



# The GAB'er

The Newsletter of the Greater Albany Apple Byters

Volume 30, Number 8 - April 2014

## iTunes Store Tops ForeSee Survey for Video Streaming Satisfaction

by Steven Sande, tuaw.com

Analytics firm ForeSee's recent [Mobile Satisfaction Index: Media and Entertainment Edition](#) has a nice plum for Apple: the firm's survey of customers found that iTunes scored the highest in terms of satisfaction, beating out HBO GO, Netflix, Amazon Instant Video and Hulu Plus.

Streaming TV and Movies	Satisfaction
Average	78
iTunes	80
HBO GO	79
Netflix	79
Amazon Instant Video	78
Crackle	75
Hulu Plus	75

As ForeSee points out, iTunes uses a "slightly different model than its streaming counterparts," actually requiring iTunes customers to download the content prior to viewing. The survey notes that this eliminates the performance issues seen with competing services, which are often plagued with error messages or playback problems, particularly when streaming on public WiFi systems.

iTunes managed a satisfaction score of 80, with HBO GO and Netflix close behind at 79. The average of all of the services surveyed was 78, meaning that for the most part consumers are fairly happy with streaming media.

## April 2014 GAAB Meeting

This month we will be Tuesday, March 11, 2014. We will discuss using tables in Pages and Microsoft Word,.

**Meeting: April 8, 2014  
7:00 PM**

**Panera Bread  
161 Washington Ave Ext, Albany, NY**

A map can be found at the GAAB website at [http://applebyters.com/index.php/meeting-information/meeting\\_map/](http://applebyters.com/index.php/meeting-information/meeting_map/)



### GAAB Meeting Agenda

- Greetings and Dinner
- Discussion: Using Tables in Pages and MS Word
- News from Apple including Updates
- GAAB Help Desk: Bring your questions to the meeting

**Next GAAB Meeting  
April 8, 2014**

**Using Tables in Pages/Word  
7:00 p.m.**

**Panera Bread  
Crossgates Common, Albany**

**Featured in this Issue**

- iTunes Video Streaming Satisfaction ..... 1
- Apple Ambassador ..... 2
- Internet SIG ..... 3
- Education SIG ..... 4
- Tips to Speed Up Mavericks OSX ..... 8
- Find Wi-Fi Connection Speed ..... 11
- GAAB Internet Addresses ..... 12

The Greater Albany Apple Byters is an Apple Computer User Group. Meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month (except July and August) in Room 212 of Troy High School, located on Burdett Avenue, Troy, NY.

Annual membership fee is \$10.00. Membership privileges include this newsletter, access to a large public domain software and video/audio tape library, local vendor discounts, special interest groups, and other special offers.

Contents of The GAB'er are copywritten, all rights reserved. Original articles may be reprinted by not-for-profit organizations, provided that proper credit is given to the author, The GAB'er, and a copy of the publication sent to The GAB'er editor.

The views expressed herein are the sole responsibility of each author, and do not necessarily represent the views of the Greater Albany Apple Byters.

Note: Trademarks used in this newsletter are recognized as trademarks of the representative companies.

#### Officers & Special Interest Group Leaders

Program Coordinator  
John Buckley  
272-7128

Membership Director  
Cecilia MacDonald  
872-0823

Treasurer  
Cecilia MacDonald  
872-0823

Public Domain Librarian  
Bill Shuff  
393-9753

Newsletter Editor  
Roger Mazula  
466-7492

Education SIG  
John Buckley  
272-7128

Internet SIG  
Lou Wozniak  
465-2873



## Apple Ambassador

by John Buckley

One of the great e-mails I get almost everyday is [MakeUseOf](#) which has a number of useful tips for computer users and especially Mac Users. The following is about a nice little app that can make you life a lot easier.

### Use SaneDesk To Make Your Mac Desktop Productive Again

by Tim Brookes, [MakeUseOf](#)

Do you have a desktop cluttered with screenshots, folders vaguely named "work stuff" and seemingly no order to the clutter? [SaneDesk](#) (\$17.99) exists to restore this lost level of sanity to your Mac's desktop, in stunningly simple fashion.



By simply organising those icons by purpose into specific workspaces you can vastly increase your productivity by hiding distractions and ensuring relevant documents are nearby when you need them the most. At just short of \$20 (**Download:** [SaneDesk 2.0](#) (\$17.99) it's not going to break the bank, and you can even [download a free trial version](#) to try before you buy.

#### How It Works

Now on its second version, SaneDesk is a visual organizational aid. All it really does is organize your desktop (and it doesn't even do it for you) but the end result can really help those of you who find yourselves staring at a screen full of icons that have no order whatsoever.

Once installed SaneDesk creates four separate workspaces, the default of which is "Primary Workspace" and is where all of your icons are sent for organisation. An icon will

*Continued on page 7.*





Breaking news such as the massive data breach at Experian or Target now seems common. Leaving aside the victims of actual fraud, I hear constantly from people who've had to swap out every debit and credit card, or whose cards were unilaterally replaced by their bank. This causes all sorts of problems.

Sometimes it makes you long for the days of cash. While cash is not practical for everything, there are very compelling reasons to consider it or other alternatives instead of those debit cards.

Of course, you also have to watch where you get your cash, too. Criminals are good at installing near-invisible skimmers on ATMs. These steal your card information and then a miniature camera over the keypad steals your PIN. It's everything a thief needs to drain your account.

Avoid out of the way ATMs in isolated areas. When you can, use ATMs in a restricted-access foyer. You should also hold your hand over the keypad when you enter your PIN. This blocks a camera from seeing what you're doing. [Click here to watch this simple trick.](#)

Now that you know how to safely get cash, here's where you should use it.

### 1. Gas Stations

ATMs aren't the only places criminals can install card skimmers. Gas stations are a favorite target for thieves. Last year, four men were arrested for allegedly stealing \$2.1 million using skimmers at gas stations in the south. The skimmers were installed in the pumps and were even equipped with Bluetooth – which allowed the thieves to come by and extract the collected numbers and PINs wirelessly!

To keep the odds in your favor, use cash. If nothing else, use a credit card at a gas pump. It's not widely appreciated that consumer responsibility for debit-card charges are different than they are for credit cards. Credit-card charges are easier to contest, and you're only liable for up to \$50 of fraudulent purchases.

With a debit card, you have to report a fraudulent purchase within a few business days for the \$50 liability limit to kick in. Speaking of gas, [whether you're using cash or credit, click here for the best apps that help you spend less at the pump.](#)

### 2. Restaurants

Restaurants, too, can be a source of trouble. Some unscrupulous servers bring handheld card skimmers to work to swipe your card info. Even low-tech thieves can just write down the card numbers.

To make matters worse, many restaurants use older computer systems for processing cards. These are easy for hackers to install card-swipe software, as in the Target hack. The price paid can be quite high; Subway got hit in 2011 by Romanian hackers, who got away with \$10 million from 150 restaurants.

One of the lesser noted aspects about the coming end to Microsoft's XP operating system is that many restaurants and ATMs still use the XP infrastructure. [Click here to learn more about preparing for Windows XP's end of life.](#)

### 3. Stores

Restaurants and gas stations make juicy targets: a steady stream of customers, some not from the area. The same goes for stores.

*Continued on page 6.*





## Education SIG

### eSN Special Report: Closing Gaps Early from [eschoolnews.com](http://eschoolnews.com)

*As more students enter kindergarten already behind their peers, closing these gaps quickly is critical to their success. Here's how software can help*

Located in Marion County, a rural area of north central Florida, the town of Weirsdale doesn't offer many opportunities for preschool education. The median family income in the county is around \$37,000, or \$12,000 less than the state average, and about one in 10 families lives below the poverty line.

As a result, many children are starting their formal education already well behind where they should be, according to the Florida Kindergarten Readiness Screener (FLKRS, or "flickers" as it's known to the state's teachers). In fact, some students enter kindergarten not knowing any letters or sounds, said Chris Sandy, principal of Stanton-Weirsdale Elementary School.

"It's amazing to me that a child can walk in the door and not even know the letter 'M' for McDonald's," Sandy said, noting that the normally ubiquitous fast-food chain hardly exists in her community. The staff at Sandy's school work tirelessly to get these students up to speed as quickly as possible, using a combination of software and other supports. A central component of their efforts is the Waterford Early Learning program from the nonprofit [Waterford Institute](http://WaterfordInstitute.com). "It's a full-court press to close those gaps and give students a chance at a high-quality education," she says. But these efforts are paying off, as Sandy says all of her students are functioning at or near grade level when they leave kindergarten. The challenges facing Stanton-Weirsdale are common to many elementary schools nationwide, as the number of children arriving for kindergarten already behind their peers is on the rise. Successful readers have had about 3,000 hours of pre-literacy training by the time they reach first grade, wrote Marilyn Jager Adams in her 1990 book *Beginning to Read*. But children who come from poorer, less educated families have had between 20 and 200 hours, on average, because they have not been read to as often—and their homes aren't as rich in verbal communication. At best, that's only about 7 percent of what they need, Adams warned.

If these gaps aren't closed early on in a child's education, they will only get worse. That's a tall order facing the nation's early childhood educators; but fortunately, software such as Waterford and other early learning programs can help. In this Special Report, we'll take a closer look at how some schools are succeeding at closing learning gaps early.



#### **Form a plan—and stick to it with fidelity**

The students who attend El Paso Independent School District in Texas are predominantly Hispanic and come from low-income households.

Pam Howard, a former principal who is now the assistant superintendent of special education for El Paso ISD, said the district's students often enter

kindergarten without much background knowledge or vocabulary in English, which makes it hard for them to comprehend their lessons. "The only time [many of] these kids hear English spoken is at school," Howard said. Yet, "research suggests that if a child isn't on grade level by second grade, it's almost impossible to catch up after that." To help these students succeed, El Paso elementary schools focus on providing a language-rich environment that includes plenty of oral reading. "As a principal, I required teachers to do three read-alouds a day," Howard said. In addition, El Paso schools incorporate lots of music into the curriculum, because this "enhances students' ability to learn the language," she said. The rhyming and rhythm of the songs "helps kids develop patterns of speech."

As principal of El Paso's Burleson Elementary School, Howard used a software program called [Lexia Reading](http://Lexia.com) to help her students learn to read English at grade level. She now uses the software with the district's special-education students as well. Lexia Reading Core5 provides adaptive, personalized reading instruction for students of all abilities in pre-kindergarten through grade 5. It also supplies norm-referenced performance data and analysis



to teachers, without interrupting the flow of instruction to administer a test.

Students are placed at the proper level automatically and work independently—via a web browser, desktop client, or iPad app—to develop their foundational reading skills. Free school-to-home access allows students to continue their work at home, in extended-day programs, or in libraries and other community centers.

Struggling readers typically use the software for 20 minutes a day, five days a week, Howard said—but the software tells teachers exactly how much time each child needs to use it in order to become proficient.

In 2007-08, Burlison Elementary was rated barely “academically acceptable” by the state. The following year, Howard became the principal there—and from 2008 through 2011, Burlison was a “TEA recognized” school, with a 95-percent pass rate on the state reading test.

As a district, Howard said, El Paso ISD’s English language proficiency has risen from less than 60 percent in 2010 to nearly 80 percent in 2012.

“Anything you do with oral language, you have to do with fidelity,” she advised. “You have to have a plan, and you have to do it well.”

### **Avoiding the ‘Matthew effect’**

There are about 3,200 kindergarten students in Marion County, Fla.—and each year, more than 200 of these children would arrive at school without knowing any letters or sounds, Sandy said.

“We had to do something,” she said. “We had to provide for these kids, as quickly as we could, experiences that could help close those gaps.”

Sandy was the executive director of elementary education for Marion County when she led the implementation of Waterford Early Learning throughout the district’s elementary schools. Now, as principal of Stanton-Weirsdale Elementary School, she says she can see the software “impacting kids’ lives from a day-to-day perspective.”

The research-based software is a computer-adaptive program that teaches reading, math, and science to students in pre-kindergarten through second grade. Children can work through the software independently, so it can be used either at home or at school, said Benjamin Heuston, president of the Waterford Institute.

The program uses music, animation, games, and other interactive elements that can draw students in—but “we do so in a thoughtful and developmentally appropriate way,” Heuston said. He added: “We’ve found that kids are using our software in their home setting 50 percent more than we’re asking them to; that’s a signal to us that we’re on the right track with the engagement piece.”

Closing gaps early on is critical to a child’s development, Heuston said, because “children who can’t read fail publicly in front of their peers and their teacher ... 180 days of the year.” They start to believe that reading is something they can’t do. But it doesn’t mean they can’t read, he said; it simply means “they haven’t had the support they need to be successful.”

The psychologist Keith Stanovich has argued that children often follow a self-reinforcing path when they’re learning to read, Heuston said. Those who experience success early on develop confidence, which motivates them to work even harder—while those who struggle tend to shy away from reading, which further compounds the problem. Stanovich called this the “Matthew effect,” and if it’s true, then “getting started on the right path becomes a determinant to a child’s success,” Heuston said. Waterford Early Learning is designed to take a child from having no language experience to becoming an independent reader. “We found that took about three years of content to accomplish,” Heuston said. The software’s makers recommend that students use it for about 15 minutes a day in pre-kindergarten or kindergarten, and 30 minutes a day for grades 1 and 2. As a student works through the program, it “builds a model for that child, remediating on areas that are needed while progressing quickly through areas being mastered,” he said.

### **Keys to Stanton-Weirsdale’s success**

At Stanton-Weirsdale Elementary, success begins with “high-quality teachers,” Sandy said. The school supplies all kindergarten teachers with a paraprofessional for at least 45 minutes a day, and “we bring in as many volunteers as we can to add to that base,” she said. Teachers use Houghton Mifflin Harcourt’s Saxon Phonics as their core reading curriculum, and they supplement this instruction with the Waterford Early Learning program. “I am such a believer in computer-assisted instruction,” Sandy said. “The students average 14 minutes a day on the software, but it varies based on what they need.” Every kindergarten classroom in Sandy’s school has five computers. Because the largest class size is 22 students, “we can easily get kids on the software in the morning through a rotation on the computers,” Sandy said. “Then, in the afternoon, we can offer a second rotation for the students who need it.”



Sandy attributed her school's success in closing gaps early to four main factors:

**(1) The program's scope and sequence.** In evaluating the Waterford Early Learning software for use in her school, Sandy said she asked this key question: "If my students spend time on this program, will they master the skills they need?" The answer, she said, was a resounding "yes."

**(2) Fidelity of implementation.** To close early learning gaps and get all students reading on grade level, the software has to be used with fidelity. Sandy said she looked at how much time it would require each day, then asked: "Could we make that work in our classrooms?" Again, the answer was yes.

**(3) Teacher support and buy-in.** Stanton-Weirsdale Elementary School has a reading coach on campus, and this person has helped with implementation of the software—guiding both teachers and students. In addition, district officials make sure the software is working every day. That's not hard to do, Sandy said, because "it's very consistent—you can count on it every day." These two factors have helped ensure teacher buy-in, she added.

**(4) Monitoring of the data.** Waterford Early Learning includes a full suite of reporting and analytics tools for teachers and administrators, and that's extremely important, Sandy said. "I dog the data," she said, explaining that she monitors students' progress on the software every day. "If you don't do this, the program fades." But if you follow all these recommendations, "kids will make progress—even without having attended a preschool program," Sandy asserted. For proof, she pointed to her school's results. Although Stanton-Weirsdale is at or near the bottom among Marion County's 31 elementary schools in terms of the FLKRS scores of its incoming kindergarteners, the scores of children leaving kindergarten meet or exceed the district's average. "This is what we do here on campus, and it works," Sandy said.

Article printed from eSchool News: <http://www.eschoolnews.com> URL to article: <http://www.eschoolnews.com/2014/01/06/closing-gaps-early-113/>

## Internet SIG

*Continued from page 3.*

For small purchases cash is the way to go. Use cash at the grocery store or while buying clothes. For larger purchases, use a credit card instead of a debit card. Again, you have less liability than you do with a debit card.

Bonus tip: Some people use cash at stores to avoid the store tracking what they buy. However, stores can still track your purchase history if you still swipe a loyalty card. [Click here to learn how stores spy on you through your purchases.](#)

### 4. Online

OK, you can't use cash online. But please, use a credit card, not a debit card. The fraud protections are better and a hacker can't overdraft your bank account with a credit card. You don't need to be fighting overdraft fees on top of everything else.

You can also check with your bank to see if it offers one-time credit card numbers for online buying. Since each number only works once, it won't do a hacker any good to steal it.

Of course, one drawback to using a credit card is the interest payments if you don't pay on time. [This site can show you the real cost of using a credit card.](#)

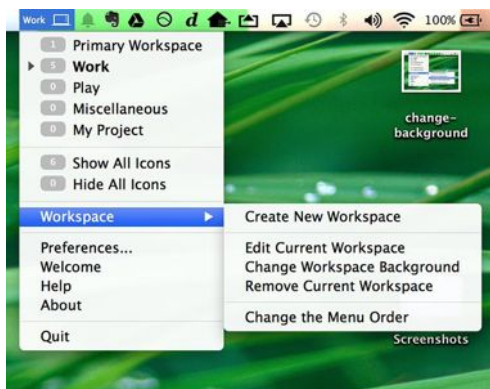
Finally, I know this is a lot of work, particularly when it seems that everyone is busy and overworked; but remember as well to check your bank statements, and credit reports, regularly for suspicious activity.



## Apple Ambassador

*Continued from page 2.*

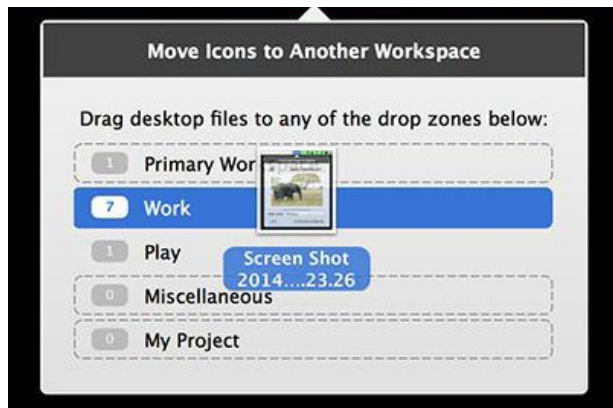
appear in your Mac's menu bar, and when clicked you'll see three more workspaces to choose from: Work, Play and Miscellaneous.



At this stage it's worth noting that SaneDesk doesn't move, delete or change your files in any way – they can still be found on your Mac's desktop, regardless of which workspace you're currently using. All SaneDesk really does is hide the right icons at the right time, in accordance with your own rules.

Everything is customizable, so you can rename, delete and create workspaces to your heart's content. Icons can be sent to other workplaces by selecting and dragging into the menubar, a particularly easy and quick way of organizing everything. Once you've set it up, all you have to do is maintain your own rules – something not even the developers can help you with.

You can create workspaces for work, workspaces for individual projects or a zen workspace that contains no icons whatsoever – it's up to you.



### The Problems It Solves

An app like SaneDesk has a few clearly visible advantages, starting with the issue of productivity. It simply isn't productive to have a big mess of icons staring you in the face – a small mess of relevant icons and organized folders is much better. Out of the box, SaneDesk gives you a blank slate.

As a writer I take a lot of screenshots, which leads to the inevitable mess of a desktop as .PNG files build up beneath browser windows and the like. I will often delete these screenshots en masse, and SaneDesk helps ensure I've not left any personal things I'd like to keep on my desktop before I wipe the slate clean again.

If you're worried about switching workspaces, then don't be. By choosing Edit Workspace from the menu, you can assign a keyboard shortcut to each workspace and switch to it instantly. There are also shortcut options for other actions including hiding and showing all icons and deleting or creating workspaces themselves.

In order to keep track of where you are, it's also possible to check the Handle Background option under Preferences and assign an individual background to each workspace. All that's left is to break out the motivational wallpapers!

### Alternatives

From what I've seen, there's very little in the way of direct competition. Similar apps exist, but nothing that quite matches what SaneDesk offers. [Hyperspaces](#) (formerly paid, now free) would be one alternative, but it won't run on any version of Mac OS X older than 10.6. [Desktop Groups](#) (\$9.99) can help organize, but doesn't use separate workspaces.

From what I can tell, SaneDesk is pretty unique – though I personally think somewhere closer to the \$10 mark would be a more appropriate price point.

### A Productive Tweak

SaneDesk doesn't so much as add functionality to your Mac, but take it away. That's not necessarily a bad thing – it's used to streamline your workflow by focusing your mind on the task at hand. If you find that hiding distractions and increased productivity go hand in hand, and you rely on the OS X desktop a lot of the time, SaneDesk 2.0 might be just what you're looking for.



## 10 Tips to Speed Up OS X Mavericks from AppleGazette.com

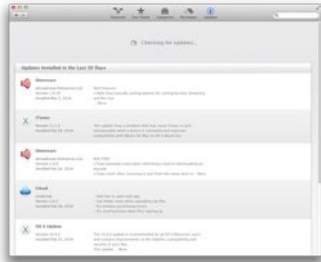


OS X Mavericks is a lean, mean, Mac-running machine, and while it's been optimized to work as well as possible with a variety of Macs, sometimes things get slow and need a little TLC to get back to full performance.

Whether you recently updated to Mavericks, bought a new Mac with Mavericks pre-installed, or did a completely fresh install of Mavericks, the tips below will help you get your Mac running as fast as possible and do away with any issues that might be getting your Mac down. Check out these 10 tips to speed up OS X Mavericks and if you have your own, leave them in the comments below.

**Warning:** Before trying ANY of the tips below, make sure your Mac is fully backed up, ideally with Time Machine.

### 1. Update, Update, Update



Keeping your Mac and the apps on it up to date is one of the most important ways to keep your Mac running fast and smooth. There will always be software glitches, many of which cause undue lag on your system. Fixing these with updates is the quickest way to make sure your issues aren't coming from old software.

To check for Updates to OS X as well as apps you've downloaded from the Mac App Store, click on the Apple icon in the upper left corner of the menu bar and choose **Software Update**. This will open up the Mac App Store and check for updates. As for software that isn't from the Mac App Store, check for updates every one to two weeks, even if they are set to automatically update.

### 2. Restart



Once all of your software is up to date, a good restart will fix the majority of speed issues. Many of us leave our Macs on for long periods of time, and even though it shouldn't, sometimes memory becomes a little clogged and needs a good restart.

If a restart doesn't fix things, restart your Mac again but this time hold down the Command + R keys during the initial boot. This will launch recovery mode and allow you to run Disk Utility as well as repairing disk permissions outside of OS X.

### 3. Rebuild Spotlight



Spotlight works by keeping a database of every file on your Mac, making them easily searchable. If you've done major changes or updates to your Mac, Spotlight will rebuild that database, causing your Mac to run slowly until it is completed.

To check if Spotlight is currently indexing, click on Spotlight in the menu bar. It will tell you if any indexing is currently going on.

### 4. Check Activity Monitor

The Activity Monitor is a great way to see what's going on in your Mac. From CPU usage to allocated Memory, if there's a speed issue on your Mac, Activity Monitor will see it.





me	%CPU	CPU Time	Threads	Idle Wake Ups	PID	User
igle Chrome Helper	9.1	1:19.15	66	234	35293	caprica
idowServer	7.4	2:15:24.11	6	32	127	_window
igle Chrome Helper	4.3	25.41	15	29	35496	caprica
net_bask	4.2	3:20:14.57	1027	436	0	root
igle Chrome Helper	3.6	5:52.43	20	114	35146	caprica
mssoft Word	3.5	18:34.18	6	18	3546	caprica
igle Chrome Helper	3.3	36.38	15	37	35368	caprica
ivity Monitor	2.6	0.88	5	2	35510	caprica
mail	2.2	52:13.85	29	3	39319	caprica
igle Chrome Helper	2.1	1:32.90	17	29	35373	caprica
igle Chrome Helper	1.7	33:50.89	4	0	3409	caprica
igle Chrome	1.7	1:58:30.87	58	54	3406	caprica
rtshop	1.2	41:54.57	43	38	24963	caprica
netbot	0.6	9:59:91	13	0	24262	caprica
navant.MacAvant.MAD	0.6	3:42.42	19	72	34515	root

System:	3.12 %	CPU LOAD:	Threads:	1462
User:	4.08 %		Processes:	234
Idle:	92.80 %			

Activity Monitor is found in **Applications > Utilities > Activity Monitor**. Click on the tabs at the top to navigate between the various views. You should easily see what the culprit is that's slowing your Mac down.

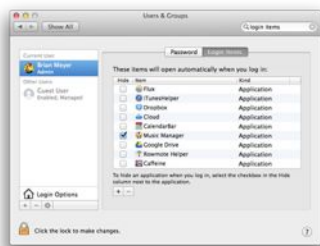
## 5. Close Out of Apps

This is one of the easiest tips in the list, but it's easy to get a few too many apps open at one time without noticing thanks to how OS X shows open apps with only a lit dot. Mavericks made this light a little dimmer so it's even easier to have too many apps open.

Right-click and close out of any apps you don't need open at the time and you'll save a great deal of memory quickly and easily.

## 6. Login Items

As you install apps on your Mac many will want to start up when OS X loads. This can slow your Mac down, especially at startup. Getting rid of startup items can actually be somewhat tricky, as it's easy to interpret them incorrectly.



Open up System Preferences and click on **Users & Groups**. Next, select the user you want to change login items for, then click on Login Items. Every item you see in the list will load every time your Mac turns on, no matter if the box is checked or not. The checkbox is only for whether the item is hidden or not.

To remove Login Items, select them and click the – button at the bottom of the window. Be careful which items you remove, as you might need some and not know it.

## 7. Remove Unnecessary Apps

This is a pretty easy one, too. As time goes on we all install apps that seem great at the moment but we stop using them after a little while. These apps can have background processes running and overall just take up valuable hard drive space.

Uninstall any apps you don't use on a regular basis, making sure to get all the leftover files by using an uninstaller like [AppCleaner](#), or by following [Apple's instructions here](#).

## 8. Tab Out

Every time you open a tab in your Internet browser you use up a little more RAM. So, the more tabs you have open the slower your Mac will be. If you notice a slowdown while you're working you should probably close a few tabs and come back to them later.

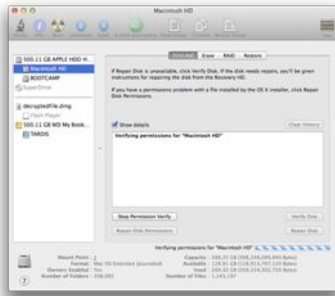
If you're keeping the tabs open for reference later, you should either bookmark them or use Evernote to clip them for later.

## 9. Permissions

Everything on your Mac is controlled by permissions. These work in the background as gatekeepers to stop one app from writing to another, as well as a lot of other reasons. Sometimes permissions can get out of whack, which can slow your Mac down and give you some pretty odd errors.

To repair permissions on your Mac open up Disk Utility by going to **Applications > Utilities > Disk Utility**. Click on **Macintosh HD**, then click **Verify Permissions**. Depending on the size of your drive and what you have installed, this can take up to 30 minutes to verify.





When the verification is complete, you'll see the results. If any permissions are wrong you should next click **Repair Permissions**. As we mentioned in tip #2 above, if you still experience issues with permissions after repairing them here, you should restart in Recovery Mode by holding **Command + R** when restarting and running Disk Utility from there.

## 10. Stop Visual Effects

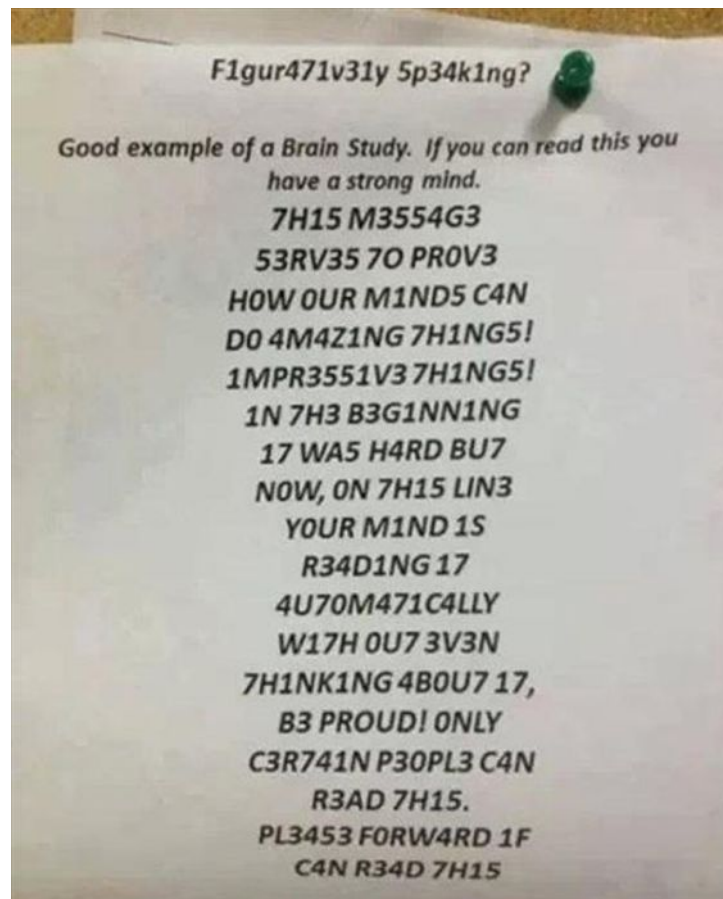
The last stop to speed up your Mac is one you should probably not need to do, but if you're looking for as much speed as possible, it might help. As you should be aware, OS X Mavericks uses quite a few animations to make the OS seem snappy and responsive.



To turn animations off, head over to System Preferences and click on **Dock**. Set **Minimize windows using** from **Genie Effect** to **Scale Effect**. Next, Uncheck **Animate opening applications** and **Magnification**.

While disabling animations is a last resort, you may see some speed increase by doing this.

Hopefully by trying these tips you can fix your OS X Mavericks speed issues and start loving your Mac all over again.



## How to Find Wi-Fi Link Connection Speed in Mac OS X from OSXDaily.com



If you need to find out just how fast your wi-fi link speed is, or rather, the speed of which your Mac is connected to a particular wireless router, you can find this data through the Network Utility app that is bundled in every version of Mac OS X.

This is really the fastest way to determine the link speed of any interface, whether Wi-Fi, ethernet, or otherwise, despite the always handy Network Utility app having been relocated to the depths of a system folder.

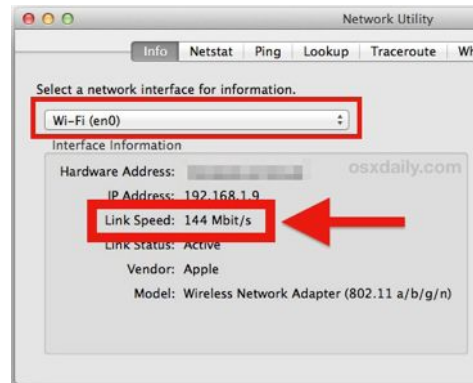
If you plan on getting a lot of use out of this, you may want to [move Network Utility for easy access and usage](#), or just get used to launching it through Spotlight, which we'll show below. There are plenty of reasons this tool is useful to have around and the link speed is good to know, whether it's troubleshooting sluggish wifi connections, [optimizing a network](#), or figuring out if [one channel is better than another](#) for your network to use.

As mentioned already, **this will show the connection speed for any network interface on the Mac, including Wi-Fi** which is what we'll focus on here for this example:

1. Join the wireless router you wish to see the link speed for
2. From anywhere in OS X, hit Command+Spacebar to bring up Spotlight and search for "Network Utility" – then hit the Return key to launch the app



3. Once Network Utility is open, choose the "Info" tab
4. Select the appropriate network interface from the pulldown menu, in this case look for "Wi-Fi" (it may be en0 or en1)
5. Find the active wi-fi connection speed alongside "Link Speed:" it should be listed as megabits per second, for example it may say '300 Mbit/s'



Elsewhere at the same Network Utility panel you'll find details of the interfaces vendor and model, which will show you what protocols are supported by the wi-fi card, whether it's 802.11a, b, g, n, or all of the above. Notably missing is that encryption is not listed within the network details, but you can [find encryption type details elsewhere in OS X rather easily](#) from just about anywhere.

It's important to note this number is the connection link speed, typically signifying the maximum throughput of a particular network interface, and not necessarily the speeds of which you are getting from the internet or network. Accordingly, this is not intended as a method to test the internet connection speed of a computer to the internet in general, and [there are more precise ways to do that, like this one using the command line](#), or by using an app or service like [SpeedTest](#), which is free.



## GAAB Internet Addresses

### Names

### E-Mail Addresses

Aaron Ambrosino.....	aambrosi@mac.com
Gary Blizzard.....	gmbizzard@aol.com
Mark Bogossian.....	mark@castlecomp.com
Steve Bradley.....	ssbradley@adelphia.net
John Buckley.....	jbuckley@nycap.rr.com
Sheldon Carnes.....	sheldoncarnes@hotmail.com
Tina Cook.....	twonotrump@nycap.rr.com
Anthony Eldering.....	tonye11@verizon.net
Trudy Ellis.....	TE52@earthlink.net
Lilajane Frascarelli.....	afrascar@nycap.rr.com
Les Goldstein.....	lgoldst1@nycap.rr.com
Richard Hester.....	hesterfp@capital.net
Ottmar Klaas.....	ottmar.klaas@gmail.com
Michael LaFrank.....	mglafrank@gmail.com
Thomas Levanduski....	msglevnduski@aol.com
Cecilia MacDonald.....	cecilia@midtel.net
Mike Mannarino.....	rfd230@nycap.rr.com
Roger Mazula.....	aluzam@aol.com
Brendan O'Hara.....	bohara1@nycap.rr.com
Eric/Lee Rieker.....	Erieker@aol.com
AbdurRahman Rozell..	aryr100@gmail.com
Judith Schwartz.....	jfschwartz2@earthlink.net
Saul Seinberg.....	saul.seinberg@gmail.com
Bill Shuff.....	wjshuff@earthlink.net
Shelly Weiner.....	olliedawg@yahoo.com
Lou Wozniak.....	louw@nycap.rr.com

*To start or renew your GAAB membership, see Cecilia MacDonald or send your fees payable to her at the following address:*

*Cecilia MacDonald  
260 Sever Road  
Delanson, NY 12053*



*Visit GAAB on the Internet at <http://www.applebyters.com>*

