

# THINK LIKE A MAC GEEK

Bob "Dr. Mac" LeVitus

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Think Like a Mac Geek

## THE PLAN:

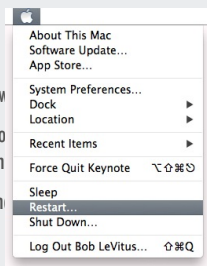
- A painless and risk-free cure for 50%+ of all Mac wonkiness...  
(...and why you should always try this technique before doing anything else)
- Repairing permissions, zapping PRAMs, repairing disks, resetting MMUs, etc...
- Corruption: It's not just for government anymore...
- When not to troubleshoot
- Getting back to work quickly and with a minimum of heartache

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## FAST FIX FOR 50% OF ALL MAC ISSUES

- You already know how
- You probably know you should troubleshoot anything
- It's so useful it even h

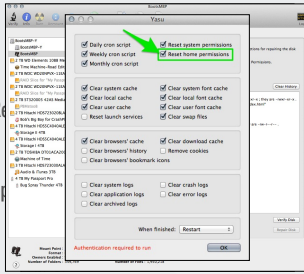


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- You already know how to do it...
- You probably know you should try it before spinning your wheels troubleshooting anything on your Mac
- It's so useful it even has its own menu command... — **CLICK—**

## ABOUT REPAIRING PERMISSIONS

- Disk Utility's Repair Disk Permissions?
- Really?
- So how do I repair permissions?



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- Disk Utility's Repair Disk Permissions: What does it repair?  
[click to show Disk Utility ready to repair](#)
- Really?  
[click to show Disk Utility Permission Repair Log](#)
- So how do I repair disk permissions for user files and documents?  
[click to show YASU. Mention ONYX.](#)

## ZAPPING YOUR PRAM

- What is your PRAM and why might it need zapping? What does zapping mean, anyway?
- Restart your Mac whilst holding down: **Command + Option + p + r**
- Keep pressing the keys until you've heard the startup chime at least twice

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## CORRUPTION & .PLIST FILES

- Corruption: It's not just for government anymore...
- Why do .plist files become corrupted more often than other types of files?
- What to look for
- How to track down a recalcitrant .plist

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## WHEN DISKS GO BAD...

- Disk Utility's Disk First Aid is OK but...
- Booting from your Recovery Partition (Command + R) and running First Aid is better
- fsck -f -y in single user mode may be better still
- If all else fails, try DiskWarrior, Drive Genius, or TechTool Pro.

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- Disk Utility's Disk First Aid is OK but...
  - Booting from your Recovery Partition (Command + R during startup) and running First Aid is better
  - FSCK -f -y in single user (Command+S during startup) mode may be better still
- If all else fails, try DiskWarrior, Drive Genius, or TechTool Pro.

## RESETTING THE SMC

### MACBOOK PRO WITH UN-REMOVABLE BATTERIES

What is the SMC? Why might it need resetting?

1. Shut down the computer.
2. Plug in the MagSafe power adapter to a power source, connecting it to the Mac if its not already connected.
3. On the built-in keyboard, press the (left side) Shift-Control-Option keys and the power button at the same time.
4. Release all the keys and the power button at the same time.
5. Press the power button to turn on the computer.

Note: The LED on the MagSafe power adapter may change states or temporarily turn off when you reset the SMC.

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## INTUITION

- When not to troubleshoot
- Using the Console logs to isolate issues
- Resolving issues with Google-fu
- Getting back to work quickly after a disaster

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- When not to troubleshoot
- Using the Console logs to isolate issues
- Resolving issues with Google-fu
- Getting back to work quickly after a disaster (Cloning — see next slide)

# CLONING

- it's not just for sheep anymore...
- Why a clone can save your bacon (and why I create one automatically every night)
- How to clone

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- it's not just for sheep anymore...
- Why a clone can save your bacon (and why I create one automatically every night)
- How to clone (SuperDuper/Carbon Copy Cloner)

**YOU GOT QUESTIONS?  
I GOT ANSWERS! MAYBE...**

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I Got Answers! Maybe...