

# The F1 key

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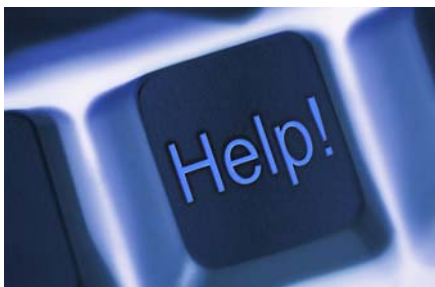
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## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Club Business.....	2
iPods and iPhones.....	3
Worldstart.com.....	4
Classifieds & More.....	5
Tips & Tricks.....	6

## Buying a Computer: PC vs Macintosh

In the 21st century, computers have become a large presence in our daily lives. The computers that most, if not all, people use are categorized as Personal Computers (or PC's for short). The Personal Computer market began with the introduction of the IBM PC in 1981; since then, many companies and standards have been created and replaced in the market. Over the years, two "standards" have emerged: PC's made by Apple, and PC's made by everyone else.

Apple introduced their first Personal Computer, called the Macintosh, in 1984. Since that time, Apple has been the only company to make, sell, and support the Macintosh personal computer. Apple has control over everything involving the Mac/Macintosh brand, including the hardware and operating system.

Everyone else is the typical names we hear about all the time in commercials: Dell, IBM, Gateway, etc. For the remainder of this guide, when referring to a PC, it should be thought of as a computer from one of these companies, and not from Apple. These companies sell computers that are made of parts from any number of peripheral companies, put together on a Microsoft Windows operating system. No one single entity has control of the hardware that goes into a PC computer.

### What happened in the past...

While it might have seemed that having total control over the hardware and operating system was a good idea, in the beginning it hurt

Apple in the industry. In the 1980's and 90's, the growth of PC's largely dominated the sales of the Personal Computer market, leaving Apple with a substantial gap in market share. Since there were not as many Macintosh computers in the market, the software selection also was lower; many popular software titles were not available for the Mac platform, and so the PC was considered to have the widest selection of programs available.

The combination of a closed platform with no Mac competition and a lower selection of available software left a bad perception of Apple computers for many people interested in purchasing a Personal Computer. This is where the idea that Apple computers are not as "compatible" as PC's came from.

### ...and what is now the present

At the beginning of the new millenium, however, things were getting more exciting in the Personal Computer market. More PC manufacturers were able to enter the market and stay competitive. The Microsoft Windows operating system and the Intel Pentium processor became the industry standard for Personal Computer use. But although Apple kept the Mac platform closed by keeping control of the hardware and operating system, the quality of their computers dramatically increased; Macs became feature-filled computers with rock-solid stability with a touch of visual flair. It did not matter that it was a closed platform; Macs could now do everything a PC could do, therefore shedding the idea of not being "compatible" with PC's.

...continued on page 5

# Club Business

## Tentative Meeting Topics

Subject to change

July	24	TBD
Aug	29	TBD
Sept	25	TBD

## F1 KEY ADVERTISING RATES

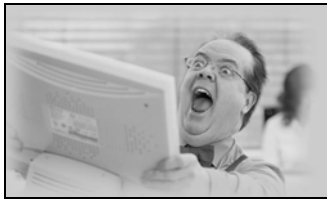
Classified ads (25 words or less) – free to members

Flyer insert (advertiser supplies ad)	\$ 30.00
Full page (7.5" x 10")	\$ 20.00
Half page (3.5" x 10")	\$ 15.00
Quarter page (3.5" x 5")	\$ 7.50
Sixth of a page (3.5" x 3")	\$ 5.00
Business card	\$ 3.00
Ad on cover – add \$ 5.00	

Prices shown are for one ad, one month.

Ads must be submitted to the editor ([pryzm@centurytel.net](mailto:pryzm@centurytel.net)) by the 7<sup>th</sup> of the month.

If you have any questions, e-mail: [f1club@mo-net.com](mailto:f1club@mo-net.com)



### FRUSTRATED?

IT'S TIME TO JOIN THE F1 CLUB!

DON'T FORGET!



When lightning is in the area, unplug your power cord **AND** your phone line from your computer. Lightning will hit a computer modem before it damages anything else in your house. If rain is in the forecast, **UNPLUG** before you leave your home or office.

## SUPPORT FOR THE CLUB

Bring your neighbor, friend or fishin' buddy to our next meeting. The survival of our club depends on membership. Do what YOU can to help it grow.

Please keep your dues paid. It's through these monies we are able to publish a newsletter and give back to the community through donations and education.



FEELING LEFT BEHIND?

## JOIN THE F1 COMPUTER CLUB!

Membership in the F1 Club entitles you to receive our newsletter and to come to our meetings, held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month (except Dec.). As a member, you will also get a discount on any classes we offer.

Come to the next meeting, check it out, and if you decide you want to join, drop off your membership dues – good for one full year.

Individual membership - \$22  
Family or business membership - \$28  
OR

If you can't make it to a meeting, but you still want to join, send a scrap of paper with your name, address, phone number and e-mail address (if you have one) to:

Willa McGrew  
HCR 1 Box 4078  
Shell Knob, MO 65747-0535

Include your check made out to the F1 Computer Club.

# iPods and iPhones

## A Little About Apple iPods

In 2001, Apple introduced the iPod, an MP3 player with the unheard-of storage capacity of 5 gigabytes. Five iPod generations later, the device plays songs, movies and photo slideshows, and you can store up to 80 GB of any type of file you want. The evolution has been a lesson in consumer electronics marketing and development: Millions of people are so hooked on the iPod, they continue to buy it and its coordinating Apple products despite quick battery death and difficult repairs.

The 2005 iPod release, the fifth-generation (5g) iPod video, is more than an MP3 player. It's a digital audio player, video player, photo viewer and portable hard drive, making it a full-fledged portable media center. It's available in 30-GB and 80-GB capacities and has a 2.5-inch, color LCD screen. In addition to the iPod 5G, the current generation of iPod players includes:

- iPod shuffle, with a 1-GB capacity, which only plays songs and has no display
- iPod nano, which plays digital audio, displays digital photos, comes in 2-, 4- and 8-GB capacities and has a smaller form factor than the iPod video



From left, the iPod shuffle, iPod nano and iPod video.

### iPod Myths

- **If I use iPod as my digital-media player, I can only download music from the iTunes Store. Not true.** You can download music from other sites (as long as the site doesn't use Windows Media DRM -- iPod isn't compatible with that encoding).
- **If I use iPod as my digital-media player, I can only use the iTunes software as my jukebox. Not true.** While iPod is made to work with the iTunes software, there are other jukeboxes out there that you can use with your iPod.
- **If I download MP3 or WAV files to my iPod, they'll be converted into a proprietary audio format. Not true.** Downloading files to an iPod doesn't change the format. iPod can play MP3, WAV, AAC, AIFF, Apple Lossless and Audible 2,3 and 4 audio files.

## A Little About Apple iPhones

**Contacts** Making a call with iPhone is as simple as tapping a name. You won't need to re-enter all your contacts because it syncs with the address book you already use on your computer or on the web using Yahoo! Address Book. If you don't have contacts on your computer, you can still enter them directly into iPhone.



**Calendar** Using its built-in calendar, it lets you check your appointments with the flick of a finger. It uses iTunes to sync with the calendar application you already use on your computer, but if you choose not to use a calendar program, you'll be able to enter appointments directly into the iPhone calendar.

**Email** iPhone offers the best-ever email on a mobile device. So now your phone can display rich HTML email with graphics and photos alongside the text. It will even fetch your latest email every time you open the application and automatically retrieve your email on a set schedule, just like a computer does. iTunes will make email setup on iPhone a breeze by automatically syncing the settings from email accounts stored in Mail on a Mac or Outlook on a PC. If you're not on one of these email services; it also works with almost any industry-standard POP3 and IMAP email system.

**Photos** iPhone has a 2-megapixel camera and a gorgeous 3.5-inch display. iPhone uses iTunes to sync your photos from iPhoto on a Mac or Adobe Photoshop Elements, Adobe Photoshop Album, or any picture folder on a PC. You can carry thousands of photos on iPhone, but you can start by creating an album or two with 50 to 100 of your favorite photos, so that when you first sync your iPhone, you'll be ready to quickly show off some of your best shots.

**Music and Video** iPhone is the best iPod ever. Its beautiful, 3.5-inch widescreen display allows you to easily enjoy the music, TV shows, and movies you have in your iTunes library.

**iTunes Account** To set up your iPhone, you'll need an account with Apple's iTunes Store. To set up an account, launch iTunes, select the iTunes Store, and click the Sign In button in the upper right corner of iTunes. Sign in and you're ready to go.

## Computer No Nos

Have you ever committed a computer no no? I'm sure we all have at one time or another, but we really should watch ourselves from here on out. To help you pinpoint a computer no no, here are a few things you should never do with your computer. With this list, maybe you can stop yourself in the act next time something comes up!

First of all, you should never turn your computer off while you're in the middle of a program or if you have a bunch of windows open. You need to always close out all programs and windows before shutting down your computer. If a program freezes up on you, always try to use Ctrl + Alt + Del before you do anything else. Another thing you should never do is turn your computer off and then turn it back on without waiting at least 60 seconds. The system needs at least that long to calm down a little.

Here's more. Never remove a disk or a CD from their respective drives until the drive light has turned off. It usually takes a few seconds for it to turn off, but if it's still on, don't push that release button! Here's an interesting one: don't ever use a magnet around your computer, the monitor or around a diskette (floppy disk). Magnets are bad news! Also, don't ever try to force a disk into the drive. If it doesn't fit, you may have it upside down or backwards.

Two more! Always make sure you turn your computer off before you start connecting any new hardware. It will save you some troubles down the road. And last, but not least, you should never have any type of food or drink around your computer. Just eat and drink somewhere else!

## Organize those Cords – for Cheap!

Tired of having computer cords and wires and cables hanging out of everywhere! The office supply store sells Cord Management do-hickeys, but they're quite expensive. Here's a quick (and cheap) solutions.



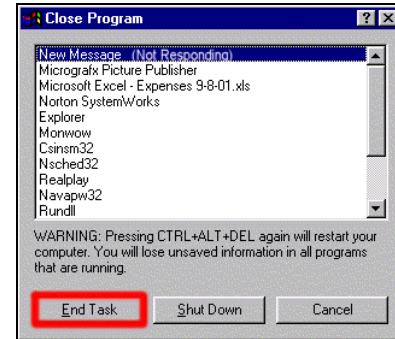
A woodworking tool known as a 'clamp' (a spring type thing for holding wood together, similar to huge spring clips for paper) works fantastically well for this. They run anywhere from \$0.99 - \$2.00 US at your local hardware store.

## Computer Hanging Up?

What can you do if your computer hangs up?

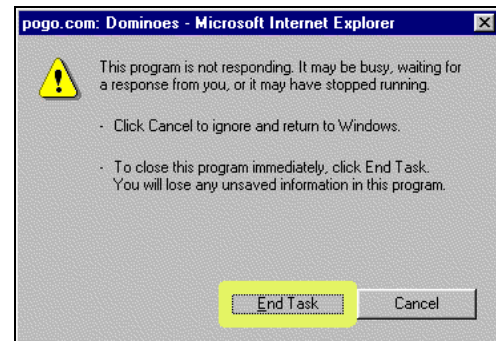
Before getting all frustrated and hitting the on/off switch, try this.

Press **Ctrl, Alt, Delete** all at the same time. Wait for a window to pop up saying "Close Program" with a list of all programs that are presently running. Look for one or more that say "Not Responding."



Click on (select) that program then click the "End Task" button at the bottom of the window. Be careful not to click "Shut Down" - that turns your computer off.


Another window will pop up again saying the program is not responding. Click the "End Task" button on this window and the offending program will be terminated.



Repeat this procedure until all programs that are not responding have been shut down. The remaining programs should now start responding again.

This is by no means a "sure fire" cure for all computer hang ups, but it is well worth a try, especially if you have some unsaved data in an application that is not the one guilty of the hang up.

# Classifieds & More



**Mo-Net, Inc.**  
Your local  
Internet service provider  
Visit our offices at  
301 N. Lincoln in Monett, MO

- E-mail account
- Personal Web page
- Local access
- Unlimited use
- One low monthly rate

Get connected:  
**417-235-8291**

Mailing address:  
P.O. Box 150  
Monett, MO 65708

The Internet service provider that offers toll-free, local dial-up in the following communities in SW Missouri:

Aurora  
Cassville  
Exeter  
Fairview  
Golden  
Jenkins  
Mano  
Monett  
Pierce City  
Purdy  
Shell Knob  
Slotts City  
Stark City  
Verona  
Washburn  
Wheaton

Continued from page 1...

Macs and PC's co-exist quite well together in today's world, both in compatibility with hardware and in availability of software.

## Why should you buy a PC?

Almost everyone is familiar with today's PC. It is a computer that comes from the companies like Dell, Gateway, Compaq, etc. and comes with a version of Microsoft Windows. Windows is the standard operating system of which much of the software made for computers is created for. If you need to do something on a computer, you can undoubtedly find a number of software products available for Windows to do it. And since PC's are the most popular type of computer sold, they are the most compatible type of computer currently available for both hardware and software.

The main advantage to buying a PC is having the most compatibility with all available hardware and software in the Personal Computer market.

## Why should you buy a Mac?

In the past few years, the quality and speed of Mac computers has increased dramatically. Since the release of Mac OS X and their fresh line of iMac and G3/G4/G5 series Macs, Apple has made lots of headway in making the experience of using a computer much more intuitive and stress-free. In today's world, Macs are generally easier to use and cause a lot less problems than your average PC computer. Apple has also made a large push for increasing the amount of software available, so now a majority of popular software titles are available for both the PC and Mac.

The main advantage to buying a Mac is having a computer that is easier to use and causes less problems, but also can do most everything a PC can do.

## The Final Word

When buying a new computer, both the PC and Mac have advantages and disadvantages. There are no glaring differences that make the decision an obvious one.

The one thing to remember about making the decision is that the PC and Mac can do all the same activities. Whether you want to browse the internet, check your e-mail, instant message, create documents or presentations, or listen/edit/create music or video, both a PC and a Mac can do all of these things equally well.

The final decision will always come down to an individual's preference; do you want a computer that is easy to use and stress-free, or do you want a computer that will work with any hardware or software on the market?

## Finding Your MS Product Codes

**Warning: This tip accesses the registry and MUST be used with extreme care!**

Ever notice how Microsoft likes to put "product keys" on all their software? Well, what do you do if you've lost yours and you need re-install the software? If the program is still on your machine (or at least still has entries in your registry), there may be hope. The info you need may be tucked away in the Windows Registry ! This doesn't always work, but it's worth a shot:

1. Click the **Start** button, **Run** . Type in **regedit** and click **OK** . Your registry editor program will start.
2. Next, head to: **HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\software\Microsoft** . Make sure you open (double-click) the Microsoft folder.
3. Now, scroll down to the program you want to re-install. Double-click its folder and look for another folder called "**Current Version**."
4. Double-click that and look for an entry for "**ProductKey**" or "**ProductId**" in the right windowpane. If you find it, you've found your code!

It can be a bit of a pain to hunt through the registry like this, but at least you don't have to buy the software again!

# Tips, Tricks & How To's

## What are Easter Eggs?

Easter eggs are special little extra tidbits or surprises programmers put into their programs. It usually involves doing some strange things (usually hitting an odd key combination at a specific time) in a program to see a little bonus surprise. Recently, many movies on DVD and video games began including these bonus features. Just do a websearch for the name of your favorite recent movie or game and "Easter egg" to see if there's a surprise waiting for you! There are even websites dedicated to listing newly discovered Easter eggs.

## Mouseless "Right-click"

Here's a trick for generating a "right-click" from your keyboard. Make sure your cursor is where you want it and hit Shift+F10 at the same time. You can then use your arrow keys to select the menu option you need (hit Enter once you have made the selection).

To make the above tip more useful, you'll need to know how to select text with your keyboard. Fortunately, that's easy enough; just use your arrow keys while holding down the Shift key.

## Skip The Recycle Bin

Every now and then you need to really delete a file. Right now.

Well, most people delete the thing, then go to the recycle bin and remove it from there. It works, but there's a better way.

Next time you're 100% sure, without a doubt, for certain, that you want to delete a file, hold your Shift key down while you delete. The file will be deleted—skipping the Recycle Bin completely.

## Launching Multiple Programs

Have you ever needed to launch multiple programs? Normally, you hit the Start button, Programs, then select the program you want to run. Once that one starts, you go back through and repeat the process for the next program. Well, here's a better way.

From your Programs menu, hold down your SHIFT key while you click the program's icon. The application will launch, but you won't lose the Programs menu and have to start all over.

The F1  
key

P.O. Box 535  
Shell Knob, MO 65747-0535  
[www.f1computerclub.com](http://www.f1computerclub.com)

### **NEXT MEETING:**

Tuesday, July 24, 2007, 6PM  
Central Crossing Senior Center

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*is distributed at the following locations:*

Shell Knob Branch Public Library  
Central Crossing Senior Center  
Shell Knob Chamber

**The F1 Computer Club meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7PM.**