

# WAMUG



Whittier Area Macintosh Users Group

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## Apple News

iPhone, iPhone, iPhone- that is the Apple News. You heard about them everywhere. Apple did a masterful job of promoting the iPhone and they did a great job distributing them. Things went smoothly with only a few problems in the first days the iPhone was out and new users were up and running quickly. They were able to activate their new iPhones using the iTunes store.

I have heard through the different media outlets that new owners of the iPhone are happy with their purchase. That includes Bob Rockhill.

## Bob's iPhone ♥

The iPhone is an engineering marvel. You can't really appreciate it until you hold it in your hand. Pictures don't do it justice by any means. I'd like to cover some of the best features as well as those often not mentioned. So let's get started.

First of all, I really appreciate the layout of the iPhone. It's so well thought out. There are no menus at all. None. Yet, I do not miss them at all. Everything is laid out very logically. Your most used apps are on the bottom row. You access them after turning on the phone and sliding your finger across the screen horizontally. This unlocks the screen so there won't be any accidental calls made. (That happened to me a lot with the Treo in my pocket.) Once you unlock the iPhone you'll see these apps in a line. They



are the Phone, Mail, Safari and iPod apps. You simply click on any one of them to open the app. Just your finger, no stylus to bother with or lose. I like that.

The phone app gives you several choices. Once you open it, you have 5 buttons on the bottom. They are **Favorites** for frequently called friends, **Recents** for the last several calls you've made or received. Then **Contacts** for all your numbers, which are divided into any pre-sorted groups you may have on your Mac's Address Book. The **Keypad** is next for dialing the old way, followed by your **Voicemail**. This is the much talked about Voicemail that lets you see and select your voicemail in any order you wish. Very clever.

The second Home Row button is your Mail App. It really works about the same way as the Mac Mail app you are already used to. It looks the same, even with in-line photos and attachments. You can have several different email addresses sent to your iPhone if you wish.

The third button is Safari and this two is very similar to what you are used to. iPhone only brings over your bookmarks from Safari, not Firefox, so I was lost for a while. Now, I've added what I need to Safari, but it's probably even easier to stick with Delicious and have it all. You can bookmark your favorites and you can still access all your other bookmarks and folders of bookmarks. You see a whole page, but you just enlarge it to see the print larger by double clicking on it or spreading it open with 2 fingers.

The iPod is your last home button. It is so cool. I never loved the wheel anyway, but this is so much nicer. It was suggested that

you make an iPhone folder in your iTunes and just copy all you want into it and only sync that folder. That's what I have done and it took up a lot less space that way and it's very easy for me to change my songs. The syncing is very fast to do and done in the same manner as the iPod. You can sort by Playlists, Artists, shuffle etc. You can listen through the iPhone speaker or use your headset. If you put the iPhone on a table, it will sound much louder if you're playing through the speaker. The speaker isn't half bad for such a device. When you turn your iPhone horizontal, you then get your "Coverflow" effect, which shows you all your album covers you can go through by flipping them with your finger. So cool.

There are many other apps above the home row to choose from. They are: SMS Text, Calendar, Photos, Camera, YouTube, Stocks, Maps, Weather, Clock, Calculator, Notes and Settings. Watch my video to see more about that and here are a few pictures. The ones not of the iPhone were taken with the iPhone, so you can see how well the camera does.

*Go to the Maclectic website to see the pictures and video*

<http://maclectic.com/B2/index.php>

## iTunes Giveth & Giveth Again

By Philip Michaels

Hope everyone out there enjoyed their three-day weekend, with the requisite picnics, beach trips, and other assorted fun in the sun. Me, I spent part of my Memorial Day weekend downloading 500-plus songs from the

iTunes Store. Or I should say, 500-plus songs that I already own.

No, I'm not a demented, rich spendthrift. Rather, I was able to re-download my entire iTunes purchase history through the courtesy of a little-publicized program where Apple will let you recover purchases lost to a hard-drive mishap.

That's what happened to me several months back when my MacBook Pro's hard drive burped and took all my data with it. Fortunately, I had some semblance of a backup plan in place, so that as I ran down the checklist of important files, almost all were restored to where they should be. Work documents and e-mails? Check. Photos? Check. Music I had ripped from my CD collection? Either backed up or available in CD form if I didn't mind the tedium or re-ripping. iTunes purchases?

Ruh-oh.

Since iTunes flung open its virtual doors in 2003, I've purchased in the neighborhood of 600 songs, give or take a hundred. Of those, maybe a third had been backed up, either to a hard drive or a CD-ROM. Another third, I was indifferent about—I think I'll be able to lead a rich, full life without that digital version of Maureen McGovern's "The Morning After" that I bought on an ill-advised dare. But the remaining 200 or so songs, I kind of wanted back.

Yes, I should have backed up those songs if they meant that much to me. I accept your derisive laughter as a fitting punishment for my negligence. But I doubt that I'm the only person in recorded history to click the Buy Song button in iTunes and then, awash with

the rush of instant gratification, forget to take the time to make sure those purchases are kept safe for posterity. And so I decided to explore whether I had any options outside of chalking up the loss to an important life lesson about not becoming too attached to physical possessions.

Turns out there is an option, and it's offered by Apple. Head to the iTunes Store Support page and click on the Find Your Lost Music link. You'll jump to an FAQ with a series of answers about things like locating lost music on your hard drive (including a tech support article). There's also a field for e-mail support, which I used to write an abjectly humble note explaining my situation and asking if there was anything that could be done about it.

Less than 24 hours later, I got a very welcome reply back:

Apple will let you re-download (at no charge) all the titles you purchased on this account that are still available. Please note that you may download your iTunes Store purchases only once, so this is a one-time courtesy exception.

The next time I launched iTunes, the helpful tech support person told me, I should use the Store -> Check for Purchases command. After being prompted to enter my account name and password, every song I've ever bought would begin downloading.

Indeed, that's exactly what happened—after typing in my password, the software checked for my purchases and returned with a list of 500-plus songs. I started downloading about 9 a.m. on Monday, and wrapped things up shortly after lunch. (The exception: I used

iTunes 7's download manager to delay the re-download of my movie and TV show purchases until I was on a faster network than my home connection.)

Two things I'd like to highlight about this program, just in case you overlooked them earlier:

1. This is a one-time offer. In other words, if disaster strikes your hard drive again and you didn't back anything up, hard cheese. Indeed, after finishing up with the downloads, iTunes prompted me to back up my newly downloaded music. Rest assured that I did this time around.

2. You can only re-download music that's still available from the Store. That's a fairly self-explanatory condition, but it bears mentioning. About 100 of my songs weren't available from iTunes any more. (More on this below.)

With that in mind, it's a wonderful move on Apple's part to extend this courtesy to absent-minded iTunes shoppers like myself. It fosters goodwill, it reinforces the notion that digital media should be backed up, and it gives all customers the reassurance that if disaster strikes, they have some form of recourse.

A few other things I noticed about this service:

- Apple is not kidding when it says you download your entire purchase history, as my 500-plus download list indicates. That includes stuff I managed to back up, songs and TV shows originally offered as free downloads, even stuff that my wife bought using my account that were downloaded on an en-

tirely different Mac. If you bought it at one point, and it's still on iTunes, you're going to be downloading it again, whether you want it or not.

- "Everything" also includes music you've given as gifts. Back when the gift feature was introduced with iTunes 6, I sent out some gift playlists out to colleagues to test how it worked for an article on the changes to the music store. This weekend, those songs showed up in my download list, one version for each gift recipient—as far as iTunes is concerned, these are purchases I made, even if the music wasn't intended for me. So I'm now the proud owner of several versions of the same playlist of monkey-themed rock songs.

- Songs listed as "unavailable" aren't always as unavailable as iTunes thinks they are. I don't mean that to sound like a complaint in the face of what I consider to be a very generous service that Apple provides—after all, recovering 75 percent of something is better than 100 percent of nothing. But the fact remains, some songs missing from my re-download list are still available from iTunes.

In some cases, the disparity is understandable. My cut of "Folsom Prison Blues" came off Johnny Cash's "Live at Folsom Prison" album. That record isn't available at iTunes anymore, although the exact same track is available from "The Man in Black: His Greatest Hits." But, as far as iTunes is concerned, I bought the song from the first album, not the second, so there's no re-download available. Other missing downloads make less sense—I bought Jet's "Look What You've Done" off the "Get Born" album; that album is still on iTunes, but the

track was MIA from my 500-plus downloads. Oh well.

This raises another question which I hope doesn't come across as churlish, especially since I am very happy with my iTunes purchases-salvaging experience. Rather, I throw this question out there for general discussion: Why should songs and albums disappear from iTunes at all? The advantage to a virtual storefront selling digital wares over a brick-and-mortar store selling physical goods is that the former, theoretically, has limitless shelf space. Older, less popular items aren't taking up space that should go to hot, new releases. So I'm puzzled as to why an album like "Jesus Christ Surferstar"—think the Broadway musical Jesus Christ Superstar, only interpreted by surf guitarists—would be available a year ago when I bought some tracks, but not available now.

If anyone can explain why digital inventory would need to disappear from iTunes, I'd be grateful. Not as grateful as I am to Apple for allowing me to rebuild almost all of my music library, but grateful nonetheless.

## Taking out iPhoto's trash

*Q: Recently, I went through more than 2,000 photos in my iPhoto library and deleted the not-so-good ones in order to free up a little space on my hard drive. Alas, when I went to the Trash to empty it, none of the deleted photos were there. It seems that while I deleted them from the library, they are still bur-*

*ied somewhere on the hard drive. Where?--  
Gary Patterson*

A: As you've discovered, your deleted iPhoto images don't appear in the Finder's Trash. Instead, you'll find them in iPhoto's own Trash. To truly remove iPhoto images from your hard drive, select the images that you want to delete from your iPhoto library and press the delete key on your Mac's keyboard. This transfers the pictures to iPhoto's Trash, which you'll find at the bottom of the Source list. To really get rid of the images, control-click on iPhoto's Trash icon and choose Empty Trash (see "Empty iPhoto's Trash"). This gets rid of the images for good.

Notice that I said to select each image in your iPhoto library. If you select an image in an album or a slide show and press delete, you remove the image from the album or slide show but not from your iPhoto library. There's a trick for this as well. Select an image and press 1-option-delete; the image will disappear from all albums and slide shows, as well as from the iPhoto library, and will then appear in iPhoto's Trash. Again, empty this Trash to delete the image from your computer.

## Back up on the cheap

You know you need it. You know you should want it. But the second the phrase "backup strategy" enters the course of general conversation, you experience a strong desire to lie down in a dark room. Don't feel overwhelmed. One of the most common reasons people don't back up is because they don't know where to put their data. Here are two ways to solve that problem without breaking the bank.

1. Use What You Have Back up data to your internal hard drive, and you'll lose everything if that drive goes kaput. So where to store your backups? External hard drives are fast and convenient, but they can be pricey. Don't let the lack of one stand in your way. Nearly all new Macs ship with a double-layer (DL) SuperDrive, capable of burning as much as 8.5GB of data to DL media. Single-layer DVDs are inexpensive and can hold up to 4.7GB. And even cheap-as-dirt 700MB CD-R discs can store hundreds of small files. For rewritable storage on-the-go, a USB key drive that holds a couple of GB of data is both inexpensive and easy to transport.

2. Put It Online When you're away from home, even if you have an external drive, you may not have access to it. You could use Apple's .Mac service, since it includes a gigabyte of storage and the convenient Backup software, but that costs \$100 a year. Instead, create a free Google Gmail account and use the more than 2.5GB of online e-mail storage you get to back up important files while you're on the road. The free Gspace plug-in for Firefox makes it easy.

*Senior Editor Christopher Breen is the author of Secrets of the iPod and iTunes, fifth edition, and The iPod and iTunes Pocket Guide (both Peachpit Press, 2005).*

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