

Club Mac of Monterey Presentation January 13, 2012
Tools and Techniques, #3 in a Series
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Frank's presentation demonstrated two *mysterious* but useful Mac OS X features and took a look at several 3rd party utilities.

- **Stacks** Included in OS X

Store files and/or references to files on the right side of the Dock

Drag moves the actual file to the Stack

Option-Command drag moves the alias to the Stack
(safer to create the alias first, then drag *it*)

Click to open Stack

Shift-Click to open Stack in slow motion

Option-Click to open more than one entry

- **Terminal** Included in OS X

Located in /Applications/Utilities

Displays a Unix command prompt in a window

User can enter Unix commands like cal (calendar) or ls (list contents of current directory)

User can enter complex commands to perform useful OS functions as seen in the following example. Note: for more possibilities Google *Mac Terminal Commands*

Example #1: Add spacers to your Dock to organize your icons

Type (copy/paste) the following at the command prompt (note, case sensitive). Press Return after each line.

IMPORTANT: both of the following 2 lines are part of the same command! Select text from the beginning of the first line to the end of the second line.

```
defaults write com.apple.dock persistent-apps -array-add '{"tile-type"="spacer-tile";}'
```

```
killall Dock
```

In the new Dock, you'll see the spacers to the right of your applications. Drag spacers around to create groups of applications in your Dock. To remove a spacer, simply drag it off the Dock.

Example #2: Highlight Stack target on mouseover.

Type (copy/paste) the following at the command prompt. Press Return after each line.

```
defaults write com.apple.dock mouse-over-hilite-stack -boolean TRUE
```

```
killall Dock
```

Result: If you click on a Stack and move the mouse around, the Stack item/folder is highlighted.

To return to the default behavior, type (copy/paste). Press Return after each line.

```
defaults delete com.apple.dock mouse-over-hilite-stack
```

```
killall Dock
```

Example #3

When you summon Help in almost any Mac app, the Help Viewer window floats on top of every other open window. Even if you switch from the Help Viewer to another app, the Viewer window stays on top.

To make the Help window behave like any other window in OS X, i.e., if you switch to another app, the Help Viewer will recede into the background

defaults write com.apple.helpviewer DevMode -bool true

To return to the default behavior ...

defaults write com.apple.helpviewer DevMode -bool false

- **Caffeine** v1.1.1 Free
<http://lightheadsw.com/>

Prevents the computer from going to sleep. Prevents the computer from displaying the screen saver.

- **Isolator** v4.76 beta Free / Donations accepted
<http://willmore.eu/software/isolator/>
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- **Yoink** v1.01 \$2.99 Mac App Store
www.eternalstorms.at/yoink/

Drag files into Yoink's window. Then navigate to the destination. Once at the destination, drag the files out of Yoink's window and drop them into the destination window. (Option-drag will copy instead of move)
