

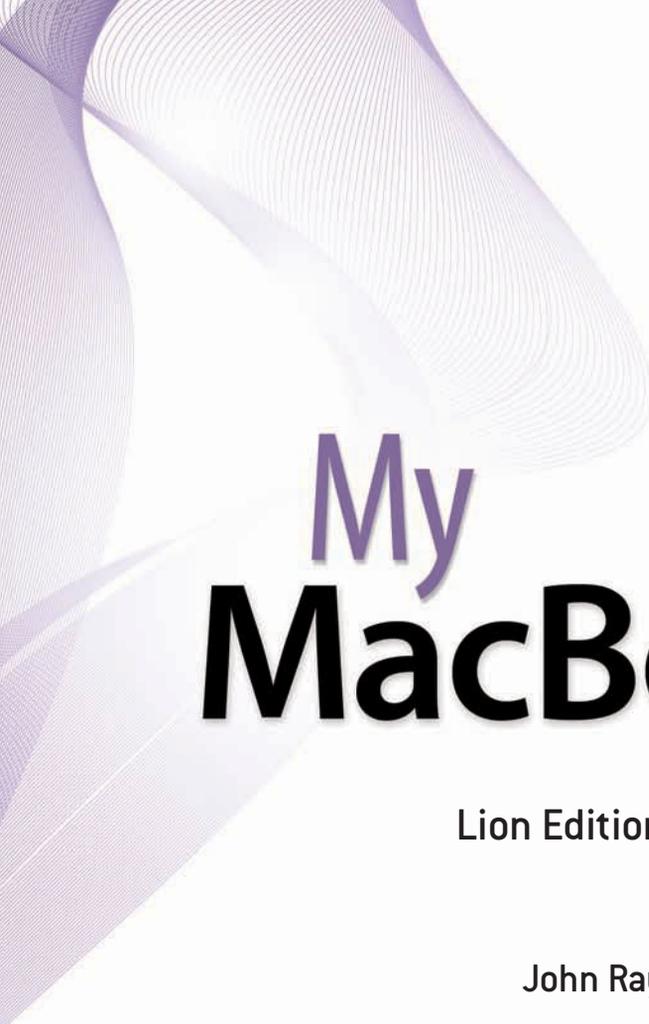
# My MacBook®

LION EDITION



## COVERS

MacBook,  
MacBook Pro,  
and MacBook Air



**My**  
**MacBook®**

Lion Edition

John Ray

**que®**

800 East 96th Street,  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46240 USA

# My MacBook® (Lion Edition)

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ISBN-13: 978-0-7897-4832-4

ISBN-10: 0-7897-4832-0

*Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication data is on file.*

First Printing: September 2011

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## About the Author

**John Ray** is a life-long fan of Apple's products; he has been an avid Mac user since its inception in 1984. He relies on Mac OS X both at work and at home because it is a robust, flexible platform for programming, networking, and design. Over the past 14 years, John has written books on Mac OS X, iPhone development, Adobe Creative Suite, Linux, networking, and computer security. He currently manages the application development team in the Office of Sponsored Programs at The Ohio State University. He lives with his long-time girlfriend, their dogs, a collection of vintage arcade games, and an assortment of tech toys.

## Dedication

*Over the years, I've dedicated books to family, pets, readers, favorite colors, seasonings, and even words. All of these are still important to me, and worthy of dedications, but so is cheese. Therefore, this book is dedicated to pepperjack cheese. You are yummy.*

## Acknowledgments

Many thanks to the group at Que Publishing—Laura Norman and Paul Sihvonon-Binder—for understanding the difficulties of working with beta operating systems and keeping things on track. Special thanks to Nonie Ratcliff for working with hundreds of images and turning them into a layout that works with the text.

Thanks go to my friends and family for dusting me off occasionally while I typed and took screenshots. I promise to shower soon.

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# Prologue

This book explains how to use and configure your MacBook and Lion to create your ideal working environment. Even though you're working with the most intuitive hardware and software platform available, there are still tips and tricks to discover.

Let's take a few minutes to review the hardware capabilities of your system and the prerequisites necessary to successfully use this book.

## Getting to Know the MacBook Hardware

There are currently three different models of the MacBook available— MacBook Pro, MacBook Air, and MacBook. Each model includes a wide array of ports and plugs for connecting to other computers, handheld devices, and peripherals such as printers and external displays. I refer to these hardware options by name throughout the book, so it's a good idea to familiarize yourself with them now.

- **Ethernet**—Ethernet provides high-speed wired network connections. Ethernet offers greater speeds and reliability than wireless service. Your MacBook supports a very fast version of Ethernet—Gigabit Ethernet—that makes it a first-class citizen on any home or corporate network.
- **FireWire 800**—FireWire 800 is a fast peripheral connection standard that is frequently used to connect external storage and video devices.

- **Mini DisplayPort**—The DisplayPort enables you to connect external monitors to your MacBook. Although few monitors support the DisplayPort standard, from Apple you can get adapters for connecting to both VGA and DVI interface standards.
- **Thunderbolt**—The highest speed interconnect available on a personal computer, Thunderbolt allows monitors, storage units, and other devices to be daisy-chained together.
- **USB 2.0**—Universal Serial Bus is a popular peripheral connection standard for everything from mice to scanners to hard drives.
- **SD Card Slot**—SD (Secure Digital) RAM cards are a popular flash RAM format used in many digital cameras. Using the built-in SD RAM slot, you can create a bootable system “disk” that can be used to start your computer in an emergency.
- **Audio In**—A connection for an external microphone.
- **Audio Out**—An output for headphones, speakers, or a home theater/amplifier system.
- **802.11n**—The fastest standard currently available for consumer wireless network connections. Your MacBook’s wireless hardware can connect to any standards-based wireless access point for fast, long-range Internet access.
- **Bluetooth**—Bluetooth is used for connecting peripheral devices wirelessly to your Mac. Unlike 802.11n, Bluetooth has a more limited range, but it is easier to configure and doesn’t require a specialized base station to use.
- **SuperDrive**—An optical drive that can be used to write CDs and DVDs.
- **Express Card**—An expansion card for portable computers, 17" MacBook Pros can take advantage of this flexible standard.



Photo courtesy of Apple.

So, what does your computer have? Apple's MacBook lineup changes throughout the year, so your features will depend on the model and the date it was made. Be sure to consult your owner's manual for a definitive description of what is included in your system.

## The Built-In Battery

Looking for a way to remove your battery? Apple eliminated user-serviceable batteries from the MacBook line. This means that you now get a higher-capacity battery with a longer run-time, but, in the event of a failure, you can't replace it yourself.

To replace the battery, you need to visit your local Apple store or registered service center. The battery can be replaced in the store, while you wait, for approximately \$130.

## Special Keyboard Keys

Take a look across the top of your keyboard. Notice that even though there are "F" (function) designations on the keys, there are also little icons. The keys marked with icons provide system-wide control over important Lion features.

- **F1, F2**—Dim and brighten the display, respectively
- **F3**—Starts Exposé and displays all application windows
- **F4**—Opens the Snow Leopard Dashboard
- **F7, F8, F9**—Rewind, Play, and Fast Forward during media playback
- **F10, F11, F12**—Mute, Decrease, and Increase Volume

The Eject key is located in the farthest-right corner of the keyboard and is used to eject any media in your MacBook's SuperDrive.

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## Accessing the Function Keys

If you are using an application that requires you to press a Function key, hold down the Fn button in the lower-left corner of the keyboard and then push the required function key.

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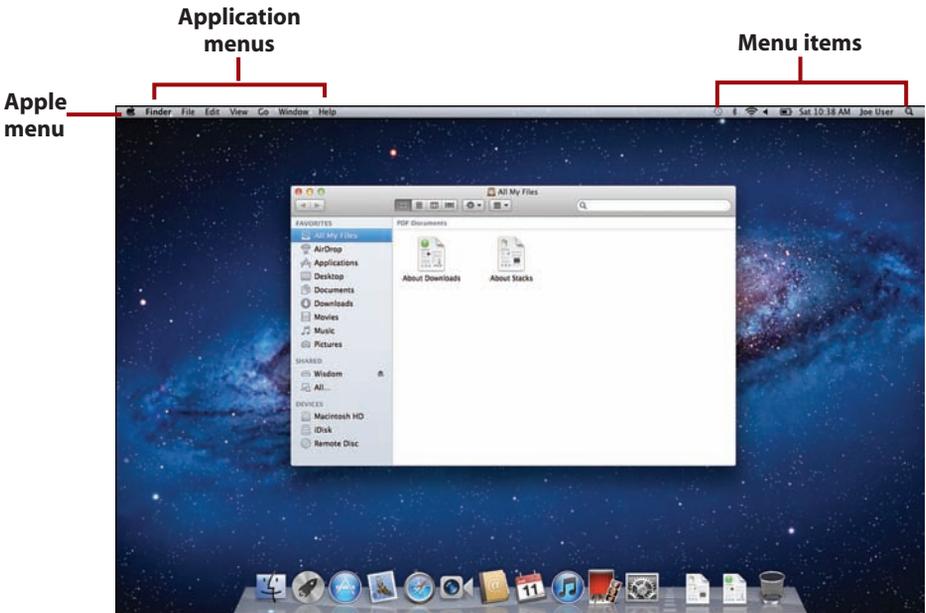
# What You Need to Know

If you're holding this book in your hand, you can see that it contains a few hundred pages packed with information about using your MacBook with Lion. You might also notice books dedicated to the same topic and sitting on the same shelf at the bookstore that include a thousand pages or more! So what's the difference?

*My MacBook* doesn't cover the basics of using a computer; you already know how to drag windows around the screen and move files by dragging them from folder to folder. If you're switching from Windows, however, you might encounter a few unique features of Mac OS X. Review these features in the next few sections.

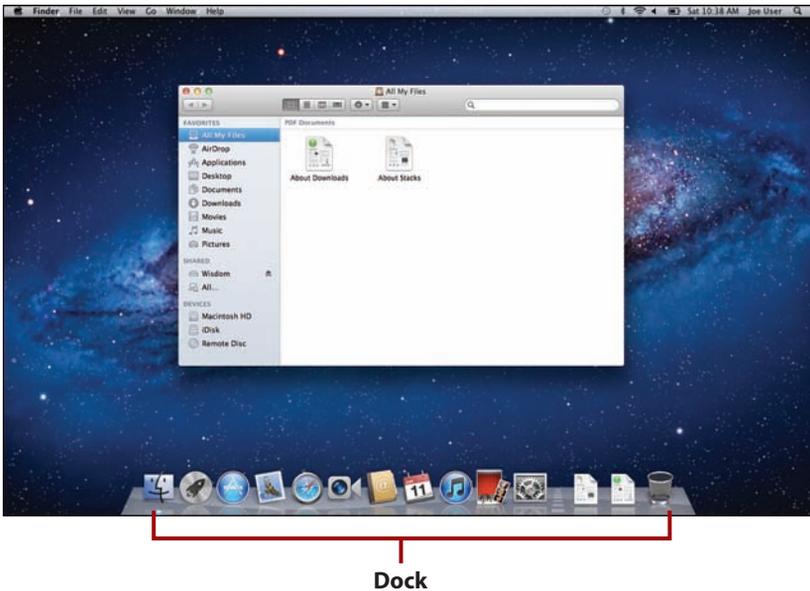
## The Menu Bar

The menu bar is universally accessible across all running applications and contains a combination of the Apple menu, which is used for accessing common system functions; the active application's menus; and menu items, which are global utilities for controlling and monitoring system functions.



## The Dock

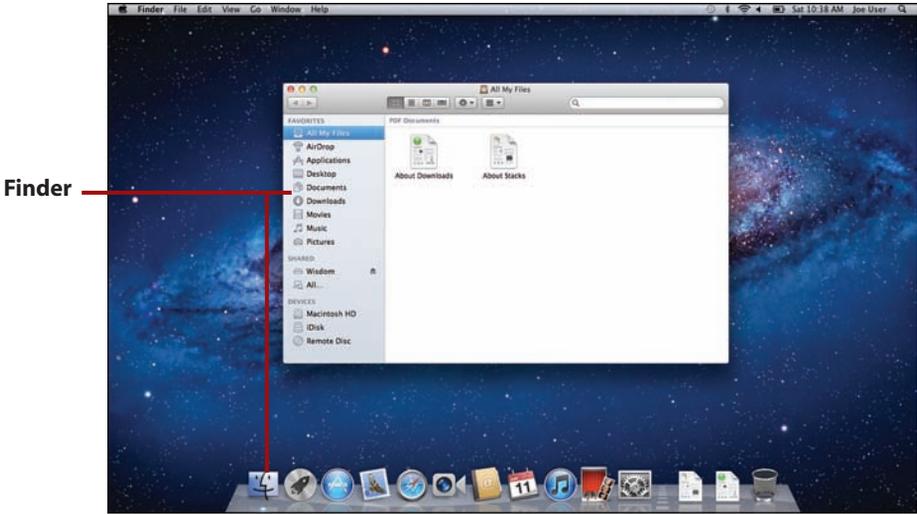
The Lion Dock is the starting point for many of your actions when using the MacBook. Part application launcher, part file manager, and part window manager, the Dock gives you quick access to your most frequently used applications and documents without requiring that you navigate the Finder to find things on your hard drive.



## The Finder

In Windows, Explorer provides many of your file-management needs. In Mac OS X, you work with files within an ever-present application called Finder. The Finder is started as soon as you log into your computer and continues to run until you log out.

To switch to the Finder at any time, you click the blue smiling icon at the left end of the Dock.



## System Preferences

Many features that this book explains how to configure require you to access the Lion System Preferences. The System Preferences application (accessible from the Dock or the Apple menu) is the central hub for system configuration. Everything from setting your password to choosing a screen saver can be found in the System Preferences application.

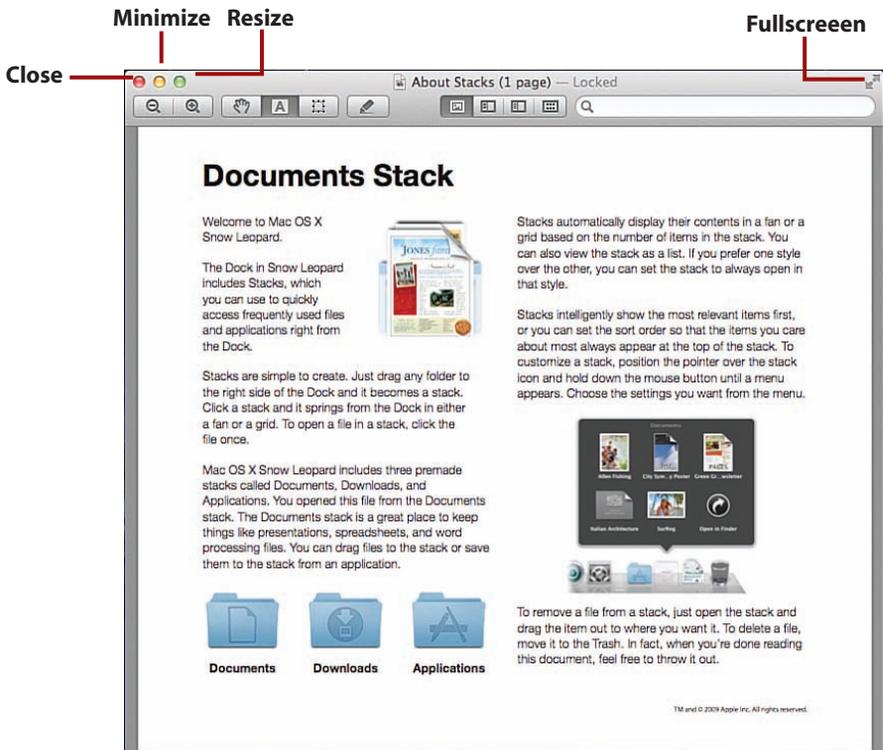
**System Preferences**



## Window Controls

Lion provides up to four controls at the top of each window. On the left: close, minimize, and resize. The close control shuts the window; minimize slides the window off the screen and into the Dock; and resize changes the size of the window to best fit the content being displayed.

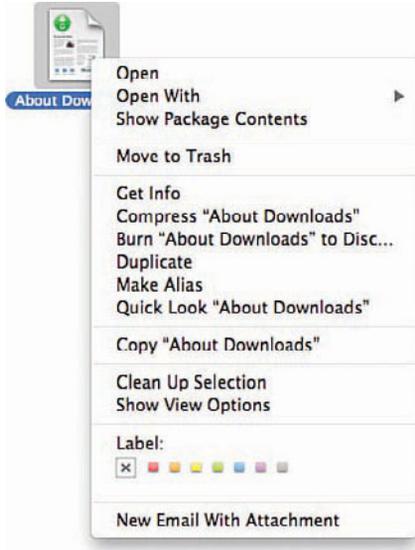
On the right side of the window is the fullscreen control. Clicking the fullscreen control switches an app to fullscreen if available. You might not expect it, but fullscreen applications on Lion can take on a completely different appearance from their windowed selves.



## Contextual Menus

If you're new to Mac OS X, you might find it hard to believe that, yes, the Mac has a "right-click" menu in its operating system and it's been there for a long time! Contextual menus can be invoked by right-clicking using a multi-button mouse, Control-clicking with your trackpad, or click in the lower-right corner of the trackpad.

Contextual menus are rarely *required* in any application, but they can give you quick access to features that might otherwise take more clicks.



>>> Go Further

## GESTURES

Although your MacBook trackpad does not have two buttons, you can open a contextual menu by clicking in the lower-right corner of the trackpad. This is made possible by the use of *gestures*, our last primary differentiating feature.

## Gestures

Gestures are motions that you can make on your trackpad to control your computer. In Lion, gestures are used heavily to navigate between applications and access special features. Gestures can help you navigate web pages, resize

images, and much more (such as launching Mission Control, seen here)—with just your fingertips. In fact, without gestures, you'll likely miss out on all Lion has to offer.

## Windows Compatibility

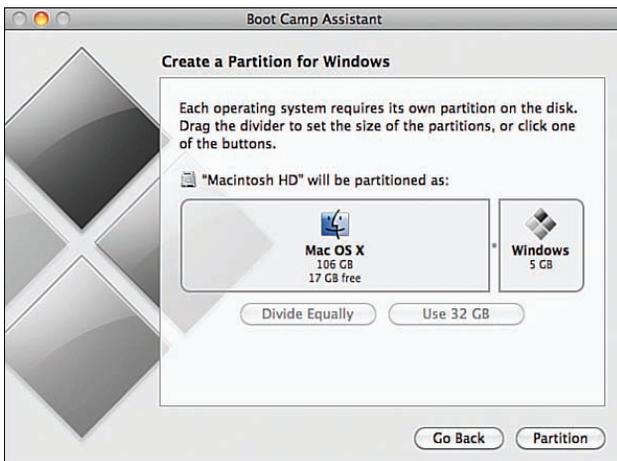
If you have a MacBook, you have a powerful Intel-based computer in your hands—a computer that is completely capable of natively running the Windows operating system. The goal of this book is to make you comfortable using your MacBook with Lion, but I'd be remiss in my authoring duties if I didn't mention the options available for running Windows on your hardware.

### Boot Camp

Boot Camp is included with Lion and gives you the ability to install and boot Windows directly on your MacBook. Quite simply, when you do this your Mac *becomes* a Windows computer. Switching between Lion and Windows requires a reboot, so this option is best if you need to work in Windows for extended periods of time.

Apple's Boot Camp Assistant (found in the Utilities folder within the Applications folder) guides you through the process of partitioning your MacBook for Windows and burning a CD of drivers for windows, and configuring your system to boot into Windows or Mac OS X.

Boot Camp can be installed at any time as long as there is enough room (about 5GB) for a Windows installation.



## Virtualization

Another solution to the Windows-compatibility conundrum is the use of virtualization software. Through virtualization, you can run Windows at near-native speeds at the same time you run Lion. Some virtualization solutions even go so far as to mix Mac and Windows applications on the same screen, blurring the lines of operating systems.



Unlike Boot Camp, virtualization runs operating systems simultaneously. Virtualization requires more resources and has lower performance than a Boot Camp solution, but it is more convenient for running an occasional application or game.

There are three options you should consider for virtualizing Windows on your MacBook:

1. **VMWare Fusion** ([www.vmware.com](http://www.vmware.com))—A stable solution from a leader in virtualization software. VMWare Fusion is rock solid and fully compatible with a wide range of virtual “appliances” available for VMWare on Windows.
2. **Parallels Desktop** ([www.parallels.com](http://www.parallels.com))—Parallels Desktop has the widest range of features available of any virtualization solution for Mac OS X, including near seamless integration with Snow Leopard.

- 3. VirtualBox** ([www.virtualbox.org](http://www.virtualbox.org))—Free virtualization software that offers many of the same features of VMWare and Parallels. VirtualBox is not as polished as the commercial solutions, but it's well supported and has excellent performance.

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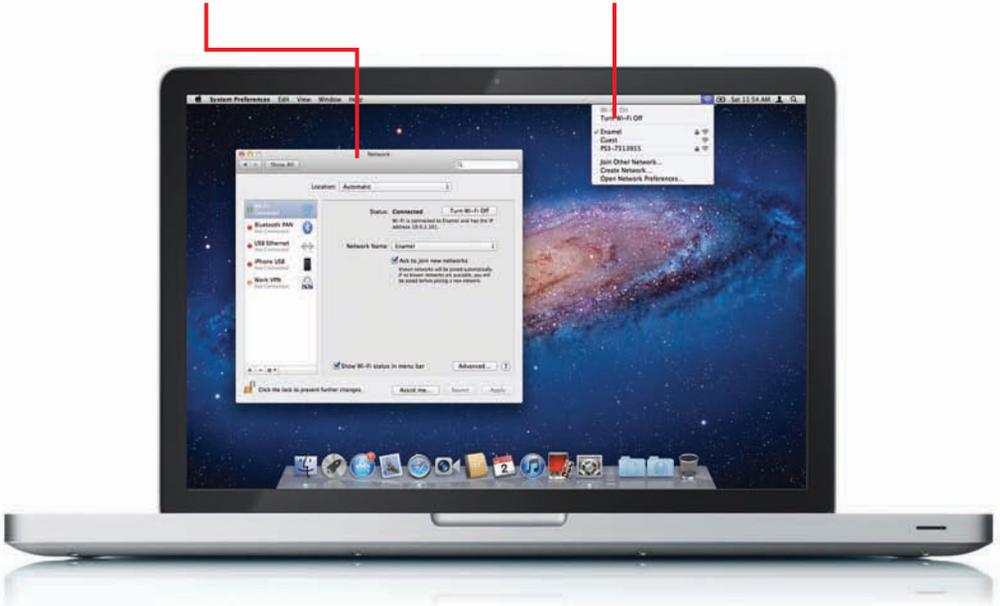
## Other Operating Systems

Virtualization isn't limited to running Windows. You can also run other operating systems, such as Linux and Solaris, using any of these solutions. In fact, if you have enough memory, you can run two, three, or more operating systems simultaneously!

---

Configure and control your MacBook network interfaces in the Network System Preferences panel.

Use the Wi-Fi status menu to find and join wireless networks.



In this chapter, you'll learn how to get your MacBook online including tasks like:

---

- Connecting to wired networks
- Connecting to secure wireless networks
- Configuring network address, DNS, and routing information
- Verifying network connections
- Tethering to an iPhone
- Using WWAN cards
- Creating VPN connections
- Managing multiple connections with Locations

# 3

## Connecting Your MacBook to a Network

### Introduction

Being connected to a network gives you access to information, files, and services such as email or the web. Your MacBook can keep you connected whenever and wherever you are—from connecting to home and corporate networks to using cellular data cards and iPhone tethering, if there's a network present, you can access it!

In this chapter, we explore the connection options available to you on your MacBook.

## Connecting to a Wired Network

The most common type of network connection in the business world is a wired Ethernet connection. The cables used to connect to the network look like oversized phone connectors and, as luck has it, plug directly into your MacBook's Ethernet port. (MacBook Air owners will need to buy Apple's USB Ethernet adapter.) The MacBook supports gigabit Ethernet, making it capable of exchanging information at extremely high speeds.

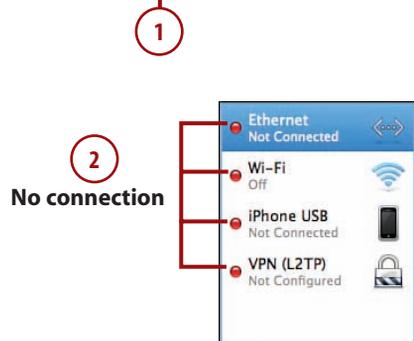
### *It's Not All Good*

There aren't many things that upset a network administrator more than a person who attempts to guess at the proper configuration of his computer when attaching it to a network. An improperly configured computer can potentially disrupt an entire network, so please make sure you have all of the information you need from your administrator or ISP before attempting the things in this chapter!

### Making an Ethernet (Wired) Connection

On a network that is set up to automatically configure your computer using DHCP, the most complicated thing you need to do is plug in the network cable!

1. Open the System Preferences panel and click the Network icon.
2. The network preference panel displays. All of the activate network interfaces are listed here. Red dots indicate that no connection is present on the interface.



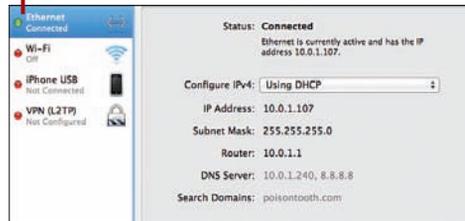
3. Plug the network cable into the left side of your MacBook.
4. After a few seconds, the interface should update, showing a green dot for an active connection. The pane to the right of the interfaces displays the information that your computer is using to communicate online.

### Things Not Working?

If your network connection is showing a yellow dot, you might have to configure your settings manually, or, if you're using a DSL connection, you might have to use PPPoE to make your connection. If this is the case, skip ahead to "Manually Configuring Network Settings."

If, however, you see a red dot, you need to check your cable or the device you're plugging into because your Macintosh can't detect *any* type of network.

### 4 Active Connection



## Connecting to a Wireless Network

You have a MacBook, presumably because you love the portability and flexibility to compute whenever and wherever you like. What goes better with a computer that you can carry around than a wireless network? Using the built-in AirPort wireless card in your computer, you can connect to almost any type of wireless network.

## WHAT TYPE OF WIRELESS NETWORKS CAN MY MACBOOK USE?

The latest MacBooks can make use of 802.11n, 802.11a, 802.11b, and 802.11g networks! This represents the full range of consumer and business wireless networking standards. Your MacBook is also capable of talking to a wide range of 802.1x authentication protocols and encryption methods. Set up is usually automatic, so you won't need to know the specifics unless your administrator tells you otherwise.

To learn more about wireless security, read [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wireless\\_security](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wireless_security).

## Making a Wireless Connection

Apple makes life easy. Your MacBook comes ready (and able) to connect to wireless networks with a minimal amount of fuss.

### Finding and Connecting to a Network

By default, your MacBook's WiFi (wireless) card is active and searching for networks that it can connect to.

1. If your MacBook finds an available network, it prompts you to make a connection.



2. Choose the network name to connect to. Note that the network signal strength and security are denoted by icons to the right of the name. If a lock is present, the network requires authentication. This is covered in “Authenticating on a Wireless Network” later in this chapter.
3. Click Join to connect to the selected network.
4. If you’ve been given the specific name of a network (called an SSID) by a network administrator and it doesn’t appear in the available networks list, click the Join Other button to enter the name and attempt to find the network.

---

### Things Not Working?

If you’ve successfully connected to a wireless network, but it doesn’t seem to work, you may need to configure the network settings manually. Keep in mind, you need to get those settings from your wireless network administrator.

If this is the case, skip ahead to the “Manually Configuring Network Settings” task.

---



## Manually Choosing a Wireless Connection

If you want to manually choose a wireless network connection, you can use the Wi-Fi menu in your menu bar.

1. The Wi-Fi menu displays a list of all of the available wireless access points, their signal strengths, and their security requirements.
2. Choose the network name to which you wish to connect from the list. If you're connecting to a network that shows a lock icon, it requires authentication. This topic is covered in "Authenticating on a Wireless Network" later in this chapter.
3. If you want to connect to a network using only its name, choose Join Other Network to enter the name and attempt the connection.

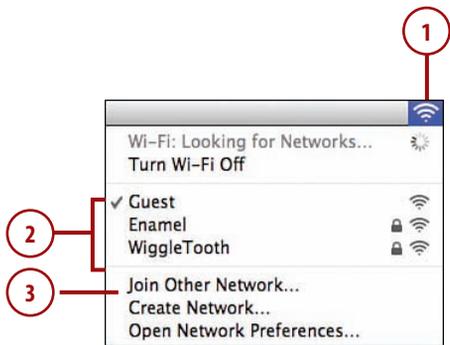
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### Alternate Wi-Fi Configuration

If you'd prefer to manage all your network connection information in one place, you can access these same options by opening the Network System Preference panel and selecting the Wi-Fi interface.

You can also use the Show Wi-Fi Status in menu bar checkbox to remove or add (if it's missing) the Wi-Fi status menu item.

---



## Authenticating on a Wireless Network

When your MacBook connects to an open (unsecured) network, it works immediately. If you're connecting to a network that is secure, however, you need to authenticate, which means you need to provide a password or other identifying information. This requirement is usually denoted by a lock icon in the Network panel.

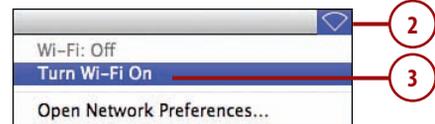
1. If you attempt to connect to a network that has a security requirement, you are prompted for a password.
2. Enter the password (or other information, depending on the security settings).
3. Click Show Password if you'd like to see the password instead of dots while you type.
4. To make sure that the network can be used again in the future without requiring that you retype the password, check the Remember This Network button.
5. Click Join to finish and authenticate to the network.



## Disabling (and Enabling) Wireless Networking

Not everyone *wants* to have wireless networking always enabled. It can drain your battery faster and potentially open you up to network attacks on poorly secured wireless networks. Disabling the Wi-Fi network interface, and re-enabling it, is just a menu option away.

1. To disable the Wi-Fi card, choose Turn Wi-Fi Off from the Wi-Fi status menu.
2. The Wi-Fi menu updates to an outline of the usual multiline symbol. The Wi-Fi hardware is now powered down.
3. To re-enable the Wi-Fi card, choose Turn Wi-Fi On from the Wi-Fi status menu.



## Manually Configuring Network Settings

Network connections, when automatically configured, seem to work almost like magic. Your computer finds a signal (wired or wireless), makes a connection, and everything just “works.” Behind the scenes, however, there are a handful of network settings that make this happen. If a network doesn’t support auto-configuration via DHCP, you need to make these settings manually.

## What to Collect Before Proceeding

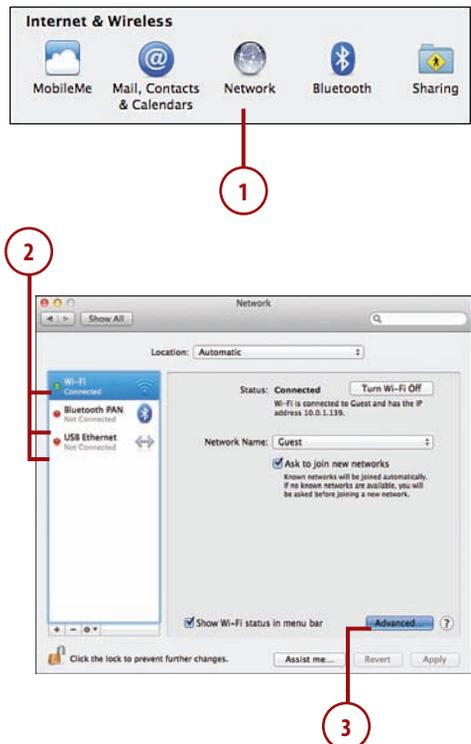
Your network administrator needs to provide the following settings in order to successfully manually set up your network:

- **IP Address**—A numerical address that uniquely identifies your computer.
- **Subnet Mask**—A value that helps your computer determine what network it is on.
- **Router**—The address of a device that moves network traffic between other local computers and remote networks (such as the Internet).
- **DNS**—The address of a device providing domain name lookups to your network. This service translates human-readable names (such as `www.apple.com`) into IP addresses and vice-versa.
- **Proxy Settings**—A device that sends and receives network traffic on your behalf, acting as a middleman for services.

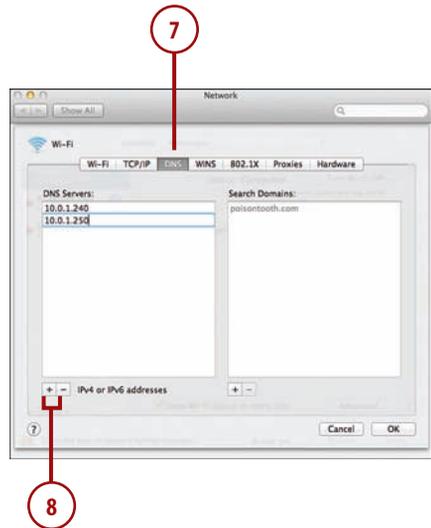
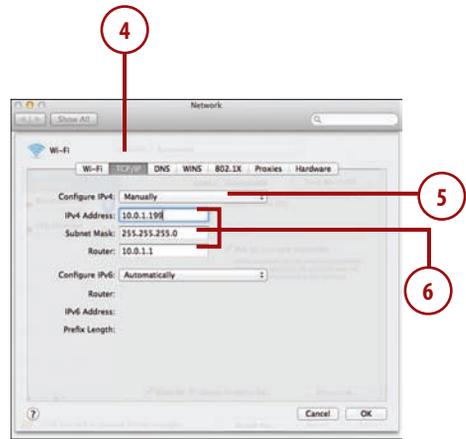
## Configuring TCP/IP and Proxy Settings

To manually change your TCP/IP and Proxy settings, follow these simple steps:

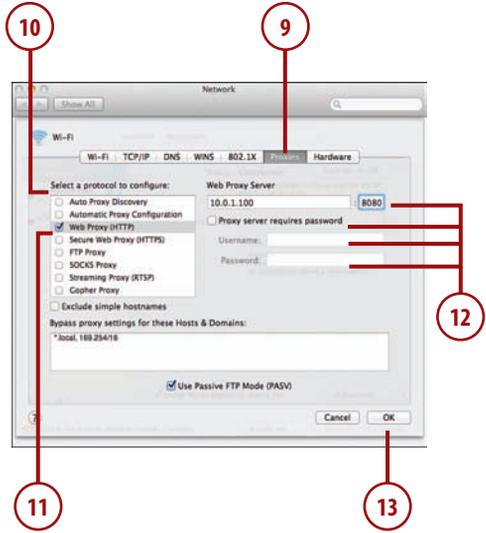
1. Open System Preferences and click the Network panel icon.
2. The network panel opens, showing all the available interfaces. Click the interface you wish to configure (usually Ethernet or Wi-Fi).
3. Click the Advanced button to view the full manual interface for network settings.



4. The Advanced configuration screen appears. Click TCP/IP in the button bar to access the common TCP/IP network settings.
5. Use the Configure IPv4 drop-down menu to change your settings to be configured Manually.
6. Enter the IP address, Subnet Mask, and Router, as provided by your network administrator.
7. Click DNS in the button bar to change your domain name server settings.
8. Click the + button below the DNS Servers list to add a new server to the list. Your ISP or network administrator usually provides at least two addresses to use; be sure to type it exactly as provided. (Use the – button to remove unused DNS Servers. Search Domains are not required unless specified by your administrator.)



9. If your network requires the use of a proxy, click the Proxies button in the button bar. If not, skip ahead to Step 13.
10. Click the checkboxes beside the protocols that you want to configure.
11. Click the protocol names to configure each proxy. Setup fields appear to the right of the protocol list.
12. Enter the proxy information as provided by your network administrator.
13. Click OK to exit advanced setup.
14. Click Apply to activate and begin using your new network settings.



## Switching to Automatic Configuration

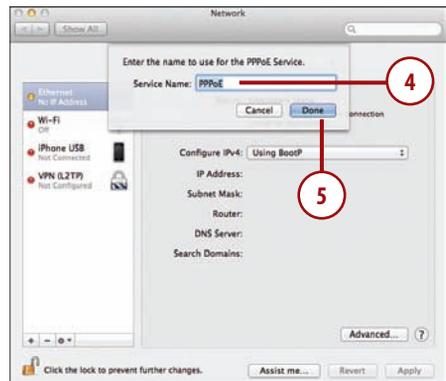
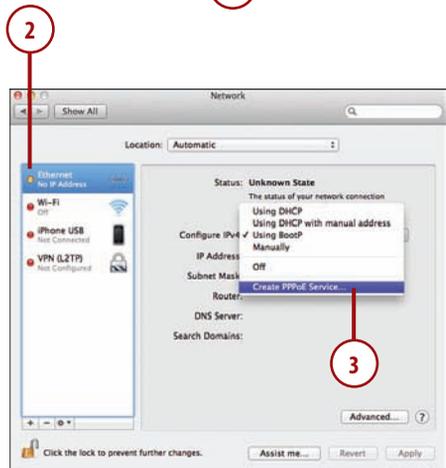
To revert back to the default “automatic” configuration of a network interface, you need to select Using DHCP from the Configure IPv4 drop-down menu.



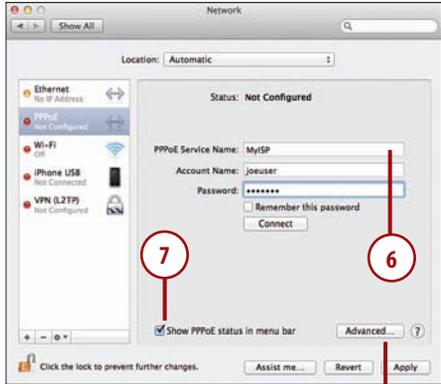
## Activating PPPoE for DSL Connections

In some cases, most typically when using a DSL modem, you need to activate PPPoE (Point-to-Point Protocol over Ethernet) in order to make a connection.

1. Open System Preferences and click the Network panel icon.
2. Select your active Ethernet Interface.
3. Choose Create PPPoE Service from the Configure IPv4 drop-down menu.
4. Choose a name for the connection. (The default, PPPoE, is fine.)
5. Click Done.

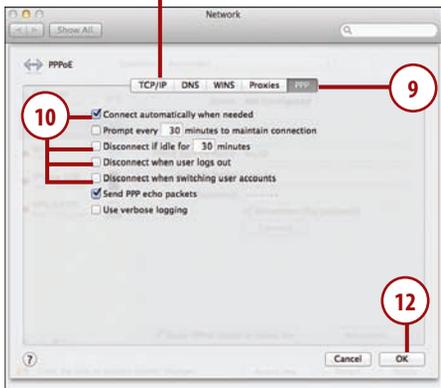


6. Enter the PPPoE information as provided by your ISP. Choose to remember the password if desired.
7. Click the Show PPPoE Status in Menu Bar checkbox to add a convenient menu option for connecting and disconnecting to the service.
8. Click the Advanced button.
9. Click PPP to open a variety of options for configuring your connection.
10. To help maintain a stable connection, check Connect Automatically When Needed and uncheck the Disconnect checkboxes if desired.
11. If required by your ISP, configure the TCP/IP settings manually as described in the “Configuring TCP/IP and Proxy Settings” task.
12. Click OK to close the Advanced settings.
13. Click Connect to begin using the PPPoE interface you’ve configured.

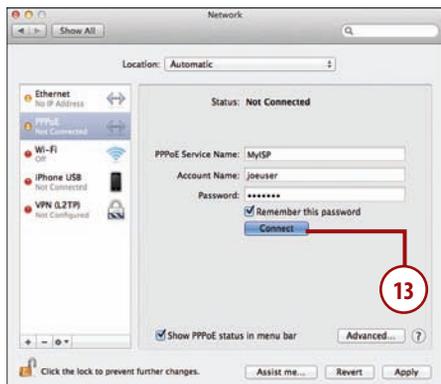


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12



13

# Making Mobile Connections with the iPhone and Cellular Data Cards

If you're one of the millions of people with an iPhone or a cellular data card, also called a wireless wide area network (WWAN) network access card, chances are that you can use it (with the proper plan!) to access the Internet using your MacBook wherever you are. This process is called *tethering* and can be performed either wirelessly via Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, or through a direct (USB) connection to your MacBook.

## Tethering Wirelessly to an iPhone Using Wi-Fi

To access the Internet wirelessly using your iPhone's data services, you first need to subscribe to a tethering plan through AT&T or Verizon. Once your plan is ready, you have several options for how to connect your phone to your MacBook. If you have an iPhone 4 or newer, you can create a Wi-Fi hotspot to quickly get your MacBook and other Wi-Fi-ready devices online.

Enable tethering on the iPhone by following these steps:

1. Open the Settings application.
2. Choose Personal Hotspot.
3. Enter a password you want to use to connect to your iPhone hotspot in the Wi-Fi Password field on the iPhone.
4. Turn Personal Hotspot ON using the switch in the iPhone interface.



- After a few seconds, your Wi-Fi hotspot will be ready—it will be named using the name set for your iPhone. Follow the instructions described in “Making a Wireless Connection” earlier in this chapter to connect to the Wi-Fi hotspot.

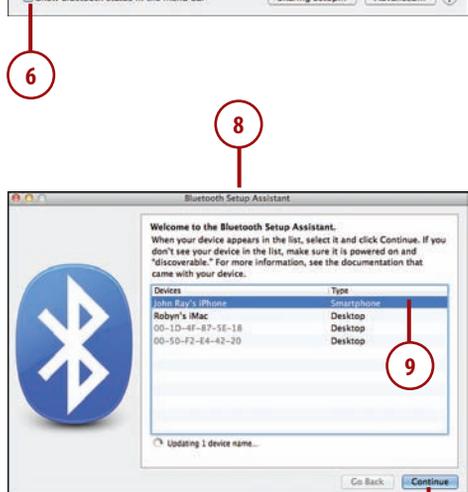
## Tethering Wirelessly to an iPhone Using Bluetooth

Another Internet access method is via Bluetooth. You will need to use this (or USB tethering), if you have an iPhone 3GS. Enable Bluetooth tethering by completing these actions:

- Open the Settings application.
- Choose Personal Hotspot.
- Turn Personal Hotspot ON using the switch in the iPhone interface.



4. Open the System Preferences application on your MacBook, and click the Bluetooth icon.
5. Make sure that Bluetooth is turned on.
6. Click the Show Bluetooth Status in the Menu Bar checkbox. This provides a convenient place for you to disconnect and connect from the network through your iPhone.
7. Click the Set up New Device or + button to set up a new device. You need to “pair” your iPhone to your computer to use the iPhone’s Internet service. (Pairing is covered in depth in Chapter 10, “Connecting Devices to Your MacBook.”)
8. The Bluetooth Setup Assistant launches and searches for devices.
9. After a few seconds, the Bluetooth Setup Assistant displays an entry for your iPhone.
10. Make sure your iPhone is selected in the list and then click Continue.



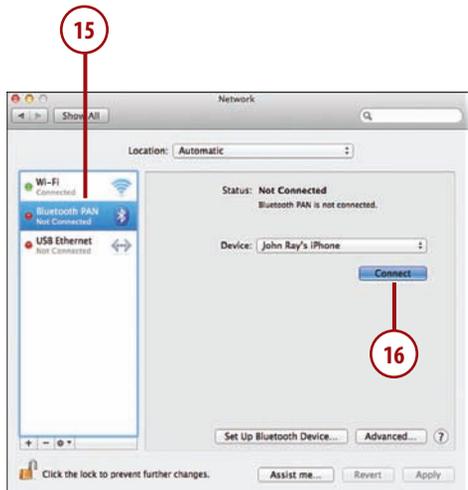
10

11. The Setup Assistant provides a PIN and, simultaneously, you are prompted on your iPhone.
12. Confirm the PIN and tap the Pair button on the iPhone screen. The iPhone-specific setup is now complete.
13. The Setup Assistant on your MacBook shows that setup was successful. Click the Quit button.



13

14. Open the System Preferences and click the Network Preferences button.
15. Select the Bluetooth PAN interface.
16. Click Connect to begin using your iPhone to access the Internet using your MacBook's network.



## Tethering with USB to an iPhone

If you find your iPhone low on power or are having signal strength problems with Bluetooth, you might want to use a USB connection to charge your phone and access the Internet simultaneously.

1. To tether to your iPhone via USB, make sure that iPhone Internet tethering is active (as described in "Tethering Wirelessly to an iPhone").

2. Using an Apple iPhone cable, connect the iPhone to one of your MacBook's unused USB ports.
3. Open the System Preferences and click the Network icon.
4. iPhone USB appears in the list of network interfaces. Click to select it.
5. Click Apply to connect and begin using the iPhone's Internet connection on your computer.
6. To disconnect, unplug your iPhone.



## Using Cellular Data Cards

If you don't have an iPhone, you might want to use a cellular data card (WWAN card) to connect your MacBook to the Internet. There are a wide variety of WWAN cards that work out of the box on Snow Leopard.

### Finding a Supported Data Card

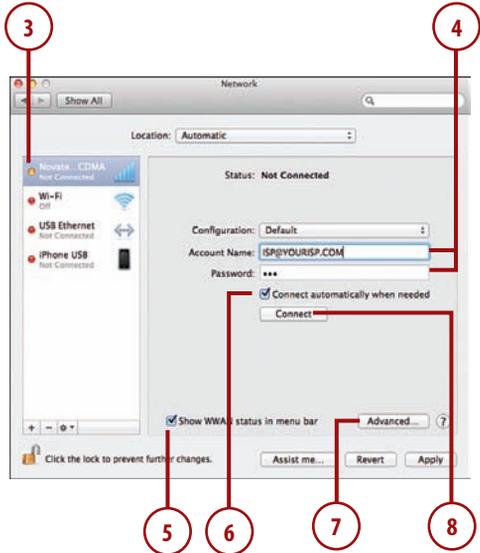
To see a list of the cards that Apple officially supports, read the knowledge base article at <http://support.apple.com/kb/HT1122>.

Refer to your cellular provider for information on the fees and data limits associated with its WWAN cards.

## Configuring a WWAN Card for Use with Your MacBook

Using a supported WWAN card is easy, as long as the card has been properly provisioned by your service provider!

1. Plug the WWAN card into your computer.
2. Open the Network System Preference panel.
3. The Network Preference panel opens, showing the new device. Make sure it is selected in the interface list.
4. Configure the settings using the information provided by your ISP. In most cases, you won't need to do *anything*.
5. Click the Show WWAN Status in Menu Bar button to display a menu item for the card.
6. Choose to connect automatically, if desired.
7. If you have been given specific network settings instructions by your ISP, click the Advanced button and enter the options as described in "Manually Configuring Network Settings."
8. Click Connect to begin using your WWAN card.



## Managing Your WWAN Connection

If you chose to add the WWAN status to your menu bar as described in the previous section, you can use it to monitor and manage your connection.

1. The WWAN menu bar displays the signal strength of your device.
2. Use the Connect and Disconnect options under the menu to connect or disconnect from the Internet.



## Creating Virtual Private Network Connections

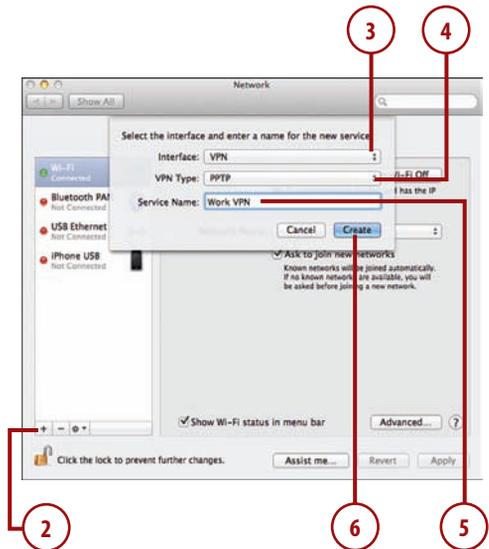
With the MacBook, you have many different ways to connect to networks wherever you are. Many companies, however, only give you access to certain resources when you're connected directly to their networks. This puts a small crimp on the idea of "working on the go."

To get around the access problem, many organizations provide VPN, or Virtual Private Network, servers. Using a VPN server, your MacBook can use its current network connection (wireless, wired, through an iPhone, or using a WWAN card) to securely connect to your company's network. You are able to access all of the same resources that you see when you're sitting in your office chair.

## Creating a VPN Connection

Snow Leopard supports three types of VPN connections—L2TP, PPTP, and Cisco IPSec. You need to find out from your network administrator which option is right for you, along with the settings you need to make the connection.

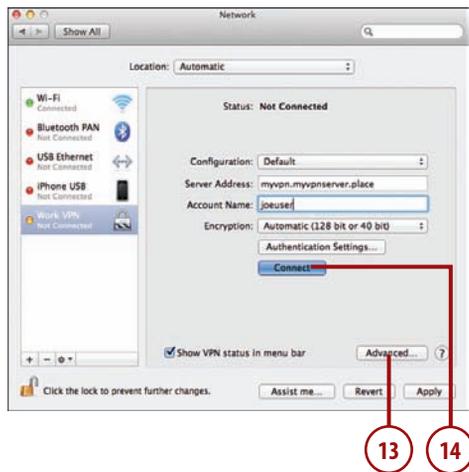
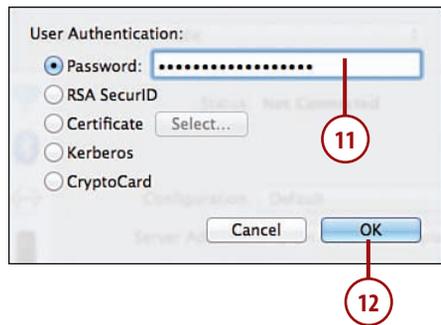
1. Create a new VPN connection by opening the System Preferences and clicking the Network icon.
2. Click the + button at the bottom of the interfaces pane.
3. Choose VPN as the interface.
4. Set the VPN type to the type specified by your network administrator.
5. Enter a meaningful name for the VPN service, such as “Work VPN.”
6. Click Create.



7. A new VPN interface is created and added to the list of network interfaces. Make sure the VPN interface is highlighted.
8. Configuration options appear on the right side of the network preference panel. Enter the server address and account information provided by your network administrator.
9. Click the Show VPN Status in Menu Bar item. This adds a menu item to the menu bar so you can quickly connect and disconnect from a VPN.
10. Click the Authentication Settings button.
11. You are prompted for a method of authentication. Enter a password or choose one of the other available options as directed by your network administrator.
12. Click OK.
13. If you have been given specific network settings by your network administrator, click the Advanced button and enter the options as described in "Manually Configuring Network Settings."
14. Click the Connect button to connect to the VPN.

### Managing Your VPN Connection

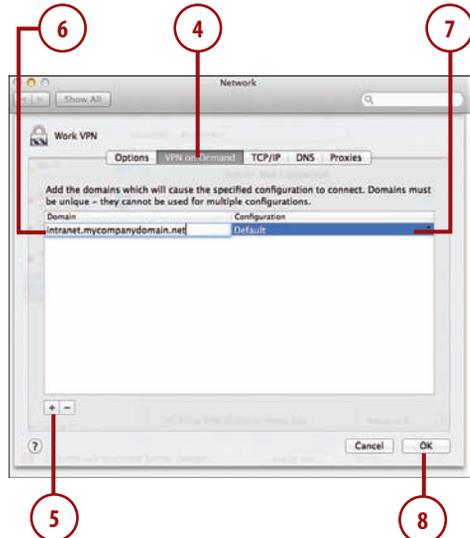
If you've chosen to show the VPN status in your menu bar, you can use the menu item to quickly connect and disconnect at any time. In addition, you can show the amount of time you've been connected, in case connection charges apply.



## Configuring VPN on Demand

VPNs, like cookies, are a “sometimes” thing. If you don’t need to have a VPN connection active, you shouldn’t because it slows down your computer and eats up resources on the VPN server itself. Snow Leopard provides a simple way to automatically connect to your VPN when you need it. If, for example, you try to access an intranet website, Snow Leopard detects what you’re doing and connects to your VPN server automatically.

1. To configure VPN on Demand service, open the System Preferences and click the Network icon.
2. Highlight your VPN interface in the interface list.
3. Click the Advanced button.
4. Click VPN on Demand in the button bar.
5. Click the + button to add a domain that triggers your VPN connection. (If you enter a domain you no longer want, remove it with the – button.)
6. Type the domain into the field that appears (for example, “intranet.mycompanydomain.net”).
7. If multiple configurations have been created (see the next section), you can choose a specific configuration to trigger when making the connection.
8. Click OK to finish setting up VPN on Demand.



# Managing Multiple Connections with Locations and Configurations

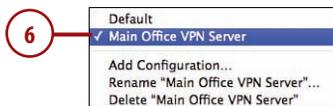
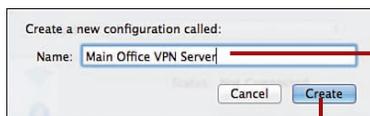
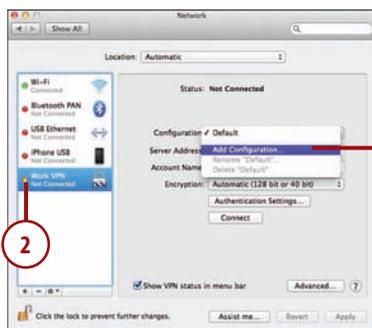
If you have a MacBook, chances are you're not one to sit still. One day you might be connecting from a beach in Maui, and the next, from a coffee shop in Columbus, Ohio. To help accommodate your mobile lifestyle, Apple provides two mechanisms for managing network connections: configurations and locations.

For interfaces such as VPNs, WWAN modems, or other devices that might have multiple different "versions" of their settings, you can create configurations. A configuration holds information such as the server you're connecting to and your specific network settings.

## Creating Configurations

To create a configuration, do the following:

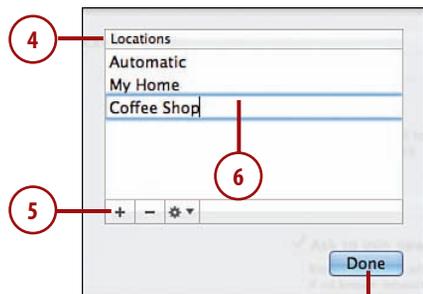
1. To create a configuration (if supported by your network interface), first open the system preferences and click the Network icon.
2. Click the interface for which you want to create a new configuration.
3. Using the Configuration popup menu, choose Add Configuration.
4. Enter a name for the configuration.
5. Click Create. You may now configure the network interface as described in the chapter.
6. Your new settings are stored and accessible under the configuration name you provided so that you can easily switch from one to another. (You can also remove or rename configurations under this menu.)



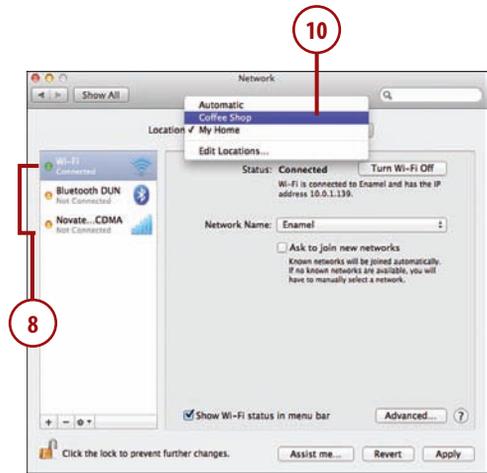
## Adding and Using Locations

Locations are like configurations on steroids. Lots of steroids. Using locations, you can create entirely new sets of network interfaces and options and switch between them easily.

1. Open the System Preferences and click the Network icon.
2. The default location of Automatic is set at the top of the network panel.
3. Choose Edit Locations from the Location drop-down menu.
4. A dialog box that lists any configured locations displays.
5. Click the + button to add an entry for a new location. (Use – to remove locations you no longer want.)
6. Type a name to describe the location, such as “Coffee Shop.”
7. Click Done.



8. All your network settings are now set to their defaults for the new location. All VPN connections and other interfaces are gone. You are, in effect, starting fresh with configuring your MacBook network setup.
9. Configure your network settings as described in this chapter.
10. After you've completed your setup, you can switch between locations using the Location drop-down menu within the System Preferences Network panel. Remember that you can return to your original network settings by choosing the location named "Automatic."



## Seeking Automated Network Assistance

The Snow Leopard operating system provides a few automated tools to help you configure and diagnose your MacBook's network settings. Be aware that the automated tools might not be able to fully set up your connection, and if you have complicated network configurations, you might want to manage the settings manually anyway. Let's review what you need to do to use these tools.

### Launching Diagnostics

To launch the diagnostics system, follow these steps:

1. Open the System Preferences Network panel and click the Network icon.

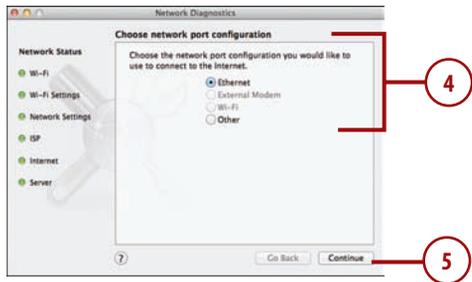


2. Click the Assist Me button at the bottom of the window.
3. Click Diagnostics in the dialog box that displays.
4. Choose the Network interface to run diagnostics on. If you've configured locations, you are first prompted to choose your location.
5. Click Continue.
6. Review the results and follow the onscreen instructions.

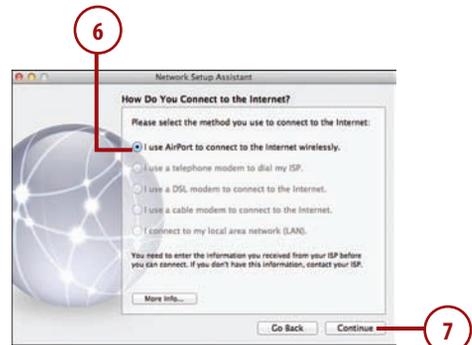
## Launching the Setup Assistant

To launch the setup assistant, follow these steps:

1. Open the System Preferences Network panel and click the Network icon.
2. Click the Assist Me button at the bottom of the window.
3. Click Assistant in the dialog box that appears.



4. Provide a location where you will be using the network connection. This process creates a new location, as described in the previous “Using Locations” section.
5. Click Continue.
6. Choose the type of connection you are making.
7. Click Continue.
8. Follow the onscreen instructions to let Snow Leopard attempt to configure your network settings for you.



## *It's Not All Good*

### **DON'T DISCOUNT YOUR ADMIN!**

It is impossible for me to stress this enough: Your network administrator or ISP is your best resource for correcting network problems. Using Snow Leopard's assistant tools is not a silver bullet; if you don't have the information required to make a network connection (IP address, and so on), it won't “just work”!

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