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Tip of the Week

Palm
 Instead of installing palm mirror, just use the contrast button and turn to max contrast. the screen will darken, which is exactly what palm mirror does.

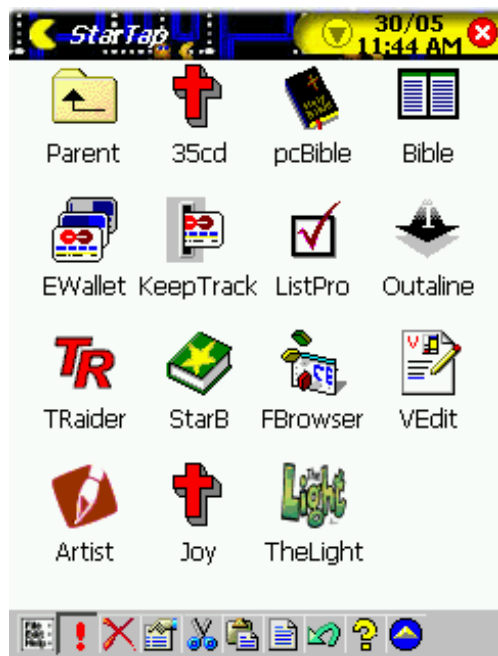
Pocket PC

If you don't know which processor you have, go into the Control Panel or Settings and look under System > About. That works fine on most systems, but some embedded systems don't have a Control Panel, so with a registry editor go to [HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\Ident] and you may find the device name there. The processor type (MIPS, SH3, etc) is sometimes stored in the registry.

PPC Tutorial: The Next Step

Article Written by [Henry Kong](#) 06/19/2001

Article



Doesn't this look good? :)



Peter's GameBox 2.5

Congratulations if you have purchased a PPC. If all you have been doing with it is a little more than you would with a filofax or organiser, here are some tips to help you get more out of it.

The first thing you need to do is to keep your PPC organized. [StarTap](#) not only sports the best file explorer around, but IMHO comes with the nicest, easiest to use home menu (see the first screenshot) and lots more for the PPC. I assigned my second button to this power tool as I used it a trillion times each day. It is easy to keep track of all your programs and also to capture screens, do short cuts, task management etc. etc.

Next, you may want to do more things than you thought possible, in a smarter way. If you are like me, you take your PPC everywhere, so it is an handy input device to keep tract of your every transaction. [KeepTrack](#) is the quickest way to update your expenses on the run - all with a few taps. There is even a desktop version to help you do all the complicated stuff to balance your accounts. Seeing is believing.

Using ready-made programs are great, but it's lots more fun if you can customised them to your needs. I enjoy writing databases with ThinkDB (Palm OS format) when I was using



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various Palm pdas, and now I find [HandBase](#) even better. Especially when it comes to converting files from Exel and csv formats. It is easy to do lists for trips packing, prayer lists, loans, rosters to addresses. Hundreds more of modifiable HandBases are found at their site.

One of the most profitable uses of PPC is to read books while on the road. The eBook reader that comes with your PPC is slow and hard to navigate. I recommend a book reader that I use instead, [StarBuck](#). It is a nice, fast, easy-to-use reader with every feature that you can ask for. As it can read all the usual formats (TXT, HTML, bReady, UniCode, and its own native format, Zipped-HTML) as well as Palm OS' (PRC, PDB) you can access thousands of free material already at [MemoWare](#), the largest collection of eBooks on the net.

Talking about reading, many I know like to keep up to date with news, sports and stock market. Without spending incurring additional costs, using your existing desktop, it is easy to connect to [Avantgo](#) and download your favorite channels daily. It is also possible to save precious RAM space by configuring everything to be placed in the storage card.

If you are looking for a Bible software, why not go for the entire library of commentary, dictionary, study aids etc - all 8mb worth. Check out my writeup on the [complete reference works](#). These library of Bible aids are so important to me, that as much as I liked the new Sony Clie n710c, I can never go back to an 8mb pda. It's a great feeling to be able to carry so much stuff to Bible class, church and especially on the mission field.

Finally, if you are the type that never play games on your PPC, let me recommend the only program you really need, [Peter's Box](#). Since my writeup, Peter has added Mahjongg Rivers and plain old Mahjongg (see above menu). It is the best freeware set of 8 well-crafted games you'll find anywhere, with more coming soon. They are great for a quick blast, comic relief or to waste your entire day!

Here you are, a variety of 7 programs that will transform you from just a PPC owner to a PPC user. Once you have the taste of first blood, you may be on your way to becoming a power user!



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Managing Your PPC

Article written by [Henry Kong](#) 05/30/2001

Article

PDA's are the most useful objects of desire these days. They organise your day, remind you of birthdays and keep you up-to-date with the latest news. But how are you managing these PDA's? Do you leave expired appointments in your valuable RAM? Are there any double entries? And God forbid, should you clutter up your PDA with useless junk! Despair, no more. Whether you are looking for some handy tips or wondering what kind of software are available, read on!



Main Memory

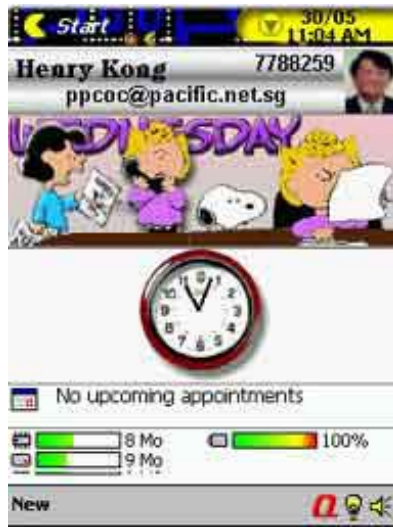


Storage Card Memory wow!

The first thing you need to do is to get as large a capacity compact flash as you can afford. These postage-size storage cards are fast and battery-efficient. Next, make it a habit of installing everything on the compact flash by answering 'No' to installing program into the default installation folder. Leave as much RAM to the CPU, not storage. Even [Avantgo](#) can be installed to storage card with a little hack at the registry. Take a look above and see the enormous free RAM (over 25mb) for an almost full-512mb CF running on a 32mb iPAQ.



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A new look for 'Today'

With that in mind, the first screen that we want to pretty up is the Today Screen, much akin to the Windows Desktop. As a moderate PIMS user, as you can see from the screen on the left, it is not overly decorative or busy.

I replaced the WinCE top bar with WISbar, which I use to close programs that do not have an exit option.

Using PPC's image utility, I added another small graphic bar with my office phone and email, together with my photo, in case I misplaced the PDA and hopefully, some honest guy finds it.

Next is the This-Is-The-Day's utility, which tells me what day it is instead of just, duh... today.

Sticky clock follows. Then the usual PIMS - appointments and or tasks. The Today'sInfo gives me a clearer readout of memory space and battery life than what WISbar offers.

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