





## Mac Musings

Wednesday, March 08 2006 @ 07:40 AM PST

# mac.column.ted: Ten Good Years: MacFixIt's 10th Anniversary

**Ted Landau**  
**March 2006**

This month is the tenth (10th!) anniversary of *MacFixIt*. Hard to believe!! Ten years on the Web is a very long time. That's like 75 in human years, isn't it? MacFixIt was started back before the word blog was in our vocabulary, before podcasts and RSS feeds, when Java still meant a cup of coffee. The World Wide Web itself was still relatively new; Netscape was still the dominant browser and Internet Explorer was just in its infancy. Macs were running System 7 and Mac OS X was not yet even a dream. It was before Steve Jobs returned to Apple, before the iPod or the iMac or the i-anything.

If you had asked me 10 years ago, whether all that happened to MacFixIt would ever happen, I would have said: "No, no way, not a chance." It took me by surprise as much (perhaps more so) as anyone. It wasn't even what I set out to do. Here's how it all began [and yes, I have written and spoken about some of this before; consider this the definitive and final "director's cut" version]:

### *Sad Macs Update Site is born*

MacFixIt's first posting was on March 20, 1996. Actually, that's not quite true. At the time of its debut, the site was called the *Sad Macs Update Site*. This rather odd name referred to a book I had written, called *Sad Macs, Bombs and Other Disasters*. A new edition of Sad Macs was coming out about every two years. In between, as a benefit to readers, I had been providing updated information via a document which I revised each month and uploaded to places such as AOL and CompuServe.

By the start of 1996, I began to take a closer look at the Web as an alternative way to distribute the document. I liked what I saw. Shifting to a Web site meant I could update the information as often as I wished and have the revisions be available as soon as I completed them.

But before I could launch a Web site, I first needed to learn how to create a Web site. At the time, I didn't have even a clue about how to go about this. So I got some books and began learning about http and html and all the rest. Eventually, I succeeded in creating a crude test page. Using my Mac as a Web server, I called a friend and asked him to try to load the page from his Mac. He could. The seed of MacFixIt had been planted!

Soon thereafter, the initial version of the Sad Macs Update Site was open to the public, using Web space provided by America Online to its members. Within a few months, I had moved the site to a professional web hosting service, using Unix-based servers.

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Here are some key firsts from the Sad Macs Update Site days:

**First postings.** The very first posting on the site (beyond the initial online version of the Update document itself) offered advice on using Apple's Drive Setup vs. the prior disk formatting utility, Apple HD SC Setup. Neither program is still in use today.

The first bug report, posted the same day, offered these comments:

"The current version of CompuServe Information Manager (2.4.3), which never much liked PCI-based Macs or Open Transport in System 7.5.2, seems only to have gotten more annoyed with System 7.5.3. Expect frequent hangs if you use it on PCI-based Macs."

**Vacation.** During this early period, I was only updating the site around three days a week. And, as I was the entire staff, the site remained stagnant if and when I took a vacation. The very first such break was from June 25 to July 20 (almost a month!). In subsequent years, an annual vacation was shifted to the period between Christmas and New Year's—and eventually eliminated altogether. Looking back, from the lens of today's daily updates, "never take a break" perspective, it's hard to believe that the site managed to survive such interruptions. But somehow it did.

**System Software coverage.** In July of 1996, I reported on an as-yet-unreleased version of the Mac system software, code-named "Son of Buster." This was the first time the site mentioned pre-release software. Such mentions were uncommon anywhere on the Web at the time; Mac rumor sites did not yet even exist. The name of the released version of the update was confusingly called System 7.5.3 Revision 3. The site's coverage of the system software continued after the software's release—with numerous troubleshooting items collected into a special report. This would evolve into MacFixIt's "Troubleshooting Mac OS" Reports, which remain among the site's most popular features.

**Macworld Expo coverage.** In August of 1996, I posted daily updates from the Boston Macworld Expo. Today, almost every Mac news site has near real-time coverage of the Keynote, with full reports often within minutes of the Expo opening. Back then, Sad Macs Update Site was one of the very few (maybe the only) one doing "live" coverage from the Expo, even if "live" really meant one day delayed.



### *Sad Macs Update Site: August 1996*

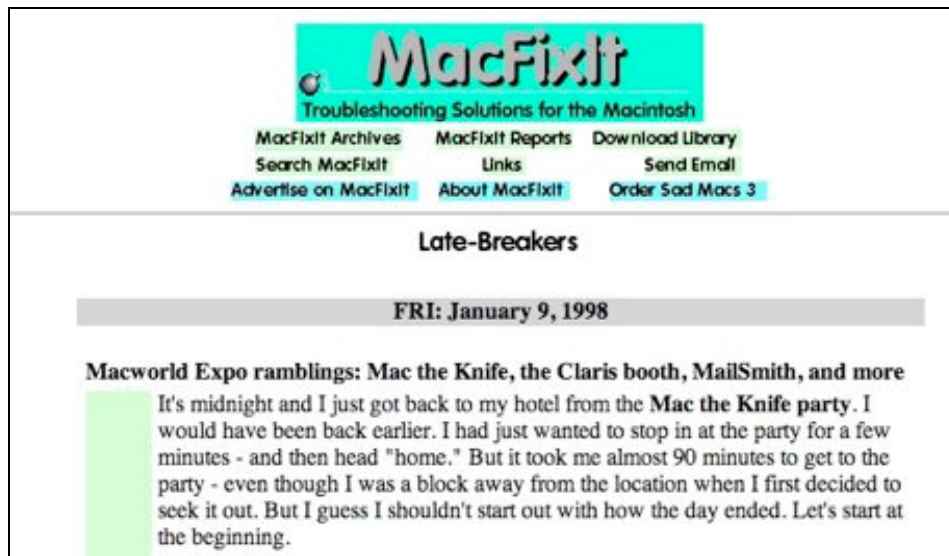
## From Sad Macs to MacFixIt

During these initial months, I was assisted by other early pioneers in the Mac Web site world, most notably Ric Ford of *MacInTouch* and Eric Belsley of the *Mac Resource Page*. They provided advice, encouragement and a welcome sense of community.

During this same time, the emphasis of site began to subtly shift. Rather than being primarily a place to provide the latest version of the Sad Macs Update document, complete with references to pages in the book, it was becoming a place for posting current troubleshooting-related Macintosh news (which I dubbed "Late-Breakers"), independent of any reference to my book. Using a blog-like format, these items were posted to the home page, rather than added to the Online Update document.

Similarly, the focus started to tilt from items based on my personal knowledge to one where readers provided the essence of the content. My job was becoming more one of sifting through (an ever-escalating amount of) email, deciding what was worth posting and then interpreting and editing the content. This was a different function that I had initially intended for the site, but one that I was finding both more challenging and more rewarding.

As this all became clear, I made the decision to change the name of the site, freeing it from any ties to Sad Macs and thus more accurately describing its new focus. And that is how, on October 10 1996, MacFixIt was launched.



### *MacFixIt: January 1998*

## A MacFixIt Timeline

Here are the events that I remember as most significant from the next several years:

**Advertising begins.** MacFixIt began accepting advertising on December 30, 1996. The idea of making money from the site, other than indirectly by increasing sales of my book, had never occurred to me. But it had reached the point that I needed to bring in at least some cash, just to justify the amount of my time MacFixIt was now taking. Still, I was reluctant to do so. Cold-calling vendors and asking them to pay for putting their banner on MacFixIt was not something I looked forward to doing (to put it mildly). Eric Belsley, who had already begun running ads on his site, gave me the push I needed. Somehow, I managed to get this off the ground. Within a few months, I had as many as two dozen ads running on the site. Suddenly I was managing a business as well as a Web site!

**One million hits.** With counting started from October 10, 1996, MacFixIt got its 1,000,000th hit in March of 1997. The growth of the site began to increase at an ever-accelerating rate. The three millionth hit was reached in July of the same year.

**First anniversary.** Here is a quote from an item posted on October 10 1997, noting the first anniversary of MacFixIt:

"I am confident what number one on the list [of top MacFixIt stories of the past year] would be: the discovery that installing the OpenTptRemote file from the OT/PPP Installer would fix persistent Type 11 errors...This item generated more letters of thanks (from users grateful to be rid of the problem) than any other item I have posted. Readers were all but promising to write me into their wills."

**A special Special Report.** In February of 1998, MacFixIt, MacInTouch, and the Mac Resource Page joined forces to produce a jointly-written Troubleshooting Mac OS 8.1 Special Report. It was the first and last time for this sort of combined effort. Our growing competitiveness exceeded our willingness to cooperate.

**Search MacFixIt.** By 1997, it had become clear that MacFixIt needed a search capability, so as to make its back content meaningfully accessible. Initially, I accomplished this via a canned

freeware search program. Fairly soon, this too became inadequate. Finally, in September 1998, I hired a programmer, Ladd Van Tol, to write a search tool specifically for MacFixIt. This was the first time I ever paid someone to work on MacFixIt.

The search software was later replaced after MacFixIt was purchased by TechTracker (see below). In the meantime, Ladd moved on to become one of TechTracker's first employees.

**MacFixIt Toolbox Awards.** These awards (for best troubleshooting-related software) were first given in December of 1998, and intermittently thereafter. The big winners in this first year were *Conflict Catcher* and *Data Rescue*.

**MacFixIt**  
Troubleshooting Solutions for the Macintosh

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**Late-Breakers :**  
Hassle-free updates for your Mac. Get UpdateAgent for only \$12.95. [CLICK HERE.](#)

Email your [Mac tips.](#)

**SAT: December 5, 1998**

**Mac OS 8.5-related disk damage: maybe it's not OS related after all**  
Kennedy Brandt (of Umax Computer Corporation) supplied some of the initial information leading to the widely covered "[disk damage](#)" or "[data loss](#)" [issue](#) potentially associated with Mac OS 8.5. He now offers this updated information:

To recap, Umax Computer Corporation observed a variety of problems with six different hard drives (out of 47 tested) after installation of Mac OS 8.5 on Umax SuperMac and Apple computers. Two of those drives, despite our best efforts, were irretrievably lost following installation of Mac OS 8.5.

### *MacFixIt: December 1998*

**April Fools.** For several years, I ran April Fools items. My favorites were the collection posted on April 1 1999. One item in particular, regarding StuffIt, resulted in an email from Aladdin half-seriously telling me that they almost notified their lawyers to go after MacFixIt, until they realized the item was a joke:

"Stung by criticism that its StuffIt 5.x utilities have more bugs than new features, Aladdin announced today that it will soon be releasing StuffIt 6.0. According to the press release, Aladdin has decided that, given today's larger hard drives and fast Internet connections, compression utilities are not really needed anymore. As a result, StuffIt 6.0 will not actually do anything. After running it, so-called compressed files remain unchanged except that a .sit, .bin, .sea or .hqx suffix is added to the file name. This allows other programs that expect to see these suffixes to continue to work properly with the files. Aladdin says that 6.0 will be a free upgrade, available online. However, as the upgrade will be only in StuffIt 6.0 format, users are predicting a 'Catch-22' where you need to somehow get a copy of the program before you can download it. Aladdin responded that this will not be necessary because, since StuffIt 6.0 files are not really compressed anyway, you can just run them directly."

**MacFixIt staff.** Sometime in the first quarter of 1999 (I don't recall the exact date), I hired the first "permanent" MacFixIt employee (other than myself!). Shawn Platkus was hired to help go through all the email MacFixIt was receiving. He would eventually be joined by several other employees, most notably Robert DeLaurentis (who worked with me on the home page content). Their work quickly became essential to the functioning of the site.

**MacFixIt Forums.** For some time, I had been looking for a way to allow readers to provide more interactive feedback than via email. I eventually decided to add a set of forums to the site. The *MacFixIt Forums* were born on June 16, 1999. Ilene Hoffman was the administrator of the Forums and she did a great job of running them for the next several years. [In 2003, MacFixIt would begin using blogging software, which added the ability for readers to post comments directly to news items.]

**Yahoo! Internet Life award.** In its January 1999 issue, *Yahoo! Internet Life* (a monthly print magazine, now no longer in publication) listed MacFixIt in its Top 100 Best of the Best Sites for 1998. This was one of numerous such awards and recognition that MacFixIt was receiving at the time. For example, *Macworld*, *MacAddict*, and *Mac Today* magazines would all name MacFixIt as one of the best Mac sites on the Web. The Internet Life award stands out for me, however, because the magazine was *not* a Macintosh-only publication, meaning the competition was that much greater.

**MacFixIt joins TechTracker.** On July 14, 2000, I sold MacFixIt (which was now officially MacFixIt Inc.) to TechTracker. This was the company that already owned *VersionTracker*. It was an exciting moment for me. Much like a proud parent, I was witnessing my "offspring" grow up and go out on its own. As a bonus, I was getting a significant amount of money. But there was also a tinge of regret: Even though I was continuing as editor of MacFixIt, I was no longer the owner of the site; things would never quite be the same again.

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Troubleshooting Solutions for the Macintosh

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FRI: January 26, 2001

**Mac OS 9.1 Report updated; PopChar and Window Monkey conflict; QuickKeys and MOM; MouseWorks and Rio; more**

We have updated our [Troubleshooting Mac OS 9.1](#) Report with a several new and updated items. In particular, we added:

- An [update](#) to the item on PopChar regarding a confirmed conflict involving PopChar Pro, Window Monkey and Mac OS 9.1.
- A likely [work-around](#) for QuickKeys problems in OS 9.1 (involving Microsoft Office Manager again!)
- [Confirmation](#) that DialAssist is another control panel that may fail to retain settings changes.
- A report of a conflict between Mouseworks and Rio software, and more.

**MacFixIt FORUMS**

Aladdin Systems

[OS 9.1: Report & Forum](#)  
[OS X: Report & Forums](#)

[MacFixIt Tips of the Week](#)  
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[MacFixIt's Year in Review](#)  
[Top Ten Stories of 2000](#)

**MacFixIt Poll**

Approximately how many times has your Mac

*MacFixIt: January 2001*

**Dual home pages.** Recognizing the growing importance of Mac OS X, MacFixIt began having two daily updated home pages in March of 2001: one page for Mac OS 9 and a second home page for Mac OS X coverage. Happily (for the weary MacFixIt staff!), on July 5 2002, MacFixIt returned to a single home page, as coverage of Mac OS 9 dropped off the radar entirely.

**9/11.** September 11, 2001. I would later write about this day in an end-of-the-year MacFixIt Year in Review column:

"It is the only time in the history of MacFixIt where our lead story had nothing to do with technology. We still remember trying to put together a page that morning, with the news of the crashes at the World Trade Center - and later at the Pentagon and in Pennsylvania - playing on the television in the background. We would stop to hear the latest updates, stare at the screen in disbelief, and then try to get back to work. Never were we so relieved to be done with a day's updates."

**Cease and desist.** On November 28 2001, MacFixIt found itself at the center of a controversy. As part of a larger article on troubleshooting Mac OS X 10.1.1, we included information on how to convert an OS X 10.1 Update CD into a full install CD. It was not meant to promote piracy but to solve a valid troubleshooting hassle (as documented at the time). But Apple didn't see it that way and soon notified us that they would take legal action if we did not remove the content. We immediately conceded to their request. Still, the story was out and it briefly received national attention—even the New York Times ran an article about it.

**MacFixIt Pro.** On January 22, 2002, MacFixIt launched MacFixIt Pro, its subscription-based service. While the home page and certain other content remained free, accessing and searching most older content required a subscription. While this is an increasingly accepted practice, it was very rare at the time. But it was deemed a necessary move to maintain the revenue required to keep the site going (this was at a time when Internet advertising was dropping like a bag of cement off a tall building). Some readers inevitably complained; I had some doubts myself. It was a difficult period of transition—but ultimately a successful one.

**The torch is passed.** On June 28, 2002, I stepped down as Editor of MacFixIt. Ben Wilson took over the job. It was a welcome change for me. As much as I sometimes miss being at the center of the MacFixIt vortex, six years was long enough for me to deal with the grind of daily updates. I still don't know how I found the time to do it all. I have no idea how Ben continues to do it.

Given the continual influx of new readers to the site, many visitors are probably unaware that I ever was the editor of MacFixIt. Surprisingly (at least to me), many long-time readers remain unaware that I am not still the editor. I continue to get email from people who believe I am still doing the home page. I am not. My role in MacFixIt now is only as a columnist (for the *mac.column.ted* column you are now reading) and for occasional other items (such as tutorials). Coincidentally, my very first column was posted in 2003 on October 10 (the MacFixIt anniversary date).

Behind the success of MacFixIt is a good deal of hard work. But there is also a significant element of luck: I was very much in the right place at the right time. I am almost certain that if I started a site such as MacFixIt today, it would never come close to attaining the same level of success. Regardless, here I am with the pleasant task of looking back at the history of MacFixIt on its tenth anniversary. Time to celebrate! Cheers!

*This is the latest in a series of mac.column.ted columns by Ted Landau. To see a list of previous columns, [click here](#). To send comments regarding this column directly to Ted, [click here](#). To get Ted's latest book, *Mac OS X Help Line*, [click here](#).*

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**The following comments are owned by whoever posted them. This site is not responsible for what they say.**

**Great job, Ted**Authored by: [slurslee](#) on Wednesday, March 08 2006 @ 08:31 AM PST

MacFixit remains at the top of my daily bookmarks. It continues to help me solve my own - and others' - Mac problems on a regular basis. Without it, I would not have the reputation of Mac Guru today! Here's to the next 10 years...

Scott Lahteine  
Thinkyhead Software

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|

| slur was here

|

[\[ Reply to This \]](#)**mac.column.ted: Ten Good Years: MacFixIt's 10th Anniversary**Authored by: [syko\\_dotmac](#) on Wednesday, March 08 2006 @ 09:05 AM PST

Congrats!

I've followed your site and book for a LONG time!! (:

John

[\[ Reply to This \]](#)**mac.column.ted: Ten Good Years: MacFixIt's 10th Anniversary**Authored by: [dfovy1](#) on Wednesday, March 08 2006 @ 09:31 AM PST

As a reader from almost the first day, I say thanks. You've saved me more hours than I can remember. And congratulations, as well. I remember 11 years ago, to fix a problem, I had to have someone mail (you remember mail, where you physically had someone deliver an actual item) me a disk with the latest Mac OS, 7.5.3 at the time, I think, on it to solve some problems. We've come a long way, haven't we? And MacFixIt has been the main reason people ask me how I know how to solve all these problems.

[\[ Reply to This \]](#)**mac.column.ted: Ten Good Years: MacFixIt's 10th Anniversary**Authored by: [RAG1](#) on Wednesday, March 08 2006 @ 09:57 AM PST

I've still got the Sad Macs book at home. Used it many times as a reference when I worked at a computer store and supported Macs.

[\[ Reply to This \]](#)**mac.column.ted: Ten Good Years: MacFixIt's 10th Anniversary**Authored by: [iGreg](#) on Wednesday, March 08 2006 @ 10:29 AM PST



Your Sad Macs books for classic OS and now HelpLine books on OS X are the best trouble-shooting books for the Mac.

I am still not crazy about the requirement of a paid subscription to access archives of the site. I know this will not stop now, but I think it is vital that the fee be kept low. LateBreakers home page and forums are still a key resource for trouble-shooting. Between using MacFixIt site and Apple Discussion forums I can almost always get any question answered.

Ted is without question a leading citizen of the Mac universe.

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iMac G5, 17", 1.8 GHz, 1GB RAM  
PowerBook G4, 12", 1.5 GHz, 768 MB RAM  
Both OS 10.4.5

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**mac.column.ted: Ten Good Years: MacFixIt's 10th Anniversary**

Authored by: [ncmphoto](#) on Wednesday, March 08 2006 @ 10:36 AM PST

Happy Anniversary! The Sad Macs book was one I purchased along with my first Mac and I found it absolutely essential. I've been a reader of MacFixit since it started, too - and a subscriber, though I find it sad that this essential site is mostly behind a subscription fee at present. Alas, free enterprise strikes again. In any case, keep up the good work.

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**mac.column.ted: Ten Good Years: MacFixIt's 10th Anniversary**

Authored by: [John Albergo](#) on Wednesday, March 08 2006 @ 11:03 AM PST

A fantastic service. This is the first site I check for answers and Mac-related news. Congratulations on your achievement.

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**mac.column.ted: Ten Good Years: MacFixIt's 10th Anniversary**

Authored by: [barrom](#) on Wednesday, March 08 2006 @ 11:06 AM PST

I wanted to add my congratulations and thanks as well. Been reading this site almost every day since I got my first Mac, which was way back in '98, so almost from the beginning. I can't believe it's been that long, and I too credit MacFixit with contributing to my knowledge of Macs, and my career as a Systems Admin. I don't think I'd be where I am today without this site.

My sincere thanks. And congratulations on 10 great years!

Mike Barron

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**mac.column.ted: Ten Good Years: MacFixIt's 10th Anniversary**

Authored by: [dontspammeplease](#) on Wednesday, March 08 2006 @ 11:16 AM PST

Congrats on the anniversary! This site has been making me look good and propelling my career as an expert geek since it began!

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**mac.column.ted: Ten Good Years: MacFixIt's 10th Anniversary**

Authored by: [macdoctornyc](#) on Wednesday, March 08 2006 @ 11:25 AM PST

THANK YOU MAC FIX IT !!!!!

I have so many positive memories of having a mac issue that seemed unsolvable only to be clearly guided through the solution at [www.macfixit.com](#). You have made my Mac Doctor NYC business run so much smoother than I can fully explain here.

I met you one time at a macworld conference and all I can say is you and macfixit are one class act. THANK YOU - macdoctornyc

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**mac.column.ted: Ten Good Years: MacFixIt's 10th Anniversary**

Authored by: [Thurletta](#) on Wednesday, March 08 2006 @ 11:52 AM PST

Ted,

Gosh how time flies when you're having fun! Hadn't realized it had been a full decade. Happy 10th Anniversary!

MacFixit has been a lifesaver over and over again, and it is one of the few sites I visit regularly (usually daily). Never once have I been disappointed with the news, tips, etc., that I've found here. Springing for MacFixit Pro for me was never a question.

We love you!

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**mac.column.ted: Ten Good Years: MacFixIt's 10th Anniversary**

Authored by: [primal1](#) on Wednesday, March 08 2006 @ 12:06 PM PST

Congratulations Ted!

When I think back on all the versions of your life-saver Sad Macs books I've purchased, and the hours spent plowing through solutions which actually returned the investment in time and dollars by saving countless more hours dealing with problematic applications or system software, I sometimes think your outstanding work has always been part of my life, not just the 10+ years!

My most used Sad Macs edition (don't have it in front of me or I'd quote the volumn number) has colored flags (specific colors pertaining to the problem addressed) with cryptic notes written on each (some of which are now somewhat obscure with relevance perhaps lost to issues long since solved) everywhere and sticking out the top and right-hand sides - it's quite colorful and in retrospect looks like some kind of strange art piece rather than a technical trouble-shooting "bible."

However, I do much prefer the new capabilities of MacFixIt.com which I check daily without fail. It misses the colorful "flags," but saves my sanity, and, with the paid subscription, ads don't drive me nuts which to me is worth the price of admission alone while still supporting this outstanding service!

I do miss your regular involvement, but I'm happy this all worked out so well

for you. You have made so many of our lives so much easier I simply cannot thank you enough for making this all possible. Your personal contribution to the Macintosh community is nothing short of monumental!

Best wishes for continuing success and enjoyment of the fruits of your labors!

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**mac.column.ted: Ten Good Years: MacFixIt's 10th Anniversary**

Authored by: [RAnqol](#) on Wednesday, March 08 2006 @ 01:14 PM PST

Here's to ten more good ones, Ted. You gave us quite a ride through most of the first ten and it's been good to see you checking things out from time to time.

I guess it was 1997 I first logged onto MacFixIt. I found some old, old notes. I'd earlier thought it was 1996 but apparently I was still picking the "Sad Mac Notes" up on AOL in 1996.

Cheers and thanks, Ted.

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**mac.column.ted: Ten Good Years: MacFixIt's 10th Anniversary**

Authored by: [zvordauk](#) on Wednesday, March 08 2006 @ 02:12 PM PST

May I add my voice to the thanks that are (deservedly) flooding in to you Ted and all those who have helped you on your Journey. As an ex-Apple employee and now Managing Director of an Apple Repair Centre in Ireland, I have set my homepage to macfixit.com since the early days. It's helped me out of many situations and often prevented me from getting in to trouble in the first place! Ben and the team have done a great job of keeping the information flowing - Now I listen to MacFixIt Podcasts on my iPod on the way to work in the mornings!

Keep up the good work guys, the Global Mac community needs you!!!

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**mac.column.ted: Ten Good Years: MacFixIt's 10th Anniversary**

Authored by: [Steve Carpenter](#) on Wednesday, March 08 2006 @ 03:24 PM PST

Happy Birthday!

I started reading the column in 86 running OS 6.5.3 on an SE30 (at work) on the internet using Netscape when emails took a couple of days to get round Europe (via the USA). After 10 years and a few macs later I now surf the same pages each evening using Safari on a 1.5GHz wireless 12" Powerbook. How times have changed.

I wonder what life will be like on MacFixIt's 20th Birthday...

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**mac.column.ted: Ten Good Years: MacFixIt's 10th Anniversary**

Authored by: [rgetter](#) on Wednesday, March 08 2006 @ 03:41 PM PST

Thank you, Ted.  
Thank you, Ben.

Thank you, MacFixit.

It is one of the biggest reasons why you hear people referring to Windows "users" and a Macintosh "community".

Ric Getter

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**re: mac.column.ted: Ten Good Years: MacFixIt's 10th Anniversary**

Authored by: [silent lurker](#) on Wednesday, March 08 2006 @ 03:42 PM PST

Ted-

Congratulations! I can't express how much your columns in MacWeek (anybody else remember?), the Sad Macs and Mac OS X Help Line books and the MacFixIt site have helped me in my career as a Mac Guru. Yeah, I admit it- I used your help to propel my own career (well, my second career anyway) and now that MacFixIt has reached this watershed anniversary I thought it would be good to say THANK YOU.

-K. Cook

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**mac.column.ted: Ten Good Years: MacFixIt's 10th Anniversary**

Authored by: [Covicide](#) on Wednesday, March 08 2006 @ 08:20 PM PST

10 years... wow... Congratulations!

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**mac.column.ted: Ten Good Years: MacFixIt's 10th Anniversary**

Authored by: [tc2riggs](#) on Wednesday, March 08 2006 @ 09:31 PM PST

Thank You all your efforts. MacFixIt is the first site I've gone to every day for almost ten years. Amazing how time flies!

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**Happy 10th Anniversary!**

Authored by: [James P Reid](#) on Wednesday, March 08 2006 @ 09:49 PM PST

MacFixIt has been the homepage on my browser ever since I found out about it in the late 90's. It is part of my daily routine just like checking my email. The amount of knowledge that has been shared through this site is phenomenal. The Mac community would not have been the same without it!

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**mac.column.ted: Ten Good Years: MacFixIt's 10th Anniversary**

Authored by: [fotogra](#) on Wednesday, March 08 2006 @ 11:30 PM PST

You have been my home page fro 10 years and I read it every morning.

Thanks for your fruits of labour Ted.

I appreciate it.

Paolo

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**mac.column.ted: Ten Good Years: MacFixIt's 10th Anniversary**

Authored by: [hammer23](#) on Wednesday, March 08 2006 @ 11:52 PM PST

Hi Ted,  
Congratulations on the 10th anniversary of your creation of MacFixIt and thank you for your continued contributions to Mac users. MacFixIt is the only website that I consider worth a subscription fee that I happily renewed yesterday.

Best regards,  
/e/

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**Congratulations and Thanks**

Authored by: [tungricht](#) on Thursday, March 09 2006 @ 02:16 AM PST

hi Ted,  
congratulations and thanks for 10 years of macfixit.  
It is exciting and extremely helpful to be part of this community.  
Keep up the good work!  
Thomas Ungricht

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**mac.column.ted: Ten Good Years: MacFixIt's 10th Anniversary**

Authored by: [scjoyner](#) on Thursday, March 09 2006 @ 02:30 AM PST

Ted,

I have all your books, going back to the 1993 edition of "Sad Macs...." I notice that this edition is selling for \$0.01 on Amazon and Half.com. Mine will **never** be sold. I consider it priceless.

Like so many others, I briefly, anonymously said hello to you at MWSF one year. One has the **need** to thank you personally. It's very satisfying to do so.

The name Ted Landau is so ensconced in my being, that sometimes I forget that you are not friend or family. Yet, when talking to colleagues about a MacIssue, I refer to you as "Ted" -- and they know the "Ted" I'm referring to.

MacFolkes are a pretty sentimental bunch, at least in my experience. Reading your reflections bring flashbacks to times gone, but never (I hope) forgotten.

MacFixIt is certainly good as it ever was. The fact that TechTracker has bought you out is a net positive. I'm sure you were very careful to make sure MacFixIt was placed in the proper hands.

As for the peepole who edit/manage MFI today, they're all unknown to me. But they are, in a sense, your children. And just because I don't know their names or backgrounds, doesn't mean I don't respect and appreciate them. I do. I do.

Thanks for the reflections and memories, and your legacy that is MacFixIt.

--Steve C. Joyner  
San Francisco, CA USA

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/SCJ

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**mac.column.ted: Ten Good Years: MacFixIt's 10th Anniversary**

Authored by: [KroSha](#) on Thursday, March 09 2006 @ 03:21 AM PST

I'd like to add my thanks too. MacFixIt is a regular part of my day, right after checking the morning email. You've helped me solve and clarify more issues than I want to think about. How any Apple SysAdmin could not be a regular at the site is beyond me.

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**mac.column.ted: Ten Good Years: MacFixIt's 10th Anniversary**

Authored by: [Marcus Aurelius](#) on Thursday, March 09 2006 @ 11:19 AM PST

Hi Ted,

This is Mark Corrigan and I really enjoyed reading all the time line. I got my name, a couple of times, on your web site for tips in troubleshooting MAC OS 7.5.3 and OS 8. In your article, you brought back memories that I thought were gone forever. I didn't even know you weren't the editor anymore. Thanks for all the good times I had when MacFixIt was a daily read for me. I come back every now and then to see what's new in the Mac world. In 2001, I went to the dark side into the windows XP world. I still have my PowerMac 7300 hooked up running OS 8.6 and it still surfs the net from time to time. There's some Mac OS in me that Windows just can't seem to destroy. Thanks again. ,, Mark

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**Thanks back**

Authored by: [ted1](#) on Thursday, March 09 2006 @ 11:24 AM PST

Wow! Thanks for all of the congratulatory wishes.

It's been great to see all the people who still fondly recall the early days of MacFixIt.

You have definitely made my day. :)

Warm regards,

Ted

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**mac.column.ted: Ten Good Years: MacFixIt's 10th Anniversary**

Authored by: [johnsawyerjcs](#) on Thursday, March 09 2006 @ 06:50 PM PST

Thanks, Ted, not only for creating a site where we can read about fixes the Macfixit staff has collected for Mac problems, but also for giving readers the opportunity to collectively post their responses and their own suggestions for fixes. Often, before I post a comment, I find I need to do some research so I can be sure I know what I'm talking about, and that often adds to my knowledge as well as giving me the opportunity

to add to that of other people. It also gives me another method, in addition to working with my Mac repair clients, to hone my skills at formulating a clear description of a problem and its solution.

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**mac.column.ted: Ten Good Years: MacFixIt's 10th Anniversary**

Authored by: [BikeFiend](#) on Thursday, March 09 2006 @ 07:31 PM PST

To Ted Landau and the crew at MacFixit:

A hearty thank you for a job well done. You've covered the good the bad and ugly for the last ten years. The tidbits of information and troubleshooting clues you've scattered about have helped me solve issues many times. Here's to another ten years of success.

Just another Mac Admin within the PeeCee Forest...

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**mac.column.ted: Ten Good Years: MacFixIt's 10th Anniversary**

Authored by: [scooper1](#) on Friday, March 10 2006 @ 12:19 AM PST

Hi Ted,

Congratulations on the 10th anniversary of MacFixIt. Your historical column was really interesting, especially since I'm one who remembers the Sad Macs Update site -- I still have a couple of copies of Sad Macs around somewhere!

These days I'm very much enjoying your contributions to Chuck Joiner's podcasts, which I wouldn't miss.

All the very best for the future. Enjoy knowing that there are very many Mac users (and support people like me) who are eternally grateful for the contribution you made to that landscape.

Cheers,  
Steve.

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**mac.column.ted: Ten Good Years: MacFixIt's 10th Anniversary**

Authored by: [Pascal Lessard](#) on Friday, March 10 2006 @ 05:02 AM PST

Interesting read.

You've just made me realize that I've been following the site since the beginning!

Happy birthday MacFixIt!

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**mac.column.ted: Ten Good Years: MacFixIt's 10th Anniversary**

Authored by: [brendansf](#) on Thursday, April 06 2006 @ 02:37 PM PDT

Happy Birthday to the most useful website for a Mac user, including Apple's homepage! Since I discovered the RSS Visualiser, you are not just my home site - you're my screensaver, too!

Thanks for providing hours of informative reading and preventing days of

cursing and screaming.

-Brendan, SF Bay

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### Problems with MacFixIt?

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