

# Newton

## 🐘 Newton 2.0 Eggs

Newton OS 2.0 Code Name: Dante

At first it was thought there were not many easter eggs in the Newton 2.0 because it is known that the operating system ROM is pretty full. Although, as I look at this list below I begin to question that.

With a lot of help from Miraz Jordan (miraz@actrix.gen.nz) we have confirmed that most of the old easter eggs, besides the About Newton egg, are gone. Doing an assist on the text About Newton still displays a list of people who made the Newton. Several people have been added in the 2.0 version from 1.3, and the Ken Isono dedication is gone. If you know which Newton works with which egg in the Unknown section please inform me.

### Aliens Easter Egg

First Told about by: Rob Muir (rob\_muir@qmail.gdt.com)

The below text is, in part, provided by Russell Kay (russellk@bix.com) and Russel K. (russellk@BIX.com). The original author is unknown and so I can not copyright it.

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There's an easter egg in the 2.0 Newton (MessagePad 120) which was "censored" by, yes, the CIA.

Back in '94, one of the Newton software types made a trek to the (very) small town of Rachel, Nevada, which is located at the edge of a secret government airbase. The base, called "Area 51," is thought by UFO-enthusiasts to be filled with alien technology which the government is in the process of reverse engineering. Meanwhile, the government denies the very existence of the base, in spite of widespread media coverage ("Larry King Live from Area 51", etc.).

We figured it'd be funny to put a reference to Area 51 in the Newton -- especially given the substantial overlap between conspiracy buffs and computer nerds. So, in the "Time Zones" application, contains a world map, we put an entry for Area 51 in its correct location. Later, we added a twist -- if the user picks Area 51 from the map, the icons in the datebook application take on an alien theme. Normally, meetings are represented by an icon of two people face-to-face, events are represented by a flag, etc., etc. But when Area 51 has been chosen, the icon for a meeting is a person facing an alien, the icon for an event is a flying saucer, a to-do task is represented by a robot, and so on.

Okay, cute enough. Now cut to August 1995, when the 2.0 ROM has been declared final, seed units have been in customers' hands for a little while, and the release is just about ready to go. One of the seed units, it turns out, was sent to a cryptographer working for the CIA.

When he found that Area 51 was listed at the correct latitude/longitude, he complained to Apple, demanding the removal of the easter egg and threatening to have his superiors take the issue to Spindler if necessary. In the end, Newton management caved in to the demand, and decided to pull the joke out of the system.

But the ROM was already done -- so the feature was hidden by a software patch ("System Update") -- but this part of the patch can itself be removed, and "Area 51" returned to its rightful glory. Here's how to get the easter egg back:

- 1) Open the Extras drawer.
- 2) Switch the folder of the Extras drawer to "Storage".
- 3) Tap on the icon "Time Zones" and press the "Delete" button.  
Warning: any cities you've added to your Newton will be lost.
- 4) Switch the folder of the extras drawer back to "Unfiled icons."
- 5) Tap on "Time Zones."

You'll find that Area 51 is on the map -- just tap near Las Vegas and choose Area 51 from the popup. Now look at the icons in Dates. For the meetings, it displays the human face looking at a little alien body. For events, it shows pictures of little flying saucers, and for to do's and annual events it displays robots. (To purge the aliens from your PDA, open the back and press reset).

A little more info. on Area 51: Area 51 is also known as Groom Lake, lying about 90 miles north of Las Vegas, Nevada. Area 51 is where the government tests spy planes like the U-2 and the Stealth bomber (legend has it that Area 51 is also home of captured aliens and space craft).

#### Dates Preferences Easter Egg

From:

Chad Ray McDaniel (chadm@unhinged.engr.sgi.com)

- a) Open the Dates application.
- b) Tap on the info icon and tap 'prefs'; the preferences slip will open.
- c) In the prefs slip, tap in the three of the corners (not the one with the close box to hear a neat sound and see the names...

Top Right: "Scott Jensen"

Top Left: "Fred Tou"

Bottom Left: "Jeremy Wyld"

#### Egg Freckles

From:

genearch@aol.com (GeneArch)

Write the words Egg Freckles in the notepad, and tap Assist. It will display a screen with a Doonsberry pannel where Doonsberry is holding a Newton and a stylus with a caption bubble above his head saying

Egg Freckles?". An obvious spoof of Trudeau's lampooning of the early Newtons which would perform questionable hand writing recognition.

New York Times published an article on December 17, 1995 saying Garry Trudeau gave Newton programmers permission to use the cartoon after they told him of their plan to add the panel. Also according to the story, the original cartoon (the one mocking the Newton) was not "poking fun only at the Newton" but was more geared at "boys and their toys." Apple has also given Trudeau, who is a "devoted Macintosh user," a MP120 with Newton 2.0. He doesn't have "any handwriting-recognition calamities to report" with Newton 2.0. From: NewtNews-076-19Dec95

#### Information About Box

1. Open a Newton Book.
2. Select the "i"-button (Info).
3. Select the "about"-menu.
4. In the about-box, tap three times quite fast in this box.
5. Wait and see what happens.
6. Try to hit the close - button.

I have no idea what this does.

#### Knock Three Times

From: April 1996 Issue of Macworld (Page 18 of Newtonworld)

Write any of the following three times and you'll get a surprise: larryy, Brandyn, lesv, stafford, lyon.

#### Map & Time Zones Eggs

(Map and Time Zones are the same thing but they are usually referred to differently depending on the user.)

- If you tap in the North-West Atlantic, it says "Middle of Nowhere". Try tapping in the middle of the Pacific Ocean.
- You can also locate the titantic.
- You'll find a couple of cities (well, towns) that contain Newton in their name. There's "Newton, Iowa" (the home of Maytag) in the USA and "Newtonmore" in the UK.
- In Time Zone, tap on opposite corners of the Time Zones slip. The (apparently) farthest city in the world from your location will be selected. For example, selecting Wellington, New Zealand will send you to Madrid, Spain (a total of 12340 miles).

#### Eclipse Animation

From: Rob Muir (rob\_muir@gmail.gdt.com)

Set the date to October 24, 1995 (the solar eclipse in Asia). Turn off the Newton. On the next power-up there is an eclipse animation (about 10

seconds long) showing the startup screen. It is unknown how many other eclipse dates will trigger this but March 9, 1997 will also work.

Umm... Yeah... Whatever

From: Kevin Fox (kevin@fury.com)

If you keep the pen pressed down 1/4" from the left side of the screen, about halfway down, when booting up, the Newton will ask if you want to bypass installscripts, effectively booting your newton with all packages frozen. They appear in the extras drawer with X's through the icons. Tapping one will run the install script and open the package. This saves heap and is the only way short of a full memory wipe to delete a package that crashes the newton in the installscript. This also works with cards. Hold the pen down right after locking the card into place to freeze all the packages on the card.

## Universal

### About Newton

Write About Newton and push Assist. This prints the names of the Newton development team and finishes with a dedication to a deceased team member, Ko Isono, who committed suicide. Random letters of programmers names are sometimes missing. In German systems type "Über Newton".

## Unknown

(I am not sure wether these are just a part of 2.0, previous versions, or both.)

### Happy Hour

Type schedule happy hour Friday (with the Getting Started card installed), select it, and then tap Assist. This works for the 110 and maybe others. Newton will go through its interpretations and then present a dialog box with the following information:

Who: Apple Assurance

When: (the next Fri.)

Where: Apple Assurance

Subject: Schedule

This also works if you add a time (e.g. "schedule Happy Hour Fri 6:30").

Without the Getting Started card installed, you can freely schedule your happy hours without the Apple Assurance gang interfering.

### Newton Jingle

Those 'random' tones generated with taps of the pen on the Newton 2.0 are not all that random. The note sequence makes a short song. The notes for the Newton song are according to the C major scale (a little bit higher than normal scale)...

ECCFGDEDGFGCADGGC  
3 1 145 2 3 2 5 45 1 6 2 5 5 1

The best way to try this is to make a check list in "Notes" and then untap and tap the check box. Folks at Apple in the know say the sounds are randomly generated, but it does, in the above case, appear to not be so random.

David M. Pompea (dmpsyst@net2.netacc.net) sent me a message saying he believes the jingle is the Oscar Meyer Bologna song. These are the first two lines of the song (to refresh your memory): "My bolony has a first name it O-S-C-A-R, my bolony has a second name it M-E-Y-E-R da da da da da da..."

#### 🐘 Rosetta

In the Notepad, using the Printed (Rosetta) recognizer, write Rosetta! Rosetta! Rosetta! and look at the recognized text. That's it! "Rosetta! Rosetta! Hey, that's me!" is the output from the software! (I do not know if this was made by Apple).

#### 🐘 Secret Font

From: The 3rd issue of "Stylus" (08/94)

The MP has a secret font called "Espy". To get it, write Remember toothpaste, select it, tap Assist and then tap Do. "Toothpaste" will be entered in the ToDo list. The font used is the secret font. Select the word and move it to a note (using the clipboard). While it is still selected, type "Espy". Store the note carefully. When you want to use this font, select some text and move it to the right of "Espy".

Note: Use the size 18 to better see the differences between Espy and the other two fonts (Simple & Fancy).

#### All Newton OS's Besides 2.0

##### Change StartUp Screen

To do this put one, two, or possibly three spaces after the first line of your address (your street address). If you set your password you can enjoy it longer.

MP100: 1 Space: Cat on a chair playing with a Newton

2 spaces: Crow Holding a Newton stylus in his talons, and the Newton lightbulb logo. Harv R. Laser (Harv@cup.portal.com)

MP110: Two Spaces: Cat on the chair

Three or more spaces: A baby newt in a cage (I believe this is the baby newt) with a Dec. 15, 1993 birth announcement.

Blair MacIntyre (bm@age.cs.columbia.edu)

MP 120: Two spaces: Cat on chair  
Three spaces: Newt in the garden of eden.  
(Does not work on the French version.)

### Debugging Thingy

Open the Extras drawer, then tap on the very upper-left corner of the rectangle that bounds it, then in the upper right. You'll see a dialog box asking you to select a connection for a built-in serial debugger (To see what is going on, connect your Newton to a terminal program). I have no idea what this is good for to an end-user, and it isn't documented for developers, either. (This still works in the MessagePad 110).

### Easter Egg Graceland (100 only)

- 1) Go to: Extras:Preferences:Personal
- 2) Change the country to "Graceland" (you will have to type it because it is not in the directory).
- 3) Power down the Newton
- 4) While watching the startup screen, power up your Newton. You will see a little Newt instead of the light bulb.

Note: Doing this will bring up something different in the U.S. on an American system than it will on a German upgraded (possibly 1.3) system. Be sure change the country back before dialing. It should work on a MP100 if it doesn't have a 110 ROM. This will not work on other Newtons.

•Be sure to change this back or your newton will think you have traveled to foreign lands.

BTW: Liverpool has no effect.

### Elvis

He's in plenty of random places!

Here's one: Go to the Map, tap "Find", then write "Elvis". It will briefly say "The King was sighted in" and choose a city name at random before it catches itself and says "not found".

Tap the "Assist" button. In the area where you tell the Newton what to assist you with, write (or type) "Find Elvis". Watch closely. It happens quickly and doesn't stay on the screen long. This works in the 110, but it simply adds the location of the King to the list of found items.

### Memory

Click on the version number of the Memory Preference element to see the

programmers.

Moon Landing... Kinda, Berlin Wall, and Earthquakes

Directions: Hit the reset button in the battery compartment, then turn your Newton on (you may not have to restart depending on whether there is something to undo). Tap the Undo icon until the error message ("There is nothing to undo") will appear. Hit the Overview (Belly) button (between the scroll up/down arrows on the permanent icon bar), and you'll see two error messages that say "Newton." Tap on the first one which should say "About Newton". It will then say "Welcome to Newton." Now hit the information sign in that box.

The time displayed on the American 110 and 100 is 7/20/69, 2:35 am. Contrary to previous reports it now seems that this the theory of this being the first step on the moon is incorrect. The time of the first step was 10:56:15 pm eastern time on 7/20/69. Well, it is close, but not right, which means that the developers may have made a mistake or had something else in mind.

🐘The French MessagePad 110 date, 6/6/44 10:00, is the date of the Overlord operation. The operation began at 12:30 AM, so it is unknown exactly what 10:00 is related to. The Overlord operation was the code name of the american landing in Normandy during the WWII (also known as D-Day). Frederic Renard (100327.2742@compuserve.com)

On the german version the date is the date for the fall of the Berlin Wall.

10/17/89 5:04pm is the date you get for the MP120. That is the date and time of the Loma Prieta earthquake in San Francisco, which is right next to Cupertino and Silicon Valley, where the Apple offices are. It also happened at the same time as the World Series. UK Newtons also have this.

### The Moon

1. Open Dates.
2. Click the upper left-hand corner, above the first letter in the name of the day.
3. The phase of the moon should appear.

At least, I think it's the phase of the moon. It's different for every day, and it seems to match the real moon. Although now that you've got a Newton, who cares about going outside?

This seems to be moving with every release of the OS. The MP120, 1.3(44sthg) has the spot to the left of the week overview line (s m t w t f s). This egg will also work for the Todo List.

### Temperature (100 only)

On the original Messagepad (now called the Messagepad 100), tap the clock in the lower left-hand corner of the display, and hold down on it. The display will show you the current temperature! This will only work with a program called Screen Contrast.

It will not work on the 110 and 120 because there is a contrast dial on the side.