click on OK to close the Calculator. Cell B5 should now have the same value as cell B4. Click on B5 and drag your cursor down to the bottom of B25 so that B5 through B25 are highlighted. Use the Edit: Fill: Down command to copy the formula in B5 to the rest of the cells.

continues





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**<site  
yard>**

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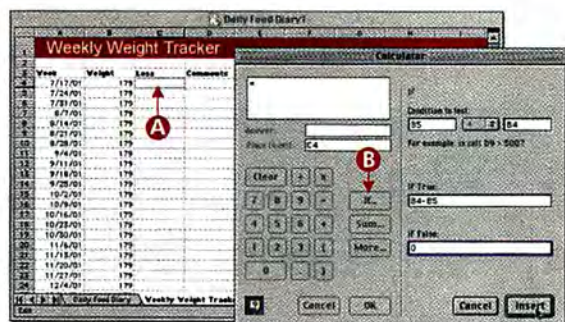
# 4

**Get in Condition** One big difference between a boring list and an interactive spreadsheet is the use of conditions. That's where the smarts of this spreadsheet reside.

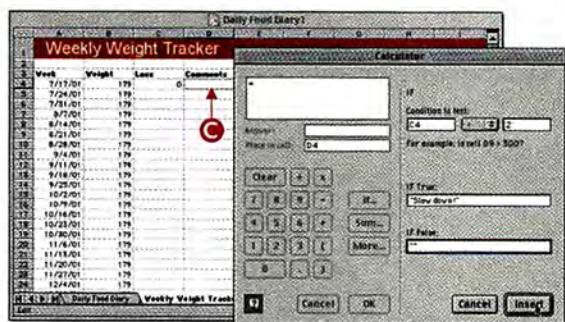
# 5

**Seeing Is Believing** Tracking your weight as it goes down (or up) will be a lot easier if you can see it graphically, and Excel is a great graphing tool.

For the Loss column, click on cell C4 **A** and open the Calculator. Click on the If button **B** to enter a conditional formula, and fill out the windows to the right as shown. This will cause the difference to appear only if your weight goes down. Click on Insert and then on OK to insert the formula.

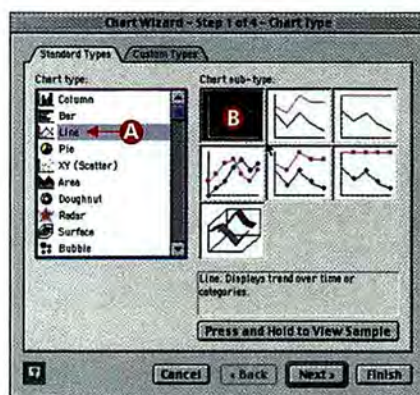


For the Comments column, you'll use a text string in a conditional statement. Click on cell D4 **C** and fill out the Calculator window as shown after clicking on the If button.

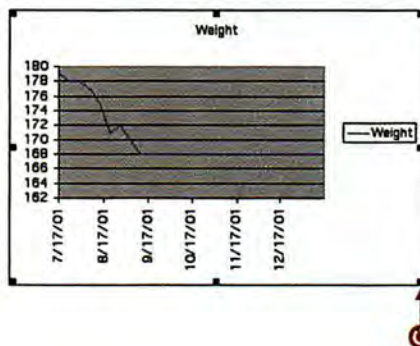


Use Edit: Fill: Down again to copy both of the formulas in this step to the rest of their respective columns. Now, if you're losing weight too quickly, the Comments column will remind you to slow down.

To create a simple graph that follows your weight over the time period covered in the Weekly Weight Tracker spreadsheet, click on cell A3 and drag your cursor to cell B25 to select the data in rows A and B. Then select Chart from the Insert menu. When the Chart Wizard dialog box appears, select Line for both the chart type **A** and subtype **B**.



Click on Finish to automatically create the chart. You can make it bigger by dragging the lower right-hand corner **C**.



**More Info:** [www.macworld.com/2001/01/reviews/office.html](http://www.macworld.com/2001/01/reviews/office.html)

Learn more about the capabilities of Microsoft Excel 2001.

How-to

Microsoft Excel

LINK



# Revive Your Files

## Bring Overwritten, Unsaved, Deleted, or Damaged Files Back to Life

It's a cold day in January, and your car won't start. There's not even a hint of life. Fortunately, with the help of a neighbor's car and a pair of jumper cables, you get the engine rolling again. Similarly, there are tools you can use to restore Mac files you've given up on.

Your best defense against data loss can be summarized in two words: *save* and *backup*. If you hit the Save button frequently, you'll probably never lose more than a bit of unsaved data. And if you regularly make backups of your documents to media other than your hard drive, you won't have to worry about losing your backups.

Frequent saves and regular backups will provide a good deal of security, but you can still lose data. For instance, your Mac may crash before you have a chance to save a file, or you may write over a version of a document and then want the original version back. Before you throw up your hands and start over, remember that there's hope for recovering what you've lost.

Which recovery method you use depends on how you lost your data. Here's a guide to determining the right method for your specific circumstances. **m**

Contributing Editor TED LANDAU heads up the MacFixIt Web site ([www.macfixit.com](http://www.macfixit.com)) and is the author of *Sad Macs, Bombs, & Other Disasters*, fourth edition (Peachpit Press, 2000).

# 1

**Overwritten** Suppose you open a previously saved document, make changes to it, and resave it. Too late, you realize that you need that earlier version. You can get it back if you've planned ahead.

If you work in Microsoft Word, the best defense is to use its Versions feature to save each version of a file that you think you may need later. Select Versions from the File menu and click on the Save Now button **A**. When you reopen the document and select the Versions command, you'll get a list of all the versions you stored. Select the one you want and click on the Open button, and you're back in business **B**.



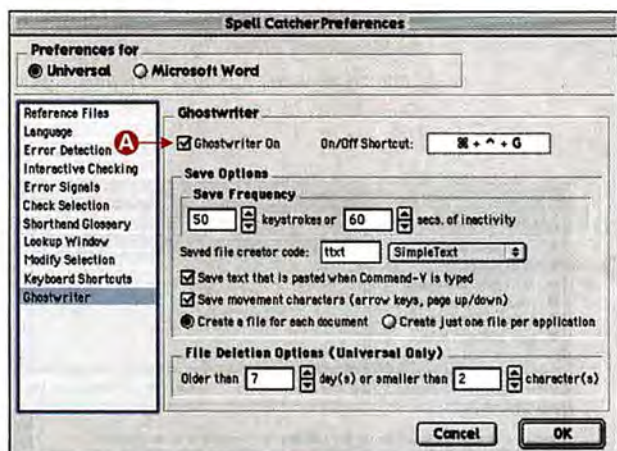
For other applications, utilities such as Aladdin Systems' FlashBack (\$30; [www.aladdinsys.com/flashback](http://www.aladdinsys.com/flashback)) and Power On Software's Rewind (\$100; [www.poweronsoftware.com](http://www.poweronsoftware.com)) can serve the same purpose.



# 2

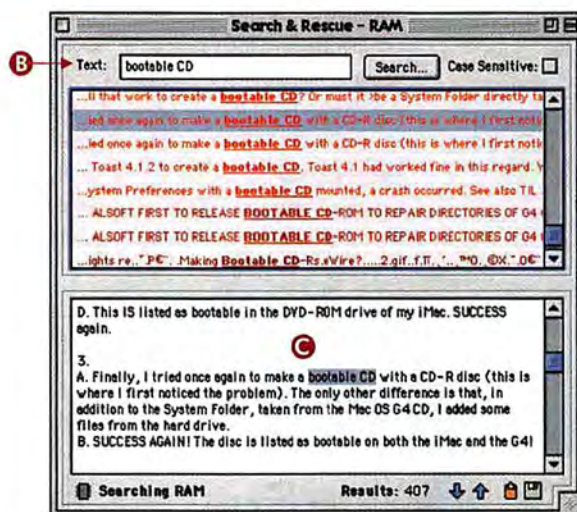
**Unsaved** When you lose an unsaved file, you may think it's lost forever. There's hope for at least a partial recovery, though, if what you lost was text.

Your recovery chances are greatest if you use a text-capture utility before disaster strikes. For example, the Ghostwriter feature of Casady & Greene's *Spell Catcher* (\$49.95; [www.spellcatcher.com](http://www.spellcatcher.com)) records your keystrokes as you type. To enable it, open the *Spell Catcher* Preferences dialog box, choose the Ghostwriter tab, and select the Ghostwriter On option **A**.



Then if you lose unsaved text, just find the files containing your unsaved data in the Ghostwriter Files folder. Go to that folder (System Folder: Application Support) and look for the folder with the current date. Inside it will be another folder with the name of the text application you were using (for example, "AppleWorks"); inside that will be one or more files containing your unsaved text. Don't expect miracles—the recovered text is unformatted, and any text you deleted while typing will be interspersed with the text you want. But for times when any recovery is better than none, Ghostwriter does the trick.

If you use Microsoft Word, you have built-in help. It saves copies of open files periodically as long as you use the Auto Recover option (to turn it on, go to Preferences and click on the Save tab). The copies that Word saves are temporary; the program deletes them when you close the file. But if Word crashes or a power failure occurs before you close, all of the Auto Recover files will appear when you relaunch Word.



If disaster strikes before you take any of these precautions, give Thomas Riley's *Search & Rescue* (\$15; [www.kagi.com/tjriley](http://www.kagi.com/tjriley)) a try. It scours your Mac's RAM, recovering any text it finds—even from unsaved files. Just enter a phrase from the missing text into Search & Rescue's Text box **B** and click on Search, and the program will list all locations in RAM where it finds that phrase along with some surrounding text **C**.

continues

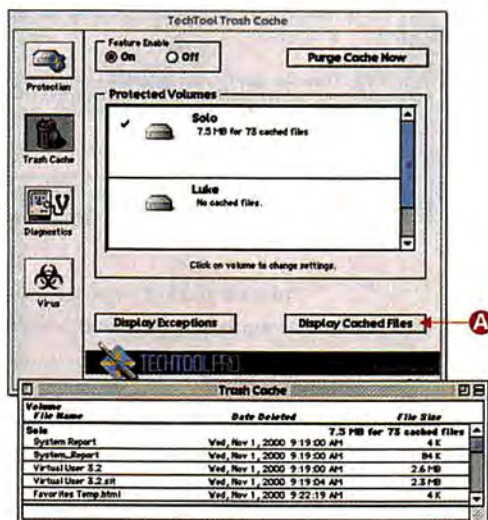


# 3

**Deleted** You just selected Empty Trash to delete a file, and now you want it back. Don't despair. The file is still there, even though the Finder doesn't show it. But you have to act quickly, or the file will soon be overwritten, never to be seen again.

As before, you'll have the most success if you're prepared. In this case, install and enable either the FileSaver feature of Symantec's Norton Utilities (\$102; [www.symantec.com](http://www.symantec.com)) or the Trash Cache feature of Micromat's TechTool Pro (\$98; [www.micromat.com](http://www.micromat.com)). (Power On Software's Rewind will also recover deleted files. The product was not available for this article.)

To recover deleted files with Norton Utilities, select UnErase from the window that appears at launch, and then click on the Quick Search button. In the resulting window, look for the name of the file you want back, select it, and click on Recover. Your chances of getting an entire file back are best if you enabled FileSaver before you deleted the file, but UnErase may work even if you didn't.



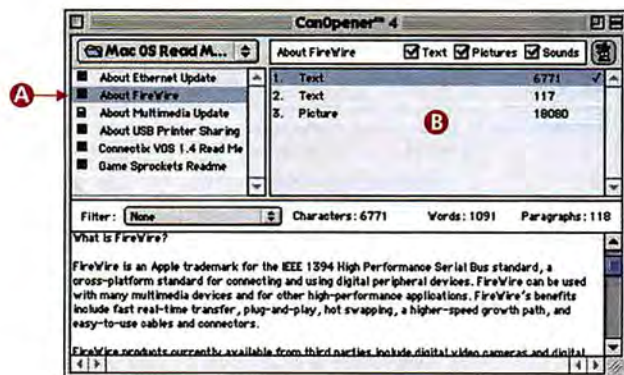
For TechTool Pro, enable Trash Cache from the TechTool Protection control panel. To recover a lost file, return to the control panel's Trash Cache window, click on the Display Cached Files button **A**, and drag the file you want from the list that appears.

# 4

**Damaged** A file may unexpectedly refuse to open, with your Mac complaining that the file is damaged. If the document can be accessed through more than one application, try them all. One may succeed where the others failed. Otherwise:

Try to import (or place) the contents of the damaged file into a new document. This can work with any application that has an Insert, Import, or Place command. For example, if an AppleWorks document is damaged, try the following: Open a blank word processing document. Choose Insert from the File menu. In the dialog box that appears, select the unusable document, and click on Insert.

If your problem is specific to QuarkXPress, try Markzware's MarkzTools (\$190; [www.markzware.com](http://www.markzware.com)). It repairs corrupted QuarkXPress files.



As a last resort, try to salvage text or graphics from a document via a data recovery utility such as Abbott Systems' CanOpener. Launch CanOpener (\$65; [www.abbottsys.com](http://www.abbottsys.com)) and select the damaged file in the upper left pane of the CanOpener window **A**. A list of the file's text and graphic resources will appear to the right **B**. You can view or recover any item in the list by clicking on its name and then selecting View or Save As from the Item menu.



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*I'd rather create clocks than invoices.*

**If I wanted to keep books all day, I'd have been an accountant.**



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# Mac 911



One thing last November's election tells us is that the simplest matters—determining which candidate to plunk down in the Oval Office for the next four years, for example—can be confounding when one or two little things go awry. While I would have been no help in the recent political kafuffle (after all, how many Floridians would appreciate my suggestion that they rebuild their desktops on a

regular basis?). I can do a little something right here and now to clear up these other simple matters: broadening the capabilities of the Appearance control panel, wirelessly synchronizing data between a Palm and a portable, curing a PowerBook's sleep apnea, and setting new defaults in the Page Setup dialog box.

## Alternate System Fonts

Speaking of elected officials, I was surprised to learn that the International Christian Fellowship Church of Japan has a minister of dance. This undoubtedly fleet-of-foot officer, Gustavo Tozzo-Jaime, is having trouble displaying a particular font in menus and dialog boxes. Mr. Tozzo-Jaime runs the North American version of OS 9 and a fair sprinkling of Japanese software on his Mac. His difficulty is that while items on his Mac's desktop display the Osaka font correctly, the text that appears in menus and dialog boxes is garbled. Ideally, he'd like to configure the Appearance control panel so that his entire system uses Osaka, but this font fails to appear in the Appearance control panel's pop-up menus.

There's no way to dance around this other than to say that OS 9's Appearance control panel has some unfortunate limitations. One such limitation is that it offers precious few choices in the System Font pull-down menus. Happily, there's a remedy that works not only for toe-tapping ministers, but also for other Mac users.

Anyone seeking to increase the capabilities of the Appearance control panel need only download a copy of Weedhopper Press's ([www.whpress.com](http://www.whpress.com)) \$9 shareware utility, AppearanceHopper. With AppearanceHopper, you can assign any installed font—yes, even the Osaka font—as the large or small system font, the small heading font, or the Finder views font (see "From All Appearances").

## IM Confused about IR

Mac 911 Forum visitor Jim Calais was interested in HotSyncing his Palm IIIc to his PowerBook via the Palm's and PowerBook's infrared ports. He reports that a Palm representative told him it couldn't be done, which is, as you'll soon learn, utter hogwash.

Of course you can HotSync the two machines wirelessly. Palm has made this procedure easier with recent Palm models by including the software you need on the CD that ships with Palm devices. Unfortunately, your IIIc didn't ship with this software. Therefore, you must:

Take a trip to Palm's FTP site ([ftp://ftp.3com.com/pub/palm/downloads/macOS](http://ftp.3com.com/pub/palm/downloads/macOS)) and download the approximately 18MB extras.bin file. Once expanded, this file turns into the Palm Extras folder. Inside this folder is the IrDA folder. Inside the IrDA folder are two additional folders: one that contains files that must be downloaded to the Palm, and another containing files that must be installed on your

*continues*



Mac's hard drive. Install these files, perform a soft reset of the Palm, and restart your Mac.

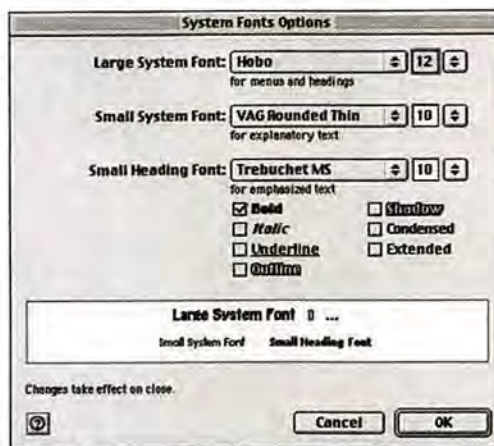
Next, open the Palm's Prefs application, select Connection from the upper right menu, and choose IR To A PC/Handheld from the available configurations. If you click on Edit, you should see that the connection method is IrCOMM To PC. In the HotSync application, make sure that IR To A PC/Handheld is selected.

On the PowerBook, select Infrared (IrDA) from the Connect Via menu in the AppleTalk control panel. Close and save.

Now choose Setup from the HotSync menu. In the HotSync Software Setup window, make sure HotSync is enabled and click on the Serial Port Settings tab. In the Local Setup portion of the window, select As Fast As Possible from the Speed menu and Infrared Port from the Port menu. Cozy the infrared ports of the two devices up to each other and initiate the HotSync process on either machine. The two should sync like a couple of stones.

### Sleep Depraved PowerBook

Another Mac 911 Forum visitor, Lindsey, wondered why his or her PowerBook G3 refused to issue any alert sounds after waking from sleep—although the modem continued to screech loud and clear when called upon to



**From All Appearances** With Weedhopper Press's AppearanceHopper, you can configure your Mac to display any font in menus, dialog boxes, and windows.

sleep and, once it's dozed off, rudely awaken it by pressing any key. Alert sounds should once again pour forth from the PowerBook.

Of course, this deprives you of the ability to receive faxes, so it's best to take these steps only when you don't intend to receive faxes with your PowerBook.

### Page Setup Predicament

Laura Yalem, who hails from the Show-Me State, would like to be shown how to change and save default settings such as paper size, orientation, and scaling in the Page Setup dialog box. After all, if you change the paper size on one print run, invariably the paper size switches back to the default on the next.

Laura, it's pretty easy to change this—if you know the trick. And that trick is to invoke the Page Setup command under the File menu from within your current application, make the changes you want, and then hold down the option key while clicking on the OK button. When you do so, another dialog box appears, asking "Save the current Page Setup settings as the default settings?" at which point you acknowledge your "You betcha!" by punching the Save button. When you next select Page Setup, the settings you last saved will be waiting for you. **m**

Contributing Editor CHRISTOPHER BREEN is Macworld's tip czar—a self-appointed, rather than elected, position.

Share tips and discuss Mac problems with other Mac users in the Mac 911 forum ([www.macworld.com/subject/mac911](http://www.macworld.com/subject/mac911)). Also send tips by e-mail to [mac911@macworld.com](mailto:mac911@macworld.com). We pay \$50 for tips selected for publication in Macworld. All published submissions become the sole property of Macworld.

Shareware and freeware mentioned in Mac 911 are available from ZDNet's Macdownload.com ([www.macdownload.com](http://www.macdownload.com)).

## Tip of the Month

If you experience computer slowdowns and generally odd behavior with **Microsoft Entourage**, you may need to rebuild the program's database. To do so, just hold down the option key when you launch Entourage. You'll see a dialog box that offers two options: Typical Rebuild, for simple repairs and compacting of the database, and Advanced Rebuild, for more-extensive problems. First try the Typical Rebuild option, since Microsoft warns that you could lose data by choosing Advanced Rebuild. But if Typical doesn't work, make sure you back up your files, and then give the Advanced Rebuild option a try.

**Lewis Whitney**  
Rancho Mirage, California



"If someone tells you  
it takes only 5 minutes  
to install up to 240GB  
on the network,  
DON'T BELIEVE IT."



"I did it in 43.55 seconds."  
Don Knisley, Network Engineer, US Air Force

Snap Servers are engineered for one purpose: file sharing. That's why Don could have a Snap Server 2000 up and running on a LAN in 43 seconds! "If I had the choice of installing an NT server for network storage or a Snap Server, I'd pick the Snap Server," says Don. "It's fast, easy and the browser configuration tool is very intuitive." To read Don's story and virtually install a Snap Server yourself, visit [www.snapappliances.com/install](http://www.snapappliances.com/install) today.

For a fraction of the cost of an NT file server, a Snap Server easily adds up to 240GB to your clients' LAN – ideal for desktop publishing, multimedia production or as a graphics/image library. According to a recent PC Data report, 4 out of 5 workgroup network attached storage (NAS) servers sold are Snap Servers and they are also the most awarded NAS product on the market today. So go with the industry standard. Snap Server.



## Version 3.0 Upgrade Delivers Even Greater Performance, Control and Security

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- RAID 5, 1 or 0
- Easily supports 100 or more clients
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- v3.0 Full functioning FTP server
- v3.0 SNMP support

### Compatibility

- Simultaneous support for Windows 2000, NT, NetWare, UNIX, Linux and Macintosh networks and clients across TCP/IP, IPX, NetBEUI and AppleTalk networks
- v3.0 Complete NFS 3.0 protocol support, symbolic linking of files and directories, Network Lock Manager and rpcinfo command support

### Network Backup

- Compatible with Windows and NetWare backup software, including Veritas Backup Exec, Computer Associates ARCserveIT and Microsoft backup software for Windows 95/98/NT/2000
- v3.0 SMART predictive disk failure analysis

### Network Security

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- Integrates with Microsoft Domain Controllers or local user list

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Model 1000 (40GB)	\$799
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# MYOB AccountEdge 1.0

Mac Accounting Package Streamlines

Interface, Adds Contact-Management Features

## MYOB ACCOUNTEDGE 1.0

**Rating:** ★★★★★ 1/2

**Pros:** Best, most complete set of accounting tools on the Mac; improved interface; built-in contact-management capabilities; greatly improved e-mail tools.

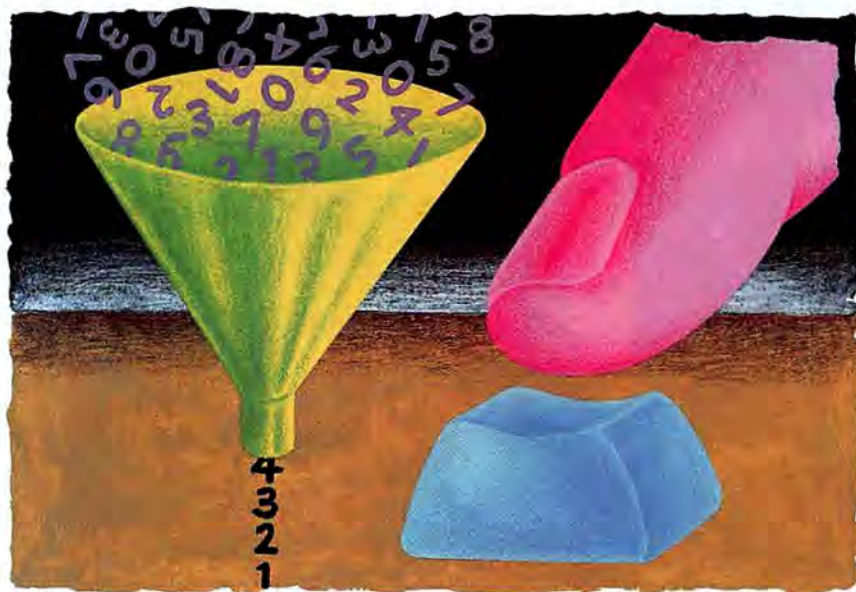
**Cons:** Bare-bones HTML-based manual; password-based security is limiting.

**Company's estimated price:** \$249; each additional license, \$99

**Company:** MYOB, 800/322-6962, [www.myob.com](http://www.myob.com)

### MACWORLD'S BUYING ADVICE:

MYOB AccountEdge 1.0 is a powerful accounting package with enough high-end features to satisfy the pickiest accountants, yet it remains accessible to the average user. Although the documentation could be better, MYOB has improved the program to the point where even businesspeople with no background in accounting should master it with relative ease.



GENE GREIF

**M**YOB Accounting has long been the most well-rounded small-business accounting package available for the Mac. With a wide range of high-end features, the program has always pleased accountants far more than QuickBooks Pro has. But while number crunchers have found MYOB a pleasure to use, the Mac version has always failed in two areas: it sometimes intimidated users who lacked an accounting background, and it couldn't match the features of the Windows version.

MYOB AccountEdge 1.0 is poised to change all that. Newly redesigned to be easier to use and to take advantage of the best features of Mac OS X, AccountEdge not only matches but surpasses the Windows version of MYOB, making it the best accounting package on any platform.

### Refreshing Look

Right out of the box, AccountEdge is profoundly different from MYOB Accounting. Even running under Mac OS 9, the program has a decidedly Aqua air: the buttons are larger and photo-realistic, and the whole program looks softer and less intimidating. And while AccountEdge still has a flowchart-style interface, text descriptions make the buttons easier to understand, and the flowchart progression is more in line with typical accounting practices. For example, earlier versions of MYOB allowed you only to create sales and print invoices. But most companies create quotes first and then turn quotes into orders and invoices. AccountEdge now follows the same process.

AccountEdge has also improved when it comes to helping you collect



money from clients and make deposits. Earlier versions assumed that you were depositing money in the bank the moment you received it. But most people typically deposit groups of checks, not individual checks, so the way MYOB recorded deposits bore no resemblance to what they actually looked like on a bank statement. AccountEdge now allows you to receive payments and group them as undeposited funds until you deposit them, reflecting the way you actually do business.

If you need to track inventory or bill your customers on an hourly basis, AccountEdge is up to the task. The inventory module supports multiple pricing levels, so you can give your customers price breaks when they purchase products in large quantities. Because AccountEdge supports foreign currencies, you can include them in your standard pricing schemes. And if you're accustomed to combining many inventory items into a single item—say, a Summer Sand Package comprising a beach ball, pail, and shovel—AccountEdge can create your package using the Auto Build function while managing individual inventory items behind the scenes.

Like the inventory module, AccountEdge's time-billing module lets you create a multitude of billable items for varying dollar amounts. Unfortunately, the program doesn't currently integrate with any Palm-based time-tracking programs, an option that would make managing time-billing as simple as syncing.

### Refined Features

AccountEdge also improves on earlier versions' rudimentary contact-management capabilities. You can store up to five separate contacts for a single company, with complete, individualized details for each con-

tact. You can log conversations with clients, compose e-mail or letters, and have AccountEdge remind you when it's time to contact your clients again. You can also review up to seven years of sales information for any client stored in your database.

MYOB has made vast improvements in AccountEdge's e-mail capabilities. The program can convert anything from a quote to a customer statement into a PDF file and attach it to a message in your favorite e-mail program. You create the body of your message in AccountEdge, pulling the e-mail address of your primary contact from that customer's contact card. Unfortunately, there's no way—short of typing it manually—to select the address of anyone other than your primary contact within the e-mail module, even if the address is stored in the database. And when you want to add a signature, you must either type it in or open the message in your e-mail program and add it.

Another drawback is that MYOB has converted the documentation from paper to HTML, with disastrous results. While the paper manual

tended to be obtuse, you could still find the information you needed; the HTML-based version on the CD lacks detailed information and includes no diagrams or screen shots. You should use MYOB's continuously updated, searchable, Web-based manual.

### Ready for Real Work

Like the last several versions of MYOB, AccountEdge is fully networkable and shares the same file format as its Windows-based sibling. If you're in an all-Mac environment, you can use AppleTalk, but a better choice is TCP/IP-based networking. If you plan to run AccountEdge in a multiuser environment, be aware that the program has a minor shortcoming when it comes to security. Although you can limit user access to specific portions of the program, access is granted on a password basis, not by individual user. This means that if you want to break access into several groups, such as sales, shipping, and accounting, everyone in each group will have the same password. You can work around the problem, but managing access this way gets cumbersome with large workgroups.—JEFFERY BATTERSBY



**Aqua Velvet** MYOB AccountEdge's streamlined interface offers a clean look, intelligent navigation tools, and easy access to powerful accounting features.



# Multifunction Printers

Versatile Printers Wear Many Hats,  
Show Improved Quality and Speed

## MACWORLD'S BUYING ADVICE:

These are all good MFPs, and they performed as expected relative to their prices. The Hewlett-Packard OfficeJet G85 offers the best image quality, speed, and features. Of the two less-expensive units, you'll probably want to go with the Brother MFC-7400C—it provides better print speed and quality than the Canon MultiPass C555 does, and though some of its features don't work on the Mac, it has a few useful connection options for working with digital images.



The Hewlett-Packard OfficeJet G85

GIBSON

**W**hen desk space is at a premium, a multifunction printer (MFP) may be just the ticket. We looked at three color ink-jet MFPs that can scan, copy, fax, and print—the Brother MFC-7400C, the Canon MultiPass C555, and the Hewlett-Packard OfficeJet G85. Though you can still get better results—and a lower overall price—from separate dedicated devices, the output from these units was much improved over that of the MFPs released a year ago.

### Setting Up Shop

If you've had any experience setting up a fax machine or an ink-jet printer,

you'll have no trouble with any of these units. All three use plain paper for faxes and can accommodate glossy paper for printouts. Setup entails little more than installing the drivers, plugging the printers into your computer, and loading them with paper and ink. In fact, for copying and faxing, none of these models needs to be connected to your Mac—each has touch-button features for these purposes.

Both the MFC-7400C and MultiPass C555 look like large fax machines. You feed originals into the top, and faxes, copies, or printed





pages drop into a tray on the bottom. A flatbed, the OfficeJet G85 is by far the largest of the three. If the MultiPass C555 and MFC-7400C could be mistaken for fax machines, the OfficeJet could be mistaken for a copier.

Each comes with cartridges that deliver roughly 800 to 900 pages (where the ink covers about 5 percent of the page), and the cost per print for each printer falls between 1 and 5 cents per page. When printing black only, the MultiPass is the least expensive, at about 1 cent per page. Printing color, the MFC-7400C is also quite inexpensive, at about 3 cents per page.

These printers connect via USB cables, but for the OfficeJet, Hewlett-Packard also sells a \$250 JetDirect 300X Print Server, which provides Ethernet connectivity for printing and scanning over networks.

#### Here's Looking at You, Kid

All three models offer decent print output, but if you want exceptional, photographic output, you'll be better served by a higher-quality, dedicated printer. In our tests, when printing both Microsoft Excel spreadsheets and Word documents, the OfficeJet fared the best in terms of speed and image quality. Similarly, when we scanned a color photo and printed it (that is, when we made a color copy) the OfficeJet's gradients were by far the smoothest, its dots were the least visible, and colors were bright, accu-

Multitalented Machines				
<div> </div>				
Best results in bold. ■ Shorter is better.	MICROSOFT WORD 98	COPY COLOR PHOTO	MICROSOFT EXCEL 98	COLOR PHOTO PRINT
Brother MFC-7400C	5:06	8:33	••	••
Canon MultiPass C555	7:32	8:32	••	•
Hewlett-Packard OfficeJet G85	3:55	5:06	•••	•••
	◀ Better	◀ Better		
We printed a 20-page black-and-white Word document in normal mode and copied a full-page color photo in best-quality mode on each MFP. Scores are in minutes:seconds. We compared color copies and Excel documents produced by each MFP with text and color graphs, and we rated them on sharpness, detail, and color reproduction. The test system was an iMac SE 500MHz with 128MB of RAM and Mac OS 9.0.4 installed.—Macworld Lab testing by Gil Loyola				

rate, and well saturated. The MFC-7400C provided serviceable color photo output. But with 720 by 360 dpi, the MultiPass has the lowest print resolution, which was apparent in its clearly visible dots, rough gradients, jagged text, and very poor rendering of details.

#### Do You Copy?

We were pleased to see that even though they're multifunctional, these units don't scrimp on features. As stand-alone color copiers, all three pack a range of sophisticated options. For example, the MFC-7400C, offers 25- to 400-percent resizing in 1-percent increments, and the OfficeJet has special copying modes such as mirror-image and margin-shifting. But in the end, the OfficeJet's superior print quality makes it the best copier.

All three printers are also well endowed in the faxing and scanning departments, offering color faxing, fax broadcasting, page buffering (for those times when you're out of

ink but need to receive faxes), and automatic OCR. When combined with the JetDirect server, the OfficeJet can send scans to any machine on the network. The MultiPass C555 is able to automatically send scans and faxes to your e-mail or OCR software. Both the MultiPass and the OfficeJet have one-touch scan capability, but the MFC-7400C's one-touch scan feature works only on PCs. The MFC-7400C offers the fewest advanced fax features but still includes all the standard ones, such as fax detection.

The MFC-7400C comes with a telephone handset, which is a very useful addition. It also has a video-in port for printing images from your camcorder or from the video-out port of a digital camera. Unfortunately, you can't bring video into your Mac using this port. If you do a lot of printing from a digital camera, you'll appreciate that the MFC-7400C also comes with a flash-card drive.—BEN LONG

## Multifunction Printers Compared

COMPANY	PRODUCT	MOUSE RATING	LIST PRICE	CONTACT	ESTIMATED COST PER PRINT	COMMENTS
Brother	MFC-7400C	•••½	\$400	800/284-4357, www.brother.com	3 cents, color; 2 cents, black only	Good feature set and design; average speed and quality.
Canon	MultiPass C555	•••	\$199	800/652-2666, www.canon.com	4 cents, color; 1 cent, black only	Lower-quality output; small and inexpensive.
Hewlett-Packard	OfficeJet G85	••••	\$799	800/527-3753, www.hp.com	5 cents, color; 3 cents, black only	Excellent features and design; pricey.



# Graphics Cards

Latest Crop of AGP and PCI Video

Cards Is a Mixed Bag

## MACWORLD'S BUYING ADVICE:

Perky performance (2-D and 3-D) makes ATI's Radeon Mac Edition our top pick in 3-D graphics cards. The 3dfx cards are a solid choice for those with PCI Macs and a desire for reasonable frame rates at higher resolutions. Gamers looking for a set of 3-D gaming glasses that really work should test-drive the Formac ProFormance 3 Plus. And if you need dual-monitor support from a single card, the ProMax DH-Max is worth a look.



Clockwise from left:  
the 3dfx Voodoo5 5500 PCI, ATI  
Technologies Radeon Mac Edition,  
and 3dfx Voodoo4 4500 PCI

ARNOLD TIOSE/O

**N**ot terribly long ago, Mac users could purchase any add-on graphics card they liked—as long as it was made by ATI Technologies. All that is changing: while you still lack the wealth of graphics card options your PC-packing contemporaries enjoy, you now have viable alternatives to the graphics card that shipped with your Mac.

To determine just how viable those alternatives are, Macworld Lab tested six offerings: 3dfx's Voodoo4 4500 PCI and Voodoo5 5500 PCI, Appian Graphics' Jeronimo 2000, ATI's Radeon Mac Edition, Formac's ProFormance 3 Plus, and ProMax Systems' DH-Max. Although none of the cards delivered the kind of performance you see from their counterparts running on a fast PC, our tests indicate that selecting the proper

graphics card—which typically costs around \$200—can significantly improve your Mac's performance.

### Slots and Specs

The current crop of desktop G4s includes AGP slots, but graphics card manufacturers have hardly abandoned the venerable PCI slot. After all, the Mac users most likely to benefit from fast 3-D graphics cards are those with older PCI Macs. Of the cards we tested, only the Radeon and the DH-Max are AGP compatible; the rest are PCI cards. And of the AGP cards, only the DH-Max fits inside a Power Mac G4 Cube.

The cards also differ in their dual-monitor capabilities, output connectors, support for 3-D hardware-acceleration standards, and DVD-player support. Both the

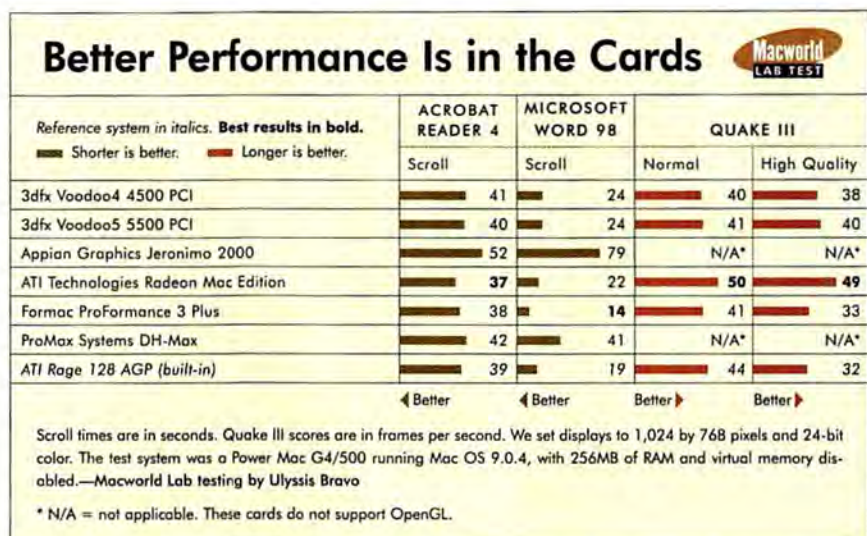




Jeronimo and the DH-Max sport two video ports, allowing you to run two monitors from a single card; the other cards support one monitor. The DH-Max also includes a cable with Composite and S-Video outputs for sending your Mac's video to a television or VCR, although only one of the card's ports supports those outputs, via an included add-on cable. Likewise, the Radeon supports Composite and S-Video output. The ATI and 3dfx cards include both VGA and DVI connectors, but none of the cards include the Apple Desktop Connector found on all current Apple monitors. (None of the cards support video capture, so they lack video-input ports.)

The ProFormance also has a port for connecting the bundled ProCyber 3D Glasses—the only glasses we've seen that produce convincing 3-D (without producing a crashing headache) in games such as Pangea's Bugdom and MacSoft's Unreal Tournament.

Regrettably, neither the Jeronimo nor the DH-Max card offers 3-D hardware acceleration, making them inappropriate choices for gamers. However, the ATI and Formac cards support the OpenGL and Rave 3-D standards, while the 3dfx cards support those and 3dfx's own Glide



standard. Because Apple refuses to release the information necessary for third parties to support DVD playback on a Mac, only ATI—an Apple partner—offers DVD-player compatibility.

#### By the Numbers

To test 2-D performance, we timed how quickly we could scroll through Adobe Acrobat and Microsoft Word 98 documents on our 500MHz Power Mac G4. In both tests, the Radeon and the ProFormance were the best of the bunch; the ProFormance performed particularly well in the Word 98 test. The DH-Max, due to its unoptimized drivers, performed poorly—though not as poorly as the underpowered, expensive Jeronimo. The 3dfx cards turned in less-impressive results in our 2-D

tests than the ATI Radeon and our baseline ATI Rage 128 AGP card, but the difference was barely noticeable in actual use.

The results of our Quake III tests indicate that gamers with AGP-compatible Macs may want to consider ATI rather than 3dfx. In our normal Quake III test, the Radeon cranked out nine more frames per second than the top-of-the-line Voodoo5 5500 PCI. In our high-quality Quake III test, the Radeon maintained its edge over the Voodoo cards. The ProFormance turned in frame rates similar to those of the Voodoo cards in our normal Quake III test, but performance fell off sharply in the high-quality Quake III test.—CHRISTOPHER BREEN

## Graphics Cards Compared

COMPANY	PRODUCT	MOUSE RATING	LIST PRICE	CONTACT	PROS	CONS
3dfx	Voodoo4 4500 PCI	■■■■	\$170	888/367-3339, <a href="http://www.3dfx.com">www.3dfx.com</a>	Great for Glide games; good choice for those with PCI Macs; affordable.	No DVD-player support.
	Voodoo5 5500 PCI	■■■■	\$230	888/367-3339, <a href="http://www.3dfx.com">www.3dfx.com</a>	Great for Glide games; good choice for those with PCI Macs.	No DVD-player support.
Appian Graphics	Jeronimo 2000	■■	\$799	800/727-7426, <a href="http://www.appian.com">www.appian.com</a>	Dual-screen support.	Slow; expensive. No DVD-player support.
ATI Technologies	Radeon Mac Edition	■■■■	\$280	905/882-2600, <a href="http://www.atitech.com">www.atitech.com</a>	Excellent performance; video out; DVD player support.	Not compatible with Power Mac G4 Cube.
Formac	ProFormance 3 Plus	■■■■½	\$229	800/216-2763, <a href="http://www.formac.com">www.formac.com</a>	Fast 2-D performance; includes 3-D glasses.	Poor frame rates at higher 3-D resolutions. No DVD-player support.
ProMax Systems	DH-Max	■■■	\$299	800/977-6629, <a href="http://www.promax.com">www.promax.com</a>	Dual-screen support.	No 3-D support. No DVD-player support.



# FireWire 6-Port Hub

From BELKIN

The Next

Technology, beauty and, well, speed.

Intrinsic cable management meets compact symmetry and graceful lines. An arc of rear ports flows cables to the computer—function meets form. For all its awesome capabilities, such as a docking ring and 480Mbps transfer speed, you'll love what this hub does for your workspace. At Belkin, we're innovating to make the hottest interface the coolest.

Wave in Intelligent Style—

compact symmetry, extendable

BELKIN

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# Norton Utilities 6.0

## Utility Adds a Handful of New Features, OS X-Beta Support

With the release of Mac OS X looming, it's heartening to witness the issuance of such mainstay utilities as Symantec's Norton Utilities for Macintosh (NUM) in OS X beta-compatible form. You might wish, however, that Symantec had included features likely to tempt those who have no immediate plans to run OS X. Unfortunately, NUM 6.0 offers very little beyond the troubleshooting suite's standards—DiskDoctor, a diagnostic and repair utility; UnErase and Volume Recover, for recovering deleted files; and Speed Disk, a disk-optimization application.

### New and Improved?

The value of the few new features is difficult to discern. Volume Recover now lets you rebuild a disk's directory—which, according to Symantec, increases the chances of recovering your data—yet we had no more luck recovering data from a corrupt Zip disk than with the previous iteration. And while the latest version of UnErase did manage to recover about 33 percent more files from our Zip disk than did UnErase 5.0.3, few of the recovered files contained usable data.

The updated Speed Disk is more flexible, allowing you to select from a few optimization profiles. For example, the Multimedia setting quickly maximizes adjacent free space without optimizing or defragmenting other files on the drive; you can

also defragment only recently used files. These settings do speed up the optimization process, but once the volume is optimized, you probably won't notice a performance gain from the drive.

On a positive note, NUM now scans, repairs, and optimizes OS X-beta volumes when booted under OS 9. In our tests, NUM was able to correct thousands of creation and modification dates on an OS X volume, as well as optimize the volume.

### Old Standby

While version 6.0's new features may not compel many current NUM 5.X users to upgrade, NUM remains a worthwhile utility. Alsoft's DiskWarrior ([www.alfsoft.com](http://www.alfsoft.com)) continues to handle low-level corruption more capably, but NUM has its uses. With FileSaver enabled, the program improves your chances of recovering lost files; Speed Disk is an able disk-optimization program; and DiskDoctor can put many ailing volumes and files back on their feet.—CHRISTOPHER BREEN



**What's Up, Doc?** Norton Utilities 6.0's DiskDoctor scans and repairs Mac OS X-beta volumes.

### NORTON UTILITIES 6.0

**Rating:** ★★½

**Pros:** Compatible with OS X beta; does a decent job of repairing, recovering, and optimizing.

**Cons:** New features are uninspired.

**List price:** \$102

**Company:** Symantec, 800/441-7234, [www.symantec.com](http://www.symantec.com)

### MACWORLD'S BUYING ADVICE:

If you're new to Norton Utilities for Macintosh, or you're running the Mac OS X beta and seek the kind of protection NUM can provide, version 6.0 is worth a look. If you already use NUM 5.0.3 and have no desire to run OS X, the \$50 upgrade fee might be a bit steep, considering the short list of new features.





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# Netscape 6.0

## Latest Version of Browser Frustrates Users, Offers Few Useful Features

Sequels are often scrutinized to see if they live up to the brilliance of the original, and software is no exception—particularly if it's a high-profile Web browser. Given Netscape's early lead in the browser wars, the latest version should be much better than it is. Version 6.0 signals the beginning of Netscape's new role: a way to load and launch software applications. However, most Web users aren't expecting their browser to be a surrogate operating system; they just want something they can surf the Web with, and on that score Netscape 6.0 falls down on the job.

### Overextending the Browser's Role

Netscape 6.0 is the first version to be based on Gecko, a rendering engine that offers smooth, if slow, page rendering and rigorous standards compliance. This version also mimics AOL's technique of squeezing several applications into one window. That's fine for people who want their e-mail, instant-messaging client, WYSIWYG editor, and browser in one package, but users who prefer to keep their applications streamlined and specific will find Netscape's entangled suite of components frustrating.

The browser window is an ersatz AOL environment: click on an icon, and an application pops up; click

on MySidebar, and you can do everything from read headlines to check stocks. But MySidebar is plagued by performance quirks—for example, even if you select an option that hides the sidebar, it occasionally slides into view. Worse, keyboard shortcuts are implemented inconsistently, and imported information, such as bookmarks and e-mail, is poorly organized.

### A Matter of Preference

A bigger shortcoming is that users control little of their overall experience in Netscape 6.0. Although the browser lets you choose a general appearance, it doesn't let you alter the window's appearance. Seeing so much space eaten up by unalterable interface features can be vexing.

Also, Netscape and its assorted extras take up 28MB of hard disk space, and the program takes longer to start up than its predecessors and the current version of Microsoft Internet Explorer.—LISA SCHMEISER



**Lost in the Crowd** All of Netscape 6.0's extra features may diminish the one thing users want to see in a browser—the Web page they've loaded.

### NETSCAPE 6.0

**Rating:** ★★

**Pros:** Easy access to component applications; lets you compose e-mail, chat, check a calendar, and create Web pages.

**Cons:** Slow; interface discrepancies; inconsistent menu behavior and keyboard shortcuts; difficult to import information.

**List price:** free

**Company:** America Online, 650/254-1900, [www.netscape.com](http://www.netscape.com)

### MACWORLD'S BUYING ADVICE:

Skip this sequel. It's bloated and frustrating to use, and it lacks the well-thought-out user preferences and application shortcuts of Microsoft Internet Explorer. Future versions of Netscape might meet Web surfers' needs; this one certainly doesn't.



# SPSS 10

Powerful Research Tool Gains Muscle,  
Flexibility, a Higher Price

## SPSS 10

**Rating:** ★★★★★½

**Pros:** Excellent help facilities and tutorials; advanced statistics; extensive statistical and charting options.

**Cons:** Expensive; lacks some features of Windows version.

**List price:** \$949; additional modules, \$499

**Company:** SPSS, 800/543-2185, [www.spss.com](http://www.spss.com)

### MACWORLD'S BUYING ADVICE:

Having this much number-crunching power on a desktop computer is mind-boggling. The interactive graphics, support for OLAP cubes and pivot tables, and new Production Facility add considerably to SPSS 10's power and flexibility. And with new statistics added to the base version, you may not even need the additional modules.

**W**ant to do some serious computing? Formerly a mainframe application found primarily in university and corporate computing centers, SPSS has succeeded in making the transition from a command-language application to an interactive, dialog-box- and menu-driven package for desktop computers. This powerful, option-rich program lets statisticians, market researchers, and scientists perform sophisticated statistical analyses on personal and corporate data sets. Version 10 improves on earlier versions, with new statistics options, customizable tool bars, interactive graphs and pivot tables, more-flexible output, and better handling of large data sets, although it comes at a higher price.

### New Features Abound

The revamped Data Editor lets you enter and edit data and define variables in a single window. To generate statistics and charts, you choose menu commands and set dialog-box options. Although you're still restricted to eight characters for variable names, you can now display descriptive labels.

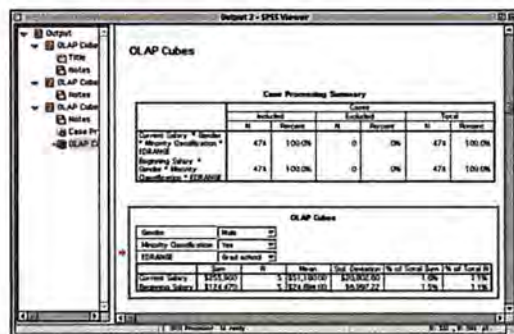
All output is conveniently routed to a single, scrolling window. You can selectively show results and rearrange them via drag and drop. Version 10 lets you direct text output to the new Draft Viewer window, and you can export results to HTML. If you need

to repeat an analysis, you can save the command syntax and run it from the new SPSS Production Facility. And you can create OLAP (online analytical processing) data cubes and slice them using any combination of values from your grouping variables.

### Requirements and Limitations

The Mac version, which requires Mac OS 9 and at least a 233MHz G3, lags behind the Windows version in some respects. It won't run as a client under the SPSS Windows NT server (a Mac server and an OS X version are being developed), OLE support is limited, and you can't run multiple simultaneous sessions. And although it ran superbly on my G4, SPSS wouldn't launch on an older Mac upgraded with a G3 card.

SPSS 10 is a dream program for statisticians, but it does require a statistics background. It won't prevent novices from performing inappropriate analyses, confusing dependent and independent variables, or misinterpreting the results.—STEVE SCHWARTZ



**OLAP Cubes** When generating an OLAP-cube report, you can choose any combination of grouping-variable values to display exactly the information you want.



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# StuffIt Deluxe 6.0

**Rating:** ★★★★★

**Pros:** New interface; OS X-beta compatibility.

**Cons:** Many features not available under OS X beta; ArchiveSearch feature needs work.

**List price:** \$80

**Company:** Aladdin Systems,  
800/656-5443,  
[www.aladdinsys.com](http://www.aladdinsys.com)

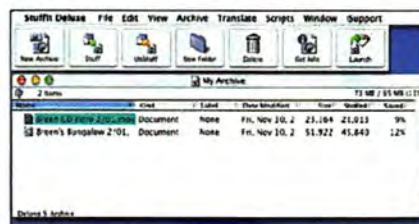
**Macworld's Buying Advice:**

StuffIt Deluxe remains a capable and full-featured compression utility. Although its new features are intriguing, we're far more interested in seeing StuffIt's best elements brought to OS X.

Aladdin Systems' venerable compression utility, StuffIt Deluxe, celebrates turning 6.0 with a redesigned interface, compatibility with the Mac OS X public beta, and a handful of new features. But although we're pleased with the update's ability to run under OS X, it's only a first step. The desktop-based features—such as the ability to compress and expand files by appending or deleting filename suffixes, and Magic Menu, a Finder menu for accessing common StuffIt commands—aren't available under OS X.

To realize StuffIt Deluxe 6.0's greatest benefits, you must run it under the Classic environment. When doing so, you'll probably encounter StuffIt's most visible new

features: Return Receipt and ArchiveSearch. Return Receipt lets you tag an archive so that anyone who opens it with version 6.0 of StuffIt Deluxe or StuffIt Expander will be prompted to e-mail you an acknowledgement. ArchiveSearch searches for files within archives. Under OS X, however, ArchiveSearch failed to find a number of archived PICT files on our test drive.—CHRISTOPHER BREEN



**A New Face** StuffIt Deluxe 6.0's new interface (seen here running under the OS X beta) makes creating archives easier.

# DiskWarrior® has than



1999 Macworld Editors' Choice Awards Winner, Utility Software. "DiskWarrior is an excellent ax to add to your disk-repair and -maintenance arsenal. DiskWarrior's ease of use, speed, and new method of fixing disk problems make it a powerful disk-maintenance product."



1999 MacUser Awards Best Utility/Enabling Software. "For providing a new, easier to use, safer, and often more successful alternative to more bloated recovery applications, the judges felt DiskWarrior deserved top billing..."



1999 Apple Design Awards Most Innovative Product, Runner-up Best New Product



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FOUR-MEGAPIXEL CAMERA NARROWS CONSUMER-PROFESSIONAL DIVIDE

# Olympus Camedia E-10

Olympus's latest digital offering, the four-megapixel Camedia E-10, should find as many devotees among professional photographers as among consumers. Although it doesn't offer a large stable of interchangeable lenses, when compared to the \$3,500 EOS D30, the E-10 offers good value—and the option to add auxiliary lenses. But what's unique about the SLR-style E-10 is its

9–36mm zoom lens: the manual zoom control lets you switch between wide angle and telephoto with a twist of the lens barrel. You can pop out the 1.8-inch LCD and rotate it, so you can hold the camera over your head and still see what you're capturing.

The E-10 generates 11.4MB images that you can save at one of several JPEG compression levels and at five resolutions. In our tests, the camera did well with both SmartMedia cards and CompactFlash Type I and Type II cards (but not IBM's Microdrive). The quick shutter release and excellent color fidelity will appeal to professional users, although the images do show evidence of noise problems.—RICK OLDANO



ARNOLD TIOSEJO

**Rating:** ★★★★★

**Pros:** Fast zoom control; two storage media options.

**Cons:** Noisy images.

**Company's estimated price:** \$1,999

**Company:** Olympus USA, 800/622-6372, [www.olympusamerica.com](http://www.olympusamerica.com)

**Macworld's Buying Advice:**

Although the Camedia E-10 can't match the flexibility of Canon's EOS D30 and its stable of 55 interchangeable lenses (see *Reviews*, February 2001), pros new to the digital medium will find that the E-10 can capture images faster and take advantage of larger storage cards. Both pros and amateurs ready to step up from consumer models will appreciate the E-10's flexibility.

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MACnificent Award

"DiskWarrior is a deceptively  
simple yet incredibly  
powerful disk repair utility,  
which is able to fix your



"DiskWarrior comes  
to the rescue..."



MacHome 8th Annual  
Home Choice Awards  
Best Utility. "Got lots of votes for  
repairing and preventing damage  
to hard disks so well. DiskWarrior 2.0  
is a quick solution to faster, more stable hard drives."

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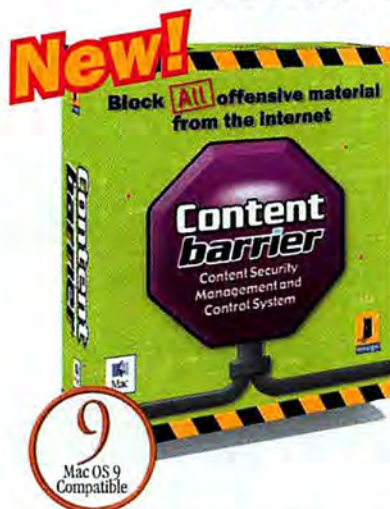
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occurs. Visit [www.Alsoft.com](http://www.Alsoft.com) for details.



# You think your kids are safe on the Net. Think again...



## ContentBarrier. The new Parental Control solution for your Macintosh.



You don't let your kids read just anything, do you? Well, when they surf the Internet, they can see whatever they want, unless you're there to watch over their shoulders. With ContentBarrier, the Internet is a safer place for your children.

ContentBarrier sets up a protective wall around your computer. Its pre-defined categories let you choose what you don't want your children to see, and you can also create your own custom categories. Inappropriate web sites are blocked, shielding your children from things they are too young for.

ContentBarrier blocks adult web sites, sites with subjects not fit for children, and even blocks chats when predatory language is used. It blocks all offensive content coming from the Internet.

ContentBarrier works with multiple users; if you have several children, you can set different criteria, corresponding to their age or maturity. You can choose whether they have access to newsgroups, e-mail, or whether they can download files. You can set the program to let them only use the Internet at certain times, and on specific days. The program can even send you e-mail, automatically, when certain events occur.

ContentBarrier keeps a complete log of all web sites visited, whether blocked or not. This allows you to have a full record of exactly what your children are doing on the Internet. You can also take an inventory of your children's computer, and find all pictures, movies, music files and web pages.

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**Macworld**  
★★★★★

**MACGENERATION**



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## mimio

**E**lectronic whiteboards that let you print out your notes or transfer them to a computer are popping up all over—but many models either lack full Mac functionality or force you to pony up thousands of dollars. Enter Virtual Ink's mimio, an electronic capture bar that fastens to your existing whiteboard. It's a great way to turn a classroom or office whiteboard into an electronic notetaker without scrapping the equipment you already have.

Setting up and using mimio is easy—just install the software, attach the plastic bar to any whiteboard, connect it to your Mac (a USB cable is included), and start scribbling. The capture bar transmits your notes to your Mac screen, where you can

save, edit, and replay pen strokes. You can export whiteboard sessions as JPEG or PICT files, or drag and drop images from mimio into another application. Unfortunately, mimio's editing capabilities are limited, and the Mac version doesn't yet support the plug-ins available for its Windows counterpart.—PHILIP MICHAELS



**Rating:** ★★★★★

**Pros:** Innovative; easy to set up and use; portable.

**Cons:** Limited editing tools; lacks features available in Windows version.

**List price:** \$599

**Company:** Virtual Ink, 877/696-4646, [www.mimio.com](http://www.mimio.com)

**Macworld's Buying Advice:**

If the price doesn't deter you and you have a USB-ready Mac, mimio is the electronic whiteboard system for you. It's portable and easy enough for a novice to master, and it doesn't require you to buy special equipment.

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Sending files to Windows users from your Macintosh used to be difficult, but not anymore.

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day a Macintosh standard rules all.

To upgrade to **Stuffit Deluxe 6.0** for Mac or purchase Stuffit for Windows, call (888)245-1723 or visit your favorite retailer.

**Aladdin Systems**  
[www.aladdinsys.com](http://www.aladdinsys.com)

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# Personalize your Internet with Netscape®



The image shows a man, Gary Walker, standing next to a large computer monitor. The monitor displays the Netscape 6 web browser interface. The browser window has a menu bar with options like File, Edit, View, Search, Go, Bookmarks, Tools, and Help. Below the menu bar is a toolbar with navigation buttons (back, forward, home, stop) and a search bar. The address bar shows the URL <http://www.netscape.com/>. The main content area is titled 'Netscape' and features a 'Search' button and links to 'WebMail', 'My Netscape', 'Buddy Chat', 'Help', and 'Download'. The page content is organized into sections: 'Home > Sports > Golf' by SportsLine.com. The 'Golf Report' section includes links to PGA Tour, LPGA Tour, SPGA Tour, and European Tour. The 'Departments' section lists various sports like NFL, NBA, MLB, NHL, NCAA Basketball, NCAA Football, Golf, Tennis, Soccer, Auto Racing, WNBA, and Olympics. A large article titled 'Woods will grace cover' discusses Tiger Woods on the cover of Time magazine. On the left side of the browser window, there is a 'My Sidebar' with sections for 'Sports', 'Buddy List', and 'Calendar'. The calendar shows the current date as Monday, 8/21/00, and lists events for the day and the following day, Tuesday, 8/22/00. Gary Walker, a man in a blue polo shirt and light-colored trousers, is standing next to the monitor, holding a golf club.

**G**ary Walker is head of operations at a telecom company and a passionate golfer. He can use Netscape to help him be more productive on the Internet. With new Netscape 6, Gary can keep his most important information conveniently displayed in his browser – like his personal calendar, his buddy list, or even his sports scores. And at Netscape.com, Gary can quickly find news and business information related to his fast-paced job. Other great Netscape features like search, email, and a personalized home page can help him streamline his work tasks (so he has more time to perfect his putt). But Netscape is not just for golfers. Try Netscape today and see what it's like to experience the Internet your way.

Visit [Netscape.com](http://Netscape.com) today. It's free.



The power of the Internet made simple



## Documents to Go Professional Edition

**Rating:** ★★★★★<sup>1/2</sup>

**Pros:** Lets you work in word processing and spreadsheet documents on the Palm OS.

**Cons:** Not all document formatting can be maintained on a handheld.

**List price:** \$50

**Company:** DataViz, 800/733-0030,  
[www.dataviz.com](http://www.dataviz.com)

**Macworld's Buying Advice:**

Documents to Go Professional Edition offers a nearly seamless way to edit Word, Excel, and other documents on Palm devices.

Documents to Go Professional Edition gives you the ability to edit Microsoft Word and Excel documents and other files on handheld devices with Palm OS 3.0 or later installed (the previous version allowed you only to view files). Modified documents are easily synchronized back to your Mac, and they can also be beamed to other Palm OS handhelds. (Handhelds without Documents to Go cannot then HotSync to a desktop, however.) When copied to a handheld, files retain most formatting, including bulleted sections and tables in Word, but Palm OS doesn't support multiple fonts. Although the small Palm screen can make working with spreadsheets awkward, the software makes navigating cells easy.—JEFF CARLSON

## Kick-off



**Rating:** ★★★★★

**Pros:** Easy installation and configuration; intuitive interface; application restarting; event logging.

**Cons:** Incompatible with most USB hubs; does not work with iBooks.

**List price:** \$179

**Company:** Sophisticated Circuits,  
425/485-7979,  
[www.sophisticated.com](http://www.sophisticated.com)

**Macworld's Buying Advice:**

Kick-off is an unobtrusive, heroic product that helps your Mac to revive quickly if it dies on the job.

When your Mac server absolutely has to stay running through rain, snow, sleet, and gloom of night, you need more than Apple's Restart After Power Failure feature. Sophisticated Circuits' Kick-off is a lot more. This clever add-on for USB-capable Macs can automatically detect an OS or application crash, and it then restarts your server or the failed application. Kick-off does all this painlessly, with reliable hardware and intuitive software.

Kick-off continuously monitors your Mac's health through a small module connected to your USB port. Moreover, it logs reliability problems and the events leading up to them. The module has status lights—a very handy feature if your monitor is turned off.—MEL BECKMAN

## Macworld.com

For these reviews:

[www.macworld.com/2001/03/reviews/online.html](http://www.macworld.com/2001/03/reviews/online.html)

LINK

**Portable printers**

- ★★★★ Canon BJC-55
- ★★★ HP DeskJet 350Cbi

**Optical mice**

- ★★★ Contour MiniPro Mouse
- ★★★★ Kensington Mouse in a Box Optical
- ★★★★ Kensington Mouse in a Box Optical Pro
- ★★★★<sup>1/2</sup> Logitech MouseMan Wheel
- ★★★★<sup>1/2</sup> Logitech Wheel Mouse
- ★★★ Macally ioptijr.
- ★★★★<sup>1/2</sup> Macally ioptinet
- ★★★★ Microsoft IntelliMouse Optical
- ★★★★ Microsoft Trackball Optical

**Fine-art large-format printer**

- ★★★★<sup>1/2</sup> Epson 7500

**Large-format printer**

- ★★★★ HP DeskJet 500

**USB game pads**

- ★★★★ CH Products USB Gamepad
- ★★★★<sup>1/2</sup> Gravis Destroyer Tilt
- ★★★★ Gravis Eliminator Aftershock
- ★★★★ Gravis Eliminator GamePad Pro
- ★★★★<sup>1/2</sup> Saitek P750

**Weather-tracking utility**

- ★★★★ EarthBrowser 1.3.5

**System utility**

- ★★★★ Power Windows 2.4.3

**Alarm clock**

- ★★★★<sup>1/2</sup> Chronomenon 3.1

**Game**

- ★★★★ David's Backgammon 3.9.2

**HTML debugger**

- ★★★★ VSE Web Site Turbo 4.0

**FileMaker plug-ins**

- ★★★★ oAzium cc Authorize
- ★★★★<sup>1/2</sup> oAzium Charts
- ★★★★ FileMaker Mobile
- ★★★★ Troi Dialog
- ★★★★ Troi File

**Reviews You Can Trust**

OUTSTANDING: ★★★★★  
VERY GOOD: ★★★★★  
GOOD: ★★★★★  
FLAWED: ★★★★★  
UNACCEPTABLE: ★

RATINGS





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# The Game Room



he other day I had an awkward moment. A pal of mine excitedly thrust his recently acquired mint-in-mint-package *Charlie's Angels* fashion doll into my hands, and before I had a chance to smile and say, "Hey, that's neat," I had thrown it to the floor and started jumping up and down on it, yelling, "*I . . . hate . . . '70s . . . television!*" as I did so. He got kind of mad about that and sputtered out something about how much he'd paid for the

thing on eBay, and I'm sorry to say that I did little to cool him down by grabbing him by the collar, dividing the dollar figure by 1.77, and spelling out to him how many starving children Sally Struthers could have fed with the money he'd wasted.

I'm just not much for nostalgia. Still and all, the rise of game emulators is an incredibly cool development. Game systems that have been out of date for years can be re-created within your Mac's memory, to run exactly as they did lo those many years ago.

## Hit Me with Your Best Shot

Hop on over to [www.emulation.net](http://www.emulation.net), John Stiles's love letter to Mac emulation. The site is so exhaustive, I can assume only that he's an alien sent to collect all this stuff so it'll survive when Earth is consumed in the upcoming invasion and Armageddon. There are emulators for Game Boy, Nintendo Entertainment System (NES) and Super NES, Atari, ColecoVision, Intellivision—honest, you read the list and you can almost hear a Pat Benatar tape playing somewhere.

These emulators are little more than curiosities, though. The quality of emulation is pretty spotty, and it's hard to locate a solid range of compatible games to play on 'em. But the primary problem I have with them is, I mean, if you want to play the Atari 2600 version of Frogger, you can find a console and a shopping bag full

of tapes for next to nothing at a garage sale, on eBay, or at the curb on trash day.

But MacMAME ([www.macmame.org](http://www.macmame.org)) is the real deal. A Mac version of Multiple Arcade Machine Emulator, it rolls emulators for every significant piece of coin-op arcade hardware into one piece of software. And as a free, open-source project, MAME runs on almost every computing platform you can name. That means there's a unified demand for the original game software, and therefore there are easily found, openly operated central sources for locating them.

Oh, yeah. The ROMs. See, obviously none of these emulators can play Track & Field without the game software itself. Normally the code would be burned onto a cartridge or onto some ROM chips on the arcade's motherboard. At some point an owner of a Track & Field machine must have copied the contents of said ROMs into a file and posted them somewhere, begging the question (he said, looking over his shoulder first and then whispering) *Is this legal?*

Well, no, not as such. These games are still copyrighted by someone, after all. Nintendo goes after Web sites that offer ROM images of Nintendo games for downloading. In the case of a game that hasn't been produced for 15 years and was available only in coin-op

*continues*



form from a company that went out of business during the Reagan administration, the question "Well, what difference does it make?" comes readily to mind. But for God's sake don't ask that aloud when Mom's in the room, because she'll tell you that right is right and ROM is . . . well, wrong.

### Virtual Song

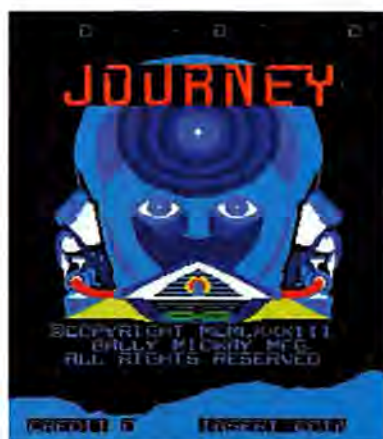
**C**onnectix's Virtual Game Station can be run guilt-free. The second question people ask about it is "How can it possibly be legal to sell a product that emulates the Sony PlayStation?" Well, it is, and Connectix has the court findings to prove it. The first question is, of course, "Does it work?" and the answer has been upgraded from a qualified and fidgety yes to a somewhat more confident one.

Earlier versions were limited by slower Mac speeds and a rather hypothetical understanding of compatibility requirements. Once the threat of lawsuits was done away with and it became clear that Virtual Game Station would be a continuing, viable product, it matured in a big hurry. At first it played like a Macintosh doing its best under trying circumstances, but now, thanks to version 1.4 (and admittedly, today's faster Macs), it plays like a PlayStation. Still, you're advised to consult Connectix's list of games that have been tested and judged playable before you buy any expensive games.

Speaking of expense, Virtual Game Station costs \$50—not that much less than the price of a PlayStation, and it's no less expensive at all if you don't already have a game controller. So why even mention it? Two words: *travel* and *PowerBooks*.

### Poor PC Performance

**I**'m hopeful that a Second Age of Mac Gaming is upon us. Still, there are a lot of Wintel-only titles, and some of them are tempting. A PC emulator such as Connectix's VirtualPC or FWB's SoftWindows is a handy app to have on the shelf, just as a balanced part of this nutritious breakfast, but emulators can be disappointing for spinning PC games. Obviously there's the built-in performance hit, but in general a G4 runs like a credibly modern Wintel box. The problem is that most of the Wintel games worth having rely heavily on features of the Pentium processor—features that work slowly in



**Arcade Classics** 1980s supergroup Journey (left) and Tapper (right) can come to your Mac.

emulation and that are constantly evolving. Many modern games just won't work at all on a Mac.

As a rule of thumb, if a game requires a Pentium II rated in the low 200MHz, it'll run fine under emulation. Otherwise, it's an exceedingly dicey proposition.

### Nostalgia Trip

**I**t's not until you wrap up a long session of Tapper or Crazy Climber or, Lord forbid, that video game based on the adventures of '80s supergroup Journey, that the significance of emulation really hits you. In the '40s, the primary engine of nostalgia was music. In the '50s and '60s they added cars, and in the '60s and '70s they added movies.

But growing up in the '80s gave future fogies a new means by which to rehash the past on a rainy day: video games. When I imagine Leonard Nimoy's voice, it's not from a *Star Trek* episode or movie—it's from Spock's opening welcome to the vector-image *Star Trek* video game. I can Name That Tune for any decent game soundtrack within seven notes, and the sentence "Stop the humanoid . . . stop the intruder" and a million similar details can instantly put me back inside a candlepin bowling alley in suburban Boston. For a moment, all of the things I was thinking and feeling when I was in junior high are fresh again in my memory.

Nostalgia is a powerful waster of time, potential, and brainpower—and so it's no surprise that it would one day get tied up with modern computing. It's a combination as natural as the Home Shopping Network hooking up with the porcelain-weeping-clown industry. **m**

Longtime Mac columnist ANDY IHNATKO doesn't have a nostalgic bone in his body. Oh, but back in the day. . .



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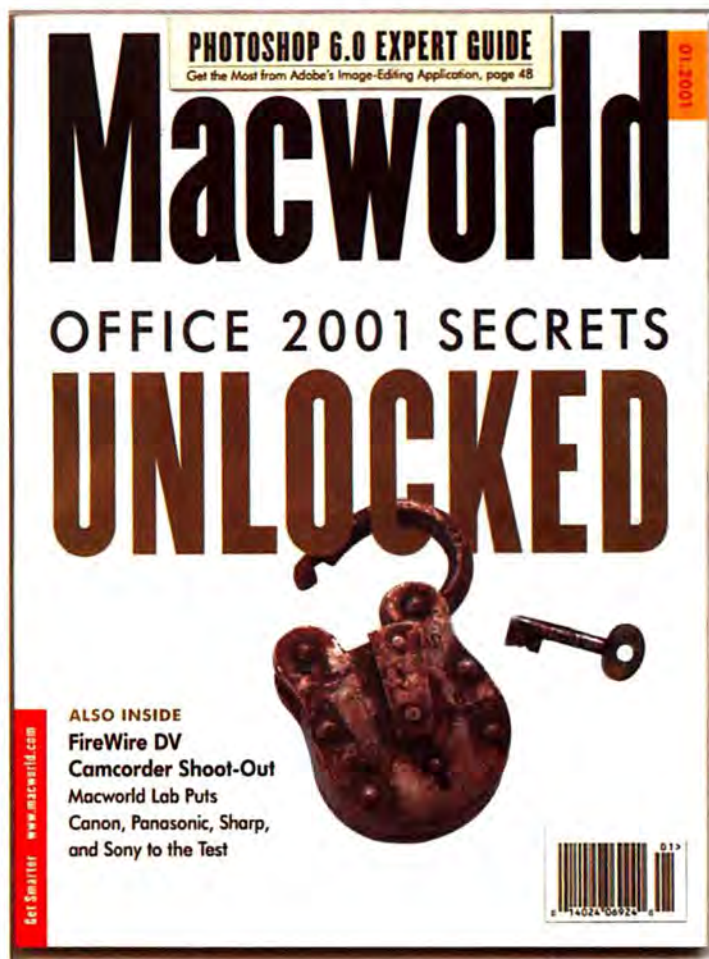
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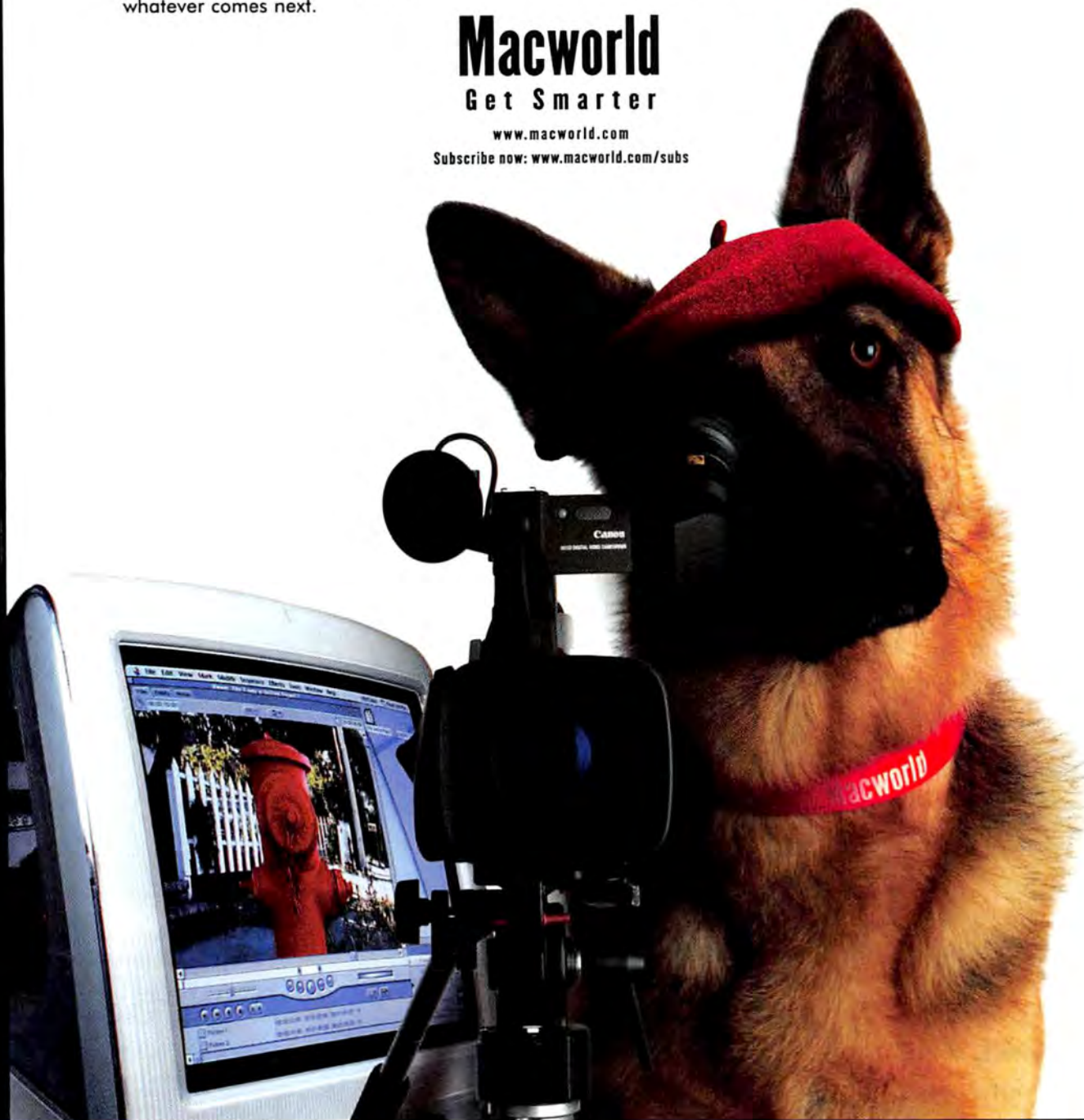
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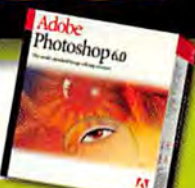


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## iBook 466MHz

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Pulse-pounding 3D graphics!

The turbocharged ATI RAGE  
Mobility 128 graphics accelerator  
provides awesome 3D graphics, faster  
games and enhanced movie playback.

Tons of preinstalled software!

The software comprises quite a pack-  
age. Because in addition to Mac OS 9,  
you get Microsoft Internet Explorer,  
Microsoft Outlook Express, Netscape  
Navigator, Palm Desktop Organizer,  
Adobe Acrobat Reader, FAXstf,  
QuickTime 4 and AppleWorks 6 and  
the award-winning iMovie 2.

- 12.1" TFT SVGA display
- 466MHz PowerPC G3 processor
- 64MB SDRAM; expandable to 320MB
- 10GB Ultra ATA hard disk drive
- DVD-ROM with DVD video playback
- 8MB video graphics memory
- 56K internal modem • 10/100BT
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### PowerBook 400MHz

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#### Create and edit desktop movies!

The PowerBook comes loaded with iMovie 2, the latest version of the video editing software that anyone can use. It also includes Final Cut Pro, the award-winning post production studio in a box.

- 14.1" TFT SVGA display
- 400MHz G3 with 1MB Level 2 cache
- 64MB SDRAM; expandable to 512MB
- 10GB Ultra ATA hard disk drive
- DVD-ROM with DVD video playback
- 8MB video graphics memory
- 56K internal modem • 10/100BT
- Two USB ports • Two FireWire ports

Connects easily to Plug-n-Play FireWire and USB devices!



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Includes video output port for connecting to TVs or VCRs!



### PowerBook 500MHz

With a PowerPC G3 processor delivering speeds of 500MHz, plus room for 512MB (half a gigabyte) of RAM and 3D graphics acceleration, AirPort wireless capability, FireWire and desktop movies to go, the future's built right into this slim powerhouse.

#### Awesome performance package!

The PowerBook delivers uncompromising performance in a stunning—and stunningly lightweight—package: just 5.7 pounds with the battery and weight-saving module installed, and 6.1 pounds with the battery and DVD-ROM drive installed.

This portable movie studio comes with enough built-in muscle, up to

30GB of hard disk space, to put most digital video projects into overdrive. In fact there's enough memory, cache and raw processing power in this lightweight portable to enable you to create a whole new medium

#### Features:

- 14.1" TFT SVGA display
- 500MHz PowerPC G3 processor with 1MB backside Level 2 cache
- 128MB SDRAM; expandable to 512MB
- 20GB Ultra ATA hard disk drive
- DVD-ROM with DVD video playback
- 8MB video graphics memory
- 56K internal modem • 10/100BT
- Two USB ports • Two FireWire ports
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## Get 64MB Extra

### iMac 350MHz

The Internet is at your service!  
The iMac comes with Mac OS 9 installed. One of the biggest advantages of having Mac OS 9 on your iMac could be the free suite of Internet services you get to enjoy (including your own exclusive mac.com email address). As an iMac customer, you can immediately start using popular services like iReview and iCards, as well as iTools.

#### Features:

- 350MHz PowerPC G3 processor
- 64MB SDRAM; expandable to 1GB
- 7GB Ultra ATA hard disk drive
- Slot loading 24X CD-ROM
- ATI RAGE 128 Pro graphics card
- 10/100BT Ethernet networking
- 15" display (13.8" viewable)
- Apple Pro Keyboard and Mouse
- 56K internal modem • 2 USB ports



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### iMac DV 400MHz

**Super fast FireWire!**

The iMac DV has super fast FireWire built-in, so you can easily connect to high-speed devices like your digital camcorders and external disk drives.

The iMac DV comes loaded with Apple's easy to use iMovie 2 software. With iMovie 2 software, you're ready for action. And just in time, because the era of Desktop Movies has arrived!

#### Features:

- 400MHz PowerPC G3 processor
- 64MB SDRAM; expandable to 1GB
- 10GB Ultra ATA hard disk drive
- Slot loading 24X CD-ROM
- ATI RAGE 128 Pro graphics card
- 10/100BT Ethernet networking
- 15" display (13.8" viewable)
- Apple Pro Keyboard and Mouse
- 56K internal modem • 2 USB ports
- 2 FireWire ports • Airport ready

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## iMac DV+ 450MHz

Includes the new iMovie 2!

The iMac DV+ comes loaded with Apple's easy to use iMovie 2 software and a slot-loading DVD-ROM drive and a brilliant 15-inch built-in display.

**Cutting-edge wireless networking technology!**

Every iMac DV+ comes AirPort-ready with a built-in antenna. With AirPort, you can surf the Internet through solid brick walls—without cables, additional phone lines or complicated networking hardware.

### Features:

- 450MHz PowerPC G3 processor
- 64MB SDRAM; expandable to 1GB
- 20GB Ultra ATA hard disk drive
- DVD-ROM with DVD video playback
- ATI RAGE 128 Pro graphics card
- 10/100BT Ethernet networking
- 15" display (13.8" viewable)
- Apple Pro Keyboard and Mouse
- 56K internal modem • 2 USB ports
- 2 FireWire ports • AirPort ready

*The new Apple Pro Keyboard features full size cursor keys!*

*High-precision Apple Pro Mouse requires no maintenance!*

## iMac DV SE 500MHz

**Watch the classics on DVD!**

With the iMac DV Special Edition, you can slip the latest DVD title into the slot-loading drive and watch it on a brilliant 15-inch built-in display. With new Theater Mode, your viewing experience is positively cinematic.

**Make the classics with iMovie2!**

iMovie 2 comes pre-installed on every DV iMac—and it has all the makings of a blockbuster. you can turn your DV iMac into a personal movie studio and be ready for action.

**Listen to the classics in style!**

Your favorite music comes through loud and clear on the Harman Kardon Odyssey audio system. From CDs to MP3s, it'll be music to your ears!

- 500MHz PowerPC G3 processor
- 128MB SDRAM; expandable to 1GB
- 30GB Ultra ATA hard disk drive
- DVD-ROM with DVD video playback
- ATI RAGE 128 Pro graphics card
- 10/100BT Ethernet networking
- 15" display (13.8" viewable)
- 56K internal modem • 2 USB ports
- 2 FireWire ports • AirPort ready

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**Apple iMac DV SE 500MHz**

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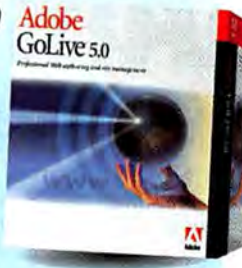
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**G4 Dual**



**G4 Dual**

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# on Power Macs



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**PowerBook**

**PowerBook**

	400MHz	500MHz
<b>Processor</b>	400MHz	500MHz
<b>Hard Drive</b>	10GB	20GB
<b>RAM</b>	64MB	128MB
<b>Optical Drive</b>	DVD	DVD
<b>FireWire</b>	2 Ports	2 Ports
<b>Modem</b>	56K	56K
<b>Backside Cache</b>	1MB L2	1MB L2
<b>Was</b>	\$2494 <sup>98</sup>	\$3494 <sup>98</sup>
<b>Price Drop</b>	-\$500	-\$1300
<b>Low Zone Price!</b>	<b>\$1994<sup>98</sup></b>	<b>\$2194<sup>98</sup></b>
	#124941	#124942



**Starting at  
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#126598

- Fully USB compatible for Macintosh out of the box
- An exclusive Springboard expansion slot and a wide range of modules can turn your organizer into a digital camera, music player or even a phone

### Handspring Visor PDA's

#126598 2MB PDA	Graphite . . . . .	\$179.99
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#130300 8MB Deluxe	Blue . . . . .	\$249.99
#130299 8MB Deluxe	Green . . . . .	\$249.99
#130298 8MB Deluxe	Orange . . . . .	\$249.99
#130296 8MB Platinum	Silver . . . . .	\$299.99
#130297 8MB Prism/full color	Cobalt . . . . .	\$449.99



Deluxe - comes in 5 colors



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PowerBook!**

**For PowerBook 400/500**

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#116659 128MB . . . . .	\$79.99
#116022 256MB . . . . .	\$329.99
#116023 512MB . . . . .	\$1199.99

Memory available for other PowerBook models. Prices subject to change.



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# on PowerBooks

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#37185	10-Pk	Color	\$10 rebate	\$79.99*
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#86292	2-Pk	Gray	\$3 rebate	\$16.99*
#35459	5-Pk	Gray	\$10 rebate	\$39.99*
#37186	10-Pk	Gray	\$10 rebate	\$79.99*

\*After \$10 mfr. mail-in rebate. Low Zone price \$89.99. \*\*Free disks by mail. Coupon in box.  
†After \$3 mfr. mail-in rebate. Low Zone price \$19.99. ††After \$10 mfr. mail-in rebate. Low Zone price \$49.99. †††After \$10 mfr. mail-in rebate. Low Zone price \$89.99. Limited time offers.



Internal Zip® 250 drive slides  
right into your PowerBook  
**VST Zip 250 Drive**  
#116684 **\$279<sup>99</sup>**



Portable CD Burner  
20X4X4 speed  
**VST CD-RW  
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#685244 **\$379<sup>99</sup>**



SAVE with Fuji brand  
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16x80 minute discs  
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Huge storage  
capacity, small price  
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CD-RW FireWire Drive**  
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Extended power  
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G3 Battery**  
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Notebook Case**  
#91934 **\$74<sup>99</sup>**  
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## Mobile Computing Accessories



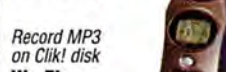
Speakers  
to go  
**iWave**  
#115356 **\$49<sup>99</sup>**



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**iVoice**  
#115360 **\$249<sup>99</sup>**



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#657682 **\$39<sup>99</sup>**



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You Pay ONLY  
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44" wide photo quality color  
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Includes full  
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12.2" x 17.2" scanning area  
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**Apple Pro Keyboard**  
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Full size upgrade by Macally  
**Graphite iKey Key-  
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Scrolling Mouse**  
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Value**

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Totally rebuilt for the Mac  
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2001 Upgrade**  
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**Starting At**  
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Since it was first introduced, the "i" in "iMac" has stood for "Internet," and, more than ever, everybody from grandparents to home business entrepreneurs are getting on the Internet with the personal computer that makes it so easy and fun. Creating and sharing digital photos and small home movies over the Internet has become even easier – and a heck of a lot faster – than writing and sending postcards. And you never have to lick stamps or worry about running out of them.

**Mac Zone Exclusive!**  
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**64MB**  
**MEMORY!**  
with select iMac purchase.

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**Software aisle built-in.** But, in addition to its powerful hardware, over a dozen software titles make the iMac much more than an Internet-only appliance. You get everything you need to create movies, design a Web site, balance your bank accounts, apply for a home loan, chat with friends on the Internet, visit a museum online and take on dinosaurs and hotheaded fire ants. The complete software package includes AppleWorks 6, QuickTime 4, Earthlink Total Access, Microsoft Internet Explorer, Microsoft Outlook, Netscape Communicator, Quicken Deluxe 2000, Bugdom, Nanosaur, Palm Desktop, FAXstf Pro and Adobe Acrobat. And all iMac DV, DV+ and Special Edition models come with iMovie 2.

**Value RAM**  
BY KINGSTON

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For iMac 350/400MHz		
#674339	64MB	\$44.99
#123842	128MB	\$59.99*
#715574	256MB	\$149.99**

For iBook		
#674337	32MB	\$39.99
#715586	64MB	\$44.99

\*After \$15 mail-in rebate. Low Zone price: \$74.99. \*\*After \$20 mail-in rebate. Low Zone price: \$169.99. Offer expires 2/28/01. Prices subject to change.

**AppleCare**  
iMac Protection Plan  
#722602 **\$149<sup>96</sup>**



**iMac**



**iMac DV**



**iMac DV+**



**iMac SE**

	<b>350MHz</b>	<b>400MHz</b>	<b>450MHz</b>	<b>500MHz</b>
<b>Processor</b>	350MHz	400MHz	450MHz	500MHz
<b>Hard Drive</b>	7GB	10GB	20GB	30GB
<b>RAM</b>	64MB	64MB	64MB	128MB
<b>Optical Drive</b>	CD	CD	DVD	DVD
<b>FireWire</b>	No	2 Ports	2 Ports	2 Ports
<b>AirPort Ready</b>	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>iMovie 2</b>	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Low Zone Price</b>	<b>\$794<sup>98</sup></b>	<b>\$994<sup>98</sup></b>	<b>\$1294<sup>98</sup></b>	<b>\$1494<sup>98</sup></b>
	Indigo #124912	Indigo #124913 Ruby #124914	Indigo #124915 Ruby #124916 Sage #124917	Graphite #124918 Snow #124919

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**Cool Look, Big Sound!**

3-piece speaker system  
harman/kardon SoundSticks

#127797 **\$199<sup>99</sup>** \*Requires Mac OS 9.0.4

Trade in your mouse for a pen – great for beginning designers

Wacom Graphire USB Tablet

#121927 **\$99<sup>99</sup>**

## Now available separately at Mac Zone!\*

\*FREE with new iMacs. Now available separately for iBooks, PowerBooks, and other USB-equipped Macs!

Apple Pro Keyboard

#124980 **\$59<sup>99</sup>\***

**FREE with new iMacs!**

Apple Pro Optical Mouse

#124979 **\$59<sup>99</sup>\***

## Gaming

**Macally**

Free your game control from your desktop

Macally AirStick USB Motion-Sensing Midair Joystick

#662246 **\$34<sup>99</sup>**

Plunge into your games

Macally iShock USB Programmable Game Controller

#106162 **\$29<sup>99</sup>**

## Top Selling Games!

The Sims	#702664	\$44.99
Madden NFL 2000	#111576	\$19.99
Scrabble	#735107	\$29.99
Baldur's Gate	#625850	\$39.97
Age of Empires	#111565	\$19.99
Tomb Raider III	#111573	\$29.99
The Big Kahuna	#108263	\$49.99
SimCity 3000	#111560	\$44.99
Total Annihilation		
Gold	#111567	\$24.98
ChessMaster 6000	#653212	\$34.99
Quake III Arena	#112118	\$44.98
Unreal Tournament	#111907	\$32.99
Bugdom 3D		
for the Family	#114493	\$29.99
Mac Fun Pack	#675767	\$19.99
Deus Ex	#701823	\$39.99

## Removable Storage

250MB of removable storage

Imega USB Zip 250 Drive

#119675 **\$179<sup>99</sup>**

Blazingly fast CD-burner

QPS 12x10x32x FireWire CD-RW Drive

#113595 **\$299<sup>99</sup>\***

\*After \$30 mfr. mail-in rebate. Low Zone price: \$329.99. Good through 3/31/01.

Use floppies with your iMac

VST USB Floppy Drive

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**NEW**

Fast, reliable optical storage

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## Printers & Scanners

Amazing iMac colors!

8 ppm Fast - 2880 x 720 dpi

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For prints that last a lifetime – and beyond

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**\$130 with Combo Purchase!**

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**MP3 Player**

Rio 600

64MB of memory

#701451 **\$169<sup>99</sup>**

## Personal

Panasonic SL-SW880 Shockwave CD Player with Brainshaker Headphones

#733681 **\$159<sup>99</sup>**

## Visor – the next generation of handhelds!

Visor Deluxe Blue

#130300 **\$249<sup>99</sup>**

Visor Graphite

#126598 **\$179<sup>99</sup>**

**Visor Deluxe available in 5 colors!**

- Solely Mac/USB-compatible out of the box
- The most Mac-friendly handheld ever
- Complete selection of Visor handhelds available
- Its cool looks are just the beginning
- An exclusive Springboard expansion slot and a wide range of modules can turn your organizer into a digital camera, music player or even a phone

**Intuit TurboTax**

**FREE TurboTax State**

Quicken TurboTax Deluxe for Mac

#127143 **\$49<sup>95</sup>** \*with mfr. mail-in rebate in box.

**Quicken Deluxe 2001**

#727334 **\$49<sup>95</sup>** \*with purchase of Intuit TurboTax.

**YAMAHA**

Mac Zone Exclusive!

**Yamaha 3-Piece Speaker System**

YMSTS30 refurbished

#117664 **\$29<sup>99</sup>** While supplies last.

Remix club-quality music

**Mixman DJ Megamix**

#725187 **\$24<sup>99</sup>**

Create your own CDs

**Toast 4**

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iUPS Power Surge Protection and 11 minutes of back-up battery power

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As always, the iBook's 12.1" active matrix display provides crisp on-screen graphics, and its convenient, foldaway handle makes it easy to take along wherever you go. But now they come with FireWire, faster processors and bigger hard drives. Plus the iBook SE includes a DVD-ROM drive.

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With select iBook purchase. Printer purchase not necessary for FREE 64MB; no coupons or rebates. While supplies last.

Apple®  
**iBook™**

"Surprisingly fast, feature-rich, great value...the best value (Apple) has ever offered in a portable package..."

— Andrew Gore,  
Macworld, December, 2000.



	<b>iBook</b>	<b>iBook SE</b>
<b>Processor</b>	<b>366MHz</b>	<b>466MHz</b>
<b>Hard Drive</b>	<b>10GB</b>	<b>10GB</b>
<b>RAM</b>	<b>64MB</b>	<b>64MB</b>
<b>On-chip cache</b>	<b>256K</b>	<b>256K</b>
<b>Optical Drive</b>	<b>CD</b>	<b>DVD</b>
<b>FireWire</b>	<b>1 Port</b>	<b>1 Port</b>
<b>AirPort Ready</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Ethernet</b>	<b>10/100BT</b>	<b>10/100BT</b>
<b>Modem</b>	<b>56K</b>	<b>56K</b>

**Low Zone Price** **\$1494<sup>98</sup>** **\$1794<sup>98</sup>**

Indigo #124939 Graphite #124940  
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BY KINGSTON

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For iMac 350/400MHz		
#674339	64MB	\$44.99
#123842	128MB	\$59.99†
#715574	256MB	\$149.99††
For iBook		
#674337	32MB	\$39.99
#715586	64MB	\$44.99

†After \$15 mail-in rebate. Low Zone price: \$74.99. ††After \$20 mail-in rebate. Low Zone price: \$169.99. Offer expires 2/28/01. Prices subject to change.

**AppleCare**  
iBook Protection Plan  
**\$229<sup>96</sup>**  
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<p><b>iBook Indigo</b></p> <p><b>\$1599<sup>99</sup></b></p> <p>#124939 iBook + printer=128MB FREE</p>	<p><b>iBook SE Graphite</b></p> <p><b>\$1899<sup>99</sup></b></p> <p>#124940 iBook + printer=128MB FREE</p>	<p><b>iBook SE Key Lime</b></p> <p><b>\$1899<sup>99</sup></b></p> <p>#124978 iBook + printer=128MB FREE</p>
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**ATI Radeon 32MB PCI  
Graphics Card**  
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controller to your Mac  
**Sonnet Tempo Ultra ATA/66  
PCI Card**  
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Get the reliability of RAID storage  
**Sonnet Tempo RAID  
TAT-066R PCI Card**  
#126536 **\$199<sup>99</sup>**



Add more ports to PCI Macs  
**Sonnet Tango ADB, USB  
and FireWire PCI Card**  
#119197 **\$129<sup>97</sup>**



Take your iMac to a new level  
**Newer Technology  
MAXpower G3 466MHz  
with 1MB Cache**  
#733166 **\$499<sup>98</sup>**



Put a G3 in your PB 1400  
**Sonnet Crescendo  
PowerBook 1400 G3  
333MHz with  
512K Cache**  
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## Go Wireless



**AirPort  
Base Station**  
• Surf the Net or network wirelessly\*  
• Up to 150' range lets you and the iBook  
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\*Requires the AirPort Card, Base Station and a  
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1.3 Megapixel and 3X zoom  
**Olympus D-460 Zoom  
Digital Camera**  
#117050 **\$399<sup>99</sup>**



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and affordable!  
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Play games  
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**Macally Motion-Sensing  
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station!  
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Game Station  
Bundle**  
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**harmon/kardon  
SoundSticks**  
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for Mac**  
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(18" viewable)**  
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3D action based on the show  
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Elite Force** #741352 **\$49<sup>99</sup>**



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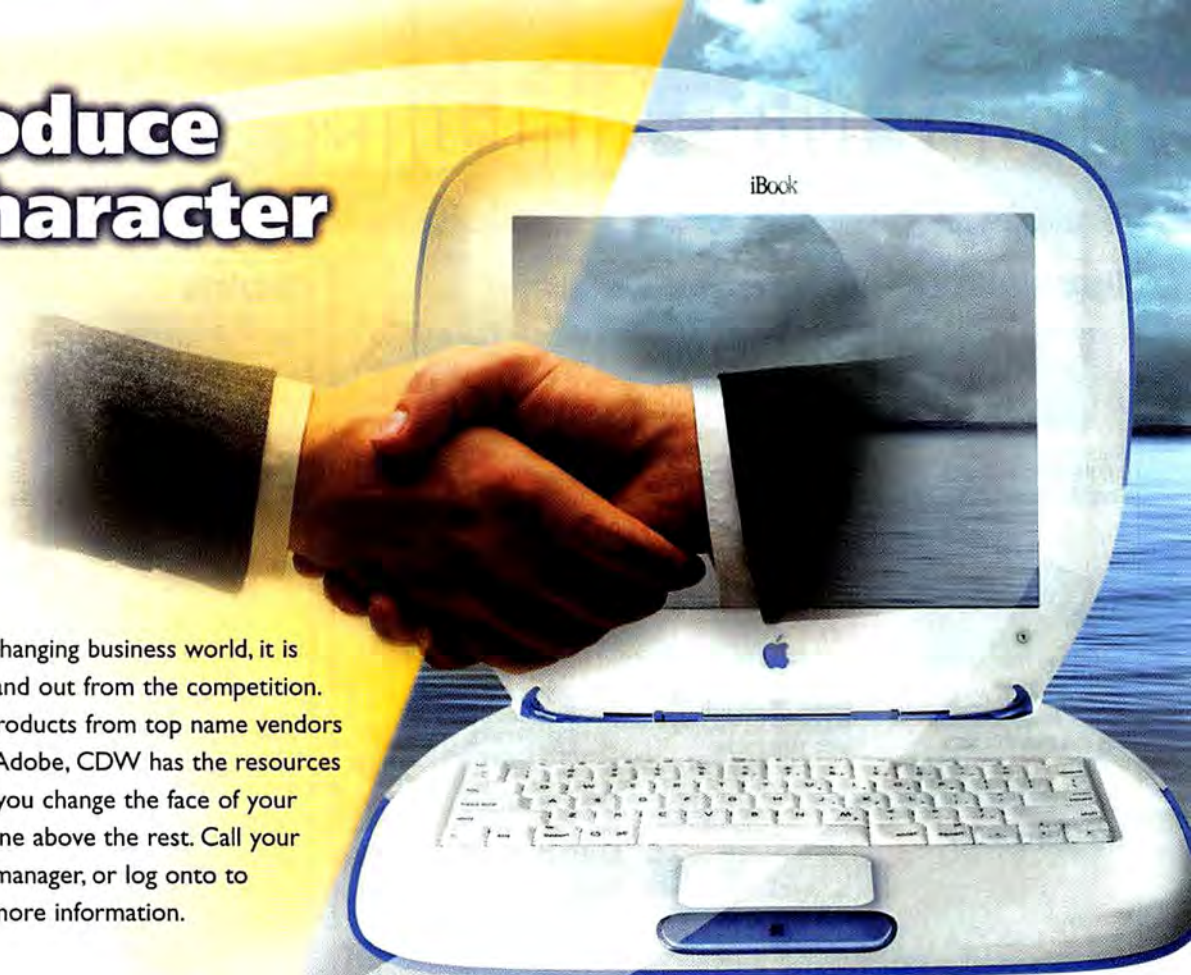
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73.4GB 10,000 4MB	ST173404LW	\$1115
73.4GB 10,000 16MB	ST173404LWV	\$1159
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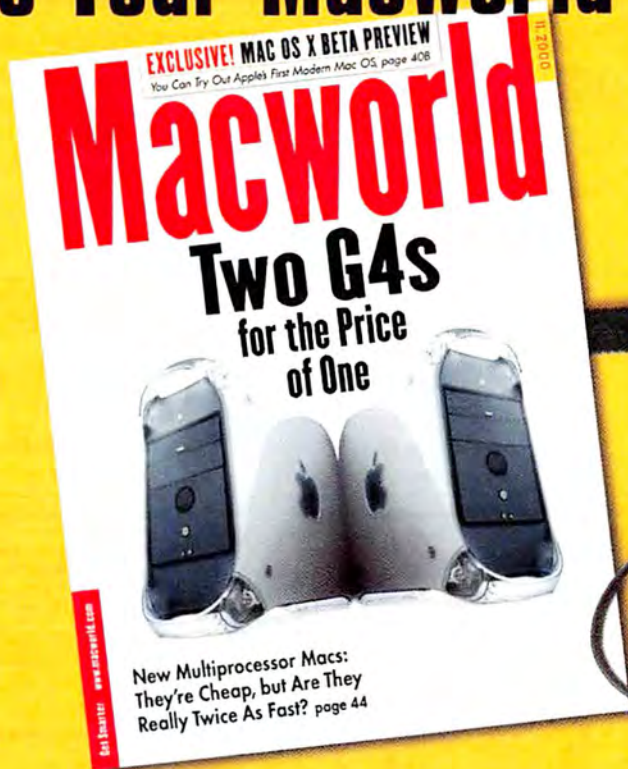
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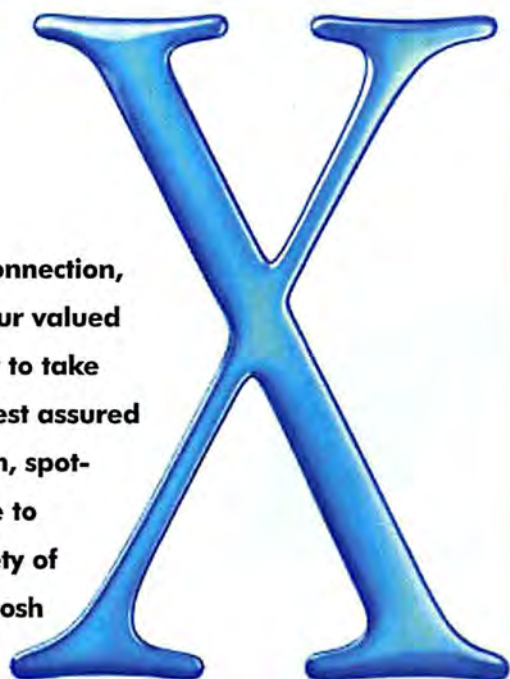
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Feature Comparison	Asanté FR3004LC	Linksys BEFSR41	Netgear RT311
Web-Based Configuration	Yes	Yes	Command line required for many features
Ideal for Mac/PC networks	Yes	No	No
Advanced Security:			
Log intrusion attempts	Yes	No	No
Ports open on-demand	Yes	No, always open	No, always open
Group security	Yes	No	No
Physical security	Yes	No	No
Backup Modem Port	Yes	No	No
Print Server	Yes*	Add \$170 for 1 port (PPSX1)	Add \$245 for 3 ports (PS113)
Performance	Best	Slower <sup>†</sup>	Slowest <sup>†</sup>

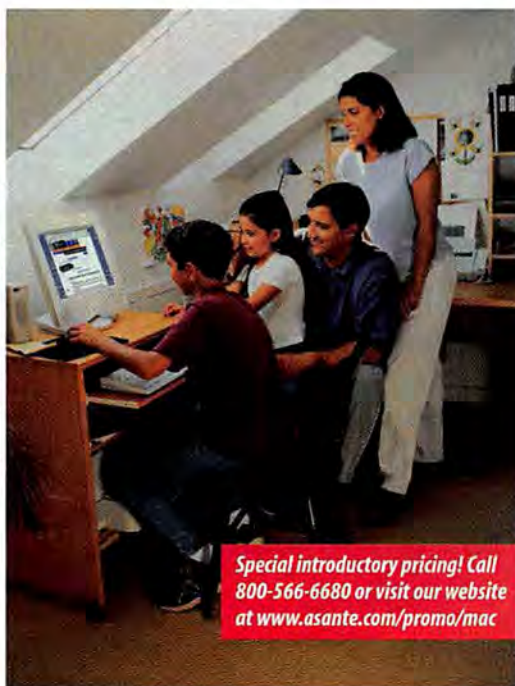
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18.2G	10,000	4MB	DOV5713390U	\$300

##### IBM IDE Ultra ATA/100

Size	RPM	Cache	Model no.	Price
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20G	7200	2MB	DTLA-307020	\$135
30G	7200	2MB	DTLA-307030	\$159
40G	7200	2MB	DTLA-307040	\$220

##### Maxtor IDE Ultra ATA/100

Maxtor IDE Ultra ATA/100				
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30.7G	2MB	5400	DM15079H4	\$177
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# FireWire Storage



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FireWire Plug & Play connectivity for Ultra-SCSI devices!  
Hook up existing SCSI devices to FireWire port!

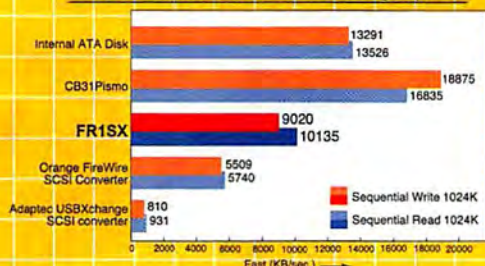
### FireWire to Ultra SCSI Converter

## FR1SX

- Changes Ultra SCSI device into FireWire storage.
- Quick and Easy installation.
- Compact, Just fit to SCSI-II connector.
- Allows true Plug & Play.
- Allows easy peripheral sharing with WindowsPC and Mac.

The product name is changed to FR1SX from FireREX1.

PowerBook2000 HDD Bench Mark Testing Report



**2FireWire  
400Mbps  
ports**

## High-performance FireWire CD-RW drive

### FireWire Portable CD-RW Drive

## FR-CW84

- High-performance portable FireWire CD-RW drive.
- The fastest portable CD-RW drive.
- 8x record, 4x rewrite and 24x playback.
- Compact, ultra thin(20mm) and ultra light-weight(480g). Ideal for portable.

### FR-CW84/FR-CW1610

- [Common features]**
- Supports FireWire Plug & Play and hot-swapping.
  - Supports two FireWire(6P) 400Mbps port for FireWire daisy chain.
  - Includes Adaptec Toast 4.1.1 for MacOS.
  - Includes Adaptec Easy CD Creator 4.1.1 and DirectCD 4.1.1 for Windows.
  - System requirement.
  - PowerMac/PowerBook/MacBook with FireWire port running MacOS9.0.4/FireWire 2.4 or later.
  - WindowsPC with IEEE1394 port running Windows98SE/Windows2000 or WindowsME.

### FireWire Desktop External CD-RW Drive

## FR-CW1610

- High-performance desktop FireWire CD-RW drive.
- The fastest desktop CD-RW drive.
- 16x record, 10x rewrite and 32x playback.
- Supports 'Burn Proof' technology. It frees from 'Data underrun error'.

- **Supported Writing modes:**  
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- **Supported Playback modes:**  
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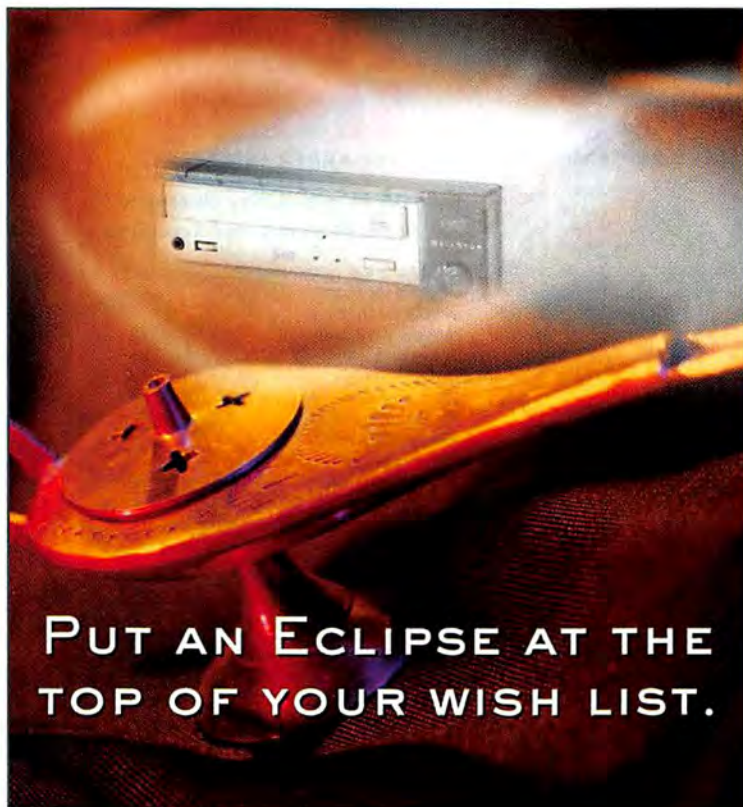


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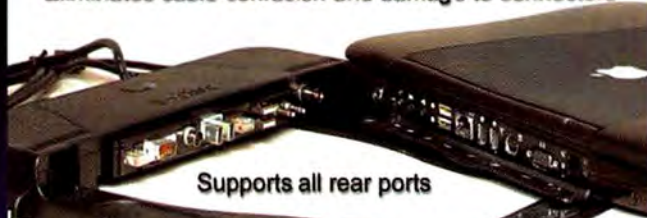
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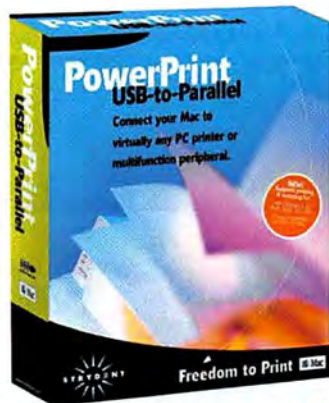
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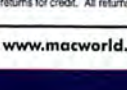
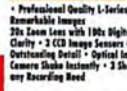
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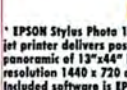
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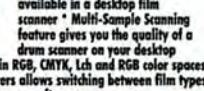
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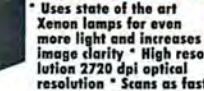
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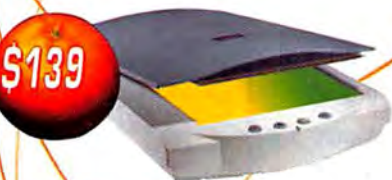
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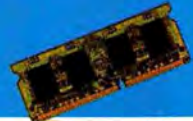
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continued from page 170

## Slippery Prices

Last September, *Computerworld* magazine unearthed another slippery tactic: Amazon charges different prices—varying by as much as \$10—to different people, depending on “which browser was being used, whether a consumer was a repeat or first-time customer, and which Internet service provider a customer was using.” The *Men in Black* DVD, for example, cost the reporter \$2 more when she used Netscape Navigator than when she tried Microsoft Internet Explorer.

Economists call this game “yield management”—the science of playing with prices to eke out the most profit, even though two consumers might pay wildly different prices. Airlines and hotels practice yield management all the time. All that’s new is that a company that sells *things*, instead of services, has joined the party. This practice would never work in a local store, but Amazon can get away with it—after all, from your Web browser, you can’t see what price anyone else is paying.

Amazon’s pricing games have grown only more complex since then. In August, on all books under \$30, the company cut its usual discount of 20 percent in half. Add in the \$4.50 single-book shipping charge, and you can see how Amazon wound up quietly dismantling one of the pillars of its image: that it offers lower prices than the local bookstore.

In November, shortly after the pricing switch became public, Amazon restored the 20-percent discounts. But that may change again, and the damage has been done; Amazon is no longer Old Faithful. You may have a different shopping experience each time you visit.

## Do the Right Thing

It’s certainly Amazon’s right to fiddle with its business model; the company has done nothing illegal (although some of its experiments have their seamy side). But we, the book-buying public who loved the original bookstore, helped make it the company’s only profitable division. By constantly tweaking the formula, Amazon appears to be trying to make us subsidize the struggling departments—the ones that sell cars, patio furniture, and shaving cream. Let’s just hope the company’s tinkering doesn’t squeeze the appeal right out of what used to be not only the “world’s largest bookstore” but also one of the best. **m**

DAVID POGUE ([www.davidpogue.com](http://www.davidpogue.com)) is the author of *iMovie 2: The Missing Manual* (O’Reilly/Pogue Press, 2001).

Opinion

The Desktop Critic



DAVID POGUE

# Darkness in the Amazon Jungle

AMAZON.COM  
KEEPS FIDDLING  
WITH THE FORMULA

**F**or a long time, Amazon.com had us in the palm of its hand. From the privacy of our Web browsers, we could buy any book on earth for less money than we would spend at a local, tax-charging bookstore. The whole place seemed up-front and trustworthy. Amazon was the Big Warm Consumer Fuzzy.

The first time I noticed weird things going on at Amazon was a couple of years ago, when I ran into a fellow book author. "Have you been watching my new book?" she asked breathlessly. "Don't you mean *reading* your new book?" I asked. "No, no—watching it. On Amazon. I hit 359 last week!"

She went on to explain how each book's Amazon page shows its sales rank.

Hour by hour, you can see how a book is selling, relative to the other 5 million books in Amazon's catalog.

(I remember thinking: "She sits there all day, clicking on the Reload button over and over again, gloating over every little uptick in her book's rank? That is pathetic!" Two hours later, I was doing the same thing.)

The thing is, nobody understands how Amazon's sales-rank computations work, and the company isn't telling. It's easy to fool their system; if six friends order your book simultaneously at 5:26 on Thursday afternoon, then, by golly, you'll see it shoot into the top 50 (for a few enchanted minutes, anyway).

One of my books hums along in the 1,500 range during evenings and weekdays, but it tanks to 80,000 or so on weekends. What's *that* about? I mean, if the answer is "People don't buy books on the weekend," then *all* books should tank on the weekend, and their relative rankings should stay the same. Furthermore, it's a little odd that the sales-rank numbers don't correspond to Amazon's own "most popular" sort order, which appears when you're viewing the results of a search.

## Glowing Praise

OK, so maybe those numbers are for entertainment purposes only. But what about those reviews that ordinary readers are allowed to post? This Amazon feature, too, holds a grisly fascination for those of us in the book-creation business. It takes a lot of chutzpah for an online store to post negative reviews of the very products it sells. But the funny thing is, Amazon's editors don't post every negative review, as those of us on an authors' mailing list have discovered by comparing notes; the overwhelming majority of books appear with mostly positive reviews. To paraphrase Garrison Keillor, Amazon is a place where every book is above average.

But I really began to wonder about Amazon in 1999, when the *New York Times* reported that secret promotional fees from publishers, not the independent judgment of editors, determined Amazon's "Editor's Picks."

Amazon responded quickly; it now tells which books are backed by paid placements.

*continues on page 169*



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