

MAC OS X SNOW LEOPARD: Mr. PERFECT

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POGUE, D. *Mac OS X Snow Leopard: kompletní průvodce*. 1. vyd. Brno : Computer Press, 2010. 952 s. ISBN 978-80-251-2793-3.

The year 2010 is beneficial to the Czech so called "apple-users" (the Apple computers' owners and friends) thanks to two great publications available in the Czech bookstores. There are: one publication by David Pogue, reviewed by ourselves, and a book called Objective-C 2.0: Classroom in a Book Programming for Mac Os X and iPhone by Stephen Koch. The books differ in authorship however they have the common interest in alternative operation system Mac Os X Snow Leopard (the latest version).



David Pogue, the author of publication, is a well-known expert in the field of technical books, the personal technology columnist for the *New York Times* and an Emmy Award-winning tech correspondent for CBS News. He is also one of the world's bestselling how-to authors. He has published more than 50 books, mainly from Missing Manual edition (translation: a complete guide). The English origin of the publication we reviewed comes from the edition mentioned above. The Pogue's passion – the musician belongs among his hobbies and previous jobs. Even the author's contact can be found inside the publication.

Some other experts enriched the book, for example Julia Van Keuren, Phil Simpson, Brian Jepson, and Chris Stone. Also it is interesting that the Missing manual edition involves another 9 publications on the topic of the Macintosh.

The book has 952 pages in total and is divided into 6 parts, 22 chapters and the last sixth chapter is marked as an attachment, divided into five sections A ÷ E.

The reader receives one of few books of Computer Press publisher. The book is hard-backed which we consider to be the best solution for book's life (taking into account nearly 1000 pages). The violet-black book jacket reminds the original "wallpaper" of desktop for Mac OS X users. The high-quality ICT literature can surprise with its higher price (approximately 1.000 CZK).

The Apple company, developing Mac Os, is known for its special naming and numeric marking, e. g. 10.0, or numeric coding, e. g. 10.6 to which a name of feline is usually added, e. g. Cheetah, Tiger, 10.5 Leopard and the latest version 10.6 Snow Leopard. The most significant difference from its biggest competitive company is the intuitiveness of operating system, simplicity, and low energy intensity for mobile device or high resistivity against computer viruses in general. Practically, it means the user cannot launch any file with filename extension EXE in Mac Os system. Although the market offers only 9 % of Mac Os system, the company Microsoft is aware of competing business and develops a popular office set Microsoft office even for Mac Os systems.

The following part of our review is focused on some crucial chapters in the publication useful for users. In the introduction, we learn all the basic controls Snow Leopard, the differences between traditional "windows" and the specifics of Snow Leopard, as well as on the specific installation of new applications. The section about system components offers all options of system setting, including tips and tricks for Exposé operation which is similar to Aero within

Windows Vista and Windows 7 systems. The Mac Os relies on the basic facilities of the whole system and on the extension of applications similar to open source application. The internet offers many applications similar to well-known and popular Windows, e. g. Total Commander, compression programs to create virtual drives, or the office package Open Office. One part is devoted to online applications and entertainment in the form of iChat, iTunes (typical for mobile communicators Apple iPhone). Practical users and administrators appreciate the chapter with complements where the detailed information are added (e. g. Mac Os installation, options of Windows installation as the second operating system to Mac computers, or boot-management possibilities. Linguists enjoy special explanatory glossary of terms from the Macintosh computers.

The book is written using different font size of text and chapter headings, often bold or italic is used which is better for readers. Notes of the author are added into the light grey frames. Despite the considerable number of pages, the number of typist's errors is small. As pseudo-formal recommendation we can suggest the use of tabs at the beginning of paragraph for better arrangement.

The professional publication should have not only new users of iMac, Mac Pro, MacBook, etc., but also to the current or advanced ones to expand their existing theoretical knowledge leading to the acquisition of new practical skills.

A detailed structure of the book and high-frequency of images makes the publication very attractive even for learners of Mac Os X system within the secondary or tertiary education.

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