

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [\[MAC/iOS HELP DESK\] Ask any question!](#)

Puppeteer - October 21, 2013, 5:22 am

Greetings!

I noticed there wasn't any help desk in this section so I made one.

Feel free to post your questions.

scriptsquid - October 21, 2013, 1:40 pm

Hey pBIT what information do you have to save memory? I have a lot of songs in my Music folder and feel like iTunes is worsening my problem. Thanks!

Puppeteer - October 21, 2013, 11:30 pm

(Oct 21, 2013 01:40 PM)scriptsquid Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Hey pBIT what information do you have to save memory? I have a lot of songs in my Music folder and feel like iTunes is worsening my problem. Thanks!

Hey hey fella! Let's start by saying that size of music files may vary from the compression and the format utilized. You know that the files have something called "bit rate", "channels", may be .m4a, .mp3, .wma, etc etc! If you are not a music producer or someone working in the field and, therefore, don't need a bit rate of 320+ kbps, then 192 kbps is a good deal for a good quality and an acceptable file dimension.

Also consider that the .mp3 format has a great compression.

So, you can convert all your songs to .mp3 format, if they aren't, and reduce them to 192 kbps rate. If you don't have a converter, just open iTunes, click on "Options" and look for a box that says "Convert higher bit rate songs to" and check it! There's a dropdown menu where you can choose the 192kbps bit rate (you can go lower if you want)! After you made your choice just click "apply" and sync your library. This will take a while but if you had 200+ bit rate files you will be surprised seeing the results :)

Also you may want to check if there are duplicates in your library (iTunes loves them)! Just go under "File" when browsing the iTunes library and click "Display duplicates".

Hope this helped mate!

ItsATumor - October 22, 2013, 3:48 am

pBIT, I'm an audio producer and a "Bit rate" is how many ways a music file can be stored. A 16 bit audio track means that it can be stored in about 100,000 different ways, and a 24 bitrate audio can be stored at 16,000,000 different ways. The more "kbs" you have in an audio file means how much you can tell it apart from studio audio and mono audio. This is complicated stuff, but you want a higher kbs.

Puppeteer - October 22, 2013, 4:40 am

(Oct 22, 2013 03:48 AM)ItsATumor Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) pBIT, I'm an audio producer and a "Bit rate" is how many ways a music file can be stored. A 16 bit audio track means that it can be stored in about 100,000 different ways, and a 24 bitrate audio can be stored at 16,000,000 different ways. The more "kbs" you have in an audio file means how much you can tell it apart from studio audio and

mono audio. This is complicated stuff, but you want a higher kbs.

I'm not an audio producer but that's nice to know. Anyways, we are not talking about music quality but dimensions of files. Since It's a generic thread and not specific to the music field, I provided what I think is a good solution to drastically reduce the dimensions and, unless you are a music enthusiast, 192 kbps won't bother at all. I thank you anyway for the infos, always good to learn something new :)

scriptsquid - October 27, 2013, 1:25 am

(Oct 21, 2013 11:30 PM)pBIT Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Hey hey fella! Let's start by saying that size of music files may vary from the compression and the format utilized. You know that the files have something called "bit rate", "channels", may be .m4a, .mp3, .wma, etc etc! If you are not a music producer or someone working in the field and, therefore, don't need a bit rate of 320+ kbps, then 192 kbps is a good deal for a good quality and an acceptable file dimension.

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Hope this helped mate!

?? Been using XLD.app to get songs to .mp4 since a lot of my music comes as FLAC. I also find many songs in the .aac. Running conversion now. Thanks pBit

Puppeteer - October 27, 2013, 4:26 am

(Oct 27, 2013 01:25 AM)scriptsquid Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) ?? Been using XLD.app to get songs to .mp4 since a lot of my music comes as FLAC. I also find many songs in the .aac. Running conversion now. Thanks pBit

Glad it helped mate! Hopefully you freed half of the space they occupied!

scriptsquid - October 29, 2013, 11:18 pm

pBit one more question, is there a manyCam or virtual cam service for Mac OS X Mavericks ?

Puppeteer - October 30, 2013, 12:07 am

(Oct 29, 2013 11:18 PM)scriptsquid Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) pBit one more question, is there a manyCam or virtual cam service for Mac OS X Mavericks ?

If you go to the website of Manycam you can see that the Mac version is for 10.5 or greater ?

funtela - October 30, 2013, 2:01 pm

What external HDD do you recommend to keep my iTunes Media folder on? I have over 500Gbs of music & my rMBP only has a 128gb SSD.

ItsATumor - October 30, 2013, 2:15 pm

(Oct 30, 2013 02:01 PM)Ryan Reynolds Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) What external HDD do you recommend to keep my iTunes Media folder on? I have over 500Gbs of music & my rMBP only has a 128gb SSD.

Does the computer have a thunderbolt port or firewire? If so you can get some insane speeds. And at those speeds you just need to find a good sized drive from a trustable company.

Xerif - October 30, 2013, 3:48 pm

Hey man!

I just got a macbook pro from eBay(used from 2008). It runs very smoothly, however, it didn't come with the mac app store. Do you know why this is? Also, I want to download xcode, but I'm not sure if I should upgrade to the latest mac os(I believe it's free in the app store lol) or not.

Here's what I'm running

Spoiler ([Click to View](#))

I think I read on apple's website that you can upgrade to the latest OS if your computer is from 2007 or later.

Thanks!

Spearow - October 30, 2013, 11:36 pm

(Oct 30, 2013 02:01 PM)Ryan Reynolds Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) What external HDD do you recommend to keep my iTunes Media folder on? I have over 500Gbs of music & my rMBP only has a 128gb SSD. I would get one that uses Thunderbolt for sure for faster data transfer and such. Just look them up and go with the model/brand that fits you the most.

cgi-bin Laden - October 30, 2013, 11:38 pm

iZ it tru max cannot get sik like viruses but they can get bacterea sick?

Puppeteer - October 31, 2013, 12:12 am

(Oct 30, 2013 02:01 PM)Ryan Reynolds Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) What external HDD do you recommend to keep my iTunes Media folder on? I have over 500Gbs of music & my rMBP only has a 128gb SSD. Hey buddy :) Well, just get an external hdd with USB 3.0. Why USB? Well, yesterday we talked about your new build and it would be a good choice to buy something you could use on both, rMBP and your Winzoz desktop.

Also, keep in mind that USB 3.0 and Thunderbolt have not much differences when talking about speed... USB 3.0 is more than enough :) If your macbook doesn't have USB 3.0/thunderbolt then get one that has both Usb 2.0 and thunderbolt/firewire.

As for a brand, there are plenty out there... I personally like LaCie products more than others.. if you have problems finding one just contact me :)

(Oct 30, 2013 03:48 PM)Xerif Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Hey man!

I just got a macbook pro from eBay(used from 2008). It runs very smoothly, however, it didn't come with the mac app store. Do you know why this is? Also, I want to download xcode, but I'm not sure if I should upgrade to the latest mac os(I believe it's free in the app store lol) or not.

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I think I read on apple's website that you can upgrade to the latest OS if your computer is from 2007 or later.

Thanks!

Hey there mate! So, the App Store comes with 10.6.6 and that's why you don't have it! Here's a link of an update: [Mac OS X 10.6.8 Update Combo v1.1](#) .

Xcode is free yeah, but the only requirement is to have Lion (as we all know, there's always another way and you can get it for snow leopard too). Snow leopard it's a good OS and if you really want to upgrade, don't get Mavericks now. I'm on Mavericks myself and I found some minor bug, so just wait till they update it :)

This is the list of compatible models:iMac (from mid-2007 to the latest model)

MacBook (late 2008, 13-inch Aluminum and early 2009 or later)

MacBook Pro (mid-2009 or later, 13-inch model; mid/late 2007 -model or later, 15-inch model; late 2007 or later, 17-inch model)

MacBook Air (late 2008 or later models)

Mac mini (early 2009 models and later)

Xserve (2008 and later models)

Mac Pro (Early 2008 models)

ItsATumor - *October 31, 2013, 3:51 am*

pBIT, the USB 3.0 bandwidth is not enough. The solution could be a little dongle with a thunderbolt to USB converter. The reason thunderbolt is better is because it has more bandwidth, basically saying it has a bigger pipe to transfer data. To move a 15GB file from my external HDD via thunderbolt would take about 5 minutes, but on USB 3.0 it would take about 30 minutes.

Thunderbolt is much better, buy a dongle.

Puppeteer - *October 31, 2013, 4:08 am*

(Oct 31, 2013 03:51 AM)ItsATumor Wrote: [CITE](#) pBIT, the USB 3.0 bandwidth is not enough. The solution could be a little dongle with a thunderbolt to USB converter. The reason thunderbolt is better is because it has more bandwidth, basically saying it has a bigger pipe to transfer data. To move a 15GB file from my external HDD via thunderbolt would take about 5 minutes, but on USB 3.0 it would take about 30 minutes.

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ItsATumor, you quoted 3 posts of mine already and on all of them you tried to get your opinion over mine. This is not a challenge and I appreciate to hear other opinions but I'd like to hear opinions of stuff that's actually real..

I'll have you know that USB 3.0 has a maximum bandwidth rate of 5 gbps - translates to 640 MBps. Thunderbolt allows theoretical data-transfer speeds up to 10 gbps on each of its bi-directional channels. SO the way is testing.

I'll also have you know then, that using an hdd, transferring a 10gb file, Usb 3.0 is faster (few MBps more) than Thunderbolt's.

You'll notice the "difference" with a SSD, where the speed is not bottlenecked, where Thunderbolt's beats the USB 3.0 with few MBps more.

Xerif - October 31, 2013, 10:32 pm

Thanks for your help! My mac is now up and running great!

Puppeteer - November 1, 2013, 3:06 am

(Oct 31, 2013 10:32 PM)Xerif Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Thanks for your help! My mac is now up and running great!

Happy to hear that! Which OS did you choose?

funtela - November 1, 2013, 5:57 am

(Oct 31, 2013 12:12 AM)pBIT Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Hey buddy :) Well, just get an external hdd with USB 3.0. Why USB? Well, yesterday we talked about your new build and it would be a good choice to buy something you could use on both, rMBP and your Winzoz desktop.

Also, keep in mind that USB 3.0 and Thunderbolt have not much differences when talking about speed... USB 3.0 is more than enough :) If your macbook doesn't have USB 3.0/thunderbolt then get one that has both Usb 2.0 and thunderbolt/firewire.

As for a brand, there are plenty out there... I personally like LaCie products more than others.. if you have problems finding one just contact me :)

The HDD would be JUST for my mac ;)

What thunderbolt HDD do you recommend? I need at least 1TB.

Puppeteer - November 1, 2013, 6:24 am

(Nov 1, 2013 05:57 AM)Ryan Reynolds Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) The HDD would be JUST for my mac ;)

What thunderbolt HDD do you recommend? I need at least 1TB.

Get a LaCie... Maybe you can find it on the online Apple Store... Anyway, as I said you will just have the same/less performance of usb 3.0..

edit: I actually found the hdd I was thinking about! It's a LaCie Rugged with thunderbolt/usb 3.0 and 1tb!

Puppeteer - September 22, 2014, 1:58 am

After a long pause I came back and I'm bringing this thread back.