

BOOK REVIEW

Title: *Upgrading to Mac OS X 10.4 Tiger*

Author: Tom Negrino

Publisher: Peachpit Press, 132 pages, published 2005, \$12.99

It's always a nice feeling when your timing is good. That happened to me when a new book was made available for lending in our SCUM Library, and I had just purchased the new Tiger software.

Because it was well written I found I could read the book fairly rapidly. The first chapters dealt with preparing to upgrade, and the importance of back up. It had very good color illustrations, which made understanding it much easier. Now I reached the point of task of actually installing the application, and kept the book open beside my computer. One very important thing to understand, particularly if you're a worry wart like me is choosing which of the three upgrades types you will use; Upgrade Mac OS X (easy install), Archive and Install (installs new software and makes a copy of your old system files), and Erase and Install (completely erases your hard disk and then installs Tiger).

At the point where I selected the destination drive (my internal hard drive) there's an Option button at the bottom of the window. Clicking on this gives you the window with the Install Options. I clicked on Archive and Install and Preserve Users and Network Settings (selecting this means you can skip the Set Up Assistant at the end).

The moment of truth was here; I clicked the Install button! Thirty-two minutes later the installation was completed. At the very end the Software Update program appears on your desktop. It examines your hard drive to see if you need updates to match the installed Tiger software. One example is upgrading from the 10.4 version on the install disk to version 10.4.2.

With the install completed the text takes you through subsequent essential steps: Setting up Tiger, customizing your system, learn what's changed, how to use Spotlight and Dashboard, etc.

All this is provided in understandable text and to-the-point illustrations. I found the book to be extremely useful and made the process easier. What more can one wish for?

Joe Kimble