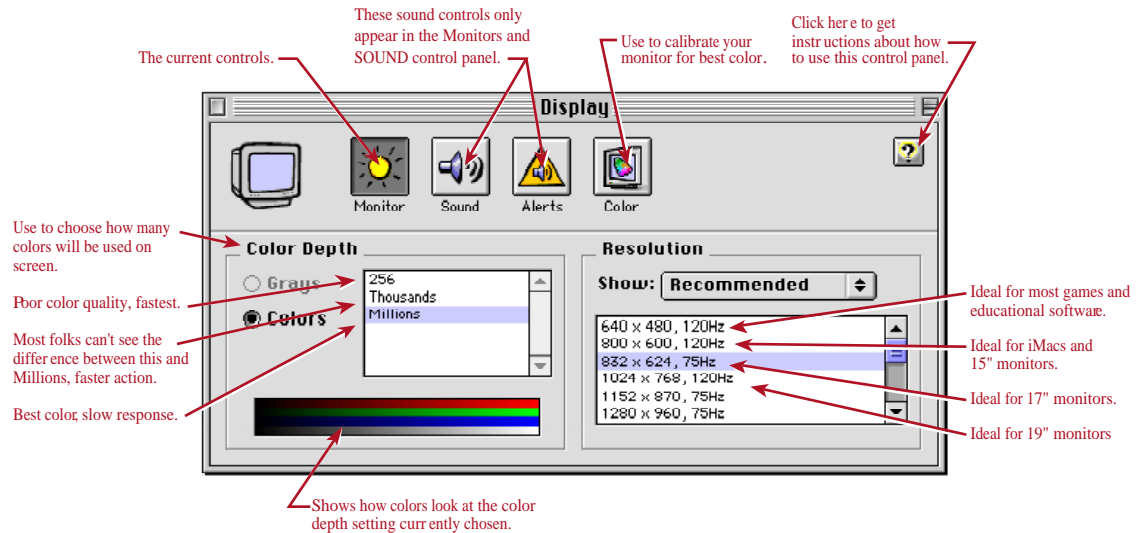


# Control Panels

## Monitors & Sound



You've got control of your Mac through the use of Control Panels. You'll find control panels under the Apple Menu in the Control Panels folder. Here you'll see dozens of programs specialized to control the functions of your Macintosh.

Let's take a look at Monitors & Sound (if you have Mac OS 9, this control panel is called just Monitors). Use this control panel to change Resolution and Color Depth.

Resolution establishes how big the image appears on your screen. Low resolutions yield larger images. Low resolution settings are ideal for folks with eyesight problems or when doing a presentation to a group of people. Try clicking on different resolution settings to see how they change the appearance of your image.

Color Depth establishes how many colors you can see on screen at the same time. The higher the color depth, the more natural the image appears, but it also slows down your Mac. On older Macs, this can be a noticeable

effect. Try choosing different color depths (even try 256 Grays) to see how things change. Use the settings you like best or change them as needed.

# Air-report

Since November, 1999, Apple has been shipping the Airport wireless networking system. I've been an Airport user since December, 1999. Here are my thoughts and experiences.

**What is Airport?** Airport is a way to get rid of the wires that tether us to our desks. Its most obvious use is for folks with Powerbooks and iBooks. I have the Airport set up in my iBook, so I can leave my home office, go to the kitchen, livingroom or even backyard and still be connected to the internet and my networked computers and printers. I am writing this while sitting (feet up) on the couch, watching the Giants beat, oops! tie, oops! trail, yea! beat the Rangers even though this file is resident on my G3 tower that sits in my office. When I'm done writing, I'll print to my printer that is also in the office and I'll never leave the couch (well, until dinner, that is.). Because the Airport has a range of 150 feet, it will cover most homes, offices and sev-



eral classrooms. Each Airport Base Station can handle up to ten Macs.

Airport is even more useful for schools and offices. These days every school and office has their computers wired together into networks. These networks allow files and printers to be shared between computers, as well as internet connections. The usefulness of networking is so great that they are now necessities. But, string-

ing miles of wire to network a school or large office is an expensive and difficult task requiring an expert to be done correctly. With Airport, wires are unnecessary, simplifying the task greatly. No experts are needed, an experienced user can install it using the included Airport Setup Assistant software. Airport even works with dial-up (it has its own modem), DSL and cable internet access.

It may be easy, but it's not cheap. The Airport Base Station (which provides the center of the wireless network) costs \$300.00 and each computer requires an Airport interface card that costs \$100.00. Even though, an Air-

port network can be comparable or perhaps a bit cheaper than a wired network when labor costs and time are considered.

And it works great, I wouldn't be without mine though it's not a necessity to me. If you are considering a network for your Macs, Airport will make it quick and easy. Highly recommended.

## July Tip—

Did you know that you can view original films on the internet? Many young filmmakers are posting their work at web sites like Mediatrip.com and iFilm.com. You'll need the Quicktime player and/or RealPlayer to see these gems. If you don't have them, both are available at <http://www.download.cnet.com>.

Star Wars fans will especially like a cute film that details the origin of that classic: George Lucas in Love. In less than ten minutes, director Joe Nussbaum shows you where student filmmaker Lucas got his wonderful characters. To see the movie, go to: [http://www.mediatrip.com/film/movies\\_on\\_demand/308.html](http://www.mediatrip.com/film/movies_on_demand/308.html).

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