

Newsletter



FORT MAC USER GROUP
FORT COLLINS, CO

A bug that allows a guest OS to execute on the host OS.

VMware has issued a security advisory once this bug was revealed. Even more importantly, the company also patched the affected applications, including VMware Fusion for the Mac. So if you're a Fusion user, you should immediately download the latest version to protect yourself from possible attacks that take advantage of this bug. Any release newer than VMware Fusion 2.0.4 (build 159196), which was released on April 10, contains a fix for the bug.

A word of advice on backups

* Make sure that backup drives are excluded from Spotlight.

Why? Because if you don't, the files on the backup drives will show up in the spotlight/finder search results. This means there is a high likeliness that people will end up opening the "wrong" file. This could actually have ugly consequences.

There are two ways to do this:

- 1) Go into the spotlight control panel and add the appropriate backup drives to the privacy list.
- 2) For those who prefer "power user" type control, they can use the utility "Spotless", \$16.95, (fixamac.net). It allows you to eradicate the spotlight database and prevent one from being created ever again.

MAC TREAT #77: Get in Character

By [Kali Hilke](#)

Ever wonder where those pesky specials characters that aren't written on your keyboard (e.g. ¢, ©, ®, ™) are when you're writing? They're all listed in Character Palette—part of OS X.

Easy access can be found either as a part of your other Apple Apps (such as Mail, TextEdit, Stickies, etc.) or in the International panel of System Preferences. (System Preferences > International > Input Menu)

If you find that you use these symbols a fair amount and would like to see them quickly, check the Character Palette checkbox and “Show input menu in menu bar.” The latter will display a little flag icon in the top right hand corner of your menu bar (how patriotic!).



Another tip for finding some symbols that you use more than others is to remember the keyboard shortcuts. Here's a cheat sheet for my most popular ones:

- Accent Acute (´):** Option-E
- Bullet (•):** Option-8
- Cent (¢):** Option-4
- Copyright (©):** Option-G
- Degree (°):** Shift-Option-8
- Registered (®):** Option-R
- Trade Mark (™):** Option-2

And, for Mac users, one we've mentioned before and use a lot of:

Apple symbol (🍏): Shift-Option-K

Note that fonts may handle characters differently!

iCal

iCal is the built-in calendaring application included with every version of the Mac operating system since OS 10.2.

One feature is the availability of free, easy-to-download iCal-compatible calendars. These calendars cover a wide range of topics, including astronomical events, sporting schedules, national and international holidays, school schedules, music tour dates, and many more.

You can find public, shared calendars at Apple's website [by clicking here](#). You can also find over 2400 downloadable iCal ready calendars on iCalshare by [clicking here](#). However, many of the calendars on iCalshare.com are out of date.

Or you just use Google to find iCal calendars. For example, looking for the Red Sox schedule and simply Googling "Red Sox iCal." Takes you directly to a Red Sox page that lists three different iCal compatible calendars: the complete 2009 schedule, the home schedule, and the away schedule. [Click here to download the 2009 Red Sox schedule in iCal format.](#)

Once you subscribe to these calendars, you can then sync and share them on all your Macs and iPhone with MobileMe.

Apple has a comprehensive iCal page, [which you can see by clicking here](#).

MAC TREAT #80: Get Rid Of Duplicate Songs in iTunes

By Ed Shepard

In iTunes, it's very easy to end up with duplicate songs. There are many ways this happens, but recently many people are ending up with duplicate songs as they upgrade their old iTunes Store purchases for new iTunes Plus tracks (see below about this). There are several ways to permanently remove duplicate songs from iTunes. This will save hard drive space, and can make it easier to browse your iTunes library.



It's worth noting that some tracks appearing to be duplicates may actually be different songs; for example, a live version vs a studio version. Be careful not to delete these. Otherwise, it's very easy to remove duplicate items in iTunes with built-in management tools.

Apple has a knowledge base article about this [which you can read by clicking here](#).

Some people use third party apps or applescripts to weed out duplicate tracks. Take a look at Tidy Up!: <http://www.hyperbolicsoftware.com/TidyUp.html> and Dupin: <http://dougscripts.com/itunes/itinfo/dupin.php>

Also, here's a virtually unknown keyboard short cut: in iTunes, hold down the Option key and click "File". This will change the menu entry to "Show Exact Duplicates". Show duplicates only displays tracks with identical titles, but selecting "exact" will only display tracks where ALL fields are identical.

Software Updates

Safari – 4.0BetaLeo

iWork – 9.0.1

iWeb – 3.0.1

iMovie – 8.0.1

iPhoto – 8.0.2

iLife – 9.02

iTunes – 8.1.1

NeoOffice – 2.2.5-Patch-8-Intel

Mozilla Firefox – 3.0.8

NeoOffice – 3.0

VMware Fusion – 2.0.3

VMware Fusion – 2.0.4

Microsoft Office 2004 – 11.5.4

iMovie – 8.0.2

<p>President Brian Lackey</p>		<p>Secretary Pat Davis</p>
<p>Vice President Pamela Stevens</p>		<p>Apple Ambassador and WebMaster Robert Poland</p>
<p>Treasurer Paul Carlstedt</p>		<p>Member @ Large Gordon Richardson</p>