

Philofaxy *2010*

BlogBooker

From Blog to Book.

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Chapter 1

2010

1.1 January

Free For All No 59 - Happy New Year 2010 (2010-01-01 00:01) - Steve

I would like to wish you all the best for 2010, may all your problems be small ones and we hope your Filofax helps you solve all your problems.

There's no excuse at all now for not putting in your new diary refill and starting your New Year off with a nice new blank diary.

So do any of you set your self New Year's resolutions?

Steve (2010-01-01 05:30:58)

If you are thinking that I have huge dedication by waiting until one minute past mid-night to post this on New Years Eve, glass of champagne in one hand, netbook in the other it's all smoke and mirrors!!

I wrote it a couple of weeks ago and scheduled it to be released at 12:01AM.

So now you know! I hope your celebrations all went to plan last night and there's not too many hang overs around.

Nan (2010-01-01 05:37:38)

I don't know about the hangover yet. In a few hours I'll let you know!

alannarama (2010-01-01 08:39:43)

Not hungover. Possibly still drunk.

I got my (first) filofax a couple of days ago as an early birthday present and in a way I can't wait to start back at uni so I can use it!

Vidya (2010-01-01 09:52:49)

This morning will be devoted to cleaning out my Filo and getting it 2010 ready. I already have the 2010 monthly calendar and the daily pages for first quarter as I usually start adding appointments for the new year in late November.

I have my 2010 goals set, it's just a matter of writing down the steps and deadlines. I keep a copy in my Finchley so I can refer to them regularly. This year I am also going to set monthly goals and I'll keep those in the Franklin-Covey Compass bookmark I use to keep my place in my Filo.

I was soundly asleep (sober :->) when 2010 arrived in California. These days, sleep trumps all!

PA3789 (2010-01-01 10:01:59)

Help!!!

I'm already driving myself crazy.

Is the personal too small?

Should I stay with the A5?

OMG!!!

Tell me what you are using, please!!

YM (2010-01-01 10:28:04)

Hungover or not, the first thing I did this morning was gleefully remove 2009 and get my 2010 diary & inserts out. My morning is dedicated to my planner (though it will no doubt be a slow process due to this headache...) and I can't think of a better way to start the year!

Thanks for a great year of posts you guys...all three of you rock! Can't wait to see what 2010 brings to Philofaxy!!

Steve (2010-01-01 10:32:21)

Thank you.... and this tip comes free... totally unrelated to Filofax or Planners...

How to avoid a headache... have some aspirin and a large glass of water before you go to sleep after an evening/afternoon of drinking.

Keep a large glass of water on the bedside table, if you wake in the night have another drink.

Trust me it works... the headache is mainly due to dehydration..

So make a note in your Filofax about Steve's tip for your next party.... there back on topic!!!!

Michele (2010-01-01 12:42:38)

Happy New Years to all my Philofaxy friends! My next stop on the internet is to register my new A5 Finchley Mustard Filo. I've also taken up on Laurie's recco to label indexes with post its, and I put both my filo fashion pen a nice zebra mechanical pencil in place. Last night I moved out all the 2009 and ready to start the new year filo fresh! Like YM says, the 3 of you, Nan, Steve and Laurie rock! Thanks guys for such a great blog!

Nicola (2010-01-01 15:36:11)

my filo will just be helping to keep me more organised and know what I'm doing this year. I have a shocking memory so the To Do list will hopefully help me keep on top of things.

I just have to remember to look at it!

Did the Blackberry kill off the Filofax? Not yet.... (2010-01-02 16:49) - Steve

Thanks for the tip off from one of our readers.

An excellent article/interview in last weekends Sunday Times:

[1]'Did the Blackberry kill off the Filofax? Not yet'

Some interesting snippets in the article about the sales and the balance between male and female buyers.

I loved this statement;

'Don Williams, chief executive of Pi Global, the branding consultancy, said: "The only difference between a designer handbag and a Filofax is straps. The joy of a Filofax lies in its ability to develop a strong emotional bond with its owner. It's full of deeply personal 'stuff'.'

I know several of you will agree with that!!

And I wonder what they are about to reveal later this month...

.

1. http://business.timesonline.co.uk/tol/business/industry_sectors/consumer_goods/article6968254.ece

pilgrim (2010-01-02 18:41:33)

I've used Filofaxes for nearly 17 years now & I've just got a Blackberry Pearl 8120-but I'm going to use it with my pocket Filo, and with a Moleskine lookalike as a capture device.

Electronic and paper works in perfect harmony.

Nicola (2010-01-03 15:18:12)

I have a filo and a BlackBerry (greedy girl that I am) and have strong attachments to both of them. There are things in my filo I would never keep on my phone and vice versa, they work perfectly together.

I have just come back to BlackBerry after 18 months with a iPhone and it was just like coming back to the Filofax after 5 years, something of a return to an old love.

I love my BlackBerry (and the fact that it's Canadian has even more going for it to me) and I love my Filo

Adirondack Explorer (2010-01-03 19:26:23)

Nicola, I'm Canadian, just retired my BB for the iPhone. Help me with why the BB being a Canadian device makes a difference. :-)

Waiting for my new Filo to arrive!

Dilaila (2010-01-03 22:13:21)

Perhaps the next post could be about how you combine a PDA phone with a Filo? Thanks.

Michele (2010-01-04 05:02:53)

I use both a BB and my filo(s) but as the BB is 100 % work it doesn't carry as much as my filo does. I would say I do 90 % filo, 10 % BB. Anyways, it's the first work day of the year for me with my beautiful new A5 Finchley - already jotting down a bunch of to-do's!!

Nicola (2010-01-04 09:21:52)

Adirondack Explorer: For a number of reasons. The BlackBerry, therefore Canadian innovation kicked off the boom in the Smartphone industry and helped change the way we look at the telephone as a product, secondly because the BlackBerry isn't basing it's reputation on a series of fad apps, it's as simple to use now as the day it first came into the market and yet still does much more and forth my first BlackBerry came thanks to my cousin who was on the developing team at RIM (yes half the family are Canadian)

Adirondack Explorer (2010-01-04 10:08:10)

Thanks! We're famous for a lot of innovation in the world!

An Alternative Beauty Box Review (2010-01-06 13:18) - Nan



[1] Our blogger Steve reviewed Filofax's new [2]Beauty Gift Box back in September when it was first released.

I just found another review, on a UK news-and-commentary website called [3]The Daily Dust. I was expecting the article to be a spoof, because the Daily Dust does have some funny articles, but it's actually a straightforward review, just less thorough than Steve's.

The reviewer, Ewan, does raise an interesting point: If Filofax intends to market more boxed sets and lifestyle packs targeted at specific audiences, where's the one for the men?

Guys, what special features (and I'm not talking about perfume pens) would you like to see in your ideal Filofax?

.

1. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/___H4Rx8LSaPk/S0TaarJWnoI/AAAAAAAAAJc/SqM6X-adH5Q/s1600-h/Fotolia_11658216_XS.jpg

2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2009/09/exclusive-preview-filofax-beauty-gift.html>

3. <http://www.thedailydust.co.uk/2009/12/29/review-filofax-beauty-gift-pack/>

Larry (2010-01-06 22:43:24)

Unrelated to this post, but was wondering if anyone has recommendations on a filofax selection for a man? What about the Finchley? Would this in the chocolate colouring appropriate? Or is this design more feminine? Thoughts?

Nan (2010-01-06 22:51:04)

Hi Larry –

I used a chocolate Finchley in 2009. It's a classic style and color that's perfect for a man or woman with sophisticated tastes. There's nothing "girly" about it. I think I liked it because I'm not the typical girly girl.

Then again, I only used it for one year, then went right back to a cherry-red Finsbury filled with the City Dweller pack! So I conclude that the Finchley is more manly. It left even me craving something more lighthearted and girly!

Iris (2010-01-07 08:48:55)

How about the Guildford? It's made of smooth black leather, really nice to touch - and I think it looks rather "business-like" and classic.

Arnold (2010-01-07 14:33:21)

The Scanda Black Personal is what I have given myself for a birthday present.

by Ewan Spence (2010-01-09 10:27:42)

The Ewan on The Daily Dust... that would be me, and I pop in here regularly as well.

First up, The Daily Dust we conceived as a UK tabloid like newspaper, but one that only reports on Good News (no war, famine, earth destruction, or being run over by a cow), which might be where the spoof thought came in. Nope, we just like life and want to smile!

Because of the remit, the review does need to be a bit less thorough to make sure the main points get to the audience, but I'm personally glad that Filofax UK are being as proactive as they can in opening up new areas of business - the reviews and links the beauty Pack has got since launch is impressive. Not bad for a repackaged Domino and a cross promotion with the make-up and stylist branches (who must surely have some up-sell options to make a profit!)

Larry:

For a long time I used a Personal Kensington. The Finsbury is probably the closest and is a good workmanlike choice, but I'd look at the Ffolder I'm on now... the Personal Kendall which is oiled leather - a lovely smell to it (but not suitable for all) and a classic look but not one that screams "Office!!!"

Nan (2010-01-09 10:40:13)

Hi Ewan...I didn't realize you were the same Ewan. LOL!

Thank you for providing one of the few places to read good news. Definitely something the world needs more of.

For example, I really like the Garden Igloo story: <http://www.thedailydust.co.uk/2010/01/08/man-spends-night-in-garden-igloo/>

Rebecca (2010-01-22 15:27:52)

In response to Larry's question about an appropriate filofax for a man, I bought the chocolate Finchley for my brother and he loves it. He likes the fine quality of the leather and the fact that it opens flat on his desk. Go for it - I'd be happy to see guys using Filofax!

ChandraNova (2010-01-25 12:11:16)

The Kendal in brown seems a very macho sort of Filofax - I have one and always think it has this Indiana Jones air about it! Seriously, it's very good at handling stains and scratches, they just sort of vanish, and it has a nice heft without being too rigid.

Guest Blog: Mapping and Planning (2010-01-07 18:32) - Steve

This is a return of a feature where we get a reader's own thoughts and ideas in the form of an article. We are therefore very pleased to present this article by 'Kanalt' who as you know is one of our regular readers/commenters.

Maps and Planning

My friend bought these two maps at a stationery store in New York City. I'd been there and suggested she go to look at their selection when she was first contemplating buying a Filofax to decide which size would be good for her needs. They carry a variety of inserts, maps included. But because I'd never needed maps in the past (or never used them, to be more accurate), I hadn't paid much attention to the specifics of these maps. I'm guessing that many major cities carry maps for their own area, so this may not be a surprise to many of you. I was quite excited to learn that this stationery store carries not only maps, but also specific maps that I could actually use (although now having looked at them on the [1]US Filofax website, you can buy them for many major cities online). When I go back to the store in the near future, I will be looking more closely at their entire selection.

The [2]Long Island Road Map is a colorful map of the [3]entire island - (roughly) the first third of it is on the front and the last third, referred to as the east end, is on [4]the back. There is a grid around the entire map: on the front, letters A-I on the vertical side and numbers 1-25 on the horizontal. On the back, the numbers continue, 26-54, but the letters stay the same. Some of the areas surrounding Long Island (parts of each of New York's five boroughs and parts of New Jersey) are included in the map, illustrating their major roads, bridges and tunnels, and airports. But the detailed information is, of course, for Long Island. All major highways are illustrated as well as other bigger roads. The map does not include many smaller and residential roads for obvious reasons - it would need to be much, much bigger. What I like about this map is that it shows the exit numbers for the major highways. For example, when looking at the Long Island Expressway (For those not familiar with this location, the LIE is a US interstate that runs the length of most of the island from Manhattan to just before the island forks) I can see that the exit for the Cross Island Expressway is number 30. Many of us living on Long Island speak in terms of the town where we live or grew up in relation to what exit it is on the LIE, so this may come in handy at some point when looking for certain areas. This map also shows ferry lines, state and county divisions and by using different colors on the map, government buildings and schools, hotels, parks, places of interest, shopping centers, and wineries - a big industry on Long Island. Also shown is the Long Island Rail Road, a necessity to many people who commute to New York for work. In addition, the back of the map lists the airports, bridges and tunnels, communities (Brooklyn, Queens, and Nassau and Suffolk Counties), government buildings and schools, hospitals, Long Island Rail Road stations, parks and beaches, places of interest, shopping malls, and wineries.

The [5]NYC Commuter Rail Map shows the entirety of the Manhattan subway lines as well as all [6]train lines to and from the city (LIRR, Metro-North, which goes north into New York's Westchester County and Connecticut, and New Jersey Transit). Ferry lines are also included on this map. Each subway line is color-coded and shows where all of the stops are located. It also provides contact information for the Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) who governs this type of public transportation. Contact information for the John F. Kennedy Airport air train, the Long Island Rail Road, Amtrak, and Metro-North trains are included as well. I don't commute to NYC for work and thought I'd never have a need for subway information - when I visit NYC I usually walk to my destination. But I was recently in the city with this same friend (who does work in NYC) and she had to be my subway tour guide since I didn't know anything about the subway lines. This map is sure to come in handy during my next trip!

I was unsure that I'd use the Long Island Road Map all that much. I generally know where most places are. However, it would have come in handy a few days ago. My husband and I were travelling back from out of state. As anyone who has visited this area or has driven here would know, traffic can be just awful. We were crawling along a parkway and thought it might be better to take an alternate route. The map in my car is for my county only and so wouldn't cover the parkway we were on. I thought to pull out this new Filofax map. I say it "would have come in handy" because having not taken everything with me on vacation, I left this particular item at home. Guaranteed

it will travel with us next time.

I look forward to using both of these maps in my future plans.

Kanalt

1. <http://www.filofaxusa.com/store/paperessentials.asp?tn=1&control=processrequest&SizeId=3>
2. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/90685181@N00/4240983895/in/photostream/>
3. <http://maps.google.com/maps?hl=en&q=map+of+long+island>
4. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/90685181@N00/4241755376/in/photostream/>
5. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/90685181@N00/4241755214/in/photostream/>
6. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/90685181@N00/4240983215/in/photostream/>

Judy (2010-01-08 01:14:17)

Hello,

Sorry for the off-topic.

I have been searching the internet for the better part of the last three hours. I am thinking of updating my current A5 Filofax to an A4 sized planner, presumably from the same aforementioned company.

However, I would like to use the Franklin Covey daily refill papers. Do the FC refills fit into the corresponding Filofax binders?

Also, has anyone had the experience of ordering FC papers and/or products to Europe? I already found their European web-shop but I find their P & P rates to be unashamedly exorbitant.

I would love to hear from anyone who has already used the FC system. I realize that their products are tied to the entire Covey time-management philosophy; has that helped you in streamlining your workload?

Thanks for reading.

Michele (2010-01-08 09:08:13)

Kanalt, I have this very same map and I love it! I bought it when I first had to drive out to the Hamptons about 10 years ago. In my new A5's clear envelope I keep a vintage Filofax (80's) map of England. I took "ownership" of it after my boyfriend found it AFTER we did what seemed a cross-country tour. London-West Yorkshire-Whitby-London. I couldn't just leave this gem in a archive box! Steve, I hope you and your family & friends are ok with this historic snowfall in the UK?!!! I'm getting daily updates from West Yorkshire - a funeral for a dear aunt scheduled for today is up in the air as well as a bus trip to Scarborough! ;-(Happy Friday to All!

Nan (2010-01-08 10:41:15)

Cool article! I never knew Filofax made so many maps. Whenever I see one in a store, I buy it, even if it's for a city I don't need, just because it's so rare to find them.

There are a lot on the Filofax USA website. Here's a direct link to the maps page: <http://tinyurl.com/yelfqcd>

Nicola (2010-01-08 12:19:05)

I still wish they made a Toronto map. The biggest, most populated city in Canada and there is no map for it! Not even the nations captial has that honour. Only Vancouver and Montreal maps can be found.

mhm802 (2010-01-08 14:57:16)

I love the Filo maps! I think they are made by a company called streetwisemaps.com – where you will find LOTS more to drool over (including Toronto). The only difference is they aren't holepunched, but they will fit easily into your Filo.

PS Judy:

The FC classic pages will NOT fit Filofax A5 (different size paper and wrong hole). The FC compact pages will fit the rings of a Filo personal, but the FC pages are slightly wider.

by Ewan Spence (2010-01-09 10:44:23)

I tend not to go for the official maps - but what I will do is use Google Maps to see the area I am visiting or staying at(eg for a Conference). Take the screen dump into photoshop and then print it out either for a single personal page, or as an A4

width (but personal height) fold-out.

And of course I can annotate it in Photoshop with hotels, numbers, good coffee shops, etc...

CDS (2010-08-06 19:22:43)

Hi guys, for Maps, laminated, pre punched for the Filofax 6 rings, I've used Streetwise for years, mainly for US and particularly NY maps, excellent detail, very useable, they are at;

<http://www.streetwisemaps.com>

Exclusive Offer for Philofaxy Readers from Filofax UK (2010-01-07 18:59) - Steve

Exclusive to *Philofaxy* readers only, a 15 % off at Filofax UK on line store.

It is valid for 15 % off all full priced items at Filofax UK from Friday 8 January 2010 to Tuesday 12 January 2010. Make a note of those dates in your Filofax now.

To get the 15 % discount you must click on the Filofax logo below, and enter the code **px15** at the checkout to redeem the discount. Please note that the code is only valid for one use per customer.



[1]

Thank you to Filofax UK for their continued support.

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1. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?s=152872&v=2457&q=90354&r=97790>

Adirondack Explorer (2010-01-05 22:00:16)

I can't believe it! I received my new Personal Classic today and the snap closure is broken. :-(

I've emailed Filofax USA and am hoping for a positive resolution to this surprising situation.

Anyone had experience with this kind of thing before?

alannarama (2010-01-09 09:22:05)

thankyou very much! my paper is on its way :)

Schermann (2010-03-05 13:11:43)

Yet, mine is about to break, but it has taken 14 years of use to get to this point, LOL.

Free for All Friday No. 60 (2010-01-08 12:46) - Nan

Subtitle: Better Late Than Never

One thing I wish I did more of is record weather conditions. It's really nice to look back and see when it snowed, or unexpectedly warm. Seeing what the weather was like helps bring back memories of the day. If you live in North America or Europe, you can probably guess why I'm thinking about weather today. You're probably also wrapped up in a blanket or wearing an extra layer of clothing!

Do you track weather in your Filo? If so, how? I can imagine all of our creative readers doing beautiful things with colored pencils and pens.

.

Steve (2010-01-08 13:47:58)

Thank you Nan... a perfect topic to let me up date our readers about 'Snow bound Steve'

As some people might know, the weather is a bit of an obsession of the English... and I suppose I'm no exception.

Yes I've been recording the details of the weather, although it's become a little boring in 2010... snow, snow... more snow..

It snowed over night. More snow in addition to what we have already.. you get the picture!!

I worked Monday and Tuesday this week, my first days after the holiday.. but since then I've been snow bound at home for the last three days. This is because the site I work at is very vulnerable to bad weather as it is on the top of the North Kent Downs.

I've had to ring in each morning to see if there is any change, but we have been told to not ring until Monday morning. Never mind I could get used to a 5 day weekend!

But my time hasn't been wasted... I've been doing some work at home, but it's not been easy without access to the office network. I've also been reviewing my different Filofax organisers and how to best use them this year. A hint to a forthcoming post.....

And finally... don't forget the exclusive promotion this weekend for discount at Filofax UK for Philofaxy readers. See my post earlier this week for details.

Take care

Regards

Steve

YM (2010-01-08 14:16:56)

I record the weather every day. Not much...typically just a couple words and the hi/low temps.

This is more a function of OCD than any real interest in the weather ;)

Adirondack Explorer (2010-01-08 14:24:41)

Y,

Are you getting snow today? It's snowed here in the mountains all day!

Winter! :-)

kanalt (2010-01-09 12:10:09)

As a general rule, I do not keep track of the weather. But when a big system is approaching, I tend to get migraines, and so I track it in those instances, although it's more for tracking how I'm feeling and the reason(s) for feeling bad.

Pete Mac (2010-01-10 03:06:07)

Now, there's a thought. I had never thought recording the weather in my filofax. I record it as part of my cycling training, which is done electronically. I'll certainly start doing this!

The value of keeping a diary (2010-01-08 17:48) - Steve

I never realised the value of keeping a diary/journal until this last Christmas when my son Philip was home.

I pulled out my old Filofax diary from 1986 and 1987, he made some joky remark at first. But then I turned to January 1987 and showed him what was happening in the days before and after his birth (20 Jan 1987...23 years ago) and he went very quiet and was absorbed by what I had written...

20 January 1987 as well as being the day Philip was born... 00:05 to be precise, was also the day that Terry Waite was being reported as being taken hostage in Beirut. Terry Waite was a special envoy to the Archbishop of Canterbury who was in Beirut trying to negotiate with the hostage takers to free other hostages when he was also taken hostage. He remained in captivity for 1763 days, he was released in November 1991.

When ever the story was reported in the newspapers giving the number of days he had been held also equated to the age of Philip.

Like now, this area of Kent was blanketed in snow back in January 1987... all of this was recorded in my diary from back then....

So do try to make the effort to record what is happening in the world, in your life, no matter how insignificant it might seem at the time. When you or your relatives look back on it in future years I'm sure it will keep them spell

bound for a few hours.

A paper diary I'm sure will outlive the modern equivalents... Twitter, Facebook... and will be more private as well of course. Not that I'm suggesting you give up either of these, they have their place.

I'm just regretting not keeping a diary after I went over to electronic diaries in the 1990's to only rediscover Filofax back in 2005. I'm just so pleased I captured Philips first years, the memories come flooding back even with the briefest of entries.

.

Nicola (2010-01-08 18:59:16)

I keep a diary of sorts. Most of the time my jottings are undated and for me it is simply a way to get things off my chest. It will never be published, but it is a way for me to get things 'out into the open' without regretting them later. Facebook, Twitter etc cannot offer that kind of privacy, and while I enjoy them both, especially Twitter, I do like the privacy of my filofax.

Ally (2010-01-09 11:13:35)

For a diary, I prefer a bound book as with Moleskine. How do you store your past Filo diaries and what pages do you use? I was just reading about Peter Beard's diaries—he saved a lot of "stuff" as well as words.

Steve (2010-01-10 17:45:10)

Hi Ally

I store my old diary pages, but popping a tag through the holes and then storing the complete diary in a storage box I found in Ikea a few years ago.

Steve

Oni (2010-01-16 11:55:34)

I too am keen on keeping a diary/journal. I have been doing so ever since I was 14, (20 years ago for those who were wondering...)

Around 2000 I stopped, mostly due to a very noisy and jealous guy I was dating back then, so around 2003 I chose the alternative of having a 'livejournal'. I think it was around 2006 when I started keeping a paper journal once again and haven't used livejournal ever since!

And one of the tasks on my To Do list is printing all I had written in LJ, so I can bind it and finally have a paper version of it.

Bunny Elder (2010-01-27 05:11:23)

As posted on my blog today: "I've written a lot about my lifelong relationship with Dayrunners and Filofaxes. A friend sent me a link to this fantastic Filofax blog, Philofaxy, which is worth a look. I especially liked the entry for January 8 of this year, 'The value of keeping a diary'. Philofaxy, I appreciate the blog!"

Calling All Downsizers!! (2010-01-10 21:59) - Laurie

Hi everybody! I managed to make it back to Albania from snowy, sub-zero Scotland. The UK is having its most severe winter weather in half a century, and I felt very lucky to fly out on a day when the airports were open and functioning! And here in the Balkans we are having heavy rains with flooding in low-lying areas: bridges are washing away, people are being evacuated from their homes, and we are advised not to travel in the region. Crazy winter weather this year.

Now on to Philofaxy business. I've been largely absent from Philofaxy during my vacation (except for one quick post banged out while at an internet cafe, and the Christmas FFAF that I pre-wrote and scheduled to auto-post). I've missed Philofaxy!

Today's order of business: a support group for downsizers! I've noticed that there are several people who are downsizing, whether from A5 to Personal, or Personal to Pocket. I know it's not easy to move to less space, so let's discuss.

For those of you who have successfully downsized in the past, let's hear from you. How did you do it? What

worked for you? What changes did you have to make in how you do things when working with a smaller page size?

For those of you currently downsizing: How's it going? Are you enjoying the freedom of a smaller, lighter book? Or are you still trying to figure out how to make the smaller book work for you?

I know it's not always easy to do more with less, but we are here to support you!

Bella (2010-01-10 22:19:15)

It's not a big deal. Just write smaller.

Adirondack Explorer (2010-01-10 22:24:26)

I'm moving from an A5 to a personal. But the Classic personal arrived with a broken clasp. I've sent it back to FF and hope that the new one arrives back this week.

More to come!

plaiditude (2010-01-10 23:47:31)

I'm going in the opposite direction. I know this is a Filofax site - I've never had the opportunity to use one, I'm currently using time/design. I've used mostly the compact size for two years, but over the last several months I've been trying to get myself to move to an A5. I love the compact size but I always feel that subconsciously I am limiting what I put in there because of the limited space. The A5 size requires so much more discipline to carry around with me though - so I've just ordered a real expensive one to make it worth it :) An A5 business cuba leather (the price is a big ouch though)

PA3789 (2010-01-11 06:49:38)

I purchased a personal going from an A5. I just ordered a new Kendal A5!!

I tried the personal starting the beginning of 2010. The problem is I ended up writing on a note pad because the personal is just too small. Assame though because it fit so nice in my laptop. I work with a group of people that are using FC "monarch size". I can't go that far. LOL

I am going to keep my personal and dual write for awhile as someone else suggested. Until I can decide.

On the bright side, I can't wait for the Kendal A5! It's like Christmas all over again!! I will keep posting my findings.

Claudia Volkman (2010-01-11 09:33:32)

Plaiditude - how do you like the Time Design pages? I am using the A5 size for 2010 - trying NOT to switch :) - do you like the calendar format? Would appreciate any tips!

Claudia

melissaj323@gmail.com (2010-01-11 09:43:21)

I just ordered my first Filofax after using FC for years. I am so excited!! I've been wanting a planner that I can take with me on the go, so I ordered the personal size filofax.

kanalt (2010-01-11 09:46:35)

I recently downsized from a Personal to a Slimline which holds the same size paper as the personal, so not downsizing on how and what I write but more so in what/how much I carry with me. At first I was doubtful, but now I have it down to a science - In there, I keep only the lists I absolutely need with me at all times, 6 months worth of month-in-view and 3 months of week-on-two-pages, phone numbers for emergency contacts, services and doctors. Everything else stays in my personal Filofax which stays at home - I still use it, but don't carry with it me. In there I keep extra lists, exercise information, and the diary pages for the rest of the year, so still accessible when I need it, but left at home most times.

Iris (2010-01-11 12:30:07)

Like kanalt, I just bought a Slimline (Metropol) last week!

My Personal (Domino) with all my lists, projects, addresses, maps... stays on my desk at home.

In this new Slimline (which I take with me when I leave the house) I only have a month-on-2-pages diary, the current month of the day-per-page diary, some important phone numbers and a few sheets of note paper.

mhm802 (2010-01-11 13:42:24)

I downsized last spring from A5 to personal. It took the rest of 2008 to get my system re-vamped the way I wanted it. My biggest adjustment – moving to one page per day, instead of the vertical week at a glance (my definite preference). The last time I tried to downsize to personal, I tried to work with a week at a time, and there was just not enough room. This time, I'm using the 2-pages-month as my overview calendar, and keep three months of daily pages (current, past and next). What I like about this is that even though I have sacrificed the week view, I still have a vertical column for appointments (I have a lot of meetings), plus plenty of room for to-dos, notes, etc.

Downsizing has made handbag shopping much easier, to be sure, and my shoulder appreciates the lighter weight.

Steve (2010-01-11 14:00:08)

Sticking with my A5 for my journal, personal slimline for my appointments for this year.

Although I am tempted to downsize to my Finsbury Personal for 2011 for my journal.

The advantages would of course be commonality in page size, and greater choice of diary refill formats in personal size compared to any other size.

Very comfortable with carrying around the personal slimline though, excellent purchase last year.

alannarama (2010-01-11 16:00:45)

I went from the Palgrave student planner (bigger than A5) to a pocket filofax, both with a week on 2 pages. I have small handwriting anyway, I can see how the pocket might be difficult otherwise, but putting aside how much I love the new filofax, it's much better for me to stay organised. I keep the diary pages for classes, appointments and to-dos, whereas with so much space I was scribbling notes, doodles and everything else just anywhere on the page. A small amount of space helps me stay focused.

plaiditude (2010-01-12 11:14:47)

Claudia Volkman:

I like the Time Design pages. A year ago they moved the compact size over to a newer European design which I really liked. Currently in Canada and USA they still use the older format for A5, I'm hoping that eventually they change over that size to the newer format as well. The monthly Calendar format takes a bit of getting used to (each day is a line across the page, rather than a square block) but it's also very useful. You can see the CAN/USA format of A5 here:

http://www.timesystem.us/v/vspfiles/V4_Backup/refill_samples_A5.htm

and the Compact size here:

<http://www.timesystem.us/v/vspfiles/photos/A60XXX-3.jpg>

helen (2010-01-15 08:54:15)

I'm keeping my personal one for work (aka My Brain - everything is in there), but I had a brainwave earlier this week when I realised I needed a new address book and a new diary. So I'm going to the extreme, I bought a Mini in the sale and used the discount code on here to buy lots of extra infills. It's small enough to carry round in my bag everyday and I think it's going to become My Other Brain. I am very excited. I keep stroking it, is that wrong?

stationery gal (2010-01-18 20:57:50)

I went from my Red Personal Finsbury to a Raspberry Pocket Finsbury...I love it! I wanted something light I could throw in my purse and so far, it has worked out great. My goal for 2010 is to use this filofax the entire year. I made this announcement to my friends at work and they asked me if I realized what I was saying....typically I switch a couple times a year...but for 2010 I am really going to try to make this one work the entire year!

Rebecca (2010-01-22 15:22:06)

I'm moving from personal to pocket. I had been using the week view pages but found not enough room in the pocket version, so I switched to the two-day per page and am happy with it. I have enough space for meetings and notes for each day, and for to-do lists which are not date-specific I am using both the Notes section and the Jot Pad pages, which I really like. The Jot Pad page clips right in and moves with the page marker, and you can replace it easily as soon as you complete your list items. I love Filofax, glad to have found this site!

ChandraNova (2010-01-25 12:07:12)

@helen, no of course it's not wrong! :)

I kept stroking (and admiring, and looking at the inside of) my Kendal A5 I bought last year, and that was me UPSizing, both for the extra space & ease of making my own custom-printed refills.

I like magazines, and whenever I get one with a sample of scent in, I rip the paper out and put it inside the front pocket.. meaning I sometimes sit and SMELL my Filofax, too!

(Welcome to The Internet - the place where you can *always* find someone madder than yourself!)

Final Call for your exclusive 15% off offer.. (2010-01-11 13:28) - Steve

The offer ends tomorrow. See the [1]post here for full details.

Steve

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/01/exclusive-offer-for-philofaxy-readers.html>

50% off Dodo Pad inserts for A5 Filofax (2010-01-13 06:41) - Laurie



[1]

Dodo Pad is selling their new A5 Filofax inserts for 50 % off! This is a new product this year, and they want to get these diary inserts into the hands of A5 Filofax users to try them out. This week + notes format with the weekly grid has plenty of room to keep track of your schedule and everyone else's, with a mostly-empty page opposite to jot lists, make notes, scribble numbers, or doodle while you're waiting on the phone. You can learn more and purchase them at the deeply discounted rate [2]here.

As you all know, I love the Dodo's fun and quirky humor with new interesting facts each week. Last year when Dodo Pad announced the new A5 Filofax-compatible diary insert, I was so excited I immediately ordered one up! I have to say, it looks great in my purple A5 Finsbury. Now I can be "Filo on the outside and Dodo on the inside!" Dodo products are very organizational while being witty and fun at the same time. [3]Highly recommended!

1. <http://www.dodopad.com/dodofax/dodofax-350.jpg>

2. <http://www.dodopad.com/dodofax/dodofax.html>

3. http://www.dodopad.com/pages/customer_reviews.html

Nickie @ Typecast (2010-01-13 07:17:23)

haha @ Filo on the outside, Dodo on the inside - that's you down to a "T" :D

Laurie (2010-01-13 13:44:09)
LOL it is, isn't it!

Filofax Compatible Page Inserts? (2010-01-13 11:59) - Steve

Title and Author	Searched	Finished

[1]

It is quite interesting to see the 'Dodo' calendar inserts that Laurie wrote about. It got me wondering about other Filofax compatible inserts. You will know I 'grow' a lot of my own pages for my A5 Filofax, but the other sizes aren't so easy to do without either special paper or a lot of messing around! Myself and a few other people remember the days of the huge variety of Filofax inserts from a by gone era, Nan found quite a few for sale as 'end of line' bargains. I've recreated some of these for A5 sizes and they are available on DiY Planner. The [2]list is here. But I'm sure a lot of us would love personal size pages already printed. So have you come across any other makes of Filofax compatible refills or inserts? May be ones that aren't duplicate of ones supplied by Filofax themselves even? Please post your discoveries or thoughts in the comments.

- 1. <http://www.diyplanner.com/files/reading%20list.JPG>
- 2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2009/11/filofax-templates.html>

Silver_Elixir (2010-01-22 17:52:07)
I have come across Kikki K pages that fit my personal size Filofax. These pages are different from Filofax pages in that the ones I brought came with three different designs, each of 25 pages, in one pack, for less money than a Filofax notes pack with around 25 pages. I have pages titled 'websites' 'shops & restarurants' 'shopping list'. I also look around in larger stores that have stationery sections for more generic planners as they often have pages tht fit and they save me cutting my own pages.

fideliy-blue (2010-01-23 12:22:53)

I also found some really nice inserts on daytimer.co.uk that fit into the personal size of filofax, the other sizes may also be compatible I just didn't check because I only have a personal ha! But they have "collections" like flavia and serenity that look really nice and have illustrations that are lovely!

Penny (2010-01-26 20:58:54)

many A5 forms have disappeared, I do like time/system's to pick up the slack, but last time i ordered all i saw was a ups shipping option which perplexed me when a flatrate envelope would entice me to order more often. must email them and ask...

Where to buy vintage Filofaxes? (2010-01-14 00:46) - Laurie

I received an email from Philofaxy reader Alon, who has been collecting Filofaxes for more than 20 years, asking where he can buy vintage Filofaxes. I suggested ebay but beyond that I have no clue.

Does anyone know of a good source for buying vintage Filofaxes?

joffreyca (2010-01-14 13:02:32)

Unfortunately, I don't have an answer to that one.

But I'm curious: what makes a Filofax vintage or collectible? Does it have to be leather, made in England and personal size, for example? Or can something like a M2 or a Deskfax qualify as vintage Filofax?

Janet (2010-01-15 04:31:44)

I would say ebay is your best bet. Set up a search with your particular words and it emails you with hits every day.

If you are a real collector you can scour second hand shops and put up notices - once people know you they will contact you when nice things come up.

You can also contact people on flickr for example, who are also collectors and ask them to contact you when a duplicate comes up.

I am a collector of various things and I find these the best ways.

Steve (2010-01-16 12:58:38)

I would also suggest Ebay as a good source, but read my post from last year:

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2009/06/filofax-on-ebay-it-pays-to-be-patient.html>

Don't get carried away, decide on your top price and stick to it... it's easy to get carried away.

Don't panic if you miss out the first time, just keep watching for items and ask the sellers questions before bidding. They sometimes don't get the sizes correct.

Remember readers of this blog will be more knowledgeable about Filofax than normal Ebay sellers. This can be to your advantage of course!

Good luck.

gmax (2010-01-16 13:52:00)

@joffreyca - My view on what constitutes "vintage" for Filofax would be anything dating before around 1991.

Kevin Hall's excellent 2006 paper entitled "A Chronology of Filofax" (sadly unavailable now) noted that year as being a watershed, with the product being taken down-market. Much of the quality and "Englishness" was lost. This matches my own experience also.

The personal size is favoured in the "vintage" stakes, because until about 1985 it was the only size produced. The next size added was called "Deskfax", but totally different to the later [1]format that also came to bear the same name. There are early examples of the "Pocket" format that I would regard as vintage. These used a four ring system, rather than the current six.

1. <http://www.flickr.com/groups/40748476@N00/discuss/72157622449041307/#comment72157622570009523>

Steve (2010-01-16 14:14:02)

You have just reminded me... I actually have a copy of that Kevin Hall document, the version I found is dated 21 July 2006. I wrote to his last known email address over Christmas requesting permission to publish his paper. Sadly I've not heard back from him yet.

I will look in to publishing the contents whilst giving the author full acknowledgement to avoid any copyright issues etc. It's very detailed as you say.

Steve

Adirondack Explorer (2010-01-17 17:38:14)

Would like to read this, Steve

Organized Mommy (2010-01-18 16:49:33)

Ebay is a good source. Also try craigslist for your city and other cities, too.

gmax (2010-01-19 18:32:28)

Kevin has promised a [1]revised version of the chronology one day, which I'm sure many of us would be fascinated to see.

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2008/12/glimpse-into-history.html?showComment=1231320180000#c8487032739653734468>

Steve (2010-01-23 05:55:41)

Hi GMax

We have been trying to track down Kevin to get his permission to republish his document. The link to Webarchive no longer seems to work, although it did work over Christmas because I somehow managed to download a copy of the 2006 version of his file.

It's an excellent source of historical information about the company.

So if Kevin is reading this or they have an up to date email address for him we would love to hear from him and to be able to request his permission to publish his document on Philofaxy.

We don't want to break his Copyright on the document by just publishing it without his permission.

Steve

Paige Paigen (2010-01-28 00:41:08)

The web archive link is working as of just now.

CDS (2010-12-28 21:32:17)

I think certain models, Winchester, Durham, Balmoral that formed the original 1980-5 basis for the growth of the company are Vintage or Classic, especially the 4CLF 7.8 given the range of materials and finishes. Others have Novelty appeal like the Travelfax and Duplex. To be honest eBay is the only source I've found and I've trawled the Net other than lucky finds in 2nd hand shops but people are very aware of the brands strength so finding a real steal is rare but, even on eBay still very possible.

Free For All Friday No. 61 (2010-01-15 00:15) - Laurie

2010 will be a very busy year for me and my family with major changes coming up. This summer we will move internationally (again, and our destination is still unknown). We'll spend 6 weeks or so traveling around the US visiting friends and family before we head off to our next destination. This fall my oldest child will start school (for real this time. She won't be able to drop out after a week like she did with preschool, it's real school now!). This fall will be spent settling into our new place, meeting new people, and getting to know our new surroundings. It will be a busy year with lots of transitions, and as you can imagine I am planning and preparing as much as possible already.

What does 2010 have in store for you? Do you have plans for changes or events coming up this year? How are you using your Filofax(es) to plan and organize the upcoming year?

Michele (2010-01-15 08:18:05)

Late in 2009 I made a personal commitment of becoming a certified PMP (project management professional) by taking the PMP exam - my personal goal is to take the exam Spring of 2010. In my personal pocket panama under notes, I have a list titled PMP and have jotted all the major dates in my endeavor - dates & chapters read of the Project Management Book of Knowledge, dates I joined the PMI and my info on my local chapter, etc.

In my brand new A5 Musterd Finchley I have my PMI card and my membership certificate showing thru the see thru envelope, and a special section for note taking, etc. So I have both Filos working hard for me on this personal and professional journey in 2010!

Vidya (2010-01-15 14:39:08)

I designed weekly and monthly checklists to make sure I'm keeping on track with my goals for the year. I was thinking yesterday that I have to keep these checklists close by me, so my Finchley and I will be "joined at the hip" this year! :-)

PA3789 (2010-01-15 16:00:30)

Started the year with a personal Kendal, have just recieved my new

A5 Kendal. Plans include making the solid commitment to use my Filo for all information. I promised myself that I would carry it everywhere.

My job requires a ton of information collecting everyday.

Let's see how this fills up!!

Adirondack Explorer (2010-01-15 21:20:47)

I bought a new personal classic Filofax to start the New Year. On the very first day - the first hour - the clasp broke and I had to send it back. So I've been 13 days without a planner. Heard today it will be replaced and sent out on Monday. Yeah!

Dilaila (2010-01-15 21:55:44)

I just started my own business so I need to be really organised! Bought a new Personal for that. Still experimenting since I was an A5 user before this.

Personal stuff stays in A5. New section is a monthly calendar to record workouts and graph paper for charts etc.

Oni (2010-01-16 11:41:05)

For now, my trusted Finsbury is helping me not only to do my chores, but also pushing me to meet with friends more.

But I am hoping that if my luck finally changes for the better, I will use it to organise my leaving the country!

Nicola (2010-01-17 13:36:30)

I am just hoping my filo will include the words 'Job Interview' or 'new job start' in it at some point.

Laurie (2010-01-17 13:59:07)

Nicola, my husband and I are in this position right now too. Good luck to all of us finding great jobs that we enjoy and that pay a living salary!

Dilaila (2010-01-17 21:36:13)

I am hoping my Filo to include 'potential client' and 'job brief' and 'invoice paid'. Such a tough time to start a new business venture.

Good luck with job search!

OTOH, yesterday I bought two slimline organisers (local brand) just to try and see if I like it since Personal is a bit too heavy to lug around and Pocket is not much use for the kind of details I like to record.

Has anyone noticed that Filo is heavier than other makes? Must be the leather thing.

Steve (2010-01-18 16:24:14)

I'm looking forward to seeing the following in my Filofax this year (any of them!!)

'Exchange of contracts on house'

'Last day at work'

'Move to France day'

'Start retirement'
You get the picture!

gmax (2010-01-19 19:02:33)

The New Year excitement for me has been getting the offer of a new job. It came out of the blue really, and seems like a great opportunity. So I need to decide whether to go for it, or stick with my current job, which is not so bad, and offers a good work/life balance. Tricky one.

I got some nice Filofax items over Christmas too, so I'm a lucky fellow.

gmax (2010-01-19 19:07:18)

ps. Good luck to the job hunters and those in new ventures. I hope things turn out really well for you.

Filofax holidays (2010-01-19 03:30) - Laurie

Are you wondering which countries around the world are celebrating today as a holiday? Do you want to know all the national holidays all year of any and every country in the world?

Then you're in luck—Filofax has it covered.

On either [1]Filofax USA or [2]Filofax UK, just log into your account (or create an account, which is free), and on your account page look at the left sidebar. Choose National Holidays Worldwide. It shows which countries in the world have today and tomorrow as holidays, and a pull-down menu to see all the national holidays of every country for the entire year!

I think this is a really cool feature, and a great service by Filofax.

This is a great way for travelers to check the holiday schedule for their countries of destination. The last thing you want to do is spend all your time and money getting somewhere, only to discover you've landed right in the middle of their festival season and everything's closed!

It's also a great feature for kids in school who are learning about different countries and their holidays.

Or, for those of us who are just interested, it's fun to see which countries celebrate what holidays.

Thank you Filofax!

1. <http://www.filofaxusa.com/>

2. <http://www.filofax.co.uk/>

Steve (2010-01-19 15:47:46)

Thank you for reminding me where that is on the site. I knew I had seen it somewhere, but couldn't remember where.

I've now added the French holidays to my year planner, in addition to the UK ones.

When I lived in Cyprus I asked if such a calendar existed for all the public holidays they seem to take there... Greek and Turkish!

It's the perfect way to organise your life.... (2010-01-19 17:11) - Steve

Searching around on the internet as one does... you occasionally come across a few 'gems' that you just can't resist sharing with others. Now you might do this via one of the social networks... Twitter or Facebook.. But when it comes to things Filofax I prefer to share them with you.....

I came across this brief but to the point blog post by [1]The Debonair Gentleman on my Filofax is the perfect way to organise your life... and I don't think you will disagree with them either.. Worth reading the other posts in this blog too. A shame this refined gentleman has stopped adding posts to his blog.

Filofax has an interesting dictionary entry at '[2]Ask A Word' I also keep finding links to Philofaxy! Here is another on [3]VisWiki

Did any of you ever use a '[4]Pregfax' back in the 1990's, what will they think of next!!

What about this article in '[5]Marxism Today' from December 1988 'Filofaxions', the link is to the pdf of the

article.

1. <http://debonairgentleman.blogspot.com/2006/05/filofax-perfect-way-to-keep-organised.html>
2. <http://www.askaword.com/?q=filoFAX&d=gg&libs=>
3. <http://viswiki.com/en/Filofax>
4. http://www.paperstone.co.uk/cat_1841-1844-1846_Filofax-Refills.aspx
5. http://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=t&source=web&ct=res&cd=36&ved=0CBwQFjAF0B4&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.amielandmelburn.org.uk%2Fcollections%2Fmt%2Fpdf%2F88_12_32.pdf&ei=LypWS4fkDo7F4gbz4ticBw&usq=AFQjCNFOVcOa3U6WXX7CARBKc8ocrhlG_g&sig2=z1AjY5mHDOIJxI9g2Jdmow

gmax (2010-01-19 18:52:17)

Some interesting links there Steve.

I have hunted in the past for old product lists and catalogues etc., but material like that is quite poorly represented.

Dasha (2010-01-20 17:47:50)

I had some refills for tracking one's menstrual cycle in the early 2000s and am sad that they seem to have disappeared. I now note that kind of information on my vertical yearly calendar, but I'd buy it again if it was reintroduced because it seems more private to have it separately.

Laurie (2010-01-21 02:45:03)

Dasha, I remember those, they were great! If I remember correctly, they had the days as 28 day cycles rather than the actual months. That way you could see if your cycle was regular (if it happened every 28 days) or irregular (more or fewer days). Very useful tool, and yes it's too bad they no longer make it.

Free For All Friday No. 62 (2010-01-22 00:01) - Steve

I'm forever coming across sites and articles on sites that mention the word Filofax, but only as a comparison to something else. For instance 'The iPhone is to smartphones what the Filofax was to diaries'

These keep popping up in my Google Alerts and it's so annoying!!! I think I've discovered some great articles on other sites only to be disappointed!

What would you compare your Filofax to?? Oh and tell us about anything else Filofax related.....

Laurie (2010-01-22 02:00:55)

What's this "what the Filofax WAS to diaries" business?? The Filofax is alive and well, as we all know. Although, I am not a tech person so I'm guessing people who are fully submerged in the technological realm can't imagine why anyone would use a paper diary/ planner anymore! I personally would never trust an electronic device with the things I use a diary/ planner for. Also, I'm so tactile, I like to hold the book and turn the pages. Just can't replicate that with a plastic and metal device.

joffreyca (2010-01-22 12:10:39)

The Filofax allows me to make use of my own custom decision-making/information-capture and retrieval system in an inexpensive, organised and reliable package.

I need not worry about unscheduled downtime, power failure, corrupt backup or lost data during a failed data migration.

I can switch between Getting Things Done, Getting Stuff Done, First Things First/7Habits, simplified task list, Mind mapping or any other system anytime and without fear of incompatible file types.

Software is not a substitute for thinking.

Jess (2010-01-22 12:32:31)

I've been following this blog since Christmas, when I received my first Filofax - and almost immediately became obsessed! This is my first post.

Technically, my Filofax isn't a Filofax - it's an Anya Hindmarch (my favourite designer) Agenda, silver patent leather, into

which Filofax personal inserts fit. I'm at university so am trying all sorts of different configurations in it to see what works best for me. However, even though I know my Anya will last forever and is absolutely timeless, I've not been able to resist buying a personal Fresco in the online Filofax UK sale... I can't wait for it to arrive!

kanalt (2010-01-22 13:19:53)

For me, Filofax doesn't compare to anything. It's the cream of the crop as far as I'm concerned! =)

Lyon (2010-01-22 18:11:11)

My Filofax compares to air - can't breathe without it!

Michele (2010-01-22 19:38:32)

I agree - Filofax rules!!! I'm loving my 2 month old panama pocket, and my mustard finchley from Christmas is absolutely beautiful.... Any other brand or electronic device doesn't compare. If any of you (Nan?!!!) have photos of their A5 Finchley - please post!

Vidya (2010-01-22 20:20:01)

I love not having to "boot up" my Filo- I just flip to a page and there is what I need. I can chart knitting patterns and sketch in mine and keep paperclips, bus change, safety pins in the pockets- can't do that with a phone or PDA, no matter how Smart they are.

Steve (2010-01-23 07:49:41)

I'm with Laurie on this one.. See my latest post this morning... yet another comment about Filofax not being the 'latest kid on the block'

So do we continue our decision to keep using a Filofax (or any other planner for that matter) instead of a smartphone...

Or do we just keep quiet about it and just get on with it knowing full well that we fully know the advantages we have over electronic (partial) equivalents (pretenders)

Steve

Oni (2010-01-23 20:14:19)

I personally love electronic gadgets, especially mobile phones made in Finland!

I use mine to connect to Facebook (addicted, I know), flickr, messenger, youtube, etc. It is also my MP3 player, radio, camera, currency converter, calculator and alarm clock. Oh, and I sometimes use it to call people and such.

But, even though it is all of these and could also be my calendar, it doesn't even come near to my adored Pocket Finsbury!

My Finsbury barely leaves my side, it sleeps open on my bedside table, it keeps me organised and in touch with people. It is also my Idea Catcher, my Random Notebook, address book. It is the keeper of bits of paper, sometimes even money. And its smooth, stylish purple leather can't be beat! It even smells nice because I let it wear perfume :)

Hopefully, my (starting to malfunction) mobile will soon be replaced by a newer model.

But not my Filo. The Finsbury's performance is still flawless, and will continue to be so for many more years to come.

Steve (2010-01-27 18:47:01)

It only took a few hours after the announcement... iPad <> Filofax!!!

<http://colinjcampbell.posterous.com/the-apple-ipad-14>

I have to say though it is very nice... oh no what am I saying!!!!

Would you class your Filofax as a 'Collectable'? (2010-01-23 07:41) - Steve

Caught by one of our readers on Twitter was a 'tweet' by [1]Mark Hill

Is the Filofax making a comeback? Seen more trendy young things carrying them, and prices for lovely vintage ones seem to be on the up.

So I checked out Mark Hill a bit more and then found his latest posting on his blog about [2]Vintage Filofax & Mulberry organisers.

As you will see he states that 'the PDA and smartphone have completely replaced the Filofax' you will have seen I've commented on the post already... !!!

But it was nice of Mark to link to us 'Filofax fans'

We will not be classed as antiques from a bygone era just yet, paper is alive and well in this age of electronic wireless always on communication social networked up to the minute Twitterings. It's the iPhones and other electronics that are the passing phase.

Come back in five years time and you will look at a 1st generation iPhone and think, oh I remember those. But in five years time your iPhone will be a paperweight, things will have moved on, it's expensive battery will have expired. The protocols it uses will have been upgraded, the radio spectrum it uses will have been sold on to the next highest bidder, I was on the team that sold the 3G spectrum in UK for £22.4 billion! And whilst you might be able to turn on your iPhone Mk I, you won't be able to do a lot with it, will iTunes still support such an old model? Then again your Filofax will be alive and well, pop in a few new pages and you are ready to go. May be an antique to some people, but still working as well as the day you bought it.

OK they don't do the same job... but can you capture your thoughts so instantly on an iPhone? They don't have that same attraction and desire to want to hold it.

I prove I suppose that one person's everyday object (of desire in our case) is another person's 'collectable or antique' I'm not about to sell any of mine to the highest bidder...

1. <http://twitter.com/antiquemark>

2. <http://markhillcollects.blogspot.com/2010/01/filofax-mulberry.html>

Michele (2010-01-23 10:37:38)

Well done Steve!

Steve (2010-01-23 13:18:48)

Thanks, I hope my post didn't sound too much like a 'rant'!

Dilaila (2010-01-23 20:35:25)

Filofax, or rather Filofax's concept* will never die. I have Agendus installed in my phone, but haven't touched it for yonks. Too much clicking to enter details and personalise colours etc.

(* here in Asia, plenty of other brands that utilise the Filofax concept)

ChandraNova (2010-01-25 11:56:41)

When I was a child in the late 70's/early 80's, nylon bedsheets were quite popular: not even brushed nylon, more like crimplene, and they felt like you were sleeping between sheets of sandpaper, but hey - they were NEW, trendy modern fabric!!

30 years on, I don't think anyone even sells things like that... my point is that everything eventually finds its place, and technology that was once gee-wizz becomes either mainstream (radio, electric kettles, internal combustion engines) or obsolete (cassette walkmans) but paper has endured for millenia, and it's unlikely to ever be completely replaced.

As an aside, I remember paying around £100 back in 1990 for a really top quality Sony Walkman for my mum - the idea now is laughable! And as far as I know most manufacturers have stopped making floppy disks, another example of gee-wizz gone redundant within decades.

I'm no Luddite but the Filofax is so perfect for the need it fulfils, I don't think it will ever be replaced - and that goes double as we all become a little more aware of environmental issues, and the undesirability of built-in obsolescence.

Continuing the theme (2010-01-25 07:04) - Laurie

Seems like a popular theme this week: calling Filofax and other paper organizers "retro" or "old-fashioned." I prefer to think of them as reliable, classic, personable and archival myself.

Here is another article about "old-fashioned" paper planners, featuring Filofax:

[1]Old-fashioned organizers haven't disappeared

1. <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/life/style/old-fashioned-organizers-havent-disappeared/article1440905/>

Steve (2010-01-25 13:31:21)

Thanks for that one Laurie. I'm very naughty, I always post a suitable comment about people still liking Filofax or similar paper planners and leave a link to Philofaxy!

I know I should stand on the naughty spot/step for such behaviour!!

Regards

Steve

David (2010-01-25 13:32:02)

Yep, I agree "reliable" is the point.

Plus, they are very nice products.

Regarding the way digital adepts look at "us", poor retro paper users. What can I say... I have an iPhone in one hand, and a Filofax in the other. And I know which one I appreciate most. I also know which one *i have* to upgrade almost yearly to keep using new version of apps and which one I upgrade when *I want* to ;)

I really don't mind people running after iPhone or the soon to come Tablet. It won't stop me to use my Filofax or my WiFileless paper notebook.

Laurie (2010-01-25 13:40:24)

Personally I hate feeling like I'm at the mercy of my electronic device and its moods. The thing that infuriates me quickest is technology that doesn't work properly. When my internet connection goes down, stand back. If my laptop has a glitch, I want to throw it out the window.

I consider my planner to be an extension of myself. I have no patience for temperamental technology when it comes to managing the details of my life. I want to open a book and see my own handwriting, right there where I left it!

Laurie (2010-01-25 13:41:17)

And Steve, you don't need to stand on the naughty step. With all this talk of paper planners being old-fashioned, apparently we need all the advocates we can get!!

Would you class your Filofax as a collectable - Update (2010-01-25 16:17) - Steve

Well further to the post on Saturday... [1]Mark has posted an apology it sounds like his post caused quite a stir! It seems he is also a Filofax user too! So we will let him off lightly this time ;-)

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1. <http://markhillcollects.blogspot.com/2010/01/filofax-mulberry-ii.html>

Strong Stiff Scotch... (2010-01-25 16:28:55)

As the owner of the collection singled out in Mark's blog, yes - naturally I do!! I agree with him about the quality of Mulberry's planners (I own one, and it is a thing of beauty), and that the Winchester filofax has yet to be bettered. But has the filofax had its day? My iPhone and Macbook are invaluable tools, but I'll always write things down, and always in a filofax!

Nickie @ Typecast (2010-01-25 18:35:41)

Hooray!! Nice post from Mark too :)

Filofax litany (2010-01-26 13:49) - Laurie

I was thinking about all the Filofax planner/ diary inserts I have tried and/ or used over the years. It's quite a list. Personal size:

Month on two pages
Fold-out year overview with months as columns
Week on 2 pages
Week on 2 pages Cotton Cream
Week + Notes
Family Organizer (available from Filofax UK), with boxes for each family member each day
Day per page
A5 size:
Month on two pages
Fold-out year overview
Week on 2 pages Horizontal
Week on 2 pages Vertical (days as columns)
Week + Notes
Family Organizer (week view with days as columns)
Dodo Pad diary insert
Having it all written out like that makes it look like sheer insanity!
What formats have you tried in the past, and what are you currently using?

shepcraig (2010-01-27 11:48:00)

I use the business day per page in my A5 organiser, it is great with plenty of space for appointments, to do's, phone calls, tasks to delegate and even space for personal reminders. I have tried other designs, but this is by far the best for staying organised.

PA3789 (2010-01-27 16:26:23)

I really need some help.

I started the year with a Kendal personal, thought it was too small so I ordered the kendal A5. Both are so good looking and the leather smell is out of this world.

I have carried both for the whole month of January entering information in both so that when I make a decision, I won't lose anything. We are now at the end of the month and I still haven't made that critical decision. I have a ton of info to enter everyday which makes the A5 better. But the personal so sooo much easier to carry in my breifcase. I was a FC classic user for years and have a brand new one in my desk which I have even thought about going back to. I have a ton of dollars tied up in the Filofax(s) and really like the binder in comparison to the FC. So I guess my question to those that use the personal or A5 for work, why?

Why use a small personal that you have to take the pages out to write on? Why use the A5 and have to lug it around? Please help, I'm driving myself crazy!!

Dilaila (2010-01-27 17:58:57)

Hi Gregorym,

lol. I'm the same! I was an A5 for everything for years until I discovered this blog.

Then I tried Personal for work, a5 for personal; then Personal for work, Pocket for personal, now I'm trying out Personal for work, Personal Slim for personal.

I have a feeling I'll be going back to A5 for work. lol

Paige Paigen (2010-01-28 00:54:56)

I've just made a shocking discovery. Apparently, the A5 Week Per Page diary is no longer available from Filofax in the US. I hadn't obtained my 2010 refill yet, and when I went to the web site today, I found it is no longer listed. Fortunately, Filofax UK still has it! However, Filofax UK seems to have discontinued the Finchley Tote Bag I've been pining over for years, while Filofax US still lists that product. I guess I'd better get one quick!

Paige Paigen (2010-01-28 00:57:27)

Oh, and I forgot to mention...I'm sill using the A5 Month On Two Pages and A5 Week Per Page together in my main Filofax, my black A5 Bridle.

I may at some point try and get my black Pocket Buckingham back from my ex-wife and start using that again, for which I

would go with the Month/2pgs and Week/pg, as well.

Paige Paigen (2010-01-28 00:59:10)

And..at some point I have to return to my project of producing custom organizer pages, which I think I mentioned here well over a year ago. It's been awhile since I've frequented Philofaxy.

Laurie (2010-01-28 02:50:00)

gregorym, I understand your anguish. I really do!!

I know there are several Philofaxers who, either currently or in the past, use their A5 for everything, work and personal. If you are going to use only one book, I think the A5 is the best size for work (or a busy life in general), due to the amount of information you can write on each page.

But, you are right, it's a big book to carry around.

My suggestion is: if you only ever take it to work and back in your briefcase, go for the A5. A few minutes each day carrying it in your bag will pay off for the amount of space and organization you get.

But if you will carry it everywhere with you: to the grocery store, out for errands, while traveling; then you will want to go for the Personal.

Many people use both an A5 and Personal size by using A5 for work, with their work contacts, business cards, projects, work to-dos etc in the A5, and a Personal for personal/ home use with their own contacts, appointments etc. This makes sense for people who have a fairly clear delineation of work/ home lives. As long as you remember to synch the odd daytime appointment in both (like that follow-up dentist appointment you wrote into your Personal, to make sure it gets into your A5 too) then you'll be fine. (Plus you get the added benefit of using both of your Kendals!)

I hope this helps some!

Dilaila (2010-01-28 05:29:27)

That's good advice Laurie. Thanks.

joffreyca (2010-01-29 17:13:45)

I agree that you can use more than one Filofax. I use a personal size Amazona as my primary Filofax and a mini Topaz as a mobile device whenever I can't or don't feel like carrying my primary organiser.

I found that in my case, I don't need a calendar on my mini so I only keep a calendar on my personal size Filofax.

Free for All Friday No. 63 (2010-01-29 07:16) - Nan

Resolution review! About a month ago, we were talking about our 2010 Filofax configurations.

How's yours working for you?

I'm using a new format this year, the City Dweller, which has a week on the left page, notes on the right. It took a little adjusting, but I've grown to love it.

Paige Paigen (2010-01-29 09:13:18)

I didn't know what the "City Dweller" was, so I searched for it, and found it on the UK site. After looking through their little prezzo, I'm quite offended. I've never seen such a pile of sexist rubbish in my life. "Marriage Material"? Outfit Planner? Utter Nonsense, and an ill fit for my beloved Filofax.

Vidya (2010-01-29 09:33:34)

The checklists I built to keep on track have been very helpful. I'm doing very good on one goal, OK on two others and have blown one already. :-)

joffreyca (2010-01-29 11:34:01)

I have some questions but it's off topic. So I'm posting this as a suggested topic for the next Free for All post:

- Does anyone have a personal size Alligator Filofax?

- Is it really THE perfect Filofax?

- What's the most expensive Filofax you have? Is it worth it? If not, what would have made it better?

Thanks.

PA3789 (2010-01-29 17:37:27)

I've struggled.

As I posted I started with a FC classic, moved to an A5 Filo, then decided I was tired of carrying the big unit and ordered a personal.

Then thought the personal was too small as I posted on this blog.

But as of today and thanks to some great suggestions, I am still with the personal and dam determined to stay there. (I hope)

I'd still like to see more coments on what others are going through on this subject.

I need backing if you know what I mean.

gmax (2010-01-30 05:52:29)

@gregorym - I think the personal size is the most versatile and also the best long-term proposition.

It allows you to scale from one slim wallet with a few leaves that can fit in a jacket pocket, up to a whole stack of 20 years worth of diaries in multiple volumes.

Many things in life change, but sticking to that one format gives you a reassuring measure of consistency, along with the best chance that it will remain suitable for your needs as they change over time.

You also get the biggest range of products to choose from, including vintage ones if those appeal.

gmax (2010-01-30 06:00:12)

I got a copy of the Travel Journal this month (in personal size naturally). It was reduced by nearly 2/3 from full price, but would be quite good value regardless. I liked that it didn't have a dated diary, and I just selected leaves from the set to put into the slimline filo that I take with me on trips away. There are at least two copies of most things in the pack, so it should last me quite well.

Dilaila (2010-01-30 20:26:17)

I thought I'm done with tweaking my Filo. But I found myself tweaking the formats again yesterday. Sigh. Will this ever end?

This blog is evil! lol

PA3789 (2010-01-31 06:38:24)

Dilaila,

I agree, I now have my personal Filo, A5, AND my FC classic on my desk. Writing in each of them, moving the inserts around.

I think my future holds (when I retire), me sitting in the corner of a room with all the planners around me, talking to myself. LOL

by Ewan Spence (2010-01-31 17:55:55)

I'm with Gemma on the thoughts about the targetting of the City Dweller pack - it is rather "hipster" in nature.

But my biggest problem with these packs is much more immediate.

The style fo the paper, and the boxes and colours. One, it doesn't match any of the other Filofax refils and pages and two there;s no refils of say just notes, or just the shopping lists.

My Filofax might have lots of diffierent colours of paper, but it's the same paper and style. You really want me to mix and match two different methodologies of doing lines and seperations on paper?

Er... never going to happen!

helen (2010-02-04 09:24:53)

I have always used the week on the left, notes on the right diaries at work and I love them too, it makes so much sense for me. I don't have a ton of appointments and meetings to keep track off, so I don't need much space in the diary, just to note the meetings I have and anything that has to be done that day. On the right is my (long, and seemingly ever growing) to-do list for the week.

I can also write things in ahead of time on my to-do list, so for instance if I need to follow something up in a few weeks, I

just flick forward to the relevant week and write it at the top of the to-do list. Perfect (for me at least)

Dilaila (2010-02-04 11:57:55)

gregorym: lol. I'm just the same since I found this blog. Now I just can't leave things alone!

I am now looking into combining filo and wallet. Can you wise people give me some advice on this?

1. What's the best size to use as wallet? I'm thinking either pocket or personal slim. Then again, I see some of you also use a Personal as a wallet.

2. What is the softest leather (or non leather Filo?) Sienna? Cuban?

3. Is it only the pocket Filo that comes with full width wallet?

Thanks.

Laurie (2010-02-05 06:34:49)

Dilaila: I've seen one person who used her Pocket Filofax as a wallet. She had pages in it with her addresses/ contacts and some notes, but she didn't keep her diary/ planner in it because the pages were too tiny for planning. So, she used a separate planner.

I don't use my Filo as a wallet because I keep so many random pieces of paper and bits of other things stuffed in it. I can just imagine myself getting ready to pay for something and all the bits and papers fly out all over the place! In all seriousness, I think having rings and pages in my wallet would be too fumbly for me but YMMV.

Dilaila (2010-02-05 10:01:38)

Thanks Laurie :) I'm going to try my butterfly pocket filo as a 2-in-1 and see how I like it.

1.2 February

Free For All Friday No. 64 (2010-02-05 00:35) - Laurie

Happy Friday!

Let's have a little informal poll.

What do you wish Filofax would come up with? A new size of binder? (Speaking of, where's the slimline A5 we've been asking for??) A new style or color of binder? New inserts or accessories? A different diary/ planner setup? Let's talk about our wants and needs as Filofax users!

Edited to add: Sorry, I completely forgot about joffreyca's request in the last FFAF! So here is another topic this FFAF:

What is the most expensive Filofax you own? Is it worth it? If not, what would have made it better?

(And for anyone who owns the uber-expensive Alligator, is it really the end-all be-all Filofax? Why or why not?

And, let's hear what's new in your Filofax life these days!

Laurie (2010-02-05 06:28:34)

My own answers:

I wish Filofax would hurry up and come out with a slimline A5. I think it would solve a lot of issues for many of us!

My most expensive Filofax is the Ivory Deco, which sells for \$300 USD. I received it as a very generous gift, which was very lucky for me because it's out of my price range for something I could buy for myself. It is absolutely beautiful and luxurious, and if I could afford to buy such a thing I would say it's definitely worth it!

Nickie @ Typecast (2010-02-05 06:38:06)

I only own the Metropol A5 and have a personal size on "borrow" via the Philofaxy Google Group but I covet the Sienna (A5 or Personal) or the Eton (Personal), however will have to save furiously or find someone to buy one for me

gmax (2010-02-05 06:52:16)

My most expensive Filofax is a vintage [1]Balmoral. When bought new in the late 1980s it would have cost £82.50, which would equate to roughly double that in today's money. Luckily mine was second-hand, and cost me a lot less.

The most expensive standard model Filofax back then was made of box calf leather with rolled gold corners, and sold for £195. Bespoke models were available that I'm sure could have been even more than that, according to your spec.

1. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/30775101@N04/3257407405/>

Paulien (2010-02-05 07:25:21)

I have the personal siena which is absolutely great. This is my most expensive filofax and I would say it is worth it. My second most expensive is the personal piazza in blue, which was definitely not worth it. The suede became grey within months and was not "cleanable", and the lowest ring was misaligned making it hard to turn the pages.

On what is new with me, I am back to filofax after some wandering, this time using my pocket classic in brown. I have set it up completely only a few days ago so no telling how it will work. I found my personal too small in the week view with columns (I showed this somewhere at the end of last year), then went to a brepols view with columns, then my minister as recommended by Laurie, but missed my book list and other notes so now I am back to filofax.

I am completely sick and tired of changing systems, but also unsure of which systems to use. Any advice on choosing a system and/or sticking with it would be greatly appreciated. Didn't you struggle with this when you joined this blog nan? What made you finally stick?

Paulien

Iris (2010-02-05 07:29:04)

I would really love any Personal Filo with a full width wallet pocket like some of the Pocket sizes have (e. g. the Guildford)! I had an org-rat (German brand) planner with an exterior pocket like that and found it really useful.

gmax (2010-02-05 08:01:41)

A couple of items that we've mentioned previously as popular requests to add to the Filofax range are a [1]pen holder leaf and [2]top index tabs (rather than side ones).

1. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/30775101@N04/4331760293/>

2. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/30775101@N04/4331759837/>

Nan (2010-02-05 08:30:08)

I've used a Filofax (first Pocket and then Personal) as my wallet for over 3 years now. I don't keep lots of scraps of paper in it – just receipts from purchases. I transfer the receipts into a plastic envelope once a week.

Paulien, I stopped switching by promising myself to stick with one format for 3 months. After 3 months, I could switch to *anything* else, but for 3 months I had to stick with one system. During that time, I would have to fully explore the system, and if the desire to change came up, I simply had to make the current system work.

After 3 months, I made some changes, and promised myself to stick with it for 6 months. I thought about switching all the time, but I know that the 6 months would eventually end, and I'd have the opportunity to change. By the time 6 months was up, I had no more desire to switch!

The next 6 months was even easier.

Now, I only change my system in January or when my life changes. This January, I changed my Personal Filo to the City Dweller just to test it. I purchased it to review it for this blog.

My most expensive? Actually, my first one, in 1983. It cost \$200 then, which would be a lot more in today's dollars. That was when they were first available in the States and were made in England. Truly a luxury item. I bought it using a Christmas gift certificate that I was expected to spend on clothing. Shows you where my priorities are!

JJ (2010-02-05 13:26:29)

BIG HUGE RINGS. More capacity.

All my Filos (six or seven Personals) were bought on Ebay, most for less than ten dollars. The very first one, the one that got me addicted, came from a second hand store for two dollars. When I think of all I have spent on paper and additional binders, that may be a very expensive purchase.

I'm currently using a Cuban I paid 40 dollars for, which is the most I have paid for a binder.

Treet (2010-02-05 17:58:04)

Larger rings for the personal size!

Strong Stiff Scotch... (2010-02-05 18:10:00)

Bring back the Winchester!! I've got 11 of them last count, and for me they'll always be the 'Classic' Filofax. Unfortunately the company ceased production of them in the mid-90's. It has the perfect layout of pockets, and was available in the largest ring size. You can see my collection of these via the flicker link on this site. I too own a Balmoral, which if I were to sell would fetch well over £100 at Auction, though the most expensive filo I own is a Mulberry Planner which I think cost me well over £100 12 years ago!!!

I do wish filofax would produce another quality personal size wallet with the large 1 & 1/4" rings. I couldn't go back to the smaller size after nearly 20 years of using the large size!

Vidya (2010-02-05 20:50:31)

I like the idea of larger rings on the personal, although it's not so pressing now that The Brick was put on a diet! :-)

I would like more credit card slots on the pocket size Finchley. That is the one thing that is keeping me wedded to my old Lizell's— they have plenty of slots for my various cards. I would also like a zippered pocket on the outside of a pocket size— again, a detail from my Lizells that I really like.

My most expensive Filo purchase was the Finchley, just over \$100. I'm pretty frugal, so it was a big splurge, but it has been so worth it!

D (2010-02-05 23:46:46)

I only have 3 Filos- an A5 Finsbury, a personal Piazza (my 1st Filo) and recently a mini Finsbury gotten on eBay for \$10. I'm a pretty good sale shopper so I got my Piazza for 50 % off at \$40 and my A5 on sale for \$78.

And I love all 3 of them.

Darren Everden (2010-02-06 06:02:04)

I'm using an A5 Kensington for meeting notes, adhoc to do's and any other form of scribblings. The rest of my organising is electronic out of necessity. A new insert I'd love to see is an iPhone / Blackberry holder so that I can keep my PDA inside the Filofax and cut down on the clutter of carrying multiple items / cases.

kanalt (2010-02-06 19:38:41)

What I'd love to see is a binder that has a ring size between the Slimline (1/2") and the personal size (7/8") - big enough to carry more information than the Slimline allows but still fits well into any bag/pocket. Also, while I like the insert Filofax offers, maybe something with a little personality and pizzazz would be good.

Michele (2010-02-06 19:59:27)

I have one thing to say... Laurie, a face behind the filo!! ;-)

j1199986 (2010-02-07 09:02:22)

I want 2 pages per day deskfax.... replaces daily notebook. Goes well with monthly slimline, as a pair..

Graham (2010-02-08 11:19:14)

I would like a personal filo with larger rings. I have used a personal size filo for the last 22 years. I currently on my third, a 'Bridle' which I love, but it is rammed and I can't (or don't want to) slim it down.

estelle (2010-02-08 19:16:58)

The Capri model in pocket size* as a dual binder. So there are six small rings in the middle (as is common) and six small rings on the far left .

Or in compact size like the zipped Portobello compact.

paulien (2010-02-09 06:43:40)

Thank you for your explanation Nan. I am going to try the following: I will use my pocket filo with week-on-two-pages only till the end of march. By that time I will be presenting at a conference in London, and I hope to have time to visit the

filofax store there.

If the pocket size is working OK, I will treat myself to a new colourful one (the finchley in teal or mustard maybe) that lays flat, transfer my info to it and keep going. If it doesn't work, I will look at what is missing or wrong, and treat myself to something to fix this then. So this can be missing forms, other diary pages or a larger size. So in any case I will setup my system by the end of march anew, and will stick with that from april 1 to the end of june. Then I will reevaluate and stick with that till the end of the year. Then hopefully I will have enough of a grasp of what I need to make a firm decision for the whole of 2011. I hope it will work for me as it did for you Nan, and I will keep reading for ideas and inspiration.

Paulien

Adirondack Explorer (2010-02-12 11:01:30)

Larger rings on the personal Filo!

Oni (2010-02-12 15:36:09)

I'm one of those asking for a pen holder leaf. In the meantime I have managed to make one myself...

I would also like for ALL the Pockets to include the full width pocket, that little detail is stopping me from getting a new one.

Vidya: The Urban Pocket has a zippered pocket on the back, it is really useful, not to mention that that particular binder is really cool!

Erin (2010-03-25 15:08:09)

Oops put it in the wrong place. I wish they would come up with the cotton cream pages for the A5 that they have for the personal and smaller sizes. Also, the Eton personal is the most expensive one I have but the leather is so yummy and soft. I LOVE it!

Filofax Fashion (2010-02-06 06:49) - Steve

I asked the question a few weeks ago about 'what do you carry your Filofax organiser in?' As might be expected most people mentioned a handbag, briefcase or similar.

I have been using my Finsbury slimline personal size organiser for a few months now as my wallet/organiser. So there are times when I'm not carrying a shoulder bag or rucksack. I've not quite got to the stage of the French 'Man-Bag' yet. That will no doubt happen when I move to France!

If I'm not wearing a formal jacket I've found the map pocket on my [1]Berghaus jackets is perfect for carrying my Filofax. It's discreet and not too bulky.

In these days of iThis and iThat, you aren't likely to find garments with pockets specifically labelled as 'Filofax compatible' But that got me thinking, lets compare sizes...

	Filofax	iDevice	Other
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A5			
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20 x 24 cm pad			
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19 x 24 cm hardback book			
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17 x 24 cm			
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Personal			
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12 x 19 cm phone/touch			
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6 x 11cm OS Map			
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14 x 23 cm			
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Pocket			
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12 x 15 cm pod			
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	6 x 10 cm		
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The [2]Scott EVest series of jackets have multiple pockets, think of how many organisers you could carry in one of those, yet still have the odd pocket spare for keys and your mobile phone. Look in x-ray view. So let's not have any excuses for not taking your Filofax with you anywhere... what ever size you use

1. <http://www.berghaus.com/thegear.aspx>

2. http://www.scottevest.com/v3_store/Essential_Jacket_Men.shtml

Strong Stiff Scotch... (2010-02-07 07:13:52)

Maybe it's just my cosmopolitan outlook, but I have problem in carrying most of my daily paraphernalia around in a reticule some would call a 'man-bag'. Its actually a world war two Dutch officers map bag, but its perfectly filo-sized. Its takes the filofax (a vintage Winchester, circa 1980), iphone, my keys, a paperback book, reading glasses and thats about it. For work, the filo goes into a leather messenger bag along with the other aforementioned items, plus my macbook and other work odds and ends. These sometimes include my A5 filo which usually lives on my desk.

Today though, I'll nip out for a coffee and the filo and the sunday papers will be carried, sans bag, in the hand

Nicola (2010-02-07 14:24:10)

My most used jacket is a Royal Navy issued rain jacket which frankly has cargo pockets so big I can almost lose my A5 filo in it! It's perfect from my Urban Pocket or Finsbury Personal

Other than that a trusty old rucksac is the order of the day!

Adirondack Explorer (2010-02-07 15:48:19)

I use a Swissgear by Wenger backpack. Perfect for my MacBook Pro, personal size Filo, cables, cords, files, etc.

John the Monkey (2010-02-08 04:33:16)

Most days, my "pocket" travels in the Brompton "C" bag, or my Carradice Saddlebag. Otherwise, in the pocket of my jacket. The pocket's great for portability, but the format seems much more limiting than the Personal, and I'll probably go back to that next year.

Schermann (2010-03-14 14:06:41)

Mine sits nicely in an Italian briefcase (Condotti), right next to the digital Dictaphone, novel, HP calculator (41CX), glasses case, Swiss army lock knife, leather slip portfolio and wireless laser laptop mouse.

Erin (2010-03-25 15:06:20)

I wish that Filofax would come up with the cotton cream color for the A5 that they have for the personal and smaller sizes. I just prefer it and think it looks richer.

t (2010-05-31 18:43:46)

Steve. In the first line of this post you refer to an earlier post possibly themed "what do you carry your Filofax organiser in?" ... I have searched but nor found. can you advise or help me in the right direction? Thanks

Steve (2010-06-01 04:10:17)

T I'm trying to find it myself. It might have been in a FFAF (Free for all Friday) but I will take a longer/deeper look later today and report back..

Regards

Steve

Format change.... (2010-02-09 12:22) - Steve

If you have logged in to Facebook recently you are bound to have had one of your 'friends' possibly commenting or complaining about the new layout on Facebook. With any of these sites you are at the mercy of the site owner. Imagine the same happening in your Filofax, you open your organiser and your whole Filofax has changed in it's

style, a different calendar, the sections have changed their names or have been moved around, addresses at the front, diary in the middle somewhere. You would think it was a nightmare... go back to sleep and wake up again and hope it has all gone back as it was....

Relax as Filofax users we know this can't happen. We are in control of our format, and layout. Isn't that great... The worse that could happen I suppose is that your preferred choice of calendar or particular pages are no longer printed, or they are out of stock.

Which format calendar would you like to see outside of the current range or do you miss? Are there any pages you miss from the past? Tell us in the comments...

If you were wondering, I'm still using the old Facebook layout... retro yeah!

Poetic Dreams (2010-02-09 13:46:07)

Ya better check that one out hun. I was using the old FB layout till yesterday when FB hit me with the new one. The downside to the new one is they took my list for a game I play. I use that to see the newest items, or friends needing help. With this new layout we can't get the latest updates because the page never stays the same. :(Hope ya can keep ya old layout.

Hugs Poe

Steve (2010-02-09 16:18:52)

And an hour or so after I posted this so I too ended up on the new FB format.... then I woke up!

Marissa (2010-02-10 09:58:58)

I would love to see the city dweller pages in sizes other than just personal. I had started to make up my own template until I found something like them as a downloadable pdf on the Moleskin website http://www.moleskine.com/mymoleskine/msk_templates.php it doesnt have everything I wanted but it has saved me a lot on time :)

Laurie (2010-02-10 10:35:18)

Marissa, THANK YOU for those Moleskine templates!! I REALLY wish they would make the weekly notebook the way they have the "weekly notebook alternative," with Saturday and Sunday having as much space as all the other days!!!

Steve (2010-02-14 15:22:18)

Thanks Marissa, I've added the link to our growing list of links

Steve

A Chronology of Filofax (2010-02-11 12:38) - Steve

The following document has been mentioned in the comments a couple of times, I tracked down the link to it the other day using the WebArchive site.

From: A Chronology of Filofax, Hall. Kevin, 21 July 2006, URL: [1]<http://web.archive.org/web/20070702203228/http://ukcoldwar.simplenet.com/documents/filofax/chronology/> accessed 1 February 2010; All rights acknowledged.

An updated version of the document is now available on this site, see the [2]files section above.

1. <http://web.archive.org/web/20070702203228/http://ukcoldwar.simplenet.com/documents/filofax/chronology/>
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/files.html>

Laurie (2010-02-13 14:47:11)

This is fantastic, thank you for tracking this down Steve!!

Schermann (2010-03-05 13:08:52)

So who owns it today and where/whom can I contact to get bits & bobs from the/a manufacturer???

Free For All Friday No. 65 (2010-02-12 14:16) - Steve

Thank goodness it is Friday!

Let's have a total free for all Friday... Filofax related of course...

Vidya (2010-02-12 21:24:00)

No updates on this end. I did notice that my colleague who bought her first planner a few months ago has been using it diligently– it's stuffed with papers and Post-Its! I hope she ends up becoming one of us!

Laurie (2010-02-13 14:55:52)

I just found Filofax calendar inserts on Amazon.com in the "Health and Personal Care" section! Would that be mental health, due to our Filofaxes keeping us sane??

Adirondack Explorer (2010-02-13 18:44:13)

Cleaned out my Filofax today. Amazing how much stuff I've gathered in a month or two of use!

Dilaila (2010-02-13 19:42:11)

Ordered Siena Espresso Pocket and Domino Red Pocket. Should receive them next week. Can't wait.

Michele (2010-02-14 10:47:01)

I've been giving my A5 a real workout while working at home during the recent snowstorms. As a One Filofax At A Time, I'm really getting the hang of using two!

Sarah (2010-02-14 11:05:18)

I found out whilst writing and then subsequently tweeting about my recent post here

<http://blissbubblely.blogspot.com/2010/02/another-filofax-in-home.htm> I

That the new 2010 filofax range will be out March - June and there will be some purple additions! Fantastic!

David (2010-02-14 13:37:50)

If this isn't appropriate, please remove the post.

I am looking to buy a Filofax Balmoral and/or Winchester. Should anyone have one or the other for sale, I would be very glad to hear from you.

These were too expensive for me back in the day but am now in a position where I would like to get one, particularly a Balmoral. And it will be used! This would suit me very well in my current job.

JJ (2010-02-14 14:25:26)

Just bought a couple of 'pocket' size binders on Ebay. Now I'm waiting for the next sale on paper.

Dilaila (2010-02-14 22:34:15)

JJ,

which pocket binders did you get?

Ally (2010-02-15 09:49:37)

Help! I am almost about to purchase an Eton–personal size. It is so expensive. Somebody stop me–this doesn't make good sense.

Laurie (2010-02-15 09:58:42)

Ally, you expect us to stop you? We are a bunch of Filofax enablers! If anything, we will cheer you on!
Good luck with your decision!

Ally (2010-02-15 10:30:42)

Laurie—maybe that is what I really wanted :-)

I cannot justify spending that much—perhaps it is because I don't write down my life on a daily basis as do many of the filofaxers on this blog. I just want to know where I need to be and what I need to do. I travel in my work and I like stuff from home—photos, etc. close by.

The Eton looks perfect to use to keep appts, schedule, etc plus stuff!

Laurie (2010-02-15 10:41:19)

Ally, do you not have a Filofax at all? If not, maybe you could get a Domino (which is much cheaper than the Eton, but a great planner at a low price) and see how much you use it before you make the big investment?

JJ (2010-02-15 12:21:10)

Dilaila: A black Metropol (3/4 inch rings) that I'm very happy with.

And a red Piccadilly with 1/2 inch rings that is too small to be really attractive to me.

Dilaila (2010-02-15 19:58:07)

JJ: Not familiar with piccadilly. Have to google that. Did you buy that off the european ebay?

JJ (2010-02-16 11:47:08)

My last attempt at including a link:

<http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=330400998942>

It's got photos if you get there.

<http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=330400998942>

Dilaila (2010-02-16 18:46:12)

JJ: Wow, that's a very good buy! Only USD9 for the whole lot. Congrats!

Oni (2010-02-19 19:20:10)

JJ: that Piccadilly looks lovely! congrats!

Site Update (2010-02-14 15:54) - Steve

Hi everyone

I've just discovered a few goodies tucked away on the Twitter site. So we now have a Twitter feed that is picking up any mention of 'Filofax' in any language on Twitter, it loops around all the time so it will always have the last 5 or 6 mentions of the word Filofax in it.

I've also added a new 'Follow Us on Twitter' button, it works just like the old one, it's just a little smaller and neater.

Our list of links is growing all the time. I'm looking in to adding a Links page on the blog, this will appear as a Links tab at the top of the page, but I need to first copy all of the links to a file for safe keeping. Therefore this might not happen until later in the week.

Thanks

Regards

Steve

Laurie (2010-02-15 08:57:03)
Thanks for doing this Steve!!

Steve (2010-03-03 16:26:27)
Hope you guys like the 'About Us' section that we have added so you can see the 'real us'

Triple Hat Trick (2010-02-15 14:44) - Steve

I thought this was quite a neat idea which I found on the [1]manage-this.com website it's a simple form that you can set yourself three different types of tasks, agenda items, or projects to do in the week. You can [2]download the forms from the website and print them off. I'm going to try it out in my A5 for a few weeks and see if it works for me.

Triple Hat Trick for Week
Hand-write this page every week to reinforce your commitment

3 Agendas for This Week
Meetings 222 schedule to convey your message/request/issue

Status	With Whom?	Topic / Message

3 Tasks for This Week
Most critical/must-do tasks

Status	[Project] Task

3 Tasks/Projects to Delegate
Clean handoff of ownership on key tasks/projects

Status	[Project] Task	Owner / Follow Up Date

[3]

1. <http://manage-this.com/>
2. <http://manage-this.com/triple-hat-trick/>
3. http://manage-this.com/wp/wp-content/uploads/hat_trick_template2-226x300.jpg

Sarah (2010-02-15 14:55:23)
These look fab, will also check them out! Thanks

Laurie (2010-02-15 15:01:41)
This looks awesome. Seriously, anything that gets me to focus is a good thing. Feeling pretty scattered these days!!

Managing Multiple Filofaxes: What Where? (2010-02-16 04:19) - Laurie

I know many of us use multiple Filofaxes at once for various purposes. Maybe you use one Filofax for personal use and another one at work. Maybe one is your planner/ diary, another is your household binder, another for specialty (music, hobby, projects, travel etc.). Some people have a Filofax for each of their major projects. Some people have a larger main Filofax and a smaller "satellite." It's the blessing and curse of Filofax: so many options! I started out, as many of us did, with everything in one Filofax. As I got older, my life got more complicated and soon my personal size Filo was bursting so I had to diversify. I started using an A5 ([1]Finsbury) for things that I didn't need to carry around with me all the time: my Christmas cards list, complete addresses and contacts list, website passwords and the like.

Now I have a designated Filofax for traveling in Scotland ([2]Domino) and another one for blogs ([3]Personal Finsbury). Those are fine because they each have a designated theme, and therefore are self-limiting.

Then things start to get murky.

I have two other personal size Filofaxes that I love (my [4]Buckingham and my [5]Deco) that I want to use somehow, just because I love them. But as many of you know, I'm not using a Filofax as my planner this year (*hangs head in shame*). So now these two Filos have become keepers of random notes.

On one hand, I love having a use for all of my beloved Filofaxes. On the other, I feel scattered with so much information in so many different places.

For those of you currently using multiple Filofaxes, how do you decide what to put where?

1. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/plannerisms/3783634767/>
2. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/plannerisms/sets/72157622035170176/>
3. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/plannerisms/3973666157/>
4. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/plannerisms/3783648859/>
5. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/plannerisms/sets/72157622672507897/>

Dilaila (2010-02-16 06:46:15)

I'm experimenting with pocket filos now.

Red Butterfly: Main filo: all planning goes here ie appointments and things to do. Two tabs: diary + notes, followed by A-Z tabs where lists and infos go.

(My pocket Siena and pocket Domino should arrive next week)

Siena Espresso: Wallet and everything financial: cash, coins, credit/debit cards, membership cards, daily expenses, savings current accounts, shopping lists and shopping info (passwords are in Butterfly though)

Red Domino: Work: Job briefs, job status, invoice and quotation status, notes on jobs etc. (although deadlines will be recorded in Butterfly calendar)

I'm not sure how this will work out though. Would love to hear how others are managing their multi-filos.

Laurie (2010-02-16 07:01:29)

Dilaila, your situation is a perfect example of what to put where. I love your idea of using one pocket Filo for your wallet and everything financial! But beyond that, where should everything go? Anything dated belongs in your planner/ diary of course, but is also relevant elsewhere. Even with separate work/ personal Filos, sometimes things overlap. How much re-writing should you do? And when there is too much overlap, sometimes things don't get re-written and fall through the cracks.

How will you incorporate your 2 new Filos that are on their way?

Dilaila (2010-02-16 07:10:24)

Laurie,

the new filos will be the ones I'd be using for Financial and Work.

That's the plan anyway. I think the Financial/Wallet filo can be independent.

The work stuff can go inside the Main filo of course. But I don't want to be bothered carrying work stuff when I'm not in work mode.

The only duplication that I can see is for work deadlines. But since all work deadlines and work to-do lists are in the Main filo, I need only to check the Main filo for dates/tasks.

The work filo is more like a record keeper of facts re: work.

I will have to let you know at the end of next month if this method works. lol. Else, I'll end up with a spare filo!

p/s: I love this blog but it's such an enabler! Before this, I only used one A5 zip red Finsbury for 10 years. Now, there are so many options to explore. lol

Laurie (2010-02-16 07:16:15)

Oh now I get it. Yes that's a good idea to have your diary and ongoing things in your main filo and the other for record keeping. I've run into trouble in the past when I've had planning and ongoing things in multiple Filos! That led to breakdown.

You are right, we are definitely enablers here on Philofaxy! I think a lot of us are somewhat tormented by all the options and possibilities of Filofax: sizes, formats, inserts, accessories.

Like I said, it's the simultaneous blessing and curse of Filofax. As my sister calls it, "Filofax: the OTHER crack!"

DTSD (2010-02-16 09:47:12)

You said in your post that you are not using a filofax this year as your planner what are you using. Just wondering.

DTSD (2010-02-16 09:48:14)

Have Just come to your blog and really love it thanks for the time you put into this.

Laurie (2010-02-16 10:12:28)

DTSD re: what planner I'm currently using. Good question! I wish I had a good answer! I'm still searching for my ideal planner. You can see everything I tried last year at:

<http://www.plannerisms.com/2009/11/13-planners.html>

This year so far I've used 4 different planners. I'm still not settled. Got any recommendations?

What made me finally give up on using a Filofax as my planner was that the page size in the Personal was too small, but the A5 book was too huge. Maybe someday if they come out with a slimline A5 that problem could be solved. But in the meantime, my search continues!!

DTSD (2010-02-16 11:20:06)

I am in the same boat. But it is sure fun trying the different planners. I do use moleskine and also some stuff from levenger.

Iris (2010-02-16 14:18:34)

I bought my first Filofax (Personal Guildford) in October 2009 (though I had been using other ring binders before). By the end of the year, it was stuffed with tabs, maps, notes, addresses and... got a little bulky. (Many of you know what I mean, don't you?)

So I decided that I don't need to carry all this stuff with me every day and got myself a Metropol Slimline: I only put my diary and some sheets of notepaper inside and kept all the other things (maps, notes, addresses...) in the Red Domino I got for Christmas.

Well... though I really *love* the Slimline, I soon found out it is too small for my daily needs: the week-on-one-page diary simply doesn't work for me!

So now I use the Guildford as my every day planner which I take everywhere I go. It holds my week-on-two-pages diary, some important phone numbers, my ToDo list, financial sheet for the current month - followed by 6 tabs for books, projects, events, shops...

Everything else is filed in my Domino - it stays on my desk but is referred to many times a day.

Woody (2010-02-16 18:45:37)

I have used a filofax for over 30 years, mainly personal size but also pocket and A5, depending on my organisation needs (and preferences) at the time. My favourite is a now venerable calf-skin Burlington which has aged gloriously and my partner still uses. As my work environment changed to a corporate exchange server, and others had to have direct access to my information, it became inevitable I would be forced to use a PDA (heresy) which would just synchronise automatically for diary commitments. But you just can't beat the pen and paper filofax experience can you? (I know I am preaching to the converted here). I have continued to use a Personal Lyndhurst for day to day. So I have ended up with a mix of systems which is basically iphone for contacts and emailing, and filofax for everything else. In our house my partner and I have over the years accumulated a selection of filofaxes of various models and sizes which we tend to use as a group pool. One of the principles we did establish was that the decision over which one either of us would use should be taken at the beginning of the year and we should stick to it.

I have also found the principles of David Allen's GTD system very useful and one of those is that you should have a limited number of places to 'collect' information to process. Although they are lovely to have and use, I fear that using too many filofaxes simultaneously defeats their object i.e. to help us organise! So I say, have them, use them, enjoy them, love them - but be clear about which you are using for what purpose, and stick to it for a defined period of time (calendar year?).

www.wobblyvirtue.com

Dilaila (2010-02-16 19:01:59)

Laurie: Torment is the right word! I spent so many hours agonising the order of the filo when I should have been working. Would you believe it, my thickest section is on Project Filofax! I even assigned the pink refills for this project lol. Currently using day per page with DIY ToDo inserts in between in different colours. These are divided into: Work, Project Declutter (home), Weekly Routines, Admin and Project Filo (hehe). Each week, I just bring forward the ToDo inserts and write on the rest of the page/behind that page. Filo papers are so expensive. Ideas for ToDo inserts and Weekly Routine chart derived from the archives here.

JJ (2010-02-16 21:54:26)

My own primary 'trusted system' for tasks, contacts and calendar is electronic. My Filo is a 'satellite' to that. The problem with satellites, is they tend to grow into Orbital Battle Stations of great proportions. But if it's important to me, I first commit it to paper before I enter it electronically. I have notebooks that are thirty or more years old. I have no digital media (except possibly music CDs) that are even half that old. If I want it to be permanent, I write it down.

Oni (2010-02-19 19:28:14)

I currently have two pocket binders. The Finsbury which is my main Filo, with everything! And the Urban, which only comes out to play whenever a trip is near; it is my travel Filo. I use most of the inserts from the Traveller pack, as well as the Finsbury's two page week view, in order to write down appointments. I would like to have another one, but I still don't know which use I could give it...

bumperquack (2010-04-21 23:24:06)

I use multiple filofaxes (my entire collection probably exceeds 30): (1) Main 'master' planner - personal size - contains details for my eyes only, and my calendar I use to plan (2) A5 Meetings binder - for business meetings - because I can shrink an A4 document to A5 and have it as a reference (3) pocket - used as an extra for travel - travel itineraries (1 page per day) + addresses especially if they are local language with characters which I can whip out of my pocket to show a taxi driver and doubles as a wallet for key credit cards.

Bookmark (2010-02-17 13:25) - Steve

I'm sure we all have a 'Today' marker in our Filofax organiser. But have you ever wanted to have more than one, or one that looks a little bit different?

Well take look at this [1]one, it's on the site DeviantArt. With thanks to:[2]purply-bunz I'm also a user of the [3]site.

I'm going to have a go at making something similar for my A5 organiser, may be in a little more subdued colours though!!

1. <http://purply-bunz.deviantart.com/art/bookmark-2-141278479>
2. <http://purply-bunz.deviantart.com/>
3. <http://temps-perdu.deviantart.com/>

Paige Paigen (2010-02-18 01:42:25)

Actually, I have *four* "Today" rulers. Three black, and one clear. One for my Month On Two Pages diary, one for my Week On One Page diary, one for my business notes, and one for my personal notes. Also, I called Filofax USA today and inquired about the 2010 Week On One PAGE diary that is missing from the web site. Apparently, it has not been discontinued, it's just that they are out of stock until May. So, today I managed to find a Week On One Page With Notes diary at a local retailer, that should get me through until my favorite is back in stock.

Laurie (2010-02-18 02:24:10)

Gemma I'm so glad to hear your favorite diary format hasn't been discontinued after all!! It's so hard for me to find something that works well for me, so when it vanishes from existence I get really upset!

Too bad you have to wait until May but at least you know at that point you'll be back to your trusted system.

Oni (2010-02-19 19:10:45)

I have two rulers. The black one marks the day in my one-day-per-page section, and the frosted one in my week-on-two-pages section. For my notes I just use a sticky bookmark. I think I'd go nuts if I had more than two rulers!

Erin (2010-03-25 13:39:03)

I can totally identify with the people who can't stop buying planners. I really should count the ones I have as I really don't know and am running out of room in my closet. They are mostly Filofax with a few Franklin Covey's thrown in. I'm addicted! I have to stop as my credit card will be out of control!

Links (2010-02-18 16:31) - Steve

Hi All

The links have been moved to their own page, which allows us a bit more space to describe what they all are. Click on [1]Links under the header

If you have a Filofax blog or website that you would like us to add to the list then please get in touch with one of us.

Steve

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/links.html>

Free for All Friday No. 66 (2010-02-19 09:20) - Nan

My TGIF spirit is a little tempered today by the fact that today marks the end of a vacation week for me. At least I still have a weekend ahead of me!

Some Filofax diary styles give weekend days less space than weekdays. That kind of arrangement is fine when the Filofax is used for business, but for my personal life I like all seven days to get equal space! I like my weekend days to feel just as full as all other days. Having less space to plan and record recreational, family, and church activities makes me feel stunted.

Do you use or ignore the weekend days in your diary? What's your favorite weekly arrangement?

YM (2010-02-19 09:37:24)

I agree Nan, while work days are filled with meetings and such my weekends are often taken up with just as many (or even more) errands and To-do's.

I use a day per page format so I am graced with a full day's layout for each weekend day.

Of course, sometimes they stay relatively blank (which means I spent the day relaxing) but I like to know I have the room for when my weekends are full!

Deirdre (2010-02-19 09:47:48)

my weekend alternates between Fridays and Saturdays so often a saturday is a work day and I don't have the space for a lot of what happens then.

Maybe not the same amount of space but a bit more would be nice.

Nickie @ Typecast (2010-02-19 10:02:10)

In my week-to-view A5 the weekend days have just as much space as a week day and there is a "notes" section at the top on the left hand side of the page. This works really well for me but I'm definitely in agreement about the more room needed

statement.

Jess (2010-02-19 10:04:54)

I'm at University so every day is equally filled with something - whilst in the week I'm more likely to fill the space with lectures and tutorials, at the weekend my days are filled with extra-curricular meetings and (if I'm lucky and worked hard!) some parties and relaxation. I'm using the week on two page layout at the moment, and have been since the start of 2010, with all days having equal space and a box above Monday where I record general reminders for that week, such as birthday present ideas etc.

However, I'm finding that even this layout isn't really working. I have to-do lists in my filofax, and rely on these heavily, and so I have a 'Today' marker which indicates which page of To-Do's I'm currently on. This works okay, but I'm finding that I'm referring to them less than I need to and just jotting down to-do items on the day they occur. As you can imagine, an already packed week page soon gets filled when I'm doing this!

So I'm considering getting rid of most of the To-Do sheets and getting page per day diary sheets instead - then I will write very-short term To-Dos (eg those that need doing immediately) on the day it needs doing, use a post-it note for a slightly longer term list (perhaps of things to be done in the upcoming week), and then keep separate To-Do lists for each long term project (such as holiday planning etc).

Does anyone else have a similar set-up? How does it work? Obviously being a hard-up student I can't afford to be switching from system to system more than a few times!

Laurie (2010-02-19 11:35:27)

I have to have just as much space for my weekend days as week days, and I get really annoyed by weekly layouts that don't give weekends enough space.

I would love to hear anyone's suggestions for Jess! When I was at university I tried a day per page diary/ planner for a little while but it quickly broke down when I couldn't see my assignments due later in the week or exams to prepare for. Unless you refer to a monthly calendar all the time to see upcoming due dates, I think it would be really difficult to use a day per page for uni.

I had the same problems with my To-Do notes getting not enough attention behind tabs somewhere, yet not having enough space on my weekly page for those lists. I'm always curious about how other people keep their to-do lists visible without writing everything over each day.

Simon (2010-02-19 11:48:17)

In complete agreement. While I don't have many appointments per day, they are generally equally spaced throughout the week.

Having used nearly all the formats I have settled on 'Week per page' in English & I've added my own notes pages between weeks; (I would use the 'Week per page with notes' but the five languages take up too much space). I still have my medium to long term to-do lists, but everyday lists are on the notes pages.

I've used this format for 18 months now & haven't been tempted to change yet.

Laurie (2010-02-19 12:05:24)

Simon that's a great idea. When I used the week + notes format I got annoyed by all the extra languages I used white-out to erase them! But that was pretty high-maintenance.

Paige Paigen (2010-02-19 12:21:15)

As I've said before, I prefer the Week On One Page diary, although I'm not entirely displeased with the Week On One Page With Notes that I'm using in the interim, though it is twice the thickness in my Filofax.

I run my life on what Paul Graham calls the "Maker's Schedule" rather than what he calls the "Manager's Schedule".

You can read more about this at <http://www.paulgraham.com/makersschedule.html>

As a result, I really have no need to track appointments on an hourly basis. I generally only have one or two appointments a day, if any at all. Since I really only need a thin slice of the page even for weekdays, the smaller amount of space allotted to weekends in other layouts isn't a problem for me. Actually my problem is having too much space allotted for weekdays.

In any case, I think in the modern age, that most lives no longer fit neatly into five weekdays, so having less space for weekends doesn't make a lot of sense to me.

That said, I wish we could still get the Sunday-to-Sunday diaries that Filofax used to make. I hate having my calendars start

on Monday.

Simon (2010-02-19 12:23:57)

@ Laurie

I started to copy your idea of using whiteout, but gave up after doing 5 pages! Then I hit on the using my own notes and haven't looked back :-)

kanalt (2010-02-19 14:29:17)

Jess - I am not in school and therefore don't have as many assignments to write down, but I do have a system for my to-dos. On the to-do sheets, behind my notes tab, I keep a list of long-term to-dos. When I have a need or the time to work on one of these items it will get moved to a specific day or week depending on which is applies to. Anything that needs to get done on a specific day gets placed in that day's section. If it's something that needs to be in my face but doesn't have a specific due date, I keep that on Day Timer's hot list sheets:

<http://day-planner.daytimer.com/accessories/pages/portable/Portable-Short-Trim-Double-Punched-Hot-List-Sheets/92E64-E8682AB4C4684E5533868FCD096/False/14940>

These are great because they're narrow enough to allow you to see your week (I use week-on-two-pages) and have holes on both sides of the sheet so you can always have it visible. Yet, it's a constant reminder of what I need to get done. You can probably make your own if you have a Filofax punch or don't mind using a one-hole punch.

To combat having to rewrite everything from day to day, I try not to give myself too many things to do in any given day - I try to be realistic about what I can accomplish in one day, so if there's something that needs to get done in a certain week but does not need to be done on a particular day, I try to schedule it for a light day. It's not a perfect system but seems to work for the most part. This of course depends on the kinds of things you need to get done - if you have a lot of assignments that have specific due dates or all need to get done in the same week, this might not be a good option.

Another idea is to keep a to-do or blank note sheet in between your week but then there's a lot of flipping of pages to see what's coming ahead.

I don't know if that helps you at all... Good luck!

Steve (2010-02-19 16:26:37)

I use a week on two pages in my A5 that is equal space for each day, but it's only available in international format, or was when I ordered mine, so a little bit of wasted space.. In my personal I'm using a week per page, again same space per day.

Future planning... every day will be the same to me soon... I hope!!!

Oh guess what I found this evening A blog post on a gadget site that thinks that paper planners are cool...

<http://handheldpcpda.paktaitoday.com/paper-versus-electronic-the-personal-organizer-debate-continues/>

PA3789 (2010-02-21 08:12:18)

I have a question, please.

Sort of a help question.

Anyone that uses a "personal" filo, do you take the pages out of the filo to write on them, or do you write in your Filo no matter how bad the hand writing is?

It seems I keep taking the pages out to write so I don't make a mess trying to write close to the binder rings. Also how can I order a new Filo and know what sizerings are in it? I see pictures of personals with larger rings but can't find a way to tell on the Filofax website.

Jess (2010-02-21 08:29:17)

Laurie and kanalt - thanks for your responses! Laurie, I understand what you mean about having assignments due in - but the way my course works is that my essay submission days are the same every week, depending on the term. This term I have an essay due in at 4pm every Tuesday and one in at 6pm every Wednesday, for example, and I don't need to write these deadlines down every week.

kanalt, I have seen these Day Planner things before and thought they looked really interesting - I think I'd be able to use them really well instead of a post-it note for my 'floating' to-do list, for things that maybe need doing soon but without a real deadline.

I think I will probably move onto day per page simply because I'd like to be able to make notes etc on each day as well as recording appointments and meetings - I will definitely look into the Day Planner inserts too. I am turning into one of these

people who constantly tweaks my system, though, and I want to settle on one that works for me and nip it in the bud before I become ever more obsessed! Hehe.

kanalt (2010-02-21 08:56:31)

Gregorym - I leave my pages in to write on them, unless I have the binder open for another reason or if I'm doing a lot of planning in one sitting. Sometimes my handwriting is not the best in keeping the pages in, but I find that it's more of a hassle to open the binder and remove the pages for every little thing that needs to be written down (many times it's just a quick jot of a reminder or something).

As for the ring size - I don't know which country's site you use, but for the US site, when you click on the binder you're interested in, it will tell you the ring size in the description. So, for example, with the Classic, the description says that the ring size is 7/8 inches. I find that most personal size binders are that ring size. And if you're trying to decide between two ring sizes, I find that the pictures on the website are no help at all - you can hardly tell the difference.

Hope that helps.

Francesca (2010-02-22 05:22:01)

Kanalt, those hot lists are EXACTLY what I've been looking for for months.... Do you (or does anyone else?) know if the Desk size would be compatible with my A5 Filo? I know there's an extra hole but do the other 6 line up with Filofax?

Am waiting with bated breath and crossed fingers....it's exactly what I want....

kanalt (2010-02-22 08:59:37)

Francesca, I have no idea if the desk size will fit the A5. But you could try making them yourself if that doesn't work. Good luck!

Dilaila (2010-02-25 20:10:42)

gregorym,

or you can use the notepad to write new notes on and later transfer to any sections you wish. I do that when I'm in meetings

Adam R (2010-03-01 06:59:27)

I use the weekend pages for personal to do's and things not related to work, and if work over stretches then I add a to-do list in between the weekend pages and continue my notes there.

Filofax on the Web (2010-02-19 17:35) - Steve

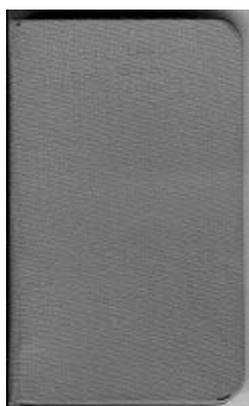
More than a few mentions on the internet this week for Filofax. Some very different stories, take a look for yourself:

- [1]Marks and Spencer have a great range of men's bags and brief cases to match your Filofax.
- [2]Webster's Pens in Brighton have an extensive range of Filofax organisers and pens
- What's the connection between Halfords the car accessories company and Filofax? The same [3]private equity company apparently.
- [4]Mari, from Norway is another Filofax user that uses her Filofax to keep her life on track.
- [5]Office Nut have a lovely selection of leather briefcases, that would take loving care of your precious A5 Filofax.
- And this has to be the best find... [6]Paper versus Electronic - the debate continues... a very balanced article.

Good to see that [7]Filofax is getting more and more mentions on the internet.

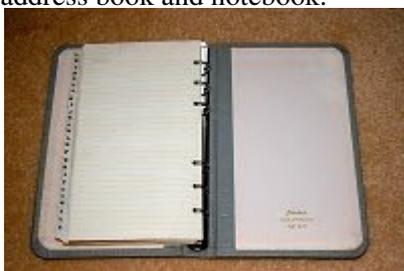
1. http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?awinmid=1402&awinaffid=97790&clickref=MandSmensbags&p=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.marksandspencer.com%2FBags-Briefcases-Accessories-Mens%2Fb%2F53809031%3Fie%3DUTF8%26pf_rd_r%3D03PVZ3J7FC7D4GHFZF2P%26pf_rd_m%3DA2B00OYVBKIQJM%26pf_rd_t%3D101%26pf_rd_i%3D43607030%26pf_rd_p%3D475115433%26pf_rd_s%3Dleft-nav-2
 2. <http://www.websterspenshop.co.uk/>
 3. <http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/city-news/2010/02/19/halfords-to-create-1-400-car-repair-jobs-115875-22054399/>
 4. <http://marigjengedal.wordpress.com/about/>
 5. <https://www.officenut.net/>
 6. <http://handheldpcpda.paktaitoday.com/paper-versus-electronic-the-personal-organizer-debate-continues/>
 7. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?s=152840&v=2457&q=90326&r=97790>
-

Another Filofax added to my collection (2010-02-21 05:05) - Steve



[1] My wife Alison was sorting through her late mother's papers yesterday, as part of our pre-move to France sort out. Yesterday, we started tackling the garage. We have lived here for 24 years so you can imagine it is quite a task! I went off to the tip with a car full of rubbish and was feeling pleased with myself but tired by about 4pm. Coffee and biscuit time...

So whilst we were having coffee Alison passed me a Filofax that she had found amongst her mother's papers, all conversation ceased at that point. I opened it and turned the pages. Mary (my late MiL) had used this organiser as her address book and notebook.



[2] It wasn't a very expensive organiser as I recall, it was bought for her in about 1986/1987. So it is a 'Made in England' one, labelled as OC 1/2 1/2 being the ring size, but so far I've not been able to discover which 'model' OC is.

It is a board construction with quite a hard wearing covering, but as you can see from the photos it lays perfectly flat. The cover had been written on, but with a little gentle restoration I managed to remove most of the writing. You might just be able to faintly see it on the photos.

The address pages are the old Ref 194 pages from the mid 1980's, I've used these myself, they have Name, Address and Phone, six entries per side.



[3] At the back of the organiser there are a couple of blank ruled pages. These look a lot older than the organiser itself. They are labelled BCM/FILOFAX LONDON FORM 9 in a style I've never seen before. I wouldn't like to put a date on the age of these pages, but I'm guessing they might be late 1940's early 1950's just judging by the typeface used.

There was also a page for postage stamps. Again this looks a similar age to the notepages. Alison believes that these older pages came out of an old Filofax her late father Charles had, or may be bought in his antique shop in Royal Tunbridge Wells.



[4] I love the single letter a-z index they are the 1985 AZ1ACE, I don't think there is a modern equivalent they all appear to be two letters per tab.

I will most probably use this organiser in the same way my late mother in law did, as an address book/telephone numbers list with some note paper in the back and leave it beside the main telephone. We have had a similar book next to the phone for years, but it's time the information was transferred to a more flexible system.

I thought about putting a photograph on the cover to cover up the writing, but on reflection I think that would mask its age and detract from its history.

Through Filofax we have another chapter to our family history.

I will be uploading the pictures on to the [5]Flickr group later this morning.

Steve

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/S4D_7q4gJWI/AAAAAAAAH80/3SU9I1GWsGY/s1600-h/scan0002.jpg
2. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/S4EAhXmZSbI/AAAAAAAAH88/OAVi1MG9ciw/s1600-h/IMG_8739.JPG
3. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/S4EA40Et5xI/AAAAAAAAH9E/TOiXHEAiUpY/s1600-h/scan0001.jpg
4. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/S4EDV1-DdFI/AAAAAAAAH9M/8Jt7-L0RgEg/s1600-h/scan0003.jpg
5. <http://www.flickr.com/groups/40748476@N00/>

Walter (2010-02-21 16:34:33)

The lined note page looks very similar to the older LeFax pages - I have some from the 50s that all show that upper right corner box.

Steve (2010-02-21 17:05:06)

Thank you Walter, The box in the top right hand corner is only one side of the page.

It's as if the box was printed after the paper was lined as well, if that makes sense.

Again thank you for your comment.

Steve

gmax (2010-02-26 16:46:28)

I love these old hard cover binders. They are very sturdy.

The 0C designation indicates no pockets ("0") and canvas material covering ("C"). I think this design only had the reference code to identify it, and no actual name.

That postage stamp storage page is very cute. I've never seen such a thing before.

Which organiser has what size rings (2010-02-21 18:09) - Steve

OK so you want to know what size rings are in which organiser and approximately what the cost is?

I've come up with the answer, a look up chart in a pdf file that has the details on size, model, ring size and the approximate prices in UK, Europe and the US. [1]Filofax.PDF

I will try and update this file every few months, but as you can imagine it takes a while!

Steve

1. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/Filofax.pdf>

kanalt (2010-02-21 21:07:57)

WOW! Steve, this is a lot of work! Thanks for doing this - it's great.

Steve (2010-02-22 07:25:08)

Yeah it took a while to create the list, one of the things I did over Christmas! Then our UK VAT rate went up on 1 Jan so it was out of date. Although I have noticed that some prices haven't changed on the UK store...

More files to come soon...

Steve

Estelle (2010-02-22 09:29:39)

OMFG Thank you!

Dilaila (2010-02-22 19:12:07)

Wow indeed. Thanks so much.

Schermann (2010-03-05 12:46:06)

Well Steve, where is my Personal Canterbury?

[img]http://bangkai.files.wordpress.com/2007/10/filofax.jpg[/i mg]

The lock strap has worn out and needs replacement and I need to match up the snap fastener else rip the filo apart to fit a new one, NO!

Can you help me match up a new snap fastener or complete original strap?

SC

Estelle (2010-03-05 13:42:12)

Schermann, I think only models currently sold directly by filofax are in the PDF, which would mean the Canterbury is probably discontinued?

I don't know about replacing a strap, but you could ask filofax and maybe a local shoemaker.

Schermann (2010-03-08 21:21:51)

Thank you Estelle,

The strap problem is a big problem because the snap press stud is very specific and most difficult to source. Filofax evrywhere are not willing to reveal who their manufacturer is as I could just simply source it from them.

The regrettable alternative is that every boot and leather worker has told me emphatically that to replace the press stud the Filofax has to be pulled apart, re-studded and then re-stitched at a cost of almost a replacement Filo!!!

NOPE, if I get an original stud I can just get the strap made without having to touch the original other half stud part on the the Filo.

WTF! How hard can it be to give a loyal customer the whereabouts to someone who supplies a simple press stud!

Any way I will keep trying and probably (before I lose interest and just get out the super glue again) will stumble upon a supplier who is willing to give me two complete studs instead of a packet of 100.

To summarize, local leather workers can't source the press studs and can only effect a repair by pulling the entire Filo apart and restitching it, no thanks.

CAN ANYONE SOURCE THE PRESS STUDS FOR ME???

Regards SC

Schermann (2010-03-09 09:00:19)

PS:

[b]Super glue[/b] worked a wonder but I still would like to source an original press stud.

If you are wondering, super glue was developed by the US Army to allow the rapid closure of battle wounds prior to M.A.S.H delivery. So it instantly bonds skin (leather)...

What else do you keep in your Filofax? (2010-02-23 02:24) - Laurie

The joy of Filofax is the customization. You choose the binder, and everything that goes into it. Every single thing you put into your Filofax, or not, is your choice. It's glorious.

Here on Philofaxy we talk a lot about calendar insert formats, tabbed sections, etc. But let's talk about what else you keep in your Filofax.

I think Filofax has done a pretty good job of offering accessories to go into the binders, but of course there could always be a larger selection.

In my Filofax(es) I like to have maps of anything relevant (and I wish they would expand their map selection to include more city maps, and PLEASE an updated map of Europe!). I use the Sticky Notes accessory in every Filofax I own, it is so handy to have. I love the stickers, and even better that they are on a page that fits on the rings. I keep stamps in the zip pocket. I use the Business Card holder pages to keep cards in the back of my binder. I also use the clear pockets that fit on the rings to hold ticket stubs and maybe a photo.

Things I don't keep in my Filofax are money and cards. I keep those in my wallet. It would be too fiddly for me to sift through all my papers and random scraps in my Filofax at a checkout. I also don't have a portable hole punch, although I know many people do, and I think it would be very handy.

What do you keep in your Filofax? What DON'T you keep in it? And, what accessories do you wish Filofax would add to their selection?

Dilaila (2010-02-23 07:27:08)

I just received my pocket Siena Espresso. It's so lush! Feels and smells good. Even comes wrapped in cloth with the F on the button.

It's supposed to be my wallet so I've added the Filo's zipped plastic envelope for coins.

Feels a bit daft carrying two Filos though since my pocket red butterfly is still my main Filo.

I carry another zipped envelope in my butterfly for my thumbdrive.

Simon (2010-02-23 11:29:19)

As well as a diary, I use my filofax as my wallet as well. For this I have a lovely leather credit card holder (5PCL) which I bought off of ebay. It holds my cards as well as paper money & receipts.

I have the measurements for our beds & rooms, as well as our Health insurance information for when we're overseas. I also have some home-made shopping lists.

Finally I have preference files for the surgeons that I work with.

I would love filofax to start making the leather add-ons they used to; such as the Credit Card holder, Change holder & Jotta.

Dilaila (2010-02-23 11:58:26)

Hi Simon. Would you mind telling me a bit more about how you use your filo as a filo cum wallet. Which filo do you use and what size? Do you find you have to remove some pages to fit in the credit/ATM cards/ID etc? What about coins? Thanks.

Rafal (2010-02-23 16:40:10)

I use my filofax as a heart of GTD system. It holds the usual set of list like actions, projects and calendar. The biggest section is my inbox .

I also keep some reference material like bus schedule, GTD workflow diagram as handy reminder & inspirational quotes.

Lastly I keep few used bus ticket that make perfect bookmarks in case if forgot one.

by Ewan Spence (2010-02-23 18:09:40)

Let's see...

Frequent flyer card, Starbucks card, and a local coffee shop promotion card in the inside flight. On my older Kensington with horizontal cuts for cards in the inner flap I had a little Snopake holder of strips of post it notes like bookmarks (one inch wide by 1/4 inch thick)... gorgeous idea!

Business card holder at the back, but one pocket is actually sheets of Moo stickers (www.moo.com)

I've also got a full page wallet for holding things like flight tickets and boardin passes when I travel, and because I know I'll have it with me at all times, i'll put the passport in the back full length pocket while on trips

melissaj323@gmail.com (2010-02-23 19:17:52)

Besides keeping my calendar, I keep track of my husband's medical bills, his medication, our budget, gift ideas, business cards, etc..

I want to know how does everyone keep track of birthdays? I thought about purchasing the birthday page, where you write each birthday down. That way I could keep it each year.

I'd like to purchase the sticky notes too.

Silver_Elixir (2010-02-23 20:33:24)

I have 6 Filo tabs that are for Notes, Goals, Home (shopping list, budget, home measurement info, school info, dog info) Diary, Information and then Ideas. Some of these sections have home made top tabs that further divide each section. For example in my Goal section I have another top tab for projects and another for to do's. My Diary section has 3 top tabs - Birthdays, Christmas and Magic Moments. Ideas has 3 tob tabs too - iPhone, Web and one that is empty right now. I also have 6 more sections - parenting, books, wishlist, movies, quotes and products.

I would love Filofax to look at making some of their pages like this

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/25983610@N07/2987975693/>

These are ones that I made, but I think there is great potential for them to be made en masse. I would love to see them make pages with the tabs down the side too. I don't think the size of the top tab matters too much, but to keep things Filofax-y I think if they were to make them vertically on the page they should only be about 5-6 mm wide and the 'tab' should be blank, without lines. I have tried making my own but it is very tedious and hard to get all the pages to match up evenly.

Having pages like this would allow Filofax users a great way to organize their information. If pages like this were sold like regular note pages then one could have sections as thick or as thin as they like, knowing they could buy pages pre-cut.

Would you use pages like this and if so, how?

Simon (2010-02-24 01:45:10)

@Dilaila

I have a 7/8" Winchester into which I have my diary (Week on one page with notes); my addresses & preference sheets; Notes; projects (book & music lists, gardening, "someday/maybe" list) & information sections.

The Credit card holder has a full length, lined, pocket in which I can keep paper money & receipts.

I don't remove pages but I can take out the CC holder & go into a shop if I wanted to. I rarely do. Coins go in my pocket.

The Winchester has a section in the front page for ID (or in my case, driving licence).
I refer to my filofax as my Brain & I try not to go anywhere without my brain!

Dilaila (2010-02-24 03:51:13)

Thanks so much Simon. Alas, my Filo is a pocket and I'm not sure how much I can fit in. But I can see carrying two filofax can be a nuisance. Hmm...i see myself tweaking stuff this weekend.

Laurie (2010-02-24 14:05:24)

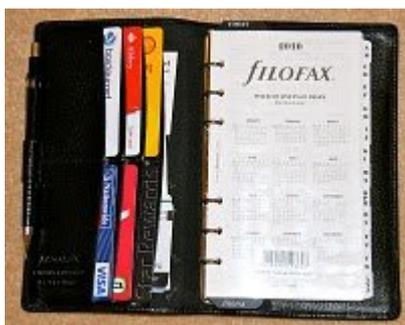
MelissaJ, I use the Birthday lists and they are great. As you noted, I can keep them in my Filofax year after year. I keep adding to them as babies are born, people get married (for anniversaries) etc. I write the person's name, event (b-day or anniversary) and the date (of birth or wedding). It's an excellent reference.

The Birthday lists are a page per month, with the days down the page, one line per day.

<http://www.filofaxusa.com/images/products/refills/line/132608.gif>

Using my Slimline Filofax as my wallet (2010-02-23 18:00) - Steve

I mentioned this purchase a few months ago in a post when I had just bought my [1]Slimline Finsbury. Well since then it's been in use everyday. As there have been a few comments recently about how to use a Filofax as your wallet I thought I would do a post with some pictures.



[2] This first picture shows the inside front, which has six card slots and a further full height slot behind them. I use a Pentel 205 mechanical pencil in this organiser, as the diary section is used for my appointments.

Note how it lays flat... no bluetac!



[3] I'm using a page a day which is more than enough space for the number of appointments I have to keep. I jot things down in here on a regular basis.

I keep track of my car share too, who is driving out of the three of us to work each day.



[4] I use To Do lists and lined paper quite a bit, occasionally slipping either

adjacent to my week, so I have the week and the todo list in view at the same time.

I'm not heavy on GTD, but this works fine for me.

At the back I have my contact phone numbers again entered in pencil so that I can make changes to these easily.



[5] The back cover pocket holds my drivers licence, any paper money, a book of postage stamps, and when abroad my passport. Note how the back cover doesn't quite lay flat, it doesn't have the additional weight of all of my cards that sit in the front cover pockets.

The only thing I've not found an answer to yet is loose coins. Any ideas that would be compatible with a slimline?

[Update] I've now added the Change Holder for coins, [6]see this post

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2009/10/slimline.html>

2. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/S4RZ-vP2UHI/AAAAAAAAAH-M/VaAWz3i39fo/s1600-h/IMG_8744.jpg

3. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/S4RbUhjKL7I/AAAAAAAAAH-U/2bqVJUCUZvM/s1600-h/IMG_8745.JPG

4. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/S4RbmntgEBI/AAAAAAAAAH-c/NB_fGKkboT4/s1600-h/IMG_8746.JPG

5. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/S4RfUQDNbMI/AAAAAAAAAH-s/dty1WbmvT4E/s1600-h/IMG_8747.jpg

6. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/04/filofax-change-holder.html>

YM (2010-02-23 19:01:36)

This is so cool it is making me re-think EVERYTHING...

melissaj323@gmail.com (2010-02-23 19:05:59)

very nice....hmm, i wonder if I should look into a slimline? :)

Dilaila (2010-02-24 01:35:24)

Thanks so much for this! I'm using a zippered plastic envelope for coins even though my Filo has a zipped pocket.

So you've pared down your wallet filio to only money, cards, appointments and to do lists? I need to figure if I can live with just carrying these with me.

Again, thanks.

Savannah (2010-03-05 01:51:30)

I am so glad that someone is giving some attention to the Filofax slimline. It is the nicest planner to transport, write in and use. No bulk and big rings to get in the way. Yes, it is possible to stay on track and focused with this little number. I use the slimline with the 1/2" rings rather than the 7/16" rings which has made this style much more accommodating for me. I see the common sense in using this planner as a wallet for a man. I use a slim credit card wallet with zipper change compartment and slit for bills myself that is about 1/4" thick. I'm loving traveling light.

kanalt (2010-03-05 09:18:59)

I too use a slimline for carrying only the essentials - everything else stays home in a personal binder. I can't say enough about my slimline guildford - I absolutely love it! I did go back to carrying a personal for about a week but missed my beloved slimline...once I pared down to only the essentials, it was hard going back to lugging everything around unnecessarily.

Roxie (2010-03-13 22:38:40)

I also use my slimline Guildford as a wallet. I have two zipper pouches. One for coupons, one for money. The rest of my "pages" are credit card holders.

Dilaila (2010-03-13 23:54:13)

Rosie,

Do you also carry another Filo apart from your slimline?

jodee (2010-06-26 13:56:33)

I need help - after reading your brilliant idea of using this as your wallet, I bought one but I cant fit my cards into the leather card slots - have I got a dodgy one? Surely the slots were designed to fit credit cards and business cards in yet I can fit neither! Your photo shows that you have put cards into this area with no problems - I wonder could I ask you to measure the width of the credit card slot on your version so I can check if its the same as mine?

Steve (2010-06-26 14:04:38)

To answer an earlier question..

No I just carry the Finsbury Personal Slimline as my carry around Filo.

To answer Jodee's question

Each of my cards are the 'standard' 8.5 cm by 5.5 cm

A couple of my slots were a little tight at first, but they are fine now.

Send me a picture of yours to the email address in the About us page.

Steve

jodee (2010-06-28 14:27:49)

Oh thankyou! Ive stretched them and i can just fit, glad to know its not just me!

The Filofax is back (2010-02-24 12:39) - Steve

Well according to the Daily Telegraph today here in UK, the Filofax is back...

[1]Have a read....

I hate to tell them... it never went away as far as we are concerned....

Steve

1. <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/7299814/The-Filofax-is-back.html>

Gemma Catherine Seymour (2010-02-24 20:36:34)

I'm very happy to hear this, as I've just spent the last few days reviving my custom organizer pages project!

So far, I've made eleven different types of note paper, a Month On Two Pages perpetual calendar, and a Seven Year Journal, all in A5 size. Many more types and sizes are planned.

I will be making the templates available in PDF format eventually, and I'll be sure to notify everyone at Philofaxy when that happens (should be fairly soon).

The first set of prototypes was printed and cut today. About 100 sheets of paper and 400 X-Acto cuts...I think I may wear out my A5 hole punch!

The plan is to eventually sell these pages, printed professionally on high quality, archival rag paper (with an eye to fountain pens, but I'm not going to invest that kind of money until I've gone through a period of beta testing. The first prototypes are printed on el cheapo copier paper, but I have laid in substantial stock of the good stuff for the final prototypes.

There's a few things I have to take care of before a more formal announcement is made, but hopefully I can get everything in order Real Soon Now.

Laurie (2010-02-25 02:12:46)

Gemma that is wonderful!! I'm sure you will find plenty of people here who are willing to try and evaluate your formats and

give constructive feedback to help you finalize your designs. I will definitely want to participate!

ladydandelion.net (2010-02-25 07:52:52)

A 25 % sales increase is amazing - I've had a feeling that they are on the way up and in again, but 25 %! I prefer it to any electronic device (and I love gadgets!) since it is so much simpler and easier to use - just like paperbacks are simpler and easier than electronic reader. And one can use a favourite (fountain)pen. :)

Tabbed sections! (2010-02-24 14:06) - Laurie

I love to hear how everyone uses their tabbed sections, because it gives me ideas on how to better utilize mine. This is a topic I come back to periodically to see how people have updated their systems, and to give everyone the opportunity to share how they use their system.

Right now the tabs in my main Filofax are (starting behind the planner section):

Emergency and Medical

Travel (with maps here)

Albania country-specific info

Goals (my exercise routines go in here too)

Lists (gift lists for the year, websites, to-do lists)

Notes (mostly blank, to have a landing place for jotting things down since my Filo doesn't have a notes pad in the back)

Move (because we will be moving to a different country in a few months, lots of lists in here)

Kids (homeschooling, lesson ideas, goals)

Financial

Addresses

I'm trying to come up with better designations for my reference lists vs my active to-dos, and goals to reference vs ongoing projects. I feel like I need to change my sections somehow but I'm not sure how to designate them. "Reference" vs "Active" maybe? Anyone have any ideas?

What are your tabbed sections?

by Ewan Spence (2010-02-24 14:43:31)

I'm a bit of a tab whore, with 12 tabs in total. 2 sets of the "six tabs you can slip your own index papers into" style.

Although my first tab says "GTD" it's past tense and "Got Things Done" where I keep a track of piece work rates, cycle mileage and goals.

PODCASTS is the organisation of my three shows about the PSP, Rock Music and Smartphones.

MUSES is where I place ideas, jokes and fiction 'sparks'

NOTEBOOK Duh!

ALL ABOUT SYMBIAN

THE DAILY DUST

PSI X PDA

SXSW

Four tabs for the current big projects I am working on, or websites I help manage

TICKLE is my week per two pages diary of todos. Birthday pages lurk at the back

TRAVEL is a breakdown of flights, packing and timetables

FINANCIAL is where I track what bills need paid

PROJECTS are for small ideas that may get finished, or promoted as required/

Steve (2010-02-24 15:26:01)

I stick to the ideas expressed by David Allen, (Mr GTD) in his free paper you can download from here:

<https://secure.davidco.com/store/catalog/Paper-Organizer-how-to-set-one-up-p-16162.php>

For those that haven't read it yet, I have: Notes In, Calendar, ToDo, Projects, Notes, Reference, Addresses

Under Notes-in I have a mixture of note paper, plain paper, a to-do list, it's about capturing input to be filed later.

The rest is fairly self explanatory.

Steve

Gemma Catherine Seymour (2010-02-24 20:17:51)

Although I actually do have tabbed dividers, I never end up writing anything on the tabs. But what I use them for is fairly consistent:

1. Month On Two Pages Diary
2. Week On One Page Diary (temporarily replaced by a Week On One Page With Notes)
3. White Ruled Paper (business notes)
4. Yellow Ruled Paper (personal notes)
5. Saved & Reference Notes (from the previous two sections)

The sixth divider is used only to protect the last pages, so I only end up with five sections.

Laurie (2010-02-25 02:26:56)

Last night I did a(n extremely useful) What/ Where list just like Nan's (brilliant idea):

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2008/11/what-where.html>

To list what pages I have and figure out where to put them. Most of my categories are pretty distinct, but I had some things I needed to figure out. For example, my Lists section was a confusing mixture of to-do lists and reference lists like gifts. I was always sorting through to figure out what I needed to do. And, not surprisingly, things fell through the cracks.

So for the first time in 15 years(!), I did away with my Lists section. I broke it into Reference and Action. Immediate relief from my confusion!

I also realized that all those things that I re-write every week in my planner (that I chip away at when I have time) are better off on a long-term To Do list under Action, or on my Monthly Goals page under Goals. So that clears space on my weekly planner page, and also absolves me of the guilt of not getting things done because I was being unrealistic about my time.

Laurie (2010-02-25 02:27:38)

LOL by Ewan Spence re: "tab whore"! I've definitely been guilty of that!

paulien (2010-02-25 07:24:18)

Laurie, may I please ask what your monthly goals page looks like? I am struggling right now with planning and finding time for things I want to do that take longer than one week or month. Like client projects or writing a paper for publication. I have deadlines for the things itself, but how do I know how much I need to work on it every week and month to get it done on time.

Or if anyone else has any good ideas for handling this...

Paulien

Laurie (2010-02-25 08:04:47)

Paulien, take a look at Charlie Gilkey's Monthly Action Planner. Here is how to use it, with a link to download the planner:

<http://www.productiveflourishing.com/new-planner-available-the-monthly-action-planner/>

I hand-write a simplified version of his Monthly Action Planner on a notes page and put it behind my Goals tab.

I'll be writing more about monthly goal-setting in my March 1 post on Plannerisms.com, but this is the basic idea!

Laurie (2010-02-25 08:08:38)

Paulien, you may also benefit from Charlie's Freelancer's Workweek planner, it is designed to let you see not only your deadlines, but to help you plan how much time you need to work on each project and when you will do it.

You can get the Freelancer's Workweek planner under Free Planners (scroll down):

<http://www.productiveflourishing.com/free-planners/>

And you can also download the whole year's worth under Premium Planners. I recommend checking out the free one first.

I recently posted all about Charlie's planners if you want a condensed overview:

<http://www.plannerisms.com/2010/02/productive-flourishing-planners.html>

Dilaila (2010-02-25 09:41:28)

I have three top tabs:

Diary (+ to do)

Notes

Work

Under work: I have side tabs: Job Status, Quotation, Invoice plus side tabs for notes on the individual jobs.

The rest all go under A-Z tabs. Some have their own top tabs too like: Workout, Spring Clean, Ideas etc.

Nickie @ Typecast (2010-02-25 10:01:20)

so many good ideas here!!

I'm currently migrating from one Filofax to two - one for every day stuff and one for my writing (contacts, ideas, etc)

I currently have:

1. diary
2. personal stuff/reminders
3. work related info
4. writing info
5. notepaper
6. addresses

It's all very yawnsome.

Nan (2010-02-26 17:19:45)

Laurie, thanks for the link to my What/Where post. I need to review that process myself, and I wasn't sure where to find it! LOL!

Oni (2010-02-28 19:36:43)

Nicky is right- there are so many great ideas in here! I think I will rethink my tabs in the following days, I'll have a lot of things to get done in this month!

Currently I have:

1. to do's: these haven't been all done, and not all my things to be done have made it to the list.

Also under this tab and a few pages later, I have a Reminder list. And the next sheet is for the things I need to do for my website. This has been here, undone, since autumn last year!

2. Diary: one page per day, used as a not too personal journal.
3. Information (it's just the tab i use to separate the calendar, I should rename it!): Here I have the week on two pages calendar to write down appointments and other agenda items
4. Notes (a double section): The first part is for random notes, doodles, etc. The second part is my 'Idea Catcher' where I jot down all ideas related to my 21kittens project. I haven't been writing much down though, due to the crappy paper I used to make the sheets.
5. Addresses (divided into three tabbed sections)
 - a)VIP-family
 - b1)Spain: friends/people I know
 - b2)Spain:work related
 - b3)Spain:Useful information (doctors, vet, etc)
- c) world: friends around the world
6. Nihongo: my japanese section with both syllabaries and a few blank pages to practise-haven't been using it though...
7. Financial: to keep track of my accounts

Then without a separating tab I keep a world map and some sudoku pages

I know I must change my current layout somehow, because my To do isn't working for me anymore... I even considered getting a new filo, but that would mean I would have to carry two binders with me all the time! ugh....headache....x _x

Roxie (2010-03-13 22:37:26)

I use the A-Z tabs and have any information that i want or need according to the alphabet. Yes, I have quite a large stack now, but I can find anything info I want in a matter of a minute. I use a Franklin Covey Storage binder to keep it in. I use the personal/compact compatible size.

Schermann (2010-03-15 00:46:07)

TAB = Thankfully Ain't Botherin'

Mine is simply a business diary and indexed phone book + stamps + cards holder.

Perhaps someone should design a Swiss Army style Filofax that looks like a 'Club Sandwich' with every know tab structure included?

LOL!

We have class! (2010-02-25 06:55) - Laurie

There's more Filofax love in the news today!

Today's Telegraph has another article about how Filofax sales are on the rise. I love how in this article it says taking out a gorgeous Filofax shows you have class. Yes we do!

[1]<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/lifestyle/7308271/The-return-of-the-Filofax.html>

Today's Independent has a mention too, at the bottom of Hit And Run ("Filofax Strikes Back"). I love how they refer to the inserts as "OCD-tastic." I think we are all testament to the amount of tweaking one can do with Filofax inserts!

[2]

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/people/hit-and-run/hit-and-run-mad-to-let-her-go-1909787.html>

According to Filofax UK on Twitter, there's also a Guardian article today about Filofax, but I couldn't find it online. Did anyone see it?

1. <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/lifestyle/7308271/The-return-of-the-Filofax.html>

2. <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/people/hit-and-run/hit-and-run-mad-to-let-her-go-1909787.html>

Steve (2010-02-25 12:55:18)

I have just done a search on the Guardian site and there's no recent articles. Filofax UK have put the Daily Mail on to me, as they are preparing an article as well!

Not heard anything from them yet.

Steve

Dilaila (2010-02-25 20:07:52)

Great to know so many women opt for Deco when it's almost the price of a smartphone!

gmax (2010-02-26 17:09:39)

There was a short item by Tim Dowling in the printed Guardian G2 section yesterday, entitled "Filofax: a guide". It mentions that "If you were born after 1990 you may never have seen one, but the Filofax is making a comeback." And then goes on to explain the concept in a light-hearted way by analogy with a PDA/iPhone type appliance.

Retirement (not mine!) (2010-02-25 13:47) - Nan

About four years ago, I dashed into a stationery store a few minutes before closing time with a purpose in mind—obtain an A5 Filofax. I had made the decision to use A5 for all my work-related planning and record keeping. I bought a black Finsbury. Not my favorite color or style, but it was all they had, and the rings were nice and big.

I had made a commitment to stop changing systems every few weeks. If I had to change anything, it would only be at six-month intervals. And so I stuck with the A5 for 4 years.

But to be perfectly honest, I never came up with an A5 Filofax system that worked well enough. I ended up writing to-dos in more than one place, sometimes losing them completely. The day-per-page had too much room to write, the month-per-2-pages not enough. I wasn't seeing the information I needed to see when I needed to see it. Even

making my own [1]tabs didn't solve these problems.

With an increase in the number of projects I have to juggle at work, the whole system broke down.

My new solution will depend on full-size file folders for to-dos and project info, an online calendar, a basic notebook, and a full-size appointment book. I don't have all of this paraphernalia yet...time for another trip to the stationery store.

But don't worry, I still have 2 other Filofaxes in my life!

1. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/gonanb/3626771479/in/set-72157594177080225/>

Laurie (2010-02-25 15:11:43)

Nan, good luck finding a system that works well for you!! That was a huge challenge for me at work, finding ways to manage multiple projects. I hope you figure it out soon (and when you do, let the rest of us know how it's done!)

:D

joffreyca (2010-02-25 16:32:40)

...

...

I have a lot of things I wanted to say about retiring Filofaxes and changing systems and the search for the perfect system but I have to stop myself.

I think it'll be better to write a draft and submit that for review as a possible guest post.

Nan (2010-02-25 19:59:56)

Thanks, Laurie! I will let you know the details.

Joffrey, we are looking forward to your guest post!

Free For All Friday No. 67 (2010-02-26 00:28) - Laurie

This week I revived my [1]Personal Deco Filofax to use as my "everything except my planner" book. My current (bound-book) planner has a page size and layout that I love, but it has no pages in the back for notes. I have some major things coming up in the next several months (like moving to a foreign country) that I need to prepare for, big time.

I'm thrilled to have a major use for this Filofax, because it's gorgeous and I love it, but until now it was underused. Now it will get a real workout! I revamped my tabs, updated my lists, souped-up my goals and am cranking on my move preparation. I wrote about my tabbed sections and how I'm using my Deco a couple of days ago in [2]Tabbed Sections! if you want to read more details.

What's new in your Filofax life these days?

1. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/41064231@N08/sets/72157622672507897/>

2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/02/tabbed-sections.html>

kanalt (2010-02-26 07:43:59)

I just bought and recieved new blank section tabs. Hopefully I'll be able to organize my Filo this weekend, with more personal sections. Once that's up and running, I will report back.

Gemma Catherine Seymour (2010-02-26 14:24:25)

I am very pleased to announce the immediate availability of the Paige Paigen line of organizer products for testing at <http://www.paigepaigen.com/>

All products are available for a limited time as PDF files under the Creative Commons BY-NC-ND License.

The current line comprises 20 different types of A5 size organizer pages, designed as a perfect fit for your Filofax A5 binder, or any other A5 binder system.

As it stands, the PDF files are formatted to be printed on US Letter size paper, since it was too difficult for us to find sufficient stock of ISO paper here in the US for prototyping. A5 format PDFs will be forthcoming soon.

I hope you will enjoy the product line, and that it will add something to your life. Feedback is very much appreciated at paigepaigen@gmail.com
Gemma Seymour
Designer, Paige Paigen

Penny (2010-02-26 15:01:44)

I'm just hopeful that all this talk about filo will bring about my desire for a slimmer a5 available everywhere. i've attempted to make something with posts, but it's just not the same...

Laurie (2010-02-27 10:39:29)

Penny, Filofax UK is coming out with new products in March, April and May with the promise of "some things we've been asking for." Well I (and several others of us here at Philofaxy) have been asking for a Slimline A5 for a long time, so fingers crossed that will be among the new releases this spring!!

The obituary for Filofax has been recalled (2010-02-26 04:00) - Steve

Newspaper editors have this week been apologising for the premature announcements of the death of the Filofax. It seems that the Filofax has been going about it's business quietly and without making a fuss for years. They blamed the lack of TV coverage and the lack of mentions in the weekly celeb magazines for them thinking it had died without trace.

Keen followers and users of Filofax have been rejoicing and broadcasting their love for Filofax on Twitter and other social networks this week following the announcements that sales in the leather bound organisers had never been better.

Filofax HQ have even called in expert users to review their up and coming TV ad campaign which reportedly features a user turning the pages of their Filofax and showing the camera the variety of pages available. 'You want a list to remember all the things to take on holiday.... Well their's an insert for that' Now where have I heard something like that before....

Male Filofax users were slightly concerned that this weeks announcements included the startling statistics that they were in the minority when it came to the demographics of the average Filofax user. They have called for the focus groups to get together to design some more masculine organisers. Ideas have included a fake camouflage cover. Inserts featuring maps showing the locations of CAMRA recommended pubs and bars in central London. They have also called upon Filofax to develop a similar 'beauty Filofax gift box' that will appeal to men. The atomiser pen could of course be used for aftershave, the mirror for shaving and checking for other unwanted facial hair!

All Filofax users have appealed to Filofax UK to not get carried away with this newly found popularity, they don't want the brand to be cheapened, or for senseless gadgets to be included such as electronic alarm reminders, the clip in calculator is going far enough thank you. Filofax has called for publicist Max Clifford to sell their story of their hidden years in hiding at the bottom of desk drawers and called for Filofax UK to ensure there was a plentiful supply of diaries and inserts available for all his old friends that have been emerging this week.

The family and friends of Filofax are pleased and happy that the Filofax is in fact alive and well.

Note: Written with tongue firmly in cheek! It is Friday after all.....

Dilaila (2010-02-28 23:45:19)

cute :)

Dilaila (2010-03-01 06:09:41)

British philofaxers:

Have you seen this? OMG! I'm a WAG. I didn't even know Colleen could write :p

<http://www.milliongossip.com/41144-coleen-rooney-continues-her-daily-bikini-parade-in-barbados-with-a-pink-two-piece>

Laurie (2010-03-01 06:19:49)

Wow!! I thought MY Filofax was fat!!!

Steve (2010-03-01 12:28:32)

May be we should send her a link to one of our previous posts! Or ask her to do a guest post on what she keeps in it!!

Laurie (2010-03-01 15:36:46)

I would LOVE to know what she has in there!

Jess (2010-03-02 11:10:27)

Love this piece. Wish we really did have that advert.... hmmm maybe I'll go chat to the bosses about marketing budgets....!

Steve (2010-03-02 13:18:25)

[smile] Remember you saw it here first folks.... [/smile]

I will get my people to talk to your people Jess... I'm sure we can come to an agreeable 'fee' !

Steve

Dilaila (2010-03-04 02:46:47)

So, has any of the Filofaxy people emailed Colleen's people then? I'm ever so curious what she carries that makes her Filo so thick!

1.3 March

The solution to the small Filofax calendar pages?? (2010-03-01 08:02) - Laurie

A recurring issue we Filofax users have is the page size/ book size ratio. In order to have calendar/ diary pages large enough to write everything we need, the resulting book can be big and sometimes unwieldy. So we try to strike a balance between a small enough book/ big enough page. But often the daily spaces in the weekly planners are still just too small to write everything we need to each day.

But today I read an interesting article that could possibly be the solution. I subscribe to Travisthetrout's blog ([1]<http://travisthetrout.wordpress.com/>) and [2]yesterday's post has a list of interesting links from this week. One of those articles is "[3]Calendar Or To-Do List? Two Task Management Tools Compared."

Now listen. I've been reading a lot lately about to-do lists. Let me say, some people write about lists like they invented the list. I mean, come on. List-writing is probably the earliest form of human organization in the world. People were using sticks to write inventory lists in [4]cuneiform on mud tablets thousands of years ago. So don't pretend you're being revolutionary about a list.

But this article really is, wow. Especially toward the end of the article, something clicked. Basic premise is, don't schedule your tasks. Huh? Leave white space on your calendar. Um... what?

"Calendar or To Do List?" is about keeping white space on your calendar to effectively gauge your availability for completing your tasks. You write your tasks someplace else OTHER than your calendar. I've been doing the opposite: artificially scheduling tasks in order to have them in front of me at all times.

Andre Kibbe, author of the above-mentioned article, says that's all well and good for those tasks that actually have to be accomplished at that time on that particular day. But for general tasks not tied to a time or day, keep them OFF your calendar, for crying out loud!

I have to admit while I was reading this article and got to the heading When to Use Calendars, I had to roll my eyes. Oh man. Doesn't everybody know when to use a calendar? Actually, no. I didn't.

His message really started to hit home when he mentioned all those little tasks that tend to fill up my day "will be greater in number than what can be crammed into a typical calendar blank." No WONDER my daily spaces are so packed, yet I still feel scattered!

I won't re-write the article here, but go read it if you have time because it could be very useful for those of us struggling with Filofax's small daily spaces.

There's also a link to another article of his about [5]context lists, which is particularly useful for Filofaxers too because we can have as many context lists as we want in our Lists section (or wherever you like to put your lists). So, thank you to Travisthetrout for pointing it out, and especially to Andre Kibbe for writing this article that really

got me thinking in the opposite direction!

Could this be the answer to the age-old Filofax dilemma? Is this the solution to the too-small daily spaces? What do you think?

1. <http://travisthetrout.wordpress.com/>
2. <http://travisthetrout.wordpress.com/2010/02/28/end-of-the-week-28th-february-2010/>
3. <http://workawesome.com/productivity/calendar-or-to-do-list-two-task-management-tools-compared/>
4. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cuneiform_script
5. <http://workawesome.com/productivity/get-more-done-with-batch-processing/>

Estelle (2010-03-01 15:00:20)

Isn't all this basic knowledge featured in GTD, ZTD and ...everywhere? But I suppose when you think GTD is stupid without looking into it you wouldn't know.

Laurie (2010-03-01 15:20:15)

Hmm, I didn't say anywhere that GTD (or anything else) is stupid. Did you mean my bit about inventing the list? Incidentally, that wasn't GTD I was referring to.

Estelle (2010-03-01 15:25:22)

No I was referring to older posts bashing GTD and readers chiming in. Now I'm no "GTD monk" but I read about it and found a few useful things.

Laurie (2010-03-01 15:35:30)

Oh, I see. Actually I've never read GTD, but there are so many articles/ blogs/ etc. that refer to it. The only thing I really know about it is that the system uses contextual lists like @computer @ phone etc, which I find very useful. Beyond that I don't have much of an opinion about it since I know so little. I know there are people who say it helps them enormously, and other people who don't like it for various reasons. I think Steve uses GTD or something similar, am I thinking correctly Steve?

And yes you are right, there are lots of places that have this same basic information. But for some reason, this particular article today just clicked with me.

Steve (2010-03-01 15:54:25)

Yes, I have David Allan's book on GTD, but I've never fully put all of his ideas in to practice, although a lot of it does make a lot of sense.

I will have to find the book and look for specific things on planners/organisers..

Regards

Steve

Laurie (2010-03-02 02:08:11)

gcm1066 has some great photos of using GTD in a Filofax:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/98591143@N00/>

ANIRBAN DAS (2010-03-02 03:59:04)

[I]us shipping service-International Shipping Worldwide and USA Package Forwarding. Create and start using your account in minutes. Review, choose, consolidate, discard and ship your packages. <http://www.myusshopnship.com>

Your own shopping address in the USA that you can monitor online.

1. <http://www.myusshopnship.com/index.php>

JJ (2010-03-02 15:21:59)

That is sort of how I use my Filo.

Calendar and contacts are either online or in my Palm TX. I have a month per page calendar in my Filo, but it's used very little.

Paper is still the best for tasks and lists. (And notes and sketches...)

A third part of my "system" is a Mead desk diary where "done" items are recorded.

PA3789 (2010-03-02 19:22:41)

Laurie,

You really have me thinking.

I just posted I switched back to FC classic on Monday of this week. Due to the fact that I couldn't cram everything I wanted to do on a personal Filo page. That being said I am one who lists "everything" I have to accomplish on each page, every day. That seems crazy after reading the article. Why not put the few items on the page that "have" to be accomplished "that day?" It makes total sense to me now.

List "all" the items that need accomplished on a single sheet under "to do" then only list the item or items that absolutely need accomplished on a specific day.

I just pulled my personal Filo back out of the box and updated it so I can carry it. Hope this works I really missed the leather smell!

Thanks,

Greg

Adirondack Explorer (2010-03-02 21:46:12)

I use GTD and now have 39 active projects with 129 next actions on my context lists. My problem is not putting too much on my calendar; its that I have many appointments that MUST go on my calendar (I don't put projects and next actions on my calendar). I may need to look at a different Filo page format.

Laurie (2010-03-03 02:03:39)

Greg, I'm so glad you liked the article. You are one of the people I had specifically in mind when writing this post because when I read that article I thought it might help your situation. Maybe it will, maybe it won't, but it's worth a try right?

AE, I thought of you too. Hopefully a change in diary format can avert a Filo Fail!

Adirondack Explorer (2010-03-03 12:52:25)

Laurie:

YOu are so thoughtful - thanks! Love reading Philofaxy.

JJ (2010-03-03 16:06:54)

I hope this isn't old news to everyone here, but the rather flippantly names GSD (Getting Sh-t Done), is actually a very simple and workable system and easily adapted to a Filo:

<http://www.utilware.com/gsd3.html>

Steve (2010-03-03 16:28:55)

Great site JJ, I must bookmark that one. May be add it to our links page too.

Laurie (2010-03-04 03:14:23)

JJ-I love it. Great for Filofax users. And, I also think it would be great to use with a day-per-page planner/ diary. Make your daily list, take into account any scheduled events, and off you go.

Simple is good!

This link will now go on my Plannerisms sidebar!

Dilaila (2010-03-04 04:37:38)

I like JJ's link too! It's quite similar to a system that Susan (?) uses, which I have adapted.

Savannah (2010-03-05 02:19:18)

Thankyou for this wonderful post. I've been working in this general direction and needed this information for confirming and tightening up this process

Erin (2010-03-25 12:47:53)

Hello

I am a huge Filofax fan and JUST found this website. I am SO excited! My husband and friends think I'm a bit strange because of my large "collection" of Filofaxes. I am actually embarrassed to admit how many I have! I'll be reading and posting.

Erin

Question re: Filofax and Franklin Covey compatibility (2010-03-04 15:44) - Laurie

Hi everybody, I received a question on Twitter as to whether Franklin Covey inserts fit into Filofax binders. The asker didn't specify sizes. Since I have no experience with FC, I replied that I would ask here because somebody is sure to know!

As far as the Personal size inserts go, I think I've read here and other places that the FC inserts are slightly wider than the Filofax Personal size pages, but otherwise fit in the binder fine. Does anyone know about other sizes?

Thanks for any info!

fiona (2010-03-04 16:53:53)

desk size incompatible. Holes in 'wrong' places.

shepcraig (2010-03-04 16:55:01)

Franklin Covey have just been taken over by "cross" the pen company, and they are planning on really launching the product here in the UK, I will try and find out if the refills are the same size, but if not, I would expect them to be available here soon.

JJ (2010-03-04 18:04:08)

Filofax:

A5: 5 3/4" x 8 1/4"

Personal: 3.75 x 6.75 6 hole (also Slimline)

Pocket: 3.25 x 4.75 6 hole

Mini: 2 5/8" x 4 1/4"

Franklin:

Classic (Page Size: 5-1/2" x 8-1/2") 7-hole

Pocket (Page Size: 3-1/2" x 6") 6-hole

Compact (Page Size: 4-1/4" x 6-3/4") 6-hole

Monarch (Page Size: 8-1/2" x 11") 7-hole

Compact will fit a Personal size, but the wider size tends to get damaged and worn because it extends out to the end of the binder. It works and has some advantages, but some drawbacks.

FC's Pocket fits nothing else in the world. The hole spacing is different.

Monarch will fit a 3 ring binder, (US size).

Gemma Catherine Seymour (2010-03-04 19:56:40)

Bits and Bobs on Franklin Covey and Filofax...

Franklin Covey sold off their consumer products division (retail planner stores, etc) to a private equity company in July 2008. The planner products company is now known as Franklin Covey Products, LLC. In the process they downsized from about 80 to (apparently now) 54 retail stores. There are no FC stores in NJ, NY, PA, CT, DE. The closest to me is now in VA, I believe in the DC area.

Cross hasn't taken over FC. Cross has entered into a licensing agreement with FC. Now, it is possible that A.T. Cross may be handling distribution for FC in the UK, but I haven't heard anything about this.

I discovered all this today, because I was on a Quest for an FC Compact binder to see if I could use B6 size (125 x 176 mm) pages in it, only to find that both the Moorestown, NJ, and the King of Prussia, PA, stores are now gone. Good thing I didn't just drive there!

As for Filofax rings, I also spent a few minutes doing some measuring today:

Filofax Deskfax B5 binders have 9 rings in 3 groups of 3. Each group has the rings spaced 19 mm on center, and each group

is spaced 51 mm on center. Ring thickness is 3 mm.

Filofax A5 binders have 6 rings in 2 groups of 3. Each group has rings spaced 19 mm on center, and the groups are spaced 70 mm on center. Ring thickness is 3 mm.

Filofax Personal binders have 6 rings in 2 groups of 3. Each group has rings spaced 19 mm on center, and the groups are spaced 51 mm on center. Ring thickness is 3 mm.

Filofax Pocket binders have 6 rings spaced 19 mm on center. Ring thickness is 2 mm.

Filofax Deskfax (B5) pages fit only Filofax Deskfax binders.

Filofax A5 pages fit only Filofax A5 binders.

Filofax Personal pages fit Deskfax binders in rings 1-3+4-6 (top to bottom), or 4-6+7-9.

Filofax Pocket pages fit Deskfax binders in rings 2-3+4-5, or 5-6+7-8.

Filofax Pocket pages fit A5 binders in rings 2-3+4, or 3+4-5.

Filofax Pocket pages fit Personal binders in rings 2-3+4-5.

For comparison, B6 size is 125 mm x 176 mm, FC Compact size is 108 mm x 171 mm, and Filofax Personal size is 95 mm x 171 mm.

Oddly, the Filofax system, being originally from a US company (Lefax), might be more accurately described in US customary units (rings .75" on center, groups 2.0" on center, Personal pages 3.75" x 6.75"), but the UK company may have changed to Metric for the current incarnation.

Now, what I'd really like to see is binders with rings spaced 25 mm on center...making all page sizes compatible with each other (see Circa). I suppose I'll have to make them myself.

Is that quite enough organiser geekiness for one evening?

Gemma Catherine Seymour (2010-03-04 20:01:44)

Oh, one more minor tidbit...apparently if you take a B6 page, and line it up at the opposite end of the Filofax Deskfax metal hole punch from the paper stop, you can punch the same hole pattern as the Personal size, just about exactly centered! Nifty, huh? Now if I could just find out whether or not FC Compact binders are wide enough for a 125 mm page width...

JJ (2010-03-04 20:24:46)

» Filofax Pocket pages fit Personal binders in rings 2-3+4-5.

WOW... learning this is right up there with my first kiss.

There's no end to the trouble I'll get into now.

Thanks.

Laurie (2010-03-05 02:02:09)

Wow, thank you for all of this excellent information!!!

Estelle (2010-03-05 09:56:09)

Filofax Pocket pages fit Personal binders in rings 2-3+4-5.

Not true.

You can place them on rings 1-3 and snip off the bottom left corner, or rings 4-6 and snip off the top left corner though.

Estelle (2010-03-05 10:00:24)

Only the multifit pocket pages (which have holes 1, 2, 5 and 6 elongated) fit on rings 2+3 and 5+6.

joffreyca (2010-03-05 16:37:25)

I believe the comments here make one of the most complete information on binder ring size comparisons available on the Internet.

Good work, everyone.

I just want to add that the Franklin Covey "micro" pages are compatible with the Filofax mini.

Steve (2010-03-13 04:43:27)

Is the answer to the problem of the increased 'width' of FC pages a zipped Filofax organiser, they are slightly bigger and would protect the pages better than an 'open' organiser.

OK it introduces other 'issues' but I'm sure they are ones you could work around if you really must use FC pages in a Filofax

organiser...

Just a thought....

Roxie (2010-03-13 22:32:24)

I have a Filofax personal organizer that is retired. I can't remember the name of the style. I think it started with a "K." Very soft, flexible leather sides. I have the Franklin Covey compact size hole punch and the holes match perfectly. I actually like the little wider page and it does go out to the very edge, but I don't care. I make my own pages.

I would like to find an A5 Filofax that is the same as my smaller one, but they all seem to have harder flaps. I bought a Kensington and it was not like mine at all. I was wondering if the Finsbury is softer and more flexible. Can someone help me?

Roxie (2010-03-13 22:51:21)

I just checked my personal one is also a Kensington. But its different from the A5 size.

Erin (2010-03-25 13:18:26)

Yes, the Franklin Covey (FC) compact size fits perfectly in the Filofax personal size although the pages are a bit wider. However, if you want to use the classic FC pages for the A5 size Filofax, you need to punch holes in paper with hole puncher. I like the Scully paper in my A5 because it's the cotton cream color (Filofax only has in personal size, not A5) so it doesn't bleed/show through as much. Hope that helps!

Free For All Friday No. 68 (2010-03-05 00:01) - Steve

Well what a week it has been, some great publicity here and there for us. More and more visitors, but this evening I took some time out to reflect on what I've been using my Filofax organisers for recently.

I recently undertook to rewrite one of my websites completely from the ground upwards. Some of the pages were over 10 years old! I used my A5 Filofax to plan the rewrite, using some squared paper to sketch layout ideas and the positioning of elements of the pages and note paper to keep track of the names of files. To-Do lists came in handy for jogging my memory and as a final check-list before the site went live.

I've been writing web pages since about 1994 and I'm still stuck in that era in some ways. I do things in quite an old fashioned way, but the sites work and they continue to attract people to them. You can see the result of my efforts at [1]www.pembury.org It is the village I live in here in Kent. My son has been telling me that I should be learning CSS when I retire... he tells me it's a lot better... I'm sure it is.

What projects have you been planning in your Filofax recently? But as always on Fridays, the floor is yours to discuss anything Filofax related.

.

1. <http://www.pembury.org/>

Michele (2010-03-05 04:43:27)

Geat Link Steve! Beautiful! 4:30am in the morning here on LI. I feel like I havne't been around to say hi to you all for weeks... About three weeks ago they had some layoffs where I work, and even though I wasn't affected directly, 1/2 my team was, and I've been reorg'd to a different dept. I'm actually very happy in my new role, but I have been work very long hours day after day. With the new role, I do get to go to Las Vegas for a trade show in May for 8 days! My A5 that I allocated to work only is getting a real workout. Yesterday, I started using the pad of paper inside the back cover, and you can actually smell the Finchley leather as you write! I have to take some pics of my A5 as I took up on a few ideas from all of you - including using neon colored post-its for the dividers rather than writing on them directly (thank you for that one Laurie). Have a good weekend all!

gmax (2010-03-05 10:24:59)

I'm starting with a new employer on Monday, so I've brought out a spare filo (Slimline Westminster model) from storage to meet the occasion. For those who like to hear the full details, I've added a transparent fly leaf, some yellow lined paper, a

post-it pad sheet(Ref. 130136) and some Day-Timer "Portable to be done" pages!

Nan (2010-03-05 13:09:40)

Oh, my, such a beautiful website! My ancestors are from Cornwall (my maiden name is Spargo), and I wish there were such a website for that region, so I could lurk and imagine the lives of my distant relatives!

I also love the fact that you used your A5. As someone who's taking an A5 sabbatical, I feel wistful when I think of that grid paper, and Michele with the smell of her leather. I'm certain that I will come back someday!

In my dream world, Filofax would make a US range in Letter size (8.5" x 11", or 216 mm × 280mm. But then, in my dream world, the US standard size would be smaller—8" x 10.5", which used to be the standard for government and schools. You can still get student notebooks and looseleaf in this size in the US, and I think it's just a nice size. Big enough for serious work and writing, but still comfortable to carry. Letter size is just a bit too big to feel portable.

So, I guess that means that in my dreams, I'd have an 8" x 10.5" Filo!

Schermann (2010-03-05 13:32:56)

[u][b]Personal Canterbury[/b][/u]

<http://bangkai.files.wordpress.com/2007/10/filofax.jpg>

After launching another lobotomised PDA off the end of the jetty, I went down to Woollies and got a Filofax international diary/phone refill 09/10 reduced to just \$5!

Rebirthing my 95 Personal Canterbury with new innards and a outer coat of Armorall, I noticed that the locking strap is failing and will have to be replaced soon. The leather just can't take any more super gluing...

So as you would expect I contacted the company looking for a replacement part, "not interested" I was told by AU/UK/USA companies but "would you like to by the \$600 equivalent?" - NO THANKS...

So my quest is to first find & match the snap fastener to my trusty Canterbury (so I don't have to rip it apart to fit a new one) and then set about making a new strap.

Can anyone source out a snap fastener for me?

Steve (2010-03-06 06:47:31)

Thanks Nan, yes the Pembury site is a labour of love!

What you want is a Filofax A4 organiser, which is the closest in size to 8.5x11 inches. Not sold in the US, but obviously available in UK and Europe. The are quite big though...

Schermann (2010-03-06 14:31:47)

Well I found the press stud supplier...

Small S-Spring Press Studs F36 A/A

These are the smallest type and are used on Filofax. They are available with 10mm diameter caps. They are made from steel and are available nickel plated, brass plated or black caps with nickel plated underparts.

Please note: fixing tools are not currently available for this press stud.

www.leprevo.co.uk

kanalt (2010-03-06 18:14:54)

This is off topic, but I have a question...nothing I've uploaded to the Flickr group is showing up. I uploaded the photos to my account, they are public, I've added them to the Philofaxy group, the photos on my account say they are in the group pool, but I don't see them there. Why is that, any clues?

TIA

kanalt (2010-03-06 18:21:34)

More info - I can see them when I'm logged in, but not when I'm not. Does this mean that only people who are logged in can see my pictures? How do I change that?

Again, TIA

kanalt (2010-03-06 18:31:36)

Okay - I think I've fixed it - something to do with a privacy setting. Let me know if it didn't work.

Dilaila (2010-03-07 06:02:36)

I bought coloured plastic sheets, book rings and elastics to make my own binder (ala Domino) for archiving purpose. I also made my own notepad since the lines in the Filo notepads are too narrow for my writing.

Gemma Catherine Seymour (2010-03-07 10:05:44)

Nan, Steve:

I'd suggest that the Deskfax B5 size is a more portable option than A4 if one is fond of the older US Government letter size. B5 (about 7" x 10") is also very close to the Monarch personal correspondence size that doesn't get used much nowadays (7.25" x 10.5"), though I myself have a goodly stock of Crane & Co. paper in that size, and envelopes to match. This is not the same thing as what Franklin Covey calls Monarch, which is actually US Letter. The Deskfax binders are just about the size of a US Letter page.

Of course, nice Deskfax binders are hard to come by, but they do turn up on eBay from time to time. I plan on taking very good care of my Deskfax Sandhurst!

Deskfax refills are still available from Filofax, and of course, I'm making them part of the Paige Paigen line.

Schermann (2010-03-07 11:44:49)

Hi There!

So who and where are Filofaxes made these days? Is there a company that does the manufacturing?

j1199986 (2010-03-07 19:31:17)

jetpens.com !!

Schermann (2010-03-08 08:43:28)

Are you saying that Jetpens makes Filofax in Japan perhaps? I did a Google search and found nothing that supports this!

Are you sure???

joffreyca (2010-03-09 16:06:34)

I was planning to get myself either a mini Guildford extra slim or a pocket Guildford extra slim. But both are no longer being offered.

That's too bad. I really like them. I think those Filofaxes are the ones that best fit the description of "a gentleman's little black book".

Penny (2010-03-09 21:02:23)

i've not yet read through all prior comments, but i may have discovered a slimline a5, which is hilarious because my post bolt system on my "attempt to make my own" isn't working (filofaxes **need** rings).

Today, in desperation, and unable to find my slimline personal (if the cat stole it he's in trouble), I bought a cheap non filo 6ring binder to punch my 3x5 cards into so I have something that's more me until i figure it out.

Anyway, I need to get some of my Japanese friends (and may one have good things happen and move to tokyo) to confirm all of this for me, but perhaps [1]this is really what I need!

1. <http://en.item.rakuten.com/maejimu/pilot-pa501-280-bn/>

Schermann (2010-03-10 01:40:47)

I think you just need to buy a Filofax...

<http://i50.tinypic.com/2zi7h1t.jpg>

R (2010-03-10 11:05:43)

@Schermann filofax is made in great britain.

As for looking for A4 binders and such talk to a customer service rep just because it is not on their site doesn't mean they might not have some old stock laying around

R (2010-03-10 11:22:38)

i stand corrected on where Filofaxes are made. They are not made in great britain. They are made all over mostly from the far east.

Schermann (2010-03-11 08:47:50)

Gee thanks R!

Perhaps if you told me which way the bath water spirals down the plug hole, it might have helped more to narrow it down a bit!

What company, NOT continent!

Jeez!

Filofax Amethyst Deco!! (2010-03-10 09:37) - Laurie



[1]

Here is a pic (from the [2]Filofax Facebook page) of the new Filofax Deco in Amethyst coming out later this year!! Wow it's gorgeous!

Please allow me to apologize for cross-posting the same thing on Philofaxy and Plannerisms, but this is something I wanted everyone to see! As you might imagine, I am very excited about it!

Check out some of the other new Filofax products coming out in the background of [3]Filofax _UK on Twitter. (Slimline Deco! Songbirds organizers! Awesome new bags!)

Great new Filofax products coming out!

And don't forget, you still have time to submit your idea for your Perfect Filofax on the Filofax Facebook wall for a chance to win a Filofax!

1. http://photos-h.ak.fbcdn.net/hphotos-ak-snc3/hs375.snc3/24044_356365493356_97875648356_3485525_2425850_n.jpg
2. <http://www.facebook.com/filofax?ref=nf#%21/filofax?ref=nf>
3. http://twitter.com/Filofax_UK

Sarah (2010-03-10 09:55:25)

I absolutely love this filofax! I had a twitter convo with them and asked if there was going to be any purple additions this year.

I want it!

Not due out until end of May though, wonder what else new they have :-)

Ilmars (2010-03-10 10:10:50)

I want classical filofax, get back winchester !!!

Schermann (2010-03-11 08:50:56)

It's awful!

GlowMesh would be nicer!

What were you thinking!

Nellie (2010-10-24 06:28:00)

Just spotted this post. I was thinking about treating myself to a Deco, and was wondering which colour... then I saw this! I want a purple one! I have never seen this colour online or in the shops though, was it ever released?

Thanks!

Laurie (2010-10-24 14:46:15)

Nellie, the Amethyst Deco's release was delayed due to production issues. I've heard from Filofax USA that it will be released next month, so I'm assuming Filofax UK will release it about the same time. I would love to see one of these in person!

Nellie (2010-10-31 10:34:51)

Thanks Laurie,

I was in town yesterday and saw the red deco. It is beautiful. I managed to control myself... just!

A5 Slimlines... (2010-03-10 12:49) - Steve

Spotted on Facebook from Filofax UK this afternoon:

Ok... with everyone chatting about A5 slimlines I feel the need to reveal that there WILL be an A5 slimline in the range thanks to your requests (see, we do listen!!) ... it will come in two colours, scarlet and black and I will hopefully be revealing the pics on here VERY soon.... how does that sound?

Seems they have been listening.... thank you Filofax...

Steve

Laurie (2010-03-10 13:46:07)

I think this will make a lot of us very happy! :D

Steve (2010-03-10 15:54:46)

The personal filofax was the thing of the 80's... slimlines will be the thing of the 2010's

Steve

Laurie (2010-03-11 02:32:55)

This may solve the small page/ big book issue! Big pages in a slim book!! I can see many people using a full size A5 at home and/ or work, and putting only the pages they need to carry around into their slimline.

And yes, I agree with you Steve, I think slimlines (whether as a satellite to a full-size book or as the main book) are the modern choice. They rival electronics in portability, yet have the physical aspect that electronics can't match.

Mappleton (2010-03-14 06:45:28)

Laurie and Steve,

I have seen the new Slimline A5. It's in the Adelphi style leather which I feel is aimed more to the female market. Does anyone from Filofax even read the great ideas from your blog?

Laurie (2010-03-14 12:38:26)

I agree that I don't care for the Adelphi, just not my style. What I REALLY want is a Guildford slimline A5. With that awesome pocket on the inside cover for holding tickets and papers.

Penny (2010-03-17 09:49:50)

my joy shouldn't surprise anyone. hmm.. adelphi you say? classic would be nicer, but i'll just be thankful for a slim a5... hopefully i'll be able to *wait* (and afford one).

Filofax 2010 Catalog now online!! (2010-03-11 08:13) - Laurie

Now you can look at all the fantastic colors and styles of Filofaxes coming out this year! [1]Click on this link to see the new catalog!

I'm pleased to see lots of pretty pinks and purples in the lineup. And it's not all geared toward the ladies, there are some very handsome new Filo styles for men too.

I'm very sad to see that my gorgeous Ivory Deco is no longer in the lineup!! Although I have been assured that it will still be available for awhile. There are some other colors of binders that have been replaced too. So if you've had your eye on a particular Filofax, you might want to hurry up and get it before your color or style of choice is no longer available!

What do you think of the new selections?

1. http://www.clikasp.com/asp/fsi4/fsi.swf?pages_server=http://www.clikasp.com/asp&pages_dir=*SiOfnxRCBLm8Clg/AJWrbT57kiRc8PbJFmNMHJhBjSSRMD2oUtUjhfn3fv15Q38FrHNlJyBe00jE%0ATf22nC4IIImQ2VBap0SqzNQ0JeA5dQqQBA0StGCI%3D&cfg=pages_presets/catalog.fsi&Skin=clikpages&pages_search=0&MouseModes_Mode2=0&pages_skin=clikpages&pagesounds_Library=pagesoundlib_coated.swf&effects=%26quality%3D90%26sharpen%3D25&plugins=resize,PageSounds

Schermann (2010-03-11 09:03:01)

LOOK HERE BLOGGERS!

I need to find out where to GET a new press stud for my 15 year old Canterbury.

(Small S-Spring Press Studs F36 A/A

These are the smallest press studs and are used on purses and Filofax. They are available with 10mm diameter caps. They are made from steel and are available nickel plated, brass plated or black caps with nickel plated underparts.)

-What company makes Filofax?

-How can I contact this manufacturer?

I'm getting rather annoyed at the fact that there are allot of experts here at this blog with an indepth knowledge of the Filofax company BUT to date know one has answered any of my posts seriously...

...and NO I don't want to buy a new Filofax as I'm quite happy with my original purchase.

Can someone PLEASE tell me where Filofaxes are made and the company that makes them.

So I can contact the manufacturer and purchase a new press stud so that I can get my Filofax repaired.

How hard can this BE !

:(

Ilmars (2010-03-11 09:05:21)

I feel disappointed. My Eton is history from now, but I agree than leather is too soft for daily use and Eton isn't best chose. Anyway I use my filo for business and I would like to get some classical (Winchester) model with best leather and gold rings as well :) This model should be expensive and prestige.

Schermann (2010-03-11 09:13:53)

The new line is to say the least courageous!
British designers are the only people who truly understand luxury.
QED
PS: my choice is/was the 'Eton' of course.

Dilaila (2010-03-11 09:50:25)

My pocket Siena is gorgeous. But the width is shorter than my pocket Butterfly and the refills stick out a bit. Would soft leather expand in time?

Dilaila (2010-03-11 09:56:47)

Oooo..i like Malden in red!

YM (2010-03-11 11:33:07)

I was thinking the Malden looks nice too!

J. Mark Bertrand (2010-03-11 13:08:38)

Schermann ... I have no idea who makes the binders for Filofax, but I have replaced press studs on a couple of vintage ones. I brought them to a shoe repair specialist and they sourced the studs and did the work. I'm not sure whether the specific stud you've cited could be sourced this way, but it's worth a try.

As far as the new catalog goes, it's been a long time since Filofax released anything interesting, but there are a couple of new binders I wouldn't mind seeing in person. The Cuban slimline in chestnut might be a good replacement for the fantastic tan Sandhurst slimline my wife took from me. (Although I'm not sure about the interior, as the personal size in the catalog seems to have some kind of fabric interior instead of leather. And I agree that the Malden looks good.

I do wish they'd offer something in bridle leather and make some of the classic designs available again. It's always a little baffling to me how many tan vintage binders I have and how few decent options in that color (in good leather) exist.

Laurie (2010-03-11 13:09:07)

Schermann,
Filofax is made BY Filofax. They are the manufacturer. Filofax binders used to be made in England but now they are made in China.

Have you contacted Filofax to ask where you can get press studs?

You can contact Filofax via their website: www.filofax.com, then use the pull-down menu to select your country.

Savannah (2010-03-12 01:16:45)

Dilaila-

I have an older Siena pocket and the tabs still stick out ever so slightly. I put a mathching pen and pencil in each of the loops so this eliminates the problem.

HP Fuchs (2010-03-12 02:49:25)

80 % of it is for women. Men don't have chioce anymore. Sometimes I'd like to buy a new filofax. But I think I will stay with my good old personal black bridle for many years to come.

Dilaila (2010-03-12 02:57:56)

Savannah,
thanks for the tip! Will certainly try that.

I just realised Filofax US never bothered replying my email from months back.
Does Filofax UK deliver internationally, does anyone know?

Steve (2010-03-12 03:00:24)

Yes they do, check out this page:

<http://www.filofax.co.uk/delivery/>

Buy via the Filofax links on Philofaxy and help to support the site... thanks

JJ (2010-03-12 08:04:10)

HP Fuchs: You're right, the catalog is genuinely very girly. But that's not anything new. Even Franklin-Covey's binders for men seem to be targeted towards executives who have never gotten dirt under their fingernails.

I'd love to see a binder that was targeted for construction works and mechanics. I know Rite-In-The-Rain has a binder, but it's nylon and plastic and it just doesn't 'click' with me.

My dream binder would be something made of water proof duck canvas with leather corner protectors.

And very large rings.

paulien (2010-03-12 09:53:09)

does anyone know when these will be available? I will be visiting London at the end of March and it would be very cool if I could take a look at the new colours and binders there in one of the shops. There are some nice new options, especially the finchley in purple! I have been eyeing the finchley for some time, and this might pull me over.

Paulien

Oni (2010-03-12 16:24:48)

JJ: I love your dream Filo, and I'm a girl. Even for me, some of the designs in the catalogue are too girly... the first one in my wishlist is actually the Bond and then the Eton. I also find the Scanda irresistible, too bad it's only available in the Personal size...

Oni (2010-03-12 16:31:38)

Paulien: I was there a few weeks ago and these are some of the new ones I remember seeing:

-Domino in slate and in lavender (simply gorgeous!)

-the Chameleon

-the black Classic stitched in red

-the Metropol

-the Finsbury in Aqua

-the Finchley in purple

-the Mode in pastel colours

I hope this helps.:)

Dilaila (2010-03-12 19:18:18)

Thanks Steve! Will certainly support Philofaxy on my next purchase. Cheers.

Laurie (2010-03-13 03:17:08)

JJ: I love your idea for a sturdy Filofax that can withstand harsh conditions!! I'm a geologist and I travel often, and a Filofax that could stand up to use like that would be very useful to a lot of people!

PLEASE if you are on Facebook, please post your Filofax idea on Filofax's wall. There is a contest going on right now through the 22nd (date extended thanks to Oni's request!) to submit your designs for your dream Filofax—the prize is a Filofax!

So please submit your design, and maybe this time next year we can all be enjoying an oilcloth and leather Filofax!!! :D

Dilaila (2010-03-13 04:23:32)

Like the Ranger? Wish they would bring that back

jl199986 (2010-03-13 15:07:45)

There's a Ranger on Ebay right now.

Iris (2010-03-14 05:20:05)

Glad I bought an Urban last year, seems it's discontinued - at least in UK, that is. The German catalogue isn't published yet. As for the new ones, I'm very excited about the Metropol in Raspberry.

I had been considering buying an Indie, as well... so I guess I better get one as long as they're still in stock.

Mappleton (2010-03-14 06:35:46)

Schermann: My daughter went to a leather shop in Camden and they put a new press-stud onto my A5. It doesn't look the same as the previous but my papers don't fall out anymore!

paulien: I was in the Neal Street Filofax shop yesterday buying papers (noted 2011 diary refills already available!) and saw an amazing range of organisers. The sales assistant gave me a copy of the new catalogue. She said they were lucky to have some of the new organisers in stock before the launch. She kindly marked the new ones available in the shop.

Adelphi in A5 seems ideal as it has a smaller ring set. The sales assistant put the different papers into the display one so I could see what it would be like. The only thing is I don't like the leather. If it were the Finchley I wouldn't have any reservations.

I felt bad not buying it after the assistant had gone to so much trouble but she was so kind and understanding (even offered to send things out if I couldn't visit) Excellent customer service that I've not experience for some time.

JJ (2010-03-14 12:29:49)

Laurie: Thanks, actually the Sketch (and the Graphic before it) is sort of what I have in mind except they use "man-made" materials.

And while I'm wishing, I'll add one more criteria: it must lay flat.

Schermann (2010-03-14 13:22:03)

Laurie said...

Schermann, Filofax is made BY Filofax. Sorry but they don't! Filofax is a brand marketing company that buys in designs to specification from multiple suppliers. What I'm asking is due you actually know of any such supplier/manufacturer? Because Filofax UK front man Val Abrahams sure ain't got the foggiest!

He didn't return my further request for a supplier 'cause all they're interested is in sales, sales, sales!

That's always going to be a bit of a problem when you make a quality item!

The Eton on the Aussie Filofax website is \$600, who are they kidding!

Dear Mr Schermann

Thank you for your email. I am afraid we do not have a repairs facility to enable me to offer you parts on your Personal Canterbury organiser. As your organiser is 14 years old we will not hold any samples of this line now.

You could try your local leather repairers who maybe able to help with making a strap for you.

Kind regards

Val

Val Abrahams

Sales Administrator, Filofax UK

DL: 01444 238169

T: 01444 238100

E: vabrahams@filofax.co.uk

W: www.filofax.co.uk

Filofax UK 3 Victoria Gardens Burgess Hill West Sussex England RH15 9NB

I fixed my strap with surgical superglue and that will last another decade.

Thank Filofax, luv your old stuff, hate your serve and I cringe at your new BLING designs!

:((

Erin (2010-03-25 13:09:16)

I like the new catalog but prefer their old (classic) stuff.

Den (2010-11-24 09:53:41)

Alas Filofax, I knew you well. Back in the day, with well-crafted leathers made in England, Italy, USA. Now they are made in Chung Kuo, like the rest of the Chinese junk (pun intended) fouling our shores and shelves. I will not buy a new Filofax on principle—the resentment of the blaggards making them comes through in the quality, or lack thereof to be specific. Chronoplan, anyone?

Free For All Friday No. 69 (2010-03-12 14:31) - Steve

Friday is here again... thanks for all your comments last week and during this week. So a starter topic for this week's FFAF...

'Have you discovered a new use for a Filofax that you have previously taken out of service?'

I ask this question because I've recently put my pocket Filofax back in to use as my photography notebook. I have a single page per week diary and I use that to note down locations I've been taking photos at with other background notes, names of buildings etc.

This has proved useful when I get around to putting the photos on line weeks later trying to remember the name of a town or village. The pocket size is ideal for slotting in to my camera bag outer pocket, it was almost made for a pocket Filofax.

But as always the floor is yours to discuss anything Filofax related.

PA3789 (2010-03-12 17:25:18)

OK, off your subject.

I have been in head banging, heart ache over Filo versus FC.

I have personals and A5 Filo's and "structured FCs.

I have finally put my foot down and purchased a Filo Guilford personal zip with 1 3/16" rings.

Came yesterday and I was in love.

Put the 2 pages per week in and a ton of other paper, WOW! It can hold a lot. New program of writing my appointments in the diary and adding a single color page per week for notes in between the 2 pages. This will work!!! (at least I keep telling myself that)

To do pages, financial, address pages and tabs all over the place. I even put my business cards and credit cards in it! This will be my carry "everywhere" business and personal "filo". I carry a FC Monarch pad folio anyhow in my briefcase for lonf notes at meetings. YM was my inspiration (I think I love her!)just kidding, I don't want to scare anyone.

We are so much alike it's hard to believe.

Anyway, wish me luck and any suggestions are appreciated!!

Your friend,

Greg

Ally (2010-03-13 09:30:17)

I just bought a FC Friday binder Monarch size for work. I have other FC binders of different sizes, but they are either too heavy or without handles. It is big yet light and I think I am going to like it. I also bought a red FF personal Graphic. I was thinking about using the FF as a wallet—but I am not sure how that is going to work out. I use a simple wire bound monthly calendar at my desk to schedule appointments and list tasks and then enter them into Outlook. I can print out pages from Outlook for the FC binder. I am not sure how writing things a third time in the FF will be a good use of time. But I do like the red! With Outlook you can also use the "journal" function to log emails and connect tasks and deliverables to a particular date. This can also be printed and put in a binder. I dreaming about an Eton and hoping it might solve my issues!

gmax (2010-03-13 15:21:20)

Couldn't resist this [1]clipboard when I saw it today. It's the perfect size for personal leaves.
One way to avoid the problem of the Filofax rings getting in the way when writing.

1. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/30775101@N04/4429476871/>

Ally (2010-03-13 21:23:10)

Wonder what "Spiral Staircase" is up to these days?

Laurie (2010-03-14 12:26:19)

gmax I love that little clipboard!!!

I recently promoted my personal Deco from reference book to full-on planner-and-everything book. I had a difficult day where I happened to bring my Filo with me (anticipating needing it) and it performed stellarly. I now realize that I have to use it as my planner. If you are interested in how I have my tabbed sections set up you can read about it in What I'm Currently Using in the sidebar on Plannerisms.com.

I swear there is something about using a Filofax that regulates my brainwaves! It's very calming to have everything I need handily sorted in one book.

Schermann (2010-03-14 13:47:33)

The calming thing about my Filo is that it is **ANALOG!**

It doesn't CRASH or require me to spend 3 months on Google trying to find the fix so that I can get at my files like **DIGITAL** PDA's do when you really need them!

Yes ANALOG, before technology came and swept away all the pleasures of classic design.

Records still sound better than CDs...

Schermann (2010-03-14 13:58:20)

Only ever had one Filofax ever! It's sort of like that with everything I buy. I hope to only have to buy it ONCE!

(I did buy an Eton but it's still in it's box in the drawer just in case...)

Classic designs never go out of style and quality never goes out with the trash!

Out of all of the designs Filofax has promoted only two caught my eye. The personal Canterbury and the personal Eton. I can't wait for the third if it ever comes out.

JJ (2010-03-14 21:08:08)

gmax: the clipboard is super-cool.

Now I have to find one in the US.

Or make one.

Dilaila (2010-03-15 07:43:47)

I have a question. Does the Kendal Pocket have the full width pocket like other pocket filo? Thanks.

deliteful_dee (2010-03-15 09:46:01)

Hi Dilaila!

The Pocket Kendal doesn't have the wallet style pocket.

Julia (2010-03-15 10:05:51)

I've got a Filofax Tropic (Pocket, Mahagony) and it is as new. I'd like to buy the Filofax Cuban Zip (in Personal, in red).

Question: Do anyone have experience with the "zip-Filofax"? Is it good to handle?

Ensure that the Cuban Zip can "come", the Tropic must go. Is there anyone who's interest? I come from Germany and could send it in Germany.

Maybe write an email for photos etc.: Jule407@gmx.de or a DM on twitter @Juli407

Dilaila (2010-03-15 10:16:05)

Thanks Deliteful Dee :) You've just saved me some money!

Julia,

I have the Finbury A5 zipped. It's slightly wider than the unzipped.
The good thing is you can just dump anything in it (even a cell phone) and just zip the binder. There's also an outside vertical pocket where you can put things in without having to unzip first.

Julia (2010-03-15 10:50:12)

Dilaila, thanks for your answer.

I don't know, if the Personal-Size and this Filofax is good for me. But there is no shop in my "neighbourhood". The next is -with a very very small selection of the cheaper Filofax- 150km.

But the Pocket is a bit too small for me. Is then Personal the right size?

Is it a good handling with the zip? Or "clamp" it sometimes?

Julia (2010-03-15 13:31:17)

Oh there's another question I've got:

Do you make your own notepaper for your filofax? And how do you do it?

Are there some good templates that you can advise? Especial for Personal?

What equipment do you use to write in your Filofax? Do you have a pen? Or do you have a certain fountain pen? Or you take always what you just come into the hand?

It uses the "original pens" by Filofax?

Do someone understand my english?

Estelle (2010-03-15 16:51:03)

Julia,

do you remember the personal size from when you were in the shop? You can also find the measurements online <http://www.filofax.de/sizeguide> tells you the paper size, not the size of the binder though.

Zipped organisers will always be a bit bigger than those without zip in the same paper size. Yes there is more place to write in the personal but bear in mind that it's also more to carry.

If you order online you can send it back if you really don't like it; you'll have lost the postage costs though. If you order from the UK you'll save some because the Pound is low against the Euro.

At <http://www.diyplanner.com/node/6210> you can download a little program that lets you create diary pages in whatever size and lets you specify an inside margin to allow for punching holes. You can print it and cut it out and punch it if you want to go through the trouble and have a hole punch.

For blank paper you can just trace along the lines of the transparent flyleaf. For personal size blank paper I may also just cut an A4 sheet in 3 parts and chop off a bit from the top of the pages if I'm lazy. That makes it just marginally wider than real personal size (4 mm per page) but I can live with that.

I write with a simple pencil because I can erase it.

Dilaila (2010-03-15 19:57:57)

Julia,

The zip on mine doesn't clamp. Are you going to carry it around? If it's on your desk most of the time, then you won't have to zip/unzip all the time. I use blue ink mostly.

With the A5, you can just print out stuff on A4, punch the holes, fold it in two and shove it in the binder.

I do make my own pages for my pocket filo though using all sorts of materials / colours. I do my own top tabs with coloured plastic sheets. I play with my pocket filofax a lot. lol.

Dilaila (2010-03-15 20:00:26)

Another question. Anyone used Belgravia and Baroque? Any thoughts?

deliteful_dee (2010-03-15 20:27:56)

Dilaila: Belgravia a soft black leather and leather lined, with Baroque also being a soft leather but has an embossed lining.

The Baroque has been made in three colours. Both open and sort of stay open without resistance (unlike the Cuban or Classic) Neither are made anymore.

Why are you interested in these organisers?

Dilaila (2010-03-15 20:41:34)

Delightful _Dee,

Thanks! I'm on the quest for the perfect binder. (Aren't we all?). My Butterfly: Good hardworking leather but too hard for the zipped section to be of much use.

My Siena: Gorgeous and soft but a bit wimpy for daily use.

So I'm looking for something in between I suppose. I thought Belgravia sound good ie soft but not wimpy. Would Baroque be wimpy do you think?

deliteful_dee (2010-03-15 21:00:30)

Dilaila:

What do you use the zip-pocket for? Malden is a soft leather which has a user friendly pocket if you want your organiser to house everything. Lay-out quite similar to the Baroque. Also depends on what colour you want.

I've just added "Filofax Joy" to my Flickr groups. This weekend I found all these great sites and bloggs of people who understand and adore Filofax as much as I do. It's wonderful :-D

Dilaila (2010-03-15 21:18:05)

Deliteful _Dee:

My pocket butterfly is my main planner. I'm still hoping to be able to use is as a wallet also. But the zipped section is much too stiff and doesn't expand so extracting coins is almost impossible.

Is the Malden selling already? Where? I have my eyes on that one also. But thought it's not available yet.

deliteful_dee (2010-03-15 21:46:07)

Malden's not been launched yet but a few "exclusives" have appeared in the two London Filofax shops...

Julia (2010-03-16 18:32:23)

Thanks a lot for your answers!

I like writing with fountain pens and I've ordered one for my new filofax ;) I like black ink. I don't know why, but I love writing with a good fountain pen and black ink.

Another question:

Do you "only" use filofax as a organizer? Or do you have transformed it as a * I don't know * ?

Are there also other ways to talk with Filofax-Users except this blog here? I mean maybe a Forum or something like that.

Steve (2010-03-16 18:37:06)

Hi Julia

There is a Google Group:

<http://groups.google.com/group/philofaxy/>

and also a Yahoogroup:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/filofax/>

There isn't a forum as such... yet, but I wouldn't rule out setting one up if there was enough demand for it. I've got the experience of running quite large forums. I'm a moderator over on Total France which has over 200,000 users, and about 3000 posts per week.. and a team of about 8 moderators..

Steve

Julia (2010-03-16 18:49:00)

Thanks for your answer, Steve.

I've only asked because "google said nothing" about a forum and there is for nearly everthing a Forum, so I thought that I've got tomato on my eyes ;)

Laurie (2010-03-17 06:15:05)

Hi Julia,

On Flickr.com there are several Filofax groups where people post photos of their Filofaxes, and there are also discussion boards. Some of the more popular Filofax groups on Flickr are Philofaxy, Filofax Joy, and For the Love of Filofax. If you search for those under Groups while on Flickr, you can see what other people have to say about their Filofaxes and see

photos too! :D

Julia (2010-03-17 07:14:25)

Thanks, Laurie.

I'm searching for it yet ;)

Julia (2010-03-18 02:48:50)

My new Filofax is today in the delivery:) But still I'm waiting on a fountain pen with which I will write in the Filofax. Hopefully it would be coming soon, tomorrow would be great. Then I could get everything on the weekend.

20% off Filofax Organisers at Filofax USA (2010-03-16 15:47) - Steve

A special promotion announced this afternoon by [1]Filofax USA get 20 % off select organisers if you order before 28th March 2010, by using the Promo code **MARCH** at the check out.

This might be the final chance to buy certain models/colours before the new selection of organisers are launched.

Don't wait... order today... at [2]Filofax USA

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1. <http://www.filofaxusa.com/store/page.asp?id=103>

2. <http://www.filofaxusa.com/store/page.asp?id=103>

Dilaila (2010-03-17 00:26:49)

Bummer. I just bought a Baroque and a Belgravia from ebay. Btw, I found out that Filo German are still selling the discontinued Filos.

PA3789 (2010-03-17 17:59:24)

Filo needs to discount at 40 %.

I am days into my new Guilford personal and ready to jump! First of all and I won't repost old issues but the paper quality in a Filo is pitiful. I use a fountain pen and bleed through as well as the holes by the mechanism tearing is endless. Then there is the calendar, which is just a small amount of paper printed back to back so you can't put tabs between months. Maybe in other countries this is standrd but I can't get FC out of my head. Better (much better) paper quality, calendar pages made so monthly tabs fit in between. Larger blocks on the calendar pages to write in.

In my mind the only thing that Filo has going is a better quality binder and the name that carries with it. I have tried, really I have and have the receipts to prove it. Filo (in my opinion) would be weel worth the effort if they spent a little money on a better paper as well as spent a little paper on their calendars.

They want the people that make organizing a way of life but have little to offer to get us to convert. I don't know how to get this acrossed to them and I'm sure I'm not the only one but if changes aren't made, most of us won't convert to something that looks great but has little organization to offer. Great looking binder, poor quality inside.

deliteful_dee (2010-03-17 18:59:36)

Fear not gregorym for Filofax do have a paper which allows the use of fountain pen & "wet" ink writing equipment such as rollerball pens.... try the Cotton Cream paper (also available in diary pages too) I hope that helps.

simongoetz (2010-03-17 20:18:13)

I've just tried the "MARCH" promo code while attempting to order a Finsbury Slimline, but it's not working. Did anyone else use this code? Did it work?

JJ (2010-03-17 21:10:42)

The mailing I got said it was for 'Select' binders, not 'All' binders.

Steve (2010-03-18 02:22:45)

The link goes to a 'sale' page, which infact shows 30 % off, but I've not checked the math to see if it is 20 or 30 % off, it might be 'up to' 30 % off.

The link is the one that I was sent.

Steve

Dilaila (2010-03-18 03:34:10)

I use refills from Collins and some other non-branded organisers. Although I use Filofax's calendars in cotton cream. It's much too nice to write on though

Laurie (2010-03-18 03:59:58)

gregorym I have to agree with you, I have been frustrated for years with the Filofax diary inserts. I've never found one that works well for me. I'm still waiting for my Franklin Covey weekly inserts to arrive, but I'm hoping they will be the solution. The week with the days as columns and notes on the backsides of the pages will allow me to keep my weekly to-dos with my week and not behind some tab someplace else. And as you noted, monthly tabs can go between the weeks. I'm also planning to put my monthly goals in with the months—something I can't do with the Filofax monthly pages since the calendars are printed back to back.

I love the Filofax binders and the flexibility of a ring-bound system. But the diary inserts have always been the weak spot, and when I abandon my Filofax it's always because I need a more effective planner/ diary.

Here's hoping the FC inserts will be the solution for me! And, I'll still hope that Filofax will come out with something similar in the future. I like Filofax's style much better than FC, but FC is much more functional.

JJ (2010-03-18 07:32:07)

I'll agree that FC does have very nice paper. But one of the things I love most about Filofax is that they are not FC.

It's off-topic and out of scope, but I have serious issues with Mr. Covey, FC and the entire State of Utah.

I spend my money elsewhere whenever possible.

Ally (2010-03-18 15:07:09)

I think that I am in heaven, my Eton just arrived!

Dilaila (2010-03-19 00:40:48)

I have never even heard of FC before I found this blog! I think I'll stay ignorant though.

Erin (2010-03-25 14:04:17)

Does anyone have an A5 in Camel they would like to sell or trade? Can't find it anywhere!

Laurie (2010-03-25 15:14:51)

Erin, welcome to your newest addiction, aka Philofaxy!

Free For All Friday No. 70 (2010-03-19 00:06) - Laurie

Tomorrow is the vernal equinox, when day and night are each 12 hours long. Spring is well on the way here, what about where you are?

And as always, feel free to talk about anything and everything Filofax!

Julia (2010-03-19 04:15:26)

My Cuban Zip Filofax in size "personal" arrived yesterday. He is sooooo beautiful.

Sorry, but I just had to write again;)

JJ (2010-03-19 06:31:58)

Just won a Duo pocket on Ebay. One of those purchases where I just bid the minimum and got lucky.

Nice minimalist binder, just a ring mechanism attached to a sheet of rubber that folds over as the cover. A Moleskine-style elastic acts as the closure.

Nickie @ Typecast (2010-03-19 22:09:36)

I am just glad that we are on our way to "summer" - we've had an inkling of Spring and it's encouraged me in a strange sort of way...

PA3789 (2010-03-20 08:13:53)

I have a question?

How many men carry a Filofax?

If you go to the Filo USA website, what's the first advertisement you see? Two women, right?

The cartoon like picture is of two women walking together. Does that mean Filo is more geared toward women than men? Is that why more women than men lean toward Filo and FC sells to more men. I looking for answers from my friends please.

Dasha (2010-03-20 19:32:34)

I have a question, too. What do you guys do with your outdated filofax calendars and papers that you know you are NEVER actually going to use? I recycled some recently and felt really guilty... those little papers are expensive! But I don't know anyone else who uses a filofax...

Julia (2010-03-21 09:41:05)

We have already noted that there are almost no opportunities to interact in German about the great Filofax.

Now I am thinking seriously considering to open a German Filofax blog (OK, I've already decided to do so:)). But I still lack a "Blog Name". It should be relatively short, because it indeed appears in the web address. Whether it is German or English, does not matter.

I've written with Steve already on Twitter, but the perfect idea don't came to us yet.

Do you have suggestions?

I have itching fingers to write, but first I need to hold a name.

I thank Steve and you very much in advance!

Julia (2010-03-22 18:17:32)

forgot to give here the information that we have found a name: Filomaniac is:) The blog already opened:)

Do men carry Filofax organisers any more? (2010-03-20 09:04) - Steve

GregoryM added an interesting comment in this weeks FFAF comments, I thought it worth expanding the question in to a post so it can be discussed more widely..

GregoryM said:

I have a question? How many men carry a Filofax? If you go to the Filo USA website, what's the first advertisement you see? Two women, right?

The cartoon like picture is of two women walking together. Does that mean Filo is more geared toward women than men? Is that why more women than men lean toward Filo and FC sells to more men. I looking for answers from my friends please.

You raise some interesting questions! It won't have escaped you that I'm in the minority when it comes to the contributors! Not that it bothers me.... and I suspect it doesn't concern Nan and Laurie either. I think it's recognised that the Filofax was a very male product back in the 1980's, then we got all these electronic PDA's that came along, and I suspect most men went over to those... me included.

Another well know statistic that 'generally' women do not like IT as much as men do... so I suspect they stuck with their Filofax paper organisers and they have been quietly going about their business using paper..

Someone at Filofax HQ noticed the demographics of their sales figures and decided to change their product focus and they have shifted it/targeted it more at the female market... May be we should ask Filofax UK or US ourselves. Naturally I've made some very sweeping and generalised statements and I'm potentially tiptoeing through a mine-field here!

It would be an interesting topic for a Philofaxy Poll, we could keep it simple are you male or female, or do you think we should be more specific?

JJ (2010-03-20 09:45:43)

I carry one and I'm a dude. I'm almost a Good Ol' Boy and a Bubba, even.

I'd be interested not only in gender, but age group and is your Filo your ONLY solution for dates, contacts, tasks, projects and "whatever".

As to gender and the competition, FC's catalog leans pretty heavily towards a feminine market also. I suspect someone thinks that it's easier to win women back to paper and away from digital solutions.

I love gadgets myself, but I've yet to find one that does a better job with grocery lists than a slip of paper or 3x5 card.

Dilaila (2010-03-20 09:55:40)

I know a guy who loves Filos as much as I do. In fact, it was him who inspired me to go back to Filo after years of Palm.

I agree with JJ re: grocery lists (and to do lists). It's no fun to tick items off and see it disappear from the screen.

The only thing I miss from my Palm days is the Splashmoney apps cause it deducts expenses automatically and integrate the different accounts.

plaiditude (2010-03-20 10:27:56)

I'm not afraid to carry, I do feel a bit self conscious when carrying a large A5 however.

I haven't yet made the jump to Filofax, but I've been carrying a Time/Design for a couple of years - flipping between A5 and Compact, sometimes every few days :(

The A5 Time/Design (<http://www.timesystem.us/PhotoGallery.asp?ProductCode=A580XX>) is huge, and the compact I use is smaller than the Filofax personal, and only has 3/4" rings.

I am seriously looking at a Filofax personal as I think it may bridge the size gap a little - bigger ring options and a wider page.

Does anyone here have a Scanda? (<http://www.filofaxusa.com/store/organiserdetails.asp?display=&sizeId=3&rangeId=135&dsizeId=3>) How do you like it? It has 0.9" rings which I hope will be big enough to feel like I can actually add something - I wish some of the open binders had 1" or larger rings.

I think other than the Eton (too expensive), the Scanda has the largest rings in an open binder. Several of the zipper binders have larger rings. I've always preferred the zipper Time/Design binders but the open Filofax binders look so nice!

Another thing I like about Filofax is that it looks like the USA store will ship to Canada without shipping (at least when making a binder purchase) In the last couple of years I've paid an awful lot of shipping. I could have used that money for another binder! :)

pilgrim (2010-03-20 12:13:43)

I've used a Filo for almost 17 years and I'm a male (or so the wife says).

Perhaps the distinction in the poll (if there is one) would be how many 'newbie' Filofax users, or whether most of the male users have used for a while and how many have taken to using in say the last 5 years-that would give an idea of audience.

PS I also have a Psion 5mx & a Blackberry, but the Filo is the master to them both

Gemma Catherine Seymour (2010-03-20 12:38:26)

I think that although Filofax has clearly been marketing more lately to the feminine, overall, their product line is really still more heavily masculine, especially in the A5 size which I prefer.

I'd really like to see them make more of a effort to provide more feminine A5 binders. Sure, black can be used by anyone, is will always be the most important color in my wardrobe, but it's really nice to have other options, like the NOS Classic Handbag is Pistachio I picked up from eBay. Since I was out of the Filofax market for several years until relatively recently,

I completely missed the fact that the Cross/Classic line used to come in colors like Pistachio, Lilac, and French Navy. Even lines like Finchley, which has seen Mustard, Vintage Rose, and Soft Jade, not to mention the gorgeous handbags and briefcases, seem to have these colors falling by the wayside.

The majority of more feminine options are relegated to smaller sizes and seem to be weighted more toward the more inexpensive series. It looks to me like most of the more expensive items in feminine colors are probably older stock that won't be replenished once they finally sell out.

And what of the binder designs, themselves? What ever happened to Soho, Portobello, Pimlico, and Piazza? These were some of the most beautiful designs of the past decade that ought to be brought back!

Filofax may market to women, but their product line is mostly gender neutral to masculine.

Gemma Catherine Seymour (2010-03-20 12:55:57)

Of the possibilities that could be made out of the current lines, I would *really* fancy an A5 Slimline Amazona in Almond...

PA3789 (2010-03-20 14:47:07)

I'd like to add to my own question.

I have only been a "semi" Filo user for less than a year. I have switched back from Filo to FC more times than I want to admit. It's not just the brand as much as it is the size. Although Filo and FC both come in numerous sizes, in my area (Pennsylvania) I don't see Filo at all. (unless they are hiding it). Everyone in my field that uses a planner uses FC (either classic or monarch). Even my company will pay for any FC product I may need. But I am an avid reader of magazines and Filo style and Louis V are common planners in pictures in those mags of men. Especially Esquire and GQ.

I do like to be different and have read many times on this blog about people that want to do it "their" way rather than follow Covey or someone else. I like that but am definitely an outcast in my living area. Presentation is a big part in my line of work and having a good looking planner in your hand says you're organized and ready for the day. Or does it? So my final (yeah right) or next question is do you use a planner for organization and presentation? Do you as a man (sorry ladies) carry a personal because it fits in your briefcase or do you carry an A5 or classic because you spent a ton of money on it and it gives you confidence as well as keep you organized. If you use a personal and do a lot of writing notes during the day, how do you cope with the smaller size?

These questions could go on for ever, sorry if that's not what you want in the blog.

Greg

JJ (2010-03-20 19:00:37)

Plaiditude: I know what you mean. I've never has an A5, but I've used plenty of FC Classics (and 3 hole 8.5 x 5.5 generics). It's close to the perfect paper size for writing, but it not an ideal binder size. It doesn't fit easily in a backpack and when I carry the binder in public I feel like I am toting around a pulpit sized Bible.

Lyon (2010-03-20 21:31:05)

As far as Filofax's marketing campaigns - "You can't attract bees with vinegar". That said, I'll continue using and carrying my Filofax until it's no longer cool to be seen with one for a guy like me. And I hope that that day never comes!

plaiditude (2010-03-21 16:16:31)

I DID IT I DID IT I DID IT!!!

I just placed an order for a black Scanda! Of course, I will be in trouble when it arrives (I will hear: "Don't you already have _enough_ binders?!")

I am soooo excited to join the Filofax fold (Time/Design was really great and has lots of great stuff, but it costs so much to ship, and Filofax has so much more choice in binders!)

Ok, I admit it ... the real reason I ordered a Filofax was because of all of YOU. It's YOUR fault! :)

Now I want to know - anyone else here have a Scanda that can tell me more about it? Does it lay flat? Does it stay closed without a snap? Can you put enough in it? The rings are only a few millimeters bigger than what I have (my TD compact is 3/4", this one seems to be 7/8"). I'm a bit worried that I'll be disappointed in the ring size - I'd love 1". I will also make the attempt to live with the week per two pages. I've always had a page per day or two pages per day.

Ok, now I'm too excited to have my Sunday afternoon nap!

PA3789 (2010-03-21 19:07:57)

Notice on the Filofax USA website front page, a small block on the right side advertises the "family organizer refills" and who or what gender is leading this pretend family, a woman of course. And you want me to believe that Filofax leans toward a male dominated world? Who are you guys kidding, only yourself I'm sure. By the way it's background is a "pretty purple"! Also the FC website listing under binders for men lists 20 binders specifically for men. They list 24 specifically for women. Some cross over for both genders. How many binder covers does Filo list specifically for the male gender? This is exactly why I struggle with Filo and their lack luster way of producing binders and especially refills that actually work for you.(the male part of this blog) I can buy a "noteboook" with a nice leather cover anywhere. What I need is something that looks expensive, acts the way a "planner" should, and makes me proud to carry it. Especially if I want a size other than a personal to shove in my briefcase. I'm not trying to belittle anyone, I'm just trying to have a structured conversation with you guys and ladies so I can understand what would be best for my situation.

Thanks for all your help ahead of time!

Greg

Laurie (2010-03-22 09:10:21)

Hi Greg,

Excellent point about the Family Organizer being directed to women. I own it, and the fonts and blue background on the pages are quite feminine.

1) Yes I'm a woman and a mother, but I am definitely not girly. I have an issue with so many "Mom planners" being too childish-looking. The Filofax one doesn't veer into childish, but I definitely don't see a man using it.

2) Which brings me to: in the US at least (I can't speak for other countries/ cultures) there's the stereotype of the mom being the one in charge of the family organizing, specifically of kids' activities and needs. But, I know plenty of single fathers who could use some organizational assistance with planning out the family's activities. How are the dads supposed to keep track of everybody? (Maybe they use their Blackberry?? Just to continue the stereotypes theme!)

Gemma Catherine Seymour (2010-03-22 12:27:55)

I disagree that the overall look of the Filofax Family Organizer Pack is feminine. I'm not that fond of it, but a blue-tinted background and a modern sans-serif font doesn't make it feminine. That said, Filofax certainly designed the Family Organizer Pack with mothers as their target. The mere fact that you can see "Mum's Mobile Number" listed before "Dad's Mobile Number" in the promo pictures, and the illustration of the woman larger than the man, and leading the entire family on the packaging, is going to turn off a lot of men who might very well in our modern society and economic downturn be the primary homemaker/caregiver.

Now, the MomAgenda company at least has the sense to make a MyAgenda product that is similar, but more gender-neutral than their namesake product, which I find childish in design and ill-befitting an accomplished professional like myself, but the MyAgenda is not available as a loose-leaf system.

Which, of course, is why when I designed a similar multi-person planning set for the Paige Paigen line, I very carefully left off any mention of gender or familial role.

It is also in my mind that this sort of multi-person diary is highly suitable not only for families, but for managing smaller work teams. It baffles me that the existing planner companies haven't seemed to pick up on this.

shepcraig (2010-03-24 17:50:35)

Filofax is swaying more towards the female market now because that is where the sales are. In our store we carry the full range of filofax and our sales are 70 % female and 30 % male. So that's why they are now focussing more in that direction.

Schermann (2010-03-27 13:02:53)

Mine is either on the desk (flat) or in the brief case. I never carry it...

Weekly To Do List (2010-03-20 09:12) - Steve

As I'm off for a few days in France later this week, I was sitting with my coffee trying to work out what I needed to do before we go, an idea came to me that I didn't just need a To Do list, but a To Do list for each day almost. So I created one... I also used it to learn how to use Pages on my Mac.

Saturday		☐
		☐
		☐
Sunday		☐
		☐
		☐
Monday		☐
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		☐
Tuesday		☐
		☐
		☐
Wednesday		☐
		☐
		☐
Thursday		☐
		☐
		☐
Friday		☐
		☐
		☐

[1]

The [2]file should print ok in landscape A4 which you can 'z fold' for A5 or resize it to suit. Hopefully it will help me get away on time and not forget anything!

1. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/weeklytodo.jpg>
2. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/WeeklyToDo.pdf>

Dilaila (2010-03-20 09:50:07)
Nice one!

Steve (2010-03-22 15:05:03)
Well I've been using this since I posted the article and it really is making my trip away planning a lot less stressful and I'm less likely to forget to do things. Wonderful!

Klaus-Otto (2010-03-23 18:02:43)
Here is another one...
I also carry an A5 Filo and I use an iPhone. To be honest, I would switch over to a smartphone completely if their speed of use ever matches my speed of thinking. For all purposes apart from contacts my filo is just that much quicker. And of course making telephone calls with my filo doesn't work really well...

Filofax and iPods (2010-03-20 09:24) - Steve

Could this be the ultimate combination... a Filofax that has an iPod built in or has a 'holder' for an iPod. I use my iPod virtually every day about as much as I use my Filofax I suppose, I don't use my iPod for contacts and calendars although I know it has that capability. But I wonder is there a 'holder' that can take say an iPod nano or iPod Touch that could clip in to a Filofax organiser?

This idea was prompted by this article on Cnet from 2006:

[1]Why has Apple turned the iPod into a Filofax?

So do you use both?

1. <http://crave.cnet.co.uk/digitalmusic/0,39029432,49255819,00.htm>

Dasha (2010-03-20 09:45:55)

I have an iPhone. I use it for my contacts because I am young and my friends' addresses and phone numbers change often. This way my contacts are also backed up on my mac. For everything else, I use my filo.

Dilaila (2010-03-20 09:49:40)

My ipod nano stays in the car, connected to the car stereo. Only the filo goes everywhere with me. I would love to have a Filo that can fit in a mobile phone. I tried the full width pocket on the Siena. It can fit in my phone but I feel daft carrying it that way.

Gemma Catherine Seymour (2010-03-20 12:18:23)

I also have an iPhone (and an iPod 4G, iPod nano 1G, and an iPod shuffle 1G).

The one thing that the iPhone does that paper simply cannot do is communicate. As I also have an aversion to re-writing contact pages and/or crossing out contact info, all of my contacts reside in my iPhone, where they can be used to send emails, SMSs, or make phone calls with a single touch, and be updated without mess.

I'm also a technology consultant, so multiple computers are a daily part of my existence. All of this contact information is synced via iTunes to my Mac OS X Address Book, which is available to my email client (Thunderbird), which is synced to my GMail contact database via the Zindus plug-in for Thunderbird.

Appointments, however, as I've written before, tend to be kept in my Filofax, since I rarely if ever have more than one or two items per day. That said, I do occasionally make calendar entries on my computers using the Lightning plug-in for Thunderbird, which also gets synced to Google Calendar, and is thus available on my iPhone via CalDAV.

One day, Google will get around to documenting the Tasks part of Google Calendar, and Mozilla will add support for task syncing to Google Calendar. Still, I use my Filofax for Tasks, anyway, so I'm not too worried about this.

These days, I'm using Thunderbird and Lightning rather than iCal and Mail.app, because I've recently acquired an hp Mini netbook, on which I run Linux, and I find it helpful to keep a consistent interface across all platforms (Mac OS X, Linux, Windows). I've also settled on Google's GMail and Calendar mainly because I find it bothersome these days to maintain my own private servers.

I'm an independent consultant, but if I had to work in conjunction with others in more of a team environment where scheduling is a bigger part of my planning needs rather than simple calendaring, I'd probably drop all C & S functions from my Filofax, as well.

That would free up even more space in my Filofax for it's most important usage for me, as a journal and notebook. The other important usage of my Filofax is as an organizer for my stamps, checkbook, and any other business supplies that involve paper or other physical objects of that sort.

Dilaila (2010-03-20 12:45:16)

I use my phone for contacts, birthdays, gmail & reading blogs when I'm on the move. That's about it really. Oh, and for making calls and text messages, obviously. I don't even use the camera.

Nicola (2010-03-20 19:40:33)

I have an iPod touch and an iPhone (until today as I have sent it for recycling and some spare cash) which I use for my music and internet.

The filo has everything else, diary, contacts, appointments everything. I couldn't do without it, whereas my iPod I can take or leave.

Communication wise I have a BlackBerry which I love to death but won't use as a diary.

Laurie (2010-03-22 02:59:44)

I've seen several (non-Filofax) brands of binders/ folios (Most notably Rickshaw Bagworks' Moleskine folio) that have a pocket especially for your smartphone. I think it's a great idea because many people use both.

YM (2010-03-22 13:14:49)

I too use my iPhone and planner in conjunction. I used to painstakingly copy contact information over and over, and while it was a cool ritual, when the info changed too much it just became bothersome. So I keep my contacts in my phone and everything else in my planner.

I have seen other brands that incorporate a smartphone pocket or velcro attachment, but would LOVE to see Filofax come out with one!

Come on...you know I'd buy it ;)

Two new polls for you to take part in. (2010-03-20 14:49) - Steve

Please vote in the two polls in the side bar. I will publish the results at the close of the polls in a couple of weeks time.

I've thought of another poll to be run in a few weeks time 'How long have you been a Filofax user' but I don't want to overload you with lots of polls at the same time.

Thank you for taking part.

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Laurie (2010-03-20 15:36:26)

I'll be curious to see the results of this!

Nickie @ Typecast (2010-03-20 16:00:51)

I like the "change your answer" option for the male/female poll :)

Dilaila (2010-03-20 21:00:08)

This is unrelated but they are already selling the Malden on Filo Netherlands. Brown and black.

Dilaila (2010-03-23 03:03:38)

Does anyone know if Kate Spade pocket planner can take Filo refills? It has six rings also.

Free For All Friday No. 71 (2010-03-26 00:01) - Steve

Well it's almost Easter, time for a break and for us to enjoy Spring or Autumn, depending where you are of course... So do you ever look back in your diary/journal from last year or further back to see what you were doing this time last year/that year?

This time last year Easter had happened, but I was still in France on holiday. We have a house over there and by the time you get to read this I will be there again.. so this is being written before we depart! I shall be busy doing odd jobs, tidying up the garden.

My Filofax travels with me of course, it is essential in helping me on my trips to France. I use it to note things to order or take back to UK with me. As well as for making notes for updates to the three websites I maintain over there.

So let's hear from what you are up to and as always thank you all for your comments and suggestions, the volume of them has been fantastic of late, keep up the excellent contributions. Thanks also for all your votes, very encouraging.

A beintôt

Steve

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HolyBoyRoad (2010-03-26 00:07:32)

Does anyone know if/when the newest filofaxes (especially the slate and lavender dominos) will be available in the States? I'm trying to decide whether to place a UK order.

Thanks.

PA3789 (2010-03-26 06:24:09)

I think you may have already discussed this in a previous post but I wanted to make it gender specific.

I just ordered a "Korchmar" hardsided briefcase for work. Expensive but worth it since I have so many dollars tied up in Filos. What do you carry your Filo or planner in?

plaiditude (2010-03-26 08:19:19)

I'm anxiously awaiting my first filofax - a Scanda. I ordered it on Sunday, March 21, and on Monday I got an email saying they would let me know when it was in stock. I'm in Canada so I guess I'll have to be patient for my filofax, I looked around on their site and they say 12 - 24 business days to ship Canadian orders.

Does anyone have a **Scanda**? How do you like it? Does it lay flat when opened? Does the belt like closure work well to keep it closed? It looks as if it could slide open quite easily.

Anyway - I'm excited to join the filofax ranks, though I'm a little sad to leave Time/Design. They have great products too, that I've enjoyed for the last 3 years. I mainly wanted more room than the Time/Design Compact allowed, and some nicer binder design choices. The Filofax personal pages are about half an inch wider than the T/D ones, and the rings are a bit bigger to hold more paper. And the binder designs ...! Lots of choice. It also helps that shipping to Canada is cheap!

Erin (2010-03-26 10:53:39)

Steve-Yes, I look back on past years as I'm starting to save all of my past Filofax pages so I can look back. I've also started using stickers for holidays (such as Easter coming up) because the pages are kind of plain, the holiday stickers add a nice flair. Happy Friday everyone!

Mappleton (2010-03-26 17:55:08)

Plaiditude... Scanda does open flat and the leather feels great. It's the one I'm looking at but can't justify it (though may suggest the children buy it for me for Father's Day) The Malden stays open and that's a new leather.

My eye's also been on the Kendal. The organiser doesn't stay flat but the waxy leather is so lovely. I bought one for my wife about a year and a half ago and the leather's changed colour with a better feel to it.

Arnold (2010-03-29 18:23:52)

I have the Scanda (black) and can confirm the 'belt' does the job keeping it closed.

Have to use my one hand to keep the belt out of the way when writing on the rightside. It is only a few months old so this may change.

plaiditude (2010-03-31 08:54:00)

Arnold,

Sounds great. Any chance you could post some pics of your Scanda on flickr or somewhere? I think the Scanda is fairly new, I can't find any pics of it other than the couple on the filofax website. Is it possible to put a paper pad in the back? The description on the filofax website isn't very clear and there is no picture of the right side of the binder.

Arnold (2010-04-01 16:21:28)

The Scanda does not allow for paper in the rightside of the binder. It has an envelope for slips and other small odds & ends. Similar to the leftside without the card slots.

Sorry no digital camera etc.

Franklin Covey planner inserts in Personal Filofax (2010-03-31 03:08) - Laurie

My much-anticipated Franklin Covey planner inserts arrived a couple of days ago! I got the Compact size pages to fit into my Personal size Deco Filofax.

I bought the [1]Cornerstone weekly layout, with the days as columns. I can't seem to function without days as columns, and on the Filofax US and UK websites this format is not available in the Personal size. This weekly format includes monthly tabs with the month calendar's days as blocks to write in.

Another reason I bought the FC pages in particular is that the back sides of the weekly pages are lined for notes, unlike the Filofax pages on which the diary is printed back to back. Having the lined space on the backsides of the weekly pages allows me to keep my weekly to-do lists with the corresponding week, instead of separately elsewhere in my diary (or in the middle of the week obstructing my view). Another advantage is that monthly tabs can go between the weeks.

As has been [2]detailed on Philofaxy, the FC Compact size pages are wider than the Filofax Personal size pages, but still fit in the Personal size Filofax binders. Because the diary is not printed back to back, an entire year of the FC diary insert is about twice as thick as the Filofax diary year.

The Franklin Covey system is very structured, and the weekly task lists have columns to designate Priority (ABC) and Action (with symbols given to indicate Completed, Delegated, In Process etc.). There is also a page of Planner Hints and Helps with ideas to help you use your planner more effectively. Another page that I really like is a list of holidays and significant dates for the next 6 years! Very useful.

So for those of us who love the portability of the Personal size binder, but want the days-as-columns format with space for notes on the backs of the pages, this is an excellent option.

1. <http://store.franklinplanner.com/store/category/prod2020024/US-Cornerstone/Cornerstone-Ring-bound-Weekly-Planner-Refill?skuId=35476>

2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/03/question-re-filofax-and-franklin-covey.html>

JJ (2010-03-31 17:30:15)

I've always liked the ABC/123 system of prioritizing tasks. It's not original to FC (I saw in first in Alan Lakein's book *How To Get Control Of Your Time* in the 1970's), but they have certainly made it a cornerstone of their system.

The Filofax To-Do form is sadly weak in comparison. I do not need a checkbox, I need room for a two-level priority system, due dates and sometimes start dates or lead times.

Which brings me to an item high on wish list: 3 and 4 column ledger sheets. I use the 'Birthday/Anniversary' form a a two column ledger, but a couple more columns would be ideal.

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For those not familiar with the ABC/123 system:

You dump all your tasks in no order into a list.

Then you mark all the MUST DO's as A's, the SHOULD DO's as B's and everything else is a C.

Then you go back and assign a number (in order of importance) to each A, B and C. A-1 gets done before A-2, all A's get done before the B's. C's may or may not get done ever.

(But you still number them for some reason.)

Avette (2010-07-02 15:35:13)

Great article, I have also used my day planner by FranklinCovey a lot. There is some GREAT software by FranklinCovey. Personally I am starting to like the software more than the paper day planner because it is so much easier to carry, and I always have my phone on me, so I always have my day planner with me. Check it out at <http://www.franklincoveysoftware.com>.

Stefee (2010-11-15 13:04:54)

I'm curious about your fc-filo experiment cuz I did the same thing a few years ago! I inserted the pretty fc blooms pages into my vintage blk calf filo and loved it for a while. Problem for me is that compact/personal is too small since I tend to write bigger. So, right now, I've been using the fc classic size pages with great deal of success. But... I love the filo binders, so much chicer. I am planning on taking my filo a5 to a leather repair store to see if they can replace the filo rings with the rings from my fc binder. Then I will have the best of both worlds!

1.4 April

Spring offers from Filofax UK (2010-04-02 03:21) - Steve

Well Spring is here, although you might doubt that statement if you were in Scotland this week with snow and bad weather...

Filofax have sent me some links and a promocode for some exclusive offers on selected organisers, so use the following links and the promocode **SS11** to get your self some bargains at Filofax UK:

- [1]Fresco Pocket - was £21 now £11
- [2]Fresco Personal - was £23 now £13
- [3]Urban Pocket - was £25 now £15
- [4]Urban Personal - was £29 now £19

Thank you Filofax UK for their continued support and offers...

1. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?awinmid=2457&awinaffid=97790&clickref=Spring1&p=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.filofax.co.uk%2Fstore%2Forganiserdetails.asp%3Frangeid%3D127%26sizeid%3D2%26dsized%3D2>
2. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?awinmid=2457&awinaffid=97790&clickref=Spring1&p=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.filofax.co.uk%2Fstore%2Forganiserdetails.asp%3Frangeid%3D127%26sizeid%3D3%26dsized%3D3>
3. <http://www.filofax.co.uk/store/organiserdetails.asp?display=&sizeId=2&rangeId=114&dsized=2>
4. <http://www.filofax.co.uk/store/organiserdetails.asp?rangeid=114&sizeid=3&dsized=3>

Kate (2010-04-02 11:42:23)

Thanks for this, Steve! My Fresco Personal is on its way!

The weather here in Scotland was indeed atrocious this past week. It's been sunny today, though, and long may it continue!

Free for All Friday No 72 (2010-04-02 08:19) - Nan

My region has had heavy rains and flooding. Luckily, all my Filofaxes are stored in high, dry places! I think of all the things I could lose, along with photographs, losing Filos would make me the saddest.

Filofaxes are great places to track home maintenance and repair. Care to share any tips?

Or, as always, any subject you wish!

It is free for all, after all.

Erin (2010-04-02 11:41:33)

I haven't tracked home repairs in my Filo yet, but I do have all of my (our) debt in there. I actually have a separate Filo just for my debt that is red(you know, in the red) It's great because it keeps me really focused and we've already knocked down much of our debt. On another note, does anyone know if Filofax in the UK ships to the states? They have some products that the US doesn't have!

Laurie (2010-04-02 13:53:33)

Hi Erin, Filofax UK definitely delivers to the US although the shipping isn't cheap. Might be worth it though! ;D

Erin (2010-04-02 17:18:11)

Hey thanks for the info, Laurie! That is good to know in case I ever want to order from them. I have to pay off my credit card first though,,,,,,:)

Dilaila (2010-04-03 00:27:28)

Has anyone used the Finsbury pocket? Does it lay down flat? Mine doesn't.

Steve (2010-04-03 06:59:57)

Dilaila

I have a Finsbury pocket but like yours it doesn't lay flat, it's because of the double back cover I think. But that said I don't find it a major issue for what I use it for.

Regards

Steve

j1199986 (2010-04-03 08:26:22)

Home Repair expenses list:

submersible sump pump \$70

new shop vac \$85

dumpster for contents of entire basement... \$243

Reward...new tab for complete remodel of basement!!

Iris (2010-04-03 13:58:40)

Now I finally managed to take some photos of my Filos and posted them on Flickr!

Please visit our German Filofax blog:

www.filomaniac.blogspot.com

English comments are welcome!

Dilaila (2010-04-03 21:05:09)

Thanks Steve.

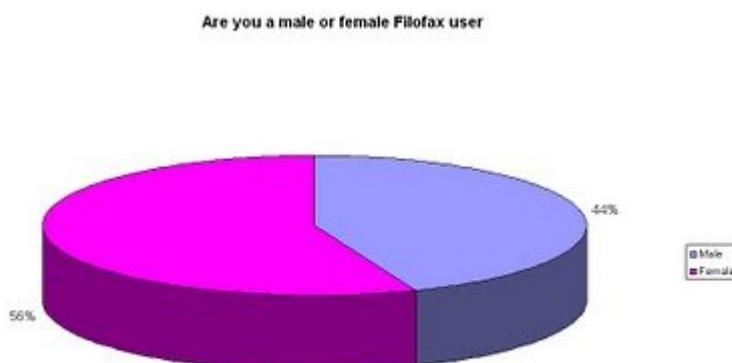
Poll Results - How old are you? (2010-04-03 15:53) - Steve

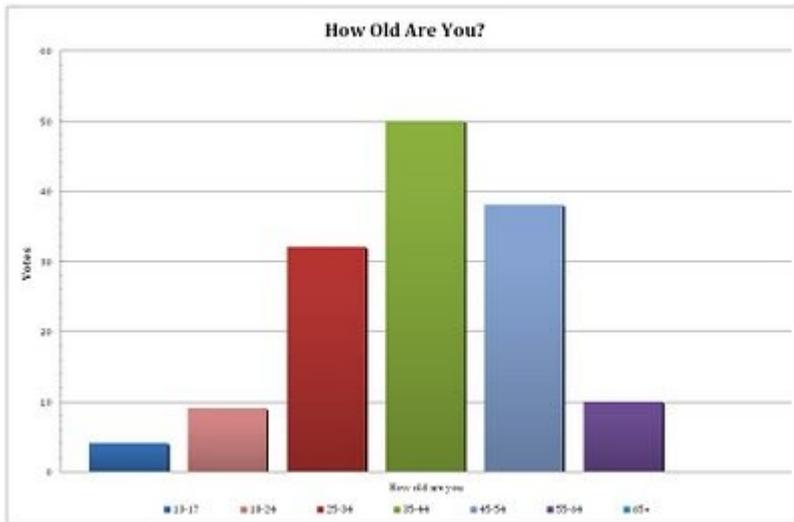
I asked two questions a couple of weeks ago to work out what our demographics are of our readership.

I don't think you will be surprised with the results shown below. It is however encouraging to see we have some younger readers too.

Click on the images to see them full size

Thank you all for your votes, the best turn out yet for a poll we have held on the site.





[2]

1. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/S7ecQgH7YxI/AAAAAAAAIAM/PJCvk11uZtQ/s1600/Gender.jpg
2. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/S7ecihaFDqI/AAAAAAAAIAU/gShBMn2n9QU/s1600/age.jpg

JJ (2010-04-03 19:29:06)

Younger readers... from my side of the bell curve, you're ALL younger readers.

Julia (2010-04-04 11:30:37)

Yes, exactly, these results do not surprise me.

I could imagine that more women read blogs because I sometimes have the feeling that communication about "many themes" is popular among women ;)

And the age also not really surprise me. I belong to the "younger group" (21), but I think only a few of my age like "paper organizers". I think in this generation outweighs most the technical part.

Steve (2010-08-05 16:26:40)

Reflecting on the result of this poll, I think the percentage of female readers has increased in the last few months, more so than male readers.

I think we might re-run this poll towards the end of the year, it will be interesting to see if my hunch is right or not!

How long have you been a Filofax User - Poll (2010-04-04 07:37) - Steve

It naturally follows on I suppose from how old are you, to how long you have been a Filofax user?

If you have come back to Filofax after a break of a few years like I did, I will let you decide which period to use.

This isn't a serious market research type poll, it's just for interest only.

Thanks as always for your votes and support.

Nickie @ Typecast (2010-04-04 07:53:20)

hmm difficult choice for me. I've picked 1-2 years because that's how long I've been a serious user since a prolonged break.

Eva (2010-04-04 09:39:55)

I've been using Filofaxes on and off for many years and every time I decided to go back to Filofax, I bought a new one and so far I have 6... And I don't think I'm going to stop there ;o)

Laurie (2010-04-04 10:00:38)

I bought my first actual Filofax in 2001, but started using a Filofax-like binder of a different brand in 1996.

I would love to know who among Philofaxy readers has been using Filofax the longest!!

Steve (2010-04-04 10:02:34)

My first one was bought in 1985.. a black Winchester

Dasha (2010-04-04 10:56:06)

My first Filo was purchased August 2000 (Sophomore year of HS) - Pocket Executive Slimline. I took a break for a few years, and now that I am back in school, I'm back with a Personal Finsbury. I count the entire 10 years though, because I remember planning the purchase of the first filo for a long time - \$60 was a huge amount of money back then! and I've always treasured it, even when I wasn't using it.

Julia (2010-04-04 11:38:48)

Oh I've always used again Filofax-like organizer. The first one I bought when I was 14/15 (6/7 years ago) and it was a "no name" from the supermarket, there were no refills, nothings. I had to cut everything alone and with a simple punch, it was not as easy to get holes in it. But the "real" Filofax I use about a year. I have taken the middle and simply voted for 1-2years ;)

tim atherton (2010-04-04 16:15:51)

hmm - since about 1978. When you could get special pages from Filofax for both Infantry Officer and Clergymen....

Pete Mac (2010-04-04 18:13:00)

My first was the early 90's. Can't remember the style, other than it was personal size and black.

Dilaila (2010-04-04 22:39:44)

I bought my first Filo in 1991, the year I left England. It was a black Personal. By late 90s, I became a Palm geek. I bought a Finsbury Zipped A5 in the mid Noughties and have been using a Filo since.

To date, I have 2 A5s (Finsbury and Portobello), 6 pockets (Finsbury, Butterfly, Domino, Siena, Belgravia, Baroque) and 2 Minis (Baroque and Bloomsbury).

Sorry for the essay. No where else to talk Filo :(

plaiditude (2010-04-04 22:48:22)

I purchased my first Filofax about 3 weeks ago (and still haven't received it yet), so I must be one of the newest users :)

JJ (2010-04-05 07:50:19)

I'm giving myself 1-2 years, but it's right about one year judging by the first time I ordered paper.

I've been a lover of paper since my first composition book in second grade, but my discovery of Filofax has occurred late in life.

Iris (2010-04-06 07:14:57)

I've been using ring-bound organisers for about 15 years now (German brands like tempus), but in October 2009 bought my first Filofax (Guildford Personal).

Erin (2010-04-06 12:00:09)

I can't remember when I got my first one, but I've been using one religiously since probably 2005. Hey, something for Nan,,,,,I got a Reitz storage binder from Empire for my storage of A5 size binders and it does NOT fit! :(I had to send it back.

Let's do a poll on who has the most filofaxes,,,,,at last count I have 36. I hope my husband doesn't see this!

Steve (2010-04-06 18:33:37)

Erin

See our previous polls here:

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/search/label/Poll>

Steve

Dasha (2010-04-07 20:59:24)

I couldn't seem to find a contact link on the blog... so...

I'll be in London for about two days later this month and want to do filofax shopping! In addition to the main store, are there any other stores in London for filofax compatible accessories that I should check out?

Erin (2010-04-08 11:04:28)

Steve

I saw that poll, but that really only showed how many people have each kind of filofax (personal, A5, etc) I think it'd be interesting to do a poll on how many people have total. Does that make sense? I'm interested but maybe other people aren't.

Just a thought. Have a great day everyone!

Erin (2010-04-08 11:04:43)

Steve

I saw that poll, but that really only showed how many people have each kind of filofax (personal, A5, etc) I think it'd be interesting to do a poll on how many people have total. Does that make sense? I'm interested but maybe other people aren't.

Just a thought. Have a great day everyone!

Steve (2010-04-08 12:45:30)

Erin

Like this one...??

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2009/10/poll-result-how-many-filofax-organisers.html>

Steve

Dilaila (2010-04-08 23:27:35)

Erin, would love to see the list of the Filos you have!

Kristihern (2010-04-10 18:38:30)

Using Filofax for decades, but I don't have my original organizer.

Filofax shopping in London (2010-04-08 13:20) - Steve

In answer to Dasha's comment about shopping for Filofax organisers in London soon, here are some of the main stockists in Central London:

City Organiser

40 Bow Lane

City

London

EC4M 9DT

T: 0207 248 8326

F: 0207 248 1641

E: sales@cityorg.co.uk [1]<http://www.cityorg-pdq.co.uk/>

Filofax Centre

21 Conduit Street

Mayfair

London

W1S 2XP

T: 0207 499 0457

Filofax Store

68 Neal Street

Covent Garden

London

WC2H 9PF

T: 0207 836 1977

But for a full list of stockists including their address and telephone numbers incase you are looking for something very specific, go to the Filofax link here: [2]<http://www.filofax.co.uk/stockists/>
Happy shopping..

.

1. <http://www.cityorg-pdq.co.uk/>

2. <http://www.filofax.co.uk/stockists/>

Laurie (2010-04-08 14:07:21)

Thanks for this Steve!! I plan to visit one or more of these in about a week from now! :D

PA3789 (2010-04-08 20:31:23)

Hi everyone.

On a seperate note, I am back on the Filo wagon and using my Guildford zip. I just can't give up on the personal size and the Filo name. OK, you got me, I'm still hooked!

Thanks for being my friend and allowing me to discuss this crazy stuff with someone.

Greg

Jess (2010-04-09 05:31:07)

i get my student loan next friday, so my first weekend of term back at university will be spent travelling to london...

Dasha (2010-04-09 18:22:22)

Thanks for the listings! Unfortunately my trip has been temporarily postponed... maybe its a good thing though, gives me more time to save up some \$ \$ \$:)

Oni (2010-04-10 19:02:58)

Laurie:

I strongly recommend you go to the store on Neal Street. The staff is helpful and nice, and it's very close to Covent Garden. Neither this nor the one on Conduit are very large, but they have every new model that has come out and all the inserts you could need.

Let me know when you'll be around London, we might bump into eachother :D

stationery gal (2010-04-18 15:41:35)

I would love to be able to Filofax shop in London! All my filofaxes have been purchased over the internet...I did go on the UK Filofax website last night as it usually offers different options than the US website....I ordered the Personal Yellow Hearts filofax....I can't wait to get it! My goal for this year was to stick to one calendar system for at least 6 months before switching....I should of known better than to make such a crazy statement! So far since January I have used a pocket raspberry finsbury, daytimer month at a glance calendar and currently, I am using a franklin planner buttoned up planner....I know it is a sickness..... I am sure this new filofax I ordered will be "the one" (yeah, right) :)

Free For All Friday No 73 (2010-04-09 02:28) - Laurie

Hi everybody! Tell us your latest Filofax news, ask questions, make suggestions. It's free! For all! :D

Laurie (2010-04-09 03:37:08)

So my big Filofax news is, next week I'm going to London and I plan to go to the BIG Filofax store!!! I'm a little nervous about seeing the Amethyst Deco in person. It's like meeting a celebrity crush face to face!!

And, I'm on the fence whether to bring my Ivory Deco with me to London at all. I think I'd be too worried about it getting lost/ stolen/ ruined via pen explosion on the plane!

I am already marking locations to visit on my Filofax London map. I highly recommend this map (actually 3 maps total) for

anyone visiting London, whether you use it in a Filofax or not. They are extremely useful, and fold down small. I also have the London rail/ underground map which is a must-have.

PA3789 (2010-04-09 06:56:44)

I envy the fact that you get to go to a real Filofax store. I guess that is what I miss most about purchasing planners. Ordering online is such a "chance" taken.

But, I think I've come to realize that I was wrong about "men" using Filos, after reviewing the poll Steve put up on the site. Maybe I have been too hard on Filo vs FC.

The FC is nice paper but carrying a "coffee table" around is crazy for me at least. And the Filo binders are so much nicer than FC. I think I will keep trying with my Filo personal, sorry FC but you seem to be "old hat". Even the "time system" website reminds us that Filo binders are compatible. Personal Filo, here I come..... again.

D.S.McLeod (2010-04-09 07:45:37)

I use the F'Fax store in Conduit Street from time to time (in fact bought my last two from there). The people in there are very helpful and most, if not all, of the selection is there! I'll be popping along if they do bring out the A5 slimline I read something about here.

Enjoy the short walk from Picadilly or Oxford St Tube stations.

Jess (2010-04-09 11:49:36)

I'm definitely making a trip to a London store once I move back down south to university next weekend...

Simon (2010-04-09 12:47:21)

This week I sold a Filofax on ebay to someone in Tokyo & with the proceeds I bought a black leather credit card holder & a black change holder.

Both have arrived and, despite being vintage stock, are brand new! And look great in my black 5/4 Winchester.

More 'change holders' & 'credit card holders' are still available on ebay if anyone is interested.

JJ (2010-04-09 13:17:51)

Question about Country Of Origin:

I know that contemporary Filos are made in the far east, and the 'classic' most collectible ones were made in the UK.

Recently I've seen several on Ebay that are marked Made In The USA. Any idea when Filos were made in the US?

I also have a Filo marked Italian Leather, but it's not clear if it was made in Italy or just made from Italians.

Steve (2010-04-09 14:49:11)

Simon

Thanks for the tip off, I've just ordered/bought a change holder for my Slimline Filofax that I use as my wallet, it has plenty of card slots already, but no facility for holding loose change this will be an excellent edition.

Still some left:

http://shop.ebay.co.uk/?_from=R40 & _trksid=m38 & _nkw=filofax+change+holder

and credit card holders:

[http://cgi.ebay.co.uk/Filofax-5-Credit-](http://cgi.ebay.co.uk/Filofax-5-Credit-Card-Holder-Black-Calf-Leathe)

[Card-Holder-Black-Calf-Leathe](http://cgi.ebay.co.uk/Filofax-5-Credit-Card-Holder-Black-Calf-Leathe) r-NEW _W0QQitemZ400113167412QQcmdZViewItemQQptZUK _BOI _Office _Office _Supplies _Stationery _ET?hash=item5d289a6c34

Laurie (2010-04-10 14:16:55)

Greg, I'm glad you're back to Filofax! I feel for you with the back-and-forth. I have to agree, I like the Filofax binders better.

I've decided to bring my Deco Filofax with me after all. I was bringing half the pages with me anyway and decided it would be much easier just to bring the whole thing.

I'm currently using Franklin Covey weekly pages in my personal size Filofax, but I'm not sure how long I'll be using them. They are very functional: the days are columns (which is the format I prefer) and between each week there's space for notes and lists. This also allows the monthly tabs to go between the weekly pages.

And yet, despite all the functionality of the FC pages, I really prefer the style of the Filofax pages, they seem friendlier and

not so business-like. And for this weekly FC insert at least, the paper seems rough. The Filofax paper is definitely smoother. When I visit the Filofax shop I'm planning to get the pink week on two pages, which I've had my eye on for some time, if they still have any in stock. In fact my Filofax shopping list seems to grow daily! ;D

Also, I realized that the Amethyst Deco is not out until next month. So I (and my credit card!) should be safe from its temptation!!

JJ, I don't know when or which Filofaxes were made in the US. The only thing I can think of is if they are the Alligator, Ostrich or Lizard binders--those are restricted to sale in the US only because of export restrictions on those types of skins. But I don't know if binders using those skins are actually assembled in the US, or elsewhere.

Nickie @ Typecast (2010-04-10 15:36:04)

I am loving the new release Filofax - the Heart (yellow is my preference) in Personal size. In fact, I'm probably going to buy one next week...

Oni (2010-04-10 19:07:50)

I am finally living in Filofax-land (aka London)!!

That said, once I get some time off, I'll be taking a stroll into the store on Neal street, or even Paperchase or Fortnum and Mason, to check out their Filofax selections....

I might get a new one for my projects...

Lyon (2010-04-10 21:49:56)

I'm thankful for all the ideas I find in this blog and all of them are really useful. I thought I would share something in return. For all of the Personal Slimline owners, I chanced upon a wonderful zip-around cover at a navy store here in California and bought one for my Slimline Guildford. I have to say that I am very pleased and looking forward to using it when I travel. It's a water-repellant Cordura (I believe) notebook cover and when opened, has holders for four writing instruments on the left and behind them is a full length pocket while on right is a pocket to hold your passport and another full length pocket in the back. It almost looks like it was tailor-made for the Filofax Slimline.

It cost me around \$16.00 which others may find a little expensive but given it's rarity and functionality for the Slimline, it is indeed worth it. It comes in three colors: Tan, Black and Camouflage (guys, this definitely adds some masculine look to your slimline).

End product: A versatile zip-around Guildford Personal Slimline!

I wish I could take pictures of my Guildford Slimline nicely sitting in it so you can have a better idea.

Anyway, here's the link (which unfortunately doesn't do justice to the true beauty of the product in person):

<http://www.riteintherain.com/ItemForm.aspx?item=C980 &Category=f24655d9-8888-44f2-a4b5-8866e468a1e8>

Penny (2010-04-11 12:32:30)

i attended a sales/seminar event thursday morning. they handed each attendee a smallish white box. my brain said "huh that'd be a nice box to store my a5 filo paper in"

imagine my surprise when i peek into it and discovered a binder!

yes, they did give everyone A5 sized 6 ring binders. I need to figure out how to cover the embossed logo (i'm not that much a fan of that company to broadcast it) and the paper inside is divine! it's lighter than any other of my a5's, has a pen loop, and is synthetic. for free? i'm really really impressed.

photos will be uploaded to flickr once i take them. i can't figure out which branding co made them, but i'm sure if i did enough internet searching i'd find out.

(what was the seminar about? in short electronic document storage. i find the paper planner highly amusing!)

ps laurie, i was sadly disappointed by the filo store in london five years ago. perhaps i went to the wrong one? it just didn't seem as big as i expected, or perhaps that was my american meglomart standards kicking in. or jet lag. i'll blame the jet lag since i went my first day...

plaiditude (2010-04-14 16:18:20)

It's here It's here! My first filofax arrived 15 minutes ago! I was dying from impatience (I ordered it over three weeks ago). I got the Scanda black and it is wonderful. I took some unboxing pics with my cell phone, I'll take some with my good camera at home tonight and post to flickr.

I have finally become a fellow filofaxian! :)

plaiditude (2010-04-14 20:38:39)

Just uploaded my Scanda photos to the Flickr group!

http://www.flickr.com/photos/49298570@N03/4521533913/in/pool-4074847_6@N00

Spring Clean Time? (2010-04-10 07:33) - Steve

Yes, it is sunny outside, so yes what am I doing sat in-doors in front of my Mac....

Spring has definitely sprung in UK these last couple of days, matching the weather we enjoyed in France over Easter. I find the weather influences my mood and motivation for doing things more than anything else. I'm not feeling too bad about sitting in-doors for a few minutes sharing something with you, because I have a planned out task list for the rest of today..

I saw this post on [1]Lifehacker this morning about [2]Clean Out Your To-Do List for Guilty Free Productivity. It has a lot of good tips in it. I'm not very good at these things, so it was a useful post to prod me in to sorting out my To-Do lists, something I have got down to-do this evening whilst I'm looking after my friends two young children. I'm sure I'm not the only one that needs a prod to get things sorted out and to take some time out to do a task review every once in a while.

Here are some slightly different [3]To-Do lists to try out

Enjoy your weekend...

1. <http://lifehacker.com/>

2. <http://lifehacker.com/5513709/clean-out-your-to-do-list-for-guilt-free-productivity>

3. <http://manage-this.com/triple-hat-trick/>

Laurie (2010-04-10 14:33:15)

Steve thank you for these, especially the Clean Out Your To-Do List article. I am very guilty of letting my to-do lists get out of control! I love his tips for keeping the list straightforward and clutter-free.

Misplaced pages (2010-04-11 02:20) - Laurie

A huge advantage that Filofax binders have over bound books is the ability to add, remove and move around pages. But sometimes this advantage becomes a detriment, for me at least.

While preparing for my trip to London, I've been moving my Filofax pages around a lot: adding in my London maps and info, removing things I only need at home. And, I've been looking for information pages that I only need a couple of times per year.

But where the heck did I put them? They aren't in my Deco. They're not in my Buckingham, which is where I usually put important but not currently in use pages. Did I archive them in last year's storage binder by mistake? I know I didn't throw them away, because I never do that. (Or did I??)

Even within my Deco I'm not sure where some things are. Did I put that list under Actions? Or Reference? Maybe it's still in my Notes section and I forgot to file it under its proper category. Maybe I need to streamline my tab system!

Do you ever misplace pages?

Nickie @ Typecast (2010-04-11 18:37:30)

I have a whole A-Z tabbed section for my Personal Filo that I have misplaced. It's very annoying!!

DJ (2010-07-02 22:40:08)

Laurie, see Bernhard's latest Guest Post—his innovative use of the alpha tabs to "file" sheets sounds like the answer to your problems!

"I've already tried it, and it works"—Ashley-Pitt, RN "The Great Escape"

Zip covers (2010-04-11 06:56) - Steve

With thanks to 'Lyon' for pointing out the 'Rite in the Rain' covers. They seem a great way of converting your slimline Filofax in to a zipped Filofax.

They have US and UK websites so they are quite widely available. See the following links:

- [1]<http://www.riteintherain.com/>
- [2]<http://www.ritr.co.uk/>

They also do a belt pouch, sadly not in the right size, also it would look a little too geeky!

1. <http://www.riteintherain.com/>
2. <http://www.ritr.co.uk/>

Acad-Pad Filofax inserts 15% off! (2010-04-12 01:11) - Laurie

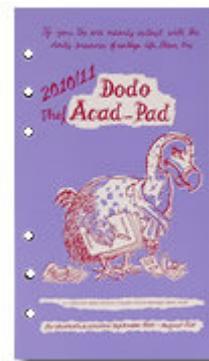


- [1]
[2]

The Dodo [3]Acad-Pads (which are just like the [4]Dodo Pad diaries but on the academic year) are now available for the 2010-2011 academic year! And from now until the end of this month, you can get them for 15 % off. Read [5]Miss Peabody's post on the Dodo Pad blog ([6]www.dodopadblog.com) to get the code to use at checkout.

Acad-Pads come in various shapes and sizes: the [7]original Desk size, the [8]Wall calendar, and the very portable [9]Mini size.

And now for the first time, in response to popular demand, there is an [10]Acad-Pad diary insert for the Personal



size Filofax! I can hardly wait to get my hands on this![11]

1. <http://www.dodopad.com/acadpad/acad-pad-1011range.jpg>
2. <http://www.dodopad.com/acatalog/AFXP1011.jpg>
3. <http://www.dodopad.com/acadpad/acadpad.html>
4. <http://www.dodopad.com/dodopad/dodo-pad-diary-diaries-wall-calendars.html>
5. <http://dodopadblog.com/2010/04/06/2010-2011-acad-pads-are-here-save-15/>
6. <http://dodopadblog.com/>
7. http://www.dodopad.com/acatalog/Diaries_Calendars__.html#aADP1011
8. http://www.dodopad.com/acatalog/Diaries_Calendars__.html#aAWP1011
9. http://www.dodopad.com/acatalog/Diaries_Calendars__.html#aAPM1011
10. http://www.dodopad.com/acatalog/Diaries_Calendars__.html#aAFXP1011
11. <http://www.dodopad.com/acatalog/AFXP1011.jpg>

joffreyca (2010-04-13 10:48:43)

That's great! More available compatible software for the Filofax's hardware.

Filofax Change Holder (2010-04-13 13:14) - Steve



[1]

Following a tip off from one of our readers (Simon) I was able to buy a 'new' Filofax Change holder off eBay. It arrived today and I've added it to my Slimline wallet/Filofax organiser.

The seller on Ebay had obviously found some old stock from somewhere because she was selling change holders in leather and credit card holders in leather. I'm not sure when these were last available from Filofax? But mine is new and no sign of any use at all, it will need a little bit of the special leather treatment polish to loosen it up a little I suspect.

In order to get it to fit in to my slimline I had to take out about 8 blank pages, but I still have enough paper in there for my immediate needs, I will go through the contents a little later to see if I can refine it further.

The pockets on the change holder are nicely gusseted so it stays flat and only adds a little bulk with coins in it. As you will see from the photograph there are two pockets, large and small.

Previously I've been keeping change in an old wallet in my backpack, but the addition of the change holder is the perfect addition to my slimline.

For information it's embossed with *FILOFAX* MADE IN ENGLAND REAL CALF 'CH' and the finish is very similar to the leather of Finsbury, so they go together very well.

I'm sure there are a few of us that would love Filofax to offer these sort of accessories once again.

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/S8Sk_Go1CiI/AAAAAAAAIAC/bUMgN2zY8C8/s1600/scan0002.jpg

Kevin Hall (2010-04-13 13:53:15)

The leather accessories are at least 20 years old by my reckoning. They use the old style product codes that I'm fairly sure were phased out by 1988. I bought these as well to add to my collection and I was amazed at the excellent condition they were in.

The Rev'd Blair (2010-04-14 17:51:44)

Hi, I bought one as well, as well as the credit card holder - and...

I got the 5/4 black winchester - oh, baby - it's so stiff and new.

pay attention - more stuff is coming I'm told. And did you see that duplex - ohhhh.

Steve (2010-04-14 18:05:51)

I felt very smug today. I was with a colleague in our on-site shop queuing and discussing the date of a forthcoming meeting, so I had my Filofax in my hand (Slimline) and I then it was my turn to pay for my lunch, so I just flipped to the back of my Filofax, got the correct change out...

Oh you should have seen the look on the shopping assistants face... envy! I think I might be asked more about my Filofax next time I'm in the shop and there isn't a queue!!

Simon (2010-04-15 14:44:13)

@The Rev'd Blair

Do you know what sort of 'stuff' is coming at all?

gmax (2010-04-15 15:50:49)

That duplex offer was just too much of a temptation for me I'm afraid. By far my most extravagant Filofax purchase. I would be happy to do a guest post some time on these.

Steve (2010-04-15 16:02:50)

Hi

Yes we would love to hear about your experience about using a Duplex binder. The pros and cons of this format, what you keep in each half etc.

A guest article would be great. You can find our email address on the 'About Us' page link at the head of the blog.

Steve

The Rev'd Blair (2010-04-15 23:04:47)

Re: Simon

No, the seller just said to keep at it. If you notice, there are some older LEFAX (read the history pdf) binders available - not cheap -

Steph (2010-08-22 19:13:59)

I know we're months later but I really need this product. Haha. I'm a stage manager and having my cards in one place, my bills tucked in my filofax inside pocket, and my change in the bottom of my purse is NOT okay anymore.

Anyone have any resources out there? Ebay is turning up nothing.

Steve (2010-08-22 19:17:20)

Steph, sadly unless some more come up on Ebay you aren't likely to find any. They were old stock from the 1980's Which Filofax do you use at the moment? An alternative is the zip envelope that is available in some Filofax sizes.

Steve

The History of Filofax (2010-04-13 14:25) - Steve

You might recall back in February we mentioned a file written by Kevin Hall, that was still available via the Web Archive.

I've since been in touch with Kevin and he has sent me an updated version of the file. He has also kindly given us permission to host the file in our [1]files area in pdf format.

It goes in to a lot more detail than the original file and brings the history of the company fully up to date.

We would like to thank Kevin for his hard work in putting this document together and for letting us share it with you.

[2]A Chronology of Filofax by Kevin Hall, April 2010

1. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/>
2. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/filofax-chronology.pdf>

Erin (2010-04-13 15:01:42)

That is a very interesting history and I had no idea that the brand had gone through so much. Thanks for sharing!

gmax (2010-04-13 17:01:17)

A very worthwhile and scholarly history you've put together here Kevin. Thank you very much.

joffreyca (2010-04-15 10:53:02)

Thanks for working on this and sharing it, Kevin.

A lot of iconic devices have come and gone (e.g. the manual typewriter, the original Palm Pilot, Apple's Newton/MessagePad). I hope the Filofax will remain with us for many more years to come.

JJ (2010-04-16 09:22:46)

I hate to make suggestions of projects that I can not contribute to, but...

Does anyone know of an archive or online collection of old Filofax catalogs?

Do we have the resources to put one together?

Free for All Friday No. 74 (2010-04-16 00:01) - Steve

Well it's been quite a 'historic' week, what with an updated [1]History of Filofax document and my new [2]change holder that appears to be at least 20+ years old.

My thought for this weeks FFAF is what accessories would you like to see available for your Filofax? Not just ones from yesterday year... don't forget to include any pages you would like to see that you haven't found available.

But as always, the blog is yours to discuss and comment about anything Filofax related....

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/04/history-of-filofax.html>
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/04/filofax-change-holder.html>

e (2010-04-16 04:13:36)

Two things:

1. A Domino in LEATHER
2. a calendar that has the month on 2 pages: in iconic boxes, not a list...and then has that month divided into weeks, each on 2 pages...So each month has 10 successive pages. The way it is now, the month calendars are all backed by the previous and next months...so you have to keep them in order without inserting pages between...unless you want to go mad....

JJ (2010-04-16 06:54:24)

3 or 4 column ledger pages.

I have a number of sayings and reminders on the flyleaf of my Filo and one of those sayings is "Specialized Forms Are B*ll***t". (Not deliberately trying to be offensive, but I strive to keep things easy for me to remember.)

I need the reminder. I'm a sucker for buying forms, when I can usually record the same information on plain old lined, unlined or grid paper. If I had a third of the money I've blown on FC's forms, I'd be a very happy man.

And of course, there are exceptions, I use the checkbook form and the address pages. But when I buy paper, I try to keep it to lined, unlined or grid.

Ledger pages would complete the above collection perfectly.

Erin (2010-04-16 11:39:25)

I would like to see a calculator that can be inserted in either the personal size or the A5. Maybe this is already out there? On another Filofax related note, I'm curious what people do when it comes to purchasing a Filofax. Do you save up for it and then purchase or use a credit card? That could result in a lot of trouble! Just curious,,,,,

Dasha (2010-04-16 15:40:52)

I like e's suggestion for the calendar though!

I currently use one of those types of monthly calendars and a week on two pages (lined) in conjunction. I just bought a clear 'today' ruler to go in the monthly pages (so it doesn't obscure my view of the month).

Maybe next year I'll look into other brand calendars. I think Day Timer makes calendars like e suggested and their "portable" size fits personal size filos. Most that I've seen, however, have appointment hours (which I don't want), or too many colors going on.

PA3789 (2010-04-16 16:39:15)

Well, off the current subject.

It's here!

I was away on business this week and came home to a package containing a new Guildford "open" to replace the Guildford zipper I purchased. Yes, the zipper one has larger rings and yes, you can put papers in it and not lose them, but I really liked the pictures of the open ones with papers hanging out the sides and looking as if the were going to burst. So I invested in the last Filo of the year. It is beautiful and I've already started loading it. I'm home alone as the girls are all grown and my significant other works nights. Just me, the dog, and my NEW Filo to work with.

Life is good for a change.

Simon (2010-04-16 16:55:58)

I would love a diary with just the days & dates...no public or religious holidays, phases of the moon or calendars and the like...just days & dates.

IncomeAdviser (2010-04-16 17:57:48)

Simon, here is a link to the lets uk site, they personalise a filofax diary for you. You choose what dates you include or exclude, you can also include your own pictures ect.. hope it helps. http://www.personalisedproduct.com/personalised-calendars/index_product.pl?brandID=21 &langID=GB &transID=245957_1523 &catID= &proID=6031

e (2010-04-16 18:29:22)

I'll look into the Daytimer, Dasha...thanks for the tip.

I have been making some of my own forms...like one to keep track of writing submissions...so I may have to make the calendar. It would actually be simple—if the month was double sided!

Laurie (2010-04-17 02:15:37)

e, Franklin Covey makes calendars like you've stated. Tabbed month on 2 pages with weeks on 2 pages following, and the backsides of the pages are lined for notes so you can put things between the months and weeks. But, if you are outside the US I've heard their international shipping is expensive!

gmax (2010-04-17 05:24:13)

Franklin Covey offered a 13 Column Spread Sheet which was very useful. This would be on my wishlist.

It used landscape form, and actually had 15 columns - a narrow one to hold the row number, a wide one for a row descriptor, 12 for the "body" information, and a final column to hold a row total.

There were 31 "body" rows, plus a row for page title, and another for the column headers.

So clearly it was well suited for calendar-type records, but could equally well be used for any general tabular purpose. However, it would be a bit of a squeeze to fit everything on a *personal* sized Filofax page.

Filofax used to produce some analysis leaves that were similar, but not quite as versatile.

plaiditude (2010-04-17 07:37:00)

Like the service they have already to create your own diary, I'd like a service to create your own custom tab divider set. Enter your subjects, choose side or top tabs, and get tabs delivered to you that match your system perfectly!

kanalt (2010-04-17 15:34:34)

plaiditude - I LOVE this idea! Why did I never think of it myself? I make my own tabs but purchasing Filofax's blank ones then using my label maker to create the topics I need. But somehow they never look as nice as the ones Filofax puts out - mainly because then end up being off-center, which does not bode well for my OCD tendencies. =)

Simon (2010-04-17 16:08:50)

@IncomeAdvisor

Many thanks for the link. Sadly it only does 'a week on two pages' & I particularly like 'a week on one page with notes'...I have very few appointments but lots of things to do.

Dasha (2010-04-18 14:33:01)

A bit late in the game, but a question -

I desperately want a personal size Eden Filofax, its from just a few years ago. I've been watching ebay and craigslist like a hawk, but nothing seems to be coming up. Are there any other sites where there is a reasonable chance of finding an out of stock but relatively recent Filofax binder?

Steve (2010-04-18 14:42:59)

Dasha

Have you tried Amazon?

<http://www.amazon.co.uk/Filofax-Eden-Personal-Sage-027806/dp/B000NLY> ACK

And click on 'Request from another seller'

<http://www.filofaxkorea.com/store/organiserdetails.asp?rangeid=76 &sizeid=3 &dsized=3> but no on-line store...

shepcraig (2010-04-18 17:50:40)

Hi Erin, there is a calculator available for the personal and a5 size, I have some of these in stock at the moment in the shop.

Steve (2010-04-19 14:07:15)

ShepCraig

Tell us about your shop please. We can add a link to our links page

Steve

plaiditude (2010-04-19 23:55:08)

Any suggestions for a fine or extra fine fountain pen that will fit in my pen loop, for under \$50? Almost everything I can find seems to be way too fat to fit my pen loops, even though the loops have some elastic in them (Scanda filo)

shepcraig (2010-04-20 18:22:06)

Hi, My shop is a branch of a british company called "The Pen Shop", and my branch is located inside the "Jenners" department store in Edinburgh. We have the biggest range in our company, and the largest range in Edinburgh, possibly even Scotland.

Laurie (2010-04-24 01:56:06)

Dasha! I asked Brigitte at Filofax in London and she said they do still have some Eden binders at their store although I'm not sure what size. You can call them at:

44 (0) 207 499 0457

I don't know where you're located but if you are calling this number from the US you'll dial:

011-44-207-499-0457

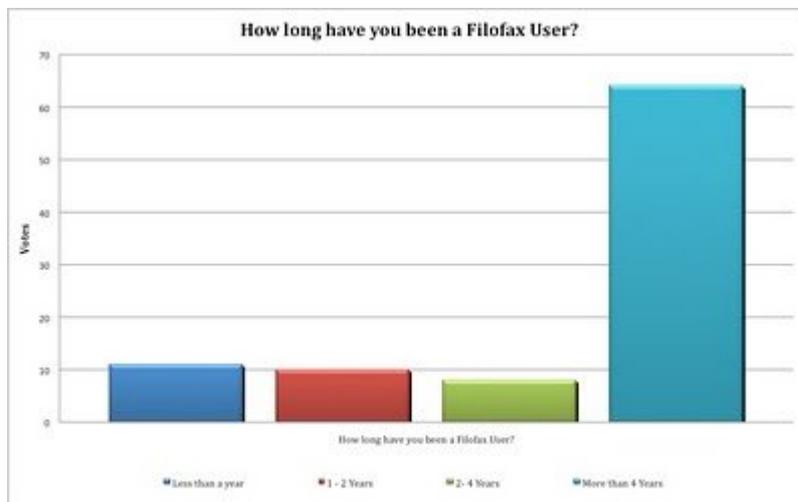
Good luck!

Steve (2010-04-24 18:58:08)

The Pen Shop now added to our links page.. Thank you

How long have you been a Filofax User - Poll Result (2010-04-16 10:16) - Steve

So no big surprises in our latest poll. Many thanks for everyone who took part.



[1]

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/_NjIPaFKXqQ/S8hxFl_E3OI/AAAAAAAAIAk/B7YjsBTBbnI/s1600/howlong.jpg

Printing your own calendars (2010-04-16 10:19) - Steve

I'm always on the look out for sites like this. I found this one today. It not only features a few different formats, but more importantly different sizes of calendars. Give it a try.

[1]<http://www.pdfcalendar.com/>

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1. <http://www.pdfcalendar.com/>

plaiditude (2010-04-17 17:11:05)

I came across this print software a while ago which makes it much easier to print to different sizes including personal. It has some pre-made sizes but you can create your own. You can print folded booklets or two sided pages etc. It installs as a print driver, so you can take anything you print like these calendars and make it fit your filo.

<http://www.bluesquirrel.com/products/clickbook/>

Duplex Binders - Guest Post (2010-04-16 16:56) - Steve

Continuing our 'historic' theme this week, we would like to thank GMax for their article on Duplex Binders.

Rarely sighted, even while they were still being offered for sale twenty odd years ago, the Duplex models have acquired a special place in my Filofax affection. Essentially a double version of a conventional, *personal* Filofax, with two separate sets of rings, they offered some unique advantages in respect of capacity, and in the number of pages available to view at one time.

The Duplex was “particularly favoured by military personnel”, and “originally designed by the army to fit inside the large trouser side pocket”. I can remember these pockets from my short time in the Combined Cadet Force at school, and this is certainly plausible.

Duplex binders were made in two different widths, although, strangely, this fact seems to be something that Filofax themselves never publicised - maybe the marketing department just didn't know? An illustration of the [1]narrower form can be seen at the “Filofax Collection” website. Catalogues at the time explained that the leaves in the Duplex binders overlap slightly (citing the “trouser pocket” reason already mentioned), and that the open Duplex allows three pages to be viewed simultaneously. This is true for the narrower form, and the overlap does sadly rather compromise the design.

In the [2]wider form of Duplex, four single leaves can be viewed at one time without overlap, which is a far more practical arrangement. When the binder is closed, however, the two stacks of leaves on each set of rings do still need to overlap, because the spines push the pages towards the centre as you close each side - obvious really, but not something I'd appreciated until I actually got hold of one.

Some months ago I was lucky enough to find a vinyl Duplex ([3]DVF7/8) in good condition, and just recently I was even more fortunate to acquire a “new, old stock” calf leather Duplex ([4]D2CLF7/8) on eBay.

As well as Calf Leather and Vinyl, Duplex binders were also offered in:

- Hide Leather
- Pigskin
- Morocco Grain Leather
- Canvas
- Leathercloth

Both of mine have 7/8 inch rings, but smaller, half inch rings were also available in all of these materials.

By 1988 the Duplex range had narrowed to Calf or Morocco Grain. The latter would have been a very sturdy beast. The Duplexes were discontinued early in the 1990s as part of the unfortunate, total revamp of the product range.

So how do Duplex binders work out in practice?

- A particular benefit is if you need to compare information side-by-side, or do work while making reference to other leaves.
- I would recommend the wider form, to avoid issues of overlapping pages.
- The use of side tab dividers in a wider form Duplex is not really viable, because they impinge on the opposite paper stack, so top-tab dividers are definitely better if you can find them (or make some yourself).
- The fact that the two stacks of paper must overlap when the binder is closed mean that it's best to have something robust like a plastic flyleaf at the front and back of each stack of pages.
- The other main usage tip is to keep read-only leaves mainly on the side opposite to the handedness of the user. For example, being right-handed, I keep my set of maps on the left in my vinyl Duplex.

I did have some doubts beforehand about the practicality of the Duplex, but when experienced at first-hand they actually seem quite usable, and not that bulky compared to a normal *personal* model. Overall, I think they can be counted amongst the highlights of the Filofax.

GMax - April 2010

1. http://www5b.biglobe.ne.jp/%7Em-task/duplex/D2CLF7-8BN_inside2.htm
 2. http://www5b.biglobe.ne.jp/%7Em-task/duplex/DHLF7-8BN_inside2.htm
 3. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/30775101@N04/4525936529/>
 4. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/30775101@N04/4526562668/>
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Philofaxy London Meet (2010-04-18 16:50) - Steve



[1]

Well with skies over Europe a no go area for aeroplanes this weekend, Laurie found herself stranded in London this weekend. So Laurie and I hastily arranged to meet up in London on Sunday. In a traditional sort of cliché way, we met under the clock at [2]Waterloo Station. Well it seemed an obvious place. This is the first time we had met, so it was great to put a true face and a voice to the many written messages we have exchanged in the last year or so.

Laurie had been in London all week so I updated her on what had been going on on Philofaxy during the week. Over coffee in [3]Tate Modern we sat for a good half hour or more discussing lots of stuff about the blog and Filofax and planners. I'm not quite sure what anyone might have made of us sat their in animated conversation, especially when we got our Filofax organisers out. Laurie was especially keen to see my [4]Filofax Slimline Finsbury, including the latest addition of the [5]change holder. Laurie had her [6]Deco with her, which is a lovely organiser, and today it was full to the limit!

Laurie was telling me about her visit to the Filofax store, sadly they don't open on Sundays otherwise I'm sure we would have walked there too, although I'm not sure if either of us could have resisted the temptation to buy another organiser or at least some inserts.

Laurie also had two different size [7]Dodopads with her which was interesting to see. You can read about them on the site. I was interested to hear about the change in the formatting of the individual pages to accommodate the different shape and smaller size to fit a personal size Filofax. So I explained to Laurie how I go about creating pages for A5 Filofax organisers. If you want to know how, you should read my post on this over on the [8]German Filofax Blog, I will post something on Philofaxy soon

The sun was quite warm so we carried on our discussions during a long walk around the South Bank area of London, crossing over the Millennium Bridge to view St Paul's cathedral. I did my tourist guide bit pointing out several buildings and landmarks. We saw [9]Shakespeare's Globe Theatre which had huge crowds outside of it... I later found out that there was an event on their to celebrate Shakespeare's birthday.

Whilst strolling along the south bank to walk off lunch, we continued to discuss lots of ideas for the blog and Filofax in general. I'm sure some of these ideas will eventually become future posts on the blog I'm sure.

It was great to meet up and may be we might consider planning future meet ups with our readers as well.

I hope Laurie has a safe journey back to her family in Europe soon.

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/S8tvcSIhcPI/AAAAAAAAIAs/uIENuFcaOiw/s1600/IMG_8891_2.JPG
2. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/London_Waterloo_station
3. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tate_Modern
4. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/02/using-my-slimline-filofax-as-my-wallet.html>
5. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/04/filofax-change-holder.html>
6. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2009/11/dreams-do-come-true.html>
7. <http://dodopadblog.com/>
8. http://filomaniac.blogspot.com/2010/04/creating-templates-guest-article-by_05.html
9. <http://www.shakespeares-globe.org/>

kanalt (2010-04-18 17:17:30)

I'm so happy the two of you were able to meet. I think it would be great to have a meeting of readers.

I'm jealous too because, although I've always wanted to travel to London, I confess that my desire to do so has increased since learning that there are a few Filofax stores there (there aren't any Filofax stores in the US, though many retailers sell their products).

My husband and I are thinking of somewhere to go for our 5th wedding anniversary next year and London is one of the places I'd love to consider, though I don't think he'd find shopping for new planners very romantic. =)

Nickie @ Typecast (2010-04-18 17:26:55)

that's lovely that you finally met up :)

Erin (2010-04-18 21:30:52)

That was one of my favorite posts! It would be so great to do an Philofaxy convention of some kind wouldn't it?! My husband and I are planning on going to Ireland next year and we'd love to throw in a trip to England as well. What do you all think? Let's DO it!!

Laurie (2010-04-19 02:41:45)

Many thanks to Steve for coming in to London to meet me! He was a fantastic "tour guide" while we walked around the area. We had a wonderful conversation about all kinds of things, especially Filofaxes but also Tube maps, real estate and traveling. I had a great time, and it was so nice to finally meet him face to face!

YM (2010-04-19 10:30:40)

oh that is so awesome i almost can't even stand it!!!

yay laurie and steve :)

Jess (2010-04-19 12:35:55)

hope you guys had a great time!

Adirondack Explorer (2010-04-19 21:19:34)

What a fun thing to do!

Oni (2010-04-20 18:09:46)

Hey!! I'm so glad you could meet! I also wanted to meet with Laurie, but this stupid cold I got since friday is threatening to turn into a sinus infection...

Also, I don't think I would've served as a tour guide, I haven't been here long enough to know my way around the city...

A future meeting of us Philofaxers could be really fun, especially now that I live here :D

Filofax/Lefax items on Ebay (2010-04-19 13:28) - Steve

I've been contacted by Theresa the seller of the old Filofax/Lefax items on Ebay:

Hello, I'm the ebay seller morganmum - I'd received your message about the change holder and thought I'd email to let you now that I'm now getting round to listing the packs of paper and other inserts which I've got. I've got plain and ruled paper - some in the old Lefax double width. I've also got graph paper, isometric paper, slide holders, plastic section dividers which you can write on yourself, plastic fly leaves and subject inserts. Most are Lefax but there are some Filofax. Almost all are still sealed in the plastic packaging so are brand new. I'd been clearing out boxes in anticipation of moving house and discovered all of the items then - I'd obtained the items when a shop in London closed down in the early 90's. I've got old catalogues from the late 80's and early 90's - do these hold interest for a collector? best regards, Theresa

So watch out for these items on EBay, I've also replied to say that yes I am sure there might be some interest in the catalogues too.

Here's a link to the sellers page: [1]<http://tinyurl.com/y4u2cvf>

At least we now know the story behind these old but as new items, fascinating.

Please note that we do not have any connection with the sale of these goods, any contract is with the seller via Ebay, we are just making you aware of the items on sale.

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1. <http://tinyurl.com/y4u2cvf>

Philofaxy - Online Roundtable Discussion (2010-04-21 14:26) - Steve



[1]

One of the ideas to come out of my [2]meet up with Laurie last weekend was to try out using [3]Skype to have discussions amongst the three contributors (Nan, Laurie and myself).

Well as an extension of that idea, why not have something similar for our loyal readers? So as an experiment, I will be on-line this coming **Sunday 25th April**, between **11:00 - 13:00 UK local time (10:00-12:00 GMT)** and **16:00-18:00 local time** that afternoon. Hopefully these timings will give you all a chance to call in, if you are able to, where ever you might be in the world.

I've registered the [4]Skype name of **philofaxy** naturally for the purpose of this round-table. So search for that user name and hopefully we can get connected. Send a request to be added to the contact list before Sunday if you wish it might save me some time in mid conversation...

I have video available too, but that only works when you are in just a two way conference call, but it will be fun if there's more than two of us on audio only at any one time.

I haven't thought of any topics for discussion yet, let's see if the technology works first!!! But I will try to take notes of things we discuss and then post these on the blog later that day or on Monday. So if you ask any questions and we can't answer them instantly then there will be an opportunity to get some response back later.

I will be interested in your comments on this idea and any feedback you have will also be very valuable. If it is a success which I hope it will be, I'm not sure at this stage how often we will repeat the round-table, again your thoughts on this would be appreciated.

Looking forward to hearing from you... in the true sense of the words!

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1. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/_NjIPaFKXqQ/SnDQTdIc31I/AAAAAAAAADxc/CIGEnugrj5g/s1600/Going_Retro_I_by_Pemburyuk.jpg

2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/04/philofaxy-london-meet.html>

3. <http://www.skype.com/>

4. <http://www.skype.com/>

kanalt (2010-04-21 21:39:11)

Sounds great! If I'm doing the math right...that would be 10 - 12 Eastern US (New York) time (something like that)? I hope I remember...

Roberto Marabotto (2010-04-22 08:53:51)

you can write it down in your filofax and you won't forget it

Steve (2010-04-22 13:48:06)

Check out your local time compared to UK Time (British Summer Time at the moment) here:

<http://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/>

Steve

kanalt (2010-04-22 14:10:01)

Roberto - Yeah, I realized after I wrote that that it was a dumb thing to say. =) Though I didn't have my Filo right next to me when I read the post.

I don't have Skype at the moment and have never used it, so I need to look into that beforehand.

gdigesu (2010-04-22 17:30:58)

Steve, great idea. I'll try to connect.

Laurie (2010-04-23 03:00:46)

This is so exciting Steve, thank you for setting this up!! I will plan to join in too! :D

Loads to talk about! Coming soon... (2010-04-23 09:55) - Laurie

I made it back home from London. I had a great time!! And, it was VERY planner-intensive. I have so much to tell you!!!

Each of these will get their own post in the coming days. Here is what I'll be telling you all about:

I DID get to meet with Brigitte at the Filofax shop in London, and she talked to me for about an hour about all sorts of things: new Filofax products, product development, materials sourcing, design trends, etc. She was very generous with her time, thank you Brigitte!! She said she really wants feedback from Filofax users, which she then passes on to Filofax UK, so she was very interested in my input on Filofax products. I passed on to her lots of comments and requests Philofaxy readers have posted here, and she was very interested to know what we all here want and need from our Filofaxes! It was an awesome opportunity for me to learn more about Filofax and get a behind-the-scenes look at the brand. This one will be a very long post!

While I was at the Filofax shop I DID buy a Filofax!! A red [1]A5 Domino, to be precise. While I was at the London Book Fair (which you can read about in my [2]Plannerisms post) I got to see several A5 Dominos in action. And Jess's comment on my post about it clinched it for me—I decided I had to have one! Last night despite being exhausted from my journey (after getting up at 2:30 am to get to Heathrow in time for my 6am flight!) I had to stay up to set up my new Domino. I am happy to report it is now fully operational, and I couldn't be more pleased with it! (Well, maybe I'd be slightly more pleased if the cover were purple, but they didn't have purple so I chose red. Anyway...). I loaded my [3]A5 Filofax-compatible Dodo Pad diary insert into it, and I am absolutely thrilled with it. It's colorful and fun. Rebecca from [4]Dodo Pad showed me how she's using hers (while we were at the LBF) and it inspired me. I really like my result. I will do a full review of the A5 Domino, with photos of how I'm using my Dodo Pad diary insert in it, soon!

A new product from Dodo Pad this year is the [5]Personal size Filofax-compatible Acad-Pad diary insert (which is their academic-year diary). Last night I loaded it into my (purple Personal size Finsbury) blogging Filofax, and it looks great. I'll do a review of this product with photos soon too!

While I was talking to Brigitte at the Filofax shop about Philofaxy, Plannerisms, travel etc. she very generously

gave me as samples two Filofax products that are especially useful for travelers: the Travel Journal (in Personal size) and Receipts Envelopes (in A5 size). I will do a full review of each of these products here on Philofaxy too. That's a lot of fun Filofax news coming soon here on Philofaxy!! I also got some non-Filofax samples while I was in London: more new Dodo Pad products, and the new Extra Small Moleskine planners (daily and weekly). I will be reviewing those products soon on Plannerisms, so stay tuned there too!

Meanwhile my family is very happy to see me, and I'm thrilled to be back home with them. I had a wonderful time in London, but I'm very happy to be home! Thanks to everyone who wished me well on my journey!

Laurie

1. <http://www.filofax.co.uk/store/organiserdetails.asp?display=&sizeId=5&rangeId=54&dsizeId=5>
2. <http://www.plannerisms.com/2010/04/london-book-fair.html>
3. <http://www.dodopad.com/dodofax/filofax-compatible.html>
4. <http://www.dodopad.com/index.html>
5. http://www.dodopad.com/acatalog/Diaries_Calendars__.html#aAFXP1011

Free For All Friday No 75 (2010-04-23 12:25) - Steve

As you might have guessed it's been a crazy week for us here at Philofaxy, so let's hear from you for a change... anything about Filofax of course...

And if you are free on Sunday do pop up on Skype to say hello...

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jl199986 (2010-04-23 17:11:47)

Invictim

deskfax lover- this B5 paper enigma

DIY paper cutter misery (for years) gave up, give in betrayal with my Covey trist then bolt of light!

kinokuniya bookstore! heaven! B5!

26 holes flawless paper!

and I only need 9 to fit dear god!

3 do not, despite my commitment (\$100 of green pieces of paper for those precious pierced white ones)- I punch again in my misery.

If it's the longing- then I am blessed, but I'm a user, abused until I find this best.

I will find this 'blue house' someday. Damn you Filofax.

Laurie (2010-04-24 01:42:38)

I love it!!!!!!

I forget who asked recently about where to find the no-longer-produced Eden binder, but I wanted to tell you that I asked Brigitte at Filofax in London and she said they have just a few there in their store. So if you are still looking for one, you can call them at 44 (0) 207 499 0457.

Dilaila (2010-04-24 22:36:31)

I dreamt I met someone with a red Filofax Ranger! lol

stationery gal (2010-04-25 22:44:38)

This week my new Personal Heart Filofax should arrive. There is nothing like going to the post office and seeing that your Filofax package has arrived! Of course, once you arrive home, there is the ceremonial "unveiling" of the new Filofax.

If you like it... buy it.. (2010-04-23 14:22) - Steve

During our epic Sunday meet up, both Laurie and I agreed that whilst Filofax of old was about buying your organiser and then every year just buying a new diary refill and may be some additional pages, it is very different these days.

As you have frequently commented on, a Filofax can be considered to be a 'fashion accessory'. A different organiser for each season, or to match your different handbags.

They want you to buy more than one of their organisers, even if you have that size already. It is repeat sales. They feed this habit by bringing out new organisers in different styles and in different colours.

However, there are only certain models that seem to stay in the catalogue for many years none stop and we often see requests for a particular model/colour that has disappeared from the catalogue...

So the motto is if you like it... and you really need another Filofax... buy it whilst it is available...

I'm going to tempt you to go and look to see what is new over at Filofax UK....

FILOFAX



[1]

1. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?s=152844&v=2457&q=90345&r=97790>

Laurie (2010-04-24 01:37:58)

I can confirm the "if you like it, buy it" and I will add, "and quickly!" I'm still working on my huge writeup about my chat with Brigitte but she said many of the Filofax styles and colors are for one year only and then they are gone. Finsbury, Domino, Mode, etc all those colorful binders change with the fashions so if you see a color you really want, you better hurry and get it. These products truly are limited edition. Especially the lower-priced binders are intended to be purchased every year at the whim of the buyer. Even top-price binders like Deco and Amazona have limited-edition colors (for example, Ivory and Almond respectively are no longer made this year).

I will have more to say on this soon when I get my hugely long post up!

S. (2010-04-25 06:50:25)

I've been lusting after the Songbird Organizer for awhile. This post has just tipped me over onto the "buy it more" side. Buying it now!

YM (2010-04-26 22:53:04)

Lusting over the Songbird myself. And the new bronze Domino.

Well, and the soon to come Malden is already haunting my dreams...

sigh*

My new A5 Domino Filofax with Dodo Pad diary insert! (2010-04-24 03:30) - Laurie



[1]

Here is my new [2]A5 Domino Filofax that I bought at the Filofax store in London! It is great!! I felt like I was meant to get one because I saw so many A5 Dominos while I was at the London Book Fair, and after Jess's comment on [3]my post about it I knew it was just what I've been looking for. And it is!!

I have two other A5 Filofaxes, both [4]Finsbury, one purple and one green. In the past when I've tried to use one as my planner, I quickly abandoned it because the binder is too big and heavy to carry everywhere. I love them, they are beautiful and now they serve me well at home. But I don't like to carry them around.

The Domino solves the portability issues of the A5 binders. The cover weighs almost nothing, unlike a leather binder which significantly adds to the weight of the book. Also, the Domino cover is narrower side to side than other A5 Filofaxes: by 1 to 1.5 cm, depending on the model. And having an elastic band instead of the snap closure contributes to the slimness of the book too.

The rings are huge, which is great for those of us (guilty) who like to cram as many pages and accessories into the book as possible. Again, because the cover itself is so lightweight, I can put in as many pages as I want and the overall weight of the book is still bearable.

The inside cover has a full-length pocket and several smaller pockets. There is no zip pocket in the Domino, so I added a zip pouch accessory onto the rings to hold those little things that might get lost.

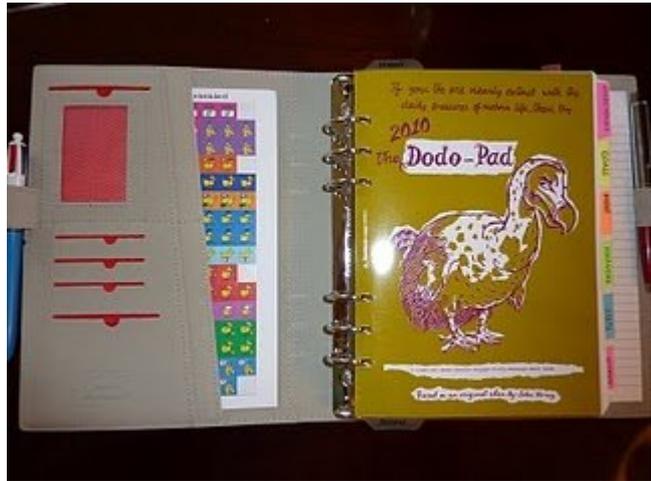
There is a note pad inside the back cover. The bottom of the notepad pocket is slotted too, so you can slide the notepad into the bottom of it—that way if you are a lefty you can use the binder upside down and have the note pad inside the left cover for easy writing, and the pockets on the right. Those folks at Filofax know what they're doing! Another thing I love about the Domino (that I also love about my [5]personal size Domino which I use as my Scotland guidebook) is that the cover can handle my messy life. I am not a tidy person, and I have problems if my planner is too precious. It needs to be able to handle abuse, rain, sticky table surfaces and my not-always-very-clean hands. I'm not afraid to take my Domino into the kitchen with me for fear of setting it down into a blob of jelly.

Another thing about the A5 Domino: it lays flat, immediately. No flapping, no fighting. It's flat.

The first time I ever saw a Domino I thought I wouldn't like the elastic band. But I do, for lots of reasons. As I noted above, it helps make the book more streamlined. Also, it's very handy for tucking papers on the outside of my book for easy access and reference while I'm out and about.

I'm using my [6]Dodo Pad [7]A5 Filofax-compatible diary insert in my Domino, and I love it! I had recently hit a wall with my planner usage—I had gone too far into overly-structured planners that seemed too impersonal and business-like. I'd gotten to the point where I didn't even want to use my planners anymore (*gasp!*) because they seemed so strict, like they were wagging their finger at me about all the things I should be doing. I wanted some color and something fun. So this was perfect timing for me for the Dodo-Domino combination.

Here you can see the inside cover of my Domino, and the front of the Dodo Pad diary insert. You can also see my [8]Dodo Reminder Stickers tucked into the pocket inside the front cover. I really like the light-colored faux suede



interior of the Domino, it looks and feels really nice.[9]

Here is my Dodo Pad diary insert in action! You can click on the photos for a larger view.[10]



[11]

I love that the page opposite the weekly schedule has plenty of room for all my lists and notes. In general, I use the daily boxes as: first box, important thing to highlight that day. Next 2 boxes, morning activities. Last 2 boxes, afternoon/ evening. I'm not strict about it though. I write across the boxes, in the margins, at the top and bottoms of the page, on the other page, wherever. There's plenty of room for all my little notes to myself.

Here's a closer look at the weekly page. This particular week has a couple of sticker-worthy events, so you can see

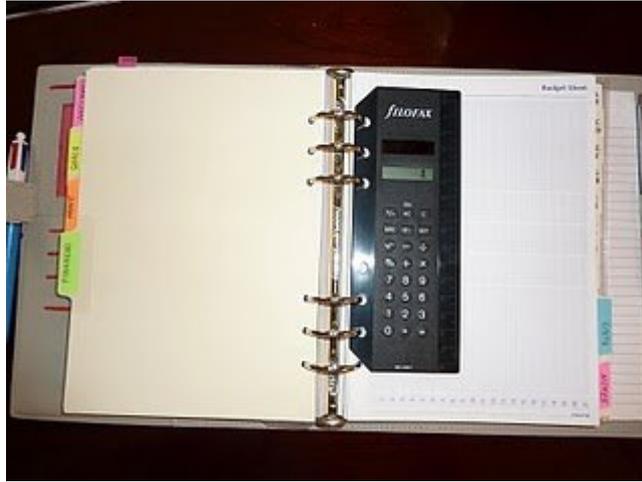


how I use my stickers. [12]

[13]

Also you can see how I've set up my tabs. I forced myself to use only 6 tabs, because I tend to get too tab-crazy. Directories has emergency info, contact numbers, whatever else I need to quick-reference.

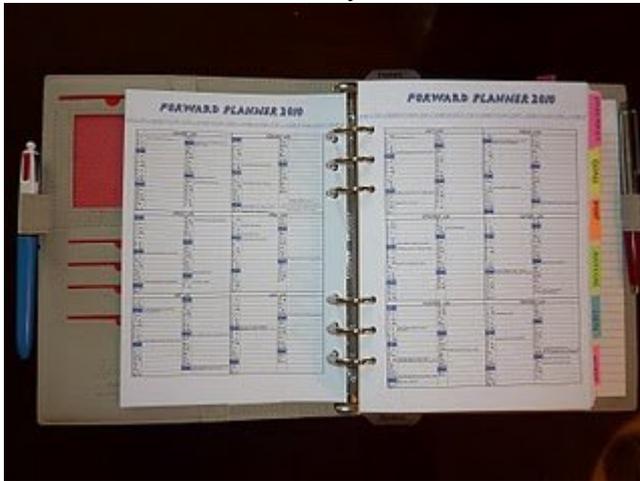
Here is a look behind my Financial tab, with the Filofax calculator



I splurged on.[14]

I have a calculator that I use in my Personal size Filofaxes but it doesn't fit on the A5 rings. I figured, I use it all the time in my Personal size, I better have one in my A5! I'm glad I got it.

The Dodo Pad diary insert has Annual Planning calendars for this year:[15]



And next year, which is really nice:[16]

I didn't take a picture, but right before my Addresses section I have my maps. Behind the addresses I have two top-opening pouches, the zip pouch I mentioned above, and a business card holder. With all of these I can collect whatever bits I need throughout the day, then when I get home I can put them wherever they belong.

I'm sure my tabs usage will evolve over time, which is why I use the colored tape flags from the Filofax Sticky Notes accessory to label my tabs. That way I can move them around whenever I need to.

When I was at the Filofax store the only color choices for the A5 Domino were black, brown or red. I wanted a cheery color so I went for the red, which I don't normally use. Now on the website they have the [17]A5 Dominos in faux snakeskin, and they look really cool! While I was at the store I saw Domino folios in pink and purple, and personal size binders in a cobalt blue that I like too, so I'm hoping they'll come out with these colors in the A5. If

they come out with a purple one you can bet I'll get it!!

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/S9G0nV7UqYI/AAAAAAAAAnA/LPqL_eRU_Qg/s1600/Diaries+2010+345.jpg
2. <http://www.filofax.co.uk/store/organiserdetails.asp?display=&sizeId=5&rangeId=54&dsizeId=5>
3. <http://www.plannerisms.com/2010/04/london-book-fair.html>
4. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/plannerisms/3783634767/in/set-72157623430927643/>
5. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/41064231@N08/sets/72157622035170176/>
6. <http://www.dodopad.com/pages/whatis.htm>
7. <http://www.dodopad.com/dodofax/filofax-compatible.html>
8. <http://www.dodopad.com/stickers/stickers.html>
9. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/S9GyMp5jN1I/AAAAAAAAAmQ/W7P4A7DFgYM/s1600/Diaries+2010+350.jpg
10. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/S9KYsPrPBEI/AAAAAAAAAnQ/YCLy30Rc8vI/s1600/Diaries+2010+359.jpg
11. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/S9GyNEKA0ZI/AAAAAAAAAmY/usGSE3tg2-Y/s1600/Diaries+2010+351.jpg
12. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/S9KYrbYRjfI/AAAAAAAAAnI/6-D1DWBU9LU/s1600/Diaries+2010+358.jpg
13. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/S9GyNgG7FMI/AAAAAAAAAmg/M56STxCbnu0/s1600/Diaries+2010+352.jpg
14. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/S9Gy_uLxEIdI/AAAAAAAAAmw/GPTCYa482IY/s1600/Diaries+2010+355.jpg
15. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/S9GyNzoLAKI/AAAAAAAAAmo/pHqrPbPjpmU/s1600/Diaries+2010+353.jpg
16. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/S9Gz3rRIfZI/AAAAAAAAAm4/gcEpsMAYygs/s1600/Diaries+2010+354.jpg
17. <http://www.filofax.co.uk/store/organiserdetails.asp?display=&sizeId=5&rangeId=143&dsizeId=5>

Eva (2010-04-24 05:09:06)

Hi Laurie,

I was looking forward to your entry about your Domino A5 Filofax because I had just bought one recently myself and I wanted to know what someone as informed as you would make of it and I'm so thrilled by all the things you wrote. The main advantage for me is that it lays flat straight away unlike some other Filofaxes. Something else that you brought my attention to were those Dodo Pads. I looked at your Plannerisms blog and I read some entries you wrote about it and I think you might have just converted me! Since I'm a stay at home mum, I don't need to have very serious looking planners and that one just looks perfect and fun. Thank you for confirming how great the Domino A5 filofax is and for converting me to the Dodo Pad!

Eva

Laurie (2010-04-24 06:52:09)

Great Eva! I think you'll really like the Dodo Pad. In fact, right now you can get the A5 Dodo Pad diary inserts for a very low price on ebay:

<http://cgi.ebay.co.uk/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=140333306763>

The Buy It Now price is great, or you can make an offer. It's a great chance to try the product at a very low price!

Jess (2010-04-24 13:00:52)

I couldn't resist the Dodo ebay offer - I made an offer of £4 and snapped one up!

Steve (2010-04-24 13:11:22)

I like the touch of having the notepad slot top and bottom so you can use the organiser as a left-handed person.

Neat touch, I wonder if they did that on purpose or not. I'm right handed myself, but I can see the appeal of catering for

both.
Steve

Erin (2010-04-24 15:02:19)

Laurie,

What color is your new one? It looks mango or peach colored but can't tell from the photo. Is it red?

Laurie (2010-04-25 05:15:22)

Hi Erin, the binder cover is red. When I went to the shop the only color choices were black, brown or red. I'm not normally a red person, but I didn't want anything dark so red it was!

Jess, great price on the Dodo Pad insert! I'd love to hear what you think about it when it arrives!

Steve, the Filofax folios that hold a note pad have the same feature, which is great.

Michele (2010-04-25 10:24:40)

Laurie, Eva stole my word! I was reading your post and all I could think of is I think you have a "convert"!! The Dodo pad looks really fun to use! I too met Brigitte in the London store - last Summer before I discovered Philofaxy! I didn't buy a new Philo but I got everything else! I cannot wait to go to London again and visit the store!!!

Estelle (2010-04-26 21:35:02)

The family pack domino is a purple A5 or personal.

And if one were lefthanded and used it bottom up like you suggested the card slips would open towards the bottom. I wouldn't feel safe that way...

Laurie (2010-04-27 02:08:08)

Hi Estelle,

The family pack Domino in the personal size is purple but in the A5 size the Domino cover is Chocolate (in the UK. In the US you can choose between red, black or chocolate for your family pack binder). Which is unfortunate because I would have been willing to pay extra for the family pack just to get a purple cover in A5!

Family Pack Domino in UK:

<http://www.filofax.co.uk/store/organiserdetails.asp?display=&sizeId=5&rangeId=142&dsId=5>

Family Pack Domino in US:

<http://www.filofaxusa.com/store/organiserdetails.asp?display=&sizeId=5&rangeId=145&dsId=5>

Good point about the card slots being upside down if you use the binder with the notepad on the left. I don't usually use those card slots so I didn't think of that. I put cards into a Business Card Holder that fits on the rings.

katka.m (2010-05-11 16:14:41)

Hi, first of all, I would like to thank you for great blog. I've found it when I was looking for some information about Domino A4, as I was thinking of buying it for my job. I bought it and I'm glad I did. It's perfect.

Second I would like to ask you maybe stupid question, but what exactly does FSO stand for? I can't google it anywhere. Thanks.

Laurie (2010-05-12 03:25:46)

Hi katka,

Definitely not a stupid question, I don't know what FSO stands for either. Can you tell me where you saw it or what was the context? Maybe that will help me think of it.

katka.m (2010-05-12 12:05:20)

Hi, I found it e.g. at <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2008/02/how-do-you-filo.html> (it's mentioned in one of the comment), but usually I saw it together with A5 Filofax

Laurie (2010-05-12 12:21:46)

There I see it: "A5 Windsor FSO." I have no idea what that means. Does anybody know?

Steve (2010-05-12 12:35:36)
FSO = Filofax System Organiser
I think!!
Steve

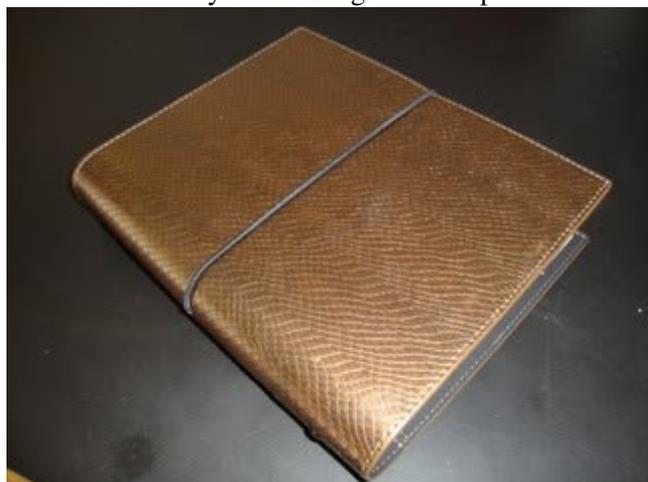
katka.m (2010-05-12 13:57:09)
Thanks. I thought about that. But it's strange it's used only with A5. Well, anyway, thanks a lot for help. And once more...great blog...I'm glad I've found it :o)

gracefuldisastr (2010-12-28 15:29:19)
I'm considering buying an A5 domino, but was curious if it eventually becomes too cumbersome to carry everywhere. I'd like to know how you enjoyed yours after a few months of having it and the newness wore off.
Will you be using it again next year?

Laurie (2010-12-28 16:23:22)
Actually I only used the A5 for about a month then abandoned it because it was just too big to carry with me everywhere. That was the third time in two years I'd tried to use an A5 Filofax and each time I changed to something else after about a month due to the size and weight.

Guest Post: Jess's A5 snake Domino!! (2010-04-24 06:50) - Laurie

Here is a guest post from Jess, about her brand-new [1]snake A5 Domino Filofax! Jess, thank you for sharing so much about how you are using it! Great photos!



I'm a newcomer to the Filofax fold. I received a beautiful Anya Hindmarch agenda for the Christmas just passed, which happened to fit Filofax personal inserts. I've been on the hunt for the perfect planner since, as I quickly realised that Anya (as I like to call my first agenda) is gorgeous and elegant, but the soft silver patent leather cover just isn't sturdy enough for everyday use. It's a luxury planner, not one that will stand up to my student life, where I need a planner to be able to handle constant use and being thrown around into numerous bags with uncapped pens, lipstick, the whole messy girl deal. So I moved onto a personal Fresco – alright, but nothing special. Then I 'borrowed' my Mum's old personal black Pimlico – great sturdy leather, but a bit boring looking. My budget didn't stretch to a glamorous Amazona or any of the high end Filofaxes – what to do?

Turns out that my dissatisfaction with these Filos wasn't simply the design, material, or anything like that – it was the size. I bought an A5 red Domino from WHSmiths a couple of weeks ago, purely on a whim because it was reduced to a very purse-friendly £18, complete with an 18-month diary, index tabs (numbered and alphabetical), to-do sheets and coloured note paper. The A5 portable hole-punch was also reduced in price, so I slung that in my basket too, admittedly not giving much thought to how this Filo would fit into my life.

Quite simply, moving to A5 size has been a revelation. The ring size of the Domino is large enough to stuff full of everything I need, which I can easily do now I can simply fold and punch A4 sheets – something I get through

plenty of in the course of my days as a student. I find that I'm using my Filo even more effectively, and relying on it completely, than before now I have moved to a bigger size. Luckily the portability issue doesn't crop up for me because of the light cover material of the Domino and my penchant for huge handbags!

I liked the red cover, too, but it could have been better. I was more than happy to tolerate it, though, because of the benefits of everything else about the Domino. When I spotted the new snake effect A5s, though, I didn't think twice and promptly ordered one in bronze. Finally I have size, space, glamour, everything I want in a planner! I'm in heaven, and it's perfectly suited to my student life too; as Laurie said in her post about the A5 Domino, the cover can withstand all sorts of stuff being spilt and dropped on it, and it's not so expensive that I feel guilty every time I chuck it in my bag!



Being able to just transfer my pages from my red to the new Domino has made the whole process very easy indeed. My set-up is as follows:

When I first open my Filo, I keep a transparent pocket with a top opening containing a [2]photograph of me and the boyfriend, stamps, passport photos and some Post-it notes. Then I have my personal information pages, and all the reference pages that come with Filofax diaries such as the international holidays.

I then have [3]six tabbed sections, one of which has a further six tabs contained within it.

Behind the first is all my main reference material – main phone numbers (I like to keep a paper copy of phone numbers as well as in my phone, as I've lost too many phones to count!), addresses of family for birthday cards, passwords, booking references, etc.

The second tab is my Health section, which is probably where I've felt the benefits of the A5 hole punch the most. I have calendars detailing appointments and check-ups, fitness class timetables from my local gym, food diaries that I designed myself and printed onto A5 paper, a record of my weight, exercise plans, and so on. I refer to this section constantly, which I wouldn't be able to do if I was still using a Personal and couldn't put all this information together as easily.

[4]

Fitness timetable

[5]

Food diary

Behind the third tab is my [6]lists section, where I have running to-do lists and shopping lists.

The fourth section is my [7]diary. The snake Domino came loaded with a week-on-two-pages in the column format, which I've never used before, so I'm taking the opportunity to try that out for a week or two. I put important to-dos in the space at the bottom, and birthdays etc in the space at the top. So far I'm really liking the appointment times running down the side, split into half hours – although I'm not sure whether this format would work for me outside of university term time, when my life is much less structured. Seeing as I'm only in university for 24 weeks of the year, I'm going to keep hold of my standard week-on-two-page format diary for now as well. In my diary I also use my own version of the Jot Pads, which I made myself from the perforated pages at the back of a pocket

Moleskine and my A5 hole punch. On these I record any extra details about meetings, times, etc, that I can't fit on the daily space.

The fifth section, which contains six further tabs, is my Projects – each project has its own sub-tab. Again, being able to create my own pages, and hole-punch A4 sheets, has been an amazing benefit for this section.

[8]

This photo shows the sub-section dedicated to my work on the fashion section of my university's student newspaper – I have an article here from Vogue which I want to use for reference in a future edition, and I made my own pages with body outlines printed on them to draw inspiring outfits I see on the street, ideas for photoshoots, etc.

The [9]last section is all my spare address pages, note paper, to-do lists etc. The last thing in my Filo is a card holder which came with the snake Domino; I'm not sure what I'll use it for, yet, so for now it's protecting the back pages.

For the first time since I started using the Filofax system, I feel like my planner is an extension brain. I'm sure this is totally down to the A5 size! I'm so glad Filofax have offered a budget option which is both sexy, fashionable and grown-up for those of us on a budget who can't quite afford the Amazona(!). Just divine – thank you!

1. <http://www.filofax.co.uk/store/organiserdetails.asp?display=&sizeId=5&rangeId=143&dsizeId=5>
2. http://i1016.photobucket.com/albums/af288/jess_shepherd/DSC00586.jpg
3. http://i1016.photobucket.com/albums/af288/jess_shepherd/DSC00599.jpg
4. http://i1016.photobucket.com/albums/af288/jess_shepherd/DSC00595.jpg
5. http://i1016.photobucket.com/albums/af288/jess_shepherd/DSC00596.jpg
6. http://i1016.photobucket.com/albums/af288/jess_shepherd/DSC00597.jpg
7. http://i1016.photobucket.com/albums/af288/jess_shepherd/DSC00587.jpg
8. http://i1016.photobucket.com/albums/af288/jess_shepherd/DSC00594.jpg
9. http://i1016.photobucket.com/albums/af288/jess_shepherd/DSC00593.jpg

Steve (2010-04-24 12:15:05)

Great post Jess. I like your choice in organisers, it looks very classy in deed and for such a reasonable price, I'm sure sales of that model will be very good.

Interesting in your setup, the order of your sections was refreshingly different. But that is the big advantage of Filofax, you can change it to suit yourself.

Let us know how you get on. I'm also a fan of the A5 format as well as my Slimline.

Regards

Steve

Jess (2010-04-24 12:59:51)

Thanks, Steve! It really is very good value for money - the photos don't do the quality of the snake finish justice. I wasn't expecting the bronze to be slightly reflective, either, and that really adds to the 'pricey' look!

Re: setup, I'm guessing you mean that I have my diary towards the middle of the planner! The large rings of the Domino can make it hard to write on, so I placed the diary (the most used section) in the middle so the writing surface is more level.

Steve (2010-04-24 13:08:37)

Yes I like your reasoning, I might try moving my diary section too.

You will now need a similar bag to match your new organiser!

Jess (2010-04-25 03:26:44)

Oh don't tempt me Steve!

kanalt (2010-04-25 11:02:55)

Great post, Jess! I just realized that the A5 Domino is now available in the US as well. So I've asked for one for my birthday (though I don't know if my husband will support my "bad" habit anymore). I would use it for projects and the like, not necessarily for my calendar, but I can't say that for sure until I see how wonderful it is.

Enjoy!

Claudia Volkman (2010-04-26 19:52:08)

But it doesn't seem to be available in the US in the copper - I have emailed Filofax USA to see when they might offer it... I love it in the copper color and hope to acquire one!

Claudia

Tip of the Day (2010-04-26 06:43) - Steve

If the interior of your Filofax organiser is cloth or part of it is cloth and it's starting to look a little 'grubby', mainly from paper dust, try this.

Open your organiser and lay it flat. Take a length of sticky tape or packing tape and press the sticky side down on to the cloth and then lift the tape off. Repeat this with a new length of tape until you have done both front and back of the organiser.

The dust will stick to the tape and leave the cloth looking like new again. The tape shouldn't leave any residue behind as it is only on the cloth for a few seconds.

For the leather covers, I use an ordinary household silicon based spray polish. However, before you try this, I would recommend using a small amount on a small area of your organiser to ensure it will not alter the colour of the leather too much. My organisers are mainly dark colours so any colour change is not noticeable.

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Filofax Beauty Box now available in the US (2010-04-26 14:54) - Steve

I see that the [1]Filofax Beauty Box that we [2]reviewed in October last year is now available in the US... sorry if this is old news?

And it's in Domino Snake Skin Personal... that ever popular style...

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1. <http://www.filofaxusa.com/store/organiserdetails.asp?rangeId=143&sizeId=3&dsizeId=3&spId=1083#1083>

2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2009/09/exclusive-preview-filofax-beauty-gift.html>

Philofaxy Roundtable (2010-04-27 00:30) - Steve

So I held court on [1]Skype yesterday for the first time. As I said in my [2]announcement about this idea, I wasn't sure how it would work out or how many people would call in.

Well I was fully prepared for a huge crowd of people, drinks laid on, Filofax at the ready, family warned, netbook for the Skype connection, iMac with various websites open ready for reference etc.

The big crowd didn't turn up, but it wasn't a failure. I enjoyed a few chats with our readers and 'admirers' from other websites, who had heard about the round-table and wanted to join in. Laurie also popped up too, so we caught up with things since last week.

My time wasn't wasted, far from it, through talking to people, I added some more valuable content and links to the site.

Topics covered included: Prices of things on Ebay, the differences between Filofax and other planner formats, my own method of creating templates (a post will be coming soon on this one), Dodo Pad (I got to speak to Lord Dodo! touches forelock M'lord), Old versus New Filofax organisers and inserts. That's just the major headlines, but there was a lot more than that. Rather capture everything I just wanted to enjoy chatting with our readers etc.

Not everyone is set up for voice via Skype, or find it a mode they prefer to use. Skype works well if you use a headset rather than just the built in mic and speakers. But you can log in and then just listen if you wish.

However, we did discover that you can do a form of instant messaging using Skype that I hadn't realised existed

before. Thank you Sharon for helping me prove that mode works ok. Although I have to admit that chatting to several people whilst typing to others at the same time might be a bit too much for me... remember I'm a guy... and we don't multi-task that well, or so I'm told!

So will we do it again... yes I think we should, but may be only once a month. At the time of typing I will not declare the date of the next event, but watch the blog and we will announce it with a bit more notice this time. I will also add it as an event on our Facebook page. I think I need to spread the timing of the sessions a little bit wider to cater for people in the US better.

You might see **Philofaxy** on Skype from time to time, it could be anyone of the three of us. But I will suggest altering the 'mood message' to say who it is on line.

So if you have any thoughts or comments on how we could improve on this idea, please add your comments. And again thank you to all of you who logged in and took part.

1. <http://www.skype.com/>

2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/04/philofaxy-online-roundtable-discussion.html>

Brigitte at London Filofax shop (2010-04-27 09:22) - Laurie

Last week while I was in London, I had the opportunity to meet with Brigitte, the manager of the flagship Filofax shop on Conduit Street in London. She was very kind to spend more than an hour talking to me about Filofax! Thank you very much Brigitte!

As you might imagine she and I had tons to talk about, and I'll try to remember it all for you here.

We talked a lot about the new Filofax binder styles and colors. Brigitte confirmed that there is a core selection of standard binder products that are made year after year, but most of the colorful styles are for one year only. Colors change frequently then are gone, to try to keep up with trends and customers' wants. So if there is a particular color or style you want, you should buy it soon! They are limited edition.

The new [1]Songbird style binders are beautiful. They are meant to replace the Eden binders. Brigitte said Edens were very popular, but they wanted to move on to a different style. The Songbird pattern is similar to the Eden, but updated. I didn't notice before on the website photo, the closure button on the Songbird binder has a musical note pattern on it, which is a very nice touch. Side note: if you are looking for an Eden binder, she said they have a few left in stock in the shop! Give them a call if you are interested (0207 499 0457).

There is a beautiful new saturated-aqua color Finsbury this year. [2]Finsbury binders are intended to be a user's introduction to the leather binders. It's the least-expensive leather binder, and to keep the price down they have made the interior fabric, which does not wear as long as leather. Brigitte said some Finsbury users have found after using their binder for a long time that the cloth where the rings rub starts to wear out.

The Chameleon range of binders is intended as a step-up from Finsbury, with a full-leather interior for longer wear. The leather is buffalo, sourced from India. It's incredibly soft! I was expecting a stiff leather like Finsbury but it's very supple. These binders are incredibly beautiful, and I have to admit I was extremely tempted! The Chameleon style is not yet available on the website.

Malden binders are already there in the Filofax shop, they are wonderfully soft and supple. They are also buffalo leather sourced from India. These are very good-looking binders.

She showed me the [3] Kendal binders, which I had never seen in person before. The leather is waxed, so that if it gets scratched you can just buff it out. Great option for people who want a leather binder but are tough on their Filofax.

[4] Guildford binders come in the widest range of sizes and styles: slimline, personal, and several sizes of extra slim. The extra slim binders have 11mm rings like the Slimline, but the cover is even narrower so it can fit into a man's pocket. This means that any tabs would protrude out the side of the book. She also showed me a new Guildford called "Compact" that is between the Slimline and Personal sizes. It has larger rings than the Slimline, but is narrower than the Personal with no strap closure. This was available in the shop but is not online yet.

She showed me the [5] Adelphi "slimline" A5. It's slimline in the sense that the rings are smaller and there is no strap closure. But there are gusseted pockets inside the front and back covers. These pockets are nice, but they add bulk to the book so I wouldn't call this truly slimline. Brigitte said her male customers find the diamond pattern on

the Adelphi too feminine-looking, even in the black color. I hope Filofax will come out with a truly slimline A5, for men and women, soon.

She showed me some binders that they carry in the Conduit Street shop but are otherwise available only in other countries, such as Classic with contrast stitching only for the Japanese market. Also she showed me some items not seen in the catalog, like the blue Domino binders. She said these items were added to the collection after the catalog was published.

Brigitte told me about some of their customer base at the Conduit Street shop and how it differs from the customer base at their shop in Covent Garden. The Conduit Street shop is in a very upscale area, and as you would expect most of their customers buy Filofaxes in the upper price ranges. She said the shop's selection of bags reflects the higher price ranges as well. She said they also get a fair number of university and medical students who tend to get more expensive products if they come in with their parents who want to treat them.

Their Covent Garden shop is in a more tourist-centered location and because of this they tend to get more impulse purchasers of the lower price range products.

Brigitte said in their Conduit Street shop they also get tourists from Europe who are in the area to shop at the higher-end shops. She said she was surprised recently when tourists from Sweden came in and the women wanted the [6]Mode binders (in pink and aqua). These were women who obviously could have afforded a much more expensive binder but went for the lower-end ones. I said I completely understand: first of all, the binders are colorful, feminine and fun. And as a mother, especially when your children are small, you need a binder that doesn't get ruined when it gets messy. It needs to be able to handle the occasional spill, drip, or blob of jelly and wipe off easily with a baby wipe. So I can understand why the colorful, less-expensive binders are popular with women from every demographic.

The Conduit Street shop gives customers the option of buying the Filofax binders empty (without any of the inserts that normally come with it) for a lower price. Brigitte said there are several people who prefer to buy just the empty binder. She said she has customers who work for the fashion magazines who already use a Filofax and want to change the binder with the seasons.

We talked about other uses for the binders beyond the diary-and-addresses uses. One idea was for people who collect a lot of business cards to buy an empty binder, especially an A5 size, and use the Business Card Holder inserts to have a very classy-looking book full of business cards. You could even use the A-Z tabs to alphabetize your cards.

We talked about a Filofax binder with a pocket for a smart phone. She said actually they had one awhile back but it didn't work out very well. The pocket was inside the binder cover, so when the binder was closed the phone was smooshed against the pages, which pushed the On button so the battery got drained quickly. It didn't sell well and was discontinued. I asked about possibly making one with the phone pocket on the outside, and she said at this time there are no plans for it. Part of the issue is that Filofax designs begin about 18 months before they are available to sell, and as we all know 18 months is an eternity in technology-time. So by the time the design actually became available to buy, the phones could be a completely different size and not fit into the pockets.

The [7]Filofax folios caught my eye. I noticed in particular that the [8]Domino folios come in colors like purple and pink that are not available in the A5 size binder. Brigitte showed me inside the back of the folios where the notepads are: they have notepad slots top and bottom so you can turn the folio over and use your notepad on left or right side, which is convenient for left-handers.

She also showed me the [9]Bond and Sketch zipped portfolios which have slide-out removable rings. That way you can have pages on rings, or remove the rings to use just a notepad in the folio. It's also great if you have a standard presentation on papers tucked into clear plastic sleeves that you keep on the rings: when you need the presentation, you just slide the rings into your folio and off you go.

She asked if I have used any of the [10]Lifestyle Packs and I said that I have tried the [11]Family Organizer in the A5 and Personal sizes and I like them. I told her about some other brands of family organizers I've used, and things I liked and disliked about them, and compared them to the Filofax family pack. I suggested they add forms for Medical information for each member of the family to keep track of things like when they are due for vaccines, dental exams, lists of prescriptions and allergies, and other medical information.

She said several users of the Lifestyle Packs have asked for additional forms to be sold separately, so that if they run out of a particular form they don't have to buy an entire new pack. She said something they are working on is to have these forms available on the Filofax website as a download, which you can then print out on your Filofax computer paper.

We talked about how I travel often, and she asked if I've ever used the [12]Travel Journal lifestyle pack. I said no and she very generously gave me one as a sample, which I will review soon here on Philofaxy. I also looked at the Receipts Envelopes that fit on the binder rings with a chart on the outside of the envelope to fill in date, expense, amount etc. I said they would be perfect for business travelers who have to do an expense report when they get back to the office. She gave me a pack of those too, which I will also review.

We talked a bit about the diary and paper inserts. There is a weekly diary insert in the personal size that has the days as vertical columns, but it's available in French only, not English. She said they get a fair number of French customers in the shop, so they carry some of the French-only diary inserts. She also said so many people want the personal size diary insert with the days as vertical columns, that even English-only speakers are buying it even though it is in French. I hope they will come out with this format in English. I told her a little bit about the Franklin Covey format where you can put the tabbed months between the weeks. She showed me the Filofax tabbed monthly inserts, but like all Filofax calendars they are printed back to back, so it wouldn't work to put them between the weeks because then the months would be split.

We talked a little about the Filofax maps. Something I didn't realize before is that each individual country requests their own maps. So Germany can request which maps they want in German, same for France etc. I told her how I've been asking Filofax for an updated Europe map for years! She suggested I check the Filofax websites of some of the other countries to see if maybe they have a new Europe map.

Brigitte gave me her card and when I pulled out my over-stuffed [13]Deco to put the card into, her eyes got wide and she said, "Oh my! That is abuse." And unfortunately she is right, it was stuffed way too full. She pointed out that filling it so full that the pages go all the way around the rings will eventually cause the ring mechanism to break. So as soon as I got home I took out about half the pages and I'm happy to report that my Deco breathed a sigh of relief!

While I was there I bought my new [14]A5 Domino in red, which you can read all about in [15]my post below, and some accessories to go along with it including the portable hole punch and calculator. I am very happy with my new Filofax, and I'll be sure to give you updates as my usage evolves!

It was a wonderful opportunity for me to learn about Filofax behind-the-scenes, to see the beautiful new products out this year, and to make comments and suggestions in person on behalf of Philofaxy readers.

Many thanks again to Brigitte!

1. <http://www.filofax.co.uk/store/organiserdetails.asp?rangeId=152&sizeId=3&dsizeId=3&spId=1087#1087>
2. http://www.filofax.co.uk/search/search.asp?search_string=finsbury&showall=true&productType=1
3. <http://www.filofax.co.uk/store/organiserdetails.asp?rangeId=82&sizeId=5&dsizeId=5&spId=577#577>
4. http://www.filofax.co.uk/search/search.asp?search_string=guildford&showall=true&productType=1
5. <http://www.filofax.co.uk/store/organiserdetails.asp?rangeId=129&sizeId=3&dsizeId=3&spId=958#958>
6. <http://www.filofax.co.uk/store/organiserdetails.asp?rangeId=132&sizeId=2&dsizeId=2&spId=974#974>
7. <http://www.filofax.co.uk/uk/folders+and+folios/>
8. <http://www.filofax.co.uk/store/businessdetails.asp?catId=10&productId=465>
9. <http://www.filofax.co.uk/store/businessdetails.asp?catId=10&productId=393>
10. http://www.filofax.co.uk/search/search.asp?search_string=lifestyle&showall=true&productType=3
11. http://www.clikasp.com/asp/fsi4/fsi.swf?pages_server=http://www.clikasp.com/asp&pages_dir=*D384eqNsM/Tkldr1gDgB%2C7vZ99f21wB0pkuyo3hLzyXAL7Idp101erXR0RYXwggfe0IiIyn0ie3A%0Asvc1X0BNdnZ70zx2YBJvyMjNqTPgT1HJP4c6zZJijDryVLe6LXeflw%3D%3D&cfg=pages_presets/erez_defaults.fsi&MouseModes_Mode2=0&plugins=resize
12. http://www.clikasp.com/asp/fsi4/fsi.swf?pages_server=http://www.clikasp.com/asp&pages_dir=*X2wM9icaG//kldr1gDgB%2C8LgqPjwi3B2d7BWSBhp2fTAL7Idp101erXR0RYXwggfe0IiIyn0ie1W%0AyJSIMimk8n70%2CgWtsb4HyMjNqTPgT1HJP4c6zZJijMfPyZZ44Eglog%3D%3D&cfg=pages_presets/erez_defaults.fsi&MouseModes_Mode2=0&plugins=resize

13. <http://www.filofax.co.uk/store/organiserdetails.asp?display=&sizeId=3&rangeId=118&dsId=3>
14. <http://www.filofax.co.uk/store/organiserdetails.asp?display=&sizeId=5&rangeId=54&dsId=5>
15. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/04/my-new-a5-domino-filofax-with-dodo-pad.html>

YM (2010-04-27 09:48:05)

fantastic post Laurie :)

so, you had your hands on a Malden? any idea the ring size on the personal??????

DashaKabakova (2010-04-27 09:54:04)

Wow, thanks for the report! My planned trip to London got canceled, but I hope I do get to go sometime soon...

I like the idea of making some inserts downloadable. They should do that for a lot of the older inserts that might be interesting to enthusiasts but not enough for printing. Maybe this is TMI, but I would love one of the fold out menstrual planners that were available in the early 2000s.

kanalt (2010-04-27 10:43:58)

Great post Laurie! I'm very interested in the compact Guildford. Did she say if there is any plan of that coming to the US?

Steve (2010-04-27 12:52:32)

Excellent post and insight Laurie, thank you for not leaving anything out.

I hadn't realised that about the Finsbury interiors, mine are holding up ok at the moment.

I would like to confirm that I have seen witnessed Laurie's 'stuffed full' Deco first hand... yes it was very very full, but in your defence Laurie I suspect that was because of the nature of your trip... wasn't it?!!

Again thank you for such a great post.

R (2010-04-27 13:20:23)

@ kanalt

Guildfords in North America come in Personal Zipped, A5 Zipped, Mini, Pocket, Slimline, Extra Slimline (which I'm taking as what they call compact) Personal and A5.

Also the North America side carries the Classic in contrasting Stitching like Japan, North Americas is the black with red stitching.

Also the North American line is carrying BOND now in red.

JJ (2010-04-27 13:49:36)

Honestly, if I had known the Modes were feminine, I never would have gotten one.

Really, I like the rubber (or whatever that material is) binders as something that doesn't need any special care.

R (2010-04-27 13:57:24)

@JJ

The mode comes in black with a blue underlay. So there not that feminine

Laurie (2010-04-27 14:45:12)

YM: sorry, I can't remember the ring size on the Malden! I did forget to add, the ochre Maldens have a special waxed finish. It is very nice...

Dasha, I agree it would be wonderful if they would make some of their old forms available as downloads! I know they don't make many of them anymore due to shelf space in the stores. But a download would solve that. And, I know exactly the menstrual planner you mean and I wish they would bring it back too!

R thanks for all the great info!

JJ, the Mode that Brigitte referred to that the woman bought was pink and aqua colored. But R is right, there are masculine colors in the Mode too (and they are very cool looking).

Deirdre (2010-04-27 15:26:09)

Oh, other templates for the computer printer paper! YESSSSSSSS!!! I've been looking for this for ages. I would love a page layout template for word/openoffice so you could play with ideas and your own things.

As a knitter I'd love to be able to have sizing and quantities pages for my filofax for when I travel, that and things like neatly printed "I'm Coeliac please don't poison me" page in english and the language where I'm visiting would be a blessing!

Nickie @ Typecast (2010-04-27 17:03:27)

Brilliant post Laurie - so glad you had the opportunity for your visit whilst you were in the UK :)

kanalt (2010-04-27 22:21:39)

I do own a Guildford Slimline but I was intrigued by the Compact because its ring size falls between the slimline and the personal, something which I've been wishing Filofax would make. If it's available in the London store, soon to be on the UK website, I was hoping that it would also debut on the US site, and hoping still that Laurie would have some information on that. Any luck in that department?

kanalt (2010-04-27 22:29:22)

R - when looking into the Slimline, I didn't know if I should get the slim or the extra slim so I ordered both. I wouldn't classify the extra slim as a "compact," meaning that the ring size did not fall between the slimline and the personal. It was just about the same size as the Slim, so I'm not sure what the difference is between the slim and extra slim except that one has a pen loop and the other doesn't. According the site, there is a slight difference in ring size, but if so, it was so small that I couldn't tell the difference.

Laurie (2010-04-28 01:36:33)

Hi everybody,

Brigitte knew what was coming to the UK market, but did not know what is coming to the US or other countries' markets, because those countries choose for themselves what products they will carry. So unfortunately I don't have any information on that, sorry!

R may be able to tell us about the Guildford compact?

One of the Classics for the Japanese market I saw was either black or dark brown (can't remember) with bright green stitching! It was definitely different.

The Extra Slimline is very narrow, only the width of the pages, so if there are tabbed dividers they will stick out the side. But I'm not certain about the ring size.

Jess (2010-04-28 03:17:45)

i was in london yesterday and planned my trip so i had enough time to go to the filofax store - it was amazing! i love the 'boutique' style, with all the planners on shelves :)

i noticed two things though. firstly, they didn't have the bronze snake domino on display (i had mine in my bag and was tempted to get it out to show it off!). secondly, i was very disappointed by the red amazona a5, which i've always thought of as the ultimate filofax, the one i REALLY wanted. online and in the catalogue it looks almost patent, with a glossy shine to it, but in real life (i was about to say 'in person', then - i'm anthropomorphising my filofaxes again!) it's more matte. it was still gorgeous, but it definitely wasn't what i thought.

on a plus note, i wasn't even tempted to buy a planner - so maybe my new set up really is the one for me!

Iris (2010-04-28 06:32:46)

In Germany, the Classic is available in black with red stitching (Pocket and Personal only), as you can see [1]here.

1. <http://www.filofax.de/store/organiserdetails.asp?display=&sizeId=3&rangeId=86&dsizeId=3>

R (2010-04-28 09:43:51)

@ iris that is the same one the Canadian and States market is carrying.

@Kanalt - i will work on an answer for you as to regards to the compact guildford for the north american market

R (2010-04-28 09:58:19)

@ kanalt

After much looking around it looks like the UK offers 2 sizes in the slim. One with 5 rings and one with 6. The one with the 5 rings is smaller 90mm by 118mm or 3.57 inches by 4.64. So after all that the North America carries only the six ring version of the slim.

Laurie (2010-04-28 14:54:08)

Let me try to clear up some confusion about the Guildford:

The Personal Guildford has a strap closure and 23mm rings.

The Compact Guildford has no strap closure, and a ring size between that of the Personal and Slimline (I can't remember the mm). Brigitte said it is intended to be an "in-between" size for people who want something less bulky than the Personal but a larger ring size than Slimline. I saw this in the London Filofax store but it is not available yet on the Filofax UK website. I don't know if it will be available in the US or any other country.

The Slimline Guildford has 11 mm rings and a pen loop. It can accommodate tabbed dividers.

The Extra Slim Guildford also has 11 mm rings, but it does not have a pen loop, and the cover is narrower, only the width of the pages. If tabbed dividers are used with the Extra Slim, they will protrude out the side. The Extra Slim comes in sizes that fit page sizes for Personal (coming soon from what I understand), Pocket and Mini (both of which are currently available on the Filofax UK website).

Guildford also comes in normal Mini, Pocket, A5 and A4 sizes, and also zipped in Personal, A5 and A4.

Again, the products I saw in the London shop were for the UK market, Brigitte didn't have any information at that time about what might be available outside the UK.

I hope this clears up any confusion!

kanalt (2010-04-28 15:34:45)

Thanks R and Laurie. I have to say that there does seem to be a lot of confusion with the Guildford in general, at least in the US. Upon ordering the Slim and Extra Slim, I couldn't figure out the difference, so I called customer service and after speaking with a rep and after receiving a detailed email message from him regarding ring sizes for all Guildford styles, I still couldn't figure it out - the ring sizes they quoted were different than what the website says. So who knows. In the end, I kept the Slimline and returned the Extra Slim, which seems to be good since the extra slim is narrower, which I didn't notice at the time.

The in-between size (the UK compact) sounds like something I'd definitely like. I'll keep my eye out for it here in the US and keep you posted...

Here's hoping!

Mappleton (2010-04-28 18:37:09)

Kanalt: I phoned the shop in Covent Garden(UK) as they were extremely helpful during our last visit. A well-spoken lady answered and explained the Extra Slim was made to slip into a pocket easily which explains the reason why it's narrower and doesn't have a pen holder or allow for dividers. She did suggest if I needed a divider to use another ruler as an alternative, and she also mentioned they were made in different colours. I was also told the Compact has a 15mm ring which is 4mm more than the Slimline, and comes with a week to view diary. She told me they do mail orders from the shop. I ask if they sent things outside the UK to which she replied "so long as the country had a postal service they would try to send items".

Laurie: I loved your informative piece. From your visit with Brigitte it appears she does understand customer needs. Hats off to Filofax for having such excellent staff.

I do like the Covent Garden shop as the staff are always friendly and helpful (plus my wife gets to shoe shop whilst I spend time looking for new things for my Filofax)

kanalt (2010-04-28 19:00:16)

Thanks for the info, Mappleton! Guildford in different colors????!! In the US they only come in black. I didn't think I'd ever buy a Filo from the UK because of the money, but this just may push me over the edge. Hmmm...

Paul (2010-08-07 18:15:23)

I bought myself a personal Kendal in the Conduit Street shop just a couple of days ago - I think from Brigitte. Very helpful, and I'm very happy with my new filofax! Never had one before, but I'm a paper based planner, and I bought it as a reward

for finishing my PhD! I'm new to this blog, but I think that I'll be a recurring visitor. Thanks :-)

Guest Post - Alternative Filofax (2010-04-28 02:00) - Steve

As always we welcome guest posts on Philofaxy and in our in-box today came an article from Francesca, who you might recall was the lucky person to win our Filofax Beauty Box last year. So here is an interesting new article from Francesca.

Filofaxing is an expensive pursuit, and one that threatens a life time of dissatisfaction, reduced expendable income and a hunchback from carrying round that Zipped Guildford with 4 inches of 'necessary' information bursting from its heaving rings. It's the perfect organisation system on so many levels - other than it will never be perfect. Just as you think you have the ideal system running ("It hasn't changed in almost 3 months, so I must be nearing Filo-Nirvana, surely?"), some pesky, petty lifestyle change, new job, smaller hand bag, birth of your first child etc-arrives to throw your system into disarray again.

I'm guilty of this. I change my folder/ size/ diary layout/ dividers/ content/ biros/ *insert expensive Filofax accessory here* on a constant basis, and never quite hit on what I want. This becomes a tiresome and bankrupting pursuit (and don't wave your pre-cut Filo printer paper in my face like that- I spend more money on wasted sheets of this stuff as I desperately try to line up the margins than I do on miniature post it notes), and after 10 years of struggling valiantly with it, I have lately begun to despair.

Until April 3rd 2010.

Did I hear a sharp intake of breath out there? Do I sense a quickening of the heartbeat, a sudden heightening of concentration on this page? Then it is likely that the Philo readership harbours others for whom the acronym APL means a lot more than just a kindergarten attempt at spelling a popular fruit-based snack. For this date saw the launch of the Apple iPad, the Apple Fanboy's equivalent of the introduction to the Filofax range of a new super-slimline A5 organiser with multiple pockets, in soft brown calf- leather with next weeks winning lottery numbers printed inside on the coin purse.

I confess to an interest in gadgets as deep as that of my interest in Filofaxes. The bookmark bar of my MacBook Pro lists the following web pages in this order: Philofaxy, MacRumors, Apple, Filofax UK, HSBC (to check on the available balance for purchases from the previous two bookmarked pages), but it's not so easy reconciling these two passions. They seem to overlap one another in many ways and haven't - until now- fit comfortably together. How do I decide on which system I prefer to use? A gorgeous A5, two page to a week column lay out, written on in different colours for different areas of my life in my neatest handwriting, peppered with pastel coloured Post its? Or the solid convenience and back up capabilities of the iPhone-MacBook Pro synchronicity available via iCal? I don't need to detail the pros and cons of analogue vs. digital life- that's been done many times in the Philofaxy archives, but after having my iPad for a week (courtesy of a Florida based parent), I begin to feel change in the air.

You might be familiar with the process of downloading apps onto Mac gadgets- iPods, iPhones and now iPads- wherein you are able to create an entirely customisable system of different applications. I've been busy throwing more money in Apple's direction the last few days, 'pimping my pad', and this morning sat down to take stock of what I have so far. And it struck me. I've built myself a fully electronic version of my Filofax. I have a note taking app for writing and drawing, a sophisticated To Do manager, a project manager, file storing area, calendar, address book, word-processing programme, sticky notes and expense manager. Heck, I can even use the damn thing as a mirror; the screen's so shiny. I think I might be unconsciously replacing my trusty old Finsbury of many years service with this shiny new friend. It even takes up about the same size in my handbag, just lighter, prettier and less likely to threaten the existence of a small South American rainforest when I next need a system revamp.

I'm not sure how I really feel about this yet as the novelty factor of the iPad hasn't yet waned, and after all- there have been plenty of gadgets embraced over the last 10 years as 'most definitely the system I'm going to use from now on' - Palms, Psions, netbooks, smart phones- and I always end up shuffling back towards the Filofax cabinet when I've lost my entire phone book again after a stream of electronic failures. I'll have to check back to this article in a few weeks time to see how things have progressed. But I'm quietly excited. Don't shoot me down yet,

fellow Philos. Perhaps I'm just a few steps down the path to enlightenment to a world where digital and analogue reside peacefully together. One, which if I discover it, I'll happily share with you. Watch this space....

Thank you Francesca. Remember if you wish to contribute a guest article please send it to our email address which you will find in the '[I]About' page.

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/about-us.html>

Steve (2010-04-28 15:02:22)

Can I ask what sort of battery life you are getting?

I've recently restarted using a Psion 5mx for writing away from my machines, it is a nice machine to type on with a real keyboard and it uses AA batteries, so I've popped a pair of Lithium batteries in it and

I'm getting about 12 hours or so of use, or about 3 weeks in calendar terms between replacing the batteries.

I want to try it with some high capacity NiMH batteries. Which are 2500mAh a capacity unthinkable when the 5 MX came out.

I'm not using the calendar or contacts on the 5 Mx as I have those on my phone or in my Filofax of course...

But I can see some of the attraction in the iPad... it's just the price that puts me off I suspect...

Adam R (2010-04-28 19:03:03)

Absolutely fantastic post! But lets just hope the filofax continues to rule the roost!

I have a blackberry, but I still use my filofax as my main bible of information, and I have tried many electronic gadgets down the years and none ever come close!

As they always say, 'the pen is mightier than the sword' - and together with a piece of good old paper, you just cant beat it!!

Keep up the good work; look forward to your next post!

Adam

shepcraig (2010-04-29 17:39:42)

Hi Steve, do you have an email where we can send pictures in, I would love to show you all my shops filofax display.

Steve (2010-04-29 17:42:35)

Hi Craig.

Yes our email address is in the 'About us' page link above, with our email address at the foot of that page.

Many thanks

Regards

Steve

Francesca (2010-04-29 20:22:25)

Hi,

Steve, the battery life is phenomenal. I can't seem to run it down- for once, Apple have exceeded the claims they made about it as I regularly get about 12 hours, and that's with lots of video watching, music listening and CPU intensive apps. Have been travelling most of the week and haven't charged it once!

Has been worth every penny for me so far as it's replaced my laptop for travelling and slips into the handbag nicely - so light and convenient!

ASR- I still have my foot firmly in that camp too - my Filo has still been with me too this week and has been converted into a brilliant project folder with lots of tabs to separate the various areas of a project I'm currently running. So I still get my paper fix- the iPad is a bit too much of a novelty to brandish in every meeting....found the first meeting I had got completely side tracked onto talking gadgets and playing with it- we got nothing done! So certainly for the next few months until the novelty wains a little, its good old pad and pen for note taking!!

Free For All Friday No 76 (2010-04-30 01:38) - Laurie

6There's a lot happening here at Philofaxy these days! Now let's hear from you.

What's new in your Filofax world? Do you have any questions or issues? Suggestions or comments? Let's hear it!

PA3789 (2010-04-30 05:32:01)

I'm finally over the FC issues. In fact I just ordered a black personal Finchley and a Lamy CP1 pen! Should be here next week!

angela (2010-04-30 08:02:27)

hi there

Been lurking for quite a while now on this blog. Seems I have caught the Filofax bug...

Ordered my first Filofax last week and it arrived a few days ago and I am in love. (Finsbury Raspberry). so much so, that I have put in another order for a Finchley teal... am I crazy?? I love these two colours and wanted them before they weren't made anymore!!

Anyway, I am hopeful that they will come in useful for my uni years (another few to go!! And am planning to do postgraduate study too). I am an organisation freak so I am sure I will grow to love my new Filofaxes as time passes...

I am now aware that my comment is bordering crazy so I will stop :) but just want to say I enjoy reading this blog a lot!

JJ (2010-04-30 08:18:19)

@Steve – I didn't want to clutter up the guest post, but I'm interested to see that you use a Psion5. I go in and out of being Psion fan: I still use a II as my calculator of choice, have a small box full of 3's and 3A's, a 5mx and a couple of WorkAbouts. I just cant pass up a bargain on Ebay.

The Rev'd Blair (2010-04-30 08:31:17)

I'm leaving my finsbury days behind. I must admit, I love the older filos. Winchesters, 4clf...

I have just purchased a hide leather 2hlf1/2 (light brown) - oh, and a 4plf1/2 (tan), a 4clf5/4 (black), 2 4clf7/8 (black and red), 0ml7/8 (chocolate brown), a York (tan) and a mulberry brown thing. I used to love palm and clies and all those things. I even bought a ipod touch because I love the ical - but trying to input... and the battery runs out...

my trusty old filofax fits in my hand, it makes me look professional as I write away (crossword puzzle), It keeps my favourite scripture passages, poems, art, and all funky things. and when I get bored of brown, I can go to black or teal or whatever - the wonderful thing about binders - versatile.

And I am a bit of an anglophile - it's a colonial thing - my mum was from Hove, East Sussex - and impressed on me the love of all (well most things) British.

So, "Made in England" Winchester and Yard-o-led pencil. Ah, that and a wee dram o' The Macallan, double ah... cheers!

kanalt (2010-04-30 13:14:06)

Angela, I'm going to go out on a limb and say I think I speak for most people here that you are not crazy and definitely not alone! Many of us feel the same way. =)

As for me, I'm off to New York City tomorrow to shop for Filofax inserts and whatever else I happen to find (perhaps a new binder - we shall see). I'm so excited, it's a little crazy. Will report on the goods...

Steve (2010-04-30 14:12:56)

Well quite a landmark for the family and me. On Wednesday we exchanged contracts on the sale of our house here in UK, this means that my wife Alison (it's her hand in the header of the blog!) and I will be moving to our house in France full time on the 26th May.

It's been a long term plan of ours so it's nice to see the plan coming together.

Filofax is helping in the move big time because I've been noting things to do once we had exchanged on To-do lists so they have all been shuffled in my A5 to the front so they will be accessible a lot easier.

I will do a post about how I'm using my Filofax organisers to keep a track of things in the next few weeks in the run up to the move.

Michele (2010-04-30 14:29:35)

Congratulations Steve! Fantastic news and definately much use will be made in the filo in the coming weeks. Today is my birthday, and I believe my special present is a Mont Blanc pen that I will keep at home and use with my A5 Finchley. With new responsibilities at work, my A5 is getting a real workout! I'm also going on a week long business trip to Las Vegas in

two weeks that I'm now planning on how to use my 2filos... I'm thinking I'll use the A5 and keep that in hotel room, and just bring a few pieces of pocket size notepaper/calendar in my wallet OR use pocket filo as a wallet - thus I can bring both... Oh the fun of planning how to use a filo!

Laurie (2010-05-02 02:25:14)

I'm happy to report that I'm deeply in luv-luv-luuuuuv with my A5 Domino-Dodo Pad diary insert combination! I feel like suddenly everything clicked, and I've found what fits my needs.

I'm still filling in information into it. I had been keeping my blogs info and records all over the place, so I'm in the process of consolidating that info. I'm writing complete lists of my posts on each of my blogs (with a designated paper color for each blog), and making a separate list of guest posts I've done on other blogs.

I'm also still moving things around a bit. As I use my Filo, I notice what works well and what needs to be re-arranged a bit. For example, at first I had my maps behind all my tabbed sections and right before my A-Z tabs. But I felt like they got lost back there, so I moved them to just before my first tabbed section, where I also keep my sticky notes accessory. This is a location in my Filo that I visit more often than where the maps were before, so it's easier to access them.

stationery gal (2010-05-02 11:20:41)

Angela, believe me...you are not crazy! I am very patiently (well not really) waiting for my new Personal yellow Heart Filofax. I live in Texas but ordered it from the UK site as the US site does not carry them yet. Should be here by Tuesday. I have been anxiously opening up my P.O. box hoping for a key to indicate my "special package" is in one of the larger locked storage areas.....no key yet. I really don't need this filofax....but that's not the point, right? Once I receive my new filo, I will begin the task of transferring everything over from January (just the hi-lights). But wait..what pen should I use??? Such tough decisions... When I pull out my new filo at work my co-workers will say, "tell me you did not get another planner"....(they just don't understand) :)

paulien (2010-05-02 13:16:58)

Oh no, I have my eye on another filofax again. This time the songbird personal, so not the most expensive one. Should I buy it? Of course I cannot claim to need it. I already have a nice cinnamon siena, a brown cross and a blue piazza in this size. The piazza has grubby suede and a misaligned ring, but the other two are perfectly functional. They are only not very colourful... How does the canvas material hold up? Does it stay clean or is it easy to clean? And does this model lay open flat?

And isn't the filofax shop great! I have been to the covent garden shop a month ago, and it was so much fun even though I was by myself in London. I treated myself to a raspberry chameleon in pocket size there, and I love it. I am still struggling to find a way to live with two filofax at the same time. How do other people cope with this?

And steve, congratulations on your new house. Hope you two will be happy in France.

stationery gal (2010-05-02 22:32:31)

I say get the Songbird...(of course this is coming from someone who is anxiously awaiting the yellow personal Heart filo which I did not need at all) :) it is the perfect color for spring and summer!! (At least that was my rationale for the Heart addition.) Plus, since you have other personal sizes, when you do want to switch over to one of your old faithfuls, it will be a quick and easy switch.

The Heart filofax I ordered is fabric...I will give you an update on when I receive it.

Schermann (2010-05-04 09:25:18)

With everything said and done I'm still with the 'Canterbury'.

I guess if it has lasted 25 years it can last another quart century. No wonder Filofax went broke so many times.

Classic design of this quality only deserves a single purchase...

Oni (2010-05-04 20:42:49)

I must seriously get back on track with my Filos... I even got two new ones but I have been so mentally absent lately that I haven't even taken one single picture.

I need order ASAP!!!

Jotje (2010-05-05 15:41:45)

Does anybody use the filofax pocket or mini format as a wallet? I'd like to know what your experiences are. It would mean so much more space in my handbag (now I'm carrying a wallet AND my planner). And obviously it's always great to have a legit reason to shop for a new filofax ;-)

angela (2010-05-05 17:52:37)

Back again :p

Glad to see that I am not alone! Also glad to have found this blog as I can no longer feel like the geek that I know I am ;) I get a buzz from being organised and this blog just helps keeping that buzz buzzing!

Anyway, my order for the Finchley Team still hasn't been despatched and it's been over a week. After searching high and low for a retailer that sold it, it seems I may never get to hold the thing..hmmm. Can anyone give me any opinions about specialistpens (the retailer I ordered from)?! I am itching to get my hands on a Finchley Teal and am too lazy to go instore, though it might prove a better idea as I do currently live within walking distance of Oxford Street...hmmm

angela (2010-05-05 17:53:15)

I meant, Finchley Teal, not Team, in all my excitement even typing the name, my fingers must have got mixed up!

Laurie (2010-05-06 01:57:25)

Hi Angela,

I don't know that retailer, but I will tell you this: Finchley binders have been discontinued in the Teal color, so if you want it I would urge you to hurry up and get it! The Conduit Street Filofax shop is a short walk from Oxford Street, they may still have some in stock.

Good luck! :)

gmax (2010-05-06 05:34:56)

News for the week:

1) I decided after over 20 years of use that my A-Z address tabs needed replacing. They were still in one piece, but the paper had discoloured at the edges. So I've put in a nice set of fabric-reinforced tabs (with silver lettering on black) from my paper stock.

2) I've decided the slimline Westminster that I've been using for work is rubbish. The leather has marks all over the cover after just a few weeks of use, mainly being carried in a bag and put on a desk. So I've swapped to a black vintage 3CL model that I know will keep its good looks, and be a much more satisfying prospect.

3) Tea disaster - a spillage soaks the pages in the 3CL. After some choice words the leaves have dried out, but I will need to replace many. At least a loose leaf system allows this. Moral - watch out as liquids and Filofax do not agree with one another.

Filofax Print to File Software (2010-04-30 14:08) - Steve

I was re-reading my post about the [1]Filofax address book software today and decided to download the full version, as I'm no longer using Outlook 2007. So I needed to move my old address file in to something independent of Outlook 2007 and in to something that I could create new address pages for my A5, something I do about once every 12 months I guess. I've just cranked up my old PC to get at Outlook to export the list, which I will do once it's stopped doing updates of so many types... how I miss them!

I've loaded the software on to my Samsung Netbook as that runs XP, where as my desktop (iMac) is Apple only and the software is Windows only.

I happened to be looking on the Filofax US site and I spotted some other software they do as well as the address book software.

It's called [2]Filofax Print to File software, I don't know why this isn't available on the UK site.

Reading through the description on the site it seems to act as a printer driver so any thing you print can be reformatted and resized to suit the Filofax Computer paper, or normal A4/A5 as well I guess.

The only reason I can think of that it's not available in UK is it might not be able to cope with European sizes in the document, but that's just a guess.

I will speak to our friends at Filofax UK to see if they can enlighten me as to why it's only available in the US.

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1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2009/11/filofax-address-book-software.html>

2. <http://www.filofaxusa.com/store/printtofile.asp>

PA3789 (2010-04-30 17:26:25)

Steve,

I have the US version of "print to file" Filo software.

It's fantastic! I can print word, spreadsheets, everything for my A5 or personal.

It asks when your ready to print if you want "US" or "UK" version so I'm surprised you don't have this available.

It loads just like a printer software so when you're ready to print it comes up in "windows" with an option to us "Filo" printer or your regular printer.

Pick Filo and you're printing for your Filo! I use the Filo prepunch paper and it works great.

Just some infomation for you.

Greg

plaiditude (2010-05-01 00:29:58)

Are you required to use the special filofax paper to print personal size pages, or can you print on regular letter size paper?

PA3789 (2010-05-01 06:50:02)

You can use regualr size paper. The Filo paper just makes it easier because it's perforated and already hole punched.

And I think it's a little better paper quality.

plaiditude (2010-05-01 14:09:48)

Currently I'm using software called Clickbook from www.bluesquirrel.com. It also sets itself up as a printer driver and you can setup your own sizes etc. I may try the filofax software anyway, as it might be easier.

alexander.gleis (2010-08-04 16:41:58)

Hello,

I also purchased the US version, but I have the problem that my program thinks that it is the trial version, what means that I have footers and headers in the printed document which tell me that it is not the full version, although I entered the so called V.I.P - code, the hell knows what is the problem.

Kris (2010-09-18 05:06:52)

I know this is a bit old, but can someone tell me in more detail how the Filofax software works? If I'm using Outlook, for example, just to generate an agenda 'template' to be printed (so I can avoid having to write in recurring events every week - I hate it as scheduling software) will the Filofax software take the Outlook information and re-order the pages so that I can get proper sequencing? (I.e. so page 1 is on the front, page 2 is on the back of page 1, and so on.)

1.5 May

The Pen Shop - Edinburgh (2010-05-02 00:18) - Steve

Craig has kindly sent us some pictures of the Filofax displays at [1]The Pen Shop, where he works in [2]Jenners department store in Edinburgh. It's a while since I've seen such a large display of organisers so well displayed.

[3]

[FF4 .JPG]

[4]

[FF1 .JPG]

- [5] [FF3.JPG]
- [6] [FF2.JPG]
- [7] [FF5.JPG]
- [8] [FF6.JPG]

They pretty much sell all the organisers and refills that are available to them. They believe they have the largest range in Scotland.

So if you are in Edinburgh pay a visit to the shop and see the wonderful display and be sure to ask for Craig.

1. <http://www.penshop.co.uk/>
2. http://www.houseoffraser.co.uk/edinburgh-jenners-department-store/store_page_0450,default,pg.html
3. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/S9z1siDGmEI/AAAAAAAAIbM/eMgGlXhzQKI/s1600/FF4.JPG
4. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/S9z0ynNrxiI/AAAAAAAAIA0/EqTVF3kTmgI/s1600/FF1.JPG
5. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/S9z1bywDTqI/AAAAAAAAIbE/OcOfIrNpK-0/s1600/FF3.JPG
6. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/S9z1CorpydI/AAAAAAAAIA8/gGrQgZGopis/s1600/FF2.JPG
7. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/S9z2x50jLSI/AAAAAAAAIbU/8jVkw1r7_Cc/s1600/FF5.JPG
8. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/S9z3f-bIPaI/AAAAAAAAIbC/FsuNHrznhVg/s1600/FF6.JPG

Laurie (2010-05-02 02:17:23)

Fantastic display, and excellent selection of products! I know where I'm going next time I'm in Edinburgh!!

Michele (2010-05-02 08:37:32)

Oh my gosh, if you could see the expression on my face right now!!! Is the word "Ken, this shop is gorgeous!!!

stationery gal (2010-05-02 11:07:20)

Wow! Talk about being in your "happy place". Those pictures left me speechless!! Thanks so much for sharing!

Steve (2010-05-02 12:09:42)

So now you know where it is.. you just have to think of an excuse (if one is needed!) to go their with your other halves and then look all surprised when you see the display of Filofax products!!!

Not that any of you would be so crafty!!!

Only kidding.....

Steve

shepcraig (2010-05-06 04:38:35)

Thank you for all your comments. Had an exciting day today, got some of the new range in stock. The Cuban in the colour ink is beautiful. Domino purple conference folder will be very popular I think. Songbird and heart look better in your hand than they do in the pictures.

Jotje (2010-05-11 03:30:19)

Craig, I envy you for your job! Being able to hold en handle each and every filofax that is available

The Crazy Suburban Mom (2010-12-02 19:03:51)

I just started using mine again and I really forgot how much I liked the feel of it. And of the pages.

And of seeing new ones that I can think about buying :)

Tracy

Free For All Friday No 77 (2010-05-07 00:05) - Steve

So today is a fairly significant day for me. It is my last day in the office. I'm now on leave until my wife Alison and I move to France in a couple of weeks time.

I packed my spare Filofax pages and inserts and my unused organisers in to a single box last night. It is very well labelled! I want to be able to find this box very soon after we arrive!!

I still have my A5, Slimline and Pocket to use between now and the move, so I will not be totally without my Filofax organisers, infact they are very much part of the planning of our move.

This is a big project and a major change in our lives so I've been using my A5 to keep all of my lists and notes together.

But as this is Friday... what have you been up to with your Filofax lately, do you have any big projects planned this year and how are you using your Filofax to plan them?

Laurie (2010-05-07 01:27:20)

Steve, congratulations!!!! Have a great last day at work!!

Francesca (2010-05-07 09:49:44)

I've made some big Filo changes recently. Since the introduction of my iPad to my organisational life, I've been using my trusty Zipped Finsbury (A5) as a project file for the project I'm working on. Has been working really well and have made a bunch of great new dividers from it.

However, I realised this week, that far from the iPad/ Filo combo making things easier and my bag lighter, I'm now travelling with the iPad, A5 Filo and A4 folder with all the print outs, music etc I need for meetings and presentations - madness! Still having to carry a laptop bag about, but just no laptop.

So yesterday I invested in an A4 Zipped Metropol portfolio - it's like a Zipped Metropol A4 Filo, but has extra pockets inside, a meeting pad at the back and 2 handles so you can carry it like a briefcase. It's great. So now, I just have my A4 Filo briefcase (which my iPad slots into nicely - and handbag. Finally - a way to have everything I need and be able to travel light!

Spending today transferring everything over to A4 pages...at least it's easy to have everything on A4 sized paper! Funny to thing I've moved up nearly the entire range in the 8 or 9 years I've been using Filofaxes - started with a mini and worked my way up gradually to an A4!

Steve (2010-05-07 16:06:01)

Laurie: It felt quite strange to be leaving today after 4.5 years there. I know I will adapt and get used to it. Mean time lots of packing to do!!

Francesca: Interesting how you are using both together. So Filofax should be prepared for a surge in A4 folders.. I will do a post about what is on offer!

And from me... an article in the New York Times earlier this week: <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/05/09/magazine/09FOB-medium-t.html>

pilgrim (2010-05-08 17:47:24)

Congratulations Steve,

Enjoy France, and are there any French organisers particular to them?

Hope you'll still be posting as much because us fellow Filo fanatics need as much support & interaction as we can

Kind regards

Andy

Silver_Elixir (2010-05-08 19:49:41)

I am currently trying to get my Filo into a position where it will work well for me. Currently it is not. I want my Filo to be my main source of information. Where I keep lists of books to read, wish list, home info, school info, movies I have got and wish to get, lists of books read and movies seen. I am unsure of how to sort my info. I am tempted to get 2 lots of A-Z tabs and put everything I want in alphabetical order. This idea really appeals, but I know that using 26 tabs takes up a lot of room that could be used for paper. I also like the idea of keeping like information together - like my authors list, books read and books to get list. Or my home information or info regarding my son including school info. I could even file my Goals under

G, but I want a separate section for my budget and shopping lists. They don't feel right to be put in the A-Z section. Does anyone have any suggestions I might try? Thank you!

Laurie (2010-05-09 06:01:24)
Steve, what a great article!!

Steve (2010-05-09 06:27:01)

Thanks Laurie, it was being retweeted quite widely the other day so I had to add it here...

Of course Andy I am going to continue to contribute here. Although obviously I'm going to be a little time constrained for the next couple of weeks or so as we get packed and the move happens.

As for French organisers. I've not as yet come across any... but you have set me a neat task to try and discover any and of course I will report back.

Filofax of course have their own .fr site and Filofax UK for deliver overseas so I will most probably pick and choose where I buy from. Although the French site does have some things not available here in UK... watch for a future post on this topic. Thanks for all your good wishes.

Steve

Michele (2010-05-09 07:26:40)

Steve, Congratulations!!! Looking forward to reading a post from you on the French product line! This has been a very busy month for me with longer than usual hours at the office. The Christmas A5 has finally been getting a work out that it was intended for! On Tuesday, I leave for a 8-day business trip to Las Vegas that I have been making lists for and setting up as its own section in the filo. I've also purchased a large pocketbook that allows me to easily fit and carry on the plane both filofax! The A5 will stay in my hotel room, while the pocket is with me constantly. Anways, have to run and start ironing and packing! See you all in a few weeks and Happy Mothers Day to all the moms out there!

kanalt (2010-05-09 09:16:06)

Silver-Elixir - I read quite a bit so my "to-be-read" list and others are pages and pages long, too long for me to keep in my Filo. I keep various lists (movies to watch, books to read, tv shows to record, music to download, etc) on a spreadsheet on my computer because they are so long. Plus, I like to keep my lists alphabetized for easier reference - if I tried to do that in my Filo, I'd be constantly updating and rewriting, which would cost me tons and tons of time due to the length of the lists.

You could also keep these types of lists in a separate Filo altogether. I know it doesn't solve the problem of keeping everything together, but then you also don't have to worry about your tabs taking up too much room.

Another idea is to make separate sections in one Filo (reading versus movies, where your reading section contains books to be read and books that you have read and authors you like, each heading on separate sheets of paper). But that could get overwhelming too, depending on how big your lists are.

Hope this helps - good luck!

Nickie @ Typecast (2010-05-09 16:16:03)

Good luck with the move, Steve.

I've been reorganising my Personal Filo recently to help me with my writing... all sectioned off according to the different things I write and who I write for :)

HP Fuchs (2010-05-10 03:14:56)

Francesca, it is incredible how much information can be cramped onto a single personal size Filofax page. Just write small. Use an edding profi pen 1800. It is 0.1mm and it was designed for architects to write on plans.

My personal size black bridle Filofax has only five sections "Tariqa, Notes, Diary, Projects, Lists and Addresses". Within each section I use different colors of paper for different projects. And I use different pen colors for different aspects of my life. Green: Tariqa, blue: Family, black: Education, red: Work. For this I use a Japanese Pilot Feed GP4 1.0 Pen. Cheap, durable and very useful.

Jotje (2010-05-10 03:59:46)

@Silver_Elixir: It also depends on your current filofax size, or if you have more than one? My A5 stays at home. It has a tab labelled Ideas ("Lists" would have been another option), where reading-, movie- etc. lists go. If you have a pocket (or

whatever) size that always travels with you, you can enter new ideas/list items on the fly, and transfer them in the "big book" later at home.

Silver_Elixir (2010-05-12 00:30:06)

I have been thinking more about what to do regarding my Filofax and keeping all my lists and info that I want in it. I love the idea of having things alphabetized so that they are neatly organized, but I know that the 26 tabs I would need to have each letter available would take up heaps of room. I have thought of a few other options, like using a plain white Filo page with a sticker or stamped letter in the corner to define the sections. This way the pages wouldn't take up so much room, and could even be used to write on themselves. To further define these pages as 'dividers' I thought I could use coloured textas to colour the edge of the page to give them more definition.

Kanalt, Thank you for your ideas. I understand what you mean about keeping your lists on the computer to keep them in alphabetical order, but I kind of really want them with me. My lists aren't huge, but I am trying to work out a page format where I can have one list, but use notations or a colour code to incorporate the info I would have used to make another list. For example I could have a list of books I have read, and I could highlight the author as one I want to read more of, instead of having a separate author list, if that makes sense.

Jotje,

I have a personal size Kendal Filofax. I have an A5 City one which isn't in use at the moment. I have a commonplace book that I have made that I keep a list of older books in, but I really want to try and keep everything in my Kendal, which is proving to be a challenge!

Francesca (2010-05-12 10:54:08)

HP Fuchs: Still use a personal Filo as my 'Home file' from general house info that doesn't need to be carted around, but the A4 portfolio actually cuts down on the amount I have to lug around - the personal size would mean carrying the iPad, an A4 folio for meeting agendas, sheet music etc, AND the personal Filo. So in this case, seems bigger is better!

Guest Post: Songbird Review (2010-05-12 10:31) - Steve

Shan has kindly reviewed the new Filofax Songbird organiser, there has been a lot of interest in this new design and therefore we are very grateful for this detailed review so soon after the launch.

Songbird Filo Review

Much ado has been made over the new Songbird Filo. It's even currently featured as the Profile Picture of Filofax's official Facebook page! I finally received my Pocket Songbird Filo last Sunday, after placing an online order for it on the Filofax UK website (it was out-of-stock for awhile), having it sent to my sister's UK address and having my sister bring it over while she visits. Between emailing the Filofax UK website to find out when it'll be available and coordinating its delivery to my sister's house and sending multiple reminders to my sister not to forget to pack my Filofax, I was very excited when I finally got to hold it in my hands!

Current Set-Up

I currently use a Pocket Brown Finchley for my personal appointments, notes and information which I carry around with me in my bag. I also use a blue Personal Domino for work which hardly travels and is laid out flat on my work desk all-day. As much as I love my Finchley (It looks gorgeous, sophisticated, holds up very well even though I often just dump it into my bag and still smells of nice leather a year and a half later), I was itching to get a "fun" pocket Filofax for portable use which I can interchange with my Finchley whenever I feel like something a little more feminine and young.

Filofax Songbird or Heart Organizer?

The new release of the Filofax Heart and Songbird was exactly what I was looking for! I was initially deciding between the Yellow Filofax Heart and the Songbird. I even clicked on the Filofax Heart a few times and had it in my shopping basket before finally deciding on the Songbird when I found out that it was available and would be delivered in time for my sister to bring it to me.

Why the Songbird? I will be honest - The Yellow Heart Filo spoke more to my desire for a fun-looking Filofax. It made me cheer up every time I looked at it on the Filofax website! However, being a practical person, I also thought of longevity. Would I still love my Yellow Heart Filo as much a year, two years from now? Would it start to look a little childish to me after while? Although my pocket Filofax is for personal use, I often have it sitting out on my work desk and I work in a very corporate environment. Would the Heart Filo look a little garish sitting on my desk at work? After spending a few days considering these factors, I finally settled for a Songbird!

Songbird Pocket Review



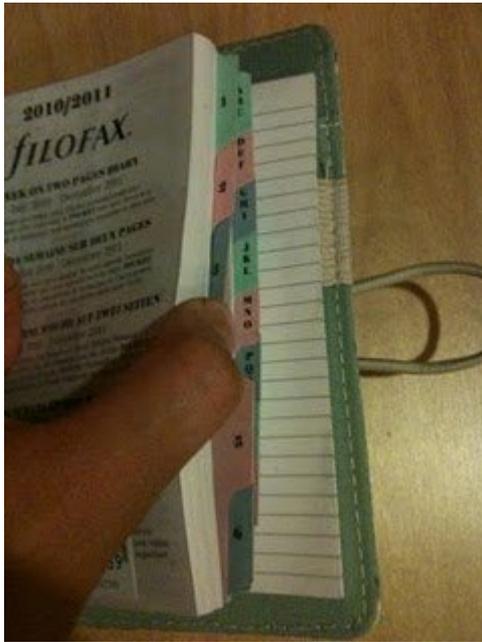
[1] The Songbird is gorgeous. It's a very soothing mint green in color, covered in cotton canvas inside and out, with an elastic strap closing. The popper button contains the most adorable graphic of a music note, though you'll have to look closely at the product shot on the Filofax UK site to notice this. The picture of a bird perched on a branch on the inside left cover makes a nice touch. I'm sure the design will appeal most to women, nature lovers and lovers of all things pretty and feminine!

The exact specifications of the Songbird are available on the Filofax UK website and I will not cover all of them. However, a few things worth pointing out -

§ Notepad Pocket on the right cover: Since my Finchley doesn't have one, I was very impressed with this feature. I can imagine it coming it very handy as I like jotting down random bits of information and book, music and restaurant recommendations from friends. It will be nice to open my Songbird Filo and have the notepad right there, instead of doing what I do now which is to flip through my Finchley to get to my note pages section.

§ Two types of tabs - The Filofax Songbird comes with BOTH 1-6 AND A-Z tabs!

§ Multi-colored tabs - The tabs are multi-colored, in baby pink, blue and green. The colored tabs go beautifully with the mint green interior of the Songbird. This is a very detailed and thoughtful touch. It is one of my favorite features of the Songbird and makes the interior of the organizer even more calming to look at, I actually smiled when I saw this!



[2] I have had a look at the Filofax UK and US website and these beautiful colored tabs do not seem to be on sale separately.

§ Would go well with pink diary inserts/colored notepaper - While the Songbird Filo is supplied with a white diary insert, I can imagine the pink diary inserts being very compatible with the Songbird. Colored notepaper will look gorgeous with the Songbird as well.

§ Choose Pocket-size for maximum prettiness/cuteness factor - For those who love their stationary cute and pretty, I think that the Songbird, with its dainty design, may look prettier in Pocket-size than in Personal-Size. While this is generally the case with most designs, I think it's more so with the Songbird.

§ Doesn't come in a box - When my sister took the Songbird Filo out of her suitcase, it was just wrapped in paper. Despite not having seen her in more than half-a-year, I rudely exclaimed "Why did you throw the box away?!". As it turned out, the Songbird Filofax didn't come with a box. My Personal Domino didn't either, although my Finchley did. I wonder if all lower-priced Filos do not come packaged in a box? I find the boxes very useful for storing an un-used Filofax.

§ Doesn't lay flat - The Songbird Filofax doesn't lay flat at all. This will be a big change for me as my current Finchley does and I like to leave it open on my desk to the current week's calendar. Will have to do more research on Philofaxy on how to train my Filofax to lay flat.

Too Pretty to Use?

While I'd expected to spend Sunday evening preoccupied with transferring stuff from my Finchley to my Songbird, the truth is, the Songbird Filo is still sitting wrapped up on my desk.

When I first unwrapped the Filofax to examine it, there was a brown speck of dirt on the cover of the Songbird and when I tried to flick it off, I actually ended up smudging the dirt into the cover of the Filofax. Since the cover is cotton, it left a very faint brown mark! While this nearly gave me a heart attack at that point, I'm glad it happened sooner rather than later as it made me realize that the Songbird Filofax is as fragile as it is pretty. Unlike my trusty leather Finchley, there is no way I could just dump it into one of my bags as dirt marks show very easily on the light mint green cover. Also, I feel like I'll have to be very careful with the popper button and elastic closure strap as it might come off if I pull too hard! I'm also afraid to stuff it with too many inserts in case the elastic breaks. I'll have to be extremely cautious when inserting my pen into the pen holder and while using the notepad in case an open pen accidentally comes into contact with the Filofax interior. Can't have a Songbird organizer with pen marks now, can you?

Do note that that many of the above concerns on dirt/pen marks apply to any light-colored Filofax in general.

Verdict

I am still thrilled about the new Songbird. It's very pretty and just looking at it soothes me and makes me happy!

I think I'll buy a nice pouch to put it in to carry in my bag for daily use for awhile, and then just keep it as a collectible or use it as a notebook which will just stay in one place. I'm not very careful with my things and I think having to treat the Songbird carefully all the time would stress me out in the long-run. It wasn't that pricey as far as Filofaxes go and I'm quite happy to use the Songbird only occasionally.

I'm still on a quest for a fun looking Filofax which I can use on-the-go though, and the Filofax Heart and Domino Snake come to mind. Maybe at the end of the year when my sister visits again..

Thank you Shan, if you would like to submit your own guest post, please contact us, our email address is on the '[3]About Us' page

1. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/S-q6f6_rWoI/AAAAAAAAIBk/55B4bch21PE/s1600/Sonbirdheld.bmp
2. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/S-q7C-1BJiI/AAAAAAAAIB0/cNzBYAUcH9U/s1600/Songbirdcoloredtabs.jpg
3. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/about-us.html>

shepcraig (2010-05-12 12:07:49)

Domino, mode, songbird and heart, do not come with boxes for them, your right. Metropol comes with a very basic cardboard box, but everything else comes in a nice box.

paulien (2010-05-12 12:26:01)

Aren't they nice! I just received my personal songbird two days ago and I love it already. In the larger size it is just as cute as in pocket, or at least I think so. And mine lays almost flat, so maybe there is a difference between the sizes.

I am not going to be as careful with mine as you are, I have stuffed it with inserts and I am just carrying it in my bag. If not, what use would it be? I do not carry any drinks or other liquids in the bag though, only papers and a laptop.

I would recommend this organiser to anyone looking for something fun, not too expensive and colourful. It could also be a good option for people to try if they like the filofax system without spending a lot on a leather organiser.

paulien

Laurie (2010-05-13 04:11:41)

Great review, thanks Shan! I saw the Songbird in London and it is beautiful. I expect it will be very popular this year!

Iris (2010-05-13 04:37:35)

My Urban came with a basic cardboard box, too; the Indie was only wrapped in paper like the Songbird.

Too bad the Songbird is not available in Germany. Might order it from Filofax UK, though...

Dasha (2010-05-13 10:17:54)

I just got my personal size songbird and already got a little stain on it too! I tried removing it with a bit of water on my finger and it didn't work, and a little regular eraser didn't work either. Oh well. I plan on using this one regularly, at least until I get bored and switch it out for one of my other ones :)

Nickie @ Typecast (2010-05-17 07:00:08)

I have the yellow Heart Filofax (ordered & received it in the first week of release) - I use it to organise my writing hobby. I have written a review (of sorts) here:

<http://typecast2000.blogspot.com/2010/04/gallery-joy.html>

but have since reorganised it and added more coloured paper (available from a well known UK stationary/book store).

I'd be happy to review it again for Philofaxy if you like :)

Thanks for the Songbird review Shan :)

Laurie (2010-05-17 09:30:56)

Nickie I'd love it if you could review your Heart Filofax for us here on Philofaxy!! You can email me your review and any photos at:

laurie758@gmail.com

Thanks! :)

Nickie @ Typecast (2010-05-17 19:08:06)
Thanks Laurie - I'll sort something out this week :)

Free For All Friday No. 78 (2010-05-14 14:31) - Steve

So UK has been gripped in election fever all week, and if any of you have been following the news we have had a change of government. A lot of the commentators have been comparing things to the 1980's and of course Filofax has been getting lots of mentions.... so I have been sending people links to the blog... with the message... we never went away...!

So next time you come across someone else with a Filofax, get them to write the address of the blog in their To-Do list... the more people the better...

So as is the tradition, feel free to discuss or tell us about anything Filofax related.

Have a good weekend.

Richard (2010-05-15 11:08:06)

With spring here I guess everybody is enjoying the weather.

That is the comment, but I do have a question of those of you that are much more knowledgable than I on older Filofax models.

I have a couple of pocket Filos that still used the old 4 ring binder mechanism instead of the 6 ring currently used. My question is when did they go to the 6 ring binders for the pocket models? I am guessing some time in the late 80's but I truly have no idea. Many thanks in advance for any light you can shed on this.

Crofter

Zandranna (2010-05-15 14:55:39)

Thanks for visiting my Journal earlier.

Wow, I had no idea that there were other Filofax enthusiasts out there.

I just thought I was weird to be so obsessed with them.

This is only my 3rd one. The first was given to me by a friend when he bought himself a new one. That was back in 1988. I kept that one until 2006 when I treated myself to a green Finsbury, they didn't have a red one in the store at that time. At that time I also bought a pocket Classic in red.

I often spend a while window shopping on the filofax website, and noticed that they had brought out the red Finsbury again. I know it's one of the cheaper ones but I love the innards. Especially the zipped pocket. That is where I hide my notes that I want to save until I have a couple of hundred pounds to stick in the bank.

It's funny how stiff the leather feels on the new one after my green Finsbury has been used for this last few years making the leather softer.

One day I'm going to treat myself to a really expensive one, when they bring one out I can't resist.

Jotje (2010-05-16 02:56:59)

@Richard: maybe drop Filofax UK a note? On the other hand, most employees there are probably too young to either know or remember ;-)

@Sandy: You still have that 22-yr-old Filo? I would LOVE to see a pic of that one! This blog has a Flickr group, maybe you could upload there? (unless you already have, I'm off to check no that ...)

Have a nice weekend everybody!

Zandranna (2010-05-16 06:23:45)

@ Jotje. Sadly no, I gave it away to a friend when I bought my green Finsbury. That friend is no longer with us I'm afraid. On a side note though. I found a poll on this site and noticed that it was mentioned that some younger people have now found filofaxes to be of use.

A couple of months ago my Eldest Granddaughter (17) said she would love an organiser. Not sure if she would ever really use it, I found a couple of Filofax type covers in the Samaritans shop I volunteer at, so I brought them home, bought all new innards from filofax for one and gave it to her. She adores it and is now hoping for a new "real" filofax for her birthday.

Last week, my 13 year old GD asked for one, so I made her up one with filofax innards.

Blow me if Friday my 21 year old G/son, didn't come to me saying how he would really love one. So here I am waiting for a delivery on Monday of yet more filofax innards for him.

The 2 eldest now, like me, browse the filofax website, so I can see eventually they will be begging for the genuine article.

Zandranna (2010-05-16 20:06:41)

Could someone please tell me if the portable hole punch for the personal will also fit an A5. Or does one need one for each?? I ask because I sort of did a naughty tonight. Having only just had my new personal Finsbury delivered yesterday morning, I was sitting round today thinking how other parts of my life could be organised. More in the home rather than when out and about. So I ordered an A5 Domino tonight.

Being as how I'm not sure how much I will use an A5 I picked the Domino as a starter to see how I get on with one because it's not too expensive. Not only that but W.H.Smiths are selling them virtually half price for £18 instead of the normal £32. £18 isn't too much to waste if I find I can't get on with it.

But now of course I am wondering if I will have to buy 2 hole punches. One for my personal and one for the A5.

Jotje (2010-05-17 08:49:32)

Sandy, there are adjustable hole punches who would accomodate both (only one I know here in Holland is KW-trio). Otherwise you could get 2 of the cheaper plastic ones (only for a few set of sheets), 1 for the A5 and 1 for the personal.

Hey, if the domino won't work out, you could always give it to one of your eager grandkids ;-)

Jotje (2010-05-17 08:52:23)

Actually ... since the ring distance between the 3 rings is 19 mm with both sizes, you could also decide to buy one size hole punch, and make do for the other size by drawing a pencil line and punching them by 3 holes at once.

Ehm, anybody got what I mean here?

Zandranna (2010-05-17 10:19:17)

Thanks Jotje - I might buy one for my personal and test out your idea of measuring and doing 3 holes at a time for the A5. If it doesn't work out I will fork out for an A5 one as well.

I dragged my pocket Classic out of deep in one of my drawers last night and decided I would put that to good use as well, after it being neglected for so long.

I think my friends are going to get fed up with me, because for the last 4 days my on line Journal has been about nothing but Filofaxes.

Steve (2010-05-17 12:51:04)

Hi Jotje

Yes I've done that before now with a punch to be able to do A5 and Personal from the same punch, it's just the spacing between group of three rings that is different.

Steve

gmax (2010-05-18 11:20:22)

Richard asks above about when the pocket format switched from 4 to 6 rings. This happened in 1994 or possibly the year before.

sweetrsyl (2010-05-18 16:12:10)

I started using the Personal size in the 70's; stopped when PDA's came into fashion. Didn't buy one but somehow started browsing all my options; none with any success. Thirty plus years later and I've gone back to my old, battered but well-loved red leather Filofax. Is it my age? (62) My rebel tendencies? Growing up in the 60's? Whatever it is, I won't stray again. When you have a good relationship, why wander?

DJ (2010-07-01 14:05:09)

gmax: do you know when the 4-ring Pocket FF was introduced? FF tell me early 90's but I believe they were misinformed, like Rick coming to Casablanca for the waters. I think it was late '50s or early 60's. Steed appears to be using one in "Dial a Deadly Number" from Avengers '65. He couldn't be using a *Succes*? That isn't even BRITISH.

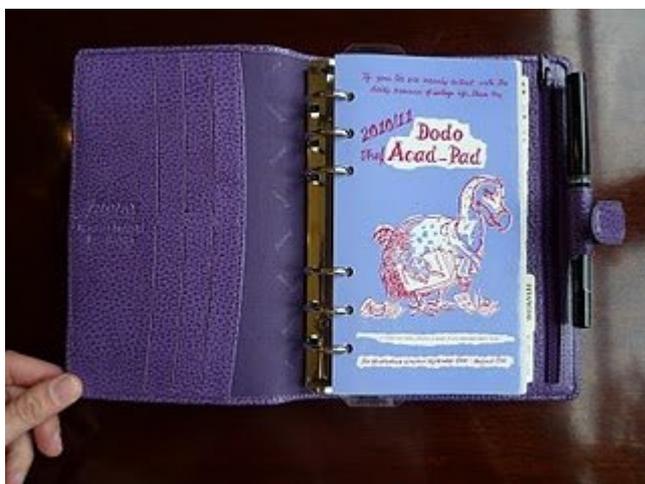
DJ (2010-07-01 14:12:18)

The one Steed uses in the episode had a wide VERTICAL elastic band (like the MODE and FRESCO) rather than horizontal, like the SPORT. 1952 would *not* be the year...1953?

gmax (2010-07-01 17:10:57)

@DJ - the 4 ring pocket was introduced in 1989. I can't rule out the possibility that a similar looking Filofax product existed before then, but I think it's unlikely.

Dodo Acad-Pad personal size Filofax insert (2010-05-17 09:40) - Laurie



[1]

The Dodo [2]Acad-Pad is the academic-year version of the [3]Dodo Pad diary. This is a very popular planner/ diary for students, teachers, school administrators, parents and others on an academic-year schedule. The Acad-Pads sell out every year (so everyone is encouraged to get theirs soon!).

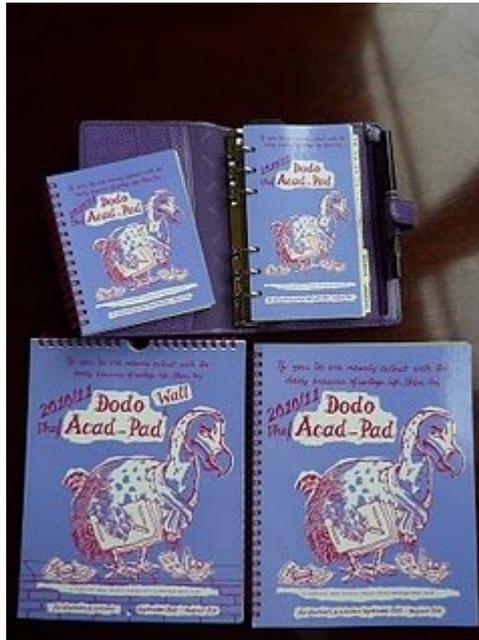
Most of you have read about [4]Dodo Pad diaries, whether here or over on [5]Plannerisms. For the uninitiated, you can check out [6]www.dodopad.com to see what these fun, quirky diaries are all about.

Due to popular demand, the Acad-Pad academic-year diary is now available as an [7]insert for the personal size Filofax (or equivalent size binder)! There were a lot of customers who couldn't live without their Filofax, but didn't want to have to sacrifice the intelligent fun of their Dodo Pad diary. Now these lucky people have the best of both worlds! The [8]2010/ 2011 Acad-Pad Filofax inserts are available now, and the 2011 Dodo Pad Filofax inserts (both [9]A5 and [10]Personal size) are available now for pre-order, to be delivered in early July.

While I was in [11]London last month I had the wonderful opportunity to meet Rebecca, Managing Director of Dodo Pad. She very generously gave me samples of the Acad-Pad diaries in all their forms: [12]original desk size, [13]wall calendar, [14]mini pocket size, and the new [15]Filofax insert! She told me about formatting the diaries and the way they were able to scale down the weekly grid and the artwork to fit the size and shape of the personal insert pages. It was an interesting glimpse into diary design!

Here is an excellent short[16] You Tube video of Rebecca at the London Book Fair being interviewed for the Book Channel. In this video she talks about the Acad-Pads and Dodo Pads, and various ways to use them. Rebecca also mentions several of the [17]other Dodo organizers. It's a great insight into the products.

Here you can see the entire range of Acad-Pads: the diary insert in my purple personal Finsbury (which I think looks great. Of course I love this year's cover color!), with the Mini size Acad-Pad lying on the inside cover. Bottom right is the original desk diary Acad-Pad, and on the bottom left is the Wall Acad-Pad, which is identical



to the desk one but hangs up on the wall.[18]

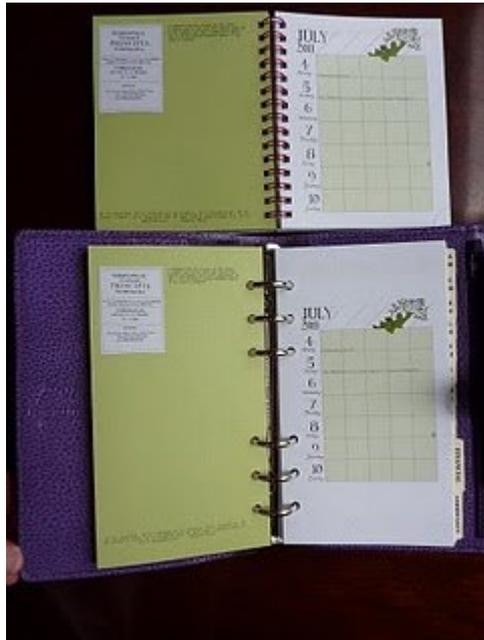
Below is a photo to show the size difference between the desk diary and the personal size Filofax insert. For scale,



the desk diary measures 9 1/2 by 7 1/2 inches (24 x 19 cm).[19]

You can also see some of the formatting changes required to fit the Personal size page (which you can see more easily if you click on the photo for a larger view).

Below is a photo of the personal size insert with the Mini size Acad-Pad, which measures 4.25 by 5.25 inches



(11 x 13.5 cm).[20]

The weekly grid in the Personal size is just slightly smaller than in the Mini, but the Personal has more room in the margins for notes.

Here are a couple more close-ups of the inside pages (click photos for larger views):[21]



[22]

Look closely at the picture in this one to get a glimpse of Miss Peabody, and Lord Dodo himself![23]



There are endless ways to use the weekly grid. Some people label the columns morning/ afternoon/ evening, with to-dos and deadlines. Or, you can do what I do in my [24]A5 Dodo Pad diary insert and write across the boxes. It's very flexible, and you can use it differently week to week if you want to.

For more information about the range of Filofax-compatible Dodo Pad diary inserts, you can read [25]Miss Peabody's blog post about it on [26]www.dodopadblog.com.

Those of you who use an A5 size Filofax and are interested in trying the Dodo Pad insert for it, the 2010 inserts are now available on ebay for a very low price while supplies last. If interested [27]click here to check them out.

1. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/S-kIj3yH8KI/AAAAAAAAAyI/sDdZHnZqLCM/s1600/Diaries+2010+089.jpg
2. <http://www.dodopad.com/acadpad/acadpad.html>
3. <http://www.dodopad.com/dodopad/dodo-pad-diary-diaries-wall-calendars.html>
4. <http://www.dodopad.com/dodopad/dodo-pad-diary-diaries-wall-calendars.html>
5. <http://www.plannerisms.com/2010/05/dodo-acad-pad-academic-year-planners.html>
6. <http://www.dodopad.com/>
7. http://www.dodopad.com/acatalog/Diaries_Calendars__.html#aAFXP1011
8. http://www.dodopad.com/acatalog/Diaries_Calendars__.html#aAFXP1011
9. http://www.dodopad.com/acatalog/Diaries_Calendars__.html#aDFXA11
10. http://www.dodopad.com/acatalog/Diaries_Calendars__.html#aDFXP11
11. <http://www.plannerisms.com/2010/04/london-book-fair.html>
12. http://www.dodopad.com/acatalog/Diaries_Calendars__.html#aADP1011
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16. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-dkkNuflJfI>
17. <http://www.dodopad.com/pages/produce.htm>
18. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/S-kJwssUpyI/AAAAAAAAAyw/VhRLQNsaZmA/s1600/Diaries+2010+088.jpg
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23. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/S-kIknDKnjI/AAAAAAAAAyY/luandl8yc3o/s1600/Diaries+2010+027.jpg
24. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/04/my-new-a5-domino-filofax-with-dodo-pad.html>
25. <http://dodopadblog.com/2010/05/16/201011-acad-pad-and-2011-dodo-pad-filofax-compatible-diary-inserts/>
26. <http://dodopadblog.com/>
27. http://cgi.ebay.co.uk/A5-FILOFAX-compatible-DODO-PAD-Diary-insert-2010-NEW-/140333306763?cmd=ViewItem&pt=UK_Stationery&hash=item20ac84538b&afsrc=1

Simon (2010-05-17 16:19:48)

Hi Laurie,

I think I'd struggle to write anything meaningful in the grids and having all the space above & below is simply lazy design...isn't it? If the grid filled the page as it does in the A5, it would be workable, but the way that the company has formatted for the Personal size is terrible or am I missing something?

Having seen this I think I'll pass on buying a personal-size dodopad insert, which makes me a little sad since I was looking forward to using one.

Simo

JJ (2010-05-17 20:27:53)

Any US reatalers? The shipping is prohibitive.

Laurie (2010-05-18 03:29:35)

Hi Simon,

I asked Rebecca about the grid design on the Personal size and if they could stretch it somehow to cover more space on the page. She said technically it is possible, but because of the layers of formatting on each page: the grid is one layer, the dates are another, the art is a different one and the text is another; it would be time- and cost-prohibitive to do so.

JJ, Amazon has the Acad-Pad insert for \$3.99 shipping:

[http://www.amazon.com/gp/offer-listing/1903001684/ref=dp_olp_new?ie=UTF8 &qid=1274167673 &sr=8-13 &condition=new](http://www.amazon.com/gp/offer-listing/1903001684/ref=dp_olp_new?ie=UTF8&qid=1274167673&sr=8-13&condition=new)

Simon (2010-05-18 05:42:35)

Hi Laurie,

that's a real shame because I certainly won't be buying what's on offer :-)

Laurie (2010-05-18 07:36:23)

Hi Simon, the feedback from the customers who requested this size and format has been very positive. But, I do understand if you need more space to write each day. I have that issue with the Personal size Filofax in general.

JJ (2010-05-18 12:02:56)

Laurie: thanks for the tip. But the A5 inserts on Ebay are even more attractive... now, if I just had an A5 binder.

A5 Filofax Dodo Pad diary inserts priced to move immediately (2010-05-18 09:10) - Laurie



[1] I just got word yesterday that a box of 96 Dodo Pad 2010 A5 Filofax diary inserts was unexpectedly found in their inventory (previously 'lost' in the warehouse!), and now Dodo Pad wants to move them out. Since this is the first year for this product, at this point they just want to get them into customers' hands in the hopes that you will like them, and want to buy them again for next year. Lord Dodo's Ebay shop has these diary inserts for a very low price. Or, you can make an offer - I encourage you to see how low you can go! Shipping has even been discounted to the bare minimum, especially for overseas orders. It's a great time to try it and see if you like it - it's certainly the most fun, yet highly functional, diary insert for an A5 Filofax I've ever seen.

[2]

Here is the link to the diary insert on Ebay.com, with the discounted International shipping.

[3] Here is the link to the A5 Dodo Pad 2010 Filofax inserts on Ebay UK.

Disclaimer: I am affiliated with Dodo Pad, but not a representative of Dodo Pad. I do not make any money from these products, so this is in no way a sales pitch.

I use this product myself, and I love it (which is saying a lot from someone who's as fickle about planners as I am!) and I think lots of people would like it too. This is a great opportunity to try the product for a very low price.

1. <http://www.dodopad.com/dodofax/dodofax-350.jpg>

2. http://cgi.ebay.com/A5-FILOFAX-compatible-DODO-PAD-Diary-insert-2010-NEW-/140333306763?cmd=ViewItem&pt=UK_Stationery&hash=item20ac84538b
3. http://cgi.ebay.co.uk/A5-FILOFAX-compatible-DODO-PAD-Diary-insert-2010-NEW-/140333306763?cmd=ViewItem&pt=UK_Stationery&hash=item20ac84538b

Claudia Volkman (2010-05-20 05:53:21)

Thanks, Laurie! I just bid on it for 4.95 GBP and got it - probably could have gone a bit lower! Still - great price, and I'm looking forward to using these.

Laurie (2010-05-21 02:02:31)

Great Claudia! I'm loving mine. It definitely livens up my Filofax and is fun to use! I'd love to hear what you think about it when you get it.

The Quality of Current Organisers (2010-05-19 14:14) - Steve

So I was thinking the other day about the organisers currently available and comparing them to the organisers available in the 1980's. There's been plenty of discussion about the quality of modern organisers not being up to the same standards as those in the 1980's. But lets look again at what is currently on offer and see if there are any that get close to the quality.

So if money was no object... and you wanted to buy one of the current organisers in say Personal or A5 size, which would you buy? I'm ruling out any of the 'fashionable' ones with fancy decoration on the outside... sorry, but we want a general workhorse that will last a good few years, it won't look too dated after a few years either. I think leather is a must if it is going to last more than say 5 years. I'm not too fussed about colours, so we shouldn't be constrained by that.

I was also looking back at Laurie's post about her chat with [1]Brigitte in the Filofax shop, particularly her comments about leather interiors being more harder wearing compared to cloth. Which ranges have leather interiors? I've looked at the photo's on the site and it is not easy to tell the difference.

So your thoughts please in the comments.

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/04/brigitte-at-london-filofax-shop.html>

The Rev'd Blair (2010-05-19 15:05:15)

Like all things, I think it depends on the model. I, generally, tend to think the older models of filofax are more resilient; however, consider the Windsor. I have owned two windsor leather filofaxes and both have lost the pen holder, the strap and the cloth in the card holders. Not great quality. Beautiful, sure. But no Winchester. It is the same with book binding - compare leather bibles, for instance. Compare an Allan's Bible and a Zondervan. Price, craftsmanship, integrity, honesty. As one person said about a Gfeller Moleskine cover - it is something that will be passed on to another generation. Will our Finsbury's or Metropols say the same?

PA3789 (2010-05-19 16:43:44)

I agree that a lot of brands including Filofax will have issues quicker than their older counter parts built in the past. When I pick a binder whether it be Filo or FC I try to think about the strength of what I'm purchasing. Holding the Guildford in one hand and the Finchley in another, both in the color black, I'd bet a paycheck that the Finchley will outlast the Guildford. Just as in the FC products, I purchased the Supremo rather than others for the hopes that purchasing an all leather binder inside and out will outlast others. I buy my briefcases and laptop bags the same way. Of course some of the items I have purchased cost a ton of dollars but I grew up with the words "you only get what you pay for" instilled in my brain. But I think that some of what we buy like Filofax is costly because of the name, not because it is the best quality we could find. Just my thoughts, I could be all wet on this one.

Tony (2010-05-19 17:52:33)

I agree wholehearted with The Reverend. My '89 Winchester is in pretty good shape, having taken the first decade or so of its life just to develop a bit of a patina. All that's happened is that the plastic cover on the stud popper broke off. My Guildford however, was a different matter before I eventually discarded it. Pen loop failed in a couple of months, the ring mechanism began to separate from the binder... A sorry sight.

Yvotchka (2010-05-20 13:32:38)

gregor: i too grew up with "buy the best quality you can afford" instilled in me.

and i agree that pretty much ANY product manufactured now is probably going to be a lesser quality.

back in filofax's heyday i had a brown ostrich personal that i carried for at least a decade and all it did was break in. the leather button covering the snap closure got a bit worn, but that was it.

bought a filo bromley travel wallet as a gift a couple months back and the pen loop snapped the first week. utterly not worth the \$100 i paid for it!

i can't help wondering how long an ostrich filo made today would hold up in comparison to my old one...alas, i don't have it anymore.

J. Mark Bertrand (2010-05-20 13:46:44)

My views are pretty well known (and more or less cliché), but if I had the company's ear, I'd encourage some limited edition revivals of classic styles. This wouldn't even be inconsistent with the idea of Filofax as a consumer brand: look at the way shoes made of Horween Leather (or anything else with the Horween name) fly off the virtual shelves. There are people offering bridle leather organizers still, for example:

<http://www.sagebrown.co.uk/Business-Line/Personal-Organisers/1446-Personal-Organiser.html>

A limited run with nice "brand name" leather and some modern amenities (like a fountain pen sized loop) would get me off the fence.

gmax (2010-05-21 09:24:10)

SP's blog comments [1]here were quite telling on this subject.

Do any current models match the quality of the "vintage" products? In durability terms at least I doubt it.

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2006/07/rock-hard-place-and-some-complaints.html?showComment=1229975082175#c2553399219360403094>

New Products (2010-05-20 07:44) - Steve

Filofax UK have posted some pictures of new products that are going to be added to the range soon.

See them here on [1]Facebook

.

1. <http://www.facebook.com/album.php?aid=174013&id=97875648356&l=f79f851774>

Jotje (2010-05-20 12:57:12)

The red Adelphi actually is a Slimline A5, right?

Finally!

shepcraig (2010-05-20 13:54:26)

I have just had the filofax rep in the shop showing me the new products, and I asked about the Adelphi being a slimline in A5 as so many people have commented on it, but she said it is not a slimline and there are no plans to do it in slimline. She showed me the a5 product and it has the same size rings as the other A5's. SHE may be wrong but I doubt it.

Laurie (2010-05-21 02:09:46)

I saw the A5 Adelphi "slimline" product at the Filofax shop in London last month. The rings are 20 mm, which is slightly smaller than other A5 Filofaxes (compared to Finsbury with 30 mm rings). There is no strap closure, and the cover width is narrower at 186 mm (compared to Finsbury A5 width at 204 mm for example). For these reasons, they are calling the A5

Adelphi a slimline.

But, it has full-length gusseted pockets inside both the front and back covers, which add to the bulk and thickness of the book. For this reason, I would not call this product actually slimline.

A Very Special Free For All Friday No. 79 (2010-05-21 02:00) - Laurie

IT'S OUR 500TH POST HERE ON PHILOFAXY!!!! Hooray!!!!!!

To celebrate our 500th post, tell us your favorite Philofaxy post or your fondest Philofaxy memories.

And as always on Fridays, the floor is yours for any Filofax chat you wish.

Thank you so much to all of you, our readers! Nan, Steve and I have a great time writing here on Philofaxy because of our wonderful community of readers.

We really appreciate you reading Philofaxy, we enjoy your comments and discussions, and we look forward to many hundreds of posts to come!

Alison (2010-05-21 03:23:16)

Congratulations on reaching the milestone of 500! A real achievement.

Onward and upward!

Alison

(The Hand of Philofaxy)

HP Fuchs (2010-05-21 03:48:17)

Good Morning

This is my favourite:

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2005/10/choosing-my-weapon.html>

It's one of the older posts of Philofaxer. It's a pity he isn't posting anymore.

Yvotchka (2010-05-21 08:25:09)

Congrats on #500!! Very cool indeed!

I was browsing around, trying to find my favorite post and, as lame as it sounds, I love them all.

My favorite thing about Philofaxy is the sense of connectivity and validation it provides to all Filofax, er, "enthusiasts". Or, okay...addicts.

Not only are the topics fantastic, but the writing is delightful as well.

Thanks to you all and here's to many, MANY more posts :)

joffreyca (2010-05-21 11:38:20)

Wow! That's great. Congratulations.

I'm happy for everyone who supports this site.

Now, if only we could all celebrate with some beer, pizza & hot wings... Hmm...

gmax (2010-05-21 11:41:28)

Good job with the blog. Always entertaining.

My fondest moment would probably be browsing the extensive Filofax range in Heffers Cambridge UK bookshop circa 1986. Most of the range was way beyond my reach. I still love a good stationers!

IncomeAdviser (2010-05-21 12:16:18)

Congratulations on reaching 500! YEAH

I discovered Philofaxy not too long ago but have tried to catchup on ALL the posts that have been posted.

My favorite one to date is <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2009/10/how-green-is-your-filofax.html>

Anyway - once again congrats on 500 and hope the move to France goes well - I hope to still be reading your blog when 1000 comes around.

kanalt (2010-05-21 16:09:47)

Congratulations! I can't say that I have just ONE favorite entry. But I remember when I first found the blog I was so excited to find people who actually understood my obsession and love for planners. We have a great community here and I love hearing from everyone on all things Filo! Some of my favorite quotes from the blog can be found on my blog:
<http://lifewellplanned.blogspot.com/2010/02/philofaxy-quotations.htm> l

Michele (2010-05-21 16:32:31)

Congratulations all on post #500. I found you last Fall, and have avidly been reading every day! My favorite posts have been just watching how Philofaxy has evolved over the years.. From the original Philofaxer to Nan, Steve, and Laurie - I truly feel like I'm among friends! Keep up the great work on the blog!!!

Erin (2010-05-22 14:30:59)

Wow, 500 posts. Congrats! I am still fairly new to the Filofax community and love all the posts and blog! It's great to know I'm not alone in my collection (obsession) too!

pilgrim (2010-05-22 18:44:35)

I was watching a naff creature flick called 'Robert Benchley's Creature' (which was indescribably bad), but when the 'female brainy love interest' was searching the realms of past reasearch in the creature it was all neatly bound in A5 filfos. I lost interest in the film then and dug out the Filofax catalogue...

School Holidays - Get organised now... (2010-05-22 08:54) - Steve

School holidays are not that far off, only a few weeks away for most children I guess. My own son is just about to graduate from university and start work. But I'm sure there are plenty of you with school age children. Daytimer recently published an [1]article about [2]Nine Ways to Organize the End of School Year. But of course you can use your Filofax to organise your school holidays. If you are planning a gap year, then a Filofax would be a great way of planning your travels. What ever you are doing, I hope you have a great break.

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1. <http://daytimer.wordpress.com/2010/05/19/nine-ways-to-organize-the-end-of-school-year/>
2. <http://daytimer.wordpress.com/2010/05/19/nine-ways-to-organize-the-end-of-school-year/>

Laurie (2010-05-22 15:33:29)

I spent a summer in grad school traveling around Europe with my personal Buckingham planning everything flawlessly for me. I had my Europe map to plan my train routes, my contacts information, diary to schedule it all, lists of places to stay with phone numbers, etc. It was great. I had everything I needed to plan and record my trip right in my hand.

Reader question: 6-hole punch for A5 pages (2010-05-22 15:33) - Laurie

Hi everybody,

A reader contacted me to ask if there is any other brand of 6-hole punch besides the Filofax brand that will punch holes in A5 paper to fit Filofax binders? I don't know of any, but I figured if it exists somebody here will know about it!

Thanks for any information.

Jess (2010-05-22 16:09:59)

whsmith, a stationary store in the uk (don't know if they are anywhere else in the world) make their own filofax compatible refills, and i know they make a portable personal sized punch. i can't find an a5 version on their website, but it might be a

good place to start.

IncomeAdviser (2010-05-22 19:53:17)

WHSmiths do an A5 portable punch that fits the Filofax binders but they have an extra two holes. An alternative that I use is the personal size punch but I punch the paper twice.

plaiditude (2010-05-23 00:14:24)

TimeSystem has a punch for A5, same holes as Filofax A5. Good price too, \$25.99US right now.
http://www.timesystem.us/Punch_for_A5_Brushed_Silver_p/a57321.htm

Laurie (2010-05-23 02:02:52)

Thank you everyone for this information! :)

gdigesu (2010-05-23 11:44:25)

Thanks Jess, Income Adviser,plaiditude and Laurie. You're all very kind. Cheers -

Cat Cook (2010-05-24 14:05:09)

This is just what I'm after too for my A5 - but shipping to the UK is \$99 eek! I have the WHSmith portable one but it's only really good one page at a time - if anyone finds a good one in the UK please let me know!

Laurie (2010-05-24 15:24:15)

Hi Cathryn, you'd be much better off buying the Filofax A5 metal hole punch than spending that kind of money ordering from overseas. I've never used one but from what I hear it punches several pages at once. It goes for 34.25 pounds on the Filofax UK website.

Nickie @ Typecast (2010-05-29 20:27:44)

I actually bought an A5 punch from *hush*ebay*hush* - very inexpensive - plastic and it won't punch more than 2 pages in one go but it works :)

Nickie @ Typecast (2010-05-29 20:30:02)

@Cathryn I'd be suspicious about that transaction anyway - NO WAY does a hole punch cost \$99 to send - even if it was coming from Australia.

t (2010-05-31 17:43:48)

Rapesco sell a 6 hole punch .. the model is 66-p I think .. it allows you to adjust the spacing between the two sets of 3 rings .. not perfect for A5 - you would have to punch the paper once, turn over and punch again, but it can be bought for as little as £10 GBP - if you do your research - the native holes spacing is ideal for min and pocket sizes, hope this all helps.

Rubbishbin (2010-06-09 16:16:54)

Hi,

If you're in the EU you can buy from <http://www.opto.se/originals.htm>

I bought one from them and I'm very happy with it.

gdigesu (2010-06-10 11:44:21)

t & Rubbishbin - thank you very much indeed!

Steve (2010-07-18 10:04:31)

T See my review of the Rapesco punch here: <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2009/08/rapesco-diary-punch-66-p.html>

It is for Personal and Pocket size only....

Ducster (2010-11-24 16:59:53)

I would certainly recommend the 6 Hole from Opto.se for anyone with an A5 Filofax! Their service is exceptional.

Ducster (2010-11-24 17:01:16)

I would certainly recommend purchase of the 6 hole puncher from Opto.se for anyone with an A5 Filofax.

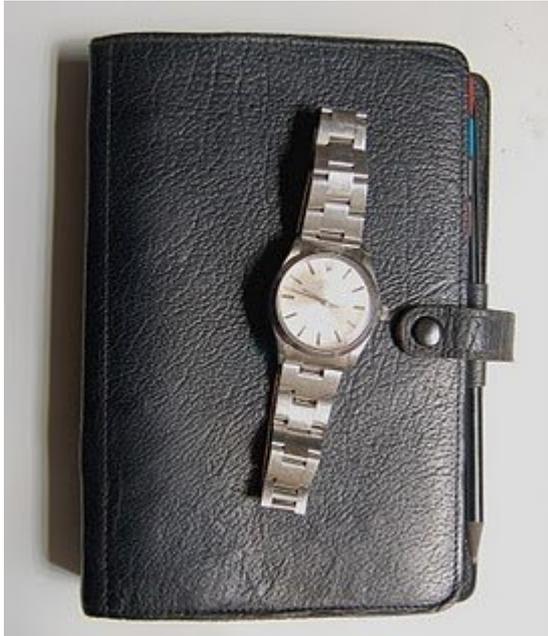
I was very impressed with their service.

Guest Post: Comeback of a veteran Filofaxer (2010-05-24 15:35) - Laurie

[1]

Many thanks to reader Bernhard for this excellent guest post!

Yuppie equipment of the 1980s: A Filofax Buckingham, "Made in England" and a Rolex watch.[2]



During the 1980s, organising and coordinating work and private life became an essential need for me. Today I know that one will end up with the most simple solution available.

But let's go back to the 1980s. Electronics didn't offer really much at this time - there were organisers by Sharp to store some 50 names and phone numbers which wasn't even enough for my mates in the soccer club.

Then news about a trendy binder to be used by prominent owners made me curious: What was that Filofax thing? 1987, staying as a tourist in London, I bought a Buckingham Personal in Lewisham Highstreet. I'm still proud that I didn't choose a Winchester at Harrod's with their logo engraved into it because Lewisham offered more authentic locals than the tourist traps around Leicester Square. In fact, these guys were completely convinced that the 1966 Wembley goal was absolutely correct.

A Winchester Personal followed in 1994 completing my new collection of a 1991 Slimline with gold-plated corners and a 1992 Slimline Executive of kid leather, all of them "Made in England" and lying flat on the desk after opening.

By the way: In German business management and IT industry, one organizer brand was even more popular than the Filofax: For creating a professional impression, almost everybody owned an A5 "TimeSystem" with its costly paper content.

My eyes were getting weaker so I started writing bigger characters, and the Personal format got too small so that I bought a red Filofax Ascot A5 in 2000. This ring binder is like the actual Amazona model, but "Made in USA", most probably by DayRunner who had acquired Filofax by then and outsourced production.

The Ascot proved to be the last Filofax I used on the desk, plus a mobile Slimline for all sorts of cards and the calendar. But electronics became stronger these days. I changed to the Mac to process my calendar and contacts and the Filofax era seemed to be history.

But PDAs, Blackberrys and the iPhone didn't work simple enough. Typing short notes into an electronic device is a really stupid thing to do, you have to care for battery lifetime, synchronising new content. And never let your mobile drop to the ground! As a reward, it makes you look a real professional juggling your iPhone all during the day.

Slowly but surely the Filofax Slimline had a comeback - today it's essential for the most comfortable way of organising my life: I use the Slimline as my calendar and wallet because it is easy to take anywhere, six credit card holders are sufficient for traveling and it has some spare paper for notes when I'm out of the office. In comparison to the actual models I am relieved that I may use this older model which is of better leather material and craftsmanship.

Calls, tasks and items to buy are on a simple A4 sheet of paper which is on my desk, urgent things are marked by sticky notes in the Slimline. The A5 Ascot finally serves an archive for anything I should keep, organising these data with an A-Z index.

Last month I discovered a Filofax Finsbury A5 Folder made of black leather which is a perfect desk accessory: I can dump all my notes there no matter which format and check them during the weekend. Best thing: This folder cost only 19 Euro in a Karstadt shop because this retail chain went out of business recently.

In 1987, I had paid some 70 Euro for the Buckingham and some 80 Euro for the Slimline in 1992. Because prices have doubled in Germany since then, these models would still be top-of-the line of today's Filofax range. Good things never go out of style, I guess.

Best from Germany,

Bernhard

PS: A special thanks for Philofaxy because here I learned how to use sticky notes which are a perfect reminder to important tasks or appointments.

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/S_rTJ8wEWuI/AAAAAAAAA1Q/OwWbgx7Mayg/s1600/FiloBuckingham.jpg

2. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/S_rTJ8wEWuI/AAAAAAAAA1Q/OwWbgx7Mayg/s1600/FiloBuckingham.jpg

PA3789 (2010-05-24 18:37:50)

Wow, great post!

Makes me proud I walked away from Franklin like YM did.

Realizing my blackberry can't do it all and having something to write in makes carrying a Finchley personal all so worth it. I do wish for a Winchester style with 1.25" rings but unless you want the Guildford zip I'm out of luck for now. Someone suggested Filofax bring back a few retro models and I sure hope this dream comes true. Thanks team Philofaxy, you definitely keep me in check.

Yvotchka (2010-05-24 20:23:25)

No more Franklin Gregor...we can do it! When I moved I actually tossed a lot of my FC stuff.

Maybe if enough of us make noise about resurrecting the vintage models, Filofax will listen!

YM

crofter (2010-05-25 09:38:50)

Good post!

I am fortunate to have a number of the older personal size binders that still have the Filofax logo and "Made in England" stamped inside the front cover. I also have a binder made of pigskin with the logo stamped on the gusset inside the rear cover. I have never seen another like it.

I have a Kendal that I purchased new in the early 90's, and has been used everyday since, and it is better than the first day I started using it.

The only new product I have acquired recently has been a Pocket Finchley. It shows more wear in less than a year than my others that are 20+ years old.

I too, encourage the Filofax company to go back to the high quality it was reknown for earlier in its storied past. Come out with a limited line of binders made with English bridle leather with a premium waxed linen thread. Don't bother with so many pockets and zippers, use gussets front and back and above all be able to say with justifiable pride, "Made in England. The "soft leather" is junk, and I will not be buying any more of their current production.

Richard

colin (2010-11-23 16:47:26)

There are a couple of good "Winchester" Filofax's on ebay right now if anyone's looking for a bit of the old style quality!

Filofax Receipts Envelope (2010-05-26 03:11) - Laurie

I received the A5 size Filofax Receipts Envelopes as a generous sample from [1]Brigitte at the Filofax shop in London. Thank you again Brigitte!

The A5 Receipts Envelopes fit perfectly on the rings of the A5 Filofax



binders. [2]

If you carry your A5 Filofax with you everywhere, you can keep the Receipt Envelope on the rings (in your Financial Section if you like, as I do) to have on hand at all times. If you don't want to carry your A5 Filofax around everywhere, you can just carry this envelope. It is too large to fit into a pocket but is certainly small enough to fit into any bag. Technically I suppose you could fold it to fit in your pocket, but I am opposed to folding such a perfect thing. Then when you get back home or to the office, you can archive the envelope in your A5 Filofax.

The envelopes have pre-printed columns with: Date, Expense Record (with a column for Code if you use expense codes), Amount, VAT, and Total. At the very bottom of the page there is space for Totals. (You can click on the



photo to get a larger view.)[3]

It's very handy to be able to write all the details of each expense, then pop the receipt right in. When you get back

to your office, you just take the receipts out and use your detailed record to do up your expense report. No more trying to remember which day you had that big expense or what exactly that vague receipt was for.

The envelope has a non-adhesive closure flap, so you don't have to worry about the envelope unintentionally sealing shut. When you need to close it, a glue stick or some tape will do the trick easily. Also this side of the envelope is blank so you can make notes or continue your totals from the other side if you need to.[4]



Obviously this is perfect for a business traveler, but it's also very useful for anyone who is trying to budget and get a better handle on their finances. It's very helpful to carry this envelope with you during the day to record your expenditures and tuck in those receipts.

The Receipts Envelopes are available on the [5]Filofax UK website under accessories for the Time Management system ([6]click here to see the page where you can purchase it). As far as I can tell, Filofax Time Management system products are not available in the US. So, those of you in the US, add this to your list of cool Filofax products to order from Filofax UK!

I hope it will be available in the US soon! It's an excellent, very useful product from Filofax.

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/04/brigitte-at-london-filofax-shop.html>
2. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/S_zCT1kyV2I/AAAAAAAAA1o/yDLoMzTB3pA/s1600/Diaries+2010+057.jpg
3. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/S_zCSz3DMyI/AAAAAAAAA1Y/Sir-zmu9Dgw/s1600/Diaries+2010+055.jpg
4. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/S_zCTa9zBuI/AAAAAAAAA1g/7ARrjLtCoLQ/s1600/Diaries+2010+056.jpg
5. <http://www.filofax.co.uk/>
6. http://www.filofax.co.uk/timemanagement/refill_stationery.asp

Iris (2010-05-26 06:24:56)

These envelopes could be very handy for travelling.

Filofax Germany has a range of so called "professional" diaries and refills in Pocket, Personal and A5 (as you can see [1]here), but no such envelopes.

1. http://www.filofax.de/search/search.asp?search_string=professional

JJ (2010-05-26 06:57:36)

Unrelated A5 question: does the FC Classic size paper (5.5 x 8.5, 7 holes) fit in a A5 binder?

I just found an A5 on Ebay and I already have tons of FC note paper and their seven hole punch.

I know the paper size differs, but do the holes line up?

Francesca (2010-05-26 09:22:50)

Hi JJ, no they don't- I bought some FC stuff for my A5 to try it out, but no go.....

I've been using these envelopes for a couple of years- they're great and stop me losing all my company credit card receipts in the black hole that is my wallet! And I was pleased to discover, that with the aid of one extra hole from a hole punch, I can carry it around in my A4 portfolio, then at the end of the month, seal it and put it into my A5 stay-at-the-office work Kendal and file it ready to send off for reconciliation! Perfect!

plaiditude (2010-05-26 12:55:03)

If you want A5 envelopes in the USA or Canada, you can order from TimeSystem which might be a bit cheaper to ship than overseas:

http://www.timesystem.us/Expense_Envelope_p/a54025new.htm

Jotje (2010-05-27 03:35:00)

I also have the envelopes of TimeSystem. Same principle, but the backside is printed as well.

Free For All Friday No. 80 (2010-05-28 00:15) - Steve

Well this week I've moved to France... I think it will rank somewhere in amongst the other big changes in my life such as becoming a father and getting married. But using my Filofax has certainly helped. I will do a post about it soon, or as soon as I've recovered from the journey!!

But as it is Friday, please feel free to discuss anything Filofax related.

Laurie (2010-05-28 01:55:15)

Steve, congratulations!! That is wonderful!! I'm very happy for you both that this has finally happened.

I still don't know which continent I'll be living on next month. Right now there are several possibilities. I might find out today if Plan A will work, but if not we have several other irons in the fire. Something is bound to come through! And of course, I'm clinging to my Filofax like a life preserver. In many ways, it is keeping me afloat!!

gmax (2010-05-28 05:09:14)

All the best with your new home Steve.

Don't know if anyone in the UK watched the "Grumpy Guide to the Eighties" on BBC2 last night?

There was an amusing and fairly disparaging section about Filofax ownership in the 80's. The bigger and fatter your Filofax, and the more bits of paper hanging out of it were said to be indicative of the fullness of your existence, and hence your status. There was some wonderful footage of a bounteously stocked Filofax shop. And best of all was the old "Blue Peter" craft slot on making your own Filofax! Certainly worth a look on the BBC iPlayer if you have access to it.

Yvotchka (2010-05-28 08:51:50)

Congrats Steve :) I can't wait to hear about your move...as I was lamenting my own move I kept thinking, "Focus on how easy this is in comparison to moving to another country".

You're my hero :)

Laurie, keep us posted!!! And remember...in the event of a water landing, your Filofax may be used as a flotation device

joffreyca (2010-05-28 10:37:02)

Steve, hope you and your family are doing well. Moving to a different country is never easy.

My family and I moved from the Philippines to Canada with my then 2 year old daughter on an 18-hour trip on my first plane ride. Lots of fun :-)

As for my Filofax, I'm still using my personal Amazona but I'm planning to move some of my stuff to a pocket Urban for summer. I just ordered one last weekend. And my wife ordered a pocket Graphic in burnt orange and a pocket Fresco. They were all on sale on the Filofax US website.

Zoltix (2010-05-28 10:39:46)

The link to the BBC programme that gmax mentioned is

http://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b00sf8vz/The_Grumpy_Guide_To_The_Eighties_Part_1/

The filofax bit starts at 16:40

Yes, it is disparaging but that was then. My student friends tell me that filofax is 'cool' now.

It shows you are serious about your studies, are organised, creative and forward thinking.

shepcraig (2010-05-28 15:49:38)

Got alot of the new lines into the shop today, got the full chameleon range, so much nicer in your hand than in the pictures, will be a big hit. Also got the Adelphi magenta and the adelphi handbags and accesories, they will sell very very well and also the aqua finsbury. But my favourite is the Holborn Conference folders, they are absolutely beautiful, made from buffalo skin, I think I will have to buy one myself.

JJ (2010-05-28 18:04:36)

Just got my (first) A5 in the mail today. Still waiting on the Dodo-pad insert and ordered more paper today.

I now have multiple personals, a small assortments of pockets and minis and an A5.

In excess of my needs? Yes.

An addiction? Yes.

Any plans on stopping? Bite your tongue.

PA3789 (2010-05-28 20:46:47)

Next week I get my first chance to take my Finchley personal on a flight to Atlanta for business.

Hope it doesn't get air sick. LOL

Oh, and by the way.....

Congrats Steve!!

kanalt (2010-05-29 10:23:55)

Congratulations Steve! As a few of you are moving, have moved or about to move, everything here is pretty status quo. I guess that's good since I have a number of things going on myself, though nothing as exciting and stressful as moving (yet). In the US we're celebrating Memorial Day weekend - the unofficial start of summer, but also remembering all of the men and women who died fighting for our country.

Nickie @ Typecast (2010-05-29 20:02:36)

CONGRATS Steve (and family) - good luck with your new life !!!!

@gmax - if that was on the 80s series then I have it recorded on the Sky+ Planner. I'll get round to watching it at some point :)

@Laurie - exciting/nervous times??

paulien (2010-05-30 07:11:33)

Hi all,

Congratulations on your move steve!

Another big thing happened to me this Friday the 28th: I got married. We had a wonderful day with great weather, and we are flying to Rome for a week this Thursday. It is only now sinking in what a big thing this has been, watching my dress hanging on the door.

And surprising little need of my filofax right now as I am free from work for the next ten days and will not work on my phd thesis. That will be the next big event in my life, hopefully in the fall of 2011.

See you all in two weeks.

Paulien

Guest Post: Nickie's Heart Filofax (2010-05-29 01:45) - Laurie

Here is a guest post from Nickie: a review of her [1]Personal size Heart Filofax! Thank you Nickie!!
Heart Organiser (Personal) in Yellow

When I saw this Filofax previewed at the end of March 2010 I just knew I had to get one to be the polar opposite to my personal/work [2]A5 black Metropol. I also already had a use for it – it would be my writing journal; somewhere to jot down ideas, keep a log of articles that I'd written, make notes about my blog entries, etc.



[3]

I ordered it about a week after its release (April 2010) and when it arrived it included a week-to-two page diary to the end of December 2011 (so no need to purchase a new diary insert at the end of this year), pastel shaded 1-6 dividers (in green, pink and blue) with the 13-section A-Z in the same pastel shades. Also included were the usual transparent flyleaf, the ruler-page marker, the World map, four pages of coloured and ruled paper in the same pastel shades, name and address sheets, to-do sheets, white ruled notepaper and a top opening envelope (which I always find really handy).

Both the front and rear inside covers are a mid-purple colour, each with a pocket. A purple elasticated pen holder is on the right hand side of the Filofax and a purple elastic loop holds the Filofax closed. If I was to make one criticism, it would be to say that the cover is textured and will get dirty easily and not wipe clean.



[4]

As I mentioned (and I know that Laurie is on the edge of her seat waiting for this bit...), the Filofax is now in everyday use as my writing journal.



[5]

1. I have the diary in section 1 where I record all the pieces I have uploaded to my blog, the dates that I have pieces published away from my blog and a reminder of any dates where I am due to submit pieces that I have been commissioned to write. At the back of section 1 is my name and address section.
2. In section 2 are all the notes and ideas for a parenting website that I write for [6]Mumable.
3. Section 3 houses all my blog notes (settings, schedule for a series of stories/guest posts, interview notes).
4. Section 4 is my scrapbook – here are all my ideas for blog posts, short stories, the two novels that I eventually want to write, quotes, snippets of over-heard conversations, lists, character names, etc and it is TOP SECRET!
5. Section 5 is where I store all my writing course notes and prompts. I am a member of an e-Writing Course at the moment and also receive weekly prompts from another blog to help hone my writing skills and to let me experiment with different styles and genres.
6. Section 6 is “all the rest” – spare pages, blank to-do lists and day planner pages ready to use and slip into the appropriate diary page and the obligatory World map.

I have bought more page inserts for my Filofax since and I have kept in with the theme of pastel shades. I think that this Filofax is definitely a “girlie” organiser and was aptly timed for a Spring release. It is also one of the most affordable Filofaxes that I have seen for a while.

Many thanks again to Nickie for this excellent review!

Follow Nickie on Twitter at:

[7]

<http://twitter.com/nickie72>

And don't miss her blog Typecast!

[8]

<http://typecast2000.blogspot.com/>

1. <http://www.filofax.co.uk/store/organiserdetails.asp?rangeid=149&sizeid=3&dsizeid=3>
2. <http://www.filofax.co.uk/store/organiserdetails.asp?display=&sizeId=5&rangeId=52&dsizeId=5>
3. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/S_-vGd6k5uI/AAAAAAAAA2Q/f-bEqEs-8tk/s1600/YELLOWFILOFAX1.JPG
4. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/S_-vHL1NOJI/AAAAAAAAA2g/c9fFCensrac/s1600/YELLOWFILOFAX3.JPG
5. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/S_-vGxKakSI/AAAAAAAAA2Y/r0XcW-e_tr4/s1600/YELLOWFILOFAX2.JPG
6. <http://www.mumable.com/>
7. <http://twitter.com/nickie72>
8. <http://typecast2000.blogspot.com/>

jfb57 (2010-05-29 12:03:25)

Just got to have one now!

Nickie @ Typecast (2010-05-29 12:39:00)

Thanks for posting up the review, Laurie :)

JfB57 - it is even lovelier in Real Life ;)

MuddynoSugar (2010-05-30 02:24:43)

I am on my...**ahem** sixth filofax..Love them!

Michele (2010-06-02 06:25:34)

Nickie, as you know we're all in love with your A5 Metropol! Couldn't wait to read this entry - you're very creative with your filofaxes!

Nickie @ Typecast (2010-06-02 10:13:59)

LOL Michele :) Maybe I should start a fan club for my filofaxes :D

The Move to France (2010-05-30 01:57) - Steve



[1]

As mentioned in FFAF no. 75, I have just moved to France. This has been a long term plan of my wife and I, so it wasn't a sudden thing. I've effectively retired from full time work as well (More time for Philofaxy!).

As this was our first house move in 24 years, you can imagine it was a fairly major move. The date of our move wasn't finalised until about 4 weeks before the actual move due to being linked to the sale of our UK house.

I sort the advice of Laurie, who is a frequent mover between countries... which sounds bad I know!!! But her tips proved very useful and included things I had not thought of.

Naturally, my Filofax proved to be very useful in the move, both for the organisation of various lists and for noting down important data. I'm a big user of To-Do lists anyway, so their use didn't surprise me at all.

One thing that happened almost by accident was I started to use coloured notepaper (because I had some already) for noting down information for different things, using the different colours to signify different functions and requirements. So utilities went on to green paper, financial on to blue paper etc. It separated out the different sections in that part of my Filofax without having to use tabbed section dividers. Having used this technique I will certainly use it again.

Having had a couple of days to recover from our last day of packing and the journey over to France I've just sat down and rationalised the contents of my two 'working' Filofax organisers.

In my Slimline I took out the completed To-Do lists that I'd been slavishly using, and the notepaper information and filed them carefully. As I use the Slimline as my wallet, various cards have been removed... likewise my UK money... I've asked for some pocket money in Euro's from my dear wife. Is it pay day yet was her reply!!!

Similarly in my A5 organiser, I've been updating my To-Do lists and started off some new ones of things we have to do now we are here... so the process never finishes, it just moves on to a new phase.

Thank you also for all your best wishes, very kind of you.

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TAAvdY_8hXI/AAAAAAAAAIB8/1LXAc-vYueQ/s1600/IMG_8796a.JPG

gdigesu (2010-05-31 14:46:56)
Good luck in France! Cheers - Giovanni

Michele (2010-06-02 06:20:12)
All the best Steve and Alison on your move to France! Wishing you many many happy years in your new home! One question, has a corner of the house been allocated to Filofax? ;-)

DJ (2010-07-01 14:31:47)
The reason I haven't yet switched over to a Regular Slimline from a Pocket Slimline (to use it as my "wallet") is the length. It's rather long at 190mm for the front pocket of a man's pants, though fine in the inside jacket pocket. The back pocket location might likely result in some bent rings, n'est pas?

Steve (2010-07-01 16:13:59)
DJ, I've never liked carrying anything in my pockets, even keys or pocket change.
So with the move to France I've gone native... Man bags are popular here so at the moment I'm using a substitute one until I find a bag I like that's the right size etc.
I'm using a portable CD case at the moment it's got two compartments.
My Filofax goes in the back along with my keys, and my phone, glasses and sat nav go in the front..
Like Filofax organisers, you have to find a solution that works for you....

DJ (2010-07-01 18:04:49)
Agreed, and Steve, I admire you. First for pulling off the move to France and second, for your Filo-savvy. With Filo, keys, mobile, MP3, Swiss Army Knife (with corkscrew—after all, when in Rome do as the Romans), your approach makes more sense than ever. *Un suggestion*: an Eastern Bloc officer's map case, I have one from the former DDR, über-masculine with pebbled grain that matches the Finsbury slimline *exactly*. You can find them on FleaBay ;) or sovietski.com. You won't have this problem en France, but if you travel to the States or UK and people accuse you of carrying a purse, just use the line from Seinfeld: "It's NOT a purse, it's EUROPEAN!"
Cheers.

DJ (2010-07-01 18:17:43)
BTW Steve, these Commie map cases have two compartments generally, so you can maintain your protocol of glasses, phone and GPS in front, Filo and mobile in back. They also have 3 or 4 circular cutouts where you can slide in pen, pencil, highlighter, whatever.
Filofax, you are missing a HUGE market here for man-bags! JUST BUY UP all remaining stock, stamp them Filofax "WARSAW PACT," with that quaint hammer & sickle peut-être, sit back and collect the profits!

Filofax Model Locations? (2010-05-31 16:56) - Steve

A silly idea I know, but I wonder if anyone has ever plotted all the locations that are used as Filofax Organiser model names on a map?

Such as in: Eton, Finchley, Finsbury, Guildford, Kendal, Lyndhurst, Winchester etc

To get you started I've put the above locations on a [1]Google Map, you should be able to add other locations.

I know people plan pub crawls around the London Underground using Google Maps... but a Filofax tour... that would be different!!

1. <http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?ie=UTF8&hl=en&msa=0&msid=116208396887037610049.000487e9d79dbc0c7092d&z=6>

joffreyca (2010-05-31 17:23:42)
An interesting idea. I did not know that those names were based on locations in the UK.

It would interesting to see where in the world Alligator, Hearts, Butterfly and others are located.

Jotje (2010-05-31 17:43:38)

Such a fun idea! How about Waverly and all the vintage ones like: Kensington, Winchester, Birmingham?

The North seems a bit underrepresented, why is there no York, Durham or Newcastle? Haha.

I tried to add some to the map myself, but couldn't figure out how ...

The Rev'd Blair (2010-05-31 18:15:13)

And...

where would one find a catalogue listing the various "models"

by the by, there is a York and Durham

even a dundee and argyll!

Dasha (2010-05-31 21:49:11)

LOL, I had no idea they were all locations - except Kent. All I know about places in the UK is from Jane Austen novels, so like, London and Bath :)

Eva (2010-06-01 00:44:43)

I used to live near Guildford and I didn't even know that there was a Filofax named after it but like Jotje said, the North is not very much represented.

Steve (2010-06-01 03:00:24)

I've added in some of the older model locations.

Dunbar, Kensington, Buckingham, Waverley,

So now we just need some dedicated fan to tour the locations and be photographed with one of their Filofax organisers in front of each name plate... or if you have Guildford a picture of you in front of the Guildford name plate etc.

JJ (2010-06-01 04:28:18)

I have a Westminster.

I *REALLY* wish there was an archive of old catalogs available.

JJ (2010-06-01 04:31:44)

And here I was thinking the Winchester was named after the rifle.

JJ (2010-06-01 04:40:00)

Also.. Balmoral, Hamilton, Epping.

(I dont own all of these. I have bid on them on Ebay and gathered the names from old emails.)

Jotje (2010-06-01 05:35:51)

Also found through Ebay: Lyndhurst, Windsor, Carnaby, Keswick, Piccadilly, Connaught, Bromley, Hamilton, Portland, Richmond.

And I indeed found a Durham!

Okay, I'll volunteer for the trip, if Filofax UK steps up as a sponsor! ;-)

The Rev'd Blair (2010-06-01 08:08:03)

And how about, say,

filofax...

Paris...Rome...Sydney

Now that would be a tour worth marking in the venerable!

cheers!

Laurie (2010-06-01 09:04:18)

Sign me up for a Tropic location! I can't go to Cuba(n) because I'm American.

Jotje (2010-06-01 10:35:26)

Also found Devonshire and Ascot!

What's with the Italian line anyway? Is it because of the Italian leather that we have Domino, Piazza, Deco, Siena, Strata and Fresco?

Oh, can I sign up for Amazona? And is Adelphi in Greece?

JJ (2010-06-01 13:48:09)

I do remember being told to Go To Belle once or twice.

Dilaila (2010-06-02 02:50:58)

I have a Belgravia. And they used to have a Capri, which I wish they would bring back.

Dilaila (2010-06-02 02:51:55)

Oh I also have a Portobello (sp). Now where did I keep that? Haven't used it in ages.

j Morse (2010-06-02 04:25:42)

What a great idea! We're loving it here at Filofax HQ in Burgess Hill (which we've noticed has been added to the map!).

Hope all is well at Philofaxy Towers!

Jon@Filofax

Mark (2010-06-02 10:49:59)

I asked Dee at the Filofax shop of names of places which have been used. She mentioned Stratford and Rio. She also said organisers may have been named after styles or periods such as Baroque, Deco, Urban and Botanic. That lady is so helpful but she may start thinking I'm a little mad for the questions I ask!

Dilaila (2010-06-02 10:54:18)

I have Baroque in hot pink, pocket and mini. So pretty.

Mark (2010-06-02 17:48:56)

I've just had a look at the map. I have noticed the Filofax Head Office and the shop in Conduit Street appearing but I think you should put my favourite Filofax shop on the map too. The address is 68 Neal Street in Covent Garden, London, WC2H 9PF.

joffreyca (2010-06-03 07:19:39)

Mark, I've added the Filofax shop you mentioned.

Unfortunately, Google's map interface isn't too friendly. I've added some instructions on how to edit the map.

Here's how to edit the Filofax Locations map:

1. Log on to Google.com
2. Go to the [1]Filofax Locations map
3. Click the "Edit" button to edit the names & descriptions in the map. You can also drag the location names up or down to re-arrange them.

To add a new location:

1. Type a location name on the search bar and click "Search Maps"
2. On the search results, go to the location you want to add and look for the link "Save to..." under it.
3. Click on "Save to..." to show a drop-down menu of maps you can edit
4. Choose "Filofax Locations" and click "Save"

You should see the new location at the bottom of the list when you go back to the map.

You can only add new locations if you've already visited the map and clicked on "Edit". This tells Google to add Filofax Locations in your maps profile. You don't have to do this every time you want to add a new location. You only need to do this once to store Filofax Locations in your Google profile.

1. <http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?hl=en&cd=1&ei=ZokHTPbMA5XMNY6l00MI&sig2=>

pWzoZPbekoGyEWAOSeiogg&ie=UTF8&view=map&ved=0CEUQgAc&msa=0&msid=116208396887037610049.000487e9d79dbc0c7092d&ll=42.609374,-47.980255&spn=9.587933,23.269043&z=6

gdigesu (2010-06-04 21:47:04)

I have one marked "Chelsea", circa 1996.

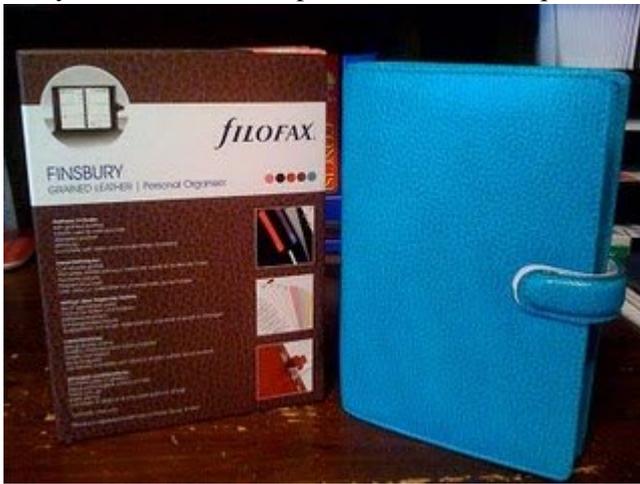
Petra (2010-08-25 20:04:13)

I have a Durham (pocket zip) that goes everywhere with me – lovely model. And I have a Balmoral and Belgravia. I didn't know either that many of the names were based on places till we were in England a few weeks ago and the names started popping up! Then I took a good look at the map and the light bulb went off.

1.6 June

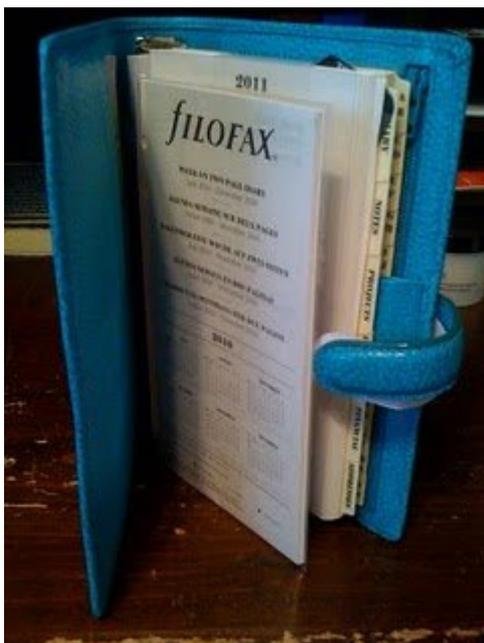
Erin's new Aqua Finsbury (2010-06-02 02:26) - Laurie

Erin very kindly emailed me some photos of her new aqua Finsbury that her husband gave her as a gift! Lucky



lady!! [1]

I saw this new Finsbury color while I was at the Filofax shop in London. It is gorgeous, I love how saturated the color looks.



[2]

I think this color will be very popular this year! And, as with all colored Filofax models, if you like it you should get it quickly because you can bet it's being produced this year only!

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TAX5bK19cpI/AAAAAAAA6I/ze0v-EM22wQ/s1600/Erin+aqua+Finsbury+cover.jpg
2. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TAX5dltX4vI/AAAAAAAA6Q/oW1NeKNcZQA/s1600/Erin+aqua+Finsbury+open.jpg

Erin (2010-06-02 12:33:11)

Hey, thanks Laurie for posting this. I really do love it! And, I am a very lucky lady not only to have my new Finsbury but most especially my hubby!

Steve (2010-06-02 14:04:38)

Love the colour Erin. But it wouldn't surprise you if you looked in my wardrobe.. most of my shirts tend to be blue! I used to drive a car that was a similar colour to your new Finsbury..

Regards

Steve

Erin (2010-06-03 11:24:46)

Steve

It does look more blue in the photos but the color is a gorgeous aqua! Thanks for pictures of your house on blog. Hope you and your wife are enjoying France!

Philofaxy mentioned in branding article! (2010-06-02 13:28) - Laurie

Our blog was mentioned in [1]this article about the Filofax brand and its enormous appeal. Cool!

1. <http://www.johnsadowsky.com/?p=322>

Nickie @ Typecast (2010-06-02 13:55:32)

Taking over the world one step at a time ;)

A lovely mention.

The Rev'd Blair (2010-06-02 15:22:52)

You know, I purchased my Mac because, yes, I did like iCal - however, compared to my "made in England" vintage winchester with all my notes, and scribbles and ponderings - ical is like a kiss from my cousin - it's nice, and all that - but it just doesn't feel right. you know.

I don't despise technology - nor am I a luddite. It's just, well, if I can be a minister here - I need stuff to be "incarnate". Stuff isn't bad - it's what we're made of, it's what God created... stuff, leather, paper, poodles, the iron of the eiffel tower. And my filofax (es - plural) keep me in touch with stuff. Not that I have more stuff than you or anything like that. Just, well, it's nice and it fits and it smells good and my ideas are in it - it's a symbol of my stuff.

cheers

Free For All Friday No. 81 (2010-06-04 00:19) - Laurie

Welcome to summer! June is in full swing now. Are you using your Filofax to plan any summer trips or other events? Tell us all about it!

And, as always on Fridays, the floor is yours to discuss anything Filofax-related.

Have a great weekend! :)

David Popely (2010-06-04 09:40:29)

I'm not doing this at the moment, but would be really interested to know how others manage it, so this is my chance to link to the post and get subscribed!

Happy Friday everyone

katka.m (2010-06-04 11:14:50)

I'm going to Scotland for few days, and as we will hire car there to drive around, a lot of planning must be done :o) My old personal Stratford will be perfect for that.

Nice weekend to everyone !

Laurie (2010-06-04 15:26:56)

Oooh katka, where in Scotland are you going?? It's my favorite place in the world.

katka.m (2010-06-04 16:15:21)

I'm flying to Edinburgh and then we'll drive around. I haven't planned the route yet, but Scotland is beautiful wherever you go :o) I lived there for a year and agree...just gorgeous place.

FiloJr (2010-06-04 19:51:24)

Need help picking my first filofax.....Erin has many to choose from but I want one of my own? Suggestions?

shannonw (2010-06-04 21:46:22)

Scotland is lovely. Edinburgh is beautiful, friendly, and warm in spirit. I am sure katka.m will have a wonderful time!

I received my first, yes - very first, Filofax today in the post. It was here waiting for me when I arrived home from work.

A personal, slate Domino. Smaller than I expected (should have measured to the planner I've been using), but so beautiful that I hope to be able to adjust.

No summer plans, as I shall be at work. But summer, even when working, is a warm, and rainy (in my part of the world) wonderful time.

Thank you for this site. I have felt a tad on the goofy side, waiting with bated breath for the new planner. :)

Jotje (2010-06-05 03:59:46)

FiloJr, I guess we'd need some more information from you: what size does the planner have to be, what will you be using it for, will it stay at home or are you gonna take it with you? Based on that info, we'll probably be able to give you some advice. And in the end it'll boil down to your own personal taste and budget.

katka.m (2010-06-06 13:28:02)

Hello, does anybody know\own Filofax Executive? I can't google it anywhere, so suppose it's something old. Do you know anything about it? Any photos? Thanks a lot.

gmax (2010-06-06 15:58:37)

Hi Katka.

I have a slimline executive filo (seen on the left in this [1]photo). This model was in the range in 1994, made of deluxe soft kid leather. It is of comparatively good quality when viewed against the other models available at that time (and since).

1. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/30775101@N04/4063953286/>

katka.m (2010-06-07 15:37:40)

thanks gmax...I managed to buy one on ebay...it's A5 one, hopefully perfect for the office :o)

joffreyca (2010-06-08 16:32:07)

FiloJr, for your first Filofax I would suggest something inexpensive and something you can bring with you anywhere.

My personal recommendation would be a pocket Domino.

shepcraig (2010-06-09 06:13:29)

If you are going to be in Edinburgh, pop into the department store "Jenners" on Princes Street, and come up to the 2nd floor and see my filofax department, Its looking beautiful with all the new lines arriving.

Traveling Filofax (2010-06-08 02:52) - Laurie

This weekend I am going to Croatia for a few days, which I am very excited about! Has anyone been? I've heard it's cool.

But, you know what that means for me: Travel = Planner Crisis. You would think I'd have this figured out by now!!

To my credit, often when I travel it's to Scotland, and I do have a [1]designated Filofax just for traveling to Scotland (which works great for me and I love it).

But my current situation is this: I don't want to bring my [2]A5 Domino on this trip. I have tons of work stuff in it that I don't need or want to bring with me.

I'm only going to be there for a few days, but there is certain information that I need to have with me: emergency and medical info, contacts, travel reference info and numbers, etc.

So, I've decided to turn my [3]purple personal size Finsbury into my Travel Filofax for non-Scotland travel. And, what a great opportunity to try out the [4]Travel Journal Lifestyle Pack that was very generously given to me as a sample by [5]Brigitte at Filofax in London! You can expect to see my review soon after I get back!

I know there are some Philofaxy readers that have a designated Filofax specifically for travel. Tell us about your Travel Filofax! What do you keep in it? What are your pages and sections? Do you use the Travel Journal insert? Give me ideas and suggestions for mine please! :D

1. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/plannerisms/sets/72157622035170176/>

2. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/plannerisms/sets/72157623920524890/>

3. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/plannerisms/3973666157/in/set-72157623430927643/>

4. <http://www.filofax.co.uk/lifestyle/lifestyle.asp?fId=3>

5. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/04/brigitte-at-london-filofax-shop.html>

HP Fuchs (2010-06-08 05:32:12)

Just write everything (the essentials) on a piece of paper and put it in your pocket.

Laurie (2010-06-08 07:54:48)

Hi HP,

That would seem to make sense, but I just have too many pages and therefore need something to hold them in (Filofax being most convenient). Traveling with kids requires having much more information on hand (especially in the Emergency and Medical section, including OTC meds dosage charts, etc.) than I ever needed back when I used to travel adults-only.

Also I like to carry my maps, which change depending on where I'm going. Then there's my addresses for sending post cards, reservation details, the list goes on.

I like to use a Filofax for things like this because it holds it all together securely, and I can change it at will and carry exactly and only what I need for that particular destination.

Steve (2010-06-08 09:49:29)

I would go for something cheap and durable in personal size myself for a travel organiser. Something like an Identity, wipes clean, it's going to break the bank if you go to the beach. And not too tragic if you lose it.

Have a good trip

Steve

Laurie (2010-06-08 10:34:41)

Steve, that's why I love my Domino so much for my Scotland Filofax. The cover wipes clean easily and holds up fine in rainy weather. To be honest I'm very tempted to get another personal size Domino for my Travel Filofax. I love the new Lavender color of course, and the Slate and Electric Blue look great too. Then again, that natural Snake color is beautiful...

Maybe a future purchase! :)

Iris (2010-06-08 14:46:56)

My husband & I have been to Vrsar/Croatia in 2002 with some Polish friends. That was in December, so it was rather quiet... I guess, it's much more fun in summer! We went there for skydiving actually, as it's much warmer in Winter than it is in Poland - or in Germany, for that matter. (In case you're wondering: no, I'm not a skydiver, but my husband is, so I'm spending lots of time on dropzones...)

As for me, I'm currently preparing my Indie for our summer holidays. We'll be travelling to the Netherlands & Belgium in July, so right now I'm collecting information, addresses and maps... As you probably know, I love to have maps in my Filo! Have a great & sunny time in Croatia!

Michele (2010-06-08 14:56:00)

Have a great trip! One of these days I'll email you about my Slimline's trip to the UK during the Summer '09 - Filo had a starring role during the trip - plus Filo even got to go alone on a whole plane trip without me (reason NOT to bring a fancy filo on a trip or at least don't leave it in the pouch of the airplane seat!). Filo did happily find his way home to me.

Jotje (2010-06-09 04:40:56)

@Michele: glad you got it back! Next time leave a camera with him, so filo can take some pictures of his adventures ... ;-)

Jotje (2010-06-09 15:46:21)

I've one advice, based on personal experience: bring your packing list! During the course of the vacation, I keep record of what items I desperately missed, and add them instantly to my list. I also keep track of things that I packed and never used. I tend to overpack, but my lists have evolved so much that it's getting better and better. Also the packing itself is accomplished in a much shorter time (may I point out that I travel with DH and our four kids?).

Another important thing are website login codes. I finally found internet access last vacation, only to discover that I couldn't remember the login name and/or password and thus couldn't check my mail. That's what happens when you bookmark extensively at your home pc! ;-)

Laurie (2010-06-10 01:11:22)

Jotje you are right, a packing list is absolutely necessary. I travel with my husband and our two small children, and I quickly learned not only to write a packing list to help figure out what to bring, but to KEEP it to refer to every time we take a trip. We go somewhere every couple of months, and I found myself re-writing the same list over and over. Now I just refer to the list (which evolves--no more diapers to pack!) and keep it in my Filofax for easy reference.

Jotje (2010-06-10 03:17:17)

I hear ya! This summer I'll have my first diaper-free trip aswell! Such a relief!

Look what I have just found! (2010-06-08 11:49) - Steve



[1]

OK I am still unpacking... but I had boxed all of my Filofax things in to one box, that was well labelled and I found it easily the other day.

Then this afternoon I was unpacking yet another box....I'm sure someone is repacking them at the other end of the house! And I found a 1980's DIY index, still in it's plastic wrapper, still sealed with the price tag on it. As you can see I didn't even want to open it to scan it!

I can remember buying quite a few of these for a project I did for a friend of mine, this must be one of the left overs!

She was using a Filofax binder (bought empty I presume) to create a training manual and she got me to create the pages for the manual by printing on to Filofax fan fold paper... I still have some of that too... but no printer that will take it these days!

The section index had our own lettering on it that spelt out PARTNERS on it, but I forget what it stood for, it's a long time ago now!

I know you can get similar blank indexes these days but you actually cut the tabs to your own length and then stuck them on with these old ones.

Anyway click on the picture and see something from yesterday year!

1. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_NjIPaFKXqQ/TA5mJKbS9JI/AAAAAAAAICc/PTyX38wgms0/s1600/DIY+Index.jpg

Free For All Friday No. 82 (2010-06-11 01:00) - Steve

Well Friday is here again. I've been busy unpacking, and it was a relief to find my box of Filofax things (spare inserts, organisers, punches etc) in a specially highly visible box! So that side of life is back under control.

Planning the move was one thing... now the other side of the move is another thing. My Filofax organisers are of course helping me with the zillions of things to do and remember. I've even brought my Filofax Pocket Finsbury back in to use again, it's great for those last thing at night 'I must remember to do x or y tomorrow' type notes. I will also try and find time to write about something other than about moving house!

Anyway thank you for all your best wishes. But as it's a Friday, let us hear from you all as to what you have been doing with your Filofax lately...

Silver_Elixir (2010-06-11 03:33:39)

Well I think I have found the best set up possible for my planner. I have managed to get my six sections the way the I want them and I don't feel any need to move things around or change anything. The best thing about this is that I am now actually using my planner as I have always wanted too, as opposed to being a slave too it. I have all the information that I want to carry in my Filo and room to capture more. All I need to do now is get the right label tape to type labels for my tabs and I am 100 % sorted.

Michele (2010-06-11 06:19:39)

Happy Friday everyone! My A5 Finchley has been working very hard for me lately. At the global conference I attended in Last Vegas it turned out to be very helpful with the pad of notepaper that I had to quickly jot down customer information, and the post-it labels for the subject dividers that I keep in the front card pockets (thank you Laurie for that advice) proved very useful as well when we had to flag several pieces of ID badges. I also used the clear envelope to store all my receipts (\$70 USD for Starbucks alone!). Back home I cleared and archived all sections relating to the pre-conference. I'm now using two sections - one for final customer analysis from the conference that I will keep "live" for next year, and a section for studying for the PMP (Project Management Professional) certification I want to go for no later than the end of September. Thus the Finchley comes with me to all study breaks, etc. Great for note taking, etc. FYI, I've often posted that I was always a "one-filo-gal)it's all due to you all that I finally came round to realizing I could have more than one filo! xoxoxo (Now I want to learn how to do Flickr so I can post some photos - I love how you can point and make comment boxes! - need to learn how to do that).

katka.m (2010-06-12 06:17:52)

happy weekend everyone :o) I wonder...this blog is full of filofax fans (thanks god for that...till I found this blog, I was thinking I'm a little bit weird :o)

Are you also crazy about what you use as writing instrument ? or is it something you don't care about?

PA3789 (2010-06-13 06:55:35)

katka.m,

Funny you should ask that. I think a lot of us are "nuts" about what we write with. I drive myself crazy looking for the write pen or pencil as much as drive myself crazy looking for the best planner.

I have so many different pens and a ton of dollars invested, yet my favorite "cheap" pen is the uniball micro 207. The Cross, Lamys, Heros, and Pilot VP are beautiful and I love having them but it's pretty easy to lose them at least for me. So carrying a Uniball at \$6.00 for 5 is what I am doing right now. I also have a Lamy CP1 ballpoint that fits perfectly in the Filo pen loop and writes very nice. On another note, I am still struggling with the Filo sizes in that I try to use a personal but want to go to A5 for more space. The problem is 50 % of the days at work doesn't require that big of a planner. It's the notes that I need to keep and reference that I'm having a problem with. I have been looking at Time System for next year in A5 but my problem will be spending those dollars for a "chance" that it will work. Right now I carry a Filo Finchley and a reporters pad for notes. Seems to be working but I'd like a better reporters pad as the ones I find in my area are not made very well.

katka.m (2010-06-13 10:55:30)

good to know, I'm not the only one :o) I'm carrying Montblanc Boheme ball pen (love of my life) with my Guildford Slim, which is always with me. BTW I just love the feel of Guildford leather. I think it's the best filofax ever. Then I have Red Domino A5 at work, where I usually write with my vintage Parker 51. Right now I'm saving money for Sailor 1911 :o)

Regarding that reporters pad, I've been quite happy with Moleskines. Have you tried their Reporters notebook?

Jotje (2010-06-14 03:47:41)

I must be the big exception, cos I really love only one writing instrument: the ultracheap BIC refill pencils. Sort of compensates for the money spend on Filofaxes, haha!

@Gregorym: I'm using Time/system A5 with my Filo. Did you know that the templates are downloadable for free? You could test-run it and decide later on if it's a keeper. I'm using the 2 pages/day for my work filo and don't think I'll ever change that!

Laurie (2010-06-15 06:59:53)

Silver Elixir I'd love to hear more details about your sections!!

Silver_Elixir (2010-06-15 07:38:09)

Laurie, I have been struggling with my info section. It is quite big, with info including books to get, books read, authors, details of companys I use (phone/electricity), goals, school info, home info, product wish list, movies seen, movies to get, cute things my son has said, Filofax, iPhone, moving, Millie (my dog), web, wish lists, quotes, ideas, parenting info... This is all filed alphabetically. I tried using A-Z tabs to define them all using one tab each, but some letters are not represented so that was a bit of a waste of precious real estate. Using 26 tabs made this section take up half my Filo.

So after some fidling I have found a system that sits well with me. I have my To Do tab first, including projects. Next is a section for me, where I keep a list of priorites and thoughts to journal about later and other personal stuff. Then I have my calendar - week on one page with notes opposite. This is followed by a section that I use to track my budget and create my weekly shopping lists and menu ideas. The budget and shopping are separated using a homemade top tab. After this is my adress/phone numbers section. I do have an iPhone, but after 2 replacements I have learnt the hard way about having a hard copy backup. The next section is the one that makes my big A-Z section work for me. It is just note paper. Instead of having random blank plages in my A-Z section that might not be in order, having them in their own section means that I can title the page and then write on it what I want and then insert them into the A-Z section the next time I have my Filo open. This works cause I am always coming up with new pages to add to my A-Z section and this way I can do it neatly. My A-Z comes after my note paper section and is separated with another homemade top tab.

I hope all this makes sense!

Dumping Digital Technology... (2010-06-14 13:44) - Steve

There's no mention of Filofax in the article... but it is a fairly natural progression that would lead to people going back to a Filofax if at the moment they are dependent on their phone, PC, PDA etc etc.

Take a read of the [1]article... on line!! And then turn off your gadgets and gizmo's give your brain a rest and then sit and write something about your day in your Filofax....

Name the best thing that happened to you today, no matter how small it was.. record it and in a few years time you can look back and smile about it..

1. <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/health/7821615/Digital-Detox-a-writer-abandoning-technology.html>

Laurie (2010-06-15 07:39:37)

I have to admit it felt really good to be technology-free for my entire weekend away. I too get caught up in the cycle of email-Twitter-Facebook-blogs. Living life out in the world and not thinking about cyberspace at all for a few days was liberating.

But what did I do as soon as I got home? Logged on, of course!

Alison (2010-06-20 16:49:39)

This is a test comment

FiloJr (2010-06-29 20:50:01)

Still have not picked my first filofax; my wife Erin would like me too but I just got an Ipad and what I'd love is a filofax "cover" for it with all the nifty holders inside. Filofax is missing the boat not producing its great leather in covers for these gadgets and others like iphones.

Free For All Friday No. 83 (2010-06-18 01:05) - Laurie

It's Friday! Yay!!

Things here on my end are really gearing up. Summer is in full swing, and I'm spending a lot of time with the kids at the pool and on the playground. At home I'm doing lots of move preparations and getting things ready to go in a couple of months. For my lists and preparation info I have multiple Filofaxes going and sometimes that adds to the confusion. I'm thinking of streamlining somehow.

What's new in your Filofax life these days?

Ally (2010-06-18 07:12:30)

I totally get the "confusion" from having multiple Filos. As much as I love the ones I have—their small ring size is problematic. I must confess—I use a huge FC classic to keep my professional life in order.

JJ (2010-06-18 07:50:56)

I'm dipping my toes into an A5. I got it put together at rock bottom prices (binder, Dodopad diary, and enough note paper to fill it three times) by buying used.

I like it.

And that's the problem.

I'm back to carrying multiple binders.

It's an ideal page size. It encourages you to use it.

But it's a boat anchor compared to my Every-Day-Carry Personal size.

I need an inflatable Filo. A Personal size that balloons into an A5 when in use.

JJ (2010-06-18 07:55:12)

Additional thoughts:

I do have a "system", it just requires more hardware now than it used to:

Calendar and events: done online.

Personal: Contacts and reference information.

A5: note taking, this is the book I have in front of me while on the phone.

A hardbound diary: this is where completed events, tasks, payments end up being recorded.

kanalt (2010-06-18 09:56:52)

I'm moving from my Slimline back to a personal size. So I need to reorganize my information but also need to decide what I'll do with my slimline binder. I have a few options on mind but need to decide. In the end, I may end up going back to the slimline as my planner on the go - we shall see.

worldexplorer (2010-06-19 09:17:13)

I started to use my first filofax this week.

I'm a third year vet student and as the work load and commitments have increased, I've been kinda disorganised for the last term. Last year a friend gave me a botanicals mini filo to take backpacking round Australia and it was great. So I dug it out, ratched through it decided it wasn't quite right and then hit google.

I found your blog, and inspired headed out on a hunt for a Personal size filo.

My mum bought a songbird cover design filo for me, as a gift for graduation this summer.

It's amazing.

I have a year planner for clinical rotations next year, week to 2 pages for the rest of this year, to do lists, notes on whatever I need and somethings I don't (eg a wishlist for fishing books) and contacts for placements, vet school, friends whenever I need it.

I've even joined your flickr group and added some photo's!

Thanks for the inspiration!

worldexplorer (2010-06-19 09:18:12)

PS pics if anyone wants to have a look:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/edrinkall/sets/72157624183852255/>

DJ (2010-06-19 10:50:39)

If I may transpose from Thich Nhat Hanh:

"There is no way to streamline. Streamlining is the way."

On a flight to Tokyo in 2000, I sat next to an executive calmly writing some careful notes in a black leather planner with a Uniball Micro. Dunno if it was Filofax or not, but the size was Pocket (which the Japanese call "Mini.") BTW, the Personal size the Japanese call "Bible"! Twas a Zen moment, as I realized this high-powered dude was able to focus on the important while eliminating the extraneous. And you don't need a 1" ring A4 for that—in fact it gets in the way. Portability is the key, which is not to say you can't have a "Bible" or an A5 back at the ranch. When I got back to the States I bought a Pocket Executive, which I use as a wallet also. Setup is similar to Richard (see his Slimline post). My only problem now is that FFUSA doesn't sell a "slimline pocket" anymore. When this one wears out, I'll have to order a "Guildford Extra Slim" from FF.CO.UK. More's the pity.

joffreyca (2010-06-19 11:01:13)

Thanks for sharing your photos, worldexplorer.

I am now using a pocket Urban in olive color. I used to have all my notes on a personal size, black Amazona and a black mini Topaz as a mobile extension.

I copied a few pages that I needed to have with me on to the pocket Urban. And I use a 3x5 notepad in cases I can't or do not want to carry the pocket Filo on quick errands.

I also use a multi-Filo setup. The trick is to establish hubs depending on the type of information you have. JJ gave a good example on how that is done.

I think I first read about establishing hubs at DIYPlanner.com.

Also, here is an interesting article I would like to share with you all regarding the "back to paper" movement: <http://communicationnation.blogspot.com/2005/11/why-techies-are-leading-back-to-paper.html>

Happy weekend, everyone.

kanalt (2010-06-20 08:25:39)

DJ - FFUSA does sell a Guildford Extra Slim. It's listed under the Personal size. As I understand it, it's the same ring size as the Guildford Slimline but is narrower so that it fits into a jacket pocket better. I don't know if it's the exact size you're looking for, however.

DJ (2010-06-20 11:12:20)

kanalt: thanks, but I'm looking for a POCKET Guildford Extra Slim* (81mm x 120mm pages) rather than the Personal or Slimline (95mm x 171mm pages). The Pocket Guildford Extra Slim appears to only be available on Europe FF or Japan FF sites. Even with that, I lose the pen loop that my Pocket Executive has, but gain a narrower wallet by losing 10mm in width. How did I know my neighbor on the flight was a "high-powered dude?" The vibe, plus the fact we were both flying in BizClass, which I NEVER take, but Landor was paying.

Kinda like the one John Steed used in "Dial a Deadly Number," (Avengers '65) but THAT'S another story...Now THERE'S one idée for Filofax; The Special Edition John Steed Avengers Pocket Filofax. Would that sell, ya think? Is the Bear Catholic?

DJ (2010-06-20 11:27:48)

The Steed Filo, naturellement, would have to have Patrick Macnee's signature embossed (inside, not outside—more tasteful). Patrick, who turned 88 in February, lives in sunny California like me (him Southern, me Northern). True, Avengers are a tad "old school," at this stage but so is Filofax, n'est pas? Part of their charm, old boy. If there's a James Bond NATO G10 nylon wristwatch band, why not a John Steed Filofax? OK, I'm an Ideas Man, which is why I always carry a Pocket Filo in the first place. But hey, Filofax, do I have to do EVERYTHING around here? ;)

DJ (2010-06-20 11:32:55)

Not embossed, DEbossed signature, like filoFAX and the model name, inside cover.

"God is in the details."—Mies van der Rohe

Steed (2010-06-20 11:49:20)

Capital idea!

DJ (2010-06-20 12:51:56)

File of Facts: Born 1921. Patrick Macnee: Born 1922. Coincidence? OK, as the majority of Filofax users nowadays are the ladies, OF COURSE we would have to have an Emma Peel Edition. True, it was never seen in the series, but as she was always at least as competent as Steed (if not more so), we can infer she owned one as well. Maybe a whole line in 60's "POP/OP" colours. Debossed signature: Dame Diana Rigg. OK, no more caffeine* for me this morning.

The Affordable Alkaloid

Ally (2010-06-24 18:03:52)

Here is a fun filofax post:

A Filofax Love Affair! www.galadarling.com

Steed (2010-06-25 22:03:50)

The quintessential Mrs. Peel Filofax would have to come in black rubber. I say, steady on!

Alternative Filofax uses (2010-06-21 08:59) - Laurie

We've talked about this before, but I'd like to see all the different ways Philofaxy readers use their Filofaxes beyond diaries and contacts.

For example, I use my personal Domino as my Scotland travel Filofax. Yvotchka uses her gorgeous slimline Amazona as her Financial Filofax to keep track of expenses and bills (love this!). I know Steve uses his Slimline as a wallet.

What other uses do you have for your Filofaxes?

JuliaG (2010-06-21 09:39:13)

It's not reality yet, but I'm seriously considering buying an A5 Domino to use as a personal cookbook, especially to collect recipes from my grandmother, mother, and friends.

I just need to figure out how to get one without all the inserts that I don't have any use for...

Cat (2010-06-21 09:52:16)

I use my vintage black leather personal filofax as a notepad, track of my finances, monthly social calendar and most importantly, a sketch book! It's great to have my 'fun' filofax as well as the huge A5 one I use to plan my work life!

joffreyca (2010-06-21 10:18:54)

Some alternative Filofax uses:

2 overstuffed A5's = bookends

5 overstuffed Personal size Filos = door stop

A5 spread open = mouse pad

thick, overstuffed, leather Filo; any size, with a long string tied to it = anti-annoyance projectile device with long-distance retrieval capability

Iris (2010-06-21 11:57:09)

I use my [1]Domino as an archive for maps, addresses and information for travelling. Depending on where I go, I take out what I need and put it in my "everyday" Filo.

And I got a special Filo (Indie) for my [2]Filomaniac blog, to keep track of posts, notes, ideas and everything.

1. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/48943937@N07/4716256753/>

2. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.com/>

Lyon (2010-06-21 15:03:53)

As an airline employee that does a lot of international travel, I accumulate a lot of foreign bills, loose change and local phone and rewards cards that, if left unsorted, is simply waste of money and time! Therefore, I have decided to come up with a dedicated Personal size Filo for these alone. As one might guess, I'm using zip-lock plastic envelope for each currency. Looks pretty neat with different currencies inside. It's a breeze when you need to buy something at Duty Free or anything locally. You don't need to fumble through your stuff and extract each coin out of your wallet to check if it's local or not. The best part is, I can remove whatever currency I need and put it in my take-along Guildford slimline.

Simon (2010-06-21 16:22:27)

@JuliaG

Have you considered ebay?

Laurie (2010-06-23 14:20:26)

Lyon what a fantastic idea!! I need to do something like that.

Oni (2010-06-23 14:43:09)

@joffreyca

HAHAHAHAHAHAHAHA

Now that is what I call 'thinking outside the box'!

Loved the 'anti-annoyance device'. Might seriously consider getting a new Filo just for that purpose :)

Lyon (2010-06-23 21:50:42)

Yeah, try it Laurie. Especially if you also do a lot of traveling. You'll love it :)

Jotje (2010-06-28 03:27:03)

Okay, here are my various Filofax solutions:

A5 Finsbury for Work (contains so much vital info that I might as well shut down business if I ever loose it! Good thing it never leaves my desk ;-))

Mini finsbury as wallet, diary reference book on the go, general shopping list and shopping listed per store, menu planner, library tracker and ToDo-satellite

A5 Domino with tab for each of my kids, which contains all notes on PTA meetings and other schoolrelated appointments/agreements

Personal Domino as Financial Planner (many thanks to Yvotchka's inspiration!) with the following tabs: daily food/necessities; car; pets; drugstore; stationary; home refurbishing and decoration; kids; clothes/shoes; presents/trips.

I've currently added some diary pages in the front for my household chores. This is a test run for 1 or 2 months. I will then either switch to a separate Personal Filo or to a Organised Mum Life Book.

So far it's brilliant to have those lists written out per day. (I'm doing the Flylady Zone work.)

aand a Travel filo (probably Personal size) is currently in contemplation/preparation ;-)

MizWright (2010-07-02 20:54:13)

I've a Cuban A5 that I use for all of my household records; from vet records for each of my furpanions to detailed history of appliances/ household services (purchase dates, warranty info, when it was serviced and by whom, etc) and paint brand/ colour swatches – it's in there!

I use an offbrand Personal sized planner (I haven't found anything analogous on any planner site, ever) for inspiration board-ing, goals, calendar overview, love notes, receipt-catching, wishlisting, sketching, and dreaming.

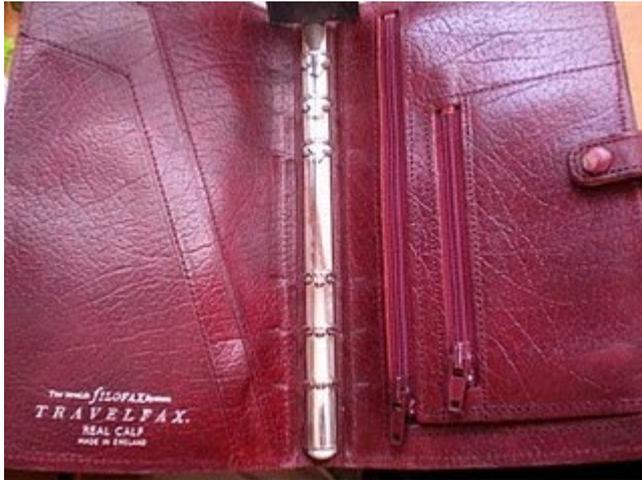
I love Lyon's currency idea, but all I ever have are euro.

Oni (2010-07-04 19:46:32)

I use a Mini Kendal as a wallet.

Jotje: I use the Urban as a travel Filo, and I highly recommend it. It has a slot in the inside back cover with a detachable notepad and on the outside it has a zippered pocket that is really useful for carrying different currencies. And the front cover comes with a secretarial pocket where you can stash your boarding pass and passport.

Vintage Travelfax: real or fake? (2010-06-23 11:12) - Laurie



[1]

Many thanks to reader Bernhard for this heads-up on a vintage "Travelfax" Filofax available on eBay. [2]Click here to see the eBay page.

Does anyone know if this is authentic or a fake? If it's real, do you know when the Travelfax Filofaxes were produced?

Thanks in advance for any information!

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TCIjd63BZXI/AAAAAAAAA9w/tNE8x6q-ZOg/s1600/travelfaxred2.JPG
2. http://cgi.ebay.de/Vintage-Travelfax-Filofax-planner-STYLISH-red-leather-/380244726367?cmd=ViewItem&pt=LH_DefaultDomain_0&hash=item58885a125f#ht_2642wt_1002

JJ (2010-06-23 13:42:35)

If it's a fake it's a good one. The (unnamed) Japanese collector's site has two:
<http://www5b.biglobe.ne.jp/m-task/travelfax.htm>

Nickie @ Typecast (2010-06-24 17:36:55)

Don't know about the validity but I LOVE the colour :)

DJ (2010-07-01 09:33:50)

It's just *shouting out* for a new Travel Journal insert!

I c (2010-10-05 15:59:24)

Yes, it is a genuine Filofax. I own one in black that I purchased at City Organiser in London in the 1980s.

Free For All Friday No. 84 (2010-06-25 00:01) - Steve

Is it Friday again... it must be... and nearly the end of the month too. So with holidays just around the corner for most of us, are you adapting your Filofax in any way to cope with your changing life?

And of course you are more than welcome to discuss anything Filofax related here... no vuvuzela horns here please!!

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Laurie (2010-06-25 02:42:15)

Filofax USA now has its full selection of 2011 diary inserts in stock, including the Family Organizer insert for 2011.

Filofax UK has had their 2011 diary inserts in stock for several weeks now, so I've been very impatiently waiting for the US

website to get theirs!

Steve (2010-06-25 03:27:23)

Filofax France also has their 2011 Recharges datées in stock, some different formats available on there that aren't available in UK even!

So I might go native and buy from there this year, not decided yet on my format for next year yet.

plaiditude (2010-06-25 08:44:04)

Alas, I keep hoping for personal page per day in cotton cream. Or even two page per day. I love using my fountain pen, but it doesn't look near as nice on the white paper which is thinner.

Laurie (2010-06-25 11:16:40)

For anyone who hasn't seen Gala Darling's awesome post about how she's using her new (Raspberry personal Metropol) you absolutely must go check it out!!

<http://galadarling.com/article/a-filofax-love-affair>

Laurie (2010-06-25 11:27:56)

Me again, with a question this time:

Does anyone know if any of the personal size Filofaxes at the lower end of the price range have a front pocket similar to the one in the Guildford and Amazona? I love that pocket but both of those organizers are way out of my current price range.

Thanks for any info! :)

Yvotchka (2010-06-25 12:20:01)

THANK YOU! I too love that pocket and wish they all had them. But that's a pipe dream.

Cuban (I know, I know, too high priced) has it and also Urban - lower price but also not leather. Those (and of course the elusive Piazza) are the only ones I know of...

Iris (2010-06-25 12:22:42)

The Urban has this kind of pocket - here's a [1]picture of mine.

1. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/48943937@N07/4486175631/in/set-72157623641315485/>

Laurie (2010-06-25 15:47:30)

Urban!! I was looking at these about a year ago. Hmm...

Bridgett Turnipseed (2010-06-25 20:58:45)

I'm thinking about getting a Filofax Domino in Pink or Snake but I have a question that I can't seem to find an answer to... What size are the rings on the Domino? I like to use the 2 pages per day or page per day layout. I have a Franklin Covey that is cute but has tiny rings. I can't get anything in it.

Laurie (2010-06-26 04:31:50)

Bridgett, the rings in the Personal size Domino are 7/8 of an inch. And because of the elastic strap (rather than a snap) it's easy to stuff it full. Mine holds a lot!

Bridgett Turnipseed (2010-06-26 13:34:10)

Thanks!

angela (2010-06-27 09:41:18)

I've just survived, I mean, finished my first year at uni and well, my filofax has proved handy for planning revision for exams, as well as my social life. I'm going to take my summer holiday as an opportunity to find new ways to become yet more organised for my second year this October and also rearrange things so that pages and sections are more convenient in my filofax. I'm now using a Finchley Vintage Rose but would still like to add either a Teal or a Jade Green (or possibly both!) to my collection :p I can't get enough of these things.

I just put in an order at city org (just google city org) for loads of refills, such as cotton cream note paper, etc, and also a hole

punch (will come in useful as I want to add so much personal stuff to it). I only put in a bulk order as there is a 25 % discount code around (expires July 12th I think it is). The code is 'SUMMER25' if anyone is interested. Just put that in without the apostrophes :) Some of their stuff is slightly cheaper than on other Filofax selling websites, so definitely worth a look!

plaiditude (2010-06-27 16:52:16)

Angela, could you give some more info or a link on city org? Googling is not getting me anything that looks like a store. Thanks!

angela (2010-06-27 16:57:17)

Sure thing.

This is the link in question:

<http://www.cityorg-pdq.co.uk/>

Hope this helps you on your Filofax endeavors :) Also, worth a mention is the fact that the store also stocks Vivienne Westwood bags and purses amongst other stuff ;)

Joy Rothke (2010-06-28 20:35:14)

Where on earth does June 24 means the holidays are "right around the corner"??

Steve (2010-06-29 02:05:10)

Joy

Here in France and in UK, this is the last week of school for most children before they start their 6-8 week 'summer' holiday. Children in independent schools will have already broken up for the Summer holiday.

I can't vouch for elsewhere with regards to the timing of school summer holidays.

Regards

Steve

Laurie (2010-06-29 02:22:36)

That is going to be a BIG adjustment for us moving to Scotland and our kids won't get out of school for the summer until early July!! That is diabolical!! Where I come from, school is out at the beginning of June at the latest! Summer break should be 3 months long, in my opinion.

blank (2010-07-01 14:00:42)

Thanks for the City Org tip, Angela - just saved me £10! Cheers!

Pink week on 2 pages in Deco Filofax (2010-06-26 10:34) - Laurie

I've been meaning to post photos of this for ages (well, since April at least): while I was in London I bought the personal size Week on 2 Pages diary insert in the gorgeous pink color! I thought it looked fun and I love how the pages look in my ivory Deco!

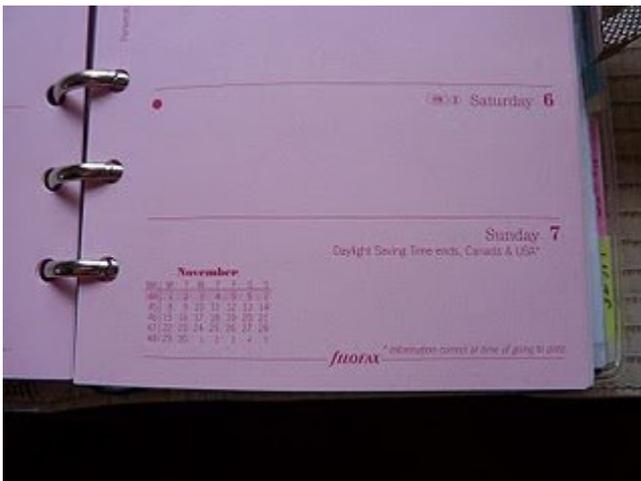


[1]



[2]

The pink week on 2 pages has the same great features of the plain white version including holidays printed on the day's space, phases of the moon, and the current month with this week highlighted.



[3]

1. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TCYTZ3xKMaI/AAAAAAAAA-Y/yYBWket58HQ/s1600/Diaries+2010+227.jpg
2. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TCYUA_22bNI/AAAAAAAAA-g/btezBcoDa8A/s1600/Diaries+2010+228.jpg
3. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TCYUoHt9y7I/AAAAAAAAA-o/CaqOzsTqFFs/s1600/Diaries+2010+229.jpg

Travel Journal review (2010-06-28 10:28) - Laurie

At long last, here is my review of the Filofax Travel Journal insert! This was very generously given to me as a sample by [1]Brigitte at the Filofax shop in London. (Many thanks again to Brigitte!) Sorry it has taken me so long to post a review! I wanted to wait until I had the time to give it the time and attention it deserves, because this is a very nifty packet indeed.

I didn't take photos of all of the features of this packet, because you can flip through the pages on the [2]Filofax Travel Journal Lifestyle Pack website. But I did take several photos to show you many of the features and to give you an idea of what it looks like in action.

The main part of the Travel pack is the Journal section:



[3]

Each 2-page spread has space to record your plans for the day (general itinerary, things to see and do, people to meet) and to write your memories. I like the little icons you can circle to indicate the day's weather.

There's loads of cool pages to help you plan your trip and keep you organized along the way. The Travel Itinerary pages give you a place to consolidate all your transportation and lodging information. The Personal Information pages give you a one-page directory of your ID numbers, doctor and dentist contact info, insurance and medical information.

The Currency Converter pages are extremely useful for helping you keep conversions straight:



[4]

A world map is included with a transparent overlay so you can trace your route on the map:



[5]

There's also a cool chart of Where on Earth to go. I like having a traveling wishlist!



[6]

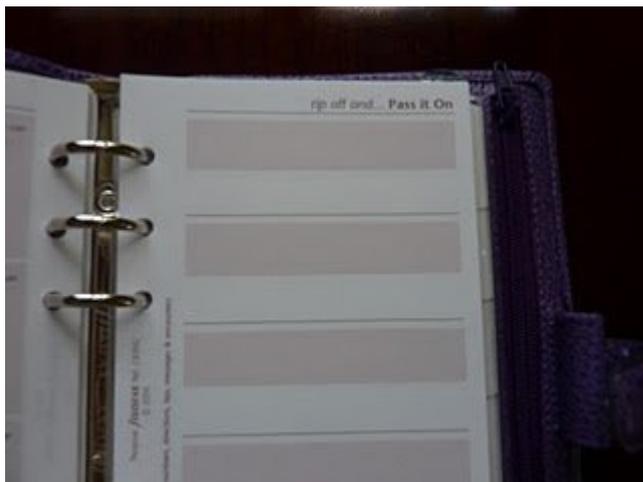
My favorite part of this pack are the lists. It took me more than a decade of traveling to figure out just how incredibly important preparation and packing lists are. The Travel Planner lists are in the form of a countdown: things you need to do for Advanced Planning, Not Long To Go, One Day To Go and And We're Off! I cannot stress enough how important lists like this are!



[7]

Also there are several pages of packing lists in categories like: Essentials, Equipment, Clothing, Accessories, Style & Hygiene, and Health & First Aid. I especially love that your Filofax is included in the list so you don't forget to pack it!

There are several pages of rip-off notes for those moments when you need to exchange contact information with someone:



[8]

There are pages to write household information so that when your neighbor calls to tell you your pipes have burst, you can call your plumber to come fix it even from abroad:



[9]

An essential part of travel is keeping control of your finances. The better you manage your money, the longer you can travel. With this in mind, Filofax has included several pages to help you figure out your budget:



[10]

And keep track of your expenses along the way:



[11]

Other features include 6 blank tabbed dividers and a transparent top-opening envelope for ticket stubs and other papers you want to keep. There are even a few pages of travel games for when you're bored waiting for your train/ plane/ bus.

Some other very useful pages: monthly temperatures of several cities worldwide; international clothing and measures conversions; pages for telephone numbers and websites; International S.O.S. so you can have emergency numbers handy; shopping lists; to-dos; and some blank pages for notes.

This is a very well thought-out packet that I highly recommend for anyone taking a trip!

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/04/brigitte-at-london-filofax-shop.html>
2. <http://www.filofax.co.uk/lifestyle/lifestyle.asp?fId=3>
3. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TCYWmS2p9zI/AAAAAAAAA-w/KELUuY8qwG0/s1600/Diaries+2010+214.jpg
4. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TCYXOOMvgsI/AAAAAAAAA-4/SToo0U9f9G0/s1600/Diaries+2010+215.jpg
5. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TCYXsHtmkBI/AAAAAAAAA_A/H4xei9RFpHA/s1600/Diaries+2010+216.jpg
6. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TCYYIoQeXmI/AAAAAAAAA_I/U1lStAABaiA/s1600/Diaries+2010+217.jpg
7. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TCYYlzKvsnI/AAAAAAAAA_Q/hTP23cmOZV4/s1600/Diaries+2010+218.jpg
8. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TCYZCrPV6mI/AAAAAAAAA_Y/lzZhbJzOWTA/s1600/Diaries+2010+219.jpg
9. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TCYZe-tHccI/AAAAAAAAA_g/4YH5K32zNaw/s1600/Diaries+2010+220.jpg
10. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TCYaCRwf-CI/AAAAAAAAA_o/0LOI1-rmpF4/s1600/Diaries+2010+221.jpg
11. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TCYaelHr1hI/AAAAAAAAA_w/ZDpVts4fd7E/s1600/Diaries+2010+222.jpg

Iris (2010-06-28 10:49:35)

How many pages does the journal section include?

Laurie (2010-06-28 12:45:04)

Actually now that you mention it, the Travel Pack website list of pages says it has 12 months of undated weekly diary pages, which it does NOT. It has 40 2-page spreads in the Journal, with each 2-page spread intended to be for one day. (I counted these by hand so please forgive any counting errors!).

Yvotchka (2010-06-28 13:40:38)

Loving those budget pages!

Nemo (2010-06-28 13:48:31)

Will Filofax USA ever get these?

Iris (2010-06-28 14:35:46)

Laurie - thanks for counting them! I was only curios...

40 2-page spreads - even if you use them for 1 *week* each that would only make about 10 months. Then again, who *does* actually travel more 40 days a year?

Laurie (2010-06-29 02:25:53)

Re: the budget pages: not only does Filfoax USA not have the budget pages available to purchase separately, neither does Filofax UK!!! Apparently they do not make them available for separate purchase at all! I think we should petition Filofax to make them, because they are wonderful.

They also do not make the Expenses sheets to buy separately, in that form. They do have Finances sheets that are more like a check register:

<http://www.filofaxusa.com/store/paperessentialsdetails.asp?productId=141>

Filofax, please make (especially) the Budget sheets and the Expenses sheets available for separate purchase!!!

Thank you!!

Jotje (2010-06-29 04:00:53)

I would want the packing lists to be sold separately, but I guess there's no such luck ...

@Iris: if I understand Laurie correctly, the diary pages would last for 20 days only (2-page spread per DAY). Means you can barely use it for ONE long vacation ...

Laurie, loved your comment on "less expenses mean longer holiday". Here I was thinking you had school-aged kids that would need to return home at a certain date, even if there's still money left in your pocket ... LOL

Laurie (2010-06-29 04:56:03)

Hi Jotje,

There are 40 2-page spreads, each 2-page spread is 1 day so there are enough for 40 days. And honestly, if you were going to travel longer than that you would need a whole additional pack anyway because you'd use up everything else in that time too.

And yes, our oldest will start school this fall so up until now we've been able to travel until the money runs out! Then back home to squirrel it away until the next trip. It will be different to be constrained by school dates from now on!

Jotje (2010-06-29 11:39:44)

Different and much more expensive, as you'll be forced to travel during the main season. Bit of a downside to having school-aged kids (luckily there's innumerous Upsided, too ;-)).

@ sheet numbering: can you tell that Math wasn't my favourite school subject ...?

Guest Post: Still Alive And Well (2010-06-30 11:47) - Laurie

Here is an excellent guest post from Bernhard about his very first Filofax! Thanks Bernhard!!



[1]

The first Filofax binder I ever bought was a Personal Buckingham in 1987. I had traveled to London where my sister started her academic career and I could stay at her house to discover the Lewisham surroundings in the south east.

As I wrote in an other article, I met locals who were convinced that the legendary Wembley goal of 1966 was regular. Since June 27, 2010 the English national team had a similar goal - but it was not accepted and the Brits had to leave the championship.



[2]

Nevermind: In Lewisham Highstreet I bought my Buckingham Personal. It still has a golden "Made in England" and "Real Calf" stamp and its leather and mechanical quality has never let me down - although I've used this Filo for over 20 years by now.

The old Filo is back in heavy use now because paper organisers are unbeatable in easy handling, reliability and independence of electrical energy - last being the reason why my Filo offers no GPS and MP3.

The Buckingham is or was "simply styled with a full length pocket at the front and back of the wallet" as quoted from a Filofax catalogue of the same year.

The pockets don't have a flap so one can see if there are documents or small items stored in it. Pockets even take papers in A6 format whis is quite common in Germany where I live. (If you cut a sheet of A5 paper on the longer side you get two A6.)

Now let me explain my personal sections.

Section 1 is for free notes such as ideas, to-do's and smaller calculations.



[3]

Section 2 is a week on 2 pages diary in the horizontal version. It is more convenient to write the papers on the left side. With the Filofax ruler attached to the up-to-date week, the daily calendar is easily and fast to find after opening the binder.

Section 3 is structured by a register from A to Z. Here I store notes, information and data which will not change suddenly. For instance, a city map of Munich is archived at "M", my birthday list under "G" for the German word "Geburtstag" and phone numbers are under "T" for "Telefon".



[4]

Section 4 is for transparent envelopes and credit card holders where I carry my business and credit cards, some photos and personal memories.

It's a quite simple system - but that's what an daily organiser should be. I hope some of you get inspired by this simplicity - as I was inspired by Philofaxy to use sticky notes in the calendar for certain tasks and deadlines.

Anybody interested in stories about my entire collection of Filofax binders and some vintage stuff from the late 1980-s and early 1990-s?

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TcTnrEq3N5I/AAAAAAAAABAw/KtwOX9KxV7w/s1600/Buckingham.JPG
2. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TcTn9nmOw5I/AAAAAAAAABA4/NChxwapB9k8/s1600/MadeinEngland.JPG
3. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TcTON9sK2QI/AAAAAAAAABBA/ZF_HJxCmZPU/s1600/HorizontalCalendar.JPG
4. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TcTOfI6YJbI/AAAAAAAAABBI/C_7_KDa_ch8/s1600/Memories.JPG

crofter (2010-06-30 12:42:28)

Great Filofax. I am very interested in the history of the binders, so I for one would be very interested in any information you have to share. The older ones are so much better than the new ones, mainly in materials, and to a lesser extent the workmanship.

Thank you.

Crofter

Yvotchka (2010-06-30 13:26:11)
Oh yes! Stories please....

DJ (2010-06-30 21:47:18)

Brilliantly simple, simply brilliant.

Bernard's method underscores the greatest advantage of the loose-leaf Filo when compared to Moleskine, Letts and other "bound" diaries: *maximum flexibility*. Since I use a Pocket Executive Slimline as my *vade mecum* planner/wallet, the address tabs had been relegated to a drawer, primarily because all my really important phone numbers fit on one 2-sided leaf—no need. (I have a Personal Italian calfskin Epping at home with full name, address, phone info.) But now a new use for the Pocket alphabetical index that is both logical and intuitive!

My only changes? Since I use a week on a page diary, I put my TO DO list directly opposite the current week, rather than up front. I also manage to get by on four cards, including my Driver's Licence—and those fit in the four slots on the inside front cover—no need for a plastic credit card holder. Other leaves that I had semi-arbitrarily assigned to numbered tabs (that took the place of Finance, Projects, Information, etc.) can now be filed alphabetically. I can already tell the alpha method of organizing "list" leaves (books, music, movies, specific names of projects, etc.) is superior—both to the standard Filo issue (Diary, Notes, Information, Projects, Financial, Addresses) and the numeric (1-6). The Diary tab always seemed redundant for those using the "Today" ruler; and the Addresses tab seemed redundant for those using the alphabetical index in the traditional manner.

Nette Arbeit, Bernard!

DJ (2010-07-01 09:58:11)

Hurst's Wembley goal is still hotly debated 44 years on, from Liverpool to Hamburg (like the Beatles). The goal the English scored at Bloemfontein? Even Stevie Wonder could see it was in (by a meter). I noted this at the time—in my *Filofax*.

JJ (2010-07-02 09:21:22)

The Buckingham was the model that got me hooked. I love the pocket design. I never use credit card slots and I am wary of zippers as potential points of failure.

john (2010-08-29 21:45:13)

Sweete love the calf skin.....I would love to see pictures of your Filofax collection. I love the craftsmanship of the older ones. I have one now and its 2 years old falling apart.

1.7 July

Free For All Friday No. 85 (2010-07-02 00:47) - Laurie

Welcome to July! I hope you are having a great summer.

I know there are several of you out there who have made some changes with your Filofax systems. Tell us about it!

And as always on Fridays, feel free to ask questions or have any other Filofax chat you wish.

The floor is yours! :)

PA3789 (2010-07-02 06:52:24)

OK I'll start.

Well vacation for me this week was a mess. I was to have off from Monday thru Friday, then my company (and we can get more into that later) asked that I finish another managers project as he had been terminated. So a weeks vacation turned into a few days vacation. (and by the way my company gives vacation like it was a million dollars)another's words they don't. It's use my 2 weeks a year or lose it, no carry over.

Anyhow, with some help from Laurie, I've been looking to move to a different planner style (NOT FC) so I've been researching different planners that are bound rather than ring style. I realized I never take anything out of my Filo or add anything. So my new adventure is to try a Moleskin planner but I needed something more in the way of looks, not just that plain black cover. (For me the cover is as important as the planner pages.) So I ordered something new. A brown cover for a Moleskine planner from Renaissance Art yesterday. It is really nice and Laurie had one made and said she liked it very much. Now I'm kind of a "Man's Man" Polished on the outside but an "Indiana Jones" type on the inside. So I love scratched, rough looking, heavily used looking binder covers. And this may be just that. Also the cool thing will be the ease of filing the previous year, just pull it out and insert the new one. One time a year. And by the way, this company has fantastic looking bags for laptops too! Look out RA you may have just found your next best customer!

Laurie (2010-07-02 07:49:39)

So you took the plunge and ordered a cover!! I hope you'll post photos of it when it arrives!
And I hate to get too off-topic, but do you mind telling us which Moleskine you're going with?

Yvotchka (2010-07-02 14:52:49)

Just wrote a blog about my Filo system change at <http://putitonmyheadstone.blogspot.com/>
Gregor: I hope you realize that now I am going to start calling you "Indy" :)

Laurie (2010-07-02 15:38:01)

Three cheers for Yvotchka and her Filo triumph!!!!

PA3789 (2010-07-02 17:47:19)

Indy here, LOL.

Laurie:

I ordered the regular Moleskine cover for the 12 month Daily planner. They called me and were out of the planners (since we are so late in the year) so I ordered the cover and then ordered the planner "2010" from another site. For only \$10.00 mind you. I'm not trusting myself to order the 18 month daily, and besides I'm a stickler for January thru December planning. I'm excited although I won't give up my Filo in case this doesn't pan out. Like I put in a previous post, my "perfect" Filo would be made of 3/16" bridle leather with 3/16" rings, and look like it was run over by a stampede of horses.

By the way if this doesn't work can I blame Laurie? hahaha.

No really, THANK YOU for all your help.

plaiditude (2010-07-03 17:25:41)

Is anyone using the personal size Horizontal diary format? How does it feel using it? I like having lines to write on so I switched from the cotton cream 2pg per week that came with my Scanda to 1pg per day, but I don't need quite that much room and miss seeing the week. But the vertical week format with lines doesn't have the times. What is your experience with it, does it feel awkward rotating your planner to see your calendar?

bernhardS (2010-07-04 06:07:26)

Hi, Platitude

I am using the horizontal diary. No big thing about it. With this calendar, the Filo Personal fits perfectly between my iMac and its keyboard and I can overview the whole week. I don't have to rotate the Filo because phone numbers and e-mails are stored in the computer's address book.

Does this answer your question?

Best from Germany,

Bernhard

DJ (2010-07-04 08:04:01)

BernhardS: Found your post on using the alphabetical indexes to organise information most useful. Are you one of the folks that carries your Personal Buckingham everywhere? If so, HOW do you carry it? Backpack, shoulder bag, in hand, etc. Just curious, as I find the capacity of the Personal ideal, but the "carry-factor" cumbersome.

PS "Don't cry for Argentina..."

worldexplorer (2010-07-04 09:27:33)

Hello again!

I've made some little changes to my filo as we're getting to know one another - no major changes yet but as I have quite a bit to say about getting started with my filo I've blogged instead of making a gi-normous comment. I hope that's ok? If anyone wants to have a peek it's at <http://explorerephemera.blogspot.com/> and the photo's are on Flickr too: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/edrinkall/sets/72157624293715851/>

bernhardS (2010-07-04 13:10:45)

DJ!

When I began using a Filofax, there were no electronic planners available. One had to use a paper instrument, and many preferred the A5 Time System in Germany.

As an employee during the early 90-s, I carried the Filo in my briefcase every day. Being self employed, it rests on the desk or travels with me, in a rucksack for private tours or in a briefcase for business.

DJ (2010-07-04 16:37:01)

Viel Dank für die ausgezeichneten Spitzen!

JJ (2010-07-05 05:29:22)

Interesting discovery: I recently bought a Kindle. It fits 'almost' perfectly into an A5 top loading plastic pocket.

I was planning on cannibalizing one of my FC Classic binders to make a case for the Kindle. Nothing was a good fit (too thick and bulky).

I have to take some paper out the binder to make it workable, but it looks like it may actually be a workable solution.

bernhardS (2010-07-05 11:45:06)

JJ:

The other day I was thinking of using my Filo as a tippet holder for flyfishing, simply with some plastic envelopes.

What kept me from doing this: Fishing documents in Germany are mainly in A6 (2 of which make an A5). The A6 paper format is incompatible with the Filofax Personal.

DJ (2010-07-05 23:26:36)

Bernhard: Perhaps your fishing documents could have one vertical and one horizontal fold, if that is permitted. Then they would fit [133612] Personal Envelope, top opening. Consult *origami sensei* STEVE.

Viintage Filofax - Ebay UK (2010-07-05 01:46) - Steve

Another 'new' Vintage Filofax has appeared on [1]Ebay for sale. It's from the same seller as all the previous vintage items, so I would believe it to be genuine.

There are also other 'vintage' [2]paper inserts and accessories still available.

I've no connection with the seller, just a satisfied customer.

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1. <http://cgi.ebay.co.uk/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=400133243987&ssPageName=ADME:B:FSEL:GB:1123>

2. http://stores.ebay.co.uk/Games-Arena__W0QQ_fsubZ1394864012

Den (2010-07-05 09:43:41)

Help! Does anyone have a clue as to how I might escape my Filofax addiction/compulsion/obsession? It's seriously starting to effect my productivity. Stop me before I buy another Filofax!

Yvotchka (2010-07-05 11:11:13)

Give it up Den, once you're hooked, you're hooked.

And I might add that asking a bunch of Filofax addicts for help escaping is, well, futile at best ;)

Just go buy another one...but be sure to tell us what you get!!!!!!

Steed (2010-07-05 11:26:58)

Would love to help old chap, but I'm afraid we've all come in the same door as you!

DJ (2010-07-05 11:33:07)

two words: time/system.

Steed (2010-07-05 11:42:37)

Same prison, different cell, mon frère. And one not nearly as nicely appointed. Stop fighting your Filofix, I certainly have. I've just come to accept it: we're *inseparable!*

Laurie (2010-07-05 12:22:04)

Den: resistance is futile.

Although you COULD always try to fight it by getting addicted to Moleskines instead! ;D

DJ (2010-07-05 14:02:27)

Den: Your predicament is garnering the same level of support as a teetotaler at a Munich Hofbrauhaus (during Oktoberfest).

The Filofaxy Community - How it has grown... (2010-07-05 13:29) - Steve



[1]

It only dawned on me the other day that Laurie and I have now been official contributors to the blog for 12 months now. Both of us I know contributed in various ways previously.

But I was thinking about how our 'community' has changed in the last year. For me I notice a lot more interaction with our readers than ever before, both on the blog and on Twitter.

I know more of you have started your own blogs, but this isn't in competition, it's complementary to our own output. Lots of peoples own individual experiences and how they are using the Filofax system. I love reading all these different blog posts. Some do make me smile alot, because I can 'feel for the writer' and their angst or joy at finding that perfect solution to their Filofax problem.

Free for All Fridays are the great way of sharing these problems or sharing ideas and successes, they sometimes produce some incredible information.

So what of the next year... who knows, but if anything we will be sharing our thoughts and ideas with more people than ever before.

I'm looking at a slightly different template for the blog to allow us to customise the layout a little better. Naturally

we don't want to change it too much, think of the change as evolution rather than revolution.
Most of all, thank you all for your continued support and readership and of course all your great comments, keep them coming.

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1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TDIVUwVAwRI/AAAAAAAAICs/bJ7APnPEZn4/s1600/blog1.JPG

Laurie (2010-07-05 14:50:42)

MANY thanks to you Steve for all you have done for Philofaxy. Your technological expertise has really brought Philofaxy forward, and your Filofax expertise has generated so much interest among readers!

And Nan, thank you for inviting us to be permanent contributors and allow us to express ourselves regarding everything Filofax-related.

Here's to many more years of Philofaxy!

BabyD @ Polish and Powder (2010-07-05 14:50:44)

I literally only joined the blog a week or so ago. I have come back to filofax after going electronic for a few years. Decided you could not beat my trusty old paper organiser of old, so came back and now an older so can afford the real filofax's, oh joy!!!!

It is fast becoming an addiction and I am still fine tuning my layouts and needs, but am loving every second of it. I love this blog and it has helped me get new ideas on how to use or plan my filofax.

Keep up the great work guys, I love it :o)

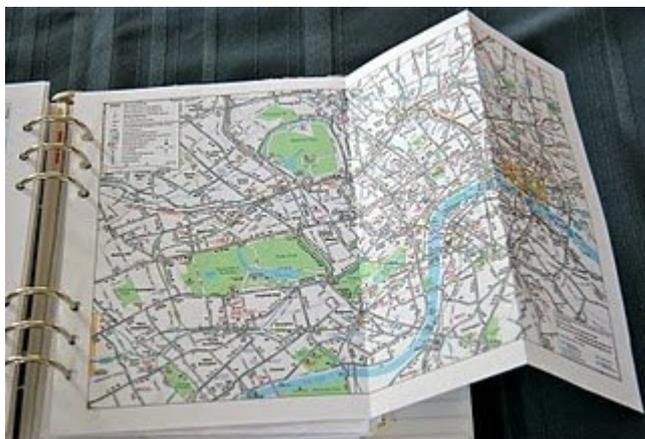
kanalt (2010-07-10 21:44:39)

Congratulations to both Steve and Laurie! When I first found this blog I was overjoyed at finding others who share my addiction with Filofax planners. But I have to say that within the last 6 months or so I have really come to value and appreciate the many friends I have met here and chat with on a weekly (if not daily) basis. Your support for all things planners and anything else in life has been wonderful. I look forward to all the great things to come on this blog. Keep up the good work!

Want to use bigger pages in your A5... it's possible (2010-07-05 14:23) - Steve

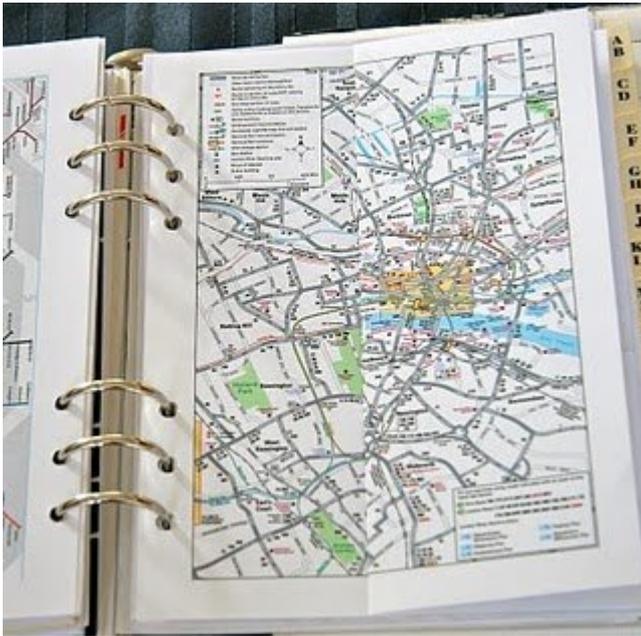
So you have an A5 Filofax Organiser (who doesn't!), but sometimes you find the A5 format a little restrictive. OK not everyone wants to have an A4 organiser (which by the way I don't believe are available in the US anyway?) But A4 is a fairly common size for a lot of maps and pictures and text.

So taking the [1]TfL Central London Bus Map as an example because it makes an excellent street map. You make a simple Z fold in the A4 landscape page to get it to fit your A5 organiser:



[2]

Shown opened out.



[3]

And then folded. First fold at 145 mm, then fold back again. Punch and insert.
 So if you think, ok but bigger still would be better... A3 is also possible in an A5 organiser! A3 is 420mm by 210mm. So the folding is a little more tricky, but not impossible.



[4]

Again using the [5]Transport for London (TfL) bus map. Fold up at 210 mm from the top along the whole length of the page. Then a diagonal fold in the bottom left hand corner so it doesn't fowl the rings.



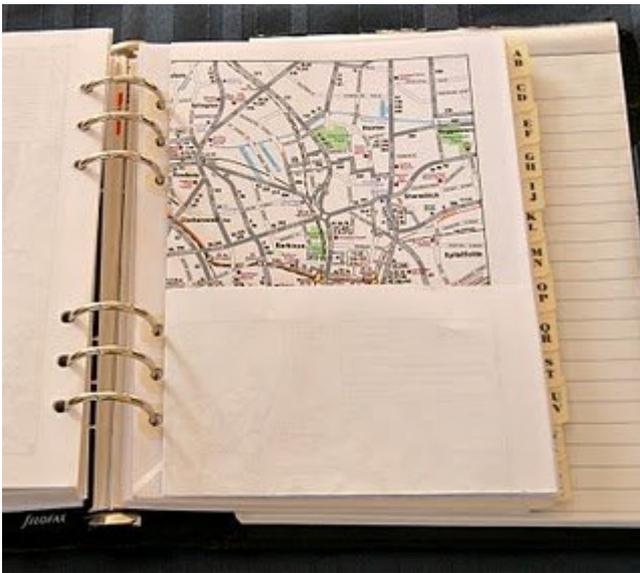
[6]

Then we Z fold it at 147 mm and back again like the A4 sheet.



[7]

And here it is fully folded.



[8]

The [9]TfL site also has Tube and Rail maps, plenty of different formats to print out and use as you wish, very good if you are visiting the Filofax shop in London... For other countries do a Google image search and look for Hi-Res images of maps, you will be surprised what is out there.

So you have no reason not to include those standard office documents, telephone lists etc in your organiser.

Using similar folding techniques it's possible to use bigger pages in a personal size organiser as well, just look at the year planners from Filofax.

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1. <http://www.tfl.gov.uk/assets/downloads/central-london-bus-map.pdf>
2. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TDI fRD rXbQI/AAAAAAAAIC0/mjCIG9oM7FA/s1600/IMG_9186.JPG
3. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TDI f jfWJnRI/AAAAAAAAIC8/_WCwUQvUcDk/s1600/IMG_9187.JPG
4. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TDI g f71GcMI/AAAAAAAAIDE/tZKkazGsKok/s1600/IMG_9179.JPG
5. <http://www.tfl.gov.uk/>
6. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TDI hH5v80CI/AAAAAAAAIDM/IOMrGbaCba0/s1600/IMG_9180.JPG
7. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TDI hhJ2PZWI/AAAAAAAAIDU/nROM-sr-h4I/s1600/IMG_9183.JPG
8. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TDI hxEaepzI/AAAAAAAAIDc/SWoMBV-H4XQ/s1600/IMG_9182.JPG
9. <http://www.tfl.gov.uk/gettingaround/1106.aspx>

Laurie (2010-07-05 14:43:59)

Steve you're a genius!! I remember you telling me about this when we were in London but it was hard for me to visualize. This is great!!

Eva (2010-07-05 15:45:47)

I LOVE IT! This is such a brilliant idea! So many maps refuse to print on A5 due to detail! Like Laurie said, you're a genius! Thank you so much for sharing this! You've just opened up so many possibilities for me!!!

DJ (2010-07-05 16:08:59)

I hereby nominate Steve for an Honorary Degree...in *origami!*

Steve (2010-07-05 16:20:44)

Thank you Laurie and Eva.

Yes as a great lover of maps myself it likewise as given me hours of pleasure!

DJ... Honorary Degree... my only degree!! Thank you for your nomination!

DJ (2010-07-05 16:55:19)

I hereby SECOND Steve's nomination (let's not stand on convention here). All in favor?

Den (2010-07-05 17:00:07)

Aye! Yi yi!

Steed (2010-07-05 17:38:02)

Aye, with the "Korzybski Caveat," i.e. "the map is NOT the territory!"

Eva (2010-07-06 00:26:33)

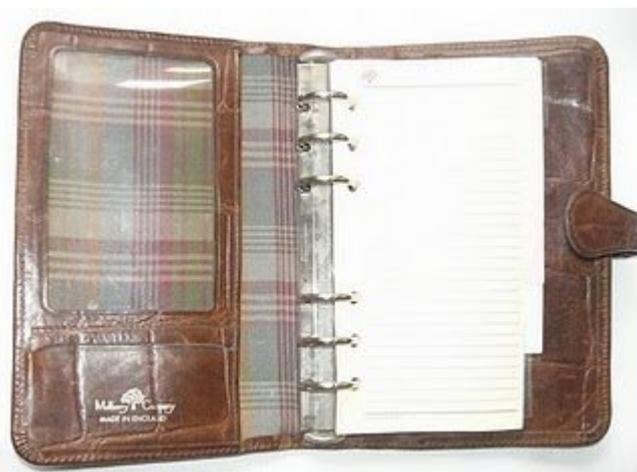
Aye!

Eva (2010-07-14 08:41:25)

I just printed the traveler's checklist you created on an A4 page and used the Z folding system you explained and then neatly placed it in my A5 Domino. It looks simply glorious! Once again, thank you!

Vintage Mulberry (2010-07-06 06:05) - Laurie

Here is another excellent guest post from Bernhard, about a brand similar to Filofax that I am not familiar with: Mulberry.



[1]

Even more "Filo" than Filofax

On July 6, 21.47 CET ends an eBay auction for a vintage Mulberry organiser. This binder looks real classic with only slight traces of handling.

In the 80-s, Filofax and Mulberry were equal competitors but Filofax managed to become better known. The Filofax Personal paper format was copied by many no-name manufacturers so one could buy it in almost any stationery.

The Mulberry was the more exclusive brand with higher prices for the binders, only a few retailers and a different paper size than the Filofax Personal.

Today, Filofax offers a middle-priced range of organisers produced in unknown factories all over the world. Mulberry however developed to be an extreme luxury brand with various "Agendas" (14 x 17,5 cm) for 225 Pounds each and "Planners" (A5) for 325 Pounds.

Although these prices are astronomically high for a binder, a look at the Mulberry.com website shows that these products are not stamped "Made in England" any more. They carry the Mulberry legend and logo, that's it.

My advice for anybody who wants to buy this vintage binder: Go for it, but do not forget that Mulberry uses an other paper format than your Filofax. You can not fill the Mulberry with your Filofax papers. Good luck anyway!

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TDL_d6RpvAI/AAAAAAAAABBg/e9atnx5gwfE/s1600/MulberryVintage.JPG

DJ (2010-07-06 11:54:03)

New or old, the Mulberry line gives me "sticker shock." As a FiloPhile, I'm like the proud owner of a Jaguar whose neighbor just pulled up in a Bentley.

**

Pocket Executive Slimline

Personal Epping

Bible Inning (Plus)

A5 Director (Time/system)

bernhardS (2010-07-06 13:59:38)

The Mulberry is sold. It went for EUR 98,97!

For this price, you can buy a brand new Adelphi Personal, Cuban Personal or Slimline or a Piazza Pocket.

Stampede of Horses (2010-07-06 09:17) - Laurie

Bernhard sent me these fantastic photos of his Winchester Filofax and referred to a comment by gregorym who said his perfect Filofax would look like it had been run over by a stampede of horses.

Something like this perhaps?



[1]



[2]

Thanks Bernhard!

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TDHcyFnQdHI/AAAAAAAAABBY/R3M4qmdJcQo/s1600/Winchester02.JPG

2. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TDHclCrLJGI/AAAAAAAAABBQ/ngzJpsMw6e8/s1600/Winchester01.JPG

PA3789 (2010-07-06 16:33:18)

That is exactly what I'm talking about.

Well worn and like an old friend.

I happen to be one that hates changes. I'd rather find that perfect planner and stop the freaking out!

This guy has just what I mean and I'm sure he uses it, don't it look like he does?

Mine would be heavy leather, brown, open, and 3/16" rings so I could stuff it full.

Could someone with pull tell Filo to PLEASE bring these back!!

Although, as crazy as it sounds, I ordered a cover for a new Moleskine planner from Ren Art in scuffed, brown, leather. Maybe that would satisfy me. (along with a new laptop bag in scuffed, brown leather) and an Indianna Hat!! LOL

gmax (2010-07-13 10:20:25)

Rather than horses, apparently the most common repair that Filofax UK found was being requested in the late 1980's was to restore ring mechanisms after being crushed by cars, when the Filo had accidentally been left on a bonnet or roof. (In those days such repairs were possible. Not sure about today.)

Guest Post - And Now For Something Completely Different... (2010-07-06 17:08) - Steve

Why is it I always think of Monty Python when I see that phrase... well this Guest Post from 'DJ' is nothing to do with Monty Python, but with a Filofax Organiser which is quite different from anything else I've ever seen before....



[1]



[2]



[3]

For me, this whole thing kicked off from Japan, ironically. Flashback: 1986, New York City, the height of the Filofax craze, working in Yuppie Central. But my first Filofax-type planner, which was given to me by a friend, was a Japanese "Inning" made by Plus Corporation. Great name Inning, if you stop to think about the baseball/cricket metaphor and its implications, e.g. bad Inning(s) does not lose the game, you can win in the last Inning, etc. It took Personal size sheets (in Japan called Bible).

As you can see, it was a pretty cool design then, and still looks good today. Looks like a proto-netbook, with clamshell-type construction. Pretty near indestructible ABS Plastic, with wells for THREE writing instruments, originally pen, pencil and highlighter. Now red and black Uniball Micros, with a Time/system pencil. They fit perfectly in the slots. On the inside back cover, two additional slots, the top I use for business cards, the bottom slot being perfect for a 3M Post-It pad.

Produced only in 1986, it came in five colours: black, yellow, forest green, navy blue and white. It was the victim of bad timing, as the PDA was about to take Japan by storm, with North America and Europe to follow.

Though some years I've used Filofax refills, for the most part I've kept this Japanese, using the Bible-sized Data Plan refills, by Maruman, available at Kinokuniya or Mai Do stores. Both are good places to get lined or grid paper for Pocket, Personal or A5 Filofax (Mini, Bible, A5 in Japan, respectively). For those into saving trees, some versions (month to view, week on a page) of the Data Plan diaries come sans date, so you just pencil it in, then erase to reuse the diary the next year. I just use five numbered tabs, pertaining to TASKS, PROJECTS, LISTS, FINANCIAL, REFERENCE.

And that's the story from BIZARRO WORLD, for you Superman fans...



[4]



[5]

Thank you DJ

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TDOdMMnnK1I/AAAAAAAAAIEs/HpQH7eK1aO8/s1600/DSCN2681.jpg
2. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TDOcpuSupUI/AAAAAAAAAIEM/-1_Ie_Sz6eg/s1600/DSCN2676.jpg
3. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TDOcuawydsI/AAAAAAAAAIEU/7EhkJzyLtjU/s1600/DSCN2677.jpg
4. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TDOdkhS2ucI/AAAAAAAAAIE0/Y3SI_e8ony8/s1600/DSCN2679.jpg

5. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TDOc1xsMneI/AAAAAAAAIEc/Uk_K0ci9mag/s1600/DSCN2678.jpg

Steed (2010-07-06 20:30:14)

The word "inning" in the sense of "a gathering in" is first recorded in 1522, and is believed to be related to the subsequent cricket/baseball usage. The Inning agenda is an interesting artifact from the 80's and practical, with room for 3 pens, business cards, sticky notes. But it somehow lacks the warmth of the leather Filofax, which shows its age and usage well. On the other hand, no calf, cow, pig, lizard, ostrich or crocodile had to be sacrificed in the name of organisation!

JJ (2010-07-06 22:17:53)

And it lays flat!

I'll be setting up a new Ebay search.

I want one.

DJ (2010-07-06 23:51:05)

The Inning is capable of even more than laying flat. Somewhere on the web I saw a story about one Ian Tindale chap (the one who wrote the entry for ff on Wikipedia). He was mugged in London, with his passport in his hand-carried Personal Lyndhurst Zip. He fought like crazy against three if I recall, mainly for the passport. At the end, he kept his 'Fax, but he was pretty bunged up. Had he an Inning, he might have fared better. The hard ABS material makes this bad boy a pretty feasible *weapon* in a pinch. Plus you'd have the element of surprise, kind of like Steed's metal lined bowler. Alternate uses, indeed! Like the story of the WWII Tommie whose Filofax reportedly stopped a German bullet (talk about time-saving devices!) But really folks (he says belatedly), can't we just all get along?

joffreyca (2010-07-07 09:48:48)

I remember reading about that story of a military-issue Filofax stopping a bullet.

I'd like to see that tested on Mythbusters :-)

DJ (2010-07-07 11:48:25)

It has some plausibility right out of the gate, if you'll recall the original market for Filofax was the Military and the Clergy (Journalists and Academia after, followed in the 80's by Yuppia). If it was as full as most folks' Personals (only size available '39-'45), it *may* have stopped a bullet, depending on caliber, distance and trajectory. MB would have to research the standard Wehrmacht rifle, and test fire at various distances. Unlike the William Tell legend, the tests should be run with "dummies." True, any live person volunteering would, by definition, *be* a dummy.

Anyone familiar with this seller? (2010-07-07 02:54) - Laurie

Reader Colie emailed me to ask if I am familiar with [1] this Filofax seller on ebay, located in Austria. I am not but perhaps one of you are? Have you purchased from this seller before, and/ or do you know anything about how they acquired their collection?

It is quite an amazing array of vintage and discontinued Filofaxes, including several I've never seen before: blue Buckingham, Ostrich, Kensington, Keswick, Portobello, the list goes on. Some are multi-colored which I never knew existed. Several green Filofaxes there for those of you who are on a green kick! ;D

What do you think?

1. http://shop.ebay.com/marlil1st/m.html?_nkw=filofax&_sacat=0&_dmd=3&_odkw=&_osacat=0&bkBtn=&_trksid=p3911.m270.11313

bernhardS (2010-07-07 04:14:12)

Morning!

I checked the offerings:

- This seller seems to be a professional shop in Vienna owned by

marion novotny
seidengasse 38
1070 Wien
Telefon: 069911335307
Fax: 01 9078 101
E-Mail: marli1st@gmx.net

According to ebay, Marion is in business since 2002. She has sold over 2.400 articles and has 100 % positive ratings. The ratings are mainly in German testifying Marion to offer good products with a friendly contact and fast and reliable delivery.

If you know Vienna this lady is in the 7th district ("Gemeindebezirk") named Neubau which is a lovely hood with a lot of flair.

Yvotchka (2010-07-07 08:29:01)

And you do this to me why??

Totally digging on that ZITRONENGELB one - it would go fantastically with the CITRON VERT ;)

Den (2010-07-07 12:41:51)

Oh, great! Just as I was going through withdrawal...where's your compassion?

colie (2010-07-07 14:05:18)

contacted the seller marli who said "...We had bought the Austrian sole agency of Filofax some time ago, we have only some left now."

marli also said they DO ship to the US.

helen (2010-07-07 17:25:43)

Those multicoloured ones are brilliant, so eighties! There are young trendy art students from East London who'd kill for one of those.

HP Fuchs (2010-07-08 05:46:07)

I bought a filofax savannah from him/her. Excellent service.

Elisabeth (2010-07-10 07:12:48)

I've dealt with her in the past. Excellent service.

Elisabeth (2010-07-10 07:13:23)

I've dealt with her in the past. Excellent service.

Guest Post: Glove Sizes..... (2010-07-07 17:39) - Steve

Thank you to Helen for her contributions. This is Part 1 of 2 of the details of her recent travel adventures. I'm sure you will all enjoy reading this...

Despite being a Filofax user of five years standing and despite the cutesy hearts and funky birds that come plastered over organisers nowadays, for me Filofaxes will always be associated with 1980's yuppies and the fast-paced lifestyle of international businessmen. There is one infill more than any that perpetuates this association for me - the International Information.

Every year without fail, I separate those pages from my new diary infills and diligently put them in the last section of my binder, where I file the maps and other general information. And every year, without fail, the only time I looked at those pages was to imagine the lifestyle of a globetrotting businessman - sitting in an anonymous hotel room, a long way from home, consulting his very professional looking Filofax (a black Guildford usually). He'll be checking it's not a public holiday in Tokyo, before he makes that all important phone call; or consulting the

clothing conversion charts before buying a new shirt as he's going to have to stay an extra day to clinch that deal. His is a lonely existence, his only companion a trusted, soft leather folder.

This year, however, something happened that changed everything. No, I didn't ditch the not-for-profit sector for a live fast, die young position in mergers and acquisitions, I got on a train at St Pancras station, London and got off at Baltika Station, St Petersburg. A trip that involved a not inconsiderable amount of planning, and the international Information section, suddenly, unexpectedly (it almost passed me by that it might be useful at all), came into its own. We knew our second day in Germany was going to be a public holiday, likewise for the day we were due to leave Russia. We knew the average temperature in Warsaw in May. We knew the currency of Lithuania was the Lita and in Latvia it was the Lat.

No longer do I wonder who makes use of those pages. No longer shall I consider chucking them straight in the recycling when I buy my new diary infill, for now my travels have been opened up, thanks to those brief, concise pages, and I know, with absolute confidence that glove sizes are the same in all countries.

Thank you Helen... Part 2 tomorrow.

bernhardS (2010-07-08 04:14:57)

Helen, thanks for this report. I read it with great interest, when you mentioned public holidays in Germany. This is a very special topic where paper infos can let you down.

- In Germany, public holidays are defined by its 16 federal states, except October 3, day of the German unity which is a holiday all over Germany

- 8 public holidays are in all its 16 federal states, such as Christmas, Easter or May 1

- 11 federal states have defined additional public holidays

- There are several public holidays in one federal state only, and August 8 is a holiday in the city of Augsburg only as a reminder for the peace contract after the 30-year war between 1618 to 1648

It is sad to say that Filofax inserts require a lot of care to stay up-to-date so be careful when you use older material. Checking with Google is a more reliable search today.

Guest Post: European Adventures.... (2010-07-07 23:40) - Steve

Thank you to Helen for her excellent contributions. I'm sure you will enjoy reading the detail of her use of the [1]Travel Journal Pack

European Adventures



[2] So, we had a plan, it was a simple plan, get a train to St. Petersburg. We wanted to make things a bit harder on ourselves by stopping along the way, and making sure we were back at work three weeks later. Oh yeah, and buy a flat the month before we were due to leave.

Obviously, a plan like this needs organisation. Really, really good organisation – did I mention the flat buying? This year I finally crossed the line from which there is no going back and became the owner of two Filofaxes, so I gave into the inevitable and bought a third. After much deliberation online I was almost certain I wanted a Pocket Domino. But a little niggle in the back of my head persuaded me to go and look at it in person before I made a purchase.

So after work, I hotfooted it to the New Conduit Street shop, where that niggle was justified, the Domino wasn't quite right. The Pocket Urban, however, was perfect. It is almost like it was designed for a trip like this, with its hardy and practical styling. This is a Filofax that will put up with being bashed around in the bottom of a rucksac or consulted in a thunderstorm or whipped out in a hurry to find directions to the station. I particularly like the gusseted outside pocket and the full width interior pocket – very handy to stuff the random things you accumulate on a journey.

Since my downfall was pretty much inevitable at this point, when I was in the shop I also bought the Travel Journal Pack. I normally run a mile from any system that tries to impose itself on me, but flicking through the display pack, I realised there was enough flexibility I could use it how I wanted. And there were pre-printed sheets so you could play *Squares*. I was sold. I also bought a hole punch because it was payday.

(My sister thinks I have a problem. I suspect some of my work colleagues feel the same way but are too polite to say anything. Me, I know I spend less on Filofaxes than they do on shoes, I don't think I'm the one with the problem.)

So, back to the plan, it went something like this: London – Berlin – Gdansk – Kaliningrad – Vilnius – Riga – Tallinn – St Petersburg – London. (If you don't know where some of those places are, why don't you look them up? Are you thinking it would be handy if you could get a Europe map for the Filofax? Yeah, *me too*). We knew the plan would be fairly flexible, we were a bit vague about trains after Gdansk, but neither of us had realised quite how few trains run through the Baltic countries any more. That's what you get for using a 10 year old guidebook and a brand new Filofax.

We did end up in St. Petersburg, but we had to forgo Tallinn to get there. We went on 10 trains and 2 coaches. We saw Gdansk in the freezing rain and St Petersburg in a heatwave.

We saw a full blown Russian military parade on the 9th May. We went to the best museum in the world. We had dill with more meals than you'd think would be possible. I fell in love with Malbork Castle in Poland, and I wanted to eat up every inch of The Church of Our Saviour on Spilled Blood in St Petersburg. We learnt about events from

1939 to 1989 from almost every side. We had amazing hot chocolate in Vilnius and listened to a brilliant blues band in Riga. We went to a bit of Russia most people aren't even aware of. We learnt that if you are an aspiring nation it's probably best not to invite the Teutonic knights in to help sort out a little pagan problem.

In short it was fabulous.

And through it all, the Filofax held its own.

I divided the travel pack into 6 sections, and added some of the standard pages that come with a new Filofax. I had emergency information right at the front, then the first section was the travel itinerary and planning, with the to-do lists and packing lists. The second section was travel information, where I added a map of Europe I printed off before I left, along with some city plans, a list of handy web pages, phone numbers and the international information section from the 2010 diary. The next section was my journal – thank you whoever it was on Philofaxy who suggested to put it in the middle of the organiser so that it's easier to write on both sides– you are a genius. Then the fourth section was for money and budget. The very last section was blank paper and the travel games.

This leaves the fifth section, which I've done out of order, because there is a glaring omission in the travel pack. It's so big and obvious I noticed it as almost as soon as I got it home from the shop – there is nowhere to write down addresses for postcards. Filofax, the daddy of paper organisers, overlooked the one form of paper-based communication that people still use. So I had to use the standard addresses inserts.

So how did I use it? – I used the packing list and remembered to bring a torch, I kept a travel diary, I made notes, I tried to learn the Cyrillic alphabet, I drew stick figure pictures to try and communicate with Russian ticket agents, I wrote postcards, I stuffed receipts in its pockets, I kept my passport and tickets in it when we were travelling, we *played squares*. It was perfect.

Once again, thank you to Helen for sharing her adventures. Hope your flat purchase went as smoothly as your European Adventure.....

1. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?awinmid=2457&awinaffid=97790&clickref=Travel%20Pack&p=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.filofax.co.uk%2Flifestyle%2Flifestyle.asp%3FfId%3D3>
2. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TDT6DwdibxI/AAAAAAAAIE8/z2XUeXFsSw4/s1600/DSC00005.jpg

Aaron (2010-07-08 14:01:21)

You have a bad link. "Travel Journal Pack" just links to blogger.com.

Steve (2010-07-08 14:40:14)

Thanks Aaron, I think it should now be fixed.

Regards

Steve

Jotje (2010-07-19 10:45:38)

Thanks for your inspiration, Helen! I'm just compiling my own Travel Filofax and reread your post for pointers I might have overlooked.

I will have another category: Recipes. Since we will be camping, I'm always short of fast, easy yet tasteful campside dinner recipes. ;-)

I also file some flyers from last year (same destination), and I'll bring my hole punch for immediate filing action. YAY!

Site Update (2010-07-08 08:44) - Steve

Just to let you know I've updated the site to one of the new Blogger Templates this morning. I've tried to keep the 'look' and 'feel' as close to the old format as possible.

The main advantage is the additional width to the page. You should be ok viewing in any resolution greater than 1024 pixels. The extra width in the body of the page will mean that when ever we include photos in a post the text

will not look quite so cramped.

Any problems please add a comment and I will see what can be done.

Thanks

Steve

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colie (2010-07-08 12:22:13)

when i read this i thought to myself "it is like they switched from lined pages to blank pages mid-year"
i like it!

Oni (2010-07-08 20:16:16)

Ooooh this is looking pretty good!

A cleaner, easier on the eyes version.

Thank you Steve for taking such good care of us!!!!!!!

Oni (2010-07-08 20:23:58)

Ayayay!!

I was looking at the links section... if you want you can put this description next to my 21Kittens blog: Oni's blog about her creations, not Filofax related.

And next to the Onigiri Sama blog:

Oni's blog about Filofaxes and other stationery freakness

:P

Thanks!!!!

crofter (2010-07-09 00:31:19)

Looking good Steve.

I am amazed and very pleased to see how much this blog has changed over the years that I have followed it. It has gone from an occasional post to quite a few in a months time, and I look forward to each one. This is not a slam in any sense of the word against Nan, I am sure that she did what she had time to do.

Many thanks to Steve, Laurie and Nan, you bring us much enjoyment and many good ideas, and thanks to the readers who post comments. Something can be learned from everybody.

Crofter

Steve (2010-07-09 05:24:38)

Thanks every one for your comments.

Oni, thanks for the link descriptions I've now added these.

Free For All Friday No. 86 (2010-07-09 00:00) - Steve

Quite a few of us will admit to having more than one Filofax organiser... ok more than 2 even... But when people ask me about my Filofax and then I produce two or three of them in different sizes the next question is often... 'why have you got more than one?' or 'why do you need more than one?'

How do you answer these sort of questions?

But as it's Friday, don't forget that we are interested in anything Filofax related.

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Jeff Abbott (2010-07-09 00:53:30)

Am thinking of coming back to Filofax after a year or so away (have been using Moleskine planners instead). Thanks for keeping so much great content on the site.

Lyon (2010-07-09 01:14:21)

Well, one can't have so much of good stuff!

colie (2010-07-09 03:42:41)

i just explain elizabeth taylor had more than one husband, julia child had more than one wooden spoon, ben franklin had more than one idea, and james joyce had more than one pen

Gail (2010-07-09 05:10:18)

Hello again everyone

So I know have 4 filofaxs

A5 Identity - my main one, got everything in it. lol

A5 Pink Finsbury - Journal, reading/DVD lists etc.

A5 Brown Cuban - School Filofax, got non sensitive info on pupils etc.

Personal - One I take to school to make note then transfer to Cuban.

Now I am really after another one.....maybe the personal Heart one....problem

is, I don't know what I could use it for. So please someone, give me ideas so I

can justify buying another filofax. lol

Gail x

Michele (2010-07-09 07:03:28)

Good morning! Two filofaxes... simply one is for personal life and one for business with sections for each project I work on... First year keeping two filofaxes actually after about 20 years with just one... The only change I think I might make is not bother with a calendar section for business...

Ally (2010-07-09 07:04:41)

My raspberry Finchley arrived yesterday afternoon. It is a thing of beauty.

Pete Mac (2010-07-09 07:17:43)

I have 5, I think...

A5 Lyndhurst,

Personal Kendal,

Personal Kensington (slimline),

Pocket Lyndhurst.

The 5th? My son is a recent convert, so he owns it now.

Personal and A5 have day-to-a-page, slimline and pocket have week-to-view. The other pages I use are identical across all 4 - 3 sections, for notes, 1 for reference, 1 for contacts.

I only ever take 1 with me at any one time, so nobody really sees the others. Which one I take depends on lots of things, and there's not enough room in this comment to elaborate... :-)

My wife doesn't mind the number I have, but how I decide which one to take often leaves her quite flummoxed!

Regards,

Pete Mac in Sydney

Claire (2010-07-09 08:34:35)

I bought a personal size Domino in lavender this week. I've been in love with the Finsbury for a while but couldn't afford it so I bought the Domino until I've saved up - then I can just swap the insides over. Already it has completely revolutionised my life, I'm looking forward to the weekend so I can make some dividers collaged with photos I love.

JJ (2010-07-09 08:52:55)

I dont have *ONE* of ANYTHING.

Seriously, I'm a bit of a packrat and a compulsive second hand shopper. I probably have about ten or more personals and a small assortment of the other sizes.

But that's chicken feed compared to my other collections (books, pocket knives, pens, music).

I also own more than one pair of pants.

BabyD @ Polish and Powder (2010-07-09 09:47:56)

ooh, now I am very guilty of multiple filofaxes.....what can I say, they are things of beauty and my weakness.....

I have an A5 Finsbury pink for the main home one, it houses all family and house info.

I use a personal domino snake in natural as my main filofax for appointments and all my personal stuff, love that one.

I have a pocket butterfly in pewter for my on the go handbag filofax, love it for the external pocket and cute size.

Then I have my 'spares' which I bought recently as I found them all in the sales, they consist of:

pocket chino (£7.50!!!)

pocket opal (£10)

personal finchley black (£36)

personal classic pink (£32)

personal domino grape (£10)

personal metropol pink (£11)

personal mode aqua/pink (12)

and others:

personal domino snake dark brown

personal butterfly pewter

slimline classic cherry

Jeff Abbott (2010-07-09 11:46:38)

Perhaps I'm misunderstanding, but I think it would be really confusing to have multiple calendars in multiple Filofaxes—how do you avoid time conflicts if you don't have it all in one place?

DJ (2010-07-09 12:24:30)

1. You only need one.
2. You can only use one at a time, realistically.
3. Starts getting expensive to own more than one.

By that logic we should only own one pair of underwear. Hopefully that is NOT the case. However, in the event that IS the case, please reply via blog rather than in person. No offense!

Den (2010-07-09 13:07:16)

Jeff makes a good point, more than one calendar is confusing. It's back to the old idea of "work" vs. "home." If I have a "work Filofax" and I'm at work, but I have an idea or appointment that pertains to home, how do I record it? And vice versa. True, you could just make a note, then enter it on the appropriate agenda, but that adds another layer. Most time management pros say have ONE calendar, for both work and home appointments. I agree, but I use two Filofaxes. Only my Slimline goes with me, everywhere, and that's the one with the calendar. My Personal is the "master" organiser, which holds everything except the calendar. Any notes or pages I write on the Slimline end up being filed in the Personal. One could theoretically get by with one Filofax, but I like to travel light, hence the Slimline. Any pages that I think I'll need on a given day (maps, lists, etc.) can be moved from Personal to Slimline easily, as they use the same page size.

Nemo (2010-07-09 13:37:45)

I only have one right now, a personal black Finchley that I use for everything. I am getting a pocket or mini one soon because I am getting a job in the medical industry that requires a smaller size! Then I will use the small one for work and the Personal for everything else. I suppose that is how I would answer the question if anybody asked.

BabyD @ Polish and Powder (2010-07-09 14:44:33)

My personal is my master filofax calendar and has all my personal appointments and places I need to be in it. It also has a more journal type entry system, allowing one place for all my fun stuff and appointments. This is my personal fun filo.

My A5 home one only has home/family related stuff in, the mundane things like household chores, decorating items needed and any house related information and numbers (gas, electric water emergency stuff, insurance etc). I keep records of room sizes, when we decorate I record how much paint was used in rooms and wallpaper amounts, so next time we decorate we can see how much we used last time. Very useful info but not needed to carry around with me so saves cluttering up my personal. No real calendar used here, just notes for chores etc. Plus medical records and dental stuff so I know when

checkups are due. This is the family/house goto.

My pocket one has the bare bones in it, just stuff I need with me, very basic appointments only diary in this one, no waffle just times/dates etc, notes on the go and shopping lists while Im out and much used addys and numbers.

My 'spares' are there to swap with if I fancy a change of cover, and to store spare or used pages in that I don't need to carry. I use the slimline as a financial filo, frees up space in my personal one and allows me to keep all financial info together in detail.

PA3789 (2010-07-09 17:51:46)

I only have one Filo (Personal Finchley) for my business and personal. What I miss is the extra paper to write phone messages in and issues that arise on a daily basis. (something better than a personal size piece of paper)

Solution: I had a lengthy discussion with Laurie and did some research.

I am now the proud owner of a beautiful, rustic Ren Art cover for my Moleskine "large" day on a page planner. What it gives me the extra pages in a fine book (with my name on the front and preprinted dates on each page) that I can make my drawings, write "to dos" for each day and note my phone calls for future use. I can't thank Laurie enough for "hooking me up" to the Ren Art website.

If anyone remembers my hope of a planner that looks like it was run over by a stampede of horses, well this is definitely the picture perfect item. I have sent Laurie pictures for her review and enjoyment and hopefully she can help me post them.

Now if I can just get Filo to make a planner that looks like this.

Petra (2010-07-09 18:30:39)

BabyD, where do you find these sales? I'm headed to the UK (London) this month and would love to scoop up some "spares" at bargain prices!

I've been reading this great blog for some time but don't think I've ever posted. I would answer "why do you have more than one pair of shoes?!" Each filofax has a different style, as do the inserts, and fits different seasons/situations. Since I encountered filofax/planners two years ago, I have acquired:

-5 filofaxes (mini, pocket, personal), though two will be sold soon since I don't really like them

-3 Brighton agendas in sizes compatible with the filofaxes

-some other brands with also-compatible ring configurations.

I mix and match inserts depending on format I like best. For instance, Brighton's monthly insert is way nicer than filofax's for the pocket size, and they fit the same binders, even though paper size is slightly different.

I only use one calendar, so no confusion.

Saffy (2010-07-09 19:03:03)

I have 4 filofaxes and all are in use, well nearly all.

1. A5 Zipped Finsbury which I use solely for work, nothing else.

2. Personal Pearl Panama for everyday use which I only started using this year because I needed more room to write than offered by the pocket size I have been using for 5 years.

3. A Pocket Gharani strok which I picked up at Heathrow for a steal. I just love this binder and will probably go back to it at some stage.

4. A Pocket Classic which when i bought it was known as a 'Cross' in tan. This is my 'back up disc'. It houses all my old and current information in case I loose my master copy. You know, all those website logon names for sites you dont remember and heaven knows what the password is/was? Household room sizes etc, in case you find that 'perfect' piece of furniture.

I would dearly love a slimline to use everyday and transfer back as mentioned by Den but I just cant justify it.

I have to say, I am very pleased to find like minded filofax junkies. I have even taken to buying them as presents to get my fix. lol.

Jeff Abbott (2010-07-09 22:14:17)

thanks for all the info! I might get a second Filofax, a Slimline, to use as a wallet/journal as mentioned here: <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/02/using-my-slimline-filofax-as-my-wallet.html>

Right now I'm always carrying a small notebook with me and a wallet and would like to combine them.

Den (2010-07-10 00:33:56)

Jeff: Another alternative to the regular Slimline is the Pocket Slimline, at present Filofax USA doesn't carry one, but check out the Guildford Extra Slim on the Filofax.co.uk site. Other U.S. vendors have the discontinued Pocket Slimline Topaz model also, in red, brown and black. It's leather, but has a faux lizard skin exterior.

The advantage to the Pocket slimline is that it really is billfold wallet-sized, so it can fit in a gent's front pocket, breast pocket, maybe even the back if you don't forget and bend the rings sitting down. The regular slimline, at 7 1/2-7 3/4 inches long, is about an inch too long for that. Regular Slimline works in side pockets of fatigues, painter's or cargo pants, though. Otherwise you have to carry it in something. And to me, that detracts from its portability, which would seem to be the main raison d'etre of both size Slimlines. If you have to bring a bag to carry it, might as well bring a Personal and gain the capacity advantage.

BabyD @ Polish and Powder (2010-07-10 03:57:12)

@Petra: I found the reduced ones at Rymans and John Lewis stores, both are currently selling lots for half-price.....lots of bargains to be had

Howard (2010-07-10 07:59:02)

I've recently returned to using a Filofax, and am now using two.

One is a Pocket Urban, which I carry around and contains my diary, to-do lists and essential information.

My other Filofax is a red A5 Graphic. This stays at home and is used for personal projects and goals, wish lists, and various other bits. I'm still working out exactly how best to use this.

I use the diary in the A5 to record when I have done things I should do regularly, e.g. exercise. Not sure if it helps my motivation at all but I might as well use it for something.

I have a question: where do you get your A5 paper from? Do you pay for the official Filofax paper (which is very nice but pretty expensive), or have you a cheaper option? I'm in the UK so A5 paper is easy to come by, but is usually not punched correctly for the binders.

Thanks for the great website. It's been a source of inspiration in using a Filofax again.

Jotje (2010-07-10 09:37:47)

@Howard: if you already have the paper, I'd invest in a good hole punch. I got a metal Time/System through ebay, that works brilliantly.

I also bought some perforated blank paper from time/system, which I bought before I got the hole punch.

Jeff Abbott (2010-07-10 10:16:22)

Hi Den:

Thanks so much for the suggestions, this is the one you suggest, right?:

<http://www.filofax.co.uk/store/organiserdetails.asp?rangeId=99 &sizeId=2 &dsizeId=2 &spId=765 #765>

hard to decide if this would be a better solution than just a moleskine and a wallet.

Philofaxy had me write a blog entry once about how I use my A5 but I think I'd have to rethink my whole approach these days.

Howard (2010-07-10 11:25:44)

Hi Jotje,

Yes a hole punch sounds like a good idea. I'll have to see if I can get paper without holes in it already, otherwise the existing ones get in the way.

Den (2010-07-10 13:27:32)

Jeff: that's the one. One factor that you might consider is how many credit cards do you need to carry. The Guildford Extra Slim Pocket has slots for two, maybe a third in the pocket below. You could always add a plastic card holder if you have more. Folding money could go in front or back vertical pocket. There are some Pocket Topaz Slimlines up on fleaBay currently. These Pocket Slimlines are truly for the minimalist, but that's precisely why I like them. Years ago Ron Laing, Managing Director of Filofax UK surprised the fF community when he was asked which model he carried—he said mini!

"Ron Laing, Filofax UK Managing Director, uses a mini personal organiser that measures only 120mm x 90mm. Says Ron, 'People are surprised when they find out I use such a small organiser, but for me portability is the most important consider-

ation. My mini Filofax organiser is "my bible" – it travels with me everywhere, whether I am going to a business meeting, travelling abroad or playing a round of golf. It's ideal because it fits easily into a jacket, shirt or trouser pocket without being restrictive.

'As well as my diary, my mini organiser contains practically everything I need when I am out of the office – important telephone numbers, notepaper, maps, a pen and business cards. (That means at least I'll never get lost, always be able to write a note, introduce myself professionally or phone a friend!)' I tried the mini, IMHO too small. And at the time Ron was interviewed, the only map that was available for "mini" was a world map, not that useful when lost! More available now, but truly in "mouse type." The Slimline Pocket models seem better suited for portability. Bigger, thinner (no strap connecting front and back cover), no full width "wallet" pocket—the pocket slimlines are just more elegant. More city map selections, too.

**

I think I said to myself at the time, "can my life be more complicated than the Managing Director of Filofax?" If no, why must I lug an A4, A5 or even a Personal around?" So for me, my carry everywhere fF is at minimum, a Pocket Slimline; at maximum a Regular Slimline. Many reporters carry the Regular Slimline because they can integrate their notes into a Personal (same size papers), back at the office.

Gail (2010-07-10 15:25:57)

Some of you are asking about A5 inserts...Well I make most of mine. I get the paper from a shop called The Paper mill shop, they do a large A4 box about 1.5 inches deep and you fill it with A4, A5 sized card and paper in any colour for only £4. The paper is of beautiful quality some of it embossed and I make my own inserts. They make my FF look pretty nice too and the quality of the paper is much thicker than normal 80gms.

Jotje (2010-07-11 06:21:27)

@Howard: I assume Staples would have regular white (or even coloured!) A5 paper, unperforated. Of course you'll probably have to buy a huuuuge supply ;-)

As for different FF sizes: I have an A5 Finsbury pink for work (2pages/day), an A5 Domino red with all notes on PTA meetings and other school-related appointments and stuff, a personal Domino lavender as budget planner and temporary household chores planner (the latter function will be taken over by the Organised Mum Life Book in September), a Mini Finsbury raspberry as my purse/planner on the go (carries all appointments)/shopping list/menu planner/library list (so I won't forget which book to return on what day).

I found an unbelievably pretty Mini Classic in lilac on Ebay, that I simply couldn't resist. Will serve as archive for old and new pages for my mini. And will probably become the replacement for my finsbury one day, because I don't think it will last forever what with the intensive way it's being used.

You think that's too many Filo's? I think not, b/c each and every of them has its own designated function. No overlaps, no mix-ups.

I plan on getting another A5 for all the recipes I've collected over the years. The recipes are page-numbered and I will add alphabetic tabs that list main ingredients after each letter, so when I'm sitting on a huge supply of eggplants, I'll just look up all recipes listed under E for eggplants.

My current regular binder will soon explode anyway and I also plan to toss all recipes that were disapproved by my very picky 4 kids ... ;-)

Laurie (2010-07-11 08:23:16)

I have posted gregorym's photo of his new leather cover for his Moleskine over at Plannerisms!

<http://www.plannerisms.com/2010/07/gregs-renaissance-art-leather-moleskine.html>

Jeff Abbott (2010-07-11 12:49:06)

Thank you Den for all the suggestions, very helpful! I will check out the Topaz. Surprised they discontinued it, it's nice looking.

Den (2010-07-12 10:19:22)

One advantage the Pocket Topaz Slimline has over the Pocket Guildford Extra Slim–The Topaz has a pen loop, the Guildford does not. Both have 11mm rings.

Lyon (2010-07-13 02:05:43)

Hello Jeff, Den is right with the Filofax Pocket Topaz as far as slimness since I've had it for two months now. I originally wanted a Pocket Guildford but I was kinda worried about the absence of a pen loop. The last thing I want to happen is to fumble for a pen somewhere when I need it. Besides, finding a Pocket Guildford is almost next to impossible for US residents.

Anyway, I have posted photos of my Filofax Pocket Topaz on Flickr under "Chronoplan" by me, "Up _ & _Away". Go check it out so you can have an idea.

Den (2010-07-13 10:15:02)

What got my attention on your Flickr page was the Chronoplan Mini New York! Had not heard of this German brand (www.quantis.de)'til now, but I see they have gotten things right! Three features in particular: 15mm rings is actually a great size—36 percent more capacity than the 11mm, but still a "slimline." Takes Filofax Pocket size pages and (hallelujah!) they have correctly placed the pen loop up high, so one can actually clip a regular pen or pencil to it. See the DaVinci brand from Japan, they do it this way also.

Lyon (2010-07-13 12:57:04)

I was ready to trade the absence of the pen loop on a Pocket Slimline Guildford had I found one available in the U.S. I wanted the Slimline pocket size but something that can hold a little bit more (the Chronoplan actually holds almost twice as much). What I really like about it is the supple leather material that is strikingly the same as the Guildfords' (I am already a proud owner of the Personal Zip and Slimline). It doesn't have any cardboard in between the leather, therefore, you don't need to wrestle it down to lay flat just like the Personal Guildford Slimline.

The one thing I'm careful about though is the pen loop that lacks reinforcement. With the sturdy pen (Cross Multitech) that I'm using, I'm afraid it'll wear out faster than it's supposed to. However, with regular pens there's no need to worry about it. By the way, it came with its own mechanical pencil too - a real treat!

Overall, there's no doubt that this little planner is built to last a very long time. It complements my Guildford collection perfectly that I don't feel I'm "cheating" on my Filos with Chrono :) The Pocket Slimline Topaz is always ready to take on the job on leaner days.

Thanks for checking out my photos at Flickr. That was my first time there.

DJ (2010-07-13 14:42:22)

Not a bad combo: German planner, English pages. Now add a Japanese pen and you would arguably (and I fully EXPECT, nay welcome argument) have three of the most organised nations contributing to your productivity. But I was told one should NEVER generalize!

PS I also heard that the SWEDES all carry Filofaxes (or Time/system).

PPS Aren't you GLAD you filo?

Don't you wish EVERYONE did?

(apologies to the Dial soap advert)

Jeff Abbott (2010-07-13 17:41:15)

Thanks for the info/photos of the Topaz and the Chronoplan, I had never heard of that brand. I think a Moleskine journal is a bit smaller but there is an advantage to being able to remove/add/reorder pages. And I love the pen loop.

Erin (2010-07-14 19:21:26)

I am ashamed (but proud) to admit I have over 60. Does anyone want me to list them all? My hubby counted last night and wants to get me into FA (Filofax Anonymous!)

Petra (2010-07-16 01:33:20)

I for one would love to see all 60 listed, along with their uses/purpose (even if it's just to ogle or fondle them!)

Saffy (2010-07-17 09:21:13)

Erin I would also love to see a list or photos perhaps of all your Filofaxes.

I have just added a couple more to my collection. A personal Fresco which I got for an incredible £3.00 I think due to it only having 6 months left in the diary. This suits me fine because I have misplaced the last 6 months refill (will probably

find it in November) and the binder will also serve as storage. Although I might use it as my new everyday, take with me file since it is light weight and sits perfectly flat. Of course, that is until I get a slimline. My other bargain was an A5 Finsbury in red, again with the 6 months diary so got it for less than half price. Happily it has larger rings than my Finsbury zip so will transfer my work into this one.

Find the Filofax! (2010-07-10 03:13) - Laurie

Reader Bernhard had a great idea for a Filofax game: Find the Filo!
Can you find the Filofax in the photo below? (click on photo to enlarge)



[1]

1. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TDcxx-tlNEI/AAAAAAAAABBo/IJxYUEaA9jA/s1600/Find+the+filo.JPG

Jotje (2010-07-10 04:47:15)

No, I can't find it. You really should organise yourself better and have your filofax in a designated place. That way, you won't lose it and you won't have to ask people on the internet to find it for you!
(he he ;-))

Eva (2010-07-10 05:02:14)

It's inside the rucksack on the right hand side of the picture.

Yvotchka (2010-07-10 09:58:50)

Couldn't find the Filo, but I did find some really fantastic art.

WOW! Who is the artist?

(And where did the Filo end up being?)

Oni (2010-07-10 11:14:54)

Can't find it either.....

But it's a really fun game! :D

bernhardS (2010-07-10 11:20:03)

All right, girls, let me give you a clue:

The Filo you are looking for is a black Slimline with 9-carat gold corners.

Good luck!

Bernhard

Steve (2010-07-10 11:24:26)

Is it just below the large blue painting, about the centre line of the painting in the open aluminium case at the right hand end

of the case?

Oni (2010-07-10 11:31:05)
Steve, I think you're right!
Thanks, Bernhard!!

Yvotchka (2010-07-10 13:01:03)
Oooh Steve! By George I think you're right. My computer screen isn't as big as yours, but I think I see the gold corners.....

Nickie @ Typecast (2010-07-25 09:41:48)
Oh my goodness - well spotted, Steve!! I have a photo you can use - I'll email it to you :)

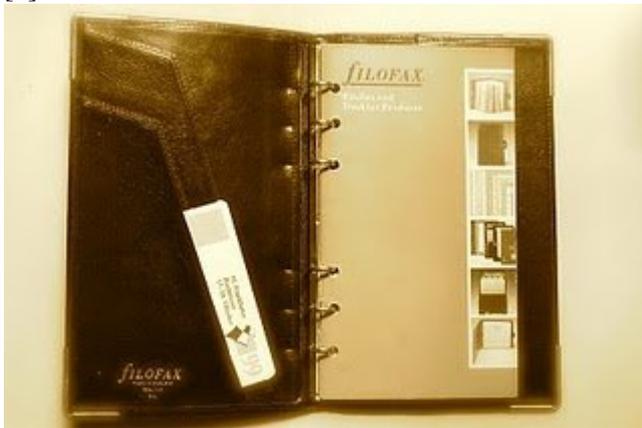
Slimline Filofax (2010-07-11 03:29) - Laurie

Here is Bernhard's Slimline Filofax that is the subject of yesterday's photo search. Can you find it now?

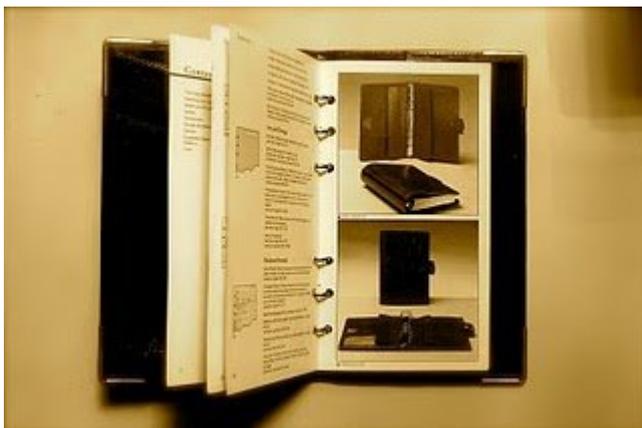


[1]

[2]



[3]



1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TDcy32BcUsI/AAAAAAAAABw/od5NmOwYcms/s1600/Sliimline+1.JPG
2. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TDczBC6wo1I/AAAAAAAAAB4/4OeyQhdLoP0/s1600/Slimline+2.JPG
3. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TDczNH25HI/AAAAAAAAABCA/KcQ3J1lub3w/s1600/Slimline+3.JPG

Jotje (2010-07-11 05:34:40)

Darn, I actually saw those gold corners when I first look at the pic, but I didn't know there were gold-cornered Filo's to begin with. How pathetic am I???

bernhardS (2010-07-11 06:40:54)

Thanks, Laurie, for posting the photos.

Here some details about this Filo: I bought it end of the 1980-s but I don't remember where. Must have been in England because they gave me a brochure with it showing the entire Filofax system of 1987.

Here comes nostalgia: All products were manufactured of leather in best quality except the Billingham which was made of canvas and leather in order to complement the great camera bags of Billingham which were a must for professional photographers back then.

In this brochure one finds descriptions of the Filofax Duplex in double Persoanl size with 2 ring mechanisms. Top of the line was the deluxe Balmoral which holds 300 leaves. All models have the Personal format, no A5 and no pocket or even smaller Filos in the offering.

Even more interesting is the enormous choice of leaves for the Filo. There were paper sheets for business, art and design, church, investment, the military. Information leaves covered English and international data sets, maps and a "Filmfax" with 25 leaves for filmmakers giving information about lens angles, exposure and camera speed.

Let's go back to my own Filo again. Some readers looking for it in the photo were surprised that a Filo came with gold corners. Remember that Filofax was a posh product at that time.

This one even has no holders for credit cards but two diagonal pockets at the front. It has a golden stamp "Made in England, Real Kid, 3KL".

Is anybody here who understands code like 3KL? It could stand for "Kid Leather" maybe, but I miss the systematic approach for the "3". Who has infos?

gmax (2010-07-13 10:11:42)

This is lovely to see. That brochure is nice too.

You are right about the "KL" part. The "3" refers to the number of pockets.

bernhardS (2010-07-13 10:42:59)

gmax, you could be right. My Buckingham Personal has a stamp "Real Calf" and "2CLF 7/8". So the "2" could stand for 2 pockets, and "7/8" maybe for the size of the rings but I am not familiar to inches.

gmax (2010-07-13 11:31:58)

Yes the ring size in inches is part of the product code.

And here's a little known fact - the designation for the popular Winchester model changed from 5CLF to 4CLF when two of the front pockets were merged into one larger one.

bernhardS (2010-07-13 11:44:30)

gmax, this is strange. My Winchester - which is my avatar - is stamped "MADE IN ENGLAND" and "REAL CALF" but no other code.

Do you happen to know when the designations were changed? I must have bought mine in 1994 at Heathrow airport.

gmax (2010-07-13 13:07:44)

That makes sense bernhard. The product codes were dropped in the early 90's as part of the major changes to the range. Some of the high quality wallets continued to be made in England for a period afterwards.

The designation change I mentioned happened around 1985. Incidentally, only the calf leather Winchester models would

say "CL". And the "F" indicated that the wallet has a fastener.

bernhardS (2010-07-13 13:26:45)

Thanks, gmax, for what I learnt: The real, real Filos have not only the golden stamp "Made in England" but also a product code indicating the material and number of pockets.

Do you know if there were even older characteristics, let's say in the 50-s or even before WW2?

gmax (2010-07-13 14:39:35)

It would be fascinating to find out about the product range prior to the 1980s. I know very little about this period.

The earliest (1980's) Filos I've seen have gold stamped

fILOFAX

MADE IN ENGLAND

product code

all using a small font.

Maybe someone knows when this started, and what went before?

Free for All Friday No. 87 (2010-07-16 00:00) - Nan

I recently read an online article, and posted it on Facebook, about how [1]cell phone signals may be harming bee populations. Steve helpfully pointed out that using a Filofax instead may be helping the bees. Of course, a Filofax can't make phone calls, but it does make it possible to use a simple cell phone for *only* emergency phone calls rather than using a smartphone all day long for such things as address book, calendar, notetaking, and so on.

How do you use your Filofax to live a greener life?

1. <http://www.cnn.com/2010/WORLD/europe/06/30/bee.decline.mobile.phones/>

HP Fuchs (2010-07-16 01:36:23)

Good Morning

Is there a list which filofax is made of which leader? (Calf, Cow, Ostrich etc).

Laurie (2010-07-16 02:18:07)

HP, maybe that would be a project for Steve?? Steve, are you up for it? ;)

As far as being greener, I have so many notebooks, Filofaxes and inserts I can't be considered green in my habit at all. BUT, for someone who only buys the inserts they need and keeps the same Filo year after year, it uses fewer resources than buying a whole new bound book each year.

If only Filofax would come out with recycled-paper inserts!

Steve (2010-07-16 04:17:41)

Actually... I've made a start on this already as part of the 'big list' of organisers so it includes ring size, price, material etc.

We can keep adding all relevant information we can think of.

I will get this finished off as soon as I get a spare hour or three! Moving house sort of got in the way!

Steve (2010-07-16 06:40:23)

Done... new updated file on line. I will post about it in a moment!

Michele (2010-07-16 07:54:12)

I try to be greener by using my filo pages for quick note taking instead of writing on post-its all day long! I absolutely hate writing notes on post-its because then I have to save until the task is done, etc.... much better writing in the filo. Well as far as Filo does this week, today I am finally going to open the three packs of Filofax A5 ruled notepaper I received at Christmas! My boyfriend gave me my first A5 for Christmas, but the silly man didn't know that all the inserts came with it!!! I received an extra ruler, notepaper, address book, Expenses, To-Do... I've been all set! Have a great weekend everyone!

JJ (2010-07-16 10:54:05)

I would *LOVE* to have a "Collector's Guide To Filofax".

(And yes, it would have to be as thick as phonebook, like the guides to Swatch watches are.)

I've mentioned it before, but I really wish there was an archive of old catalogs available. And I'll keep mentioning it periodically in the hopes that someone from the company picks up on it.

Laurie (2010-07-16 11:04:11)

JJ, it's not an archive of catalogs per se, but have you seen Filofax's photos on Facebook? They have photos of pages from old catalogs that are fun to see.

helen (2010-07-16 12:08:12)

The Mini paper size is about half a centimeter narrower than A7, so I get friendly with the guillotine at work and slice up A4 paper that's only been printed on one side. You do have to trim the pages down a little bit on the long edge to get them to fit, but at least most of the paper gets reused.

JJ (2010-07-16 15:14:38)

Laurie: I'll have to check it out.

Right now, I search Flickr for information on older Filos. It's surprising just how many are out there.

DJ (2010-07-16 19:20:39)

I don't know if it's "green" or not, but I have a pet Filofax peeve: the page reinforcements. They're expensive, they're difficult to use, and they're never around when you need them. They're kind of like lawyers, come to think of it. (Lawyers, I'm sure you resemble that remark.) So, the workaround: A single piece of Scotch tape covering the holes, flush with the vertical edge of the page. Trim top and bottom so they are flush with the horizontal edges. Into a Filofax punch, line up, and press. Voila! Maybe this *is* green, because you don't have to use another piece of paper to copy down your reference info. Save a tree!

Oni (2010-07-17 20:45:11)

Well, up until last year I used to make my own Notes pages from left-over paper from my bf's office or even paper I had lying around....somehow I stopped making more after having done some from a really bad quality paper (scratchy!), and haven't done more ever since...maybe once I get my head straightened out, I will go back to it, but using better paper!

Jotje (2010-07-18 08:21:31)

I use old diary pages as shopping lists for my Mini. Okay, the dates get in the way here and there, but overall I'm satisfied that the pages at least get used and not wasted entirely.

David (2010-07-18 11:26:24)

How do you use your Filofax to live a greener life?

Not sure it is greener (hope so), but it certainly is "quieter": I write my journal in my Filofax, I draft papers and even books (computer related). I keep on trying writing short stories that I also draft in my Filofax. I also use it to keep my calendar.

Plus, there is the pleasure to write with a fountain pen. That is something that may not be green at all –except for that my pen is many years old and works as if it was brand new: no need to upgrade to the newest/better model every 18 months or so—but it allows me to breathe away from computers/phones, to turn them off.

Everything seems to be quieter, as I said, and slower. It is also like if it helped me to realize it was worth passing time on what I write.

Filofax Guide - Updated (2010-07-16 07:40) - Steve

I've been working on an update for the big Filofax guide for some months since the original was published. Moving house etc sort of got in the way of me finishing it off. It now includes details of the materials each organiser is made of. Anyway, the latest update is now available in our [1]Files area. Look for [2]Filofax.pdf .

Is there any other information you think would be useful to include in the file? Please add a comment below.

The usual words of caution apply... it's only accurate on the day it was published... prices go up prices go down.. new organisers appear... some disappear [Nooooo!!]... Oh and I'm human so please excuse any errors that have crept in.

If anyone would like to volunteer to help me maintain this file I would really appreciate it, diving between three different websites is confusing and time consuming! If any of you could just keep a check on just one of the sites (UK, US, France or Germany) that would be a big help. I can share the Excel file with you using [3]Dropbox so it makes it easier to keep it up to date, without needing to email it back and forth.

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1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/files.html>
2. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/Filofax.pdf>
3. <https://www.dropbox.com/referrals/NTM1ODIxMzY5>

Yvotchka (2010-07-16 09:05:38)

Fantastic work Steve :)

I have a Dropbox account and Lordy knows I'm on the US site every day...I'd be happy to volunteer for that duty.

kanalt (2010-07-16 10:33:03)

Great work Steve! One question - what is the No/Yes column for? The only suggestion I have is to maybe add headings at the top of the sheet so we know what each column refers to.

JJ (2010-07-16 10:35:10)

Column headers are missing.

Is this a list only of models currently in productions? Or are historical models also included?

Steve (2010-07-16 12:16:52)

Sorry folks the headers got left out, now corrected. Yes/No is Zipped models.

Steve

Iris (2010-07-17 13:39:08)

Steve, I'd be more than happy to help you with the German site! I'm currently travelling (going to London next week!!!), but I'll be back home on July, 26th.

Steve (2010-07-18 14:07:26)

Iris, can you please email me via the address in our About Us page. Many thanks.

Filofax Intimidation (2010-07-18 05:41) - Laurie

As we all know by now (and if you didn't already know, here's your memo:), most of the colored styles of Filofaxes are limited edition, usually for one year only.

In fact, all of [1]my Filofaxes (with the exception of only my [2]red A5 Domino) are either completely discontinued or in the process of being phased out. Which means...each one is irreplaceable.

Which makes me almost too afraid to use any of my Filofaxes!!

My [3]Buckingham, which is my very first real Filofax, has had a very hard life and is only barely starting to show signs of wear on its smooth leather. It holds a position of high honor in my Filofax collection. It's the wise old grandpa with loads of stories of life on the road.

My gorgeous [4]Deco, in the being-phased-out Ivory color: should I preserve it rather than risk spoiling its beauty??

My Finsburys in [5]purple and [6]green are no longer made in those colors.

Even my [7]purple Domino, which is certainly affordable enough to be replaced if needed, is no longer made in the Grape color I love.

On the one hand, I think what a shame it would be for any of these to get ruined, especially the Deco, my "Dream

Filofax." How could I bear an ink splotch or deep gouge, knowing I could never replace it?? But on the other hand, life is meant to be lived, and Filofaxes are meant to be used. Yes I might mess up my Filofaxes. But what fun is it to just look at them on the shelf? They are not museum pieces. They are meant to be used, filled up, and loved.

Do you have a Filofax you are almost too afraid to use? Or any that hold a position of "high honor" in your collection?

1. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/plannerisms/sets/72157623430927643/with/3784531610/>

2. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/plannerisms/sets/72157623920524890/>

3. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/plannerisms/3784531610/in/set-72157623430927643/>

4. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/plannerisms/sets/72157622672507897/>

5. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/plannerisms/3979046651/in/set-72157623430927643/>

6. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/plannerisms/3783634767/in/set-72157623430927643/>

7. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/plannerisms/sets/72157622035170176/>

Steve (2010-07-18 05:58:44)

I have a Finsbury Personal that is still in its box, unused... same as the day I bought it over a year ago.

However, I'm considering using it as my journal Filofax for next year as there are a larger selection of diary inserts available for the personal compared to the A5 I use at present.

It will also work better with my personal slimline which I use as my agenda/wallet which will make interchanging the pages/information easier.

Totally agree, use these objects of desire... they just gather dust on shelves... but there is something about a new unused Filofax that is so hard to put in to words!

Jotje (2010-07-18 08:17:47)

I guess you just have to pass the beginning. It's like buying a new couch. In the beginning you barely dare to sit on that thing, you vacuum it twice a day for fear of soiling it and the kids get into trouble if they dare enter the living room with something edible in their hands.

Then as the first weeks have passed, you know it's sufficient to vacuum it every other day, most food stains can be removed with plain water, and the couch really becomes "lived-in".

That's how I proceed with my filofaxes. I start slow, then it really becomes MINE and I value it even more.

I mean: anyone could have a brandnew looking Filo! Just go to the store and buy one. But only a few get to look at very well-used, scared and worn-in Filo's, that are a pleasure to use and and even greater pleasure to look at.

Whenever I browse Flickr, I'm most delighted by those used Filo's ;-)

David (2010-07-18 11:09:42)

No, the models I own I use them.

Or they sit in a drawer while waiting their turn to be used ;-)

I don't mind them being worn out. On the contrary. I reminds me of the time passing.

kanalt (2010-07-18 13:01:38)

I understand the desire to keep new things new. However, I agree that a well-used Filo is a better Filo, not only for the look of it, but for the love of it as well.

My first Filo (a brown personal domino) holds a special place in my heart, though it is only being used to hold specialty inserts (to-do pages, financial pages, address pages, etc). It is starting to look worn, but it's worn with love. Many of my other binders I loved when I first got them and the love has worn off. This is not to say that I no longer like them, but maybe I'm not as infatuated with them as I once was. The chocolate personal classic I will always love. And of course my personal Guildford is my current "active" love.

Ally (2010-07-18 18:18:10)

I am afraid that someday my gentle husband will find my filo/FC closet and go ballistic!

Erin (2010-07-19 19:55:54)

So, someone asked me to list my 60 (at last count actually 58) filofaxes. Ally, I know how you feel about your husband finding your stash. Mine found mine the other night and counted and I was horrified as I really didn't think I had that many. And, like Laurie, I am afraid to use some of them for fear of ruining them. For example, my Eton has been sitting in my closet for a few years, but I don't want to use it because it was so expensive, etc.

But, I too, love the look of a well used and well loved Filo. Did anyone see the movie "27 Dresses" where the main character has a red personal sized Filo that I think is Finsbury. I think that's where my addiction really started because I love that actress and loved the movie.

Here they are:

(Personal sized):

Piazza: violet, blue, and 2 rose

Adelphi: damson (purple) and black

Eton: black (yummy leather)

Classic: pink, chocolate, cherry tan (used off ebay)

Finsbury: brown, 2 raspberry, pink, light blue, red, and aqua

Panama: dark green

Finchley: pink, red, chocolate, tan

Cuban: 2 chili, 2 saddle brown, chestnut, ink

Deco: Ivory (I know, Laurie, I love mine too but haven't used it yet)

Lizard: hunter green

Domino: gooseberry, slate, lavender

Guildford: black

(A5 sized):

Classic: 2 pink, black, cherry, chocolate

Finsbury: 2 pink (1 zip), raspberry, red, aqua

Cuban: 2 chili, saddle brown, ink, chestnut

Finchley: chocolate, black, red

Topaz: brown

Belmont: tan

Chameleon: spring green

Here is my biggest fear: when I die, my husband won't be around to explain my obsession and love of planners, especially Filos. Whoever comes to clean out my possessions (probably one of my nephews/neices since we don't have kids) will think I'm a real nut job. Maybe I should leave a note in the top one? Maybe I should hide them all around the house so it takes a while to find them? Sometimes I think about giving away or selling some of them so that I am not so obsessed. AND,,,I can't justify buying any more since I have SOOOOO many.

Also, I always have the problem of which one will I use, I am ALWAYS changing it and it drives my sweet hubby crazy. Any ideas from all your Filofanatics out there? Thanks for letting me vent!

Yvotchka (2010-07-20 16:07:42)

Erin, LOL! May I steal your idea of scattering your Filo collection around the house so whomever comes to clean out your stuff won't think you a posthumous nut-job?!

I'm single, live alone and have stopped counting my planners.

I'm loving your idea of hiding them to make the collection appear less, um, "dramatic" than it actually is!!!!

(Of course, that means that, until I die, I will constantly be searching around for the one I want, muttering under my breath, not remembering where I hid it...)

Erin (2010-07-20 17:34:13)

Yes, of course you may steal my idea of hiding them around the house Yvotchka! I know I will still seem crazy, but at least it will take a while for the realization to sink in for whoever cleans out my Filofaxes!!

PeachGirl (2010-07-23 11:27:38)

When i buy i new Filo i love it ! I am scared to use it especially when there limited !But then I think not many others have the chance to be using a brand new limited Finsbury so i get over my fear and use it and love it. Anyway when there worn

out it gives them more character and shows how they have been loved, and their story.

Karen (2010-07-30 19:58:36)

Laurie I think if you buy the family pack with Filo from the Filofax UK website the filofax provided is the Domino in grape

Laurie (2010-07-31 03:39:13)

Hi Karen, that is true, the Family Organiser in personal size is the Grape Domino. Also, the Domino is available in the US in lots of colors (including Grape) but many of those are in the process of being phased out.

The good news about Dominos though is that they are always coming out with new colors! (I LOVE the lavender, electric blue and slate!)

Filofax Wedding Planner.... (2010-07-18 06:44) - Steve

This sprung in to my head during a very amusing few hours on line yesterday exchanging messages on Twitter the participants know who they are....

It occurred to me that may be there should be a Filofax Wedding Planner Lifestyle set to complement the existing [1]Lifestyle Packs

So what would the Wedding Planner include? I had a look at some of the 'on-line' versions and came up with the following list of things to include:

- Address Book
- Bookmarks for useful websites
- Budget
- Check lists
- Guest list
- Menus
- Suppliers
- Table seating plans
- Gift list

Now some of those sections can be easily done from existing Filofax inserts, but there are some that you would need creating...

Have I missed anything out that you think should be included? Please add the details in the comments below. As usual I will make the finished set of pages available in our files section. It's nearly 25 years since I got married in September 1985, so a lot has changed! Prices have gone up a little, ours cost £800, I don't think you would get any change from £8000 these days... !!

Of course you would need to dedicate a separate organiser to your wedding planner/honeymoon travel planner, I will leave you to enjoy deciding which organiser would be best suited to this duty... [2]Deco Ivory for the white wedding may be? But may be an A5 would be more practical, how about a [3]Finsbury in Pink, which of course you can use afterwards. Anyway I'm sure you will have fun picking one for yourself.

Oh and as for the wedding we were trying to plan on line yesterday, we are just lacking a few essential ingredients... date, venue... oh and a groom... but we have decided that like all good Filofax Organisers... he must be well organised and be able to lie flat...!!

1. <http://tidd.ly/e8e7e4a6>

2. [http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?awinmid=2457&awinaffid=97790&clickref=deco&p=http%3A%2F%](http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?awinmid=2457&awinaffid=97790&clickref=deco&p=http%3A%2F%2F)

2Fwww.filofax.co.uk%2Fstore%2Forganiserdetails.asp%3Fdisplay%3D%26sizeId%3D3%26rangeId%3D118%26dsId%3D3
3. <http://tidd.ly/63f48ac1>

DJ (2010-07-18 10:32:05)

Excellent idea! But why stop there? How about a Filofax Divorce Planner? According to reports, it's a degree of magnitude more difficult to get out than to get in.

For the latter, something in either red (husband's bank account following), black (mood) or a particularly unpleasant shade of green (jealousy). Lizard skin would be à propos. (Ostrich for the Wedding Planner)

Perhaps the Wedding and Divorce Planner Lifestyle Packs could be "bundled" together...*just in case*.

Laurie (2010-07-18 11:09:35)

What are the current stats for divorce, 50 %? So maybe only half of the wedding planners would have the Divorce Pack included!!

Don't forget the PreNuptual Section!!! It will make that impending divorce go that much more smoothly. ;)

kanalt (2010-07-18 13:07:59)

Laurie, I was thinking the same thing, the pre-nup thing. =)

Maybe we can include a memories section for the wedding planner - one to write down where the shower was, where the bachelor/bachelorette party was held and what happened during these events, though maybe one might not want to put such things in writing. ;)

Also, an idea list maybe to brainstorm some wedding themes and/or colors and ideas for flowers and/or favors.

And maybe it should come with two Pocket size inserts, one for the maid of honor and one for the best man for whatever planning they must do. (I am the maid of honor for my friend's wedding in September, so these things are on my mind and my Filo has come in very handy for all the lists I must keep!)

DJ (2010-07-18 13:44:18)

Let's think outside of the box for a moment. What if the couple is only living together? There are still myriad details that need to be tracked in a household, whether or not said union has been blessed by the Church or State.

Aha! The *Filoshack*!

stationery gal (2010-07-18 15:13:56)

How about a Gifts Received Section? Also include the name of the giver and a column to indicate if a Thank You Note has been sent. I have to agree, I think the Ivory Deco would be perfect. If the wedding planner paper could also be in cream that would be beautiful! I can just imagine the excitement a bride to be would have when opening her Filofax Wedding Planner!!

JJ (2010-07-18 21:07:24)

My wedding was pretty informal. The hardest part of the planning was find a Justice of the Peace who was a Democrat. (Not that easy to do in Texas.)

colie (2010-07-19 16:14:05)

uhmmm i was looking on etsy for random filofax things and saw this listing

[http://www.etsy.com/listing/49828931/wedding-planner-personal-organizer?ref=sr_gallery_6&ga_search_query=filofax&ga_search_type=all&ga_page=&order=&includes\[\]=tags&includes\[\]=title](http://www.etsy.com/listing/49828931/wedding-planner-personal-organizer?ref=sr_gallery_6&ga_search_query=filofax&ga_search_type=all&ga_page=&order=&includes[]=tags&includes[]=title)

kanalt (2010-07-24 13:45:19)

That's great! Contains a lot of what we've talking about, though we've come up with a few things they did not think of. However, pretty paper might be a must in this case.

2012 planning? (2010-07-19 09:43) - Laurie

I noticed on Filofax UK the other day (while innocently perusing diary formats...again) that there are several [1]2012 calendar inserts available already!

I appreciate this, because I like to get my diary and calendar inserts as early as possible. Such long-term planning would be very useful to record when things are due to expire or be renewed such as magazine subscriptions (as Steve so wisely suggested in his comment to [2]my recent Plannerisms post), insurance policies, and the like.

Do you like to get your calendar inserts far in advance? Or do you wait until the year of?

1. <http://www.filofax.co.uk/store/diaryrefills.asp?control=processrequest&dy=2012>

2. <http://www.plannerisms.com/2010/07/where-oh-where.html>

Vidya (2010-07-19 10:26:00)

I like to get my next year pages by October at the latest. By October, I'm starting to have following year items I need to track, so that works for me.

janetbarclay (2010-07-19 13:01:57)

I will want to have my 2011 planner in October or so. I am definitely not thinking as far ahead as 2012!

Jotje (2010-07-19 16:45:04)

Already have the 2011 inserts for my daily on-the-go filo. DH usually plans assignments/meetings 1 year in advance - so somebody (me!) needs to record that ;-)

For my work filo, I'll get the new inserts in September. Unless there's a special offer for early birds (which means ordering in August ;-)).

Steve (2010-07-19 17:07:27)

I tend to use a year planner for long term planning beyond the current year. Filofax do 4 year planners in personal size.

I think if I bought a 2012 refill this year there is the risk that I might want to change format by 2012

Erin (2010-07-19 20:03:49)

Does anyone know if Filofax will be coming out with the black patent leather with Swarovski crystals this winter for Christmas?

Yvotchka (2010-07-19 20:11:31)

I'm with Steve...the way I vacillate I wouldn't want to buy a 2010 diary lest I decide I want some other format.

I'm like the wind....

Yvotchka (2010-07-19 20:12:12)

Freudian slip...I mean 2012 diary!!!!

shepcraig (2010-07-20 05:51:56)

People here are already buying up the 2012 year planners. I haven't been asked yet for a 2012 diary but I can't get these in till about september time anyway.

DJ (2010-07-20 18:31:11)

Be sure to schedule December 21, 2012 for "The End of the World as We Know It," based on the cryptic Mayan Calendar. This will either be a global catastrophe or a "paradigm shift" resulting in peace, love, and understanding. Place your bets, *madames et monsieurs!*

PeachGirl (2010-07-23 11:38:50)

In advance of course I love planning !

Hartmann binder (2010-07-19 10:20) - Laurie

Philofaxy reader Gabe emailed me today to ask what I thought of this [1]Hartmann binder. He is thinking about buying this one, and plans to use Filofax refills in it.

I am not familiar with this brand, but wow this binder looks gorgeous. (And it has that fantastic secretarial pocket!) Has anyone used any Hartmann products before? What do you think? Thanks for any feedback!

1. <http://www.hartmann.com/shop/productDetail-sku-674>

bernhardS (2010-07-19 11:13:45)

First impression: Wow, that's great. Manufacturer with a long history and phantastic products.

This binder looked even better to me and it was reduced from 150 to 50 \$:

<http://www.hartmann.com/shop/productDetail-sku-674-IT &upc=128504>

3 Pockets only at the left side, why not.

Second thought: They don't claim that their products are "MADE IN USA". Are these goods manufactured in Far East only, as a matter of fact?

Is it really for the Filofax Personal paper format? See the Mulberry binders with their own paper size.

How much tax and import tax to Germany will it cost? They deliver to Germany, as the homepage says.

There is one small passage in the homepage saying:

1983: Hartmann was purchased by Lenox Incorporated, which in turn was acquired by the Brown Forman Corporation in the same year.

Great inspiration anyway to watch this company in the future. Thanks.

HP Fuchs (2010-07-20 02:59:57)

It seems to have a magnetic snap closure. Be careful, it can destroy credit cards.

Filofax blog posts (2010-07-20 06:53) - Laurie

Recently there have been several great posts about how people use their Filofaxes (many with excellent photos too!) that I wanted to point out to everyone.

One post that has inspired many is Gala Darling's [1]A Filofax Love Affair! This post has lots of beautiful photos of her Filofax and details about how she's using it.

Her post inspired me to change up my Filofax situation, which I posted about on Plannerisms: [2]Filofax Revamp Inspired By Gala Darling. Another Filofax post that was inspired by Gala's is on Belle Fantaisie about her [3]Amber Filofax. This too has loads of great photos and usage details.

[4]Shopaholly is a great blog that I recently started following, written by Holly in Aberdeen. I'm eagerly reading her blog for ideas on having fun on a tight budget in my soon-to-be new hometown! Holly's post about her Filofax is also very inspiring, with beautiful photos! (I LOVE that Botanic!) She also has a great photo of her DIY weekly diary, which looks very interesting. [5]My Filofax and Me on Shopaholly.

Cat Cook commented on Shopaholly's Filofax post about her own Filofax post, which was recently linked by Steve and Filofax UK, but bears linking again: [6]Why I can't live without my Filofax! on Cat's Corner.

Ephemera has a few posts about her new [7]Songbird Filofax and her recently re-discovered [8]Logic Zip. She recently started to use her Filofax to keep her life organized while she's in vet school, and it's interesting to read about how her usage is evolving. She also has links to her Filofax photos on Flickr!

This list doesn't even include our fine Philofaxers with their own blogs (mainly) about Filofaxes and such, these being:

[9]Seemed Like A Good Idea At The Time by our own dear Yvotchka

[10]Life Well Planned by Kanalt (with its very nice looking new layout I might add)

And [11]Oni's Paper Corner by Onigiri Sama always has lots of fun Filofax postings.

Have you written a blog post recently about your Filofax, or have you seen a Filofax post I haven't listed here? Please post the link in the comments!

1. <http://galadarling.com/article/a-filofax-love-affair>
2. <http://www.plannerisms.com/2010/06/filofax-revamp-inspired-by-gala-darling.html>
3. <http://bellefantaisie.net/?p=2269>
4. <http://shopaholly.wordpress.com/>
5. <http://shopaholly.wordpress.com/2010/07/18/my-filofax-and-me/>
6. <http://www.cathryncook.co.uk/blog/2010/07/cant-live-without-filofax/>
7. <http://explorerephemera.blogspot.com/2010/07/getting-to-know-you-getting-to-feel.html>
8. <http://explorerephemera.blogspot.com/2010/07/filo-finds-friend.html>
9. <http://putitonmyheadstone.blogspot.com/>
10. <http://lifewellplanned.blogspot.com/>
11. <http://onigirisama.blogspot.com/>

worldexplorer (2010-07-20 13:20:24)

Wow thanks for the mention - finding philofaxy had a major influence on my decision to even buy a Filofax! :)

New Filofax user needs advice! (2010-07-20 07:24) - Laurie

I got an email today from Laura, who recently received her very first Filofax: an [1]A5 Raspberry Finsbury!!
Lucky lady!!

She asked me:

"I was wondering if yourself and your readers would have any tips for a real first time user, what to do first, categories, how to start... etc. Any helpful or personal ideas that have made all you filofax users love every minute of it."

I directed her to the links in the [2]post below, to get some ideas on different ways to set up and use a Filofax, but I did tell her that there are as many ways to use a Filofax as there are people who use them, and that she will figure out what works best for her.

So, what is your advice to a first-time Filofax user?

1. <http://www.filofax.co.uk/store/organiserdetails.asp?display=&sizeId=5&rangeId=37&dsizeId=5>
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/07/filofax-blog-posts.html>

bernhardS (2010-07-20 08:55:00)

Laura, welcome as a Filo user!

My advice for an A5 newcomer: Buy a 6-hole punch so you can file A5 and A4 papers in your binder.

I hope this is helpful for you

Bernhard

Run Girl, Run (2010-07-20 09:37:02)

Hello Bernard,

Thanks for your tip. And thanks to Steve's post - want to use bigger pages in your A5... it's possible -I've managed to make some good attempts at this already by the art of folding.

Forget my initial trepidation as I mentioned in my email to Laurie, I've not put it down since I plucked up the courage to first touch it! Some photos of it can be found here on my flickr

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/52233833@N03/>

I am in love with my new Filofax!

Keep the tips coming, us newbies can learn a lot here!

Laura.

Steve (2010-07-20 09:38:30)

Read Philofaxy from end to end... a year a day... including the comments. There's loads and loads of tips contained in the Archives...

You will never get bored!
Steve...slightly biased I know

Laurie (2010-07-20 09:54:25)

Great photos Laura! If you don't mind, it would be great if you could add them to Flickr's Philofaxy group!
Glad you've decided to dive right in! :)

Globetrotting Cacti (2010-07-20 14:50:20)

I also have an A5 raspberry Finsbury which I LOVE! Playing around with categories but what I have now is:- Diary and vertical year planner; then dividers (blog, house - (to do lists and house references), me - inspirational quotes, fitness workouts), money, work, reference -(including world map, underground map); then spare paper and then the see-through envelope slips. love configuring the layout to work just for me...

Looking forward to reading other ideas/suggestions.

David (2010-07-20 17:46:56)

Obviously, it all depends on what you want to use it for ;-)

If I may give an advice, that'll be: KISS. Keep It Simple Stupid (no offense).

Start using the Filo for what you need, be it calendar, todo, whatever. Don't worry too much about tabs or categories or anything.

Take everything out and add only what you really need/use. That'll come with time: you'll know what to add or... to remove ;-)

I know it may seem deceptive: no templates, no nothing but good paper, a good pen and a puncher.

As far as I am concerned, it really helps me to keep control on the Filofax, and to keep on using it instead of tweaking it forever (I have been there).

Melissa (2010-07-21 12:48:29)

I just bought an A5 Finsbury (raspberry) yesterday! I have a personal Finsbury, but need a little more room. I was wondering, does anyone know which kind of calendar comes with it? It says 2010 week on two pages. But I would like to know is it the blank weeks or the lined with appointment times? Thanks!!

plaiditude (2010-07-21 16:18:56)

I've just joined in with the A5 craze. I love my Scanda personal which I purchased only 4 months ago, but I need more room. I have tried using A5 in the past, but with Time/Design zipper binders which are just too huge (extra 1" wide and 1.5" high). Now I will try with a nice black Finchley :) It looks to have the smallest H/W dimensions in the A5 range. I would like to know what format calendar the Finchley ships with - though I may end up using my T/D inserts.

Jotje (2010-07-22 07:31:29)

My A5 Finsbury came with the column format weekly pages (3 and 4 days per page), with times and lines. Looked very nice! I have some pics on Flickr (before I replaced them with my 2pages/day Timesystem pages ... ;-)).

kanalt (2010-07-24 13:43:46)

I know I'm a little late with this... I don't have an A5, but as a general tip you can start with the categories your binder came with. Once you start to use it, you'll notice the kinds of things you put into your Filo and you can tweak it from there. A bunch of blank tabs and a label maker (or some other form of labeling) will be helpful for when you come up with your own sections.

Have fun!

Will a normal Filofax punch work for A5 paper? (2010-07-20 11:00) - Steve

A question I have seen asked a couple of times before... You already have a Filofax punch for Personal size paper. But you have just bought an A5 and you are shocked at the price of an A5 metal punch...

Yes a standard punch works... but... you have to punch the page twice, once from each end. The three rings are

spaced the same, but the distance between the two groups is bigger than personal size.

So to use a personal punch you need to mark your punch with a line or a paper label at the point 32 mm from the top or bottom hole of the page. The page will then be just beyond the centre of the punch

Insert the paper up to that line, punch, reverse the paper and repeat for the other end of the page.

The easiest way to work it out is to take a piece of Filofax A5 paper that already has the holes in it. Place it in the punch and align the punches with the three holes. Then put your label on the punch to mark, the edge of the page. Then experiment with lots of scrap paper!!! use all edges of the pages to get it right!! It works, you just need to be patient and practice lots.

There are other punches other than the Filofax one. They have been mentioned before on here, but let's bring them together.

[1]Filofax A5 punch

IFRAME: [2][http://rcm-uk.amazon.co.uk/e/cm?lt1=_blank &bc1=000000 &IS1=1 &bg1=FFFFFF &fc1=000000 &lc1=0000FF &t=pemburyvillag-21 &o=2 &p=8 &l=as1 &m=amazon &f=ifr &md=0M5A6TN3AXP2JHJBWT02 &asins=B002DPLI24](http://rcm-uk.amazon.co.uk/e/cm?lt1=_blank&bc1=000000&IS1=1&bg1=FFFFFF&fc1=000000&lc1=0000FF&t=pemburyvillag-21&o=2&p=8&l=as1&m=amazon&f=ifr&md=0M5A6TN3AXP2JHJBWT02&asins=B002DPLI24)

IFRAME: [3][http://rcm-uk.amazon.co.uk/e/cm?lt1=_blank &bc1=000000 &IS2=1 &bg1=FFFFFF &fc1=000000 &lc1=0000FF &t=pemburyvillag-21 &o=2 &p=8 &l=as1 &m=amazon &f=ifr &md=0M5A6TN3AXP2JHJBWT02 &asins=B000J6EXM6](http://rcm-uk.amazon.co.uk/e/cm?lt1=_blank&bc1=000000&IS2=1&bg1=FFFFFF&fc1=000000&lc1=0000FF&t=pemburyvillag-21&o=2&p=8&l=as1&m=amazon&f=ifr&md=0M5A6TN3AXP2JHJBWT02&asins=B000J6EXM6)

[4]Time Systems US KW Trio 6 hole adjustable punch this punch will do A5, Personal and Pocket sizes Also available [5]here

Note the [6]Rapesco 6 hole punch although adjustable does not work for A5, unless you use the method above There is also the [7]Filofax plastic portable 6 hole punch, but to be honest with you, you would be better off saving your money and getting the metal one. The plastic ones can only punch one sheet at a time and become blunt fairly quickly.

Punches sometimes become available on Ebay, but always check with the buyer what the size is, they often get confused and they aren't always Filofax experts like ourselves

Do you know of any other suitable punches in your part of the world? Please add a comment.

1. <http://tidd.ly/28446635>

2. http://rcm-uk.amazon.co.uk/e/cm?lt1=_blank&bc1=000000&IS1=1&bg1=FFFFFF&fc1=000000&lc1=0000FF&t=pemburyvillag-21&o=2&p=8&l=as1&m=amazon&f=ifr&md=0M5A6TN3AXP2JHJBWT02&asins=B002DPLI24

3. http://rcm-uk.amazon.co.uk/e/cm?lt1=_blank&bc1=000000&IS2=1&bg1=FFFFFF&fc1=000000&lc1=0000FF&t=pemburyvillag-21&o=2&p=8&l=as1&m=amazon&f=ifr&md=0M5A6TN3AXP2JHJBWT02&asins=B000J6EXM6

4. <http://www.othw.nl/webmall/kantoorbenodigdheden/perforators/meer-gaats-perforators/perforator-6gaats-organizers-zwart/pd-25738?osCsid=b6172ecc32da9928921c59ae137d1524>

5. <http://www.hummelman.com/details.asp?code=189170&origin=products>

6. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2009/08/rapesco-diary-punch-66-p.html>

7. <http://tidd.ly/1503ed39>

Cat Cook (2010-07-20 12:23:12)

Thanks so much for this post - I was going to email in a question this week asking the very same thing! I have the plastic one for A5 and it's very hard work, even doing one sheet at a time!

Steve (2010-07-20 12:26:39)

Thanks Cathryn, the question also came up on Twitter this afternoon and I was replying by email... by the time I got to the end of my explanation about using a personal punch.. I thought, hold on this could be a post in its own right!

My experience with a pocket portable punch was not good, that is quite small, so using one that is A5 can't be any easier.

Cat Cook (2010-07-20 12:36:45)

It's a nightmare! I'll let you know how I get on with a metal punch - just gotta wait for pay day first ;o)

Steve (2010-07-20 15:03:28)

Note my additional comments about Ebay.

Steve

Jotje (2010-07-20 15:12:24)

Also suitable: the KW-Trio hole punch. Metal and exact match for A5 Filoax! Cheap and widely available in Holland (haven't checked availability in other countries). Germany (e.g. ebay.de) offers the bsb opbacher Hole punch. Adjustable holes to fit A5, personal AND pocket! Not yet tried this myself.

I'm currently using a Timesystem A5 metal punch. Got it for a steal through ebay and it's really perfect! I also have the portable plastic pocket hole punch from Filofax, and I agree that those are pretty useless. It was cheap but still a waste of money!

Jotje (2010-07-22 06:51:21)

I bought th KW Trio and it was delivered today. Forgot to mention in my earlier post that this punch is adjustable for A5, Personal AND Pocket.

I just tried it out and it's working brilliantly!

I uploaded some pictures on Flickr.

Cat Cook (2010-07-27 06:10:59)

I just wanted to let you know that I invested in the Filofax A5 metal punch yesterday, as I was able to visit the fantastic store on Neal St in London! It was quite an investment but considering the freedom I now have to make my own paper I'm pretty pleased and the punch itself seems very good quality. AND yes I can use it for my personal pages if I'm careful aligning it! Thanks again for the advice, Cat :O)

Petra (2010-12-29 22:50:36)

Just wanted to add that in the U.S. the Franklin Covey Compact size metal punch works perfectly for the Filofax personal and is only \$24.95 (and you can get a coupon for 15 % off just for signing up for e-mail updates). It is way more sturdy and heavy than my Filofax metal pocket punch (larger though). It is designed for the FC Compact and Pocket size by way of one set of three punches sliding towards the other, and when this is done, it is quite easy to punch A5 by using the method described in this post and aligning the edge of the paper almost up to the edge of the non-used set of three punches.

Petra (2010-12-29 22:54:04)

To avoid any confusion, I wanted to add that the FC pocket size is NOT the same as the Filofax pocket – it is more like the personal size but with less space dividing the two sets of three rings. That said, the spacing within each set is the same as FF personal and pocket (3/4").

Moderator (2010-12-31 15:20:26)

Your instructions for personal->A5 holes saved me £28, thanks

Guest Post: A5 Planner Page (2010-07-20 12:21) - Steve

In the in-box this morning was an email from reader Neil Atkinson,

I have been a reader of the blog for over a year now - and think it's great!!

I have also (like many) floated between paper Filofax / Franklin Covey / iPhone's / iPad's etc etc - but until now, not stumbled upon a system that works for me. So - I made my own.

I've used it for a year now and so thought the time was right to share it. You will probably see influences from various other templates out there - I've just selected the bits I need and put them all together. I print them out on A4 back to back, then guillotine them to fit neatly into my A5 Filofax (brown leather Kendal if you were wondering?). You will notice a lack of dates on the pages? I find it works for me, as some days I have nothing to input - therefore

I simply draw out a new page from the section in my filofax when needed, write the date in the greyed out events section and put it in the relevant calendar tab area. If I have a task to complete way, way into the future, I can write the date (Jun 15th 2011 for example) and slot it into place in readiness.



[1]

Thank you Neil, I've added Neil's '[2]Actions' template available in our [3]Files area.

1. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TEXLCwM4DvI/AAAAAAAAIFs/zH9Amgrdq6o/s1600/A5+Kendal.JPG
2. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/ACTIONS.pdf>
3. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/files.html>

Oni (2010-07-20 12:42:29)

How Cool! I recognise Behance's Action Method, which is very useful for projects.
I just think he should have submitted more images!! :D

Laurie (2010-07-20 14:35:58)

This looks great!!

Claudia Volkman (2010-07-20 19:12:48)

This is very helpful! Thanks for sharing.... would love to hear how you use the rest of your Filofax too.

JJ (2010-07-22 06:18:59)

Fantastic. Are these professionally printed or did you do it at home?

Filofax month on 2 pages (2010-07-21 07:06) - Laurie



[1]

I really like the Month on 2 Pages (untabbed) Filofax insert. I love having that extra column before Mondays to make notes. I also like that they DON't cut any days in half at the end of the month, and instead they have a standard 6-row format. Instead of leaving any squares blank, they fill in the days in the previous and/ or following month to complete each weekly row. This helps me with my "beginning of the month problem" which is when I think, "Oh I've got loads of time to prepare for X event, that's not until next month!" No, that's next WEEK.

Like I said, I really like this setup. But, I needed to do just a slight tweak. Having a standard 6-row format every month doesn't let me see the "shape" of the month. I like to be able to see at a glance what day of the week the first/ last day of the month falls on, and seeing the shape of the month also helps me in some way I can't quite figure out.

So, I outlined each month with a pen, which you can see in my photo at the top of this post. I chose October because it had the least amount of personal stuff written in. But, you can still see my birthday indicated (mark your calendars!!!!).

I prefer the weeks to begin on Mondays (since my weekly planner weeks begin on Mondays, and to keep the weekend days together) but I know some people (especially in the US) prefer a Sunday start. I've seen monthly calendars that combine Saturday and Sunday into one square, to have 6 columns instead of 7 or 8, but I need the weekend days to each have their own square. I prefer 8 columns, with the extra column for notes.

How do you like your monthly calendars to appear?

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TEbRmjZC0iI/AAAAAAAAABFo/FcbsaA2XSEg/s1600/Diaries+2010+248.jpg

colie (2010-07-21 13:55:54)

i always liked the tabbed month on two pages. for a while, i even used them as my index tabs for a while. the only issue was that i had to buy to packs since the months are printed on both sides.

Laurie (2010-07-21 14:08:50)

I've never understood why the tabbed months are printed back to back. Makes the tabs almost entirely useless.

Yvotchka (2010-07-21 14:36:10)

LOL, I was going to comment, "I prefer my month on 2 pages TABBED" but didn't want to, you know, complain.

So glad you guys brought it up :)

FF does have a tabbed monthly diary but it's laid out strangely. I use it in my financial planner to track when bills are due, but it's almost useless. Can't see how the month lays out AT ALL.

Steve (2010-07-23 00:41:53)

Laurie did you see the comment on Twitter about your outline, it has been passed on to the design department!!

Laurie (2010-07-23 01:31:05)

Steve I did see that, and I replied that I want to work in their diary design department!!!

Now I wish I'd posted a nicer photo than this scrawly-line one. Since that time I've lined the rest of the months for 2010 and all of 2011, using a RULER this time, and it looks much nicer!

kanalt (2010-07-24 13:56:45)

Laurie, I do the same thing with my monthly view, though I use a yellow highlighter. The pencil lines would never be enough for me. I agree that they would be better tabbed. But I have come up with a work-around in the meantime. I use two page markers - a clear one for the current month and a black one for my current week. Then I use the monthly tabs for the rest of my weekly pages since there's more of them which results in more searching for a specific date. The monthly pages are kept before my weekly pages, so the clear page marker allows me to see the black page marker easily. It's not the best system and there's a lot of flipping back and forth but since none of us has found "the perfect planner," it's all about what's good enough at the time. =)

Oni (2010-07-27 13:17:58)

I've taken the liberty of adding your birthday to my calendar ;)

Yes! I agree that months should be 'highlighted'. It's also what I used to do with my work calendar which I would print from Outlook, and I also am the 'week-starts-on-Monday' type. Sundays are such a drab, it'd be even more depressing to have them be the start of the week in my head.

Oh and KUDOS! on having gotten this prayer answered by Filofax!!!

Diary Refills (2010-07-21 10:24) - Steve

What diary refills would you like to see Filofax sell that they don't sell already? Some people we know use other brands of diary insert in their Filofax organisers with mixed success. But it would be better if Filofax sold us what we want.

If you are on Facebook, please add your comments, pictures etc to the thread I've started on the [1]Philofaxy page on there. Otherwise if you aren't on Facebook but you still want your input to go in to the discussion, please email us, address on our [2]About Us page and I will add them for you.

I am sure we will get lots of good ideas which we can feed back to our friends at Filofax UK.

Thanks for your input

1. <http://www.facebook.com/#%21/Philofaxy>

2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/about-us.html>

stirwise (2010-07-21 14:14:40)

I used to use the Filo week-on-one-page plus notes pages, but switched to a fancier version made by Japanese company Davinci. They have the same week-on-the-left layout, but add hour markers across the top of the day, from 8-8. Also, Saturday and Sunday are compressed to half-size and the righthand side is divided up by day and has a column for tasks. You can see a photo of them here: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/stirwise/4731015689/>

I also love the tabbed month-on-two-pages sheets for planning things out in advance. Great for scheduling travel dates, etc.

Laurie (2010-07-21 14:17:26)

Wow I really like that layout!!

Jotje (2010-07-21 14:58:10)

Looks great! I'd like to learn more about them, do you have a website? Tried to google them, but had to give up.

"Davinci": how Japanese is that?!

stirwise (2010-07-21 15:04:29)

I ordered the pages from a Japanese online shopping mall called Rakuten:

<http://en.rakuten.co.jp/>

They're starting to run out of the 2010 packs, but 2011 isn't available yet. The product number for the inserts is DR1014.

DJ (2010-07-21 15:37:58)

Strangely compelling, *annoyingly* organised. Like Filofax!

Jotje (2010-07-21 16:39:14)

Thanks for the link!

This has to be the most confusing website I've ever visited!

How cute that the Personal size is called Bible!

And you gotta love those machine translations! I quote: "You tend to be thick, thin notebook, so using a thin paper notebook"
LOL

Louloudorset (2010-07-22 03:47:36)

I love your diary insert Klannert it looks ace will have to check out the website - Filofax definitely needs to look at producing one like this!!

Please please

Jeff Abbott (2010-07-22 19:39:47)

I like this Davinci layout a lot. I am thinking of going to the week on one page plus notes layout but like this form better.

The Rev'd Blair (2010-07-23 08:28:45)

My problem is that I love the Quo Vadis system. I love them. So what I'd do is buy the "business" size then rip it apart - and then punch holes in them. Not pretty, and not quite the right size for my filo.

But I LOVE quo vadis and I LOVE filo fax

If only they could come together, like tristan and isolde, romeo and juliet, chocolate and peanut butter....

Steve (2010-07-31 14:56:36)

I've just noticed a frustrating mis-match in the current Filofax range. In A5 I use the Week on Two pages starting on a Monday in English, this is also available in Cotton Cream in Pocket Size. But in Personal size you can only have a simil...ar layout if you go for a Sunday start day...

What I like with this format is the equal spacing for each day.

So why isn't the Monday start available in the Personal size????

Users on Twitter? (2010-07-22 08:52) - Steve

As you know [1]Philofaxy has been on Twitter for some time, and we feed updates on the blog out via Twitter. In the last few weeks I've noticed a lot more Filofax related traffic on Twitter. Quite a few of our readers are now following each other and exchanging ideas and pictures via Twitter.

Are you on Twitter? Do you want to join in, put your Twitter username in a comment and join in the chat.

1. <http://twitter.com/philofaxy/%20>

Steve (2010-07-22 08:53:33)

I'm @stevemorton on Twitter

Yvotchka (2010-07-22 09:13:38)

@Yvotchka on Twitter

Cat Cook (2010-07-22 09:39:05)

Great! I'm @cathryncook ;O)

Laurie (2010-07-22 09:41:03)

I'm @plannerisms

And let me just say, I love the Twitterfeed on Philofaxy that picks up tweets with the word "Filofax" in them. I love to sit and watch the scrolling Filofax tweets! :) Thanks Steve for setting that up awhile ago!

Nan (2010-07-22 14:12:37)

I'm @NanB on Twitter

Steve (2010-07-22 15:52:06)

I've created a list of our users/contributors on Twitter... all the usual suspects!
Clicking on the list here: <http://twitter.com/#/list/philofaxy/philofaxy-readers>
Will then just display those peoples output... not everything seen by Philofaxy.

kassy (2010-07-23 02:08:53)

Cool! @lpkitty

Millie (2010-07-23 02:56:24)

I'm @MsLogica

Sharon (2010-07-23 12:58:12)

I'm @sjl1974 on Twitter.

Steve (2010-07-23 17:55:27)

Laurie,

Not sure what you use to look at Twitter? But if you use something like Tweetdeck, you can have a separate column for 'Filofax' searches and that's how I spot people and then follow them on the Philofaxy account...
Need more info... you know where to find me... that goes for all of you!

kanalt (2010-07-23 22:33:54)

@kanalt17 on Twitter

Laurie (2010-07-24 03:46:08)

Hi Steve, I just look at Twitter on the Twitter website. TweetDeck sounds interesting though!

Nickie @ Typecast (2010-07-25 09:35:26)

Slightly late to the party but I've been away :)

I'm @nickie72 on twitter - looking forward to tweeting with you all :)

David (2010-07-25 15:51:17)

I am @david_bosman on Twitter.

Note that I mainly tweet in French ;-)

Iris (2010-07-25 16:20:00)

I'm @iris30606 on Twitter - and our German Filofax blog is @filomaniac.

Carole Hallett Mobbs (2010-07-27 10:58:00)

I'm @TallOracle and @DearFairies on Twitter

Still a newbie to Filofax-ing and enjoying your info! Thank you :-D

Organiser Sizes? (2010-07-22 09:47) - Steve

Some of us stick to the same size year in year out... never changing... But I've noticed a trend of a sorts, of a cyclic pattern of size changing... People downsizing because they are tired of lugging around an A5 and they move to a Personal. Or Personal to Pocket.

And then there are folks that seem to be moving in the opposite direction for various reasons.. not enough space being the most common excuse... I've not managed to work out over what the time interval is for people to go back to the size they started with yet!!

Have you changed which size of Filofax organiser you are using on a daily basis recently? And if you have why did you change?

Jotje (2010-07-22 09:57:34)

I started out with an A5 T/S (that was back in 1999 and it was given by my boss back then). When I started my own business in 2004 I stopped using it, cos it seemed too much hassle. I went back to ordinary ringbound diaries for a while. In 2007 I started using a Personal Size Non-Filofax (brand was actually Succes, which more commonly known in Holland). And about a year ago, I switched back to A5 and again to 2 pages/day. Reason: I was fed up with the little space that was available to me in the Personal, my workload had more than doubled, and I needed a proper system to fit everything in.

Since the A5 is staying on my desk, I'm convinced I will not downsize again (or it must be after my retirement ;-). I would love a fancier layout as the current T/S pages, but I'm very reluctant to change it, since the current one is working so well.

Yvotchka (2010-07-22 10:23:00)

I too started out with an A5 but found that, since I like to carry my Filo around with me 24/7, it was just too large & bulky to bring everywhere.

So I moved to the Personal size with a Day per Page diary. This worked fine for years.

Recently I converted to a Week on Two Page diary format in my Personal and to my surprise found that I was fine with the smaller daily space.

Now I am thinking about going even smaller, to the Pocket size, since I don't need as much space as I thought I did, and since I now keep my work stuff separate.

I think changing sizes & formats goes with the territory of how our lives change, and have come to be at peace that I will probably never settle on one size/format for the rest of my life because my Filo needs change right along with my life.

shepcraig (2010-07-22 10:58:32)

I have always used A5, but recently decided to try personal because it is easier to carry about. I could not adapt at all, and have now gone back to A5, was an expensive experiment.

Eva (2010-07-22 11:21:10)

I started out with a personal from a different brand and when I moved to England, I downsized to pocket so that it would fit easily in my smaller handbags. I stayed with this format for quite a while then went back to personal. Now that I've moved to Germany and since I discovered the wonderful Domino A5 and how wonderful that size is, this is the one I'll be using from now on. So I obviously needed a bigger handbag!...

As for inserts, I went from 1 week on 2 pages to 1 day per page back and forth several times per year, had enough and kept both in at the same time. Now that I have more time on my hands and less office work, 1 month per page is largely enough. I can use the remaining space in my A5 Domino for other things, such as maps, lists and thoughts.

Jelly Boo Barbie (2010-07-22 11:22:11)

I started on a slimline at the beginning of the year, but i like to have pages of inspiration, like cuttings from magazines of things i find inspiring, and useful information so i have gone to a A5 Cuban zipped, which is huge and heavy, but i love it! ive had it about a week, but i love the way how every day i can stick in things i find inspirational for make up clothes or just colour, even bits of articles which i find interesting. I just seem to pick up so much during the day i need to empty it out, it has been over used since i got it! I love it though, and i do not think i would go back as i love to have all the things i like throughout it, but i think i need to get the metal hole punch rather than the plastic one, it just doesnt have a big enough punch!

Laurie (2010-07-22 13:15:13)

I started 10 years ago with a Personal size Filofax (with unlined Week on 2 Pages diary) and used that very successfully for several years. Then I moved overseas and had kids, and the Personal size seemed too small. Twice (2 yrs ago and just a couple of months ago) I tried to move up to the A5 as my diary, but I travel often and the A5 was just too big to carry around everywhere.

I recently went back to the Personal size, with the WO2P. I think I've figured out that my Filo Fails of recent years were due to me trying to use the Cotton Cream week on 2 pages. The This Week box above Monday was too small for my weekly lists, and the day spaces were just not quite big enough. I think I've solved it with the larger day spaces on the WO2P, and keeping my Lists someplace else. Which is, incidentally, exactly the diary format and setup that worked so well for me for many years at the beginning of my Filofax usage, before I branched out and tweaked my systems so much! I feel like I've come full circle.

stirwise (2010-07-22 15:16:46)

When I switched back to paper from digital about a year ago I was using a Moleskin A5-sized bound planner, with week-per-page with notes layout. Initially it was intended to be a work-only book, which it was sufficient for, but then I found more and more personal stuff creeping into it, which it wasn't sufficient for. Fast forward a few months and I moved to a Personal sized Filo. I miss the elbow room of the A5 pages but the flexibility of a ring-bound system more than makes up for it. Instead of having the Moleskine planner and multiple little notebooks to keep track of things, I just have everything in one binder. I do contemplate the A5-sized Filos, but I don't really plan to make the leap.

plaiditude (2010-07-23 10:48:23)

My first "real" planners were from Msystem and Time/Design. I started in classic or A5 size, but moved quickly to their compact system which is about 10mm (1/2") narrower than the personal size. I always felt frustrated though as the largest rings were 5/8". I tried going back to the A5, but back then I was stuck on zipper binders and they were sssooooo huge I just couldn't do it. I finally made the switch to a Filofax Scanda personal which I've loved for 4 months. The extra width and larger rings have helped, but I'm already running into the "I want more space" issue. So two days ago I gritted my teeth and purchased a black A5 Finchley. The Finchley binder will be about 1 1/2" shorter and 1" narrower and has 23mm rings instead of 1 1/2" in my Time/Design - so I hope that will make the difference for me! (sorry for mixing up my measurements - too lazy right now to find an online converter :)

PeachGirl (2010-07-23 14:00:59)

Well my first was a raspberry pocket finsbury and I adore it still now but after a few months I had to upgrade to yet again another finsbury this time aqua and a personal size and its tru it is personal size , i love it i have lots of room to get comfy with yet its not to big ever since ive been getting personal sized. Maybe just maybe ill get an a5 one day .

Simon (2010-07-23 15:28:32)

Am I the only one to have sampled the delights of the A4? The only reason I went for it, was that Staples had a deal on a Lyndhurst about 8 or so years ago and I sold it for a profit (as I remember more than the catalogue price too). It is rather large though... :-)

About 7 years ago I moved to a Lyndhurst personal. I've tried differing Winchester ring sizes & a Finsbury or two but I keep coming back to the Lyndhurst.

The diary started out as the week on two pages, vertical format, in the A4; to the day per page, week on two pages to my current configuration: week on one page with my own notepages inserted between weeks. I like this for the few appointments I have but many things to do over the week.

Every so often though, I'll try a slimline (can't make it work) or a large ring Winchester (lovely but don't need the size) or a 7/8 Winchester but can't get enough into the wallet sleeves but they feel so good in the hand...as I've said though, I return to the Personal Lyndhurst; it might take a week, it might take a year but return I do.

stationery gal (2010-07-24 23:07:21)

I started the year with a Pocket Raspberry Finsbury but needed more room....I am currently using a Chocolate Personal Finchly and love it. I was at Office Depot today thinking I might need to downsize with a calendar off the shelf...something a bit lighter and simpler..but I love having everything I need at my fingertips so I am sticking with my Filofax!

Steve (2010-08-01 05:52:05)

I'm being sucked in to all the recent talk about Pockets... looking in to going to a pocket myself now!!
Look out for a post soon to examine the conversion!!

Free For All Friday No. 88 (2010-07-23 00:10) - Laurie

Philofaxy reader @MsLogica on Twitter asked for recommendations on what pens everyone prefers to use in our Filofaxes. A pen limitation is what size barrel will fit in your Filofax's pen loop!

I usually use a Bic 4-color pen, and hook the clip on the pen loop. I like to color-code, and having the 4-in-1 pen with me all the time is convenient.

What pen(s) do you prefer using with your Filofax?

And as always on Fridays, the floor is yours for anything Filofax-related.

Happy Filofaxing! :)

kassy (2010-07-23 02:07:45)

I've only had my Filofax for a few weeks, but I'm using a Sharpie fine point pen, it fit perfectly in the loop. I wanted one of the pens they sell on the Filofax site, but they're too expensive for something I can lose so easily.

Millie (2010-07-23 02:55:30)

Thanks for posting this, Laurie :) While I'm deciding what pen to use in my Filofax, I've been using a Sailor fountain pen (http://www.jetpens.com/product_info.php/cPath/214_837/products_id/4548). It wedges into the pen holder bit nice and tight!

I like the idea of using a Sharpie though, Kassy. I don't think I want to use a fountain pen in there forever, it'd be annoying whenever it ran out of ink.

MsLogica

by Ewan Spence (2010-07-23 04:12:36)

There's only ever been one choice for me since i started Filofaxing many many years ago, and that's the wonderful [1]Pentel Automatic Pencil (P205). You can rub anything out, it's stylish and functional, it looks smart enough no matter the situation, and cheap enough to not worry too much about loosing them.

Since switching to a personal Kendal last year I have a small barrell black ink pen from David Allen's GTD conference, but that's more to have at hand for forms and drawing lines on grid paper!

1. <http://www.amazon.co.uk/gp/product/B00006IEG0?ie=UTF8&tag=allnewewansmu-21&linkCode=as2&camp=1634&creative=6738&creativeASIN=B00006IEG0>

Jotje (2010-07-23 04:26:38)

I've always been using automatic pencils. Currently it's the very cheap BIC pencil that comes in various candy colours and with a perfect eraser!

However, I recently got my hand on a Lamy ink roller pen, and I love it! So now I keep both with my Filo. The A5 Finsbury has 2 pen loops, a smaller (pencil) and a fatter one, which could never hold the Lamy, but it can be clipped to the loop.

For my Mini Filo I bought a filofax mini pen. It's surprisingly heavy, but it writes nicely and it looks so good!

The Rev'd Blair (2010-07-23 08:20:44)

Yes, the Sharpie is awesome - and it doesn't leak onto the next page. I purchased a banged up Yard O Led pencil - cleaned it up - and voila it looks awesome - and being an Anglophile - both coming from the old sod - well - brown/tan Winchester with silver Yard O Led- sigh. I almost look forward for more work so as to enter it into my book

JJ (2010-07-23 08:27:12)

The Fisher "bullet pen" (with a clip) or Spacepen is a favorite of mine.

The point is probably too broad for most people. (I dont have penmanship, I scribble notes.)

I recently got a Filofax twist pen and I'm not sure if going to be something I use on a long term basis or not. I like it being

heavy and it matching my binder, but I've been a fan of Fisher pens for a long time.

angela (2010-07-23 08:31:15)

I normally use Muji gel pens, 0.5mm or 0.38mm in navy, dark red, dark green and purple. I alternate between those colours. And the flow of these gel pens are exceptional too :)
They are quite cheap too and refills can be bought. plus, they actually fit in the loop!

Yvotchka (2010-07-23 08:56:50)

I use a Pentel Graph Gear 1000 mechanical pencil. I ended up switching to pencil because none of my favorite (and fat) pens would fit in the loop, however now I am HOOKED on the convenience of pencil.
Keeps my Filo much neater :)

crofter (2010-07-23 08:59:27)

I agree with Ewan, the Pentel P205 is unbeatable. I use a 3H lead, it makes a dark enough line but doesn't smear. I carry a Micron Pen also in either .2 or .5. The ink is archival, waterproof and they last a long time.
Crofter

Nemo (2010-07-23 10:37:03)

I use a Bic Round Stic which is pretty much just a black pen. I dislike sharpies and hate pencils (they make the squeaky sound when you write) So I stick to what works. :)

plaiditude (2010-07-23 10:37:45)

I've recently been spoiled by the fountain pen bug, which would be fine except fountain pen ink doesn't work very well on the white diary pages, and there are so few cotton cream options - so I get a bit frustrated by that. I'm using a couple of cheap but nice fountain pens I got from
<http://www.xfountainpens.com>
They have a few models that are slim enough to fit ok in my Scanda personal. They all come with fine nibs and work quite well. My latest pen from them cost only \$15. I used to use a Pilot G2 0.5, and I also have a Cross Tech3 with black/red/pencil

shepcraig (2010-07-23 11:48:59)

As I manage a shop that sells Filofax and Pens (The Pen Shop), I am shocked as to how many of you are using cheap pens in your organisers. I couldn't pick up my lovely organiser and see it with a throw away pen in the loop. Maybe I am a snob about this but you cant beat a high quality pen for in your organiser.

Steve (2010-07-25 09:55:25)

Just noticed... the Pocket Lyndhurst is no longer available in UK or France. It was the only zipped organiser in Pocket size... you can still buy it in the US.
There is also a zipped organiser in Mini the Finsbury.
Should we expect to see a new zipped Pocket?
I will update the file list for UK and France soon...
Steve

Oni (2010-07-25 19:28:20)

Last year, I would carry both my Pentel mechanical pencil and my Pilot V5 (purple) in my Pocket Finsbury.
This year though, I'm only carrying one writing instrument. It was another Pilot, the G-Tec C4, also in purple, but have just recently switched to a Muji 0.38 Gel Pen in purple as well.
I must say I am really liking the Muji, and I think I will stick with it for a long time.
Oh and in my Mini I also carry a Pilot G-Tec C4, in blue.

Steve (2010-07-26 15:48:39)

In case you didn't spot it... there's a new page at the top of the blog... Filofax suppliers...
Warning as if you didn't realise it already... visiting that page could seriously damage your bank account.....!

Filofax UK 3 for the price of 2 offer (2010-07-23 12:04) - Steve

Nearly missed this one... but it doesn't run out until the end of July, so still time to get in there and get something for free! We like free.....

For UK customers - [1]www.filofax.co.uk - June/July 2010

'3 for 2 on Paper & Essentials' (cheapest free) **promocode: FB176**
enter the promocode when prompted at the checkout.

1. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?s=204587&v=2457&q=105777&r=97790>

Jelly Boo Barbie (2010-07-23 12:21:29)

I managed to get two items for free, when i used this offer two weeks ago :)

Does your partner also use a Filofax? (2010-07-25 05:36) - Steve

As the title says... Does your partner also use a Filofax? Tell us about it if they do... do they read Philofaxy as well?

My wife Alison has a Filofax, you might have seen pictures of it on Flickr, it's an old 1980's one, but she doesn't use it quite as much these days. When I did my collection photos the other day I noticed most of the notes in it are from when she was studying for her history MA (she's the brainy one!!) so that is a couple of years ago.

She naturally takes an interest in Philofaxy, because I relate stories to her about the people and things we are doing. She proudly announces herself as 'the hand of Philofaxy' She posed for the photo you see at the top of the blog!! Do any of you have a hard time explaining why you need more than one Filofax? I think I have the obsession under control.... at the moment! But there's great delight in looking for that 'next purchase'.

Do any of you just announce, 'Oh I've just bought this' or is it sneaked in under the cover of a plain brown wrapping to your den to be enjoyed in private? Then hidden from general view and then it generally gets guest appearances some months later 'Oh that looks new' "Oh not really I've had it a few months now" I'm sure there are some amusing tales to be told... it's ok you are amongst friends on this site!

So I wonder how many of your partners also use a Filofax... or another planner even? Or if not your partner what about a brother or sister or any other family member? Do you try to keep a note of each others appointments?

plaiditude (2010-07-25 06:58:49)

I don't know anyone else who uses a filofax unfortunately. Back when I was using a Palm, I didn't know hardly anyone else using that either (even though I used a palm for 10 years!) A few years ago I worked at a place that had some Franklin planner users. Mostly I see people just trying to remember stuff, or writing a note on some scrap of paper or post-it. Occasionally someone has a little monthly view calendar or they try tapping something into their phone. I don't know how people can manage without something like a filofax to keep everything in one place.

I chuckled at your description here of slowly introducing a purchase ... "oh, I've had it for a while" sounds so much better for some reason than "yes, got it yesterday" - sounds much less returnable :)

My partner upgraded to a spiral bound weekview planner this year, but I still don't have much hope she will join the filo fold anytime soon.

Oni (2010-07-25 07:57:45)

Tonight's or Tomorrow's To Do:

Share in here how I converted my partner to Filofax!

Steve (2010-07-25 08:17:50)

Look forward to that Oni... some tips for the rest of us!!

Yvotchka (2010-07-25 10:02:32)

One of the joys of being single is that I can buy as many Filofax as I please, whenever I feel like it, never have to sneak them in or hide them and if I ever want to spread all my Filo's out on the floor in a big pile and roll around in them, there's no one to see it & have me committed :)

BR (2010-07-25 11:19:54)

My partner and I don't share the same obsessions but whenever he says "You bought another . . .?!" I respond "51 fishing rods" which ends all discussion.

kanalt (2010-07-25 11:48:56)

My husband doesn't use anything planner related. I created a family filo (a personal domino) where I would enter my appointments and various other information so that he would be aware of them but he never opens the thing. The only time he does is when he needs an address. That's something at least. Then I shared my Google calendar with him (I enter everything in here too so that it's accessible on my iPod Touch). I thought this would be easier - all he has to do is click on his calendar and it shows up. But he doesn't do that either. Basically he just relies on me to tell him what's coming up, and even then he doesn't always retain it. His method of "organizing" is writing appointments on our refrigerator wipe-off board and stacking pieces of paper in various bins. He then has a purge day (which indeed takes all day) about once a month.

A good friend of mine is obsessed with planners, just as I am. And while she has a Filo or two, she doesn't use them, at least as far as I can tell. She's been using other brands. We share our Google calendars too, so it makes for easy planning.

Yv - It would be easier for me if I were single, speaking in terms of Filofax.

My husband has never told me "no, don't buy that," but I do know he wishes I didn't spend so much money on them. I usually tell him when I'm going to purchase one - I'm not good at hiding information from him. Plus which, I get so excited about them that I have to talk about it. He's a good sport about it all. He doesn't "get it," but he accepts that there is no changing me.

BR - I wish I had something like that to hold over his head. It would make my purchases much easier to write off.

The Rev'd Blair (2010-07-25 12:40:49)

I detest how everything is a "itis" these days - you know - the whole therapeutic issue. But... I thought I was the only one obsessed with planners - or not satisfied with one, and then switching to another...

is there a name for this, really?

(and no, my wife is not obsessed. just me.)s

M Ng (2010-07-25 12:48:54)

My partner is almost physically attached to his smartphone, which he syncs with Google calendar; this is an excellent way for him to share his calendar with me, other family members, and his business partners.

I've never had to justify or explain my devotion to paper planning to him, but he has many times sung praises for the Blackberry. I don't hide my new purchases (there's nowhere to hide anyway, we work in the same room, in full view of one another!), though I don't exactly declare them, either. I've been "testing out" new planning systems this year, and these were quickly shuffled out of their packaging and put straight to use; eyebrows have been tented at me whilst I enter info into new forms and I shuffle and reshuffle pages and tabs (it looks to non-planner-obsessed people, understandably, like a huge waste of time, energy, and perhaps money), but he trusts I would not spend exorbitant amounts on planning. If I were to purchase a spendy new binder (like the beautiful Malden, alas not available in the US!), however, I would consult my partner first.

(I haven't used the "oh, this old thing?" ploy in years and years, since I still lived with my parents and sister! I had to hide and slowly unveil everything, nice notebooks, not-crap pens, any book or lit journal or magazine. Oh, what an excellent ploy.)

My friends sometimes tease me about the planner obsession. I started using a Filofax during my sophomore year in high school. I used to buy friends Filofaxes (and briefly, during my own brief dalliance, Franklin Covey planners) with all the fixings, but after the initial thrill, the promise of a newly organized life with new and organized accessories, the planners would disappear. Too heavy to carry, too onerous to update, too tedious to write in recurring appointments, &c. It's odd that I perfectly understand every single criticism, but I still find paper planning is what works best for me.

stirwise (2010-07-25 13:49:54)

@BR: That's priceless, I wish my husband had something like that I could call him out on!

Anyway, he doesn't use a Filo or any real organizing system, he mostly taps out notes on his computer and saves them as emails to himself.

Like Plaidtude, I used a Palm for 10 years and turned a number of people on to them during that time. Currently I haven't turned anyone on to my Filofax, but I've seen my coworker eyeing it and occasionally she asks some questions. She currently uses an academic spiral-bound planner, so perhaps she's thinking of making the ring-bound leap.

katka.m (2010-07-25 15:10:29)

My boyfriend is a typical IT guy, who uses only electronic devices, but he understands that for my job is necessary and much quicker to write stuff down. And for my private organizing...I explained him and I think he understands, that is so much nicer to open and feel leather filo than just type it to the mobile :o)

Nan (2010-07-25 16:01:53)

My husband doesn't use a planner at all. At work, I believe he uses Outlook or whatever his company uses, and at home he apparently sees to reason to organize his life! Once, when he was running his own business, he bought the smallest size spiral-bound Day-Timer. He had a lot of trouble deciding what to get, asked me for advice, and seemed to feel bad about spending money on it. Definitely not a planner type of person!

He used to complain about my fountain-pen collection, which I've stopped adding to. "Why does anyone need more than one pen to write with?" he'd ask. I tried to explain that it was just the enjoyment of having them!

He knows about this blog, and doesn't seem to mind my Filofax purchases. Perhaps it's because I've used a planner of some kind ever since he's known me. He's used to it. So I've stopped sneaking them into the house.

Adirondack Explorer (2010-07-25 18:36:58)

I use a Classic Personal while my wife uses a F-C 2 PPDday system with a large planner cover. She been thinking about going to something smaller in January- maybe a GTD Coordinator.

Jotje (2010-07-26 08:52:23)

Here another DH with a Post-It-habit. Those sheets stick all over the place (his pc monitor is plastered with those yellow paper bits). I'm running the business planner, and all other calendars in the house, so he strongly relies on me telling him where to go. He does take an occasional look at the family planner in the kitchen.

I got him a lovely Pocket Piazza and all the inserts that DH thought he'd need. Until today it's all sitting neatly on his desk, untouched and unopened, because he first has to figure out HOW exactly he's gonna use it and suit it to his needs ... (sigh).

Lucky for me, he doesn't have an eye for detail. A new bright pink A5 Finsbury that suddenly sits on my desk? He never noticed. Same with all the other Filo's. Fine with me, because that way I don't need to elaborate on my purchases ... ;-) (and in my defense: they all were real bargains on ebay anyway!)

Oni (2010-07-27 13:38:17)

Well, my DB has never used a planner. He's not the type of person to write stuff down, mainly because his handwriting is terrible! Even for quick notes, he'll just open a .txt (Notepad file). Sometimes he will scribble things onto various forms of paper lying around, like newspapers, receipts, envelopes, post-its...but then he NEVER checks them again. Which simply drives me MAD when I have to tidy up and can't even throw away an opened envelope because I don't know if the info there is important to him X_X

About my planner obsession, he's never been worried. I always liked stationery, paper, etc. And it's only recent that I've actually become more focused on Filofaxes, so he doesn't mind, mainly because he likes to see me so into something (I get easily bored...) for such a long time. And also because he knows I'm not the type of woman to spend money on other superfluous things.

Regarding his conversion to Filofax: he's started a new job just last week. It's going to be a very demanding job, where he'll need to catch up and keep up with the whole company. So, using my best snake-like powers, I explained to him how having a planner, rather than just a plain notebook (his barely used Moleskine he's had for the past 3 years...) would come in handy for him.

Because he'll need to keep all information ORGANISED, by dates, names, places, etc etc. He'll also be travelling quite often it seems, so he'll need somethin portable. His laptop might run out of battery on the plane.

And my last argument was that it would look VERY professional to carry a decent and elegant planner!
I already owned an unused Personal Kendal (bought from a second hand store here), so I offered it to him. On my birthday, I also got him more inserts for it. So now he's all setup. He's used it not too much, since he's only been to work three days, but he does carry it with him and because he loves me dearly, is making the effort of using it.
I am so proud of him! (although we both don't know if he'll get used to using it or not XDD)

Saffy (2010-07-28 04:19:33)

My DH just can't understand why on earth I would want or indeed need another Filofax. I bought him one (an A5 brown Finsbury for a new job) and he simply told me to take it back because he felt he only needed his (£10.00), A4 day to a page Collins academic diary which he barely writes anything into anyway. He does get quite upset with my obsession, wish I had the fishing rod or similar to come back with. I did take the (bargain priced) Finsbury back, it nearly killed me handing it over.

Since that incident I have hidden a new Filofax (pink A5 Finsbury, again at a bargain price) in my daughter's bedroom waiting for the justification to bring it out. I would get it out and flip through the pristine pages in private wondering what I would use it for. Finally I had a new job and 'voila' a justifiable reason and out it came!!! Only took 3 months to make an appearance, he, he.

My sister says I am in an 80's time warp and that no one uses them anymore. She also just buys a cheap little \$5-10.00 diary which is considerably cheaper and lighter but is a 'nothing' diary to me.

My Filofax obsession started way back in the mid 80's when as a young 19 year old I set off from Australia to backpack around Europe basing myself in London. It was at the height of Filofax obsessed Brits carrying them on the tube and flipping their pages and writing in them during their journey. So prevalent was the Filofax in hand person that Jonathon Ross and other comedians/radio presenters of the time would joke about it.

I always wondered what people wrote in them while on the tube? Every week I would go and obsess in Ryman's about finally buying one. Trying to decide what ring size I would get. There was a much larger choice back in the 80's. Then, one day my boss gave me her old maroon Harrods Filofax. Little did I know that it would start a lifelong love of Filofaxes.

For a time in a job back in Oz I did get converted to Franklyn Covey and still today prefer their standard 2 pages a day as a work diary. I wish I could get the inserts for my A5 Finsbury. I noticed Filofax has a similar 'time management' system that is quite pricey. Has anyone test driven their version? Despite converting to FC for work, I was never without a Filofax for personal use.

Now back living in the U.K. I have been able to access some of the serious bargains which kind of justifies being able to buy a new one every now and then, even if not appreciated by those close to me.

worldexplorer (2010-08-01 14:53:20)

My Dad used to have a filofax, but it's long since disappeared, and I think I've managed to convert my Mum and Sister recently!

There's more info on my blog: <http://explorerephemera.blogspot.com/2010/08/filofax-family.html>
if any one wants to know more!

Steve (2010-08-01 15:07:22)

I hope you have them all reading Philofaxy as well....

Steve

10% off Dodo PersonalPOD with Filofax-compatible diary insert (2010-07-26 00:38) - Laurie



[1]

[2]Dodo Pad, Britain's best-loved family diary 44 years and counting, now has their very own Filofax-compatible binder! Called the [3]Dodo PersonalPOD, it is the size of a Personal size Filofax and is compatible with Filofax's personal size inserts.

I saw a prototype of the PersonalPOD while I was in [4]London in April, and it is very nice. The cover is hard-backed, and has a faux-cloth textured finish. "Dodo Pad" is subtly embossed on the front. Inside both the front and back covers are pockets for holding papers, tickets etc. An elastic strap holds the binder securely closed.

Right now Dodo Pad is running a special where you can get a 10 % discount on your PersonalPOD when you buy it with the [5]Dodo Pad or [6]Acad-Pad diary insert to fit it.



[7]

[8]Click here for the PersonalPOD + 2011 Dodo Pad (calendar year) insert special.



[9]

[10]Click here for the PersonalPOD + 2010-2011 Acad-Pad (academic year) insert special.

1. http://www.dodopad.com/pages/images/a_608_rbpr_spr_aug11_cutout_000.jpg
 2. <http://www.dodopad.com/>
 3. <http://www.dodopad.com/pages/personal-organiser-personalPOD.html>
 4. <http://www.plannerisms.com/2010/04/london-book-fair.html>
 5. <http://www.dodopad.com/dodopad/dodo-pad-diary-diaries-wall-calendars.html>
 6. <http://www.dodopad.com/acadpad/acadpad.html>
 7. http://www.dodopad.com/pages/images/a_610_rbpr_cov_dfxp11_cutout.jpg
 8. <http://www.dodopad.com/acatalog/offers.html#aRBPR11>
 9. http://www.dodopad.com/pages/images/a_609_rbpr_cov_afxp1011_cutout.jpg
 10. <http://www.dodopad.com/acatalog/offers.html#aRBPR1011>
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City Project (2010-07-26 13:09) - Nan

No, I'm not going to write about repairing potholes or building a new park.

Since the beginning of 2010, I've been using the City Dweller Lifestyle Pack in my Personal Filo. I put some of the included forms (you can see them in the [1]original post): Travel Itinerary, Party Time, Budget Sheet, as well as the usual To Do, Contacts, and Notes pages, in hopes that I'd find a use for them. Sadly, this year hasn't been big for either travel or entertaining.

But there was one form that the City Dweller *didn't* include that I needed: a Project form. Of course, I could have gotten my hands on a standard Filofax Project Planner, but since my Personal was now all-City Dweller-all-the-time, I wanted something that matched.

So I created it myself! I used Microsoft Word, with a table for layout. That way, I could add a gray fill to the table cells to create the gray background used in City Dweller forms. I also removed the table borders, since the gray blocks are supposed to be borderless.

It's not a masterpiece, but it gave me the consistent look I was seeking. And I've used this form more than any other. You can download it from our [2]files page.

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2009/08/sex-and-city-planner.html>
 2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/files.html>
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Steve (2010-07-28 09:40:51)

Hi Nan

How are you finding these lifestyle packs? Is it a major disadvantage that you can't buy the individual sheets? So if you use one more than another you can get top-ups?

Steve

Nan (2010-07-28 10:32:27)

Hi Steve – I'm only planning to use the City Dweller for a year, so the lack of being able to buy individual forms isn't a problem for me. I have a lot of forms left over, and I'll use them in my Filo as the need arises.

The Lifestyle Packs come with an interesting variety of forms, though, and I'll probably use one again in the future.

Laurie (2010-07-28 10:39:43)

Nan, how do you like the layout of the diary pages?

Nan (2010-07-28 10:58:22)

The diary is w2p, with each day spanning across both pages. I really like this layout! I write appointments on the left-hand page, and the right-hand page is divided into 2 columns

I use one column for birthdays and other reminders, and the other column for tasks.

Find the Filofax II (2010-07-27 08:55) - Steve

Thank you to Nickie for the new photo in our little quiz series... Can you spot the Filofax organiser or organisers... how many can you see.... and where are they in the picture. The model is Nickie's son...on holiday in Spain.



[1]

1. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TE7WvE--QTI/AAAAAAAAAIF0/b_0EZDOPnOk/s1600/Photo0806.jpg

Yvotchka (2010-07-27 09:08:32)

Is that one in the thing that looks like a safe with the door open?

Eva (2010-07-27 09:35:02)

Yes! I was not quick enough but I was going to say the safe as well... And I wonder if I don't see also another one reflected in the mirror on the desk in front of the blue bottle...

Jotje (2010-07-27 10:05:48)

I only spotted the one in the safe myself. On second look I have to agree with Eva: there's a second one in front of the blue bottle. Is that a Domino???

bernhardS (2010-07-27 10:35:02)

What's that black item in the handbag behind the boy's back? Maybe a 3rd Filo?

Oni (2010-07-27 13:08:36)

I would say three inside the safe, stacked? And I think the thing in front of that bottle is a beauty case...

Steve (2010-07-27 16:32:25)

I will declare the winner and the correct answer tomorrow... hehe

Of course the whole thing could be a hoax... it might not be a Filofax organiser....

Chuckle chuckle....

Oni (2010-07-27 17:00:59)

oh Steve.. you're mean today! Did you miss 'beer o'clock'?? (kidding!!)

Steve (2010-07-28 07:16:35)

OK bowing to pressure and threats on my future supplies of Filofax inserts and beer....

1. There is only one organiser in the photograph;
2. Yes it is a Filofax.. ok yes I was mean to suggest otherwise;
3. Yes it is in the wardrobe safe;
4. People how could you confuse a Filofax for a Christian Dior make-up bag?

I would have thought you would know the difference, and give us chapter an verse on which model year etc it was... surely knowledge of expensive handbags and accessories goes with Filofax expertise....

OK I've had enough fun from this one.. So I think we can declare Yvotchka a clear winner in all of 13 minutes...Congratulations

So if you have a 'suitable' picture in which your Filofax just happens to be in the shot... but not too obvious, please email it to us..

JJ (2010-07-28 15:57:07)

That was easy. Everyone keeps their Filofax in the microwave.

Nickie @ Typecast (2010-07-28 19:56:28)

Steve, you're very naughty teasing the Philofaxy regulars like this!!

Thanks for hosting the photo - I've been sniggering away to myself for a couple of days now :)

Yvotchka - you're far too observant :) I actually didn't realise that the Filofax was in view (it's the Yellow Hearts Personal one that I reviewed on here not too long ago) until a friend pointed it out whilst browsing my holiday photos on Facebook.

Want to practice your French? (2010-07-28 06:25) - Steve

A lovely blog post spotted on Twitter this morning

[1]<http://www.au-pays-des-merveilles.com/blog/2010/07/28/i-love-my-filofax/>

Even if your French isn't up to it... then cheat like I do!!!

[2]http://translate.google.com/translate?js=y &prev=_t &hl=en &ie=UTF-8 &layout=1 &eotf=1 &u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.au-pays-des-merveilles.com%2Fblog%2F2010%2F07%2F28%2Fi-love-my-filofax%2F&sl=auto &tl=en

I think you will agree the photography is very good too, I need to up my game when it comes to photographing Filofax organisers... Models required !!

Enjoy.

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1. <http://www.au-pays-des-merveilles.com/blog/2010/07/28/i-love-my-filofax/>
2. http://translate.google.com/translate?js=y&prev=_t&hl=en&ie=UTF-8&layout=1&eotf=1&u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.au-pays-des-merveilles.com%2Fblog%2F2010%2F07%2F28%2Fi-love-my-filofax%2F&sl=auto&tl=en

Jotje (2010-07-28 10:21:18)

First thought that came into my head? "Oh no, another Raspberry Metropol!" LOL I blame Gala Darling entirely (wonder, if the strategy of Filofax USA worked, and if the sales of the Personal Pink Classic they gave her, have upped?)

Oh, and could anybody please explain the meaning of "a true binz" ??

Have to add in all honesty, that the layout of the blog is well-done and the (close-up) pics are really beautiful. Hope she'll have tons of fun with her belle Filofax!

Yvotchka (2010-07-28 11:13:44)

I love what she did using the 1-6 numbered tabs with the Filofax stickers! What a great idea & fun way to use the tabs :)

Miss Giny (2010-08-14 18:52:12)

Oh thank you very much for this article, it's very nice !

@ Jotje, sorry for the "another Raspberry Metropol!" but I love pink color and it changes from classic black ! "Un vrai binz" means "a mess or shambles" ! Otherwise thank you very much for the compliments! :)

@ Yvotchka: oh yes I love my Filofax and all its little gadgets! ^^ Thank you!

Filofax Blog Posts (2010-07-29 05:23) - Steve

More and more people are blogging about Filofax and how they are coming back to it, or reviewing their latest purchases. I pointed one out to your yesterday. But here are two more for you read with a cup of tea or coffee... go on relax..

- Karen - [1]Filofax Resurrection
- Onigiri - [2]Review of the Pocket Urban
- Hey Jewel - [3]What you've got boy is hard to find
- Glamourous Grad Student - [4]My fabulous Filofax
- Cheveux Fluorescents - [5]Such Idolarty

Enjoy

1. <http://enolassneezes.vox.com/library/post/filofax-resurrection.html>
2. <http://onigirisama.blogspot.com/2010/07/ticking-off-one-item-of-my-to-do-listor.html>
3. <http://hey-jewel.blogspot.com/2010/07/what-youve-got-boy-is-hard-to-find.html>
4. <http://theglamourousgradstudent.blogspot.com/2010/07/my-fabulous-filofax.html>
5. <http://all-hail-the-rope-light.blogspot.com/2010/07/such-idolarty.html>

Arlecchino Fluorescente (2010-07-29 06:46:12)

I love Filofax posts! Couldn't resist rambling about my own in the end. It doesn't seem quite as grand as those of others but I can't seem to put the thing down!

<http://all-hail-the-rope-light.blogspot.com/2010/07/such-idolatry.html>

Steve (2010-07-29 06:57:01)

Thank you I've added a link to your blog in to the post.

Regards

Steve

OrganisedPauper (2010-07-29 07:06:37)

I'd love an index in the colours that Cheveeux Fluorescent's Filofax has. It seems those colours only come with that particular Filofax as on the official website there's only white, cotton cream or the bright multi ones. I so wish there were more colour options for extras like paper, indexes, page markers etc I need more customising options!

Oni (2010-07-29 09:23:50)

Thank you very much, Steve!! When you come, let us meet for Beer o'clock!! :D

Jotje (2010-07-29 12:27:18)

I was quite shocked to read (in the comments to Hey Jewel's blog) that there are actually living people who've never heard of Filofax?! Have they lived under a stone? Or is it just that I'm really really old. I mean, I DID grow up in the eighties and all those youngsters haven't! They've only "heard" about it. And they think stuff from the 80s is vintage. A thought I resent, cos that would mean that I'm vintage myself LOL

@OPauper: I hear ya! Unpacked my Cherry today (pics on Flickr), and it has lovely coloured tabs, with matching note paper. Why on earth won't they sell this separately? I mean, it's been through the printer anyway, right?!

Millie (2010-07-31 08:03:05)

I don't think it's an age thing, @jotje. I was only born in the late 80s so missed Filofax when it was cool, but I still know what one is! I think it's down to a) not being English, or b) not being a very big stationery geek! We have to remember that some people out there just see a notebook and think "how old-fashioned"!

Karen (2010-08-04 16:58:45)

Thanks for the link Steve

Date for your diary - Philofaxy Chat on Skype (2010-07-29 15:25) - Steve

The Twitter streams have really been busy and buzzing with chats between some of our readers this last week or so. One of the wild ideas that came out of these discussions included a face-to-face meet up in London some time in the future. Of course arranging a suitable date might not be so easy. But I think you will agree that it's a great idea and let's hope it happens one day soon.

In the mean time we would like to get as many people together for a chat, mainly about Filofax, but who knows where the conversation will lead us. So far some star readers and contributors have said they will try to make it, so come on line and join in the fun.

When? - Sunday 8th August from mid-day (US East Coast time), 5pm London time, 6 pm Paris time etc.

Where? - an on-line chat using [1]Skype.

What do I need? - just a micro-phone and a free Skype account.

Who - All of you... connect up with **Philofaxy** and we will attempt to get as many of us linked in to the audio conference as possible.

Like last time I will try and report back.

I know there are several of us looking forward to putting a voice to the usernames so please pop in if only to say hi and to introduce yourself.

1. <http://www.skype.com/>

Susanne (2010-07-29 17:29:12)

That's cool. That would be 9am California time. I am glad to see that this blog has so much more activity now and I am happy to read that the Filofax (my favorite), or let's just say paper organizers are getting their mojo back. I have been using the Filofax since the 80s and I am still a big fan. It was last year that I did not buy a diary refill - probably due to the new smartphone and iPod that I got but they just don't do it for me. I need to write with a pen, take notes and make lists by hand. So, back it is to the Filofax. I have to admit that I just ordered a Domino Personal Filofax in Navy Blue. It was on sale at Filofax USA and I could not resist. Oops, I also added the Fresco Pocket to my shopping cart.

My question here to the Filofax Folks - How do you like the Domino organizer, has anyone had issues with the rubber band breaking? Can it be replaced easily?

Thanks all for keeping this blog going.

kanalt (2010-07-29 21:10:36)

Susanne,

I have a few Domino binders and really like them. The first Domino's band is getting a little stretchy, but not so much that it won't hold the binder closed, just more so than when it was new. I've never heard of one breaking. The band does allow for a lot of stuffing items into the binder that can't be done with many of the leather ones.

Hope you enjoy your new Domino!

Susanne (2010-07-30 15:39:03)

Thank you for your response to the Domino. I chose that one so I could stuff everything in there.

I am looking forward to setting up the binder - that's what I enjoy the most.

Free For All Friday No. 89 (2010-07-30 00:05) - Steve

So tomorrow is the last day of July, August is just around the corner. I've been here in France two months now.. Life is good...

I picked up a comment from Filofax UK this week that their sales of organisers are higher now than they were in the 1980's... not sure if that equates to more people using them.... or as a similar number of people owning more than one or two or three or four... ok enough! I would think the range of organisers available now is far higher than I remember it back in the 1980's. Certainly more colour choices.

Anyway as it's a Friday please discuss anything you wish that is Filofax related. Bonne Weekend

HP Fuchs (2010-07-30 03:11:02)

Good Morning

Could anyone please write a review of the new Malden Filfax? Preferably personal size and ocre color. Most important question to be answered: Does it lay flat?

Louloudorset (2010-07-30 03:48:33)

I definitely think it is because now there are so many more designs and colours - the filofax has become such a fashion statement as well.

I have a very lovely A5 red finchley that i was using for work however when I saw the Domino Bronze Snake A5 (and saw the reviews on here) I just knew I had to swap - my Finchley is now a notebook for essential info at home.

Likewise I have a Personal Adelphi slimline that I upgraded to a Adelphi Personal and I also have a couple of pocket sized ones too.

The number of new designs and styles and especially the affordable ones means you can change the binder more often. And we all know the joy of having all new binder and blank pages to play with - talking of which must be time to go shopping again for some new additions :)

Iris (2010-07-30 10:09:55)

@HP Fuchs

Yes, the Malden does lay flat! The leather is very soft & beautiful to touch.

See my pics on [1]Flickr.

And if you happen to understand German, please visit my Filofax blog: www.filomaniac.blogspot.com. I'll post a review next week.

1. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/48943937@N07/4833694477/in/set-72157623641315485/>

HP Fuchs (2010-07-30 10:19:40)

Hallo Iris

Great, I'm looking forward to your review. What colour is your Malden Filofax on Flickr? Crimson or ochre?

Iris (2010-07-30 12:02:27)

@HP Fuchs

It is indeed ochre, Personal size. Bought it in London last week.

colie (2010-07-30 15:22:10)

you know what we need to talk about... repairs. what do you do when the once lovely leather tab closure turns into something that looks like it was malled by a pack of mangey ravenous wild dogs, hmmm?

it is distressing! especially when you have a model that is not in production anymore and hasn't been in over a decade.

what do you do?

DJ (2010-07-30 15:43:46)

Sounds like a great business opportunity for someone adept with leatherwork...Filofax repair/refurbishment.

I think the reason sales are up is multifaceted. The *fashion* factor (Anna Wintour), the *practicality* factor (one cannot be on one's mobile talking and taking notes on the device at the same time—DUH!) and what I call the *qualitative* factor (my thesis being that the QUALITY of thought [business or creative] is enhanced by writing longhand rather than typing—at least in the first draft).

A few years ago Filofax did a survey that revealed that senior management were still using paper for the most part—only the middle management minions (and below) were flocking to the PDAs. Why? It's impossible to PLAN with a PDA, for one thing. The minions would appear to be wising up.

katka.m (2010-07-31 05:33:15)

Hello all, I have a dilemma. I'm thinking of buying pocket Domino as a present to my 15 years old niece. Do you think it's a good idea? Do your children use filofax? Or do you think it's too early? Thanks a lot for help.

Jotje (2010-07-31 10:03:10)

Katka, I think it's a great idea to buy your niece a pocket Domino. I started using filofax-lookalikes at 12! Just choose a fun colour. And even if she won't use it just yet, she could always buy a new refill in later years and use it then. The binder itself won't go to waste ... ;-)

crofter (2010-07-31 11:03:03)

Hi Katka,

I too think it is a good idea. It encourages thought, and does much to promote the idea of keeping a journal, and a record of what they are doing.

Over the years I have started giving my young friends a nice notebook, usually a Moleskine, but lately Rhodia Webbies. I ask them to write down one thing every day that they are grateful for. This does two things, it gets them in the habit of writing every day, even one sentence, and, when they are having a down day, it helps to pick it up and find something uplifting written by their new favorite author, themselves!

Crofter

Iris (2010-08-01 04:10:31)

@Katka

In my opinion it all depends not so much on her age but on whether your niece is into stationery, pens, diaries and so on - or not. When I was 15, I would have been over the moon if someone had given me a Filofax (or any other planner...)

But, as Jotje has already pointed out, if she doesn't use it now, she'll always be able to buy a diary/refills for it later...

Dilaila (2010-08-01 04:53:09)

Hi Iris,

Did you get to see the Pocket Malden when you were in the store? Does it have the full width wallet pocket?

Thanks.

Iris (2010-08-01 07:43:00)

@Dilaila

Sorry, I didn't have a look at the Pocket Malden.

The [1]Filofax UK catalogue (p. 15) does show an illustration of the Pocket size with this full width wallet pocket - but to be sure, better email them about it.

1. http://www.clikasp.com/asp/fsi4/fsi.swf?pages_server=http://www.clikasp.com/asp&pages_dir=*SiOfnxRCBLm8Clg/AJWrbT57kiRc8PbJFmNMHJhBjSSRMD2oUtUjhfn3fv15Q38FrHN1JyBe00jE%0ATf22nC4IImQ2VBap0SqzNQ0JeA5dQqQBAOStGCI%3D&cfg=pages_presets/catalog.fsi&Skin=clikpages&pages_search=0&MouseModes_Mode2=0&pages_skin=clikpages&pagesounds_Library=pagesoundlib_coated.swf&effects=%26quality%3D90%26sharpen%3D25&plugins=resize,PageSounds

katka.m (2010-08-01 09:42:05)

Jotje, Crofter, Iris...thanks a lot for help. Let you know how she likes it :o)

Laurie (2010-08-02 04:20:43)

Late to the party but I wanted to add: I would have loved a Filofax at 15! I used a planner to keep track of my school assignments and exam dates, and wouldn't have been able to function without it.

Some older blog posts (2010-07-31 12:07) - Steve

I'm not sure if these have been mentioned before or not. They didn't look that familiar to me, so may be they slipped under the radar!

Anyway, I'm sure you will enjoy reading them again, just incase there was something you have missed or forgotten about.

- [1]<http://craft-werk.blogspot.com/2010/02/post-it-insert-for-my-filofax.html>
- [2]<http://www.allthebestblog.com/2010/02/return-of-filofax.htm> 1
- [3]<http://mrrdesign.blogspot.com/search?q=filofax>
- [4]<http://kalldoro.livejournal.com/1162270.html>
- [5]<http://www.johnsadowsky.com/?p=322> (mentions "Philofaxy").
- [6]<http://theenglishmuse.blogspot.com/2009/02/whats-in-your-filofax.html>

Thank you to Judith (Jotje) for sending these to us.

1. <http://craft-werk.blogspot.com/2010/02/post-it-insert-for-my-filofax.html>
2. <http://www.allthebestblog.com/2010/02/return-of-filofax.html>
3. <http://mrrdesign.blogspot.com/search?q=filofax>

4. <http://kalldoro.livejournal.com/1162270.html>
 5. <http://www.johnsadowsky.com/?p=322>
 6. <http://theenglishmuse.blogspot.com/2009/02/whats-in-your-filofax.html>
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Back in the day... (2010-07-31 12:25) - Steve

I was casually looking back through the archives this afternoon and spotted a gem of a post by Nan back in May 2007 and what you said then Nan needs to be shouted from the roof tops! I've read on here so many times recently about people changing this and changing back and getting themselves in a right twist....Filofax meltdown almost... You should all take another read of Nan's post '[1]Cooling Off Period' there's lessons to be learnt for all of us... and in the long term it will save you some money... money you might be able to spend on a more expensive Filofax... now you definitely want to read that post again!!

There is a definite sense of joy I get reading back through the archives and especially the comments.. I once started at the beginning and worked my way through every post, it took me about a week doing a year every day I recall. I think I should do it again but with a mind to pointing things out to our modern day readership... Searches are ok, but someone who has read an article and can remember a question that has come up and can point you in the right area is a lot nicer!

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2007/05/cooling-off-period.html>
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Laurie (2010-07-31 15:01:19)

Hoo boy, how much planner angst did I have in that comment?? Wow!

plaiditude (2010-08-01 21:27:51)

Thanks for this post. I had a column format added to my A5 order, in addition to it's default wpp, and it hasn't even shipped yet and I was going about tracking down a dpp insert for 2010, and almost spent a bunch to ship it. After reading this and the linked post, I took a deep breath and decided to try out what was already coming before replacing it. I've already spent way too much ordering what I have, and who knows - I might end up loving the column format (just not sure what to do about day specific todo's on that format)

plaiditude (2010-08-06 17:05:25)

ok that trial didn't last long. Tried the column format for two days and that was enough. A5 2010 dpp ordered from France :) I love the calendar view, but there is no dedicated space for todo's and even less possible space for them than in my wpp personal size.

1.8 August

August offers... (2010-08-01 06:00) - Steve

UK Office Direct are giving an extra 5 % off orders placed in August (starts today)

Head over to the [1]Filofax suppliers page and click on the link and use the Promo code shown on the logo at the check out.

Hunt down that organiser, refill, accessory today....

[2] 

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/filofax-suppliers.html>
 2. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?s=212983&v=2346&q=84733&r=97790>
-

OrganisedPauper (2010-08-01 17:26:38)
The Filofax shelves are pretty bare on that site unfortunately.

Steve (2010-08-01 17:32:37)
As in terms of what is in stock at the moment?
They appear to list most things, but I've not tried buying anything from there myself yet.
I'm not sure what their shipping charge is to France!

OrganisedPauper (2010-08-02 15:15:18)
Yes, as in what is in stock at the moment.

OrganisedPauper (2010-08-02 15:22:18)
Hmm? I looked again and found a lot of binders. Last time I used their index. This time I used the search term Filofax. My mistake. Not much in the paper line though outside of diary refills.
I need a lot of name/address paper as I've decided to replace the old Filofax I was using as an address book with a nice new one. I want to transfer all addresses from the old mangled pages onto new paper.

angela (2010-08-03 13:32:57)
For supplies, it's worth noting down city-org-pdq or something like that (google is your and my best friend here). They are a London based company and is where I get all my Filofax related inserts from! They offer some of the inserts at already lower than usual prices but occasionally, there are the odd 20 % discounts floating about too ;)

angela (2010-08-03 13:33:47)
Oh but I see you already have them in your hall of fame :) Discard my previous comment then :)

Diary refills - Have you decided yet? (2010-08-01 08:59) - Steve

So as August is here and Filofax now have both 2011 and 2012 refills starting to become available in most sizes. Have you started to think about which refills you will buy for next year yet?
Jess Shepherd asked on Twitter if anyone had tried using the two days per page (deux jours par page) format in personal size?
I think I might stick to a week on two pages myself but in personal size this next year rather than A5. I have a new personal Finsbury that is sat in the drawer that wants to join the party on my desk!
Personally I find myself scrolling between the UK and the French Filofax sites looking for the optimum format..

Gail (2010-08-01 08:28:21)
I've been looking at the day to a page format for my journal. I work in a school so sometimes have lots to write about. Just wondering how bulky this would make my filofax.....maybe I would have to buy a filofax just for that journal. (Like I need an excuse to buy another ff. lol)
Can imagine though it would look really nice having just a full years worth of memories in one place.

angela (2010-08-01 11:22:10)
I bought my 2011 inserts a few months ago (I know how keen that sounds!) and bought the week on two pages as that has worked well for me thus far in 2009 and 2010. However, before buying the 2012 ones, I will wait and see how the 2011 ones pan out as the first half of that will be my second year at uni and third year (i.e. 2012) will surely become more hectic!
Just thought I'd add that my inserts are cotton cream...can't get enough of that *vintage* feel!

Steve (2010-08-01 11:49:16)
Hi
Thanks for your comment 'Paper rush' I've added your new blog to our 'Hall of Fame'
Steve

angela (2010-08-01 12:53:31)

Oooh thanks :) I'll link Philofaxy back too cos that's the first site I ever came across when googling about Filofaxes!
Btw, in case you hadn't noticed, I've been commenting on posts for the past few weeks or so, just had a name change for privacy purposes :)

Steve (2010-08-01 13:35:29)

Sorry I hadn't picked up on you were the same as someone already commenting. As you can guess we get so many!
Good luck with your own blog though and keep following Philofaxy..

Steve (2010-08-01 13:40:23)

Paperrush... I've now worked out your previous username... no problems ;-)

colie (2010-08-01 13:57:22)

jess: i used the two days per page refills in my personal for 2 years. if you do a lot of random jotting down of info it is great since there is so much more room. i did miss seeing the whole week on two pages though, so i stopped.
@paperrushblog i adore your site. great ideas for the coming school year. loved that u used index cards for lists! hope you finish Drive for life.

colie (2010-08-01 15:16:59)

jess: here is someone using the two days per page in a domino
<http://2057.tumblr.com/post/877225426>

kanalt (2010-08-01 21:12:44)

I bought my 2011 inserts - monthly and week on 2 pages with lines. Since everyone is trying to persuade me to go pocket size, I am thinking pf switching things up for 2011. Haven't come to a final decision as of yet - check my blog for updates.
Paperrush - I added your blog to mine, I hope that was okay. Are you on Twitter too?

plaiditude (2010-08-01 21:37:08)

I have an A5 coming and it will have the default weekp2p (I don't think I'll use this) and the column format wp2p with appointment lines for this year. I might like this column format, not sure - but my options for 2010 were quite limited. It is also coming with day per page for 2011. Does anyone have any suggestions for how to use the column format? I'm not sure what to do with day specific todo's and notes. Any ideas?

angela (2010-08-02 04:40:47)

Thanks for all the kind comments :)

I've added a few more blogs to my links, including yours Kanalt :) I've actually been reading yours for quite a while now! I am in fact on Twitter but I rarely log in (when I say rarely, I mean more like a few times a year!!!)

Jess (2010-08-02 05:37:58)

colie, thanks for the comments re: two days per page (and steve for mentioning my dilemma!). i've never considered the format before, but i'm downsizing from a5 to personal after winning a pink finsbury on ebay, my all-time favourite filo. i think the two days per page format will allow me to still have plenty of room for each day even though the page itself will be smaller. i'm going to get the month on two page diary too, and also a wall planner that can go above my desk and show me the week at a glance.

thanks again! i'll take the plunge.

Jotje (2010-08-02 07:50:09)

I'll continue the 2 pages per day format for next year for my A5 Filofax (this is my work-filo and I desperately need this much room). Haven't ordered yet, because I'm kind of fed-up with the dull TimeSystem design. Have been looking into Franklin Covey and DayRunner, even though that would involve serious re-punching of A LOT of pages.

Would be so neat if Filofax would decide to launch a 2PPD format for the A5

@Plaititude: if you want to use the column wp2p pages, you could either add a large post-it with a list of all weekly Todo's, or add a smaller page with the Todo's (perforated). Or have an entire tab/section dedicated to the current todo's, with the

most urgent ones, noted at the appropriate date?

plaiditude (2010-08-02 09:37:12)

thanks Jotje, I might try that - at least to get me through 2010. For 2011 I've got the day per page, and I will probably do what I was trying to do with my Personal size, add a lined page in between each day to make it a Day on two pages. Not quite the same as T/D 2ppd though as I'd much prefer the diary to always be on the same side rather than alternating, but it works. Another thing I'll have to do is change my fountain pen to something that doesn't soak into the paper so much, or perhaps go back to pencil. That will be difficult, I've grown to love fountain pens!

Yvotchka (2010-08-02 11:18:25)

Been using 1 day per page in a FF Personal for quite some time. Recently switched to Week on 2 Pages, also in my FF Personal and like that much better.

Just about to try out a FF Pocket...and going to copy Oni and use 1 day per page as a journal/note catching system and Week on 2 pages as my calendar/agenda.

Kanalt: Yes, try Pocket with me (nudge, nudge)!!

design (2010-08-02 12:11:52)

Filofax used to have the perfect refill for me: Week on 4 Pages.

Each page was split to 2 days, with the 4th page, except Friday, Sat., and Sun. were all on one page.

Form Ref. #383494 - Filofax, please bring it back!

colie (2010-08-02 12:20:37)

@design what?!?!? i wish i could see it. though i have to confess i get so annoyed when there is less room on weekends! i have way more to do on weekends than on weekdays.

kanalt (2010-08-02 20:44:29)

Paperrush - thanks so much! =>

Ally (2010-08-03 21:27:41)

Plaiditude--there is a disposable fountain pen--sailor pen--that you can order from Jet Pens and it doesn't soak thru filofax paper!!

Pocket - it's where it is happening! (2010-08-01 12:00) - Steve

This last few weeks the blog world and Twitter have been full of posts about the Pocket Filofax organiser as a size and how you can use it... I will admit to not paying full attention at first until this morning that is...

When I realised the number of blog posts there have been in the last couple of weeks, I thought we needed a summary of them all on here, so you can all go and explore and make up your own mind...

Blog Posts

- [1]This Pocket is Personal - Oni - 7 July 2010
- [2]Filofax Fun - Emma - 16 July 2010
- [3]Things I love... - Helen Hawksley - 20 July 2010
- [4]X-Ray of the Pocket Filofax I use - Oni - 23 July 2010
- [5]Organising Myself - Ceriselle - 26 July 2010
- [6]Brass in Pocket - Yvotchka - 27 July 2010
- [7]My review of the Pocket Urban - Oni - 28 July 2010

- [8]Pocket Perfection - Kanalt - 31 July 2010
- [9]Pocket Filofax's - Shazza - 31 July 2010
- [10]Philofaxy Pocket Posts - Various - Various
- [11]Slimline to Pocket - Steve 01 August 2010

Did I miss any? I'm sure there will be more in the coming few days...

Other resources

- [12]Dynamic Templates
- [13]Philofaxy Pocket Templates - Pocket size templates added today

1. <http://onigirisama.blogspot.com/2010/07/this-pocket-is-personal.html>
2. <http://emmaaime.blogspot.com/2010/07/filofax-fun.html>
3. <http://helenclairehawksley.wordpress.com/2010/07/20/things-i-love-doesnt-include-being-ill/>
4. <http://onigirisama.blogspot.com/2010/07/x-ray-of-pocket-filofax-i-use.html>
5. <http://www.ceriselle.org/blog/2010/07/organising-myself/>
6. <http://putitonmyheadstone.blogspot.com/2010/07/brass-in-pocket.html>
7. <http://onigirisama.blogspot.com/2010/07/ticking-off-one-item-of-my-to-do-listor.html>
8. <http://lifewellplanned.blogspot.com/2010/07/pocket-perfection.html>
9. <http://shazzastitching.wordpress.com/2010/07/31/pocket-filofaxs/>
10. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/search/label/Pocket>
11. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/08/slimline-to-pocket-conversion.html>
12. <http://www.diyplanner.com/templates/dynamic>
13. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/files.html>

alannarama (2010-08-01 19:10:32)

i'm so glad you posted this! i've been using a pocket filofax since january (my first, after scrappy student organisers and moleskines) and i absolutely love it. people complain there's no room but i'm really busy at uni and it still fits everything just fine. been thinking of making a post on it, actually. where's the damn camera?

Yvotchka (2010-08-02 11:19:25)

LOVE THIS!!!! Totally excited to join Pocket Palooza ;)

Slimline to Pocket Conversion (2010-08-01 13:20) - Steve



[1] You might possibly be familiar with my slimline that I have been using as a wallet/Filofax organiser since earlier this year. You can read my earlier post about it [2]here

As has been commented on, generally it works well, except it's quite large in size, not ideal if you want to carry it in a pocket, it is more suited to carrying in a jacket pocket or a 'man bag'... or handbag if you wish!



[3] When I was sat here this morning writing/assembling the '[4]Pocket' post, it occurred to me, I wonder if I could downsize my slimline to the Pocket?

I have a [5]Pocket Finsbury that wasn't in daily use.... so let's try it out, nothing to lose. It has a week to a page 2010 insert in it already. So I sat down and stripped out the removable contents of my slimline (credit/bank cards, driving licence, UK passport, Euro's, European health card, and a few other minor things that I didn't ought to be carrying still now I'm in France.



[6] The Pocket does have less credit card slots in the front, but that didn't pose too much of an issue. The vertical pocket inside the front cover takes my passport and driving licence easily, could have been designed for it even.

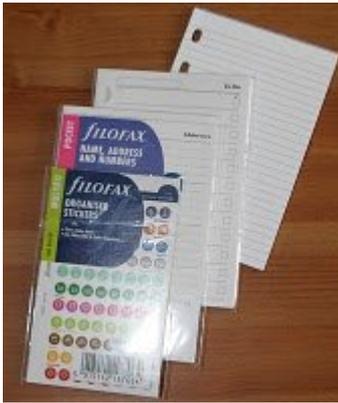


[7] The zip pocket on the back inside pocket I'm using for my loose change which was in my [8]Filofax change holder in the Slimline. I only need coins really for the mail machines in La Poste, so I don't carry too much cash.

I had a quick rummage around in my Filofax drawer and found some spare inserts and pages for it. So I think I'm more or less ready to go.



[9][10] I think it will work better as it will fit in my bag easier. I use an old CD walkman shoulder bag for carrying all my things around in, I hate having my pockets weighed down. In my bag I typically have: Wallet/Filofax, mobile phone, house keys, reading glasses, sat nav, torch, so the reduction in size of my Filofax will help.



[11] Like the Slimline I will be using the diary in this Pocket Filofax for appointments and to-do lists and for taking notes etc. I have my contact pages already filled in at the back of the Pocket, so I just need to check through them and update them if there are any changes.

[12] If there is anything I might add it might be an additional credit card holder. And for 2011 I might go for either the [13]week on two pages starting on Monday (equal spaces per day) in Cotton Cream or a [14]week on one page but with notes on the facing pages, although I wish it was English only.

I'm going to give this new set up a try for the next month or so and see how it goes, it's only a 5-10 minute job to swap back to my slimline if it doesn't work out! I will keep you posted.

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TFWlUK7IwiI/AAAAAAAAIF4/cJjvymwnDms/s1600/IMG_9224.jpg
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/02/using-my-slimline-filofax-as-my-wallet.html>
3. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TFWl1aTuX5XI/AAAAAAAAIF8/Ou7p2bAp3Is/s1600/IMG_9225.JPG
4. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/08/pocket-its-where-it-is-happening.html>
5. <http://tidd.ly/ad7abc60>
6. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TFWlneIS6qI/AAAAAAAAIGE/Wzf45-Avztg/s1600/IMG_9229.JPG
7. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TFWlvKB4EzI/AAAAAAAAIGI/MGu2VVykMl4/s1600/IMG_9230.JPG
8. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/04/filofax-change-holder.html>
9. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TFWl1nG5VDI/AAAAAAAAIGQ/DKthppxq9xk/s1600/IMG_9237.jpg
10. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TFWly_TWEbI/AAAAAAAAIGM/_FbBUrr2rAY/s1600/IMG_9234.JPG
11. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TFWl1nG5VDI/AAAAAAAAIGQ/DKthppxq9xk/s1600/IMG_9237.jpg
12. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TFWly_TWEbI/AAAAAAAAIGM/_FbBUrr2rAY/s1600/IMG_9234.JPG
13. <http://tidd.ly/5352a1e1>
14. <http://tidd.ly/ca5bf05b>

Sharon (2010-08-01 14:28:51)

Welcome to the world of the Pocket Filofax, I am sure you will find it alot better than the Slimline!

Look forward to another review after a few weeks / months use!

DJ (2010-08-01 16:57:37)

Welcome to the club! For me, the Pocket (even better, a SLIMLINE pocket) hits the sweet spot between portability and writing real estate. Mini: good portability, writing area too small. Personal: writing area good, portability:

too big. Pocket: just right! Now with a pocket *slimline*, like the late Topaz and Pocket Executive, or Pocket Guildford Extra Slim, you could slip it in your jacket tuxedo when Pr esident Sarkozy invites you to dinner, no need for the CD bag.

John Steed, Esq. had it right many moons ago in "Dial a Deadly Number" (Avengers '65) A slimline pocket Filofax (or

Brand X?) in his jacket, effortlessly organized, whilst not creating a huge bulge in his Pierre Cardin tux. Impeccable!
"Welcome to the fight! This time, I know our side will win."—Viktor Laszlo, *Casablanca*

kanalt (2010-08-01 21:20:47)

Ugh. You're not making my decision any easier. ;) Actually, since I was thinking of using my slimline again just for my calendar, your post persuaded me to at least try the pocket size for that purpose. As you say, I can always switch back if it doesn't work out.

Yvotchka (2010-08-02 11:21:05)

(gasps) I can't believe you gave up your Slimline! But your new Pocket set up looks wicked cool and I can't wait to hear more about how it works as a wallet/planner...

Love your black Fins! Very classy!!

Steve (2010-08-02 13:32:55)

All is not lost.. because I've just thought of a great use for my slimline... My Photography Filofax.. nice and slim and it will slot in to the top pocket of my camera bag nicely.

I already have a list of pages I wanted in such a organiser so, now I can do it. I was going to use a slimline pocket, but never got around to buying one! And my existing pocket was too bulky for that part of the camera bag...

Of course I will blog about it once it's assembled...

PA3789 (2010-08-02 14:09:35)

Pocket Filo???

Holy heck!!

I just went to an A4 and had top order it from the UK site!!!

I've got, 15 stores to manage, reports from "our" computer system to review, payroll, spreadsheets to identify and review, bulletins to carry, examine and train others on. Where could I put all of that in a pocket??

I am so envious of all of you.

Jotje (2010-08-03 07:51:16)

@Gregory: I don't pp here use the Pocket as a work fillo (or do you, guys?). I use A5 for work in 2ppd format, and it's just sooo right! However, my on the go planner is a Filofax Mini, doubling as a wallet.

I'll just sit back patiently, waiting for all of you to make the transition to Pocket, and then us Mini-users will conspire to convince you all to downsize even further! Ha!

Laurie (2010-08-03 07:56:20)

Yay Steve! I'm excited for you and your new Pocket usage.

I am going the other direction, or at least leaning that way. I'm still using my Personal size Filofax but as usual, my main complaint with it is that the diary pages are too small. I can't use a day per page diary, because I have to see the whole week. The Wo2P day spaces are decently sized, but I could definitely use more space on the week view.

My search for the Perfect Planner continues!

Shubha (2010-08-04 13:14:51)

Whew .. thanks Steve.. you have given me an idea of what to do with the Malden Pocket I ordered by mistake.. I too have used a Slimline for some years now as a more portable Personal .. the advantage has been being able to swap pages which I cannot do with a Pocket. but am pleased at the idea of a smaller filofax that doesnt make my handbag so full ! will wait to hear of your transition goes!

Steve (2010-08-20 20:05:16)

Here's how I'm carrying my pocket...

<http://steve-morton.com/blog/2010/08/21/man-bag/>

Steve

Shipping to Australia??? (2010-08-04 08:31) - Laurie

Our Philofaxy friend Silver _Elixir emailed me to ask if I know of a Filofax retailer that ships to Australia for non-outrageous prices. She said that Filofax UK and US both do ship to Oz, but the shipping costs are prohibitive. There is a Filofax Australia website, but she wants some specific things they don't carry. Here is her wish list:

Personal Day Planner Page

Personal Reinforcing Patches

Personal Filofax Hole Punch

Personal Computer Paper

Personal Organiser Stickers

Personal Blank Tabs, 6

Personal Jotpad

Personal To Do Cotton Cream

Personal W2Pages Cotton Cream 2011

The things she wants the very most are the stickers and the computer paper, so those are top priority. My only thought is to search ebay. Does anyone else know of any Filofax retailers that can ship to Australia at a reasonable cost? Thanks everybody! :)

HP Fuchs (2010-08-04 08:53:06)

Why doesn't a philofaxy reader living in UK or America buy those items and send them to silver _elixier? Perhaps this is less expensive.

Jotje (2010-08-04 09:42:26)

How about filofax.fr? They seem to offer international shipments at reasonable prices?

colie (2010-08-04 16:10:59)

silver: first, nice shopping list and massive props for the day planner pages. i am a huge fan. second, try ebay for australia! here is a link and scroll to the bottom for additional items.
http://shop.ebay.com.au/?_from=R40&_trksid=p3907.m570.11313&_nkw=filofax&_sacat=See-All-Categories

Silver_Elixir (2010-08-04 18:15:57)

Hi Everyone,

Thank you for your help and all your ideas and suggestions. Very much appreciated!

HP - I had thought of that idea as perhaps the easiest way around the shipping costs to some extent.

Jotje - I will look on the French site today and see what they have to offer.

Collie - Thanks. :-) I have some day planner pages but I need some more to stock up my supply. I will jump on the ebay site and check it out.

Thanks all!

stirwise (2010-08-04 20:28:35)

Jotje: Thanks for mentioning the French site. I had been eyeing a cover on the UK site but was discouraged by the 40 GBP shipping fee to the USA. The French site only charges 14 Euros to ship the same item. Woo hoo!

Steve (2010-08-05 01:55:55)

If you think about it... Let's say you bought two organisers two weeks apart from each other. One cost £20 the other £120, but they are both the same size, same fill, so likely to weigh the same....

So why should one cost £7.50 and the other £40 to post??

Try that on the France site €20 and €120 and you end up with postage costs of €8 and €19 still a difference, but a little bit more realistic..

I think this anomaly needs to be pointed out to Filofax UK... sorry the old Trade Union rep in me coming out again!!

Steve

fiology.com (2010-08-05 04:06:56)

I live in Australia, and the filofax.com.au site isn't even a shop! eBay is okay, but fairly limited, and there's not too many retailers around. I get refills online from .co.uk, 7.50 pounds postage is a lot, but it's better than nothing, plus the actual product is cheaper than it is in stores here.

Steve (2010-08-05 12:16:22)

I've just emailed Filofax UK to ask them to explain their ROW costs and how they differ for items that would be the same weight but of a different order value.

I will report back if I get a response.

Steve

LFX (2010-08-05 18:25:42)

For a good online Filofax store in Australia, check out:

LFXstore.com

if they don't have what you want, they can get it in...

hope this helps.

Jess (2010-08-06 06:51:22)

might the shipping costs be different for items weighing the same but being different values because of parcel insurance?

Steve (2010-08-06 06:54:38)

Jess, possibly, but that doesn't explain the big difference between UK and French prices.... I await their official verdict...

Noriko (2010-08-09 20:49:35)

I'm looking at getting a filofax online as the prices are crazy over here, so far organisersonline.com looks to have fairly cheap shipping

Free Finsbury Accessories with any Finsbury Organiser (2010-08-05 01:00) - Steve

[1] 

A great offer from Filofax UK

From **5th - 31st August 2010** they have a great web-exclusive offer on their popular Finsbury range.

For every Finsbury personal organiser purchased during this period (any size, any colour) you get a **free** leather Finsbury accessory worth up to **£36**.

Click on the advert to benefit from this offer.

[2] 

1. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?s=213879&v=2457&q=108918&r=97790>

2. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?s=213879&v=2457&q=108918&r=97790>

Philofaxy on Flickr (2010-08-05 05:36) - Steve

To integrate the Philofaxy community on Flickr more in to this site, I've just added a [1]new page to the list of pages at the top of the blog.

The new page includes a slideshow of all the pictures on the Flickr group, you can even view them full screen, click on the four arrowed icon on the right of the slideshow... Esc to get back to normal size.

So join in and start adding some of your own Filofax pictures... any size of Filofax that is... not just the Pocket :-)
Enjoy.....

Steve

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/philofaxy-on-flickr.html>

plaiditude (2010-08-05 07:40:12)

Now I'll never have to leave home er, this site, again! (except to read other filo blogs of course!)

Yvotchka (2010-08-05 08:55:16)

Cooooool! What a great idea, thanks Steve :)

Laurie (2010-08-05 09:27:10)

Really cool Steve, thanks for doing this!!

Steve (2010-08-05 09:45:41)

Thank you everyone. Philofaxy isn't trying to take over the world, but I think that page helps people be aware that there is a Flickr presence too.

I was trying to also incorporate the discussion area, but I've not found a way of doing that yet...

But I'm pleased with my efforts of the morning.

Once again thanks for your messages of appreciation I really appreciate them.

Gail (2010-08-05 11:11:06)

Oh that's great Steve, I just joined Flickr yesterday and uploaded some pics of my Filofaxs.

PA3789 (2010-08-05 17:14:23)

Oh my, what have I done???

I purchased an A4 size planner thinking I can't live without full size pages.

Sometimes I think I really am stupid.

I used it for 3, mind you 3 whole days and I HATE IT!!!!

So today when I returned home from a 3 day stint on the road, I immediately rushed into my office, opened my box of Filos and pulled my Finchley personal from the dark hole.

The leather smell instantly hooked me once again and I began transferring information.

What the hell was I thinking??

Pages I need will be once again transferred to my laptop and a hard copy put into the store's file for reference.

A spiral notebook in my briefcase for doodling and quick notes to eventually be transferred into my Filo.

Just the important stuff mind you.

Now I can carry once again, my beloved Filo inside my perfect hardside Korchmar briefcase.

God, someone please tell me, it will be OK!!

Oni (2010-08-06 07:09:43)

Yay!! Thank you Steve!!!

plaiditude (2010-08-06 17:13:15)

gregorym you could try an A5 as an in-between. I just started using one and I think I'm going to like it. I've tried A5 before, but never with a Filofax, and my last binders were huge. I opted for one of the smallest A5's. The finchley has slightly less width than most of the A5's and it only has the 1" rings so I won't be tempted to carry 6 pounds of paper with me. Your A4 pages would just need to be folded in half :)

Noone Business (2010-08-08 12:06:55)

Dear Hearts:

I have a question:

Filofax USA advertizes a pen that "fits even the smallest of Filofax organizers".

Does anyone have the dimensions of this pen? I'm looking for a pen for my new slim pocket Topaz.

Thanks,

Jim

Fashion Brown Pen (Filofax)

Code: 061054

\$30.00

kanalt (2010-08-08 20:16:12)

Noone - I do not know the dimensions of the pen available through Filofax, but I know this Zebra pen fits all the pen loops for the binders I have. I do have two slimline binders, but not the Topaz. I also have the personal size, not the pocket, but because the pen is retractable, it fits in the smallest binder - I have had it in a mini domino.

<http://www.zebrapen.com/products/pen/telescopic-0?c=29>

Hope this helps.

Free for All Friday No. 90 (2010-08-05 18:27) - Nan

My region saw heavy thunderstorms and flooding today. Roads became impassible in minutes, and two people were struck by lightning. Of course, this extreme weather got me thinking about weather and Filos. Do you record the weather in your Filo? Do you find it helps you remember a certain day?

I usually only write down when it snows, especially when it's a significant number of inches. I also note any astronomical phenomena to look out for, like a meteor shower or comet. (Unfortunately, I'm a little too far south for the current aurora borealis.)

Yvotchka (2010-08-05 19:35:15)

In the North East right here with ya Nan, and yes I record the weather every day in my Filo, along with my mood (and I think often weather correlates with mood for me).

Today, for example, said "cloudy, muggy, gross. Afternoon T-storms"

I too record snow accumulation in winter. It is interesting to look back over the years and see which ones were "snow years" and which were relatively mild.

When I lived in California I found I stopped recording the weather shortly after I moved there...because it was sunny & gorgeous just about every day!

As a New Englander, I thought there wasn't much fun in that ;)

stirwise (2010-08-05 22:49:14)

I don't typically record the weather, though I'll keep that in mind the next time something really record-breaking happens. I do, however, record restaurants we go to and what we ordered. You wouldn't believe how many arguments we have over what we had where and when.

Jotje (2010-08-06 02:54:46)

I record the daily weather in my Moleskine Journal. I actually only started doing so because of the little symbols at the bottom of the page. If Filofax inserts had those, I'd probably record the weather in my Filo. Come to think of it: how insane is that?! LOL

Michele (2010-08-06 08:07:54)

Another northeaster here.... Nan, re your comment I think I saw some of the Aurora Borealis yesterday morning around around 4:30 am as I sipped my coffee listening to the crickets.... As far as recording the weather, no I don't, but I think I might just start. We actually go on vacation two weeks from tomorrow to Kauai for a full week! It's high 80's-low 90's much like here. We booked the trip just two weeks ago so there is so much to do to prepare. As I am making separate lists for me, boyfriend, 16 year son, my filo is getting a real workout. Now just wondering what to bring filo wise...maybe take a vacation from filo and just bring some note paper and use as a journal as the week format on one page leaves it too small to

write anything substantial.

crofter (2010-08-06 11:25:36)

I keep detailed notes on the weather, sky, temp. wind speed and direction, barometric pressure and precipitation totals. At the end of the month I record averages for all and totals. I do this because I have been involved in ranching my entire life, and weather conditions and general observation of nature in general is very important.

I have a question on paper sizes used in the Filofax. It is my understanding that all the sizes may be cut with minimal waste from A4 sheets, you get 2 A5 sheets from 1 A4, 3 Personal from 1 A4.

Anybody have any idea on what you can get for Pocket from an A4. A4 is undavailable here so I would have to order it. I want to make some of my own sheets, and I am trying to figure out how to do it without any or very minimal waste. Steve, I thought you might enlighten me on this.

Thanks in advance for everyone's help and suggestions.

crofter (2010-08-06 11:26:13)

I keep detailed notes on the weather, sky, temp. wind speed and direction, barometric pressure and precipitation totals. At the end of the month I record averages for all and totals. I do this because I have been involved in ranching my entire life, and weather conditions and general observation of nature in general is very important.

I have a question on paper sizes used in the Filofax. It is my understanding that all the sizes may be cut with minimal waste from A4 sheets, you get 2 A5 sheets from 1 A4, 3 Personal from 1 A4.

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Thanks in advance for everyone's help and suggestions.

Jotje (2010-08-06 13:34:14)

@crofter: A4 should give you 4 Pocket sized pages! An A4 page measures 210 x 297 mm.

Gail (2010-08-06 14:06:49)

I first started recording the weather about 6 weeks ago. For the last 4 weeks, its been the same words everyday.....Overcast dull and cool. And we are right in the middle of Summer here in England.

Glossary - What are all these abbreviations people use... (2010-08-06 17:42) - Steve

OK I admit it, it is one of my pet hates... abbreviations or three and four letter acronyms that people use, expecting everyone to use/know them.

My last job before I retired gracefully to France was in the Defence industry and they have abbreviations coming out of every document in their hundreds but when you think you knew them all, someone would reuse one for something completely different or invent yet another.... arrrragh I used to spend too much time looking these things up only to forget why I was looking it up!!!

So in our world... the world of Filofax what abbreviations are in use... here is a list:

- DOOP - Day on one page.
- DPP - Day per page
- FF - Filofax... of course
- FC - Frankin Covey - not Father Christmas!
- MOTP - Month on two pages
- Mole - Moleskine

- Pers - Personal Size
- TDPP - Two days per page
- WPP - Week per Page
- WOOP - Week on one page
- WOTP - Week on two pages
- YP - Year Planner

What others are there? Please add them in the comments and I will add them to the list.

PeachGirl (2010-08-08 14:02:36)

Thank you i didnt know a few of these just added them to my notes section in my new filo.

Skype Chat This Afternoon (2010-08-08 09:45) - Steve

Don't forget the Skype chat this afternoon. Everyone is welcome, just pop up and look for **Philofaxy** on Skype

Full details in the [1]earlier post

Look forward to chatting with you later hopefully.

Regards

Steve

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/07/date-for-your-diary-philofaxy-chat-on.html>

Skype Chat This Afternoon - Postscript (2010-08-08 17:18) - Steve

Thank you to everyone that took part today.

I've learnt one important lesson about how to manage these sessions. First to get everyone on to the instant messaging part of Skype first. And then ask who wants to join in on a voice conference call, that way everyone is at least in contact with everyone else first!

At one point I think we had two or three people in discussions on instant messaging and another three at one point on voice a little confusing but it all seemed to work.

I think we will definitely do this again soon.

Regards

Steve

plaiditude (2010-08-08 17:26:09)

I'd love to see some highlights here of the discussion!

Sharon (2010-08-09 05:52:07)

I had a great discussion on Skype messaging with the other Filofax users.

Not sure how much Filofax talk there was, but we did discuss about the Mini and Pocket usage and which would be more practical as a wallet / purse carry round!

As well as just really getting to know each other and make sure we linked up with everyone on Twitter and Facebook!

Great fun and looking forward to the next one!

Steve (2010-08-09 05:54:43)

Hi

On the voice side of things. We put voices to names of course and then some of the serious discussion included:

Printing calendar pages from Outlook (I will be doing a post about this soon)

The cost of shipping from UK to the US and anywhere else overseas

The merits of the different size organisers

The idea about having a Philofaxy meet up in London may be Spring next year, (this one needs more discussion and planning)

There was of course a lot of light hearted discussion and general chat which is always great.

Steve

Adirondack Explorer (2010-08-09 10:25:35)

I planned to join you but ended up helping my Dad do some family genealogy work at an historical museum so missed it. Glad it went well!

bernhardS (2010-08-09 17:40:47)

Hi, everybody!

Had the luck to find a timeslot yesterday for the chat, skyped to PHILOFAXY and heard Steve's voice. Unfortunately, my connection was too lousy so I had to cancel it.

Later I was skyped by the chat but I could not get into the conversation.

But there is one essential thing I have learnt about Philofaxy: You can study Web 2.0 here in its full beauty, say the interconnections between blogging, Twitter, Facebook and Skype.

You did a great job, Steve, and I'd like to say thanks for your efforts - hoping the next chat will be a better one for me.

Best from Germany,

Bernhard

Jess (2010-08-10 05:58:41)

i wish i had a webcam or microphone so i could have joined in! i dont know anything about skype - is the messaging just like aol's instant messenger, and msn messenger? if so i would love to be involved next time on that level.

Steve (2010-08-10 06:04:03)

Hi Jess

For the conference bit you only need a microphone, webcam not required... Most laptops have a built in mic, and most netbooks now have webcams built in. But the video only works one to one, not one to many. But it's great for having a chat because you can show people things on the camera...

And yes the messaging side of it is just like Yahoo Messenger, MSN or AOL instant messaging. Easy to use and most people seem to be able to use it without any instructions.

katka.m (2010-08-10 09:21:26)

Hello Steve,

may I have a question? Do you remember the ebay seller of your Filofax Change holder ? Or do you know anybody else who sells them? Thanks a lot.

Steve (2010-08-10 09:27:59)

Hi

Sure do... there is a link in this post to their page:

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/04/filofaxlefax-items-on-ebay.htm> l

I don't they have any on sale, but contact them in case they still have one or two, but they haven't put them on Ebay.

Steve

Attention US Malden Fans..... (2010-08-10 01:39) - Steve



[1]

Until now the Malden has only been available on the UK site. Well it will be available later this year in the US. How do we know this? Take a look at the [2]blog post by one of our readers 'Kanalt' So sorry to you folks that have already bought one and had to pay the (in my opinion) excessive shipping costs. But it is good news for people that have been waiting for news on availability. This whole episode has highlighted the difference in shipping costs between different Filofax on-line stores for customers overseas. I have emailed Filofax UK about this and I'm awaiting a reply. So I wonder if Filofax France will be stocking it too??... cue French shrug of shoulders!!!!

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TMGi9-Vb41I/AAAAAAAAIVc/8vs8q-Er2us/s1600/malden.jpg
2. <http://lifewellplanned.blogspot.com/2010/08/straight-from-horses-mouth.html>

bernhardS (2010-08-10 05:02:33)

According to their official homepage, Filofax Germany offers the Malden as a Personal (95 Euro) and Pocket version (85 Euro).

Steve (2010-08-10 06:13:21)

And in France also... same prices...

Tempting!

So if you are ordering from the US....before it arrives there order it from France because the postage is a lot cheaper than Filofax UK at present....

kanalt (2010-08-10 06:31:31)

Thanks for linking to my blog! I'm looking forward to its arrival.

stirwise (2010-08-10 11:58:13)

Mine just shipped from France yesterday. For the record, while the UK site charges 40 GBP to ship the Malden to the US, Filofax France only charges 14 Euros. I tried Filofax Germany first, since my German is better than my French, but they don't appear to ship outside Europe. Filofax Denmark has international shipping and slightly better rates than France, but they don't carry the Malden. (They do, however, carry some very unique calendar pages and index tabs.)

My stomach dropped a little when I saw the beginning of this post, but seeing that it won't be in the US until around October makes me feel better about placing my international order now. I'm impatient!

ArchiMark (2010-09-27 23:41:40)

Would be great to have Malden sold in US....

Anyone have any updates on this?

Also, no Malden in A5 size, right?

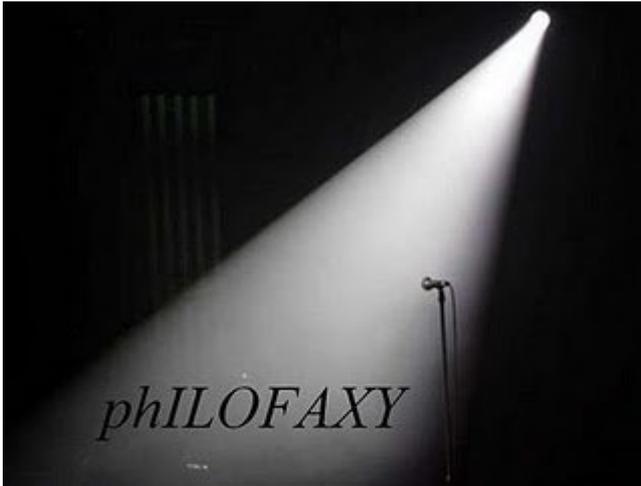
Thanks!

Steve (2010-09-28 02:03:01)

No A5 as yet, and we believe that October is still the that on sale date in the US.

Steve

Readers Under The Spot Light - Introduction (2010-08-10 09:52) - Steve



[1]

A couple of weeks ago I had one of my many (mad) ideas, to get some feed back from you the readership about what you thought about the blog. I also thought it would be good to learn more about you the readers about your 'Filofax' background nothing too detailed.

So the three of us put our virtual heads together and picked out some of our frequent readers based on how often they comment etc.

We devised some simple questions and they have been sent out to all the people on our list.

So coming up over next few weeks we will be releasing the responses from our mystery readers, I hope you enjoy reading their responses.

If you would like to also take part, then please get in touch via our usual email address [philofaxy at gmail dot com](mailto:philofaxy@gmail.com)

1. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TGFwfQiVx8I/AAAAAAAAAIQ/lume_of_ZI4/s1600/Spotlight.jpg

kanalt (2010-08-10 20:44:35)

I love that picture!

Penny (2010-08-31 20:54:53)

awesome!

Reader Under The Spot Light - Sharon (2010-08-11 00:01) - Steve



[1] Sharon has a number of blogs of her own, but recently she has been blogging about Filofax on her [2]craft blog and has been very much part of the recent 'Pocket Revolution'!! 1. *When did you buy your first Filofax and what was it?* My first Filofax was probably a Fun Fax I had as a child, then my Dad bought me a Personal Kensington, about 20 years ago and I was smitten! I still have that Filofax, as I brought it with me when I moved from Africa, and it is well worn, soft, stretch and I love it as memorabilia! 2.

What other brands have you used or considered using? I did consider using FC inserts ONLY but the postage to UK was too high. I have tried a Moleskin page a day diary, but it never lasted long! 3. *Out of the organisers you own which is your current favourite (Style and Size)?* Current, is Urban Pocket, followed then by the Grape Personal Domino and finally the A5 Domino in Red, all seem to be meeting my needs right now! I am also using the Pocket Chino, and whilst it is lovely, not sure a favourite! 4. *How many Filofax organisers do you own?* At last count 10! 5. *What do you use your Filofax for?* Work, Personal, Crafts and AVON 6. *What was the feature about Filofax you like most?* The ability to change layouts and have it setup as I need it! 7. *If you could design your own Filofax what would it feature?* A left handed Filofax! 8. *How do you carry your Filofax?* In my bag. 9. *Which Filofax in the current range do you like the most? Are you going to buy it?* Pocket, and yes I bought 3! 10. *What is the most you have ever spent on a Filofax? Which model?* Approx £40 I think on the A5 Metropol Zip 11. *Turning to Philofaxy, what do you like the most?* I like everything about Philofaxy, the info, pictures, links, the whole thing, a great blog, WELL DONE! 12. *And what do you not like about Philofaxy?* Nothing! 13. *What was the last music album CD you bought or downloaded?* Lady Gaga's latest CD. Thank you Sharon for agreeing to go under the 'spot light' .

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TFvfOiWcPqI/AAAAAAAAIGk/89tZ5L3JuMA/s1600/sharon.jpg

2. <http://shazzastitching.wordpress.com/>

pilgrim (2010-08-11 04:16:49)

[http://cgi.ebay.co.uk/Introducing-Tearslips-Filofax-A5-A4-organisers-/190427890561?cmd=ViewItem &pt=UK_BOI_Office_Office_Supplies_Stationery_ET&hash=item2c56630381 #ht_674wt_946](http://cgi.ebay.co.uk/Introducing-Tearslips-Filofax-A5-A4-organisers-/190427890561?cmd=ViewItem&pt=UK_BOI_Office_Office_Supplies_Stationery_ET&hash=item2c56630381#ht_674wt_946) Has anyone seen these before? A mightily good idea, if expensive for what they are, but some real bargains on EBay today

Regards to all

Andy

Pete Mac (2010-08-11 04:21:55)

A left-handed filofax. That would be SO good...!

Yvotchka (2010-08-11 09:12:49)

Excellent interview! And so nice to put a face with a name (and a blog...and a Tweet)!

Petra (2010-08-11 13:04:58)

Pilgrim, I've seen the tear-off pages somewhere other than Filofax, can't remember where. But I have made my own, since I have a hole punch and a perforator. Perforator wheels are inexpensive at craft stores, though the one I have is like a paper cutter with a perforator wheel (Cutterpede brand). I guess the jot pads from FF would do the same without rough edges.

Adirondack Explorer (2010-08-11 14:18:42)

I enjoyed your post!

Nickie @ Typecast (2010-08-12 09:50:33)

Excellent interview, Sharon. Lovely to "meet" you :)

I almost bought a red filo earlier this year but chose a "new release" instead. The next one will be red, definitely :)

Millie (2010-08-12 13:53:27)

Last night I read this post, and tweeted to Steve to say I agreed that there should be a left-handed Filofax. He asked me to write a comment with specifications of a left-handed Filofax. So, here we are 24 hours later with my thoughts! I'll try not to make this a post of its own!

Being left-handed affects lots of things right-handed people don't think of, aside from the obvious everyday issues of using can openers and scissors. For example, most handbags (this is a girl problem mostly!) have a design only on one-side, and the zip is usually for a right-handed person. Left-handed people then have to either not show the bag design, or have the zip running the wrong way when they put their bag on their shoulder!

I was thus on a left-handist crusade when I tweeted to Steve to say I agreed with Sharon! Today, I studied my Filofax while at work and I've concluded: Filofax are already left-hand friendly! I can't see any bit that couldn't be changed by someone if they really felt that the design hindered them. Are the rings in the way when you write? Turn the folder around and

re-orientate your pages. Don't like the layout of the pockets? Buy a different style of folder.

I guess the reason Filofax is so great is that you can make it how you want it. All those problems that irk left-handed people in standard notebooks can be avoided in the Filofax.

I'd like to hear what other left-handed people think though. Maybe I've missed something obvious!

Filofax blog posts that we think are worth a look... (2010-08-11 15:27) - Steve

We don't point out ever single blog post that we become aware of that mentions Filofax, there are just so many, and also so many that just mention it in passing as a comparison to some electronic device or gadget thing... of no interest to the majority of you I'm sure...

But today's search is an exception and it turned up several that are worth a read:

- [1]Ebay Filofax
- [2]Avon-o-Fax
- [3]Filofax Collection
- [4]Hi! My name is Sophie and I'm a Filofax addict - Cider with Sophie
- [5]Technophobe 2.0—Resisting the Pings and the Pokes « Woman Around Town - Pen Mighty
- [6]Filofax! - Off High Street
- [7]Filofax Neal Street London
- [8]Unrealised Potential

Enjoy...

1. <http://shazzastitching.wordpress.com/2010/08/11/ebay-filofax/>
2. <http://shazzastitching.wordpress.com/2010/08/11/avon-o-fax/>
3. <http://shazzastitching.wordpress.com/2010/08/11/filofax-collection/>
4. <http://ciderwithsophie.blogspot.com/2010/08/hi-my-names-sophie-and-i-am-filofax.html>
5. <http://www.penmighty.com/blogfiles/2590/technophobe-2-0resisting-the-pings-and-the-pokes-woman-around-town/>
6. http://community.livejournal.com/off_highstreet/4120157.html
7. <http://www.cathryncook.co.uk/blog/2010/08/filofax-neal-street-london/>
8. <http://unrealisedpotential.blogspot.com/search/label/filofax>

M Ng (2010-08-11 16:55:13)

Thanks for posting these round-ups. It's a nice way to discover new blogs, and (of course) to get more ideas about how to best put my Filofax to use.

PA3789 (2010-08-11 17:57:51)

Great, I need more Filofax blogs.

It really makes me happy to know I'm not the only crazy one out here.

By the way I just ordered a Finchley A5 in black to try.

Love the Finchley personal but just a little too small.

So I'm taking "someones" advice.

Ok, OK, so it was a great excuse to order another Filo!!

plaiditude (2010-08-11 20:41:39)

gregorym: I'm sure you'll love it! Every time I open my backpack I'm greeted with that great leather smell from my A5 Black Finchley inside :)

I too love these blog post updates. I have a google alert for filofax but it doesn't capture a lot of useful blog posts, usually just store advertisements.

Printing A5 Pages (2010-08-12 00:01) - Steve

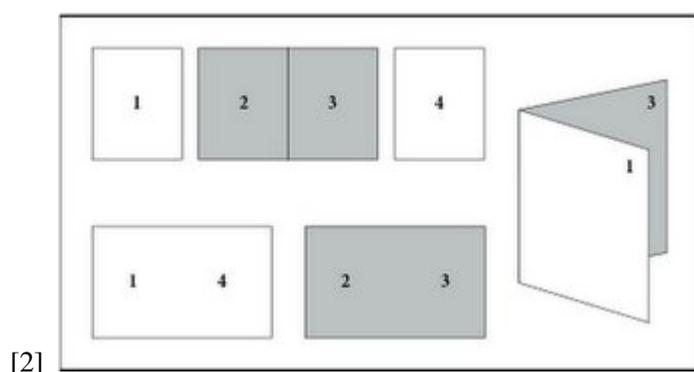
If you have an A5 organiser, it is the easiest size to create your own pages for. Anyone looking at my A5 will hardly find any preprinted pages in it, apart from may be some of the original ones that came with it!

So let me try to explain how I do it. It is not complicated, but takes longer to explain than it does to do. Taking an [1]A5 To Do List as an example because I used a lot of these pages.

The first thing you might notice is the document contains 4 pages all the same, in A4 format... Did you forget Steve we are doing A5.... no we start with four pages of A4 and when we booklet print them they become 4 A5 pages on an A4 sheet of paper...

A quick recap about European paper sizes... A4 is 297 by 210 mm and A5 is 210 by 148 mm in other words A5 is half the size of A4.

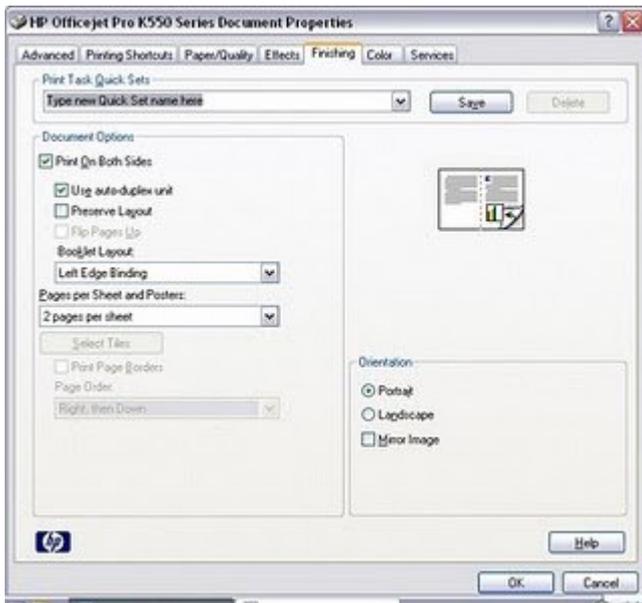
So the next step is to booklet print the four A4 pages on to one sheet of A4 paper. The four pages then become A5 size pages back to back like the drawing below.



So anything you have in A4 format can be made to fit A5, just by booklet printing it. To be able to booklet print you need a printer that can double side print... either manually or preferably automatically using a duplex attachment. It is worth considering this next time you buy a new printer.

I've only ever used HP printers and all of our current ones which are a mixture of Officejets (Colour ink-jet) and Laserjet (B & W Laser) printers all offer booklet printing. How to get your printer in to booklet mode varies, so I can't attempt to show you all the different ones here, but there is a sample screen below.

If you are using Word in Windows, go to File, Print and when the Print dialogue window pops up. Click on Properties next to the name of the printer.



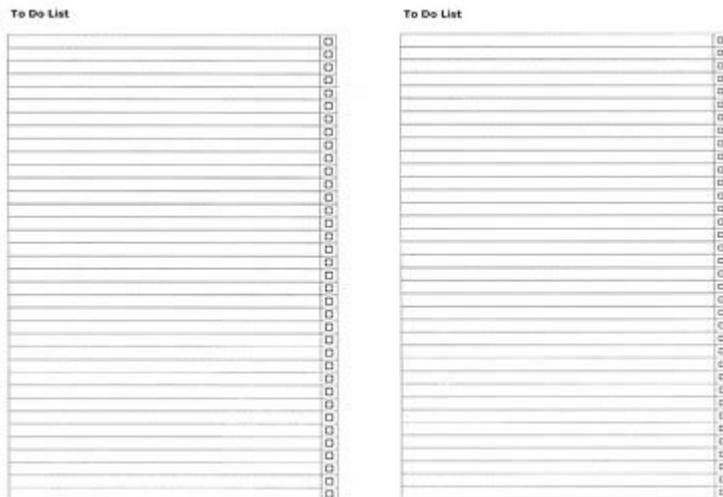
[3]

Some printers offer you a simple 'What do you want to do' type menu and you simply select 'Booklet Printing' 'Left hand Binding'

In others you might find it under the 'Finishing Tab' under the heading "Booklet Layout" You might need to experiment a little to find the setting on your own printer but once you have discovered them, note them down for future reference.

Those of you using a Mac then you will also find similar dialogue window by clicking on the down arrow next to the name of the printer to expand the menu. Then on the menu in the middle click on it and then click on Booklet Printing. It's fairly self explanatory from there onwards.

So once your printer is set up, you print out the whole document and you will end up with something like this:



[4]

It will be, or should be the same on both sides of the paper. Cut the page in half and put the outer edges of the original page together and punch them and for each sheet of A4 you will have 2 pages in A5 but double sided and collated correctly.

Once you have mastered this you will find there is no excuse for not having the exact format of page you need for what ever task or project.

If you have any questions please pop them in to the comments and I will do my best to answer them.

1. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/A5Addresses.doc>

2. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TGGkdRb1PLI/AAAAAAAAIUIU/Sz_H0nj5WKK/s1600/pr_07.png

3. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TGGp3uuq07I/AAAAAAAAIic/_naMrdCIKu8/s1600/printer.jpg
4. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TGGm83vnV5I/AAAAAAAAIYY/NlRWS8hvnfw/s1600/scan0001.jpg

Globetrotting Cacti (2010-08-12 05:26:58)

That is so useful to know. I have a new A5 Finsbury and was wondering if I could make my own inserts. Off to have a play around with my printer and paper. Thanks!

kanalt (2010-08-12 17:38:50)

Can't wait to try printing my own pages. Thanks Steve!

Left Handed Use of a Filofax? (2010-08-12 15:58) - Steve

I saw Sharon's response and then Millie's comment and thought that this topic was worthy of a post in itself. So... in Sharon's [1]Reader Under The Spot Light she said

*7. If you could design your own Filofax what would it feature?
A left handed Filofax!*

And as an update Sharon has actual done a [2]post on her blog about this topic and then [3]Millie commented:

Last night I read this post, and tweeted to Steve to say I agreed that there should be a left-handed Filofax. He asked me to write a comment with specifications of a left-handed Filofax. So, here we are 24 hours later with my thoughts! I'll try not to make this a post of its own!

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I guess the reason Filofax is so great is that you can make it how you want it. All those problems that irk left-handed people in standard notebooks can be avoided in the Filofax.

I'd like to hear what other left-handed people think though. Maybe I've missed something obvious!

So are you left handed? Are some Filofax Organisers better for left handed users than others? Does the size matter? Let us have your thoughts and comments.

In fact Friday 13th is according to Millie is [4]International Left Handers Day..... who said that this blog didn't keep up with the times !!!! ☺

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/08/reader-under-spot-light-sharon.html>

2. <http://shazzastitching.wordpress.com/2010/08/13/left-handed-filofax/>

3. <http://www.blooddiary.com/ms.logica>

4. <http://www.blooddiary.com/ms.logica/a-left-handed-crusade>

Millie (2010-08-12 16:11:36)

Hehe, thank you, Steve. Can't wait to see the comments!

Gabrielle (2010-08-19 10:35:23)

I use a binder (similar to filofax - I use my Filofax for everything else in my life) for notes at uni everyday. As I was filling up blank pages I got into the trouble of the the rings being in the way when I try and write on the back of the page. I have gotten into a good system of writing right handed on the top face of the page, and left handed on the bottom face! (I'm right handed)

It works pretty well, and shows that binders suit all types of writers.

Free For All Friday No. 91 (2010-08-13 00:50) - Laurie

Welcome to Friday the 13th! Normally this is a lucky day for me, despite the superstition. I was born on a Friday the 13th, which I consider to be pretty lucky, being born and all. So I tend to have a fondness for the day.

This Friday the 13th is particularly lucky for me, because today my family and I are fulfilling our dream of moving to Scotland! In fact, as you read this, we are on a plane somewhere between Albania and Scotland. We are very excited!!

Here we are nearly at mid-August, and the summer is starting to wind down for most of us (in the northern hemisphere of course!).

It's not too early to start planning your autumn! Any upcoming plans?

And as always on Fridays, the floor is yours for anything Filofax-related.

Happy Friday the 13th everybody!

Laurie

Steve (2010-08-13 01:48:28)

Hi Laurie,

Hope your move all goes ok today, we are all looking forward to hearing from you on 'the other side' of your move!!!

I was nearly born on Friday 13th, but in fact I was born on March 12th, which also happened to be my late Fathers birthday... what a birthday present I turned out to be!

I'm not so much as planning autumn but still enjoying summer in France. But I'm starting to think about what diary inserts to buy and more importantly from where!

My thought of the day, which I've just tweeted... 'You can grip a Filofax as tightly as you like, it won't stop working... unlike the iPhone 4'

Have a good weekend everyone.

pilgrim (2010-08-13 03:18:44)

Good luck with the move Laurie

Pilgrim

markus (2010-08-13 03:27:00)

All the best for you and your family. Scotland is a great country.

shepcraig (2010-08-13 04:49:59)

Welcome to bonnie Scotland, you will love it here, despite the weather.

Paul (2010-08-13 06:20:23)

Hello all.

I'm a new filofax user (only got one last week for the first time - a personal size brown kendal), having come to the gradual realisation that paper really does work best for me (and being a computer science/robotics academic researcher, that's quite an admission!).

Of the inserts provided when I bought it, I'm only using the 'diary', 'notes' and 'projects' (for to-do lists) sections, but may be persuaded to expand that as time goes on!

I've been looking through the blog, and I've some really interesting stuff. Just two questions for discussion if I may: (1) are there any other inserts/functions that anybody thinks would be particularly useful for me; and (2) what have people generally got as the very first page in their filofax - just the first page of the diary (what I've got at the moment, but it's not very interesting), their personal information page, or perhaps a personalised cover page?

Thanks all - and I hope your move goes well Laurie

Paul

PA3789 (2010-08-13 06:24:22)

Good Luck Laurie!

Your ability to have had the chance to move around this planet is fascinating!

Some of us (especially me) would have loved to have had that kind of chance.

Hope you settle in nicely and everything goes smoothly.

P.S. My A5 Finchley will be here Monday!!

Yvotchka (2010-08-13 08:10:42)

Happy Birthday Laurie and Congrats on your move :)

With summer winding down I find myself not yet planning for fall, but rather using my Filo to put together a going away party for my BF who is deploying, and for noting down lots of events we are getting invited to.

And like Steve said...no matter how hard you grip it (or where) it always keeps right on working :)

Enjoy your b-day & your new home in Scotland!!!

Adirondack Explorer (2010-08-13 08:46:41)

We're all happy for you, Laurie. Scotland is a wonderful country! Happy travels today and have fun setting everything up in your new home.

Steve (2010-08-13 09:42:04)

Hi Paul

Welcome to the wonderful world of Philofaxy!

You asked about the front section... I have mine as follows:

Notes In: A mixture of lined, blanks and a to-do list on separate sheets. This acts as my inbox to be filed later

Calendar comes next;

ToDo; I use a lot of lists all the time!!

Projects; Notes and todo's drawings etc

Notes: Sort of a filing area for misc notes and ideas

Reference: My place to keep information I need to look up, maps, instruction sheets, connection diagrams etc. I'm a retired radio engineer!

and finally my A-Z for contacts. I keep a blank lined sheet in the front of this section for adding new contacts on the fly.

Been using this set up for about 5 years now, it gets minor tweaks but it works for me....

Regards

Steve

JJ (2010-08-13 09:58:27)

@Paul: While I do use some of the pre-printed forms, I've been using them less and less as time goes on.

For just about anything I need to record, I first reach for a lined or grid page. I'd be perfectly happy to switch over to grid paper only.

As for the front, first page... I dont know, I'd have to look. I keep all the active pages towards the middle of the binder and the stuff that doesn't change much at the begining and end.

Nan (2010-08-13 09:59:41)

Happy birthday, Laurie, and congratulations on your long-anticipated move! That's interesting about the date of your birthday, and yours, too, Steve. Mine's April Fool's Day!

Ally (2010-08-13 11:19:46)

How do you keep random notes and thoughts in your ff? For example, I may hear a person's name on the news that I want to learn more about, so I jot that down. The bibliography of a book that I am reading might list more books to read, so I write them down to take to the library to get. Someone might mention a new filofax that I want to check out, so I make a note.

With my memory not what it used to be (ha!), I find I have bits of paper everywhere.

Does anyone have a good strategy they can share?

Steve (2010-08-13 11:30:56)

Hi Ally

I'm glad I'm not the only one!!

I use To Do lists for gathering info like this may be 2 sheets so four pages in total. I fill these up over about 2-3 weeks I guess with thoughts and things to do, buy, search for etc. I have one specifically labelled Google, another Amazon, A tasks to do, and a misc one.

Steve

shepcraig (2010-08-13 12:22:32)

Hi Paul, my very first page is the page with my Filofax registration number, that way if it is lost, it can be traced back to me, the next page behind that is my personal information page.

Ally (2010-08-13 13:01:09)

Thanks Steve! My problem, I suppose, is related to the infamous GTD "capture" manoeuvre. I don't always have the FF at hand to write my notes, i.e. I am watching TV in the kitchen when I see something to write down and the FF is stowed in my bag located in another room!

kanalt (2010-08-14 21:59:27)

Laurie, I hope everything is going well with the big move!

With summer coming to a close and autumn around the corner, my Filo is as active as ever. Autumn is my favorite time of the year and often one of the busiest - there's (American) football to watch, apples to pick, pumpkins to carve, etc. And then there's my friend's wedding this year, for which I am the maid of honor - so I've been very busy with that, making lots of lists. And after all of that is done, the holidays are not far behind...

Paul (2010-08-15 16:01:05)

Thanks for your responses Steve, JJ and shepcraig! And I use my notes in a similar manner to Ally, which results in a disorganised mess most of the time, but at least with my FF I can reorder it :-)

@JJ - the grid paper is an interesting idea. I've been using lined note paper and the to-do lists for most of my daily research notes and plans, but the grid/squared paper would be useful too.

@shepcraig - good plan - I'm afraid to say I've stolen your idea... after this I've put a plastic pocket for all those bits and bobs.

Steve (2010-08-17 05:47:16)

Thought of the day... why is it I find more 'useful' photos on Flickr for discovering the details of different Filofax organisers than you can on the Filofax website... sigh..

Susanne (2010-08-17 14:37:09)

Laurie,

good luck on your move and I hope you enjoy living in Scotland.

@ Alli, I have the same issue with writing random notes all over the place, same things, a new book title, a movie, a quote, a recipe name, etc. I have started to simplify my Filofax by using the second tab for these random notes and then I can always take them from there. I try to keep my FF close, or at least my bag.

Friday Night Question (2010-08-13 13:24) - Steve

Have you ever sold any of your Filofax Organisers? And can we ask why?

ladydandelion.net (2010-08-13 13:40:16)

I sold the Graphic A5 and bought a (used, but as new) red Finsbury A5 instead. Because the Finsbury was nicer and have a place for an A5 pad in the back. I don't regret that.

bernhardS (2010-08-13 15:24:53)

I'm glad I didn't. I bought my 5 Filos between 1987 and 2000 and still I'm impressed by their high quality and craftsmanship - especially when marked with a golden "MADE IN ENGLAND" stamp.

Today's Filos - I don't want to be rough to proud owners of new models - do not compare to the vintage material.

best,

bs

PA3789 (2010-08-13 18:27:10)

I've never sold one but I gave one away to a friend on this site and I would do it again in a minute if someone needed one that I had in storage.

Love you guys!!

D (2010-08-13 22:10:23)

Sold any- no. Keep buying more- yes. I just got a dark brown Cuban slimline that I love love love...

Erin (2010-08-13 23:34:46)

Hey for Laurie congrats on moving to Scotland too bad they don't make green refill pages. I have been thinking of selling some of mine because I have so many and really can't keep buying new ones,,,,,I would love to get a classic vintage one if anyone interested in trading???

Steve (2010-08-14 00:07:14)

Hi Everyone.

This Friday night question is just an idea of mine, I tried it on Twitter last week and thought I would add it to the blog this week.

I might change it to another night in the week, just to spread the load a bit. I jot down simple questions in my Filofax and this was one of them on the list.

Some interesting responses so far. Can I remind you all of a post we published last November about the Google Group: <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2009/11/filofax-freecycleloan.html>

The idea being for people to be able to lend, donate, request etc A few people have taken part in this and it seems to have worked out ok. Anyway give it a look.

Thank you for all your responses

Regards

Steve

Yvotchka (2010-08-14 06:02:29)

I have never sold any, but I have also given a couple away to fellow Philofaxers.

I wouldn't rule it out however, though I wouldn't do it lightly.

kanalt (2010-08-14 22:03:22)

I have not yet sold a Filo, though I was given two from two different people from this site. I did give one of mine to a friend who is fairly new to Filofax. I am considering selling one that I do own - if I go through eBay, I'd sell. If I could find a fellow reader who wants it, I'd be more than happy to donate. But I haven't yet decided if I want to give it up just yet.

Deborandum (2010-08-15 15:26:39)

I just sold one 2 days ago via Ebay. I had a pocket Botanical (green) filofax but found it too small so I bought a Metropol Personal in raspberry colour instead.

I sold it with all the inside parts except for a diary and received a fantastic £11.00 for it!!

Nan (2010-08-17 21:10:29)

I've never sold one. The only things I've bought/sold on eBay are laptops and computer accessories, PGAs, and shoes.

I think with Filofaxes, I'm more inclined to keep them because I may use them someday.

With electronic equipment, I like to sell an old device and buy a new(er) used one.

Microsoft Outlook Calendar > Filofax (2010-08-14 00:01) - Steve

No I'm not suggesting you all abandon your Filofax diaries and start using MS Outlook instead... perish the thought...

Actually I have used printed versions of Outlook calendars in my A5 Filofax. If you look at the picture in the header of the blog, that is in fact an Outlook calendar that was printed out in A5 format. It happened because I bought the wrong format diary refill that year!

So why use Outlook. Well there are some small advantages, for instance you could record all your annual reminders in Outlook: Birthdays, Anniversaries etc. And these will then appear on your printed diary.

Another advantage I suppose is you can change formats partly through the year or even if you need a more detailed week you can change for that week even. You don't have to print a whole year, just the days you need.

Outlook offers a number of different page styles in daily, weekly and monthly formats. It also gives you the option of 1 or 2 page for each of the above. You can add notes areas on the pages as well. There is a preview facility so before you hit the print button you can see what you are going to get.

I would recommend doing short date ranges first to make sure you have things set the way you want to before you go for broke and print off a whole year, get it wrong and it could work out more expensive on ink/toner and paper. Printing calendars for an A5 is achieved as I described in [1]an earlier post, you set it to A4 and booklet print it and you will get A5 pages. Printing A5 from A4 is fairly easy as the pages will match each other on both sides of the paper. Outlook does offer paper size and page size variations. So printing three personal pages on a side of A4 is possible but the alignment of the pages when double sided will depend on the accuracy of the alignment of your printer. My best advice is to experiment on a few sheets first, print them, cut them out, punch them and see how well they fit.

Give it a try you might find the format or layout you have been looking for. I hate to admit this but Outlook offers one of the best variety of calendar styles I have found that you can customise and print out.

Below are a few sample pages printed out.

10 August 2010
Tuesday

August 2010 September 2010

07 ⁰⁰		08 ⁰⁰	
08 ⁰⁰		09 ⁰⁰	
09 ⁰⁰		10 ⁰⁰	
10 ⁰⁰		11 ⁰⁰	
11 ⁰⁰		12 ⁰⁰	
12 ⁰⁰		13 ⁰⁰	
13 ⁰⁰		14 ⁰⁰	
14 ⁰⁰		15 ⁰⁰	
15 ⁰⁰		16 ⁰⁰	
16 ⁰⁰		17 ⁰⁰	
17 ⁰⁰		18 ⁰⁰	
18 ⁰⁰			

08⁰⁰ Evening

Notes

[2]

10 August 2010
Tuesday

August 2010 September 2010

07 ⁰⁰		08 ⁰⁰	
08 ⁰⁰		09 ⁰⁰	
09 ⁰⁰		10 ⁰⁰	
10 ⁰⁰		11 ⁰⁰	
11 ⁰⁰		12 ⁰⁰	
12 ⁰⁰		13 ⁰⁰	
13 ⁰⁰		14 ⁰⁰	
14 ⁰⁰		15 ⁰⁰	
15 ⁰⁰		16 ⁰⁰	
16 ⁰⁰		17 ⁰⁰	
17 ⁰⁰		18 ⁰⁰	
18 ⁰⁰			

08⁰⁰ Evening

Notes

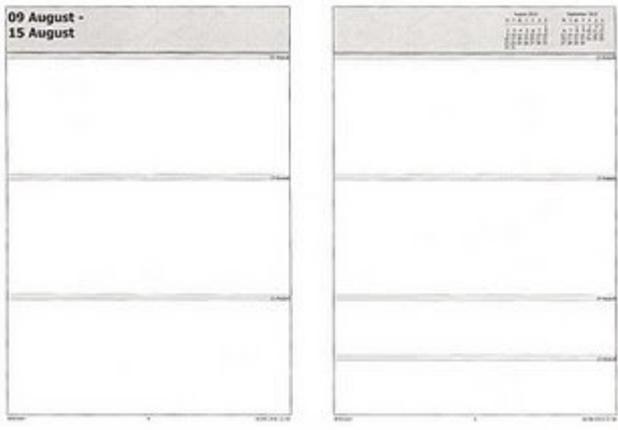
[3]

August 2010

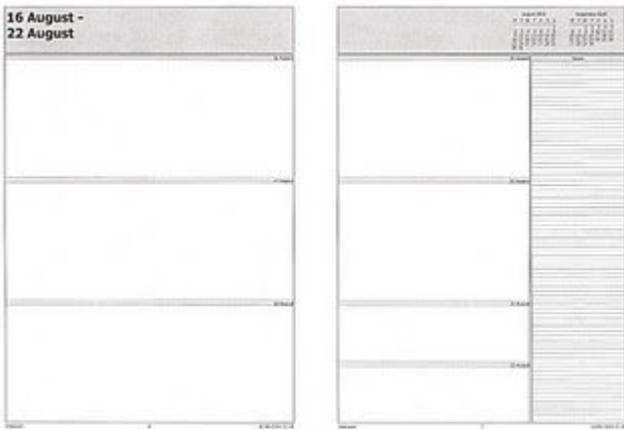
August 2010 September 2010

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					08 ⁰⁰ Evening

[4]



[5]



[6]

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/08/printing-a5-pages.html>
2. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TGHAQOkbcKI/AAAAAAAAIJM/g6a925Xjtj8/s1600/scan0001.jpg
3. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TGHAR3a9Fxi/AAAAAAAAIJQ/-LKxPTHcRKg/s1600/scan0002.jpg
4. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TGHATPcyRjI/AAAAAAAAIJU/zNoA51WGagA/s1600/scan0004.jpg
5. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TGHAUQsrbnI/AAAAAAAAIJY/CB2nPkX1j_k/s1600/scan0005.jpg
6. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TGHAWD_ARFI/AAAAAAAAIJc/iGP_kn0rh9s/s1600/scan0006.jpg

Petra (2010-08-14 09:23:15)

I've never used Outlook before, but it was the diyplanner website that got me started on my filofax obsession, since I loved the idea of being able to customize inserts. But I've found myself using commercial inserts for the calendar section since they just look nicer and don't run when damp like inkjet ink does (my only way to get color).

Does the Outlook in Office 2010 still have these calendaring features, or even more? We're moving to that at work, so maybe it's time I learn it :-)

Susanne (2010-08-17 14:20:31)

I have printed out the monthly view of the Outlook calendar for my personal Filofax and add each current month on top of the calendar section.

Instructions as follows:

Open Outlook calendar

Go to File -> print

Choose 'monthly style' in print window
Click on button 'Page set up'
Chose tab 'paper'
on right hand side of window choose the page size 'Day-timer senior pocket'
Perfect solution.

Nan (2010-08-17 21:07:30)

Gosh, these look great! I wonder how the Mac version of Outlook will work when it comes out later this year!

Jessica (2010-10-14 03:32:39)

Thanks for the sharing and if you want to share Outlook data with your colleagues, welcome to check:

[1]WinPST Share Outlook

1. <http://www.winpst.com/?from=blog>

Monday's dip in to what is on the web (2010-08-16 05:26) - Steve

Start of another week, and here's some pages to have a look at over your coffee... go one give yourself a break from work for a moment...

- [1]Filofax and how they put together their customer marketing emails;
- [2]Paul Smith one of the people that started the surge of the sales of the Filofax in the 80's;
- [3]Planning a wedding - here is an excellent post about being Maid of Honour;
- [4]Day Timer - An alternative to the Filofax brand;
- [5]Visit to the London Filofax shops (German)
- [6]Filofax Love

Enjoy

1. <http://prologue-software.com/email-social-and-the-art-of-storytelling-with-filofax/895/>

2. <http://sephari.tw/travel-information/london-by-design-with-paul-smith/>

3. <http://lifewellplanned.blogspot.com/2010/08/filo-of-honor.html>

4. <http://putitonmyheadstone.blogspot.com/2010/08/hell-hath-no-fury.html>

5. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.com/2010/08/london-calling.html>

6. <http://fiology.com/2010/08/08/we-made-love-on-the-living-room-floor-to-the-noise-in-the-background-of-a-televised-war/>

PA3789 (2010-08-16 17:06:28)

Today I received my Finchley A5.

It was on back order from the company I ordered it from (not Filofax USA) and since it was, they paid the overnight freight to get it to me for today.(I leave tomorrow for some out of town business)

That being said, I opened the box and the leather smell was overwhelming. I been using my Kendal A5 until this one arrived and quickly transfered my personal stuff over to the Finchley.

So for now, everthings in order and new and I am excited to use this as I love the Finchley personal I have but it's a bit too small for my job duties.

P.S. I also ordered a new Lamy 2000 ball point pen and .05 pencil that will be here when I get back from out of town.

Life is good again!

Thanks for the advice!

kanalt (2010-08-17 20:57:39)

Gregorym - Are you on Flickr? I'd love to see some pictures of the new A5...

At home in Scotland! (2010-08-17 00:00) - Laurie

I made it to my new home here in Scotland! My family and I are settling into our new life here. The east coast of Scotland is absolutely wonderful! I love our house, our neighbors are friendly, there's loads to see and do here. I think we will enjoy living here very much!

My internet at home won't be set up until the 24th (I'm currently writing this at the public library!) so I'll be absent until then.

Looking forward to "seeing" you online again then!

Laurie

Jess (2010-08-17 03:07:08)

congratulations, laurie! looking forward to having you back.

Iris (2010-08-17 04:09:53)

Glad to hear everything went well for you so far!

Steve (2010-08-17 05:48:36)

Well done Laurie and family... you are now within driving distance or train distance of a Filofax stockist..and other planners as well I suspect..

Look forward to seeing you once you get back on line again.

Yvotchka (2010-08-17 08:20:55)

Yay! Glad you are loving your new home :)

Nan (2010-08-17 21:03:59)

Steve has a good point! Welcome back online!

kanalt (2010-08-17 21:04:37)

Congratulations Laurie! Libraries are perfect for computer use. ;)

Michele (2010-08-18 06:45:24)

Congratulations Laurie! Looking forward to reading your posts again!

Laurie (2010-08-20 11:56:30)

Our internet is up and running a few days early! Hooray BT!

Well Steve, unfortunately for my bank account there is a Filofax stockist within WALKING distance. The WH Smith here has a limited, but nice, selection.

Also, a couple of days ago we were at

John Lewis in Aberdeen and they too have a nice range of Filofaxes, most notably that gorgeous purple Finchley...

Steve (2010-08-20 12:42:25)

Laurie, oh I'm jealous now.. John Lewis in your own town, it's a shop I really miss in UK... The one at Bluewater (near London) is excellent.

Excellent customer service too and good prices.

We now have a link to JL in our list of suppliers...

shepcraig (2010-08-23 11:25:39)

You will need to pop into Jenners in Edinburgh to see my amazing selection.

Laurie (2010-08-23 13:04:29)

shepcraig, whenever I get myself down to Edinburgh I will ABSOLUTELY stop into Jenners to see your Filofax selection! And I'll be sure to let you know when I'm coming! Please email me your email address if you don't mind: I'm at laurie758@gmail.com. Thanks! :)

Reader Under The Spot Light - Susan (2010-08-18 00:01) - Steve



[1]

Susan is better known as Kanalt17 to most of our readers, also has her own planner blog - [2]Life Well Planned If you haven't read the posts on there, you should find some time to do so, I always find them very well written and there's always some useful ideas and thoughts in each post.

1. When did you buy your first Filofax and what was it?

I received my first Filofax as a gift, though I did ask for it. It was a personal chocolate domino. Still have it!

2. What other brands have you used or considered using?

I used to use DayRunner. I have also used At-a-Glance and have tried Franklin Covey, though I didn't stay with them for long.

3. Out of the organisers you own which is your current favourite (Style and Size)?

Currently, the personal Guildford (only comes in black). I also love the Guildford Slimline but isn't practical on a daily basis.

4. How many Filofax organisers do you own?

13

5. What do you use your Filofax for?

I use different binders for different reasons - I have my personal every day one; my family one; and travel one; the rest are being used for storing inserts at the moment.

6. What was the feature about Filofax you like most?

Flexibility - you can use it however you need it, change it as you see fit. That's the part that makes sharing the best - you get lots of ideas from other people and how they use theirs.

7. If you could design your own Filofax what would it feature?

Like many others I presume, monthly sheets with corresponding tabs and a place to take notes for the month - the months would not be back to back on the sheets.

Also, I'd love to see a binder where the ring size falls in between the personal and the slimline - something a little thinner than the personal but a little bigger than the slim.

One more thing - insert with a little pizzazz - nature scenes or designs. Something a little more eye-catching.

8. *How do you carry your Filofax?*

I carry mine with me to work every day. I put it in my bag and take it out and leave it on my desk throughout the day. Often times I leave it at home when out otherwise, unless I know I'll need it. When running errands, for example, I will bring it with me and leave it in the car while I'm in different stores.

9. *Which Filofax in the current range do you like the most? Are you going to buy it?*

I LOVE the personal Malden in either black or crimson - I can't decide which I want more. I would very much like to buy it. Though due to the expense, I will have to budget for it.

10. *What is the most you have ever spent on a Filofax? Which model?*

Currently, the most I have spent was for the Finchley. It is going to \$115 US but it was cheaper at the time. And I tend to buy through a different retailer which charges less than the US Filofax site.

11. *Turning to Philofaxy, what do you like the most?*

The sense and growth of the community. Not only am I so excited that there are people out there who share my passion, but I have made many new friends because of it.

12. *And what do you not like about Philofaxy?*

Is there anything NOT to like?

13. *What was the last music album CD you bought or downloaded?*

The last full CD I downloaded was Lady Antebellum. I have downloaded various songs since then.
Thank you Susan for going 'under the spot light'

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TGTdIK55qvI/AAAAAAAAIJ0/fdokhi51BYk/s1600/SAM_0608+compressed.jpg

2. <http://lifewellplanned.blogspot.com/>

kanalt (2010-08-18 06:36:26)

Thank you! This is a great and fun feature. =)

Michele (2010-08-18 06:51:02)

Excellent new feature - should do this as a bi-weekly feature - get to know all our posting friends!

Steve (2010-08-18 07:07:57)

Thanks Michelle. We have quite a few coming up, so I have rescheduled them to appear on Tuesday's and Thursday's

The next one will be Tuesday next week...

There's a surprise post in this series coming up....

Yvotchka (2010-08-18 08:25:14)

What a great interview...and love your picture :)

Gail (2010-08-18 08:57:39)

Love the picture, your Filofax's look so full....just how I like them. lol

Adirondack Explorer (2010-08-18 11:14:43)

I enjoyed your post, Susan. Thanks!

angela (2010-08-18 11:53:37)

Ahhh thirteen filox, so jealous!

kanalt (2010-08-18 16:59:47)

Thanks to all of you!

Gail - at this point, some hold future and past pages and inserts. A few others have random papers in them to keep them full.

Steve - Can't wait for the surprise post...

KingSam15 (2010-08-19 10:49:06)

13? WOAH!

I thought 3 was alot. Can i ask a question? Why do you have so many? are you running 13 Business?

Lol

kanalt (2010-08-19 19:21:40)

KingSam - Lol. Some of my binders actually hold extra inserts and future and past diary pages, so they are in "use," even if they are just sitting on a shelf. I do like variety, so every once in a while I switch out my main binder. But if you think 13 is bad, just wait until you read other spotlight reader's interviews... =)

Nickie @ Typecast (2010-08-22 10:54:57)

Great interview :) I am in awe at the amount of Filofaxes you have - is that a red one I spy? Sometimes it's not even about the design but just the colour for me!

I love Lady Antebellum too - I keep meaning to download the album. I am content with listening on YouTube at the moment though :D

kanalt (2010-08-25 15:28:48)

Nickie - Thanks. Yes, the red one is my latest, an A5 Finchley that I'm making into a household Filo with all pertinent information.

As for Lady A - HIGHLY recommend both albums - I listen to them often! =)

Steve (2010-10-12 17:47:18)

Just realised... if your photo was taken now... you might have disappeared because there would be another Filofax on top of the pile !!!

Filofax, Wallet, Portable Music? (2010-08-19 13:52) - Steve

So some people... myself included have combine their wallet or purse with their Filofax, the size of Filofax used seems to vary from Mini through Pocket to Slimline Personal.



[1] Today I was looking at my wife Alison's iPod Nano and then wondered, I wonder if it would fit in a Pocket Filofax organiser?

I tried it in the pocket on the back which I'm not using for anything other than money, and Euro notes aren't very big so there is just about enough space to fit it in. But you would have to be careful not to have too many pages, otherwise it would bulge a bit!

It also fits quite nicely in the zipped pocket at the back, although I was keeping coins in there, not a good mixture unless your iPod is a bit battered already...

Another alternative is in a [2]zip lock plastic pocket with the zip slightly open at the top, that seems to work well

too, you would also be able to slip in a sync cable in there too!

So do we have an ultimate accessory for your Filofax? Anyone else tried this at all? Please let us have your comments below... Oh and yes I have returned the iPod to its owner!

1. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TG1u6kUkO_I/AAAAAAAAIKg/jlZvrOWBAvA/s1600/Ipod+Nano+Blue.jpg

2. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?awinmid=2457&awinaffid=97790&clickref=pocketziplock&p=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.filofax.co.uk%2Fstore%2Fpaperessentialsdetails.asp%3FproductId%3D487>

BR (2010-08-19 14:57:54)

Here's what I'm looking for, to no avail:

something not too big that will hold:

- two pages to a week calendar (I like the kind in my Moleskine with the week on one side and a notes page on the other) at least a year.

- notes pages, blank/lines/graphed

- address pages

- assorted pockets to hold money and cards

- a pocket for my iPod touch

- a pocket for my phone.

And then there's the coin issue. I live in Canada where our \$1 and \$2 are in coins, so I need a coin pocket that is substantial AND easy to get the contents out of. Too many wallets have skimpy little zip pockets which keep the coins secure but mean you have to dig around or tip them all out to find what you need.

Oni (2010-08-19 16:23:19)

Sorry, can't help you there. I'm anti-Apple. My current mp3 player is a Sony and I carry it in a pocket for easier accessibility.

Blog Posts for a Thursday (2010-08-19 17:06) - Steve

I came across a few more today, all worth a read...

- [1]My Planner - Susanne writes about her new Filofax;
- [2]And the obsession continues - Susanne describes her set up;
- [3]Getting Organised and the Filofax - another recent convert!
- [4]Cupcake Couture - Rhinna - Nothing Filofax related yet, but their announcement on Twitter this afternoon '@sojeanbrodie has left the moleskin posse and joined the filofax massive. I think my life can't be any more organised now. Oohh hello filofax accessories' which I thought was quite amusing so worth a mention here.

That is about it for today, if you come across any posts we miss that you think are worth mentioning, or if you are a blogger about Filofax yourself, send us the details to philofaxy at gmail dot com

1. <http://www.strickmuse.com/2010/08/my-planner.html>

2. <http://www.strickmuse.com/2010/08/and-obsession-continues.html>

3. <http://www.miasuraya.com/2010/08/getting-organized-and-filofax.html>

4. <http://www.cupcakecouture.co.uk/>

Susanne (2010-08-23 17:59:47)

Hi Steve, thanks for adding my links. The obsession heated up again after I was browsing around here on this website. I am glad that there are many others who are also obsessed with their planners and pens.

Free For All Friday No. 92 (2010-08-20 00:00) - Steve

Having recently moved over to my Pocket for day to day note taking, I did the very satisfying job the other night of consolidating my To-Do lists in to the Pocket as well. At last it seems to be working for me as I've had a busy but very productive week.

I'm now keeping my to-do lists at the front of my organiser, they are more to hand there and I don't have to go hunting for them. One of the advantages I suppose of a ring type organiser.

So have you made any small changes to your Filofax recently that had a bigger impact than you might have expected?

But as it is Friday, you can of course discuss anything remotely Filofax related.....

katka.m (2010-08-20 04:01:49)

Good Friday to all...I was just browsig eBay this morning and look what I've found....

http://cgi.ebay.com/London-Filofax-lot-6-plus-one-Coach-planner-/200510267833?pt=LH_DefaultDomain_0

Somebody is selling Filofax collection..so good luck everyone :o)

S. (2010-08-20 04:02:06)

It's not a "small" change but I've recently switched from a Pocket Chocolate Finchley to a Personal Raspberry Finsbury and am loving the switch to a Personal-size. Though I love its portability, my pocket just got too small and it got to a point where I dreaded using it as it was a pain to have to read my tiny scribbles and to make the effort to write small.

With my Personal Filo, I'm getting a lot more use out of my Filofax and writing in it does not seem like a chore anymore! The biggest difference so far is that I'm actively updating my finance pages with my daily expenditure which I didn't use to do with my Pocket Size. Amazing that a mere switch in Filofax size should help me get more organized!

angela (2010-08-20 04:16:36)

katka.m - I wish you hadn't sent that link now, I'm drooling but am on a shopping ban so no chance of my bidding :(

On further inspection on eBay, I found these:

[http://cgi.ebay.com/2010-HELLO-THERE-Diary-Journal-Day-Planner-](http://cgi.ebay.com/2010-HELLO-THERE-Diary-Journal-Day-Planner-Sched)

[Sched_uler_W0QQitemZ280440960722QQcategoryZ15735QQcmdZViewItemQQ_trksidZp4340.m8QQ_trkparmsZalgo%3DMW%26its%3DC%26itu%3DUCC%26otn%3D5%26ps%3D63%26clkid%3D6275601728574492498](http://cgi.ebay.com/2010-HELLO-THERE-Diary-Journal-Day-Planner-Sched_uler_W0QQitemZ280440960722QQcategoryZ15735QQcmdZViewItemQQ_trksidZp4340.m8QQ_trkparmsZalgo%3DMW%26its%3DC%26itu%3DUCC%26otn%3D5%26ps%3D63%26clkid%3D6275601728574492498)

http://cgi.ebay.com/Diaries-Journals-120Kcal-Eat-Diary-12-Colors_W0QQitemZ270579103049QQcategoryZ15735QQcmdZViewItemQQ_trksidZp4340.m8QQ_trkparmsZalgo%3DMW%26its%3DC%26itu%3DUCC%26otn%3D5%26ps%3D63%26clkid%3D6275590959745304474

and I want one in each colour of both styles!

But don't think I could ever replace my filofax...

Not something I did recently, but about a month and a half ago, I started adding an index card per week to my filo as there was no space for me to write stuff I needed to do during the week (something which the cotton cream refills have) and I have found it made my planner neater AND I am more inclined to actually use them than if they were incorporated into the refills somehow.

Michele (2010-08-20 08:24:04)

We leave for Hawaii bright and early tomorrow and of course..typical addicted to filofax questions come up.. Do I bring it? Do I trim it down a bit?... My filo had its own adventure last year when I left it on the plane at JFK and it took a solo flight to Ohio but someone was nice enough to return it to me.. So of course my boyfriend says "You have to bring it to Hawaii because what else are you going to leave on the plane this time?"

Steve (2010-08-20 20:06:58)

Just done a quick post on my own blog about how I'm carrying my pocket Filofax/Wallet for your enjoyment
<http://steve-morton.com/blog/2010/08/21/man-bag/>

PA3789 (2010-08-21 09:20:57)

Hey everyone!

Just a quick note that I have changed my username from gregorym.

So when you see a post, yes it's me.

Also I needed an out for what is rambling around in my head and decided to create a blog about life at the 1/2 century mark, planners (of course) and pens.

It won't be near as good as this one, nor most of the ones that I read from all of you but I needed an out.

Any help and your thoughts will always be appreciated!

The address is:

<http://asgoodasitgets-pa.blogspot.com>

Thanks ahead of time for all your help!

Greg

paulien (2010-08-21 10:42:29)

Hi all, I have just received my personal finsbury in raspberry yesterday. Very quick service as I only ordered it on Monday from the UK. It is indeed a gorgeous colour as I have heard many people say already, and I will have fun using it. Hope I won't miss my brown classic one too much... I will post pictures of it soon.

And something else: Nan how is it going with the filo retirement? You never told us if it worked out or you took it back into use.

Paulien

Gail (2010-08-21 19:35:23)

Just recieved a brand new in box, Brown Personal Ranger Filofax from e-bay for £5.00 (£10 with postage). Now how's that for a bargain. What a fab filofax this is, love the big pocket on the front....could easily turn this one into a large purse/wallet. Hoping to move house soon, so this may be the one to handle the move.

Carrying my Filofax Pocket (2010-08-20 20:20) - Steve

I've put this on my own blog as well, but thinking about it, it will be of interest to our readers here as well I suppose...

Man bags... yes a very French thing, but I also don't like carrying 'stuff' in my pockets, fine in winter when you are wearing a jacket, but in summer I find my shorts are weighed down with 'stuff'

Well what sort of 'stuff' are we talking about....



[1]

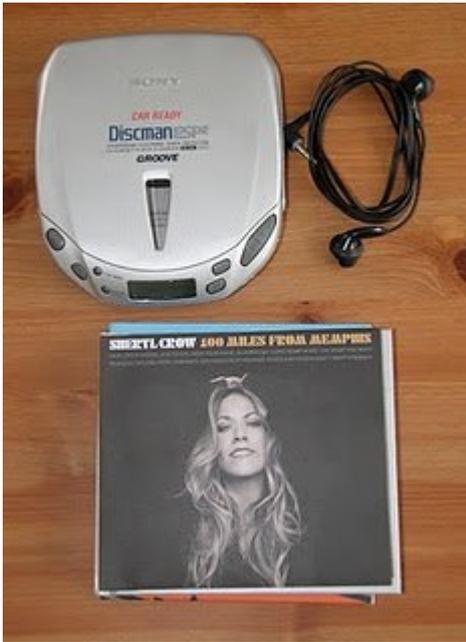
Car keys, magnifier (my close in eyesight is terrible these days), mobile phone, [2]Filofax – which is also my wallet, a pen, a torch (for night time!) and house keys complete with bottle opener for 'beer o' clock' and an old memory stick as a key fob!

I also carry a small compact camera a lot of the time too.



[3]

So I found I already had a bag that I wasn't using, it was used for my portable CD player.... infact this one...



[4]

I now use an iPod... ah add that to the list of 'stuff', the above fitted in to the bag like this:



[5]

It has a nice soft lining for both compartments and it's quite discreet and compact. So I gathered all my 'stuff' together and tried it in the bag:



[6]

Wonderful, except the Filofax is a little too tall... ah but I have a [7]Pocket Filofax, a quick try and that converted ok to my Wallet/Filofax, gather my 'stuff' together again:



[8]

And this looked more promising.... and in the bag it all fits including the compact camera:



[9]

Sorted.... it's also fairly shower proof as I discovered the other day in Niort!!

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TG8ZiBwAdtI/AAAAAAAAILI/Lvr-ofewTP4/s1600/IMG_9246.jpg
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/02/using-my-slimline-filofax-as-my-wallet.html>
3. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TG8bn39QtCI/AAAAAAAAILY/sn5Y70rqaBk/s1600/fujifilm_jx200-550x384.jpg
4. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TG8Zfp1TCzI/AAAAAAAAILA/Zqby6U8sEc8/s1600/IMG_9244.jpg
5. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TG8Zg9O6b4I/AAAAAAAAILE/8j6vE9AnLMo/s1600/IMG_9245.jpg
6. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TG8ZkmCJikI/AAAAAAAAILQ/riMFfNF6PFA/s1600/IMG_9248.jpg
7. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/08/slimline-to-pocket-conversion.html>
8. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TG8ZjmMDGsI/AAAAAAAAILM/knUhULcYKWQ/s1600/IMG_9247.jpg
9. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TG8Zl2w8VqI/AAAAAAAAILU/5H8JT7IL6Ko/s1600/IMG_9250.jpg

Oni (2010-08-20 20:58:15)

Great post! It makes me very happy when a man finally discovers the practicality and convenience of carrying a bag. You will in no time get completely used to it!

You know I used to have the same CD player, but in black. It was really good, I used it heavily for about six years until it started to break down...ah the memories!

Don't get me started on your beautiful, blue pocket Finsbury! Too bad it's discontinued ... I think if I were very rich, I'd get all colours of the Pocket Finsbury

Dilaila (2010-08-21 07:02:57)

How do you use a pocket Filo as a wallet? Is it as practical as the slimline?

Steve (2010-08-21 07:22:26)

Dilaila, See my post on going from Slimline to pocket

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/08/slimline-to-pocket-conversion.html>

I'm not finding it a big disadvantage at the moment

Steve

bernhardS (2010-08-21 09:11:30)

Steve!

Carrying an external bag always bears the risk that you might lose it or forget it in a strange place.

I'm a flyfisher and usually we wear these tackle vests with several dozens of pockets. All the items you need can easily be stored in such a vest - even several Personal Filos or one or two A5.

Ever thought of it?

Gail (2010-08-21 19:31:42)

Steve...good on you for carrying a man bag hun. Up until recently, when we went out as a family, I was left to carry my bag along with hubby's car keys and his mobile phone (cos they feel uncomfortable in his pocket), my 10 year old son's blood testing meter, Insulin pen and supplies. And that was just because I had a handbag.

Now...I've taught my son that Man bags are cool and he carries his own Insulin kit and sweet supplies around with him.....can't convince hubby yet that man bags are cool, maybe after seeing your post he'll change his mind.....afterall, I need the room in my handbag to fit a filofax in nowadays. lol

JJ (2010-08-23 15:01:09)

I wish my EDC (Every Day Carry) had that few items. I carry a lot of gear most of the time.

Multitool, "nice" knife, "junk" knife that can be abused, just a long list of Guy Stuff.

My bag of choice is a MK-II gas mask bag. WW-II surplus, a little harder to find now than they were a few decades before, but usually still in very good condition when you do find them. Rugged and cheap.

I'm on my fourth or fifth one since my teenage years (I'm in my 50's now). Inside it's about 5 inches square and nine inches deep. A personal sized Filo slips in easily and takes up about half the available space.

Steve (2010-09-18 05:10:39)

Just spotted this article in the Telegraph

<http://fashion.telegraph.co.uk/columns/gareth-wyn/TMG7992088/Enough-with-the-mammoth-man-bags.html>

Steve

Reader Under The Spot Light - Nickie (2010-08-23 00:00) - Steve



[1] Nickie has been one of our readers for some years and she is also a very active blogger in her own right, if you get a chance look at her [2]Typecast2000 blog.

1. When did you buy your first Filofax and what was it?

I first had a Filofax in the late 80s - just a small one, black in colour I think - it was a present for Christmas I think

just after I started work full time. I can remember considering it the Holy Grail back then. I didn't use one so much when I had a career break to raise my family but returned to a Filofax rather than a diary and notebook when I settled back into work again.

2. *What other brands have you used or considered using?*

I'm a bit of a stationary freak so have always used notebooks of some description, not necessarily a "branded" name, more the fact that the design suited my needs at the time.

3. *Out of the organisers you own which is your current favourite (Style and Size)?*

I can't really choose because they all serve their own purpose.

4. *How many Filofax organisers do you own?*

Three - A5 Black Metropol zip, Personal Yellow Hearts, Brown Personal Cuban Zip

5. *What do you use your Filofax for?*

The black Metropol is my work/personal organiser. If you want to know anything about me or where I'll be then you need to take a nosy in here.

The Yellow Hearts is my writing journal. I keep all notes, ideas, brainstorm, details of freelance work, writing contacts, due dates, etc in here

(Both of these Filo's have appeared in their full glory on Philofaxy in the past)

The Brown Cuban is sort of a "spare" when I keep all my extra pages ready for use. I've used this one on and off as my every-day organiser but it's just not big enough to use for all the information I need for work.

6. *What was the feature about Filofax you like most?*

The fact that it's ever-changing but still static. I also like the fact that in this world of evolving technology, people still need to write things down and many are returning to using a Filofax for that exact reason.

7. *If you could design your own Filofax what would it feature?*

I don't think there is anything I would change. That's the beauty of the Filofax - you *can* actually style it to your own needs rather than the way in which someone else has recommended.

I would like one that is tri-fold... that would be a bit different but I imagine it would be quite bulky.

I suppose we could invent some punched inserts to house an iPhone/Blackberry/android phone because of the dual use that I have already mentioned.

8. *How do you carry your Filofax?*

In my handbag or in my hand by my side. I dread looking like DelBoy in Only Fools & Horses, walking with it outstretched in front of me.

9. *Which Filofax in the current range do you like the most? Are you going to buy it?*

I bought the Yellow Heart just after it's release in March.

10. *What is the most you have ever spent on a Filofax? Which model?*

£40 on the Metropol. I dread to think what I have spent, in total, on inserts for the three Filo's put together. I could probably have had a luxury holiday or a brand new car.

11. *Turning to Philofaxy, what do you like the most?*

The variety of posts, the dedication of the writers (a note of thanks here to Steve, Laurie and Nan), the enthusiasm for a long-standing, much ribbed, retro item and the fact that they work with official Filofax suppliers to bring readers up-to-date information and discount codes.

12. *And what do you not like about Philofaxy?*

The fact that it's not been discovered by enough people (yet)!

13. *What was the last music album CD you bought or downloaded?*

The Glee Soundtrack.

Thank you Nickie for agreeing to go under the 'spot light'

1. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TFnSm3cjT1I/AAAAAAAAIGU/Pbkm3aO6duI/s1600/Photo0910.jpg

2. <http://typecast2000.blogspot.com/>

Steve (2010-08-24 04:29:24)

Nickie, in response to your question 12, I'm in the process of complying some stats on visitors to the site. I will publish this sometime next month.

Restyle your Filofax (2010-08-23 03:52) - Steve



[1]

So you don't have the latest Filofax, this years colours or styles, but you would love something different, may be a style no one has got. And you have an organiser in the back of your cupboard that is just collecting dust....

Why not recycle it... take a look at what [2]Violet Le Beaux did with her black leather organiser... may be not to everyone's taste I will agree, but for those of you that are skilled at crafts then may be this might work for you.

Seeing this I wondered if you could make a similar cover that you could just slip on to an existing organiser, leaving the original undamaged underneath and allowing you to have a few different covers you could change, and also allow you to wash them every so often when they get a little grubby...

Just a few ideas on a cool breezy Monday morning.....

1. http://farm5.static.flickr.com/4119/4918632681_516765d069.jpg

2. <http://violettelebeaux.com/2010/08/rough-guide-to-how-i-recycled-my-filofax/>

Gail (2010-08-23 06:38:43)

OMG...I could never do that to my beloved Filofaxs. There are beautiful as they are, no need to "Jazz" them up.

To me, that looks like what we did at school with our books....back them with wallpaper or decorate them.....

Nope, leave them as they are...if they start looking a bit tatty, best excuse to buy a new one. lol

Laurie (2010-08-23 13:05:35)

I wouldn't mind a slip-off cover, but the thought of doing anything permanent to any of my Filofaxes makes me twitch!!

Steve (2010-08-23 16:51:33)

Likewise I think a slip on cover could work very well, it could in fact protect the leather from becoming stained/marked etc. I too wouldn't like anything permanent.

Although I think the idea was that if it was an old organiser and may be a damaged one then this idea could restore its glory...

Violet LeBeaux (2010-08-23 20:21:49)

Thanks again for linking me :) A slip on cover would be great too for regular Filofaxes though in this case it most definitely wouldn't be the cure as my lovely old Filofax had been coming apart at the seams. I much prefer to give a little life in my current style and make it functional again than to retire it completely!

Peppermint Wink (2010-09-02 03:59:21)

I have to disagree with some of the comments on here. Violet mentioned herself that her old Filofax was coming apart at the seams, so in reality, she was fixing it in a way that catered to her style and personality. I love it, and I'm inspired!!

Laurie (2010-09-02 12:10:23)

Kim you are right, if the Filofax were otherwise unusable, there would be no drawback to permanently altering it. Especially when the result is as creative and beautiful as Violet's! :)

Laurie (2010-09-02 12:10:24)

Kim you are right, if the Filofax were otherwise unusable, there would be no drawback to permanently altering it. Especially when the result is as creative and beautiful as Violet's! :)

Filofax Organisers of the Future? (2010-08-24 12:38) - Steve



[1]

Interesting the comments from Monday's post about the 'restyle' But as usual it got me thinking this morning whilst in the shower (I do most of my creative thinking in the shower... ok too much detail!!!)

What will a Filofax of the Future look like?

Will we still be wanting leather or faux leather covers in 2035? Or will the Filofax of the future be made out of something different?

Leather I know is a good traditional material and will last for years and years if looked after and kept in normal

room temperature and humidity. As it ages it becomes more supple and some will say it looks better with age. With new materials being developed and dare I mention it... flexible electronics being incorporated in to clothing, I wonder if we might see the same sort of electronics in our organisers of the future.

Now I'm not going to suggest building phones or PDA's in to your Filofax organisers, but I wonder about technologies that could be built in that would work along side mobile phones and other portable devices? May be an organiser with the back cover incorporating a solar cell for cellphone charging? Whilst your phone is sat by your organiser on your desk you could connect your phone up to the charging lead and give it a quick boost charge may be. The same feature could be used for charging your iPod as well.

Filofax UK carried out a competition recently of a Filofax of the Future, one of the entries included flash memory media player. But as we carry more and more electronic storage in our pockets, in the form of USB memory keys or in our phones or iPods, would you sensibly want 4GB of storage built in to your organiser for whatever purpose, when in a couple of years time the norm will be 16, 32 64GB?? File sizes keep increasing not decreasing... which is sad in some ways.



[2]

My Psion organiser with it's 16Mb of storage dates back to 1999, yet it can perform most tasks. Going back even further in time, I previously used a Casio Digital Diary in the early 1990's it has all of 32k yet I managed all my contacts and appointments on both of these devices, and still could!! Yet my Nokia phone as 2GB of storage and that's fairly small by today's standards

Note I'm not suggesting building these devices in to the organiser itself. As memory sizes increase so the size of the devices seems to get smaller. I don't think any of these technologies will be around as we know them today in 5, 10 or 20 years time... What is the life span of a current Filofax organiser? That is a topic for another day I suspect....

So would you want something like a carbon fibre covered organiser with some clever hinge technology to ensure the organiser laid flat when you opened it?

Personally I think I would prefer what we have today....traditional good quality leather, at least we know what that will be like in 25 years time.....

.

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/THPykeLCw7I/AAAAAAAAAILo/wiWf8jk2RG8/s1600/leather.jpg

2. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/THP088iPvsI/AAAAAAAAAIL4/f5nTD7RaGg8/s1600/psion5.gif

bernhardS (2010-08-24 13:56:53)

Steve!

Why should a traditional brand like Filofax try to compete with giant electronic manufacturers? The Filo should be offered as a paper based tool which has several advantages against electronics.

Nevertheless: With form factors of electronic devices getting more and more compact there could be inserts like the change holder of the 80-s offering digital functionality such as GPS or video conferencing.

The big question will be, however: How big is the demand for digital Filofax inserts? In electronics, high volumes count in order to refinance development expenses.

Best from Germany,

Bernhard

Yvotchka (2010-08-24 15:39:24)

I agree with the concept that Filofax should stick with their paper-based system. The more technological the world becomes, the more something "analog" like paper & ink makes sense for its reliability, anonymity and simplicity.

As for the Filo of the future, I would like to see more use of recycled materials, vegan friendly cover material and a definite swing toward sustainability.

Not to mention better shipping methods...

JJ (2010-08-24 20:00:23)

Could a Filo be any more "future-proof" than they already are?

Ten years from now a USB port may be as hard to find as a 8 track player.

Pen and paper are in no danger of going out of style anytime soon.

Besides, writing is a tactile experience. Using a nice pen, with fine paper in a good binder is right up there with chocolate when it comes to being one of the really good things in life.

FiloJr (2010-08-24 23:05:18)

I love my new iPad and wish there was a filofax cover for it, and I use an iphone and wish it would fit into my filofax...its true I don't care to type all my notes into a "device" and wouldn't mind just jotting down a note on paper in a filofax, but it'd be a great thing if my filofax took care of my iPad.

Petra (2010-08-25 00:21:58)

Filofax has made some models with PDA holders included in the cover – don't know if they went over very well but I've seen them on eBay.

It's interesting to hear about devices like the Psion and Casio organizers. I still use my Casio Cassiopeia to house my main address book. Don't know how old it is, but it has 4 MB and you can hand-write notes on the screen with a stylus. Have replaced the AAA batteries a couple of times and it's still going strong.

Laurie (2010-09-15 16:23:44)

Steve I love this post! It's fun to think of how Filofax will adapt in the future.

I think they should retain their "retro" or by then "antique" ways of primarily being paper based, but I think they will adapt to modern ways too perhaps by incorporating technology into the binders.

Spot the Filofax... now with answers... (2010-08-25 03:26) - Steve

I was taking some pictures of our office with my new compact camera this evening, which as you know I carry around in my bag now. When I looked at the pictures I thought ah, we haven't had one of these for a few weeks.

So how many Filofax organisers are there in the picture? Also for a second question how many computers can you see? And yes they all work! Yes I make the most of the space I have!!!

When I announce the result I will put a tagged picture on Flickr to help you confirm if you did spotted them all or not.

Enjoy....

[1] [DSCF0088.JPG]

How many Filofax Organisers? And how many computers?

So I won't prolong this one too much!! So here are the answers and the locations....



[2]

Some of you spotted a few things that I hadn't noticed myself!! I'm not sure if the smart phone comment was aimed at the Nokia 7110 or not... it's fairly ancient but I like it because it has a nice large display! If you click on the picture you will see the larger version which I have labelled what everything is.

Yes it is a bit sneaky in a few areas the PowerMac is sort of hidden behind the paper recycling bin, but it's monitor and keyboard is shown. Does the Psion count as a computer? I won't get in to a debate on that one, but it is programmable and it does have a reasonably full suite of software on it.

Again thank you for everyone who took part.

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/THLmvXwW0EI/AAAAAAAAAILk/qMZJXam114A/s1600/DSCF0088.JPG

2. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/THTCe2NsOGI/AAAAAAAAIMA/fBGsUUdpEtM/s1600/DSCF0088answers.jpg

Gail (2010-08-23 17:31:14)
5 filofaxs and 3 computers

Steve (2010-08-23 17:33:02)
Getting warmer.... !!!
I'm consuming the glass of wine you can see and chuckling to myself...
Steve

stirwise (2010-08-23 17:52:24)
I count 4 filofaxes and 5 computers.

BR (2010-08-23 18:32:33)
I count 4 Filofaxes, plus what look like some inserts held together with string, 5 computers, 2 iPod and what I think is a smart phone. Good grief!

JJ (2010-08-23 20:17:59)
And a storage binder on the wall...

JJ (2010-08-23 20:30:08)
A count of the computers needs to include the Psion organizer and an unidentifiable netbook off to the right.

Gail (2010-08-25 11:31:49)

Duh....if I'd realised I could of clicked on the picture to enlarge it, I might of stood a better chance. lol

Ollie Stench (2010-08-25 13:05:48)

I recently found a filofax at a thrift store for \$1.80. I looked at the filofax web site and couldn't find the one I bought. Is there any way to ID the one I bought?

Steve (2010-08-25 13:08:16)

Hi Ollie

Take a look here:

<http://www.filofax.co.uk/sizeguide/organiser.asp>

That will help you find the model name.

Steve

Ollie Stench (2010-08-25 13:44:44)

Thanks for the link.

The one I have has printed in gold

lettering:

fILOFAX

MADE IN ENGLAND

REAL LEATHER

<http://i4.photobucket.com/albums/y131/OllieStench/Stuff/filo.jpg?t=1282758149>

Its a 6-ring day planner size. I can take more pix if it would help.

Steve (2010-08-26 10:38:33)

Ollie

Please contact us at philofaxy at gmail dot com and I can send you a link to identify your Filofax Organiser

Regards

Steve

Back to School Plan? (2010-08-25 17:37) - Steve

So with the school holidays nearly over, although as we know the children in Scotland have already gone back to school.... thank you Laurie!

Whilst in the local supermarket yesterday there seemed to be more French children than usual, but it was explained when I saw them all carrying a list of things they needed for their return to school next week, lots of stationary... The super markets gear up for this rush on demand and they allocate even more aisles for paper, pens, binders etc... sadly no organisers or planners.. I think they are missing a trick there.

I came across a useful blog post on the 'Day Timer' blog - [1]Make a Back-to-School Plan for Family, Home and You it might give you a few ideas about the return to school and the transition in to Autumn.

So are you using your Filofax to plan the return for your children to school and make the most of the remaining days off?

[2]

1. <http://daytimer.wordpress.com/2010/08/25/make-a-back-to-school-plan-for-family-home-and-you/>

2. <http://daytimer.wordpress.com/2010/08/25/make-a-back-to-school-plan-for-family-home-and-you/>

Eva (2010-08-26 09:03:49)

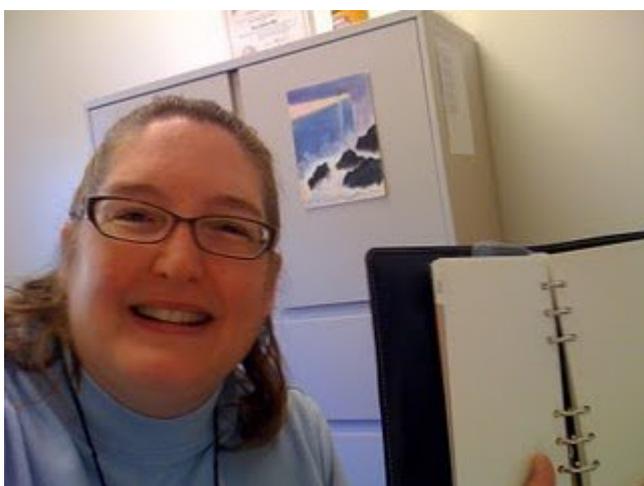
This is so true! When I grew up in France we didn't really have any special organizers to write our homework down. Although I have to say that my first introduction to the world of organizers was made in one of those supermarkets. I found a personal sized organizer that I immediately adopted. The only problem is that I couldn't find refills anywhere since they were not that popular so I gave up on that system for a while until I came to England and discovered Filofax!...

Gail (2010-08-26 12:43:35)

Well I have a list of things of what I need to buy to get my 10 year old son back to school. Also have a list of what he needs to go in his emergency pack....he is diabetic so he needs a pack in school. All wrote down in my Filofax. lol

By the way, hoping to move house soon, does anyone know where I can get a "house moving" template from. Everyday I seem to remember someone or other who will need contacting etc. Would be much easier if I had a template at hand?

Reader Under The Spot Light - Erin (2010-08-26 00:00) - Steve



[1]

So today is the turn of Erin and her picture on Philofaxy is actually of her two great danes Oliver and Gracie. She has loved and used Filofaxes since she saw the movie "27 Dresses" in which the main character has a stuffed to the gills Filofax.

Erin was in love with the planners ever since then and got the exact model that she was using. Erin's husband has been worried about her Filofax obsession and she does admit, she has to pace herself because Erin has spent a lot of money on them. But, even if she does not use them all, she loves owning them and having a collection. Erin recently bought her husband his first Filofax, a personal classic in brown and he has actually begun to use it, which makes Erin proud! Erin loves Philofaxy and the camaraderie of sharing our love of this wonderful planner and how they're used.

1. When did you buy your first Filofax and what was it?

I bought my first Filofax after the movie "27 Dresses" came out since the main character in the movie had one. It was a personal red Finsbury, just like the character in the movie had. So, I think it's been about 4 or 5 years?

2. What other brands have you used or considered using?

I have used Franklin Covey and Levenger and briefly dabbled with Moleskin, but always keep coming back to Filofax.

3. Out of the organisers you own which is your current favourite (Style and Size)?

That's a tough one because I love them all! But, it would have to be between The personal Cuban in ink (black) or the personal Piazza in blue.

4. How many Filofax organisers do you own?

The truth? I'm embarrassed to admit....75!

5. *What do you use your Filofax for?*

I use it for my every day to day schedule, debt reduction planner, and vacation planner for Ireland.

6. *What was the feature about Filofax you like most?*

They are just beautiful, classy, and elegant. The materials are beautiful and I can stay really organized with it.

7. *If you could design your own Filofax what would it feature?*

If it wasn't too bulky, I'd love to have a slot to carry my iPhone in it. Also, I wish they would feature more of the cotton cream paper since I prefer it to the plain white.

8. *How do you carry your Filofax?*

My Filo is always with me, either in my purse or bag.

9. *Which Filofax in the current range do you like the most? Are you going to buy it?*

Well, the one I'm waiting for is the black one with the Swarovski crystals that was featured I believe last Christmas time. I've been trying to find one on eBay and they're nowhere to be found! I don't think I'd use it, but I'd love to have it for my collection. I would save up to buy it.

10. *What is the most you have ever spent on a Filofax? Which model?*

The most I've ever spent on one is probably the Eton (\$225) personal in black. The leather is buttery soft and I love all the pockets, nooks and crannies. I've never used it, it sits pristine in it's box but I take it out every now and again to look at and admire.

11. *Turning to Philofaxy, what do you like the most?*

I love that I don't feel like a crazy person! Well, I have to be a bit crazy and obsessional to have as many as I do, but it's great to see what others do with their Filofaxes, how they organize them, the stories behind them, and how much people love them. In this age of technology when everyone says "Why don't you just put your calendar in your phone" it's nice to have paper to write on and keep and look back at. It's not only my calendar/diary, but my journal and remembrance of days past. It's like a little bit of history is being made every day.

12. *And what do you not like about Philofaxy?*

When I think of something I'll let you know!

13. *What was the last music album CD you bought or downloaded?*

The new Sarah McLachlan album. LOVE her music!

Thank you Erin for your contribution to this series, I'm sure there will be lots of questions about your collection!

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TG2hiYlUzpi/AAAAAAAAIKk/PwPIcH-t3v4/s1600/photo.jpg

Gail (2010-08-26 06:59:23)

Did I read that right.....75 Filofaxes.....Erin< I bow down to you hun, that is simply amazing. Gosh I would love to have tea with you, the filofax talk would be brilliant. lol

So can you show us a picture of them all, would love to see that. Where do you keep them all?

x

Nickie @ Typecast (2010-08-26 08:58:55)

75? *faints*

Yvotchka (2010-08-26 09:18:49)

*grovels before the master**

75. wow. you are my hero!

Steve (2010-08-26 10:44:59)

27 Dresses was released in the US in 18 Jan 2008... so 4-5 years is really 2-3 years... that is some serious buying Erin!!!
Steve

Adirondack Explorer (2010-08-26 11:01:08)

Let me try again:

Maybe I should buy that Eton after all - that would make me the proud owner of just three Filos for me!

Erin (2010-08-26 18:41:26)

I could try to take a picture of them all, but it might have to be several pictures! Right now I keep them (except the one I'm using) in my extra closet. I'm willing to trade for a black Swarovski one. Oh, and Steve, I did notice that the movie only came out 2 and 1/2 years ago. :)

katka.m (2010-08-27 03:00:28)

Erin, that's a new filofax every second week :o) Amazing.

FiloJr (2010-08-27 15:06:59)

Erin gets her love of collecting from me; I'm a sport card freak, and I've only got her beat by a few hundred thousand of those joyous little cardboard pictures :)

PS I sent the mods a picture :)

David Popely (2010-09-03 05:14:02)

Yes, memo to Filofax - PLEASE can we have more of the cotton cream paper refills? I would personally like my entire system in this paper as I'm also a fountain pen user and this paper takes the ink much better. I don't mind paying the premium for the refills - but we need a bigger range!

Free for All Friday No. 93 (2010-08-26 19:51) - Nan

It's the time of year for back-to-school, last-minute vacations, closing down summer homes, and other life changes. What role does your Filofax play in your transition to autumn? Are you buying a new organizer or refills?

stirwise (2010-08-27 00:37:59)

I am actually buying new refills. I've noticed that I need to write smaller and smaller to fit everything onto the WOTP layout, so I've ordered some DPP pages to try out. Unfortunately, the variety I fancy (made by DaVinci in Japan) is only available for 2011 now, the current year is all sold out. So, I ordered the 2011 refills as well as undated DPP sheets in the hopes that they'll get me through the next three months (the 2011 pages start in December). They should be arriving on Saturday, so I'll post photos to the flickr group soon.

Steve (2010-08-27 05:44:46)

Well having gone from Personal Slimline to Pocket for my carry around organiser, I'm now looking in to going from A5 to Personal for my journal. I'm trialling it out at the moment. But I've not reached any conclusions as yet. I'm giving it a few weeks before I do my refill order!

Steve

Iris (2010-08-27 06:33:15)

I did indeed buy a new organiser... a Personal Classic in Chocolate for 60 Euro (German retail price is 119 Euro!) That's the first time I bought a "secondhand" Filo: One of our readers over at [1]Filomaniac wanted to sell hers which she had bought in July but never used, because didn't like its "stiffness".

Now I'm looking for a new bag to match the dark brown colour...

Yvotchka (2010-08-27 09:23:43)

I did both...picked up a new Malden personal and also decided to try out Day on 2 Pages for 2011 so that I can do my scheduling on one page & keep my journal on the other.

I have done this before with success but then panicked that if I lost my planner I would lose my journal too and split them. With all that will be going on for me in 2011, I decided that I want my journal with me 24/7 just like my planner...so back to the 2PPD format I will go.

Laurie (2010-08-27 11:50:39)

Our beloved Oni somehow managed to find a personal size Urban in Slate, the Filofax that has been the object of my lust for a long time! She is going to mail it to me as soon as I get my bank account sorted out and can pay her back in pounds! Thank you Oni!!!!

Gail (2010-08-27 13:36:07)

A little off topic, but definatly worth a mention....Paperchase are selling 2010 diary inserts for £1. I got a day to a page for the pocket and week to 2 pages cotton cream. Brilliant bargain.

Francesca (2010-08-27 18:55:51)

I've been having a big clear out, everything going on eBay this weekend! Amongst the paraphernalia are several Filofaxes and a plethora of different paper inserts, index tabs, accessories and a wooden storage box (mostly A5 but some other sizes too).

If you fancy picking some Filo-things up cheaply, check out my eBay items- my username on there is checkchegggers and I think you can find me through searching for my username. If you want any of the inserts and would rather not have to bid and wait, or want to get a selection of different things, drop me an email at francescamatthews[at]mac[dot]com.

Thanks for letting me tout my wares Steve!

Steve (2010-08-27 18:59:59)

Here's a link to the Ebay page

[http://shop.ebay.co.uk/checkchegggers/m.html?_dmd=1 & _ipg=50 & _sop=12 & _rdc=1](http://shop.ebay.co.uk/checkchegggers/m.html?_dmd=1&_ipg=50&_sop=12&_rdc=1)

Steve

Francesca (2010-08-27 19:19:04)

Thansk Steve. For some reason, only a few of the items are showing at the moment, so here's the list of Filo products (other stuff on there too).

Organisers:

Metropole Zipped A5 - black

Finsbury Mini - brown

Pocket Cross (now called Classic) - light blue

Brown Wooden storage box + plastic indices

Inserts:

A5 Business card holder x3

Receipts envelopes - pack of 8

A5 notepad x2

A5 A-Z index

A5 blank index

A5 Address pages x2

A5 digital paper

A5 multicoloured lined notepaper

A5 lined notepaper

A5 Finances sheets

A5 Todo list - Time Management

A5 Todo list

Day Timer sticky pads x4

Day Timer Hot lists x4

Steed (2010-08-29 13:30:23)

Step 1 - We admitted we were powerless over our addiction - that our lives had become unmanageable

Step 2 - Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity

Step 3 - Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood God

Step 4 - Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves

Step 5 - Admitted to God, to ourselves and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs

Step 6 - Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character

Step 7 - Humbly asked God to remove our shortcomings

Step 8 - Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all

Step 9 - Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others

Step 10 - Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it

Step 11 - Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood God, praying only for knowledge of God's will for us and the power to carry that out

Step 12 - Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to other addicts, and to practice these principles in all our affairs, which should have the pursuant notations made in ONE Filofax.

The Photographic Proof! (2010-08-27 18:04) - Steve

Well I also didn't believe it when I first read [1]75.... but here's the proof... well 71 of the 75, yes I counted! And the rest (72-75) are either in use or packed! Click on the picture to see it full size...



[2]

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/08/reader-under-spot-light-erin.html>

2. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/THg2IQY5tWI/AAAAAAAAAIMQ/kfJ8PFfW3bg/s1600/August27+019.JPG

BR (2010-08-27 18:47:59)

It's a little disturbing since the movie "27 Dresses" only came out in 2008.

kanalt (2010-08-27 21:19:55)

There are no words for how I'm feeling right now. ;) Nice!

Adirondack Explorer (2010-08-27 22:00:34)

Amazing!!

Leslie (2010-08-27 22:08:23)

"In use"??? Wow the list I made of uses for Filo only numbers 18. :O

Erin (2010-08-27 23:37:27)

No, they are definitely not all in use. I only use one at a time for the most part. But, if anyone sees any they'd like and would want to trade for a swarovski crystal one, let me know! I had them listed several weeks back. Thank goodness I have a patient husband,,,,,it's gotten a bit obsessive, so I need to dial it back!

Erin (2010-08-27 23:42:18)

And Steve,,,,,

I can't believe you didn't believe me! Would I lie about Filofaxes?!

:)

Steve (2010-08-28 03:51:32)

I thought it was a typo!

But it's quite a sight to see them all. When you get a moment I'm sure everyone would love to see a list of size and model for your collection

Steve

angela (2010-08-28 12:25:36)

Wow, a little jealous, but mostly astounded by the collection!!

gdigesu (2010-08-28 19:45:39)

Fantastic!!!

Gail (2010-08-29 13:40:23)

A truly wonderful collection Erin. If you put them on Flickr, then you can tag them and tell us the names etc....though I can imagine it would take a while. I've just done my 15. lol

Nickie @ Typecast (2010-08-29 20:16:03)

I'm still gobsmacked!!

Even more amazed that lots of them are still in their boxes, unused.

Let me know if you decide to relieve yourself of any, Erin :D

(PS. I am giggling slightly that the word verification for this comment is "prove" as you had to prove you had 75 Filos LOL)

Erin (2010-08-29 22:03:46)

I'm in the process of moving, so will have to list them all at a later date. You guys are great. I love Philofaxy!

A Bare Truth (2010-09-03 06:56:49)

one word: Addiction

Oni (2010-09-09 21:27:42)

One word: AMAZING!!!

Blog Post Round-up (2010-08-28 09:26) - Steve

So here's some more posts from around the interweb that I've come across..

- [1]Filofax Love - Charlotte tells us about here latest purchase... thanks for the link back to us..
- [2]My Filofax Obsession - Sofia's Journal

- [3]Filofax Rotation - Paper rush
- [4]Things I love Thursday - Gala Darling - interesting quote about journaling
- [5]Our Favourite Things - NZ Girl

Hope you are all having a great weekend

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1. <http://imdancingthroughlife.blogspot.com/2010/08/filofax-love.html>
2. <http://www.sofiasjournal.com/2010/08/my-filofax-obsession.html>
3. <http://paper-rush.blogspot.com/2010/08/filofax-rotation.html>
4. <http://galadarling.com/article/things-i-love-thursday150>
5. <http://www.nzgirl.co.nz/know/our-favourite-diaries/>

Erin (2010-08-29 22:13:00)

Hey Charlotte

That is exactly how I decided to purchase my first Filofax,,,,,from "27 Dresses" the red personal Finsbury. But, from there my obsession grew and as you can see them all, they are on Philofaxy! Just wanted to write to you as I think it's cool we were both inspired by that movie!

Announcement - Possible London Meet up this November (2010-08-30 15:39) - Steve

I'm in the process of planning a trip back to UK in November, mainly to visit my elderly mother and to see my son. But I would also like to have a day in London and visit one of the Filofax Stores.

The likely date is Saturday 20th November.

My plan for the day is fairly flexible, I will most probably be staying with friends in Kent where I used to live. In addition to a visit to one of the Filofax stores it would be good to go and have some lunch together and generally just have a sit down and a good chat. I know from the Skype chats we have had so far that they spark off lots of ideas and they are a great way of sharing knowledge.

So if you are available on that day would you like to meet up with me in London? Please add a comment or contact me via the usual email address philofaxy at gmail dot com

In addition to this low key meet up, discussions have started about a much larger event to take place possibly in late 2011 or early 2012. If you would like to join in these discussions please join the google group at: [1]<http://groups.google.com/group/philofaxy-meetup>

Hopefully this group can also be used to facilitate more local meet ups, e.g. North Eastern United States.

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1. <http://groups.google.com/group/philofaxy-meetup>

Oni (2010-09-09 21:25:10)

That date is a special day for me.

And I would love to meet, lest I've gotten a job in Mauritius by then!! LOL!!

Steve (2010-09-10 02:58:21)

Thanks Oni.. anyone else want to join in?

I was beginning to think I was Billynomates!

Nan (2010-09-11 09:49:44)

Hi Oni-sama! Good luck with the job. It will be fun to work in a tropical paradise for a while!

Hi Billy, I would like to attend the London event next year.

As someone who lives in the "Northeastern United States," I will join the Google group and see if there's any interest in doing it in Boston or New York.

kanalt (2010-09-12 10:11:13)

Nan - Yvotchka and I have discussed doing this very thing. I was going to post something on my blog about it (<http://lifewellplanned.blogspot.com/>) but have yet to do so. Google groups might be better anyway...

caribbean princess (2010-10-07 04:45:43)

Steve I would happily meet up with you if you promise to take me to the Filofax store!! Only now seeing this post thanks to link within ;-)

Reader Under The Spot Light - Jessica Shepherd (2010-08-31 00:00) - Steve



[1]

Jess is from Manchester and is currently reading Philosophy and Theology at Oxford University. She loves everything to do with stationary and style, and writes musings about the latter at [2]<http://jess-shepherd.blogspot.com>

1. When did you buy your first Filofax and what was it?

My first Filofax-style binder was a gift for Christmas 2009, a gorgeous silver patent Anya Hindmarch planner in the softest leather imaginable. I also received lots of Filofax Personal refills with it, and thus began my Filofax love affair. The first one I bought for myself was a Personal Fresco, as I wanted something much more durable and hardwearing and the canvas material was suitable.

2. What other brands have you used or considered using?

I've made some of my own refills using diytemplate.com, and have bought refills from WHSmith that are compatible with Filofaxes. I'm also quite taken with the DayTimer refills that Yvotchka recently blogged about, but as yet I haven't purchased any.

3. Out of the organisers you own which is your current favourite (Style and Size)?

My A5 Domino in the bronze snake is a thing of beauty, and the Filo I have used for the longest period of time. I've recently bought a Personal Finsbury in pink for the upcoming year at university and I think that might replace the Domino as my favourite.

4. How many Filofax organisers do you own?

Five – two A5 Dominos, a Personal Fresco, a Personal Pimlico in black, and a Personal Finsbury in pink.

5. What do you use your Filofax for?

I don't use more than one at once – if it's not currently in use, it's in storage. I am heavily reliant on a paper diary and use one to plan every aspect of my life. I'm currently using the Week on Two Pages but am considering switching to Two Days Per Page. Besides that, I have to-do lists, health information, my passport, stamps, post-it notes, spare envelopes, tons of lined paper with scribbles of blog ideas, inspiration and things to research...

6. What was the feature about Filofax you like most?

The ability to customise the layout and set-up to suit me personally, and how easy it is to alter my set-up for different times in my life. For example, when I was at university I used the Week on Two Pages with vertical columns and appointment times – at the moment, I'm on summer break, so I'm using a normal Week on Two Pages as I

have much less going on.

7. If you could design your own Filofax what would it feature?

I don't really make use of the card slots in the covers of the Filos, because I carry all my cards etc in my purse. I'd quite like to see a model where the insides had clear slots to put photos in. Apart from that, I've no real major design issues!

8. How do you carry your Filofax?

I have a huge everyday handbag, so it gets chucked in there. I'm not too precious about keeping it clean or tidy.

9. Which Filofax in the current range do you like the most? Are you going to buy it?

I had a brief love affair with the Amazona in red, but there's no way I could ever afford it. I'm quite happy with the ones I have currently. The recent addition of the Finsbury has satisfied my desire to have a 'proper' leather Filo.

10. What is the most you have ever spent on a Filofax? Which model?

The A5 Domino in snake was £36. Not too expensive, really!

11. Turning to Philofaxy, what do you like the most?

I like how it reaches across many platforms – there's the blog, Twitter, Facebook. All these make it really interactive and a great way of sharing other people's Filo stories.

12. And what do you not like about Philofaxy?

I'm not a fan of the brown colour scheme, but that's just personal taste.

13. What was the last music album CD you bought or downloaded?

I use Spotify (a free legal streaming programme) to listen to all my music, but my most played artist recently is Frank Turner, an amazing lyricist and guitarist with a Britpop edge.

Thank you Jessica for being this weeks reader under the spot light.

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TGmkTf0hHaI/AAAAAAAAIJ4/5X_ZvSG99SY/s1600/Profile+picture.jpg

2. <http://jess-shepherd.blogspot.com/>

Nickie @ Typecast (2010-09-01 10:57:45)

Loving the photo slot idea, Jessica - I actually print off my own photos and punch holes into them then slot them into my filo but yours sounds like a much better idea :)

David Popely (2010-09-03 05:09:44)

Hi Jessica

Thanks for the Frank Turner reference - listening to him on Spotify now, great stuff, reminds me very much of Billy Bragg before he became more 'establishment'!

David

Oni (2010-09-09 21:22:04)

Hi Jessica

I really enjoyed reading your interview!

what I normally use for photos are those clear plastic envelopes, I believe for the Personal size they are also separated as to use for business cards. If your photos are the small ones, you could use one of these envelopes...

I will also add your blog to my list, as I enjoy reading it as well :)

1.9 September

Reader Under The Spot Light - Onigiri Sama (2010-09-02 00:00) - Steve



[1]

Oni has been a reader for a while, she has a couple of blogs of her own, her '[2]planner blog' is [3]Oni's Paper Corner

1. *When did you buy your first Filofax and what was it?*

May 2008, Pocket Finsbury in purple.

2. *What other brands have you used or considered using?*

Before, I used non generic ones you could find at stationery's or would always get one as a gift from clients, etc. I would maybe consider using Moleskine but am too much in love with Filofax.

3. *Out of the organisers you own which is your current favourite (Style and Size)?*

I'm currently using the Pocket Chino in black, but I think my heart belongs (and will always) to the Purple Fins...

4. *How many Filofax organisers do you own?*

I have 8!!

5. *What do you use your Filofax for?*

Diary, appointments, journal, note-taking, wallet, mostly, as another appendix of myself :D

6. *What was the feature about Filofax you like most?*

The design, the availability of different sizes, the fact that it is not bound and you can customise it as you please

7. *If you could design your own Filofax what would it feature?*

An incorporated 16GB storage drive with usb cable! Oh and another pen loop ;)

8. *How do you carry your Filofax?*

In my bag or in my hands

9. *Which Filofax in the current range do you like the most? Are you going to buy it?*

This is a tough one...I like almost all of them! I love the Raspberry Finsbury (which I already own!) and I also love the Scanda, which I don't own because it's not in Pocket format, and it is expensive!!!!

10. *What is the most you have ever spent on a Filofax? Which model?*

About 40GBP on the Rasperry Pocket Finsbury

11. *Turning to Philofaxy, what do you like the most?*

How we all get to share our ideas and tips, how lively the community is.

12. *And what do you not like about Philofaxy?*

That I can't keep up with the posts anymore, because there are so many per week! oh, and that the new layout isn't mobile phone friendly...

13. *What was the last music album CD you bought or downloaded?*

Japanese pop-rock band called School Food Punishment ;)

Thank you Oni, for agreeing to go 'under the spotlight'

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1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TGFNT9fFDPI/AAAAAAAAIIM/VnXLPb6P4tQ/s1600/Filo+and+Illy.jpg
2. <http://onigirisama.blogspot.com/>
3. <http://onigirisama.blogspot.com/>

Angel Of Vengeance (2010-09-02 05:00:31)

"An incorporated 16GB storage drive with usb cable!" So true that would be a brilliant idea!

Michele (2010-09-02 09:31:33)

Oh my gosh, that's a brilliant idea!

Steve (2010-09-02 09:49:33)

I suggested a Nano here: <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/08/filofax-wallet-portable-music.html> but with the announcement yesterday of the new Nano, it has a clip on the back, so not very suitable...

Adirondack Explorer (2010-09-02 15:23:05)

Thanks,. Oni, for sharing with us your set up. I enjoyed visiting your planner site, too!

David Popely (2010-09-03 05:02:51)

Hi Oni

If you're having trouble following the posts you can always subscribe to the blog using a tool such as Google Reader (if you're not doing so already). I use it to 'track' a select few blogs, including this one, and its a really useful tool.

David

Oni (2010-09-09 21:12:15)

thank you all for the comments!!

Sorry it took me so long to answer..

Steve: the nano for me is out of the question, I already told you I'm a PC ;), and the idea I have is that it would be very slim and you wouldn't even notice the drive, and would have some bit of cable to connect to your computer, the cable should be stashable inside a zippered pocket...I should show you my design proposal I did for the Filofax Facebook competition from March this year.

Adirondack: Thank you for visiting my blog, I am always trying to update more often, the problem is, that not always do I have stationery-related posts to write, I'm considering writing other stuff too...

David: I'm already subscribed to this blog and others. I even have them saved in my phone so I can read the posts before going to bed. The only problem with that is that I don't like commenting from there, I'd rather use my computer's keyboard ;)

Steve (2010-09-10 00:17:07)

Nano's work with PC's and Mac's... all iPods do for that matter...

Refill Mystery (2010-09-02 12:03) - Steve

OK clever people do you know the answer to this one? Judith contacted me this morning with this question:

"I was wondering if you could help me with an A5 refill mystery.

I'm using Time/System A5 inserts in my A5 Filofax, in the 2 pages per day format.

While I was investigating my options for next years refills, I made a strange discovery.

All UK and US suppliers of 2PPD inserts (Franklin Covey, Day Runner, Day Timer) have the notes page on the right-hand side and the timetable/ToDo's on the left-hand side.

While German suppliers (Time/System, Chronoplan, Zeit &Plan, Bind) have the notes page on the left and the timetable/ToDo's on the right.

I was wondering what might be the cause for this? Should be a simple copycat-syndrome, or is there actually a more profound reason behind all this?"

To illustrate, here is the Time System page:



[1]

And if you got to the [2]Franklin Store you will see the difference.

I was wondering that in publications important information is always put on odd numbered pages. So the appointments would always be on the right hand side
So what do you think the reason might be?

1. <http://www.timesystem.co.uk/shared/design/business-daily-plan.png>

2. <http://store.franklinplanner.com/store/category/prod216/US-October-2010-Planners-%26-Refills/Original-Ring-bound-Daily-Planner-Refill?skuId=37150>

bernhardS (2010-09-02 13:11:44)

Working with a TimeSystem is based on a sophisticated "top down" planning approach using overview sheets for yearly and monthly objectives besides the 2PPD calendar.

The plan for the current month can be folded so that it covers the left page of the 2PPD. On the right side, the user can see his appointments for the day and his monthly objectives on the left.

Regards from Germany,
Bernhard

Steve (2010-09-02 14:26:03)

Thanks Bernhard for that insight
Regards
Steve

Jotje (2010-09-02 14:35:41)

While Bernhard is right about that folded page, I have to add that the page can also be folded the other way around, so that it would cover the righthand side

Petra (2010-09-03 21:08:37)

Jumping in a bit late, so not sure if anyone will see this, but speaking of the different A5 formats, I know the holes are different for the FC/DayTimer and Filofax systems. Can anyone tell me if any of the holes line up? Or the spacing between the outermost holes at least?

Jotje (2010-09-04 03:25:40)

Petra, the only compatible refills are Time/System, BSP and Chronoplan. Dayrunner and FC would need repunching, alas ...

Petra (2010-09-04 21:47:32)

I was most interested in the distance between the first and last rings, since I actually have a 3-ring binder and a central hole could easily be punched if the outermost ones lined up!

Jotje (2010-09-05 15:29:20)

@Petra: for the A5 Filofax pages it's 14.6 cm from the 1st to the 6th hole (center of holes).

Free For All Friday No. 94 (2010-09-03 00:38) - Laurie

This weekend is Labor Day weekend in the US, which is the unofficial end of summer. Also, the academic year is in full swing by now for most students.

With summer at an end, it's time to dive into your autumn plans! Do you have new routines, a new schedule, or other changes going on in your life? Is it time to update your Filofax to help smooth your transition to autumn? And as always on Friday, feel free to discuss anything Filofax-related!

BR (2010-09-03 00:47:42)

It's also Labour Day in Canada with school (elementary, secondary and post secondary) all starting next Tuesday. A lot of people will be at the beach or, if they haven't planned ahead, manically buying school supplies. I work weekends from Labour Day to Canada Day so this is my last free weekend. On the upside - Labour Day is also the start of the fall fair season.

Steve (2010-09-03 02:10:03)

Watching the progress of 'Earl' up the eastern coast of North America and knowing that we have readers there I hope you all come through this one safely and it's just a lot of rain you get.

Stay safe people.

PA3789 (2010-09-03 06:51:30)

Fall brings my renewed effort to use my A5 Finchley.

After all the struggles this year with planners, I am making an effort to finish 2010 using a Filofax.

I figured I will not order 2011 refills until I can convince myself that this is the planner size and style to use.

Of course, that would also mean ordering a new binder and refills if this works!

Michele (2010-09-03 08:38:54)

Just back from vacation and still trying to recover from jet lag (11 hrs in the air). US Filofax site has free shipping with \$55 minimum purchase. Has anyone ever purchased the software? My boyfriend bought me the Filofax A5 computer paper but neglected to buy the software. How is it delivered? By disc in the mail?

@PA3789, I have a A5 Finchley and use for work - slow start with it but now it's chock full of stuff.

Steve, I'm on the East Coast and we're on a tropical storm warning, cloudy now expecting some showers but worse East of me. Nan and Kanalt should see more rain than I will.

Steve (2010-09-03 10:50:38)

Just noticed this blog post today:

<http://darlinghearts.blogspot.com/2010/09/pink-back-to-school-haul-my-musthaves.html>

I loved the comment Filofax... the Rolls Royce of organisers!

Steve

Steve (2010-09-03 17:25:48)

Another post you should read if you like the Malden.

<http://mslogica.com/blog/46>

Steve

Jotje (2010-09-04 03:30:02)

Last night I finally got around to watch "27 dressess" and investigate the identity of Katherine Heigl's infamous Filofax. Some bloggers said it was a red Domino, others seemed to think it was a red Finsbury. Well, they are both wrong. Turns out to be a Personal red Topaz (no longer available btw). The red is a bit orangy.

BTW: I hated the fact that her love interest gave her a Blackberry to replace her "so 1987" Filofax!!! LOL

Vidya (2010-09-04 10:40:46)

My big Filofax news this week is that my Finchley is getting a much-deserved vacation when I leave for Hawaii tomorrow!!

katka.m (2010-09-05 05:45:44)

haha all, any good tips how to store old filofax pages? I have few filofax storage binders, but they are useless, as you can't list in them. Thanks a lot.

David Popely (2010-09-07 15:48:47)

A BlackBerry to replace a Filofax? How could anyone DO that? I have a BlackBerry, and take it from me, it *can't* keep you organised. Its great for reading email on the move (like when I'm in London on business), but an organiser it isn't. I've tried every gadget, every software suite, every piece of kit you can imagine, and there's nothing that beats a pencil (always a pencil) and paper for organising my life. I use two filofaxes and they are the business. Whoever that jerk was who gave her the BlackBerry, she should thank him kindly but recognise the limitations.

Oni (2010-09-09 21:05:34)

Jotje, Davidpopeley:

My thoughts exactly!! They should come up with a sequel, where her BB decides to crash on her while planning some other life changing event, ditches her guy and dates a new one who offers her a Filofax as a present....

as of what's going on with me: I'm moving yet again...and my trusted Filofax is helping me out ;)

Date for your Filofax - Sunday 19th September (2010-09-03 14:34) - Steve

**Don't be late for
our conference call**



or we'll talk about you.

[1]

We are going to run another conference roundtable chat using Skype. They get better each time we run these. Lau-

rie assures me she has got her microphone unpacked and I've cleared my diary for that day! So...When, Where, What, Who and How?

When? - Sunday 19th September from mid-day (US East Coast time), 5pm London time, 6 pm Paris time etc.

Where? - an on-line chat using [2]Skype.

What do I need? - just a micro-phone and a free Skype account.

Who - All of you... connect up with **Philofaxy** and we will attempt to get as many of us linked in to the audio conference as possible.

How -

1. Connect to **Philofaxy** by firstly searching for **Philofaxy** in**Skype**, I will then add you as a contact.
2. Then '**Start Chat**', I will then add you in to the chat room.
3. Then if you request it, I can add you to the audio conference as well. But if you just want to chat via keyboard that's fine. That way it's slightly less hectic for me!

Come and join in the fun, even if you only pop in to say hello...

If you need any assistance setting up Skype, please pop a comment in this post and I will try and help you get one line. Skype is free for computer to computer calls....

.

1. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TI8g6xsjunI/AAAAAAAAAIRw/PK9lqvHjsxI/s1600/confcall.jpg

2. <http://www.skype.com/>

Yvotchka (2010-09-03 15:52:40)

Wahoo!!

Oni (2010-09-09 20:59:30)

Really looking forward to this...

but as usual, SOMETHING has to come up and spoil the fun for me!

As I'm moving from house, the idiots who supply us internet said they still need ABOUT 5 DAYS!! to disconnect the service from the old place, and that it will take...

ABOUT 15 DAYS to connect it on the new place!!

If we were in a not so popular city, like say, some middle sized city in Spain, I would accept it. But we're in London!!!I thought that it was the world's capital and as such it should also have the best services, but it doesn't...

Oh well, I better take my ranting elsewhere, I don't want to be kicked out.. :P

Alternative refills for your Filofax - Update (2010-09-04 11:30) - Steve

If you also read Laurie's [1]Plannerisms blog and you should be if you don't... you will no doubt have noticed some of the other formats available by other planner makers in other countries. Not all of these other formats are available in loose leaf format, so not all are adaptable to the Filofax.

However, looking around a local stationary store/newsagent here in [2]Thouars, I noticed a few diary refills that looked as if they would fit the Filofax ring system. So I noted down the details and when I got home I started looking around on the internet and also emailed Laurie to see what she knew about these alternatives.

In the store where:

- Oberthur
- Exatime

- Quo Vadis

Oberthur have quite a range of organisers and pens and other desk accessories. The best thing to do is to look at their [3]webpages their binders look very swish. The refills page is [4]here which is a pdf file.

Laurie tells me **Exatime** and **Quo Vadis** is part of the same group of companies, a bit like Letts Diaries being the main company that Filofax is in.

You will find details of Exatime [5]here with their '[6]recharges et accessories' also. I thought this was quite a comprehensive range of organisers and refills.

Finally [7]Quo Vadis themselves, I was even more interested to see what they had on offer especially after such [8]good reviews of their Tri Note by Laurie, who tells me that the range of organisers aren't available in the US? The UK side of Quo Vadis source from France and the US, and the European part of the business from the French parent company I believe.

So today I purchased a couple of Quo Vadis refills, one is pocket size and the other A5 size. Well almost... the pocket is in fact 2 mm narrower and 4 mm taller, but effectively the same size and importantly the ring positions are the same as a Filofax Pocket.

The A5 is also the same size within a mm or two but I was wrong about the hole spacing. The three holes are the correct spacing but the two groups of three are a different spacing between them... more in a moment a picture will explain it better... I need to go back to the shop with my personal slimline to check to see if the hole spacing is different on that size as well or not..

So the pocket refill I bought is their Timer 14 horizontal which is a week on two pages starting on Monday or to be correct Lundi and this is what it looks like (click on the picture to see it full size):



[9]

Yes it is in French, not a problem for me! And in some ways very handy because it has all the local bank holidays or Fete Nationales which are of course different to UK ones. It came in cream paper which is very smooth, not tried it with fountain pen yet, but it is ok with ballpoint and pencil. The refills run from September 2010 through to December 2011 so I have already transferred across to this one for the remainder of the year. The corners are perforated so you might be able to do away with a 'Today' marker.

Being a week on two pages compared to my previous refill being a week per page has obviously meant that there were more pages to accommodate in my Filofax pocket, but I was able to thin down some of the spare pages and pages I wasn't using out of my organiser and everything is back as it was. Already I'm loving the extra space that a week on two pages gives.

At the back of the refill is a year on two pages year planner for 2012 and other French information pages.

The A5 I went for is the Timer 21 "Planing" and this is what it looks like:

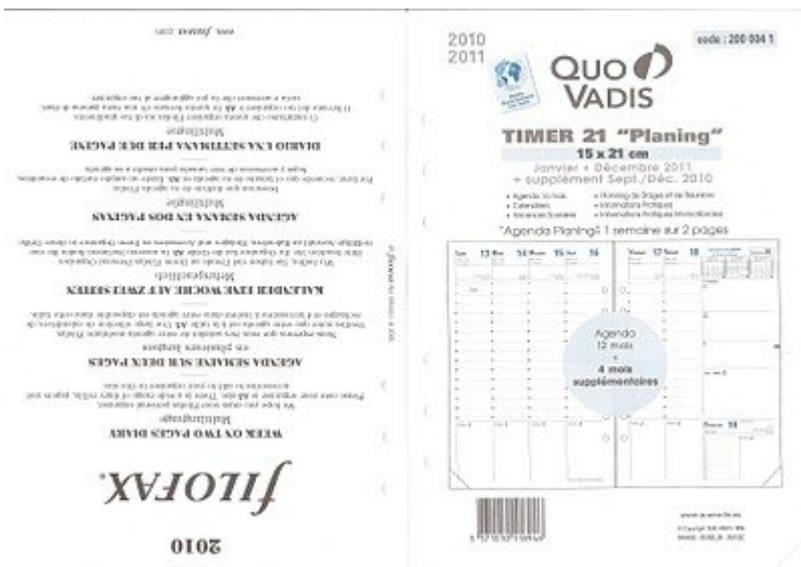


[10]

As you can see it's again a week on two pages, but with a smaller entry for Sunday, remembering not a lot happens in France on Sundays (shops are all shut!).

The right hand page has spaces for tasks spilt in to telephone calls, letters, Emails, To-Do with a Notes section for each day and each day has timed appointment slots from 7am through to 9pm There are also small monthly calendars at the top of the right hand page. There is a week number tab that moves down the edge of the right hand page.

Again the refill runs from September 2010 through to December 2011, but before I can use it I have to re-punch the pages. Here is why:



[11]

On the left is an upside down Filofax page, on the right a Quo Vadis page, if you look closely you can see the holes are half a hole spacing different! Fail! But with an A5 Filofax punch it's easily corrected:

2010
2011



QUO VADIS

code : 200 004 1

Handwritten notes: 'FF' and a bracket indicating a section of the page.

TIMER 21 "Planing"

15 x 21 cm

Janvier • Décembre 2011
+ supplément Sept./Déc. 2010

- Agenda 16 mois
- Calendriers
- Vacances Scolaires
- Planning de Stages et de Réunions
- Informations Pratiques
- Informations Pratiques Internationales

"Agenda Planing" 1 semaine sur 2 pages



www.quovadis.eu

© Copyright QUO VADIS 1999
FRANCE - BENELUX - SUISSE

[12]

Here's the fly sheet that I've punched and labelled which holes are which! It should be ok.

Again the refill comes with lots of useful 'French' information, like holidays, phone numbers etc. Also the same high quality as the pocket version, but in white with blue lettering.

The stockist in Thouars also stocked quite a selection of other additional pages from the Quo Vadis range too. It's nice to look at things in person and not have to pay postage.

Now I'm not expecting you to all be rushing out to buy these, but if you live in France like I do there are certain advantages to having a local product. I suspect the French Filofax refills also contain the French holidays, but there are limited in formats available.

The French refills are available on the [13]UK site if you dig around a bit!

[Update]

I went back to the stationary store today with a Personal size Filofax Organiser, my Slimline infact... and looked at the Quo Vadis Timer 17 planners.

They are the same 170 mm high, but they are 5 mm wider at 100 mm, but importantly the punched holes are exactly the same spacing as the ones for Filofax, so both Pocket and Personal size are compatible with QV inserts... I don't think the extra 5 mm would cause too much of a problem.

I think the lady thought she had another sale, but I disappointed her! More research as what format I'm going to use in my Personal size first...although their Agenda format looks interesting:

[14] ✖

.

1. <http://www.plannerisms.com/>
2. http://maps.google.co.uk/maps?f=q&source=s_q&hl=en&geocode=&q=Thouars,+France&sl1=46.968437,-0.183643&sspn=0.015917,0.02399&ie=UTF8&hq=&hnear=Thouars,+Deux-Sevres,+Poitou-Charentes,+France&t=h&z=14
3. <http://www.editions-oberthur.com/adulte/produits.php?ssrub=1>
4. http://www.editions-oberthur.com/pdf/catalogue_orga_agendas_calendriers_oberthur.pdf
5. http://www.exacompta.com/fr/agendas/agendas_exacompta.php?sf=018030
6. http://www.exacompta.com/fr/agendas/fournitures_agendas.php?sf=018030&sgt=01803080
7. <http://quovadis.eu/site/page-collection/agendas/organiseurs/>
8. <http://www.plannerisms.com/2010/08/2011-trinote-updates.html>
9. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TH6zd2s31wI/AAAAAAAAAIRI/4rgUC1sTirI/s1600/scan0002.jpg
10. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TH63IfGjt0I/AAAAAAAAAIRM/iWKipFgsaoQ/s1600/scan0004.jpg
11. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TH66UqtF_DI/AAAAAAAAAIRQ/7ePhjIseJWY/s1600/scan0005.jpg
12. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TH661Sva_LI/AAAAAAAAAIRU/BSMz1mqWUVQ/s1600/scan0006.jpg
13. http://www.quovadis-diaries.co.uk/acatalog/TIMER_17___French_.html
14. http://www.quovadis.eu/images/agendas/remplis/Timer17-j-page_b.jpg

Laurie (2010-09-02 05:02:27)

The Timer 21 insert is especially interesting to me, because it has the exact same layout as my Trinote that I love so much, but can fit (with some hole punching) into an A5 Filofax! Best of both worlds?

Also, I'm assuming these refills are made with the legendary Clairefontaine paper that is such a joy to write on.

Thanks for this post Steve! Always nice to know about alternative diary layouts for our Filofaxes.

Angel Of Vengeance (2010-09-02 05:34:44)

Thanks for these posts. I really appreciate these ones. I am just a baby when it comes to Filofaxes because I got my first one this year but I look forward to refilling it next year. :)

Jeff Abbott (2010-09-02 21:03:51)

I think in the US the Quo Vadis planners are all bound: no refills. Too bad.

Oni (2010-09-09 20:52:31)

OMIGODICANTBELIEVEIT!!!!!!

I really enjoyed the paper on my QuoVadis bound planner, and secretly wished for it to be compatible with Filofax...and now this post..

"so both Pocket and Personal size are compatible with QV inserts..."

is indeed a dream come true!!

I'm glad I didn't buy my refills for next year yet, so I can try to score some from QV!!

Thank you very much for this post, Steve!!!

Laurie (2010-09-16 05:49:28)

Oni I'm VERY happy to inform you that we can order these here in the UK from the Quo Vadis UK site! You just click on the size, then find refills:

http://www.quovadis-diaries.co.uk/acatalog/TIMER_17___French_.html

Steve, is there a size that fits Personal size Filofaxes or do they only fit Pocket and A5?

Laurie (2010-09-16 05:55:39)

Ok after a little research I've answered my own question, more or less. The Timer 17 refills are the right size for the Personal size Filofax, but I don't know if the rings spacing is the same. Steve, do you know?

Here is a page showing the Timer pages (with designated list boxes and Sunday at the bottom of the page), Prestige (with lined space at the left and a half column for each Saturday and Sunday), Horizontal (without notes space on the weekly spread) and one day per page.

I may have to order these up to have the perfect combination of the Quo Vadis paper and format I love, with the convenience of my Filofax!! Too bad they don't come in English!!!!

Filofax UK, we would love Filofax refills with these formats!!!

Laurie (2010-09-16 05:57:24)

Upon further inspection, the Prestige version DOES have English and French!! I must get it!!

Steve (2010-09-16 06:01:32)

Yes, the personal and pocket are punched correctly, only the A5 needs to be repunched, which is what I have done..

OK here's a guide (I will add this to my article in a moment)

Timer 21 is A5 21=210mm high

Timer 17 is Personal 17=170mm high

Timer 14 is Pocket 14=125mm high may be they should call this Timer12!

Steve (2010-09-16 06:04:55)

Laurie Link?

Laurie (2010-09-16 06:05:38)

That's it then. OMG I can't believe it, the paper and diary format I love, with the portability and convenience of my Personal size Filofax!! Could this be Filofax Nirvana?!?!?

Laurie (2010-09-16 06:09:46)

Gah, my link didn't paste in!! I'll try again.

Here is the link to the French QV pages, showing the different types:

<http://www.quovadis.eu/fr/agendas/detail.asp?arId=40>

Here is the link to the QV UK site for the Timer 17 refills (Ffx Personal size):

http://www.quovadis-diaries.co.uk/acatalog/TIMER_17.html

Here's the UK site for all the sizes of French refills and organizers:

http://www.quovadis-diaries.co.uk/acatalog/TIMER_17___French_.html

Steve (2010-09-16 06:13:18)

Merci beaucoup.... the first one is in fact the page I linked to in the article!

But well done for finding them on the UK site as well.

Reader Under The Spot Light - Dean (2010-09-05 00:00) - Steve



[1]

“Adirondack Explorer” (Dean Brown) is a dual citizen of Canada and the United States and lives in the Adirondack Mountains of New York State where he serves as pastor of an exciting local congregation. He is also CEO and Lead Presenter at Corktown Management Services where he has spent the last 30 years researching and implementing proven methodologies designed to help time-starved executives and administrative personnel manage the multi-faceted aspects of their full and productive lives. He is an unapologetic Filofax aficionado and Apple Macintosh user.

1. When did you buy your first Filofax and what was it?

I purchased my first Filofax – a Finsbury A5 - in 2007. As a Canadian citizen working in the United States, I was familiar with the Filofax brand but had never considered purchasing one for some strange reason. Imagine my surprise finding a Filofax distributor in my region!

2. What other brands have you used or considered using?

I purchased my first pocket-sized Day-Timer planner in 1985. Since then, I’ve tried Time Design System, Scan-Card System, Franklin Covey and even experimented with a Levenger system.

3. Out of the organisers you own which is your current favourite (Style and Size)?

I own two Day-Timer covers, two Franklin Covey binders, a Levenger planner, a Time Design ox-skinned cover and two Filofax organisers - the A5 Finsbury (black) and the Personal Classic (black). While I love the space in the A5, the Personal is by far my favourite as it’s so portable. And as a member of the clergy, it is the exact size of my black Pit Minion Cambridge Bible that I use for meetings, counselling, visitation and hospital chaplaincy work.

4. How many Filofax organisers do you own?

Two (for now!).

5. What do you use your Filofax for?

I use the 2PPW Dairy, the Notes section to capture anything and everything while on the go, the Projects tab for project capture (ala GTD), the Information tab for recording things like weight loss progress, meeting notes, church attendances, personal and church goals, etc. I have removed most of the A-Z tabs and use only the A-B tab for my GTD Agendas and the N-O tab for my Next Actions lists. I keep important cards in the front card slots and a plastic zippered pocket for my receipts and family pictures. The back zippered pocket I use for important citizenship information and Canadian money (I never know when I might travel northward!).

6. *What was the feature about Filofax you like most?*

I love the classic look of the Filofax, the ability to easily but securely move pages within the system, and the portability of the Personal Classic.

7. *If you could design your own Filofax what would it feature?*

While I know this is not what you're asking, I would design Filofax planners that remain open when placed on a table or lap (my only dislike!).

8. *How do you carry your Filofax?*

I carry my Filofax everywhere I go: to appointments, to the supermarket, to the homes of people in my parish and to the hospital. In fact, I never leave home or office without it. It also fits nicely in my laptop case when I need to carry my MacBook Pro to a meeting or to a favourite vacation destination.

9. *Which Filofax in the current range do you like the most? Are you going to buy it?*

It's a struggle knowing which one to buy next as I see so many great pics on Flickr sites like "Yvotchka's" and the others contributors at Philofaxy. I suppose I would like to own the Eton but the price is really quite out of my range these days!

10. *What is the most you have ever spent on a Filofax? Which model?*

\$110 USD for my Personal Classic. Please don't ask about how much I've spent on accessories!

11. *Turning to Philofaxy, what do you like the most?*

This site is the greatest! I check it multiple times a day and really enjoy reading about how others use their Filofaxes. We have some great writers among us who really bring life to this penchant we all have for these little leather lovelies!

12. *And what do you not like about Philofaxy?*

There really isn't anything I don't like about the site but I do wish more guys would step up and post. The women carry the lion's share of the load with Steve and I think more guys could post about their Filofaxes, too (I know, I know, I've lurked in the shadows, too, but I'm changing that now that I'm be submitting this for review).

13. *What was the last music album CD you bought or downloaded?*

Many people think that because I'm a pastor that I'm just into church hymnody. Nothing could be further from the truth! My last purchase was from The Celtic Women and "The Celtic Tenor" featuring John McDermott. Before that, it was the Mozart: Requiem. I enjoy Sara Groves and many contemporary artists, too.

Thank you Dean for a very detailed set of answers.

1. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TGInYrEf4BI/AAAAAAAAIJg/FDpn5sPmmGI/s1600/revbrownat96dpi.jpg

scotirish (2010-09-05 21:04:42)

I can't believe I read that entire article about something I know absolutely nothing about to get to the last paragraph to see your reference to Sara Groves who I do know something about. Sara was 3months old when her parents brought her into a prison Christmas Eve service in '72, her great-grandmother first told me God had a plan for my life, and her grandparents visited the same prison for 40 years every week. Her songs are amazing to a lot of people.

kanalt (2010-09-06 21:12:26)

Great interview. I can't wait to hear more from you and the other guys "lurking in the shadows." =)

Oni (2010-09-09 20:44:55)

You should definitely leave the shadows and join in the fun!! It was great to read your answers, especially because like you said, most of the men are too shy to speak up.

Maybe if we can get more men here, Filofax will start designing less female-oriented binders, and if I can dream, make the Scanda in the pocket version...

:D

ArchiMark (2010-09-27 11:15:36)

Well, this guy (and new Filofax user), really enjoyed the interview with Dean!

I found the info about how Dean uses/organizes his filofax including GTD very helpful!

Thanks!

Competition Time (2010-09-06 11:45) - Steve

As we all know.... or should know! Filofax use the slogan 'Filofax... It's a way of life.' Can you think of a better slogan?

We are running this as a fairly light hearted competition with a prize for the winner, so please join in.

The prize will be a [1]diary refill for 2011 in a style and size of your choice, this will be posted to you where ever you are in the world.

This prize is funded from the small commission I earn on sales when ever you purchase goods on the [2]Filofax UK site when you click on a [3]Filofax link/banner on this site.

To enter the competition please email your entries to philofaxy at gmail dot com and put 'slogan competition' in the subject of your email. We will allow up to three entries per person, if you enter more than three the most recently received three entries will be considered... so if you think of something better still send it in.

The closing date for entries is 30 September 2010 and 'the judges decision will be final' !!! We will publish some of the best entries. It's just a bit of fun, if you think that Filofax should use your slogan, then we can put you in touch with them if you want....

We look forward to receiving your entries.



[4]

1. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?awinmid=2457&awinaffid=97790&clickref=slogancomp&p=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.filofax.co.uk%2Fuk%2Fdiary%2Brefills%2F>

2. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?awinmid=2457&awinaffid=97790&clickref=slogancomp&p=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.filofax.co.uk%2F>

3. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?awinmid=2457&awinaffid=97790&clickref=slogancomp&p=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.filofax.co.uk%2F>

4. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?s=219481&v=2457&q=110797&r=97790>

Eva (2010-09-06 14:02:00)

Filofax: Organise your life to the max! ;o)

Steve (2010-09-06 14:25:22)

Eva please email in your entries if you want to enter the competition...

Thanks

Regards

Steve

Yvotchka (2010-09-07 10:00:34)

Just to clarify (because it's been a loooooong weekend and I am off caffeine):

Are we coming up with taglines for Filofax or Philofaxy??

Sorry for being daft this morning...

Steve (2010-09-07 11:47:53)

Yvotchka: We would like you to come up with tag lines for Filofax at this time...

May be Philofaxy another time.

And please email in your suggestions I discovered a couple on our Facebook page yesterday!

Regards

Steve

Janet (2010-09-12 07:01:41)

I've entered! I love your site, though I seldom post comments. Thank you for being so generous Steve. It was fun thinking up a slogan!

Reader Under The Spot Light - Katka (2010-09-07 00:00) - Steve



[1]

I'm an organizational freak, who loves all kind of desk accessories. I tried a lot of notebooks, Moleskines, planners, but always got back to my Filofax. I bought first Filofax after I found one on the street and got it back to the owner. The man was so happy when I gave it to him, and I started to wonder what is so special about this small leather thing. I know now and I'm glad I do.

1. When did you buy your first Filofax and what was it?

I bought the first one 5 years ago. It was personal Stratford and I still use it. The leather has become so soft after those years. Love it.

2. What other brands have you used or considered using?

Two years ago I received very generous gift. Louis Vuitton personal agenda. It was beautiful but not really every day use friendly. So I exchanged it for a bag :o)

3. Out of the organisers you own which is your current favourite (Style and Size)?

Guildford slim. The leather is just exquisite, but unfortunately the rings are too small.

4. How many Filofax organisers do you own?

4 : Guildford slim, Stratford personal, Executive A5 and Cavendish pocket

5. What do you use your Filofax for?

I use personal for my daily/personal stuff, A5 lies on my desk at work, slim is for traveling and pocket for quick notes at home.

6. What was the feature about Filofax you like most?

Flexibility, quality, design, style.

7. If you could design your own Filofax what would it feature?

As I've read so many times before – something between slim and personal, with the external fastening, soft leather as Guildford slim, larger pen loop, and zip pocket.

8. *How do you carry your Filofax?*

In my bag, anywhere I go.

9. *Which Filofax in the current range do you like the most? Are you going to buy it?*

Finchley. No, I'm not going to buy it, as I don't have use for it. But still looking for the reason :o)

10. *What is the most you have ever spent on a Filofax? Which model?*

Around 110 USD for Stratford personal.

11. *Turning to Philofaxy, what do you like the most?*

Free for all Friday. And Steve, Laurie and Nan.

12. *And what do you not like about Philofaxy?*

N/A :o)

13. *What was the last music album CD you bought or downloaded?*

Oren Lavie - The Opposite Side Of The Sea. And please have a look on his music video on youtube - Her morning elegance. It's just pure perfection.

Thank you Katka for contacting us and putting yourself 'under the spotlight'

.

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/THetePmtwRI/AAAAAAAAIMI/5ifgwI4PGqg/s1600/katkam.JPG

Adirondack Explorer (2010-09-07 15:51:43)

Thanks, Katka. I enjoyed reading about your use of Filofaxes!

Michele (2010-09-08 05:26:33)

I agree with Adirondack Explorer!

Oni (2010-09-09 20:35:04)

Thank you for sharing!

It would be nice to see pictures of the Stratford and the Cavendish, I have never seen those. Please feel free to share them in the flickr philofaxy group :D

What to Wish for Wednesday (2010-09-08 00:00) - Steve

So what do you *wish* for when you look on the [1]FILOFAX site... and *why*?

Tell us in the comments...

1. <http://www.awin1.com/awclick.php?mid=2457&id=97790>

Eva (2010-09-08 00:34:46)

Big sales on everything!

A Bare Truth (2010-09-08 03:39:48)

I think i would like to have a dpp format similar to the one moleskin has. I would also like to have the "Personal knight-bridge" re-issued, or something close to.

David Popely (2010-09-08 03:51:52)

Links through to their 'approved' stockists, where there would be 'proper' websites and not just 'how to find us' info.

fiology.com (2010-09-08 08:28:38)

When I enter the Australian one - I hope that they've finally made it a shop :\

Yvotchka (2010-09-08 08:32:58)

Diary options re-worked for 2011 that can be used with monthly tabs.

Why? Because I'm sick of having to use other brands of diary inserts in my Filofax...but I will until the day they update their diary pages.

kanalt (2010-09-08 11:07:55)

I don't think I need to say it - Malden in the US! (Though supposedly that wish will be coming true in October...)

crofter (2010-09-08 12:25:14)

A Bare Truth,

There is a personal Knightsbridge available now on e bay, black lambskin that looks to be in good shape, you might check it out.

There is really none of the current product line that I "have to have". I would like to see them bring back the 1 1/4" binder rings in the personal size.

bernhardS (2010-09-08 13:28:21)

@ crofter:

This particular offering is not a Personal, it's a Pocket Knightsbridge.

best,

bernhard

plaiditude (2010-09-08 14:49:54)

c o t t o n c r e a m!

I want cotton cream A5 diary options, and more personal size cotton cream options as well. Dpp and Dp2p especially, perhaps with a bit of a re-design as well. My personal Scanda with cotton cream is way more fun to write in, but it's just too small so I have to use A5 with Time/Design inserts.

PA3789 (2010-09-08 18:14:42)

A Filo made as tough as nails.

Stop the soft leather that scratches so easily.

Could they bring the Winchester back please.

Why not produce something everyone seems to want?

S. (2010-09-08 21:07:51)

Not wishing for a particular Filofax right now as the Finsubry, Finchley and Dominos are all I need! Until Filofax comes out with their next awesome design that is..

I've always thought that their website should have a list of best-sellers/most popular Filofaxes and maybe a personality quiz type thing such as "Which Filofax suits you the most!" They should also have a Filo review section in the US site like they do on the UK site.

Erin (2010-09-09 00:45:12)

I would also like cotton cream in A5 as well as inserts that work with monthly tabs. Also larger rings

Oni (2010-09-09 20:32:13)

Third on the cotton cream sheets!

OR:

That they make their regular paper more fountain pen friendly.

And the monthly tabs are also a great idea, so count that as another vote! :)

Jotje (2010-09-10 04:25:12)

Oh my, the list is endless (is Filofax actually gonna read this here?):

1) Cotton cream diary pages in A5

2) I REALLY need a 2PPD format in A5!

- 3) Pink Day per Page refills for the Personal
 - 4) An updated stockist list. I'm sick of finding out that listed stockists have gone out of business, or moved entirely. How hard can it be to keep those stockist lists updated ...?
 - 5) Could filofax.nl please become a shop, too? With REASONABLE shipping costs?
 - 6) Plastic Zip-envelop for the Mini
 - 7) Frosted rulers with ALL Filofaxes
 - 8) Any ruler with the Mini
 - 9) I want to be able to buy empty binders, I'm drowning in diary papers here, that I have no use for.
 - 10) Also it would be awesome if you could choose the diary format (or refills in general) when buying a new binder. Just give us a dropdown option list where we can check the desired items
 - 11) The A5 Domino in some fun colours!!!
 - 12) Wallet pocket for the personal size binders.
- Good thing I'm such a modest and easy to please woman ;-)

Reader Under The Spot Light - Yvotchka (2010-09-09 00:00) - Steve



[1]

This week's reader under the spot light is Yvonne, who if you don't know her already, then I suspect you can't have been reading this blog very long!

Yvonne has had several blogs about her life and planners, her current one is [2]Seemed Like A Good Idea At The Time Yvonne is also very active on the [3]Philofaxy Flickr Group

1. When did you buy your first Filofax and what was it?

It was in the mid to late 1980's (maybe '87?) and it was an Ostrich Personal size in brown. I have NO IDEA where I bought it but it was a thing of beauty. When the snap started to wear, I freaked out & went and bought a red neoprene Personal that I had seen in a magazine. It was very cool material. There must have been a retailer around somewhere, as the Internet wasn't ubiquitous like it is now. I have no idea where either of them are today.

2. What other brands have you used or considered using?

I have used DayRunner (primarily because I could get them at Staples locally at the time), Franklin Covey, At-a-Glance and DayTimer primarily, but always seem to come back to Filofax. I like AAG, but prefer a ring bound system to spiral. DayRunner doesn't have much to offer these days in my opinion, FC has great inserts but limited choices in binders. I do like DayTimer but they also have limited options for binders. I do prefer their inserts, however, as they will fit a Filofax personal perfectly and can be tabbed by the month, which is a huge selling point for me.

3. Out of the organizers you own, which is your current favorite (Style and Size)?

Although I started with A5, my favorite size now is Personal because I prefer to be able to have my planner with me 24/7 and this size fits my needs and is also portable. I also run a Pocket with a Day per Page diary for those times I need to carry a smaller handbag. It's kind of a pain in the butt keeping them both up to date, but its so handy just being able to toss the Pocket in a tiny bag without thinking that it's well worth the effort. Until I got the Malden, I was using the Personal Domino Snake in dark brown with FC WOTP inserts becausee the elastic band on the Domino could handle the wider width of FC pages (and the Swing Pad). Now that I have my Malden I am loving that (in black) and have switched to DayTimer WOTP Inserts.

4. How many Filofax organisers do you own?

As of 9/1/10, I have 36. I thought that was extreme until the number 75 hit the website! However, I also own 11 Franlin Covey organizers, 2 DayRunner, 2 DayTimer and 1 Oberon Leather planner that will accommodate FF Personal size refills. Then there are the 2 Louis Vuitton's and 1 Gucci. The higher end ones I don't really dare use; they are just collectibles. So my grand, all-inclusive organizer total is right up there I guess.

5. What do you use your Filofax for?

Primarily for my daily & future planning and to do lists. Also as a carry around notebook for ideas, notes, whatever, but I also have Moleskines for that, so the majority of what I use It for on a daily basis is a calendar & To Do's. I have recently incorporated my financial planner (which used to be in a separate FF Amazona Slimline) into my every day Malden, so now I will use it for financial tracking as well and just carry around the one Filo.

6. What was the feature about Filofax you like most?

I think the reason I keep coming back to FF is the style, history and reputation. FF is elegant and urbane, there are endless options for style, color, material to choose from and I've never had one wear out on me. Plus, FF is where I started back in the 80's, so it feels like home to me. And as I've said, it's fun to say "Let me check my Filofax" :)

7. If you could design your own Filofax what would it feature?

A stretchy pen loop firstly, a notepad pocket in the back, the secretarial pocket in the front (I sorely miss that in the Malden!), It would lay flat out of the box and not have a closure at all so I could stuff It to the gills. It would be personal size, have 1 1/2" rings and be made of a durable yet beautiful leather (preferably pebbled. I have a thing for pebbled leather). Definitely a wallet pocket (yes, even on a Personal) AND an outside zip pocket on the back. In addition, it would come in any color I wanted.

8. How do you carry your Filofax?

Most often in my handbag, but sometimes I just carry it around like a clutch. I stick my phone in wherever it will fit, and transfer the necessary wallet stuff into it when I don't feel like carting my whole bag around. When I use the Pocket size I don't tend to do that - I just carry it in my handbag.

9. Which Filofax in the current range do you like the most? Are you going to buy it?

Right now, I am head over heels in love with the Malden. I have it in the Personal size in both Ochre and Black (favoring the Black) but if I could, I'd order it in every size and every color just because the leather is so scrumptious! I would love another ostrich someday, for sentimental reasons, but they don't have it in brown anymore and I don't recall it having "gilded rings" when I had one (I don't like gold), so I don't really see myself ever getting another. Perhaps someday, I will get the Alligator one as an engagement Filo...but I'm not holding my breath!

10. What is the most you have ever spent on a Filofax? Which model?

Top prize goes to the Eton. The pair of Maldens weren't' cheap either. As I recall I also dropped some coin on the Special Edition Swarovsky one, but I can't remember the cost at this point.

11. Turning to Philofaxy, what do you like the most?

Obviously the topics are interesting & helpful. The people are great - not just the contributors but also the commenter's as well. My favorite thing is probably the sense of community I've found there and the friendships I've built & am building. In addition, knowing there are other FF addicts out there doesn't hurt either!

12. And what do you not like about Philofaxy?

Not a thing. I guess I wish there were more posts - like one a day from EACH of you, but I know you guys are only human!!!!

13. What was the last music album CD you bought or downloaded?

I like world music a lot these days. It was "Talking Timbuktu" by Ali Farka Toure & Ry Cooder.

Thank you for going under the spot light Yvonne

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/THYSDjUCxnI/AAAAAAAAIME/t1B1XSwvRKY/s1600/me.jpg
2. <http://putitonmyheadstone.blogspot.com/>
3. <http://www.flickr.com/groups/philofaxy/>

Erin (2010-09-09 01:15:29)

Hi Yvonne

you are a close second to me in number of planners! Can you tell me if you purchased your black swarovski planner from the US or UK site? Thanks!

David Popely (2010-09-09 03:05:07)

Hi Yvotchka!

Thanks for all your helpful comments. However, you've got that album title wrong - its 'Talking Timbuktu', not 'Taking Timbuktu'. Only took me a minute to find it though (God bless you Spotify) and its a great album, so thanks!

Jotje (2010-09-09 03:54:59)

Another Ry Cooder fan over here!!!! Love him with Bueno Vista Social Club obviously (who doesn't?), but also find his soundtrack of the movie "Paris, Texas" terrific (yes, I'm THAT old ...!).

Yvotchka (2010-09-09 06:33:11)

Erin: I bought the swarovski planner from the US site when it was a holiday promotion about a year or so ago. It is very beautiful but too delicate to use...I take it out and look at it a lot though :)

davidpopely: Oops, typo! Thanks for catching that! Too good an album to misspell.

Jotje: Right there with ya...right there with ya ; D

Steve (2010-09-09 11:56:32)

I've corrected the typo ;-)

Steve

Adirondack Explorer (2010-09-09 12:28:27)

Thanks, Yvonne. Enjoyed reading more of your writings!

Dean

Oni (2010-09-09 20:26:53)

Wow!! Of all the spotlight posts, I think this one was the one I was waiting for the most!

I was wondering, if you're also using a Pocket, is it the Malden as well, or are you still sporting the Piazza in Lime Green? (I think of all your stories, the search for the Personal Piazza was the best!)

It's such a pity you don't remember what you did with your first Filos...maybe gave them away??

:D

HP Fuchs (2010-09-10 01:31:07)

36 Filofaxes? You are crazy.

Michele (2010-09-10 07:10:30)

Yvonne isn't crazy - She's a "collector" and if it's of planners - that's a good thing! Like fine wine! ;-)

M Ng (2010-09-10 16:22:11)

It's so nice to read a bit more about Yvotchka.

Also, I love reading about the first Filofax. It's something that, I'm sure, leaves an indelible mark on how we think about planning and planners.

kanalt (2010-09-11 08:58:23)

Great interview! And nice pic. I thought you were using the other one. It's great to have a (full) face to go with the name and comments. =)

Free For All Friday No. 95 (2010-09-10 00:00) - Steve

Well September has seen the end of [*l*]à *la rentrée* here in France where all schools and most government offices close for all of August, business's too close for two or three weeks in August.

Schools have restarted in this last week and generally things are now back to normal and Autumn is approaching so we are making the most of the good weather. And it's time to start planning those odd jobs around the house that need doing before winter arrives.

How is your calendar looking in the next few weeks?

But as this is a Friday you can of course discuss anything Filofax related.

1. <http://french.about.com/od/vocabulary/a/alarentree.htm>

David Popely (2010-09-10 01:08:27)

We take our holidays late (to avoid clashing with the school holidays) so my diary is looking pretty good! Two weeks off at the end of Septmber/beginning of Aufust. However, I HAVE fouled up by 'planning' (viz. letting happen) a three day trip to London on Business the week before! Since I run my own business, this adds up to pretty much three weeks away from my desk - not clever and I have learnt a lesson.....

I' using my Filofax to manage to-do lists in various categories prior to holiday, so that I can make sure I hae everything nailed down before I leave. This is also one of the two times of year when I set goals, so there is some of that going on as well - I wish Filofax had a goal-setting form...

I use David Allen's 'Getting Things Done' system of time management in harness with my Filofax - does anyone else use this, and if so, what forms do you use and how? I'd be interested to know.

Happy organising!

David

Somerset, England

@davidpopely

David Popely (2010-09-10 01:14:19)

I'm giving a talk to my Business League group this morning on 'How to get the most from your time'. There isn't a Powerpoint as such for it (don't think they help much, and most presenters just read off the slides anyway), but I *could* put something on Powerpoint - or even in a basic Word doc, and post it somewhere if people want it, and are interested enough. Just a thought.....

I'm not a TM 'guru' but I've been involved with proactive time management since 1982, so hopefully I've learnt a few things (as well as made many more mistakes!) in that time.....

Jotje (2010-09-10 04:15:06)

David, that sounds great. I'd assume it makes a great addition to the Files section we have here on Philofaxy. Unless you don't want to have it in a public place ... I'd love to read it!

My Filofax-news for this week: I bought a Personal Size Raspberry Chameleon. I'm so looking forward to it! It seems to be fabricated from the same leather as the Malden (minus the Vintage look). Really can't wait ...

Would love to have some nice daily pages for it, but can't find anything appealing. And I'm just too lazy to make my own sheets ...

David Popely (2010-09-10 04:38:05)

re daily sheets, beauty is *definitely* int eh eye of the beholder but i *love* the DaVinci sheets which you can see at http://www.flickr.com/photos/stirwise/4942620046/in/set-721576247177_46049/ Apparently they also do undated which you can see at http://www.flickr.com/photos/stirwise/4942021095/in/set-721576247177_46049/ (thank stirwise for these photos. So far as i can see these are *only* available from Japan (!) but they do ship, so if you want the link I can send it to you. Bit

frightened of the carriage charges though!

Steve (2010-09-10 04:38:26)

David

We would be happy to turn your presentation in to a guest post. Please send it to the usual address

Regards

Steve

David Popely (2010-09-10 04:40:05)

Re the talk outline, its really a digest of a half day course which I run commercially, so it might not make too much sense when condensed to half a sheet of A4, and I'd be a bit nervous about putting the core intellectual property of part of my business into the public domain. But if you email me via davidpopely@googlemail.com I'll happily type it up and email you a copy if you'd like that :)

David Popely (2010-09-10 04:49:07)

Send me a few details of how that will work - I'm new to this!! To what address should I send it?

Can I put a BRIEF and TACTFUL link (like an email address?) on the end as its really part of hat I do for a living? I'm not looking to do it as mere self-promotion, but it **is** part of my livelihood!

Jess (2010-09-10 05:40:49)

I had an interesting Filofax week! I went to London last weekend with my mum as a surprise 21st present, and she had put together a little itinerary of shops to visit. Both Filofax stores were on there! I thought that was really sweet of her, even though with everything else we had to do we didn't make it to visit them. We did, however, make it to the stationary department in Harrods, the ultra exclusive and famous British department store - where my mum decided to buy a Filofax! She has an A4 one for work but hates it, so decided on a Personal Finsbury in brown, to match mine in pink. The salespeople kept asking if we needed any help - of course I knew more than them hehe. I talked my mum through the different leathers and finishes, about ring sizes and diary formats, asked her what she would predominantly use it for... it was so much fun! She also treated me to inserts for next year - so I got cotton cream WOTP, cotton cream To Do lists, a pack of Day Planners and a MOTP (month on two page) planner. We've had a great bonding session over setting our Filos up and discussing the finer points of stationary and organisation. Amazing!

Jess xxx

PA3789 (2010-09-10 06:23:50)

Just purchased a "new" Filofax Kent in A5.

Leather of course and is actually dated 2005.

Got it on eBay for a song and now awaiting it's arrival.

If it's nice, I will be using this for next year and can finally settle in on ordering 2011 items.

If it's not as nice as I think it will be.

Well, then I guess I'm still looking.

I wrote about it on my blog just yesterday.

Michele (2010-09-10 07:21:16)

Jess, your trip to Harrods sounds so much fun! I was there in July 2009 and just had a great time in the filofax dept!

I made use of the free shipping on the US Filofax site this week and purchased the software that allows you to convert and print to an A5 size. I've had the paper since last Christmas so I want to make use of it. I also purchased cotton creme paper for my pocket & my 2011 Day Per Page for Business for the A5.

David, I would love to see your ppt as well. I'm currently studying for PPM (project management professional) certification and Time Management is one of the Project Knowledge Areas.

David Popely (2010-09-10 07:43:13)

Hi Michelle, Jess

Michelle, its more likely to be a doc going into the files area of the site than anything else at the moment.....it should be there Monday/Tuesday (we have to do some tweaking here first).

Jess - do Harrods sell non-filofax refills, such as the DaVinci which as of now seem to be available only from Japan (in the UK)? I'd be interested to know....:) I'm a little in love with the DaVinci DPP diary but a bit scared of the shipping costs from Japan!

M Ng (2010-09-10 16:31:11)

Jess, what a wonderful shopping/planning experience. I don't think I've bonded with a friend over planners since high school, when (seriously) everyone had a ring-bound planner.

Also, I recently ordered the personal-sized pre-perforated printer paper. The paper is total crap! Not only is it thicker/heavier than the typical Filofax inserts paper, it's also more prone to bleed-through and feathering. It seems worth the time and effort to guillotine and punch paper myself after all.

Adirondack Explorer (2010-09-10 21:18:35)

"How is your calendar looking in the next few weeks?" (Steve)

I have been using the closing hours of a full Friday to update my system a bit.

I, too, use the Getting Things Done methodology so Next Action lists are really important. I've been copying over outdated lists and checking my calendar for the next few weeks. It looks really busy:

People who have been absent from church for the summer are getting back in touch and fall programming is gearing up, too. Sunday is National Back to Church Sunday in the US and we'll be welcoming new friends this week and enjoying a Cook Out.

The next weeks are going to include a lot of leadership training events, baptism classes, AWANA kids and Youth programming, and a special "Watch the Balloons" community event where we'll serve refreshments to people coming to watch nearly 100 hot air balloons and their pilots take off and land from our local airfield. We'll also provide a picnic to any and all who wish to attend - free of charge!

Things look busy for me but it's a good busy. How do people live without Filofaxes/planners? I know I can't!

Around the web this week... (2010-09-10 05:28) - Steve



[1]

A few interesting posts I discovered this week...

- [2]Filofax Travel Itinerary
- [3]J'adore Filofax
- [4]Things I love Thursday
- [5]Win a Filofax!
- [6]Beauty has no label - Day 15

Enjoy....

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TDIfrDRXbQI/AAAAAAAAAIC0/mjCIG9oM7FA/s1600/IMG_9186.JPG
2. <http://globetrottingcacti.blogspot.com/2010/09/filofax-travel-itinerary.html>
3. <http://moremagicalways.blogspot.com/2010/09/jadore-filofax.html>
4. <http://effieboo.wordpress.com/2010/09/09/things-i-love-thursday/>
5. <http://www.myfashionlife.com/archives/2010/09/08/win-a-filofax/>
6. <http://natalieslove.blogspot.com/2010/09/day-15-fanfic.html>

Luinae (2010-09-10 11:57:27)

Thanks for the link! I look forward to reading the others.

Izzie (2010-09-10 16:06:36)

Thanks for the links, they are great :)

Globetrotting Cacti (2010-09-12 15:32:28)

Thanks so much! The travel page post is from my blog (new to this blogging malarkey!)... made my week-end to see it on this blog as I have loved Philofaxy for some time (& have loved going through the past posts).

effieboo (2010-09-13 23:07:23)

Thanks for the love! :)

Reader Under The Spot Light - Michele (2010-09-12 00:00) - Steve



[1] I started using Filofax back in 1992 and it's the only brand I've ever used. As a single mom maintaining balance while working full time for a global company, I count on both my filofaxes as my constant sidekicks.

1. *When did you buy your first Filofax and what was it?*

I bought my first filo in 1992 and it was a green pocket Kensington which I picked up at a store right next to my office when Filofax was so huge.

After admiring for months, I finally bought my filo. This was the only one I used for close to 12 years.

2. *What other brands have you used or considered using?*

No other for me. Filofax is it!

3. *Out of the organisers you own which is your current favourite (Style and Size)?*

I love my Green Panama Pocket because it lies flat and is kind of unique with its gold rings. The pocket is so portable, and since I keep detailed cash flow sheets (archived since 1999) I need my filo within easy reach. I've tried a Personal size twice for my day-to-day personal items, but this size just doesn't work for me.

4. *How many Filofax organisers do you own?*

I have two - the green Panama Pocket mentioned above, and a A5 Mustard Finchley which I only considered buying after discovering Philofaxy. The A5 is my work planner and saves me from writing important notes on nearby posts. My 2011 Filofax One Day On A Page Calendar just arrived today so how many days until 1/1/11???

5. *What do you use your Filofax for?*

Personal Pocket: Record daily weight (I know "ugh!") and daily \$ on meals. Detailed monthly cash flow; cooking log which is supposed to be my adaptation of Jule/Julia and diary of books read.

A5 Finchley - Strictly work related - notes on meetings, projects, etc.

6. *What was the feature about Filofax you like most?*

That you can custom design it so it really is something unique to yourself. Is it any wonder that your friends call your filo "your book" ?? And if you feel like changing it around, you can do so in minutes.....

7. *If you could design your own Filofax what would its feature be?*

Less card slots in front, double pen loop so I can keep a pencil as well, and perhaps in smaller sizes a writing pad in the inside back cover with punch holes - similar to the A5 Finchley.

8. *How do you carry your Filofax?*

My pocket size is always in my handbag. It's a sad day when I accidentally leave it at home. The A5 doesn't travel as much as the pocket, and I start my day at work with both filos positioned right in front of me side by side.

9. *Which Filofax in the current range do you like the most? Are you going to buy it?*

The US site has the exotic animal skins which are absolutely gorgeous, but I would only buy if I used the personal size and it would be the ONLY filofax I would ever use, but I just cannot see myself with a personal. I do like the Eton Pocket, and I believe I will be receiving for Christmas this year.

10. *What is the most you have ever spent on a Filofax? Which model?*

It was a personal Brown Bridle back in 2003 which was slightly over \$100 USD.. Shortly after I bought it I returned it due to the cost oh and the Personal size.

11. *Turning to Philofaxy, what do you like the most?*

I absolutely love the fact that there are Filofax fans just like me! It's fantastic to find those with similar interests! I love learning about all those who post - getting to know everyone! I love identifying with the other women on the blog - career women or not; moms or not - and seeing how they use their filos....

12. *And what do you not like about Philofaxy?*

There's nothing not to like, but I feel guilty when other brands are pushed. I can just see our friends at the Filofax company grimace when we talk about other brands.

13. *What was the last music album CD you bought or downloaded?*

Last July I bought Jamie Cullum after I read Sophie Dahl's cookbook. Jazz is always best during the Summer! Thank you Michele for putting yourself under the spot light, some interesting answers on how you make your organisers work for you.

1. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TIquxeMc9rI/AAAAAAAAAIRY/QlrdI6aIY18/s1600/photo.JPG

David Popely (2010-09-12 08:19:48)

Hi Michele

Really interesting stuff, I run my own accountancy practice and have considered using my A5 FF for work and keeping my Personal Hampstead for non-work use, BUT I worry about having to reconcile the two diaries, also about having to transport two Filos when I go to London on business 2-3 times a month and when weight-to-be-carried becomes a hot issue. How do you get round these issues in your own FF life?

Michele (2010-09-12 12:46:02)

Hi David. First off, I keep a strict division between work/personal on the diary stuff thus barely any worries about reconciling. My daily calendar for personal stuff is comprised of my expenses at the cafe, \$ I give my son for meals out, weight,

weather, doctor appointments, tv/movies reminders; social events. For A5 - I jot down my meetings schedule, phone calls, emails, reports I have to do... When I do travel for business (very rare), I'll note the food expense in pocket, but put the receipts in clear envelope up front in the A5. Of course, the A5 executive calendar has a small area at the bottom for personal items - those calls you have no time to do but at the office..... The A5 pretty much stays at the office during the week, and for less baggage, I would just recommend trying to keep the personal at the hotel, or what I sometimes do is just pull out the much needed pages. When we went on vacation earlier this month, I pulled out everything except the calendar for that week and some addresses for postcards. I treat my pocket filo as sort of my own personal coach. Right now I'm working toward taking an exam for a globally recognized certification. I keep a daily diary in the notes section of the pocket filo of what I'm doing that day to prepare; whereas I keep a tab in the A5 for all my note taking from the study guides. And my monthly budget reconciliation in my pocket is addicting. I can tell you how much I spent at the salon for primping each month for the last eleven years ;-(. One last idea on the A5: I highly recommend (courtesy of Laurie)use post-it flags to write the subjects for the clear tabs instead of writing on the tabs themselves. When my daily responsibilities recently changed, I was able to revise all my filofax tabs in a matter of minutes without any markups. Hope this helps!

David Popely (2010-09-13 01:52:08)

Hi Michele

Thank you for expanding on your way of using the two planners side by side.....one of the great strengths of the system is that it adapts, and can be adapted, to many different ways of using it, and its clear that you have pretty good delineation between work and personal usage. I don't think this would work for me.....all the problems I've had with diary management (when I've had them) have come from having two (or more!) parallel diaries. I think this is part of the challenge presented by electronic systems as well, for me.....

I think I'm going to carry on with my Personal Hampstead for now, and just keep everything #under one roof'. I often get called upon to make decisions about non-work stuff when I'm at my desk (and vice versa), so that works for me!

Thanks for sharing though, and best wishes!

Dokemion (2010-09-14 14:02:23)

Thanks for this idea. So hoping to manage well my personal endeavors in business and family and my personal needs. Federal Resources for Single Mothers click: [1]Here

1. <http://www.singlemomfinancialhelp.com/blog/2010/08/government-assistance-federal-resources-for-single-moms/>

Awesome new blog (2010-09-13 05:04) - Laurie

I have just discovered the blog [1]Musings of a Caribbean Princess, which is wonderful. It's about Filofaxes (hooray!), fashion, work, science (hooray!) and loads of other fun things. I have added the link to our Hall Of Fame.

Go check out her photos of her Botanic and Adelphi Filofaxes! Gorgeous!

[2]

[3]<http://caribbeanprincessmusings.blogspot.com/>

1. <http://caribbeanprincessmusings.blogspot.com/>

2. http://www.blogger.com/goog_2067675300

3. <http://caribbeanprincessmusings.blogspot.com/>

Izzie (2010-09-13 07:44:07)

Thanks for the link! Will check it out soon! :)

caribbean princess (2010-09-14 14:33:35)

Thanks for linking to my blog :-) I am so excited to be part of such a great online community. I look forward to sharing more posts and reading philofaxy as well as all the other great links!

Weekend Filofax Blogs (2010-09-13 06:06) - Steve

Start of another week folks, but take some time out if you can and have a read of some of these blog posts about Filofax Organisers.

As always it's great to see some great pictures and descriptions of other people's set ups.

Enjoy

- [1]My Paper of Record - An interesting article about the dated information we retain;
- [2]I love My Filofax - Don't we all!
- [3]Organise in style with a Daily Planner - a brief review;
- [4]Filofax Heaven - A brief look at the Neal Street Store;
- [5]Working with Clients - Book extract;
- [6]Filofax Planners ;
- [7]My Fabulous Filofax

And another one this morning!

- [8]Leisa's Delights

1. http://www.salon.com/life/made/2010/09/09/jennifer_egan_made_essay
2. <http://annahateslaundry.blogspot.com/2010/09/i-love-my-filofax.html>
3. <http://thebeautybean.com/site/lust/organize-in-style-with-a-daily-planner/>
4. <http://globetrottingcacti.blogspot.com/2010/08/filofax-heaven.html>
5. http://books.google.co.uk/books?id=PDLSQORIF2sC&pg=PA56&dq=filofax&hl=en&ei=bEqNTPmpCYPMswbkk5SvAg&sa=X&oi=book_result&ct=result&resnum=2&ved=0CDMQ6AEWAQ#v=onepage&q=filofax&f=false
6. <http://www.coffeeandliterature.com/2010/09/filofax-planners.html>
7. <http://theglamorousgradstudent.blogspot.com/2010/07/my-fabulous-filofax.html>
8. <http://www.leiasdelights.com/2010/09/le-geek-cest-chic.html>

Claudia Volkman (2010-09-13 06:18:42)

I so enjoy reading all these various posts - thanks for pulling them altogether in one place! I've been completely electronic recently (MacBook Pro, iPhone, and now iPad) but this makes me want to reincorporate my Filofax back into the mix somehow!

Globetrotting Cacti (2010-09-13 11:45:48)

I am loving these lists... finding some great blogs to follow/add to my reader too. Thanks for the inspiration and I love to see how others use their filofax....

Anna (2010-09-13 12:21:10)

Thanks for linking to my blog! I probably spent 2 hours last night reading through old Filofaxy blog posts and getting inspiration for mine. =) So addicted!

Kristy Sherrod (2010-09-13 21:29:15)

Thanks so much for linking to my blog! I'm still LOVING my Filofax!!! I'm considering getting another!

Reader Under The Spot Light - Judith (2010-09-14 00:01) - Steve



[1]

Judith is as you will see relatively new to the Filofax brand, but obviously found us quite quickly! You will know her as *Jotje*.

1. When did you buy your first Filofax and what was it?

I bought my first "real" Filofax this May: an A5 pink Finsbury.

2. What other brands have you used or considered using?

I've used Succes and Time/System and other binders for many years.

3. Out of the organisers you own which is your current favourite (Style and Size)?

Depends on the function! For my work filo, it's definitely A5, preferably in the 2 pages per day format. For my on-the-go filo (doubling as wallet), it's the Mini size.

4. How many Filofax organisers do you own?

Seven.

5. What do you use your Filofax for?

A5 pink Finsbury as work filo; A5 snakeskin bronze Domino as school record/meeting binder for my four kids; A5 red Domino for recipes; Personal Cherry as budget planner; Personal lavender Domino as Travel filo; mini raspberry Finsbury as planner on the go/wallet/shopping list/To do satellite; mini lilac Classic as storage binder and one-day-replacement for my mini Finsbury.

6. What was the feature about Filofax you like most?

That you can suit it to your own needs! And the binders are of a high quality and have a great design. Just love the look and feel of them!

7. If you could design your own Filofax what would it feature?

Lots of pockets! I don't care for the notepad pocket in the A5, it should have been secretarial pockets. The personal size should come with a full width (wallet) pocket. The zip compartment should be bigger (add a bit of leather so you can pull it out).

8. *How do you carry your Filofax?*

The mini and Travel filo (and at some occasions the school binder) in my shoulder bag, the rest stays at home.

9. *Which Filofax in the current range do you like the most? Are you going to buy it?*

I like the purple Adelphi and the raspberry A5 Finsbury. Not gonna buy them, because I don't need another one right now. On the other hand: I can't stay away from ebay, so when a nice opportunity rises, I'll probably jump on it and just create a new function for it.

10. *What is the most you have ever spent on a Filofax? Which model?*

47 Euro for the A5 Domino Snakeskin.

11. *Turning to Philofaxy, what do you like the most?*

Everything! The pics, the reviews, the speaker's corner with all personal experiences and dilemma's. Very insightful!

12. *And what do you not like about Philofaxy?*

What's NOT to like?

13. *What was the last music album CD you bought or downloaded?*

Wow, a non-filo question! Last albums were Adele ("19") and Bill Withers ("Life at Carnegie Hall" - which I had been looking for for ages!).

Thank you Judith for agreeing to go under the 'spot light'

1. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TFr1uldJw7I/AAAAAAAAIGY/baemZYy65KY/s1600/judith.jpg

Michele (2010-09-14 19:56:59)

Am I reading right? 7 filox since May???? Major Kudos on that!

Jotje (2010-09-15 09:41:52)

I know! How bad is that? In my defence: I've been using Ringbound planners for many many many years, just not Filofax. And I just bought number 8: a personal Raspberry Chameleon, which is be-au-ti-ful!

I'm debating whether it should be my 2011 journal (with 1DPP inserts) or my companion/notebook for my Arts Classes which I start next week ...

Hey, maybe I should buy another one ... ;-)

Adirondack Explorer (2010-09-15 11:43:52)

It's nice to meet you, Judith via your post. Happy planning!

caribbean princess (2010-09-15 12:33:54)

Oooh I have been naughty and ordered some more as well, one for my twin sister who cant get them in the caribbean (got her the domino personal in red) and couldnt help but get myself a pink personal finsbury and the pocket butterfly in red. Now I definitely CANNOT get any more!

HP Fuchs (2010-09-16 05:11:19)

"Lots of pockets! I don't care for the notepad pocket in the A5, it should have been secretarial pockets. The personal size should come with a full width (wallet) pocket. The zip compartment should be bigger (add a bit of leather so you can pull it out)."

Those pockets and wallet pockets might be the reason why newer filofaxes don't lay flat. I'd like exactly the opposite: Filofaxes with only very basic pockets, and NO zip pockets at all.

Jotje (2010-09-16 13:57:47)

@HP Fuchs: you mean like a Domino in real leather? (but with a snap closure instead of the elastic)

Must say though: my A5 Finsbury lay flat immediately. Then again, it doesn't have a full width wallet pocket (which would look really stupid on an A5, I assume LOL).

HP Fuchs (2010-09-17 01:43:04)

"you mean like a Domino in real leather? (but with a snap closure instead of the elastic)"

Exactly! In superb leather quality and craftsmanship.

Jotje (2010-09-17 05:31:59)

That would have to be a Cuban A5 in a slimline version! The leather is thick, but an A5 is easily trained to lay flat.

HP Fuchs (2010-09-18 10:56:41)

No, thanks :-)

I'll stay with my Personal Bridle and Personal Savannah for the next decades.

Filofaxing Your Finances (2010-09-14 16:39) - Laurie

While reading the excellent [1]Reader Under The Spotlight series, I have noticed that several people use their Filofaxes to manage their finances (like [2]Judith and [3]Michele). This is a topic I blogged about in a [4]very wordy post last year, but since then my financial situation has changed drastically and I'm currently searching for inspiration on ways to wrangle my finances.

I love Yvotchka's photos of her [5]Amazona slimline which she used as her Financial Filofax (and has since absorbed those pages into her [6]new Malden). But even the photos are tantalizingly vague!

For those of you who use your Filofax for financial organization, can you please give us some details on how you do it? Do you track daily expenditures? (If so, on your diary pages or elsewhere?) Do you have a designated section for financial tracking? How do you use it?

Any specifics you are comfortable with sharing would be greatly appreciated!

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/search/label/Reader>

2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/09/reader-under-spot-light-judith.html>

3. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/09/reader-under-spot-light-michele.html>

4. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2009/07/financial-filofax.html>

5. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/nhgrrl/4639178059/>

6. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/nhgrrl/4948617454/>

pilgrim (2010-09-14 16:50:18)

I track the usual amounts going out regularly on the financial pages, then extra amounts like a debit card payment or cash withdrawals on diary pages so I've an idea of my account balance-these days almost everyone needs to know where every penny goes!

Steve (2010-09-14 17:28:52)

Hi Laurie

Check out the Files section, I've just added a file I already had 13 Column Sheet. You can use it to track either 31 days with different items in the columns, or 31 items across 12 months with a total column and one for descriptions.

I think the form is possibly an FC page, I spotted the design in the Advance Day Planner Users Guide book I have and reviewed here in July last year.

It's in A4 format on 4 pages.. the usual booklet print will give you 4 A5 pages on one sheet of A4 paper.

Steve

Michele (2010-09-14 17:33:10)

Hi Laurie. Daily calendar only has what we spend on meals not home cooked. One piece of notepaper a month - both sides: Side 1: Total Cash In:.. Expenses List: Rent, School Fees, Cable TV, Phone, Car, Groceries, Meals (grand total of daily calendar, Medical, Donations, Misc, Clothing/Haircuts, each credit card. Then there is a separate list which I total at end of month and put on the Expense List: Car, Donations, Medical, Misc, Haircut/Clothing, Groceries.... Gives you a great idea how to budget if you give yourself a ballpark average. At end of month, I add up all the columns, and do a Total Income -

Total Exp.... Mind you this is one reason I've been keeping a file for so long!! ;-)

crofter (2010-09-14 19:07:38)

I use several of the Filofax forms to keep track of finances.

I keep track of my checking accounts with the regular finance form, I really like it instead of the check register that is included with each box of checks. It keeps it all in one place and when archived at years end, they are easy to access for tax purposes. Before I had check registers strung from hell to breakfast, and there was always one that couldn't be found.

I use the credit card form when on trips. I use 4 different cards, and abbreviate each one so I know how much I have spent, and what the damages will be when I get home and the bills start coming in.

The best form which hasn't been available for a number of years was the "Motor Running Record". It was #937, and I have used it for all my vehicles, on one since the mid 80's. That vehicle now has well over 300,000 miles on it and I have a record of every cent spent on it since new. I wish they would bring this form back as it has been extremely rewarding to watch as the old girl just keeps going.

I need to use the personal expense form, I will try to start that for the new year.

plaiditude (2010-09-14 20:21:19)

Crofter: that vehicle form sounds great, is there a picture of it somewhere? Perhaps someone can make a template based on it.

Silver_Elixir (2010-09-14 20:52:52)

I have a home made budget form that I made to track my weekly expenses. I will post a 'blank' version on flickr today. I track my incomes on the top left then total them. On the right are my fixed bills. (I pay a little towards them each week and I often don't receive any bills in the mail.) I then subtract my fixed bills from my income. This money is then what is left for petrol, groceries and anything else that crops up during the week. At the bottom of the page is room to record expenses but I am not yet in the habit of doing that. :-)

Zoltix (2010-09-15 03:42:25)

As well as the normal in/out expenditure information I also have four special pages on which I record gas, electric and petrol mileage readings (2 cars).

Each month I check my gas and electric meters and use the energy companies pricing information to calculate the monthly spend. As UK energy bills are issued quarterly I always know in advance what my costs are likely to be. Whenever my wife or I fill up we record the mileage, petrol cost and litre price. These figures can be used to calculate mileage or journey costs for different cars. A calculator insert helps if you want to do this away from your desk. Past records are useful to see how petrol, gas and electric prices have changed and how your use and costs vary throughout the year. This is all done on a relatively simple matrix layout. You can do the calculations in a spreadsheet if you wish, but keep the record sheets and archive in your filofax.

Jotje (2010-09-15 10:16:25)

I have a personal size Filofax dedicated to my budget planning. I have the following tabs:

Supermarket,

Car (gas, insurance, repair),

Pets (vet, meds, food, supplies), Drugstore/Pharmacy,

Office supplies/Stationary,

Home (Decorations, furniture),

Kids (school fees, presents, clubs)

Clothing (clothes and shoes for all family members),

Outings/Presents (all extra costs for days out, eating/drinking out, cinema, presents for other people)

I do not have a tab for mortgage, gas, water, electricity. Those are all fixed costs that I don't have control over (unless we sold our house or something similar drastic). All the other costs are controllable.

I also don't record my incomes, cos that's also more or less the same each month. I just wanna know where the money goes to!

I record all my spendings as they occur in my always present Mini Filofax (which is also my wallet). I have a special tab with note pages exclusively for this purpose. Once a week (sometimes more often) I transfer the costs in my Personal budget

planner which always stays at home. At the end of the month I add up all the costs.

I have to say it's really insightful. For example: I KNOW that it's cheaper to leave the car at home as much as possible and take the bike. But now I actually SEE the difference in the monthly figures. I was pleasantly surprised by the spendings on grocery, which were less than I assumed.

Laurie (2010-09-15 15:23:16)

Wow everybody, thanks for these details! And Steve, thanks for the 13 Column Sheet, that is an excellent form.

Nan (2010-09-16 10:57:45)

Laurie, you stole my idea for my next FFAF! I was going to talk about money. LOL! That's OK...I've come up with a different idea.

Laurie (2010-09-16 13:08:55)

Oops! Sorry Nan! Great minds think alike I guess.

Karen (2010-09-17 08:21:36)

Wow, all very detailed financial planning. All I do is note any spending (in a different colour) on my diary pages together with a note of how it was paid, i.e. cash, credit card, paypal etc

Globetrotting Cacti (2010-09-17 15:56:53)

I have a regular checking account page plus a page for my savings and a separate page for credit card purchases (all on standard financial pages... and I have a running total on my credit card page to make sure that I can pay it off in full every month... do this to rake in the airmiles!!!). I also have a page for work expenses and cross them off when they are deposited into my bank account. This systems seems to work well for me....

Reminder - Roundtable this Sunday (2010-09-15 00:00) - Steve

Don't be late for our conference call



or we'll talk about you.

[1]

Just a reminder that this coming Sunday we will be having another Philofaxy Skype Conference Call.

Here are the details again to save you the problem of searching back through the archive.

Looking forward to getting as many of you together to chat together.

We are going to run another conference roundtable chat using Skype. They get better each time we run these. Laurie assures me she has got her microphone unpacked and I've cleared my diary for that day! So...When, Where, What, Who and How?

When? - Sunday 19th September from mid-day (US East Coast time), 5pm London time, 6 pm Paris time etc.

Where? - an on-line chat using [2]Skype.

What do I need? - just a micro-phone and a free Skype account.

Who - All of you... connect up with **Philofaxy** and we will attempt to get as many of us linked in to the audio conference as possible.

How -

1. Connect to **Philofaxy** by firstly searching for **Philofaxy** in**Skype**, I will then add you as a contact.
2. Then '**Start Chat**', I will then add you in to the chat room.
3. Then if you request it, I can add you to the audio conference as well. But if you just want to chat via keyboard that's fine. That way it's slightly less hectic for me!

Come and join in the fun, even if you only pop in to say hello...

If you need any assistance setting up Skype, please pop a comment in this post and I will try and help you get one line. Skype is free for computer to computer calls....

1. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TI8g6xsjunI/AAAAAAAAAIRw/PK9lqvHjsxI/s1600/confcall.jpg

2. <http://www.skype.com/>

Laurie (2010-09-15 05:48:41)

AWESOME!! I will definitely be on if at all possible. Last time I got to talk to Steve and kanalt, and it was great! I hope to hear a lot of you on Skype this Sunday! :)

kanalt (2010-09-15 06:10:02)

I plan on joining in too. Looking forward to it!

Yvotchka (2010-09-15 10:36:05)

I'll be there this time! I may bawl randomly at intermittent intervals (as is happening today) or I may not. Either way, I'm really looking forward to chatting with you all :)

Reader Under The Spot Light - Gail (2010-09-16 00:00) - Steve



[1]

So today Gail has stepped under the spot light and she is very new to the world of Filofax. Gail hasn't started blogging yet, but she does like to post my Filofax pictures on Flickr. You can find them under Gail_W.

1. When did you buy your first Filofax and what was it?

I bought my first Filofax in June this year, it was the black A5 Identity. After the first week with it, I was hooked and wanted more.

2. *What other brands have you used or considered using?*

I've never used another brand...though I did have a huge wall planner that I thought I would never be able to live without till I got a Filofax.

3. *Out of the organisers you own which is your current favourite (Style and Size)?*

My favourite at the moment is my newest, which is the Personal Ochre Malden. It just looks, feels and smells superior.



[2]

4. *How many Filofax organisers do you own?*

I own 13 Filofax organisers so far (15 when the pocket Winchester and Personal Classic arrives from e-bay) and I have a use for nearly all of them now.

5. *What do you use your Filofax for?*

Oh there are lots of uses....a household one, Book reviews, Notebook, Quotes, Journal, my handbag has one. I am a Teaching Assistant so I have two I use for school, my appointment/planner that I write everything in. Hoping to move house soon so one will be getting used as a Moving Organiser.

6. *What was the feature about Filofax you like most?*

They never look out of date, you can use them for any purpose and then change them to be used for something else.

7. *If you could design your own Filofax what would it feature?*

I would love bigger rings and maybe bigger pen loops to hold chunkier sized pens and have 2 pen loops on Personal sized Filofax organisers. Lifestyle packs for students and Christmas, maybe lifestyle packs for other professions other than the office worker, for example, teachers, doctors...mobile hairdressers etc, or even to move house lists.

8. *How do you carry your Filofax?*

A red Pocket Metropolis is in my handbag, I have one in my School bag, one next to my computer and keep the others in a canvas bag.

9. *Which Filofax in the current range do you like the most? Are you going to buy it?*

I love the Malden, just got the pocket black one to replace the red pocket Metropolis I carry in my handbag. Hoping to get the Personal Kendal next.

10. *What is the most you have ever spent on a Filofax? Which model?*

It was the A5 Saddle Cuban, it cost about £82. I have some school stuff in it, but daren't take into school with me.....not sure I would dare leave it on my desk around pupils.

11. *Turning to Philofaxy, what do you like the most?*

A place to come to talk everything Filofax, read about other people's experiences with theirs and to get ideas.

12. *And what do you not like about Philofaxy?*

Having to wait a full week for Free For All Friday.....can we have another one earlier in the week please?

13. *What was the last music album CD you bought or downloaded?*

The Eclipse Soundtrack...I'm a huge Twilight Fan and this soundtrack is really very good.
Thank you Gail for going under the Twilight...I mean Spotlight!

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TG6pnXrWUxI/AAAAAAAAIK4/ldsavvsELO4/s1600/gail.jpg
2. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TG6psobpknI/AAAAAAAAIK8/Pmnt3HxWanA/s1600/collection.jpg

Laurie (2010-09-16 05:07:05)

LOL!!!! Another Twilight fan here, which my husband loves to tease me about!

CDS (2010-09-16 05:18:42)

Guys, people have posted about looking for old, original F' fax models well there are at least two Winchesters on Ebay right now so if you're looking, hustle off.

I just bought an original Blue Winchester with the big rings so smugarrooo!

Izzie (2010-09-16 05:35:42)

YAY for Twilight! :)

Steve (2010-09-16 05:36:21)

There is this one from our friendly supplier

http://cgi.ebay.co.uk/Filofax-Winchester-Montana-Calf-Leather-Black-NEW-/400152532565?pt=UK_BOI_Office_Office_Supplies_Stationery_ET&hash=item5d2af31655

Michele (2010-09-16 08:25:09)

Yahoo!!!! I'm not alone in my Twilight obsession!!!

Millie (2010-09-16 10:27:34)

Wow, 15 Filofaxes in a few months is impressive!

caribbean princess (2010-09-16 12:23:22)

I need to stop finding excuses to by more as well! Ordered a red pocket butterfly and personal finsbury and domino (domino is for my twin sis) and I really want an A5 as well.....

Gail (2010-09-16 14:05:09)

Ohhh lots of Twilight fans...coool! lol

Well I turned the Ranger Filofax into the house moving organiser...I don't know how I would manage without it. The front pocket are ideal for receipts and I've tonnes of notes and measurements in it.

I didn't like the size of the black pocket Malden so I returned it and got the Crimson Person Malden instead....which of preferred it in black but them shop didn't have one.

You can see a more recent pic here:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/gailwh/4938160510/in/pool-philofaxy/>

Free for All Friday No. 96 (2010-09-17 00:00) - Nan

A lot the time, I use white, lined pages for lists, like shopping lists. For the grocery and pharmacy, I keep a running list and cross off each item as I buy it. I just add new items to the end of the list.

When one side is full, I've discovered I can turn the page over and upside down, and fit it back into the rings. That way, the back of the page becomes the front.

For more long-term tasks or large purchases, I use the To Do pages.

How do you keep lists? Do you wish there were different kinds of list pages?

katka.m (2010-09-17 02:37:31)

Good friday to everyone. Regarding shopping list, I use just plain pages, which I take out of the filofax when I'm in store. I have two questions for Filofax experts :o) 1) Do you know which personal Filofax had the biggest rings in the past? 2) would anybody be able to identify the filofax on the picture ? http://www.flickr.com/photos/nick_esders/2645888197/
Thanks a lot for help and have a nice weekend !

caribbean princess (2010-09-17 03:19:34)

I used lined pages for grocery lists but I think they are a waste of my lovely Filofax pages so now I use a little book (also better to quickly glance at meal plans).

My to do pages get used a lot for work projects, remembering when to pay for certain things (for example I need to send a cheque for my scrapbooking kit before the 29th of each month).

I have a section called 'fun' in my Adelphi where I make lists of things I may want to treat myself too, good places to eat etc.

Enjoy the weekend everyone. Sorry I won't be able to join the tele chat.

Laurie (2010-09-17 04:30:04)

For grocery lists I use a sticky note stuck on my fridge and add items as I run out of them. Then when I go to shop I just grab the sticky and go.

But for other lists, I have an entire Lists tabbed section in my Filofax. I keep all kinds of lists in here, from short term to long term.

If I have a lot of things to do in a particular day, I do a "brain dump" on the first page behind my lists tab of everything I need to accomplish today.

Other lists I keep in my lists section: gift ideas for birthdays and Christmas, so when I get an idea while I'm out and about I can note it immediately; books to read; books to get (so when I'm at the library or bookstore I can remember what I want to pick up); my magazine subscriptions and when each expires; long-term to dos.

Jotje (2010-09-17 05:12:17)

I have my ongoing shopping list on the very first page of my Mini Filofax. I just shop with the Filo flipped open. The big plus is that since the Filo doubles as my wallet, I always have the shopping list present as well. No more frantic because I forgot the shopping list on the table at home! I use outdated pages of larger Filofaxes (A5 and Personal mainly) and cut and punch them to fit the Mini.

@Katka: I'm certain that the picture shows a Cuban Slimline in Chilli colour. Still available at Filofax.

Steve (2010-09-17 05:48:47)

We use a Rhodia note pad for shopping lists.

Although I tend to use my ToDo lists in my Pocket for longer term shopping lists such as Amazon and Filofax where is pays to put in a certain size order to reduce postage costs

katka.m (2010-09-17 07:16:11)

@Jotje...thanks a lot. I thought about it, but the Cuban Chilli has white lining...also the picture was taken 2 years ago and that filofax already seemed quite worn...was Cuban available 3 year ago?

David Popely (2010-09-17 08:45:28)

I make a lot of lists - sometimes I even make lists of the lists I need to make! I must confess to being slightly dissatisfied with the available index options - I really need a 10-part index with an index page at the front (which I could easily improvise) - anyone know of a 10-part index which is available in A5 and/or Personal?

M Ng (2010-09-17 10:15:40)

I use a similar system as Nan for medium-term lists and information (e.g., the address and hours of operation for a museum or gallery I want to check out soon; household items I'm running low on). When the info is no longer relevant, I cross it out; when I reach the bottom of the page, I flip it over.

For shopping lists and my many right-now to-do lists (mini-brain dumps for when I'm about to do a single, intricate task; often that means a quick outline of what I'm about to write), I use the many scraps of paper that inevitably find their way

into my handbag or onto my desk: receipts; the slips of paper (like receipts) the public libraries rubberband to reserve books for identification; the clean side of junk mail; the clean side of the paper slips that bear product information (like the slip that comes with Filofax inserts). I also guillotine off margins or other white space from things printed on both sides (if the clean area is large enough). I use bulldog clips to keep the scraps together, and a magnetic one to keep the grocery list on the fridge.

(This is why it takes me years to finish a pack of post-its. If I need the scrap to stick, which is rare, I use a bit of masking tape, which leaves no or minimal residue on most surfaces and finishes.)

Jotje (2010-09-17 10:48:47)

@Katka, I have no idea how long the Cuban slimline has been available. Maybe post a link of the picture at the filofax-facebook page? I'm sure Jon from Filofax will reply!

@David, yes there is! Time/System has plastic index pages, numbered 1 to 10. They are part of index set. Here's the link to the picture:

[http://shop.timesystem.nl/Images/Thumbnail.ashx?Enc=i1eC%2biXOOCnt6cP0wmVqAkivQRt7M2F%](http://shop.timesystem.nl/Images/Thumbnail.ashx?Enc=i1eC%2biXOOCnt6cP0wmVqAkivQRt7M2F%20)

They are not exactly pretty (far from), but very handy. I have the same index pages since 1998 and they are still intact!

I checked on timesystem.com, but can't find it there, which I find rather odd ... Maybe you could call them and find out?

katka.m (2010-09-17 11:00:48)

@Jotje...:o) I'm the last person who is not at the facebook yet :o) I managed to contact the owner of the picture. Let you know if you were right.

shepcraig (2010-09-17 11:22:09)

The cuban range was only released at the beginning of 2009.

Globetrotting Cacti (2010-09-17 15:53:00)

I have my grocery shopping list blu-tacked to my kitchen wall and add to it as needed but I have various lists in my filofax (including items to buy, books to read, my bucket list, house project list). I use a variety of paper depending on my mood....

JJ (2010-09-17 16:54:42)

Great tip on flipping the page over, as I tend to only write on the right hand pages.

I use lined, unlined or grid paper for everything except addresses and my checkbook.

I've bought a bunch of To-Do pages, but am using them mostly as scratch paper. I never really warmed up to them and find a simple ruled page more flexible.

DJ (2010-09-17 19:01:59)

David: Maruman makes a nice 10-tab index set in Personal Size (known in Japan as Bible size—exact dimensions as the *sui generis* Personal). The Maruman tab set has a lined Index page at the front as well, per your specifications.

In the States, we can buy these items at Kinokuniya Bookstores, along with Maruman's "Data Plan" paper, beautiful quality, about \$4.50 for a 100 sheet pack in Personal size: lined, blank, or lined light brown Kraft.

But unless Kinokuniya has expanded its empire to the U.K. and/or the Continent, these items may be for "U.S. Eyes Only." Special relationship, or not...

By the way, I normally restrict my ravings on this blog to Filofax, but just came across a fantastic pen that I must share: The Uniball Jetstream. It's kind of a hybrid biro/rollerball/gel, and it's the *smoothest* pen I've ever used. It dries in about .1 second, so it won't smear, even on southpaws (er, lefties).

Twas mentioned as part of the "ghosting toolkit" by Robert Harris in "The Ghost." Par mal!

Creative Filofax Dividers (2010-09-17 05:37) - Steve

Some of you have spotted this one already! But in case you haven't, take a look at this blog post:

[1]<http://theartisticstampercreativeteam.blogspot.com/2010/09/such-organisation-by-sarah-anderson.html>

Knowing that quite a few of you are very creative... more so than I ever will be... I'm sure this might inspire you to come up with some interesting designs for your section dividers.

Why not share them with us on the [2]Philofaxy Flickr Group.

1. <http://theartisticstampercreativeteam.blogspot.com/2010/09/such-organisation-by-sarah-anderson.html>
2. <http://www.flickr.com/groups/40748476@N00/>

Jennie (2010-09-17 05:49:17)
Thank you for the link :))

Sarah Anderson (2010-09-17 07:34:47)
How lovely of you to feature me here! Thanks for your fab comment :)

Steve (2010-09-17 07:51:16)
Sarah, Jennie. You are very welcome, what I liked about your design was that you had not decorated the organiser itself, but you had concentrated on the section tabs.
It means you can replace these easily with different designs as your mood or the seasons change.

Jotje (2010-09-17 10:50:38)
The designs are wonderful! I wish I could do that ...

Izzie (2010-09-17 13:36:32)
I wish I would be that creative :D

Globetrotting Cacti (2010-09-17 15:49:11)
Wow - very creative. Love them! Need to get to work on my beige tab dividers....

caribbean princess (2010-09-17 16:30:27)
Love the designs. Are they really complicated to do?

A4 (2010-09-17 12:00) - Steve

A4 as in [1]Filofax A4.. not [2]Audi A4! I realise this isn't a popular or common size for a lot of our users but I thought I would look in to the pros and cons of the size.

- Big - yes but that might be an advantage if your hand writing is difficult to read on the smaller sizes;
- Paper commonly available, well in Europe that is;
- Templates already in this size, I create my templates in A4 format and then reduce them to A5;
- Limited selection of [3]diaries and [4]inserts, for some people this might be the 'show stopper';
- Common hole spacing [5]ISO838? The 4 holes are 8cm apart. [6]Four hole punches are quite cheap;
- Possibly thinner than an A5 so less bulky;
- Price wise they often come up on [7]offer, so may be about the same price as an A5;
- Lots of card slots! But I wouldn't suggest using one as a wallet!!
- Not available in the US, mainly because of the paper size I suspect?
- A lot of people in business carry A4 folders around, so an A4 Filofax won't look too out of place

Why not check out the [8]A4 Filofax range and [9]UK Office Direct also have some offers at the moment too, use the offer code **Sept5** at the checkout to get an additional 5 % off your order.
If you have used an A4 already we are of course interested to hear your views in the comments.

1. <http://tidd.ly/1b36171c>
2. <http://www.audi.co.uk/explore-models/explore-by-range/a4.html>
3. <http://tidd.ly/214e445a>
4. <http://tidd.ly/c73f87f8>
5. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hole_punch
6. <http://www.amazon.co.uk/gp/redirect.html?ie=UTF8&location=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.amazon.co.uk%2F%3Fie%3DUTF8%26keywords%3D4%2520hole%2520punch%26index%3Dbled&tag=pemburyvillag-21&linkCode=ur2&camp=1634&creative=19450>
7. <http://tidd.ly/f10283db>
8. <http://tidd.ly/1b36171c>
9. <http://tidd.ly/f10283db>

Jelly Boo Barbie (2010-09-17 12:23:35)

You evil people, you are making me want to spend more money with filofax lol

I love larger ones, really made me want a BIGGER one lol is it worth the money when i already have the A5 tho??? lol

Lots of good points about them too :) x

Laurie (2010-09-18 08:55:37)

Steve, you are right, A4 is not a paper size used in the US so I imagine A4 Filofaxes would not be popular.

Letter size paper (the standard size used in offices etc) is 8 1/2 by 11 inches, slightly wider and shorter than A4. People who need binders this size buy FC or similar American brand so they can add other full-size pages as needed.

Exclusive: Contributor/Reader Under The Spot Light - Steve (2010-09-19 00:00) - Steve



[1]

[2]



Ah that surprised you didn't it! Well why not, after all our splendid readers have been put under the spot light, why not me as well.... As you can see I've disguised myself just a little, the first picture is off a Wanted Dead or Alive poster!

1. When did you buy your first Filofax and what was it?

I was given a Filofax Winchester (organiser not rifle!) at Christmas in 1985, 25 years ago nearly. It is the one that is top right in the second picture! It still looks as good as my others. The leather is still very supple.

2. What other brands have you used or considered using?

I've never used any other brand, although recently I've investigated some of the other systems on the market, especially those marketed and sold in France. You might have read about the Quo Vadis [3]diary refills I'm trying out in my pocket and A5

3. Out of the organisers you own which is your current favourite (Style and Size)?

I still like my A5 Finsbury, it's the big daddy in my collection and it can hold a ton of stuff. Go in to a meeting, pull that out and it gets peoples attention! I also like this size because of how easy it is to create my own inserts for it. But I love all of them for different reasons.

My [4]slimline now lives in my camera bag and I use it for keeping notes of the photos I shoot such as location details and details of the buildings or landscape scenes. The main advantage of using that particular organiser for that purpose is it's slimness, my [5]camera bag hardly has a cubic centimetre of space in it, with two camera bodies, three lens, flash gun and other bits of kit already in there! My Slimline slides neatly in to the pocket at the top of the camera bag.

I have converted to using a [6]Pocket Finsbury as my Filofax/Wallet and that is working out great at the moment.

4. How many Filofax organisers do you own?

I have six I think or seven if you include the one my wife Alison no longer uses. I only had just the one for 20 years and then I got my A5 and in the last couple of years my collection has grown.

5. What do you use your Filofax for?

You might not believe this, but I'm not a very organised person! So I use it to attempt to organise my life and to

also remind me of things I need to do. I'm a big To-do list person! Even to the extent of creating pre-printed to-do lists for things like visits to our house in France when it was our second home. When you have a list of things to do each time it makes sense to create a special one.

Despite the number and variety of computers I have on my [7]desk, I still have my Filofax to hand if someone asks me what I'm doing on a particular day. I trust pen and paper more than any computer system. I try to keep my appointments diary as up to date as possible so I know when people are visiting us or I need to do something by a particular date, or when it's my turn to do Free For All Friday. Since I retired I have great difficulty knowing what day of the week it is!

6. What was the feature about Filofax you like most?

From when I first saw a Filofax, the flexibility and its ability to adapt to your life has always been its strongest feature. Now have a larger choice of sizes and ring sizes I believe you have even more flexibility. All of the sizes have a purpose and can be adapted to suit most tasks. I also like the ability to interchange pages between the different sizes too.

7. If you could design your own Filofax what would it feature?

I would like to see a Filofax Pocket that was more of a wallet, with a gusseted coin pocket in the back and more card slots in the front cover. I would also like to see some updated and more varied diary formats for all sizes.

8. How do you carry your Filofax?

My pocket Finsbury which I use as my wallet/appointment and to-do list is carried in my [8]Man Bag... it is a French thing ok..! I hate having anything in my pockets. And it fits my bag perfectly along with my mobile phone, keys, reading glasses, magnifying glass (my near sight is very poor these days). If I need to carry my A5 it would be in a messenger bag or my leather brief case.

9. Which Filofax in the current range do you like the most? Are you going to buy it?

I think the Malden looks very desirable especially as it's all leather. I might treat myself to one in personal size, not sure which colour yet, most probably black, it will go with all the others!

10. What is the most you have ever spent on a Filofax? Which model?

I think I spent about £85 on my A5 Finsbury, but I have managed to pick up a couple of bargains on Ebay as well. I like buying them new as well, a bit like having a new car, the moment you open the box for the first time.

11. Turning to Philofaxy, what do you like the most?

I love the community spirit that has built up amongst our readers in recent months. I hope to be able to [9]meet more of you face to face at some point in the future. It would be great to meet up, have a good chat etc. I love reading the comments and how people interact within the comments. The chats on Skype get better each time we have them. Thank you all for your support of all the things we do on the blog.

The number of visitors there are to the site each day might surprise you; the number has more than doubled in the last year. I am planning a post about this at the end of the month; I hope it might interest some of the people that find statistics of interest!

I can't finish this question without mentioning my other co-contributors (Nan and Laurie) who have given me huge amounts of support in the last year with all the suggestions I have put forward. They have also helped me a lot with my writing, which I hope doesn't have too many grammatical errors in it!! Thank you both, it's great to be part of the team.

12. And what do you not like about Philofaxy?

Nothing really, I just wish we could please everyone of you all of the time and hopefully we can keep coming up with new things to write about that will help you make the most out of your Filofax organisers. *13. What was the last music album CD you bought or downloaded?*

Sheryl Crow - 100 Miles from Memphis, but I'm a huge Steely Dan fan as well...

Finally, I would like to thank all the readers who took part in this series of posts, it has been great fun seeing the responses to the questions and it's been a lot of fun seeing the pictures you have sent in too. Some of our readers (no names...) actually volunteered to take part, and some just sent in their answers. So once again thank you from all of us, it's been great getting to know you all that bit better.

1. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TGmo5ApBYDI/AAAAAAAAIJ8/CqCNAhwsFk/s1600/WWParty+221.jpg

2. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/THextiTK9II/AAAAAAAAIMM/hAOhvZpQDQQ/s1600/Photo+on+2010-08-27+at+14.36.jpg

3. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/09/alternative-refills-for-your-filofax.html>

4. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/02/using-my-slimline-filofax-as-my-wallet.html>
5. <http://steve-morton.com/blog/2008/10/12/whats-in-my-camera-bag/>
6. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/08/slimline-to-pocket-conversion.html>
7. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/08/spot-filofax.html>
8. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/08/carrying-my-filofax-pocket.html>
9. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/08/announcement-possible-london-meet-up.html>

Yvotchka (2010-09-19 10:39:54)

Yay Steve :)

LOVING that first picture by the way!

caribbean princess (2010-09-19 10:41:55)

great picture. I LOVE philofaxy and thanks to all of you for this blog. Sorry I cant join the chat and meet everyone later.

Laurie (2010-09-19 10:49:43)

Love that photo!!

And I can testify that Steve's camera bag is indeed stuffed to the gills. A slimline is about the only thing that can be squeezed into it! :)

I love this Spot Light series!

Jess (2010-09-19 13:11:51)

"Since I retired I have great difficulty knowing what day of the week it is!"

I have the exact same problem being a student. It's awful!

This Spot Light idea was a great one, I love reading all the answers.

Millie (2010-09-21 08:51:49)

Nice to meet you, Steve!

Video of Jess from Filofax! (2010-09-19 14:48) - Laurie

Here is a video about Filofax's customer stories and social media, featuring Jess from Filofax! Some of you may have communicated with Jess, either indirectly via this blog or directly via email or on [1]Filofax's Facebook page. It's exciting to see her "in person" and hear her talk about the brand!

[2]http://page1internetmarketing.com/email_marketing/email-social-and-the-art-of-storytelling-with-filofax/

1. <http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#%21/filofax>

2. http://page1internetmarketing.com/email_marketing/email-social-and-the-art-of-storytelling-with-filofax/

Roundtable... success (2010-09-19 17:07) - Steve

Well I'm still on a high from the two hours or so on line chatting with you all.

I personally thought it was a great success and I will admit to sitting back with a big smile on my face when you all started to get to know each other and in a lot of cases this was the first time you had chatted to each other, although I had chatted to a few of you one to one in the last year. As more people came on they got 'dropped' in to the voice chat.

A few folks didn't have microphones so they were only able to listen in to the chatter and banter! Hopefully people will be able to get themselves equipped with a microphone or headset for next time.

If anything today's chat was how I imagined it would be when I had the idea for the first one back in April this year. But this one is only the third time we have run it and it has got better each time.

Today we had about eight people in the chat most of the time. A quick count of about 12-13 people over the whole time. Some people had to disappear early for whatever reason. A couple of people had their arms twisted in to joining even though they were not in their peak of health and fitness (and I thank you for joining in).

For those of you that didn't manage to join in or listen in, the topics were quite varied, yes Filofax was discussed extensively, but that wasn't the only topic of conversation, so we might be enthusiastic about the brand and the products... but I wouldn't say we are fanatics and that was the only thing we talked about.. I lost count of the number of times for instance that 'Malden' got mentioned! It was more like a bunch of friends meeting up for coffee and exchanging views and information and getting to know each other a little better.

For me it was very enjoyable, we interact a lot already via the comments, [1]Flickr, [2]Facebook and Twitter, but to sit back and listen to you all chatting away like you have 'known' each other for years did bring a smile to my face.

There were several 'firsts' including the first time the three contributors (Nan, Laurie and myself) had all 'met up' to chat.

I managed to jot down a few notes and ideas that will become future posts, things get mentioned and they trigger ideas for posts....brilliant!!

For the techie's amongst you, here is a screen grab of what I was looking at, click on the picture to see it full size.



[3]

There is one window that isn't show, which is the voice conference window; this was hiding most of the time behind the Twitter window. And if you are curious as to what my desktop picture is, here it is without the other windows in front of it.. George the cat!!



[4]

Like last time I learnt a few things about running the conference and messaging at the same time. There might be a couple of minor tweaks next time, but no major differences.

I'm not sure yet when we will have hold the next 'round table' chats, hopefully before Christmas. Is the time of the day and day of the week suited to every one?

I would be interested in your feedback in the comments both positive and negative, I want to make the next one even better than this one and the more we do the more we learn I guess.

Again thank you to everyone who took part no matter how small your contribution was.

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1. <http://www.flickr.com/groups/40748476@N00/>

2. <http://www.facebook.com/Philofaxy>

3. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TJZhomnTluI/AAAAAAAAIR0/r7QTBZC8xtM/s1600/Chat.jpg

4. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TJZk9eGL4AI/AAAAAAAAIR4/CEc7od1WvTQ/s1600/screen.jpg

kanalt (2010-09-19 17:19:16)

Steve - Great job running the round table! I'm glad I joined in even if my mind wasn't as sharp as it would have been if I felt my best. It was great to hear everyone's voices, especially those people I've been chatting with via the blog, Twitter, Facebook for some time now. It truly was like having coffee with a great group of friends. Looking forward to the next one!

kanalt (2010-09-19 17:20:19)

And the screen shot was amazing - I don't know how you kept it all straight. And George! Handsome George. =)

gdigesu (2010-09-19 21:33:33)

Thanks everyone for the lovely opportunity of meeting you.

Thank you Steve for organizing and running the meeting.

Maybe next time we can use the last version of Skype, which includes image.

Cheers, Giovanni di Gesù

Laurie (2010-09-20 06:03:38)

I had a GREAT time talking to everyone, and it was wonderful to put voices with the names I've seen so often! I was sorry I couldn't stay longer and talk to the people who were just coming on as I left. Next time!!

Jess (2010-09-20 06:29:00)

Really sorry again that I couldn't make it! Hope you all had a great time - I definitely need to be involved in the next one!

Jess x

Yvotchka (2010-09-20 09:03:01)

Thanks for all your work putting it together Steve! It was great fun and wonderful to get to know everyone a bit more :)

Can't wait until the next one!!

Jotje (2010-09-21 03:34:28)

I only got to hear your voices, but couldn't talk myself. Still I enjoyed hearing everyone's real-life-voice! Who was Tat btw? Was it Oni? And which lady had that wonderful "Scottish" accent? At least it sounded Scottish to me, correct me if I'm wrong. LOVED to listen to it!

Will try to figure out the microphone-problem for next time.

Steve (2010-09-21 03:53:11)

Hi Judith,

Yes Tat is Oni...

Scottish accent, must be Laurie ok she has only been there about 3-4 weeks I guess but it must be rubbing off on her already !!! ;-)

I was the one and only guy/bloke/man...which ever you prefer!

Steve

Can I fit an A5 page in to my Personal Filofax? (2010-09-19 18:35) - Steve

This question was asked in the Philofaxy Round Table on Sunday, I agreed to look in to it after my success at squeezing [1]A3 and A4 pages in to an A5 Filofax organisers for which I was awarded an honorary degree in

origami, gratefully accepted... thank you!

Sadly it is not as straight forward as the A3 > A5 fold, firstly they are related in size A3 being 4 times the size of A5 and also you are only going to punch it to fit in one organiser not two... but I never baulk at a challenge.

So taking an A5 page and a Personal size page and comparing there size and the positioning of the holes it looks like this.



[2]

As you can see we have alignment with 5 out of the 6 holes but the A5 page will still be taller than the Personal page. If you repunch all 6 holes so that the two pages align at the top edge, you end up with an A5 page with 12 holes punched in it! This might be ok, but the page might be too weak if it is swapped in and out a lot.

An alternative is to punch one extra hole and then fold down the top 10mm and the bottom 28 mm and 54mm in on the right hand edge.



[3]

Another alternative is to fold the A5 page in half and then you are only aligning the 3 holes with the same spaced 3 holes in the Personal Filofax, this works, but you still have a slight over hang of about 10mm at the top of the page, which on my own organisers would be outside of the binder, so it would need to be folded down, and as above folded in on the right hand side to fit.

So yes it is possible to do, but there are potential issues of the folds and the resulting thickness of the folded page.

.

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/07/want-to-use-bigger-pages-in-your-a5-its.html>

2. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TJaJdm0rx8I/AAAAAAAAISA/oA1qmnDrKjg/s1600/A5Personal.jpg

3. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TJaMd--JyQI/AAAAAAAAISE/DrsLcKU7xgE/s1600/A5Pers2.jpg

Around the web this weekend (2010-09-20 05:51) - Steve



[1]

Whilst we catch our breath a little from a hectic weekend... well for me that is. May be take a moment to look at the following Filofax Blogposts from around the web:

- [2]Delighted.com - Filofax Part 1 - in Dutch

- [3]Delighted.com - Filofax Part 2 - in Dutch

Thanks to Judith for pointing out these two. Also if you use [4]Google Chrome with the [5]Translate add-on extension, it will automatically translate the pages in to your own language. Not perfectly, but good enough for most needs.

- [6]Filofax inserts - Shazza's Blog - Sharon has been venturing on to the French Filofax site, ce bonne!
- [7]Planner Permanence - Plannerisms - Interesting article by Laurie on archiving journals and the differences between using a Filofax or a bound planner.
- [8]Ephenera - World Explorer - A whole bunch of Filofax blog posts here, which I don't think we spotted before. Some useful tips too. Specifically if you have a [9]Fabric covered Filofax

Enjoy.

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TH6zd2s3lwI/AAAAAAAAIRI/4rgUC1sTirI/s1600/scan0002.jpg
2. <http://delighted.blogspot.com/2010/08/filofax.html>
3. <http://delighted.blogspot.com/2010/09/filofax-part-2.html>
4. <http://www.google.com/chrome>
5. <https://chrome.google.com/extensions/detail/aapbdbdomjkkjkaonfhkkikfgjllcleb?hl=en>
6. <http://shazzastitching.wordpress.com/2010/09/19/filofax-inserts/>
7. <http://www.plannerisms.com/2010/09/planner-permanence.html>
8. <http://explorerephemera.blogspot.com/search/label/filofax>
9. <http://explorerephemera.blogspot.com/2010/09/fabric-filofax-disaster-averted.html>

Exclusive: Contributor/Reader Under The Spot Light - Laurie (2010-09-20 07:50) - Laurie



[1] Many thanks to Steve for doing the Reader Under The Spot Light series! I've been fascinated reading about our readers' Filofax usage, history and collections! I thought I'd pop in and give my answers too.

1. When did you buy your first Filofax and what was it?

I started using my first Filofax-style binder in 1995, which you can read about[2] here. I bought my first actual Filofax, a [3]black Personal Buckingham, at T J Maxx for \$25 in 2001. At the time I bought it, I thought to myself, "Will I actually use this enough to spend \$25 on it?" Little did I know it would lead to a Filofax obsession and me being a contributing writer on a blog all about Filofaxes!!

2. What other brands have you used or considered using?

In case you don't already know about my enormous planner obsession, check out my own blog [4]Plannerisms.

I'm constantly going back and forth between Filofaxes and other brands of planners of various sizes and formats!

3. Out of the organisers you own which is your current favourite (Style and Size)?

My favorite of my Filofaxes is my [5]personal Deco in Ivory. It is absolutely gorgeous. Also, my black Buckingham has a special place in my heart for being my first Filofax. I used it exclusively for many years, and it's been around the world with me. Buckingham and I have quite a history together!

4. How many Filofax organisers do you own?

Let's see. I have 3 A5 Filofaxes: Finsbury in green, and in purple, and a red Domino.

I have several personal size ones: my Buckingham, Deco, a grape Domino I use as my Scotland guidebook, a purple Finsbury, and soon I'll have the Urban in slate that Oni very thoughtfully procured for me!

So that's 8! Seems like a very small number compared to some of our readers' collections!

5. What do you use your Filofax for?

My Deco is my current Filofax with information, lists, contacts, maps, and I use it as my diary on and off.

My personal Domino as I said is my [6]Scotland guidebook Filofax.

I use my purple A5 Finsbury as my household binder with Financial info, my full address book, my Christmas card lists etc.

My [7]A5 Domino is my blogs binder. I keep a calendar of when I posted on each blog, title lists for easy reference of past topics, sections for topic ideas etc.

My Buckingham is in semi-retirement and houses my important archival information that I need to refer to every now and then.

My [8]purple personal size Finsbury currently houses my [9]Travel Journal insert, ready to go somewhere!

My green A5 Finsbury holds my Family Organizer pages, which are not currently in use.

I'm not sure what I'll use [10]my new Urban for! I think it would make an ideal travel Filo.

6. What was the feature about Filofax you like most?

The combination of permanence and flexibility. I can use the same binder with the same pages, maps, cards, photos or whatever else in it for years and years. And, I can also change my diary format as often as I want, add and remove pages, make lists and remove them when they become irrelevant, and update my contacts as often as I want.

7. If you could design your own Filofax what would it feature?

It would be a personal size in a gorgeous royal purple color with smooth (not textured), buttery soft leather. It would have a secretarial pocket in the BACK (because this is where I put tickets and papers in my Filofax), and a full length zip pocket in the front cover. It would have huge rings, and two pen loops.

8. How do you carry your Filofax?

I carry it in my (large and very heavy) bag.

9. Which Filofax in the current range do you like the most? Are you going to buy it?

I love the raspberry Chameleon with that super-soft buffalo leather. And, I am hotly anticipating the eventual release of the Deco in Amethyst. A purple Deco!! I may swoon! But, I won't buy either one because they are both out of my current price range.

10. What is the most you have ever spent on a Filofax? Which model?

That would have to be my [11]A5 Finsbury binders. I don't remember how much I spent on them (3 years ago), but they are currently \$95 on [12]Filofax USA (which is where I ordered them from).

My most expensive Filofax by far is my Deco, but I received it as a (very generous) gift.

11. Turning to Philofaxy, what do you like the most?

The wonderful community of contributors and readers. I LOVE reading about how other people use their Filofaxes, it gives me great ideas about how to use mine. And it's comforting knowing that I'm not the only one out there who obsesses about these things!

I first started reading Philofaxy several years ago, and it was like a whole new world opened up to me. When Nan asked me to be a contributor, I was so excited and flattered! Thanks so much to Nan for letting me be a part of Philofaxy!

And many thanks to Steve for bringing his ideas and technical expertise to the blog, I think that has a lot to do with why Philofaxy has taken off so much in this past year!

And of course Philofaxy would not continue if we didn't have such a wonderful group of people reading and com-

menting on the blog. Thanks to everyone for your participation!

12. *And what do you not like about Philofaxy?*

I wish I were able to post more often!

13. *What was the last music album CD you bought or downloaded?*

Paolo Nutini Sunny Side Up

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TJYvPFobqcI/AAAAAAAAABQA/SKRD5-H00qY/s1600/Laurie+Budapest.jpg
2. <http://www.plannerisms.com/2009/12/ghost-of-planners-past-4-one-that.html>
3. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/plannerisms/3783583703/in/set-72157623430927643/>
4. <http://www.plannerisms.com/>
5. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/plannerisms/sets/72157622672507897/>
6. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/plannerisms/sets/72157622035170176/>
7. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/plannerisms/sets/72157623920524890/>
8. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/plannerisms/3973666157/in/set-72157623430927643/>
9. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/06/travel-journal-review.html>
10. http://www.flickr.com/photos/althea_alaska/4929922671/
11. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/plannerisms/3783634767/in/set-72157623430927643/>
12. <http://www.filofaxusa.com/store/organiserdetails.asp?display=&sizeId=5&rangeId=37&dsizeId=5>

caribbean princess (2010-09-20 11:11:23)

Yay! I was waiting for you to go under the spotlight too. Thanks for sharing :-)

Michele (2010-09-20 11:27:57)

It's about time, Laurie, you made it under the spotlight!

kanalt (2010-09-22 21:39:05)

Laurie, with all the Filos/planners in use, where/how do you keep them stored? Do you have a shelf for them, or are they all piled on a desk somewhere? I'm trying to get a visual on how you organize your organizers. ;)

Laurie (2010-09-23 02:54:15)

At the moment they are not very organized, because my shipment with my bookshelves and most of my belongings hasn't arrived yet. So, the ones I have with me are piled on a shelf in my closet and the rest are in boxes in transit.

Where I lived before, I had my archived planners and notebooks in a cabinet above my desk and my in-use or on-deck planners and notebooks on shelves in a bookcase next to my desk. I won't be able to have the same setup here due to no cabinets in our office room, but I'm hoping to set up something similar.

With my Filofaxes specifically, my purple A5 household binder lives on or next to my desk, because I refer to it for pass-codes, financial records, and other things I need while on the computer. My Domino A5 lives by my computer too as my blogs planner. My Deco is currently with them (together in a drawer under my computer) as my reference book. My other Filos are on a shelf.

With 8 Filofaxes, I don't have to be too organized really. If I had more I'd need some kind of a system!

By the way, my Urban arrived from Oni yesterday!! Expect photos here on Philofaxy soon! Thank you Oni!!!

Filofax Binder ID? (2010-09-21 00:00) - Steve

One of our readers contacted us a few weeks ago as they were trying to identify the model of their Filofax, I received the photos this evening. Do you know which model it is and an approximate age?

I have had a quick look at the [1]old Filofax photo archive but I couldn't identify this particular model, but I might have missed it.

Please add to the comments if you can help identify this binder. Thanks.



[2]



[3]



[4]



[5]



[6]

1. <http://www5b.biglobe.ne.jp/%7Em-task/index.htm>
2. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TJex3dS4vcI/AAAAAAAAISI/1karsT3akOU/s1600/transparent+001.jpg
3. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TJex6FFyJtI/AAAAAAAAISM/_y7wxU12mc0/s1600/transparent+002.jpg
4. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TJex9BGg7EI/AAAAAAAAISQ/b90dkRR-4jQ/s1600/transparent+003.jpg
5. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TJex_t89i4I/AAAAAAAAISU/In6NiXKRwrY/s1600/transparent+004.jpg
6. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TJeyB5WsX6I/AAAAAAAAISY/chRv4jgtCqU/s1600/transparent+005.jpg

colie (2010-09-21 00:37:51)

looks like a windsor to me. but a VERY late model if you ask me. I could be wrong!

Eva (2010-09-21 00:38:55)

From the outside look, it reminds me of the Kensington but not from the inside since the Kensington has got a zip pocket at the back. It looks older than the Kensington though...

HP Fuchs (2010-09-21 01:22:05)

I have exactly the same one! But on my one is written "Lincoln".

Jotje (2010-09-21 03:30:25)

Also thought of the Kensington, although the leather wouldn't be as shiny if it indeed was a Kensington.

Claudia Volkman (2010-09-21 05:56:25)

It looks a lot like my first Filofax, a beautiful blue Piccadilly (I still wish they made this style - it's perfect but now the little leather tab on mine is very worn and about to break) - I got this one back in 1998 while on a business trip to London.

Laurie (2010-09-21 06:08:26)

Looks a lot like my Buckingham, but maybe an earlier model:

http://www.flickr.com/photos/plannerisms/3783583703/in/set-721576234_30927643/

A Bare Truth (2010-09-21 06:14:14)

I think i have a similar model at home. I will check it out tonight. I bought it in 95

HP Fuchs (2010-09-21 09:03:21)

Believe me it's a Lincoln

Tom (2010-09-21 10:54:48)

The photographed texture of the leather and the stitching remind me of an Eton.

Ollie Stench (2010-09-21 13:27:39)

I'm the guy trying to ID this filofax. Thanks for all the input!

bernhardS (2010-09-22 10:45:46)

Anybody heart of faked Filos from China yet? Maybe this model is not an original - I could develop several points for that idea:

- The golden lettering is not complete in comparison to original Filos: The fourth line is missing, usually telling the material and number of pockets
- The quality of leather and stitching doesn't look too valuable - at least in comparison to my own old Filos.
- The arrangement of pockets is reverse in comparison to a "Grosvenor" illustrated in a Filo brochure of 1987. The refs of this model were 9KLF or 8BK, the latter should be printed in golden letters as I explained above.
- Experienced experts of this forum can not identify this particular Filo - maybe simply because it is not an original but a remake with several mistakes in the details.

What do you think, experts?

best,

Bernhard

Ollie Stench (2010-09-22 11:44:14)

the thought of having a faux filo has crossed my mind. The first thing I noticed about mine was the gold printed lettering, not embossed like most other filofaxes that I've looked at while researching mine.

I got this at a second-hand store for \$1.60, so even if it is a fake I'm not too concerned.

Steve (2010-09-22 18:16:41)

It could be a Sherwood, looking at the Japanese photo archive they have a Sherwood but not one showing the interior or exterior in detail.

HP Fuchs (2010-09-23 01:37:07)

No, it's not a sherwood, it's a Lincoln. I have a Lincoln and it looks the same.

Marlene (2010-09-23 10:45:50)

It's a Lincoln. I had one in dark tan. I really liked the simple design.

gmax (2010-09-23 14:17:25)

This will be a 90's model made after the watershed period early in that decade where the quality dropped and the brand moved "downmarket". Very unlikely to be a fake.

Ollie Stench (2010-09-25 18:25:04)

Great, thanks everyone for identifying it as a Lincoln!

Consider me a new member of the filofax family.

I c (2010-10-05 16:02:22)

Quite sure it is a Lincoln.

CDS (2010-10-15 16:51:20)

I'll tell you what it is, it's an original late 1970's early 1980's calf leather binder before they started naming them, how do I know, I have two in my collection of Filos and yes I am 100 % certain, the lining gives it away. The extra lines of script later on were 1. the Name and 2. The descriptor, as in 4clf 7/8, which means 4 pockets, calfskin leather, 7/8" rings, ok?

The Benefits of a Personal Organiser.. (2010-09-22 00:00) - Steve

I came across this [1]blog post today that I thought it worth sharing with you.

I loved the paragraph at the end of the article:

Your personal organiser won't go off in a meeting, it won't run out of battery and it doesn't take any time to load! For an instantaneous tool to keeping organised you really can't beat the paper-based personal organiser.

So very true... some of which we have said before on here!

Other articles on the same site also worth reading:

- [2]Being organised is the key to success
- [3]The Filofax is an 80's iconic product...
- [4]How a Day Planner Can Improve Your Life

Enjoy

1. <http://www.articlefield.com/61113/benefits-of-a-personal-organiser/>

2. <http://www.articlefield.com/11214/being-organised-is-the-key-to-success/>

3. <http://www.articlefield.com/23226/the-filofax-is-an-80%E2%80%99s-iconic-product-thieving-in-2010/>

4. <http://www.articlefield.com/14766/how-a-day-planner-can-improve-your-life/>

Michele (2010-09-22 05:23:40)

Thanks Steve! Great lunch hour reading! Fall arrives 11:09pm tonight EDT! Are we all marking in our filofaxes?!!

Laurie (2010-09-22 05:37:04)

STeve thanks for these! I always love reading about the value of using a planner/ organizer. One of the millions of things I love about a paper diary is that it doesn't beep, especially in public!! I always feel for those people who are frantically searching through their bag to shut off their beeping device during a meeting or performance.

Yvotchka (2010-09-22 09:44:39)

...or have "sync issues" as a certain calendar that rhymes with 'Schmoogle' occasionally does. I never open my planner and find the pages suddenly and inexplicably blank...

caribbean princess (2010-09-22 15:46:51)

I enjoy having my iPad and iPhone but nothing can replace my trusty filofaxes. Plus they are so customisable so suit my needs exactly and I love all the various sizes and colours :-)

Adirondack Explorer (2010-09-22 17:06:20)

Thanks, Steve. Great reminder of the value of our personal planners.

I'm reading a reading a book titled "Hamlet's Blackberry." It's a great reminder as to why using a paper planner can help keep back the shallowness that invades our lives through portable electronic devices.

Reader Request: Can you help? (2010-09-23 00:00) - Steve

We received a message from one of our readers by the name of Helen, she asks:

I have a question I was wondering if you or the blog readers might be able to help with? I've managed to convert a friend to Filofaxes, yay! She has Type 1 diabetes, and she'd like to use it to record her blood glucose readings. She was going to make her own pages, and I told her about the computer paper, but I was wondering if anyone has done this before. Do you know if anyone has made any templates for this that she might be able to use? She uses a pocket sized filofax. Thanks for your help!

I had a quick look through the archive on [1]DiY Planner which has a few templates, but nothing I could see for the pocket size Filofax.

Can you help? If you can please comment/email us, particularly if you have a template of your own so we can pass it on and/or share it on the site.

Many thanks

.

1. <http://www.diyplanner.com/search/node/diabetes>

bernhardS (2010-09-23 07:56:15)

What does she need a template for? A blank sheet is absolutely sufficient to write down her parameters. Why so complicated?

Marlene (2010-09-23 10:51:04)

I know daytimer makes a diabetes management organizer. Perhaps the pages could fit somehow? Or at least give you an idea for a template to use with Filofax pocket computer paper.

BTW...What does she need a template for? B/C templates are cool and that's what we are all here for! People shouldn't post before they've had their coffee.

Australian Filofax (2010-09-23 11:59) - Steve



[1]

In this mornings mail was an email about a company in Australia that sell their own brand of Filofax refills, but on closer inspection of their website they also sell their own personal binders in local 'leather' including kangaroo (don't tell the children!)

Based in Sydney, they have been in business since 1989 and they have grown despite not really advertising their products that heavily.

Their refills are fairly standard in terms of style and format but they do obviously include the national holidays and school terms for Australia in them. They all appear to be nicely typeset and produced in Australia.

Poco sell organisers and refills for Personal and Pocket size as well as accessories, note all prices are in Australian Dollars. They can ship internationally but at a cost of course. They also include non-animal skin covers as well. They appear to have quite a loyal following in Australia.

Take a look at their [2]website and their [3]on-line shop

If you fancy on of their refills [4]The Shopping Sherpa have one to give away see their blog post.

1. <http://www.pocoprofile.com.au/graphics/kanga2.gif>

2. <http://www.pocoprofile.com.au/>

3. <http://www.pocoprofile.com.au/shop/default.asp?c=233213>

4. <http://theshoppingsherpa.blogspot.com/2010/09/and-break-to-giveaway.html>

Free For All Friday No. 97 (2010-09-24 00:07) - Laurie

Happy Equinox everybody! Yesterday was the day when all of us had 12 hours of daylight and 12 of night. Now for those of us in the northern hemisphere our days will get shorter and shorter, until the winter solstice in December. For those of you Down Under, you are enjoying spring and longer days!

My Filofax diary pages do not have the solstices and equinoxes printed on the day spaces, and I wish they did. Does anybody else wish this too?

As always on Friday, the floor is yours to discuss anything Filofax-related!

S. (2010-09-24 02:36:29)

Just thought I'd point this Filo-related blog post out. <http://theglamorousgradstudent.blogspot.com/2010/09/glamourizing-filofax.html>

What a brilliant idea!

In other Filo related news, I've ordered a Raspberry and Amber Metropol Personal sized Filofax. I see that the Amber is no longer stocked by Filofax and I'm glad to have been able to get my hands on one for a discount no less! I've been hooked on the personal sized since I ordered my Raspberry Finsbury about a few months ago.

The Raspberry Finsbury will remain my main Filo. I plan to use the Amber Metropol for storage and will alternate between the Raspberry Finsbury and Metropol for daily use.

Jotje (2010-09-24 03:30:38)

Also received a new member to my Filofax family today: Personal Kendal in brown. It's absolutely divine! It has the strongest most delicious leather smell I've ever experienced with leather filofaxes. Reminds me of the saddle rooms of horse ranches ...

Steve (2010-09-24 05:28:30)

Thought of the day....

Are zipped Filofax Organisers slower... ??

Well you have to consider the extra time they take to 'boot up' or the time it takes to unzip them compared to flipping a snapper.

Discuss....

Michele (2010-09-24 05:37:38)

Jotje, where do you put all those filos!!! That's what I want to know! ;-)..

Laurie, I agree - I would LOVE to have the solstices and equinoxes printed on the day spaces! I love this season and plan to celebrate every day by making some lists in my filo of things I want to do. I made my Christmas list the other day and the Filofax Pocket Eton is on it - just worried about the calendary. www.Filofax.UK says it comes with the 2010-2011 calendar but the US site and Goldspot quote the 2010-2011. Not fair I have to pay extra for the coming year's calendar.

JJ (2010-09-24 06:52:36)

I would love to have a diary with almanac information (sun rise and set times especially), but sadly, it's too region specific to be available off the shelf. And as much as I want it, I dont want it bad enough to print it myself.

JJ (2010-09-24 07:02:58)

Steve: I think so. I'm likely to reach for my binder if I know I have to take the extra second and a half to unzip it.

While a Cuban personal is my working Filo, the current sweetheart in my collection is an A5 Kensington. One simple snap and PLOP, it's laying flat on the desk.

I prefer simple (or no) closures. I think the domino is pure geniuis, a design that could be improved only by making the band removable (and offering it in leather).

Steve (2010-09-24 07:14:51)

Which makes my slimline the fastest of the bunch.. it has no closure.. you just open it....

Regarding your Almanac request Judith I will do a bit of research. I'm sure I can find a website somewhere, that once you have put in the location information it can come up with a table of sun rise/set times for each day of the year/month etc....

Steve (2010-09-24 07:33:16)

Found it... take a look at:

<http://www.largeformatphotography.info/sunmooncalc/>

You can input your location details, start and finish dates etc and it produces a table which you can print out and add to your Filofax.

I have been wanting this for ages for my Photography Filo, so I know when and where the Sun is going to be on any particular day...

nickynic (2010-09-24 07:59:58)

I have finally found my Filo-Family!!

After years of believing that I must be 'the only one' with this strange (but wonderful) predisposition towards dairies/calendars and (fountain) pens in general but Filofaxes in particular, I feel right at home! Thank you, thank you, thank you!! I LOVE Philofaxy and check it daily, together with Plannerisms and Flickr.....

A quick introduction: I own 4 A5, 5 Personal and 4 Pocket Filofaxes. My first Personal I bought around 1989. The latest addition to the family is the red Malden Personal, and I love it to bits. The super soft and bendy leather is just DELICIOUS. I got it only last week as I could not resist the sweet temptation of Flickr. In the past I have used FC and Success, but I always keep coming back to Filofax...

Oh dear, I have taken up so much space, and all I wanted to say was: fantastic blog - thank you!

Petra (2010-09-24 11:07:03)

Nickynic: welcome, and which models do you own? A list, please, to humor us!

Petra (2010-09-24 11:20:56)

Re the zipped planners, I carry a zipped pocket Durham which I love. The zipper is so smooth and short that I don't notice any extra time to zip it open. And whatever extra it takes is worth it to know I can stick some loose items in and not worry about them falling out. On the other hand, I just returned a larger size zipped planner because the zipper was NOT smooth and was much longer, and I could imagine becoming frustrated at the time and effort to open and close it.

Laurie (2010-09-24 12:15:43)

Welcome nickynic!

Re: the zipped binder. I used a zipped Filofax-like binder for several years, and I did like the security. But for me now, no matter what the closure type, I must be able to open it with one hand (like when I'm on the phone etc.) If it requires both hands to open, that's a deal-breaker for my most-used Filofax. I find I have to use two hands to undo the elastic on my Domino binders, but I don't use those as in-action Filofaxes, they are reference.

Jotje (2010-09-24 12:31:39)

Steve, it was JJ not me who asked about the Almanac LOL

Michele: the A5 work filo is always sitting on mijn desk next to my pc, the recipes Filo is on the kitchen shelf, the mini is in my handbag for 90 % of the time (the other 10 % I'm actually holding it in my hand ;-)), all the others have a designated shelf in my home office. The storage/archives ones are in a hardboard Ikea box - out of sight).

@nickynic: welcome, and please show us your Filo's with names and uses on Flickr!!!

Steve (2010-09-24 12:35:10)

Opps sorry so it was! Having a senior moment there...

I didn't realise I would start a real active debate when I posted my slightly tongue in cheek thought of the day about zip up binders!

But all the comments are absolutely true of course. I hadn't thought about the two handed issue... good one Laurie!

Steve

Laurie (2010-09-24 12:49:30)

Steve that sun-moon calculator is amazing!! I've printed it out for the whole year. I discovered that on the solstice in December I can expect the sun to rise at 8 am and set at 3:30 pm! And on the solstice in June I can look forward to sunrise at 3 am and sunset after 1am!!

I love the North.

stirwise (2010-09-24 15:13:52)

@Jotje: Pics please!

caribbean princess (2010-09-24 15:36:22)

Jotje. I am glad you like your Kendal. I have an A5 (gift from bro in law) and although it was bought in 2006 the leather still looks so good! I will have to post pics of how DH modified it to use.

caribbean princess (2010-09-24 15:42:00)

nickynic welcome to the family

:-) I love my Filofaxes and also blog about them although I try to disguise a bit with fashion, academia and science. I LOVE philofaxy and plannerisms!!! Yay!! For such wonderful blogs. Now that I have 'come out' other colleagues are also expressing their interest too which reminds mesomeone wanted to know what type of filo they had as it was also missing the name so I will email pics.

nickynic (2010-09-25 03:08:04)

Thank you all - I feel the love!! :-)

Today, I played around @ Flickr and uploaded a few pics. Apparently it takes a few days until the upload can be found. Search for filofax from 'nickynicsg' (that's me!). I'm new to the whole thing, so hopefully I got it right!!! If my attempt proves successful I may upload some more later.

@Jotje: I tend to use only one Filo at a time. Which breaks my hart for the jobless ones..... I love reading about how you

and others use their Filo's. It leaves me totally inspired and on a mission to assign duties to the unused ones. I love the idea of an A5 for kids/school!

@Petra, my Filo's:

A5: a mint Cross, a vintage pink Finchley, a pink zipped Finsbury and a purple Finsbury.

Personal: a tan and a purple Cross, a raspberry Chameleon, an aqua Finchley, a red Malden, and a green ?? - doesn't have a name printed inside front cover..

Pocket: a tan Cross, an orange and pink Finsbury and last but not least: a Songbird.

Steve (2010-09-25 11:25:32)

Hi Nicky

What you might like to do on Flickr is to join the Philofaxy group and add your photos to the group. Also tag your photos with 'Filofax' You can do this in batch mode so it shouldn't take you too long...

Oh and welcome....

Regards

Steve

nickynic (2010-09-27 05:18:54)

@Steve: done and thanks!

Janet (2010-09-28 09:49:08)

Nicky has encouraged me to post too!

I have been reading Philofaxy for over a year but only posted a few times.

I have mostly A5s (three Dominos, a brown Amazona, a black Metropol and an orange Finsbury) and Personal (3 Modes in various colourways, 2 brown Belmonts). I have a Teal Baroque Mini for when I travel. Non-Filofax-wise I have Mulberry Agenda, mainly because I love Mulberry handbags.

Hello everyone *waves*

Sun Rise and Sun Set Times (2010-09-24 09:00) - Steve



[1]

We have been 'commenting' about this a lot this week because it is the Equinox although it will depend on your location as to the actual day of the Equinox.

Obviously Sun Rise and Sun Set times are dependent on your location on the globe and your height above ground if you happen to live in a high rise building! I looked for a simple site to calculate these times about 6 months ago, quite a lot of sites will display the times on the webpage... but I wanted something I could put in my Filofax for my photography.

Judith (Jotje) reminded me again this morning, so off I went a Googling and I discovered this site:

[2]<http://www.largeformatphotography.info/sunmooncalc/>

If you are photographer and I'm a keen amateur one... then the position of the sun is critical, this applies to Film and Digital... so this calculator is excellent. I've just printed off the Sun Rise and Sunset Times for my town here in France for the whole year, booklet printed they fit in to my A5 Filofax nicely.

If I want a particular month then I've managed to print to PDF then rescale it to fit in my photography Filofax (personal slimline).

The photograph is one of mine taken at sun set one evening this week, I love having such a beautiful view to photograph any day I want to, I never tire of standing there watching the scene change at different times of year or day.

.

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TJydCyGoRgI/AAAAAAAAISs/_xi-A9w_R4Q/s1600/IMG_9400.JPG

2. <http://www.largeformatphotography.info/sunmooncalc/>

Friday Web Finds (2010-09-24 11:00) - Steve

Websites with mentions of Filofax are a bit like London Buses... you get nothing worth mentioning for a few days and then along come several nose to tail.... Anyway take a look some good ones to enjoy over a cup of tea/coffee or a soft drink.

- [1]Filophile - HipHopSideProject
- [2]7 by 7 - Draw Pilgrim - Love the pen wallet
- [3]Shopping for Sleek Planners - Little Mama's Lowdown
- [4]Luxury Filofax
- [5]The Power of 1 - Time Management Ninja
- [6]Filofax at Bernhard Schoon
- [7]Glamorous Grad Student

Until next week.... have a good weekend.

1. <http://www.hiphopsideproject.com/daily/filophile/>

2. <http://www.drawpilgrim.com/2010/09/7by7-september-24th-2010/>

3. <http://littlemamaslowdown.com/?p=912>

4. <http://www.luxurydiary.co.uk/2010/09/luxury-filofax-aspinal-organisers.html>

5. <http://timemanagementninja.com/2010/02/the-power-of-1/>

6. <http://schoon.cc/?tag=filofax>

7. <http://theglamorousgradstudent.blogspot.com/2010/09/glamourizing-filofax.html>

A. ~ positively prettyful (2010-09-24 15:05:53)

Thanks for the link! I haven't had my Filo for long but I love it so.

Laurie (2010-09-24 16:32:09)

If you are interested you can read my take on The Power of 1 over at Plannerisms.

Laurie (2010-09-24 16:43:58)

PS I love Little Mama's post! She's got a great selection of planners there.

Jotje (2010-09-25 10:53:59)

The fourth link doesn't really refer to a Filofax, does it?

Steve (2010-09-25 11:01:35)

No, I think it's Filofax in a generic term.

<http://www.aspinaloflondon.com/eshop-catalogue/albums-and-books/personal-organisers>

Is the full range..

Steve

Competition Reminder (2010-09-26 15:30) - Steve

Don't forget our [1]slogan competition the closing date is 30th September, so get your suggestions in before this Thursday.

We have had quite a few entries so far and the judges will be looking forward to looking at them all to choose a winner.

And of course have a good week.

[Update]

The Competition is now closed and the 'judges' are reviewing all the submissions.

Thank you for all your entries the standard of entries is very high so we are taking some time to work through them all.

An announcement will be made soon as to who the winner is.

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/09/competition-time.html>

Gail (2010-09-26 18:29:42)

Can you remind us where to send them to please Steve?

Steve (2010-09-26 18:30:56)

As in the original post.... !

philofaxy at gmail dot com

Regards

Steve

My Urban Filofax Thanks To Oni!! (2010-09-28 05:52) - Laurie

Here is my new personal size Urban!



[1]

Many, MANY thanks to Oni for grabbing this for me! For more than I year I've been longing for an Urban, gazing forlornly at photos on Flickr and the Filofax website. I didn't have a decent excuse for buying another Filofax, so I decided to wait.

But then I discovered the Urban is being discontinued! Cue panic buying!!

This happened soon before I moved, so if I ordered from the US website it wouldn't have time to reach me before I moved to the UK. But I worried that by the time I got settled in my new place, an Urban would be impossible to find. Ack!

Oni VERY kindly searched for a personal Urban for me, and to my delight she found one! She held it for me until I got my bank sorted out (which took an excruciatingly long time!) and then sent it to me. Thanks so much Oni!!

I love the secretarial pocket inside the front cover, and the zip pocket on the outside back cover. This will make a perfect travel Filofax!



[2]



[3]

[4]

I love the Slate color. The interior tab dividers have contrasting colors that look really sharp in this binder.



[5]

Also included are a world map (as we all know I love maps in my Filofax!):



[6]

A clear ruler divider, open-top clear pocket, and notepad in the back.



[7]

Also there are a few pages of colored paper:



[8]

I'm so happy with my Urban! Thanks again Oni!!



[9]

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TKG2pPvRStI/AAAAAAAAABR8/bWSjHgaPBcY/s1600/Diaries+2010+031.jpg
2. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TKG3Bomp8vI/AAAAAAAAABSA/JTuNzjvbIuw/s1600/Diaries+2010+032.jpg
3. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TKG3lIs_fYI/AAAAAAAAABSI/DGSLwAr5mHI/s1600/Diaries+2010+035.jpg
4. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TKG3Qr54rbI/AAAAAAAAABSE/aLhi2tODMZs/s1600/Diaries+2010+034.jpg
5. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TKG4fh7sfwI/AAAAAAAAABSU/Az_ftmxFrNE/s1600/Diaries+2010+040.jpg
6. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TKG34b_NCVI/AAAAAAAAABSM/-_cAJhHLbUo/s1600/Diaries+2010+037.jpg
7. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TKG40F36nGI/AAAAAAAAABSY/EtziKXRBCHQ/s1600/Diaries+2010+041.jpg
8. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TKG4LsbK_eI/AAAAAAAAABSQ/UtQvavKPlUo/s1600/Diaries+2010+038.jpg
9. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TKG3Qr54rbI/AAAAAAAAABSE/aLhi2tODMZs/s1600/Diaries+2010+034.jpg

Oni (2010-09-28 06:40:09)

Laurie:

You're welcome!!

It was no problem, really!

I actually enjoyed having a 'quest', and it was quite gratifying when I saw it on the shelf at the store...I really couldn't believe I had finally found it for you!

And as I mentioned to you before, if you need me to go hunting for you again, let me know ;)

As for the Urban itself, you are right: it makes the PERFECT travel planner, it's as if it had been conceived with that specific purpose.

I hope you'll soon get to try yours out, and enjoy it to the fullest :)

BTW, his younger cousins(my Pocket and Mini) send their love and wish him great adventures :P

Michele (2010-09-28 07:49:51)

It's gorgeous! Sigh!.. So glad I found you all.... my Fellow Filo Fanatics!

caribbean princess (2010-09-28 08:10:05)

love the inserts! :-)

Globetrotting Cacti (2010-09-28 08:31:50)

That is a GORGEOUS filofax.... LOVE IT!

Susanne (2010-09-28 13:21:27)

I love the colorful dividers. Yes, this would make a great travel filo. Enjoy.

Cat Cook (2010-09-29 09:02:39)

I hope this is helpful rather than irritating - but I've often seen the Urban in mini, pocket and personal in TKMaxx (in the UK) in recent months. If anyone is still hunting, you might be able to grab a bargain!

Laurie (2010-09-29 11:12:27)

Definitely helpful, thanks Cathryn!! Filofax bargain tips are always welcome! :)

Janet (2010-09-30 02:33:16)

Just to say the domino snake is (natch) being discontinued once it is out of stock. The A5 size has sold out already but they have some personal sizes left. If there is anyone sitting on the fence about one of these beauties, maybe now is the time to react! Once they are gone they are gone!

Laurie (2010-09-30 05:10:09)

Oh my gosh that was fast!!! Didn't they just introduce these less than a year ago?? I know the A5 Domino snake was just released in April!

Restoring a leather Filofax (2010-09-28 13:05) - Steve

[1]

One of the many things to get 'rediscovered' when we moved house recently was my wife Alison's 1980's Filofax. Alison (the hand of Philofaxy!) last used it about three years ago, it still contains her notes from her MA History studies, it travelled around with her to the British Library, Kent University and many other OU tutorials.

When I set eyes on it, it was looking a little tired and worst for wear. It once again got put on the shelf, until today that is.. I decided to use it as a typical model that someone might have been using for some time, or may be you have bought off of Ebay and you want to bring it back to its original condition or as close to that sort of condition. As has been commented on before, the late 1980's Filofax organisers are well made and quite tough, just take the usual precautions of only using the tabs at the end of the ring to open the rings, don't just pull them apart, otherwise you strain the mechanism and they won't meet properly in the centre. They last for a lifetime almost and should with care continue to provide service for many years.

Before I started I wanted to take as many photos as possible of the Filofax organiser to show the true state of the wear and tear on this organiser and also to show the 'before' and 'after' otherwise you might think I just got a new one out of a box in true [2]Blue Peter style '[3]And here's one we prepared earlier' !!! Not that I would cheat!

Taking the photos was a challenge in itself, black small shiny things are quite hard to photograph, but after a few different attempts I think I did a reasonable job, but like all my photography I learn a bit more each time!

So here is the organiser as it came out of the cupboard. Click on the photos to see a larger version.



[4]

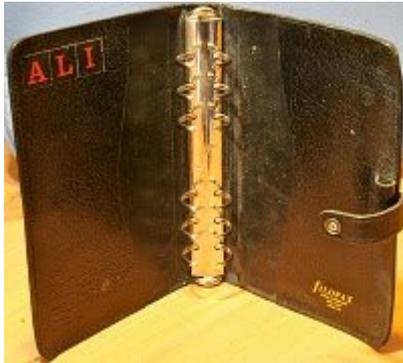


[5]

[6]



[7]



[8]



[9]

The outside had suffered normal wear and tear I suppose over a 20 odd year period, the inside is mainly just dusty. So out came all the pages, being careful to keep them in the same order, not wanting to get in to trouble with 'the boss' !

The first thing I did was to clean the inside with just a slightly damp cloth to remove the worse of the dust and soiling. Then I dried off the inside and outside and left it to dry naturally. Normally I just use a light silicon polish to maintain the leather on my organisers, but I thought this one needed a bit more treatment of the leather to bring it back to life again and to remove some of the scuff marks.

For this I used a wax shoe polish in black. I used an old soft cloth bunched up the cloth to form a soft pad to coat the outside in wax putting a small amount of wax polish on each time, then gently rubbing it in in a circular motion, taking time to make sure it was well worked in to the leather. The surface now looked dull and matt. I then left the polish on for about 5 minutes to let the wax penetrate the surface scuff marks.

Then using a clean soft cloth I then rubbed off the wax and brought the leather back to a full shine, frequently turning the cloth to make sure I wasn't rubbing the wax back on to the leather. Again taking time to go over the whole surface to ensure no wax was left behind which will only attract dust and dirt.

I was unable to find a suitable press stud cap, which is missing. My own 1980's Winchester has suffered a similar loss. I am going to try sowing some leather over the press stud to cover it like current day Filofax organisers have. But overall I think you will be able to see the difference. Again click on the photos to see the full size version.



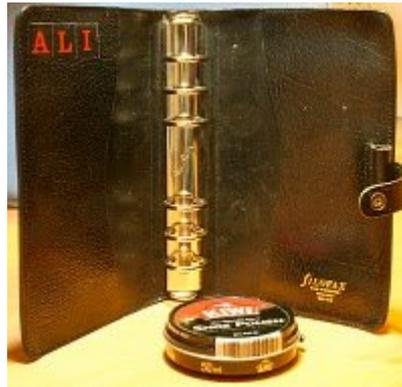
[10]



[11]



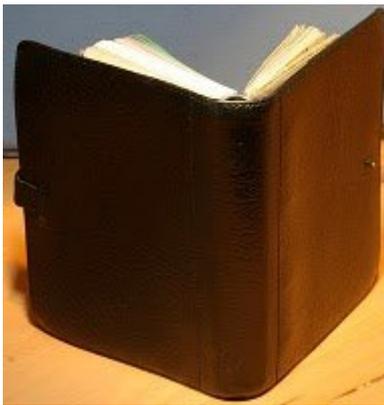
[12]



[13]



[14]



[15]

I think the pair of photos that show the before and after best are these two:

[IMG_9526.JPG]

Before

[IMG_9529.JPG]

After

[16] Now I realise that some of you might like the 'worn' and 'tired' look, it's a personal taste thing I suppose. But for those of you that like your Filofax looking like new, then as you can see it is possible with a bit of effort and time to get the leather looking like new again.

What next for this organiser... well I think I will have some of the plain ruled paper out of it for starters!

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TKIUpcwm-II/AAAAAAAAITQ/Am-T8oI438Q/s1600/IMG_9529.JPG
2. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blue_peter
3. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blue_peter#Content
4. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TKIPwTEOa0I/AAAAAAAAAIS4/Zgwg4aT5to/s1600/IMG_9520.JPG
5. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TKIQWcCoy8I/AAAAAAAAITI/pezgtInciO4/s1600/IMG_9526.JPG
6. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TKIQHC4HNhI/AAAAAAAAITA/dLAZ2VpOrk8/s1600/IMG_9524.JPG
7. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TKIP5mSKTMI/AAAAAAAAAIS8/ix_8CYi9-R0/s1600/IMG_9521.JPG
8. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TKIQPLLhy1I/AAAAAAAAAITE/73XyF-ireOw/s1600/IMG_9525.JPG
9. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TKIPn1YQeoI/AAAAAAAAAIS0/Z2hkq3TcZ3E/s1600/IMG_9516.JPG
10. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TKIUh934sbI/AAAAAAAAITM/8TlGirAmEZU/s1600/IMG_9528.jpg
11. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TKIUpcwm-II/AAAAAAAAITQ/Am-T8oI438Q/s1600/IMG_9529.JPG
12. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TKIUvb6coWI/AAAAAAAAITU/U6-fkZmJKsI/s1600/IMG_9532.JPG
13. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TKIU4YwpAbI/AAAAAAAAITY/-UYz1ufGhuI/s1600/IMG_9534.jpg
14. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TKIVDatxxlI/AAAAAAAAITc/wvYa43EOqj4/s1600/IMG_9535.jpg
15. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TKIVJrjzD6I/AAAAAAAAITg/VSwPA40Zj5c/s1600/IMG_9540.JPG
16. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TKIUpcwm-II/AAAAAAAAITQ/Am-T8oI438Q/s1600/IMG_9529.JPG

bernhardS (2010-09-28 13:16:20)

The black one is the same make as the Buckingham Personal which I bought in 1987 in Lewsisham in London SE. Even the press stud cap is missing in my Buckingham, too.

I restored mine especially with "Ballistol", a traditional German allround oil originally developed for taking care of firearms. Maybe you should add some oil to the mechanical parts and the rings - this will be very useful.

Michele (2010-09-28 13:30:24)

Steve, for an upcoming post I want to hear how Alison loves using HER restored filo and not you finding your own use for it! Enjoy Alison!

caribbean princess (2010-09-28 18:32:47)

I wonder if my adelphi will last as long as that! Are the newer filox as good quality as the 80s versions?

Oni (2010-09-28 19:51:16)

Blue Peter ... Billy No Mates... what will you come up next, El Zorro???? Hahah

Jokes aside, I must say this post is really good, I am sure there are loads of readers who are lucky to have a Filofax from the good ol' days who will truly appreciate a post on maintenance.

Personally, I don't think you should sew extra material to cover the stud. If it's Alison who's going to start using it again, maybe you could incrust some 'bling', ie a Swarovsky crystal, to give it that feminine touch? Just my two cents.

And I love how the organiser is looking now! Great job!

The Rev'd Blair (2010-09-29 13:23:13)

as for the press stud, I used my daughter's black nailpolish and continually apply a new layer when it's dry. It will build up and look great

Simon R (2010-10-01 06:16:40)

I have a late 1980s Filofax like yours with the popper button missing. Must have been a bad batch. Anyway, I carved a new one from a seashell with my Dremmel. I now have a lovely mother of pearl press stud on mine, I simply glued the carving in place with Araldite.

colin (2010-10-21 18:54:17)

Press stud caps-go to "crafting" or handicraft shops, they do the press studs, tools and caps in shades of black and brown.

Now, has anyone ever seen a 1980's Filo with the descriptor line of

6 CLF 1/2?

I am sad enough to have a whole list of these descriptor lines gleaned over the years but this is a new one.

Lastly, has anyone ever catalogued when the models were produced? When did the Winchester/ Balmoral/ Durham etc production runs start and end?

Philofaxy Readers Blogs (2010-09-29 06:15) - Steve

It is great writing posts for you all to read and even better seeing your comments. But I'm sure Nan and Laurie will agree it's also nice to read something from our readers about what they have been doing with their Filofax organisers.

So here are some links to what some of our readers have been writing about in the last week or so:

- [1]A4 Filofax - Sharon has recently bought an A4, interesting to see this size in use;
- [2]Domino Elegance - Oni recently moved over to using a Pocket Domino;
- [3]Filofax as a Travel Journal - Cathryn Cook turns her Pocket Fresco in to a Travel Journal;

Also be sure to keep a close watch on the [4]Philofaxy Flickr Group, there are a lot of great photos posted on there each week and sometimes discussions in the discussion area too.

If you don't have your own blog, but you would love to write and tell us about what you have been doing with your own Filofax, you can of course write a guest post for Philofaxy. Please email us: **philofaxy** at **gmail dot com**

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1. <http://shazzastitching.wordpress.com/2010/09/25/a4-filofax/>

2. <http://onigirisama.blogspot.com/2010/09/filofax-domino-elegance-in-simplicity.html>

3. <http://www.cathryncook.co.uk/blog/2010/09/filofax-as-a-travel-journal/>

4. <http://www.flickr.com/groups/philofaxy/>

Cat Cook (2010-09-29 08:56:43)

Thanks for the feature and for encouraging me to blog about my idea whilst it was still brewing! Hopefully it won't be long before I can share the final set up :O)

Oni (2010-09-30 09:53:19)

Thank you for linking to my latest blog entry. Philofaxy is the best motivation and it makes blogging even more fun!!

I will keep you updated on how it's going with the Domino :D

Filofax on TV (2010-09-30 14:57) - Steve

If you are in UK, or you can receive UK Channel 4 via satellite TV in Europe. This Sunday 3rd October at 8.00pm UK time is the film [1]27 Dresses, which is you remember started off [2]Erin's love of Filofax... It is billed as a romantic comedy so it might have slightly wider appeal than you would think. So be on the look out for the Filofax and let's see if we can identify the model and size... no prizes though... just a bit of fun.. report back in the comments on this post if you spot it.

1. <http://www.27dressesthemovie.com/>

2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/08/reader-under-spot-light-erin.html>

Jotje (2010-10-01 02:57:07)

I watched it a little while ago and I'm certain that it's a Personal Topaz in an orangy-red colour (no longer available btw).

Petra (2010-10-01 10:26:33)

After reading all the comments here and elsewhere about 27 Dresses and the Filofax in it, I finally borrowed it from a colleague and watched it last week. Fun movie, though not enough of the Filo! The extras on the DVD (interviews, commentary, cut scenes) were quite funny and interesting, so if you miss it on TV, go rent/buy/borrow the DVD and watch it all.

1.10 October

Free For All Friday No. 98 (2010-10-01 00:01) - Steve

It is 1st October.... [1]Autumn or The Fall if you are from the other side of '[2]The Pond' Or it could be Spring if you are in the Southern Hemisphere, must not forget you folks.

So my thought/question for this week... do you time manage or task manage with your Filofax? Answers in the comments if you please.

But as it's Friday... of course please feel free to discuss anything that is Filofax related.

1. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Autumn>

2. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_pond

HP Fuchs (2010-10-01 02:22:34)

I would be very surprised if anybody doesn't use their filofax for time & task management. That's what a filofax is made for. And in this field it is still ahead of any electronic device.

Jotje (2010-10-01 03:00:32)

Obviously we do! Apart from all my "special purpose" filofaxes, my biggest lifesaver is my workfilo! I use 2PPW-pages for the general overview (appointments, deadlines, Must-Do-This-Week-Or-Die lists) and then 2PPD pages for daily Todo's which I schedule in the appropriate hours, and for notes.

angela (2010-10-01 04:04:25)

I'm moving back down to London permanently tomorrow (well, to me, it's 'permanent' - not so for my parents!), ready to start my second year at university so my filofax has indeed come in very handy for writing those lists.

It has also come in very handy for noting down when things will be connected, from the phone line to internet, etc.

But, next week, my filo will be used as an academic filo once more as the new school year officially kicks off with my first lecture of this academic year. Eager to put my filo back into good use again, but yet, also not looking forward to the hard work (and what feels like slavery) once more!

Jess (2010-10-01 04:32:28)

I switched from A5 to Personal size over the summer whilst I was on holiday from uni, and I'm coming to the end of my first super-busy week back - and I'm glad to say its holding up well! I thought I might find the smaller diary page sizes a bit restrictive but its fine. Lets hope it lasts...

Michele (2010-10-01 05:19:25)

I definately manage tasks with my filo. On the 2 page-per-week, they have a box above Monday that I jot all the tasks I need to do that week. I'de rather save the "To-Do's" for special items such as getting ready for holidays, etc... Re task/time, I'm really looking forward to 2011 (90 days away) when I can set up my Work A5 with the One Day On A Page Business Calendar. I'm planning to give the A5 a nice facelift on 1/1/11. ;-)

Laurie (2010-10-01 06:10:04)

You know what, I'm sure I'm in the minority but I have found (over MANY years of trying) that Filofaxes just don't work for me for task and time management. The personal size pages are too small to write all my tasks for the day/ week, and the A5 size binders are too big and heavy to carry everywhere with me (which I have to do with my planner). I've tried lots of different diary layouts, lighter binders (A5 Domino, despite its lightness, is still too big and bulky).

I absolutely must have a large page. And, I absolutely must have a portable book. Not only that, but I've discovered I function better with a bound book as my diary. Moving pages around just adds confusion.

So, I use my multiple Filofaxes for reference, storage of information, and loads of other purposes.

David Popely (2010-10-01 07:49:01)

really interesting thread, this. I have both A5 and Personal sizes, but I find that I just *can't* use more than one diary because chaos *always* ensues.....I don't want to carry the big A5 around with me at weekends and on evenings *either* (glad I'm not the only one who feels that way), but the Personal size is barely big enough to cope with running an entire small business including all the client records, work in progress/to come, etc. So I find myself in a dilemma. I'm looking for a 1-10 index for the Personal, or even a 1-6 (FF don't do them in the Personal size), and until I find one I think I'm going to be in limbo between the two sizes. A 1-10 index (or 1-6) would enable me to use the 'key areas' system used by time/system and Time Manager International, and I'm pinning my hopes for effective task management on being able to find one somewhere. Tome management wise, I have a week on two pages diary which does for my appointments, but the day-per-page layout of the professional system (frustratingly only available in A5) looks quite useful for task- and time-management combined. I like to see my time in 'blocks' of a week, so the week to a view works well for me - but no facility for linking tasks to specific days - especially the further ahead one wants to schedule.

I've posted a thread on the Flickr discussion re the index problem but no replies as yet. I'm also designing some templates in Personal size which I hope may help with the task management.

ArchiMark (2010-10-01 09:39:01)

Well, given that I just received my A5 Cuban yesterday, I don't have a lot of filofax experience to report on yet... ;) but...I have used other organizers. So, I can say that I have used one for time and task management.

Most recently I have used Levenger Circa 8.5x11" setup, so, for me, the A5 is so nice and small, and more portable!! ;)

I did setup my Cuban yesterday in gtd style, made labels for the tabs, etc...

I like jotting down any ToDos in my Inbox tab or Projects tab and of course appts/meetings in the Calendar section.

Been using Levenger 1PPM pages the past year as at 8.5x11" pages, it's big enough boxes for each day to capture my items. It's nice to see an entire month on one page.

While much smaller than my 8.5x11 1PPM, I did buy A5 2PPM pages along with the 1PPD Business Calendar pages, very nice layout for work stuff.

Now, back to further A5 setup and usage...

;))

Jotje (2010-10-01 09:57:37)

@David: Filofax.de in Germany offer a similar 1PPD layout. Take a look: <http://www.filofax.de/store/diaryrefills-details.asp?productId=2523>

My worfilo is in A5 and I'm glad that I don't need to run around with it and can leave it safely on my desk.

As for transferring weekly to daily schedules: when new appointments/deadlines come up, I note them on the weekly pages. On Sunday I transfer those to my 2PPD section. Yep, that means extra writing, but I bought a nice fountain pen for that purpose to add a bit of fun to the inevitable ;-)

Nan (2010-10-01 10:17:25)

In both A5 and Personal sizes, I usually use horizontal 2PPW. I write appointments down the left side and tasks down the right side.

I write events like birthdays and holidays at the top of the day's block.

Steve (2010-10-01 10:37:55)

@Laurie.. I think you should try an A4... Smaller rings than most A5's, bigger foot print in terms of diary space and dedicated to a diary/task lists I'm sure you would be converted!

Talk to @sjl1974 (Sharon) who has just bought one...

Steve

DJ (2010-10-01 10:38:32)

David Popely: I mentioned whilst commenting on your original Philofaxy query on this topic that Maruman Data Plan (Japanese) have a 1-10 "Bible" index tab set, which is Filofax Personal size. As I happen to have an unused set, along with a blank "index" page, I'd be happy to mail it to you, I believe you'd be hard-pressed to find this in the U.K. or the Continent. Just email your mailing address to buffalo@rome.com and the set will soon be winging its way to Merry Olde...

Regards,

DJ

Sunny California

caribbean princess (2010-10-01 11:10:39)

I use 2 PPW in my personal workfile for time and task management. I put in meetings and important deadlines as well as use the to do lists (I find it useful to repeat very important deadlines in both places so I dont forget). I use the stickers for birthdays/ anniversaries and other important events as I am notorious for forgetting peoples' birthdays (except for my twin's). hahaha.

I also plan to organise a travel file (for when I am at conferences/ meetings/ tutorials) so that I can have the most important info in my usual work file to hand as well as an overseas travel file.

David Popely (2010-10-01 11:36:38)

Thanks *so* much DJ, its really appreciated! Mailing address has been emailed :)

Best wishes

David

crofter (2010-10-01 11:45:13)

I seem to go more by tasks than time. I have the luxury of devoting my mornings to them, that is when my enegy level is highest. I schedule appointments and meetings in the afternoon, and usually don't even take phone calls in the mornings unless they directly pertain to the task(s) I am working on.

I am going to the Daytimer 2PPD in 2011, I used them for a long time in the late 80's and early 90's, and think they work better than the Filofax format.

David Popely (2010-10-01 12:07:34)

Thanks *so* much DJ, its really appreciated! Mailing address has been emailed :)

Best wishes

David

Petra (2010-10-01 15:11:08)

I use my files primarily for information management, not time or task management. Since I don't have many appointments, I use a small stapled month on two days calendar (like the kind you get free from Hallmark) for appointments, since it slips easily into purse or pocket. I use the address tabs in the file for alphabetical filing of notes and data. I do have to-do and

shopping lists in my main files, so I guess I use them for a bit of task management too. Projects usually end up in folders since I have large magazine pages, quadrille graphs, and lists to juggle that won't fit in the size file I like. I would like to use a preprinted diary for recording information, but find all the formats too restrictive (some days you need to write a lot, some days almost nothing), so I usually just use notepaper for that or enter it into the computer.

kanalt (2010-10-01 16:04:28)

Quick question - does anybody know if there is an RSS feed for the Flickr discussion group? I looked for one but didn't see it. I have a feeling I'm missing a lot over there as I never remember to check it...

Steve (2010-10-01 16:11:15)

@kanalt Sadly not. Likewise I don't visit the group often enough. The odd thing is you can set up Flickr picture feeds to appear on your own site or on Protopage for instance. So I get to see the pictures!

Protopage is a great system for RSS feeds and website links and a whole host of other stuff. I use it all the time. <http://www.protopage.com/>

ArchiMark (2010-10-01 18:14:21)

In the spirit of Free For All Friday, I have a question/comment for this illustrious group please...

I ordered the Month index tabs with my A5 order. Was very surprised to realize in putting them in my A5 that the end of one month and the beginning of the next page are often printed on each side of one piece of paper.

The result is that if you try to insert the Month index tab just after the end of a month, you can't without having a few days of the previous month in the new month section. Hope this is clear enough...not the end of the world but seems very strange that Filofax hasn't got a solution to this (I called Filofax USA, guy said I was the first person to bring up this issue...).

FWIW, when I used Franklin Covey or Levenger pages, there start of the month pages have a tab on them already, thereby solving this issue...

Not a dealbreaker for me, but I find it odd to split months either side of a month tab...would have thought that Filofax would at least have some option for this...

Am I the only one that has noticed this?

Any other thoughts/suggestions?

Thanks.

apple (2010-10-01 22:44:34)

@ArchiMark

I use post it flags instead of tabs to separate my months in my diary section. It take up less room in my rings and the week view at the end/beginning of each month still gets perfectly unobstructed view!

ArchiMark (2010-10-01 22:57:00)

@apple

Thanks for the great, simple, lo-tech tip!

Laurie (2010-10-02 07:36:15)

apple, what a great idea!

ArchiMark, Yes many of us have complained to Filofax that we would like to have tabbed months with the monthly calendars not printed back to back. Similarly, we've requested they make weekly diary pages with tabbed monthly calendars embedded at the beginning of each month.

Some folks use FC pages in their personal size Filofax binder in order to get this type of monthly calendar.

I really like the tape flag solution!

ArchiMark (2010-10-02 17:58:21)

@Laurie

Thanks for your input...

Good to know that others feel the same way as I do about tabbing... however, doesn't sound so good in that given the input to Filofax there response is in effect no response, ie, they don't offer any solution as we're discussing...

As you suggest, I thought about using FC calendar pages for my A5, as when I compared the two sizes, they really aren't

that much different...just means a lot of pages to punch...
:)

Petra (2010-10-03 10:19:27)

If you ARE willing to hole punch, do check out DayTimer, since they do lots of tabbed monthly collections. I have used the Flavia two-page-per-month tabs interleaved with the Serenity Two-pages-per-week pages because I love color! I used it in the personal (their portable) size so didn't even have to hole punch. They are available at Staples and Office Depot in the states, don't know about elsewhere. Their Desk size is the same as FC Classic (very close to A5) and has the same ring arrangement (unfortunately, for filofaxers). The Daytimer 2ppw usually comes with month-on-one-page printed on the back of each tab, although the boxes are pretty small.

ArchiMark (2010-10-03 14:36:32)

@Petra

Thank you for your great suggestions...

Like 'DJ' I'm in 'sunny California' so, plenty of Office Depot's and Staples around here....

:)

Discount code for 20% off A5 Filofax-compatible 2011 Dodo Pad diary inserts (2010-10-01 09:12) - Laurie

From now until midnight October 10th, you can get 20 % off the [1]A5 Filofax-compatible Dodo Pad diary inserts! When you order from [2]www.dodopad.com enter code **10FC** in the box under your address details form on the online ordering page.

This discount can't be combined with other offers. The discount applies to the products only and does not include shipping charges. Hurry to order before the deadline so you don't miss out!

It's a great opportunity to get your refill at a fantastic price, or to try the product for the first time. If you've been looking for a diary refill that's different from the old standard, this is it!

1. http://www.dodopad.com/acatalog/Diaries_Calendars__.html#aDFXA11

2. <http://www.dodopad.com/>

'You might also like...' (2010-10-01 11:16) - Steve

I've just added this 'widget' to the site, it picks out three other articles that are loosely based on the one you are reading and offers them at the end of each post as 'you might also like...'

At the moment it appears a little stuck in what it is offering us.. but I think given time it will learn what we do like... I've seen it in use on another website and it seemed to work ok [1]there.

If after a couple of weeks it's still offering the post about a 'cowboy' who me?! then I will remove it from the site template and it will disappear.

Thanks for your patience....

Steve

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1. <http://www.messilyeverafter.blogspot.com/>

Steve (2010-10-02 05:59:45)

It seems to be working quite well, plenty of variation now.

I always have this period of doubt when I add something new to the site. The usual 'if it's not broke... don't fix it' thought!

On side effect I think will be that someone finding the site through a search engine will be tempted to read some of the older

articles as well, and they of course will also have other related articles.

Steve not Dave

Petra (2010-10-02 12:45:37)

I like it! The only disappointment I've had with it is that I saw two "you might also like" articles that I did think I'd like, and clicked on one thinking I could then go back and click on the other, but by that time it had cycled on to something new. So I never got to read about amateur radio and the filofax! (I'll go Google it now)

Steve (2010-10-02 12:49:38)

Hi Petra

Yes it changes all the time and will in time as we add new posts.

Also look at the labels cloud. You will find Amateur Radio listed in that as well.

Or the search further up the side bar.

As with all of these things there's several ways to find what you are looking for.

Regards

Steve

Steve (2010-10-06 13:26:41)

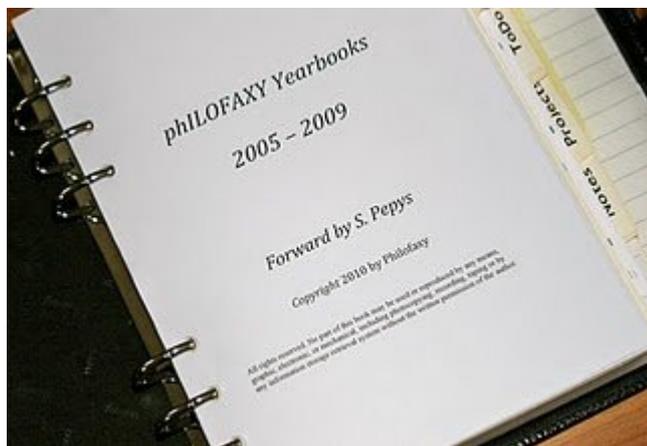
I've now set it to show 5 posts instead of 3, which with pictures neatly fits the column under the post.

I've also been looking at the site and the choice of posts improves as their server 'crawls' through the whole website which as you can guess might take some time give the number of posts we have.

It then selects posts on the basis of title, content and the tags. Of course it has to update the choice each time we post a new blog post. But after a few days it seems to be working well.

Steve

Philofaxy Yearbooks [Updated] (2010-10-01 13:00) - Steve



[1]

I remember as a child (a long time ago now!) getting annuals or [2]yearbooks at Christmas for different TV programmes I used to watch as a kid. It was all part of the fun of Christmas I suppose.

Well now you can relive those glorious moments with a [3]Philofaxy Yearbook... I've exported the blog by years in to different PDF files. which are available in our [4]Files section (scroll to the bottom of the page).

The maximum file size is 3 Mb so you could easily load the files on to your PC, Mac, iPod Touch, [5]Kindle (could this be the excuse you have been waiting for to buy a Kindle?) and carry around the whole of Philofaxy as a reference, or for late night reading... although we do not claim they will cure your insomnia (always read the label and consult your Doctor if the symptoms persist...)

The yearbooks include the comments and weblinks. They also contain a table of contents and they are also searchable too, including the comments, which is an improvement on the website even!

Should you want to, you can of course print out the files, may be in [6]A5 or [7]A4 and store them in a spare Filofax...

Yearbooks for Philofaxy

- [8]2005
- [9]2006
- [10]2007
- [11]2008
- [12]2009

A 2010 edition will be made available once we get to the end of the year.

If you find these files useful, you might consider making a [13]donation to the [14]BlogBooker site that helped me create the files.

I hope you find these of interest and I would appreciate any feedback you have either in the comments or as an email to philofaxy at gmail dot com

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1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TKXXzPeKVII/AAAAAAAAIT0/hVnSt0Jo-Ho/s1600/IMG_9542.JPG
2. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yearbook>
3. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/files.html>
4. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/files.html>
5. http://www.amazon.co.uk/gp/redirect.html?ie=UTF8&location=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.amazon.co.uk%2FKindle-Store%2Fb%3Fie%3DUTF8%26node%3D341677031%26ref_%3Dtopnav_storetab_kinh&tag=pemburyvillag-21&linkCode=ur2&camp=1634&creative=19450
6. <http://tidd.ly/f4a156f9>
7. <http://tidd.ly/7600c08b>
8. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/2005.pdf>
9. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/2006.pdf>
10. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/2007.pdf>
11. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/2008.pdf>
12. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/2009.pdf>
13. <http://www.blogbooker.com/donate.php>
14. <http://www.blogbooker.com/donate.php>

caribbean princess (2010-10-01 13:26:53)

Thanks Steve. I was wondering how I could go about saving my blog and you provided me with the answer. I plan to start going through all the old philofaxy posts from 2005 as well..... so exciting!

And best of all, this gives me another reason to get a new filo. Win win all around. Enjoy your weekend :-)

Eva (2010-10-01 13:37:03)

What a brilliant idea! Thank you so much for doing this!

Izzie (2010-10-01 13:39:24)

Thank you so much for this. It's a brilliant idea!

DJ (2010-10-01 13:49:41)

In California-speak, "way cool, dude!"

Yvotchka (2010-10-01 14:01:24)

WOW! Impressive! And a very neat idea. Thanks for putting this all together!

Laurie (2010-10-01 14:34:39)

This is awesome! Thanks Steve!!

It STILL won't convince me to buy a Kindle though. I remain stubbornly anti-tech. *Humph!*

kanalt (2010-10-01 16:11:35)

Wow! Thanks for putting this together. Very impressive. Question: is it just me, or are the comments listed backwards for each entry? That's how it looked to me, but I just had a quick glance. Will have to look into it further when I have a moment.

Steve (2010-10-01 16:17:00)

Yes they are Sue, but there's not a lot I can do to correct that. it's a quirk of the RSS/XML feed.

In some cases it doesn't matter they are just isolated comments, but yes it does make it harder to follow if there is a thread of discussion.

I will send the author of the site I used a feedback message to see if they can remedy that problem and also the other problem I had.

Regards

Steve

Oni (2010-10-01 17:30:42)

Thank you Steve!! I agree with the rest; it's a superb idea!

And I don't need an excuse for the Kindle.

I need money! :D

Jotje (2010-10-02 05:02:21)

Steve, thanks for giving us yet another reason to buy more Filofaxes. Obviously all those years won't fit into one Personal binder, so we'll have to get one for each year hehehe.

Are there instructions on how to print on personal size paper?

Steve (2010-10-02 15:01:20)

Right 2007 is now sorted... so it is like the other files in that it now has a Table of Contents and the file is complete.

The site author I used to create the files is looking in to the comments problem, so we might have that side of things sorted soon too.

If that happens, then I will republish the files. So watch this post for updates.

I'm about to update the post to take out the stuff about 2007 being different.

Thanks

Regards

Steve

Steve (2010-10-02 17:00:57)

Comments now fixed too. With big thanks to BlogBooker

David Popely (2010-10-03 07:46:15)

Thanks Steve - I shall very much appreciate trawling through these - possibly on the train to/from London on business trips.

I'm with Laurie though....I do not, neither will I ever, own a Kindle. So far as I'm concerned the only proper place for a book is on paper, between (preferably hard) covers, on my bookshelves at home!

Philofaxy - Visitor Statistics (2010-10-01 18:53) - Steve

This post was prompted by [1]Nickie's comment:

'The fact that it's [Philofaxy has] not been discovered by enough people (yet)!'

We use [2]Google Analytics to gather stats on visitors to the blog, we have been collecting stats since about August last year.

The key figures I have been looking at are the number of **New Visitors**, the number of **Returning Visitors** and the number of **Pageviews**. The stats also show us the most frequently visited pages and where people are coming from when they land on the site.

These terms are defined as follows:

New Visitor - Google Analytics records a visitor as 'new' when any page on your site has been accessed for the first time by a web browser. This is accomplished by setting a first-party cookie on that browser. Thus, new visitors are not identified by the personal information they provide on your site, but are rather uniquely identified by the web browser they used.

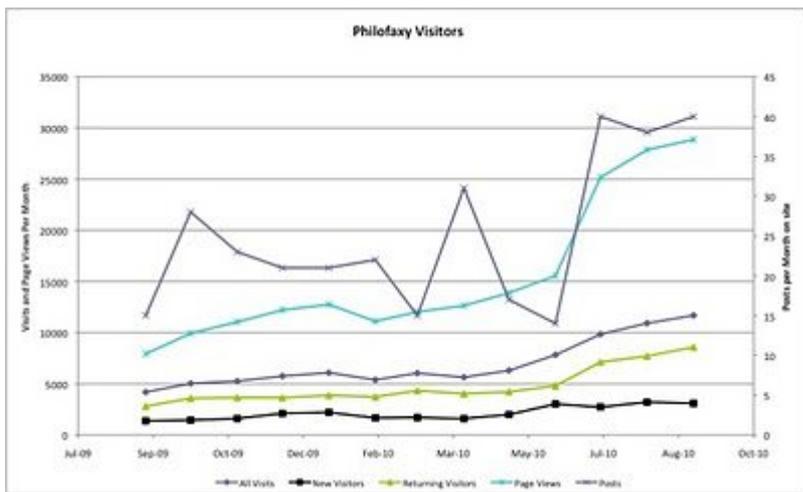
Returning Visitor - Google Analytics records a visitor as 'returning' when the _utma cookie for your domain exists on the browser accessing your site.

Visitor - A Visitor is a construct designed to come as close as possible to defining the number of actual, distinct people who visited a website. There is of course no way to know if two people are sharing a computer from the website's perspective, but a good visitor-tracking system can come close to the actual number. The most accurate visitor-tracking systems generally employ cookies to maintain tallies of distinct visitors.

All Visits is therefore the addition of **New Visitors** and **Returning Visitors**

Pageviews - A pageview is an instance of a page being loaded by a browser. Google Analytics logs a pageview each time the tracking code is executed. The tracking code is part of the Blogger website template structure.

Here is a chart of the figures for the last 12 months, click on the picture to see it full size.



[3]

As you can see the number of visitors has increased and there is also a step in the figures in June which I think I can explain.

On 21 June [4]Gala Darling did a blog post about her love of [5]Filofax and mentioned Philofaxy in her post as being 'hardcore'. Well that was the day our stats went crazy.

Starting on the 13th June to give you a typical picture:



[6]

Our new visitors out numbered returning visitors by 2:1, but things soon restored to normal after a couple of days. But all of a sudden Philofaxy had been discovered by a lot of new people and our pageviews took a sharp rise. This was during a month when the number of new posts on the site was fairly low (14 posts).

Since June our number of returning visitors has continued a small gradual increase each month and likewise the number of pageviews each month has slightly increased. But if you compare the last three months with 12 months ago our traffic levels show about a three times increase and it also looks as if it's a sustained increase.

So how does this compare to other sites. Well I only have access to data for other sites I run and to ones run by my son.

My other major site in terms of visitors is [7]Pembury.org that site is based on the village I used to live in back in UK, and I created the site over 10-11 years ago. The site traffic has remained the same for the last few years. It typically gets about 1000 visits per month.

My son's site is [8]Thunderbolt which is a games review site it has about 100,000 visits per month! He's been doing that for 10 years, starting at the tender age of 13, but he now has 30 people contributing reviews dotted around the world.

So Philofaxy is somewhere between the two.

I showed the stats on Google to my son the other day and he was quite impressed considering the niche product we are writing about and also the type of product ie it's not electronic at all. Nope it certainly isn't that.

I put some of our increased traffic down to our increased presence on the web through [9]Twitter, [10]Facebook, [11]Flickr. These are all things that will help people discover Philofaxy and encourage them to return when there are new things to read.

Having new things to read of course is essential for the life of any blog, so a big thank you to everyone who contributes with ideas, articles, comments, suggestions, photos, messages of support and thanks. You all play a part no matter how small in making Philofaxy as successful as it is today... so long may it continue.

OK enough on stats... back to proper Filofax posts again... thank you for your time on reading to the very end of this post.

Steve

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/08/reader-under-spot-light-nickie.html>

2. <http://www.google.com/analytics/>

3. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TKZYfxmtFyI/AAAAAAAAIT8/MyOVmeBbPrA/s1600/philofaxystat.jpg

4. <http://galadarling.com/>

5. <http://galadarling.com/article/a-filofax-love-affair>

6. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TKZcAjTLwCI/AAAAAAAAIUUA/OZSSiAFdNeg/s1600/gala.jpg

7. <http://www.pembury.org/>

8. <http://www.thunderboltgames.com/>

9. <http://twitter.com/%21/philofaxy/>

10. <http://www.facebook.com/%21/Philofaxy>

11. <http://www.flickr.com/groups/40748476@N00/>

caribbean princess (2010-10-02 02:51:48)

Steve, the recognition by philofaxy of my new blog had a huge impact on my page views! Thanks :-)) I reached my first 1000 on Thursday in less than 3 weeks and to celebrate there will be a free giveaway from Monday. Be sure to enter!

Philofaxy deserves an award for best blog ever!

Nellie (2010-10-02 11:45:14)

I am a new reader, just having discovered your site! I am happily reading my way through the back catalogue of posts.

I have had a classic personal filofax for several years, but have recently gone up a size to an A5 Finsbury to help me with my new job.

I am enjoying seeing how others use their filofaxes and getting some new ideas. I am a real book lover, and keep a log of what I read, and what I would like to read. I also blog about the books I read, so, inspired by this site I am going to use my personal filo to help me organise my reading and blogging.

I really do enjoy visiting this site! Keep up the great work!

Steve (2010-10-02 11:47:40)

Hi Nellie

Thanks for your comment...

You might find the Reading List in our Files area of interest then. Print them out and pop them in your Filofax

Steve

Nellie (2010-10-02 12:17:05)

Thanks! I took a look at the reading list, but the link doesn't appear to be working.

Steve (2010-10-02 12:27:50)

Hi Nellie

Try again I've fixed the link... you might need to refresh the page, but it should work now

Thanks

Regards

Steve

Nellie (2010-10-03 06:51:18)

Fantastic, thanks Steve, this is a useful insert, I shall print some out tomorrow and start filling it in!

Nickie @ Typecast (2010-10-05 09:39:32)

Interesting stuff. The social networking/engagement side of things will have had a definite impact, also the fact that Filofax IS making a massive return to fashion. It's also great that you are supported by the official Filofax brand too.

Excellent all round.

Rose Filofax (2010-10-02 00:01) - Steve

Filofax create organisers that sometimes never make it in to production. They often sell off these 'rare' low number issues and I've provided a link in a previous post, but for the life of me I can't find it as I type this! Nor is there anything on the Filofax UK site at the moment.

Anyway.... getting to the point of this post.... Filofax UK recently saw our 'Reader Under the Spotlight' series and sent one of our lucky readers a pre-production Rose Classic Filofax. A sample that due to the difficulties of producing it, it will not be going in to production. So this truly is a rare beast.... and here are the pictures.



[1]



[2]



[3]

And here is the lucky new owner.....



[4]

It's [5]Erin.... So Erin we want to know more about how you are going to use this new Filofax... and is this number 76 in the collection?

Thank you for sharing this with us Erin, as you can see there are occasional unexpected bonus's from contributing to Philofaxy. Knowing my luck I will get a box full of [6]Kiwi polish turn up in the post, after they featured in my recent [7]restoration post!!!!

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TKULzIz6J0I/AAAAAAAAITo/0Lq5gBKy2fY/s1600/photo2.jpg
2. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TKUL3TINvBI/AAAAAAAAITs/MHsvZEdJTWE/s1600/photo3.jpg
3. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TKUL6ndRdGI/AAAAAAAAITw/V9Rugk9eJ9A/s1600/photo4.jpg
4. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TKULv1Hta3I/AAAAAAAAITk/GVAIkg3dZnI/s1600/photo.jpg
5. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/08/reader-under-spot-light-erin.html>
6. <http://www.kiwicare.com/>
7. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/09/restoring-leather-filofax.html>

Erin (2010-10-02 01:46:43)

I do indeed feel very blessed and lucky to have this wonderful Filofax. For right now, I'm not going to use it at all!! I just like to gaze at it lovingly every day!

Janet (2010-10-02 02:36:22)

Congratulations Erin. You deserve it as recognition for your epic collection. Respect!
Its gorgeous!And so very special in all kinds of ways.

caribbean princess (2010-10-02 02:46:14)

Congratulations Erin! You deserve it for your wonderful collection and devotion to Filofax :-)

Dilaila (2010-10-02 07:00:35)

Wow. I'm envious. That's truly beautiful.

angela (2010-10-02 13:19:09)

Oh my, I would love love LOVE to have this filo!

Congrats Erin! :) Very jealous of you but can't say it wasn't deserved with it being your 76th filo!

FiloJr (2010-10-02 14:49:40)

Its actually Erin's 77th. A fine member of Philofaxy turned her on to the Swarvorski (sp) Crystal Filo a few weeks ago and she got one through a retailer in the UK online. That "was" her favorite until she saw this one upon arriving home from our trip to Alaska....

There was a reference to a link on rare Filofaxes in the original post? How do I find it? They make great gifts for my significant other - Erin :)

kanalt (2010-10-03 10:55:01)

Nice! Congratulations, Erin. What other goodies might Filofax be giving away? I know some other readers who could benefit. ;)

Steve (2010-10-03 11:06:54)

Please join the queue... in an orderly line please!

ChiefSmeg (2010-11-28 14:21:33)

I think these are fabulous; I bought one in the Summer but was unable to identify it until I found this article as I couldn't find it on any Filofax websites. I would like to sell it as my dream filofax is the deco one though it is expensive!

Steve (2010-12-21 14:42:26)

There is one of these for sale in our Readers Ads page click on the link at the top of the page

Weekend web finds.... (2010-10-02 05:55) - Steve

So here are a few I came across or have been kindly sent to me.

- [1]Discount on Feuer Wear - About to be discontinued... now only \$69
- [2]Pink Saturday - Kathleen Ellis
- [3]Personal Baroque? - Quite an understated organiser on the outside, but beautifully detailed on the inside.

Right on with the rest of the tasks for this weekend... enjoy

1. <http://www.feuerwear.com//accessories/perry-organizer/perry-organizer-1.html>
2. <http://kathleenellis.blogspot.com/2010/10/pink-saturdaysurrounding-beautyin-your.html>
3. <http://pfefferminz.blogspot.com/2010/08/20100815001jpg.html>

Slogan Competition... We have a winner (2010-10-02 17:00) - Steve

We set you a task of coming up for a new [1]Filofax slogan a few weeks ago. We had a lot of excellent suggestions, twenty six in total.

They were all excellent suggestions which of course made our job as judges quite difficult. But after burning the midnight oil for a couple of evenings, we decided on a winner....

And the winning entry is:

'FILOFAX your life... one page at a time'

The winner is Zairah who lives in Malaysia. Naturally Zairah was very pleased to be the winner especially as she there is only one supplier in Malaysia and their prices are very high.

So as promised I've ordered Zairah a diary refill of her choice and it will be on it's way to her this week hopefully. Zairah did log in to the Skype chat the other week and enjoyed listening in and putting voices to names.

Once again thank you to every one that took part, they were all excellent entries and the three of us enjoyed deciding on winning entry.

Thank you to everyone that has bought Filofax items via Philofaxy, each purchase no matter how small, helps support the site and also supports competitions like this one.

Here are the entries we received by the cut-off date:

1 Filofax for the love of paper. 2 Filofax: Organise your life to the max! ;o) 3 Filofax- touch it, feel it, love it. 4 Filofax....Organisation for the masses 5 Filofax.....The best way to organise 6 Filofax.....Stylishly Organise 7 Filofax: One is Never Enough! 8 Filofax - 'Contain the Chaos and Make it Portable' 9 Filofax.....my day, my way 10 Filofax Your life, your way, to go 11 Filofax Your life, your way 12 Filofax: Live Your Life To The Max! 13 Filofax - " The Luxury of Natural Planning.." 14 FILOFAX your life... one page at a time! 15 Have you FILOFAX today? 16 Fill In Lots Of Fun And Xtra in your life... one page at a time! 17 Filofax: Your life experiences. Your style. 18 Filofax-Filo ergo sum. 19 Filofax-Annoyingly organised. 20 Filofax-No Batteries Please, We're British 21 Filofax: Your life. Your style. 22 Filofax: Truly you. 23 Filofax makes your day. 24 Filofax - Simplify your Life! 25 Filofax - Why settle for less? 26 Filofax - Your life in your hands!



1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/09/competition-time.html>
2. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?s=213881&v=2457&q=108919&r=97790>

Zairah Marri (2010-10-03 02:53:15)

Thank you again Steve, as well as to the other judges Nan, Laurie, for picking my entry :)
So glad to have won, and my red A5 Finsbury is now eagerly awaiting the prize :p

Jotje (2010-10-03 03:36:43)

Congrats Zairah, I like your slogan!

Laurie (2010-10-03 06:10:45)

Congratulations Zairah!

It was really difficult to choose a winner, there were a lot of very clever entries! Many thanks to everyone who participated!

Nellie (2010-10-03 06:49:59)

Excellent slogan! Congratulations!

katka.m (2010-10-03 08:12:26)

hello...congrats Zairah....Steve, would be possible to post the other entries?

Steve (2010-10-03 08:14:09)

Yes it would, but I will remove the name of the contributor if that is ok? Save their blushes....

Yvotchka (2010-10-03 10:45:01)

GREAT slogan! Congrats Zairah! I love it! Is FF going to change to this slogan now?

Jotje (2010-10-03 14:22:51)

Who submitted 18 to 20? Love it, especially no. 20. Highly doubt though, that Filofax would use that one! LOL

Jotje (2010-10-03 14:23:06)

Who submitted 18 to 20? Love it, especially no. 20. Highly doubt though, that Filofax would use that one! LOL

DJ (2010-10-03 16:38:20)

Jotje:

Mea culpa.

Backstories:

#20 It helps if you've seen a certain play in London's West End.

#18 Reading WAY too much R ene Descartes lately.

#19 What can I say? The truth will set you free.

Riddle I heard once in Amsterdam:

Q. Who are the happiest people in Europe?

A. The Americans!

Groet van Californi .

Oni (2010-10-05 18:37:19)

congratulations Zairah!! It is a great slogan, and I think it deserved to be the winner. :D

Nan (2010-10-06 12:13:19)

Again, everyone did a great job on the entries. It was very hard voting!

Yearbooks... (2010-10-02 18:21) - Steve

In case you missed the update.

The [1]Yearbook files have been refreshed this evening, see the [2]original post for details.

The 2007 file is now sorted and is now the same as the others. Also the comments are now in the correct order.

So if you have downloaded copies, please download fresh copies to get the up to date files. You will find them linked to in the original article as well as in the [3]Files area

A big thank you to [4]BlogBooker for their quick and excellent response and support.

The files are also now available in epub format which works on Sony Readers and Nook and a number of other ereaders, thanks to 'Plaiditude' for supplying these files.

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/10/philofaxy-yearbooks.html>

2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/10/philofaxy-yearbooks.html>

3. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/files.html>

4. <http://www.blogbooker.com/donate.php>

Getting Organised... some people are naturals (2010-10-03 07:00) - Steve



[1]

Whilst I try this diary format and that to do list, I have to envy the way some people are just seem to be naturals at being organised.

Take a look at a [2]blog post by young working Mum Kerry, who manages to run her business and be a Mum to a 2 year old and blog and and... phew. I felt like a rest after reading about how she manages to juggle her busy life!! In the picture you can see her A5 FC binder (clue is the odd ring spacing and the 7th ring) but with a [3]Business Style A5 Filofax Page Per Day which as you can see she uses to great effect. This format is also available in [4]A4, it's a format I would love to try out in Personal size.

Also our old friend the [5]Dodo Pad calendar (Laurie can tell you all about those....) and a simple notebook for To-Do lists.

Kerry gives several tips on how she uses her planner and calendar to fit everything in to her busy working/home life. Those of you in similar situations might be able to pick up a few tips from this post.

I don't use colour coding in the way that Kerry does, do you?

You have to admit it looks like [6]Kerry has got it everything under control. This post was on [7]Emma's blog another busy mum.

I'm off in search of some coloured pens!

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/_ThvWNXprUmk/TKdbCjQpTYI/AAAAAAAAAC9M/N7L7O3vYI9Y/s320/avon+image.jpg
2. <http://emmacollinspr.blogspot.com/2010/10/juggling-work-and-being-mum.html>
3. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?awinmid=2457&awinaffid=97790&clickref=a5diarybusiness&p=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.filofax.co.uk%2Fstore%2Fdiaryrefillsdetails.asp%3FproductId%3D2402>
4. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?awinmid=2457&awinaffid=97790&clickref=BusinessDiaryA4&p=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.filofax.co.uk%2Fstore%2Fdiaryrefillsdetails.asp%3FproductId%3D2391>
5. http://www.amazon.co.uk/gp/redirect.html?ie=UTF8&location=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.amazon.co.uk%2Fs%3Fie%3DUTF8%26redirect%3Dtrue%26ref_%3Da9_sc_1%26keywords%3Ddodo%2520pad%26qid%3D1286100127%26rh%3Di%253Aaps%252Ck%253Adodo%2520pad&tag=pemburyvillag-21&linkCode=ur2&camp=1634&creative=19450
6. <http://andthenallithoughtaboutwasyou.wordpress.com/>
7. <http://emmacollinspr.blogspot.com/>

HP Fuchs (2010-10-04 01:47:06)

Coloured pen?

Try "Pilot Feed GP4 1.0"

<http://www.pilotpen.com.au/items.aspx?G=20139 &P=21423>

It has 4 colours, is durable and cheap.

Globetrotting Cacti (2010-10-04 06:26:40)

When I had my twins I thought the filofax system no longer worked for me (I had a pocket). The fact is the diary section was too small for my new life. I now have an A5 and colour code my diary (black pen for work, aqua for me, family etc) and yellow shaded pencil for PhD time). The new size filofax and colours really help me out. If it is not in my Filofax then it is not in my brain/on my horizon - it really is my life organiser.

Laurie (2010-10-04 08:16:31)

This is fantastic! I use colored pens to organize tasks, but I like her use of different colors of highlighters to make items stand out even more.

I may swoon! A photo that contains a Filofax, a Dodo Pad, and a notebook! Wheee!

Michele (2010-10-04 17:12:44)

Laurie, I'm right there with you!

I would use this photo as PC Wallpaper!!

Adam R (2010-10-09 12:22:52)

The Business style Time Management two pages per day is the best by far, lots of space to write all sorts of things. I use it myself and wouldn't go dare go back to the normal format

Personal size leather Filofax with notepad? (2010-10-05 04:51) - Laurie

Reader Ashley wrote to me with a very good question: she is looking for a **leather** personal size Filofax with a notepad inside the back cover. I know of several personal-size non-leather Filofax models that have a notepad, but couldn't think of any leather ones off the top of my head. The Filofax website shows the interiors of some of the binders, but not all.

Ashley lives in Canada. Does anyone know which leather personal size Filofax binders, if any, have a notepad inside the back cover?

Thanks everybody!

Jotje (2010-10-05 07:24:59)

The Malden has a notepad slot, but I don't know if it's actually supplied with one when you buy it. You could buy the notepads seperately of course.

I think it's the only Personal sized Filo with a notepad slot. More choice in the non-leather department (Songbird, Domino etc).

Steve (2010-10-05 07:56:31)

And... the Malden is now showing on the US site... what better excuse does anyone need to buy one!

Iris (2010-10-05 08:51:33)

I can confirm that the Malden (Personal) has a notepad slot (and a full-length pocket behind it) - here's a [1]picture of mine. Since I bought mine "empty" at the Filofax Centre, I'm not sure if the notepad is included, but as Jotje said, you can always buy them seperately.

1. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/48943937@N07/4833694477/>

Yvotchka (2010-10-05 09:21:35)

The Malden does NOT come with a notepad supplied, just the standard diary inserts.

maranlov (2010-10-05 09:33:32)

Guildford Zip and Cuban Zip both come with a slash pocket open at the top in the back cover. I have successfully used a similar slash pocket in an old Franklin Planner for a notepad. It's a little loose, but definitely workable.

kanalt (2010-10-05 09:37:11)

Steve - WHAT??!! I'm heading over there RIGHT now to spend my money. =>

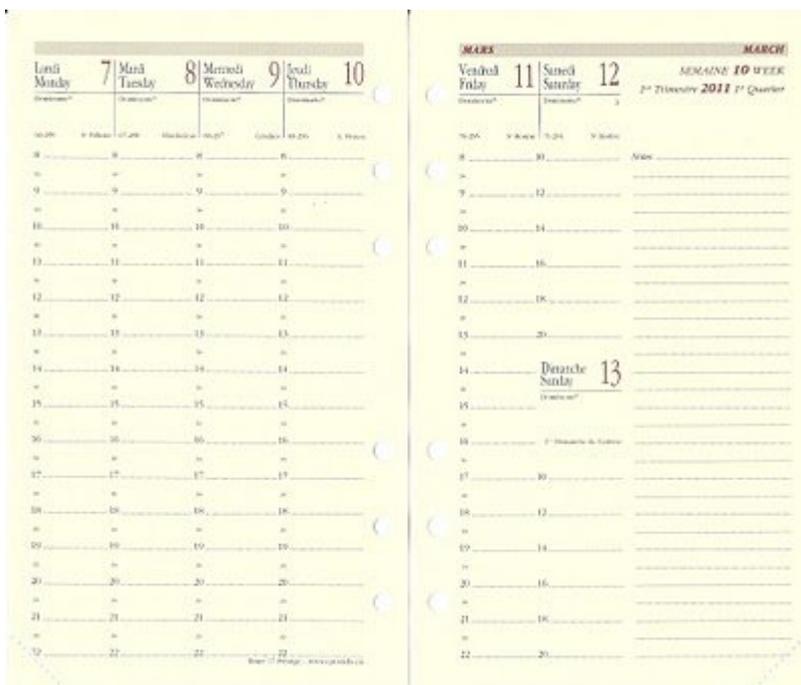
All change! (2010-10-06 00:05) - Steve

Those of you that have seen my (growing) collection of personal size organisers in photos on the blog and on Flickr. I'm starting to find a use for them.

I've recently started going to French conversation classes again here in France. The classes are good, only 9 people in the class including myself so we get lots of practice and it's very light hearted and a great way of learning. When I lived in UK, I attended evening classes and dedicated my old Winchester Filofax for my French learning notes. I also have a fairly new Finsbury that I bought on Ebay at a bargain price, but until now has remained unused, still in it's box. I am thinking of using this organiser as my journal next year, but it's also good for trying out different ideas as well.

Yesterday, I bought a Quo Vadis Timer 17 refill for the Finsbury. I quite like the format of these refills and they fit the Filofax organiser perfectly and of course I can buy them in my local newsagent here in France.

Here is a scan of the pages (click on the picture to see a full size version):



[1]

As you can see it's a week on two pages with a notes column on the right. They also do a slightly different format with boxes for phone calls to be made, things to do, emails to write etc, I have this format in my A5. But the notes format suits the personal size better I think.

I noticed another bonus with this particular QV Timer 17 refill, it's in French and English!....were as the Timer 14 (Pocket) size in only in French.

As the QV refill is a 16 month format, I've transferred the last four months of the Finsbury diary fill to my Winchester, so I have a calendar I can refer to in my French classes.... result.

The French QV refills are available on the [2]UK website which took a bit of digging to find as well as the [3]European website.

Just to recap on the sizing of the QV range.

- Timer 14 - fits Filofax Pocket size, hole spacing correct
- Timer 17 - fits Filofax Personal size, hole spacing correct
- Timer 21 - fits Filofax A5, but pages need to be re-punched to fit.

I did a post for Laurie on [4]Plannerisms about my previous QV purchases, which you might find of interest, it's similar to the post I did here on [5]Philofaxy

The main Quo Vadis line I think is in bound planners rather than loose leaf, this is born out by my local stockist devotes more shelf space to the their bound range and the loose leaf refills need to be searched for!

There are some real interesting finds if you look around the shelves. At this time of year it is all about new calendars for next year. Their range of other inserts covers address pages, notes pages, and quite a range of other indexes. The paper is excellent quality and it is lovely to write on with a fountain or gel pen, the paper is so smooth.

I have seen some pages in their bound planners and notebooks that I might turn in to Filofax suitable templates or my variation on them that is....

As you can see on their website the binders include leather and faux leather and plastic binders. The two shops I've visited in this area haven't had any of the leather binders in stock so I can't comment on their quality compared to Filofax, but I wasn't that impressed with the ones I saw in faux leather and cheap plastic.. which I suspect are aimed at school children and students.

1. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TKuClBGY1MI/AAAAAAAAIUU/D-yIRYpoerQ/s1600/timer17.jpg

2. http://www.quovadis-diaries.co.uk/acatalog/TIMER_17___French_.html
3. <http://quovadis.eu/site/page-collection/agendas/organiseurs/>
4. <http://www.plannerisms.com/2010/09/planners-without-frontiers-steve-morton.html>
5. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/09/alternative-refills-for-your-filofax.html>

angela (2010-10-06 10:04:59)

Oooh have to admit, I am now liking these inserts after an initial 'eurgh'! Although the columns are more narrow the standard rectangle used for Filofax inserts, the lines look quite wide spaced - ideal for my small handwriting :)
May have to purchase some of these myself!

baggirl (2010-10-06 17:45:06)

Ooooooh, I absolutely love the Quo Vadis diary inserts too. I cut down a Timer14 to fit in my mini filofax- it is a little wide, but works fine. (Before I found the Timer 14 pages I used to buy "Trip" and then "Randonee" diaries and cut them up and punch holes in them!)

Jotje (2010-10-07 20:29:37)

Steve, just out of curiosity: how are you using these inserts for your French classes? Seems to me you would have better use of a pile of notepaper, so why a diary?

Steve (2010-10-08 01:52:53)

Judith

The organiser I use for my French classes is my Winchester, it has just a basic Week on 2 page diary in it. It just has key dates and lesson times noted on it.

But the Winchester mainly contains notepaper and some French phrases inserts that I was given a few years ago. A map of France and my own region as well.

My new Finsbury now has the Timer 17 insert in it.

Since I wrote the article QV have redesigned their website and all the links in the articles on Philofaxy have been updated to match the new QV site.

Sorry for the confusion.

Filofax, and Separate Diary Book (2010-10-06 11:52) - Laurie

Today was Open House at the school, and while I was milling around in my child's classroom I noticed a personal size [1]Mode Filofax sitting on top of an academic-year weekly diary book (which I guessed because of 2010-2011 printed on the spine, and the thinness of the book indicated weekly not daily). Taking a break from discussing my child's academic achievements, I took the opportunity to chat up the teacher about her Filofax usage.

Turns out she is relatively new to the Filofax world, having recently received her Mode as a birthday gift. However she said already she doesn't know what she would do without her Filofax. She did say that the day spaces on the weekly diary pages are too small for her, so she keeps a separate diary book (the page size of her dairy book looked to be A5 or slightly larger) so she has enough room to write. Also, as a teacher she needs her diary to follow the academic year, so her diary book is the school year format.

This is the second person I've met in Scotland who keeps a Filofax for information and lists, but a separate diary book for the larger day spaces. (You can read about the [2]first such encounter here.) Is this a Scotland thing? I think I've met my Filofax kindred here, who love their Filofaxes but just need more space to write each day darnit. Of course I told her about Philofaxy, and she seemed somewhat intrigued that there could be an entire blog all about Filofaxes.

So, I'm glad to know I'm not the only one who likes my Filofaxes but has to use a different book for my diary to have larger day spaces. Does anyone else do this?

1. <http://www.filofax.co.uk/store/organiserdetails.asp?display=&sizeId=3&rangeId=132&dsizeId=3>
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2009/07/filo-adventures-in-scotland.html>

Sarah (2010-10-06 13:34:02)

No! I love using my filofax as a diary and for lists!

Mr Lonely (2010-10-06 14:23:43)

nice blog.. have a view of my blog when free.. <http://www.lonelyreload.blogspot.com> .. do leave me some comment / guide if can.. if interested can follow my blog...

Jotje (2010-10-06 14:46:57)

Laurie, I'm apparently somehow missing the point, but why not change the diary size/setup so that it suits your needs? A filofax can also hold an academic year diary. She could use 2 days per page, or even 1 page per day. The possibilities are endless. If she's already using the A5 size for her diary, she could even switch to the A5 Filofaxes. I mean, if she loves Filofax that much and isn't obliged to use that academic year diary, what's to stop you?

That said, I love that you chat people up about their Filofaxes. While I'm thrilled if I find anybody with a Filofax, I never dare to comment on it ...

caribbean princess (2010-10-06 15:21:15)

I haven't seen anyone use both, maybe a Scottish thing! Hehe, shows Laurie is a Scotswoman at heart! I always comment on people's filofaxes at work and it starts up nice conversations even with people I don't work with on a daily basis. There is a lot of Filofax love out there!,

Laurie (2010-10-06 16:37:59)

Jotje, I pointed out to her that Filofax diary inserts are available in the academic year format, which she was not aware of. Like I said, she is very new to the Filofax world, and received hers as a gift, so she may not be aware of all the possibilities. However, in my own experience and from talking to other people who feel the same way, an A5 Filofax binder is too big and bulky, so for some people (myself included) it's more convenient to use a smaller Filofax and a slimmer diary book with larger pages.

I usually find myself unable to hold my tongue in the presence of a Filofax! :)

Jotje (2010-10-07 16:14:46)

This problem could be solved by a Slimline A5! What the heck is Filofax waiting for? We've been begging for one for ages now!!!!

Laurie (2010-10-07 16:22:22)

YES. A slimline A5 would solve a lot of problems for a lot of people, myself included!!!

PLEASE Filofax! A real, actual slimline A5 please!!

Steve (2010-10-07 16:41:45)

I thought the A5 Adelphi was supposed to be the 'slimline' A5, it only has 20mm rings

<http://www.filofax.co.uk/store/organiserdetails.asp?display=&sizeId=5&rangeId=129&dsId=5>

HP Fuchs (2010-10-07 21:30:34)

"I usually find myself unable to hold my tongue in the presence of a Filofax! :)"

Probably those stories would make good blog posts.

Laurie (2010-10-08 03:33:08)

Steve the Adelphi is called the "slimline A5" due to the smaller ring size and no closure. But, inside the front cover there is a big gusseted full-length pocket that adds bulk, and inside the back cover is a notepad which also adds bulk. So the overall effect is not slimline.

A true A5 slimline binder, in my opinion, would be only just wide enough to cover the pages, and would have no notepad or extra pockets in the cover in order to make the binder as streamlined as possible.

Superpooky (2010-10-18 14:17:59)

Such an interesting post. I only have notes pages in my Filofax (it's a microfile actually). I have just never found a Filifax diary insert that suits my needs. I want appointment times but not horizontal set up. I'd like a week on one page. And a notes page opposite. I could diy it but that's awkward in a personal size.

Oh and I'm in Scotland....

Mid Week Web Finds (2010-10-06 17:38) - Steve



[1]

Quite a few turning up this week...

- [2]Filifax or Moleskine - Help Oni with her dilemma...
- [3]Swedish secrets - There's more to Sweden than just Ikea and Volvo or Saab cars... read the bit under Swedish Schedules. Do we have any Swedes regularly reading Philofaxy?
- [4]Like Mother Like Daughter - a slightly amusing post by Caroline

And in case you missed it, Filifax UK are offering free delivery on all [5]Personal size diary refills until the end of the week. Buy through our [6]Philofaxy links and you will be helping support the next Philofaxy competition. Use the code **DEL3** at the checkout.

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TKzsHEQpO9I/AAAAAAAAIUg/NxMKX0GJo4s/s1600/diary.jpg
2. <http://onigirisama.blogspot.com/2010/10/i-have-dilemma-i-bought-18-month.html>
3. <http://tungblog.atikomtrirat.com/2010/10/sweden-secret-files.html>
4. <http://www.scribblingmum.co.uk/blog/family/like-mother-like-daughter>
5. <http://www.filifax.co.uk/store/diaryrefills.asp?tn=1&control=processrequest&SizeId=3>
6. <http://www.filifax.co.uk/store/diaryrefills.asp?tn=1&control=processrequest&SizeId=3>

Jotje (2010-10-07 02:40:47)

That Swedish Secret thing is hilarious, really laughed my head off. Not just that part about the Filifax-usage, but the whole thing. Reminds me of another infamous book hier in Holland: "The Undutchables". Writing for foreigners who are forcibly or voluntarily living in Holland. A killer!

As for Caroline's blog: "one of sixteen people in the world who still uses a filofax ..."???? LOL She sure doesn't know about his site, does she? I'd say: add a few zero's to that number!!! LOL

Gareth Buxton (2010-10-08 19:33:30)

Hi. Enjoying reading Philofaxy since I found it. have just created my first template for my own paper refill. <http://inkytechnology.blogspot.com>

scribblingmum (2010-11-02 11:50:59)

Just spotted this! I had no idea, jeezo, my Mum is clearly way more cool that I gave her credit for.... my apologies if I offended!

Steve (2010-11-02 12:54:56)

No you didn't offend anyone... I guess you wondered where the visitors to your site were coming from!

Web Exclusive - Filofax Gourmet Gift Box Set (2010-10-07 00:46) - Steve

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&amp;amp;lt;iframe src="http://www.awin1.com/cshow.php?v=2457 &amp;amp;amp;s=228465  
&amp;amp;amp;r=97790 &amp;amp;amp;iframe=1" width=468 height=60 frameborder=0 border=0  
scrolling=no marginheight=0 marginwidth=0 &amp;amp;gt; &amp;amp;lt;/iframe &amp;amp;gt;
```



[1]

Following on from the Beauty Gift Box this time last year... yes a year ago! Filofax UK have just launched a new [2]gourmet gift box set that includes a years membership of the Gourmet Society. I'm sure this will be an even bigger hit than the Beauty Gift Box set, it could even appeal to the other 50 % of the population... blokes!

The box set comes with:

- Filofax personal organiser
- Lifestyle diary
- Mini organiser pen
- Gift Box
- Gourmet Society membership card valid for 12 months' savings on restaurant bills

The set is available in '[3]Grape' and '[4]Slate'
Filofax Organiser – date, dinner, done

- contemporary personal organiser with a smooth leather-look cover and cream suede-effect lining
- special 'lifestyle' diary and papers, everything you need to balance work and play including party and outfit planners, top takeaways, shopping lists and even a little black book to rate those dates

Mini Organiser Pen

- chrome and acrylic mini pen, designed to fit into your organiser

Gourmet Society Dining Card

- 12 months membership to the Gourmet Society (normally costs over £50), saving you £££s on restaurant bills
- fantastic discounts at over 3,500 leading restaurants across the country. Enjoy 2-for-1 meals, 50 % off food, or 25 % off food AND drink at a wide variety of participating establishments, from Michelin starred establishments to award-winning independents and famous names like Café Rouge, Loch Fyne, The Living Room and Prezzo
- restaurants from famous names like 'Marco' from Marco Pierre White, Gary Rhodes' 'W1 Brasserie' and Atul Kochhar's 'Benares'.
- see [5]www.gourmetsociety.co.uk for a full list of restaurants, offers and terms and conditions.

Diary Year

Supplied with a Jul 10 - Dec 11 diary.

Our very own Oni will be attending the Champagne launch event on 7th October and we look forward to hearing all about the new gift set as well as other Filofax news.

IFRAME: [6]http://www.awin1.com/cshow.php?v=2457 &s=228464 &r=97790 &iframe=1

1. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TKzOG7XSpHI/AAAAAAAAIUY/LATofilFbic/s1600/gourmet-slate.jpg
2. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?awinmid=2457&awinaffid=97790&clickref=Gourmet&p=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.filofax.co.uk%2Fstore%2Forganiserdetails.asp%3Fdisplay%3D%26sizeId%3D3%26rangeId%3D159%26dsId%3D3>
3. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?awinmid=2457&awinaffid=97790&clickref=Gourmet&p=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.filofax.co.uk%2Fstore%2Forganiserdetails.asp%3Fdisplay%3D%26sizeId%3D3%26rangeId%3D159%26dsId%3D3>
4. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?awinmid=2457&awinaffid=97790&clickref=Gourmet&p=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.filofax.co.uk%2Fstore%2Forganiserdetails.asp%3Fdisplay%3D%26sizeId%3D3%26rangeId%3D159%26dsId%3D3>
5. <http://www.gourmetsociety.co.uk/>
6. <http://www.awin1.com/cshow.php?v=2457&s=228464&r=97790&iframe=1>

Laurie (2010-10-07 06:57:54)

Congratulations Oni! Have fun at the event!!

I have won the chance to do a video review of the Gourmet Gift Box for Filofax UK! The product is on its way to me now. As you might imagine, I'm very excited to preview this product. I'll be sure to post a review of it here on Philofaxy and also on Plannerisms.

Jotje (2010-10-07 16:12:53)

Yay Oni, for being allowed to attend! And yay, Laurie, for doing a review. How exciting!!!

I'm not in the UK, so the gourmet vouchers have no value for me. However, this IS a Domino GRAPE we're talking about (not available on its own anymore) plus a pen.

Hmmmmm.

Laurie (2010-10-08 09:09:52)

It's here! I received my Gourmet Gift Box today. The Domino is in Grape, and comes loaded with a City Dweller Lifestyle pack which looks interesting. The pen included is GORGEOUS, I mean wow!

I will register my discount card and try it out at a couple of restaurants before I post my review.

This would be an excellent gift!

Jelly Boo Barbie (2010-10-08 16:48:09)

Laurie

I get to do the video review as well!!! :)

Its so pretty in Grape isnt it!!!

Good luck with your video :)

Laurie (2010-10-08 17:11:09)

Congratulations JBB! Yes I love that Grape color!

Free for All Friday No. 99 (2010-10-08 00:00) - Nan

Have you ever lost it? ...your Filofax, I mean.

Usually, losing a Filofax isn't as dramatic as [1]in the movies or as artistic as [2]this. Most of the time, once something's lost, it's just gone.

I've only lost a Filofax once...and it was promptly returned to me. Actually, it was a Personal-size red vinyl Day Runner. I carried it to a restaurant, where I was going to see my musician brother playing. The place was crowded, and the best place to rest it during the performance seemed to be beside my chair leg.

Of course, I got up and left it when I went home. Everything else I needed was in my jacket pockets, so I didn't notice it missing.

Someone in the cleanup crew found it, looked at the name inside it, and gave it to my brother as he was leaving. "I think this belongs to your sister."

By that time, I was asleep back at my apartment, which wasn't too far from the restaurant. My car window was open a crack, so rather than wake me up, my brother slipped the organizer into my car, where I found it on the driver's seat when I went to work the next morning. It took me a while to figure out how it got there.

I was lucky.

Have you ever lost your Filo...or been scared thinking you'd lost it?

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2007/01/filofax-movie.html>

2. http://www.davidshrigley.com/photo_htmpgs/lost_filofax.html

caribbean princess (2010-10-08 02:16:08)

I never lost any of mine! Just to say I have a free giveaway on my blog <http://caribbeanprincessmusings.blogspot.com/2010/10/royal-giveaway-with-csn-stores.html>

It would be great if a Philofaxy reader won it. TGIF

Laurie (2010-10-08 03:43:55)

Luckily no I've never lost mine, but I think I would absolutely lose my mind if I did. The combination of losing something at all, which I hate, having so much sentimental value attached to my Filofax, losing the information contained within, and wondering WHO has that information now would just about put me over the edge!!

Bobblesocks (2010-10-08 05:21:06)

I a recent convert to 'the way of the filofax'. (I got given my Eden personal as a gift a couple of christmases ago i think but never got into it). Now I am utterly obsessed with this wonderful ring bound beauty (my boyfriend is a little concerned at how much). I haven't lost it yet, but I do have the utterly irrational stomach dropping feeling that I have lost it when I open my bag and it's not there.

Love Philofaxy, thank you for making me feel a little less strange :)

Michele (2010-10-08 08:22:04)

Oh have I got a tale to tell you all! On my Summer 2009 trip to London I purchased 2010 at Harrads and accessories at the Filo shop in Convent Garden. I put all in my purse rather than in my Slimline. On the plane back to NY I took out my filo to work on my trip expenses (which calms me down during plane rides). I put the filo into the seat pocket of the airplane thinking I would return to working on it but the sleeping pill got to me first.... We landed at JFK and departed without filo. Total misery upon discovering loss. My boyfriend tackled opening a 15-year locked brief hidden in the basement to give me his 1980's Slimline Made In England Filo. We also went to the shop in town to negotiate for a 2009 Filo calendar! Two weeks later, ex-husband (whose first & last name are very similar to mine) calls "Do you have a filo? In the mail today there was a filo in a packaged addressed to Mr. & Mrs. C and I'm just about to throw it out if I didn't reach you!". I go over the speed limit to reach my beloved found filo. . Apparently it took a solo flight to Ohio from NY and was found by the people who supply the magazines on the plane. They then sent it back to baggage manager in NY who forwarded it to me! The note enclosed said PLEASE let me know if this reaches you... I sent him back a nice crisp \$20 bill to go enjoy a bottle of wine! As far as the original Made In England Filo it sits empty on the shelf in my boyfriend's house, and I go and pay homage to it every now and then trying to figure out how to use it! Now how's that for a story of a lost filo? All that shopping in London and I go and lose my filo!

Steve (2010-10-08 08:26:21)

Great account Michele. Glad you were reunited.

To make sure none of mine went missing during the house move I packed the unused ones in a box marked FILOFAX in big red letters and it travelled in the car with us along with my big iMac.... I wasn't letting that out of my sight either!

Steve

Yvotchka (2010-10-08 09:03:19)

Wow, Michele...that's a heck of a story!!

I've never lost my primary Filo (knocking on wood as I type) but I did lose a pocket Guildford that I use for travel stuff once. I had accidentally left it in my BF's car the previous weekend when we went away, and when he returned it to me I was busy doing something with the dog so when he said, "Here's your planner" and set it on the hood of my car I just said, "Uh-huh thanks" and promptly forgot it was there.

When it came time to leave, I apparently didn't notice it on my hood and drove off.

The following Monday, I received a call from a nice man who said he found my Filo in the middle of the road in the town we had been visiting, thought it "looked like something important", ran into traffic to grab it, saw my contact info in it and called me.

WOW.

He offered to send it back to me...provided there was a cash reward (which I would have happily given him anyway but thought it was a bit tacky to request).

By the end of the week my Guildford & I were reunited and now I am ever more super obsessively careful about knowing the whereabouts of any Filo I'm carrying at all times.

Maybe the guys with the wallets on chains had it right the whole time?!

Laurie (2010-10-08 09:07:26)

That was pretty tacky of him to hold your Filo for ransom until you forked over the cash. But, he did run into traffic to get it...

Jess (2010-10-08 13:13:12)

I'm not really someone who loses things so luckily I've never had a problem. I'm one of those obsessive people who has to have every credit card in its particular slot, my clothes in a certain order in the wardrobe... so if something is awry I notice

immediately.

I have an unrelated Filo question. I popped into a Ryman's store (a UK stationery chain) and they had a surprisingly good selection of binders including one or two I hadn't heard of before. I can't remember any names besides one called Rio. I just looked at Steve's table with all the model names and materials, etc, and can't spot it. It was definitely a Filofax, in a box. Anyone heard of these?

Also, my pocket Rose Classic that I won on the Filofax Facebook group arrived today - it is a thing of beauty!

Jess (2010-10-08 13:27:33)

Oh and one more thing - I edit a section of the newspaper at my university, and had to choose four deputies to share workload and so on. Met up with them today and two of them have Filofaxes, both pink Pocket Finsburys!

ArchiMark (2010-10-08 14:22:01)

Only had my A5 Cuban for about a week..so, haven't lost it yet (knock on wood...)....nor any other planner used in the past.... I did lose a very expensive fountain pen about 2 months ago, think it fell out of my briefcase bag on a train....still kick myself for that....

Meanwhile, I have a planner question please, since it's FFAF No.98....

Discovered online, the Time/System planner pages. They look good from what I can tell online.

Anyone here ever seen or used them?

If so, how would you compare them to FF or FC or other pages?

Thanks!

Ally (2010-10-08 18:19:10)

I lost my personal Eton. At first, I thought I had just misplaced it. I looked in purses, totebags, backpacks, etc. Then I wondered if someone had stolen it. I had visions of a thief sneaking into my office and making off with my FF. I simply could not remember where I had used it last. I bought another personal FF, albeit cheaper than the Eton. Yesterday (7 months after I lost the Eton), I bought a new car, I was cleaning out my old car, when stuffed under the seat was the Eton!! Hooray!!

JJ (2010-10-08 22:30:49)

I've never lost a Filo or other paper planner, but I did lose a Palm organizer with TONS of personal data on it and I am also a victim of identity theft (not related to the loss of the Palm).

I want to have all my information with me.

I also know it's completely unwise to have highly sensitive information (like retirement account passwords) in something that can be lost or stolen.

So where is the balance point? I've been looking for an easy to commit to set of rules that will help me decide what information is safe to carry and what needs to be secured somehow (keep at home, or on a password protected USB drive or SD card).

I've been looking, but haven't found anything I like.

For me to follow any discipline consistently, it has to be as easy to remember as a nursery rhyme.

kanalt (2010-10-10 09:58:57)

I have never lost my planner, thankfully. I'm very meticulous about where I put things - always in the same place so as not to waste time searching for it when I need it. Of all the things that could go missing, I'd lose my mind if I lost the Filo.

Filofax Champagne Launch Event - 7th October (2010-10-08 18:51) - Steve



[1]

Last night saw the official launch of the new [2]Filofax Gourmet Giftbox set which I posted [3]information about yesterday morning. Sadly I wasn't able to attend myself and I even got another invite specifically requesting that 'Philofaxy' was in attendance!

So rather than let the chance to have some champagne, food and a goodie bag which would include a 'leather Filofax of your choice' go to waste. I asked the event organisers if I could send someone else along in my place. Filofax UK said yes, so I asked our own Oni who was over the moon at being asked (understatement!) and importantly Oni was free on that date....

So armed with her Filofax for note taking she headed off for Conduit Street in the heart of London to attend this special event.

Jess Stephens (Filofax Group eMarketing Manager) introduced the new box set. Her presentation will be on YouTube at some point (we will post a link when it appears). Jess did indicate that there are some new designs and colours coming in the New Year, but no amount of persuasion would prise the details from her.... so Filofax fans will just have to be patient and wait until all is revealed in the New Year.

About 25 people were in the store for the launch and Oni did a great job of working the crowd and circulating and getting to talk to as many people as possible and spreading the word about Philofaxy. Who we were and what we write about without making it sound too geekie. There was a lot of interest in Philofaxy from the other companies and organisations there. So we might get some more enquiries in the next few weeks.

Here are some pictures from the event.

[Oniwithgiftbox.JPG]

Onigiri poses with the new gift box set!

[4]

[withAleasha.JPG]

Aleasha (Affiliate Window) and Oni with their organiser free gifts

[5]

[withVictoria.JPG]

Oni and Victoria (buy.at) showing off their Scanda organisers

[6]

But the best bit of the evening was meeting the Filofax team, they had travelled up from their office in Burgess Hill in Sussex. Oni got to talk to them for quite a while and found out what organisers they themselves use and got them to agree to pose for the 'team' photo below.

[team.JPG]

L to R Jon Morse (Mr FF Facebook!), Dee Yau (FF Store Supervisor),
Oni,
Matt Watson (FF Marketing), Jessica Stephens (FF)

[7]

And for those of you who are keen 'Filofax spotters' Jon uses a Cuban A5 in saddle brown, Dee uses a Personal Amazona in Red, Matt: Personal Scanda in Brown, Jess: Mini Amazona in Almond

After such a great event I've already told Jess that I'm keeping my calendar free for all of October 2011 and may be Oni might like to accompany me next time.

Thank you Oni for covering the event for us and we look forward to seeing more pictures of your new Filofax soon. There was also another report on the evening [8]here.

IFRAME: [9][http://www.awin1.com/cshow.php?v=2457 &s=228465 &r=97790 &iframe=1](http://www.awin1.com/cshow.php?v=2457&s=228465&r=97790&iframe=1)

1. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TK9pd4OWotI/AAAAAAAAIUo/V3awXIY_YEY/s1600/Filofax+Gourmet+Giftbox+%28group%29.jpg
2. <http://tidd.ly/3715faeb>
3. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/10/web-exclusive-filofax-gourmet-gift-box.html>
4. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TK9u58C2lRI/AAAAAAAAIUs/WrJeK-gfhL8/s1600/Oniwithgiftbox.JPG
5. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TK9vXtNTEMI/AAAAAAAAIUw/K46271VQOQc/s1600/withAleasha.JPG
6. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TK9xfigHSXI/AAAAAAAAIU4/EjvWNBdKmWI/s1600/withVictoria.JPG
7. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TK9wB-_XJWI/AAAAAAAAIU0/19qCQkU01ok/s1600/team.JPG
8. <http://blog.affiliatewindow.com/?p=2054>
9. <http://www.awin1.com/cshow.php?v=2457&s=228465&r=97790&iframe=1>

Michele (2010-10-08 19:17:14)

Oni, you are such a lucky lucky woman!!! Your new filo is gorgeous! Enjoy!

Adam R (2010-10-08 20:53:26)

Such a fantastic post Steve! looks like it was an amazing event! and Oni you are very lucky indeed!

The Conduit store is absolutely amazing, must schedule another visit next week in my filofax!

Adam

Jotje (2010-10-09 06:02:53)

Sounds like a great night. How generous of Filofax to let the guest pick a free gift of their choice. I would have imagined they's just give everybody the gourmet gift set (btw that slate coloured Domino looks very neat!). And how surprising that a FF woman carries a Mini!!!!

Nice to put a face to the names. Oni you're beautiful! And how cute is Jon??? (this is not going to be published, is it? LOL)

Laurie (2010-10-10 03:05:17)

Oni glad you got to go to the event, it looks like it was lots of fun!!

And congratulations on your beautiful new Scanda! :)

kanalt (2010-10-10 21:56:36)

Oni - I'm so jealous. => Hope you had a terrific time. The Scandia, is that the personal size???

Oni (2010-10-11 09:58:45)

Thank you all!! It was great to go in representation of ALL OF US FILOMANIACS out there!!

Adam: are you by any chance in the UK?? may I ask where?

Laurie, kanalt: The Scanda is only available in the personal size, but I've loved it ever since it came out, and this was the perfect chance to get it for free, as it is quite expensive :S

I promise I will use it for work!!

Jotje: it was really unbelievable we got to choose the FF of choice!! Oh, and I've posted another picture of Jon in my blog (just for you!!)He is not only cute, but also very nice!!

Oh, and thank you for the compliment!! *blushes*!!!

Filofax Mini? (2010-10-09 06:01) - Steve



[1]

Is the Mini too small? Opps sorry wrong sort of Mini... but I'm sure some of you like Mini Coopers as much as I do.....

Anyway serious question... is the [2]Filofax Mini too small for everyday use? Who buys them? Have you got one? How do you find it?

I've always thought that they were too small.... that was until I read a [3]blog post that Judith sent me a link to.

Whilst Fi the author is just telling the reader about her Filofax Mini, what it does show is how you might be able to use the smallest of Filofax Organisers in your everyday life.

One thing I spotted in the post is that Filofax Pocket pages fit... but a little bit of folding is required to make them fit, but the hole spacing is correct.

I'm prepared to reconsider my opinion on this tiny Filofax, they start at quite low prices too.

Will I go from [4]Pocket to Mini for my wallet? Well if I do, you will be the first to hear about it.....

Let the discussion about Filofax Mini's start here.....

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TKzQ_7-JDjI/AAAAAAAAIUc/7470sRb2tbI/s1600/Mini+008_1.jpg

2. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?awinmid=2457&awinaffid=97790&clickref=Mini&p=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.filofax.co.uk%2Fstore%2Fpersonalorganisers.asp%3Fcontrol%3Dprocessrequest%26orSizeId%3D1>

3. <http://fiology.com/2010/08/08/we-made-love-on-the-living-room-floor-to-the-noise-in-the-background-of-a-televised-war/>

4. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/08/slimline-to-pocket-conversion.html>

Michele (2010-10-09 07:13:23)

So adorable! (it's a mini.. I can say "adorable"!)... I really love how you can almost build a personality for your filofax with the use of colors, stickers, etc.. I definitely think the mini would be a great substitute for the pocket with its portability.. To me, a mini filo is a cross between the slimline personal and a pocket... You get the full filo (pocket) without the bulk of the size (slimline)... Hmm... maybe we should start an experiment and have a few of us go out on a trial run?

Yvotchka (2010-10-09 08:37:06)

Evil! Suggesting another experiment is simply evil ;)

I am still recovering from the Pocket experiment...

Seriously though, I use a Mini for a glove box notebook in my car to track mileage and maintenance. I can't use it as a planner - my handwriting is too big & loopy - it comes in very handy.

I only have one...can you believe that?!

JJ (2010-10-09 08:52:53)

I've two. A red zip-up Finsbury that is just way too girly for me to use and a black Chino that is all set up for use, but that I never really warmed up to.

Oddly enough, both are bulkier than than my pocket Hamilton that is my small binder of choice.

(Masculinity Saving Note: all my red binders were bought on Ebay at the minimum bid for the purpose of getting the filler and accessories they came with. I will not be caught dead with any red leather accessory.)

Steve (2010-10-09 09:31:45)

@Yvotchka... me evil... well may be in the way a Bond enemy is evil...!!!

@JJ why do you consider red leather only for the ladies? I think back to a lot of classic cars MG's particularly and they had red leather seats.....

But you will be pleased... possibly... that after the Mini I think we will have exhausted our possibilities of what size works best.

Like all of these things if they sell a particular size.... then I think it's right that we examine it and see if there are any advantages to using it.

Steve

Karen (2010-10-09 10:14:16)

I use a mini raspberry Finsbury as my everyday purse.

At the front I have added a few (hacked) plastic wallets for cards, the wallet pocket at the back is perfect for cash & cheques and I can usually fit all my change in the zippy pocket.

I've taken out the A-Z dividers as they were just being bent up by the pencil in the penloop.

After the plastic card wallets I have some lined paper for notes on the go, shopping lists etc and then a month on two pages diary which just shows times of anything I have planned. More just a free / busy indicator incase I need to make plans and (heaven forbid) don't have my personal (Finsbury in Raspberry also) Filo on me.

Finally there is a plastic card wallet that holds photos of those near and dear to me. I see these everytime I need to get at coinage and it also protects the back pages from the zip.

You can see some photos in my Flickr here http://www.flickr.com/photos/enola_sneezes/5027382640/

crofter (2010-10-09 10:33:14)

It is just to small for me. I have a couple of Pocket models, and they are very borderline. I use the personal size daily and seems no matter how bad I want the pocket size to work, it just doesn't.

Jotje (2010-10-09 10:33:44)

Another Finsbury Raspberry Mini user - and even in the exact same setup as Karens! (minus the photos, which I keep on my phone)

I also have the lilac classic mini, which is now holding my future pages.

I'm waiting for the production of a mini Malden, maybe they'd even make them in new colours? How cool would that be?

But I won't hold my breath on that one ...

Laurie (2010-10-09 12:49:30)

I don't use a Mini but I have seen one in action as a wallet. The user kept her bills in the full-length pocket and her contacts/addresses on pages on the rings. I can see the appeal of using a Mini as an all-in-one.

baggirl (2010-10-09 16:00:29)

I use a mini as my full-life organiser... but I do have small writing. I used a pocket for about 10 years and then decided to see if I could squish into a mini. I managed because I use cut-down pocket pages as a diary (trim the bottoms off, but keep them a little wide) - and everything else fits fine. I print filled in address pages off on the computer (with a small font) and file anything gone by away. It works! My only problem is the lack of choice - I'd love a mini Malden or Sienna.. but i could never go back to a pocket now- they seem huge. I love red leather minis best- currently using a finchley.

Zairah (2010-10-10 07:29:32)

Wow, finally a post about the Mini! I was about to write in and ask for opinions about the mini as I am currently tempted to get a red mini Finsbury to match my A5 and to use as my wallet as well. :)

I'm currently torn though between the zipped and the non-zipped version. I believe the zipped version doesn't have a full length pocket (which can be used to hold bills), but the zip would be handy to hold my iPhone (can anyone confirm this?). The non-zipped mini's full length pocket and zipped pocket would be great to hold my bills and coins respectively, but I can't store my iPhone in it.

Choices, choices :)

fiology.com (2010-10-10 10:08:30)

Yay, thank you for the linkage :)

The mini was really good as a personal diary - I actually bought a personal urban two days ago though because I need bigger for uni + work, but its great if you just need to write a couple of things each day.

The only problem with using a mini as a wallet (at least, with the mini piazza) is that the coin pockets can be a little small. Not useful for those who carry a lot of coins (but perfect for those who carry only plastic).

Also to be noted:

no other brand's inserts fit into this.

Less of a range of inserts

Not good if you prefer day-a-page (unless you don't want to put anything else in it)

But: makes a great notebook! And really good small diary!

Steve (2010-10-10 11:26:15)

Hi Fi

Sorry I should have warned you that your post was going to be featured...

Thank you for your additional comments very valuable.

Regards

Steve

HP Fuchs (2010-10-10 12:20:00)

For 1.5 years I had to travel a lot by train for a company I worked for. In my backpack I was carrying a laptop computer, spare battery, charger, food/water, personal size Filofax, a book or two, etc. I had to find a way to make my backpack lighter. Soon I downgraded to a mini size Filofax. A black Finsbury mini. I used it for appointments, tasks, lists, notes and phone numbers. I found out that if I wrote smaller (with a pencil 2H) I was able to put almost as much info into the mini as into my former personal size Filofax.

As soon as I changed to a company where I don't need to travel, I switched back to a personal size Filofax (Black Personal Savannah at the moment).

Now I'm using the Finsbury mini as a wallet for quite some time. I didn't use a wallet before that. Just kept the money in my trouser pocket...

Conclusion: Filofax Mini format is suitable as an organiser. i recomend it to people who travel a lot and have a small hand-writing.

Xenontac (2010-10-10 12:46:46)

I started with a personal size for work purposes, then i realised i had to leave it behind sometimes when i go to the movies or leisure activities when it became inconvenient to bring it around, i changed to pocket size, and again i can't have it with me all the while. Now with my mini, i have it with me 24/7 and it slips right into my pocket and sleep with me on my bed. I use the mini as a wallet, a notebook, a to-do list, my addresses book, first-aid info, with enough room for my family photos in it. I also squeeze in a mini sized moleskine notebook for my daily journal! Now i can have best of both worlds, a filofax mini and a moleskine together with me at all times.

Janet (2010-10-10 13:03:44)

I have a teal baroque mini that I use when travelling. It is too small for everyday use but when I am on holiday and only have a few appointments I use it as it is tiny. My life is really A5 sized so all my efforts to downsize end in Epic Planner Failure.

Jotje (2010-10-10 14:00:57)

@Zairah, the zipped mini Finsbury has the disadvantage of having to open the zip each time you have to pay (provided you plan to use it as a wallet). Are you really sure that the iphone would fit?

Fi is right about the coin zip pocket, but it also depends on the model you plan to use. The Finsbury is just fine, even if you have many coins. The leather is very bendable, I assume the Chameleon will be even better. The best was the Kensington (discontinued, but still available on Ebay), as it had a pull-out zipped pocket. If only FF would make those again! The classic and piazza mini are of sturdy leather and therefore the coin pocket feels rather cramped...

Zairah (2010-10-10 19:14:58)

@Jotje, I only based it on the dimensions of the iPhone and the dimensions of the mini zipped Finsbury stated on the website, but I haven't actually tried to fit one in :) Has anyone here tried so?

If the iPhone won't fit though, then I guess I really should go for the non-zipped version :)

Filofax as a Notebook. (2010-10-10 02:10) - Steve



[1]

If you don't have a diary refill in your Filofax, does it cease to be an 'organiser'? Could it become a very versatile notebook?

How did I arrive at this idea or notion? Well looking at the Filofax I recently [2]refurbished, I started to think about what I could use it for? Then I thought... notebook... put in some lined paper, some plain paper and bingo it would work I'm sure.

So then I started to refine the idea about how you could make it better than a 'bound' notebook. In a previous life as a project manager I was forced in to using bound notebooks with numbered pages.

They work ok if you can dedicate a notebook for each project you are controlling. But it becomes a headache at meetings when you turn up with five or six A4 notebooks and you have to go ferreting through them looking for the answer to a question or for some information.

So a Filofax 'Notebook' has the advantage of being loose leafed, so if you are doing more than one project you can use section dividers to separate out the different projects, and move pages in to their respective sections.

One technique I used when we moved house was to use different coloured pages for different topics, it reduces the number of section dividers you need and you can quickly get to the relevant section if you know the colour code you have used.

So if you have a spare organiser it wouldn't cost a lot to turn it in to a Filofax notebook. Just buy some more

[3]pages, some of which you might already have. The other great thing is you can transfer notes in to your main Filofax organiser very easily too.

If it doesn't work out for you, you can of course use the pages in your main organiser so nothing will go to waste. I think this represents quite good value for money, minimum initial outlay, if it works for you great, if not just use the pages in your other organiser... result!

I'm going to try this out with a Personal size organiser, but I think it would work with most of the popular sizes. Would this work for you? Do you have any thoughts on how to improve on this idea? Lets hear your thoughts in the comments.

1. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TK5WxGz_9UI/AAAAAAAAIUK/FkuJ7-KBC9Y/s1600/paper1.jpg
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/09/restoring-leather-filofax.html>
3. <http://tidd.ly/f9773692>

Sarah (2010-10-10 04:21:16)

What a great idea! I want to do this except I don't have a spare filofax lying around!

Jotje (2010-10-10 05:07:55)

@Sarah: all the more reason to get another one, hehe

Steve, my "school record book" (A5 Domino) for my kids is actually sort-of a notebook. I have a tab for each kid, and all the notes go in of meetings (with teachers), and I add a note if they do or achieve something extraordinary. Like my 9 year old who stepped up for herself in front of a teacher that she finds rather intimidating. Rather a milestone for her! The advantage of a filofax binder over a tabbed notebook is the flexibility. It will never get "full", you can add pages endlessly (the worst that could happen is that you might have to dedicate one binder to each kid, but we're nowhere near that point yet ...;-)).

gdigesu (2010-10-10 07:37:13)

That's how I use mine.

One in GTD style. You know - next actions, waiting for, calls, someday/maybe, projects, reading list, etc.

The other one like a notebook, with templates printed with my company's logo and tag line.

caribbean princess (2010-10-10 07:45:26)

Yes the filofax as a notebook is a great idea and one that I have used in 2 ways. First I gave a reject A5 Hampstead to my husband who uses it as a notebook for his diploma course in higher education. Second, I have personalised an A5 Domino for use as my scrapbooking planner/Craft-o-fax. I dont use flickr so if you want to see pictures and more details of how this was done go to

<http://caribbeanprincessmusings.blogspot.com/2010/10/dhs-a5-hampstead-filofax.html> and

<http://caribbeanprincessmusings.blogspot.com/2010/10/my-scrapbooking-planner-craft-o-fax.html>

Based on the above I think the A5 size is more conducive for a notebook especially if you have large handwriting. However I am thinking of using a Personal finsbury as a travel journal to record all my adventures but I havent started this project as yet. I look forward to seeing if you find the personal works ok as a notebook and any helpful tips from Philofaxy.

That's why I am hooked on filofaxes. They are so wonderfully customisable!

Petra (2010-10-10 11:53:42)

I use all my filofaxes as notebooks, but to me they ARE organizers – they organize information far better than a notebook could. I use subject tabs and top tabs to organize main categories, and the address tabs to alphabetically file lesser categories. A notebook always frustrated me because notes on similar topics would be spread on random pages, not together. And if you try to put them together, you have to guess how many pages that topic will take and invariably end up with too few. With the filofax, you just add a few more pages! And if a section grows too voluminous, just move it to its own filofax :-)

Karen (2010-10-10 16:02:49)

I've just set up a personal Domino as a journal / notebook for my Day Zero list. It contains nothing but lined paper and subject dividers at the moment.

Blog post here <http://enolassneezes.blogspot.com/2010/10/day-zero.html>

Paul (2010-10-11 11:07:50)

I've just started using a slimline (a good deal on ebay...) for taking notes at conferences - it just contains note paper, card holders, and post-it notes.

Perfect - particularly since I can transfer all my travel itinerary notes from my normal use FF easily without having to copy them across.

Skype Roundtable - Proposal for a regular date. (2010-10-10 10:00) - Steve



[1]

Given the continued success of our Skype Conference Round-table events, I would like to propose that we make them a once a month regular event.

It would mean that if you missed one, you wouldn't have quite as long to wait for the next one. Therefore, I would like to suggest that we hold them on say the first Sunday of every month.

If we find that that is too often we could change it to say every other month. The only other obstacles that I can see upsetting the schedule would be things like holidays (New Year, clocks changing, Easter etc).

Although, it would be great to have our own Philofaxy New Years 'On-line' Party! Also I might not be able to make every single monthly event, although I'm sure I can give someone else the details about hosting the conference call, it is not too difficult.

Unless anyone has any alternative proposals, the next event would be held on Sunday 7th November, I will put out a detailed announcement towards the end of the preceding months so even new 'Philofaxers' will not miss out.

1. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/SnDQTdIc31I/AAAAAAAAADxc/CIGEnugrj5g/s1600/Going_Retro_I_by_Pemburyuk.jpg

Laurie (2010-10-10 10:14:26)

Sounds great! I had so much fun talking to everybody at the last one. :)

gdigesu (2010-10-10 11:18:13)

Steve - this is a very good idea. Let's do it.

caribbean princess (2010-10-10 11:47:34)

Oh I need to get skype!! Annoyingly my laptop (which was provided by work) does not have a sound card (so probably wont be able to use it) but maybe DH will let me use his Mac.....

Good idea :-)

kanalt (2010-10-10 22:05:29)

I agree - a very good idea. It's always good to have something Filo-related to look forward to.

Yvotchka (2010-10-11 11:18:02)

Great idea! Count me in :)

Michele (2010-10-11 19:34:29)

I can join this time as it finally falls during my "mom" weekend! Cannot wait! Count me in!

Web finds for the start of the week. (2010-10-12 06:20) - Steve



[1]

Sorry some of these are from the last couple of days, I was too shattered to sit down last night and put them all together after an early morning and then five hours of driving!

So you get a treat today with some great finds, so make it a large coffee when you sit down to take a look at these wonderful posts.

- [2]The Malden Arrives - At long last the Malden is now available in US - [3]Life Well Planned;
- [4]Onigiri's Night Out - [5]Oni's own account and some more pictures of the Filofax event;
- [6]Learning to Plan - A great post on planning your life - [7]Luinae;
- [8]J'adore Filofax - An earlier post from Luinae, worth a revisit;
- [9]Material Girl - A hand made goat skin A5 organiser made by [10]Diary Shop;
- [11]Going backwards to plan ahead - another returnee having tried various gadgets...haven't we all been there! - [12]Sheona;
- [13]Day Zero - Karen describes her 101 goals in 1000 days, track her progress on [14]Enola's Sneezes
- [15]An Effort to be Organised and Inspire - It's pink and awesome... it certainly is! - [16]Cate

Enjoy all of them and take a moment to look at some of their other posts, I'm sure they will appreciate your visit and leave them a comment too.

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TK9u58C2lRI/AAAAAAAAIUUs/WrJeK-gfhL8/s1600/Oniwithgiftbox.JPG
2. <http://lifewellplanned.blogspot.com/2010/10/ behold-malden-arrives.html>
3. <http://lifewellplanned.blogspot.com/>
4. <http://onigirisama.blogspot.com/2010/10/onigiris-night-out.html>
5. <http://onigirisama.blogspot.com/>
6. <http://moremagicalways.blogspot.com/2010/10/learning-to-plan.html>
7. <http://moremagicalways.blogspot.com/>
8. <http://moremagicalways.blogspot.com/2010/09/jadore-filofax.html>
9. <http://jollyalong.wordpress.com/2010/10/11/material-girl/>
10. <http://diaryshoponline.com/>
11. <http://sheonas.blogspot.com/2009/02/going-backwards-to-plan-ahead.html>
12. <http://sheonas.blogspot.com/>
13. <http://enolassneezes.blogspot.com/2010/10/day-zero.html>
14. <http://enolassneezes.blogspot.com/>

15. <http://cateaclysmic.blogspot.com/2010/10/filofax-effort-to-be-organised-and.html>

16. <http://cateaclysmic.blogspot.com/>

kanalt (2010-10-12 08:45:49)

Thanks for the link. I love these web finds.

Petra (2010-10-12 12:55:00)

Here's one to add, though it's not about Filofax, but it is about pen and paper and organizing writing (though I would have used grid paper):

<http://unclutterer.com/2010/10/12/organize-your-writing-j-k-rowling-style/>

pilgrim (2010-10-12 14:28:13)

Hi All,

I take it everyone's aware that Smith's have a Filo sale on at the moment <http://www.whsmith.co.uk/>

Some annoying out of stocks, but some goodies too-enjoy

Philofaxy London Meet - 20 November 2010 (2010-10-12 11:30) - Steve



[1]

Philofaxy have been given access to the Neal Street shop by Filofax for an invitation only event on 20 November between 4 pm and 6pm to explore and see the full range of Filofax products.

There will also be an opportunity to meet and chat with Steve and Laurie from Philofaxy, as well as other Philofaxy readers.

We are also considering an early evening drink/meal after the shop visit to continue our discussions.

In order to not miss out on this opportunity, please apply for one of the limited number of invites to: Philofaxy at gmail dot com

Looking forward to seeing you on the 20th hopefully.

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/S8tvcSIhcPI/AAAAAAAAIAs/uIENuFcaOiw/s1600/IMG_8891_2.JPG

caribbean princess (2010-10-12 12:16:13)

OMG I am soooooo excited that I have emailed already!! What a fantastic opportunity.

Oni (2010-10-12 12:45:14)

caribbean princess: So happy you'll be able to make it!!!

Laurie (2010-10-12 13:09:13)

Yay CB!!! Looking forward to seeing you there! :)

Oni I can't wait to finally meet you in person!! And Steve it will be great to see you again!

This is going to be SO much fun!!!

Steve, we might have to make this an annual or maybe twice per year thing!

Oni (2010-10-12 13:35:16)

Steve, Laurie, CB:

Yes!!! Let's make it a twice a year thing!!!It's not even the middle of October and I'm already psyched to meet you guys!! I must say though, that when speaking, my English isn't as great as when I write... I noticed it the other night :S Oh, Laurie: Do bring your TextAgenda with you, I'd love to see it!!

Laurie (2010-10-12 13:59:46)

LOL! I'll definitely bring my Textagenda, although I may have to show it to you at dinner after the Filofax event. Seems blasphemous to show you another diary brand in the Filofax shop!

Steve (2010-10-12 14:02:01)

And I will have to discretely pass Oni her QV Timer 14 refill... and keep my Filos firmly closed!!!

Jess (2010-10-12 14:55:39)

soooo sad i cant make this. its the one weekend i'm up north! i'm sure you'll all have a wonderful time xxx

Laurie (2010-10-12 17:14:44)

Aw Jess, that's too bad you can't be there!! Would have been so fun to meet you. Next time! ;D

Adam R (2010-10-12 17:35:58)

ahh this sounds amazing! I have already emailed! would be lovely to meet everyone! definitely the highlight of my year to look forward to!
Adam

DJ (2010-10-13 00:37:31)

A used Sandhurst Slimline sold today on fleaBay for \$177.50 with 25 bids. That 112 GBP, 127 Euros. Gorgeous tan color and the seller included a Filofax calculator, London map and Tube map. Calf leather, made in Italy. *Reeks* of class. :)
They don't make 'em like this anymore, but if they did, indubitably there would be a market for them, as evidenced by the spirited bidding.
Your move, Filofax.

caribbean princess (2010-10-13 03:24:58)

Laurie I would love to see the Textagenda too. Oni I am sure we will understand you just fine! I am so excited I couldn't stop talking about it which really amused DH. Twice a year or at least annual would be great.

Sharon (2010-10-13 03:43:57)

This is such a great idea, I told Hubby last night I was attending, going to be so lovely to meet you all face to face!

David Popely (2010-10-13 03:47:20)

Sadly I'm not going to be able to make it.....but how about trying to duplicate something like this in the West Country? I'm in Somerset, and work already brings me to London twice monthly (on weekdays)and I just can't fit in another 350-mile round trip (apologies to anyone in the US, for whom 350-miles represents a trip to the corner store).

Karen (2010-10-13 08:41:53)

I get to play too :-D

Not only that, I get to buy Tube maps for my filo too

Steve (2010-10-13 15:07:03)

Right a quick up date:

Confirmed attendee's are as follows:

Steve;

Alison (as in the hand of Philofaxy!) or Mrs M;

Laurie;

Oni;

Kayla;

Sharon;

Karen;

Adam;

That is eight in total... still a couple of places available.

Laurie (2010-10-14 05:48:10)

I AM SO EXCITED!!!

So far I am bringing my Textagenda and my Filofax Deco. Any other requests for other planners or notebooks you'd like me to bring so you can check them out?

Steve (2010-11-01 17:00:18)

The Tri-note of course Laurie... I will be bringing a bag full too!

A5 with QV Timer 21

Personal with QV Timer 17

Pocket with QV Timer 14

Hide the contents from Dee!!!

And my own version of the Trinote for A5

Steve

Steve (2010-11-01 17:01:51)

Also add Agnieszka to the list of attendee's

Steve



[1]

We received this question from Izzie today:

I want to use one of my personal size Filofax as a cookbook/collection of recipes. But now there is the dilemma concerning the tabs. I don't know how to organize the recipes. Should I take the A-Z Tabs? Or better six blank or numbered tabs? I am really not sure which works best. Maybe there is somebody out there who also uses a Filofax as a cookbook and can give me some advice?

Thanks, Izzie

I think another of our readers (possibly Sharon) was also looking in to using a Filofax as a recipe book?

I think it's a great idea, and a suitable organiser I guess would be one you can wipe clean.... flour and leather... hmm I'm not sure what they do to each other!

So if you can help with some suggestions, please add a comment.

Thank you...

1. <http://school.discoveryeducation.com/clipart/images/cookbook-color.gif>

Silver_Elixir (2010-10-14 08:12:25)

I am thinking of making a Filo Recipe Book as well. I just need to sort through the millions of recipes I have! I am thinking of using an A5 size as I can type up and laminate the pages and fit more info on them as opposed to the personal size. As for the tabs I guess it would depend on how many recipes you are planning to keep in the Filo. You could even do two - one for savoury foods (entrees, soups, mains, pasta, salads etc) and one for sweet (baking, desserts, smoothies, slices, etc). Doing this would give you 12 tabs or 26. Each tab format has different possibilities - for the A-Z I imagine things would be filed by name L for lasagne and lamingtons, as opposed to Mains or Baking if you were to use the six tab option. I guess it depends on if you want your recipes 'mixed' or in like-minded categories. I like the two Filo idea but I imagine this will be a dilemma I will face when I come to putting my Recipe Filo together. Good Luck! Please let us know what you decide to do.

PS - One idea you could use is to put a title page of your recipes either on or behind each tab, or create an index at the back as to where they are located.

Sharon (2010-10-14 09:05:50)

I am currently working on converting my Personal Domino into a Recipe-o-Fax. I have used blank tabs and labelled each with beef, lamb, pork, cakes, etc etc and the A-Z I was planning on using like a index! I was also going to put a weekly menu plan section in there somewhere!

I will eventually post pictures when it is done!

I chose Personal as the punch I have works great on Personal and not A5 and don't want to mess around to much with punching!

Jotje (2010-10-15 04:01:51)

I have an A5 Filofax for Recipes. Most recipes are printed from an online (Dutch) database, others I have typed and printed. I'm very pleased with my punch, because it's doing a perfect job here.

I am not using tabs, but might add that some time in the future. Right now I have all recipes in no particular order in the front of the Filofax, HOWEVER I numbered all pages! In the address tabs, I've listed the recipes by name and main ingredients. That way, when I'm stuck with a surplus of e.g. cauliflower, aubergines or pork meat, I can look under C or A or M, which recipes apply. Each recipe in the address section has the page number stated, so I have no problem at all finding the recipe in a blink of an eye.

The A5 format also allows for extra notes (like: which kid liked or didn't like it; extra ingredients, or different amounts than stated). If no-one liked the recipe (I keep trying out new ones at least twice a week), the page gets ripped out ;-)

I use an A5 Domino, because I find it sturdy and kitchen-friendly, but most of all: it stays flat wherever I open it!

Web finds for Thursday (2010-10-14 08:18) - Steve



[1]

Thursday mornings is my French class, where I attempt to be able to speak the local language better... I have enough difficulty with English! But I look forward to getting home so I can see what Google has uncovered in the last day or so.

So enjoy these selection of posts:

- [2]Why choose a Filofax instead of an iPod - 'I love pens' explores several good reasons why a Filofax wins over an iPod;
- [3]Society-Watch: Papier schlägt Elektronik - Bernhard looks at how organisers have changed since the 1980s;
- [4]Filofax Cameo on Gossip Girl - [5]Paper r u s h blog - Another film were a Filofax plays a starring role;
- [6]Think Pink - [7]Caribbean Princess raises our awareness to Breast Cancer Month;
- [8]The Evolution of a To-Do List - Confessions of a Worry Wort!.

Enjoy.

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TFW11nG5VDI/AAAAAAAAIGQ/DKthppxq9xk/s1600/IMG_9237.jpg
2. <http://ilovepens.wordpress.com/2010/07/22/why-choose-a-filofax-instead-of-an-ipod/>
3. <http://schoon.cc/?p=507>
4. <http://paper-rush.blogspot.com/2010/10/filofax-cameo-on-gossip-girl.html>
5. <http://paper-rush.blogspot.com/>
6. <http://caribbeanprincessmusings.blogspot.com/2010/10/think-pink-breast-cancer-awareness.html>
7. <http://caribbeanprincessmusings.blogspot.com/>
8. <http://confessionsofaworrywart.com/2010/10/14/evolution-of-a-to-do-list/>

ilovepens (2010-10-16 06:38:07)

Thanks for choosing my article from I Love Pens, I think that Filofax is a classic & so convenient product, and can't be beaten by iPod or other gadgets

Poll - Which diary format do you use in your main Filofax? (2010-10-14 16:33) - Steve

Following an informal poll on Twitter we thought it best to be a little more scientific or democratic if you like. There's no prizes or catches, just a simple anonymous poll. We will of course publish the results of the poll once it closes.

Thanks for taking part.

Adam R (2010-10-14 17:29:25)

I have been using the Time Management / Professional Diary system for 6 years now and its amazing :)

baggirl (2010-10-14 17:31:58)

I use pages from Quo Vadis Timer 14 system to organise my life (it's a vertical diary, one week on 2 pages).

caribbean princess (2010-10-14 18:00:40)

Week on 2 pages in my personal Adelphi (2010/11 calendar). From 2012 may try day timer inserts as more choice and I can get something prettier!

ArchiMark (2010-10-14 19:17:27)

Great idea to have the poll...

but some choices missing such as the combo one that I use:

Month on 2 Pages + Week on 2 Pages

btw, both are FC products....

but are used in my A5 Cuban.... ;)

@ Adam R

I just discovered the product I think you're referring to. It's the Time/System one, correct?

If so, would love to hear more about it and why you like it so much. Unfortunately, they don't sell it at retail stores here in US, so, have to mail order it....

Thanks,

Mark

kanalt (2010-10-14 21:30:18)

Yes, how does this work if we use more than one format? Can we vote twice or three times? ;)

Anna (2010-10-14 21:31:03)

In my Filo I primarily use week on two pages but I also bought month on two pages because I like having a bigger picture

of the month if i need one, just so I can visualize how quickly certain events are approaching.

Erin (2010-10-14 21:52:29)

I use month on two pages as well as week on two pages. However, for 2011, I am trying a hybrid approach,,,Filofax week on two pages and FC month on two pages because of the tabs. LOVE the tabs!

stirwise (2010-10-14 22:06:14)

I use personal size page-per-day made by a Japanese brand called DaVinci. I also use the Filofax month-on-two-pages with tabs to get a good planning picture of the month. It's harder to plan ahead on PPD sheets because you can't see as much at a glance. I used to use WO2P w/notes but kept running out of room!

crofter (2010-10-14 22:10:21)

I too, use different formats. Week on two pages in personal, and week per page with notes in pocket. I am switching for 2011, Day-Timer day on two pages in personal, and week on two pages for the pocket.

I don't really think your poll is going to be to accurate, and that is a good thing. It just accentuates the versatility of the Filofax.

David Popely (2010-10-15 00:52:06)

Currently in transition. I've used WOTP with appts for the past 5 years or so, and have already bought next year's. However, if I move to cotton cream throughout I might move to the French WOTP with appts ('upright' format, as FF GB don't do them.

If I was committed to using the A5 as my primary Filo I might be tempted to use the DPP professional system, as it fits with my general 'underlying' system of time management, which is based on David Allen's system with some modifications, but as I don't want to lug the A5 around with me at weekends that's not likely to happen really.

BobinJapan (2010-10-15 01:46:25)

Hi from Japan. This is my first post, although I've been following Philofaxy for a while now. I use the Filofax cotton cream week on two pages that came with my Personal Eton when I bought it last year. I like the look of the brownish ink and the cream pages with the black leather of the Eton, but I wanted something lined for next year. I couldn't find a lined refill on cream paper in English. However, while on vacation in Holland this past summer, I found the exact thing I was looking for: lined week on two pages on cream paper. The layout is exactly the same as the English edition (including the "this week" box in the upper left hand corner) except that everything is in Dutch ("deze week"). I have only studied a little Dutch but it is easy enough to follow the days of the week. And now I know the birthdays of the entire Dutch royal family.

Simon (2010-10-15 03:16:08)

Week On One Page With Notes is my chosen format but missing from the list. Rather than the filofax version which has an awful lot of other languages in the diary part, I buy a Week On One Page diary & a pack of notes and interweave the two.

Simon

Steve (2010-10-15 03:58:07)

The poll isn't perfect I realise. Hence the wording 'in your main Filofax' If you use more than one format in your main Filofax, then please vote for the format you write mostly in.

Even then I'm sure that a small percentage of people will still fall between two formats, unfortunately I can't alter the set up of the poll now that people have started voting to allow more than one vote.

This isn't intended to be a seriously accurate poll, just an indication.

I hope that all of you that have indicated their format in the comments have also voted.

Many thanks

Regards

Steve

Michele (2010-10-15 05:32:21)

Week on two pages ;-)

bernhardS (2010-10-15 06:07:13)

I missed the choice that I prefer in my Winchester Personal: WOTP horizontal.

best,

Bernhard

BabyD @ Polish and Powder (2010-10-15 06:41:39)

I use the cotton cream week to 2 pages..... I also made a templete to fit the spaces and run it through my printer to add some faint lines to it as I hate the plain format. Once I line it it is perfect for me :) I use that along with the year planner vertical

Iris (2010-10-15 07:08:29)

I'm using the W2P diary (German, with lines) in my "main" Filo and the DpP at home - I love to have lots of notes & quotes, stickers and other stuff, like tickets, in my diary - as you can see [1]here.

1. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/48943937@N07/4485931493/in/set-72157625168172606/>

lavalotti (2010-10-15 15:12:52)

Week on two pages.

shepcraig (2010-10-15 16:29:14)

I use the Day Per Page business diary for A5 organiser, Love it

Hamish MacBear (2010-10-15 18:19:04)

I use the A5 Time Management (2 pages to a day), which is my favourite. Lots of space to write and plan.

Izzie (2010-10-15 18:33:58)

I use the Week on two Pages in Cotton Cream and in German. I love that each day hase the same space and that there is also a part with the title "this week". There I note to dos which have no specific date but a specific week. I love it!

Izzie (2010-10-16 06:14:35)

has not hase :D

And I wanted to add that this format has lines to write on. I need those :D

plaiditude (2010-10-16 09:32:17)

BabyD @ Polish and Powder: would you be willing to share that template? I've been thinking of trying to do something like that.

I keep trying to use the cotton cream week on two pages, but end up trying other formats because I want lines. But the cotton cream paper is the best so I keep trying again.

Free For All Friday No. 100 (2010-10-15 00:40) - Laurie



[1]

Do you decorate your Filofax, inside or out?

I am not at all creative, so I don't decorate my Filofax. I don't even put in pictures. Pretty lame.

But I admire those creative people who decorate their Filofaxes!

Here are some Filofaxes I find particularly inspiring:

[2]Gala Darling's Metropol

[3]Cateaclysmic's Metropol

[4]The Glamorous Grad Student's Domino

Do you decorate your Filofax?

And as always on Fridays, the floor is yours for anything Filofax related!

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TMGieM-3H2I/AAAAAAAAIVY/0CfVQvZ8WJo/s1600/100.gif
2. <http://galadarling.com/article/a-filofax-love-affair>
3. <http://cateaclysmic.blogspot.com/2010/10/filofax-effort-to-be-organised-and.html>
4. <http://theglamorousgradstudent.blogspot.com/2010/09/glamourizing-filofax.html>

David Popely (2010-10-15 01:18:58)

I'm not at all creative either, so no I don't. However, this raises an interesting question regarding whether there are more left- or right-brained FF users!

Eva (2010-10-15 02:00:22)

I had already seen that post from the Glamorous Grad Student and I just love what she did with the dividers. I also found them a bit boring and I managed to find some nice pictures to print on them. This is also what's good about Filofaxes: the ability to decorate them in many ways. I'd be really interested in seeing more blogs showing decorating tips for Filofaxes!

Jotje (2010-10-15 03:39:35)

While I consider myself very creative, I've so far not ever touched my filofax. I guess my Filofaxes are more about functionality and less about being pretty ;-) I do love nice diary layouts, but I won't do anything about it, if they happen to be "not nice enough".

Michele (2010-10-15 05:47:11)

Whereas I don't decorate my filo, I do like to use coordinating accessories. My A5 Mustard Finchley is used with a deep green pen and has neon (yellow, orange) post it strips in the pocket that I use to tab pages and sections.... For Christmas this year, I'm expecting an Eton Pocket that I will use my Mont Blanc black with platinum trim - very posh! (As a long time fan of "Upstairs Downstairs" the name Eton just reminds me of the fancy Bellamy family home in Eton Square!!).

Iris (2010-10-15 07:00:21)

As you can see on [1]Flickr, I made covers for my Filos and some tabs for my "Travel Filo" - and I love to decorate my DpP diary with stickers and memorabilia like tickets and other stuff.

1. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/48943937@N07/4716264813/in/set-72157623641315485/>

Arnold (2010-10-15 08:13:22)

Leave mine all business. Only 'pictures' are mindmaps of items being worked on. These can be found on blank/grid paper within tabs.

crofter (2010-10-15 10:54:04)

I don't put anything in my Filo as far as pictures, etc.. On the wk/2 pgs. there just isn't room. Any thing else is usually punched and inserted that way.

My journal which is bound is different. I use the Pogo printer from Polaroid, they are 2x3 prints with self adhesive backing so you don't have to glue them in. I also put in a lot of things in my travel journal that were interesting aspects of trips.

A question; how do you A5 users archive your Filos? I really dislike the post binders that Filofax sells, if you want to copy something you have to tear the whole thing apart to get what you want, and it takes long to put it back together than it does to take it apart. What do you use?

For personal size I have found Rite in the Rain binders work really well. It is their model 210, it has 1" rings and not expensive. For those interested the best place to buy them is:

www.trailexplorersoutpost.com

The only thing I don't like about them is they are bright yellow, but as the old saying goes, "beggars can't be choosers".

caribbean princess (2010-10-15 12:51:54)

Iris I really enjoyed looking at your pics. The photo where you said metropol was eyeing your new mode suspiciously was hilarious. Love the personal covers you made using the Filofax images as they look quite chic.

I haven't prettied up my filofax really except for sticky labels and the Filofax stickers but I do write my appointments in different coloured pens to make it look nicer!

Nellie (2010-10-15 14:02:56)

I use photo corners to mount postcards on the dividers. Then when I get bored I just change the postcard.

ScrapgalGR (2010-10-15 15:05:54)

I just finished mine and posted about it in my blog, <http://scrapgalgr.blogspot.com/2010/10/project-crafted-filofax.html>
I liked very much my filofax without the decorations but now I love it!

lavalotti (2010-10-15 15:08:51)

First of all, just wanted to say how great Philofaxy is looking; I'm back after a few months of not checking in and I love the new features you have introduced—thanks!

I don't do any extensive customising with my A5 but I do have a photo of me and my husband in there along with the occasional humorous or aesthetically pleasing postcard just so I see something nice when I open it up. I have thought about jazzing up the dividers but so far haven't.

Laurie (2010-10-15 15:14:44)

ScrapGal, I love your divider pictures! Very pretty and inspiring. And I LOVE the gorgeous red covered notebook you made for the back pocket! I wish I were creative like that!!

shepcraig (2010-10-15 16:35:15)

Sorry to change the subject but I just wanted to remind everyone that it is Breast Cancer Awareness month, and filofax do several products that if purchased, they will donate money to the charity. 2 organisers, a pen and a series of accessories are available too. Its a charity that needs donations and the stuff makes great presents.

caribbean princess (2010-10-15 16:46:29)

Thanks for the reminder Shepcraig. I posted about this yesterday and philofaxy very kindly highlighted it in their Thursday finds :-)

It is an excellent charity so one of their filofax would definitely be a gift with meaning.

Scrapgal I really love how you decorated your Filo and it is great to see another Adelphi featured. The red is amazing. I posted a comment on your blog too and so excited to have found your blog via philofaxy. Looking forward to browsing your scrapbooking layouts.

Laurie (2010-10-15 17:51:50)

Yes shepcraig thank you VERY much for reminding us of the excellent Filofax products that benefit the Breast Cancer Campaign! They are beautiful products for a very important cause.

Leslie (2010-10-15 18:46:52)

I might have some "creative" things to post at some point since I just made a bunch of my own dividers and pages out of old legal pads and cardboard. I blow through pages so fast, I would spend a fortune on to do lists if I kept buying the official ones. :(So far my only decorations are a birthday card and a wedding announcement that I punched and put in the rings in the week they happened.

Nellie (2010-10-16 01:41:02)

I'm intrigued to know where people find post cards etc which seem to be exactly the right size for their Filo. eg. I was looking at Scrapgal's site and the lovely inserts she put it seem to fit exactly. How did you do it?!

Thanks!

ScrapgalGR (2010-10-16 09:02:58)

First of all thank you so much for your kind comments! Nellie, to answer your question, I used Photoshop elements where I scaled the image so as to fit inside a 171mm x 95mm blank template, added the phrases and the borders and printed it. You could also use your printer's software to scale and print an image but you'll probably have some cropping to do as well in

I've just tried this out around the house... two people, three PC's on different Skype accounts and it worked... I will let you visualise me dashing around between two different machines in different rooms trying this out!!!

I'm not sure what will happen once my 28 day trial is finished, I suspect they might want some money for me to be able to continue to use that facility, but what ever. I did the trial on my own account not the Philofaxy one, so I guess I can delay starting the 28 day trial on that account until we need to... cunning me or what!!!

Anyway, if we want to try this out on our next round-table you will need to do the following:

1. Update your Windows version of Skype to the latest version. Sadly they haven't updated the Mac version yet.

2. You will obviously need a webcam if you don't have one built in to your PC or Netbook.

If you don't have a camera we will still get your audio, but you will still see everyone else.

I'm sure 'seeing' each other will help in terms of the conversation, and not having to remember the sounds of different voices etc.

Please give an indication in the comments about giving the group video a test on our next round-table.

Thanks

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/THLmvXwWOEI/AAAAAAAAAILk/qMZJXam114A/s1600/DSCF0088.JPG

2. <http://www.skype.com/>

crofter (2010-10-15 13:01:36)

I think it would be fun to try. I have not been able to make the past two for one reason or another, but I do look forward to being able to participate in the future.

kanalt (2010-10-16 16:00:32)

When is the next one - Nov. 7? I think it would be fun. Of course now there's a lot of pressure to look good. ;)

Jotje (2010-10-22 11:00:44)

OMG, so now I even have to comb my hair and put on make-up for a night on the pc???!!!! That said, I discovered that - in theory - my little Asus eee netbook should be able to provide me with both the audio hardware and a camera (only 1.3 mpx, so probably totally rubbish - but hey, I look good in candle light, so this might work aswell ... LOL).

Just wondered, could the round table also be on a saturday night instead of sunday?

Steve (2010-10-22 11:04:17)

I think you will find that your netbook camera is quite good!

Saturday night... fine with me, how about others?

Steve

Breast Cancer Awareness Campaign (2010-10-15 18:34) - Steve

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Campaign Month and as you no doubt know [1]Filofax sell products that include a donation towards fighting this killer.



[2]

As an additional boost towards the cause, I will be donating all of the commission earned on [3]Filofax UK sales via Philofaxy, no matter what the items purchased are in October and November. Together lets all help in the fight for a way of preventing and curing breast cancer. Those of you who wish to donate directly please go to the [4]campaigns website. Thank you for your help and support.
Steve



FILOFAX, it's a way of life

SHOP NOW ►

[5]



**Pink
Fridays**

[6]

1. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?awinmid=2457&awinaffid=97790&clickref=BreastCancerFilo&p=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.filofax.co.uk%2Fstore%2Forganiserdetails.asp%3Fdisplay%3D%26sizeId%3D2%26rangeId%3D61%26dsId%3D2>
2. http://www.filofax.co.uk/images/products/image_gallery/fullsize/026947_2952588317.jpg
3. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?awinmid=2457&awinaffid=97790&clickref=BreastCancerFilo&p=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.filofax.co.uk%2Fstore%2Forganiserdetails.asp%3Fdisplay%3D%26sizeId%3D2%26rangeId%3D61%26dsId%3D2>
4. <http://www.breastcancercampaign.org/>
5. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?s=152859&v=2457&q=90348&r=97790>
6. <http://www.breastcancer.org.uk/>

Nickie @ Typecast (2010-10-15 19:08:06)

Thanks for highlighting this, Steve and it's great of Philofaxy to donate all commission you mentioned to the cause :) GET BUYING EVERYONE!!

Laurie (2010-10-16 05:04:15)

Thanks so much for doing this Steve!

Steve (2010-11-01 14:23:58)

Excellent news... today we had sales totalling £101 adding to the commission total shown on the side bar, we are starting to get to a sensible donation... thank you everyone.

I will put in my own donation to round it up to a sensible figure at the end of November no point in sending a cheque in for an odd amount!!

So keep buying via the site people, it will all go to a good cause I can assure you of that.

Saturday web finds for the weekend (2010-10-16 07:38) - Steve

So what has the magic machine found today...



[1]

- [2]Pink Friday - Filofax Friday - Nickie over at [3]Typecast on [4]Breast Cancer Campaign
- [5]Breast Cancer Awareness Campaign - Philofaxy - We are also supporting [6]BCC
- [7]Crafted Filofax - [8]Scrapgal Features the beauty of an Adelphi, love the quilted leather
- [9]On Filo Faxing - [10]Charlotte Runcie - Justifying a new Filofax purchase... no need!

Enjoy

1. <http://www.breastcancer.org.uk/>
2. <http://typecast2000.blogspot.com/2010/10/pink-friday-3-filofax-friday.html>
3. <http://typecast2000.blogspot.com/>
4. <http://www.breastcancer.org.uk/>

5. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/10/breast-cancer-awareness-campaign.html>
 6. <http://www.breastcancercare.org.uk/>
 7. <http://scrapgalgr.blogspot.com/2010/10/project-crafted-filofax.html>
 8. <http://scrapgalgr.blogspot.com/>
 9. <http://blog.varsity.co.uk/charlotte-runcie/2010/10/14/on-filo-faxing/>
 10. <http://blog.varsity.co.uk/>
-

The Ipress Filofax (2010-10-17 00:01) - Steve

PHILOFAXY EYES ONLY

To: M

From: DJ

RE: The Ipress Filofax

Subject: Deighton, Len.

Born: Central London, 2/18/29.

Mother's name: Fitzgerald

Description: Dark complexion, 14 stone, 6 feet tall. Cruel, sardonic sense of humor. Large hands, stubby fingers used to punctuate rapid, neurotic speech. Bayonet scar palm right hand. Drinks warily, seldom smokes.

Skills—Extensive knowledge military history, modern control systems, aircraft (especially helicopters), vehicles, weapons, tactics, Marksman; never hunts animals. Good cook.

Experience—Railway man, Piccadilly waiter, Madison Avenue adman, Vogue fashion artist, photographer R.A.F. Mosquitoes, manager Aldgate gown factory. Seen Vista-Vision blue films in pre-Castro Cuba, typhoon in Tokyo, hurricane passing New York. Given talk over Soviet radio. Once fell into Hong Kong Harbor, fatty tissue saved him.

(above summary from subject's second novel "Horse Under Water.")

Well organised, efficient, hard worker, meticulous researcher. Admits to admiring German culture and Germans. Well-informed on current political situation in Germany, compulsively reads as much as he can in the press on Germany. Observed subject using German fountain pen (Pelikan).

Realized without an Oxbridge pedigree (or any university), he had to "fight above his weight," and extensive research, work ethic was chosen method to do that. Now, still working at age 81, he's proven he can go the distance as well.

Books: Highly regarded novels (primarily but not exclusively espionage genre), military history (WWII), cookery books (primarily French cuisine).

Filofax: High probability primary research organiser is Personal Sandhurst. Request M review to confirm starting at 38:23 of referenced video "The Truth About Len Deighton"—BBC4 programme. In event Filo ID is unclear, recommend consultation with specialist Bernhard in Mannheim.

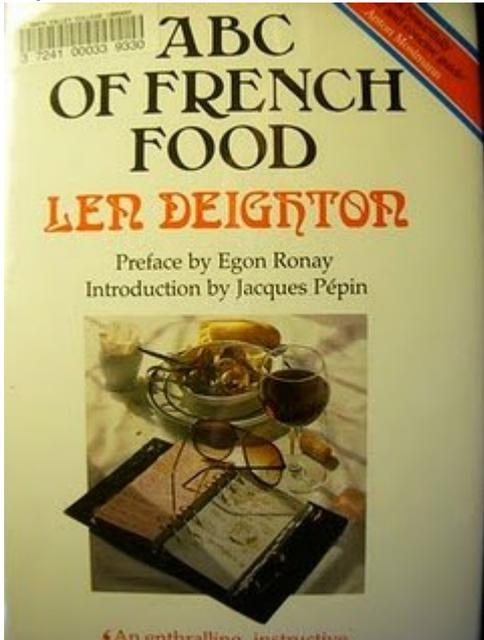
In addition, subject carries what appears to be a small Finsbury pocket purse at all times, which holds a small notepad, and a pencil. In the inner pocket, subject carries a small digital camera, appears to be from Casio Exilim line. Subject actually calls the wallet "a Filofax." Request M view video to confirm Filofax model at 46:27 of same programme.

(above summary from video at this link:

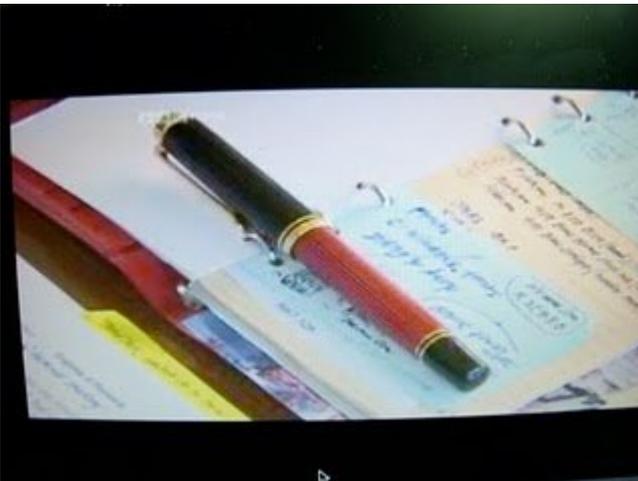
[1]<http://www.megavideo.com/?v=IXF75MIG>

Good luck,

DJCalifornia



[2]



[3]



[4]

Can you help Field Agent DJ identify the Ipress Filofax, please drop a message in the dead letter box, sorry I mean comments!

1. <http://www.megavideo.com/?v=IXF75MIG%20>

2. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TLnwM3k9X6I/AAAAAAAAIU8/e07d1gLbO-A/s1600/DSCN2914.jpg

3. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TLnwNwnkYI/AAAAAAAIVA/rYSdPKARwW8/s1600/DSCN2916.jpg

jpg

4. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TLnwN9gWimI/AAAAAAAAIVE/SC_Z-Uob12k/s1600/DSCN2920.

jpg

Malden around the web (2010-10-17 12:00) - Steve

Now that the Filofax Malden is available at all of the main Filofax on-line stores including at long last on the US site. It's been interesting (for me anyway) to see the different reviews in blogs around the web.

Here's a list of the ones I found:

- [1]Filofax Malden Ochre - [2]Ilovepens
- [3]Sometimes you just know - Malden in Black - [4]Yvotchka
- [5]Behold The Malden Arrives - [6]Kanalt

I wonder how popular the crimson red model is? The Ochre and the Black certainly look excellent to me. As I've hinted on here and on Twitter I'm very tempted with both sizes that are available Personal and Pocket, but which colour?

So if you have bought a Malden but you don't blog, I'm sure there are plenty of others that will be interested in your views.



[7]

1. <http://ilovepens.wordpress.com/2010/10/16/filofax-malden-ochre-is-arrived-after-months-of-waiting/>
2. <http://ilovepens.wordpress.com/>
3. <http://putitonmyheadstone.blogspot.com/2010/08/sometimes-you-just-know.html>
4. <http://putitonmyheadstone.blogspot.com/>
5. <http://lifewellplanned.blogspot.com/2010/10/behold-malden-arrives.html>
6. <http://lifewellplanned.blogspot.com/>
7. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?s=213881&v=2457&q=108919&r=97790>

Adam R (2010-10-17 20:40:09)

Looks good! Some great reviews!

Adam

stirwise (2010-10-18 11:16:27)

My crimson Malden (ordered from France a few months ago) is sitting on the table next to me. I'm really happy with it. The color is not too bright nor too dark, and the leather is a dream. I'm planning to buy another in black, but I'm not in any big hurry. It's by far my favorite Filo.

I posted some pictures to the Flickr group, one of them even made it to Flickr's Explore page!

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/stirwise/4923466013/>

baggirl (2010-10-18 14:19:33)

I thought you might like to know that I have just learnt (from filofax UK) that they will be producing a mini sized Malden in around April 2011.

Jotje (2010-10-20 03:18:45)

Yay, a Malden mini!! If they would also release it in that gorgeous Imperial Purple (like the Finchley) and in A5, I would faint in sheer excitement ;-)

That said, I'm currently awaiting the arrival of a personal crimson Malden (I'm a sucker for reds and purples) ...

baggirl (2010-10-20 11:49:16)

I agree, Jotje! I too can't wait for the mini Malden. I'm told they will be in "Vintage Pink" or "Grey".... I don't really know what these colours are though! I hope the vintage pink is quite dark- as I also love reds and purples (and I like the crimson Malden).

Guest Post: Jess's Personal Finsbury Filofax (2010-10-17 14:26) - Laurie



[1]

Here is another excellent guest post from Jess! You may remember her post this spring about how she was using [2]her A5 Snake Domino. Now she has downsized to a Personal size (gorgeous pink Finsbury!) Filofax for her final, and very hectic, year at university.

Many thanks to Jess for this post! I know I speak for us all when I say, I love reading about how you use your Filofax! :)

The last guest post I wrote for Philofaxy was a gushing, passionate account about my new found love: the A5 snake Domino in Bronze. I loved the space, the ease with which I could create my own pages, and the ability to carry around EVERYTHING I might possibly need. Anyway, as happens with most tales of planner bliss, it didn't last. I've always wanted a 'proper' Filofax, one of the classic and understated models made from leather, so when a pink personal Finsbury appeared on ebay I decided to take the plunge. I eventually won it for around £25, which I was delighted with – but how would I go about making the switch from A5 to Personal?

Luckily, my more diminutive Finsbury came into my life during my summer off university. As you can imagine, university life is much more hectic than normality, so the A5 was perfect, but when I had nothing to remember beyond gym classes and shifts at my part-time job it quickly seemed redundant. It was the perfect time to make the switch and get used to the Personal's smaller page size before in the busy, bustling few weeks of term began. My set-up has been simplified enormously, and it is working out wonderfully. Let me take you through it.

Upon opening the Finsbury, I have lots of things stuffed into the credit card slots on the inside front cover – appointment cards, vouchers, cards from good pubs I've visited – and inside the full-length pocket I keep a couple of

spare envelopes. Next comes the top opening plastic wallet insert, again filled with bits and bobs – a card from my mother, a London Tube map, some stickers to make my Filo look pretty. After that I have the plastic credit card holder insert, containing stamps, passport photos, mini-post it notes and my newly created business cards for my website!



[3]

Next, my paper inserts begin. I have a really simple set up that will probably seem heinous and impractical to so many Philofaxy readers! I have my information sheet (always a necessity in case of loss and emergencies!), then a couple of blank lined yellow sheets, a couple of spare To Do pages in Cotton Cream, then a few days' worth of Day Planner sheets. Apart from my diary, that's everything I carry. I find that I don't make use of the lined notepaper that much, since I tend to write reminders down directly onto my diary pages (which I will explain...) or just remember them.

I don't even have the usual tabbed dividers anymore. Instead, I have two clear dividers that insert like a 'Today' marker, with a single small tab at the top with an 'F' printed on. I don't think I've ever seen these on the Filofax site, so I'm not sure where they are from – my mother bought them for me about a year ago. They are stamped with Filofax, and make the whole set up look less bulky. Behind the first of these tabs, I have a pull-out year planner for 2010 and then my main diary – Cotton Cream Week on Two Pages, with a clear 'Today' marker – with a pull-out year planner for 2011 inserted at the end of December. Its a 2010-2011 diary, so I carry the weeks until my final week at university around with me since I frequently have dates to make a note of as far away as next April or May. I get around the smaller space for each day by writing my weekly-recurrent things, such as lectures and classes, on a post-it note which gets moved to the next page every week. I also keep a single 'To Do' list in between the two pages for the week – this means I can always see what needs to be done at a glance, and keeps my day spaces freer from reminders.



[4]

After this, I have a Day Per Page insert. I don't have a divider between these – instead, I use my other clear divider as a 'Today' marker, since it is so easy to move around. On these daily pages, I write specific reminders such as

'Renew library books', or plan out a day's schedule if I have a lot of different things to do and places to be. I rarely use these far in advance; I'm more likely to fill the next few days' pages in during the evening's review of the day. At the back, I have another plastic credit card holder insert to protect the back pages.



[5]

That's it – two diary formats, minimal tabs, no piles of spare paper colour-coded for projects or 'To Do' lists. I keep all my spare inserts at home, since I'll never be out and about for more than a day at a time so I won't run out. It's working out excellently for me, and I'm not plagued with anxiety about how to tweak my set-up since there's not much to be tweaked! I also love the pink Finsbury Filo itself – the colour is beautiful, and I adore the soft-yet-hardy leather. The only thing that my newly-simple set up has got me wondering is whether it would be possible to downsize even further, to a Pocket – this would never have crossed my mind if I hadn't won the Pocket Classic Rose in a recent Filofax giveaway on Facebook. It's just sat there, looking gorgeous, complete with 2010-2011 diary. I might transfer all my stuff from the Finsbury to the Classic and trial it for a day...

And so planner anxiety strikes again!

Read more from Jess at her excellent blog [6]From Here, With Love!

1. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TLs-y44AvXI/AAAAAAAAABYo/sHhLb_gxdMw/s1600/Jess+Fins+cover.JPG

2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/04/guest-post-jess-a5-snake-domino.html>

3. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TLs62ScxLnI/AAAAAAAAABYc/ltXSrZigL74/s1600/Jess+Fins+1.JPG

4. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TLs7dP-3RGI/AAAAAAAAABYg/NfiExi5oWYs/s1600/Jess+Fins+2.JPG

5. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TLs8D0rTAdI/AAAAAAAAABYk/ay0VxMTWtbA/s1600/Jess+Fins+3.JPG

6. <http://www.jess-shepherd.co.uk/>

caribbean princess (2010-10-17 15:42:35)

Thanks for the post Jess. I really like the new look of your blog too :-)) I have the identical Finsbury which I plan to use to record all my travel adventures at some point. It is a lovely filo. Was in your neck of the woods yesterday for dinner! I look forward to seeing what you do with the Rose.

Nellie (2010-10-18 12:32:43)

Great post! I like your set up very much... I may shamelessly copy it to see how it works for me!

Jotje (2010-10-23 06:18:04)

I'm intrigued by the option of putting an ongoing Todo-list between your weekly pages. Unlike many (or even most?) FF-fans, I don't like to use post-its, as my brain seems to interpret it as "if it's on a tiny paper, it's just not important". But a "real" list INSIDE the rings is a totally different story obviously ;-)

Livelovelaugh (2010-10-25 17:13:41)

Great post and well done for your win of the Rose pocket - v jealous! :)

I too am tempted by the To Do list inside the week to view pages. I am off to "page shuffle" right now :)

Laurie (2010-10-28 05:15:17)

Jess I'm actually trying your system of the To Do page in the weekly pages right now. I like the idea of focusing the list on what doesn't have to be done on any exact day, but does need to get done sometime within that 3-4 day period.

Filofax Chameleon (2010-10-18 17:00) - Steve



[1]

I came across [2]Caribbean Princess's latest post about her new [3]Filofax Chameleon this morning. It is a model I've not looked at closely before, not sure why, but I think it deserves a more detailed look.

The [4]Chameleon was introduced this year at about the same time as the Malden, but in a larger range of sizes (A5, Personal, Pocket and Mini), were as the Malden is currently only available in Personal and Pocket sizes, but we hear it's coming out in mini size next year..... watch this space.

The Chameleon sits at a price point in the range between the Finsbury and the Malden and I think it represents very good value for money, it has some interesting design features that sits itself apart from the rest of the current range.

The main improvement on the Finsbury is the interior, it is in full leather, which in the long term I would think is money well spent. It only comes in four colours: black, red, raspberry and spring green. Personally I like the black, but I know a lot of you will like the raspberry and spring green, but I think the range of colours is wide enough to appeal to most peoples likes across the spectrum of tastes.

I'm not sure why, but the pen loop is on the left hand side (front cover) rather than the traditional right hand side (back cover) on all sizes, except the A5 which has two pen loops front and back as usual. May be this model was designed by a left handed person?

However, the placing of the pen loop on the front cover has it's advantages, if you take the [5]pocket and [6]mini sizes and you were using them as wallet/purses, then the pen no longer gets in the way of the zip pocket which is inside of the back cover, a plus point I think.

Thinking of that use again, if you look at the number of credit card slots on the inside of the front cover, there are a grand total of five on the pocket and three on the mini, that is another plus point compared to the Finsbury which only has two card slots and an id card pocket. The Malden has two vertical pockets and a small zip pocket.

Ring size on the Chameleon is very similar to the other models at it's price point. In some cases the Finsbury is a size bigger, but this might not be a deal breaker for some people.

I have to say it's a nicely appointed model with a lot of plus points going for it. I've not had the chance to 'hold one' or look at it in detail, so folks tell me your thoughts on this model.



[7]

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TLynHu4menI/AAAAAAAIVI/SOg-EYOTPwU/s1600/chameleon-pers-black.jpg
2. <http://caribbeanprincessmusings.blogspot.com/>
3. <http://caribbeanprincessmusings.blogspot.com/2010/10/charming-chameleon-filofax.html>
4. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?awinmid=2457&awinaffid=97790&clickref=Chameleon&p=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.filofax.co.uk%2Fstore%2Forganiserdetails.asp%3Fdisplay%3D%26sizeId%3D3%26rangeId%3D148%26dsId%3D3>
5. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?awinmid=2457&awinaffid=97790&clickref=Chameleon&p=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.filofax.co.uk%2Fstore%2Forganiserdetails.asp%3Fdisplay%3D%26sizeId%3D2%26rangeId%3D148%26dsId%3D2>
6. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?awinmid=2457&awinaffid=97790&clickref=Chameleon&p=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.filofax.co.uk%2Fstore%2Forganiserdetails.asp%3Fdisplay%3D%26sizeId%3D1%26rangeId%3D148%26dsId%3D1>
7. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?s=205414&v=2457&q=105782&r=97790>

Leslie (2010-10-18 20:08:50)

I am lusting after this model in a mini, spring green. :O Thanks for showing the differences. I DEFINITELY know it's love now and lot lust. ;)

caribbean princess (2010-10-19 03:23:45)

It is a beautiful model, leather is softer than my pink finsbury. It feels more luxurious and the pattern is more interesting. I think it is definitely an attention grabber although I don't think the raspberry colour is serious enough for work so I will stick with damson adelphi.

Leslie it IS love! I couldn't part with it even though it was the wrong size and not what I ordered :-)

Yvotchka (2010-10-19 14:57:28)

CB: The big question...does it lie flat?! Also, is the texture rough or more like pebbled leather?

My kingdom for a retailer...

Jotje (2010-10-20 03:43:36)

I also have a raspberry chameleon. The leather feels much nicer than the Finsburys. I have to agree with CP that it's a very outspoken girly colour. I totally see why the Adelphi would look more sophisticated and serious.

It does not lay flat right out of the box, however, it does stay open and thus beats the personal Finsbury or Classic. The only downside of the personal Chameleon is that pen loop. Although they've added some stretchy material to the leather, it is impossible to squeeze in the thinnest pen. I managed with an old-fashioned wooden pencil, but that's not really the kind of writing equipment I use (or wanna be seen with ;-)). I'm reluctant to force the loop wider, because I'm really afraid that it would break off or tear at least.

Laurie (2010-10-20 04:09:31)

I just wanted to add: the leather on the Chameleon is buffalo, like the Malden. The print on the leather looks like tiny hearts, and gives the leather a textured feel. Brigitte at the Filofax shop showed one of these to me and I could not believe how buttery-soft the leather is! The Raspberry one is calling my name...

caribbean princess (2010-10-20 04:58:42)

Yvotchka I second everything that Jotje says. I don't have a problem with it not lying flat as it doesn't close. Plus I have seen pictures on Flickr of someone doing filo training (it was so funny) so that is always a possibility. My skinny bic medium pen can fit in the pen loop but I agree it is quite stingy! I find its location a bit disconcerting as well so overall the only downer is the pen loop.

Which filofax lie flat straight out the box? A feature on all of those... Possibly? Although my ban means I can't buy anymore

anyways :-(

caribbean princess (2010-10-20 05:00:18)

Laurie you should so get one :-) belated bday present maybe? I got mine for a good price on ebay.

plaiditude (2010-10-20 13:36:39)

FYI, I'm posting this here as it has been quite a few posts since the last friday's free for all. For those of us in the US and Canada, FilofaxUSA has a deal on right now, 25 % off all non-dated paper & essentials. the code is FALL2 and expires at the end of October.

Petra (2010-10-20 20:21:35)

I bought the pocket Chameleon in spring green and the color is luscious. I have seen several folks posting pictures of their Chameleons that include pastel tabs, but mine came with plain. The FilofaxUSA site says it comes with colored tabs, but the picture has plain. Has anyone ordered the Chameleon in the USA and gotten the pastel tabs?

Petra (2010-10-20 20:25:36)

Oh, and mine came with a black ruler instead of frosted, and no note pad :-(

I like the leather, but I would not call it soft since I have a Finchley and Belgravia for comparison and they ARE soft.

Jotje (2010-10-21 05:49:22)

Mine came with frosted ruler and pastel tabs. Then again, I don't even use those tabs, I prefer the cream ones ;-)

A personal filofax that lays flat out of the box is the Domino! And the Malden (but that's hearsay, haven't yet experienced that myself, since I'm STILL waiting for my crimson Malden to arrive ...)

Compared to the Finsbury, the leather is supersoft ... ;-)

Iris (2010-10-21 07:30:31)

Yes, the Malden (Pers.) lies perfectly flat.

Other Filos that lie flat are:

- Mode Pers.
- Guildford Pers.
- Domino Pers.
- Urban Pers.
- Metropol Slimline

My Fresco (Pers.) didn't lie flat right out of the box, but it only took some days of using...

caribbean princess (2010-10-21 16:30:04)

Thanks Jotje and Iris. Although my

A5 Domino lies flat the personal sized one is misbehaving! It will need training.

Petra you should contact filofax USA and tell them that you got the wrong coloured tabs. The Chameleon advertised on the UK site has plain inserts so I was delighted when the order from ebay turned up with pastel ones :-)

Colin (2010-10-22 14:48:19)

hi everyone just a quick question is a portable hole puncher any good? made some dividers and they need to be „punched,,

DJ (2010-10-22 14:51:28)

Leslie: Amour ou convoitise? Pourquoi pas tous les deux?

caribbean princess (2010-10-22 16:28:36)

Colin i just got in A5 and personal sizes. I can only punch one page at a time and it required superhuman strength to punch through a slightly thicker index card. It is convenient though but I will need to get something more substantial. Should be ok for your dividers if the paper is thin.

Free For All Friday No. 101 (2010-10-22 00:01) - Steve



[1]

Oooo I get the honour of introducing Free For All Friday (FFAF) number 101, they haven't been every week from the first one. It's only in the last couple of years that they have become a weekly thing. Yet they are a great source of information from all of our readers over the last few years.

They started back in [2]June 2008, you can of course access all the previous ones, the easiest way it to click on [3]FFAF in the label cloud.

But enough from me.... the floor is yours to discuss anything Filofax related.

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TMGbdW4jDwI/AAAAAAAAIVU/VnpuyW-1BiQ/s1600/room101.jpg
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2008/06/free-for-all-friday.html>
3. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/search/label/FFAF>

Katie (2010-10-22 03:07:32)

Last week I ordered a diary refill for my Personal, and what came instead was a Pocket Page a Day. I emailed the seller and he told me to keep the Pocket, and he would send me the Personal as soon as possible.

I'm wondering what to do with the Pocket refill, I don't have a filofax that it would fit in!

Alison Reeves (2010-10-22 03:38:35)

I've ordered a Quo Vadis French insert. I hadn't realised that it could take up to a month for delivery as they order these in from France. I have decided to wait for it to arrive (impatiently). Just thought I would alert anyone else who wanted to do the same.

Steve (2010-10-22 04:09:43)

Alison: The delay might be something to do with all the strikes we have over here at the moment. We have so far been lucky getting fuel and we are keeping our tank above half so we can get to Dieppe in November for our visit to UK.

I hope the wait is worthwhile, which size have you ordered?

Steve

Gareth Buxton (2010-10-22 05:07:20)

I am looking for a personal size filofax but I want one that isn't too soft or "padded". The Guildford being an example of nice soft leather but just too padded for me. I would prefer a model with the harder leather that they used on older filofaxes. Can anybody recommend a (preferably currently available) filofax?

Alison Reeves (2010-10-22 05:58:33)

Steve - I've ordered the Timer 17 for my personal filofax. When I called them he said it was normally a month delivery as they had to send off for it, but because of the strikes it could be even longer!! I gather that he saves orders until he has a few then makes one order to France, which of course would account for the delay. I can understand that they probably don't carry a huge amount of stock, so I thought I would post so others could plan ahead. I really wish filofax did a diary insert in this design. They do a 'sideways' similar version (i.e. landscape rather than portrait) which I don't like as I think the rings would get in the way when you tried to write in it. If I didn;t love my filofaxes so much I would probably buy the trinote diary.

Gareth - The Kendal is a really 'hard' leather and very masculine. I had an A5 one and ended up donating it to a male friend who really loves it.

Zairah (2010-10-22 06:20:52)

Hi Steve, guys, just want to let you know that I have already received the diary prize for the slogan contest a while back! :) Thanks again!

My red A5 Finsbury feels so stuffed now after placing the new diary, so I think I might need to buy a new A5 Filo! :P I've decided to separate my work and personal stuff now since I pity looking at my overstuffed one now.

I still want this new A5 to be Finsbury though, but in another color, maybe a more serious one for work ;)

Steve (2010-10-22 07:44:59)

Zairah: I'm pleased that the prize arrived ok. I was going to get in touch with you to ask, but I got diverted by other things... typical of me these days!!

Alison: Yes it makes sense for them to do bulk orders, postage from France isn't as cheap as it is from UK to France.

So far I've been lucky in picking up my QV inserts in local shops which stock the whole range... If I was to take Laurie in to our local store we would need to lock up her credit card!!! There's a whole section of the store devoted to planners at this time of year!

There's not been much in the way of worthwhile Filofax posts on the net this week compared to usual, hence the general lack of posts from me. But I'm working on a couple of things that might materialise in to a post or two...

Have a good weekend everyone.

Steve (2010-10-22 07:46:15)

Katie... simple answer... buy a Pocket Organiser on Ebay sometimes they are available without any contents... or out of date refills.

Katie (2010-10-22 08:28:08)

Steve: Haha I wish! Just one filofax for me at the moment!

I think I'll sell the refill, and then I'll have gotten this year's diary for free :)

Jotje (2010-10-22 08:49:41)

Gareth, why exactly do you not want a soft leather one? Is it fear for scratching in a bag or something? I also have a Personal Kendal in brown, which I love to pieces! The leather is rather soft IMO, but very robust. And since it's oiled leather (not feeling greasy btw), you can simply rub off any scratches or smudges with your finger tip. The Kendal has the most characteristic leather smell, reminds me of horse saddles.

Another option would be the Finsbury. Not padded at all, rather stiff, but not leather on the inside. Or the good old classic. Yes it can scratch, but just like the Kendal, it only adds to the character.

BTW, on ebay you'll find many "discontinued", yet new Filofaxes, like the Kensington.

maranlov (2010-10-22 09:33:43)

I have the aqua finsbury (personal size) and it is stiff as far as getting it to stay open, but the front and back covers are pretty padded. The padding makes it easier for the leather to catch on things and rip, so I too would prefer something firmer, however I don't like the rough look of the kendal or the mesh inside pocket. I like the finsbury set-up with the leather credit card pockets in the front cover and the leather zip pocket inside the back cover. I just don't like the squishy front and back cover.

Laurie (2010-10-22 09:49:17)

Steve LOL!! Yes this time of year drives me crazy, there are so many great planners out! Luckily for me I don't live near a store with much selection. Our WH Smith here in town has a very small Filofax selection (very small) and a few WH Smith brand diaries, but that's it. Not even Moleskine! Which is probably for the best, and is certainly better for my bank account!

stirwise (2010-10-22 13:07:50)

Gareth:

I'm not a big fan of the padded leather Filos, either. My favorite non-padded variety is the Malden, it's made of a medium-thick, flexible buffalo skin. No padding that I can feel (unlike the Guildford) and just generally feels better than anything else. There are lots of Malden photos in the Philofaxy flickr pool.

Ji (2010-10-22 16:44:04)

I have been following Philofaxy.com for some time now. Absolutely love Filofax and fellow Filofax users/owners.

The first time I knew there was such thing like Filofax was back in 2000 when I was an international student studying in Uni of Edinburgh. They had this lovely Filofax stand in a college bookstore where I walked by very often. I couldn't afford anything on display that time but just sheer admiration of those lovely leather organizers made me very happy.

During my last year in Uni I bought a pocket natural Cross (now known as Classic). I still use it as an address book on top of the other 16 Filofaxes I'd purchased throughout the years. I just can't seem to get enough of them like many people here. However, I'm getting more and more disappointed with their paper quality though. It's hard to find a pen that fits inside the pen loop and also doesn't bleed through the pages. I have tried both the white ones and the cream ones. I don't know if anyone has the same problem or it's just me.

Also, I'd like them to give us more diary refill selection in the US too. I was coveting over that cream week-on-two-page with lines diary only available in Germany and some selected European countries. I tried the white ones in 2008 and didn't like the paper quality.

Can anybody give us some good suggestions?

Gareth Buxton (2010-10-22 19:46:04)

Hi everybody thanks for your replies. very helpful

Jotje - I've nothing against soft leather (I have Guildford Extra Slim, which I'm using as a wallet) I have just associated soft with padded. I will look at the Kendal

maranlov - I will look at the finsbury

stirwise - Malden I will check out. From the pictures I have seen I like the style of this model

Oh dear I think I might have developed a filo addiction. Still cheaper than my previous one, which was buying smartphones!

ArchiMark (2010-10-22 22:24:19)

Since it's FFAF #101, have a question and a comment....

A. Does anyone have any experience with the product Time/system? This is not a Filofax company product, it's different company. Product looks good online...

B. At a recent FFAF, I posted about the above and saw that someone else had posted about this I thought. Contacted person and it turned out to be Filofax Time Management system product. Hadn't heard of it as I'm in US....and of course FF US doesn't sell it here.... ;)

Would be great if FF would send more of 'the good stuff' across the pond.... ;)

C. FWIW, I'm really enjoying my A5 Cuban Saddle Brown....

Alison Reeves (2010-10-23 04:17:56)

With regard to the paper quality, I agree. One reason I used to love filofax so much is that I could use my fountain pens without bleed through. Newer inserts are definately not a good a quality paper. I am actually prepared to pay a bit more to get good quality paper. I'm hoping the Quo Vadis I have ordered will be good.

Also with regard to the pen loops - they always seem to be either too small or too large! I heard that on one planner at least they did a half leather, half elastic loop which sounds like a really good idea.

plaiditude (2010-10-23 12:58:50)

ArchiMark: I used the Time/System for a few years. Their product is very good. I switched to Filofax for a couple of reasons. There is so much more choice in Filofax binders, and in diary formats. Also, being in Canada, anytime I needed to order anything I usually had to pay \$18 or more in shipping which was getting very expensive. Filofaxusa ships through Letts in Canada so I can often get my shipping free. The Time/Design forms are quite nice in both A5 and in Compact. I had tried Compact for a while but it was so small, it's about 1/2" (10 - 15mm) narrower than the Personal size and just was too small for me. The A5 binders I had from Time/Design were great quality but I was using zippered ones and they were huge. Let me know if you have any other questions. I think Jotje also has used Time/Design inserts.

plaiditude (2010-10-23 13:01:10)

ArchiMark: I'm still tempted sometimes to go back to the Time/Design forms in my Finchley A5. Much better paper quality, but that also makes the paper heavier.

plaiditude (2010-10-23 13:35:05)

One more reason why I switched to Filofax - there was a community! That was probably the biggest reason.

ArchiMark (2010-10-23 16:28:25)

@ Plaiditude

Thanks for all your feedback about Time/Sys product....

I realize now that I wasn't clear that my question is about their paper pages, not their binder... in Item 'C' I noted that I'm very pleased with my A5 Cuban....

My real point in asking about this is that I'm looking for the best page inserts I can find to use to manage my very busy workday and large scale multiple projects that I manage. Hence, my interest in products such as Time/sys or Filofax Time Management System, etc....

Also, forgot to mention that I'm a bit retro and use fountain pens during the day, so, want paper that is OK for using fountain pen ink.

I have found that Filofax, Franklin Covey, and Levenson pages are OK for using with pens...I just have to be careful not to use too broad a nib. Usually use a stub fine or medium nib pen...

Any and all input on the subject of good pages for someone managing complex projects is greatly appreciated!

Thanks!

plaiditude (2010-10-23 21:41:36)

ArchiMark: The paper quality of Time/System is great and takes fountain pen ink very well. The forms have a great balance between structure and flexibility. For complex projects etc. I don't think there would be any better forms and diary to use than the Time/System for detailed schedules and projects. Now I'm thinking even more about going back to them, but I also like the simplicity of the filofax forms.

ArchiMark (2010-10-23 22:34:33)

@ Plaiditude

Thanks again for your comments.

Really helps!

Agree with your point about that there's something nice about the simplicity of Filofax forms...will weigh that against benefits of other system such as Time/sys, etc..

Thanks.

Song Quiz... (2010-10-22 18:17) - Steve



[1]

As far as I'm aware there aren't any songs with Filofax in their title? So how about 'Calendar', 'Planner', 'Diary' To get you started....

- The Diary of Horace Wimp - ELO
- Nobody's Diary - Alison Moyet
- Diary - Bread

So what other songs can you come up with with Filofax/Planner terms in their titles.

To save you some time... you can cheat if you have your music collection in iTunes, just type the words in to the search box!!

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TMIM1rL99kI/AAAAAAAAIVg/tsMs7qxxfSI/s1600/music_notes_score_265651_1.jpg

melissajlindsay (2010-10-22 18:35:22)
"In This Diary" by The Ataries

Susanne (2010-10-22 19:02:49)
Calendar Girl - Neil Sedaka

Zairah (2010-10-22 19:14:08)
Diary - Alicia Keys

Gareth Buxton (2010-10-22 20:04:35)
Duran Duran - Plannert earth ;-)

Fi (2010-10-23 03:51:55)
Jeannie's Diary - The Eels

kanalt (2010-10-23 08:23:57)
This one doesn't have anything to do with the title, but I think of my planner every time I hear it:
"I'm Scared" by Duffy - The blank pages of my diary / That I haven't touched since you left me
No man leaving me could get me to abandon my diary. ;)

Millie (2010-10-23 16:08:03)
Hehe, excellent post. So, on my iTunes I have:
Jeannie's Diary - The Eels, like Fi mentioned above
The Calendar Hung Itself - Bright Eyes
'Tis Harry I'm plannin' to marry - Doris Day ("Planning".. get it? hehe)

JJ (2010-10-23 19:02:00)
No Fun At All's "Should Have Known":
"Never got a minute just to have a good time, always so busy in your ideology,
looking in your Filofax if there is some time you can spend with me"
Not exactly complimentary, but a diect reference.

News on a damp autumn/fall Saturday (2010-10-23 11:31) - Steve



[1]

Well I say damp, that is obviously just here in France!!! But let's bring some sunshine in to your day... I hope you like the sunset that erupted through our window yesterday evening. Click on the picture to see it full size... So we hear today that [2]Yvotchka and Susan ([3]Kanalt17) are meeting up for the first time in NE USA.

I'm not sure which town they are meeting in, but they didn't want to be out done by the [4]London meet-up next month, so they are having their own mini-meet up today.

Susan is on holiday so she and her dear husband are that bit closer to Yvotchka than normal... some big distances in the US! They have promised to blog about their meet up and we are all looking forward to seeing the pictures of their smiling faces and which ever Filofax organisers then chose to take with them...

Also on the web today Millie, describes how she is using her [5]Malden personal... and very nice it looks too, the brown leather looks just gorgeous.

I also heard today via Dan ([6]@team78adc) that his local Tesco Superstore are selling off discontinued Filofax organisers quite cheap, he picked up a Personal Strata for £12 and they also had Personal Cherry organisers for £4.50... there are sometimes when I wish I was still in UK!

Our contribution towards [7]Breast Cancer Awareness Campaign has stalled a little, no purchases this week. So I'm going to do a Bob Geldof (Live Aid 1985....yes it was that long ago!) on you... but without uttering F swear words.... Come on folks buy some Filofax things via the links on the site and all the commission this month and next month will be going towards and excellent cause. The purchases no matter how small will all earn some commission which will be donated to BCC by me.

I hope you are having a great weekend.

Take care where ever you are.



[8]

1. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_NjIPaFKXqQ/TML71zG57rI/AAAAAAAAIVk/2bUwjOvz17E/s1600/IMG_9557.JPG
2. <http://twitter.com/%21/Yvotchka>
3. <http://twitter.com/%21/kanalt17>
4. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/10/philofaxy-london-meet-20-november-2010.html>
5. <http://mslogica.com/blog/839>
6. <http://twitter.com/%21/team78adc>
7. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/10/breast-cancer-awareness-campaign.html>
8. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?s=213881&v=2457&q=108919&r=97790>

caribbean princess (2010-10-23 13:08:08)
Beautiful sunset! Thanks for sharing Steve.

Millie (2010-10-23 16:03:30)
It's rainy here too, Steve!
Thanks for the shout out :)
TK Maxx have got some Filofaxes on offer at the moment.

Zairah (2010-10-23 21:52:11)
People in the UK get all the good treats! I don't think I'll ever see Filos on sale in my part of the world.
No, that doesn't sound too jealous, does it? Haha :P

Filofax integration (2010-10-23 12:17) - Laurie

Here is an interesting article about how Filofax as a brand is using social media along with emails to market to their customers. The article also mentions Filofax users' blogs and how the company values customers' input:

[1]<http://reputationonline.co.uk/2010/10/20/filofax-invests-in-integration-over-social-alone/>

1.

<http://reputationonline.co.uk/2010/10/20/filofax-invests-in-integration-over-social-alone/>

Steve (2010-10-23 12:53:00)

'Hard core Filofax Bloggers' that will be us then!

caribbean princess (2010-10-23 13:06:21)

Hehe! I love Philofaxy :-)

Newsround up. (2010-10-24 12:23) - Steve



[1]

A few small news items and topics to cover today..

Firstly over on our friends in Germany [2]Filomaniac blog, they are holding a poll asking how many years have you been a Filofax user. Go over there and vote. But also with the aid of Google Chrome or Google Translate take a read of some of their excellent articles if you can't understand German.

[3]Katie tells us that WH Smiths in UK seem to be having a continual up to 50 % off sale on Filofax Organisers and accessories at the moment, check out what is on offer on the [4]WHS website or pop in to one of the stores.

Our friend [5]Giovani in Brazil pointed out a Japanese blog post (in English thank goodness!) about using [6]Index Cards to organise information. Might be a worth a look, punched they will fit in to your Filofax.

I also saw [7]Donna Young's site mentioned on Twitter, whilst it's not Filofax specific, anything with planners and calendars is of course adaptable to fit a Filofax so it's included here for good measure!!

If you are in to interior design... you have to have a matching Filofax! It's in the first picture of [8]this post

As I mentioned yesterday, our friends in USA, Susan and Yvotchka where meeting up in New Hampshire. Susan has [9]blogged about their great meeting and so has [10]Yvotchka. It's great to read about these meet ups even if there are only a couple of people.

And finally, since introducing the '[11]you might also like' links at the bottom of each post three weeks ago, our page views have increased by 42 % compared to the previous 3 weeks. In this last month we have exceeded the 40,000 page views in the month for the first time.

That's about it from me, have a great week.

1. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_NjIPaFKXqQ/TMQ8GrTQOhI/AAAAAAAAIVo/GHeGSE5ji_w/s1600/Earthgif

2. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.com/>

3. <http://twitter.com/%21/murgletroyd>

4. <http://www.whsmith.co.uk/CatalogAndSearch/PromotionLanding.aspx?promotionID=upto50offfilofax&sf=Availability>

5. <http://twitter.com/%21/gdigesu>

6. <http://pileofindexcards.org/blog/2006/08/21/introduction/>

7. <http://donnayoung.org/>

8. <http://lattelisa.blogspot.com/2010/10/wonderful-walls.html>

9. <http://lifewellplanned.blogspot.com/2010/10/mini-filofax-meet-up-new-hampshire.html>

10. <http://putitonmyheadstone.blogspot.com/2010/10/yesterday-kanalt17-and-i-had-mini-east>.

html

11. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/10/you-might-also-like.html>

Katie (2010-10-24 13:26:50)

Great post!

I'm so excited, just ordered a pocket finsbury from WHSmith (for only £18!) I can't wait til it arrives :D

LatteLisa (2010-10-24 17:47:18)

Now I'm beginning to understand all the traffic to that particular entry on my blog!

Thank you for including me ;-)

Jotje (2010-10-25 04:34:15)

Help! Does anybody know an online shop in Europe that sells Dayrunner Pro (Portable 2PPD) refills? Dayrunner.com charges 36,50 USD for shipping alone (the refills are only 26 USD!).

Also, did anybody ever use the tabbed monthly pages from Filofax? Ref. 6824511? Any good?

And I'm totally bummed that WHS won't ship overseas

Iris (2010-10-25 07:35:00)

@Steve

Thanks for spreading the word!

Family Tree (2010-10-25 14:15) - Steve



[1]

I'm sure some of you have at some time wondered who your ancestors are. I've not made a big effort myself to plot my own family tree but I'm managed to gather some of the information together from surviving relatives.

There are lots of on-line sites to help you put together your family tree. However talking to some of the people that do this seriously as a hobby, at some point you are going to have to visit a library or research archive and you will need to take down some notes etc. Carrying a small computer might not be the easiest way to do this and sometimes might not be allowed.

Which is where the Filofax will come in. As I [2]mentioned a week or so ago a Filofax doesn't have to contain a diary, without it, it can be an excellent notebook.

So if you want to use a Filofax as your Family Tree notebook I've created a few sheets recommended to me by Tim one of our readers.

You will find the sheets in the [3]files area of Philofaxy. They are in A4 format at present but I've also included the .doc or .xls files so you can download the files and modify them to your own requirements. If you [4]booklet print the pages they will of course fit an A5 organiser.

I hope you find the new pages of help.

1.

[http:](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TMXF7h-HjwI/AAAAAAAAIVs/NjQK0oe7eg/s1600/royal_family.jpeg)

[//1.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TMXF7h-HjwI/AAAAAAAAIVs/NjQK0oe7eg/s1600/royal_family.jpeg](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TMXF7h-HjwI/AAAAAAAAIVs/NjQK0oe7eg/s1600/royal_family.jpeg)

2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/10/filofax-as-notebook.html>
3. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/files.html>
4. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/08/printing-a5-pages.html>

Den (2010-10-28 09:13:08)

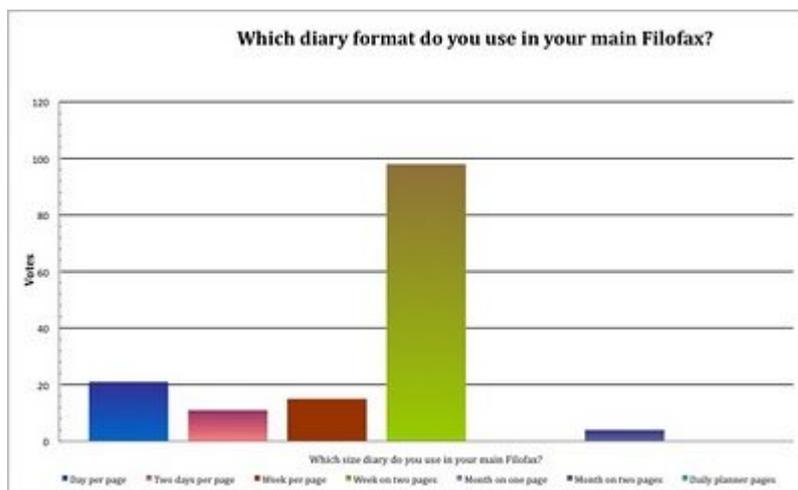
A family with the wrong members in control; that, perhaps, is as near as one can come to describing England in a phrase.
George Orwell

Which diary format do you use - Poll Result (2010-10-26 03:46) - Steve

We asked the question 'Which diary format do you use in your main Filofax?' and thank you for everyone that entered the poll.

The result was not too much of a surprise with a large percentage of people using a Week on Two Pages as their preferred format. Of course there are variations within that format, but I think in general terms that format works for most people.

Here is a graph of the results, click on the picture to see a bigger version.



[1]

Again many thanks to everyone that took part.

1. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TMaGwBos2XI/AAAAAAAAIVw/ILmjpT6YRck/s1600/format.jpg

plaiditude (2010-10-27 07:59:41)

I hope Filofax sees this poll. Day per page was the second most used size. I'm wondering how many people who use that size would purchase it in cotton cream if they made it available. I wonder how many week per page users might also try day per page if it was available in cotton cream.

Two Pages Per Week (2010-10-26 10:55) - Steve

I've been happily using my [1]Quo Vadis Timer 21(aka Trinote) for a few weeks now, pictured below. It does more or less everything I want for an A5 planner. The only niggle I have with the design is that Sunday is pushed in to a small box down in the corner where it is easy to miss.

Click on the picture to view it full size.



[2]

So the other day I started to 'sketch' how I would improve on the design. The one thing I wanted was to see all of the days across the page, but also retain an area for notes and to-do lists. What could be simpler! It proved harder than I thought. But in the end I managed to come up with a compromise in the design that I think would work reasonably well. Again click on the picture to see it full size.



[3]

This is the prototype shown in undated format, but with space for you to be able to write the dates in next to the days, and the days next to the days of the month on the right hand edge. Does anyone know a Excel genius that could write a suitable macro to date the pages in a suitable way, so that a complete year could be created on double sided pages?

From the experience of the QV Timer 21, I've learnt that if I have more than 5 things on my to-do list then a lot of them don't get done! So I've limited it to just five, and if I have more than five I will use a separate list for that particular project.

After struggling with the design in various word-processing applications I resorted to doing the design in a spreadsheet, which is far easier to control the placing and sizing of columns and getting it to fit the page etc.

I will give this design a try for a couple of weeks to see how it works out.

You can download the [4]page yourself it is in our [5]files area. As it's intended for an A5, print out the page, cut it in half and punch in the middle of the page as shown above, not at the edges. I will also make the [6]Excel file available if people would like to modify the design at all for their own non-commercial use.

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/09/alternative-refills-for-your-filofax.html>

2. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/_NjIPaFKXqQ/TMb1Cbhm2ZI/AAAAAAAAIV0/c0DB98UXyvQ/s1600/IMG_9563.JPG

3. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/_NjIPaFKXqQ/TMb13tiuzFI/AAAAAAAAIV4/9rsxSeruM58/s1600/IMG_9562.JPG

4. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/weektwopage.pdf>

5. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/files.html>

6. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/weektwopage.xls>

Laurie (2010-10-26 11:20:52)

This is excellent Steve! I too struggle with what I call the "Sunday situation." This looks like a great solution!

paulien (2010-10-26 11:48:37)

Hi Steve,

Finally something I can do. If you send me the excel file I could probably program something to give you a certain number of weeks from a starting date. Does that help? I think you can find my email address via my comment, but I will check back here to see if this is true.

Paulien

Steve (2010-10-26 13:56:32)

Hi Paulien

That would be great. You can grab a copy of the Excel file from the files area.

I cant see your email address. But if you manage to create a way of dating the file, please email it back to us philofaxy [at] gmail [dot] com

Regards

Steve

Alison Reeves (2010-10-26 17:57:57)

This is really interesting Steve. I have ordered the Timer 17 for my slimline filofax (a scarlet Adelphi) which I keep in my bag. I thought about the small space for Sunday, but then decided that I didn't really have a problem with it because I rarely have more than one appointment on that day. If I have a list of tasks, I would probably keep that seperately anyway. I had refrained from the A5 size as it would be hard to carry around all the time. I'll be interested to see how this develops.

ArchiMark (2010-10-26 23:48:32)

Excellent, Steve!, but of course I just took the plunge yesterday ordering the whole kit from Time/system yesterday..... ;)

So, Thursday a box of goodies should be here for balance of 2010 and 2011....

Oh well....

plaiditude (2010-10-26 23:58:24)

ArchiMark: What did you order? Did you order a binder as well, or just the refills? I'm still undecided on 2011, if I stick with A5 I'll probably order the T/D refill, but I really wish I could make Personal size work for me (if only filofax still had personal non-zip binders with larger rings!)

ArchiMark (2010-10-27 09:34:53)

@ plaiditude

Got the 'whole enchilada' as we say here in sunny California.... ;)

I called Time/Sys USA office (after I received some sample pages in the mail, which was very helpful, btw)...

I wanted to clarify the differences between buying the 'annual refill' package or the 'time system kit' (something like that...).

It seemed to make sense for the first purchase at least to buy the full package and as Nancy there pointed out, it was the same price with or without the vinyl binder, so, made sense to get it with the binder, even though I'll put pages into my A5 Cuban.

As Nancy said might as well get it and if nothing else, you'll have a backup binder if (God forbid...) I lose the Cuban...

As for size, I find A5 is not so big, maybe it's just that I came from using my letter size zipped Levenger circa binder the past year... ;)

Ian (2010-10-27 12:35:18)

Hi Steve,

I was inspired by your attempt to personalise the diary, and have sent a version I created myself to the Philofaxy email address. I think this may be a simple enough solution to your problem, using basic Excel formulae rather than a macro..

Ian

Steve (2010-10-27 14:32:27)

Ian
Many thanks, yes that would work quite well. I will reply to your email as there appears to be a minor problem with the file.
Regards
Steve

ArchiMark (2010-10-28 18:37:25)

Plaiditude,
FYI, received my Time/System package today...quite the package!
Will take a little while to sort through all the goodies included and get my A5 Cuban setup with this product. Comes with a nice 'Quick Start Guide' pamphlet and a CD....
Looks great so far!
:)

plaiditude (2010-10-28 23:35:55)

ArchiMark: ooh, I'm curious as to what is on the CD. I've purchased most of the pieces of a full A5 system (I did purchase a full compact system at one point) but I have never seen a CD. I'm guessing that it might be the training they used to have available online.

plaiditude (2010-10-29 14:02:38)

sigh, just spent another wack of money getting refills etc from Time/System for my A5 for next year (I blame that on you ArchiMark :) Meanwhile I'm waiting for more Personal size inserts that I ordered a couple of weeks ago. Will I ever decide on a size and format and stick to it more than a couple of weeks? I don't seem to be able to do the multi-filo thing no matter how I try, it's one planner at a time for me.

ArchiMark (2010-10-29 20:05:22)

Plaiditude: Congratz on your purchase!!! Given what I've seen today after opening up my big box I received from Time/system, think you made a good choice.
So far, very impressed with the Time/system product...took a while but I've reorganized/refilled my A5 Cuban with the Time/system pages/dividers...
Still need to spend some more time going through and familiarizing myself with all the various components...very nice, clean/clear looking graphics as well as useful content.
As for the CD you asked about, yes, it's a training CD, haven't had time yet (hope to over weekend...) to check it out...
FYI, for others, besides CD, package comes with a very nice Quick Start Guide pamphlet...
Don't know if people here are interested, but I took a bunch of pics this morning at each step of opening up package, then inner boxes, then shrinkwrapped pages, page storage/archive box, etc...

ArchiMark (2010-10-29 22:51:11)

Plaiditude:
PS. Forgot to say in last post, "Sorry, for inadvertently encouraging you to get Time/system product.."
:)
PPS. For others here, just thought I'd mention in case some are wondering why I didn't get Filofax product now, that I do like Filofax pages and did consider Filofax Time Mgmt system product, but since it's not offered here in US now, I decided I didn't want to deal with overseas shipping right now...

plaiditude (2010-10-31 09:41:47)

ArchiMark, I'd love to see the pics. Perhaps you could post them on the plannerista flickr page since it's not filofax brand
<http://www.flickr.com/groups/plannerista/>

ArchiMark (2010-10-31 11:28:46)

Plaiditude: Glad to...
Will try to do that sometime soon either later today or tomorrow...have to upload pics from camera and edit them first...

ArchiMark (2010-11-01 09:22:49)

Plaiditude:

Pics posted....quite a few....enjoy..

;)

To do hints and tips (2010-10-28 11:49) - Steve



[1]

I know we have covered To-Do lists [2]before. But seeing a post over at [3]Plannerisms prompted me to give you a little update on various ideas on how to use To-Do lists.

I'm a big user of To-Do lists, it's the most frequent page I have to buy or print out depending on the size, I have pre-printed ones for various tasks like 'going away' so I remember all the things to take (power adapters, leads) tasks such as turning of the water, heating etc.

So I was naturally interested in the '[4]Collection of To-Do Tips' over on Plannerisms. Some of them confirmed my own thoughts on how many things you should have in a to-do list. And to review and update your lists regularly...

I must post a calendar reminder to do it at least once a week... sort of a nag alarm!!!

And then this morning Lauren posted a blog entry '[5]Lists - Oh how I love you so!' Another big list person! Take a read...

Just off to consolidate my to-do lists.....

1. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TMmcREQ2bhI/AAAAAAAAIWI/YhCOWETO-Xk/s1600/A5ToDoList.jpg
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/04/spring-clean-time.html>
3. <http://www.plannerisms.com/>
4. <http://www.plannerisms.com/2010/10/collection-of-to-do-tips.html>
5. <http://lbarnard.wordpress.com/2010/10/27/list-oh-how-i-love-you-so/>

Alternative Refills... yet another update! (2010-10-28 12:08) - Steve



[1]

OK we have discussed these alternatives may be a little too much for some people's liking. But in case you are still interested... or curious.

[2]Sara as in [3]@DIYSara discovered some refills in the Barnes and Noble on line store and although they don't say Filofax anywhere, she has checked out the [4]Personal Size and they are a perfect fit and only \$7 (USD), like how cheap is that. May be Sara can comment on the quality of the paper..

There is also [5]Pocket size for \$5.35 and [6]Mini size for \$4.45, I couldn't see an A5 size in the on-line store, pity really.



[7]

And if you are interested in the Quo Vadis range of planners and loose leaf refills then [8]Amazon France stocks them, being Amazon the delivery costs are quite sensible.

1. <http://img2.imagesbn.com/images/61600000/61605601.JPG>

2. <http://diysara.wordpress.com/>

3. <http://twitter.com/DIYSara>

4. <http://search.barnesandnoble.com/2011-Refill-7-Organizer-6-Ring-18-Month-Calendar/Silver-Lining/e/9781615550944>

5. <http://search.barnesandnoble.com/2011-Refill-5-Organizer-6-Ring-18-Month-Calendar/Silver-Lining/e/9781615550937/?itm=1>

6. <http://search.barnesandnoble.com/2011-Refill-4-Organizer-5-Ring-18-Month-Calendar/Silver-Lining/e/9781615550920/?itm=4>

7. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/_NjIPaFKXqQ/TH6zd2s3lwI/AAAAAAAAARI/4rgUC1sTirI/s1600/scan0002.jpg

8. http://www.amazon.fr/gp/search/ref=sr_nr_i_0?rh=k%3Aquo+vadis%2Ci%3Aoffice-products&keywords=quo+vadis&ie=UTF8&qid=1288281941

Sara (2010-10-28 12:21:59)

The store did have 8.5inch by 5.5inch on the shelf :) They were near the photo albums.

Unfortunately I didn't purchase the refill yesterday XD

If I do get one, I'll update you all on paper ^^

PS - I got my first Filofax! A green "college" personal sized one from a friend :)

Steve (2010-10-28 13:52:04)

Thanks for the update Sara, look forward to seeing your thoughts on the paper and I guess fountain pen people will be keen to know if it's a 'bleeder' or not!!

ArchiMark (2010-10-28 18:33:56)

FWIW, I read feedback comment on BN website regarding the planner refill pages. The reviewer said that pages bleed ink, so, was not happy with product....

GT (2010-10-31 20:16:58)

I've been using these B &N inserts for my Pocket and Mini Filofaxes for several years. The calendar section of the B &N inserts typically are 18 months long. B &N displays the inserts separately, along with different color binders, several times per year.

Filofax Designer Challenge? (2010-10-28 12:21) - Steve



[1]

So I know we have quite a few 'creative' people amongst our ranks. [2]Filofax USA have just announced a competition to design a future Filofax Organiser, which will go in to production in 2011.

The prizes are very generous. Sadly entries are only open for folks in USA and Canada, but if you qualify take a look on their site for details. There are also downloadable templates and rules etc.

It has to be worth an entry if there is a particular design you would love to see again or an updated version of some thing you really liked that is no longer available. Or of course some magic new design

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TLynHu4menI/AAAAAAAAIWI/SOg-EYOTPwU/s1600/chameleon-pers-black.jpg

2. <http://www.filofaxusa.com/store/page.asp?id=137>

megn (2010-11-25 18:38:23)

I just submitted my entry! I've been wanting to get into fashion design and so I jumped at the chance to get one of my creations sold in stores throughout the US and Europe. This is something that could really get my career launched. I love my Filofax, so it was easy for me to create a really nice design. Stay tuned!

Free for All Friday No. 102 (2010-10-29 00:00) - Nan

To paraphrase Andy Williams, it's the Most Confusing Time Of The Year!

One of the most wonderful things our Filofaxes do for us is remind us when to turn our clocks forward or back.

And I don't just mean the old "spring forward, fall back" mnemonic. All Filofax diaries have the reminder printed on the exact date the change takes place.

In Europe, Summer Time ends on October 31. In the USA and Canada, our friendly neighbor to the north, Daylight Saving Time ends on Nov 7, one week later. You can set your clock back the night before or first thing the following morning. For radio and TV stations that operate all night, the change usually takes place at 2 a.m. The hour between 2 and 3 a.m. simply goes away.

The seasonal time change idea is variously credited to Benjamin Franklin and George Vernon Hudson, both of whom had reasons for making the most of the early morning hours.

Right now, I dislike the darkness of night at 7 a.m. more than I dislike it at 5 p.m., so I'm looking forward to my local DST.

How about you?

BR (2010-10-29 00:13:51)

Every year for the past 15 years I have been away at some workshop or conference or whatever for my volunteer job on the weekends the clocks change. On the Saturday evening we are exhorted to change our clocks, reminded endlessly of the time change. Off we'd go home on Sunday and, without fail, I would wake up Monday with all my clocks saying the wrong time. When the US and Canada changed the dates for the change, the organisation changed the dates of it's workshops. The powers that be say it was booking issues but I'm not buying it.

Steve (2010-10-29 00:22:07)

I moan every 6 months or twice a year about the number of clocks I have to go around the house changing. I've not done a 'count' at this new place I will find out this weekend. I suspect it's slightly less than the UK house.

It's just one of those chores! Remembering which buttons to press on this appliance or that one...

Thank goodness our Filofax organisers don't need their clocks changing... there would be quite a few to do!!

Quite a few of my things sync to the internet, or via radio(wireless) to DCF77 or MSF Rugby for their time signals including my watch so they don't need changing they switch automatically.

A long time ago I used to work shifts (I was a lot younger then!) and working nights on clock change weekend was bad news. One of them you worked an hour less. The other you worked the same hour twice! But didn't get paid any more. It balanced out I suppose! Working Christmas and New Year on nights was the worse bit though, even though it was fairly quiet. Another chapter for my book one day I suppose!!

caribbean princess (2010-10-29 03:41:50)

Steve tell me about it. Shift work was a nightmare! For years I was always the 'mug' working hospital nights when the clocks went back! One time the person taking over from me was almost 2 hrs late for his shift and had the nerve to blame the clocks. He got a telling off!!! Christmas and New Year was always awful but all the staff would try to cheer each other up and you would get a day in lieu.

Now in public health land I don't have to worry too much as on call is done via a phone. Yay! Look forward to an extra hour of sleep this weekend. I only have 3 clocks to change so not too bad. I dislike both the dark evenings and mornings so now is when I wish I was back in the Caribbean!

Jotje (2010-10-29 09:06:01)

Being a mother of 4 young children, I absolute hate those clock changes, no matter which way. It takes the kids weeks to re-adjust, throwing my schedules off-balance as well ;-)

Steve (2010-10-29 09:14:36)

Judith

I came across this article last night it might help:

<http://uk.lifestyle.yahoo.com/home/clocks-going-back-affect-babies-t-oddlers-article-ez4w.html>

Oh and should your comment have started with a 'young' mother with 4 children? ;-)

Hope the children aren't too bad

Regards

Steve

ArchiMark (2010-10-29 09:24:00)

Don't mind adjusting the clocks, but leaving the house early in the morning to beat traffic in the dark and then driving home in the dark is the part I'm not thrilled about....

Gareth Buxton (2010-10-29 15:35:43)

Thanks people for your advice about choosing a "hard" leather Filofax last Friday. Today I visited WHSmith and had look/touch. I liked the Finsbury the best. It was £45 in Smiths, I checked it on-line and WHSmiths website have it for £18 at the moment. Which is a real bargain. They don't price match with themselves, I asked ;-(So ordered online.

Jeff Abbott (2010-10-29 15:48:08)

I just gave my wife her first Filofax. A pink Classic A5 with the Family Organizer inserts. She's getting it set up and so far loves it, and is thinking hard about exactly how she wants to set up her system.

I had stepped away from using Filofax for the past couple of years, but am returning to it for 2011 and will be glad to be back.

maranlov (2010-10-29 15:49:27)

Gareth, you won't be sorry. The Finsbury is a great binder. It's a wee bit stiff at first, but the more you handle it, the faster it limbers up. I'm new to Filofax as of purchasing my aqua Finsbury a few months ago and I haven't looked back. Now I'm hoping I can get a pink or red one soon.

Nellie (2010-10-29 16:10:03)

I am off shopping tomorrow, and am going to buy myself some new inserts for my Classic Personal. I am turning it into my "bookofax" to keep track of my reading and books wish lists. I will try not to spend too much...!

Gareth Buxton (2010-10-29 16:50:41)

maranlov - Thanks for the advice. I will let you know what I think when it arrives.

Jeff -I have been away from Filofax for a while as well, have been using PDAs since mid 90s. Still using a Blackberry which is great for email and address book and backup planner/diary. But I just love the freedom of Filofax and everyone has a Smart-phone now, so a Fax is a bit different, I like to be different :-)

Jotje (2010-10-30 04:37:21)

@Steve: LOL No, I suppose I should have written "mother of 4 SMALL kids", since kids tend to be young anyways. They are now aged 9,7,6 and 4. And being 41 I would not refer to myself as a young mother anymore LOL I know for sure, because teenagers now address me with Missus ;-)

Jeff Abbott (2010-10-30 12:07:27)

Gareth, I had gone to use bound planners: Moleskine and Quo Vadis. They are excellent products, but for what I do, I like the flexibility of the Filofax. My wife had always used very inexpensive planners from B &N, and they were fine, but she has gotten much busier now. I have a chocolate A5 Classic and she'd always thought mine was smart looking, and then when she read the Gala Darling article she decided she wanted to try a Filofax. I hope she'll find it useful.

Don't be late for our conference call



[1]

We are going to run another conference roundtable voice chat using Skype. Although Group Video Calling is now available in Beta on Skype it only works on the Windows Client, so for this forthcoming chat I would prefer to stick to a known voice format...'if it ain't broke, don't fix it' as they say!

I'm sure we are gradually getting to know each other's voices, but I will make a point of going 'around the table' to get everyone to introduce themselves this time.

So...When, Where, What, Who and How?

When? - Sunday 7th November from mid-day (US East Coast time), 5pm London time, 6 pm Paris time etc.

Where? - an on-line chat using [2]Skype.

What do I need? - just a micro-phone and a free Skype account.

Who - All of you... connect up with **Philofaxy** and we will attempt to get as many of us linked in to the audio conference as possible.

How -

1. Connect to **Philofaxy** by firstly searching for **Philofaxy** in**Skype**, I will then add you as a contact.
2. Then '**Start Chat**', I will then add you in to the chat room.
3. Then if you request it, I can add you to the audio conference as well. But if you just want to chat via keyboard that's fine. That way it's slightly less hectic for me!

Come and join in the fun, even if you only pop in to say hello...

If you need any assistance setting up Skype, please pop a comment in this post and I will try and help you get one line. Skype is free for computer to computer calls....

I'm looking forward to this chat as it will be just before the London meet later in November. Hope to be chatting with you next Sunday.

1. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TI8g6xsjunI/AAAAAAAAAIRw/PK9lqvHjsxI/s1600/confcall.jpg

2. <http://www.skype.com/>

caribbean princess (2010-10-30 08:53:28)

I should be able to make it this time. I think I have got over the problem of my laptop having no sound as I can use skype on my iPad. I tried it with DH and it worked a dream so hopefully it will work out :-)

kanalt (2010-10-31 21:10:57)

Looking forward to it. Just a reminder in regards to US/Canada citizens - the clocks fall back Saturday night...though I'm sure this is already mentioned in the US/C Filos.

Michele (2010-11-07 05:50:35)

Unfortunately, I don't believe I'll be there... My home PC which is where I would put Skype is not working right so my database guru boyfriend is coming over around an hour before the time of the call to fix. I shouldn't be rude by being on the call while he's in the house. LOL! I thought of a new year's resolution: Learn how to use Flickr so I can post some nice pics of my A5!

Steve (2010-11-07 06:29:09)

Hi Michele

What is your Skype problem? I might be able to remote help you

Regards

Steve

Posts to read on Halloween... (2010-10-30 12:30) - Steve

Not sure if [1]Halloween is celebrated all over the world or not?

Anyway, if you have a few moments this evening, you might want to relax and have a read of these some of these posts...

- [2]My Beautiful Butterfly - [3]Caribbean Princess
- [4]Whole Lot of Filofax Love - [5]Plannerisms
- [6]Filofax v other planners - David Allen Forum
- [7]Filofax - Miss Bliss

Enjoy.

1. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Halloween>
2. <http://caribbeanprincessmusings.blogspot.com/2010/10/my-beautiful-butterfly-filofax.html>
3. <http://caribbeanprincessmusings.blogspot.com/>
4. <http://www.plannerisms.com/2010/10/whole-lotta-filofax-love.html>
5. <http://www.plannerisms.com/2010/10/whole-lotta-filofax-love.html>
6. <http://www.davidco.com/forum/showthread.php?2984-Filofax-vs.-other-planners>
7. <http://missblissfullness.blogspot.com/2010/10/filofax.html>

Avon selling Filofax Gift Boxes (2010-10-31 09:22) - Steve

It was pointed out to me this morning on Twitter that Avon (the cosmetics people) are selling Filofax Giftboxes... thanks to [1]@team78adc for the heads-up on this.

The ladies one I suspect is a 'Heart'? I'm not sure what model/style the mens organiser is, may be you can identify it:

[2]Ladies Filofax Gift Set



[3]

[4]Mens Filofax Gift Set



[5]

Filofax Keyring, now that's quite smart compared to mine!



[6]

1. <http://twitter.com/%21/team78adc>
2. <http://avonshop.co.uk/product/christmas-shop/gifts-for-her/ladies-filofax-gift-set.html>
3. http://avonshop.co.uk/shop/assets/images/prod/prod_1117486.jpg
4. <http://avonshop.co.uk/product/christmas-shop/gifts-for-him/mens-filofax-gift-set.html>
5. http://avonshop.co.uk/shop/assets/images/prod/prod_1118155.jpg
6. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TM1tXjCDN3I/AAAAAAAAIaA/XR194BkTamU/s1600/IMG_9246.jpg

Jotje (2010-10-31 10:31:48)

Hang on a second are you actually telling me that there are MEN selling Avon????!!!!

Steve (2010-10-31 10:59:00)

It's a worrying thought Judith... the last bastion of female exclusivity has been broken down...!!!

Your comment made me smile though!!

Steve (2010-10-31 14:30:55)

Please be reassured Judith that the @team78adc is not on the sales team of the well know cosmetics company... but I'm sure there must be a few men working for them worldwide....

Petra (2010-10-31 16:14:35)

Does anyone know if these ever make it to the U.S. as well? Or is it strictly a U.K. special?

Laurie (2010-11-02 06:28:33)

These Filofaxes are now available on the Avon UK shopping website, and can be found in the current online brochure. I'm not positive but based on the rings position they look to be Pocket size? They are 30 pounds each.

Den (2010-11-02 17:52:13)

The key on the Filo key ring looks like the only thing it could possibly open is a chastity belt! Which as a man's fob would be quite appropriate, come to think of it...

Guest Post - Philofaxer (2010-10-31 12:35) - Steve

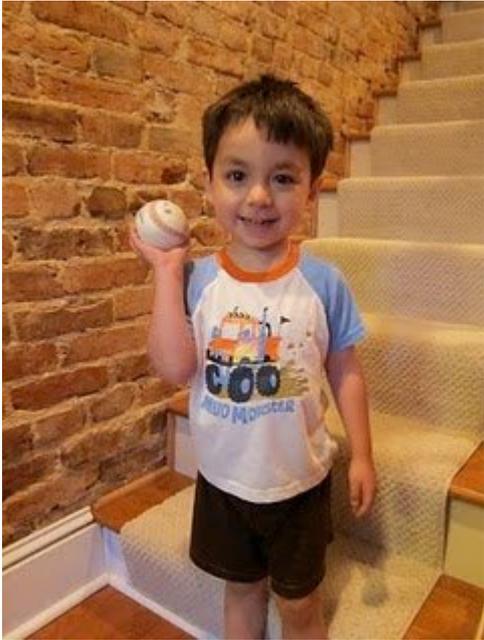
Most people think I have two children. There's little Maya, just six months old. You may have heard of her, because you may have looked up "perfect" in a dictionary. She's there. Or you may have looked up "baby-shaped geyser of partly-digested milk." She's there too. She also may be behind you, right now, pooping all over your expensive leather sofa.



[1]

(Yes, that is a spherical globule of milk that has fallen from her mouth and is about to strike our carpet.)

Also, there's Charlie, now four years old. You may have heard of him, because you may have looked up "rascal." Or, more likely, you might have looked up "unholy destroyer of all of god's works of beauty and grace." He might be on your expensive couch too, carving his initials into its armrest with a machete. Or stealing your wallet.



[2]

(Yes, that is a baseball that he is about to deliver into your solar plexus in T-minus four, three, two ...)

Few people in my life know about my third child. She's the oldest of the three; born on the 31st of October, 2005, my Halloween baby. I named her Philofaxy.

She may be my firstborn, but I cannot say I've been a good parent to her. I doted on her in the beginning, lavishing her with attention and introducing her to new friends. She grew; people told me she was beautiful. Her potential to grow into a beautiful woman was apparent. All she needed was care and nurturing.

Those were things I did not give her.

As in so many other arenas of my life, laziness and delinquency set in. The attention I had lavished on her as a baby waned; I let her lie in disuse. Her friends became concerned. I told myself, "No! She's fine! I am an excellent parent, and she will grow into a beautiful woman!" Blinded by my own denial, I let Philofaxy decay. One by one, her friends left. Soon, she was a mere shell of what she could have been.

Then, along came Nan. She saw Philofaxy's promise and said she didn't want to see it squandered. Given that I was very busy squandering it, I brought Nan on board quickly. And Philofaxy's path changed. She grew up!

I'm tired of the child metaphor. Let me try some other ones.

- Imagine a car driving along the only road across a great salt flat. Now imagine that the car veers slightly off the road, fails to correct its path, and is soon so far off the road that the road can't even be seen. That was Philofaxy under me. Now imagine that a huge helicopter comes and grabs the car, lifts it, and drops it back on the road. And puts a new turbocharged engine in it. And mag wheels. That was Philofaxy after Nan joined.

- Imagine a tree growing in a lush garden. Now imagine that a cruel gardener deprives the tree of all water and nutrition, and the tree wilts. That was Philofaxy under me. Now imagine that another gardener comes to nurse the tree back to life. And also the new gardener punches the cruel gardener in the gut. That was Philofaxy after Nan joined.

- Imagine a great nation that promises to be a beacon of freedom, equality, and hope, but instead squanders this promise by pursuing a hegemonic foreign policy and turning its back on the noble principles that defined its national character. Wait, that's not a metaphor at all. Forget that.

- Imagine a crazy, decrepit old man. That is me. Now imagine a non-crazy, non-decrepit woman. That is Nan. Anyway, you all have seen what Philofaxy has become since my autocratic reign of terror ended. It is far bigger and far better than I ever could have dreamed. While Nan deserves much of the credit, much also belongs to her colleagues, Steve and Laurie, whose prolific pontificating has kept the blog rolling along. And let's not forget the invaluable contributions of the numerous commenters and guest posters who have helped make Philofaxy a true community.

At this point, all I can lay claim to is having come up with a cool name for the blog (and, come on, it IS a cool name) and littering the archives with a few rants and non-sequiturs. Since making those scant contributions, I've stepped away from the blogging world and worked on raising my children. (By "raising" I mean "praying to whatever sacred force that may exist in the universe that my children turn out more like their mother than their father.") I'm

also taking classes toward a master's degree in writing, working at a new and considerably more demanding job, and dealing all of the other events that life throws in one's face (like a house fire, and a house flood, and other things that fit within the "house _ _ _ _" template).

So how do I keep myself organized these days? I am sure you are all dying to know. Indeed, I wonder how you've been able to sleep or get anything at all done without knowing the answer to this important question. Well, the answer is: It depends. For all the struggles I had with The Device (as memorialized in my early doodlings on the blog), I have found a place for a new thing – the iDevice – in my life. Yet I have never wavered from my conviction that no device can, or should, replace paper. The tactility of it; the general feeling of doing something productive with one's hands. The craftsmanship of low technology. The ability to use one's eyes and the tips of one's fingers as the ultimate contextual search engine. These are invaluable characteristics of paper. Filofax remains a part of my scheme, though some of its core functions now reside elsewhere. Other kinds of paper – I've become a fan of Levenson's Circa system for general note-taking – also play important roles for me.

After all this time, I still can't get myself to use a Moleskine. There's still a part of me that wants to use them, and a different part of me that hates the part that wants to use them. Every once in a while, I crack and buy one. Then I don't use it.

And I still think the Franklin Covey people are crazy. I'm waiting for the inevitable showdown between ATF agents and incredibly punctual Franklin Covey adherents at some remote mountain hideaway. (Though the showdown will NOT occur on a Sunday, thank you very much.)

Thanks to all of you for picking up the ball that I dropped, and running with it – to places I never imagined.

Happy 5th birthday, Philofaxy!

Well on behalf of all three of us... and all of our readers we would like to thank you for starting such a great blog. And your children just look so sweet and cute!

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TMknRexJLII/AAAAAAAAIWA/j2NGdaoe-f4/s1600/DSC_0235.jpg

2. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TMknfhEEdnI/AAAAAAAAIWE/1Y1BaNvqS30/s1600/IMG_0867.jpg

Laurie (2010-10-31 12:42:08)

Philofaxer, thank you for creating the glorious world that is Philofaxy!!! It has brought enormous joy to my life, and to many others as well. It's great to "see" you again! And to see your beautiful children!!!

Steve (2010-10-31 13:00:52)

Mr Philofaxer, thank you from me too...

And if you haven't spotted it yet, this post was posted at exactly the same time 5 years hence from the very first post on the blog... we like attention to detail!!!

Cheers and all the best to you and your family for the future

Steve

Jeff Abbott (2010-10-31 13:01:55)

As one who was here at the beginning, I have missed your autocratic reign of terror, and your unique voice. Thanks for letting us know how you're doing. Your kids are awesome. Good luck with your future endeavors.

M Ng (2010-10-31 13:52:35)

Philofaxer, I'll never forget stumbling upon this blog and realizing there was at least one other person yearning to geek out over Filofaxes. I commented anonymously about the intended use of the "diary" tab and the splendors of owning a paper trimmer.

Thanks for creating this blog, Philofaxer – and thanks to Nan, Steve and Laurie for building this stellar community.

caribbean princess (2010-10-31 14:48:20)

Thanks for creating this blog Philofaxer :-))You have helped create a wonderful community. Good luck with everything that you do! Maybe one day you will rejoin fully..... or at least do some guest posts!

Michele (2010-10-31 18:19:50)

Thank you Mr. Philofaxer for starting such a wonderful blog! When I started reading this blog just over a year ago, I went back to the beginning and read each and every one of your posts. I cannot believe your son is now 4! Best of luck in your studies, and most of all wishing you and your family all the best. Again, thank you!

Nan (2010-10-31 21:08:13)

Hi, old chum! Your kids are indeed awesome.

I have to give kudos also to Steve, with his technical smarts and creativity, and Laurie, with her boundless passion and enthusiasm, who raised Philofaxy into its current (and hopefully long-lived) spot in the limelight, when I eventually started to lag.

But there will always be only one originator, the eponymous Philofaxer!

Viva Philofaxy!

ArchiMark (2010-10-31 21:11:14)

Best wishes on Philofaxy's 5th birthday...only discovered this great site recently, but have gained a lot from it and met some people here...

Keep up the great work!

kanalt (2010-10-31 21:23:57)

Thanks to Philofaxer for creating such a wonderful blog and to Steve, Laurie and Nan for adding their own individuality to it. I too have gone back to read each and every entry and have loved doing so. Not only am I grateful for finding people who share my passion, but I'm also overwhelmed at the great community that has emerged and the friends I've made and met. Thanks again!

Adirondack Explorer (2010-10-31 22:18:50)

Thanks from me, too. It brings a lot of happiness checking in each day and learning more about the product and those who love it. Nice to hear from the creator!

Globetrotting Cacti (2010-11-01 06:27:30)

Happy birthday Philofaxy.... love this blog and the community feel on here... x

Zairah (2010-11-01 12:30:33)

Happy 5th to Philofaxy!

I've only been a recent Filofax addict and Philofaxy follower, but it was so nice to read the archives and see how the blog has evolved.

The Philofaxy tab is always open on my browser and I'm always excited to read new posts :)

Keep it up, guys!

Janet (2010-11-01 14:38:54)

Oh Philofaxer you are a legend. I loved your acid posts and your addiction to filofaxes - hope you are well!

And thanks Nan, Steve and Laurie for keeping things going!

pilgrim (2010-11-06 19:12:25)

Happy 5th birthday to Philofaxy & many best wishes to Nan and family-nice to hear from you again

I have Philofaxy on Speed Dial on my (Opera) browser, just in case

AspireToBe337604 (2010-11-13 23:27:10)

Congratulations! This is such a great concept - a place where one can come be among people WHO UNDERSTAND! I just spent a week reading this blog (from the first post to the very latest)and finally feel qualified to hit that 'post a comment' button! Wonderful job, Mr Philofaxer, Nan, Steve, and Laurie! Loved reading all the posts and comments!

1.11 November

Filofax offers in Tesco and elsewhere.. (2010-11-01 12:00) - Steve

I've never seen Filofax organisers quite this cheap before, it even beats Ebay prices... and you get Tesco Clubcard points too! For those that don't know... Tesco is a UK supermarket chain, but they also have stores in other parts of the world.

One of our 'roving reporters' spotted these on sale in a Tesco Superstore in Edinburgh at their Hermiston Gait store. A Tesco Superstore is far from the biggest either. Not sure if these offers are only at that store or at other superstores around UK. Can any one confirm it?



[1]



[2]



[3]

Looking at these, I wonder how many of them find their way on to Ebay at starting prices considerably higher than the shelf edge price....

Another UK store that seems to have a lot of good offers is [4]WH Smiths with up to 50 % off organisers and inserts.

And then one must not forget the stores on our [5]suppliers page, which also offer various discounts, and of course the chance to donate the commission to our [6]Breast Cancer Campaign collection...



[7]

[8]

IFRAME: [9][http://www.awin1.com/cshow.php?v=2457 &s=228465 &r=97790 &iframe=1](http://www.awin1.com/cshow.php?v=2457&s=228465&r=97790&iframe=1)

1. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TM282nA6jkI/AAAAAAAAIaI/-_ymOvd4sfY/s1600/IMG00020-20101031-1404.jpg
2. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TM284Ncc_bI/AAAAAAAAIaM/bfROfWucCvo/s1600/IMG00021-20101031-1404.jpg
3. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TM286KDRJmI/AAAAAAAAIaQ/NXmKTJmzvc/s1600/IMG00022-20101031-1407.jpg
4. <http://www.whsmith.co.uk/CatalogAndSearch/Filofax.aspx>
5. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/filofax-suppliers.html>
6. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/10/breast-cancer-awareness-campaign.html>
7. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?s=134889&v=2346&q=84727&r=97790>
8. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?s=227957&v=2346&q=84727&r=97790>
9. <http://www.awin1.com/cshow.php?v=2457&s=228465&r=97790&iframe=1>

Karen (2010-11-01 12:25:58)

I can confirm that Tesco's in Bradford are also offering Filofax's at silly prices. I haven't seen any at £4.50 though! Might have to nip out to Tescos tonight lol

Zairah (2010-11-01 12:26:58)

Wow, they ARE cheap! There's a Tesco here in Malaysia, but sadly Filofaxes weren't imported together with the store :(And I'm seeing this just right after I made another unjustified purchase on eBay UK haha...

Petra (2010-11-01 13:05:01)

Gosh, I wish you wouldn't post these things – just makes me envious since we have nothing like that in the States ;-)

Gareth Buxton (2010-11-01 14:08:02)

Crazy prices at WHSMiths online. £45 Finsbury at £18 at the moment!

Xenontac (2010-11-01 21:17:16)

Gosh...i would buy a trolley of those

Jotje (2010-11-02 08:32:56)

Wow, that IS cheap. And totally explains all those "great" bargains on the UK ebay-site ... ;-)

JJ (2010-11-02 13:20:23)

At those prices I would buy them just for the filler paper.

And the Indie looks cool, why haven't I noticed it before?

Saffy (2010-11-03 10:43:46)

I just came back from Tesco in Bursledon (Southampton) and they did have a limited range of Filofaxes, the Black Identity and Lavender Domino but no real bargains. The personal size Domino was £19.50. I did buy some white ruled notepaper in personal and mini size only to find when I got home and checked my receipt that the mini was 50p more expensive than on the Filofax U.K. website. No yellow discount offers to be seen.

Butterflies.....are they migrating? (2010-11-02 00:00) - Steve



[1]

The other day I linked to [2]Caribbean Princess's post about her beautiful red [3]Butterfly Pocket Filofax pictured right...

But it is always nice to see another post but in the alternative colour, this time Yvotchka with her pewter [4]Butterfly Pocket Filofax. This almost looks silver under the flash lighting, but I suspect it's more grey in natural light.

I can see I'm going to have to get some of the Filofax Sticky Notes, they really brighten up any organiser, even if it's only for photographic purposes!!

Thanks to Kyla for the use of your photo. You will be learning more about Caribbean Princess later this week.....

1. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TM3g_dd-wcI/AAAAAAAAIaU/SQzOhSdzHnI/s1600/P1011422.JPG

2. <http://caribbeanprincessmusings.blogspot.com/>

3. <http://caribbeanprincessmusings.blogspot.com/2010/10/my-beautiful-butterfly-filofax.html>

4. <http://putitonmyheadstone.blogspot.com/2010/10/butterflys-are-free-to-fly.html>

Angel Of Vengeance (2010-11-02 01:07:09)

That is so cool! Where I come from there are hardly any filo-faxes so you don't really get a choice when it comes to the covers. When I bought mine I looked all over town and I only had the choice between black or blue. Still functional though. :)

I am seriously considering ordering one online, although I prefer reusing things.

caribbean princess (2010-11-02 13:28:35)

I love the Butterfly. I would probably also get the pewter if I were not on a self imposed ban :-)

Rori (2010-11-02 20:46:24)

WHERE are they getting these? The pewter one is gorgeous!

Dilaila (2010-11-05 20:10:22)

The pocket red butterfly is my favourite filo! It's gone back into the drawer until I can afford a spare that I can use and abuse.

Reader Under the Spotlight - Kyla (2010-11-03 00:00) - Steve



[1]

This week's reader under the spotlight is Kyla (Caribbean Princess), who is relatively new to the blogging world. She is a public health doctor, epidemiologist and former Rhodes Scholar who loves blogging about public health and anything else that is stylish and fun, from filofaxes to fashion to scrapbooking. You can check out her musings on her blog '[2]Musings of a Caribbean Princess'

1. When did you buy your first Filofax and what was it?

I bought my first Filofax when I started specialist training in Public Health medicine back in August 2008. I had never seen them before as they were not really popular in the Caribbean or on hospital wards but I noticed that many of my work colleagues in the office owned them. I got a Personal Botanic in lime green and it served me well until its retirement in August 2010.

2. What other brands have you used or considered using?

I also own a 2011 WeekDate planner (recommended by [3]Plannerisms Laurie) which I will use when I start my PhD in January. I have also ordered some Day Timer note pads in their 'Garden Path' collection (which I am waiting on excitedly) to use as inserts in my 'Achieving Personal Excellence' Filofax.

3. Out of the organisers you own which is your current favourite (Style and Size)?

My absolute favourite is my damson Personal Adelphi (my work filo) as I love the regal purple colour and the feel of the leather. I must admit that the raspberry Personal Chameleon is a close second as it is so beautiful!

4. How many Filofax organisers do you own?

Nine! I went from two to nine in less than 2 months so I am now on a self imposed filofax ban. In the Personal sizes I own a damson Adelphi, pink Finsbury, raspberry Chameleon, lime green Botanic and lilac Domino. In the pocket sizes I own a red Butterfly and raspberry Metropol. I have an A5 Domino in black and chocolate brown Hampstead.

5. *What do you use your Filofax for?*

Everything! I like to be organized as it allows me to make the most of my days. I use my filofaxes as planners for work/travel, as well as notebooks for inspiration and achieving personal excellence. I even have one for scrap-booking, which I have seen referred to as a Craft-o-fax. I gave my husband the Hampstead to use as a notebook as I didn't like it so much. The only one that is not currently in use is the Chameleon as it is so lovely!

6. *What was the feature about Filofax you like most?*

I love the style and quality of the planners. There are so many options, colours and materials to choose from. It is really personal, and you can customise it to suit yourself or even different aspects of your own personality and life. I love the fact that I can totally 'pimp my filofax'. I really enjoy using my filofax as in addition to being a diary it is also a fashion accessory and so much nicer than boring looking smart phones.

7. *If you could design your own Filofax what would it feature?*

I would love to have two pen loops as I like using different coloured pens. The pen loops should also be stretchier to accommodate larger pens. I am also a fan of the external width pockets that come on some filofaxes. My dream filofax would be glamorous with super luxurious leather and it would definitely come in purple! It would also come with my favourite inserts (currently the pastel coloured ones).

8. *How do you carry your Filofax?*

In one of my many handbags..... I never leave home without one!

9. *Which Filofax in the current range do you like the most? Are you going to buy it?*

I would love to own the Personal Deco in purple. If it is still available in some years' time (3-4) I may ask hubby for it as a gift when I eventually become a consultant, or finish my PhD. I also like the Finchley in Imperial Purple. One of my first year medical students owns one and I keep on ogling it!

10. *What is the most you have ever spent on a Filofax? Which model?*

My damson Personal Adelphi cost me £65 from Filofax UK. I bought the others from eBay or other online stationers to get better value for money.

11. *Turning to Philofaxy, what do you like the most?*

The community is the most important part of Philofaxy. People are so friendly and I really enjoy the fact that it links such different individuals together to share information about a common interest. People have been very helpful and supportive of me as a baby blogger (for example Laurie first advertised my blog on this site) and so far I have had 2 free Skype lessons on installing Google Analytics and Setting up an RSS feed from Steve!! Thanks Steve. It has enabled me to start building on-line friendships and the posts are also well written and interesting. It is my favourite blog by far!

12. *And what do you not like about Philofaxy?*

Is there anything not to like?

13. *What was the last music album CD you bought or downloaded?*

I use iTunes so I don't buy music albums any more. The last 2 songs I downloaded were 'She's Always a Woman' by Fife Dangerfield and 'Just be Good to Green' by Professor Green/ Lily Allen. The last album I received (as a gift from my brother in law) was 'The Element of Freedom' by Alicia Keys.

Thank you Kyla for being our reader under the spot light, and my tuition invoice is in the mail.... Only kidding!!

1. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TM2UWo4d0VI/AAAAAAAAIaE/5mPcCV7Aqz4/s1600/me+at+desk.jpg
2. <http://caribbeanprincessmusings.blogspot.com/>
3. <http://www.plannerisms.com/>

kanalt (2010-11-03 21:19:50)

Excellent post! I love learning more about the many readers of the blog.

Mid Week Finds (2010-11-03 16:30) - Steve

So it's been quite a busy week on the web. I hope you enjoy the following 'finds':

- [1]My Raspberry Delight - [2]Miss Jade Vixen
- [3]The Filofax Daily - A daily newspaper that covers most of the Filofax stories that appear via Twitter, updated each day.
- [4]The Chic Shops of Katonah - Normally I wouldn't have included this link, because Filofax only gets a single word mention, but I loved the detail the author went to in describing this shop. At least if you had looked up this stockist on the Filofax USA site you would know what to expect if you were travelling there specially to look at their Filofax stock, or to [5]meet up with another Filofax Fan.
- [6]Filofax in interior shots - Some great apartment photos, admittedly they don't look lived in to me!

Enjoy the rest of your week... the weekend will soon be here and our next [7]Skype chat too....

1. <http://missjadedvixen.blogspot.com/2010/11/my-raspberry-delight.html>
2. <http://missjadedvixen.blogspot.com/>
3. <http://paper.li/tag/Filofax>
4. <http://www.guidemehome2westchester.com/2010/11/2/the-chic-shops-of-katonah-fine-lines>
5. <http://lifewellplanned.blogspot.com/2010/10/mini-filofax-meet-up-new-hampshire.html>
6. <http://www.designblahg.com/blahg/reviewd-designer-visions-the-setai.html>
7. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/10/date-for-your-filofax-sunday-7th-nov.html>

caribbean princess (2010-11-03 17:10:45)

I can't find the filox in the interior design shots :(Someone help!

Is your Filofax just for you? (2010-11-04 15:15) - Steve



[1]

We always think that our Filofax is our own personal organiser, but I'm sure a lot of our readers use their Filofax organisers for organising their families. Especially people with busy school age children, who these days seem to have a far more active social life than I can ever remember!

So when I read a blog post by Susan it got the brain really ticking... Susan's 'Me Binder', is solely for herself. I won't describe Susan's '[2]Me Binder' you are better reading her post in full. But I'm sure a lot of people will be following Susan's example.... oh yes... another use for that spare Filofax that has been sat on your shelf... what you don't have a spare one.. I won't say any more!

1. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/_4tBdoXe7Wr4/TNHDU7RHoAI/AAAAAAAAA4g/KTBaf1CNhKs/s320/SAM_1123.JPG
2. <http://lifewellplanned.blogspot.com/2010/11/me-binder.html>

Katie (2010-11-04 16:50:12)

Mine is definitely just for me. Being only 18 I don't have much planning to do for anyone else!

kanalt (2010-11-04 20:53:17)

Good for you, Katie! => Thanks for featuring my post, Steve.

Jotje (2010-11-05 03:42:31)

I only share the A5 Filo about the kids with DH. He's very careful with the binder itself, but it annoys me that he keeps adding notes on random pieces of paper (the other day the backside of a letter!) with his notes, leaving me with the choice of either just punching it or rewriting the whole thing ... (sigh).

My recipe binder is for everyone to see and open and use. Strangely though, it never motivated anyone to actually do that and - heaven forbid - to start cooking ... LOL

Petra (2010-11-05 14:13:14)

My rabbit filo is specifically for and about my rabbits. Not that I let them use it (they'd love to nibble it!), but it is the record of their medical care, food, birthdays, likes, dislikes – everything that a temporary or permanent caretaker might need. Hubby pays no attention to any of that, so I've felt the need to document it carefully!

My computer/electronics filo is a record of everything electronic we own, upgrades, downloads, original purchase details, final disposition, etc. Plus it has lists of future purchases or maintenance needed. Since I maintain our home network of 5 computers (give or take a few), it pays to know what I installed when, or which computer had the funky virus!

Jotje (2010-11-06 08:04:55)

Petra, a filo designated to your rabbits? How awesome is that? Could you upload some pics on Flickr? I really would love to see that!!!!

Millie (2010-11-06 14:46:57)

I love the idea of a Filofax just for your pet, Petra!

I don't have kids, so my Filo only includes me! I am toying with the idea of having one for work and one for "extracurricular activities" though.

kanalt (2010-11-07 07:35:54)

Millie - I don't have kids either. But my main Filo is more for appointments and things that need to get done whereas the Me binder is all about self-improvement.

Free For All Friday no. 103 (2010-11-05 00:09) - Laurie

Last weekend Europe changed their clocks, and this week it's the US's turn.

I grew up in Indiana, and back then we didn't change our clocks at all. Half of the year we were on Eastern time and the other half of the year we were on Central time. So when everyone else in the country changed their clocks, we changed our time zone. Even now I couldn't tell you which half of the year we were on which time zone. It was especially confusing to me as a kid when the TV program commercials would announce the show's time as "8 o'clock Eastern time, 7 Central" and I'd still have no idea whether to tune in at 7 or 8. I think most adults were confused by it too.

Despite the confusion, there was much resistance several years ago when the powers that be decided it was time for Indiana to join the masses and change their clocks too. So now the state is on Eastern time all year round. Except for the parts of the state that are on Central time.

Anyway, as always on Fridays the floor is yours for anything Filofax related! Don't forget to join in the Skype conversation Sunday the 7th at 5 pm UK time/ Noon Eastern time!

Steve (2010-11-05 06:59:59)

Ooo first comment!!

Couple of things...

1. Lighter Later are doing a campaign at the moment to move UK to the same time zone as Europe, I think it has a lot of merits...especially for me when it comes to watching UK TV!

<http://www.lighterlater.org/>

2. QV have just done a great blog post, take a read here:

<http://tinyurl.com/38jjxhj>

caribbean princess (2010-11-05 07:55:28)

Nice blog post from QV. I don't like the dark afternoons either but would it be acceptable for those further up North in Scotland (like Laurie) without the clocks going back?

Femke (2010-11-05 10:46:53)

(new here, HI! You featured my Dutch blog a few weeks ago, and now, with my three fillo's and one on the way, I feel I should comment here!)

My iPhone has trouble with daylight savings, so I've been waking up an hour too late the first day after DLS.

Thank heavens that my trusty filofax still knows my schedule.

Laurie (2010-11-05 10:48:07)

You know what, normally I would prefer more light in the evening. But now that my oldest is in school, I really like the fact that the sun is up at least by the time she's eating breakfast. When I was a kid, in the winter the sun didn't come up until after I was already sitting in my classroom, which was a real drag to say the least. I really appreciate that I'm not walking her to school in the dark!!!!

Jotje (2010-11-05 11:45:26)

I also started my winter school days in the complete dark. But I totally loved it! I thought it was really exciting. The heating in the classrooms was open full-throttle, so we were all really cosy and warm, while there was still freezing darkness outside. Those pictures will stay in my memory forever, and I really cherish them

That said: I am totally 'pro putting UK in the same time zone, cos now Ebay can be really confusing ;-)

caribbean princess (2010-11-05 13:10:08)

Femke that problem with the iPhone happened to me too as hubby uses his iPhone for the alarm. Fortunately for us, I use my old Vodafone phone instead as I am slightly anal and so we were ok (although I had forgotten to change it over and so I was up at 5.30, needless to say DH was not pleased!) haha

maranlov (2010-11-05 14:12:00)

I wish that would pick some time, either daylight savings time or not – whichever works best in the winter – and then leave it there all year. Summer has plenty of daylight regardless and the time changes really mess with me. I spend about 3 weeks after each change tired and feeling out of sorts.

Nellie (2010-11-05 15:27:05)

In need of some inspiration. I have a small memory stick which stores hundreds of reference documents I use regularly. I would like to keep it in my personal classic, but it makes the file bulky if I put it in the zipped pocket. Any ideas on how I could carry it around?

Happy Friday everyone!

Den (2010-11-06 00:25:28)

I remember carpooling with some friends up to Spirit Rock in Woodacre, California back in '93 to attend a "Day of Mindfulness" with the Vietnamese monk Thich Nhat Hanh. His main base of operations is Plum Village, near Thénac in the Dordogne. To get to Woodacre, we had to leave very early and spent the whole day there. The once and future Governor of California, Jerry Brown, was also in attendance, not as a speaker or celebrity, just as a person interested in TNH (later as Mayor of Oakland, he invited TNH to speak there in an effort to stem the violence in that city). Anyway, by the time we got back into Vallejo, the sun had gone down. "Gee, we left in the dark and we're coming back in the dark," my friend Mikki noted. "Next time we'll have to pay more attention," I quipped. Zen humor?

kanalt (2010-11-06 09:00:52)

Laurie - I had no idea Indiana was so confusing like that! That's crazy - how did you know what time it was at all? Making parts of the state one time zone and the rest a different one seems a little drastic - couldn't they mark the line around the state?

I don't like that it gets dark before I leave work in the winter, but I do enjoy the extra hour of sleep we get when falling back.

shepcraig (2010-11-06 09:26:35)

Up here in Scotland it is dark by 4pm, I hate it. Makes us all suffer from SAD

Michele (2010-11-06 09:29:40)

This year I cannot wait for the extra hour as my 16 year old son is learning how to drive, and he insists on driving to school in the morning. Up until tomorrow, it's been so dark and when it rains, I'm even more nervous. I'll be glad for this Monday morning. Filos are getting a real workout this week, and hopefully I'll be on the Skype call tomorrow. I bought a new web cam with a microphone several weeks back, but it doesn't seem to be working right. See you tomorrow!

Gareth Buxton (2010-11-06 12:12:06)

Hey, have you seen the personalised diaries available @ the FF web site?

<http://www.filofax.co.uk/personalise/>

Jenna Nicole (2010-11-06 16:32:38)

Hi! I'm a new user to the site (and I'm a bit later than Friday!) and I wanted to see if anyone knew if you can order European (specifically Italian) filos and have them shipped to the US.

Anyone know? This is probably a super rookie question, but thanks all you filo-geniuses for your help!

Steve (2010-11-06 16:39:17)

Hi Ms Cake and welcome...

Yes you can order from the Italian site and have it delivered to the US, the shipping rates are here:

<http://www.filofax.it/delivery/>

A few of us I'm sure will be interested to know what you have spotted on there that isn't available elsewhere??

Rgds

Steve

Saturday Night Slumbers (2010-11-06 16:26) - Steve



[1]

Well there's nothing on TV... that interests me anyway. I can hear the rain on the trees coming down outside, so what a better chance to update you all on a few Filofax things.

Firstly, thanks for continuing to buy things on via the site, our commission/donation to the [2]Breast Cancer Campaign is growing, I wish it was the total sales figure we could donate rather than the commission fee, but times is hard, or so the news people keep telling us!

Well spotted Gareth about the [3]personalised diary refills on the Filofax site, I think I recall that they started doing these last year on the Letts Diary site. I wonder how popular they are? I wish you could also customise the diary format itself, I know a lot of us would have a lot of fun doing that.

Jess and Oni attended the Filofax Bloggers event on Thursday night again it was about the [4]Gourmet Gift Box Set. You might have noticed has been reduced in price to £38. Jess has done a [5]blog post about the fashion pages.

Our star reader this week seems to be Kyla ([6]Caribbean Princess) who not just content to tell us about her own Filofax Organisers has done a full review of a friends [7]Filofax read her detailed post on her blog.

Reading the post it lead me to wonder what we will discover/learn from each other when we meet up on the 20th... I think I had better review the contents of the organisers I will be bringing along, before I open them for all to see.....

I am looking forward to the [8]chat tomorrow, I've more or less recovered from my sore throat/cold bug that hit me earlier in the week so the voice should be back to normal by tomorrow evening.



[9]

1. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TDIVUwVAwRI/AAAAAAAAICs/bJ7APnPEZn4/s1600/blog1.JPG
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/10/breast-cancer-awareness-campaign.html>
3. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?awinmid=2457&awinaffid=97790&clickref=Personalised&p=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.filofax.co.uk%2Fpersonalise%2F>
4. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?awinmid=2457&awinaffid=97790&clickref=&p=http%3A//www.filofax.co.uk/gifts/gourmet/>
5. <http://jess-shepherd.blogspot.com/2010/11/filofax-gets-fashionable.html>
6. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/11/reader-under-spotlight-kyla.html>
7. <http://caribbeanprincessmusings.blogspot.com/2010/11/debbies-marvellous-mode-filofax-part.html>
8. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/10/date-for-your-filofax-sunday-7th-nov.html>
9. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?s=228808&v=2457&q=113532&r=97790>

Nickie @ Typecast (2010-11-06 17:18:40)

I love those personalised refills - thanks for highlighting them. I'm off to buy a couple for next year :)

What time is it? (2010-11-07 07:09) - Steve

With the clocks changing back to Winter time and our [1]chat being this afternoon, this should help you get on line at the right time.

New York

Sao Paulo

London

Paris

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/10/date-for-your-filofax-sunday-7th-nov.html>

gdigesu (2010-11-07 09:36:49)

That is a review ...

Nan (2010-11-12 21:52:13)

Kinda hard to believe that the next chat is in December!!

Filofax Gourmet Gift Box review (2010-11-07 08:21) - Laurie



[1]

Many thanks to [2]Filofax UK for sending me the [3]Filofax Gourmet Gift Box to review! It is an excellent product and I think it will be a great gift.

The gift box is comprised of:

- 1) a very nice looking Filofax box
- 2) A personal size [4]Filofax Domino organizer, in either Grape (the color of mine) or Slate (worth 21 pounds)



[5]

3) a really beautiful Filofax [6]pen (scroll down, it's the Silver one worth 20 pounds)

4) a complimentary 2010 weekly diary so you can start using it right away, and the Domino is pre-loaded with the [7]City Dweller Lifestyle Pack for 2011 (worth 17 pounds) which has a unique weekly diary layout and loads of other inserts.



[8]

You can see inside the pages of the City Dweller pack on the Filofax UK website ([9]click here).

Here are just a few examples of what's included in the City Dweller pack:

Weekly diary pages with a very interesting and unique layout.



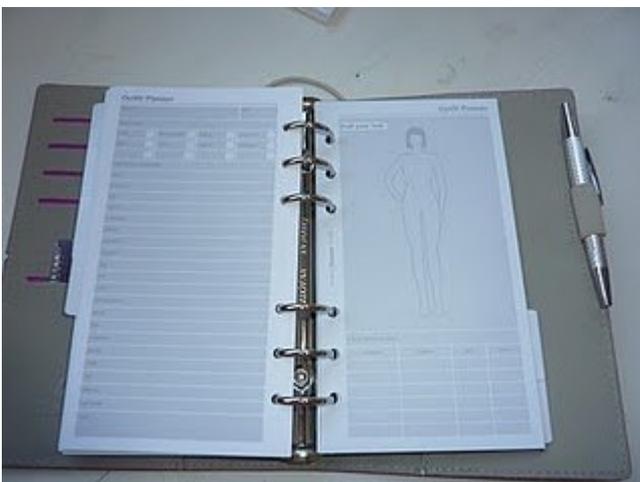
[10]

Budget and Expenses sheets.



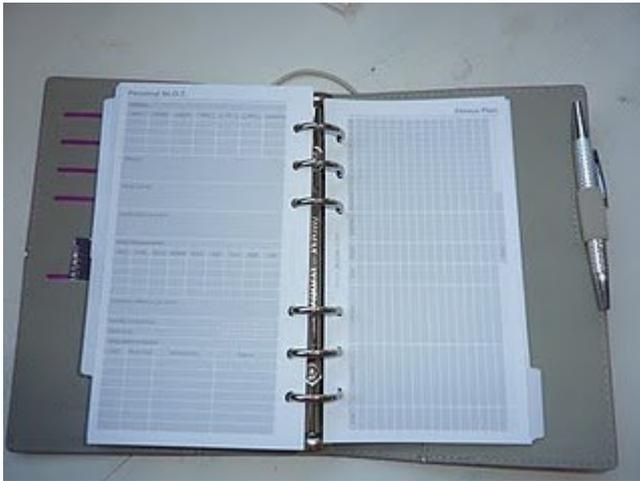
[11]

Outfit planner pages.



[12]

Personal MOT and Fitness plan.



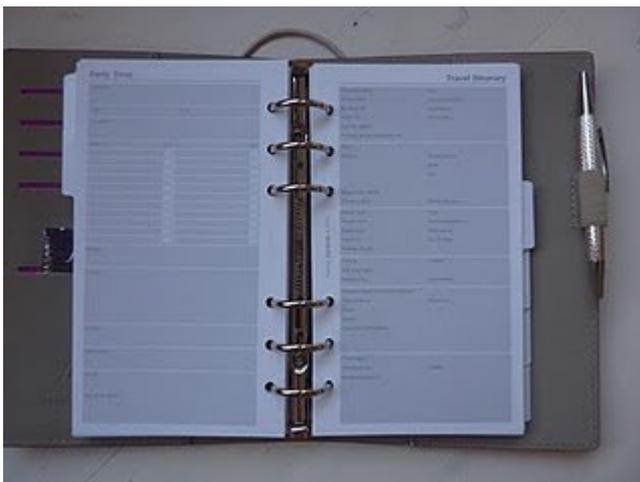
[13]

Shopping lists and, if you can't be bothered to shop and cook, lists for your favorite takeout restaurants.



[14]

Party planning and travel itinerary pages.



[15]

There are also contacts pages, address pages, tabbed dividers, and loads more. You can see inside the pages of the City Dweller pack on the Filofax UK website ([click here](#)).

5) A free 12 month membership to the [16]Gourmet Society UK, which gives you discounts on meals at restaurants all across the UK.

You get all of that, for the now-discounted price of only 38 pounds!! That's more than worth it even if you never use the Gourmet Society discount card. But I highly recommend you do use the discount card, because it is super-easy to use and find a participating restaurant near you.

I had a couple of concerns about the Gourmet Society membership before I started to use it. First of all, I thought there wouldn't be a restaurant anywhere near the small village I live in and that I'd have to travel the 30 or so minutes to Aberdeen to find a participating restaurant. Also, I worried that only high-end restaurants were participating and that I wouldn't be able to find one in my price range.

I'm very happy to report that I was wrong on both accounts. There are definitely higher-end restaurants, but there are also family eating establishments and even national chains, so there are restaurants available for a wide range of budgets.

Also, using the easy restaurant locator on the Gourmet Society UK website, I discovered a participating restaurant literally within walking distance of my house here in our village! There are several in our area, and of course loads in the city.

It was very easy to make my reservation using my card, and the restaurant staff were very friendly and welcoming. Using our card was very easy, and we got a great discount on our meal!

I think this is an excellent gift for a man or woman, indeed anyone who wants to be organized and get great discounts at restaurants for all of 2011!

Many thanks again to Filofax UK!

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TNZyd6bFmpI/AAAAAAAAABZg/Dlr9jQTNbs/s1600/Diaries+2010+102.jpg
2. <http://www.filofax.co.uk/>
3. <http://tidd.ly/3c8ff531>
4. <http://tidd.ly/241657ac>
5. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TNall-UmZ-I/AAAAAAAAABaM/pWt-LHnOcNw/s1600/Diaries+2010+115.jpg
6. <http://tidd.ly/f240b818>
7. <http://tidd.ly/799a962a>
8. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TNZyzbvD7LI/AAAAAAAAABZk/s_A1UxZRAFI/s1600/Diaries+2010+106.jpg
9. http://www.clikasp.com/asp/fsi4/fsi.swf?pages_server=http://www.clikasp.com/asp&pages_dir=*okF9htJmFdjklDr1gDgB%2C5%2Ckuwn7P2S/311VULTqwhfAL7Idp101erXRoRYXwggfeOIiIyn0ie2j%0A4u4a/S/v2U%2C9TgfbxyQbA1%2CGF5f7pooHPRNW7zxJMy5AIkKGsw%3D&cfg=pages_presets/erez_defaults.fsi&MouseModes_Mode2=0&plugins=resize
10. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TNZzHO_jMPI/AAAAAAAAABZo/TTdfI6-ZDUc/s1600/Diaries+2010+107.jpg
11. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TNZzt9b2quI/AAAAAAAAABZw/x5SD9LRBXus/s1600/Diaries+2010+110.jpg
12. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TNaloeGNJOI/AAAAAAAAABZ8/becslxvErUU/s1600/Diaries+2010+112.jpg
13. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TNZ0U5yZGqI/AAAAAAAAABZ4/gMFsItbpK1o/s1600/Diaries+2010+113.jpg
14. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TNZ0BM5sGeI/AAAAAAAAABZ0/6fC5c0Wu8NU/s1600/Diaries+2010+111.jpg
15. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TNZzZ259iBI/AAAAAAAAABZs/Xk9uDCAe5bk/s1600/Diaries+2010+108.jpg
16. <http://www.gourmetsociety.co.uk/index.php>

Nan (2010-11-12 21:50:21)

Ah, the City Dweller! That's the format I've been living in for 2010! It's fun to see it shown in a different context.

Miss Havisham (2010-12-06 08:31:38)

Treated myself to the Grape version and am looking forward to making savings on meals out. Totally agree with you on the price. I think it is fabulous.

Roundtable - Summary (2010-11-08 05:07) - Steve



[1]

So yesterday was the first of our 'regular' [2]Skype Roundtable chats, if you recall we have decided to do these on a regular basis now on the first Sunday of every month. So if you miss one, it's not quite so long until the next one. We had some new people joining in yesterday as well as some of the 'regulars' and I hope it was as enjoyable for everyone as it was for me. People joining in for the first time might have taken a few minutes to adjust to this format of on-line discussion, but after they got settled down it all seemed to flow very smoothly.

I really value all the questions and comments, it's a great form of feedback and helps me when it comes to writing new articles, in particular how much detail to go in to, and this was highlighted yesterday on one small point, so I have a note written down to post an article with pictures about punching A5 with a non-A5 punch.

As usual for this time of year there was quite a bit of discussion about diary formats and we were able to give people a few pointers of sources of different refills and formats.

Quite a bit of discussion took place about the London meeting on the 20th November, all the people that will be attending that were on the discussion yesterday were swapping details about what Filofax Organisers they would be bringing along. So it will be a great day I'm sure.

If any of you find the timing of the roundtables clash with your Sunday routine because of where you are in the world, please pop in a comment on this post and we will try to adjust the schedule a little, but please remember the spread of people around the globe that take part is quite wide.

Today I'm going to be busy ticking things off my packing list for my trip back to UK and the wind and rain are coming down outside so it's time to dig out Winter coats I think!

If you have a moment you might find some of the following posts of interest:

- [3]Debbie's Marvellous Mode Filofax part two - Caribbean Princess
- [4]A new Filofax Generation - Single Mummy Net
- [5]Filofax Yourself - London Beauty Queen

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TNfOhb8JMKI/AAAAAAAAIm4/ulVvk51XMiWU/s1600/roundtables.jpg
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/10/skype-roundtable-proposal-for-regular.html>
3. http://caribbeanprincessmusings.blogspot.com/2010/11/debbies-marvellous-mode-filofax-part_08.html
4. <http://www.singlemummy.net/2010/11/new-filofax-revaluation.html>
5. <http://londonbeautyqueen.blogspot.com/2010/11/filofax-yourself.html>

gdigesu (2010-11-08 15:38:52)

It was a very nice chat. The time of the day is convenient. Thanks for opportunity of meeting you all.

Jotje (2010-11-08 16:43:37)

Sorry I didn't make it! But Sunday at 5 p.m. I'm cooking dinner for my family and after dinner the usual "tuning down and packing kids to bed" routine kicks in ... :-

Does Skype offer a transcript option? That would be neat, cos then we could read up on the discussions afterwards!

Michele (2010-11-09 05:30:43)

Jotje, you read my mind! I was forced to miss as well. Oh well, Dec 5th I have EVERY intention of being there!

Jotje (2010-11-11 13:14:54)

Steve, thanks for the transcript! As for 5th December: that's the day when Sinterklaas (the original Santa Clause) visits all Dutch kids to bring them a busload of presents. No round table opportunity, I'm afraid ...

Avon Filofax - A very brief review (2010-11-08 16:00) - Steve

Alan emailed me some pictures of the [1]Avon Filofax that we mentioned last week.

Well he ordered one, but I don't think he is terribly impressed with it. It's hardly what we would know as a Filofax with a full fill in it.

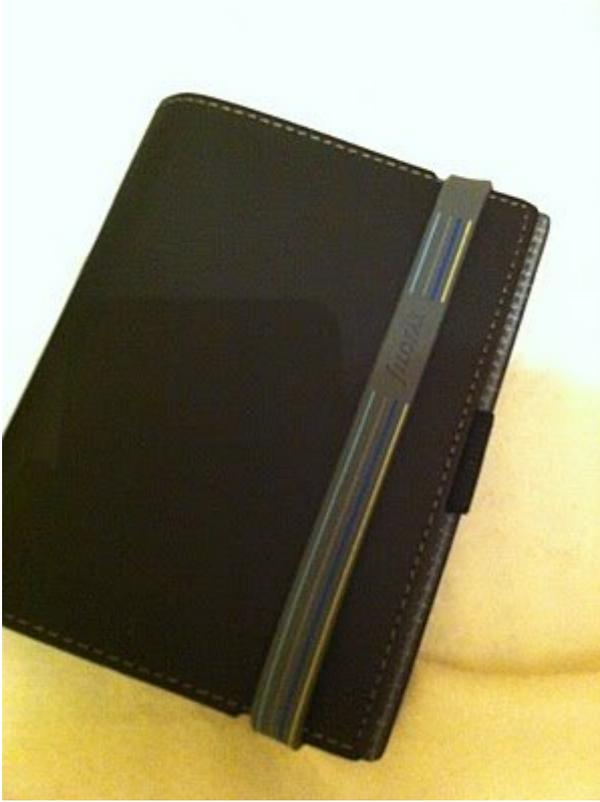
The pocket Filofax is quite cheap in quality, it comes with a diary, some address pages, and some ruled notepaper. No maps, no dividers, not card holders.... which I suppose leaves lots of scope to customise it yourself, but you could be in for a shock if you price up all the add ons...

Thanks for the pictures Alan, I wonder who will be getting it as a Christmas present....

Anyway, judge for yourself.



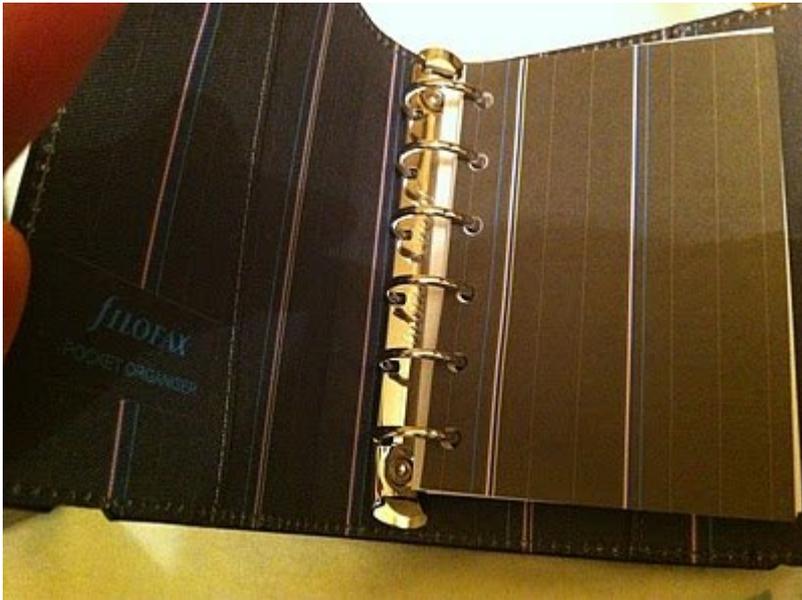
[2]



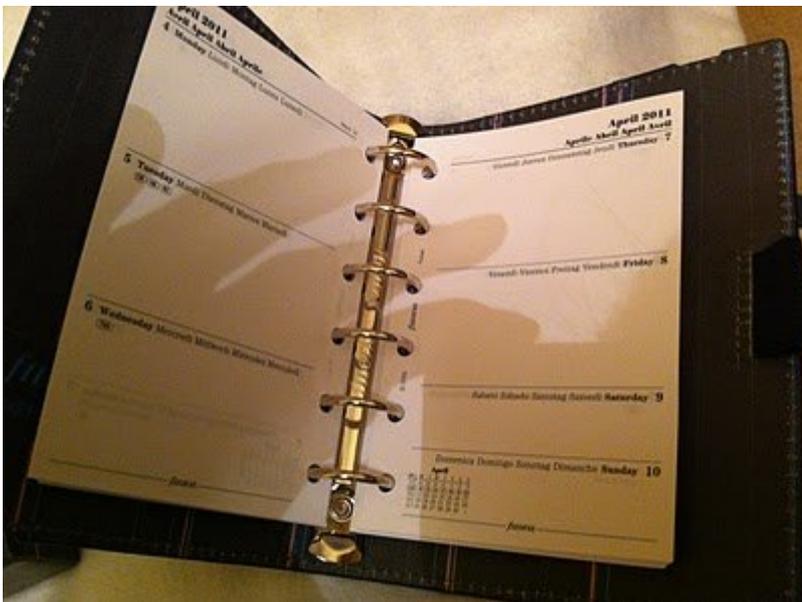
[3]



[4]



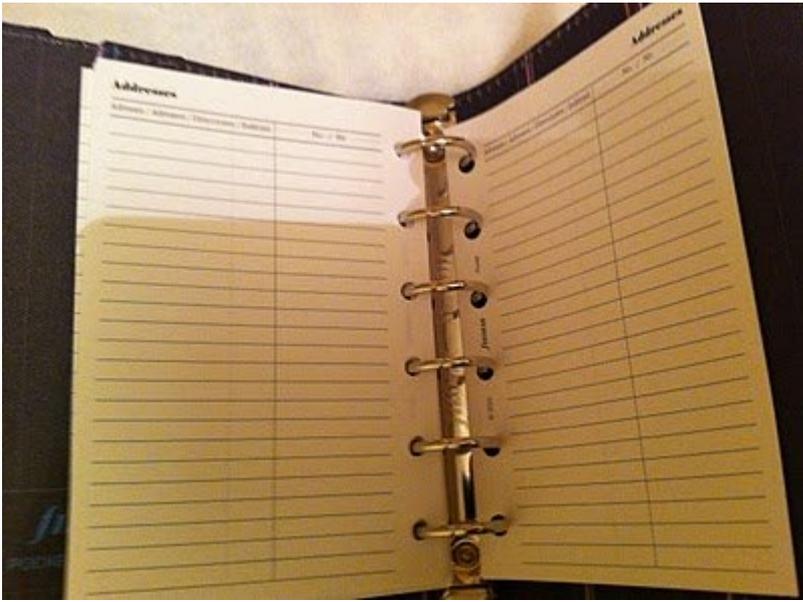
[5]



[6]



[7]



[8]



[9]



[10]

[11]

[12]

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/10/avon-selling-filofax-gift-boxes.html>
2. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TNhdNuDalzI/AAAAAAAAIm8/B8hJ6EDAWZo/s1600/432.JPG
3. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TNhdUr-m8mI/AAAAAAAAInA/SY0zIKSPVI4/s1600/433.JPG
4. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TNhdFz2IEoI/AAAAAAAAInE/exliaYgsqHo/s1600/434.JPG
5. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TNhdIPQaPI/AAAAAAAAInI/QEpLaUTQPUE/s1600/435.JPG
6. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TNhdxsZKY2I/AAAAAAAAInM/phzerIN5W6A/s1600/436.JPG
7. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TNhd50N8fZI/AAAAAAAAInQ/8UDR97s12N0/s1600/437.JPG
8. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TNheEmwu4TI/AAAAAAAAInU/oR8xySBQIhc/s1600/438.JPG
9. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TNheLUYY7MI/AAAAAAAAInY/cwaNwoVE3H8/s1600/439.JPG
10. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TNheSWxYQ7I/AAAAAAAAInc/uLL2Jb5pFyA/s1600/441.JPG
11. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TNhdNuDalzI/AAAAAAAAIm8/B8hJ6EDAWZo/s1600/432.JPG
12. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TNhdIPQaPI/AAAAAAAAInI/QEpLaUTQPUE/s1600/435.JPG

Hayley (2010-11-09 05:33:13)

So glad I didnt order one now! That really does not look worth the money!

Laurie (2010-11-09 08:08:52)

Seems a steep price for what you get. For 30 pounds you can get a fully kitted out Personal size Filofax. This is Pocket size and seems pretty bare-bones.

Nellie (2010-11-09 12:38:13)

It doesn't look good does it? If it didn't have Filofax written on it, I would have said it was a cheap copy made by someone else.

caribbean princess (2010-11-09 13:58:01)

Definitely not impressed by this! Overpriced and doesn't appear to be a quality product. Honestly I would not be happy to give someone this as a present. You can get better products for less money!

Laurie (2010-11-09 14:11:19)

Another thing I noticed from the photos is that there is no name for this style of binder. Normally inside the cover where it says Filofax and the size, there would be a name (like Domino, Chameleon, Malden) etc. This one is nameless, it seems!

Xenontac (2010-11-10 00:26:17)

I think because its a one off promotion event so there is no name. But I want the keychain :)

Ian (2010-11-10 18:21:10)

I can't believe how cheap this looks, and the price is plain ridiculous.

Mid-week recovery (2010-11-10 05:15) - Steve

So having slipped back to UK late last night under the cover of darkness, today is a day of recovery for us both. The French wine has been unloaded... room in the car for some English goods to go back to France... So here are some posts you might like to read this morning over coffee:

- [1]Technology v Paper and Pen - [2]Singlemummy.net
- [3]DodoPader of the Day: Laurie - [4]Dodopad Blog

I'm off to decide which '[5]English Goods' I might take back with me....

1. <http://www.singlemummy.net/2010/11/technology-vs-paper-and-pen.html>

2. <http://www.singlemummy.net/>

3. <http://dodopadblog.com/2010/11/10/dodopadler-of-the-day-laurie/>

4. <http://dodopadblog.com/>

5. <http://tidd.ly/c200ed43>

Jotje (2010-11-10 09:37:27)

May I suggest crumpets, scones and salt & vinegar crisps? LOL

Michele (2010-11-10 18:57:41)

nnnoooo.. has to be cadbury chocolates: Penquins, fudgies, buttons, yorkies... I stock up at Tesco's on about \$40 of these delicious goodies!

Den (2010-11-11 21:20:46)

Spotted Dick. For the non-cognoscenti, please google the term before you report me!

20% off all Filofax organisers and free UK postage from The Pen Shop! (2010-11-11 05:09) - Laurie

Craig from the Pen Shop (located in Jenners department store in Edinburgh) emailed me with this fantastic discount offer:

Get 20 % off **all Filofax organisers, conference folders, briefcases, bags (!) and small leather accessories** at The Pen Shop in Jenners department store in Edinburgh. The Pen Shop carries almost the entire Filofax range so you should find what you are looking for there.

For those of you who don't live in or near Edinburgh, this offer also applies to phone orders, with free UK shipping! Just quote the word "Philofaxy" when you place your order over the phone to get your free UK shipping. There are also discounts available for overseas shipping too!

Here is the direct line to place phone orders:

0131 202 1582

But you have to hurry, this offer is **only through November 21st**. So don't wait!

Many thanks to Craig for letting us know about this fantastic discount!

Free For All Friday No. 104 (2010-11-12 00:01) - Steve



[1] [2] [3]

I came across my pack of stickers the other day... unopened. Do any of you use stickers in your diary on a regular basis?

However, it is a Friday, so tell us all about your latest thoughts and ideas about Filofax.....

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/SnxfVlybgNI/AAAAAAAAAD0k/5P8D1N41nok/s1600/stickers.jpg

2. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/SnxfVlybgNI/AAAAAAAAAD0k/5P8D1N41nok/s1600/stickers.jpg

3. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/SnxfVlybgNI/AAAAAAAAAD0k/5P8D1N41nok/s1600/stickers.jpg

Femke (2010-11-12 04:00:20)

Nothing to do with stickers, but I got a personal Finsbury off ebay, brand new for 5,50 pounds. What a bargain. And I'm so happy with it. Within 3 months, I have purchased 4 filofax's. I'm still on the hunt for a pocket, though.

Saffy (2010-11-12 04:53:33)

After reading everyone's positive comments about the stickers I thought I would give them a go and I have used a few. My daughter loves them but I prefer to use the Bic 4 colour pens (now also in pastel, so makes 8 colours to choose from) to emphasise important dates, appointments etc. Back to Filofaxes, since becoming a regular reader of Philofaxy my collection has grown somewhat and I now have plans to customise my filos. I was even inspired by Jotje's flickr photos to try a mini.

Michele (2010-11-12 06:40:39)

I bought the stickers (personal size) when I visited the Covent Garden Filofax store location in Summer of 2009. Since then, I switched to the pocket and cut the page size in half. I do use them on a regular basis, but I suggest an icon of scissors for salon/haircut appointments! Yesterday, I was in a meeting, and I had misplaced my pen. My colleague gave me her spare Pilot G-2 pen. Has anyone used this model? I highly recommend!

Iris (2010-11-12 07:17:30)

I love to use stickers in my Filo - not only those made by Filofax, but also the Moleskine ones (that come with the red diaries) and all kind of "seasonal" stickers (Halloween, Christmas...) I can get. You can see some pics on [1]Flickr.

1. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/48943937@N07/sets/72157625168172606/with/4849136908/>

caribbean princess (2010-11-12 07:24:20)

Femke congrats on your steal of a deal! What colour was the Finsbury? ebay can be rather addictive for filofax purchases..... I think there is a positive association between reading Philofaxy and owning an increasing number of filofaxes. Maybe a statistical study is in order! hehehe. who would fund me??

Femke (2010-11-12 08:35:24)

caribbean princess, it was the black one, very sophisticated.

I think so too, I discovered this blog right after buying my first filo and now being the owner of 4, doesn't make me feel strange, because there's so many people who have more than me!

DJ (2010-11-12 09:02:18)

Paper is dead! (Long live paper!)

A few years old, but still *à propos*—Malcolm Gladwell on "The Social Life of Paper"

http://www.newyorker.com/archive/2002/03/25/020325crbo_books

TFIF (Thank Filo It's Friday)

Jotje (2010-11-12 10:21:50)

Femke, congrats on your Finsbury! Keep an eye on Ebay, and you'll have a nice deal on a pocket in no time ;-)

BTW: are you Dutch?

Saffy, glad to have been op inspiration. I'm still very enthusiastic about using a Mini as wallet and for shopping/notes lists.

However, the diary section has been removed: all appointments are now in my Personal Malden. I've actually downsized from A5 to Personal, for no other reason that my love for the Malden - how insane is that??? And even better: it works brilliantly!

GCM1066 (2010-11-12 10:24:58)

I do like using stickers in my Filo, but I don't like the Stickers sold by Filofax (in the picture). I find them too hard to get off the sheet to use. I like to use some stickers that I bought at Barnes & Noble. They are called Pam Socolow's Family Facts Calendar Sticker Pack. There are in some of my pictures on Philofaxy in Flickr. Her website is www.family-facts.com.

Femke (2010-11-12 11:38:20)

Jotje,

thank you, I am in no hurry so I'm sure something nice will come along. I just want one with a zipped pocket so I can use it as a wallet, like you do.

And yes, I am Dutch!

Kate (2010-11-12 13:16:26)

I like to use stickers in my Filofax, a pocket Finsbury in purple which is absolutely gorgeous. However, I use craft stickers of cats, butterflies, flowers, etc to brighten up my diary and notes.

The combination of the tactile nature of the Finsbury and the pictures encourage me to use my Filofax a lot so I set up a log book section for my blood glucose readings. As a result, I already have much better control after 3 weeks. Can't wait for the pocket Deco in amethyst on 17 November!

maranlov (2010-11-12 14:01:33)

I decorate my Filofax pages with doodles and stamps (I have quite a collection of stamps from past Stampin' Up parties). It would be a lot easier to just stick a sticker, but I have an issue with the raised place on the page where a sticker is. When I write on the back of a stickered page, the ink smears or joggles slightly as it bumps over the place where the sticker is on the page below.

Alison Reeves (2010-11-12 14:03:11)

Does anyone use a mix of diary formats? If so how do you pull it all together? I can imagine using perhaps a week to view, and daily sheets to plan each day more specifically, but my imagination does not go any further than that!

Nan (2010-11-12 14:16:30)

I bought a pack of stickers, too, but I also neglect to use them. I love the rubber stamp idea...I used to a lot of stamping (making my own Christmas cards, stationery, etc., in combination with watercolors).

I used stickers, and different color inks, much more often when I was using the Covey system. Maybe because the pages were more colorful, it inspired my creativity.

baggirl (2010-11-12 15:29:17)

I use a mix of diary formats- (in my mini so space is a premium!). I have about 2-3 months of week on 2 pages - and then the following 4-5 months on month on 2 pages - and then after that for dates/events that are even more in the future, I use a single sheet of paper.

Then for my "today" page, I have a blank sheet cut long ways so I can still see the current week around it.

It makes sense to me!

Nellie (2010-11-12 15:33:44)

uI was feeling a bit creative today, and saw some really nice postcards in my local WHSmiths. So I bought a set of 6 and have replaced my dividers with them. I'll see how it works out and whether I like it or not.

I don't use stickers though.

Michele (2010-11-13 07:56:45)

Some interesting stuff on the US and UK Filofax sites... The Eton is no longer available in the Personal size. I know I'm receiving the Eton Pocket for Christmas, but now part of me wishes I asked for the Personal size! Also, the Finchley A5 is not available in Mustard - which I got last Christmas! Thank goodness I already received. When I was in London 18 months ago I gravitated toward the Mustard A5 and for the next 5 months was PO'd I didn't purchase!

Petra (2010-11-13 10:23:25)

For those in the U.S., the mustard A5 Finchley is still available and at a great price: <http://www.pensandleather.com/filofax-finchley-leather-a5-organizer-mustard.aspx>

Oops, maybe I should order one before I post this ;-)

And my pack of filofax stickers is also still unopened, but they're nice to look at!

kanalt (2010-11-13 12:41:57)

GCM1066 - I agree completely. I bought the Filofax stickers and have used them but I have a hard time getting them off the page as well, plus they're so small it's hard to put them on my inserts. I am planning to pick up other stickers but I have yet to have a chance...

Alison Reeves - I use a combination. I use monthly sheets for monthly and long-term planning, weekly sheets for weekly planning, and Day Planner sheets for each individual day. I like to keep lots of information on each day that the weekly pages don't allow for. For anything beyond the current year, I use a regular note sheet and add the information in the proper place once future diary pages are placed in the planner.

Jotje (2010-11-14 04:59:48)

filofax.it also has the Mustard Finchley on sale (and a very steep sale at that!). For those in Europe, definitely worth looking into.

Filofax Dream (2010-11-12 14:17) - Nan

Yes, I know we all dream of Filofaxes, but last night I *literally* saw mine in a dream.

In the dream, I had the 2 filofaxes I might normally carry in my handbag...my red Person Finsbury and my pocket fitness turquoise Finsbury. I was stopped by the police (lots of them) for speeding in a mall parking lot. They gave me a battery of tests, testing my reflexes, etc. to make sure I was fit to drive. I passed all the tests, but no one would tell me what the speed limit in the parking lot was or how fast I had been going.

When the police left, there was one man who stayed with me—a very friendly mall security guard. He and I spent the day at the mall, making friends with other people, and he was very protective of me the whole time. I trusted him. At the end of the dream, he and I were hanging out outside the mall with some other people, and he asked me to go inside and introduce myself to another mall employee. When I came back, everybody was gone, including him, and I realized I had left my handbag on a bench. The filofaxes had been taken out, and all my cards were missing. I screamed! My identity had been stolen! In the case of the pocket, he had stolen my diary pages, too. I realized he had gained my trust, planning to steal my identity the whole time. I woke up this morning thinking that I had to start calling the credit card companies before I realized it was a dream.

baggirl (2010-11-12 15:32:49)

Definitely a bad dream! I quite often have good filofax dreams - I am in a shop and it has an amazing array of filofaxes that I have never seen before. I find the ultimate filofax and then I find one that is even better.... then i wake up and lose that lovely satisfied feeling, and can't even remember exactly what it was that made the filofax so perfect...

kanalt (2010-11-13 12:50:02)

baggirl - I have had similar dreams, where I'm in a store surrounded by tons and tons of Filos, all mine for the taking. I'm so excited in the dream and when I wake up I'm disappointed that I don't have any. More often though, I have this dream about bags. Based on your ID, maybe you have too? =)

baggirl (2010-11-13 15:52:29)

Hi kanalt, you guessed quite right- yes bags and filofaxes...!

To Do Notes (2010-11-13 12:56) - Steve

One our readers Anthony wrote to us with a new file for the files area:

Here is a form I thought you might like to post on the site. For 2011 I ordered the personal size 2 page per day. I was not able to order it for 2010 but I still wanted to see if I would like using that format, so I created a similar page with 10 todo lines on the top, and some lines for notes on the bottom. It prints out double sided on Letter size paper, so you can cut them out and place one sheet between each of the dpp sheets to create 2ppd. When printing the pdf, the pages seem to line up best if you turn off any fit to page settings, but have the auto rotate and center setting on. Thanks Philofaxy!!

Thanks Anthony, this file you will find in the [1]Files area. '[2]Personal Todo/Notes'
If any of you have any files you wish to share with other readers please email them to us.

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/files.html>
2. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/todonotes.pdf>

Jotje (2010-11-14 04:55:42)

Hi Anthony, looks like we have chosen the same setup for next year. I solved the problem of the remaining 2010 months by using the undated Day Planner pages. I tried the DIY way, but unlike you I never found a way to have the pages align back and front.

We definitely must compare notes on the 2PPD format for next year!

GCM1066 (2010-11-14 12:36:16)

I use the 2 days per page format and really enjoy it. My handwriting is big, so the extra space helps. Hope you enjoy the format as much as I do. I also use the Filo Jot-Pads, which are great for extra notes, to-dos, and stuff.

My video review on Filofax UK (2010-11-16 04:16) - Laurie

My video of the Filofax Gourmet Gift Box is up on the Filofax UK website!
[1]Click here to have a look.



[2]

1. <http://www.filofax.co.uk/store/organiserdetails.asp?COLOURID=196&RANGEID=159&SIZEID=3&DSIZEID=3>
2. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TOJLyvVfR0I/AAAAAAAAABbA/GuRDd_Qtlo8/s1600/Diaries+2010+102.jpg

Jotje (2010-11-16 06:01:23)

What a great review, Laurie! I'm particularly impressed that you can talk on and on, without any hesitation and no "ehms" and "ehs". And that grape colour looks even better in the video

Laurie (2010-11-16 06:10:57)

LOL "talk on and on," yes I can certainly do that!! :D

And yes, the Grape color is really beautiful. As a purple lover, I have to say I like the Grape even better than the Lavender.

Laurie (2010-11-16 06:19:08)

You can tell it takes me almost an entire minute to loosen up a little bit. I'm so self-conscious on video!!

Adirondack Explorer (2010-11-16 11:25:26)

Nice job, Laurie!!

caribbean princess (2010-11-16 16:15:53)

Laurie you were great! A real natural :-)) I prefer the Grape too but I already have the lavender. I didn't think you looked self conscious at all. It was very professional. I am so excited to meet you on Saturday.

AspireToBe337604 (2010-11-16 16:38:50)

Laurie, you are a STAR! I thought you provided all the information required to sell this product with such panache! Your additional information about the gourmet club card (the inclusion of the high end restaurants as well as affordable restaurants with all the price points in between) - very good to know. You did that segment with such ease ... congratulations on a lovely job!

Steve (2010-11-16 18:21:42)

You are a natural Laurie... well done.

I think we could more of these videos for Philofaxy. I have a couple of ideas for some but I'm not sure I will equal your excellent presentation skills!! Although as they say practice makes perfect I guess!!

Great stuff.

maranlov (2010-11-17 14:26:21)

I notice Filofax USA now has finsbury and chameleon gift sets (appear to be the binder and a coordinating pen).

Steve (2010-11-26 10:50:01)

Hi Laurie

There are a few other similar reviews turning up on You Tube, and they look like they have copied your excellent review.. but they don't do it as well as you have done.

One amusing one...

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PSHsjb2B6HA>

It looks to me as if somehow the video has been reversed, all the writing is back to front! The Domino has become a left handed one etc... how does that happen with digital video?

Steve

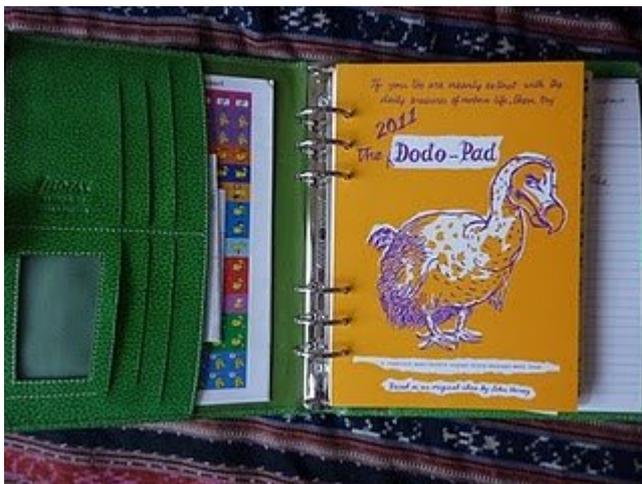
2011 Dodo Pad diary A5 Filofax insert (2010-11-17 09:48) - Laurie

This A5 Filofax compatible Dodo Pad diary insert was graciously sent to me as a sample by Rebecca at [1]Dodo Pad. Many thanks to Rebecca!

The [2]Dodo Pad diary has been a fixture in British households for nearly 45 years and counting. It started as the original desk size diary, and now comes in a variety of sizes and formats including this [3]A5 Filofax-compatible insert.

(Heads-up: when you order a [4]2011 A5 diary insert, while supplies last you also get a free 2010 A5 Dodo Pad diary insert so you can start using your new diary right away! Also, [5]click here to get the discount code that will get you 10 % off Dodo Pad products totaling £30 or more, for the entire month of November.)

Here you can see how great the Dodo Pad diary insert looks in my [6]A5 Finsbury:



[7]

(You can also see my [8]Dodo Pad Save The Day stickers in the front pocket.)
In the front of the diary there is a very handy year view planner for 2011:



[9]

Here are a few examples of the weekly layout. Every week is different with art, interesting facts and humor. (Click photos to enlarge.)

There are facts about history:



[10]

Literature:



[11]

And just plain fun stuff like International Talk Like a Pirate Day!



[12]

The week is set up in a grid format so that you can track each member of the family, or alternatively use the daily boxes for morning/ afternoon/ evening/ to dos, or any number of ways. You could even use it differently each week.

([13]Click here to see more examples of the weekly layout.)

In the back of the diary there are several pages for notes and forward planning, and a year view planner for all of 2012:



[14]

Inside the back of the diary there is more space for notes, and a very convenient list for "Indodispensable Data" such as quick-reference phone numbers etc.



[15]

So if you're bored of the same old diary layouts, tired of your oh-so-serious diary inserts, or just want to add some fun to your Filofax, I highly recommend the [16]Dodo Pad diary Filofax inserts!

I'm bringing this with me to the Philofaxy meetup this weekend so you Philofaxers attending can check it out!

1. <http://www.dodopad.com/>
2. <http://www.dodopad.com/dodopad/dodo-pad-diary-diaries-wall-calendars.html>
3. http://www.dodopad.com/acatalog/Diaries_Calendars__.html#aDFXA11
4. http://www.dodopad.com/acatalog/Diaries_Calendars__.html#aDFXA11
5. <http://dodopadblog.com/2010/10/29/november-discount/>
6. <http://www.filofax.co.uk/store/organiserdetails.asp?display=&sizeId=5&rangeId=37&dsizeId=5>
7. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TOPh9bvdcJI/AAAAAAAAABcM/SwlmXIC6Q5U/s1600/Diaries+2010+164.jpg
8. <http://www.dodopad.com/stickers/stickers.html>
9. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TOPiW1GidoI/AAAAAAAAABcQ/vqSsZX46y3g/s1600/Diaries+2010+165.jpg
10. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TOPIrt1XTKI/AAAAAAAAABcU/RF_ya42vhQc/s1600/Diaries+2010+166.jpg
11. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TOPi9EOn58I/AAAAAAAAABcY/cW0_XpZrtAY/s1600/Diaries+2010+167.jpg
12. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TOpjPRJhVrI/AAAAAAAAABcc/XXENKq0S9CQ/s1600/Diaries+2010+168.jpg
13. <http://www.dodopad.com/pages/Dodo-Pad-search-inside.htm>
14. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TOpjJfXVeZI/AAAAAAAAABcg/LOtx1lg4aks/s1600/Diaries+2010+169.jpg
15. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TOpj2jdPFSI/AAAAAAAAABck/wG80gQwbQeI/s1600/Diaries+2010+170.jpg
16. <http://www.dodopad.com/dodofax/filofax-compatible.html>

Erin (2010-11-17 14:03:52)

Hi Laurie

Is that the emerald Finsbury? I love that color! It reminds me of Ireland and Scotland!

Erin

Petra (2010-11-17 15:43:30)

That Dodo Pad diary reminds me of two planner items I ran across recently that are also quite humorous. Search the U.S. Amazon website for "Do it later planner" and "Not todo to do list" (first todo as one word). The Do It Later planner has some great procrastinator wisdom in it! That one is also on the U.K. Amazon site.

I hate to say that both of these are right up my alley!!!

caribbean princess (2010-11-17 16:31:11)

Looking forward to seeing this insert on Saturday. The do it later planner sounds amazing. I will have to check it out!

Laurie (2010-11-17 17:12:55)

I have a similar planner from 2005 called the Procrastinator's Planner. It is hilarious yet practical, with things like 800 numbers to order flowers on Mother's Day.

Erin yes it's the green Finsbury which, sadly, has been discontinued! I bought it in 2008.

Femke (2010-11-18 02:39:11)

I have bought the 2011 Dodo pad diary for my personal Filo, I have a fear it will be too small for my liking, but we'll see.

Jotje (2010-11-19 05:25:33)

"each family member".

Hm ... not if you have 4 kids. Which is why I'll stay with organised mum for the family related planning ;-)

Laurie (2010-11-20 09:13:01)

Jotje there's actually plenty of room in the margin to use as a column for a 6th person. But, I do understand being addicted to a particular planner. When you find something that works well for you, it's hard to switch to something else!

Kittykitty (2010-11-30 08:44:32)

Wow, that's a great insert. Sometimes I wish that there were a list of filofax inserts somewhere.

Free For All Friday No. 105 (2010-11-19 03:50) - Laurie

I'm very excited about the Philofaxy meetup in London tomorrow! I'm really looking forward to meeting you all. As always on Fridays, feel free to leave a comment about anything Filofax-related. Have a great weekend everybody!

Steve (2010-11-19 04:34:07)

Likewise I'm really looking forward to the meet up.

Sorry for the 'lack' of posts from me in the last week or so. I've been busy with 'family matters' which has kept me off the internet quite a bit!!!

But I'm sure the meet up will generate lots of interesting posts...

Have a great weekend where ever you are....

Jotje (2010-11-19 05:24:01)

Hope you guys have a great time tomorrow!!!!

gdigesu (2010-11-19 06:00:35)

Have a nice meeting tomorrow. We're all curious about the developments of your discussions. If you have a chance, ask the Lady in charge of Marketing when and where Filofax is opening in sunny Brazil.

Michele (2010-11-19 07:35:58)

Have a lovely time tomorrow! My English boyfriend was coaxing me to fly to London from NY just for the meet up, but I reminded him that if I were to go, I would HAVE to buy a new filo, and I knew a new one already was Christmas wrapped waiting for me!

Yvotchka (2010-11-19 09:16:34)

Have fun you guys! Those of us from the rest of the world will be there in spirit :)

caribbean princess (2010-11-19 11:25:30)

Thanks! I am really looking forward to it although my train journey will be a nightmare! I am sure it will be very worthwhile though.

David Popely (2010-11-19 11:40:21)

I'll be there in spirit, even though distance and work commitments keep me away. Have a great time. Can we have a free-for-all Sunday, please, to allow for general debriefing on the get-together to take place?

Adirondack Explorer (2010-11-19 12:58:21)

With the rest of the group I lend my voice to you all having a great time in London.

Erin (2010-11-19 16:38:07)

I will be there with you all in spirit. Have a wonderful time!

Erin (2010-11-19 17:36:06)

Hello

I have put myself on a self-imposed Filofax diet because I have WAAAAAYYYYYYYYYYYYY too many! However, I still need to come up with my system for 2011. Any ideas? A5 or personal? Which color? Which style? I want to pick one and like Nan in a past post, stick with it for at least 3 months. Please give me any ideas all you wonderful folks out there have!

Nellie (2010-11-20 09:20:20)

A bit late for Friday, but hope it still counts! We have been on our holidays, and of course my Filo came with me... but... while I was away, I noticed it had started to rust. I have had it about 7 or 8 years I would guess, and there is a little rust spot developing on the metal bar which runs down the middle. I am gutted.

PA3789 (2010-11-24 16:13:00)

Hi All!

It's been a long time since I post to this blog. Just wanted to drop a note and wish everyone a happy holiday!

And to let all know I have rejoined the Filofax group and ordered a Scanda personal for 2011.

Take care!

plaiditude (2010-11-24 20:41:29)

PA3789, you'll love the Scanda! In fact, I just returned to my Scanda today after using my black Finchley for a few months. I love the Finchley too but a new fountain pen I just got would not fit into the single pen loop. Feels nice to be back in my Scanda with TWO pen loops that have elastic!

London Meet Up - 20th November 2010 - Quick Report (2010-11-20 16:33) - Steve



[1]

I except you are all wondering how the meet up went today. So this is just a very quick and short post about our day. I will be writing a more comprehensive report including photos in the next few days. But as I'm travelling and not back home in France until Tuesday afternoon, there might be a slight delay....

Firstly thank you to everyone, those that were able to attend, and those of you who supported us, but were not able to attend. I think I'm right in saying we had a great afternoon together.

We started with lunch in Tate Modern. Lots of 'getting to know each other' discussions over the main course.... then in the pause before desert someone got out their Filofax.. and it started a whole trend of all of us getting out Filofax organisers of different styles sizes etc... people had to be reminded of the time and to order desert!!! The picture to the right is during our 'Filofax Course' part of our meal together! Don't worry I will put names to all the faces in the pictures in my full report.

At about 3:30 we started making our way along the embankment, it was a bit like a school trip, I had to keep doing a head count to make sure we hadn't lost anyone!! But we navigated our way along a very crowded South Bank of the River Thames towards Waterloo Bridge and then across the bridge and in to the busy crowded streets of Covent Garden to the Filofax Shop in Neal Street.

We then more or less took over the shop and had a great time looking at all of the different models, some of the sale items on offer and chatting with the shop staff.

As 6pm approached we all said our good byes and headed off in different directions for trains home. I know by the time I got back to my hotel in Tunbridge Wells, I was tired and shattered, but after a shower and a beer I started to reflect on the day and everything we did and said. What a great day and it will be one I will remember for a long time.

So this is short and sweet, I will expand on all parts of our day in my more complete post and I'm sure you will be smiling when you see some of the photos of the day.

Again thank you to you all, you all made it happen, and I'm sure we will be doing this again soon.

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TOg9QnoN1EI/AAAAAAAAAIoc/R_OOrRg7zBw/s1600/IMG_9648.JPG

Sharon (2010-11-20 17:07:44)

Steve I have to second what you have said, it was a great day and I had a wonderful time. I won't be forgetting it anytime soon.

It was lovely to be able to names and faces together and just chat and get to know each other, and of course swap Filofax ideas etc.

The staff at Neal St were lovely!

So looking forward to the next one, whenever it may be! Already been scouring Ebay for my next potential purchase!

Laurie (2010-11-21 04:41:47)

So sorry I had to miss this!!! Kids and I have all had a nasty cough all week and I kept hoping I'd be well enough to go, but yesterday morning I was still feeling too rotten to go. I'm glad you all had fun!! Can't wait to hear more details. :)

Jotje (2010-11-21 05:52:56)

I'm so jealous! That lunch table with that heap of filofaxes looks like soooo much fun!!!! So, did you guys buy anything in the Filofax store or were you able to resist the goodies ... :-)

Dilaila (2010-11-21 06:44:51)

I'm jealous too. Wish I was still in England. May be over for a visit in the first quarter of next year though.

caribbean princess (2010-11-21 06:53:25)

I had a fantastic time. My dream would be to have an international one (maybe over a couple of days). I would soooooo go to that!! hehehe. :-))

I have posted part one of the London meet up on my blog here

<http://caribbeanprincessmusings.blogspot.com/2010/11/philofaxy-london-meet-up-2010-part-one.html>

Also for those in the UK the Giveaway closes at 4 pm today so be sure to enter

http://caribbeanprincessmusings.blogspot.com/2010/11/second-royal-giveaway-with-cs-n-stores_15.html

Michele (2010-11-21 06:54:07)

Oh I agree with Jotje - that table looks fabulous with all those filofaxes! I was at the Tate Modern in July 1999 and it was the Neal St. store that the shopkeeper commented that I must be in my Nirvana. Looking forward to the full report. I'll be in England in three weeks but order of business is chocolates at Tesco's and William and Kate T Towels, commemorative dishes, etc.!

Nellie (2010-11-21 08:11:38)

Looks like you had a wonderful time! Will there be another meet up next year? I would love to come and meet you all.

Steve (2010-11-21 14:27:47)

Full report now on line.....

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/11/london-meet-up-20-november-2010.html>

Steve

London Meet Up - 20 November 2010 (2010-11-21 14:10) - Steve

So after the brief taster last night.... here is a more full detailed report from my own point of view. No doubt the other people that attended will also be blogging about the meet up from their own perspective and we will post the links to these posts as we get to know about them.

So my day started on Tunbridge Wells railway station, there was a bit of a feeling of déjà vu about this. Back in the mid 1980's when I bought my first Filofax, I used to commute to London everyday from this station, I've rarely used this station since I stopped commuting to London every day in 1988. So the start of the day brought back memories of sitting on a train looking through a 1980's Filofax catalogue trying to make sense of it before I bought my first one back in 1985!!! The trains yesterday were running late due to engineering work, so nothing has changed really... so much for progress!!

Alison and I sat chatting with some people also travelling up to London for the day and the journey passed quite quickly. I had jotted down directions from the station to different locations and between those locations in my Filofax, so I was confident of not getting lost.....

After we arrived at Charring Cross we headed for Covent Garden for a very quick visit to the Apple Store so I could buy an iPod Touch, I would have ordered it on-line, but we weren't in any one place long enough during our UK 'tour' / holiday. That done, we then headed over to Tate Modern, much along the route we would be following back to the Neal Street store. It was a bit of a cold damp day, nothing like the lovely weather we had back in [1]April when I met up with Laurie, so we were walking at quite a brisk pace.

I had a 'fully laden' camera rucksack with my camera, a bunch of Filofax organisers and other goodies as well as my netbook... mad I know but 'just in case'. We got to Tate Modern at about 12:45 and had a quick comfort stop and then we found a bench outside of the Cafe to sit at to wait for people to appear.



[2]

BillyNoMates waits to see if anyone is going to turn up!!!

Everyone (Oni, Karen, Kyla, Adam, Sharon, Fiona) arrived within a few minutes of each other and Alison managed to get a table reserved for the eight of us without too much difficulty. We all trooped in and everyone was comfortably chatting with each other whilst we ordered food and drinks etc. Having eaten in the cafe before I knew the food would be good and also good value for money.

[Click on any of the photos to see a larger version of them, and use your 'back' button to return to the post]



[3]

L to R: Adam, Kyla, Fiona, Steve, Karen, Sharon, Oni



[4]

L to R: Karen, Sharon and Oni



[5]

Kyla and Fiona



[6]

Oni



[7]

Steve, Kyla and Alison (Steve's wife.... the hand of Philofaxy!!)

Not every restaurant has Starters, Main, Filofax and Desert Courses

Once the main course had been eaten and the plates cleared out of the way.... out came the Filofax organisers and the fun really started!!! I don't recall who's came out first... but I think it would need a 'photo finish' to detect which was the first etc.. because once one was out on the table being shown so the table just filled up and we were passing them around and walking about to chat and look and comment about them all.



[8]

Kyla and Fiona



[9]

Sharon and Oni looking through Adam's impressive A5 Filofax



[10]

Fiona explaining to Alison how she uses her A5 Filofax



[11]

Karen at the far end looking through Sharon's 'Craftofax' and Sharon, Oni and Adam



[12]

Kyla with someone's Filofax Mini... she thought it was so cute she sat holding it like that for several minutes!

Time seemed to fly, because I suddenly realised that we were supposed to be at the Neal Street store for about 4pm and it was now 2:45 and we hadn't ordered deserts yet!!

So Filofax Organisers were repacked in to bags and desert was ordered and consumed and then we got the bill out of the way and then we headed off for Neal Street as a big group of 8 people. I felt like the Pied Piper... leading at the front and making sure I hadn't lost any of the party... people were all chatting and joking with each other I don't think they realised the distance we walked. But all of us got to Neal Street together.

The Shop

We gathered outside of the store just after 4pm, it was a little too dark and crowded to take a big group photo... but I did jokingly say 'Now boys and girls take deep breaths before we go in'

And I wasn't far wrong, even I was quiet seeing so many Filofax Organisers in one place in so many different colours, it was just breath taking. One of our group (who I won't name!!) was smiling and giggling and hanging on to anybody's arm or hand for fear of getting carried away in the store... it would have been so easy to do serious damage to your credit card in there in the space of an hour!!!



[13]

Again we grouped up to look around and discuss the pros and cons of different sizes and colours and styles. It was quite funny in some ways, other members of the public were still coming in to the shop to buy things, I'm not quite sure what they thought of us all laughing and joking and chatting away looking at virtually everything in the shop.



[14]

Look Fiona, isn't this beautiful, do you think I should buy it???



[15]

Oh Oni, I can't make my mind up.... do you think I should buy this, it's very beautiful.....



[16]



[17]



[18]

Dee the store manager was very patient and showed us some of the newer products and enjoyed chatting with us all. She attended to all of our purchases and when we opened our bags we all appeared to have some 'extra' things in them.... which was very very kind of her and her staff.

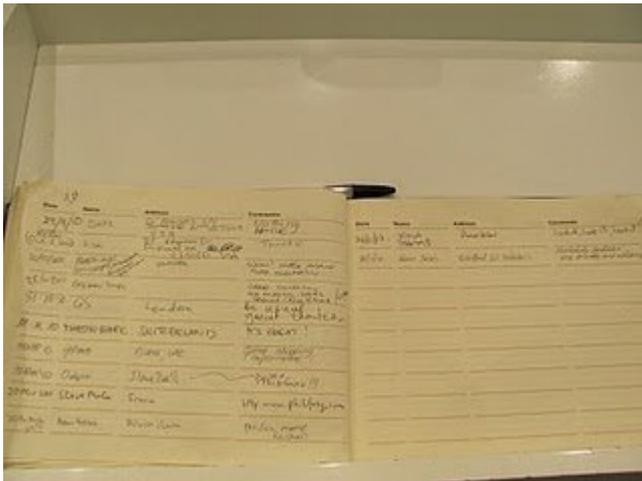


[19]

Dee showing off the latest range of Filofax Pens

I didn't note down what everyone bought... no doubt they will add a comment. Kyla (CP) had bought a shopping list with her... which on reflection was a good idea, I should have done the same really. In the end I talked myself in to buying a Pocket Chameleon in Black, which I will post about separately in the next week or so. I looked at other possibilities but I decided that that was the one for me in the end.

We also all signed the visitors book in the store and left some 'suitable' comments.



[20]

As we all became 'shopped out' we all started planning our journeys home and we all had to say our good byes, but I don't think anyone went away disappointed from the day. I know by the time I got back to Tunbridge Wells I was fairly shattered and I just dived in to the shower and ordered up room service and then we both slept like 'logs' until this morning, but lots of great memories from the day when I started to look through the pictures and comments.

Reflections

When we left Tate Modern people in the group were already saying we need to do this again or at least every 4-6 months... and they hadn't even got to the shop at that point. But I totally agree I would love to meet up again, not just the same people but others as well. Someone even said we should do a meet up over two days!

It was just great fun and everyone got on so well with each other it was if we had known each other for years, not 'minutes' A mad idea came in to my head (nothing new there!!!) I wonder if we could do a 'Summer Philofaxy Picnic in a Park' may be, although we would be putting a lot of faith in the London/English weather, but it could also be alot of fun.

Whilst we were limited to a total group size of 10 people because of the size of the Neal Street store (quite narrow) the number seemed to work well. Anyway... as always I will have a think about another meet up and we will see what we can come up with for next time. Having met each other I think some of the people that came along might also be in touch with each other and may be meet up as well, which would be great.

This year has been a great year for Philofaxy (from my point of view anyway), the community ie you the readers are all so great, your support just inspires me on (and I suspect Nan and Laurie as well) to keep coming up with new ideas and things for us to do and share with you all. This meet up is certainly one of the high-lights of my year and it's been quite a year for me already with the move to France etc. The only low point yesterday was getting the phone call from Laurie to say she couldn't make it because of illness.....but there will be a next time Laurie that is for sure...

So thank you all for making it such a great day, and a big thank you also to Dee and her staff at Neal Street for letting us invade her store and letting us handle nearly every organiser on the shelves!!

I'm certainly looking forward to the next meet up....are you?

Oh and one last thing... Alison loved meeting everyone and she even said she is considering going back to using a Filofax again, we got to discuss which size would suit her best over breakfast this morning... guest post in the making I think!!!!

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1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/04/philofaxy-london-meet.html>

2. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/_NjIPaFKXqQ/T01aL8EeqeI/AAAAAAAAIog/9bEQEXnKXXc/s1600/2010-11-20-Philofaxy+001.jpg

3. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/_NjIPaFKXqQ/T01bDeWjEcI/AAAAAAAAIok/3dZtS6nhPeI/s1600/2010-11-20-Philofaxy+008.jpg

4. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/_NjIPaFKXqQ/T0lduiP7ZgI/AAAAAAAAIoo/y57gt8NNvb8/s1600/IMG_9643.JPG

5. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/T01eH5NbwfI/AAAAAAAAAIos/sh3VvOc4pHM/s1600/IMG_9645.JPG
6. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/T01eN8Mnu6I/AAAAAAAAAIow/r0iJpJ9nk08/s1600/IMG_9644.JPG
7. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/T01fVjqweeI/AAAAAAAAAIo0/8xqlJgOiL44/s1600/P1011400.JPG
8. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/T01gDqm6XxI/AAAAAAAAAIo4/C3_CkVSSIRQ/s1600/IMG_9659.JPG
9. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/T01gRCf9CfI/AAAAAAAAAIo8/HNbP2-u5gxo/s1600/IMG_9651.JPG
10. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/T01gcdAtgoI/AAAAAAAAAIpA/FsNRtBjVR1g/s1600/IMG_9652.JPG
11. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/T01gm8nEeKI/AAAAAAAAAIpE/sTSQFUZGTPA/s1600/IMG_9654.JPG
12. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/T01g-4HOZ6I/AAAAAAAAAIpM/92ChMF9G9fc/s1600/IMG_9656.JPG
13. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/T01jCSzm0rI/AAAAAAAAAIpQ/WeYkgjp7eWg/s1600/IMG_9667.JPG
14. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/T01mcdRD-LI/AAAAAAAAAIpk/YWyy2uX4qpM/s1600/2010-11-20-Philofaxy+009.jpg
15. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/T01mwia8brI/AAAAAAAAAIpw/OnjyTkthOQ4/s1600/2010-11-20-Philofaxy+014.jpg
16. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/T01mnJCS1-I/AAAAAAAAAIpo/kEXy4j7_vJU/s1600/2010-11-20-Philofaxy+010.jpg
17. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/T01mrcUFEBI/AAAAAAAAAIps/KR5OE6SaD4o/s1600/2010-11-20-Philofaxy+012.jpg
18. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/T01qJRMdfWI/AAAAAAAAAIp8/jcnN5mM0QzA/s1600/2010-11-20-Philofaxy+025.jpg
19. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/T01mVhI0efI/AAAAAAAAAIpg/TRTyuR3lj0c/s1600/2010-11-20-Philofaxy+023.jpg
20. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/T01kweDUOcI/AAAAAAAAAIpY/mGhLdPjwwYs/s1600/2010-11-20-Philofaxy+030.jpg

caribbean princess (2010-11-21 14:27:59)

hahahaha. I LOVE this post. Although the entire world can now see how much of a Filofax addict I really am!! But as the pictures clearly show, I had a wonderful time meeting all of you amazing people and I really look forward to the next event! I was so excited, like a kid in a candy store.
Hopefully none of my work colleagues or academic staff will see this post! That's my credibility out the window.....
:-))

Jess (2010-11-21 14:47:22)

so jealous of your meet-up - i really wish i could have been there, me and oni had great fun a few weeks back! hopefully i'll be around for the next one.

t.scholtysssek (2010-11-21 15:55:24)

Thank you so much for this detailed report! It's just great to read it. I really envy you a lot for this unique opportunity. Hope I could/may join you next time, whatever kind of meet up you plan.

t.scholtysssek (2010-11-21 15:56:50)

Update: t.scholtysssek aka Tommes_S

AspireToBe337604 (2010-11-21 19:55:17)

Oh how lovely! Sounds like you all had such a fun time!

kanalt (2010-11-21 21:53:34)

I'm so happy that everyone had such a great time. I'm jealous that I could not be there, but someday, an international meet up will happen! I loved the photos and to be able to put faces with names. Looking forward to hearing more about it from others.

David Popely (2010-11-22 02:04:16)

Looks like you all had a great time....and I *love* Tate Modern as well - one of my very favourite places in London.

Although I wasn't there, I'd like to add that in my experience dee (the Neal St manager) is not only possibly the best resource on Filofax matters nationwide (or further afield maybe!), but is also one of the most helpful, knowledgeable retail people in ANY kind of shop I have ever been to - so thank you Dee.

I have just one request - PLEASE, if there is to be another meet-up, could the date be set well in advance (I'm talking 10-13 weeks here) for those of us who have crowded diaries to be able to make our plans next time?

Steve (2010-11-22 02:30:14)

Hi Everyone,

Thanks for all your great comments, I'm still buzzing from Saturday!!

David thanks for your comments, my trip back to UK came about because of a change of plan for getting my mother out to France at Christmas. I put out a brief post at the end of August here: <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/08/announcement-possible-london-meet-up.html>

But the shop visit side of things didn't develop etc until quite a bit later. So all comments noted about future meet ups.

In my case they will be planned much further in advance and now that we have had the first one and we have some idea about what people like etc it will be much easier to plan the next one. A few ideas already circulating in my head!!

I pack this morning and travel back to France later tonight on the overnight ferry. Thanks everyone for making this trip such a memorable one.

Regards

Steve

Saffy (2010-11-22 05:29:52)

Hi everyone, I have to say that the meet up was probably the highlight of my year also. I could not stop smiling the whole day! Even on the journey home my mind was filled with what a fab bunch of like minded people I had just met. To see all those Filofaxes in one place and to be able to touch them both at the Tate Modern Cafe and in store at Neal Street, was heaven. I have to confess that I think it was my Gharani Strok that made the first appearance on the table, I just couldn't wait any longer I was bursting to see what everyone had brought along. And like CP I also felt like a kid in a candy store when we made it to the Neal Street store. To see how everyone uses their Filofax is so inspiring. Adams Classic A5 seemed to breathe a life of its own. I was so caught up with the excitement I forgot to sign the visitor's book. I did manage to purchase inserts that you just can't get down south so came away very happy. Let's not make the next one too far down the track. I think we should meet up earlier next time so that we have longer to chat. All in all, a fantastic day.

Globetrotting Cacti (2010-11-22 11:15:47)

I LOVED reading about the meet-up. Looked so much fun. Every-one looked so excited to be in the Filofax store - you could see that clearly.

I also recognise Dee from my trips to the Neal St store. She is so very helpful and knowledgeable. I think another trip for me is book in Spring.

Do you have links to the other blog posts about the meet-up (I presume other members of the trip have blogs). Thanks for sharing,,,

Erin (2010-11-22 13:52:06)

I too am jealous that you all got to meet up but really glad you had a fabulous time! It would be great to do a meet up in the States as well. My hubby had a great idea,,,,,what about an east coast cruise where we all bring a sampling of our Filos?

Michele (2010-11-22 14:29:30)

Adam needs to do a guest post on how he uses his A5 to show all of us who didn't make the meet-up!

Jotje (2010-11-23 04:29:01)

Oh, and one more remark: I love that first picture, with Steve waiting on that bench all alone. It really yells "OMG, please let somebody show up" LOL

Steve (2010-11-26 05:09:27)

Judith: LoL, yes I put that one in for that reason alone!!! But I had a lot of faith that they weren't going to let me down... and I wasn't disappointed, it was a fantastic day.

Must start thinking about the next one, and making it even better...

Steve (2010-11-26 05:11:30)

It would be a silly quiz... but we could have a 'how many Filofax organisers can you count' type quiz for this post.... and before you ask no I don't know the answer!!

London Meet Up - Other Posts [Updated] (2010-11-23 06:57) - Steve

Here are links to other posts about the London Meet Up written by other people that attended:

- [1]The Philofaxy London Meet Up 2010 Part One - Caribbean Princess
- [2]The Philofaxy London Meet Up 2010 Part Two - Caribbean Princess
- [3]The Philofaxy London Meet Up 2010 - Sharon

No doubt there will be more to follow, please be patient...

Steve....back at home in France...

1. <http://caribbeanprincessmusings.blogspot.com/2010/11/philofaxy-london-meet-up-2010-part-one.html>

2. <http://caribbeanprincessmusings.blogspot.com/2010/11/philofaxy-london-meet-up-2010-part-two.html>

3. <http://shazzastitching.wordpress.com/2010/12/02/philofaxy-london-meetup-20th-nov/>

Filofax USA Designer Challenge! (2010-11-24 08:52) - Laurie

Filofax USA is offering some major cash and prizes, not to mention the production of your very own Filofax design, to the winners of their Designer Challenge!

You have the chance to design your own Filofax, and if your design is selected, your Filofax will be added to the Filofax line of organizers!

[1]Click here to read the rules and to submit your design.

Good luck Filofax Designers!!

1. <http://www.filofaxusa.com/store/page.asp?id=137>

Philofaxy London Meet - Snippets [updated] (2010-11-24 14:31) - Steve



[1]

So much was discussed and we saw so many things in the shop on Saturday I was rather blown away by the whole day really.

Thanks for all your great comments and thoughts on my earlier posts.

So here are a few snippets of info that we have remembered from the day and I hope you find them interesting and useful for the future.

- Although not shown on the website the Filofax Shop had packs of pages for the Lifestyle packs, so if you ran out of a particular sheet they have additional ones. Contact Neal Street for details of what is available.
- The Filofax Store sell the organisers without a refill, just the binder on it's own. Each one showed the price with or without the refill, from memory I think the saving was about £5.
- Some of the sales items in the store had to be seen to be believed. For instance they had a Pocket Waveley normal price £160 reduced to £40. The leather was very soft, I was tempted to buy it, but I don't think it would have stood up to the rough and tumble of being in my 'man bag'.
- Another sale item spotted by Fiona (Saffy) - 'The Pocket Maroon Panama was a steal, reduced from £60.00 down to £20.00 which made a 'deluxe' Filofax cheaper than some of their entry level Filofax'.
- Seeing all of the organisers and refills in one place is quite breath taking. It's not like looking through a website, you need to allow more than an hour if you are going to do some serious browsing through the shop!! Please note: I said browsing... not buying, although I defy any Filofax fan to walk out without purchasing something!!
- Kyla (Carribean Princess) says 'Write a list of what you want to get beforehand so that you don't forget (preferably in your Filofax)'
- She also suggests that you 'browse the website and write down the models and sizes you are interested in so if you don't have enough time you can check out your favourites. I am surprised at how much I preferred the Ruby Deco to the amethyst and Saffy (Fiona) felt similar about the spring green Chameleon.'
- If you are thinking of organising your own meet-up try to plan it as far ahead as possible. I got everyone talking together before hand by email. First of all I contacted each person individually to make sure they were happy to share their email address with others. Then I just CC'd in everyone who was attending in an introduction message, then they could just do a reply all to the message and it went to everyone.
- Another one I've just remembered... We all wondered about the [2]Avon Pocket... why? We couldn't think that such a low quality organiser could do the Filofax brand any good...

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TO1nkjr9OBI/AAAAAAAAIsc/GYnhQORBECI/s1600/IMG_9653crop.JPG
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/11/avon-filofax-very-brief-review.html>

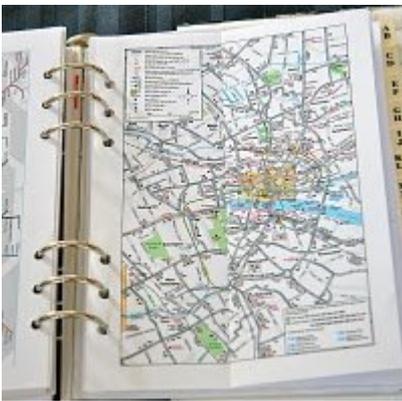
Oni (2010-11-25 18:13:15)

Oooh the Waveley.. I remember that one all too well as I was also very tempted to get one....
I'm glad I didn't though! I'm already spending those 40 quid on a parting gift for a work colleague his week!!
You know what I really missed? getting to chat with you long and proper, Steve!
If there's another meet up, please let it be during nicer weather, this cold's killing me >.< !!!

Steve (2010-11-25 18:45:08)

Yes there will be another meet up that's for sure... just a case of when... and I will make more of an effort to sit in the middle next time, so I can be in the middle of the conversations...

Filofax Travel Journals (2010-11-25 11:02) - Steve



[1]

Using your Filofax as a travel journal is not a new thing. It's great to keep a record of your travels and where you visited, where you stayed, which restaurant you ate at etc.

Filofax sell a [2]Travel Journal Lifestyle pack that Laurie [3]reviewed here and then put it to the [4]test here. Helen told us how she used this pack for her [5]European Adventures.

Today, Cathryn Cook published her own version of a [6] Filofax as a Travel Journal, she hasn't used the Filofax Lifestyle Pack, but built up her own, which I think in some ways is more fun, also there's no point in filling your organiser with pages you know you aren't going to use. Cathryn also posted an [7]earlier article about the way she decided on the contents of her own Travel Journal.

So if you have a trip coming up at Christmas, or you are planning a big trip next summer, check out all of these posts.

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TDIfjfwJnRI/AAAAAAAIc8/_WCwUQvUcDk/s1600/IMG_9187.JPG
2. <http://tidd.ly/35ffe77>
3. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/06/travel-journal-review.html>
4. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/06/traveling-filofax.html>
5. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/07/guest-post-european-adventures.html>
6. <http://www.cathryncook.co.uk/blog/2010/11/filofax-as-a-travel-journal-pt2/>
7. <http://www.cathryncook.co.uk/blog/2010/09/filofax-as-a-travel-journal/>

Millie (2010-11-28 09:52:57)

I feel a bit nervous about using my Filofax as any form of travel journal. What if I lose it? A notebook is way more disposable.

Free for All Friday No. 106 (2010-11-26 00:01) - Nan

I write this having just arrived home from the traditional American Thanksgiving celebration. Or should I say "celebrations," since my husband and I visited both families. The day began with champagne at 11:30 a.m., followed by dinner at noon, sweets and more champagne after dinner, and then on to another house for another round of dessert at 4 p.m. I can hardly believe that I've eaten 3 kinds of pie—pumpkin, cranberry, and apple—and uncountable forms of chocolate.

What does this have to do with Filofaxes? Well, my Filo did make an appearance—I had to pull it out after dinner to schedule a board meeting with my sister-in-law for an organization she and I are both involved with. Mixing a bit of work with play.

I feel fortunate to have always had plenty of family around with whom to celebrate holidays like Thanksgiving and Christmas, but I've always been fascinated by people who celebrate in an alternative way. For example, for a few years my parents fed strangers instead of friends by working at a soup kitchen on Thanksgiving. Some folks like Mexican food instead of the turkey dinner. Let's share some stories!

A more-recent American tradition is "Black Friday," the day after Thanksgiving, which is the official kick-off to the Christmas shopping season. Major retailers open at insane hours (like midnight or 3 a.m.), offering big discounts to shoppers (whose sanity is also in question, as far as I'm concerned).

What are YOU doing this weekend?

Jotje (2010-11-26 03:45:00)

Well, since the snow made its first appearance this winter, I hope it'll stay long enough for a long walk through the wood, together with the kids.

And my Filofax yells that I really need to buy those winter tyres for my car Better get to it right away!

David Popely (2010-11-26 04:03:52)

This weekend I'll be...going to the gym - twice (three times if you count today)...getting into the garden, if the ground's not too hard to dig...checking up on our bees...reading...nesting up with my lovely wife...and most important of all, entertaining our lovely friends Trevor and Andy to dinner on Saturday evening!

kanalt (2010-11-26 05:54:51)

I, too, am fascinated by people who don't celebrate the "traditional" Thanksgiving dinner. To me, it's not Thanksgiving without the turkey and trimmings and family gatherings. But hearing others' stories about alternative celebrations is great! I agree about the Black Friday, Nan. I think people who head out that early to shop are a little nutty. ;) I might miss out on huge bargains by not going, but to me, the sanity I save is far more precious. I don't like shopping on normal days - there's no way I'm putting myself in the middle of that mess.

PA3789 (2010-11-26 06:08:59)

Funny, I was just finishing the dishes last night when I realized how my Thanksgiving has changed.

Not in the traditional way, still carving the turkey and eating way too much, but with the people.

Since my children are all grown, the meal (which for us has always been around 4PM) was just my wife, my youngest daughter (she's 20) and me. My son (he's 30) who lives in Philadelphia (I in hershey) and is married, decided to stay home with his wife and start their own tradition, and my middle child (she's 22) decided to eat at her friend's families gathering.

Really made this one very quiet and I'm not sure I liked it.

As for the future holiday coming (Christmas) I celebrate two, one on the 25th and one on the 7th of January. Those will be interesting also as my own siblings and I don't really talk anymore (and there are 6 of us) and my wife and I decided to stay away because of issues we can't seem to let go.

Hmmm, should be an interesting holiday season!

But I will receive my Scanda personal this week along with some new Parker pens I ordered. So that ill at least make me happy for a few weeks.

Laurie (2010-11-26 07:18:46)

We are snowed in so it'll be snowmen and hot chocolate all weekend long! Seriously, we are getting insane amounts of snow today. I haven't seen this much snow since I lived in Russia!

In the evenings I'll be sitting by the fire with a pile of 2011 planners trying to decide which to use next year! I'm toying (again) with the idea of going day-per-page. I can never seem to make those work for me planning-wise because I can't see the layout of my week. But I love having so much space to write each day!

Jotje (2010-11-26 07:25:36)

Laurie, why not the good old Filo with both Weekly and Day-per-Page inserts?

Although, then it would become very dull on your blog ;-)

Enjoy the hot chocolate! Here, the snow is already melting away (so much for hiking through the snow).

Laurie (2010-11-26 08:54:39)

Because my Filo is enormously fat even with only 6 months of weekly pages in it, I'd never fit day per page in also.

I thought of just using a day per page diary insert in my Filofax, but it sort of defeats half the purpose of using a day per page diary for me, which is the archival factor. I prefer a bound book for daily.

Steve (2010-11-26 10:05:39)

Well sadly on Turkey Day one of the largest producers of Turkey in UK died... Bernard Matthews RIP

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-norfolk-11845703>

Steve

colin (2010-11-26 15:51:27)

Peeps and Filofaxoids!

Does anyone have any old, 1980's-90's Filofax catalogues?

Getting LeFax stuff is possible and I thought that if we could find and disseminate any 80's stuff it would be interesting but also make it easier to identify some of the more rare models.

Just a thought

caribbean princess (2010-11-26 19:16:07)

Will have to prepare for a conference this weekend. But will probably set up my cute mini filofax from ebay, do a scrapbook layout and possibly go see Harry potter. Next weekend is my bday weekend so I have lots planned!

luminosity6 (2010-11-27 16:55:47)

I received my new Filofax this week so I have been enjoying it thoroughly over the holiday break. I dealt with a lot this year and so I treated myself (much deserved!) to a new model even though I have been using Filofax planners for years. I used to post here a while back under another name. Anyway, this new one is a personal size and instead of just transferring in old contents I started with empty slate and am slowly only adding what I need or want.

I also changed diary formats, I purchased the 2-days-per-page. I sort of miss seeing the whole week at one look, although I only have to flip one sheet over to see the rest of the week. I really like to scribble in diary notes at the end of the day along with random doodles so this format is giving me room for that, whereas the week-on-two-pages doesn't allow me quite enough space for that. 2-days-per-page format is very nice, Mon and Tues together on one sheet, then Wed and Thurs. Turn the page and you get Fri and Sat together, and then Sun shares its sheet with an equal size block for notes. So these benefits outweigh my seeing all seven days at once. Nice!

Thanks to everyone for sharing all of your wonderful ideas and inspirations.

Cheers and Happy Holidays!

Jenna Nicole (2010-11-28 14:58:08)

I'm jumping in here rather late, but I have to brag about my Filofax upgrade.

I've been using a raspberry metropol for about 3 months now when my sister saw my filo and wanted one herself.

Long story short, I ordered her an elusive Amber Metropol from eBay after trying to get one from the Italy site. And the seller had no more in stock! I ended up giving her my Metropol and ordering a lovely Mustard Finchley for myself.

I'm amazed at the quality of the leather filofax and OMG Cotton Cream. I adore it. YAY.

Ok, that's all. If anyone would understand, I figured you all would. :-)

luminosity6 (2010-12-01 09:53:13)

Jenna - your new Finchley sounds really nice! Also, if it's the one you have, the week-to-a-page cotton cream calendar has that nice layout with an extra block for notes. I'm sure your sister is also happy with her new gift! Enjoy :)

Filofax Pocket Chameleon (2010-11-27 00:01) - Steve



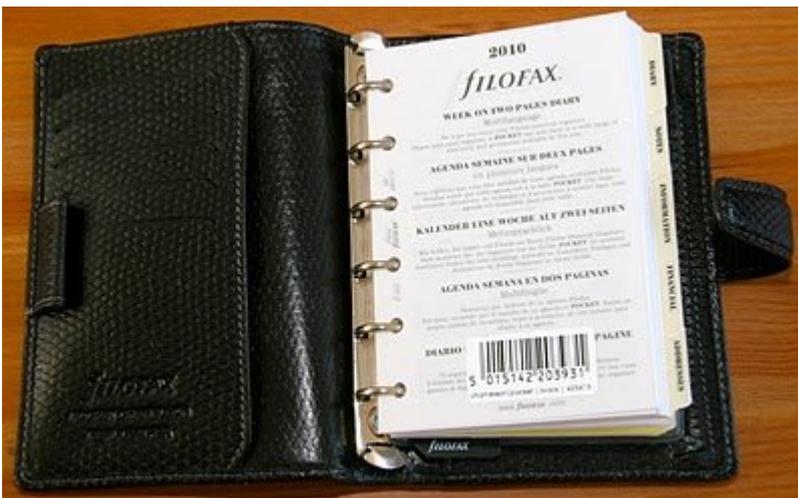
[1]

During my visit to the Filofax Neal Street store last weekend, I had the chance to compare the Malden and the Chameleon in my hands and not just on a website as I did in a [2]previous post.

Both of them were available in my preferred colour of black and in pocket size.

I wanted something to replace my Finsbury Pocket in blue, which I use as my daily carry around [3]Filofax/Wallet that you will have heard so much about earlier this year! This size has been working well for me... hard working in fact.

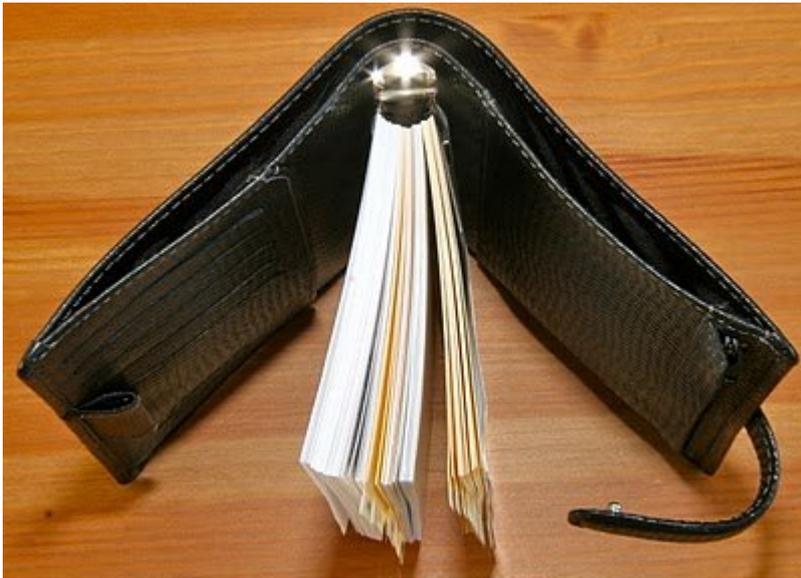
The only downfall I've found with the Finsbury in this mode is that it only has two card pockets and with the pen loop on the right next to the zip pocket it tends to get in the way when I'm trying to retrieve coins from the pocket. The Chameleon solves both of these issues, minor though they might be.



[4]

The left inside cover has 5 card slots, which is about the number of cards I have to carry here in France. Like the Finsbury there is a vertical pocket as well behind the card pockets, which will be able to take my UK passport and UK driving licence.

The pen loop is also on this side, which frees up the zip pocket on the back cover for my Euro coins. The pen loop is a nice tight snug fit for my [5]Filofax mini barley pen with no chance at the moment of it slipping out, which has happened a couple of times with the Finsbury. The pen loop is leather, but it has an elasticated part to it as well. Additionally there is a full width back pocket, which I use for Euro notes, not that I carry much cash!



[6]

The Chameleon like the Malden is a full leather organiser, interior and exterior, so it should stand up to the day to day use it will get better than the Finsbury. The leather is lovely and soft and not stiff at all. As you can see in the pictures above it lays fairly flat from new. By choosing the black there isn't the 'two-tone' effect that there is with the other colours in this model.

Personally I like the way that the leather edging has been finished off on the Chameleon better than the Malden. The additional card slots also swayed me towards the Chameleon as well.



[7]

As you can see I've not moved over to the Chameleon as yet, I will start the 'move' this weekend, I want to also go through the current contents of my Finsbury and have a bit of a tidy up at the same time! The ring size on the Chameleon is slightly smaller than the Finsbury and Malden (15mm compared to 19mm) so I need to slim the contents down a little.

As usual click on any of the photos to see them full size.

Caribbean Princess's detailed review of her personal size [8]Filofax Chameleon in pink is also worth a read if you haven't read it already.

[9]



1. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TO-I_XaqS1I/AAAAAAAAIs0/n-bgLTfAV1Y/s1600/IMG_9683.JPG
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/10/filofax-chameleon.html>
3. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/08/slimline-to-pocket-conversion.html>
4. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TO-IrFf9fVI/AAAAAAAAIso/DQL56jVK1WM/s1600/IMG_9680.JPG
5. <http://tidd.ly/75124c77>
6. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TO-I4WmJpPI/AAAAAAAAIsw/Gp4ia2rbQr8/s1600/IMG_9682.JPG
7. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TO-IyLC1w0I/AAAAAAAAIss/B3iEdQIZ_wI/s1600/IMG_9681.JPG
8. <http://caribbeanprincessmusings.blogspot.com/2010/10/charming-chameleon-filofax.html>
9. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?s=205414&v=2457&q=105782&r=97790>

mywormy (2010-11-27 11:22:54)

Thank you Steve, I think I got it - on my own by the way! Didn't need my son's help! I really like this Filo, I have been debating whether to get it in the Raspberry, and I think I will.

caribbean princess (2010-11-27 11:46:50)

oooh mywormy the raspberry is beautiful! Almost too beautiful as I still cannot bring myself to use it as yet.....
I may give my adelphi a break next spring/summer and use the chameleon then :-)

caribbean princess (2010-11-27 11:52:06)

Steve I am glad you like your Chameleon. It is a lovely design
:-)Although the black looks very serious indeed!

shepcraig (2010-11-27 12:46:54)

The chameleon is proving to be very popular this christmas, filofax are having a few problems with the spring green colour though, and we are finding it difficult to get them in stock, so if you like the spring green, buy it quick, as they are going fast. I was thinking about getting myself the black one in personal size, as I cannot go a day in the shop without lifting it off, the feel of the leather is very unique, unlike any other filofax.

Jotje (2010-11-28 06:10:02)

I have both the (raspberry) Chameleon and the (crimson) Malden. Despite the terrific raspberry colour, I definitely prefer the Malden. Just something about the leather, can't really explain it. Plus, I love that little zipper pocket on the left ...

Nickie @ Typecast (2010-11-28 17:57:44)

I love this idea of using a Filo as a wallet too. I'm off to see what colours are available and put it on my "wishlist"

Date For Your Filofax - Sunday 5th Dec 2010 (2010-11-28 02:05) - Steve

We are going to run another conference roundtable voice chat using Skype.

I'm sure we are gradually getting to know each other's voices, but I will make a point of going 'around the table' to get everyone to introduce themselves this time.

So...When, Where, What, Who and How?

When? - Sunday 5th December from 11am (US East Coast time), 4pm London time, 5 pm Paris time etc. Please

note this is an hour earlier than previous round-tables, the change of time is to see if we can capture some of the people that might have missed previous ones because of the clash of times with meal times etc.

Where? - an on-line chat using [1]Skype.

What do I need? - just a micro-phone and a free Skype account.

Who - All of you... connect up with **Philofaxy** and we will attempt to get as many of us linked in to the audio conference as possible.

How -

1. Connect to **Philofaxy** by firstly searching for **Philofaxy** in**Skype**, I will then add you as a contact.
2. Then '**Start Chat**', I will then add you in to the chat room.
3. Then if you request it, I can add you to the audio conference as well. But if you just want to chat via keyboard that's fine. That way it's slightly less hectic for me!

Come and join in the fun, even if you only pop in to say hello...

As with previous round-tables there will also be a parallel text chat room going at the same time as the voice conference, although I find it too hard to take an active part in both!

If you need any assistance setting up Skype, please pop a comment in this post and I will try and help you get one line. Skype is free for computer to computer calls....

Hope to be chatting with you next Sunday.

1. <http://www.skype.com/>

caribbean princess (2010-11-28 03:52:53)

It's my birthday that day so may not get back from London in time for the earlier start. Will try to join in if I am back early enough.

Millie (2010-11-28 09:55:37)

Ooo, I should be free at that time, I shall try and dip in! I don't know if I have a microphone, but I can certainly do that chat room bit.

Filofax v Electronic Calendars (2010-11-29 08:00) - Steve

My other purchase last Saturday was an iPod Touch.... '**what**' I hear you say... you went to a Philofaxy meet-up having just purchased an electronic gadget that can do calendars and contact lists and to-do lists...

Well yes, but don't panic I'm not giving up on my Filofax, far from it. The iPod Touch can do lots of things, email, play music, browse the web, keep me up to date on news etc. But as a calendar it's rubbish....

I heard your sigh of relief as soon as you read that.... why do you say it's rubbish Steve...?



[1]

Well out of the box, it has a calendar application, but it only offers Day View, Month View and List View. The first two are ok, but the month view is as good as useless on such a small screen. The big omission is a Week View, which as we know from our polls on here is the most used format for Filofax users... Week on Two pages is what we like most.

There are other applications available to give me a Week View, but like so many of these things, working out which one to purchase is a mine field. Yes there are reviews, but they vary of Excellent 5 stars, to this is rubbish don't buy it 1 star.

There is also the nightmare of synchronising the calendars with my Google Calendar, duplicates, lost appointments etc... you don't suffer that with a Filofax

To be honest with you I didn't buy the Touch to replace my calendar or contact list in my Filofax, so I might not bother with all the hassle of trying out these other applications, they will be flawed in some way or other I'm sure. The Filofax is very tactile and you can see straight away what you are getting. It's true 'What You See Is What You Get', there is nothing hidden, it is what it is pure and simple. OK I know we would all like a layout that is personal to us with lots of space for this or for that, but in say personal size, but you can't alter physics, a particular size of page can only give you so much space to write on. An electronic screen is much the same, you can zoom in to see the detail, but then you can't see the other days around it!



[2]

If you have looked at my own blog you will see that over the years I've gone through quite a few electronic organisers. They have all had their issues, and like different Filofax designs/sizes I wish I could pick the best bits from the ones I've owned and put them together in to one device, sadly that device will only exist in my dreams I suspect.

So in the mean time I'm going to relax, and enjoy my (growing) Filofax collection... time for an audit and a change around, now where did I put my new Chameleon.....which I spent more time deciding on compared to the iPod Touch!

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TPOcKowftgI/AAAAAAAAItQ/WpmWfrqh2pQ/s1600/IMG_9702.JPG

2. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TPOcUpz880I/AAAAAAAAItU/SdRD6_e8qUc/s1600/IMG_9701.JPG

David Popely (2010-11-29 08:05:43)

Nice post, Steve. I've got a BlackBerry alongside my FF Hampstead on my desk right now, and I agree absolutely with your thoughts. The BlackBerry, to be honest, is a better contact book than the Filofax could ever be (especially the way I keep adding people to it), but as a diary it will never be able to match the Filofax, because the week view (mine has one, at least) is useless for anything at all, and the day view gives me no sense of perspective on time at all.

The big 'hole' in my system, to be honest, is in task (as opposed to time) management. I think I'm pretty good at the latter, but as I run my own accountancy practice I have *lots* of 'loose ends', deadlines, future tasks that haven't even been started yet but which I can't afford to forget, etc etc. So on that level the search goes on - Outlook (it hurts me to say it) does a pretty good job at the moment. But for diary functions, the Filo will always win - and its just plain nicer, more fun, more tactile to work with.

caribbean princess (2010-11-29 08:07:46)

Steve I totally agree. Nothing beats a Filofax for managing your calendar. Although the Apple gadgets are great I never use my iPad or iPhone to manage my diary and busy life. You are a kindred spirit! Enjoy your new toy :-)

Deborandum (2010-11-29 08:27:36)

Totally agree! My iPhone is horrendous with its calendar functions, to-do lists etc. I'm sticking with my paper based diary. I've got a raspberry Personal Metropol but have bought the Rabbit diary from Ginko!!
My New Year Resolution is to stick to one diary next year!!!

Gareth Buxton (2010-11-29 08:33:12)

Me to. I use my Blackberry as an address book, communicator and as a backup diary. So I duplicate FF entries into the Blackberry as its always to hand, whereas I don't carry my FF everywhere. From a planning point of view and as first place to enter dates the FF wins over any gadget that I own or have owned (its been quite a few!). The best electronic planner I owned was the Psion Series 5 - that had a *proper* weekly view. Sadly long gone.

Hayley (2010-11-29 09:28:40)

As you may remember from my post about Tecnology vs paper, Me and technological diaries do not get along in any way shape or form, however I also have an ipod touch which I love! But no matter how many different calender related ap's I download the filofax wins every time!

tommess-net (2010-11-29 09:56:34)

Dear Steve Morton,
great post, almost nothing to add!!
Just one more thing:)

I prefer my iPhone's address book, because it has much more space. Unfortunately, I have not yet found a Filofax address layout to meet all my needs. There's just too much information I need to put in it: address(es), mail addresses, contacts (AIM, Skype etc.) multiple phone numbers, and so on. It's just too much for the Filofax, but it's all in one place in the iPhone.

But definitely, this is the only thing, where there is something superior to any Filofax.

Kind regards,
Tommess S.

BR (2010-11-29 11:27:18)

I love my iPod Touch but I don't use the calendar at all. I use the contacts list, however, but mostly out of paranoia. Several years ago, on holiday, I left my Moleskine with all my English addresses in King's Cross Station. Last year my computer went down and took my e-mail address book with it. In the summer, my husband dropped is mobile in a lake - a really deep lake. I now have every in at least three places, just in case.

JJ (2010-11-29 11:40:31)

What can I say.. I love organizing tools. I even have a few of those Casio digital diaries. And at one time thought they were superior to paper.

But paper is more permanant and FLEXIBLE. Need more fields? Need to add a customer history for just a few contacts and not all of them?

Open the rings and add a blank page.

pilgrim (2010-11-29 18:48:33)

I agree, I've got a Blackberry Pearl as an electronic organizer, but my Filofax in Pocket and A5.

I find both work together perfectly.

Andy

andymccann (2010-11-29 21:33:00)

For those struggling with task management, you might want to check out the Autofocus method (<http://www.markforster.net/autofocus-index/>). I use it with a 5x7 notepad that I carry around, but it could easily work with a Filofax.

Chan Woo (2010-12-07 03:53:43)

Hi. A First timer.

I have been a huge fan of pen and paper, and I still keep a common book/diary that I write in with my fountain pen, but I have started using my iPhone 4 as my calendar/To Do list keeper/address book, and retired my paper based system.

I used to be a cynic, but once you set up the iPhone to sync with your gmail/contacts and google calendar the first time, it is no nightmare at all to remain synchronized, as it will do so automatically each time you input a new entry.

I can hardly believe that I am saying this myself. Either way, though, I have the best of both worlds as I keep a paper "diary" while using the iPhone as an "Agenda" that I can access on multiple points without the hassle of transferring data by hand.

Did that make sense?

Chan Sung

Seoul, Korea

kanalt (2010-12-08 21:40:01)

I use my iPod Touch for when I'm on the go and don't have my planner with me. Every week I enter my schedule into my Google calendar, which syncs with the touch. I can then refer to it if I need to. I don't plan anything using it, however, since the Filofax is the master calendar. I also love the touch for the wi-fi capabilities. It works perfectly with my Filo.

Graphmed (2010-12-10 19:38:49)

These last years I shifted from an electronic organizer to a paper based system then electronic then paper ...

For the moment I'm using a combination of the two systems. What made me use my ipod touch for at least part of this system was the purchase of the Pocket Informant app that let me do more sophisticated things than the native calendar app.

You may want to take a look to the lite version of this app.

Millie (2010-12-11 05:51:58)

I've never even tried the calendar app on my iPhone, but I certainly won't be testing it after your comment! I like to be able to visualise my week, which is why paper planners are better than electronic calendars.

Also, if the server crash at work this week that I kept me on Twitter for 3 days proves anything, it's that you should back up all appointments in a paper planner so you don't miss meetings because your computer is broken!

Filofax Christmas Offer - 20% off organisers (2010-11-29 15:28) - Steve

This weekend (Friday 3rd December, 4pm until Monday 6th December, 5pm) Filofax UK are offering a 20% discount on all organisers! Simply enter the promocode **XMAS20** at the checkout to redeem your discount.

Click on the advert below this weekend to see the full range and benefit from this discount, note the timing of this offer.



It is very tempting isn't it....

Drop a hint to your other half about that Christmas gift you have been craving for all year....

Also over on the [2] Filofax USA site. From now until 3/12/2010 or 3rd December 2010, if you spend more than \$10 use the Promo Code **CYBER3** to get free shipping.

1. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?s=233962&v=2457&q=115225&r=97790>

2. <http://www.filofaxusa.com/>

(insert name) (2010-11-30 11:56:18)

WHSmith seem to have cottoned on to this... on their website (not in store), they have many Filofax on half price! I just got a lovely Kendal (rrp £60) for £30! :o)

Only in the UK though, I'm afraid...

1.12 December

Breast Cancer Awareness Campaign - Donation (2010-12-01 06:40) - Steve



[1] *researching the cure*

You might recall about six weeks ago I announced that all of the commission from Filofax sales for October and November would be donated to the [2]Breast Cancer Awareness Campaign. I checked on the website last night and in total I earned £16.85 during that period.

This morning I made the donation on-line and got back the following acknowledgement email:

Dear Mr Morton

Thank you very much for your kind donation of £20.00 to Breast Cancer Campaign. You have also allowed us to claim Gift Aid which will add an extra 28p to every £1 you have donated, for which we are most grateful.

Thanks to research, more women than ever before are beating breast cancer and your gift is vital to our continued success.

To find out more about Breast Cancer Campaign, please do call our Supporter Care team on 020 7749 4114, email

[3]supportercare@breastcancercampaign.org or visit our website

[4]www.breastcancercampaign.org

Thank you once again for being one of the people whose generosity is bringing us closer to beating breast cancer.

With kind regards,

Arlene Wilkie

Director of Research and Policy

P.S.

If you feel inspired to support us in the future, you may consider taking part in our wear it pink day on 29th October 2010 where businesses and schools across the UK raise vital funds for breast cancer research. For further information about this, please visit [5]www.wearitpink.co.uk

Thank you for your support during this campaign, the fight of course goes on and you can donate at any time on the [6]BCC website or by purchasing a [7]BCC Filofax organiser or other products.

1. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TPYx_fmWBN5I/AAAAAAAAItc/zTju0j5aCBU/s1600/bbc_logo.gif

2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/10/breast-cancer-awareness-campaign.html>

3. <mailto:supportercare@breastcancercampaign.org>

4. <http://www.breastcancercampaign.org/>
5. <http://www.wearitpink.co.uk/>
6. <http://www.breastcancercampaign.org/>
7. <http://tidd.ly/16641243>

Nickie @ Typecast (2010-12-01 07:48:11)

Fabulous!

Thanks to all the Filofax readers for making that possible - and to you, Steve, for rounding it up.

Laurie (2010-12-01 07:53:35)

Steve thanks very much for doing this. And thanks to all of you who ordered Filofax products through the Filofax website!
:)

Jotje (2010-12-01 08:08:40)

Thank you! DH lost his niece to BC a few weeks ago, and one of our friends was also just diagnosed (sadly, way too late!). It may seem like BC is easily controllable, but this is still not the case. Awareness is extremely important!!!!

caribbean princess (2010-12-01 14:44:43)

Excellent job Steve and Filofax and filofax readers. Jotje I send my thoughts to you, DH and family as it is very sad! More awareness is definitely needed!

Steve (2010-12-02 03:33:30)

Thank you everyone.

I will let you know when the next months for commission 'event' will be.

Most probably in the new year. Again most probably BCC as they are supported by Filofax as well.

I think we all know a family or families who have had loved ones taken away by this terrible medical condition. Some of them at a very young age.

Taking Stock (2010-12-02 06:00) - Steve



[1]

Do you ever open your stationary cupboard and discover some Filofax inserts you had forgotten you had bought and put away in a 'safe place' ?.... Oh it's not just me then....

After the trip to the Filofax shop last month where I had intended to buy some inserts, but the excitement of the day somewhat took over! I didn't get any.... So I needed to go through what I have 'in-stock' and make a list and either order it up on-line or pop in to a shop when I'm in UK next, which just happens to be in a few days time.

So last night I gathered all of my Filofax organisers and other goodies together and laid them out in a sensible order. As you can see I didn't go too over the top with the placement for the the photo... using a ruler to get them all spaced with millimetre precision...next time!

So from left to right, we start with Mini, which I have inserts for, but no organiser... Then comes the 'Pocket' section, plenty of inserts there and an out of place [2]Heart in Pink... included for completeness, I'm looking to swap the Pocket size Heart for a Mini of some kind (contact me if you are interested, it's a Heart Pocket 2011, new not used). Then in the middle my [3]personal slimline and [4]punch. Then the normal personals including a couple of 'vintage ones', not many inserts spare there, there's also a grape Domino in that stack, not sure what I'm going to do with that one yet. Then finally my A5 which I only have some spare ruled paper for, but apart from the diary ([5]QV Timer 21) I tend to print a lot of my own inserts for my A5, hence my [6]punch.

The job today is to do the Pocket Finsbury to Pocket Chameleon swap over and at the same time work out what I need to buy next week for the other sizes.

1. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TPY0p6fGvhI/AAAAAAAAItg/03WqBqmhuZA/s1600/IMG_9704.JPG
2. <http://tidd.ly/960519fb>
3. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2009/10/slimline.html>
4. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2009/08/rapesco-diary-punch-66-p.html>
5. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/09/alternative-refills-for-your-filofax.html>
6. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/07/will-normal-filofax-punch-work-for-a5.html>

Iris (2010-12-02 08:36:19)

Great collection, Steve!

In my "everyday" Filo I keep a running list of Filofax items I need to buy - so I won't forget anything when I'm in a shop....

Yvotchka (2010-12-02 09:44:50)

Let me know what you need for inserts Steve...I have a whole bin of them and wouldn't mind culling the herd!

caribbean princess (2010-12-02 13:51:12)

The hearts Filofax is very you I think! ;-) I have 2 cute little used minis from ebay now (which shouldn't surprise you as I was mesmerised with them at the meet!)

Methinks you like them too!! See if you can get one cheap on eBay.

Oni (2010-12-05 17:27:50)

I'm wondering about that grape Domino..... hmmmmmm

hmmmm

you know what I mean...

The Crazy Suburban Mom (2010-12-28 13:33:55)

I think I might be the exception to most people - I have one workable Filofax and very few inserts. In fact not enough!

By workable I mean I have an old pocket with rings they don't make inserts for anymore - so yeah.

And I need a ton of inserts - sometimes I go through flickr groups and just drool and people with boxes and closets of inserts!!!

Tracy

This weeks web finds (2010-12-02 12:00) - Steve

Well it's good to see that people enjoyed the meet up on the 20th and you are still talking about it...

- [1]Philofaxy London Meet Up - November 2010 - Sharon. And while you are there take a look at her post about the [2]advent calendar she recently made.

- [3]Caribbean Princess has a new look.... and some posts about her Filofax collection.
- [4]Draw Pilgrim has published the details of her [5]Filofax Pen Case, useful for people that do sketching or use more than one colour in their diary for different appointments etc.
- [6]Perideau Designs have just released a [7]weekly printable calendar page, and there are other '[8]printables' on the site as well.
- And finally.... is a [9]Filofax the perfect Christmas present? Did they need to ask????

Until next time... enjoy.

1. <http://shazzastitching.wordpress.com/2010/12/02/philofaxy-london-meetup-20th-nov/>
2. <http://shazzastitching.wordpress.com/2010/12/01/advent-calendar/>
3. <http://caribbeanprincessmusings.blogspot.com/p/filofax.html>
4. <http://www.drawpilgrim.com/>
5. <http://www.drawpilgrim.com/2010/12/to-diy-for-filofax-hacks-the-pen-case-pattern/>
6. <http://www.perideaudesigns.com/>
7. <http://perideaudesigns.com/blog/2010/03/23/printable-weekly-calendar/>
8. <http://perideaudesigns.com/blog/category/free-printables/>
9. <http://paper-rush.blogspot.com/2010/12/is-filofax-ideal-christmas-present.html>

Free For All Friday No 107. (2010-12-03 00:00) - Steve

So December has arrived, although to me Winter seems to have come early this year, even here in France we have had some cold frosty mornings. Plans for our Christmas are coming together and may be it's time to think about any changes to the format of diary you are using in your Filofax.



[1]

I find it quite a difficult decision to make at the start of each year, mainly because I don't like changing mid year. As you will have seen I've been using some Quo Vadis inserts for the last four months, this has been a good trial to have done ahead of the start of the new year. So far no issues so I will stick with my [2]A5 Timer 21 which is a QV Trinote look alike!

So have you decided on which format to use next year yet? But as it's a Friday we open the door for you to discuss anything Filofax related.

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TH63IfGjt0I/AAAAAAAAAIRM/iWKipFgsaoQ/s1600/scan0004.jpg
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/09/alternative-refills-for-your-filofax.html>

David Popely (2010-12-03 02:41:26)

Hi Steve

I'm still undecided about 2011 diaries - because I'm undecided about whether to use my Personal or my A5 as my main system for next year. I constantly find the Personal too small for business, while the A5 leaves me looking like a dork when I carry it around at the weekend - and its *heavy*, and I'm trying to minimise (or minimalise) my 'stuff' at the moment.

I already have the week on two pages with appointments inserts for the A5 and the week on two pages (no appts) for the Personal, so it will be one of them. Whenever I get tempted to use the day-per-page 'professional' A5 set (which I do from time to time) I remind myself that they give me no sense at all of the 'landscape' of the week, and so am able to lie down until the temptation passes!

So at this moment in time the jury is out on 2011.

I also have an issue with task management. I think I'm a pretty good manager of time, but tasks really give me a problem. I run my own business with a *lot* of small tasks, large tasks, tasks which need to be broken down into stages, deadlined tasks, future tasks not yet started but which I cannot forget.....etc. Does anyone else have a similar situation, and if so, what specifics do you use to manage your task-load? Although I'm an accountant, I think someone like a social worker might have a similar task-load scenario.

Would be interested to hear from such an august and knowledgeable bunch of people!

David

Alison Reeves (2010-12-03 04:16:37)

I have the same problem as you David with tasks and projects so I will await comments from others in a hopeful frame of mind!

I have more 2011 diaries than days of the week. However as I work for myself and have two businesses it is important that I only use one diary. I have an iPhone and have recently discovered an app which shows a weekly view - something the original diary didn't have. I plan to use this for my diary, and also use outlook synced to my iPhone for contacts. I'll then probably use a page a day sheet for daily planning.

The main use I want to put my filofax(s) to is for planning (any ideas for tips for this would be welcome) and to store goals, inspiration, tasks and so on. I've recently decided to use one for work and one for home so I am busy setting these up.

Really hope to get some tips on planning and task/project management.

Yvotchka (2010-12-03 10:33:46)

I am still in a 2011 planner quandary myself.

Half of me wants to simplify and have only one planner for both work and home, and have it portable enough to be w/me 24/7.

For this I have a personal set up with Day Timer's 2 Pages Per Day inserts, so I can use the right hand page for ALL my lists, action items, notes, etc. but this leaves virtually no room for tabs, so everything must go on the daily pages. Which will keep them fresh in mind I suppose.

The other half wants to break my life into two planners - one to carry around and one master planner to leave at home, so I have a pocket set up (also with Day Timer inserts since you can tab the months) AND a Franklin Covey "Classic" (A5 size) with Week on 2 Pages and lots of tabbed sections.

I am toying with running all three systems beginning January until I can see how it all flows.

But that is clearly insane, right???

David Popely (2010-12-03 10:37:21)

It may not be insane but it would certainly be impossible for me to manage without my life descending into chaos.

I'm going to be revisiting David Allen's GTD system over the weekend to see if I can make that work within the confines of my A5 FF...but that will call for a set of the DPP 'professional' pages...and I already have the WOTP...and that still doesn't address my task management issues.....AAAAARRRRGH!

Erin (2010-12-03 11:54:04)

Hello All: Happy Friday!

Nope, Yvotchka, as we've talked about it's not insane to keep 2 or 3 systems. I do fear that I will get confused or end up just grabbing one all the time out of ease, but I'm doing an experiment this year between A5 and the personal because I am ALWAYS switching between the 2. I thought if I try both, I can see which one I like the best and which one I gravitate towards. Crazy I know and my hubby just shakes his head! I am using 2 pages per week for both formats. David, to answer your question, I am a social worker and am a BIG list maker, especially when I have to get a multi-tasked project done. That helps me a lot.

And, Yvotchka, WHO is that picture of on your post?!

Jotje (2010-12-03 12:18:57)

I've finally decided to stay with the Personal size (I'm coming from the A5). Plus, I have decided that I should have only ONE planner, since I only have ONE life ;-)

I run 2 businesses, do volunteer work at school, we have dog, household - and let's not forget: four kids. I have a whole time/task management system set up, using WO2P for the global overview and 2PPD for in-depth planning. Plus 2PPMonth for DH's irregular and crazy work schedule. Together with Todo-lists, goals and notes all packed into my lovely Crimson Malden.

I would need to write a post on its own to break the system down, I'm afraid ... ;-)

PA3789 (2010-12-03 13:52:57)

One FF personal Scanda with a week on a page with notes on the opposite page. One bag also. I'm done carrying around a laptop bag, a briefcase, and an A5 or FC classic planner. Too much and too confusing. I've been practicing with my Finchley personal since the beginning of November. I also have a Moleskine thin note book kind of like the "field notes" brand tucked in the FF personal and it fits perfectly. Hope this works!

stirwise (2010-12-03 16:23:33)

I'm just starting to wonder if I should move up to A5 . . . I'm using personal now with some very nice Japanese PPD sheets. I can get them for A5 so that's not a big concern. Size and convenience, however, is. The A5 Adelphi seems to be calling to me, as it has every once in a while since they introduced it. I'd feel like a fool, though, changing formats after building up so much Personal-sized stuff, including reams of pages and 8 binders. I'm not the kind of person who needs multiple binders for multiple sides of life, I like everything in one place (which is part of why I switched from a work-dedicated bound Moleskine to Filofax), so I can't see using both sizes simultaneously.

caribbean princess (2010-12-03 17:38:48)

I find that I need to use several planners as I need to compartmentalise my life! Two keep my work diary (one personal and the pocket mirrors this but is useful when I am travelling/out of office). And one for my outside work life (real life). I use filofax for scrapbooking, inspiration but only the work and fun ones have diaries. the others are basically notebooks.

And Yvotcha like Jotje I am curious to know about the picture!

Alison Reeves (2010-12-03 18:03:00)

Jotje - Please, please tell us about your system - it sounds like I could learn a lot from you which would be hugely helpful!

Steve (2010-12-03 18:32:00)

Just a last thing at night thought...

I wonder if those of us that use WOTP (Week on Two Pages) format don't focus on our tasks at hand on any particular day? Would we become more focused if we used DOTP (Day on Two Pages)? With appointments on the left and tasks etc on the right.

Also if you are a personal size user. Check out this format on the German Filofax site:

<http://www.filofax.de/store/diaryrefillsdetails.asp?productId=2523>

Steve

luminosity6 (2010-12-03 22:46:45)

I have different ones also so I get to enjoy them all!

I have a Personal size for just me and my life (not work). Here I use a 2-days-per page format which is plenty of room to write in a personal appointment or event as well as some personal tasks plus random doodles and any journal-type notes at day's end (I love looking back to see what I was doing when!). I will also stuff ticket stubs and the like in the pages relevant to dates for any events I attended. I will only add something related to work if it impacts my time at home, such as if we have a client coming in and we need to dress up, etc. I never take this Filofax to work, I only use it in my personal life. Most of the time it stays at home.

I use an A5 for office and work. I use a week-to-page with columns. I ignore the timestamps most of the time and write deadlines in the day's column wherever I like. I use it more of a planner than an appointment book. I will only write in a personal item if it impacts my work schedule (such as a doctor's appointment). Additionally, I stick a large 4"x6" sticky note on the week and I write in there anything that must be done or remembered that week. Every week gets a fresh sticky. I stuff

a plain old steno pad in the A5 (perfect fit). The steno is my "daily planner." Each day I write the date across the top a fresh page and fill in the musts for the day (many of which were deadlines or tasks already recorded ahead of time in the weekly planner). The steno is also what I carry with me everywhere in the office and jot down the zillion little things that come up. At day's end, or in the morning, I transfer any of these things that are still undone to where they belong (the weekly planner or the next day's list or into a future date or project list or whatever). The key to this and any planning system is to review everything and make sure anything undone is recorded where appropriate and not left behind once the pages are turned.

I keep a Pocket size in my purse. It carries temporary notes from home to work, or work to home. It also has stamps, insurance cards, receipts, emergency numbers and some family contacts, and things like that in it. It provides paper to write on when needed when out and about. I know that I will review it regularly to transfer anything important into my work or home system as needed.

Well I think that's it, I hope someone finds that helpful. Thanks to everyone for all the great ideas.

Laurie (2010-12-04 06:19:25)

Steve that day on 2 pages layout is similar to the Franklin Covey day on 2 pages that many Filofax users love because it keeps them so organized.

<http://store.franklinplanner.com/store/category/prod216/US-October-2-%26-Refills/Original-Ring-bound-Daily-Planner-Refill?skuId=37144>

010-Planners-

I know I am much more focused on daily priorities when I use a day per page planner. But the danger is, anything that doesn't get done that day falls into the abyss once the page is turned. To avoid this I usually put traveling to-dos on a sticky note and move them along the pages until completed.

caribbean princess (2010-12-04 08:41:31)

Steve I find the DOTP would be too much for me. I need to be able to see the entire week at a glance. However I do find using a large sticky note with my to do list written on it really helps as I can move it around and add or subtract things from it without messing up my appointments. I have been doing this for the last 2 months as I have had to juggle much more recently with a heavier teaching workload, project management and research on top of my public health training so this latest revamp is really helping!

Also when everything has been done I can get rid of the sticky notes and my Adelphi is back to looking lovely.....

plaiditude (2010-12-04 09:44:10)

Jotje, I too would love to hear and see a full description of your system!

Petra (2010-12-05 01:18:56)

Luminosity6, I like your system and have something similar, with A5 (well, the DayTimer version) for work and personal for home life and pocket for out and about. Thanks for posting the details of your system - there are some helpful points that I'm going to borrow!

Two things to remember this weekend..... (2010-12-03 16:30) - Steve

Firstly don't forget our Skype chat coming up on Sunday. It's an hour earlier than previous ones. I hope as many people as possible can join in. I'm looking forward to chatting with you all. [1]Full details are here.

Secondly Filofax UK are having a 20 % off sale on their full organiser range this weekend. Click on the advert below and put in the promo code at the checkout.

Have a good weekend.



1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/11/date-for-your-filofax-sunday-5th-dec.html>

2. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?s=233962&v=2457&q=115225&r=97790>

crofter (2010-12-03 19:46:44)

I tried to order a new slimline today, the e mail I received did not stipulate it was UK only. I guess those of us in the states don't qualify as citizens in the global Filofax community. There are a number of things that aren't right here, if the US is not eligible to receive the discount, don't send us e mails and waste our time trying to pick out something we would like. I guess I should be more appreciative, it saved me a substantial sum of money.

luminosity6 (2010-12-04 11:27:51)

Crofter, which Slimline were you trying to purchase?

crofter (2010-12-04 21:57:59)

The Guildford, need the 1/2" 15mm rings.

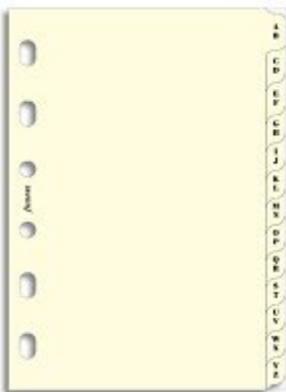
luminosity6 (2010-12-05 13:10:41)

Hi, the pens and leather shop (listed on this blog under the suppliers link) looks to sell that model and their prices are about 20 % lower than the Filofax site, if that is of interest to you!

I am on the west coast, and I was trying to use the Filofax US special for free shipping the other night. I was trying to redeem the coupon code on the last night of the sale. By the time I went to check out it was just past 9:00p my time and the coupon wouldn't work anymore - I guess it was past midnight on the east coast and I missed the sale window... doh!

Indexes (2010-12-04 03:00) - Steve

[1]



[2]



I suspect most people just use the indexes that came with their Filofax organiser when they bought it. Even in daily use they last for years. I still have some of my original ones from the 1980's in my Winchester Personal Filofax.

During my 'moving in' session this evening to my new Pocket Chameleon. I discovered I had a choice of two different sets of A-Z indexes. One was a two letter set the other three letter set. OK it doesn't make a big difference, 13 dividers compared to 9 for the three letter set. But I was 'moving in' to a Pocket Organiser with slightly smaller rings so I went for the three letter set to save a bit of 'thickness' to my complete fill.

If you are having a reassessment of your main Filofax you might want to take a look at what [3]indexes and section

dividers are currently available on the Filofax website to see if there might be something slightly better on offer. I've also seen several posts in the past where people have customised their section dividers. You can buy blank dividers or use a label printing machine to relabel your existing ones. I've done this on my A5 Finsbury.

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TPjOaP_THSI/AAAAAAAAIt0/0Yb-Uf4qJho/s1600/211664.jpg
2. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TPjOateR5WI/AAAAAAAAIts/1LPTF7mZsFw/s1600/211685.jpg
3. <http://tidd.ly/240cfa5c>

Iris (2010-12-04 04:05:30)

We did a poll about indexes on Filomaniac last month, you can see the results [1]here.

1. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.com/2010/11/auswertung-der-umfrage-welches-register.html>

Steve (2010-12-04 05:12:34)

Thanks for the link Iris, interesting result, shame more people didn't take part.

I've added a comment on your blog post too.

Steve

David Popely (2010-12-04 08:02:54)

I recently bought a set of the 'professional' divider and index set when I was at the Conduit St shop while on a London business trip, for my A5 Filo. I have to say, they are really nice to use - blue and grey plastic as opposed to the usual card, I suspect they will withstand the wear I usually give indexes (indices?). I've never much cared for the customisation other people seem to go in for - the results always reflect my lack of innate 'craftiness', and I prefer to buy something off-the-peg if at all possible - and these are the best I've seen in A5.

Nellie (2010-12-04 08:59:51)

I would like some new dividers for my personal filo. Ideally I'd just like them numbered 1 -6, or even better, blank. I know they do blank white ones with coloured tabs, but the colours look horrible with my red classic! Is that too fussy??

David Popely (2010-12-04 11:55:44)

Nellie I don't think that's fussy at all. I've always hated the multi-coloured tabs myself.

The French FF site has a set of plain 6-part dividers, which you can order from the Conduit St shop (I believe). I've got the catalogue number somewhere if you're interested and want to drop me an email at davidpopely@dpassociates.net

Celsi (2010-12-06 21:41:56)

I recieved my very first filofax today! Don't really know what to use my A-Z for yet as I dont need many adresses, I e-mail and text mostly, I'll be using my 1-6 for my diary, to do list, training (for work), General Notes that I need to remember but not necessarily get done, Travel planning and i'm not sure about that last section. I may use my A-Z as an index of medical conditions or medications (i work in hospital) as a quick reference guide but i'm not sure yet... I've spent all day organising it! Had so much fun! - it's now been taken away from me until christmas :(

kanalt (2010-12-12 13:59:36)

I create my own sections. I use the blank Filofax tabs and my label maker. I have to say that I couldn't live without them. I used to use the preprinted Filofax ones, but as my Filo evolved, so did my needs. I could put everything I have under the general tabs, but I was always forgetting what was where. So my created tabs work better for me.

Web Finds (2010-12-05 06:00) - Steve



[1]

As always thanks to everyone who sends me links to share with you.

- [2]Day Timer Refills - Sharon is trying these out, some great pictures
- [3]Craft-o-Fax - Sharon has also done an update on her Filofax she uses for her craft activities
- [4]Crafted Filofax - ScrapgalGR has done some great section dividers in her red Adelphi
- [5]Filofax Kind of Friday - Jaded Vixen, I also liked the Christmas list template
- [6]One more day - Caribbean Princess - How do you remember birthdays, other than your own? Happy Birthday CP
- [7]Hearts Filofax - Sharon has found a great use for her Hearts Filofax.... look out for her great piggy bank too!

Until next time.... enjoy.

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TMGi9-Vb41I/AAAAAAAAIVc/8vs8q-Er2us/s1600/malden.jpg
2. <http://shazzastitching.wordpress.com/2010/12/03/day-timer-refills/>
3. <http://shazzastitching.wordpress.com/2010/12/04/craft-o-fax-update/>
4. <http://scrapgalgr.blogspot.com/2010/10/project-crafted-filofax.html>
5. <http://missjadedvixen.blogspot.com/2010/12/filofax-kind-of-friday.html>
6. <http://caribbeanprincessmusings.blogspot.com/2010/12/one-more-day.html>
7. <http://shazzastitching.wordpress.com/2010/12/05/hearts-pocket-filofax/>

Alannarama (2010-12-05 13:54:07)

Hi, I got a blogspot and posted the pictures (of my pocket red butterfly) i mentioned in the chat.

<http://trinketsandtea.blogspot.com/2010/12/first-post.html>

Was good to talk (type!) to people this afternoon!

Alanna

caribbean princess (2010-12-06 04:22:05)

Sorry to have missed Skype session yesterday but I was having birthday fun! Hope it went well :-)

Moleskine vs. Filofax according to Superalzy (2010-12-06 11:18) - Laurie

I found this blog post about [1]Moleskine vs. Filofax on [2]Adventures of Superalzy, via [3]Notebook Stories. I can guess what the Philofaxy group's verdict would be!

1. <http://superalzy.com/archives/3897>
2. <http://superalzy.com/>
3. <http://www.notebookstories.com/2010/12/06/moleskine-monday-pros-and-cons-vs-filofax/>

JJ (2010-12-06 22:51:32)

Filos are expensive and Moleskines aren't? HUH?

I love the paper in Moleskines, but I am reluctant to use them. I feel if I mess up a page, I've messed up the whole notebook.

What format or size for 2011? (2010-12-07 06:00) - Steve

Yes folks it's that time of year to make up your mind about what size to use or format to use next year. We got a 'plea for help' today on this topic from one of our 'established readers'... they said:

Is it just me or as the New Year approaches, am I the only person madly deciding between 2 or 3 different Filos and/or the insert format?

Do I go large with the A5 and by mid-January I am cursing myself for having to carry something that large and bulky around all year, or do I go lean with the personal and then lament that I don't have something big enough to write all of my thoughts/dreams/personal notes on etc?

My first and foremost New Year's Resolution is to stick with ONE planner and ONE format the whole entire year.

Or, as another blogger/friend and I discussed via email recently, do I run 2 systems?: The A5 for the "mother ship" of planners that is kept at home or the office and the personal for "with me all the time/in my bag/etc" planner? Maybe I need to start my own blog about this?

What is everyone else doing for 2011?!?!

I've edited their quote slightly to preserve their privacy, but I'm sure this person isn't the only one to be going through this angst at the moment, reflecting on how their current format has fared so far this year.

I have been there myself, I started off 2006 in one format only to discover to my cost that I was not using the right diary format for my needs at the time. This year I also swapped in September in to a format that better suited my needs.

How do you decide what size/format to use? Share your thoughts in the comments please.....

Sharon (2010-12-07 06:30:41)

I have the same resolution, 1 planner and 1 system for 2011. So what have I gone with? This :-

Day Timer Flavia day per page

Day Timer Flavia month on 2 pages (for a challenge I am doing!)

Then on my iTouch I have Cal Week which is a weekly view of what I am upto!

All housed (except the iTouch of course!) in my Metropol Raspberry Personal size!

If I manage that system for the whole of 2011 I shall buy myself a Leather Personal Filofax of my choice!

Laurie (2010-12-07 06:40:55)

No solution here but just to put my 2 cents in, I am absolutely freaking the hell out trying to decide what planner to use for 2011. So anyone else experiencing Planner Angst, you are definitely not alone!!

I would love to hear what everyone else is using. Especially people who are busy with multiple things going on in your life (work, personal/ family, home, goals, health and fitness, etc.)! How do you keep it all straight??

PA3789 (2010-12-07 06:54:41)

I lead a absolutely crazy work life. The company I work for has us using Blackberrys and Outlook. But I decided to go with a "personal" Scanda with a week on 2 pages and a lined blank page applied in the middle of each week for tasks and notes. I use my Blackberry a ton but I need something to "write" in. And like I said before a big part of my issues is carrying it so the "single" laptop bag and enough room for my Filo is just enough.

Jess (2010-12-07 07:02:08)

Pleased to report that I am making NO CHANGES WHATSOEVER to my set up for 2011 (the capitals show how excited I am about this!) from my personal Finsbury, week on two pages and day per page combination (see my guest post a while back for details). Its simple, it works, and I love it. My Finsbury has reached that wonderful 'broken-in' stage - the leather has suddenly become all flexible and malleable, gorgeous.

I think resolving to stick with one format is the best start to your search, though I know what we are all like and I bet none of us finish 2011 how we start it!

Jess xxx

Jotje (2010-12-07 07:59:08)

I made the switch from A5 to Personal at the end of September, and I'm definitely gonna stay with that. I did love the huge amount of space in the A5, but portability turns out to be as important as writing space. And the A5 was really not portable at all.

Laurie (2010-12-07 08:47:04)

Jotje I'd love to know how you cope with the limited writing space in the Personal size. Do you use your diary for work, personal and home?

Steve (2010-12-07 09:07:08)

Guest Post from Jotje coming up tomorrow with pictures of her Personal... so you will see how she has organised her Filofax etc....

girlinmaths (2010-12-07 09:42:15)

Good luck to everyone trying to stick to one format. I always managed this before I found out about moleskinere and philofaxy and all other planner/notebook blogs. Next year I am going to try again, with a quo vadis space 24 instead of a filofax. It started this week and so far it works, but yes it is only three days in the week yet.

Paulien

Yvotchka (2010-12-07 10:09:27)

I absolutely LOVE that we all go nuts over this! It may not help anything, but at least we all know we're not alone. Same dilemma, same resolution, as of yet no solution.

I will probably at the very least keep on keepin' on with my Personal Filo with a DT week on 2 pages set up (the binder changes with mood or fashion but the format always stays the same), but I would also like to try an A5 size to capture literally everything in my planning world, AND a Pocket size, perhaps as a wallet and just for jotting (and leave the planning for the bigger boys).

But the bottom line is...I don't know.

*sigh**

Femke (2010-12-07 10:19:22)

I am stil undecided about what I'm going to use. I have a monthly Moleskine which I'm planning to use for school/homework. Then my personal and A5 filo's, I think I'm using the personal for my carry around filo and the A5 for home/to do planner.

I made a promise when i bought my first filo that I would use this system for a whole year and I can see flaws in this system already, as I've never been the one planner a year girl.

Hibernia (2010-12-07 10:27:39)

I'll stick with my Pocket Filofax(es) and one week on two pages. Also, I always use two vertical year planners: the current year for a general overview, and the next year for jotting down any future plans/appointments/important things to remember in the coming year.

Like Yvotchka, I change binders from time to time but the format stays the same. I switched from Personal to Pocket in the middle of 2008 and am really happy with it. Personal-sized binders seem so bulky to me nowadays ... ;-)

crofter (2010-12-07 10:56:31)

Oh, but isn't this fun!!!

I am gong to use the 2PPD Day Timer for the next year. I used their spiral bound 1 month books in the late 70's early 80's before switching to Filofax. I liked the format, but wanted the loose leaf flexibility, plus I loved the binders. This way I will have more room, and I love the monthly tabs in the personal.

I also use a Filofax Pocket for a medical record. This is a week on two pages. It also contains my commonplace book, so when I go to the Dr. I always have something interesting to read. Nothing worse than a waiting room with nothing to read but "Vogue"!

I ordered some storage binders/sleeves from Franklin Covey in the compact size which fit the Filofax personal sheets. The Filofax post binders for archival use drive me nuts. These are ring binders, so additions and removal for copying is easy. Don't know about quality, but they are economical.

Globetrotting Cacti (2010-12-07 11:09:54)

So excited to read that there are others like me who get excited about the change of the year... as it is an opportunity to update their diaries!!!

I have just changed from an A5 to a personal (A5 was NOT portable and was driving me crazy). Have a personal malden which I LOVE. From 1st Jan I am using the week per 2 pages but the HORIZONTAL version (which I have never used before but am loving the look of now I am starting to write on the pages).

My filofax has every-thing (work, travel, study, family, social in). Use Outlook at work (but also keep in my filofax)... NEED TO WRITE THINGS DOWN!

Happy shopping, transferring and writing...

Katie (2010-12-07 14:14:54)

I'm using my brand new pocket finsbury as my purse/planner for the year, with my personal cherry holding all my notes, financial and uni info, etc

Alannarama (2010-12-07 15:46:22)

sticking with the pocket week on two pages! works brilliantly for me. i would give personal a try if i had a personal binder, but frankly i'd probably only use the extra space for doodling in. or just write bigger.

ScrappalGR (2010-12-07 17:00:34)

I always keep my slimline Adelphi in my handbag (week per page), it suits my needs perfectly, but I couldn't do anything without my A5 Graphic zip for work, although I usually leave it there, (too heavy to carry home every day!)locked in a drawer. In case I don't have it with me and have an idea about a project etc, I just make a rough sketch in my slimline and transfer it to my A5 when I go to work.

Nickie @ Typecast (2010-12-07 19:41:21)

I will always use my A5 as my home/work crossover. I then will use my BRAND NEW Chameleon for my project writing work and my Yellow Hearts for my studying. I have a blog post coming up on Friday detailing all of this.

I am loving the new diary format available - week-per-page plus notes. I've been waiting for something like this for ages and will be using this format across all diaries

Erin (2010-12-07 21:19:12)

Well, I am hoping to just keep it to two. I know, I know,,,,I can't decide on one and I'm telling myself that it's an experiment to determine which I really find and use the most. I am looking at going with my A5 chocolate brown classic and my personal Finchley jade. The A5 will be kept at home as "mother ship" planner and the personal finchley will be with me at all times; a satellite Filo if you will. But, my goal is to keep these 2 and ONLY these two with the week on 2 pages format. I love the extra writing space of the day per page, but I tend to get all jumbled and not know where one week ends and the new begins. Maybe there is hope for me in 2011 after all!

Anita (2010-12-08 05:38:07)

Sticking with one week on two pages. Just recently bought a pocket Metropol, but don't like it that much. This year I have used a mini Finsbury which I looove, but unfortunately it is too small for my needs. Maybe I will buy a pocket Finsbury on

ebay...

kanalt (2010-12-12 22:12:53)

I am keeping my Filo the same for 2011, at least that's the plan for now. Month on two pages, week on two pages, and Day Planner sheets for each individual day.

I do have an A5 that stays at home, but it holds just household information. I tried using a personal as the mother ship and a slimline for an on-the-go binder. It didn't work for me. It was too confusing to remember what was where, what I might need for the next day and therefore what I had to transfer from one binder to the other. I went back to the personal, and once I got my hands on the Malden, never looked back.

We'll see what I'm saying in the middle of 2011...

Web Finds for a Tuesday (2010-12-07 12:00) - Steve

I hope your week isn't going too bad, for those of you in UK you have lost some of the snow that arrived a bit earlier than normal.

Quite a few posts to tell you about today:

- [1]Contact Management Template - I've just added this to our files area, take a look if you manage several customers/projects at the same time.
- [2]Metropol Filofax - Sharon reviews her latest purchase.
- [3]The mind depositor - download your thoughts and ideas, never forget them again...
- [4]Got your 2011 inserts yet - Paper-rush - A couple on this topic, hence my other post earlier today
- [5]To Do: Buy 2011 Day per Page - Oni
- [6]My life is addicted to it - Gulmit Glamour and Beyond

Enjoy

1. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/contactmanage.doc>
2. <http://shazzastitching.wordpress.com/2010/12/06/metropol-personal-filofax/>
3. <http://scription.typepad.com/blog/2010/12/kevins-minddepositor-alternative.html>
4. <http://paper-rush.blogspot.com/2010/12/2011-inserts-got-yours-yet.html>
5. <http://onigirisama.blogspot.com/2010/12/to-do-buy-2011-day-per-page.html>
6. <http://gulnit.blogspot.com/2010/12/my-life-is-addicted-to-it.html>

Alannarama (2010-12-07 17:17:47)

we've not lost the snow up here in yorkshire, it's just compacted into a 3inch solid sheet of ice that makes walking to the train station an extreme sport!

thanks for the link to scription... lots of awesome photos on there and WOW that guy has a lot of pretty leather things!

Guest Post: Task and Time Management with Filofax - Jotje (2010-12-08 06:00) - Steve

Thank you to Jotje for sending me this article about how she uses her Filofax for Task and Time Management, several of you requested the details in the comments recently.

Okay, since some of you asked, I'll finally detail my current Time management system for my personal Filofax.

I've been using an A5 Filofax solely for work and a Mini for private. However, I discovered that this didn't work as well as it should be. While I was rereading [1] Julie Morgenstern's books, one sentence really hit home: you only have ONE life, hence you only should use ONE planner. It does make sense!

Then I met this beauty



[2]

My decision to downgrade to Personal size was made that very instant! I could go on and on about the wonderful leather quality and its smart setup (I love that little zipper pocket on the left hand side), but there's been enough praise of the Malden already and no one is waiting for my repetition.

Back to the TM setup.

Step 1:

I first defined which life categories I have and want to spend my time on. In my case that is:

- 1) Business I share with DH (green)
- 2) My own translation business (blue)
- 3) Family (orange)
- 4) Relationship (pink)
- 5) Home (yellow)
- 6) Me (purple)

I've added the corresponding colour, more about that later.

Step 2:

What big-picture goals do I have for each of these categories? To keep a general overview I kept it at no more than 3 goals. I have written the goals each on a sheet of note paper in the corresponding colour. They are all after tab 6 of my Filofax.



[3]

Step 3:

What activities will help me to achieve my set goals?

I wrote those on the backside of the coloured note paper.

Step 4:

Then I made a time map. I have used a blank time map in A5 format, that I had left-over from my Time/System days. After completing it, I shrunk it on the copy machine and punched it to fit into my Malden. There's plenty of Time Map Templates on the internet btw! The important feature is that it has printed hours and weekdays.

I first defined the fixed time slots, like "waking up", "getting kids ready to school", "lunch hour", "cooking and dinner", "fetching kids from school", clubs you may attend etc. (Advice: Do it in pencil so you don't feel inhibited to just jump at it. If you change your mind, you can easily change the sheet.) I find it vital to create time blocks and make them visual. So if I lunch at 12.00 h and it takes me an hour, I block out the time slot from 12.00 to 13.00 h.

For the remaining time blocks I decide on which life category I want (or have) to spend it on. I write the category down, and specify according to the activities list I made in Step 2. For example for the green section (shared business with DH), I have hours blocked for administrative work, acquisition and meetings.

After I finished my time map, I highlighted the time blocks in the corresponding colour of my life categories. I've done that with coloured highlighters. My time map is sitting behind Tab 2 in my Filofax, in front of the 2PPW refill.

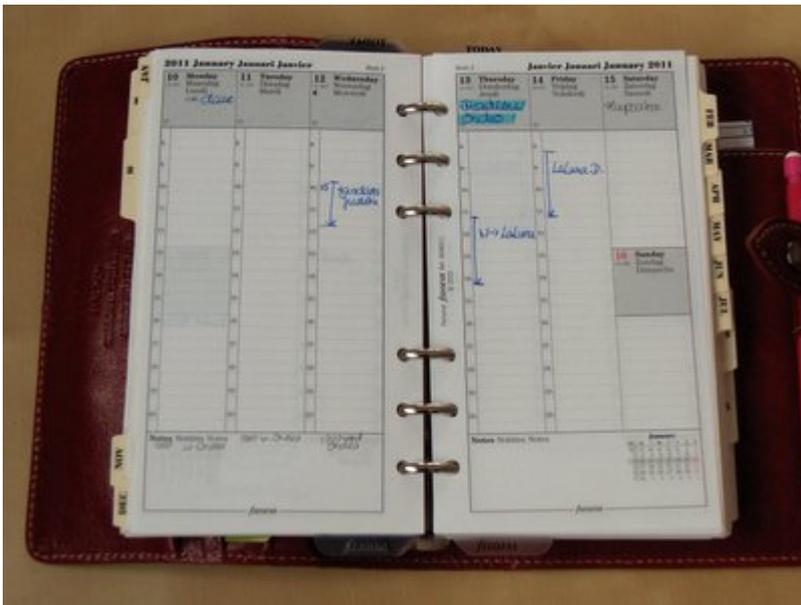


[4]

Step 5:

I note down appointments on my weekly pages. I'm using a week in columns format with appointment times (behind

Tab 2) so that I can block out the appropriate times of an appointment. Before I agree to an appointment I quickly check my Time Map to see if I am really available on that specific time. Nothing is as misleading as empty and blank weekly pages, because you easily get the impression that there's seas of time! While in fact, I had already committed that time to my home or family in my time map! Obviously there's situations when you have an overlap, but then you get to "swap" those dedicated time slots against each other (e.g. if you meet with a customer during the time you reserved for weekly errands, you'll do the errands a work-related time slot. Obviously this is possible if you are self-employed. However your boss might not like you to go shopping during office hours ;-)).



[5]

Step 6:

Todo's. I have my Todo sheets behind Tab 1. On the top of the sheet I note the month and then the sheets get numbered. At the end of the month the uncompleted Todo's are transferred to the next month (even if I don't plan to do them for several months; I find it's important to get a constant reminder, so I'll know that I am planning to do them at any given time). The old Todo's are then getting archived.

Since I only have ONE planner, ALL Todo's get noted, in no particular order. "Sending proposal", "buy new shoes for DD" and "make plans for next years holiday" are all noted alongside. For a visual separation I highlight the Todo-line with the appropriate colour marker (again: orange for family, green/blue for work etc.). Another option might be to have one Todo-sheet (or section) for each life category, maybe even on coloured paper. I have not tried this.

When I write down my Todo, I add the date to the left. Then when I've done it, I check the box and at the completion date. I am doing this so that I can find backnotes on any Todo. I'll get to that in a minute.

When I note my Todo's I also think about when I want to do it. If it has a fixed deadline, I note it in the blank area of the relevant weekly pages.



[6]

Step 7:

Your daily plan:

Each night I draw up my daily plan. My daily pages are behind Tab 3. I check the Todo's on my Weekly pages and decide on what specific day I need or want to do them. On the righthand side of my 2PPD-pages I note the list of Todo's to be completed on that particular day.



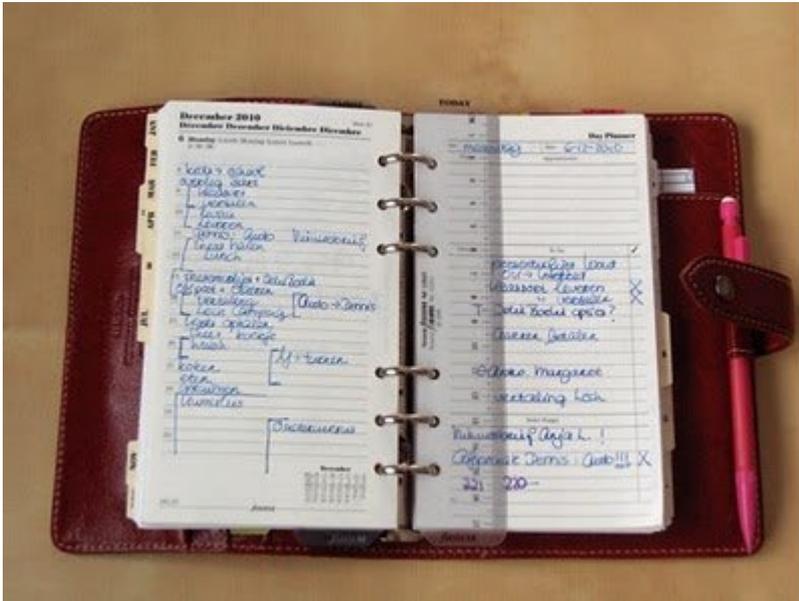
[7]

On the lefthand side, I first block out the fixed time slots (getting kids to school, lunch hours, fixed appointments). Then I check my time map for what time I have reserved for which category and assign a timeslot for each and every todo on the righthand side. This means you have to train your estimation skills! How long does it take you to write that proposal? Treat every Todo as an appointment!

Now, the lefthand side of the daily pages has 2 columns. All of the above is written in the lefthand column. For the righthand column I have found several purposes. One: I note appointments of my DH, so I'll know if he's out on any given moment and if I need to arrange for our babysitter during that time. I also write down which of our four kids has to go to what afterschool activity or playdate and at what time she or he needs to be picked up again. Third: if a task has been planned for 30 minutes and eventually took me much longer or shorter, I mark this on the right with a pencil line. That way I hope to improve my time estimation skills.

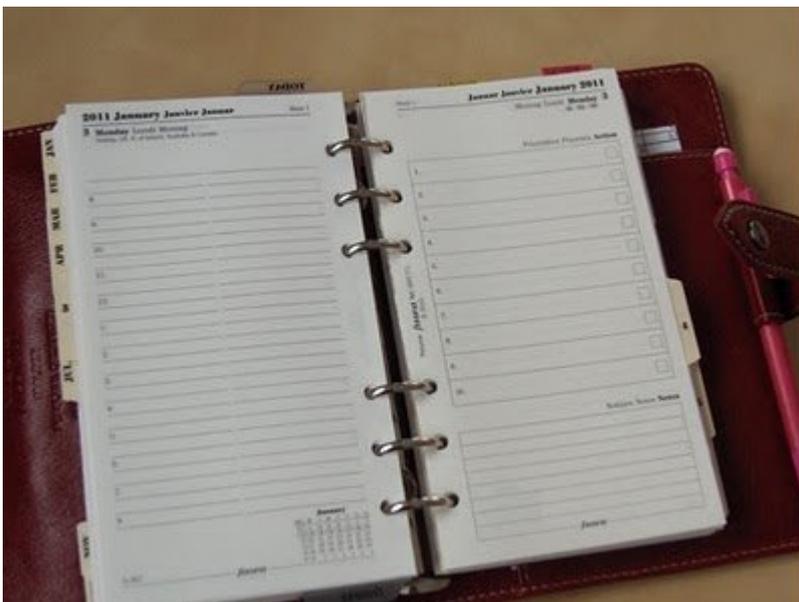
At the end of the day, I review my daily plan. Todo's that didn't get done and need to be transferred, are immediately written on next day's Todo list.

That way I don't need to carry months worth of daily pages with me. I usually carry only 2 to 3 weeks of daily pages.



[8]

I am currently using the Day Planner pages from Filofax to tide me over to the next year, when I will be using the FF 2PPD format. Here is a picture:



[9]

What else is in my Filofax?

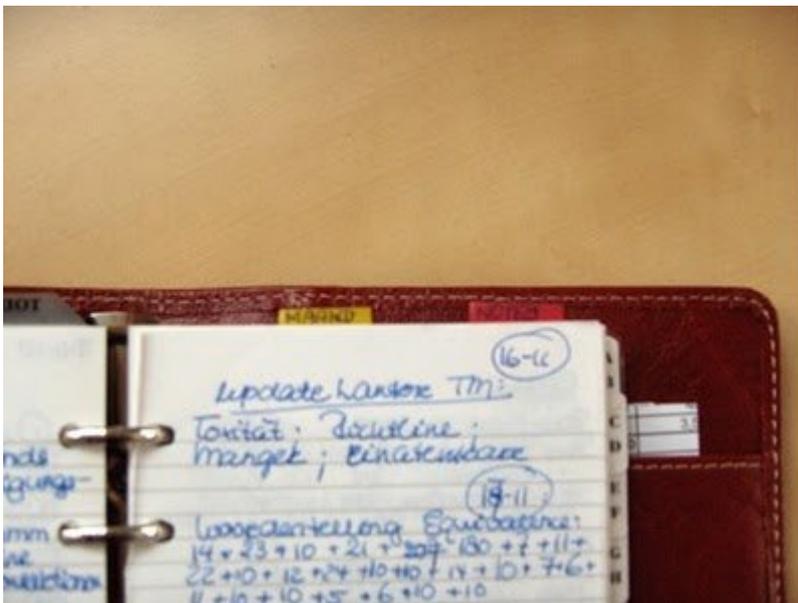
The weekly pages are divided with the monthly register tabs. Yes, it's annoying that the weeks get "split up", but I got used to it pretty fast.



[10]

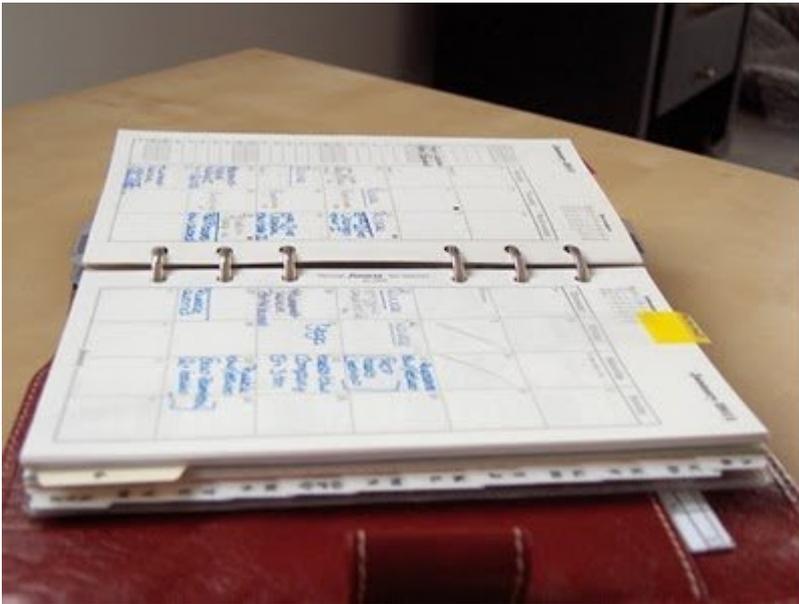
Behind Tab4 are my Notes pages. I date all notes and at the end of the month, I archive them together with the past weekly and daily pages.

For quickreference I have added a red sticky tab that says "Notes".



[11]

Behind Tab5 I have 2PPM sheets that carry the very irregular working schedule of my DH. Since I have to maintain this schedule, I find it invaluable to always have it with me. To find the current months as fast as possible, I have added a yellow sticky tab with "Maand" on it (which is Dutch for "Month").



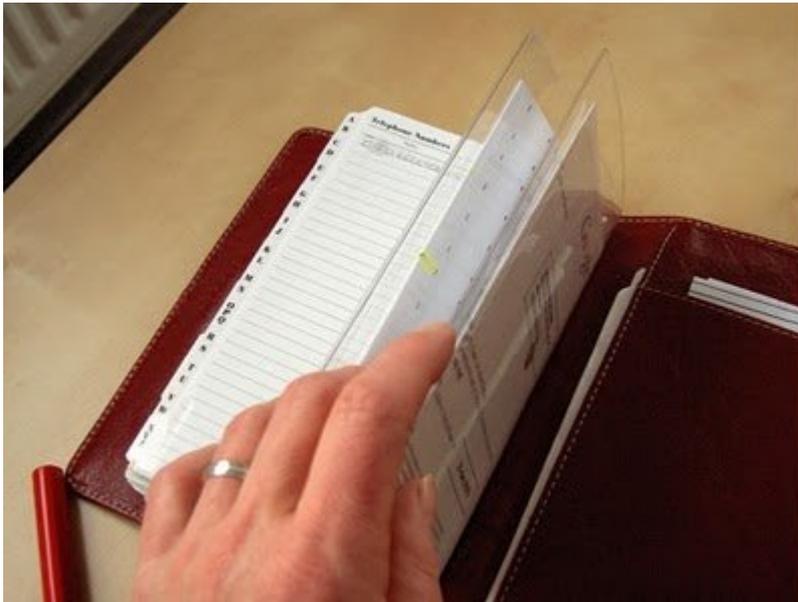
[12]

I use the timeline address register for the login names and passwords of frequently visited websites.



[13]

In the back of my Filofax are 2 plastic envelopes for tickets, receipts or anything I don't dare to lose.



[14]

In the front I carry some paracetamol in the zipper pocket, so I'm prepared should a serious headache come up. Behind this zipper I've managed to stuff a small inkeraser pen. Since I write with a fountain pen, I like to be able to change things neatly. My Lamy is tucked in the rings, because the pen loop is occupied with my BIC pencil.



[15]

And here's a side view of my fat and invaluable life companion!



[16]

Other TimeManagement Tools I use:

A largemonthly planner in the office, that's a copy of his working schedule. It'sactually a Printout of the monthly Outlook pages in a common A4 sized ringbinder.

A WeeklyFamily Planner, with a column for each family member. It also has a plasticoverlay sheet to note down the recurrent events (like after school activities ofthe kids, classes my DH or I attend etc.). It hangs on a prominent place in the kitchen and functions as acontrol center. I update this planner every Sunday night.



[17]

TheOrganised Mum Life book, a 2 Pages-Per-Week ringbound planner that has mycleaning and household sched-ule in it. It lays open on the counter and I refer to it during the time slots that are marked as "Family" or "Home" time. It alsohas the weekly menu plan. Menu's are written noted with a red Stabilo pen, so it stands out.



[18] reading this, please feel free to comment!

Well, that's about it! Hope you enjoyed

IFRAME: [19][http://rcm-uk.amazon.co.uk/e/cm?lt1=_blank &bc1=000000 &IS2=1 &nu=1 &bg1=FFFFFF &fc1=000000 &lc1=0000FF &t=pemburyvillag-21 &o=2 &p=8 &l=as1 &m=amazon &f=ifr &md=0M5A6TN3AXP2JHJBWT02 &asin=0805075909](http://rcm-uk.amazon.co.uk/e/cm?lt1=_blank&bc1=000000&IS2=1&nu=1&bg1=FFFFFF&fc1=000000&lc1=0000FF&t=pemburyvillag-21&o=2&p=8&l=as1&m=amazon&f=ifr&md=0M5A6TN3AXP2JHJBWT02&asin=0805075909)

1. <http://www.amazon.co.uk/gp/product/0805075909?ie=UTF8&tag=pemburyvillag-21&linkCode=as2&camp=1634&creative=19450&creativeASIN=0805075909>
2. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TP-YeJDZH_I/AAAAAAAAIw4/nZo1UO7HSUE/s1600/malden1.png
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18. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TQDNqtSzDLI/AAAAAAAAIxM/kBBiViV-sT0/s1600/malden1.png

19. http://rcm-uk.amazon.co.uk/e/cm?lt1=_blank&bc1=000000&IS2=1&nou=1&bg1=FFFFFF&fc1=000000&lc1=0000FF&t=pemburyvillag-21&o=2&p=8&l=as1&m=amazon&f=ifr&md=0M5A6TN3AXP2JHJBWT02&asins=0805075909

Laurie (2010-12-08 06:07:19)

This is awesome Jotje, thank you!! Where did you buy that wonderful Filofax week on 2 pages with the days as vertical columns?? I've been wishing for that for ages! I love how the Notes space is at the bottom of the page so the daily columns aren't too narrow.

Steve (2010-12-08 06:24:15)

Laurie:

The reference number is 6848411

Here:

<http://www.filofax.be/store/diaryrefillsdetails.asp?productId=2690>

On the Belgium site...

Steve

caribbean princess (2010-12-08 06:46:24)

Jotje. Thanks so much for sharing your fantastic system. It is amazing! I always wanted to know how you juggled your work and family life with 4 children and hubby. When I finish work later I am going to have a more in depth read to see how I can utilise some of your ideas.

I also like the mum's book. It is a lovely shade of teal.

I think the vertical week on 2 pages would work for me really well. I shall have to keep this in mind for 2012 as I already have my diary inserts for next year.

Again an absolutely wonderful system!

Thank you

Jotje (2010-12-08 09:04:32)

The same layout, but in pink is available on this site:

<http://www.hummelman.com/details.asp?code=6848411 &next=1 &origin=products>

Or how about his one from Exacompta? [http://www.amazon.fr/Exacompta-Recharge-17-2x10-5cm-jan-d %C3 %A9c2011-Multilingue/dp/B001ANTJBM/ref=sr_1_fkmr0_1?ie=UTF8 &qid=1291816771 &sr=8-1-fkmr0](http://www.amazon.fr/Exacompta-Recharge-17-2x10-5cm-jan-d-%C3%A9c2011-Multilingue/dp/B001ANTJBM/ref=sr_1_fkmr0_1?ie=UTF8 &qid=1291816771 &sr=8-1-fkmr0)

David Popely (2010-12-08 09:55:55)

Hi Jotje

Fantastic post - thank you for sharing. You have certainly given me much to think about while (like so many others) I'm trying to settle on the right system for me for 2011. I *do* believe in the 'one life' one system' philosophy, and there are a lot of ideas here which, if applied properly, might just enable me to continue with the Personal format. I really don't like lugging the A5 around, especially at the weekend (during the week it goes in my briefcase), and the Personal fits really well in the hand during the weekends. I'm going to go through this in detail and see what I can apply to my own situation.

Thanks again

David

angela (2010-12-08 11:21:58)

Oooh loving this post! Many ideas I can pinch also. Thanks for sharing, Jotje! :)

Jotje (2010-12-08 11:31:05)

Thanks guys!

Just discovered that Filofax France is selling very similar (though not the same)2PPW inserts.

<http://www.filofax.fr/store/diaryrefillsdetails.asp?productId=2429>

Steve (2010-12-08 11:41:10)

Jotje, again thank you for letting us 'in' to look at your Filofax.

I can't remember if it was during the chat on Sunday or during the meet up in London. But I did comment that we can all look at blank diary formats for ever more... but seeing one filled in and how someone is using that particular format gives you a far better idea as to how you might use that particular format or size.

Seeing one with hand writing on it gives you a better clue about is there enough space to write in.

And in future when I review different formats or sizes I will endeavour to write some dummy entries in so you can at least get a better idea on the suitability for yourself.

So thank you Jotje, lots of valuable lessons learned for us all.

Savannah (2010-12-08 12:11:09)

I am so impressed! It's so nice to see a personal size Filofax hard at work, and ultimately functional and focused. I'll definitely use some of your ideas. I have a crimson Malden also. It is special and more pleasing to USE than most. Thank You for sharing.

Alison Reeves (2010-12-08 17:39:38)

Thank you for this Jotje - I feel I have to read it a few times to take it in. However I am confident that you have some really good ideas that will make my life so much easier! I had thought about separating my work and home life into two filofaxes - but am now rethinking. I love the idea of having a home book. Lots and lots to think about! Thank you again.

Adirondack Explorer (2010-12-08 22:29:43)

Jotje,

So inspiring! I'm looking forward to reading it again and picking up some fresh ideas!

aspiretobe337604 (2010-12-08 22:51:14)

What an informative post! Thanks for sharing your life management system. Plus, the photos are gorgeous, too. AspireToBe...

David Popely (2010-12-09 11:57:21)

I'm somewhat mystified to find today (on going to order the WO2P diary pages you've been using, how many of the EU Filofax websites seem not to have internet shopping facilities! Most odd. I can order the French version (they have internet shopping) but can't order from Belgium, The Netherlands, etc. Filofax - why can't you standardise this please? Its very irritating!

Millie (2010-12-11 05:59:15)

Wow, I love how many photos there are in this post!! I love nosing around people's filofaxes!

Claudia Volkman (2010-12-11 17:06:11)

This is a great post! Thanks so much for sharing in such detail! One of the coolest things you mentioned is carrying your fountain pen in the rings; I have a Lamy too and it fits just perfectly in my personal Finchley!

nickynic (2010-12-12 02:51:27)

Thank you Jotje, this is so interesting! I had just changed to a Trinote after Laurie's postings on Plannerisms. And I must say: I'm loving it!! But seeing your red Malden being used in such a thoughtful and practical way, makes me feel a little homesick for my red Malden.....

I think the order in which you've placed the different sections: to dos, weekly, daily, notes, etc.etc is brilliant!!

Oh dear, I feel inspired to setting mine up in an almost similar manner to give it a try :) If only copying all info from one planner into the other was not so much work.....

P (2010-12-12 15:02:31)

Hi

Nice pictures you uploaded.

But I have one question... Isn't it hard to quickly find what to do when you are looking at all your to do's when they are written to one list only?

I'm trying to do it the "GTD-way"... Implementing my Filo in the way the Getting Things Done-system is ment to be.

How about the other Filo-users out there.. How are you managing your To Do's??

Here is a guide how to set up an paper-planner the "GTD-way" for those who are interested. This guide is free of charge.

<https://secure.davidco.com/store/catalog/ORGANIZING-A-PAPER-PLANNER-p-16162.php>

Jotje (2010-12-14 05:37:34)

@P: For my situation I had two different ways to approach my Todo's: on ONE list per month, with no particular order, or one sheet for each Life Category. I chose the first, because I want to be able to archive the list at the end of the month. Items that didn't taken care of, will be transferred to next months list. For a better distinction of the Life Categories the Todo's belong to, I highlight them in their appropriate colour.

I have downloaded the GTD-document you mention. Personally I don't agree with avoiding Daily Todo lists and writing the action list on Post it-Notes so that they can be moved to another day.

I believe in treating Todo's as appointments. When I put a daily Todo on my list that is critical for that day, I immediately assign a time for it and move it onto the appointment schedule. That way, I can avoid to have way more Todo's on my list than I have actually time to do them. Should there be 1 or 2 actions I didn't get to, I first evaluate why this happened (did another task take up more time than estimated? was there an unexpected interruption?), then I move it to the next day.

If I had that list on a Post-It it would give me the impression that the actions on it are not that critical, and that I can easily move them to another day. But I need myself to be really dedicated to carrying out my specific actions! Putting them on my appointments schedule, doesn't leave me so much room to fool around and procrastinate because the next task is already around the corner!

;-)

Per (2010-12-14 14:52:09)

@Jotje

There are many ways to do stuff, I'm not saying that my way is better than yours.

I prefer to have my calender to strictly calender-stuff, as appointments, things that have to be done a particular day.

I have all my todos on a list, for exampel, work, waiting-for (W), Phone/Mail (W), Home, Agendas (people I want to talk to and about what)..

If I put todo's on my calender, as you do, and if I don't do all of them... well in my case there is a lot of re-writing of them... putting them to - in worst case - the next week.

Instead I flip to the appropriate list and punch them of one by one.. for instans.. at work I read the list for work specifk todo's, phonecalls or mails I have to handle, etc.

By having them on contextual lists, there will not be any re-writing of them, 'cause there are on the appropriate list. I use an marker so I can see them even when they are done.

This works for me ;-)

I wonder how the other readers of this blog handle there todo's.

Anthony (2010-12-24 04:48:00)

Thanks guys! I really learned so much from your comments...very informative ideas...

Managing Time and [1]work life balance are not very easy to achieve...

1. <http://www.gettingagrip.com/>

Filofax Dundee? (2010-12-09 13:39) - Laurie

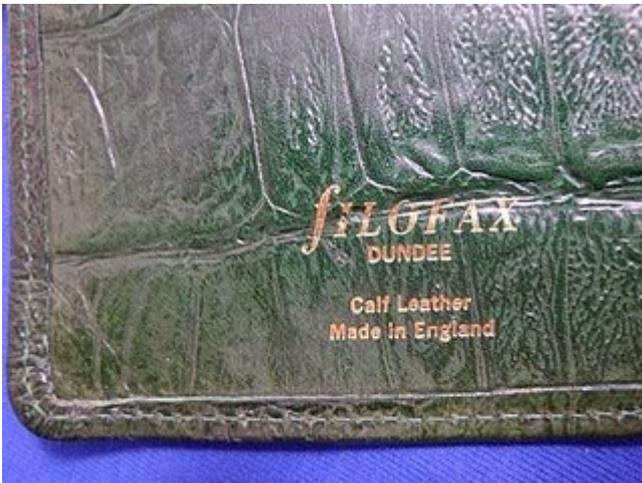
A reader emailed me asking about these photos of a Filofax Dundee:



[1]



[2]



[3]

Does anyone know if this is authentic, and if so, when these were produced?
Thanks for any information!

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/_qIFh8QKe0qQ/TQA1cMkw6zI/AAAAAAAAAAM/Ru7s_qnX-BI/s320/P1030729.JPG
2. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_qIFh8QKe0qQ/TQAmHLuND0I/AAAAAAAAAAQ/mULzLWIRnUU/s320/P1030726.JPG
3. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/_qIFh8QKe0qQ/TQAmanBfvyI/AAAAAAAAAAU/RsX0K_Oope0/s320/P1030725.JPG

CDS (2010-12-09 14:59:50)

Yes, it's completely genuine and worth quite a bit on Ebay, the Green one's were unusual but I did see a few Hooray Henriettas with them in London in the 80's, very nice, if you want to sell it I'd be very interested.

J. Mark Bertrand (2010-12-09 16:11:49)

Looks just like mine (apart from the color):

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/jmarkbertrand/3382584410/>

Not sure when they were made, but mine was purchased at a UK stationer in the mid/late 90s.

Laurie (2010-12-09 16:20:22)

Thanks for the info you guys! I don't know who the seller is of this Filofax but it sounds like they have a valuable binder.

Free For All Friday No. 108 (2010-12-10 00:07) - Laurie

It's been another snowy week here in Scotland. The twice-daily school run feels like [1]Shackleton's doomed expedition to the south pole! We're due for some warmer weather today but it's supposed to turn cold again in a couple of days.

Now the month is getting really busy with parties, holiday plans, cards to send, gifts to buy, etc. How are you using your Filofax to keep track of everything this month?

And as always on Fridays, feel free to discuss anything Filofax-related!

1. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nimrod_Expedition

Alannarama (2010-12-10 04:06:13)

i have christmas present ideas in the notes section and a to-do list three pages long tucked in to this week!

i'm also thinking about making some of my own inserts - less business like and more free-form and doodly - possibly even making my own binder. so not filofax, but filofax-style.

caribbean princess (2010-12-10 06:40:27)

Alannarama that sounds lovely. Please share photos when you do your inserts. I have decided to use my lovely spots 'fun' filofax for this purpose see

<http://caribbeanprincessmusings.blogspot.com/2010/11/my-superb-spots-filofax.html>

only problem is that my twin sister was able to see the entire list of christmas presents as I had included a picture! Duh :-0 hehe

it was really useful as I didnt forget to send anything back home with my bro :-) And even though I wont be there I know I would have made them happy.....

Nickie @ Typecast (2010-12-10 07:49:26)

I am in the process of splitting my life into my Filofaxes after the delivery of my latest addition.

<http://www.iamtypecast.com/2010/12/filofax-friday-one-in-one-out.htm> I

Roll on New Year when I can start using them all :-)

aspiretobe337604 (2010-12-10 17:09:50)

Hi! Just a comment on my Loose Tea Journal (tea-o-fax as some call it... btw, thanks to those who asked about it on twitter!). My Tea Journal is housed in my filofax personal dorset. I just have to say it: LOVE.LOVE.LOVE the dorset. Rich, beautiful, sensual, gorgeous black leather!

I also love loose tea (the taste, the culture, the ceremony, and best of all: sharing)! So I hold all the info (company name, date of purchase, teatype, country origin, etc) of the loose teas I own (300 plus), steeping parameters (weight ratio of tea to water, water temp, steep time, etc) with an indication of whether I blogged an entry for a particular tea, my blend ideas (successful or not), to be purchased inventory, comments I jot down as I drink a tea, and other peoples' comments because to come into my home is to be offered a serving of hot tea! Also included in the dorset is a set of filofax cream dividers (ab.cd.ef, etc.) housing some of my blog posts on a particular tea filed by tea company. Soon, I may include details/photos/inventory listing

about all the teaware I own - Chinese gungfu teapots, yixing teacups, Japanese teawares, Korean celadon teawares, English teapots, etc.

It's an ongoing, self-educational thing and though I am a lifelong tea drinker having grown up with it, I became somewhat serious about documentation about a year ago through steepster.com/aspiretobe (come & visit). The filofax dorset Tea Journal is also an everchanging, ongoing, evolving endeavor! lauren.

caribbean princess (2010-12-10 19:31:29)

Aspire your tea-o-fax sounds amazing. I am not a tea or coffee drinker but it must be such a fascinating record to have. Will definitely check tomorrow morning :-)

Filofax daily + weekly experiment (2010-12-10 09:58) - Laurie

If you don't mind, please take a look at my [1]post today over on Plannerisms, where I detail my latest planner experiment in an effort to find My Perfect Planner for 2011.

This time I'm trying out weekly pages and daily pages to see if this is a good combination of overview and details. Incidentally, my weekly pages are Franklin Covey.

Anyway, if you could please have a look and offer any advice, I would really appreciate it!

Thanks!

1. <http://www.plannerisms.com/2010/12/experiment-2-filofax-daily-weekly.html>

David Popely (2010-12-10 14:12:56)

Hi Laurie

As you know from recent exchanges, I'm a *big* fan of being able to see multiple perspectives and multiple time ranges, so I'm intrigued by your latest experiment, and wish you well with it. I too thought about buying the week on two pages diary from the French website, but preferred the Belgian/Netherlands layout - and neither site has internet shopping facilities! Slightly frustrating, and I don't see why FF can't implement internet shopping across the EU - but there you are.....

Nearly all my issues are now resolved - I'm adopting a version of Jotje's excellent system and I'm *determined* to stick with the Personal size. I'm convinced it's big enough (if properly organised) to be able to manage my business *and* personal needs. I carried the larger Time Manager around with me for a day this week when I had a bunch of meetings, and found that it was really awkward to deploy when I was in the street or in shops, whereas the Personal Filo is nigh on perfect in that respect.

I was *sorely* tempted today by the prospect of being able to pick up a Malden in either brown or scarlet for £60 less 20 % in our local 'little' stationery store, but resisted - I can't justify it when my lovely ten-year-old oiled leather Hampstead is still 100 % serviceable. Later I *did* buy a really beautiful leather laptop- and general business carry-bag - over £100 but heavily discounted (it was over £250 originally), and got it home to find that either one of the front pockets will perfectly accommodate the Personal Filo. Justification indeed, at least in my mind :)

Diary-wise, I've already got two week on two pages layouts for 2011 (standard and landscape with appointments), and I probably *would* buy the Belgium/Netherlands version from Jotje's system if I could - but the French version isn't as attractive (to me) so I'm going to stick with my present options and use undated daily plans each day when I need them - I have days which are 'task' days and days which are 'meeting' days. I like the idea of daily dated pages with a white lined sheet in between to create a substitute day on two pages layout as well, though, and a *lot*, so we'll see. Otherwise I'm going to use Jotje's system and see how it goes. I ordered a bunch of coloured inserts from the Conduit St shop on Wednesday and they arrived today, so I'm in set-up mode once again.....

Good luck with this Laurie - I'm convinced that being able to see daily *and* weekly detail is a real benefit, so I'll be watching to see how you get on!

Nellie (2010-12-10 14:41:03)

I am trying Day Timer Week on 2 pages with appointments and daily to-do tasks on it.

I have just taken out a hole load of stuff from my binder which I don't use, but it is still quite full!

I have been having trouble combining appointments and tasks so I am hoping this layout will work. Time will tell!

Nellie (2010-12-10 15:08:07)

I have just started to put some appointments for next year in the new format... and it's so small! I have tiny writing, so I am not sure how others manage with this. I have a feeling this could be a fail. :(

Laurie (2010-12-10 15:40:06)

David I'm so glad you are happily staying with your personal Filo! I am learning it's all about compromise: yes a huge diary would give us plenty of room to write and organize however we want, but portability has to be part of the equation too.

Thank you for our e-conversations this week! They have really helped me think through what I want from my planner system.

Congratulations on your new bag, it sounds excellent and wow what a great deal!

Nellie I was wondering how you were going to do with that format. I later remembered that I used that format about 8 years ago and it is so tiny I couldn't use it for anything.

Adam Allen (2010-12-10 16:46:52)

My mother tends to prefer the mini filofax since it suits her needs and fits into her handbag! however I personally prefer the personal size. since i find it quite big enough for my work and private needs. the only problem i have is the diary sheets seem slightly too small. meaning I have to place one of my note papers sandwiched between my to diary sheets for what i need to record. I am at last using a kind of system. although it doe seem that i just keep adding more papers to my organiser. Thankyou for a fab website. Regards Adam

Jotje (2010-12-11 06:47:43)

If anybody is interested in those weekly pages, please drop me a line. I could check at the shop to see if they are still available (or maybe I could order them). Shipping to the US would be 2.85 EUR and to Europe 2.31 EUR. The weekly pages itself were 13.95 EUR. Mail me at judithlang (at) home (dot) nl

Continuous or Distinct? (2010-12-11 02:35) - Laurie

Your year, that is.

Do you add future diary pages throughout the year and remove old ones? Or, do you keep only one year of diary pages in your Filofax all year, then replace them at the end of the year?

One of the many things I love about Filofax is that I can have a perpetual diary system. I like to keep at least 6 months (and more if I have space) future in my Filofax, and a couple of months past for reference. Periodically I remove and archive the older pages and put in future pages.

This has the huge advantage, especially this time of year, of always being able to see several months ahead. People using bound planners this month either have to carry this and next year's planner with them, or otherwise somehow capture next month's appointments.

I wonder if there are any Filofax users who keep only the current year in their Filofax and then change it out at the end of the year?

tommess-net (2010-12-11 04:38:02)

Dear Laurie,

I actually change the diary once a year at the beginning of October. I transfer all birthdays, anniversaries, and mark all holidays.

It's quite useful for me since I have to note things for the coming year already. So I always have 14 months in the diary - October till December of the coming year.

It's true that it lacks a real reference, but since I archive all diaries, I still can have a look 'at some time'.

I'm curious what others can say about their 'changing routines'.

Kind regards,

Tommess S.

Millie (2010-12-11 06:02:17)

Hi Laurie,

I keep the full year in there. Because I started my Filofax in July, I had half of 2010 and all of 2011 in there. I like to be able to look over the whole upcoming year and think about things. I've removed some of the earlier months now (July, August and September) because I want to make room for some new inserts, but otherwise my system is to keep as many months as possible in there at one time!

Jotje (2010-12-11 06:33:28)

I have 12 monthly pages for DH's working schedule. (if the new refills aren't available yet, I make do with a DIY print until they are). A month gets archived the minute it's over.

I have about 8 months worth of weekly pages. In the rare event that I should be able to make a later appointment, I have some horizontal month sheets of a different brand in my planner (they look like a year planner on loose pages).

Weekly pages get archived at the end of the week.

Regarding the 2PPD inserts: I usually carry about 3 weeks worth of daily pages. They get archived at the end of the week aswell.

Reason of the frequent archiving: the pages have no purpose after the date is expired. Todo's that didn't get done are still on my Todo pages, ready to be assigned to a different day and time.

crofter (2010-12-11 11:51:47)

In a 2PPD format, I keep the past month, the current month and two months ahead, so right now I have Nov., Dec., Jan., and Feb.. I find myself referring back to the previous month fairly often, but then they are archived and kept in a book case by my desk. I have complete records going back to 1982 and partial records back to 1971.

I look at it as my foot prints through life.

Steve (2010-12-11 13:28:50)

I'm currently carrying 16 months in my Pocket, but I think I will slim that down to make turning the pages a little easier and may be only keep 6 months in total, say the last couple of months and say the next 4 months.

It's not often these days I have to plan something more than 4 months ahead. A year planner is quite useful for those far in advance type things.

ScrapgalGR (2010-12-11 17:31:54)

I only keep 3 months in my slimline filo (past, current and next) because if I keep a whole year in it there's no room for anything else!

I also keep a year planner in it, this way I have a view of important events and dates throughout the year.

Yvotchka (2010-12-12 08:56:19)

I go the distinct route and start anew each year. In fact, it is my New Years Eve ritual (or New Years Day if I happen to be out partying NYE...) to remove EVERYTHING from my planner and start fresh for the new year.

That means diary pages (I am still undecided on my format, but if I use WOTP I will carry the full 12 months for the year & if I go with DPP I will carry 6 months) and everything else.

I copy all my quotes to my Commonplace Book and put in clean note pages, update the address section on fresh pages, re-think my tabs (taking out ones I don't use, replacing them with ones I think I will), etc.

I like to start the new year with a clean slate, both mentally, physically and Filofax-ally!!

David Popely (2010-12-12 11:10:46)

Until now I've put the whole coming year's WO2P in when I've bought them (usually about October), so I've had a maximum of 15 months' pages in the binder, and then I take them out and throw them away (I don't archive) as the weeks go by. However, this is quite restricting in terms of the amount of space taken up by the diary, so I'm planning to limit myself to about four months' WO2P from now on, and do the rest on a yearly planner (I already have 2011 and 2012 yearly planners, and will get a 2013 when it becomes available. I couldn't manage only looking two months ahead, because my business commitments require me to be looking 5-6 months into the future minimum.

Of course, if I move to the DPP or the DO2P, I'll have to take out the weekly pages for the immediate future and replace them with the DPP...but I'll only keep 2 weeks, maybe 3 weeks maximum in the binder, and I'll keep bringing them in on a

rolling basis.

stirwise (2010-12-12 13:46:16)

I'm using a combination of year on two pages with tabs and page-per-day sheets, so I generally have a continuous flow, with about 14-16 months of tabbed monthly sheets in and about 2 months back, 3 months forward of the page per day. I'd like to keep more in there, but it just won't fit. I'm also thinking about adding the fold-out horizontal year planner for more at-a-glance planning.

kanalt (2010-12-16 21:38:42)

I keep a year's worth of pages in my planner at all times, but I switch them twice a year. July is when the next year's refills come out, so I order them and when they arrive I add the first six months of the new year to my binder. So then I have July through June. On New Year's Day I take out the second half of the just-ended year and add the remaining new year, so January - December of the new year is in the binder. The only reason I switch half-way through the year is because in the fall, things start popping up for the new year and I need the sheets to make those plans.

Another 20% off offer from Filofax UK [Updated] (2010-12-11 02:55) - Steve

So if you missed out at the weekend. Filofax UK have done a flash 20 % offer promotion, until Monday at 12.00 noon

Click on this link to [1]Filofax UK or the graphic and use the promo code at the checkout.



[2]

Happy hunting....

Note: This offer has been extended until Monday 13th December.

1. <http://tidd.ly/9e802dc7>
2. <http://tidd.ly/9e802dc7>

Big can sometimes be beautiful as well.... (2010-12-11 03:00) - Steve

We have seen and reviewed many A5 Filofax Organisers over the years, they come in a variety of styles and colours. I'm sure most enthusiastic Filofaxers own one organiser in A5 size. But you can go bigger than A5, well in Europe at least. Sadly the A4 isn't sold in the US and you really are missing out folks.

I proudly present to you my latest Filofax acquisition, (roll of drums) the [1]Filofax Classic A4 Organiser..... in black Italian Leather.



[2]

Yes it's the big one... paper size is 297 mm by 210 mm or put another way twice the size of an A5 (210 x 148 mm). And to show you the difference here is the A4 alongside my Finsbury A5.



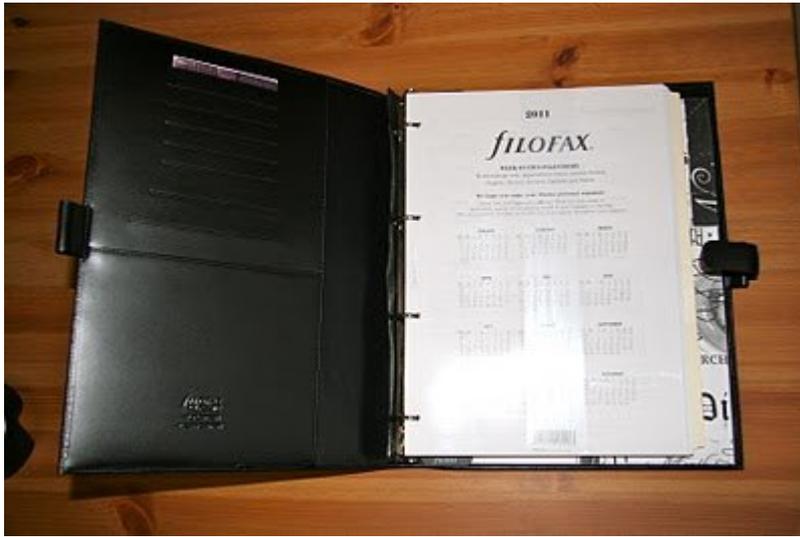
[3]

The A5 looks almost Personal size and the A4 like A5 in the above picture... but to show even more of a comparison. Here's the three together.



[4]

There is a subtle difference with the A4 compared to other Filofax organisers, it doesn't use the 3 + 3 ring combination. Instead it is just a standard 4 ring organiser with the rings spaced at 80mm apart. So stationary and punches are cheap as chips. I bought a 4 hole punch in my local supermarket for €10, it is of metal construction and should serve me for a few years. Paper is also available off the shelf in most stores.



[5]

The inside cover has 6 card slots, a 3.5 diskette slot (how quaint!) and a CD slot, as well as a full height pocket behind the slots. There are two pen loops, one on the front cover and one on the back.

As you will see in the pictures below, the standard fill it comes with size is just like any other size... but everything is just bigger and has lots of space to write things in. They haven't attempted to add more lines in just give you more space to write in instead. And the rings don't get in the way at all.

A two page per week in vertical format came with the organiser, as you can see plenty of room for appointments and notes/to-dos each weekday. It's in multi-language format but that doesn't waste too much space on this size of page!



[6]

The address pages give you plenty of space for 4 or 5 phone numbers in addition to Name, Contact, Address and Email Address. The inclusion of contact I suppose shows that it's intended for business use.



[7]

The To-do page is a slightly different format to others I have seen, two lines per item, so plenty of room to write quite detailed descriptions, I often struggle to work out some of my slightly cryptic notes in my other to-do lists!



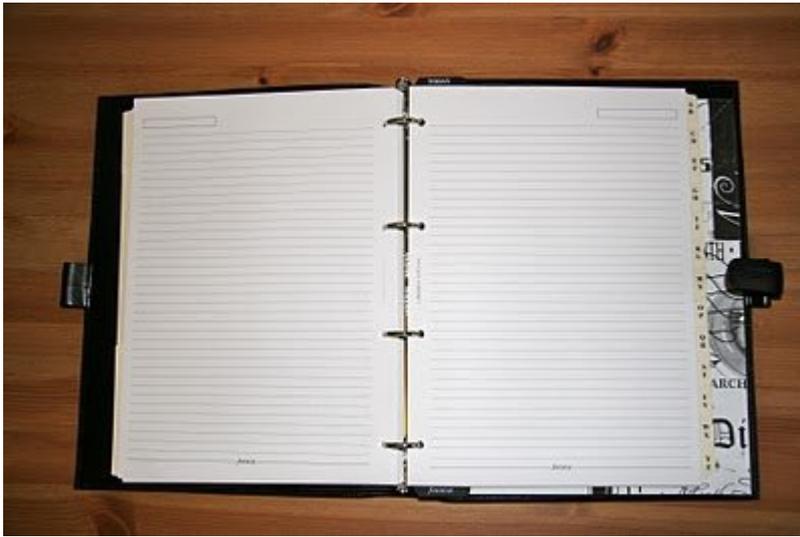
[8]

Very detailed expenses pages, something I'm not a frequent user of at present.



[9]

Some ordinary ruled note pages.



[10]

Inside the back cover there is a A4 writing pad.



[11]

I will adding some plain paper for sketches and drawings, as well as some reference information I have in my A5 but it will be printed full size rather than reduced size.

So you must be wondering....why??? Well I have my reasons for buying this organiser.. please note the word 'excuse' was not used...!!

When I wrote a post about the [12]A4 size back in September, I wasn't trying to justify purchasing one myself at the time, I was just exploring how that size would work for me and others. After that was posted I heard of at least one Philofaxer trying out the A4 for her work organiser and she loved the fact that she could print things off without fiddling around with booklet printing and cutting pages, it was print, punch, place in organiser.. job done. So my post had convinced one person.

In our [13]what size do you own poll in November last year, the A4 only got two votes out of the 164 cast!

When I saw an A4 at the [14]Neal Street Store the other week, I suspect it was a reminder and it got me thinking again.

Another reason for buying the A4 was to own one to try it out and to share the experience with you the readers, I think to add credibility to any post about this size you have had to had owned one and used it, and the same goes for any size I suppose. So I guess it was a fore (pun intended!) gone conclusion that I would buy one this size eventually.

Am I actually going to use this one? I think so, it fits the space on my desk to my left normally occupied by my A5 so I will be giving it a try that's for sure in the New Year. Since ordering it I've found some very nice diary templates on line too!

One amusing idea that I've not tried with the A4 yet. You might recall my lesson in origami on how to fold an [15]A3 printed map in to an A5 organiser. Well A3 will fold in to A4 very easily in the same way that A4 folds

in to an A5 organiser... but how about A2 in to A4... truly huge!! A2 is 594 x 420 mm, the size often used for building plans! Not something I will have a need for, or a printer to print that size.

So far I've not said anything negative, which you might find a little false. Yes the A4 is big but not that bulky, it has 25 mm rings, where as my A5 Finsbury is fitted with 30 mm, I will get the scales out to compare the weight once I've added a few more of my own pages, the comparison wouldn't be valid at the moment. The number of pages available for the A4 from Filofax is a little limited which for some people might be a downside. But given the ease of being able to print off your own pages for this size then this limitation isn't so much of a problem. I will give an honest up date on the A4 once I've had a chance to use it for a few weeks.

Yes the Classic is quite expensive to buy, but there are cheaper A4's in the [16]range. I love the detail in the finish of the Classic and I would love this model in smaller sizes too!

I look forward to reading your comments, good or bad.. !!

1. <http://tidd.ly/2daf2cdf>
2. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TP51tXNxiWI/AAAAAAAAIwQ/3hfCCwenFU8/s1600/IMG_9724.jpg
3. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TP51eFOmN8I/AAAAAAAAIwM/vCZImGin9yY/s1600/IMG_9723.JPG
4. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TP51UU2r18I/AAAAAAAAIwI/6vX6BNgL9gk/s1600/IMG_9722.jpg
5. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TP5151ZWIGI/AAAAAAAAIwU/Ubj1Abswwi0/s1600/IMG_9725.jpg
6. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TP52FlalmPI/AAAAAAAAIwY/DTSfg6xhMnA/s1600/IMG_9726.JPG
7. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TP52tgxO22I/AAAAAAAAIwo/rupR8k9iTes/s1600/IMG_9730.jpg
8. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TP52PsgCK8I/AAAAAAAAIwc/MoyOdqTEabs/s1600/IMG_9727.jpg
9. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TP52aMRM51I/AAAAAAAAIwg/BGefIG9Rpa0/s1600/IMG_9728.jpg
10. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TP52joOOXNI/AAAAAAAAIwk/h1Db90h2eTU/s1600/IMG_9729.JPG
11. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TP524SluMvI/AAAAAAAAIws/ol5Tj0K2CvQ/s1600/IMG_9731.jpg
12. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/09/a4.html>
13. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2009/11/poll-result-what-size-filofax.html>
14. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/11/london-meet-up-20-november-2010.html>
15. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/07/want-to-use-bigger-pages-in-your-a5-its.html>
16. <http://tidd.ly/28d98bc4>

Sharon (2010-12-11 03:32:58)

Am so glad you did this post! I think the A4 sometimes gets forgotten, purely because of it's sheer size in comparison to the A5 and Personal.

I wouldn't carry my A4 around, but saying that when I do need to travel to the Office, it does come with me as it has my current work in it!

I love the flexibility of the A4 it is awesome, but I think that is because in day to day life we use A4 paper, if we used A5 as standard we would think the same for that!

I love my A4 Filofax. Will I buy another one, simply No! Only because I can't carry it around with me, and the A5 and Personal suit my Personal needs fine!

A4 is for Work!

Thanks again for the great post!

Alannarama (2010-12-11 04:33:50)

I've only ever seen one in actual use, and that was a district nurse I was on placement with for the day - she used the massive day per page calendar to put in not only each appointment but where it was and what she had to do there. I didn't see what else was in the binder though. It was absolutely MASSIVE and I can't see many other people carrying one around - it doesn't fit in a lot of bags - so I guess it's mostly useful for people who work at the same desk all the time though.

Laurie (2010-12-11 05:15:40)

This looks great! Yes I'm sure Filofax doesn't bother to try to sell these in the US since we don't use A4 size paper, our letter size paper is a slightly different size. US brands like Franklin Covey etc. do sell organizers in the full (8 1/2 by 11 inch) size, and they are wonderful for people to pop in full size pages. I saw one of these in action once, the binder zipped closed and had handles to carry like a briefcase! It looked great and was certainly very useful.

Yvotchka (2010-12-11 15:49:37)

Another great post Steve! I didn't even know these things existed until you mentioned it, but WOW, what a Filo!
Very interesting review :)

ScrapgalGR (2010-12-11 16:36:04)

I know what you mean with booklet printing and cutting in order to fit the pages into an A5, but the size of an A5 is much more manageable for me than the A4, although I have an A4 too, a zipped Graphic portfolio. On the other hand, the A4 is ideal for carrying official work documents (that I can't booklet print and cut) and I find the zip feature really handy, my papers stay intact rain or shine!

Alison Reeves (2010-12-12 06:34:00)

I have one of these in red which I bought planning to use it for work. I have found it a bit large for regular use - it's big and heavy to carry and of course takes up quite a bit of room on the desk. I suspect it is brilliant for some work situations. Although I don't use it much, I am reluctant to get rid of it as it is a thing of beauty! I sometimes take it when I go to presentations or seminars (using it as a sort of conference folder). I'd love some more ideas on what I can use it for!

Erin (2010-12-12 14:44:37)

Great post, Steve! IS that the cover of the pad of paper in the back of the planner or did you create the black and white Filofax design? I really liked that!

Steve (2010-12-12 14:53:30)

Hi Erin

The cover on the writing pad is how it came, I'm not that creative!! I will scan it in on it's own when I'm back in France. In UK this weekend.

And thank you everyone else for your comments.

One thing I didn't mention but the page size on the A4 is over 8 times the size of the Mini!!! A mini page size is 67x105 A4 is 210 wide.. by 297 so it equates to 8.8 times. So for an A4 sheet you can create 8 Mini pages. A mini template based on A4 would be quite easy to create...Crazy really I know!!

Adirondack Explorer (2010-12-12 21:51:42)

Steve:

Thanks for posting this!

I have not posted in a while as I gave up on using the Personal Classic because I simply needed much more room for my crazy life. I was in Staples one day and looked at the 8.5 X 11" GTD Coordinator my wife uses and thought, "Maybe this will finally house the amount of material I need to get the job done. I bought it and now getting ready to use it in January. I'll be eager to see how this works out for you and the rest of us who are going to use what seems like a GIGANTIC planner cover!

GT (2010-12-14 22:30:00)

It's too bad that Filofax discontinued the Deskfax binder size.

It is a beautiful piece of leatherwork. I have a York Director Deskfax in golden brown, like this:

I know several of you use a Filofax to keep a track of your craft activities. Again Sharon has featured her [6]Craftofax on her blog a few days ago.

The '[7]Me' Fax idea that Kanalt blogged about a couple of months ago has also caught on, a few people have mentioned setting up their own 'Me' Faxes, so my [8]prediction was right! But the post also highlighted other 'single use organisers' With people using them for recording their pets medical treatment, feeding habits etc.

I've seen a couple of people that use a Filofax to track their goals typically 101 things in 1001 days. Karen has described her set up in a [9]Filofax Domino.

For a lot of people their Filofax is just another tool in their armour that they use for their other interests. [10]@aspire_to_be (Lauren) uses a Filofax as a tea journal, she is a contributor to a site that discusses tea called [11]Steepster

Of course a lot of these ideas could be incorporated in to your main Filofax, but if the pages you use start to multiple out of control it can sometimes be easier to hold the information in a separate organiser rather than over loading your main organiser.

I'm sure I've only touched the surface of 'other uses' so if you have other uses for your Filofax and may be you have blogged about it on your own blog, add the address to the comments I'm sure we are all interested to read about it.

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TQFWQRWJYeI/AAAAAAAAIxU/WMbmcOVzszI/s1600/IMG_7968.jpg
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/02/using-my-slimline-filofax-as-my-wallet.html>
3. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TQFoXzywd-I/AAAAAAAAIxw/dBvE5HOPk1s/s1600/scan0001.jpg
4. <http://shazzastitching.wordpress.com/2010/12/09/a5-city-filofax/>
5. <http://www.flylady.net/>
6. <http://shazzastitching.wordpress.com/2010/12/04/craft-o-fax-update/>
7. <http://lifewellplanned.blogspot.com/2010/11/me-binder.html>
8. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/11/is-your-filofax-just-for-you.html>
9. <http://enolassneezes.blogspot.com/2010/10/day-zero.html>
10. http://twitter.com/aspire_to_be
11. <http://steepster.com/aspiretobe>

caribbean princess (2010-12-12 12:50:12)

Oooh I love Aspire's tea filofax idea. I want to see pictures! I think it is amazing. And I have seen Sharon's craftofax in the flesh and it is a thing of beauty.

I have a scrapbooking Domino A5 craft-o-fax as well which I posted on here

<http://caribbeanprincessmusings.blogspot.com/2010/10/my-scrapbooking-planner-craft-o-fax.html>

and DH uses an A5 Hampstead as a notebook

<http://caribbeanprincessmusings.blogspot.com/2010/10/dhs-a5-hampstead-filofax.html>

I also have a raspberry pocket metropol which is my inspiration filofax but I havent posted on that yet! Sorry :-)

hehe Also I now own 2 cute mini filofaxes which may act as address books/ shopping lists/ or a wallet in the future.

You KNOW I had to get myself a mini!

This filofax addiction HAS TO STOP!!

Petra (2010-12-13 11:12:29)

Some of my single-purpose Filofaxes:

Personal filo

Bunny (pet) filo

Computer record filo

Shopping research filo

Home filo

Health filo

Travel filo

Planner filo (all information, records, wish lists, and ideas for my planners!)

This gives me a chance to choose which model goes with what based on purpose and whether they "travel" or stay at home.

The fabric or delicate ones stay at home.

Caribbean Princess, as to your last sentence, my only question would be: Why?!

aspiretobe337604 (2010-12-13 17:49:46)

Hi! It's me Aspire _To _Be (Lauren) and one day I will put up photos ... but for now, if I may borrow Petra's words, here are my "Single-Purpose Filofaxes" (they are all personal size):

Dorset - Loose Tea Journal

Domino red - My Studies (all about the courses I take on www.teach12.com)

Domino Pink - holding the bulk of my 2010 which I transferred from my main agenda (which now holds all 2011 leaves plus a remaining few 2010 leaves)

Domino Grape - old (at one time must-haves) inserts like photos, notes/letters from loved ones, pictures that my kids drew me especially for my files, etc.

Domino Slate - ebay info

Domino Electric Blue - address book

plus some others that are currently unfulfilled waiting for inspiration (love this post idea!) or for me to get my act together to fill

Domino navy

Kendal

Durham Zip (soon to be my travel file)

provinznotizen (2010-12-14 10:05:57)

Steve,

that's exactly what I am planning with my Classic s.e.in black-red: Because it's colours remind me to the Canon colours, this will be my photo-binder.

I'm going to divide it into sections. One section will keep some of your great photo exposure sheets.

The other sections will keep

- technical "how-to's" about my digital EOS
- places where to go (and shot)
- ideas for photo compositions
- ideas for postings in my photo-blog
- wishlist of photo related stuff
- quotations from photo-books I read

This binder will be my companion in my photo-backpack.

kanalt (2010-12-16 21:50:03)

My "Me" Binder is working out very well. I have several new items to put in there - I just haven't had the time to do it, but they're patiently waiting.

In the new year, I'm hoping to set up another Filo (my personal brown classic) with lists of books I love and would recommend, my favorite authors, favorite movies, music and quotes. I don't know what to call it exactly - the only thing I can come up with is my Reference file. I'll be sure to post about it once it's up and running.

Petra (2010-12-17 14:35:36)

Kanalt, sounds like that new file should be called your "media" file ;-)

kanalt (2010-12-18 19:09:45)

Petra - Another good name for it! Thanks. =)

Amanda (2010-12-27 11:24:14)

I have two A5 filofaxes in use at the moment. I use a Domino A5 in red, entirely for work, in a pretty standard way - diary (week to view) at the front, To Do lists and Notes and Meeting Notes in the other sections, and the A-Z addresses slowly filling with contacts (I'm a lecturer at uni btw).

At home I use an aqua Finsbury for the other half of my life which is involved with writing, and fundraising for a charity. I must confess, I'm not really using the diary bit of it hugely, but I do use the other sections to separate out notes and so on.

This filofax actually has two A-Z addresses sections in it now - one set relating to writing and the other set relating to the charity (there is method in my madness... I think?). Like others on here, I also try to colour-code the pages so that they relate to the different projects.

I used to hate Filofaxes (sharp intake of breath all round, I imagine, but hear me out...!?) but then I realised it was because they just weren't BIG enough. I had (have...) a multitude of personal sized ones and I stuffed far too much into them and I also found that the pages were just too small for me to make decent notes on. I always thought the A4 ones were TOO big, but then... Then I discovered the A5 size ones and they are just perfect (in a Goldilocks sort of way).

I have never quite managed to convert fully to computer-based organising and, being a paper and pen kind of girl, have been laughing my head off at the "black n red" adverts for their notebooks. Like their notebooks, I find my filofax never has a flat battery, has zero start-up time and is hardware you can rely on!

I did try to have all my stuff in one filofax but a) I didn't like mixing work and home and b) there are just too many gorgeous filofaxes out there to limit yourself to one!

Festive Filofax (2010-12-13 00:00) - Steve



[1]

With less than two weeks to go until Christmas you would expect people to be busy busy busy with shopping and Christmas parties. You might think that they may be too busy to blog also people are probably using their Filofax organisers to the full to keep their busy lives fully organised and using every possible hour in the day. Well we might be close to Christmas, but there are still some great blog posts for you to read.

- [2]Paperrush has been busy with exams.... and other events;
- [3]Millie has been getting festive with her Filofax;
- Caribbean Princess has been decorating her [4]Adelphi
- Caribbean Princess has also been showing off her [5]'posh' Panama
- [6]Sharon has some of her Filofax organisers for sale, also featured on our [7]readers ads page
- [8]Serendipity Cupcake shows off her Filofax for 2011

Until later in the week... Enjoy

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TQVdG_841wI/AAAAAAAAIyE/80ctU3z0E1U/s1600/P1011487.JPG
2. <http://paper-rush.blogspot.com/2010/12/so-ive-been-bit-awol-recently.html>
3. <http://mslogica.com/blog/1199>
4. <http://caribbeanprincessmusings.blogspot.com/2010/12/decorating-my-adelphi-filofax.html>
5. <http://caribbeanprincessmusings.blogspot.com/2010/12/my-posh-panama-filofax.html>
6. <http://shazzastitching.wordpress.com/2010/12/11/filofax-sale/>
7. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/readers-ads.html>
8. <http://serendipitycupcake.wordpress.com/2010/12/10/filofax/>

Cupcake (2010-12-13 07:23:07)

Thanks for linking me :)

Katie (2010-12-14 05:25:16)

I can't wait to do a blogpost on the filo I'm getting for Christmas (I'll finally be part of the 2+ club!)

caribbean princess (2010-12-14 13:04:28)

Katie you will be on a slippery slope! Hehe. Can't wait to see your pictures.

gmax (2010-12-17 15:57:27)

There are pictures of what I reckon to be the [1]ultimate festive filofax on the Philofaxy flickr site.

1. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/7782464@N08/sets/72157625355248840/with/5163920433/>

Millie (2010-12-18 08:43:39)

Thanks for linking to me, Steve! There was a spike in my blog stats and I couldn't work out why until I just started catching up on Philofaxy's posts!

50% off Deluxe Filofax Organisers (2010-12-16 07:38) - Steve

I arrived back in France a couple of hours ago to find this latest promotion from Filofax UK. I'm sure you have seen pictures of Lauries beautiful Deco... well now is your chance to own one at 50 % off the previous list price. Click on the graphic below to see the full range.



1. <http://tidd.ly/8af8905b>

Laurie (2010-12-16 08:39:59)

THE IVORY DECO IS DISCONTINUED! IF YOU'VE HAD YOUR EYE ON THIS IT'S YOUR LAST CHANCE TO GET IT!! And wow, what an amazing price!!

Too bad they are discontinuing this color, it is very classy-looking. That's the nature of Filofax marketing though, the styles and colors come and go.

Laurie (2010-12-18 19:04:32)

And just in case you haven't seen the photos of my ivory Deco, here is the link to my Flickr set:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/plannerisms/sets/72157622672507897/>

Breast Cancer Awareness Campaign. (2010-12-16 08:04) - Steve



[1] *researching the cure*

Thank you for all of your support in the last few months.

We are running [2]another Charity Awareness Month. From today until the end of January 2011 **all** commission earned from sales of **all** Filofax goods (Organisers, Refills, Bags, Pens etc) bought via Philofaxy at Filofax UK

will be donated to the [3]Breast Cancer Awareness Campaign in UK.

To make sure your purchase counts towards the donation at the end of January all you have to do is come to [4]Philofaxy, click on a Filofax ad anywhere you see one on the site and it will register your purchase. No matter how small your order is, all of them will count to our donation. Thank you.

Those of you who wish to donate directly, please go to the [5]campaigns website.

If you are buying goods for Christmas get your orders in before 2:30pm on 20th December for delivery to you by 24 December.

[6] **FILOFAX** The Filofax Gourmet Gift Box
includes Gourmet Society Membership for a year.
was £43, now £38

[7] **FILOFAX** The Filofax Gourmet Gift Box
includes Gourmet Society Membership for a year.
was £43, now £38

[8] **FILOFAX** The Filofax Gourmet Gift Box
includes Gourmet Society Membership for a year.
was £43, now £38

1. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TPYxfmWBN5I/AAAAAAAAItc/zTjuOj5aCBU/s1600/bbc_logo.gif
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/12/breast-cancer-awareness-campaign.html>
3. <http://www.breastcancercampaign.org/>
4. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/>
5. <http://www.breastcancercampaign.org/>
6. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?s=152852&v=2457&q=90346&r=97790>
7. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?s=228802&v=2457&q=113529&r=97790>
8. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?s=228803&v=2457&q=113529&r=97790>

Steve (2010-12-17 14:31:38)

Off to a great start, in one day we are within a few pence of our previous total (£16.85), so we are on course to exceed the previous donation by a long way.

Thank you to the people ordering in the last 24 hours.

Free for All Friday No. 109 (2010-12-16 18:38) - Nan

This week is one of the darkest of the year, in the Northern Hemisphere, anyway. A good time for quiet thinking and reflecting and thinking about the next new beginning. Or there may be a lot of hustle and bustle in your life right now. Is your Filofax a useful companion right now, or a project in need of overhaul?

Erin (2010-12-16 22:13:03)

I totally agree with this being a time of renewal or reflection. I have recently converted my A5 Rasberry Finsbury from everything book to just for work only. This has freed up my overflowing A5 to be easier to turn pages and still elegant enough for a work meeting with consultants or the mayor. I took the pages that were "personal life" and archived them into the A5 filofax black binders and have started everything personal in an old skool merlot color personal filofax that I had found off ebay that was not being used.

I still love using my personal size slimline as a wallet with the checkbook and financial pages. The big question about separating the work and personal life into their own filofaxes is now having a smaller place to write journal and baby updates now into the personal pages. Before, I would tote around the A5 with work in the second half of the pages and personal in the front and right in the middle was where I had plenty of room to write in my journal. I have started doing my journaling in the personal size and will see how that goes for a while. It is quite nice to have that separation from work though and not

toting around the A5 home every night...hum thoughts to ponder for the new year! I will try this separated work and home system for at least a couple months to give it the real college try and then see how it works.

I did hint to hubby for Christmas about a new personal size filofax in either blue finsbury, chameleon raspberry or the red malden. Oh the beauty of them all! To dream to dream...about santa!

Laurie (2010-12-17 08:01:13)

Here in the far north (57 degrees N) we are really feeling the short days. We've been having beautiful sunsets on our way home from school (3:30 pm!).

I've been thinking of something to try with my Personal size Filofax: I've never used the 2 Days Per Page diary inserts and am wondering if they would be the magical compromise between the weekly and daily.

Can anybody tell me the days setup of the 2 Days Per Page? For example, do the days go:

Monday-Tuesday, Wednesday-Thursday, Friday-Saturday, Sunday-Notes? This would result in the days being in the same positions each week (which would help me visualize my week).

But if in that cycle Sunday and Monday share a page, the result would be that the days cycle through different positions on the pages and would make it harder for me to visualize my weeks.

Can anybody who has used this format confirm which it is? Thanks very much!!

Happy Friday everyone! :)

Alison Reeves (2010-12-17 09:33:57)

I'm considering moving my personal life into a 'personal' size filofax and leaving work in an A5 version. Does anyone here print out anything for their personal from standard A4 paper? Is it possible/messy etc? There are some standard pages that I would find it useful to reprint.

michele (2010-12-17 10:31:01)

Sunny and 35F here on Long Island. Just back from quick visit to West Yorkshire and looking forward to upcoming visit in Spring to see new baby in the family. Major overhaul for me, Nan. My A5 Mustard Finchley for - I have sections designated for projects, but I really haven't used the To-Do's nor the Address Pages, and I write over all the pages and keep loose notes everywhere. For 2011, I'll be switching from Week on 2 Pages to One Day per Page Business format so I want to make this look clean and well organized! Pocket panama for personal life will be going into archives as Santa is bringing a new filo, but I'm now planning what to archive or what to bring to new filo.

luminosity6 (2010-12-17 10:53:25)

Erin - I have a similar system as you're describing - A5 for work and personal for home. I wrote about this a few Fridays ago so I won't bore everyone again with it! And yes, it's lovely to not have my personal journal and notes in my work binder and be thoroughly confident that anyone at work only sees work stuff in my Filo there.

Laurie - as I wrote on my post a few Fridays ago, I do use the 2-days-per page and it's a nice compromise for me. The pages are:

Mon and Tues on one page.

Wed and Thurs on one page.

Fri and Sat on one page.

Sun and an equal size block for notes on one page.

I find it perfect for writing space and writing my journal notes and doodles.

Happy Friday everyone!

plaiditude (2010-12-17 12:55:30)

Had to phone Letts Filofax Group in Canada regarding something about my last order. When I gave the customer service rep my name she said she remembered my name from seeing it on so many orders! I suppose that means I might be making too many orders? Of course not, NEVER! :)

Laurie (2010-12-17 14:45:17)

luminosity, thank you so much for the day layout info! I will have to give this a try. And I'll have to look up your reply from a few Fridays ago for the details!

Stefee (2010-12-18 09:37:49)

Right now, I'm using my vintage calfskin personal filo as my wallet. I've got lots of card sleeves to keep my gift cards, shopper loyalty cards, coupon cards, punch cards, Also, my drivers license and main credit cards. So, yes, my filo is keeping me organized and is my constant companion :-). BTW, I get a lot of interested stares, whenever I get my filo out of my bag at the register. Once I even got an "Aha!" look from a guy as I pulled three different gift cards to pay for my purchase! Maybe he'll be a new filo convert.

kanalt (2010-12-18 19:11:45)

Plaiditude - I only wish to reach "recognizable" status with the customer service reps. =)

Steve (2010-12-20 03:29:24)

Question for people. On a Week on Two page diary with appointments. What time span do people prefer? 8am - 8pm or different?

Also what interval should the appointments be in hourly, 30 minute or 15 minute?

Thanks

Steve

Moving House.... (2010-12-17 15:00) - Steve

No not me... been there done that got the T Shirt... one move in 20+ years was enough for me thank you!

But it is always nice to hear from our readers about their changes and what is happening to them, but the email I received the other night was definitely Filofax related and with their permission I'm sharing the picture with you all....

You might recall [1]Erin from our reader under the spotlight series a few months back. Well Erin has become quite a legend after declaring/confessing/admitting to owning [2]75 Filofax Organisers (we suspect the number may be a little higher now!!)

Well Erin and her dear husband Jim are about to move house. Special attention has been given as you will see to moving 'the collection', all 7 boxes of them, excluding the ones in use at present...



[3]

Good luck with the move guys I hope all those boxes reach the destination in good shape and nothing goes missing.

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/08/reader-under-spot-light-erin.html>

2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/08/photographic-proof.html>

3. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TQu4hiLB1uI/AAAAAAAAIyM/tbPvJWkaScI/s1600/photo.jpg

Laurie (2010-12-17 15:07:48)

Erin best of luck with your move! :)

Yvotchka (2010-12-17 15:35:41)

Erin, you are my hero :)

caribbean princess (2010-12-17 19:05:45)

Good luck! Amazing collection.

Jotje (2010-12-18 04:41:02)

Good luck with your move, Erin! Amazing, how even your moving boxes look so organised ... ;-)

luminosity6 (2010-12-18 10:45:25)

Smooth moving, Erin! Don't let those 7 boxes out of your site!! =)

kanalt (2010-12-18 19:34:40)

Good luck with your move! If it were me, I'd have those Rubbermaid containers for my Filos, with padlocks attached. :)

Surfing the other Filofax Sites (2010-12-18 00:00) - Steve



[1]

Do you ever sit in front of your PC surfing the net looking for that elusive Filofax refill or accessory that you have seen a picture of on Flickr or you have heard someone mention?

Sadly Filofax don't (yet) have an international website that links **all** of their stock from all of their sites around the world back to one site. So you can find all the different types of diary refills in Week on Two pages in all the different languages and layouts, but without browsing all of their sites in all the various languages.

Before you ask I'm not proposing building such a site myself! But it would be a great site if it existed. However, I'm sure between us we can bring together some of the things you have spotted on some of the international site that aren't mentioned on some of the 'obvious' ones.

For instance Sharon mentioned on Twitter that she got some [2]credit card wallets off the Filofax Sweden site for her Filofax Mini. They also sell natty [3]name plates for your Filofax, although I'm not sure if you can fit 'This belongs to Steve Morton, keep your nose out!' on the tag.

I've lost count of the number of times I've heard the comment, love the layout... pity it's not available in only English. Again from the Filofax Sweden site a [4]Week on Two Pages but with appointment times and notes space for each day.

Another example from the Filofax Belgium site, this one again [5]Week on Two Pages but in English, French and Dutch (I think!) again a great layout... but you can't order on line from Filofax Belgium... it seems Belgium

doesn't get this idea of Eshopping on the Inter-webs... may be the 'one site for all items' could solve this problem for so many people....

So if you have discovered something unique on one of the other Filofax International sites, drop it in to the comments.

1. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TMQ8GrTQOhI/AAAAAAAAIVo/GHeGSE5ji_w/s1600/Earthgif
2. <http://www.filofax.se/store/paperessentialsdetails.asp?productId=908>
3. <http://www.filofax.se/store/paperessentialsdetails.asp?productId=1154>
4. <http://www.filofax.se/store/diaryrefillsdetails.asp?productId=2729>
5. <http://www.filofax.be/store/diaryrefillsdetails.asp?productId=2690>

SSA (2010-12-18 01:48:09)

I have been reading this site for several months once I decided to switch back to Filofax after a 10 month "idevice" trial. The trial failed hence the reason I came back to my filo with my tail between my legs :)

I recently moved to Germany and I had never really looked online before that there are so many different things available on the various filofax websites. I only realised this week that the cotton cream and in Germany 'professional' diary refills have a 'this week' box above monday - thats JUST what I need!

Femke (2010-12-18 04:07:44)

It's so annoying that the Dutch (and Belgium for that matter) filofax websites don't do webshops :(I have ordered form the UK filofax website before, I get most of my stuff online anyways.

Alison Reeves (2010-12-18 04:17:31)

I also find this frustrating. I find the UK offering in terms of inserts rather uninspired - I'd like a lot more in Cotton Cream, (I can't find any for A5 in this colour on the UK site) and also some more useful diary layouts. I'd also really like some top tab index dividers - I will just have to make some! THE only problem I have with the european sites is translation!

Jotje (2010-12-18 04:30:30)

Filofax.dk has a very interesting and untypical 2PPD refill for A5 size (<http://www.filofax.dk/store/diaryrefills.asp?tn=1&control=processrequest&catId=4>) ... in Danish though!

I find it very annoying that I begged for A5 2PPD inserts on the FB page of Filofax, and they never told me that they had them already! They are "buried" under the Time Management section of the UK website. No idea why it's not included in their regular site section ...

Laurie (2010-12-18 06:30:53)

Steve I love both of those weekly layouts! When I use a week on 2 pages horizontal, that is how I use the day spaces (appointments on left half, notes on right) so that layout is really appealing. Very interesting that the day seems to end at 4 pm! I guess there's not much space for many lines.

It would be nice to have a universal Filofax-ordering site, I'm wondering why they don't. I remember when I talked to Brigitte at the Filofax shop she said that each individual country chooses what products they will sell.

Janet (2010-12-18 11:11:05)

I live in Sweden and I got a free nameplate with my filofax. You just had to send off the coupon that came with it and you could choose the shape, colour and wording. It is beautiful!

Petra (2010-12-18 11:16:30)

That was my thought too about the 4 pm stopping point. But if the last time listed is 4 pm, that doesn't mean your day ends at 4, since whatever you pencil in there will surely go past 4 (unless your only entry at 4 pm is "go home"!). It is an interesting commentary on the length of the workday, though, since I've never seen a U.S. one that stops before 5 pm!

Christy (2010-12-18 12:50:36)

That would be wonderful if there was a site where you could find all the refills from different countries! In my opinion, many of the US offerings leave quite a bit to be desired in terms of form, function, and, of course, fashion, but I have seen

many interesting things on the Filofax websites from other countries.

For instance, I adore the pink WO2P, and I am absolutely COVETING the professional day per page from Germany (<http://www.filofax.de/store/diaryrefillsdetails.asp?productId=2523>), just to name two things off the top of my head. The problem (besides the fact that I don't read German!) is the expense. Even placing an order from ONE international site (UK, Germany, etc.) seems to be pretty expensive — the idea of ordering from multiple international sites is just not something I can even consider right now. So yes, I would LOVE a one-stop shopping type of website!

Your Stories: Reaching Your Goals With Your Filofax (2010-12-18 07:07) - Laurie

I would love to hear your stories of how your Filofax has helped you reach your goals. As we all know, I'm always interested in goal-setting and methods for reaching goals, and I'd love to hear specifically how Filofax has helped you reach yours.

Especially this time of year as we reflect back on the past year and prepare for the new one, it's fun to think of our accomplishments from this year and goals for next year.

My best example of how my Filofax helped me reach a goal was definitely graduate school. My degree was interdepartmental (Geology and Biology) and it was a topic no one had studied at that school before (the origin of birds) so nobody knew exactly what my degree requirements should be regarding which classes I should take, the structure of my thesis etc. Once those things were determined, I wrote them into a special section in my Filofax that I saved until my degree was completed. As I completed each requirement, I recorded when it was completed and what my grade was. This was especially helpful when I was registering for classes, if one class was already full I could look at my list and register for a different class on my requirements list. Then near the end of my degree when my 3 advisers couldn't agree on what I needed to complete for graduation, I was able to remind them of what we originally agreed on and I had my record of what I had completed when. This proved to be very important! I think students often trust their advisers to know what their requirements should be, but all students need to remember that your degree is ultimately your responsibility and you need to keep track of your requirements.

Right now in my Filofax I have a separate Goals section. I use blue lined paper in this section to make my goals stand out. I have a page for each Goals topic (Personal; Home; Financial etc.) and individual goals listed under the topic. Then I have a new page for each month for those goals or steps I want to specifically focus on that month. I keep my current month's goals directly behind the Notes tab so it's visible right at the front. At the end of the month I write my month-end review on the back of the page, and archive the page at the back of the Goals section so I have a record of my goals and accomplishments each month.

Please post a comment to share your story, whether from this year or longer ago, of how your Filofax helped you reach a goal!

michele (2010-12-18 07:36:43)

Excellent post Laurie. I believe I will replicate your goal system somehow in one or both of my filofaxes! Keep me on track. Currently, both my filofaxes (A5 & pocket) are helping me with a MAJOR professional goal. I am a member of the global Project Management Institute and scheduled to take the Project Management Professional certification exam this Feb 25th. In my A5, I have a special section with all my study notes and diagrams that I keep on hand as I go thru my study guides. So A5 is taking the journey with me! In my Pocket for I keep a journal of each day's study activities - what practice exams I take, scores, blogs I read, etc. So even though, I'm not "ticking" off any "goals to do" I am gladly pushing myself to fill up the pages with notes, etc.

bernhardS (2010-12-18 07:43:00)

Laurie, wait a minute. You wrote your theses at graduate school - does that mean you are a PhD or "Dr. Laurie"?

best,

bernhard

Laurie (2010-12-18 08:07:09)

LOL bernhard! No, I don't have my PhD, just MSc.

How great would that be if I were Dr. Plannerisms?!?!?

Femke (2010-12-18 10:21:24)

I have one personal Filofax dedicated to Mission 101. I use the week pages to keep track of my moods, migraines and pill, so I can see in a year if my migraines are triggered by my pill or not, and if the seasons influence my mood.

I then use the other parts for my mission 101 list, and then separate goals, for example: Health, to buy, weekly goals, monthly goals, list of books and movies, lists I wanna keep etc.

I have decided I will keep my A5 filofax as a guidebook for my study (I currently do a Higher Education in Translator English), so I can see what I have done, still have to do and how much time a week I have dedicated to my studies.

Janet (2010-12-18 11:04:15)

Not strictly Filofax related but I had a huge weight problem when I was younger. I was a fat child, and a fat adult, and just getting fatter and fatter. Went on every fad diet in the book.

Finally, on 1 May 1987 I began weighing myself once a week and recording it. I didn't do a fad diet, just ate sensibly and moved more. I lost 56 kilograms (about 123 pounds) and have kept it off since then. Nowadays I manage to keep my weight steady at about 55kg just by recording it every few days or so. Because I write it down, I can't block out weight gains and I have to do something about it before it spirals out of control. As well as my weight, I record compliments or make lists of treats to buy instead of food. . At the back I write down inspirational quotes. Sometimes I write down what I eat or how I am feeling if things get a bit out of control (I am an emotional eater). When things are tough I read back how far I have gone or read my quotes for inspiration

Many years ago I moved from a bound book to a ring binder one as it develops with me over the years and I can have my favourite quotes with me whichever book I use.

Because I have been slim for so long people view me as 'naturally thin'. Only my book knows the truth!

Vidya (2010-12-18 11:14:34)

I keep an insert with my yearly goals tucked into the monthly pages, then a Franklin-Covey Weekly compass insert that contains my weekly goals. I also developed a worksheet that tracks certain metrics like how I adhered to certain practices and then I grade the week as to how it went. My Filo is a great goal achieving companion!

Mark (2010-12-18 21:23:03)

Interesting comments. I recently purchased an A5 Classic due to an increased work load and a need for more writing space. It's hard to tear myself away from the personal size, but I know I need to pay more attention to detail and goals. It seems that most people (except for Jotke) use the A5 when discussing a goal orientation. Do you feel that the A5 is better suited for running a business and having a serious goal orientation???

caribbean princess (2010-12-19 05:47:36)

I have an inspiration pocket Filofax to help spur me on to achieving personal excellence:-)

My main Filofax, the personal Adelphi is where I record everything I need to do that is work related or academic. My now retired botanic (as it is worn out after providing stellar service!) helped me get through the first 2 years of a job that combined training in public health medicine with an academic post(so 2 jobs in one), passing two professional membership exams and getting a fellowship for my PhD. None of those things would have been achieved without my Filofax!

Laurie (2010-12-19 07:30:46)

CB I'd love to hear some details of how you managed such a busy and detail-filled schedule with your Personal size Filofax! What diary format did you use? And how did you keep up on everything?

Nan (2010-12-26 17:55:17)

Great post, Laurie. I haven't had a Goals section for a while, since I don't seem to have enough major goals to write them down, but since I'm redoing the tabs in my A5, I'm going to try it. I'm not planning to launch anything new in 2011 (but you never know!), but I think I'll accomplish more in existing areas of my life if I write down specific goals.

From around the web (2010-12-18 18:30) - Steve



[1]

A few articles for your attention in between wrapping presents, drinking mulled wine and eating mince pies....

- [2]Stretching the pen loop to make a Mont Blac pen fit - Footnoteblog
- [3]I call my diary my life - Boxed Sets
- [4]Have yourself a Mini little Christmas - Yvotchka
- [5]I'm just addicted - Crazy Suburban Mom
- [6]A post card revolution - Paper Nation

Enjoy

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TFWlUK7IwiI/AAAAAAAAIF4/cJjvymwnDms/s1600/IMG_9224.jpg
2. <http://footnoteblog.com/2009/03/05/how-to-fit-a-montblanc-meisterstuck-into-a-filofax/>
3. <http://mikeylynch.blogspot.com/2010/12/i-call-my-diary-my-life.html>
4. <http://putitonmyheadstone.blogspot.com/2010/12/have-yourself-mini-little-christmas.html>
5. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2010/12/im-just-addicted.html>
6. <http://www.papernation.co.uk/blog/2010/12/15/the-postcard-revolution/>

Australian Made Personal Organisers (2010-12-19 00:00) - Steve

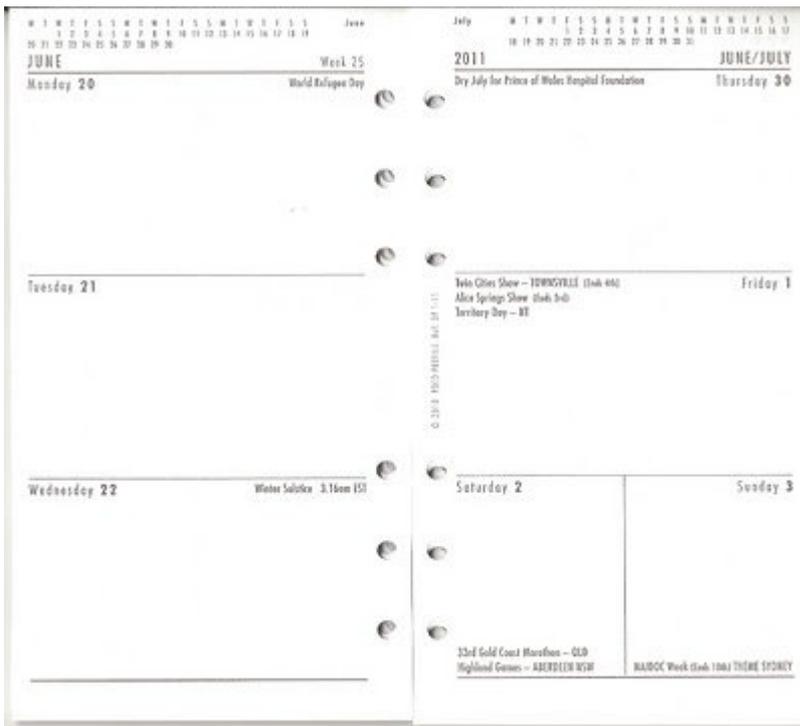
When I think of Australia at this time of year, I think of the hot 'summer' sun, Christmas on the beach in shorts. I'm not sure I could adjust to all my seasons being the opposite to what I've been used to for many years....

With different seasons for the months of the year compared to us in the northern hemisphere comes the problem of your diary is going to be very different to say a UK or US one. Different national holidays, school terms being very very different... your summer holiday (vacation) with Christmas in the middle of it!

However, it is not a problem, because there is a local company (Poco Profile) that has been producing some very nice personal organisers and diary refills since 1989, these days they are all typeset and printed in house. The size is the same as Filofax Personal and Pocket. Victoria at Poco Profile kindly sent me a couple of samples of their personal week on two page diaries in both bright white paper (70 gsm) and in 100 % recycled paper(80 gsm). I have to say at first I thought I had two exactly the same until I noticed the difference on the front sheet.

The recycled paper is very very slightly greyer than the non-recycled version, but not noticeable to the naked eye. I quite like the layout of the main part of the diary. It groups Saturday and Sunday together, which gives the 'working' week quite a bit of space for each day. It's only in English so there is plenty of room to write in each

day. The diary also boasts over 350 events listed, they don't get in the way as you will see in the picture below.



[1]

It also includes a monthly date calendar for the current and next month in the header to the pages. Another great set of pages are a year in month pages, for birthdays and anniversaries I guess, although you could use these pages for other uses.

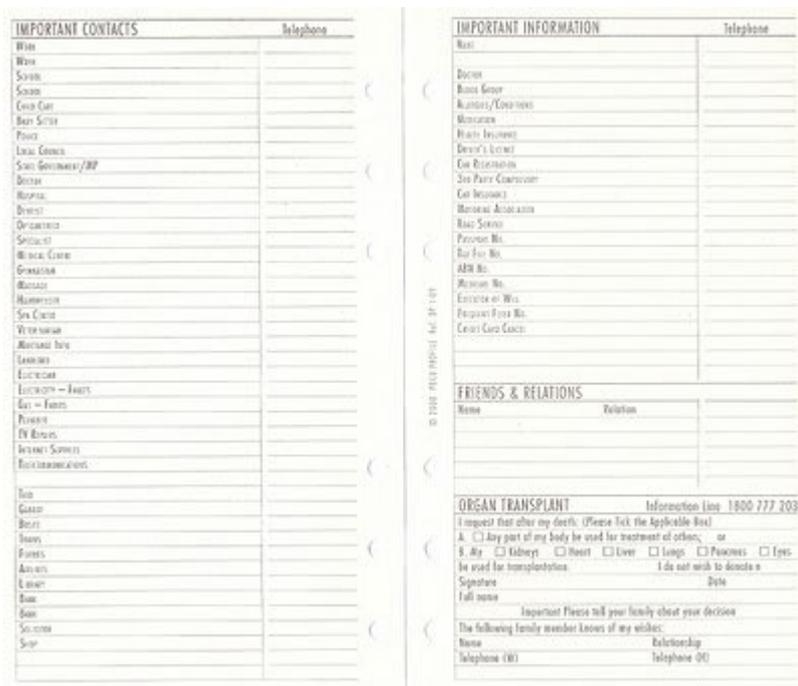


[2]

The refill in full contains the following:

- 2011 calendar
- 2010 / 2012 calendars

- Public Holidays - Important Dates for Australia and individual states
- Government School Holidays 2011
- Phases of the Moon for Australian Eastern Standard Time
- Month pages (as mentioned above)
- Important Contacts (see picture below)
- Personal information, including Organ Transplant permission. (see picture below)
- Conversion Factors
- Dairy starting 23 December 2010 through to 4 January 2012



[3]

Now before you ask, am I going to use one of these in my personal Filofax? I have friends in Oz so it will be useful to know what the public holidays are there so it help with knowing if they are going to be about during 'the day' However, it would be a shame for the other one of these to sit in my desk drawer for the year. So would you like to win one of them? Here is a question for you to answer:

What public holidays occur in Australia on 14th March 2011, the winner will be the closest to the correct answer.

The winner will receive the refill of their choice (non recycled or recycled) by post, although I suspect it might not arrive before 1 Jan 2011. Winner will be declared on Friday 24th Dec at 12 noon (French Time). Please email your answer to p h i l o f a x y at g m a i l dot c o m (reconstructing the address in the usual way)

But before you dive off to Google in search of the answer!! Go and take a look at the [4]Poco Profile website and see their full range of organisers, refills and other leather goods. They offer delivery to overseas addresses at cost price. Overseas orders do not attract local sales taxes etc. See their [5]On-line shop for full details.

One of their own accessories I quite like is the 'Today' [6]page marker with a sleeve for your own notes to be inserted. Their everyday pages are also very contemporary in design and will of course suit any Filofax Personal or Pocket organiser.

Poco Profiles obviously have a great following in Australia judging by their [7]suggestions page Again thank you to Victoria at Poco Profile for the samples.

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TQz-ZOJ0isI/AAAAAAAAIyQ/mPZQONbtB_A/s1600/scan0002.jpg
2. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TQz_f3IO8gI/AAAAAAAAIyU/94AZX0EoHQY/s1600/scan0003.jpg
3. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TQ0B-d8QAeI/AAAAAAAAIyY/tz8PuZ7mLnQ/s1600/scan0004.jpg
4. <http://www.pocoprofile.com.au/>
5. <http://www.pocoprofile.com.au/shop/default.asp>
6. <http://www.pocoprofile.com.au/shop/product.asp?pID=50&cID=8>
7. <http://www.pocoprofile.com.au/suggestions/suggestions.htm>

pilgrim (2010-12-19 05:06:19)

Steve, March 14th 2011 is Commonwealth Day in Australia.

It is also Canberra Day in the Australian Capital Territory & Labour Day in Victoria.

Regards

Pilgrim

Steve (2010-12-24 16:42:08)

Hi everyone.

The correct answer, taken from the diary was:

South Australia: Adelaide Cup

Victoria: Labour Day

Tasmania: Eight Hour Day

ACT: Canberra Day

Thank you for all taking part, the winner picked out by my son is Jo Austin.

Regards

Steve

Filofax 2011? [Updated] (2010-12-21 14:41) - Steve



[1]

On Twitter this afternoon @Filofax _UK said (Tweeted):

Getting up close & personal with the 2011 range - exciting! What would you like to see next year...?

Personally I would like to see the Malden in A5. So what would you like to see?

And after pointing out this post to Filofax UK they posted on Twitter.....

Interesting list, wonder if any of those will come true...? (raises eyebrow secretively)

The truth is out there.... keep posting suggestions....

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TMGi9-Vb41I/AAAAAAAAIVc/8vs8q-Er2us/s1600/malden.jpg
-

Yvotchka (2010-12-21 15:59:51)

An update to the diary line to include a variety of inserts (day per page, week on 2 pages, etc) that are printed so they can be **TABBED BY THE MONTH**.

Franklin Covey does it...DayTimer does it...Day Runner does it.

Filofax, it's time!

Alison Reeves (2010-12-21 16:38:30)

I agree about more choice in the diary layouts - in all sizes please.

Also much more cotton cream, especially in the A5 size, and a brown today market in A5! Just because we use A5 for work doesn't mean we don't want to look stylish!

Laurie (2010-12-21 16:45:07)

Purple Malden! Or some equivalent super-soft, smooth (non-textured) purple leather cover.

And I agree, more diary formats! Personal week on 2 pages vertical with space for notes at the bottom of the page.

Steve (2010-12-21 17:48:08)

And if you don't quite know what Laurie means... see the Tri-note!

Laurie (2010-12-21 17:51:29)

Actually this format already exists, just not for Filofax US or UK. It's Jotje's vertical week on 2 pg that I want!

http://2.bp.blogspot.com/_NjIPaFKXqQ/TP-ZHdQso9I/AAAAAAAAIxI/ox2AYvgxqXQ/s1600/malden4.png

Steve (2010-12-21 17:53:56)

All diary refills to be available in English (only)!!! We want more space to write in....

oropax (2010-12-21 18:37:16)

A personal Ikon.

shepcraig (2010-12-21 18:45:34)

I would like to see the City Dweller insert pack available in A5 size instead of just pocket and personal, I would use it in my A5, and never does a week go by, where a customer doesn't ask for it. I have fed this back to my filofax rep, but still waiting in hope...

plaiditude (2010-12-21 19:50:51)

As I posted on twitter: a cotton cream day per page, but with the appointments in the top 1/3 of the page, and the bottom 2/3 for notes and/or todos - I have way more notes and tasks than appointments, but for the few appointments I do have I still like to have time slots. Oh, and make this for both personal and A5

Phyllis (2010-12-21 21:09:49)

A5 slimline

luminosity6 (2010-12-21 21:10:54)

The grocery list inserts they used to make. I still have some left that I just can't bring myself to use since I know they are history. They had headings like Meats, Dairy, Frozen, Household, etc. Loved these to bits.

Agree that an A5 Malden is needed!

Schollert (2010-12-22 03:16:00)

An insert to the A5 planners that hold 5-6 A7 cards. That way I can keep track of tasks/projects in a more dynamic way than using lists.

@Luminosity6: Have you checked to see if diyplanner.com has a template like the one you ask about. Otherwise there are plenty of people willing to help make one. That way you can print it yourself and use as many as you would like! :-)

Globetrotting Cacti (2010-12-22 03:28:02)

I agree....

Diary inserted that can be tabbed by month (I have made some tabs to separate the months but the fact that they don't divide exactly really bugs me.... but that probably says more about my personality than anything else!!!).

LOVE my Malden personal... and would support Lauries idea of a purple Malden.

Any idea when the range will be launched?

Jotje (2010-12-22 05:19:02)

New range will be due in spring 2011 - still quite a wait!

I also want a purple personal Malden, although I love the Crimson to pieces. The purple should be like the Imperial Purple (Finchley), not a raspberry or pinkish purple!

And the A5 Domino in lavender and grape!!

And tabbed Month-on-two-pages. And/or arrange the weekly pages so that we can insert monthly tab dividers without splitting the week in half.

Laurie, if you still want those pages, drop me a line. Have just mailed them to David. The store was sold out, but I can try to order another refill for you if you'd like!

Laurie (2010-12-22 07:12:16)

Thanks Jotje! Actually I'm doing well so far with my 2 Days Per Page. But I think the vertical weekly should be a standard format option.

And oh yes, how could I possibly forget my desires for a truly slimline A5, and A5 Dominos in pink, grape and lavender!

In fact, a slimline A5 Domino would be a very good thing, and so would a slimline A5 Finsbury.

I can already hardly wait to see the 2011 selection!

crofter (2010-12-22 10:12:34)

I would like to see the travel pack available on the US site, don't see where that should be difficult. I refuse to pay the freight from England, also the old motor running record. I still use them and am able to make my own, but they are really a useful tool for taking care of one's vehicles.

provinznotizen (2010-12-22 10:23:31)

My main wishes for 2011 are a storage-box like [1]that and the re-establishment of the [2]purse

1. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/30775101@N04/3014233798/in/faves-54374149@N08/>

2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/04/filofax-change-holder.html>

Stefee (2010-12-22 11:27:24)

Ditto what Yvotchka said about pages tabbed by the month.

Alison Reeves (2010-12-22 11:57:29)

Jan - Dec cream tabs for the pocket size.

Laurie (2010-12-22 12:17:44)

When I placed my order the other day on Filofax UK I tried to order more Personal size cotton cream blank tabs but there were none! In fact, there were no blank non-colored tabs at all!! Please bring back the cotton cream blank tabs!!!

DanishGTD (2010-12-22 13:34:44)

I'm looking forward to starting my Filofax-experience. Just ordered my first Filofax (a used 2003 Hamilton Personal) to use as my calendar and GTD-organizer.

Cannot wait for it to arrive!

Nellie (2010-12-22 14:16:04)

Gah! I was going to treat myself to a new filo in Jan, but now should I wait for the new range? What's a girl to do?

Jotje (2010-12-22 14:30:29)

Nellie, that's asking for the obvious, isn't it? Of course you'll buy one Filo now. And then another one after the new range is out ... ;-)

Oni (2010-12-22 14:33:04)

I'm with the majority here in wanting more selection on the inserts in all sizes!

Instead of coming up with new binders, they should try to focus their attention to the inserts. Think about it, most people will only buy one or maybe two binders, but inserts?? just see how Yvotchka and Laurie keep changing formats almost every month!

Laurie (2010-12-22 17:26:18)

Absolutely! Hey wait a minute...

Nellie, the answer is: if you see something you really like now, you should buy it because Filofax phases out colors and styles frequently. If you wait, it might be gone! But, if you don't have your eye on anything specific, and can stand to wait ;) it might be fun to see what's new!

With that in mind though, it can take several months for new items to become available in some places. For example, the Malden didn't come to the US until October (or was it November?) and due to production issues the Amethyst Deco is STILL not available as far as I know.

Erin (2010-12-22 18:44:11)

I agree with Yvotchka,,,tabbed monthly calendars and PLEASE have cotton cream for A5 and more inserts etc.

kanalt (2010-12-22 21:34:06)

I agree with many of the comments here - inserts that are tabbed by the month, more variety in insert colors, new edition Maldens, A5 slimline. I also like Plaiditude's request for daily sheets that are 1/3 appointments and the remaining page for notes/to-dos.

I don't think I have anything new to add...

David Popely (2010-12-23 12:16:32)

I would *definitely* like to see a greater range of diary inserts, including day on two pages and week on two pages vertical, with appointments, which I've just recently had to acquire from the Netherlands by Jotje doing me a favour, since they don't have internet purchases on their website. In fact, many of the EU websites *don't* have internet commerce functions, which seems positively ridiculous given the technological age in which we now live. We may still adhere to paper diaries, and for good reasons, but we also want to order stuff online! Why can't there be one central FF site, with all the refills on it, and internet shopping-enabled?

I'd also like to see more cotton cream options in terms of inserts offered - and if there was a global site with a global range, the increased throughput of orders would make this more economical for FF themselves. So come on Filofax....please let us have an up to date ordering system!

ScrapgalGR (2010-12-23 12:21:10)

I'd like to see more slimlines!

Jotje (2010-12-24 06:08:39)

David, did the package arrive yet? Hope it isn't stuck in customs or (worse yet) in the snow

Nellie (2010-12-24 12:04:40)

Well, the Filofax sale prompted me to buy a personal Amazona in Almond.

;))

Modern Musings' dilemma (2010-12-23 15:14) - Laurie

We can all identify with this line:

"Hi my name is Loulou And I am a Filofax addict."

Hi LouLou! Welcome!

Check out Loulou's post [1]Uh oh Filofax is calling again on [2]Modern Musings blog. She lists her Filofax purchases so far this year, and agonizes over whether to buy the on-its-way-out Deco. I couldn't resist adding my two cents in a comment on her post!

1. <http://louloudorsetsmusings.blogspot.com/2010/12/uh-oh-filofax-is-calling-again.html>

2. <http://louloudorsetsmusings.blogspot.com/>

Free For All Friday - No. 110 (2010-12-24 00:00) - Steve



[1]

It is Christmas Eve, presents to wrap, friends to see, cards to open or deliver. Or may be you have to work today and by this evening you just want to flop down in the chair and watch a bit of TV...

Santa's elves have been busy wrapping Filofax Organisers as well as pens and bags, I hope one of the parcels has your name on it.

Whatever you are doing I hope Santa is kind to you tomorrow morning....and the children don't wake you up too early.

But being that it is a Friday, you can of course discuss anything Filofax related.

Happy Christmas to all our readers from us all.

Christmas: The time when everyone gets Santamental.

1. <http://www.santas.net/asanta3.gif>

gdigesu (2010-12-24 06:44:02)

Steve, Merry Christmas!

Best wishes to all Philofaxy fans.

Cheers,

Giovani di Gesu, from Brazil

Anita (2010-12-24 08:14:09)

I'm getting a filofax for Christmas... from me! WH Smiths have personal Kendals on sale at £29.50 & I couldn't resist :)

Happy Christmas every one!

kanalt (2010-12-24 10:05:00)

Merry Christmas to all the Philofaxy readers!

I'm looking forward to all of the new Filo projects I have lined up for 2011.

Adirondack Explorer (2010-12-24 10:49:43)

Merry, Merry Christmas to all Filofaxers in the US, UK, and everywhere else where Filofaxes are used and loved!

Nellie (2010-12-24 12:06:17)

Merry Christmas everyone!

Have a wonderful time, and a happy and healthy new year.

Erin (2010-12-24 14:34:22)

Merry Christmas everyone! Happy Filofaxing in 2011!

David Popely (2010-12-24 14:42:56)

Merry Christmas to all of you, and especially to the regular contributors.....your efforts are very much appreciated!

Laurie (2010-12-24 14:45:42)

Have a wonderful Christmas everybody!

Nellie (2010-12-25 04:51:27)

Santa was very kind to me and bought me a beautiful Ruby Deco. The colour is stunning. It is going to be my book-o-fax to keep a record of all my reading and book wants. :D

Merry Christmas!

Laurie (2010-12-25 05:03:15)

Wow Nellie!! Congratulations on your new Deco!!!

Nellie (2010-12-25 06:57:29)

Thanks Laurie!

I have just spent a happy hour converting it to my book-o-fax. Sections for authors, books I'd like to read, Reading log etc. bliss*

Jotje (2010-12-27 07:27:22)

Nellie, can we see pics on Flickr, PLEASE????

Filofax UK Winter Sale (2010-12-24 05:41) - Steve

Well it is that time of year after all.... Filofax have started their Winter Sale today with up to 50 % off selected items, but only while stocks last.

Click on the graphic below and you will also be contributing to the Breast Cancer Awareness Donation from Philofaxy.



[1]

Happy Christmas

1. <http://tidd.ly/8af8905b>

Jess (2010-12-24 11:53:48)

i treated myself to the personal amazona after years of lusting!

Nellie (2010-12-24 12:07:09)

Me too! Which colour? I went for Almond.

shepcraig (2010-12-24 18:58:41)

The pen shop in Jenners is having a fantastic sale strating on Monday, 30 % off selected organisers. Finsbury Aqua, Guildford, Adelphi, Mode, Domino Lavendar, Malden Crimson, Cuban Ink.

shepcraig (2010-12-24 19:00:05)
Also, all the Amazonas are 30 % off too

plaiditude (2010-12-24 23:44:15)
I wish filofaxusa would have more sales like this

Steve (2010-12-25 17:01:16)
Half price Adelphi's look like they have sold out already...

Jess (2010-12-26 15:32:14)
Nellie, I got the almond too - it was the only one half price, wasn't it? The red Amazona is my absolute favourite but the almond is beautiful too, and it's that crocodile print leather that gets me most of all!

D (2010-12-28 08:31:06)
I've lusted after the butterfly planner ever since the first minute I saw it. When I saw it was 1/2 price I decided to go for it even though the shipping from the UK to the US cost as much as the planner. But oh well it's Christmas, right??

Christmas on the Web... (2010-12-25 07:00) - Steve

It might be Christmas Day... but between unwrapping presents, realising that 'batteries were not included' and that film coming on TV this afternoon is one that you have seen several times before, whilst your dear Father (in Law) snores in the corner full of Christmas dinner and pudding.....there are some blog posts for you to read about Filofax:

- [1]Stamping Bella
- [2]Filofax Chino Mini - Ireneyksoh
- [3]Filofax is calling again - Loulou
- [4]Does a bigger Filofax work for you? - The Crazy Suburban Mom
- [5]The Demise of the Datebook - An article from the NY Times from earlier this year

I hope you are having a Happy Christmas.
Enjoy.

1. <http://stampingbella.com/blog/?p=6434>
2. <http://ireneyksoh.wordpress.com/2010/12/24/filofax-mini-chino-black/>
3. <http://louloudorsetsmusings.blogspot.com/2010/12/uh-oh-filofax-is-calling-again.html>
4. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2010/12/i-always-wanted-to-be-somebody-but-now.html>
5. http://www.nytimes.com/2010/05/09/magazine/09FOB-medium-t.html?_r=1&src=tptw

Miniature 4 colour pen (2010-12-25 21:00) - Steve

So imagine my surprise and delight when in my Christmas cracker today, out fell this miniature 4 colour pen. In the photo the larger one is a regular size one, the small one will be ideal for a Pocket or Mini Filofax of course.



[1]

I was reading Laurie's post recently on [2]Plannerisms about the Bic 4 colour pens and how she uses them on her planner.

I started to think about using one in a similar way to show different phone numbers in my contact lists. Colour coding them for Fixed, Mobile, Fax and email addresses. I intend to update and redo my address and contact pages in my Pocket Filofax/Wallet between Christmas and New Year...

Whilst looking for the Bic 4 colour pens on Amazon, I also came across the Pen clips that might be useful for an organiser where you need more than just one pen loop.

IFRAME: [3][http://rcm-uk.amazon.co.uk/e/cm?lt1=_blank &bc1=000000 &IS2=1 &nou=1 &bg1=FFFFFF &fc1=000000 &lc1=0000FF &t=pemburyvillag-21 &o=2 &p=8 &l=as1 &m=amazon &f=ifr &md=0M5A6TN3AXP2JHJBWT02 &asins=B000J63DX6](http://rcm-uk.amazon.co.uk/e/cm?lt1=_blank&bc1=000000&IS2=1&nou=1&bg1=FFFFFF&fc1=000000&lc1=0000FF&t=pemburyvillag-21&o=2&p=8&l=as1&m=amazon&f=ifr&md=0M5A6TN3AXP2JHJBWT02&asins=B000J63DX6)

IFRAME: [4][http://rcm-uk.amazon.co.uk/e/cm?lt1=_blank &bc1=000000 &IS2=1 &nou=1 &bg1=FFFFFF &fc1=000000 &lc1=0000FF &t=pemburyvillag-21 &o=2 &p=8 &l=as1 &m=amazon &f=ifr &md=0M5A6TN3AXP2JHJBWT02 &asins=B003HIG614](http://rcm-uk.amazon.co.uk/e/cm?lt1=_blank&bc1=000000&IS2=1&nou=1&bg1=FFFFFF&fc1=000000&lc1=0000FF&t=pemburyvillag-21&o=2&p=8&l=as1&m=amazon&f=ifr&md=0M5A6TN3AXP2JHJBWT02&asins=B003HIG614)

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TRZnsyfF-uI/AAAAAAAAIzU/nqX91e4XFE4/s1600/IMG_9751.JPG
2. <http://www.plannerisms.com/2010/12/bic-4-color-pen-in-fashion-colors.html>
3. http://rcm-uk.amazon.co.uk/e/cm?lt1=_blank&bc1=000000&IS2=1&nou=1&bg1=FFFFFF&fc1=000000&lc1=0000FF&t=pemburyvillag-21&o=2&p=8&l=as1&m=amazon&f=ifr&md=0M5A6TN3AXP2JHJBWT02&asins=B000J63DX6
4. http://rcm-uk.amazon.co.uk/e/cm?lt1=_blank&bc1=000000&IS2=1&nou=1&bg1=FFFFFF&fc1=000000&lc1=0000FF&t=pemburyvillag-21&o=2&p=8&l=as1&m=amazon&f=ifr&md=0M5A6TN3AXP2JHJBWT02&asins=B003HIG614

Gail (2010-12-26 05:55:13)

Ohhh I've been using those pen clips in my pink Finsburys, never thought to share it with you all. lo

Kate (2010-12-26 06:56:13)

Your mini pen looks like a Tombow. I've been looking for a multi colour pen for my Finsbury and have found Cult Pens (www.cultpens.co.uk) a great source. They have a wide range at all prices and the service is excellent. I eventually bought a Lamy multifunction pen in silver from them which looks really good against the gorgeous purple of my organiser.

Steve (2010-12-26 09:10:43)

Thanks for the link Kate, I've added it to our suppliers page, they have an excellent range of pens and pencils don't they... I will put together an order after the holidays I think.

Nan (2010-12-26 18:13:39)

A 4-color pen is one of the first things I remember asking for for Christmas, when I was about six. (There were also normal things like a doll that wets and a kitten.) I remember such things were harder to find in those days, but my Dad spent a day downtown finding one. It was all metal. Six-year-olds aren't very good at taking care of things, so I no longer have it. Since then, I've used several of the plastic Bic 4-color pens. I remember at my first job after college I was a purchasing agent, and I used the different colors in my notebook for price, order date, ship date, etc.

Date for your Filofax - Sunday 2nd Jan 2011 (2010-12-26 06:00) - Steve

We are going to run another conference roundtable voice chat using Skype.

I'm sure we are gradually getting to know each other's voices, but I will make a point of going 'around the table' to get everyone to introduce themselves this time.

So...When, Where, What, Who and How?

When? - Sunday 2 January from 11am (US East Coast time), 4pm London time, 5 pm Paris time etc.

Where? - an on-line chat using [1]Skype.

What do I need? - just a micro-phone and a free Skype account.

Who - All of you... connect up with **Philofaxy** and we will attempt to get as many of us linked in to the audio conference as possible.

How -

1. Connect to **Philofaxy** by firstly searching for **Philofaxy** in**Skype**, I will then add you as a contact.
2. Then '**Start Chat**', I will then add you in to the chat room.
3. Then if you request it, I can add you to the audio conference as well. But if you just want to chat via keyboard that's fine. That way it's slightly less hectic for me!

Come and join in the fun, even if you only pop in to say hello...

As with previous round-tables there will also be a parallel text chat room going at the same time as the voice conference, although I find it too hard to take an active part in both!

If you need any assistance setting up Skype, please pop a comment in this post and I will try and help you get one line. Skype is free for computer to computer calls....

Hope to be chatting with you next Sunday, let's all share what we have been up to over the holidays.

1. <http://www.skype.com/>

Nan (2010-12-26 17:31:47)

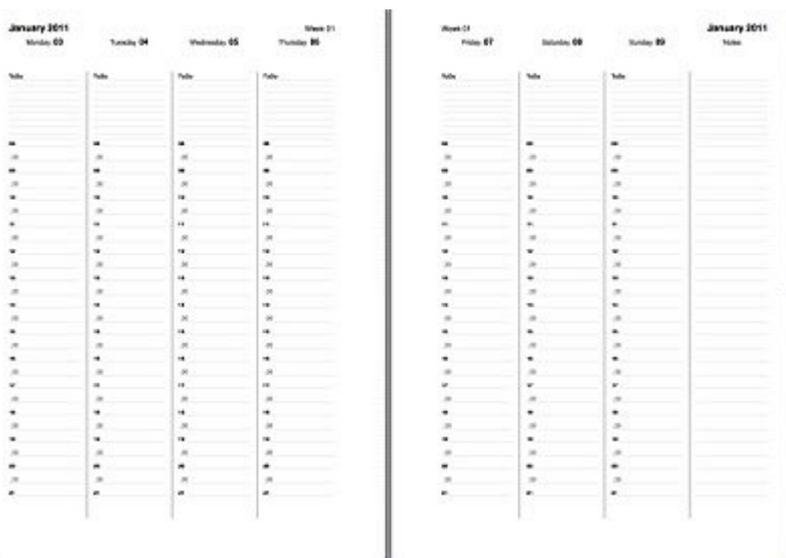
Hi Steve - Thanks for setting up another chat. I will be at church for about the first hour, starting at 11 AM East Coast time. I'll pop in when I get home and see whether anyone is still there.

Print your own A4 or A5 Diary and Year Planner for 2011 (2010-12-26 12:00) - Steve

We are approaching the end of the year. If you haven't decided yet on which diary format to use next year, may be you would like to try something you have printed yourself.

Earlier this year I did a post about printing your own calendar from within [1]MS Outlook. If you are printing for A5 format then you will find my post on [2]booklet printing essential reading.

Whilst researching diary options for my new [3]Filofax Classic A4 organiser, I came across a site that you could create your own printable diary in A4 format. These will also booklet print to fit A5.



[4]

So I have created a few different formats to try out. They are all a week on two pages with the days in vertical columns. The differences should be self-explanatory. I've done them in hourly and half hourly appointment intervals, and with appointments between 08:00 to 19:00 or 08:00 to 21:00. Each one has a notes column on the right hand side and To-Do areas for each day at the head of the each column and a blank notes area at the foot of each day column. Using the shorter appointments span just gives you more space at the foot of each day column.

I've put links to the files in the Philofaxy [5]Files area as well as the foot of this post.

If you would like a slightly different set of appointment times or a reduced number of To-Do's please let me know.

2011 Print Your Own Diaries

- [6]A4/A5 - 08:00-21:00 - Hourly Intervals + Notes+To-Do
- [7]A4/A5 - 08:00-21:00 - Half Hourly Intervals + Notes+To-Do
- [8]A4/A5 - 08:00-19:00 - Hourly Intervals + Notes+To-Do
- [9]A4/A5 - 08:00-19:00 - Half Hourly Intervals + Notes+To-Do
- 2011 - 2012 Year Planner [10].xls [11].pdf

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/08/microsoft-outlook-calendar-filofax.html>
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/08/printing-a5-pages.html>
3. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/12/big-can-sometimes-be-beautiful-as-well.html>
4. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TRdzRTiYGLI/AAAAAAAAIzc/L71GkZBX33I/s1600/calendara4.jpg
5. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/files.html>
6. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/A42011Diaryhour.pdf>
7. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/A42011Diaryhalfhour.pdf>
8. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/A42011BDiaryHour.pdf>
9. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/A42011BDiaryHalfHour.pdf>
10. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/planner.xls>
11. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/planner.pdf>

Nan (2010-12-26 17:23:36)

This diary looks lovely, Steve. What a great way to save money, too!

Amanda (2010-12-27 09:30:43)

Thank you for these excellent diary formats and the tips on booklet printing. I do enjoy reading your posts.

Amanda (2010-12-29 13:22:23)

I have a "Goals for the year" template that I am happy to send if you want it (but I don't know how to send...).

It splits the year into quarters, then months, then weeks, so for each major goal, I allow 3 months, then I split the big goal into smaller ones to achieve in a month, then split those to what can be done in a week. The weekly goals can then be transferred to your diary/planner (if you want).

It's A4 but goes in my A5 home fF using the Z-fold method.

Happy to share if people want it?

Steve (2010-12-29 13:45:13)

Hi Amanda

Yes email me the page to the address shown on the About Us page.

Many thanks

Regards

Steve

Amanda (2010-12-29 13:59:27)

When I roll my mouse/click on the About Us 'link', nothing happens...

Steve (2010-12-29 14:01:46)

Odd, works for me... anyway try this link instead

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/about-us.html>

Thanks

Steve

Amanda (2010-12-29 14:13:17)

will do... don't know why the link doesn't work - it does nothing, not change colour or anything... ho hum. Email on its way.

Steve (2010-12-29 15:01:23)

Seems to only effect Windows from my quick checks here ok with Mac OSX and Linux. So as a quick and dirty fix I've moved them to the side bar and they all work again.

It was only the ones above 6 in number that didn't work. If I moved the order around they worked again.

Might be a temp problem I will see if it's a known problem and they might move back again.

Thanks for pointing it out.

Regards

Steve

The Power of Thank You (2010-12-26 18:27) - Nan

I heard [1]an interesting story on NPR (National Public Radio here in the U.S.) this morning. It hit home, because I already planned to spend the day organizing my daily priorities for next year. If you click [2]that link, you can hear and read a transcript of an interview with John Kralik, author of [3]*365 Thank Yous: The Year A Simple Act of Daily Gratitude Changed My Life*.

Kralik decided to write one Thank You note every day for the year 2008. It started out like any other new year's resolution, but it turned out to be a catalyst for positive and much needed changes in his life.

If any of us plan to try to same resolution this year, I bet we'll use our Filofaxes to keep track of the list of notes, recipients, and results!

UK link:

IFRAME: [4]http://rcm-uk.amazon.co.uk/e/cm?lt1=_blank &bc1=000000 &IS2=1 &nou=1 &bg1=FFFFFF &fc1=000000 &lc1=0000FF &t=pemburyvillag-21 &o=2 &p=8 &l=as1 &m=amazon &f=ifr &md=0M5A6TN3AXP2JHJBWT02 &asins=1401324053

1. <http://www.npr.org/2010/12/26/132263637/perfect-thank-you-notes-heartfelt-and-handwritten>
2. <http://www.npr.org/2010/12/26/132263637/perfect-thank-you-notes-heartfelt-and-handwritten>
3. http://www.amazon.com/365-Thank-Yous-Gratitude-Changed/dp/1401324053/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1293406442&sr=1-1
4. http://rcm-uk.amazon.co.uk/e/cm?lt1=_blank&bc1=000000&IS2=1&nou=1&bg1=FFFFFF&fc1=000000&lc1=0000FF&t=pemburyvillag-21&o=2&p=8&l=as1&m=amazon&f=ifr&md=0M5A6TN3AXP2JHJBWT02&asins=1401324053

caribbean princess (2010-12-27 13:27:08)

What a lovely story! Thanks for sharing with us. It made me smile today :-)

tommies-s-net (2010-12-27 17:02:28)

This sounds like a great idea! I think about doing this in 2011. Last year I tried to give a smile to as many people as possible, since it's said to be contagious ;) (Which really is true). So, giving a "Thank you" every day is a good continuity! I'm sure it will brighten up our days...

Petra (2010-12-28 09:44:04)

The book comes out today. I pre-ordered a copy yesterday and it's already shipped. Thanks for letting me know about it!

kanalt (2010-12-28 11:37:57)

Just recently, I started something like this. It's just a small list really. But after having read this post, I think I will incorporate it into my "Me" binder. I've also added the book to my list of "must reads" for 2011. Thanks for sharing!

Petra (2010-12-29 13:21:22)

Well, the book was due out on the 28th, and it appeared on my doorstep on the 28th, and I read the whole thing on the 28th. First time I've ever read a book on its publication date! Easy, fast read with some laughter and some tears.

Spencer's Filofax selection (2010-12-27 17:14) - Laurie

Erin sent me this photo from Spencer's in Carmel, California. What a great selection of Filofaxes!



[1]

Thanks for the photo Erin!!

1. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/TRkPsMNkTXI/AAAAAAAAABfM/nhzWZZawcmE/s1600/Carmel-20101218-00008.jpg

caribbean princess (2010-12-27 18:28:37)
This must be heaven! :-)

Yvotchka (2010-12-27 19:16:36)
So...how many of them did you buy ;)

Nellie (2010-12-28 03:13:02)
Wow! There is one on the right hand side, in the middle that looks like it has really large rings. Is that a filo or something else?

Jotje (2010-12-28 05:59:24)
I only cannot believe that they would stack those precious Filofaxes like this! It means they get damaged/scratched, way before they are even sold and used. Plus: you cannot get a proper impression of the binder, when they are heaped up like this!
A true sacrilege!

Gail (2010-12-28 08:55:21)
I totally agree with you Jotje, they really do need displaying much better so save the leather if nothing else.
A wonderful collection, why aren't they in their boxes though?

Petra (2010-12-28 09:50:12)
This is a store? Here in the U.S.?! How are their prices? Must check the airline deals to Carmel...

kanalt (2010-12-28 11:53:12)
I have never seen a collection like this in a US retailer. Nice!

Erin (2010-12-28 14:15:46)
I restrained myself and didn't buy any binders, only a personal size refill. I was very proud of myself. Yes, I agree it would be better if they displayed them a different way and had all the boxes, but I believe they do keep the boxes behind the counter for when they are purchased. I must point out that they are NOT all Filofaxes, some are various other brands. They are a wee bit higher priced than on-line at Filofax site.

Guest Post: Book o Fax - 'Nellie' (2010-12-28 10:15) - Steve

We all love seeing how people use their Filofax Organisers other than just using them for trying to organise their lives and keeping a list of their friends phone numbers and mailing addresses.

So it was great to receive an email from 'Nellie' this morning showing some great photos of her red Deco... stop and read the text before you go madly scrolling down!!!!

Santa was good to me and bought me a super new Ruby Deco which I am using as a Book-o-Fax to keep a track of my reading, and work for my book blog.

A little while ago, I think it was a Friday Free For All, you asked what specialist uses we put our filos to, so I thought you might like to see what I have done with my Deco. The personalisation was inspired by other Philofaxy readers

The Deco is totally dedicated to my reading.

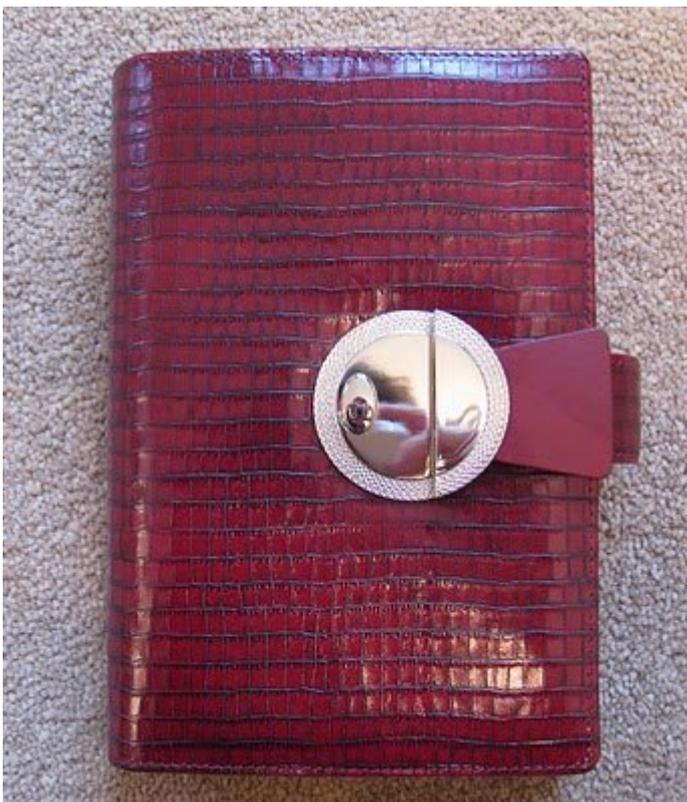
- The diary section has a list of books I have read (photos 3 & 4)
- The Notes section has a list if books I would like to read (Photos 5 & 6)
- The Projects section has a list of my "To Be Read" pile (photos 7 & 8)
- The Address section I have used to list the books I already own my specific authors, so I don't buy duplicate copies by mistake (Photos 9 & 10)

The financial section will remain blank, I don't want to know how much I spend on books each year!!

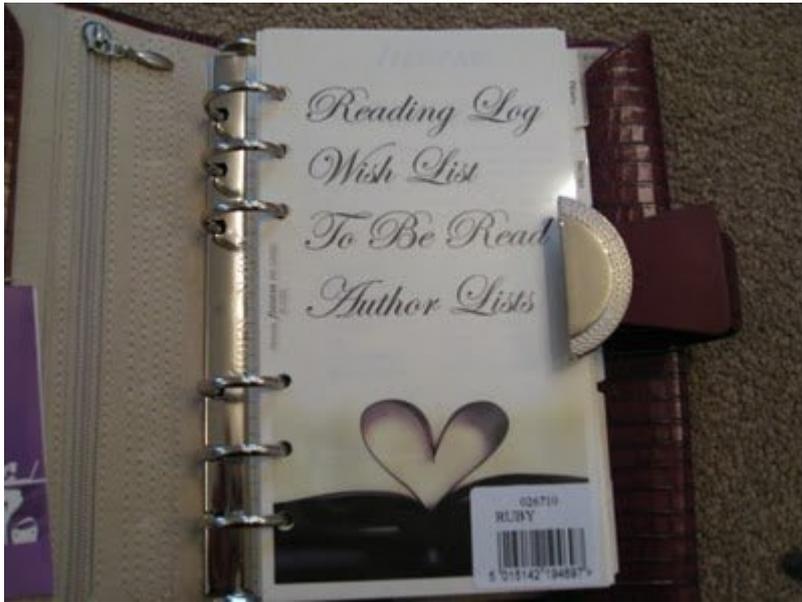
Making the personalised pages for each section was really quite easy once I had worked out how to set my printer up. I am happy to share the files if anyone would like them.*[Now available on Philofaxy in [1].pptx and [2].pdf]*
Attached are some pictures.

Best Wishes for the New Year,

Helen (aka Nellie)



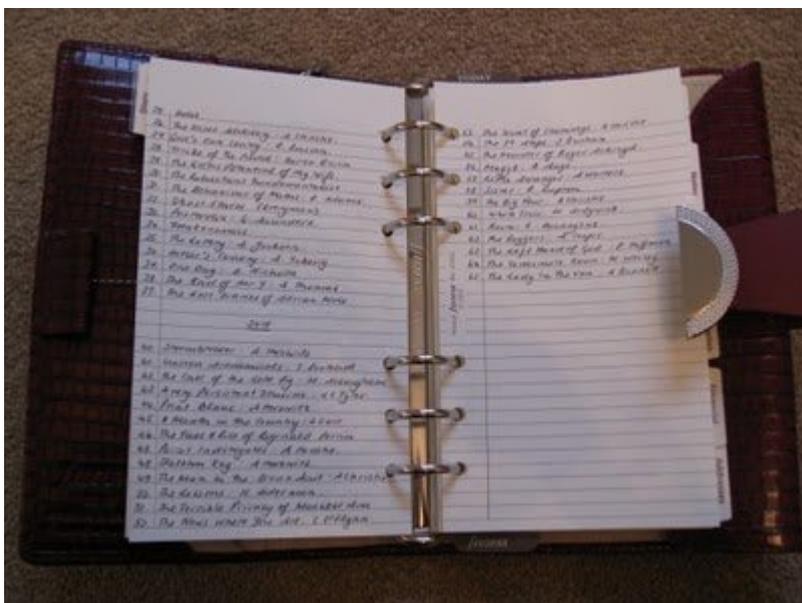
[3]



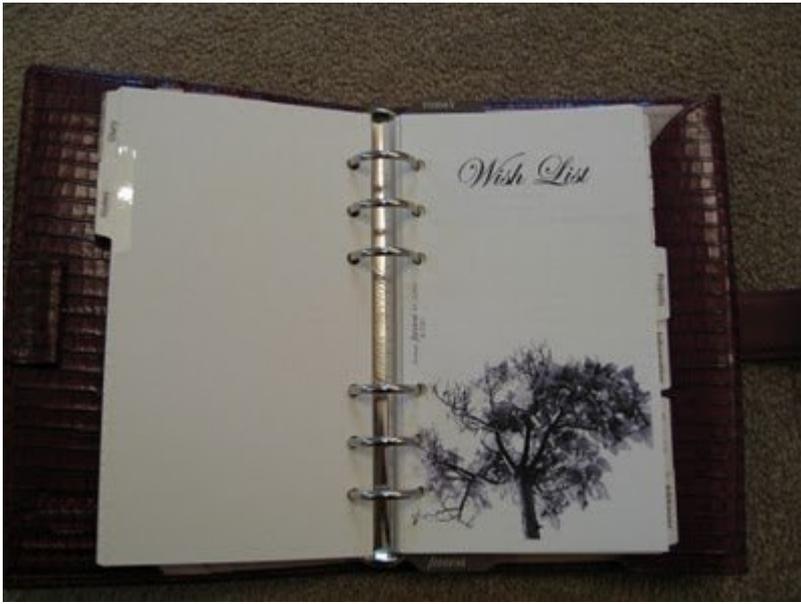
[4]



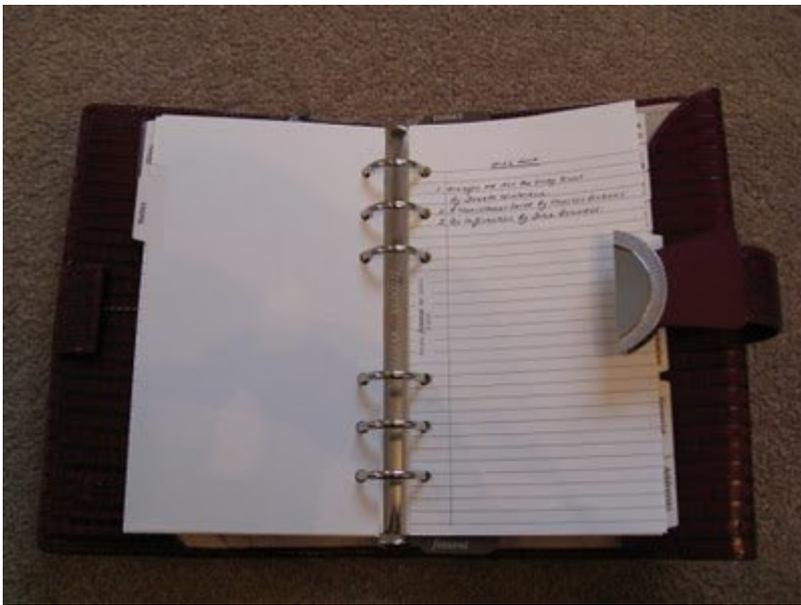
[5]



[6]



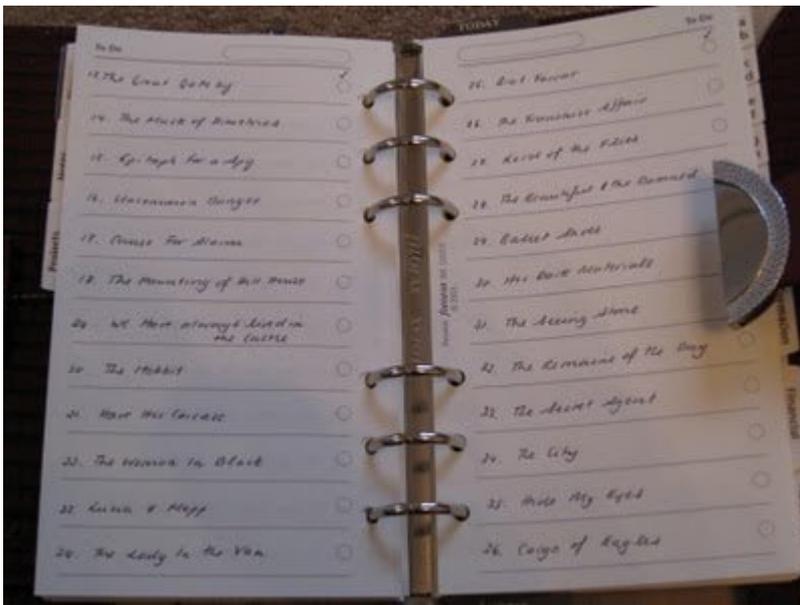
[7]



[8]



[9]



[10]



[11]



[12]

Thank you Helen for sharing your new Filofax with us and all the pictures. And also visit her [13]website.

1. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/notes.pptx>

2. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/notes.pdf>
3. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TRnv9lLpksI/AAAAAAAAI0c/Y4BbsoadouM/s1600/1+Ruby+Deco.JPG
4. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TRnv-RtqD7I/AAAAAAAAI0g/wyXIZS6R-vQ/s1600/2+Front.JPG
5. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TRnv_N1BMGI/AAAAAAAAI0k/0Cn1P8XnKQM/s1600/3+Reading+Log.JPG
6. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TRnv_n90tZI/AAAAAAAAI0o/pke3iip_lDI/s1600/4+Diary.JPG
7. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TRnwANmjGpI/AAAAAAAAI0s/WYorIPD8gEg/s1600/5+Wish+List+%25282%2529.JPG
8. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TRnwAouB11I/AAAAAAAAI0w/yIJBpjDKL9s/s1600/6+Wish+List.JPG
9. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TRnwBHe-HjI/AAAAAAAAI00/jvr1tY-UAbg/s1600/7+To+Be+Read+%25282%2529.JPG
10. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TRnwBuiUDMI/AAAAAAAAI04/DZallfyDqVw/s1600/8+To+Be+Read.JPG
11. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TRnwCHLoMxI/AAAAAAAAI08/uzmZ-wc8S3U/s1600/9+Author+Lists.JPG
12. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TRnwCsRmZdI/AAAAAAAAI1A/XlvAJ2eAl00/s1600/10+PG+Wodehouse.JPG
13. <http://www.fennellbooks.co.uk/>

caribbean princess (2010-12-28 11:16:20)

Oh Nellie, how I crave the ruby Deco! You must have been a really good girl this year! I love the personalised templates. Were they difficult to make? I really like books so may be a possible use for my Chameleon. Thanks for sharing and happy new year :-)

Nellie (2010-12-28 11:37:29)

Actually, I pinched the idea of decorating from you! :D

I used powerpoint to create the templates, just setting the paper size to match the personal paper size. Then I spent AGES looking for clipart to put on each page. It took me a while to work out how to get my printer to print onto filofax paper, and which way up it had to go in the feed, but once that was sorted it was easy.

Now I know how to print directly onto filo paper, I will makes some more templates such as exercise logs, and things for work.

provinznotizen (2010-12-28 11:57:08)

I like your idea to use to-do-lists for the books to be read. Thank you for sharing this.

kanalt (2010-12-28 11:58:07)

Very nice Nellie! I may have to borrow some of these ideas for my reference/media Filo which I will work on in 2011. Also, I have added your website to my RSS Reader. Thanks for sharing!

Nan (2010-12-28 12:28:30)

Great job! You've really created a book to treasure!

aspiretobe337604 (2010-12-28 13:17:26)

What a great idea! Thanks for sharing yet another inspired idea for the filofax!

Alison Reeves (2010-12-28 17:15:30)

Nellie - this looks fabulous - well done! I have two questions - 1) what font did you use for the text - it is really lovely 2) can you offer some suggestions on how to print out on personal size paper? I'd love to print on my index sheets, but have no idea how to set it up!

Rori (2010-12-29 09:34:43)

Oh wow! That is so beautiful! Love the "to-do" for books to be read. Just beautiful! So neat and tidy, wish mine was so clean haha. Thanks for the pictures and the post, fabulous idea, Nellie! And thank you Philofaxy.

Rori (2010-12-29 09:35:00)

Oh wow! That is so beautiful! Love the "to-do" for books to be read. Just beautiful! So neat and tidy, wish mine was so clean haha. Thanks for the pictures and the post, fabulous idea, Nellie! And thank you Philofaxy.

Nellie (2010-12-29 13:06:06)

Alison,

I will write down how I set my printer up and send it to Steve so he can pass it on, if he doesn't mind.

I'm glad you liked the post. :)

Nellie (2010-12-29 13:08:08)

PS. The font is Edwardian Script ITC. It was one of the options in Powerpoint.

Alison Reeves (2010-12-29 17:20:54)

Thank you for the info Nellie - I'll investigate the font and look forward to seeing the instructions for printing when they are ready.

Free Shipping from Filofax USA (2010-12-28 12:33) - Nan



[1]

It may not compete with the [2]Filofax UK winter sale, but folks on my side of the pond can get free shipping on orders over \$55 at [3]Filofax USA. Now's a perfect time to buy 2011 diary refills if you haven't already, buy a new organizer, or consolidate a big order.

1. <http://www.filofaxusa.com/us/diary+refills/>

2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/12/filofax-uk-winter-sale.html>

3. <http://www.filofaxusa.com/us/diary+refills/>

Petra (2010-12-29 13:17:41)

I wish they actually had a sale – the free shipping on orders over \$55 is always available. I keep seeing mentions of all these fabulous sales in the UK and get so jealous. Then again, maybe it's good we don't have any here! Guess I'll have to keep watching eBay, where I recently scored a new red Finchley personal for \$51 including shipping.



[1] *researching the cure*

Well as you can see from the 'side bar' totaliser our donation has just gone past £50 and there is still all of January to go for that total to climb even higher. I'm not going to make any predictions as to what it might climb to, because I just want it to be as high as possible.

I'm also pleased to announce that Nickie over at [2]Typecast has joined our contribution by including a Filofax link on her blog to the same account so anything bought via her site is also adding to the contributions.

If you would like the code to do the same on your own site please contact me.

The commission is earned on **all** sales placed on Filofax UK via Philofaxy ads like the ones below. It covers all items on their site nothing is excluded so even if you only buy a pen refill, or a top of the range organiser they all contribute to the donation total. Non organiser products such as bags, conference folders etc are also included.

Look out for further announcements and forth coming offers.

Thank you for all of your purchases so far, every penny, every pound will be helping some one get past this terrible killer... That some one could be a friend, a daughter, wife, grand mother, or even your Mother in Law!!! [smile]

[3]

FILOFAX, it's a way of life

SHOP NOW ►

DECO

[4]

1. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TPYxmfWBN5I/AAAAAAAAItc/zTjuOj5aCBU/s1600/bbc_logo.gif
2. <http://www.iamtypecast.com/2010/12/buy-your-filofax-supplies-and-support.html>
3. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?s=228802&v=2457&q=113529&r=97790>
4. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?s=152869&v=2457&q=90350&r=97790>



[1] I hope this guide helps you choose which Filofax is the best one for you, even if you are not new to the Filofax brand, Though out this guide you will find [links](#) to other parts of the Philofaxy site to relevant articles and other information.

Why a Filofax?

The Filofax Organiser has not changed in the way it functions since it came in to existence back in 1921, but the number of users has grown considerably in recent years. The [2]history of the Filofax Organiser and the company has been documented by one of our readers Kevin Hall.

The Filofax first became popular in the 1980's the pre-mobile phone era!

Nowadays people may say to you 'Why would you want to use a Filofax when I have an iPhone or similar device.' Here are some reasons....

- It doesn't crash like a computer
- It's always 'on' you don't have to wait for it to load up
- Flexible - in terms of how you organise your data
- Instantaneous - you can quickly jot down notes anywhere
- You can personalise it - eg. all Blackberry(ies?) look the same!

We all have our favourite reasons for using a Filofax or coming back to using a Filofax.

Which Filofax?

Yes there is quite a range now. They come in five different sizes (Mini, Pocket, Personal, A5, A4) within those different size ranges. You will find that there are also variations on the ring sizes, the material used for the cover (Leather and non-leather), the internal layout of the organiser (pockets, zip pockets, credit card slots etc). There is a large range of styles in each size and obviously there is quite a price range from tens of £ \$ € to thousands of £ \$ €, but in between those extremes there is something for everyone.



[3]

So looking at each size. The **Mini** is the baby in the range, it has five equally spaced rings in the organiser and the spacing is the same as the Pocket size.

The [4]Mini page size is 67mm by 105mm, which is about an eighth of the size of a sheet of A4 paper. The Mini is quite small but a useful size to slip in to a pocket or bag.

Because the Mini has pages that have the same hole spacing as the Pocket size it means that pages from a Mini will fit in to a Pocket size Filofax.



[5] The next size up is the **Pocket** this has six equally spaced rings; it has a paper size of 81mm by 120mm. Like the Mini is quite compact but again a useful size for your pocket or bag.

Both the [6]Pocket and Mini lend themselves well to being used as a [7]wallet or purse combined with also being used as an appointment diary and for keeping notes and to-do lists.

A page from a Pocket will clip in to a Personal size with just the bottom corner folded up.



[8]

We then come to the **Personal** size, this is the size most people will recognise as being a Filofax, and there are 6 rings in two groups of three. The [9]Personal size is also used for the Slimline style of Filofax organiser, which uses the same size paper, but the organiser has much smaller rings.

The paper size for the Personal is 95mm by 171mm. The Personal size has the largest number of organisers in the range and paper and diary refills also. So if you are just buying your first Filofax this might be a good place to start. Again the price range is quite wide, but we will come on 'where' to buy your Filofax from later in this article.



[10]

The next size is the **A5**, which for some people is too large to carry around. The [11]A5 paper size is 148mm by 210mm, exactly half the size of an A4 sheet of paper. It lends itself well as a desktop or counter type organiser, for holding reference information and family organisation.

Being a standard paper size means that you can print your own inserts quite easily from your own computer and

printer. To print to A5 you can do a simple [12]booklet print, then cut the page in half and punch it. There is a large number of templates in our files area which will all work in the A5 size.



[13]

The largest size Filofax organiser is the **A4**, which has a paper size of 210mm by 297mm. The [14]A4 only has 4 rings, but they are standard 80mm spacing. This means that pre-punched paper and punches are readily available in a lot of stationary shops in Europe.

Please note that this size of organiser is not currently sold by Filofax USA, lack of demand and the availability of that size of paper in the US possibly being the reasons.

Philofaxy has a very comprehensive [15]guide to the full world wide range of organisers detailing the ring sizes, retail prices, material used etc. It's kept in the [16]Files page of the site.

Where to purchase your Filofax?

So once you have decided which size of Filofax is going to best meet your needs, where do you buy it? Well in the [17]Philofaxy Suppliers page there are plenty of links to different suppliers around the world. Postage on these items can be quite high because of their value and bulk so it's best to always try and buy within your own country if you can. Do shop around because prices do vary.

You might also consider Ebay, but a word of caution. Like anything on [18]Ebay you are dealing with people that might not know a lot about the product, so if there is any question about the description of what is on offer make sure you ask plenty of questions. I have seen things described, as a personal Filofax when in fact it was pocket size. If the price looks too good then there's most probably a reason why it is.

Caution when using on line auctions, especially when you see lots of items that say Brand New In Box (BNIB), because they are buying them from somewhere to then sell, you can most probably be able to do the same!

The current range of available styles and colours and sizes changes each year, so if you see a particular style or colour you totally adore, buy it when you see it, because it might always be available.

What else do I need?

If you are buying a new Filofax it will come with most things you need to get started in terms of paper inserts. These will include normally a diary (format might vary on the size of organiser you buy), some lined paper, to-do list pages, financial pages, address pages, dividers etc. Check the Filofax website for the full detail for the particular style/size you are buying.

You will obviously need a pen or pencil to go with your Filofax. Some people prefer to use pencil for appointments because you can erase it should the appointment change. [19]Pens can be used for say permanent entries, journal entries. Your choice of pen (ballpoint, fountain, rollerball etc) is obviously a very personal one, you will know already which you prefer.

Beware the paper in Filofax tends to be quite thin, so it's advisable to test out a selection on pens on a blank sheet of Filofax paper before you settle on a specific pen.

Also check that your choice of pen will fit in to the pen loop, on some organisers this is elasticated so you will have a wider range of pens to choose from with these.

Some people use multi colour pens for highlighting different types of appointments.



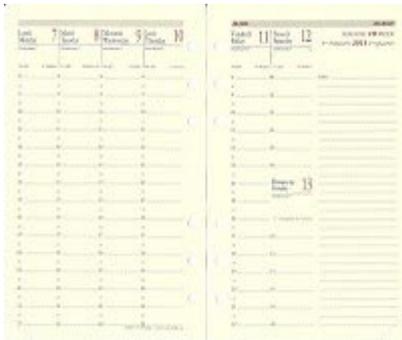
[20]

If you want to insert your own pages or pictures in to your Filofax you will need a suitable paper punch, we have covered this topic extensively in the past so take a look at the [21]punch posts and the links within those posts. If you are going to be doing more than just an occasional page it is worth investing in a metal punch rather than the simple plastic ones sold by Filofax.

Again the [22]Philofaxy Suppliers page has numerous links that will help you find some of the more specialist items.

This section wouldn't be complete without suggesting that you will no doubt start thinking about your next Filofax if you get hooked on them. One is never enough for most people! The various [23]surveys and [24]reader profiles will testify to that!!!!

What diary to use



[25]

Which diary format to use is a very regular topic on Philofaxy, it is one of the biggest causes of anger/angst amongst the readers including our long standing and most experienced readers/users.

Does the perfect [26]diary format/layout exist? I suspect in about 80 % of cases most people can work with what is offered in whichever size of organiser they are using. But if you are someone who has a very busy life style/work schedule then your diary is going to start looking very crowded very quickly. Or worse your life style changes mid year then what do you do?

So that was the bad news... here is the good news.... well sort of!

Filofax diary inserts come in a variety of sizes and layouts, they include:

- Day Per Page (DPP)
- Week Per Page (WPP)
- Week on Two Pages (WOTP) some retailers call this layout Week Per View
- Month on One Page
- Month on Two Pages.
- There are also horizontal and vertical format year planners.

Not all of these layouts are available for all of the different sizes of organisers. Again check the website for your particular size of Filofax organiser.

Filofax also make diary inserts in English and multi language formats. If English isn't your first language check out the Filofax site in your country/region they have ones specific to your region and sometimes layouts specific to

your region too.

The weekly diary refills come in horizontal and vertical formats again depending on the size of organiser. Start days of Monday or Sunday. Academic refills start in August and run for twelve months.

If the Filofax diary refills aren't exactly what you want then ones from other companies also fit the Filofax Organiser range, these are from Day Timer, Quo Vadis, Franklin Covey.

Our [27]FAQ page has the details of what size fits which Filofax Organiser, the other companies don't use the same sizes or ring spacing in all formats although in some cases they fit the Filofax perfectly both for size and ring spacing. We have reviewed and used a lot of these alternative formats and the reviews are worth reading if you are looking to branch out from the Filofax range for your diary but still retain your Filofax organiser.

Need more information or help in choosing?

The contributors and the readers of Philofaxy are the biggest and most experienced group of Filofax users you are ever likely to come across. There is quite a community spirit that has built up over the life time of Philofaxy and everyone is always willing to help and answer questions, no matter how many times that question has come up before.

There are several ways of 'tapping' in to the global Filofax knowledge base (a fancy title I know!) On the blog you can [28]email the contributors, or each Friday we have a 'Free For All Friday' post where anything Filofax related can be discussed, just post a comment in that post.

There is also a Google search box at the top of the blog, which can search through all of the posts going back over five years.

We now have '[29]Yearbooks' of each years posts so you can read past posts away from your computer. These also include the comments to each post and there is a lot of useful information contained in the comments of posts. The Yearbooks are available on our Files page in PDF and Epub formats so you can also import them on to your ebook reader (Kindle etc). The Yearbooks have the advantage in that you can search through the posts and the comments. On Twitter Philofaxy has a readers follow list, follow that list and you will have most of the main 'players' in the group. The chat isn't exclusively about Filofax but we try to respond to all 'mention' and 'direct messages' sent to [30]@philofaxy

Each month we hold a 'Roundtable' discussion for about 1-2 hours on Skype, these are 'advertised' on the blog about a week before the next one. You don't have to speak if you don't want to, you can log in and just listen or log in to the instant messaging side of things. There's no set agenda for what will be discussed during these chats, but they are great for asking questions and in some cases getting instant answers!

We have also had one UK Philofaxy 'face to face' meet up and we know of at least one other taking place in the US. These meet-ups are likely to happen in the future and judging from the feedback from the UK one are likely to happen again in the future.

There is a very active [31]Philofaxy Flickr Group with hundreds of photographs and also a discussion group area. If you get confused by the abbreviations used on Philofaxy or in the comments people make, we have created a [32]Glossary for you to 'decode' the mysterious letters.

How do I know when there is a new post on Philofaxy?

There are several ways of doing this:

- Follow us on [33]Twitter
- 'Like' our [34]Facebook Page
- Subscribe to the Posts and/or Comments using the links in the blog sidebar
- Add the RSS feed to your RSS feed reader or to [35]Protopage
- Add the blog to your favourites or make the blog your homepage!

So as you can see there's more to buying a Filofax Organiser than you might have first thought, but there is a wealth of experience, knowledge and friendly people to help you find what you want and also help you with using your Filofax.

I hope you have found this guide helpful please add a comment or email us if you have any suggestions for additions or changes and we will make suitable amendments to the document/post, I will increment each amendment.

Document History:

Version Number Description

1.00 First Edition Published 29 Dec 2010 (SM)

1.01 Filofax Guide Document Reference and Link added in the Which Filofax Section of document 30 Dec 2010 (SM)

1.02 Flickr Group details added, and link to the Glossary added 31 Dec 2011 (SM)

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2. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/filofax-chronology.pdf>
3. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TRnrWmTrFtI/AAAAAAAAIzw/3Msj-Y_f2G0/s1600/chameleon-mini-raspberry.jpg
4. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/search/label/Mini>
5. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TFWlUK7IwiI/AAAAAAAAIF4/cJjvymwnDms/s1600/IMG_9224.jpg
6. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/search/label/Pocket>
7. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/08/slimline-to-pocket-conversion.html>
8. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/SkEHTxyQgTI/AAAAAAAAADo8/lBx3Ce3XG3Y/s1600/IMG_8057.JPG
9. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/search/label/Personal>
10. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TRuwlcqounI/AAAAAAAAI1E/7WiPeKtzy8Y/s1600/IMG_9723.JPG
11. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/search/label/A5>
12. <http://ofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/08/printing-a5-pages.html>
13. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TP51tXNxiWI/AAAAAAAAIwQ/3hfCCwenFU8/s1600/IMG_9724.jpg
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18. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2009/06/filofax-on-ebay-it-pays-to-be-patient.html>
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21. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/search/label/Punch>
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27. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/faq.html>
28. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/about-us.html>
29. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/search/label/Yearbook>
30. <http://www.twitter.com/philofaxy/>
31. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/philofaxy-on-flickr.html>
32. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/08/glossary-what-are-all-these.html>
33. <http://www.twitter.com/philofaxy/>

34. <http://www.facebook.com/Philofaxy>

35. <http://www.protopage.com/>

caribbean princess (2010-12-29 17:57:10)

This is an excellent and very comprehensive guide Steve. I am always recommending this site. I wish I knew about it before I bought my first Filofax 2 1/2 years ago but if I did I may own even more than my current 12 by now! Haha. Look forward to more great posts from you, Laurie and Nan in 2011!

Jess (2010-12-29 18:25:16)

hear hear! an excellent starting point and, like CP, I am always recommending philofaxy. two of my friends are getting more involved in the filofax 'thing' lately, very exciting for me!

I think 2011 will be an exciting year for philofaxy :)

aspiretobe337604 (2010-12-29 19:57:09)

As always, a great article!

There's just something so satisfying about pen and paper and the marks I make to make it mine!

Looking forward to spending more time with Philofaxy in 2011! Thanks, Steve, Laure, & Nan!

crofter (2010-12-29 22:26:24)

Great post Steve. I appreciate all the time and effort you put in along with Laurie and Nan.

Here is wishing our community a Happy and Healthy 2011.

Petra (2010-12-29 23:35:06)

Nice summary, as well as the faq's page which I just now read, and the "punch" post (which I commented on). Wish I'd had these sorts of summaries two years ago when I was learning which sizes went with what!

ArchiMark (2010-12-30 00:26:00)

Excellent overview, Steve!

Happy New Year!

Mark

michele (2010-12-30 07:07:39)

Excellent post Steve!!! A great start to the new year! Happy 2011 Everyone!!

Jotje (2010-12-30 07:39:08)

Terrific article, Steve! Maybe it should be published on a "getting started" tab on Philofaxy, so that new readers can get a first overview? Or do we already have that ...?

Happy Philofaxy new year!

Steve (2010-12-30 07:43:25)

Thanks everyone for the great response to this post. As you might have noticed we are already up to version 1.01 !! This one will be updated and revised constantly, I've added a document history at the foot of the post!

I've also placed a link to it in the Files page.

The guide will eventually be available as a pdf, when I get a few more moments. Busy with other stuff on the site at the moment!

Thanks for the suggestion Jotje, I will look in to that. Having probs at the moment with pages which is ongoing, hence why they have moved to the sidebar. But I like your idea.

Femke (2010-12-30 15:40:00)

Great post, thank you Steve!

Year Goals (2010-12-30 09:00) - Steve

We are getting very close to the New Year, so may be it is time to sit down and plan out your goals for the forthcoming year.

These goals can be anything such as lose 30 lbs or kgs in weight, learn to speak a new language, sort out your digital photo collection. Anything that is personal to you.

Having them in a chart in your planner helps you tackle these goals and helps you achieve them without exhausting yourself!

To help you chart your goals Amanda sent us her own templates to help you chart them. She says:

I like to write maybe just one or two big goals in each quarter-year, then use the month and week bits to 'project-manage'. The weekly goals then get slotted into the diary/planner (so they have half a chance of getting done!).

It's not foolproof, but it might help some. I have found that just writing my goals down isn't enough for me - I then need to do a bit more to make them happen!

The files are now on-line in the [1]Files page:

- Year Goals - [2].pdf, [3]blank .pdf [4].xlsx

The files are set for A4 but they will 'Z fold' in to an A5 without any problems. Thank you to Amanda for sharing the files.

Major goals for the year	Monthly goals	Weekly goals		
	January	1		
		2		
		3		
	February	1		
		2		
		3		
	March	1		
		2		
		3		
	April	1		
		2		
		3		
	May	1		
		2		
		3		
	June	1		
		2		
		3		

[5]

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/files.html>
2. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/yeargoals.pdf>
3. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/yeargoalsblank.pdf>
4. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/yeargoals.xlsx>
5. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/___NjIPaFKXqQ/TRyLHyab5GI/AAAAAAAAI1I/MvGxb-yhTFs/s1600/yeargoals.jpg

Amanda (2010-12-30 13:19:12)

My pleasure! I hope people find them useful (but maybe I'm alone in needing to 'project-manage me'!).

Femke (2010-12-30 15:37:07)

That is amazing! Thank you very much!!

Jotje (2010-12-31 03:15:53)

Wow, thanks a million for this template! Very useful. Plus, I'm gonna print one out for DH, who always seems to loose track along the way.

Amanda (2010-12-31 07:22:38)

I'm so glad others find them useful (and it's a relief to know I'm not the only one who project manages herself!).

Filofax Christmas Presents (2010-12-30 12:00) - Steve



[1]

Well it seems that getting a new Filofax as a Christmas present was quite a popular choice this year, well judging by the number of blog posts we have seen and mentions on Twitter.

- [2]The blog as a Muse
- [3]What's in your Filofax - A posting from Feb 2009 but some nice pictures
- [4]Filofax - Check out your local charity shop for old Filofax organisers
- [5]Christmas Gifts Part 2 - Susy Q

Until next time.... Enjoy

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/THPykeLCw7I/AAAAAAAAILO/wiWf8jk2RG8/s1600/leather.jpg
2. <http://www.awomanofnoimportance.com/2010/12/blog-as-muse.html>
3. <http://theenglishmuse.blogspot.com/2009/02/whats-in-your-filofax.html>
4. <http://ccheys.blogspot.com/2010/12/filofax.html>
5. <http://susy412.blogspot.com/2010/12/christmas-gifts-pt-2.html>

The Crazy Suburban Mom (2010-12-30 12:49:55)

Oh I wish!!! I'm off to read about all you lucky people :)

Jotje (2010-12-30 12:56:44)

That 2009 blogpost actually was the one that got me on the filofax-horse! How nice to see it back!

Oh, and Santa brought me the Personal Finchley in Imperial Purple. Pics are on Flickr.
Yeah, like I really needed another one, but it's sooooo lovely!

Yvotchka (2010-12-30 13:08:38)

Judith, your purple Finch is GORGEOUS! Checked out the pix earlier :) Don't you just love it?!
And PS...you ALWAYS need another one!

Sharon (2010-12-30 14:09:40)

Judith am loving the Finchley, that is my dream Filofax in Imperial Purple. If I succeed on my challenge for 2011 then I will get it in Dec '11!

caribbean princess (2010-12-31 12:14:54)

Oh Jotje one of my med students has the finchley in imperial purple and I would always have to touch it at some point during the tutorials! My group probably thought I was mad but so be it! Haha. Off to look at your pics now :-)
Santa will definitely be bringing me a Filofax in 2011!!

Free For All Friday No. 111 (2010-12-31 00:00) - Laurie

Wow, FFAF number 111, and tomorrow is 1/1/11!! Cool!!
Have a great New Year's Eve tonight! And, all the best to you in 2011. :)
How have you revamped your Filofax in preparation for the new year?
As always on Fridays, the floor is open for you all to discuss anything Filofax-related!

aspiretobe337604 (2010-12-31 01:19:50)

FFAF 111, 1/1/11 - it's all very auspicious!

Have a Happy & Safe & Organized New Year, everybody! 2011 WOOHOO!

Thanks for all the wonderful blog posts, comments, & great ideas on Filofax usage! I'm so very happy to have wandered into this site!

lauren.

pilgrim (2010-12-31 01:23:15)

Can I wish a very Happy New Year to you all as well.

May 2011 be a recovery from the cuts & woes of the last year & thanks for the blog to Steve, Nan & Laurie

Warm Regards to all

Pilgrim

gdigesu (2010-12-31 02:51:29)

Steve, happy 2011 !!!

Philofaxy Fans - success !!!

Jotje (2010-12-31 03:20:14)

Wishing all Philofaxy makers and readers a wonderful, healthy and successful 2011!!!!

I'm always a bit clueless on 31th December because I tend to wonder "How could this year have gone by so fast?"

My grandma once said "Once you've turned 30 it goes so fast that one day you wake up and - boom - you're 80!".

Geez

Alison Reeves (2010-12-31 04:13:17)

Happy New Year everyone. I'm sorting my Filofaxes today - I've been procrastinating about it all week - I know I have too many filofaxes, but want to use them all! So it's deciding what to put to what use! I love reading about how everyone uses their filofaxes, so carry on the good work!

Alison Reeves (2010-12-31 04:14:30)

Just one question - is there any chance of having a 'forum' for more chatting on this website? It would be great to 'chat' more with everyone!

Femke (2010-12-31 04:36:27)

Happy new year, everyone :)

I am still awaiting an order from the website, so I can do that last bit of organizing my Filofax for 2011.

DanishGTD (2010-12-31 04:54:58)

Hoping for my first filofax (2004 Hamilton bought used) to arrive!

Hopefully it will be here in time for 2011...

caribbean princess (2010-12-31 05:05:23)

Happy New year Philofaxy, Philofaxy readers and Filofax addicts everywhere. I only found this blog in August and since then I have really enjoyed the wonderful posts and the community around this blog. The meet up was one of the nicest things I did this year. It was so much fun! I have set up an inspiration Filofax, as I finally got around to punching the holes so will share on Monday. Look forward to the teleconference on Sunday and until then everyone keep safe! New Year's eve can get crazy!

SSA (2010-12-31 05:44:54)

happy new year to all the filofax users out there. I am so glad I found this website a few months ago. It is a great place to get ideas and tips for filofaxing. I recently bought a new filo after an 11month idevice trail (and fail). I am very happy to be back in the filo world.

I will be joining the skype chat tomorrow for the first time. im excited to get more tips from you all and share ideas.

Happy new year!

oh...and dont forget to take your filofax out partying tonight - you never know whos' phone number you need to jot down ;)

Amanda (2010-12-31 06:04:44)

Happy New Year everyone and thanks again for a brilliant site - I only discovered it about a month ago but am now glued to it. It's SO USEFUL!!!

Now, quick question... would it really be mad to have three A-Z in one filofax?? This is my 'home' filo (which also doubles as my 'work from home' filo). At the moment it has two in there - for two different sides of my work from home stuff (writing and fund-raising). But... (and this is where the madness might start) I read a lot and I like to keep a record/review of what I've read. So I was thinking, maybe I could use the reading list template as a summary and then file individual reviews in another A-Z at the back, in the personal section of my home filo.

Or is that just filing gone mad?

Steve (2010-12-31 06:06:57)

Hi everyone

Should a quick response to Alison regarding the forum idea. I will look in to it, but have you looked at the discussion area on the Philofaxy Flickr group?

<http://www.flickr.com/groups/philofaxy/discuss/>

Steve

Jotje (2010-12-31 07:01:41)

Amanda, if it fits the rings and you find it practical, I'd say go for it. You could choose different colours (white, cream and pastels or contemporary colours) to distinguish between the different registers.

Another option would be to set up a separate Filofax for the reading lists (well, you DID know that we are all terrible enablers here, didn't you? LOL)

Amanda (2010-12-31 07:19:52)

@jotje :-)

I had actually thought while I was lying in bed this morning... you know what, in a couple of years, those book reviews will

be taking up so much space that they will need their own organiser. Haven't mentioned that one to DH yet!

I had also wondered about putting one of my old personal sized filofaxes to use as a book review filo, but I want to be able to print my own reading lists and review sheets which would be easier with A5, right, as I am about to order the A5 punch and can create A4 sheets and use the booklet method of printing (thank Steve!!)?

Good idea about the different colours - I already use the different coloured notepaper to help organise different projects within the sections.

Okay, maybe three A-Z isn't too mad then. Although I could claim madness to DH as a reason to get a third filofax???

:-)

Alison Reeves (2010-12-31 08:31:42)

Hi everyone

Should a quick response to Alison regarding the forum idea. I will look in to it, but have you looked at the discussion area on the Philofaxy Flickr group?

<http://www.flickr.com/groups/philofaxy/discuss/>

Steve

Oh, thanks Steve - I will go and check that out as I didn;t realise it was there!

Amanda (2010-12-31 09:46:14)

Haven't reorganised my filofax (yet...) but have just ordered a ream of cream paper so that I can print out various templates, and them all match!

Alison Reeves (2010-12-31 09:53:13)

Where did you find the cream paper Amanda? I've been looking for some to order and can only find decent stuff in white.

David Popely (2010-12-31 09:54:22)

A very happy New Year to all of you. Like a couple of people who have already commented, I only discovered this group in the latter part of 2010, but it has been one of the highlights of my year.....thank you to Steve, Nan and Laurie, and to all of those who have contributed.

I have just about finished sorting out my (one) FF for 2011. The A5 has gone up in the loft - part of the major clear-out and sort-out which always happens around this time of year. My Hampstead Personal (bought 2000) is now fully set up for 2011, including the lovely week on two pages vertical appointments diary which Judith so kindly sourced for me from her local supplier. I think there will be a bit of 'bedding down' to do, but the system looks like one I can use going forward.

I think the forum idea is a good one, but maybe the facility to bookmark threads of these discussions and thereby to get an alert by email when someone adds a comment would be equally useful? Just a thought.....

Have a great evening, those of you who are out celebrating, and may all your goals be achieved in 2011.

Amanda (2010-12-31 09:59:38)

@Alison

I just went to Amazon and searched for cream 80gsm a4

and looked at what came up. In fairness, I'm not sure I have really ordered 'decent stuff' - I have just ordered straightforward cream printer paper (I ordered "Clairefontaine Trophee Colours Paper 80gsm Ream-wrapped A4 Cream - Ref 1871 (500 Sheets)" if that helps or if anyone can give feedback?).

I'll let you know how well it works!

Amanda

Steve (2010-12-31 10:19:41)

Hi Amanda and Alison

I've added a link to the paper on our Suppliers page.

Regards

Steve

Nellie (2010-12-31 13:19:07)

Happy New Year everyone! Here's to a happy and healthy 2011!

Alison - you definitely need a book-o-fax, no question! :)

On the subject of a forum, I used to run one on robotics, and used yuku. Very easy to use and set up. Happy to help with advice etc if needed.

Nellie

x

Amanda (2010-12-31 13:32:20)

Wonder if the book-o-fax might have been directed at me??

Definitely considering it!!!

:-)

Happy New Year to all!

Karensa (2010-12-31 15:46:34)

Happy New Year to Everyone!!

I also started following blog in Fall '10 timeframe, and it has definitely made me take a closer look at Filofax.

So much so that I got one for Christmas as a gift from DH -> a pink Classic Slimline. I picked it up from a store in Orlando while on vacation.

It is all set up now with Week on 2 pages calendar (1/2 fits in at a time) and all of my GTD lists. I have address book and main calendar on computer but for some reason I need all To Dos and planning on paper. I love the flexibility already in being able to add and take away pages as needed; and it is small enough for my bag when travelling!

I was hoping to "meet" some of you online tomorrow during chat but at that time, in my timezone, I'll still be at church - hopefully an opportunity to meet some of you will come up in future.

And, I really enjoy the posts and also comments from everyone -> Make 2011 a great year!!

Sharon (2010-12-31 15:53:01)

Happy New Year to all my Filofax friends!

I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know you all, and watch the obsessions grow!

Awesome blog Steve, Nan and Laurie.

Petra (2011-01-01 01:14:53)

David, you can be sent comments on any post through an RSS reader – just click the "subscribe to" button at the bottom of the comments (I recommend iGoogle).

When you leave a comment on a blog, you can also choose to be informed by e-mail of further comments.

I also sometimes bookmark a post with a tag of "left comment" to let myself know when and where I have done so.

Petra (2011-01-01 01:20:20)

By the way, I also highly recommend diigo for online bookmarking, since it's so easy to tag and organize bookmarks, you can get to them anywhere, and you can highlight portions of web pages, like all the wonderful tips on here!

Oh, and one of my New Year's resolutions was to finally get some of my planner photos on Flickr. Here is the beginning, with more to come: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/11324386@N08/>

Book Reviews (2010-12-31 17:40) - Steve



[1]

Time for one last post of 2010... of course there is!

Thanks to Amanda for sending us another great template, it is one she has been using for book reviews for a few years.

I'm going to print it off a couple of these because I've recently got 'Filofax Facts' by Ian R Sinclair that I'm going to do a review of it for the blog in the next week or so.

The Book Review template is now in the Files Page.

- Book Review - [2].doc [3].pdf

Once again many thanks Amanda.

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/__NjIPaFKXqQ/TR5b1g0iXtI/AAAAAAAAAI10/z0DYcysdEsc/s1600/bookreview.jpg
2. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/bookreview.doc>
3. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/bookreview.pdf>

My Review of 2010 (2010-12-31 23:58) - Steve

Well the last day of 2010 and what a year it has been for Philofaxy.

For me the year started off fairly low key, but then we got to about April and the horse sort of bolted out of the gate and I've been on a high ever since.

So some key posts/events to look back on and read again....

- Firstly one of my own 'fun' posts: [1]The Filofax Obituary
- [2]Laurie and myself meeting up in London which whilst it was only for a few hours it generated a lot of posts in the weeks after we had met such as:
- [3]Laurie's visit to the Filofax store in Conduit Street
- We also started our [4]Skype Roundtable conferences;
- In May my wife Alison (the hand of Philofaxy) and I moved to France and in September we celebrated our 25th wedding anniversary. In August Laurie and her family moved to [5]Scotland.... just before it started to snow!
- The [6]Philofaxy Flickr Group continues to grow in the number of great images, there is also a discussion group within the Flickr group page;

- The use of [7]Twitter has continued to grow during the year and it has brought a lot of the readers/users together, sharing information and chatting;
- Our [8]Reader Under the Spotlight series proved very popular;
- The [9]London Meet-Up was one of the main highlights of the year and I'm looking forward to the next one in [10]2011;
- The [11]Yearbooks have been well received... 2010 Yearbook will be published soon.
- In late October on behalf of Philofaxy, Oni attended the [12]champagne launch of the Filofax Gourmet Gift Box set which Laurie [13]reviewed;
- In October we also celebrated our [14]5th birthday with a post from the founder.. thank you Philofaxer.
- This review of the year would not be complete without a mention of some of the excellent [15]Guest Posts we have received, thank you to you all, they have all proved to be very popular;
- And finally this week saw the posting of the [16]Filofax Buyers Guide.
- Another thank you to all of you who have supported our charity donations to [17]Breast Cancer Awareness during 2010 and in to [18]2011.

In terms of my own usage of Filofax organisers I started off the year using my A5 as my journal and my [19]Slimline Personal as my appointments diary/wallet. Then I created total chaos in August by swapping to the [20]P[21]ocket size for my appointments diary/wallet and posted several posts about the change over! Sorry if I caused you any grief with all these changes, but I think a few other people made similar changes too.

For [22]2011 I'm in the process of moving up to my new [23]A4 Classic as my desk journal / planner. Time will tell if this size will work for me or not, you can be sure I will post about it.

In doing this very quick review of 2010 it has been difficult to know what to include and what to leave out, so many posts to look back though.

Thank you all for your comments and contributions during the year, it has been great fun for me and I hope just as enjoyable for you.

All the best to you and your families for [24]2011.

Best regards

Steve

[Click the photo to see a full size version of this collection of photos from the Philofaxy meet in November]



[25]

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/02/obituary-for-filofax-has-been-recalled.html>
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/04/philofaxy-london-meet.html>

3. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/04/brigitte-at-london-filofax-shop.html>
 4. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/04/philofaxy-roundtable.html>
 5. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/08/at-home-in-scotland.html>
 6. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/philofaxy-on-flickr.html>
 7. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/07/users-on-twitter.html>
 8. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/search/label/Reader>
 9. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/11/london-meet-up-20-november-2010.html>
 10. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/planner.pdf>
 11. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/search/label/Yearbook>
 12. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/10/filofax-champagne-launch-event-7th.html>
 13. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/11/filofax-gourmet-gift-box-review.html>
 14. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/10/guest-post-philofaxer.html>
 15. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/search/label/guest%20post>
 16. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/12/filofax-buyers-guide.html>
 17. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/12/breast-cancer-awareness-campaign-dec.html>
 18. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/planner.pdf>
 19. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/02/using-my-slimline-filofax-as-my-wallet.html>
 20. http://draft.blogger.com/goog_1016092714
 21. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/08/pocket-its-where-it-is-happening.html>
 22. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/planner.pdf>
 23. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/12/big-can-sometimes-be-beautiful-as-well.html>
 24. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/planner.pdf>
 25. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/_NjIPaFKXqQ/TR4eprgtUGI/AAAAAAAAI1w/R6f3y8ot3-k/s1600/PhilofaxyLondon.jpg
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