

printout

Keystone MacCentral Macintosh Users Group ❖ <http://www.keystonemac.com>

KeyMac Annual Auction



Keystone MacCentral is having its annual auction on Tuesday April 19th. The auction is open to both members and non-members so bring a friend. There will be refreshments.

Thanks to Eric Adams we will again have a great list of vendors participating this year. That means great software and hardware for you to bid on and great

values. A great deal of thanks goes to the vendors who have been very supportive of users groups like ours. Check out the current list of donations on page 3 and on our web site.

We will accept gently used software and hardware from attendees for auction. The items must be of recent vintage. Income from sales will use the 80/20 rule. Seller receives 80% and the club receives 20% of the sale.

The auction will start promptly at 6:30.

Bids will be taken in minimum of \$1 increments only. Checks will be accepted from Keystone MacCentral members only. 🗑

Meet us at

Bethany Village Retirement Center

Education Room

5225 Wilson Lane, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Tuesday, April 19 2016 6:30 p.m.

Attendance is free and open to all interested persons.

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Keystone MacCentral is a not-for-profit group of Macintosh enthusiasts who generally meet the third Tuesday of every month to exchange information, participate in question-and-answer sessions, view product demonstrations, and obtain resource materials that will help them get the most out of their computer systems. Meetings are free and open to the public. The *Keystone MacCentral printout* is the official newsletter of Keystone MacCentral and an independent publication not affiliated or otherwise associated with or sponsored or sanctioned by any for-profit organization, including Apple Inc. Copyright © 2016, Keystone MacCentral, 310 Somerset Drive, Shiresmanstown, PA 17011.

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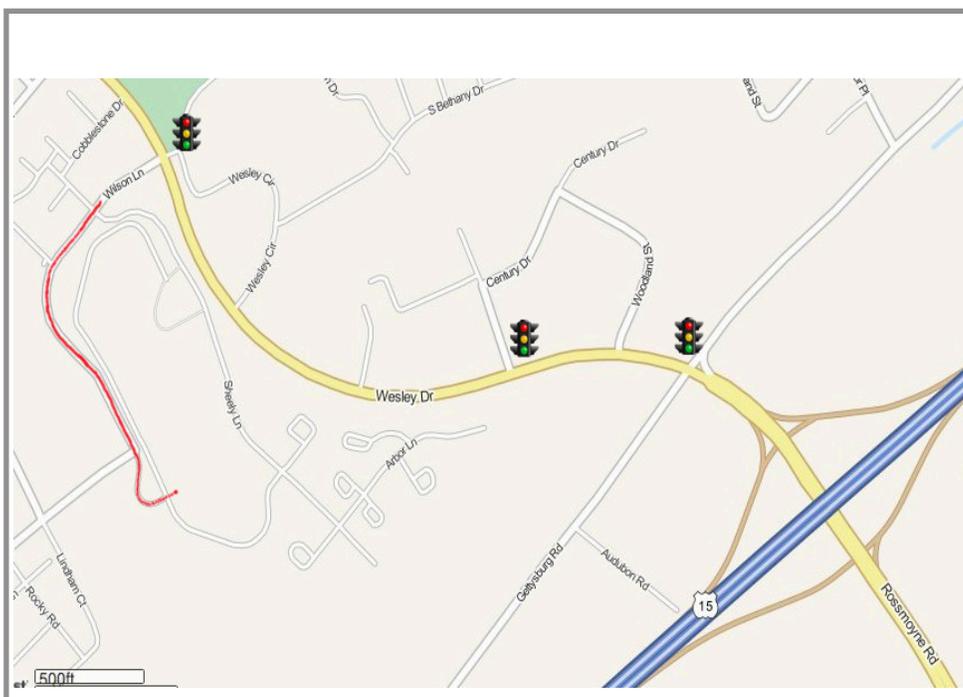
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Keystone MacCentral Essentials

Meeting Place

Bethany Village West
Maplewood Assisted Living (Bld 21)
5225 Wilson Lane
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<http://www.keystonemac.com>

Mailing Address

310 Somerset Drive
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Keystone MacCentral Minutes

March 15, 2016

Business Meeting

President Linda Cober reminded members that our annual auction will be held at the April 19th meeting. We have begun receiving items in response to the emails that Eric Adams sent out to vendors. KeyMac will provide some refreshments for those attending the auction. If you wish to bring a snack, you can. The club will provide sodas and some snacks. As Linda noted, bring your checkbook and bring a friend. Members who wish to bring in items of recent vintage they no longer need are welcome to do so. They will receive 80% of the bid price with the other 20% going to Keystone MacCentral.

Newsletter Editor Tim Sullivan asked newsletter contributors to try to get their articles in to him early. He may not have reliable internet access when traveling and could have a problem getting a newsletter out in April. You can check our website and Facebook page for updates, including a listing of items we have received from vendors for the auction.

Q&A & Comments

Steve Shipman asked for recommendations for ways to economically publish and send out an email newsletter as a six or eight page PDF. Steve noted that the new version of Pages does not allow hyperlinks in text blocks. Someone suggested Microsoft Word as a program that might be able to handle the hyperlinks that Steve needs.

Don Fortnum asked about playing foreign format DVDs on his Mac and retrieving information from them. He might want to try using VLC as a player. Jim Carey said that Don would probably not want to change the region for DVDs on his Mac as Apple allows limited changes.

Someone who upgraded to El Capitan mentioned that his HP printer was no longer working. He could try using Software Update to get the latest HP printer drivers. A suggestion was made to go to the Apple web site which lists a lot of generic printer drivers for older printers. Jim Carey mentioned having trouble with the preferences for a Wacom tablet after updating to El Capitan.

Jim related a problem with his Powerbook suddenly displaying a black screen. After several tries at trying to deduce the problem causing this, he discovered that Apple has diagnostic software built in to newer Macs. Apple provides instructions on how to invoke the diagnostic software on startup. Running the Apple diagnostics ended up fixing Jim's screen problem.

Sandy Cober reported having problems with iCloud preferences on her laptop but not on her other devices. Dennis McMahon told of similar problems he had that took seven hours with an Apple tech help to resolve.

Linda Cober mentioned that Tucker Hill has a Microsoft split keyboard that lost some of its functionality after he upgraded to El Capitan. Ernie Levasseur asked about running diagnostic software on a Fusion drive. He was concerned that running the software might mess up the drive, but that should not be a problem.

Dennis McMahon told us of an offer from the maker of M-Discs. They will send you an archive disks of all photos you have on a Gmail account. He has received both a 4.7 GB disk and a 25 GB disk of photos. Dennis noted that Macs running Mavericks and later operating systems can read and write Blu-ray disks in an external drive with Blu-ray capability.

We talked about the fact that apps purchased from the App Store might have different features than apps purchased directly from the app's publisher. Some publishers can offer more features selling to you directly and thereby avoiding the limitations Apple places on apps in the App Store.

Program Notes

The March program featured Tom Owad working to speed up a slow iMac running El Capitan brought in by Wendy Adams. The iMac had only 4 GB of RAM, which is a little bit on the low side. The hard drive still had about 100 GB of free space on a 500 GB drive, so that should be good until it gets filled up close to its limit.

Tom first went to System Preferences Users & Groups pane to look at any extraneous Login Items that might be listed there. Tom explained that anything listed with an alert

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Catch Up with the Latest Dropbox Features

I began using Dropbox back in 2008, when it was still in beta testing and had no serious competition. I quickly became accustomed to having a folder whose contents were automatically synced across my computers and were also available in any Web browser. As time went on, I began to rely on it more for sharing documents (particularly among the TidBITS and Take Control gang) and for mobile access to my files. In 2013, I took my Dropbox addiction public in “[Take Control of Dropbox](#),” which went into detail about both ordinary and unconventional uses for what has become an incredibly popular cloud storage and syncing service.

But precisely because Dropbox is so good at working unobtrusively in the background, I was only vaguely aware of many new features the company has added, and of the many new uses for the service. So I was astonished, when updating my book last month, to find that I needed 50 additional pages to cover all the changes in just the last year or so.

On the theory that others may be in the same boat — long-time, happy Dropbox users who simply haven’t kept close tabs on how the service has evolved over the years — I’d like to offer a brief rundown of what you may have missed. All these topics are, of course, addressed in detail in my new book for those who want to learn more.

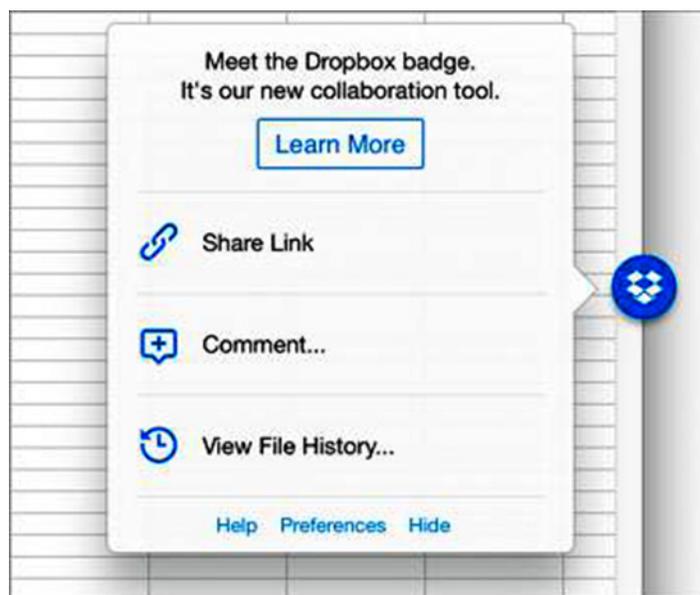
Old News: Dropbox Pro Changes — First, a quick review of some old news. Back in 2014, Dropbox renamed its free version to Dropbox Basic, while changing the way Pro subscriptions work (see “[Dropbox Boosts Pro Storage, Adds Pro Features](#),” 27 August 2014). Dropbox Pro now has just one pricing tier — 1 TB for \$9.99 per month or \$99 per year — that includes additional capabilities, such as view-only permissions for shared folders, password protection and expiration dates for any shared item, and the capability to remotely wipe the Dropbox folder on a lost or stolen device. In addition, the erstwhile Packrat option, which let you store old file versions and deleted files indefinitely, was replaced with something called Extended Version History, which costs the same but saves this data for only one year.

Desktop App Changes — The Dropbox app for OS X and Windows still syncs files the same way, but also includes a number of interface changes and new features. For example:

- **Copy to share:** Instead of sharing links to files, which previously required a trip to the Dropbox Web site, you can now copy links (and then share them by email, instant messaging, or whatever) without opening your browser. On a Mac, you can use either the contextual menu that appears when you right-click or Control-click an item

in your Dropbox folder, or the optional Dropbox toolbar menu, for this purpose. (These extra interface elements, incidentally, can also be disabled if you prefer — uncheck Enable Finder Integration on the General pane of Dropbox’s Preferences window.)

- **Dropbox badge:** When you open a Microsoft Office document that’s stored in your Dropbox, it displays a Dropbox badge on the edge of the window, which provides a shortcut for sharing, commenting, and more.



- **Acrobat integration:** If you have Adobe Acrobat DC or Acrobat Reader DC installed, you’ll find that it can access items in your Dropbox directly.

Mobile App Changes — The Dropbox apps for iOS and Android both have many new features. For example:

- **3D Touch:** The Dropbox app supports 3D Touch on an iPhone 6s or 6s Plus.

- **Office integration:** On either iOS or Android, you can now create a new Microsoft Office document in the Dropbox app, edit it in the appropriate Office app, and have the changes saved directly to your Dropbox.

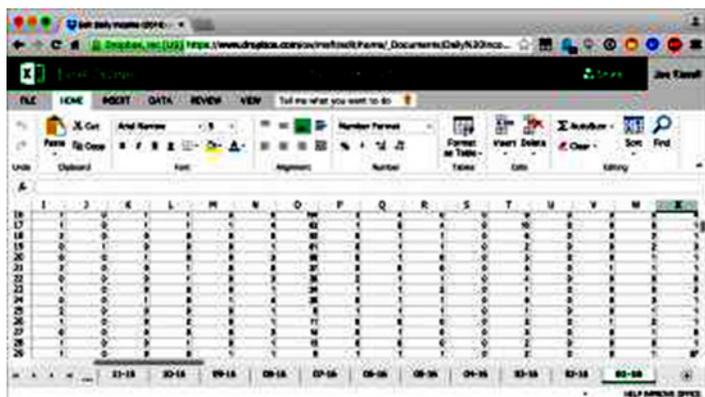
- **Acrobat integration:** Similar to the previous point, you can now open a PDF from your Dropbox in Adobe Acrobat Reader, annotate it, and have the changes saved to your Dropbox automatically.

- **iOS extensions:** On an iOS device, you can now use a Dropbox Action Extension to save files from almost any app directly to your Dropbox, and you can use a Save to Dropbox extension in Safari to save any Web page to your Dropbox as a PDF.

- **Commenting:** On both iOS and Android, you can add comments to files and read comments others have left.
- **Graphics previews:** You can now view previews of both .eps and .svg files on a mobile device.
- **Spotlight searches:** In iOS 9 or later, Spotlight searches can now find items in your Dropbox.

Web Site Changes — The Dropbox Web site has undergone numerous small changes to its layout and logic (forcing me to redo every graphic in the book — grr!), but larger-scale improvements include these:

- **Better previews:** You can now view previews of more file types, and you can zoom and pan most graphics formats.
- **Editing Microsoft Office documents:** Even if you don't subscribe to Office 365, you can edit Office documents stored in your Dropbox from within a browser window. So if you're a Dropbox user with the occasional need to edit a Word, Excel, or PowerPoint file and don't want to pay Microsoft for Office, you now have an alternative.

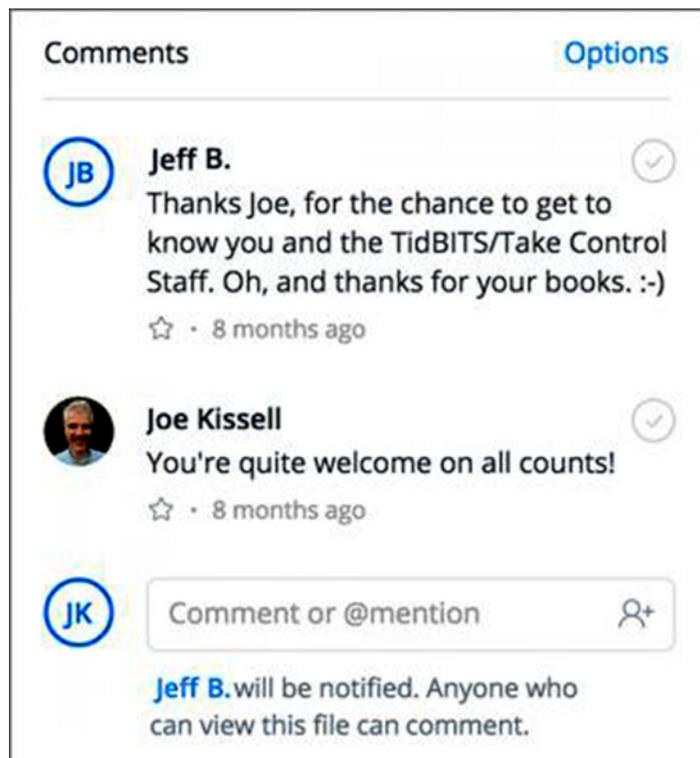


- **Gmail integration:** Gmail users can now attach documents directly from a Dropbox folder — as long as they use Google Chrome with a special plug-in. (A similar capability is coming soon for Outlook.com users.)

Collaboration Features — The biggest category of changes involves various forms of collaboration. Those who use Dropbox for work (or for other groups) can take advantage of several new collaboration features:

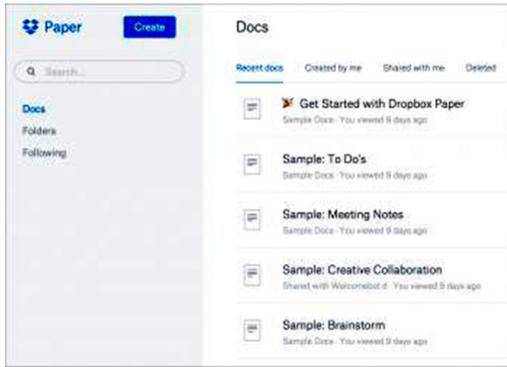
- **Dropbox Team:** The Dropbox team feature enables coworkers to share folders with less friction and more control than conventional folder sharing. People who are part of a team get a shared team folder, the option to connect a personal Dropbox (so you can easily switch between team and personal Dropbox accounts), groups (for designating different types of access for various sets of people), finer-grained control over editing privileges for shared items, and team access to Dropbox Paper (which I'll describe in a moment). As useful as these features may be, Dropbox Team can be confusing to set up, and my book helps readers work through various potentially frustrating scenarios. [Editor's Note: Joe's not kidding. When I first set up a TidBITS Publishing team, the scary-sounding notifications from Dropbox caused everyone to freak out. -Adam]

- **Comments:** We mentioned comments when they first appeared last year (see "[Dropbox Adds File Comments](#)," 1 May 2015), but Dropbox has continued to enhance and expand the ways in which you can leave comments for yourself, team members, and people with whom you're sharing any document. Making comments doesn't change the original file in any way; the comments are stored as metadata on the Dropbox servers. Comments are also preserved when you move the file (even if you move it out of your Dropbox and later move it back in).



- **File requests:** By requesting files with this feature, you can provide a place for people (whether or not they're Dropbox subscribers) to upload files for specific projects. Once you've requested a file, anyone can go to a special URL and drag in attachments of up to 2 GB each; these are then stored in a Dropbox folder of your choosing. File requests are private: you can see the files people send you, but someone uploading files can't see other people's submissions (unless you decide to share them manually).

- **Dropbox Paper:** The final collaboration feature I'd like to mention is still in (public) beta testing, but well worth checking out. It's called Dropbox Paper, and it's a way of creating and editing documents on the Dropbox Web site either by yourself or in a group. Multiple people (such as the members of your team) can edit the same document at once, making it useful for conference call notes, brainstorming, project planning, and suchlike. If you've ever used Google Docs (or any of numerous similar products), you have the general idea of Dropbox Paper — except that Paper has a more elegant, streamlined design, which includes rich formatting, lists, tables, code text, images, and emoji, plus team access to comments.



Take Control of Dropbox, Second Edition — All this is just a fraction of what Dropbox offers beyond its core features. And I explain it all in the vastly expanded, 151 page second edition of “[Take Control of Dropbox](#).” The \$15 book covers everything from the basics of syncing and sharing to the desktop and mobile apps, the Dropbox Web site, security issues, and every one of the special features I’ve mentioned here. It also gives you ideas for putting Dropbox to work in unusual and powerful ways, such as facilitating blogging, podcasting, or book publishing. I hope you find it helpful! 📖

by Josh Centers

Previously Downloaded OS X Installers No Longer Work

File this one under “Obscure problems that could ruin your day.” TidBITS reader Randy Singer alerted us that due to an expired certificate, OS X installers downloaded prior to 14 February 2016 won’t work.



The [Apple Worldwide Developer Relations Intermediate Certificate](#) is required for all apps in the Mac App Store, including OS X installers. When used to sign an app, the certificate enables OS X to confirm that the app has not been corrupted or modified by an attacker. This certificate expired on 14 February 2016, causing error dialogs and preventing some apps from launching. Most affected apps have already been updated with the new certificate. But if you downloaded an OS X installer in case of trouble, you may be in for a surprise the next time you try to use it.

Happily, this is an easy problem to fix ahead of time:

- 1 Delete any old OS X installers in the Applications folder or in other locations (be sure to look on external hard drives too; if the App Store detects an old installer,

it won’t let you get a new one). These installers have names like Install OS X El Capitan and Install OS X Yosemite.

- 2 Open the App Store app by choosing Apple menu > App Store.
- 3 Click the Purchased tab. Enter your App Store password if prompted.
- 4 Scroll down to the OS X installer you want and click Download.



The new installers are signed with a certificate that expires on 7 February 2023, so it will be quite a few years before Mac users are affected again.

Those who have created any bootable install disks for OS X will need to recreate them with the new installers. Dan Frakes wrote a guide to creating OS X 10.11 El Capitan install disks for Macworld.

There is one qualification to all this. Apple won’t allow a newer Mac to download versions of OS X that aren’t compatible with that Mac, so on a 27-inch iMac with Retina display, for instance, the App Store app refuses to let you download Mac OS X 10.7 Lion.



If you are in the middle of an OS X install and get tripped up by the expired certificate, Randy Singer offers a suggestion on how you can work around the problem quickly, without having to download a new installer:

- 1 In the OS X Installer, choose Utilities > Terminal.
- 2 Enter `sudo date 0201010116`, press Return, and enter your password.
- 3 Quit Terminal and continue the install.

That Terminal command sets your system date to 1 February 2016 — before the certificate’s expiration — so the installer

can continue. Once you have completed the installation, visit System Preferences > Date & Time to reset the system date. Thanks to Randy for the heads up on this issue and the workaround!

As noted, this expired certificate affects more than just OS X installers — [a number of Mac App Store apps suffered from it as well](#). If downloading a new version of an affected installer isn’t an option for some reason, Rich Trouton noted in 2012 that there’s an `-allowUntrusted` flag for the command line installer utility that might help, as might [Greg Neagle’s flatpkgfixer.py tool](#).

As indicated by those posts from 2012, this is only the latest in a series of expired certificate snafus that have rendered Mac App Store apps unusable — the last one hit in November 2015 (see [“The Mac App Store Is Breaking Apps,”](#) 12 November 2015). Put bluntly, Apple needs to do a better job in managing its Worldwide Developer Relations Intermediate Certificate and alerting both users and developers to the implications of any expiration or revocation. Having this sort of sporadic failure is decidedly a strike against “It just works.” 🗑

by Josh Centers and Adam C. Engst

The Power of Preview: Pulling Files into Preview

So much criticism has been heaped on the likes of iTunes and Photos that it can be easy to forget the software that Apple gets right — apps that are both simple and powerful. There may be no better example of this than Preview, which has been built into OS X from the beginning.

On the surface, Preview is a simple image and PDF document viewer, although it can also open iWork and Microsoft Office files. Beyond that veneer of simplicity, though, Preview can do so much more. To get a taste of Preview’s power, let’s take a look at how you open images and documents in Preview, starting with the obvious ways and moving on to things you may not know.

Of course, if Preview is your default app for images and PDFs, you can open those files by double-clicking them or selecting them in the Finder and pressing Command-O. Or drag a file to the Preview icon, either in the Finder or in the Dock. Nothing new there.

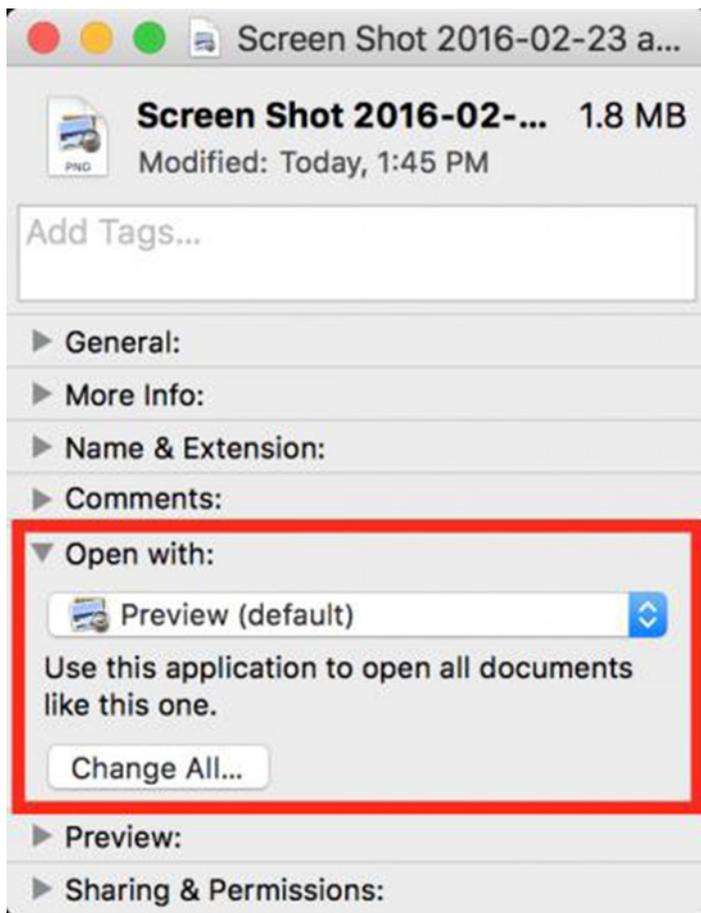
Slightly more subtle is opening files through Quick Look, which we covered in detail in [“OS X Hidden Treasures: Quick Look,”](#) (12 February 2016). In the Finder, select an image or PDF file and press the Space bar or Command-Y



to open it in Quick Look. Then click the Open With Preview button at the upper right.

Although Preview is the default app for most image types and for PDFs, it’s possible that another app, like Adobe Reader, has taken over for Preview. If you want to change the default app for a file type, here’s how to do that:

- 1 Select a file of the desired type in the Finder.
- 2 Choose File > Get Info (or press Command-I) to open the Info window.
- 3 Under Open With, choose Preview from the pop-up menu (highlighted in red in the screenshot below). If necessary, click the arrow to the left of Open With to expand that section.



- 4 Click Change All to make Preview the default viewer for all files of that type.

But that's all Mac 101. Let's look at Preview's more interesting import options.

Import from the Clipboard – Since Preview is primarily seen as an image viewer, you've probably never looked closely at the File menu. Do that and you'll notice that Preview doesn't have a plain New command, but instead one titled New from Clipboard. That command does just what its name implies: it creates a new Untitled document containing the contents of the clipboard. It's also often dimmed, because it can work only when the clipboard contains image or PDF data.

To test this, copy an image from anywhere on the Mac (try Control-clicking an image on a Web page in Safari and choosing Copy Image). Then switch to Preview and choose File > New from Clipboard. You'll get an Untitled document containing the image.

It's less common to copy a PDF, but if you open a PDF in Preview, select a thumbnail in the sidebar, and press Command-C, you'll get that page in the clipboard, and choosing File > New from Clipboard will create a new Untitled PDF document with that page.

Here's another neat trick: if you select a file in the Finder, choose Edit > Copy (or press Command-C), and then invoke Preview's New from Clipboard command, it creates a new document containing all sizes and resolutions of that

file's icon. It's a great way to snag an application or document icon!

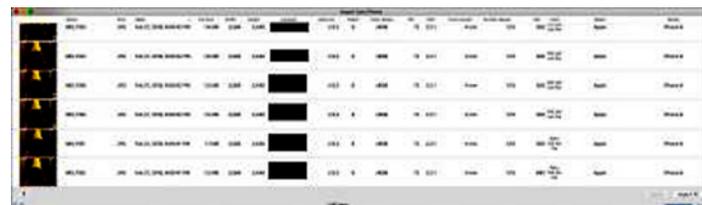


Using Preview's New from Clipboard command is far from the only way to create a new document containing an image or PDF page, but it's handy on occasion.

Import from Cameras – Here's something you probably didn't know: Preview can import images directly from cameras and scanners. Better yet, in Preview's eyes, your iPhone or iPad counts as a camera.

To import pictures from a camera, connect it to your Mac via a USB cable, open Preview, and choose Import from *CameraName* (for instance, Import from iPhone).

A window appears displaying thumbnails of the photos on that camera, largely mirroring the look and features of Apple's Image Capture utility (which lives in the Utilities folder inside your Applications folder). By default, Preview displays the photos in a list, with EXIF information like the date and time the picture was taken, file size, resolution, GPS coordinates, aperture size, whether the flash was fired, and more. Even if you don't want to use Preview to import your photos, it's a handy way to view all that data.

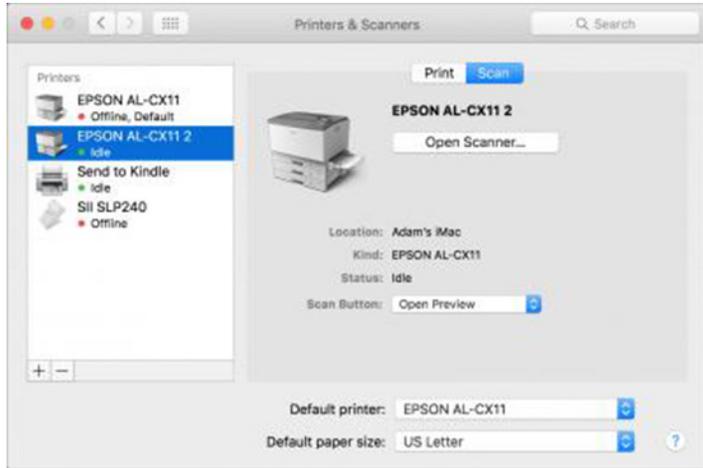


In the lower left, there are buttons to rotate photos, view photos as a list, or view photos as a grid. To rotate a photo, select it and click the curvy arrow. You can also adjust thumbnail size with the slider in the lower right.

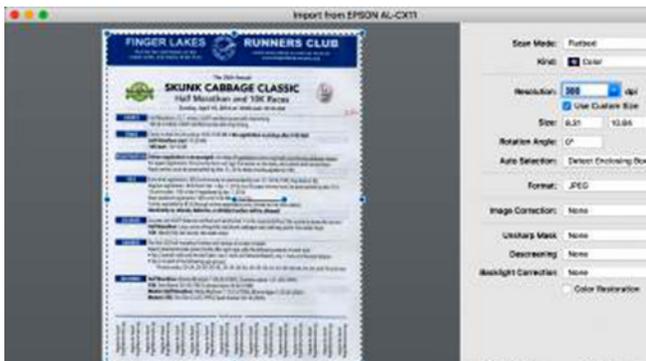
When you want to import the photos, you have two options in the lower right. You can click Import All to get everything or select a few photos and click Import. Decide where to save the images and click Choose Destination to put the pictures there.

Import from Scanners – If you have a compatible scanner attached to your Mac, you can use Preview to import images and documents from it. Perhaps not

surprisingly, the interface is also nearly identical to Image Capture's. It's also similar to the window that appears when you click Open Scanner from the Printers & Scanners pane of System Preferences. If your scanner doesn't appear, you may need to set it up first from within the Printers & Scanners preference pane. Once there, you can also set Preview to open automatically when you press the Scan button on your scanner, assuming it has one.



With the scanner attached and turned on, choose File > Import from *ScannerName* in Preview. If the details pane isn't showing already, click Show Details to display a wide variety of controls for resolution, size, rotation, format, and image correction. You'll probably want to choose a resolution higher than 50 dpi (300 dpi is safe if you're planning to print the scanned document; you might want to go higher for photos).



Pay special attention to the Auto Selection pop-up menu, which has three settings: Off, Detect Separate Items, and Detect Enclosing Box. Preview defaults to Detect Separate Items, which is appropriate for scanning multiple photos at once but isn't right for scanning a single sheet of paper. For full-page scanning, choose Detect Enclosing Box, which tries to detect the edges of the paper and lets you adjust the scanned area by dragging the selection rectangle's handles. If neither does quite what you want, you can select the portion of the document to scan manually by dragging out a rectangle, moving it around, and resizing it with its handles. For an easier approach when scanning full pages, choose Edit > Select All (Command-A), and then resize the selection.

When everything is set to your liking, click Scan. Preview scans the document and opens it in a new Untitled window. If it doesn't meet your needs — this is where you realize that you forgot to reset the resolution menu from 50 dpi to 300 dpi — close it without saving. Otherwise, save and name the document to keep it. If you put multiple items in the scanner, Preview scans them to separate files, all of which are shown in a single Preview window.

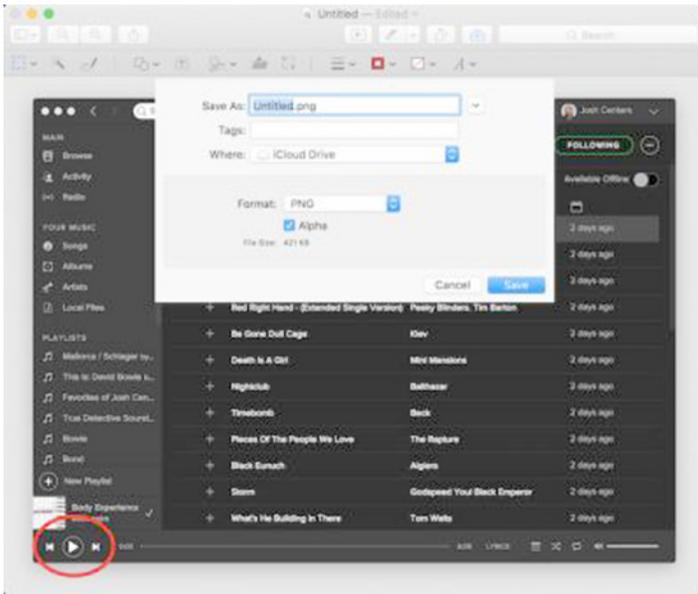
One last thing. While viewing a PDF, you can add additional pages to it by choosing Edit > Insert > Page from Scanner. The scanning interface here is simpler, with only a checkbox to use the scanner's document feeder, if available; a Rescan button for trying again; and an Add To Document button. It's not clear how Preview chooses resolution in this scenario, but it seems to be relatively high. The page is inserted after the currently selected page, though you can also drag it around within Preview's thumbnail sidebar.

Take Screenshots — Those who write about technology have memorized Apple's [keyboard shortcuts](#) to take Mac screenshots. Normal people who need to take a screenshot only a few times a year should turn to Preview instead. Just as the previous features also appeared in Apple's Image Capture utility, the screenshot capabilities are mirrored in Apple's Grab utility (also stored in the Utilities folder).

In Preview, choose File > Take Screenshot. There you find three options:

- **From Selection:** After choosing this command, your cursor becomes a crosshair. Click and drag the crosshair over the screen area you wish to capture.
- **From Window:** Choose this command, and your cursor becomes a camera. Move the camera cursor over a window and the window turns blue to indicate that it's selected. Click to take a screenshot of that window. By default, your window screenshots come with a large shadow; to remove it, Option-click the selected window.
- **From Entire Screen:** When you choose this command, a 10-second countdown begins, which you can cancel by pressing the Esc key. Once the countdown finishes, Preview takes a screenshot of your entire screen. If you have multiple screens, Preview creates screenshots for each one. The timer is useful when you need to set up the screen in such a way that wouldn't be possible with an instantaneous screenshot. Although it won't appear in the final screenshot regardless, you can move the countdown timer bar around to get it out of your way.

Unlike OS X's screenshot shortcuts, which dump the screenshots on your Desktop, Preview opens each new screenshot as a PNG file in an Untitled window, where you can make any modifications you like before saving it. Simple, but effective.



Wait, modifications? Yes, that's right, Preview is also a surprisingly full-featured graphic editor too. But that's a topic for a future article. Preview may seem unassuming, but it's packed with useful capabilities, and we'll be looking at more of them in the future. 🍷



by Tim Sullivan

Rumors and Reality

Here's one for the Geeks: You can replace those little signal strength dots on your iPhone with a decibel value

You access this feature from your Phone app, but before you do that you need to do a couple of things:

- Turn off Wi-Fi (Settings > WiFi)
- Turn off LTE, because these readings can be different from standard cellphone signals (Settings > Cellular > Enable LTE)

Now you've got that out of the way, go to your Phone app, switch to the keypad and dial the following:

3001#12345#

Now press Call and you'll activate Field Test Mode.

Press the Home button to exit.

If you want to replace the signal strength dots with a decibel value, press and hold down the power button until the Slide to power off message appears. Then release the power button and then press and hold the Home button for around five to ten seconds until the Field Test Mode screen disappears.

If you want the dots back, simply switch your phone off and on (or enter the Field Test Mode and this time exit it by pressing Home).

It has probably been awhile since you had to set up your Mac. Buying a new laptop would be a such a time. [9to5mac has an article for new OS X users](#). If you even suspect that reviewing the various options might be a good idea, check out their article.

Organization is a good thing. It's something I have to continually (or at least periodically) work at. There comes a time when we should give end-of-life some consideration.

For surviving relatives who need an activation lock for hardware (iPhones come to mind) or otherwise need passwords for stored family photos or other more critical information having access to those passwords is critical. Review all of the places such as iCloud or Dropbox where you have stored stuff.

Much like a will, we need to think about how to dispense with our digital stuff.

The most straightforward way pass on this information is to include a list with your will. And plan to keep it updated. For stuff that should not be seen by family members, keep it in an encrypted disk image.

There are some sites that can be used to notify trusted family members of how to access your various digital storage locations.

- [LastPass](#) with Emergency Access can provide access to your password vault.
- [GhostMemo](#) will send messages to designated persons when you do not respond to periodic "proof of life" emails.
- [Afternote](#) responds to a report of your death from a designated trustee. It notifies you and all designated trustees of your death. If not refuted, access will be granted to your trustees.

Ransomware has managed to reach Macs. However, to quote Douglas Adams's mantra in "The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy:" DON'T PANIC!

I guess you can panic if you used the Transmission 2.9 BitTorrent client. Apple quickly replaced the bad app with a good app

Data breaches are an all too familiar event. Aside from the obvious downside to these activities there is one sort of good thing. Security researchers get to comb through all those lists of usernames and passwords to remind us just how bad most of our passwords are.

Short passwords are bad. They are too easy to break.

Long passwords are good. They are hard to break. Unless they are a pattern or sports terms or current themed passwords such as 'starwars.'

Here's a complete list of the 25 worst passwords for 2015, with their ranking from 2014 in brackets:

- 123456 (Unchanged)
- password (Unchanged)
- 12345678 (Up 1)
- qwerty (Up 1)
- 12345 (Down 2)
- 123456789 (Unchanged)
- football (Up 3)
- 1234 (Down 1)
- 1234567 (Up 2)
- baseball (Down 2)
- welcome (New)
- 1234567890 (New)
- abc123 (Up 1)
- 111111 (Up 1)
- 1qaz2wsx (New)
- dragon (Down 7)

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Keystone MacCentral Minutes

on the right side of the window could be deleted because those items could not be found by the system. Tom deleted some items that Wendy was no longer using. He next held down the Option key while accessing the Go menu to examine the Library folder. He looked at LaunchAgents to see what could be removed.

Tom also deleted some non-standard Preference panes that were not needed. Another step in the process was deleting some internet plugins that were not being used. Tom prefers

- master (Up 2)
- monkey (Down 6)
- letmein (Down 6)
- login (New)
- princess (New)
- qwertyuiop (New)
- solo (New)
- passw0rd (New)
- starwars (New)

The best thing to do is create long, random passwords that are hard to guess. Your passwords should use a combination of letters (including different cases), numbers, and symbols if possible. Also make sure you use a unique password for every major account you have including banking, email, Paypal, social networks, and any website that has your credit card data, such as Amazon.

If you have trouble remembering those new passwords then use a password manager such as [KeePass](#), [LastPass](#), [Dashlane](#), or [SplashID](#). They are all free.

[The Christian Science Monitor](#) has an article "10 weird things your iPhone can do."

1. Retrace your steps
2. Head-gesture controls
3. Block contacts
4. Off-line maps
5. Shake to undo
6. Correct Siri's pronunciation
7. See when you sent a message
8. Physical camera buttons
9. Quickly type .com
10. Turn off in-app purchases

The article gives hints on controlling the features. 🗑️

to clean a Mac manually rather than using a "cleaner" program that does not know how you work and what items you might want to retain. He checked Wendy's hard drive using Disk Utility and got an error code. Disk Utility was not able to repair the hard drive, pointing to a potential failure soon to occur for that drive. Other disk utility programs might be able to help. Dennis McMahan suggested using SMART Utility from Volitans software. They currently have a free trial offer. 🗑️