

California Computer Care

News,
Views,
Tips and
Cool Techniques
for CCC Members

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We
speak
Geek,
so you
don't
have to.

The Greatest Time Saver . . . Ever!

We all love to surf the World Wide Web, visiting web sites that we see referenced in ads, TV shows, newspaper articles, friends' recommendations and more.

But, many of us waste minutes each time we visit a web site by using a search engine, like *Google* to look up the address of web sites that we already know the address of.

For example, you read a news story about a new proposal by President Obama. The article notes that more information is available at <http://www.whitehouse.gov>. You want that info, so you go to your Mac and open your web browser (*Safari*, *Firefox* or some other). Now, don't search *Google* for "white house," you'll get 143,000,000 results!

Instead, hold down the Command (Apple) key on your keyboard and type the letter L. When you do this, the address field of your web browser's address bar will become highlighted in light blue. That blue highlight shows that the address is ready to be edited. So, all you need do is to type the phrase: [whitehouse.gov](http://www.whitehouse.gov) hit the *Return* key and POW! the White House web site appears.

Don't click with the mouse, don't hit the *Delete* key, don't type <http://www.>, just type the important part of the address which in this case is [whitehouse.gov](http://www.whitehouse.gov).

This trick works with all web addresses. If you want to go to my web site, hold down the *Command* key, type the letter L, then type: calcompcare.com and hit *Return*. That's it. If you want to go to Apple's web site, hold down the *Command* key, type the letter L, then type: apple.com and hit *Return*. Done!

This trick also works in all Macintosh web browsers (but *not* in Windows web browsers).

Add up the time you save each time you do this trick and you will find that you have many extra hours each year to do even more useless web surfing!

What more could you want?

Address Field. The address of the web page that you are visiting shows here.

The address field is a part of the address bar.



The iTunes App Store

“App” is short for application. This is where owners of iPhones and iPod Touches can get programs to do all sorts of wild and crazy stuff. Oh, yeah, useful stuff too, but where’s the fun in that?

iPhone and iPod Touch users can access the App Store through their phone or iPod, but the easiest way is through iTunes. Just launch iTunes and click the *iTunes Store* icon in the sidebar. When the store loads, click on the *App Store* link and you’re there.

The App store features thousands of great programs and thousands of cruddy programs. Fortunately, there is a review and rating system to help you distinguish the great from the crud.

Here are a few of my favorites:

Evernote. Make notes, capture screen shots and store the info on Evernote’s servers for retrieval from any computer, anywhere, anytime. Free.

Yelp. Look up user reviews and information on restaurants and businesses wherever you are. Free.

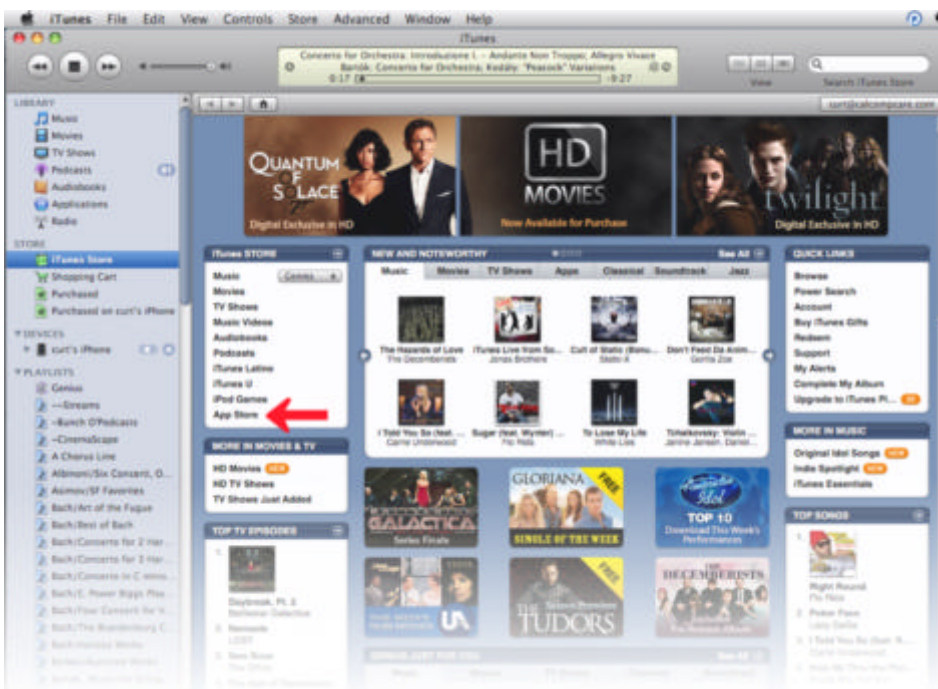
Air Sharing. Network your iPhone to other computers. Copy and share files as you please. \$4.99.

Classics. 20 of world’s greatest books including *The Iliad*, *Paradise Lost* and *Pride and Prejudice*. \$2.99.

HoldEm. Play poker on your phone against some wicked opponents. Free.

StepTrak Lite. A pedometer that really works. I use this every day. Free.

Jared. Enuff said. Free (who would pay?)



March Tip—

You may be able to save even more time using the Command + L trick (see front page), if your internet service provider supports an additional trick. Fortunately, most do.

When typing the address of a web site in your browser’s address field, if the address ends in **.com** you can leave off the **.com** and only type the main part of the address.

So, if you want to visit *Amazon.com*, you only need to type in one word:

amazon

Hit the *Return* key on your keyboard and *voilà*, you are there.

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