

BlogBooker

From Blog to Book.

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Chapter 1

2012

1.1 April

Video Web Finds for March 2012 (2012-04-01 00:00) - Steve Morton

Thank you to Ray for suggesting this idea. Here are all the latest video web finds published in March.

IFRAME: [1]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/HCAxTgncNts>
IFRAME: [2]http://www.youtube.com/embed/JQa_UOsIZpg
IFRAME: [3]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/FRT2Cg9M2EQ>
IFRAME: [4]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/f6g5wVI-tm4>
IFRAME: [5]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/tNQYh-MwrRo>
IFRAME: [6]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/riqmHdB96M8>
IFRAME: [7]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/qF4Jj3su0jw>
IFRAME: [8]http://www.youtube.com/embed/OGmE_ApyxuA
IFRAME: [9]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/MosGwzQX71U>
IFRAME: [10]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/S9vuiEmn5jI>
IFRAME: [11]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/nfBbK7zsS-s>
IFRAME: [12]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/KW6z4r9WfZ8>
IFRAME: [13]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/DPMJRJOdUyk>
IFRAME: [14]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/bP-1DoqRvH8>
IFRAME: [15]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/MnExWdEF-FA>

Enjoy

1. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/HCAxTgncNts>
2. http://www.youtube.com/embed/JQa_UOsIZpg
3. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/FRT2Cg9M2EQ>
4. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/f6g5wVI-tm4>
5. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/tNQYh-MwrRo>
6. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/riqmHdB96M8>
7. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/qF4Jj3su0jw>
8. http://www.youtube.com/embed/OGmE_ApyxuA
9. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/MosGwzQX71U>

10. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/S9vuiEmn5jI>
11. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/nfBbK7zsS-s>
12. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/KW6z4r9WfZ8>
13. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/DPMJRJOdUyk>
14. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/bP-1DoqRvH8>
15. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/MnExWdEF-FA>

Lime Tree (2012-04-01 01:14:14)
how nice! very good idea indeed!

terriknits (2012-04-01 01:23:58)
great idea! More to look forward to on my weekends! Thanks, Steve and Ray!

Alison Reeves (2012-04-01 05:16:57)
Fantastic idea - thanks Steve and Ray.

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-04-01 08:18:14)
That's brilliant! Love it!
tracy

Anita (2012-04-01 16:26:01)
Great idea & thank you for including mine in the list!

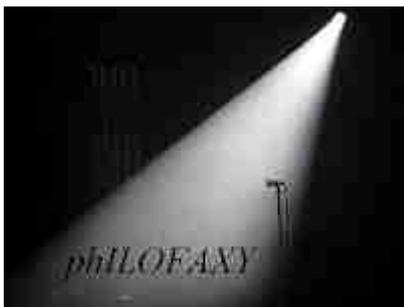
Butanben (2012-04-01 19:50:20)
I so wish that my area had high speed broadband, and not just dial up broadband. The buffering on my computer is just awful,awful, awful, so any You Tube or similar videos just start....stop....start....stop. Maddening, as I would just love to sit down and enjoy these clips. Such a fantastic idea Steve and Ray. Thank you.

Ray Blake (2012-04-02 02:34:19)
Hit the pause button and let the whole video download before watching it.

Jotje (2012-04-02 14:04:50)
Great idea, Ray and Steve! Despite browsing YT I seem to have missed a few! And thanks for including my Adelphi-Vids. I actually moved into my purple A5 Finchley soon after I made those video's (typical, isn't it?).

Jotje (2012-04-02 14:24:24)
Re that last video: the girl keeps saying "Faxofile". Why? Never heard anybody saying Faxofile before?

Reader Under The Spotlight - Paulien (2012-04-02 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

1. *When did you buy your first Filofax and what was it?*

It was early 2007, shortly before finishing my masters degrees and starting a job as a consultant and phd

student. It was a blue personal size piazza, that I chose after thinking about it for months and spending hours on-line on Philofaxy and filofax.nl. I still have it, but stopped using it when the rings became misaligned and the suede strip became dirty. I already asked about it on Philofaxy in the comments on this post: [2]<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2008/02/how-do-you-filo.html>. By this time I had become attached to Filofax, and I have used one since then.

2. What other brands have you used or considered using?

Before buying a Filofax, I had used Moleskine pocket weekly notebook for a few years, and tried out pocket size Filofax-like organisers. Before that I don't even remember what diaries I used, but I know that we were obliged to use one in school from age 10 and I continued to use one in university.

Even though I love using a Filofax, I now and then become restless or want to downsize so I tried larger Molesekines, some Quo Vadis models and a few Paperblanks, and even a solution with outlook, Gcal or iCal and a smartphone. But I always come back to Filofax after a few days, or weeks at most.

3. Out of the organisers you own which is your current favourite (Style and Size)?

Hard question. It will have to be my personal size Finchley in purple. I just love the soft leather and the colour. Too bad it scratches quite quickly though, especially on the clasp.

4. How many Filofax organisers do you own?

Let me think. I have two pocket size ones, a classic in brown and a chameleon in raspberry. I love them both, but they don't work that well since they are so small. Still I would try and fail every year, but this year I have managed to resist buying refills in pocket size.

In personal size I have quite a few. First the blue piazza, then I got the classic in brown as I loved the pocket one but wanted the size of the piazza. Then I have a Siena in cinnamon, Finsbury in raspberry, a green Songbird, a purple Finchley, a raspberry Chameleon and a yellow Piazza (which doesn't have the suede strip). Way too many and I should probably sell or give away some of them. Only I can't decide which ones!

5. What do you use your Filofax for?

O a whole lot. I only use one Filofax at a time. I have my diary in it, where I write all work and personal appointments and reminders. Then a section for personal notes which has all kinds of lists like book wish list, clothes I need to replace, hours of the nice classes at my gym, gift ideas and such.

Next I have my general to-do lists for my work as a consultant and phd student, where I keep smaller and larger long-term items split up by personal, research and client work. These are sometimes actual tasks, sometimes they are more project-like. I just write them down as a reminder that they exist. In the front of this section I have a weekly to-do list for just that week, that I make by looking at my general todo lists and diary pages. Then I have a projects section where I am supposed to keep a page for each work project, like my thesis chapters and defence organisation. I am not that good at keeping this up to date. Then I have a section with some spare paper, and in the back I have a world map and two clear envelopes, one for fun bits and pieces and one to collect receipts for my monthly expense reports. I don't keep client information in it, this is on my work laptop. I plan to set up a section for larger personal projects, like restarting my blog, learning to knit and my Archimedes translation but I haven't done that yet.

6. What was the feature about Filofax you like most?

I like the fact that you can have all of your information in one place, and I think this is what keeps me coming back to it. No need for an extra notebook for wish lists and to-do lists on loose papers. And you can add and remove pages as needed any time.

7. If you could design your own Filofax what would it feature?

I would be personal size, and purple of course. It would lay flat like the finchley, but have sturdy leather like the classic and piazza. It would have a secretarial pocket in the front, and the layout of the siena in the back with no zipper pocket. And there would be two thin pen loops, not a thin and a fat one like the siena has. I hate fat pens, so the thin loops are usually perfect for me without the elastic bit.

8. How do you carry your Filofax?

In my backpack when I am going to university. When I use a nicer and smaller laptop bag for work, or when I'm off work, it's in my handbag. I take it almost everywhere except the gym.

9. Which Filofax in the current range do you like the most? Are you going to buy it?

If I am honest, I don't like the current range that much so I am not going to buy any new model. The only thing I sometimes think about is adding a mini to my collection to use as a notebook and wallet in

one. I'm not sure about that yet, but I think mini organisers are very cute.

10. *What is the most you have ever spent on a Filofax? Which model?*

By far the siena; I paid 200 euros for it. This was before I discovered that ordering from Filofax UK was cheaper than buying in a shop in the Netherlands, even with the shipping costs. It is a beautiful one though.

11. *Turning to Philofaxy, what do you like the most?*

What I like is seeing how the community evolved from what it was in 2006 when I started reading to what it is now. Wonderful, no other word for it. Everyone is just helpful and respectful and fun, despite the differences in age and sex and country of origin and everything else. And I love how helpful everyone is, for example Steve fixed my chameleon when the rings had damaged in the mail and wanted nothing in return but a Chimemwe donation. And I have exchanged diary pages with people for no charge, just because. Where else would you find that?

12. *And what do you not like about Philofaxy?*

This is a hard one, but I have to say this: I miss Philofaxer! I love all the posts by Steve and Laurie and Nan and I don't want to miss those, but I just think Philofaxer had a wonderful style of writing. Hope he will rejoin the team one day.

13. *What was the last music album CD you bought or downloaded?*

Hm, I'm not much of a music buyer or listener. I love books though, the last ones I bought were IQ18 by Haruki Murakami and The Imperfectionists by Tom Rachman.

Thank you Paulien.

1. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-HtGeePCMC9A/TGFwfQiVx8I/AAAAAAAAIIQ/nCQMY2kZA3I/s1600/Spotlight.jpg>

2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2008/02/how-do-you-filo.html>

Gerard (2012-04-02 14:47:25)

Hi Paulien,

It's nice to read about you - thanks for posting :)

Ray Blake (2012-04-02 14:48:59)

Interesting that you haven't tried A5. Any reason?

terriknits (2012-04-02 19:17:31)

Great post, Paulien! Any chance of a photo of your collection?

janet (2012-04-03 02:19:38)

I have to admit I also miss the Philofaxer - he had such a special way of writing. Steve, Laurie and Nan do a fantastic job though so many kudos from me guys!

paulien (2012-04-03 02:39:21)

I have not tried a5 because I don't see any need to. The persoanl is large enough, I have very small handwriting so I can fit a lot on each page.

Savannah Bleue (2012-05-04 12:14:16)

Does the sunflower yellow Piazza get dirty quick? And I am wondering if I should do a piazza or a chameleon just because the piazza seems to be more thick, and i dont really want to lug another thing around, what with an ipad, sunglasses, wallet, etc. thoughts?

Free For All Tuesday No 61 (2012-04-03 00:00) - Steve Morton

A great response last week, keep those questions and answers coming.

So don't be afraid if you have a Filofax related question go ahead and ask it here, and you can ask it on the days after Tuesday too...

Bridget (2012-04-03 00:05:03)

Is there a way to tell if a filofax is real leather? I've got my eye on one on trademe (kind of like ebay but for New Zealanders) and the seller says its real leather, but I have my doubts. Its a red Keswick, I love the retro look, but am less keen (especially with the price they want) if its not leather. Thanks!

JohnofJenkins (2012-04-03 00:29:46)

After watching several reviews including one by Steve, I bought a Saddle Brown Cuban Zipped. It is an excellent product, well crafted and I guess it would do all that was asked of it. However, I do not like it. I put the tissue paper back, placed the filofax back in the box and it is on my bookcase. I do not know why I don't like it, but I just don't. Oh well - still it's nice to look at. Current Filofax is a Scanda Personal.

JasJan (2012-04-03 01:49:42)

Does anybody know the ring size of the A5 Balmoral - I am hoping it's 30mm?

JasJan (2012-04-03 01:57:22)

I know what you mean. I loved it but the 'lie flat' issue was too much for me. Also one of the rings didn't quite meet. I am on the hunt for an A5 one hoping that lies flat!

Vanjilla (2012-04-03 01:59:53)

Hey Bridget,

if the Filofax is made of leather, the inside description under its embossed name should say so (real leather, deluxe leather...). I have been tempted by a Keswick before, but given the information from that buyer back then, it is made of patent leather.

I believe Keswick was also discussed here on Philofaxy - try the search button!

janet (2012-04-03 02:24:21)

Has anyone bought an A5 purple Malden yet? The pictures on the uk website don't really show much! I am rather tempted.

curiouser (2012-04-03 02:55:19)

New discovery- Daiso b7 undated paper fits the pocket size perfectly. The paper is thin, but I'm not complaining given the price.

Babs (2012-04-03 05:17:18)

I have a question for those of you who have the Filofax A5 hole punch (the proper metal one, not the plastic one). What's the best way to clear it out? Mine isn't punching as well as it should (I'm only getting through 2-3 pages at most at one time) and I think the chads need emptying, but when I take the indicated end off and give it a shake, hardly any come out. Is there a better way of clearing it out?

Lady_Tamlynn (2012-04-03 06:34:26)

I know everyone is buzzing about the purple Malden at the minute but for those people who fancy a Malden in crimson, grey or vintage pink, there is a seller on ebay UK selling these colours for less than half price. I just received a vintage pink and grey Malden and they only cost me around £32 each!

Just thought I'd give everyone a heads up :-)

Bridget (2012-04-03 06:38:50)

Thanks! I think I'll give it a miss, unless they drop their price

Paul B (2012-04-03 06:50:14)

Babs,

I use mine every day so it fills up quickly. I pull the end off, slide the long bottom piece out and then press down

on the punch again. Shaking it will only get rid of the loose bits. They compact themselves in the holes and without pressing down on the punch, its difficult to get them out. I'd be lost without mine.

Hamish MacBear (2012-04-03 06:50:54)

I pull off the metal base with pliers then use a sharp tool to remove all the compacted paper. It's a brilliant hole-punch but does need to be thoroughly cleaned out fairly regularly.

Hamish MacBear (2012-04-03 06:55:31)

I bought one from City Organisers and it is beautiful - the purple is quite dark, similar to the plum of the Osterley. City Organisers also give you a choice of a smooth or rough leather.

Babs (2012-04-03 07:59:01)

Ah-ha! I wasn't pulling the long bottom piece out! I'll try again. Thanks both! :)

Babs (2012-04-03 08:10:29)

It's a long shot ... but does anyone have an A5 that they no longer use or want (not in black or brown ... something zazzier ... and it must lay flat!) that they would be interested in trading for a combination of personal and / or pocket size? I had my eye on a green chameleon in the FF UK sale, but it's now gone :(

Scoot (2012-04-03 08:31:00)

Re-sharpen metal hole punches by punching aluminium foil. Six peices of foil should do the job, punch them 10 times and that should have them sharpened.

janet (2012-04-03 09:07:29)

Thanks @hamish Macbear - my favourite colour is purple so I may just do it. I have been off FF lately because of the lack of inserts for A5 but thanks to Steve and Ray I can now print my own xx

Cat Burchmore (2012-04-03 09:12:06)

I have bought one also from City Organiser and my first photos are on my new blog post here <http://decisioninspired.com/?p=76> I hope that helps. If not I'm more than happy to take more & pop them up, or email them, whatever helps you make the decision.

janet (2012-04-03 09:13:28)

It's not a question but here goes anyway. I live in Sweden and finally picked up a 2012 paper catalogue yesterday. I always notice that the different country websites have different offerings. Also, models that are discontinued or sold out in one country are often available in another. So if you are looking for a particular binder or accessories, try different sites, particularly in Europe. If there is not an English version you can whack the sites through Google translate or send an email in English.

I often order the adhesive metal name plates from the Swedish site, even for items that are not filofax. Not sure if they are readily available in other countries but they make nice presents as well.

Babs (2012-04-03 09:19:55)

Thanks everyone. I've pulled the metal plate off and de-chadded the hole punch. There were loads of the little beggars in there!

Thanks for the foil tip too, Scoot. I've done that too so hopefully the hole punch will be right as rain again!

Babs (2012-04-03 09:31:57)

I've been playing around with printing my own A5 paper today and realised that Excel is a brilliant tool for printing customised sheets with very little hassle. Just set the paper size to A5 and borders and margins to 0 all round, and create what you want. In my case it was wide-ruled paper with a margin. It's taken me 2 minutes to do and I'm now printing off a nice stack to go in my filo.

It would work for practically anything you wanted to customise and is so simple.

filofit (2012-04-03 10:25:59)

Hi Babs - would you be interested in a Pink A5 Finsbury? Take a look at my filo and let me know. I am looking for a good home for her as I am on the look out for a mustard Finchley. Thanks.

Sword_Lily (2012-04-03 10:49:16)

I found that seller, unfortunately he only ships to the UK, so many of us are out.

Babs (2012-04-03 11:18:33)

I would! (If the stickers will come off the front). Do you want to email me? babshobbs [at] gmail [dot] com

gdigesu (2012-04-03 11:28:09)

Need a Personal with 30mm rings. Does such a product exist? Please, advise.

katka (2012-04-03 11:30:21)

Cavendish has 30 mm rings

queendelesa (2012-04-03 11:47:04)

Hi filofans! Where do you register you filo? On the site of the filofax of your country or generally on the UK-site? Or does it not matter, because all our details will transferred to Filofax UK?

Butanben (2012-04-03 13:08:20)

I would like to know which of the leathers is nearest to the Crimson Malden- rough or smooth???? I am in love with my Crimson Malden, which I use as a wallet, and have promised myself a purple A5 Malden when I get that new job of my dreams.....perhaps.... if I can afford it that is!!!!

Butanben (2012-04-03 13:14:17)

Babs, I take the rubber feet off, slide the long metal strip off, shake the circular chads into the bin and then remove the other chads using a pair of long tweezers, which I keep in my pencil case for the job. I also have a teeny weeny screwdriver, which pokes out the chads perfectly. It was actually in a christmas cracker- and now has a use. The punch does get pretty quickly jammed up and needs cleaned out regularly. I think the design is at fault, as the chads do not drop into the tray bit and just seem to get compacted up. Thanks so much for the foil tip by the way Scoot, so useful to know. xx

JasJan (2012-04-03 13:54:54)

Cuban zip!

filofit (2012-04-03 15:17:48)

Hi Babs - just tried replying to you, the mail bounced back. Do you want to write to me at jagdishpreethi at gmail dot com? Thanks

Babs (2012-04-03 15:26:03)

Oops - I posted the wrong email address!!! I'll email you now :)

Maus (2012-04-03 15:27:31)

@janet

I bought one from City Organiser, too - but the Pocket size.

I've got some pictures on my blog, if that would help:

<http://filo-manie.blogspot.de/2012/04/review-malden-purple.html>

@Butanben

I've ordered the smoother version and the leather is really "smooth" (as you can see on the pictures - so is my Black one), the Crimson is more "creased" (like my Vintage Pink one also)

Alison Reeves (2012-04-03 15:50:16)

Domino?

RealityPrincess (2012-04-03 16:26:26)

I just want to know, if someone uses a A5-Filofax for university notes?

My next idea is using a Personal Filofax for subject matters instead of cue cards. Do you have experiences?

Babs (2012-04-03 17:04:28)

I have just set up one of my A5's as a revision filo for my up-coming exams in June. I have a section for my list of reading plus revision timetable, then the following section contains all the past papers. Then I have 4 sections - one for each subject I'm studying. I have printed off some Cornell notes sheets and some wide-ruled-with-margin sheets which are now all in my filo waiting to be filled!

I figure it'll be a good size to carry around with me - especially on the way to the exam!!

I chose the A5 over the personal as it's so much easier to print stuff out at the right size, as opposed to faffing around with personal size sheets.

RealityPrincess (2012-04-03 17:19:43)

Thanks for your answer!

I think I will try it with the A5-Finchley. Maybe it's a bigger motivation too ;)

gdigesu (2012-04-03 19:40:56)

Need a Personal with 30mm rings. Does such a product exist? I know Cavendishes do, but they're out of production, are they not?

So, if they are, which one should I go for?

Savannah (2012-04-03 21:26:23)

Cuban zip, Guildford zip, the Winchester has two ring sizes including 30mm, Cavendish...

Savannah (2012-04-03 21:32:14)

If you don't have any luck with available 30mm Filofaxes (all 30mm are on the way out) on ebay, you may want to try Franklin planner. The page size is slightly wider but if ring size is most important you might give it a go. 30mm (1 1/4") used to be standard for the compact size binders but I've noticed they are making quite a few with smaller rings now. You'll have to call them for a size check before ordering.

Savannah (2012-04-03 21:37:18)

I forgot to mention that the compact accepts personal size filofax pages. Good luck.

gdigesu (2012-04-04 06:12:31)

Savanah, thank you! Will check with FC.

gdigesu (2012-04-04 06:14:31)

Thanks katka, JasJan, Alison, Savanah!!

ONutter (2012-04-04 07:32:36)

I don't own an A5, but I do own a personal sized one and I think what I've experienced with it holds true for the A5 too: it is great if your note taking style is "words and phrases", and you mainly focus on listening during classes. It is not as good if you are the type of note taker who tends to write a few pages worth of notes for each class. The reason being mainly that a filofax really isn't that comfortable to write in for extended periods of time.

1. The rings get in the way, no matter how large a filofax you have unless you write with the filofax turned so the rings are horizontal (which is very impractical if you want to be able to read your notes easily).

2. Because of the thickness of your average filofax, the writing surface really ends up to be too high up for comfortable writing.

3. If you have anything but plain papers in your filofax, the writing surface might also be uneven.

All in all, I think for the actual note taking I would keep an A5 writing pad, and then simply punch to fit the filofax in order to organise the notes.

mppaul2 (2012-04-04 12:16:22)

Finally pulled the trigger and I just ordered my first filofax last night, a red personal Finchley! I am a FC convert and was really hesitant but I think I will be able to keep some of the best FC pages from my compact planner in my personal filofax. So excited to join FF club :-)

Jotje (2012-04-04 13:00:48)

Babs, filofax.dk still has all colours of the A5 Chameleon at a 50 % discount!

How do you: Manage Projects? (2012-04-04 00:00) - Steve Morton

This topic was discussed in one of our Free For All Tuesdays/Fridays. David P, one of our readers has been trying to improve the system he uses for handling a large number of projects but as a single person business.

David reader wants to be able to do project tracking with dependencies, with the option to update the dates as you go along.

So last week, a small group of Philofaxy readers (Tim, Alison R, David, Ray and myself) set about exchanging emails to see if we could help out and suggest possible Filofax solutions to this problem. In my own experience in my previous jobs trying to use project management software to tackle this sort of issue doesn't really work when you have many projects but only small teams to tackle these many projects/deadlines. The software keeps trying to drive you in a particular direction and keeps telling you that you don't have enough resources (people) to complete the task on time. So you spend far too many hours fighting the software to get it to tell the truth and not enough time on the really issues about managing the project.

So we didn't quite come to any wonderful instant solutions in discussions. It would have been great to have come up with an all paper solution, does one exist? But we tended towards a part paper, part electronic solution.

Mainly because if you have a chart of some description it is quicker to amend the chart on your PC in say Excel and then print it off again than to redraw your chart showing tasks and deadlines only on paper.

But did we miss anything obvious?

Please add your thoughts and comments, if you have any pictures you can share may be include a link to Flickr in your comments.

David Popely (2012-04-04 01:48:24)

Update - since last weekend I've prepared a draft project management sheet in Excel....I don't know best how to upload this to the website for people to critique, but maybe someone can advise me.

Basically, my projects (broadly speaking) follow the pattern of an identical series of tasks, each of which is dependent upon the completion of the previous task. So a project, called, for example, 'Company A accounts' would comprise seven or eight steps from beginning to end. because each of these projects (but not the individual steps) are deadlined, I need to be able to set 'interim' deadlines for the various tasks within the 'set', and make sure they are all pushed through to completion before the final, 'real' due date.

I think my A5 checklist will provide a basis for this, but I'd be very interested to know how other readers 'do' project management, especially if you're working from within a paper-based system of GTD, because this seems to be an area which GTD doesn't really carer for (there'a another, but I'll leave that for another day!)

Babs (2012-04-04 02:32:13)

David - you could put the s/sheet on google docs and post the link here for us all to be able to see.

Sounds like an interesting concept. It's something I'll need to definitely look at when I return to the working world!

HM (2012-04-04 03:21:49)

(Sorry if my idea is obvious or has already been discarded!)

Could you use a Gantt chart? You could print out a chart, where the first column would be the list of tasks (with the sub-tasks) in the order in which they need to be completed.

The rest of the columns would be for dates (one column per day, or week, depending on your time frame). These date columns can be very narrow. The last date in these has to be the 'real' due date. The first date has to be the day you start the project.

Now when you start your first task, you can color the first day. If you end up spending 10 days to complete the first task, 10 boxes will be colored on the first line. You can easily see exactly how much time is left (uncolored boxes towards the right) to tackle the other tasks before the end of the project.

This can help you analyze which are the most time-consuming tasks. If you have employees to which you assign these tasks, you could also create a line for each of them under each main task...

If all your projects follow the same pattern you could have an excel chart with the list of tasks ready to print, you would just need to adjust the dates according to the deadline given.

What do you think?

gdigesu (2012-04-04 05:27:46)

Steve, Alison, Mr P, Ray, Tim, hi.

You may want to look into <http://store.franklinplanner.com/store/category/prod1110021/US-Business-Forms/Project-Management-Forms?skuId=31663>

Similar concept to what was used back in the 80's for project planning before PC's.

For Mr. P's purposes, needs simplifying, I suppose.

filofit (2012-04-04 05:47:28)

Hi HM, I handle a lot of projects. For me Gantt charts are confusing though my company believes in using them all the time. At the beginning of a project we have the entire CPS mapped out in Gantt. Over the course of the project, the dates change depending on the previous tasks that needed to be completed. By the end of the project the Gantt chart is completely different from what you had mapped out earlier. Unless you save a version of every change you made, one does not really have an idea of what the original looked like. Also the Gantt does not really tell you why the CPS went beyond the specified date. This is my experience, do you do it different?

Josh (2012-04-04 10:00:09)

David, I plan projects on index cards. As I plan, all the action items for the project get jotted on individual cards. I then sort the cards into the order that the actions need to be completed, lay them across my desk to see the big picture and get an idea of how much time each will take, what can be delegated to whom, what needs to be discussed with colleagues, etc. The cards can be resorted as things change. I then transfer the action items to my planner. The cards live in a box on my desk, each project tabbed and in action order. I put an avery flag on the next item to do and move it as the project moves forward. I like the cards because it is easy to change individual steps or resort the order without needing to start from scratch.

Sirpa-Kaarina (2012-04-04 10:10:51)

How about this?

<http://www.tomsplanner.com/>

David Popely (2012-04-04 10:30:48)

hi Babs

Sorry I don't know how to do that! (This is why I prefer paper-based solutions!) I'm happy to email it if you drop me a line.....[davidpopely \(at\) googlemail \(dot\) com](mailto:davidpopely@gmail.com)

David Popely (2012-04-04 10:33:41)

Hi HM

Gantt charts were one of the first solutions to come up, naturally, and Steve even ran me up a quick spreadsheet which effectively looked like a Gantt chart. I've also played with MS Project, but neither is really giving me the

'feel' of the solution I can work comfortably with. I've worked up a paper-based activity sheet (one per client) which might do the trick.....I'm more aware than ever of the possibility of 'technological overkill' at the moment.....

David Popely (2012-04-04 10:35:38)

Well that looks like a fairly big sledgehammer to crack a fairly small (relatively speaking) nut! The last sheet looked interesting though.

FF Time Management range also has a 'project management' form which closely resembles one of the old TMI forms, but i think it would take a *lot* of filling in - and maintenance, when the dates start to slip./.....

David Popely (2012-04-04 10:37:06)

Sounds interesting...I'm having a hard job picturing how this actually works (despite your excellent explanation).....could you email me? Address in one of my comments above!

David Popely (2012-04-04 10:38:22)

That looks interesting.....although again it's not paper-based.

Might have a play though.....:)

Nicole (2012-04-04 11:35:32)

I took a Project Management unit in uni last year - I know the theory but don't have real world experience.

Like what HM said:

Will a four or five-fold page (or an A3 sheet inside an A5 Filofax) work? And colour in the bars with Frixon pens so that they can be erased when they update/change?

HM (2012-04-04 11:58:44)

I've totally seen what you're talking about when implementing very new projects in my company. The first layout of tasks, with individual time frames assigned to each task, was usually totally off, and like you said, by the end, it look nothing like the first draft. Thanks for sharing your experience!!

Traditionally a Gantt chart would say 'task one: from Jan.1st to Jan.15th', 'task two: from Jan.10th to Feb.1st' and so on, right? Here my idea was to black out each day as they pass, so that you can see where you are relatively to the project's deadline and remaining tasks. I use that in my job, it allows me to keep a more general view on where we are. I'm not using it for 'budgeting' or planning reasons, more for control. I think that's key, what tool do you exactly need?

HM (2012-04-04 12:42:29)

I have not found (yet) a technological tool (either soft, web-based, or Excel doc) that helped me in Project Management. Could you tell us more about the activity sheet you designed? Sounds like something i could use :) Also, do you need a tool to plan the project implementation/completion, or something to control your resources or the results?

Neil (2012-04-04 13:22:51)

Everyone is different, but I prefer a Filofax based GTD system, and I thought I'd share with you two or three points.

Firstly, using Filofax binders can be a real pleasure, so think about how you can maximise the tactile experience. I use personal sized binders, simply because they are easier to manipulate one handed when talking on the phone, and I accept the requirement to have more than one because the amount of paper exceeds the capacity of an individual binder. Remember that a "stuffed" 5/4 ringed binder may be much slower to thumb through than two moderately filled 7/8 binders, especially if you're in the office and doing it one handed. I go for English vintage binders because many are supple enough to lay flat, an essential requirement in my humble opinion, but there may be some modern binders that lay flat too. You wouldn't try and fit everything into one lever arch file, so why would you restrict yourself to one filofax?

Secondly, I find that plain paper allows me a free hand in the way I write things down. No template will cover every eventuality, so you end up with some sheets with just a few words and others with post-it notes plasted all

over them.

Thirdly, and this is for people who want use their minds for thinking of ideas instead of storing them, but don't want to become a GTD geek, why not consider my own "GTD lite" system:

When you start a "project", whether that be a new advertising campaign or a birthday treat for your mum, take a single plain sheet of paper, file it alfabetically in your office filofax, and subsequently use that sheet to note important information as you receive it (contact numbers, data, and the brief one line description of each inbound document that gets placed in your filing cabinet). Then, in a seperate "master filofax" (one that you take with you when you're both in and out of the office), keep a "next action" sheet for each project. Any date dependant actions can be highlighted simply by entering the project name in your diary, prompting you to refer to the relevent "next action" sheet, and thus allowing you to use a slimline "week on one page" diary (because you don't have to write out a full description of the action as a diary entry - just the project reference is enough). A week on one page diary, plus a single "next action" sheet for each project, and some contacts, will all fit comfortably into a single filofax, and three or four "office based" filofaxes could easily be accomodated in your luggage if you have to work away for longer periods, although personally I just take a picture on my iphone of each filed ff page and upload to "dropbox".

My system is very fast, very light if you have just your master filofax plus project photos on your iphone or dropbox, easy to understand even if you're not a GTD geek, guarantees that things are done at the right time and, most imortantly, accomodates any number of projects of any size, just by adding plain paper and binders as required.

David Popely (2012-04-04 13:49:47)

Happy to send you a copy of the paper-based draft solution if you'll email me via davidpopely (at) googlemail (dot) com

007 (2012-04-04 13:50:55)

Hi David,

I guess, I have followed your plight. (and I'll throw an idea in the hat). I understand Gantt has been suggested, tried.

You might consider David Seah's downloadable forms (Productivity forms). davidseah dot com. I have found some of his forms elegant.

Perhaps a series of Gantts - that can used separately and 1)Modified to fit several larger domains, 2) Representing the many smaller tasks with differing leaders/directors and printed for an A5 might be a Mac-Meets-Filofax solution.

Bonus - the files are in color already, and that could be color-coded in your Filo - making it form, function, FILOPALOOZA.

filofit (2012-04-04 14:01:42)

Hi HM, the process / tool should help me with complete project management - securing resources - money and people for the project, develop work processes, product development, introduction to markets, etc etc. Some of these projects stretch over years and during that time even the people who handle the projects change. Over the years what has worked best for me is the simple excel file with columns -1)Task #, 2)Task, 3) Task owner, 4) Due Date, 5) Status - In Progress, Completed, Critical etc 6)Comments. I would break up the rows into sections like Project Establishment, Technical Developments, Product Plan etc with various sub-tasks under each and assign respective owners. I also keep another sheet in the same file called decisions taken - sometimes decisions are taken and after a period of 6 months, no one really knows why a particular decision was taken and this exercise sort of helps in having all aspects of the project under the same file. Of course the problem that we face in the dept is that each project leader has their own way of handling projects and the paper work involved looks completely different.

David Popely (2012-04-04 14:02:18)

hi Neil

This is a really interesting post...thank you. Like you, I very much prefer a paper (read Filofax)-based solution but I'm not a committed to multi-binder solutions as you are. All the same, I definitely think plain or lined paper is a good way forward - in fact, everything that GTD entails can be maintained on lined paper. I use cotton cream paper throughout my binder, so plain is one of the few options available, but amazingly, it seems to work fine.

I find my Personal Malden lays completely flat, without any 'training'.

I'm interested in your 'GTD lite' system - presumably there is a link for this? You don't give it, but if you could post it I'd be grateful.

re your comment concerning entering next action dates in your diary, presumably you use some kind of day-per-page setup for this? I find this to be a constant issue with GTD...the next action dates need to go in the diary, but the Personal Filofax diaries rarely have the capacity to hold a full day-per-page diary, let alone the backup lists. Additionally, the only diary format available in cotton cream is week-per-two-pages traditional format (thanks, Filofax?. So far as I know there is no answer to this. I appreciate that the info you're entering on the diary page is merely a reference to the project page (I'm used to a similar system using TMI's key area references), but even so I can't see them all fitting.....I'd really like to talk to you about this....you're not in London by any chance? :) Otherwise, I think this system has the 'seeds of greatness'!

David Popely (2012-04-04 14:07:07)

Looks like a *really* interesting site....this should *definitely* go on the web finds post for next week.....I hope someone is listening! There's such a lot of content here, I'll have to take a good look.....thank you

HM (2012-04-04 14:07:15)

Email sent!! Thanks a lot David!

HM (2012-04-04 14:14:27)

Apparently we manage the same sort of project :)

I have been doing something similar. For each project I have a sort of 'summary' of every aspect of the project, chronologically ordered, with only the main info. Each item also links to another doc in the same folder. This other doc has everything concerning this aspect of the project. As you say every change in management results in a change in the organization, but I figure I should leave as many details as possible for the next person, it's better than not giving enough. I also did that a posteriori for projects I took over, which was helpful but hard.

Neil (2012-04-04 16:34:40)

David, many thanks for your kind comments. Unfortunately, I'm not based in London, and neither do I have a link to my system, but I think I'll produce a quick Youtube video within, say, a week or so, and post the link on this page in a few days time.

The key to my system is to separate the "data" from the next action - it isn't everyone's cup of tea to use more than one storage device (2 filofaxes, for instance) but, for those like me who have difficulty getting everything in one fax, having one main binder that contains a diary, my contacts and an action sheet for each project, and all my actual "data" for each project in another fax (or faxes) is, in my opinion, and better solution than trying to divide work projects and "home" projects, for instance, especially if one has to fit work around home life, or vice versa. My one master fax shows me my current situation, a bit like your life in one place philosophy, but with the data effectively stored as an annexe to the main filofax.

David, although my system consists of more than one fax, I really do use it to organise my entire life because it has unlimited flexibility. I suspect that most people have some stuff in their one filofax, and then other stuff shoved in a drawer, plus a wall planner, plus another folder or three at work, and so the list goes on. I literally don't have ANY paperwork anywhere other than my filofax based system, because literally every project, from business projects all the way down to mundane things like grocery shopping, can be accommodated in a plain paper system. With regards to the diary, and addressing the usual dilemma of what diary format to choose, my system copes with both date dependent and non date dependent tasks in the following way:

Take, as an example, a project called "valentine's day". On your valentine's day data sheet, in your office, you would have the phone numbers of restaurants, what you did last year (to avoid repetition) and some ideas for a special surprise that you've thought of during the course of the year. On your "next action" sheet, in your main fax, you might have "book restaurant", or "book plane tickets to Venice and ensure delivery address is office (cos it's a surprise, see?). Then, in your "week to a page" diary, all you have to write is "valentine", which will prompt you to turn to the appropriate "next action" page to see what you're being reminded to do. The beauty of this method is that you hardly need any space at all for each day in your diary, because everything is there for you to see on your project "next action" pages, just a few page turns away from the diary prompt.

However, if a "next action" on one of your projects isn't time dependent, there is no need to enter anything in your diary because it is easy to just review your project "next action" pages periodically when you have a moment or two, as part of your normal review.

I really like the cotton cream pages, lovely to write on. Even though a "week on two pages" diary in cotton creme takes up 52 sheets of space, there's still plenty of space left to have an action sheet for each project, if the data is stored in another filofax as described in my system.

David, I must be a bit of a geek because I'm not only into refining the GTD process into something more beneficial for me, but I also analyse hand movements to speed up desk work, but I will post a vid or two on Youtube some time in the next week or so and post the link here.

My Filofax - Guest Post - 'Scoot' (2012-04-05 00:00) - Steve Morton

Thank you to 'Scoot' for sending in the details of his Filofax and the pictures.

The fax is an Aspinals "Executive" size which comes with 140x215mm pages, which are taller than the standard A5 pages by 5mm and shorter by 8mm, though I have largely used up the original inserts and just use A5. The rings match Filofax A5.





[2]

I don't think my system is anything extraordinary ... it revolves around accepting that the fax is of limited capacity, which involves being quite strict about what I put in the "Personal Organiser" part of my fax, also realising that I require something comprehensive enough to manage work and life while avoiding duplicating any other work. The final piece of my system came into place when I stopped writing ad nauseum; ie mostly irrelevant information that was already elsewhere.

My detailed client/work files are A4 lever arch files and are completely separate, though due to professional/legal reasons they will usually contain some evidence of managing the affairs of the client themselves, from the Personal organiser that is the focal point (I believe some will understand it better as a "treffpunkt") for managing my own work/life on a factual basis using purely relevant info; I emphasise a factual basis as it is too easy to pollute an organiser with non-factual/irrelevant info and therein confuse and therefore corrupt the management of your time/resources.

If people are unsure about my use of the word "fact" (as everything is a fact) then look at a news story and highlight only those words with important dates, important names, important locations etc. If you can tell what the story is by just looking at your summary highlighted facts then you've done a good job of extracting the key relevant facts; the type of fact that should be in the organiser. I'd bet the non-highlighted words in the news article amount to at least 90 % of the words and are a waste of your time and irrelevant to future decisions/any factual or important record of events.

When I manage anything I look at the objectives (primary/secondary etc) and functions; being planning, leadership, organising and controlling. Failure to account for any of those elements results in a serious failure of management, though with these processes being so closely bound together (and the fax is of limited capacity) it is practically impossible and a waste of time (certainly confusing) to give a separate tab to each of the management processes. (I think it is a fundamental mistake for companies to produce organisers with separate sections such as "Objectives", "Planning" etc; it should just be "management"). Behind each project tab I use separate sheets for whatever mind map/timetables/lists of deadlines etc but only include the raw facts that are relevant to my own process of managing. I record events and actions either by immediate entries to the diary, a "to do" entry (without any specific time entry) being the first sheet within my "project" section (split into "work" as in working for a living, household tasks, family tasks, and shopping), or by setting up a separate project behind its own tab. Currently I have 14 dividers that are tabbed at the top for projects that can be either work or privately related, covering subjects as diverse as client projects to a long-term dispute with a local authority.

Having reached this stage, and boy have I experimented, I can't believe how stupid I was not to have

seen it and done it right from the start.

Apart from the “personal organiser” side of the fax, there is another side that in terms of work just has a supporting role of referenced tax facts/information.

My own business and visiting cards are kept in the inside front cover, the inside flap has a piece of blotting paper.



[3]

1st section, tab at top left, is “Notes”; contains lined note paper, currently down to about 12 sheets.

2nd section, tab at top second from left, is “Projects”.

1st sheet is basically a list of “To Do’s” split into “work” as in working for a living, household tasks, family tasks, and shopping. Then I have dividers, currently 14, tabbed at the top for projects that are work or private related, covering subjects as diverse as client projects to a long-term dispute with a local authority.

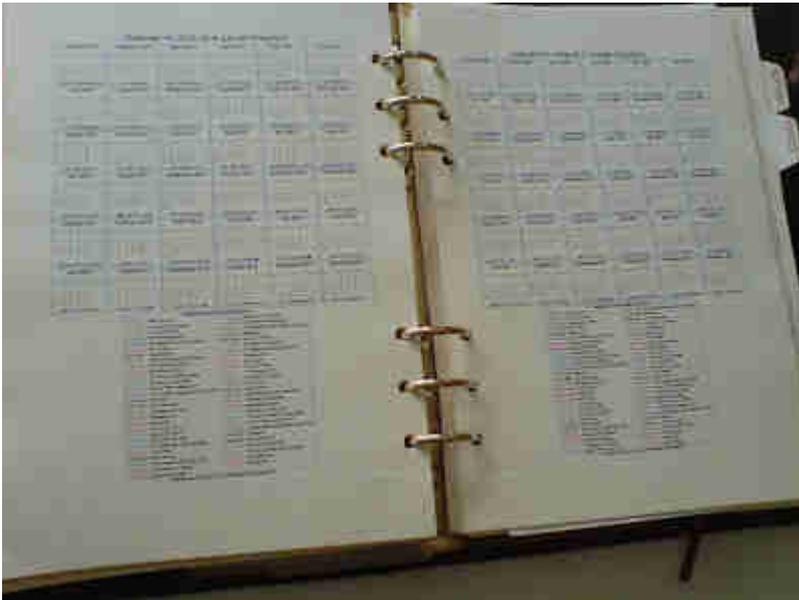


[4]

3rd section, tab at bottom right, is a Diary (in the middle of the fax).

1st sheet is holidays for UK, USA, Europe, also Muslim, Sikh and Jewish dates.

2nd and 3rd sheets, year to view planner (each of 4 years on a folded A4 sheet) which I really don’t use and should scrap but is sometimes nice to look at the year in one go.



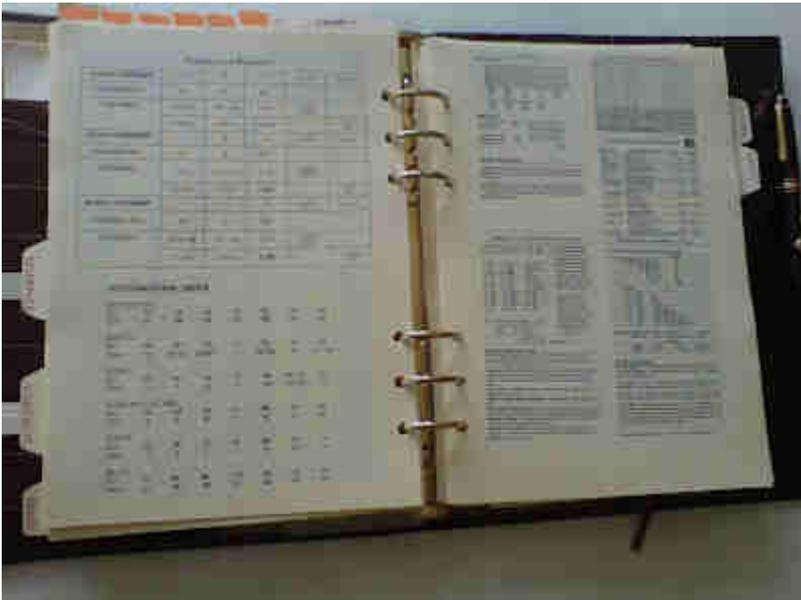
[5]

Then the actual week to view diary pages; appointments on the left, immediate to do's on the right. Last sheet in the section is a list of annual reminders.

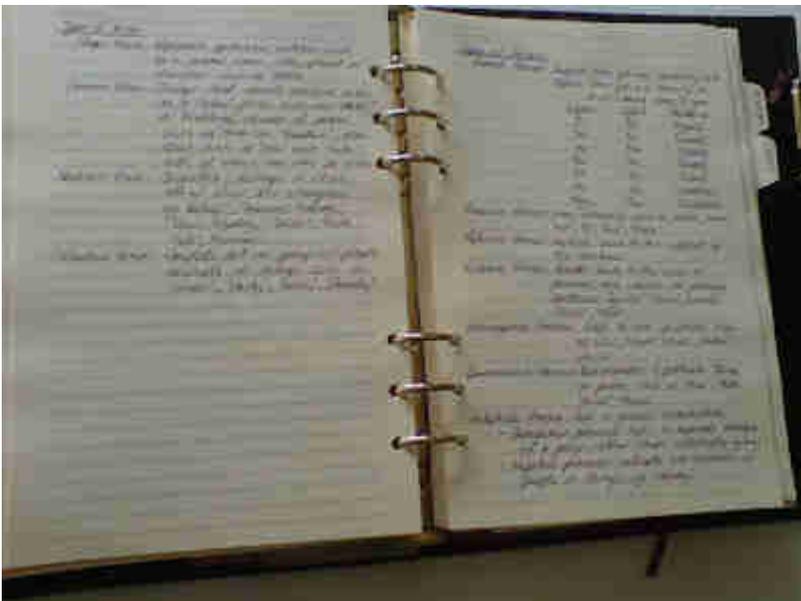
4th Section, tab is second from bottom right, is Contacts. Not used anymore because I keep my usual phone numbers in my slimline, and all addresses and numbers etc on Outlook which is downloaded to my phone.

5th Section, tab is third from bottom right, is Reference. Has various sheets with measurements and weights etc for Imperial UK & US & Metric, engineering standards, periodic table, densities of materials, pH table, Euro conversion rates, Federal Reserve Bank details, Other bank details, Exchange details, tax facts from UK and around the world, Geographical and Nautical facts, Astronomical facts about the Solar System from the Sun to Jupiter, morse code, braille alphabet, greek and roman number systems, number systems like hexadecimal etc, clothing and shoe sizes, list of colours to mix to obtain other colours, flying times, road distance chart, time zones, Underground map, world map, money laundering fact sheet, grammar sheets detailing all the types of pronoun/the parts of speech/types of noun/listing difference between analogies/similes/metaphors/idioms etc etc, Royal Mail postage price sheet, mail box collection times, calendars with national holidays from 2000 to 2020, Insurances, lists of printer cartridge codes.

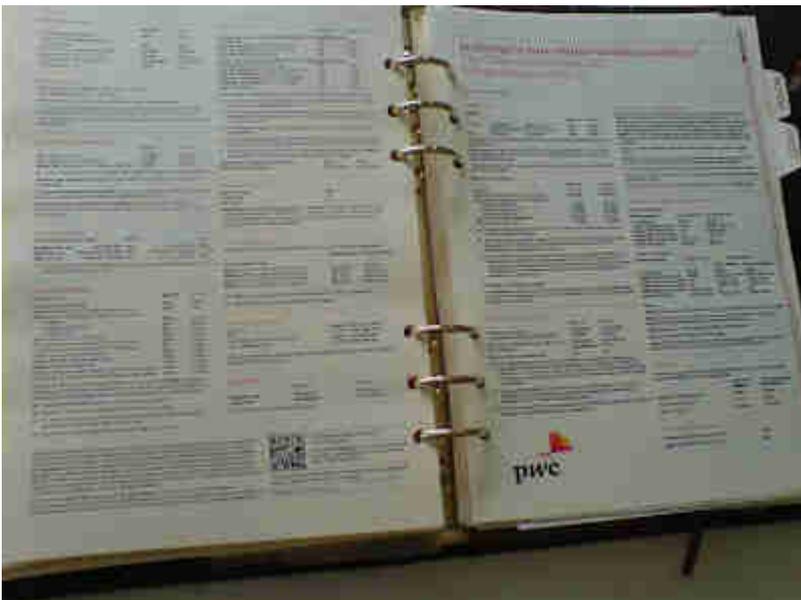
(I found that many of the standard facts, available with various organisers, were irrelevant to me and so I pulled apart a cheap Collins Gem ready reference and other similar product and re-sorted/cellotaped them into pages that suited my purposes . I then photocopied the patchwork of facts, reducing them to fit onto A5 paper.



[6]



[7]



[8]

6th Section, tab fourth from bottom, is Codes. Has all codes for computer access, equipment codes, phone and broadband codes, email codes, software codes, professional registration codes, subscription codes,

bank and credit card codes, passport and driving licence info.

7th Section, tab fifth from bottom right, is Private.

Has family birthdays and anniversaries etc, record of previous presents, light bulb ratings, sizes, peoples favourite foods/wines/flowers/perfumes etc, Hospital details, lawn cutting records, gardening diary, fertiliser proportions, firearm details, inspirational quotes, jokes, , animal feed prices, farm livestock guide, pages from Ludwig Wittgenstein's Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus (part of a book that I keep meaning to finish off (if I ever get stuck on a train/in an elevator); downloaded from Guttenburg website).

End Section are two envelopes, one for postage stamps/stickers/spare tabs/2 elastoplasts, the second being post it notes and clear hole reinforcements.



[9]

Flap on inside back cover has three A7 cards with envelopes, which are good for little thank you notes and as cards for flowers etc (for women at least; can't send them to men!).



[10]

Some pages are in the wrong section! (Another To Do, under tomorrow's sunshine)

Thank you Scoot for a detailed description of your Filofax.

1. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-k0Nze59mRQM/T3dkjauHVyI/AAAAAAAAAKoE/un9PHWuUuvk/s1600/Front.JPG>

2. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-N1X2Fcmk-Jg/T3dkkIsGX0I/AAAAAAAAAKnM/OQ5V0d9NTXY/s1600/Back.JPG>

3. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-76PF05TdiIo/T3dkmtrAz6I/AAAAAAAAAKoM/UAD7ziSIH7k/s1600/InnerCoverWithPapers.JPG>
4. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-MnecNTih3kc/T3dkRMT8JdI/AAAAAAAAAKnc/9awLxIxFDkM/s1600/DSC00219.JPG>
5. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-d5kIqvFZzqA/T3dkNZP05PI/AAAAAAAAAKnU/30VI_2QLCXc/s1600/DSC00218.JPG
6. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-N1V-Ssrehpo/T3dkUgQFVsI/AAAAAAAAAKnk/IoOcm560qYk/s1600/ExampleInside.JPG>
7. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-3V8dcMhKM5s/T3dkbiAEC0I/AAAAAAAAAKn0/zyZ_3xl6dcM/s1600/ExampleInsideWriting.JPG
8. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-y57H-WusGwc/T3dkYGa9orI/AAAAAAAAAKns/buZKpoGMEYg/s1600/ExampleInsideTax.JPG>
9. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-JaJeiD86zx0/T3dkf8yDMLI/AAAAAAAAAKn8/yB2CHMe79L4/s1600/ExampleRear.JPG>
10. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-tRkDkg1LYLI/T3dkpnjQqWI/AAAAAAAAAKoU/JqBkfQ8S11Y/s1600/InsideWithoutPapers.JPG>

Josh (2012-04-05 01:00:06)

Wow, what an amazing planner! I do agree, it is essential to pare down the details to essential facts due to the finite space within the binder. At the top of the month I add more daily pages, remove old ones, and flip through page by page to clear out the junk which accumulates, much of it is either obsolete or completed and can be archived or discarded. Sometimes I rewrite a few short, related lists into one comprehensive list on one sheet of paper. At the moment my Cavendish is at bursting, so I'm planning to do my review and cleanout this weekend. Already on the diary for Saturday! Thanks, Scoot, for the tour!

filofit (2012-04-05 03:59:15)

Hi Scoot - snoopy question. Have always seen a Montblanc in Black / Silver / Gold, never in Burgundy. May I ask where did you get it from?

Alison Reeves (2012-04-05 04:42:39)

@Scoot - amazing binder - this one is on my birthday list so it's good to see it in action.

Love the Montblanc Mozart - very pretty pen - I have a set in the black as they had discontinued the maroon by that time. I'm a big fan of fountain pens generally and use one whenever I can.

Definitely going to copy your idea regarding the grammar - I write for a living (business writing, copywriting, bids and tenders) and still find some obstinate grammar rules which I struggle to remember how to explain so this would work well.

Can I just ask - did you make the 14 tabs at the top yourself? Are they proper dividers (which can take up room) or just flags/post its stuck onto the first page of the project?

A great read thanks!

Scoot (2012-04-05 06:20:56)

The Burgundy was bought in about 1999, I hesitated for about two weeks about the price tag of about £160....but obviously relented, and since Alison stated that the model was discontinued...it sounds like ebay will be your best chance.

Scoot (2012-04-05 06:25:43)

Glad you like it, but considering what I sent to Steve, which I didn't think people would find interesting, he has actually done quite a good job. I was disappointed that I could not show some project pages, but they are full of confidential information relating to someone.

A clear out is overdue for mine.

Scoot (2012-04-05 06:49:59)

Yes a lovely binder, unfortunately no longer made with a lock and key. I've tried to keep the style, in terms of colour of paper and ink, the same as the Diarpell inserts that come with Aspinall organisers/diaries.

I am always embarrassed about the standard of my grammar, so the sheets do come in helpful as a reminder. In a meeting you can secretly look at hand written sheets from a fax, but you can't whip out a printed grammar guide for the things you were taught when 12 years old.

The project tabs are made from A4 188gsm card, but it is thin for the weight (if it really is the weight claimed by the shop). I did use various flags but they kept coming off.

For normal tabs I print onto A4, mostly using the guillotine to cut away excess paper, only using scissors for the point of the tab corners. I then use clear packaging tape to "lamine" the print on the tabs, extending it into the body of the divider as reinforcement; using a knife to cut around the inside of a semi-circle stencil to ensure that it looks clean/professional.

Butanben (2012-04-05 09:29:33)

What a great binder Scoot. A very professional and sophisticated finish to it. I love the way you have pared everything down to just what you need and no more. Food for thought there for me..... and boy would I love a Mont Blanc pen one day. Sigh!!!!

Scoot (2012-04-05 12:43:45)

Thanks. The Mont Blanc certainly matches the fax. Otherwise I actually do most of my writing with Manuscript fountain pens, very cheap, with nibs filed and polished to a fine italic. It is often mentioned on the fountain pen network that the writing experience is 1/3rd paper, 1/3rd ink, 1/3rd the nib; the "nib holder" not being so important. There is no way that I would pay RRP for a Mont Blanc pen today, too much money for what they are; or am I becoming tighter? Pilot 78G's are nice looking pens, nice colours, quite cheap on ebay.

Alison Reeves (2012-04-05 13:36:01)

@Butanben - I've been a fountain pen fan for many years and have a collection in different price ranges. I do agree with Scoot about the experience - an expensive pen does not necessarily secure this. I love writing with my Lamy Safari pens which (if you are not too fussy about colour) you can pick up at a very cheap price on ebay if you are prepared to be patient and keep looking. The nice thing about these pens is that you can get a new nib for as little as £4.50 so you can easily swap it out for the nib of your choice. I have in the past had very broad nibs, but actually favour medium and fine ones these days for writing in my filofax. Email me or give me a call sometime if you want to talk about it more - I think you have my details.

Just one more point - I had been hankering after the new Mont Blanc white fountain pen - but I just couldn't justify the price tag. However for Christmas my husband bought me a waterman pen (all white). It was on offer at the time with 20 % off so not too expensive (I have a feeling it was around the £50 mark with the discount). It has a medium nib and is a real joy to write with! Considering all the much more expensive pens I own, it's odd that this one still seems to be my 'go to' pen! Of course it helps that it fits into the pen loops on my black A5 Amazona!

Butanben (2012-04-05 18:49:10)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Butanben (2012-04-05 19:04:32)

Alison, thank you so much for your help. You are a dear friend. I will look into pen usage again once I've got that job of my dreams and I am back in employment again.... hopefully I'll be able to afford a few treats by then. One hears so much about the Mont Blanc pens being THE best, that I just hanker after the loveliest and most divine of writing experiences.... smooth ink flow an unscratchy feel and a pen, like in the Goldilocks story, which feels JUST RIGHT to hold. The trouble is I am into colour co-ordinating my diaries and so I am using gel pens at the moment for that, which to my surprise I am quite enjoying. But for my 2013 diary, approaching Christmas time, I shall re- investigate my pen usage.

doris98 (2012-04-05 19:14:50)

Scoot, I have a burgundy ballpoint as well, bought as a present from my mom in the early 90s. I've broken the cap, but will replace it some day cause it's so expensive. Prices of Montblanc have tripled I think since then, I don't think I would ever shell out that much \$ for them now.

Great post, you're so organized!

Scoot (2012-04-06 04:34:03)

Thanks Doris98,

Soon after I bought that Mont Blanc fountain pen someone seriously damaged it, I don't know how but I returned to my Office (a young trainee having just left my Office, avoiding eye contact, and yet not saying a word; all very strange) to find that my Mont Blanc was not where I left it and upon examination found the nib bent and the rear end cracked. I don't know how it occurred and couldn't say anything to the trainee because she would have died a death and couldn't pay for it anyway. I was quite upset about it though, though I think more about the lack of honesty/character of someone in the office, but it did somewhat take away the pleasure of ownership. However, I eventually managed to re-fix the end with superglue and then recoat with a hard clear lacquer, also the nib was eventually filed and polished into a fine italic. The damage is very hard to see for me, and I know where it occurred, so now just another incident of life.

David Popely (2012-04-06 09:13:24)

Hi Scoot

Apologies, I didn't get a chance to look at this excellent post yesterday due to my own work commitments....hopefully you won't mind me posting a comment (maybe more than one!) 'after the event.

I'm interested in your summary of the tasks of management as planning, leadership, organising and controlling. This seems like a **very** good summary....do you have a source for it please? Is it Drucker? And if so, which Drucker? I'd be really interested to know as it's taken my 'management thinking' (as someone who only has to manage himself, thankfully!) in an unexpected direction. Many thanks in advance!

Anita (2012-04-06 15:11:33)

Scoot, thanks for sharing your gorgeous binder!

I love hearing about when other peoples' systems are working :)

janet (2012-04-07 05:56:31)

That binder is gorgeous! Aspinal has just brought out a lockable five year diary in the purple croc. Not as nice a lock as you have though.

I have had a burgundy Montblanc Meisterstück since 1997. I got it very cheap at Dublin airport duty free. It has formed itself to my writing and just gets better with age. I love it! Would definitely recommend it as an investment especially if you write a lot.

Scoot (2012-04-07 06:08:33)

Glad you like it Anita.

David,

Having just found Drucker on Wikipedia, with one of his core concepts being management by objectives, I can understand why you thought I was influenced by him. Though strangely, Wiki states he disliked command and control management.

In fact it was drummed into me, and a team of others, by a consultant who was hired by the USAF to rescue/push along projects. I don't think we ever knew his full name but he like the other consultants like him were shockingly intelligent and we thought must be from Harvard or Sloan MIT; though the words planning/leadership/organisation/control are common to many such business schools concept of management. He went through all our tasks, making us think and reason everything we did, forcing us the change our ways, though at the time our brains were exploding. Even though I wasn't among serving USAF personnel, there were still orders and objectives of varying importance. I don't think there is one single "style of management" that suits all circumstances at all times.

Scoot (2012-04-07 06:11:57)

Glad you liked it, lets hope they bring out the lockable versions again.

Yes, the burgundy Mont Blanc is classy, a nice change to the black. These days, Mont Blanc have some very unique designs that aren't to my taste.

David Popely (2012-04-07 06:23:20)

Thanks for clarifying - Drucker was just about my first introduction to the concept of management as a skill-set (something I still don't think everyone 'gets'), and I certainly agree with your final sentence there - pretty much all of my management is about self-management, since am a sole practitioner....

The best and most useful course I ever attended was the Time manager two-day course, paid for by an (at the time) beneficent employer....possibly the best thing ever to happen in my personal business development, and of no mean value to my personal development as well. I still have a soft spot for TMI principles, as will be evidenced by some of my posts here....even though I seem to be becoming more GTD-based in my ways....

Free For All Friday No. 177 (2012-04-06 00:30) - Laurie

It's Easter weekend! Some of us have a long weekend, and for kids in the UK it's the spring holidays. For many in the Northern hemisphere Spring has sprung (despite the occasional brief lapse into winter) and longer days are well on their way.

What Springtime activities are you planning in your Filofax?

And as always on Fridays, feel free to discuss anything Filofax-related.

Have a great weekend everyone!

doris98 (2012-04-06 01:05:04)

Hi all, I've been waiting for a "Free for All" Day to ask this question: What's the difference between a Slimline and a Compact.

I haven't used a Personal in a while, and was wondering if it might be something I would like.

Thanks in advance.

Jotje (2012-04-06 01:47:00)

Hi Doris!

A slimline has 11 or 13 mm rings and no clasp closure, while a Compact has 15 mm rings with a clasp or zip. Ideal for pp who find the personal too bulky and the slimline too small/thin!

doris98 (2012-04-06 03:08:14)

That certainly answers my question. No chance the Slimline will work for me but I'll look into the Compact. Thanks a lot!

LucyLastic (2012-04-06 04:24:48)

I use a Finsbury compact and I can honestly say it's the best size there is for me. A perfect balance of enough room to fit everything in without making the entire thing too bulky in my bag. And as it also uses personal sized inserts, there's plenty of room for me to write everything down that I need to.

I toyed with the idea of getting a slimline but a) I didn't think there would be enough room on the rings for me to fit everything I needed in it, and b) they don't fasten closed, either with elastic, a snap clasp or zip. That was the clincher for me.

After using a compact, I really don't think I'll use another size from now on. I can't recommend them enough.

Scoot (2012-04-06 04:38:02)

Somehow found myself in Staples yesterday.

Filofaxes in Pocket size were at about £14 each, Guildford and another model I can't remember, mostly with original prices of £45 ish.

Filofax Olympic organisers in blue, yellow and black were being sold off at half price, about £17. The paper was a really poor quality, with the other contents obviously made to a price rather than quality, which is surely a poor advert for the brand. Still, I am sure someone may want some of the inserts as they are unique and "fun" for a younger person.

Shall we all say it at once? Decent binder (preferably leather, white?), simple design with "London 2012" and the

coloured Olympic rings....no daft London 2012 logo; and that will sell!

(It now seems that whenever I go shopping there are always Olympic products at knock down prices, whether they be note books or toys.)

Laura Ashley A4 wire bound note pads have acceptable flowery lined paper, which could be guillotined down to A5 and still keep "Laura Ashley" centred at the bottom.

The Laura Ashley three ringed home organiser was a disappointment, really poor paper though the insert design could be of interest to some.

Staples Arc range have a good pack of post it tabs, 7 sizes/kinds for £2, that once correctly holed would go in a fax. I still do not understand why someone would want to use the Arc system as the plastic "rings" are bulky and really awkward to work around, also the inserts are limited and not the best quality paper.

I am sure that with Staples ridiculously high prices there won't be many people buying, therefore I will wait for a big sale to "invest" in some more stationery.

Cat Burchmore (2012-04-06 05:11:41)

Does anyone know if Neal Street are open today? I'm about to go into London and hubby has said I can go! This is a rare opportunity for me to see Filofaxes altogether without him moaning so I am hoping it is open.

Butanben (2012-04-06 05:15:48)

I have a slimline Amazona, which I love. I use it as an address book and notes on the go Filofax, and it fits neatly and lightly into my handbag. Sometimes, I just see the perfect card for someone and like to post it there and then. It can't hold very much at all, so has to have a limited use. I did use it for a second diary, week on 1 page, originally, but got fed up with co-ordinating 2 diaries, and worrying if I had missed vital info from one to the other....(Home A5- slimline,) so I am now a 1 diary 1 life person. Much easier.

Butanben (2012-04-06 05:20:44)

Cat, there is also City Organiser nearby, which has a great range of Filofaxes I am told. So if one is closed, the other may be open, if that makes sense!!

doris98 (2012-04-06 06:00:19)

Lucy: The Compact does seem to be the "Goldilocks" size for the Personal Filofax. But I didn't think it would work for me when I saw it as there was no clasp/closure as you mentioned.

Butanben: I'm almost tempted by the slimline Amazona, they're so pretty!

I guess I need to determine it's use first before I jump in and buy one. Thanks a lot for your replies!

kanalt (2012-04-06 06:53:21)

I also use a compact. I had used the personal size since starting with Filofax back in 2007. I loved the idea of a slimline but it was just too small, the ring size. The compact ring size falls between the personal and slimline (all three use the personal size paper). So I'd say the compact is for people who want something slimmer than the personal but bigger than the slimline. I don't think I'll go back to carrying a personal size now either. I do use a personal Malden at home for my extra stuff that I want to keep track of, but everything I want with me I keep in the compact. It's much easier to carry with me everywhere.

If you'd like to see how much I fit into my compact, click here:

<http://wellplannedlife.blogspot.com/2012/01/2012-setup.html>

Jotje (2012-04-06 07:13:02)

A third option would be the Filofax Shop in Conduit Street.

Oh, how I envy you! Would love to join you browsing Filofaxes for several hours ...

Alison Reeves (2012-04-06 07:37:53)

I really do think Filofax are missing a trick here. The compact organisers are not listed on their main Personal Organisers tab - only slimline. The only way I can get them to come up is to put 'compact' into the search on the site. I'm sure they would sell more if they didn't hide them! Remind me of the TM sheets that they say they don't sell enough of - but most people can't find them!

David Popely (2012-04-06 08:57:32)

"Somehow found myself in Staples...."

I must try that one some time.....generally my explanations of how I came to be buying *yet* more stationery don't usually cut much ice.....

I know what you mean about Staples' prices though....hardly the cheapest *or* the best range, despite having stores the size of football pitches. I really don't know how they manage to *not* have what I want when they have so much space....

David Popely (2012-04-06 08:59:02)

Er.....I think you'll find it's a fair walk from Conduit St to Bow Lane.....

Iris (2012-04-06 09:08:13)

Strangely enough, any other Filofax website I know (DE, DK, SE...) has "Compact" listed on the main Organiser page - only Filofax UK hasn't.

LucyLastic (2012-04-06 09:34:32)

doris98: I hope I haven't misunderstood what you said but compacts definitely do have clasps/closures on them; it's the slimlines that don't. Here's a list of the ones City Organiser sell (there are two pages of them!). You'll see they all have clasps or zips:

[http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/cgi-bin/ss000040.pl?page=search &SS=compact+filofax &PR=-1 &TB=A &ACTION.x=0 &ACTION.y=0](http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/cgi-bin/ss000040.pl?page=search&SS=compact+filofax&PR=-1&TB=A&ACTION.x=0&ACTION.y=0)

I'm sure you're aware but you can use code andy15 for 15 % off.

And here's mine (you'll see it says 'compact' on the box):

<http://allthingsstationery.blogspot.co.uk/2012/03/my-new-gorgeous-filofax-but.html>

Hope this helps! Lucy x

David Popely (2012-04-06 09:49:01)

Anyone else planning (sorry) to spend at least some of their UK long weekend tinkering with their setups? I'm going to take some of the developments from the last week's dialogues off-list, plus Wednesday's 'how do you manage projects?' post, and try to get the results into a format compatible with my Personal Malden - I still can't get my head round lugging my A5 to the gym, to restaurants, etc!

kanalt (2012-04-06 10:04:34)

@Alison & Iris - Yes, the US site has Compact listed as well. I was also looking for them on the UK site recently and didn't know how to find them until someone told me. How would people who are not a part of this community know that?

Sword_Lily (2012-04-06 10:32:51)

Filofax.dk has the Chameleon compact at a good price. I got one in Raspberry.

Gerard (2012-04-06 10:54:47)

David - email me if there are any particular aspects from the offline discussion that you wish to develop.

J (2012-04-06 11:08:33)

I'm not in the UK, but I am working from home today and plan to spend some time tinkering! Mainly just swapping out my daily pages for upcoming months, cleaning the Malden out, etc.

Yay for Filofax play days!

Ray Blake (2012-04-06 11:26:46)

I bought an ARC system in the week and have to disagree on almost all counts. The paper is very good, the disks don't get in the way and it's really quite reasonably priced.

David Popely (2012-04-06 11:27:42)

Thanks Gerard....I'm basically just taking the developed layouts for the standardised project sheets and reducing them down for personal size.....I'm really happy about these results and I appreciate everyone's input.

David Popely (2012-04-06 11:29:30)

Hi J

FF play days are the best! I'm swapping over indexes (indices?) and going through the David Allen GTD-and-paper-planners white paper *yet* again....I always get something new from it.

Filofreak (2012-04-06 11:48:01)

I am confused! I do notice the compact size on the US site, but the dimensions seem very close in measurement to the personal. Can anyone tell me the difference?

LucyLastic (2012-04-06 13:54:48)

Hi Filofreak

The compact sized binder is slightly narrower in width than the personal size but the main difference is that the rings are smaller (in between slimline and personal size). You can still use personal sized inserts in a compact binder but the smaller size of the rings gives the overall thing a more 'compact' feel.

I've just had a look on the website and the ring sizes are as follows:

Slimline: 11 or 13mm

Compact: 15mm

Personal:23mm

Have a look at the photo on my blog that's a side-by-side comparison between my personal Domino and Finsbury compact:

<http://allthingsstationery.blogspot.co.uk/2012/03/my-new-gorgeous-filofax-but.html>

I'll do a full post about my setup some time soon so keep an eye out for it.

Lucy x

Anita (2012-04-06 15:06:56)

Hi David,

Yes, I've started tinkering already as I'm upgrading from the personal to A5 Malden. I also use the GTD paper planner set up, so plan to get the A5 done like that & maybe use the A-Z dividers for reading material under reference/misc.

Alison Reeves (2012-04-06 15:39:15)

I have to own up to a bit of a fascination with the ARC system - haven't seen one in the flesh yet. They have had it in the states for some time to good reviews. Will you be doing a review Ray?

Alison Reeves (2012-04-06 15:48:14)

Yes I am here this evening tinkering also. David - let me know what you end with!

Ray Blake (2012-04-06 16:39:34)

That *was* a review, Alison. Oh, I see, you mean a longer one?

Filofreak (2012-04-06 16:51:41)

Hi Lucy

Thanks so much for the info. I'll check out your blog and look for post about comparison soon!

:)

Alison Reeves (2012-04-06 17:18:34)

I've been spoilt by the reviews on philofaxy!!! :-)

doris98 (2012-04-06 17:47:34)

@Kanalt - Saw your Compact set-up, so tempting! Now I understand why people are 'demanding' a Compact Malden.

@LucyLastic - Typo for me there, I meant the Slimlines have no clasp. 2 pages of Compacts? Dare I look? (: (But you know I will!) Checking out your Compact post now.

Thanks everyone!

Rabbit (2012-04-06 20:21:59)

It's days like this that I just love eBay...I wanted to share a thrilling new purchase with you all - because my own social circle just doesn't "get" filofax ;)

I was scrolling through the newly listed Filofaxes when a green gem leapt off the page...a personal Finsbury in Green (I've wanted a green leather FF for so long!) in great condition for the ridiculously low Buy It Now price of 20GBP! Including the postage to Australia, it's setting me back a tidy little 27GBP!! I'm still in a radiant state of shock!! Needless to say it took a total of 20 seconds to read the listing and then hit Purchase. YAY!

I hope everyone enjoys the Easter break ^ _ ^

David Popely (2012-04-07 02:08:26)

Hi Anita, Alison

I'm busy integrating the new project sheets developed out of last week's 'managing projects' dialogue and the Wednesday post comments into my system - I did the form layouts on Thursday but I'm now completing client names and due dates, and working them into the system.

That's the good news. The less good news is that to do this I think I'm possibly going to have to migrate to a desk-based A5 'mother-ship' with a Personal sized 'satellite' binder for taking out, since I still have no intention of lugging my packed A5 to the gym, the theatre, restaurants, or anywhere else (except maybe to client meetings). As you know, Alison, I've resisted this for *so* long, and it still 'feels wrong', but I just can't see how I can get this level of info into my system in Personal size - yet! Also, the *only* Personal sized diary available in cotton cream (now that I've moved to CC in the personal) is the old-fashioned week-on-two-pages, which is far from ideal for time planning - thank you Filofax, that's a real help....This might mean diaries in both binders and having to 'sync' them - a nightmare....

The alternative would be to try to abandon cotton cream (at least for the diary, which I only ever write in, in pencil anyway) and use my setup as it was in December when I did my 'How I use' post - and which I'd been using very successfully until this issue arose. Philofaxy 'showed' the post to me last evening when I was reading Scoot's excellent post from Thursday last, and still think it's a good setup - but to stick with it I'll have to find a 'clever' way of expressing the project due date info which has been developed from last week on lined paper, or plain.

Taking a sideways tack from all of this, I do now think that it's best to express as much info as possible on ruled/plain paper (with appropriate use of paper colours if you can put up with the uber-poor paper quality of Filofax refills) - I'm going to think about possible ways of doing that today and see what I can come up with. Boy, I *love* long weekends (especially when I can sit here at 7.00 a.m. in complete quiet, watching the cricket on Sky and fiddling with my system!

If anyone *isn't* on the time _and_ life _management_ Yahoo group and would like sight of the 'GTD and Paper Planners' white paper from David Allen, pop over to Yahoo and join and there's a copy in the files section - or email me off-list and I'll send it to you (but joining is better!). as I do this exercise I'm also revisiting the white paper, and as I'm becoming increasingly GTD-committed it's a really excellent resource (and short!). I'm beginning to see that most, if not all of the 'holes' I've imagined there to be in the system are due to the fact that I'm not implementing correctly....

Elisabeth (2012-04-07 08:43:31)

For those of you craving a new Filofax for spring: Filofax Denmark are selling lots of binders at 50 % off. <http://www.filofax.dk/store/specials.asp?OID=166>

Babs (2012-04-07 10:50:43)

A bit late to this week's FFAF, but someone might spot this (if not I'll just repost next week *g*).

Does anyone know of any wide-ruled FF paper (preferably with margin)? I'm finding it impossible to use the

standard stuff in my study filo, and short of printing off hundreds of double-sided pages myself, I can't find anything else to use.

Any ideas?

Rabbit (2012-04-07 17:30:51)

I have this problem too - your best bet is to look through your local stationery stores for any suitable A5 notepads that you can punch yourself (being mindful that A5 notepads pages may be smaller than A5 once they've been torn off the notepad - TPS explained the problem here: <http://thelifeoftheperpetualstudent.blogspot.com.au/2012/02/perfect-a5-filofax-notepad.html>).

I've butchered a bound notebook for its paper once.

Butanben (2012-04-08 03:16:04)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Butanben (2012-04-08 03:30:03)

David, when I posted, I had meant that City Organiser is nearby to Neal Street!!!! As the Philofaxy meet up is there this time, I am logically assuming that to be the case..... with the meet up venue being the Tate Gallery meal. I posted.... by mistake in a new thread... before Jotje's reply, so hence the confusion. Comfy walking shoes, whatever the distance are always a must in London, as is a handbag with a purse zipper compartment, or waisted zipper belt, for safe money storage. Unfortunately I was once pickpocketed on the underground.... not nice. It was a blessing that my credit cards were stored separately from my money purse, so they only got away with a little cash and the purse itself..... so I was able to get home. The Transport police were amazingly wonderful. Cat, I hope you had a wonderful day and bought yourself lots of goodies and treats.

Babs (2012-04-08 12:08:36)

I can't click the link from my phone but thanks, I'll check it out later.

Interestingly I have discovered a paper size called A5+ which is for these spiral bound / perforated notepads and which means that they're A5 sheets when torn off. I will be looking for one next week but for my personal filo it's a bit more of a head scratcher!

Ashleigh (2012-04-08 14:08:42)

Hi does anyone share the same frustration as me with the day per page being lined? I have a personal sized Malden after downsizing from my A5 I would love the extra space without the lines! As Filofax have failed to do this I was wondering if any of the lovely Philofaxy followers could have a go at designing one for us? I've tried and failed miserably!!

Web Finds - 7 April 2012 (2012-04-07 00:00) - Steve Morton

So a hectic week for me, but I did manage to find the following Filofax posts!

- [1]Thinning Out the Herd - Well Planned Life
- [2]How to print Filofax Personal pages on A4 paper - My Life All in One Place
- [3]Paper-phobia and the Modern Writer - No Wasted Ink
- [4]Stickers in use - Lancashire Cat
- [5]My Filofax Collection - The Filofax Diaries
- [6]Smartphone woes and how my Filofax will always win! - The Life of The Perpetual Student
- [7]Ray's Fantastic 2PPDs! - Filofax Fixation

- [8]My latest – and hopefully final – Filofax set-up for 2012 - Bluebonnet Reads
- [9]More Filofax Dilemas... - LJ's Blog of Stuff
- [10]Filofax Swap! - Lime Tree
- [11]My Filofax - Love Life It makes you beautiful
- [12]Sudoku page for A5 Filofax - My Life All in One Place
- [13]My new Malden - Lady Tamlynn
- [14]Filofax Tour:Personal Finchley - The Filofax Diaries
- [15]The Origami of Filofax Paper - The Crazy Suburban Mom
- [16]Would You Rock A £400 Filofax? - Gala Darling
- [17]Filofax Pennybridge Set Up - Rapunzel's World
- [18]F is for Filofax - Anita Lim
- [19]My new Filofax Malden - Love Life It makes you beautiful
- [20]Review - Purple Malden - Filo-Manie
- [21]When It All Began - Filofit
- [22]Filo Goodies - Decision Inspired
- [23]Filofax Neglect - Filofax Fixation
- [24]one month check in with The Affair - Paper Lovestory
- [25]New Filofax - Fantail Designs
- [26]Personalisation - Paperlove Story
- [27]Holborn Zip A5 - Filo-Manie
- [28]A Filofax, a Mood Journal and hmmm...a Happiness Book. - Filofit
- Your blog post could appear here next week... Please email us if we missed you this week.

Enjoy

1. <http://wellplannedlife.blogspot.fr/2012/03/thinning-out-herd.html>
2. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/03/how-to-print-filofax-personal-pages-on.html>
3. <http://nowastedink.com/2012/01/11/paper-phobia-and-the-modern-writer/>
4. <http://lancashirecat.wordpress.com/2012/03/31/stickers-in-use/>
5. <http://filofaxlove.blogspot.com/2012/03/collection-my-filofax-collection.html>
6. <http://thelifeoftheperpetualstudent.blogspot.fr/2012/03/smartphone-woes-and-how-my-filofax-will.html>
7. <http://filofaxfixation.wordpress.com/2012/04/01/rays-fantastic-2ppds/>
8. <http://bluebonnetreads.wordpress.com/2012/04/01/my-latest-and-hopefully-final-filofax-set-up-for-2012/>
9. <http://ljsblogofstuff.blogspot.fr/2012/04/more-filofax-dilemas.html>
10. <http://limetreefruits.blogspot.co.uk/2012/04/filofax-swap.html>
11. <http://startyourownjourney.blogspot.co.uk/2012/02/my-filofax.html>
12. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2012/04/sudoku-page-for-a5-filofax.html>
13. <http://ladytamlynn.blogspot.co.uk/2012/04/my-new-malden.html>
14. <http://filofaxlove.blogspot.co.uk/2012/03/filofax-tour-personal-finchley.html>
15. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/04/origami-of-filofax-paper.html>
16. <http://www.chinashopmag.com/2012/04/would-you-rock-a-400-filofax/>

17. <http://icclewu.blogspot.com/2012/04/filofax-pennybridge-set-up.html>
18. <http://anita-lim.blogspot.com/2012/04/f-is-for-filofax.html>
19. <http://startyourownjourney.blogspot.co.uk/2012/04/my-new-filofax-malden.html>
20. <http://filo-manie.blogspot.com/2012/04/review-malden-purple.html>
21. <http://filofit.wordpress.com/2012/03/21/hello-world/>
22. <http://decisioninspired.com/?p=76>
23. <http://filofaxfixation.wordpress.com/2012/04/02/filofax-neglect/>
24. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/04/one-month-check-in-with-affair.html>
25. <http://fantail-designs.blogspot.com/2012/04/new-filofax.html>
26. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/04/personalisation.html>
27. <http://filo-manie.blogspot.com/2012/04/holborn-zip-a5.html>
28. <http://filofit.wordpress.com/2012/04/04/a-filofax-a-mood-journal-and-hmmm-a-happiness-book-also-the-contents-of-my-bag/>

LJ (2012-04-07 00:02:23)

Wow - a veritable flood of FF offerings - thanks :o)

filofit (2012-04-07 04:05:36)

Woke up early today and began my ritual of checking Philofaxy first thing in the morning and lo what did I see? Two of my posts featured in here.....ah what a way to begin the day!! Thanks Steve.

Anita (2012-04-07 04:31:14)

Thank you for lots of goodies to read & for including my post :)

Maus (2012-04-07 16:05:40)

I was surprised about the great interest in my new-born Blog "Filo-Manie" today... now I know the answer... ;-) I'm so proud to be upon your list! :-D
Thanks, Steve!

Steve Morton (2012-04-07 16:19:58)

We like sneaking up on people and sending improving their stats a little...

Ashleigh (2012-04-08 03:15:34)

Thank you for taken the time to find us these lovely findings! And thanks for including me in your post!

Philofaxy Mini Meet-up - Liverpool (2012-04-08 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

I've been back in UK this last week, it has been a very hectic week, so it was nice to have some time out on Friday to meet up with Kate and Hannah in Liverpool City Centre.

The arrangements were very last minute, but it all worked out very well. I travelled over to Liverpool on the underground train from New Brighton on the Wirral, something I've not done for I guess about 20

years.

So as I emerged from the station, the road layouts seemed familiar but the shops and shopping centres had nearly all changed from when I lived in the North West. I had a wander around on my own for an hour or so getting familiar with the city centre again.

Hannah (on the left in the picture above) had recommended a cafe in the city centre and that's where we met. We all had a light lunch and talked about all things Filofax.

Afterwards we took a stroll in to John Lewis and cast our experienced eyes of their range of organisers, it was quite a good selection, but no sign of any purple Maldens... double sighs from the two ladies! I was slightly tempted by the Holborn... but I resisted it in the end!

We also had a quick look in Paperchase and a quick scoot around TK Max, but no Filofax organisers in TK Max... wrong time of year I suspect!

I enjoyed the afternoon, thank you to [2]Hannah and [3]Kate for meeting me at such short notice. It was good fun.

Are there any readers near you that you could meet up with?

1. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-JnpjjeG-yto/T38eHmWnkqI/AAAAAAAAAKtU/OB2oxkqKdnY/s1600/DSCF0971.JPG>

2. <http://lancashirecat.wordpress.com/>

3. <http://thelifeoftheperpetualstudent.blogspot.com/>

David Popely (2012-04-08 16:08:21)

Alison reeves and I have met up once before, but it all rather depends on our respective movements, she being in the West Midlands and I in west Wales! we met up when we were there on business (separately, coincidentally), and had a great 90 minute or so in Conduit St shop, and in the Starbucks at the end of the road.

If anyone reading this is in London I'm there twice-monthly, often with some 'slack' in my schedule, and I'm always willing to meet fellow-FF enthusiasts and to talk about that, and about personal organisation in general. Just message me via @davidpopely on Twitter, or email me via davidpopely (at) googlemail (dot) com - it would be great to see you.

David Popely (2012-04-08 16:09:19)

Oops...should have said we met in *London*!

Alison Reeves (2012-04-08 19:15:15)

Yes, it was fun to meet up to compare binders and have a browse round the Filofax shop with a fellow enthusiast. Hopefully we can do so again when our schedules allow.

All change on the Filofax front - Guest Post - Anita (2012-04-09 00:00) - Steve Morton

Thank you to Anita for today's guest post

I think I've recently been suffering from the well-known phenomenon of 'Filofax fail'. I haven't fallen out of love with them, but I think it's what you'd call user error! Some thing just hasn't been right, and consequently every thing is out of date and I've been solely using a couple of pieces of lined paper at the front and touching nothing else. I had no idea where to start, but strangely enough buying another filo started me down the right path.

When my Domino snake arrived, I immediately loved it, but thought, "I don't need this and no matter how lovely it is, it isn't a Malden!" (I am such a Malden fan-girl) I sold it to the lovely Lime Tree and one of the filos she offered to swap was a red A5 zipped Finsbury. I'd already had some thoughts that the personal size paper was too small for me and I rarely take my filo out and about, but hadn't considered trading up as I already had two perfectly decent ones (personal and A4 size). However the seed had been planted in my brain...

The purple A5 Malden obviously came to mind, but even though I loved the idea of the colour, I certainly didn't love the price! I've never paid full price for a filo and even though I'd be selling my other two, I still wanted a bargain. Pink, purple and red are all good colours in my opinion, so I started to search on

the internet and trusty old Amazon UK came up with a vintage pink A5 at a great price. A proper box, how exciting!



[1]

I don't think I'd fully appreciated the size difference between the A5 and personal, but as soon as I saw the paper inside, some thing inside of me went, "Aha!" and I knew it's just what I need. I've already managed to sell my A4 Strata and its hole punch, so will just have to find a good home for the personal one.



[2]



[3]

I know some people aren't too sure about the vintage pink colour, but I'm surprised to say that I now prefer it to crimson, as somehow it's a more subtle and complex shade.

These are my extras that I've purchased for my new A5 - the KW Trio hole punch (from the Adspot page on Philofaxy), a cheap A5 notebook, Dodo Pad and cheap plastic wallets that I might try hole punching.



[4]

Oh, and my filo is German, even though purchased via Amazon UK and came with different inserts to what I would expect.



[5]



[6]

I have already christened her Anja (pronounced Anya) as the name featured in my top German baby names search, and I'm such a Buffy the Vampire Slayer fan that I knew it was meant to be. I can't wait to set her up and have just one filo for every thing!

Once again thank you Anita for your guest post.... I am also heading in the direction of only using my A5 Malden!!!

1. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-FVNwB2A94JY/T36L5D90i4I/AAAAAAAAAKsg/PHpQOTPFhJQ/s1600/Ph1.JPG>
2. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-o8ZGgiwZNqA/T36L9cvBV1I/AAAAAAAAAKso/jcOcOTAqgwY/s1600/Ph2.JPG>
3. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-r8XhYnTLyvo/T36MARvZjZI/AAAAAAAAAKsw/OHTb0AoT1es/s1600/Ph3.JPG>
4. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-DpYfPcJQVks/T36MDZGmmkI/AAAAAAAAAKs4/C3S4-_0x5Ns/s1600/Ph4.JPG
5. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-M1HgShn5tnY/T36MHSmbdI/AAAAAAAAAKtA/JUZVpQ9h25g/s1600/Ph5.JPG>
6. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-g0I-_pFBftY/T36MKGgJgaI/AAAAAAAAAKtI/T3F4bysKbYw/s1600/Ph6.JPG

Lime Tree (2012-04-09 02:03:33)

It is beautiful! And look at those inserts! I have been looking for something just like this for ages! Didn't know the German FFs come with that.

Very vey nice! Congrats on your new baby!

Babs (2012-04-09 02:49:52)

I'm a complete A5 convert after combining 2 personals last year into one beautiful A5 imperial purple Finchley. It's the perfect size and I love the time management inserts.

Yu (2012-04-09 08:15:35)

I've only seen the vintage pink color online and it's always looked so... plastic. Is that the case irl? (And is that a Lamy Safari Fountain pen? :D)

Yu (2012-04-09 08:16:31)

it has... sorry. I'm way too tired right now...

Nellie (2012-04-09 11:18:12)

I love the idea of an A5, but I know having tried one it just doesn't work for me. It is far too heavy. I love the pink though!

Ashleigh (2012-04-09 12:28:01)

I loved the A5 for the paper size but I found myself making excuses to not take it out due to the sheer heaviness! I have since converted to personal and must say I haven't looked back but I really hope it works for you, Yu I have the vintage pink and in reality it is a stunning colour that doesn't look plasticky at all it has a certain sophistication about it unlike some of the other pink shades I have seen you can't mistake the genuine leather look and feel with the Malden.

007 (2012-04-09 13:07:11)

Everything = Fabulous.

Butanben (2012-04-09 13:13:55)

Fantastic!!! Thank you for this post. I enjoyed reading about your A5. xx

Tim (2012-04-09 14:30:05)

Thanks Anita,

A5 v Personal must be the most longstanding and discussed topic on Philofaxy! There was even a video about it on Saturday's round-up!

(OK! Yes, I accept that the current top topic is the sheer beauty - or otherwise - of the Purple Malden - but then loads of you were drooling over Vintage Pink and Ochre this time last year!).

I must find time to write a post on creating a compact A5, as this has worked well for me and may (or may not!) be of interest to others still tormented by this conundrum!

A5 doesn't have to look like and weigh-in like a telephone directory!

Alison Reeves (2012-04-09 15:21:44)

Tim, I'd love to read about your compact A5 and how to create one!

DEM (2012-04-09 16:18:36)

As would I!

DEM (2012-04-09 16:19:37)

Lovely post! Glad you have found something that appears to be the answer! Congrats!

Laurie (2012-04-09 20:14:51)

Tim I've been begging Filofax for years to create a slimline/ compact A5, so I would be extremely interested in reading about how you've created yours!

Yu (2012-04-09 20:56:32)

I'm also interested in hearing more! :)

Tim (2012-04-10 03:15:32)

Oh dear! It's not THAT radical or exciting - but I'll try!

gdigesu (2012-04-10 06:07:01)

Tim, pics, please.

Anita (2012-04-10 08:00:31)

Thank for all your lovely comments! I really enjoyed writing the post & it's very kind of Steve to put it on the site.

@Lime Tree: I didn't expect those inserts either!

@Yu: The leather isn't at all plasticky & is much smoother than that on my personal size one. It did smell a bit strange straight out of the box, but it now has the normal leathery smell I'd expect & love. @Tim: A compact A5 does sound good, even though I'm quickly filling mine up! I'd also be very interested to hear about it.

Yu (2012-04-14 20:31:48)

Hm. I might have to consider getting one in vintage pink then. :) I first thought "ick, old meat!" when I saw photos, mainly because it was so plastic-looking, but the color has slowly grown on me and now I kind of like it. ^^ And is that a Safari? :) (I'm wondering because I'm going to buy new ink for my Vista, but it is kind of unnecessary if the ink will just bleed through the pages.)

Anita (2012-04-18 02:30:07)

I also wasn't too sure about the colour, but it's definitely grown on me!

Yes, that is a Lamy Safari & I use Quink ink which doesn't suffer from much bleed through at all :)

Free For All Tuesday No. 62 (2012-04-10 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

I trust you all had a pleasant Easter break..

Let's hear your Filofax related questions for this week....

1. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-kW_1II01z40/SuQzaYRGtTI/AAAAAAAAAH10/A5Q5jNFQ_Tk/s1600/IMG_8317.JPG

Christina (2012-04-10 04:33:42)

Hello! I need some help with diary size and inserts. I'm due to start a teacher training course in September and have decided that the student planner I have used throughout university will just not be sufficient enough.

I think I will need an A5 diary but am stuck on choosing what type of inserts I should get. Should I get a day per page for meticulous planning (which I will need to do), a week to view pullout thing to put down important dates, meetings etc and a year to view to get an almost birds eye view of dates, holidays, teacher training days etc? Alongside, lectures and seminars I will also have to include info on when I am teaching and maybe lesson plans as well as personal life info. Will be buying a notepad and sticky notes thing that goes at the back for those moments when you need to jot something down asap - have a memory of a fish!

Apologies for the long post. What are your recommendations and how much approx will I be expected to pay?

Thanks in advance! :) x

Alison Reeves (2012-04-10 04:51:42)

Christina - if you have access to a printer than I would have a good look at the diary inserts Steve and Ray have designed. They are really well designed and can save you a fortune - and be printed onto coloured paper if you wish.

Don't be frightened to use more than one diary in your binder to see different things - this can allow you to see trends. I like to use different views (i.e. monthly/weekly/daily - the daily I tend to use mostly for planning purposes).

I haven't done what you are doing so I can't advise specifically, if you have time to browse the website you will find a lot of different setups that can give you ideas.

PrincessK (2012-04-10 05:05:38)

Hi Everyone,

I was wondering how people use their Filofax (if they do) for weight loss tracking and meal planning. I joined the gym and started dieting In December and I have been trying to keep a daily log of what I eat, how many calories it has, what exercise I did in the gym and how many calories I burned off. So far I've just been writing on scraps on paper or in random pages of my Filofax but the longer I stick to it the harder im finding it to keep track. Im also attempting to budget and get control of my money and try and plan meals for me and the kids and only buy what I need (Steve made me some shopping lists which have been fab) but im struggling with where to put this in my Filofax also.

My main problem is that I just dont have anywhere to write it down. I've found the only diary insert which works for me is a week on one page with notes. My week pretty much stays the same, school runs and play group things like that, so I dont need much space for appointments, which is far to small to fit on daily meals plans and exercise log. I thought maybe a day on two page could work and I could write all the info, meal plans exercise etc on the day but I found that the diary page didnt get used and the task lists and notes box weren't big enough. Being a stay at home mum I have lots of things to get done but they very rarely have a deadline, I think this is why the week on one page with notes works so well cause I can just write a big list of things to be done and they can be done as and when during the week. Using the two days per page I found I was just re-writing to-do's over and over again each day!

Im just really struggling with a way to keep track of this in my filofax, so any ideas would be really appreciated (sorry for the long post)

Princess K x

curiouser (2012-04-10 05:08:34)

I've just received my new pocket crimson malden- not sure whether I should return it or not.

This one seems a bit weird compared to my ochre one- it smells of plastic not leather, the texture is more rough and it doesn't lay flat.

Is this normal? can i fix these problems. thank you.

curiouser (2012-04-10 05:27:44)

@PrincessK- a filofax novice here & I'm only using a pocket- I use my filofax for personal stuff only.

I use month on 2 pages to track where my kids/husband are and I use stickers to mark the exercise type I did.

I use week on 2 pages as a tracking device for food/exercise/emotions. In my to do section, I have 2 pages-a separate list for business and personal, with the meal plan for the week on the following page. I've written it so that when I leave the filo open, I can see both lists.

Its working so far, fingers crossed, but could be better organised into zones or a regular schedule.

I've seen other filos on here where the diary page is split into half or quarters for the key areas.

Alison Reeves (2012-04-10 05:51:36)

@PrincessK - I found it easier to keep my food diary etc on separate diary sheets. Could you have a separate tab in your binder for 'health' and a week on two pages on which you could record your food intake and your exercise? For menu planning I still use a pad my sister-in-law got me for Xmas - it is A5 but I use it in my A5 binder. I've removed the pages and punched to fit. On the left of that page it is divided up into the seven days of the week and this space is used to record what you plan to eat. On the right hand side is a shopping list layout so you can

make a list of what you need to buy. It has perforations down the middle so you can remove the shopping list half to take to the shops. - I've just found it here: <http://www.mumsoffice.co.uk/quick-shop/mums-shopping-list.html> I have a feeling Ray and Steve could come up with something similar - the only difference is that this does have perforations down the middle to remove the list. However there is no reason why you couldn't have one sheet for the menu and another for the shopping list.

Once I got out of the mindset that everything had to be on one diary I found it much easier to sort things out - I'm still not as organised as I'd like to be, but I'm getting there slowly!

Lostwithoutyou (2012-04-10 05:52:22)

I've just bought an A5 filofax, I'd like to have a go at printing one of the diary inserts made by Ray and Steve. What paper does everyone use for this? I had a look at the filofax computer paper but it's £9 for 50 sheets. The diary I'd like to print is 366 pages which is going to cost a lot...

Alison Reeves (2012-04-10 05:56:45)

PS I do like the Mum's office layout, but if I were to redesign I would divide the shopping list area into sections, for example fresh fruit and veg, chiller, condiments etc. I do like my shopping list to be organised when I shop otherwise I find I forget things - probably because I always have two lists as I do my Mom's shopping as well! I don't know how simple shopping can get so stressful at times!

Silver_Elixir (2012-04-10 05:59:18)

Princess K,

Could you try using a dedicated page per day/week/month (as it suits your needs) with columns or sections to track what you want to record? i.e date, time, foods and calories with exercise done. Could this be a section under a separate tab in your Filo? Or does it need to be kept on your weekly pages?

I have a section in my planner where I keep a list of all the meals that we eat so that when I plan my shopping I can cook different things. This list is laminated to my divider. I also have made some pages with top tabs cut out that I use to make a 'stock' list of the items I buy regularly. This is broken down into areas - pantry, fridge, bathroom, cleaning and misc.

Could you keep your shopping/meal/menu plans in one section and just add a sticky note to your current week with your menu for the week?

Hope these ideas help. If you want I could design a page if you gave me specifics of what you needed to record.

Alison Reeves (2012-04-10 06:03:25)

@lostwithoutyou Depends where you are based. If in UK or Europe it's easy to buy some A4 paper in your colour choice and weight (for example if you use a fountain pen a 90gsm or 100gsm is a good choice) and then print in booklet form. I have a feeling that either Steve or Ray has some instructions for this (I'm sure someone can point to it?), but it's easy enough if you just experiment with a four page document first. Good place to find paper are Staples, Rymans, Amazon etc. Some people like to buy cream (to emulate the cotton cream look) but you can also get almost every other colour in the rainbow! Good old white is usually cheaper if you are on a tight budget. I'm not sure where you can buy A4 if you are in the US - perhaps someone else can advise? I definitely think the filofax paper is over priced and low quality, so I'd avoid it if possible. You can buy A5 paper for a straight double sided print, but it usually works out a lot more expensive.

gdigesu (2012-04-10 06:03:57)

This comment has been removed by the author.

PrincessK (2012-04-10 06:41:37)

@ Alison. No it doesn't have to be in the diary section, it's not at the minute just on random bits of paper lol. I think I've just about tried every diary layout possible and it's always a case of not enough room to write everything (my are only young and the baby eats different meals to my older child and I eat different to them, they don't need to be on a diet :-))so it's not just one evening meal) and the day per page is just too big and it's annoying not to be able to see a week's worth of meals, I have to go hunting through pages to find out what I've planned when I'm writing a shopping list and something always gets missed! I have Steve's shopping lists and they work

brilliantly but its the meal planning that imn struggling on. A diary just doesnt work well for fitness tracking at all i dont think. Again i end up scribbling everything down and I cant see what been going on that week, thats why I thought some type of list/log might work better. I might try and copy the grid from the link onto some filofax squared paper and see how that works though

@ Silver _Elixir A separate section sounds like a good idea, but like I said to Alison diarys havent really worked for me. I dont have a printer, cutter or hole punch so anything I use has to be something I can buy or something I can easily draw up myself on Filofax paper, im not an organised person by nature so I get myself into a right mess trying to design grids and tables lol

gdigesu (2012-04-10 06:45:47)

You might try printing them on A4 size printing paper, 75g weight, 2 pages per sheet, front and back. Start with, say, April, and see whether you like it?

curiouser (2012-04-10 07:19:54)

what about a dodo pad insert and the other ones to track how you have gone on a weekly basis?

You could set one column for each of the separate areas that you wish to plan ie food, exercise etc, with the other side for your to do list?

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com.au/2010/04/my-new-a5-domino-filofax-with-dodo-pad.html>

Ray Blake (2012-04-10 07:24:16)

Don't buy the Filofax printing paper - our templates aren't set up to print on that. Use just regular A4 printer paper or a type you know works well in your particular printer.

Ray Blake (2012-04-10 07:25:29)

Oh, and here's how to print and cut the pages:

<http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.co.uk/2012/03/how-to-print-filofax-personal-pages-on.html>

Paul B (2012-04-10 07:34:53)

Hi Ladies and Gents, Hope you all had a good Easter break. I'm in the Middle East so I just read the posts and watched enviously.....

I have just taken over a new role in which I'll be responsible for Business Partners, and I have spent some hours over the weekend trying to devise a Contact Sheet that will contain all the relevant data for the Business Partner, but will also somehow help me to keep track of both contacts between us, plus orders signed. Not sure if I am trying to do too much with one sheet (not got round to adding the back page yet, as couldnt decide if that should be orders, calls, or both).

Hoping someone else in Philofaxyville will be experienced in a similar role and may have suggestions. My fields at the moment are:

Company name; Primary contact person; Address; all teh various types of phones and email; Partner's main customers; other contacts in company:

Then an order section (Customer, order details, price, date);

Then a Calls section (Date, topic, outcome, actions).

Grateful for any suggestions for fields that others find useful. I looked at the Contact Sheet in the files but it didnt really seem suitable for what I need. I can upload a sample if required.

Happy Easter all :)

Lostwithoutyou (2012-04-10 07:42:07)

That's great, thanks everyone, I'll have a go tonight :)

Babs (2012-04-10 07:57:34)

Hi everyone!

I spotted this link on Amazon over the weekend

http://www.amazon.co.uk/gp/product/B004PVBQAS/ref=oh_o02_s00_i00_details

The picture is of a portable hole punch, but the item code, title and description are for an A5 Finchley in Black.

The price seems to be a little too good to be true for an A5 Finchley (just shy of £12 including postage) but I thought I would give it a go and have ordered one. If it turns out to be the hole punch I can just return it, but if it turns out to be the A5 Finchley, it's a really good deal.

Just thought I'd pass it on in case anyone else fancies a gamble!

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-04-10 09:05:24)

Hi everyone! I have massive planner fail going on right now!

Since the New Year I have been using Day Timer Flavia day on 2 pages inserts for my daily planner, and Day Timer Flavia week on 2 pages for week to view and future planning, because I only have 1 week of DO2P in my filo at once. But the DO2P is REALLY not working for me- it's a huge expanse of space for me to write on every day, but I'm not using it all, it's silly. On the left page I write my appointments, but I might only have 3 per day, and on the right I list my to-dos and any quick notes, but this only takes up 1/4 of that page. In all, I'm only using about 1/5 of the whole DO2P insert for every day! This gets worse in the holidays when I have very few appointments, or when I'm writing essays, when I tend to not write anything down for that whole day. I'm really not using these pages to their full potential, so I think I need a change, but I don't know what inserts to use!

I DEFINITELY need to have appointment slots written down the page because I can't see things if they aren't in chronological order. I also think I need just 1 page with the to-dos/notes for the whole week, like the notes page on the right in the week on 1 page with notes inserts. This is so I don't have keep transferring them over to another page if I don't get them done on the day before.

What I really need is a week on 1 page vertical with appointment slots, with a notes page on the right. I'm using personal-sized paper and I know this could get pretty cramped- does anyone think this is possible?

Or do you have another solution for me? Thanks!!

queendelesa (2012-04-10 09:26:49)

Haha, good luck. I have ordered on amazon.uk a A5 Filofax for 8.45 GBP. Thought it might be a very good deal. They took my order, amazon send a confirmation, after all they send me their regrets, but they couldn't send it overseas by airmail!!! Explanation: too heavy to send?!?! I think they found out, that they made an error in pricing. thats all. Please let us know the end of your story! ;-)

Josh (2012-04-10 09:42:18)

Kate,

DayTimer sells double punched to do list sheets, which you could use side by side with a day per page and flip the page each day. I think they call them hotlists? Nancy did a write up on them on her "sense of gravity" blog. Seems to answer your needs! If you want a filofax 2012 dpp diary please email me at joshua dot LaPorte at me dot com and I can mail you my unused one.

Alison Reeves (2012-04-10 09:47:07)

@Ray - it's A5 pages lostwithyou is asking about not personal! Actually A5 are easier as you only have to slice them in half!

Alison Reeves (2012-04-10 09:49:07)

I've ordered one too - I've had the confirmation so we'll see what turns up! I only ordered it really as I believe it has the larger ring sizes - I'll probably sell one of my others if it does turn out to be genuine.

Alison Reeves (2012-04-10 09:53:02)

@the perpetual student TPS - why not use a 2 page per week and slot a todo sheet between the two pages? You can get diary pages in this format with time slots from some of the European sites. Then you can just move your todo list to the next week if you have any outstanding items.

Ray Blake (2012-04-10 10:17:04)

Good point. I missed that. Steve has a good page on A5 printing:

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2010/08/printing-a5-pages.html>

Jotje (2012-04-10 10:18:27)

@TPS: the vertical WO2P for Personal is already pretty cramped, there's no way you could squeeze all those columns on only one page.

You could try Ray/Steve's template for the vertical WO2P: it has hourly appointment slots and on the bottom it has several lines for Todo's. That could be a solution for you!!!!

Or you could use the daytimer hotlists, Josh suggested. One advice: if you wanna try them, try ebay first. I got a whole box of them last year from somewhere in the US and it was dead-cheap, especially compared to the rather high DT prices ...

Also, if you wanna try out the Hotlists, send me an email and I'll send you some. jotje69 (at) gmail (dot) com

Ray Blake (2012-04-10 10:19:56)

I've ordered one as well. Good spot. I hope that behind this there isn't some small business that will make a big loss.

Cat Burchmore (2012-04-10 10:29:00)

Ok I ordered too. I love A5, it is the best size for me, and it'll be nice to have one in reserve. Who can resist such a good price? I too hope it's not either a. a scam, or b. a small business who will make a big loss.

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-04-10 10:55:04)

Kate, Moleskine has printable templates based on their books but they could be used if sized right and hole punched They do have a wo2p with lines but dont know how small it would be once printed. And other options... You have to sign up to access them but then there are a nice assortment.

Tracy

Cat Burchmore (2012-04-10 11:35:26)

Tracy I can't find where this is you mention above about moleskin, any chance you can post a link? Ta

Alison Reeves (2012-04-10 11:53:54)

I think if it is a small business they may have noticed by now with 4 of us ordering! I'm guessing we might just get an email saying they are no longer available if it is a problem.

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-04-10 12:27:57)

Cat,

It's <http://www.moleskine.com/mymoleskine/> which is off the mymoleskine link off the main moleskine.com page.

Tracy

industrious housewife (2012-04-10 12:38:59)

A fold out sheet?

LJ (2012-04-10 14:00:30)

Well spotted - I wasn't looking for a new FF, but if it is what it says it is, then who could resist :o)

Alison Reeves (2012-04-10 14:02:21)

Paul - you don't say what size binder you are using? I think you will struggle to maintain all this info by hand - certainly in anything less than an A5. An A4 would be better. I did try to do this some time ago when I had a different business and it was a bit of a nightmare. I ended up using outlook and putting order and contact info under separate headings in the notes area of the contact page.

Others may have had more luck and help you out here!

Butanben (2012-04-10 14:23:17)

Christina, I am a teacher, currently looking for work though due to school merger. I have a school planner in A5, and a multi planner in A5 and have designed a lot of inserts to use for my teaching load. As they are in Word, they can be adapted to suit your individual needs, but may act as a springboard for your own A5 planner. I have

an A5 for my diary, which includes school and home events in the diary bit. 1 diary 1 life is less complicated as it avoids clashes. The rest is my lists, medical, computer, reading etc. I use Steve and Ray's amended TM planner for my diary, and colour code.... school, light blue, home, violet, and social pink. I also have an A5 school planner for day to day timetables and daily overviews, extra-curricular registers etc etc. It is necessary to have a huge A4 file or two for all other stuff, lesson plans, school policies etc etc, as the paperwork is substantial and a Filofax will not hold it all I am afraid. My big files stay at school and I decant this week's A4 lesson plans and termly overviews into an A4 thin filofax Strata. Every school has its own format for these long medium and short term plans. Putting the essential into a thinner folder saves me lugging such huge A4 spring bound folders back and forth to school, along with my 2 A5s. Policy documents stay at school and on my PC as a hard copy to refer to at home. A memory stick will be a must for you too, but remember the Data Protection Act, remembering to have pupil or staff personal data stored carefully and safely. Your school(s) and uni will advise you on all this, so worry ye not. E. mail me at je.mccourt@virgin.net and I'll send you my planner inserts which I use for teaching. Use and adapt as you wish.... or indeed discard if they don't suit you. If they have the philofaxy logo on, they have come from this site, under files, so just keep the acknowledgement logo there. Glad to help, so just e. mail me any time any place. The TES forum is useful for all sorts as is Hamilton Trust site... just for initial starting points for you. E. Mail me any time..... so glad you are going into teaching..... enjoy.... and all the best. Jane. xxxx

Paul B (2012-04-10 14:43:54)

Thanks, Alison. I should have mentioned, I'm using an A5 for work (and this) and a personal for mypersonal life! I use Outlook for calendars, but we don't use Outlook at work, alas, so I have to add everything manually into Outlook Calendar.

At least I know that others have tried it and it's too ambitious. I did wonder if I'd be better with three different pages: Call log, Business Partner info (a la classic Contact sheet) and Order summary. Oh well, it was worth doing the exercise, if only to reach this conclusion.

Paul B (2012-04-10 14:49:29)

@TPS I bought the DO2P last year and after 3 months, I had to admit defeat. I started out diligently writing every action, call, email and task in the Notes page, and then the next day, I had half of them left, and diligently wrote them out again....and so it went on ad infinitum. I only discovered this site 2 months ago but reading about how many people are using two different diaries for different purposes in the same organiser, I think I'm tempted to try it. I'm also going to check out these hotlists too and see if they could help as well.

PrincessK (2012-04-10 15:12:37)

I don't know, I'm seriously considering changing to A5 then I can print out meal plans and fitness plans at my local library as it's a much easier size than personal. My filofax generally doesn't leave the house so size isn't really a problem. So if anyone has a pink Finsbury or pink A5 malden they want to sell? (any excuse for a new Filofax) :-)

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-04-10 16:57:50)

Oh, a band-wagon I'm more than happy to jump on! I hope it isn't a hole-punch in the end!
[posted this twice, but the first time it got posted in a completely random place...]

Alison Reeves (2012-04-10 17:50:28)

Paul there might be some mileage in splitting this up as you suggest and you could file it all under customer name in an A-Z format. However you may prefer to use an A4 type binder so you can record more info - it depends on the volume of calls and order of course. Could you use a web based CRM (customer relationship manager) system? Something like Capsule for example?

Alison Reeves (2012-04-10 17:52:48)

Mine was just cancelled - with no explanation ...
Not sure if they just ran out or if they realised their mistake.

Babs (2012-04-10 18:22:44)

Likewise Alison and the item is now listed as unavailable on the link. Ah well. Win some, lose some!

Unknown (2012-04-10 19:56:14)

Yes, I am one of those horrible suckers who bought a Temperley Filofax (I got mine off of eBay, if that makes anything better)... What I was wondering was if anyone thought it might be possible to switch out the Personal rings for A5 rings, as the Affair is A5 and I prefer the A5 size for writing.

Thanks for any and all feedback!

Esmé

Shanananana (2012-04-11 03:06:36)

Bit late - has anyone here got a Personal Kendal and can weigh the empty binder, and post the weight in grams or ounces?

I know it's a lot to ask and probably won't get a reply but my work tote is weighing in at a hefty 7lbs now and that's with a nylon Fax, I want a Kendal off e-Bay badly before they become impossible to find new but I need to know the weight first, because if it's too much more I might have to re-think... I'd go in the shop with my scales except the ones I checked at the weekend had no Kendals left...

Hope some wonderful kind angel can help! :o)

Jotje (2012-04-11 03:19:06)

You could ask Josh to weigh his Kendal???

Jotje (2012-04-11 03:23:50)

Stupid me! Steve made a document comparing the weight of the empty binders. An empty Personal Kendal weighs 258g.

Here's the link to the document:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/ccc?key=0AhlmQ-9jjqX0dERzQ2pvMlo_1NHBqMjIucHI3LW9qVWc_&hl=en_GB#gid=0

Alison Reeves (2012-04-11 04:12:55)

Esme - I'm sure Tim has done this with a flex. If you get no comments here, try reposting on Friday (it's free for all Friday) and I'm sure he will see it and respond.

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-04-11 04:32:04)

Ditto. I guess if things are too good to be true, they're too good to be true.

At least they didn't send me a hole-punch!

:-)

Tim (2012-04-11 12:46:53)

Esme/ Alison - I've switched Filofax rings in an A5 Kendal (25mm instead of 30mm) and have fitted 17mm Time Manager (TMI) rings into my A5 Holborn. I've also fitted a 13mm slim ring mech into an A5 Flex.

It is fairly easy, WITH CARE, to ease back the rivet edges to remove and replace an A5 ring mechanism with another A5. (The rivet centres are 175mm apart). However, you can't do that with an A5 into a Personal as the rivet centres are only 110mm apart. With the price of Temperley, I would think twice before carrying out major surgery anyway!

Whilst I've long thought it a good idea to combine Flex ideas into some Filofax products, I'm at a complete loss as to why they designed Temperley for personal Filofax pages but for an A5 Flex notebook.

Unknown (2012-04-11 14:43:56)

Thanks so much for your input, Alison and Tim. I'll stick to the Personal rings, I suppose - and I agree, Tim; I have no idea why they mixed the Flex notebook with personal Filofax pages.

Cazzle (2012-04-11 17:01:24)

So YOU'RE the one who outbid me by £5.00!! haha I knew it would be someone from here! Well if you change your mind about it I would be more than happy to take it off your hands! x

Steve Morton (2012-04-12 10:02:47)

The Amazon Finsbury picture has changed to one of an organiser but is now unavailable

LJ (2012-04-12 16:28:46)

The good news is, none of us were sent a hole punch that we would then have the hassle of returning :o)

Jotje (2012-04-13 05:00:28)

Tim, could you make a tutorial on the replacement of the ring mechanism? Also, where would one get a 13 mm ring mechanism for the A5?

I'm most intrigued, to say the least ...

Tim (2012-04-13 07:51:58)

Jotje - I'm going to write a guest post on this subject when I get chance!

Shanananana (2012-04-14 05:48:40)

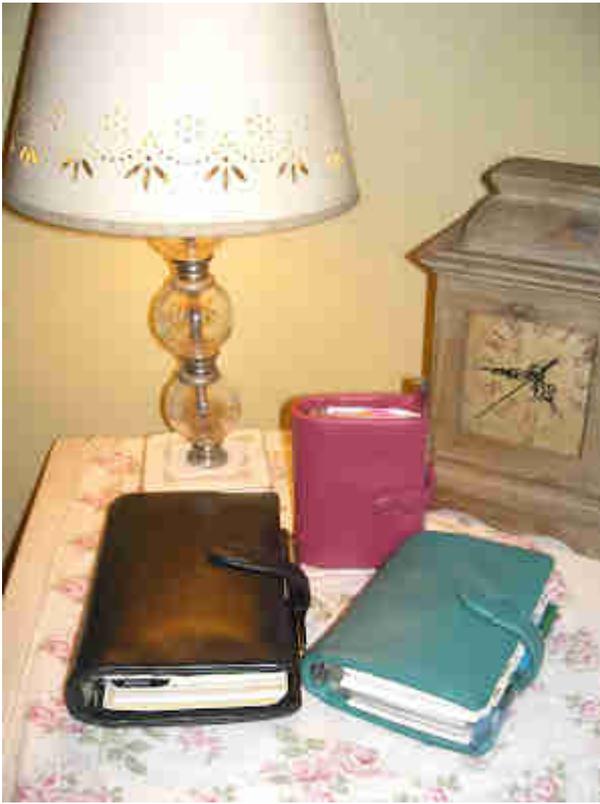
Oh that is magnificent - as a part-timer round here I didn't know about that at all, thanks SO MUCH!!

Meet The Baroques - Guest Post - Doris (2012-04-11 00:00) - Steve Morton

A big thank you to Doris for sending us this detailed post about her Filofax Baroques.

(Thanks to my daughter who very kindly lent me her black Personal for this photo. And a warning: picture-heavy but not great photography.)

It was love at first sight with the Filofax Baroque. I just had to have one after I saw the gorgeous embossing, which I thought was so unique. I at first thought it was made of PVC, but after I found out it was leather, I was hooked.



[1]



[2]

I first held one in my hands after I bought my daughter a black Personal for Christmas. I hoped she'd like it, and she loved it. Next came my turn to hunt for one for myself. Knowing it was discontinued almost everywhere didn't make it any easier. How providential that I looked on Adspot on Philofaxy and Leilani was selling her Pocket in turquoise. Perfect, I tell you! The waiting was agony, but a few weeks later, it was mine! (Thanks Leilani!) And because I wanted to round out the Baroque family, I got the Rose mini during the Italian sale. (I'm a sucker for pink.)

The Pocket

I moved into the pocket as soon as I received it. I simply emptied out the Malden so the setup is practically

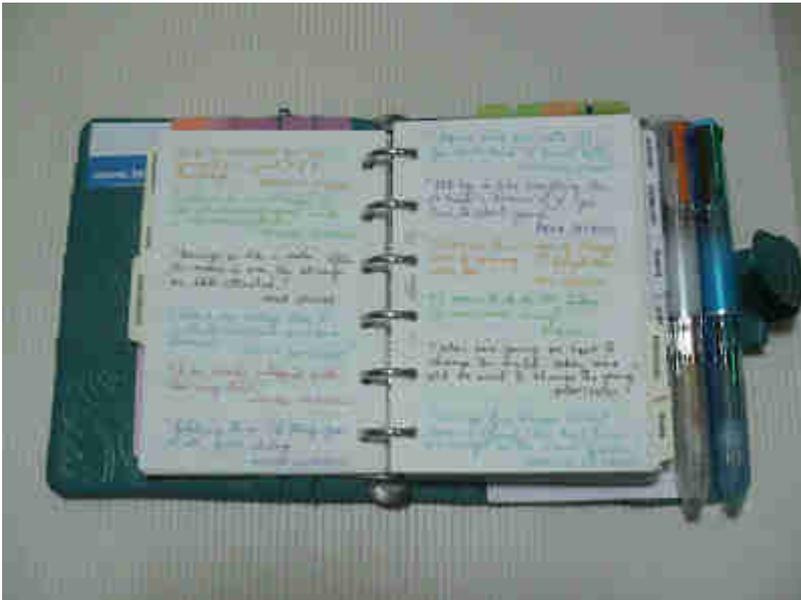
the same. The only new things are the Filo tabbed MO2P, and one tab for quotes that I put in my handmade cards. I made dividers to match the turquoise and was already using them in the Malden so it was a quick and easy move. I sometimes get tired of color though, so I've since used the standard dividers in cream. Clean and simple.



[3]



[4]



[5]



[6]

The Malden and Baroque seem to be the most similar in card/pocket layout of the models I've seen online, which is probably why I have both. There are a few subtle differences, however, in both size and configuration.



[7]

1. The left hand side. The Baroque has the more common credit/business card pockets vs. the Malden's more 'static' layout . I put some cards into the pockets so you can better tell. The zipped pocket on the Baroque is bigger and seems easier to get to than the Malden. It's probably due to the softness of its leather.



[8]

2. The right hand side. Both have notepad slots which I love. The Baroque, however, doesn't have the extra pocket behind it which the Malden has.



[9]

3. Floppiness. If you think the Malden is a floppy Filofax, the Baroque is even floppier. It can double up on itself if you let it. This may be a deal-breaker for some who write on their Filo on the go, in a queue, while walking, etc. I myself don't mind. The Malden doesn't, and has never, lain flat.



[10]

4. External full-width wallet pocket. The Baroque doesn't have one. I didn't know this at first, and if I had intended to use this as a wallet/purse, I would have been disappointed.

5. Size. The Baroque is about the same size width-wise as the Malden, but the Malden is about 1 cm taller.



[11]

6. Capacity. Although they are virtually the same, with the same size rings, the Baroque seems to be able to hold more paper-wise than the Malden. However, the Baroque's side tabs are closer to the edges when it's closed, so if you intend to keep two pens there, it's a tight squeeze. I can do this with the Malden with a little bit of wiggle room. I can't explain this, sorry, but it is so. (Could it be the size of the spine? or the soft, soft leather?)

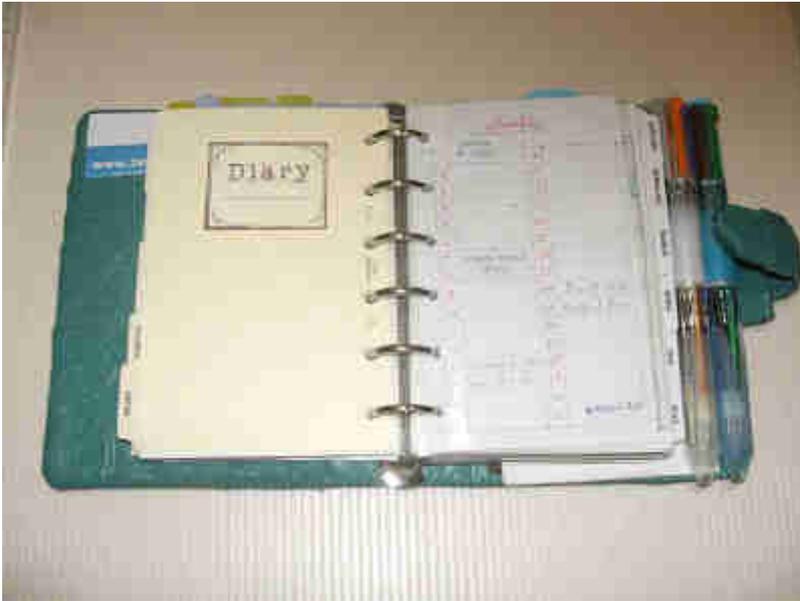


[12]

Verdict: Dare I say it?!? I think I love the Baroque more! There's something about it – it's sooo soft, smooth, squish-y, and very simple on the outside, but the embossing inside is so pretty. I'm glad there are only three Baroque colors or I'd be in deep, deep trouble.

Weekly/Monthly sheets. I'll take this opportunity to show you some pages to the Diary portion that helps me see at a glance what I need to do for the day, without cluttering up my WO2P. I handmade two monthly sheets to capture (1) birthdays/anniversaries with one box per month, and (2) a by-day sheet to

capture recurring monthly events like bills due and monthly chores. Bills that come on different times of the month get written on small white sticky labels so I can move them around. Others get written in pencil. I also made a weekly sheet to write down TV shows I watch on a regular basis. I flip to these pages first thing in the morning so I know what I need to do during the day. They're all right next to the Diary tab.



[13]



[14]

Speaking of Diary. I'm using Steve & Ray's pocket 2012 Enhanced TM Weekly view and I'm liking it so far. It forces me to "check off" my to-dos for the week so I don't have to rewrite them the next week. With the moveable flyleaf list, I knew it was easy to move it week-to-week so I wasn't forced into actually doing them. Lazy much? (:



[15]

Now, onto the Mini

These posts ([16]<http://paperpensink.blogspot.com/2011/02/mini-baroque-fil o-purse.html> and [17]<http://vanjilla.blogspot.com/2011/12/great-mini.html>) helped me decide whether the mini would work for me as a wallet. I got a 'test' mini in the Portobello on eBay for \$7, shipped, but it was black, and the coin pocket is a little stiff, and near the pen loop. (Any excuse!). Hence, the mini Baroque.



[18]

The mini's setup. Since its main purpose is as a wallet, I first made sure that I could fit in all the cards I need in the Portobello. So when I moved into the Baroque, the set up was the same. I use the left side pockets for bank cards. At the very back of the rings are four side-opening plastic envelopes for loyalty cards, photos and receipts. I didn't know these were just side opening, so I snipped off the top so I could access the contents easily. I hesitated at first (sacrilege!) but I'm glad I did. I put notes/cash in the notepad slot or behind the zipped pocket and coins are in the zip.



[19]

However, this is, after all, a Filofax, so of course we need to fill it up – inserts, tabs, pagemarkers, blank sheets, etc. I made tabs to add even more color to its already hot pinkness. Not a lot of blank sheets though to lessen its heft.

Notes: just some sticky notes stuck on the divider (more on how I use Notes below)

- To Do: long-term items only, short-term to-dos are in the Pocket
- Shop: categories on each page and a shopping wish list, and
- Lists: top tabs for (1) Media (books, movies and websites) and(2) Home (around the house to-dos)

Finally, a MO2P for when I don't have my pocket with me. It still closes, yay! I treated myself to cotton-cream paper for my mini and I love it.



[20]



[21]

A short explanation on the Notes section in all my Filos – all I keep in it is a few sheets of sticky notes to write on. It keeps me from making a mess and wasting Filo paper. I then re-write it neatly later in the right section, or just toss that sheet out when I'm done with it.



[22]



[23]

All in all, my systems work. I keep the pocket nearby and the mini in my bag. The only duplication is the Home to-dos but I want those in both so it works. However, nothing is perfect. I'm debating moving my Media lists to the Pocket.

Bigger pen loops please. As with most Filos, the pen loops are never big enough for the pens I like to use. Since I carry around 2 fat Coletos in the Pocket (8 colors, pencil AND eraser), one is clipped to the notepad, and the 2nd in the rings, but I'd prefer if it wasn't there. The Leuchtturm pen loops solved that problem. I keep the 2nd pen in that when it's not closed and my pens always have a place. I only have 1 pen in the Mini but it's still fat so I clip it to the notepad slot as well.



[24]

On a pen hack note, I recently did a hack on my Pilot Coletos. I discovered that Uniball Style Fit inks are waterproof (love!) but the barrels were too fat for my fingers and they were slipping because of the lack of a rubber grip. I was able to put the Uni inks in my Coletto pens and I am now a very happy camper. If you're interested in the hack, drop me a line.

So there you have it – my Baroque family and how I use them. I now have one in every size and every color (though technically, the black Personal is my daughter's), and although I'm happy with them, there's a plethora of models out there (and the Amazonas called to me, but that's another review). I'm so glad the Temperley is nowhere near my price range! Maybe I can re-create the Flex/Filo combo myself. Hmmm – project!



[25]



[26]

This has turned out to be quite a long review. I apologize if I bored you to tears. If you've read this far though, a BIG thank you!

(I also want to credit some bloggers for some of the ideas that inspired me to use and pimp my Filo. There are quite a few so if I missed anyone, I apologize. Here goes: *Whimsicality*, *PaperPensInk*, *Vanjilla*, *Zoe*, *Jotje*. Whoever invented the top tabs, thanks a million. Another lifesaver is the transparent flyleaf as dashboard/weekly to-do list/post-it holder. There are many, many more, sorry if I can't list everyone. So, a blanket "Thank You" to Filo fans everywhere who have fanned the flames of my obsession.)

Thank you Doris, great to see how you are using the two sizes in tandem and the details and comparisons.

1. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-hUzcfjNeLpA/T3jMnUWu52I/AAAAAAAAAKog/3hYRdaNxmW4/s1600/PHOTO-A.JPG>
2. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-_P4wKK935yo/T3jMrW9z1pI/AAAAAAAAAKoo/KDS5fshQ-XY/s1600/PHOTO-B.JPG
3. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-QLPBD6LTrsI/T3jMv0lnXCI/AAAAAAAAAKow/dBiwIK4wBJM/s1600/PHOTO-C.JPG>
4. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-wbsR4MPFSG4/T3jMy8S_qYI/AAAAAAAAAKo4/Qdf0aBGBsF4/s1600/PHOTO-D-1.JPG
5. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-NtxrY67HauY/T3jM2mAEbZI/AAAAAAAAAKpA/2z4LDufMJ_s/s1600/PHOTO-D-2.JPG

6. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-c3Gjo2y9-2I/T3jM_AR7ByI/AAAAAAAAAKpQ/e5uBwTj00ow/s1600/PHOTO-D.JPG
7. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-Ar5xIerWMEk/T3jM7StQPII/AAAAAAAAAKpI/fHNNRrh4G5jw/s1600/PHOTO-D-3.JPG>
8. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-eQAE1fhW3Xk/T3jNCxYDqYI/AAAAAAAAAKpY/FBnWVHi-u4I/s1600/PHOTO-E.JPG>
9. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-qVz1sj-8npI/T3jNGg9V8xI/AAAAAAAAAKpg/rUITjeqtumA/s1600/PHOTO-F.JPG>
10. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-e377hjg-J2c/T3jNKX4p0oI/AAAAAAAAAKpo/VgY02dtIx8M/s1600/PHOTO-G.JPG>
11. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-kuGCR_V8FDs/T3jNPY06v6I/AAAAAAAAAKpw/t1QKXL3qd88/s1600/PHOTO-H.JPG
12. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-E8AfdA4pzD8/T3jNTJVaDSI/AAAAAAAAAKp4/FFwWPsIIkss/s1600/PHOTO-I.JPG>
13. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-u08K85ItpD8/T3jNa9DQCKI/AAAAAAAAAKqI/ccJ_LvoZ34M/s1600/PHOTO-J.JPG
14. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-X7e741AxHrg/T3jNW8IDf0I/AAAAAAAAAKqA/uyvy_M2f0T0/s1600/PHOTO-J-1.JPG
15. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-7vd4fvhZ9Zc/T3jNelj2PBI/AAAAAAAAAKqQ/QhvT124EMds/s1600/PHOTO-K.JPG>
16. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.com/2011/02/mini-baroque-filo-purse.html>
17. <http://vanjilla.blogspot.com/2011/12/great-mini.html>
18. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-DF1UNh7CyUk/T3jNig_nJlI/AAAAAAAAAKqY/wwHmR80Q72A/s1600/PHOTO-L.JPG
19. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-G6z3Sa5uqck/T3jNvZtXUUI/AAAAAAAAAKqw/mNmCfsJDCPs/s1600/PHOTO-M.JPG>
20. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-5vv81kwdwI4/T3jNmbk65qI/AAAAAAAAAKqg/op0HnhfmXAA/s1600/PHOTO-M-1.JPG>
21. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-LQ4pXynd0Vo/T3jNqNX2SfI/AAAAAAAAAKqo/Y2Wj9GH5HBA/s1600/PHOTO-M-2.JPG>
22. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-V8RHxxFMgUk/T3jN3e26-BI/AAAAAAAAAKrA/TbK5zi7R_To/s1600/PHOTO-N.JPG
23. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-Q0wgxB_t4jM/T3jNzgVdKfI/AAAAAAAAAKq4/31YAYxJHNHU/s1600/PHOTO-N-1.JPG
24. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-1Fy06vkqc3A/T3jN7DOBv7I/AAAAAAAAAKrI/IjK8SJI4zEg/s1600/PHOTO-O.JPG>
25. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-gPNjt7v6kSs/T3jOAbHC5eI/AAAAAAAAAKrQ/RHnNV1LJHbc/s1600/PHOTO-P-1.JPG>
26. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-TFbY4k7deFE/T3jOFUfEhwI/AAAAAAAAAKrY/pWToTfRx1hA/s1600/PHOTO-P.JPG>

Butanben (2012-04-11 00:30:41)

I just love your Baroques so much. I saw one at a Philofaxy meet up and I must admit, I fell in love with its softness and the beautiful embossing. Your set up is superb. You now have me wondering if I could move from an A5 to a pocket!!!!!! Thanks ever so much for this post, I enjoyed reading it.

Lime Tree (2012-04-11 02:03:18)

WONDERFUL post! I also have a Baroque and I just adore it! I wish I had snapped a pink one as well :) Congrats on that beautiful family of yours!

Anita (2012-04-11 04:39:37)

These are gorgeous & thanks for sharing them with us :)

Saffy (2012-04-11 04:49:22)

Excellent post. I also have a family of Baroques and the softness and floppiness is one of the things I like the most. The Baroque is the first Filofax I owned that lay flat out of the box. It made me realise how useful and important that feature really was.

I will look forward to the Amazona review too.

doris98 (2012-04-11 04:59:21)

Hi, I basically run my life with this pocket, the 19mm rings really are enough room. Barring a lot of note-taking, I say "Go for it!" (:

doris98 (2012-04-11 05:01:53)

Thanks! The Baroques are lovely, aren't they? I saw yours, and I'm wishing a got Personal size for myself.

doris98 (2012-04-11 05:06:18)

Hi Saffy, I would love to take a peek into your Family as well. (:

doris98 (2012-04-11 05:08:38)

Thanks Anita!

The Peripatetic Wanderer (2012-04-11 06:28:38)

I have a personal turquoise baroque and I just adore it. It was my first ever Filo and I love it so much. I dream of finding an A5 Baroque to bring home and call my own - I don't think they even exist, but it's a dream okay?!

I also have an ochre pocket malden which I love too, I haven't had it as long as the baroque so maybe that's why I don't love it QUITE as much (but don't tell her!).

curiouser (2012-04-11 07:20:23)

I love your handdrawn weekly list. Do you use a masterlist for the household maintenance over the year?

Jotje (2012-04-11 08:05:05)

That was a wonderful review! Not too long at all (I wouldn't have minded if you had been going on like that for a bit longer. You now have me wondering how the black personal of your daughter is set up).

Oh, and regarding the pocket Malden: that one WILL lay flat! I have a black one that bends backwards, just as your Baroque does. Time ... time ... time ...

Filofreak (2012-04-11 13:16:18)

What a fabulous review! And, I thought your pictures were very well done. A nice little "family" indeed!

doris98 (2012-04-11 19:36:29)

Hi! I've only just started the monthly lists, so no masterlist for now, and because it's mostly for when bills are due, I don't know if I want to see it over the course of a year (: You've given me an idea though. If I find a use to maintain it over the year, I may create one. Thanks!

Scoot (2012-04-12 15:03:24)

I love the Baroques too, real style in themselves. I also like the multi-coloured approach to the faxes which is well balanced, not overdone at all.

I have never understood how such imprinted fax designs were not more popular.

doris98 (2012-04-12 19:14:44)

Hi Jotje! Thanks for the tip! I'll reuse the Malden and train it, as you suggested (:

My daughter made me promise not to show the insides. But she did ask me to make her some dividers.

doris98 (2012-04-12 19:16:29)

I suppose the Baroques have had their run, I'm just late in the game in getting them. But I agree, I love the color saturation they did on them, and the embossing should be brought back. Thanks for the comment.

Vanjilla (2012-04-14 17:53:07)

Doris, I just read your amazing post for the zillionth time... and I think you have helplessly infected me with the pocket size...! :) Really and again, thank you for your post - when will I finally get to read your filo-blog?? ;))

doris98 (2012-04-14 19:34:03)

Aww, thanks Vanjilla! You got me into minis as well with your Amazona. Don't hold your breath about the blog though - I don't think I have the commitment to do that, yet. (: Thanks again.

How do you? - Studying (2012-04-12 00:00) - Steve Morton

This weeks 'How do you' question comes from reader Graham who asks:

I am about to commence some Open University first degree studies and wondered if there are other followers who are currently carrying out such studies and who use a Filofax to plan and coordinate their studies who would be prepared to share just how they do it?

I certainly recall a few people setting up Filofax organisers specifically for their studies, and there are plenty of students amongst our readers.

Dredging back through my very vague memory, I recalled the following posts:

- [1]Reader question: How to organise/write a dissertation - The Life of the Perpetual Student
- [2]PhD Planning 102- How to organise your To-Do lists - Musings of a Caribbean Princess

And I'm sure there are many others I'm sure... so please step forward and post some links people... Thank you.

1. <http://thelifeoftheperpetualstudent.blogspot.fr/2011/08/reader-question-how-to-organisewrite.html>
2. <http://www.caribbeanprincessmusings.com/2011/03/phd-planning-102-how-to-organise-your.html>

Josh (2012-04-12 00:10:07)

I don't have any links to share, but can say that I am currently in paralegal studies and track it in my one filofax which I use for everything. I write assignments on post-it notes and stick them to the daily diary page several days before I need to complete the assignment, to make sure it gets started. I draft out my plan on paper outside the filofax for when I will fit in what school work, and then copy it into my diary and notes once the kinks are worked out. This helps a great deal to prevent the diary pages from becoming a mess of scratched out junk. Writing things on post-its makes it easy to move them from day to day. I also write projects on the little colored tape flags on the filofax sticky note insert, and move them each day to keep a reminder to keep the project in mind. I find that the reminder helps me make a little progress each day, sometimes just 10 minutes per day can save a great deal of trouble closer to deadline.

I suppose, essentially, I treat my studies simply as another project in my life, and they are managed in the filofax the same way I manage my work and home projects. I *really* like using the sticky notes for a lot of this, it's easy to move things around and rearrange etc.

Butanben (2012-04-12 01:03:06)

The very best advice my tutor gave me was, plan your time and your assignments in your diary and planner and then double the time you think you will need. He was utterly on the button with that pearl of wisdom, especially when it came to my master's dissertation. Diary in your working plan, deadlines etc, but allow bags of time. Also remember it is a marathon not a sprint, so chip away at the work little by little and keep mailing it to your tutor for tutorial feedback, before your final submission. I've got a few pro- formas I used, which I'll share if you mail me at je.mccourt@virgin.net.... may or may not be of use.... each of us is individual in our working methods. I used a lot of box files for my reading materials and notes and memory sticked everything and saved assignments rigorously as I went along. You do NOT want to lose a dissertation through computer fail or lost laptop at the very last hour!!! Keep your fees receipts VERY safe, and your mark sheets and second assignment copies for external examiners,.... a darned nuisance to do additional copies later for an external examiner when other work piles up. Universities can need these slips of paper as proof you have completed the course and have paid everything up front, or rather mine did, before you could graduate. All the best.... and enjoy the course.

Ray Blake (2012-04-12 02:30:06)

I've made some pages to support the Cornell Note taking method:
[1]here is the link.

1. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.co.uk/2012/02/cornell-notes-templates-for-filofax-a4.html>

Rabbit (2012-04-12 04:37:52)

I've been studying at uni for years and have never heard of the Cornell notes system - it would certainly straighten up my notes, however, so I'm going to be implementing it ASAP. Thanks for the heads-up Ray.

I use an A5 Domino (so lightweight + 30mm rings) to keep track of all my class papers and lecture/tutorial/assignment notes, keeping a separate notebook for reading notes and assignment drafting. Classmates marvel at my A5 printouts...certainly not an idea for those who can't stand small print.

I always had trouble writing over the rings...until an insanely simple idea came to me: I use scissors to snick through the paper from the edge to the ring-hole...the pages become instantly removable (a bit like the Today page-marker) so that I can flip them over to write (saves time, but also spares everyone else the constant clicking of rings opening/shutting in class). These pages are also remarkably stable and need a solid tug to be removed.

Babs (2012-04-12 04:49:39)

I started my MSc last September and originally had 2 personal filofaxes - one for "personal" stuff and one for MSc stuff. I quickly moved over to a single consolidated A5 Finsbury which I find much better.

I use the TM inserts. You can see my set-up here http://www.flickr.com/photos/_babs_/6788303367/. On the right hand page I have personal things, plus at the top I have a count-down to any important deadlines (essay, exam, assignments, etc) and a general "to do" list for the week. On the left hand page I have my course reading, split into topics (so if you can make it out, in the picture I have 10 chapters / papers of T &D reading and 3 chapters / papers for PHRM). It's then easy to keep track of what I need to do that week and score off when I've done it.

I did set up another A5 as a revision Filo for my up-coming exams, but the narrow-ruled paper doesn't work for me taking lots of notes, and I still can't find an alternative at the moment, so I've moved over to an ARC notebook for that as it's a bit more manageable. I can heartily recommend using the Cornell notes system, though, as it's an excellent tool. Have a look at <http://incompetech.com/graphpaper/cornellined/> for a free tool to design and print your own Cornell templates on A4.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-04-12 05:14:57)

I use a Dodopad A5 filofax inserts to plan my time for uni assignments. In the first column I write deadlines for that specific day. In the rest of the columns I write what work to do that day- I plan it by looking at the deadlines that week in the first column boxes and working out when to do the work to finish by the night before at the latest. This works for small assignments- presentations/powerpoints that are due in, language assignments etc. I don't tend to do this for essays etc as these big assessments are always on my mind, I don't need to write them down to remember them! But because the big assessments are at the front of my mind, I have to make sure I don't forget the small ones!

Laurie (2012-04-12 05:34:13)

I used a Personal size Filofax throughout graduate school and it worked well for me. I used the week on 2 pages to track assignments and deadlines and month on 2 pages for the larger overview to keep longer-range assignments from creeping up on me. I also used the address section for my contacts and professors' info.

I personally can't recommend using a Filofax (even A5) for class notes. I kept a separate notebook and folder for each class's notes and papers. A Filofax would not be able to hold all of your notes, then you'd have your notes separated which wouldn't be a good idea either.

I've posted this before but it's worth saying again: create a section in your Filofax to record and track all of your degree requirements. Keep lists of all the classes you have to take, all the required papers, etc. Then you can check them off as you complete them. Also, it's best if you can get all of your advisers to agree on paper (or at least via email) on your requirements for graduation, then keep close track of this. In my final semester my main adviser tried to tell me I should take two more classes. I was able to show her what she had agreed upon at the beginning of my graduate work and so avoided an additional unnecessary semester of classes.

Best of luck in your studies!

Babs (2012-04-12 05:34:36)

I should qualify my statements in saying that my MSc is a part-time, distance learning course that I need to fit round day-to-day life as well. You may find that the set-up you need varies depending on what kind of course it is, is it FT or PT, etc. I would definitely recommend printing out some diary sheets, etc, to trial before-hand before spending lots of money on them until you find out what kind of set-up you like best.

Laurie (2012-04-12 07:58:56)
That should read "longer-range"!

007 (2012-04-12 12:45:38)

I would consider a Personal Filofax that you are fond of; you will want it out and with you all the time. As a university professor (in the US), my most successful students (graduate and undergraduate) write things down. As you may know already, writing by hand boosts neural activity enhancing the learning process (vs. e-devices). Perhaps Doane notebooks are my favorite for notetaking.

Scout (2012-04-12 15:35:44)

"...writing by hand boosts neural activity enhancing the learning process (vs. e-devices)."

I didn't know that, but I suspected something of the sort.

Thanks

Harri (2012-04-15 17:03:32)

I'm doing a part time BSc as well as working full time. I currently am using an A5 with the vertical wo2p diary, I have a pocket sized page inbetween each diary page which I use as a 'floating' to do list which can be moved from week to week if I don't get everything done that week. It's too bulky and heavy to take with me to uni so I have just bought a personal sized Malden which I plan to use for the next academic year. I use the A5 for essay/experiment planning etc, and for some revision. I have not been using it to take notes as my note taking is really messy do I prefer to use a cheap notebook and then type or write my notes up later on.

Discabel (2012-04-16 10:46:36)

A quick, but very sincere, THANK YOU to all who have responded and to Steve for posting the question for me. The points you all have made are top notch and I reckon that I will be 'borrowing' one or two (or all) of them to help give me a better opportunity to succeed with this first real attempt to read for a degree.

Anne (2012-04-18 14:06:34)

Hi I am also studying with the OU and use a filofax to record everything study wise. Such as what I need to do that week, tutorials and when TMA's are due. I also have a seperate diary area to record my thoughts on the parts I am studying eg should a section be re-read again, questions I need to ask, how I am feeling. I then use a to do list that is driven by this second section so if I feel I need to re-read a chapter I note it or if I have question I note them too. I was shown this way by a fellow OU student who had been studying 2 modules (as I was at the time) and needed to keep a good track. Regardless of how many modules you may be doing I found this way very useful and adapts along with the level of study involved.

Good luck with the studying!

Discabel (2012-04-18 16:18:59)

Hi Anne, thank you - it is surprising the simplest points are so often the most effective, I'm doing just one module at this point but registered for two more starting October.

Faith (2012-04-19 07:31:09)

Hi Graham,

I'm a long time reader but first time commenter at Philofaxy. Your question felt like the perfect time to finally say something! I'm a full time undergraduate student, and I couldn't live without my filofax. I use an A5 Finsbury, but I don't write my lecture notes into it, just use it for planning etc.

Like a lot of people above have said, I use a week-to view diary (the week to view with appointments). I find this gives me enough space to fit in all my lectures, commitments and things to do without having to slot in extra pages or flick back and forth between sections. I also like being able to see my deadlines for the whole week at one glance.

One thing that I haven't seen anyone else mention (I don't think, correct me if I'm wrong!), is using their filofax for grade tracking. I have a page in my filofax used for keeping track of my marks so far, and the marks I would need to get in later assessments for a particular final grade. It's a bit of a pain working it out manually, but this is

honestly the most helpful page in my filofax.

In case you're curious, I posted about how I use my filofax for studying, including detailed calculations for grades at <http://studentspyglass.com/2012/04/18/filofax-for-studying/> if not, fair enough, and best of luck with your studies :)

Discabel (2012-04-21 15:54:53)

Hi Faith

Thank you for taking the time to reply, I am quite quickly finding out that this here degree lark takes a fair bit of time out of the day LOL. My question originally came about thinking about balancing the OU work and the day to day work work - the comments you have made along with the others above have and will be very helpful to give me a head start at the planning bit. I did have a look at your blog post (and a very quick shuftly at the 'game' too - hmmm wonder if OU students partake of similar ???).

I do like the idea of the grade calculation page, think that may well assist with the focus bit.

All the best with your studies too - hope that 1st happens for you.

Regards

Graham

Discabel (2012-04-21 15:56:12)

Hi Josh

Post its and coloured inks seem to be a major element of planning both for study and the work bit too; thank you for taking the time to respond.

Cheers

Graham

Free for All Friday No. 178 (2012-04-13 00:01) - Nan

There will be elections for president and other national and local offices in the US in November of this year. I've already begun to use my Filo to record voting dates, registration deadlines, and even notes on the candidates themselves. I also use it to remind myself of other government deadlines...like driver's license and auto registration renewals. I write these directly on the day in my Wo2P diary, with a reminder a week earlier (in the "this week" box).

Does anyone else have a reminder system for official matters?

Laurie (2012-04-13 01:40:32)

I write reminders like this on the month page when they expire. Driver's licenses, passports, visas, vaccine boosters, magazine renewals, insurance premiums, anything that is due infrequently goes on the month it's due.

For things due years from now (like passports and vaccines) I have written up a page per year for the next 15 years. Sounds crazy I know, but as soon as I know the year something is due I write it in, then at the beginning of each new year I write it in on the appropriate monthly page. Hopefully with this system none of us will have an expired passport or overdue vaccine booster all the way until my kids go to university!!

Mary (2012-04-13 03:03:42)

Hello to everone!

Has anyone syccessfully used the travel pack in pocket size?

Shanananana (2012-04-13 03:06:13)

Yes, in fact I never use "tickler" files (they seem just to be more fuss than helpful, in my life that is) and just put stuff right into my Filofax diary, or the next year's planner which I usually buy well ahead of time - I do have a short one-page list of birthdays etc to carry over, that's about it.

If the whatever-thing is important, needs preparation or research, and/or happening early the following week, I usually make a note in pencil somewhere the week before so I know it's upcoming, closer to the date, as well.

Shanananana (2012-04-13 03:11:00)

Question - does anyone feel like their dog (or other companion animal) has it in for their beloved Filofax?!

I like checking my diary in bed over coffee first thing, and my dog seems to delight in batting at it with an outstretched claw when he's lying sprawled on the bed, I've only narrowly avoided him ruining a year's worth of diary pages and so on by inches!

He's also laid some heavy scratches on my A5 Kendal, luckily the oiled leather soaks up that kind of abuse...

Is it just me: or a canine conspiracy to make Mummy so late for everything, there's more time for cuddles? O _o

Mary (2012-04-13 03:11:07)

Or a pocket size binder for travelling in general?

Jotje (2012-04-13 04:52:55)

Laurie, I don't keep the passport and Vaccine expiration dates in my passport. Simply, because there is no need for it: about 3 to 6 months before either a document or vaccine is expired, I receive a letter from the community/doc's office to remind me of that! Foolproof!

Jotje (2012-04-13 04:53:55)

Mary, Stirwise had, and she blogged about it (with beautiful pictures!):

<http://stirwise.blogspot.com/2011/08/filofax-songbird-travel-journal-pack.html>

Jotje (2012-04-13 04:56:57)

How about the Pocket Pennybridge or Journal (the last one is available through filofax.dk at a discount currently)?

Other options:

Pocket Ranger (only through ebay)

Pocket Urban (has an extra zip-pocket on the outside).

Or any pocket filofax that has that huge Wallet Pocket in the back.

Personally I prefer the Personal size as a travel filofax, because the usual 3-fold-A4 folders and brochures can be tucked into it quite nicely. I bring my hole punch on my vacation and can punch the brochures for my filofax. The fact that the paper sticks a bit out at top and bottom, doesn't bother me at all ... ;-)

Laurie (2012-04-13 05:23:54)

Wow that would be nice! We're on our own for all that stuff.

Alison Reeves (2012-04-13 05:25:12)

Ha Ha, my Labrador, Bella, ate most of an A5 binder once in frustration when I had to leave her. She does have a penchant for chewing - and is very keen on shoes and slippers as well if we don't put them away!

Alison Reeves (2012-04-13 05:33:46)

Does anyone use their filofax for planning their blogging? My initial thought is to use a month to view for planning. Or do you use a spreadsheet or other means?

Shanananana (2012-04-13 06:02:18)

Aw bless! ^_^

I think they like slippers because we humans are usually mega clean these days with our showers and deodorants and so on, so things like that are the only items that have a bit of scent of us on them: I had one dog who liked my UNDERPANTS - as in, he'd somehow choke them down whole, then bring them back up a few hours later - bonus points if he did it when I had company! lol

Mine's a rescue greyhound, not my first either - if I read right I'm not the only greyhound person on here either, though damned if I can recall who else has one of the little rascals?

Love Labs though, my mum had one as her childhood companion, and they're always so lovely to meet out and about!

Alison Reeves (2012-04-13 06:38:54)

We also have a Jack Russell called Milo who is very feisty! They are like chalk and cheese temperament wise (he is the boss). They are both rescues. Bella is very easy going and lovable, and loves being outside in the garden whatever the weather. Milo is hyper, nervous, likes a fuss as well - but on his terms - and he is a lounge lizard! We have to physically push him out of the door when it rains! You have to love them don't you?

Cat Burchmore (2012-04-13 07:11:43)

Lol! Glad it's not just me! My gorgeous Jack Russell Mabel likes to 'paw' my file when I'm either in bed or on the sofa. In my head she's going 'Hey, fuss over me, not that silly book. I'm FAR more interesting!' lol! Luckily there's been no damage so far!

Cat Burchmore (2012-04-13 07:13:26)

I have to say I don't at the moment, other than in my weekly goals usually goes 'blog'. However this is so open is usually doesn't happen! So i would like to start doing this and am very interested in the replies.

Cat Burchmore (2012-04-13 07:28:30)

I have a question also... does anyone use their file for journaling? I have a separate one for this but am struggling with set up. Originally I was using the cotton cream WO2P that came with it, but this wasn't enough room. Then I downloaded the fab 2DPP with smiley faces & weather from Steve & Ray but this isn't really working either. Some days I want a whole page, others only a line or two. What does everyone else do?

Scoot (2012-04-13 07:57:55)

I'm not sure about having it in for the fax, but it isn't a good idea to leave a fax on the grass as dogs have a tendency to mark things.

These pots have just reminded me to check, and found that it is the dog's birthday next week, thanks.

Ray Blake (2012-04-13 08:32:23)

I use a bound A5 book, usually a Black & Red. Some days I might fill a page, others ten. Unless it's an A5 or A4 one, I don't feel the Filofax is suited to writing in paragraphs.

Cat Burchmore (2012-04-13 08:39:11)

I'm starting to think you may be right Ray. I just have this beautiful Osterley slimline in plum & no other use for it. I thought journaling would be great because it being so beautiful it would encourage me to use it, but the planner pages just aren't working :(On another note, many thanks for your demonstration of cutting out the personal pages, it helped alot!

curiouser (2012-04-13 09:09:45)

In case anyone in Australia is looking, I purchased a Colby 6 Hole Adjustable hole punch (Diary punch KW-916), which works well for both pocket and personal sized pages. It has two sets of three holes, which have the correct fixed setting between these holes, with adjustment in the gap between the sets via slides- if you place them together you get the correct pocket setting, and furthest apart the personal setting. I am still trying to figure out how to place my paper into it (there are markers and a slide file), but its working out pretty good so far.

Alison Reeves (2012-04-13 10:41:05)

I've had a bit of planner fail recently and have todos, projects, notes all over the place. My head keeps getting mixed up over tasks and projects etc. I have a tendency to overthink things and also to be 'out of site, out of mind'.

I was wondering how you guys recorded tasks and projects - for example do you have one task list, or two (one for work and one for home), same with a project list - one list or (one for work and one for home?). And do you keep a sheet for each project with the associated tasks? Are all of these in one divider or do you make separate ones for each one? It doesn't make it easy to decide when working from home!

I'm going round in circles a bit trying to decide what to do - perhaps there is just too much choice!!! So what do

you do?

Ray Blake (2012-04-13 11:02:49)

Alison, good question. It was in part this frustration of treating minor tasks and chunkier ones the same way that inspired me to design [1]the 'Turbo Tasks' page you can find here.

I tend to keep everything in one list, but in the past I've used context lists a la GTD. If you want to go that way, [2]this tabs idea might help.

1. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.co.uk/2012/03/turbo-tasks-for-your-a5-filofax.html>

2. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.co.uk/2012/01/printing-on-filofax-post-it-tabs.html>

Cat Burchmore (2012-04-13 11:04:04)

Well, I have now added my failings to my blog and am happily re-reading over last weekend's webfinds to inspire me to rethink what I'm going to do. If in doubt, have a good old nose at what everyone else does! lol!

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-04-13 11:15:35)

I have a number of projects planned in my filofax. Currently they are all non-paid-work (though not all 'home' as I help run a charity and a lot of the projects link to that). For each project I have a separate sheet, with the project goals/overview on the front and then on the back, a set of 'next actions' with due dates (where applicable). Any really fixed deadlines are also put straight into the diary of my filofax, with a reminder a week before (and two weeks before etc as needed). The project sheets are all in one section of my filofax.

Each week, in my weekly review, I check through the project 'next-action' lists and transfer things that need doing to my weekly goals/to-do list. I realise this involves some copying out, but if I leave it as a massive to-do list it's so scary it doesn't get done and if I don't have a weekly list, I don't always do the right things (if that makes sense - I work on less important things by mistake).

The key to it though is **I must look at my project lists every week in a weekly review** otherwise it is all out of sight out of mind!

On my weekly list there are other non-project to-do. As well as the project sheets I have a series of to-do sheets in the project section where I note down other to-do (order cat-food; plant spinach...) and I do transfer these to the weekly sheets too. And of course there are things added to the weekly sheet as and when they arise, just because they have appeared in that week and have to get done that week, so it's pointless putting them anywhere else.

That's how I deal with things. It works for me, but as I said, only if I do a weekly review!!

michele (2012-04-13 11:21:26)

My 16-month old Shorkie, Chewy, has a soft spot for anything paper - a friend told me it's due to the slight amount of sugar.. She hasn't gone after the filofax yet, but has attacked toilet paper, tissues, etc....

So I'm now finally full time back in the philofaxy family as my very very very demanding job was made redundant last week...I now have some time in the day to go and check up on the blogs I loved to follow but found hard to follow during the last year.

I have even started a blog called "Restructuring Michele" as everything in my life is changing and I need to update all... I've only done two posts this week since I started, and I plan to do a post on restructuring my A5 Finchley Filofax as it was used primarily for work and I titled the tabs accordingly....

Nan, I confirmed I'll be attending the meet up in New York next month - looking forward to seeing you! Michele

Filofreak (2012-04-13 11:46:42)

Hello All! This is off the topic posed by Nan, but I have a Filo color question. On Pens & Leather, they have a Piazza in crimson. I have a piazza in venetian red so I'm thinking that crimson is more of a coral/peach color???? If anyone knows or can check it out, I'd appreciate it. Thanks!

Alison Reeves (2012-04-13 12:03:48)

Thanks Ray - although I can see myself adding tasks to projects on an ongoing basis not sure on format yet. On the other hand sometimes I have projects within projects, or projects that are dependent on each other - so this might be useful for those.

I have created some project sheets so will see how they work and refine them as I go along.

I'm glad it's not just me who find the task/project dilemma a challenge! I also have lots of other ways I can break things down - e.g. by customer, project, etc etc. It's enough to give you a headache! I just need to settle on a schema and stick to it.

Alison Reeves (2012-04-13 12:05:57)

Thanks Amanda - this is really helpful as a guide. I have the weekly and daily TM sheets so I have no excuse! I think the point about the weekly review is so crucial! I also want to try and set some goals for each month/week in order to get through projects a bit faster. I tend to dither when I am overwhelmed and don't get things done - but if there is a list there it's easier to pick things off and at least make some progress.

Sandra (2012-04-13 12:17:42)

I have a list of topics I want to blog about as well as links to any "blog challenges" I have happened upon online. In the summer I have more time to blog so when it comes I simply pencil a topic in on my 2dpp during the time slot I will blog. I have starred my blogging days on my monthly calendar just to track when I do post things.

terriknits (2012-04-13 13:52:21)

my two rescued greyhounds can't be bothered to exert the energy to do anything with/to my Filo ;-)

terriknits (2012-04-13 13:53:19)

I do have a top-tab section in my general "notes" section for blog ideas and plans.

Steve Morton (2012-04-13 13:59:20)

I use a month per page on A5 as in the 'Ray and Steve' variety of course, for planning the blog posts on Philofaxy, works for me...

Steve Morton (2012-04-13 14:06:16)

Hello Everyone...

I'm back in France (again!) but for a bit longer than 48 hours this time. If you have been following me on Twitter you will have seen I've been here there and everywhere in the last two weeks. Why will come out in time...

But just to say that having just driven over 1000 km (621 Miles) in the last 24 hours I'm resting for a bit before I tackle a few things on here.

So if you have emailed Philofaxy in the last 24 hours please be patient whilst I unpack, do the washing, catch up on everything etc.

There will be a Webfinds tomorrow... ! And there are posts in the pipeline for next week as there was this week pre-written! What you didn't notice my absence!!!

Anyway, it's good to be back.

Regards

Steve

terriknits (2012-04-13 14:06:51)

A question about monthly calendars: I have my own Word produced monthly calendar with a month per page, and the day slots horizontal - i.e. going the width of the page. However, I'm finding that it's not enough space to track some of the deadlines, etc. that I must track. Does anyone have a similar format or seen something similar, but on a two-page spread? I guess I could just go onto my Word doc and make the day rows deeper but was curious if anyone had something like this?

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-04-13 14:25:03)

Good to have you back Steve. Go chill with a glass of something nice. :-)

Just spotted tonight in my Tesco's that they are doing the pastel Pilot V5 rollerball extra fine (pink, purple and blue) for £2. The other three-packs are still £7+ but the pastel look like a good deal!

Ray Blake (2012-04-13 14:57:02)

Although because of all the pre-scheduled content there was no drop in service, you were certainly missed. Welcome back.

greyssetter (2012-04-13 15:10:31)

Debenhams £12 brown leather organiser, a5 size.

I have ordered and due soon - will write about soon hopefully.

Btw, I noticed "protest" on FF flaship Temperley and Affair today on the option boxes.

I emailed FF to advise it looks like a hack, but no reply, hopemit will be ok.

Alison Reeves (2012-04-13 15:30:33)

Welcome back Steve - you are always missed when not here! Thanks for making sure we all had plenty of interesting content whilst you were away!

Steve Morton (2012-04-13 17:02:37)

The 'Unfashionable' hackers are at it again!!!

Steve Morton (2012-04-13 17:06:22)

Thanks guys, the annoying thing for me is not being able to respond to all the comments. I've managed to do some of the posts while I've been away, but not easy on a small netbook screen!

industrious housewife (2012-04-13 17:15:11)

I've ordered a pocket Metropol this evening and this looks like it has a 'fixed' pen loop, which pens will fit?

This will be Filofax number 3, since Christmas. I honestly had no idea how addictive this was going to be!

(And I'm sure it's all your guys fault. ;-D)

Steve Morton (2012-04-13 17:17:09)

Not guilty!

If no one comes up with an answer, measure the size of the pen loop in diameter and look on Cultpens, they quote the barrel diameter on a lot of their pens...

Steve

industrious housewife (2012-04-13 18:38:49)

Oh wow. Something else to get into. :-D

I've been going back through Flickr pool and have added a swiss army knife to my list of things to buy my new Pennybridge. So many wonderful ideas in the Philofaxy community!

doris98 (2012-04-13 20:27:24)

I had a journaling question as well and wanted to use a filo for that, but as I wanted it to be free-flowing, I wasn't sure whether a filo was actually the best thing to use. I'm in a bound diary now, just for that, and find it works well. Maybe the filo isn't the answer to EVERYTHING. I tried . . .

Nan (2012-04-13 21:38:06)

I look for journals that have perforated A5 pages, so when I have my journal handy and want to write something that I can put in my Filofax, I can tear out the page and punch it. The Miquelrius A5 notebooks, made in Spain, are perfect for this purpose. In the US, they're available at Kinkos, The Container Store, and B &N.

LJ (2012-04-14 01:07:48)

I keep intending to, but just never get organised enough :o)

Nikki france (2012-04-14 01:39:41)

You were certainly missed!!! Nice to be back in beloved France XX

Alison Reeves (2012-04-14 04:06:19)
In the UK you can get them at Paperchase.

Sirpa-Kaarina (2012-04-14 11:41:20)
A filo question: how do your hubbies / partners feel about your passion for filox and stationery

Nan (2012-04-14 12:19:30)
Wow...this one could use a post of its own. Shall we use it next week?

Steve Morton (2012-04-14 12:53:38)
I will do a post for Thursday...

Butanben (2012-04-14 15:51:48)
Welcome back Steve!xx

kanalt (2012-04-15 17:41:03)
@Alison - I keep a list of blog topics on a note sheet behind my "writing" tab. Then, on a day when I know I'll have time, I write "blog" as a to-do item. I simply choose one of the topics from my list. However, if there's a certain topic I want to cover on a specific day, then I write the topic next to "blog" as a to-do item. Either way, I also write down the title of the post under "notes" for the day. It's just another way to see how often I blog and which topic I wrote about when.

kanalt (2012-04-15 17:43:36)
@Cat - I don't journal in my Filo. I have separate notebooks for that. However, I often find that I don't have a lot of time to journal, so I keep a list of topics behind my "writing" tab in my Filo. I don't want to forget about what I want to write down, so this helps me to remember. When I have the time, I will look back at the list and write it down then.

kanalt (2012-04-15 17:45:39)
Michele - I look forward to reading the details of how you've restructured your Filofax...

kanalt (2012-04-15 17:46:36)
I look forward to discussing this topic... =)

David Popely (2012-04-16 16:43:14)
I'll get DW to write you a reply on this one!

HM (2012-04-18 15:07:50)
I stumbled upon this blog about planning blog post, thought you might like and use/adapt the layout :
<http://wendolonia.com/blog/2012/04/18/homemade-blog-planner/>

Web Finds - 14 April 2012 (2012-04-14 00:00) - Steve Morton

We love discovering new Filofax blogs... or blogs that contain Filofax content to share with you. I'm sure some of the blog writers don't notice that we have featured them on Webfinds... although I'm sure if they took a look at their stats, they would see an increase in their visitors!
So if you are visiting a blog for the first time and you like the post, pop in a comment and mention you saw the post mentioned on Philofaxy.

- [1]Review: Chameleon - The Filofax Diaries
- [2]G is for Getting Things Done - Anita Lim

- [3]A Simple Guide to Getting Things Done - The Day Timer Blog
- [4]Whatever happened to the Filofax - The Anti Sofa
- [5]Filofax update and Getting Things Done - Mini Break Mummy
- [6]oh, Martha. It was -almost- a good thing! - Filofax Fixation
- [7]Filofax Enigma-Love it or hate it? - Rapunzel's World
- [8]Old leather organiser - We could grow up together
- [9]Size Matters - The Crazy Suburban Mom
- [10]I did it! - We really didn't need another Filofax blog ■ Yes we did!!!
- [11]Back to the Finchley - Imysworld
- [12]Filofax A5 lined paper - a better or cheaper alternative - My Life All in One Place
- [13]Review of the Holborn Personal Filofax - Paper Pens Ink
- [14]Filofax time and activity tracker - now in A5 - My Life All in One Place
- [15]Filo Fail - Decision Inspired
- [16]A feeble attempt to show off my filofax..... - My Once Upon the Moon
- [17]My Big Move... To My Personal Malden Filofax - Simplify to Save
- [18]F is for Filofax - Notes in a Book
- Your blog post could appear here next week... Please email us if we missed you this week.

Can I give a shout out to two of our readers who are fund raising for Cancer Research UK. [19]Alison and [20]Sharon are both doing their own 'Race for Life' in June (different dates). Click on the links and give your support to them if you haven't done so already.

Another hectic travelling week for me, so I apologise in advance if I've missed any bodies posts out...
Enjoy

1. <http://filofaxlove.blogspot.fr/2012/04/review-chameleon.html>
2. <http://anita-lim.blogspot.fr/2012/04/g-is-for-getting-things-done.html>
3. <http://daytimer.wordpress.com/2012/04/04/a-simple-guide-to-getting-things-done/>
4. <http://theantisofa.wordpress.com/2012/04/06/whatever-happened-to-the-filofax/>
5. <http://minibreakmummy.com/2012/04/08/filofax-update-and-getting-things-done/>
6. <http://filofaxfixation.wordpress.com/2012/04/07/oh-martha-it-was-almost-a-good-thing/>
7. <http://icclewu.blogspot.co.uk/2012/04/filofax-enigma-love-it-or-hate-it.html>
8. <http://wecouldgrowuptogether.blogspot.co.uk/2012/03/old-leather-organizer.html>
9. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/04/size-matters.html>
10. <http://notanotherfilofaxblog.blogspot.co.uk/2012/04/i-did-it.html>
11. <http://imysworld.blogspot.co.uk/2012/04/back-to-finchley.html>
12. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/04/filofax-a5-lined-paper-better-and.html>
13. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.co.uk/2012/04/review-of-holborn-personal-filofax.html>
14. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/04/filofax-time-and-activity-tracker-now.html>
15. <http://decisioninspired.com/?p=96>
16. <http://myonceuponthemoon.blogspot.ca/2012/04/feeble-attempt-to-show-off-my-filofax.html>
17. <http://simplifytosave.com/2012/04/12/my-big-move-to-my-personal-malden-filofax/>
18. <http://notesinabook.wordpress.com/2012/04/06/f-is-for-filofax-atozchallenge/>
19. <http://www.raceforlifesponsorme.org/alisonreeves>
20. <http://www.raceforlifesponsorme.org/sharonstafford>

Kristihern (2012-04-14 08:04:05)
Pr0n, lovely pr0n!

Cat Burchmore (2012-04-14 08:25:17)

It appears people have been reading my mind. I have been wondering about GTD and finding out some more information about it... and here are some lovely blogs with some great ideas to get me started! Fab!

minibreakmummy (2012-04-14 09:01:58)

Oh I've certainly noticed an increase in my stats today - thanks very much!

Steph (2012-04-14 22:03:34)

Thank you Steve for posting my blog here. It is immensely appreciated.

Scoot (2012-04-15 07:07:43)

The link for...

"Filofax A5 lined paper - a better or cheaper alternative - My Life All in One Place "

.... goes to the previous Imysworld post.

Steve Morton (2012-04-15 07:10:40)

Now corrected, thanks

New to Filofaxy (2012-04-15 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

Welcome to **Filofaxy**.

If you are new to the site or you have been here for a while, this post is a way to show you around so you get the most from the site.

As you might have seen there is a lot of information on here and you might have problems remembering where everything is, so we hope to be able to help you out with how to find things to get the most out of the site.

So looking at the Home page you are on now, below the banner you will see: Home, About, FAQ etc

Home: Takes you back to the start page from where ever you are on the site, clicking on the banner does the same.

About: How to contact us at [2]Filofaxy and some background on the contributors.

FAQ: This is a good place to look for the simple often asked questions. We try to up date it from time to time to reflect the current topical questions.

Files: This the home for all our downloadable template files which you are welcome to customise to your own needs or just print them off as they are.

Links: Links to lots of blogs and other Filofax related sites.

Suppliers: Looking for a Filofax or inserts or accessories, then this page is a good place to start.

Ad Spot: This is our readers advert page, you can place a wanted or for sale advert for your Filofax goods here free of charge. However, we do recommend donating to one of our favourite charities, but it's based on an honesty system, we don't check up on who has made donations and who hasn't. This page is great because you are buying from people that do understand the Filofax range unlike some Ebay sellers...

All Stars: The Filofaxy All Stars... a group of readers who have done guest posts on each others blogs

not all Filofax related, but a great read anyway.

Flickr: An overview to the Philofaxy Flickr group where you can share pictures of your Filofax and there is a small discussion group there too.

Searching Philofaxy - With in excess of 1000 posts on Philofaxy spread over six years, finding exactly the information you want could be quite a task... however we do have some tools to help you:

- Search - Pop a key word in to the search box in the sidebar and the search tool will find all of the posts with that keyword in it.
- Labels - Further down the sidebar you will find the label cloud again this will find all the posts with those labels on the posts. We try to label all posts, although some of the earlier ones are unlabelled... another job still to be done!

Subscribing to Philofaxy

- RSS - You can add Philofaxy to your favourite RSS reader such as Google Reader.
- Email - If you want to receive each post by email, pop your email in to the subscribe by email box and follow the instructions. This service is provided by Feedburner. They will send you a verification email which you have to click a link in to confirm your email address in the usual way.

Philofaxy on the Web

- Facebook - You will find our [3]Facebook page here
- Twitter - We are very active on Twitter as [4]@philofaxy and our experimental newsfeed [5]@philofaxynews
- Flickr - As mentioned above there is a [6]Flickr group for sharing your Filofax photos and ideas
- Linking back to Philofaxy - If you would like to link back to Philofaxy from your website or blog we have a 'badge' with the exact code which you will find at the bottom of the side bar.

Regular Posts on Philofaxy

- **Free For All Tuesday** - Questions and Answers on any Filofax related topic
- **Free For All Friday** - General discussion, open house for anything Filofax related
- **Webfinds** - Each weeks round up of other Filofax related posts on the web

Other Philofaxy Events

- **Skype Roundtable Voice and Text Chats** - once a month we have a Skype voice conference, this is open to anybody to join in. It is an open agenda and we don't only get to talk about Filofax things. People taking part can be spread around the world, so it can be quite educational as well as good fun. Look out for [7]announcements on the blog about when the next one will be. Generally they are the first Sunday of the month, but they can move slightly if this conflicts with public holidays or Steve's travel arrangements!

- **Meet Ups** - We have held several very successful [8]meet ups, they vary in size from as little as two or three people up to twelve people, these have been held in London, New York, France, Holland, with other ones planned for other countries around the world. Although meeting 'people off the internet' can sometimes seem a little odd, we all have at least one interest in common and everyone I've met at all the different meet ups have been great people to sit and chat with.

That was a bit of a lightening tour around the site and some of our activities. Please do add a comment on to posts, we love to get feedback and we do read all the comments.

If there's something you haven't understood or there's a topic we haven't covered that is Filofax related please get in touch with us and we will do our best to respond to your email within a day or so.

1. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-kHgWaVup_58/TZ229T6RWpI/AAAAAAAAJGo/0JanJmzB28/s1600/IMG_9920.jpg
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/about-us.html>
3. <https://www.facebook.com/Philofaxy>
4. <https://twitter.com/%21/Philofaxy>
5. <https://twitter.com/%21/PhilofaxyNews>
6. <http://www.flickr.com/groups/40748476@N00/>
7. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/search/label/Round-table>
8. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/search/label/Meet-Up>

Harri (2012-04-15 16:54:00)

Hello! I have been lurking here at philofaxy for some time now and have finally made an account so that I can comment on posts. I may even start blogging about my Filofax obsession. This blog has been so much help, thank you for all the hard work!

Harri x

Notes Pages - Guest Post - Jane (Butanben) (2012-04-15 06:00) - Steve Morton

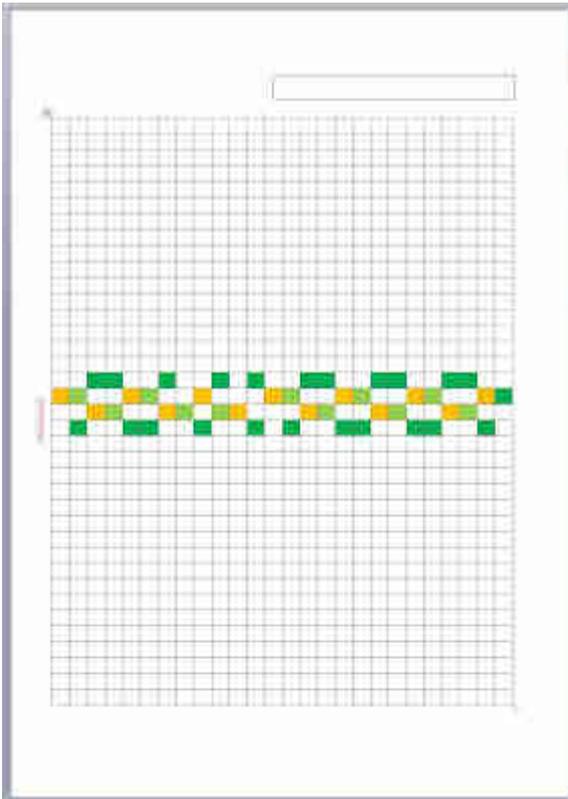
Thank you to Jane for this post, it is a great example of taking one of our existing templates and adapting it to your own needs, we fully support this sort of thing.

Whilst looking for colourful masking tapes to divide up my filofax notes pages, I was becoming increasingly frustrated at the cost of these, pretty though they are. The tapes also seemed to be quite thin.

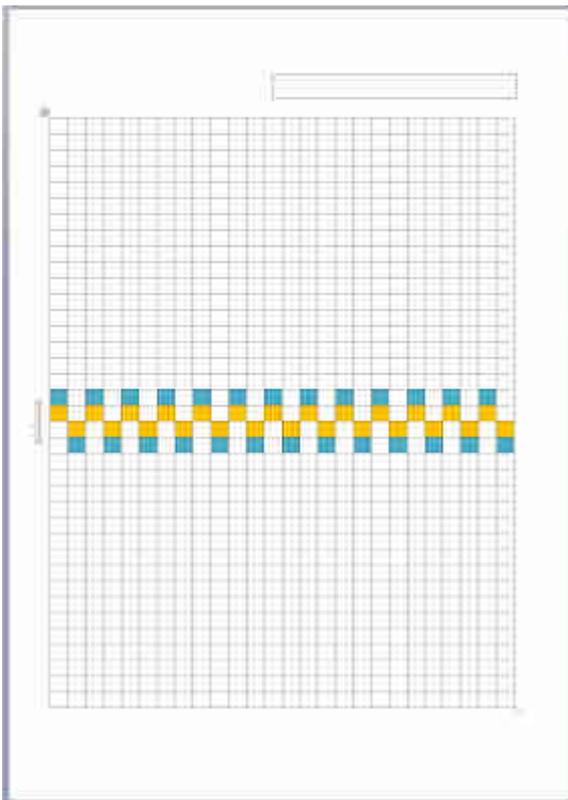
Then I had a brainwave! Why didn't I use Steve's squared graph paper to design my own pretty page dividers, using my computer's paint and fill tool.

And hey presto! Some pretty note pages, with divided sections, and without the expense of masking tape, or indeed the worry of sticking it on in a straight enough line.

Here are just a few of my samples.



[1]



[2]

I am sure that you can think of many more and can be extremely inventive in your designs. Those of you who sew patchwork quilts will be able to design some fabulous 'tape type' dividers I am sure. The uses are endless too:

- Work to dos and Home to dos,
- Shopping food and Shopping family,

- Travel out and Travel return,
- Books read and Books to read,
- @Computer and @Phone calls, and so on.

Of course the pages can also be divided into 3 or 4 sections, using smaller strips, and some of you may wish to add horizontal strips to divide your notes up that way.

I have used only the first page of Steve's Philofaxy A5 Graph Paper here- ([3]see files section,) as the first page has a handy labelling box at the top.

Enjoy designing your own tape dividers! I hope this proves to be useful to some of my fellow Philofaxers.
Thank you Jane

1. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-6eBbYqR0f3o/T4q0PDWXTiI/AAAAAAAAKwo/GzTZGPnRTNI/s1600/graph+copy.jpg>
2. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-s2AEss-RAYY/T4q0VUuU-o4I/AAAAAAAAKww/P-J5nv9Xg9M/s1600/graph2+copy.jpg>
3. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/files.html>

LJ (2012-04-15 07:20:10)

Cool!!! They look lovely :o) I keep thinking about printing coloured inserts for my FF (the Erin Condren planner got me thinking...), but haven't got round to doing anything about it yet...

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-04-15 08:08:48)

What a good idea!!

Sandra (2012-04-15 08:29:06)

So clever!

If you ever do get an inkling for affordable decorative tape, Target here sells them for \$4 USD/pack of 4 rolls. Be happy to send some. :)

doris98 (2012-04-15 10:48:54)

I never would have thought of doing this! Great idea!

Butanben (2012-04-15 13:50:53)

Thank you! I am glad you think it is a great idea. I am using one of these pages with one half for this week's to dos and the other for next week's to dos at the moment. I enjoy seeing colour in my Filofaxes too, so it does allow for my creative side to emerge. I can individualise my Filofax a bit, without the expense of tapes.

Anita (2012-04-15 15:13:44)

I'd been looking at those tapes too & not bought any due to their cost.

That's a great idea & thanks for sharing!

Butanben (2012-04-16 06:33:48)

Sandra, that is such a kind offer of yours. Thank you for that thought my friend. Apart from Paper Chase, the stationery choice in the UK is not that marvellous. Anita, so pleased you found the idea useful. xx

Nikki france (2012-04-16 15:10:18)

lovely, and inventive idea, thank you for sharing :))

BTW have not forgotten your today page marker, just need your address to send it to you. email jokima (at) wanadoo dot fr

I am assuming you want A5 , but can also do you a personal if you use this size.

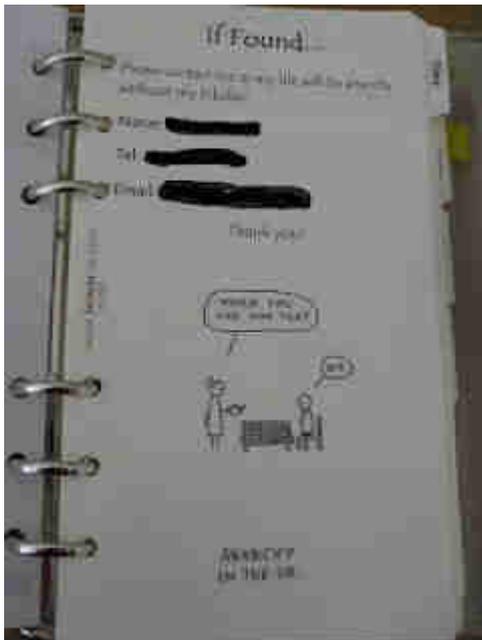
Kind regards to all, Nikki X

Butanben (2012-04-23 12:50:47)

Nikki, what a lovely offer!! Thank you. I'll e. mail you my address.

Filofax – The Ultimate Justification - Guest Post - Helen (2012-04-16 00:00) - Steve Morton

Thank you to Helen for this Guest Post



[1] I know our justifications for buying new binders, inserts, stickers, pens and other widgets to satisfy our stationary cravings know almost no limits, but in the spirit of community well being I would like to put forward the justification to end all justifications: Filofaxes, and associated purchases, are good for our health.

Yes, it is true. Google the health benefits of creativity and you will find articles on the positive effects creativity has on ageing, mental health and self esteem. As fantastic as all this is, what has it got to do with Filofax?

Over the Bank Holiday I was feeling a little frayed around the edges, and I spent a couple of happy hours designing some inserts for my Personal Amazona which had become a little neglected. Now I am not a natural artist, but I can set up a nice Word template and decorate it with clipart. I admit that this is not the cutting edge of modern artistic endeavour, but then it isn't supposed to be. It allowed me to be creative, to relieve my stress and end up with something nice to look at in my binder when I am in the office.

The Delightful Mr F had noticed my stress rating drop whenever I sat down to “optimise” my Filo, or update my Book-o-Fax with notes and pictures, and I wondered whether other Philofaxers had noticed the same.

Whether it is the fantastic diary inserts designed by Ray and Steve or my little experimentation with clipart, I think it is all positive. Go on, be a bit creative, it will make you feel better. Honest.

1. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-qi0dJo001yQ/T4Uuq0p-wVI/AAAAAAAAKuM/d1ln2qTsnMg/s1600/3+If+Found+-+small.jpg>

Nancy (2012-04-16 00:43:17)

Tis true.

icclewu (2012-04-16 02:24:17)

This is very true. I stopped using my compact pennybridge Because it only had 15mm rings. I missed having all my little notes and pictures in a Filofax that make me happy. I'm now using a personal Enigma, and love making the pages colourful with drawings and stickers. :)

pilgrim (2012-04-16 03:27:08)

I have just been looking at the NASA website about one of the few female astronauts, and lo & behold on some of the pictures, I'm pretty sure it's a Filofax that's in view, so it can even be healthy in outer space!

<http://www.spacecamp.com/gallery/displayimage.php?pid=9676&fullsize=1>

Butanben (2012-04-16 06:38:51)

I couldn't agree more. Creativity of any sort feeds the soul. Thank you for posting... a great thought for today!

Cat Burchmore (2012-04-16 07:08:55)

I absolutely agree. Whenever I get creative it always helps my stress levels. I am very lucky that my job is creative also, but being creative for the sole reason that it's what I enjoy - well nothing beats it! I spent a lovely hour in hobbycraft yesterday and came away with an adults colouring in book or fairies and some proper adult colouring pens - bliss! I want to practise my animation type skills and this is a great place to start (I design luxury bathrooms and do it all on CAD but would love to sketch, draw & illustrate some of my more beautiful projects).

Scoot (2012-04-16 08:03:51)

Yes, I think it is an organiser, but they aren't in outer space.

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-04-16 11:53:29)

Ha ha - all the 'excuse' I needed to spend this afternoon making new dividers and 'playing' with my filofaxes. :-)

Patricia (2012-04-16 12:42:55)

When it feels like life is getting on top of me I find it therapeutic to sit and just flick through my filofax and be reassured that my life is in order in the pages of my Malden!

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-04-16 12:47:32)

and just blogged on it...

<http://paperpensink.blogspot.co.uk/2012/04/new-dividers.html>

Saffy (2012-04-16 15:25:10)

I whole heartedly agree. There is nothing quite like spending time filofaxing as my husband and daughter call it. On the odd occasion that my daughter has joined me, like when I got my label maker for mother's day, she commented "this is fun isn't it"? Yeah, it is!

To be creative when things get really tough and I need to distress I drag out the sewing machine and pop on an audio book (in an attempt to multi-skill, ha, ha).

Filofreak (2012-04-17 12:58:57)

I also agree that it is very calming to page through one's planner to see what you've done and what's in the future. I don't know why but it is.

Laurie (2012-04-19 05:30:53)

I agree, I feel like it regulates my brain waves somehow to page through my Filofax and arrange the pages just the way I want them. It definitely helps me feel more calm and in control!

Free For All Tuesday No 63 (2012-04-17 00:00) - Steve Morton

Well it's Tuesday, time to ask those niggling questions that you have been looking for the answers to...those 'now where did I see xyz in A5 size' or any other Filofax related questions.

Lime Tree (2012-04-17 01:13:52)

Hello there,

As I have been on my quest to find a good setup to use, I got stuck on the best size that suits me and now I am very conflicted on how many to actively use at the same time.

I have been using an A5 for the past few weeks and I have to say that it is great. Two sets of tabs, one for personal stuff and one for work stuff. I like to use a month view for appointments and deadlines for both work and personal so I know the best time for vacation, long night studies, predictable extra-hours at work, etcetc. My only problem is carrying around all that work stuff when I am not at work. Although I like the extra room to write on I know I don't actually need A5 size for my personal stuff. A Personal size would do. But then I need an A5 for work. So here are my tones of questions for those of you that use separate FF for work and personal: Do you have (at least at work) two Filofaxes open all the time on your desk? Do you carry both with you all the time? (I don't really want to leave mine at work, but again carrying around defeats the purpose of having two separate ones, right?) How do you synchronize appointments and other scheduling stuff between both? Any insight will be helpful. :) Thanks!

Sharon (2012-04-17 03:32:24)

Lime Tree, I run 2 filofax's. A5 for work which I have open on my desk and a Personal which is also open on my desk.

A5 houses my quotes, notes, other details, and my personal houses all my personal things, PLUS work to do's and any things I need to remember for work. I use FC 2ppd inserts so have LOADS of writing room every day!

It seems to work well for me.

Laurie (2012-04-17 03:47:06)

Would it be possible for you to use your Personal size as your diary for work and personal, and your A5 for work contacts, notes, projects and other work-only things? That way you don't need your A5 outside of work, and you don't have to worry about synching two diary systems. What do you think?

Ashleigh (2012-04-17 05:37:04)

Hi all,

I was just wondering if anyone else has had any problems with the rings not clasping shut properly? I am devastated as I only got my Malden a few weeks ago and the top rings have quite a gap between them. It's now back in the box waiting for me too send it back. (I'm so miserable without it, I have even contemplating buying another just in case I ever have to be without it again!)

industrious housewife (2012-04-17 05:50:07)

That's a good idea Laurie. A filofax does not have to have a diary in it of course.

I'm a stay at home, work(ish) at home Mum, and have everything in an A5. This stays at home.

But I wanted to be able to make notes, check info when out and about, but not wanting to carry another full diary. So I got the Compact Pennybridge. I keep a Month on Two Pages in there as well as info and notepaper, so I have a note of commitments (parties, dentist) but I'm not carting my meal plans etc, around.

Laurie (2012-04-17 05:53:02)

This is genius. What she said.

:)

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-04-17 06:15:19)

@Laurie- That's how I'm planning to use mine when my A5 Kendal gets here :D

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-04-17 06:19:03)

Hi Ashleigh, yes this is quite a common problem :(Most binders are fine, but then some do have this problem. I find that it's a permanent gap with some of my filofaxes, but there are some where it seems it is only a temporary problem, that it gets worse when I open the rings, and then eases up after a few days. I found a solution to this: if I close the rings by pushing together the outside ones (the top and the bottom) it leaves a big gap, BUT if I push the rings together using the middle 2 sets of rings, it leaves a tiny gap or none at all!

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-04-17 06:27:19)

I have a theory that I wondered if anyone else agreed with.

Filofax UK sold a load of purple Maldens to City Organiser weeks ago, but didn't launch them on the Filofax website until 3 weeks later. City Organiser sold them at a heavily discounted price, and everyone quickly ran over to the City Organiser website and snapped them up. Filofax realised their mistake, because now most people who wanted one already got one, and Filofax didn't make any money from this, and now fewer people would buy them from the Filofax website/shops. They realised they should have sold the new purple Maldens on the Filofax website exclusively for a while from the launch, so those people who were desperate for one of the long-awaited purple Maldens could buy it from them, and they would make the profit. But they didn't, and lost out on the profits because City Organiser sold them first.

Now Filofax has realised their mistake, and have delayed sending more purple Malden stock to City Organiser (which was expected a couple of weeks ago), because they want an opportunity to sell the Maldens exclusively, to get the profits.

What do you think? I can't wait until City Organiser get more purple Maldens in stock!!

Babs (2012-04-17 06:28:53)

I've just spotted that City Organiser are selling a grey A5 Finsbury for £39.95! Try as I might I can't quite justify the purchase myself, so hopefully someone else can make use of the deal! :)

Rabbit (2012-04-17 06:52:46)

That's not the only new saving CO is offering - 30 % off Holborn Zips (personal and A5)...don't forget the andy15 15 % additional discount. I really want to get one....but I have no need for it whatsoever. My bank account is sighing a breath of relief ;)

Alison Reeves (2012-04-17 07:19:33)

Not sure about the theory in general, but I will say Filofax seem to be pretty rubbish at getting their website updated generally. You can't find compacts unless you search for them (so if you didn't know about them, nothing would tell you otherwise), they hide the TM inserts away and there are numerous other examples. Speaking with my marketing hat on they seem to have forgotten the customer and have put too much focus on the product. You can have the best product in the world, but if you don't position it, focus on it's benefits and make it available in the right places you will not sell as many. Another example is that all binders should have diagrams or photo's of their interior - and quite a few don't have this. This is a crucial bit of information for many buyers.

Yu (2012-04-17 08:19:47)

Can I use the "Andy"-code on an item that already has a discount?

Steve Morton (2012-04-17 08:20:27)

Yes you can, and many people have already... including me!

Kelly Marriott (2012-04-17 09:13:53)

I know we've discussed this before and it ties in a bit with the earlier posts today, but I need additional advice. I work at home as a copywriter. I have been using two Filofaxes - one for home/everything/personal, etc and another for work. But keeping two calendars straight is becoming more of a problem as my business grows and my children get busier. Any suggestions? Do I continue to use two? Do I use just one? Do I have a main Filo and then use a different kind of planner/calendar for work appts? Does anyone have a great system that works for

home-based workers?

Ashleigh (2012-04-17 10:10:22)

Hi just wanted to say I love your videos! It was your video on the Malden that inspired me to buy one! :) I'm kind of pleased its not just me as I was worrying that it was something I had done but I always open it using the clips but now I think back I have always closed it using the top and bottom ring! :(I will make sure I try your way when I get my replacement. Thanks for the advice xx

Alison Reeves (2012-04-17 11:14:28)

@Kelly I work from home doing very similar work to you - however I don't have kids (although my OH has enough appointments to make up for it!). I use the time management style inserts because I try to have details and plans for each day (otherwise I fire fight and drift). Not sure how much detail you like to keep, but could you use something like the A5 Dodo diary for your main appointment diary? It has (I think) 5 columns for each day, and a week to view, so you could have one column for work, one for personal and even assign a column for each child or your partner, and be able to see this all for each week.

You could possibly then use a day-per-page or two-pages-per-day if you want to do some heavy planning and add in all your time specific todos/projects - possibly just write up these each week from your main calendar so you are not keeping masses of blank diary pages in your binder.

Kelly Marriott (2012-04-17 11:19:21)

Thanks Allison. I've seen the Dodo pad but is it available in the US? I like this idea! Thanks!

Yu (2012-04-17 11:21:57)

Yay! *waits for more purple maldens*

Butanben (2012-04-17 11:24:50)

I used to have 2 calendars.... but I got fed up with synching them. So I am now a 1 diary, 1 life person. Much easier and less likely that I can make mistakes or double book appointments.....my biggest worry when I had 2 diaries. Colour coding and using an A5 Time Management Diary from Ray and Steve's downloads has solved many problems for me as An A5 can hold so much information.

Steph (2012-04-17 12:41:19)

I have a main A5 that houses all my stuff, calendar, notes, info, what-have-you, and I have a pocket domino in my purse that has some of the same info, a calendar, and notes and stuff for writing on the go. So far this system works pretty good for me. I love my A5 but find it way to heavy to use outside of the house on a regular basis, I like the size of the personal, but for me the paper is too narrow, so I went to the pocket and can get all I need on the pages and more.

Sydney (2012-04-17 13:46:24)

I have an A5 that is the 'family diary'. It contains things that the family can reference.

I use a Dodo insert so we each have our own column (the first one is used as 'other' -birthdays, family events etc.)I only write things in there in my column if it affects the rest of the family. On the left hand side I write the weeks meals and any other info related to the week such as contact details for anything going on in the week, phone messages and family to dos. This is my 'communication with family' filo.

My pocket is also my wallet and contains my personal diary where I write everything that affects me. They don't actually overlap very much so I don't often need to write things twice. This is my 'mind your own business this is mine' filo.

Nikki france (2012-04-17 16:01:54)

I do not know if it is acceptable to post here, but there is a FC planner on ebay US that I would really like to buy, but the seller will not send outside US. Is there anyone here who would be willing to consider buying on my behalf, and sending to France. I can pay via paypal in advance of you sending.

Sorry Steve is this post is inappropriate, bur I have wanted a zipped, dark green planner for the longest time, and

this one has big rings too!!!! Kind regards, Nikki

Sarah (2012-04-17 16:36:10)

Does anyone have a new yellow finsbury? I'm thinking about getting one when they become available in the US, but its hard to tell what shade of yellow they actually are based on the photos online. I would love to see photos if anyone has one!

Steve Morton (2012-04-17 16:42:10)

Looks like Factor 15 yellow to me... and they don't come with a brightness control!! Dark glasses recommended! But that bit of humour said... I'm pleased to see some colourful shades in the collection this year and not just the dreaded Apex!

Steph (2012-04-17 16:54:15)

can some one please tell me if there you have to pay duties in Canada when you order from the filofax uk site? I really want the pocket london games filo and I need to know if I will have to pay duties or just what the website tells me the total is.

Babs (2012-04-17 17:02:08)

Try checking with your local postal service website. Over here it's all listed on the Royal Mail website. If we were to order something from Canada we'd have to pay import duties and post office fees.

industrious housewife (2012-04-17 18:06:24)

:-)

I just love finding new ways to use Filofaxes.

Yu (2012-04-17 18:33:59)

No photos. But I'll try to remember to take a photo (sneakily) next time I "accidentally" walk by the filofax store. It's a happy yellow, though. I only glanced at it so I can't say for certain how it compares to, say, the Finchley. :)

Sarah (2012-04-17 19:03:26)

haha - this is helpful. I'm hoping its more of a gold/saffron and less of an Apex neon yellow. I wish I had access to the full range of colors that are available through the Asian online stores...although I suppose I don't need the temptation :)

Lime Tree (2012-04-17 22:28:25)

@ Sharon, do you carry both of them back-and-forth from work?

@Laurie, that is a very good idea! The only thing is that I use month on 2p for appointments, reminders and deadlines. A personal month on 2p is a little tight for both combined.

@industrious housewife, that's what I was thinking. On the weekends when I don't want to carry all that weight I was thinking of just having a small moleskine or a pocket size FF just to have something to write on.

Thank for you all for the ideas! I'll keep experimenting and posting! :)

Lord Dodo (2012-04-18 07:30:59)

Hi Kelly - a day late in replying but we're at The London Book Fair and it is a bit all consuming...currently we don't have any US retail outlets but you can buy any Dodo Pad diary direct from our website or for you via Amazon might be even easier. Here is a link to the page on our site especially for Filofax diary refill formats: <http://www.dodopad.com/shop/calendar-year-diaries-calendars/filofax-compatible-organisers>
Toodlepip!

Lord Dodo (2012-04-18 07:34:53)

I love your system Sydney - sounds perfect! Do you use the Personal size Dodo Pad in your own 'mind your own business this is mine' filo? From next year's edition (that will be on sale in late June) it will be a new improved

version - thanks to the collaboration of some of the Filofaxy readers - with a bigger more practical grid.

Lord Dodo goes 'under the spot light' (2012-04-18 00:00) - Steve Morton

It was a great pleasure to track down Lord Dodo this week and confront them with some questions.

1. How long has the DodoPad been around?



[1]

The original [2]Dodo Pad desk diary first came out in 1966 and so, incredibly, it's now been around for almost 50 years – quite an achievement in an increasingly digital age...although the interest in Filofax hasn't waned in all those years so I guess I should not really be so surprised!

The Dodo Pad is the original family planner – so many 'me-too' copies have sprung up in its wake – but I think part of its charm (aside from the obvious humour, artistic design and planning space) is that it's not 'prescriptive' or overtly 'family' focussed. So it works just as well for one person planning their life as it does for a family or even a group of up to five friends sharing a house.

2. When did you get involved with the company?

I worked in advertising for many years and aged 40, at the end of 1995 at the time of the Saatchi & Saatchi break up, found myself redundant and coincidentally pregnant for the first time. I had a very financially attractive offer to join the new Saatchi agency which would have meant going back to very full time work with a tiny baby left in the arms of a nanny. My son was just three weeks old when a good friend asked me to give the then Dodo Pad designer/compiler half an hour's worth of advice on how to save and market this diary that had been dropped by its publisher's of 30 years. I'd been given a Dodo Pad way back, aged 13, and thought it would be more fun than going back into advertising and so I took a gamble and here I am 16 and a bit years later!

So Lord Dodo is really Lady Dodo.....

3. In that time what changes have you seen with the products and with your customers?

Goodness – massive changes in just about every way! When we started we had one "almost extinct" product – the original [3]Dodo Pad desk diary. Its long heritage and very loyal base of customers who would go to enormous lengths to find a copy meant we started with something almost akin to a 'club'. We are talking pre internet and there is a tale of two long standing customers virtually fighting in Harrods for the last copy one Christmas Eve!

We had to build our customer list from scratch as Harper Collins (the previous publisher) did not have any notion of what is now understood to be a the very heart of customer marketing – knowing your customers! Now we have almost 40,000 customers all over the world on our database, our diary products come in a wide variety of formats including three [4]Filofax compatible versions and we've developed the brand into a series of [5]quirky, fun organisers including ones for recipes, planning a wedding and caring for your precious pets amongst others.

Customers now have a wide choice of methods to choose from as to how they buy Dodo Pad products

– from shops (high street and virtual), our own website (where we sell quite a few things not available elsewhere) and thankfully we still get people who call us on the phone. It is one of my greatest pleasures talking to our customers – we’re lucky I guess; we get few grumbles but it’s almost always better to speak to a customer and sort out an issue.

4. Do you have any really long standing customers?



[6]

We certainly do. From the original mail order list we compiled in 1996 of customers who had previously bought from Harper Collins, a good number of them had been buying the Dodo Pad for every one of its 30 years of existence. The Dodo Pad is quite addictive (thankfully!) and so once people start using it and like the layout and format they tend to stick with it. We hear people over and over again ‘I can’t live without my Dodo Pad’ or ‘I just can’t imagine being organised in any other way’. People tend to keep their Dodo Pads too – as archives of life and their family’s growth and milestones. All my son’s childhood ‘milestones’ were jotted down in our Dodo Pad as that was the handiest place to note them down. And we’re definitely not alone!

We are currently gathering up stories for our upcoming 50th anniversary from customers who’ve kept their copies over the years or have amusing tales to tell about their Dodo Pad. One of my favourites is from a customer who was being driven somewhere via the M25 and had to stop on the hard shoulder for a minor emergency. Her Dodo Pad must have fallen on the ground. She realised she’d lost it sometime later and tracked back to where she last remembered having it. The following day she stopped at the same place on the hard shoulder and amazingly, despite having tyre marks on the cover it was still there and inside, totally unharmed!

5. How do you promote the product which is really a fun but also serious product in the age of the electronic diary.

I used to say that the pen is mightier than the mouse... but these days you are as likely to use your finger on a touch pad or touch screen in your digital dealings.

Here’s a fact. Whilst you can carry your electronic diary around with you and put in reminders for appointments etc., it is almost impossible – due the small screen size – to get a feel for how the overall day or week looks. Compound that by x % if you are organising a family!

I think the iPhone and electronic diaries are great for setting ‘must do’ reminders (I use my iPhone for exactly that) but they operate on ‘tunnel vision’ rather than easily providing the broader peripheral view. And they need charged up batteries. Even worse, if you rely on a cloud based diary like Google, internet access.

It is pretty hard to ‘creatively’ personalise an electronic diary. The very nature of the Dodo Pad (and indeed Filofax organisers) is that you can do exactly that. Which is why I think bringing the Dodo Pad into the Filofax sphere has worked so well. Also, I am a closet Filofax fan of more years than I intend to admit here – put it this way, my first Personal Filofax literally fell apart about 10 years ago after many years of loving use. I still use a Personal size (Slimline Cross) as an extended wallet. I’ve had a Deskfax since the 1980’s and have just treated myself to a new A5 Raspberry coloured Chameleon in which I use the 2012 [7]A5 Dodo Pad diary!

6. Have you ever considered a DodoPad app for say the iPad or iPhone. ?

WIP - or 'Work in Progress' if you're not into acronyms. Yes, yes, yes – but we've spent quite a bit of time pinning down the right developer to work with. My view is that if we are going to make the sort of investment it's going to require to make it work properly, stand up to the other calendar apps out there, be different and be 'wanted', we have to get the right development partner. So watch this space....

7. What is your best selling product?



[8]

The original Dodo Pad desk diary is the biggest seller and it has the most distribution – that is of course partially to do with its long time in the market place.

However the mid year [9]Acad-Pad desk diary (which runs from August – September twelve months later) was launched in 2006 and it already sells almost 70 % of the Dodo Pad desk format. Because it's targeted to a different audience we seen almost no loss of sales as it grown.

Our Filofax diary refills (and we've no plans to produce anything other than diary refills) came out first in 2010 and the A5 size has gone from strength to strength. In response to demand from Personal Organiser users we introduced a Personal size in 2011 in both Dodo Pad and Acad-Pad date formats. It was a trickier size to make work as the hand designed nature of the Dodo Pad means you can only increase or decrease 'in pro' – which in English means in direct proportion. We ended up with tiny squares – not big enough to use. So this year (2012/13) the Acad-Pad took a break in the Personal size while we sorted out another way (with the fantastic help of some committed Filofax 'hackers' – you know who you are!) and I'm 'dodelighted' to report that the new bigger squared Dodo Pad will soon be on sale for 2013.

8. *Tell us about 5 unusual facts we might already know about Dodo-Pad*

1. There are Dodo Pads in use in at least two royal residences in the UK (that we know of) and in over 77 countries (that we know of).
2. After seven years of production, the Dodo Pad was not produced in 1973 due to its compiler's belief that it had 'had its day' and was no longer of interest to its users. There was an outcry from the loyal fan base and its been produced every year ever since. There's a little film on [10]You Tube that charts every cover from 1966 to 2012 when it got its first real design makeover in 20 years.
3. [11]'Dodo Towers' – that impressive stately home you see on the website is, in reality, a converted stable block on the top of a hill overlooking the Atlantic coast in Cornwall.
4. The company has never borrowed money – preferring to grow organically, bringing out one or two new products each year in addition to the new editions/formats of the Dodo Pad and Acad-Pad.
5. Our newest 7 hole [12]UNIVERSAL diary refill now on sale in the Acad-Pad 2012/13 edition, will fit any A4 or USA 3 ring binder. We designed the paper at a special compatible size (you have no idea how tricky it is satisfying Pan-Atlantic requirements...but we try J) and had a special cutter tooled up that is quite unique.
6. I am cheating here...a 6th fact you may or may not know...hidden on our website are 13 little 'Easter Egg' videos of Lord Dodo doing something unusual around the house...if you mouse over the relevant pixel, the video pops up to entertain you. Why they are known as Easter Eggs is explained [13]here. Hint – mouse over the little dodos....

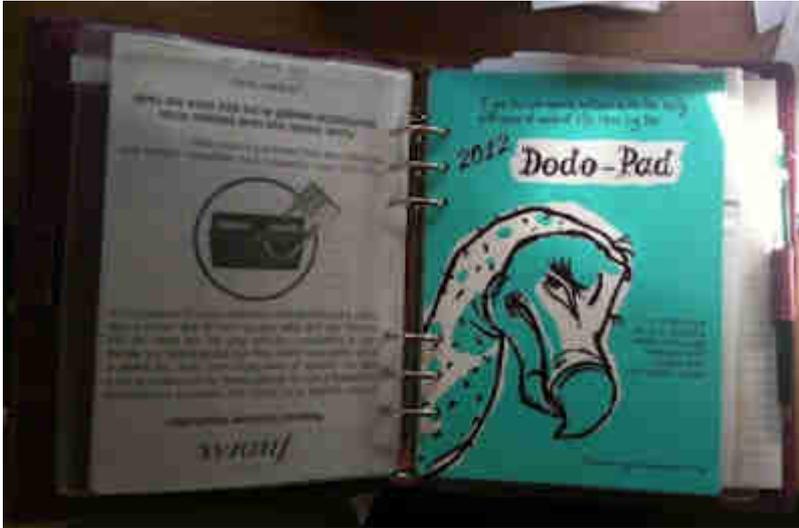
9. How many countries are DodoPad sold to.

Ah – I was ahead of you on that one...!! 77 (that we know of)

10. When you talk to people what is their first reaction when you tell them about DodoPad

It ranges from ‘What?’ (never heard of it) to “WOW! – so you’re Lord Dodo! I absolutely LOVE the Dodo Pad” or “I’ve had a Dodo Pad for as long as I can remember” or words to that effect....

And there is one thing that I am absolutely convinced of....only Filofax and Dodo Pad share the same kind of ‘love’ that their users invest in them. And for that reason, if for no other, they are perfect partners.



[14]

Thank you Lord Dodo for that detailed look behind the scenes... There will be a review of the new A4 Dodo Pad coming up on Philofaxy soon.

1. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-byiafCONx5E/T4Z3BZW0-4I/AAAAAAAAAKuw/N7xsCCdhbCU/s1600/Historic-Dodo-Pad-Poster_we.jpg
2. <http://www.dodopad.com/pages/whatis.htm>
3. <http://www.dodopad.com/pages/howto.htm>
4. <http://www.dodopad.com/shop/mid-year-academic-diaries-calendars/filofax-compatible-organisers>
5. <http://www.dodopad.com/shop/dodo-produce>
6. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-J-gxtwPypSs/T4Z3CBLQNYI/AAAAAAAAAKu4/aMshCDI5ikI/s1600/buried.gif>
7. <http://www.dodopad.com/shop/2012-dodo-pad-a5-diary-refill.html>
8. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-I1onCyJ0w_M/T4Z29hB3pgI/AAAAAAAAAKuo/3A5roqLdnuc/s1600/Filofax_compatible_range_20.jpg
9. <http://www.dodopad.com/shop/mid-year-academic-diaries-calendars/acad-pad>
10. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lyn7mAiXdc0>
11. <http://www.dodopad.com/tour/exterior.html>
12. <http://www.dodopad.com/shop/mid-year-academic-diaries-calendars/acad-pad/2012-13-dodo-acad-pad-a4-3-ring-mid-year-diary-loose-leaf-refill.html>
13. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Easter_egg_%28media%29
14. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-_8cpfUvOK8/T4Z28q-ehWI/AAAAAAAAAKug/_KVUOAXm6vE/s1600/Chameleon+Filofax+and+Dodo+Pad+diary_web.JPG

Saffy (2012-04-18 05:02:04)

What an informative and interesting post. Dodo is relatively new to me, although I have seen it mentioned here on philofaxy but I will look out for it now. Thank you.

Saffy (2012-04-18 05:04:45)

What an informative and interesting post. Dodo is relatively new to me, although I have seen it mentioned here on philofaxy but I will look out for it now. Thank you.

Laurie (2012-04-18 05:38:44)

Lord Dodo! It's so great to see you here under the spotlight!!

Tim (2012-04-18 08:32:53)

What do you mean? Lord Dodo and Dodo Towers don't really exist? Next, you'll be trying to tell us that The Tooth Fairy, Easter Bunny and decent quality Filofax inserts are all figments of our imagination!

Alison Reeves (2012-04-18 09:35:07)

I've ordered an A5 Dodo diary to use as my diet and exercise tracker. I thought the columns would be great for breakfast, lunch and dinner + exercise and would give me a good picture of my week. I can also plan my meals ahead for the following week.

MsPencil (2012-04-18 10:35:33)

Hello Everyone, It's been a while since I checked you guys out. I've been pretty busy lately. This morning on our Today Show in New York they talked a lot about the Olympics in London this year so I thought about you guys in Philofaxy. So I just wanted to say: "Congratulations and Enjoy" to those of you who will be enjoying the Olympics. Now to get back on subject. I never heard of a Dodo pad. Do they sell them in the states? How can I get one? You guys be well and take care. Lorraine AkA MsPencil :D

Babs (2012-04-18 11:36:30)

That's good thinking Alison! I might pinch that idea myself :)

Anita (2012-04-18 12:59:56)

Thanks for an interesting & informative post, Lord Dodo!

This is my 2nd year using a Dodo pad insert in my filofax & I love the extra space on the A5 one, compared with personal. I use it to list my MITs (most important tasks from Zen Habits/Zen to Done) & find it's a great way to prioritise with my filo :)

Tim (2012-04-18 15:36:06)

We've used Dodo pads as a family for around 10 years. They are great for having on the kitchen wall. Everyone writes their plans for the week ahead, plus a 5th column for birthdays, anniversaries and joint family things! Highly recommended.

doris98 (2012-04-18 18:54:20)

I was on the verge of ordering my first Dodo Pad for my filofax when I read this. I look forward to the A4 review. And I also hear there's a surprise coming up next year. Can't wait!

LJ (2012-04-19 02:18:19)

That's what I've just started doing with mine :o)

Lord Dodo (2012-04-19 11:33:51)

Lord Dodo has called many things but never a figment of the imagination. Being a CyberLord (the original, don't you know?) is a tough call but one is dedicated to the cause! So glad to hear that the Dodo Pad holds a central place in your family's hearts. Thank you :)

Lord Dodo (2012-04-19 11:39:11)

If you want to try the A5 for 2012 it is available with a hefty discount whilst we sell off the last few copies. Either on our website:

<http://www.dodopad.com/shop/2012-dodo-pad-a5-diary-refill.html>

or via Ebay if you prefer to use PayPal - and it's a bit cheaper there!

http://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/DODO-PAD-2012-diary-A5-Filofax-compatible-refill-/130592267353?pt=UK_Stationery&hash=item1e67e7dc59#ht_2201wt_1137

Hope that is useful :)

Lord Dodo (2012-04-19 11:43:48)

Hi Lorraine - see the link above...or do a search on Dodo Pad A5 Filofax - our website address is <http://www.dodopad.com> and we're on FaceBook.com/DodoPad and Twitter (@lord_dodo)too! Any questions just ask!

Reader Question - Filofax/Stationery 'Obsession' (2012-04-19 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1] A very interesting question from Sirpa-Kaarina in the last Free For All Friday...

A Filofax question: How do your hubbies / partners feel about your passion for Filofax organisers and stationery?

As Nan observed:

Wow...this one could use a post of its own.

So here it is..... I can see people scurrying to change their user names before responding!! Honest answers please...

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-cu6qQSy46nE/Tn5oM8coZKI/AAAAAAAAJqM/_ofHgrU63pw/s1600/PhilofaxySeptember11Challenge3.jpg

Laurie (2012-04-19 02:16:42)

My name is Plannerisms, I mean Laurie! And, well, I like planners. A lot.

In fact, my husband has said more than once that he wishes he were a planner or Filofax, because he would get a lot more attention than he currently does! Ouch!

But overall, he is happy for me that I've found something I enjoy so much. I think my planner online community has done a lot to keep me sane and help me feel connected to the world during these many years of living overseas when I otherwise would feel very isolated.

So, mixed bag here!

SSA (2012-04-19 02:44:30)

My friends and family think I am relatively strange being so obsessed with Filofaxes. I got my first when I was a student (aged 18) and all my friends laughed at me. However, 10 years later I still use and love Filofaxes. But when we meet they always ask "where's your Filofax" as if I might have suddenly snapped out of it. I guess that's partly why I love Philofaxy - because I feel accepted (if somewhat enabled) here. :)

icclewu (2012-04-19 03:02:36)

My other half doesn't understand my love for Filofax. In fact when I told him last year I was going to London for the Philofaxy meet up he laughed uncontrollably. He laughed even more when telling other people why I was going.

We went away to York for a couple of days and whilst browsing Filofax sections in shops I was met with mr sarcasm. "oh look it's a Filofax, oh look it's yet another Filofax". He may may laugh at my passion for Filofax, I

don't joke at things that interest interest him I just carry on with my love.

My family and friends think I'm strange too. I will quite happily talk to anyone about the advantages and disadvantages of a particular Filofax, whilst their eyes glaze over.

:)

Anita (2012-04-19 03:08:20)

I just asked my hubby the question & he said, "Hmmm, it's hardly a harmful passion, is it?" I've found other people & friends find it more amusing! I'm definitely more of a browser than a purchaser, so I don't actually own that much stationery & only have two filofaxes (will be getting down to one). Both my sister & Dad love stationery too & Dad now has a Winchester I gifted to him :)

Mike Devonald (2012-04-19 03:24:34)

I find that having a bigger elephant in the room helps a lot.

As a player of role-play & boardgames a lot of the comments are pointed in that geeky direction, so I can get way with my Filofax obsession as it looks quite normal. Still forking out the £70 for a A5 Kendal was a achievement I'm quite proud of...

Saffy (2012-04-19 03:48:00)

My husband and daughter think I am a complete nutter and cannot understand my obsession with Filofaxes. I have had the same kind of response as Iccluwu (above). I don't have the same obsession with stationary in general, just Filofaxes. Come to think of it, I can't fully understand it myself but I was bitten by the Filofax bug in 1986 and have not been without one since. Admittedly I only used to have one and use it until it was due for retirement but since finding Philofaxy I have been enabled and now have quite a collection. When I first found Philofaxy I breathed a sigh of relief, see, there are others out there like me who love their Filofaxes, it made me feel 'normal'. My sister thinks I am in some weird 80's time warp but I gave her a pocket Fresco and she loves it because of its retro appeal. ;) I have in fact given Filofaxes as birthday and Christmas presents over the past couple of years and managed to get others hooked on them as well.

angela (2012-04-19 04:45:13)

My boyfriend had no opinion about it until I got Temperley The Affair. It was then that him and his best friend (who's also one of my good friends, incidentally) started lusting over it! So I think I've somewhat converted them to the Filofax brand though whether or not the fact he likes a lacey Filofax is either a worrying thing or a hint is another question!

industrious housewife (2012-04-19 05:13:55)

Buying Filofaxes as presents, great idea!

industrious housewife (2012-04-19 05:18:42)

My husband thinks I'm completely bonkers. :-D

But he's really not a stationary person and rarely writes a list.

He is a spontaneous person and doesn't really like planning.

But he has an iphone and an ipad, so I'm certainly allowed more than one Filofax.

Imy (2012-04-19 05:40:29)

My original boyfriend thought it was good and that I should keep all my filofaxes, but he got annoyed at me going on about them ALL THE TIME!!!

And all the guys I have met since have found my obsession cute!!!

When I finally get a boyfriend, HE SHALL USE A FILOFAX, even if he does not want too :p x

Alison Reeves (2012-04-19 06:07:29)

My husbands rolls his eyes. He has no interest in writing anything down (remember cheques? well I had to write them all for him and he would just sign them!). He is the classic left hander who they tried to force to write right handed - and he still hates writing now! Mind you he hates typing as well so I guess dexterity passed him by :-)

He tends to be somewhat indulgent but would rather I spend my money/time on something shared! I do have a fascination for all things stationery which can make it even more of a problem. Thankfully he doesn't always 'notice' the amount of stuff I have tucked away ...

minibreakmummy (2012-04-19 06:43:50)

One of the nice things about the internet is discovering that other people like the same things I do! My husband thinks I am a little eccentric writing blogposts about my Filofaxes but he doesn't really mind. Although I think he would mind if I started spending a lot of money on this and/or bought another one. (So far I've bought one discounted Filofax from TK Maxx and one second hand Filofax from eBay)

ONutter (2012-04-19 07:19:36)

I think my boyfriend really doesn't reflect over it, honestly. Now, it should be said, stationary is more of an interest than a true obsession of mine. I love nice pens, and good quality paper, and of course my Metropol Filofax (of course it is no supple leather, but it holds up wonderfully to being abused). But I am not obsessed.

HM (2012-04-19 07:23:17)

My boyfriend doesn't mind. As Laurie said, he's happy i have a 'passion', even though it is stationary... We both spend as much time and money towards our hobbies(his being photography), so there's no problem there. We both roll our eyes when the other talks about it (really, he can talk for hours about one particular lens... then i can talk for hours about the merits of one Filo over another :))
Our family and friends react quite the same way, even though more people are interested in his pictures than in my binders!

katka (2012-04-19 08:20:19)

My boyfriend is happy to see me happy. And I'm happiest while standing in stationary shop. He's got the same with photography and rally cars. But must admit, it was quite a relief to find Philofaxy few years ago and see that I'm not alone :o)

Maus (2012-04-19 09:02:23)

My husband is smiling amusedly about my Filofax passion or my stationary love. As katka said, he is happy to see me happy or to see my joy.
And as a matter of fact: He's been infected, he himself owns two Filofaxes at the moment! ;-) (Ok, he's not as obsessed than me...but that doesn't matter...)

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-04-19 09:17:44)

My family glazes over when I start waxing on about filofaxes, stationary, pencils...

filofit (2012-04-19 09:19:09)

I do not allow myself to obsess over anything. Then one fine day I woke up and said "I love my filofax". It hit my husband real bad – forget the spending money part (I want the Finchley in all possible colours!!), it was the constant talk about set-up, size, leather, colour and stickers that bugged him no end. Now he takes an interest because he has no other choice. Poor Man! Oh by the way – He finds it interesting that I have found something passionate to do.

Kelly Marriott (2012-04-19 09:20:27)

My friends and family gave up on me long ago. I am obsessed with all things stationery and proudly own over 100 notebooks/journals, 5 filos, and an assortment of planners. Fountain pens are part of the obsession as well. As long as it stays in the family (or close friends)I'm safe, but recently my two 8-year-olds told their teacher that I have "millions of notebooks," and I had some explaining to do so the teacher didn't think I was a "hoarder." Her eyes did glaze over when I started talking about the merits of different kinds of paper.
But, I'm a proud mama when we visit Sam Flax and my little ones excitedly point out Rhodias or Moleskines or Lamy Safari fountain pens and I see people stare at them in amazement.
My grown kids always find cute journals and notebooks for me when they go on trips, so I guess you could say

that they enable me somewhat.

I give journals/notebooks/filos as gifts as well. Friends always know they will get something stationery-related from me. And, visitors to my home are always treated to a small notebook from the collection. I have a box of them just for giving and always offer to let guests pick one. I even keep a small supply of inexpensive, but cute, kid's notebooks on hand to give out to the our little guests.

I'm a bit off but there could certainly be worse addictions out there, so I happily work to achieve stationery nirvana.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-04-19 09:35:16)

My mum thinks I'm mad. I don't tell her when I've bought a new one now so I don't get an ear full! But she has always known I love stationary, and she knows that once I make my mind up I don't stop spending my money on things I love! But it's not as bad as some of the things my parents spend money on... my dad loves coats and watches, and smokes (money up in flames!!), and my mum buys shoes shoes and more shoes! Not to mention moving house every few years!! When I told my mum about my blog, and how much I love talking about Filofaxes on there, she was unenthusiastic, and I think it just added to how "quirky" she thinks I am- then I told her about the visitor stats, and she was quietly very impressed! I've not managed to turn my family onto Filofaxes yet- I gave my brother the Apex I won, but I don't think he has used it yet. My mum uses a tiny little old diary to write to-dos in, it's falling apart and held together by an elastic band! But I have always loved stationary, and always will- I'm just glad I have a hobby, unlike my parents, who get bored easily because they have no hobbies :(

Kristin (2012-04-19 09:57:53)

My boyfriend thinks I'm absolutely ridiculous. I sent him to pick up a Filofax that I had on hold and didn't tell him the price because I knew he would get mad. He sent me a text from the store and said, " \$95?? You are INSANE" and was definitely mad at me when he returned home. So I just hide the prices from him! Haha.

Babs (2012-04-19 10:16:38)

My husband doesn't really fuss either way, but he does wonder why I need more than one! My filofax obsession does tend to get engulfed by my bigger, more general stationery obsession though!

Fortunately I have my own office, he works all day and I'm at home all day! So I can usually squirrel away any new purchases before he spots them! :D

Alison Reeves (2012-04-19 10:25:44)

I think the overriding good thing here is that it is good to have a hobby that hurts no-one - no matter what it is! Like TPS stated - you can get bored without a hobby! I've recently taken an interest in sewing (and particularly quilting/patchwork) and my husband is busy rolling his eyes at the library books coming in the door! I suppose it would be nice to have a filofax devoted to my sewing

Lynne Dove (2012-04-19 11:05:31)

My husband initially couldn't understand my obsession and still cannot believe how many I filos I currently own. However, he asked me to set a personal size filo up for him to use at work and is now never without it. I sacrificed my Tanner Krolle Black personal size to him. Incidentally, I began to use an A5 at work in 2010, and was the only one to take it to management meetings. By the time I took early retirement at the end of 2011, 5 other managers were using A5 filos.

J (2012-04-19 11:49:13)

I think my fiance is pretty much numb to my love of Filos. Fortunately, I only have two Filos, so he can't be too upset about the cost or collection. But it doesn't stop him (and most of my friends and family) for ridiculing me mercilessly for my Malden love.

Now stationery is a whole other animal- mainly because I am not simply content in purchasing it. No, I have to make my own, and so I've ventured into sticker making, paper making, embossing, stamping, typography etc. He just laughs at me every time a new craft method finds its way into our apartment. But hey, he has his bourbon and cigars, I have my paper and stickers. Seems fair, right?

Filofreak (2012-04-19 12:26:39)

You all sound relatively healthy compared to me. Filofax is definitely an obsession of mine (owning 75+), which my husband does know about. However, how many Filofaxes can ONE person really use?! So, I'm now going to focus on the Filofax community through Philofaxy and once a year inserts. I'm not saying I'll NEVER buy another Filo, but I think it will have to be a special occasion or in the event of me selling one or two to make room for the new one. This has become quite the expensive hobby,, ,,I also LOVE all kinds of stationery, but especially the really nice kind that has the lined envelopes (like Crane). But again, how many people can I write notes to????

Ashleigh (2012-04-19 13:04:32)

I love this post! It reinforces the fact that I am definately not alone in the world of such passions. At first my boyfriend and family thought I was crazy I couldn't contain my excitement when my Malden arrived I continuously expressed my love for Filofax and they all called me weird! I think I got the strangest reaction at work when I thought it would be a good idea to tell everyone in extent detail what was so beautiful about owning a Filofax, they were all quite shocked to hear such a passion, luckily I have my world of fellow philofaxy's to share my love with. My boyfriend collects and builds classic cars so he can't mention the expense as I always bring up his "hobby" to even it out! he does however hate when we go shopping particularly when we are in paperchase or WHS smith where he gets short tempered when he's asking if we can leave 3 hours later :0

Steve Morton (2012-04-19 13:15:44)

So what is the total these days?

LucyLastic (2012-04-19 13:23:40)

My husband thinks I'm crackers, but I've just actually asked him the question above and his response was . . .
**sigh*. Whatever makes you happy!" Bless him.

He actually has no idea that I have a blog (<http://allthingsstationery.blogspot.co.uk/>); neither do any of my friends or family actually. I thought it would only reinforce their opinion that I'm crackers!!! So it's my guilty secret that I only share with you fellow nutters.

But yes I do love stationery and always have done. When I was quite young and all my friends wanted to go to toy shops, I would wander around stationery shops and buy pencil cases, erasers, rulers, pencils, pens, notepads etc etc. I got my first Filofax about 17 years ago and I now have 10 I think (sshhhhh!).

It's very reassuring to know that I'm not the only stationery geek in town!

Scoot (2012-04-19 13:31:57)

Only buy them cheaply from ebay and then they find it harder to complain, especially if you resell (and make a profit) most of them after owning for a few years.

Scoot (2012-04-19 13:33:55)

If he complains just ask if he'd rather you buy the books.

Have you thought of making a patchwork organiser?

terriknits (2012-04-19 13:39:05)

I think my husband is quite oblivious to my Filofax collection. I have always been a stationery freak and have stacks of notebooks in my office closet. He has always known me to have "my book" - be it a ringed binder or a bound notebook. The past year or so, it has been Filofaxes. He hasn't got a clue what they cost or how many I have. He may notice them changing but he generally doesn't comment and doesn't care.

Anita (2012-04-19 14:45:12)

Wow, sounds like an amazing collection! Would love to see some pictures & wonder how you store them all :)

Steve Morton (2012-04-19 14:47:41)

Well this was it in August 2010...

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/08/photographic-proof.html>

Steve

Neil (2012-04-19 15:08:54)

If you have a partner that simply doesn't get the Filofax vibe, secretly buy a binder that you know will remind them of you, fill it with 365 dated messages that are oh so very clearly for their eyes only, choose a significant day to bestow this precious token of your love, and then just relax while you receive a little Filofax empathy.

Louise Oakden (2012-04-19 15:49:43)

You joke, I was afraid of damaging my first leather Filofax so within hours of buying it I'd made it an absolutely gorgeous organic cotton patchwork slip cover that matches so it looks pretty!!!!

Kristin (2012-04-19 17:18:39)

Thanks for the tip :)

Butanben (2012-04-19 17:36:29)

J, I am a bit of a sticker lover at heart. I'd be really interested to know how you make your own and what types you have made. That sounds like a fabulous idea.

I am not in a relationship at the moment, so I can indulge my love of Filofaxes as a hobby and their computer insert designs to my heart's content. Bliss!

Frederique (2012-04-19 18:18:01)

When I'm talking hyper-enthusiastically about Filofax, the ones I own, how I use them, or how I could change my setup, or whatever, I really love the look my boyfriend gives me and the little smile he has : I interpret this as "he's finding it adorable that I am happy about such simple things, some binders, and some seriously obsessed people who organize their live in so many different ways" :)

Imagine what he'll endure tomorrow, as I will tell him how I spent my evening playing with the two new Filofaxes I've just received today from Sweden, the Journey and the Pennybridge :)

Oh and, Neil ? I really like this idea, thanks for it ! That goes straight to my "gift ideas" list. And it happens I have a spare Filofax I might not use anymore, due to the two new arrivals :)

Alison Reeves (2012-04-19 18:45:58)

He He - who would have thought - a patchwork cover!

I love perusing the library books, then I just buy anything that I don't think I can live without - saves a fortune. With most of these books (and recipe books as well) there are often over a few pages of particular interest and these can easily be copied out as notes into a relevant binder or notebook.

krissydawn16 (2012-04-19 19:16:28)

My husband thought I was crazy for lusting after the Personal Finchley. I found one on eBay for only \$50 - which he still thought was a silly amount to spend on a planner. BUT - he was using a Pocket Graphic that I did not use and he's been begging me to make him more inserts since he ran out.. so maybe I'm getting him addicted too!

doris98 (2012-04-19 19:26:39)

My daughter gets me. We actually 'pimped' her filofax last weekend and she raided my stash. She said she loved that it now functions better because it's more organized and customized for her.

My husband just says 'write this in your filofax'. He has an unpaid secretary in me. (Fine with me as long as he doesn't bother me about them, ha ha.)

Steph (2012-04-19 19:53:02)

My husband honestly thinks they are a bit of a waste of money, since more than half of the ones I have ever had, have had ring issues. Other than that, he seems fine with it. My kids are all too young to care lol.

krissydawn16 (2012-04-19 20:07:41)

I take more criticism about pen shopping than I do about planner shopping. Planners are pretty, but to my friends, "a pen is a pen".

Shanananana (2012-04-19 20:52:24)

No-one's ever had a problem with me liking Filofaxes, stationery, etc: the bit where I'll stay up until 4am finding the perfect image or making the perfect template for a divider, printing it, covering it meticulously in clear film, cutting it out S-L-O-W-L-Y and carefully - then re-doing the whole thing tinted 2 points more towards Red in Photoshop... not always so popular!

But my basic personality leans towards obsessive/focused, and if someone gets past that enough to be in my life, me spending money on what is really an obsessive's dream toy isn't really likely to cause any waves.

Sweetspot (2012-04-19 21:58:25)

My stationary obsession was reignited by my first Filofax purchase last year. Then I got 10 within a year! Not to mention all kinds of accessories and "exploring" new notebooks... DH was mostly amused by this, and sometimes slightly alarmed. But he himself got TWO filofaxes out of it, so he can't complain too much. An elegant portable black Italian leather personal-sized Filo replaced his cheap PU generic bulky A5 binder. So my strategy is- drag them down with you if you can! :)

Filofreak (2012-04-20 00:38:30)

Ah, Steve,, ,,did you have to dig that photo out of the archives?! Right now they are stored mostly on my shelves in my office and some wonderful gray tubs that my dear hubby gets for me,, ,,my hubby is a trooper in that he puts up with this obsession, but no more purchasing for me for a LONG while.

Maybe he will weigh in with his own comments,, ,, ,,

kanalt (2012-04-20 05:41:31)

As with many others, friends and family don't understand the obsession. They think it's very odd and don't get it. I am usually the one who has to point out that it's not harmful and no different from any other passion/hobby out there.

As for my husband, while he doesn't "get it," he's supportive in that he tries to offer suggestions and solutions when I'm having planner issues. Unfortunately, as I said above, he doesn't "get it," so his suggestions are rarely taken since they don't solve my problems. Where his support ends is mu purchasing a whole bunch of planners, because "you don't need them and how can you use more than one at a time anyway?" See - he just doesn't "get it." He attended the first NYC meet up with me. He was bored to tears. The second one, he came with me but did his own thing while the rest of us geeked out. For the upcoming third one, his response was "have fun." I guess he won't be joining me this time...

kanalt (2012-04-20 05:43:14)

When I first joined the community my husband thought we were all nuts. But I pointed out that if I didn't have you all, he'd be the one I'd discuss my obsession with. From that point on he was grateful that I had found all of you and he leaves me alone about it now. ;)

kanalt (2012-04-20 05:55:44)

I love this idea!

LJ (2012-04-20 06:15:08)

My partner doesn't undersand why I need so many Filofaxes, but my argument is that when my collection comes to the value of his cheapest bass guitar (I think he has 4 pr 5), then he can maybe bring up the issue. By which point I'll be saying that when the value of my collection is as much as his most expensive one he can ask questions :o)

To be fair, he pays little or no attention to them. My boys on the other hand love them :-)

LJ (2012-04-20 06:17:29)

Fabulous pic!!! That is quite a collection :o)

Steve Morton (2012-04-20 06:35:38)
You should be proud !!

David Popely (2012-04-20 10:35:22)
My wife openly tells me (and others) that I'm 'a stationery geek' - but then she is a level 60+ World of Warcraft gamer.....) we get along just fine.....

Steve Morton (2012-04-20 11:11:01)
Think of the fun you could have over two days here:
<http://stationeryshow.co.uk/>
Filofax don't have a stand though... but Lord Dodo will be there....

Dollface (2012-04-20 13:38:47)
I don't tell my boyfriend.. he knows I have a filofax and appreciates me being able to schedule both our lives but I don't tell him that I go on here... I'm actually quite embarrassed by it... I don't want to become one of those people that spends more time messing with their filo than actually doing the things they write in it!

LJ (2012-04-20 13:44:15)
You're blog is lovely, you should share. I understand how you feel though. I didn't want anyone I knew to see my blog, but now I just stick a link on my Facebook status when I have posted and they can all read it or choose not to. :o)

Nan (2012-04-20 15:55:24)
My hubby has always approached my obsession with a sense of humor. It was he, in fact, who gave me the nickname "Inky," since I always seemed to be cleaning and re-inking fountain pens when he came home from work. He also teases me about FLYlady...every time one of us does something around the house, he cries, "Who's FLY??"

Leander (2012-04-21 11:55:01)
Who needs tablets and smartphones when you have Filofax!! :) Thanks for linking to my blog. Thanks to you I gained more hits :) Thanks! I will write another Filo blog post again soon :)

Anita (2012-05-03 11:17:20)
My husband's also into WoW... with one level 85 character, I think :)

Free For All Friday No. 179 (2012-04-20 00:30) - Steve Morton

Looking at a few posts and items on line this week there used to be quite an industry making and selling Filofax Add-Ons. Not just paper ones either.

What would you like as an add on for your Filofax if you could get it made these days?
But as it is Friday you are of course free to discuss anything Filofax related.

Rabbit (2012-04-20 02:08:21)

An appropriate topic this Friday for my question :)

Has anyone ever tried/had any luck with using a filofax as a photo album?

I've been looking for dry-mount albums recently and they're practically non-existent outside of wedding albums. It occurred to me I could try using an A5 with black card or some such arrangement. The personal size would be far nicer, but the majority of my photos are 6x4 and wouldn't fit.

Anyone else had similar thoughts?

Lime Tree (2012-04-20 02:54:45)

I would like some better stickers. I am guessing the ones from FF were supposed to help easily spot deadlines, appointments, etc? I don't think the ones FF make are really easily recognizable when glancing at the calendar (besides the red dots for docks app). They are very small as well. Not pretty, not clear to understand, not very helpful. It would be great to have something like these, but a little smaller: <http://www.containerstore.com/shop/office/notebooks?productId=100322> 63

The other add-on would be "today" page markers in different lengths. That way if you use more than one - like I do - they don't get all piled up one behind the other making it harder to find the right page. I use these on my circa notebooks and really like it: <http://www.levenger.com/Pagetemplates/Product/MorePhotos.asp>

Thats it for now :)

Lime Tree (2012-04-20 02:56:24)

That last link was wrong, I meant this:

<http://www.levenger.com/PAGETEMPLATES/PRODUCT/Product.asp?Params=Category=326-329|Level=2-3|pageid=6798>

Babs (2012-04-20 05:00:03)

My initial thoughts are that you wouldn't be able to fit very many photos in each filo due to the thickness of the paper / card plus the photograph. I'd also worry about colour transfer from the card to the photograph over time. A quick google throws up Boots.com as having a couple which are plain black covers with a slot for your own picture in the front. Not weddingy IMO.

Louise Oakden (2012-04-20 05:04:13)

If you are in the UK paperchase have some amazing stickers set up for filofaxes, have a look at my blog I have done a recent post with them in.

Louise

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-04-20 05:05:37)

Oooh now you've got me thinking! I'm sure I'll come up with some add-ons later. But for now your question reminds me of this: <http://www.drawpilgrim.com/2010/12/to-diy-for-filofax-hacks-the-pen-case-pattern/> A pen case for fitting in you filofax! I'm sure it would be quite easy to make yourself!

doris98 (2012-04-20 05:20:57)

It's about time Filofax made their own top tabs. Would be so much easier, and would give us an option of top or side, should we want to choose.

Paul B (2012-04-20 05:33:40)

My favourite accessory is.....a pewter filofax personal hip flask :) I've never seen them sold since, but I definitely like it. More TODAY-style markers, such as a TO DO one. Top tabs for sure. Why do they insist on making us buy them from the web from other stores? Incredibly bad sales and marketing, Filofax. Could do much better.

And as its free for all friday, I have a question that has been perplexing me for ages. What is the purpose of the 13-column matrix that comes in the Time Management pack? Its bugging me that I can't even find an explanation of it from a search engine. And if its included, I just *have* to find a use for it.....

Answers on an electronic postcard?

Steve Morton (2012-04-20 05:35:33)

13 columns, think of it as 12 months plus a total column, Like a manual spread sheet.

industrious housewife (2012-04-20 05:43:29)

Ooh, how about an electronic timer that fits into the filofax for Flylady style task management?

A question - What do you put in credit card slots if you don't keep credit cards in them?

LJ (2012-04-20 06:19:15)

I bought some photo corners so I could do just that. I haven't got round to actually doing anything about it yet though...

LJ (2012-04-20 06:20:42)

Loving the electronic timer for Flylady idea :o)

the Merry Lemon (2012-04-20 07:05:59)

I would like something i can attach onto a personal size filo to hold my iphone, or a binder that has something like this as part of the binder. One part of my job involves running very large conferences and trade shows. I am running around with both the filo with all my notes and my iphone in my hand. I have been trying to figure out a hack to make one for myself, but haven't had a really good idea so far.

Also, sometimes i just need one or two sections from my personal size filo with me. There are small, simple personal filo size binders in stationary stores and on Amazon that are perfect for this. But they only come in vinyl. I like their simplicity. I wish i could find the exact item in leather. Or at least a more leather like vinyl.

krissydawn16 (2012-04-20 07:58:53)

I keep a pack of post-it flags in the credit card slots. I also keep business cards there until I have time to transfer the info into the address book.

Babs (2012-04-20 08:03:41)

What about some kind of hack using an iPhone armband for exercising attached round the front cover (or back cover!) of the binder do you can still open and close the binder. Should be quite easy to make something similar with fabric and Velcro or something similar to ensure a tight fit.

krissydawn16 (2012-04-20 08:04:53)

I've been looking for better home-management inserts. I use a larger binder (A4 size) to keep pages where I can check off daily to-do's like wash dishes, fold clothes, etc and weekly to-do's like vacuum bedroom, mop kitchen, etc. I also use these pages to write out menus and shopping lists. I'd love to move this system to my smaller Filofax. I found a perfect set of (purple!!) inserts on DIY Planner, but they are A5 size and my Filofax is a personal size... I may upgrade just so I can use the inserts!!

Shanananana (2012-04-20 08:07:46)

Is there advice anywhere on how to fix the dreaded snagging ring problem, where they kind of dip in the centres and catch the pages? The vintage 'Fax I was given a few weeks ago has this problem, possibly due to misuse (it's at least 10 years old) and I only keep it half full as a result. I'm quite handy, though I don't have soldering gear - any tips?

the Merry Lemon (2012-04-20 08:10:37)

That is an excellent suggestion - thank you! I will be at an apple store later today and I will check out possibilities.

Kelly Marriott (2012-04-20 09:09:14)

I am now the owner of a pocket Filofax Flex in the raspberry/pink color. It was calling to me yesterday from it's perch at Sam Flax in Atlanta and I couldn't resist. It was just so...well...cute. Now it's looking all smart and cute in my purse, resting alongside my purple pocket Finchley. But what shall I use it for? For now, it just has the notepad and jotpad inserts but I could always pimp it out. Any suggestions?

Jotje (2012-04-20 09:27:05)

Louise, how do we find your blog? Can't find a link in your profile ... :(

Jotje (2012-04-20 09:30:08)

Shopping lists? Meal planning? If you always have your Finchley with you, carrying an extra Flex might be a

little abundant...?

Kelly Marriott (2012-04-20 10:21:11)

It is a bit much. But it was just so cute....

Scoot (2012-04-20 11:26:32)

Pliers to gently bend them back into shape. Cushion with a piece of material to avoid scratching rings.

A little wax polished onto rings can improve paper movement quite substantially.

Just-Jenny (2012-04-20 12:40:05)

Hi everyone! Does anybody know if the Holborn is going to be released in any other colours? The current range includes black and brown.

Thank you

Neil (2012-04-20 12:46:59)

Photos are really cheap if you wait until you have quite a few to print out. For instance, 200 or more uploaded to the Tesco website will only cost 5p each and are delivered free to the branch of your choice. So, why not print two of each pic, one for carefully storing away, and one for your filofax. If you do this, then you don't have to worry too much about the longevity of the pics in your filofax, and so you can just hole punch them. Hole punched 6x4 pics work really well in a personal sized fax, and it's quite a funky approach to displaying pics.

Alison Reeves (2012-04-20 13:11:05)

This is what I would like for my A5 filofax:

<http://www.quiverglobal.com/>

I might get one for my birthday - the two pen one looks ideal - with two pen loops in my filofax that would give me room for 4 pens (all in different colours of course!)

Butanben (2012-04-20 13:42:24)

Go for it Alison!! I adore my Quivers and 4 pens is a huge bonus for colour coding the Filofax diary. Handy.

JasJan (2012-04-20 14:04:05)

I have just ordered the quiver for my A5, takes up to 4 weeks to get here thought it says (UK).

JasJan (2012-04-20 14:05:25)

Little photos, vouchers, stamps anything small enough really.

JasJan (2012-04-20 14:06:48)

The files with a full zip pocket on the right hand side fit an iphone

industrious housewife (2012-04-20 14:23:42)

I've got a couple of these. http://www.amazon.co.uk/Leuchtturm1917-P-en-Pencil-Loop/dp/B0050GTWM6/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1334946130&sr=8-1

Not stuck them on yet, lots of possibilities.

Louise Oakden (2012-04-20 14:38:22)

Sorry guys will have to look at that I'm

[Www.vintagegiraffe.blogspot.com](http://www.vintagegiraffe.blogspot.com)

I was on the Saturday reads a couple of weeks ago with it

Paul B (2012-04-20 14:54:47)

I have 3 USB sticks given to me by a company that are credit-card sized and the USB bit flips out. They stay put in my Credit Card holder insert and are always available. 24GB of storage, in my A5 filofax.

Paul B (2012-04-20 15:00:55)

My A5 Finsbury holds my iPhone minus case, in the inside left pocket, which has a full length zip. I use it all the time for meetings, on vibrate.

terriknits (2012-04-20 15:24:44)

have they discontinued the wine colour?

JasJan (2012-04-20 16:13:39)

I love these. Have one in my Malden, always amazes me how they never come un stuck.

industrious housewife (2012-04-20 16:20:42)

I'm going to see if I can get a very slim timer and hack myself a timer insert. :-D

I've got a little filo collection going now, so stamps etc. are in my main A5 planner, cards etc. in my handbag filo, but I'm developing a sort of 'happiness/gratitude' type binder and feel sorry for the empty card slots. :-D

Rabbit (2012-04-20 18:34:14)

Thanks for your ideas everyone :) Much appreciated.

aviatrix (2012-04-20 19:38:30)

Lurker and admirer here. I was wondering how similar this year's blue Finsbury is to the old Aqua one. Any comparison photos would be appreciated, or even a description of how they differ. Thanks!

Rabbit (2012-04-20 21:21:33)

This comment has been removed by the author.

indigogarden (2012-04-20 21:45:31)

There are credit card sized knives and multi-tools. I've been thinking of sliding one of those into a card slot. Always good to have some utility tools handy on the go.

indigogarden (2012-04-20 21:47:09)

Quivers are very handy. Beautifully made too.

Rabbit (2012-04-21 01:42:53)

I keep my post-its, loose notes that need filing, and business cards in my Personal's card slots. I previously kept the bare basics of my bank-cards and ID in there, but ever since I bought the Malden small purse I've not looked back (it is the cutest little thing ever!).

I also keep one of the Swiss Army's credit-card sized tools, as mentioned by indigogarden....the tiny scissors are a must for making my note paper 'slip on/slip off' the rings (my new favourite way to organise the less vital notes) when on the go.

Just-Jenny (2012-04-21 04:52:00)

Hi Terriknits, I couldn't find the wine on the UK website or city organiser... I will search further, thanks for the tip.

Karen Mitchell (2012-04-24 14:56:21)

Would love to see some inserts specifically catered to bloggers. A blogpost planner and ideas pages to go with my month to an opening in my Raspberry Metropol would be fantastic .

Web Finds - 21 April 2012 (2012-04-21 00:00) - Steve Morton

So once again we have been scouring the interwebs for those illusive posts about Filofax...

- [1]Filofax Love - Obviously Not Inspired
- [2]My Fiber Art Filofax - Tea and Talk for Two
- [3]Moleskine hack in a pocket Filofax - The Life of The Perpetual Student
- [4]Return of the Filofax - MacPsych
- [5]New Dividers - Paper Pens Ink
- [6]Guest Post - Caroline - Filofax Competition Winner! Domino Pocket! - Imysworld
- [7]wavering - Filofax Fixation
- [8]Filofax Enigma. The follow up - Rapunzel's World
- [9]Malden - Familientreffen - Filo-Manie
- [10]Filofax Joy - Blog On The D-List
- [11]My Little Family - Vintage Giraffe
- [12]My new Filofax setup with DIY templates - All Things Stationery
- [13]Puppy Love!! (or the irresistible Mini Malden) We really didn't need another Filofax blog (WRDNAFB)
- [14]Filofax Dashboard - Rapunzel's World
- [15]Meine filoFAX A5 Vorlagen - Blog von Matthias Penke
- [16]Moving back to the A5 - LJ's Blog of Stuff
- [17]Pocket Planning - Imysworld
- [18]Pocket Inspiration - Imysworld
- [19]Mein Uni-Filofax - Reality Princess
- [20]A5 Filofax Woes - Lady Tamlynn
- [21]Filofax Finsbury - Girl in a Teeny Town
- [22]Personal Organiser - Bunnies in Blazers
- [23]Inside the Malden - Simplify to Save
- Your blog post could appear here next week... Please email us if we missed you this week.

And coming soon... 2013 inserts from Ray and yours truly! Out next week....

Enjoy

1. <http://obviouslynotinspired.wordpress.com/2012/04/14/filofax-love/>
2. <http://teaandtalkfortwo.blogspot.fr/2012/04/my-fiber-art-filofax.html>
3. <http://thelifeoftheperpetualstudent.blogspot.fr/2012/04/moleskine-hack-in-pocket-filofax.html>
4. <http://macpsych.me/2012/04/15/return-of-the-filofax/>
5. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.fr/2012/04/new-dividers.html>

6. <http://imysworld.blogspot.fr/2012/04/guest-post-caroline-filofax-competition.html>
7. <https://filofaxfixation.wordpress.com/2012/04/16/wavering/>
8. <http://icclewu.blogspot.fr/2012/04/filofax-enigma-follow-up.html>
9. <http://filo-manie.blogspot.fr/2012/04/malden-familientreffen.html>
10. <http://www.blogonthedlist.com/filofax-joy/>
11. <http://vintagegiraffe.blogspot.fr/2012/04/my-little-family.html>
12. <http://allthingsstationery.blogspot.fr/2012/04/my-new-filofax-setup-with-diy-templates.html>
13. <http://notanotherfilofaxblog.blogspot.fr/2012/04/puppy-love-or-irresistable-mini-malden.html>
14. <http://icclewu.blogspot.fr/2012/04/filofax-dashboard.html>
15. <http://www.matthias-penke.de/2012/04/meine-filofax-a5-vorlagen.html>
16. <http://ljsblogofstuff.blogspot.fr/2012/04/moving-back-to-a5.html>
17. <http://imysworld.blogspot.fr/2012/04/pocket-planning.html>
18. <http://imysworld.blogspot.fr/2012/04/pocket-inspiration.html>
19. <http://realityprincess.wordpress.com/2012/04/20/mein-uni-filofax/>
20. <http://ladytamlynn.blogspot.fr/2012/04/a5-filofax-woes.html>
21. <http://girlinateenytown.blogspot.fr/2012/04/filofax-finsbury.html>
22. <http://preppybunny.wordpress.com/2012/04/19/personal-organiser/>
23. <http://simplifytosave.com/2012/04/13/inside-the-malden/>

LJ (2012-04-21 02:12:35)

I'm hoping my boys will go upstairs and play with their lego soon so I can read the web finds in peace. This is my 'me time' every week - not usually in peace, but nearly :o)
Thanks Steve

Sydney (2012-04-21 06:09:40)

I love web finds so much it's actually a bit embarrassing. On Friday night I go to bed thinking yay! web finds in the morning. I let myself read 3 posts before taking my daughter swimming then read the rest after I have done a bit of housework- it's my reward..

Babs (2012-04-21 08:34:25)

Thanks Steve. Another great collection as usual!

Butanben (2012-04-21 17:49:18)

Like the others, I save this spot in the week as me time. I even diary it in as the Philofaxy magazine spot!!! Better than Hello or Woman and Home any time!! Thanks Steve. One of my favourite times of the week.

GTD with your Filofax (2012-04-22 00:01) - Steve Morton

I discovered these video's on You Tube created by Neil. Take a look I quite like his approach. Here is an introduction by Neil himself.



[1]

I'm a fifty year old ex squaddie, living in the UK, enjoying life as a grandfather, and I've been a Filofax fan since the late eighties. And of course, I'm now a Philofaxy fan too.

I think my fascination with "getting things done" must have started when I was very young, because I distinctly remember cutting down a school exercise book to fit in my blazer pocket and writing out the timetable with my newly acquired fountain pen, in addition to games of "battleships", football league tables and my feelings of true love for our French exchange teacher. And since those early years I've been using some sort of paper based system almost on a continuous basis although, alas, "Mademoiselle Talbot" no longer appears on my "some day maybe" list. Anyway, here are some brief thoughts to accompany the videos of my simple GTD system, which I like to describe as "GTD Lite".

In my humble opinion, in order for a GTD system to work, it must be easy to understand, be able to cope with "projects" of varying size and not be so complex that I spend more time running my system than actually getting things done in the first place! It's so easy to fall off the GTD wagon, isn't it?

So, notwithstanding the fact that using a Filofax is an undoubtedly tactile experience, my GTD set up is deliberately basic and designed keep the number distinct procedures (and that includes hand and foot movements), to an absolute minimum. And of course, lower cost (no expensive filing cabinets and dividers), improved portability (your whole "office" compact enough to fit into a rucksack) and reduced paper usage, may have some appeal too.

Briefly, my system encompasses:

- Storing multiple documents together, referenced via a Filofax based master index, which also records things I have done and information I have obtained.
- Using a separate filofax as both a diary and a binder for a series of simple, contextualised or project specific "to do" lists.
- An A4 zipped Lyndhurst, for use as an in box.
- A small Moleskine that fits inside my diary filofax, but can be removed and carried on Britain's mean streets where Filofaxes fear to tread.

Steve has featured my four main Filofax based videos here(3-6), but Philofaxy fans may be interested in a series of further videos that look at aspects of this fascinating subject (how to eliminate the ubiquitous "someday maybe" list, for example), which will appear regularly on my You Tube channel. I use the term "Filofax Philosophy" (note the spelling) in the title, followed by a sequential number, so it is easy to separate my Filofax videos from others on my channel.

Anyway, that's enough from me - thanks in advance if you watch my videos.

IFRAME: [2]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/OEOhQlR4CeA>

IFRAME: [3]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/61uSWdhBMOU?rel=0>

IFRAME: [4]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/NJTtdsr1Cvw?rel=0>

IFRAME: [5]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/AuFog4A-30o?rel=0>

IFRAME: [6]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/Puzaf1kSqG0?rel=0>

IFRAME: [7]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/qUN2r9DEyWE?rel=0>

Thank you Neil, look forward to future videos.

1. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-172UJ1sjs68/T4__z7mUB0I/AAAAAAAAAKyw/m6mQWz_6iia/s1600/475.PNG

2. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/OEOhQlR4CeA>

3. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/61uSWdhBMOU?rel=0>

4. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/NJTtdsr1Cvw?rel=0>

5. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/AuFog4A-30o?rel=0>

6. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/Puzaf1kSqG0?rel=0>

7. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/qUN2r9DEyWE?rel=0>

JasJan (2012-04-22 02:34:58)

I had watched these videos a few days ago and was amazed at the simplicity and how it does not have to be complicated to be organised. I have since implemented your system...Many Thanks Neil.

Nellie (2012-04-22 03:30:07)

Fantastic set of videos, thanks!

Can I ask where you keep information like addresses and phone numbers, especially ones you may need when you are out and about?

gdigesu (2012-04-22 04:06:04)

Neil, thanks for the videos and for joining the Filofaxy club!!

Neil (2012-04-22 05:20:02)

Thankyou for your kind comment, Nellie. In my master index, phone numbers and addresses are circled in red and appear as soon as they become known to me, so usually at or near the top of each page. In addition, a single page is inserted behind each alphabetical divider to use as a quick telephone number reference sheet. When I am out and about, I have my numbers stored in my mobile phone, although I do have a single page of essential numbers in my filofax, just in case my phone is stolen. Similarly, those essential numbers are also stored in my small yellow Moleskine. Nellie, You raise a good point, so I'll upload a video to my Youtube channel about this very topic.

Sydney (2012-04-22 07:23:19)

Neil, I am impressed. I have had a system for several years that has worked fine for me but I am going to use a version of your 'master filing system' as I think it will enhance what I do. I can think of situations where it would have saved enough time having it together like that to warrant the time it would take to maintain it. It also means maintaining it could fit into when I have time to do it rather than when I am in a hurry. Thank you.

Neil (2012-04-22 09:06:18)

Thanks for the kind comment, Sydney. Although things have evolved over the years, and will no doubt continue to do so, the master index has always been at the core of my system. I didn't know there was a community of Filofax fans here until recently but, now that I do, I'll be posting more videos on Youtube on a regular basis. Many thanks once again.

Joey Quinton (2012-04-22 09:28:35)

Neil, I loved your series of videos on the GTD/Filofax system of organization. Thanks for sharing!

crofter (2012-04-22 10:08:25)

Very interesting and very well thought out, thank you for sharing. One question, what do you archive for future reference, and how do you do it? Thanks.

crofter (2012-04-22 13:03:35)

Thanks Neil, I look forward to seeing it.

The problem in the United States is that most records have to be retained for 7 years in case of Audit by the IRS. I use 3 ring binders with 3 inch capacity with papers filed alphabetically. At the end of 7 years I dispose of the majority of the contents and use that binder for the current year.

The notes from projects I keep forever. The rationale for this is that many times you have a project that is very similar to a past project. I think it is more important to record what went wrong than what went right, the right things are easily duplicated. This way I can review notes and avoid past mistakes. These notes are in journals which are cross referenced in the agenda for that year, I can quickly and easily find notes from 10 or even 20 years ago.

Filofax binders have been the backbone of my system, I love the binders, hate their paper. I use Rhodia pads cut to size and punched. It does take a bit of time but the payoff as my fountain pen or pencil glides across the page makes the whole thing worth it.

Neil (2012-04-22 13:14:18)

I've deleted my reply, amended it and reposted.

Thanks for your kind comment. Your point is a good one, because I failed to point this out. I'm adding a number of additional videos shortly, to cover my methodology in more detail, so I will add one that focuses on this issue. I currently archive certain items by photographing them with my iphone and using an app to upload the images to Google Picassa (but many prefer Dropbox), which saves me from having to use a scanner (remember my system is designed to potentially fit in a rucksack). A few really important documents are photocopied and stored at another address entirely. But it's obviously down to the individual to make the risk assessment.

However, my GTD system takes up so little space that archiving to save space isn't really necessary at all. Part of my review process, where I use the filofax plastic page marker to identify the next "project" or entity to look at when I have a spare five minutes, is to scan the appropriate page in the master index to identify any paperwork that can be shredded (bank statements that are more than six years old, for instance). Because a brief description of each individual piece of paperwork appears in the master index it is a piece of cake to find out-of-date documents. I draw a line through the description and then shred the document. Reviewing documents on an individual basis in this way prevents documents accidentally being shredded, and is an effective way of using small chunks unproductive time. Once a line has been drawn through each document on a given master index page, that page can itself become a document to go into a yellow folder, and will stay there indefinitely as a record of documents that have been destroyed.

The beauty of this system, given the compact nature of the master index and yellow folder storage, is that it gives you time (perhaps many years) before you have to start thinking about culling paperwork, by which time your GTD system will be so familiar to you that the culling process becomes just a small extra step to master.

I've recently had a massive clearout and managed to reduce my master index system from four to just two filofaxes, and my yellow folders from about 50 to just 10, but those 50 folders and four filofaxes were a cumulation of several year's failure to throw any paperwork away, and the system still functioned as it should, albeit taking up a little more space on the shelf.

Thanks once again for the feedback.

crofter (2012-04-22 15:33:00)

Neil, the problem is any kind of electronic storage is completely unreliable if from nothing else, changes in technology. How many people had things on floppies that for whatever reason, they may have not transferred to DVD's or whatever. If it is so reliable and one has trust in it, there would be no need for a paper based system.

I went through that once, lost everything, and it was partly my fault. Having said that, I really don't need the portability that is important to you, and I admire that about this system.

Thanks very much, anything that gives food for thought is worthwhile, and there are some things from your system that I may initiate on a trial basis.

Neil (2012-04-22 19:17:47)

I agree about the electronic back up. As you say, no electronic back up is completely reliable, but nor is paper. The chances of losing your paperwork through a fire or burglary is a possibility, the chances of Google Picassa crashing is also possible, but the mean time between both events happening simultaneously is probably several hundred years, statistically.

But you raise a really good point building in redundancy - even if you have a basic GTD system like mine, which is more aimed at keeping domestic lives in order rather than businesses, it's still worth thinking, "what if", as well as "what's the next step".

Butanben (2012-04-23 12:45:39)

Neil, thank you ever so much for posting these. It is always so great to look at fresh ideas and perspectives. I love the idea of having an archive index. I have just one question though..... why did you cut down the today marker? I didn't quite understand that!! Thank you once again. These were great.

Steve Morton (2012-04-23 12:53:57)

Jane

You need to look at one of Neil's new video's for the explanation of the page marker...

<http://youtu.be/BVH3ONCddzU>
Steve

Butanben (2012-04-24 01:33:06)

Steve, I looked at the videos, but I obviously missed the obvious somewhere here!!!! I'll watch it over again to see if I can answer the question.xx

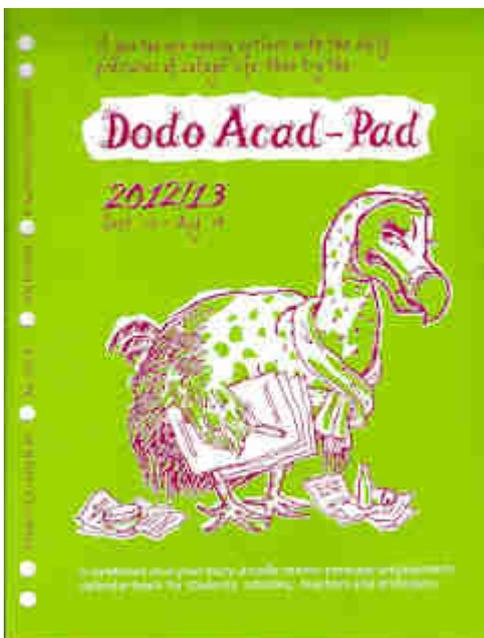
Neil (2012-04-24 08:44:58)

@ Butanben - Ah, I do have a video about the page marker, but I think you want to know about how I use the page marker as part of my review process? I'll do a more in depth video some time over the next few weeks, as the review process is very important in any system, but here's a brief explanation.

I start by inserting a page marker at the first page of my newly created master index. Then, next time I have a few minutes to spare, I open the master index at the page marker and start reviewing from that point. When I take a break from the reviewing process, I move the marker to that new point in your master index, just like using a book mark in a book that takes me several sessions to finish reading. And the next time I have a few minutes spare, I continue the process, with the marker progressing through the entire master index, whether that be just one or more than one filofax. Once I reach the end, I move the marker to the first page of the first filofax and so the process continually repeats itself. What I find is that firstly, no time is wasted because I'm only using small chunks of time that I would otherwise spend being idle and, secondly, I progress through the master index so often that in my mind I have a more comprehensive overview of my life and projects that could ever be achieved through a weekly or monthly review process. David Alan talks uses the analogy of an aircraft flying at different heights, to differentiate the different objectives of a staged review process but, in my humble opinion, I've got better things to do on a Sunday than sit down in front of even more paperwork, and even he admits to falling off the GTD wagon at times, which is admirably honest of him. Great guy, but he himself is standing on the shoulders of others that have come before him, and I'm just developing a simpler system that seems to work for me.

Claudia Volkman (2012-04-27 13:20:29)

Neil, I have really enjoyed watching your videos. I'm fascinated by your Master Index... does it hold info about projects and/or documents that are stored on your computer, or is it just for paper? Also - I'm not clear on how you use the ten folders. Do you just use one until it's full and then start another, or is there some kind of topical order to them? Thanks so much for being willing to share.



[1]

[Full Disclosure: Dodo Pad have sent Philofaxy this sample to review free of charge, we did not pay for it. However we have not let this 'free gift' influence our review of their product.]

You might already be familiar with the Dodo Pad inserts and diaries, Laurie has [2]reviewed them several times before. I will try not to repeat what has already been said about them.

This however is a new format of the Dodo Pad diary which is now available in a new 'Universal Size'. It's almost A4/US Letter Size, but not quite... it is in fact US Letter height (11 inches) but European A4 width (21cm), sort of a best of both worlds I suppose.

So inside it's like any other Dodo Pad, just bigger...

Each right hand page is a week per page, with a grid of five columns and the left hand facing page has room for notes etc. with a quote and artistic design like this:



[3]



[4]

The grid stays the same throughout, but each week is different; with different cartoons/quotes in different colours - all printed on high quality paper. Here's a sample of a week filled in:



[5]

There are of course several ways of using the five columns; for instance use it for a family diary and have each person in a different column, great for Mums and Dads with kids that need to be at different places at different times etc. Or it works just as well for one person who wants to fill the columns with different times of the days or make task lists.

This particular sample (Acad-Pad) is for the academic year so it runs from August 2012 to the end of August 2013. There will also be a conventional January 2013 to December 2013 Dodo Pad in this new 'Universal' size that Lord Dodo tells me will be available in June.

In addition to the weekly sheets there are year planners included with monthly pages for this year and the following year and a timetable page.

As much as this product is a serious planning tool to help you remember important things to do and record things you have achieved, there is a definite fun element running through the whole design. To do's, planning, appointments etc don't have to be boring.

One of the things you will also notice is all those holes! 7 of them to be precise. Now, there's a bit of a story behind why it has so many holes, and it goes something like this.....

One evening Lord Dodo called me up on Skype and after the usual initial pleasantries we got in to discussing the A4 Filofax...

LD: Do you have one?

SM: Yes of course!

LD: Do you think that a Dodo Pad would work in that size?

SM: I guess so, there is no reason why not, more space in each box etc.

Then came the crunch statement...

LD: We want to sell it in the States....

SM: You know that Filofax don't sell the A4 Filofax in the USA...

Silence...

LD: OK, so they can use an ordinary 2 ring or 4 ring binders instead....

SM: They don't sell those either... in the US... only 3 ring binders... but the spacing is different

LD: Ah ok.... what is the spacing...??

At which point I declared myself the 'Filofax Hole Spacing Standards Expert' a rather boring skill set as you can imagine. But in the world of stationery if the holes in your paper don't match the spacing

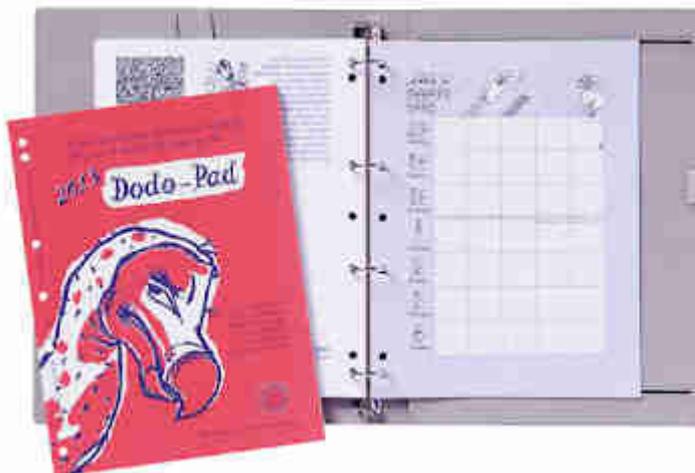
between your rings then you have an incompatibility issue....

Anyway the long and the short of it is, that this special Universal format has two sets of holes, 4 holes for 2/4 European Rings (including A4 Filofax) and 3 holes for the US 3 ring binders. The compromise on paper size ensures it will fit either binder.

Here are some pictures to show how it fits in either variety of binder.



[6]



[7]

If you want to discover more about Dodo Pad products then visit their [8]website to see the full range of planners and other fun products.

Thank you again to Lord Dodo for letting us see this new product.

1. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-LTvVdZH3q50/T4wbtUDmc8I/AAAAAAAAKxk/iK03qzHF7i0/s1600/dodopad4.jpg.jpeg>
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/search/label/Dodo%20Pad>
3. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-8fG3J49tWbQ/T4wbfJU15eI/AAAAAAAAKxM/XGzWdp7Rw5A/s1600/dodopad1.jpg.jpeg>
4. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-wJXwTy-1zfQ/T4wbhWhkdKI/AAAAAAAAKxU/yiTrq-3AY-Y/s1600/dodopad2.jpg.jpeg>
5. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-Cz0ds9vNFsw/T4wbmSCTFVI/AAAAAAAAKxc/61czmeGRvUw/s1600/dodopad3.jpg.jpeg>
6. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-wAmzobFIjZ4/T47fI7QiFrI/AAAAAAAAKyA/5bWtLw0IN80/s1600/732_dfxl13spr_web.jpg
7. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-Gv6F-bmqICg/T47fJ0c52uI/AAAAAAAAKyE/cN6gucxEwuU/s1600/733_dfxl13covfiloA4_cutout_.jpg
8. <http://www.dodopad.com/>

Laurie (2012-04-23 02:14:42)

Steve thanks for this fantastic review! I use a full-size binder to keep all those papers that come home from school, and this will be perfect in that binder.

How great that we can use any full-size binder no matter which side of the pond we live on! I wish other planner/diary brands would take this as a lesson and do the same thing!!

Alison Reeves (2012-04-23 03:51:50)

What a great idea to produce a product that can fit both the states and europe - and I've seen more holes on many smaller sheets so I think it looks fine. Well done Lord Dodo!! Also great review Steve - thanks for this - it's good to know we have a 'spacing expert' amongst us!

Babs (2012-04-23 04:03:24)

I'm trialling my first A5 Dodopad after last week's interview with Lord/Lady Dodo and I have to say I'm struggling a bit with it. There just seems to be so much wasted space! I was following Alison's lead and using it as a food and exercise diary, but I'm not sure how long it's going to last.

I know people love the brand so I thought I'd give it a go (and 2012 diaries are now half price!), but it seems I'm not going to be a Dodo-lover after all.

Nellie (2012-04-23 15:52:26)

I've just ordered a personal size diary to give it a go. I love how fun it is. I am a bit worried about space, but we'll see... :)

industrious housewife (2012-04-23 16:29:54)

That makes an A4 Filofax much more appealing.

I'm thinking of getting a Dodopad for my A5, to use specifically for meal planning. Not sure if it'll fit though, I've got a Week on Two Pages and a Page per Day stuffed in there already!

Sandra (2012-04-23 22:38:07)

Wow! That is a lot of doodle room!

How kind of you, Steve, to point out the goofy American binder system and the dreaded spacing compatibility issue. Very smart solution indeed.

Is America the only country that stubbornly sticks to 3 ring binders? *sigh*

New York City Philofaxy Meet-up (2012-04-23 06:00) - Steve Morton

There are still spots available for the NYC meet up on Saturday, June 16.

We will meet at [1]Sam Flax (900 Third Ave. - between 54th & 55th) at 1:00 p.m. After shopping, we will head to [2]Le Pain Quotidien (937 Second Ave. - between 49th and 50th) for a late lunch/early dinner.

If you are interested in attending, please contact Susan at kanalt17 [at] gmail [dot] com.

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

2. http://www.lepainquotidien.us/#/en_US/menu

Free For All Tuesday No. 64 (2012-04-24 00:30) - Steve Morton

Once again we find ourselves on a Tuesday with those burning questions you all want to ask... so fire away...

JasJan (2012-04-24 03:26:18)

Does anybody know if the Daytimer Binders compare in quality to Filofax?

Ashleigh (2012-04-24 07:29:15)

The other week I read on philofaxy's post all the inserts people wish there was for a Filofax. There was one in particular (sorry I can't remember the name) about there being a phone holder. I had exactly the same frustration!

So after thinking about it for a while I came up with a plan! The zipped folder insert u can buy makes a perfect phone holder! and if anyone has an iPhone u can still use it without taking it out the folder! obviously not to ring anyone but I can text and check my mails. To me it's a simple but genius plan to others it may be lame but it's nice knowing my phone is safe in my Filofax and something less for me to carry - even better :D does anyone else have any ideas that they have put in place and are finding they are working with their lifestyle demands?

Joey Quinton (2012-04-24 07:40:26)

I am an educator. Does anyone use their Filofax for teaching and planning? If so, I would love to know your setup.

Tim (2012-04-24 08:02:08)

Both Day Timer (www.daytimer.co.uk) and Time Manager (www.timemanager.com) binders are generally regarded as being of a similar (i.e. excellent) quality to pre-1991 UK-manufactured Filofaxes.

industrious housewife (2012-04-24 08:43:51)

My Vintage Pink Personal Malden just arrived. :-D

Half price on ebay if anyone wants to grab one as they seem to be discontinued.

Steph (2012-04-24 09:13:41)

I have been trying to find out, if you order a filofax binder from the UK site, and have it shipped to Canada, do you have to pay duties? I really want the Olympic binder and I need to know if I would have to pay duties. Customs told me it was up to the company, and I can't find anything out from the site. Thought I would ask here before I emailed filofax.

Anke (2012-04-24 09:15:54)

My A5 arrived from Filofax UK today, too. BUT it has a huge scratch, so I just contacted them and hope they will come up with a solution asap! :)

industrious housewife (2012-04-24 09:19:05)

Oh no! Hope they get it sorted.

Anke (2012-04-24 09:19:57)

Hi Joey,

I use my Holborn Zip A5 for teaching and planning and so do a couple of other teachers (some of them are active on the Filofax forum (<http://filomaniac.plusboard.de/>)) as well.

Have a look at Maus's blog (in German, though): <http://filo-manie.blogspot.de/> -my setup is similar, though not as detailed in the planning part (I use a W2P by Filofax and just write down a couple of keywords for each lesson, I do the "real" planning at home). I will hopefully get to write a blog entry about my setup as well :)

Anke (2012-04-24 09:21:29)

Thanks, so do I! It's really irritating to have that beautiful folder and not be able to use it :(

Sandra (2012-04-24 09:37:39)

Cancer signs are winning the latest Philofaxy poll! Mwah ha ha...water signs will rule the world. Thinking about an A5 Chameleon in aqua--anyone care to enable me or to talk me out of it? Go!

Lynne Dove (2012-04-24 09:39:46)

Hi JasJan,

I have a DayTimer Garden Path Desk sized binder. Thrilled with the quality of it. Soft leather and lay flat immediately. Had to invest in a hole punch as the ring spacing does not match A5 Filofax. However, they sell this binder in their compact size - same as filofax personal size and same ring spacing.

JasJan (2012-04-24 09:48:48)

Hi Lynee Dove, I was looking at the portable Garden Path binder, it looks very soft and reasonably priced. I may give it ago especially with 25mm rings!

JasJan (2012-04-24 09:50:36)

I'm cancer too...I wander what that says about us!!!

industrious housewife (2012-04-24 10:13:45)

Interestingly Virgos are coming last! Too busy being organised to talk about it? :-D

Lady_Tamlynn (2012-04-24 10:45:37)

@ Sandra I just ordered the A5 Aqua Chameleon last night. I noticed it had come back in stock on Friday and I spent all weekend trying to justify the expense to myself. But, I reasoned, it is half price and if I don't buy one now, it will be discontinued and I'll never have the chance. I've owned a few personal sized Chameleons in the past and I've always loved them.

I got the dispatch email from Filofax at 9:08am so hopefully I should have it in my hands tomorrow. I'm so excited :-)!

doris98 (2012-04-24 10:46:12)

I'm a Virgo, just voted! Was too busy tweaking my setup to notice there was a poll (:

doris98 (2012-04-24 10:53:28)

On a separate note - I'm having Slimline envy. I moved into a personal Ochre Malden and am loving all that space to write in - you could really cram a brick in there, I love it. What makes it great though is also it's downside for me, since it can get too big and heavy for me to carry around everywhere so I thought a Slimline would work better for on the go.

Do the personal inserts fit the Slimline, including tabs? I noticed the Slimline address index and was wondering how come that came in a Slimline size.

Thanks in advance for any reply.

Babs (2012-04-24 11:01:46)

I ordered one last week, but I have to say it hasn't "grabbed" me yet. It's not nearly as beautiful in colour as my Aqua personal Finsbury. I haven't discounted it yet, but it may well be up for sale shortly.

I'd say it's more green than aqua, and there's also a lot of black in it too.

Babs (2012-04-24 11:04:04)

Anke - thanks for the link to the forums. I wish there was a philofaxy forum to keep us all going on filofax chat during the week (sorry, Steve) so I'll check it out.

Ruby Scarlett (2012-04-24 11:09:17)

Thinking about buying my first ever Filofax on payday next week. After lots of reading, debating, pro/con listing, I think I've settled on an A5 Cuban Zip. I do a lot of journaling on top of day-to-day planning and want to stay on top of project management as well so I think the A5 format will suit me the most.

It's so expensive though :(

Someone talk me out of it please?

Quartz Eye (2012-04-24 11:13:27)

Hi all,

Last year I remember seeing a very vibrant turquoise/teal green Filofax on the UK site. I can't see anything in that colour on the site now. Does anyone know what model this might've been?

LucyLastic (2012-04-24 12:57:02)

It was probably an aqua Finsbury. I've got a pocket sized one and it's gorgeous. Keep an eye on eBay, they turn

up every now and again.

Quartz Eye (2012-04-24 13:29:40)

Hi LucyLastic - just googled that one. It wasn't that, but thanks for the suggestion. This one was more greenish than blueish and I think it had a sort of crocodile-skin finish.

mppaul2 (2012-04-24 13:31:14)

Is there a marketing strategy for Filofax to bring out a binder and then soon after discontinue it? I am new to Filofax and just purchased my first Red Finchely Personal planner, I did want the Imperial Purple but seems to be gone at most US sites. From what I have read it seems that this style just came on the market in 2010 and is now discontinued. I do not understand.

Babs (2012-04-24 13:35:50)

Green Piccadilly? It's a very vibrant green.

Babs (2012-04-24 13:37:08)

You're in the wrong place! ;-)

A5 sounds perfect for you. If you like it invest in a hole punch as it means you can easily print your own inserts on a4 or a5 paper.

Babs (2012-04-24 13:41:19)

You're in the wrong place ;-)

Sounds like it would be ideal for you. Let us know how it works out!

Steve Morton (2012-04-24 14:05:14)

Babs, this Facebook Group has been fairly active recently as a sort of Forum: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/7595192695/>

There's also the Filofax College Group on FB as well. Do we really need to have to check yet another site each day?

LJ (2012-04-24 14:24:08)

I got one at half price - it's not an 'in your face' kind of aqua like the Finsbury (which is gorgeous), but is more of an under-stated beauty. I love mine :o)

LJ (2012-04-24 14:26:50)

No-one here will ever talk you out of buying a Filofax - chronic enablers the lot of us :o) However, if you aren't 100 % sure about the price tag you could go for a cheaper model to check they work for you first. Then you could buy the Cuban Zip at a later date... Although not leather the Dominoes are pretty damn good :o)

Babs (2012-04-24 14:51:36)

Thanks Steve. I'm on my phone at the moment but will have a look when I'm back on my laptop or computer.

I just feel it would be nice to have an instant discussion forum. Somewhere to keep all the discussions, pictures, questions, etc, all in one place. But I agree it can become website overload!!

I'm a bit of a forum fiend though. I do like the banter and immediacy of them.

Louise Oakden (2012-04-24 15:12:24)

Joey, I am a teacher and have a Filofax specifically for teaching etc. there's some photos on my blog (www.vintagegiraffe.blogspot.com) but I'm aiming to do another more detailed blog about it soon

Ruby Scarlett (2012-04-24 15:15:31)

Thank you both for your answers!

LJ - the thing is I saw the Cuban Zip was on its way out and to be completely honest it's the one I like most

aesthetically, and by far so I figured if I'm buying one, might as well make it the one I really want. Knowing me, if the thing isn't pretty, I won't feel like using it at all (it's happened to me before). I'll just buy the thing, I can see it's no use fighting it :D

terriknits (2012-04-24 15:22:22)
maybe the Chameleon?

Scoot (2012-04-24 16:39:55)
At least get it cheap on ebay.

Scoot (2012-04-24 16:41:45)
Yes the Slimline takes same inserts and tabs as personal and compact size, being 171 x 95 mm.

Frederique (2012-04-24 17:04:14)
(okay now, what did I do with my comment ?!)

I have a red Metropol Slimline, so I can confirm that yes, the Personal inserts fit the slimline.

But beware : the elasticated pen loop (attached to the left cover), once full with a pen, will come in the way of the tabs you have. Or the tabs come in the way of the pen, either way... that's a downside.

But remember that the slimline rings are very small (11mm if I recall correctly), so if you put too many tabs (as they are much thicker than usual paper), and if you want to put a maximum amount of pages in your slimline, you'll have difficulty turning pages.

It didn't bother me much, though : I filled my Slimline with the slimline week-on-one-page insert, with a ruler for the current week, some colored note-paper on the front to jot down notes, ideas, whatever, and between the two sections, I had a few sheets with the lists I most refer to when I'm out and about (my wishlist, gift ideas for others, restaurants to try, my errands list, and so on), without any particular order. Therefore, I didn't care about using tabs.

The slimline model is really practical, all the versatility from the Personal format without the bulk in your bag; and it allows you to switch easily the content from a personal (when you want to carry your whole life with you) to a slimline (when you're out and about and worried about space and weight).

Oh, and I like the Slimline *a lot* because it doesn't have a closing "mechanism" : you open it much quicker than a regular personal. It looks... sleeker, too.

If you want, as I recently bought a Journey and a Pennybridge (I was waiting for the perfect Filofax/wallet combo), I could send you the slimline I have ? I've only been using it since Christmas, it's in good condition, and I don't think I'll use it again. There's no email in your profile, but if you are interested, please send me an email to 702723 at gmail.com

(I really should write the review I had in mind weeks ago, because there's not much information about "rarer" filofax like slimline or journey or the like... I will get to it, it's on my todo list !)

Vanjilla (2012-04-24 17:06:48)
Could it be Finchley in Teal?

Steve Morton (2012-04-24 17:06:52)
It got trapped as SPAM! Or the second one did... or was it the third! I will let you tidy up which to leave on here.
Steve

Vanjilla (2012-04-24 17:07:54)
People, I need some help :)
Chino in black or Urban in slate? :)

Frederique (2012-04-24 17:12:14)
Oops, sorry, that's fixed - thank you for your help !

Steve Morton (2012-04-24 17:16:00)

Ask our friends at City Organiser... their shipping rates are more realistic too. They will give you a prompt answer I'm sure.

Ruby Scarlett (2012-04-24 17:38:45)

Scout, it's nowhere to be found on eBay :(

mstraat (2012-04-24 17:40:47)

Urban in slate. I recall reading a post that the black Chino collected lots of lint. Also the outside zip pocket on the Urban is awesome.

Steph (2012-04-24 18:33:29)

I will email them now. Thanks for the reply Steve.

Joey Quinton (2012-04-24 18:36:21)

I have an A5 Cuban with a snap.....his name is Tennyson. You will love the Cuban....it is luxuriously soft!

doris98 (2012-04-24 19:29:01)

Thanks for everyone's reply.

@ Frederique: That would be so great if I could test out a Slimline. Been eyeing a few but was unsure of the size. You may have convinced me, especially with your offer. I'll shoot you an email. Thanks!

Lady_Tamlynn (2012-04-24 19:29:19)

Definitely the Urban. I have 3(a personal and 2 pockets) and I love them. They are very sturdy and full of useful pockets with plenty of space ringwise as well. I use mine as travel Filos as they can withstand a lot of bashing about in my bag.

Lime Tree (2012-04-24 19:53:45)

@Sandra, that is exactly what I am using for work right now, and I LOVE it! It is not hard at all (I thought it would be), lays flat when you open the first time, the two lovely pen loops fit each a 4 color bic - so I have 8 colors :D - and plus it is gorgeous! I say GO FOR IT! :)

Lime Tree (2012-04-24 19:56:37)

@industrious housewife, would you mind sharing a link to the Ebay seller? I can't find it :/

Lime Tree (2012-04-24 20:01:07)

That's exactly what I was thinking. How on earth are virgos just 3 %? :D

Lime Tree (2012-04-24 20:05:22)

How this happens? I am in the same boat. I just got a beautiful personal Domino snake that I am still experimenting with and yet can't stop thinking how would it be to have a slimline amazona! LOL Even thou I know the almond ones are totally gone. Too bad, I just can't settle with one...

Laurie (2012-04-24 20:23:20)

Unfortunately yes, most colored styles and even some entire lines of binders are made for one year only, and some even less. Binders are discontinued regularly and replaced by other styles and/ or colors. For example, the Finchley line has been discontinued and replaced by the Aston.

industrious housewife (2012-04-25 03:43:40)

Of course, http://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/Malden-Filofax-Leather-Personal-Organiser-Vintage-Pink-New-Boxed-2012-Inserts-/160768397749?pt=LH_DefaultDomain_3&hash=item256e8b11b5#ht_694wt_956

Ruby Scarlett (2012-04-25 04:07:12)

Thank you so much Joey! I had the opportunity to hold one in my hands and indeed it's super soft and feels great. I can't wait to own it now! Haven't decided on a name yet, which is unusual for me as everything down to my iPod is named. What colour's yours? I'll buy mine in chili red :)

Jotje (2012-04-25 04:10:36)

Ashleigh, what an amazing idea?! It never occurred to me that the touchscreen would still work behind plastic. I just tested it with both my iPod Touch and my Samsung smartphone. Both respond well behind the plastic. If you put the phone on speaker you could even make a call while the phone is inside the plastic pouch. Thanks for the inspiration!!!

Jotje (2012-04-25 04:17:30)

@Lime Tree: filofax.de still sells the Almond Slimline

Scoot (2012-04-25 04:46:27)

If you wait a while the Organiser of your choice will appear on ebay.

Vanjilla (2012-04-25 05:33:32)

Thank you both, Urban it is then! :)

doris98 (2012-04-25 06:15:38)

Pensandleather.com also still has several Amazons and Classics in Slimline. Happy shopping! (:

krissydawn16 (2012-04-25 07:39:34)

I just got a new A5 binder and had planned to get a Day Timer. But, when I got to the store to pick it up, I was really disappointed with the inserts compared to the Day Runner binders. The Day Timer I wanted came with a diary insert (academic year starting July) and a black flyleaf that wasn't the same size as the paper. The Day Runner came with a today marker, tabs, note paper, to-do paper, address sheets and tabs, an undated calendar, a transparent flyleaf, and a zipper pouch. There was no price difference so I went with the Day Runner.

the Merry Lemon (2012-04-25 08:19:41)

It was me! Thank you - that is a brilliant idea.

Yu (2012-04-25 08:40:07)

@Lime Tree - I also have one that I'm not using. I was going to put it on Ebay, but I might put it here on Philofaxy first. :)

Ashleigh (2012-04-25 09:40:59)

Jotje thank you for your reply I'm pleased it is working for you too :) and thanks for the speaker tip never thought of that!

Ahh the merry lemon yes you certainly got me thinking but thanks to your post I have found a solution so thank you for planting the seed :D

Ashleigh (2012-04-25 09:43:22)

does anyone have any links to buy top tab dividers/stickers? I keep seeing these great videos with them and I'm so jealous I can't find any!

Ray Blake (2012-04-25 10:24:13)

@Ashleigh - try Paperchase. Here's something they sell that might work for you:
<http://www.paperchase.co.uk/invt/00490815/>

Lime Tree (2012-04-25 11:23:14)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Lime Tree (2012-04-25 11:26:42)

@Yu that is very exciting! Would you mind emailing me your asking price? Limetreefruits [at] gmail [dot] com. I SO don't need another FF but that sounds too juicy to ignore! :D

@jotje I will still keep my hopes up for a .de sale!

Ashleigh (2012-04-25 11:41:05)

Thanks Ray these are the ones I saw and wanted!

LJ (2012-04-25 14:50:12)

I love any binger that has 2 pen loops big enough for the BIC 4 colours - they are the way forward - love having 8 colours to hand at all times :o)

LJ (2012-04-25 14:52:36)

Good choice - the chilli Cubans are gorgeous :o)

Quartz Eye (2012-04-25 15:05:40)

Thanks guys - I've looked those up and they don't match my memory - maybe I imagined it! Anyone know if Deco ever came in a bright turquoise color?

ONutter (2012-04-25 15:10:12)

Another option is ordinary paper gems. I have a different coloured paper gem for each section. Also works great. :)

Vanjilla (2012-04-25 16:55:39)

Hm, I'm getting really curious now which one you saw!!! :)

No, Deco was only available in Ebony, Ivory and then later in Ruby and Amethyst...

Lady_Tamlynn (2012-04-25 18:14:46)

I seem to remember the Osterley being available in a kind of blue - green colour when it first came out. Would that be the binder you're thinking of?

Lime Tree (2012-04-25 21:42:26)

Oh, Ebay UK, that's why I couldn't find! ;) Thanks for the link!

Lime Tree (2012-04-25 21:45:12)

Bloomsbury?

Lime Tree (2012-04-25 21:48:14)

should have read this first, so not Bloomsbury for sure :)

Sandra (2012-04-26 12:23:36)

Thank you for your comments! I ordered one yesterday as its color, more of a slate blue, really has me for some reason. Love the loops and ability to carry more colors with me!

Will post about it at filofanatic.blogspot.com when I am able. :)

Quartz Eye (2012-04-26 13:28:55)

Urgh, I'm beginning to doubt my sanity! :) Not the Osterley or Bloomsbury. It was so bright it was almost garish, but not quite.

Quartz Eye (2012-04-26 13:29:32)

Thanks for the suggestions, by the way!

Belzira (2012-04-26 16:18:40)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Yu (2012-04-26 16:20:10)

Email sent! :D

Free Print Your Own Diary Inserts for 2013 (2012-04-25 00:30) - Steve Morton

Ray and I have had our gang of little people diary makers busy in the office these last few weeks assembling the full set of 2013 inserts for your pleasure.

In this post we will list all of the formats available, please refer back to the original articles for the details on each format and also to the source files if you fancy coming up with a format of your own, or just a variation on one we already have done. Anything is possible!

We will not be laying off the little people just yet.... they will have a rest during the summer and we will put them back to work again in the New Year to get them to produce the 2014 inserts.... if there is the demand of course... we have no idea how many of you are using them.

Anyway if you have any suggestions for improvements or comments about how you are using these inserts we would love to hear from you and we will pass on the comments to the little people.

A4/A5 Format inserts for 2013

- Day Per Page [1].docx [2].pdf
- Day On Two pages [3].docx [4].pdf
- Enhanced TM Week Per View [5].docx [6].pdf
- Enhanced TM Week Per View '5 line' [7].docx [8].pdf
- Vertical Week Per View [9].docx [10].pdf
- Two Days Per Page (Lined) [11].docx [12].pdf
- Two Days Per Page (Unlined) [13].docx [14].pdf
- Month Per Page [15].docx [16].pdf
- Month Per View [17].docx [18].pdf
- Year Planner A4 [19].docx [20].pdf
- Year Planner A4/A5 Z fold [21].docx [22].pdf

Personal on Personal Paper

- Day Per Page [23].docx [24].pdf
- Vertical Week Per View [25].docx [26].pdf
- Month Per Page [27].docx [28].pdf
- Month Per View [29].docx [30].pdf

Personal on A4 Paper

- Day Per Page [31].docx [32].pdf
- Day On Two pages [33].docx [34].pdf
- Enhanced TM Week Per View [35].docx [36].pdf
- Vertical Week Per View [37].docx [38].pdf
- Two Days Per Page (Lined) [39].docx [40].pdf
- Two Days Per Page (Unlined) [41].docx [42].pdf
- Two Days Per Page (with icons) [43].docx [44].pdf
- Month Per Page [45].docx [46].pdf
- Month Per View [47].docx [48].pdf
- Year Planner [49].docx [50].pdf

Pocket on A4 Paper

- Enhanced TM Week Per View [51].docx [52].pdf
- Two Days Per Page (Lined) [53].docx [54].pdf
- Two Days Per Page (Unlined) [55].docx [56].pdf

Please report any broken links to philofaxy at gmail dot com

[57] 

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1. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/A4_A5_pre-collaboration%20files/2013MergedA41day1pages.docx
2. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/A4_A5_pre-collaboration%20files/2013MergedA41day1pages.pdf
3. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/A4_A5_pre-collaboration%20files/2013MergedA41day2pages.docx
4. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/A4_A5_pre-collaboration%20files/2013MergedA41day2pages.pdf
5. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced_TM_Week_View/2013_merged_Enhanced_TM_Week_per_view.docx
6. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced_TM_Week_View/2013_merged_Enhanced_TM_Week_per_view.pdf
7. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced_TM_Week_View/2013_merged_Enhanced_TM_Week_per_view_5line.docx
8. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced_TM_Week_View/2013_merged_Enhanced_TM_Week_per_view_5line.pdf
9. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Vertical_Week_View/2013_merged_Vertical_Week_per_view_A4.docx
10. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Vertical_Week_View/2013_merged_Vertical_Week_per_view_A4.pdf
11. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/2_Days_Per_Page/merged_2_days_per_page_lined_2013.docx
12. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/2_Days_Per_Page/merged_2_days_per_page_lined_2013.pdf
13. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/2_Days_Per_Page/merged_2_days_per_page_2013.docx
14. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/2_Days_Per_Page/merged_2_days_per_page_2013.pdf
15. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/MonthView/2013merged_monthpage.docx
16. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/MonthView/2013merged_monthpage.pdf
17. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/MonthView/2013_Merged_A5Monthon2page.docx
18. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/MonthView/2013_Merged_A5Monthon2page.pdf
19. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/YearPlanner/2013%20merged%20A4_A5%20annual%20planner.docx
20. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/YearPlanner/2013%20merged%20A4_A5%20annual%20planner.pdf
21. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/YearPlanner/2013%20merged%20A5%20annual%20planner%20ZFold.docx>
22. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/YearPlanner/2013%20merged%20A5%20annual%20planner%20ZFold.pdf>
23. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_Day_per_Page/2013DayPerPagePersonalFF.docx
24. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_Day_per_Page/2013DayPerPagePersonalFF.pdf

25. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_Vertical_Week_View/2013_merged_Vertical_Week_per_view_Personal_Personal.docx
26. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_Vertical_Week_View/2013_merged_Vertical_Week_per_view_Personal_Personal.pdf
27. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20MonthView/2013_mergedMonth1Pages_PersonalPageSizePrintOnPersonal.docx
28. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20MonthView/2013_mergedMonth1Pages_PersonalPageSizePrintOnPersonal.pdf
29. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20MonthView/2013_mergedMonth2Pages_PersonalPageSizePrintOnPersonal.docx
30. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20MonthView/2013_mergedMonth2Pages_PersonalPageSizePrintOnPersonal.pdf
31. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/1dayperpage/2013%20merged%20Personal%20DPP%20print%20on%20A4.docx>
32. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/1dayperpage/2013%20merged%20Personal%20DPP%20print%20on%20A4.pdf>
33. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/1day2page/2013%20merged%20Personal%20DPV%20print%20on%20A4.docx>
34. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/1day2page/2013%20merged%20Personal%20DPV%20print%20on%20A4.pdf>
35. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_TM_Week_View/2013%20merged%20Personal%20Enhanced%20TM%20Week%20View.docx
36. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_TM_Week_View/2013%20merged%20Personal%20Enhanced%20TM%20Week%20View.pdf
37. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_Vertical_Week_View/2013_merged_Vertical_Week_per_view_Personal_printA4.docx
38. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_Vertical_Week_View/2013_merged_Vertical_Week_per_view_Personal_printA4.pdf
39. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_2_Days_Per_Page/2013%20merged%20Personal%202%20days%20per%20page%20lined.docx
40. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_2_Days_Per_Page/2013%20merged%20Personal%202%20days%20per%20page%20lined.pdf
41. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_2_Days_Per_Page/2013%20merged%20Personal%202%20days%20per%20page.docx
42. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_2_Days_Per_Page/2013%20merged%20Personal%202%20days%20per%20page.pdf
43. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_2_Days_Per_Page/2013%20merged%20Personal%202%20days%20per%20page%20lined%20with%20icons.docx
44. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_2_Days_Per_Page/2013%20merged%20Personal%202%20days%20per%20page%20lined%20with%20icons.pdf
45. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20MonthView/2013_mergedMMPP_PersonalPageSizePrintOnA4.docx
46. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20MonthView/2013_mergedMMPP_PersonalPageSizePrintOnA4.pdf
47. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20MonthView/2013_mergedMthPerView_PersonalPageSizePrintOnA4.docx
48. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20MonthView/2013_mergedMthPerView_PersonalPageSizePrintOnA4.pdf
49. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/YearPlanner/2013%20merged%20Personal%20annual%20planner.docx>
50. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/YearPlanner/2013%20merged%20Personal%20annual%20planner.pdf>
51. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_TM_Week_View/2013%20merged%20Pocket%20Enhanced%20TM%20Week%20View.docx
52. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_TM_Week_View/2013%20merged%20Pocket%20Enhanced%20TM%20Week%20View.pdf
53. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_2_Days_Per_Page/2013%20merged%20Pocket%202%20days%20per%20page%20lined.docx
54. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_2_Days_Per_Page/2013%20merged%20Pocket%202%20days%20per%20page%20lined.pdf
55. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_2_Days_Per_Page/2013%20merged%20Pocket%202%20days%20per%20page.docx
56. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_2_Days_Per_Page/2013%20merged%20Pocket%202%20days%20per%20page.pdf

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Babs (2012-04-25 03:52:25)

Quick question - are the docx files the source files or did you use some kind of database merge to create them (eg excel data merged with word template)? I want to print off the enhanced TM inserts but want to make a small change first.

Thanks so much Steve and Ray! These are great and very useful!

Steve Morton (2012-04-25 04:04:54)

The original source files here: <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/free-diary-inserts.html> have been updated so you need to download the word and excel file, change the Word file and then do the merge again.

In this post the Docx files are the merged files and likewise so is the PDF. Ready to print.

Hope that helps.

Jotje (2012-04-25 04:05:42)

Thank you Steve and Ray!!

I actually discovered this morning that Franklin Covey offer a free sample of 31 UNDATED days of 2PPD inserts for the Classic size. You would need to print it out and punch it yourself.

Here is the link to the PDF:

<http://www.franklincovey.co.uk/resources/view/31>

Also - no idea if I'm allowed to post this here - I have the Filofax Time Management weekly inserts for 2012 on sale on ebay (search for Filofax Professional).

I see that Filofax had introduced the 2013 refills on their website, but there's nothing in the Time Management section ...?

Babs (2012-04-25 04:38:29)

Fantastic! Thank you Steve. Sounds like the ideal rainy day project. Shall I send you back the amended file in case anyone else wants it too?

Joey Quinton (2012-04-25 08:54:06)

Love them!!! Thank you guys for all of your hard work...it is MUCH APPRECIATED!!!

Joey Quinton (2012-04-25 08:56:27)

Judith, I really love your YouTube video on your A5 Adelphi! I have watched them several times and picked up some ideas from you. Thank you very much!

Steve Morton (2012-04-25 09:40:05)

You can please. I'm always interested in feed back particularly on the design. You might notice I've tweaked the design of the Enhanced TM Week Per View insert already compared to the 2012 version, this was based on my own use of this insert over a period of a couple of months, sometimes you don't get things 100 % right first time and you need to adjust things a little bit.

I think the inserts will evolve over time, a tweak here and there.

Steve Morton (2012-04-25 09:40:36)

Thank you.

Jotje (2012-04-25 10:04:52)

@Joey: Thank you for your kind comment!

Butanben (2012-04-25 11:45:20)

Thank you guys for all your hard work and of course the band of little office helpers. I am using the amended TM diary for A5 and have made a few adjustments. Took me ages to do, but well worth the effort. I have changed the today to Memo, have bolded the lines in colour, and have added paint and fill in pale blue to the headings and weekends. So it is more of a bold print and light blue version. I can send a copy to anyone who would be interested in my amended version for 2012. Haven't thought about 2013 yet!! Thanks again to both of you. It is a superb diary format and the proof of the pudding is that I have not changed diary formats once this year!! Brilliant stuff!!

Sandra (2012-04-25 11:56:33)

I'd love to see your colored version! Skhen at hotmail dot com. Thanks in advance! ;)

Jen M (2012-04-25 12:02:48)

Hi Steve -

I am newly returning to my Filo after years away because I love its flexibility. I do, however, really like Planner Pads format but they are too big for my A5. Do you have any plans to develop a similar one?

Thanks - Jen

kari Soursa (2012-04-25 12:16:07)

I bought a pocket filofax to help me structure my days about 6 months ago. It really helped me to reach closer to the goals i set for myself. A really helper on my way trying to change things.

Then i found this blog, and the people here..... Offcourse i had to have a A5!

I printed out the DPP , and its just great!

I am impressed by Ray and Steve, and others who make this effort , and give it away free to use. Thank you ever so much. It is VERY useful, better then the original inserts from my point of view :)

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-04-25 15:12:17)

I have been struggling with my pocket-size set-up but I think the pocket TM diary may well be the solution! Gone to track down the 2012 version and try a week or so (great bonus to be able to try out and if it doesn't work, try another without massive expense!).

Yet another brilliant thing about Philofaxy! Steve, Ray, you are stars!

HM (2012-04-25 15:21:14)

Thanks so much to the little people! Please tell them we appreciate very much their work and love using their templates :) Thanks again!!!

doris98 (2012-04-25 20:41:41)

More toys to play with in 2013. (:

Butanben (2012-04-26 00:20:12)

Steve, I love the days of the week on the to do side of the new 2013 Amended TM diary for 2013. Just one question. Would it be possible to have a version with the 5 lines as they were before in the 2012 diary?? Only this seemed just right for me personally for my number of to dos each day. Afraid I don't know how to use the 2012 original to create a 2013 version in Excel or Word.

Steve Morton (2012-04-26 02:44:49)

Yes I will do a '5 line' version later today

Steve

Jotje (2012-04-26 05:33:10)

Jen, you could use the A5 column layout that Steve and Ray created. If you use the doc source files you could adapt the layout to mirror the PlannerPad pages. But layout as it is now would also offer the Funnel option!

Butanben (2012-04-26 09:08:16)

Thank you ever so much for that Steve. I am just so very grateful for that. I think I have found planner Nirvanah in Ray and your TM A5 diary. The 2012 format was perfect in 5 lines and the addition of days of the week I think will be so useful.... a great tweak.Touching wood madly here.... it has been working very well for me so far.HUGEST THANK YOU.S. XXXX

Steve Morton (2012-04-26 16:32:52)

I've now done a '5 line' version which is now available.

Regards

Steve

Jen M (2012-04-26 22:22:53)

Thank you for the suggestion I haven't seen that file - could you point mien the right direction?

Many thanks again!

Steve Morton (2012-04-26 22:27:38)

The Vertical Week View one....

We have avoided copying exactly existing inserts so that we don't come up against copyright issues.

So in answer to your question I don't think we would make an exact replica of the Planner Pad, although I'm sure we could do something 'similar' !

Steve

Butanben (2012-04-27 03:41:00)

Steve, you are not just a star, but a SUPERSTAR!! Thank you, thank you, thank you!!

Jen M (2012-04-27 22:15:24)

I totally understand re the copyright. If there is a possibility though of a similar set up I am certain quite a few Filofaxes would love it too :)

How do you - Freelance? (2012-04-26 00:30) - Laurie

I'm glomming onto Steve's excellent *How do you use?* series to ask the freelancers in our Philofaxy community, how do you use your Filofax to keep track of it all?

I'm on the verge of having multiple freelance opportunities (hooray for me!) and I want to be organized about it all right from the beginning.

I'm thinking of using my A5 Filofax this way: A tabbed section for each client with content ideas, notes and records of conversations; a month on two pages calendar to track blog posts and other deliverables (color coded for each client), and maybe a day per page diary to keep a record of what work I do each day, record billable hours, phone calls and other communications, etc. again color coded for each client.

But is this the best way to go about it? Do you freelancers out there do things a different way?

And I still haven't figured out how best to track billable hours, deliverables and especially invoices and payments separately for each client, to make sure I'm meeting my quotas and getting paid on time.

I would love any suggestions!

Cazzle (2012-04-26 04:54:13)

I've been thinking about the same thing; I'm just about to graduate and embark on a career as a freelance illustrator (hopefully).

What kind of work do you do?

I'm considering a spread sheet for tracking payments, which I will print off for my filofax. You may need to track different things from me, but my columns will be:

Date, invoice number, client ref. number (if they supplied one) client name, gross fee, sales tax/VAT, net, date

paid.

Don't know if this helps, I'm really interested to see how other people manage this stuff too!

Clamball (2012-04-26 05:14:02)

I think a section for each client is a good idea, plus a calendar to track deliverables.

To record each clients work I would prefer to do that in the tabbed section for each client, perhaps undated day per page dairies so that you can record date and other items per client. All data for each client would then be in one section. If you record all data in one day per page for all clients then at some stage you will have to collate all that info per client.

Jotje (2012-04-26 05:28:21)

First of all: congrats Laurie on this opportunity! That's great!

Then: For tracking billable hours you absolutely need Rays new tracking sheets. They are extremely easy to use and you can track several clients/activities etc. on the same sheet. I love this!

As for tracking payments: I mark in my calendar when a payment is due. If it hasn't been paid, I mark that I mailed or sent a reminder and when the new due date is.

The pay date itself is recorded on my pc (in excel).

Alison Reeves (2012-04-26 06:20:07)

OK - I have a different take on this. I've been freelancing for around 17 years now, although I will admit I am not the worlds most organised person. Some of the ideas here are good and I might adopt some - but I'll list my preferences.

First off, I don't have a section for each client or anything like that - I keep all my client files in a seperate folder - these are filed in a filing cabinet and are all A4/foolscape size. I just lift the folder out when I want to work on it or when I have a meeting with that client. The reason for this is that clients come and go - I never need all my info on the go and you will end up archiving some of the clients or their info anyway. The other thing is that I often end up with things my clients have sent to me, or sample of brochures I have designed and created for them and these are usually A4. All these are kept in the main client folder.

I invoice using an excel template and mark on my calendar when each payment is due and I can check if it has been paid. I use my accounting system (such as it is) to keep all the info - with sections for bank account, business card, VAT, invoices, receipts. I record all the receipts and my payments onto an excel spreadsheet in a format agreed with my accountant.

I'm a bit hit and miss with recording my timekeeping which is why I designed the tracking sheets (I found I was undercharging as I started estimating and erring on the side of safety) that Ray kindly took and made look very pretty, and converted into different size formats. You can use one side a day and record several customers (or if required a different task for a customer) and mark off the time in 15 minute segments.

I use the Filofax Time Management weekly and daily sheets for more detailed planning. Odd things that crop up that have to be done that day can be recorded on these as well.

I use Filofax month to view for overall planning (I also conduct training courses for direct clients and agencies) so I can see the pattern over the month and if someone asks for a date I can try and spread my days out a bit. Also depending on venues some fit together better than others.

I plan to get more organised with my blogging on what will be my two websites (when they are completed) so I will use a month to view to plan this out - I will most probably print out one from Philofaxy for this. (The new diary's only came to Philofaxy after I had bought my current set, so I'll have to decide which to use next year).

The one area where I struggle is todo lists and project lists. The reason is that I want to see my todos/projects together and by customer (or business area for my own projects) which is a challenge and I haven't quite got around that yet. If anyone can come up with a good way to do this please post!

Sorry this is so long and I have probably forgotten some stuff I do - will post again if something springs to mind. I'm hoping that I'll learn some neater ways to handle all this - just because I've been doing it for so long - it doesn't mean I have got it right - it's so easy to fall into doing things one way and not looking up to see better ways of doing it. Also when you work on your own you don't always get chance to share ideas with others - which is why Philofaxy is so brilliant!

Scot (2012-04-26 08:14:32)

I'd keep the notes of conversations in the client file, since you'll no doubt have a professional/legal duty of care such will likely have to be done anyway, but that doesn't stop you initially recording notes of A5 paper and afterwards putting them into an A4 client file.

What I believe is essential to resolve from the start, is to set a clear diving line between the purpose of the fax and the record being the client file.

For each client, in the fax I'd certainly be happy to keep a copy of the principal details/parameters specific to each client (inc contact details); a simple journal/timesheet of events for each client; a planning/to do sheet for each client. I'd certainly want to be able to generally advise a client by a quick check of the contents of the fax alone, preferably by just looking at a few key facts, and certainly have avoided wasting time through just duplicating the contents of the actual A4 client file.

Colour coding is great, but can sometimes be a pain when under artificial light, or if a particular shade of colour runs out and you're not near a stockist that is open. If you have a lot of clients and a unique colour for each client then you're likely to end up making compromises that undermine any colour coded system.

Neil (2012-04-26 15:52:42)

If I'm going to a meeting, I take my A4 zipped Lyndhurst. I'm probably going to be given some stuff in A4 size, and the Lyndhurst keeps everything safe. But if I'm travelling light it's easy to fold A4 paper in half and slip it into the full width pocket of my pocket sized Kensington (it just sticks out an inch or so).

se (2012-06-01 01:00:13)

Hi, this blog is really instructive. I would like to know more about this.

[1]A4 Zipped Binders & Folders

1. `file://localhost/mnt/ext/blogbooker/tmp/zg8xs5tq/www.sevenk.co.uk/index.php/products/leather-folders-binders-a4.html`

Free For All Friday No. 180 (2012-04-27 00:05) - Laurie

For folks in the northern hemisphere, summer is just around the corner!

Those of us who are parents with kids in school are starting to realize how busy the next month or two will be. The end of the school year is always a flurry of performances, class parties and assessments, and fitting it all into our already-busy schedules can be a challenge.

These next couple of months will be very busy for me in another way too: in June we are moving back to Scotland, so my Filofax is working overtime with preparing for the move, sorting out logistics, and planning lots of fun things to do when we get there!

Are you using your Filofax to schedule your very busy May? Are you starting to make plans for this summer? Will you [1]travel, head to the beach, [2]work in your garden or just generally enjoy the long warm days?

And for the folks in the southern hemisphere, are you making your winter plans?

As always on Fridays, feel free to contribute any Filofax-related questions or comments.

Have a great weekend everyone!

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/03/how-do-you-use-travel.html>

2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/03/how-do-you-use-gardening.html>

Lily (2012-04-27 02:17:06)

I thought you might like to read my blog post about mt new Filo :)

<http://theprettychallenge.blogspot.co.uk/>

queendelesa (2012-04-27 02:31:08)

Hi Laurie, yes you're right. My personal Classic pink one is stuffed with all deadlines concerning my french lessons, the deadlines of my sons school business, business appointments etc. Holiday planning is in there, too, but

to be honest I've bought the personal Mode in Aqua for our holidays this summer in South France - blue ==> Côte d'Azur! And I have to say, I love the Norwegian inserts! (will post on flickr a.s.ap.) Wish everybody out there a happy and sunny weekend, as we might have here in Berlin.....

Ruby Scarlett (2012-04-27 03:54:55)

Placed my first order on City Organizer for my first ever Filofax. So excited! I asked for opinions on getting an A5 on Tuesday but in the end I couldn't justify the cost and I can't wait around for one to pop up on eBay, it's rather urgent. I'll soon be the owner of a Personal Metropol in Kingfisher Blue. I hope, though part of me doubts, that it'll be enough to cover all of my needs (job, teacher certification exam, lots of journaling and personal goals/reflections, social life and daily todos).

I think I'll get an A5 Cuban Zip off somewhere at some point anyway, if only for the sole reason that I've been dreaming of it at night! For now, my Personal Metropol will have to do.

industrious housewife (2012-04-27 04:27:20)

I love the Kingfisher Blue colour. Congratulations!

David Popely (2012-04-27 04:28:14)

Hi Ruby, congratulations on your purchase! you've done a Good Thing.

Do you use the GTD (Getting Things Done) system for keeping track of tasks and projects? If not, you might like to take a look at it. There's a post in late December 2011 from me on my GTD setup (which I run from a personal-sized Malden FF) - run a business, a busy personal life and several non-work involvements using it, and I'm very happy with it. If you want to email me at any time, feel free to do so! Always happy to talk task management :)

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-04-27 04:54:47)

This next month is going to be extremely busy for me too. I have my last 3 essays due in in less than 4 weeks, and then I will be moving into my new uni house for the summer. As soon as that finishes I have to make some serious progress on my dissertation, which is due in mid-September at the latest, but I also want to apply for my PhD in late June, for which I need to do tonnes of research, a brilliant research proposal, a really good draft chapter of my MA dissertation and a clear and concise overview of the content and structure of my MA diss too. I have to impress an extremely hard-to-impress Professor!! So yes, my Filofaxes will be working over-time!!

Ruby Scarlett (2012-04-27 05:01:00)

Hi David!

Yes I've read your posts about the system and watched the vids. I might take some elements from it (if it takes less than two minutes, do it now and write things down so you can focus on the doing and not the remembering most specifically) :)

Industrious Housewife, I went for one of the cheapest to be honest as I'm a red/bordeaux girl myself but that meant full price. The cheapest was actually in Lavender but somehow the blue seemed more attractive, and I like the name :)

Don't know why Metropols don't seem to get much love, it seems to be all about the Malden!

Ruby Scarlett (2012-04-27 05:05:06)

Sounds like you have a lot on your plate indeed! I did a Master's some time ago, somehow with no organizer whatsoever besides the occasional piece of paper. I got a 2:1 so I must have done something right!

Good luck with your studies :)

David Popely (2012-04-27 05:05:32)

The Malden certainly seems to be a cult all of its own - I'm a member, and I wouldn't swap it for any other model. But there are a lot of factors - price, colour, capacity (ring size), and no one binder is going to serve all. Good luck with your various enterprises!

Scout (2012-04-27 05:28:08)

Such expectations! I hope you will be very happy together.

doris98 (2012-04-27 05:29:05)

Hi, I've been on the prowl for pink personal Classic myself and have had no luck. Don't want to pay full price for it.

Does it lay flat? How does it hold up? I'd love to see pictures if you have any.

Steve Morton (2012-04-27 05:47:09)

There's a Pink Personal Classic in Ad Spot (Readers Ads) for €80 I think:

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/readers-ads.html>

May be make an offer if that price is too high...

Steve

doris98 (2012-04-27 07:37:52)

Oooh, I forgot about that. I'll think about it, thanks for the tip.

Missus Aka (Christa) (2012-04-27 08:13:52)

@DORIS98 i have a personal classic available for £45 brand new in the box with 2012 diary as well, contact me @ delectabledesigns@hotmail.co.uk

Sarah (2012-04-27 08:58:25)

Does anyone have any tips for finding Filofaxes that aren't available on the US website, but are available in other countries? I was thinking about getting the new Finsbury in yellow, but after looking at photos on the web I don't think its the color I was hoping for (I wanted something closer to the Metropol - Amber color...and the Finsbury looks more like a true yellow). After looking at the Japan and Korea sites I really like the Finsbury (personal) in Teal and Tangerine, but I haven't been able to locate either color online. Any suggestions?

Romina (2012-04-27 10:35:35)

Ruby could you please share pictures of your blue Metropol when you get it? I am eyeing it but really want to know how nice it is in person. Thanks :)

Gemma Seymour-Amper (2012-04-27 10:48:23)

I've no been round in some time, and it looks as if a few changes have been made around here! Well, I saw Steve's link to the free organiser pages this morning, and it got me thinking. Since it's Free-For-All Friday, why don't I just drop this idea here?

I've been thinking this morning that perhaps it might be nice if Filofax were to offer interactive software, now that tablet computers and smartphones are becoming ubiquitous. While calendaring and scheduling is fairly well handled in the system software of iOS and Android, the two systems are incompatible with each other, with Google and Apple both using non-standard protocols that are not easily accessible by the other system or other platforms. However, I'm not really talking about Calendaring & Scheduling, which you might think odd for a proposal for Filofax to get into, or really, get back into, the interactive software market. What I envision is a recreation of the other functions for which we have all used our Filofax organizers over the years. Right now, I am typing up this idea in the well-known note management application, Evernote, on my Mac OS X laptop, but I also have the application installed on my iPhone and on the Amazon Kindle Fire I bought this Christmas and on which I have installed a more-fully featured version of the Android operating system called CyanogenMod.

For many years, I have generally used a programmer's text editor, such as Bare Bones Software's BBEdit or its freeware version, TextWrangler (formerly BBEdit Lite) to spawn notes the way I was accustomed to keeping my Filofax close at hand as a notebook in the days before portable computing became truly useful. As a technology consultant, however, I move through different systems so quickly that maintaining my archives can be something of a challenge, and synchronization between devices can be another challenge. Some time ago, I discovered the Dropbox application for this purpose, and then recently, after having downloaded and not deployed it at multiple points in the past, I finally gave Evernote a shot. Dropbox has changed their application several times, and it

doesn't work for me as well as it once did for the purposes of notebooking. I find that Evernote does well enough, though I have yet to explore the program fully.

(to be continued)

Gemma Seymour-Amper (2012-04-27 10:49:26)

Some of you may be aware of the Paige Paigen product line which I designed about two years ago and sadly, have let languish since, while I attempt to put my life back into some semblance of order. I have been inspired by many different ideas from every organizer company I have investigated, creating designs for many different types of organizer pages, but there are many types of pages which I have yet to explore, types which have been formerly available as products from Filofax and other companies. Perusing the free organizer pages here that Steve linked on Facebook gave me a little burst of energy this morning, and I found myself imagining a software application that would encapsulate far more than the typical calendaring, scheduling, and contact management software packages that seemed to nearly do in the very idea of a paper organizer during the 1990's, an application that would capture the sorts of task for which paper organizer pages were commonly employed in the past.

I also found myself thinking of the joint initiative from Apple and IBM in the 1990's working toward a new modular standard for software development called OpenDoc, that was briefly available on MacOS and quite useful. I thought of this, because from my initial impression of Evernote, I had thought it actually did a lot more than it does. For example, ledger pages, or checkbook register pages have always been a popular item in organizers. What if we had, as did OpenDoc, a Filofax application that incorporated a lightweight, limited spreadsheet application? For the sort of uses that we would employ a portable device or paper organizer, we don't need Microsoft Excel, we need something far more simple.

There are many, many more uses I can envision, from diary layouts to menstrual calendars to travel records to tasting notes, and many, many more. There are applications to cover all of these areas and more available nowadays on both iOS and Android, as well as other, less prominent platforms, but although I have just woken and not really investigated, I am not aware of any integrated packages which offer all of these features at once, nor do the modern smartphone operating systems offer the advantages of the much-maligned Apple Newton OS, which stored data in "soups" that were available to the whole system for ease of integration. As much as people joke about the Newton, it was far ahead of its time in ways that have yet to be duplicated today, and still has a small, but dedicated following. If I am not much mistaken, there is a lot of functionality that can be easily grafted in via third-party interfaces, such as having access to Google Maps and similar sites. I also cannot help but think of the conceptual videos leaked concerning the Microsoft Courier project some time ago.

I am not a programmer, myself. If I were, I might have just gone ahead and built this beast myself. This would be a substantial project, and would require an organization which has the resources to commit to long-term development. While the current owners of Filofax might not be willing to make such an investment, wouldn't it be great if they did?

Sincerely,

Gemma Seymour-Amper

Designer, Paige Paigen

<http://www.paigepaigen.com/>

(Currently having a DNS thing because I haven't logged in to my website in so long I didn't realise that between Yahoo! Domains and Posterous, something isn't working right. Hope to have it fixed shortly.)

Gemma Seymour-Amper (2012-04-27 10:50:08)

So, when exactly did the site get passed off to Steve?

Sandra (2012-04-27 11:22:12)

I don't believe it has. The Philofaxy Triumverate seems to be in place. Laurie posted today's FFAF...

Nan (2012-04-27 11:58:07)

It is indeed, Sandra! I just haven't posted for a while.

Hi Gemma!

Nan (2012-04-27 12:07:39)

I'm looking forward to hearing more, Gemma. The reason I returned to Filo after about 6 years with Palm devices was that I couldn't find a way to sync notes among my computers and Palm T3. The last things I remember trying were StickyBrain and CircusPonies Notebook.

I also remember using something called Missing Sync from Mark/Space, which filled in the gaps in iCal and Palm Desktop. iCal was so buggy back in the mid-00s that it lost most of my years of information. I never use iCal for anything anymore. I finally went back to Palm Desktop for everything, even though Palm had stopped supporting it. I was spending one 8-hour day a week just trying to sync and troubleshoot. Then when the Notes application on the Palm started crashing every time I tried to sort the notes, I gave up on electronic organizing completely. Once bitten, a million times shy, I guess. Just typing the word iCal gives me the chills. I've never bought an iPhone because I'm afraid I'd start to use it for calendaring.

Steve Morton (2012-04-27 12:11:11)

No definitely not... I've just got more time on my hands these days. But Nan and Laurie are there behind the scenes, helping and supporting, putting forward suggestions and helping out when they can. For which I'm very grateful for.

Steve

Filofreak (2012-04-27 12:12:48)

Hi Steve/Laurie

The email to philofaxy keeps bouncing, so I'm posting this here:

I have a proposition for you. I am looking to simplify my life (as well as save for a trip to Ireland next year for my 20th wedding anniversary) and would like to sell 70 of my Filofaxes. I am selling them at just about half cost and many below that as a lot of them don't have the guts inside, although they've never been used. I know this is a lot of work/time for you to list all of them. However, if you're willing to work with me on this, I will donate 10 % of my proceeds towards Chimwemwe. Let me know what you think and I can send you a list with the prices. I would like the buyers to pay shipping as many are overseas. Happy Friday!

Erin

LucyLastic (2012-04-27 12:30:50)

Are you serious??? You have 70 Filofaxes?! HOLY COW!!!

doris98 (2012-04-27 12:59:17)

I, for one, would LOVE to see what you're selling. I'm looking for a personal Amazona and a pink personal Baroque.

gdigesu (2012-04-27 13:05:24)

Filofreak, hi. I am interested in an Osterley with 15mm rings, if you have one. I am also interested in Winchesters with 30mm rings and Cavendishes with 30mm rings. Let me know.

Alison Reeves (2012-04-27 13:24:51)

And I'm interested in any A5 ones - especially if they have larger ring sizes! Wow this is a big decision and I'm sure you will feel like a new person once you have simplified (I'm guessing that the filofaxes are not the only thing you are simplifying!) I'd just like to wish you luck and I hope you will raise plenty of money for your trip.

LucyLastic (2012-04-27 13:31:20)

Do you have any slimlines??? If so, which ones?

Steve Morton (2012-04-27 13:43:14)

I have the list from Erin, it will be on the page tonight please be patient.

Steve

Filofreak (2012-04-27 13:47:34)

@gdigesu

Are you looking for A5 or personal Osterley? I don't have on my list I gave to Steve, but I'd be willing to sell the one I have. It's an A5 size in plum. I'm not sure of ring size, will check if you're interested.

Erin

Romina (2012-04-27 13:56:07)

How about international sales? *wink wink*

kari Soursa (2012-04-27 13:59:00)

I saw a pocket baroque here some time ago. If i ever find a black one i have to have it. So if you sell one , i would be very happy to buy it :)

Steve Morton (2012-04-27 14:02:35)

List is now on line here:

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/readers-ads.html>

Happy hunting... buying... etc

Steve

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-04-27 14:35:48)

Thank you so much for donating 10 % to Chimwemwe. We are in the process of building a centre that can act as an emergency hostel to get the kids off the streets (while we find a proper home and community for them) and the funds will help enormously!

Thank you!!

Ruby Scarlett (2012-04-27 16:56:54)

Romina I don't have a camera but I'll figure something out and report back!

Sarah (2012-04-27 18:25:35)

Erin - you are my new favorite person. You should send us photos from Ireland. We will send you photos of your Filofaxes in their new and loving homes.

Rabbit (2012-04-27 18:38:27)

Warning: Enabling :)

FYI Denmark's online FF store has extended its 50 % off sale to personal and pocket Kendals.

Trivia: if you live outside of Denmark the cost of the actual FF is even a little lower as you don't need to pay the local tax on the item (so this means the international postage doesn't hurt so much).

I also have a question about a personal Filofax Buckingham? I know nothing about this model (release date etc) but it was for local sale on ebay for a total of \$12AUD in excellent condition, so I couldn't resist despite there being limited photos. Anyone know anything about what I can expect?

Filofreak (2012-04-27 19:21:47)

@Sarah Ahhh,, you are so sweet! Yes, I'll send pictures of me with my hubby with one or 2 of my remaining Filos in Ireland. Also, I'd LOVE to see where all of the Filos I'm selling wind up. I don't worry with the bunch on this group as we're all Filo lovers!

LJ (2012-04-28 01:27:45)

Congratulations on your first filo!!! You will never look back :o)

Filofreak (2012-04-28 01:58:59)

@Amanda: I'm very happy to be donating to Chimwemwe as i've been very fortunate in my life and it's very little to be giving back. Plus, I've had a wonderful reply so far from the Philofaxers and the planners are selling like

hotcakes. Don't worry, there are enough for everyone,, , , ,

@Alison: Yes, it's a wonderful feeling to be clearing things out and making people SO very happy with their new Filos. Next are purses,, , , ,

Louise Oakden (2012-04-28 04:33:36)

Are they Filofax purses??? Now theres one of them I'm looking for!!!

Ruby Scarlett (2012-05-04 07:47:23)

Romina, I hope you'll read this. Here's a pic of my Personal Metropol in Kingfisher Blue: <http://i264.photobucket.com/albums/ii197/OyPoodles/Photo4.jpg> . Now I took this with my webcam - I took about 7 different photos in different lighting and this is the one that showed the colour best. Sadly, it's still not true to colour! I would describe it as a green blue, more so than a straight blue, if that makes any sense. It's not super bright, it's an elegant yet cheerful colour that reminds me of a swimming pool for some reason :p I can take pics of the inside if you want me to, of course (though I haven't even started writing in it yet)!

Out of all the pics I can find online, this one shows its true colour the best : <http://tinyurl.com/cdyb7vr>

It looks like leather and is very smooth and round. I think the Personal is too small for me though but I'm keeping it, it's very pretty.

If you have any questions at all, please do let me know and I'll do my best to help :)

Web Finds - 28 April 2012 (2012-04-28 00:01) - Steve Morton

So another busy week for me and in the world of the Filofax blogs, and some new blogs we haven't featured before, so we can sneak up on those and say hello/bonjour... and boost their stats just a little!

- [1]My A5 Finsbury set up / GTD - Serendipity
- [2]Filofax Family Photo - The Life of The Perpetual Student
- [3]It's baaaack ... Filo-no-Fax - Filofax Fixation
- [4]new feature: my filofax this week {16/04/12 } - Paper Lovestory
- [5]Another option for your Filofax Post-It index tabs - My Life All in One Place
- [6]At Work - Filo-Manie
- [7]New Messenger Bag - Bags - Can you ever have enough? ■ It can take 2 A5's....
- [8]My Enigma Love - Rapunzel's World
- [9]Home again, Filofaxilly - The Crazy Suburban Mom
- [10]Colour Co-ordination for Filofax - Imysworld
- [11]Why I changed from Personal to Pocket Filofax - Rapunzel's World
- [12]Organised and ready to go! - Just an Essex girl
- [13]Filofax Update: Back in the Slimline Finsbury - Cat's Corner
- [14]Victoria Plum - Decision Inspired
- [15]Nachtrag: At Work - Filo-Manie
- [16]Is it Planner Fail - Paper Pens Ink
- [17]A Perfect Marriage of Two Stationery Brands - Filofancy

- [18]Live's a Filofax! - Filofancy
- [19]My new Songbird Personal Filofax! - The Pretty Challenge
- [20]Spotted: Malden Zip! - Princess Tyger
- [21]Penloop hack for my A5 Finchley - We really didn't need another Filofax blog
- [22]Revisiting my Filofax Flex - Planet Millie
- [23]Mind Tools helps you use your Oxford Notebook - Mind Tools
- [24]New Arrival - A5 Chameleon Filofax - Lady Tamlynn
- [25]My Filofax as a travel companion - MacPsych
- [26]An Altered Filofax Art Journal - Creative Flourishes
- [27]Miss Aston gets even prettier - Paper Pens Ink
- [28]My Filofax A5 Cuban - Joseph Quinton
- Your blog post could appear here next week... Please email us if we missed you this week.

The grand Filofax sale is still going on over here at [29]Philofaxy, don't miss out on some great organisers. Please also scroll to the bottom of the page and look at the Wanted Ads too. Enjoy

1. <http://serendipity-art-journaling.blogspot.fr/2012/04/my-a5-finsbury-setup-gtd.html>
2. <http://thelifeoftheperpetualstudent.blogspot.fr/2012/04/filofax-family-photo.html>
3. <http://filofaxfixation.wordpress.com/2012/04/21/its-baaaack-filo-no-fax/>
4. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/04/new-feature-my-filofax-this-week-160412.html>
5. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/04/another-option-for-your-filofax-post-it.html>
6. <http://filo-manie.blogspot.fr/2012/04/at-work.html>
7. <http://bagsey.blogspot.fr/2012/04/new-messenger-bag.html>
8. <http://icclewu.blogspot.fr/2012/04/my-enigma-love.html>
9. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/04/home-again-filofaxilly.html>
10. <http://imysworld.blogspot.fr/2012/04/colour-co-ordination-for-filofax.html>
11. <http://icclewu.blogspot.fr/2012/04/why-i-changed-from-personal-to-pocket.html>
12. <http://justanessexgirl.blogspot.fr/2012/04/organised-and-ready-to-go.html>
13. <http://www.cathryncook.co.uk/blog/2012/04/filofax-update-back-in-the-slimline-finsbury/>
14. <http://decisioninspired.com/?p=130>
15. <http://filo-manie.blogspot.fr/2012/04/nachtrag-at-work.html>
16. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.fr/2012/04/is-it-planner-fail.html>
17. <http://filofancy.blogspot.fr/2012/04/perfect-marriage-of-two-stationery.html>
18. <http://filofancy.blogspot.fr/2012/04/lifes-filofax.html>
19. <http://theprettychallenge.blogspot.co.uk/2012/04/my-new-songbird-personal-filofax.html>
20. <http://princessstygerouttatheblue.blogspot.fr/2012/04/spotted-malden-zip.html>
21. <http://notanotherfilofaxblog.blogspot.fr/2012/04/penloop-hack-for-my-a5-finchley.html>
22. <http://mslogica.com/2012/04/revisiting-my-filofax-flex/>
23. <http://www.mindtools.com/oxford/>
24. <http://ladytamlynn.blogspot.fr/2012/04/new-arrival-a5-chameleon-filofax.html>
25. <http://macpsych.me/2012/04/22/my-filofax-as-a-travel-companion/>
26. <http://creativeflourishes.blogspot.fr/2012/04/altered-filofax-art-journal.html>
27. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.fr/2012/04/miss-aston-gets-even-prettier.html>
28. <http://josephdavidquinton.typepad.com/my-blog/2012/04/my-filofax-a5-cuban.html>
29. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/readers-ads.html>

Millie (2012-04-28 05:18:45)
Thank you for including me, Steve!

JohnofJenkins (2012-04-28 23:26:40)
I tried the "erinccdale" site several times but my server would not let me go there - maintained it was a phishing site. Pity, I wanted to buy an A5 I liked.

Steve Morton (2012-04-29 01:38:50)
It's only another page of this site John, click on Ad-Spot at the top of the page.
What was claiming that the page was a phishing site? Your browser or security software?
Steve

JohnofJenkins (2012-04-29 06:10:37)
We believe it was from my browser that didn't like the site and it's not the ad-spot site it's the contact site or the link that seems to be the problem for me

Steve Morton (2012-04-29 08:59:43)
That's odd because it's only a page on the blog. .
The blog address being <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/> and the adspot page is:
<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/readers-ads.html>
What browser and operating system are you using, I might see if I can replicate the problem here.
Is there a link to override the warning?
Thanks
Steve

JohnofJenkins (2012-04-29 21:04:44)
No it's nothing to do with your page but at the end of the list of items for sale it reads "contact erinccdale@yahoo.com" and that's where I have the problem

Steve Morton (2012-04-30 01:39:28)
But it's written as text John like this: erinccdale[at]yahoo[dot]com so I can't see how that could be making your browser think that our page is a phishing site? It's an email address, not a web address, but not displayed as an email address to reduce the chances of the address being harvested by the Spam bots. .

JohnofJenkins (2012-04-30 03:26:28)
I don't know but this is an Apple not a PC so perhaps that might have something to do with it. Anyway, we disabled the system for a little while and tried again. My son is a Systems Engineer and he has this habit of playing around with my computer trying to make it like his and this can be frustrating at times. Sorry for all the confusion and thank you for your patience.

JohnofJenkins (2012-04-30 18:19:29)
I have been in contact with Erin and purchased the Cuban A5 - again, thank you.

Date For Your Filofax 6th May 2012 (2012-04-29 00:00) - Steve Morton

New York
London

Paris
Jakarta

We are going to run another conference round-table 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 6th May** from 10am (US East Coast time), 3pm London time, 4 pm Paris time etc. See the clocks at the top of this post to see roughly what time you should be on line.

Where? - an on-line chat using [1]Skype.

What do I need? - just a micro-phone and some head phones(in ear phones work fine) and a free Skype account. Using headphones reduces 'echo' on the call.

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.

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....

Here is my post on how to [2]improve your Skype audio with headphones or a headset.

Hope to be chatting with you on **Sunday 6th May 2012**.

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

2. <http://steve-morton.com/2011/07/30/improving-your-skype-audio/>

Filofax Address Book Software - New Version... (2012-04-29 01:00) - Steve Morton

As you might recall I've been using [1]this software for a little while now. I finally got to grips with it last year to keep my contacts pages up to date in my A5 Filofax.

At that point I didn't alter too many settings. However a few people have commented about how small the writing is on my contact pages and I have to admit it's not easy to read some days. So I thought I would look in to the settings.

One thing I noticed straight away was my pages were set to 9 contacts per page, this would be ok on an A4 page, but on A5 I think 7 or even 6 per page would be better. So the software has the option of changing the number of contacts per page, but if I changed it from the default value, whilst it made the text bigger and the number of contacts 'on' the page changed, the excess sort of over flowed beyond the page, which was a bit odd.

I checked what version of the software I was using and it was version **4.762**, I then emailed Filofax UK to see if there was an update or if they knew what the fix was for this problem.

I was pleasantly surprised to get a reply within a couple of days thanking me for reporting this issue. A new version is out which cures this problem and a few others.

To get the updated version of the software you just log in to your account on Filofax UK and click on the link to download the software again. Make sure the software isn't running, then reinstall it. It will install

the new version over the top of the old version. But it preserves your data files, I store these in Dropbox anyway now to make sure I have a back up.

Starting the new version and checking what version it was (Help, About) it is now up to version **4.802** and then checking to see what happened when I changed the number of contacts on the page. Bingo the issue has gone and I'm now able to reprint my contact pages a bit bigger!

Before I do though I want to run through them and make sure I have added in all the hand written ones out of my organisers.

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/03/filofax-address-book-software.html>

Video Web Finds for April 2012 (2012-04-30 00:30) - Steve Morton

Some Filofax videos from April.

IFRAME: [1]http://www.youtube.com/embed/PVMhR7lj_WM
IFRAME: [2]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/hIxdfU-rs1Q>
IFRAME: [3]http://www.youtube.com/embed/H5_8HfFgCa0
IFRAME: [4]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/7AffZXNNUk0>
IFRAME: [5]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/5wEdCvigkbg?rel=0>
IFRAME: [6]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/0LoyQpDQKuk>
IFRAME: [7]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/Tv2GbjqLtEc?rel=0>
IFRAME: [8]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/aq1mgpvJL9Q?rel=0>
IFRAME: [9]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/BVH3ONCddzU?rel=0>
IFRAME: [10]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/qedfmk0d4xw?rel=0>
IFRAME: [11]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/4SixMTE-gn0?rel=0>
IFRAME: [12]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/-H2kVn94dKM?rel=0>

Enjoy

1. http://www.youtube.com/embed/PVMhR7lj_WM
2. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/hIxdfU-rs1Q>
3. http://www.youtube.com/embed/H5_8HfFgCa0
4. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/7AffZXNNUk0>
5. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/5wEdCvigkbg?rel=0>
6. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/0LoyQpDQKuk>
7. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/Tv2GbjqLtEc?rel=0>
8. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/aq1mgpvJL9Q?rel=0>
9. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/BVH3ONCddzU?rel=0>
10. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/qedfmk0d4xw?rel=0>
11. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/4SixMTE-gn0?rel=0>
12. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/-H2kVn94dKM?rel=0>

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-04-30 06:55:07)

I saw that penloop hack the other day, it's fabulous!

mppaul2 (2012-04-30 09:43:19)

i agree :-)

gdigesu (2012-04-30 11:46:07)

The paperback and pen loop hacks are very good!

Louise Oakden (2012-05-02 13:58:52)

I just love the sleeping dog in the penultimate video!!!

1.2 May

Free For All Tuesday No. 65 (2012-05-01 00:00) - Steve Morton

A misty Tuesday morning here in France, which makes a change from rain!

But I'm sure we will cut through the mist and be able to shine some light on your questions.... yes it's Free For All Tuesday so let's here all those Filofax related questions and answers.

JasJan (2012-05-01 02:22:46)

Just wanted to share my excitement. I have ordered an organiser from Glenroyal after reading Gerard's review back in December. Can't wait !

Steve Morton (2012-05-01 02:40:25)

Look forward to hearing how you like it and how you set it up.

Steve Morton (2012-05-01 02:44:39)

You might have noticed that the last couple of weeks or so, posts aren't always appearing on the blog when you might expect them to appear, yet they are still showing the time of 00:00 or similar.....

This is due to an 'issue' with Blogger that it is not publishing scheduled posts at all. The issue is fairly wide spread across blogspot.com and it has been raised with Google, but so far no response from them or a fix for this issue.

So although we still keep scheduling posts up to a week or two weeks in advance, it has to wait until one of us realises that the post for today hasn't been published and we go in and do it manually.

Sorry for any disappointment that this causes.

queendelesa (2012-05-01 05:16:48)

sorry for the weather in France; send you some sunshine from Berlin/Potsdam as well as my appreciation about your work on adspots actuality! (lots of work, isn' it?)

Alison Reeves (2012-05-01 07:07:18)

Pouring with rain here again in the West Midlands of the UK. Bit fed up with it now! Soggy dogs as well! Even they are objecting to going out in it!!

Don't worry about the late posts Steve - we all appreciate your collective efforts to keep us all entertained with everything Philofaxy!

Did anyone hear of the outcome of City Organisers meeting with filofax? They said they were planning to post an update but nothing has been forthcoming. Just interested on how the ideas went down!

Laurie (2012-05-01 07:16:28)

Good question Alison! I'd like to know too if you have any info Steve.

I was just flipping through my old Filofax pages from awhile back and noticed the deadline for submitting designs for the Filofax design contest (which I never did enter). Has anyone heard anything about whether they did or will ever do anything with the winning designs? That contest had a lot of hype and then I never heard anything about it again.

Steve Morton (2012-05-01 07:27:20)

A bit brighter here now... even a chance of cutting the lawn or should that me meadow by the end of today!

Steve Morton (2012-05-01 07:28:45)

I have a copy of the CO meeting notes, I will ask to see how much of it can be published.

The US design contest, not heard a thing and I've asked a couple of times. I wonder if it got quashed by FF UK, not wanting to dilute the range even further?

Romina (2012-05-01 10:02:54)

Hello! I was wondering if anyone has used Uni-ball Jetstream ballpoint pens on Filofax paper and how that has held up? Thanks :)

Sirpa-Kaarina (2012-05-01 10:10:03)

I'm a one planner / one notebook person. If the planner doesn't work the way I want, I try to find a better planner next year.

I would very much like to know what do you do with those refills and notebooks that are not quite right.

ONutter (2012-05-01 10:21:22)

I keep them as "clutter" paper. I go through an amazing amount of clutter paper each month. Paper that generally is thrown in the trash, once I'm finished. It can be reminders like "call x" or quick little calculations. Things, simply, that I don't want to keep in a notebook/planner.

mstraat (2012-05-01 10:42:12)

You'll find lots of ideas on this in a recent post at Plannerisms

<http://www.plannerisms.com/2012/04/what-do-you-do-with-half-empty.html>

Nicole (2012-05-01 10:55:25)

After a few months, the Jetstream ballpoint show-through on the back side of the page has a slight greenish tint to it.

The ink isn't waterproof either. My water bottle leaked on my bag and the ink (on foolscap paper, thankfully water didn't get into my Filofax) smeared.

Sydney (2012-05-01 11:57:41)

West Midlands -that's me too! Constant rain combined with roadworks just outside the house - you'd think I'd be grumpy... but no.....I received my A5 Malden today. All is well with the world.

Sydney (2012-05-01 12:02:07)

I would like to take this opportunity to add my thanks for the diary inserts.

I have been using the 'Enhanced TM Week Per View' for my pocket Malden for a few weeks and it is just spot on.

I don't really use it as intended but it suits me perfectly anyway.

missjms (2012-05-01 12:08:28)

Anyone familiar with the compact size? I am finding my slimline too slim and I think the personal size would be too bulky for my hand bag. Would love to find something in between but not sure if the compact would work or not, doesn't seem to be a very popular size.

Thanks,

Jennifer in Los Angeles

Romina (2012-05-01 13:58:42)

Thanks Nicole. I saw a real nice Uni multipen at JetPens but i've never used their Jetstream ink.

Yu (2012-05-01 14:59:08)

Hi Jennifer! I'm currently using a Luxe personal compact. It's still on its first week of "trial-run". But it's working fairly well so far. (My ideal Filofax would be something between personal size and A5 in paper size, though...) but the compact size is ideal in that it isn't too bulky, yet still substantial. As a law student I really want to use

the A5 size because it's a good size for university work/schedules. But it gets far too heavy. The personal size gets too bulky to fit in the book bag (or the law book's bag) and the slimline is far too puny. The personal compact size fits into my bags and doesn't weigh too much, although I have to carry around an additional notebook. I hope this was of some help and not just me rambling...

Nikki france (2012-05-01 16:48:32)

I am slightly going through a planner fail myself at the moment!!

I am totally in love with my A5 but it is overstuffed, and is way too heavy to lug around. I still pick it up and fondle it with regret :((

I borrowed my fathers old filofax personal that I bought for him in the 80's and have tried that for a month, but it is such a strange size, and the pages are so hard to design, with them being so narrow. I have now decided to try FC, and a friend in US has sent me an old one of hers that she no longer uses. I am really hoping that the extra little bit of paper width will help me to get along with a personal size. Will see how it goes!!! If not, it will be back to the A5, and put up with the shoulder aches lol

Nikki france (2012-05-01 16:52:36)

BTW I forgot to say, the leather on this binder is lovely, but it seems to have like hard card or plastic inside it, so it does not have any flexible quality about it, which is such a shame. It has a zip closure that I find nice to use, and useful arrangement of pockets, and VERY large pen loops. It does however only have the 23mm rings, and I am thinking I need bigger!!

missjms (2012-05-01 23:29:09)

That does help Yu, thanks! I think I'm sold on a new Compact Filo.

Filofreak (2012-05-02 00:35:19)

Hi Laurie and Steve

I wrote to Filofax about the design contest (because I entered it) and have never heard a word back. Don't know if they dropped it or just didn't reply but it would be nice to know. Is there a contact person? I would be willing to try.

Erin

kanalt (2012-05-02 06:07:17)

I use the Jetstream RT Roller Ball as my main pen - I love it! - have been using it for a few years now. I have not had a problem with it and feel that it writes very nicely on the Filofax paper. If you're talking about the general ballpoint version though, I have not tried that one. I love the RT so much I emailed the company and requested different colors of this pen, but they still have only stuck with blue, black and red. If you want a ballpoint that writes like a gel, you might want to look into the RT.

kanalt (2012-05-02 06:12:11)

I too use the compact (Regency). I have been using it since October. I love it! Like you, I was looking for something between the slimline and personal for just the reason you said - personal was too bulky and slimline not enough. If you want to see how much my compact holds, you can read about it here:

<http://wellplannedlife.blogspot.com/2012/01/2012-setup.html>

I also use a personal Malden for all of my extra information - it always stays home. You can read more about using the two here:

<http://wellplannedlife.blogspot.com/2012/02/at-home-with-malden.html>

Good luck!

Nicole (2012-05-02 12:18:57)

The rollerball version is waterproof. It's odd - usually ballpoints (rather than rollerballs) are waterproof.

I don't really rate it highly because here, I have other pens (at half the price) to compare it with. In Asia, Uni-ball is just one of the few hybrid (called oil gel or semi-gel) ballpoint pens out there that write smoothly with intense colour.

<http://www.faber-castell.com.my/products.php?sp=generalwritingandmarketing &ssp=ballpointpens>
<http://gsoftpen.com/index.php?view=prod &ref=14270 &lang=en>

LucyLastic (2012-05-02 12:59:11)

Hi Jennifer!

I use a compact Finsbury in raspberry and I love it. Here's a post of my setup:

<http://allthingsstationery.blogspot.co.uk/2012/04/my-new-filofax-set-up-with-diy-templates.html>

And this post contains a photograph of a comparison between the compact and personal in terms of size:

<http://allthingsstationery.blogspot.co.uk/2012/03/my-new-gorgeous-filofax-but.html>

Hope this helps.

missjms (2012-05-02 18:39:00)

Thanks Lucy & Kanalt, great photos and set ups! I will be ordering my Compact Osterly in wine this afternoon, soooo excited!!

doris98 (2012-05-02 19:18:49)

@kanalt: The idea of a Master/Satellite filo system is inspired! I've been toying with the same idea but couldn't quite put my finger on it. This cements it for me. I think the Philosophy videos talked about something like too. I'll work on doing the same thing.

I'm still undecided between the Slimline and Compact. A Slimline I think may work now for a "satellite".

@Lucylastic: I'm thinking I should have gotten the raspberry instead of the pink Fins. (:

Yu (2012-05-02 19:39:08)

@missjms - Oh, that binder is gorgeous! <3

I would have loved a compact Finsbury (aqua) for the summer since it's such a bright and cheery color, but they probably never existed in the first place XD;

What's In My Filofax - Kristin (2012-05-02 01:00) - Steve Morton

I've attended enough Filofaxy meet ups to know what joy can be observed when two people who have never 'met' before in real life, get to sit next to each other and share their Filofax contents with each other. It is a real joy to see the smiles and joy on their faces as each page or section is turned. So when we get a 'What's in my Filofax post offer.... we always say 'yes please' And thank you to Kristin for sending in her contribution this time.

Hello everyone!

I feel so honored to be able to write a 'What's in my Filofax' post!

As I'm sure you can all guess, I'm obsessed with all things Filofax. My obsession started out with general office supplies, notebooks, and pens. Then I moved onto planners. In the past year I have used a Staples planner, an Erin Condren Life Planner, a Franklin Covey zip around binder with a Jean Chatzky insert, a Filofax Personal Finsbury, a Filofax Pocket Finchley, a Fillofax A5 Finsbury, a Filofax Personal Finchley, and a Filofax Personal Chameleon. I have finally settled into the Chameleon and absolutely love it (although it's only been two weeks, so who knows what can happen).

I found this website while searching for planners on-line and on You Tube. Imy from Imysworld came up on You Tube and I started watching her videos. They led me to Kate, The Perpetual Student's blog and her videos, and then my Filofax obsession grew. I must go through Filofax blog posts and videos at least a hundred times in one week. I can't explain why, really, because I've seen them all a thousand times already! I guess I just love seeing how others use their Filofaxes and I love copying their ideas on organization.

I should mention that it's taken me a very long time to settle into my current Filofax. Living in the US, it's not easy to go out and pick up a Filofax. I don't like ordering on-line because I'm so picky, and I need to see and feel the item before buying it. I have returned four or five Filofaxes in the past month.

With that said, here are some photos of my Chameleon in Raspberry.



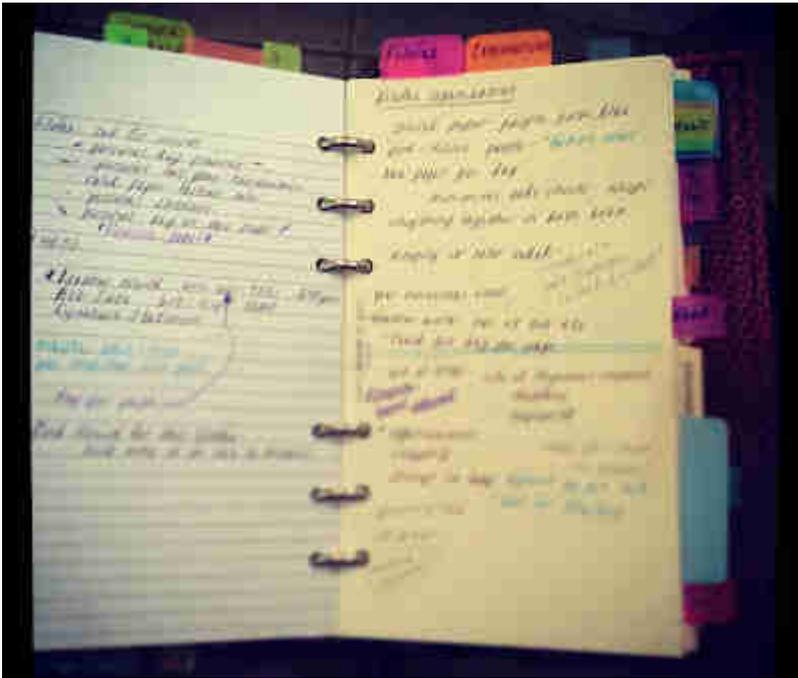
[1]

I love this Vera Bradley pen, and how it matches the Chameleon so well.



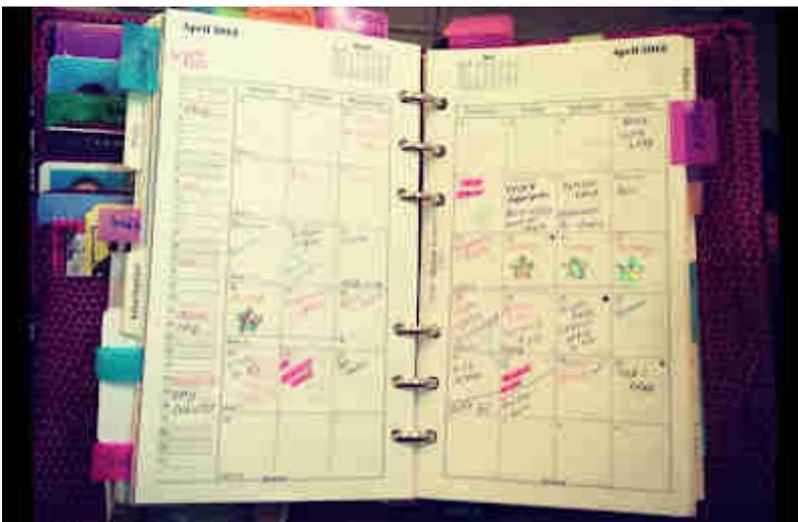
[2]

Inside I keep my bank cards, my license, and some post-it notes in the pockets. I love the set up of the inside cover, and I love the full length pocket. Holding my daughter's picture on the inside is a Tartan Oli Magnetic Paper Clip from The Container Store. I have two of these and love them! They hold things together for me and don't bulk up my Filofax. Under the fly leaf (with Mickey stickers from our recent trip to Walt Disney World) are the Filofax sticky labels and post-its. I keep the fly leaf over them because they were starting to stick up and bend a bit.



[3]

I use lots of tabs and move them around all the time. I'm currently planning my daughter's first communion so I have a lot of labels under that category. This helps me find what I'm looking for very quickly, like when I'm on the phone with the caterers and need to open up to the 'food' section.



[4]

Next is the month on two pages, which I love because I need to see the month at a glance. I couldn't do without this, ever!

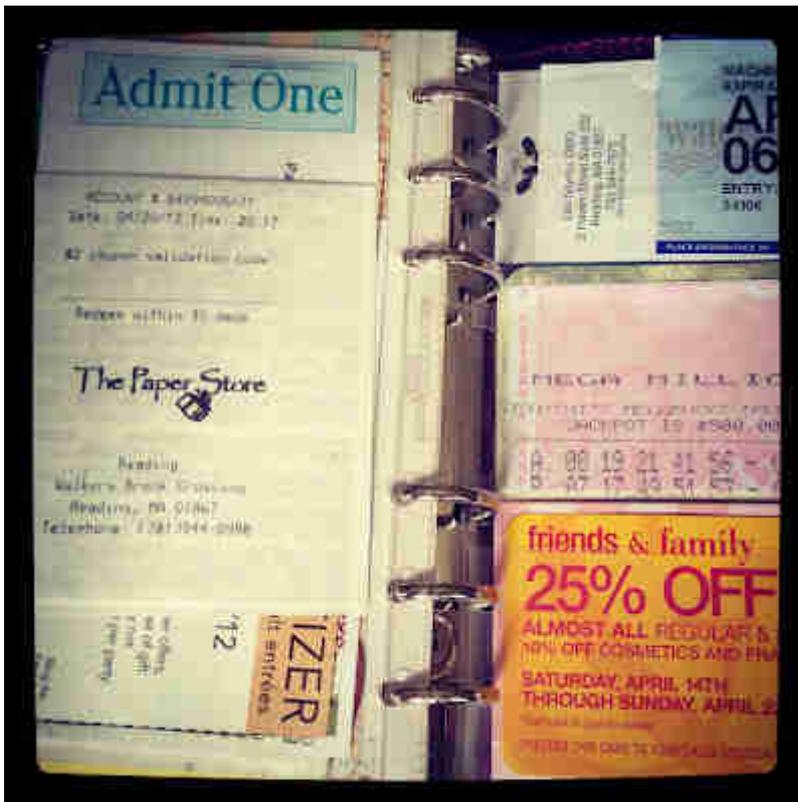


[5]

Here's the week on two pages in cotton cream. I wish they made the monthly calendar in cotton cream- I love it so much more than the white paper. At first, I did not like that the week starts off with the 'this week' box. I was very confused and would start writing things in that spot thinking it was the 'Monday' box. Now that I'm used to it being there, I love it. I love jotting things down at the top of the page so when I need to make a quick reference of the week I can see my important events at the very top. I use little stickers for special dates and events, also purchased from The Container Store. No one around me sells the Filofax stickers!



[6]



[7]

I have the map that came with the Filofax, as well as a zippered sleeve, a top opening envelope, and a credit card sleeve. I use all three of these constantly. They're great for receipts, coupons, photos, and keepsake items.



[8]

Here are some of my pens- I have quite the collection. I love my Bic 4 Colors Fashion pen, and my Pilot pens. We don't have any stores that sell the famous Pilot Coletto multi-colored pen that I see almost all of you using. I wish I could get my hands on one of those! I would also love to purchase some of the pretty dividers that I often see in these posts. They look beautiful.



[9]

And lastly, here is my beautiful Filofax standing up. I love it! Thank you so much for reading! Also, I'd love some tips on organization or some blog links on how to better organize your Filo. I feel that mine is a bit sloppy and I'm always looking to tidy it up a bit!

Thank you Kristin for your excellent post, love the photos and I'm sure fellow Philofaxy readers will love it too.

1. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-HVH3wmKgGTE/T5cLvC3-45I/AAAAAAAAAK0k/EHOIUSqPhQ0/s1600/photo+1.JPG>
2. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-iF041LGYBhE/T5m5aPEMieI/AAAAAAAAAK2Q/1YEORSy0d-4/s1600/photo+1.JPG>
3. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-nBMC03fFdeU/T5m5hhPfCoI/AAAAAAAAAK2g/idZfr3tGAeM/s1600/photo+3.JPG>
4. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-VD5HxyE244E/T5m5mni4TI/AAAAAAAAAK2o/dy1igeKbPy8/s1600/photo+4.JPG>
5. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-J4ZIsnBMJmQ/T5m5q5ME-BI/AAAAAAAAAK2w/YXNu2Yhp8P0/s1600/photo+5.JPG>
6. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-M_FkA17WfE8/T5cL6HWKohI/AAAAAAAAAK1M/cvg48KJY1kw/s1600/photo+6.JPG
7. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-XH7ZthmaD8A/T5cL8g31rwi/AAAAAAAAAK1U/Jgn6bptcmDM/s1600/photo+7.JPG>
8. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-rSaSMgc8nfA/T5cMAUufQVI/AAAAAAAAAK1c/_aNtSNqJlsw/s1600/photo+8.JPG
9. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-rU1xZQiXp70/T5cMDAxb92I/AAAAAAAAAK1k/B_pJK1TAwe8/s1600/photo+9.JPG

Anke (2012-05-02 01:50:06)

Kristin, the Coletto isn't available in Germany either, but I ordered some from an excellent seller on eBay. If you want me to give you their username, let me know. I have ordered three times there and I've always found them very helpful.

Babs (2012-05-02 02:06:05)

Beautiful filo! Thanks for letting us have a nosey!

queendelesa (2012-05-02 02:40:57)

Hi Anke, I would love to get the username as well, pls.

Lime Tree (2012-05-02 03:30:09)

Beeeeeautiful Filofax!

I just got the container store stickers last week, it is so cool to see someone else using it! Good to know it goes

well on a personal size too as I am planning on moving back to it over the summer (I'm currently using an A5). And I totally hear you on the online ordering thing. I returned a personal chameleon twice because of my pickiness. I was very tempted to return a third time but thought maybe I should just deal with it. And it is not easy I must say! LOL I look at the faded spot (for me seems faded, DH says it's not) every day and it bugs me! Oh well! Great post! Beautiful Filofax!

doris98 (2012-05-02 04:07:40)

Hi Kristin! Thanks for your post, and lovely filo! Like you, I'm outside the UK, and there are even less resources (actually, ZERO) in Manila for me to get my filo "fix". Thank goodness for the internet. Stationeryart.com is another good source for all kinds of pens. I've ordered from them before and shipping was very reasonable. Prices are better than Jetpens, too (sorry Jetpens!) although there will be no free shipping on their site.

Ashleigh (2012-05-02 04:38:40)

Hi Kristin, I love your Filofax all the lovely colours make it look very pretty! Where did you get your top tabs from? I have been looking for some for ages now. I totally relate to the whole blog and video watching I'm obsessed with all things Filofax and no matter how many times I watch them I just can't get enough! Thank you for sharing your Filofax with us!

Anita (2012-05-02 08:38:24)

Hi Kristin & thanks for sharing your colourful filo!
I hope you fall in love with the Malden that I'll be sending you soon :)

Katy (2012-05-02 08:39:58)

Beautiful Filofax!!!! I am so getting those stickers this weekend!

Kristin (2012-05-02 08:42:50)

That would be great! Thank you!

Kristin (2012-05-02 08:45:44)

Hello! Thank you! The top tabs are from Staples and they're the post-it brand. They come in the orange-pink-green, and then a red-blue-purple pack. I love them. I pull them off and re-stick them over and over again and they hold up really well. I'm sure they have them on Amazon, too!

Kristin (2012-05-02 08:47:14)

I can't wait for the Malden! I'm sure I'll be asking to send in another post after I get it all set up. I'm soooo excited!!!

Kristin (2012-05-02 08:48:33)

Thank you! I would love to try the Filofax stickers. Hoping to get my hands on some soon.

J (2012-05-02 10:58:10)

Yay! I've been waiting for this post since our Twitter chat! Love your set up- very personal and family oriented. And totally hear you on not being able to see binders before buying in the states. Luckily, I saw Sandra's Malden before buying, although then I was hooked! I'm sure you'll love yours!

LJ (2012-05-02 12:50:56)

Love this post. Such a beautiful filo and such pretty bits and bobs in it :o)

LucyLastic (2012-05-02 12:52:40)

Lovely Filo Kristin! Must ... not ... order ... raspberry ... chameleon ... immediately ...

Filofreak (2012-05-02 12:53:43)

Thanks for a wonderful and detailed post! I too love to look at the same pictures/videos over again because I like

to see how people organize.

Ashleigh (2012-05-02 14:02:35)

Found them thank you - the Malden is a beautiful Filofax I love mine! il look forward to seeing how you make it your own

Brenda (2012-05-02 15:04:36)

Thank you for the tour of your Filofax!! I know you said you don't like to order online. But I just saw the Pilot Coletto pens and refills on www.jetpens.com yesterday. They have free shipping on orders over \$25, and great service!!

Kristin (2012-05-02 15:19:12)

Thanks everyone! Thanks for your suggestions as well!

Lime Tree (2012-05-02 21:49:02)

Anita, that is so great, you found a home for your Malden too!

Snake Domino is doing well BTW. It is so pretty! Still debating if I want to put it to hard everyday labor or just home-sitting with a few records to keep. :)

Joey Quinton (2012-05-03 16:13:05)

Wonderful post and I thoroughly enjoyed it. I have a Cuban, but I am quickly learning that there is a Cult of Malden...perhaps I need an A5 Malden!

Tflower11 (2012-05-04 17:51:03)

Wow kristin thats probably the best filofax ive seen i really luv that cute lil stickies sticking out and its like so cute and that vera bradley pen just so matches, by the way does anyone know where to get vera bradley stuff in the UK?

froileinschmidtman (2012-05-05 15:20:36)

Hi Kristin!

I LOVE your post, and i really like that you obviously used Instagram for the pictures! (I'm an Instagram addicted!)

I'm so jealous because in Germany we can't get these Magnetic Clips and the Stickers. :(

I've got the Organised Mum stickers but they are so.. uuum.. ja. ;)

vishae (2012-05-22 13:13:14)

This comment has been removed by the author.

vishae (2012-05-22 13:14:25)

I currently order my pens + refills from [1]Stationery Art, perhaps they ship to where you are?

I'm currently using the [2]Uni Style Fit, which has a wide range of refill colours as well

1. http://www.stationeryart.com/advanced_search_result.php?keywords=Coletto&sort=3a&page=2

2. <http://serendipity-art-journaling.blogspot.com.au/2012/03/uni-style-fit-meister-review.html>

Reader Question - Paper Recommendations (2012-05-03 00:30) - Steve Morton

Thank you to Helen for her question, I too will be interested in all of your responses.

I love the diary pages you and Ray have produced and was thinking about getting some nicer paper to print them on. The trouble is I am not sure what to buy.

So some recommendations on weight, fountain pen friendliness etc would be really helpful.

Butanben (2012-05-03 06:04:19)

I am using WH Smith cream smooth paper. A little expensive at £8.99 for 100 sheets. It comes in A4 and I am trimming it to A5. However, maybe not that expensive when I consider that Philofaxing is one of my hobbies and so enjoyable. The paper is just lovely to feel and to write on. I've printed Ray and Steve's A5 Amended TM diary-5 line version and it is the first diary I've stuck to.... so working for me. One word of warning though I had to take 1 faulty pack of paper back as it was behaving like blotting paper and looking smudgy!! All the other packs have been fine though. I use Uni ball eye fine gel pens to colour code my diary. No bleed through. The paper is an 80 weight/thickness. Good luck with it. xx

Babs (2012-05-03 06:22:28)

I use a ream of A5 white paper from Staples. It's 80 gsm so not great (I'd prefer 100) but it's easy to print on. Especially as I'm a perfectionist for perfect edges and my guillotine just doesn't do it well enough. I don't use a fountain pen so can't comment on that.

Scot (2012-05-03 07:41:05)

Getting the correct combination of paper, nib and ink is a personal journey and I am afraid I can't summarise it for you. Too many subjective elements in the process.

Paper specifically designed for handwriting, rather than an inkjet or laser printer, may be your best option; but I am often surprised by whatever cheap copier paper I buy via Staples etc. If you work in an office then try the odd sample, also ask other people for sample papers as many will often have a few that they've bought for CV's etc

terriknits (2012-05-03 12:16:46)

I'm using Staples laser printer paper, 24 lb (90 gsm?) and I really like it. It holds fountain pen and liquid ink nicely with no bleed/show through. I did obtain some 28 lb (105 gsm) paper that's sort of a cream colour, but I don't like it that much. It's quite slippery for my tastes. I like a bright white page (like the Staples) but if the cream paper were less slick, I'd like it much better.

Neil (2012-05-03 14:36:31)

In my local Staples store, they often have paper that you can try before you buy.

Joey Quinton (2012-05-03 16:03:45)

I have been thinking of ordering some Clairfontaine paper from www.gouletpens.com. I think it is 90 grams and is wonderful paper for a fountain pen. Brian Goulet has a lot of videos on his website where he tests pens, ink, and paper!

DEM (2012-05-03 20:01:37)

I love Goulet Pen Company and the Clairfontaine and Rhodia paper. I bought an A5 pad of Rhodia Dot Pad and sacrificed the cover and back of the pad to get individual sheets of paper. Hole-punched and now I have fabulous paper in my A5 Aston! Much better than the FF paper! I say, "Go for it!"

Joey Quinton (2012-05-04 07:48:02)

DEM, I am loving Filofax more and more. Last evening, I learned that Filofax owns the company that produces Yard-o-Led fountain pens.....my ultimate dream is to own a Yard-o-Led Retro!!!

Gemma Seymour-Amper (2012-05-04 09:04:40)

In my extensive testing, the papers which performed best were all from Crane & Co. My preference is Crane's Thesis, followed by Crane's Bond, and Crane's Crest. From my article:

"There were two samples which performed better than all others with a variety of inks, Crane's Bond, and Crane's Thesis Paper. I had also tested Crane's Crest and Strathmore Writing Pure Cotton. Both of these papers were very similar in performance.

All three of the Crane & Co. papers are 100 % cotton wove finish papers, but have varying degrees of hardness to their finishes. In order from softest to hardest, they are Crane's Crest, Crane's Bond, and Crane's Thesis. Overall,

the Crane's Thesis paper performed best. All three are available in a 24 lb. weight.

Crane's Crest is available in A4 size, but the others are not. Crane's Bond is not available in White. Crane's Thesis seems to be only available in US Letter size in retail packaging of 100 or 500 sheets, but I haven't yet contacted Crane & Co. to find out if there are other sizes and packaging available.

What would be ideal, I think, is Crane's Thesis in a 16 or 20 lb. weight, with a whiter color than the standard White."

<http://gcvsa.posterous.com/crane-and-co>

Gemma Seymour-Amper (2012-05-04 09:08:13)

I should also mention that the testing was done with fountain pens, mainly my Pelikan M800, and a variety of inks, probably including Mont Blanc, J. Herbin, Pelikan, and Noodler's. The testing was done over two years ago, so I can't remember it precisely

Free for All Friday No.181 (2012-05-04 00:30) - Nan

I was recently reminded of a time I lost my Filofax. I left it by my seat at a nightclub where I was watching my brother perform, and drove home without it. Someone found it while cleaning up after the show, saw my name inside, and gave it to my brother. He drove to my building (it wasn't far away), and instead of waking everyone in the house, slipped it through the slightly open window of my car. I woke up the next morning, and panicked when I realized my Filofax was missing. Of course, it was in the first place I looked – the car! Whew! (I didn't find out until later how it got there!) Have you ever lost (or thought you lost) a precious Filofax? (Since it's Friday, all other topics are welcome, too.)

Ray Blake (2012-05-04 02:09:44)

Yup. I lost my Malden a month ago. It had the Filofax 'If you find this organiser' page right at the front, so I was hopeful it might find its way back to me. For the last few weeks I've been slumming it in an old binder, but this week I decided the Malden wasn't coming home and seized the excuse to buy a new Holborn to replace it.

Laurie (2012-05-04 03:44:31)

Oh no Ray that's horrible!!!! I hope somebody does the right thing and returns it to you. In the meantime, enjoy your new Holborn! I'd love to know what you think of the Holborn compared to the Malden. I have a Holborn but not a Malden, and I'm interested in how they compare.

Steve Morton (2012-05-04 04:29:18)

Sorry to hear that Ray, hope it finds its way back to you. I once left mine on my desk at work and realised how lost I felt without it at home over the weekend.

Hope you are enjoying the Holborn

Cat Burchmore (2012-05-04 04:32:22)

I think I'd be devastated if I lost my filofax... which reminds me I need to create a 'if you find this filofax' page... On a completely different subject I have lost the lid to my Lamy Safari. I think it must be at home, but it's not in my bag with my filofax & pen and now the pen won't write. I presume it has dried up without the lid, but does anyone have a solution to get it going again for my day at work so I don't have to move to a biro....

Scot (2012-05-04 04:48:25)

Be cautious. If you openly display the owner of an Organiser then the contents will often be of great use to a thief. Even if you don't have bank or other like passwords etc, dairy entries could indicate times when you'll be out of the house Which gives a suitable time for burglary.

Even within a diary, use initials and abbreviations wherever possible.

JohnofJenkins (2012-05-04 05:19:28)

Yes I "lost" my Filofax only last week. I searched the house and my case and the car and I had a horrible feeling that It was gone. Then I remembered that I was using it in church to write down notices that I thought were relevant and when I had finished I put it in the pew in front of me. At the end of the service I left it there and went for coffee then went home. Had to get the church opened up (thank you) so I could get it. I really felt lost without it.

Docmel (2012-05-04 05:32:25)

During the late '90's I had a job which involved a load of travel. All I used to take on the plane with me was my trusty Filofax Balmoral - which had everything I needed to organise my working life. Stupidly I left it on the seat of a shuttle bus between the plane and the terminal. I thought that it would be handed in so kept checking with Lost Property but no luck and a week or so later bought another - but it took me weeks to recover and even then I reckon I only managed to cobble together around 75 % of the missing information.

Lesson learned? - I never keep all my data in one place - Friday afternoons now become sacrosanct in terms of transferring important notes, contacts etc from my filofax across to Microsoft Onenote which I use purely as a dumping ground - equally following a few ruined hard disks I don't trust digital 100 % either so all my important PC files get backed up daily using a superb free program called 'Vice Versa'

paranoid? perhaps - but I have no wish to go through the sheer panic I felt stood in a foreign airport terminal with all of my information gone!

Alison Reeves (2012-05-04 05:40:03)

On no Ray - that is awful. Funny thing is that it is the binder that would encourage someone to keep it rather than do the decent thing, but it's often the contents that we really miss! I hope you are able to re-create your life in the new Holborn.

Alison Reeves (2012-05-04 05:42:07)

Cat, you could try dipping the nib in some water, or just squeezing the converter or cartridge a tiny bit to get it running. Chances are you will get ink everywhere anyway, so I'd be inclined to give up for the day!

Alison Reeves (2012-05-04 05:45:44)

Docmel - you make an interesting point. Many people use a filofax because they have been let down by digital, but it can work either way. Of course you can remove something from your digital backup accidentally and your automated back up systems can then delete the item in your backup system as well. We can't be full proof - just aware and careful.

Yu (2012-05-04 06:08:37)

Soak the pen (not just the nib) in water (I'm not sure if there should be something in the water or not) overnight. Then do the regular maintenance. This is especially important if you write with darker ink, which can crystalize within the feed. :)

Yu (2012-05-04 06:09:35)

O _O never thought about that.

Anita (2012-05-04 06:26:36)

Oh, I'm sorry to hear that & hope it gets returned to you! And it was a Malden too :(

Docmel (2012-05-04 06:32:04)

Alson,

...which is why I like vice versa so much - although I could run it automatically I ensure this is the last thing I do before I finish work each day. The program shows the current state of both 'parent and child' folders and amends only new or amended files - and I just have a brief check on those and any I delete before pressing the 'go' button.of course I could get really paranoid and back up my remote back up but then that is getting too silly.....

industrious housewife (2012-05-04 07:28:16)

Just slotted a Rhodia top-spiral-bound notebook into the back of my A5 Domino. Stationery joy.

Ray Blake (2012-05-04 07:28:16)

Thanks all. I was able to recreate all the important parts. The loss made me grumpy for a day or two, but buying a new binder has made it all better. The Holborn leather feels very similar to the Malden's but somehow it seems a more businesslike binder.

The internal configuration suits me better than the Malden's did, and I've been attracted to the Holborn for this reason for ages. But I only need one daily-use binder. Maybe the Malden's loss wasn't really a mistake at all, but my unconscious finding a way for me to justify a purchase.

industrious housewife (2012-05-04 07:30:05)

Sorry for your loss Ray, fate's way of bringing you to the Holborn though as you say.

Paul B (2012-05-04 08:49:10)

Binder addicts: Scroll past this post.

Just noticed there is 50 % discount on A5 Chameleon organisers on Filofax UK site. I'm feeling more and more unenthusiastic about my A5 Finsbury in Brfawn. It feels very.....staid, businesslike and boring. I'm thinking of A5 Chameleon in Aqua, but a little scared it will be too bright, vibrant or dare I say it, girly. Decisions.....

BTW, does anyone know if the outrageously expensive Smythson of Bond St organisers match the Filofax Personal and A5 rings?

Butanben (2012-05-04 10:22:51)

Sorry to hear that Ray... it must be so annoying to lose all your appointment details, birthdays etc. What a nuisance. Still I hope that the Holborn makes up for it!!

I love the Maldens, but I really need 2 pen loops, along with my Quiver as I use 5 slimline gel pens to colour code my routines. Hope the contents at least find their way back.

mppaul2 (2012-05-04 11:04:09)

Wow, when does Filofax USA have such great sales???

Filofreak (2012-05-04 11:49:19)

Sorry to Ray and Docmel for loss of Filos. That's horrible! I haven't lost one but I did have one stolen, I think by a coworker with a gambling addiction. I can't prove that she took it, but I believe it. I don't know if it was out of spite or if she thought she could sell it, but I still miss it. When I'm at work now, I keep my Filo locked in a drawer unless I'm using it. Sad but true!

Paul B,, ,, ,the Chameleon in Aqua really isn't too bright in person and is quite a lovely blue. I dare say you wouldn't seem too "girly" with it, especially at 50 % off,, ,, ,, ,I'm such an enabler!

Babs (2012-05-04 12:07:12)

It's really not that bright at all. There's a lot of black mixed through it which tones it down. Mine is still unused but I'm slowly coming round to it!

LJ (2012-05-04 12:10:22)

Get the aqua, it is lovely, and definitely not too bright :o)

LJ (2012-05-04 12:19:48)

I lost my A5 aqua Finsbury which I was using for work at the time. I'd only been using a filofax for work for a few months at the time and had loads of planning in it as I'd had a trip to the UK so did loads of planning in the airport and during the flight.

I took my laptop bag and a large handbag on the train to work with me a very kindly put my laptop bag in the overhead rack so it wouldn't annoy the other people sitting in the same section as me - never again. I got off the train, waited for the tram, and as the tram arrived went to hoist my laptop bag onto my shoulder properly (clearly

just out of habit), and that was when I realised I didn't have my laptop bag.

I ran back to the train (it was at it's ending station) and ran through the carriages looking for my bag and it was gone. I reported it missing but it never turned up. I was gutted :-)

Obviously my work were more concerned about by non-encrypted laptop than my Filofax, but I don't think they realised quite how much work I had done in my Filofax. The guy who works for me found it quite amusing that I was totally lost without it, seeing as before I had the Filofax my desk and work always looked to be in complete chaos and yet I still managed to get my work done, but once I'd got organised (even though only for a short time) without the Filofax I just sat there trying to work out what the hell I was supposed to be doing :o)

Paul B (2012-05-04 12:43:44)

I'm now looking at a couple of options. Its just the price on the Chamelwon is a compelling argument. I have one major gripe with the Finsbury, although it may be climate related. I used it for 3 years while working in Afghanistan. There is now a worn patch around the popper, where the top surface of the pimpled leather seems to have worn off. I can't help thinking the Chameleon looks a similar finish, and might wear off. Although I concede it may well have been the extremes of temperature in Afghanistan that contributed. Its hard to know. I love the look of the oiled surface on the Kendal, although I know that the way I treat my Filofax, it would scratch in seconds.

Back to scrollingthrough A5 options.....

LucyLastic (2012-05-04 12:53:09)

Not sure if anybody's interested but I found some real bargain Filofaxes and Filofax diaries today. I've blogged about it here:

<http://allthingsstationery.blogspot.co.uk/2012/05/bargain-filofaxes-filofax-diaries-what.html>

Nia (2012-05-04 13:57:41)

Luckily I've not yet lost a Filofax! and I'm always extra cautious about not putting very many personal details into mine, at the most it would be name and an email address on my 'If lost, please return to..' page. I've always been a little paranoid about things like this, and never keep a written record of passwords or anything.

I wanted to give the Danish Filofax website a little mention! I've ordered from them a few times now because they always have much better sales on than the UK site - I've been after a compact Chameleon for ages! and as the other Chameleons are on sale I assumed that the compact size would be as well (at Neal Street) - no such luck. So I looked on the Danish site and found they were still on 50 % off! and postage is incredibly reasonable, fast delivery as well.

LJ (2012-05-04 14:04:02)

My Finsbury which is loved, but not overly used, has a similar issue. The finish on the Chameleon is completely different though. Much softer than the Finsbury, in fact it doesn't feel like leather, but it definitely is - it smells so good :o)

LucyLastic (2012-05-04 14:16:56)

Nia - I would absolutely love a compact chameleon! But how much are they in pounds and what about postage to the UK??? I'm a bit nervous about ordering from them because of the language barrier though . . .

John (2012-05-04 14:23:19)

I haven't lost one recently, but in organizing my archives for a recent relocation, I came across a storage binder and loose sheets of Pocket journaling and project notes from approx 1997-1998. I don't currently have a Pocket binder, and for life of me don't remember buying or handling one, though that was a long time ago. . .

Joey Quinton (2012-05-04 14:59:48)

I am so sorry, Ray!

Missus Aka (Christa) (2012-05-04 15:00:36)

Steve - do you know if city organiser would do the 15 % discount that they do online in store when we go for the philofaxy meet up?

Joey Quinton (2012-05-04 15:02:14)

Cat, take the nib and feed off and use a baby syringe to force water through the feed.

Joey Quinton (2012-05-04 15:06:13)

Lovely idea!

Steve Morton (2012-05-04 15:08:30)

The promotion code finished at the end of April. I'm not aware yet of a new code for May onwards. But email CO and ask. No harm in asking... Steve

Planic (2012-05-04 15:27:59)

Hi folks

I have been following this blog for quite some while now (in DK there is no site similar to this) - and I must say it is fantastic to see how others are managing their life.. both privately and work related..

- and also, you all have so many good ideas that one must try :)

But- here is my problem..

I have been using a Domino personal for several years now - and I have figured out a way to manage my work/-and personal life in a way that fits me perfect.. you might get a insight into this one day :)

But anyways.. I am now considering exchanging the personal size with an A5 size as the amount of projects I am managing is increasing.. but I still want the Domino style as I really like the flexible string..

BUT.. is it true that I can get any fill for A5 in the standard yellow filofax colour?

/Pia

Nia (2012-05-04 15:45:23)

I paid £37.37 in total (converted by Paypal from Danish Krone) which included the cost of the compact Chameleon itself, and the postage which was around £6. I've had no problems at all ordering through the site previously, but I'd imagine that they will have english-speakers working for them is something were to go wrong! And if you use the Google Chrome web browser, it will translate the whole site for you into English so that's no bother.

I'm much happier ordering from them than paying £58 for a full price compact Chameleon from the Neal Street store, and potentially having to pay £7 on top of that for them to post it to me!

Alison Reeves (2012-05-04 16:01:57)

Yep - if you want to clear the pen rather than just get a quick 'write' out of it, I'd disassemble the whole pen and put it into some water overnight. If you don't have a syringe, you can repeatedly blow water through the nob assembly, but only after you have soaked for a while to loosen any dried in ink. Your pen will be sorted once there is no more colour coming out when you soak it in water. I bought a lovely pen from ebay with dried up ink inside and it took me the best part of a week to get it flushed clean!

Steve Morton (2012-05-04 16:06:51)

Pia...

Welcome to Philofaxy...

May I ask the address of the Danish site?

Steve

Alison Reeves (2012-05-04 16:08:01)

Paul the Kendal is very resilient. I had one for ages, then gave it to a good friend who is a contractor in the building industry so it gets some heavy / dirty use! It just looks better for that and very rugged! Depends on the look you are going for!

Consiliumque (2012-05-04 16:21:20)

.. Thanks Steve

- but as I tried to say there is NO site similar to this.. Unfourtunately :(

Steph (2012-05-04 16:35:27)

I have not had the misfortune of losing my filofax, and to those that have my condolences. I couldn't imagine being without mine.

On a side note I am waiting for my compact Chameleon to arrive, I ordered it almost 2 weeks ago from the filofax US site, and it still isn't here. I am growing impatient. I can't wait to see it. I have never had to wait this long for an order from there before.

I also wanted to thank everyone and Steve especially for checking out my blog post on my filofax a few weeks ago. It really meant a lot and boosted my confidence greatly. So thank you again. I love being a part of this filofamily!

Steve Morton (2012-05-04 16:37:56)

Ah sorry I misread the comment!!

LucyLastic (2012-05-04 16:57:11)

Oooooooooo thanks Nia, I'm so tempted now!!! I use Firefox and find it only translates the homepage, so I'll try Chrome. Thanks for the info x

Oje (2012-05-04 17:15:28)

Lose my Filofax? That'd be a nightmare! Since 1988, I've always used one - I'm not sure what I'd do...

By the way I just bought a great (so far) A5 6-hole punch on ebay (http://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/390311233082?-ssPageName=STRK:MEWNX:IT & _trksid=p3984.m1497.l2649)

Tflower11 (2012-05-04 17:44:16)

Hi everyone- My fist comment- been reading this blog for like 3 months lol wats up anyway wow i think id feel really upset if i lost my filofax maybe i'd cry

Tflower11 (2012-05-04 17:56:13)

my first spelling error, i meant to say " My first comment" not fist

Steve Morton (2012-05-04 17:57:16)

It's ok we all make the odd typos... and it's rude to point them out.....

Nan (2012-05-04 18:08:30)

Re: Soaking fountain pens in water: Be careful if the pen has any metal parts, such as the clip. These can rust if left in water overnight. I'd limit it to a few hours.

Steve Morton (2012-05-04 18:12:54)

I wonder if Isopropyl alcohol would be better. You can use it for cleaning tape heads and other similar delicate electronic things so I would think it would be ok on a pen, may be with a tiny amount of detergent. Then flushed through with clean isopropyl alcohol and then left to dry.

I have some cleaner for my Rotring technical drawing pens I will see what it says on the packet.

terriknits (2012-05-04 19:27:01)

aaahhhh - having massive "monthly calendar" fail for my work A5. My hacked Month on Two Pages Horizontal is not working! Trying to see how I can tweak Outlook to make it all better.

Yu (2012-05-04 19:29:35)

About the metal part (nib). It's a Lamy, so just remove the nib and clean it separately and do the overnight on the rest. But yes, beware of rust. I have three Lamy fountain pens (Logo, Safari and Vista). I use the

full-soak-and-flush method on the plastic ones, after removing the nib, and it's been working so far. But it really depends on how dried up/crystallized the ink is. Like someone said; the water should be clear before you stop. :)

Yu (2012-05-04 19:35:56)

This comment has been removed by the author.

terriknits (2012-05-04 21:18:11)

Steph, did you check out Pens & Leather before you bought? I think I told you in an email that I've had horrible service from FFUSA because to ship in Canada, they have to go through Letts Canada and their customer service is atrocious. I would rather go without a Filo than have to order from them. Pens & Leather have treated me like gold. Anyway, I hope it arrives soon! Looks like a lovely Filo!

Arnold.DeRoy (2012-05-04 23:26:35)

Sorry about the lost of your Filo.

Had mine stolen from my car (broke the window). and was beside myself. Had all the contact info, if found etc. even had my passport in the rear pocket (work related travel to US). Have not been able to recreate the full contains (daily notes, future appointments etc).

Now have to replace a Scada which is no longer available for a Holborn. Will have to start backing up notes (photocopy or scan) just in case.

LJ (2012-05-05 00:30:23)

So frustrating - you'd think someone would return it :o(

Paul B (2012-05-05 00:38:41)

Alison, I think we all need more friends like you!!!

doris98 (2012-05-05 01:02:27)

To those who have lost their filo, I can only imagine the heartbreak/ache. I've never lost mine, thankfully. I'm working on a "project" right now though to create a Master filo that stays at home, with a Satellite filo for just the contents that are needed when out and about. It could be as simple as lifting the contents of the Master into the Satellite, depending on the time away from home, and the purpose of the trip, whether meeting with someone, shopping, or what ever else.

I don't work full-time, so this will be a different scenario for most. And it may work to keep "unduplicatable" data/contents at home, in case I lose my filo.

Does this make sense? Hope I was clear (:

LucyLastic (2012-05-05 09:04:21)

The old code is still working . . . I just tried it . . . sssshhhhhh!

Tflower11 (2012-05-05 16:23:00)

ok safe for tellin me didn't know that lol

Rabbit (2012-05-05 19:12:37)

The issue with the Finsbury's popper-colour-wear is the biggest problem I have with that make. I bought a second-hand aqua a year ago and was so disappointed to see the tiny 'white' faded leather on the popper rapidly grew as I ran my hand over it. I'm going to be extremely careful with my latest Emerald finsbury and won't dare introduce any leather/moisture product to for fear of the same happening again.

As for the A5 Chameleon in Aqua...just Wow. I only tried it out because of the sale and I was stunned by the result. Not bright at all, a very deep and lovely blue thanks to the black contrast throughout. I found this picture of it to be the most accurate I've come across: <http://louloudorsetsmusings.blogspot.com.au/2011/03/super-organised-day-out.html>

Rabbit (2012-05-05 19:21:24)

Oh and I have to agree that the Kendal is an excellent binder - the trouble is finding it in A5. But nothing boring or overly business-like about that binder...I like to think of it as Indiana Jones making a pitch to a room of suited colleagues for an extension on his field-trip grant *sigh*

Shanananana (2012-05-07 07:42:44)

Security: you could consider having a unique e-mail address you set up, maybe with Gmail, that you ask the person finding your Fax to use - set it to forward to your main address and never use it for anyone else. And maybe mention a modest reward, eg \$20 / £20?

And I'm sorry to hear your news there Ray, I hope it turns up against the odds, I can imagine how upsetting it is!

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-05-29 09:33:47)

I did it! After waiting patiently for nearly a month, I ordered one last night! Fingers crossed it will arrive in one piece. Total was £36.78 including overseas shipping, very impressive! Now to sell my Teal Personal Finchley to fund it. Thanks for the tip Nia x

Web Finds - 5 May 2012 (2012-05-05 00:30) - Steve Morton

I hope you have time this weekend to sit down and spend some time working your way through another list of excellent posts we have found this week.

As always I enjoyed discovering and reading through these myself.

- [1]The Culture of Philofaxy - Well Planned Life ■ A must read...
- [2]My Filofax week #2 - Paperlove Story
- [3]Filofax Turbo Task now for the Personal Size - My Life All in One Place
- [4]Inside my Filo - Decision Inspired
- [5]30 day list - Just an Essex Girl
- [6]30mm Rings, a Couple of Moves and a Nice Surprise!!! - LJ's Blog of Stuff
- [7]Filo-Fail? Filo-Frenzy! - Stationery Happiness
- [8]Black vintage beauty! - We really didn't need another Filofax blog
- [9]Love At First Sight - Filo-Manie
- [10]What's in my Pocket Finchley Filofax? - Imysworld
- [11]Anniversary, Filofax store, and shopping! - Bluebonnet Reads
- [12]Edward de Bono: On Filofax Hacks - The Crazy Suburban Mom
- [13]Filofax for studying - Students Spy Glass
- [14]Nothing to see? Or seeing double - Filofax fixation
- [15]Wedding Planning: Malden Strikes Back - The Crazy Life of J
- [16]Bargain Filofaxes & Filofax diaries - what a savvy shopper! - All Things Stationery
- [17]Quick and Easy Filofax Dividers - My Life All in One Place
- [18]More 30mm Rings and Birthday Surprises - LJ's Blog of Stuff

- [19]What's in my Filofax - Hard Corps Love
- [20]I want my Filofax - My Once Upon the Moon
- [21]Getting Organised - Mikes Mind
- [22]Filofax!! - Masha's Blog
- [23]Time to Make Space...? - LJ's Blog of Stuff
- You blog could appear here next week, if we missed you this week, please email us a link.

And as always..... enjoy...

1. <http://wellplannedlife.blogspot.fr/2012/04/culture-of-philofaxy.html>
2. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/04/my-filofax-week-2.html>
3. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/04/filofax-turbo-tasks-now-for-personal.html>
4. <http://decisioninspired.com/?p=187>
5. <http://justanessexgirl.blogspot.fr/2012/04/30-day-list.html>
6. <http://ljsblogofstuff.blogspot.fr/2012/04/30mm-rings-couple-of-moves-and-nice.html>
7. <http://stationeryhappiness.blogspot.fr/2012/04/filo-fail-filo-frenzy.html>
8. <http://notanotherfilofaxblog.blogspot.fr/2012/05/black-vintage-beauty.html>
9. <http://filo-manie.blogspot.fr/2012/05/love-at-first-sight.html>
10. <http://imysworld.blogspot.fr/2012/05/whats-in-my-pocket-finchley-filofax.html>
11. <http://bluebonnetreads.wordpress.com/2012/05/02/anniversary-filofax-store-and-shopping/>
12. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/05/edward-de-bono-on-filofax-hacks.html>
13. <http://studentspyglass.com/2012/04/18/filofax-for-studying/>
14. <http://filofaxfixation.wordpress.com/2012/05/01/nothing-to-see-or-seeing-double/>
15. <http://thecrazylifeofj.blogspot.fr/2012/05/wedding-planning-malden-strikes-back.html>
16. <http://allthingsstationery.blogspot.fr/2012/05/bargain-filofaxes-filofax-diaries-what.html>
17. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/05/quick-and-easy-filofax-dividers.html>
18. <http://ljsblogofstuff.blogspot.fr/2012/05/more-30mm-rings-andi-birthday-surprises.html>
19. <http://www.hardcorpslove.com/2012/05/whats-in-my-filofax.html>
20. <http://myonceuponthemoon.blogspot.fr/2012/05/i-want-my-filofax.html>
21. <http://mikesmind.co.uk/2012/04/getting-organised/>
22. <http://marialikhanyan.com/?p=270>
23. <http://ljsblogofstuff.blogspot.fr/2012/05/time-to-make-space.html>

LJ (2012-05-05 00:48:07)

Woohoo!!! Time for a read - I love Saturday mornings :o) Thanks for including my posts Steve :o)

Izzie (2012-05-05 01:46:33)

This Link:

30mm Rings, a Couple of Moves and a Nice Surprise!!! - LJ's Blog of Stuff leads to again to the article of "Well Planned Life" ;-)

Thanks for the list!

Steve Morton (2012-05-05 02:08:15)

Sorry about that, now fixed.

Steve

Babs (2012-05-05 04:10:19)
Thanks Steve. Another great Saturday morning read! :)

Faith (2012-05-05 13:30:39)
Hi Steve, just wanted to say thank you for featuring my post :)

Steph (2012-05-05 20:28:07)
Thank you Steve for posting my blog. It means a lot.

doris98 (2012-05-05 21:24:23)
Thanks Steve!

Welcome Anita (2012-05-06 00:01) - Steve Morton



[1]

We would like to introduce you to Anita our new Philofaxy contributor. Anita you might recall recently became an [2]A5 Filofax convert, so no doubt we will be hearing how that is progressing. Anita also attended the last Philofaxy meet up in London. So a few of you will have met her already. And a few months ago Anita was one of our '[3]readers under the spotlight' We will look forward to her future posts I'm sure.....

1. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-_CUWz75fdBs/TiIsk-7osUI/AAAAAAAAJZw/OhwnFGYA1Vw/s1600/P1010163-1.JPG
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/04/all-change-on-filofax-front-guest-post.html>
3. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/07/reader-under-spotlight-anita.html>

Lime Tree (2012-05-06 00:24:47)
Yay Anita!!!

Nan (2012-05-06 00:52:24)
A big welcome, Anita!

Ro (2012-05-06 01:38:20)
This is such great news!

Ray Blake (2012-05-06 02:51:29)
Good news. I'm looking forward to your posts.

Anke (2012-05-06 03:05:42)
Looking forward to A5 posts! :)

queendelesa (2012-05-06 04:22:56)
Well, well, welcome!!!

Alison Reeves (2012-05-06 04:56:03)
Excellent - looking forward to more A5 posts!

Butanben (2012-05-06 05:17:47)
Fabby!! I really look forward to your posts Anita, especially A5 related.

Joey Quinton (2012-05-06 07:31:32)
Hello, Anita. I am very pleased to meet you.

Lynne Dove (2012-05-06 07:49:59)
Welcome

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-05-06 07:52:35)
Yay!

Sandra (2012-05-06 08:09:57)
Hooray Anita!

Laurie (2012-05-06 10:40:10)
Welcome Anita!!

SSA (2012-05-06 11:09:26)
Welcome Anita :) looking forward to your A5 posts - I have an A5 Holborn sitting unused on a shelf waiting for a good use...

mywormy (2012-05-06 11:48:47)
Welcome to our exclusive group Anita!!

Anita (2012-05-06 13:50:38)
Thank you for your kind words of welcome, & I'm excited & honoured to be joining as a contributor!
My A5 is a bit of a mess currently, so I can share with you how I'll be sorting it out :)

Yu (2012-05-06 17:58:25)
Yay! :D looking forward to your posts!

DEM (2012-05-06 18:14:45)
Congratulations, Anita! Looking forward to reading your posts!!!!

Globetrotting Cacti (2012-05-07 14:12:46)
Welcome to your new role Anita. Looking forward to reading your posts....

kanalt (2012-05-08 06:27:08)
Yay! Welcome Anita! Looking forward to more Filo love!!!



[1]

From time to time I'm sure you all look at your little collection and think... I should really sell that organiser...it is only gathering dust on the shelf and I really fancy that new colour/model that Steve has been 'enabling' about...

Well Philofaxy is here to help sell your Filofax organisers and accessories... is this negative enabling? We have our [2]Ad-spot page for readers adverts, firstly here are the rules for placing ads on the page:

- Filofax items only please... obvious really!
- No parallel Ebay adverts, if you have put it on Ebay, then please don't ask us to advertise your items as well.
- We are serious when we request that you donate to our [3]chosen charity, so please consider giving some form of donation if you are placing an item on the Ad-spot page. Consider what it would have cost to sell on Ebay, Philofaxy is visited by more than 1000 people every day... and they are an informed and targeted audience.
- Adverts will be on the page for no more than 12 weeks, if it hasn't sold in that time it will be removed.
- Please tell us when your item has sold so it can be removed from the page.

So those are the rules, nothing complicated and all very fair.

So what to include in your advert. Please make your advert as clear as possible, it should include:

- Details of the Model, size, colour, age if you know when it was originally bought
- Your location so an estimate on the cost of shipping can be estimated. You only need to go to country level.
- Condition, is it new, never been used, been in daily use, well used, broken in etc.
- What is included in terms of inserts, diary inserts etc.
- Where you are willing to ship the item to.
- Your contact details, an email address.
- Some photographs, but please limit it to three photos per item. Please email these with your advert, or alternatively send us the links to your pictures. For better pictures please read [4]this post on how to improve your pictures of Filofax Organisers.
- And price....

The price... I'm often asked 'how much should I ask for an xyz in Personal size'... I'm not the [5]Quentin Wilson of the Filofax world, but here is some suggestions/tips on pricing...

- You can set the price to what ever you want it to be, I'm not going to stop you.....but.....
- If the item is new but you have never used it, then I would suggest 20 % -25 % under what you paid for it. Remember the buyer might be able to buy one for same or less than the price you paid. If you have to add the price of shipping on top of the cost and remember some retailers offer free shipping. Look around at the prices that that item is available for, not just what the price is on the Filofax UK or USA site. We have all seen grossly inflated prices on Ebay for items... that didn't sell!
- If the item is used or may be not on current sale, then take a look at Ebay and look at completed sales to see what the average price has been on that particular model/size in the past.
- If you want the item to sell quickly be prepared to allow for some bargaining on your price.

When you have agreed a price for your item and you start to receive enquiries via Email, please try to answer them promptly. We suggest that you do any money transactions via a secure method, PayPal generally seems to work very well these days, it's very quick and secure.

When you come to despatch the item to your lucky buyer, do be careful and pack your Filofax organiser well. Plenty of padding inside and outside of the organiser, I've repaired one or two and advised on others where they have become damaged in transit. Straightening out the ring mechanism after it's been trodden on is not easy!

If you are posting just inserts, then the 'Printed Paper Rate' is often considerably cheaper than conventional post. For instance I recently posted an A5 insert from France to the USA and it only cost €1.50 to post and only took 4-5 days to arrive so it doesn't appear to be any slower.

And once your sale is complete.... don't forget to tell Philofaxy of the completed sale so the advert can be withdrawn, we will acknowledge your instructions.

All that is then left to do is to sit back and decide..... now what Filofax can I buy to replace the one I've just sold..... Enable Enable.... well there is a space on that shelf isn't there....

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/_IU8wy8WtDc/TslqhjdNtYI/AAAAAAAAJzs/01uMIS8dRc/s1600/IMG_0633.JPG
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/readers-ads.html>
3. <http://www.chimwemwe.net/help.html>
4. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/08/photographing-your-filofax-collection.html>
5. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quentin_Willson

Lime Tree (2012-05-07 00:22:09)

Thanks for putting these guidelines! I was actually thinking of emailing philofaxy about 2 organizers that I want to sell. That post answered most of my questions. Pics are coming your way pretty soon :)

Filofreak (2012-05-07 01:37:17)

GREAT post Steve. thanks!

Erin

Filofreak (2012-05-07 01:54:36)

A question,, ,, any advice on how to price older models that you don't remember what you paid for ? I have a few that aren't on either USA or UK Filofax site anymore and want to offer at fair prices, but don't remember how much I paid, even though they're not used. Thanks!

Steve Morton (2012-05-07 02:14:31)

I would guess look for a similar equivalent model in today's catalogue and use that price, but allow for inflation, prices have increased over the years.

Scoot (2012-05-07 05:02:49)

When you use the word "Filofax" do you infact mean any personal organiser or is it just the brand of "Filofax"?

Steve Morton (2012-05-07 06:27:58)

The brand or accessories that will fit a Filofax, so third party items are also ok. What we don't want are things like boats and cars... to take it to extremes!

Jotje (2012-05-07 14:10:38)

Darn, just when I was planning to put my house on sale in your Adspot. Well, thanks a lot!!!

Free For All Tuesday No. 66 (2012-05-08 00:30) - Steve Morton

Tuesdays seem to come around quicker these days... it might be because I'm being kept busy here in France!

But that means we get to deal with your questions and answers that bit more often. I really enjoy seeing you all helping each other out. Puts a smile on my face!

So let's have those Filofax questions.. don't hang back... step forward and fire away. May be you haven't commented before.... break your duck today with a question.

Alison Reeves (2012-05-08 02:51:19)

Only you guys will appreciate this. Yesterday I decided I was fed up with iCloud syncing my PC/ipad/iphone as it is not consistent and seems to choose which files and appointments it updates! So, following advice from the internet I went about removing - the result? I completely lost ALL my contacts from my PC (business and personal). Fortunately I had switched off the sync on my iphone so was able to do an old fashioned sync and get them back (albiet they need a but of editing for some reason).

Now I want to do the same with my calendar, but my nerves wouldn't take anymore - I'd had enough stress for one day!

I know you can lose your filofax (as evidenced by our discussions on this topic last week) so I suppose a belt and braces job would be the best option. Now if anyone knows how I can extricate my diary intact from iCloud - answers on a postcard ...

Ruby Scarlett (2012-05-08 02:55:49)

Has anyone received anything from Erin yet? I'm really nervous though it's only been a week and I'm overseas.

Ruby Scarlett (2012-05-08 02:57:58)

Oh Alison that's terrible! Did you have a backup of your contacts somewhere else or are they just gone forever?

Silver_Elixir (2012-05-08 03:03:46)

I have been going back and forth between my Personal Kendal and A5 Kendal for the last few months. I have had the Personal in use for the last three years, so I am very familiar and at home with it. After a bit of hunting I managed to get an A5 Kendal online. After moving house I set it up and moved in. But then... I got to thinking. I like the portability of my personal. Yet I have so much space in the A5 - so much more real estate! I am not bothered by the weight of carrying around the A5 - it came it at around 1.1kg. So after a few switches back and forth, I am back into my A5 - hopefully for the remainder of May at least. I would like to know if anyone has any advice on sticking to upsizing. I am very much a one-life-one-Filo type girl. I keep EVERYTHING in my Filofax. I would appreciate and advice or experiences anyone could offer! Thank you.

industrious housewife (2012-05-08 03:22:27)

What a pain! I was just thinking this morning about backing up my macbook. I'm going to try and do it routinely. Which I can make a note of in my Filofax, of course.

industrious housewife (2012-05-08 03:25:56)

Last night I switched out my two weeks per page for a day per page, but now need a month to view for that necessary overview, but discover filofax don't sell them in A5! What's that all about??

What diary/calendar combos does everyone use?

Alison Reeves (2012-05-08 03:41:09)

I back up my PC using Carbonite which has been a life saver in the past, however iCloud actually stores your data 'in the cloud' and the only thing on your PC/MAC is a temp file it uses to display the contents. So no matter how much backing up you do, it doesn't include iCloud items. This is something I hadn't realised when I started using it.

Ruby Scarlett (2012-05-08 03:50:42)

I have a Personal right now and use a day per page + week on two + month on one. It's a bad combo for me as I never write on the monthly and barely anything on the weekly. I'm thinking of changing that to a day on two and week on one.

doris98 (2012-05-08 04:13:00)

I recently acquired a Slimline and am not sure if it takes all Personal-sized inserts. I'm making some dividers "in anticipation" but wasn't sure how big to cut them.

Ruby Scarlett (2012-05-08 04:13:34)

Hopefully someone here will understand the problem.

I'm currently using a Personal but will switch to an A5 soon.

Here's how I want to use my Filofax:

Year calendar has got holidays and days when I'm not at home - this is the thing I look at to know where I am geographically at any given time. I also schedule in any important dates that I constantly have on my mind - exam dates, back to school day. This is also the place where I have my Year Goals and my Personal Overview in which I decide what areas of my life need improving/changing, etc, this is where I brainstorm, using categories and questions (I got inspiration for that when I read Laurie's post about the Woman's Success Planner).

Monthly - I don't really use the calendar pages (only for tax days, birthdays, Bank holidays, appointments and tests for my students so I know I'll live on no sleep for 3 days while I grade the papers) but this is the part where I have my monthly goals, my review of the month, my monthly quotes, my project management breakdown which is basically my monthly goals flushed out, my fruit and veg in season and my finance sheet.

Then is the weekly, again the calendar has appointments, Bank holidays, books due back, my sports schedule of the week and housekeeping stuff that I do weekly like laundry and change towels. It also has my shopping list, my menu plan for the week and my skincare routine for the week so I know where I am.

Finally, the daily, which has basically my timetable for the day, my to do lists and lots of journaling (regular, food and exercise and a separate one for tea)

Ok so now that I've explained all of that, here's my problem : the pages all have the next day/week/whatever behind each day/week, so I can't add much. What can I do?

Let me explain again. Take today, which is Tuesday 8. I have all of my timetable on the one page but then I run into the problem of I can't add more sheets behind Tuesday for Tuesday journaling and to-do list and general things that belong to Tuesday because behind it is Wednesday. Does that make any sense? I should probably say here that I'm using the day on a page insert so I don't know how it is for the day on two, for example.

Same goes for weekly. My Filofax is turning into chaos because I can't have everything I want for one given day/week in one place.

Is there any solution to my problem, apart from designing my own pages with a blank page behind each day and a blank behind each week so I can stick things there?

I didn't mean for this to be such a long post, I'm so sorry!

doris98 (2012-05-08 04:14:37)

I actually meant "in anticipation" of its arrival. I haven't received it yet but am already planning how to use it. Thanks in advance.

industrious housewife (2012-05-08 04:27:38)

I really like the look of Day on Two Pages.

Missus Aka (Christa) (2012-05-08 04:40:19)

have you thought about putting a blank pages inbetween monday 7th and tuesday the 8th so you would have one extra side of paper for each day and basically work as 2dpp? so on monday you would have blank paper on the right and tuesday you would have blank paper on the left, if that makes any sense

Neil (2012-05-08 05:00:22)

One way around this common dilemma, if weight isn't a problem, is to carry two personal sized filofaxes. Place them together and you've suddenly got the equivalent of a fax with 46mm rings, with more insert availability than you get with an A5. An alternative is to go A4, and slip your personal fax inside - a great solution if you're dealing with a lot of A4 paperwork, but prefer a personal sized fax for domestic stuff. This is what I love about filofax - there's so many options to choose from.

Neil (2012-05-08 05:03:33)

I have been using filofaxes for over 20 years and find the standard templates too restrictive. Plain paper is the way to go, imho.

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-05-08 05:08:53)

Does anyone know the exact size of A5 and slimline Flex refills? The binder sizes are everywhere but I can't seem to find the size of the refills.

Thanks everyone!

Tracy

Neil (2012-05-08 05:12:10)

Can't remember who it was, who asked about Frixion ink, but my friend is sitting on a beach in Turkey as I write this and the Frixion ink in his moleskine is disappearing after 30 minutes direct exposure to the sun. I asked him to perform this experiment for me while he was away.

Babs (2012-05-08 05:51:58)

I use the A5 TM week on two pages and a month to view for a quick glance at what I'm up to. I printed the month on two pages from here!

[http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/02/free-monthly-2012-diary-sets-t o.html](http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/02/free-monthly-2012-diary-sets-t-o.html)

Babs (2012-05-08 05:53:24)

The standard filofax size guide is your friend! :)

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

Silver_Elixir (2012-05-08 05:57:43)

Hi Neil,

I like your idea of two personal Filofaxes.... You've got me thinking now. I have enough personal refills to start my own shop. I could use one Filo for my Info and one for my day to day stuff. I would love an A4 but have yet to buy one. How do you Filofax?

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-05-08 05:59:43)

Is it the same for flex?

Steve Morton (2012-05-08 06:07:34)

The Flex slim is different in size to Filofax Personal. A5 is the same.

This link will help

<http://www.filofax.co.uk/flex/about.asp#sizeguide>

Steve Morton (2012-05-08 06:09:08)

I only use iCloud sync, but I'm a Mac user so it's syncing to iCal as well. The other thing to remember to do when you start using iCloud is to turn off contact and calendar syncing in iTunes otherwise you end up in a right mess with duplicates everywhere!

lululucy (2012-05-08 06:20:13)

Hi, all, my Bank Holiday weekend shopping trip produced two finds that I had to enable, I mean share with you. First, these adorable 'to-do' sticky notes from Muji, ideally sized (10 cm long x 4.5 cm wide) for use in any size FF, <http://www.muji.eu/pages/online.asp?V=1&Sec=14&Sub=61&PID=4964>. They also have a version with several 'frame' per page. Both come with a plastic slipcover, so you could even anchor the pads in a credit card or notepad slot with no trouble at all.

Second, the Trafford Centre John Lewis has the personal-size index dividers with plastic tab slots/colour paper inserts, the kind where you can write, insert, replace your own tabs? (Is there an official name for that style?) I think they must have dug them out of storage. Well, I bought several packs because I never see them any more, but I left a few packs for other Northwest Philofaxers...

Ruby Scarlett (2012-05-08 06:22:41)

@Missus, this is a good idea in theory. Frankly I'd rather look at my schedule first and then all the journaling/whatever second but until I make my own inserts I suppose this is the best solution, thank you!

@Neil, exactly. I'm thinking of having just blank sheets of paper for everything and customise as needed. My planner should work for me, not the other way around.

lululucy (2012-05-08 06:25:33)

Oh, and the Muji sticky note to-do pads also fit perfectly into the zip pocket section of a personal Malden, or just behind the zip pocket. It is as if they were designed specially for us Philofaxfolk.

Laurie (2012-05-08 06:27:23)

Filofax normally sells a month on two pages diary insert for the A5, maybe they are just out right now.

lululucy (2012-05-08 06:40:04)

Hi SE - I haven't upsized but what has helped me stay happy and compressed into my current Filo is to convert as much as I can into to computer-printed pages: Addresses, personal info, and pages that get frequent use (such as my travel info page w/ frequent flyer numbers, travel insurance details etc). I update details as needed in handwriting on the printed pages (changes of address for instance) and then every so often update the computer files and print fresh pages.

This helps me get more info on each page, as my handwriting is big and hideous. In turn, that keeps the number of pages (and thus weight) down a bit. I can even laminate pages that get tons of use. It also looks neat (as I said, ugly handwriting) and makes me happy to look at, so that keeps me satisfied w/ my set-up, even when I see all those lovely, lovely A5s with their wonderful big pages.

I bought the special pre-perforated FF paper so I could do this for my personal, but it would be so much easier to do w/ an A5, since you could use normal A4 paper and just chop in half. (And this is what tempts me to switch out to an A5...)

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-05-08 06:46:04)

Oh shoot, I saw that page yesterday and thought the sizes were for the binders! Just re-read it and realized it's the inserts. Now I feel just silly...

Tracy

doris98 (2012-05-08 08:00:03)

I've been dying to buy those dividers for a long time. The only place I've found them was on ebay UK, but they don't ship overseas! I checked the John Lewis site but they don't have them online. What's a girl to do? (:

Babs (2012-05-08 08:50:18)

City organiser have some similar ones

http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/acatalog/6_Blank_Subject_Tabs_-_Personal_Size.html

Lostwithoutyou (2012-05-08 09:56:20)

doris98, I'd be happy to help you out, I can see if I can get some and ship them to you if you like? Email me at charlotte@stwcreation.com :)

Neil (2012-05-08 09:58:43)

@ Silver_Elixir08 - that's exactly what I do (ie one or more faxes for info and another for day to day stuff. Look for GTD on Philofaxy and you'll see some of my videos that Steve kindly posted.

Although there are several advantages to using an A5, one thing that often occurs is that we write with more of a flourish, rather than squeezing more writing onto the page. With two personal sized faxes, we not only end up with far more (albeit smaller) pages than a single A5 fax, but we also have room for lots more dividers (and we all love dividers, don't we?). Two standard ring personal faxes will hold over 300 sheets and 20 dividers, you won't need to change all your paper. Of course, if you like the idea of using quality A4 sheets cut in half, then you could always go for two A5 faxes instead.

industrious housewife (2012-05-08 10:12:02)

Do they? Hmm... Might have to have a go at printing some then.

lululucy (2012-05-08 10:30:52)

doris98, I just checked the reference number (131624) and they are the same ones as City Organiser has, so you could order those.

Boy, do I feel DUMB. I never realized the ones at CO were the type with changeable tabs you could insert, which I had never seen in the shops before. It's very hard to tell the detail from the picture and description on their and FF UK's websites. I always thought the ones they have in stock were the kind where you write *on* the actual tab itself, and thus are pretty much stuck with what you write on them. (I've had those kind before.) But then again, if they'd been described more fully on CO's or Filofax UK's website, maybe they would sell better...

David Popely (2012-05-08 10:47:31)

I'm firmly in the one-organiser camp, and it's my personal Malden. After a *lot* of trial and error last Year (and the year before!) I've got it down to a GTD system which I can run entirely on plain/lined paper (cotton cream throughout)and which will cover work *and* personal between one set of covers.

David Popely (2012-05-08 10:50:32)

week on two pages (Personal) - cotton cream...thoughtfully FF only do the standard layout in Cotton Cream, so that's what I'm using, but it's OK and I can manage

David Popely (2012-05-08 10:57:08)

Agreed about plain paper (or lined).....that's how I can keep with cotton cream throughout.

Filofreak (2012-05-08 11:16:35)

Ruby Scarlett

ive ordered from overseas and it can take 2to 3 weeks to receive. Please be patient. Your Fill will be there soon!

Erin

DEM (2012-05-08 11:17:45)

I wonder if she mailed the Filos with tracking. Wouldn't hurt to ask. I purchased one from her as well but it's only been 3 days...

mstraat (2012-05-08 11:24:28)

Yes, received my package with a beautiful A5 from Erin within a few days. We are both in the U.S.

Anita (2012-05-08 11:55:20)

I have recently upsized from a personal to A5 Malden. It's very early days, but I've already made a definite decision to stick with it. To encourage this I'm in the process of selling the personal binder & pretty much all of the inserts/accessories. Hopefully it'll help me to not be tempted to go back, as I'd need to purchase items again! :)

Neil (2012-05-08 12:06:04)

@ David Popely. I'm with you on the plain paper. If I hadn't got such a huge stash of white paper I'd be using the cotton cream, cos it sort of matches my moleskine paper (I use 140mm x 90mm moleskine paper and Frixion blue 0.7 in my day to day pocket fax, plain or lined white filofax paper and Pilot V5 in my personal sized master index faxes, and 90gsm printer paper and fountain pen in my A4 Lyndhurst. Like you, my own GTD system has evolved over time and, for paper based systems, filofaxes are ideal in my opinion.

Sarah (2012-05-08 12:48:36)

Yes! My friend and I have both received our packages from Erin. Were both in the US, so I'm sure that is why shipping is taking longer for you. I purchased one of the Cubans and she bought the Lizard, and they are both beautiful and in perfect condition - worth the wait!!

Alison Reeves (2012-05-08 12:52:46)

@ Ruby - if you would prefer laid out sheets (as opposed to blank) - have you thought about printing Steve and Rays time management diary sheets? As they come as PDFs you could print out specific months, weeks, or days - Possibly even in a coloured paper to differentiate between calendar/planner and other pages. There are various versions of these planners they have developed so you can choose which one suits you best. You could just print them out a few at time and see if it works. Hope this makes sense.

Ruby Scarlett (2012-05-08 12:57:10)

That's lovely to hear everyone, I can't wait to get mine!

Ruby Scarlett (2012-05-08 12:57:57)

No problem Erin, thanks for replying, I guess I'm just overexcited!

T-na (2012-05-08 13:09:54)

@Ruby Scarlett I print the TM weekly insert from Philofaxy but NOT back to back. That way I have a blank page before the week for my tasks for that week and a blank page at the end of the week for my week review notes. I use the printed task side to keep track of the active projects for the week - not as a daily task list.

Maybe the same can be done with the daily page - don't print back to back and you will have the back side for overflow. Of course, that will make for a thicker calendar/diary.

Amanda (2012-05-08 14:31:19)

Hi All. I've enjoyed philofaxy for ages and have been using Filofax since the 1990's. I've grappled with Filofax sizing for ages. from Personal slimline (the first) to zipped personal, to personal, to A5 to zipped A5 to personal to personal slimline to pocket and then back to personal and my current setup is Cuban zipped A5 and a (now resting) Guildford Pocket.

Now, it is sacrilege I know, it seems that I have found what may be the perfect size. Marketed by www.diarylover.com, the make slimline A5

and also a version they call 'A6'. Not really A6, but 142mm x 173mm (A5 is 148x210). It is about personal plus a half. Ring spacing is perfect for filofax inserts and my hole punches and accessories don't go to waste, but the main feature is the large writing space. Not quite A5 but as good as any journal writer needs. (Actually I think the size may be based upon Louis Vuitton or somesuch planners). Quality is about as good as low end Filofax, main thing is a satisfying 'click' on the 20mm rings. They don't appear to have a high end product but I'm doing a bit more investigating so if I get an answer I'll let you know. I don't know if they ship overseas, but if you have a friend visiting Bangkok you can buy them there. No doubt I'll end up with filofax again, once they make a decent slimline A5, but for the interim I'll be happy enough with this new setup. Paper is of filofax quality, so if you wished to upgrade then you'd have to go to Staples and have them cut down and hole punch a ream of your chosen paper quality. You could also print your own of course. Please Filofax I want you to make this 'A6' size. It's almost perfect - only problem is it's not a Filofax.

Sydney (2012-05-08 16:25:39)

In case anyone is interested:

I was in Tesco yesterday and they have some A4 and A5 notebooks that are from £7 to 87p and £5 to 61p respectively (might be a couple of pence out can't remember exactly). I bought quite a few as I quite like the paper inside -lined cream. At this price it is a bargain. I'm not hugely fussed by the A5 paper becoming a bit smaller once cut and punched, but the A4 is so cheap you could cut that down to make exactly A5 if you so desire.

Ashleigh (2012-05-08 19:08:10)

Hi everyone

I'm having a major crisis and need some help!! I have a Malden in vintage pink and tonight when putting he pen back in the loop I have accidentally drawn on the leather!!! I thought the pen had been closed! Does anyone have any suggestions as I have scrubbed it for about 30 minutes now!!

doris98 (2012-05-08 19:42:15)

@Lostwithoutyou: Really!?! Yes, please, and thank you!!! I'll email you. (Your user name is so appropriate, ha ha ha.)

doris98 (2012-05-08 19:45:24)

You're right, they're not described properly at all, and the photo is misleading. The tabs should be clear plastic, and the labels colored. Thanks for the heads up!

indigogarden (2012-05-08 21:27:16)

Wow. I keep looking at the frixion inks, but I had wondered about heat/sunlight issues. I live in Southern California and dealing with heat and sunshine is a real issue here. Maybe I'll stick to my fisher space pen!

doris98 (2012-05-08 21:36:47)

@lululucy: I wrote both CO and FFUK to ask if they are indeed what you think they are (not that I don't believe you). I'll let everyone here know what they say.

Not dumb at all, when their description is misleading. I myself would never have thought they were what I was looking for if you hadn't pointed it out.

doris98 (2012-05-08 22:41:41)

I've read that hair spray works on removing ink on leather. Dampen the qtip with the hair spray and lightly rub the ink stain. Try to test is somewhere first though, and rub very lightly so you don't take too much color off. Good luck with the stain.

Organized Mommy (2012-05-08 23:56:00)

I was using the personal week on two pages, with my appointments on the left 2/3 of the day and tasks written on the right 1/3 (with a line to divide them) because I like to see a whole week at once. HOWEVER, it's just not enough space, so I bought the day-per-page for everyday and week-per-page for an overview and will try that for awhile.

lululucy (2012-05-09 04:45:14)

I've used hairspray for ballpoint/biro ink on *fabric* before and it did work for me - but thankfully haven't had to try it on leather. If you try hairspray/alcohol, I'd do so with a Qtip and just at the end of the mark, very carefully, then wait and see what it does to the colour of the leather before doing the whole mark

Most web sites say actually to use isopropyl alcohol, which doesn't have all the other chemicals that hairspray does. (hairspray apparently works because it has a high alcohol content)

If the mark is from a gel pen, who knows. Is that ink different chemically?

doris98 (2012-05-09 06:17:12)

Both CO and FFUK have already replied, and they have confirmed that it is indeed the same dividers/tabs. For everyone's info. (:

kanalt (2012-05-09 06:17:51)

@Doris - the slimline does take personal size paper. The difference between the two is the ring size. Some slimlines are also a little narrower as far as width goes, but I believe they still hold the personal size paper without a problem. If you're making some inserts you should be fine making them the same dimensions as the personal inserts from Filofax.

industrious housewife (2012-05-09 11:55:20)

Baby wipes have removed all marks I've tried them on, standard pampers seem to work best.

I haven't tried them on anything leather or precious (apart from baby) though.

doris98 (2012-05-09 18:56:07)

Thanks kanalt! They're done except for punching the holes cause I wasn't sure about the width. Happy to know all personal inserts will fit. Regards.

London 2012 Sporting Icons & Line Burst - Review (2012-05-09 00:30) - Steve Morton

Full Disclosure: Filofax have sent Philofaxy these samples to review free of charge, we did not pay for them. However we have not let this 'free gift' influence our review of their products.

The London 2012 are now less than 100 days before they start. With large events like this planning where you are going to be to see which events, be it at the event or on TV requires something and what better than a Filofax to help you enjoy the events that only happen once every 4 years.

Filofax are one of the London 2012 merchandise suppliers, they all have to be authorised by the London 2012 Olympics organisation.

The organiser it self isn't that posh, but it's rugged enough and reasonably well made. Similar to the Domino I suppose. The Sporting Icons organiser features full height pockets in the front and pack covers with colourful sporting icons covering the internal lining. The closure is an elasticated and features 'London 2012' on it.



[1]

I was more interested in the inserts that Filofax have developed for these organisers. Whilst some of the pages will be familiar to you. The business part of this organiser have been adapted and customised to suit the purpose.



[2]

The diary insert for instance is a Week Per View, but in the style of a Week Per Page on the left hand side and notes and tasks on the right hand side. At the foot of the pages are notes and facts about the Olympics including a count down to the events.



[3]

Then during the games themselves the diary changes to a day per page format, so you have plenty of room to record your memories of the games or the events that particularly interest you.



[4]

The diary then swaps back again to the Week View format after the games. It's quite a clever idea and shows how flexible a Filofax diary can be and how it can adapt to the needs of the user.



[5]

In addition to the diary there are a lot of information sheets. A page for each of the Olympic sports with

details of dates and history of the events and other key facts. There is also a 'Jargon Buster' section on each sport, and at the foot of each of these pages is a 'Getting Involved' section.



[6]

The ParaOlympic games are also covered and the events for this section of the London 2012 games are also covered in the same depth.



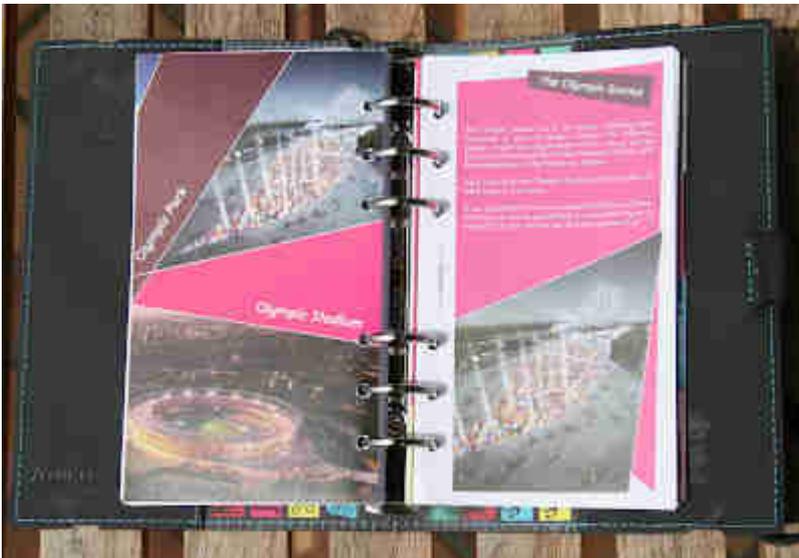
[7]

There are then some fitness planner pages for people that like to take part in sport, not just watch it.



[8]

There is then a fold out planner showing the dates of the events and there are also a set of maps and other information pages about the history of the Olympic games



[9]

These include maps of Olympic park, a London transport map, and events map.



[10]

There are also some colourful notes pages, which you can move to other parts of the organiser of course.



[11]

The dividers are quite interesting too. Shown together here, they are labelled **Plan**, **Play**, **Events**, and **My Events**



[12]

There's two pages of stickers too!! I know a lot of you that like stickers...



[13]

The Today marker is also a unique design with key places in London included on a frosted marker.



[14]

The Lime Burst editions shown here in Pocket size are also available in Personal size too.

The pocket size organisers feature the same inserts but they have been scaled down to fit the pocket size.

Like the Sporting Icons organiser, the Lime Burst editions feature elasticated pen loops.



[15]

Here is the Filofax video that shows full range of London 2012 organisers. You can buy them [16]here

IFRAME: [17]http://www.youtube.com/embed/vhdo73uDn_M

Again thank you to Filofax UK and SlamPR for providing us with samples of these organisers for us to review.

This review doesn't end here though..... visit Philofaxy tomorrow to find out how you can win one of these London 2012 organisers.

1. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-F9JB6MyyqVg/T6Gs0NmMHII/AAAAAAAAK44/akPCI3fvmdM/s1600/IMG_0788.jpg
2. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-zq602h80Ipk/T6Gs6XYZNxI/AAAAAAAAK5A/rR9up9MHDFs/s1600/IMG_0789.JPG
3. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-q4PvRXpLjzU/T6Gs_zkCwvI/AAAAAAAAK5I/UNESAdh6V4k/s1600/IMG_0790.jpg
4. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-1XVrNSSPqPk/T6GtEKuTyPI/AAAAAAAAK5Q/kj3Kxyhi0o4/s1600/IMG_0791.jpg
5. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-KnUV148DMu4/T6GtIh85pAI/AAAAAAAAK5Y/iRMBY3HU1zw/s1600/IMG_0792.jpg
6. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-KiBshEGV6DE/T6GtOASwBLI/AAAAAAAAK5g/Q9xo14Vo0b8/s1600/IMG_0793.jpg
7. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-17m81LgLJ5w/T6GtTY7Le1I/AAAAAAAAK5o/wLFYdZ9HwMA/s1600/IMG_0794.jpg
8. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-IdIavFgwPo0/T6GtYg0gigI/AAAAAAAAK5w/llodNIRzxBg/s1600/IMG_0795.jpg
9. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-vejH3ysZwPU/T6Gtebe43YI/AAAAAAAAK54/ifDnyFJqcns/s1600/IMG_0796.jpg
10. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-Glp_yYHuDAY/T6GtmsY2aOI/AAAAAAAAK6A/wWkuGSHGXi0/s1600/IMG_0797.jpg
11. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-TjTxZ5mKoYQ/T6GtrZq_FjI/AAAAAAAAK6I/W7Bdj6TL0hs/s1600/IMG_0798.jpg
12. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-NTj4_R-diV0/T6GtwUu3RZI/AAAAAAAAK6Q/Rd0kAPXPfcg/s1600/IMG_0799.jpg
13. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-oqhV1CE1o4E/T6GtzDc90II/AAAAAAAAK6Y/ekYou7EXdE0/s1600/IMG_0800.JPG
14. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-2BPessLWB7k/T6Gt1ItwLOI/AAAAAAAAK6g/jgIv5gIExWA/s1600/IMG_0801.jpg
15. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-bZHTJsDjSvI/T6Gt8Mfwe_I/AAAAAAAAK6o/FVjUxE9Fado/s1600/IMG_0802.JPG
16. <http://tidd.ly/242a74bd>
17. http://www.youtube.com/embed/vhdo73uDn_M

LucyLastic (2012-05-09 04:00:45)

Good review! It's nice that they've done different inserts for this planner. You can buy them for a song in Staples at the moment! There's a link on my blog post here:

<http://allthingsstationery.blogspot.co.uk/2012/05/bargain-filofaxes-filofax-diaries-what.html>

Alison Reeves (2012-05-09 04:31:04)

Thanks Steve - I think these are great organisers to give to young people who are excited about the games - and of course it can develop into an interest in organisers once the games are over. I wouldn't buy one for myself, but I think the inserts are very well thoughtout.

Steve Morton (2012-05-09 04:38:20)

That's a silly low price isn't it.

Anyway we have 6 of them as prizes to give away tomorrow...

Steve

Babs (2012-05-09 04:52:45)

I wouldn't buy the filofax, but I *love* the today marker! What a shame they don't sell them individually (and in A5 size!)

Scoot (2012-05-09 05:00:25)

I generally agree Alison, but with the paper so thin and the binder appearing cheap I don't think they have any chance of competing with a smart phone or any other classy product that children want.

Still, with so many on sale at knockdown prices it is worth a punt for parts such as the marker, the stickers, the odd insert, or even just a cheap ring mechanism that can be then fashioned into an organiser of custom design.

LucyLastic (2012-05-09 05:51:24)

Wow, exciting! Free is much better than a bargain!

Shanananana (2012-05-09 05:56:37)

I agree, the marker's the only thing I like, mind you I'm biased because I think these Olympics might be as financially ruinous to us as they were to Greece... which is too off-topic to go into!

I made a plain marker out of some flexi-plastic the other day for my Personal, maybe you could do something with the outline of the London skyline (or NYC, or anywhere else distinctive) in paper printed both sides, affix it with clear covering film to some flexible punchable clear plastic, and have your own version?

I might try something along those lines, because the design above does look pretty darned tasty...

industrious housewife (2012-05-09 06:01:19)

I hadn't realised they had special inserts in. I'm interested now, for Olympic learning and planning of viewing with my little boy. Hmmmm....

Shame the inserts aren't available separately.

Shanananana (2012-05-09 06:10:51)

"...a cheap ring mechanism that can be then fashioned into an organiser of custom design."

Please, anyone doing this, call it FrankenFax!!

Seriously, this is something I've wondered about doing, and never really explored... might have a search online, thanks for the reminder!

Anita (2012-05-09 06:24:11)

Thanks for a great review, Steve.

I agree it's a shame that you can't buy the inserts & today marker separately. I do like them & am glad Filofax have decided to create something a bit different. Think they could make quite a good rugged binder for going travelling with, or when you just want to chuck one in your bag & not worry about it getting bashed.

industrious housewife (2012-05-09 06:31:10)

One to chuck in the gym bag certainly.

Butanben (2012-05-09 06:40:26)

Already got the date of the Olympic Torch coming to our area firmly written into ye olde Filofax. Quite excited about that!! Shame you can't buy the page markers and stickers separately though. Love those bits and the sports design icons on the front cover.

Scoot (2012-05-09 08:20:13)

In the UK (like others) our postal service releases themed postage stamps every month or so, which could be anything from flowers, birds or the Olympics. Google have themes, though more frequently. It is a shame Filofax couldn't release special editions of certain limited products every so often, even if they are merely cheap/easy/quick to produce custom pens, page markers, stickers etc. Reading users posts, week after week, there is clearly a market for such.

Alison (2012-05-09 08:42:43)

I bought one of these in pink, personal sized, they are lovely only problem mine had gaps in first two rings and the page marker wouldn't move around the rings, maybe I was just unlucky but didn't want to risk a replacement!!

Sydney (2012-05-09 12:50:32)

I bought one of these at Staples. I will use the filo for storage and have put the marker in my Malden. I had to repunch it though as mine didn't move around the rings either. I have put some of the sheets in my holiday filo as we will be away for some of the events and it will be good to keep track. My daughter and I love athletics in particular and someone from her athletics club may well be competing. Indulgent to buy it just for that but it made me happy and cost less than the pints my husband has when he goes out so feel justified in a twisted way!

Steph (2012-05-09 14:53:01)

I have been wanting to buy one for quite some time, but I still can't get any answers about whether or not as a Canadian I would have to pay duties on a shipment from the UK. Hopefully I will be able to get one soon...before they disappear. But I do have to agree with some of you. I wish they just sold the inserts.

JJ Hitt (2012-05-09 15:16:23)

I've recently seen a lot of craft ideas that use duct tape as the primary building material. And with the tape now available in colors and patterns, I might just have to see if I have a damaged binder I can cannibalize for the rings.

Saffy (2012-05-09 16:14:47)

Steph, if you like I will order one and post to you in Canada. Generally I think duty is charged if the item is over a certain amount. Your local post office would know the amount.

Shanananana (2012-05-10 05:52:22)

They're an *incredible* bargain at that price and you won't be able to change your mind and buy one in 18 month's time, so it's not really that indulgent, especially if you're genuinely interested in sport and athletics!

I've not travelled much, but on a couple of major trips abroad I tried to be "sensible" and not buy that many souvenirs, I regret it like crazy now of course because they're just not available in London! Anything with a limited time span, *carpe the diem*, y'know... you'll at best end up having to patrol e-Bay, at worst kick yourself and never find it again - I say stock up while you can!

Shanananana (2012-05-10 05:55:53)

Step, have you tried contacting the Canadian postal service, or customs, and Filofax UK? They have an international number on their website, and e-mail contact forms as well, and you can't be the first Canadian ever to buy off them, so they might have some idea. Same with Staples as well of course.

I don't know anything about Canadian shipment but I generally find if you shake enough trees, so to speak, you usually get some useful info eventually - so don't give up! :)

kanalt (2012-05-10 06:35:04)

Interesting. While I watch the Olympics, I'm not a huge follower of all the sports and athletes. However, if I was I might be tempted to buy this just for the inserts. What a great specialty binder (minus the quality factor, as it does look more like "pleather" than leather).

Saffy (2012-05-10 07:57:27)

Steph, a google search has found the following info. Hope it helps. <http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/import/postal-postale/duty-droits-eng.html>

Scoot (2012-05-10 10:52:53)

Here is a You Tube link showing a leather wallet being made, using many skills relevant to the manufacture of an Organiser.

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V8A03e-AhJE &list=FLKuifglWVZSY9-27YagFMDQ &index=1 &feature=plpp_video](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V8A03e-AhJE&list=FLKuifglWVZSY9-27YagFMDQ&index=1&feature=plpp_video)

Neil (2012-05-10 13:48:51)

Whatever one's views regarding the Olympics, this is a fantastic application. If my children were younger, or my grandchildren older, I would have used this product to make their trip to London more involving, by cramming it with additional material specific to the events they would be watching. Incidentally, you can use the same idea for other trips too, by using something like a pocket Domino. Start 'em young, that's what I say.

Philofaxy Awards (2012-05-10 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

At the end of yesterdays [2]review I mentioned that you could win one of the review samples. We would like to hold the Philofaxy Awards and we need your help. These awards are in the following categories:

- Best New Filofax Blogger (Sporting Icons Personal Organiser)
- Best Video Blogger (Line Burst Blue Pocket Organiser)
- Best Filofax Photography (Line Burst Blue Pocket Organiser)
- Most Artistic Filofax/ Blog (Line Burst Pink Pocket Organiser)
- Best Business/ Professional Organizer (Sporting Icons Personal Organiser)
- Best Family Organizer (Line Burst Pink Pocket Organiser)
- Best Commenter - The person you look forward to reading their comments because they are informative/fun/sensible (Dodo Pad Acad Pad)

The awards will work like this:

1. Each reader can nominate 1 blog or person for each category listed above.
2. Each category will have a separate vote (all voted on at the same time) with people being able to vote for one entry in each category.
3. People can nominate themselves.
4. Nominations by Email only to philofaxy at gmail dot com with the category as the subject of the email. Include the name of the person and the name of the blog (if applicable), a link to the site, or to the person's Flickr pictures if they don't have a blog.
5. Prizes have been pre-allocated to each category as indicated above.
6. Voting to run for 10 days
7. The awards are open to everyone no matter where you are in the world...as long as you have a postal service.

Nominations must be received by 12 noon (UK time) 15th May 2012 for inclusion in the voting process. We look forward to receiving your nominations.

1. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-DfWjmIyNiV0/T6GuERHmhsI/AAAAAAAAK6w/1afTfVfm1hM/s1600/IMG_0803.JPG
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/05/london-2012-sporting-icons-line-burst.html>

icclewu (2012-05-10 01:33:58)
Wow. How exciting :) xx

pseudonz (2012-05-10 02:46:06)
Um. There's a category for video blogging? {quick YouTube search } Oh. My. God. There goes the rest of my evening. Thank you - it had never occurred to me to look there for my filo fix!

Jotje (2012-05-10 03:12:21)
I miss the most important category!
Best Filofax Enabler.
(though there would be very many contesters ...)

Steve Morton (2012-05-10 03:15:42)
Who would have won??

Steve Morton (2012-05-10 03:16:57)
We do a monthly post as well..
<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/04/video-web-finds-for-april-2012.html>

Alison Reeves (2012-05-10 04:35:32)
Great Steve - will have to give this some thought as there are many options for each category!

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-05-10 07:35:43)
Oh this is fun! Thanks :)

Neil (2012-05-10 07:38:46)
I think Steve should get a prize for all the work he puts into Philofaxy.

Alison Reeves (2012-05-10 08:00:43)
Totally agree!

Yu (2012-05-10 09:40:19)
Yep!

Anita (2012-05-10 09:47:47)
Hear, hear!

Steve Morton (2012-05-10 11:18:53)
People, thank you, but I have you all as friends. That to me is worth a lot more than any prize you could give me. I can't put in to words how grateful I am for all of your support and kind words in the last 3 years it's been a brilliant phase in my life... and long may it continue.
Regards
Steve

Sandra (2012-05-10 11:28:56)
ahem*

Butanben (2012-05-10 11:52:02)

I agree with that too!! I think Ray and Steve should also be included in an additional stand alone best ever self-print diary category.... such hard work went into those.

LJ (2012-05-10 13:45:41)

Totally agree - Steve & Ray for global domination :o)

Globetrotting Cacti (2012-05-10 15:14:59)

Totally agree, Steve is fab and puts in so much time and effort (and support for general tech related queries too). There should be a special category for him... Thanks

Nikki france (2012-05-10 17:36:15)

here here!!!!!!!!!!

Filofreak (2012-05-10 18:15:27)

Yes, Steve should definitely win an award!

mywormy (2012-05-10 18:36:34)

I totally agree with all of you!! God Bless you Steve!!

LJ (2012-05-14 14:47:55)

And my nominations are in - that was actually hard work :o)

Steve Morton (2012-05-14 16:58:58)

Thank you, Last day tomorrow to get your nominations in... then we will start the voting on Wednesday

Steve Morton (2012-05-15 11:01:38)

Nominations now closed...

Free For All Friday No 182 (2012-05-11 00:00) - Steve Morton

It doesn't matter how many times I reorganise my Filofax organisers, making 'improvements' adding new sections or new pages. It is not until I've used them for a few weeks that I discover or confirm if they really are improvements or not.

I've been using my 'Work' A5 Finsbury during a property search for a client these last few weeks, so far it has been working well, but I'm considering some improvements and additions to help record all the details we need to note for our client. During a house viewing time is of the essence, so I'm developing a new check list so I can just tick boxes and save some scribbling time whilst looking around a house!

So have you made any changes to your main Filofax recently? But as always as it's Friday you are of course welcome to discuss anything Filofax related...

Have a great weekend.

Rene Raggl (2012-05-11 00:26:28)

Yes, I switched from DPP to W2P (columns) for better overview and for my monthly planner from M2P to folding year planners for the same reason.

As a benefit, my Filo has slimmed down quite a bit. Paper is cream coloured from Succes as I like their Layout and paper quality better than Filofax. And it's easier to get here in the Netherlands.

The change was inspired by the X47 planning system that I tried for a while, but which failed because it did not have room for my work-related print-outs.

Have a great Friday, folks!

Lime Tree (2012-05-11 00:42:19)

I have made some changes recently and really like them. The Time management week per view that Ray developed is definitely working wonders for work. I was using the regular week per view that came with my A5 - lined columns for each day - and not much luck there.

My big change for the month right now is trying to go back to personal. My work A5 is getting heavy and I decided to separate personal and work. My only problem is the month calendar that I record things for both (work & personal) and most of the times one depends on the other. I decided to give it a try and split them anyway. I will be double-entring the month per view pages on both of organizers. Will see how that goes.

Soooo, a few questions for Filofax experts out there.

1- Is Filofax releasing a different collection for fall or what we saw in March/ April is all we will get for the year?
2- Tying to previous question, will there be new colors for chameleon? I just got a spring green and was looking at the available colors printed on the box for that style and the acqua is not there. So were they released on two different sets? red, raspberry and black as the core ones and spring green and acqua depending on the season? (BTW they came in different boxes too! Meaning different dates released? acqua came in the black box, the spring green came in one of those "side-open" boxes). I have been obviously in love with chameleons since I got my first one (acqua) and am nervous they will be discontinued. Any thoughts, insights or comments of relief on that?

Lime Tree (2012-05-11 00:44:18)

Which one is that success paper you mentioned? Does it fit Filofaxes or you adapted?

Whispering Rabbit (2012-05-11 00:47:20)

I have a question about making it easier to turn pages on the rings...my personal is comfortably full but I'm noticing that the pages are starting to snag (nothing to do with the ring openings - they're perfect). For instance, when I close my FF, about 20 pages are getting 'caught up' at the bottom of the rings rather than sliding up like the rest of the content, so that it feels difficult to close it. Hard to describe it so I apologise if I've lost you ;)

I think it was Scoot who mentioned a few weeks ago using a wax on the rings to make page turning super easy...what kind of wax would be appropriate?

David Popely (2012-05-11 02:27:16)

@Whispering Rabbit - I have the same issue with my Personal Malden, only it's definitely due to the fact that i have plastic credit card holder towards the back of the binder (like most people i have a lot of plastic of various kinds), and I use my Filofax as my wallet, among other things. Sadly I don;t really know the answer to this. I know the problem *seems worse when i use a notepad in the Malden's back cover (I've almost stopped doing this now), but otherwise I just have to either a) make do or b) varry less plastic cards - and I know that's not going to work long-term.

David Popely (2012-05-11 02:32:50)

@Lime Tree - It's *exactly* this which prevents me from splitting between work and home (even though I work *from* home) - if I stick with the A5 it weighs 1.1kg (as of yesterday) which makes it a bind to carry around, especially when I'm in London on business for two days with a laptop as well, plus I look like a planning inspector when I go to the gym, or to a restaurant! However, I'd *love* the extra space and flexibility for work if the A5 never left my desk.

My Personal is working pretty well for list keeping and as a GTD 'capture tool' (I'm a pretty hardcore GTD aspirant this year), but the A5's size and space is definitely attractive for work. It's the diary which is the sticking point - like you, my personal and work diaries are inter-related, hence my common use of the 'one life, one organiser' mantra.

I'd be interested to see how you get on with your experiment. How often are you going to reconcile the two diaries? I can see this fitting into the general heading of 'weekly review' (per GTD, but that week's gap makes me nervous.....

David Popely (2012-05-11 02:34:59)

@Rene Raggl - could you please post a URL for the paper you mentioned? Is it Personal or A5 size?
Many thanks!

Rene Raggl (2012-05-11 04:08:25)

Mine is A5 format and fits the Filofax without any adjustments being necessary. They do have Personal too, which is called "Standard" by Succes.

Here's a pic I made: <http://pic.twitter.com/2ovj0lfy>

You can find it on their corporate website: <http://www.succes.com>

(Their site is auto-detecting the language based on the IP, so unfortunately I can't forward the link from the site directly.)

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-05-11 04:42:14)

I few weeks ago I thought I was reaching FAIL with my pocket Aston but when I sat down and thought about it, some of the "fail" was because I was itching to use my new Holborn and partly because the diary set-up wasn't right in the Aston.

I changed from a week on 2 pages plus a 2 pages per day combination to a modified Pocket TM from Steve and Ray. The modification I made was to merge the task lines so that there are 14 rather than 28 (as they were too small for me to write comfortably in and so it didn't look really crowded) and to add in "Coming Up" to the bottom of the task list side so I have a heads-up. It's working at the moment, but only because work is quiet and I don't have many fixed appointments in a week. But, when things get busy I will move to the Holborn though I'll probably keep the same set-up style.

Scoot (2012-05-11 05:03:39)

White candle wax will fill in odd pitting which catch paper. Just rub wax candle with a piece of cloth or kitchen tissue towel, then just rub cloth on rings. It is just like waxing your curtain rails so that they draw easily and smoother.

Alternatively, just clean and polish your rings with a metal cleaner...the combination being enough to create a slippery surface.

Neil (2012-05-11 05:44:24)

@ Lime Tree - re splitting work and home.

If you're going back to personal sized, why not have one fax for work data, one for home data, and a slimline fax for your combined work and home diary. Carry your slimline with you at all times, together with the the data from each of your data faxes that you need for that particular day.

Neil (2012-05-11 05:52:23)

@ Whispering Rabbit - Before you complete close your fax, hold it with the rings uppermost and give it a little shake. The sheets at the back will drop down to join the others.

industrious housewife (2012-05-11 10:08:46)

I've been fiddling with my system soooo much in the last few weeks.

As my A5 Domino was new at Christmas, I had the usual W2P layout, which is what I was accustomed to with the Organised Mum diaries I'd been using for the last three years.

I wanted to make more of a record of what we'd done each day, notes on childrens naps, what we'd eaten etc. so bought a PPD I put at the back as a log. But I found I wasn't using either section effectively and this week I took out the W2P and promoted the PPD. Yesterday I added in a blank sheet between the days to record what we eat each day. I also have a mini sheet punched on both sides as a 'hotlist' of more urgent things to do and a mini plastic envelope which contains a sheet for the current 'Flylady' Zone, which I move from day to day.

I'm trying to fit as much as I can into one 'spread' so I don't have to flip back and forth too much between sections during the day.

I also bought the Jan-Dec dividers and month on one sheet with notes in personal size (sold out in a5) to have a quick overview of the month.

Nothing pocket sized in there yet, but I've got a pocket filo I use for something else. :-D

Romina (2012-05-11 10:30:27)

I have a couple questions and would really appreciate your answers:

1. Will a pocket size plastic envelope fit a personal size Filo?
2. How soft is the leather on the Finsbury?
3. When you buy from the FF site or from P & L, what does that "and more!" mean on the contents listing? It is driving me a bit crazy...

Thanks!

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-05-11 11:12:28)

Hi Romina

In answer to your questions . . .

1. No. I just tried it and it definitely doesn't.
2. It's not soft, more smooth and shiny. I have one and I've just stroked it!!
3. Don't have a clue I'm afraid!

Hope this helps!

Lucy x

<http://www.allthingsstationery.blogspot.co.uk/>

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-05-11 11:14:18)

That's a fabulous idea Neil. I'd love a slimline but until they start making them in feminine colours, I'll just have to be patient and make do with my compact!

michele (2012-05-11 11:14:52)

For the last month I've consolidated my life to one filo - my vintage (circa 1986) personal Tejus filo. After 15 years my position as a Project Manager at a Fortune 500 company was eliminated due to corporate restructuring. So as a sad reminder, I don't like looking at my A5 these days as that was my sidekick all day at work. I do plan on redesigning the sections and posting on my new blog (as soon as I get more experienced in using the camera to capture photos). What I'm doing with the Tejus is moving more to a project section about me and my job search. I'm also playing with the idea of restructuring the Financial section. I used to keep budgets by the month but I'm now thinking about putting together a snapshot that I can use for a quarterly view. As a result, my full time personal filo and I are bonding and I actually prefer the one filofax useage as I'm not running from room to room looking for the appropriate filofax!! Susan and Nan, I cannot wait to show you this vintage filo at our New York meet up next month!!

Jotje (2012-05-11 11:19:43)

@Lime Tree: the Chameleon range is entirely discontinued! That's why they are on sale currently.

They started with raspberry, black, red and spring green, then added brown and aqua to the game.

I don't know where you ordered your Chameleon from? Usually, UK delivers most binders in side-slip boxes, while the rest of Europe uses the nice black boxes (except for the Mini-size btw).

Jotje (2012-05-11 11:24:28)

As for changes: I'm very happy with my TimeManagement 2PPD inserts. They work brilliantly for recording work and personal Todo's. I'm still not happy with my columned WO2P, though. I need the columns, because my brain plays tricks on me if I have a horizontal weekly layout. But I also want room to record weekly todo's. For this I'm using the Daytimer Hotlists, but I'm just not happy with it.

I'm contemplating buying the Family Life Book from OrganisedMum once it is released (should be in June). I would need to dismantle the wirebound book and punch all pages, but size-wise it would be a perfect fit. The columned layout is what I'm used to in my wall calendar (also from OrganisedMum), and I would have room to record all the different activities of my kids that all seem to happen at the exact same time. Plus: a columns for Todo's!

The best thing though: the paper quality! Heavy thick paper that loves all pens and inks.

Anyway, we'll see if that's a solution to my weekly layout problems ...

industrious housewife (2012-05-11 12:00:55)

I'd never thought about hacking the Organised Mum diaries. Hmm...

Sydney (2012-05-11 12:01:42)

I now have a number of filofaxes. Several have perfectly valid uses that help me in day to day life. However there are a couple that are just hanging around in the wings. So why oh why do I still find myself shopping for more? I have just bought 2 more. One pocket as a back up in case mine breaks(!) and another A5.....because it is pretty. Luckily I think I now have all the filofaxes that 'do it for me' (except a personal organiser from Malden). Will that stop me?

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-05-11 12:05:08)

Welcome to the club! ;-)

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-05-11 12:06:57)

Me neither, and a 'Pocket Life Book' from Organised Mum landed on my doormat today! Oh the fun I will have playing with that now you've put that wonderful idea in my head! I feel another blog post coming on!

LJ (2012-05-11 12:37:03)

@ Whispering Rabbit - Neils tip above works. I do it every time I close my filofax as I hate it when my pages slip behind the rings too :o)

John C (2012-05-11 14:29:55)

Fairly new to Philofax - but have been using my A5 Finsbury for 3 years. I recently changed my "Notes" section from lined pages to blank pages. I like it better - as my note taking is fast and haphazard. I use the section a lot as I spend most of my work day on the phone. A blank page is the perfect place to scribble a few notes, or to do those things that arise from my conversations. The blank pages also accommodate my decorative scribbles and doodles better.

Alice x (2012-05-11 14:57:25)

I literally read Philofax yesterday and revamped my organiser using this site as inspiration!

I wrote my very first blog post about it!

www.the-wonderful-life-of-alice.blogspot.co.uk

I need some transfers though for my tabs - off to hunt for them at The Range tomorrow!

Does anyone have any other ideas to spice it up for me?

Steph (2012-05-11 15:37:32)

I just 'made' my mother a filofax using an A5 Domino in Red, I then hand-cut and punched (with a one hole puncher I might add) 250 pages of BLANK paper, because she doesn't use lined paper. I also put in the 2PPW because the spaces are blank there. She loves it.

As for my own filofaxes, I added some blog mind mapping type pages from mikesmind.co.uk and they are working out really well.

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-05-11 15:47:39)

The "ideas" template on the mikesmind site is in fact almost identical to the one I gave to Philofax which you can find on the files page.

Just sayin'

Steph (2012-05-11 15:58:29)

I couldn't find it at the time, I will go and look right now. Thanks for letting me know about it.

baggirl (2012-05-11 15:59:54)

Hi there, I've been wondering about getting a Topaz or Luxe (crimson), and they look very similar on the ff web site. The Luxe seems to be a bit more upmarket, but I wondered if anyone out there has seen them both and could describe the differences to me. Thanks!

J (2012-05-11 16:19:43)

So jealous that I'm missing the NYC Meet-up this year and the chance to see such an awesome vintage Filo!

Yu (2012-05-11 16:46:39)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Nanini (2012-05-11 16:48:27)

Hmm, I am one of the newest followers of the site and for quite time I just read the blog. :) However, I think I am already obsessed by my Filo and just like many of you I reorganize mine.

My first Filo was bought in December 2010, when I just by accident and thanks to a sale I bought it - personal graphic in red. Around mid April I couldn't resist to the A5 zipped graphic in red, so I changed to this one. (Here Filofax are not famous brand, so there is no big choice, but enough to start my passion).

After buying the second one, I began thinking how to organize my everyday life in a way so that I can write down my personal, working and studying life in one place. I had to remember so many details (although I have great memory capacity), but somehow the head became too small for all thoughts I had to remember. :D

And I started just with 1-2 youtube clips, they forwarded me to 1-2 websites and to be honest from all of them I came to Philofaxy, which was a great treasure. I found soooo many ways and even templates for my Filo. The only thing was to buy A5 paper package. Although many of the templates was not very useful for my type of work, they were great inspiration what and how to create my own.

So one night at the end of April I sat down and began cutting, punching and inscribing. After a new set of self-made dividers a la Filofax, I began preparing my new inserts - checklists for document submission with note fields. (My type of work includes collection of documents, which are submitted to an agency for obtaining approval for conduct of clinical trial.) Step by step, my new Filo became a Filo, which I cannot separate from it, even if I go to a restaurant in the evening. Although it is heavy it is priceless for me. I am sure he will show even more in the future. (The word gender in my mother tongue is masculine, so I began calling it "he".)

I am very glad I found other passionate people about (as many of my colleagues say) my "bunch of papers". :) :) :

Scoot (2012-05-11 16:50:47)

Congratulations, you seem to have covered all options within one fax.

Nice fax, like the others by Paperchase as per your link, which I am sure women and younger people will find have more appeal than Filofax's.

Scoot (2012-05-11 16:55:24)

But do you keep the pages with doodles? For me they would just remind me that I was being inefficient. Certainly I can see that unlined paper is better for creativity. What happens when you try squared paper?

Yu (2012-05-11 16:59:19)

Yes, it's so sad! T^T The Chameleon really is the perfect "luxury filofax, neither too up-scale or down-scale and is also easily cleaned" (<- what a friend said just yesterday)! I have to hurry up and get a brown one and another aqua before they disappear completely!

Romina (2012-05-11 17:33:44)

Thanks Lucy :) i really like the blue finsbury that came out for Spring.

Whispering Rabbit (2012-05-11 18:33:48)

Thanks everyone for your advice - I have some metal cleaner in the house (...somewhere) so I'll give that a go as well. ^_^

Whispering Rabbit (2012-05-11 18:42:07)

The Finsbury is, as Lucy said, more smooth and shiny (although pleasantly 'texturised' by the leather's detailing). It seems to have a very very thin sheet of card stitched between the fabric and the leather, so it's not a floppy binder (like a Malden, for example). It may or may not lie flat, depending on the training you want to give it. It definitely has a very solid, satisfying feel to it.

Whispering Rabbit (2012-05-11 18:48:16)

Hah! As a member of the one-hole-puncher club I know what you've gone through with those 250 pages...if that doesn't tell someone you love them, what will? ;)

Saffy (2012-05-11 18:52:50)

baggirl, which size are you planning on buying? I have a red Topaz and a Luxe crimson (compact) and like them both for different reasons.

The Luxe is a stiffer binder but a lovely shade of (blue) red. To me it is the perfect red and the best thing about the binder. I don't however like the inside card spacing and pockets, I think it lets the binder down. The inside of the binder has a darker smooth leather.

The Topaz is much softer and bendier (is that a word?) and I love the secretarial pocket in the front. The inside pockets are the same as the Amazona but the lizard pattern is carried through to the inside.

I think they are comparable in their 'upmarket' status. If you have a look on the Danish FF website it shows both but you can get an idea of the inside of the Topaz by looking at the Amazona. Also Flickr has some great shots of the Topaz.

Hope this helps.

John C (2012-05-11 20:52:47)

Scout,

My doodles are mostly just mindless drawings that occur while I am listening to others on the phone. I am usually not even conscious of what I am drawing. I generally pull the pages out every evening and dump them into my Inbox. (I am a GTD follower). Once I process the pages, I toss the them in the recycle bin.

I have used the squared pages in the past, but I feel like the square lines get in the way. On the Filofax pages the lines are particularly thick and black. Also, I write a lot of notes, about 5 - 10 pages per day. The lined pages are just too expensive at that rate. I found that I would not write stuff down because I didn't want to run out of paper. Now I just get a ream of paper from Staples and have them chop it in half for me. 1,000 pages for \$11 (with the chop) means that my pages now cost just 1.1 cent per sheet, so I don't mind burning through 10 pages per day. Also - because I just use these pages for notes - not any sort of eloquent discourse - I don't feel like I need "nice" paper.

Lime Tree (2012-05-11 23:09:18)

@David Popely "I look like a planning inspector" lol that is how I feel sometimes. I get excited about something want to write down and pull out that humongous + heavy A5 out of my purse at the restaurant on a friday night. yeah, don't feel really comfortable.

I am not sure yet how long I will keep my sync system going on. I started using one single reminder to-do sheet that I write down everything that comes to mind that I need to do in any "category". All together in that one sheet. At night when getting ready for the next day I read that list and allocate the task to the category it belongs. That way I write myself a reminder that some new appointment came up and I need to sync both organizers. It's a lot of work. I am having fun so far as I try to find my way but will see. It may not be as fun after a month!

I am still carrying both of them around because I am scared I may miss something thou :D I will keep you posted.

@Neil - that sounds good but I take tons of notes on my work diary so I can't squeeze in well on personal size.

@Jotje and @Yu oh.my.gosh! {Rush to pens & leather to save one raspberry }

Lime Tree (2012-05-11 23:12:58)

@Jotje the TimeManagement 2PPD inserts is the one you showed on your A5 Adelphi video? where did you get it? I tried finding that ebay seller you mentioned but no luck. Would you mind sharing a link?

kanalt (2012-05-12 06:48:39)

@Romina - From memory (it's been a while since I've ordered a Filofax), the contents of a personal usually includes the 6 standard tabs (Diary, Information, Financial, Notes, Projects, Addresses), a week on two pages diary, note paper (usually three different colors), to-do sheets, some other specialty papers (maybe financial or web addresses), some form of A-Z tabs for addresses, Today marker, and maybe a clear envelope of some kind. The contents may change a bit depending on the binder you're looking at, but this is the general contents that I've

seen with most of my binders. From what I understand (and have experienced), you can email both P &L and Filofax and should get an answer specific to the binder you're looking at.
Hope this helps!

kanalt (2012-05-12 06:49:27)

I can't wait Michele - I'm looking forward to it!

Jotje (2012-05-12 07:20:14)

Search eBay.UK for Themalvernbookcase. They don't have the inserts listed at the moment, but you could always email them!

Yu (2012-05-12 09:26:37)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Yu (2012-05-12 09:27:20)

Don't forget that filofax.dk has a 50 % sale on all Chameleons! *places her order*

Romina (2012-05-12 10:28:31)

@Rabbit thanks! I've read great things about the Domini but i really want my first Filo to be leather and the Fins seems like a good (pocket friendly) start.

@Kanalt thanks for the deets! Before i purchase, i will probably email CS and ask. I just want to make sure i purchase any extras i need without ending with doubles.

Alice x (2012-05-12 11:23:17)

To be honest i went into Paperchase again today to have a look at the filofax ones and i wasn't really impressed at all! I imagined soft leather or fabric - well finished interiors etc and this was not what i found - everything is hard and cheap with fraying bits etc - i actually prefer the design and colour options of Paperchase ones!

I also prefer the Paperchase accessories - much more colourful, no annoying logos etc - Filofax is good for some things like the clip in rulers and world maps etc but not for the basics - the paper is thin and cheaper too!

Im on to stage 2 of customising mine today though :)

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-05-12 13:09:33)

I would REALLY like to see this format in English. I could happily cope with the French... It's not on the UK site though and the P+P seems daft for just this. :-(
<http://www.filofax.fr/store/diaryrefillsdetails.asp?productId=2455>

I know Filofax would probably say it's too expensive to make all the different inserts in all the languages, but, surely, there would be enough English-speakers between the UK and US to make this worthwhile (since there would appear to be enough to make it worthwhile in France!).

Grrrrr!!!

Lime Tree (2012-05-12 14:17:12)

@Yu they don't ship to US :(

Frederique (2012-05-12 14:52:23)

Last September, I found this format lying around in a small business office/stationary shop, and I asked for a discount as it was a 2011 refill and I argued noone else would buy it so close to the end of the year. It worked and I was delighted to have bought it for half price !

But it took me a month to admit that, though I thought it would be perfect for me, this format was a huge fail : the space between the lines is incredibly tiny, you don't really realize it until you have to write on it "for real", on the go, as opposed to when I was at home rewriting the last three month of appointments for 2011...

Perhaps the exact same layout scaled up to fit in an A5 format would work better, but in Personal, I really like my week spaces unlined.

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-05-12 15:47:51)

@Frederique

Thanks! That's helpful! If you still have any of the inserts, could you measure the space between the lines please?? I quite like lined but not if the spacing is too tiny...

Frederique (2012-05-12 17:12:50)

I'm sorry Amanda, but I don't have the inserts anymore ! But I quickly tried to "guesstimate" the height of the lines.

According to the refill "WPP+notes" layout (<http://www.filofax.fr/images/products/refills/line/68437x.jpg>), there are 6 lines and they make 5 "line-spaces", for each day. That's 30 line-spaces.

If you take a regular Filofax-ruled paper, there are 31 lines and 30 "line-spaces". Each line-space is 4,75mm (4 line-spaces measure 19mm, I've just checked with the Filofax-ruler).

So, for your refill, let's assume that each day-title is 1 cm, and add another cm for the page title; that leaves us with $(17,1\text{cm}-7\text{cm})/30$ equals 3,3mm per linespace, vs 4,75mm for filofax-ruled paper.

That's a guesstimate, again, but I feel it's not that far-off.

(Note to self, always keep a sheet of a used diary ! I threw away the remaining of partially used diaries, thinking I would never use them again, but I find that I would have had alternate uses for them - even to prove a point in a philofaxy-comment :)

baggirl (2012-05-12 17:34:35)

Thanks Saffy. I'm actually thinking of getting a mini. I hate bulk, and I like flexibility, so I think the Topaz sounds much better for me. I got a pocket slimline Topaz on ebay recently because I thought I might re-expand back to pocket size but found I actually didn't like the bigger pages! But I am craving a new filofax....!

Yu (2012-05-12 18:53:28)

Whaaat?! That sucks! =(If it weren't for the uncertain cost of the shipping price, I could buy one for you. (Might not be worth it money-wise that way.) They are still on a 50 % sale in the stores over here (but when I buy filofaxes in the store, they don't come in boxes).

Frederique (2012-05-13 04:26:33)

Unfortunately, I don't have the inserts anymore !

But I've made a quick quesstimate as to the height of the lines :

- personal filofax ruled-paper has 31 lines, that makes 30 line-spaces, and as 4 line-spaces are 19mm (thank you filofax ruler), each line-space is 4.75mm.

- the "WPP+notes" refill has 6 lines (5 line-spaces) per day so that's 30 line-spaces per page; let's assume that each day "title" and the page title are 1cm each, that leaves us with line-spaces of $(17,1\text{cm}-7\text{cm})/30 = 3.3\text{mm}$.

And when you look at the insert image (<http://www.filofax.fr/images/products/refills/line/68437x.jpg>), you'll note that the notes section line-height (the same as ruled paper, if I recall correctly) is quite bigger than the day line-heights.

So, sure, that's only a guesstimate, but I feel it's not that far off :)

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-05-13 06:47:01)

Thank you!!!

I may have to make a mock-up and see if I could cope...

Thank you for all the help!

Lime Tree (2012-05-13 15:59:46)

Thank you!!! I emailed them. Will see.

Do they have the manufacture's name written on the side like Filofax has on their inserts? Maybe I can google that brand and find other sellers...

Lime Tree (2012-05-13 16:01:57)

no worries! Thanks for helping! :) Although there are no more Spring Green Personal available here in US, I found a raspberry that I also wanted. That will do for now. I think...;)

Web Finds - 12 May 2012 (2012-05-12 00:30) - Steve Morton



[1]

It is time to sit down and relax and enjoy some great Filofax blog posts we have discovered for you this week.

- [2]Filofax Setup Part 1 - Bunnies in Blazers
- [3]What's in my Filofax - Hard Corps Love
- [4]Filofax Blog of the Week - My Life All In One Place
- [5]My Filofax is here - Snider Writer
- [6]Filofax 'Styles' - Time and Task Management - Bluebonnet Reads
- [7]A day in my life, through the eyes of my planner - Bluebonnet Reads
- [8]My Filofax Week - Paper Lovestory
- [9]Addition to the family - Filo-Manie
- [10]The Filofax Experiment - Jack Baty
- [11]Planner fail v's Planner imperfection - Pen to Paper
- [12]My 1st Philofaxy Conference - Jarfm
- [13]The Start of my Filofax Obsession - Filo Obsessed
- [14]Filofax with some Oh! La! La! - The Crazy Suburban Mom
- [15]The Filofax Ritual - Filofit
- [16]My pocket top tabs - Rapunzel's World
- [17]Custom Inserts - Jarfm
- [18]in search of the perfect diary insert - making the W2P vertical work - Serendipity
- [19]IT FINALLY CAME..... - My Once Upon the Moon
- [20]"A bright color to bring you back to life after a dismal winter" - Vanjilla

- [21]Filofax Blog of the Week - My Life All in One Place
- [22]The Traceley - Art in progress - Rapunzel's World
- [23]Buffalo Girls - The Zeitgeist of Zoe
- [24]My new Filofaxes - Vintage Giraffe
- [25]Kendal vs Finsbury - Filofax Fixation
- [26]Filofax Spotter - Sharing the obsession - Pen to Paper
- [27]My Pocket Filofax Wallet - Not Another Filofax Blog
- Your blog could appear here next week, if we missed you this week, please email us a link.

Thank you to Tracy for the picture... counting down the days...
 And don't forget to send in your [28]Philofaxy Awards Nominations.
 Enjoy

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-k9jzIoLlKp4/T61TcUOSGnI/AAAAAAAAAK9o/wYJ_MZAT7HE/s1600/photo.PNG
2. <http://preppybunny.wordpress.com/2012/05/04/filofax-setup-part-1/>
3. <http://www.hardcorpslove.com/2012/05/whats-in-my-filofax.html>
4. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/05/filofax-blog-of-week-rapunzels-world.html>
5. <http://sniderwriter.com/2012/04/28/my-filofax-is-here/>
6. <http://bluebonnetreads.wordpress.com/2012/05/06/filofax-styles-time-and-task-management/>
7. <http://bluebonnetreads.wordpress.com/2012/05/06/a-day-in-my-life-via-planner/>
8. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/05/my-filofax-week-3.html>
9. <http://filo-manie.blogspot.fr/2012/05/familienzuwachs.html>
10. <http://www.jackbaty.com/2012/5/the-filofax-experiment>
11. <http://justjennypentopaper.blogspot.fr/2012/05/planner-fail-vs-planner-imperfection.html>
12. <http://jarfm.com/?p=13>
13. <http://filo-obsessed.blogspot.co.uk/2012/05/start-of-my-filo-obsession-welcome-to.html>
14. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/05/filofax-with-some-oh-la-la.html>
15. <http://filofit.wordpress.com/2012/05/09/the-filofax-ritual/>
16. <http://icclewu.blogspot.fr/2012/05/my-pocket-top-tabs.html>
17. <http://jarfm.com/?p=89>
18. <http://serendipity-art-journaling.blogspot.fr/2012/05/in-search-of-perfect-diary-insert.html>
19. <http://myonceuponthemoon.blogspot.fr/2012/05/it-finally-came.html>
20. <http://vanjilla.blogspot.fr/2012/05/bright-color-to-bring-you-back-to-life.html>
21. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/05/filofax-blog-of-week-philofaxy.html>
22. <http://icclewu.blogspot.fr/2012/05/tracyley-art-in-progress.html>
23. <http://thezeitgeistofzoe.wordpress.com/2012/05/11/buffalo-girls/>
24. <http://vintagegiraffe.blogspot.fr/2012/05/my-new-filofaxes.html>
25. <http://filofaxfixation.wordpress.com/2012/05/11/kendal-vs-finsbury/>
26. <http://justjennypentopaper.blogspot.fr/2012/05/filofax-spotter-sharing-obsession.html>
27. <http://notanotherfilofaxblog.blogspot.fr/2012/05/my-pocket-filofax-wallet.html>
28. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/05/philofaxy-awards.html>

LJ (2012-05-12 00:38:49)

Ah, my favourite time of the week is finally here, and what a huge selection of posts there are today :o) Thanks Steve

Lime Tree (2012-05-12 00:44:00)

That's quite a list! Yay Saturday!

Lily (2012-05-12 01:32:27)

After reading about the Olymc organisers I've found them really cheap at Staples UK website. Probably an admin error so get in there fast! (a personal sporting icons was £12 including postage and VAT)

Alison (2012-05-12 03:34:08)

Lily, I got the personal pink one for just under £10, picking it up today, got it delivered to a local store!!

Alison (2012-05-12 03:42:18)

Thanks for the link to my blog Steve :), i'm new to blogging and new here to filofaxy, well i've been stalking it for a few weeks now but quietly. It's time to say hello and make some new filo obsessed friends. So hello everybody, looking forward to getting to know you all better. Right off to spend the whole morning checking out all those posts, thanks Steve!!

Louise Oakden (2012-05-12 05:41:11)

I agree with Alison, that is cheap when you see the cost of it on the Filofax site.

Jotje (2012-05-12 05:55:08)

If anyone wants to read my blog/vlog on my Filofax-wallet, you'll find it here: <http://notanotherfilofaxblog.blogspot.com/2012/5/my-pocket-Filofax-wallet.html>

Saffy (2012-05-12 07:41:40)

Jotje, I watched/read it during the week and now I want a pocket chameleon.....aarrgghh!!! No more filofaxes, no more filofaxes.

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-05-12 08:53:08)

I have the exact same Filofax and you've got me thinking about making it into a wallet now! I was also thinking about buying a pocket Pennybridge for the same purpose and I've just received a £10 Amazon voucher so there may be another purchase coming up for me very soon! Decisions decisions...

Lime Tree (2012-05-12 14:23:27)

@Saffy isn't that enabling business amazing and awful at the same time? :D

Alison Reeves (2012-05-12 15:48:12)

Nice choice of reading material thanks Steve!

The crisis that (might have) convinced me to go A5 full time. (2012-05-13 00:30) - Steve Morton

I'm like a lot of our readers, I'm just as bad when it comes to fluctuating what size Filofax to use. I've gone through various phases of using different sizes.

More recently using more than one size at the same time. This year I managed to get it down to two organisers instead of three, but still different sizes. I'm not counting the ones I have for dedicated jobs like my work A5 or my car Pocket Filofax, they continue to be used for the purpose they have been set up for. This year I've been using an A5 Malden at home and a Personal Malden to carry around with me, both with essentially the same information in, even down to duplicate journals. But sometimes it takes a shock or a crisis to make you realise which size works best and sadly that happened to me recently.

At the beginning of April, I suddenly had to travel back to UK at a few days notice and attend to some arrangements. I found that the A5 with the [1]Enhanced Time Management Insert that Ray and I designed really worked well in this two week period when I had two return trips to UK, one by train and plane, the other by car. It was complicated and tiring in equal doses, I didn't have time to think about it all really, I just needed something to help me through the plans, some where to record details and phone

numbers, reference numbers, reminders.

I was staying in different hotels and so I needed the booking references to hand when I arrived at each place. It all looked as if it was going too well, until less than 12 hours before my first flight I received an email to say my flight had been cancelled due to industrial action. So then I had to literally start again and re-plan one phase of my travels by train instead of plane... thank goodness for Frixion pens... out went the flight details, in went the train booking details:

- TGV - Tours > Lille Europe
- Eurostar - Lille Europe > London
- East Midlands Trains - London > Sheffield
- Trans Pennine Trains - Sheffield > Manchester Airport

I arrived at the car hire desk in Manchester about an hour later than I would have done if I had flown, but I did leave a few hours earlier of course. Out came the A5 again, another booking reference number for my car hire. The clerk duly typed this in on his screen, up came my details.

'Have you flown from France today Mr Morton? Because I thought all the flights had been cancelled?'

"Err no I've come by train"

'What all the way?'

"Yes all the way"

His face was a picture.... more tapping away on his keyboard, then he turned to his set of car keys and grabbed a car key on a tag and handed it to me along with the hire agreement.

'Well for your determination Mr Morton we have given you a free upgrade'

'Thank you'

Well the car wasn't anything special, but it was a bit more comfortable and it had a few more toys than I was expecting in a hire car...

The rest of my travel plans went according to plan, but each day over the two weeks my A5 was in use the whole time, gathering information, recording details, although I was carrying my notebook computer with me, not once did I use it whilst I was out and about, my Filofax was so much quicker to access and record information (times and dates, phone numbers, reference numbers, reminders and other details).

On one of the days I had to write several letters, so again my Filofax address section came in to full use. This is another area I had duplicated in both the A5 and my Personal Maldens, but again I was using the A5 in preference to the Personal because the address section in this is printed rather than hand written. I travelled back to France via Manchester Airport and plane this time on Easter Saturday, I spent what was left of Easter weekend at home with the family then we travelled back to UK by car together on the Monday. Again different hotel stays and various bookings, so once again the Filofax was in full use again. It was at about this time I started to realise that I could make the A5 work for me on a day to day basis without having the duplication of the Personal size as well. The diary insert was certainly working well for me even when there was so much going on.



[2]

This was the quieter of the two weeks, now I know some of you have busier weeks every week than this... but this is busy for me these days!

I'd also found a solution for carrying the A5 on a daily basis, if I was going to carry it around with me all the time, you can read that post on [3]Bagsey.

Having been back in France for a few weeks or so after an epic set of travels, I've settled back in to using the A5 on my desk open next to me. I've still been carrying the personal around with me in my normal '[4]Man Bag' but I'm finding I'm referring to it less. I'm not convinced yet I can get down to just one Filofax. Certainly the A5 has been working well for me and it really has a lot of advantages in terms of layout and flexibility.

What I suspect I will do is to reset up the personal size without the journal section, duplication of this is a little unnecessary. This will slim things down quite a bit. I will review the rest of the contents too and see what else can come out. May be I might be able to try out the compact size or get back in to my slimline... who knows!!!

This might seem to be a lot of changing around but the total flexibility of Filofax and the way you can adjust the contents and set ups at any time is the reason I love them so much. You can have the information you need to hand be it lots of information or just a few notes. They absorb the peaks and take care of the routine stuff so well.

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/free-diary-inserts.html>
2. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-JuDVtKq6MQs/T5chZzHED1I/AAAAAAAAK1s/uceF11n1wXk/s1600/diary.png>
3. <http://bagsey.blogspot.fr/2012/04/new-messenger-bag.html>
4. <http://bagsey.blogspot.fr/2011/04/new-day-bag.html>

Laurie (2012-05-13 21:03:11)

Further proof that a truly Slimline or even Compact A5 (where the binder is only just big enough to accommodate the width of the paper, and a smaller ring size) would solve ALL OUR PROBLEMS!! At least, it would for me. Slimline A5s are very popular here, and the binder is so small that it's just barely bigger than the page size so it's the same size as a normal A5 notebook (instead of much larger like the Filofax A5). Unfortunately the ones I've found are cardboard-type material or vinyl, none are anywhere near the quality and style of Filofax. So, I wait and hope that someday Filofax will come out with a real, true slimline A5!

Filofax???? Slimline A5 please!

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-05-13 21:31:20)

Over the summer I'm going to be using my A5(s) all the time for my dissertation and PhD application planning, and I just love the size, paper options etc, but as ever, there's the huge portability issue. I don't use my A5 for my everyday stuff, but would love to someday- I loved seeing how fat and well-loved your grey A5 Malden was when I saw you in Liverpool. Heavy though! So recently, after realising how heavy my bag will be if I carry around both

an A5 and my normal personal-size planner, and realising that I won't be using, or need, a personal sized diary at all this summer- very few appointments, no lectures, and all uni planning done in my A5- I moved over to the lovely little pocket ochre Malden I bought for my birthday! So this summer I will be taking an A5 and a pocket to uni everyday! But as I said, I would love to just have an A5 for my diary/work everything daily planner one day (with all my others doing other things, staying at home), but maybe when I have a car so I don't have to carry it everywhere and kill my shoulders!!

PS. A5 purple Malden pleeeeeease :D :D

Alan Marshall (2012-05-15 00:11:06)

I am using a fairly slim Dayrunner A5 (half-page on this side of the pond) binder that has 3/4" (2 cm) rings and is 1" (2.5cm) thick zipped shut. I have some personal-sized binders I use for specific purposes: one for the car, where it resides, one for my music collection and CD hunting that moves between the house and the car and address books for both my wife & I. I use my laptop a lot, so there's a lot I find more convenient to keep there.

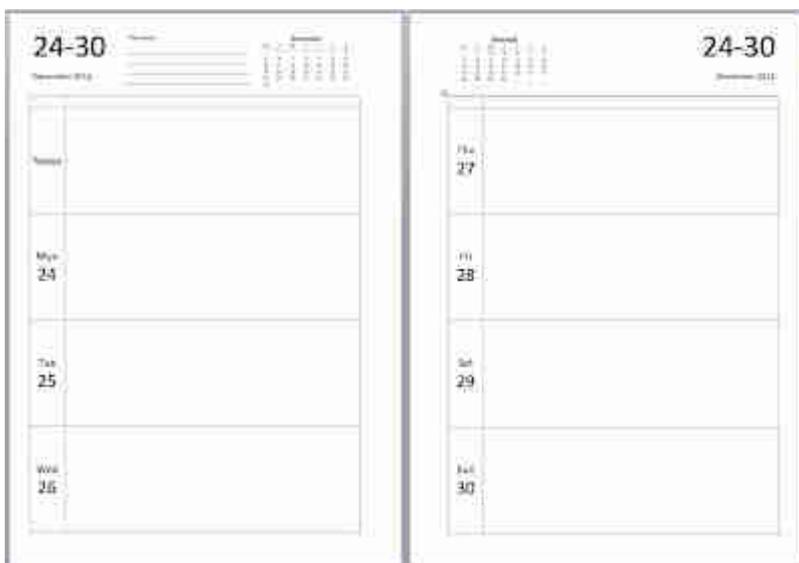
I have recently been converted to Moleskine pocket books (14x9 cm) which slip so conveniently into the pockets of almost anything I'm wearing. I have my appointments in one and another for notes. Lately, I find that the A5 is staying in my briefcase more and more.

A5 Week Per View Journal Diary Insert (2012-05-14 00:00) - Steve Morton

Ray and I have had some great compliments about the [1]A5 Enhanced Time Management inserts that we have made available. I'm using one in my A5 and it's proving very successful.

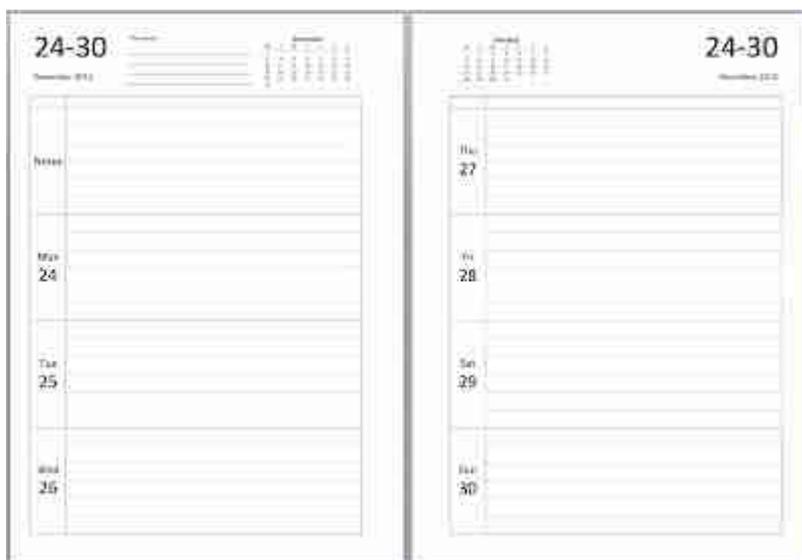
Now I'm a '[2]two insert person' one for planning and one for my journal, present and future and the other for past. So I thought it would be appropriate to design a suitable journal insert to match the Enhanced Time Manager insert.

I've created a non-lined version



[3]

And a lined version



[4]

These are available in 2013 pre-prepared files available:

- Week Per View Journal [5].docx [6].pdf
- Week Per View Journal Lined [7].docx [8].pdf

These are available in 2012 pre-prepared files available too:

- Week Per View Journal [9].docx [10].pdf
- Week Per View Journal Lined [11].docx [12].pdf

And if you like tinkering and customising our files here are the source files:

- Download [13]Word file and [14]Excel file for the unlined version
- Download [15]Word file and [16]Excel file for the lined version

So now you can have a planner and a journal printed on good quality paper.

[17] 

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1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/free-diary-inserts.html>
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/11/my-set-up-for-2012.html>
3. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-GR6_PdzE9B0/T6fCYk-ao3I/AAAAAAAAAK74/7vJkmwkc_2w/s1600/weekview.jpg
4. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-4_00fwFIa08/T6fEXqoIVAI/AAAAAAAAAK8I/B5ZZD0qNNRU/s1600/weekviewlined.jpg
5. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced_TM_Week_View/2013A5WeekView.docx
6. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced_TM_Week_View/2013A5WeekView.pdf
7. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced_TM_Week_View/2013A5WeekViewlined.docx
8. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced_TM_Week_View/2013A5WeekViewlined.pdf
9. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced_TM_Week_View/2012A5WeekView.docx
10. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced_TM_Week_View/2012A5WeekView.pdf
11. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced_TM_Week_View/2012A5WeekViewlined.docx
12. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced_TM_Week_View/2012A5WeekViewlined.pdf
13. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced_TM_Week_View/A5WeekViewbaseV2.docx

14. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced_TM_Week_View/DatesSourceFilo_WOTP.xlsx
15. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced_TM_Week_View/A5WeekViewbaselinedV2.docx
16. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced_TM_Week_View/DatesSourceFilo_WOTP.xlsx
17. <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/>
18. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/>
19. <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/>

SSA (2012-05-14 07:29:07)

any chance of a "2 page per day" in pocket size? I looked for it in the link at the top and it says "2 pages per day" but in fact its "2 days per page" that opens with that link. Only if you and/or Ray have the time.

Steve Morton (2012-05-14 09:18:36)

Hi

Sorry about that, wrongly labelled now corrected.

2 pages per day... what sort of layout would be of interest?

Steve

Keji (2012-05-14 13:09:04)

Wow EXACTLY what I needed. Thanks Steve & Ray for your continued time and generosity to the Filofax gang :-D.

Could you give a little guidance of how you should adjust the files for 2012 as think this would be really valuable for the rest of the year.

Thanks.

Steve Morton (2012-05-14 13:24:02)

Keji

I've added the 2012 sets as well now.

Steve

Keji (2012-05-14 13:39:49)

Absolutely brilliant Steve. Thanks again

Steve Morton (2012-05-14 13:41:35)

Your welcome, I did the full year it's easier to do that and quicker of course. You don't need to print the whole file, just delete the pages you don't need, but leave the blank first page.

Steve Morton (2012-05-21 14:53:33)

Can you please contact Philofaxy [at] gmail [dot] com so we can discuss your requirements for your 2 page per day Pocket size.

Steve

Free For All Tuesday No. 67 (2012-05-15 00:00) - Steve Morton

I'm pleased that more and more of you are taking part in these weekly discussions.

Let's hear from more of you. No invitation or introduction required... just join in we are all Filofax friends around here.

JohnofJenkins (2012-05-15 03:09:28)

My new Filofax (Cuban Zip A5) arrived today. I am looking forward to setting it up.

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-05-15 03:24:07)

Hello all! I've recently decided that I'm going to attempt to trace my family tree. I've never done anything like this before and I don't really know where to start, but I'm sure there'll be lots of information online about that. Obviously, this got me thinking about the most important thing: how to go about undertaking the project in terms of STATIONERY. There will be lots of notes to make and information to compile and I was thinking that I could use a Filofax. Have any of you used a Filofax for this kind of project before? If so, how did you use it? Do you have any tips? Or do you reckon I should use another kind of system - perhaps an A4/5 ring binder or the ARC system?

Any advice would be appreciated, thank you!

Steve Morton (2012-05-15 03:40:46)

Look on the files page, there are some forms/templates there already for gathering information on people in your family tree, I think but I will check these are formatted for A4/A5 size.

Steve

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-05-15 04:44:35)

Thanks Steve! I'll have a look. If I use my Filofax, it will be a personal one because I don't have an A4/5, but I do have A4/5 ring binders so they would come in handy anyway!

Babs (2012-05-15 04:59:35)

I've done quite a lot of my family tree - 1,041 individual entries to be precise (over mine and my husband's trees) going back to the 11th Century so far.

First and foremost I would suggest getting a software programme of some sort. I used Family Tree Maker when I was a PC user, and now use Mac Family Tree for the mac. Both are good and help keep track of the "tree". There are free tools you can use as well, for instance the Ancestry websites where you can upload and create a tree and check other people's trees for common links.

Initially I think a personal filofax would be fine for working notes - at least in the beginning. I would suggest 1 page per person, organised alphabetically by surname / maiden surname. Then you can keep track of what documents you have (e.g. birth / marriage / death certificates, christening records, etc) with a simple check list, plus a notes section for next steps to follow up, or notes if you reach a dead end. You could also use flags to mark pages where you have next steps needing following up so that you can find them easily.

From my experience, Scottish records are the easiest to get as they're all online (google Scotland's People). You pay for credits and can then download birth / death / marriage certificates directly. It can be dangerous for the wallet though as it's all too easy to just keep adding funds to the pot! Irish records are the hardest as there was a big fire in the records office way back and a lot of records were lost. For the most-part you need to know the parish and church where the record was held and go directly there, which makes it a bit harder (that's where most of my tree has come to a dead end).

For English records (and Welsh, probably, but I haven't got into doing the Welsh side yet!) sites like Ancestry are a good help. Try and find unusual names or unusual spellings and search for them (even using google), or if you have a large family (e.g 13 or more surviving children) try and follow that line as you'll probably find that someone somewhere is also doing that tree with so many descendants!

Finally. Try and stick to your immediate tree. If you start getting into Aunts, Uncles, Cousins, etc, from the beginning it soon ends up getting into a bit of a muddle and it can be difficult to get back on track.

It's a great hobby and I'm sure you'll enjoy it once you get going!

industrious housewife (2012-05-15 05:08:03)

I strayed from the path of One Life One Filo, and have tried a couple different diary inserts too and am feeling Filo Fail approaching. Lots of ideas of different uses for filofax, but not getting the diary/planning bit right atm!

Anyone use Week Per Page with Notes?

doris98 (2012-05-15 05:18:41)

I prefer the WPP with Notes format myself and used it for years. I used the dated side for appointments/meetings, and the notes side for to-dos and whatever else.

I didn't buy it this year and was using WO2P with a flyleaf between the 2 pages for to-dos, until I used the Dodo Pad for Filofax which is essentially the same format as WPP with Notes. I like it because it's cute and interesting, and I have tiny handwriting so it can work for me. Eagerly awaiting the revised Dodo Pad format though which promises to have bigger boxes.

filofit (2012-05-15 05:40:29)

Hi Everyone - Have the personal size on trial right now. The same old story – A5 is too heavy to lug around. The new problem that I am facing right now is the bleed on the personal sized paper; A5 papers had no such problem. I am using the Filofax papers and Pilot vball 0.5 (not hi-tech). Where am I going wrong? 'Cause in most of the blogs, I see the personal page entries with no bleed at all!!
Pls help.

-Holly (2012-05-15 05:43:28)

Just curious if I am fairly alone in decorating the exterior of my Filo? I upped from a pocket Songbird (not my trial wallet) to a person Domino and whilst in love with the deep pink cover I was craving pattern.

So this happened:

<http://img.photobucket.com/albums/v481/monsterbeans/Photo69.jpg>

I've seen the Union Jack mod on here, but no decorated Filos in the wild. I understand why though with fancy leather Filos wouldn't, but what about us other non-leathery people? (!)

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-05-15 05:46:35)

Wow! Thanks so much for all that information! I'm going down to my Mum's this afternoon to get started (we're doing the project together) so I'll take a copy of your post with me. I went to the library this morning and got two books out to help us get started.

Thank you!!! X

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-05-15 05:54:39)

I have just changed from a compact WO2P(CC) to a pocket WPP with notes (I'll be doing a post about it soon). I only started using it yesterday so it's early days, but I like it so far! My bag feels a lot lighter and I'm finding that I actually look at my Filofax more because I have a long list of things to do and I can choose when I do most of them, rather than them being allocated to specific days. I'm using it in the same way as doris98 below: appointments on the diary page and the notes side for general reminders or to dos. I'm not using the actual WPP with notes because they are multi-lingual and waste so much space, so I just got a WPP for 50p and put a lined piece of paper in between each week.

Check out my blog post here: <http://www.allthingsstationery.blogspot.co.uk/2012/05/bargain-filofaxes-filofax-diaries-what.html>

Yu (2012-05-15 06:41:35)

You're not alone! :D I used to decorate my filofaxes (starting with fun-faxes when I was a kid) and right up to my "Domino and Metropol phase" (teenage years). But I stopped doing that when I received my personal Guildford Extra Slim when I was about 17 years old, since I thought the leather was too nice to "destroy". I still have my decorated filofaxes. Might start using them again. Or I could just give in to my sticker-cravings and actually decorate and personalize one of my leather filofaxes.

There are A LOT of filofaxes here at my university (Filofax and Louis Vuitton (!) seem to dominate the ring-binder calendar arena) and... well... most filofax users seem to be in the law program. XD; (I wonder why. I would have pegged the budding journalist students as more avid filofax users...) I feel quite out of place with my Luxe compact, because most of the filofaxes on campus are either Metropol or Bond... ^^;

I wonder if the Domino and Metropol are the most decorating-friendly..? :D

stops rambling*

Yu (2012-05-15 06:45:20)

Oh! And your filofax is really cute! <3

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-05-15 07:13:50)

Hi everyone! Yesterday I went to Staples to acquire one of the Olympic Filofaxes at their knock-down prices for a Philofaxy reader abroad, and at the till it was £18.50 instead of the website's £7.71, so I showed them the website and the guy thought about it. Eventually, he said he could do it for £13.80!! That's almost double!! He said it would have to include delivery and VAT, so it brought the price up A LOT!! Has anyone come across this before? I thought they just price matched automatically?

Steve Morton (2012-05-15 07:18:59)

Sounds odd, adding VAT I can understand because the price on the website is excluding VAT, but delivery, you have it there in your hand!

And this 'Philofaxy reader abroad' could be nominated in our Philofaxy awards.... all will be revealed tomorrow morning....

Lynne Dove (2012-05-15 07:22:47)

Yu, interesting that there are lots of filofaxes at your uni. I am convinced there is a resurgence in their use.

Yu (2012-05-15 07:23:47)

I don't know if it's just me, but it feels like the quality of the paper is different depending on which country you buy it from! My Swedish personal inserts (normal-come-with-the-filofax) only have minimal show-through - no bleed-through when I write with my Lamy Safari with standard black ink. The standard A5 inserts from France are both bleed-through and show-through. O _o; And the personal inserts (cotton cream) from England are slightly bleed-through, whereas the danish inserts are the same as the swedish.

Also, the white personal filofax inserts are THE WORST. Seriously. I like the clean design, but I can't use them! I hate lined paper, but that is what I have to use. T _T

Yu (2012-05-15 07:35:36)

@Lynne Dove

I hope so! Otherwise it's the reappearance of what we call (Swedish slang) "yuppies" or maybe "pretto yuppies" or "pretto preppys" or something like that.. >.<;

((SORRY! THIS ISN'T STRICTLY FILOFAX-RELATED!!

But it kind of feels ridiculous:

Most common planner: Filofax Metropol/Bond

Runner-up: Louis Vuitton

Most common bag: Mulberry Bays-whatever it's called

Runner-up: That baggy, huge Louis Vuitton

Most common phone: Apple iPhone

Runner-up: Samsung Galaxy S2

Most common computer: Apple MacBook Air 2nd Gen. (or is it 3rd?)

Runner-up: Asus Zenbook

AND WE'RE FREAKING STUDENTS with really crappy student loans! Anyway, see what I mean? /end of the not-filofax related stuff... Sorry!))

One fun thing is that I just spied my seminar teacher with a personal Holborn! :D

David Popely (2012-05-15 07:40:35)

In the UK, the paper quality is absolutely (I could be rude) poor...I've gone over to cotton cream and that seems fine if you can cope with the very limited range of layouts available (I'm just about hanging on at the moment. Otherwise, some other suppliers use better quality paper....

industrious housewife (2012-05-15 08:09:07)

I'm a 'huppy' - hippy with Filofax. :-D

industrious housewife (2012-05-15 08:11:23)

I'm very drawn to it. I'm thinking if trying it out with the Olympic diary insert.

industrious housewife (2012-05-15 08:13:56)

I'm using the Dodo pad for meal planning atm, I love it, but can't see it working as a normal diary for me atm. I've got massive handwriting for one thing.

Kelly Marriott (2012-05-15 08:14:06)

Does anyone use a separate, non-Filofax diary (something with better paper or layout) but use the Filofax for everything else (goals, planning, reference, etc)? Wondering how complicated this would be.

Laurie (2012-05-15 10:10:08)

I do! After many years of trying to make it work with my Filofax as my planner-and-everything book, I finally gave up and am so much happier with a separate bound planner and my Filofax as my info and reference book. With a bound planner I have a slimmer book and a larger page size than with my Filofax. But in my Filo I can have all my lists, reference info, addresses and other things I keep year after year, goals, etc. It works really well for me.

Also I've found that using two smaller books (in my case a Personal Filofax and an A5 slim planner) are lighter and less cumbersome than using an A5 Filofax as my planner and reference book in one.

Hope this helps! :)

Steve Morton (2012-05-15 10:13:03)

There is the option of a Filofax compatible diary insert which uses better paper...

Several options... Print your own... or Quo Vadis, Day Timer, etc

All covered in the past for instance personal size:

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/09/alternative-refills-for-your-filofax.html>

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/09/diary-inserts-for-2012-part-4-filofax.html>

Laurie (2012-05-15 10:18:41)

If you want to use your Filofax as your diary but just want better paper, you'll love the Quo Vadis paper. And of course with Steve and Ray's customized printables, you can get whatever layout you want and print it on any paper you want, win-win!

Esmé (2012-05-15 11:31:03)

I'm still "settling into" my Temperley Affair A5... as I suspected, I do love the Flex format, but I still wish the Personal rings were A5 rings – and what really gets me in a tizzy is the tiny, tiny ring size! I'm contemplating selling it at some point, as I am one of those people who doesn't mind at all lugging around a huge planner (I used to be a Levensger addict) and would perhaps like to switch over to a plain-out A5.

-Holly (2012-05-15 11:46:23)

Haha, thanks! Cute and bright is what I aim for. Possibly ill-advised as I use my Filo for two different jobs! Psh to being professional, take me as I am!

I'm also a student (sort of) and I must say I have never seen another Filo or similar in use at my University. Its all pocket diaries or smart phones. Prior to the Filo I had no diary or organisational system whatsoever, I just scribbled down my work shifts on old payslips and hoped I remembered University deadlines

2012 has been a very strange and busy year so far, so a planner became a necessity for me not to totally lose my marbles. I use the Dodo Pad because it makes me smile :), and have stickers en route and personalised dividers for more oomph!

Shanananana (2012-05-15 11:46:42)

Online with delivery & VAT it is only £11.48, right now... still much much cheaper than full price.

I dislike Staples' policy online of adding something called "order care" - which includes VAT - at the checkout: it

allows you to return the goods unused within 12 months but there are stacks of terms and conditions on it, and adding it in such small print as a default feels like a shifty way to get customers to buy a "service" they don't want - imagine a supermarket manager sneaking round and adding little things to your basket when you're not looking, on the basis you can always take them out again?!

I think it would make sense to add it on, say, orders over £200, but one lousy folder and from someone who's chosen the option to see prices with VAT, which usually means you're not a business who might legitimately over-purchase stationery?

Seedy little trick. Based on that I'm less than surprised they plucked a price out of thin air for you, though of course I'm sorry it happened.

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-05-15 12:22:56)

I'm fairly sure they aren't allowed to do that. It would be dishonest of to advertise cheaply online and then raise the prices in the shops - it amounts to trickery. I don't know the exact details but I think my hubby does - I'll ask him later.

Did you see my blog post about my experience with Staples? I stood my ground and the manager backed down very quickly.

<http://www.allthingsstationery.blogspot.co.uk/2012/05/bargain-filofax-filofax-diaries-what.html>

Sydney (2012-05-15 12:27:36)

You do have to keep your eye on places like Ancestry though. It can be a great source of information but it can also lead you astray if you don't check out things for yourself. My mum is into her family history and has come across lots of unlikely situations such as someone having a child when they were 5 years old.

Good luck with it all

Space Poet (2012-05-15 12:56:16)

Anyone heard anything about future Temperley filofax designs? I would struggle with the small ring size as well but I do think they look beautiful, especially the Affair.

SazD (2012-05-15 13:23:19)

Staples actually price match with themselves (ie they will do it for the online price) and you usually save 10 % for your troubles too! I was told this by the very helpful assistant in my local one who was price matching an A4 Lyndhurst to £78 instead of £140!!!

Cazzle (2012-05-15 13:25:30)

I think you were the one who just outbid me on Ebay for it, so if you do sell it, please consider selling it to me!! x

Yu (2012-05-15 13:51:35)

I was just about to ask the same... and it wouldn't hurt if they were (will be?) be a bit cheaper...

Steph (2012-05-15 14:12:30)

I have a small section in my A5 and Compact (mainly for notes on the go)that has the names, dob, dod, where they were born etc...I don't have any place yet to compile an actual 'tree'.

I tried to use Ancestry and aside from a border crossing record, I couldn't find anything on any of my relatives at all. I found it a big waste for me.

It is all great fun though. Good luck

Steph (2012-05-15 14:21:26)

@Yu how do you like your luxe compact? I am thinking of getting one myself.

PrincessK (2012-05-15 14:49:42)

I use a week per page with notes and I love it. Im a single stay at home mum with young children so im usually really busy with stuff to do all week but I dont have many appointments just usually a long to do list with things

to do around the house. Its really unusual that I have a job to do with a deadline, practically everything I have to do on my to do list has no real timescale, it just needs to be done so having a small space each day for appointments and a blank page with all my to-dos for the week means I can just have one big long list and do things as when I get the time with no specific order. I've really struggled finding a diary insert which matches a stay a home life because they're all so business orientated but this really works. I would say though the day spaces are really small so if you have a lot of appointments it might not work very well x

Alana (2012-05-15 15:41:16)

I have just taken delivery of a beautiful new Personal Raspberry Chameleon and i love it! I bought the Alice Temperley "affair" a few months ago and although i love it for the fact it has a notebook, the ring size is just too small to really work with on a daily basis (im a sales rep so have a lot of appointment and make lots of notes, to-do's etc) but my Chameleon is lush and i can use it as a wallet (inspired by jotje). Love filofax!!!

Alana (2012-05-15 15:43:47)

I bought the affair to and although i love the design and notepad the ring are just too small, if they were regular sized it would be perfect.....

Sydney (2012-05-15 16:22:24)

I have just received my A5 Chameleon. Nowhere near as lovely as my Malden (Mmmmmm ochre Malden.....) but bit more robust for the job I have given it.

I have reached the end of my 'uses for a filofax' list and have all but one of the filofaxes I particularly like. There are 3 waiting for a job. 2 of them are personal size and the other is a spare in case my pocket breaks (it seemed logical when I ordered it!).

For some reason I prefer the pocket or the A5. I think it is because I find the pocket portable and the A5 good for 'stay at home' stuff.

However if anyone has some 'good uses for a filofax' that I can add to my list maybe I can find a use for one or both of mine which are not fulfilling their purpose in life..

Alison (2012-05-15 17:45:57)

I've seen quite a few posts on blogs about using a filofax for "The Happiness Project" and i'm wondering if anyone has done this and how well has it worked, have you kept up on it or is it just one of those uses for a filofax that gets abandoned after a month or two???? Thanks in advance :)

Yu (2012-05-15 17:53:25)

So far, so good! I have the crimson Luxe and also a matching crimson Luxe A4 folder. I was afraid of scratching at first but decided to go ahead and use it "normally" anyway. (I.e. throwing it into heavy book bags etc.) It still looks brand new. I am, however, cautious with pens around it because I think that ink will be particularly difficult to clean with the lizard print. Also - get top tabs or you'll crush them.

I do miss some sort of zip-pocket at the back. The zip-pocket inserts are a tad too bulky to use in this planner. =/ But the compact size is perfect for anyone who wishes to force themselves to get rid of bulk in their filofaxes. I do wish that the A5 Luxe's pen loops weren't so awkwardly placed: otherwise I would probably get one of those as A5 paper is better suited to university life. I also do not like the position of the card holders, but I mainly use them to hold my film index stickers, coffee shop cards and U-tab... um... tabs. ^^; So I guess it doesn't really matter in the long run.

Oh! That's also something I want to recommend: if you want index tabs that are really (x2) durable, then you should get U-tabs and customize them together with your own home-made dividers. :) I'm not affiliated with them in any way. But I just realized the other day just how good they are when I dropped my 3.4kg heavy law book and caught it by grabbing two or three tabs. They didn't tear the paper, which is VERY thin, and held the entire weight. O _O I think that you can get blank tabs in different sizes and colors and also special order your own design. www.u-tab.se

If you have any specific questions that aren't covered above, just ask. :)

Alison (2012-05-15 17:54:08)

I had a really nice surprise when I went into Staples to pick up my pink london 2012 filofax on Monday, which i'd ordered online at the bargain price and picked up in store to save on postage as it's just down the road from me, will be blogging about it in the morning!!!

<http://filo-obsessed.blogspot.co.uk/>

Helen Conway (2012-05-15 18:06:20)

i have just reset up my personal with A week on two pages with notes having snapped up the Olympic Line burst at Staples for £9. I took those inserts out and added them to my Aston in which I will have also a monthly overview, as soon as the delivery comes, and also a daily section. Thanks to Steve Mortons endless helpfulness inSKYPE tutoring me that now has an ammended version of Steve and Ray's Day On Two Pages. I currently have about a month of daily pages in the Aston.

basically the WO2P I find is sufficient for appointments but for too limited for all my daily tasks and notes and journal entries. So I use the W02P notes for a sort of overview of what my aims and intentions are for that week and tasks that can be done any time. The daily ones I put the detail on either ahead of time or each night as I jot my intentions for the next day.(that includes tasks but also the kind of feel I want the day to have or what my focus will be).

The monthly view is just to give me a place to get a visual overview and make sure I dont overbook myself.

Keji (2012-05-15 20:20:20)

Hi Yu,

would love to try the U-tabs you recommended. Do you have a link for where they can be purchased. I've never heard of them before.

Romina (2012-05-15 20:51:34)

Does anyone know why the Panama is called so? I am originally from Panama myself and when i saw this model in the UK website i was nicely surprised. Any takers?

Babs (2012-05-16 03:08:25)

I think it would work well. But mine got abandoned after a month or two! :D

Alan13 (2012-05-16 04:07:43)

Make sure you talk to the "oldies" in family. They are a great store of your family history that you won't find in official records.

Alan13 (2012-05-16 04:16:48)

I use W.H. Smith WO2P in my A5 Cuban. I use a fountain pen with a very broad nib (green ink) and have never had any problems whatsoever.

Alison (2012-05-16 05:15:02)

That's what I was thinking, one of those good idea's that you don't keep up with :)

Ashleigh (2012-05-16 09:36:02)

Hi Alison I use a section of my filofax for the happiness project, I like to think of it as going to the gym or sticking to healthy eating, you have to work at it everyday. Unfortunately us human beings can't maintain a positive outlook every single day! We have to have a certain degree of discipline and be motivated enough to stick to it. It is not something I have abandoned after a month as I implement it in my every day life. I used a collection of books and websites then made all the required notes, affirmations rules to stick by etc. On a day-to-day basis I write down any negative thoughts I have throughout the day and how I approached them which enables me to learn from them. Resulting in how to deal with them next time or I find I never get the same worry or anxiety as I have approached it dealt with it by writing it down and closed the thought. It's also a good idea to note down the food you eat throughout the day as this helps you form patterns of

how different food makes you feel. Suprisingly very useful! Overall keeping a record of your mood takes you on a fulfilling journey of self discovery and definately helps you move forward towards a more happier positive you :) hope this helps and feel encouraged to see this through I promise you will be pleased with the outcome!

Jotje (2012-05-16 12:36:01)

Sidney, here's a list of possible Filofax uses for inspiration: travelfax, kids' journal, recipe fax, wallet, control journal a la Flylady, book reviews, gratitude journal, one sentence per day journal, home improvement (magazine cuts, detailed project list), 101 things lists book (or was it 1001 thinks?) ...

I'd say: buy away...!

Yu (2012-05-16 14:11:18)

There's a link above. :) I think you have to contact them to buy outside of Scandinavia. "Apart from the Scandinavian countries Dorema has delivered U-TAB to several European countries." <- but it is possible. Just click on the English flag and you'll be able to read just how to proceed.

I had never heard of them either, until I bought this year's blue law book "Sveriges Rikes Lag" and was recommended to buy the U-tabs that are specifically designed for it. :)

Yu (2012-05-16 14:13:04)

Oh, sorry. -_-; Direct translation messing with my head. I mean the union flag. >.<::;

Sydney (2012-05-16 15:23:01)

Oooh! Home improvement- My personal Kendal would be able to feel it's ears burning if it had any. Yay! I know what I'm doing this evening....

Thank you -and congratulations for all your nominations.

LJ (2012-05-16 16:43:34)

I started mine with the intention of using my WO1P with notes diary to write a few notes each day and a motivational quote for each week. This hasn't happened so far, so I decided to cut myself some slack, accept the fact that I don't have much free time on a daily basis and will be using mine to put in mementoes that I have picked up that make me smile and to put quotes that make me smile on pretty (or childish) paper which also makes me smile :o)

Alison (2012-05-17 17:56:24)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Philofaxy Awards - Voting time (2012-05-16 00:30) - Steve Morton

Thank you for all of your nominations. It's now time to vote for who you would like to win in each category.

The nominations are as follows:

Best New Filofax Blogger [1]Cat [2]Josh [3]Jotje [4]Stephanie [5]Ray Best Video Blogger [6]Imy [7]Neil [8]Jotje [9]Josh

Best Filofax Photography [10]Tracy R [11]Jotje

Most Artistic Filofax/ Blog [12]Nikki [13]Tracy R [14]Imy

Best Business Organizer [15]Scoot [16]Ray [17]David P [18]Jotje [19]Josh Best Family Organizer [20]Rori [21]Jotje [22]Christa

Best Commenter Terri Jotje Butanben

Please vote in each category in the votes in the side bar.

1. <http://decisioninspired.com/>

2. <http://joshuabuffumlaporte.tumblr.com/>

3. <http://notanotherfilofaxblog.blogspot.fr/>

4. <http://myonceuponthemoon.blogspot.fr/>
5. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/>
6. <http://www.youtube.com/user/imysworld/videos>
7. <http://www.youtube.com/user/camera2888/videos>
8. <http://www.youtube.com/user/judithenbart/videos>
9. <http://www.youtube.com/user/JoshuaLaPorte/videos>
10. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/>
11. <http://notanotherfilofaxblog.blogspot.fr/>
12. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2012/03/whats-in-my-filofax-nikki.html>
13. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/>
14. <http://www.youtube.com/user/imysworld/videos>
15. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2012/04/my-filofax-guest-post-scoot.html>
16. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/>
17. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2011/12/my-gtd-set-up-david-popely-guest-post.html>
18. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/12/guest-post-task-and-time-management.html>
19. <http://joshuabuffumlaporte.tumblr.com/>
20. <http://rorirants.typepad.com/rorirants/>
21. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/12/guest-post-task-and-time-management.html>
22. <http://lovingmyfilofax.blogspot.com/2012/01/my-home-binder-filofax-a5-now-pink.html>

Jotje (2012-05-16 04:32:58)

OMG, I'm listed in almost every category?! I'm really humbled, thanks to whoever nominated me ...!

Ray Blake (2012-05-16 04:43:30)

Well-deserved, Jotje. I'm similarly grateful to those who nominated me. What a nice surprise this morning!

Saffy (2012-05-16 05:02:25)

I didn't know that Rori still had a blog? I thought it was closed down last year? Glad to see you back Rori (if you were ever gone that is).

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-05-16 07:03:21)

Thats cause you rock! :)

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-05-16 07:07:40)

I know there are a few Tracys, is it me?

Tracy

Steve Morton (2012-05-16 07:10:11)

Well the link above goes to your blog... pinch yourself!

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-05-16 08:05:51)

oh lol, I didn't check! Thanks Steve :)

Joey Quinton (2012-05-16 08:51:55)

Jotje, I love your videos and blog posts.....I have watched your Adelphi video probably 2 dozen times!!!!

Joey Quinton (2012-05-16 08:53:09)

Ray, you are the best. I really appreciate the work you and Steve do on the inserts...so much better than what is offered by Filofax!

kanalt (2012-05-16 09:20:47)

i just realized this morning that I missed the nominations - oops! I'm excited to vote though!

MsPencil (2012-05-16 10:00:34)

Oh Wow, I have been absent for awhile. I had a lot going on. I did vote however I could not vote in every category. I wish everyone the best and I am looking forward to the Meet Up in New York in June. It is just around the corner. Please someone send me an update. I had been so busy that I had to order some refills for my personal planners. Also the pocket Art Deco is on sale but I will have to pass right now. Guys enjoy the best of this Spring weather. Be Well.

Lorraine aka MsPencil

Josh (2012-05-16 10:15:23)

Oh my, shocked to see myself so many times! So glad that folks like my posts and videos! I enjoy making them, I think explaining how I use the filofax helps me clarify how I AM using it. I'm grinning ear to ear!

doris98 (2012-05-16 11:37:44)

Congratulations to the nominees, and good luck!

Steph (2012-05-16 15:21:58)

Thank you Steve and everyone else for the opportunity.

David Popely (2012-05-16 15:30:06)

Likewise, as all the others....I don't know who nominated me (and I don't want to), but thank you....

Nikki france (2012-05-17 01:39:40)

WOW, I feel the same, thank you so much for my artistic nomination, I am humbled and totally THRILLED lol
Good luck to everyone

Nikki XX

Alison (2012-05-17 17:46:59)

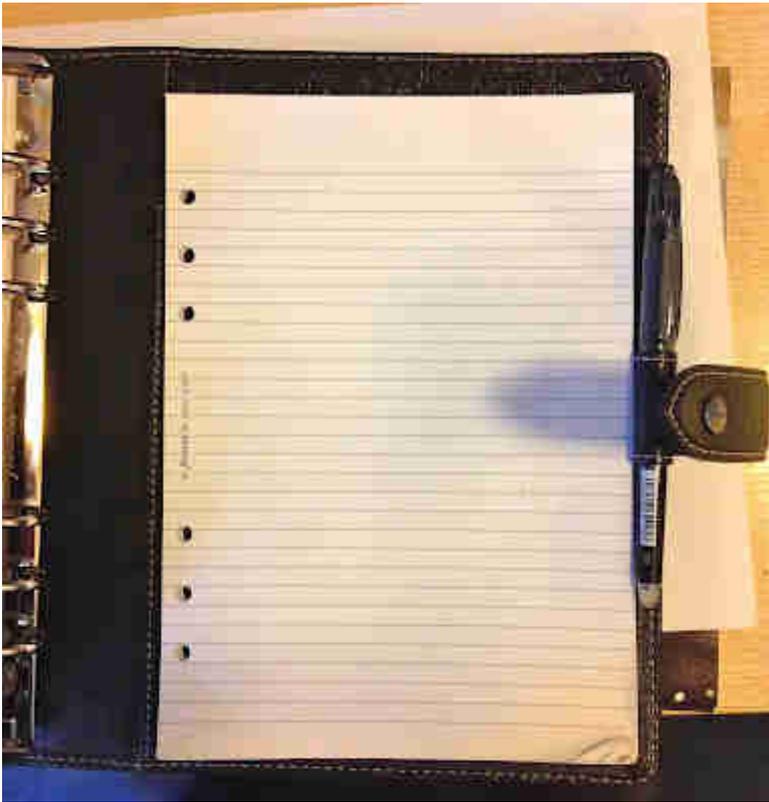
Congratulations to you all and good luck, i've now voted, took me a while going through all the blogs etc xx

Mixing Paper and Digital Devices (2012-05-16 01:30) - Steve Morton

I can hear the cries of Nooooo as soon as you have read the title... but if the thought doesn't scare you too much do read on....

I am putting my A5 Malden on a diet for my trip back to UK, the aim to reduce its overall weight as I have a limited carry on baggage allowance only for the trip.

Whilst removing spare pages, I also removed the pad at the back.



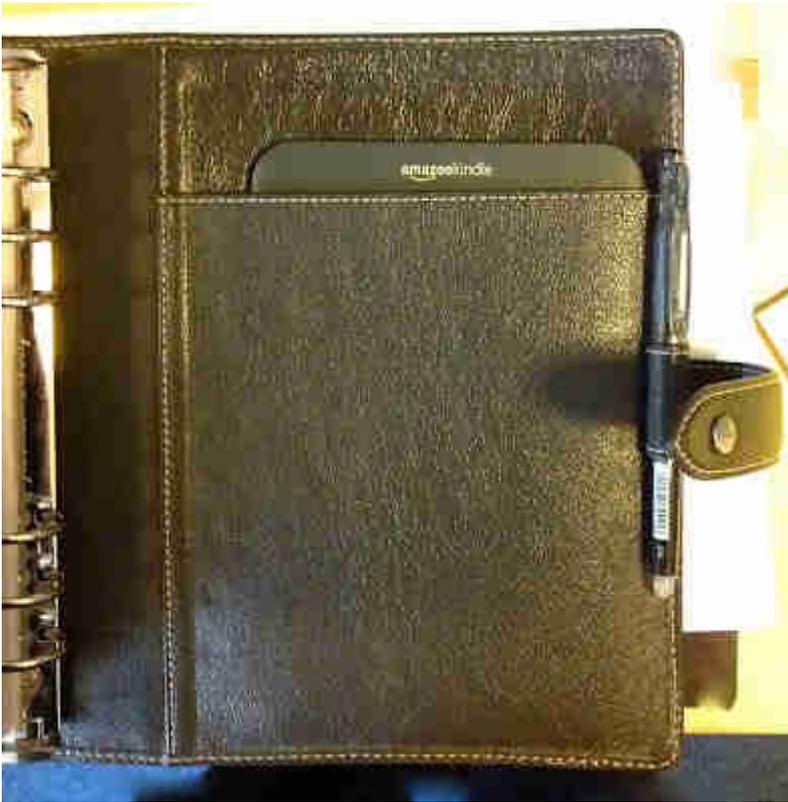
[1]

As you can see I'm not regularly using the pad anyway as the page corners get a little bent. Once removed it gives you a useful pocket. I want to take my Kindle, but not in it's own case, another weight and bulk saving. It fits neatly in to the pocket.



[2]

And it pushes down in neatly



[3]

The Kindle is about the same thickness as the writing pad so it doesn't add any bulk to the A5.

I already knew the iPod Touch fitted in my Pocket Chameleon zip pocket, but I hadn't tried the same trick in the Malden notepad pocket.



[4]

It fits too and I can also slot the note pad back in again as well. But in this size of Filofax the iPod does add quite a bit of weight to the Filofax.



[5]

Then I had to try the iPad. It obviously doesn't fit in the A5... too big. But it will fit in the note pad slot of my A4 Classic... ! But I have a very good slim leather case for the iPad already so I doubt if I will be bringing the A4 out of retirement just yet!



[6]



[7]

Let's just say I had to try these ideas out... something else to tick off on the list of ideas! Photos apart from the last two taken with my iPad!

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-gYsL3XqPIQM/T7PYDujN9yI/AAAAAAAAALAM/s6gmbVvbxUM/s1600/IMG_0018.JPG
2. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-c3e_ka08NtQ/T7PYL0g-YdI/AAAAAAAAALAU/K4MNgmbihNc/s1600/IMG_0019.JPG
3. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-nrdbxcSmojQ/T7PX7vBS8EI/AAAAAAAAALAE/tQIeUs3B1Wc/s1600/IMG_0017.JPG
4. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-r2mJ7CsAHXw/T7PYNG199I/AAAAAAAAALAk/_2KU7mYhKSI/s1600/IMG_0021.JPG
5. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-iYf1Z87tRsI/T7PYR12Pc5I/AAAAAAAAALAc/HLKWNt0Sh-c/s1600/IMG_0020.JPG
6. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-NzArnI_BDZ4/T7PctAeAFZI/AAAAAAAAALAw/YkKq1MO_cL4/s1600/IMG_1333.jpg
7. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-joV_BMmgYas/T7Pcz6AsStI/AAAAAAAAALA4/ZGCuGIisXwc/s1600/IMG_1334.jpg

Josh (2012-05-16 14:49:35)

I was wondering if I could fit my 7 inch BlackBerry tablet inside a binder. I think it would fit in an A5. It's about the size of a personal size binder (height and width, much thinner, obviously).

I've been using evernote for a lot of "born-digital" information from work and using my tablet to access on the go. If I think I will need regular access I print it out and punch for the filofax, but more peripheral stuff can just go on evernote or just be saved on the tablet. I think that using a filofax with an electronic device is quite "synergistic."

indigogarden (2012-05-16 15:49:54)

I think that I'd worry about the rings damaging the kindle, even though there is a sheet of leather between them. It might put pressure points on the screen. Otherwise, it looks very spiffy!

Steve Morton (2012-05-16 16:17:55)

The rings lay to the left of the pocket on the A5 Malden so it's well clear of the rings. Also although I showed it facing inwards, you could reverse it to the screen wasn't towards the rings anyway.

The Kindle is a lot narrower than the pocket so I was able to move it right over to the right well clear of the rings when the organiser is closed.

LJ (2012-05-16 16:26:35)

Ooh - Kindle in my filo... now I'm tempted to move back out of my A5 Holborn Zip... what a fabulous idea!!!

Steve Morton (2012-05-16 16:32:30)

The Kindle will fit in to my Personal size Cuban Zip, but the rings do get in the way in that size. Just checked again with the A5 Malden and it's well clear of the rings in that.

Lime Tree (2012-05-17 00:28:56)

oooohhh, that is so neat! I love that idea!

Anita (2012-05-17 04:20:41)

Great ideas! I was only looking at the pocket on my Malden the other day, thinking that my iPod touch would fit in the zip pocket. Must resist the Kindle...

Jotje (2012-05-17 13:15:33)

I don't know who suggested it lately, but touch screens do work while inside a plastic envelope! I tested it with my iPod touch4: the touchscreen still reacts swiftly, and since you can't phone with it anyway, there's no need to fiddle it out of the envelope. Since the 4th gen is so ultra thin and lightweight, it fits perfectly in a pocket Filofax !

blog (2012-05-17 17:02:07)

I'm the proud new owner of an A5 Finsbury, an instant addict to Filofax, and a converted reader of this blog. This post has pulled me out of lurking coz I just had to comment and say, "Ahhh, isn't it great?!" I discovered that my Kindle fits in the cover pocket (although mine is in the front cover rather than the notepad pocket) only yesterday afternoon and I'm even more excited about this whole organisation thing than I was before. Now slightly obsessed with seeing what I else I can make fit...

Alison (2012-05-17 17:45:31)

Great idea, gives me a good reason for updating my A5 once I have some pennies!!! :)

Shanananana (2012-05-18 01:10:33)

I think the combination of digital & paper is perfection... I've been using my Mini Finsbury as a protective cover for my Nokia candy-bar phone, it also fitted the old Alcatel clamshell I used in '10, and works to take note on calls etc when I'm out and about.

The combination of the two was greater than the sum of their parts, and I would imagine a Kindle (I don't have one yet) and A5 for making notes & jotting down quotes is pretty much the perfect digital library set-up - so, thanks for sharing the info on fit, and those gorgeous photos!



[1]

I'm Louise, a teacher in "sunny" Essex UK. I've always loved stationery, I got my first job in a local department store in the kitchenware department and jumped at the chance to move to the stationery department after a few months of working there. This is where my interest in Filofax started and I became an enabler ensuring that everyone who wanted a present got brought a Filofax at some point (especially with my store discount).

I now live alone and relit my fire for Filofax about 2 years ago when I needed to become more organised with my life because I was upsetting myself and others by forgetting things.

I blog at [2]www.vintagegiraffe.blogspot.com where it's a combination between crafting, Filofaxing and becoming debt free. My 3 main topics if you stop and talk to me at any point. Feel free to come over and say hello!!

1. When did you buy your first Filofax and what was it?

I brought my first Filofax in 2004 when I worked in John Lewis near my school, I was fortunate enough to work in the stationery department which was an amazing job for someone so in love with all of it. I'd had funfaxes when I was little and still remember my aunt brought me one every time I saw her. I'd love to know where they went. My first Filofax was a pocket Metopole shortly followed by a slim line pocket executive.

I loved that the WH Smith store near me did Disney themed Filofax pages and I had dividers, address pages and note pages all brought in a January at 18p each (I still have the packaging and some pages left)

2. What other brands have you used or considered using?

I've not really used many other diaries other than the obligatory school ones. I used to buy lots of French school planners as I found these most user friendly for every day school/university use (having had forgotten about my Filofaxes) my Filofaxes mentioned above stopped being used the day I started university after 2 years of solid use. It was only a few days ago I was thinking how much more organised I could have been at university if I had all my notes and diary and samples (fabric course) kept together.

3. Out of the organisers you own which is your current favourite (Style and Size)?

Right now I'm in absolute love with my pocket Adelphi, brought off eBay. As I'm trying to get debt free at the minute I'm not carrying any cards anywhere with me, the front pocket is perfect for me to keep all my points cards and cash without it being obvious that I'm carrying it all.

Those that read my blog will also notice that I am currently changing my diary a lot. In the past 3 weeks have I had 4 different diary lay outs including week on one page, week on 2 pages, two days per page and the new Olympic diary - week to view but spread across the double spread. At the moment this is my favourite as I can use the left to forward plan and the right to look back at my day.

4. How many Filofax organisers do you own?

I currently own 9 Filofaxes in a wide variety of sizes from Mini to A5. Four of which I have never actually used, but purchased to use for storage and they tend to be taken out of my Filofax drawer, stroked and put back again.

5. What do you use your Filofax for?

I'm currently using 3 Filofaxes at the same time, there's two that I really can't be without, my work Filofax an A5 graphic zip which I used Ray and Steve's day to page diary inserts to adapt for my teaching timetable, I also keep all my mark sheets in here, letters from parents, information about all teaching courses I have been on, and everything else that's important for my teaching life. I also use the Pocket Adelphi as mentioned above. She's (Named Ceecee) a continual work in progress and I love that I can change things in her to suit my impending needs.

I also have a new baby that I'm currently working on (been together for 3 days now) she's an old A5 Kensington in Brown and is set up as a combination between a journal and a scrap book. I've rummaged around the crafting room and found some exciting papers, envelopes etc and build something really exciting to do something similar to a smash book. I will be blogging about this very soon.

6. What was the feature about Filofax you like most?

I love that you can personalise everything as you want, if you feel the need to change something about the way it is working, unlike other diaries you do not need to go and purchase everything again.

7. If you could design your own Filofax what would it feature?

It would be leather, pocket sized. Have the biggest rings available. Bright colours, two elasticated pen loops. I'd love it to have lots of card slots, the vertical pocket for cash, a zip pocket at the back to hide things (not a mesh pocket as I never see the point)

8. How do you carry your Filofax?

My personal one is always in my hand bag, or on the sofa next to me. In fact I actually go to bed with it every night. Heaven knows if there is an emergency in the middle of the night or I have a brain wave about something and have to write it down. I actually have it under the covers with me (don't ask me why, but I'd love to know if anyone else is this precious about theirs as well)

9. Which Filofax in the current range do you like the most? Are you going to buy it?

I quite like the pocket luxe at the minute, I'm not sure if I'm going to buy it though as I'm head over heels in love with my Adelphi at the minute. I'm looking forward to going to the Philofaxy London meet up and according to Imy I have no choice but actually buy one while I'm there.

10. What is the most you have ever spent on a Filofax? Which model?

I spent £37.50 on my personal butterfly Filofax just little over a year ago now. I saw her in my local WH Smith but at £75 I knew she was well outside my price range, I bought myself a new pad for my Personal Domino and walked away. When I got home I realised I had a card that gave me 50 % off anything in store. So I walked straight back and brought her on the spot. I really enjoyed my time I spent with her, but I came to the conclusion that I couldn't see any point in a personal and an A5 when I rarely wrote anything important in the personal, but still needed her. So I down sized a month or so ago to a pocket.

11. Turning to Philofaxy, what do you like the most?

I love waking on a Saturday morning to the web finds. My family now know not to phone me on a Saturday morning because I don't actually get out of bed until I have read every single web find. Like many other Philofaxy readers I get really excited to find myself in that list.

12. And what do you not like about Philofaxy?

I hate that not all Filofax users know about Philofaxy. I get really excited why I see someone with a Filofax and I make sure that before we finish our conversation that they know about it and ensure that they start getting the most out of their filo's. I have been known to direct someone to Philofaxy before they ever think about purchasing their first one!!!

13. What was the last music album CD you bought or downloaded?

Oooo now this is a hard question, I don't tend to buy many albums as I like to pick and choose the music from albums, the last entire album I purchased was by the soldiers as I'm from a military background and I'm always wanting to support the forces in anyway we can, never mind their music is amazing.

Thank you Louise for agreeing to go under the Philofaxy Spotlight.

1. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-Jlt-qm1fijc/T7A1JN3WxGI/AAAAAAAAAK-4/TdBuVqDRNC8/s1600/photo.JPG>

2. <http://www.vintagegiraffe.blogspot.com/>

LJ (2012-05-17 00:44:58)

Hi Louise - love your blog and think it is fabulous that you sleep with your Filofax. I would do the same if it wasn't for the fact that I'm so paranoid that I would squash it in the night. Although I can fairly often be found asleep in my bed with my Filofax and pens sprawled across it as I have fallen asleep while writing in it :o)

Josh (2012-05-17 00:57:02)

I don't sleep with my filofax but keep it at arms reach through the night! Very nice to meet you here, Louise. I also enjoy your blog and tweets! This probably the best of the "Reader under the Spotlight" series on philofaxy! So detailed!

Butanben (2012-05-17 01:17:07)

Hi Louise,

Loved this post. Great to hear ideas from a fellow teacher. I love your blog name Vintage Giraffe too.

Maus (2012-05-17 07:40:15)

Hello Louise,

I love your blog!!!

Just have commented today ;-)

Thank you for this great post here!!!

Renate :-)

Anita (2012-05-17 09:51:22)

Lovely to meet you, Louise :)

I've never slept with mine under the covers, but it's often under the bed from where I've been sat up scribbling in it. Not really enough room for me, my hubby, cat & an A5 all in a double size bed!

Filofreak (2012-05-17 12:50:57)

Welcome Louise! I cracked up when I read that you sleep with your Filofax! Great stuff. Thanks for the wonderful post.

Alison (2012-05-17 17:28:49)

Hello Louise, I keep my filofax in the bedroom next to my bed as I tend to update my to-do's for the following day before I go to sleep but my hubby would draw the line at sharing a bed with me and my filofax, he think's i'm sad for having one, blogging about one and spending all my time online getting ideas and inspiration from all the

other fantastic blogs lol :)

Joseph Quinton (2012-05-17 18:49:37)

Louise, I thought I was odd for sleeping with my A5 Cuban, so I am glad to see there are others like me. Always on my right side, against my thigh, under the covers. You never know when inspiration will strike.

Kelly Marriott (2012-05-17 20:55:43)

Loved your post Louise! I'm laughing over your main topics being Filofaxing and becoming debt free. They just don't go together at all! You sound just like me.

Jotje (2012-05-18 05:08:19)

Louise, so lovely to meet you here, although we've already chatted on Twitter for some time now. Love your blog, too, btw!

My BF already has to endure a lot. He's still kinda recovering from the fact that I traveled all the way to London, to have lunch with other wacko Filofax lovers ...!

The only way to defend my piles of filofaxes is by making him believe that I will one day all sell them with huuuuuuge profits (muahaha - never gonna happen!) ...

Shanananana (2012-05-19 10:21:26)

My A5 Kendal lies right beside my bed, and the lightweight nylon 'Fax for maps and info is in my handbag, which also sits right beside the bed... my dog knows when I pick those two up and head bedroom-wards, the day is over and it's time to leg it and grab the best spot on the bed before I get there!

At weekends I often eat breakfast lying in bed with two or more (personal, handbag and work) Filofaxes open round me, synching and culling inserts and so on, as well as any books I'm studying... must look like a sort of stationery orgy: and I *LOVE* it!

Free For All Friday No 183 (2012-05-18 00:00) - Anita

Thank you for your kind words of welcome, and I'm very much looking forward to writing some more posts about my adventures in my A5 Malden.

I don't know what it is about filofaxes, but I find I'm always looking at different ones and thinking something along the lines of, "Oh, that's gorgeous. I could definitely see myself using that" and then after some time I get to, "You don't need anymore, behave yourself and stop looking at eBay/City Organiser/Filofax etc.!" It seems to happen fairly regularly, even if I've decided to keep to just the one binder. My current temptations are the imperial purple Finchley and the purple Malden. I'm not going to buy them though as I'm actually pretty content with mine, and I'm much better these days at recognising that initial desire and not taking much notice of it.

Are there any ones that you're trying to resist buying currently? As usual, please feel free to discuss anything filofax related, or ask any questions you might have.

I hope you have a lovely week end.

missjms (2012-05-18 00:50:12)

Wish I could resist them, I just ordered the purple Finchley A5 and am not really sure how I'm going to even use it yet!! This will be my 3rd Filo this year!! I'm am sooo excited though, I can't wait for it to arrive and start setting it up. Maybe if I didn't look at them constantly on e-bay and Filofax I would be better off.

Josh (2012-05-18 00:58:22)

I've gone all out this week, buying a new binder (Success Choice, review and such pending), all new inserts for said binder, and then buying a mini Windsor on a whim on ebay! Wow! And of course, I went to the pen store today and bought inserts for the mini, plus lots of letter writing stationery. So I've done a bad job of resisting the urge! At any rate, after ages of resisting the temptation of the A5 size organizer, I'm pleased to finally have one! It is

big, but I don't find it unwieldy, even though its got large 1.5 inch rings.

Lime Tree (2012-05-18 01:31:44)

I have been weak lately. I fell into temptation and got pretty much all the ones i wanted. the ones I didn't get was just because I couldn't find! Thankfully! oohhhh Anita, how do you do resist all the goodies? :)

queendelesa (2012-05-18 02:08:38)

Oh dear, yes it is hard to resist. I started mid of March with FF and guess what, I have collected since that time 3xA5, 5xPersonal and 6xPocket size!! I really should contact a doctor !?! And there is still one dream: an Osterley in Personal size! And whenever I am on CO site, there are these lovely Luxe items....The only way to avoid more impulse purchase is a)not to look on these sites and b)remember the trouble I have with the WOP or DDP or WOP+notes whenever I am changing my current FF! (i.e. yesterday I moved into my Adelphi Slimline and had to decide whether I am changing papersize or just putting several month of the year outside??) So, folks, you have my fully understanding <3

filofit (2012-05-18 02:09:27)

Hi Anita - a subject close to my heart. Finchley, that one really got to me. Every morning, I would get on ebay to check for it. In a span of two months I bought 6 filofaxes (5 Finchley and 1 Finsbury). At times it got a bit more obsessive. "Oh hang on, why isn't anyone bidding on this beautiful filo, its going so cheap." And then I would end up buying it!! Two more to go - a Jade and Imperial Purple to complete the whole family and then I'll be good.

JasJan (2012-05-18 02:13:18)

I have 30, I just can't resist...it's madness especially as I am a one binder one life devotee! I think I may sell some, but I do love looking at them. The problem is I still can't decide what size is best for me.

Shortie (2012-05-18 02:17:38)

I am now an owner of a red Domino A5, picked up during the last FilofaxUSA sale. (Really, I watched all those youtube videos, from Josh's to Imogen's; research, you know. Now I fear that it is too big for my needs/wants. My current is a personal red Classic. I am going to commit until the end of 2012 on the personal size, then switch over to the A5 full time for 2013. At least, that is the current thinking. But I cannot help but wonder if the A5 Malden is as awesome as claimed. And oh, I see that there is another sale over at the Filofax site. Yikes.

Jotje (2012-05-18 02:21:44)

Hi Anita! Well, it would be lame to deny I have Filofax buying issues, when you look at my current collection ... I am always on the hunt for a nice bargain, and usually do find them. It does take a bit of patience! I have a "general" wishlist of Filo models in my head, and then when I encounter one, I check if the price is right. I never pay full price to be honest.

Also, I remind myself that the binder and even the paper inserts are doing NOTHING to get my huge Todo-lists done. Me noting them down and actually DOING so, will get them done.

The pretty binder and nice paper layout is just a little boost to my motivation to actually use it. And nothing more than that!

Vanjilla (2012-05-18 02:23:15)

I feel like I have written all the previous responses above... :)

LJ (2012-05-18 02:44:06)

I am currently resisting the A5 Purple Malden, but no doubt once I have seen one in the flesh resistance will be futile - I have no willpower at all, hence the 38 binders that I currently have. I am giving away 3 to a friend next week, and obviously I will then be within my rights to buy 3 more :o) I have another one which may be leaving my clutches as well, my youngest boy already has a greeny pocket Domino, but he spied my pink pocket Metropol yesterday and is trying to persuade me to give it to him... it may be going his way soon :o)

@ Shortie - the A5 Malden really is fabulous, I have the Ochre one and it is sublime :o)

Whispering Rabbit (2012-05-18 03:04:38)

Jotje this is exactly the kind of reasoning that keeps my obsession under control. I usually go on the hunt for a new FF when I'm feeling disorganised. Then I step back and realise 1) searching for a new FF is a form of procrastination on the tasks that need doing, and 2) if I already own an FF and am disorganised, clearly a new one won't help (rather, it will only add one more binder to the pile that is probably on my 'declutter list'!)

The organisers, as you say, have very little to do with our ability to perform the tasks that need doing; they're a beautiful way to help us keep ourselves on track.

doris98 (2012-05-18 03:06:03)

I look at them as long-term investments – like shoes and bags, buy them in the best quality you can and use them for years.

I almost convinced myself there (-:

Vanjilla (2012-05-18 03:15:16)

I like your point of view, Doris!

With the Filofaxes I have, I'll have to live 190 years to wear them all out, so I better start drinking pomegranate juice and kombucha right now! ;-)

Saffy (2012-05-18 03:58:56)

Oh Dear, This is a terrible problem for me. I have quite the collection. I feel like I am always looking for the perfect Filofax but it eludes me. I plan to downsize but like JasJan I just can't decide which size to stick with which is why my collection is so large. If I could stick with one size then I would sell all the others and my collection would be acceptable. What to do?

gdigesu (2012-05-18 04:00:36)

Still waiting for Mr. Cavendish, I am afraid.

Jotje (2012-05-18 05:02:45)

@Vanjilla: I really wish there was a LIKE button for THAT response, LOL!!!

Laurie (2012-05-18 05:05:20)

Anita you have excellent timing on this topic!! I'm straining to resist buying a Success Choice binder, thanks to Josh's excellent photos and high praise of it (although I knew it would be great because I have one of their covers for bound planners and the leather is wonderful). If I bought it, I know I would love it but it would require a complete shift in size and brands of inserts. Right now I have Personal and A5 Filofaxes, but the SC binder would necessitate switching to US 5 1/2 by 8 1/2 inch paper. I feel like it's a Pandora's Box I'd better not open!

In the meantime I'm still looking forward to June when I can finally see the upcoming A5 Compact binders. I'm wondering if they will solve my too small page size/ too big binder issue.

Or maybe the Success Choice would do that?

Oh that agony! ;D

doris98 (2012-05-18 05:09:12)

I completely agree with Jotje on both points: mental list of wishlist Filos AND pretty binders to motivate doing those irksome chores/tasks. (Except that now I have my wishlist in my filofax to keep me on track with that pesky site called ebay.) (:

David Popely (2012-05-18 06:11:02)

I'm not resisting buying any more filofaxes (or planning to buy more) - I have two persona and one A5 - since I can only use one binder at a time (and since I'm more or less settled on Personal anyway, I already have one more than I need, why would I want another? Unless, of course, I was buying them as an investment to re-sell later, which I'm not....

Neil (2012-05-18 07:24:08)

@Laurie - the Success Choice binder looks fab but, if you don't want to open Pandora's box, just get a filofax binder made for you. In the same way that there are plenty of American leathermen who will make a cover for your Moleskine, those same craftsmen or women will probably be keen to cater for filofax users, if only their attention is drawn to the issue.

Laurie (2012-05-18 07:34:30)

Neil the truth of it is I already have more than enough Filofax binders, and piles of papers and inserts for them too. If I entered into the world of a totally different binder size, I'd have to invest in all new pages and accessories too, when I already have more than I need!

Shanananana (2012-05-18 07:39:20)

I have to seriously say, unless you need the money, don't for goodness' sake part with binders out of some sense of "should" - you'll have the devil of a time finding the same one three years later, when some new thing comes into your life for which that binder would be perfect.

I nearly let my Mini Finsbury go a couple of times ("shoulding" all over myself!) - only to find it made a perfect case for my Nokia mobile phone, complete with inserts for memo pad, important diary info, and (of course) nifty little pen!

Perhaps I lean towards my parent's generation, where you held onto useful good-quality things on the basis you'd want them again, but I think the fast-turnover days of the late '90s & '00s, where anything you weren't using right now was derided as "clutter" are well and truly over: it's a bit undignified to always be on the prod to clear things out the minute they're no longer used daily.

IMO that impetus came from the idea of built-in obsolescence and its twin pressure always be buying new items 24/7, even if it leads to debt and environmental destruction.

/rant ;o)

Shanananana (2012-05-18 07:45:43)

But Doris98, I have actually found that to be true: an LV wallet I nearly didn't buy because of the price looks as good as the day I bought it, despite getting near-daily use for 6½ years, often shoved into a pocket with keys and stuff - ditto my A5 Kendal, which, again, I nearly didn't buy because of the price.

Just make sure to leave your bric-a-brac items to a charity you support in your will, if you don't think any family will want to inherit them, than you're spreading good fortune down to the future!

Shanananana (2012-05-18 07:53:14)

@Saffy, write down the ways in which your current Filofax/es are not quite meeting your needs, for a start. Maybe carry a notepad for a week (or use a page in the 'Fax itself) and when something's "missing," write down what it is, even if it's just a vague impression ("Not urgent enough" for example) more than a solid idea.

If there's anything specific, like configuration of card-holder/inner pockets etc, do a bit of research on older models and then if one turns out to be perfect, set up an alert on e-Bay so you get e-mailed when someone lists one.

If it's more a case of missing contents, trial a few DIY ones - draw them with a ruler and see how they work for a day or a week, before creating and/or printing PDFs & .docs.

And finally, if there's nothing quite perfect that's been released so far, consider either pouncing on the Filofax website every time they do a new binder, to see if that's a match, or find out how you can improvise/hack/get custom-made, exactly what you'd like.

Those are just the things I've done that helped, I don't know if they'll be useful to you. :o)

Anita (2012-05-18 07:54:08)

I'm glad you've managed to get the ones you wanted :)

Mostly I resist by reminding myself of the ones I've got in the past & then returned or sold! I owned a personal raspberry Metropol for about 24 hours as I realised I'd been spoilt by the leather ones...

Anita (2012-05-18 07:57:34)

@ Laurie: I'm glad it was a timely subject for you! I wrote it as I was offered a swap of a purple Finchley for my personal Malden, & was hugely tempted for a short while.

It would be great to be able to borrow a Success binder to make sure it'll be right for you.

Anita (2012-05-18 07:59:35)

Hi filofit & I do love the Finchleys, despite never owning one.

I don't know what size you're after, but there are some for sale on the Adspot page :)

Anita (2012-05-18 08:02:00)

@ Shortie: I can also definitely say the A5 Malden is indeed awesome! 30mm rings, lies flat out of the box & I love mine in the vintage pink colour.

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-05-18 08:30:42)

Because of money I have to resist buying them all! I wish I had a huge collection like some people :) I covet your collections

Alison (2012-05-18 10:07:15)

Me too, i'm trying to get debt free so i'm trying so hard to resist, i'm just going to have to wait until they go in the sale, with five children to feed I can't spend around £100 on a filofax and I do like a good bargain, i'm slowly building up a collection!!! :)

Cheryl (2012-05-18 10:16:24)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Cheryl (2012-05-18 10:19:55)

Right now I have a Personal Chameleon in Aqua in my shopping basket. I have been wanting one for awhile but am torn between the A5 and the personal in this color. I wouldn't carry around the A5 but would use it in my office (it would match my office decor!) as my catch all binder for things related to home management that I don't need to carry with me everyday. However, I would love to be able to pull the lovely Personal aqua (a favorite color of mine!) out of my handbag this summer. If I were working at the present time I would buy both and also be right there with all of you on multiple purchases.

I just noticed they added the lovely blue Finsbury to the USA site and the yellow!) I've been waiting for the blue to be available in the US. (Almost bought it from the UK site but the shipping is high though I did order my Purple Finch from UK when it was on a great sale so didn't mind paying the shipping fee!). The blue Finsbury is out of stock on our site but the color option was just added within the last day or so; I am on that site everyday and have been watching for it. I am also craving a Malden (didn't like it much online but after hearing everyone rave about it I am now obsessed about it) and also like the Aston but not overly crazy about the color options in either. I probably will get a Malden (not sure what color—maybe the grey) if they ever go on sale in the US.

I bought my second Filofax earlier this year (a Personal Finchley in Imperial Purple) and also own a pocket Finchley in teal. I usually prefer soft, supple leathers but find that I am drawn to certain colors and will compromise on the feel of the leather for a good color. I don't have a store nearby that sells Filofax and that is frustrating. The one I frequent is about 30 miles away and they seldom have a good variety to touch and view in person. :(

I have been swooning over Filofaxes for probably 20 years. I'm a former Franklin Covey (FC) shopper due to the convenience and availability of FC store on my way to and from work. (Which is no longer the case; FC has closed most of their stores and the closest one is now 25 miles away, though you can shop online). For the past 25 years, I too have had a binder obsession and went back and forth between several sizes of the FC never quite sure if I were a 'classic', a 'compact' or a 'monarch' or a 'pocket'! I've used them all! I gave away or sold all but one of my FC binders after not using them for quite some time. I kind of wish I had saved my collection but realistically would not use them anyway because they obviously didn't suit my needs or I would have kept them. I always gave in to the newer models thinking they would better suit my needs until after using them for a month or so realized they didn't.

Having finally jumped into the Filofax pool I now know that won't be the case because there is no way I will ever part with my beloved Filofaxes! I do struggle with maintaining consistency with size because I love the way the Pocket feels in my hand and fits in my handbags but the Personal suits my daily needs better (size of paper) but is sometimes a bit heavy and large in certain handbags. I'm also drawn to the A5 for my desk—I like lots of writing space and would use it for all of our contacts and family info. Oh, dear, I'm addicted and spend an awful lot of time on all the Filofax blogs and sites for purchase. Right now I'm off to decide on my Chameleon purchase and check out ring size comparisons—hope I can find that info on this site!

Cheryl (2012-05-18 10:38:26)

I'm looking for a diagram that shows the various ring size options available in all sizes of Filofax (and the inch equivalents if available but if not just a visual chart comparing all the ring sizes would be great). Any suggestions?

007 (2012-05-18 10:57:00)

My two Filos are fantastic. A5 and Personal Maldens (both Ochre). It is hard to part with them, now – if I purchased more, I fathom myself cheating on them. Go figure. A5 is for writing projects, and Personal in combination with iPhone, are my Everything. I would consider another purchase in the event 'just the right' green hue made a showing, in 'just the right' style.

Anita (2012-05-18 11:03:13)

Hi Cheryl, if you have a look at the Files page of Philofaxy, there is a document called Filofax Size Guide (2nd one from the top). This shows all the ring sizes listed by filofax size in a table. Hope that helps :)

industrious housewife (2012-05-18 11:31:07)

Can we talk pens?

I'd love a nice fountain pen, but I've a ton of regular filofax paper and inserts and my diary insert is virtual tissuepaper.

Is there a *nice* ballpoint?

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-05-18 11:34:03)

Alison, at least it's just not me I thought everyone had a leaning tower of filos...

T

Shanananana (2012-05-18 11:56:54)

"I want some more of that good stuff - no, not the plain white, not the smooth, the really strong GOOD stuff you sold me before, you said you didn't have much but look - I've got MONEEE!

*Just give me a packet, okay two packets, that will do, yeah I can make two packets last then I'm going to start on the lighter stuff, I'll probably have used it all by Monday but I don't care - **just give me the really NICE stuff and let me get the hell home and USE it!!!**"*

Me today at the local stationery emporium, buying A4 textured beige parchment card, to make some more DIY Filofax dividers.

While I may have elaborated for dramatic effect there, that IS pretty much how the conversation went, and those were most CERTAINLY the thoughts in my mind!! ^_^

Shanananana (2012-05-18 11:59:31)

Can you define "nice" a bit better - for example, I like enamled ballpoints from Sea Gems or Past Times, or Parker's vintage gold-plated, but that kind of look might make you want to scream!

Is it functionality (eg, different colours, erasable) or ink-flow, or barrel design you care most about - and what are your parameters for those things?

industrious housewife (2012-05-18 12:06:10)

Yes, good question! Ink flow, and nice to hold would be priorities, though lovely looking is definitely a bonus.

John C (2012-05-18 12:25:50)

Small business idea for someone who is interested - start a Filofax rental club. For a monthly fee, let users "rent" Filofaxes, much like Netflix does with DVD's here in the states. You get a filo in the mail, then when you send it back you get a new one in the mail. Of course you could pay more per month to have more than one Filo at a time. That way people who like the joy of a new Filofaxes could always have a different binder.

Even if you didn't do it as a business, I bet you could get a group of people together and each buy a binder, and then swap them around every few months. It increases the number of binders you get to try, but decreases the number you need to purchase.

Of course - what would you do found the perfect binder and then had to swap it with someone else?

Valerie (2012-05-18 12:33:21)

For me, it is the A5 Malden in purple...I really, really want one, but the US Filofax site doesn't carry purple Maldens at all yet, and when they do get some (mid June I've been told) they won't be stocking the A5 in purple. I have considered ordering one from the UK Filofax site, but shipping from the UK to California is prohibitive..I do however love my Imperial Purple Personal Finchley so will content myself with that!

Josh (2012-05-18 12:44:15)

I fully agree, unless you're short on funds or space or are completely sure that you don't like the filofax, I'd just hold onto it. Use them to hold unused and archived inserts!

Sydney (2012-05-18 12:48:20)

The only one I must resist buying is the personal Malden ochre. Apart from the fact that I so don't need any more filos, I struggle to use the personal size. It's just that the ochre is so lovely. I have it in mini and A5. Oddly enough the A5 scratches REALLY easily but the mini sits in my bag every day and sits patiently alongside the strange assortment of objects I carry around with me and doesn't seem to scratch at all (famous last words..). I have just realised that I have never considered it in pocket size. Do they do it in pocket size..must look.... why have I never considered it in pocket size? I'm just off to look on the filofax site - they are generally too expensive for me to buy from there so little danger of a purchase.

Sydney (2012-05-18 12:51:39)

Hmmm they do. must be because the A5 scratches so easily I thought the pocket wouldn't be up to serving as a wallet.

Oh thank you SO much Anita. Now instead of resisting one I am resisting two!

Shortie (2012-05-18 13:43:25)

Oh dear. I don't need to know that. I already have 6 personal ones. But one A5. I *should* wait to see how I like the A5 Domino before I venture out to the Malden. But of course, should one just suddenly appear in my mailbox, what am I to do, but to keep it.

LJ (2012-05-18 13:45:20)

Fabulous!!!

industrious housewife (2012-05-18 13:45:33)

Ha! Remembered the cultpens.com site Steve pointed me to weeks back.

industrious housewife (2012-05-18 13:46:15)

Oh yeah!

Shortie (2012-05-18 13:46:53)

Thanks to you and Anita, I am now coming up with justifications for an A4 Malden. I can already see my partner rolling her eyes...

Shortie (2012-05-18 13:48:25)

@Doris98, may I use that as one of my justifications for more Filofaxes?

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-05-18 13:50:05)

This post has made me laugh. So many people with ridiculously large Filofax collections and all struggling to avoid further impulse purchases. I AM NOT ALONE! ;-)

LJ (2012-05-18 13:56:09)

They do the Malden in the A4? OMG!!! Where?!!!

Shanananana (2012-05-18 14:06:10)

I've totally copied my friend, she got a Finsbury, I got a Finsbury, she got a Kendal... you can work it out!

Kind of sad - same thing for mobile phones, though she's become a smart-phoner now, anyway my point was that (to paraphrase Silence of the Lambs) in order to covet something, we must first see it and be able to imagine owning it...

This felt relevant when I started typing, but has sadly wandered off-track - sorry!

I know there are businesses who rent designer handbags, but they usually run into four-figure prices, but I would think your idea might be a fun thing for a group of friends to set up - WARNING, if a Mrs Marchand ever tries to join, she's a terrible packrat and hates giving back even ratty old library books, so ban her at once, and call Interpol! (That's me, btw!)

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-05-18 14:37:41)

Hi I.H.! I have fountain pens and also a lot of filofax notepaper, and I know there are a lot of complaints about the paper being terrible for use with fountain pens, but actually it depends on which ink you use. My favourite ink is by Diamine and is called Registrar's ink. It is a nice blue/black, which gets darker as it dries. It's an iron gall ink which means it is really tough- when it dries it is absolutely waterproof, and because of the iron content very rarely bleeds through paper! I have used it on my filofax notepaper and it works perfectly! You have to rinse your pen out and let it dry overnight everytime you refill so the iron content doesn't ruin the insides of your pen, but that's easy to do with a running tap, and it's bottled ink so you need a converter in your pen. But it's cheap ink, and is absolutely brilliant! It's my favourite! So don't be afraid of fountain pens in your filo, if you have the right ink!!

Anita (2012-05-18 15:01:12)

I'm so sorry, Sydney... I think we're generally terrific enablers due to our enthusiasm for our filofaxes :)

Shortie (2012-05-18 15:12:09)

oops I mean A5. Sorry. Now that you mentioned A4, I wonder if I *need* something in a bigger format...This can only end badly for my budget.

LJ (2012-05-18 15:21:57)

Phew!!! I was thinking I may have to bankrupt myself if it was available in A4 :o)

LJ (2012-05-18 15:24:39)

I'd be very tempted by a filo swapping ring (that sounds kinda seedy - do you reckon it involves car keys...?) - anyway... my only concern would be trusting them to the various postal services round the world...

industrious housewife (2012-05-18 15:25:39)

Ooh, sounds good but a little complicated! I'll look into it. Can you use that in any fountain pen?

MsPencil (2012-05-18 16:14:40)

HI, I have the Imperial Purple Finchely. I really enjoy it. Be Well!

MsPencil (2012-05-18 16:17:10)

My husband couldn't believe that there was a website dedicated to people who like/love Filofaxes. I showed him:D

Frederique (2012-05-18 16:38:14)

We all understand your issue, Anita !

I've recently resisted buying an A5 filofax for work :)

I've always used the personal format, and I *LIKE* it, *A LOT* ! It's small enough to be carried in my bag, yet big enough so that I can write things down, and so on.

So recently, I've brought my old "College" Filofax to work (its blue color is the same as our corporate blue !) but I find it's too small for the notes I have to take, and so on. And if I need to add paper or print and cut and punch additional custom inserts, I have to bring it home with me.

Therefore, I thought A5 might do the trick. But I felt it wouldn't work at... work, because of the cutting/folding I would have to do if I wanted to file/add anything in it.

So in the end, I took a spare pink A4 2-ring binder we had lying around in my office, loaded it with lots of inserts I have printed on A4 paper, and I have set it up GTD-like; as this regular office binder is really *thick* (10cm wide), I have also put my "general references" sheets at the end of the binder, sorted with A-Z tabs.

It's a total win.

And that way, it's easy as a breeze : filing, writing, I can take whatever paper, write anything on it, file anything without any hassle !

Unless I had all my Filofax-accessories and spare paper in a drawer, I would never be able to make a Filo work in the office. And also, I would never be able to have any work done : I would always play with the filofax and its settings, whereas now, it's so plain and simple I just... have to work ! :)

Alison (2012-05-18 16:48:44)

I've just ordered the pocket imperial purple finchley today at a bargain price, ordered a few different filofax's and sent them back, because i've not found one I love so i'm hoping this will be it!!

Alison (2012-05-18 16:50:39)

Haha, mine neither, so glad I came across it :)

Alison (2012-05-18 16:55:25)

I'm in the process of getting creative with my A5, not happy with the thin dividers that came with it so i'm making my own with my scrapbooking stash, can't wait until it's all finished, at least i'm making use of my scrapbooking supplies which have been sat there for years waiting to be used. I hope ff bring out some better quality inserts. Why can't their paper be as good as the flex paper? :)

Alison Reeves (2012-05-18 18:35:34)

It also helps when you use a finer nib. My usual oblique broad nibs are useless on Filofax paper, but I have a medium nib on one pen (which is actually a rather fine medium if you know what I mean!) which is absolutely find on the filofax paper and doesn't bleed through too much. My preferred ink is Mont Blanc - I just love their range of colorus!

doris98 (2012-05-18 19:47:52)

This comment has been removed by the author.

doris98 (2012-05-18 19:51:07)

"Sisterhood of the Traveling Filos" !

doris98 (2012-05-18 19:56:11)

@Shanananana: Fortunately, female family members share my interests (my mother is the mother of all enablers). There will be a stampede for the Filos. (:

@Shortie: Use away!

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-05-18 20:16:09)

Yes, as long as you have a converter!! @Alison- good point, the wider the nib, the wetter the line= most bleed through!

Yu (2012-05-18 21:20:05)

Oh my. I can only say I agree with almost every post in this thread and that I really miss any sort of "like" button... although I suspect that every post would have hundreds of "likes" if such a button existed... :D

I'm currently trying to talk myself out of buying "the Affair", a personal ochre malden and a personal Osterly, but I don't think I'll be able to resist. (Or should I say "I don't want to resist"?)

Another thing that hit me today is how much my obsession with filofaxes has grown over the years. I was booking tickets on the BA website today for my London visit (sadly, I'm missing the meet-up as it is exam weeks T _T) and the total came up to... about £213. For three tickets. I felt almost offended and thought the price was high (one of the tickets cost £100). But when I went to write down the flight numbers in my filofax I realised that I have spent well over £400 on filofaxes alone in a time-span of two months, and that I would gladly spend £375 on ONE filofax if I could just find a way to justify the purchase! O _O

Savannah (2012-05-18 21:39:26)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Joseph David Quinton (2012-05-18 21:44:44)

I must be the oddball of the group for I own ONE Filofax, an A5 Cuban in black. It is the perfect organizer and suits my needs and expectations very well. I do have intentions to purchase an A5 purple Malden but it is a Christmas present for my beloved wife.

Josh (2012-05-18 21:47:13)

@Shanananana I love that you paraphrased Silence of the Lambs on Philofaxy!

DEM (2012-05-18 23:41:56)

Oh my...I'm among friends here...I am constantly struggling to not buy yet another Filo. And now that I've been reading responses to today's post, and noticing that people have 20, 30 plus binders, I start to feel my strength disappear. After all, I only have about 7. And you lovely people on Philofaxy have successfully helped me to now obsess over the Holborn! I WANT a Holborn...badly! A beautiful brown one in Personal...and heck, why not an A5? And might the Pocket work as a wallet??? Hmmm. Right now a big concern of mine is whether or not there are still ring problems with this binder. Has anyone purchased a Holborn recently that had issues with the rings (and vice versa)?

And lastly, is the Holborn really that fantastic? I haven't been able to see one in person but I'm very intrigued by the type of leather and all the pockets. I'm a sucker for pockets!!! Would love to hear your opinion.

DEM (2012-05-19 00:15:17)

Oops, and I forgot about the Kendal! Holborn or Kendal?! getting weaker and weaker by the minute!

Laurie (2012-05-19 02:02:25)

I don't have a Kendal so I can't compare, but my Holborn is my favorite of my Filofaxes because of its buttery smooth leather. I just love to touch and handle it! And yes all the pockets are nice for tucking things into.

It's a worthy splurge if you're so inclined! (Not to ENABLE or anything!!) ;D

LJ (2012-05-19 02:09:26)

I don't have a Kendal either, but I do have the A5 Holborn Zip - love it, love it, love it. You should totally get Holborns :o)

Shanananana (2012-05-19 02:36:56)

You're not *that* odd :o) - I also feel like I already have the perfect Filofax binders for my home/personal life, office, and handbag (that last one being lightweight nylon with tube & A-Z maps, various info, and contact info), and

won't be looking to upgrade or replace those - in fact I very much hope they'll all last me a lifetime, because I love them about as much as I'm capable of loving an inanimate object.

And the only reason I use more than one 'Fax is because trying to cram in everything from my accounts to recipes to hobby info in one place wouldn't satisfy the way I like to organise my life, I would be concerned about losing it outside the house, and stuff that's actual data I need to keep in those areas wouldn't leave room for diary inserts & notepaper, if I had them all in say a 30MM binder.

That said, I was pretty much a one-binder person myself until I fell in love with the Kendal A5 from seeing my friend's and also seeing how well they took being battered about on display in a shop, and decided to use that as a stay-home binder for personal stuff, allowing me to thin out my work 'Fax.

I'm mostly only tempted by new inserts that I think will tweak one of them to be more efficient or just more pleasing to look at, DIY ones ideally, or if some area of my life kind of branched out and I thought a new binder would be useful to it, then I'd go for that, but my basics are in place and while I enjoy looking at new models, it's not with a view to replacing my existing set-up.

So you're not alone!

DEM (2012-05-19 10:49:06)

Oh my!!! I was unsupervised last night and did a bad deed....I splurged not only on a Personal but also on a Pocket Kendal from P &L. But now reading your replies, Laurie and LJ, I feel like I need to get the Holborn too! Am I completely NUTS???

DEM (2012-05-19 11:10:00)

I have found a local store with a Holborn that will match P &L price! Okay...please talk some sense into me...be brutally honest...should I get it???

Yu (2012-05-19 11:50:14)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Yu (2012-05-19 11:51:50)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Yu (2012-05-19 11:52:30)

Warning! Brutally honest enabling ahead! ;)

I have both the brown Holborn personal and the brown Kendal personal. I LOVE my Mr. "Charles" Holborn. The Holborn actually has the perfect pocket/card slot/zip-pocket set-up for me! The leather is so soft and smooth. I have, however, seen Holborns with different kinds of leather quality that ranges from smooth/luxurious to a slightly crinkled/dryer kind of leather (much like the Malden's famous "smooth" or "more creased" variations). I have one of the higher-end smooth leather ones. It still looks new, even after almost five months of solid use and it doesn't scratch.

I much prefer the Holborn leather to the Malden. Where the Malden's leather is soft, but still somewhat plasticky, the Holborn leather is AMAZING and smells fantastic.

I have three Holborns (all in brown): A5, personal and slimline. None of them have ring problems. I bought them all in January. I've used the personal (Charles) the most, but there are absolutely no problems at all with the rings. I think it might have been an early batch that had faulty rings?

The Kendal is how I have always imagined "hard/sturdy" leather filofaxes to be. It scratches easily but, unlike so many other planners, it only looks better and you can rub it out if you hate scratches. :) I don't like the interior set-up as much, but the leather more than compensates for that.

So if I would do a short "five category top-list" this would be it:

Leather (smoother variant): Holborn

Leather (harder/rougher variant): Kendal

Interior design: Holborn

Exterior design: The Affair/Osterly

Pen loop(s): Holborn/Domino

/end excited rant

So, yes! Get a Holborn! It's well worth it! <3

Yu (2012-05-19 11:53:13)

I'm sorry... my computer got stuck in some sort of loop and thought it funny to double (triple?) post... >.<;

Yu (2012-05-19 11:57:45)

Hahaha! LJ, that was my reaction as well! :D

LJ (2012-05-19 12:19:34)

@ DEM - you know you're only asking us so that you have someone else to blame for getting another Filofax :o)
Do it!!! Yay!!!

DEM (2012-05-19 12:43:19)

LJ, wow, you are dead on!!! Your comment made me laugh! Thanks!

Yu, thank you for all that info! Excited rant, indeed! Has sealed the deal for me! If you have three Holborn's they are obviously worthy of my obsession and I should just put myself out of my misery! I'll call it a belated Mother's Day gift to myself and I even get to blame the three of you: Yu, LJ, and Laurie! [laughing], for enabling me! Seriously though, thank you all for your helpful comments. I appreciate it! I'm 10 minutes away from the store. My hands on my wallet! It's "Go Time"!

LJ (2012-05-19 13:43:29)

Run Forrest Run!!! Before someone else gets it!!! :o)

DEM (2012-05-19 14:10:30)

I've got one wicked little smile right now AND a beautiful black Holborn to go with it!!! Woohoo!

LJ (2012-05-19 14:12:52)

Congratulations!!! So glad we could all be of assistance to help you realise that the Holborn was a NEED :o)

DEM (2012-05-19 15:52:19)

Yes, thank you! You are so right, it was a NEED!

Cheryl (2012-05-19 21:43:23)

:o Thank you Anita!

Cheryl (2012-05-19 21:49:26)

A purple lover after my own heart. I have the purple Finchley too and I agree about the purple Malden...its sure is pretty! I ordered my purple Finch from the UK website but it was half off or something like that so I bit the bullet and paid the shipping fee as I was worried I'd never find another one. I have eyed several on the UK site I wanted but trying to be patient till they are offered on the US website.

Cheryl (2012-05-19 22:02:25)

I do have one other yearning right now after looking at some vintage Filofaxes on Flickr. I wish one of the really soft buttery leather ones would be offered in a traditional tan color. Sounds boring, I know, because I really do love brights but I'm yearning for a soft, buttery, old school tan like what I've always called a 'British' tan...rich, lovely, traditional color to match an Italian leather tan bag I have. Fingers crossed they may offer something like this in the future.

Shortie (2012-05-19 23:59:24)

Now, after reading this I need one as well. As an investment, of course.

SSA (2012-05-20 04:56:46)

I have an A5 Holborn zipped - I LOVE it .the rings are just fine, the leather is amazing, the pockets are fab, the zipper is functional. a little more enabling...

Web Finds - 19 May 2012 (2012-05-19 00:00) - Steve Morton

Another week... another collection of blog posts for you to sit and read and enjoy....

- [1]Filofax and Moleshine, working together - Filofax Fixation
- [2]My Filofax Week #4 - Paper Lovestory
- [3]Idea for decorating Filofax dividers - Lady Tamlynn
- [4]A5 pages in my personal are annoying - The Purple Pen Of Doom
- [5]Month overview sorted! - The Purple Pen Of Doom
- [6]Mr Malden a la Mode - The Crazy Suburban Mom
- [7]Malden Magic - Filomaniac
- [8]Spotlighting my Filofax geekdom, or, how to embarrass yourself in front of your favorite author - The Crazy Life of J
- [9]Filofax flexibility supporting personal goals - Pen to Paper
- [10]My SmashFax - Vintage Giraffe
- [11]ARC - what is in it for Filofax Users - Filofax Philosophy
- [12]A5 Filofax Setup - Lady Tamlynn
- [13]Amazing 30 mm rings - We really didn't need another Filofax blog
- [14]Creating Templates - Filomaniac ■ Seems Steve is (still) popular in Germany!
- [15]Filofax Blog of the Week: Filomaniac - My Life All in One Place
- [16]Filofax Flex Journal - Filofit
- [17]Leaving Home - LJ's Blog of Stuff
- [18]Pink Breast Cancer Filofax - Bunnies in Blazers
- [19]Guest Post: Steve Morton's Filofax blogging tips - My Life All in One Place
- [20]in search of the perfect diary insert - outlook printed diary inserts - Serendipity
- [21]Why is one never enough??? - My Once Upon the Moon
- [22]Travel Journal - Filo Manie
- [23]My Coletto companion for my Filofax - Rapunzel's World
- [24]your filofax week: Helen! - Paper Lovestory
- [25]Franken up your Filofax - The Crazy Suburban Mom
- [26]Filofax closing down sale - Imysworld

- [27]Mini Filofax set up - Lady Tamlynn
- [28]To do: Register Filofax... Ticked - Notes in a Book
- Your blog could appear here next week, email us if we missed you out.

Enjoy

Please report any link errors to Philofaxy who will have a have a word with HAL the machine that creates these growing lists of links...

1. <http://filofaxfixation.wordpress.com/2012/05/13/filo-and-moleskine-working-together/>
2. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/05/my-filofax-week-4.html>
3. <http://ladytamlynn.blogspot.fr/2012/05/idea-for-decorating-filofax-dividers.html>
4. <http://jarfm.com/?p=139>
5. <http://jarfm.com/?p=163>
6. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/05/mr-malden-la-mode.html>
7. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/05/malden-magic.html>
8. <http://thecrazylifeofj.blogspot.fr/2012/05/spotlighting-my-filofax-geekdom-or-how.html>
9. <http://justjennypentopaper.blogspot.fr/2012/05/filofax-flexibility-supporting-personal.html>
10. <http://vintagegiraffe.blogspot.fr/2012/05/my-smashfax.html>
11. <http://filofaxfilosophy.blogspot.fr/2012/05/arc-whats-in-it-for-filofax-users.html>
12. <http://ladytamlynn.blogspot.fr/2012/05/a5-filofax-setup-my-teaching-fax.html>
13. <http://notanotherfilofaxblog.blogspot.fr/2012/05/amazing-30-mm-rings-personal-portland.html>
14. http://filomaniac.blogspot.de/2010/04/creating-templates-guest-article-by_05.html
15. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/05/filofax-blog-of-week-filomaniac.html?spref=tw>
16. <http://filofit.wordpress.com/2012/05/17/filofax-flex-journal/>
17. <http://ljsblogofstuff.blogspot.fr/2012/05/leaving-home.html>
18. <http://preppybunny.wordpress.com/2012/05/16/pink-breast-cancer-filofax/>
19. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/05/guest-post-steve-mortons-blogging-tips.html>
20. http://serendipity-art-journaling.blogspot.fr/2012/05/in-search-of-perfect-diary-insert_17.html
21. <http://myonceuponthemoon.blogspot.fr/2012/05/why-is-one-never-enough.html>
22. <http://filo-manie.blogspot.fr/2012/05/travel-journal.html>
23. <http://icclewu.blogspot.fr/2012/05/my-coleto-companion-for-my-filofax.html>
24. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/05/your-filofax-week-helen.html>
25. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/05/franken-up-your-filofax.html>
26. <http://imysworld.blogspot.fr/2012/05/for-sale-filofaxes-and-bag.html>
27. <http://ladytamlynn.blogspot.fr/2012/05/mini-filofax-setup-my-personal-filofax.html>
28. <http://notesinabook.wordpress.com/2012/05/15/to-do-register-filofax-tick/>

LJ (2012-05-19 00:13:09)

My perfect Saturday morning - kids chilling with a film while I catch up on Web Finds :o) Thanks Steve, and thanks for including my post :o)

Whispering Rabbit (2012-05-19 00:57:39)

I've uploaded a one-off blog post to review my newest love affair: Personal Siena ^ _ ^
<http://rabbits-whispers.blogspot.com.au/>

Nellie (2012-05-19 02:29:12)

I love Saturday mornings!

icclewu (2012-05-19 02:44:13)

There is also My first ever YouTube video blogpost that I did earlier in the week. I can't paste a link into the comments box though. This is a look into my pocket chameleon. Xx

:)

CallieR (2012-05-19 08:09:39)

I just got my new finsbury pocket and did a 'what's in my filofax' type of post so if anybody wants to take a peek here's the link!

<http://callie-roe.blogspot.co.uk/2012/05/finsbury-pocket.html>

xxxx

Anita (2012-05-19 11:51:50)

Steve, thanks for a lovely lot of finds & it'll be my treat for the day, once I've written another post for Philofaxy :)

Shanananana (2012-05-19 13:34:19)

I'd **love** to read the specs of *everyone's* dream 'Faxes - dunno if there was already a post like this, and I know you do that as a Q in reader spotlight...?

Also, asking what items other Faxhedz like as much as their Filofaxes, that are of the same (organising, scheduling, etc) type *to them*: I know mine's a Casio Baby G, alarms and so on, but I bet other readers have good stuff? Especially the smart-phoners?

Enjoying the finds so far!!

Week-on-Two-Pages Personal Filofax diary to download (2012-05-20 02:00) - Steve Morton

When Ray recently lost his Filofax (gasp!) he had to buy a new one, which came with the standard Filofax week-on-two-pages diary. For the sake of convenience, Ray just started using it, but before long he began to experience a few frustrations with the layout:

- Saturday and Sunday are squashed together into the same space afforded to any one of the other days
- Nearly half the space left to Sunday is lost to the monthly calendar
- There's no room for week-long events like half term

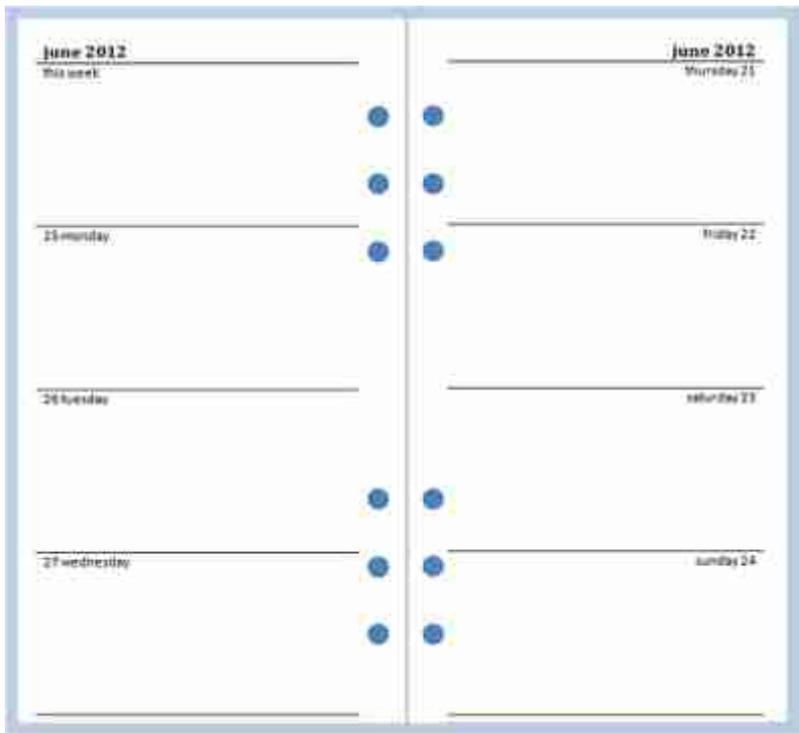
On the other hand, the format allows about the right amount of space for most days and Ray liked seeing the whole week in one view.

Ray did some research and found Filofax's Cotton Cream Week-on-two-pages, which looked absolutely ideal. But then he didn't want a Cotton Cream insert in a predominantly white set-up.

The solution seemed obvious: to build something similar to the Cotton Cream layout that we could print on our own paper. Since Ray was taking inspiration from the Cotton Cream insert, he thought it would be fun to replicate another aspect of the design, namely the lower-case month and day names that give the layout such a distinctive and simple feel.

It turns out that a simple switch in the mail merge codes can force lower-case formats, so job done.

Here's the final layout:



[1]

Weekend days are afforded as much respect as those in the working week, while each week's layout begins with a 'This Week' space for notes and all-week items (for tracking habits perhaps?)

You can download this layout as a prepared set or you can download the source files to adapt the design for yourself.

Pre-prepared sets

You can download the 2012 set as a [2]Word file or as a [3]PDF file.

You can download the 2013 set as a [4]Word file or as a [5]PDF file.

Print this double-sided. If you have a duplex printer, set it to flip on the short edge. If you don't then you'll have to print odd-numbered pages and then refeed to print the even-numbered pages on the reverse. You might have to experiment to find out how to refeed the paper.

On one side of each sheet you'll find crop marks. Use a craft knife and a steel ruler to release the Personal pages and punch them. The templates are set up with mirrored gutters to accommodate the holes.

If using the PDF be sure to set it to print at full size as explained [6]here.

Source files

You can also roll your own using our source files. You'll need [7]this Word file and [8]this Excel file.

If you want to know how to go about using the source files, [9]this post will help you.

1. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-JE2eXd779DQ/T7JiEUjcUbI/AAAAAAAAAiU/gSsILAH_klg/s1600/cc1.png
2. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20week%20to%20view%20CC/2012mergedPersonal%20Enhanced%20CC%20Week%20View.docx>
3. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20week%20to%20view%20CC/2012mergedPersonal%20Enhanced%20CC%20Week%20View.pdf>
4. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20week%20to%20view%20CC/2013mergedPersonal%20Enhanced%20CC%20Week%20View.docx>
5. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20week%20to%20view%20CC/2013mergedPersonal%20Enhanced%20CC%20Week%20View.pdf>
6. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.co.uk/2012/03/help-pdf-files-print-slightly-smaller.html>
7. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20week%20to%20view%20CC/Personal%20Enhanced%20CC%20Week%20View%20base.docx>
8. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20week%20to%20view%20CC/DatesSourceFilo_WOTP_CC_Personal.xlsx
9. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2012/02/download-source-files-for-new-personal.html>

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-05-20 06:59:32)

I've just downloaded it and modified it to my needs, going to print it off later to go in my new filofax set-up!!

John (2012-05-20 17:20:30)

The "this week" space and equal weekend-day space are a big reason I prefer the A5 WOTP calendar. I love this layout and if I go back to Personal (switched this week because of the potential addition of a project means more space needs) I'll be sure to download this.

Money off voucher from Filofax UK (2012-05-20 05:35) - Steve Morton

With all the enabling talk on Free For All Friday I just had to pass this on to you...

The graphic says it all really... use the promo code at the check out.

Click on the graphic to go to Filofax UK

FOR 48 HOURS ONLY
SAVE Up to £6 off your order

£2.50 OFF
WHEN YOU SPEND OVER £20
USE CODE **VIP20** AT THE CHECKOUT

£6.00 OFF
WHEN YOU SPEND OVER £35
USE CODE **VIP35** AT THE CHECKOUT

Offers expire on 22/05/12 at 10AM T&Cs apply.

[1]

Happy Shopping

1. <http://tidd.ly/78909edb>

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-05-20 07:02:12)

Is that red filo a Holborn non-zip in Wine? I wondered if they made them in that colour!

Yu (2012-05-20 07:13:01)

I think that's new for this year? :D *must get one*

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-05-20 13:50:52)

Or you can use SHIP12 for free delivery. Not sure how long it lasts for though. :-)

Yu (2012-05-20 18:43:13)

To where? Everywhere? :)

Jotje (2012-05-21 04:24:49)

SHIP12 only applies to UK orders. The above VIP vouchers can also be used for international shipments!

Plastic wallet hack (2012-05-21 00:00) - Anita

Since I've [1]upsized to the A5 size from personal, I've been thinking about how I can use my filo a bit differently now that I have the extra space. Whilst clearing out old paperwork, I wanted to find a way to quickly add A4 sheets of paper in without needing to hole punch them. I had a look at the Filofax top opening envelope online, but it didn't look like it would hold enough.

I came across a pack of plastic popper wallets whilst browsing the stationery aisle of the supermarket before my weekly shop (as you do), and they were too much of a bargain to resist at the reduced price of 49p!

So, one wet and windy Saturday, I set to work with the following:



[2]

I'm a great fan of popper wallets for my [3]Getting Things Done system, but I hoped I could remove the popper itself as I didn't want the extra bulk or the lump in my Malden. Off I trundled into our bathroom with my pliers and the pink wallet, to see if I could break or prise them off. Please be warned if you attempt this; I did it over the bath as when I managed to break off the popper, there were little bits of the plastic pinging off here and there!

I was then left with the wallet without both parts of the popper and a bit of an ugly hole showing on the top one. Looking through my stationery stash, I realised that I used up the last of my stickers years ago, but the universe was listening as I was recently sent some by the lovely [4]Tracy.



[5]

My KW Trio hole punch coped perfectly with punching through the plastic, and the wallet itself is large enough to hold A4 pieces of paper folded in half with space for the holes on the edge. It fits nicely in and can be easily turned on the rings. The flap can either be tucked in or left on top, and the weight of the other inserts and paper keeps it shut anyway.



[6]

Once I've finished working through the current papers held in the wallet, I might use it for storing project support materials. I'm finding that it doesn't add too much bulk with the 30mm rings of the Malden, and overall I'm very pleased with this cheap way to add extra capacity and storage.



[7]

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2012/04/all-change-on-filofax-front-guest-post.html>
2. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-akLeJ3kUASo/T7QJATEvBI/AAAAAAAAAcQ/BJB0k26aqPc/s1600/P1020279.JPG>
3. <http://www.davidco.com/about-gtd>
4. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/>
5. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-eu6eERki4wM/T7QOGVnk11I/AAAAAAAAAck/IeYnOCCXEWU/s1600/P1020281.JPG>
6. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-irYy0E3HsYg/T7Q0s9rwTFI/AAAAAAAAAcS/Kc7P1xDwBks/s1600/P1020282.JPG>
7. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-y4N1FtIDI4A/T7QRZYn2jii/AAAAAAAAAc4/Q4My2tJFeMI/s1600/P1020286.JPG>

LJ (2012-05-21 00:06:56)

Very cool - and I'm off to the airport this morning where I know I have seen some A5 sized plastic inserts and stuff, I think I may have worked out how I will spend my time while I am waiting for my flight :o) Thanks for sharing this fab tip :o)

Laurie (2012-05-21 00:14:11)
Genius!! What a great idea!

Lime Tree (2012-05-21 00:18:46)
Oh my, I was SO waiting to see your plastic pocket in action! Great post, I am totally trying it! ;)

doris98 (2012-05-21 03:11:54)
Great idea! I'll look out for something like this when I'm next at the stationery shop! Thanks.

Alison (2012-05-21 04:55:52)
Great Idea thanks, that's my afternoon sorted!! :)

Kelly Marriott (2012-05-21 09:19:25)
Great idea! Could you share how the popper wallets work as part of your GTD system?

Anita (2012-05-21 11:38:39)
Hi Kelly, I'll be writing another post about this, once I've got my filo a bit more sorted out :)

Scot (2012-05-21 13:17:03)
I find that a plastic ziplock works better in this role, as the fastener is at the side rather in the middle where it will create a lump.

Anita (2012-05-23 05:10:04)
That's a great idea, Scot :)
I quite fancied the bright colours of these wallets & that's why I removed the popper to avoid having the lump.

Free For All Tuesday No. 68 (2012-05-22 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

Today is the day of the week when we let you ask any questions you want about Filofax related matters and we do our collective best to answer those questions. So don't be afraid to step forward and ask your question. Fire away....

1. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-J-gxtwPypSs/T4Z3CBLQNYI/AAAAAAAAKu4/aMshCDI5ikI/s1600/buried.gif>

Ray Blake (2012-05-22 04:37:17)

Now the polls have closed, I'd like to congratulate the Philofaxy award winners. In the two categories in which I was nominated (thank you, nominators, whoever you were!) I was delighted to find myself in such admirable company.

Cat's win as 'Best New Filofax Blogger' is well-deserved. She's quickly established a distinct voice and covers a wide range of topics. But I found myself wanting to vote for everyone in this category.

As 'Best Filofax Video Blogger', Imy is the obvious choice, having almost single-handedly created the category, it seems! This was another category where I wished I'd had four votes to cast.

In 'Best Filofax Photography' the choice seemed to be between naturalism and impressionism, which wasn't a choice I wanted to make. I enjoy both. Congratulations to Tracy.

The 'Most Artistic Filofax/Blog' was the closest of all the votes. Nikki's win despite not having her own blog is a triumph and I hope she'll recognise that we're all keen to see and hear more from her, perhaps in the pages of a blog of her own.

Surprised to be nominated for 'Best Business Organiser' (the other people nominated in this category are real gurus), I am staggered to win it. In celebration, I'll look to do a 'what's in my' on A5 business binder soon.

Jotje's 'Best Family Organiser' win is well deserved (her new blog is one of my favourites and I can't believe she hasn't been writing it for years), but again I wanted to vote for all three of them.

The final surprise was that there were only three nominations for 'Best Commenter'. I'd have had a job to get the shortlist down to a dozen, personally. I get so much from so many of the Philofaxy commenters I could never single out just one. Butanben, however, is a worthy winner if there has to be one!

And lastly a big thanks to Steve for organising this whole awards initiative. I hope it will turn into as much of a tradition as the Oscars.

Neil (2012-05-22 04:57:02)

An excellent summary, Ray, well done Steve for organising the whole thing, and congratulations to all the winners.

Jotje (2012-05-22 05:24:28)

Indeed a wonderful summary! And thanks for the compliments btw! I gladly return them!

Big thanks for setting this up, Steve!

Butanben (2012-05-22 05:28:22)

I am just so excited! Thank you ever so much to all the folks who nominated me and who voted for me. I just feel so utterly thrilled and bowled over that I have been voted as the best commenter on Philofaxy. Wow!! As Ray says, it has been so hard to choose between everyone in each category when I voted. Like a beautiful box of chocolates, all with the most gorgeous praline centres, or a menu with the most delicious dishes!!! Which

ones do you choose?? Impossible. Well done to all the winners and actually to everyone... nominated or not.... I just love reading everyone's commentary and blogs and watching the video finds here. Philofaxy is my newest and best hobby, creative, engrossing, useful and sociable. Thanks folks... and of course, thanks Steve for arranging this Olympic celebratory slot. As a teacher, an academic Dodo pad is THE perfect prize. Bliss.xx

Butanben (2012-05-22 05:42:47)

A FFAT question. I need to pick your brains everybody. I have downloaded and I am using Ray and Steve's amended TM A5 Philofaxy diary Week to view... and so far I have found my ideal format. PHEW!! I have started to download 2013's diary, but I am missing that little separate sheet with the most important dates for 2013 on. Does anyone know if Filofax sells this as a separate item? Also if there is a particularly good web site link or links which folks already use, and which is UK based, which would help me when I come to fill in my 2013 diary and to print off for my A5 (will do this in August, ready for the new school year.) Often useful to have a list not just for filling my diary, but for school assemblies... ie those little important celebrations too. I notice for example that Mothering Sunday sometimes differs in its date in the USA. Thanks.... any help or suggestions gratefully received. xx

Ray Blake (2012-05-22 06:10:39)

This is the page you need: [1]2013 uk dates

1. <http://www.timeanddate.com/holidays/uk/2013>

Jotje (2012-05-22 07:41:05)

I have a question for Ray and Steve! I've been looking into the Travel Journal Pack that Filofax is selling (Personal size), but the price is quite ridiculous. I'm particularly interested in the two-day-spread of the Travel Journal. Is a template like this something you guys would consider making? Especially now that the holidays are knocking on the door ... (nag nag)?

I would like to print it on thicker paper, so I could also do some watercolor doodling.

If you have other ideas (maybe some other brand is selling inserts like that?), I'd be glad to hear!

Scoot (2012-05-22 08:10:00)

I recently purchased an Aspinals A5 week to view diary for £9.00 via ebay. After trimming off at the spine I have a very nice new cream 2012 diary, 4mm short of the standard A5 width, but with gold edges! Although the paper is nice, the downside is that there is a slight show-through of ink.

For those disappointed at the lack of Filofax's cotton cream A5, there are still some available on ebay.

http://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/Aspinal-London-Lizard-Print-Leather-Diary-Navy-Lizard-/110841918985?pt=UK_Stationery&hash=item19ceb17609

industrious housewife (2012-05-22 09:02:40)

Just a small d'oh! to share. Spotted a pen mark on the cover of my Malden, wouldn't wipe off so I tried a babywipe. The pen mark is lighter, but so is the colour of the surrounding leather. :(

Don't try this at home folks!

Apart from that - I find myself fancying an Apex, and very Flex-curious. Who can tell me about them?

Ray Blake (2012-05-22 09:41:59)

Yes, I've looked longingly at the Flex but have so far resisted. I've had no difficulty at all resisting the Apex, though. Go to a shop, pick one up. Open it. Feel the clammy plastic material and the eyesore that is the metre of elastic that now hangs from the FRONT cover. Then put it back and walk away.

industrious housewife (2012-05-22 09:48:40)

:-D

Do you think they'll do some different (leather) covers for the Flex?

Ray Blake (2012-05-22 09:54:43)

Not sure about leather Flex covers. I shudder to think what they'd cost.

Ray Blake (2012-05-22 09:56:14)

Hopefully you've all seen [1]this BBC news site post.

1. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/magazine-18071830>

Jotje (2012-05-22 10:05:40)

LOL, couldn't have said it any better than that, Ray. That sums it up neatly ...

The only thing I fancy about the Flex is the removable penloop. Because I can cut and punch it for my Filofaxes ... he he.

Jotje (2012-05-22 10:11:35)

Thanks for pointing out this article! Quite interesting comments, too (though I didn't stop to read ALL 212 (!) of them).

Actually, kids in Holland also learn to write with a fountain pen. And the middle school, that my oldest is going to visit, also wants pupils to write papers and essays with fountain pen. According to a teacher at that school, the process of handwriting (and especially so with a fountain pen) stimulates the creativity and thinking process in brains.

industrious housewife (2012-05-22 10:13:50)

I bought my Malden to use as a writing notebook, but the rings really got in the way of my Muse ;-) The Flex looks a good way to keep notebook and pen together, with the possibility to slip a 'writing exercises' book or other notes into the other side. The cover doesn't look interesting enough as it is to tempt me yet for that specific purpose.

-Holly (2012-05-22 10:53:52)

Ooh!

Its almost like you have read my mind. My best friend is planning to go to Hong Kong and hopefully Japan in the next two years and her and her partner are mega excited for it, and she wants to enlist me as a sort of informal helper (she knows I love travel plans).

I considered getting her a Tokyo and HK Moleskine guide but they are apparently outdated now, being published in 2008. I've also considered the general Moleskine travel journal but I think I may buy a 2nd hand personal Filo and make her a personalised version with templates for different travel aspects etc.

Now to plan that....

Butanben (2012-05-22 11:16:16)

Oooh thanks ever so much Ray!!! I love it when a problem is so easily solved.... great!!!

Butanben (2012-05-22 11:27:31)

Great article! Must admit, I yearn for a Mont Blanc fountain pen like my mum had, but it's probably too thick in the barrel for a Filofax I would think.

Frederique (2012-05-22 13:21:35)

After several months, almost a year, it seems I'm not so in love with my Filofax anymore. I still like the binders I have, and the idea of this ideal me using them appropriately to improve my life by implementing a GTD solution in a paper solution (I am this close to abandoning technology altogether), but can't find myself to actually *use* it consistently, it seems so cumbersome and... "over the edge", you know ?

Have you also suffered from total discouragement about your planners/filofaxes ? Thinking you like the ones you have but none of them is perfect, therefore, why bother even trying to adjust ? And looking at other people's success with their setup once seemed encouraging, now I'm mostly thinking "plain boring life with mundane stuff, no need for so much fretting over how to set my filo up, and so on ?"

So, what did you do, or, as you are still reading Philofaxy, what do you do when you suffer from planner angst/planner failure ? Do you just abandon it/them for a while and come back to it ?

Ms. C (2012-05-22 14:13:37)

Hi there, I am very happy with my new black A5 Domino, which I wasn't sure I would like. Now, I'm hankering after the A5 Domino snake print, but it doesn't appear to be available in Canada/North America. Is that right?

Ray Blake (2012-05-22 14:17:15)

Planners don't fail, people do. That sounds provocative, doesn't it? I suppose what I mean is that no planner can possibly be perfect for everyone. You need to meet the planner half way, sometimes and change what you do to get the most out of it.

Even if it's totally perfect for your needs you still have to do stuff like carry it around, consult it, write in it until it becomes what the GTD crowd call your 'trusted system'. Whenever you make a change you need to persist until it becomes a habit, until you can't even think about not doing it.

Some people have trouble because they're not terribly organised. Just having a planner won't fix that. Some people have trouble because they are organised and disciplined enough not to need a planner, so the planning is just additional overhead for little gain.

Work out if and why you need a planner. If you do, and you know why, work to find a routine that gives you the planning support you need. Force yourself to use it until you don't need to force yourself any more.

Cazzle (2012-05-22 14:35:36)

Hi guys! Just letting you guys know I'm selling my slimline adelphi and a5 malden in vintage pink on eBay right now for cheap. I think Jotje is the hight bidder on the Malden right now! I will ship worldwide. My user name is Cazzlerazzle, don't know how to do the link on my phone.

I'm Oing to sell my pocket crimson Malden and my a5 aqua Finsbury tomorrow too.

Alison (2012-05-22 15:20:49)

I have the flex in A5, pocket and i've got slimline on its way to me, all in magenta. I really love them and i'm quite happy with the cover, no doubt i'll upgrade at some point. It's great to use as a notebook because I hate writing with rings in the way. In fact I take paper out of my filofax, write on it then put it back in so the flex is a better system for me. I've not used one as yet as a diary but I got the pocket one off ebay and got a cheap diary off ebay too and i'm going to give it a go see how I get on.

I also have an apex in A5, it's down to personal choice (personally i'm not thinking much of the leather designs and colours currently out, I'm hoping filofax bring out some funky looking ones soon in nice bright colours), I love my pink Apex with it's aqua elastic (my two fav colours), I just use it at home, I wanted one I could just leave lying around and with five kids in the house I didn't want an expensive one, that I would be heartbroken if it got damaged. I use a pocket finchley in imperial purple as my carry around filofax, i'm not sure the flex will ever replace this but there is definitely room in my life for both :)

Neil (2012-05-22 16:18:21)

Don't be discouraged, a filofax binder is perfect for use as a paper based GTD system. Lots of ideas around - several GTD articles here on Philofaxy, and you can Google "filofax gtd" as well.

Nikki france (2012-05-22 16:26:28)

excellent post, and I agree completely, I found it so hard to vote in ALL the categories. I am soooooooooooooo excited to win, I do not know what to say, other than to thank enormously all who nominated and voted for me. I have to confess that I have spent my life being a frustrated artist!! I am just not very good, so to actually win something in an artistic category is even more special for me:) Big thanks also to Steve for this blog and the competition, and long may it continue, what a wonderful bunch of people we have here :))))))

Nikki france (2012-05-22 16:29:53)

oh, as for my own blog, gosh that is a big committment, and as another has already said, "do we really need another filofax blog" lol

Must admit, have done a lot of "fiddling" with filofax lately, but maybe I will just keep it to the odd guest post here for now, but thanks for the kind words, and encouragement :)

Nikki france (2012-05-22 16:31:36)

well done Butanben, and BTW you MUST send me an email with your address so I can send you a page marker as I had promised you!!

my email is

jokima at wanadoo dot fr

Nikki XX

Nikki france (2012-05-22 16:44:26)

I will always yearn for a beautiful fountain pen, and totaly enjoy the use of my parkers, and the choice of ink colours as the mood takes me!! Interesting to hear sales are rising. I know kids in school here are taught to write with one when they are a bit older, and I do not find it unusual to see someone using one occasionally here, esp. lawyers lol

Jotje (2012-05-22 16:58:26)

Geez, now you've blown my cover! LOL

Jotje (2012-05-22 17:05:55)

Well, I couldn't have said it any better than Ray!

What I would highly recommend to anybody with planner failure or organisational issues in general: read Julie Morgensterns book "Time Management from the inside out". It is such an eye-opener! Then establish if your "planner problems" are technical (e.g. not small enough to always have it with you - especially when you are trying to build a new habit; or not big enough to have room to record everything you need), or rather psychological (e.g. fear of failure/fear of success (and - yes - those can be the same!), dissatisfaction with certain areas in your work/personal life etc.

And in answer to your question: yes, I had abandoned Filofax in the past, but I also returned to it. Not because other planners don't work, but because NO PLANNER WORKS. Quite simply because YOU need to work (as in "stick to the system"). I'm convinced you can adapt to any planner, even if it bugs the heck out of you in the beginning. If there were no other tool in the world, you would get it going for you. But since we are in that überluxurious position to choose from whatever planner we desire, it's okay to look around for a bit until you find something that seems to satisfy your planning needs. And then ... stick to it for at least 30 days, because that is how long it takes the human brain to establish a new habit.

Well, summarized: you really need to read Julie's book ... ;-)

Jotje (2012-05-22 17:07:48)

Holly, that sounds very exciting and fun!

Cazzle (2012-05-22 17:45:18)

I'm sorry! I do really hope someone from here gets it though!

Savannah (2012-05-22 18:42:03)

I have had planner angst myself and have felt weighed down and tired of the whole fuss. Sometimes I have bought a new binder to increase my enthusiam. I do not recommend this, it's a cycle that never ends, unless there is a very specific change you are planning for.

Any good habit we develop to enhance the quality of our lives seems to get tiring over time (think dieting, excercising etc.). I have found it beneficial to simplify my system and aspirations as much as possible. I now use a slimmer and smaller size organizer too. This has seemed to help me. Eliminate any thing that is not of real value. I fundamentally use my planner as my portable brain which for me reduces stress on many levels because I do not forget the important things I need to do and when. I also gain value from the self reflective process that the paper planner provides to direct my life in a more fulfilling direction. I really have to have a planner or notebook of some sort but am more careful about not being obsessive about productivity and planning. Perhaps you might be one of the few whom a planner is a liability? Life is to be enjoyed and is often more of an unfolding - unpredictable and ever changing.

So, in a nutshell, try to go slimmer, smaller and simpler for a while and see how that works for you. You may want to try the book "Simplify Your Life" by Elaine St. James, in particular, the chapter on quit being a slave to

your Day Runner.

I see there are a lot of great comments about this topic and I hope one resonates with you. You are not alone. Good luck!!

Alison Reeves (2012-05-22 18:47:40)

@Butanben - Montblancs come in all shapes and sizes. The Mozart fits a pocket filofax very nicely and the Classique will most probably fit most other sized binders. I am a huge fan and have a (small) collection - one I had new as a present, the others I have bought second hand. They would almost certainly fit into a Quiver holder (which I think you have?)

My husband bought me another pen for Xmas - a Waterman Hemisphere in white, you can find it here: <http://www.penshop.co.uk/default/waterman-hemisphere-white-laquer-fountain-pen-paladium-plated-trims.html> I had been lusting after the new white Montblancs, but the funds would not stretch to that these days, so he bought me that white one as it looked quite pretty. Normally I wouldn't rave about this sort of pen, but it writes like a dream, has a medium nib which is on the fine side (so virtually no bleed through), and it fits nicely into the pen loops in my black A5 Amazona.

I am also a huge fan of the Lamy Safari pens (which if you are patient you can pick up very reasonably on ebay). Although I believe that Montblancs are real works of art (especially the special editions), there are loads of really nice affordable pens around which give an enormous amount of pleasure.

I could spend a good few hours discussing fountain pens and am a member of The Fountain Pen Network which is a truly international forum for fountain pen lovers - I'd highly recommend it!

Yu (2012-05-22 19:22:09)

"Some people have trouble because they are organised and disciplined enough not to need a planner, so the planning is just additional overhead for little gain."

O _O wow, never thought of it that way. Might be why I'm experiencing planner fail after planner fail. I don't really need it (very good memory etc.) besides using it as a very rare "kick in the butt" to get started on something, and because I like to write things down. *goes away to contemplate this and to try out the newest set-up (inspired by Tracy).*

Josh (2012-05-22 22:06:35)

I'm reading everyone's comments and wanted to chime in:

For years, I didn't need a planner. I probably would have performed better with one, but I got away with not having one. I have an excellent memory and generally can keep track of lots of information well. On the other hand, I'm incredibly unorganized! I lose things all the time, I lose track of time, I get distracted very easily, I flip flop from periods of hyper-focus to periods when I cannot seem to focus on the smallest thing. As my professional life became more complicated, I started looking for a solution. I bought a personal size Filofax. I think that the process of really learning to use a planner was greatly aided by the looseleaf system; as I thought of or saw better ways to manage various things with the planner, I was able to rearrange, add, and remove relevant bits to allow me to implement the alternatives. The planner was small enough to carry everywhere, but large enough to fit a lot into. I was proud of it! This made me want to carry it and use it even when it was not yet natural to do so. I found that it could be marvelously useful and practical, I kept adding information to it to make it more and more helpful on a day to day basis. I became known as the guy who could get his hands on any relevant detail in moments at the office. I learned things: It's important for me to have everything I need for the day on the same page, as I don't like flipping through the binder endlessly; I need to assign tasks to time slots; I need to write things I've done in addition to things I need to do; I need lots of space.

Success with my planner has helped me to create success with my life. My work desk, which was perpetually a disaster of piles of papers and booklets and odds and ends, has suddenly become serene and superbly organized. I would forget to keep in touch with my friends, now I reach out on a regular basis, I've been able to juggle school demands with work and everything else, and keep a level head and not lose track of anything significant.

I wholeheartedly agree with the suggestions above; read up on various methods; keep your planner simple and take steps to make it satisfying for you to use; use it consistently for a month.

I also suggest using a pencil and eraser. I find it really helps me keep the planner working for me to be able to edit as needed.

doris98 (2012-05-22 22:34:50)

I've recently gotten back into fountain pen usage, mostly for journaling, and am enjoying the throwback to olden days when I'm using one. I haven't used them in recent years, but the resurgence has gotten me loving them again.

doris98 (2012-05-22 22:40:18)

@Josh: I love how you put it, and I think you have put into words what we all want to achieve with our own systems – clean desk, organized life, easy access to info, etc., etc.

I stopped using a filo for a few years as well, thinking I could live without one, but the bound notebooks I used just weren't the same, and not as much fun.

Whispering Rabbit (2012-05-22 22:48:58)

I was the winner of an Apex from the memory competition...and there's absolutely no comparison to a leather binder. But it all depends on your needs; I use my Apex for my notes at the hospital as I can completely disinfect it without harming the material. The long elastic does get in the way a bit, though.

As for a flex, I was curious too about the A5, but I now think it's a glorified notebook cover. I don't use it because I prefer the flexibility of my Filos. Also, it has no resale value :(

So it all depends on what you intend to use it for. Good luck with your decision-making (that's always the hardest part for me).

Laurie (2012-05-22 23:01:28)

Planner angst? Have you ever read my What I'm Currently Using? I'm always switching around and usually use more than a dozen planners per year. Here, maybe this will make you feel better:

http://www.plannerisms.com/p/what-im-currently-using_19.html

I tried for years to use a Filofax as my planner but finally realized I need a week view with the days as columns and space on the weekly spread for my to-do lists. Keeping my to-dos behind a tab in my Filofax was out of sight, out of mind.

I need a large page size for my week + notes, at least A5, but the A5 Filofax binder was too large to carry everywhere. I like using my Personal size Filofax as my info and reference book, but for my planner it doesn't work so well.

Give yourself permission to try non-Filofax planner systems to find what works for you and what feels comfortable!

M (2012-05-23 00:39:45)

I'm back in a filofax after about 8 (?) years away, during which I tried moleskins and the little bitty planners you get from your hairstylist. I moved to these others to try to reduce weight in my bag, but they just won't do. Something prompted me to look into filofax again, and I was completely taken with the maldens. I had an apple green pimlico and an orange portobello, both leather in pocket size, between 2001 and 2004. They never laid flat, and I had totally overloaded the wallet pocket. Still, there's something about a filofax. I'm feeling that my arrangement this time is much more user-friendly for me and I have it out on my desk at work and open at home as well. Feels like success this time! It's probably just that this time I've approached it from the point of view of actually working for me, not what I think a planner ought to look like. It's a lot of fun looking through the Philofaxy website too- this is great!

Whispering Rabbit (2012-05-23 02:29:04)

The "fun" factor is one that cannot be underestimated ^ _ ^

doris98 (2012-05-23 02:56:05)

In the words of Jotje, "LIKE"!

queendelesa (2012-05-23 03:28:36)

can't find your offers?!?! ebay says no offers under cazzlerazzle!

Anita (2012-05-23 05:07:26)

Ray, thank you for a fantastic comment!

I agree about the whole 'trusted system' & I've struggled in the past with this & am still working on it. Love tinkering with my filo, but have decided I also need to stick to my set up to give the best chance of working :)

Ray Blake (2012-05-23 05:28:11)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Ray Blake (2012-05-23 05:29:54)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Cazzle (2012-05-23 05:36:26)

http://myworld.ebay.co.uk/cazzlerazzle/?_trksid=p4340.12559

That should take you to my page.

Ray Blake (2012-05-23 05:36:57)

Sorry about the removed posts. Nothing sinister!

Alice x (2012-05-23 07:24:24)

I just found these on ebay - so much cheaper than the ones on Amazon - delivery is only 58p within the UK and they ship internationally too!

Found someone suggesting them after trawling through old posts on here. I have a great 4 multi pen from Reynolds (brand ive never heard of) which is great but really fat and won't fit in my pen loops!

the Merry Lemon (2012-05-23 07:28:07)

I have a few of the moleskine city books, too. Because they are out of date I am in the process of taking them apart and putting pages from them, like maps, into my travel filios. :)

the Merry Lemon (2012-05-23 08:10:01)

I am also always struggling with my setup. I read this blog and a few others religiously to find something that will work for me.

In the process I have learned quite a few things about myself. Here are a few:

1) i obsess about finding the perfect whatever - setup, pen, paper type, etc - when the truth is there is no perfect to find. It's what works for me, for now. I do this in other parts of my life as well - (no surprise there).

2) I like the process of the setup, the list making, the color coding - but I'm not so much into actually doing all the things I write down. Under those circumstances every planner has to fail.

3) i have trouble being in the present. In choosing a setup, my head gets caught up in things that may/will happen down the road. Example: starting next year I will be travelling more for work. So my planner should be very portable. But I'm not travelling now. I have to really concentrate on the details of my life now to get a setup that works now.

4) i have also learned that when I am most stressed and overwhelmed i crave new and different planners. I have learned to recognize this in myself, so now i can go to a store or online and just look at them. I used to buy them all. Then at the end of the year i would have a pile of planners - some partially used, some not touched.

And all this is just some of the angst swirling around in my head! Phew - all this self discovery from a planner! Amazing that you can find lessons and self discovery in just about anything.

Jotje (2012-05-23 10:52:52)

For those who yearn for a nice leather notebook cover: have you checked out the marvellous leather covers of thesuccesschoice.com? The are an exact fit for large moleskines, the leather is superb, the smell just delicious, and I find them very reasonably prices aswell. Did I mention the fully elasticated penloop?

baggirl (2012-05-23 15:30:09)

I recognise this so much - especially number 4!! It's nice (reassuring) to hear from other people doing the same thing.

Frederique (2012-05-23 17:36:33)

Thank you all for your input and comments, it's comforting to know some of us struggle with ourselves to stick to an organization-as-a-way-of-life !

I'm indeed in the habit-building phase, hence the uncertainty, but you are all right : I should stick to it so that I begin feeling comfortable and have faith in my system.

And for those who suggested books, be sure I will check them out !

That's the beauty of this community: ideas, support, and so much more, oh and sure, some enabling too, sure :))

Thank you all again.

Frederique (2012-05-23 17:49:10)

Ray, you are absolutely right !

As you guessed, and as I wrote above, yes, I'm still in the habit-building phase, I've implemented a new system recently (considering I had almost none before), and have been improving/adjusting it along the way, with the tips and ideas that one can read here or on other blogs. Therefore, I am not that familiar with how I'm supposed to use my system, in a way : the process is not on auto-pilot yet, hence some stress and "now, how am I supposed to deal with this ?" questions :))

Trial and error is allowed, as Laurie and Savannah have said : perhaps I don't really need a full-blown GTD, perhaps I should simplify my needs for organization ? Or find other tools/planners and start again from scratch ? I understand persistence is key, and instead to playing around with some tools, I should actually put them to good use and actually do something and use my system and really get acquainted with it !!

I'm also struggling with the work/personal separation, I believe in a "one life, one planner", but I think I've found a solution to have everything in the same binder, but fairly separated, so that it's not too messy/disorganized, so, that's a good thing.

Thank you for your nice words, everybody: it's inspiring, and I'm feeling motivated again, in a "let's do this!" way :))

Alison (2012-05-23 18:20:52)

No 1 is so me, if i stopped looking for perfection maybe i'd use what i have put all my time and energy into that and be super organised, instead i waste hours online searching!!!

M (2012-05-23 22:02:31)

No worries! :))

Ray Blake (2012-05-24 05:09:32)

I don't have the travel pack, but I'll try to get sight of it.

Laurie (2012-05-24 05:20:14)

Ray I did a review of it awhile back with photos, you can see it here:

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/06/travel-journal-review.html>

-Holly (2012-05-24 15:59:09)

the Merry Lemon:

That has given me a brainwave of scouring for cheap guidebooks to hack apart for my friends' present. I was going to do nearly everything from scratch!

Filofreak (2012-05-24 18:00:24)

I also can totally identify what people have said here! When I am stressed, sad, bored, or angry, it's so easy to just "go shopping" for a new planner. However, this can cause problems in and of itself! So, I think the goal is to stick with one planner/one system for AT LEAST 30 days, but preferably 3 months. That really gets you into the habit of it. But, yes, we are all enablers! LOL

Shanananana (2012-05-24 18:55:11)

The planner's always just basically a bunch of rings, barring some card slots and maybe a notepad: it's what you put in the central section that defines it.

Obviously it's cool if the outside leather etc makes you happy when you hold it, but it's the functionality & portability - perhaps durability for some of us as well - that makes it different than a notebook or something.

Shanananana (2012-05-24 19:02:37)

If it's any use, I respect GTD but found it far too cumbersome - I can't quite put my finger on why - for my personal needs, either re time management or just using a Filofax.

My first Fax came with no special inserts though, so I pretty much had to make up my own system that evolved as each new need emerged, for example some of my busiest years in my '20s all my contact numbers were listed in the order I got them, on both sides of one sheet of paper.

This worked fine for me, and the pages are still a great souvenir of the past!

Then for a few years I'd keep a day per line (don't anyone faint!) on a sheet at the front of the planner, with just times & initials or short memos, and just use the rest for ideas, doodling, whatever - only when my needs grew more complex did I bother setting up my planner, later to become plannerS, in a more elaborate way - but always led by need.

Finally, sometimes my Fax sat on my desk for months barely used, if my life worked better planned from a reporter's style notebook... didn't mean anyone or anything had "failed" because they're only tools at the end of the day!

I think there are as many ways of using a Fax as there are users, so if one model doesn't work, don't give up.

Shanananana (2012-05-24 19:07:54)

Your Fax is STUNNING Nikki... I'd love to hear how you made that personalised Today marker, if you ever get the time to share?

I've always loved customised inserts, right from when I first bought a hole-punch in 2002, and went crazy for months making my own!

Shanananana (2012-05-24 19:10:55)

@Jotje, your secret identity's safe ;-) - the listing only shows initials and feedback # to other users, click on the small blue link showing number of Bids and you'll see what I mean.

Clark Kent would be safe bidding for his tights on e-Bay... ^ _ ^

Philofaxy Awards Poll Results (2012-05-23 00:00) - Steve Morton

The polls are now closed and the results have been verified. It was a close contest in some of the categories, although the Video Blogger category was very clear and decisive!

Here is the result of the polls we have held over this last week:

Award Nominations Votes Winner Best New Filofax Blogger
Cat 75 1st Josh 16 4th Jotje 41 3rd Stephanie 11 5th Ray 55 2nd
Best Video Blogger
Imy 141 1st Neil 12 =3rd Jotje 26 2nd Josh 12 =3rd
Best Filofax Photography
Tracy 91 1st Jotje 69 2nd
Most Artistic Filofax/Blog
Nikki 76 1st Tracy 23 3rd Imy 74 2nd
Best Business Organiser
Scoot 6 5th **Ray 93 1st** David P 30 2nd Jotje 20 3rd Josh 14 4th
Best Family Organsier
Rori 23 3rd **Jotje 75 1st** Christa 63 2nd
Best Commenter

Terri 21 3rd Jotje 60 2nd **Butanben 80 1st**

Congratulations to everyone that took part and thank you for everyone who voted in this years awards. I think you all deserve an award because you all contribute so much to the enjoyment of the blog.

We will be in contact with the winners in the next day or so to arrange delivery of their prizes.

Thank you also to Filofax UK and SlamPR who kindly donated the Filofax prizes... and our dear friends at [1]Dodo Pad for the ACAD Pad.

Let's hope we can run something similar or better next year...

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

Laurie (2012-05-23 01:05:09)

Congratulations to the well-deserved winners!!

caribbean princess (2012-05-23 01:11:05)

Congratulations! PhD has taken over my life at the moment but I still love this community! Hehe.

Alison (2012-05-23 04:06:08)

Congratulations to all the winners!! :)

Anita (2012-05-23 04:45:51)

I agree, congratulations to all the winners & all very well deserved! Thanks very much, Steve, for running these awards :)

Joseph David Quinton (2012-05-23 08:14:09)

Congratulations, guys!!! You are the best!!!

Alice x (2012-05-23 09:09:12)

Congrats everyone who won - i hope next year ill have more than 1 blog post about my filo and might be in with a chance!

I have just added a second post about my re-vamp though, with lots of pretty pictures of my lovely little pocket!

<http://the-wonderful-life-of-alice.blogspot.co.uk/2012/05/filofax-ma-keover-part-2-paperchase.html>

Lord Dodo (2012-05-23 09:46:58)

Congratulations to everyone who won! It is 'dodelightful' to see Dodo Pad and Acad-Pad diary refills popping up frequently in people's blog posts and vlogs too! And so grateful to those of you who helped to achieve the successful 'hack' revision of next year's Personal size 2013 diary with BIGGER boxes!

PS. Previous comment deleted due to a silly typo :)

DEM (2012-05-23 10:31:15)

Congratulations to all!

Butanben (2012-05-23 11:05:57)

Thanks Steve for organizing this, and as you say, Philofaxers share so very much, and so many ideas, that everyone deserves a prize! I was on an Excel course today. The tutor had a Filofax- looked like a personal Kendal- which she said she uses more than an i- phone, as she loves using a fountain pen on paper!!! Yay!! I showed her the Philofaxy site in the lunch hour!!! A new recruit methinks!!

DEM (2012-05-23 13:36:26)

...Resistance is futile...

I used to swear by my iPhone / ical and used it religiously but since discovering Filofax I have abandoned my iPhone calendar. It is so satisfying to use a beautiful pen with beautiful ink to write on good paper. I'll take opening up my FF to it's colorful pages (rainbow of inks, stickers, etc) over the boring looking ical!

Now I'm off to open up my newest delivery...a personal and a pocket kendal!!!!

Just-Jenny (2012-05-23 13:59:40)

Congratulations to everyone who won and was nominated. I completely agree with the previous comments, Philofaxy is an amazing community!

~AspireToBe~ (2012-05-23 14:45:51)

A BIG CONGRATULATIONS to all of you who participated - thank you for contributing to this wonderful world of philofaxy and filofaxes :) It's always a pleasure to read your blogs and to see your photos/videos. Thank you & congratulations!

Joseph David Quinton (2012-05-23 19:18:16)

For all you fountain pen aficionados, the Lamy apple green has just been released. This is the special edition for 2012.

Steph (2012-05-23 22:09:29)

Congrats to the winners. Well deserved indeed.

Reader Under The Spotlight - Christa (2012-05-24 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

Hi everyone, my name is Christa and I run the blog [2]<http://lovingmyfilofax.blogspot.co.uk/>

I am 24, live in London with my partner of 7 years Tarik and our son Ty who is 4 years old, I work 4 days a week at an electronics company and am hoping to eventually work for myself.

I am organizing crazy, so Filofax fits in great with my organizational needs. I love having a nosy in other peoples Filofaxes to see how they organize themselves, so I can grab some pointers that may help me be even more ultra organized, as I am always on a quest to find the holy grail of set ups.

1. When did you buy your first Filofax and what was it?

My first Filofax was a baby blue piazza pocket which was bought for me by my mum for my birthday when I was 15, though to be honest I didn't really get into using it that much.

2. What other brands have you used or considered using?

It has only been Filofax for me, there is just something about the luxury nature of the leather Filofaxes that makes me never want to consider another brand.

3. Out of the organisers you own which is your current favourite (Style and Size)?

My favourite at the moment is my A5 Pink Classic which is my home binder Filofax

4. How many Filofax organisers do you own?

I have recently sold off quite a few of my collection, as I have realised that A5 is the size for me & so I could narrow it down to the 8 I really love below.

- An A5 Black Amazona
- A5 Imperial Purple Finchley
- A5 Red & Black Adelphi's
- A5 Pink Classic
- A5 Black Domino
- Personal Ultra Violet Dominio
- Pocket Pink Rio

5. What do you use your Filofax for?

- My A5 Black Amazona is going to be for business (when I start making enough money to acquire one)
- A5 Imperial Purple Finchley - My ME Filofax
- A5 Red Adelphi - Is my notes Filofax to make any rough notes on a day to day basis, then basically anything that doesn't have a section in my other Filofaxes gets filed in behind a-z dividers
- A5 Black Adelphi - My on the go in my bag Filofax
- A5 Pink Classic - Is my home binder Filofax, with elements of flylady's control journal
- A5 Black Domino - Is my storage binder for my diary pages that I have used already that I want to keep
- Personal Ultra Violet Dominio - Storage for colourful paper
- Pocket Pink Rio - Storage for colourful paper

6. What was the feature about Filofax you like most?

I love how you can customize exactly what you want to have in your Filofax, either by using the selection of Filofax inserts they make or printing your own

7. If you could design your own Filofax what would it feature?

I would love something along the lines of the Osterley A5, but in a compact A5 size with the same print in black with a plain clasp but with the inside layout the same as the A5 Amazona

8. How do you carry your Filofax?

The only one that leave the house with me is my A5 Adelphi, which just gets chucked in my bag when I go out

9. Which Filofax in the current range do you like the most? Are you going to buy it?

At the moment it is the Osterley A5 in grey but I want to have a look at it in person before spending so much. Hopefully I can see one when I go for the Philofaxy meet up and buy some others I have my eye on.

10. What is the most you have ever spent on a Filofax? Which model?

I spent around £150 on a new Filofax A5 Black Balmoral that I sold in the end as I just didn't like it enough for the money I spent

11. *Turning to Philofaxy, what do you like the most?*

The sense of community, how everyone is willing to help each other find hard to find items, things that are available in certain countries

12. *And what do you not like about Philofaxy?*

What is not to like, its great. I click on the website first thing every morning with a cup of tea

13. *What was the last music album CD you bought or downloaded?*

Drake - Take Care

Thank you Christa for agreeing to go under the Philofaxy spotlight

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-MhBrX-UxFAw/T7KiT0gtjWI/AAAAAAAAAK_0/miIA_Qw13IU/s1600/ME+N+TY.jpg

2. <http://lovingmyfilofax.blogspot.co.uk/>

Anita (2012-05-24 03:17:21)

Christa, lovely that you've joined in with this series of posts! I really enjoyed meeting you in November & I hope you find the files you want this week end.

Kev Girling (2012-05-24 04:05:22)

What an amazing website! I first bought a leather Filofax the year I got married (1988), and used it for years in one internal format or another. I, too, as many of us did, fell for the electronic toys, and for many years was happy. Just recently though, I worked out how many times I had forgotten to update the calendar function on my toys with birthdays, anniversaries etc, and had consequently forgotten them.

I got my old Filofax out, and, lo and behold, inside was a complete, but slightly out of date birthday and anniversary list.

I had heard Filofax had gone bust, but upon undertaking a little research discovered this was not the case. I stuck my neck out, and bought a cheap College Personal for work (I was a Telecomms Engineer at the time), and have been using one again ever since.

Unfortunately, I dropped my College under the works van one morning without realising (i had armfuls of stuff), reversing over it when I pulled out of the parking space, crushing the ring binder loops out of shape. Rather annoyed, I went straight to Staples and splashed out on an oiled Kendal (my poshest Fax to date), and gave my old leather one to my youngest son (which I have just rescued again due to lack of interest as it doesn't have a touch screen!!!).

I am amazed by the enthusiasm of the other bloggers. I really did think these wonderfully useful products were on the way out. It is good to see that there is a solid core of people that still use them. I do believe Filofaxes are representative of the 'Boom and Bust' economy of the 80's. What I have noticed is that many people are customising inserts themselves, something we did back in the 80's as well.

I have noticed the distinct lack of variety of inserts that are available now, presumably due to the lack of demand. Gone are the lovely marbled effect indices (I still have mine!!!), and the onion skin paper. There was also a range of guides to various cities around the world, and many many more colours of paper to choose from. I have some bright scarlet paper still in mine. The layout of the Notes pad has changed too. Sigh. Bring back the 80's. All is forgiven.

Happy organising!

Kev

Helen Conway (2012-05-24 09:02:18)

Christa,

Can you tell us more about what is in your 'me' binder and your every day one?

Kelly Marriott (2012-05-24 11:18:55)

I'd like to know that too! You know we need a "peek" inside!

Paul B (2012-05-24 13:12:34)

I bought a used Filofax Belgravia Travel wallet recently, unused and still in the box. Apart from a 1992 world map, imagine my delight to find a stack of unused TRAVEL inserts. Brilliant! I remember using them in the late 80s. I'll scan one both sides and send them to Steve for the website. Maybe some enterprising soul can recreate them. I remember the onion skin paper, it was brilliant. Why did they ever do away with such great inserts? The inserts now are a pale shadow of their heyday. Bring back the 80s.....

Missus Aka (Christa) (2012-05-24 13:14:39)

Thanks everyone, Anita are you coming on saturday? All these posts you want will be coming soon (in the next couple of weeks), there have been a few bumps in the road this year that have been unexpected but i hope to get back to blogging more consistently. I will need to get more organized then ever as i am expecting baby number 2 at the moment due january!!!! just thought i would share that with the filofaxy community.xxxx

Butanben (2012-05-24 13:56:33)

Lovely to hear your news about baby no 2!! I enjoyed reading your spotlight slot... It is always lovely to hear about our fellow Filofaxers. What a gorgeous photo of you and your son here too.

Alison (2012-05-24 15:45:33)

Congratulations Christa :), i'd also love to see how you use your other filofax's so look forward to those posts. I'm on a mission to get organised which is really hard with five children so I love being inspired with blog posts and seeing how everybody else manages it. I have to say though i'm getting much better since falling in love with filofax again, i'm religiously filling in my diary throughout the day, reviewing it all every night and looking at it and tweaking it so many times during the day, all I have to do is continue, that's the hard part!!!

Alison Reeves (2012-05-25 04:47:50)

Hi Christa - firstly congratulations! You must be so excited to be expecting - your little boy looks delightful!

Can't wait to read your new blog posts - I was very taken with your last one on the diary inserts so can't wait to hear all about your organising tips!

Free For All Friday No. 184 (2012-05-25 00:15) - Laurie

As I'm preparing to move, I'm getting rid of a lot of stuff. Even though we've only been here just over a year, it's amazing how much a family of four can accumulate in just that time!

Not that I would ever get rid of any of my Filofaxes, but the gleaning process made me think: what if I had to get rid of all of my Filofaxes except one? Which one would I keep?

Of course it's a painful question because I love them all! I love my [1]purple and [2]aqua Finsbury Filofaxes for their vibrant colors. I love my [3]Ivory Deco for its stunning beauty. I love my [4]Orchid Aston for its color and classy look. I love my [5]Holborn zip for its super-soft leather.

But if I could keep only one, I would have to choose my [6]Buckingham. It was my first real Filofax, has been around the world with me (multiple times), and I just couldn't part with its all-leather quality and classic design. We have too much of a history together to part ways!

So, I know it's painful to even think about, but if you could keep only one of your Filofaxes, which would it be, and why?

And as always on Fridays, the floor is yours to discuss anything Filofax-related.

Happy Friday everyone! :)

1. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/plannerisms/3973666157/in/set-72157623430927643>

2. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/plannerisms/5993348088/in/photostream>

3. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/plannerisms/sets/72157622672507897/>

4. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/12/aston-filofax-in-orchid.html>
5. <http://www.plannerisms.com/2012/02/holborn-zip-personal-size-filofax-in.html>
6. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/plannerisms/3783583703/in/set-72157623430927643>

Louise Oakden (2012-05-25 02:11:55)

Right now it would be my pocket adelphi cause I feel it's my first proper grown up Filofax, but I'm thinking tomorrow of buying a Malden (either pocket or a5) so that would probably be the one I am going to keep!!
Is it sad I'm excited to be the first person to post????

David Popely (2012-05-25 02:35:46)

Mine would be my Ochre Malden Personal - it's the nicest organiser I've ever owned, does the job for me almost perfectly, and couldn't really be improved on. My A5 I rarely use. My oiled leather Kendal Personal is now officially well into the 'vintage' range and it would hurt to get rid of it, but if I had to, I would.

katka (2012-05-25 03:09:04)

I'm same as Laurie. I would keep my first ever Filofax - Stratford. Very well made and full of great memories.

Saffy (2012-05-25 03:33:01)

This is a hard question to answer. It would have to be between the personal baroque for its unusual internal design but same appeal as the Malden or the red Topaz which has such a classic look to it. The Deco is too precious and would not age gracefully. I am planning on purchasing the purple Malden so it might be 'the one'. But at the moment it would have to be my Baroque.

Vanjilla (2012-05-25 03:48:54)

Ah, Laurie, even thinking about it made me nervous! Funnily, just a couple of days ago it crossed my mind: what if I had to leave my place in a hurry - what would I do with my Filofax drawer??? :)
One I'd keep? Unthinkable, but it'd be Piccadilly.
And I knew it from the beginning: you'd keep the Buckingham! :) You wrote so lovely about it some time ago, about it being a gift from your dad and a keeper of your kids' milestones - I loved it!...
Wish you all the best with your move!

Laurie (2012-05-25 03:54:27)

Thank you! :)

Lord Dodo (2012-05-25 04:15:11)

This is COMPLETELY off 'brief' as per Steve's post - but he did say anything...!!
Does anyone have experience or direct knowledge of TimeSystem - and did you know the A5 hole spacing is incidental to Filofax? www.timesystem.com. I'm interested as I'd never heard of it before a chance meeting last week and wondered how well/used it is - and what kind of people use it.

Jotje (2012-05-25 04:44:32)

Hi Dodo, I have been using TimeSystem for many years. Back in the days when I was working as a project manager, we were all given a TimeSystem binder, inserts and a Time Management course by our boss. It is quite popular in Germany, bit less in Holland (what with the competition by Succes, which are far better available). The hole spacing and the paper format are absolutely identical with Filofax A5.

Alison Reeves (2012-05-25 04:54:00)

I did check out timesystem because I thought they might have better inserts. However their website it really rubbish and it is very hard to find things - even when you do, you can't see the picture clearly so would not have a clear idea of what you were ordering! I sort of gave up because of that. Shame really because they may be very good!

David Popely (2012-05-25 05:26:27)

TimeSystem was very popular in the 80s, and was a direct rival to Time Manager, of which I'm a well-known advocate. The internal structure of the TM system is much more robust IMO, and as Alison says, the T/S website is complete rubbish (not that the Filofax agglomeration of sites are any better).

Either Tm or T/S would be a *very* expensive investment unless you really intended to use the system and philosophy that ran behind the binders and paperwork, but worth looking at if you're serious about time management and not just diary-keeping (my thoughts only!)

Lord Dodo (2012-05-25 07:15:10)

Totally agree about the website! We could not believe how old fashioned and 'dense' it looked and, as you say, the inability to see the detail of the product properly. I suspect that is an IP issue - a protected 'system' that they are trying to 'protect' - odd way of going about it in this day and age though...

Lord Dodo (2012-05-25 07:17:19)

Thanks Jotje...do you think promoting our (slightly light-hearted!) A5 diary refill to TimeSystem users would be of any benefit?

David Popely (2012-05-25 07:18:51)

If you're interested in the system, philosophy and thinking which lie behind the TMI system (as opposed to the T/S system), some of us participate in a Yahoo group and we have the TMI user manual material available in PDF form

Jotje (2012-05-25 07:29:30)

I have no idea, to be honest! I do know that TimeSystem is mostly used in professional settings. We all had to use the 2PPD, and it never occurred to me that they also had weekly inserts available (didn't miss them, because I had the monthlies as well).

Also, I don't know if there is any TS community "out there"...?

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-05-25 07:33:52)

Mine would be my personal Ochre Malden too!! It's my absolute favourite!! I love it so much! I do get a bit paranoid about using it because it's so easy to scratch, but if it was my only one I think I wouldn't mind it looking like one of those well-used, well-loved ones where every scratch tells a story!!

Jotje (2012-05-25 07:37:48)

On Timesystem.com (USA) you'll find under "Learn more" a Quickstart guide with more info about the T/S system.

Jotje (2012-05-25 07:41:39)

Re your question, Laurie: at first I thought, impossible! I couldn't choose. Then I thought, if there was a fire and I could only take one, which one would I choose? Still I can't decide between three:

A) Pocket Wallet with ALL my cards in it.

B) Personal Portland with my kids' and my own journal

C) My A5 work file, because it holds such vital information for running my business.

The conclusion is interesting: I value their contents far more than their appearance. Whatever binder holds the above inserts, gets saved!

David Popely (2012-05-25 08:20:16)

@jotje Genius! This is a *really* useful guide, which I've already saved (as a PDF) for a thorough examination later. Thank you.....

Shanananana (2012-05-25 08:29:23)

My "desert island Fax" would be my A5 Kendal, for ring-size, ease of making my own inserts, and general beauty & resilience. It's as close to perfection in Filofax form (for me) as it's possible to get. Well, short of being in navy

blue, anyway...

I agree with Jotje, though, it's the contents that would matter most, and in that case I'd be very torn since they're all important to each different area of my life - work, personal, and so on.

Shanananana (2012-05-25 08:36:23)

I have a paper question: I find standard 80gsm paper too thick for making disposable inserts, like To Do lists that get crossed off and then binned, does anyone have any tips on what to look for to get a thinner, less durable, paper?

It would need to be ink-jet compatible, and I use a 7mm B-hardness mechanical pencil or Bic biro for stuff like that, and don't mind a bit of feathering on the printing if it's still legible.

Any tips would be really appreciated.

David Popely (2012-05-25 08:39:48)

@jotje If you look on the T/S UK website they have different and complementary user manual-type materials, including what looks like a full user manual (not available from the US site) although it's titled 'overview' I believe. Worth a good look.....my printer is working overtime this afternoon.....how fortunate that Friday afternoon is usually the time I devote to personal organisation in a focused way....

Shanananana (2012-05-25 08:42:22)

While I'm here... :o)

Has anyone ever experimented with making pen-holder loops to lie *inside* the rings of a 30mm binder?

I'm thinking of something like a page or "Today" marker-style insert, with one or two loops of flexi-vinyl attached firmly to the inner side lying within the rings, to hold a fat little pencil with that infuriating rubber grip that foxes most pen loops.

My lovely fat 7mm mech. pencil won't fit any of the standard rings, and I'm tired of it falling out and getting lost: anyone got any experience or tips on this please?

Ray Blake (2012-05-25 08:47:07)

Not all 80gsm paper is the same thickness; density is a factor too. If you can get to a Staples, measure one ream against another to see if you can find the thinnest ream (and thereby the thinnest paper.)

HP's regular office paper is 75gsm I believe, so that's another option. Printing on both sides makes an enormous difference, of course, to how much information you can pack in.

Saffy (2012-05-25 08:59:25)

I have just finished off a ream of A4 printer paper from Sainsbury's from their 'basics' range (in their orange and white wrapper). It is only 75gsm so quite fine, made in the U.S. I probably wouldn't print double sided but should be O.K. for your purposes especially at around £2.50 - £3.00 for 500 sheets, presuming you are in the U.K. of course?.

David Popely (2012-05-25 09:02:29)

This comment has been removed by the author.

David Popely (2012-05-25 09:03:55)

Hi Ray!

I bought some cheap-and-nasty 80gsm A4 paper from Staples and it is *horrible* - just about acceptable if you're printing mono and text only, on one side, but if you try any more than that the paper just won't do the job. I've got some HP branded paper up next, so I'm interested to see the difference. Definitely not all 80gsm papers are created equal....

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-05-25 09:05:16)

What a good idea! I'll try to make one and blog about it soon :)

SSA (2012-05-25 09:48:46)

I just to wish everyone at the meet-up tomorrow a fab time and I look forward to reading about it and seeing photos of all the filox together :)

Neil (2012-05-25 09:54:43)

@ Shanananana

Re disposable paper for "to do" lists. Partly because it's so, so, so much cheaper, and partly because it's environmentally friendly, I use Frixion pens in my diary. Some of my sheets of paper have been used over one hundred times.

Instead of binning your paper, just erase them by popping them into the microwave for 60 seconds, or thereabouts.

Babs (2012-05-25 10:01:56)

Not *strictly* a FFAF / filofax post, but I know a few of us recently bought some of the new Staples ARC notebooks. I'm loving my A4 and it's perfect for exam revision.

I just thought I'd let any other fans know that (if you can find one on eBay) the Rollabind punch creates holes that are almost identical to the ARC-sized holes, meaning you can truly customise the notebook.

Staples UK have said that their own hole punch will be available in the Autumn, but just in case others (like me) are champing at the bit, then this is an excellent alternative.

Oh ... and to keep it on topic ;-) I'd have to keep my A5 Finchley in Imperial Purple. It's my day-to-day and I love it. In actual fact, I *could* sell all my others ... if only I could get rid of them!

doris98 (2012-05-25 10:51:11)

It's almost impossible to choose! Gun to the head though, I'll say pink pocket Baroque and personal Finchley. I can't choose just one. Sorry.

Angel Jem (2012-05-25 11:49:45)

My first Philofaxy comment. It has to be my crimson Malden personal. I only got it just over a month ago (prompted by finding this site) and it's my first leather Filofax. I can't get used to the feel, the smell, the brick-like weight.... Seriously, I carry it everywhere and I love it.

Patricia (2012-05-25 12:39:57)

Ha! I have a Filofax drawer too! Perhaps that's not such a weird thing on this blog.

Patricia (2012-05-25 12:41:42)

I must buy a personal Ochre Malden 'cause that's the one I would want to save!!

Butanben (2012-05-25 12:52:59)

Probably my thin Amazona in my handbag, as it has got my address book and important cards stashed there!! However in all honesty, I couldn't do without my A5 black Finsbury with my black Quiver pen holder, the one with red contrasting stitching. This Filofax holds every scrap of info and my coloured gel pens, for colour coding the diaries. I love it!!!

Some folks may find a black Finsbury boring, but not me. He never stains, lies flat from the box and still remains elegant despite years of use. I have a yearning for an A5 ochre or purple Malden, but think I would miss the double pen loop, and worry about it being scratched. It would feel kind of disloyal to my old faithful too!!!

DEM (2012-05-25 13:03:25)

Which Filofax? Great question! The first one that came to mind was my black Personal Amazona! I love that beauty! BUT...to be fair, I just received a black Personal Holborn, a brown Personal Kendal, and a brown Pocket Kendal. I haven't used any yet so I can't say I'm 100 % sure it would be the Amazona. Now I'm trying to figure out which to use next, the Holborn for all of its pockets or the Kendal for the AMAZING oiled leather!

David Popely (2012-05-25 13:07:08)

I've also got a black finsbury, and although A5 isn't my choice of format at the moment, it remains my go-to (and only) binder in that size. As you say, it's a seriously good work-horse choice, not a lot of luxury but very functional. If I were an A5 user I'd stick with it - although I must admit the hestnut Cuban might be tempting!

J (2012-05-25 13:08:12)

No question here- it would be my crimson malden! I only have that and my slate domino (even though he was my first, the malden has won my heart!!!)

crofter (2012-05-25 13:29:40)

It would be my 5CLF 1/2 Winchester. I have used it everyday, has a beautiful patina, and seems to be better every year. It is getting a bit softer, but still "squeaks" when I write in it. It is the forerunner to the current "compact" line. It is the best!!!

Sydney (2012-05-25 16:17:44)

I'd like to see someone try to make me choose.

Just-Jenny (2012-05-25 16:54:59)

I only have one Filofax, the Stratford. Its the first real leather, quality Filofax I owned. I had a Metropol that was given to Charity that was replaced by the Stratford. I have only bought one Filofax since the Stratford, a Malden. A beautiful binder but my heart was with the Stratford, therefore I have sold the Malden and only have one Filofax, the Stratford.

Jotje (2012-05-25 17:14:30)

@David: you might want to check out Timesystem.de aswell. Go to "Service" at the top row, then click the option "Formblattausdruck" and you'll find numerous specific layouts to download and print.

Including a Tagesplan Samstag or Sonntag(which is in fact an undated 2PPD), and a Wochenplan, which is an excellent starting point for a Time Map a la Julie Morgenstern!!!

You get the option to download it in either A4 or A5 format.

David Popely (2012-05-25 17:45:20)

@Jotje thanks, I'll do that. I do hope my lack of German won't be a problem!

There seems to have been quite a bit 'borrowed' from the TimeSystem by Filofax for the Time Management range, and I'm hopeful that the TS manuals might provide a clue as to how the FF Professional system is supposed to operate - something I've never been able to fathom from FF's own resources. Additionally, the T/S manuals may provide an alternative methodology for using the TMI system, of which I own a lot! So I'm going to be having some fun with this stuff over the next few days - thanks again for the links!

Steph (2012-05-25 18:35:22)

Do you have any pics of it? I love the compacts, and would love to see it.

Steph (2012-05-25 18:37:18)

To answer this weeks question, as of right now I would keep my compact Chameleon in raspberry, however I just ordered an A5 malden in grey, and a compact finsbury in blue so I don't know how I would feel about those ones. But so far compact is by far my favorite size.

crofter (2012-05-25 19:01:34)

@Steph. I would be happy to, just e-mail me crofter69358@yahoo.com

Romina (2012-05-25 20:15:23)

Just wanted to share that i received my very first Filofax today. I chose a red Compact Chameleon (30 % off!) purely after watching Snarling's 3 vid series on her black Compact Chameleon.

It is SO gorgeous and smells great! My husband who doesnt understand my stationery obsession at all, even

commented on how nice it is and how good it smells. I love it!!

DEM (2012-05-25 21:00:41)

Congratulations, Romina! Enjoy your new Filofax!

Steph (2012-05-25 23:56:57)

Snarling's videos were a great asset in deciding whether or not I wanted to try a compact. I am so glad I watched them. I find the compact my 'perfect' size. Enjoy yours. They are wonderful.

Steph (2012-05-25 23:58:54)

I would be so afraid the paper would catch fire....but I know so many people use them. Maybe I will give them a go. Do you recommend a sort of number one go-to colour?

Shanananana (2012-05-26 06:44:23)

Cheers for the replies! :o)

Haven't got a microwave, but I might look into using parchment paper for some things, so I can use my pencil more... and I'll definitely check out Sainsbury's, they're not my local store so I'll probably find a few other useful things as well!

Shanananana (2012-05-26 07:12:49)

Ooh, please do! I might have a go with something if I can get to Paperchase tomorrow to see what plastic stuff they have, but my camera's rubbish (or, it's actually a reincarnated Impressionist painter: I try to be positive here!) so probably couldn't produce anything helpful to share.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-05-26 08:45:36)

Hi Shanananana!! I've made a pen loop and posted about it on my blog!! <http://thelifeoftheperpetualstudent.blogspot.co.uk/2012/05/filofax-hack-pen-loop-inside-rings.html>

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-05-26 09:51:15)

That is most truly awesome - THANKS!!

btw I threw ShanananaNa?NA?! (even I can't remember how many "na's" there are! lol) up as a screen name when I first joined here, not really thinking ahead, but seeing you mention it in your posts made me realise it's getting a bit daft to go by that totally unpronounceable/daft name when I talk on here, so welcome to my "real" name: Shanti!

Butanben (2012-05-26 14:04:46)

David, the quality of the Cuban is great. I have an ink one. But I just couldn't get along with the 25mm ring size. I now use it as my info Filofax, for maps and reference that I don't use much in my day to day Filo, but still use occasionally. It is gorgeous, but I don't know why, it has not won my heart like the Finsbury!!

Joey Quinton (2012-05-26 22:05:04)

Jotje...I have seen the love you have for your A5 Adelphi.....I know you would save it.

Joey Quinton (2012-05-26 22:09:01)

Jotje has a nice pen loop hack on her website!

Joey Quinton (2012-05-26 22:14:50)

Welcome to the family, Romina!

David Popely (2012-05-27 10:24:27)

I think the Cuban zip has 30mm rings (I'd have to check), I'm just not sure if I'd go for a zip binder or not...but I agree that the 30mm rings on the Finsbury are pretty much essential. If I *was* going to use A5 as my default size I would *need* those rings. The leather on the Cuban is lovely, though, and it would fit very well with the kind of situations into which I would need to take it, in terms of looks.

Web Finds - 26 May 2012 (2012-05-26 00:30) - Steve Morton

So while you are reading these posts I will be in London for the Philofaxy Meet Up. Because I'm in London, I might have missed any posts that you did on Friday, but I will capture those when I get home on Monday and they will appear next week... so don't panic the system isn't broken, I'm just not about on Friday night to do my final turn of the Web Finds machine handle!
So sit back and enjoy.

- [1]in search of the perfect diary insert - Philofaxy DIY diary inserts - Serendipity
- [2]Goodbye my dear Malden...and Hello Siena! - Rabbit Whispers
- [3]Finsbury Pocket - Student in Scotland
- [4]Planner Nirvana - The Crazy Suburban Mom
- [5]my filofax week #5 - Paper Lovestory
- [6]***** - Filomaniac
- [7]...But would I buy it again?- The Crazy Suburban Mom
- [8]CD/DVD storage inserts for your A5 Filofax - My Life All in One Place
- [9]the demise of my affair... - Paper Lovestory
- [10]Baroquesque Updates! - Lime Tree
- [11]Reggie On Location: Southern Hospitality & Giveaway - Well Planned Life
- [12]Paying attention to my "to do" list - Filofax Filosophy
- [13]It's all about organising - Because we are human
- [14]Squared notes – my Filofax mini lists - Notes in a Book
- [15]My Favourite Pens in My Filofaxes - Vanjilla
- Your blog post could appear here next week if we missed you this time around. Email us the details and we will include it if we can.

Enjoy

1. http://serendipity-art-journaling.blogspot.fr/2012/05/in-search-of-perfect-diary-insert_22.html
2. <http://rabbits-whispers.blogspot.com.au/2012/05/goodbye-my-dear-maldenand-hello-siena.html>
3. <http://callie-roe.blogspot.co.uk/2012/05/finsbury-pocket.html>
4. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/05/planner-nirvana.html>
5. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/05/my-filofax-week-5.html>
6. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/05/blog-post.html>
7. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/05/but-would-i-buy-it-again.html>
8. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/05/cddvd-storage-inserts-for-your-a5.html>
9. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/05/demise-of-my-affair.html>
10. <http://limetreefruits.blogspot.fr/2012/05/baroquesque-updates.html>
11. <http://wellplannedlife.blogspot.fr/2012/05/reggie-on-location-southern-hospitality.html>
12. <http://filofaxfilosophy.blogspot.fr/2012/05/paying-attention-to-my-to-do-list.html>
13. <http://bamblingsofnaffy.blogspot.fr/2012/05/it-all-about-organising.html>

14. <http://notesinabook.wordpress.com/2012/05/23/squared-notes-my-filofax-mini-lists/>

15. <http://vanjilla.blogspot.fr/2012/05/my-favourite-pens-in-my-filofaxes.html>

Shanananana (2012-05-26 09:11:16)

Lovely day for it! ^ _ ^

Hope you all have a super time: and leave *some* stock in Paperchase, 'kay - I need to go there soon!

Looking forward to pics of the meeting soon.

Cheryl (2012-05-26 14:08:00)

I can't believe there are actual meet ups...that cracks me up. I love it! Oh to be in London...! Have fun.

Steve Morton (2012-05-26 18:43:29)

Yes this is the 5th one in London since late November 2010.

Great day lovely weather now time for some sleep!!

Nanini (2012-05-29 15:54:45)

This is another interesting article about filofax, which I came across tonight:

<http://filofaxlove.wordpress.com/author/japancorner/>

Steve Morton (2012-05-29 16:13:02)

Thanks for that, I've added it to my weekly check list. Odd, for some reason it isn't coming up in Google searches

I wonder if they have their privacy setting still set to be ignored by search engines.

Once again thanks for the link

Date For Your Filofax - Saturday 2nd June (2012-05-27 00:00) - Steve Morton

New York

Sao Paulo

London

Paris

We are going to run another conference round-table 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? - **Saturday 2nd June** from 10am (US East Coast time), 3pm London time, 4 pm Paris time etc. See the clocks at the top of this post to see roughly what time you should be on line.

Where? - an on-line chat using [1]Skype.

What do I need? - just a micro-phone and some head phones(in ear phones work fine) and a free Skype account. Using headphones reduces 'echo' on the call.

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** inSkype, 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.

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...

Here is my post on how to [2]improve your Skype audio with headphones or a headset.

Hope to be chatting with you on **Saturday 2nd June 2012**.

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

2. <http://steve-morton.com/2011/07/30/improving-your-skype-audio/>

gdigesu (2012-05-27 05:32:06)

Please, include Sao Paulo and Chicago times, so we don't miss it. ;))

Steve Morton (2012-05-28 18:37:39)

Done...

gdigesu (2012-05-29 09:30:49)

Thank you. ;))

Simple and flexible dividers (2012-05-28 00:00) - Anita

<Puts hand up> OK, I admit that things in my Malden are a bit of a mess.

There is some sort of order, but I haven't been using any dividers as I haven't yet got round to making my own. When I put A4 sheets of paper into my filofax, I fold them over so that the punched holes aren't covered. This means they're slightly wider than A5 which means the standard size dividers get hidden. I'm aware I could add in another fold, but it just seems more fiddly to me. Initially my idea was just to make the dividers all wider, but realised they would probably get in the way of my pen instead. Then I came across these little magnetic [1]page markers, which seemed to be just perfect and I set to work with the following, using the blue piece of card as a cutting template:



[2]

I'm really pleased with the results as I wasn't particularly inspired by cardstock at my local shops, and it's been a cheap and easy way to introduce more colour.



[3]



[4]

I chopped up the rest of the calendar for when I fancy a change.



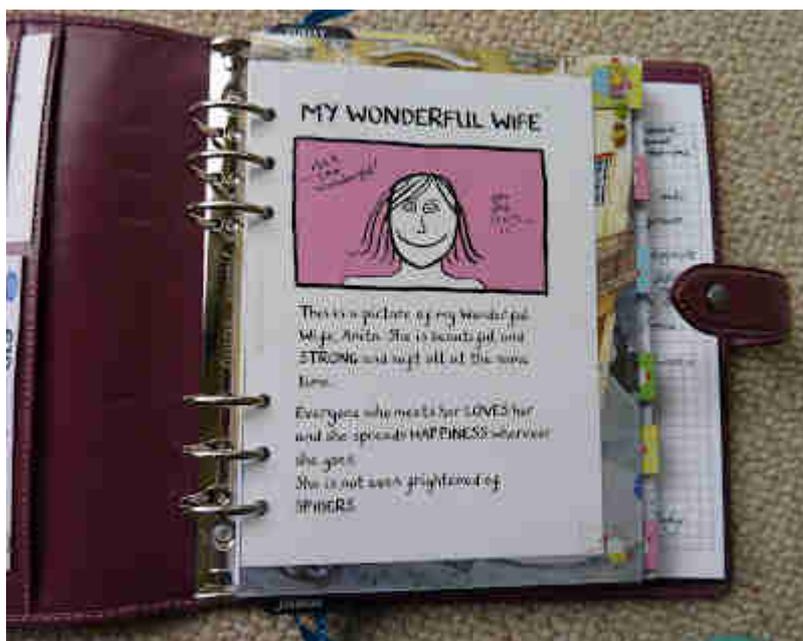
[5]

Another added bonus is that I can use the plastic sleeve the bookmarks came in. I'm not sure if I'll use it for pens as they'll be a bit bulky, but I love finding new uses for items especially when it's just going to be thrown away.



[6]

I think the only possible downside to the page markers is the additional weight they'll add. However, as my filo stays at home it's not an issue for me personally. The reviews I've read say that the markers are good at staying put on a page, so hopefully they'll work well as dividers for me. And this is what the front of my filo looks like currently with my new tabs showing clearly.



[7]

1. http://www.amazon.co.uk/gp/product/1441305343/ref=as_li_ss_tl?ie=UTF8&tag=pemburyvillag-21&linkCode=as2&camp=1634&creative=19450&creativeASIN=1441305343
2. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-SBooNugP52c/T7fKLv13GAI/AAAAAAAAAds/Rve45omDqu4/s1600/P1020313.JPG>
3. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-D_Nm5UrJ2kU/T7f09K0IEzI/AAAAAAAAAeA/f_JEVtOK27U/s1600/P1020317.JPG
4. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-jxXRGMkm0io/T7fPzn8XOZI/AAAAAAAAAeI/roMbWmgtIz0/s1600/P1020321.JPG>
5. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-WOKz6C7Xs5Q/T7fQuJRt16I/AAAAAAAAAeQ/sJN70Z30ocE/s1600/P1020328.JPG>
6. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-J4JBx2cpH0I/T7fSU0K1vwI/AAAAAAAAAeg/3j-Pp0h93cE/s1600/P1020335.JPG>
7. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-cvHqaVu20g8/T7fRNUu0WbI/AAAAAAAAAeY/Cov1ke6nouE/s1600/P1020327.JPG>

Alan Marshall (2012-05-28 00:18:36)

I'm on the other side of the Atlantic, but I thought the beauty of A3/A4/A5 etc. sizing was that you were supposed to be able to fold in half to get to the next size down. Why would folding an A4 cause a sheet to be too wide?

Nancy (2012-05-28 00:30:56)

Anita - I've used those magnetic page markers and they DO stay in place. In fact, they are so thin and resistant to opening and moving them to another page that I gave up on them on bookmarks. Your dividers are lovely. I use transparent fly leaves with an Avery tab attached as my dividers; I also cut a slit from the inner margin to each hole so I can move the dividers/page marker easily.

And, most importantly, what a wonderful card for your frontispiece!! So touching.

icclewu (2012-05-28 01:36:33)

You don't actually fold the A4 in half as you have to allow for the the holes to be punched. I used A5 size for my lecture notes. I fold the paper in half then cut a slice off the bottom. Xx

;))

Vanjilla (2012-05-28 01:46:06)

Anita, it's b.e.a.u.t.i.f.u.l.! And those magnetic clips - thanks for the great idea and the link, I've only ever found the dull ones with the cars on them!

(Oh, and PS: Your husband deserves a big hug!)

Alison (2012-05-28 06:38:01)

Great idea Anita, I have those clips they are great, I use some Olympic ones in my London 2012 filofax and just ordered some more for my other filofaxs.

When I made dividers for my a5 I just cut around the flyleaf, that way they were the perfect size, I then used

some of the post it note tabs, the ones that are more sturdy and can be written on using a sharpie pen.

Butanben (2012-05-28 08:39:47)

I just cut A4 card in half on a guillotine and I use OHP transparencies with Avery Tabs, labelled up with my label maker. I use the magnetic bookmarks too, but have found some plastic coloured arrow bookmarks in Waterstones, which are a lot lighter and do the job better. So now I use a mixture. Love, love, love your pictures and your 'my wife' postcard. Just lovely!!

Butanben (2012-05-28 08:40:51)

Sorry... typo... meant to read these. xxx

Danielle C H (2012-05-28 08:48:04)

You have just shown me the point of buying the hole puncher! Thank you!

doris98 (2012-05-28 08:51:49)

Genius! I actually have some of these in different shapes and use them as actual bookmarks, but would never have thought of using them as tabs! Thanks for the idea!

Scoot (2012-05-28 09:53:03)

I don't understand this point either. Halving A4 gives me an perfect A5 divider, upon which I can add a tab.

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-05-28 15:11:10)

Super idea to use calendar images in a Fax, they're usually too beautiful and well-printed to just throw away... note taken, many thanks!

Anita (2012-05-28 18:34:16)

Apologies as I don't think I was clear enough there!

I have just amended the post slightly & hope it now makes sense. As icclewu mentions, it's taking into account the punched holes on sheets of A4 paper. Using the magnetic page markers lets me just pull it out slightly to allow for the extra width, if needed.

Anita (2012-05-28 18:39:35)

Thanks for your comments, & yes, my husband is lovely & gets lots of hugs!

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-05-28 18:59:05)

Anita, It's fabulous! I love all the color!

Scoot (2012-05-29 05:06:15)

Thanks Anita, I understand now. When I put A4 sheets into my A5 organiser I cut off a strip, equal to the space taken up by the strip of holes, so that I can fold the A4 sheet once to the size of an A5 sheet and yet ensure that the edge doesn't quite reach the rings.

Even with A4 sized printouts, because of margins and headers or footers, I find there is usually space to cut off the strip.

Philofaxy London Meet Up - May 2012 (2012-05-28 13:00) - Steve Morton

What a glorious day it was on Saturday, hot and sunny all day and 11 Philofaxy fans meeting up in London made it even more special. This obviously is very picture heavy...



[1]

We started off as usual at Tate Modern for lunch, as always it was great to see old friends as well as welcoming new people to their first meet up. As you can see we were head-lining alongside Damien Hirst. As usual now it wasn't long before the Filofax organisers appeared on the table and were being passed around.

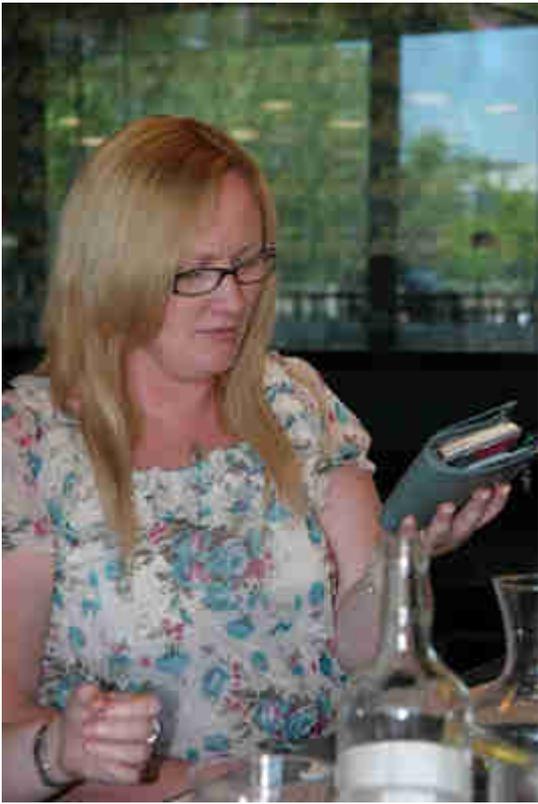


[2]



[3]

Cat, Louise, Tracy



[4]



[5]

268

Cat, Louise



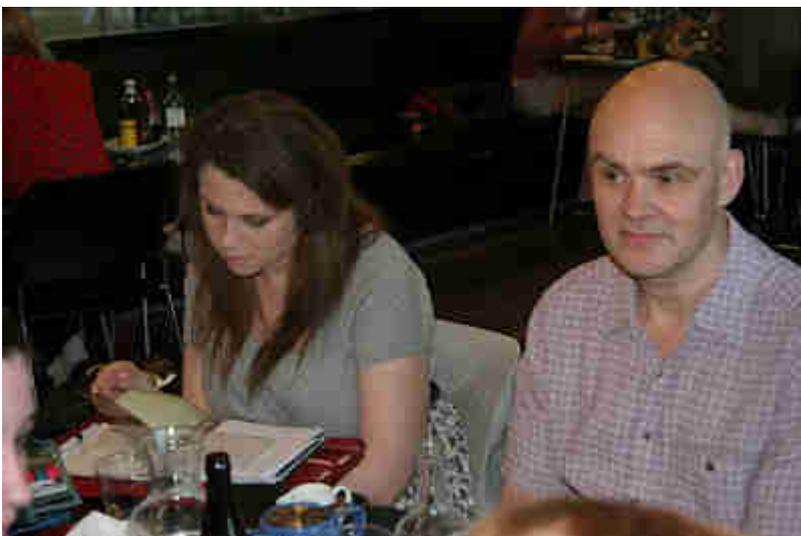
[6]

Imy, Andy



[7]

Andy, Preethi



[8]



[9]



[10]
270



[11]



[12]



[13]



[14]



[15]



[16]



[17]

Yasmin

Also in our group was Andy from [18]City Organiser, we didn't quiz him too much over lunch about the latest products from Filofax. But he very kindly opened his shop for just us later in the afternoon.



[19]

There was the usual fine display of organisers and inserts, and all of us enjoyed browsing and choosing, deciding and buying some new organisers and inserts.



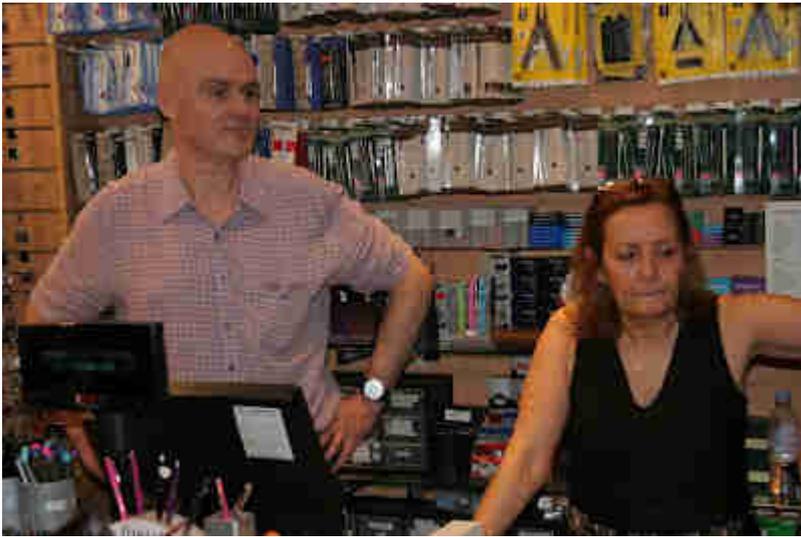
[20]



[21]



[22]



[23]
left on the shelves?’

’Do you think we will have any stock



[24]



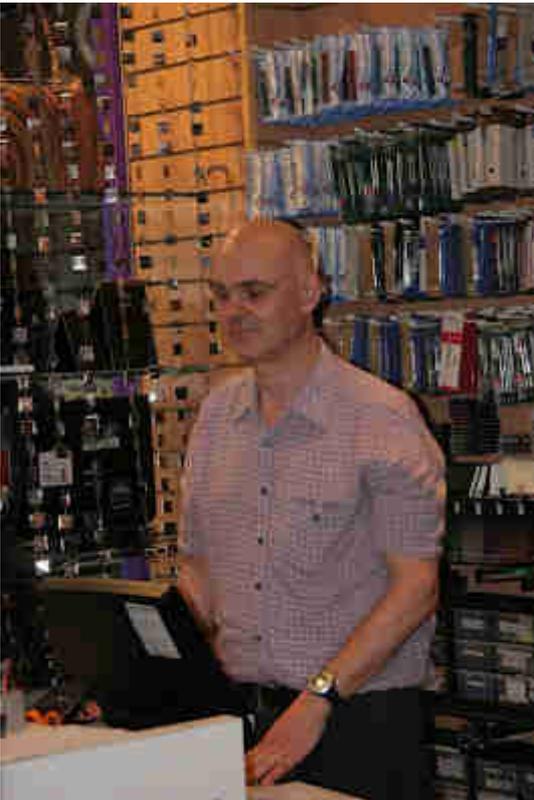
[25]



[26]



[27]



[28]



[29]

This one or this one?...Both they cried



[30]



[31]



[32]



[33]



[34]



[35]



[36]



[37]



[38]



[39]



[40]



[41]



[42]

Look bargains



[43]



[44]



[45]

However, downstairs in City Organiser was the Aladdin's cave for any one remotely interested in Filofax..... The stockroom/office/mail order department of City Organiser, I don't think any of us have seen so many organisers in one place, boxes and boxes of them!!!



[46]



[47]

Yes we got a little carried away with ourselves down there!! As you can see Imy is deciding which desk is going to be hers!!!

Then for the final part of of afternoon we were privileged to witness the launch of the fashionable, on trend, exclusive, limited edition Tracyley organiser.

Yes that desk there will suit me fine



[48]



[49]



[50]



[51]



[52]



[53]



[54]



[55]



[56]



[57]



[58]



[59]

The designer Tracy gave us an excellent and professional presentation. Andy was so impressed by this unique design he asked if he could put it on display in his window (price on application, of course). All sales enquiries to [60]City Organiser.

Later that evening a reduced number of us joined Tracy to celebrate the launch with cocktails at a high class London restaurant in Docklands.



[61]

Finally, I would like to thank everyone that attended the meet up, to Andy and Aline at [62]City Organiser for being so courageous in welcoming us. It was a very special day all around... and yes I'm sure we would all like to visit City Organiser again. So I better start planning the next meet-up I guess!

1. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-9fSq_ogCSRY/T80fwqugGDI/AAAAAAAAALis/SRoelxW1G6g/s1600/IMG_1346.JPG
2. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/--g75_EaQEd0/T80hrXZCBpI/AAAAAAAAALi0/a5NIIsuUKDXk/s1600/IMG_1351.jpg
3. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/--Z2SRMTUjDI/T80htOTP36I/AAAAAAAAALi8/qlrVTpm4XiY/s1600/IMG_1355.jpg
4. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-uwV8zH9CIFc/T80huQMTVYI/AAAAAAAAALjE/aG0rtKZKmjs/s1600/IMG_1356.jpg

5. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/_dKntq9m-10/T80hw0FP8gI/AAAAAAAAALjM/mpR5NpqgfJY/s1600/IMG_1357.jpg
6. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-2qKpi5Cho5E/T80hxmez-EI/AAAAAAAAALjU/wprXGfMrLME/s1600/IMG_1358.jpg
7. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-DhSTbpx3e-A/T80hy7hJROI/AAAAAAAAALjY/40GDvnM3ZYI/s1600/IMG_1359.jpg
8. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-NJ8muXbE6N8/T80h0Bkya-I/AAAAAAAAALjg/gcfrjA7VW8w/s1600/IMG_1360.jpg
9. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-DlTqtEB1gyk/T80h1xJAdAI/AAAAAAAAALjs/yiAIiZXPo7g/s1600/IMG_1361.jpg
10. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-2K-K5wE0Q9g/T80h3L8Zu6I/AAAAAAAAALjw/QQaYu3-9SKE/s1600/IMG_1362.jpg
11. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-vDEP6BXs8p0/T80h4d1iIyI/AAAAAAAAALj4/oFkxEzd4ibU/s1600/IMG_1363.jpg
12. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-OSPG1bE38o0/T80h5ubDwLI/AAAAAAAAALkE/MNiM-6eDBxo/s1600/IMG_1365.jpg
13. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-HXdB1Js51qs/T80h9TMW-mI/AAAAAAAAALkU/dB4mp4mqPqM/s1600/IMG_1368.jpg
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16. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-OM4p9N-zFEk/T80iCJB8UOI/AAAAAAAAALks/Mn_gX7Ywf3M/s1600/IMG_1371.jpg
17. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-9Ew43YmPrA0/T80iDjRpHCI/AAAAAAAAALk0/t-WoCsGzHG8/s1600/IMG_1372.jpg
18. <http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/>
19. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-4i-khHLSPB0/T80kisXNxiI/AAAAAAAAALnU/L292B1IEd38/s1600/IMG_1395.jpg
20. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-aMwALmTuhfI/T80k4gWk-xI/AAAAAAAAALnc/lWWSgAeXUfk/s1600/IMG_1374.jpg
21. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-82iDW9p5T-c/T80lEkZuLtI/AAAAAAAAALqM/NL8Wdtmsz9A/s1600/IMG_1399.jpg
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28. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-w-D7emPLJmI/T80lQ2aMb7I/AAAAAAAAALpM/RmRHDEXTLYY/s1600/IMG_1389.jpg
29. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-pCXsZCPzLxw/T80lPECsv3I/AAAAAAAAALpE/04xr3X1cEf0/s1600/IMG_1388.jpg
30. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-lMQZofbyPs/T80lNKzr6VI/AAAAAAAAALo8/cCLk6QqBipI/s1600/IMG_1387.jpg
31. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-HJrmDm3LD0g/T80lLqJp4AI/AAAAAAAAALo0/3iFuXlQT4PY/s1600/IMG_1386.jpg
32. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-jed6ydIwVds/T80lKP0dnyI/AAAAAAAAALos/yOL8ePztab0/s1600/IMG_1385.jpg
33. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-KxIIyWoghLw/T80k6BSfJpI/AAAAAAAAALnk/4JCFdraqTgc/s1600/IMG_1375.jpg
34. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-6QR2QUiDPN8/T80k8AozIwI/AAAAAAAAALns/RYXrx9BwXak/s1600/IMG_1376.jpg
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36. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/--qKzqGrBmT8/T80k_f49s6I/AAAAAAAAALn8/ualWc-5LwKQ/s1600/IMG_1379.jpg
37. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-F8Z0dDCpppY/T80lA8hb0jI/AAAAAAAAALoE/QXmb0btajzA/s1600/IMG_1380.jpg
38. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-JapIMgduzok/T80lCcrCaJI/AAAAAAAAALoM/c99xtbCs4S8/s1600/IMG_1381.jpg
39. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-QxTNjSChTS4/T80lEHEN-SI/AAAAAAAAALoU/t6YWysUiD50/s1600/IMG_1382.jpg
40. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-jUEMN1Vbzsc/T80lGCuPacI/AAAAAAAAALoc/t-5_c954jeg/s1600/IMG_1383.jpg
41. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-R__bdgJf9ds/T80lHu30f-I/AAAAAAAAALok/GfQKjdo2Hv0/s1600/IMG_1384.jpg
42. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-mXbApsrMVbg/T80lhN-zg7I/AAAAAAAAALqc/TfwVu48rKxg/s1600/IMG_1403.jpg
43. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-7ujbzBsnkBW/T80ln5jDA-I/AAAAAAAAALq8/q9Ft_gPhmqE/s1600/IMG_1407.jpg
44. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-JxL66_yQo1o/T80lPkYlxsI/AAAAAAAAALrE/jHsRS5-0-eA/s1600/IMG_1408.jpg
45. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-gOadYzT7kLU/T80njPUjSnI/AAAAAAAAALrU/hXIpeCrTJBk/s1600/IMG_1400.jpg
46. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-0gsuTqULncQ/T80mmHKFYnI/AAAAAAAAALrM/NxEeiXY1Uv4/s1600/IMG_1401.JPG
47. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-tTfhAGU-odE/T80kLfEYtNI/AAAAAAAAALnM/uUcENnQr2mw/s1600/IMG_1402.jpg
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49. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-yG2rc1Q10VE/T80i7HEPvqI/AAAAAAAAALlE/TxfLgSxc3fw/s1600/IMG_1410.jpg
50. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-bq1r-zPbKFM/T80i8ZXIj7I/AAAAAAAAALlM/XuDnPxFNmu4/s1600/IMG_1411.jpg
51. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-e07Wj2n-HGc/T80i9ybZf8I/AAAAAAAAALLU/do3yD90vNpA/s1600/IMG_1412.jpg
52. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-Hz-r8vZHejI/T80i_KW50tI/AAAAAAAAALlc/Ry9ZGM9-BcU/s1600/IMG_1413.jpg
53. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-biW32q4cUsM/T80jA3Ho-gI/AAAAAAAAALlk/bs_xWlJrheM/s1600/IMG_1414.jpg
54. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-FTR4yoxEguI/T80jC0vjjvI/AAAAAAAAALlo/JLX9cidvJFA/s1600/IMG_1415.jpg
55. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-e8AjquvtozI/T80jETLwt9I/AAAAAAAAALL0/1y5LqS1LqPc/s1600/IMG_1416.jpg
56. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-V6v5fNm_yLw/T80jGTr-SUI/AAAAAAAAALl8/WnUYJMZjykM/s1600/IMG_1417.jpg
57. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-ZobQs-5AFqM/T80jHuprdBI/AAAAAAAAALmE/OntZ7BufIw0/s1600/IMG_1418.jpg

58. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-rr07TsCEQjE/T80jK-d1lPI/AAAAAAAAALmU/pg0Y1SpQ2Io/s1600/IMG_1421.jpg
59. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-E4pfAFBVvfI/T80jVFzNqAI/AAAAAAAAALnE/ODych4vlfzg/s1600/IMG_1429.jpg
60. <http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/>
61. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-AAni0y4HNxE/T80oy93wRHI/AAAAAAAAALrc/5N7evofi1Dc/s1600/560404_10150909303826380_559786379_9529023_297512379_n.jpg
62. <http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/>

icclewu (2012-05-28 13:18:29)

Awesome post Steve!!!! Xx

:)

Babs (2012-05-28 13:32:31)

Great write up! I will make it to one of these sometime. You just need to stop scheduling then 'round my essays and exams, Steve!! ;-)

It sounds like a great day was had by all!

Lime Tree (2012-05-28 13:41:40)

So much fun!!!! Look at that A5 Osterley! and Tracyley is gorgeous!

Loved seen those pictures!

Butanben (2012-05-28 13:48:46)

Is the Tracly actually going into production then?? It looks just fabulous!! I loved the fact that Philofaxy was profiled at The Tate alongside Damien Hirst. I think that was the greatest photo. It felt like Philofaxy has finally been recognised, and deservedly so. Cocktails?? A happy hour this year?? Hmmmm... now that sounds like an excellent tradition/permanent feature to me!!! Glad you folks had such a gloriuos time and that the weather was so very kind. Sharon, you just look so fabulously glowingly healthy in these photos. Wow!! You have inspired me to use my Filofax for dieting and exercise charts again!!

SazD (2012-05-28 14:01:07)

Oh wow! Can't believe how packed full of Filofax things City Organiser is!!! Would love to have been there although that in itself would probably have been very dangerous to my bank balance...

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-05-28 15:07:21)

Fantastic post, thanks for sharing! :o)

Really fun to read and looks like you all had a super time, wish I'd been there but sadly work got in the way...

Anyway it was nice to see City orgnaiser's Alladin's Cave downstairs, I'll try and make it by the shop in a few weeks!

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-05-28 15:08:02)

Oh good gracious, gutted I couldn't make it! It's just way too far for me. Now I know what it looks like when you die and go to heaven. *sigh*

RealityPrincess (2012-05-28 15:17:22)

Oh Wow! I've never seen such a great variety of Filofax in one store! If I will be in London next time, I know I will visit this great store! But I know than I will be bankrupt ;)

Thanks for the report from meet-up.

mywormy (2012-05-28 15:26:01)

The pretty lady that is standing with a CO bag wearing a pink sweater, I am sorry - I don't know your name, but I love, love your handbag!!! What brand is it?? What do you have in that CO bag? A new organizer?

Alison (2012-05-28 15:34:49)

Wow looks like you had a great time, its a shame i'm up north, would have loved to have joined you, i'm gonna have to make do with CO online xx

Nanini (2012-05-28 15:46:15)

Grrrr... I am so envy... :X

Helen Conway (2012-05-28 16:20:36)

Oh, It looks like you had so much fun. I wish I had been there!

Anita (2012-05-28 16:56:05)

Great post & I agree, looks like you had a great time! I really hope I can make the next one :)

Stationery Gal (2012-05-28 16:59:30)

So jealous!! Would love to visit an actual Filofax Store one day! Looks like a great day!

Laurie (2012-05-28 20:31:07)

Looks like you all had a wonderful time!! Thanks for posting these photos!! I can hardly wait until I can come to one of these meetups. Perhaps the next one??

I love the photo of the three T-ley organizers, and I have to admit my favorite is the Tracey! I bet you could sell as many of those as you are able to make!

caribbean princess (2012-05-29 02:55:00)

Loved the pictures! Looked like so much fun. I am so sad I couldn't be there. Hopefully next time!

Love the Tracey too hehe.

Whispering Rabbit (2012-05-29 03:17:55)

I desperately need to go to one of these stores one day...looks like heaven to be able to fondle all of the different binders.

Thanks for the photos too; it's great to experience MeetUp joy vicariously. Perfect photoshopping on that first photo btw ^ _ ^

Steve Morton (2012-05-29 04:11:23)

Drat I've been rumbled !!!

Steve Morton (2012-05-29 04:12:34)

Yes we would love to see you at a meet up Laurie. I'm planning one for later this year... date not set as yet.

Jotje (2012-05-29 08:31:58)

Loved reading about the meetup, soooo envious I couldn't be there with you guys!

Anyone have a description of who is who in the picture? I recognize most of you, but there are still some new faces!

Ro (2012-05-29 09:25:34)

Wonderful post.

Steve Morton (2012-05-29 09:44:14)

I have added some names to some of the photos...

Jen M (2012-05-29 13:32:17)

WOW - I am getting woozy just looking at the photos :). All those files in one place - I'll be the smell of leather was absolutely fabulous!!! Wish we had something like that here in the States.....

Steve Morton (2012-05-29 13:35:49)

Jen, they happen in the US as well. See [1]here and there is one in New York in a couple of weeks time...

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/search/label/US%20Meet-up>

MsPencil (2012-05-30 20:27:07)

One day I am going to meet you guys in London! The pictures were wonderful and looking at the latest and most expensive Filofaxes just made me smile:D Wishing everyone the Best!

Tommes (2012-05-31 02:47:39)

Hi everybody,

I cannot tell you how much I enjoyed the meet-up! It was great seeing new and well-known Philofaxers.

Thanks to Andrew for opening his wonderful shop for us, and thanks to Steve for organising another great meet-up.

Regards, Thomas

Jotje (2012-05-31 05:38:33)

Thank you so much!!!!

kanalt (2012-05-31 07:43:33)

Wow! It looks like everyone had so much fun! I can't wait for the NYC meet up in two weeks, though we won't see anything like the stock there at City Organiser. Great post!

Free For All Tuesday No. 69 (2012-05-29 00:00) - Steve Morton

Any questions? Any Filofax questions? lots I hear.... good. This is of course your weekly opportunity to ask any Filofax related questions....

Fire away...

pseudonz (2012-05-29 00:44:01)

[Steps forward, clears throat]

Hi everyone, I've been using an A5 Metropol for the last month or two, after upgrading from personal size. I keep it on my desk at work, unclasped but closed, and I've noticed that the front is starting to slump to the left - I have to tug it to re-align the rings as the actual spine.

Has anyone else had this problem? I don't think it's from overloading, as I only have the rings about half full (so far!).

Thanks,

Wendy

Whispering Rabbit (2012-05-29 00:58:40)

I think I've had a breakthrough with the in-ring penloop idea brought up last week: I've employed a hole-punched Leuchtturm1917 penloop

I whipped up a quick blog post of the experiment if you fancy a closer look.

Cat Burchmore (2012-05-29 03:34:07)

Why do I appear robe the only person who struggles to print A5 booklet duplex? I am so frustrated!! Tried to print one of the diary layouts, just a weeks worth for a trial and got almost everything write but the spaces for the holes are wrong :(I'm printing from a mac so the dialogue box is different from the normal adobe.

To explain further I have to actually adjust the printer settings from within the adobe print dialogue box to even get duplex printing, it won't do it by just requesting from adobe. I was playing around for hours last night & still didn't get it right!

Rant over - it just makes me feel so stupid for getting it wrong :(

Steve Morton (2012-05-29 03:44:42)

Try opening the file with Preview, I don't have Adobe Reader loaded on my Mac, no need really. Still having problems let me know.

Steve Morton (2012-05-29 04:06:48)

Could you post a photo somewhere (Flickr, photobox etc) to show us what you mean and may be we will be able to suggest a cure...

Steve

Cat Burchmore (2012-05-29 04:15:22)

I can duplex print easily on preview but not booklet - so its fine with normal pages but prints diary pages all wrong - am I being stupid?

Steve Morton (2012-05-29 04:21:51)

When you do a 'test print' for booklet it needs to be at least two weeks (four pages) otherwise it doesn't work. May be pop up on Skype and we can compare settings?

Steve

-Holly (2012-05-29 04:49:41)

Not a question, and may have been posted already.

Spotted this card in Paperchase t'other day and actually did laugh out loud in the middle of the shop, to the stares of confused assistants. If someone doesn't buy me this card for my 25th birthday this year I shall be disappointed!

<http://img.photobucket.com/albums/v481/monsterbeans/CIMG0073.jpg>

Thankfully I think Filofaxers have the required sense of humour :)

Butanben (2012-05-29 05:30:42)

There is a free downloadable programme called Nitro Pdf reader, which I have found great for typing into job application forms etc direct. Just thought I'd mention it as it's so very handy. If you want to you will probably be able to type important dates, birthdays etc directly into your diary.

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-05-29 06:04:01)

Hahaha! Some people really don't have a clue . . . I mentioned to a friend at the weekend that I'd just pop a note in my Filofax and he looked at me like I'd just grown an extra head. People actually mustn't realise how popular Filofaxes still are!

Steve Morton (2012-05-29 06:05:38)

Great card...

Lucy send your friend a link to our meet up post... that might convince them that Filofaxes are fun and very popular still!

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-05-29 06:07:28)

Slightly off topic . . . sorry . . . but I'm having real problems uploading photos on Blogger. To the point where it's putting me off doing it altogether! The photos always seem to load up the wrong way round even though they're fine on the viewer, then I have to fuff about rotating them - often pointlessly - and then they become invisible so I have to guess which ones I'm uploading!!! It's soooooo frustrating.

Am I the only one having these problems? I've just done a new post and it took me absolutely ages messing about with the photos! Is it just me???

<http://www.allthingsstationery.blogspot.co.uk/2012/05/my-compact-poc-ket-raspberry-chameleon.html>

Cat Burchmore (2012-05-29 06:17:04)

I'm at work now Steve but I will have a look when I get home this evening and let you know. That could be my problem though, the quantity! I will try, thank you so much.

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-05-29 06:34:18)

I would do but he's an absolute technophobe . . . he only just manages to reply to my emails. Ask him to attach anything to them and he comes out in a hot sweat. To be fair though, he is a farmer . . .

Ray Blake (2012-05-29 06:52:49)

Not just you. It's a big frustration, but there is a cure. Before you let your photos anywhere near blogger, make sure you rotate them in Windows. By that, I mean view the folder they sit in so you see them as thumbnails, then right-click each and rotate it until it is oriented correctly. For the ones already oriented correctly, rotate them once in each direction anyway. They Blogger should behave when you upload them.

Ray Blake (2012-05-29 06:53:54)

should read '...the folder they sit in...'

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-05-29 07:29:04)

That's brilliant, thanks for that Ray! I thought I'd been doing something wrong. It's been putting me off doing blog posts because of all the messing about and time it takes me!!! My laptop nearly got thrown out of the window this morning LOL! Thanks again x

Butanben (2012-05-29 12:04:47)

Others who are cat and pink lovers may like the Hello Kitty cutesy stuff as much as I do!! WH Smith have a super little sticky note pad and Asda an A5 spiral bound notebook.... so pages may be re-punched for an A5 Filofax. Same notebook, different cover design, double the price in John Lewis's I noticed!! Both just cheer my Filofax day along perfectly!!

Nanini (2012-05-29 13:06:30)

Being one of the new followers of the blog, I like it very much. I read the blog already 2 months and I extremely happy to find other people with the same interest of mine. Although Filofax is not famous in my country at all, I found it by accident 2 years ago and now I feel myself addicted to it.

In this connection, I would appreciate your valuable opinion about the products of FF. I was wondering between APEX Fuchsia A5 and Domino Violet A5. I read in an old post that the Domino Violet is not very violet, but I couldn't find much information about the advantages and the disadvantages of both models.

Could you help me in my dilemma?

Thank you very much in advance for all your efforts!

Cat Burchmore (2012-05-29 13:57:28)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Angel Jem (2012-05-29 15:32:46)

I love the card... such a shame I had my birthday last week! I whipped out my filofax waiting for an interview yesterday and totally intimidated the other interviewees.... didn't get the job though. I lost out to a NQT. Apparently they are worth £3000 to a school in addition to any salary saved. Is that why they always win the post? Shame I've just spent a term clearing up the mess 3 NQTs on the trot can make....

Steve Morton (2012-05-29 15:55:57)

NQT? Newly Qualified Teacher?

Alice x (2012-05-29 16:04:54)

Has anyone got a Domino Baroque?

One was for sale on eBay the other day and I'm guessing one of you lot bought it!

It is any good?

Also where on earth do I get one of those Aqua/Teal leather ones with the baroque on the inside - do they come in pocket sized?

And i must confess ive been to every Paperchase, WHSmiths and loads of other stationary stores and i have yet to find a filo i liked :(

Steve Morton (2012-05-29 16:28:19)

The transparent fly leaf... do you put it at the front or at the back? or do you prefer to put one at the front and at the back?

Poll?

Alice x (2012-05-29 17:07:05)

I have just done a new post!

<http://the-wonderful-life-of-alice.blogspot.co.uk/2012/05/filofaxorg-aniser-accessories.html>

Now here is the thing - what exactly is the flyleaf for? Ive never understood it - is it to protect whats under it from running on the front/back pockets? Is it to remind you were something is like a bookmark.

Ive never had one but was tempted to buy one simply to see what it was all about!

Alison (2012-05-29 17:14:36)

One at the front and back!!!

Alice, i think it's just to protect the pages, that's what i use it for anyway, and its great for sticking post it notes to!!

JasJan (2012-05-29 17:16:33)

Alice, try the European Filofax sites. I got one from France. They often have models which are not on the uk site. Jen

Alice x (2012-05-29 17:27:16)

It that it - just to protect? I thought it might have a more.....i don't know special use maybe - post it note you say...hmmmm i might try that - i hate the tab bit though - i suppose i could make one if i get some acetate?

Alice x (2012-05-29 17:28:16)

I found it on the Hong kong one i think but the postage was immense! Ill pop and have a look on France though thanks!

Nadia (2012-05-29 17:49:57)

I use it in the front to decorate my filofax to add some color and pizzazz. Ok, not that much pizzazz. I attached a link to how I use my fly leaf.

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/azure819/7191184730/in/photostream>

Steph (2012-05-29 17:54:11)

I have one in the front, and it is where I put all my Avery tabs and post-it note sheets for future use. I really like it.

Alice x (2012-05-29 18:06:54)

Ohhh i see - i like the post it note idea - i could do with one which i could move in my week to view so i could stick things on it!!!

Steve Morton (2012-05-29 18:08:29)

I've just added a poll to find out...

Jen (2012-05-29 18:09:03)

Are the lines wider apart on A5 inserts? I really like my Personal, but the lines are too narrow. I write pretty big. While I don't want to move up, more room would be much appreciated.

Steve Morton (2012-05-29 18:11:56)

From memory... most personal inserts are based on a 31 line standard 31 days in a month... I've just checked my A5 notepad... it is also 31 lines, but in a much higher page height 210 mm compared to 170mm so yes the lines are wider.

Of course if you print your own you can have them any distance apart you want....

doris98 (2012-05-29 19:07:38)

Hi Alice x, the leather Baroques are still available in some Filofax sites (France, Germany, Italy, Denmark, etc.) but in limited colors, and usually in pocket size. I'm in Asia so I got a pocket in pink from Hong Kong, and Singapore also still has them. Try the main Filofax site and you can be redirected to the others from there. (Or google them.)

I guarantee you'll like the leather Baroques!

Hope that helps.

doris98 (2012-05-29 19:10:45)

I have them anywhere where there's paper to protect. I also use them to stick pen loops on, adhesive pockets, post-its. I like both with and without the flyleaf, they have different uses for me.

Laurie (2012-05-29 20:14:03)

I have one in the front to protect the paper, but in the very back of my Filofax I use the business card holders which do the job of protecting the paper in the back of the binder.

pseudonz (2012-05-30 03:20:18)

Sure thing! Apologies for the poor lighting - it's winter here and my phone doesn't take great pics at the best of times.

Here's the link (and thanks Ray for the coding know-how!). When you look down on it from above, there's a good 1-2 inch gap between where the front cover edge should sit over the back cover edge.

Probably I'm being to fussy. As it is, I'm stuffing it fuller every day so maybe it'll be impossible to correct anyhow.

Alison (2012-05-30 11:03:23)

I've been looking at a filofax on the french website, it's just adding on customs charges too, soon bumps up the price!!

Anita (2012-05-30 11:05:18)

I'm exactly the same as Laurie & always have a flyleaf at the front & then the business card holder at the back in my filofax.

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-05-30 13:49:11)

Awesome! I shall definitely be experimenting in the next few days with these ideas.

And is that a vintage matt black & gold Parker mechanical pencil I see there? If it is, I have the same model in my handbag Fax!

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-05-30 13:56:29)

Flyleaf at the front (except my handbag Fax, which has the front page & emergency contact deets inside the plastic envelope Filofax paper comes in, punched & sealed to be waterproof) though when my flyleaves get too scratched they then migrate to the back, and I make a new one from clear plastic for the front.

I've been improvising lately making a wallet to tuck a notepad in for my 2 Personal-size binders that don't have a pocket in the back, by cutting the corner from a vinyl file folder, the same height as a standard insert and about 8mm wider, punching it along the open side, and popping a notepad in the opening at the top.

It stops everything slumping and getting trapped under the rings, and adds a useful function.

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-05-30 14:05:31)

PS I fixed the notepad to the DIY wallet with a tiny [1] binder clip, I found some in a £1 shop that seemed almost too small to be useful, but they're actually really handy for things like this!

1. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Binder_clip

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-05-30 14:11:22)

I don't have either model but a quick look on Google made me notice that the elastic on the Domino is horizontal across the binder, and on the Apex it runs vertical along the length.

That might seem a silly observation :o) but if you're going to be shoving the binder into a briefcase or handbag, the orientation of the elastic might matter, if it gets snagged: I have noticed my Personal Finsbury with a press-stud opening has to be put in my bag with the spine lying down, or else it tends to catch and even get popped open as I'm walking about with it in my handbag.

That's the only major difference I noticed, so hopefully people with more experience using them will have something more useful to add. And also, welcome to the site!

Cheryl (2012-05-30 16:11:31)

I wish the flyleaf were a little heavier to be able to use it as a 'page lifter' at the back of the binder. As a former Franklin Covey fanatic I am used to heavier acetate or plastic which were included with the binder (one in front, one in back). They were black though so didn't care for that. But they did protect the paper getting 'caught' under the rings and made it easy to flip to the front or back of the binder with ease. I notice that my paper gets caught under the rings at the back of my Finchley's so I took a 'page lift' from my old Franklin Covey binder and use it in the back of my filo. (The only one this works with though is the Personal size for hole alignment and had to cut it down as it was a bit wide.)

Steve Morton (2012-05-30 16:14:12)

I've made my own fly leaves using Overhead Projector clear sheets. I've cut them to size and then punched them for whichever size. But any clear plastic that is rigid enough will be ok.

Steve

blog (2012-05-30 17:01:51)

Another new follower here, thought I'd make a little input where I can..

I haven't used either of these filofaxes myself, but I sell both of them and so have handled them a lot. The Domino is very lightweight compared to the leather models, although I haven't compared it in weight to the Apex. The main difference I see between them is the durability. The Domino's cover is much softer than the Apex, in the store I find them being damaged a lot even when they're quite new on the shelves. However I gave my mum a personal Domino about 3 years ago, and it looks as good as it ever did.

The Apex by contrast has a more solid, rather plastic cover (which is what leads me to think it may be a little heavier, but still as heavy as the leather ones... I think.) which seems like it will take a lot more wear and tear.

I would make the decision based on how much you'll be carrying it around. If it's going to be in a bag constantly, you may find the Apex has more strength over time, or if you don't mind a "weathered" looking Domino, that would be fine also. But if it's going to be indoors at a desk most of the time (like my mum's) then a Domino would be perfectly good.

My two cents! I hope it helps a little!

J (2012-05-30 17:13:55)

I know what you mean, my personal Malden does the same thing but only about a centimeter or so. I've honestly just learned to live with it as it doesn't seem to mess with the binder's quality over time!

LJ (2012-05-31 00:01:33)

Love that card!!! I mention my Filofax and am amazed at the number of people who actually have no idea what a Filofax is... what is the world coming to? :o)

pseudonz (2012-05-31 00:42:35)

Oh, well that's okay then! I had visions of the poor thing developing a curl on the back of the binder as it tried to keep itself closed. Or worse yet, the snap button giving up altogether.

Alice x (2012-05-31 07:43:23)

I found it on Homg Kong and emailed to ask if they would mail it to me - overall its jut shy of £60 with postage - so ill ahve to get saving!

Guest Post - Adding Links to Comments (2012-05-30 00:00) - Steve Morton

A big thank you to Ray for this Guest Post... you can try it out on FFAF (Free For All Friday)

If you're a regular reader of Philofaxy, you can't help but have noticed what a helpful and informative community of commenters visit the site. In the regular Tuesday and Friday 'Free For All' topics, dozens of questions are asked and answered every week. Often, the commenter will add a web address that gives further information or serves as an example. Here's an example of one:



[1]

I made that comment before I knew better, so the web address is not a hyperlink. That means you can't just click it and be taken there. What you have to do instead is copy and paste the link into your browser bar. No biggie, but compare with this example:



[2]

Note this time that you are offered not a long web address, but simply some highlighted text. Click anywhere on the highlighted text (although not as it appears above: that's just an image) and you'll be taken to the address to which it's linked.

Hyperlinks like this are easy to create and make it easier for readers of your comments to go and have a look at the page you're recommending.

To insert a hyperlink into your comment, you just write a very simple piece of HTML code. Here is the format for a hyperlink:

```
<a href="http://yourlink.com"> your text </a>
```

When this is included with your comment, you'll see a piece of highlighted text that simply says: your text and is clickable.

Let's see an example. I want to add a link on FFAT to a great cartoon that I think is very fitting to the spirit of asking and answering questions. Here is the address: [3]<http://xkcd.com/1053/>

Notice that I've included it here as a hyperlink so you can just click it and go there. Now I want to add it as a link in a comment on FFAT. What I want to say is this:

Here's a cartoon I think is very relevant to this community.

I want the words 'a cartoon' to be clickable and to take readers to the relevant web address.

Here's what I'll need to post in the comment box:

Here's `a cartoon` I think is very relevant to this community.

So here we go...



[4]

Hit the 'publish' button and here's the result:



[5]

Next time you want to include a web address in your comments, why not try hyperlinking?

Thank you Ray, I forget that people don't necessarily understand HTML, it is a second language to me!

1. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-GNX3liHw7pA/T80btPrgB4I/AAAAAAAAALiI/7azxwkVFw7U/s1600/1.png>
2. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-F7MM8FRXDzU/T80bt1C4hLI/AAAAAAAAALiM/ntWpqAH2Ftg/s1600/2.png>
3. <http://xkcd.com/1053/>
4. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-19LG8-pDVHo/T80bue4f74I/AAAAAAAAALiU/_FxALz004Do/s1600/3.png
5. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-JduwpPzV7UU/T80bunVpxQI/AAAAAAAAALic/bWDupGjpnOM/s1600/4.png>

Laurie (2012-05-30 01:02:02)

Thank you so much for this Ray! I always wondered how in the heck people did that!

Steve has been an excellent HTML guru to me, and I appreciate this bit of info from you too. I'm definitely in the camp of "HTML as a foreign language!"

(PS I love that cartoon! Yes very fitting to our supportive and fun community here on Philofaxy!)

Helen Conway (2012-05-30 02:03:09)

Oh! I am now one of your 1000 a day. Not for the html which I knew (although it a pain to type on an ipad!) but for the diet coke and menthos which I had to google! But, I am 41, not 30, so what does that do to the calculation?!!

Helen.

Whispering Rabbit (2012-05-30 02:04:43)

Very helpful! Thankyou!

Butanben (2012-05-30 05:27:51)

Synchronicity is a very weird thing!! I was just thinking yesterday how Steve and others manage to put items on the site which are just "clickable" to access, and was pondering how clever folks are to know these things. Now.... I know too!!! Thanks Ray. xx

SSA (2012-05-30 05:30:57)

this is great ... but i have one further sugestion/question - when you click on the highlighted text (the hyperlink) can you set it so that it opens in a new window? For example I am reading Philofaxy and RAY suggests I look at a cartoon ... i click the link and it now opens in place of Philofaxy when I was'nt finished reading the post. I hope my question is clear.

Ray Blake (2012-05-30 05:38:05)

Yes, it is. All you need to do is add target="" _Blank" straight after the URL and before the > sign.

M (2012-05-30 08:30:59)

Oh cool! I've never had any training in html, so that's brand new to me. I'm a big fan of xkcd already though. They'll give your brain a workout. Thanks again, Ray.

Steve Morton (2012-05-30 09:24:35)

Yes I think it is nearly 20 years (1993) since I created my first website, the following year I created [1]<http://www.pembury.org> which consisted of 5 pages!

Back then a lot of the HTML'tags' didn't exist, you couldn't create tables in HTML, and I use them alot these days. And although I've moved on from creating pure HTML pages in an editor to using content management systems such as Blogger and Wordpress, I still have to get amongst the code to edit the HTML to make it look correct!

A skill that will never be lost.

Of late I've been self learning CSS code which is another form of mark up language... HTML has the grand title of Hyper Text Mark Up Language... CSS - Cascading Style Sheets

Beware the comment box doesn't support all HTML commands!

1. <http://www.pembury.org/>

Steve Morton (2012-05-30 10:05:18)

One word of caution about adding links in comments... links to commercial sites that you have a financial interest in will be removed...

We have a lot of spoof comments that appear on the blog which include a link in them to link back to the authors site, purely to gain them some visitors/customers.

Often the comments don't make a lot of sense in terms of the post they have been posted on, so they tend to stand out like a sore thumb! It's also common for them to be put on old posts so they get held for moderation anyway so the normal reader will not ordinarily see them.

Alison Reeves (2012-05-30 11:34:12)

Thanks Ray and Steve - very useful. Is there a way to save the base code so it's easily available - I'd never remember this!

Nadia (2012-05-30 12:46:00)

Thanks so much! I was one of those individuals who were horrible with the html coding.

Jarfm.com (2012-05-30 13:02:28)

Save it in a text file then just copy/paste and remember to change your link to the correct one! :)

Ray Blake (2012-05-30 13:48:35)

Or write it in your Filofax?

Cheryl (2012-05-30 16:20:48)

Thanks. One question though. In your first example you typed <a=href and in the second example you typed <a href=

Does the = come before href or after and if after is there a space between the a and href (hope my question makes sense!)

Steve Morton (2012-05-30 16:23:06)

Ah that's a typo... now corrected thanks for spotting it!

Steve

Steve Morton (2012-05-30 16:24:13)

May be save it as a macro, not sure what you could use though it will depend on browser and OS
Steve

MsPencil (2012-05-30 20:23:38)

You guys are so very helpful! Thanks so much!

kanalt (2012-05-31 07:48:42)

Wow, this is great! It will be very helpful. Though I have to say, as someone who isn't literate in HTML and knows absolutely nothing about it, I will never remember this. I'd have to refer back to it every time I want to add a link, which is okay. But for me, just copying and pasting a URL from the address bar seems way simpler. However, for the good of the community and in an effort to make things cleaner, I will keep it handy.

Thanks Ray and Steve!

tdashna (2012-05-31 12:54:23)

Thank you for the tutorial! I have to confess though that I prefer the whole URL to be copied and pasted since that let me see where I am going. I would only click on the hyperlinked text if I know or trust the author of the comment (or here where I trust comments are moderated?).

Steve Morton (2012-05-31 13:01:33)

Yes I favour hyperlinking the URL rather than text. And yes comments are moderated but only at intervals. Comments are not held for moderation before they appear on the blog, if we did that there could be days when comments might sit in the queue for several hours before appearing.

Steve

Ray Blake (2012-06-01 16:38:06)

If you hover over the link, your browser will show the target address in its status bar at the bottom of the window.

Video Webfinds - May 2012 (2012-05-31 00:30) - Steve Morton

The last day of May, so here are the Filofax videos for this last month... this has to be better than normal TV? Your own Philofaxy channel!

Enjoy

IFRAME: [1]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/V0nSvDtfu6E>

IFRAME: [2]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/m1ufvvQ820w>

IFRAME: [3]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/VJt-a2WaUhk>

IFRAME: [4]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/XbInGJcXZv0>

IFRAME: [5]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/b5C1tNfOgqU>

IFRAME: [6]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/IktjBb48ODc>

IFRAME: [7]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/XD4r0FWmdh4>

IFRAME: [8]http://www.youtube.com/embed/v6_7o27FvPU

IFRAME: [9]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/DZEN9Q37dPo>

IFRAME: [10]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/sNOwjues5uE?rel=0>

IFRAME: [11]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/LnSJm0MZ-Z0?rel=0>

IFRAME: [12]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/9LlxxNF9TMM?rel=0>

IFRAME: [13]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/KS7PN-UIVFs?rel=0>
IFRAME: [14]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/LDcK6QDDv2s?rel=0>
IFRAME: [15]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/qYPT-VozJ9M>
IFRAME: [16]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/o97H-REPR9Q?rel=0>
IFRAME: [17]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/SiLrIFvgT60?rel=0>
IFRAME: [18]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/PAcsS7yIzCU?rel=0>
IFRAME: [19]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/DIMW0rqHh5I?rel=0>
IFRAME: [20]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/HVtRcJNwFPw?rel=0>
IFRAME: [21]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/7AffZXNNUk0?rel=0>
IFRAME: [22]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/uBhs04GnpMw?rel=0>
IFRAME: [23]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/PXvafq9b6F8?rel=0>
IFRAME: [24]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/dqHvGDFeU70?rel=0>
IFRAME: [25]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/3RmrR7pyPD0?rel=0>

1. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/VOnSvDtfu6E>
2. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/m1ufvvQ820w>
3. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/VJt-a2WaUhk>
4. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/XbInGJcXZv0>
5. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/b5C1tNf0gqU>
6. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/IktjBb480Dc>
7. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/XD4r0FWmdh4>
8. http://www.youtube.com/embed/v6_7o27FvPU
9. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/DZEN9Q37dPo>
10. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/sN0wjues5uE?rel=0>
11. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/LnSJm0MZ-ZO?rel=0>
12. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/9L1xxNF9TMM?rel=0>
13. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/KS7PN-UIVFs?rel=0>
14. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/LDcK6QDDv2s?rel=0>
15. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/qYPT-VozJ9M>
16. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/o97H-REPR9Q?rel=0>
17. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/SiLrIFvgT60?rel=0>
18. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/PAcsS7yIzCU?rel=0>
19. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/DIMW0rqHh5I?rel=0>
20. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/HVtRcJNwFPw?rel=0>
21. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/7AffZXNNUk0?rel=0>
22. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/uBhs04GnpMw?rel=0>
23. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/PXvafq9b6F8?rel=0>
24. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/dqHvGDFeU70?rel=0>
25. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/3RmrR7pyPD0?rel=0>

kanalt (2012-05-31 10:38:30)

Wow! There are so many. It will take me a while to get through these, but it's very exciting!

Steve Morton (2012-05-31 11:09:37)

Question for everyone really... Do you prefer these once a month or would you like 'this weeks' tagged on to the end of the Webfinds?

Thanks

Steve

Neil (2012-05-31 12:46:53)

Steve - I think they would be better tagged on to the end of Webfinds, because some videos (including my own) can sometimes appear in blog posts.

Jotje (2012-05-31 12:56:48)

I'd like to have them at the end of the weekly webfinds list. My head spins if I watch more than 5 Filofax video's in a row, but a few every week would be perfect.

(Actually, this doesn't make much sense, as I'm already watching the vids weekly. Duh!)

Steve Morton (2012-05-31 13:04:47)

Thanks for this feedback. I will do it from next week at the end of the Webfinds... I won't do it this week because there are rather a lot of blog posts on the list already!

Steve

Rori (2012-05-31 15:27:29)

WOW that's a LOT of video goodness! YAY weekend plans ;o) Thanks Steve!!

Ashleigh (2012-05-31 15:43:46)

Hi steve thanks for the videos and thank you for including mine. I was just thinking about your above comment and I did find it a little frustrating not being able to leave a comment due to the format. Trudging through YouTube to find them makes it a little difficult I would love the web link as I only use my phone for the Internet and the loading of the videos on the blog page takes ages! sorry to be a pain

Steve Morton (2012-05-31 16:08:54)

I will include a link and embed the video... best of both worlds...

Steve

Gerard (2012-05-31 18:38:09)

Thanks for these, Steve. A round up at the end of each week's web finds sounds about right!

1.3 June

Free for All Friday No. 185 (2012-06-01 00:30) - Nan

This year, I'm using a brown leather Filo with Cotton Cream paper. I was looking for something restful for my eyes. Black ink only (although it really should be brown, too.) Lately, though, I've been wanting more color. I remember a time when I used a Franklin Covey organizer where the background pattern of the pages changed with each passing month, and I carried 2 fountain pens with different colored inks for personal and business entries. Do you think you function better with more colors in your organizer, or less?

David Popely (2012-06-01 02:41:20)

Hi Nan

I too am using a brown binder (ochre Malden Personal) with cotton cream this year, and it looks so much better than the old, multi-coloured set-up I previously had. I used to be a big fan of colour-coding (my Time manager system had built-in colour coding for the sections, and the various inserts matched the dividers), but this suits me just fine.

Like you, I would prefer to be using brown ink, but I seem to have had a major fountain pen fail this year, so that's not the case at the moment. In any case, I insist on keeping my diary in pencil only - otherwise the whole thing just looks a mess as things get changed and moved around. The Malden, and most other Personal binders

that I am aware of, only come with one pen loop, and I'm not a fan of the home made loops, so I have to choose, pen or pencil, and currently pencil is winning. It would be nice, though, to be able to take a good fountain pen and brown ink to that lovely cotton cream paper.

The biggest change for me in moving to cotton cream was that I had to give up the idea of 'bespoke' inserts, as FF in their usual customer-disregarding way only do *one* diary format, lined paper, address and to-do in cotton cream. Often I find myself astounded by FF's lack of interest in providing perfectly reasonable options, but sadly I've got used to it now. And I don't want to pay £10 a pop for Mont Blanc or other better-quality refills, who in any case don't give a decent range either.....

The net result is that I've re-jigged my entire system to run on lined paper only, thus saving a fortune on keeping the full range of inserts (although I still have a drawer-full in both A5 and Personal if anyone would like them for a small consideration). The result is smart, works well, and I'm very pleased. And as the end of the year comes into focus I won't be going through the usual annual angst re next year's diary inserts. Result!

Silver_Elixir (2012-06-01 02:50:33)

David,

I would be interested in your collection of A5 and personal inserts. Please email me at femfuller@gmail.com what you would like for them.

Thanks, Fiona

David Popely (2012-06-01 03:14:43)

hi Fiona

You've got mail - as the saying goes!

D

Missus Aka (Christa) (2012-06-01 03:47:16)

Has anybody used their filofax to plan for a baby on the way? If so what size did you use and what did you put in it? I want to make sure i am ultra organized before this baby arrives

Neil (2012-06-01 04:30:48)

@ David - why not try a Frixion 0.7 in brown? A 0.7 is almost as smooth as a fountain pen, and a lot less messy. Yes, 0.7 inserts run out faster than a normal roller ball, but this is offset by reduced paper costs.

Since moving to Frixion I find I can now concentrate on improving my gtd system, rather than worrying about the amount of paper I'm using.

20 sheets of cotton cream per day = £700 a year :-)

1 frixion insert per week = £75 per year :-)

David Popely (2012-06-01 04:38:49)

Hi Neil

Good idea, but I'm kinda 'off' Frixion since their tendency for the ink to disappear in warm weather was pointed out - not that we get *too* much of that here in West Wales!

Alas, I'm also old-fashioned and the fountain pen holds a special place of affection....

20 sheets a day?.....what are you *doing* there? :) This is one of my reservations about GTD - loads of lists. LOADS of lists.....

Thanks for the thought though :)Have a great weekend.

Neil (2012-06-01 04:43:53)

@ Christa - you're going to be gather ing info in all sorts of filo-incompatible ways; booklets, forms, emails, written notes, letters.

So, file these, but refer to these pieces of information in chronological order in your filofax. Also note any vital numbers or codes. Then, circle filed items in blue and important numbers in red (for example).

Take a picture of each document (and email) on your phone (hospitals are notorious for their lack of a 3g signal, so don't rely on internet cloud storage for your docs) so, with your lightweight fax (you do want it to be lightweight, don't you?) and your phone, you have everything to hand at all times.

Amanda (2012-06-01 04:46:27)

Only my second post but can I just take a moment to complain about Filofax's plastic hole punches? I purchased one from Staples a few months ago as a travel item, and after about 10 sheets of ordinary old A4 (folds into my A5 Cuban), it's making raggedy holes and I feel like I should just carry an old knitting needle the way they look. Surely it's not beyond Filofax to commission a nice aluminium job that operates in the same way. I really think Filofax is missing out on so much of the Filofax 'after market' with things like this. They must know we're addicted and any bit of monogrammed old tat will have us swooning, but really Filofax. Your punches have me dizzy.

David Popely (2012-06-01 04:48:24)

OK, I need a quick answer on this one....

The Lovely Emma has kindly offered to buy me a fountain pen for my birthday (next week) so I can get my brown ink option up and running in my Malden. She *says* she has a budget of £100 but I'm determined that it won't be that much total spend (cartridges included)

Can anyone recommend a specific fountain pen, cartridge is fine, but even better would be a reservoir pen in the old fashioned mode? Best of all would be if it's available from City organiser, as we trust them to get it here by the end of next week.

Over to you.....

Neil (2012-06-01 05:21:03)

Hi David,

I agree that using frixion is risky from a heat damage perspective, and that re-freezing would be pointless if the paper has already been used several times. I use a Pilot V5 in my master index faxes for that very reason, but a make a point of making sure that my "action fax" is always in my pocket and, if the temperature rose sufficiently to start erasing the ink then I'd probably have more pressing things to worry about, lol.

I use an average of 20 sheets a day because one action or process goes on each page. That way, I can move the pages around and reduce the requirement to write the same actions down twice.

I do share your passion for fountain pens, however, and use Rhodia 90gsm webnotebooks as my journal, but find the process of uncapping and posting a fountain pen, perhaps dozens of times a day, whilst an undeniably therapeutic experience at home in the evening with a glass of wine, can be a bit of a palava if you're having to uncap and post (with two hands) 50-100 times a day. Plus moving up from 72gsm paper (I use moleskine paper in my fax) to 90gsm paper is a weight increase of 25 %, and I want to travel fast and light (I just use the inserts themselves when I'm out and about, discarding the pen body completely, for instance).

Thanks for your kind comments, David, have a great weekend too.

Neil (2012-06-01 05:34:50)

Best writing experience under £100?

Lamy or Kaweco. Converters are available for both, to remove the need for cartridges but, if you're out and about with your new pen, cartridges are easy to carry in your filofax.

Why not try a Kaweco Classic Sport, in brown. Google a UK company called "Cult Pens". The unique design of the Waweco, which dates from the 1930's, makes it short enough to carry in the pocket, but long enough to write with when the cap is posted.

Hope this is useful, David.

Neil (2012-06-01 05:43:39)

When you're out and about, just use a pencil or ball point. Yes, it will be a bit ragged but, when you get home, use a single hole punch (£2 from Staples) to overpunch those ragged holes and all that raggedness will magically disappear.

Don't carry a knitting needle in your bag - you'll get arrested, lol.

Amanda (2012-06-01 05:51:56)

I have a collection of hole punches and I finally found (I think) Rapesco(?) ones for A5 size and I purchased 2 for the Personal/Pocket size. All together it cost me about half the metal Filofax punch, but I wanted something nice

for when you're travelling, rather than put a giant weight in my bag. Pleeeaaaase Filofax make a nice portable one. I like the plastic design. I just hate the material it is made from.

Alison (2012-06-01 06:19:06)

I like to use coloured pens in my filofax, makes things really stand out and it's pretty too!!

I've just taken delivery of the magenta domino mix filofax for my daughters birthday, i've never had a domino myself but thought it would be perfect for her starting high school in Sep. It has no credit card slots (she doesn't need any) but it's a lovely filofax if anybody was wondering what it was like!!

Alison (2012-06-01 06:22:49)

I'm having no end of trouble with my Lamy Safari fountain pen, it's missing as i'm writing every so often and it's driving me nuts!! Having to send it back so they can have a look at it, anybody else had a similar problem, i've tried flushing it but this made no difference. I'm using a Leuchtturm A5 notebook which has fountain pen friendly paper!!

Thanks in advance :)

David Popely (2012-06-01 06:32:47)

@Neil thanks for that....will check it out! At the moment I'm very attracted to this:-

<http://www.penshop.co.uk/default/brands/cross/cross-affinity-jewel-b-lue-fountain-pen.html>

However, we've discovered a stash of fountain pens at home which used to belong to my late father-in-law, and although not as much things of beauty as the above, the idea of perpetuating their use is quite attractive...so we'll see.

Ray Blake (2012-06-01 06:35:46)

I know Lamy Safaris are very popular, but I've never been able to get on with them. The shaped section grip doesn't work for me and it's just too big and clunky. Put it next to the beautiful Lamy 2000 and it's no contest. But then the 2000 costs £175. A good half way house is the Lamy Studio, which Cult Pens have for about £45. I think you'll find that a more elegant and traditional writing experience.

I agree with Neil that the Sport is a good pen, too, but bear in mind it only takes cartridges so your choice of inks will be more restricted unless you're prepared to fill your own with a syringe.

David Popely (2012-06-01 06:35:58)

@alison I was just speaking to a chap from The pen Shop in Cardoff (*very* helpful people!) and he was saying that it's sometimes the ink rather than the pen, or a combination of the two, which causes the problem. For instance, they don't recommend the use of Parker ink with the Cross pen I linked to above, although there's nothing wrong with Parker ink itself - they just don't 'like' one another.

So maybe a change of ink would solve the problem?Or is you're on cartridges, £4-£5 for a barrel converter?

David Popely (2012-06-01 06:47:19)

Hi Ray

Lamy Studio is a good looking pen indeed. The Kaweko is as well, but I think it's going to have to be something which takes a barrel converter. Just going to put my late father-in-law's pens in to soak, and one of those already has a converter in it....could be a result....

Alison Reeves (2012-06-01 06:54:16)

David - my brother uses one of these: <http://www.thepaperie.co.uk/lamy-st-twin-pen-steel.html> in his journal it is a very slim twin pen with a pen and pencil in one - they also do a tri version with two pens (different colours) and a pencil: <http://www.thepaperie.co.uk/lamy-st-tri-pen-steel.html> but this one is thicker. I quite fancy one myself for carrying around as they are neat and smart.

Alison Reeves (2012-06-01 07:06:51)

David - I can't recommend this pen enough: http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/acatalog/The_Hemisphere_Deluxe_Metal_Fountain_Pen_by_Waterman.html

My other half got me it for Xmas - it writes beautifully, has a convertor and takes cartridges for on the run (make sure city organiser include a convertor - it is an optional extra but most places will pop one in if you push them). It's also quite slim so fits beautifully in my Amazona pen loop (which is all leather so no room for adjustment). Waterman are an old established firm who will look after you and your pen over the many years you will be together - it comes with a warranty which I think you can extend (mine is covered for about 5 years now!).

I love Lamy's and have had no problem - but I am fussy about which ink I use - I love mont blanc ink when I can afford it, but you have to go along way to beat Waterman ink which is very cheap, easily available, and comes in lots of colours!

Fountain pens is a huge hobby of mine and I have them in all price ranges. I agree that Alison's problem may be her ink, but also she may just have a duff nib, which can be placed for under a £5. hopefully they will do that for her. Ink/pen combinations can be tricky as some nibs run dry and some wet, and some inks run dry and wet also, so you have to get the right combination - i.e. a dry nib with a dry ink = skipping and problems, a wet nib with wet ink - floods of ink! Better nibs can be adjusted to make them dryer or wetter, but the price of the Lamy Safari means it is probably cheaper to just get a new nib.

Scoot (2012-06-01 07:11:40)

A terracotta orange, earthy orange, works as a colour for highlighting on cotton cream; without looking out of place or ruining the overall style. Dark red, ie claret, can work too but some inks can look like brown after a while due to fading.

I have tried waterman red and green for occasional underlining, or for drawing a small star, and doesn't look completely out of place. However, writing in a strong colour such as red, green, or blue, in an organiser based upon balanced earthy tones just doesn't work.

David Popely (2012-06-01 07:19:34)

I now have a small pot of pens in to soak...mostly older Parker and Schaeffer models. One of them (the Schaeffer) already has a barrel converter on it, the others I'm hopeful i can get converters for. So if that all works out, it will change things a bit.

@alison, that certainly is a beautiful pen! Most likely, if we are still looking tomorrow, we'll go to the pen shop in Cardiff, as the guy was so helpful when I called he deserves the business, and they seem to have all the converters etc right there, along with ranges of inks. as I now have access to a range of fountain pens (old and maybe new), I plan to go for different ink colours. With my work, a red pen is always guaranteed use!

David Popely (2012-06-01 07:23:59)

@neil I've got a couple of Rhodia no. 11 tablets which I sometimes use for making on-the-fly to-do notes (they're perforated so the individual slips of paper can then be detached and put into the weekly review pile as tasks). Paper quality is outstanding (cf. FF) and very fountain pen friendly. Outstanding. If I wasn't a FF user I think I'd use Rhodia all the time - or maybe Moleskine

Keji (2012-06-01 07:28:44)

Hi everyone "waves"

This is the only place I could post my excitement without looking like a madwoman, lol.

Yesterday I received my first Filofax purchase - YAY!!! It's a personal sized chameleon in aqua and it arrived while I was leaving for work. You don't know how much I wanted to call in late so I could spend some time with this bad boy :-D. Kept thinking about it all day. Unfortunately finishing work after 9pm meant that I haven't had time to have a proper gander but Saturday is Filofax day!!!

I purchased the Filofax brand new and sealed from a seller on eBay - only £20 plus shipping. A barging.

So glad to have officially joined the club. I've been searching and deliberating since February about the planner I would get. Obviously Philofaxy and other like blogs has just fuelled my obsession ;-D. I've bought so many accessories in anticipation - stickers, pens, crafting, card etc... before I even got my Filofax.

I originally was looking at an A5 planner. I will still get one (planning my second purchase and I haven't even set up my first, lol). This will be my main planner with everything in it; diary, journal, info, goal setting, projects etc... I don't mind carrying such a big or heavy bag as I usually do anyway and I love big bags. But I wanted a smaller Filofax (personal is as small as I can go) for the days I take a clutch/body cross bag or just want to pop

out quickly. This will only have an agenda, to do list, some-need-to-know info and note pages. I'm happy to spend time reconciling both planners - I think this will be therapeutic and help me plan my week.

I'm even considering getting one for work too. And I'm looking to purchase a personal for my mum and a pocket for my dad. OBSESSIVE I know - trying to get others on the FiloCRACK, lol.

Sorry for the long post I'm just so excited and can't wait to get started using my planner.

Neil (2012-06-01 07:36:38)

@ Amanda - if you're using parker ink in a Lamy, that is the problem. Try Sheaffer Skrip ink.

@ David and Ray - A better quality Lamy than the Safari, but well within budget, is the Lamy ST (slim enough to fit filofax pen loops too). The Lamy will take a standard converter, and some stores (eg John Lewis will fit one at no extra charge) - otherwise it's £3-4 and very easy to fit. The Kaweco, although too short for a standard converter, will fit the Monteverde mini converter perfectly. Alternatively, smear silicone grease onto the threads and fill the whole barrel with an ink syringe. I'm just about to buy two Kawecos myself, one in brown (for brown ink) and one in green (for green ink). The barrel fill method is a little risky, in my opinion, so I will try some of the many cartridge manufacturers and fit converters if necessary. I love the fact that they are cheap enough to have one per ink colour.

@ David - a Rhodia tablet forms part of my "action fax" mobile pocket office, specifically for the same purpose as you use them for, and yes, they are superb for fountain pen ink, even though the tablets are only 80gsm. The Kaweco fountain pens are for carrying in a pocket so that I can give people a handwritten note on interesting paper, using interesting ink - far more effective than a standard business card, and unusual paper and ink can help stimulate conversation at the beginning or end of meetings.

Anita (2012-06-01 07:38:53)

Welcome to the filo club, Keji :)

You'll find that we all share your excitement about receiving new filofax! I've also tried to convert my husband & family, but have only managed to get my Dad into them so far...

David Popely (2012-06-01 07:46:14)

@Neil great idea about giving people handwritten notes...I do a lot of networking (sounds like you do too), and I like that. What paper do you use for that, the Rhodia tablet?

I also send handwritten 'covering letters' on letterhead when I'm mailing stuff (rare these days) - just another way of differentiating and adding a touch of personality

Cheryl (2012-06-01 07:48:04)

! I just ordered the Personal Chameleon in Aqua as well. It's due here tomorrow (Sat). I was shocked (and pleased) to learn that it had shipped less than 2 hours after I ordered it. I've been tracking the fed ex online and barring any unusual circumstances should be here Saturday. I figured I would have to wait till Monday or Tuesday for its arrival but looks like I'll have a Filofax weekend as well. Yay! I am in the US and ordered from US website...it was 30 % off and free shipping as well. Congrats on your first purchase. I'll soon have 4 Filofaxes and have yet to figure out all their purposes! I will be watching for future posts from you on your Aqua Chameleon.

Keji (2012-06-01 07:59:13)

Thanks for the lovely welcome Anita.

I was really trying to be like you with only the one Filofax but they are just so gorgeous I can see my self going down a very, very slippery slope, lol. But in terms of agenda/ life planning I said that I won't have more than 3 (gosh that sounds loads). An A5 work planner (maybe) that will never leave the office; my main everything A5 and a streamlined personal (which I now have).

Any other Filofaxes I would purchase after that would need to be very considered and be for special projects, like a Masters project fax, launching a business fax or building my home fax (all things that are on my personal goals list).

It was my mother who inspired me to get a Filofax. She had one in the 80's and I recently came across it while spring cleaning. She hasn't used one in years as he relying instead on bound diaries and note books - but I've noticed they are not working for her. She ends up writing on bits of paper and envelopes so she really needs more

organisation.

My dad constantly forgets things and is terrible at planning. As he usually only goes out with his pockets filled (phone, keys, wallet) I'm hoping a small Filofax will help him just be more together.

Yeah I'm starting to sound like a street pusher – of Filofaxes, lol.

Steve Morton (2012-06-01 08:01:06)

Keji

Welcome to the club...

Steve

Cheryl (2012-06-01 08:07:49)

Nan, in the past 20+ years I had been using Franklin Covey and had purchased probably over 20 binders and all of their various inserts. As much as I love, love, love color, I found that over the years I went from very decorated pages to very plain pages. Now that I'm using Filofax exclusively (except for a couple of remaining Franklin binders that I couldn't bear to part with and are now used for storage or other purposes) I just love the cotton cream paper. It is so restful to my eyes. I, too, love brown ink and have been using Le Pen in brown (a very, very slimline felt tip). It's okay, I'm not in love with it on the cotton cream but it is very fine point which I like and fits well in some of those tight pen holders. I do generally like Le Pens and use them for other purposes. For my color fix, I experiment with colored dividers, colored binders, colored notepaper and occasional sticker here and there but I find I do better if my pages have a cleaner and uncluttered look. And I do love the orange highlighter on the cream but have yet to find a burnt orange...mine is more citrus looking.

Keji (2012-06-01 08:22:39)

@ Cheryl - we're filo twins. Yay to a Filofax weekend.

@ Steve - so when I get my newsletter and badge for the Filofax Club :-D.

Josh (2012-06-01 08:34:54)

@Alison. I had constant problems with my Lamy, tried many inks and found improvement but no solution. I finally lost the blasted thing and that was that.

@David, I found an antique Kaweco Sport on ebay. Piston filler, wonderful flexy gold nib. Fantastic pen, but made of rather brittle plastic. Newer ones are bulletproof. But they do run short cartridges. I suppose that could be convenient actually? You could carry several with you.

Scoot (2012-06-01 08:38:54)

When I referred to an earth orange for highlighting, I didn't mean a shop bought stablo boss highlighter. I was referring to my practice of mixing fountain pen inks to obtain a desired colour, using a syringe to fill plastic cartridges, and then using a fountain pen as a highlighter...but only highlighting something by underlining, stars or arrows.

Scoot (2012-06-01 08:43:39)

I used a single hole punch, like this one....

<http://www.rapidonline.com/Office-IT/Single-hole-punch-80034>

Use an existing fax page as a stencil to mark the centre of holes. Take the bottom off the single hole punch. Turn the hole punch and sheet upside down so that you can see the marks to be punched through the punch's hole.

crofter (2012-06-01 09:37:16)

For the fountain pen users, try Noodlers. They make a broad range of colors, they are all archival, they even make several that have a lubricant in them. I have a broad range of pens and it has worked well in all of them. I have several Lamy Safaris and all of them do well with Noodlers. I, like David, only use pencil (Pentel P205) in my Filo with 4H lead as it doesn't smear and works very well for me.

Alison Reeves (2012-06-01 09:46:47)

Scoot - Mont Blanc do this colour - it was named after Ghandi - not sure if it still for sale as it was a special edition. You can however get these colours in other inks - here is a good example: <http://thewritingdesk.co.uk/showproduct.php?brand=&cat=ink&subr=orange> - the Diamine inks are really good value, nice ink and made in the UK. Some greens look really nice on the cotton cream as well. Waterman also do a brown.

Alison Reeves (2012-06-01 09:57:15)

Neil - I'm surprised you find moleskin paper fountain pen friendly - I've never had a very high opinion of their paper as I found it feathers and you get a lot of bleed through. Rhodia are wonderful as are Clairefontaine. The Writing Desk (who I linked to above) have some lovely writing paper which is all fountain pen friendly - I was tempted to get an embosser with my address to use with it, but the cost is a bit prohibitive!

I'm so pleased to find some many enthusiastic fountain pen users here - I thought I was a bit alone in that hobby! Do you all look at The Fountain Pen Network? Worth checking out if you don't - it's a very friendly fountain pen forum and they talk endlessly about fountain pens, paper and ink (a but like Philofaxy!).

Amanda (2012-06-01 10:06:24)

BTW has anyone updates on the availability of the new slimline A5's?

I think they were due in June?

Forever New (2012-06-01 10:08:34)

Not sure why everyone dislikes bright colors on cotton cream. I use cotton cream because of the layout, not the color - I like equal spaces for all the days. I doodle borders on the upper and lower page edges each week, and write my Monday and Friday TV watching "treats" in color. Other than that, I write with black ink, although I've considered using my brown Staedtler triplus fineliner as my everyday pen. (If I could buy just a brown one somewhere I would, but these are my favorite doodling pens and I like the set to stay about the same usage so they all run out near the same time.) My colors of choice are bright pink and orange, light blue, light green and brown.

Babs (2012-06-01 10:26:50)

Are you in the UK? If so, get a decent (waterproof) A4 folder for your maternity notes as they look a bit ragged by the end. Plus, if you get letters or printouts of blood test results, etc, they're easy to slip in and keep together. For all other baby-related stuff - lists of things to buy, names, hospital bag packing list, etc - I'd just set up a new section in your current filo.

TBH given that you need to carry your green notes everywhere anyway, I don't think a standalone filo is the right solution for this!

Babs (2012-06-01 10:27:33)

PS - Congratulations! When are you due?

Steve Morton (2012-06-01 10:53:04)

Checks calendar... it's only the 1st.. but of course as soon as we hear anything we will let you know within hours or sometimes minutes of the news getting to us....

Steve

gdigesu (2012-06-01 10:53:49)

Seconding Amanda's question on new sizes, when are the new 30mm personals coming?

Beautiful black calf leather?

Dark brown calf leather?

Manly stuff, please.

M Ng (2012-06-01 11:28:01)

Wow, this FFAF hits all of my major (pen and paper) preoccupations: how pen+ink interact, how [ink+pen]+paper interact, and - more recently - whether or not to use color for more than just call-outs (underlining and arrows). For years, I've used only fine-tipped black roller ball or gel ink pens in my Filofax, but have just purchased and

started using a Uni Style-Fit multi-pen for color-coding. It's been two weeks now and I'm still ambivalent. It definitely helps me quickly assess whether my day and week are "balanced," but I do much prefer an all-black (all-gray when I'm using fountain pen) page.

I've experienced bleed-through with fountain pens on Filofax calendar paper for years now (not their lined note paper, though). When I started using a Filofax in the mid-90s, their calendar stock held up just fine, but that's definitely no longer the case. I toyed with the idea of going back to fountain pen for my planner this year because I'm using a Maruman Data Plan refill (Maruman paper is fountain-pen friendly), but after so many years of resignedly using fine-tipped rollerballs on Filofax paper, I realized that none of my fountain pens have fine enough nibs for my week-with-notes planning pages: my pen collection has diverged dramatically in that respect! I use 0.38mm rollerballs but my favorite fountain pen is a gold-nibbed EF Pelikan, on the wet side and a fairly broad EF (even for a German pen). I have tiny handwriting, which is useful for planning, but I like to relax and embiggen it when actually writing, thus the divergence.

I tried to get a Lamy Safari up and running early this year, but the nib squeaked and skipped and fought me until I simply gave up. It's so fascinating how some people really do well with the Safari and others can't even get them to write an entire sentence without problems. I thought it was a matter of ink, but now I think it might instead have to do with writing angles and the specific construction of the steel nib.

Noodlers ink is the other incredibly polarizing fountain pen item! Some people love it, but I've only ever had problems with it gunking up my pens' nibs. My current favorite ink is the Pilot Iroshizuku line, which is pricy but oh so lovely. It strikes the proper balance in the flow department for me.

Uhm, thus ends my lengthy monologue on pen, ink, and Filofaxes. Hope everyone has a nice weekend with their pen and paper arsenals!

Amanda (2012-06-01 11:38:28)

It's like hours into June already Steve!
:)

Amanda (2012-06-01 11:39:42)

Or reds, purples, aquas

Missus Aka (Christa) (2012-06-01 11:49:36)

Thanks babs & neil for your input. Im due Jan 13th, so a while off, but i just want to make sure that everything is in order and goes smoothly and well organised

Neil (2012-06-01 12:47:21)

@ Alison. I never said I fountain pen with Moleskine paper - it's very absorbant with far too much bleed through. I use frixion with my moleskine paper and fountain pen with my Rhodia pads and webnotebooks. Fountain pen is also great for my ARC filled A4.

What I would say in Moleskine's defence is that it appears to be superb quality for use with pencil and ball pen, and continues to be the paper of choice for writers and reporters who travel and have to keep their kit weight to an absolute minimum. For example, a 240 page A5 moleskine weighs 30 grams less than a 192 page A5 Rodia webnotebook.

Personally, I love fountain pens, and think it would be a good idea to make them compulsory at school. Apart from anything, disposable plastic pens are an absolute travesty with regards to global warming, when a fountain pen can cost just a few pounds and last a lifetime. And we should all be alerted to the fact that paper manufacture uses 30,000 Litres of water per ton, so we should try and re-use what we can. A bit off topic - sorry. Yes, the fountain pen network is a good source of information.

Neil (2012-06-01 12:53:20)

@ Keiji - you cannot have too many filofaxes.

Jotje (2012-06-01 13:00:59)

Just a short comment on the Lamy Safari: I found they all were a bit scratchy in the beginning. But after they are written-in, they are so wonderfully smooth and delightful! I use the regular Lamy cartridges btw.

J (2012-06-01 13:18:00)

@ Forever New - I just switched to the Fineliners, too! And not to enable, but you can get just the brown at Jet Pens [1]here

I've got the 10 color set, but am glad to know I can grab extra individual colors if one runs out!

Ooh, and Ray, do you see what I did there? Thanks for the linking advice!

1. <http://www.jetpens.com/Staedtler-Triplus-Fineline-Marker-Pen-0.3-mm-Brown/pd/7964>

Neil (2012-06-01 13:18:09)

@ David - re the Rhodia tablet.

Yes, that's exactly what it's for. I know you use a No 11 pad, but I use a No 12, which fits perfectly into the outer pocket of my Kensington (I guess you haven't seen my video yet - check out my set of three action fax vids that Steve included in yesterday's video round up).

It is a performance; the deliberate folding of the distinctive orange card, the uncapping and posting of the fountain pen, the silent surprise at the flamboyant ink colour, and the pressing of the message as you write a personal note. Far more memorable than a printed business card>

Ray Blake (2012-06-01 13:21:31)

Nice work!

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-06-01 13:40:29)

I love my Waterman purple ink on the cream pages. It's quite a dark purple and looks fab!

J (2012-06-01 14:00:54)

Wow, there is a lot going on today. I'll add in two bits:

I am a color fanatic in my file. I used to use all black in previous planners, and I think that's what drew me away from all of them. I LOVE being able to see instantly what are my work to dos, appointments, personal to dos, etc. I get made fun of all the time, but for a system that works it is totally worth it!

As far as the Lamy Safari- have any of you who are having issues tried a different nib? I found the nib mine came with was a bit skippy/scratchy, but as soon as I switched to the 1.1 mm italic nib I was hooked! Admittedly a bit too big for most Filo usage, but it makes my rubbish handwriting amazing for letters and notes! Just a thought, as the Safari is really a great, inexpensive pen. Although I have noticed a small crack in the cap on mine... but I carry it everywhere!

Alison (2012-06-01 14:11:26)

Thanks for all your help, i'm using Lamy cartridges, i'll send it back and see if they have any luck with it. I'm disappointed though, it's the only fountain pen I have, not used one for years and I use it just for Journaling on a daily basis, started my new journal about a week ago, will have to go out and buy a fountain pen to keep me going in the meantime, because i'm a bit obsessive like that. Wish I could afford an expensive one :(

Alison (2012-06-01 14:19:43)

I just don't expect to buy a fountain pen and have to buy a new nib for it, maybe it doesn't suit me, i'll send it back, see what they say and maybe try a different style!!

David Popely (2012-06-01 14:50:22)

Nice idea, Neil, I'm definitely going to consider doing that!

Consiliumque (2012-06-01 15:00:09)

I love colours, and the fact that they add another layer of visibility of ones appointment is just super.

Therefore, I always have a blue, green and red pen in my filofax. Blue is for appointments, green is for contact (phonecalls or email that I have to make/write that day) and red is for to dos. It works just perfect for me - and before including red and green, everything was just a blur and I had to skim everything that I have written in my planner. Now - having 5 min for email I can just concentrate on all written in green.

Further more, if i have to hightligt things in really busy periods - I have found that using Pilot BP-S Matic Fine (which can be found in all standard colours) allows me to using a yellow highligthing pen without making the appointment blurred and the highlighting pen blue :)

Alison Reeves (2012-06-01 15:17:11)

Sorry Neil - I obviously didn't read your post properly!! I also agree with your thoughts on fountain pens in schools (I've bought several children of my acquaintance the Lamy children's fountain pen).

Alison Reeves (2012-06-01 15:24:15)

I agree with you Alison - I have at least half a dozen Safari's and they are all fine so you shouldn't have a problem. I find the black nibs smoother. Also if you buy from The Writing Desk (no affiliation just a happy customer) they test all their pens/nibs before they are sent out and you can choose which nib you want. I like an oblique broad, but for my filofaxes I tend to use a medium nib because of space. I have a VERY broad nib that I love to use to write cards.

Neil (2012-06-01 15:50:34)

@ Alison - re fountain pens for children.

What a fantastic idea. I'm sure kids find filling and using a fountain pen more exciting than a school biro. Some great posts here today - there should be more chat about pens and paper. I rarely post, but today I've posted rather a lot, lol.

Scoot (2012-06-01 16:05:22)

Thanks Alison, a very interesting link. I think the ancient orange, which is listed under the browns, more closely matches my orange/terracotta ink. If only they look the same on paper, which with my fine italic nibs means they usually look light or faded ... and so I tended to favour the stronger depth of colour in Waterman inks.

Matching the colour of inks to paper reminds me of colour matching before decorating!

I moved away from Mont Blanc inks, as most available for sale appeared to be old and often separated, not working well at all. And then there were the horror stories of peoples pens leaking, not just on aeroplanes, problems that automatically disappeared when they moved away from Mont Blanc inks.

J (2012-06-01 16:43:25)

I'll second the quality of service from The Writing Desk. I ordered a few nibs from there, and they were wonderful from ordering to shipping!

Forever New (2012-06-01 16:59:27)

J, thanks for the enabling. I just had my birthday and have some money to burn (make that INVEST). I feel that money sliding through my fingers.

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-01 17:06:15)

Fewer colours the better for me these days, although my handbag Fax gets the coloured paper I don't love that much to use for random thoughts, shopping lists, etc.

I find too many colours distracting and use sepia-tinted or lightly colour-saturated images on my DIY inserts. I didn't always feel the same way, but did always prefer pastels over the primary coloured dividers you get in some Faxes, they're my personal Filofax nightmare!

J (2012-06-01 17:28:32)

Oooops! I'm usually pretty good at not enabling, too! And I've never even ordered from JetPens, lol!

doris98 (2012-06-01 19:10:00)

@ Keji & Cheryl: Congrats on your Personal Aqua Chameleon! I've been considering a Compact myself for a while now, and am always happy to read about others getting theirs.

doris98 (2012-06-01 19:16:09)

Ooh, fountain pen forum! I have a Lamy question as well. I've read good things about J. Herbin ink, and bought 2 bottles of it to use for my Lamys. And I'm not liking the ink at all. They don't seem to write true-to-color on the Lamys and they've been skipping like crazy. I got tired of it and switched to the Lamy cartridges, and now they're fine, so I don't know if it's the ink. I've seen swatches of the inks with Lamy pens and they looked great, so I don't know if it's me or the pen or the ink! I use an EF nib by the way.

Cheryl (2012-06-01 19:30:51)

As much as I love colors, I am yearning for a rich deep saddle tan in buttery soft squeezable leather. Sigh...

Yu (2012-06-01 22:46:30)

@ Alison and Alison Reeves

I'm also on the Fountain Pen Network :) and I agree, it's nice to know there are more fountain pen-obsessed people here. ;)

Alison, have you looked at the Lamy Logo? It's in the affordable range of Lamys. I use mine in my work project (freelancing) Filofax. It is slim enough to fit in most penloops.

Regarding Moleskine notebooks. I just tried writing in one with one of my fountain pens and there is absolutely no bleed-through, minimal see-through and just a little bit of feathering. I'll try to remember to take a photo when it's not 04:45 in the morning... XD; *just realized how "late" it is*

Yu (2012-06-01 22:52:54)

Oh yeah, forgot to write that above. I usually use Noodlers ink. (when I'm too broke, I resort to the default cartridges)

kanalt (2012-06-02 07:54:24)

I am with J on this one - I use colors in my planner, mainly to differentiate between types of to-dos, appointments, notes, etc. It makes it easy to see what types of things I need to do or where I need to be without having to read all of the details - a quick glance. And now that I've been doing that for a while, I couldn't go back to one or two colors - my Filo would look so bland!

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-02 10:58:09)

"Manly stuff, please."

Ah, I'd sell my granny for a Personal 30mm in oiled navy leather... give it a brass ring mechanism, and options of a chunky brass zip, and I'd sell everyone else's granny as well!!

Cheryl (2012-06-02 12:40:34)

Oh happy Filo day! I just now opened my new Personal Aqua Chameleon and she's a beauty! But no colored tabs and no frosted page marker as described? Kind of disappointing. Think I will contact Filofax about that later. But my teeny bit of letdown over that has been overshadowed by my excitement that the mail truck just went by 2 minutes ago and in about 2 minutes I am walking to the mailbox to get my new A5 Chocolate Finchley! Oh happy day! Two Filo's in one day??!! I don't know how that happened; the A5 was due Tuesday but when 'checking in' with tracking the package an hour ago I saw it was already at my home town's post office! The mail always gets delivered on our street by 1pm and its early today. So signing off for now to take a stroll to the mail box!!!

Cheryl (2012-06-02 13:08:04)

Yep picked up my A5 Chocolate Finchley from the mailbox 5 minutes ago. She's a beauty. Nothing like 2 boxes to open in one day. Now if only I had time to fiddle around with them but alas duty calls--so it will have to wait for later. But they sure look pretty on my desk. I think the Personal Aqua Chameleon will play nice with the A5 Chocolate Finch as soon as I figure out their respective purposes. :) Have a nice weekend all.

Ray Blake (2012-06-03 01:28:06)

In place of a business card, I use a 3x5 index card. I print them in portrait mode with fine lines printed on the top

3/4 and my contact details in the bottom 1/4. I use these to make sure that as well as a personal note people get my contact details too. I use the trick of not having my mobile number in the printed details so there will always be something to write.

Keji (2012-06-03 11:53:25)

@ Cheryl - hope you're having a lovely weekend. 2 new Filofaxes in 1 day, I would have spasmed from the excitement. Please keep us informed on your set up and how you use the Filos.

Ray Blake (2012-06-04 08:36:57)

You can see what I mean [1]here.

1. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.co.uk/2012/06/my-hybrid-business-card-index-cards.html>

Philofaxy 10% Online Discount Coupon Code (2012-06-01 06:11) - Steve Morton



[1]

A big thank you to our friends at [2]City Organiser for letting us have our own promotion code....

The 10 % discount code for June & July is **philofaxy10**.

I'm told Purple Maldens are back in stock ... and Compact Maldens are now also on line (review coming up early next week on Philofaxy)

So what are you waiting for... go and [3]shop...

You might also notice a familiar logo at the bottom right of their page... thank you.

And if you haven't visited their page on [4]Facebook yet you should and 'like' them too.

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-rC3JjxU1W2I/T8ieDb8UhrI/AAAAAAAAALtI/zXIxUWU0zzY/s1600/IMG_1396.jpg

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

3. <http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/>

4. <https://www.facebook.com/cityorganiser>

Space Poet (2012-06-01 06:37:21)

Just ordered A5 Purple Malden :)

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-06-01 06:38:21)

Oh good grief, you are such a bad influence!!! STOP IT!!!

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-06-01 07:27:43)
meeeeee toooo!!! :D ;D

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-06-01 07:28:08)
Thanks City Organiser and Steve!!

Anita (2012-06-01 07:33:57)
Yes, thank you :)
Will now try to resist buying anything!

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-06-01 08:04:34)
;-)

Nanini (2012-06-01 08:13:11)
Me too, but for whole 2 months... I doubt it. :D

mstraat (2012-06-01 09:19:41)
I am waiting for a compact Holborn which had mention in Nina's sneak preview. Is there any word on this?

Sydney (2012-06-01 12:44:41)
Oh bother! (not the exact phrase I was thinking of but close enough). I have used a pocket malden as my wallet since last year and now have a yearning to see what the malden compact zip would be like...
I don't need. I just want.

J (2012-06-01 13:11:00)
I need to move to the UK...

Steve Morton (2012-06-01 13:36:11)
The discount applies to any order no matter where you live... there P &P rates I think you will find are very good.

EmmaNoey (2012-06-01 13:56:19)
Just two nights ago I ordered the A5 Malden in ochre from the US site, although I looked long and hard at the purple one on the UK site. Ah well, can't complain. It would be a lot of fun to look through City Organiser in person though. And, I finally fixed my name from "M". :)

Sydney (2012-06-01 14:00:21)
oops. How did that happen....

Alison (2012-06-01 14:02:20)
I'm resisting the Purple A5 Malden, but I don't know for how long!!

J (2012-06-01 15:14:59)
Why thank you, oh King of Enablers! Haha.
I was referring to all of these shops in general- when you do finally make it to the States you'll be shocked at how few true paper/organizer shops we have here!

Steve Morton (2012-06-01 15:59:34)
Looking back at Nina's post she noted them as arriving in Summer 2012. Looking at another source it says March... the same as the Purple Malden... which we know hasn't shown up in any great numbers yet and now we are in June.. so I suspect they have been delayed.
But I will make enquiries for you.

Steve Morton (2012-06-01 16:00:25)

I have a review of the Malden Compact Zip coming up on the blog on Monday...

Steve Morton (2012-06-01 16:08:20)

In fact checking the French site they are there:

<http://www.filofax.fr/store/organiserdetails.asp?sizeId=13 &rangeId=155 &dsId=13>

and on the German site too

<http://www.filofax.de/store/organiserdetails.asp?sizeId=13 &rangeId=155 &dsId=13>

mstraat (2012-06-01 18:20:41)

Oh. My. Gosh. I looked there as I am in the US and have had excellent service from the French site. But I couldn't find it. Was it listed for you under the compact binder link, because it isn't from here though I can find it via your link.

mstraat (2012-06-01 19:02:13)

Hm...I think not hidden, rather just now put up. I had looked two days ago and now I do find it via the link on the site. And have ordered it. I wonder how many Filofax purchases have been enabled via this post? :-)

Yu (2012-06-01 22:27:12)

tells herself sternly* You just splurged on a personal ochre malden just because you were so happy they were finally back in stock at your favorite stationery store. You will NOT buy another Malden just because it's purple and you've wanted it ever since it was announced. You don't need it. You can wait until July when you're in London and can look at it irl and decide if you really want it or not.

clicks her way to City Organizer anyway*

Must... Resist... >.<

RealityPrincess (2012-06-02 05:19:07)

Yeah! Thanks to CO for the code!

I want to order the Malden Orche and the Malden Vintage Pink. Then my Malden-Family is full.

But my wishlist is very long, but the Maldens get discontinued. :(

Jotje (2012-06-04 17:40:00)

LOL ...

So, how did your visit end?

A5 Tracyley (2012-06-01 12:53) - Steve Morton

It's here! The new limited edition personal organiser by Tracy Lannigan - one of the UK's hottest fashion accessory designers. The Tracyley is an ornamented riff on the A5 Filofax Domino with a faux leopard fur cover studded at each corner with diamante flower beads and trimmed with shocking pink ribbon and glossy black sequins. Tracy has drawn on her love of bright colours, Eastern mysticism and joie-de-vivre to produce another highly collectible organiser to add your collection but it is a very limited edition so don't delay...

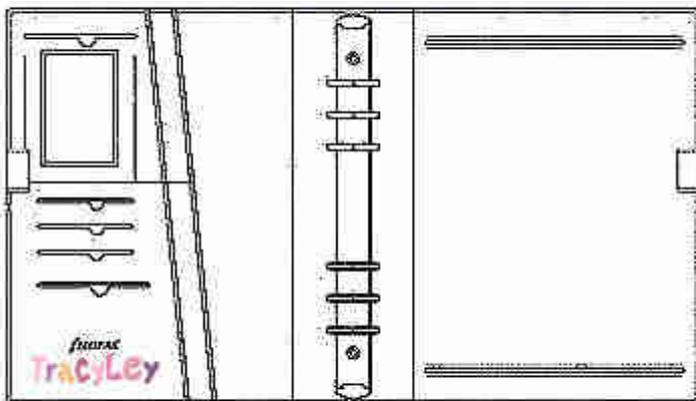
Binder features: Left: Four cut out credit card pockets, 1 multipurpose cut out pocket with two full length pockets behind. Pen loop. Right: Full length pocket and pen loop.

Contents include: Transparent flyleaf, Week on two pages 2012 diary, Ruler-page marker, 1-6 Numbered index pastel, Assorted pastel paper, A-Z Index pastel 2 letters per tab, Addresses, To do, Top Opening Envelope & White ruled notepad.

Tracy Lannigan is committed to preserving the environment and this binder is supplied by [1]City Organiser without a box.



[2]



[3]



[4]

Grab a bit of history... buy this organiser today, only available at [5]City Organiser Tracy wasn't available for interview at the time of this article being published but we will be approaching her about her future brand strategy and marketing visions.

1. <http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/acatalog/A5-Tracelay---incl.-2012-contents.html>
2. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-cwoQ7yY1XfM/T8jyLmvzpqI/AAAAAAAAALtU/Prq_5Wm6BWE/s1600/7tracelay-a5.jpg
3. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-7u4awFYo7nM/T8jyMVZVhcI/AAAAAAAAALtY/MFgrs9QXOW8/s1600/itracelay-a5.jpg>
4. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-t2yxvvn-1w8/T8jyNBXeArI/AAAAAAAAALtg/G81QphtG1EM/s1600/tracelay2-a5.jpg>
5. <http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/acatalog/A5-Tracelay---incl.-2012-contents.html>

Joy Rothke (2012-06-01 13:15:42)

Please...no. It looks like a teen girl's DIY-gone-wrong project.

terriknits (2012-06-01 13:18:21)

LOL - that's awesome!

Steve Morton (2012-06-01 13:53:48)

I think that's being a little harsh... compared to this:

<http://www.filofax.co.uk/store/organiserdetails.asp?rangeId=186 &sizeId=13 &dsId=13 &spId=1379 #1379>

It's true A5, big rings too, durable and unique... and at a fraction of the price.

Ray Blake (2012-06-01 14:43:37)

Well, I for one am pleased that satire is alive and well.

FiloJr (2012-06-01 14:43:50)

IDK dude; I kind of think the one the link is nicer, but to make it easy I'll pass on both :)

filofit (2012-06-01 16:00:00)

Wow this is just fantastic. Hats off to the designer and to City Organiser for putting it up online!! Pleased, very pleased.

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-01 17:11:38)

All it needs is some transparent platform shoes dangling off, like a charm...

Think I'll pass on that model, thanks!

EmmaNoey (2012-06-01 17:33:17)

I imagine that the designer has her core audience in mind, realizing that a strong design choice will not be for everyone. Perhaps it will introduce some of her fans to paper planners who might not have considered them before.

Steve Morton (2012-06-01 17:48:22)

I think there's a Sgt Peppers Lonely Hearts Club Band influence in there somewhere. May be the album was playing in the background in the design studio at the time... will we ever know...

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-01 19:20:47)

Leaving aside personal taste here, I would respectfully question this bit: *"Tracy Lannigan is committed to preserving the environment and this binder is supplied by City Organiser without a box."*

My reasons being:

1. as a limited edition item, it's likely that not having a box would make resale harder - and reselling things is basically an environment friendly act, since it means the person who no longer wants it doesn't just commit it to a landfill, and the person wanting a new binder gets to buy something that isn't using up more resources;
2. boxes make the best storage for a binder that's been put aside for a while, no box might mean binders get damaged and thrown away;
3. boxes made of cardboard are recyclable and also come from renewable resources, wood & rag: alternative storage like bubble-wrap, plastic etc are taken from finite amounts of petroleum-based products and are often harder to recycle.

Just my take on that issue.

Laurie (2012-06-01 21:19:39)

Ray gets it!! I completely agree, Ray.

icclewu (2012-06-02 02:14:58)

If you read it, it says "a riff of the A5 Domino". Domino's don't come in a box. Just saying

Saffy (2012-06-02 02:16:44)

ROFL, I love that CO have run with this, great sense of humour.

icclewu (2012-06-02 02:19:40)

Love it Ray. Couldn't put it better myself xx

:-)

terriknits (2012-06-02 02:27:47)

it's a joke, people!

Laurie (2012-06-02 06:19:24)

Sorry to have to point this out to people, but I want to cut short any more misunderstandings. This is Tracey's version of the Temperley Filofaxes (thus the Traceyley name). Her design is similar, but much more economical and focuses on being whimsical and fun rather than uber-designerey. And as icclewu correctly pointed out, this Filofax was created from a Domino which does not come in a box. The whole "environment" bit was just a fun way to say it doesn't come with a box. It's all meant to be tongue-in-cheek!

Personally I think the design is gorgeous and lots of fun!

Laurie (2012-06-02 06:23:06)

PS for more photos of this beautiful binder (and the designer herself!!) click here and scroll down toward the bottom of the photos:

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/05/philofaxy-london-meet-up-may-2012.html>

Jotje (2012-06-02 06:39:24)

I think we can clearly recognize the regular readers/tweeters/skypers of this blog from all the above comments. LOL!!!

icclewu (2012-06-02 08:55:44)

yes definitely!!!! haha xx

gdigesu (2012-06-02 09:06:51)

Traceley is the best!!!

fluffyferret (2012-06-02 09:15:40)

I love the Tracyley!

More attractive than the other expensive version IMO :o)

My above comment deleted due to a spelling mistake.

Sirpa-Kaarina (2012-06-02 10:12:58)

Joy,

You are so right. That THING is hideous.

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-06-02 10:26:24)

Indeed, LOL! I've been cringing quite a bit whilst reading this post!

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-02 10:28:04)

Fair enough: still think it's a shame, because joke or not there are going to be a handful of people who would kill for this, one of my former colleagues had to have EVERYTHING in leopard print!

icclewu (2012-06-02 10:34:33)

Yes this was a joke but the Tracyley is real and is for sale. It is a one off design

Xx

Ashleigh (2012-06-02 10:47:40)

Couldn't agree more!!! xx

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-02 13:44:40)

Drag queens need day-planners too! ;o)

Alice x (2012-06-02 13:46:53)

Oh dear - dare i say i could of done it better myself!

Sorry i know it is tailored to a certain age/market but dear good grief it looks....truly horrid - far too much going on for me!

All she has done is bought a Domino and stuck bits on it - maybe i should bring out a line with less....fluff!

icclewu (2012-06-02 14:41:27)

It isn't tailored to any age or market. As same on previous comments it's a joke. Yes it is a domino as stated. It is a whacky version of the temperleys nothing more. It wasn't meant to beautiful, just everything in one.

SNARLing: (2012-06-02 15:14:14)

heh heh awesome! i wish it had more of a sophisticated bedazzling decor to it, however. a nice big fat bedazzled skull and crossbones would be perfect! and well, shoot, does it come in other colours? like BLACK for instance???

great sense of humour - would LOVE to go to a ff meet-up with y'all some day. FUN. city organizer rocks. i've been REALLY out of it lately but nice to have these chuckles and cin cin to you tracey - an especially awesome job in garnering all these responses! you've moved so many people with the traceley! i'm gonna have to make me a snarly - i'm sure i'll have ZERO responses for that one heh heh

Steve Morton (2012-06-02 17:04:22)
Go for it, we would love to see the Snarly...

Steve Morton (2012-06-02 17:05:41)
Just think if the Tracyley was on Ebay, the bids would be rocketing up... but instead it could be yours for £99.... or less if you use the philofaxy10 promo code!! Heaven forbid have I just devalued the Tracyley....

Laurie (2012-06-02 20:37:57)
Ah another one has missed the point. Oh well. Long live the Tracyley! I hope the designer comes out with more of these!!

Laurie (2012-06-02 20:39:23)
Yes! Yes!! The Snarly!!

terriknits (2012-06-02 22:27:07)
skull and crossbones, now you're talking my language!!

Butanben (2012-06-03 07:11:13)
This comment has been removed by the author.

Alice x (2012-06-03 07:18:03)
A joke? Well fair enough i don't get it lol
Its hideous and the Temperley is at least pretty!

katka (2012-06-03 13:07:27)
I just can't stop laughing after reading those comments :o) Tracy, great idea...well done. I love this kind of humor.

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-03 14:22:14)
"a nice big fat bedazzled skull and crossbones would be perfect!"
I.. erm... would actually be tempted to buy something like that... {blushes }
Any chance of an Alexander McQueen/Damian Hirst knock-off there?! :o)

Ray Blake (2012-06-03 14:42:08)
What amuses me most is that despite the vituperative comments above, this STILL got a much more positive reception on Philofaxy than the Temperleys. Plus, it actually works well as a Filofax, unlike the Temperleys.

SNARLing: (2012-06-03 19:14:37)
ME TOO!!!
heh heh stay tuned for the SNARLEY - - -
COMPLETELY inspired by the TRACELEY
temper-who??? heh heh

UNchecked other (2012-06-04 13:14:03)
Couldn't agree with you more.
Also, the Tracyley may be a tongue-in-cheek take on the Temperley, but I actually have more respect for its designer, knowing that she created this while being wicked busy as a supermom/wife AND finishing up her dissertation.
Create away, Tracy!

Web Finds - 2 June 2012 (2012-06-02 00:00) - Steve Morton

I'm catching up a little this week, so a longer than normal batch of posts, so grab some light refreshment of your choice and sit and enjoy for an hour or two or three so.... And don't skip any posts!!

- [1]Jayne Mansfield lives in my Filofax - The Crazy Suburban Mom
- [2]Filofax Makeover Part 2! - Paperchase, Filofax and Custom! - The Wonderful Life of Alice
- [3]Filofax Blog of the Week: Well Planned Life - My Life All in One Place
- [4]Filofax unveils the new Pennybridge iPad Case - Filofax UK
- [5]Small change in my filofax, big difference - Paper Pens Ink
- [6]Filofax hack: Pen loop inside the rings! - The Life of The Perpetual Student
- [7]Filofax love affair - Pen to Paper
- [8]Philofaxy Meet Up - Decision Inspired
- [9]Malden review - Paper Lovestory
- [10]Filofax is looking for the next Cath Kidston or Paul Smith - Filofax UK
- [11]Enlightenment - Filomaniac
- [12]my filofax week #6 - Paper Lovestory
- [13]File O' Fax - The Crazy Suburban Mom
- [14]Hauls - LJ's Blog of Stuff
- [15]"Winning isn't everything, but the will to win is everything" - Decision Inspired
- [16]My (compact) pocket raspberry Chameleon Filofax setup (plus gorgeous handbag!) - All Things Stationery
- [17]The Philofaxy Meet up May 26th 2012 Part 1 - Rapunzel's World
- [18]The Philofaxy Meet up May 26th 2012 Part 2 - Rapunzel's World
- [19]Filofax Ascot A5 (Part 2- Setup) - Vanjilla

Pause here and top up your refreshments...

- [20]Ring-Mech Penloop - Rabbit's Whispers
- [21]Stamps & Stickers for my filofax - Filofax Love
- [22]I just can't take all this Filofax excitement!!! - All Things Stationery
- [23]*I'm sticking with you...* - Filomaniac
- [24]New filofax arrived! - Filofax Love
- [25]Filofax Apex Hack - Rabbit's Whispers
- [26]"Flatability" - Filofax Filosphy

- [27]domino deep pink review - Paper Lovestory
- [28]Filofax/Organiser accessories! - The Wonderful Life of Alice
- [29]Print your own Travel Journal pages - My Life All in One Place
- [30]New Filofax Fresh From Sweden! - The Purple Pen of Doom
- [31]filofax - The Awesome Geek
- [32]Customising my Filofax - Knitty Mummy
- [33]Filofax Friday - The A -Z Index - Cupcakes and Cadenzas
- [34]Meet Up in Hamburg - Filomaniac
- [35]Using a Filofax as a recipe book - Planet Millie
- [36]Filofax Blog of the Week: Joshua Buffum LaPorte - My Life All in One Place
- [37]Honey I'm Home!!! - We really didn't need another Filofax blog
- [38]My Love For The Family - Filofit
- [39]Down Memory Lane - Her Grace
- [40]Blogger Comments Problems - Steve Morton ■ Not Filofax but if you are having problems commenting on Philofaxy...
- Your blog post could appear here next week if we missed you this time around. Email us the details and we will include it if we can.

Enjoy

Don't forget we are on Twitter [41]@philofaxy and there is also our Filofax News Feed [42]@philofaxynews And this afternoon (Saturday) we have a [43]Philofaxy Roundtable.

1. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/05/jayne-mansfield-lives-in-my-filofax.html>
2. <http://the-wonderful-life-of-alice.blogspot.fr/2012/05/filofax-makeover-part-2-paperchase.html>
3. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/05/filofax-blog-of-week-well-planned-life.html>
4. <http://www.filofax.co.uk/aboutus/news.asp?newsId=148>
5. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.fr/2012/05/small-change-in-my-filofax-big.html>
6. <http://thelifeoftheperpetualstudent.blogspot.fr/2012/05/filofax-hack-pen-loop-inside-rings.html>
7. <http://justjennypentopaper.blogspot.fr/2012/05/filofax-love-affair.html>
8. <http://decisioninspired.com/?p=230>
9. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/05/malden-review.html>
10. <http://www.filofax.co.uk/aboutus/news.asp?newsId=149>
11. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/05/erleuchtung.html>
12. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/05/my-filofax-week-6.html>
13. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/05/file-o-fax.html>
14. <http://ljsblogofstuff.blogspot.fr/2012/05/hauls-part-2.html>
15. <http://decisioninspired.com/?p=283>
16. <http://www.allthingsstationery.blogspot.co.uk/2012/05/my-compact-pocket-raspberry-chameleon.html>
17. <http://icclewu.blogspot.fr/2012/05/philofaxy-meet-up-may-26th-2012-part-1.html>
18. <http://icclewu.blogspot.fr/2012/05/philofaxy-meet-up-part-2.html>
19. <http://vanjilla.blogspot.fr/2012/05/filofax-ascot-a5-part-2-setup.html>
20. <http://rabbits-whispers.blogspot.fr/2012/05/ring-mech-penloop.html>
21. <http://filofaxlove.wordpress.com/2012/05/10/stamps-stickers-for-my-filofax/>
22. <http://allthingsstationery.blogspot.fr/2012/05/i-just-cant-take-all-this-filofax.html>
23. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/05/im-sticking-with-you.html>

24. <http://filofaxlove.wordpress.com/2012/05/08/new-filofax-arrived/>
25. <http://rabbits-whispers.blogspot.fr/2012/05/filofax-apex-hack.html>
26. <http://filofaxfilosophy.blogspot.fr/2012/05/flatability.html>
27. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/05/domino-deep-pink-review.html>
28. <http://the-wonderful-life-of-alice.blogspot.fr/2012/05/filofaxorganiser-accessories.html>
29. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/05/print-your-own-travel-journal-pages.html>
30. <http://jarfm.com/?p=213>
31. <http://awesomegeek.wordpress.com/2012/05/29/filofax/>
32. <http://knittymummy.blogspot.fr/2012/05/customising-my-filofax.html>
33. <http://www.cupcakesandcadenzas.com/2012/05/filofax-friday-a-z-index.html>
34. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/05/meet-up-in-hamburg.html>
35. <http://mslogica.com/2012/05/using-a-filofax-as-a-recipe-book/>
36. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/06/filofax-blog-of-week-joshua-buffum.html>
37. <http://notanotherfilofaxblog.blogspot.fr/2012/05/honey-im-home.html>
38. <http://filofit.wordpress.com/2012/05/31/my-love-for-the-family/>
39. <http://hergracedevata.blogspot.fr/2012/05/down-memory-lane.html>
40. <http://steve-morton.com/2012/05/31/blogger-comments-problems/>
41. <http://twitter.com/philofaxy/>
42. <http://twitter.com/philofaxynews/>
43. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/05/date-for-your-filofax-saturday-2nd-june.html>

Josh (2012-06-02 00:04:49)

Wow. This will take all day!

LJ (2012-06-02 00:16:21)

That is one big list!!! Thank you :o)

Lime Tree (2012-06-02 02:07:06)

oh my! look at that list! Juicy saturday!

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-02 10:40:02)

Wow, that [1]Filofax design competition is a pretty big deal, I'm amazed this is the first I've heard of it.

Good luck to anyone who enters: I'd make a plea for no more flowers, pixies, or whimsical stuff, but I expect that places me in the grouchy minority!

And going by their design template, that's actually what they're courting... oh well, anyway hope this provides someone with their big break!

1. <http://www.filofax.co.uk/aboutus/news.asp?newsId=149>

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-06-02 14:45:32)

Thank goodness we have a four-day weekend, what with the Jubilee and all that - it will take me that long to get through the list!!

Thank you for featuring me btw!

:-)

kanalt (2012-06-02 21:20:54)

Wow! This list gets longer every week. I love it!

Nanini (2012-06-03 07:29:11)

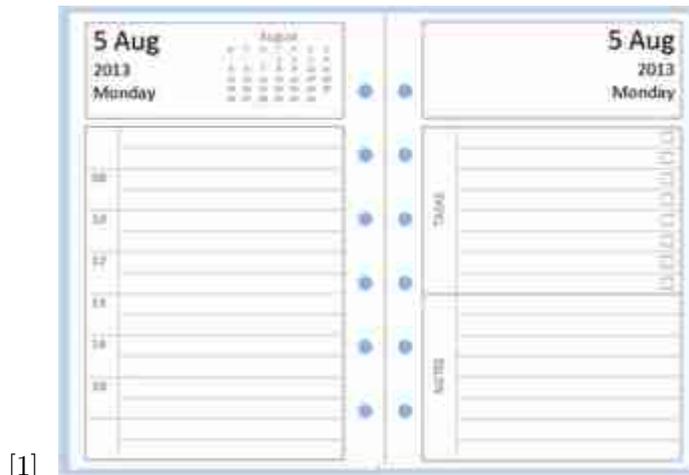
Uaa, It took me about 3 hours without interruption to read all of it, with small exceptions for articles I have read already throughout the week :) Thanks!

UNchecked other (2012-06-04 13:04:18)

The web finds just keep getting bigger and better! Forget caffeine—Philofaxy is the crack that keeps me awake!

Free Filofax Pocket day-on-two-pages diary to download (2012-06-03 00:00) - Steve Morton

This one is based on a Philofaxy reader request which I passed on to Ray to produce a Pocket version of this popular layout.



[1]

[2]

You can download this layout as a prepared set or you can download the source files to adapt the design for yourself.

Pre-prepared sets

You can download the 2012 set as a [3]Word file or as a [4]PDF file.

You can download the 2013 set as a [5]Word file or as a [6]PDF file.

Print this double-sided. If you have a duplex printer, set it to flip on the short edge. If you don't then you'll have to print odd-numbered pages and then refeed to print the even-numbered pages on the reverse. You might have to experiment to find out how to re-feed the paper.

On one side of each sheet you'll find crop marks. Use a craft knife and a steel ruler to release the Pocket pages and punch them. The templates are set up with mirrored gutters to accommodate the holes.

If using the PDF be sure to set it to print at full size as explained [7]here.

Source files

You can also roll your own using our source files. You'll need [8]this Word file and [9]this Excel file.

If you want to know how to go about using the source files, [10]this post will help you.

1. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-u7oNoB3hggo/T7-Kq56bHqI/AAAAAAAAAiw/7f_RL-vN3dg/s1600/new99.png
2. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-u7oNoB3hggo/T7-Kq56bHqI/AAAAAAAAAiw/7f_RL-vN3dg/s1600/new99.png
3. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Pocket_Day_Per-View/2012%20merged%20Pocket%20DPV%20on%20A4.docx
4. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Pocket_Day_Per-View/2012%20merged%20Pocket%20DPV%20on%20A4.pdf
5. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Pocket_Day_Per-View/2013%20merged%20Pocket%20DPV%20on%20A4.docx
6. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Pocket_Day_Per-View/2013%20merged%20Pocket%20DPV%20on%20A4.pdf
7. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.co.uk/2012/03/help-pdf-files-print-slightly-smaller.html>
8. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Pocket_Day_Per-View/Pocket%20DPV%20on%20A4%20base.docx
9. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Pocket_Day_Per-View/DatesSourceFiloDPVPersOnA4.xlsx
10. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2012/02/download-source-files-for-new-personal.html>

Filofax Malden Compact Zipped Organiser (2012-06-04 00:00) - Steve Morton

When I heard that there was going to be a Compact Malden released this year I was quite interested... no make that excited! Initially details of this new model were quite hard to come by. There had been no mention of this particular model to the UK trade, but a sample appeared at a German Trade show and one of our 'fans' sent me some details about it.

At that point I thought may be it will only for sale in France and Germany, but at the time of writing it is still not appeared on either site. The next I heard was that the Compact Maldens in Pocket and Personal size had been spotted in store at City Organiser... winner!

So it will be no surprise that I bought a personal size one... no self control. So before I set it up to my own liking I thought I would write a quick review of this organiser so you can see it for your self and see if you like it or not.

Here it is in Ochre, it is also available in purple... sorry not my colour really. I quite like the colour I have also picked up a used Personal Malden in the same colour!

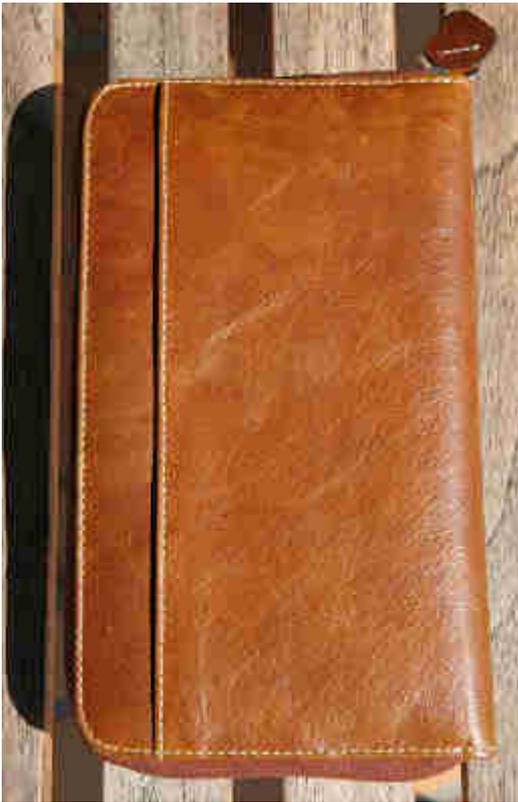
The leather is the gorgeous soft buttery leather we have become used to with the Malden, and it has that smell that is just so pleasant... well compared to any of the plastic organisers!

So the front is plain with detail stitching just at the outer edge. The name 'Filofax' is embossed on the edge on the front. The zipper has a nice leather tab.



[1]

On the back there is a vertical pocket which you could use for receipts or notes. The pocket is lined with a textile material.



[2]

Opening up the Malden, and removing the contents, it lays flat with the minimum of training. I'm sure it will get better as the leather wears in a bit. It is equipped with 15mm rings, this compares to 23mm for a normal Personal Malden. My Slimline Personal Finsbury has only 11mm rings, although some Slimlines do have 13mm. So page capacity will be limited slightly.

In the back cover there is cut out pocket and a full elasticated pen loop, which is inside the organiser when zipped up. One word of caution about the pen loop, although it is elasticated, don't use too big a pen because unlike a clasp closure organiser the pen has to sit quite close to the index tabs. I've found my slim Frixion pen works best inside this organiser.

On the left hand cover you have a major set of pockets which are best explained on their own.



[3]

So to start with on the left hand side there are a total of 14 card slots... yes that's fourteen! Six on view in two banks of three.



[4]

Then on the reverse side there are another four, and another four in the back most section. There is also a full length pocket in the back section and because this whole section is gusseted in leather you can keep documents between the credit card holders and the zip pocket too. In the middle there is the zipped pocket for coins or documents



[5]



[6]

The above additional photograph was taken after setting it up. Cards in the front holders, UK bank notes in the divider behind, then coins in the pocket, and passport and paper driving license in the back section, it does close ok, but as pointed out in the comments you have to distribute the coins evenly. The organiser came with a fairly typical set of inserts:

- Transparent flyleaf
- 6 month week on two pages diary in multi language for 2012.
- 12 month one of the same format for 2013
- A-Z two letter per tab index
- To Do sheets
- Address sheets
- Coloured lined note paper.

There are no section dividers or Today page markers, this seems to be a standard fill for the compact size Filofax. I will be transferring my Week on One page diary from my current Personal Malden in to this organiser when I set it up. I should also be able to add my address pages as well from the same organiser. I'm not sure yet about adding my wallet contents although I've tried the contents for size, it all fits in, but it becomes quite heavy with coins in it, my [7]Filofax Malden wallet does fit in my pocket quite neatly, if I'm travelling without my shoulder bag.

Now if you would like to buy a compact zipped Malden they come in Personal size in [8]Purple and [9]Ochre and Pocket size. The Pocket size is also in 15mm rings and is also available in [10]Purple and [11]Ochre. They are available at [12]City Organiser and possibly other Filofax stores.

After finishing my photos of the compact Malden I thought I would compare it to other personal size organisers in my collection. Which might prompt the question 'what size is that'?

So in this picture from left to right. Cuban Zip (30 mm rings), Malden Compact Zip (15mm rings), Malden Personal (23mm rings), Finsbury Slimline (11mm rings) As you can see the Compact Zip is bigger than a clasp Malden, which in turn is bigger than the Slimline.



[13]

Looking at them in profile in the photo below they are stacked from thin to thick (Slimline, Compact, Personal, Personal Zip)



[14]

Finally, here is my updated Malden family.



[15]

1. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/--WaWY5Ar8aU/T8S1V6iSJaI/AAAAAAAAALr4/ww2S08Rq9Ww/s1600/IMG_1433.jpg
2. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-Wf96fjE1X6c/T8S1hh2I_jI/AAAAAAAAALsA/CGYNghSxCPM/s1600/IMG_1434.jpg
3. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-c_uyZpVQFEo/T8S1smfhWKI/AAAAAAAAALsI/SWCyOHafkia/s1600/IMG_1435.JPG
4. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-HFC3EK0uJ1Y/T8S18H4jqcI/AAAAAAAAALsQ/RGL9nkjSgoI/s1600/IMG_1436.JPG
5. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-q2IqVZd2DgA/T8S2Fvj9HvI/AAAAAAAAALsY/nCU7cRHZOW4/s1600/IMG_1437.JPG
6. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-5LC_WTNZWQs/T8z65cB7gVI/AAAAAAAAALvs/oRdOZIjWLIi/s1600/IMG_1441.JPG
7. <http://bagsey.blogspot.fr/2012/01/filofax-that-isnt-organiser.html>
8. http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/cgi-bin/sh000040.pl?REFPAGE=http%3a%2f%2fwww%2ecityorganiser%2eco%2euk%2fcgi%2dbin%2fss000040%2ep1%3fTB%3da%26GB%3d%26SS%3dmalden%26PR%3d%2d1%26PG%3d%26REFPAGE%3dhttp%253a%252f%252fwww%252ecityorganiser%252eco%252euk%252facatalog%252fOnline_Catalogue_Filofax_A5_Organisers___

Up_to_40__Off_rrp_10%252ehtml%26PN%3d1&WD=malden&PN=Compact%2dMalden%2dZip%2dPurple%2dby%2dFilofax%2d%2d%2dincl%2e%2d2012%2d%2d%2d2013%2dcontents%2ehtml%23a0353#a0353

9. http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/cgi-bin/sh000040.pl?REFPAGE=http%3a%2f%2fwww%2ecityorganiser%2eco%2euk%2fcgi%2dbin%2fss000040%2ep1%3fTB%3dA%26GB%3d%26SS%3dmalden%26PR%3d%2d1%26PG%3d%26REFPAGE%3dhttp%253a%252f%252fwww%252ecityorganiser%252eco%252euk%252facatalog%252fOnline_Catalogue_Filofax_A5_Organisers___Up_to_40__Off_rrp_10%252ehtml%26PN%3d1&WD=malden&PN=Compact%2dMalden%2dZip%2d0chre%2dby%2dFilofax%2d%2d%2dincl%2e%2d2012%2d%2d%2d2013%2dcontents%2ehtml%23a0352#a0352

10. http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/cgi-bin/sh000040.pl?REFPAGE=http%3a%2f%2fwww%2ecityorganiser%2eco%2euk%2fcgi%2dbin%2fss000040%2ep1%3fREFPAGE%3dhttp%253a%252f%252fwww%2ecityorganiser%2eco%2euk%252Facatalog%252FOnline_Catalogue_Filofax_A5_Organisers___Up_to_40__Off_rrp_10%2ehtml%26page%3dsearch%26SS%3dmalden%26PR%3d%2d1%26TB%3dA%26ACTION%2ex%3d0%26ACTION%2ey%3d0&WD=malden&PN=Pocket%2dMalden%2dZip%2dPurple%2dby%2dFilofax%2d%2d%2dincl%2e%2d2012%2d%2d%2d2013%2dcontents%2ehtml%23a0467#a0467

11. http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/cgi-bin/sh000040.pl?REFPAGE=http%3a%2f%2fwww%2ecityorganiser%2eco%2euk%2fcgi%2dbin%2fss000040%2ep1%3fREFPAGE%3dhttp%253a%252f%252fwww%2ecityorganiser%2eco%2euk%252Facatalog%252FOnline_Catalogue_Filofax_A5_Organisers___Up_to_40__Off_rrp_10%2ehtml%26page%3dsearch%26SS%3dmalden%26PR%3d%2d1%26TB%3dA%26ACTION%2ex%3d0%26ACTION%2ey%3d0&WD=malden&PN=Pocket%2dMalden%2dZip%2d0chre%2dby%2dFilofax%2d%2d%2dincl%2e%2d2012%2d%2d%2d2013%2dcontents%2ehtml%23a0432#a0432

12. <http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/>

13. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-y8Jv8XurnA/T8S82VeVkdI/AAAAAAAAALsk/_1mdfhwXOLw/s1600/IMG_1431.JPG

14. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-r9r1JXqvItI/T8S8-KE-GqI/AAAAAAAAALss/xF5X6d1UbAI/s1600/IMG_1432.JPG

15. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-p2sBVMbJSDM/T8v0GTdCwoI/AAAAAAAAALvI/CHULRtylboU/s1600/IMG_1438.JPG

Laurie (2012-06-04 00:50:23)

Fantastic review Steve!! Thanks for showing so much detail in the photos. PS I love your Malden family portrait!

EmmaNoey (2012-06-04 01:24:05)

The zip makes this seem a natural for travel.

JasJan (2012-06-04 03:06:34)

Mine arrived on Saturday from City Organiser, amazing service as usual. I love it! I usually carry a big purse anyway not much smaller than the compact. I use an A5 which stays at home and have been struggling with portability and this is the perfect solution for me. I just keep a wpp note paper and important numbers. I can even put a notepad on the internal back pocket as per a regular Malden. Jen

katka (2012-06-04 03:14:48)

Thank you for review Steve. It's great option for wallet. I just don't like the elasticated loops. I know you can fit most of the pens in those, but it looks cheap. I can't help myself :o(I know it's not just Malden problem. Hope that Filofax will come with better solution in future.

industrious housewife (2012-06-04 03:46:03)

It looks great. I've been using the Pennybridge as my purse/out and about filo, and might upgrade if they bring out a colour I like.

Angel Jem (2012-06-04 03:51:19)

I like the look of this.... but it needs to be red!

Alison Reeves (2012-06-04 05:25:15)

This is an interesting addition so thank you for this review Steve. I like to use a purse for my cash and cards) similar to this and would be interested if UK bank notes sit in the front pocket. It looks very like my purse, but with the addition of some rings for notes etc. I have to say my purse is a little prettier than this (being pink!) but a Malden one is very tempting as the quality is there.

Steve Morton (2012-06-04 05:35:49)

If I get a chance today I will put some bank notes in the pockets and add them to the post.

doris98 (2012-06-04 05:49:46)

I've been waiting for this to be available for a while. I'm using a Slimline as a purse now, and this looks like a really nice alternate to that. The ochre will match my personal Ochre!

I would love to see how you use it with your cards and inserts in it. (: Thanks for the review!

Frederique (2012-06-04 06:06:07)

Wow, surprising, it is the exact same layout as the Pennybridge !

I am currently the Pennybridge quite successfully, but indeed, beware of the pen loop : I have a Fischer Space Pen, and once slotted in the pen loop, it is sometimes hard to get the zip "over" the pen loop to open and close the organizer.

Also, I don't use any dividers as the pen, once in the pen loop, is completely in the way and is crushing them. So I simply gave up and put the space pen "above" the pages, "floating". I just have remember there is a loose pen each time I open it, but that's not hard to remember :)

Moreover, if you have lots of coins, you might want to ensure they are all "horizontally" spread in the coins compartment, before closing the organizer: otherwise, you might have an odd buldge.

But I found that were two minors caveats, I really like the Pennybridge, and now, should I want to venture on the side of leather organizer, I think this one might work pretty well and look much better than the Pennybridge. A very nice upgrade, I foresee :)

angela (2012-06-04 06:23:05)

This makes me really want one, though I think I'd like to see the purple colour first; as that's the colour I'm missing from my Filofax collection really. Might have to head down to the CO store later this month...!

I've never really liked zipped Filofaxes but for some reason, this one seems quite nice? Though, I may wait til the next lot of Temperley Filofaxes as I do still miss my Affair and look forward to seeing the new collection later this year.

Savannah (2012-06-04 06:51:13)

Will this be sold in the United States? The shipping from England is astronomical. Thanks.

Anita (2012-06-04 07:12:23)

Thanks for a great review, Steve.

I agree with angela that I'm not normally a fan of zipped filofaxes, but this looks lovely. I'm guessing the fact it's a Malden means I'm biased in its favour anyway :)

Cazzle (2012-06-04 08:54:59)

I'm so tempted to buy this in pocket... but then it would be my third order from CO within a week... wouldn't that be just a bit crazy?!

LJ (2012-06-04 12:42:22)

Wow, wow, wow!!! I'm using the Pennybridge as my wallet at the moment, but am now ridiculously tempted...

Steve Morton (2012-06-04 14:18:56)

Another picture and some notes added, it takes UK £20 and £10 without any problems Euronotes are smaller!

Steph (2012-06-04 14:31:13)

I agree with Savannah I hope they bring it to the US website. The compact is my favorite size, but I just got my A5 malden and I am already in love.....not too sure about the zip though. Does it have the same 'floppyness' as the snap maldens Steve?

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-04 14:32:23)

Have you tried dividers with the tabs at the top - or even bottom? Seems a shame to not be able to use the loop at all.

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-06-04 14:56:42)

I love that color, if I had to do my A5 purchase over I'd get that color

DanishGTD (2012-06-04 17:19:30)

Realli nice. I like the old-school-look of the Malden-line. Seems they're really quite popular!!!

filofit (2012-06-04 17:28:40)

Great post Steve. Am not a Malden fan (as yet!) but this post has made me look at it in a whole new perspective since I do use my personal finchley for my credit cards and notes.

Steve Morton (2012-06-04 19:02:30)

Not quite the same because of its construction, but it is very soft and fairly supple and does lay flat. Far better than my Cuban zip which I have to retrain every time I use it!

I'm finding it a great partner to my A5 Malden...

David Popely (2012-06-05 08:17:21)

Hi Steve....I'm not really a fan of compacts, but I think this is a 8really* well-designed binder. Personally I think I'd stick with my Personal ochre Malden, purely because it's a bit larger for notes etc, but if I *did* want a compact this would be it. Amazing number of card slots, probably still not enough, but it's hard to see how this could be beaten. Like most people I have an enormous number of cards to carry round, and I use a series of 3-up credit card holders in the back of the main body of the organiser to do this, with only my four most-used cards inside the front cover of the Personal Malden, but it works fine for me.

Great review, great photos....thank you

David Popely (2012-06-05 08:24:04)

Just an update and some good word-of-mouth for The Pen Shop in Cardiff.....

We went to Cardiff on Saturday with a list of converters and nibs needed (I decided not to take advantage of Mrs P's offer of the Cross fountain pen for now, as I have so many already), and Debbie at The Pen Shop was *excellent*. So was Adam, to whom I spoke on Friday but who was on his day off by Saturday. They are knowledgeable, helpful, willing to chat pens and stationery ad infinitum, and they also sell Paperblanks notebooks and a small range of FF products (hurrah! that puts this post on-topic!). I came away with two Parker and one Waterman converters, and my favourite Waterman pre-2000 fountain pen is now on its way to Scotland (yes really) to have the nib changed and made less 'wet'. Results all round. The only problem was I forgot to get blotting paper....ah well, I guess I'll just have to go back :)

The Pen Shop is in the St Davids Centre in the centre of Cardiff, and is well worth a visit if you're west of the Severn Bridge.....stationery/writing implement meet-up in Cardiff, anyone? :)

Unknown (2012-06-05 16:33:29)

@David Popely - would I be correct in thinking your pen is off to see Eric Wilson in Edinburgh? He's done some nice work on a couple of my pens... I can also recommend a chap called John Sorowka in Oxford who is a superb nib technician and has come close to working miracles as far as I'm concerned.

David Popely (2012-06-05 16:46:31)

I don't know the name of the technician - h does work for branches of the Pen Shop around the country (i know this because Debbie in Cardiff told me so) - what a dream job!

Steve Morton (2012-06-05 17:16:17)

Something I realised this evening. Because the compact zip doesn't have a clasp, you can use this organiser the other way around, so the external pocket could be on the front and the pen loop on the front instead of the back.

The Cuban Zip is configured in this way with it's external pocket on the front.

So if you prefer the configuration the other way around it is as simple as opening the rings changing the pages around and putting them back in again... I will try it for a day or two and see which way works better for me.

Patricia (2012-06-05 18:10:18)

Aaaaah! Just bought one! My tenth Filofax. think this could be "the one"!

kanalt (2012-06-06 05:53:21)

Great review, Steve! I'm not one for zipped binders, but if I were in the market, this would be a big contender. Do you know if there are plans for a compact non-zipped Malden? That would make me very happy.

Rori (2012-06-07 09:12:17)

This is like PERFECT! They're not going to be sending to the US? Is it just too classy for them or what? Not enough lace and not ugly enough?? STUPID FILOFAX. They almost has me back...

Millie (2012-06-10 03:57:55)

Since I read this post last night I've been pondering it, and I think I'm going to buy one and sell my personal Malden. I like the sleek design of the compact. Off to order one now!

Free For All Tuesday No. 70 (2012-06-05 00:00) - Steve Morton

We are once again ready and prepared to take and answer any of your Filofax related questions. So fire away.

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-05 00:58:50)

Question: does anyone know of a product that will seal inkjet printing onto paper, so it's not so darned prone to blur or run if it gets wet?

I believe there are sprays you can buy to seal artworks done in pastels, but I don't know if they would work.

And while I'm on that topic, I found a web page that will let you see all your computer's fonts on one page, and you can select the words/characters shown as well - handy if you're making DIY dividers or something and need a quick preview: [1]Local Font List.

1. <http://www.fileformat.info/info/unicode/font/fontlist.htm?text=%E2%98%82--+Enter+a+character+or+sentence+and+see+what+your+computer+fonts+look+like>

Butanben (2012-06-05 02:35:33)

Hi Folks,

I just wanted to let you know that I have spent a most pleasurable Bank Holiday weekend setting up a day to day teacher's planner,with of course my new Dodo Pad as my day to day reference point for duties, homework set, meetings, school events and my calendar appts, plus a week to view page of lessons...just put one in for now, as the template can be jiggled around. Have made home made mind maps, timetable blank, extra- curricular registers etc. Can only go so far, as I don't know where I'll be working. But... all sorted for when that job of my dreams is offered to me. I set it all up in my A4 Strata, which was in a bargain rummage bucket for only £7 last Christmas in TK Maxx. A day off for Philofaxing does no harm and was just so lovely.... she says by way of excuse.... the real thing is..... I couldn't WAIT to think of a trillion ways to use my new prize. Just LOVE it... so thank you once again from the heart to all the Philofaxers who nominated and voted for little ol' me!!!

Iain (2012-06-05 02:52:55)

Hello, just had a simple question. Can anyone suggest a shop that stocks a varied range of Filofax's in the Liverpool area? Love all the reviews but feel the need to "see" one before committing.

Thanks

Iain

Babs (2012-06-05 02:54:04)

Has anyone ever set up a "moving home" flo? (Laurie?!)

It looks like we'll be moving back to Scotland at some point next year. Timescales are movable and will be dependent in OH getting a job, so I don't have a fixed timeline to work to. I also need to get the current house into some kind of saleable order and think about things like getting a new nursery for my son, etc. Its a 500 mile move so there are a lot of considerations.

Any ideas??

(PS - for the few of you who are friends with me on Facebook, please keep this on the QT for the moment as some friends and family don't yet know. Thanks!)

Babs (2012-06-05 02:55:24)

Hi Iain

WH Smiths or staples is probably your best bet. The latter has a better stock in my area, but I wouldn't like to say that would be the case nationwide!

Babs (2012-06-05 02:56:23)

Sounds like a good way to spend a bank holiday, Jane! Fingers crossed the upcoming round of teacher resignations frees up your perfect job x

Babs (2012-06-05 02:57:40)

You could laminate it? Then use a dry wipe pen if you wanted to write on it.

Jotje (2012-06-05 03:16:13)

Wow, that sounds neat, Jane! Would love to see pictures of your newly setup planner. Are you on Flickr perhaps?

Jotje (2012-06-05 03:18:44)

Babs, do you have the Flylady Book "Sink Reflections? She has a hole section with lists about moving. Also about getting your house in Selling-Order.

If you can't access the book, I could scan and email you the pages. Drop me a note with your email address on jotje69(at)gmail(dot)com

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-06-05 03:38:08)

Hello all! I'm selling my jade / teal personal Finchley if anyone's interested. Click [1]here to view it on eBay.

1. <http://cgi.ebay.co.uk/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=200771566244>

Babs (2012-06-05 03:42:31)

Thanks Jotje. That would be a great starting point. I'll email you!

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-06-05 04:23:40)

I also have a question. Some of you will have seen from my blog recently that my hubby has decided he needs a Filofax for work (YAY!) so I'm on the prowl for a black A5. I've found a new Identity for £21 (usually £37) but I'm wondering if it lays flat. Does anybody know? Thank you!

Babs (2012-06-05 04:31:54)

City organiser have an A5 Grey Finchley reduced to £39 at the moment. That might be ideal?

Laurie (2012-06-05 05:03:34)

Babs! Where in Scotland might you be? I'll be in Aberdeenshire, maybe we could have a meetup sometime!

FlyLady has an excellent Moving Tips page on her website:

<http://www.flylady.net/d/getting-started/flying-lessons/moving/>

If I have time I can do a Moving Filofax post!

In short though, start making your lists NOW of what to do. I also wrote a post about moving (where I linked

FlyLady's page):

<http://www.plannerisms.com/2010/05/moving-tips.html>

I hope my post and FlyLady's page will help you get started! :)

Kelly Marriott (2012-06-05 05:11:15)

Does any one have or has anyone seen the new yellow Finsbury? I love it for summer and want to order it if it really is the color it shows on the Filofax USA website. I want to be sure it's a more sophisticated yellow and not "daycare center" yellow. I haven't seen it in any of the stores yet.

Babs (2012-06-05 05:23:04)

Laurie! I was hoping you'd pop by! LOL! We're hoping to move to the North Glasgow area (my family are all in and around Glasgow) so I'm sure we can manage a Philofaxy Scotland get-together at some point :)

Thanks for the link to your post and I've had a quick look at the flylady website thanks to Jotje pointing me in the right direction. I have my exams on Monday but I'm then planning on taking some time to set up a moving filo. My personal aqua finsbury is in training as we speak for the purpose!

It just seems so daunting moving from one end of the country to the other with a toddler in tow and trying to organise things like house sales and job hunting at the same time! The last time I did it it was just me and a van-load of stuff!

Thanks again x

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-06-05 06:05:51)

Thanks Babs. I've shown him and he definitely wants black. Thanks anyway!

Scoot (2012-06-05 06:29:35)

Inkjets, with the correct manufacturers paper, will not blur with water but they have other problems...such as acting like blotting paper with fountain pen inks...and them being expensive.

A colour laser printer can do the job. I use a HP 4550 bought for £85 on ebay, with cartridges on ebay can easily be bought for under £15 and often £7 inc postage. It is heavy, but it is a proper printer that was built to last...unlike the modern generation of HP printers.

Scoot (2012-06-05 06:32:23)

Sounds more like a project that should be worked into an existing timetable and therefore existing organiser, as opposed to being a cause for a new fax.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-06-05 06:47:52)

Hi Iain, I'm in Liverpool too! Staples has an OK range here, but it's expensive and the only new ones that have been introduced in the last year are the cheap girly ones. WH Smith is rubbish because only the very cheap ones are on display, all the rest are empty boxes and you have to ask to see them, and it takes the shop assistants ages to find them it's almost not worth it! As you will know, the WH Smith in Liverpool is small and doesn't have a good range of anything! Paperchase in the Met Quarter has a good range that you can have a good look at, but these are quite girly ones. I think your best bet is John Lewis, which stocks a good range and tend to be cheaper than other places. You can see quite a few there, although they haven't updated their range since last year. If you want to check if they have a particular filofax in store before you go down there to check, phone the store and ask and they will look for you!

Babs (2012-06-05 06:55:24)

I think once we have a date / timeline then I would agree with you, Scoot. But at the moment there is no real timeline - only one fixed point in time which is a recce trip this September (2012). The actual move could take place anywhere between then and ideally September 2013 - but it could go beyond if the right job doesn't come up, with an ultimate drop dead date of September 2014 when our son starts school.

In the meantime there is a lot to do with regards sorting out the current house ready for sale, scoping out estate agencies at both ends, finding potential areas to move to, nurseries, schools, job prospects, removal firms, storage firms, etc. Plus planning back-up plans (what happens if the ideal job turns up in November 2012 versus November

2013), and also thinking through the logistics of actually how to move once the right job does come up.
gulp*

Neil (2012-06-05 07:08:30)

@ Babs - your diary of for your move will inevitably be intertwined with other events so, even if you have your move as a separate project in another filofax, you'll have to carry both binders. Also, much of the paperwork associated with your move will be A4 sized, and could amount to hundreds of pages.

Why not do what I do; in other words, add the reference to each document to your filofax, but accommodate the actual documents in a filing system of your choice, an A4 lever arch or box file perhaps.

We all love our filofaxes, but everybody will be communicating with you in A4.

Jotje (2012-06-05 07:39:00)

Lucy, there's a very cheap black Metropol on ebay right now. I think this is nicer than the Identity.

Or you'd have to hunt down a black Chameleon (currently 45 GBP on Filofax.uk)?

There is also a vintage A5 Finsbury in black on Ebay, that looks quite nice. The Finsbury lays flat without struggles!

Alison (2012-06-05 07:54:19)

Great, i'm watching it so fingers crossed!! :)

Alison (2012-06-05 07:59:16)

I'm in the process of collecting finchleys, I got pocket imperial purple from CO, managed to get a teal pocket off ebay which is on it's way to me, does anybody know if they will be bringing out any more finchleys or are they withdrawing them? Think it's my favourite organiser although Aston is a close second.

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-06-05 08:01:58)

Fabulous! I really hope it goes to a Philofaxy fan. I know it will be loved and stroked often, LOL!

Paul B (2012-06-05 08:51:24)

Hi all. Does anyone know if you can still get the bi-fold or tri-fold Personal paper that Filofax used to sell in the 80s and 90s? Similar to the A5 TM series sheets like Project Planner, where its Personal size, but opens out to two or three sheets wide.

I've tried several searches using a variety of terms but turned up nada. A UK supplier would be great but if not, anywhere international would do. Thanks :)

Laurie (2012-06-05 08:54:14)

Alison I know the Finchley line has officially been discontinued but sometimes you can still find some on other countries' Filofax sites as well as Ebay and such.

Steve Morton (2012-06-05 08:54:55)

Hi Paul

Sorry not seen it for sale. I tend to print on to A4 then cut it to size and then fold it accordingly. It's fairly easy to work out the exact size you need to set your margins or table to to print in to it accurately enough.

Regards

Steve

Gerard (2012-06-05 09:08:22)

Paul,

Visit www.succes.com and search for XT224 - it's their reference code for fold out activity planner sheets.

Their "Standard" size is the same as Filofax Personal.

There are also some fold-out planners in the Philofaxy templates section, for printing on A4 paper and then cropping. Just search for Activity Plan.

Hope this helps!

Paul B (2012-06-05 09:31:12)

Brilliant, thanks guys. I'll look at Steve's plan for some things I already have that I'd like to print, and I'll definitely look at Success.com, as I'd like a few wider sheets for being out and about. I love the fact 99 % of people's questions seem to get answered on this site.

Romina (2012-06-05 09:50:03)

Hello! Could someone please clarify for me if the Personal Malden has a full width wallet pocket like the Pocket size? The USA sites mentions it for both sizes but I think it is a typo. Thanks a bunch :)

Steve Morton (2012-06-05 09:51:22)

Hi

That is a typo, it's only present on the Pocket and the cute little Mini Malden!

Steve

Dawn (2012-06-05 09:55:39)

Hi everyone, I've been trying to buy an A5 Chameleon from the Filofax website but every time I get to checkout my baskets clears, I've tried with several colours but it makes no difference, just wondered if anyone knows what i'm doing wrong, i've tried Safari and Google Chrome, thanks

Forever New (2012-06-05 09:56:58)

It's a typo. What they mean is that the personal malden has a full length slip pocket inside the back cover. I have the antique rose in personal and that is what it has.

Steve Morton (2012-06-05 09:58:34)

Are you accepting 3rd party cookies on your browser? Try using Firefox may be.

Forever New (2012-06-05 09:59:20)

Try Pens and Leather. No cart problems and you'll pay less for it. :-) (I have no affiliation with Pens and Leather – I'm a very satisfied customer.)

Steve Morton (2012-06-05 10:00:47)

Except Dawn is in UK not the USA... postage import duty tax etc from the US to UK will put the price up...

David Popely (2012-06-05 11:05:16)

hi Jane....I've spent some of my day setting up fountain pens with new converters and coloured ink.....I'm well pleased with my results as well!

David Popely (2012-06-05 11:19:16)

Just an update and some good word-of-mouth for The Pen Shop in Cardiff.....

We went to Cardiff on Saturday with a list of converters and nibs needed (I decided not to take advantage of Mrs P's offer of the Cross fountain pen for now, as I have so many already), and Debbie at The Pen Shop was *excellent*. So was Adam, to whom I spoke on Friday but who was on his day off by Saturday. They are knowledgeable, helpful, willing to chat pens and stationery ad infinitum, and they also sell Paperblanks notebooks and a small range of FF products (hurrah! that puts this post on-topic!). I came away with two Parker and one Waterman converters, and my favourite Waterman pre-2000 fountain pen is now on its way to Scotland (yes really) to have the nib changed and made less 'wet'. Results all round. The only problem was I forgot to get blotting paper.....ah well, I guess I'll just have to go back :)

The Pen Shop is in the St Davids Centre in the centre of Cardiff, and is well worth a visit if you're west of the Severn Bridge.....stationery/writing implement meet-up in Cardiff, anyone? :)

Anthony Hill (2012-06-05 11:23:49)

Hello Everybody

Having watched all the excellent videos, infinitely better than television, the thought occurred to me that most were contributed by women and the dividers in their Filofaxes were profusely decorated.

My question do the men have embellishments to the dividers in their Filofaxes. In order to brighten up the plain dividers I've just started to add some modest designs to some of mine. Incidentally I have a personal size Metropol and have had no difficulty with the Flatability.

David Popely (2012-06-05 11:26:59)

I don't embellish anything!

DanishGTD (2012-06-05 11:32:47)

Just wanted to shout out to all of you: I'M BACK TOGETHER WITH MY FILOFAX (after a year or so of electronic-infused-hiatus).

Anyone know if the Hamilton was ever made in the A5-format. Love my Personal Hamilton and would love to get it an older/larger brother. The A5 Domino just doesn't cut it for me. Too little "I like the leather/smell/sense/etc/etc-factor"...

DanishGTD (2012-06-05 11:33:52)

Me neither. Just plain tabs with Dymo-written labels.

Dawn (2012-06-05 11:35:07)

I'll try those suggestions, thank you

Scot (2012-06-05 11:40:23)

You seem to have already done a lot of planning, at least in your head, so I'd look to de-stress by formally writing down as much as possible ... then connect the elements into a sort of mind map....or "road" to your objective being a successful relocation of family into a new life.

But since you obviously can't plan all aspects in too much detail, I'd at least treat each task as a mini-project in its own right and formally set it out. A school mini-project objective to place children successfully in school, with tasks being to research and make tentative contacts with schools, looking for key factors such as academic history, enrolment deadlines etc to see how that mini-project will interact with another mini-project being say the timing of finding work, or the timing of the relocation and whether to temporarily rent or buy, translating such activities into the financial terms of a cash flow forecast to examine how much financial breathing space you have to carry out the whichever plans.

Other tasks such as moving house are, broken down into smaller tasks, often quite easily organised. Going to a local packing firm and buying 100 cardboard boxes, bubble wrap, getting packing tape and a few black markers, gets you well and truly going. Then you just prioritise all your goods, the most important being those you would need within the next two weeks if you were stuck in a hotel, secondly the goods that in theory you'll need to live basically in the house for a further two weeks....like a kettle, some cups and plates, some more clothes, thirdly the rest which will likely be the majority and can be put into storage.

Try to categorise the goods, though try to use some (spare linen, bed sheets or cuddly toys) as packaging, only making a list of items as you fill each numbered box. I promise, that once you have most of your goods boxed and ready to be carried into the removal truck, most of your problems will disappear and there will be a ton weight off your mind!

I really dislike putting a dampener on things, but please try to factor in the state of the World's economies today....and give yourself some financial breathing space. Every plan I have, both workwise and private, is affected by the variety of clueless politicians we all seem to have, and it is very difficult to plan much in detail when we don't know for sure whether we really will face some sort of financial collapse or whether they will continue to try and print money. At times, all it seems I can do is remain flexible, plan for the worst and hope for the best.

David Popely (2012-06-05 12:03:20)

Can't answer your specific Hamilton question I'm afraid, but so glad to hear you're back together with your FF. Why not add a little about how you use your FF to facilitate your GTD....I'd be interested to know.

David Popely (2012-06-05 12:06:14)

That Dymo Letratag is seriously the *best* £25 I ever spent.....

Alice x (2012-06-05 12:09:44)

Thaat would be mine! It is also listed on here as i didn't think it would sell - its in perfect condition minus one small dent in the front - see the photos - i will do swaps etc for it too :)

Unknown (2012-06-05 12:28:27)

Hi everyone,

I love my current Filo (ochre A5 Malden), but as with all of my previous Filos, I find it quite hard to use it easily due to the fact that I'm left-handed. The rings seem to always get in the way when I write on the right-hand page. For all of you lefties out there - what do you do to remedy this? Any tips and tricks I should know about?

Thanks!

Esmé

David Popely (2012-06-05 12:36:01)

Hi Esme

If you get yourself a day on two pages A5 diary from the 'professional' series, the day plans are all on the left hand side :)

Alison (2012-06-05 13:59:15)

Ah what a shame :(I've been checking them out on other countries sites but i'm having problems translating. I'll keep a look out on ebay though, thanks

Frederique (2012-06-05 13:59:42)

My local (and not so well-stocked, Filo-wise) stationary shop has just put up some of the newer Filofaxes : Pennybridge (compact and personal), Metropol Compact, Apex, Flower, they don't have any leather one, though. But what I noticed, with great disappointment, is that the red Compact Pennybridge I got through filofax.no a few months ago (couldn't wait !) is neither the same color, nor the same "texture" as the Compact Pennybridge that is currently sold in France !

And I like the [1]current one much better than the [2]one I have: the red is really red, as opposed to the "dark/faded raspberry" that is mine; and the fabric on mine feels... "suede", very smooth, without texture/grain, whereas the current one is more "plasticity" : that sounds awful but it's better as one can clean it better (wipe it with a damp cloth, for instance). See the links for the difference in texture/color.

I know I shouldn't trust online pictures, but still, I'm a little bit disappointed nonetheless... How come there are two different textures/colors for the same thing ? Has any of you already encountered this ?

1. <http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/acatalog/7Pennybridge-red-pocket.jpg>

2. http://www.filofax.co.uk/images/products/organisers/large_new/pennybridge-pkt-red.jpg

Alison (2012-06-05 14:00:41)

You can guarantee if I win it will be loved and stroked often lol

Alison (2012-06-05 14:02:58)

I've had this problem, think it's because they are out of stock!!

Jarfm.com (2012-06-05 14:16:33)

I am planning a trip to London on Friday to visit a friend and also to have a sneaky trip to City Organiser! I was just thinking, I *might* have some spare time to kill - depending on how long I spend in CO obviously!!!

Are there any stationery shops apart from the "normal" collection? Would like to see some Washi tapes and other fun stuff if possible as I am not the most girly but I need something a bit more jazzy!!!

Thanks in advance! :)

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-06-05 14:51:06)

I don't embellish anything either, and I'm a GIRL! ;-)

David Popely (2012-06-05 15:01:12)

I think there's an important kernel of truth there. It's commonly ladies who seem to embellish their FFs. How about women FF users in business - what binders, setups etc do you use.....?

Valerie (2012-06-05 15:10:29)

I have the same problem...seems being left handed presents challenges all through life. If I want (need) my penmanship to be neat and "pretty" the only solution I have come up with is to remove the page from the rings, write what I need to and then return the sheet to the binder. Not exactly the handiest solution nor the most practical, but unfortunately it's really about all I have come up with..

I recently bumped up to an A5 binder and that helped somewhat too. For me, smaller binders are just too awkward. I won't go smaller than a personal size for this very reason.

Best of luck!

DEM (2012-06-05 15:36:56)

Anthony - Would love to hear about the types of designs that you are adding to yours! Care to share?

DanishGTD (2012-06-05 16:25:22)

I would love to write a post about GTD in my filofax.

J (2012-06-05 16:33:45)

To answer David- I'm a woman in business (at least the non-profit world...) and I'm still using my personal crimson malden. It is completely "me" in the sense that I haven't limited my use of photos, tabs, dividers, etc. just because I'm in a professional setting. It's my planner- so I'm not going to let my job determine how it should look :)

On the other hand, my entire binder is pretty subtle- there aren't any crazy stickers, it isn't bright pink, and I haven't "over-girlied" the dividers- just simple designs.

Not sure if that answers anything, but there's my 2 cents!

Nanini (2012-06-05 16:43:24)

Recently I found the Evolution series notebooks of Miquelrius, especially the Academic and Organization notebooks:

<http://www.miquelrius.com/BG/2/vistas/producto/academic-mr-evolution-note-book.aspx>

<http://www.miquelrius.com/BG/2/vistas/producto/organization-mr-evolution-note-book.aspx>

The notebooks have removable dividers, which holes I cut with paper guillotine, punched by 1 hole punch, because my Filo punch can't do it through the polipropylene, but at least makes the marks, where to punch. And this is it. Easy and being black the dividers are simple, but very business like. :) And I a girl too. :)

David Popely (2012-06-05 16:45:02)

How about it, Steve, Nan, Laurie?.....

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-05 16:45:02)

My work Fax is strictly plain dividers, white/cotton cream paper, and also no personal photos: I won't be looking at them after all, so why bother?

The others I've decorated slightly, including my personal Fax which has images I chose on the dividers - things like Vitruvian Man, or still-life photos, because I don't like personal/family pics in there. Too much visual noise doesn't make me happy, so I've kept the photos sepia where possible. None of my Filofaxes are pink! lol

And I don't like stickers - they make the pages lie unevenly, and don't make me happy enough to be worth it...

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-05 16:49:07)

PS I sometimes wonder if the ongoing appeal of new binders is because they don't have the visual noise going on,

and then once people have "moved in" they no longer satisfy, because they've become over-decorated. Hope that doesn't seem like a cheeky response, I've found that it applied to me when moving home, and deliberately keep a few rooms very minimalist now so as to not lose that fresh feeling.

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-05 16:54:53)

Thanks for the replies: I don't want to laminate because it bulks out the binder (as does clear covering film) and I found any type of paper does blur with my set-up, then again my printer is over 9 years old now (HP Deskjet 940c) and since I like to use parchment card etc, seems like I'm stuck with it.

Oh well, c'est la vie! ^ _ ^

I might look into those sprays, and check with the arts department at my university & Paperchase, and if I get anything useful I'll post it on another "Free for All"!

Babs (2012-06-05 16:55:49)

Many thanks Scoot. There's some good food for thought there. And thanks for your words of caution too. Fortunately we're not gamblers and tend to play safe in the property market. It's more the fact of trying to orchestrate a move with a toddler in tow that's got me scratching my head a bit!! But your right. Lists and lots of small tasks broken down make it manageable!

David Popely (2012-06-05 16:57:31)

@Shanti Interesting thought....I'm conscious of having very few binders in comparison to some, and maybe its because I'm almost 100 % focused on function rather than appearance. Once appearance reaches an acceptable level, it's only an improvement in function which will persuade me to buy again. None of my binders has ever 'worn out' so as to become non-functional, but I did drop an A5 and bend the ring mechanism, and immediately felt the need to replace it because the original was no longer functional.

I guess I'm just very left-brained.....but it's an interesting train of thought

Steve Morton (2012-06-05 16:59:39)

Yes we would love to feature the post as a Guest Post, Our email address is on the 'About' page.

Steve

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-06-05 17:03:45)

I used to do a lot of artwork with printed things - Almost any art fixative will work. Even something like mod podge although you should let the prints dry completely first or they will run. Art fixative sprays will work too, they are made for smudgy things like charcoal and pencil drawings. Just try to not to soak the print, use a few thin coats instead of one thick one.

Iain (2012-06-05 17:12:38)

Thanks for both of the replies. TPS - such a thorough answer I feel like I'll let you down if I don't follow up! So John Lewis it is. Thanks again :)

Joseph David Quinton (2012-06-05 18:46:03)

As an educator, I would love to see pictures of your setup.

Laurie (2012-06-05 20:22:09)

All of Scoot's advice is fantastic, and much of it is what I'm planning to put in my Moving Filofax post (if I ever get around to it, I'm too busy right now with the moving!).

Tabbed sections in your Filofax will help organize these mini-projects he was talking about. Also, I found a sequential list helps me a lot. When I move, some things have to happen before others, so I make lists of what has to happen and in what order. They aren't dated at all.

And Scoot is absolutely right about prioritizing your possessions. You'll find your most frequently used items must be packed last, because you use them all the time. Start making lists of what you'll need to carry with you (birth certificates and other important documents, jewelry etc.), what you'll need to put in your luggage for immediate use, what you'll need when you get into your place even if your furniture hasn't arrived yet (kitchen items etc) and

the rest of it can go in the main shipment.
And Scoot's financial advice is good for everyone, all the time!

filofit (2012-06-06 05:26:35)

I embellish my work filo with stickers (even Hello Kitty), they give me a visual treat. I am 41, hold a responsible project management position and really do not bother about who notices my stickers / colourful dividers etc. How many of us pick up or look into someone else's mobile phone? None. This is the same treatment I expect to be given to my filofax. On a completely related note I would say - do what swings your boat....

kanalt (2012-06-06 05:56:08)

Kelly, if I happen to see one during the NYC Philofaxy meet up next week, I'll let you know.

kari Soursa (2012-06-06 07:04:25)

Hello Esme.

I am left-handed too, and i use a pocket size filofax. I solve this problem by putting my DPP calendar in the middle of the organizer (i only carry 2 moths with me) Before that section i have my week on 2 pages. I minimize the lefthand problem when i use this set up:)

Butanben (2012-06-06 11:06:44)

I will have to investigate how to get onto Flickr as a member and be able to post photos. Have never done this before. Thanks for the suggestion.xx

Butanben (2012-06-06 11:25:30)

Hi Babs,

I was sent a Dodo catalogue with my pad and there is a Dodo book of the big move. It is a big container folder with tabbed sections and pouches- 12 as well as front pouches to store important letters, documents etc. I know you didn't like their diary format.... but I don't think this has a diary with it. As it is A4, with 2 rings.... ie like a standard A4 binder, with bags of pocket room at the front, you can add your own bits. It's £14.50 excl postage. Looks very good to me.... and I've ear- marked one in case I need to move to a new area. THIS TIME..... I am going to estimate my costs and double them!!!! More expensive than one often allows for. All my fingers and toes are crossed for you Babs!! Won't it be lovely for Callum too... (as my family are Scots, I am secretly thrilled at your decision!!!) xxxxx

Laurie (2012-06-06 20:15:51)

I have a Dodo Book of the Big Move and just wanted to clarify the pages are A5 size, not A4.

Joseph David Quinton (2012-06-06 22:56:01)

I love fountain pens!

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-07 04:45:38)

Hi, as a Londoner I didn't want to leave you with no replies yet but I don't know anywhere that has stuff like that - obviously Paperchase's flagship store is a must-see, and they do often have nifty things, but offhand the only independent stationery store I know is Morgan's in Kentish Town and that doesn't tend to have anything like that. Sorry to be a bit useless!

Hope you enjoy the visit anyway, and that the weather stays dry!

Jarfm.com (2012-06-07 05:39:35)

Paperchase is definitely going on my places to go list! I guess I will be hitting all the regular places - I guess they are larger than my local ones so should still find some new things to look at and tempt me!

I am currently hoping the post person is on their way with my City Organiser and Woods orders! Then I will be able to have a play before I venture to London tomorrow to find some bargains and new things! :)

Thank you for your reply! :)

Anthony Hill (2012-06-07 17:16:23)

Hi Dem

I've just started to add to the dividers, the first one that's in place is the CD Wants List I've made a collage of CD covers to achieve this I've used Photoshop Elements next a Genealogy section with members of my family with opacity reduced over which I've inserted the main title of section next a computer related section with lists of related items. That's all so far as I said I've just taken my first steps I hope to get onto more. Thanks for asking.

DEM (2012-06-07 22:08:58)

Anthony, thanks for sharing! I think that's fantastic! I've added things to my personal binder's dividers as well. It is nice to open it up and see an image that is pleasing to one's eye! I love the idea of the genealogy section. It sounds like you have added tasteful embellishments. It makes it personal to you and allows you to express your creativity. I'm contemplating adding some architectural and blueprint designs to mine. Best of luck as you continue to make it all your own!

Mid West Meet Up - 23 June 2012 - Final Call (2012-06-05 12:00) - Steve Morton

Well, after much deliberation J and Skhen would like to invite you to a Philofaxy Meet Up on Saturday, June 23, in Chicago, Illinois. It's very soon so are there any more people interested?

We're still finalizing the details but are considering meeting in Oak Park, IL—a suburb just west of the city—as there is a Filofax retailer, a Papersource shop, a book store, and a multitude of coffee and food options all close in proximity. In addition, public transportation and/or reasonable parking options are available.

That being said, we hope you can make it! Please rsvp to J and Skhen, and more details will be posted/sent out as we have them. If you know any others that might be interested in coming along please let us know. And, finally, please let us know the kid situation. I know I want to leave my monkeys at home, but your kids are welcome to come along if need be.

If you want to know more about the details of this meet up, please initially contact philofaxy[at]gmail[dot]com

J (2012-06-05 15:00:42)

Just to clarify - we will be meeting in Oak Park for sure! We will visit a Filofax retailer, and a wonderful stationery shop called Paper Source. Lunch/coffee/snacks will be determined based on when people can arrive!

Cheryl (2012-06-05 23:22:03)

I would definitely be interested in a future midwest meetup! I'm going to be in a leg cast from June 9-July 21 so can't make it this year. But, as I live in Michigan, I would be up for a meet up next time. Can't wait to hear how the day turns out.

Ro (2012-06-06 17:13:29)

Cheryl, where in MI? I am in Birmingham.

Cheryl (2012-06-09 19:24:55)

Romeo! Other than Paradise Pen at Somerset have you found any other retailers who sell Filofax? I also think there's a place on Pierce in Birmingham-Barbara's Paper Bag? Paradise Pen has a very very small selection. Some people say they stumble across them once in awhile at Marshall's or TJ Maxx but I never have!

Mary (2012-06-22 16:56:58)

I just found this today and won't be able to make it on such short notice, Darn it !, but I would love to meet-up in Oak Brook in the future, or thereabouts. I just got my very first Filofax, chilli cuban personal, yesterday! I'm very excited about it! I guess you could say I'm a Filofax Virgin! LOL

Guest Post - Some enabling with LeBonCoin.fr ? (2012-06-06 00:00) - Steve Morton

Merci beaucoup to Frédérique for this informative guest post

LeBonCoin.fr is the French equivalent of the "classified ads" section of a newspaper : people can place ads for... anything, cars, apartments, and so on. There's no payment system included in the website (unlike ebay), there are just ads, with 3 pictures max, a small description, and it's sorted geographically, by "département". Usually, you can get in touch with the seller by phone or email, and you agree together of the form of payment, and shipment, if that is the case, or you agree to meet in person, and exchange to goods, against cash.

By the way, I am not affiliated in any way with leboncoin.fr, it's just that I'm French and living in France, and this website is used by lots of people.

As any of you, I browse Ebay from time to time, and it can be fun to find models that were previously unknown to me : had you ever heard of a zipped compact Portobello ? Or a personal Ranger ? I hadn't... ! And it's strange, but I had never really thought of browsing leboncoin.fr for good Filofax deals...

But please be warned : people who use this website sometimes aren't... Internet-literate, you will find lots of typos/grammar mistakes (and it's in French, obviously), the pics are not always helpful (sometimes blurry, and/or too small...); and regarding people selling Filofaxes, you will not always find the exact name model (or any name, for that matter). If you like digging around, that can be fun and surprising. So, how do you search theses Filofax on this website ? First, load up [1]<http://www.leboncoin.fr/> in your browser. Then click any part on the map, because whichever "département" you choose, the next screen will have a drop-down menu allowing you to search an item in the whole of France.



Don't bother with a complex search : "filofax" will do the trick just fine. You can then sort the results by price (lowest to highest) and then, you might have some interesting surprises.

Here is the link with the results of this query : [3]<http://www.leboncoin.fr/annonces/offres/-alsace/occasions/?q=f ilofax &sp=1>

And so, as of today (Saturday, June 2nd, 2012), we could buy... lots of vintage/discontinued Filofaxes, and some pretty cool ones !

- a blue [4]Pocket "College" Filofax, for 4 euros (funny, my mom offered me the personal one when I was 18 and entering University, I never knew there were other formats !)



[5]

- a [6]Cross in M2 format (!!!), color "mustard", along with a pink Letts organizer, and both for... 7 euros !



[7]

- a grey [8]Personal Tuscany, 15 euros



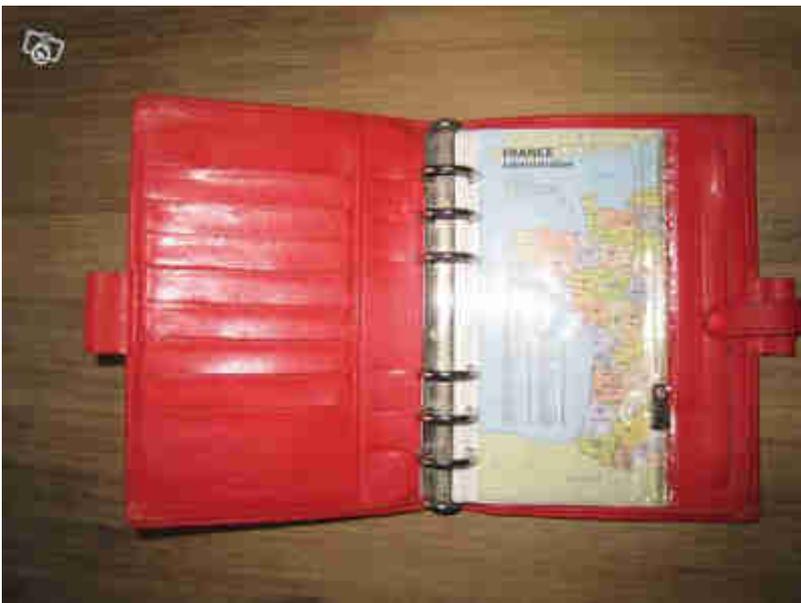
[9]

- a red [10]A4 zip Graphic (or Sketch ?), 15 euros



[11]

- a red [12]Personal Piccadilly (!), 15 euros



[13]

[14]
- a really old [15]Personal Savannah, 20 euros



[16]

- a burgundy (?) [17]Deskfax (model unknown), ***and*** its punch-hole, both for 30 euros :



[18]

- a [19]Personal Richmond, 45 euros



[20]

- a [21]Pocket Siena in cinnamon, 60 euros (retails for 140 on filofax.de but currently on sale at 98 euros...)



[22]

And so on...

I am currently trying to get the M2, and perhaps the Deskfax, as I am curious about these sizes, but perhaps some other French readers of Philofaxy might like to score some of these items for themselves ?

Oh, the enabling

Happy hunting !

Frédérique

1. <http://www.leboncoin.fr/>

2. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-PH0BsKzMLyY/T8p5XWSIIIdI/AAAAAAAAALtw/sk-B0jyeS0A/s1600/leboncoin_search.png

3. <http://www.leboncoin.fr/annonces/offres/alsace/occasions/?q=filofax&sp=1>

4. http://www.leboncoin.fr/accessoires_bagagerie/209152956.htm?ca=12_s

5.

[http:](http://)

//4.bp.blogspot.com/-Vd4MistzBwU/T8p57g00L5I/AAAAAAAAALt4/6lv99o06b2I/s1600/leboncoin_collegepocket.jpg
6. http://www.leboncoin.fr/accessoires_bagagerie/292935015.htm?ca=1_s
7. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-cQGAUXOI-E0/T8p6GFIH81I/AAAAAAAAALuA/Ko5sg3Q1WtI/s1600/leboncoin_m2open-letts.jpg
8. http://www.leboncoin.fr/autres/278243444.htm?ca=1_s
9. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-1edkwkBBVZ8/T8p6REPe5PI/AAAAAAAAALuI/fPBKNgN8Jmw/s1600/leboncoin_tuscany.jpg
10. http://www.leboncoin.fr/autres/275384191.htm?ca=1_s
11. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-N34AZAbfpxk/T8p6Y1HQhPI/AAAAAAAAALuQ/QeE4GLcS9-g/s1600/leboncoin_A4zipgraphic-sketch.jpg
12. http://www.leboncoin.fr/accessoires_bagagerie/288424236.htm?ca=1_s
13. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-VCHh_kHwsEg/T8p6psU9CoI/AAAAAAAAALuY/XaYpmVlcBwU/s1600/leboncoin_piccadilly.jpg
14. http://www.blogger.com/goog_1116286478
15. http://www.leboncoin.fr/accessoires_bagagerie/324793952.htm?ca=1_s
16. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-QQU6EvxJJ0Y/T8p6yUNgSgI/AAAAAAAAALug/c3NcHBonXRQ/s1600/leboncoin_savannah.jpg
17. <http://www.leboncoin.fr/autres/269463080.htm>
18. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-sCpPce1j4p4/T8p6-ECFvTI/AAAAAAAAALuo/-lUntrC3QFg/s1600/leboncoin_deskfax.jpg
19. http://www.leboncoin.fr/accessoires_bagagerie/316258694.htm?ca=1_s
20. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-r5UHziRcaTw/T8p7Eg_c59I/AAAAAAAAALuw/AuAdlLqV-W0/s1600/leboncoin_richmond.jpg
21. http://www.leboncoin.fr/accessoires_bagagerie/299087139.htm?ca=1_s
22. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-CBPFnFCoAyw/T8p7QYRp8KI/AAAAAAAAALu4/ervcUzsB9SI/s1600/leboncoin_siena.jpg

katka (2012-06-06 01:38:43)

You are bad bad influence :o)But thank you for great post. We have something similar in my country, but not many filofaxes there.

doris98 (2012-06-06 01:59:29)

Oh my, another resource for filofaxes, thanks!

filofit (2012-06-06 05:29:07)

Talking of enabling, there is a sale on the Filofax German site: <http://www.filofax.de/store/page.asp?id=202>

janet (2012-06-06 05:41:20)

In Sweden you have Blocket.se which is a classifieds bulletin board, and tradera.se which is our ebay. Happy hunting!

DanishGTD (2012-06-06 09:11:44)

In this day and age of so many people "living in" their smartphones it's an absolute treat thriftiness for FFs. I just bought an late 90s FF Classic A5 (black) plus four storage boxes from Time System. All for the staggering amount of 99 Danish kroner (equals around 11 pounds or 14 euros)!!!!

Jotje (2012-06-06 09:12:24)

Oh Frederique, how could you!! LOL

Ebay.fr also has an "ads" part. I found a lovely Filofax there. Wrote the seller in English first. Then, when I didn't get an answer, I Google-translated it in French. However, never received a reply. Very frustrating ...

But thanks for a few leisure hours of browsing ...!

Butanben (2012-06-06 10:50:35)

Wow!! What a great post!! Thanks Frederique. You've encouraged me to rummage around, as in the loft somewhere I have got a brown personal "vintage" Filofax. Bought with my very first pay packet from my first teaching job....oooh... way back in 1986, when shoulder pads, Dynasty and Dallas went along with the Filofax which was a had to have item back then.... you were not successful without your Filofax to hand!!! I also bought a gorgeous and very expensive fountain pen to go with it. But unfortunately that was stolen a while back. I didn't know the model name of my vintage Filofax.... just it was brown and personal sized. Now of course, I would love

to know.

LJ (2012-06-06 15:05:02)

No time to write now - I have a link to follow :o) Thank you

Ashleigh (2012-06-06 15:35:18)

Thank you for sharing this some timeless classics here, I think it would be great if all fellow philofaxy's readers added links to things they buy for their FF (inserts,stickers, extras) then we could have our own collection of where to shop! could also help new readers??

Vanjilla (2012-06-06 17:08:51)

Jotje,

and I thought English was the problem - I never received the reply as well (but didn't make myself translate it into French, my fingers were to stiff from the constant checking of my inbox!)- frustrating indeed!

PS If you manage to find the right language, will you please let me know? ;-)

Vanjilla (2012-06-06 17:10:34)

(PPS Does missing the word verification 3 times in a row mean I AM a robot????)

Paul B (2012-06-07 08:03:16)

I wish I spoke French. I'm interested in one of these! Sigh.

Thanks for the post, Frederique :)

Frederique (2012-06-07 15:48:29)

Thank you all for your kinds comments!

Sometimes, as any of you, I get pretty obsessed and I browse everything frantically for a few hours/days, and then force myself to stop, as I have to constantly remind me I don't need another filofax... And when you got these "MUST. STOP. PERUSING. EBAY." moments, you know you do that too much :)

But what can I do ? It seems I'm always finding "new" unknown/discontinued filofaxes, and I always think "oh that's too bad, can't let this one go", and luckily, I've always stopped myself in time :)

Paul B. (and possibly others ?), if you want, we could try and arrange for me to have this binder sent to you, if the seller of the item you want is willing to ship internationally. Or I could acquire it for you and then send it to you afterwards, at cost ? In which country are you ?

Feel free to send me an email to 702723 at gmail.com and I will see what's possible !

Paul B (2012-06-08 13:51:56)

I emailed one of the sellers saying I didnt speak French, but asked if they spoke English and could they mail to UK, but got no reply. Can anyone translate that into French for me ? :)

Frederique (2012-06-08 13:55:17)

[Meh, commenting on Blogger is *hard* sometimes !]

First, thank you all for your kind words!

Paul B (and possibly others?), which filo are you interested in? If there is one you want, I could acquire it for you and send it to you afterwards, at cost? [after checking the shipping costs, depending on the country you're in...]

But don't get your hopes too high up: I've contacted the seller of the M2 in "mustard" and so far, haven't heard back...)

Please feel free to send me an email at 702723 (at) gmail (dot) com and we'll see if and how we can proceed !

Clareio (2012-06-17 12:19:59)

For those in America that like the look of the M2 there is currently a pink portobello m2 on ebay for only \$9.99. the postage put me off but im sure it would be miles cheaper than \$40 if you're within the USA!



[1]

Welcome Kristen to being stood under our spotlight this week... Hello! I am pleased to participate in Philofaxy's Readers Under the Spotlight!

Ever since I was a little kid I loved pens, notebooks, planners, and anything related to office supplies. Going back to school in the fall was not fun, but shopping at Staples was SO exciting. I loved picking out my purple trapper keeper (what the "cool" kids were using back then) and folders to go inside of it- Lisa Frank's puppies, kittens, and dolphins, of course! Does anyone remember [2]Lisa Frank?

Anyways, I live with my family in Massachusetts. I love the beach, going on hikes, travelling, and pulling out my Filofax to jot things down wherever I go.

1. When did you buy your first Filofax and what was it?

My first Filofax was purchased a few years ago and I can't remember what it was. It was one with a cloth-like cover on clearance at Marshalls. The next Filofax I purchased after that was last year, and it was a purple personal Finsbury.

2. What other brands have you used or considered using?

I have used: Franklin Covey- three different binders with Jean Chatzky inserts, Moleskine planner, Staples planner, Mom agenda, Erin Condren Life Planner, Barnes and Noble planner, [3]the dot.mine day planners family _time.mine and time _mine, Arc system by Staples, Lilly Pulitzer and many others that I just can't remember. I'm a total planner addict... seriously!

3. Out of the organisers you own which is your current favourite (Style and Size)?

I love the Erin Condren planner for many reasons- the colors and amount of space, the stickers, and built-in goodies. I love the dot.mine family planner because it has lots of family related sections inside of it. But my favorite is my Filofax Malden. I love the Personal Malden. The ability to customize my Filofax in any way that I want is what keeps it at the top of my list. I always go back to it.

4. How many Filofax organisers do you own?

Personal Domino in pink, Personal Finchley in purple, Personal Chameleon in raspberry, Personal Finsbury in raspberry, Personal Malden in black, and Pocket Malden in grey. So that's six. Wow!

5. What do you use your Filofax for?

What don't I use it for? Appointments, notes, to-dos, card holder, receipt holder, sticker holder, schedules, grocery list, photos, stamps, my life!!!

6. What was the feature about Filofax you like most?

The ability to customize it the way I want.

7. If you could design your own Filofax what would it feature?

Nothing that I can think of, but I would like Filofax to offer more colors.

8. How do you carry your Filofax?

In my purse, or in my hands.

9. *Which Filofax in the current range do you like the most? Are you going to buy it?*

I LOVE the Maldens. Love. I'm waiting for the purple to be available in the US.

10. *What is the most you have ever spent on a Filofax? Which model?*

I purchased a Pocket Finchley in pink for \$120 and then returned it. I wasn't happy with the pocket size and the price was very high.

11. *Turning to Philofaxy, what do you like the most?*

Everything! I love this community of Filofax lovers. I have never met such a kind and sincere group of people, and you all started out as strangers. I really can't believe how generous everyone is

12. *And what do you not like about Philofaxy?*

Hmm.. maybe that there aren't enough Filofax posts? Is that a good answer? Because I can't get enough!

13. *What was the last music album CD you bought or downloaded?*

Adele 19 and 21- of course!

Thank you Kristen... more Filofax posts required indeed ;-)

1. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-VVoi9WGYTzI/T7v0bGSDrLI/AAAAAAAAALgY/2htxozvq8Tw/s1600/image.jpg>

2. <http://www.lisafrankstore.com/%20>

3. <http://timemine.com/shop/timemine>

Tommes (2012-06-07 09:14:44)

Hi Kristin,

nice to meet you and thank for being "under the spotlight"!

I totally agree with you about the much greater fun of buying all the new stationery. It was the same with me, from early school until university days ;-)

Still today, it's appears to more fun buying than using all the fine stationery...

Once again thank you, best regards,

Thomas

Jotje (2012-06-07 14:23:24)

Thanks, Kristin, that was very nice! I always love to read some background information on Philofaxy readers! See ya on Twitter!

Scoot (2012-06-07 18:03:46)

I'd heard of the Condren planners but their problem, like so many, is that they are pre-bound and inflexible; difficult to customise to your own needs or develop over time. However, some of the pages can be cut up and holed to use in an A5 fax. Glad to see you've come to ring binder organisers, the most flexible of all.

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-06-08 07:32:53)

Hi Kristen! I love reading about everyone's planners and planner preferences. Hope you get that purple finchley Tracy

MsPencil (2012-06-08 21:54:38)

Thanks, Kristin That was very nice. I do remember Lisa Frank. They were so colorful. Enjoy your Week.

Free For All Friday No 186. (2012-06-08 00:00) - Steve Morton

I was asked this week 'How big will Webfinds be on Saturday Steve' I replied "Not as big as last week I don't think...."

Of course I never know, these things just build and build during the week. It never stops surprising me that I keep finding new blogs to share with you, sometimes it's just the occasional post, but they all get logged and monitored on my growing blog list! And then once it is published I start the whole process again... but you know I never get bored for looking at all the posts we find! Part of the love of Philofaxy.

So do you read all of the blog posts we find or are you selective based on the title?
Of course as it is a Friday you are free to discuss anything Filofax related.
Have a great weekend.

Steph (2012-06-08 00:54:09)

I do read all of them, but I must say I am more partial to the ones with pictures. There is just something about visual aids that do wonders for me. I really enjoy Saturday mornings with Philofaxy! Thanks for your hard work and continued dedication Steve.

Cheryl (2012-06-08 02:22:18)

I mostly read them all; at times I am selective if short on time. Do enjoy them though.

What's the overall experience with online sales at Filofax website? I'm kind of new at this. I ordered a Chameleon last week at 30 % off which I thought was a great deal and less than a week later they are now half off! (And being out of work right now that 20 % sure makes a difference!). Is there a general 'rule of thumb' about these sale items or does it vary by product? Obviously we're not mind readers but maybe I jumped too quick at the 30 % off and perhaps should have known to hold out for a better deal (?). Anyone's experience?

Cheryl (2012-06-08 02:34:37)

Sorry, I do have one more question. Which current model would have replaced the Finchley, if there is one? I have 3 Finchley's and 1 Chameleon. Love my aqua Chameleon but my true loves are the Finchley's. For those who loved Finch as much as me, have you found anything in the current line that you like as much? I really like the narrow profile of Finchley as compared to the slightly wider Chameleon. Of course I've yet to step into the Malden pool (plan on doing so soon after reading all the enthusiasm about Malden!). I see you can still find red or black Finchley's on a couple online sites but wouldn't mind finding a personal teal, green or rose on ebay but no luck yet.

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-08 02:42:02)

Re Webfinds, I usually go by the titles first, but then will read the rest when i get time during the week.

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-08 02:47:47)

I'm going to make an educated *guess* based on having worked on a commercial website, and say that they probably only go to 50 % off when they find the 30 % offer didn't clear the stock as they'd hoped: when an item or colour is discontinued they *probably* won't discount twice unless they have to - discounts use up the webmaster's time, for a start.

But that's guesswork and I hope someone with more knowledge has something to contribute.

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-08 02:56:27)

Question: does anyone know anywhere selling enamelled decorative ballpoint pens & mechanical pencils, the type of thing Past Times used to do about 6 - 8 years ago?

Sea Gems have some nice ballpoints, but the barrels are too thin, I'm looking for something nice and chunky... gold/yellow metal trim would be an added plus!

I'm keeping an eye on e-Bay for vintage items but thought I'd ask on here as well, just in case. :o)

Whispering Rabbit (2012-06-08 03:09:41)

FYI There is one rose finchley on [1]ebay right now.

1. http://www.ebay.com.au/itm/LEATHER-PERSONAL-FINCHLEY-Deluxe-LEATHER-Filofax-Dusky-Pink-extras-/270990988086?pt=UK_B0I_Office_Office_Supplies_Stationery_ET&hash=item3f18525336

Laurie (2012-06-08 03:21:44)

The Aston replaced the Finchley. The leather is similar but colors are different. I reviewed my Aston personal size in Orchid here: <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/12/aston-filofax-in-orchid.html>

filofit (2012-06-08 03:35:06)

Think the new Aston range is the replacement of Finchley. The leather looks similar. However, I am not a fan of three leather sheets stitched together as in the Aston, prefer the smooth surface of the Finchley. Yes me too, am tempted to buy a Malden just because everyone is talking about it but I have my eyes set on the Snake Domino as well. Ah...thought with the end of Finchley the obsession would get over - seems not.

Vanjilla (2012-06-08 03:42:07)

Shanti, Ines de La Fressange's range came across my mind; I didn't find any on eBay so far, but google them, they have an online store. They sell them here where I live and they are gorgeous!

Vanjilla (2012-06-08 03:48:48)

I agree, too, it must be the Aston; leather feels the same, although the colours come in a less vibrant range, I'd say (mushroom is not an equivalent of a vintage pink, for example).

I don't like their diagonal stitches compared to Finchley, too.

I have both Finchley and a Malden, find them very alike and prefer the Finchley (gulp, I know Malden Club is huge here!), it's more feminine and supple.

Vanjilla (2012-06-08 03:50:05)

(hm, but they're not enamel, only the pattern reminds me of it? :-/)

JasJan (2012-06-08 04:14:06)

Hi all, just to let you know I am listing 16 of my Filofaxes on Adspot today in either excellent or new condition! Please have a look, I really must have a clear out...one life, one Filo !!!

Alison Reeves (2012-06-08 04:16:35)

Trouble is Cheryl - if you leave it there is a good chance it becomes sold out! I usually shop around of I want something, but at the end of the day it all depends on how much you want something!

filofit (2012-06-08 04:48:30)

Has anyone from the UK bought from the German Filofax sale? Want to purchase the Snake Domino, but when I go to put in my address, the post code cell does not accept any alphabets and instructs to put in just numbers. Surely there is a way around it. Experts pls help.

Steve Morton (2012-06-08 05:17:39)

A reader question from our Facebook page:

I want to start my daughter off at high school the right way with her own filofax! Can anyone suggest what would be the most suitable?

Steve Morton (2012-06-08 05:18:54)

Mr Tommes _S is our 'German Filofax' expert I will ask him this has come up before when they had the 90 products 9 days for €9 each Great Train Robbery sale!

JasJan (2012-06-08 05:19:33)

Filofit, I have a few times, don't remember this problem. Maybe make sure you pick Uk before putting postcode in?

Laurie (2012-06-08 05:21:52)

Can't go wrong with a Finsbury in her favorite color if you want to get her a leather binder, or a Domino for non-leather.

Pocket or Personal size would be best for high school. Pocket if she's not super-busy, Personal size if she has a lot of activities and assignments to keep track of.

Vanjilla (2012-06-08 05:22:38)

My experience from FF Sweden: I contacted them first by email (and got an instant reply!) and was instructed to choose a country close to mine as mine wasn't on the list, and then leave my correct address in the additional comments space at the end of the checkout procedure. It worked without a problem, but I'd certainly contact them via email first to confirm it.

filofit (2012-06-08 05:30:41)

Tried it right now after putting in UK and doesn't work :(

lifeconsidered (2012-06-08 05:35:54)

Hello Everybody,

I will celebrate my 1st Filofax birthday in July, and what better present than a new organizer? I will either get the Malden or the Osterly. I've heard much about the Malden, not so much about the Osterly. Does anyone have experience with it? Does it lay flat? How's the leather? Is it worth the cost? Any help will be appreciated.

Jotje (2012-06-08 05:45:51)

Thank you Google for eating my comment GRRRR!

Well, here we go again ...:

My 9 year old daughter isn't starting highschool yet, but has to use a diary to record her homework next schoolyear. Since she fell in love with my (currently unemployed) lavender Domino in Personal size, I gave it to her. She's already set it up, and carries the thing EVERYWHERE. Even got a compliment from her teacher who is a leather binder user himself!

My soon-to-be 8 year old took the opportunity to swap from her black pocket City into a raspberry pocket Metropol. Complete with the (meanwhile infamous!) Hema-dividers and planning pages. She even sleeps with her Filofax!!!

Two converted, two to go. My 5yr old son couldn't be bothered less with anything related to writing, and my 11 yr old Highschool starter decided she'd rather have one of those colorful fun school diaries. Which is fine by me, she'll come around eventually ... ;-)

That said, I wouldn't go for a leather binder at that age. A personal Domino or Metropol (with the advantage of a clasp) would make a sturdy and colorful alternative.

Steve Morton (2012-06-08 05:52:24)

Make that 17! Now on Adspot... Which one are you keeping?

Steve

Steve Morton (2012-06-08 05:54:33)

Thanks for your feedback, useful to know how people view these posts. I will try out a few ideas to make them even more compulsive!

Steve Morton (2012-06-08 05:55:09)

Thanks for your feedback

Ashleigh (2012-06-08 06:46:53)

Hi everyone I am kind of new to the blogging world (1st blog April) my blog is Filofax orientated and I haven't been very successful in adding posts regularly. Basically I work in the technology industry and I'm sat on my PC at work for 12 hours a day - the last thing I want to do is turn on a PC on my days off! So I use my iPhone for all my philofaxy browsing. I want to keep my blog up to date as I have made changes to my Malden and would love to share them, is there anyway I can use my iPhone to blog and upload photos?

JasJan (2012-06-08 06:55:28)

well....I am keeping Personal/Pocket Baroque, A5 Osterley, A5 Ochre Malden, Compact Malden, Pocket Malden Purple....list goes on. At least I am making a start at culling my collection! Currently using Teal Personal Baroque which I am loving and I have received my Glenroyal which is gorgeous as well. Too many enablers on this site...I

blame you all!!!!

Steve Morton (2012-06-08 06:56:14)

Hi Ashleigh

There are a couple of apps I know of, one from Google called Blogger, and that should be able to edit and add posts to your blog. There's another called Blogwriter, and one called BloggerPlus. Go to the App store in iTunes and put Blogger in to the search box and you should find them all!

I have used the Google one for creating simple posts on Philofaxy, nothing complex.

Steve

Alison (2012-06-08 07:02:32)

I love the finchley and i'm in the process of collecting as many as I can via ebay etc so far i've got the pocket imperial purple from CO and pocket aqua from ebay, I also have the Aston pocket Orchid which I love, I hope they bring it out in aqua, pink and more lovely colours like they did with the finchley. The malden just doesn't do it for me, considered the purple in A5 but once I saw a vintage pink in staples i've gone off the idea.

Alison (2012-06-08 07:06:22)

My daughter starts high school in september, iv'e bought her a personal magenta domino mix, it's lovely, no credit card pockets but she doesn't need those :)

Nia (2012-06-08 07:07:01)

I was bought a red Pocket Finchley during my last years of 'high school' and loved it, but if I was just starting out I would have gone for a Pocket Domino - I found the pocket size to be sufficient, but I do have very small handwriting and still managed to keep detailed records of assignments and activities.

I love the domino for being quite effortless - really lightweight, plenty of colour options, not so expensive that you'd worry about damaging it. If you're having to carry around heavy books and folders to school, something small and light like that would be ideal.

Nia (2012-06-08 07:16:29)

I have just bought a Compact Osterley in Grey - there are photos on the Philofaxy Flickr pool if you'd like to see how it compares to a Malden and an Amazona in size.

I would say it's worth the cost - I did buy it from City Organiser at a discount, but I still paid around £100. I'm happy to invest in something I know I'll use a lot, but it depends how much you love it!

It lays completely flat, has 2 pen loops, and I really like the leather. The cover is quite thin but sturdy, which makes it really nice and slim. It looks and feels classy, and I really like it.

The compact size is perfect for me, and this is the only compact model on offer that I really love.

JasJan (2012-06-08 07:30:41)

I have the A5 in plum. The quality is amazing and yes it lies flat. The overall feel, leather...well everything does seem superior to the Malden. Also the Malden is not as rigid and as Nia says the osterley is slimmer. I suppose it depends on what size you are thinking of and also which pocket lay outs you prefer, to me this can be a make or break for a filofax.

Anita (2012-06-08 08:41:42)

I'm pretty much the same as Steph & Cheryl, as I normally read them all. I used to be a bit more selective by the title, but realised I was then missing out on some interesting & useful posts. Thanks for your time that you put into doing it, as I really enjoy reading them :)

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-06-08 09:03:55)

try paperchase :)

Alison (2012-06-08 09:14:52)

Just wondering if anyone has experience of the classic and what thoughts you have of it. I'm loving the look of the new Botanics range coming out in Sage and there's a few pink personal classics on ebay!!
Thanks in advance :)

Ashleigh (2012-06-08 09:25:35)

Thanks Steve I'll check them out

Yu (2012-06-08 10:46:58)

I would also say it depends on her general "style" (girly, punk, goth, rock, "cool girl", old-fashioned "studious", sporty, loves everything Japan etc.) Based on my own experiences as a 13 year old who had just started out with "real" filofaxes (I was a "gaming anime-girl style gone rock and studious") I would have loved either a Metropol (amber or another vibrant color that my inner Anime-nerd would have LOVED), a Finsbury, a Malden (anything but pink as my Tenacious D/Iron Maiden-listening self would never have been able to tolerate it), a chameleon or a Domino.

As it was, I had a Guildford. It didn't quite go that well with my anime-loving self, so I decorated it to death with stickers and charms, but it never became quite as bubbly as it could have been because the alternative/metal girl in me would never have allowed it.

So what I'm trying to say is that the age between 13 and 16 is very turbulent (but I guess everybody knows that). So if you can't find a filofax that goes perfectly with her style (and have it approved with her if she's on the darker spectrum of above-mentioned styles), go with something that's easily customized into what she might like. ^_^ I hope this was helpful and not just rambling chatter.

Alison (2012-06-08 10:52:08)

I love the osterley in plum, would love it in A5 as my at home filofax, just out of my price range just now :(

Yu (2012-06-08 11:07:17)

I owned a black personal classic for about a year. It did lay flat after some training and I really liked the leather. But the protective plastic film... in lack of a better description... started peeling off after about a year of heavy use. T_T Filofax Sweden said "there is no protective coating and no plastic, just leather" but they gave me another filofax anyway. (If there is no protective coating, howcome it started peeling? O_o;) but I could have gotten a faulty binder. I know people who have owned their classics for years and they still look good as new. ^_^

Yu (2012-06-08 11:11:01)

To answer today's question. I usually read all blog posts... but if they have no pictures, I sometimes stop reading and go to the next in the list as I'm always a bit short on time. =/ I suspect I'm missing out on a lot of good posts. But someday I'll sit down and read them all :)

mstraat (2012-06-08 11:18:08)

I start from the top of the list and read in order. That way if I have only a bit of time I can just move down the list to the next one and not miss any posts.

Anita (2012-06-08 11:21:04)

I owned a cherry personal Classic & returned it Filofax UK for exactly the same reason as Yu. Mine had only very light use as well & I asked for a Malden as a replacement instead. I wanted to train it to lie flat, but it was so stiff I was concerned about damaging it. I do like them though :)

LJ (2012-06-08 11:49:50)

I think that when I have ordered from the German website I included the postcode in the address lines rather than in the postcode box...

LJ (2012-06-08 11:54:30)

re Web Finds - I work my way through the whole list - I just have to do it!!! Although sometimes if my head is off gallivanting without me then I skim read the ones with lots of narrative, and then I feel guilty. Sorry people :-)

LJ (2012-06-08 12:09:16)

Just mailed you re 2 of them, and and now sat here in suspense waiting to see if I am a lucky girl :o) I may not be, but the excitement of potentially getting them is making my day :o)

LJ (2012-06-08 12:10:32)

Now my children are looking at me like I am insane as I whooped for joy - woohoo!!!

Gems33 (2012-06-08 12:26:30)

I started my daughter with a basic non leather metropol i think because I wasn't sure if she would take to it. She was obsessed for weeks making it her own but to my surprise it still goes everywhere with her and records her whole life in it. For next year Im considering letting her have one of my 'spares'. Just not sure I'm ready to let one go!

ehan (2012-06-08 12:42:01)

I think my comment was lost in system, here is second attempt:

Has anyone order from Succes - a german brand organiser and refill. I placed my order a week ago, but I have not here from them ever since, and online account status was always in process.

It is really take a long time for Succes to dispatch their product? should I cancel my order? I cant find any pocket size day per page planner better design then Succes, any suggestion?

thanks, everyone!

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-06-08 12:42:18)

@Cheryl: My personal Finchley in teal is on eBay right now!

<http://allthingsstationery.blogspot.co.uk/2012/06/im-selling-my-jade-teal-personal.html>

Nanini (2012-06-08 12:49:35)

Hi, I bought the same model from the German site, but I didn't have any problems. Yes, I am not from UK, but it sounds a little bit strange for me that for Bulgaria the shipping will be possible, but to UK - not. Well, I haven't recieved it yet, as I am waiting it next week, but I hope I won't have any problems with the shipping.

Valerie (2012-06-08 12:50:22)

I work for an office supply company here in the US and I haven't seen "enameled" pens in years. They were quite popular about 15-18 years ago. They were actually ceramic barrels and had beautiful patterns on them. Bright colored, really very nice. Why they went by the wayside, who knows..Try Googling Ceramic pens and see if anything comes up. Best of luck!

Alison Reeves (2012-06-08 12:51:08)

I have to say I much prefer the picture heavy ones as well! I tend to have a quick look at all of them, and spent much more time on the ones that cover my area of interest - this tends to be those that cover useful ideas for managing work or specific hobbies using a Filofax. I'm less interested in reviews of specific models at the moment as I don't need to buy anything, but if I did then of course I would read those with more interest.

I really do love the videos though!

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-06-08 13:03:04)

I read from the top down, but skip the ones that I have already read that week, the ones I have caught from twitter links etc. Sometimes I don't have time to read them all and come back later to continue- last Saturday's took me 3 days to read them all!!!

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-06-08 13:07:27)

Re: web finds, I pick out the ones that I like the title of first and then go back and skim through the rest, although I have an awful lot of blogs on my Reading List on Blogger so I've generally seen a lot of them already by the time web finds comes out on a Saturday! LOL

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-06-08 13:09:12)

Also - can anyone recommend a (black, leather or PU) A5 that lays flat? Not quite sure which ones do and which don't. Thanks x

DEM (2012-06-08 13:13:39)

Congrats, LJ!

LJ (2012-06-08 13:24:07)

Thanks DEM - looking forward to getting my mitts on them so I can take pics and blog - ha ha ha!!!

Alison (2012-06-08 13:27:58)

Thanks, I'll give it a miss :)

DEM (2012-06-08 13:29:34)

Hi all!

Do any of you own one of the Ostrich binders? I am obsessing over them and would love to hear your thoughts/experiences/reviews about them. Also, are they worth the price tag?

Thanks!

Lostwithoutyou (2012-06-08 13:32:40)

Which two are you after? Hope you don't mind me being nosy!

LJ (2012-06-08 13:39:13)

I will shortly be the proud owner of the A5 Purple Malden and the Personal Red Finchley :o)

Saffy (2012-06-08 14:04:19)

Alison, I have a classic Pink and it is lovely and does (nearly) lay flat, a bit more training and it will. I have an old pocket Camel coloured Cross which never laid flat but I have not experienced the peeling that others have mentioned. The two leathers are completely different, the pink one is supple and the camel one is a bit like plastic. I much prefer the soft pink leather and the contrast pink stitching is much nicer up close and personal.

Saffy (2012-06-08 14:08:30)

Did you try putting 0000 in the postcode box then adding your real postcode in the address line? I think that is what I did?

Shortie (2012-06-08 14:10:11)

My red Domino A5 lays flat straight from day one. But I recall that the Malden does the same as well, but alas, the Domino is the only A5 I have. Cannot justify another A5 as I am still trying it out to see if I should upsize from personal.

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-06-08 14:20:52)

My Finchley lay flat as a bat straight out of the box. My A5 dominoes have been more variable in their flattability but are amenable to vigorous coaxing!

JasJan (2012-06-08 14:22:30)

Just wrapped them up for you:)

Yu (2012-06-08 14:35:06)
My Holborn lies flat. ^ _ ^

Yu (2012-06-08 14:37:25)

What's wrong with this smartphone?! Anyway. The deleted comment said something along the lines of "my aqua chameleon lies flat from the beginning, but the black one doesnt - weird".

Lostwithoutyou (2012-06-08 14:43:50)

Ooh both good choices! I've got an A5 purple Malden and I love it! Can't wait to read your blog posts about them :)

LJ (2012-06-08 14:59:43)

@ JasJan - Thanks :o)

M Ng (2012-06-08 15:04:17)

When I have time, I read all of the Webfinds posted, often revisiting the posts I've already read through my blogfeed. (True addict.) I prefer posts with pictures but I do still work my way through the ones without pictures. I open them all as tabs in a new window of my internet browser, then read them in the order they were posted. Thanks for provided ever-more inspiration, Steve!

kari Soursa (2012-06-08 15:07:08)

Filofax A5 mertopol lies flat from the start :)

kari Soursa (2012-06-08 15:08:53)

Metropol*

Saffy (2012-06-08 15:09:53)

I work my way down the list and generally skip the word heavy ones and go back to them later. I really enjoy the videos and useful tips that are shared.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-06-08 15:11:16)

You should ask Ro about that, she has one and it is her one true filofax!! Here's her twitter: <https://twitter.com/#!/Ro062121>

Nikki france (2012-06-08 15:31:55)

I only finished the last one yesterday!!!!

I make a point of reading every single one!

filofit (2012-06-08 15:38:12)

The address cell only accepts alphabets. But the customer services at filofax.de have been great. They sent a reply within seconds to my email and advised to put a 0 in the zipcode and send them an email with my whole address. So all good by the end of the day.

Nikki france (2012-06-08 15:48:45)

I too have a mini pale blue classic I bought in 2003. I used it for 4 years, and it never laid flat, and it too has a film peeling off and looks terrible!

Jen (2012-06-08 16:02:30)

Today is a happy day! It's Friday, I got my extra paycheck, and two new Filos in the mail.

But you all are enablers and you should be ashamed of yourselves. I was perfectly happy with my one lone Personal Guildford, but felt a little inadequate next to the rest of you. THREE Filos later.... And that is just this week.

As for the blogs, I pretty much go by titles. I tend to read them on my tablet so I go for what interests me. If I have time, I go back and catch up on all of them. And there are a few bloggers I will read no matter what they write about.

I do have a question - what is the best way to quickly train a new one to lay flat? I have a Cuban that I love and my new blue Finsbury, but neither stays open.

Steve Morton (2012-06-08 16:06:02)

Nikki, if you still have it, peel all the film off, it should be leather underneath. They put a plastic film on some of these to protect the leather, crazy I know!

Yu (2012-06-08 16:36:23)

I don't know about "the best way". But this is what I do, depending on original stiffness:

1. For files that are almost flat, but not quite: I use it A LOT every day for about a week or two, then it lies flat.
2. For files that are stubborn and open about 90 degrees but don't close on their own: I start out by weighing it down by increasingly heavier objects (it should lay on its back, not on its stomach). Eg: day one-three I place one or two pocket Moleskines on either side of the spine. Day four-five, I put something heavier on top of it. And so it continues until it has been gently coaxed to lay flat. This way the leather doesn't crease as much either. ^_^
3. For the binders that are just hopeless and close on their own even with treatment #2 after a week of training, I give up and send it back. Because I don't have any sort of patience with those kind of binders and they will end up unused, which is a shame.

Nikki france (2012-06-08 16:53:46)

oh, I will give that a try!!!! Thanks!

DEM (2012-06-08 17:14:27)

Thanks, TPS! Will do!

Butanben (2012-06-08 19:11:29)

Hi Steve,

I think the webfinds are just fabulous. In fact I diary them into my Saturday diary as a must do to do!!! And I diary the time in as READ Philofaxy mag blogs! For yes.... just like when I buy a good magazine to enjoy, the coffee and walnut whip and a relaxing CD playing in the background are all to hand to make the experience blissfully uninterrupted, utterly relaxing ME TIME!!!! Thanks Steve.... and of course thanks to all those wonderful Filofax bloggers!!

lifeconsidered (2012-06-08 19:16:58)

Osterly it is! Thanks guys!!

Butanben (2012-06-08 19:22:24)

That's what I did too. The same as Saffy. It worked. They e. mailed me to get me to confirm and double check my address was correct as well. Fantastic service. I got some pencil case pressies... the Filofax ones with Swarkowski crystals.... in the Great Train Robbery Sale. An utter bargain. Beautifully wrapped and packed too. I translated the form on Google Translate... don't speak any German I am afraid.

Josh (2012-06-08 19:44:14)

I find that most of them have already come to my attention via my feed reader or twitter. However, I "discovered" almost all of them via philofaxy webfinds, so I would not know about them if they had not been included!

I'm not sure if such a thing is possible, but it would be lovely if we could build some kind of a shared collection which people could suggest new blogs to include and you could subscribe to the feed and get ALL of them. Such a thing would surely need to be moderated and "weeded" from time to time. I'm not sure if I am being at ALL clear. Sorry!

I love the webfinds, but lately I've been so pressed for time I admit to scanning the titles and only opening those which strike my fancy. Some weeks I carve out more time and read them all.

lifeconsidered (2012-06-08 19:52:10)

Ehan...I ordered some tab dividers from there several months ago and they came in about two weeks, which is not

bad considering I'm in America. They sent me an email a few days after I ordered saying my order had been rec'd and was being processed.

Doris98 (2012-06-09 01:25:08)

I miss reading a post for a day and I miss out on great deals, dang! (:

LJ (2012-06-09 01:26:49)

Sorry you missed out, but thank you for not reading it yesterday :o)

Doris98 (2012-06-09 01:32:03)

I second Saffy's post. The newer Classics are gorgeous and I have them in pink (Personal and Slimline) and lavender. No film, great leather feel. I say go for it!

Doris98 (2012-06-09 01:35:57)

Steve: Late to the game but will reply anyway – I read them ALL, from top to bottom. Numbering is great so I know where I stopped. I usually don't finish in one sitting, so I come to them in the following days.

Steph (2012-06-09 02:17:16)

Exactly @Butanben!

kanalt (2012-06-09 06:56:29)

I use the Philofaxy list as a reference - for any new blogs or blogs I've somehow missed, I add them to my reader and the "planner love" list on my blog once they've been posted to the webfinds. Once they're in my reader, I can mark the ones I want to read very slowly and/or comment on. I would absolutely LOVE to read them all, and for the most part I do. Being a blogger myself, I want everyone to read every one of my posts, but I also know that life gets in the way of passions (silly life!). So the reality is that I don't always have time to read every post that comes out. But I try very hard to read them all!

I have a system for what I do read: I look at every new post through my reader. If it's something that I'm interested in (it's very rare that a Filofax post doesn't get marked/read), I'll save it to read when I have time. From my saved list, I read certain ones first. First and foremost are any from Philofaxy, mainly because I want to be able to comment before everyone has moved on to the latest post (being in the US, I'm at least 7 hours behind many of the comments, and by the time I get to comment myself, a new post has appeared and everyone has moved on to that one). Philofaxy posts are also first because they're so great!

From the saved posts, I then email myself anything I want to comment on (since I have had tons of trouble commenting on my iPad and iPod Touch). Anything I comment on, I subscribe to comments that follow so I know whether or not I need/want to comment again. At that point, I delete the post from my email. This eliminates clutter and looking at too many emails, which just overwhelms me anyway.

I read most of the saved posts during my lunch hour and try to get through as many as possible, saving the my comments for when I have time. I can't read or comment on blogs while at work, so this system, while clunky maybe, works for me.

Doris98 (2012-06-09 07:52:43)

Good for you, bad for me! You owe me a post about them! (:

Cheryl (2012-06-09 16:41:46)

Thanks everyone! I agree...not crazy about the Aston leather sheets stitched together either.

@lucylastic - do you ship to the US?

Songbird68 (2012-06-11 16:58:23)

Hello! Just wanted to introduce myself, as I am about to get my FIRST Filofax (yay!), and have been lurking on this blog, similar ones, & YouTube FF vids for at least a couple weeks now, trying to decide between Personal and A5, Malden or Domino. The decision is killing me. I know eventually I'll probably own both sizes (one for work and one for personal), but I'm trying to do the "one life one Filo" thing from the start. I'm just concerned that

stuff will slip through the cracks otherwise.

I am absolutely fascinated by the whole FF blogosphere I've discovered. I sense many future hours & dollars being wasted— uh, invested. ;)

So nice to see how many others share my love of all things planner & stationery, too!

LJ (2012-06-12 14:01:22)

Welcome to our world :o) I'm sure you will soon be as nutty as the rest of us, and all your family and friends will despair as much as ours do - ha ha ha!!!

Web Finds - 9 June 2012 (2012-06-09 00:00) - Steve Morton

Slight change this week...Does having these posts numbered make it easier for you to track where you got to reading them?

So it is now time to grab some light refreshment of your choice and sit and enjoy for an hour or so.....

1. [1]The Stationery Cupboard - BBC Radio 4, something to listen to for a change
2. [2]The Olympics: On Filofax - The Crazy Suburban Mom
3. [3]How Do You To Do: Work vs. Personal - Well Planned Life
4. [4]My Filofax Week #7 - Paper Lovestory
5. [5]A5 zipped Holborn ordered... - The Purple Pen of Doom
6. [6]Going for the Professional Look...? - LJ's Blog of Stuff
7. [7]Poll: Which Filofax arrangement? - The Life of the Perpetual Student
8. [8]chameleon aqua review - Paper Lovestory
9. [9]My hybrid business card index cards - My Life All in One Place
10. [10]My new Filofax from Denmark! - All Things Stationery
11. [11]Filofax Swap 2 - The attempt! - Lime Tree
12. [12]Pocket Filofax Insert Suggestions Please! - The Purple Pen of Doom
13. [13]Breaking back... - Productive Living
14. [14]The case for paper-based productivity - GTD Times
15. [15]Moving into the Holborn - Paper Pens Ink
16. ~~Purple Malden A5 Filofax - so disappointed - Dawnabella~~
17. [16]Filofax Love! - Said the Cat
18. [17]A Special Treat, Guest Post from Doris: MEET MY (CURRENT) FILOFAX TEAM - Vanjilla
19. [18]I was bad, very very bad... - The Crazy Suburban Mom
20. [19]why I think everyone should downsize to a 'compact' - Paperlove Story
21. [20]the baroque... is here... (wait, what?) - Serendipity
22. [21]I understand the fuss.... - My Once Upon the Moon

23. [22]How I use my Flex by Filofax - Filofancy
24. [23]Improving the Flex by Filofax - Filofancy
25. [24]Filofax Blog of the Week: Paper Lovestory - My Life All in One Place
26. [25]What is this I have been using? - Imysworld
27. [26]Making my own stamps (So difficult!) - Filofax Love
28. [27]Too Excited!!! - LJ's Blog of Stuff
29. [28]Friday Filofax Poll! - Vanjilla
30. [29]One True Filofax? - The Life of the Perpetual Student
31. [30]Zip-lock bags for the Holborn - Paper Pens Ink
32. [31]Making dividers as unique as what I am. - Angel Jem's City Cottage
33. [32]Dearest beloved friend... - The Paper Blog
34. [33]What do you get when you combine a Brit, two Chicagoans, and an Englishman residing in France? - The Crazy Life of J

- Your blog post could appear here next week if we missed you this time around. Email us the details and we will include it if we can.
- We can't guarantee people will read your posts, but we know there is a higher chance of people reading your posts and returning to read other posts if you make them interesting with pictures and good hints and tips

And here is this weeks Video Finds

IFRAME: [34]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/yi2RAk11CM8?rel=0>

IFRAME: [35]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/BdyFfib-STU?rel=0>

IFRAME: [36]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/7AffZXNNUk0?rel=0>

Enjoy

1. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b01cks4c>
2. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/06/olympics-on-filofax.html>
3. <http://wellplannedlife.blogspot.fr/2012/06/how-do-you-to-do-work-vs-personal.html>
4. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/06/my-filofax-week-7.html>
5. <http://jarfm.com/?p=219>
6. <http://ljsblogofstuff.blogspot.fr/2012/06/going-for-professional-look.html>
7. <http://thelifeoftheperpetualstudent.blogspot.fr/2012/06/poll-which-filofax-arrangement.html>
8. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/06/chameleon-aqua-review.html>
9. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/06/my-hybrid-business-card-index-cards.html>
10. <http://allthingsstationery.blogspot.fr/2012/06/my-new-filofax-from-denmark.html>
11. <http://limetreefruits.blogspot.fr/2012/06/filofax-swap-2-attempt.html>
12. <http://jarfm.com/?p=223>
13. <http://productiveliving.blogspot.fr/2012/06/breaking-back.html>
14. <http://www.gtdtimes.com/2011/04/03/the-case-for-paper-based-productivity/>
15. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.fr/2012/06/moving-into-holborn.html>
16. <http://saidthecat.com/2012/06/filofax-love/>
17. <http://vanjilla.blogspot.fr/2012/06/special-treat-guest-post-from-doris.html>

18. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/06/i-was-bad-very-very-bad.html>
19. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/06/why-i-think-everyone-should-downsize-to.html>
20. <http://serendipity-art-journaling.blogspot.fr/2012/06/baroque-is-here-wait-what.html>
21. <http://myonceuponthemoon.blogspot.fr/2012/06/i-understand-fuss.html>
22. <http://filofancy.blogspot.fr/2012/06/how-i-use-my-flex-by-filofax.html>
23. <http://filofancy.blogspot.fr/2012/06/improving-flex-by-filofax.html>
24. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/06/filofax-blog-of-week-paper-lovestory.html>
25. <http://mysworld.blogspot.fr/2012/06/what-is-this-i-have-been-using.html>
26. <http://filofaxlove.wordpress.com/2012/06/08/making-my-own-stamps-so-difficult/>
27. <http://ljsblogofstuff.blogspot.fr/2012/06/too-excited.html>
28. <http://vanjilla.blogspot.fr/2012/06/new-feature-friday-filofax-poll.html>
29. <http://thelifeoftheperpetualstudent.blogspot.fr/2012/06/one-true-filofax.html>
30. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.fr/2012/06/zip-lock-bags-for-holborn.html>
31. <http://angeljemscitycottage.blogspot.fr/2012/06/making-dividers-as-unique-as-what-i-am.html>
32. <http://ceciliafrid.com/dearest-beloved-friend>
33. <http://thecrazylifeofj.blogspot.fr/2012/06/what-do-you-get-when-you-combine-brit.html>
34. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/yi2RAk1lCM8?rel=0>
35. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/BdyFfib-STU?rel=0>
36. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/7AfZXNNuK0?rel=0>

LJ (2012-06-09 00:23:12)

I love Saturday mornings. Oldest boy is watching Spiderman, and little chap is still asleep (weird) so I can read Web Finds without being disrupted too much :o)

As for the numbering of the posts, for me personally it doesn't really make a difference as I read them all by the end of the day. But if I were to have to save some for later in the week then it would be useful.

Thanks Steve :o)

Lime Tree (2012-06-09 00:45:07)

It is HUGE! Yes!!!!

Dawn (2012-06-09 02:55:53)

Really sorry Steve, I deleted my post (16) because I thought it was boring, sorry again, Dawn

Angel Jem (2012-06-09 03:02:39)

OMG I'm there! Officially on Philofaxy! Thanks Steve! And numbered is a really good idea. I have to read in bursts on smartphone or puter so numbers makes place saving easier. Thanks!

Steve Morton (2012-06-09 03:49:17)

I read your post in the week about the scratch on the spine of your new Malden, what was the outcome in the end? Have you sent it back for a replacement?

I will remove your listing a little later, I've just struck it out for the time being and removed the link.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-06-09 04:08:25)

The numbered posts definitely help! Thanks Steve!!

I am going to be on a train most of today, without the internet, so while I'm still in wifi-zone before I leave, I'm saving each post of today's webfinds on my laptop so I can read them offline!!

Lostwithoutyou (2012-06-09 09:48:52)

These are gonna provide a welcome revision break later, thanks very much Steve!

Babs (2012-06-09 10:16:34)

Thanks Steve. Taking a "revision" break (which would be better if I'd actually *done* some revision) so looking

forward to reading them!

I find tabbed browsing is the way forward for the "web finds" post. I open them all at once, then just close as I read them. Means I don't miss any that way!

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-06-09 11:44:05)

Steve, I like them numbered. It does make it easier to remember where I was when I have to stop and come back to web finds.

Steph (2012-06-09 14:06:19)

Numbering the posts is an excellent idea. I love Saturday mornings, when I was a child (and who am I kidding I still do sometimes lol) it was Saturday morning cartoons, and now that I am a grown up(on the outside of course lol) it is Web Finds on Philofaxy....love it!!!

mywormy (2012-06-09 14:14:35)

Very, very good idea Steve, there are so many that I want to go back to look at, and I can't find them. I am relaxing with nice refreshments and I am enjoying Philofaxy!

Ms. C (2012-06-09 16:58:08)

I'm with Angel Gem...I can't believe my video made it onto Filofaxy, my favorite-ever site to visit!Thanks so much-I'm beyond honored!

Butanben (2012-06-10 14:01:13)

The numbering is so helpful Steve, thanks.... allows for coffee breaks and a Philofaxy browse..... keeps me sane in-between my form filling!!!Love the Saturday slot.

If I am ever lost in the USA, I'll know who to call for travel directions now!!!! Only kidding..... think that was just fantastic.... reminded me of what used to be one of my favourite tv progs Treasure Hunt with Anneka Rice.... only the Chicago meet up gang didn't have the helicopter to hand!! Heee Heeee!! Gosh that dates me doesn't it??!!

Gail (2012-06-15 14:36:22)

I prefer the numbering too....just started my very first blog today, who knows maybe one day I will see it on here too.

Philofaxy London Meet Up - September 2012 (2012-06-10 00:00) - Steve Morton

I'm pleased to be able to announce the date of the next Philofaxy London Meet Up.

Saturday 22 September 2012

The format of the day is going to be similar to previous London meet ups:

- Meet up at Tate Modern at 12:00 noon
- Lunch at Tate Modern Cafe 2
- A short walk to [1]City Organiser - who are opening just for our party

Andy Morse from City Organiser will also be joining us for lunch, he has over 25 years of experience in retailing Filofax products.

Now before you all get excited about booking tickets etc.... Places for this meet up will have to be confirmed. But I will not be accepting requests to join the meet up until **22nd June**, this is to avoid the situation where people reserve a place and then pull out at the last minute which then doesn't allow

someone else the chance of a place at the meet up.

Hopefully by introducing this delay, you will be able to get the date cleared in your diary/planner and then when you request your place on or after the 22 June, you will know that you have a confirmed place and hopefully you will definitely be attending. Of course there might still be some form of family emergency or other on the day that might prevent your attendance I know.

I will send out a reminder closer to the 22 June for people to get their requests in after that date and which email address to send your requests to.

Once places have been assigned then I will send out full details about the arrangements for the day. If you have never attended a meet up before and you would like more information please email us and I will try to answer your questions [philofaxy \[at\] gmail \[dot\] com](mailto:philofaxy@gmail.com)

Looking forward to yet another great meet up in September.

1. <http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/>

michele (2012-06-18 08:02:49)
Steve, I may be able to do this!

Pocket size, is coming alive again. (2012-06-11 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

Oh yes, it's that time of year again, when the Pocket size seems to be 'the size' to use.

It's a trend we have noticed on Philofaxy before. At about this time of year we see an increase in interest in using the [2]Pocket size Filofax organisers.

It happened in [3]2011, and in [4]2010 in August, but may be we are ahead of the game this year So here are some of the posts we have noticed this year so far....

1. [5]My Pocket Filofax Wallet - We really didn't need another Filofax Blog
2. [6]My Filofax Pocket Chameleon - Rapunzel's World
3. [7]What's in my Pocket Finchley? - Imysworld
4. [8]My pocket top tabs - Rapunzel's World
5. [9]Reader Review - Filofax Malden - Doris - Philofaxy
6. [10]Filofax Pocket Review - Philofaxy
7. [11]Stationery Goodies - Vintage Giraffe
8. [12]Filofax Swap - Lime Tree
9. [13]Pocket Filofax Print Yourself Inserts - My Life All in One Place
10. [14]Small change in my filofax, big difference - Paper Pens Ink
11. [15]What's in my Pocket Line Burst Filofax? - The Crazy Suburban Mom

12. [16]My new Filofaxes - Vintage Giraffe
13. [17]New Filofax arrived - Filofax Love
14. [18]My first Filofax - Filofancy
15. [19]What is this I have been using? - Imysworld

Take a look at the posts and also at the wide range of [20]Pocket Filofax organisers for sale, there tends to be a wider range of colours available in this size compared to others.

IFRAME: [21]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/LDcK6QDDv2s?rel=0>

Will you be trying the Pocket size again this summer?

1. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-EXwv7RdxFq0/T0-I_XaqS1I/AAAAAAAAIs0/y71y1voRBdk/s1600/IMG_9683.JPG
2. <http://tidd.ly/ae88927c>
3. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/08/pocket-its-where-it-is-happening-2011.html>
4. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/08/pocket-its-where-it-is-happening.html>
5. <http://notanotherfilofaxblog.blogspot.fr/2012/05/my-pocket-filofax-wallet.html>
6. <http://icclewu.blogspot.fr/2012/05/my-first-filofax-youtube-video.html>
7. <http://imysworld.blogspot.fr/2012/05/whats-in-my-pocket-finchley-filofax.html>
8. <http://icclewu.blogspot.fr/2012/05/my-pocket-top-tabs.html>
9. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/03/reader-review-filofax-malden-doris.html>
10. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/10/filofax-pocket-review.html>
11. <http://vintagegiraffe.blogspot.fr/2012/04/stationery-goodies.html>
12. <http://limetreefruits.blogspot.fr/2012/04/filofax-swap.html>
13. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/03/finally-free-pocket-filofax-diary.html>
14. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.fr/2012/05/small-change-in-my-filofax-big.html>
15. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/06/whats-in-my-pocket-line-burst-filofax.html>
16. <http://vintagegiraffe.blogspot.fr/2012/05/my-new-filofaxes.html>
17. <http://filofaxlove.wordpress.com/2012/05/08/new-filofax-arrived/>
18. <http://filofancy.blogspot.co.uk/2012/03/my-first-filofax-pocket-guildford.html>
19. <http://imysworld.blogspot.fr/2012/06/what-is-this-i-have-been-using.html>
20. <http://tidd.ly/ae88927c>
21. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/LDcK6QDDv2s?rel=0>

Steph (2012-06-11 01:29:30)

OOh it's like Web Finds 2.0 love it.

Lime Tree (2012-06-11 01:49:50)

That's funny, why is that?

Frederique (2012-06-11 02:40:08)

Ooooooh no, the horror, the temptation !

I've recently thought *a lot* about downsizing from a Personal to a Pocket, and I've had leather-envy for some time now, and all these links, right now ?! It just adds up, and now I am more envious than ever to get one !

But again, I try and be reasonable : I went so far as to order a Pocket from the Adspot page, but connecting to Paypal and trying to have my card accepted took away some of my impatience...

Which might be a good thing, on a budget point of view :)

But thank you for this post, because, as I browse from one link to another, including last year's post(s), I get my Pocket-fix :)

Alison (2012-06-11 03:25:05)

I never thought I could manage with pocket with five children to organise, i've been using an Imperial Purple Finchley in pocket size for a few weeks now and it's working out really well so for now pocket is the way to go for me, maybe if life gets busier I may need to upgrade to Personal but for now i'm happy with pocket. Another day of web finds, thank you so much :)

Doris98 (2012-06-11 03:40:05)

So much to read, now I'll never get anything done! (o:

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-06-11 04:35:42)

Hee hee - I have just switched back FROM that pocket to a personal size (though it does feel like a brick in comparison!).

I'm too busy in the summer to cope without the real estate that comes with the personal size though...

And as Steph says - this is like Web Finds 2 (and I'll never get any work done!)

Frederique (2012-06-11 04:47:34)

I'm finding it harder and harder to resist...

Pocket Malden in Vintage Pink is currently [1]on sale at CityOrganizer.co.uk, 29.99£ : half price !

Must. Step. Away. From. Computer. :)

1. http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/acatalog/Pocket_Malden_Vintage_Pink_by_Filofax_-_incl._2011___2012_contents.html

Lord Dodo (2012-06-11 05:00:44)

Could it be that...Here comes Summer? Or so we hope!

Pocket sizes fit in...pockets...could this be the reason perhaps?

Our only regret is that we can't produce a pocket size Dodo Pad diary insert...it is just that bit too small. We did test it but decided every diary would need a free magnifying glass with it! So our new Personal size (with a bigger grid/bigger squares) is where our perusal on 'smaller' stops! <http://www.dodopad.com/shop/2013-dodo-pad-personal-size-diary-refill.html>

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-06-11 05:28:18)

I keep chopping and changing from pocket to compact and back again. I love the smaller lighter pocket but need the space of the compact. Personals are just too big for me.

I reckon women like pockets this time of year because they're usually downsizing their handbags for the summer. (If we ever get one!!!)

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-11 05:28:29)

Oooh, never for me thanks: my drunk-spider handwriting + general desire to have lots of white space on a page rule out Pocket, and Mini, entirely as main planners.

I think the only change I make come summer is to put a note the night before: "Put eyebrow pencil in fridge"!

That's to avoid the Frank-N-Furter look the next morning...

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-11 05:32:25)

I planned my last handbag purchase (Osprey tote from T K Maxx) **around** my Filofax & wallet!

One day I'll be brave enough to sally forth down the West End with just my Filofax held casually in one hand, like some kind of eighties throwback... I do already have the big hair, bad record collection, and fondness for stretch jeans, after all!

LJ (2012-06-11 05:38:35)

I'm currently considering moving away from the one life one filo thing so I can leave my A5 at work during the week, and supplementing with either a personal or pocket to carry everywhere... although what would probably make most sense would be to use my Pennybridge properly - it would just be so nice to start using a handbag instead of having to lug my rucksack around all the time, and opening it to see my Pennybridge and another

beautiful filo would make my day every day :o)

Alison (2012-06-11 06:47:10)

I've yet to try a compact, hoping to try one very soon once the ones i'm after arrive online :)

Laurie (2012-06-11 06:47:43)

I'd love to be able to downsize to a Pocket, but I know the pages would be too small for me. I like pages the bigger the better, and my dilemma is always between Personal and A5.

Not to mention, if I got a Pocket size I'd have to invest in an entirely new range of inserts and accessories! It's a rabbit hole I'm better off avoiding I think.

Doris98 (2012-06-11 06:47:58)

@ Lord Dodo: Available already?!? I switched to the Dodopad last month and I'm loving it! Could we perhaps see how the new format looks like? Is it available to view anywhere? (Can you tell I'm excited?) (:

Laurie (2012-06-11 06:48:54)

Lord Dodo thanks for the sneaky peek of the new Personal size diary inserts! Looking forward to these!!

Jotje (2012-06-11 06:49:01)

We are well into June, and I'm still deliriously happy with my A5 Filofax! Will be using the Compact Pennybridge as my travel-o-fax, but that's as small as I will go for now ...

Angel Jem (2012-06-11 08:05:27)

My first day alone in the house for 2 months... a family room to clean and clear... beds to change.... bunting to take down.... and you post this list of temptation and leather excitation?

Did I get anything done this morning?

No I did not.

Lily (2012-06-11 09:24:40)

I'd love to downsize to Pocket but I'd need huge rings and I like seeing the whole week at a glance which I wouldn't always be able to.

Andrea Mocko (2012-06-11 12:09:38)

I just got a pocket Malden in grey in the mail on Friday. Previously, I was using a myAgenda from momagenda.com to hold all the due dates for my classes and a Color-A-Month moleskine for my daily to dos. It worked great for me, but now that I've graduated, I have no where near as much to plan. It was back to the drawing board for me. I tried using my Erin Condren planner because it's really cute and I really don't want to waste it, but I couldn't get over the Morning/Day/Night layout. So knowing I had a personal Malden in grey and loved it but didn't have anything else to put in it besides the diary section, I figured I'd downsize to the pocket size. I got it in the mail and immediately set it up. I can't lie it's incredibly cute, but I have to admit I'm still in shock at how small the pages are. I'm hoping that once I get all the stickers, stencils, and stamps I ordered off of Ebay and Etsy, I'll want to use it more. The other lingering problem is that I'm planning to use my new free-time to fix up rooms in the house (a new unforeseen need for my Filofax.) A pocket seems just too small for that so it's bad, but I've already scoped out the possibility of not just upsizing back to the personal but actually going to A5.

Alison (2012-06-11 12:52:54)

I've blogged about my Pocket here <http://filo-obsessed.blogspot.co.uk/2012/06/does-size-matter.html> sorry still not got the hang of putting a link on here yet!!

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-12 01:01:01)

I'm redecorating & upgrading my soft furnishings this year, on very a tight budget, and found giving the project its own dedicated Filofax has made a lot of things simpler!

I used the standard divider tabs:

Diary - for schedules and things that need to be done in a certain order (eg paint first, carpet later! Also when to arrange to sleep on the sofa so I'm not breathing paint fumes in all night);

Notes - for random thoughts & ideas;

Projects - a page per item/room;

Information - recycling days, list of shops, reminder of themes I want to include in the decor;

Financial - staying right on track with my budget! Plus price comparisons and so on;

Addresses - customer service numbers for shops, closing hours, things like that...

It's really helped increase the urgency on this project in a good way, so I think if you have a Filofax, or at least a separate section, dedicated to organising your free time projects, you won't be disappointed.

Gareth Buxton (2012-06-12 08:31:38)

I have just upzised from pocket to personal. The problem is that pocket sized doesn't fit comfortably in my pocket, so I end up carrying it in my bag or leaving it at home. So I might as well use a personal sized one and take my bag.

Free For All Tuesday No. 71 (2012-06-12 00:00) - Steve Morton

Tuesday is the day when you get to ask questions and we do our best to answer them... When I say 'we' that is all of the Philofaxy readers, they often beat me to answering some of the questions! But that is the great thing about Philofaxy, we all help each other.

So what ever your question, no matter how obscure it is... Can I fit my Mini Filofax pages in my new A5 Filofax ([1]yes you can!) or where can I [2]buy xyz in purple in pocket size... then this is just the place to ask the question.

So don't hang back, fire away, and remember you can keep asking questions on this post even after Tuesday.

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/09/a5-and-mini.html>

2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/filofax-suppliers.html>

JohnofJenkins (2012-06-12 00:53:31)

Recently I bought a Cuban Zip A5 and am very pleased with it. This made me determined to go back to the Cuban Zip Personal that I cast aside almost as soon as I bought it. After reading Imsy I decided that I was not going to let it beat me and it WOULD sit flat because I wanted it to. I am happy to report that it is now sitting flat and although it is not yet in use, at least it is doing what I want it to do. I will keep working on it and it should be nice and compliant by the start of the new year.

Butanben (2012-06-12 02:28:50)

I am thinking of buying a Personal Baroque Filofax at some point in the future when I can afford it, to use as a work diary..... of course I need to get that job of my dreams first!!! My question is.... do they come in just turquoise and pink?? I seem to remember that there may be a teal one.... or is that just in my imagination?? I have seen them on the FF France site, which I can cope with ordering from, but want to get the right colour. Thank you for any advice. xx

David Popely (2012-06-12 03:03:10)

Not just a question but a personal observation....

Just when I thought I had finally got my system fully settled down and running 'just-so', I seem to be having planner fail with the diary section of my Personal Malden (which I love). Basically, I just can't abide the week-on-two-pages 'standard' layout diary, which is the *only* available layout in cotton cream (as ever, thanks, FF). I really *need* a 'grid' format diary to be able to effectively see how my week looks at a glance in terms of committed/free time.

I have in my refill store a week-on-two-pages landscape diary with appointments on standard, poor quality FF

paper which is a possibility, and also a day-on-two-pages diary (also on FF standard paper) which I find gives me next to no perspective on my committed time due to the 'up close' nature of looking at a day at a time. *However*, I often find that the amount of information I need to carry around with me in respect of meetings etc (agenda lists, post codes for Tom-Tom, etc) can be best accommodated within this daily format. I *know* I could carry the agendas, and even the post codes, around on a separate 'agenda' list GTD-style - but I just like to be able to open the binder and see all of that information, for my day, in one place.

So far I think I have a few basic possible solutions to this, as follows:-

1. Bite the bullet, move up to A5 and put up with carrying a house-brick around with me all day.
2. Use a combination of daily and weekly plans, with only the current week and a couple of 'future' weeks of daily plans in place.
3. Use FF day plan sheets when I need to, to carry the extra meeting info for any given day.
4. Look around for possible alternative diaries, which have a 'grid' arrangement, and which come on decent quality paper.
5. Put up with it until the end of this year and then look across the hopelessly un-joined-up FF websites worldwide for a diary solution.
6. Finally abandon FF altogether (I seem to spend so much of my time 'fighting' the system in any case) in favour of a properly-thought-out solution such as Time/System or TMI (a large quantity of which I already own).

If anyone has any ideas on this, I'd be interested to hear them. What diary format do you find works best for you, how do you use it, and do you combine two formats to get perspective?

Hope y'all are well out there....first day back at my desk here, after a week and a half off, so catch-up ahoy!

David

JasJan (2012-06-12 03:18:24)

It comes in black, teal (turquoise), pink. Just 3 colours. I have the teal and pink, I love them.

JasJan (2012-06-12 03:19:39)

How do you do this? The one reason I don't use my personal.

industrious housewife (2012-06-12 05:07:29)

Week per page with notes is working great for me, but depends how much you have to write in daily slots.

If I had busy days like you, adding day planner sheets would be my first approach.

lululucy (2012-06-12 06:09:54)

Day planner sheets interleaved in your WO2P have a few advantages, I think. For instance, you can archive each one when the meeting's over, which will lighten your load but still keep the info for future reference. The process of moving the day planner sheets from your carryaround FF to a desk-bound archive binder might also be a good end of day ritual, and allow you to write any notes or reflections on that day's meetings.

I like having several calendars interleaved in my FF - day per page, month on one page, and year planner, because I also need to see 'the big picture' as well as daily detail. But I also take finished daily pages out every few weeks, so the FF doesn't weigh a ton. That may not be an option for you.

Lady_Tamlynn (2012-06-12 06:20:28)

Hi everyone,

I want to buy a Compact Chameleon to use as my carry around fillo during the summer (I use an A5 for teaching during the school year). I love the personal size but not the weight it brings with it so I think a compact would be perfect for me.

Can anyone advise me on the best place to buy one? I know Filofax UK don't stock them. Or does anyone have one they're thinking of selling or trading?

Yu (2012-06-12 07:08:04)

waves hand* thinking about selling a red one

Lady_Tamlynn (2012-06-12 07:41:32)

@Yu

Really!!? Red is exactly the colour I'm looking for. How much were you looking for it?

I also have a Personal Grey Malden, a Pocket Ochre Malden or an A5 Pink Domino if you wanted to trade.

If you're interested, email me at ashlenemagee@hotmail.com

Doris (2012-06-12 07:54:26)

@Lady_Tamlynn: What luck for you! I've been looking for a Compact Cham in aqua for a while now.

DanishGTD (2012-06-12 08:00:16)

Hi there

I'm quite satisfied with my black FF Classic A5 but I've always had a thing for the Caramel/brown Finchley A5 and now they have one on sale on the Danish store.

How does it compare to the classic and the domino (both of which I own). I like the classic but find it a little too shiny and stiff - is the Finchley softer? How are the sides in terms of thickness? Any other thought that could convince me to spring for the Finchley only a week after I bought the classic - I got it at a super price on a thrifting-site (only 14 pounds)...

Yu (2012-06-12 09:45:16)

Booooo! All the Holborn compacts (wine) that I've seen so far have ring problems. :(

Have any of you guys seen one without problems?

Butanben (2012-06-12 10:06:47)

Thanks Jas Jan. I just love the look of the Turquoise personal Baroque one!

Yu (2012-06-12 10:18:49)

Sure! I'll take some pics and send them + other info once I get home. :) sadly I already own all the Maldens that I want (am actually selling a few - thinning out my collection)

Yu (2012-06-12 10:26:30)

Ooooh! A compact aqua chameleon... *drools* Too bad compact chameleons are "invisible" on the Filofax sites...

I mean, it says Sweden doesn't have any, but they're there in the various stores. And the Filofax representative says that they have many compacts in storage... -_-;

Steve Morton (2012-06-12 10:28:41)

On the UK FF site... put Compact in to the search box at the top of the page... #enable

Lostwithoutyou (2012-06-12 10:47:20)

What are you selling if you don't mind me asking?

Lady_Tamlynn (2012-06-12 10:48:34)

Thank you! That would be great.

And I know what you mean about the Maldens. I have one in almost every colour. They're so scrummy :-).

Nan (2012-06-12 11:17:10)

Would someone who has a Personal Enigma please measure the inside diameter of the rings? According to filofaxusa.com, it's 1" (about 26mm), but filofax.co.uk lists it as 23mm. Since I use 1-day-per-page, I'm looking for a Personal with rings larger than 23mm.

Jarfm.com (2012-06-12 11:26:51)

Well a Dodo pad uses a grid system and they have a new sized grid in the 2013 ones coming out although I have not seen them so don't know how much bigger that are but they are certainly on decent paper!

I have found that a month to view followed with a day to a page works really well for me as I can see the overview for the week on the month page and then can add lots of things to my day as I need. Was using as my teachers planner so need quite a bit of info there per day (although I have just upsized to A5 purely for work so I have a bit more space and I bought a new zipped Holborn and had to use it!) worked ok in my personal but not with lesson stuff included as there was not enough space.

Failing that, how about tweaking one of the templates on here - eg a month page, and making it for a week as would then be a grid system?

Hope you find a solution :)

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-06-12 11:40:56)

@Lady _Tamlynn - see my blog post below. I got a compact Chameleon from the Danish site for half price and shipping to the UK was very reasonable!

<http://allthingsstationery.blogspot.co.uk/2012/06/my-new-filofax-from-denmark.html>

Yu (2012-06-12 11:53:55)

@Lostwithoutyou

I'm working on an adspot-post. But the ones I "remember" (still not decided about some, but I do need to sell a lot. I'm a one filofax in use-type of person and switch between personal and A5...) are:

Mini - Chameleon (spring green)

Pocket - Finsbury (red), Malden (ochre - someone on FB has first dibs on this one)

Slimline - Cuban (ink)

Compact - Chameleon (red, Lady _Tamlynn has first dibs)

Personal - Amazona (almond)

A5 - Malden (ochre, the same person on FB will get the offer first) and maybe a Chameleon (black)

All of them are in "as new" condition as I'm very careful with my Filofaxes. The almond has one pair of wonky rings if you close them in the wrong way... =/

Sigh... I keep on trying to thin out my collection... But I also keep on bidding on more and buying new ones in search for that Filofax dream-team. *bought a new one on Saturday and another one today* ... In other words: I'm the perfect enabling victim! XD;

Yu (2012-06-12 12:00:56)

The Finchley is much softer. Some have kind of "dry" leather, though... (nothing that can't be fixed). I find the Finchley A5 to have a slim feel to it (at least my imperial purple does). ^ _^

Saffy (2012-06-12 12:16:14)

Nan, the Enigma has the standard 23mm rings.

Yu (2012-06-12 12:19:10)

amazona almond

PensandPaper (2012-06-12 12:20:24)

Sorry for the removal wanted to edit

Yu if the person on FB is not wanting the pocket ochre Malden I would be very interested.

Alice x (2012-06-12 12:24:14)

Eugh can anyone help me with my filofax fail?

<http://the-wonderful-life-of-alice.blogspot.co.uk/>

This explains it much better - i am very annoyed and need help!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Ahem...please?

LJ (2012-06-12 12:28:49)

Finchley's are very soft and beautiful - they pass the strokeability test with ease :o)

DanishGTD (2012-06-12 12:29:34)

Thanks Yu. That means that the Finhley doesn't have the "chubby" feel of the Classic? How about the mesh pocket on the back? Is it ok or does it feel cheap and gonna break at some point?

Nancy (2012-06-12 12:32:49)

Does anybody have the FF Optic Female Briefcase?? I'm very interested but can't get a real sense of the thing because the YouTube video is a tease. They don't tilt the bag far enough towards the camera to get a good look inside. I want the black and red one. Any feedback out there? TIA.

Nancy

Yu (2012-06-12 12:41:14)

Precisely. It's not as slim as my Luxe A5 that is more of a true compact. I don't use the mesh pocket very much as I don't like the look. But it's perfect for receipts, stickers, paper clips etc. I thought it felt flimsy at first, but I've changed my mind after I put metal paper clips in it and they didn't massacre it. :) can't say what would happen if you stuffed it full, though. I would ask organizedlikejen about that if I were you. ^_^

Paul B (2012-06-12 13:39:13)

The topic of FF paper quality comes up a lot on here. Just wanted to add my two penn'orth (A quaint British English saying which I am fond of and use to vex our cousins ;)

I just found a stack of my original FF coloured paper in an old binder from the late 1980s. One set is red, one is green. I compared it to a pack I bought last month in Neal Street. The difference is unbelievable. I know a lot of you are fountain pen addicts here, I'm not, so I used a cheap parker fountain pen to test it. Perfect. No bleed through. Thick, high-quality paper. I have to ask.....Filofax, what on earth were you thinking of when you changed suppliers? cutting costs is one thing, I accept that. But to reduce the quality of paper to such a degree is unforgivable.

I wish they would listen to their dedicated users and take note. Most companies pay a lot for market surveys. Filofax has everything it needs right here. If I knew how, I'd measure both and post the difference. Rant over.

Yu (2012-06-12 13:43:05)

Sorry about all the typos and weird grammar. (My iPhone hates me.)

Yu (2012-06-12 13:43:38)

noted* :D

Yu (2012-06-12 13:45:27)

I hope a black personal will pop up for sale/swap somewhere...

kari Soursa (2012-06-12 14:15:55)

Hello all :)

Does anyone know if filofax York was made in pocket size? I have a new one in personal size, but it's too big to carry in my purse, therefore I don't use it. I love the leather and quality of the York, and to get one in pocket size would be the ultimate filofax for me :)

Lady_Tamlynn (2012-06-12 14:24:40)

@PensandPaper

If that doesn't work out for you I also have a pocket Ochre Malden for sale. I'm also open to trade offers

Laura (2012-06-12 14:52:26)

I bought my raspberry Compact Chameleon last year, I had to order it from the London store as for some reason you can't get it on the FF website...

I love the aqua colour too, but unfortunately compact size is only available in black, raspberry, red and brown :(

PensandPaper (2012-06-12 16:28:56)

Oh this is looking hopeful - does anyone else like to have the same set in different sizes or like different types for different sizes.(will be looking out for a mini and personal orchre Malden soon)

I can sense this is becoming addictive - I thought I had gone over to the dark side of iPad and iPhone but the lure of paper and pens was just too much - hence my name

So glad I found this site

Nikki france (2012-06-12 16:31:41)

I am so gutted, upset, distraught!!!!!!!

Have saved so hard for the next filofax, that was going to be either a malden zip or a holborn zip. Finally decided I was going to go for the malden purple personal size zip, and now find they are sold out, and will not be getting any more. Can I cope with this terrible disappointment??? UGH!!

Steve Morton (2012-06-12 16:34:20)

There might be some more coming in to stock.... not given up yet I'm told.....

Also I suspect we will see them on FF France and/or FF Germany soon too.

Yu (2012-06-12 16:41:36)

Sorry about the deleted comments. Wanted to edit them, but could only delete... anyway. NK here in Sweden said they will be getting some in two or three weeks. ^ _^

Yu (2012-06-12 16:48:04)

Well, I have Malden ochre in pocket, personal and A5... and the black personal one and a grey A5. But it's ridiculous to have that many in the same style, so (as you've noticed) I'm selling some. I hope to add a purple Malden when I'm in London in a few weeks. If I like it, either the personal ochre or the grey a5 has to go. XD; My three favorite styles are: Malden, Luxe and Chameleon. I suspect I will add Baroque and Osterly to that list pretty soon. Not even going to think about the Temperleys, because I'm pretty sure I'll just end up ordering one if I do. T^T

And stationery has a very special allure, doesn't it? :3 <3

waiting for the FB-person's reply* ^ _^

Tim (2012-06-12 17:05:38)

We were promised new Flex covers, including leather ones. I've not had much time lately to research/ contribute but I notice that the USA "Pens and Leather" website is showing no less than 18 new different PLASTIC covers as available from next month. That's 7 in A5, 7 in Pocket and 4 in Slim:-

Lizard Print Black, Lizard Print Blackcurrant, Lizard Print Ruby Red, Smooth Black, Smooth Grey, Smooth Purple and Smooth Red.

No lizards in slim and no sign of any leather (yet). These are all additional to the existing First Edition models.

The USA Filofax site isn't showing these but is offering 20 % off the First Edition models.

Anyone any news on Flex arrivals into the UK and the leather models?

Yu (2012-06-12 17:18:36)

@Jarfm.com

Hm. I might have to try that set-up even though it sounds a bit messy. Both you and Steve have mentioned that layout... and I really want my personal size filofaxes to work.

Alison Reeves (2012-06-12 18:01:08)

Now David - you know you won't last more than a week in the A5!!!

Have you thought about using the Day Timer diary inserts? They fit the personal and there are several layouts and styles to choose from. Also they do what they call 'hot lists' which are either punched or like a sticky note - the page size is much smaller than the personal page so you can use it to keep a list or other details for a given day, but you can still see your week to view.

DanishGTD (2012-06-12 18:32:49)

Thank you so much! I'll probably have to go for it! It's half price right now in the Danish store...

Songbird68 (2012-06-12 19:31:47)

Hi all - I just placed an order for my FIRST Filofax! An A5 Domino in Ultraviolet, on sale on the FF website. :) Can anyone tell me if some of the DayRunner or DayTimer branded Desk size accessories would fit that? i.e. plastic storage pockets and the like.

So excited!!!! The decision on size & style has been WEEKS in the making. I was strongly considering a Personal Malden, but realized ultimately that I'll need the space, and Domino was lightest weight.

This place is amazing. I've been addicted to the entire FF blogosphere for weeks. :)

Songbird68 (2012-06-12 19:46:13)

Another question: do new FF's always come with the clear flyleaf? Their website description did not mention, so wondering if I need to order. It had this list of these included items, along w/ the WO2P diary, but I'm not sure what "plus more" means. Any ideas? Thanks!

Address Sheets

To Do Sheets

Top-Opening Envelope

A-Z, 2 Letter Index Tabs

White Ruled Notepaper

Ruler/Page Marker

Plus More!

Doris (2012-06-12 20:46:05)

@YU: I'd be interested in the Amazona. Would you please email me at doris _98@yahoo.com? Thanks!

Keji (2012-06-12 20:47:31)

Hiya Songbird - Welcome to the club!!! :-D

I was literally you like 2 weeks ago, lol. Obsessed with which Filofax to get for 3 months (Crazy? - maybe a little). Now I'm the proud owner of a personal Chameleon in Aqua and an A5 Finsbury in Aqua (and still feeling the euphoria of my purchases). 2 in less than 2 weeks. It's a slippery, slippery slope as I am now dreaming of having the Chameleons in Aqua Spring Green, Raspberry and Red in sizes A5 - personal. Eek I have far too many obsessions already and I have no added Filofaxes to them. *sighs*

Doris (2012-06-12 20:52:07)

@Steve: Sadly, no compact Chameleons on the UK site. Thanks for the tip though, I keep forgetting to search that way.

EmmaNoey (2012-06-12 21:04:07)

My five all came with them, but I ordered extras with my recent filos because I find them useful for protecting sheets that don't really need to be in envelopes.

DEM (2012-06-12 22:22:23)

Songbird - I've got about ten FFs and each one had come with one clear flyleaf at the front. Welcome and congrats on your new Domino!

DEM (2012-06-12 22:26:00)

May I suggest that you take a look at the FAQ section of this site...there is a lot of information regarding sizing and compatible inserts. Hope this helps.

Steph (2012-06-12 23:55:44)

Why can't the US site ever get any of the nice ones. I really wish that the filofax sites would just all get together and play nice so we can all order any of the filofax from any of the lines. Without duties, or exchange rates or the likes.

Yu (2012-06-13 02:13:58)

Email sent! :)

Nikki france (2012-06-13 02:52:53)

oh what a relief, I can carry on with my busy week with a bit of piece of mind lol

Filofax is giving me very bad mood swings, good job I do not have a partner to annoy!!!

Iris (2012-06-13 03:06:54)

According to the German catalogue I received yesterday, "Lizard Print" will be made of leather. There will also be a black "Nappa" leather one (Slimline + A5), and a "Natural" in a colour called "Veg Tan" (Slimline + A5).

swatibee (2012-06-13 03:16:09)

@Yu, I might be interested in the pocket Finsbury in red, you can email me at sarahelps [at] live [dot] com thanks :-)

Songbird68 (2012-06-13 03:40:40)

Thanks everyone, for the welcome & the question replies. Yes, I am very happy & excited to be joining the Filofax love club. ;) I just realized that if I'm honest with myself, I'm probably going to be ordering that Personal Malden also, more sooner than later, and just use the A5 Domino for work. Don't tell my husband... hehe.

About the first question though... does anyone know if DayRunner/DayTimer desk size inserts will fit the A5 Domino? Just wondering what my options are.

The buyer's guide on this site is really helpful too; I just discovered it. And I could look at everyone's Filo photos all day long... I LOVE seeing how other people set up their planners! Filos look even more attractive to me when I see them customized with colorful stickers, homemade dividers, colored pens & highlighters, etc. It's so much fun! :)

swatibee (2012-06-13 03:48:52)

The malden just came out with a zipped version (<http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/acatalog/Pocket-Malden-Zip-Purple-by-Filofax-incl.-2012-2013-contents.html>) why yes I have been eyeing it. Zips closed, has elastic pen loop, comes in pocket, sadly a little above your ideal price range (on sale for 61 at the moment, but there is the discount code that we get for an additional 10 % off philofaxy10 so nearly there). This is the closest thing I can think of, and hey if you get it you can tell the rest of us if you love it. Steve did a review of the personal sized one a week-ish ago too - thus starting my small obsession)

Yu (2012-06-13 03:53:21)

Email sent! :)

(it's amazing how much you can get done on the time it takes to get to the university!)

Tim (2012-06-13 04:13:26)

Interesting. At \$80 they certainly ought to be leather! However the Lizard description on Pens & Leather is: - "Leather-look vinyl. Sleek textured cover with a subtle two tone effect, contrast stitching and double turned edges"

Doris (2012-06-13 04:18:39)

Just suddenly - I wonder how the Flex notebooks will look, function and fit in the Slimline? I don't have access to Flex out here, but maybe someone out there has tried to do this.

Saffy (2012-06-13 04:25:55)

The images on Pens & Leather website for the Flex 'Lizard Print' look the same as the Luxe which in their new brochure is described as snakeskin print. Could have sworn it was listed as Lizard print not too long ago?

Jotje (2012-06-13 05:29:20)

Desk size inserts (like DT, FC etc) will need to be repunched to fit A5 binders ...!

Tim (2012-06-13 06:09:13)

Hi Doris - the notebooks, pads etc. work exactly the same way - whatever the size. Naturally you need a slim pad to fit a slim wallet. Flex Slim is not the same size as Filofax Slimline but, as it's smaller, pads should fit in a Slimline Filo.

Flex is a direct copy of Time Manager's (TMI) "Planner Wallet" from the 1980's (and still available from Denmark). However, Filofax have produced theirs in different sizes and added features such as the pen card holder.

Saffy - I expect they've had a fancy focus group report that lizard print sounds more marketable than snake print!

Yu (2012-06-13 07:17:10)

@PensandPaper

I've not yet received a reply from the FB person. Should I send the pocket information to you?

Terri (2012-06-13 08:36:38)

I am so excited! Just ordered my personal Malden, this is my 2nd filofax. I am using the pocket Finsbury as a wallet and I am loving it. I ordered from City Organiser-shipping costs to Canada are so reasonable! I love this site...so much fun to see how people set up their filofaxes.

Yu (2012-06-13 09:44:21)

Which color? :3 *curious*

And yay! Malden!

Iris (2012-06-13 09:49:28)

The description ("leather-look vinyl...") is exactly the same as for the 1st Edition - maybe P & L has just copied it?

PensandPaper (2012-06-13 11:02:45)

@ Yu yes please send the info for the pocket ochre Malden to lmgriff1@gmail.com and of course if you decide to get that purple Malden and indeed decide to sell your personal ochre keep me in mind

Alison (2012-06-13 12:16:16)

I'm so pleased my daughter starts high school in Sep so she will be using a filofax, my son who is the year above her and is dyslexic has shown some interest in my filofax, he is now the proud owner of my Personal London 2012 line Burst filofax in Pink (yes!! Pink, his favourite colour lol), i'm really pleased because getting him to read and write has always been a struggle, just hope he continues to use it and that it encourages him to write more!!

Songbird68 (2012-06-13 13:53:11)

Thanks Jotje! :)

Terri (2012-06-13 14:10:53)

Vintage pink...of course!

Tim (2012-06-13 17:41:06)

YES! Filomaniac (many thanks!) has listed all the things from the 2012/3 German brochure on her blog (<http://filomaniac.blogspot.co.uk>) just issued complete with prices (in Euros). So it's as Pens & Leather have it (but lizard print is leather) plus the additions pointed out by Iris, plus an iPad Flex cover in purple or black :-

"Ohne Abbildung, aber in der Preisliste zu finden, sind außerdem neue Flex-Cover, und zwar

Lizard Print (geprägtes Leder) in Black, Red und Blackcurrant: Pocket (59 Euro), A5 (89 Euro)

Nappa (Leder) in Black: Slimline (49 Euro), A5 (69 Euro)

Natural (Leder) in Veg Tan: Slimline (49 Euro), A5 (69 Euro) Smooth (Kunstleder) in Black, Red, Grey und Purple: Pocket (25 Euro), Slimline (29 Euro), A5 (39 Euro) sowie als iPad Case (69 Euro, nur in Black und Purple). Die bereits erhältliche, sogenannte "1st Edition" (in Black, Slate und Magenta) bleibt weiter im Angebot.

Erste Fotos von Lizard Print und Smooth gibt es bereits bei Pens & Leather (USA).
Alle genannten Modelle sind angekündigt für Sommer 2012”

Yu (2012-06-13 17:52:51)
Email sent! :)

Butanben (2012-06-14 02:25:37)

To any Hello Kitty fans out there..... Asda has a Hello Kitty A5 notebook.... think it was approx £2.50. Easy to use the pages trimmed and punched for A5 Filo notes.@Alison, has your son had a dyslexia eye test at a specialist opticians??? Coloured acetate lenses can work magnificently well.... even if he doesn't normally wear glasses, they can be prescribed.Some pupils I have taught have come on leaps and bounds as a result, but he needs to be tested by an eye specialist who knows about dyslexia and the coloured acetates.It may sound daft, but the redder acetate lenses may help him.... explaining why he has a preference for pink and the redder side of the colour spectrum.Hope your children have fun setting up their new fillos. xx

David Popely (2012-06-14 03:10:03)

Hi Alison :)

Yes, you're quite right, of course, about the A5 - much too big to be a carry-around tool.

Yes, I'd thought about the Day Timer inserts. Do they do quarterly start dates? I'm not going to buy a year's supply and throw half away.

The other alternative, which I've reflected on elsewhere, is the possibility of re-tooling the TMI binder, inserts and system to a more GTD-oriented function, and I think this might b the way to go. As you know, I'm pretty much uninterested in appearances unless there is good solid functionality to match, and the TMI binder, while bigger than the Personal Malden, is nowhere near the bulk of the A5, and is usable. Also, it has that rather beautiful detachable wallet-thingy, which I previously speculated about dumping, but which I how think might make a good 'capture tool' (to use GTD-speak), while the main binder remains on my desk at all times.

I might give it a go for a month and see what happens.....

Any London dates coming up for you? Time for a mini-meetup if you do!

e04f12be-b63d-11e1-b50f-000bcdcb8a73 (2012-06-14 12:28:47)

Hi all, I am new to philofaxy, but am lovin it! I already own a pocket pimlico, pocket chameleon, personal chameleon, and A5 chameleon and A5 Cuban zip. I am craving another personal size filo, but can't decide between the osterley or enigma. Any thoughts anyone? Help!!!!

Debimoje (2012-06-14 12:39:02)

Whoops, not sure what happened there with my ID, but the above should read debimoje! Lol

Hannah J (2012-06-14 14:08:33)

Sorry it's technically Thursday now!

I've just had a look on a certain auction site for an A4 or A5 filofax but they are all £50+ unless I want a bright pink one lol.

I was wondering if anyone had one for trade - I have a couple of smaller ones that I can swap or might be able to discuss alternatives.

Steve Morton (2012-06-14 14:15:42)

Hi Hannah

It's never too late to post a comment... although it's best to do it before the next FFAT comes out!

We can put a wanted ad on our Ad Spot page for an A4 or A5 if you can't find something you like on there already. Details are at the top of the page.

Regards

Steve

Yu (2012-06-14 16:50:11)

Hello Debimoje and welcome! :D

I think my next filofax purchase (like after the summer... um yeah. I will never be able to keep that... XD) will be an Osterly of some sort, so I'm a bit biased. ;)

Yu (2012-06-14 16:51:13)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Yu (2012-06-14 16:52:06)

keep that promise

Yu (2012-06-14 16:53:55)

:D

Debimoje (2012-06-14 17:14:45)

Thanks for that. I am slightly leaning towards the Osterley. I notice that Amazon has the Osterley personal at the moment for £86, which is a bit of a steal I reckon. Just trying to come up with justification for such a purchase as I already have my fair share and a use for them all. lol

Keji (2012-06-14 18:33:02)

@ Hannah J,

I' may be interested in a swap. I have an A5 Finsbury Aqua that I have recently acquired from a reader on Philofaxy but I'm finding that the personal size may be for me instead. You can email me @ kandygirl@msn.com. Regards

Yu (2012-06-15 10:22:16)

XD; I know what you mean. I haven't counted how many I own recently as I've been buying and (mainly) selling for the past two weeks. But I usually justify the purchases by telling myself that what other girls spend on make-up, fashion, bags/shoes/whatever, I spend on electronics and filofaxes. XD;

Hannah J (2012-06-22 06:26:54)

Hello! Sorry just saw this - I had posted then forgot to come back and check - what a wally lol.

Steve and Keji - thank you. I'll email Keji and then we can go from there if I need a wanted post :D

TEMPERLEY FOR FILOFAX RETURNS (2012-06-13 00:00) - Steve Morton

British icons extend their partnership for another season



[1]

Filofax have announced their continued collaboration with leading British designer Alice Temperley with a second range of accessible luxury organisers. Due to be unveiled in time for London Fashion Week S/S 2013, the new 'Temperley for Filofax' collection is set to stylishly organise your season.

"I'm so pleased to be partnering with Filofax again to create a second collection, especially following the amazing response we received from the limited edition styles earlier on in the year. A Filofax is much more than just a diary, for me it's a place to collect inspiration, write my endless lists and juggle my life. I wanted to turn it into an accessory which can accompany you anywhere; from day meetings to nights out with friends. It's a busy world and still so important to write things down" says Alice Temperley, MBE

The new collection, designed to provide users with a private space for creativity and ideas, introduces two new beautiful organisers: Violet and Ikat. As with any of Alice's designs, she has looked at the way she uses a Filofax and taken inspiration from her forthcoming collections to create two exquisite organisers which combine style with functionality. The collection which effortlessly works with the looks of the season, incorporates two diverse and striking designs – from the bold print of the Ikat to the colourful luxury leather of the Violet, there is an organiser to help every fashionista capture the minutiae and inspirations of daily life.

Gordon Presly, CEO of the Filofax Group, comments,

"At Filofax, we're consistently looking to showcase our design capabilities and this new collection by Alice does just that. In this fast paced digital age, we've found that the importance and simple pleasure of making handwritten notes is very significant to our consumers, so we are looking forward to launching this collection of organisers that offers Temperley's iconic British style at affordable price points."

Temperley for Filofax, consisting of the Violet and Ikat, will be available nationwide and online from September 2012 in pocket and personal sizes, priced £45 - £165.

More information and product unveiling to follow in July 2012.
12th June 2012, London

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-HSeYbpII3dE/T9cSS71UCrI/AAAAAAAAALyA/-ilsost_OII/s1600/Filofax+Mood+12th+June+12.jpg

angela (2012-06-13 03:58:26)

Have to admit, I'm quite excited for this... but Ikat...? Really?! Can't really see that selling loads. Wish the Affair and Guinea were more at this price point but to be fair, the quality control was so bad that they should have been giving them out for free! It just gives Filofax a bad name when they do things like this with no regard for QC. Either way, looking forward to seeing these later on this year and if I sell loads of my stuff on eBay, I may end up getting one (if they look and work ok)!

Alison (2012-06-13 04:49:00)

I'll look forward to seeing these and at a much more affordable price range, let's hope there are no quality issues with these!!

Scoot (2012-06-13 06:17:02)

I hope the Ikat is actually a woven pattern and not just a print of an Ikat design. Organisers with the look and feel of quality material and design, have in my opinion, been too few.

Gareth Buxton (2012-06-13 06:30:51)

I prefer to see them commission H. R Giger to create a filofax. That I would buy ;-)

Raych (2012-06-13 06:54:14)

that would be pretty cool!

gdigesu (2012-06-13 08:39:23)

Apparently, the Temperley initiative was successful, given Mr Presley is extending it. Good to know.

Nikki france (2012-06-13 09:04:56)

well I am surprised, I thought the Temperley collection was a bit of a flop all round!! Must say this price range and new design looks much more earthy and interesting!

HR Giger.....hmmm think that might be an acquired taste lol, certainly not one I have acquired :)

janet (2012-06-14 08:01:58)

I am actually very surprised at this because I got the impression it was a bit of a failure. Maybe the people who bought them are not writing about them? I actually rang and asked one of the sites who had been selling them and they said they had had quite a few returns of this time, one or two because of a problem with shoddy workmanship (interestingly not the leather but the rings) but mostly because people had obviously had second thoughts about the price.

Something like the Malden, you can tell it's been a runaway success because of word of mouth and in blogs. Temperley I didn't get that feeling although the market they were aiming for was probably small and success has probably been measured in those terms. Mm...you live and you learn. Still not tempted though.

1500 not out... (2012-06-13 07:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

1500 published posts in just under seven years, it's quite a mile stone really.

The 1500th was the post this morning about the Alice Temperley announcement. However, we are not sitting back, there are plenty more posts in the pipeline and other ideas to expand our community and share our knowledge amongst you all.

On behalf of the [2]team, thank you all for your continued support, without that we wouldn't have written so many posts I don't think!

Here's to the next 1500 !

1. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-CEevZoimuwM/T9h7bu-nXZI/AAAAAAAAALyw/sZIkA5jdig8/s1600/Popping-Champagne-cork.jpg>

2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/about-us.html>

Alison (2012-06-13 08:36:04)

1500 posts wow!! So glad to be part of this community, i'm relatively new around here but look forward to the next 1500 :)

M Ng (2012-06-13 08:43:03)

Congratulations to the Philofaxy team – and a hearty thank you for nurturing and growing this wonderful community. Here's to the next 1500!

gdigesu (2012-06-13 08:44:10)

Thank you Nan, Laurie, Anita and Steve. This is a big achievement. The relevance and high quality of the content regularly posted, week after week, is remarkable. Congratulations.

Scoot (2012-06-13 09:20:39)

It would be interesting to learn how many posts have been made by everyone, as free for all Tuesday and Friday keep nudging toward the 100 mark.

Ro (2012-06-13 09:41:09)

Thanks for this wonderful site and all the thought, generosity, kindness, and hard work that goes into it. I appreciate you guys and all that you do. Congrats on the milestone.

Ray Blake (2012-06-13 09:55:14)

Congratulations, team. Virtual pats on the back all round.

c86a8c44-0e01-11e1-a54a-000bcdcb5194 (2012-06-13 11:18:20)

Congratulations on this blog, you all deserve a round of applause! Also thanks to everyone who answered my plea for help with which filofax to buy my high school daughter! She is now awaiting her raspberry metropol to arrive, just got to find some fun inserts for her now!

Mags

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-06-13 11:25:09)

Wonderful!

Gerard (2012-06-13 11:27:00)

Sincere thanks and congratulations to Team Philofaxy.

Lynne Dove (2012-06-13 11:37:20)

Many congratulations and thanks

J (2012-06-13 11:56:07)

To the next 1500! Congratulations to you all, and thank you for creating and maintaining this amazing community!

Steve Morton (2012-06-13 12:06:21)

Comments are up to 16000 or 15995 to be exact as I post this one!

filofit (2012-06-13 13:30:32)

Congratulations to all.

LJ (2012-06-13 13:44:55)

Thanks guys for all your hard work in keeping us informed, up-to-date and entertained on a regular basis :o) We all think you are awesome :o)

RealityPrincess (2012-06-13 14:00:46)

Congrats!

And thanks for all these great tips and articles!

DEM (2012-06-13 15:14:49)

I absolutely love this community. Thank you for your dedication and leadership in keeping it going! No small feat!

Nikki france (2012-06-13 15:38:44)

Here here, thank you and congratulations on the continued and rising success of this site. The generosity of 'the team' in their time and help to readers and maintaining this site is true dedication to the cause, and involves hours of work!

Thank you one and all :)

HUGE congratulations

Nikki

Tim (2012-06-13 16:06:36)

... it's certainly a great team. Of the early contributors, Nan and Laurie are still here (hurrah!). Many of us longtime readers will also remember the original "Philofaxer" himself, who started it all off in late 2005 - often with the only comments coming from "anonymous"! Some of their exchanges was, well - whacky - but interesting nonetheless!

Lostwithoutyou (2012-06-13 17:36:30)

Congratulations!

Doris (2012-06-13 20:25:34)

So glad I found Philofaxy! Congratulations!

Alison Reeves (2012-06-14 03:06:40)

Wow - amazing - and I reckon I have read most of them! Well done to Steve, Nan and Laurie for some wonderful content that never fails to entertain!

This is the first place I come in the morning (as well as the Kindle Daily Deal) when I am around! Sorry I've not been so active recently - I am still reading it all, but very, very busy!

David Popely (2012-06-14 03:17:20)

hi Steve, Nan, Laurie, Anita

Thank you for your continued commitment to this site and community - it really is very much appreciated....

kanalt (2012-06-14 07:56:55)

Yay! Thank you for all of your hard work in making this community so great! I'd be lost without all of you! ;)

SNARLing: (2012-06-14 11:28:31)

yes - cin-cin to philofaxy and all its fans! so key in a lot of peoples' day-to-day. thank you all for being you

Yu (2012-06-15 16:15:11)

O _o; my original post is gone...

YAY! Congratulations! :D Thank you for everything and keep up the amazing work!

I hope more lurkers step out of the shadow and join in the great community that is Philofaxy. (I know that at least I immediately got more out of this blog when I started commenting. ^ _^)

Joseph David Quinton (2012-06-20 18:45:44)

Congratulations. I appreciate all of the hard work hat everyone puts into the community.

Folded To-Do page between Weekly pages (2012-06-14 00:00) - Laurie

I'm setting up my [1]Orchid Aston as my new Life In Scotland Filofax. The heather-purple color reminds me of the Scottish hillsides in August!

While setting things up, I had an idea to fold a lined page lengthwise so I could use it for my weekly lists without obscuring my view of the rest of the week:



[2]

My apologies to anyone who has already posted about this, I'm only just now figuring it out!

The reason I normally don't put a page between my weekly pages is I need to see my entire week at once. This way I can have a weekly list, and still see the entire week. By folding the page over, I can still have the entire page for my lists, and use the back of the page to record notes, expenditures, etc. When the week is over, I can unfold the page to reduce bulk and leave it between the week's pages as a record of what I did.

The photo above and below show a Cotton Cream lined page between Cotton Cream weekly pages. The only problem with this setup is that the holidays in the Cotton Cream weekly pages are printed at the

middle of the book, so they are covered up by the half-page.



[3]

I also happen to have this year's weekly insert in the white pages, which prints the holidays on the outside of the page, under the day names:



[4]

This allows holidays to be visible all week and not covered up by the half page.



[5]

I can still easily access the back of the lined page. I could even fold it over the other way for access to that side of the page in the second half of the week.



[6]

I'm really liking this setup!

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/12/aston-filofax-in-orchid.html>
2. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-n035RYzeHZA/T9cgz9E2FyI/AAAAAAAAADoU/zbpqRwiWiwo/s1600/P1060398.JPG>
3. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-ThvgYY8KtPg/T9chGhaIi8I/AAAAAAAAADoc/S9pwN8Y7Rdk/s1600/P1060399.JPG>
4. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-goS9A1mcAL8/T9chYlgT3-I/AAAAAAAAADok/xk-61rnBKvY/s1600/P1060400.JPG>
5. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-i-yVBZZXZH4/T9chqmaNUdI/AAAAAAAAADow/-wo7GfjFLNM/s1600/P1060401.JPG>
6. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-m2AiARTpieU/T9ch66SCY1I/AAAAAAAAADo4/ItW3nSTBaM0/s1600/P1060402.JPG>

Whispering Rabbit (2012-06-14 00:51:52)

I've started to do the exact same thing (based on a pocket FF idea by Snarl, I think), except I use the folded sheet as a mini week-to-view in between DPP inserts. It's perfection for me.

One side has the week's view, the other side has shopping lists & weekly goals.

SNARLing: (2012-06-14 02:48:02)

heh heh funny i just recently did another overhaul since i was at that point where i couldn't see my own todos again (playing too much with stickers and stuff - really can't have those - too distracting for me!) so i moved out of the pocket amazona and back into the compact chameleon. currently, 2012 vertical planner, 3 months of wpp w/notes and 1 week of 2ppd. wpp w/notes in between 2ppd. my classes end tomorrow so i will try really hard to do a blog post but in the meantime, quickie photo:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/aliceklar/7185801631/in/photostream>

Alison Reeves (2012-06-14 03:09:24)

Good idea - saves buying Day Timer hot notes!

David Popely (2012-06-14 03:14:28)

Looks like a good idea to me - from my point of view it would maintain the integrity of having everything in cotton cream, enable me to keep the weekly list (or ongoing list) in with the diary sheets, and also any extraneous info relating to diary appts (post codes for Sat Nav etc) without cluttering the diary.

I do *wish* FF would produce a range of diaries in cotton cream, though - their spectacular disregard for customer needs and comments continues to amaze and astound, and, to be honest, they barely deserve any customers at all. Still, we all know no-one is listening eh?.....

Scoot (2012-06-14 07:53:25)

Agreed.

kanalt (2012-06-14 08:21:03)

Laurie - Great idea! I do buy the DT hot sheets and use them all the time for this exact purpose. I haven't bought any in a while and I use every last inch of space on them before moving to a new sheet. I find them very helpful now with my work to-dos finally added to the filo. When I'm finished with what I have left, this might be a good replacement!

Ray Blake (2012-06-14 09:23:47)

An enhancement to consider: use thicker paper, cut to half width, then cut gaps between the holes and the inward edge of the paper, like a today marker. Now you have one you can move from week to week without opening the rings.

Ray Blake (2012-06-14 09:25:08)

How about a direct appeal to Alice Temperley? They seem to listen to her...

Alice x (2012-06-14 09:30:59)

This has got nothing to do with this post but OMG i feel like a total fool.

Went to look at the compatible page sizes etc in the FAQ section (which i have never before looked at - and found point 11..... I did know that is what they were for - it took me a while to figure out what was meant - no more cracked nails for me (from trying to prise the damn thing open.

Feel slightly foolish :(

Jotje (2012-06-14 10:51:02)

Exactly! I cut the punched holes of the Hotlists open like that so I can move them around without always opening the rings

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-06-14 13:11:29)

I really like this idea. I currently use the (personal) 'week on one page with notes' diary and it's working very well for me. It would be nice to have a bit more room within the days themselves though, so I might move back to my cotton cream 'week on two pages' with a folded notes page in between at some stage. I can see it working very well for me. Thanks for the tip!

Valerie (2012-06-14 14:12:28)

What a great idea! I have my 'To Do's' under another tab and have to constantly flip back and forth, which I do find annoying...this is perfect. Years ago I used the Day Timer hot sheets but I had forgotten all about them. I think I am going to implement this idea right away

Laurie (2012-06-14 20:46:45)

I've used the Franklin Covey bookmark pages in the past, but they didn't have enough space for my needs. This way I have an entire page, but it doesn't get in the way!

Free For All Friday No 187 (2012-06-15 00:00) - Anita

Happy early Father's Day!

I gave my Dad a burgundy Winchester for his birthday, and wasn't too sure how keen he would be as he's a great fan of his Blackberry. Luckily, he loved it and posted this picture on Facebook with the comment 'Dad the Filofax Man'!



[1] Do any of your Dads or relatives use filofaxes? As usual, please feel free to discuss anything filofax related or ask any questions you may have. Have a lovely weekend.

1. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-t97Ae0b_0xM/T9o16iF-h1I/AAAAAAAAAg0/Wu173MjxkGI/s1600/457354_291427784257199_1774519078_o.jpg

T (2012-06-15 00:16:25)

Inspired by Jotje's video of her Chameleon pocket, I bought a black one on sale this week. I'm so looking forward to setting it up this weekend!

It's really gorgeous, but I do have a question for all you Chameleon owners out there: mine doesn't lie flat out of the box – did yours?

EmmaNoey (2012-06-15 00:56:43)

What a nice Father's Day present! I like the calculator too, it looks like it has oft rubber buttons instead of the hard plastic ones.

I wanted to say how happy I was today to find the illustrated cotton cream notepaper on the French Filofax site! I had used up all my old stash from 2001 and now the U.S. site doesn't have it. The little pictures along the edge are so pretty. :-). It's the little things . . .

Doris (2012-06-15 01:03:43)

I tried to get my husband into it but to no avail. My daughter's been using one since college, and I share inserts/accessories with her. I got some friends into it before but I don't see anyone using theirs anymore.

Lime Tree (2012-06-15 02:02:44)

oh, that is a very nice Filofax! Where can you find that calculator? The Filofax one is very thin. Not solid and "robust" like that one.

Vanjilla (2012-06-15 03:02:55)

I got my very techno-gadget dad hooked on a Graphic a5 Zip! :-)
And the burgundy Winchester above is such a lovely gift, Anita!...

Keji (2012-06-15 03:25:29)

Hi T.

Mine didn't either and it was personal sized. I don't think any of them do. I had to train it - which I did over 2 days. It now rests flat really well - enough for me to right in it and leave open on my desk without any problems.

Alison Reeves (2012-06-15 03:58:01)

Great gift Anita - looks like he has really taken to it! And where did you get that calculator! Would be a great addition to any FF.

Debimoje (2012-06-15 04:26:50)

I just wanted to have a rave about how fab the lovely people at filofax are! A couple of weeks ago, I was desperately trying to find an A5 Cuban zip and had already had 2 regular Cubans delivered to me from different companies who were displaying a picture of the zip one on their websites, so I had to return them, lovely as they were :(I saw a picture of the zip on Filofax corporate website and rang up on the off chance. I explained that I was not a corporate customer but that they were my last hope and the lady (Helen) was lovely! She said their website was out of date and they probably didn't have any but if she could find one anywhere in the building, I could have it! She called me back after a few mins and said, "I have a beautiful chilli red Cuban zip on my desk here with your name on it" I almost died with excitement! Lol
She sent it out special delivery and I received it the very next morning!!!
Now that's what I call service :))

Gail (2012-06-15 04:27:48)

My hubby is a truck driver and a few weeks ago while sorting his bag out for him, I noticed his driving license and digital tachocard along with his agency cards and site passes were stuffed into a worn envelope.....que.....would a filofax work for him?

So I looked among my little collection of 20 and found the Personal Ranger would be just perfect for him. Spent an hour or so putting inserts into it, adding address of all the various companies he works for etc. and using a double sided card holder for his driving license and digicards etc. I threw a handful of coins in the front zipped pocket for the coffee machines and presented it to hubby.

He LOVED it! He's a real man's man so I thought he might be a bit iffy carrying a filofax, but now when he goes for job interviews or stops at truck stops, out comes the Filo cos it has everything in there he needs. He uses the Diary pages to write out what job he does when, hours worked that day, where he has been and who worked for. He's said he's had a few positive comments on it too and because it's a Ranger, it looked rugged....a bit like him. lol

Alison (2012-06-15 05:14:24)

What a lovely gift, although it would be completely lost on my dad, he doesn't even use a mobile phone and refuses to have a computer in the house, I just can't see him using a filofax, looks like it's golf balls, tee's and chocolate again lol :)

Ro (2012-06-15 05:54:10)

Really great story! I loved reading this. Made me smile. Thanks for sharing this, and happy weekend!

Anita (2012-06-15 05:56:56)

Hi Lime Tree,

I was tempted to keep the Winchester, but am glad it made such a good gift. Not sure where he got the calculator, so have asked him to let me know or leave a comment here about it & to introduce himself :)

mayfaery (2012-06-15 06:21:38)

I am a pholofaxy newbie! I just discovered you and ALL OF YOU ARE AWESOME

I now want to do so much to my domino, but it's a bit old now and can't function as a purse (as I would now like it to) I think I need an enabler.

I just love the Compact Pennybridge ... I need a new one, right?

Butanben (2012-06-15 06:29:16)

My dad loves his personal Filofax.... so much that it is falling to pieces.... I am sure he has a vintage model there. I have asked before if he would like a new one for birthday/Christmas/Father's Day, but he has always said an unequivocal no.... as he adores the one he has!! So.... it is dark chocolate again for the 17th!!! My birthday too.... so the Filofax is full of celebration and cake stickers!!!

Vanjilla (2012-06-15 09:03:02)

Dear mayfaery,

you definitely need a new one. ;-) Welcome!

ehan (2012-06-15 09:31:35)

I am plan to buy my dad a personal siena from filofax germany as a present, but I can not process my order even with google translator. the problem is filofax germany does not accpect international postcode and address!!! I know it use to have DHL and accept paypal before, but I dont know what changed!

is there any one could help me to go though the ordering process?

thanks!!!

Saffy (2012-06-15 09:55:20)

Put a 0 (zero) in the postcode box and put your postcode in the address line.

Yasmin (2012-06-15 10:00:12)

Hi T,

My personal chameleon took about a week to lie flat and that was without any training! :-)

gdigesu (2012-06-15 10:06:46)

On vintage Filofaxes - I was web hunting for old Filos and bumped into this old post from mid-2006 -

http://philofaxy.blogspot.com.br/2006/07/rock-hard-place-and-some-co_mplains.html

It was interesting to see that the comments regarding product quality, ring sizes, and other similar subjects have stayed the same after 6 years.

Scoot (2012-06-15 10:20:31)

Calculators to fit in an Organiser have always been a problem for me, partly thickness which takes up too much space, poor key pads, but the worst issue is 8 digits on the screen.

I found that normal calculators are best carried elsewhere, though if I had a Holborn slotted type organiser I may be tempted to include one. If they ever produce decent key pads on phones then I'm sure the calculator will largely disappear....but it still leaves the problem of what to do with a phone....is the Temperley option of a pocket the best they can do?

Jarfm.com (2012-06-15 11:55:45)

I have just read the "Rock and hard place" post and have then looked up the A5 Time/Design hole punches. Does anyone use one of these? They sound a billion times better than the Filofax metal one but I'm wondering how it compares to the Rapesco one I have (which doesn't do A5 without having to only use 3 rings then flip the paper then punch the remaining 3 - as I'm sure some of you know!). The Rapesco is brilliant, smooth and strong - I just wish it could punch A5 without the faffing so if the Time/Design one matches up I think I might have to order one!

Cazzle (2012-06-15 12:09:20)

Hello everyone!

I have ME and have just embarked on a new treatment which requires me to keep on top of a complicated daily routine of various supplements and lymphatic massage techniques.

Does anyone have experience with tracking daily routines? What's the best way to do it? I was thinking of using a 2ppd format, but don't really want to write everything out each day. Perhaps a weekly checklist? I thought about using a flyleaf and dry wipe marker, but would prefer to be able to track my progress. I need it to be in a portable format; wither personal or pocket size.

Your help is appreciated!!

Cazzle (2012-06-15 12:10:09)

This is so thoughtful!

ehan (2012-06-15 12:12:33)

hi saffy, thanks for suggestions. I gave I try but the website said Bitte geben Sie Ihre Straße, Hausnummer und Postleitzahl ein und klicken auf "suchen" um Ihre Adresse zu vervollständigen. Bitte wählen Sie im Anschluss aus den angezeigten Möglichkeiten aus. Dieser Service steht nur für Deutschland zur Verfügung.

then I put 0 in postcode, but it doesn't allow me to process , always come up with

Wenn Sie Probleme mit der Adressuche haben, geben Sie Ihre Adresse manuell ein

I don't know how can I check out easily? :(

Steve Morton (2012-06-15 12:13:43)

Try 0000 in the postcode box.

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-06-15 12:23:59)

Gail that's so cool!

Jarfm.com (2012-06-15 12:24:16)

Have you seen [1]FlyLady Lots of ideas for routines on there and can easily be put into a FiloFax :)

1. <http://www.flylady.net/>

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-06-15 12:26:28)

@mayfaery: It will be my pleasure to enable you. Just click on the 'Adspot' page at the top of this site and you will find a compact Pennybridge at the discounted price of £25 plus postage. Happy Filofaxing! ;-)

Patricia (2012-06-15 12:33:55)

I finally got my husband into a pocket sized filofax. The problem is that he just doesn't "cherish" it. Yes, it suits his needs, but he scribbles in it, the pages end up dog-eared and he rarely has a pen in there!!! And I have to watch this!

Gail (2012-06-15 12:43:52)

Awahh thanks everyone. After writing the post I thought I might give blogging a go, so this afternoon I set out and made my first blog post....not that it's very interesting but I guess it's a start. lol

Ms. C (2012-06-15 12:47:26)

I am in the midst of doing the same sort of thing for my husband. He has a ratty old address book from a discount store than I bought him ages ago; it's literally falling apart! I bought a Personal Finsbury Zip in a lovely rich brown for him and have put quite a few things in it already. I thought the zip was a good choice because then he can just put papers and receipts in quickly, zip it up, and organize them later. One night soon when he's asleep I'm going to grab the old book out of his work bag and input all the phone numbers, addresses, etc. I really think he is going to love it!

Angel Jem (2012-06-15 13:29:15)

I got my niece a vintage pink Malden for her 21st... a little worried in case it was too 'vintage' but she says she loves it!

Angel Jem (2012-06-15 13:47:22)

Diabetic hubby is supposed to track blood sugar in a preprinted diary provided by the drugs company.... could you fiddle around on a computer and get a basic template to fill in every day with just the numbers? I presume you have regular doses and times to do things? If you're not puter happy, someone around you may have the technology?

Steve Morton (2012-06-15 14:10:53)

Hi

We could adapt one of our 'Ray and Steve' infamous inserts to your recording requirements may be?

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/free-diary-inserts.html> for the full 'range'

Steve

Cazzle (2012-06-15 14:53:40)

Angel Jem; I was thinking something like that, although it's quite a complex routine and I'm not sure it would fit into a chart. One of the issues with ME is being quite forgetful; I need to see a lot of info! I don't have any experience with spreadsheets but could probably work something out :)

Steve: That would be amazing! I was thinking something along those lines, but I didn't know how to modify the files. I am spreadsheet illiterate! Perhaps a modified Time Management insert for personal size would do the trick.. with more columns for checklists. I'll have to think about this!

Cazzle (2012-06-15 14:54:33)

I've had a look, lots of info to digest! Thanks for the tip

lydhold (2012-06-15 15:10:57)

A while ago on Adspot there were some hole-punchers for sale from someone on here, can anyone point me in the right direction? Or a suitable alternative?

Also - does anyone hand-draw their diary inserts? I'm completely fed up of filofax's rubbish paper (avid fountain pen user) and since I've just treated myself to a new A5 Smythson filo I'm thinking of creating by hand my diary inserts on smythson paper, which will be much cheaper than buying their diary inserts (£25 for a year's worth rather than £50) . I've done a few weeks of this in my personal filo, and have found that a week on one page with notes on the opposite works well for me, but with the A5 (my house filo/work from home) I'd have more opportunity to add sections for various to-do's/work. Has anyone else attempted this?

Thank you!

Yu (2012-06-15 15:26:40)

I gave my mom a personal size Adelphi (red) and she loves it. But I have yet to get her interested in the community here on Philofaxy or to use the filofax very much. ("It feels so precious that I have to be careful with how I use it. And are you sure there are other middle-aged people on that blog? I would feel silly.") Hopefully she'll realize that there are other mothers here and that she can find lots of inspiration. :)

I have a question for all the BAROQUE-OWNERS out there. Um basically: 1. was the filofax's leather WRINKLED when you first got it? 2. Does Filofax sell second-hand (returned) filofaxes? I kind of get that impression with mine. :(

For pics and more details:

belzira.blogspot.com

(Yes, that's right. I finally started that blog! It's not exclusively about filofaxes, though. But the first post is dedicated to them and... uh... huge.)

Alison (2012-06-15 15:39:38)

Lol, that would be too much for me to handle!!

Anthony Hill (2012-06-15 15:57:19)

Has anyone noticed that the diameter of the holes with the Rapesco hole punch is greater than the standard Filofax. I know it isn't critical just thought I'd raise the point.

c86a8c44-0e01-11e1-a54a-000bcdcb5194 (2012-06-15 16:08:27)

Oh dear what have I done, I treated myself to an A5 Kendal less than a month ago which I adore by the way! However I have become addicted and have purchased a pocket metropole for my daughter and now have just successfully purchased two more online. Is this normal behaviour and how do I explain myself to my other half??
Mags

Yu (2012-06-15 16:11:56)

It's completely normal! :D

And an A5 Kendal, that's a very good choice!

JasJan (2012-06-15 16:16:32)

Mine are not wrinkled, can you send them back? Doesn't sound right to me!!!

Yu (2012-06-15 16:42:36)

I sent an email to Filofax France now... *sigh* I have to wait for at least two days before I get a reply and I only have 7 days for return.. >.< I hope they are quick with email, otherwise I'll have to make an international call. T
_T

It really does feel second-hand. It's so weird. This cost 94€ and is SUPPOSEDLY new, but feels older and more worn than my actual second-hand black Malden!

Butanben (2012-06-15 17:03:20)

@Cazzle. Hi there, I had quite prolonged ME, following glandular fever, Epstein Barr Virus, caught at the age of 36. I just wanted to let you know that there is a light at the end of the tunnel and that you can come through this. I too had to keep a diary for my GP of symptoms, exercise etc. Unfortunately at the time, the virus did all sorts of peculiar things to my liver and bone marrow, and with a positive glandular fever test, it was proven that it was the cause. I am now fully recovered, but still watch my energy levels like a hawk and stick to the 70 % rule, ie do 70 % of what you think you can do.... go gently. The treatments, massage, cranial sacral work, etc etc, can make you feel worse before you then start to get better, but you can get better from this hellish illness. Your filofax charts will be a huge support. All the best with it.... thinking of you Cazzle. DIY planner and Vertex 42 sites have a great range of medical charts too.

Anita (2012-06-15 17:23:58)

Hi Mags,

I think it's fairly normal behaviour for us filo-fans, so you're in good company on that account. My own husband's opinion is that filofax obsession is a lot less harmful than many other habits :)

Steve Morton (2012-06-15 17:30:52)

Gail, everyone has to have a 'first post' well done for getting off the mark... looking forward to future posts.

Steve Morton (2012-06-15 17:35:42)

There's an ISO standard for hole punches, detailed here: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hole_punch
Hole size is 6 mm ±0.5 mm.

I'm full of amazing fact like that.... don't ever invite me to a dinner party... your guests will be asleep before desert! More for me!!!

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-06-15 17:37:41)

Yes this is normal behaviour for a Filofaxoholic. As for explaining it to your husband, simply do what I do with both Filofaxes and handbags. When he says, 'Is that new?', just say, 'This old thing? No - I've had it ages!'. Easy, job done. Welcome!!!

Alison (2012-06-15 17:48:02)

I'm feeling quite worried now, i've ordered one of those the other day from filofax Fr, hope I don't have the same problem plus i'm worried about communication, me and google translate don't get along, i'm actually amazed I got through the checkout process to be honest, keep us updated as to how you get on with it, good luck!! :(

Alison (2012-06-15 17:53:00)

Haha, so normal, i'm obsessed lol, as for telling the husband, I don't, i've got some very good hiding places, or I half the price, I even get them on a buy one get one free deal, haha maybe it's to my benefit that he has no interest in the filofax :o

JasJan (2012-06-15 17:56:28)

If you have no luck with France I would try uk Filofax. I bought an A5 Malden from another online retailer, anyway rings didn't close properly so I emailed Filofax and they sent a replacement straight away even though I did not buy from them. My Baroques have had heavy use and are no where near wrinkled, it sounds like a fault or sub standard leather, either way Filofax should help you.

Cazzle (2012-06-15 18:10:54)

Hi Butanben. Thanks for your kind words. I was diagnosed three years ago and have tried a multitude of treatments, but I am feeling especially positive about the Perrin Technique, which I have just begun. Hopefully this combined with nutrition and some Optimum Health Clinic courses will have an impact. I am expecting a slow road to recovery but I hope to learn from the journey. I am trying to put together an A5 binder to keep together all the info I have collected, and to journal and track my progress, but figuring it all out and putting it together is exhausting! I am sure you understand what I mean :) xx

ehan (2012-06-15 18:10:56)

sorry it doesn't work. thanks for all helps, but I am really disappointed by the online service...

swatibee (2012-06-15 18:21:27)

I have had to put in a city, state (or appropriate equivalent) and postal code that are all real for Paypal to run for me, then I put the correct information in the second address line and full address again in the note to seller. It's the only way I've had any luck. Looks like:

Name : your name

Address 1: 123 Any Street

Address 2: Real city, real state, real postal code, real country

City: fake city

State: fake state

Postal Code: fake postal code (they must all match these days which is why 00000 doesn't work)

Note to Seller:

Please send this to "your name, 123 Any Street, Real city, real state, real postal code, real country" thanks

Anthony Hill (2012-06-15 18:50:42)

Thanks Steve just read the wikipedia article. I think it's very helpful of you to answer.

DEM (2012-06-15 19:07:48)

Thanks for sharing your story, Gail! I can just picture this manly truck driver pulling out his FF, that his wife put together for him. How wonderful! And it's a little reminder of you! Did you add a picture or two as well? :-)

DEM (2012-06-15 19:10:59)

Welcome, mayfaery! Yes, you *need* one! You deserve one! And make sure to let us all know how you like it!

DEM (2012-06-15 19:19:43)

Well, I guess you could try to look at it this way: It suits his needs and he is using it as he likes. I know what you mean about it being hard to watch. Maybe he is cherishing it in his own way since it sounds like he uses it quite a bit.

DEM (2012-06-15 19:30:20)

Definitely normal! I've gone a bit nuts at times. Within 48 hours I had purchased three new Filos; and now I want another one! And the worst part is that it's the Personal Ostrich! How crazy is that! I keep trying to justify it and I have found it on sale but....my goodness....how could I possibly?! But I sooooo want it! I keep visiting it online. All this to say, yup, you're normal! Now I'm off to virtually visit the ostrich!

Yu (2012-06-15 19:46:16)

I wonder if that would work as this Baroque is only available on the French website? But I guess it wouldn't hurt to try! ^_^ Thanks.

Doris (2012-06-15 20:01:15)

Hi Yu! Congratulations on the new blog! I looked at the Baroque photos first to check the wrinkling, and they do seem to be more wrinkled than they should be. I looked at my teal which I got used and it's not wrinkled at all. The pink which I got new shows some creasing but not wrinkling. I'm thinking they've been in stock so long that they got stacked under other filos and got wrinkled.

That is such a bummer, being they're running low on stock. Hope you get a replacement.

EmmaNoey (2012-06-16 00:41:46)

and a lot more fun!

c86a8c44-0e01-11e1-a54a-000bcdcb5194 (2012-06-16 02:59:09)

Thank you for all your reassurances, I think I will hide them! Trouble is we work together with our own stationery business - wonder if I should try and stock filofax ;)

Mags x

ehan (2012-06-16 05:26:57)

thank you very much swatibee, I feel to risky to do this because although the siena is on discount, is still quite expensive. I found it also discount on Italy filofax website, and it has the same check out process as UK, plus paypal. so I am happily ordered from italy, shame on germany website been so stupid.

thanks for all the help!!!!

David Popely (2012-06-16 06:17:08)

I'm a huge fan of Muji calculators. As an accountant, I'm probably an above-average calculator user, so I sympathise concerning 'soft' key pads, which I can't abide.

Muji do a pocket version, and a larger desk version - both brilliant. Neither, however, would fit in a Filo, unless you slip the pocket version into one of the zip or inside-cover compartments. They're both fully solar powered, though, no batteries, so that wouldn't be a problem.....

David Popely (2012-06-16 06:22:55)

hi Gail

I'd never heard of or seen the Ranger before - how nice a binder, and how convenient that it's a more 'masculine'

design. It's similar to my old, oiled leather Richmond (discontinued around 2002), which I also love. It's the only binder I ever used before I got my ochre Malden....

David Popely (2012-06-16 06:24:43)

Nothing wrong with golf accessories.....ever!

I struggle to convince family and friends that to me a book token is *not* a last resort present choice, but a first choice!

DEM (2012-06-16 10:09:15)

That made me laugh! I've done the same thing, but with purses! I'd hide my latest purchase until enough time had gone by to bring it out..."Oh, this old thing? I've had it for ages!" And now I'm being over run in my closet by purses! lol

Yu (2012-06-16 14:32:10)

Yes, either a perfect replacement (which I really hope I will get as I thought about it and realize that yes, I love the binder, but things like these bugs me when all the other filofaxes I have -except for one- have perfect rings and leathers!) or a big partial refund! Because paying full price for a "second hand feel" filofax just rubs me the wrong way. >.<

Yu (2012-06-16 14:34:53)

Oh, and thanks! :) I'll get back to you about the amazona soon. Got a pretty high fever just a few hours after the last email. So I haven't been able to concentrate very well except for short amounts of time. =(

Lostwithoutyou (2012-06-16 15:59:12)

Not sure if its too late to post this so if I don't get many responses I'll repost next Friday...

I've got a purple a5 malden that I set up a while back. I'm really happy with the way I've got it. I've got 6 tabs - Info (which contains the filofax information sheets), Uni (uni to do page, modules and lectures within those modules, column which I tick once the handout has been printed and one which I tick once I've written it up, and some project planner sheets), Notes (to do list, a list of stuff to pack when I go home for the weekend, media, wishlist, and some blank paper), Gifts (one sheet per family member + boyfriend with two columns, one for birthday and one for christmas where I keep note of presents bought each year), Diary (stickers, a page where I've listed direct debits so I know what money comes out when, a year planner, month on two pages and then the week on one page time management insert (purchased from Jotje on ebay), then finally a Misc tab (two envelopes containing stickers, receipts etc).

As I'm a uni student my summers tend to be quiet so I bought a teal finchley from the adspot pages but I can't decide how to set it up and so I'm not using it. I've made dividers but just don't know what to put on them. I plan to keep my A5 for reference for gifts and things but I just don't know the best way to set up the pocket.

Does anyone use an A5 and a pocket together and if so how do you co-ordinate the two?

Butanben (2012-06-16 17:15:01)

@Cazzle, I totally understand your journey with this dreadful illness. The 70 % rule was what started to heal me, that and time I think for the body to repair. The important thing is to stop before the exhaustion hits. At the beginning,with this glandular fever and ME,for me a simple thing such as washing my hair would make me feel very ill. So I had to pace myself carefully. Simple things help, such as I bought a lighter iron, and non iron sheets!!! Easy freezer meals were a must and fruit and veg internet shopped. Use your Filofax to identify activity patterns perhaps and those which drain your energy the most.... then you can make adaptations from that knowledge. All the best... give yourself the hugest pat on the back for using your Filofax to help you on the journey to wellness!!!

Helen Conway (2012-06-16 18:22:45)

Oh David, me too. They always say they dont want to buy me the same thing.. Why don't they get that I buy a different book with the token each time?!!

Helen Conway (2012-06-16 18:30:33)

I use a single hole punch I bought on Amazon for less than Three pounds. It is robust and punches a good few sheets at once. I use the ruler as a hole guide. Works a treat.

Helen Conway (2012-06-16 18:35:57)

Totally normal. I found this blog, sent it to a friend to show her how mad people were and now only a few months later we are both multiple Filofax owners and regularly email to tell each other what we are doing with them. In fact she just sent me a new A5 Caramel Finchley from the States as I could not get it here. So be prepared for the addiction to get worse!

Yu (2012-06-16 19:15:19)

:D haha! Never underestimate the power of the Fo—stationery!

lydhold (2012-06-17 03:36:45)

Thank you so much for your response Helen, I think I'll have to give that a go instead.

David Popely (2012-06-17 03:42:50)

I think what they don't get is that they haven't just bought you a book token, or even just a book (if 'just' can be used there), but a whole afternoon of browsing in your favourite bookshop. There are some things about the book buying experience which online sellers will never replace!

Anita (2012-06-17 10:00:14)

I've just heard back from my Dad & he purchased the calculator in the photo at a jumble sale for 50p! Scoot, I agree with you as I like the idea of having one in my filo sometimes, but have never had one for the reasons you mention.

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-18 06:00:58)

That's gorgeous: I'm probably showing my age here, but to me Filofaxes WERE always a very masculine thing, power lunches and "Let me check my book" and all that. It's great to see a Filofax fitting a specific set of needs like a hand fits a glove!

@David, if you see this, did the Richmond you mentioned have a similar feel & ability to soak up damage as the oiled leather on a Kendal? If it did, I might have to keep my eyes peeled for a vintage one, to replace my lovely but oh-so-scratchable Finsbury.

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-18 06:06:04)

Even with Amazon book tokens, it's nice to know you're getting someone something from their wishlist - they're my perfect present (give & receive) because they minimise faffing about and maximise the ability to buy a gift that will really be valued.

I always feel a bit sad when someone's spent money on me, and bought something I'll never use in a month of Sundays... just makes me think of the things I would have liked more, especially the ones that would have cost LESS: probably childish and all that, but, just being honest there!

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-18 06:12:20)

@Cazzle, this isn't directly Filofax related but most Casio Baby G & G-Shock watches come with an option for 5 separate alarms per day, also the option to have World Time (useful if your sleep-wake pattern varies from the norm - just select the world zone that fits best on wakeup, and then you'll know when your 12pm is, and so on) and also things like a countdown timer & stopwatch.

I found the alarms invaluable when nursing my sick dog who had a complicated regime of meds, and the World Time is excellent if I do any night work, and need a reality check on what my own time is versus clock time.

David Popely (2012-06-18 06:16:22)

Hi Shanti

Yes, the Richmond is almost identical to the Kendal. I think they may have replaced one with the other, virtually

just a name change, although there may be some other differences. It's very robust, I like the oiled leather a lot, and I would definitely go back to it immediately if I didn't have my Ochre Malden. I find the Malden looks better with a bit of wear, but the Richmond virtually never picks up any wear, no matter how harshly I treat it.

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-18 06:16:53)

Far better to be dog-eared & used, than miserable in a glass case, like the Sleeping Princess!

Have you tried one of the pens specifically designed for Filofaxes, on a piece of nylon string attached to the rings or a hole punched in the cover?

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-18 06:20:26)

I got a single hole punch from Rymans last week for £1.99 - it's their own brand, and it's gone through card & thin plastic sheet very easily so far: the packet promises it can do 5 x 80gsm paper at once.

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-18 06:33:12)

I'd ask what your summers contain that needs organising, and then address this from needs, rather than trying to take a punt in advance.

You could try carrying something cheap & disposable, like a reporter's style notepad, for a week: pretend it's a Fax, using it for appointments, to-do lists, and so on, and longer-term info (eg monthly budgeting, or whatever your long term things are) in the back - and then see how those categories break down after a week of being in action. Its limitations should immediately scream at you about what you want most from your Filofax setup.

There's also no obligation to use all (or many) dividers right away: if you start out using say, 2, (Diary and Notes maybe) then you can always add the others in as the need becomes apparent.

As a final comment, I found having a "Miscellaneous" divider saved me trying to make separate sections for every new thing, which would then sit mostly empty as my interests moved on, or when the interest in question didn't seem to generate much paperwork. It's a good catch-all for new things, and the beauty of Filofax is you're always able to create a new section whenever necessary.

Yu (2012-06-18 09:14:46)

What Shanti said!

I completely failed to use the pocket size (even though it was a satellite filo), but then again, I did try it during the middle of the semester... Might be different for summer... Hm...

Andrea Mocko (2012-06-18 11:05:19)

It took me until my last semester of college to figure out my "perfect set up." Go figure... :(What I was using wasn't a filofax set up, but it could translate to one which I plan to do once my A5 arrives this week. I used a myAgenda (roughly A5 sized) planner which had 2 page per week and monthly views for tracking any due dates or appointments for school and work. I'd have used a Filofax, but I preferred having boxes for each class, work, and personal commitments. Each night, I'd look at the myAgenda for any due dates and appointments use that to make a daily to do list in a (roughly pocket sized) Color a Month Moleskine daily planner. The great part was that if I didn't want to bring the A5, I could just carry the pocket sized daily planner. Or if I wanted to bring both, I could just slip the small daily planner into the A5.

mayfaery (2012-06-20 12:29:25)

Thank you for the enabling! I have bought the one from adspot and I can't wait for it to arrive! I am so excited!

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-06-20 13:40:22)

It was my pleasure! Enjoy!

Web Finds 16th June 2012 (2012-06-16 00:00) - Steve Morton

Thank you for the great feedback on last weeks web finds about the change to a numbered format, they will be this format from now on.

So it is now time to grab some light refreshment of your choice and sit and enjoy for an hour or so.....

1. [1]I climb on board the Magic Roundabout.... - Angel Jem's City Cottage
2. [2]'Pimping' your Filofax - Krista's Filo
3. [3]Mini Filofax Love - Kirsten Becoming
4. [4]Well, the batteries never run out - MacPsych
5. [5]Filofax Design Competition - Origami Chicken
6. [6]More filofax news and pictures! - Krista's Filo
7. [7]Finally, a Baroque! - Lancashire Cat
8. [8]Filofolios: Make your own Portable Portfolio using Business Cards and Filofax - Filofancy
9. [9]iPad, iPod Touch and Planner: The Optimum Planning Combination - Well Planned Life
10. [10]my filofax week #8 - Paper Lovestory
11. [11]Does size matter!! - Filo Obsessed
12. [12]The does-it-all Malden - The Crazy Life of J
13. [13]Filofax 11-6-2012 - My life in words
14. [14]Seeking Filofaxian Nirvana - The Crazy Suburban Mom
15. [15]Filofax Fail :(- The Wonderful Life of Alice
16. [16]Design Your Own Stickers for Your Filofax - Filofancy
17. [17]Filofax SALE (almost!) - Lime Tree
18. [18]My Filofax! - The New Closet Romantic
19. [19]A Filofax Moodboard Like Temperley's - Filofancy
20. [20]I can't contain my excitement!! - Filo Obsessed
21. [21]filofax spot: in Gossip Girl (again!) - Paper Lovestory
22. [22]Filofax... A Fashion Brand on the Rise or an Endangered Species? - Essence Design
23. [23]Derby Girls Use Filofaxes! - Filofax Fixation
24. [24]OK here goes first post - It's My Life!
25. [25]Filofax Blog of the Week: LJ's Blog of Stuff - My Life All in One Place
26. [26]101 List Progress Check - Jun 14th 2012 - LJ's Blog of Stuff
27. [27]My B-day (French letters, Goddess Circle and Filofax) - Lime Tree
28. [28]Mini longing . . . - All Things Stationery
29. [29]Print your own Filofax Travel Journal - now in Pocket size - My Life All in One Place
30. [30]Filofax Planner Fail - Rapunzel's World
31. [31]Filofax Planner Fail-Part 2 - Rapunzel's World

32. [32]The Filofax planner fail-part 3 - Rapunzel's World

33. [33]Purple - Fresh American

34. [34>Welcome - Belzira's corner

- Your blog post could appear here next week if we missed you this time around. Email us the details and we will include it if we can.
- We can't guarantee people will read your posts, but we know there is a higher chance of people reading your posts and returning to read other posts if you make them interesting with pictures and good hints and tips. Don't forget to give your posts a title...

And here is this weeks Video Finds

IFRAME: [35]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/jlRFVIEe5Nw?rel=0>

IFRAME: [36]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/OYS1yVQMf1M?rel=0>

IFRAME: [37]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/3LFfJFnpNDo?rel=0>

IFRAME: [38]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/zlDN9la7bGY?rel=0>

Enjoy

1. <http://angeljemscitycottage.blogspot.fr/2012/06/i-climb-on-board-magic-roundabout.html>
2. <http://kristasfilo.blogspot.ca/2012/06/pimping-your-filofax.html>
3. <http://kirstenbecoming.blogspot.fr/2012/06/mini-filofax-love.html>
4. <http://macpsych.me/2012/06/10/well-the-batteries-never-run-out/>
5. <http://www.origamichicken.com/2012/06/filofax-design-competition.html>
6. <http://kristasfilo.blogspot.ca/2012/06/more-filofax-news-and-pictures.html>
7. <http://lancashirecat.wordpress.com/2012/06/10/finally-a-baroque/>
8. <http://filofancy.blogspot.fr/2012/06/filofolios-make-your-own-portable.html>
9. <http://wellplannedlife.blogspot.fr/2012/06/ipad-ipod-touch-and-planner-optimum.html>
10. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/06/my-filofax-week-8.html>
11. <http://filo-obsessed.blogspot.co.uk/2012/06/does-size-matter.html>
12. <http://thecrazylifeofj.blogspot.fr/2012/06/does-it-all-malden.html>
13. <http://wordsofmywholelife.blogspot.fr/2012/06/filofax-11-6-2012.html>
14. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/06/seeking-filofaxian-nirvana.html>
15. <http://the-wonderful-life-of-alice.blogspot.fr/2012/06/filofax-fail.html>
16. <http://filofancy.blogspot.fr/2012/06/design-your-own-stickers-for-your.html>
17. <http://limetreefruits.blogspot.fr/2012/06/filofax-sale-almost.html>
18. <http://www.thenewclosetromantic.com/2012/06/my-filofax.html>
19. <http://filofancy.blogspot.fr/2012/06/filofax-moodboard-like-temperleys.html>
20. <http://filo-obsessed.blogspot.fr/2012/06/i-cant-contain-my-excitement.html>
21. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/06/filofax-spot-in-gossip-girl-again.html>
22. <http://ukbrandstrategy.com/2012/06/15/filofax-a-fashion-brand-on-the-rise-or-an-endangered-species/>
23. <http://filofaxfixation.wordpress.com/2012/06/14/derby-girls-use-filofaxes/>
24. <http://gailwheatley.blogspot.fr/2012/06/okay-here-goes-first-post-i-have-always.html>
25. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/06/filofax-blog-of-week-ljs-blog-of-stuff.html>
26. <http://ljsblogofstuff.blogspot.fr/2012/06/101-list-progress-check-jun-14th-2012.html>
27. <http://limetreefruits.blogspot.fr/2012/06/my-b-day-french-letters-goddess-circle.html>
28. <http://allthingsstationery.blogspot.fr/2012/06/mini-longing.html>
29. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/06/print-your-own-filofax-travel-journal.html>
30. <http://icclewu.blogspot.fr/2012/06/filofax-planner-fail.html>
31. <http://icclewu.blogspot.fr/2012/06/filofax-planner-fail-part-2.html>
32. <http://icclewu.blogspot.fr/2012/06/filofax-planner-fail-part-3.html>

33. <http://www.freshamerican.com/annies-reno/7814>
34. <http://belzira.blogspot.fr/2012/06/normal-0-21-false-false-false-sv-x-none.html>
35. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/j1RFVIEe5Nw?rel=0>
36. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/OYS1yVQMf1M?rel=0>
37. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/3LFfJFnpNDo?rel=0>
38. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/z1DN91a7bGY?rel=0>

LJ (2012-06-16 00:37:09)

Thanks for including me :o) And thanks for another great selection :o

Alison (2012-06-16 03:05:03)

Yay thanks for including me!! :) What a great list, I love Saturdays, thanks :)

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-06-16 06:39:56)

Woo hoo! Another bumper list!

I did a post on making my own filofax diary this week:

<http://paperpensink.blogspot.co.uk/2012/06/i-designed-my-own-diary-for-2013.html>
if people are interested...?

Steve Morton (2012-06-16 06:53:32)

Sorry Amanda, yours and a couple of others got missed out this week, still can't get my RSS script to read your RSS feed and that of a couple of other blogs.

But I've put them in manually for next week...

Steve Morton (2012-06-16 07:01:52)

Update.... I've fixed it Hooray...

Jotje (2012-06-16 08:37:13)

Once again, I'm not included in the Webfinds ...

Of course, the fact that I haven't yet written a new blogpost might have something to do with it! LOL

Have been very busy with a crazy assignment that I will hand in next Monday and then I'll have time to write the next one.

I have meanwhile composed a long list of possible Filofax posts. Amazing really, how we all never seem to run out of stuff to tell about Filofaxes ...

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-06-16 10:19:13)

Thanks Steve!!

:-)

Alice x (2012-06-16 13:15:03)

Thanks for the mention :)

I Want to see more people making cool things for a pocket!!!

Yu (2012-06-16 15:03:37)

Thanks for including me! ^_^

Yu (2012-06-16 15:04:27)

+1

I might never be able to fit into a pocket, but I adore them anyway! :D

Millie (2012-06-17 06:06:46)

Excellent post, as usual :) I'm actually sitting down to browse every post this week, rather than just picking a few

based on titles (my normal routine!).

Becoming... (2012-06-17 15:09:51)

Hooray! Thank you again for including me and my little mini!

Itinerary for USA Midwest Meetup 6/23/12 (2012-06-16 12:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

Our friends in New York are meeting up today... but next week there is a Mid-West meet up in Chicago here is the itinerary for the event.

- Noon - 1:30 p.m.: Meet at Mancini's Pizza, Pasta, Cafe @ 1111 Lake Street in Oak Park. That gives us a bit of time if anyone is late, I've also added more time because I'm sure we'll need it with all of the Filo sharing!
- 1:30 - 2:15 p.m.: Walk over to Paper Source @ 1109 Lake Street in Oak Park. Proceed to restrain me from buying the entire store! I've slotted 45 minutes here- we might not need all of this time, but I'd rather put too much than be rushing around!
- 2:15 - 3 p.m.: Walk down to Fitzgerald's Fine Stationery @ 1100 W. Lake Street in Oak Park. Again, I'm not sure if we'll need a full 45 minutes, but between walking there and browsing the Filo selection, it should be a good starting point!

That should be it! These three places are all literally within 200 feet of each other, so we'll only have to park once which is good since parking downtown Oak Park can be a bit of a hassle.

If there are any questions, or if any of this doesn't work, let me know. Otherwise, I'm super excited!!!

All the Best,
Jordan (and Sandra)

1. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-o2A0Buy4_mM/TbyV-eE6j7I/AAAAAAAAAco/VpSN3fG08jM/s1600/Malden%2521.jpg

Globetrotting Cacti (2012-06-16 14:05:08)

Wish I could join you guys! Have fun!!! (& hope the traffic isn't too much of a nightmare...).

Lime Tree (2012-06-16 16:21:25)

Yay! Can't wait!

michele (2012-06-17 13:45:32)

Meet up was lots of fun yesterday. Perfect day for walking around Manhattan.

Cheryl (2012-06-21 16:28:48)

Sorry to have to miss the midwest meetup; hope you have one again in the future in the same location. I'm in a cast right now but would travel in from Michigan for a future one. Have fun all!

mppaul2 (2012-06-22 09:00:35)

I am hoping the carpet cleaners finish up by 1:00 p.m. and I can meet you all at Paper Source.

Diary Insert to print and use - A4/A5 Week per Page (2012-06-17 00:00) - Steve Morton

This one is based on a Philofaxy reader request which I created fairly quickly from one of our existing templates.



[1]

[2]

You can download this layout as a prepared set or you can download the source files to adapt the design for yourself.

Pre-prepared sets

- 2012 Week Per Page [3].docx [4].pdf
- 2013 Week Per Page [5].docx [6].pdf

Print this double-sided. If you have a duplex printer, set it to flip on the short edge. If you don't then you'll have to print odd-numbered pages and then re-feed to print the even-numbered pages on the reverse. You might have to experiment to find out how to re-feed the paper.

The templates are set up with mirrored gutters to accommodate the holes.

If using the PDF be sure to set it to print at full size as explained [7]here.

Source files

You can also roll your own using our source files. You'll need [8]this Word file and [9]this Excel file.

If you want to know how to go about using the source files, [10]this post will help you.

1. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-uXx0fIjw7-8/T9e_9IAy-ZI/AAAAAAAAALyQ/mvkJz9LtRQE/s1600/weekperpage.jpg
2. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-u7oNoB3hggo/T7-Kq56bHqI/AAAAAAAAAjw/7f_RL-vN3dg/s1600/new99.png
3. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Week_Per_Page/Merged2012_weekononepage.docx
4. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Week_Per_Page/Merged2012_weekononepage.pdf
5. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Week_Per_Page/Merged2013_weekononepage.docx
6. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Week_Per_Page/Merged2013_weekononepage.pdf
7. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.co.uk/2012/03/help-pdf-files-print-slightly-smaller.html>
8. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Week_Per_Page/Week%20on%20one%20page%20base.docx
9. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Week_Per_Page/DatesSourceFilo_WOTP.xlsx
10. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2012/02/download-source-files-for-new-personal.html>

Regina Tudor (2012-06-18 03:21:18)

Hi sorry I am new at this, I like your template for vertical week per view, but I can't seem to print it to just one page A4, like in a book fold.

It keeps telling me the alignment is out, I would like something like your address template, where you can fold it in half and print both sides.

can you help, this is now my 3rd time trying to find help

Steve Morton (2012-06-18 05:51:29)

Hi

Have you taken a read of this post:

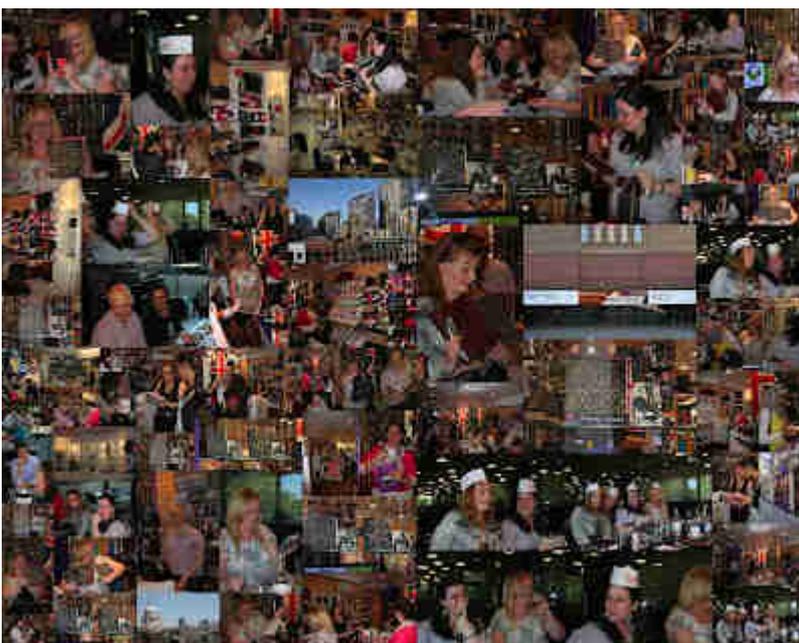
<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/08/printing-a5-pages.html>

If that doesn't work, email me philofaxy [at] gmail [dot] com and we will try to work out what is going wrong.

Steve

Philofaxy Conference/Convention (2012-06-18 00:00) - Steve Morton

Thank you for all your lovely comments about last months [1]Philofaxy Meet Up it was a great day, I love looking back on these very special days, especially if it's raining outside... it brings some sunshine in to my life and makes me smile remembering the comments and things we enjoyed talking about on the day.



[2]

So looking to the future.... I still want to do these sort of meet ups with up to about 12 people, they are very personal and great fun, so if you haven't been to one yet, don't despair I'm not thinking of

stopping doing the small meet ups, there is already one planned for [3]September 2012 and the possibility of another in November.

However, my original idea back in 2010 of a convention for a larger group of people now looks like something we could do, if there enough people interested in such a bigger event. In total about 26 different people have attended the London meet ups, with new people attending each one so far.

So I have had some discussion with a few people about a convention/conference idea, so here are my notes.

- Event to be open to everyone, may be up to 100 people, likely to be held in London, but I'm open to other suggestions. Ideally it will be somewhere where we can do a complete package of the conference and accommodation as well. Ideally it needs to be accessible from most parts of UK, Europe and even further afield... yes that means you readers in the USA and Canada and South America.
- People would pay to attend the event, but discount would be given for early booking. I have no idea yet on what the cost per person would be. This is something I'm actively working on at the moment.
- However it is intended that the fee would include lunch and refreshments, conference bag or similar with notes etc. etc.
- Sessions to include guest presentations, open discussion session, Filofax focus group session, social meet up sessions. The social side of this conference is very important, putting faces to names (comment name, twitter name, Skype name etc)
- We would be seeking sponsorship from companies such as City Organiser, DodoPad, The Pen Shop, Filofax UK with them being able to sell stock at the conference and add publicity material/goodies to the conference packs etc. And these companies would also be encouraged to take part in the conference with presentations etc.
- Possible target date early 2013

The above is a very basic outline of the idea, if there is sufficient interest (and I hope there is) then we can get in to the details of what the event will include.

I'm happy to take comments by email or in the comments on this post.

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/05/philofaxy-london-meet-up-may-2012.html>

2. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-mitIdTdupMU/T9fKcgQz0kI/AAAAAAAAALyg/hBw7i_Qpweo/s1600/LondonMay2012.jpg

3. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/06/philofaxy-london-meet-up-september-2012.html>

Andy Morse (2012-06-18 01:25:19)

Hi Steve,

I think this is a great idea and City Organiser would be happy to co-sponsor and take part.

From our point of view sometime like the second week of Feb would be good as the trade shows and Jan sales are all done and the samples of all the new 2013 organisers should be available...

EmmaNoey (2012-06-18 01:35:01)

Seeing London and a Filofax event - that sounds really tempting.

Alison (2012-06-18 03:00:29)

Definitely something i'd think about although the thought of travelling to London alone fills me with dread :(, got time to work on that though!!

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-06-18 06:13:39)

Me too Alison! Going to London and finding my way around . . . OMG! A rather overwhelming thought. But in theory it sounds like a great idea.

Babs (2012-06-18 06:16:21)

Sounds great. I helped organise a similar convention for an online book website (bookcrossing if anyone knows of it) and it was hugely successful. The format of the day was very good, with some structure in the morning and afternoon - quizzes, discussions, etc - then free social time in the evening. Most people stayed in the same "recommended" hotel so there was a gathering in the bar at night as well as people returned from individual dinners and whatnot. Striking the balance between having some organisation and being too prescriptive is important, but it was a great event and I think a lot of the ideas would translate well to a Filofax event.

Butanben (2012-06-18 07:44:24)

Wow!! This sounds just great Steve!!! I attended a similar conference at Exeter University (Research in Music Education Conference) when I was doing my masters. As Babs said there was a bar with comfy seating, where folks could meet in the evenings or grab a coffee together, and a couple of social events. One was a barn dance, which was just a giggle!! Also a few educational publishers exhibition stands.... ie stands linked to the event. Also some freebies... business card holders, pens etc. One guest note speaker.... who is always some one prestigious and gives a longer address and the other events were made up of smaller presentations. Basically you signed up beforehand for the ones which interested you, so that you had an individualised timetable as there were 2 small conference rooms and a larger lecture theatre all running presentations at the same time!!!! I always worried though that some poor speakers would get a much smaller audience than others..... as we timetabled our own events. This just sounds such a great idea Steve. I am very excited. Let me know if I can be of any help. Making delegate name badges etc etc etc.xxxxx

Anita (2012-06-18 08:16:21)

I think this sounds like a fantastic idea!!

@Alison & @LucyLastic: people could always meet up at stations so that you don't have to negotiate London by yourself :) Would be fab for City Organiser to be involved too.

Jotje (2012-06-18 08:29:02)

Fantastic idea, count me in!!!

@Alison and LucyLastic: I live in a small Dutch village and attended the London meetup in September 2011. All I can say is: don't be intimidated. London is just sort of a big village. Everybody is extremely helpful, and of course it doesn't harm to have the Tube Map and City Map of London in your Filofax ... ;-)

The streets of London are safe, too, even at night, and even when you walk on your own!

@Babs: sounds like Steve should get you on board to help with the organisational part? Beats having to invent the wheel again, right?

Yu (2012-06-18 08:52:56)

I love this idea! :D

Btw, does anyone know if that is a grey or brown osterly? Or is the one to the left the brown? ^_^

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-18 08:57:32)

I'm not 100 % sure this would be something I could commit to due to my working hours, but it sounds like huge fun! I have some thoughts, probably better e-mailed since they might not apply to what you have in mind here.

@Alison and LucyLastic, and anyone else: as a Londoner who moved here decades ago from a small town, I highly recommend buying yourself either a Filofax map of the centre, or better yet a London A - Z map book - I'd advise against relying solely on i-Phone/PDA etc for maps, if they won't work on the tube.

And I second the mention that London is basically pretty friendly, especially if you approach people in a confident and upbeat manner! You might want to bookmark <http://www.tfl.gov.uk/> now or closer to the date, it's the official website for all your transport needs - and even better, <http://walkit.com/cities/london/> gives detailed walking directions for most locations in the greater London region - closer to the date, a quick look on Google

StreetView means you can walk round looking totally confident, like you were born and raised here!
I'm being very premature here of course, but just wanted to point out the abundance of visitor resources!

Jotje (2012-06-18 10:12:48)
Right is the grey one, and I think to the left is the brown one.

Jotje (2012-06-18 10:14:03)
Thanks for the links, I've noted them for future reference!!!

Steve Morton (2012-06-18 10:16:59)
And note the Tracyley in the window display!

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-06-18 10:31:43)
@Anita, Jotje & Shanti: Thank you for your kind reassurances! I suppose it will depend on when it is and the price though, but details aside, I'm sure it's something I would enjoy!

Alison (2012-06-18 10:53:07)
Yeah thanks for the help but like Lucy it depends on the price, date etc but I will definitely consider it though, meeting up at a train station's probably the best idea because me and reading maps don't go together haha :)

Ray Blake (2012-06-18 11:42:00)
I'm in, and happy to do tour guide duty from any of the North London stations (Paddington, Marylebone, Euston, Kings Cross, St Pancras, Liverpool St, Fenchurch St; I'm sure we can field South Londoners for Charing Cross, Waterloo and Victoria.)

Saffy (2012-06-18 11:59:53)
Actually I think it was the plum.

Lostwithoutyou (2012-06-18 12:12:22)
I'd be up for this. I live in Camden so would be happy to help along with Ray :)

Butanben (2012-06-18 13:12:11)
London is actually pretty easy to navigate around with your A to Z and tube maps. I lived in London as a young child and North of London as a teen, so was always navigating my way around and through London!!! What I would say is take a handbag with a clip and a zip and keep your credit card wallet separate from your purse. A cross body bag is good. I was "dipped" once, pick pocketed on the underground and this was the advice from the transport police. But.... having said that.... Londoners on the whole are a very friendly group of folks, and a helpful lot.... and the shopping, the tourist attractions and the museums, art galleries and theatres are well worth the visit. It's a great place to go.

Butanben (2012-06-18 13:16:40)
PS- The Transport for London Website do a large print Tube Map and Large Print Index, which is just fabulous. Much easier than being squinty eyed with the small handbag sized guides!!!

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-06-18 13:34:27)
Wow! I wish :)
Tracy

UNchecked other (2012-06-18 13:49:40)
Gaaaaah! hjeuyhfkkihjkwejfewf eruqhgjqhkqjwh!
Geeking out at the prospect of a Filofax/Philofaxy Conference. It'd be like TED or DAVOS, except amazeballs. OMG. There MUST be a Jotje panel on pocket organization (I was 3 out of the 7 "Pocket Full of Life Jotje" searches)and a booth selling Steve and Ray Designs.

rui2hrih 4y82y4i2h5i ui3y2 GAH!

Nellie (2012-06-18 14:55:16)

This is such a wonderful idea. More than happy to meet folks at Waterloo if anyone would like help finding their way around London.

This will really be something to look forward to. :)

SSA (2012-06-18 15:22:31)

I can defo help with the south london touring.... I grew up in Peckham and can include tours of dodgy estates, the places not to go as tourists and 'the dark side' of london... no just kidding but I know south london well. :)

Debimoje (2012-06-18 15:23:57)

I love this idea! I too find the idea of travelling to London along a wee bit daunting (prob only cos it's a city I'm not familiar with). Have u considered Birmingham? I go there every year for a veterinary congress and it's a great place :)

Gems33 (2012-06-18 16:17:51)

Sounds great. Love the idea and any excuse to go to London is fine by me!

Yu (2012-06-18 16:31:01)

Thanks! I plan on getting the grey or the plum. :) nice to know that I like the colors in normal photos and not product shots. ^_^

Yu (2012-06-18 16:31:39)

not only

Yu (2012-06-18 16:34:45)

:/ that would be trickier for us coming from overseas... London really is ideal in that respect.

Debimoje (2012-06-18 18:54:58)

Fair comment! Didn't really think about that. Sorry.

Guess I would just have to be adventurous then and brave it to London :)

Anke (2012-06-19 00:39:04)

Sounds like a great idea. I would love to take part, though it all depends on the date. =)

kanalt (2012-06-19 05:55:06)

Amazing idea! I would love to do this! I'm with those who are a bit nervous (if that's the right word) about traveling to London, but I don't know that I could persuade any companions from the U.S. ;)

While I am very interested in this idea, I wouldn't be able to commit without knowing the dates first - before I can do anything else, I'd have to get the time off from work (if I'm traveling across the ocean I would take 2 weeks off, or as close to that as possible). There are certain times of the year that I can't take off due to project deadlines. Plus, I have no idea what a trip like this would cost, and having never been across the pond, a lot of research and planning would need to be done prior to an official commitment. Then, I'd have to coordinate with my hubby - while he wouldn't be interested in the conference itself, he'd definitely like to travel to the UK and I couldn't in good conscious visit without him! ;)

I don't know if any of the comments above are from people from the US, and I can't speak for anyone else, but for myself I can say that while this is a GREAT idea and one I'd love to be able to join, I don't know how feasible it would be - the biggest issue would be the date(s). However, please keep us informed of any/all plans so that we might be able to plan accordingly and with plenty of notice.

If this does happen, all I can say is that I will try everything in my power (which might not be that great) to make it happen on my part!!! :D

Steve Morton (2012-06-19 07:48:57)

Thank you everyone for your comments and feedback both here and on the emails. I have something more solid to work on now.

I wasn't entirely sure how this would be received! One thing I forgot to mention is that I'm not looking to make a profit out of the event for myself. Break even yes, but any money left over will be donated to our favourite charity. I'm a bit busy over the next couple of weeks with 'work' but once that is out of the way we will sit down and start to draw up the plans for this event.

Again thank you for your input and don't stop contributing thoughts and ideas in the comments or by email.
Steve

Gail (2012-06-19 09:55:17)

Alison, I feel exactly the same way hun, I live 260 miles from London and it looks a huge scary place. I've just found my way around Newcastle Upon Tyne. lol

Ashleigh (2012-06-19 15:15:26)

Hi Gail, I would come down with you (depending on price/date) we could travel from Newcastle I do not know London at all! lol how's it going with your ochre Malden? xx

Susanne Namdar (2012-06-19 20:03:18)

That sounds like a fun conference. There is a new non-stop flight with BA: San Diego - London. Now if I could only afford it and have some vacation time to spare.... :-(

LJ (2012-06-19 23:49:29)

That sounds like a perfect conference to me - it just depends on the dates re my deadlines at work. I'm sure my man will be fine about me deserting him with the kids - he knows that if I can't go all I will do is talk about FFs all weekend - ha ha ha!!!

David Popely (2012-06-20 16:39:32)

Sounds like an excellent idea....I'd be happy to be involved in any way I could, work commitments allowing, and would certainly attend.

Jotje (2012-06-22 12:03:41)

"Panel on pocket organization" ... hehe, you are funny! Which is why you MUST attend too!
Second the printables-table with Steve/Ray Designs!

Jotje (2012-06-22 12:09:01)

@Gail: You live in Newcastle? How cool is that! I lived in Gateshead for about 6 months (back in 1995) and worked in Newcastle. Newcastle was great, though the streets were not the right place to be right after a football match ...

My English teacher was thrilled that I had managed to pick up the Geordie accent, though I sadly lost it in the following years. Still love to hear it tho!

Jotje (2012-06-22 12:11:31)

As for the date: for me it would be vital that the date would be set way in advance. I'm thinking 9 months to a 1 year beforehand? Otherwise chances are that I wouldn't be able to go, if DH's work schedule gets in the way. Would be lovely if he'd accompany me, but who am I kidding ... LOL
I definitely would LOVE to meet some of our US-Philofaxers there as well!!!!

kanalt (2012-06-22 16:17:25)

Yeah, i'm thinking the sooner I know the date, the better. But getting time off from work will depend on the date itself and how many people (if any) already have off, which is why earlier would be better. Then there's the issue of convincing the hubby... But that's the least of the issues. ;)

Free For All Tuesday No. 72 (2012-06-19 00:00) - Steve Morton

This is the point in the week when you get to ask and answer questions.
Fire away with your questions.

Paul B (2012-06-19 00:29:57)

Hi All. After badgering my other half for weeks or months to consider a filofax, she appeared yesterday and said "Oh, here's my old Pocket from the late 80s or early 90s". When I looked at it, I noticed it only has 4 rings, not 6. When did this change, and more importantly, do the current Pocket inserts still fit? I can't read the text of the model, the font on the leather is absolutely tiny, but it still has gold rings, although the lettering isn't gold, so maybe it's post-1993, not sure. Anyway, I'm excited, as a world of inserts awaits her > just need to do this gradually and not scare her away.....

Helen Conway (2012-06-19 02:09:50)

I have been gifted a Caramel Finchley by a friend who bought it online. We are both surprised how light it is compared to the photos online and in my case the slipcover for the Finchleys. The photos show a colour that could definitely be described as a brown albeit a lovely rich brown not that far off the Cuban Chestnut. What we have is more an ochre yet it is too dark we think to be the Mustard. I just wondered... Has anyone else got a Caramel and do you find it to match up to photos in colour? There is a photo of it on my blog at the end of this post:
[Www.downthewell.blogspot.com/2012/06/big-box-of-pleasures.html](http://www.downthewell.blogspot.com/2012/06/big-box-of-pleasures.html)

Alison Reeves (2012-06-19 03:59:02)

Helen - I have a feeling they did this sort of Caramel colour a while ago - but I may be mistaken as they also did it in the cross range so I may be confusing things!

This is so blatantly off topic, but as it's for charity, I hope Steve doesn't mind. I am doing my Race for Life tomorrow night - I am hopelessly unprepared as I had a knee injury and other complications, but am determined to do it and finish, albeit at a slower time than might be ideal! If you haven't always (and one or two of you have so thank you!) please consider donating to this wonderful cause which aims to cure a blight which affects all of us either directly or via a family member or friend. Even a tiny donation would be very, very welcome. You can donate here: https://www.raceforlifesporsome.org/ali_sonreeves

Alison Reeves (2012-06-19 04:00:06)

Sorry that should read - if you haven't *already* !!!

angela (2012-06-19 04:05:12)

Hi Helen,

I'm so jealous of your Finchley! In your picture, it looks a lot like the Mustard colour they did though but it might just be the lighting :)

Either way, I'm jealous! X

JasJan (2012-06-19 04:42:29)

Looks like the Mustard one to me!

teddy edwards (2012-06-19 04:56:45)

Hi all. I recently decided to use a Filo for my burgeoning craft business, in order to keep track of stock, sales, ideas etc. Do any of you keep a Filo for craft activities? How does this work for you?

Also, does anyone have any idea what I can do with the A-Z tabbed dividers?

Many thanks - Jackie

Doris (2012-06-19 05:26:58)

Hi Jackie! I keep a tab for my crafts, not an entire file. It includes supplies I need/want to buy, ideas for future projects, lists of websites I order from, and details orders I need to fulfill, when they're due, how much they are, etc. I don't need I'll ever need an entire file for this, but of course, it depends on your needs.

As it happens, I do have a separate file for household data, and use the A-Z tabs for that. I keep a page with a Legend of what data is filed under each letter - U for utilities, T for telephone, B for banks, etc - and hand-wrote and filed under each letter accordingly. It's not quite full since it's really just the numbers (accounts/telephone) that I keep in there.

Lostwithoutyou (2012-06-19 05:32:58)

I posted this on a little bit late on Free For All Friday and got a few helpful responses but thought that if I posted it early here I might get a few more :)

I've got a purple a5 malden that I set up a while back. I'm really happy with the way I've got it. I've got 6 tabs - Info (which contains the filofax information sheets), Uni (uni to do page, modules and lectures within those modules, column which I tick once the handout has been printed and one which I tick once I've written it up, and some project planner sheets), Notes (to do list, a list of stuff to pack when I go home for the weekend, media, wishlist, and some blank paper), Gifts (one sheet per family member + boyfriend with two columns, one for birthday and one for christmas where I keep note of presents bought each year), Diary (stickers, a page where I've listed direct debits so I know what money comes out when, a year planner, month on two pages and then the week on one page time management insert (purchased from Jotje on ebay), then finally a Misc tab (two envelopes containing stickers, receipts etc).

As I'm a uni student my summers tend to be quiet so I bought a teal finchley from the adspot pages but I can't decide how to set it up and so I'm not using it. I've made dividers but just don't know what to put on them. I plan to keep my A5 for reference for gifts and things but I just don't know the best way to set up the pocket.

Does anyone use an A5 and a pocket together and if so how do you co-ordinate the two?

industrious housewife (2012-06-19 06:14:04)

What does everyone think about Chameleons?

I 'need' another A5 and they're a good price new atm.

industrious housewife (2012-06-19 06:18:55)

I think I'd 'retire' the A5 diary for the summer, keep for reference as you say and set up the Finchley with Info, To Dos, Travel/Fun, Notes, Diary and Misc.

Standard Week on two Pages would do I'd have thought.

industrious housewife (2012-06-19 06:22:49)

A-Z-

Address book for customers/suppliers

Noting techniques/materials to try

I've a set in my household folder for recipes.

Gail (2012-06-19 06:44:09)

Ohh I was thinking just the same thing, at that price I am sure I could find a use for one and would also like to know what others think of them. My problem is, I don't know what colour I like the best!

Doris (2012-06-19 06:54:18)

Hi Lostwithoutyou! I keep a stay-at-home and a take-with-me file. My Slimline has very basic information - important/emergency contacts only, blank notes pages, shopping list, and diary, separated by tabs. It's really only the diary I need to coordinate with the main file. For the summer, you may be able to make just the teal Finchley (especially if it's a pocket) work for you. You can even use it as a purse if you have your cards/cash in it. You can go back to the A5 once school starts again.

Hope that helps.

Doris (2012-06-19 06:56:19)

I've been hunting for an aqua compact as well, after reading reviews about its leather.

Lady_Tamlynn (2012-06-19 07:33:34)

I love the Chameleons. I now have an A5, Personal and Mini in the Aqua colour (my favourite colour in this Filofax) and a compact in red. I also used to own personals in red and spring green and I really regret selling them :-).

The Chameleon is a really beautiful hard wearing Filofax and well worth the money that Filofax UK are selling them for at the minute. If you're interested in the A5, then the only downside to this particular size is the 25mm rings. I would love to use my A5 Chameleon for teaching but the rings are just too small so I use a Holborn Zip with 30mm rings instead.

Lady_Tamlynn (2012-06-19 07:42:18)

Helen Conway (2012-06-19 07:49:34)

I'm trying really hard to believe its not mustard but...! I am calling it ochre and using it to keep my research on Contemporary African Art in so it is quite a suitable colour.... But does this mean I am allowed to buy a caramel as well?! Please someone put one on adspot at a really good price :)

Tflower11 (2012-06-19 08:13:03)

Am i the only one that uses a personal size filofax, cos most of the posts read are about anything but the personal size.

Please reply as its less than six months that i first got my very own filofax, and its already outta fashion!?

Im pretty new to this filofax yet its been around for so long, i am bit disappointed as to why i have not even heard of a filofax until 6 months ago

Lily (2012-06-19 08:28:48)

I love the Chameleon, I just wish it had bigger rings! (Specifically in Pocket size) - I find 15mm enough in the summer onwards, but when I've a whole year's diary in there... no

Gail (2012-06-19 08:30:41)

Well I bit the bullet and ordered 2 A5 Chameleons in Red and Raspberry!

Unfortunately, the Filofax website didn't have any Red left, so I ordered from the Neal Street shop in London. OMG, the lady in that shop is amazing, I could of stayed on the phone all day with her, what a credit she is. Only downside to ordereing from the shop is the £10 postage costs.

So then I went online to order the Raspberry A5. Twenty minutes later I am in a loop typing in my details...something wasn't right so I had to phone their contact number! Even then things weren't straight forward and I still don't know if my order has gone through! Not good business for a first time online buyer!

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-06-19 08:56:37)

I love the Chameleon range, I can't believe they are discontinuing them!! I use my A5 raspberry when I go to the library as I know it won't get too beaten up like my more delicate Maldens etc, which stay at home. I could quite easily buy more, at the moment I only have the raspberry in A5 and personal- would love a compact, and the other colours!

@Doris- I'm sure they don't make a compact in the aqua colour!

Kelly Marriott (2012-06-19 08:57:35)

I need my wonderful Philofaxy friends to settle an argument for me. My know-it-all kids keep telling me that "filofaxing" is not a verb (as in I can't take you to the pool right now because I'm filofaxing, or I can't cook dinner; I'm filofaxing or Please go to bed, I need some alone time to filofax).

I told them I would pose the question to a highly educated team of professionals to settle this argument once and for all. They don't have to know that I'm asking a professional team of filofaxers.

So, is filofaxing a verb? Please have my back here....

Doris (2012-06-19 09:11:58)

@TPS: My heart is broken! I have too many pinks, and the compacts are only in raspberry, red and black.): I'm missing blue/aqua in my Personal-sized stash, so was lemming that color. Major shift in compact-hunting here. (: Thanks for the info!

Helen Conway (2012-06-19 09:12:28)

I have many A5s but my actual diary Filofax is a personal aston in mushroom.

Ray Blake (2012-06-19 09:13:30)

I've always thought of it more as a nominative gerund. But then to work as a gerund I think we'd have to accept it was a verb.

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-19 09:13:58)

Filofaxes have been made since 1921 so like a good clutch handbag, or an elegant court shoe, they're never actually out of (or, in) fashion - well, except the mid to late '80s, when they were briefly status symbols of the yuppie culture.

Back then the only size that mattered was how fat (ie full) your "book" was of important people's phone numbers... *format* size (A5, Personal, Mini etc) as far as I'm aware has never been the main criteria, though I did notice that the recent Temperley Filofax was only done in a Personal size, probably because it's the company's signature style (other companies churn out A5 & mini notebooks by the million).

Basically if you like pen and paper organisers, a Filofax is to that field what the Chanel 2.55 is to handbags - the classic, which many others try to imitate.

That's my opinion anyway, other people may of course differ completely! :o)

Yu (2012-06-19 09:14:44)

Ah, sorry Steve. ^^;

Helen Conway (2012-06-19 09:15:07)

I filofax, you filofax, he or she filofaxes... Yup, its a verb, deriving from the Latin filofaxum meaning, to record the life in the marketplace

Doris (2012-06-19 09:20:23)

Tflower11: I'm back using a personal as an all-around Filofax after using a pocket for years. I seriously doubt you're alone in using a personal-sized. And as I'm sure everyone here will chime in, a Filofax will never go out of fashion.

Plenty of time for you to catch up on "filofaxing". (:

@Kelly Marriott: There, I just "made" it a verb. (:

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-19 09:22:12)

I'm of the opinion that verbs are *constantly* being created as people DO new things WITH new objects, hence we get new verbs like "texting" - a word that had no place in the language at all (afaik) until the widespread use of SMS messaging.

While "filofaxing" may not yet be in the OED, your little angels are backing a losing horse if they think that verbs are a limited resource, or that new verbs can't be created and accepted into widespread use from brand names - eg, "hoovering" "photoshopping" and so on - I'd even go so far as to say "googling" has become the default verb for "searching online." If they ever use any of those words themselves, you've pretty much won the argument!

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-19 09:27:20)

Gail, if you have telephone banking (online is a bit slower) the operator should be able to tell you if the transaction's gone through for that amount right afterwards.

You may already know that, but just in case! :o)

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-06-19 09:32:44)

So sorry Doris! It would have been a great addition to the compact range, I don't understand why they didn't make it! And also, I don't know why the compact Chameleons aren't on the Filofax UK site at all!! I would love a compact, but if I start buying one, I won't be able to stop! I think what I will do is just limit the amount of pages I have in my personal filofax, pretending they're compacts! Although I know the compacts have different dimensions to the personals. I don't tend to stuff my personals very full at all- although my A5s are another story!!

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-06-19 09:37:57)

I completely agree with Shanti!!

Gail (2012-06-19 09:49:20)

I was told at the end of the order that there was a glitch and it was their fault...that was it!

Yasmin (2012-06-19 09:53:10)

Hi,
I'm new to posting here but have been "lurking" around philofaxy for a while :-)
My personal chameleon has gotten a bit grubby from where it's been rubbing against stuff in my bag. I just wondered if any of you experts had any hints and tips on how best to clean a filofax or could perhaps point me in the right direction?

Yasmin

Doris (2012-06-19 09:58:21)

TPS, I almost ordered an aqua Chameleon from Filo UK, until someone said somewhere it was a personal and not a compact. I so wanted the aqua I didn't check thoroughly. (Could they always be out of stock?) The first Chameleons I've seen were compacts in pocket and personal so I assumed they all had 15mm rings. I have yet to get this size, so I really don't know what to expect when I do get one. I do tend to stuff my filofax, so I was thinking of using the Compact as a purse, more room than my Slimline.

I've been scouring the Webz for Compacts recently, looking at how people use theirs. Thanks!

Keji (2012-06-19 10:28:51)

My first Filofax (gosh I've only had it for a month, lol) was the Aqua Personal Chameleon - and I love it!!!
It was never an option when I was looking into filofaxes (I really wanted an A5 Aqua Finsbury - which I also have now) but I saw it at a bargain price on eBay and I thought "Why not?". It's one of the best purchasing decisions I've made. I now plan/ really want get the other colours and sizes too.

I want to get the Chameleon Aqua in A5 and pocket too. And also get the Chameleon in Spring Green (from the Danish website), Raspberry and Red in A5, Personal and pocket. I love bright colours so I'm really attracted to this set.

I'm just really hoping that the colours I want don't get sold out before I get a chance to purchase them all.

Yeah this is really becoming obsessive behaviour, lol :-D

Joseph David Quinton (2012-06-19 10:40:55)

Inspired by LJ's latest post, I am on a mission to create my own personalized dividers because the Filofax ones are quite ugly. I have ordered some scrapbook paper which should be delivered by Saturday. You can see the paper I ordered at <http://josephdavidquinton.typepad.com>. My question concerns tab dividers. What are the different section names that people use for their Filofax?

Joseph David Quinton (2012-06-19 10:56:35)

I love my new Filofax! (noun)

I filofax in the wee hours of the morning. (verb)

I am filofaxing my doctors' appointments for July. (gerund)

To filofax, or not to filifax, that is the question. (infinitive)

arlie (2012-06-19 11:02:23)

First post from a long time Philofaxy reader :)

Hi everyone!

Helen, I just bought a caramel Finchley tote (they're 50 % off!), and FWIW - your filo looks mustard to me. Mustard is a lovely color, though.

DEM (2012-06-19 11:21:59)

Proud to have just donated and thank you for what you are doing!!!!

Helen Conway (2012-06-19 11:31:06)

" Filifax" ? i presume that is no typo but another verb meaning to ' shop for contents at City Organiser?" !!

Joseph David Quinton (2012-06-19 11:49:55)

LOL!

Joseph David Quinton (2012-06-19 11:52:11)

The above post was made on my iPad and it has the oddest habit of sometimes changing your spelling to an incorrect word.

Alison (2012-06-19 11:55:01)

Haha, my ipad and iphone drive me nuts doing that!!

Joseph David Quinton (2012-06-19 11:58:13)

What would be the best Filofax to use as a men's wallet.....the Pennybridge Personal?

Butanben (2012-06-19 11:59:08)

Well said Shanti!! I totally agree too..... just one slight bit of hair splitting, there should be 2 verbs emerging I think, to Philofaxy and to Filofax!! Hee Hee!!

Joseph David Quinton (2012-06-19 11:59:53)

Alison, it is especially embarrassing for me because I teach English. LOL

Joseph David Quinton (2012-06-19 12:20:40)

I clean and condition my Cuban with Chaimberlain's Leather Milk....it is good stuff. <http://www.leather-milk.com/>

Scoot (2012-06-19 12:33:52)

The "ing" gives it away as being a verb.

Your friends seem to think a word has to be either a noun or verb, but many words are special because they can be bothlike "love".

Scoot (2012-06-19 12:36:17)

Notes, Projects, Diary, Contacts, Reference, Codes, Private.

terriknits (2012-06-19 12:39:50)

It's not a matter of "in/out of fashion" but rather what size format best suits your needs. If the personal fits, then why worry about what everyone else is using? I know many of us switch format size as our needs change. I started with a personal, flirted briefly with a pocket, but now my two main Filos are A5 size and I have a hacked/diy Moleskine as my personal diary component along with my "personal use" A5.

Alison Reeves (2012-06-19 12:46:39)

Thank you DEM - I'm so grateful! Will post an update after the race!

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-19 12:47:59)

"... just one slight bit of hair splitting, there should be 2 verbs emerging I think, to Philofaxy and to Filofax!!"

I second Butanen's suggestion, and support it by mentioning we already have the noun "e-Bayer" derived from a website's name - and I suspect if I said I was "e-Baying for a Filofax," people would know what I meant... actually, ditto "Skyping" and there's an entry discussing that [1]here at english.stackexchange.com.

1. <http://english.stackexchange.com/questions/30679/skyping-or-skypeing>

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-19 12:52:09)

I agree with Terriknits - a confident personal style always beats generic fashion (look at how seldom Anna Wintour changes her look) - and I also think that Personal is the size most easily recognisable as a Filofax: an A5 could potentially be something else, and Mini & Pocket could pass for wallets.

So if a Filofax is part of your personal style statement, then Personal wins hands down, for its iconic dimensions. JMO.

Ray Blake (2012-06-19 12:54:02)

Sorry, Scoot, I offer in refutation the nouns 'quizzing' and 'bunting'. I'm always fascinated by the way every rule of English comes with a list of exceptions.

Steve Morton (2012-06-19 12:56:47)

To put the 'cat amongst the pigeons' Here is the 'Official Guidelines' issued by Filofax themselves:

As the word Filofax is a registered trademark, and not a generic term for personal organisers, there are several instances in which the word Filofax could potentially be misused, which would constitute an infringement of trademark.

To help avoid some common mistakes when writing about Filofax or personal organisers, the following examples may help.

1. The word Filofax can never be used to describe another brand's personal organiser

No - a Mulberry Filofax

Yes - a Mulberry Personal Organiser

2. The word Filofax must always be used with a capital F

Yes - everyone loves their Filofax

No - everyone loves their filofax

3. When referred to as a plural

Yes - Filofax personal organisers

Yes - personal organisers by Filofax

No - Filofaxes

4. The Filofax brand name must always be used as an adjective and not as a noun

Yes - We hope that you will enjoy your Filofax personal organiser

No - We hope that you will enjoy your filofax

5. The words "Filofax personal organiser" should be used in full rather than "Filofax" or "Filofax organiser"

Where there is a need to use the words several times in one paragraph or page, the first instance should be written in full and the subsequent instances as Filofax organiser or organiser - never as just Filofax.

So now you know!!!

lululucy (2012-06-19 12:57:46)

Diary, Notes, Lists, Travel, Financial, Knit (hey, knitting related stuff is a major section for me), and Contacts

Steve Morton (2012-06-19 12:57:48)

I use a personal.... as well as an A5... the combination works for me

Steve Morton (2012-06-19 12:59:43)

No it's ok, but I thought it best to nip it in the bud before it got too much like Multi Coloured Swap Shop...

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Multi-Coloured_Swap_Shop

Unknown (2012-06-19 13:03:04)

Hello there, with all the talk on A5 Chameleons wanted to let everyone know that they are on ebay now in all colours for 40 delivered- i ordered mine in red! I used to have one in personal spring green and loved that leather! highly rec! now waiting for me to arrive!

terriknits (2012-06-19 13:04:52)

LOL - I continually (continuously?!) fail at 3, 4 and 5.

Steve Morton (2012-06-19 13:11:48)

In my A5:

Notes In, Planner, Journal, To-Do, Notes, Information then A-Z addresses

Joseph David Quinton (2012-06-19 13:16:29)

Steve, could you explain the difference between "Notes In" and "Notes"? Thank you!

Steve Morton (2012-06-19 13:21:08)

Sure, 'Notes In' is my 'In box' It has some lined paper, my current year planner, A To-Do sheet, a couple of sheets of plain paper.

So this is my quick access jotting things down quickly point. I then either transfer the information to the appropriate part of my organiser, or the whole sheet to the right section.

I based my tab set up on the David Allen information sheet here:

<https://secure.davidco.com/store/catalog/ORGANIZING-A-PAPER-PLANNER-p-16162.php>

Steve

Valerie (2012-06-19 13:26:43)

Shanti pretty well summed it all up perfectly! Nothing to add to her comment!

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-19 13:27:47)

I think Adobe had a similar lengthy item about the use of the word Photoshop as a verb, and I know Coca Cola also have a lengthy stylesheet about their own name, and use of the word "coke" to describe it.

To be brutally honest I find attempts to police language in this manner, where a trademark is clearly not being infringed for fraudulent or profit-related purposes, deeply distasteful - making an iconic product means you're going to become the benchmark, end of.

Alison (2012-06-19 13:29:04)

Don't think they'll last long, I got one in red, raspberry and aqua, three for under the price of what one was going to cost me, i've been longing after a Luxe in Crimson and Blackcurrant, I just can't justify paying so much for one Filofax though, Red is to be used for my reading/movie Filofax, Aqua for my home maintenance and Raspberry for helping me with my therapy, can't wait for them to arrive, just hoping hubby isn't around or i'm in so much trouble :)

Has anyone any experience of the Luxe?, I will get one eventually but will have to wait for a sale I think, or save up birthday, christmas money etc, I believe the Blackcurrant isn't due out till next year so I have time to save up!!

Alison (2012-06-19 13:32:56)

Just checked ebay there is 1x red left, 1 x aqua left and 2 x raspberry so you'll need to be quick if you want one, it's a great price

J (2012-06-19 13:33:36)

Diary, Wedding, Me (medical cards, etc) and Etc. Simple but effective!

Alison (2012-06-19 13:35:53)

I'm thinking mustard too!!

J (2012-06-19 13:36:10)

I only own two Filofax personal organizers (ok Filofax, that sounds dumb!) Regardless, they are both personal sized- the Malden I've used over a year straight!

Don't worry about something being "in fashion" especially your Filofax. If it works for you- go for it.

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-19 13:36:48)

PS I sound a bit bitter & twisted in that comment above... not intentional, long day! I love my Filofax Personal Organisers and I love Philofaxing!

Shanti (aka Shanananana) - hereafter to be referred to in written form as the High Queen Goobergrunk, of The Holy Pasta Empire - TM registration pending!

Alison (2012-06-19 13:37:45)

I use A5, personal and pocket, just need a compact and slimline now lol :)

Alison (2012-06-19 13:42:12)

Haha :)

Dawn (2012-06-19 13:52:56)

Got mine, couldn't decide between Aqua and Raspberry, went for Aqua in the end, hope its pretty!

Scoot (2012-06-19 14:30:04)

I was scooting away to my book of word origins to check on bunting, hoping that with quisling it would be of Scandinavian origin, so that I could try and create an argument related to Viking use of "ing" with a noun for place nameand disproved it for myself.

Viking, noun, a name for people. Viking, verb, vik's going about their business (plundering).

Back to the drawing board.

Keji (2012-06-19 14:36:05)

Can anyone recommend any good places to get pretty/ interesting/ fun calendar stickers for my Filofax?

I'm looking more for agenda type ones (well done, goal, great idea, remember, work, going out, dinner, holiday etc...) rather than just random ones you use to dress up the page.

I know Paperchase and Filofax do their own version but I find them just a bit staid and boring. I need/want to be organised but I also want to be fun/ stylish simultaneously. Oh and they must be able to deliver to the UK.

Thanks.

Laurie (2012-06-19 14:43:53)

Organised Mum make a variety of types of colorful stickers including General, Household, and Events:

<http://www.organised-mum.co.uk/OM-Stickers.html>

Their General stickers might be of most use to you, they have school stickers but also reminders for your MOT, hair appointments, doctor, dentist, meeting, etc.

Dodo Pad makes fun stickers that are different and bright:

<http://www.dodopad.com/shop/dodont-forget-stationery/save-the-day-stickers>

Hope this helps! :)

Laurie (2012-06-19 14:47:33)

You can see a photo of the entire sheet of Organised Mum General Stickers if you scroll down in my Life Book review post:

<http://www.plannerisms.com/2010/09/2011-life-book-diary.html>

Steph (2012-06-19 14:52:53)

I recovered my A-Z tabs with labels and used them to have more dividers, more topics. You can use them as a filing system, craft patterns/names. Hope this helps.

Keji (2012-06-19 14:54:00)

Hi Laurie,

That's exactly what I was looking for.

Thank you, thank you, thank you, thank you. Oh and did I remember to say thank you, lol :-D.

This is why I love this community so much - everyone is so wonderfully helpful.

Time to disregard overdraft!!!

Steph (2012-06-19 14:58:41)

I use an A5 and a compact. My A5 stays primarily at home and the compact goes everywhere with me.

Steph (2012-06-19 15:06:41)

Well I fail 2,3,4, and 5. OOps, I hope I dont' get in too much trouble.

I completely agree with what High Queen Goobergrunk, of the Holy Pasta Empire had to say. :)

Steph (2012-06-19 15:10:32)

info, blogs, swaps, events, diet, calendar, art, notes, odds & ends, and finally stuff

Steph (2012-06-19 15:13:47)

I have a question about the hole punchers on the Filofax site for the A5 size.(see,I pay attention implementing those rules that Steve posted lol)

1. are either of them any good
2. if so which one should I buy

Steve Morton (2012-06-19 15:15:48)

Don't buy the plastic one...

I have the metal one and it works fine, but you need to empty it after each session really.

kari Soursa (2012-06-19 15:31:29)

I have used a Filofax for keeping my life organized for a while. And i have to say i am dissapointed regarding the quality.

I am willing to pay the cost for quality and long life product.... But when it comes to Filofax, i sometime feels i pay a high price for a average quality product.

I am thinking about ring issues (2 of the Filofaxes i bought had problems) Flaking leather etc.

Why don't Filofax focus on a better quality??? I even see the new Temperly have ring problems..... What a shame!

Do there exist quality binders today? Like Filofax USED to be?

Just had to say it.....

Angel Jem (2012-06-19 15:59:00)

Diary, next actions, future, Christmas, Holidays and reference in the A5. In the personal I'm using a set of A to Z and filing by initial letter eg K for Kindle and S for shopping. Very reception teacher!

Angel Jem (2012-06-19 16:08:04)

I have a single hole punch with no base that I use upside down and punch 6 times. It takes 6 pages at once and is less painful than trying to use the plastic FF one. And all the little bits make my house look like Narnia

Joseph David Quinton (2012-06-19 16:10:08)

Thank you, everyone.

filofit (2012-06-19 16:22:25)

Hi Helen, I love Finchley and have the A5 in Mustard and in Caramel. The one you have is definitely a Mustard. Take a look at this post of mine - the first A5 is the Mustard and the last A5 is the Mustard.

filofit (2012-06-19 16:24:04)

shh.. forgot to put the link in <http://filofit.wordpress.com/2012/05/31/my-love-for-the-family/>

filofit (2012-06-19 16:25:16)

what is wrong with me today :) The last A5 is the Caramel

Debimoje (2012-06-19 16:29:32)

i made some out of images from an old next catalogue collaged together. It cost me nothing bar a little glue, i had fun making them and it recycled some pages which would have been otherwise binned :) you can check them out on the Flickr section under debimoje1

Yu (2012-06-19 16:36:57)

I had the same experience today. :(I really want to buy the raspberry and the spring green (A5 sizes)... I'm going to call them tomorrow or send them an email. Hopefully it'll be sorted by then!

Yu (2012-06-19 16:38:35)

Oh, and I encountered this both on filofax.co.uk and filofax.dk =/ I just kept on filling in my adress information and clicked forward... and BAM! My basket suddenly has zil items. T _T Stupid programming bug!

Steve Morton (2012-06-19 16:41:16)

I think all sites are run on the same server using the same software... just different set ups. Because in the past when one site has gone down they all disappear!

But why the UK site doesn't have the category for Compact I still don't know... but if you search for Compact... they appear!

Bizzare... they need to employ Philofaxy to sort out the bugs me thinks...

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-06-19 16:59:31)

I have the metal one and cannot recommend it at all - certainly not at the price Filofax charge. Mine struggles with more than one sheet of paper, the paper discs get stuck in the holes and require removing with fine dissection forceps and it needs emptying all the time requiring coarse forceps or needle-nosed pliers to remove the slider bit. I hate it and wish I'd bought something better.

And don't even think about the plastic one!

JasJan (2012-06-19 17:04:59)

I would recommend rapesco metal one, no problems at all.

industrious housewife (2012-06-19 17:05:29)

It's pretty big. It's bigger than the 'Mum' purse I replaced it with.

Yu (2012-06-19 17:08:21)

Which one do you want to know about? the Luxe A5 or the personal? *has both*

(wait, haven't I already done this before? *confused*)

Oooh! I'd love the Luxe in blackcurrant! <3

Yu (2012-06-19 17:11:34)

It is! :D No worries. The raspberry is more "vibrant", though.

Yu (2012-06-19 17:22:01)

Mulberry. Ridiculously expensive, but they check each product very VEEERY closely and if there is something wrong with it they get so embarrassed they'll give you a 90 % refund AND a new planner. (Happened to me. I bought it in a Mulberry shop, though.)

BUT! The reason why I don't use Mulberry agendas/planners and use Filofax binders instead is this:

1. ONLY the "pocket" version has horizontal calendars and I. CAN'T. STAND. the vertical layout in the Mulberry

agenda. It's like TINY. (Read: narrow and annoying.)

2. One has to buy Mulberry inserts every year as nothing else fits. And... I could buy a new Filofax for what it costs me to buy a new freaking calendar made of paper, stamped with the Mulberry logo.

Needless to say, I only use the Mulberry agenda when someone else has bought me the calendar insert... and even then I get irritated by the size and the fact that I really can't personalize the agenda without much trouble. XD;

baggirl (2012-06-19 17:23:38)

I remember these! The 4 holes are basically the inner 4 holes of the 6 holes of the personal filofax. I think the idea was that you'd be able to file pocket paper in a personal filofax. Then they changed it to 6... and for a while the paper had a couple of elongated holes so it could fit 4-ring or 6-ring pocket files, but now nearly all paper has 6 holes. However the good thing is that you can easily punch the right holes using a standard (personal) filofax hole punch.

Steve Morton (2012-06-19 17:26:55)

@Amanda, when you take the cover off the bottom of yours and press the punch do the punch dies line up perfectly with the holes in the base of the punch?

Mine goes through 4-5 sheets of reasonable weight paper.

@JasJan careful the Rapseco one doesn't do A5 out of the box without double punching...

The KW Trio available from Holland will do A5, Personal, Pocket and Mini in the one punch.

Steve Morton (2012-06-19 17:29:28)

Paul

Could you measure between the hole centres of the 4 rings: Rings 1-2, 2-3, 3-4 in mm please. I will add the details to our information on hole spacing.

Thanks

Steve

JasJan (2012-06-19 17:38:29)

I do like the mulberry page per day. The Pocket Mulberry is the same size as the pocket filofax. You can also fit pocket Filofax inserts in the Mulberry agenda which is useful for maps and stickers. I agree though their size of agenda and planner is very annoying.

Yu (2012-06-19 17:43:33)

Really? I tried most everything and it doesn't work. Ok, I don't like the pocket size so I haven't tried that. :D I have only used the planner and the agenda from Mulberry. And where can I get hold of the page per day? The stores here only have the "default" agendas. (I asked last week. T_T) *plans on turning her Mulberry into a VERY fancy notebook for special occasions*

Yu (2012-06-19 17:45:03)

(sorry... frustration overload >.<;)

mstraat (2012-06-19 17:47:53)

Does the Luxe personal (compact) lay flat?

Lostwithoutyou (2012-06-19 17:48:26)

What does everyone use as leather conditioner? I have a finchley that's pretty dry and could probably benefit from some sort of treatment.

Yu (2012-06-19 17:48:52)

I use A5, personal and compact. The personal size is my main size during summer. So far anyway. :)

JasJan (2012-06-19 17:50:11)

I have a page per day for the agenda, I purchased directly from the Mulberry website. They may be out of stock at the moment. My mistake with the planner, I have only seen the vertical week on two pages. I have repunched dodo pads and daytimer/franklin covey inserts for the planner and trimmed the a bit...works but a bit of a faff!

kari Soursa (2012-06-19 18:00:19)

.... i didn't know that there was any similarity between those two brands. I even prefer pocket size . And i have some mulberry handbags, so I'm familiar with the superb quality :)

DEM (2012-06-19 18:02:23)

My main Filofax is a personal size. I think that size is alive and well out there.

DEM (2012-06-19 18:10:43)

You might also find some nice ones on Etsy. Worth a look.

Yu (2012-06-19 18:20:53)

No, it doesn't. :(The leather is too stiff or thick. If you go to my blog you can see that I have to push it down a little while taking the first pics... I think it lies something like this \ _ after two or three weeks of solid use (Of course, it lays flatter if the papers inside are evenly divided between the covers, but I based this on all the inserts laying (?) on the right side). I didn't dare train mine, but I'm sure it'll lay flat in time. The A5 does, so that's why I'm hopeful.

Yu (2012-06-19 18:23:38)

:D Then you might be able to buy a Mulberry pocket (or whatever they call it? Notes?) and use "cheap" Filofax inserts! *excited*

Yu (2012-06-19 18:27:20)

:(aw...

Well I was thinking of doing that before, but then I realized it would be far too bothersome to repeat all the time if I wanted to freshen up the inserts or something. T _T

Songbird68 (2012-06-19 18:29:39)

As a Filo newbie, can anyone tell me which model (besides the Malden) has a more soft, flexible, unstructured leather?

I'm waiting for my new A5 Domino to arrive in the mail, and already thinking about getting a classy leather Personal size, preferably in some form of lavender/violet/deep pink. I'm already an addict, and I haven't even used one yet. ;D

Songbird68 (2012-06-19 18:33:00)

Yes, I've heard that searching Etsy.com on "diary stickers" yields good results.

kari Soursa (2012-06-19 18:37:05)

lol.... my husband would kill me... slowly.

Yu (2012-06-19 18:50:21)

dithers* I want to buy the A5 Aqua Finsbury as a b-day present for my cousin who really needs a new planner (the old one is falling to pieces). But does it take as long as the personal to lay flat? Mwrah... it's her favorite color though. *lurks around google to find reviews*

Steve Morton (2012-06-19 18:54:25)

The Holborn is similar to the Malden for softness, although the cover is slightly stiffer because of the interior set up

Yu (2012-06-19 18:59:23)

XD; there is that...

Yu (2012-06-19 19:02:21)

@ Keji

+1!!! :D

Well, I'd be ***** if they start selling Holborns in more colors. In the meanwhile, I'm trying to collect one of each color of the Chameleon binder (except for brown). XD;

Savannah (2012-06-19 19:25:24)

The Aston is flexible yet has a little more structure. See Laurie's Aston Orchid on this website. The additional yet light structure of the Aston makes it easier to write in especially when not on a solid surface. I do believe the leather is softer than some of the Maldens yet still tough enough that it doesn't scratch easily.

indigogarden (2012-06-19 19:26:21)

I'm thinking of setting up an A5 sized one for my jewelry recipes and design book. I have one in a three ring plastic binder currently, but it is so large as to be nonfunctional and I never organized it well. I would think a section for notes on design ideas, a section for recipes broken down by type of jewelry: bracelets, rings, earrings, necklaces, pins. I have a separate folder that I use for sales summaries, receipts, tax information and any show information I need.

Keji (2012-06-19 19:32:29)

Thanks DEM + Songbird68. Will be browsing Etsy with wild abandon in the morning :-D.

indigogarden (2012-06-19 19:33:49)

I use a person crimson malden as my writing journal. It tracks my blog posts, holds outlines and character sketches of my two novels and holds notes from seminars that I attend. An A5 would be too big to cart around to my writing groups and a pocket would be too small for my note taking. I think a personal size is just right for this task. :)

Esmé (2012-06-19 19:38:37)

I bit the bullet and purchased the Dukes Smythson of Bond Street inserts for my A5. If they don't fit, I'll return them; I couldn't find anywhere on Philofaxy or on the web in general that said for sure whether the Dukes inserts are compatible, but I'll report back here for those curious.

Keji (2012-06-19 19:41:21)

@ Yu - oh my squee!!! If the Holborns came in more brighter colours I would be done. Flatlined... I'm already struggling with (okay feeding it daily, lol) my obsession with the Chameleons so I don't know what I would do if the Holborns went in that direction. Especially as my journey to Filofax started with me searching for the perfect zipped organiser!!!

I have no plans for the other Chameleons I want to buy as I'm pretty much a 2 Filofax kinda girl (personal for on the go, daily stuff and A5 for the big project, goals, school, work stuff). I'll mealy admire them and swap the contents through as my mood dictates.

Ohhh, this is going to be a problem...

Saffy (2012-06-19 19:55:56)

The Chameleon is a flexible, unstructured leather, light weight, lies (lays?) flat after a week or so and best of all is currently on sale.

Yu (2012-06-19 21:05:00)

:D I'm the same. Although I was recently a "one binder" person. (Or more accurately "one binder... oh **** it! *changes to a prettier color to go with the outfit*... ahem! one binder-person". XD) But I've decided to go for that exact same set-up once the fall semester starts. I just have to work out some details during the rest of the summer. I just wish I could handle all my organizers as roughly as I'm throwing the personal chameleon around (in and out of bags) but still have the really soft feel of the, say, Holborn leather. But that's kind of contradictory. =(Unless the Baroque is tougher than it looks!

Yu (2012-06-19 21:08:06)

I should clarify that by "outfit", I don't mean only clothes as I count all of my technical gadgets to that. XD; If I'm carrying around my Lamy Logo pens and a chic laptop, there is no way in hell I'm also carrying a cutesy pink organizer, even though its adorable. That one is for coffe with friends in a café or something. :)

Mrs.Badger (2012-06-19 22:16:59)

I used the same brand of paper for my tabs and it was perfect. I just used laminating sheets over the paper once I added labels, and they are holding up really well.

My tabs for my personal are:

- 1)Year
- 2)Diary (daily pages)
- 3)Notes
- 4)Vacations
- 5)Personal (includes it's own individual sections)
- 6) Addresses

mywormy (2012-06-19 23:02:31)

kari Soursa: I completely agree with you and Yu! LOL Anyway, I am now currently using a Mulberry agenda and the refills and extras were expensive. I now found out that Franklin Covey fillers for the pocket size fits in the Mulberry agenda! Yu, is right, the Mulberry is an excellent binder and they are quite beautiful! I have a lot of Filos and I don't think that I will ever go back to using a Filofax. Sorry Filofax, maybe one day I will, but for now it is my beautiful black Mulberry!!

Joseph David Quinton (2012-06-19 23:20:21)

I use an A5 Cuban, but I want a Personal Malden next!

Joseph David Quinton (2012-06-19 23:27:09)

Can anyone post pictures of the inside of the Holborn?

Joseph David Quinton (2012-06-19 23:28:21)

I use Chaimberlin,s Leather Milk 1 www.leather-milk.com

Savannah (2012-06-19 23:37:14)

This is great to know. Thank you.

Steve Morton (2012-06-19 23:39:15)

Review of a personal size Holborn due next week on Philofaxy... including pictures.

Steve Morton (2012-06-19 23:40:05)

The Dukes size seems to be bigger than A5? Difficult to tell from just the photos if the ring spacing is the same or not.

LJ (2012-06-20 00:02:23)

I think Filofax need to update their guidelines . ha ha ha!!!

Songbird68 (2012-06-20 00:29:48)

Thanks for the replies! I'm leaning toward either a Malden or a Chameleon at the moment. Can anyone speak to whether the Chameleon works as well as the Malden for a wallet? I suppose I could put a zip pouch in for coins, if needed...

Gail (2012-06-20 04:22:59)

Very annoyed now, just foned Filofax UK asking for a tracking number, only to be told that my order will not be going out till today! Grrrr! Yesterday I phoned at noon and the website said, any order placed before 2:30pm will be dispatched the same day. The lady on the phone also said the same thing.

Why con people like that, from now on I will be buying instore! Not happy at all with them!

Gail (2012-06-20 04:37:24)

On a plus side....The one I ordered from Neal Street as just arrived, 20 hours after ordering it AND it's had to travel over 260 miles....how's that for service!
Very happy now! lol

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-06-20 04:51:00)

I did a review of my Holborn a few weeks ago:
<http://paperpensink.blogspot.co.uk/2012/06/moving-into-holborn.html>

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-06-20 04:56:43)

@Steve,

Yes, the thing lines up. It's at work at the moment so I couldn't say for sure how perfectly.
I hate using the thing. When I used it to punch holes in my dividers I had to use my entire weight to do so - seriously, my hands were on the punch and my feet off the ground before it went through very thin card. It does 2 sheets of paper with some effort. 3 sheets - nope. I do all the sheets one at a time, usually with the back already removed and a pair of fine forceps at my side so I can remove the paper discs as they are cut (since gravity does not work near the thing it would seem).
Sorry for the rant, but when you pay the price filofax charge for them, you expect something to work well. Mine can barely punch its way out of a paper bag.

DEM (2012-06-20 05:43:02)

The pocket Chameleon works pretty well as a wallet. The left has 5 card slots and one long pocket and the right has a zip pocket that can work for change. The pen loop is on the left. Then it has a long pocket for bills along the length of the wallet/binder.
I feel like it works a little better than a pocket Malden due to the dedicated individual card slots, although the rings are smaller.

DEM (2012-06-20 05:48:54)

Sorry, just re-read your post and noticed that you are considering Personal, not Pocket. I don't have experience with the Cham personal. The Malden pers would certainly work.

Scoot (2012-06-20 06:02:27)

A tremendous sign of strength and depth of goodwill from contributors to have 153 good comments under a single topic.

Steve Morton (2012-06-20 06:10:49)

And the majority of them in 24 hours! I haven't checked yet but it could be a record number for Philofaxy

Yu (2012-06-20 06:51:46)

Oooh! :) thanks for the info. We don't have Franklin Covey over here, but now I have to get some and try it out.
:D I'm always looking for alternate inserts for the Mulberry.

Steve Morton (2012-06-20 07:25:36)

Our links page is going to be updated in the next few weeks. It's going to take a while to do.
But if people haven't blogged in the last 6 months or not blogged about Filofax in the last 6 months then their link will be removed.
I will use the last 4-6 months worth of Webfinds to create the links list. Plus my own links list as well.

Alison (2012-06-20 08:28:36)

Initially the A5 but eventually both lol

Can't wait for the Blackcurrant :)

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-06-20 09:00:15)

I have just got a second-hand A5 Mulberry and the ring spacing is exactly the same as the filofax personal size. So, home-made A5 inserts punched with a standard 6-ring hole-punch work and of course any personal size filofax inserts fit (but with a lot of space around them)

The Oxford International A5 paper also fits both A5 filofaxes and A5 Mulberry.

I will blog about both the Mulberry binder and review the Oxford paper over the next couple of weeks.

I realise none of that helps with replacement inserts for the agenda Mulberry.

Dawn (2012-06-20 10:15:45)

Don't believe it, got a shipping notice yesterday for my aqua chameleon, today I get a note telling me its out of stock, how disappointed am I :(

Keji (2012-06-20 10:39:50)

@ Yu - I like your thinking XD. Why should I only ever carry one Filofax? I say match them with my mood and outfits too. Function and style. A match made in heaven!!!

Yu (2012-06-20 10:39:52)

No, but it's helpful anyway. Because I might be able to sell my agenda Mulberry and try to find a new or second-hand planner (even though I love the look of the agenda). ^ _ ^

Yu (2012-06-20 10:42:12)

O _O from where did you buy it?

Dawn (2012-06-20 10:52:52)

Ebay,I thought at £39.99 it was too good to be true. Just rang FF, they still have an A5 Aqua, so all is well, i'm praying it has good rings :)

Yu (2012-06-20 11:18:20)

Yeah. I'm doing the same (praying, that is).

So are you gonna be able to get your money back?

Yu (2012-06-20 11:21:04)

filofax.dk is up and running again! :D *happheh* Just placed my order. Just the raspberry, though. Have to think for a bit about the spring green. I love the color in the personal size, but will I love it in the A5? :D

On another note: filofax.co.uk's customer service really is rude and unhelpful. Or maybe it's just the one person. I couldn't believe my eyes when I read the replies XX sent me. They've been so nice before! O _O

Steve Morton (2012-06-20 11:59:11)

One thing to remember is that Filofax mail order is part of the company where as the despatch and warehousing operation is done by a contractor in Crick, Northamptonshire.

So there's plenty of scope for mis-communication and numbers to get out of sync with how many the website thinks it has in stock compared to the actual number.

In fact I doubt if the website actually does know the number in stock, it just accepts the order each time...

Steve Morton (2012-06-20 12:02:05)

It sounds like it's faulty if you have to use that much force to get it to punch a single divider.

I would look at each punch die in turn because one or more than one must be out of alignment with the hole it's trying to get through.

Steve

Savannah (2012-06-20 13:02:32)

The Filofax Chameleon personal organizer is a structured binder although more bendable than the Classic, Cuban and other very structured binder. Any binder with cardboard or whatever they put between the leather to give it form would be considered a structured binder. The pocket Chameleon is unstructured. Just want to make sure you knew that before you made the leap.

Jotje (2012-06-20 13:55:08)

Some of the Pocket sized refills don't have 6 round holes, but 2 ovally shaped holes. I read somewhere that the odd shape was created so that it would also fit the old 4-ring-pocket binders. I believe that the contemporary inserts (multilanguage WO2P) would fit that bill!

Jotje (2012-06-20 14:08:34)

I'd say Compact Ochre Malden (because of the leather), though it's quickly evolving into a collector's item ...
Or a pocket ochre Malden (because of the ever convenient wallet pocket.
Or Cuban slimline in chestnut or ink (delicious leather aswell, very very very hardwearing too!)

Frederique (2012-06-20 14:34:23)

But the Pennybridge also exists in Pocket size ! In red, purple and black (which I guess men will prefer)...

See on [1]filofax.co.uk, [2]amazon.co.uk, or [3]cityorganiser.co.uk, etc.

I have the personal one, I guess it might look odd for a man, but I can see men using the pocket version easily : smart and usefull, with cards slots and coins compartment, as well as the trusted six rings for your planning/notetaking needs, I say : go for it !

(And : it's not too expensive, as opposed to some leather organisers, it's not too much of a cost if you only want to try it out !)

1. <http://www.filofax.co.uk/store/organiserdetails.asp?sizeId=2&rangeId=158&dsId=2>

2. <http://www.amazon.co.uk/Filofax-Pennybridge-Zipped-Organiser-Pocket/dp/B007P2YHNW/>

3. <http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/acatalog/Pocket-Pennybridge-Black-by-Filofax---incl.-2012---2013-contents.html>

David Popely (2012-06-20 16:34:10)

I use my Personal exclusively

Esmé (2012-06-20 17:39:01)

Thanks, Steve. I don't mind if the Dukes size is a little bigger, as long as it fits inside the Filo... the ring spacing is a different story!

Joseph David Quinton (2012-06-20 18:30:57)

Thanks, Steve!

Joseph David Quinton (2012-06-20 18:36:30)

Thanks for the recommendations, everyone. Jotje, I think I am going to get the Pocket Ochre Malden!

Songbird68 (2012-06-20 23:31:17)

Thanks Savannah, and everyone. I've decided to return my A5 Domino and get a Personal Malden, in Vintage Pink.

The FF website indicates merchandise can be credited back to a credit card, but I paid via PayPal. I may need to go through PayPal for a refund (since I plan to buy the Malden at a discount from Pensandleather.com).

Gail (2012-06-21 11:26:39)

Did you order a Chameleon? I did, just wrote about it:

<http://gailwheatley.blogspot.co.uk/>

Jotje (2012-06-21 13:18:02)

Kari, if you are looking for a high quality organiser, I would recommend looking for a vintage Filofax. I have a Portland Grand (with 30 mm rings) and a Kensington and the quality of both the leather and ring mechanism is astounding! Those things will never ever die, no matter how intensively used.

As much as I love all the new colours and designs and the great choice Filofax offers nowadays, it really saddens me that this had to be on the cost of quality. Which - in the end - matters most than all the above!!!

Jotje (2012-06-21 13:20:43)

Yu, I have the pink A5 Finsbury and it was flat in a heartbeat. Maybe not on the first day, but definitely within the first week of use. Personal and Pocket size are a pain, but A5 works great for the Finsbury!

David Popely (2012-06-21 13:22:53)

@Jotje I really have to agree about vintage binders. How old is the Portland Grand? My Richmond is 12 years old, looks brand new, and will still (I think) look great in another 12 years!

30mm rings as well! I wish FF would listen to their customers for a change.....

Yu (2012-06-21 16:45:23)

Oh, that's nice to know! Thank you! *orders the Finsbury* Now I just have to cross my fingers and hope she likes it. :D

(Btw, the pink Finsbury is soooo pretty!)

Songbird68 (2012-06-21 17:48:10)

I just need to tell *someone*, because I am bursting with excitement!! I just ordered my "true" first Filofax - the personal Malden in Vintage Pink! (I am returning the A5 Domino I got, since I realized it doesn't really fit my needs). I have to say, even just seeing the Domino in person, I am so blown away by the quality & classiness of Filofax compared to other planners I've used. I can't wait to get my Malden & personalize it!! I'm already making plans to "craft paper" the dividers, like I've seen people do, and maybe even get a little charm to hang from the rings. I'm such a girl. ;)

Whееееее!!!! I'm gonna be a Filofaxer!!!!

Yu (2012-06-21 20:52:05)

True enough. My Winchester is practically indestructible! :)

Sandra (2012-06-22 07:10:14)

Congrats on your Malden! I think you'll love it in personal size. My crimson is still my favorite...but don't tell my other Filofax. ;)

Size matters (2012-06-20 00:00) - Anita

I recently went away for a long week end, and as I was going around collecting up the last bits and pieces to pack, I picked up my A5 Malden in one hand and realised just how big it is.



[1] was waiting to be sold

My personal Malden wasn't available as it

Somehow, it seemed a bit ridiculous to take away such a large binder with me for three nights, so I left it behind. And boy, did I miss it. I don't know about you, but my filofax is normally within easy reach when I'm at home, so it was very strange to be without it. I went away for a week last Christmas and my personal was in my bag straightaway without any thought.

So, a little doubt has crept in... and it's that old chestnut of [2]what is the perfect size? I purchased an A5 for the extra space and at the time very rarely took my personal out and about with me. However, it seems that now I've decided on A5 I can see more opportunities for when I'd like to have a filo with me. For example, I'm going to London to attend the Dalai Lama's talk at the Royal Albert Hall (yay), and fancy using mine on the train journeys and to take the odd note in. I'm just not so sure I want to carry my A5 around with me the whole day. Also, I'm visiting Malaysia for three weeks next year and I really can't see myself taking this size away either. Maybe I'm asking a lot, but I want one filofax that does it all! I think I'll write down the pros and cons of each size, and maybe set a deadline to review how I've found the A5 size. Maybe it's good that I didn't sell my personal Malden and for the time being, I'm going to put it away until I make a final decision. Alternatively, visiting City Organiser on the same day as the talk will be a good opportunity to maybe consider a purple pocket Malden or imperial purple Finchley as a wallet.

I have a suspicion that personal may be the happy medium between portability and paper size with owning just the one binder, but I could also now see myself owning two for the best of both worlds. I'm sure many of you more experienced owners have experienced this, but I suppose I didn't expect this to happen so soon after deciding to upgrade from personal to A5. Oh, choices, choices!

1. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-a-0EGcx0XIs/T9o9jJyQimI/AAAAAAAAAhA/meOSRnweoc8/s1600/P1010986.JPG>

2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2009/11/perfect-size.html>

Helen Conway (2012-06-20 02:16:06)

Although I love my many Filofaxes, I am also wedded to my ipad which fits in my handbag and goes everywhere. So, at times where I also want to write but not carry my A5 around I slip a few pages into the sleeve of the ipad or carr a swingpad in the handbag then transfer pages later.

Tim (2012-06-20 03:35:06)

I've been having this debate with myself (albeit with Time Manager rather than Filofax) since 1986! A5 is such a good size - especially as A4 printed documents can be folded once and punched or just slotted in a pocket. However, the Filofax (and Time Manager) A5 binders are so enormous and lacking portability! With the continued absence of compact A5 binders, I had to find a solution. So, 12 months ago with Flex launched, I worked out a compromise that has worked brilliantly for me. It's an A5 Flex binder with a 13mm ring fitted, supplemented by a slim Flex. I've been promising to write a guest post about it and I must do that soon - promise!

Alison Reeves (2012-06-20 04:29:53)

I think the answer is we need a really slim A5! I am seriously considering getting the Staples ARC system as a slim alternative for note taking and business planning.

Angel Jem (2012-06-20 05:00:48)

I use (cheap)WHS A5 paper in my A5, so actually carrying around a WHS pad takes up way less space than the binder.... but I really think a slim A5 may ultimately be the answer. Hope Tim posts on his Flex set up soon!

JohnofJenkins (2012-06-20 05:34:26)

My Cuban A5 is always on my desk but my personal I take with me everywhere. I make sure that both are in sync. I have a habit of writing everything in my A5 five first.

Doris (2012-06-20 06:46:04)

I may be one of the few who have never used an A5. I was using a Personal size, even for work. One reason is because I can't imagine carrying around that size. I usually do a Personal/Pocket and currently a Personal/Slimline combo and I'm quite happy with how it's working out.

Keep the Personal as an option for when you need to downsize. I don't know if you've tried using it a purse as well, but the Malden really functions well for that, as does the Baroque (at least of the styles I've tried).

Or even better, treat yourself to the Zipped Maldens! (: I'm considering those myself but not right now, and I'm undecided on color and size.

Like you said, choices, choices!

Ms. C (2012-06-20 08:10:28)

I have three Filofaxes I use daily; my Personal Adelphi, which is in my purse and goes everywhere, my Domino A5, which is my "work" Filo and is usually kept in my work bag or on my desk, and an A5 Finsbury, which I use to keep track of all things related to my horse and horseback riding (goals, expenses, days at the barn-I also journal in this one almost daily) This one usually travels with me as well, in my work bag or an additional tote bag. I find it REALLY hard to leave any of them at home...I'm always consolidating the information in them, adding stuff, and I feel like I need to have them all with me! It's a problem, because those A5's take up a lot of room!

DEM (2012-06-20 08:27:55)

I have kind of adopted the thought that, just like shoes, a Filofax should suit the activity; hence my dangerous justification for having and using more than one at the same time. Heck, I wouldn't go hiking in heels, right...so i also need to have hiking boots. One must have the proper equipment for each activity. At work I know that I'll need to have a FF that will give me enough space to take notes during meets...enter my Aston A5 (my hiking boots). I use this binder solely for work items and do not have calendar pages in it.

My day-to-day planning organizer, which has a calendar and personal/life items and info, is my personal Holborn (soon to be switched once I receive my newest purchase...a personal Ostrich...yippee!!!). The size makes it comfortably portable for being out and about. The personal is akin to my heels.

The right equipment for the right job...that's my motto and I'm sticking to it! ;-).

kanalt (2012-06-20 11:28:23)

I had an A5 for a while as a family binder, but the truth was that I didn't really use it. Even as a home binder, I felt it was just too big, though I can see the benefit of it for a lot of work details. I had used a personal size for

personal use since I started with Filofax, but that too became too much - not the size of the pages, but the width. I was carrying more than I needed just to fill the binder. So I went to the compact size for my every day planning. But I didn't want to lose the extra space for extra things. So I also use two personal binders (both Malden - one black, one Ochre). The black keeps all the extra stuff I would have had in my every day personal binder - addresses, projects, random lists and the like - but that I don't need with me all of the time. The ochre keeps past and future diary pages. The compact only allows me to carry three to four months of diary pages at a time, and that's perfect for me. But having the other pages easily accessible helps me to look back and plan forward should I need to. While I understand the "one life, one Filo" idea, it's just not practical for me. Using the personals (both stay at home all the time) and compact is the best of both worlds and is working beautifully for me!
I so understand the feeling of so many choices and which do I choose!

Jotje (2012-06-20 13:52:02)

I also use an A5 Vintage Pink Malden as my one and only planning tool. However, I don't take it with me on holidays. That is the time for my Travel-o-Fax, which until recently was a personal sized Filofax. On my next vacation I will be accompanied by my Pennybridge Compact.

The reason I don't bring my A5: the chances that I will need to check my schedule or todo's will be smaller than superslim. I am not available for customers during my holiday, thus work-related stuff doesn't need to be with me either.

I have the most important addresses with me, the (amazing!) Travel Journal pages (kuddos to Ray!!) for the duration of the trip, plenty of notepaper and that's it!

At the end of my holiday I will happily return to my meanwhile totally fattened A5 Malden. The A5 - while a pain to carry around - is sheer bliss in terms of paper real estate. It feels so natural to write on A5 sized paper. I love it still and don't expect to downsize to personal any time soon!

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-06-20 14:29:11)

I think we're quite similar Doris - I've never had an A5 either. Way too big for me! As you'll know, I used a compact (and also have a personal for storage) but now I have a beautiful slimline that's the perfect choice for me! (For the moment anyway . . . LOL!)

<http://www.allthingsstationery.blogspot.co.uk/2012/06/oh-glorious-pu-rple-slimline-come-to.html>

I love the way I can just move the inserts around from binder to binder without having to write them out again on different-sized refills. If, for any reason, I decide I need more room, I'll just move back to my compact (or even personal, but unlikely).

@Anita: It's certainly a dilemma. There's no way I could run two diaries in two separate Filofaxes. (Or should I say 'Filofax Personal Organisers, LOL!) You could use your A5 as a stay-at-home Filofax that contains everything but the diary, then use your personal with your diary and other stuff that you need whilst out and about. Then you could slim down to a compact or even a slimline without having to write everything out again onto different-sized inserts! Just a thought anyway.

Howard (2012-06-20 16:22:44)

I use two binders - a Pocket and an A5. The Pocket is carried around in my bag. This contains my diary (I don't have many appointments), to do lists and notes that I might need when out. Really all the planner stuff goes in here.

The A5 is kept at home and is used for "at home" things. These tend to be bigger projects, more detailed notes, and stuff printed out from the internet - all ideal for the A5 size. There are sections for household information, career, computers, health and inspiration. A paper copy of my address book is kept here too, though largely as a backup for my phone.

This system is working well for me at the moment. I rarely want the information in the A5 while I'm out, and having two binders means I can avoid carrying it around. There's some duplication of notes, but not much. For me at least, it's a good system.

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-06-20 16:34:13)

Wow, what a fabulous idea! I use a slimline now and I'm finding it a brilliant size - big enough inserts but small enough overall to fit in my bag. I can't wait to see your post! How on earth did you hack that?!

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-06-20 16:37:51)

@Howard: That sounds like a really sensible idea. I often think that I could really use an A5 'at home' binder, but then again . . . an A4 ring binder would just probably do the trick just as well!

Joseph David Quinton (2012-06-20 17:10:33)

Wonderful idea, John! I only own one Filofax, an A5 Cuban, but I have been dreaming about a personal-sized Malden....I would like to see if all of my stuff would fit in a Personal.

Yu (2012-06-20 17:13:56)

Haha! This had me laughing, sorry! But it just looks hilarious (ridiculous) when ppl started writing everything that has to do with Filofax in the proper way and/or joking about the guidelines/rules. XD;

Howard (2012-06-20 17:26:36)

Yes it probably would. But it wouldn't be nearly so enjoyable!!

Joseph David Quinton (2012-06-20 17:28:32)

Is the stunningly beautiful red A5 Adelphi in retirement? I hope not!

Joseph David Quinton (2012-06-20 17:32:02)

I cannot even begin to imagine downsizing from my A5 Cuban for I need the extra space that it offers. I would like to purchase a Personal Malden, however, to use as a wallet.

Savannah (2012-06-20 20:29:57)

Ditto

Doris (2012-06-21 00:34:01)

Just saw your post and commented! They SHOULD make more feminine Slimlines, I agree.

For my Compact search, since I just found out the Aqua Compact Chameleons are like unicorns (a figment of my imagination), I'm considering the Classics, but they only have it in sage and lavender. Lavender will match my Personal, but I really want a compact in blue. Maybe I'll wait for it to go on sale. (:

Anita (2012-06-21 02:54:06)

I agree, this sounds wonderful, Tim. And thank you for sharing that you've been having a similar size issue for so long. I've only had a filo since 2009, so have a lot of catching up to do!

Anita (2012-06-21 02:58:52)

Thank you for your comments. I find it interesting to hear how everyone uses their filos & thanks for all the helpful advice :)

Jotje (2012-06-21 13:09:34)

Apart from holding spare note pages, it actually is retired. I started with the 20 mm with so much confidence! Then quickly moved on to 25 mm rings. Only to find out that I need 30 mm rings after all. I am soooo lucky that there are no 35 mm rings available, cos I'd probably manage to stuff those as well...

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-06-21 13:24:46)

@Yu: I couldn't resist sneaking that in there!

@Doris: No I've never seen a compact Chameleon in aqua; I don't think they make them. As for a blue compact - there's always the Finsbury . . .

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-06-21 13:27:13)

There's a slimline Adelphi A5 in scarlet on eBay and Amazon right now . . . not that I'm enabling or anything . . . :-)

Joey Quinton (2012-06-21 18:51:03)

My ultimate Filofax would be an A5 black Adelphi with 30mm rings! I wonder why this has never been an option?

Joey Quinton (2012-06-21 18:55:41)

Does Filofax welcome production suggestions?

Steve Morton (2012-06-22 06:22:37)

The Adelphi was supposed to be their slimline or compact A5 with only 20mm rings in it.. sadly they added big bulky pockets to it so it ended up just as thick as any other A5 Filofax, so putting in 30mm rings would be somewhat defeating the object!

Yes they do take suggestions.. but sadly not many of them seem to filter through to production...

Philofaxy London Meet Up - September 2012 (2012-06-21 00:00) - Steve Morton

So this is a 'calling notice' for people who would like to attend the next Philofaxy Meet Up in London. This is **not** the Conference/Convention mentioned in my post earlier this week.

Please read all of the post before you apply for a place on the meet up. Places are limited in numbers.

When and Where

The date of the meet up is **Saturday 22nd September 2012** and we will meet initially at **12 noon** at Tate Modern which is at Bankside on the South Bank of the Thames.

We will be eating at Cafe 2 which is at the western end of the building (See map at foot of this post)

The [1]menu for [2]Cafe2 is quite varied and in the past we have found it quite reasonably priced. It is easier for us if you bring cash for the meal, generally we just split the bill by the number of people eating, although it will be possible to pay for exactly what you ordered plus your share of the service charge.

During the meal there will be plenty of time for chatting and sharing Filofax organisers...

Then we will take a walk across the river to [3]City Organiser who have kindly agreed to open their shop for us on the Saturday afternoon... in fact Andy will be joining us for lunch at Tate Modern.

Our meet up will finish at about 5:30pm

How to book a place on the meet up

To get a place on the meet up you need to email: **steve[at]philofaxy[dot]com** and mark your email **September 2012 London Meetup** but **not before 9am (UK time) tomorrow Friday 22 June 2012**. Please only request a place if you are 99 % certain that you will be able to attend on the 22nd I'm hoping this time to have full attendance.

Once all ten places are assigned additional names will be added to a reserve list, in case anyone has to drop out of the meet up between the 12th and 22nd September.

As places are allocated you will receive an email back again confirming your place on the meet up.

Please **do not** book travel tickets etc until you have a confirmed place. I will attempt to confirm places within 2-3 hours of receiving your email.

Should you be unsuccessful in booking a place on this particular meet up in September there is a strong likelihood that there will be another meet up in November the date is as yet to be confirmed.

Additional Information

If you aren't familiar with London or how to get to Tate Modern from the station you are arriving at then use the [4]Transport for London Journey Planner, it's generally quite good.

Once we have our full list of people, we will exchange email addresses and if you aren't familiar with London you might be able to get someone to meet you at the station you are arriving at.

Your safety on the day and your enjoyment on the day is of paramount importance to me, so don't be afraid to ask any questions by email, I want everyone who attends to get the most from the day.

I'm going to be staying at the Holiday Inn Express in Southwark Street, just behind Tate Modern. If you are going to be staying over night in London either on the Friday night or Saturday night then I'm sure we can meet up for dinner or a drink somewhere.

Thank you... any questions?

[Update] All places are now allocated for this meet up, but I'm still adding to the reserve list

IFRAME: [5]<http://maps.google.co.uk/?ie=UTF8 &ll=51.507571,-0.099468 &spn=0.007145,0.011973 &t=v &z=17 &output=embed>

[6]View Larger Map

1. <http://www.tate.org.uk/file/tate-modern-cafe-lunch-menu>
2. <http://www.tate.org.uk/visit/tate-modern/eat-drink-and-shop/cafes>
3. <http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/>
4. http://journeyplanner.tfl.gov.uk/user/XSLT_TRIP_REQUEST2?language=en
5. <http://maps.google.co.uk/?ie=UTF8&ll=51.507571,-0.099468&spn=0.007145,0.011973&t=v&z=17&output=embed>
6. <http://maps.google.co.uk/?ie=UTF8&ll=51.507571,-0.099468&spn=0.007145,0.011973&t=v&z=17&source=embed>

Misha Gericke (2012-06-21 01:03:29)
Sounds like a lot of fun. :-)

c86a8c44-0e01-11e1-a54a-000bcdcb5194 (2012-06-21 04:37:23)
Hi, this sounds fun - is there any chance of arranging a Scottish/Northern one? Will have to persuade Laurie!!
Mags Rennie

Lostwithoutyou (2012-06-21 05:46:16)
Not sure if it's just me but the menu and cafe 2 links don't work for me.

Steve Morton (2012-06-21 05:50:50)
Try now, they had changed the links on their site since I drafted the post!
Steve

Laurie (2012-06-21 07:00:53)
Yes let's definitely arrange a Scottish meetup! When I get my housing situation sorted out and get settled a little, I'll post asking when and where we could meet up.
I'd love to meet the Scottish Philofaxers!

Free For All Friday No. 188 (2012-06-22 00:29) - Laurie

Solstice was this week, with the longest days in the northern hemisphere and the shortest days in the southern hemisphere. I love the changing daylight hours, and I appreciate them that much more after spending more than a year in the tropics with no seasonal variation in daylight hours at all—just 12 and 12 year round. I love the looooooong summer days!

Speaking of changes, how has your Filofax usage changed lately? Have you recently changed sizes, formats or tabbed sections?

And as always on Fridays, feel free to discuss anything Filofax-related!

robynlouise (2012-06-22 01:09:36)
Long time stalker, first time poster :)
I have two pocket Filos and one personal size Collins Debden planner. I must admit, I like the Collins better, and I have had it several years longer. It laid flat when I got it.
I have heard a few people mention "training" their Filo to lay flat. I have a Bond and a Finsbury. How do I get them to lay flat? Just leave them open on my desk for days at a time? Or do I need to weigh either side down? Will all Filos lay flat in time or am I fighting a losing battle?

Yasmin (2012-06-22 01:20:44)

I was going to ask the same thing Robynlouise! I hear all this talk of training but don't know how to do it.

terriknits (2012-06-22 02:19:39)

This is pretty extreme, but this is how I got my personal Cuban Zip to lay flat. http://www.flickr.com/photos/terri_royea/6421735543/in/set-72157626909217117 I did this two nights in a row and it worked.

David Popely (2012-06-22 02:19:54)

The most difficult part of training the Malden, which mostly lies flat straight out of the box, is training the leather clasp 'thingy' (it's early, OK?) not to get in the way of the pen loop underneath it, or even the extreme right hand edge of the right hand pages.

I find this quite annoying....ideas, anyone? "Cut the clasp off" is not an option.....

David Popely (2012-06-22 02:23:36)

Looks pretty sensible to me.....

robynlouise (2012-06-22 02:31:49)

Oh good, I will find something heavy and give it a try over the weekend.

Hannah J (2012-06-22 06:37:46)

Might be extreme (I've not done filofax training yet!). Can you use a bulldog paper clip to clip the clasp bit back overnight and see if that does anything?

Gail (2012-06-22 07:00:16)

So how many Filofax do you own?

I have 23!

10 A5

11 Personal

2 Pocket

David Popely (2012-06-22 07:04:23)

@Hannah J I might try that, thanks for the idea....

Alison (2012-06-22 07:10:31)

So far i've got:

2 A5

4 Personal

5 Pocket

Flex A5, Slim and Pocket.

I've managed to collect those in the space of a few of months :o

David Popely (2012-06-22 07:12:56)

One A5

Two Personal

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-06-22 07:21:39)

Has anyone seen this posted by City Organiser?

<http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/pdf/%20files/City%20Organiser%20Stock%20Availability%2021%2006%2012.pdf>

It's a list of Filofaxes coming to City Organiser later this year! It's interesting to see the Purple Malden up there as though it's a new release- is this the 'better quality' version that Filofax are redoing because of quality control issues on the earlier version?

DEM (2012-06-22 07:36:27)

I train mine by weighing them down for a bit. I've heard that some people do this in stages...starting with lighter weight and adding weight as the days go by. I tend to just find the heaviest thing around and use that; placing a weight on each side of the open binder and leaving it like that for as long as I can. This, along with frequent use, has helped to train my binders to lay flat.

Jotje (2012-06-22 07:39:21)

David, when I have my A5 Malden laying on my desk I just fold the clasp to the back so that the binder "sits" on it. I agree that it tends to get in the way, but I'm not very bothered ... ;-)

Jotje (2012-06-22 07:41:47)

Same goes for the Personal Holborn in Wine. Wasn't the Holborn discontinued altogether????

DEM (2012-06-22 07:42:02)

I've got 13 (soon to be 14)

2 A5

8 Personal (soon to be 9)

2 Pocket

1 Mini

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-06-22 07:56:28)

I've got 10:

2 personal

2 compact

1 slimline

3 pocket

3 mini

Oh, that's 11. Dammit. I need to do some more selling...

Dawn (2012-06-22 08:38:45)

that explains why I had to send 3 x A5 purple Maldens back to FF uk, I didn't know there was a problem with them, just thought I had been really unlucky.

Romina (2012-06-22 08:48:18)

Good to hear they are reissuing the purple Malden. I hope we get the "improved" version here in USA. I am loving my red compact Chameleon but i really want to get a Malden for 2013.

industrious housewife (2012-06-22 08:52:54)

1 compact

1 pocket

2 personal

2 A5

Ooh, how did that happen?! :-D

My A5 Chameleon arrived this morning. It's a lovely creature.

Do you all have specific uses for all your Filofaxes?

Steve Morton (2012-06-22 08:56:00)

Sorry pupils you have been counting your Filofax personal organisers incorrectly this morning.. and I am surprised...

You all need to go back to the lesson we gave on this subject back in Feb 2011 on [1]'Filofax Organisers - How Many Do You Own?',

By using that calculation method I'm sure you will agree that it just doesn't sound anything like as scary as the numbers you are quoting above.

So you now have your homework for the weekend....

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/02/filofax-organisers-how-many-do-you-own.html>

Steph (2012-06-22 09:02:37)

What has been the problem with the purple Maldens?

DEM (2012-06-22 09:16:33)

Oopsie! So right. Sorry about that, Steve!

Using our calculation, I actually have 3.5!!! That's far less scary. Hmmmm...what to buy next??

LJ (2012-06-22 10:03:28)

Well, recently I have shipped some off to new homes to make space (that won't last long) and now I have approximately 12 Philofaxy's ... that sounds so much more sane than 34 Filofax organisers... and we won't mention the ones that are on their way *ahem*...

LJ (2012-06-22 10:05:55)

Hopefully not too much as I'll be receiving mine on Monday...

JJ Hitt (2012-06-22 10:10:00)

Gail: Go buy a Mini. You are incomplete.

I dont even know how many personals I have. Somewhere over a dozen, three or four pockets, three minis and 2 A5's. And an M2 for no good reason.

Forever New (2012-06-22 10:52:57)

I got my black personal Finsbury to lay flat by bending the covers completely backwards and clothespinning them together for a few minutes. Then I removed some of the stiffness by rolling up the front and back covers, in turn. I did not change the finish/color - just brokedown some of that stiff cardboard inside the covers. It's not nearly as "floppy" as my Malden, but is a lot more flexibly and easy to use.

kari Soursa (2012-06-22 11:01:06)

I have 3.

1pocket

1personal

1 A5

Joey Quinton (2012-06-22 11:02:17)

I practice one life, one Filofax...an A5 Cuban.

J (2012-06-22 11:06:36)

I've gotta say I'm with Joey- I only have one real Filofax (my Malden) but two if you count my Domino which hasn't been used in over a year!

Gail (2012-06-22 11:31:41)

Okay Steve, if I go off your calculations I think I have 8 ish. lol

JJ you are so right, I need a Mini and a A4. lol

Gail (2012-06-22 11:37:22)

Is there an actual directory of the shops (not online ones), that sell Filofaxes. I have looked online at Filofax UK and they have a list of stockists but I have discovered it's very outdated.

Here's where I have seen the Filofax...please feel free to add...actually will copy this list into my Filofax so when I am out and about I know what shops to go into.

The Pen Shop

WHSmiths
John Lewis
Staples
Paperchase
Tesco (tiny selection)

Jotje (2012-06-22 11:56:13)
City Organiser!

Jotje (2012-06-22 11:58:56)
Apparently there were leather quality and ring mechanism problems. Wait! Ring problems? Noooooooooooooo, that's a new one!
(ehum)

Jotje (2012-06-22 11:59:33)
Ah, who's counting anyway
;-)

David Popely (2012-06-22 12:10:41)
@Joey That's my attitude too - the 'spare' Personal is because I replaced it with the ochre Malden, the A5 was just a mistake!
I'd be interested to hear about your setup...and how you find it carrying your A5 everywhere, which is why I use a Personal as my go-to binder.

David Popely (2012-06-22 12:15:44)
Hi Gail
Other than City Organiser, I can't think of any other suppliers.

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-06-22 12:22:15)
Ryman!
<http://www.ryman.co.uk/>

Gail (2012-06-22 12:24:17)
Quite shocking that there's just not enough stockists!

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-06-22 12:25:10)
Oh - and Debenhams!

Doris (2012-06-22 12:37:54)
Sorry guys, but I won't even go there! (: More for my sanity than anything else.

Doris (2012-06-22 12:42:53)
For anyone who has the vintage models, which has the best (soft, supple, smooth) leather - Portland? Windsor? Winchester? etc. I'd like to consider one but not sure which would be best. Thanks in advance.

Valerie (2012-06-22 12:47:16)
Hi Romina....I am in the US too and I have a purple Malden Personal on pre-order from Pens and Leather. Originally their stock was due in June 18 but that date has been revised to July 20th or thereabouts. I imagine it's due to Filofax being behind schedule on production of the improved quality Malden. I'm trying to be patient, I just can't afford the shipping fees to purchase from the UK unfortunately.

Jotje (2012-06-22 12:47:41)

Portland is just a tad softer than Kensington (which is already nice and soft!). The Portland leather feels so expensive and soft and tactile. I would expect that the Eton (which is made of lamb skin) would feel like the Portland (which is - as far as I know - not made of lamb skin).

The portland is also available in a very deep green or burgundy red, though only in 23 mm. As one of my readers pointed out, the 30 mm Grand version is only available in black. However, if you are after fine leather and don't care about huge rings, any Portland will fulfill your needs!

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-06-22 12:50:57)

House of Fraser

Selfridges

Jotje (2012-06-22 12:52:30)

David, basically it's the same setup as in my Adelphi video (2 pages per day TM inserts), M02P with selfmade tabs and vertical WO2P, which will be replaced by Organised Mum's grid layout starting in August (that will require another blogpost ...).

I solved the carrying problem by A) using a huge bag (the Filofax Finchley tote bag, which I have used non-stop since the moment I got it in September 2011) and B) removing all the "essential items" from my handbag, that - truth be told - I never needed anyway. I started to feel stupid lugging around stuff for "but-what-if's", when all I really needed was my Planner!

Saffy (2012-06-22 12:59:31)

Anyone living near Bath there is a large selection at Woods the Stationers. <http://www.woodsthestationers.co.uk/>
Also walking around the little alley ways there were quite a few small independent stationery shops with older models of "Filofax Personal Organisers" :)

Jotje (2012-06-22 12:59:35)

Dear Blogger,

I'm prepared and willing to comply with your latest demands that require me to prove that I am not a robot (why you would think that I could be a robot to begin with is beyond me by the way, thank you very much!).

What bothers me endlessly though, is that you also want to have living proof that I'm not visually impaired. I do wear glasses, and since you started to pester us with blurry pictures of random numbers, I made sure that I renew my prescription every other month (that was every three years before, so bigtime thank you from my optician). That still leaves the rather disturbing question of the insanely wacky and zigzaggy texts you present me with EVERY time I care to publish a comment. Surely, it would be sufficient if you could just use regular fonts that require no squeezing my (now tearing) eyes and blinking my eyelashes?

I would also like to suggest that you would believe my proof of not being a machine once I complied with your odd rules. Instead of making me prove it all over again after 30 seconds (when I want to comment again).

I love blogs. I do like to comment. I getting insane with the blurry number pictures and totally wacko non-words. Thank you.

Gail (2012-06-22 13:13:40)

AMEN!

I spent an obscene amount of money getting my eyes lazered 3 - 4 years ago and I struggle to see that hazy picture, and do they have to squish those letters together so tightly!!!

Gail (2012-06-22 13:16:10)

Lucy, would you be so kind to tell me whereabouts (what section) they are in Debenhams.....I have searched and searched but not come across any as of yet?

Student...could you also tell me where in House of Frazer they are too please?

Saffy (2012-06-22 13:16:24)

Oh, so it is not just me then? Squinting at the screen to decipher the conjoined letters only to be told I was incorrect. I then resort to scrolling through them for an 'easy' combination, aaarrggghhh, ssssoooooooooo annoying!!!

And if all that isn't enough, I have had my comments just disappear into thin air??? Not published, just gone!?

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-06-22 13:21:46)

I've noticed they've been getting more difficult to read just recently. So annoying!

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-06-22 13:24:18)

@Gail: I really couldn't tell you! I know they sell them online and I've also seen them in a Debenhams shop a few years ago but I can't for the life of me remember which section. Sorry!

David Popely (2012-06-22 13:24:53)

Yes, that's quite a bag! I really like the messenger bags from www.manhattanportage.com, but I think Mrs P would *actually* kill me if I did.....

David Popely (2012-06-22 13:28:11)

hi Saffy

I just can't get on with Bath...the car parking is rubbish, and it always feels like Bristol's rather superior-but-down-at-heel maiden aunt

David Popely (2012-06-22 13:32:28)

I'd like to add my 'Amen' to this...I'm sick and tired of having to prove I'm not a machine EVERY time I want to leave a comment. If Blogger don't sort this out, I'll just have to stop commenting altogether - and I don't want that.

There are some VERY big and popular blogs on Blogger.....can't they *together* make thi point to the idiots that manage Blogger and demand some respite for us poor commenters?

Songbird68 (2012-06-22 13:44:34)

Hello Philofaxy Community!

I've recently emerged from 'lurking' and started posting, as I just ordered my first Filofax ever. I am a veteran of several prior Planner Fails, mostly Franklin Covey, and I realized it's because they imposed their particular structure on me that I didn't necessarily want - I love how Filos are so free-form, and therefore completely customizable. Plus the binders themselves are so incredibly beautiful, I seriously don't know why I didn't consider Filofax a serious option long before now. Maybe the prices scared me off, but I am finding deals, as you're all aware of.

I returned the A5 Domino I'd recently bought and decided to order a Personal Malden instead (Vintage Pink). I'm beside myself with excitement, planning all the ways I'm going to customize it. I can't wait to do the dividers up with pretty craft paper. This is stuff I never did with my Franklin Planners, DayTimers, etc. (Maybe that was part of the problem!)

I do have one big question though: I notice many of you use 2 or more Filos at once. While I can see the temptation to do so, especially for separating work/personal life, my big concern would be syncing up the diaries. How do you stay on top of that, and prevent double-booking, or missing something?

I'm reading Julie Morgenstern books right now, and she strongly recommends the "one life, one planner" approach, for the reason mentioned above. Which makes practical sense.... but not nearly as much fun. Ha.

Happy to have discovered this community, and all the personal blogs & videos many of you have. I now have a new way to waste hours of time online, and I sense you all will be future Filo enablers for me too - just what I needed. ;-)

LJ (2012-06-22 13:47:09)

I so agree!!! The other thing is that sometimes I have really struggled to work out what on earth the random numbers

or letters are, and have been pretty sure that my guess is not correct, but it still goes through... it's all a bit strange...

Songbird68 (2012-06-22 13:50:22)

Another hearty "amen" here! There really should be some way for those who already went to the trouble to set up a profile to be able to bypass this - we've already "proved" ourselves, right?

Steve Morton (2012-06-22 13:53:23)

OK let's try it without but Google accounts only...

Last time I turned it off there was a load of spam.

Steve

David Popely (2012-06-22 13:54:02)

Anyone who lives in the UK and has to cope with the constant demand for arcane proofs of identity and address will tell you - we're all guilty until proved innocent now. Not sure when that happened, but we are.....

David Popely (2012-06-22 13:55:52)

@steve didn't realise you could turn it on/off - there's no intention to criticise you (only Blogger), and if there's a spamfest, by all means turn it back on

Nellie (2012-06-22 14:04:30)

I adore Bath, lots of lovely independent shops. I also married Mr N there so have soft spot for it.

Butanben (2012-06-22 14:08:03)

Gail, TK Maxx get quite a few in near to Christmas, at reasonable prices. Usually the lines which are being dis-continued. Try early to mid- December- for half price bargains.

David Popely (2012-06-22 14:08:20)

I'd still recommend walking in from London. It'll be quicker than parking your car in Bath.....:)

Steve Morton (2012-06-22 14:28:23)

No it's ok I realised that David.. but the only option we have is to turn it on or off, there's nothing in between. Let's see what happens now I've restricted it to Google accounts only. There have been problems with logging in with other accounts anyway.

Dawn (2012-06-22 14:47:08)

The first two Maldens I sent back were really badly scratched and I mean really badly and the leather on the third was awful, unacceptable for such an expensive item, I don't know how they got through quality control. LJ - I hope you get a good one.

Frederique (2012-06-22 14:57:46)

Hi all,

I am currently (and very happily) using a Metropol Slimline as my current filofax, but am constantly thinking of downsizing to a Pocket-sized filofax - but I really dislike the clasp/closing "thingy" on most filofax, it's always in the way ! (and yes, I'm right-handed)

So, pocket slimline ? Indeed. They exist (or have existed, briefly) !

For instance, I'd like to try a [1]Slimline Pocket Topaz, but can't find any "real" pictures of this thing "in action", anywhere.

Does any of you have/use a Pocket Slimline ? If so, do you have pics and/or an opinion about it ? Please, say yes, or I'll just have to buy the thing and write a review :)

1. <http://www.pensandleather.com/filofax-topaz-pocket-slimline-organizer-red.aspx>

Frederique (2012-06-22 15:15:15)

Hrm, okay, I've just found [1]pics of a black slimline pocket Topaz, along with a "Chronoplan" mini cousin (in which you can fit Filofax pocket-sized refills). Interesting : very slim, very "pocket", very chic, this topaz. ME LIKEY.

1. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/51895210@N06/sets/72157624457118226/>

Cazzle (2012-06-22 15:53:18)

I have happily called Bath my home for the last 5 years. Yes parking is a nightmare and it may not have the vast amount of shops Bristol has to offer, but it is a safe, beautiful and welcoming city that I am proud to call my home. :)

Alison Reeves (2012-06-22 16:01:47)

I know this may seem an odd request - I've been in London all day so perhaps it's not a good idea to post it so late. An anyone recommend a resource to help me with project management? A book, a blog or anything really? I've had a very overwhelming couple of weeks - all my systems have broken down under the strain and things then slip through the net and don't get done.

By the way - I did my race for life - 3K in 50 mins - not bad with my old dodgy knees! Thanks again to everyone who sponsored me - I hope I did you proud!

Romina (2012-06-22 16:05:36)

Hey Valerie, would you be willing share your thoughts on your purple Malden when you get it? Ive read some comments about the leather being a bit drier that the other colors. I would love to hear your opinion!

Romina (2012-06-22 16:07:44)

Please tell me i am not the only one addicted to Filofax Youtube vids! I think i search for new ones daily... So to everyone sharing vids, thanks so much!!!

J (2012-06-22 16:20:17)

Gail, if you think there aren't enough Filo stockists by you, come to the States! I promise, it's way worse over here. There are only a few (and I live near Chicago, a large city) and the shops you do find them in typically only carry the Finsbury and a few Classics!

J (2012-06-22 16:23:23)

I just commented before I read this post- I got so excited when I didn't have to cycle through the stupid images to find one I can actually read! Thanks, Steve- let's hope the spam monsters don't attack!

J (2012-06-22 16:26:28)

Hi Songbird,

I follow the one life, one planner theory (or mentality, or whatever)! But to still make it fun and keep a separation between my work and personal life, they each have their own designated color (separate colors for appointments and to-dos). I actually use nine different colors for different aspects of my life right now, and it works amazingly well! I still use one planner, which keeps me sane, but I can keep everything separated which keeps me organized. Plus, looking at all the different colors every time I open my Filo (also a personal Malden) it makes me happy! :)

kanalt (2012-06-22 16:32:25)

Does anyone know what the Boston will look like? Since it will be available in Compact (well, in the UK anyway - I can only hope it will arrive in the US at some point), I'm curious.

Gail (2012-06-22 16:34:03)

Just discovered Journal 10 this week and ordered one this evening. Has anyone had experience with it, would of loved these pages in a Filofax format. I turned one of my A5 into a5 year Diary, it was a lot of work but it worked for a while.

<https://seureshop.co.uk/epages/950002541.sf/sec850451cc33/?ObjectPath=/Shops/950002541/Categories>

industrious housewife (2012-06-22 16:47:19)

City Organiser's Facebook feed had a photo of the Boston today.

Saffy (2012-06-22 17:09:21)

David, LOL. You sound like my husband, even though we have only visited Bath on a few occasions it drives him crazy that we seem to spend forever trying to find a park. Mind you, he goes mad trying to find a park at our local Sainsbury's.

Cazzle, despite the parking it really is a beautiful city and I am hoping to take my sister there when she visits in August.

industrious housewife (2012-06-22 17:12:03)

Hi Songbird. I was very interested in the One Life, one Filofax approach, but found that I wanted to separate some things out.

The key is to not duplicate too much info. My 'diary' is in my personal Malden, along with my to do lists, project plans, '101 things in 1001 days' lists and addresses.

My A5 Domino is my Household and Food Filo, and I use a Dodopad in it to meal plan. I can have my diary open in front of me to check who's home for dinner, make something quick the night we get in late etc. and plan for it without messing up my strictly appointments only diary with meal plans, to dos etc. I'm also adding a lot of recipes and reference info to this Filo, which would be very excessive in a 'One Life One Filo' approach.

Today I've received my lovely new A5 Chameleon which will be used as a Journal/log. Before I downsized to the Personal Malden for my diary, I'd tried to maximise my A5 with a day per page diary with the intention of detailed planning + logging info but found it too messy and made it difficult to visualise the week. But I still need to make a log of lots of info, my daughters sleeping pattern and any allergic reactions I'm getting for instance, so I've bought the Chameleon for this specific purpose. I'm also going to use it for 'Journalling', or brain splurge as I call it. :-D

So between these three, very little is duplicated.

I use a compact Pennybridge as my purse and this does have a month per page, but I sync this regularly.

A Filofax is a ring binder, you can use as many or as little of the inserts as you need for your own purposes, it doesn't *have* to contain a calendar.

DEM (2012-06-22 18:23:10)

I say, Buy and Write a review! ;-)

DEM (2012-06-22 18:30:25)

Wonderful! Great accomplishment. Congrats!

DEM (2012-06-22 18:31:55)

Nope, you are not alone.

Valerie (2012-06-22 19:41:37)

Romina, I wouldn't mind a bit. I have a Vintage Pink Malden in the A5 size and the leather is quite nice. Soft, smooth and glossy. It will be interesting to see if the purple leather has the same qualities or if it's different. I will let you know.

mstraat (2012-06-22 19:43:40)

They are on markdown at Pens and Leather, so maybe the price cut would pay for international shipping. They have black, brown, and [1]this is the red one

1. <http://www.pensandleather.com/filofax-topaz-pocket-slimline-organizer-red.aspx>

SNARLing: (2012-06-22 20:46:04)

hey frederique. i have a pocket slimline topaz and out of my 20 or so filofaxes (yup that;s right i said FILOFAXES) it's still one of my faves:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/aliceklar/sets/72157625802266574/>

i say, GET IT. apparently there are supposed to be a couple more - the regency and boston coming out - i think? i wrote it down in my filo (currently in the compact chameleon again) i got it at a GREAT price from p & l - better thn what they have on offer now... which makes me think there are definitely in demand and there will definitely be more in that size range. i also wanted that chronoplan (up up and away's photostream - ?) but not sure that i wanted to pay that much for it. the pocket paz is awesome as even if it only has 11mm rings, the back has a 1/3 full lwngh pocket which can fit a moleskine cahier if you trim the back a bit... definitely, GET IT

Doris (2012-06-22 20:46:06)

Thanks Jotje. I have read and seen raves about the Portland as well, think you blogged about it right? I don't need the Grand, and hopefully find a color other than black.

SNARLing: (2012-06-22 20:48:07)

aww man. my coment was eaten. basically, i have one:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/aliceklar/sets/72157625802266574/>

and GET IT! one of my faves out of the 20 or so that i have. even if i don't use it all the time, LOVE that one GET IT

SNARLing: (2012-06-22 20:48:46)

shoot. looka there. double comments. GET IT GET IT GET IT heh heh

Hannah C. (2012-06-22 20:56:20)

I don't have experience with that particular one, but I use a small 5 year journal I found at Barnes and Noble called "One Line A Day." Actually, I use two, one for me and one for my daughter. I've had them for almost a year and I love them! Blogged about them here: <http://bluebonnetreads.wordpress.com/2012/04/14/how-i-journal/>

Hannah C. (2012-06-22 21:02:12)

I've recently switched to a larger format - traded calendar pages with my mom, as she had Franklin Covey Classic 2ppd and I had Franklin Covey Compact/Personal size ppd. So now I am using a Franklin Covey binder (I know, blasphemy!) as the hole arrangement is different that Filofax, and being in the US, the Franklin Covey arrangement is so much more common. I have discovered that I *love* the larger format, though, and since I have an A5 red Domino, I can switch to Filofax pages if I want next year.

I haven't yet decided what role my imperial purple personal Finchley should play now - any suggestions? I have found that having one main binder works well for me, and while I know an archive binder is doable, I'm not certain a specialized binder would work... Though I am using my pocket Domino as a work binder, it has a very specific purpose (basically to take notes at work) and therefore isn't a problem right now. And even then, I'm considering not using it anymore and just having a notepad or something.

Joey Quinton (2012-06-22 22:42:14)

@David...I will blog about my contents in my A5 Cuban everyday carry this week and will include many pictures. Check about midweek at <http://josephdavidquinton.typepad.com>.

Joey Quinton (2012-06-22 22:49:17)

Wonderful thoughts, Jotje!

Joey Quinton (2012-06-22 23:05:37)

As I have previously stated, I practice the "one life, one Filofax" philosophy. I like all of my lists, to dos, calendars, etc. to be in one place where the information is easily accessible. My Cuban and I are very compatible and I will replace him only when, and if, he wears out. Having said that, I will be purchasing two new Filofaxes prior to Christmas. I plan to get my wife an A5 Purple Malden, as one of her Christmas gifts, and I plan to purchase myself a Pocket Ochre Malden to use as a wallet.

Joey Quinton (2012-06-22 23:15:04)

I love, love, love Filofax videos on YouTube. I have watched Jotje's A5 Adelphi video dozens and dozens of times because I love the Adelphi and I love Jotje's accent! I also love Imy (who doesn't) and Joshua LaPorte....who

sometimes has my wavering on the edge of abandoning my A5 for a Personal!

LJ (2012-06-23 00:05:39)

I went into a fabulous little stationer's on my last visit to Bath in one of the side streets, and the lady in there was amazing, and as filo and paper obsessed as the rest of us. I went into one of the bigger stationer's on one of the main streets and they had a good selection, but seemed to have no interest at all - I know which one I'll be visiting next time :o)

Cindy (2012-06-23 00:34:44)

Ha ha! I don't know which I love more--Jotje's amazing Adelphi set up or her lovely accent!

Frederique (2012-06-23 04:18:31)

Okay, okay, I'm getting your message, SNARling :) Thank you for the pics, also ! I was more or less convinced already, it's just the price tag that seems a bit much, but the "rarity" factor might make me take the plunge. Still, I'm confused about the ring size : P &L says "six 1/2" rings", and you say it has 11mm rings. But filofaxusa says a chameleon compact has "6 rings of 1/2"', and filofax.fr says the same compact has 15mm rings. So, does this topaz have 11 or 15mm rings?

I guess it's a mistake on the P &L website, and that this slimline pocket topaz has 11mm rings indeed. Which is the same as the slimline metropol I'm currently using, so I guess I could cope.

Oh, I'm still debating with myself over ring sizes... (And I have so many spare paper and accessories with the personal size that it seems a waste to switch to a smaller format...)

Okay, must reboot brain.

Frederique (2012-06-23 04:23:20)

Said brain exploded: the pocket slimline Boston is already available at Cityorganiser.co.uk : in black, ultra-violet and [1]pink. So there IS a demand for this format, indeed !

(No pics of the inside, though...)

1. <http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/acatalog/Pocket-Slimline-Boston-Black-by-Filofax---incl.-2012---2013-contents.html>

Jotje (2012-06-23 04:28:53)

;-)

DEM (2012-06-23 10:55:53)

It sounds like you really want one....;-)

Alison (2012-06-23 15:12:14)

Ok need to add two more A5, oops :)

Songbird68 (2012-06-23 16:02:54)

Not only are you not alone in your YouTube Filofax addiction, I've gone a step further and set up a Google Alert for "Filofax". I get results daily in my inbox. Heaven. :)

Steve Morton (2012-06-23 16:15:48)

Word of caution about Google Alerts... it's quite slow at picking up on some blog post updates, it can also send you to loads of sites that just advertise Filofax goods for sale.

That's why I developed 'Gromit' to help me find blog posts a lot quicker than they appear on Google.

I still use Google Alerts but only as a back up to 'Gromit'.

Web Finds - 23 June 2012 (2012-06-23 00:00) - Steve Morton

So it is now time to grab some light refreshment of your choice including plenty of liquid refreshment and sit and enjoy for an hour or so..... yes a long list, you can blame Gromit for that!

1. [1]Competition for all Philofaxy readers - Filofax Sagas.
2. [2]I designed my own diary for 2013 - Paper Pens Ink
3. [3]review: filofax amazona almond personal - Paper Lovestory
4. [4]My Flex-able Friends!! - Filo Obsessed
5. [5]Filofax: Am I ready to go Pocket? - Vanjilla
6. [6]Hubby's Filofax Ranger - It's My Life
7. [7]Wouldn't a collaboration between Filofax and Cath Kidston be great.... - Angel Jem's City Cottage
8. [8]DIY Filofax Diary Refill - Bunnies in Blazers
9. [9]The Thing With The Chameleon... - Vanjilla
10. [10]Sorry - My life in words
11. [11]Passport dilemma solved! - Krista's Filo
12. [12]your filofax week! (week #8) - Paper Lovestory
13. [13]The Virtual Filofax - Filomaniac
14. [14]My new set of Filofax dividers - My Life All in One Place
15. [15]A5 Zipped Holborn - The Purple Pen of Doom
16. [16]Finsbury Compact review and set-up - My Once Upon the Moon
17. [17]How To Make A Divider Pocket. - It's My Life
18. [18]Changes and Additions to my Mini! - Kirsten Becoming
19. [19]Filofax Makeup Refills - Bunnies in Blazers
20. [20]Oh glorious purple slimline, come to thee . . . - All Things Stationery
21. [21]An Embarrassment of Riches - Filebox of Filofax Inserts - Sense of Gravity
22. [22]Filofax and Goals/Planning!! - Filo Obsessed
23. [23]Flex by Filofax (First Edition) - Janas Book Look
24. [24]The Creativity of Getting Things Done - GTD Times
25. [25]Big decisions, help! - Krista's Filo
26. [26]Filofax Capri Mini: Class act to be sure. - The Crazy Suburban Mom
27. [27]To buy or not to buy... that is the question? Pen to Paper
28. [28]News on the Baroque and reviews of random stationery! - Belzira's corner
29. [29]Filofax or it didn't happen - Josanne

30. [30]Filofax Week #25 - It's Just Hazel
31. [31]Philofaxy Web Finds for 16 June 2012 - Joseph David Quinton
32. [32]It started with a kiss... - Paper Pens Ink
33. [33]Innere Werte (2) - Filomaniac
34. [34]GTD sucks for creative work. Here's an alternative system - Dave Lee
35. [35]Low-Key Passion: The Third Philofaxy NYC Meet-Up - Well Planned Life
36. [36]Mid-Year Tweak (You Knew it Was Coming...) - The Zeitgeist of Zoe
37. [37]Review of Keel's Simple Diary - We really didn't need another filofax blog!
38. [38]Making photographic dividers at home for your Filofax - My Life All in One Place
39. [39]The Envelope System - Filofax Style - Lady Tamlynn
40. [40]Neuheiten 2012 (12): Boston - Filomaniac
41. [41]A very special gift :) - Filo Obsessed
42. [42]Jazzing Up My Filofax - Lady Tamlynn
43. [43]i love my filofax! - La BelleVita
44. [44]L is for... Lamys, Letters and Luckiness. - Four Words, Four Worlds
45. [45]A5 Chameleon - It's My Life!
46. [46]My 'New' Filofax - The PostGrad Mama
47. [47]making filofax notepaper pretty - Paper Lovestory
48. [48]Filofax – as a Personal Diary - Filofit
49. [49]Filofax Sale! (now for real) - Lime Tree
50. [50]Filofax Blog of the Week: Filo-Manie - My Life All in One Place
51. [51]Filofax Dilemma!!! - Filo Obsessed
52. [52]What is coming out when? - City Organiser (pdf file)
53. [53]What's the first thing you see when you open your Filofax? - Filofax Love
54. [54]Tune in to the Midwest Filofax Meetup! - The Crazy World of J
55. [55]Finishing while filofaxing - Girl in Maths
56. [56]Playing Musical Filofaxes - The Crazy Suburban Mom

- Your blog post could appear here next week if we missed you this time around. Email us the details and we will include it if we can.
- We can't guarantee people will read your posts, but we know there is a higher chance of people reading your posts and returning to read other posts if you make them interesting with pictures and good hints and tips. Don't forget to give your posts a title...

And here is this weeks Video Finds

IFRAME: [57]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/b7XMFvmiclw?rel=0>

IFRAME: [58]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/c-Ikh6Vuzro?rel=0>

This weeks web finds have been brought to you with the assistance of my sophisticated machine that I call Gromit. He's slightly more up to date than the character you see in the following videos...

IFRAME: [59]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/6cxAuU5nReU?rel=0>

Enjoy

1. <http://filofaxsagas.blogspot.fr/2012/06/competition-for-all-philofaxy-readers.html>
2. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.fr/2012/06/i-designed-my-own-diary-for-2013.html>
3. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/06/review-filofax-amazona-almond-personal.html>
4. <http://filo-obsessed.blogspot.fr/2012/06/my-flex-able-friends.html>
5. <http://vanjilla.blogspot.fr/2012/06/filofax-am-i-ready-to-go-pocket.html>
6. <http://gailwheatley.blogspot.fr/2012/06/hubbys-filofax-ranger-most-of-you-may.html>
7. <http://angeljemscitycottage.blogspot.fr/2012/06/wouldnt-collaboration-between-filofax.html>
8. <http://preppybunny.wordpress.com/2012/06/17/diy-filofax-diary-refill/>
9. <http://vanjilla.blogspot.fr/2012/06/thing-with-chameleon.html>
10. <http://wordsofmywholelife.blogspot.fr/2012/06/sorry.html>
11. <http://kristasfilo.blogspot.fr/2012/06/passport-dilemma-solved.html>
12. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/06/your-filofax-week-week-8.html>
13. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/06/der-virtuelle-filofax.html>
14. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/06/my-new-set-of-filofax-dividers.html>
15. <http://jarfm.com/?p=241>
16. <http://myonceuponthemoon.blogspot.fr/2012/06/finsbury-compact-review-and-set-up.html>
17. <http://gailwheatley.blogspot.fr/2012/06/how-to-make-divider-pocket.html>
18. <http://kirstenbecoming.blogspot.fr/2012/06/changes-and-additions-to-my-mini.html>
19. <http://preppybunny.wordpress.com/2012/06/18/filofax-makeup-refills/>
20. <http://allthingsstationery.blogspot.fr/2012/06/oh-glorious-purple-slimline-come-to.html>
21. <http://senseofgravity.blogspot.fr/2012/06/i-organized-all-of-my-miscellaneous.html>
22. <http://filo-obsessed.blogspot.fr/2012/06/filofax-and-goalsplanning.html>
23. <http://janasbooklook.blogspot.fr/2012/06/flex-by-filofax-first-edition.html>
24. <http://www.gtdtimes.com/2012/06/19/the-creativity-of-getting-things-done-part-one/>
25. <http://kristasfilo.blogspot.fr/2012/06/big-decisions-help.html>
26. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/06/filofax-capri-mini-class-act-to-be-sure.html>
27. <http://justjennypentopaper.blogspot.fr/2012/06/to-buy-or-not-to-buy-that-is-question.html>
28. <http://belzira.blogspot.com/2012/06/news-on-baroque-and-reviews-of-random.html>
29. <http://josanne.nl/2012/06/18/filofax-or-it-didnt-happen/>
30. <http://itsjusthazel.blogspot.fr/2012/06/filofax-week-25.html>
31. <http://josephdavidquinton.typepad.com/my-blog/2012/06/philofaxy-web-finds-for-16-june-2012.html>
32. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.fr/2012/06/it-started-with-kiss.html>
33. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/06/innere-werte-2.html>
34. <http://heydave.org/post/24286720323/gtd-sucks-for-creative-work-heres-an-alternative>
35. <http://wellplannedlife.blogspot.fr/2012/06/low-key-passion-third-philofaxy-nyc.html>
36. <http://thezeitgeistofzoe.wordpress.com/2012/06/20/mid-year-tweak-you-knew-it-was-coming/>
37. <http://notanotherfilofaxblog.blogspot.fr/2012/06/review-of-keels-simple-diary.html>
38. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/06/making-photographic-dividers-at-home.html>
39. <http://ladytamlynn.blogspot.fr/2012/06/envelope-system-filofax-style.html>
40. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/06/neuheiten-2012-12-boston.html>
41. <http://filo-obsessed.blogspot.fr/2012/06/very-special-gift.html>
42. <http://ladytamlynn.blogspot.fr/2012/06/jazzing-up-my-filofax.html>
43. <http://rahmahtalib.blogspot.fr/2012/06/i-love-my-filofax.html>
44. <http://fourwordsfourworlds.wordpress.com/2012/06/20/1-is-for-lamys-letters-and-luckiness/>
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49. <http://limetreefruits.blogspot.fr/2012/06/filofax-sale-now-for-real.html>
50. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/06/filofax-blog-of-week-filo-manie.html>
51. <http://filo-obsessed.blogspot.fr/2012/06/filofax-dilemma.html>
52. <http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/pdf%20files/City%20Organiser%20Stock%20Availability%2021%2006%2012.pdf>
53. <http://filofaxlove.wordpress.com/2012/06/22/whats-the-first-thing-you-see-when-you-open-your-filofax/>
54. <http://thecrazylifeofj.blogspot.fr/2012/06/tune-in-to-midwest-filofax-meetup.html>
55. <http://girlinmaths.wordpress.com/2012/06/22/finishing-while-filofaxing/>
56. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/06/playing-musical-filofaxes.html>
57. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/b7XMFvmiclw?rel=0>
58. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/c-Ikh6Vuzro?rel=0>
59. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/6cxAuU5nReU?rel=0>

Steph (2012-06-23 01:36:58)

So many this week. Can't wait to sit and read them all. Way better than the news paper. Thanks Steve.

Jotje (2012-06-23 02:00:41)

Who added the line "(You really must include this one Steve)" to my post???????

Steve Morton (2012-06-23 02:08:18)

Naughty Gromit.... now removed!!!!!!

LJ (2012-06-23 02:37:39)

Ha ha ha!!!

LJ (2012-06-23 02:38:39)

Just finished reading them all - and I now have a nice big list of follow up actions :o) Thanks for another great selection

Alison (2012-06-23 02:54:30)

Thanks for adding me 4 times, wow i've been busy this week :o

Another great list, thanks you so much for my morning's entertainment :)

Jotje (2012-06-23 04:24:05)

Sounds like Gromit might be a fan ... LOL!

Joseph David Quinton (2012-06-23 08:13:35)

Woo Hoo....I love Web Finds Saturday!!!

Femke (2012-06-23 08:35:11)

Wow that is a lot! Thanks, Steve (and Gromit!).

Angel Jem (2012-06-23 10:49:44)

Love your Gromit clip.... I hope England have such a clever goalie tomorrow!

Angel Jem (2012-06-23 10:53:24)

And can I interest you in a tin of reconstituted pork meat.... Or would that be Spam? ;-)

Cracking list.... Kept me busy all day!

Lady_Tamlynn (2012-06-23 12:17:16)

Thanks for including my video and blog posts :-).

I love the Saturday Web Finds.

Ray Blake (2012-06-24 01:53:50)

Cracking links, Gromit. I don't know how viable this is but is there any chance of showing whose videos these are in the post?

Steve Morton (2012-06-24 05:18:41)

Hi Ray

They came off of a You Tube search, but I think the first one is Lady Tamlynn one of our regular bloggers, the other one I'm not sure about. I will go back and add the names, may be later today just off out for the afternoon. But I will add the names on them from now on.

Steve

Barry Galvin (2012-06-24 06:55:33)

Hi Steve,

Many thanks indeed for including my new blog on your list. I do look forward to reading mini-sagas from the Filofax fans! :) Take care, Barry.

3rd New York Meet Up - Full Report (2012-06-23 08:39) - Nan

Thanks to [1]Susan's organizational skills, philofaxers from New York (and Boston) met for a 3rd time on 3rd Avenue in Manhattan's Midtown East. We had a good mix of old faithfuls and brand-new faces: Susan, Sheila, Pat, Jenna, Michele, Raquel, and Nan.

We spent an hour or so in Sam Flax, checking out not only Filofax organizers and Flex by Filofax, but also Kate Spade organizers and lots of cool gift items. The Personal, Compact, and Pocket were the popular sizes of the day, and everyone was captivated by colors, notably a bright orange Metropol (I think) that Pat took home for her daughter. Susan and Michelle were pining for the Osterley, but there were none in stock.

I was looking for a change from the red Finsbury I've been using for a few years, and found a stunning steel-blue* Cuban that, once I had in my hands, I could not bear to put back in the display case.

Then we retreated to our usual restaurant, [2]Le Pain Quotidien, for their delicious sandwiches, baked goods, and other light dishes. After dinner, I brought out some [3]Blue Bear items that someone sent me a few years ago when she decided to stop using 6-ring organizers. Happily, some of them have found new homes. There'll be more next time!

Yes, we did make a pile. I didn't take photos myself, but we had plenty of photographers, including a professional one, so I expect we'll see some pictures soon!

Here's a [4]link to Susan's blog entry about the meet up (with pictures!).

According to [5]www.filofax.co.uk, the color is called Ink.

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/08/reader-under-spot-light-susan.html>

2. <http://www.lepainquotidien.com/>

3. <http://www.morninggloryus.com/OnlineStore/tabid/58/Default.aspx?keyword=Blue+Bear>

4. <http://wellplannedlife.blogspot.fr/2012/06/low-key-passion-third-philofaxy-nyc.html>

5. <http://www.filofax.co.uk/store/organiserdetails.asp?sizeId=3&rangeId=119&dsizeId=3>

Steve Morton (2012-06-23 13:44:30)

Thanks for the report Nan. I don't know many of the names, may be they comment under different names.

We are all getting just a little excited about the next London meet up. All places allocated in about 20 minutes yesterday!

Also following the Mid West Meet Up on Twitter at the moment.

JohnofJenkins (2012-06-23 17:49:25)

I looked at the UK website and the price of the Cuban is 68 pounds. I added 20 pounds for postage (88 pounds) which comes to \$136.27 AUD. The price of the Cuban in Filofax Australia, is \$229 + postage. I generally buy from Pens and Leathers - which is where I bought my Cuban personal.

Nan (2012-06-23 21:09:36)

Wow—what a price difference! It’s definitely better for you to import the Filofax than to buy it locally. Are there any tariffs added when you import? I bought the Cuban for \$99 US at Sam Flax, which is the same price as from Filofax USA. I had to pay New York sales tax, which is probably a little more than shipping would have been. (Filofax USA has pretty good deals on domestic shipping.)

JohnofJenkins (2012-06-23 23:04:06)

No no import tariff but the Australian prices are just off the scale at the moment - I also buy refills from either the UK or USA rather than pay Australian Prices. I loved reading about your get together. We are just too spread apart fro that it happen here and I should imagine that I would be one of a very, very few (if any) that would use a Filofax in this part of Australia.

kanalt (2012-06-24 12:44:08)

Great report, Nan! And thanks for the link to mine.

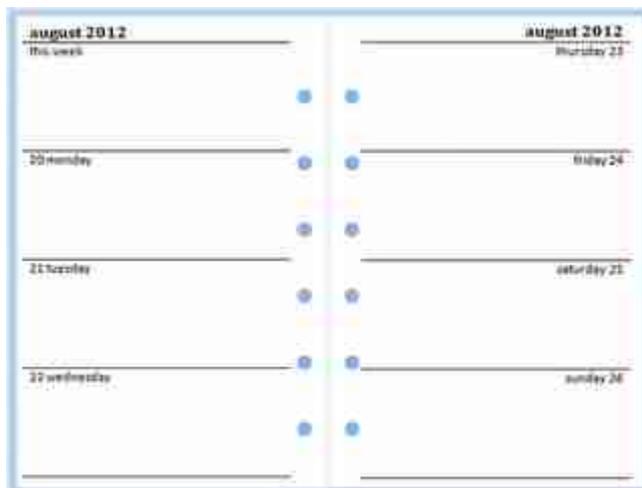
For anyone interested in future NYC meet ups, the next one will be some time in the fall. Watch Philofaxy for any news on that front as the summer ends.

Filofax Pocket Size Week Per View to download (2012-06-24 00:00) - Steve Morton

Ray recently posted a new layout in Personal size that was inspired by Filofax’s Cotton Cream Week-on-two-pages. He is now releasing a version in Pocket size.

Weekend days are afforded as much respect as those in the working week, while each week’s layout begins with a 'This Week' space for notes and all-week items (for tracking habits perhaps?)

You can download this layout as a prepared set or you can download the source files to adapt the design for yourself.



[1]

Pre-prepared sets

You can download the 2012 set as a [2]Word file or as a [3]PDF file.

You can download the 2013 set as a [4]Word file or as a [5]PDF file.

Print this double-sided. If you have a duplex printer, set it to flip on the short edge. If you don't then

you'll have to print odd-numbered pages and then refeed to print the even-numbered pages on the reverse. You might have to experiment to find out how to refeed the paper.

On one side of each sheet you'll find crop marks. Use a craft knife and a steel ruler to release the Pocket pages and punch them. The templates are set up with mirrored gutters to accommodate the holes. If using the PDF be sure to set it to print at full size as explained [6]here.

Source files

You can also roll your own using our source files. You'll need [7]this Word file and [8]this Excel file. If you want to know how to go about using the source files, [9]this post will help you.

1. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-nMx7oiz0QSI/T9nebNHLVki/AAAAAAAAALzA/jTTJV9V2mQQ/s1600/ccpock.gif>
2. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Pocket%20week%20to%20view%20cc/2012%20merged%20Pocket%20Pocket%20Enhanced%20CC%20Week%20View.docx>
3. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Pocket%20week%20to%20view%20cc/2012%20merged%20Pocket%20Pocket%20Enhanced%20CC%20Week%20View.pdf>
4. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Pocket%20week%20to%20view%20cc/2013%20merged%20Pocket%20Pocket%20Enhanced%20CC%20Week%20View.docx>
5. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Pocket%20week%20to%20view%20cc/2013%20merged%20Pocket%20Pocket%20Enhanced%20CC%20Week%20View.pdf>
6. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.co.uk/2012/03/help-pdf-files-print-slightly-smaller.html>
7. <http://http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Pocket%20week%20to%20view%20cc/Pocket%20Pocket%20Enhanced%20CC%20Week%20View%20base.docx>
8. http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Pocket%20week%20to%20view%20cc/DatesSourceFilo_WOTP_CC_Pocket.xlsx
9. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2012/02/download-source-files-for-new-personal.html>

Leslie Pauley (2012-06-24 17:17:11)
Any tips on printing to letter sized paper? (8.5x11)

Steve Morton (2012-06-25 06:37:59)
Just select your page size, but do not scale the page. I think that should work.

Filofax Holiday Essentials Challenge (2012-06-24 06:00) - Steve Morton

Filofax UK (SlamPR) have set several bloggers a Holiday Essentials Challenge. I have entered the challenge on behalf of Philofaxy.

In the post this week came my briefing document and three shiny new Filofax personal organisers. A Metropol, a Domino and a Swift.



[1]

With these three Filofax personal organisers I've been set the task of creating three 'mood boards' with a 'holiday essentials' theme in mind.

I've never done anything quite like this before, so there was a bit of head scratching and deep thought required as to what other items to choose to go with each organiser.

With a bit of help from Alison (the hand of Philofaxy!) we managed to make a suitable list and gather things together for me to photograph them on a suitable plain background.

I then spent most Saturday afternoon cropping the photos and assembling the three images that I need to send off to Slam PR this week. Once they have received all of the images they will be uploading them from 3rd July - 16th July on to the [2]Filofax Facebook page for all Filofax fans to see and enjoy.

When mine are posted on Facebook, I will of course share them with you here as well... I know not everyone has a Facebook account..

And some time in the week beginning 16th July I will run a small quiz/competition to win one of the Filofax personal organisers I've used for the photo shoot. They are back in their original packing and have a full set of inserts untouched in each one.

1. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-dA5qqnqtS-8/T-YviC2GUYI/AAAAAAAAAL3Y/z-q2CDY9QRQ/s1600/post.jpg>

2. <https://www.facebook.com/filofax>

Alison Reeves (2012-06-24 06:36:39)

How exciting - I'm looking forward to seeing your photo's Steve - I bet they look great! Will be interesting to see the different 'takes' bloggers will have on this challenge!

LJ (2012-06-24 07:02:04)

Cool - can't wait to see the pics :o)

Joseph David Quinton (2012-06-24 08:57:15)

Very nice...I cannot wait to see your submission as well as the other submissions....I think we are in for a real visual treat!

Alison (2012-06-24 09:00:21)

Looking forward to seeing your photos :)

Romina (2012-06-24 09:10:30)

How cool!! Mood boards are so neat and adding Filofax to the mix just adds to the awesome of it all :)

Clareio (2012-06-24 09:56:19)

I'm certain that the picture on the right is a Swift, Sage is just the colour!
I have a small post about my (pocket) swift on my blog!

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-06-24 11:58:01)

I can't wait either!!
Tracy

kanalt (2012-06-26 05:42:15)

I hope I'm don't sound stupid, but am I the only one who doesn't know what a mood board is?

Nan (2012-06-26 10:41:23)

I don't. I'm guessing it's something like a collage.

Steve Morton (2012-06-26 11:23:54)

That's how I've presented them! They did send us an example of one which was like a collage

Nan's 2012 Midyear Setup : Work (2012-06-24 11:03) - Nan

After sticking to a rather dull routine for a couple of years, I've started changing things again. For a long time, I used 3 Finsburys: Black A5 for work (DPP, supplemented by A5 spiral notebooks); Red Personal (also DPP) as my wallet and personal organizer; Turquoise Pocket (2DPP) for diet and exercise records. I've already tweaked things a couple times this year, but in keeping with my standard rule of only changing my system once every 6 months, I've settled on a setup that I will use for the 2nd half of 2012. After all, July 1 is a new year of sorts, isn't it? It's when academic year planners typically begin!

Today I'll start with my Work A5:

I found I really wasn't making full use of the DPP business diary. Some days had nothing written on the page. Yet it was the DPP diary that was keeping me in the boring Black Finsbury with its 1.25" rings. I barely had room for the diary, A-Z tabs, and a few pages of notes. I switched to Wo2P (the vertical format for appointments) and could finally start using the beautiful Cherry Classic that I'd bought at the New York Meet Up in 2011 and I'd be able to organize my work better with tabs.

So far, this is working out really well. I have the diary first, with the following tabs:

Daily: The quick to-do list I jot down first thing in the morning after reviewing all my projects. These are things that really need to be done on that particular day; certain phone calls made; work handed in; forms filled out. I use salmon lined paper in this section.

Projects: One To-Do page labeled at the top for each project. Additional pages of notes and To-Do pages go behind it. The tasks I record here often have multiple steps; the Daily lists are where I break down the individual steps. For example, one Project step might be "get contract signed," a task that may involve several phone calls and emails, spread over a number of days.

Meetings: The notes I take during meetings. After a meeting, I spend a few minutes adding any tasks that come up during the meeting to my project lists. I still try to review my meeting notes a couple of times a week.

A-Z tabs: My primary work contacts. These are people for whom I need to know multiple phone numbers and their mailing addresses, not those whom I work with by email only. Those don't need to exist anywhere outside my computer's address book. I also keep reference information behind the tabs. For example, a page of insurance information might go behind the IJ tab.

The A5 also holds a white ruled notepad in the back, a sticky notes card (the same one that also fits into a Personal organizer), a business card holder, and a pocket for receipts for business related expenses.

I have a metal punch for the A5, so I can move pages from an A5 notebook into the organizer, which I don't do as often as I used to. But it's really nice to have the option.

Circus Life (2012-06-24 13:37:54)

I have been looking for a setup to use for work. This idea may work for me. Do you carry the A5 or leave it in the desk?

Alison Reeves (2012-06-24 15:17:06)

This is interesting for work - I may review mine and compare!

Nan (2012-06-24 15:21:57)

I don't carry it with me all the time. Because I work at home one day a week, and some nights and weekends, I do transport it home with me every day. I use a wheeled laptop case which also has enough room for notebooks and Filofaxes, files, power cords, cellphone, pens, etc.

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-06-24 16:43:28)

I just started using the A to Z tabs. They are much more useful then I imagined

Lily (2012-06-24 17:29:10)

That's a really good idea, filing notes and people under the AZ tabs - that might just convince me to use them.

Romina (2012-06-24 20:24:29)

It's nice to know i wasnt the only who spent a few hours this weekend tweaking things around in my Filofax ;-)

Nina the Chaotic Perfectionist (2012-06-24 21:21:39)

I totally agree with Tracy and Lily. Everytime I read about the A to Z Tabs, i'm wondering why I don't use them. Maybe i've just not found the right "How to use them".

My Malden needs some serious Attention tomorrow. It's a bit unsorted and unloved at the moment. Thank you for sharing your ideas.

The "Daily"/every morning ToDo List would work very well for me. I'll give it a try ;)

Steve Morton (2012-06-25 05:01:41)

Hi Nan

Interesting to read, I too used to use the DPP Business A5 insert, but like you I found some days had almost nothing on them.

This year I switched to the Week on Two Pages, but I'm now using the Enhanced TM Week per View insert designed and created by Ray and Myself. I've tweaked the design a couple of times. But I'm finding this format works very well for me.

I feel more in control of my appointments and tasks relying less on my own memory to remember things I've got to do etc.

Steve

Nan (2012-06-25 09:28:18)

Nina, I know "Daily" sounds like a silly name for the tab. It really stands for "Daily Priorities," those tasks that are a priority for that particular day.

Nina the Chaotic Perfectionist (2012-06-25 09:50:21)

No no no! I think "Daily" is the perfect Name for this Tab and for this whole habit to Start the Day on the right Foot.

Like carpe diem ;) hihi

Kelly Marriott (2012-06-25 14:00:13)

I love that for a tab: Carpe Diem! I may get out my label maker and make one of those tabs right now!

Kelly Marriott (2012-06-25 14:01:36)

I loved reading Nan's setup and would love to see yours too Alison. I think we do similar kind of work (writing/editing/PR)

Nina the Chaotic Perfectionist (2012-06-25 17:03:49)

:) Kelly that's just great. I had exactly the same thought a few hours ago when i was thinking about my last comment.

Carpe diem ;)

Nikki's home-made page marker - Guest Post (2012-06-25 00:00) - Steve Morton

A big thank you to Nikki for sending this Guest Post in to us, you might recall her [1]A5 Filofax that she shared with us a few months ago.

I am about to go to England for a couple of weeks, and have to move into my pocket for my travel, due to size and weight restrictions on my flight (my A5 weighs a ton!!)

But I cannot go with just ordinary pages in my pocket, I have to personalize it a bit, as much as my time will allow, or it will not feel like "home"

So whilst I was about it, I thought I would share a quick page marker I made today;

I went onto publisher, and set up an illustration I liked, and sized it to the same size as the regular pocket ruler/page marker, mirrored the image, and printed it out on ordinary A4 paper.

Then marked and cut out a piece of transparent flyleaf type acetate the same size as the page marker.



[2]

I place the acetate over the image and draw around with a pencil, and cut out my images to size as below



[3]

I then cut out the two images and I glue them onto the acetate with a glue stick. Then cut a piece of sticky back plastic, roughly the same size, and obviously double the width, mark up where the holes need to be (as I do not own a pocket hole punch so have to punch the holes individually) and proceed to 'wrap' the page marker in the sticky back plastic.



[4]



[5]

Then all that remains is to trim off the excess sticky film, hole punch, cut a line from the centre of the hole to the outside, trim off the corners, et voila!



[6]

A new pretty page marker

Hope you understand the instructions, I am off on holiday so any questions.....ask Steve ha ha ha
Only joking. Will be checking in. Could definitely not go 2 weeks without visiting Philofaxy, might miss something crucially important!!!!!!

Thank you Nikki, so easy when you see it explained like that...I'm sure there will be a few people heading off now to create their own stylish page markers.

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/03/whats-in-my-filofax-nikki.html>
2. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-HRGTA00XzyI/T94a4JWV7EI/AAAAAAAAALzQ/S3gAxSw4bqA/s1600/photo1.png>
3. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-Y6LmsxW_eQ8/T94b0f7Nu8I/AAAAAAAAALzY/IJI9pSgb2Kc/s1600/photo2.png
4. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-S1TbpTJ8_Dg/T94bsi9IwaI/AAAAAAAAALzg/mxwm4hkfB9U/s1600/photo3.png
5. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-drp8R3sthuM/T94bvuaCaoI/AAAAAAAAALzo/hQidrJ3W1Bs/s1600/photo4.png>
6. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-9MJ5qkcDHeU/T94cKovmcSI/AAAAAAAAALzw/tQ158qvNR78/s1600/photo5.png>

Doris (2012-06-25 01:32:20)

Hi Nikki! I just discovered sticky-back plastic myself and love it! It's so useful for a lot of things. Pretty bookmark!

Helen Conway (2012-06-25 02:13:18)

Seriously cool!

Angel Jem (2012-06-25 02:29:20)

Sticky backed plastic is useful, but laminating is even quicker and easier. I made dividers and a page holder and laminated them. Most offices and school have a laminator so it's easy to do, and you don't get the creases and bubbles that can happen with SBP.

Love the pattern, that's a very classy design. Have a good trip!

Anita (2012-06-25 02:54:17)

Nikki, thanks for sharing & that's a great idea :)

Hope you have a lovely holiday.

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-06-25 03:11:32)

Nikki, that is so beautiful!

Tracy

Joseph David Quinton (2012-06-25 10:05:31)

Have a wonderful holiday, Nikki. I love your marker as well as your dividers. Book of Kells if I remember correctly. You are very, very creative!

Joseph David Quinton (2012-06-25 10:09:04)

Sorry...I just retread your A5 post...it is the Book of Hours...although, being Irish, I may make some dividers using The Book of Kells.

DEM (2012-06-25 11:14:04)

Thanks for sharing, Nikki. I re-read your original post and fell in love all over again. Thanks for the inspiration. I think I'll be doing some FF tweaking! Have a lovely holiday.

Valerie (2012-06-25 11:32:10)

I agree with Angel...laminating is the way to go. I have a small, personal heat laminator at home that was very inexpensive and works perfectly for my needs. Seems I'm always needing something laminated I used to use sticky back plastic but more often than not would have bubbles or get a stray piece of fuzz on it or a finger print smudge..I'm not so crafty!

Your page marker is beautiful, Nikki...love the color!

LJ (2012-06-26 13:40:01)

So pretty - love it :o)

Free For All Tuesday No 73 (2012-06-26 00:00) - Steve Morton

So once again we find ourselves here on Tuesday to ask and answer your Filofax questions.

Will it be another record FFAT like last weeks one with over a 100 comments!! Who knows... what I will say though is you are free to ask any Filofax question you like..

So fire away.....

Bridget (2012-06-26 00:43:26)

I got two good bargains this week on trademe (like the nz equivalent of ebay)- a red A5 finsbury, and a personal finsbury in either pink or raspberry, its hard to tell from the photo, I think most likely raspberry. And I bought my first Lamy fountain pen, I'm becoming a pen/stationery hoarder!

Doris (2012-06-26 01:14:32)

Hi! I know the 2013 Personal-sized Filo compatible organizers are out, and these are supposed to have the larger grids, but I can't find photos of them anywhere. The Dodopad site, I think, only shows the A5 grids, but I'm not so sure. Hope someone here can point me to the right direction. Thanks in advance!

Saffy (2012-06-26 04:09:01)

Does anyone have the Luxe A5, if so how do you find it? Does the leather wrapped over the ring mechanism have any adverse affects?

Anita (2012-06-26 04:24:25)

Hi Doris, there is one picture of the larger grid on the Dodo Pad site itself: [1]2013 Dodo Pad Personal size diary refill

If you click on the images to enlarge them, it's image 3 that shows the new improved grid.

1. <http://www.dodopad.com/shop/calendar-year-diaries-calendars/filofax-compatible-organisers/2013-dodo-pad-personal-size-diary-refill.html>

Doris (2012-06-26 04:37:36)

I did see that before but for some reason couldn't enlarge it then. Was able to do so now though. Thanks a lot!!!!
The grids ARE slightly bigger than the previous one, although I was hoping for a more "drastic" revival, LOL.

Lord Dodo (2012-06-26 04:39:31)

Hi Doris - Anita is exactly right with her link above! :) Or you can search on the site using the product code DFXP13. The stock has arrived and we are shipping out orders now.

Laurie (2012-06-26 04:43:22)

Lord Dodo, do you accept Pay Pal?

Gail (2012-06-26 04:45:45)

Zipped v Press stud.

I would adore a A5 Holborn, but I don't know whether to get the zipped version or the one with the press stud. I've never had a zipped Filofax as I was not so keen on them, but after seeing a lot of the A5 Zipped Holborn in blogs this week, I quite like the look of them....but do they look like an Organiser? Would love to here peoples views on this?

Doris (2012-06-26 04:49:21)

Lord Dodo, thanks! I have actually scheduled in to order my 2013 diary in October, written out on my Dodo-diary, of course.

Lady_Tamlynn (2012-06-26 05:33:30)

Hi Gail,

I've been using a zipped A5 Holborn as my teaching planner for about a month and a half now and I'm loving it! I had never used a zipped Filofax before either and I wasn't sure how I would get on with it but it's so handy. It's like my own portable office that I can just zip up and take with me. The leather is buttery soft and there are so many pockets to hold your bits and pieces.

When zipped, the organiser actually looks a lot like an iPad case but I don't mind this as its so pretty to look at. The zip also stops any random bits of paper or post it's falling out. It also means you can carry your phone in the Filofax without having to worry about it falling out either.

It's such a great Filofax, that I haven't lusted after another A5 in the whole time I've owned it and I don't see myself doing so anytime soon. It's my perfect A5 :-).

Barry (2012-06-26 06:31:45)

Hello Gail,

I have a zipped Personal Holborn, which is my favourite Filofax to date. It's my portable office with all my high-level personal and work related items I need to access daily. It has loads of compartments, even a nice slot on the outside, and the feel of it is lovely. I had a zipped Personal Metropol first, which was more stiff, but still a nice Filofax to use.

I do use other Filofaxes for various things, but I choose the zip as my daily carry around one purely for more security of my papers, cards, etc. However, with me specifically, I do have to discipline myself though a little when it comes to having things properly sorted in the Holborn - because it's more secure being a zip, there is a tendency at times just to dump loads of paper in there and zip it all up and leave it, so can get pretty 'busy' in there for me. Perhaps that's just me being a bad organiser :)

Barry

Laura (2012-06-26 07:02:20)

Long time reader, but first time commenting. I've used various organizers off and on since the mid 90's and always come to appreciate how they make me feel more centered and in control of things. I have a daughter who is 11 years old and would love to be able to instill the habit of planner usage. In the past I have tried check off lists and charts on the wall for her various responsibilities, but those attempts failed. She sees my Filofax out daily on the kitchen counter and I try to explain what I use it for (my external brain!), but she hasn't expressed much interest in it (other than to snoop for plans that might concern her).

I would love to be able to help her set up a planner with tabs for daily responsibilities as well as special events and assignments for school (she did have a planner the last 2 years of school, but it was strictly for school planning). Have any of you been able to instill the virtues of planner usage onto your children and have they stuck with it? I'm thinking that if she is not expressing an interest, it may be a little difficult to get her into using it – I'm also hoping that if she sees how much it can help her (she has a tendency to "forget" things), she might feel differently.

SSA (2012-06-26 07:21:00)

I also have a zipped Holborn (brown) that I use as a teaching Filo. I like the zipper for this purpose as i walk around school and into meetings etc and I can zip my cell (which fits into the largest card slot at the bottom) and walk around with only the filo in my hand when i am going around the building. I really like this for its functionality but I prefer the 'look' of the non-zipped filos. just my preference though. Many people mentioned faulty rings on the A5 holborn, mine has been fine with no issues. good luck.

Lord Dodo (2012-06-26 07:45:44)

Hi Laurie - yes we do but only through our Ebay site..the 2012/13 Acad-Pads and 2013 Dodo Pads are going on there today... #catchingupaswespeak

Lord Dodo (2012-06-26 07:48:05)

Doris...it's as DRASTIC as we could possibly manage within the space (specifically width!) available. We've adjusted quite a lot of the design details on the right hand side of the page to make it work. Sorry it can't be any bigger!

Laurie (2012-06-26 07:51:51)

Great LD, thanks! :)

Jotje (2012-06-26 08:09:01)

Hi Laura! I have to say, it highly depends on the kid's preferences aswell. For example: my 11 year old does NOT want a filofax to use for school or/and other assignments. I bought her the planner of her choice (the TopModel spiral bound planner) and since she loves it so much, she is actually using it. If you want her to use a planner, let her pick on out herself!

Now my 9 year old is swiftly becoming a little Filofaxer. Ever since she got my personal Domino (in Lavender), she is rarely seen without it. She writes EVERYTHING in it. Definitely my genes that manifest here ...

My 7 (almost 8)year old girl has a Pocket Filofax and since she hasn't yet any school assignments she merely uses it as a diary and appointment planner. And a place to put stickers in, which is cute aswell.

My 5 year old son still thinks anything planner-related is highly poisonous, so he tries to stay as far away as possible ... (definitely my DH's genes here!) LOL

As for check-off charts: I have booked huge success in the past with the Children Reward Pad from Organised Mum. Kids get to put a sticker in a box when they have accomplished their task. Even my oldest liked this!

Here's the link:

<http://www.organised-mum.co.uk/Reward-Chart-Pad.html>

Yu (2012-06-26 08:45:23)

I have the ebony A5 and I don't have any problems with the leather. It looks very classy and is very smooth, so no. The paper does not snag if you were worried about that. ^_^ The two things that I don't like are the placements of the pen loops and the fact that it's a notepad slot, not a notepad pocket. If not for those two things, I would happily live in that binder for a very long time. :)

Tflower11 (2012-06-26 08:51:31)

Hey as its free tuesday i have burning question to ask to Steve Morten, Sorry if this causes offence and you do not have to answer if you do not want to...

Steve are you Americam or British, cos once i think your american then next i think your a british- am confused sorry bout that

Tflower11 (2012-06-26 08:53:32)

woah your younger son is like my bro- hates planners lol

Doris (2012-06-26 09:19:29)

Lord Dodo, I understand. I was hoping for a grid across the 2 pages, with space above and beneath the grids for notes, to-dos, etc., but it wouldn't be the 'signature' Dodopad, I know. I still love this Diary a lot, used it for the first time in April, so that says something about how I like it.

Thanks for the design adjustment! I'm sure it was a lot of work.

Joseph David Quinton (2012-06-26 10:28:09)

Oh, Bridget, I am a Lamy user a well. Which Lamy did you get and which color and nib? I just got the 2012 Limited Edition Apple Green Safari with a broad black nib. I inked it up with Noodler's Cactus Eel but I am placing an order for Diamine's Apple Glory which is supposed to be an exact match to the color of the Apple Green Safari. I also want to order De Atramentis' Kiwi Fruit.

Yu (2012-06-26 10:45:18)

Really?! :D *will have to get that one as well*

Alison (2012-06-26 10:48:45)

I got the Holborn A5 Wine and love it so much I had to buy the Brown too, thinking of getting the wine in personal too :)

Alison (2012-06-26 10:57:50)

I've given up on my Lamy :(, were just not compatible, back to a rollerball which makes my writing so neat!!

Joseph David Quinton (2012-06-26 11:16:19)

Barry, could you please do a post on how you use your Filofax for personal Bible study?

Joseph David Quinton (2012-06-26 11:20:53)

Or, is Mr. Philofaxy of the French persuasion?

Steve Morton (2012-06-26 11:31:28)

Hi, I'm 100 % British, or that's what is states on my passport! But I now live in France, been here two years now. So if some of my writing seems a little confused at times that might be the reason why!!

As a youth I struggled with my English language, then my chosen career in Engineering didn't help... very little writing. Then at about the age of 25 I changed jobs and my writing started to improve a bit.

My main problem now is I sometimes spell words that are similar in French and English in French... because I've got it all around me I suppose, I'm seeing French all the time apart from on the web.

But my spelling has never been top notch... get the first four letters wrong of any word and a dictionary or spell checker fails miserably!

And the name is Morton... and the T is not silent!!! Yes it has happened once... Dear Mr Moron... but as you might have guessed I do have a good sense of humour!

If you want to know more... drop me an email.. nothing to hide really. Steve

Joseph David Quinton (2012-06-26 11:52:07)

FilofaxUSA is having a fifty percent off sale on 27 binders!

J (2012-06-26 11:53:35)

I was going to answer that you are a Brit, living in France, who had better get over to America pretty darn soon :)

Barry (2012-06-26 12:02:03)

Hello Joseph, that is actually on my list of posts to add within the next week - I thought I'd put up the 'teaser' of all my Filofaxes first, which will then lead nicely into their individual usage :) Thanks for the interest. Barry

Songbird68 (2012-06-26 12:43:23)

I just want to say that my first Filofax has arrived - a personal Malden in Vintage Pink - and I am in LOVE!! I'm using it as my planner & wallet, & have busied myself getting accessories & things to dress it up. All I can think is that I could have saved myself so many previous Planner Fails if I had just discovered Filofax years ago! I feel like I finally have the planner of my dreams!! :)

Songbird68 (2012-06-26 12:46:34)

PS would love to know any favorite "diary sticker" weblinks you guys know of - the kind that help you remember appointments, birthdays, etc. I'm not thrilled with the Filofax ones. I'd like something a little more visually attractive/cuter. Thanks!

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-06-26 12:47:01)

Oooh! Thanks Joseph! That compact Chameleon is very tempting! But it looks like Filofax US don't ship to the UK?

Saffy (2012-06-26 12:47:04)

Yu, thanks, I was hoping you would reply. I vaguely remembered you had either the A5 or the compact. I thought all of the A5 binders had a slot instead of a pocket? Just had a quick look and I see what you mean. Hmmmm....

Gail (2012-06-26 12:57:52)

I actually don't mind bits sticking out my filofax, but I've never thought to carry my phone in there, having the zip would allow that wouldn't it. Hmmmm, you've given me something to think about now. lol

Esmé (2012-06-26 13:04:01)

Just a little note to say that I finally received my gorgeous Smythson refills and am absolutely thrilled with them. The Dukes refills fit perfectly into my A5, they work beautifully with my Lamy, and now I'm thinking I'd like to finally make a little Filo video to share with y'all... so I'll be working on that over the next few days. If anyone has any questions about the Smythson refills, feel free to ask.

Lostwithoutyou (2012-06-26 13:16:15)

[1]These are the ones I use.

They are shipped from Australia and usually take about 5 days to get to the UK. They are quite big but they're really cute and fun. I love them :)

1. http://www.etsy.com/listing/74997733/cute-stickers-calendar-reminders-diary?ref=sr_gallery_34&ga_search_query=diary+stickers&ga_view_type=gallery&ga_ship_to=GB&ga_min=0&ga_max=0&ga_spelling_corrected=diary+stickets&ga_search_type=handmade&ga_facet=handmadediary+stickers

Alison (2012-06-26 13:19:08)

I was also tempted by the compact Chameleon but no they don't ship to the UK, I wonder why?

LJ (2012-06-26 13:59:16)

Hi Gail, the Holbourn is the only zipped filo I have used and I was umming an ahning over whether I should get the zip or standard clasped version, but am so glad that I got the zipped one. It is just so practical - nothing can fall out and it's perfect if you have stuff that you need to carry around temporarily (eg folded A4 sheets from work) and no hole punch with you. :o)

J (2012-06-26 14:29:29)

I use [1]these ones from Pam Socolow. If you're in the States and near a Barnes and Noble, you can get them for less than \$9 a pack and there are over 2,300 stickers in there!

1. <http://www.amazon.com/Socolows-Family-Facts-Calendar-Sticker/dp/B00322YG04>

lydhold (2012-06-26 14:59:20)

I use Smythson refills too - a must for a fountain pen lover! And just to add, I think there are still a couple of Organisers in their sale at the moment if anyone is keen to try at a more reasonable price. Both of mine are *heaven*, feel so lovely, have aged well (the one I've had for a couple of years has, other one is new) and lie flat straight away. I just wish the inserts weren't so expensive! I've taken to buying plain smythson paper and creating my own diary layout on it.

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-06-26 15:16:19)

No they don't, I've asked them before. But the Denmark site does and they have compact Chameleons with 50 % off! I got mine from there and it was only about £7ish for shipping. Ordered Monday and received Friday . . .

PaperMeister (2012-06-26 15:30:49)

Hi!

One of my friends got an Apex and I know that style has gotten a lot of hate on here. However, I think the plastic will wear really well.

With that being said, is the green more of a sea foam green or a Kermit the frog green? I figure if the thing glows I can't lose it, right???

Jane

Alison (2012-06-26 16:01:44)

I got an Apex A5 in pink, I only use it at home (or I did, it was quickly replaced) and it's showing wear in the corner already, that's without being carried around and the diary only starts in July so that's what little use it's had so it's not as hardwearing as you may think!!

Alison (2012-06-26 16:07:51)

Oops, just bought it, don't know how that happened lol, and it's all your fault Lucy haha :)

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-06-26 16:33:33)

WOW! You don't hang around do you?! Out of interest, how many Filofaxes do you own and how quickly have you accumulated them???

You're gonna have to remortgage your house soon hahaha LOL!

Yu (2012-06-26 16:49:34)

@ PaperMeister - Kermit the Frog. At least the one I've seen is that "in your face" kind of green. And the plastic is kind of soft-ish as well.

Yu (2012-06-26 16:54:08)

Not to mention it looks so laid-back and "slouchy" <3 (Like an item you could love forever as your best friend.) I might have to get one as well even though I don't really care for zipped binders... but I LOVE the Holborn design...

Yu (2012-06-26 16:57:56)

So happy to hear that! :D

Yu (2012-06-26 16:59:39)

@ Lostwithoutyou - OMG! I HAVE TO GET THOSE!!! Kawaii!!! <3 <3 <3

(Ok, sorry about the fangirling...)

Alison (2012-06-26 17:22:10)

Too many, most bought from selling on eBay, or bought in the sale, had two given to me, so it's not that bad, one was with the vouchers I won at staples, given my £7 bargain Olympics one to my son and my daughters having my A5 apex, that leaves me with 2A5, 4 personal and 5 pocket I think, no 3 A5 and the compact on its way, since Feb/March :o haha that's bad!!! I'm on a Filofax diet now lol

DEM (2012-06-26 17:33:59)
Congrats!

DEM (2012-06-26 17:38:01)

I've been buying the cutest stickers from a shop on etsy called rikyandnina. There are tons to chose from!! I've bought 6-7 packs in about two weeks! They ship from the UK.

Jotje (2012-06-26 17:51:25)

Love the diary stickers from Organisedmum.co.uk!

Jotje (2012-06-26 17:53:33)

Steve, you should step in! I thought the regulations on this blog clearly specify that no cursing and swearing is allowed?! Yet, I've just heard (or rather read) someone say the A-word!!! Totally unacceptable ...!

KarynsPlanit (2012-06-26 17:58:10)

I am thoroughly enjoying my very first Filofax, an aqua personal Chameleon. Right now I am using FC compact pages, which fit nicely and work relatively well. I've used FC (generally the classic A5 size but I've flirted with their compact and A4) for the past 13 years, and after reading Laurie's Plannerisms blog decided to shake it up and get a little crazy...I mean, I've changed FC planner sizes in the middle of the year, several times, but to change my entire planning system? Inconceivable! Until now...Throughout May I went through a A4 DayRunner which was too big and I hated the weekly format-no room for notes and lists. Then I made a mad but exciting attempt at the Woman's Success Journal. Smaller and easier to carry around and I LOVED the paper, but still with the weeks! No space to write! Aargh! So now we get to my questions! FC paper quality is lacking, and although it offers the space in a 2PPD format I'm not certain that any of their offerings appeal to me. FF is not offering the 2PPD option in the US. Do they occasionally make more options available the closer we get to planner "prime time" in October? If not, can anyone comment on the paper quality of the DoDo pad?

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-06-26 19:28:36)

These are some of my favorites:

<http://www.etsy.com/listing/95879674/rainbow-diary-sticker-set>

<http://www.etsy.com/listing/96658534/deli-deli-bunny-deco-sticker>

<http://www.etsy.com/listing/78650444/japanese-masking-tape-deco-tap-e-sticker>

<http://www.etsy.com/listing/78650652/washi-tape-sticker-set-japanese-masking>

Tracy

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-06-26 19:30:25)

I search etsy with the words 'diary stickers'

http://www.etsy.com/search/supplies?q=diary+stickers&view_type=gallery&ship_to=ZZ&min=0&max=0

Esmé (2012-06-26 20:07:41)

Oof, @lydhold, you ENABLER, you! I can't believe it, especially given my strained budget right now, but I just went and bought the lone discounted organizer on the site. I'll let you know how it goes!

Where do you find the plain Smythson paper?

Joseph David Quinton (2012-06-26 20:42:54)

Looking forward to it, my friend! I have just added a spiritual section to my Cuban.

Joseph David Quinton (2012-06-26 20:47:36)

Congratulations, Songbird! Welcome to he community!

Joseph David Quinton (2012-06-26 20:52:22)

Great plug, Tracy R....I love anything Etsy!

Joseph David Quinton (2012-06-26 20:55:14)

Kudos, Jotje!

EmmaNoey (2012-06-27 01:24:30)

You can get them on the UK and French sites, if I understand what you're looking for; both ship to the US. I've had good service from both. I haven't used the Dodo pads, although they're very popular.

Laurie (2012-06-27 04:05:55)

The Dodo Pad paper is excellent, 100 gsm so it can take any pen well with no show-through on the other side. Just wanted to give you a heads-up though that the Dodo Pad sizes are for the Personal Filofax, A5 Filofax and the Universal A4/ US Letter size. They don't make an insert that fits whichever Franklin Covey size uses 5 1/2 by 8 1/2 inch pages. The A5 pages are close in size, but the hole configuration is different and will have to be repunched.

And to answer your Filofax US question, yes they do have other diary inserts available later in the year, so keep a lookout.

Gail (2012-06-27 04:25:14)

Pens

I really need a pen that does not bleed through to the other side and is a very fine writer....any ideas or recommendations?

Hannah J (2012-06-27 04:44:49)

I was going to buy a Lamy but WHSmith didn't have packs of the cartridges and they are a funny shape in comparison to Parker cartridges and the smaller ones.

Hannah J (2012-06-27 04:49:09)

I tuck so many bits of paper in my diary that a zip would be good so that they don't escape but at the same time sometimes there is too much! I'm currently on a Personal Domino

Hannah J (2012-06-27 04:52:36)

My Mum had a green filofax when I was growing up - I'm not sure which "model" it was but it was so loved and worn that I'm surprised it was recognisable as a filfax. She now has a Lavender Domino that she can stick in her handbag.

She (unwittingly) instilled it in me. I have tried to stray away to a digital diary like the calendar app on my phone but there is something about writing down an event that imprints it on my brain a bit better!

My husband is all about the technology so his calendar is on his phone/iPad. So I have to use the calendar to keep track of his calendar and then double entry mine (Diary and then phone) so that he can keep up with what I'm doing!

Hannah J (2012-06-27 04:54:52)

That's a cool idea - I wondered about putting a bible in my filofax then decided that I really wouldn't have any space for anything else!

Jotje (2012-06-27 10:35:50)

The personal sized 2PPD Filofax inserts are indeed available in Europe and e.g. France ships them to the US. Or ask one of the Philofaxy-readers to do so for you.

The paper quality is not very high, but if you stay away from fountain pens it is sufficient.

Or you could invest in a decent punch and make your own inserts in any superb paper quality you'd like?!

Jotje (2012-06-27 10:36:24)

Frixion 0.4 write very thin and don't bleed through!

Yu (2012-06-27 14:24:23)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Yu (2012-06-27 14:42:36)

... I wanted to edit. Ah well... more details on my blog.

Question: have any of you guys been sent many defect binders in a row? And has someone experienced that maybe even the replacement is defect when it is supposed to, well, replace the first binder?

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-06-27 15:02:41)

I received a faulty binder from CO. They immediately sent me a replacement though, without waiting for me to return the original. Check out the details on my blog:

<http://allthingsstationery.blogspot.co.uk/2012/03/my-new-gorgeous-fi-lofax-but.html>

KarynsPlanit (2012-06-27 17:45:27)

Laurie-Thanks so MUCH! I am going to wait until the last possible minute and ponder my decision wisely for 2013 pages. Usually what I buy in October for the following year is NOT what I'm using by January 1.

Thoughts on a launch date for Plannerism planners and diary refills?

Laurie (2012-06-27 17:53:26)

The Plannerisms planners are still in the design stage with a production date as early as August but possibly as late as October, so I hope everyone can hang on until they become available! I'll have some design samples up on Plannerisms soon so everyone can preview the format. Very exciting!!!

Yu (2012-06-27 18:04:31)

NP. :) Just send me an email if you want to know more or get pictures or something.

Hannah C. (2012-06-27 20:54:32)

Barry! You use a Filofax for personal Bible study? Please, do this post! I would love to see it! I've thought of doing that, but so far am unconvinced, even though my now unused Personal Finchley would be perfect for it (and is the same size as my Bible).

Hannah C. (2012-06-27 20:59:32)

Filofax should have the 2ppd refills available later on - I bought some from them in December or January. Dodo has a planner size which will fit your Personal. I'm currently using the FC Classic size, so I have to stick with non-Filofax inserts - but the American Classic size is much more available here in the US than anything A5.

Joey Quinton (2012-06-27 21:32:30)

Hannah, get you a converter and a bottle of ink!

Joey Quinton (2012-06-27 21:38:03)

Laurie, what type of paper will you be using?

Laurie (2012-06-28 02:31:27)

Joey the paper I've requested is smooth, 90 gsm light ivory, but I haven't seen the paper samples yet so I can't say for sure. You can bet I'll get the best paper I can!

KarynsPlanit (2012-06-28 06:29:51)

Jotje- I was thinking about making my own inserts and having them printed up on quality paper at a office supply store locally. i DO need a hole punch terribly bad, but if I had pages professionally printed up, I would just ask the printers punch them.

EmmaNoey- I was looking at the French site yesterday afternoon and if I go that route it is definitely a possibility. As Laurie mentioned, if her Plannerism pages are released by late October-early November, I'm going to give them a try. So many exciting possibilities!

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-28 09:39:23)

Joseph, if you see this reply, check this post out: [1]Bible Design Blog - Filofax Meets Bible. Absolutely stunning pictures and ideas in there, I'm sure you'll like it!

1. <http://www.bibledesignblog.com/2009/04/how-i-roll-for-the-moment.html>

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-28 09:46:50)

Not in a row, but I bought a Finsbury online that was discounted to half-price from UK store WH Smith a few months ago, and it was... TERRIBLE! It wasn't "seconds" or anything, just regular stock.

The cover looked like it had been made by a 3-year old, all uneven like the glue had warped the leather as it dried, the leather itself looked like '70s plastic fake leather, far too hard & textured, the rings did that sag in the middle that meant the paper caught, so I got a refund - I then looked in another WH Smiths and the only Finsbury on display had the exact same problems.

I have a Finsbury from '06 (found the receipt recently!) and it's perfect, including that until quite recently I didn't even know not to yank the rings to open it.

Same model, MAJOR drop in manufacturing quality, the one I got wasn't worth £2.50, let alone the full label price. Based on that, I'm not buying new again unless I can see and check the binder in store, because that Finsbury just looked like a bad joke, or a fake of some kind.

PaperMeister (2012-06-28 17:56:33)

Alison and Yu—thank you both! Although I love the fact it's Kermit green (did anyone else see Piggy Pink and Gonzo blue theme going? YEY!), I'm super bummed to hear it doesn't wear well (BOO!)

Appreciate the feedback!

lydhold (2012-06-29 13:07:47)

Sorry, only just seen this! I bought the refill paper, which is lined I'm afraid, sorry, when I said plain, I meant not the pre-printed diary inserts, straight from the site. When I'm at an actual Smythson shop I'm going to have a look and see whether the notebooks, spiral bound, are actually A5, that could be punched, as this would be a MUCH cheaper way of having lined paper for notes. Glad you bought it - I'll look forward to hearing how you get on!

Filofax UK Free Shipping Offer (2012-06-26 03:31) - Steve Morton



[1]

The latest offer from [2]Filofax UK, free UK shipping on all orders, until 2nd July 2012...

1. <http://www.filofax.co.uk/images/feature/HP-banner-free-shipping2.jpg>

Filofax Holborn Personal - Review (2012-06-27 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1] *[Full Disclosure: We would like to thank Claire at SlamPr for arranging the loan of this Filofax Organiser for us to review.]*

This was the first time I had been able to handle and examine a Holborn in some detail and get beyond the first impression in a shop. In this review I'm comparing it alongside my own Filofax Malden personal organiser in Ochre.

The leather of the Holborn is very similar to that of the Malden, both being described as 'Buffalo Leather' But the Malden does feel more supple and soft. I think this is down to the differences in the interior design, which we will come to in a moment.



[2]

The Holborn is a more matt finish than the Malden, I think the difference between the two shows up quite noticeable in these exterior photographs.



[3]

The Holborn has uses a smaller clasp compared to the Malden, it is the same size and design as used in a Finsbury and other similar leather Filofax organisers.



[4]

Whilst the design of the Holborn from certain angles looks plainer than the Malden, but overall they are balanced because of the way they have added the cover over the spine and the stitching details included.



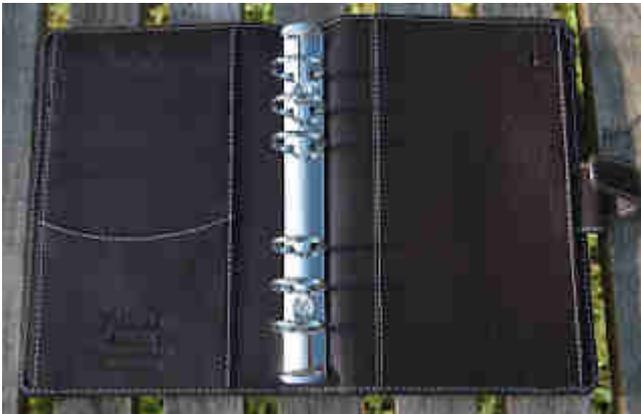
[5]

When looked at from above you can see that the Holborn is slightly squarer in profile compared to the Malden. Both of the Holborn and Malden personal organisers are fitted with 23 mm (internal) diameter rings.



[6]

Internally the Holborn reminds me very much of the Cuban in it's internal design. It has the same number of card slots and the pocket layouts.



[7]

There are slot pockets on the outside and inside on the left hand side. On the right hand side there is a slot pocket and a zip pocket as well. The single pen loop is a leather and is elasticated

If the need for multiple pockets for holding tickets and documents are your requirement then the Holborn Personal will not disappoint, although the converse will be 'now which pocket did I put my theatre tickets in' could be an issue!

One interesting observation, which might convince you I need to get out more... I could not find a quality control mark anywhere on the Holborn. If you have ever got your magnifying glass out and looked closely at your Filofax personal organiser, you will normally find this on the inside of the leather clasp.

Here is the one on the Malden, 'SEW' in this particular case. I will one day list the codes on all of my Maldens, I will get my coat!



[8]

I enjoyed my short time with the Holborn, if it wasn't for the Malden I would certainly consider the Holborn as a suitable and comparable Filofax Organiser.

Amanda at [9]Paper Pens and Ink also recently did a review about her Holborn. And you can see pictures of Zoe's pair of Holborns on her [10]blog

Again thank you to Claire at Slam PR for arranging the loan of this Filofax personal organiser.



[11]

1. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-QC2BeaoLVLw/T98Gv50FrgI/AAAAAAAAALOA/HLXoecnmztA/s1600/Holborn.jpg>
2. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-7QkmtY-7T9Q/T98HctSOK0I/AAAAAAAAAL08/Ib7BLNiQYLY/s1600/IMG_1844.JPG
3. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-kIPpZhrN7cs/T98G9EL7bmI/AAAAAAAAAL0Q/rbjpYgBUafk/s1600/IMG_1838.JPG
4. http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-NAo-x7yT6Rc/T98HWq7iGYI/AAAAAAAAAL00/t2PjUm3EpmQ/s1600/IMG_1843.jpg
5. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-G4qoqcVpjm8/T98HP1w5JCI/AAAAAAAAAL0s/HEFkIcg9VfM/s1600/IMG_1841.JPG
6. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-OZy7YvgsW18/T98HDBvYLII/AAAAAAAAAL0Y/4Y0m3rn8e-w/s1600/IMG_1839.JPG
7. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-FIPCdQ3Ly_E/T98HKzs_1CI/AAAAAAAAAL0k/uE10v6bvIjM/s1600/IMG_1840.JPG
8. http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-KiWzo7-n81o/T-DlxhjnYLI/AAAAAAAAAL3I/AtpiFQ7EyaM/s1600/IMG_1845.JPG
9. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.co.uk/2012/06/moving-into-holborn.html>
10. <http://thezeitgeistofzoe.wordpress.com/2012/06/20/mid-year-tweak-you-knew-it-was-coming/>
11. <http://www.awin1.com/cread.php?s=152853&v=2457&q=90346&r=97790>

Sari (2012-06-27 06:44:25)

Hi, Steve, thanks for the nice review - and for such an eye for small details like the quality control mark - chapeau! So after reading your post I searched my Filofaxes for their quality control marks (I had noticed them but never really thought about them or checked whether all of my binders have them) And I found out that my black Holborn Pocket has got one (VWL) - but my Panama has not.....then again my old Belmont has one..... What a strange thing. Do you have any idea what that means??

Tim (2012-06-27 07:00:04)

The pocket layout clearly works well in Personal size where the binder can still effectively also act as a wallet. Unfortunately, I found it's not effective in A5 size, where credit cards fall out of the Holborn and the whole thing looks distinctly cumbersome and awkward at the supermarket till. The zipped A5 Holborn may stop this but is

even bigger and fatter! The other problem is that the outer pockets only go half way, meaning they don't lend themselves to slotting in a notebook.

After a few weeks, I gave up on my A5 Holborn and switched to a Flex A5 (with ring inserted) and Flex Slim combination. Both have a similar layout to the Holborn.

My A5 Holborn code is VFW by the way!

Ray Blake (2012-06-27 10:47:37)

My brown Personal Holborn has the VFW code.

olla (2012-06-27 10:53:07)

I have an A5 Holborn Zip in Wine and I love it. The size is perfect for my needs (work/family/personal) and I like the look:)

Holborn's leather is so buttery soft.

However I can't see a code anywhere, maybe I don't know where to look.

mstraat (2012-06-27 11:40:25)

My brown compact Holborn has the card slots vertically so no problem with losing cards, and is big enough to slot in a pocket Moleskine sized notebook like a cahier, so a thin cover. Mine has the code VBX.

Steve Morton (2012-06-27 13:27:42)

Where is the code on yours Ray?

Gerard (2012-06-27 14:15:33)

Steve,

Thanks for the review. What is that small tab of leather at top right inside the back cover in the second-last picture?

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-06-27 14:26:24)

I really want a non-zip personal in wine, but will have to wait... I know they are available in Compact now, but I prefer the credit card pocket layout of the personal sized ones!

Steve Morton (2012-06-27 14:30:58)

Hi Gerard

It's a slightly moulded section, so when the zip is closed the zipper hides behind this section. Quite a neat solution I guess.

Steve

DEM (2012-06-27 15:27:46)

My personal Holborn has a code as well: VEW on the inside of the closure strap.

Anthony Hill (2012-06-27 15:52:02)

Hi Steve many thanks for the review, very interesting.

I have two FF Sketches bought at TK Maxx just below 50 % discount both have DEW on the inside of leather clasp. It'd be interesting to know what this stood for.

Alison (2012-06-27 16:46:03)

I'm loving my A5 Holborn Zip's in Wine and Brown, i'd love a personal zip and I fancy trying a compact, but i'm on a Filofax diet!!! :o

Barry (2012-06-27 18:55:41)

I use my brown personal Holborn zip everyday and it's just great. Really 'solid' binder.

Yu (2012-06-27 21:13:14)

Yup. My personal Holborn has the code as well. But the leather on my Holborn looks different from the one you reviewed ("yours" looks a lot more "dry"). But then, I own the personal, A5 and slimline sizes and none of the leathers are alike. The leather on the personal is the best, though.

DEM (2012-06-27 21:53:57)

Amen!

Ray Blake (2012-06-28 11:44:10)

In the usual place, Steve.

Anita (2012-06-28 16:12:03)

Thanks for a great review, Steve. The Holborns are lovely :)

Another day, another Malden (2012-06-28 00:00) - Anita

Well, my three month trial of the A5 size is now over and I've moved back down to personal. As mentioned in my previous [1]post, I had planned to finish it all off in a logical way, but a couple of things came up that brought it to a quicker and easier conclusion. I normally only use one of the penloops on my A5 Malden, but decided I wanted an extra pen one day and found it got stuck. I think part of the loop's lining had come unstuck and then re-stuck to itself, and I couldn't seem to fix it myself. Then I contacted City Organiser to ask if they might have the purple personal Maldens back in stock by the time I was visiting, and the surprise answer was that they had two available, but I'd have to ring the shop to purchase one. I'm not a religious person, but I just felt like the universe was trying to tell me something here! On the same day, I returned my A5 and rang up to purchase the personal size instead, with City Organiser putting the smoother version aside for me.

For ages, I've been telling myself I don't need a purple filofax. I know many people have multiple binders, but I want just one and suddenly I realised that it made sense to get the one I really want and be done with it. Despite enjoying the extra paper size of the A5, I'm relieved to be back to the personal size as I was able to carry my new filo around with me all day and still fit lots of other things in my bag. It was love at first sight, I'm delighted to say.



[2]



[3]



[4]

It doesn't yet lay flat (like my other Maldens), but I'm willing to be patient as it's both a Malden and purple.



[5]

The leather has a much smoother grain than on my crimson one.



[6]

And it goes quite nicely with my satchel, which is an added bonus!



[7]

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2012/06/size-matters.html>
2. http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-5Vq0ZYte64I/T-IDdw0P_7I/AAAAAAAAAhY/4TcRxXT1tok/s1600/P1020529.JPG
3. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-2UZy-XJKs3M/T-IDiy3DYCI/AAAAAAAAAhg/04kqmZzvQf4/s1600/P1020530.JPG>
4. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-xre3jZZPRNg/T-IDpw51nLI/AAAAAAAAAho/OBso_XmdFS4/s1600/P1020531.JPG
5. http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-yafw_sFIRVU/T-IEa3FrSI/AAAAAAAAAhw/e_wA7cU3Erc/s1600/P1020533.JPG
6. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-0E2a0UGUjT8/T-IFR8FiSpI/AAAAAAAAAh4/aaSGEvbJZ9s/s1600/P1020534.JPG>
7. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-SYn60L2JqCY/T-IFu5KJCeI/AAAAAAAAAiA/8rEbjKkzDeg/s1600/P1020541.JPG>

Josh (2012-06-28 00:12:55)

Oh my goodness! After you've sold off all your personal accessories and inserts too! I'm glad you like it so much! I jumped to a larger size (8.5x5.5 inch, similar to an A5) and love the extra space, and the larger binder size doesn't bother me as much as I had anticipated. All the same, I look at my personal size Cavendish from time to time with longing! Enjoy your purple binder!

Sari (2012-06-28 03:21:28)

Hi, Anita, the Malden looks great with the satchel! But for me this picture is really dangerous: I think I've got just the same satchel....and I had decided NOT to buy the purple Malden. But on second thought...I hope you'll enjoy your new Malden and the smaller size!

terriknits (2012-06-28 03:41:28)

wow, that purple Malden looks wonderful. Uh oh.

Decor Mom (2012-06-28 04:26:48)

It's simply beautiful. I'm waiting for my new Domino. I used to use Filofax for many years then the last 6-7 years I've been digital and small diary in my purse. I've found the stress levels increase since I went off my Filofax so finally I gave in and ordered a purple Domino from the UK store. I live in Iceland and there are no stores here that have any selection so I need to order from abroad. Great selection but expensive to have it shipped. Love this blog.

Barry (2012-06-28 04:45:32)

Mmmm. I've wondered about using an A5 Malden for my work Filofax, and was actually looking on a few sites last night at the prices of an Ochre one. Although I would love to own one, I don't think I would actually use it

in the way that I think I would. However, I have different Filofaxes for other stuff, so perhaps I could, possibly, maybe, slim chance, find another use for it :) Your new Malden matches perfectly with your satchel! Barry

Doris (2012-06-28 05:46:27)

Anita, I find that one can't have too many Maldens! The purple is lovely and very, very tempting!

Laurie (2012-06-28 05:48:55)

Purple! Leather! Awesome!!

Dare I ask, where is the satchel from?

Anita (2012-06-28 06:02:03)

It's from the Cambridge Satchel Company :)

Anita (2012-06-28 06:05:47)

I know... Never mind & luckily my new hole punch also does personal size. I didn't get rid of my stash of personal paper though, maybe I knew deep down I might be back!

Stationery Gal (2012-06-28 06:50:24)

Love it! I have the compact Malden in Ochre, it actually is more of a rich Cognac shade and could not live without it! I had been using a mini purple Domini but it was just too small...

Joey Quinton (2012-06-28 07:42:33)

Anita, beautiful pictures and post. You have me craving a Malden!

Romina (2012-06-28 08:47:33)

Anita, what is the feel of the leather? I've read some comments about the leather of the purple Maldens feeling a bit stiff and/or dry.

Thanks :)

D (2012-06-28 09:17:46)

I too got the purple personal Malden. Since then I've ignored all my other poor filos. I find I'm not wanting to buy any other filos now either. (My wallet thanks me) I think the purple Malden is IT for me.

D (2012-06-28 09:18:02)

I too got the purple personal Malden. Since then I've ignored all my other poor filos. I find I'm not wanting to buy any other filos now either. (My wallet thanks me) I think the purple Malden is IT for me.

Alice Dial (2012-06-28 09:30:38)

My purple personal Malden will be arriving mid-July here in the U.S. and I can't wait! Your's looks gorgeous! I have been using the A5 for over 30 years, but after seeing Neil's "Filofax Philosophy" posts and videos, I'm trying his GTD system. (Thanks, Neil-It's AMAZING!!) My system never seemed to work because I didn't like lugging around a heavy planner. I didn't keep the planner with me all the time, so any thoughts during the day were written on various pieces of paper—What a mess! It seemed that I spent more time on updating the planner than actually doing anything. I've been running a trial system in my personal vintage pink Malden for one month. It seems to be working better than my old system. Thank you to everyone contributing to Philofaxy. You can't imagine how helpful your posts are. I've been reading them over a year now, but this is my first post. I will keep you updated.

SNARLing: (2012-06-28 10:02:14)

my thoughts exactly!

Anita (2012-06-28 10:07:22)

Romina,

The leather did feel a bit dry & it's already had the Nivea treatment which has made such a big difference. I'll be

taking some photos to try to compare the before & after effects.

Ashleigh (2012-06-28 10:12:26)

great post Anita thank you for sharing, I love the colour but..... always a but! lol this is the first I've heard of a Malden not lying flat?!?! I have the personal vintage pink and the leather is so buttery soft you can bend it anyway - im presuming this must be quite a tough leather compared to usual maldens?

Valerie (2012-06-28 10:55:30)

I'm with you, Alice. I live in the US too and I have a personal Malden in purple on pre-order. The first ETA I was given was mid June, now it's mid July. I am really anxious to get my hands on it. I have a personal Finchley in purple and it's quite nice too, so I'm being as patient as possible waiting for my new Malden.

Angel Jem (2012-06-28 13:43:46)

That satchel and that Malden are made for each other! Have fun! I like purple..... But I am a crimson girl so I can resist. I wonder if I can steal my crimson satchel back from my daughter? (quick answer: no)

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-06-28 14:10:21)

I love that it looks so smooth! You can't go wrong with purple - or any filofax that matches your fabulous bag. I love that bag :)

Tracy

Songbird68 (2012-06-28 14:43:30)

Oh man, I'm in trouble. I just bought my very first Filofax, a Vintage Pink Malden in personal which I am IN LOVE WITH... and now I'm having the dreaded Planner Envy. I don't *need* a purple one..... do I????

sigh*

And so it begins.

Anita (2012-06-28 15:34:13)

I was a bit surprised too that it doesn't lie flat out of the box, as both my crimson & vintage pink did! The leather is still lovely & soft, but just not as bendy as the others. After a week & a bit of daily use it is getting there & probably won't need any training.

DEM (2012-06-28 15:34:24)

Wouldn't a purple one look lovely next to Vintage Pink? Just a thought.....;-)

Alice x (2012-06-28 15:40:55)

Just as i was writing my blog post which asks about this 'Nivea treatment' its on here - weird or what!!

Ive never heard of it before!

<http://the-wonderful-life-of-alice.blogspot.co.uk/2012/06/pocket-bar-oque-has-arrived.html>

Does anything else work as im allergic to Nivea etc - or is the only thing?

Thanks!!

Anita (2012-06-28 15:53:32)

Hi Alice, more info can be found here:

[1]<http://vanjilla.blogspot.co.uk/2011/11/filofaxs-facial.html>

I've only used Nivea... any one else??

1. <http://vanjilla.blogspot.co.uk/2011/11/filofaxs-facial.html>

Romina (2012-06-28 16:27:44)

Aha! The infamous Nivea treatment ;)

I look fwd to your pics. The purple is so gorgeous!

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-06-28 16:32:14)

I use normal face cream, just Boots knock-off of Simple moisturiser! I've never used Nivea because I don't have any, but I might buy some to see if it makes a difference...

And Anita, you have made me want a personal Malden even more now!!!!

Vanjilla (2012-06-28 16:43:32)

Hi girls,

I assume any good nourishing cream would work, but I have been warned once to steer clear of those containing mineral oils - I think it has something to do with possibility of colour smearing.

And I'm so glad you find the recipe helpful! :-)

Terri (2012-06-28 17:19:36)

In the past 5 weeks I have acquired a personal Malden in vintage pink, a pocket Finsbury in antique rose, and just arriving yesterday.....a mini Malden in purple!!! After seeing the purple colour I am in love. I now want a personal Malden in purple and then I think I will be satisfied!

Alice x (2012-06-28 18:32:03)

Thanks everyone for your help!

I may try something like Badger Balm (as I have a lot of allergies and am in fact allergic to lanolin in Nivea and mineral oils etc.

I have already got a slight scuff on the Baroque and will maybe see if I can find an 'all natural' solution to the problem!!

Thanks everyone!

Doris (2012-06-28 20:22:38)

In a pinch (and because I'm impatient), I did a baby oil treatment on a pink personal I got on ebay. It was a little worse for wear when I received it (dust, dirt, stains). I rubbed the oil all over the binder and then very quickly cleaned it off with a damp cloth. It revived the color and removed deep-seated dirt and the shine is back. The ink stains got a "hair spray on a q-tip" treatment. I was very, very careful and no color came off.

I'm sure Vanjilla's recipe is better though. (:

Songbird68 (2012-06-28 20:40:37)

Yes... oh yes. And they would both look lovely next to the Grey one....

Must... not.... succumb....

Valerie (2012-06-28 23:53:25)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Alice x (2012-06-29 06:51:32)

Ohh these sound good, I will have to try them if I ever get a stain!! Thanks so much :)

Free for All Friday No. 189 (2012-06-29 00:00) - Nan

How often do you change your Filofax setup? Do you frequently do little tweaks, or one big housecleaning per year?

Of course, since it's Friday, we can talk about anything Filofax.

Lime Tree (2012-06-29 00:55:18)

Yay! Free for all Friday!

To answer the question posted, I think I am finally settle with my set up. Hopefully won't be changing it any time soon! But the Filofax on the other hand....hehe

Does anyone has a compact Holborn? Are the cc slots just like the one on personal or are they vertical?
On a side note, I LOVED the Meetup in Chicago! Hopefully will get to write something about it this weekend. I can't wait to my next one! I will be in NY August 3-6. Anyone up to a tiny-mini meetup? A coffee in the afternoon would work, doesn't need to be super-super, just to meet other philofaxy peeps and talk Filofax. Anyone? Anyone? *blink, blink* :)

java's mum (2012-06-29 01:44:24)

Hi there, I've been reading for a few months and was recently checking out the flickr photos and love the look of the red malden. Does anyone know if there's an english speaking site I can order a new personal sized one from? I've found them on the french and danish filofax sites but would prefer english inserts.
Also - does anyone use a personal malden as their wallet? If so where do you keep your notes?
Thanks!

Lime Tree (2012-06-29 02:09:14)

Have you tried filofaxusa.com and the mothership filofax.co.uk? There is also pens & leather in USA and I heard City Organiser rocks in UK! :)

David Popely (2012-06-29 02:20:05)

It all depends how you distinguish between a 'tweak' and a change of setup. I suggest this is largely a matter of degree.

I've been settled in my GTD setup, running out of my ochre Personal Malden, since before the beginning of the year, and I subscribe to the principle of 'if it isn't broken, don't fix it'. Also, too much 'improvement' can really mess things up (just look at so-called 'enhancements' to MS products!).

All of that said, however, I did change binders this week, from the Malden back to my vintage oiled leather Hampstead. I love this binder (as well), and the simple reason for migrating is that the Hampstead has two pen loops - quite unusual on a Personal. So now i can carry a pen *and* a pencil.

I don't see the internal setup changing any time soon, since it 'just works'.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-06-29 02:39:20)

I am currently in mild Filofax setup panic/flux. This seems to happen frequently, when I have periods of uni when I have very few appointments, i.e. research periods. I rarely need to write down my daily planning because I have few appointments and not many to-dos; however, then my to-dos start adding up, but because I'm out of the habit of writing them in my filo, I don't do it and I forget the important things I need to do! Because I don't have that many to-dos, I don't use my DPP inserts well, so I stop using them, but then I can't use WO2P either!! The A5 vertical WO2P insert plus a post-it for to-dos is OK, but then the A5 is too heavy to take around with me, and the pocket doesn't work for me!! Grrrrrr!!! Currently trying to make a new format with DIY inserts!

Saffy (2012-06-29 03:06:27)

I may be in the U.S. around that time staying in CT while DH works and would love to catch up with fellow philofaxers for a mini meet up. It is not 100 % yet but is looking positive. If it does happen is there anything I can bring from the U.K. for you or anyone else who may be available?

Angel Jem (2012-06-29 03:06:45)

My big tweaks are usually between using dividers labelled as diary, actions, projects etc or using alphabetic dividers abd filing by initial letters. Only changed system once this year.... but I've tried 4 folders on the way!

Doris (2012-06-29 04:18:42)

I'm in the US too till August 10th, but will be in California mostly. Wish i could go to New York, or better yet, Connecticut, where I've never been. The meet-ups I've seen photos of look like so much fun - how can you go wrong with coffee/tea/wine, food, and "Filofaxes" (sorry Steve!).

Doris (2012-06-29 04:23:39)

I haven't made any major changes to my set-up since I moved to a Personal from a Pocket. I have customized my tabs though, but the overall contents remain the same. It's been mostly adding, adding, adding (tabs and pages), and my Filo will need a major overhaul after my vacation since it's full of lists and phone numbers at the moment. That said, moving to a Dodopad diary after using Filofax diaries for years is pretty major to me.

Alison (2012-06-29 04:43:45)

I've not been using Filofax that long so mine is an ongoing thing, I don't have time to sit down and do a major set up for much of the time, so it's kind of a blank canvas that I add to when I have time, I find this works well for me, this way it gets thought through properly and I'm not keep swapping and changing, as yet i've not named any dividers, want to wait until i'm completely happy with the set up first.

Alison (2012-06-29 04:46:35)

I'd love a meet up in the North of England, i'm in the North West and wondered if there's enough of us for a mini meet up!!

Clareio (2012-06-29 05:11:29)

City Organiser is great but they don't have everything and last I checked they didn't have it in red but all the others were 30 % off... plus if the philofaxy discount code is working it may be worth compromising on the colour!

Clareio (2012-06-29 05:16:37)

As the diary section of my filofax only started on monday, and I didn't have a whole lot to do before that anyway, I have found that the set up I had didn't work for me at all. I had separate work/home diaries but it just made things complicated so I've already taken out the day per page in favour of using a WO2P for everything. Now i've hit a problem, my filofax is pocket sized and i'm filling up the space I have daily (including rubbing things out that i've done... or indeed not got round to in order to make space... and i'm still using extra paper most days!! so this weekends mammoth task is to reorganise, make some tabs that might work (temporary ones for now) and maybe try and use separate to do lists more often!

Or I could just wait until I get paid and buy a personal...

David Popely (2012-06-29 05:23:53)

Clareio I just can't imagine using anything smaller than a Personal - I have enough space issues with that! If you *really* want to continue with small formats, I don't know if you can get the 'day planner' sheets for your size (you can certainly get them for Personal), but that might be an idea. Otherwise, if my Wo2P diary gets overloaded I just add a sheet of lined paper in between the two leaves and overspill onto that.

Gail (2012-06-29 05:41:49)

Ohh Alison, I am in the North East (near Durham)I would love a meet up, but not sure where would be appropriate seeing as the "best" Filofax shops are in London.

Yesterday I took a trip to Newcastle, they seem to have a few places that sell Filofaxs.....The Pen Shop, John Lewis, Fenwicks, WHSmiths, Rymans and Paperchase. (The paperchase shop is huge).

John Lewis had a really good collection in and a lot were in their sale too. It would be great if us "Northerners" could meet up too!

java's mum (2012-06-29 05:56:30)

@Lime Tree - I've tried all those sites, I'm thinking I'll have to order through the French site.

@Clareio - I had been thinking about the compact zip but the ochre and purple just didn't do it for me, and then I saw the red personal on flickr and knew it was the colour for me. It's a shame because I really like the city organiser site.

Circus Life (2012-06-29 06:08:50)

Just got my first Filofax! I spent about 2 hours setting everything up in the pocket. I'm not sure how long it will

last before I change it though.

lifeconsidered (2012-06-29 06:11:48)

I just changed binders this week as well...from the Cuban personal to the Osterly personal. The Osterly also has two pen loops, which was a pleasant surprise. I think I just found the perfect pen, a Foray Stylemark with a fine point and BROWN ink. Now I just need the right pencil

David Popely (2012-06-29 06:35:20)

I too now have what is for me the perfect pen...a Parker 45 vintage ballpoint from around 1980, which has come down to me through my late father-in-law. £3.50 for a new refill (I don't think it had been used since 1980-ish) and it's perfect.

Pencil-wise I'm using the generic silver FF pencil which i bought from the shop in Conduit St after I lost my other Parker pencil. It's a bit small for my hand, but it's OK. I might try and get a pencil to match the Parker 45 pen.....that would be 100 % a result!

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-06-29 07:13:32)

I'm going to be in Liverpool until October!!

Anita (2012-06-29 08:05:45)

I've been also using a GTD setup since my first filofax & overall it doesn't change very much. I never did settle down properly into my A5, so am in the process of setting up my purple Malden & will stick to the sections I had in personal size before. I find it very easy to have 'setup envy', but I don't tend to do anything about it apart from the occasional minor tweak.

Alison (2012-06-29 08:29:49)

Yeah it's usually the case Gail, all the best shops are in London, that's why I always order online, i'd love a London meet up, but it makes me nervous travelling alone, I just thought a mini meet up where we could have lunch and talk Filofax, it would be nice to meet in real life.

Preston is rubbish for Filofax, WHSmith, Ryman and Staples is about the only place and they don't have much variety and are overpriced compared to City Organiser. We don't even have a Paperchase here in Preston.

I'm hoping to go Stationary shopping in Manchester soon with my mum, anybody know if there is anywhere in Manchester for Filofax?

TPS - maybe we could meet up while your still in Liverpool, what's Liverpool like for Filofax & stationary.

The best way is see who would like a meet up and then meet at a central place, if there no Filofax shop to go to, we can just compare set ups and have a chat etc

David Popely (2012-06-29 08:39:06)

Hi Anita

Best of all, you can run a GTD setup entirely on lined paper, apart from the diary.....so no masses of different inserts. Result!

stoko77 (2012-06-29 08:51:09)

Hi, Doris - Where in Cali will you be? I'm in Southern California, Los Angeles/Hollywood area specifically. If you have time to meet, let me know. I'm a full-time grad student, own 5-ish Filos, and am currently in midterms. :o)
-Stephanie

Iain (2012-06-29 09:31:11)

Hi all,

Been a very happy A5 Cuban user for a while now. A5 is definitely for me as it allows me to achieve the "life in one Filofax" ideal. However, I am now reverting to an A5 Identity. This is such a shame but its Ring size! As I am wanting a "nice" filo does this mean I am now into the regular trap of "do I need a Malden?" or even worse "which is it to be? Malden or Holborn?". I now see why these questions arise so often! Ohh Filofax your customisation and choice is your finest and worst point!!! :) . Any help for me?

David Popely (2012-06-29 09:31:34)

I've today started trying to track down the Parker 25 (not 45 as previously stated) pencil to complete the fountain pen and ballpoint set I was recently given. I Googled Parker Pens and duly emailed off to sales@parkerpensuk.co.uk. In return I received the following reply:-

Hi David,

Parker Pens UK is part of the Cutting Edge Promotions group of companies and is not directly related to the manufacture of Parker Pens. For all enquiries regarding repairs, complaints please contact:

They maybe able to give you the information that you require.

CUSTOMER SERVICES

Newell Rubbermaid

Consumer Services Dept & After sales

Halifax Avenue

Fradley Park

Lichfield

WS13 8SS

Telephone 020 3027 6892 Email SAS.UK@newellco.com

Kind regards

Alan

So there you are....Parker Pens don't make Parker Pens, and can't advise about them. but a company with a name sounding like a fetish organisation 'maybe' (sic) able to.

So is it me? Or is the entire world mad now?

No wonder I'm always grumpy.....

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-06-29 09:35:25)

What about the Trafford Centre in Manchester or Meadowhall in Sheffield? I know the Trafford Centre has a Pen Shop and the Paperchase shop in Meadowhall is fab. I'm in West Yorkshire x

Ashleigh (2012-06-29 09:45:31)

I'm in the north east Alison whereabouts are you in the north west? x

mstraat (2012-06-29 10:47:37)

The compact Holborn has vertical card slots. Also no Zipped pocket, which I prefer for it to be truly compact but others might not.

Kate (2012-06-29 10:52:32)

I'm frequently tweaking my setup because I find it soothing. My daily Filofax at the moment is the special edition Swarovski. It's a bit small and I keep trying to return to my personal size Deco but I love the special edition glossy leather.

My current problem is a work Filofax. I've been using my A5 Finchley in purple which is gorgeous but I find I'm being too precious about it when I'm actually quite messy and throw things in y bag or drop them on the floor etc. I'm thinking if changing to the domino in A5. How rugged is it? What about the chameleon? Any help gratefully received.

Alison (2012-06-29 10:59:10)

Preston, Lancashire.

I'm off to Trafford Centre tomor for daughters birthday shopping, I'll check out what's there

J (2012-06-29 11:01:31)

Hi Java! I have the personal crimson Malden, I ordered it from the US, and I use it as a wallet!

I got my Malden from Pens and Leather, but looking again I see they don't have the crimson anymore!!! I'd definitely say it is worth ordering from the French site- is an amazing color.

As for the wallet part, I use a simple Day Runner insert to hold cash and coin- I actually ironically just wrote a

blog post about it. Read more here: <http://thecrazylifeofj.blogspot.com/2012/06/does-it-all-malden.html>
Good luck!!!

Alison (2012-06-29 11:04:35)

I've given over bothering Kate, was gutted when I got my first scratch on my pocket finchley, but a Filofax is there to be used, what's the point of it looking pretty when it's meant for use, in time they do get shabby looking but I think it adds to the effect a much used and loved Filofax :)

Lime Tree (2012-06-29 11:09:30)

@mstraat thank you for the info! So it's not like a the personal layout. Hmmm . Do you happen to have a pic of the inside?

Kate (2012-06-29 11:14:38)

Thanks for tat, Alison. I think you're right and I just need to relax a little!

mstraat (2012-06-29 11:18:52)

@Lime Tree email me at mstraat@neb.rr.com and I'll send you a photo

Rianne (2012-06-29 11:20:53)

Forgive me if i didn't comment right.

This is my first one....

I have bought on ebay the filofax finsbury in black (I have recieved Yesterday) and I have set it up so far. But my and my Boyfriend also bought A Filofax classic in brown. What do you think what i shall pick. The classis is in the mail so It hasn't arrived yet. What is the preferencs for you. Because one is for me and the other for my boyfriend. (Yes I have confinned him to get one too) but i can choose with one I like!!!.

I stil have my A5 for my desk where i keep the loggingcodes that i don't use outside the house. The A5 wil more become my householdmanagment book that is still in progress.

Gr. Rianne

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-06-29 11:21:12)

@java's mum: If you can't get hold of the crimson Malden, another option may be the red Chameleon. It's currently half price on the UK site at £32.50 with free delivery until Monday. It looks a lovely deep, rich red. Just a thought in case you didn't want to bother getting the Malden from France.

Lime Tree (2012-06-29 11:32:59)

@mstraat great! Just emailed you!

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-29 11:50:18)

I clear out my Filofaxes (work & personal) every few months: everything out, polish the mech, careful spritz of perfume on the fabric, etc - sometimes it's obvious one needs a new arrangement, sometimes not.

But I try to have a rule not to make dividers until there's a clear need and the "Misc" section is getting too full with one particular thing, which saves me then ending up with redundant sections.

Speaking of perfume, does anyone else here use those tiny fabric squares with perfume samples from magazines to scent their Faxes? I love doing that, I'm strictly a one-perfume girl for myself, and absolutely hate "air fresheners" and heavily scented things, but I do like to use those for my books...

Btw @ Joseph, Barry and a few others, have you seen this link: [1]Bible Design Blog - Filofax Meets Bible - I posted it in Tuesday's FFA but it might have got missed.

1. <http://www.bibledesignblog.com/2009/04/how-i-roll-for-the-moment.html>

Anita (2012-06-29 11:52:04)

Hi David, I agree! I only have lined paper in mine & use the calendar on my iPod touch, so very simple :)

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-29 11:53:58)

This 24 year-old Filofax is one of the most beautiful things I've ever seen: [1]Fountain Pen Network Forums: Filofax pic.

My Kendal gets better with age as well, but that one above is just BEEEEOOOTIFUL!!

1. <http://www.fountainpennetwork.com/forum/index.php?/topic/165995-naturally-aged-vintage-notebooks/>

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-29 12:00:21)

Would the A5 Kendal help - that make's been discontinued but you can still find them on e-Bay, it has 3cm rings and is GORGEOUS.

It's got 2 pen loops like the Identity, they have a small elastic insert hidden away to mean they stretch, holds up incredibly well to damage, scratches just fade away like magic...

It's the Filofax of the Gods imho... ;o)

Steve Morton (2012-06-29 12:15:58)

David

I think you will find that this is the correct address for Parker Pens, they used to have a place in Newhaven, might still be there not sure.

<http://www.parkerpen.com/#/en/ingenuityHome>

Steve

Gail (2012-06-29 12:48:31)

In the last fortnight, I have bought the A5 Malden and the A5 Holborn. The Malden has bigger rings and holds loads but the Holborn has more pockets and you can easy slide a A5 notebook in one of them.

David Popely (2012-06-29 13:02:44)

hi Steve

Thanks...that's much appreciated.

I followed the links through and ended up with the same address as the one given to me by the Mythical Parker Pen Company. I've emailed them, so we'll see if they reply. I'm not holding my breath at the moment - I might post to the Fountain Pen network over the weekend....

Thanks again

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-06-29 14:10:17)

Hi Alison! Liverpool is quite good for Filofaxes, John Lewis and Paperchase stand out! But of course there are loads of lovely cafes here... ;D I'd love for there to be a meet-up here, or somewhere relatively close like Manchester or Birmingham!

kanalt (2012-06-29 14:15:19)

I'm in new York and can maybe meet that weekend, depending on what is going on. Email me offline and we can discuss. Email is kanalt17 at gmail DOT com. :-)

kanalt (2012-06-29 14:20:17)

I am very happy with my setup as it is now, so I probably won't be changing it unless something new comes along. As for the binder, I've been in the compact regency for about 9 months now and love it. But I am eyeing the compact osterley in plum for a little bit of color. I'm pretty sure I will end up ordering it in a couple of weeks. Stay tuned...

JasJan (2012-06-29 14:23:34)

Hi, I am North West as well. Chester is also very good for filofaxes, Debenhams has a pen shop, WHSmiths is surprisingly good and paperchase. The Trafford Centre also has Selfridges and John Lewis with good filofaxes too.

Tim (2012-06-29 14:28:22)

Just flagging-up another guy living in the north of England. I'm based in The Yorkshire Dales. I worked for several

years in London but now manage to avoid going there. The Olympics in August will be my first time in ages! Unfortunately, I work in the hospitality sector so would struggle to get to a weekend meet, even in the North, but would try!

Angel Jem (2012-06-29 14:48:03)

Liverpool as well... Is that enough for a meet? Let me know when...

Anthony Hill (2012-06-29 16:02:28)

Hi Alison

I'm in the Greater Manchester area would like very much to have a mini meet up. John Lewis had some Filofaxes. In Market Street Manchester there's a large branch of Paper Chase, pens, hand made paper, card etc. Lots of Places to ate in the city centre you're spoilt for choice. Est Cafe in the Arndale Centre, Debenhams Restaurant both tried and tested of course there's lots more too numerous to mention. The Trafford Centre have or had The Pen Shop great just browsing in there. I too dislike travelling long distances alone. Looks like we could arrange a meet what about it?

Helen Conway (2012-06-29 16:12:30)

I'm in St. Helens and potentially up for a NorthWest meetup If the time is right.

LucyLastic (All Things Stationery) (2012-06-29 17:08:27)

@Tim: I was playing on the bandstand in Ilkley last Sunday...!!! Small world!

Butanben (2012-06-29 17:47:28)

It is a very personal thing, but just to say, I adore my A5 black Finsbury. Many folks may regard it as boring, but to me it looks business like and professional, has the right lay out of pockets, is durable and because it is in black never stains and never shows wear and tear. Have also got the raspberry Finsbury in A5 and I don't know why, but I keep gravitating back towards the black each time. I think it just looks smart!! I'd keep the one that YOU know you love the best and would use the most often.

Iain (2012-06-29 17:47:39)

Thx for the advise! The Kendal was not in my thoughts so I am off to investigate. I thought the Malden & Holborn had the same size rings do that's also great to know. Seriously, thanks!

Butanben (2012-06-29 17:51:07)

I am so happy with my WO2P Philofaxy diary, that I can't see myself changing that layout EVER!!! Thanks Steve and Ray. xx

DEM (2012-06-29 18:02:03)

Congrats on your new FF!

PaperMeister (2012-06-29 19:39:53)

Domino owners:

I'm considering buying a Domino or an Apex. I know two lovelies answered my 'how does the Apex wear' (apparently not that well) but does anyone have an Apex and a Domino and can you tell me which one handles scuffs and scrapes? Basically, I want to make sure their worth the \$38!

Thanks so much for your help!

Joseph David Quinton (2012-06-29 19:47:47)

Thank you so much for posting this, Shanti. I am on of Mark's regular readers at Bible Design Blog.

Doris (2012-06-29 20:24:34)

@Stoko77: I'll be mostly in Sacramento, and don't know if I'll get to LA. I'm sure you use your filo for school. A lot of gals on here are in uni/college as well.

austinlinda (2012-06-29 20:46:43)

I've looked EVERYWHERE for the crimson Malden—in the US, UK, French sites & all the discounted stores like Goldspot, Pens & Leather, Pen Boutique and EBay—no luck. I've got friends keeping their eyes out for me! But I don't think I'm going to be lucky this time.

BTW - The description of the personal Malden says Exterior has "wallet" pocket. Does this mean there is an outside pocket on the back of the personal size Malden?

Also-does it stay open when paper is balanced?

Thanks y'all, from Austin, Texas!

Lime Tree (2012-06-29 21:21:31)

@kanalt yay! Email right on your way!

DEM (2012-06-29 21:41:36)

I would LOVE to try a Dodopad for my personal but the teeny boxes make me nervous. Just not enough room. Would have more seriously consider if they stretched the height of the grid. I really would love to try Dodopad. :-(

Doris (2012-06-29 21:53:26)

Differing opinion here, I love the Classics and never warmed up to the Finsbury. Maybe the A5 is softer and lies flat? (:

Shanti (aka Shanananana) (2012-06-30 01:32:46)

Super! :D - I'm not a regular reader so didn't spot you on his blog, but I did bookmark that post because the pics are stunning, and inspired me to print out some poems and get a similar visual effect.

There was an old Bible in my family's possession when I was young that had flowers and scented leaves from wedding bouquets pressed in, and also dates of births, deaths and marriages entered in the front, and I think that was a common custom dating back to when many households had very few books, usually only that one in fact: it's an interesting piece of folk history, and makes the link to Filofaxes even more neat!

Debimoje (2012-06-30 16:57:18)

YAY! a northwest meetup would be fab! i am in Widnes so manchester/Liverpool/Chester would be great!!! LETS DO IT!!!!!!!!!!

Anthony Hill (2012-06-30 18:02:34)

@Alison

I think we have quite a number of members interested in order to organise a mini meet up, if we can't visit a store we could just have lunch, chat, exchange ideas and views. We need to co-ordinate things where's the best place to meet etc. What do you think?

Steve Morton (2012-06-30 18:31:30)

Hi Everyone.

I hope someone steps forward to be the co-ordinator for this meet up. I know it might seem like a lot of work at first but it will be worth while.

You might find my meet up notes useful to help you get organised.

<http://www.philofaxy.com/files/PhilofaxyMeetUp.pdf>

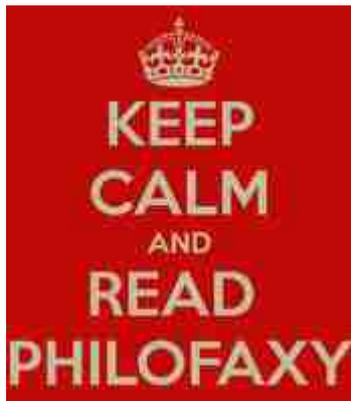
I will look in to updating them if there's anything I think I've left out.

I know when Kate and Hannah and I met up in Liverpool in April we found a few stockists in the city but nothing quite like City Organiser!

If you need any help, just ask

Regards

Steve



[1]

I went hunting for the very first Web Finds this morning, although it wasn't called Web Finds back in July 2009, they were random posts normally titled '[2]From the web' with all of two posts or more in it! Whilst hunting for the first post I realised that last Saturday was the 3rd anniversary of me joining the Philofaxy team! And today... is Laurie's 3rd anniversary of being a full time member of the team, although if you look back through the archives Laurie had contributed some guest posts before then. This week I'm pleased to say isn't as insane as the 50 odd links we had last week but still a respectable number!

I've also included a couple of GTD video's although not directly Filofax related, I'm sure the 43 folders idea could be adapted for a work Filofax.

We start with a very very special post that I insist you all read.....

1. [3]Guest post- Esmé's Filofax - Rapunzel's World
2. [4]Holborn - Familienzuwachs - Filo-Manie
3. [5]London 2012 Filofax - Lancashire Cat
4. [6]What's in my Filofax? - Delighted
5. [7]Filofax Dividers with a guilt chaser... - The Crazy Suburban Mom
6. [8]A tour of my Business A5 Filofax - My Life All in One Place
7. [9]my filofax week #10 - Paper Lovestory
8. [10]How to Create a Unique Dashboard for your Filofax | The Filofancy Way! - Filofancy
9. [11]Zip Pockets for A5 - The Purple Pen of Doom
10. [12]Pocket Malden Wallet Setup - The Purple Pen of Doom
11. [13]My Reading/Movie Filofax in Progress!! - Filo Obsessed
12. [14]My Malden at his worst... - Chaotic Perfectionist
13. [15]Use a Mini-Saga to expand an idea - Filofax Sagas
14. [16]Filo Sighting #1 - Honey & Filofaxes
15. [17]Planner overkill (sometimes too much is simply too much!) - We really didn't need another Filofax blog
16. [18]Is My Planner Failing...? And A Special Delivery To Make My Day!!! - LJ's Blog of Stuff
17. [19]Finsbury update - Krista's Filo

18. [20]Spoiled: A second Filofax meetup in less than a month - The Crazy Life of J
19. [21]Let The Filofax Do All The Talking - Filofit
20. [22]New Filofax Additions!! - Filo Obsessed
21. [23](Another) New Organiser - Paper Pens Ink
22. [24]my current filofax set up - Paper Lovestory
23. [25]What's in my Filofax Pocket Rio today? - The Crazy Suburban Mom
24. [26]I did buy... but not a Filofax! - Pen to Paper
25. [27]I must be jinxed! Defect A5 Aqua Chameleon from filofax.dk - Belzira's corner
26. [28]A Sticky Note Wall - It's My Life
27. [29]How do you organise? - Chain X Stationery
28. [30]101 Update, or should I say lack of an update!! - Filo Obsessed
29. [31]Enabling 101 - The Crazy Suburban Mom
30. [32]New diary day..... take two - You big eejit
31. [33]My Filofax Birthday - Life... considered, planned, organised
32. [34]The Pocket Baroque has arrived!! - The Wonderful Life of Alice
33. [35]Filofax Blog of the Week: Lime Tree Fruits - My Life All in One Place
34. [36]Oooooops, I did it again! - All Things Stationery
35. [37]A question of holes... - The Crazy Suburban Mom
36. [38]june; can't live withouts - Paper Lovestory
37. [39]Leon, my Stay-at-home Filo - Honey and Filofaxes
38. [40]New dividers-ready made - Krista's Filo
39. [41]Book Journal - It's My Life!
40. [42]Geduldspoke - Filomaniac
41. [43]Friday's Filofax Poll #3 - Vanjilla
42. [44]Untitled - From down the well

Enjoy

And some videos this week.

IFRAME: [45]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/zm10hbaDNdE?rel=0>

IFRAME: [46]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/a4rGPmhhkqds?rel=0>

IFRAME: [47]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/zitePgSEeRY?rel=0>

IFRAME: [48]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/JhmZhTXN4as?rel=0>

IFRAME: [49]http://www.youtube.com/embed/YG0FU_M_YB8?rel=0

IFRAME: [50]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/UV-UE0kwQbc?rel=0>

1. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-bJDrXVhsvXI/T-3uAaeb2dI/AAAAAAAAAL9Q/I7Nbi20ZwrU/s1600/keepcalm1.png>
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2009/07/from-web-monday-27th-july.html>
3. <http://icclewu.blogspot.fr/2012/06/guest-post-esme-filofax.html>
4. <http://filo-manie.blogspot.fr/2012/06/holborn-familienzuwachs.html>
5. <http://lancashirecat.wordpress.com/2012/06/23/london-2012-filofax/>
6. <http://delighted.blogspot.fr/2012/06/whats-in-my-filofax.html>
7. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/06/filofax-dividers-with-guilt-chaser.html>
8. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/06/tour-of-my-business-a5-filofax.html>
9. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/06/my-filofax-week-10.html>
10. <http://filofancy.blogspot.fr/2012/06/how-to-create-unique-dashboard-for-your.html>
11. <http://jarfm.com/?p=263>
12. <http://jarfm.com/?p=283>
13. <http://filo-obsessed.blogspot.fr/2012/06/my-readingmovie-filofax-in-progress.html>
14. <http://elfenfisch.blogspot.fr/2012/06/my-malden-at-his-worst.html>
15. <http://filofaxsagas.blogspot.fr/2012/06/use-mini-saga-to-expand-idea.html>
16. <http://honeyandfilofaxes.blogspot.fr/2012/06/filo-sighting-1.html>
17. <http://notanotherfilofaxblog.blogspot.fr/2012/06/planner-overkill-sometimes-too-much-is.html>
18. <http://ljsblogofstuff.blogspot.fr/2012/06/is-my-planner-failing-and-special.html>
19. <http://kristasfilo.blogspot.fr/2012/06/finsbury-update.html>
20. <http://thecrazylifeofj.blogspot.fr/2012/06/spoiled-second-filofax-meetup-in-less.html>
21. <http://filofit.wordpress.com/2012/06/28/let-the-filofax-do-all-the-talking/>
22. <http://filo-obsessed.blogspot.fr/2012/06/new-filofax-additions.html>
23. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.fr/2012/06/another-new-organiser.html>
24. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/06/my-current-filofax-set-up.html>
25. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/06/whats-in-my-filofax-pocket-rio-today.html>
26. <http://justjennypentopaper.blogspot.fr/2012/06/i-did-buy-but-not-filofax.html>
27. <http://belzira.blogspot.com/2012/06/i-must-be-jinxed-defect-a5-aqua.html>
28. <http://gailwheatley.blogspot.fr/2012/06/sticky-note-wall.html>
29. <http://chainxstationery.blogspot.fr/2012/06/how-do-you-organise.html>
30. <http://filo-obsessed.blogspot.fr/2012/06/101-update-or-should-i-say-lack-of.html>
31. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/06/enabling-101.html>
32. <http://bigeejit.blogspot.fr/2012/06/new-diary-day-take-two.html>
33. <http://lifeconsideredplannedorganized.blogspot.fr/2012/06/my-filofax-birthday.html>
34. <http://the-wonderful-life-of-alice.blogspot.co.uk/2012/06/pocket-baroque-has-arrived.html>
35. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/06/filofax-blog-of-week-lime-tree-fruits.html>
36. <http://allthingsstationery.blogspot.fr/2012/06/oooooops-i-did-it-again.html>
37. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/06/a-question-of-holes.html>
38. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/06/june-cant-live-withouts.html>
39. <http://honeyandfilofaxes.blogspot.fr/2012/06/leon-my-stay-at-home-filo.html>
40. <http://kristasfilo.blogspot.fr/2012/06/new-dividers-ready-made.html>
41. <http://gailwheatley.blogspot.fr/2012/06/book-journal.html>
42. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/06/geduldsprobe.html>
43. <http://vanjilla.blogspot.fr/2012/06/fridays-filofax-poll-3.html>
44. <http://downthewell.blogspot.fr/2012/06/untitled.html>
45. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/zm10hbaDNdE?rel=0>
46. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/a4rGPmhkqds?rel=0>
47. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/zitePgSEeRY?rel=0>
48. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/JhmZhTXN4as?rel=0>
49. http://www.youtube.com/embed/YGOFU_M_YB8?rel=0
50. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/UV-UE0kwQbc?rel=0>

LJ (2012-06-30 00:06:50)

Woohoo!!! Thanks for including me and thanks for making my Saturday complete with a big list of Filofax blogs to read. Loving the pic, I think we'll be seeing that on quite a few filo dividers in the near future :o)

Steve Morton (2012-06-30 01:27:00)

I can make the image available in the right proportions for Personal and A5 if it helps.

Laurie (2012-06-30 03:02:16)

3 years! What a fun and amazing 3 years it's been. Happy Philofaxy-versary to both of us, Steve!

Jarfm.com (2012-06-30 03:47:35)

Love having a collection of posts like this! Puts a big smile on my face to see my own posts listed too :)

Last weeks took me nearly all week to read through on my train journeys to work as I didn't end up reading them all last weekend for some reason!

Right, off to do some reading and pondering what I can purchase next...

Maus (2012-06-30 06:24:08)

Please be so kind to add one for Pocket... ;-)

Butanben (2012-06-30 07:42:09)

I personally think that Esme should be nominated for the best commentator in the Philofaxy awards. Esme your guest post was just the best and most splendid thing I have read in a long time!!I think there are many grown ups, me included who share your love of stickers and a good Filofax.Pink is just the best colour too isn't it? And as for your chicken stickers... they are simply super duper!

Joseph David Quinton (2012-06-30 08:56:50)

Happy Anniversary, Steve and Laurie!

Steve Morton (2012-06-30 09:53:50)

Now available on the Files page

[1]<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/files.html>

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

DEM (2012-06-30 18:38:39)

Happy anniversary to you both!

MrsWinC (2012-06-30 23:02:20)

I *sorta* use 43 folders in my agenda, simply because I use the page-per-day style diary. I have the monthly dividers with the current month first and then the others behind (in order) with a blank note page so I can write down appointments, due dates, etc. without having to mess with the system I use on my two-pages-per-month layout. (Hope this makes sense to people!

– Wini @ postgradmama.wordpress.com

HM (2012-07-01 03:40:03)

Wow, thanks for including me!! I'll have lots to read today, since I couldn't get online yesterday... And I LOVE your picture!! Thanks a lot for making the file available to us!

BlogBook v0.4,
L^AT_EX 2_ε & GNU/Linux.
<http://www.blogbooker.com>

Edited: July 7, 2012