



MacMedics' InfoSource - July 2003

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Mac OS X Training Classes

The MacMedics Training programs have begun. We recently launched our new class, "Introduction to OS X" designed for individual and institutional Macintosh users. The classes are instructor-led and hands-on with a networked OS X workstation dedicated to each participant.

The program covers topics such as:

Ready to install OS X? - The essentials.
Creating and managing multiple accounts.
Customizing and navigating the Finder.
How to modify, organize and utilize the Dock.
Configuring the System Preferences.
Using the Classic environment in OS X.
Communications - connecting to the outside world in OSX.
Print Center - Following the Chooser's evolution.
Font management in OS X.
Taking advantage of the OS X toolset.
iLife - Managing iCal, iTunes, iPhoto, iMovie, and iSync.

The "Introduction to OS X" Classes are offered on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and cost \$199.00. The classes run from 12:30 to 4:30 and are limited to 4 students per class to maximize individual attention from the instructor. Group discounts are also available.

So come join us for a personalized introduction to the Power of OS X and let us show you what your Mac can really do!

Programs covering Photoshop, Acrobat, Distiller and Quark will be offered in the future.

[For more details please call 301 459 3522](#)

Free Color Set Design Tool

Fed up of carting around those color set books? Need a quick way to design and experiment with unique color sets.? Well, look no further than Kasper J. Jeppesen's ColorDesigner 1.0. This new tool is released as a free application for MacOS X.

ColorDesigner includes an advanced rule system for generating color sets and includes an editor which allows you to create your own rules. The rule editor allows you to randomize your color sets while letting you lock hue, saturation or brightness values for up to three colors. In addition to the base colors, you can



also define a background color, text header and paragraph colors.

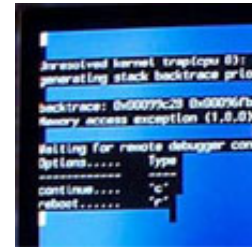
[To download your free copy...](#)

Tech Tip: OS X Kernel Panics

You're working in OS X when all of a sudden a window pops up and instructs you to restart the computer - you have just experienced a 'kernel panic'.

So what exactly is a 'kernel panic'? According to Apple:

"A kernel panic is a type of event that occurs when the core (kernel) of an operating system receives an instruction in an unexpected format or that it fails to handle properly. "



The most common causes of kernel panics are:

1. A directory failure or user accidentally moving .kext files that should be left alone. The directory may also fail due to an accident caused by Norton Utilities or Systemworks, which may at random corrupt a directory even when trying to repair it or because the system was improperly shut down.

To fix a corrupted directory, first backup your data to an external Firewire or SCSI hard disk and then boot from the Mac OS X Installer CD or DVD. Use the Installer menu's Disk Utility to repair the hard disk from its First Aid tab.

2. Peripherals that aren't Mac OS X native may cause a kernel panic, and you should check the Mac OS X native software directories and search engines, and any hardware manufacturer's website for more recent drivers that are known to be compatible with your version of Mac OS X.

3. RAM and motherboards are the least likely suspect in kernel panics, but if you just bought a new system, and/or just installed new memory and you get a kernel panic, that's the most likely place to start looking.

[For more tech tips see the Infosource Archive](#)

Been dying to watch TV on your Mac?

Televio, a hardware and software package designed for the Mac, allows you to view full size and high grade TV pictures with stereo audio. The 125 channel TV-Tuner and the 9-bit Philips ADC stream a crystal-clear TV video stream at a screen size of 640 x 480 pixels allowing you to capture movies with every QuickTime codec available on your system. The package also includes a 24-key infrared (IR) remote that controls all Mac applications and a stereo FM radio.



You can watch TV in the dock while working with other applications or use the Televio channel preview which shows a lot of channels at a glance while using very little CPU overhead. If you find an interesting program in the preview you double-click on a channel thumbnail, which is updated at regular intervals, to switch to the TV window.

Using the Televio On-Screen-Display (OSD) you get full

remote feedback with the chosen station and volume displayed directly in the TV window. The video is displayed with a special Televio QuickTime video digitizer component and thus available in third-party Mac applications. The included PCI board also sports audio, S-Video and composite video inputs. Both TV audio and FM radio as well as the on-board line audio input are available as sound inputs in every Mac application.

If you already own compatible third party hardware Televio is also available as a software-only version.

[For more information...](#)

FYI - Updating your subscription...

It's midyear again and time for us to remind you to keep your subscriptions updated.

We do this in an effort to provide better service and it only takes a minute or two of your time. Keeping your subscription up to date ensures that we are able to alert you to product recalls, special programs, industry events and sales in your area in a timely fashion.

As we offer the newsletter in one of three formats - Fax, HTML email, Text-only email - it also allows you to specify in which format you'd like to continue receiving our newsletter.

To maintain or update your listing, please use the 'Update your profile' link at the bottom of this newsletter.



Feedback

Need to get in touch with us about an issue or item you saw in this or a previous issue?

Or topics you wish to see us cover?

We love to get feedback from our readership even if it's just to say 'hi!'

So send us your rants, raves or suggestions at infosource@macmedics.com



WAYS TO REACH US

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