

The iMac₅₁₂ Classic

My report on Mac OS 8.6 on the iMac

The latest Mac OS upgrade is worth it's weight in gold and more!

What it did for me...

Speed. After Mac OS 8.5 my original iMac was able to do things that I could not do under Mac OS 8.1. However a little speed was sacrificed. It was fast at first, after using it awhile the speed disappeared.

Now I have that speed back! Mac OS 8.6 makes my iMac more responsive.

More detail

The nice thing is I only had to update one application, Virtual PC. The other applications ran with no problems.

My applications work with no problems. They include: Norton Utilities 4.0, Norton AntiVirus 5.0, PageMill 2.0, SiteMill 2.0, Microsoft Office 98 Macintosh Edition, PhotoShop LE, Presto! PageManager, Umax VistaScan, PhotoDeluxe 1.1, Netscape Navigator 4.0, Internet Explorer 4.0, Outlook Express, ClarisWorks 5, Spring Cleaning 2.0, Disk Doubler 4.0, Timbuktu Pro 4.0, Lords of the Realm II, PageTools and PageMaker 6.5.

What's Cool!

The installation worked flawlessly. It preserved my settings in the Control Panel, my preferences and my Internet setup.

New toys to play with:

- * Sherlock - The ultimate search tool! Make sure you visit Apple's site of Sherlock! Updated to handle PDF and HTML files.

- * AppleScript - Finally native for Power PC Macintoshes! Speed and more speed now. Also lets you include the Internet in your scripts, makes the Internet a part of your system.

Ok almost...

Plus the added features in Mac OS 8.5.

The bottom line

This upgrade fixed done of the not so nice things Mac OS 8.5 did after using it for a while. These included sudden lockups when the CPU was busy doing something else. The iMac really did not lockup, it just seemed to. This happens when I have 5-9 applications open at once. (My Virtual Memory was set to 65MB with 64MB of real RAM installed.)

I can say, get this free upgrade. If you want a CD it will cost you one coupon (I know the first iMac adopters received three Apple upgrade coupons, I am not sure about the Revision B, C or D owners.)

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