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The Mac Corner

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Three “need-to-know” things about your iPhone and your Mac.

1) Back in June, the United States Government mandated that all cell phone companies provide a free emergency response system. This system provides emergency information about major weather events, amber alerts, and messages from the President of the United States.

While these messages will be few and far between, some users will not want these coming up for one reason or another.

Fortunately, the iPhone makes it easy to turn off. Here’s how:

Go to [Configuration] > [Notification Center].

Scroll down all the way to the bottom until you see the Government Alerts section. Toggle each alert that you wish to turn off.

1. As we get older, our eyes start to give out. It would be nice if there was a way for Safari to make a web site’s text bigger or smaller. Well, there is!

When on a web site, press [Command +] (bigger text) or [Command -] (small text).

1. How to make a basic PDF file.

Did you know that the Mac comes with a way to make a basic PDF file? It’s simple to do and has been in front of you all this time:

1. On a page that you wish to make into a PDF, press [Command]+[P]
2. In the lower-left corner is a button that says “PDF”. Click on that button.
3. Select the “Save as PDF” option
4. A normal Save As window opens. Type the name of the PDF file.
5. Click “Save”
6. That’s it

The other day, I needed a microphone for my Mac Mini’s radio station. As Mac users know, there isn’t a “real” microphone port on the computer (yes, Windows users, you can make fun now). So, after doing some research, I found out that I needed an USB mic.

I finally found one that is a very good little mic and was affordable.

The Samson Meteor Mic is a medium-sized mic that plugs into any USB port. Setting it up is a snap (but of course, it’s a Mac!) and I was up and running in no time.

The Mic has a on/off switch, a built-in stand, and just looks neat on the desk.

Information:

\* Large (25mm) diaphragm condenser for rich audio recording.

\* Cardioid pickup pattern.

\* Smooth, flat frequency response of 20Hz - 20kHz.

\* CD Quality sound.

\* Fold-back legs.

\* Sliver (pictured) or black.

\* Price: $149.00 ([amazon.com](http://amazon.com) Prime Members: $69.99).

For more information, go to [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) and do a search on “Samson Meteor Mic”.

Well, this will be my last article for 2013. What a year it has been, and I am looking forward bringing you all of the happenings in the world of Apple in 2014.

