



MacMedics®

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Apple Announces Two New Mac Models

With the holiday season approaching, Apple has made your gift-purchasing decisions that much trickier by offering two great new Macs to choose from.

For those of you in love with the looks and convenience of the iMac, if you were impressed with the 17" model you'll be overwhelmed by the latest offering, a 20" model priced at \$2,199. This is the largest display currently offered in an all-in-one computer of any brand and provides twice as much screen space as the 15" iMac, allowing you to view two full pages side-by-side. Other specifications include a 1.25 GHz G4 processor, 256MB RAM, 80 GB hard drive, 4x SuperDrive, and an NVIDIA GeForce FX5200 Ultra video card with 64 MB of video memory.



If you'd prefer a step up to the G5 processor, Apple has replaced the mid-range model of its G5 product line from a single 1.8 GHz G5 machine to a Dual 1.8 GHz G5. Priced at \$2,499, this new model sports 512 MB of RAM, a 160 GB Serial ATA hard drive, 4x SuperDrive, and an NVIDIA GeForce FX5200 Ultra video card with 64 MB of DDR SDRAM.

[To talk about these and other great products give us a call!!!](#)

Attention Microsoft Entourage Users - Watch Your Database Size!!!

The most popular e-mail package for Mac users today is Microsoft's Entourage. Full-featured and easy to use, it's a very good program. That said, if you're not careful about watching the size of your Entourage Database file, you will inevitably experience problems.

If you're like most users, your Inbox is flooded with dozens if not hundreds of e-mail messages a day. Those, along with every message you send, are by default stored in a database file created by Entourage. As your messages pile up, the size of your database increases. Very quickly it becomes too big for the program to manage, and you'll likely experience strange behavior such as slowness, crashing, or not being able to find or delete messages. If you're not careful you'll lose data altogether.



Microsoft
Entourage:mac

Microsoft states that if your database size exceeds 4 Gigabytes data loss will occur, while erratic behavior will result much sooner. We recommend you never exceed a database size of 1 Gigabyte. That may sound like more than you'd ever have to be concerned about, but if you factor in the size of all the attachments that you send or receive, it's really not. In reality, we commonly identify first-time customers with database sizes in the 3-5 Gigabyte range, and in almost every instance they are experiencing problems.

So be careful and protect yourselves from this risk. To check the size of your Database file, it is located at Documents/Microsoft User Data/Office X Identities (or just Identities for OS 9 users)/Main Identity. Highlight the Database file and click Command-I. If the file size reported exceeds 1 GB, you need to reduce it. Look for old messages that you don't need, especially those with space-eating attachments, and permanently delete them. Remember that the items in your Deleted Items folder are not permanently deleted until you delete them from within this folder.

Lastly, if problems persist or if you are unable to reduce the size of your database file by permanently deleting un-needed messages, you might also benefit from performing a database rebuild.

[For more information on rebuilding your Entourage Database, click here...](#)

Panther 10.3.1 Update Released

Apple has released an important update to it's newest operating system, OS X 10.3 (aka "Panther"). The 10.3.1 update offers improved functionality of several system components including printing, FileVault, WebDAV, and compatibility with FireWire 800 hard drives. Especially considering the initial problems with FileVault and FireWire 800 drives we strongly encourage users of Panther to install this update. To do so simply run the Software Update utility found in System Preferences.

[To learn more and to download the 10.3.1 update, click here...](#)



iTunes Music Store is Awarded Time Magazine's 2003 Invention of the Year

When Apple unveiled its iTunes Music Store last April, in just 1 week it sold more than 1 million songs. Anyone with a Mac running OS X could simply preview, choose, and download the individual songs of their choice at 99 cents per song (or \$9.99 for most albums). They could be heard on up to 3 different computers, burned to a CD, or carried portably on an iPod.

In October, the Windows version of the iTunes Music Store was launched, and the same 1 million song total was sold to PC users in just 3 days. To date, more than 15 million songs have been purchased by both Mac and PC users.

That success, and the "transparent ease of use that is the hallmark of Apple's entire product line", was enough to earn Time Magazine's 2003 Invention of the Year Award.

[To read the Time Magazine article click here...](#)



Recycle Old Computer Equipment

In our June edition of InfoSource we provided a listing of places to recycle monitors and other related equipment. To further emphasize the importance of recycling, we wanted to feature a place we've had great success with - Subtractions, Inc. in Laurel, MD.



According to Subtractions, each year 20 million computers will become obsolete, while only between 1 and 2 million of them will be recycled. To do their part (and more), in 2002 Subtractions diverted 1.6 MILLION pounds of material away from landfills, including 700,000 pounds of electronics and computers, 400,000 pounds of monitors, and 500,000 pounds of copiers, printers, and other assorted electronics.

Recycling through Subtractions is very easy. Simply show up and drop it off! They accept computers, monitors, keyboards, printers, copiers, fax machines, telephones, scanners, etc. They do not accept software, manuals, or other "non-electric" items. If you can't take your equipment to them, they offer annual drop-off dates all around Maryland, DC, and Northern Virginia, and can also refer you to a relatively low-cost trucking company.

For monitors, batteries, and large-format copiers there's a modest fee to cover EPA guidelines (\$5-\$15), but for the most part this is an extremely cheap and very easy way to be environmentally sensitive.

To visit the Subtractions web-site, [click here...](#)

Special InfoSource Offer - Free RAM Installation

New this month, and continuing every month forward, we'll be offering special discounts and other deals available only to InfoSource subscribers. It's our way of saying "thanks" for your interest in MacMedics.



Our first subscriber-only special is free RAM installation! Purchase any RAM from MacMedics between now and December 15th, and we'll install it for free! This offer is good for in-lab installations only and is a \$39 value. If you'd prefer to have us install the RAM on-site, we'd be happy to do so and will deduct \$39 from our regular on-site labor rates. And best of all, all MacMedics RAM includes a life-time warranty!

Look for great offers like these each and every month, and thank you for your continued support of MacMedics.

To order RAM including free installation, [give us a call...](#)

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