

## BOOK REVIEW

Title: *Mac OS X Tiger Edition, The Missing Manual*  
Author: David Pogue  
Publisher: Pogue Press (O'Reilly), 847 pages, published 2005, \$29.95  
Reviewed by: Marjorie Goody, SCUM (San Carlans Using Macintosh)

I had heard from members of my SCUM group that this book was the best resource for understanding the Mac OS X 10.4, the #1 best-selling Mac book. It is certainly very comprehensive with 847 pages of information, as well as the fact that every single piece of add-on software mentioned in this book is available at [www.missingmanuals.com](http://www.missingmanuals.com). There you will find a nice list of shareware programs ready to be downloaded.

David Pogue writes with humor, as he shares his expertise. Some of the things I find helpful about this book are the useful tips throughout the book; "The Master Mac OS X Secret Keystroke List;" the list of helpful websites, newsletters, and reference books; and the "dictionary" chapter for former Windows users.

Although the book is designed to accommodate readers at every technical level, the primary discussions are written for advanced beginners or intermediate level Mac users. For first-time Mac users there are miniature sidebar articles called "Up to Speed" providing what they consider the introductory information needed to understand the topic at hand. For advanced Mac users there are similarly shaded boxes called "Power Users' Clinic."

I thought I was an advanced beginner having had my Mac for a year after having had fifteen years of Windows' experience. However, I found this book quite daunting. I was unfamiliar with some of the vocabulary and could not figure out the meaning of some of the suggestions. A list of definitions would have helped or a chapter for beginners. Examples:

P.19 I could not figure out what was meant by "dragging a downloaded .sit file onto the Stuffit Expander icon."

P. 20 "unhitching its alias from the Sidebar".

P. 21 "dragging the destination folder into the Sidebar."

P. 23 "shortcut to the new Go - Enclosing Folder command."

P. 36 "The info. line lets you know how many icons are inside each without having to open it up."

P. 55 "One way to find the Home folder is to double-click the users folder and then double-click the folder inside it that bears your name and looks like a house."

P. 73 "Aliases let you stash that file in many different folder locations simultaneously."

P. 89 “to jump to a search result’s Finder icon instead of opening, (don’t know the name of this symbol on the keyboard)-click its name.”

I read and reread the Spotlight chapter 2-3 times but could not figure out how to differentiate well the items listed if I didn’t want the top hit. When I hit something else that has a similar name, how do I know if I already tried it? I waste a lot of time hitting the same item by mistake each time I go back to Spotlight.

I could not figure out from the index where to look for information regarding reading documents from or sending documents to a Windows user.

I am looking forward to “growing into” this book, but for right now I will have to go for Procare help to the Apple Store for answers to some of my questions. Maybe I need a Mac for Dummies book.