M A R C H   2 0 0 5

| SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 OS X 7:00	2 6:30	3	4	5
6	7 7:00	8 7:00	9 7:00	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 Q&A 7:00	29	30	31		
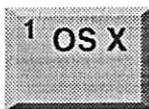
1 OS X
OS X SIG
The Foundation
1621 Hennepin Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55403
Craig Arko 612-379-0174

2
AppleWorks SIG
Penn Lake Library
8800 Penn Ave S, Bloomington
John Hunkins, Sr. 651-457-8949
hunkins@mac.com.

7
Board of Directors
mini'app'les members welcome
New Brighton Family Center
400 10th St..N.W. New Brighton
Tom Gates 612-789-1713
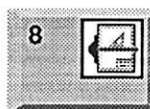
8
VectorWorks SIG
Comp-USA Store
4220 West 78th Street,
Bloomington, MN 55435
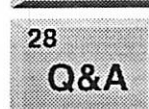Charles Radloff 952 941 1667

9
Microsoft Word SIG
Eagles lodge
9152 Old Cedar Ave Bloomington
Tom Ostertag, D 612-951-5520 E
651-488-9979
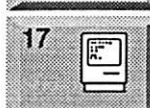
17
Macintosh Consultants SIG
Embers 7:00 AM
7525 Wayzata Blvd
St. Louis Park
Bob Demeules, 763-559-1124

24
FileMaker Pro SIG
Megaclean
769 Kasota Ave S.E.
Minneapolis MN 55414
Steve Wilmes 651-458-1513

28 Q&A
Macintosh Novice SIG
(Q&A) Questions & Answers
Merriam Park Library
1831 Marshall Avenue St. Paul
Richard Becker, 612-870-0659

For the latest information please visit **http://www.miniapples.org**

mini'app'les

The Minnesota Apple Computer Users' Group, Inc.
P.O. Box 796, Hopkins, MN 55343

Board of Directors:

President	Tom Gates 612-789-1713 tgates@isd.net
Vice President	Bert Persson 612-861-9578 skallgang@yahoo.com
Secretary	Jim Nye 763-753-3899 nyej@lycos.com
Treasurer	Don Walz 651-426-5602
Marketing Director	Greg Buchner 952-883-0195 gbuchner@mn.rr.com
Publications Director	John Pruski 952-938-2818 johnpruski@aol.com
SIG Director	Dave Peck 651-423-4672 huntn@charter.net.
Director at Large	Les Anderson 651-735-3953 anderslc@usfamily.net
Membership	Erik Knopp
Apple II	Owen Aaland

Introduction – This is the Newsletter of mini'app'les, the Minnesota Apple Computer Users' Group, Inc., a Minnesota non-profit club. The whole newsletter is copyrighted © by mini'app'les. Articles may be reproduced in other non-profit User Groups' publications except where specifically copyrighted by the author. (Permission to reproduce these articles must be given by the author.) Please include the source when reprinting.

Questions – Please direct questions to an appropriate board member. Users with technical questions should refer to the Members Helping Members section.

Dealers – mini'app'les does not endorse specific dealers. The club promotes distribution of information which may help members identify best buys and service. The club itself does not participate in bulk purchases of media, software, hardware and publications. Members may organize such activities on behalf of other members.

Advertisers – For information, see Newsletter Ad Rates box within this issue.

Newsletter Contributions – Please send contributions directly to our Post Office, Box 796, Hopkins, MN 55343, or   tostertag@usfamily.net

Deadline for material for the next newsletter is the 1st of the month. An article will be printed when space permits and, if in the opinion of the Newsletter Editor or Manager, it constitutes material suitable for publication.
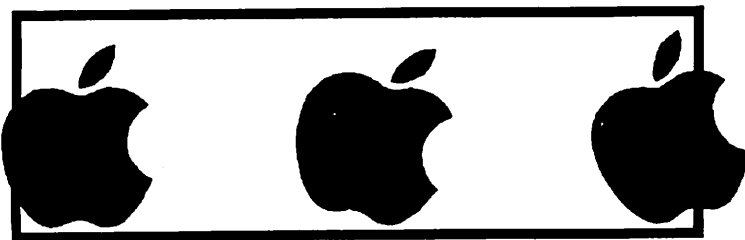
Editor/Publisher: Tom Ostertag 651-488-9979

Newsletter Layout: John Pruski 952-938-2818, Bert Persson 612-861-9578

mini'app'les BBS – Internet only access

mini'app'les WWW site: http://www.miniapples.org

mini'app'les e-mail: miniapples@mac.com

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Moving? Going to be away from home and leaving a forwarding address with the Post Office? Please send us a Change of Address when you are informing others. By using a moment of your time and a few cents to drop us a card, you save the club some money and you get your newsletter delivered promptly to your new address. If you don't inform us, the Post Office puts your newsletter in the trash (they don't forward third class mail) and charges the club for informing us of your new address. Change of Address should be sent to the club's mailing address: mini'app'les, Attn: Membership Director, Box 796, Hopkins, MN 55343.

Table of Contents

April 2005 Preview

Here is the tentative calendar of our Special Interest Group (SIG) meetings for April 2005. Please pencil these events on your calendar. As always, when doubtful of a SIG date, time, or location, confirm with one of the following:
- At www.miniapples.org
- The cognizant SIG Leader

Monday	April	4	Board of Directors meeting
Tuesday	April	5	OS X SIG
Wednesday	April	6	AppleWorks nee ClarisWorks SIG
Tuesday	April	12	VectorWorks SIG
Wednesday	April	13	Microsoft Word SIG
Thursday	April	21	Macintosh Consultants
Monday	April	25	Macintosh Novice (Q&A)SIG
Thursday	April	28	FileMaker Pro SIG

Members Helping Members

Need Help? Have a question the manual doesn't answer? Members Helping Members is a group of volunteers who have generously agreed to help. They are just a phone (or an e-mail) away. Please call only during the appropriate times, if you are a member, and own the software in question.

Apple II / IIGS Software & Hardware	1, 5, 7
AppleWorks / ClarisWorks-Draw	6, 7, 8
Classic Macs	
Cross-Platform File Transfer	5
FileMaker Pro	
FirstClass	
iMacs	12,
iPhoto / iTunes / iMovie	
Mac OS Classic	7, 12
Mac OS X	
MacWrite Pro	11
Microsoft Excel	2, 5, 13,
Microsoft Word	5,
MYOB	13
Networks	
New Users	1, 9, 12
PhotoShop	3, 10
PowerBooks / iBooks	12,
Power Macs	
Quicken	2, 13
QuickBooks and QuickBooks Pro	13
WordPerfect	4
VectorWorks	14

1.	Les Anderson	651-735-3953	DEW
2.	Mike Carlson	218-387-2257	D
3.	Eric Jacobson	651-645-6264	D
4.	Nick Ludwig	612-593-7410	DEW
5.	Tom Ostertag	651-488-9979	EW
6.	Owen Strand	763-427-2868	D
7.	Bruce Thompson	763-546-1088	EW
8.	Pam Lienke	651-457-6026	EW
9.	Tom Lufkin	651-698-6523	EW
10.	Gary Eckhardt	952-944-5446	EW
11.	R. J. Erhardt	651-730-9004	DEW
12.	Richard Becker	612-870-0659	EW
13.	Ardie Predweshny	612 978-9774	DEW
14.	Charles Radloff	952-941-1667	D

D: Days, generally 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
E: Evenings, generally 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.
W: Weekends, generally 1 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Please call at reasonable hours, and ask if it is a convenient time for them. By the way, many of these volunteers can also be contacted on our BBS. We appreciate your cooperation.

If you would like to be a Members Helping Member volunteer, please send an e-mail message to John Pruski on our BBS, or call him at 952-938-2818, with your name, telephone number, contact hours, and the software or hardware areas you are willing to help others.

Miniapples Directors Meeting December 6, 2004

Submitted By Jim Nye

Present: Les Anderson, Greg Buchner, Jim Nye, Bert Persson, John Pruski, Don Walz

Approval of Agenda: no agenda presented for meeting.

Approval of Minutes: motion made to approve , seconded , passed

OFFICER & COORDINATORS REPORTS

President- Vice President Persson conducted meeting in President Tom Gates absence.

Vice President Persson- has arranged for the annual meeting Feb 12, 2004 to be held at the Southdale Library. Question arose about filing out the nonprofit tax 501c tax exempt form for the library to release the meeting room. Don Walz will review & send to library.

Treasurer's Report: all bills paid, October balance sheet passed out. ING Investment interest bearing accounts for club funds reviewed. No action taken.

NEW BUSINESS

Audit-Treasurer has closed the books and will present account information to Harry Lienke for the annual audit. Mr. Lienke has volunteered to do the annual audit.

Board Meeting Room - It is possible that Merriam Library will be open for Board meetings. Matter needs to be discussed with President Gates.

Old Business

Annual Meeting-discussed getting presenters for the annual meeting.

Secretary Nye- suggested a gift certificate be given Lisa Huston for her excellent job as auctioneer. Les Anderson informed the board that this is illegal under nonprofit organization laws.

Marketing Director Buchner- inquired at the Mall of America about a meeting room and was told that the cost would be $ 975.

Organizations who may be interested in making presentations will be contacted (Apple Store, 1st Tech, Mac Mania, Lind Electronics etc.) Auction-The board will officially thank Lisa Huston, for her excellent job as auctioneer, and the people who worked on the auction by recognizing their help with a note of appreciation in the January newsletter.

Projector- buying projector is on hold until we find out how much money remains in the NAUGSAW account. Les Anderson will contact Brian Bantz about the funds.

Election - the proposal to change the terms of office will be brought up at the annual meeting for comment. The proposal is to change the office term from May 1 to April 30 to June 1 to May 31. The reason for the change is that under the present rules the office of President is unoccupied until the ballots are counted and certified by the board.

Meeting Adjourned- next meeting January 3, 2005, 700 pm at the New Brighton Family Center, 400 19th St. NW, New Brighton.

Some notes from our Annual Meeting

Submitted by Bert Persson

This year our annual meeting was held on February 12 at the Southdale library in Edina.

We were fortunate to have as our main presenter Duke Zurek who is the Minnesota general manager for all three Apple stores in the metropolitan area. Some of us may not be aware of that Apple is well represented by stores not only at the Mall of America, but also at Southdale and Roseville malls. He was initially asked to do a short presentation of 20-30 minutes but in describing the various stores and the new Apple products such as the mini-mac, ipod shuffle and the new iife applications it took over an hour. This was an interesting and informative presentation that no one should have missed. Once again thanks Duke.

After this we asked for nominees to the board of directors and I am happy to announce that we now have a full slate.

This year the nominees are:

President: Tom Gates (I)
Vice President: Bert Persson (I)
Secretary: Jim Nye (I)
Treasurer: Don Walz (I)
Marketing Director: Greg Buchner (I)
Publications Director: John Pruski (I)
Sig Director: Craig Arko

(I) = Incumbent

The ballot for the election will be in the April newsletter along with a proposed change in the bylaws.

As in previous years there has always been food to enjoy at these events and this year was no exception. Instead of Pizza we had some good Lasagna and sandwiches thanks to Don Walz and John Pruski who were the delivery boys de' jour.

Throughout the years our annual meeting has been a pleasant event for our members to get together in an informal social setting with presentations, food and drink. Hope to see you all next year, remember this is also a family event.

Last but not least thanks for all of you who stayed around and helped.

Members Workshop planned for April

Submitted by Bert Persson

At this point we are looking at having the meeting on a Saturday like we have had in the past. The location would be at St.Charles school in N.E Minneapolis. Please contact Tom Gates 612-789-1713 in advance or at miniapples@mac.com if you plan on attending this meeting.

Hands On with the Mac mini

Taking Apple's New Desktop Out for a Test Drive
By Dan Frakes

It's here.

Just two days after writing my hotly debated comparison of the new Mac mini and Dell's cheapest Windows PC, the Mac mini (Best Current Price: 1.25GHz model and 1.42 GHz model) I ordered last week arrived on my doorstep. (Actually, given the size of the box at my door, at first I thought it was the 1GB iPod shuffle I ordered the same day. Seriously. The Mac mini's box is tiny.)

Being the longtime computer user that I am, I didn't expect to be that excited by the mini; I thought I'd do my duty as an "early adopter" and report back. (As I stated in my previous column, "machines like the mini or the cheap Dell desktop are underpowered for advanced users, but both will suffice for their target market.") But once you see how tiny the Mac mini's box is, you realize that there's something special about getting a functional computer in something the size of a stack of CDs. At only 8.5-by-8.5-by-5 inches, the box is smaller than the one for my first portable CD player back in the late '80s. I actually had to laugh that it still has a handle—c'mon, Apple... my 10-year-old nephew could pick this thing up with one hand. (OK, just kidding; the handle is a nice touch.) So I admit that after seeing that box, there was a bit of geeky Christmas-morning-unwrapping excitement; you'd have to be incredibly jaded, or vehemently anti-Mac, not to feel it.
Opening Day

The first thing you see when you open the box is all the "paperwork"— Bluetooth Regulatory Certificate, AirPort Extreme User's Guide, blah, blah, blah—and the software. You get Apple's standard flip-open CD case, housing the Mac OS X install/restore/Apple Hardware Test DVDs (two of 'em), as well as the Mac mini User's Guide, the ubiquitous white Apple stickers, software license agreement, and warranty documentation. (Boring, I know; but if I didn't list it, someone would invariably ask about it.) You also get an Apple

Software Proof-of-Purchase Coupon sheet that, oddly enough, says it's for "iLife '04 + Mac OS X v10.3." I say oddly enough because the other disc that comes in the box is a copy of iLife '05, which comes with its own Proof-of-Purchase Coupon sheet. (Not that these forms are actually worth anything—I've got a stack of them in my garage, hoping that someday Apple will let me trade them in for something, like Subway does with their sandwich stickers. Heck, I'd be happy if Apple actually gave me a Subway sandwich for them. Anyway...)

Then you get to the good stuff—the mini itself, as small and light as Apple promised, wrapped in one of Apple's signature clear plastic wraps that apparently have no seams, edges, or tabs to help you remove them. Finally, the bottom of the box holds the Mac mini's power supply—a 6.5-by-2.5-by-1.5-inch white brick—power cable, and DVI-to-VGA display adapter.
Throw the Switch

Since I didn't want to disturb my Power Mac G5, I decided to test the "switcher" route. I unplugged my Dell LCD, keyboard, and mouse—I really did BMODKM, as Steve Jobs suggested in his keynote—and connected them to the mini. The DVI connector plugged into the mini's DVI port and the keyboard and mouse took up one of the mini's two USB ports. (If my keyboard had been a PS/2 model, I would have needed a $5 to $10 adapter from Radio Shack.) A press of the power button and the mini booted into the familiar (to Mac users) OS X setup mode. Five minutes later, the setup process was complete and the mini was up and running. The Dell display worked flawlessly, as did the keyboard and mouse, although I had to remember that the Alt key was equivalent to the Mac's Option key, and that the Windows key was used as Command. (I plan on installing the excellent DoubleCommand, which lets you swap the Alt and Windows keys so that they reside in the same relative positions on a Windows PC keyboard as the Option and Command keys do on a Mac keyboard. NOTE: uControl, which I originally recommended, hasn't yet been

updated for Mac OS X 10.3.7.) Holding the F12 key down even ejects CDs/DVDs, just like it does on Apple keyboards, and, as with any Mac, the Dell mouse's scroll/click wheel and right button function as expected.

(Side note: My Mac mini has the internal Bluetooth module; I'll be testing my Apple Bluetooth Keyboard and Mouse with it later.)

Out of the box, the Mac mini is running Mac OS X 10.3.7 build 7T21, a later build than the one on my Power Mac G5 (7M34). However, running Software Update reveals that it doesn't have all the latest non-OS X software: I was told I needed to install Apple Bluetooth Module Firmware 1.2, Apple Remote Desktop Client 1.2.4, iCal 1.5.5, iSight Update 1.0.2, iTunes 4.7.1, Java 1.4.2 Update 2, and, most interestingly based on the date, iPod Updater 2004-11-15. (These updates took about 15 minutes over broadband.) In addition, iLife '05 is not preinstalled—you need to install it yourself using the included DVD, which for me took about 18 minutes thanks to the GBs of iDVD support files. (Since iDVD '05 lets you save projects to disk images for later burning on SuperDrive-equipped Macs, the installer will install iDVD '05 on a Combo drive-equipped Mac mini.)
Performance Review

So how does the Mac mini perform? I purchased the 1.42GHz/80GB hard drive version and my initial impression is that it performs at about the same level as a 1.5GHz PowerBook G4. Working with the Finder is fairly snappy (although obviously not as quick as on a dual-G5), and applications perform well enough, considering that this is a 1.42GHz G4. iTunes rips songs at approximately 15x, and I noticed no hiccups when playing a DVD while surfing in Safari. The included games run well, even with iTunes playing in the background; although, to be fair, they aren't the most demanding titles. And I was pleasantly surprised how well the Mac mini fared with just the stock 256MB of RAM. (My 1GB upgrade hasn't yet arrived.)
(Side notes: The biggest question around the Web over the past week has been about how easy or difficult it

is to upgrade the Mac mini's RAM. Now that we've taken it apart; we can tell you whether installing RAM is easy or not. And for those curious about hard drive space, fresh out of the box the 80GB hard drive has 67GB of free space with OS X and the included applications installed; after installing iLife '05, that drops to just over 65.5GB.)

One thing that did surprise me about the Mac mini was the noise level, both good and bad. Most of the time the machine is very quiet, basically silent; I expected more regular fan noise given the cramped quarters inside the box. On the other hand, under the heaviest extended loads—ripping a number of CDs in a row while performing other processor-intenstive tasks, for example—the fan

ramps up to a surprising volume. Nothing compared to the wind tunnel levels of a crashed Power Mac G5, to be sure, but louder than I expected. Similarly, the Mac mini's optical drive is about as loud as its PowerBook cousin—it can get noisy when ripping songs in iTunes. (Thankfully, it's nearly silent when watching DVDs.)

First Impressions

Overall, as I suspected, the Mac mini performs well, but not spectacularly. It is a $600 computer, after all. But what makes the Mac mini special is something I hinted at in my previous column that is only fully realized once the mini is actually sitting on your desk: It's a computer the size of some computers' power supplies, that already includes all the software the average home users may ever need—

e-mail, Web, word processor, spreadsheet, database, drawing, photos, making and enjoying music, making and watching movies, finances, and even a few games. For the money, I predict it's as complete a system—hardware and software—as you'll find for this price.

[Questions or comments about this story? Talk back in Macworld.com forums. And to read more about the Mac mini, go to Macworld's Mac mini page.]

iPod shuffle
Smallest, Most Affordable iPod Yet Is a Very Big Deal

By Christopher Breen
In Brief Complete Summary of Each Product Below

iPod shuffle 512MB Price as rated: $99
Best Current Price: $94.88 (via ProductFinder)
iPod shuffle 1GB Price as rated: $149
Best Current Price: $144.00 (via ProductFinder)

Not content to dominate the middle- and high-end of the portable music player market, Apple has determined to own it all by releasing the smallest and most affordable iPod yet, the iPod shuffle. Available in capacities of 512MB and 1GB (priced at $99 and $149, respectively) the shuffle is remarkable not only for its size and price, but also for its lack of a display. Is a display-less iPod for you? That depends on what you expect from your music player and how much effort you're willing to expend creating playlists that make sense for your on-the-go lifestyle.
Limited for Your Protection

Given a regular iPod's ability to display contacts, calendars, and notes; play games; and—with all dock connector iPods except for the iPod mini—record voice-quality notes through an add-on microphone and store pictures via a media card reader, it's little wonder that previous iPods

have been described as more than simple music players. In this case there's precious little danger of the iPod shuffle being confused with anything but a bare-bones music player as that's exactly what it is—the first iPod that's dedicated solely to playing music with nary a bell nor whistle in sight.

How stripped down is it? I've mentioned the lack of a display so navigation is barely a concern. The iPod shuffle bears a simple three-position toggle switch on the back that turns the iPod off, directs it to play its playlist from beginning to end in order, or flips the device into Shuffle mode where songs are played randomly. A green stripe below the switch helps you see what position the switch is in but it's a little too easy to skip past the first position into Shuffle mode when you pull down on the switch.
Apple's tiniest iPod communicates through two LEDs planted under the plastic housing on the front of the device. For example, a yellow LED shows when the player is charging—a green LED shines when the shuffle is completely charged. A blinking green LED indicates that the device has been paused. If it blinks yellow three times in succession, you've engaged Hold (by holding down the Play/Pause button for three seconds).

Thankfully, Apple includes a small iPod shuffle "cheat card" that tells you what the various blinks and LEDs mean.

Some blinks take precedence over others in less-than-helpful ways. Specifically, the iPod shuffle displays a steady green LED when the device is fully charged. However—as is noted in the manual—if you've configured iTunes so that the iPod is used as a disk, a yellow LED blinks continuously so you can't be sure exactly when the shuffle is completely charged.

And there are times when some LED action would be better than none. Specifically, the only way to tell if the iPod shuffle is playing is to plug it in. Yes, it will blink for one minute when paused, but once that minute has elapsed, the device doesn't glow at all—just as if it were playing or switched off. Unless you're careful to switch it off when you're not using it, you could easily discover that its battery is drained after it was accidentally activated when stored in a pocket, purse, or backpack.

The back bears its own LED. Just below the toggle switch is a Battery Status button that, when pressed, flashes an LED that gives you a very general idea of how much of a battery charge remains—green indicates a

good charge, yellow, a low charge; red, a very low charge; and no glow means no juice remains. Given the shuffle's limited means of communication, I understand why you're offered only a four-stage status indicator, but I regret that there's not some interim indication when you've reached the half-way point of your charge. A glowing green LED can indicate that you have anything from 5 to over 12 hours of power remaining. An iPod just isn't an iPod without some kind of click-wheel controller, and the iPod shuffle is no exception. Because the iPod shuffle can't be navigated, there's no reason to include a spinning wheel controller or a Menu button. Instead, the device includes a round controller that offers a Play/Pause button in the middle and a four-way click ring on the outside that offers Volume Up, Volume Down, Fast Forward/Next, and Rewind/Back. (Choosing between moving from one song to another and simply fast-forwarding or rewinding through a portion of a song works the same way as it does on other iPods: Click one to move to another songs, click and hold to fast-forward or reverse.)

Making the Connection

When you pull the far-too-easily lost cap from the tip of the iPod shuffle you'll see a USB connector. This is the means for linking the iPod to a computer or an optional power supply.

Having such a connector built into the iPod is both convenient and not so convenient. It's helpful because it means you don't have to lug along (and possibly lose) a cable to move music and power between your computer and player. It's not so convenient because, by default, you must charge the iPod shuffle with your computer, and a computer isn't always handy. Also, because the iPod shuffle is a bit wider than the USB keydrive it resembles, it won't fit on some computers (Apple's eMac, for example). Both these issues can be addressed by Apple accessories that cost nearly a third of the 512MB iPod shuffle—the $29 iPod USB Power Adapter, the $29 iPod shuffle External Battery Pack (which provides 20 additional hours of playtime with two AAA batteries) and the $29 iPod shuffle Dock.

iTunes Additions

If you're a digital music enthusiast it's likely that your iTunes music library exceeds the number of songs that can be stored on an iPod shuffle. With that in mind, Apple has made adjustments to both the iPod shuffle and iTunes to make it easier to pack the player with the most music—and greatest variety of music—possible.

Its first space-saving trick is to limit the kinds of files that can be played by the iPod shuffle. Unlike with other iPods, the iPod shuffle can't play AIFF or Apple Lossless files—files that consume a lot of storage space (wav files, which consume the same 10MB per minute of stereo audio as AIFF files, can be played by the iPod shuffle, however). The next trick is found in iTunes' iPod preferences. Here you'll discover the Convert Higher Bit Rate Songs to 128 kbps AAC for this iPod option. When this option is enabled, iTunes converts AIFF and Apple Lossless files to 128 kbps AAC files. Such a conversion reduces an AIFF file to about seven percent of its original size (and compromises audio quality in a way that those with discerning ears may find objectionable).

iTunes 4.7.1 (included with the iPod shuffle) adds the Autofill feature that picks songs from your iTunes music library or from a playlist you designate in iTunes' Source list. You can direct Autofill to choose songs at random as well as favor songs that have a high rating. You can also choose to replace the songs on the iPod shuffle when Autofilling or add selections to the current songs on the device. While not as powerful as a well-built Smart Playlist that can exclude or include songs by genre and play time, Autofill is a reasonable and easy-to-use compromise.

iTunes Autofill feature
It couldn't be much easier to use Autofill. Just plug in the iPod shuffle, select it in iTunes' Source list, choose a source for your music in the Autofill pane that appears at the bottom of the iTunes window, and click the Autofill button. iTunes will grab a subset of your music, create a playlist, and copy the contents of the playlist to the iPod shuffle. If you've enabled the Convert Higher Bit Rate Songs to

128 kbps AAC for this iPod option, it will take longer to sync the device, as large files must be converted on the fly. (I found it takes about a minute to download a song that's being converted.)

Something not mentioned in Apple's documentation, but worth noting is that when you instruct iTunes to keep the iPod shuffle in the Source list even when its disconnected (an option in the iPod shuffle's Preferences tab) you can click Autofill over and over to create different playlists. When you stumble across one you like, select all its contents and choose New Playlist From Selection from iTunes' File menu to create a new playlist that contains the songs generated by Autofill. When you next connect your iPod shuffle, just select this playlist from the Autofill From pop-up menu and click Autofill to load the music from the playlist to your shuffle.

The iPod shuffle will play type 2, 3, and 4 Audible.com audiobooks (audiobooks sold by the iTunes Music Store are compatible) but won't automatically add them to the iPod shuffle. Instead, you must add them manually, which can be a bit of a chore with an iPod shuffle that's already full of tracks. The device doesn't support EQ settings imposed in iTunes nor will it respond to any volume adjustment, start time, or stop time settings you've created in iTunes' song settings windows.

One last useful feature found in the iPod shuffle's Preferences tab is the ability to reserve specific amounts of storage space on the device for music and data. When you attach the shuffle to your Mac or PC, select it in iTunes Source list, and enable the Enable Disk Use option, you can activate a slider that determines how much of the shuffle's storage space will be devoted to music and how much will be used for storage. If the iPod shuffle is full of music, clicking OK after setting this slide will cause iTunes to toss out some of the music on the shuffle to make room for data storage. Regardless of whether you've set aside room for data, you can copy data to an iPod shuffle that's mounted on your computer as a disk drive. In Use

mini'app'les

The Minnesota Apple Computer Users' Group, Inc.
P.O. Box 796, Hopkins, MN 55343-0796

Membership Application, & Renewal Form

Name:_____

Company (if mailed to):_____

Address:_____

_____

City, State, Zip:_____

Phone # (Home):_____

Phone # (Work):_____

Phone # (cel-phone):_____

Occupation (if Applicable):_____

Membership ID # (if Renewal):_____

e-mail:_____

___ Check if OK to contact you by e-mail.
___ Check if this is a change of address notice.
___ Check if you are interested in volunteer opportunities.
___ Check if you want your name added to Members Helping Members List.
___ Check if you want your name withheld from commercial and other non-club
     mailing lists.
___ Check if you were referred by a club member (if so give members name).

_____

New Members & Renewing Members

Specify your level of support:

___ $25.00 One Year

___ $45.00 Two Year

___ $60.00 Three Year

___ $15.00 Student One Year*(must be a full-time student at an accredited institution)

___ $100.00 Corporate One Year

Please Make
Your Checks Payable to:
mini'app'les

Please address
Your Payment to:
mini'app'les
P.O. Box 796
Hopkins, MN 55343-0796

Thank You for your support!
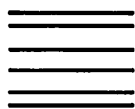
1st fold

2nd fold

3rd fold

Dear mini'app'les
Please direct this to the:
☐ Membership Director
☐ Software Director
☐ Other _____

||.||..||.|..|.||.|.|.||.|||.||..||.|..||.|.|.|

mini'app'les
P.O. Box 796
Hopkins, MN 55343-0796

Last Fold – Seal with Tape

The iPod shuffle sounds as good as any iPod I've owned. As Apple suggests, it's about the size of a pack of gum and, when worn around your neck on the included lanyard, feels just about as heavy. Given that the shuffle can be easily detached from the lanyard with a quick jerk, it won't take long for those who live in less savory parts of their communities to learn to wear it inside their clothing—it will be a tempting target for those thieves with quick hands and feet. (On the other hand, I suppose it's better to lose the iPod than be throttled by the lanyard when the iPod won't detach.)

Because there's no hard drive that can fidget when jostled, skipping isn't a concern, making the iPod shuffle an ideal player for the active iPod owner. The included earbuds are Apple's stan-dard issue and, as such, may not be for those who demand both a comfortable fit and great sound from their headphones.

The controls are responsive and reasonably intuitive given the lack of a display (though, as I mentioned earlier, it can be difficult to place the toggle switch on the back exactly where you want it on the first try). I wouldn't mind seeing one more LED that makes the iPod's actions a little clearer. But, given that the iPod shuffle was designed to be a "push play and put it away" device, most users won't find its limited communication skills troubling. . . . read more in the April 2005 MacWorld issue.

Benefits of your mini'app'les membership include:

A one year subscription to our monthly Newsletter

A free account on the mini'app'les BBS (60 minutes/day)
Communicate with other mini'app'les members plus get up to date information on mini'app'les events and meetings. Get assistance from other members.

Eligibility for frequent drawings of free equipment, software, and books.
Just a few of the many items given away free in the past include: Connectix QuickCam, Quickeys, Books from Peachpit Press , MacSoft Games & Software, T-shirts and software including Apple OS 10

Periodic special User Group discount offers on equipment and software.
In the past, Apple, Hayes, Brøderbund, and APC Power Protection (Business Security Products), among others, have offered mini'app'les members significant discounts.

Plus, you're supporting all of mini'app'les' special interest group (SIG) meetings that you can attend each month.

It's easy to recoup your cost of membership with the above benefits.

mini'app'les newsletter
Box 796
Hopkins, MN 55343
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

mini'app'les membership card

EXPIRES: Life ID# 160

DAN B BUCHLER
2601 WOODS TRL
BURNSVILLE MN 55337