

MAC LESSON #108

DRAG AND DROP TEXT

You can drag and drop chunks of text all around the Mac OS X Operating System. For example you could select and drag a paragraph from Safari to TextEdit. You can drag files onto application icons in the Dock to open them in those particular applications. But you can also drag bits of text onto Dock icons.

Doing this with different applications will produce different results. If the application will accept the text, it will darken when you hold the selection over it. Some applications will only accept text if it is in a certain format.

For example, If you drop a web address (something that starts with `http://`) on Safari, it will open to that address. If you drag any other bit of text, it will perform a Google Search on it.

If you use Firefox and drop a Web address on the Firefox Dock icon, Firefox will open to that Web address.

Dropping text on the Mail program loads a new message with the text you dropped, but if the text you dropped is a URL it will still appear in the body of the e-mail and not the To: field.

Dropping text on TextEdit, a small word processing program included with OS X, TextEdit will open a new document that contains the text you dropped.

This gives a new meaning to the concept of Drag and Drop.

