Welcome to Palm Handhelds
How to Do Everything with Your Palm Handheld


It sounds like technology you might see on an episode of “Star Trek,” but you can have it right here in the 21st century. Thanks to remarkable strides in handheld computing, virtually every item in the preceding list can be stored in a single device—a handheld PC. And that’s just the tip of the iceberg. These amazing devices can send and receive e-mail, take digital photos, open and edit Word and Excel files, and a lot more.

In the pages and chapters to come, you’ll learn the history of handheld PCs, the differences between various brands and models, and, of course, everything you need to know about using them.

A Brief History of Handhelds

It all started with a block of wood. In 1994, Jeff Hawkins, founder of a little-known company called Palm Computing, envisioned a pocket-sized computer that would organize calendars and contacts, and maybe let travelers retrieve their e-mail from the road. This idea of a “personal digital assistant,” or PDA, was by no means new, but previous attempts—like Apple’s highly publicized Newton MessagePad—had failed to catch on with consumers.

Hawkins knew he’d have a tough time selling the concept, so he decided to convince himself before trying to convince investors. His device would be roughly the size of a deck of cards—much smaller and lighter than the Newton—and would therefore fit in a shirt pocket. But would it be practical even at that size? Would it be comfortable to carry around? Hawkins decided to find out. Before a single piece of plastic was molded, before a single circuit board was designed, the Palm Computing Pilot (the original name of the device we’re here to extol) existed solely as a block of wood.

Hawkins cut a piece of balsa wood to the size he’d envisioned for his handheld device, put it in his shirt pocket, and left it there—for several months. He even took it out from time to time and pretended to take notes, just to see if the size and shape felt right. Though he quickly came to realize that such a form factor made perfect sense, doors slammed whenever he showed the “product” to potential investors. “The handheld market is dead,” was the mantra at the time.

Fortunately, modem maker U.S. Robotics didn’t think so, and liked the idea of the Pilot so much that it bought Palm Computing outright. In March 1996, the company unveiled the Pilot 1000, and the rest is history.

Flash forward several years. The Pilot—which would eventually be renamed PalmPilot and then just Palm—had become the fastest-growing computer platform in history, reaching the million-sold mark faster than the IBM PC or Apple Macintosh. In the interim, U.S. Robotics had been assimilated into networking giant 3Com, and Palm Computing along with it. The Palm line had grown to include a variety of models, and companies such as IBM, Sony, and Symbol Technologies had adopted the Palm Operating System for their own handheld devices.
CHAPTER 1: Welcome to Palm Handhelds

Hawkins himself departed Palm Computing in 1998—not to take up golf, not to find a new career, but to reinvent the wheel he’d already invented. In September 1999, his new company, Handspring, introduced the Visor—a licensed Palm clone that in many ways surpassed the devices that preceded it.

What’s the Difference Between Palm, palmOne, PalmSource, and the Rest?

It’s easy to get confused between “Palm,” “PalmSource,” “Palm OS,” and other terms we use frequently in this book. Therefore, here’s a lexicon to help you understand the basic terminology:

- **Cobalt** The name PalmSource inexplicably gave to the forthcoming OS 6 operating system.
- **Handheld PC** A portable, pocket-sized computer such as the Palm Tungsten T3. In general, “handheld PC” means pretty much the same thing as “PDA.”
- **Garnet** PalmSource’s new name for the latest versions of Palm OS 5.
- **Operating system** The core software that makes a handheld PC function.
- **palmOne, Inc.** Formerly Palm, Inc. (and before that, Palm Computing); the company that makes handheld PCs that run the Palm Operating System (OS).
- **Palm OS** The operating system used in Palm, Sony, Tapwave, and many other handheld PCs.
- **Palm Powered** Denotes a handheld PC that runs the Palm OS. “Palm Powered” is a registered trademark of palmOne, Inc.
- **PalmSource** The division of Palm, Inc. responsible for developing the Palm OS.
- **PDA** Short for *personal digital assistant*, a generic term used to describe any handheld PC.
- **Pocket PC** Also known as Windows Mobile, this is Microsoft’s Windows-like operating system for handheld PCs. Found in devices from Hewlett-Packard, Toshiba, and other vendors.
- **Smartphone** A cell phone, such as the palmOne Treo, that runs the Palm OS. (Actually, smartphones don’t exclusively run the Palm OS, but for purposes of this book they do.)
- **Tungsten** A business-oriented line of PDAs made by palmOne.
- **Zire** A consumer-oriented different line of PDAs made by palmOne.
Today, the *Palm platform* (an umbrella term used to describe not only the actual hardware, but the operating system that drives it) is dominant in the burgeoning handheld market. Even Microsoft’s Pocket PC operating system, a slimmed-down version of Windows that runs on competing handheld devices, has failed to topple the Palm juggernaut.

In this book, we discuss handhelds made by Palm, Handspring, Sony, and many other companies. However, we mostly use the terms “Palm” or “Palm device.” That’s just our way of referring to all handhelds that utilize the Palm Operating System—including those from Palm, Samsung, Tapwave, and so forth. Thus, regardless of whether you own a Palm Zire 72, Treo 600, or whatever, the information in this book applies to you!

### Understanding Palm Handhelds

Why all the fuss? What makes a Palm OS device so special? Why has it succeeded where so many others have failed? To answer these questions, we’ll first need to look at what a Palm device actually is. Put simply, it’s a pocket-sized electronic organizer that enables you to manage addresses, appointments, expenses, tasks, and memos. If you’ve ever used a Franklin Planner or similar kind of paper-bound organizer, you get the idea.

However, because a Palm is electronic, there’s no paper or ink involved. Instead, you write directly on the device’s screen, using a small plastic stylus that takes the place of a pen. A key advantage here, of course, is that you’re able to store all of your important personal and business information on a device that’s much smaller and lighter than a paper planner.

What’s more, you can easily share that information with your Windows-based or Macintosh computer. Palm devices are not self-contained: they can synchronize with a desktop computer and keep information current on both sides. This is an important advantage, because it effectively turns your Palm device into an extension of the computer you use every day. Changes and additions made to your desktop data are reflected in the Palm, and vice versa (see Figure 1-1).

Saying that a Palm is an extension of your PC is only a half-truth: in reality, it has evolved into a computer in its own right. That’s because it is capable of running software written by parties other than PalmSource, and those parties (known as software developers) number in the tens of thousands. There are literally thousands of programs and databases that extend your Palm’s capabilities, from spreadsheet managers and expense trackers to electronic-book readers and Web browsers. Got five minutes to kill? You can play a quick game of *Bejeweled*. Need to check your e-mail while traveling? Just link with your Bluetooth-enabled cell phone for wireless connectivity.

Although the first several chapters of this book are devoted to the Palm’s core capabilities—the things it can do right out of the box—the majority of it focuses on these “extended” capabilities—the things that have elevated the Palm from a basic electronic organizer to a full-fledged handheld PC.
Above all else, simplicity is a major key to the Palm platform’s success. The devices are amazingly easy to use, requiring no more than a few taps of the stylus to access your data and a little memorization to master the handwriting-recognition software. Most users, even those who have little or no computer experience (like Dave), find themselves tapping and writing productively within 20 minutes of opening the box.

TIP

If your Palm OS device came with only a HotSync cable, consider spending a few bucks on a cradle. palmOne, for instance, offers optional cradles for several handhelds, and we think they’re well worth the money. A cradle gives your handheld a place to sit upright while on your desk and generally makes for easier connections and HotSyncs.
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The Guts of the Machine

Whether you’re still shopping for a Palm OS device or you’ve been fiddling with one for a month, it’s good to have an understanding of all the different models—those made by palmOne and by other companies. Originally, only Palm Computing manufactured Palm OS devices, but it wasn’t long before other companies licensed the operating system for similar or slightly modified devices of their own. The most recent and extreme example of this is the Tapwave Zodiac, a Palm OS handheld designed expressly with games and entertainment in mind.

Before we talk about specific models, let’s take a look at the one element that ties them all together: the operating system.

What’s an Operating System?

Windows XP is an operating system. Mac OS X is an operating system. The core software that drives any computer is an operating system. Hence, when we refer to the Palm OS, we’re talking about the software that’s built right into the device—the brains behind the brawn. The Palm OS itself not only controls the handheld’s fundamental operations, such as what happens when you press a button or tap the screen, but also supplies the built-in applications (the address book, memo pad, date book, and so on—all of which we’ll discuss in detail in later chapters).

The Palm OS is the key ingredient that links the various Palm devices, whether they’re manufactured by Garmin, Palm, Samsung, Tapwave, or one of the other companies licensed to use the Palm OS.

These licensees have been granted permission by PalmSource to use the Palm OS in hardware of their own design. It’s kind of like the way you can get PCs from a hundred different companies, yet they all run Windows.

You’ll see that a palmOne Zire 71 looks quite a bit different from, say, a Tapwave Zodiac (see Figure 1-2), but on the inside they’re fundamentally the same. They both use the Palm Operating System, and therefore operate in similar fashion and are capable of running all the same software.

When we refer to a “Palm OS device,” then, we’re talking about any of the various handheld devices that run the Palm Operating System.

Different Versions of the Palm Operating System

If you’ve spent more than a few years using a computer, you’ve probably transitioned from one operating system to another. For instance, maybe you switched from Windows 95 to Windows XP, or from an earlier version of Mac OS to OS X. Whatever the case, you probably know that operating systems inevitably evolve, and that changes are a part of that evolution. So it is with the Palm OS.

When we were writing this book, most Palm OS devices were running OS 5—though there are still some around that run OS 4. There’s also a new version in the works, Palm OS 6. Just to confuse things as much as possible, PalmSource has elected to call OS 6 Cobalt instead of OS 6, while the latest versions of OS 5 (technically OS 5.2 and later) have been redubbed Garnet.
FIGURE 1-2  Palm OS devices don’t all look the same, and in fact can look quite different, but they all use the same core operating system.
Nope, sorry, uh-uh, not on our watch. As far as we’re concerned, operating systems should have numbers, not names. Thus, you’ll have to excuse us if we continue to refer to OS 5 as OS 5, OS 6 as OS 6, and so on.

You can learn more about Palm OS 6 at the end of this chapter in the section “The Scoop on Palm OS 6.”
Most of this OS hubbub is much ado about nothing. Changes to the user interface and the core applications tend to be pretty minor with each new version of the OS, and most third-party programs written for Palm OS handhelds work with new and old versions alike. Therefore, if you’re not sure which version of the OS your handheld has or you’re worried that your model is outdated, relax. Where most users are concerned, it really doesn’t matter.

On most Palm OS handhelds, you can determine the operating system version by tapping Menu | Info from the main applications screen.

Can You Upgrade Your Palm’s OS?
Alas, the operating systems in most Palm OS handhelds can’t be upgraded. Palm did offer upgrades for some models in the past, but it’s less practical—and feasible—with current technology. Fewer models have the necessary Flash RAM required to install a new OS. And a new OS might incorporate software that’s not compatible with the device hardware. Case in point: no Palm handhelds can be upgraded from OS 4 to OS 5. We won’t bore you with the technical details as to why—suffice it to say, if you find yourself yearning for the latest and greatest version of the Palm OS, it’s probably time to start thinking about a new handheld. On the other hand, it’s the rare user who will need to upgrade just for the sake of a new OS.

Hardware: What’s the Difference Between Palm, Garmin, Sony, and the Others?
Let’s recap. You now know that many different companies make handheld PCs based on the Palm Operating System. Okay, so what are those companies, and what are the differences between their models? The latter question is easy to answer: just as Dell, Gateway, and Hewlett-Packard PCs all run Windows but have slightly different features, Palm, Garmin, and Tapwave PDAs all run the Palm OS—but have slightly different features. So let’s look at the different makes and models, because even though the underlying software may be the same, the hardware often varies dramatically.

What about Sony? For several years, Sony was the leading maker of Palm OS handhelds, with each new model more innovative than the last. Then, just as we started work on this book, the company announced plans to halt production of its line of CLIÉ handhelds. Although we were shocked and saddened by this move, palmOne had already stepped up with some enticing and innovative models of its own, effectively reclaiming the PDA hardware throne. That said, if you happen to own a CLIÉ or see an opportunity to pick one up on closeout, you can still make full use of this book.
In Table 1-1, we list many of the latest and most popular Palm OS handhelds and their “claims to fame”—what sets them apart from each other. Don’t worry if you’re confused about things like memory and screen resolution; we address those and other features later in this chapter.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Memory</th>
<th>Screen</th>
<th>Wireless</th>
<th>Plays MP3s</th>
<th>Price*</th>
<th>Claim to Fame</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kyocera 7135</td>
<td>16MB</td>
<td>160×160 color</td>
<td>CDMA</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Determined by carrier</td>
<td>Smartphone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>palmOne Treo 650</td>
<td>32MB</td>
<td>320×320 color</td>
<td>GSM/GPRS/CDMA/Bluetooth</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Determined by carrier</td>
<td>Smartphone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>palmOne Tungsten C</td>
<td>64MB</td>
<td>320×320 color</td>
<td>Wi-Fi</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>$399</td>
<td>The only palmOne model with built-in Wi-Fi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>palmOne Tungsten E</td>
<td>32MB</td>
<td>320×320 color</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>$199</td>
<td>Sweet looks, low price</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>palmOne Tungsten T3</td>
<td>64MB</td>
<td>320×480 color</td>
<td>Bluetooth</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>$349</td>
<td>Big screen, collapsible design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>palmOne Tungsten T5</td>
<td>256MB</td>
<td>320×480 color</td>
<td>Bluetooth</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>$399</td>
<td>The most powerful Palm OS PDA to date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>palmOne Zire 21</td>
<td>8MB</td>
<td>160×160 grayscale</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>$99</td>
<td>Cheap, cheap, cheap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>palmOne Zire 31</td>
<td>16MB</td>
<td>160×160 color</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>$149</td>
<td>Cheap color</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>palmOne Zire 72</td>
<td>32MB</td>
<td>320×320 color</td>
<td>Bluetooth</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>$299</td>
<td>Built-in 1-megapixel digital camera</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garmin iQue 3600/3200</td>
<td>32MB</td>
<td>320×480/320×320 color</td>
<td>GPS</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td>$589/$535</td>
<td>Built-in GPS for real-time mapping and navigation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samsung SPH-i500</td>
<td>16MB</td>
<td>162×176 CDMA</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>$549</td>
<td>Smartphone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tapwave Zodiac 1/2</td>
<td>32MB/128MB</td>
<td>480×320 color</td>
<td>Bluetooth</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>$299/$399</td>
<td>Built for gaming and entertainment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*As of February 2005.

**TABLE 1-1** Palm OS Handhelds at a Glance
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You say you bought a Palm at a Franklin Covey store? Franklin Covey, a retail operation best known for its Franklin Planner products, offers Palm-built handhelds in different packaging and with slightly modified software bundles. From a hardware and OS standpoint, Franklin Covey models are identical to their Palm counterparts—but come with Franklin’s own desktop software in place of Palm Desktop (see Chapter 3). Even so, if you own one of Franklin Covey’s models, virtually all the material in this book is still applicable (and downright useful, if we do say so ourselves).

Even within palmOne’s own lineup, there are lots of differences between models. The Tungsten T5, for instance, which came out just as we were in the midst of writing this book, has features not present in its predecessor, the Tungsten T3. The T3, for its part, has features not found in the Tungsten E. And then there’s the Zire series, which brings its own differences to the table.

If you’re interested in Garmin’s iQue, with its way-cool built-in GPS capabilities, make sure to buy the 3600 model. It’s priced just $54 higher than the 3200, but includes a much larger screen and lets you play MP3 tunes.

The only problem here is that we can’t possibly address all the subtle variances. Thus, there may be times during the early chapters when you find yourself saying, “Hey, my Palm doesn’t have that icon,” or you see a screenshot of a settings menu that looks different from what you see on your device. We do our best to jump in at those times with information and reassurance, but, again, we can’t cover everything. There are just too many differences in the different models and different versions of the operating system. If you get stuck or confused, your best bet is to refer to the manual that came with your model. (See the “How to Read the Manual” boxed section later in this chapter for information on finding, opening, and even printing the electronic manual that came on your software CD.)

### Our Favorite Models

**Rick:** Well, obviously I’m partial to Charlize Theron, who’s an actress now but did start out as a model, and...oh, sorry, wrong sidebar. My current PDA is the Tapwave Zodiac2, which packs a remarkable amount of handheld computing power. It’s great for listening to music, reading e-books, watching movies, and playing PlayStation-caliber games. I’m also very fond of the Garmin iQue 3600, which is not only a full-featured Palm OS PDA, but also a GPS navigation system. For the record, my greatest PDA disappointment of all time is the palmOne Tungsten T5, which is perfect in every way except one: no Wi-Fi. Why, palmOne, why?

**Dave:** Yeah, I hear you, Rick. Omitting Wi-Fi from the T5 ranks up there with the greatest blunders in modern history, like New Coke and the script for Catwoman. Even so, what can I say? The Tungsten T5 is hands-down my favorite PDA. The Zodiac is nice, but the controls are clumsy and it is too big for my pocket. It also has a few minor software compatibility issues with older titles. Instead, all hail the T5: it has Bluetooth for wireless networking, 256 glorious megabytes of memory that can’t be erased even if your battery dies, and even works like a USB flash drive to ferry files between PCs. Wow.
What’s Important in a Handheld PC?

In the old days, it was pretty easy to differentiate between Palm OS handhelds. For one thing, there weren’t that many different models. Plus, they were all pretty similar, save for a few unique features here and there. It’s a different story nowadays, what with handheld makers touting things like processor speed, screen resolution, memory capacity, multimedia features, and even wireless connectivity. Let’s take a look at a few of these items and how important they are—or are not—in handheld computing:

■ **Speed** Where handhelds are concerned, speed is a relative issue. Regardless of what processor is inside the device or what version of the Palm OS it uses, it takes but a second to load, say, the calendar program. So why do newer models tout faster processors? Because more advanced features, such as watching movies and playing music, do require more horsepower. If you’re not interested in those kinds of features, don’t worry about processor speed. A “lowly” $99 Zire 21 works just as well as a power-packing $399 Tungsten T5 when it comes to scheduling appointments and viewing memos.

■ **Memory** The amount of RAM, or memory, in a Palm device is directly related to how much software and data it can store. More is always better, especially when you start loading up on games, electronic books, corporate databases, third-party software, and the like. However, because most modern handhelds are expandable—meaning you can insert memory cards that provide lots more storage space—the amount of internal RAM is less of a factor than it used to be. Sure, your handheld may have only 16 megabytes (MB)—but slap a 256MB card in there and the sky’s the limit!

■ **Screen** Although we got along fine for a long while with low-resolution (160×160 pixel) grayscale screens, we definitely prefer the high-resolution (320×320 pixel) color screens common in newer handhelds. That’s not only because the higher resolution means sharper text and graphics, but also because the color screens are brighter and easier on the eyes. (One reason we never fell in love with the Treo 600, which has a low-resolution screen, is that we were already spoiled by higher resolutions. Thankfully, the Treo 650 remedies that issue.) Plus, games, maps, movies, photos, and just about everything else look significantly better in color. Better still are models with physically larger screens and the higher resolutions (320×480 pixels) that go with them.
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- **Multimedia**  Speaking of games, movies, and whatnot, certain Palm devices fare better than others when it comes to mobile entertainment. Models like the Palm Zire 72 and Tapwave Zodiac excel at it, because they come with software for listening to MP3 tunes, watching movies, and so on. But even “low end” models like the Tungsten E can do that stuff, so you don’t need to spend big bucks to enjoy entertainment on your PDA.

- **Wireless**  Many of palmOne’s latest models incorporate Bluetooth radios, meaning they can communicate wirelessly with Bluetooth-equipped cell phones (and other devices) for on-the-go e-mail and Web access. What you won’t find in many models, sadly, is Wi-Fi—a hugely popular wireless technology that enables high-speed Internet access when you’re in proximity of a Wi-Fi “hotspot.” (You can find out more about these technologies in Chapter 10.) Fortunately, it’s possible to add Wi-Fi capabilities to certain models by way of an add-on card. The bottom line is that if you want wireless access to e-mail and the Web, you need a PDA with either Bluetooth or Wi-Fi—or one that doubles as a phone (see next item).

- **Phone capabilities**  Don’t want to carry both a phone and a PDA? In that case, you may want a Palm device that’s also a phone—a.k.a., a smartphone. Kyocera Wireless, palmOne, and Samsung are the vendors that offer phones built around the Palm OS. Although these hybrids are great in that they combine two vital devices into one, they often make sacrifices in terms of screen size and/or resolution, expansion capabilities, and multimedia savvy.
Where to Find the Best Prices

Everyone likes to save a buck, and with a little smart shopping you can do exactly that. Even if you’re just looking for items like memory cards and, oh, extra copies of this book to give as gifts, it pays to do some research. This section offers a few ideas regarding where and how to shop, and where to find the best deals.

Some models are not as widely available as others. The Kyocera and Samsung smartphones, for instance, must be purchased from the cellular companies that offer service for them.

- If you’re comfortable shopping online, you can find some of the best deals on the Web. We recommend starting with a site called PriceGrabber (www.pricegrabber.com), which provides up-to-date price comparisons for most Palm OS devices and many accessories, drawn from a large number of Web merchants. It even gives you shipping costs, so you know your out-the-door total before heading to the merchant’s site.

- Another worthwhile online destination: Web auctions. eBay (www.ebay.com) is a treasure trove of new, used, and refurbished Palm devices. Just remember to use common sense: sometimes people get caught in a bidding frenzy and wind up paying as much for a used model as they would for a new one. That said, there are often excellent deals to be had on last year’s models.

Auctions can also be a great way to sell your old Palm device if you’re moving up to a newer one. You can also try a service like SellYourPalm.net (www.sellyourpalm.net), which will buy your old handheld outright.

- Speaking of last year’s models, visit Overstock.com (www.overstock.com) to find great prices on discontinued and refurbished handhelds. This site also offers warranty and/or replacement plans for these models, which often come with limited or no warranties. Of course, by the time you spend, say, $40 on a plan, you might be better off buying the model new.

- Check the palmOne Web site for package deals. You’ll sometimes find bundles (like a handheld with a case and keyboard) you won’t find anywhere else, and at discounted prices. They sometimes sell refurbished inventory as well, and those deals can be hard to pass up.

The Scoop on Palm OS 6

As we went to press on this book, Palm OS 6 (also known as Cobalt) had been in development for about three years—and was actually all done and ready to go. However, the new operating system had yet to appear on any handheld PCs or smartphones. Even palmOne’s Tungsten T5 and Treo 650, announced during the book’s writing, were revealed to use a variant of the older OS, Palm OS 5.
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Read the Manual

Most handheld PCs these days come without printed instruction manuals. In fact, you may find nothing more than a brief “Read This First” guide inside the box. Rest assured, the manual is there—it’s just on the software CD, in electronic format. Invaluable as this book is, the instruction manual is quite useful as well. It’s likely to address certain setup and configuration issues specific to your model.

Okay, but how to find, view, and even print the manual? Let’s start by finding it. In the case of the Tungsten T5, the manual is actually installed on your PC when you install Palm Desktop, HotSync Manager, and all that stuff (see Chapter 3). To access it, you simply click Start | All Programs | PalmOne | User Manuals. The resulting window contains an icon for PalmOne’s Getting Started Guide. (Other models might require you to insert the software CD and access the manual from the installation menu that appears. In other words, it might not get installed on your hard drive; you might have to access it manually.)

Be sure to check the company’s Web site for updated and/or more extensive manuals. On palmOne’s Tungsten T5 support page (www.palmone.com/us/support/tungstent5/), for instance, there’s a full User Guide that’s much more extensive than the aforementioned Getting Started Guide. Why they didn’t bother to put it right on the software CD is beyond us.

To open, read, and print this guide, you need a free third-party program called Adobe Acrobat Reader. Many computers come with it pre-loaded; if you find you’re unable to open the manual, you’ll need to download and install Acrobat Reader. Head to Adobe’s Web site (www.adobe.com) to find the program.

Finally, let’s address the question of printing. These manuals can easily span several hundred pages, so be prepared to invest a fair amount of time, ink, and paper if you insist on having a hard copy. Just load the manual into Acrobat Reader and click File | Print.

So what does all this mean to you? By the time this book actually reaches your hand, one or more OS 6 devices may be available for purchase. Table 1-2 lists some of the features of the new operating system and how they’re significant.

Unfortunately, PalmSource wasn’t willing to share any more details with us, so we’ll have to wait and see how OS 6 looks in the real world. Our take is that it’s likely to usher in devices that are much more evolutionary than revolutionary, which is fine—as far as we’re concerned, the revolution began way back with the very first PalmPilot.
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**TABLE 1-2** Palm OS 6 Features

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>New Feature</th>
<th>What It Means</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scalable fonts (including TrueType)</td>
<td>You’ll be able to copy your favorite desktop fonts to your handheld.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tab-based user interface</td>
<td>The application launcher will employ tabbed windows—a capability already offered by several third-party launchers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microsoft Outlook–compatible fields</td>
<td>The calendar, contact, and other core applications will use data fields that more closely resemble Outlook’s.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support for native file formats</td>
<td>Word, Excel, JPEG, and other popular file formats will be directly supported by the OS.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New connection application</td>
<td>Promises easier access to networks and the Internet.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhanced multimedia</td>
<td>Support for MPEG1, MPEG4, MP3, and other popular multimedia files.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Backward compatibility</td>
<td>New devices will run older software.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved Graffiti input area</td>
<td>Now includes a dedicated area for entering capital letters (among other improvements).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Where to Find It**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Web Site</th>
<th>Address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Garmin</td>
<td><a href="http://www.garmin.com">www.garmin.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Kyocera Wireless</td>
<td><a href="http://www.kyocera-wireless.com">www.kyocera-wireless.com</a></td>
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<td>palmOne</td>
<td><a href="http://www.palmoone.com">www.palmoone.com</a></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samsung</td>
<td><a href="http://www.samsung.com">www.samsung.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tapwave</td>
<td><a href="http://www.tapwave.com">www.tapwave.com</a></td>
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