

MAC LESSON #111

MAC OS BOOT KEYS

With OS X you can use "Boot Keys" when you start our Mac. Boot keys force your Mac to take certain actions at boot-up. Here's a list of boot keys that you can use. Just press and hold down a boot key at start-up.

Key Description

C Boot from CD or DVD drive installed in the computer

D Boot from the internal disk drive

N Boot from the network server

R Resets the display on PowerBooks and iBooks to factory settings

T Put the computer into FireWire target mode so it can be used as a hard drive

X Boot into Mac OS X

Shift-Option-Command-Delete Ignore the configured boot device setting and scan for an alternate boot device

Option Have Open Firmware run the OS Picker app to choose a disk to boot from Shift Boot into Safe Mode

Command-V Perform a verbose boot allowing you to see all the BSD output as the system boots

Command-S Perform a boot into single user to perform some sort of system maintenance

Option-Command-O-F Access Open Firmware directly without booting into an operating system

Option-Command-P-R Reset Open Firmware's NVRAM, also known as "zapping" the PRAM

Hold down mouse button Eject any media, such as a CD, in the system's removable drive

