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# Making the Most of Your iPod and Keeping It Functional

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# Making the Most of Your iPod and Keeping It Functional

## What You Need to Know About Your iPod's Battery

iPod's battery life is an issue to most iPod users. Users say that an iPod battery degrades over time and is irreplaceable. Users' contention have certain bearing since (1) the iPod battery is lithium-based, its recharge cycles last roughly around 300 to 500 times and it really does degrade over time, and (2) apple's design of an iPod battery is done in such a way that users cannot easily replace the internal lithium ion battery with a new one.

So, many ask, are iPods made to be a disposable digital audio player.

The answer is no.

Apple designed iPods to last a long time. But since an iPod battery is lithium based, we cannot expect it to last longer than two years. 300 to 500 complete charges and discharges wears down the power of a lithium battery. Apple, nevertheless, published guidelines about iPod battery on its website and gave tips on how to maximize the life of an iPod battery.

An iPod battery cannot be removed or be replaced the way a user does with a digital cellphone by just clicking the open button at the back of the unit to remove and replace the battery when it wears down. The iPod battery is integrated in the circuitry.

You will ask now, why did Apple engineer the iPod this way?

Apple integrated its iPod battery with the main circuitry to achieve the ultra thin and ultra sleek design that it boasts. If the iPod battery is removable, the iPods will be as bulky as regular digital cellphones.

Previously, Apple does not accept replacement of a worn-out iPod battery. Under their official policy customer should buy a refurbished replacement worth as much as a brand new iPod.

Because of this situation, third-party manufacturers offered battery replacement kits, with instructions on how to disassemble, remove and replace the iPod battery and then reassemble your iPod.

It was only on November 14, 2003 that Apple had announced a cheaper battery replacement program. The battery replacement program which costs \$99 had been trimmed down to \$59.

### **Some tips to maximize your iPod battery's power.**

Keep your iPod at room temp.

An iPod battery works at its best when the iPod is at room temperature, between 0° to 35° C (or 32° to 95° F).

If your iPod has stayed in the cold for many hours, let it warm up first before turning it on. Otherwise, a low-battery warning will appear and the iPod won't turn on unless you recharge it. But you wouldn't want to recharge it because it will deduct a recharge cycle to its 300 to 500 recharging cycle, right? So use it at room temperature and don't forget it! If after warming up your iPod remains asleep, do this: connect the iPod to the power adapter. Press the Menu + Play or Pause buttons. Do this repeatedly until the Apple logo appears.

- Do not leave your iPod inside a car, especially during at noontime.
- Do not expose your iPod to direct sunlight.

### **Extra tips**

- When charging

An iPod battery can be fast-charged in an hour with eight percent (80) of its capacity. But it would be better if you charge it for four (4) hours fully recharge the iPod battery to 100%. This will save you discharge and recharge cycles by 20% for every recharging.

An iPod battery slowly empties even when the iPod unit is not in use. The iPod uses, even when asleep, a small wattage of current. So, store your iPod in room temperature to maximize the battery and slow down the draining of power. If you do this your iPod batter can last from 16 to 28 days.

### **Important!**

- Empty the iPod battery fully before you recharge it.
- iPod skins and iPod covers look good on your iPod, but please do not charge your iPod while it is still dressed with iPod skin or cover.

### **When unattended, Press the Pause**

Pause your iPod if you will leave it on a table to pee, or do anything else. iPod will continue to play if left playing until the iPod battery drains out. Always turn off your iPod when not in use to save battery life.

### **Backlighting**

When the room is well lit, you do not need backlighting. Backlighting can use use up a lot of your reserved battery power. Turn off backlighting when you do not need it. Select: Settings > Backlight Timer > Off.

## **An Abs iPod Workout Guide**

Many people believe that if they lift weights, or do those crunches, they will lose those lovehandles and have a tight, packed abs that they have been dreaming of. Which is why when those who have been religiously attending the gym didn't get the Jennifer Lopez bod that they have expected to have after twenty sessions of lifting and crunching their stomach like a curled shrimp in the gym, they pack their bags and never dared to step onto the gym's doorstep again.

There is nothing wrong with going to the gym and crunching and curling yourself to have tighter and tucked abdomen. There are, however, some basic preparations that you must do first before you curl and crunch. (1) Cut out the fat in your diet starting, right... now! (2) Do more stretching, and (3) Do more cardio workouts.

You can do the stretching and cardio workouts even outside the gym. Just carry your iPod, wear your sneakers and sweat and you're all set. Below are some iPod workout guides that you can work on. All you need is an iTunes, determine the BPM or beats per minute of a song, and you're all set to create your own and unique iPod workout playlist.

### **Cutting Fat in a Diet**

Abdominal muscles are the easiest part of the body to work muscles on. The only reason why in spite of your abs curling workout it seems that nothing works is because your muscled are covered with fat.

Yes. You need to cut the fat.

And the first step to cut the fat is curtail intake of fat. Go for a less fat diet (not 'no fat diet.' We all need some amount of fats in our body.}).

### **Stretching With iPod Workout Guide**

Stretch to improve the elasticity of your muscles and to tighten it up in a natural way. Create a Playlist, name it "Stretching" and then select your iPod Workout stretching playlist.

The best iPod workout song for stretching should be around 105 to 115 beats per minute, a song with a slow beat.

Suggested iPod workout song for stretching:

There You Go - Pink  
Three AM - Matchbox 20  
Feeling So Good - Jennifer Lopez

### **Cardio Workout With iPod Workout Guide**

Warm up

Before you do your cardio workout, have a five minute warm up first. Although stretching is already a form of warm up, it is better if you warm up by doing the stationary marching and jumping jack.

BPM for warm up should be in the range of 125 to 130. Limit the playtime to 5 minutes and select by random.

Suggested iPod workout song for Warm up:

Can't Take My Eyes Off You  
Ain't no Mountain High  
All You Need is Love

### **Cardio Workout**

Lifting weights and doing a hundred crunches won't help you lose fats. The best way to lose fats is to do a fifteen-minute a day cardio workout. Create your iPod cardio workout playlist and name it "Cardio." iPod workout songs to include in your playlist must be upbeat, lively, and with no slow or mellow parts.

#### Walking

BPM if you were walking, brisk walking, that is, should be in the range of 136 to 140. Limit the playtime to 5 minutes and select by random.

You must follow the rhythm of the song as you walk to achieve the fifteen minute minimum daily workout. Just breathe normally or as you would when you are at rest. If you're new with walking (walking for fifteen minutes without stopping) you might experience shortness of breath at first. Don't worry, as you continue with walking while listening with your iPod workout songs, your heartbeat will beat a bit slower and then will normalize.

Suggested iPod workout song for Walking:

You Gotta Be - Des'ree  
This Kiss - Faith Hill  
Livin' on a Prayer - Jon BonJovi

#### Jogging and Running

Jogging and running should be in the range of 141 to 150. All songs under this category should be limited to 5 minutes also, and is selected by random

Suggested iPod workout song for Jogging and Running:

Can't Get You Out Of My Head - Kylie Minogue  
Hollaback Girl - Gwen Stefani  
Hey Mickey

You can repeat the Walking and Jogging and Running iPod workout songs or playlist as many times as desired.

## **The iPod Junkie's Dilemma**

Modern society keeps creating new and better ways of fulfilling a need. Living in the digital age has never been more exciting and for anyone who can afford these gadgets, life is indeed sweeter. One of the most influential devices ever created is the iPod. These nifty portable audio players created by Apple Computers has redefined our understanding of personal freedom and customization. For anyone who loves music and multimedia, iPod is the best media player out there in the market.

Before the iPod, MP3 players were the best portable players around. Primarily a flash drive, these devices had limited features. The screen size was small and only text is allowed. The colored screen was optional and the memory size only went up to 1 GB. But with the introduction of the iPod and its succeeding generations, music lovers were transported to another realm. A world where they can only listen to all the songs that they want to hear. Once they put on their iPod, they have total control over what tunes should fill their heads. Call it listening to their daily-personalized soundtrack.

Is all this iPod play list personalization good for its users? Apparently some detractors don't think so. They argue that too much personalization limits the listener to the new genres of music. Constantly listening to Eminem or Christina Aguilera on your ipod can deny you the pleasure of discovering new artists like Ne-yo or new music styles like trip hop. iPod users become islands of their own, trapped in a floating music bubble of their own making.

Not only that, frequent users have become oblivious to their surroundings making discovery of new sounds very difficult. It can be of grave concern especially for those emergency cases when one is not able to hear a call for help because the other person is too distracted by their iPod. Such cases may seem extreme but turn to Hollywood movies and you'll see how prevalent such instances are.

iPod fans say otherwise. They say they can be as entertaining as the FM radio that has more content and users are exposed to more styles and artists on a regular basis. Plus there are some trivia and entertainment news that you cannot get from this device without buying accessories. Because of this, a new trend was born through the iPod called podcasting. Podcasting is a radio-style program that can be shared to other people through the Internet and played back in their iPod. You can create your own program and broadcast it to the World Wide Web.

iPod users and fans have come up with ingenious ways of making their toy into more than just a digital audio player. Some have opened up it up and tinkered with its hardware and software. The result? An iPod that has an organizer function that stores addresses and calendar events in its memory. While it does need some getting used to, fans are thrilled at the devices' limitless possibilities. Apple Computers then gave us the fourth generation of iPod more commonly known as the iPod photo.

This generation boasts of a colored display and photo transfer capabilities. As the company realized the need for something more innovative, the fifth generation was released. This iPod series is currently the hottest model because of the video function. iPod video can play MPEG-4 and H.264 video with resolutions of up to 480 x 480 and 320 x 240. Its potential as a marketing and advertising tool is so huge that even Apple is overwhelmed with the idea. One possible product for this is the selling of video formats like music video clips and television show reruns.

The personalization of iPod is not a big issue among its many patrons. It is this quality that makes the device so appealing to them. Our age today holds value to the importance of self-expression. iPod can deliver that self-expression through personalized covers, skins, accessories and a host of other complimentary software. It becomes an extension of one's taste in music and other multimedia formats. The only real dilemma for any iPod junkie nowadays is getting the money to buy all those accessories.

### **The Clash of MP3 Players and iPods**

In the music universe, being number one means having the best of everything. From storage space and versatility to style and functionality, engineers have been moving towards the realization of that need. Not since the mp3 players and iPods have we seen the most amazing array of music devices available for audiophiles and techno rats.

It is interesting to note that MP3 players and iPods have always been mistaken for each other. And as hard as the brand managers try to differentiate their product from competitors, society has the last say on which product makes it and what its nickname will eventually become.

MP3 players and iPods started out fairly the same; both are portable, audio players designed to eliminate the need for compact discs. MP3 players and iPods play a variety of music file formats from WAV, MP3, WMA, and MPEG to name a few. Both can also work as file storage devices. However, MP3 players are flash drive storage devices only. They have a limited capacity of up to 1 GB whereas iPods give the user a choice between a flash drive and a hard drive that can store up to 60 GB in memory size.

The competition between MP3 players and iPods extend to the capabilities of the devices. The features offered by MP3 players include an audio player, storage device, voice recorder telephone directory and an FM radio. Though it sounds like a fully loaded car, you are actually limited in terms of accessories. The wildest thing you can do to MP3 players is change the neck strap. iPods have a wider selection and gives you more freedom to personalize it. Aside from being audio players, there are iPods that can show your pictures with its small LCD display. And with the latest iPods that play videos, you will always have something to keep you company on those stormy nights, alone in the car.

iPods also give its user the freedom to dress up or dress down their units. There are websites that offer stick-on covers for iPods like the ones at [Decalgirl.com](http://Decalgirl.com) or [Ipodstyle.com](http://Ipodstyle.com). iPods can also be used as a slight PDA since some fanatics have tinkered with these digital players and used it to upload their address book and calendar from their computer.

Other accessories available to this device include waterproof cases, headphones, dock, speakers, a home clock/radio system, battery pack, cassette adaptor, media reader and FM transmitters. The list goes on and on as more people find ways to enjoy their iPods.

With technology changing as often as the months do, it is no wonder that the once prized MP3 players are now only second ñ bit players to iPods. From just being portable audio devices, they have come out of our pockets and have invaded clubs. The most favorite accessories of hardcore music junkies are these docks that serves as a "mixing table" for tunes right from their iPods' playlist.

Club disc jockeys have a field day with this device since they can create new dance floor beats with their trusty iPods bringing in the crowd thus spawning a new generation of digital mixers. Even club patrons can get into the action by downloading their favorite tunes and taking it to the mixing table for a spin.

MP3 players are not yet obsolete. It still is the next best thing to iPods and as long as there are people willing to make do without the extra features, MP3 players will always be around. If you are tight on the budget but would still like to carry your tunes around without lugging the heavy compact discs then this is the device for you.

Yet, hands down to the winner of this clash of the best audio device--the iPods. More than a just an audio player, iPods have established itself as the icon of the digital age. Its popularity, ease of use and huge potential has taken the music industry by storm. It has taken a life of its own because it has created numerous gadgets and applications that appeal to the geeks, yuppies, artists and fashionistas. As more and more people fall in love with iPods, engineers will continue to work and deliver us the accessories that we can use to fully enhance our beloved toys.

## **The "Get Productive" Guide For New iPod Owners**

(Guide to the Maximum iPod Experience)

So you have got an iPod as a Christmas or birthday present. It looks good and holds true with its claim of a thousand songs in your pocket, huh? But do you know that iPod could do much more for you aside from entertaining you? To all new iPod owners, here is a guide on how to be productive with your iPod.

New iPod owners could find a sleek, sexy personal data assistant with their iPod. Read on below to learn how to sync contacts and calendars from your iPod to your computer, or use it to transfer soft files, of any format, to your computer, and read sticky notes.

### **Add VIPs**

All the stored information in your computer about the important people in your life that you know such as phone numbers, home addresses, email addresses, company name, birthdays, and other personal information, you can transfer it your new iPod.

If you're a Mac user, it is quite easy to sync your Address Book with your new iPod. If you're a Windows user, you can use Outlook Express or Microsoft Outlook to sync your contact details in your new iPod.

### **Sync Schedule**

Scheduled for a meeting with the top bosses tomorrow? Or have a date with the lady of your dreams on Saturday? You can sync your alarms and schedules from Mac's iCal with your new iPod. For Microsoft Windows users, your new iPod can work with Microsoft Outlook to sync schedules.

### **Take and Read Sticky Notes**

You do not need those yellow sticky notes to write anything that pops up in your head (since they always get lost, anyway) like, what are your deadlines for the day and the coming week, your grocery lists, driving directions, etc. You can take all your sticky notes inside your new iPod and carry it with you all the time.

Your new iPod can hold a total of 4096 characters or (4kb in total) for each note. So, keep in mind to keep your notes briefly so won't run out of character lines if you sync it with your new iPod.

How can you sync sticky notes from your computer to your new iPod?

Here's how.

1. Open your notepad or any word-processing application that can save the file into .txt. Type a new note to create your grocery lists or those bulleted to-do's that you have been laying aside for a few weeks already. Or if you want to keep an important email message or want to put in your new iPod lyrics of the songs from your new iPod's playlist, just copy the text and then paste it in a notepad.
2. Save document in .txt file.
3. Connect your new iPod to your Mac or Microsoft Windows computer.
4. Since you're a new iPod user, you might have not set your iPod for disk use. But if you are a techie new iPod user and already did this, skip this step.

To new iPod users who have not set their new iPod for disk use, enable this feature by doing these:

1. Open your iTunes program from your computer and then open iTunes preferences. Mac users should click 'Preferences' from the iTunes menu, while Microsoft Windows users should choose the 'Edit' menu first before clicking 'Preferences').

2. Find the iPod tab, click it, and then a new pane will open. Click in the iPod pane the Music tab.
3. A Select the "Enable disk use" checkbox, then click OK.
5. Open your iPod volume that appears on your desktop (Mac) or in My Computer (Windows) to display three folders: Calendars, Contacts, and Notes.
6. Drag your text file to the Notes folder on your iPod to add it.

### **Use the iPod as File Carrier**

If you haven't already figured it out by now, you can use any iPod model as an external hard drive, allowing you to copy files onto it and shuttle items from one computer to another. This comes in handy if you need to work on projects at the office or school and at home, or you want to transfer your digital music collection from your old computer to a new one. Here's how to enable this feature.

Show me how:

1. Connect your iPod to your computer.
2. Open iTunes (if it isn't open already), then open iTunes preferences (Mac users, choose Preferences from the iTunes menu; Windows users, on the Edit menu, click Preferences).
3. Click the iPod tab, then click the Music tab in the iPod pane.
4. Select the "Enable disk use" checkbox, then click OK.

Your iPod should now appear as a mounted volume on your desktop (Mac) or in My Computer (Windows). To copy files for transport, simply drag any file onto the iPod volume icon, or double-click the volume, create a new folder (or folders), and copy items to it.

### **Reviews on the iPod**

There are many things that people say about apple iPods. iPod reviews are posted all over the Internet and there will always be good or bad reviews available for the interested reader.

Here are some of the summarized iPod reviews available on the Internet:

#### **Pros of iPod**

Throughout the years, music lovers have acknowledged the crisp sound produced by the Apple iPod. iPod reviews have always attempted to describe the different music experience is always felt by the listener and every record song seems to be played live. Aside from this, here are the features that people have written in their iPod reviews. Things that they love about Apple iPod:

1. Apple iPod reviews claimed that the hard drive can hold more than five thousand songs. Now, this number of songs is enough that a user would not be able to listen to the same song twice.
2. Apple iPod reviews reveals that the hard drive boasts of a forty gigabytes of storage space.
3. Apple iPod reviews comes with an ergonomic design which is the Click Wheel. Using the Click Wheel, users can easily browse through the controls of either fast forward, play, reverse, pause and stop. Apple iPod users can even access the menus using the Click Wheel.
4. Apple ipod reviews also counted the long battery life of up to 12 hours as very helpful to the image of Apple iPod. What is the use of storing about 5 thousand songs inside the Apple iPod if the battery would not last until all the songs have been played.
5. Apple iPod reviews also listed the capability of users to set up play lists on the Apple iPod.
6. Apple iPod reviews also lists the shuffle function as one of the most notable function of the iPod. It creates a sense of randomness in the play list avoiding boredom for the user.
7. Apple iPod reviews revealed that the Apple iPod is an excellent audio player. This is due to four reasons:
  - a. The menu system of the Apple iPod is super-intuitive.
  - b. The sound quality is great. Although, other users contend that the Apple iPod would be better sounding through the use of other headphones.
  - c. The storage size for the Apple iPod relative to its size is a bonus.
  - d. Lastly, but definitely not the least, they consider this the most important; thousands of accessories of the Apple iPod to choose from.

### **Cons of iPods**

1. Apple iPod reviews revealed that post sales services of the Apple iPod are not good. The service warranty of Apple iPods does not cover "abuse," which by itself is a very general term. Service stores of the Apple iPods sometimes argue that the malfunctioning of the iPods was caused by the abuse of the user.
2. Apple iPod reviews have also revealed posts that after the warranty of the iPod expired, weird things started to happen to the iPod. The Apple iPod is supposed to be skip-free, with enough battery life to last and a robust hard drive.

After the warranty year, however, it was reported that the iPod started skipping, the hard drive usually failed and the battery life suddenly became somewhat shorter.

3. Apple iPod reviews have also revealed that the Apple iPod seem to have a software bug or design flaw. Tracks being played are meant to flow continuously from one track to the next. The Apple iPod, however, sometimes blanks out for a moment between tracks.

4. Apple iPod reviews also revealed that users wish that Apple would make the video player more perfect. Doing so would shatter the competition and make Apple iPod the number one music player.

5. Apple iPod reviews also mentioned that users have an occasional problem with the iTunes. Also, the computer which has a MAC OS sometimes have difficulty recognizing the iPod when plugged. It also occasionally freezes up.

6. Apple iPod reviews also revealed that Apple iPod are easily affected by static inside a coat pocket. This cause the Apple iPod to randomly switch off occasionally.

7. Apple iPod reviews also discussed that the battery life expectancy of the Apple iPod is realistic only if the user would avoid using the backlight and the equalizer of the device.

Based from the Apple iPod reviews, the music lovers uses other products similar to the Apple iPod such as Creative Jukebox 3, Nuvo MP3 players, Archous Jukebox, Rio, Fist MP3 player, Creative Muvo2. Creative Zen Xtra, Creative Zen Touch, Sony minidisc player, Siemens SL-45 MP3 player, and Sony WM-D6 Pro.

## **The iPod Video Converter**

First, there came BetaMax. It lasted for a long time, but had to end when the VCD was invented. VCD are discs, which, alone, is one of the reasons why it is more referred to than the hard tapes of the BetaMax.

The VCD still works but more and more people use the DVD compared to those who still watch films on VCD. DVD always has clear copies. The only problem is, you need to have a number of wires, to be connected to a medium, most usually a television set, before you can actually avail of the entertainment a certain movie can give you. This is not the same case with the iPod.

iPod videos are now hitting the markets and are quite a trend. These said videos are videos that you can watch on your iPod. Neat, huh? But like any other good thing, there is always a bad side.

But the good side always wins, so there's no reason to fret. However (the bad side), not all videos can be viewed. Reason, mainly, is that not all video files match the type that of the iPod videos. This leads you to the conclusion that a conversion is needed before you can attain the experience of watching box office films on your iPod. There has only been one converter, that has been invented, that can do something about this dilemma (this is another good side that overpowers the bad side).

You need an iPod video converter. Not just any iPod video converter, but the Xilisoft iPod video converter. The Xilisoft iPod video converter builds in a lot of codecs to be able to convert video files like AVI, MPEG, WMV, MOV, RM, RMVB, DivX, ASF, VOB, and 3GP. These different types of video files are not so easy to convert, but the Xilisoft iPod video converter does it all.

When it converts the videos into iPod MP4, the clarity and level of comprehension does not lessen. The Xilisoft iPod video converter connects audiso files too. The audio file types that are WAV, WMA, MP2, AC3, RA, and OCG, are converted by this said iPod video converter into iPod MP#, M4A, or AAC.

You do not have to worry about getting the file you downloaded tampered or, even worse, destroyed, for the Xilisoft iPod video converter does all these conversion processes in a very fast manner, at the same time, very easy to manage and handle. The quality of your files are in good hands, thus, well intact.

If you have a very high satisfaction level, and are not easily impressed with the settings of the Xilisoft, then you can just readjust the settings. The settings are very easy to adjust. You can change a file's video size, if the file is either too big, or too small for you to view it on your iPod; bit rate; frame ratio; and many more adjustable settings.

The Xilisoft iPod video converter also supports batch conversion and multithreading, which allows you to convert a multiple number of files at the same time. This way, you save time and could allot the time left for doing something else that is constructive or helpful. You use the time left to look for other videos or video files or audio files for your Xilisoft iPod video converter to do what it does best. This way, you can get to enjoy more music and videos on your iPod.

This iPod video converter does a lot of things for you. This is so because it lets you see the preview of the files' conversion first before actually converting them. Here, it acts like a fortune teller, wherein the future state of your iPod file is revealed to you, only that, in this case, you are given a chance to decide whether to proceed with the conversion or not.

This prevents you from downloading tracks or videos that do not really sound good once converted. It saves you time, space, and your patience as well.

The Xilisoft iPod video converter is indeed a thing to have, for with this kind of ipod video converter, you get to enjoy the comfort of your television sets, even if you're far from home.

## **The Advent of DVD to iPod Technology**

### **Why DVD?**

DVD is the latest craze in technology breakthroughs. Since the advent of the timetable discs in the 50's, technology has reached new heights almost every decade with the release of the Betamax tapoes, VHS tapes, audio cds, laser discs, video CDs, mini discs and all sorts of data storing accessories. The DVD is the latest of these data-storing acessories. Carrying Dolby

Stereo sound and high end picture image, viewers and listeners can be assured of the best quality possible in movies and music records.

### **The Features of Apple iPod**

The Apple iPod has always been a stand out not only in design but also in its features. Below are some of the features people love most about the Apple iPod:

1. The Apple iPod users can store and record about five thousand songs.
2. The Apple iPod users can store data on a forty gigabytes of harddrive space. The storage of the five thousand songs is not the end of it.
3. The Apple iPod users can easily maneuver their way with the iPod controls because of the Click Wheel.
4. The Apple iPod users can expect to have a longer period of music and videos because of the long battery life of the Apple iPod. The battery life of an Apple iPod usually last about 12 hours.
5. The Apple ipod users can expect a more easier tuning to music due to the ability of the iPod for an easy set up of a music playlist.
6. The Apple iPod users can also expect to be happy with the shuffle function providing them with random feel to the playlist.

With these basic features, the iPod have increased its sales and is now number one among the MP3 playing devices. Apple, however did not stop there, they started introducing more accessories, more add-ons that eventually gave the Apple iPod an edge over other multimedia players. A feature, however, that was missed by iPod is the DVD to iPod software.

### **The iPod Media Studio 2.0**

#### iPod Hacks

For sometime, Apple techies and fanatics have introduced many modifications to the Apple iPod. These modifications aims to help the Apple iPod user to personalize their iPods. Apple iPods has been modified by techies by using iPod hacks. Techies are bent on giving more power to the user in terms of customization and personalization of their Apple iPod.

#### What are iPod hacks?

iPod hacks are either softwares or hardwares that improves the appearance, capabilities or features of an Apple iPod. Summing it up, iPod Hacks is anything that provides modifications to the Apple iPod. One such available iPod hack is a software that provides DVD to iPod capability to the usual Apple iPod. Various firmwares on the Internet offer free software of DVD to iPod technology.

## **DVD to iPod Software**

DVD to iPod, this is the feature that everyone wishes to have, but unfortunately, the Apple iPod did not provide. The iPodMedia provides DVD to iPod capabilities to the Apple iPod. It is the fastest software available for DVD to iPod transfers or to move DVD's directly into your video Apple iPod. By using this DVD to iPod software, you can enjoy watching DVD movies on the beautiful 2.5 inches LCD monitor of the Apple iPod. It is currently 400 percent faster than any other DVD to iPod products on the market.

Imagine this, anyone can convert any movie from DVD (DVD to iPod), and not only that; any recorded material from the television, or even movies that you recorded from home using a DV-camcorder, even a movie record from a digital still camera is possible for conversion.

With 2 mouse clicks using the DVD to iPod software, convert the movies into a file that is optimized for playback. It must be optimized with the Apple iPod's built-in video player.

Anyone can now enjoy movies with a surprisingly sharp and clear picture with additional quality stereo CD sound. Also, new Cyberspeed technology will allow a user of up to 400 percent faster conversion from DVD to iPod. In fact, in a span of less than 45 minutes, a user can put a complete DVD movie on the iPod.

The DVD to iPod technology is the ideal solution for all frequent travelers or just to manage the kids while driving the car.

Apple iPod users can store up to 100 video hours (if the Apple iPod is a 60 Gb model) or 50 video hours (if the Apple iPod is a 30 Gb model). Any video of either feature films or TV and movie content.

Do not worry if the DVD is sourced from abroad, all subtitles, foreign languages, and even the quality of Dolby surround sound are supported. Users have no need for the Quicktime Pro. The DVD to iPod software would run on any PC with Windows NT, XP or Windows 2000 Operating System.

This DVD to iPod software can also automatically zoom or widescreen movies with the ratio 16:9 to be able to fit on the 4:3 iPod screen. The user can even have a manual option to turn this feature off.

The iPodMedia Studio is about US\$ 32.95 and has a lifetime support.

## **Handling the Apple iPod Fame and Lawsuits**

With the success of the apple iPod series of Apple Computer, it is no wonder that there will be an apple iPod lawsuit on the table. Apple Corps sued the apple iPod creator, Apple Computer, of a breach in their agreement over the use of their famous trademark. Last March 2006, the hearing for the Apple iPod began before the London court.

Before any of the loyal fans of this iconic device dismiss this Apple iPod case as envy, it is important to look behind the court history of these two companies. The Apple iPod case is the latest court battle of these companies. In the early 80s, Apple Computer paid Apple Corps \$80,000 and promised that they will never enter the music business. 1989 proved to be another hot year between them after Apple Corps took Apple Computer to court again, this time for a music-making program and a microphone.

The latter paid Apple Corps another \$26 million and was allowed to sell goods and services for the reproduction, play, running or otherwise delivery of music content. Apple Corps maintained the rights to creative works containing music. Their agreement only prevented Apple Computer in distributing content on media like CDs and tapes. It is vague on the stand pertaining to later inventions like digital music files or even the devices that they run on.

Mainly a trademark dispute, the Apple iPod case has become a much-anticipated issue. Because of the 1991 agreement, Apple Computer says that they are allowed to use the logo on the apple iPod and iTunes because they don't own the rights to all their music, just the digital technology to handle its distribution. Whatever they have used the trademark on is well within their agreement.

Anthony Grabiner, Apple Computer's lawyer believes they have a strong defense against Apple Corps. Meanwhile, Apple Corps is seeking damages and demands that the company and apple iPod maker to stop its use of the apple logo on their iTunes Music Store and the in advertising for the site.

Many fans of the Apple Computer products think that the Apple iPod case has some bearing. There are those who suggest that Apple Computer should just completely change its logo to end any lawsuit from being filed against them in the future. Ilounge.com visitors see this Apple iPod case as an admission that Apple Computer has indeed violated their agreement with Apple Corps especially when they are judged by the previous settlements that the former offered.

What this Apple iPod case really shows is a warning to all companies. Trademark and copyright lawsuits can be very expensive to settle especially when your company has just picked up business. That is why many companies invest heavily in market research, branding and patents. Make sure that you check the copyright of any of your business processes, logos and symbols before releasing it to the public. Setting everything in order will help your company avoid nasty court battles such as the Apple iPod case.

Eddie Cue, iTunes vice president at Apple Computer, took the witness stand April 3, 2006 to defend his company. Cue testified that the Apple Computer did not violate their 1991 agreement by using the Apple logo on their iTunes Music Store. What they provided was data transmission and not the original rights to the songs.

During the closing in the Apple iPod case, Anthony Grabiner defended Apple Computer's right to use the logo because they are promoting the iTunes store and not the music itself and as long as they indicate the origin of the software and downloading services, they have not breached anything.

Apple iPod will still remain as the most popular audio and multimedia player device in the market despite lawsuits filed against them. The apple iPod sales will continue to soar as users and patrons find more and more ways to use their apple iPod in their daily lives. Of course, there will be dissidents. By experience, anyone who can complain will complain so no matter how Apple iPod tries to meet its consumer's needs, they can't please everyone.

The ruling for the Apple vs. Apple trademark case is unlikely to be before the Easter break. As to how this all ends for the apple iPod, we will just have to wait and see.

### **Apple Drowns in iPod Lawsuit**

When a product is meant for sale, it has to meet certain quality standards. It is not different with the case of the Apple iPods. With the release of up to five generations of the unit, one has to wonder how strict they are with its manufacturing procedures. An iPod lawsuit being filed by different complainants project the image that Apple has been very irresponsible with the production of these portable music devices.

One of the iPod lawsuit filed are claims that the unit causes hearing damages. The complainant in the iPod lawsuit states that the company does not warn users of its physical risks, and the design of the iPod's white earbud phones increase the chances of hearing loss. There was even one rumor that fuels this iPod lawsuit that said that Apple's engineers increased the iPod's sound because they reasoned that CEO Steve Jobs is almost deaf.

Such childish remarks only serve to discredit the iPod lawsuit. But in this case, it only shows how irresponsible Apple has been with neglecting to consider quality standards. But with the new release of the fifth generation iPod, this iPod lawsuit will no longer be a problem since iPod has included the capability to lower the volume and even fix a volume range to a certain level so that parents can limit the sounds their children take when listening to their iPod.

Another iPod lawsuit raised is the battery life. The consumers, who filed the suit, alleged that iPod failed to stand to its claims of the rechargeable battery lasting the product's lifetime and continuously play music for up to 10 hours. Thousands of consumers who has read the iPod lawsuit also complained that the iPod's battery--costing \$99 to replace--lasted only 18 months or less and it only played music for four hours before recharging.

Because of this, many consumers with battery problems on older versions of the iPod digital music player will receive \$50 vouchers and an extended service warranties as ordered from a tentative settlement filed under the said class-action lawsuit. The iPod lawsuit could affect 2 million users in the US who purchased first-generation, second-generation and third-generation iPod's through May 2004.

Environmentalists were also upset, saying the short-lived battery encouraged consumers to dispose of their old devices, which were ending up in landfills and possibly leaking toxins. Apple has been the target for yearlong campaign by these environmental groups, who are asking the executives to reduce/eliminate recycling fees for their consumers and build recycling centers for the iPod.

However, Apple has done almost nothing to discourage the iPod as a disposable unit and there is a possibility of a future iPod lawsuit should they continue to neglect the problem.

One can quickly address this iPod lawsuit and say that there are available third-party gadgets to prolong, charge the iPod easily or even replace the battery. These batteries contain more capacity than its original standard Apple batteries. However, since the battery is a major part of the music player device, its inability to meet the claims on the box does implicate that Apple iPod is liable to those who filed the iPod lawsuit.

The iPod lawsuit does not end there. Another class suit was filed against Apple for the replacement fees being charged to customers for replacing the broken iPod nano screens. The iPod lawsuit alleges that the iPod nano is defective because the screen is easily scratched and the company is breaking the product warranty by charging \$25 for their replacements. They contend in the iPod lawsuit that since the Nano cannot withstand normal use without being damaged, the company should have appropriate warnings to the consumer.

What does this entire iPod lawsuit mean for Apple Computer? Make better products or they end up paying settlements left and right. Just like every other industry, Apple Computers must fix products deemed defective for free or refund the costs its paid customers, especially when it is within the warranty period to lessen the iPod lawsuit filed against them.

Many see this iPod lawsuit as a wake up call for the billionaire company to be strict with their quality control, be responsible in their advertising, and be efficient with their after-sales service. As long as greedy companies are duping people into buying inferior products, many more lawsuits like the iPod lawsuit will surface.

## **No Need to Shout for iPod Help**

(iPod Help is Here)

In the last two years, Apple iPod has been releasing new models every six to eight months. Every new iPod that come offers new feature not available from the previous ones. In fact many features have been totally changed that some units need to be phased out (like the iPod mini). It is for this reason that iPod help center regularly updates their iPod help at the Apple's official website, the Apple.com

iPod help are specifically made to accommodate and answer the needs of iPod users owning iPods of different generations. If you are a new iPod owner, of a first to fifth generations or iPod nano, iPod mini, or iPod shuffle, you might wonder what are the things you could do with your iPod. Now that you have shouted help, we will bring you five top things that new iPod owner ask for and the iPod help and answers that correspond them.

### **iPod Help 1: Know thy iPod Battery**

iPod help states that your iPod battery shall last for 300 to 500 recharge cycles. Meaning, after the 500th discharge and recharge, you need to replace not just the battery but the entire unit at the Apple Center for a refurbished unit with new set of iPod battery.

There are many iPod help documentations about iPod batteries. iPod help iPod users to understand how an iPod battery works, how new iPod users can save power and thus enjoy their iPod batteries longer.

### **iPod Help 2: Know thy special features**

iPod help states that iPod is not just for entertainment. iPod nano, iPod mini, iPod shuffle, and iPod video may actually be used as a personal assistant.

You can add your address book and personal information of all the people you know from your computers to your iPod nano, iPod mini, iPod shuffle, and iPod video. You can do this by following the instructions from the iPod help center.

It's quite easy. It is just a simple sync in feature that can be done by simply attaching your iPod nano, iPod mini, iPod shuffle, and iPod video to your computer and then by pressing some tabs on the iTunes.

Aside from the 'Sync My Address Book' feature of iPod nano, iPod mini, iPod shuffle, and iPod video, you can also sync your schedules using iCal for Mac or Microsoft Outlook and Outlook Express for Microsoft Windows.

With the iPod help center, you will be taught on how to attach and read small sticky notes to and from your iPod nano, iPod mini, iPod shuffle, and iPod video.

### **iPod Help 3: Know thy third party software**

iPod help center also offers free downloads of iPod software. iPod can help you on how to install dictionary, translators and text-to-speech translators to your iPod nano, iPod mini, iPod shuffle, and iPod video.

Some iPod software from the iPod help center are offered for free. iPod help center call this a freeware. iPod help center also has shareware software which you can use for free but for a limited time only.

There is this shareware offered at the iPod help center that will work best for travelers: the Accio Dictionary for iPod.

With this shareware, you can listen to translations of phrases and words that a tourist often ask to a native, like asking directions or asking for a name or saying thanks and sorry. The translations in Accio Dictionary are spoken by native speakers.

### **iPod Help 4: Earn thy living through Podcasting**

You might have heard of Podcasting before, but never did it make you turn around the computer and read about it again. Here is your chance to know about it and earn through it. Podcasting is an entertainment media, a new generation, that is, that permits listeners to subscribe to shows, radio-style. These podcasts can be downloaded from the subscribers' computers and can be listened either in their computer or in their iPod nano, iPod mini, iPod shuffle, and iPod video.

iPod help center accepts podcasts submission, which the iPod help center will submit to the iTunes store. Podcasters can offer their podcasts for free or for a fee.

Many people have earned money through podcasting. You can also benefit from podcasting too by learning the ins and outs of podcasting at the iPod help center. Just log on to Apple.com website and go to the iPod and iTunes support and help center.

### **iPod Repair Service Centers**

If you are contemplating on putting up your own business, why not try to learn the ins and outs of iPod repair service center? If you will scout the net, you will find that very few offer iPod repair service. In fact, your State doesn't even have one.

Although Apple have some offices in some States that offer iPod repair service, third party are not discouraged to put up their own iPod repair service center.

### **About the Apple iPod Repair Warranty**

Apple iPod offers one year warranty for newly purchased iPod nano, iPod mini, iPod video and iPod shuffle. This warranty includes replacement of the entire unit for iPod nano, iPod mini, iPod video and iPod shuffle that has factory defects, iPod repair service for screen repair and circuitry repair, and refurbished unit replacement for battery repair.

When the one year warranty expires, owners of iPod nano, iPod mini, iPod video and iPod shuffle may avail of the \$59 battery replacement service. This is not a battery replacement service, actually. The \$59 serves as your fee for receiving a refurbished iPod with a new set of lithium batteries.

If you require other iPod repair services other than battery replacement, you have to pay at the cost of almost half of the cost of a brand new iPod. For instance, if you would like your first generation iPod to be repaired at the Apple iPod repair center, the iPod repair service fee is as much as the cost of a brand new third generation iPod. So some iPod owners just buy a new one instead of having their old iPod repaired.

With this costs, this is the reason why many iPod users are looking for iPod repair service center that can do the job that Apple iPod center does, but at a cheaper cost.

## **Why Not Put Up Your Own iPod Repair Service Center?**

You can offer iPod repair services such as battery replacement, screen replacement or microdrive replacement.

Some online iPod repair service centers offer iPod screen repair service for just a hundred bucks for fifth generation and iPod video and fifty to seventy bucks for first to second generation monochrome iPods.

This is much cheaper compared to the \$200 plus iPod repair service fee that Apple iPod center offers.

If you want to tap the repair market, which still has a few competitors to spar with, you might learn the iPod repair market by studying the activities and services being offered of your future competitors.

### **Services that you can offer:**

- screen replacement
- battery upgrades,
- audio jack repair
- hard drive or microdrives upgrades

### **Online iPod Repair Centers**

#### Techstore

Techstore has opened its iPodRestore program for those those who care for their iPods more than their own mothers. With its Full-Restore plan, a box specially designed to carry your iPod nano, iPod mini, iPod video or iPod shuffle will be sent to you, which you need to ship back, with your iPod unit in it, to the iPod repair center of iPodRestore.

This costs for \$29, which already includes the overnight from iPodRestore to your home and then to your home back to iPodStore and from iPodstore back to your home, and an estimate of your iPod's condition.

After iPodRestore receive your iPod, a technician will call and email you within 24 hours with a repair diagnosis and service repair price. You can opt to hire them to fix your iPod or ask them to send your iPod back to you at no extra cost.

They also offer Self-Restore program if you want to do the tinkering by yourself for \$10. You have to supply your own iPod repair materials for this.

#### iPodMods.com

iPodMods.com works like iPodRestore program but its approach in transporting iPods for repair differ in some ways.

iPodMods.com does not charge any fee for diagnostic testing. They will email you instructions on how to send your iPod to their iPod repair and testing center. Of course, the iPod owner bears the cost of the shipping.

iPodMods.com offers all types of iPod repair services such as battery replacement, hard drive or microdrive repair and upgrades, iPod screen repair, and earphone and jack port repair.

**You are invited to pass this report along to as many people as you like,** provided that you make no changes to it and that you give it away for FREE.

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