

# ***BlogBooker***

From Blog to Book.

[HTTP://PHILOFAXY.BLOGSPOT.COM](http://philofaxy.blogspot.com)



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# Chapter 1

## 2012

### 1.1 January

#### 2011 Some Numbers and Popular Posts (2012-01-01 00:00) - Steve Morton

Happy New Year to all our readers.  
Philofaxy is brought to you by.....

[1] [Nan602b.JPG]  
Nan

[2] [just+laurie.jpg]  
Laurie

[3] [steve200.jpg]  
Steve

2011 was a very successful year on a number of fronts for Philofaxy

- 7 years... Philofaxy is in to it's seventh year, which I suppose is a long time in the life of a blog
- 10 Philofaxy [4]meet ups in different parts of the world in 2011, after the first one in 2010, 2011 became the year of the Meet-up, let's look forward to more in 2012
- £500 the total of our charity donations, raised through your donations and earned through the commission earned from sales through the site
- 530 the number of posts in 2011 on Philofaxy, err yes we got a little carried away!
- 1450 the number of pages in the Philofaxy [5]year books of 2011, the latest quarter is now available for download
- 273,500 visits to Philofaxy in 2011, it was 112,000 in 2010
- 793,500 page views on Philofaxy in 2011, it was 280,000 in 2010



[6]

## The Top 10 Posts of 2011 (based on page views in 2011)

1. [7]Filofax Templates - This post dates back to 2009, but it gets the most visits each month! I occasionally up date it with the full list of or growing list of templates we now have available. Most visitors to the post come direct from Google searching for 'Filofax Templates' 100 % match I guess.
2. [8]Guest Post Task and Time Management with Filofax - Jotje - This has also proved to be a long standing favourite, this is the set up of Jotje's personal Malden, great post, I learnt a lot from this post, not only the content, but also how popular posts like this are.
3. [9]Filofax Buyers Guide - I created this over the Christmas/New Year holiday in 2010.
4. [10]Alternative refills for your Filofax - My discovery of QV Timer inserts lead to a lot of other similar posts this year including the almost never ending series of posts on [11]diaries for 2012
5. [12]Diary Inserts for 2012 Part 1 - I thought I was never going to get to the end of this series of posts, the more I looked on the web, the more I found! But I hope you have a better idea now of what is available out there.
6. [13]A Pocket Full of Life - Jotje The follow up to Jotje's earlier post this time she tackled the Pocket size and again it proved to be very popular.
7. [14]Time Management with Filofax Diary - A popular topic on Philofaxy, I predict that David's recent [15]guest post on this topic will be up here next year, it's just outside of the Top 10 at the moment...already!
8. [16]Printing your own Filofax Personal Pages With thanks to 'Nellie' for this one, I've since been expanding the number of Personal size pages available and printing them off successfully.
9. [17]Filofax Flex Review - Quite a memorable series of posts for me as most of them were written whilst I was in a hotel in UK, the package arrived the morning I was departing for UK.
10. [18]Filofax Germany The list wouldn't be complete without this post... when the €9 sale was announced, the whole Twitterverse went crazy! OK Filofax UK where is our £9 sale... hint! Thank you to Iris of [19]Filomaniac for the tip off!

Wishing you all a happy and healthy 2012

1. [http://3.bp.blogspot.com/\\_H4Rx8LSaPk/S4lhQ7y8lhI/AAAAAAAAAJk/JcMbKoD1Kzw/s200/Nan602b.JPG](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_H4Rx8LSaPk/S4lhQ7y8lhI/AAAAAAAAAJk/JcMbKoD1Kzw/s200/Nan602b.JPG)
2. [http://4.bp.blogspot.com/\\_CPeL-KIUmkw/S5Eerr9arBI/AAAAAAAAAJA/F99oKhu1w-k/s200/just+laurie.jpg](http://4.bp.blogspot.com/_CPeL-KIUmkw/S5Eerr9arBI/AAAAAAAAAJA/F99oKhu1w-k/s200/just+laurie.jpg)
3. [http://2.bp.blogspot.com/\\_nIPgNNV2SI/Tv8Fx0k-DHI/AAAAAAAAAKFM/Iv5N8G71IA4/s1600/steve200.jpg](http://2.bp.blogspot.com/_nIPgNNV2SI/Tv8Fx0k-DHI/AAAAAAAAAKFM/Iv5N8G71IA4/s1600/steve200.jpg)
4. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/search/label/Meet-Up>
5. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/11/philofaxy-yearbooks.html>
6. [http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-cu6qQSy46nE/Tn5oM8coZKI/AAAAAAAAAJqM/\\_ofHgrU63pw/s1600/PhilofaxySeptember11Challenge3.jpg](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-cu6qQSy46nE/Tn5oM8coZKI/AAAAAAAAAJqM/_ofHgrU63pw/s1600/PhilofaxySeptember11Challenge3.jpg)
7. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2009/11/filofax-templates.html>
8. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/12/guest-post-task-and-time-management.html>
9. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/12/filofax-buyers-guide.html>
10. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/09/alternative-refills-for-your-filofax.html>

11. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/09/diary-inserts-for-2012-part-1-of-many.html>
12. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/09/diary-inserts-for-2012-part-1-of-many.html>
13. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/08/pocket-full-of-life-guest-post-jotje.html>
14. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/03/time-management-with-filofax-diary.html>
15. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/12/my-gtd-set-up-david-popely-guest-post.html>
16. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/01/printing-your-own-filofax-personal.html>
17. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/05/flex-by-filofax-review.html>
18. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/09/filofax-germany.html>
19. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.com/>

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LJ (2012-01-01 02:16:16)

Thanks guys for a fabulous Philofaxy year. Your pages gave me advice when I was buying my first Filofax back in February and have been a constant source of inspiration ever since. I have been 'enabled' by everyone (much to my DFs delight I'm sure) and am now the very proud owner of various sizes and styles of FF and have even been 'enabling' other people - who now also love Philofaxy :o)

Thanks again and here's to more excitement and enrichment in 2012.

Happy New Year!!! xxx

katka (2012-01-01 06:07:11)

Happy New Year everyone.

And thanks Philofaxy team for a great year.

Alison Reeves (2012-01-01 06:52:13)

Thanks for all the hard work team! Happy New Year to everyone. Xxx

jen (2012-01-01 13:54:00)

Happy new year to everyone! Here's to health, happiness and world peace in 2012 ...

Thanks to Steve, Nan and Laurie for making this blog such a special place for all us crazy people!

Roanne (2012-01-01 17:33:10)

You guys rock. 'Nuff said.

SNARLing: (2012-01-01 21:36:43)

ditto.

happy new year

## **Date for your Filofax - 8 January 2012 (2012-01-01 09:30) - 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 8th January from 10am (US East Coast time), 3pm London time, 4 pm Paris time 9pm Jakarta 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 8th January 2012.

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

2. <http://steve-morton.com/2011/07/30/improving-your-skype-audio/>

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## Reader Question - Which Punch? (2012-01-02 00:00) - Steve Morton

Over Christmas I had a couple of emails from folks asking me about paper punches '*Which is the best punch to buy?*'

Now if you own more than one size of Filofax... and frankly who doesn't...<cough> ! Then buying individual punches for each size from Filofax works out quite expensive. Filofax Germany do sell a '[1]Multi-fit' punch, but it is also quite expensive at just under €70 plus shipping. The multi fit does Mini, Pocket, Personal and A5

As I've said before I do not recommend the [2]Filofax plastic portable 6 hole punch sold by Filofax, they only punch a single sheet at a time and after using one for a few months the holes in the paper aren't that clean a cut. You would be better off putting the money towards a proper metal paper punch.

So here are a selection of alternatives with links and references to reviews for different sizes.



[3]

So if you have a Mini, Pocket or Personal size Filofax I recommend the [4]Rapseco Diary Punch 66P which I reviewed back August 2009. It is still available from Amazon and I know lots of people have bought this punch. It has moving punch blocks that allows you to set it for Personal and Pocket size and it also works for Mini size too. I have one I bought myself and I use it quite frequently for punching

pages I've printed off myself.

IFRAME: [5][http://rcm-uk.amazon.co.uk/e/cm?lt1=\\_blank &bc1=000000 &IS2=1 &bg1=FFFFFF &fc1=000000 &lc1=0000FF &t=pemburyvillag-21 &o=2 &p=8 &l=as1 &m=amazon &f=ifr &md=0M5A6TN3AXP2JHJBWT02 &asins=B000J6EXM6](http://rcm-uk.amazon.co.uk/e/cm?lt1=_blank&bc1=000000&IS2=1&bg1=FFFFFF&fc1=000000&lc1=0000FF&t=pemburyvillag-21&o=2&p=8&l=as1&m=amazon&f=ifr&md=0M5A6TN3AXP2JHJBWT02&asins=B000J6EXM6)

For A5 punches there is the [6]Filofax A5 punch. This only punches A5 size. This one is available through Amazon slightly cheaper than Filofax, although shipping might alter the total price.

IFRAME: [7][http://rcm-uk.amazon.co.uk/e/cm?lt1=\\_blank &bc1=000000 &IS1=1 &bg1=FFFFFF &fc1=000000 &lc1=0000FF &t=pemburyvillag-21 &o=2 &p=8 &l=as1 &m=amazon &f=ifr &md=0M5A6TN3AXP2JHJBWT02 &asins=B002DPLI24](http://rcm-uk.amazon.co.uk/e/cm?lt1=_blank&bc1=000000&IS1=1&bg1=FFFFFF&fc1=000000&lc1=0000FF&t=pemburyvillag-21&o=2&p=8&l=as1&m=amazon&f=ifr&md=0M5A6TN3AXP2JHJBWT02&asins=B002DPLI24)

There is also an A5 adjustable punch available from Amazon made by Rexel. This comes with 4 punch dies but it can be fitted with 6, and then it would punch A4, A5, Personal, Pocket and Mini sizes, but you would have to adjust the hole spacing on the punch to match the size you were punching for. One other advantage of this particular punch is if you are using a Quo Vadis, Franklin Covey, Day Timer, Mulberry organiser you would be able to set the hole spacing to match those of the organiser as these are all different to Filofax A5 size.

IFRAME: [8][http://rcm-uk.amazon.co.uk/e/cm?lt1=\\_blank &bc1=000000 &IS2=1 &nou=1 &bg1=FFFFFF &fc1=000000 &lc1=0000FF &t=philofaxy-21 &o=2 &p=8 &l=as4 &m=amazon &f=ifr &ref=ss\\_til &asins=B000J6C09Y](http://rcm-uk.amazon.co.uk/e/cm?lt1=_blank&bc1=000000&IS2=1&nou=1&bg1=FFFFFF&fc1=000000&lc1=0000FF&t=philofaxy-21&o=2&p=8&l=as4&m=amazon&f=ifr&ref=ss_til&asins=B000J6C09Y)

[9]KW Trio-9170 6 hole adjustable punch this punch will do A5, Personal and Pocket sizes Also available [10]here, this punch is very reasonably priced for it's specification. However, the cost of shipping it outside of Holland can increase the price considerably. Try to source it locally if you can.



[11]



[12]

If you have an A4 Filofax, then any standard 4 hole punch will suit, I picked one up at my local supermarket for under €15, they come in quite a range of prices according to how many sheets you want to punch at the same time. I just bought a standard desk top one that punch up to 15 sheets at a time. More than adequate for most peoples needs.

IFRAME: [13][http://rcm-uk.amazon.co.uk/e/cm?lt1=\\_blank &bc1=000000 &IS2=1 &nou=1 &bg1=FFFFFF &fc1=000000 &lc1=0000FF &t=philofaxy-21 &o=2 &p=8 &l=as4 &m=amazon &f=ifr &ref=ss\\_til &asins=B000J69ECU](http://rcm-uk.amazon.co.uk/e/cm?lt1=_blank&bc1=000000&IS2=1&nou=1&bg1=FFFFFF&fc1=000000&lc1=0000FF&t=philofaxy-21&o=2&p=8&l=as4&m=amazon&f=ifr&ref=ss_til&asins=B000J69ECU)

If you have any other 'punch' questions, please pop them in to the comments and I will do my best to answer them.

And if you have a 'reader question' then please email us at *philofaxy@gmail.com* we are always happy to answer them directly or via a post like this.

1. <http://www.filofax.de/store/paperessentialsdetails.asp?productId=755>
2. <http://tidd.ly/1503ed39>
3. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-ruxcwszR5dc/SosI5CaeSYI/AAAAAAAAEBQ/zbfm0tU5-fI/s1600/PF66POB1.jpg>
4. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2009/08/rapesco-diary-punch-66-p.html>
5. [http://rcm-uk.amazon.co.uk/e/cm?lt1=\\_blank&bc1=000000&IS2=1&bg1=FFFFFF&fc1=000000&lc1=0000FF&t=pemburyvillag-21&o=2&p=8&l=as1&m=amazon&f=ifr&md=0M5A6TN3AXP2JHJBWT02&asins=B000J6EXM6](http://rcm-uk.amazon.co.uk/e/cm?lt1=_blank&bc1=000000&IS2=1&bg1=FFFFFF&fc1=000000&lc1=0000FF&t=pemburyvillag-21&o=2&p=8&l=as1&m=amazon&f=ifr&md=0M5A6TN3AXP2JHJBWT02&asins=B000J6EXM6)
6. <http://tidd.ly/28446635>
7. [http://rcm-uk.amazon.co.uk/e/cm?lt1=\\_blank&bc1=000000&IS1=1&bg1=FFFFFF&fc1=000000&lc1=0000FF&t=pemburyvillag-21&o=2&p=8&l=as1&m=amazon&f=ifr&md=0M5A6TN3AXP2JHJBWT02&asins=B002DPLI24](http://rcm-uk.amazon.co.uk/e/cm?lt1=_blank&bc1=000000&IS1=1&bg1=FFFFFF&fc1=000000&lc1=0000FF&t=pemburyvillag-21&o=2&p=8&l=as1&m=amazon&f=ifr&md=0M5A6TN3AXP2JHJBWT02&asins=B002DPLI24)
8. [http://rcm-uk.amazon.co.uk/e/cm?lt1=\\_blank&bc1=000000&IS2=1&nou=1&bg1=FFFFFF&fc1=000000&lc1=0000FF&t=philofaxy-21&o=2&p=8&l=as4&m=amazon&f=ifr&ref=ss\\_til&asins=B000J6C09Y](http://rcm-uk.amazon.co.uk/e/cm?lt1=_blank&bc1=000000&IS2=1&nou=1&bg1=FFFFFF&fc1=000000&lc1=0000FF&t=philofaxy-21&o=2&p=8&l=as4&m=amazon&f=ifr&ref=ss_til&asins=B000J6C09Y)
9. <http://www.othw.nl/webmall/kantoorbenodigdheden/perforators/meer-gaats-perforators/perforator-6gaats-organizers-zwart/pd-25738?osCsid=b6172ecc32da9928921c59ae137d1524>
10. <http://www.hummelman.com/details.asp?code=189170&origin=products>
11. [http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-bj0K42877DU/Tv3\\_zPgV5TI/AAAAAAAAAKE4/WCtg006gs1g/s1600/punch\\_box\\_2.JPG](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-bj0K42877DU/Tv3_zPgV5TI/AAAAAAAAAKE4/WCtg006gs1g/s1600/punch_box_2.JPG)
12. [http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-rLpSbJsuHRs/Tv3\\_2nroquI/AAAAAAAAAKFA/JOPZudnSUro/s1600/punch\\_1.jpg](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-rLpSbJsuHRs/Tv3_2nroquI/AAAAAAAAAKFA/JOPZudnSUro/s1600/punch_1.jpg)
13. [http://rcm-uk.amazon.co.uk/e/cm?lt1=\\_blank&bc1=000000&IS2=1&nou=1&bg1=FFFFFF&fc1=000000&lc1=0000FF&t=philofaxy-21&o=2&p=8&l=as4&m=amazon&f=ifr&ref=ss\\_til&asins=B000J69ECU](http://rcm-uk.amazon.co.uk/e/cm?lt1=_blank&bc1=000000&IS2=1&nou=1&bg1=FFFFFF&fc1=000000&lc1=0000FF&t=philofaxy-21&o=2&p=8&l=as4&m=amazon&f=ifr&ref=ss_til&asins=B000J69ECU)

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Josh (2012-01-02 00:17:47)

I have the Rapesco and like it very much! Punches neatly and with small size holes. I keep it at home. I have a regular adjustable punch at work set to do three holes, I punch one end and then flip and punch the other. This works well enough, but the hole punches are too big so I have huge holes which allow the page to move around in the binder more than I would like it to! Generally though, this arrangement is working well for me. I might buy another Rapesco to keep at work, but I am not sure I want to spend the money.

Rabbit (2012-01-02 02:44:45)

I purchased a personal sized Filofax punch as I could then swing it around and use it to punch A5 pages also (thanks to the handy tips from Philofaxy). I make a lot of personalised dividers for myself and punch a lot of uni papers for filing, so I thought I could justify the cost. I have, however, been utterly disappointed by it. Perhaps I received a dud, but it has rough movement that I find very difficult to use (and I'm no butterfly with my hands) - complete waste of money in my case. I bought a \$3 stainless steel, single-hole punch (post included) from china on ebay and adore it. Yes I need to draw little guiding circles from other pre-punched pages, yes it takes a teeny while longer to punch individual holes, but it's never let me down. I don't mind that the holes are a little bigger than the filofax punch, never really notice it.

Lynne (2012-01-02 02:55:44)

Following Steve's previous advice, I also use the Rapesco for pocket, personal and A5 (flipping the page over for A5). So far, the quality of cut is still fine. They are available on eBay UK at present for just over £10 with free PP.

Miss.Oakden (2012-01-02 03:33:34)

I do exactly the same as Lynne does although. I'm pretty sure my Rapesco was only about £5 off eBay. I've recommended it to all my friends

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-01-02 07:03:58)

I have a Rapesco punch and it puckers the paper when it punches! I don't know if I can return it for fixing or replacement or something...

Scoot (2012-01-02 07:35:48)

Hole punches can normally be sharpened by repeatedly punching aluminium foil. 3 or 4 layers of foil punched 6 times will usually do it, but it never takes more than 20 times.

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-01-02 07:38:07)

I bought a filofax A5 punch and although I use it a lot, **I hate it!**

It punches about 2 (or 3 at most) pages at a time. If three, then I have to lean my entire weight on it to get it to punch (and it's not that it's now blunt, it has always been like that). Then the punched discs get stuck in the holes and so when I go to empty it (involving the need for needle-nosed pliers to remove the back) I then have to use fine forceps to pull the paper discs out (as they don't fall into the 'tray' underneath *at all*).

It cost a lot of money and I cannot recommend it at all.

Maybe I will buy a Rapesco from eBay then and do the page-flipping trick to punch A5.

Steve Morton (2012-01-02 09:28:09)

@TPS what thickness paper are you using? And how many sheets. I've not had that problem with mine at all. Where did you get it from?

Steve Morton (2012-01-02 09:29:24)

@Amanda I find I have to clean out my Filofax A5 punch every time I use it, but I've never found it that hard to use.

Maybe you could try one of the KW Trio ones instead?

The Slow Coach (2012-01-02 10:11:32)

Like Amanda, I've found the Filofax A5 punch very awkward to use due to its poor design, which is very disappointing given how expensive they are.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-01-02 10:38:12)

@Steve, I use normal printer-type paper, about 70/80 gsm I guess. And only 1 sheet at once! I might try it with more sheets to see if it still does the same thing. It's from ebay.

I also have a plastic A5 punch. Of course it makes the holes go everywhere! But also it makes at least 1 or 2 of the holes not get cut properly, instead, the paper just breaks! On average, I might get 2 clean holes punched, 2 or 3 that aren't fully cut, that I have to pull off, and 1 or 2 that don't punch properly, and just tear the paper!

Hummpfh!!!

Lynne (2012-01-02 10:54:09)

TPS, my Rapesco comfortably punches 5-6 sheets at a time. It has been heavily used at work for the last 6 months with no problems.

The Liar (2012-01-02 11:33:10)

This comment has been removed by the author.

The Liar (2012-01-02 11:36:19)

Thanks for mentioning me today, Steve. I have the Rapesco and the filofax A5 punch as well. It is the A5 filofax punch which made me go buy the KW Trio. The filofax A5 was not easy to punch with and the amount of pressure

I have to exert to get the holes made is out of proportion. (This one was bought in ebay.) The Rapesco and KW Trio (and the standard A4 4 hole punch as well) has enough overhang on the top portion of the punch which helps putting pressure to punch the paper while the filofax punch has not enough overhang (which is what I used to think). But upon reading Steve's reply to TPS above, it makes me think something is not right with our punches. On the other hand, I saw another punch in eBay (only does A5 size though) which looks a lot like the A5 filofax one but is more square (<http://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/390311233082>) and costs as much as the filofax one. This one (according to the seller) punches 6 sheets which is very similar to the Rapesco and the KW Trio. Would be interesting to see if anyone has bought this one.

Virelai (2012-01-02 12:17:45)

i have the KW Trio, found it in a shop in Germany (for other Germans: McPaper!) and it really does the job. I punched covers etc. for personal, pocket and also mini size. With mini, it's the same as pocket, I just do 5 holes instead of 6.

Tim (2012-01-02 12:31:27)

Early Time Manager (TMI) hole punches come up on eBay from time-to-time and are very well made and robust. Mine is now 25 years old! They can be adjusted to punch 4 or 6 holes for either TMI A5 or TMI original pages. Filofax personal size has the same hole spacings so can also be punched without problem. Unfortunately Filofax A5 is not compatible with TMI A5 and the only way is to punch two sets of 3 holes separately.

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-01-02 13:38:18)

I read that the KW punch "has ample weight for its size, and a nice bottom to keep it from slipping"

Much like myself!

:-)

bluebonnetreads (2012-01-03 01:28:43)

I'm rather curious if any of these punches are available in the US, or what punches are available in the US besides these (Day-Timer or Franklin Covey punches perhaps). I'm also not motivated enough to go look it up right now! I've been using a single hole-punch which belongs to my in-laws - so who knows how old it is, but it looks just like ones you can buy in the grocery store for about \$3. It's worked fine for everything I've punched so far, even though the hole is bigger than the FF hole. That hasn't affected anything as far as I can tell, though. Just made new dividers today with its help!

Anita (2012-01-03 03:09:27)

I can also recommend the Rapesco punch, & have used it for both mini & personal sizes :)

Mirko @ Orga-dich.de (2012-01-03 03:17:24)

Some time ago I bought a Leitz-Punch with adjustable space between the holes. This way I'm able to punch paper for different formats including A5 and Pocket.

Gerard (2012-01-03 04:58:55)

The Success punches also work well, but aren't adjustable for more than one paper size.

@Amanda Lol at your comment :-D

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-01-03 13:19:37)

@Gerard

:-)

mstraat (2012-01-03 13:50:07)

@bluebonnetreads - last year I emailed Rapesco from their website to inquire about availability of their punches as I am in the US. At that time they did not have a distributor but sent me the 66P and postage was not much. Total I recall was less than \$20. And the punch works quite well.

Josh (2012-01-03 23:21:01)

@bluebonnetreads I was able to purchase the rapesco through a seller on amazon.com. It was priced reasonably and arrived in the mail incredibly quickly! I think I googled the entire product code to find it. I highly recommend. Am surprised daytimer and dayrunner do not make punches

The Chief Executive (2012-01-09 19:07:51)

Excellent blog - which I found after purchasing my second filofax (an A5 black Finchley found in TKMaxx sale for £25) as a bargain lover I was also tempted to purchase the KW-trio hole punch linked to at DinoDirect in the article above (cost just £14.29 free shipping to UK) but luckily at the last minute I was dissuaded by the terrible reviews DinoDirect gets online (google them and add the word 'scam'!). They may be ok, but I'm not risking it - If it looks too good to be true, it probably is!

Thanks for all the great tips on this site. Keep up the great work!

Steve Morton (2012-01-11 12:59:04)

Thanks for that tip off. I'm now going to remove Dino Direct from this posting... Don't want anyone else suffering

Ray Blake (2012-01-28 16:34:19)

Happy to report my punch arrived from Dino Direct this week.

The Chief Executive (2012-01-29 12:54:51)

Ray - very pleased (pleased as punch...) your order from DinoDirect arrived safely. How long did it take? I'm tempted.

Ray Blake (2012-01-29 13:03:31)

Three weeks from placing the order. They sent me a free gift, too: a cute little cable tidy.

Unknown (2012-03-20 19:14:49)

I hope its ok to post these links here I wouldn't have know to start even looking without your post - i am hugely grateful.

As a result of the suggestion to use a rexel punch I looked into the cost.

the rexel V430/420 apparently punches between 25 and 30 sheets at a time.

The rexel 420 is about £60 on amazon but is also available from various other sources. I believe its been replaced by the V430 the cheapest source i could find was <http://www.jamdup.com/rexel-adj-4-hole-punch-black-v430-08909.html>

at £32

finding the additional pins or dies is much more complex the key is their designator ACC20120033 or Rexel Additional Punch Pin for V430ADJ (420) Punch

the only UK supplier I could find was <http://www.mayfairstationers.co.uk/rexel-v430adj-hole-punch-black-p-11348.html>

two punches come to £25.20 plus shipping

the RRP is actually £10.50 it's finding them thats the hard part, we may be able to order it from an ordinary rexel supplier

the rexel data sheet for the additional punches can be downloaded here <http://www.rexeurope.com/rexel/en/gb/p/139/20120033/replacement-cutter-head-for-v430-punch.aspx>

whilst the data sheet for the Rexel V430ADJ (420) is here <http://www.rexeurope.com/rexel/en/gb/p/204/08909/v430-4-hole-punch-black.aspx>

can i just say at present i have bought none of these items so I can report on their effectiveness but spending £70+ for the one hole punch i will need for the rest of my life and I get to choose what paper i want in my filofax seems like a sensible option

## Free For All Tuesday No 48 (2012-01-03 00:00) - Steve Morton

So today or yesterday was the first day back at work for most people. But let us help you answer any Filofax questions you might have.

Fire away with your Filofax questions.

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livermac69 (2012-01-03 01:30:50)

To Do pages on coloured paper for A5, do they exist or am I looking at printing my own?

Suejeong (2012-01-03 02:10:14)

Hi, Happy new year first!

Well, I want to ask about my Filo problem. I got this Denim pocket size Filofax last year, and almost used it 2 3 monthes, then I changed to the other cover and put Denim in the box(that comes with diary when you buy it). And the problem is after 5 6 monthes later I took out to use it for 2012, but found a white fungus on the cover. But the thing is I put them with all other my diaries ( Some filofax leather one, some franklin covey one, and others..).All other diaries are ok but this Denim. And I asked how to treat this problem to US or UK filofax, but it didn't help to solve the problem. I wanted to have special treatment not to affect any harm on it, but they told me to ask to Dry cleaner.

I ask them in the first place because they are the master craftman, and specialist for Diaries in the world. That's why I wanted to hear from them to find out what the root problem to make this mold specially in regular shape. And I have a question, why only this Denim has a problem? the thing is the white fungus has regular pattern on the cover, it spots with same space. Is it because the glue under the cover?

I really want to use this one, it is still new but fungus. Please help and advice for me!!

The Liar (2012-01-03 04:25:37)

Happy new year everyone... Has anyone heard about Microfile? I saw a friend yesterday and he was holding a A5 sized one very similar to Lyndhurst and the holes correspond to personal. A5 paper punched to match personal hole spacing. Was interesting as the paper they have does not bleed for pens. Anybody ever come across one?

Scoot (2012-01-03 05:42:22)

Liar,

I don't think Microfile exist anymore; I hope that I am wrong.

Their binders were more realistically priced and some were of leather and good quality, with some interesting designs and colours. Many binders were cheap, made from imitation leather that itself was of poor quality. Rings matched Filofax in at least "personal" and "A5".

Their contents were different and therefore interesting, though not significantly different to Filofax.

Butanben (2012-01-03 06:47:50)

@suejong.If your planner is a pocket Urban, then the denim fabric is waxed slightly. The cleaner for this you can get at an outdoor activities shop, eg Oswald Bailey and is the same one you use for cleaning waterproof macs. It can be expensiveish though and of course no guarantees that it will work either of course.But worth asking in the shop maybe?? My Urban has stained easily, but not with the white fungus you are describing.

Nikki (2012-01-03 09:25:00)

Happy New Year all!!

I'm Nikki & I'm new to Philofaxy. This site was recommended to me by someone whom I purchased a filofax from. I too have a love of filofaxes & I have owned at least over one hundred in my life-time.

It is my 35th birthday on 13th January so I treated myself to several new filofaxes. I was going to buy just the one but that naughty little voice in my head kept saying 'buy it, just buy it'.

I will list all the filofaxes I have bought as my birthday treat -

A5 Cuban red

A5 Cuban brown

A5 Finsbury raspberry

A5 Finsbury aqua  
A5 Finsbury pink  
A5 Finsbury green  
A5 Kendel brown  
A5 Lyndhurst black  
A5 Chameleon raspberry  
A5 Malden vintage pink  
A5 Siena cinnamon

Personal Finsbury raspberry

WHAT A BIRTHDAY TREAT!!! My partner thinks I've gone completely mad!! Have I gone mad??? I have had a filofax addiction for most of my life but this is the first time I have bought so many at one time. I do love them all though. I am currently using the a5 Cuban red but I see myself switching to the a5 Malden vintage pink as it's so beautiful.

I use my filofax to organise my busy life as a mum of two. In the past I used a filofax for university everyday and couldn't go a day without it.

I had a nice collection prior to my birthday haul which I will have to list another time.

I am looking for a a5 Cuban zip in red if anyone knows where I can buy one or if anyone is selling one, I'd be grateful.

I would love to go to the next meet-up in London so please can I be added to the mailing list for that?

I love your website & I read it everyday. Thank you Phliofaxy for existing! Just to reassure I'm not mad I'm just filofax mad & I wish I could have a whole house full of filofaxes lol...

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL xxx

Dollface (2012-01-03 10:48:09)

holy bejesus. that is a lot of filofax!

i don't even want to think what that would all cost

sits in the corner holding her little amazona remembering fondly when she thought spending £50 on a diary was total extravagance\*

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-01-03 10:51:33)

Hi Nikki, are you the person who bought the A5 raspberry Finsbury from me on ebay? Did it get to you safe and sound?

Happy New Year! :)

The Liar (2012-01-03 11:14:48)

@Scoot Thanks a lot for the info. I am trying to 'enable' him but he is adamant with the microfile and has already borrowed the guillotine and the Rapesco. Still pushing forwards to bring him into the fold! :-)

@Nikki Phew.. I thought I had the ebay red mist in the last 8 weeks but that is a tall order.. Especially A5 Siena.. Where did you buy that? Would be chuffed to see one in hand, me thinks.. Please do post a photo of the Siena please, please..

Steve Morton (2012-01-03 11:51:10)

@Suejeong Hi.

Regarding your 'white fungus' I wonder if the cupboard you stored it in was a little damp may be? Or if the denim is treated in some way then may be it has reacted to the lack of fresh air circulating around it.

A dry cleaner would seem a sensible suggestion. Or a foam carpet cleaner so there is the minimum of moisture. Try a small area with a cotton bud and some cleaner to see if that will remove the fungus before you tackle the whole area.

Steve

Nikki (2012-01-03 12:03:05)

I bought most from ebay but they were brand new. I will take some photos soon to show them. Today i bought the siena a5 brand new and boxed from ebay for just £50.00! I've read they retail at £150.00 so i got a nice bargain.

Nice to meet you all on here.

@ Kate, hi yes i got your lovely finsbury a5 thanks for that i love it! If you have any others for sale do let me know i love increasing my collection.

Nikki

xxx

J (2012-01-03 13:10:51)

Am I the only one out there second guessing the FriXions? As much as I love them for their flexibility, I got to thinking about their archival qualities the other day while setting up for 2012.

Really, I asked myself while packing away my 2011 FriXion covered pages: "will I be able to look back on these in a few years?"

I know there are those out there who throw their diary pages out at the end of each year, but to this day I LOVE looking back at pages of the past. And now I'm wondering if convenience should really rank above durability and longevity.

Any thoughts? Since I switched over to FC DPP sheets this year, I'm thinking about testing out a pack of simple, Sharpie extra fine points due to their low cost, permanence, and color range since the sheets are a higher quality than FF ones.

Thoughts? Suggestions? Anyone else worried about the archival qualities with FriXions?

Scoot (2012-01-03 14:26:55)

It occurs to me that the title "Filofax collector" gives a degree of legitimacy to the activity, also justification to collect more.

Rori (2012-01-03 14:33:13)

@Nikkie Super impressive! :D

@J I quit using Frixions after some things disappeared from my planner...EEK!

John (2012-01-03 15:20:32)

First workday back means I get to fill my old Durham Personal zip with a new day per page - like the first day of school . . .

Filofreak (2012-01-03 17:53:43)

@Nikki

Wow, it appears that I no longer hold the record on most Filofaxes. That is a very nice birthday treat! You should display all of them together and take photos of them so we can all see. Happy Birthday!

Jy11 (2012-01-03 19:36:06)

@Nikki: this is THE birthday treat! I am jealous! :D

@everyone: Is that a insert compatible with pocket size that are not made by Filofax? I know the FC works ok with personal size but can't find anything for pocket. Any suggestions?

Josh (2012-01-03 20:43:02)

@J I have just completed the shortest love affair imaginable with FriXions. I bought my first pair a week ago, the friXion point, in red and black, and was in love. Bought a .7mm brown one from jetpens.com. Love even more. Then realized that they are likely not permanent! I love how they write and I love that I can clean up my horrible handwriting and all mistakes, but I cannot use pens which are so probably not actually permanent. I am using the brown one to "pencil in" my dpp and Mo2P, and a Pilot G-Tec-C4 black .4mm gel pen for day to day. I could not go back to my bic 4 color pens after using gel pens for a week, especially with the small lined spaces in the dpp. The fine point works beautifully for these. Shame about the frixions.

kanalt (2012-01-03 20:59:05)

@J - You know how much I love my Frixions. I hadn't thought of their archival status. I hope I am not disap-

pointed. I used to use the Sharpie pens (you mentioned markers, so I don't know if we're talking about the same product) prior to the Fixions and I liked them as well. I do have two issues with them though - they tend to bleed through the Filofax paper somewhat, though I wouldn't say it was unbearable (at least to me). My other issue is that the barrel for each pen color is the same, minus a few stripes which represented the color of the ink. If you have them laid out before you, it's not a problem. But if you keep them in a bag (like I do), it's a pain in the neck to figure out which pen is what color. I had to take them all out to find the color I was looking for. It's not a deal-breaker really; just annoying to me. Overall, if you're thinking of switching to them, I do think they're worth it. I hope that helps!

Ray Blake (2012-01-04 02:55:06)

@JY11, WH Smith make pocket paper inserts that are very, very nearly the same size as Filofax Pocket paper.

Sandra (2012-01-04 08:12:30)

@jy11. Barnes and Noble sold a pocket sized calendar refill for July 2011-Dec 2012. Some of the spacing is tight, but I don't mind it. Isbn 978 059415264 4

@Nikki. Happy birthday early, and wow! Sounds like a lovely collection.

J (2012-01-04 11:50:24)

@Josh- I'm glad I'm not alone! I also completely fell in love with writing with them, but in the long run what is the point of convenience if it doesn't last?

@Kanalt- I was talking about the actual Sharpie markers. I've used, and still use the pens quite a bit, but not in my planner. While I love how the Sharpie pen writes, and the small color indicator isn't a big problem for me, I found that EVERY one I bought would have the same problem: the paint or covering on the barrel would chip off. Whether it was in my hand or in my pen bag, I'd find little paint chips all over the place and it drives me nuts!

I stopped at Staples yesterday, and ended up picking up a pack of Pilot V5s and I'm loving them so far. Of course, I also had to buy a bottle of white out, but I'd rather have that than risk losing all of my planner contents!

Novagirl (2012-01-04 22:08:52)

Just wanted to put in a big THANK YOU to Laurie and some other folks here. You all gave me some super advice around Dec 23 as I was making a final decision on purchasing my first Filo. I got my A5 Aston today, and it's lovely! Now working on inserts for 2012... Thanks for all your help, I am sure I will be back with more questions!

Novagirl (2012-01-04 22:09:06)

Just wanted to put in a big THANK YOU to Laurie and some other folks here. You all gave me some super advice around Dec 23 as I was making a final decision on purchasing my first Filo. I got my A5 Aston today, and it's lovely! Now working on inserts for 2012... Thanks for all your help, I am sure I will be back with more questions!

Jy11 (2012-01-06 01:07:14)

@Ray & Sandra: I'll try to find them and see how work for me. Thank you for the suggestions!



[1]

Firstly, thank you to Filofax UK for supplying me with the Cuban Zip for review.

The zipped range of organisers from Filofax are not high in numbers. In a [2]recent post I asked for peoples thoughts on zip or clasp closures. As you will see from the comments some people like the extra security that a zip organiser gives them whilst others prefer the 'speed' of being able to open and access their information.

The point of this review is to look at the Cuban Zip in detail and pick out the differences and the features contained in this particular model/design.

The Cuban Zip is of all leather construction, although the many pockets are lined with a textile material. The leather is smooth Italian leather and the one in the pictures is the saddle brown model with cream stitching. It is also available in chilli red.

The personal size Cuban Zip is slightly bigger in overall size compared to say a Malden Personal. It's also thicker, but it does have 30mm (internal diameter) rings rather than the 23mm rings in the Malden.



[3]



[4]



[5]



[6]

On the outside front there is a vertical pocket, this has a small flush magnetic closure on it. This pocket would be useful for tickets and papers you need speedy access to whilst travelling. It would save you those vital seconds to unzip the organiser. I'm surprised other organisers don't have this feature.



[7]

Opening the organiser after unzipping it on all three sides. My first thoughts were how small the pages looked inside the organiser! A combination of the slightly larger size and of course the large rings I suppose.

One of the first things you will want to know is 'Does it lay flat?' No not out of the box is doesn't. But I know with time and a little '[8]training' and some leather treatment it will improve, although I might need to borrow some dumb bells if I am going to follow Terri's example!



[9]

The inside left hand cover has seven credit card slots, although using the very top slot is a little fiddly next to the zip... not that I have that many anyway. There is also a business card slot at the bottom of the inside front. There are two individual lined vertical slot pockets and also a deep vertical zipped pocket.



[10]

On the inside right hand cover there is another vertical pocket, this will hold a personal size notepad if you require it.



[11]

There are two pen loops, one each side on the inside of the zip, so you shouldn't lose your pens. Both pen loops are leather with a short elasticated section included in them. These hold most pens I've tried nice and snugly.

The larger size rings certainly gives you more capacity. As a comparison I removed the standard page fill supplied with the Cuban and then replaced it with the pages I currently have in my Malden. The Malden I would say is about at capacity in terms of being comfortable to be able to turn the pages and to be able to close it easily. Although I have seen pictures of people with a lot more pages than I have in similar personal size Maldens!! But the Cuban just swallowed the contents of my Malden as if it was just a snack and it laughed back at me 'So where is the rest then? Plenty of room in here!'

I have tried my [12]two diary insert set up in the Cuban and it fits easily. In the Malden this same set up is a bit of a squeeze and I have to be selective as to what pages I include. Oh for a Malden Personal with 30mm rings!

Another advantage possibly to using the Cuban I discovered is because the organiser is wider than the clasp closing type it has the extra space required to be able to use Franklin Covey Tabbed pages without them sticking out the edge of the organiser.

To be honest I'm still undecided on my preference if I had to decide between the Malden or the Cuban Zip, both have their advantages and disadvantages for me. I will alternate between both to try them for more than just a few days, to see if there is one that I like more than the other.

Other zipped organiser posts:

- [13]Migrating to the Cuban Zip - Filofax Fixation
- [14]Never ask a lady her weight - Filofax Fixation
- [15]Filofax Cuban Zip Personal - The Life of the Perpetual Student
- [16]My Filofax My Love - Rori Rants

[EMBED]

Once again thank you to the people at Filofax for supplying me with this review sample.

1. [http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-5I2D6UhZ1fw/TtihtSY\\_ykI/AAAAAAAAAJ6w/YhhF3hPNs7I/s1600/IMG\\_0645.jpg](http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-5I2D6UhZ1fw/TtihtSY_ykI/AAAAAAAAAJ6w/YhhF3hPNs7I/s1600/IMG_0645.jpg)
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/11/zipped-or-clasp.html>
3. [http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-5A042Kk0Ins/TtihyP9TPhI/AAAAAAAAAJ64/s17kaiF\\_k2M/s1600/IMG\\_0646.jpg](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-5A042Kk0Ins/TtihyP9TPhI/AAAAAAAAAJ64/s17kaiF_k2M/s1600/IMG_0646.jpg)
4. [http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-xdk0kDYvw-8/Ttih3GYra9I/AAAAAAAAAJ7A/oISosGBLx2Y/s1600/IMG\\_0647.jpg](http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-xdk0kDYvw-8/Ttih3GYra9I/AAAAAAAAAJ7A/oISosGBLx2Y/s1600/IMG_0647.jpg)
5. [http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-adcxt2JsfIU/Ttih5-yNIqI/AAAAAAAAAJ7I/8W324XBchaw/s1600/IMG\\_0648.jpg](http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-adcxt2JsfIU/Ttih5-yNIqI/AAAAAAAAAJ7I/8W324XBchaw/s1600/IMG_0648.jpg)
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7. [http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-JjXlfSvqW3I/TtihpmVya\\_I/AAAAAAAAAJ6o/eibcurb0jno/s1600/IMG\\_0644.jpg](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-JjXlfSvqW3I/TtihpmVya_I/AAAAAAAAAJ6o/eibcurb0jno/s1600/IMG_0644.jpg)
8. <http://filofaxfixation.wordpress.com/2011/11/28/never-ask-a-lady-her-weight/>
9. [http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-rcr8tyXoax4/TtihYuo5adI/AAAAAAAAAJ6A/KGNBV1KqRtI/s1600/IMG\\_0655.jpg](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-rcr8tyXoax4/TtihYuo5adI/AAAAAAAAAJ6A/KGNBV1KqRtI/s1600/IMG_0655.jpg)
10. [http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-u5Nh6nzM1cU/TtihixnDrmI/AAAAAAAAAJ6Y/zIwzSdEKIhw/s1600/IMG\\_0651.jpg](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-u5Nh6nzM1cU/TtihixnDrmI/AAAAAAAAAJ6Y/zIwzSdEKIhw/s1600/IMG_0651.jpg)
11. [http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-fD07G0d71KU/Ttihlway2VI/AAAAAAAAAJ6g/oebDzoBxYUE/s1600/IMG\\_0652.jpg](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-fD07G0d71KU/Ttihlway2VI/AAAAAAAAAJ6g/oebDzoBxYUE/s1600/IMG_0652.jpg)
12. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/12/my-set-up-for-2012-part-deux.html>
13. <http://filofaxfixation.wordpress.com/2011/11/26/migrating-to-the-cuban-zip/>
14. <http://filofaxfixation.wordpress.com/2011/11/28/never-ask-a-lady-her-weight/>
15. <http://thelifeoftheperpetualstudent.blogspot.com/2011/10/cuban-zipped-filofax-d.html>
16. <http://www.rorirants.com/2011/04/my-filofax-my-love.html>

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pilgrim (2012-01-04 04:18:02)

I really love the look of the Cuban organiser in either form.

It just looks so classic so I'm going to be looking out for one over the next year, but I agree having bought an A5 graphic last year that the zip sometimes makes it more of an enclosed unit.

Nice to have the relative luxury of using either sort to find out.

Thanks for the review Steve

Happy New Year

Pilgrim

Iris (2012-01-04 08:25:18)

For those who would like to try a zipped Filofax without spending too much money: there are some nice non-leather ones as well.

I have a Graphic Zip in Brown (discontinued, but still available, e. g. from FF Sweden) and a Sketch Zip in Black and I love them: they are lightweight, durable, lay flat - and they have a notepad pocket!

Rori (2012-01-04 08:31:31)

Ahh, the humble unassuming Cuban Zip...glad to see it getting it's time in the spotlight :D

Great review! Can't wait to find out what you think after you've used it a while.

Lynne (2012-01-04 09:41:05)

Stop press. More sale items on Filofax UK site.

Sharon (2012-01-04 09:41:35)

I have been using my Cuban zipped for about a month now and I love it! It has taken some training to lie flat and it does pretty well, but with my FC inserts it is just perfect! Not sure I can see myself swapping binders in the near future!

Great review Steve, well done!

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-01-04 09:42:16)

I've had a zipped planner before for all the obvious reasons and find I never zip it. It seems like such a little thing to do but when it comes to doing it I never do it. I rarely clasp purses for the same reasons so I've stopped buying ones that zip across the top

~AspireToBe~ (2012-01-04 16:08:55)

One of my all time favorite Filofaxes!

Looks gorgeous (simple & elegant), fully functional (huge 30mm rings, 2 pen holders that stretch - I just clip my

4 pens to it w/o worries) and very secure (can relax knowing that the filo innards won't spill out in inappropriate places/situations)!

Now that I think about it, after using the personal Cuban Zip devotedly for the past 2 months or so, I'm not constantly perusing the internet shopping sites to purchase yet another filofax....

Filo-Happiness!!!

terriknits (2012-01-04 17:16:43)

that's weird. I made a comment on this post earlier and now it's gone. ?? Maybe I didn't fill out the catcha or something.

terriknits (2012-01-04 17:17:35)

maybe it got caught in the spam catcher because I used the term "hard core" in reference to my flat-training?

Steve Morton (2012-01-04 17:19:11)

Nothing trapped, you did leave a comment on 'My setup part 2' earlier... which is linked to this post..

Steve

terriknits (2012-01-04 17:45:08)

@steve - LOL! Now you see why I need a Filofax! ;-)

ehan (2012-01-04 18:11:53)

what a great details review! thanks steve. I still love my soft holborn zip , just wish it come with 30 ring.... maybe I will save up for Cuban next year.

SNARLing: (2012-01-04 18:13:49)

heh heh. she said "hard core"

i love the cuban and have been waivering back and forth on whether or not to get the personal zip before it's gone forever. but then some things are happening this year which may warrent something else and p &l was having a going once... going twice... sale on the a5 cuban saddle....i know i'm not an a5-er but i'm thinking i'm gonna need a family planner soon with our future move and having to take care of some stuff for my folks.... btw, has anyone here used the family organizer sheets? i should bring it up on a free for all forum... meanwhile, let me just say, i LOVE the compact osterley

## **A5 Flex Diary > A5 Filofax (2012-01-05 00:00) - Steve Morton**

Could a Flex A5 Diary be adapted to fit an A5 Filofax?

I have seen this idea mentioned a couple of times in the comments on previous diary posts. So I thought I would give it a try.

I have a Flex A5 July 2011-July 2012 diary from when I did the review earlier this year. The nice thing about the Flex diaries is that they use cotton cream paper, which of course isn't available in Filofax A5 size.

A Flex of course is a bound book so getting this in to a Filofax was I going to be brutal/destructive with no way back....if you are in any way squeamish you had better look away now....

So first of all I had to take the Flex Diary taken apart.



[1]

First of all I removed the cover, by using a craft knife at the join between the cover and the contents.



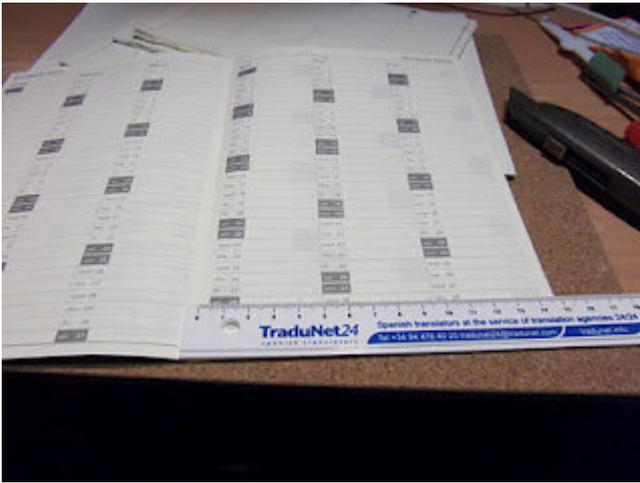
[2]

As you can see the book nature of the Flex is retained even though the cover has partially been removed.



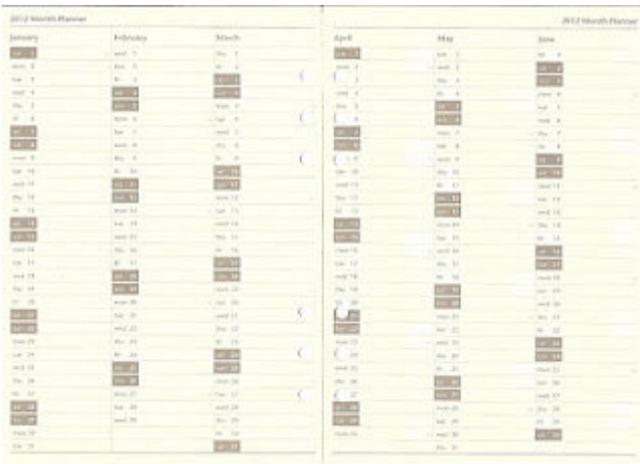
[3]

It then splits down in to five 'booklets' which are stitched, but the threads are easy to pull out and then the pages are then in loose leaf form.



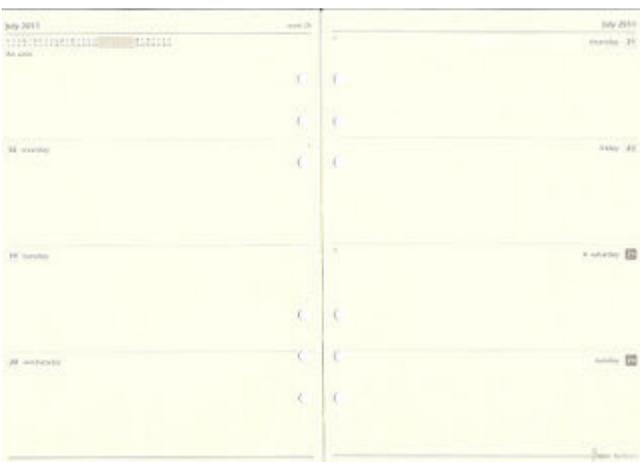
[4]

Measuring the pages they are exactly A5 size (210 x 148 mm) so there's not additional margin in the middle. I then used my trimmer to cut the A4 pages in to two to form the A5 pages.



[5]

Punching the pages with an A5 punch you can see in the above scan that the punched holes do go through some of the content on some of the pages such as this year planner. Although this isn't too bad I suppose.



[6]

On diary pages the punched holes don't cause any problems, so if you only wanted the diary pages from the Flex in the A5 Filofax then this would work fine.

If you are going to carry out similar surgery on a Flex diary can I please ask that you do it carefully, sharp craft knives are dangerous things in in-experienced hands, and don't leave them around where children can get to them.

1. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-hz1Gq9EzJfA/TvByqHtoRBI/AAAAAAAAKA8/PGrQfzxp-5U/s1600/DSCF0664.jpg>

2. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/---TQrzQ0HTs/TvByrHSeS8I/AAAAAAAAKBE/spsD03mS3B0/s1600/DSCF0665.jpg>
3. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-vMJF9qcb1kA/TvBySFF4AGI/AAAAAAAAAKBM/ZJEMJZNkXII/s1600/DSCF0666.jpg>
4. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-ns0QAYTDQ14/TvBytB4eFcI/AAAAAAAAAKBU/QzP1qFg8dCI/s1600/DSCF0667.jpg>
5. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-5GpECFfR3ZY/TvByvK64pCI/AAAAAAAAAKBc/3JrIGaX8wdc/s1600/FlexA5a.jpeg>
6. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-ua7qPwHRmh8/TvBywDMw6hI/AAAAAAAAAKBk/Fqvr7j7upiA/s1600/FlexA5b.jpeg>

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Jy11 (2012-01-05 00:57:24)

Nicely done job! I don't think the punched holes interfere that much!

Did you do that "hacking" because of the cotton cream paper?

I am very new to Filofax and I don't know much about A5 sizes. I have been researching and learning about the sizes I just bought: Personal & Pocket. But I am having an eye on A5s already! LOL

Steve Morton (2012-01-05 02:59:26)

Yes that is correct they don't sell A5 cotton cream diary inserts for Filiofax

Tim (2012-01-05 04:16:54)

I think it may have been me who started this back in June! Within days of my new A5 Flex arriving, I saw a couple of big disadvantages. Firstly I was not wanting to carry around a full 12 month diary, when I only need current weeks (for day to day planning). Secondly the inability to file any pages out of the fixed Flex notebook. So, I took a small (13mm) ring from an old Time Manager compact binder and fitted it inside my Flex. It looked great! This immediately gave me the benefits of the small Flex cover and flexible pockets, plus the ability to insert just the weeks I needed from the diary into the rings. It has worked very well! I just keep around four weeks worth of diary (last week, this week and the next two) plus essential current papers in the ring and use the slots for other Flex accessories (year planner and pen holders). 13mm is about the largest ring that will fit and still be able to close the Flex cover.

I sent a couple of pictures to Filofax to show them my idea, but - typically - I didn't even get an acknowledgement, let alone a reply.

I find the Flex cream pages work very well with all types of pen including Frixion. As Steve advises, just take care when using a modelling knife to slit the Flex stitching.

The Liar (2012-01-05 07:01:00)

@Tim that is amazing to hear. would you be kind enough to show your 'transplanting' skills with some photos so that we could have a go as well, please..? It is really impressive as it can revitalise some old binders that are being unused as the rings are dying...

Healthier And Wealthier (2012-01-05 07:10:04)

Thanks for this cool site! Newbie to Filofax here. Setting up my first one. It's hot pink! Sandra

terriknits (2012-01-05 10:00:50)

::head tilt:: what a great idea!! I predict a run on A5 Flex contents at Filofax now!

Tim (2012-01-05 10:15:11)

..and the best bit is that you get a perfect unpunched A5 sheet. So you can punch any configuration of holes to suit your particular binder ring - Filofax, Time Manager, Franklin, Day Runner, Quo Vadis - even for obsolete Microfile (mentioned a couple of days ago!)

Steve Morton (2012-01-05 10:22:50)

And the details on where to punch the holes... will be coming up in a near future post...

ace (2012-01-05 11:21:53)

Great idea! I don't have an A5 (yet!) and was a little put off by the lack of choice in paper and inserts.

ace (2012-01-05 11:22:25)

Hi Sandra! Sounds lovely! Which Filofax do you have?

maudie.made (2012-01-06 06:24:04)

What a great idea! I'm all for making things out of other things! And why do Filofax always have such a lack in colour?!

## Free For All Friday No 164 (2012-01-06 00:00) - Steve Morton

So the end of the first week of 2012, I hope you have recovered from the holidays and festivities.. Taking down the decorations and the tree tonight this being '12th night' So that is Christmas done for another year.... But it's the start of another exciting Philofaxy year.

Have you made any changes to your Filofax set up this year? Tell us about it or volunteer to write a guest post for us....

But as this is Friday please feel free to discuss anything Filofax related.

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JohnofJenkins (2012-01-06 01:23:46)

I had an excellent Christmas, thank you. Santa was very kind and brought me a Scanda to replace my Finsbury.

Gerard (2012-01-06 02:28:48)

Does anyone know of a good monthly plan template for forward planning? Any advice appreciated.

Ray Blake (2012-01-06 03:31:48)

Bargain alert: there are Filofax insert-compatible sticky index tabs for £1.20 at Tesco: <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2012/01/bargain-filofax-post-it-tabs-and-hack.html>

Jy11 (2012-01-06 03:55:17)

as Gerard started talking of templates...Does anyone have a personal size template for monthly and yearly budgeting? Or is there a precious link somewhere within this blog about budget sheets that i missed? :)

BTW, as a newbie I am getting tons of useful information from this blog's post and the readers comments! Thank you so much!

Ray Blake (2012-01-06 03:57:46)

@JY11 - you're looking for this: <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/12/budget-planner-template.html>

Jy11 (2012-01-06 04:21:53)

Great! Thank you!

Steve Morton (2012-01-06 04:34:19)

Ray beat me to it!

Download them and you can change them for your own headings if you wish.

Steve

Anke (2012-01-06 05:11:48)

Hello,

I'm still new here, but I have a question. I bought a used light blue Mini Finsbury on eBay last week and it is in pretty good condition, except for the fact that it smells awful. It seems to have come from a smoker's home and I am not exaggerating when I say it smells like it has spent the last months inside an ashtray. I have tried a couple of things already: hanging it outside for a day, spraying it with Febreze (don't kill me!) and I also tried the Nivea trick, but nothing worked so far. Do you have any tips for me? I would really like to use it as a wallet,

but I don't wanna carry it around THAT smelly :( Thanks a lot beforehand!

Scoot (2012-01-06 06:03:18)

Place the Filofax next to a saucer of vinegar, in a cupboard/covered by plastic container/large plastic bag, and it will attack the cause of the bad smell. Works a treat in the car!

Baking soda is another great odour eater, though I have not spread it on leather. Would work well on any material lining. Sprinkle on, vacuum out after 30 minutes.

Sari (2012-01-06 08:29:22)

@Scoot: Thanks for sharing this "anti-smell" methods!

I'm just trying it out on a binder and a mobile phone holder I won on ebay - hope it works. For how long would you recommend the vinegar-treatment?

@Anke: I know the problem quite well, and if you are a non-smoker the smell is really bothering..... my binder is not too bad, but I think the mobile phone holder comes from the home of a cigar smoker - so it's really smelly ;-). Well, they're both sitting under a plastic bag around a saucer with vinegar now - we'll see what will happen...

Scoot (2012-01-06 10:30:10)

Normally I leave the item by the vinegar overnight.

I would also try leaving it outside, in fresh air and sunlight, for the day.

SNARLing: (2012-01-06 10:37:15)

hello all and happy new year! (if i haven't said so already)

i am wondering if anyone has ever used the family organizer sheets and what their thoughts are on them. i imagine i could always make my own inserts with our lovely section of templates but i've yet to order my ream of a5 paper (in the us - why is there a difference in size of paper, us letter size 8.5x11 vs a5 size btw? does anyone know?) any insight would be most helpful! thanks!

Scoot (2012-01-06 10:39:59)

Addition:

I thought it obvious but ... Please note, that the vinegar suggested is clear vinegar, not "malt" brown vinegar that is the smelly type sprinkled on fish and chips.

Ray Blake (2012-01-06 12:20:50)

@Snarling: A5 is a metric size used throughout most of the world. It is half A4 size and twice A6 size. Its dimensions reflect the Lichtenberg ratio which gives it certain interesting properties as you can see here: <http://www.cl.cam.ac.uk/mgk25/iso-paper.html>. US Letter paper is a little more arbitrary.

Steve Morton (2012-01-06 13:37:36)

@SNARLing the US Junior Legal size looks quite close to A5, slightly narrower but a few mm taller:

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paper\\_size](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paper_size)

Steve

ailuros (2012-01-06 13:48:40)

Hello, this is my first time commenting. I hope this works.

I own precisely one Filofax, last used in 2005 because it's too small for current needs & wants. I think it's a Winchester, as it's stamped FILOFAX, MADE IN ENGLAND, REAL CALF, 4CLF 7/8. I can't imagine ever getting rid of it, but now I want an A5-sized Filofax. I won't need to tote it to many places, if any.

Ideally, I want it to be in a beautiful color, and - VERY important! - I want the pages to remain flat when I use it. Not too fond of brown and do not care for grey. Black is elegant, but I highly prefer color.

Opinions wanted on the Osterley, please! I'm in the U.S., so my color choices are limited to black, wine, and one other I believe. Has anyone seen it in wine? And, does it stay open?

Should I consider something other than the Osterley? I do want many pages for a variety of uses. Not that I've

quite figured out what those uses might be. I also like the idea of a diary/calendar large enough to fit lots of entries on.

Sorry to be so vague about function, but I've not used a Filofax in so long. The idea is that it will enable me to (finally) get organized.

I have a few more questions, but let's wait for later for those. Many thanks, everyone!

Tacinn (2012-01-06 14:34:35)

Happy New Year everyone!

I'm a little new to Filofax, just got one as a late Christmas present to help me stay organized. Trying to get rid of my tendency to write appointments and due dates down in notebook margins.

Anthony Mark Schellenberg (2012-01-06 15:13:57)

Does anyone know if filofaxusa/LettsCanada accepts returns if there is no damage? I got an A5 Holborn which is ok, but I don't personally like the penloop very much and I really should stick with the personal size so I want to return it and make use of the current 25 % off any malden which expires tomorrow. Problem is I haven't been able to get an answer to my email to Letts Canada yet and really don't want to be stuck with both.

Anthony (2012-01-06 15:14:11)

Hi Everyone,

I too own one Filofax a Personal size Red Metropol this does lay flat all the time. The only point I'd like to raise is that writing on the left hand side can become a little tight when the writing comes close to the rings. I like mine a lot and just beginning to customize the pages and layout. After the suggestion/recommendation by Steve I have just ordered a Rapesco 66P six hole punch. The price at Amazon yesterday £9.35 the price has come down from £15.29A Happy ans Peaceful New Year to all our readers

Anthony (2012-01-06 15:15:19)

Hi Everyone,

I too own one Filofax a Personal size Red Metropol this does lay flat all the time which I'm delighted with. The only point I'd like to raise is that writing on the left hand side can become a little tight when the writing comes close to the rings. I like mine a lot and just beginning to customize the pages and layout. After the suggestion/recommendation by Steve I have just ordered a Rapesco 66P six hole punch. The price at Amazon yesterday £9.35 the price has come down from £15.29A Happy and Peaceful New Year to all our readers

Anthony (2012-01-06 15:18:41)

My apologies for the duplicate entries and typos just getting the hang of leaving comments. Will do better next time.

Alison Reeves (2012-01-06 16:12:54)

Well, I've been trying to decide on what setup I want next year. I've had 'stuff' going on which means I've not been giving my full attention. However I've I think I've come to a momentous decision! I've decided that not only have I got far to many binders, but also that I just don't need a load of space so am going to try a Personal size instead of my A5.

I seem to make a habit of making life much more complicated than it needs to be!

The upshot is that I will putting a few of my filofax collection up for sale.

terriknits (2012-01-06 16:26:19)

@Anthony Mark - good luck with Letts Cda. Their customer "service" sucks so hard. I have returned a Filofax to them because it took way too long to arrive and they were very vague when I questioned when it was shipped and such.

If you look on the Filofax USA site there is a form you can print for the return. And send it to the Letts Canada address:

Letts Filofax Group

1885 Clements Road  
Unit 239  
Pickering, Ontario  
L1W 3V4

You can try emailing Tina Jennings directly to make sure they'll accept the return. tjennings (at)lettscanada(dot)com Any CDN emails to Filofax USA get routed to her for reply, etc.

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-01-06 16:29:37)

At my local Tesco tonight they had WO2P diaries for the mini at 56p. Nothing else startlingly cheap... but maybe useful to someone?

Anthony Mark Schellenberg (2012-01-06 16:42:30)

Thanks terriknits. I've always had good service from Tina, the only problems have always been how long it takes to get product, not specifically their fault as they often have to get stuff from the USA first and then it sits at the border crossing for days, and then it goes to our not so speedy Canada post. I think I may just hope for the best as a Malden for \$75 is hard to pass up.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-01-06 17:04:50)

Hi everyone! does anyone know where I can get a 2012 A5 week on 2 page non-appointments insert? it's for my friend who loves that format, but she doesn't want to spend too much- around £8ish :) Thanks!

Jy11 (2012-01-06 20:14:42)

@ Anthony: I order the Rapesco 66P six hole punch as well thanks to the recommendation of Steve. I am anxiously waiting for it! :) I want to try a timetable like Jotje did on her planner ( <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/12/guest-post-task-and-time-management.html> ) but couldn't find a template. I did some of my own on excel, printed out and now just need to whole punch them. And of course need to whole punch all the other fun stuff I have been finding and printing out from here :)

The Liar (2012-01-07 06:14:55)

@TPS I have a spare A5 W2P non-appt version going free. Just send me an SAE and I will send it over.

Ray Blake (2012-01-07 09:32:14)

@ Gerard. I'm working on a monthly planner now. It'll be on my blog soon, but if you (or anyone else) would like a copy of the prototype, let me know.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-01-07 12:53:04)

@The Liar: that's fantastic!! could you please email me with your address and I'll give it to my friend to send you the SAE, to bernasconiray at hotmail dot com

Thanks so much!!

Anthony (2012-01-07 15:27:05)

@Jy11

I've just received confirmation today that my Rapesco punch has been dispatched. I've some coloured sheets that I'd like to insert into my Filo.

Novagirl (2012-01-07 16:01:03)

Hello folks! I'm a newbie and am debating between purchasing the Malden Personal vs. the Holburn Personal. On the Malden, what are your thoughts about the thickness of the front and back covers – are they on the thick side, or are they "puffy"? I am leaning toward the Malden, but I also really like the thinness of the Holburn covers. Thin covers are important to me as I want it to fit nicely in my purse. For example, I was at a store today, and I found the Classic and the Finchley covers to be on the thick side.

Unfortunately, the store didn't have any Maldens, but they did have a Holburn Slimline. They also had a Aston

Personal, and that fit in my purse nicely. But I am thinking the Malden's covers are really no thicker than the Aston? Is that fair?

I love the thinness of the Holburn Personal covers, but the only thing that's keeping me from getting it is that it doesn't have a horizontal pocket inside the back cover so I can put a note pad there like you can with the Malden. Is there a way around that?

Thank you for helping me as I make my way into this lovely cult of Filofax!

Peachie (2012-01-08 03:04:34)

I received a Malden for Christmas! I love it except for one thing...the paper catches on the rings. Not badly, but enough to be annoying. I compared the rings to my Finsbury and they are not as round. They seem to be slightly flat in the center. Are all the Maldens like this or this actually a defect? I appreciate your help in advance. Thanks!

## Web Finds 7 January 2012 (2012-01-07 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

So here are some I found this week in between finishing off the mince pies and Christmas Cake and taking down the Christmas Tree.

- [2]My 2012 set-up - Paper Pens Ink
- [3]2012 Filofax Set up - Shazza's Blog
- [4]Filofax perfect pens! - This is My life
- [5]2012 Overkill - Filofax Fixation
- [6]2012 looking forward to - Paper Lovestory
- [7]Introducing the Filofax - Lancashire Cat
- [8]Reflect and look back - A Daisy Chain Dream
- [9]My December Malden set up with Day-timer diary - Rapunzel's World
- [10]The Filofax personal Domino review - Rapunzel's World
- [11]Filo Dashboard...and ink and stickies - Filofax fixation
- [12]Happy New Year and Share your Filofax memories- Daximillian - Musings of a Caribbean Princess
- [13]My Filofax keeping me organised - Vintage Giraffe
- [14]Return of the Filofax shopping list - My Life All in One Place [15]Philofaxy version here
- [16]Rolled over to 2012 - Filofax Fixation

- [17]Download your free page-per-day 2012 A4 or A5 Filofax diary - My Life All in One Place
- [18]Filofaxes and Pens, you can point and laugh if you want... The Crazy Suburban Mom
- [19]The Filofax Personal Deco in Ebony - Rapunzel's World
- [20]2012 Set up and new dividers - Blue Bonnet Reads
- [21]Filofax pt 2 - Lancashire Cat
- [22]Domino Love - LJ's Blog of Stuff
- [23]Filofax for 2012 - Re-Psych
- [24]My Planning System - Paper Pens Ink
- [25]Share your Filofax memories - Han - Musings of a Caribbean Princess
- [26]End of Year Stock Check 2011 done... - LJ's Blog of Stuff
- [27]Little sisters [28]Filofax [29]hello kitty dividers - Loving My Filofax
- [30]Filofax Friday: New Year New Start - Typecast
- [31]Filofax Friday - The Start of a New Year - Cupcakes and Cadenzas
- [32]2012 Filofax Setup - Life...considered, planned, organised
- Your blog post could appear here next week... Please email us if we missed you this week.

Also:

### **Yearbooks**

Philofaxy posts in electronic book format for you to download, print out, put on your portable device and carry around or on your eReader for late night reading. Just send the pdf files to your Kindle email address and you will always have something to read!

### **2011 PDF Format**

- [33]2011 Q1 7.2 MB
- [34]2011 Q2 6.6 MB
- [35]2011 Q3 8.6 MB
- [36]2011 Q4 7.7 MB

### **ePub Format**

- [37]2011 Q1 4.9 MB
- [38]2011 Q2 4.5 MB
- [39]2011 Q3 6.6 MB
- [40]2011 Q4 5.8 MB

As you can see some of the files are still quite big, so please be patient downloading them. All previous years are also available in the [41]Files area.

Enjoy

1. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-uzDuSqnov5k/Tv4Zht7hUrI/AAAAAAAAA0c/5Pwe6yQe42Y/s320/467.JPG>
2. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.com/2011/12/my-2012-set-up.html>
3. <http://shazzasgoingson.blogspot.com/2011/12/2012-filofax-setup.html>
4. <http://thisismylifethisismyway.blogspot.com/2011/12/filofax-perfect-pens.html>
5. <http://filofaxfixation.wordpress.com/2012/01/04/2012-overkill/>
6. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2011/12/2012-looking-forward-to.html>
7. <http://lancashirecat.wordpress.com/2012/01/01/introducing-the-filofax/>
8. <http://adaisychaindream.blogspot.com/2011/12/reflect-and-look-ahead.html>
9. <http://icclewu.blogspot.com/2011/12/my-december-malden-set-up-with-day.html>
10. <http://icclewu.blogspot.com/2011/12/filofax-personal-domino-review.html>
11. <http://filofaxfixation.wordpress.com/2011/12/30/filo-dashboard-and-ink-and-stickies/>
12. <http://www.caribbeanprincessmusings.com/2012/01/happy-new-year-and-share-your-filofax.html>
13. <http://vintagegiraffe.blogspot.com/2012/01/my-filofax-keeping-me-organised.html>
14. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2012/01/return-of-filofax-shopping-list.html>
15. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/shoppinglist.doc>
16. <http://filofaxfixation.wordpress.com/2012/01/02/rolled-over-to-2012/>
17. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2012/01/download-your-free-page-per-day-2012-a4.html>
18. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/01/filofaxes-and-pens-you-can-point-and.html>
19. <http://icclewu.blogspot.com/2012/01/filofax-personal-deco-in-ebony-review.html>
20. <http://bluebonnetreads.wordpress.com/2012/01/05/2012-set-up-and-new-dividers/>
21. <http://lancashirecat.wordpress.com/2012/01/04/filofax-pt-2/>
22. <http://ljsblogofstuff.blogspot.com/2012/01/domino-love.html>
23. <http://repsych.blogspot.com/2012/01/filofax-for-2012.html>
24. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.com/2012/01/my-planning-system.html>
25. <http://www.caribbeanprincessmusings.com/2012/01/share-your-filofax-memories-han.html>
26. <http://ljsblogofstuff.blogspot.com/2012/01/year-end-stock-check-2011-done.html>
27. <http://lovingmyfilofax.blogspot.com/2012/01/little-sisters-filofax-hello-kitty.html>
28. <http://lovingmyfilofax.blogspot.com/2012/01/little-sisters-filofax-hello-kitty.html>
29. <http://lovingmyfilofax.blogspot.com/2012/01/little-sisters-filofax-hello-kitty.html>
30. <http://www.iamtypecast.com/2012/01/filofax-friday-new-year-new-start.html>
31. <http://www.cupcakesandcadenzas.com/2012/01/filofax-friday-start-of-new-year.html>
32. <http://lifeconsideredplannedorganized.blogspot.com/2012/01/filofax-and-succes-haul-2012-set-up.html>
33. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/janmarch2011.pdf>
34. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/aprjune2011.pdf>
35. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/julsept2011.pdf>
36. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/octdec2011.pdf>
37. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/PhilofaxyJan-March2011.epub>
38. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/PhilofaxyApril-June2011.epub>
39. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/PhilofaxyJul-Sept2011.epub>
40. <http://www.philofaxy.com/files/octdec2011.epub>
41. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/files.html>

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LJ (2012-01-07 00:29:17)

Wow!!! What a huge list of posts to wake up to - fabulous!!! Thanks - I so look forward to getting the internet up on a Saturday morning to read these, and thanks for including my posts.

LJ (2012-01-07 01:22:56)

Hi Steve - Blue Bonnet Reads seems to be linking to the Daisy Chain post...

Hannah (2012-01-07 04:55:02)

Thanks for including my posts in the list!

This is my life (2012-01-07 06:27:49)  
wow thank you so much for the link to my blog!!

ace (2012-01-07 09:44:16)  
Great reading list to get stuck into! If anyone is interested, I'm selling my Vintage Rose Finchley in Personal size on eBay. You can see the details and the eBay link on my blog - [1]link here  
x

1. <http://www.scottishwhimsicality.blogspot.com/>  
Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-01-07 14:08:17)  
Ooh - thanks for featuring me! Twice!!  
So much to read... thank you. Always love web finds.

terriknits (2012-01-07 19:47:48)  
oh, I love Saturdays! I have been picking away at reading the links all day and evening. The favourite part of my weekend! Thanks, Steve.

Angeliki (2012-01-07 20:56:20)  
Great list for some Filofax reading for the weekend :) Thank you for putting it together and thank you for including my link.

## Filofax Future Products (2012-01-08 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

We have often shared our thoughts on what we would like to see in the the Filofax product range in the past. Filofax will soon be announcing their 2012 range, although I have no idea yet what will be in that range, we have had a [2]few clues as to what won't be in the range.

But what would you like to see in 2013 and beyond?

Personally I wouldn't concentrate my suggestions on organisers too much, apart from may be some colour suggestions, and may be some additional ring size requests (A true A5 slimline.... and may be a 30mm Personal Malden).

My requests would mainly be on inserts, better quality paper, better availability of diary inserts from abroad, or some new designs of diary inserts, may be a some more specialist inserts that are aimed at GTD.

So what are your suggestions?

Drop them in to the comments in to this post, or if you want email them to [philofaxy\[at\]gmail\[dot\]com](mailto:philofaxy[at]gmail[dot]com) or if you are on the [3]Skype chat today, I will take your suggestions verbally and I will compile our 'wish list' and make sure it gets to Filofax UK, I can't say how much notice they will take of our suggestions... but if we don't try then we will never find out.

1. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-vN2UZ1bAvII/Tu0T9DzmefI/AAAAAAAAAJ-M/WBjNj2IIz0I/s1600/catalogue.jpeg>
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/12/filofax-2012-changes-to-range.html>

3. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/01/date-for-your-filofax-8-january-2012.html>

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Ray Blake (2012-01-08 01:53:59)

I'd like a Personal diary layout that recognises that weekends can be busy, too!

Richard G. (2012-01-08 03:21:47)

Yes Ray, that would be really useful!

Lynne (2012-01-08 03:59:55)

Different coloured today markers and more cotton cream.

Alison Reeves (2012-01-08 04:28:20)

Much better paper quality and better designs. They need to take a look at franklin covey and day timer.

I'd like to a set of goal setting / key areas inserts. Coloured today markers. Coloured or designed dividers. Wider range of diary inserts (just consolidating all options available on all websites would be a good start).

Lucy (2012-01-08 04:31:33)

I use Cotton Cream because the ordinary inserts have small spaces for the weekend. WHY?! I think Filofax have forgotten that their customer base doesn't just consist of people that use a Filofax for work. I often have plenty of things to put in for the weekend and I don't have enough room using the ordinary white inserts. Plus the paper's rubbish anyway.

I would really like an insert that deals with three different things: Appointments, To Dos and Reminders, like this Franklin Covey one:

<http://uk.franklinplanner.com/uk/category/prod500016/UK-Gift-Guide-Gifts-Under-30/Original-One-Page-Per-Day-Ring-bound-Planner-Refill>

I would be willing to move up to the Personal size from Pocket if they did one of these. I currently use a WO2P and DPP together so I can fit everything in that I need to (as well as using different coloured pens to differentiate between reminders/appointments). Having it all on one page would be much better.

I also think that they should put the full length wallet pockets into Personal sizes. I've found this pocket really useful in my Finsbury Pocket and would miss it if I moved up to Personal.

This is my life (2012-01-08 04:36:33)

definitely bigger ringsize for all personals :)More compact and slimsize binders. and also bigger rings for those. More non-leather binders :)

This is my life (2012-01-08 04:40:24)

Agree with Ray Blake Definitely better layouts. Weekends sometimes needs even more space than weekdays. so at least as large a space the weekdays, please. And the Week+notepage pp for all sizes !

Ray Blake (2012-01-08 04:46:14)

@Lucy - have you seen this? <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2012/01/2012-page-per-day-for-filofax-personal.html>

Scoot (2012-01-08 06:11:32)

Have to include decent quality paper, but mainly better quality leather (without cheap plasticky coating) and diaries printed on light pastel coloured paper (yellow, green, blue?). Also, adjustable pen loops, coloured rings, a slot for a USB memory card worked into the ring mechanism, more colourful or imaginative page markers and dividers, pages of sticky labels in matching colour schemes to the Filofax dividers (Diary, Finance, To Do, Planning, etc etc), locks with some grandeur like the Deco.

Special inserts, whether calorie counters, spelling guides, or quick language guides.

Most of these ideas are inexpensive and easy to achieve, as I am sure most peoples ideas are, so yet again I wonder what the objectives are at Filofax. Perhaps it is just another company sleeping on its laurels, another target for destruction by an innovative foreign company who sees this blog and wants to cash in on the customers Filofax

are ignoring.

Jana (2012-01-08 06:36:05)

I want new colors for the Malden Pocket.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-01-08 06:47:06)

I would love to see adjustable pen loops (leather but with a bit of elastic) on ALL binders, because quite frankly, the pen loops are too small!!

I would also love to see more colours in the binders, especially the Malden range!

I agree with everything about more and better inserts, and they should definitely merge all the filofax products on all the different countries' websites, so everyone can buy them!!

But I think what Filofax should definitely do is put all of those Filofaxes they've been holding back on the website- the A5 Malden in grey, the Holborn zipped in personal size, Chameleon in compact size etc. Why are they not selling these on the Filofax website???

Lucy (2012-01-08 06:51:51)

@Ray

That's fab! Just what I'm after! But a lot of printing, cutting and punching though?? If you've created a template for one then there's certainly demand for it. I wonder how much though? I'd buy it!

I don't have a Personal Filofax but maybe I ought to have a look for one now . . . oh hell, here we go again . . .

@Scoot

Yes I forgot about adjustable pen loops. Definitely need those. I'm having to sell a gorgeous Aston Orchid because I can't get any of my favourite pens in the loop! :-)

Lucy (2012-01-08 06:57:47)

@Ray

Just had a quick nosey on your Blog - love it! Especially your shopping lists. I do a similar kind of thing - do one long list but then highlight the different areas in the supermarket where I get the things from. Eg: Fruit & veg is green, yellow is dairy etc etc. It makes my shop much quicker! I'll spend some serious time looking at your site later on, thanks! X

Greg (2012-01-08 07:05:56)

The inserts are the biggest issue this company has. I ordered a new Filofax recently and just sent it back. I can not deal with the poor paper quality and poor design of the wpp and dpp. I reordered a "Planner Pad" and new cover totally \$135.00. Not that my minor dollars will affect Filofax. But how many others out there have been turned off by the paper and format and moved to another brand?

Scoot (2012-01-08 07:12:36)

I've got another.

Fact 1: Women are a high proportion of Filofax customers.

Fact 2: Women like both stylish and fashion products.

Fact 3: Many women make a conscious choice to avoid leather products; even ignoring leather shoes and handbags! Therefore, why on earth does Filofax regard non-leather materials with such disregard that they place them at the lower end of the scale? The Domino is fun, but the rest of the non-leather are rank. Isn't it a no-brainer to have an upmarket, real stinking with quality, non-leather series of faxes.....at least for women?

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-01-08 07:23:36)

@Scoot

Not sure why you think most women don't like leather filofaxes... but anyway, on the other filofax sites around the EU, there is a nice-looking non-leather filofax called 'dakota'

<http://www.filofax.dk/store/organiserdetails.asp?sizeId=3 &rangeId=174 &dsizeId=3>

I don't think it has come to the UK though...

Steve Morton (2012-01-08 07:28:41)

I think it's the vegan angle...

But look closely at a Flex cover which isn't leather but is of very good quality... in my opinion...

Steve

Gerard (2012-01-08 08:48:24)

@Amanda

The Dakota is made of bonded leather.

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-01-08 08:57:43)

@Gerard

It indeed. Google translate is a better linguist than me and Babelfish! I had looked at the Italian site originally and Babelfish said:

Cuoio rigenerato ecologico

translated as:

Regenerated leather ecological

which I took to mean that it was fake leather (as did the price).

Google translate says:

ecological bonded leather

Apologies!

Scoot (2012-01-08 09:18:12)

I didn't think that most women don't like leather Filofaxes, I wrote that "Many women make a conscious choice to avoid leather products" ... a wonderful discovery for a man because it has to be the one excuse that women themselves created to avoid buying yet more shoes or handbags.

I'm not sure that Filofax, or the leather industry, would like "bonded leather" being described as "non-leather".

I think most bonded leather consists of small pieces of leather mixed with a glue and then pressed smooth, quite artificial really; yet the name conjures thoughts of professionalism and class. I think many people are misled by the names given to many leathers. I have an old bonded leather fax that was beautiful and smooth when new, but after 4 or 5 years it looked quite shabby.

There are so many materials in the world, manmade and natural, that I think it is a great loss to miss out on silk etc; manmade materials, even with unique prints. Even if they didn't want to move away from leather, a quick look at the Succes website shows that Filofax aren't as innovate and therefore promoting leather as well as they could.

Laurie (2012-01-08 09:37:25)

To be completely honest I'd like to see Filofax focus a little less on fashion and more on function. In the past year or two they have really gone in the direction of pushing Filofax as a fashion accessory with the fleeting styles of binders changing out every year, or even few months. As we all know, fashion is fickle and I think they are taking a big risk putting all their eggs in the fashion basket.

Meanwhile those of us who care less about fashion and more about function are at a disadvantage. Don't get me wrong, I love a beautiful binder, but if the inserts are useless I can't use a Filofax no matter how beautiful it is.

I hope they, as many have said, upgrade the paper in their diary inserts (acid-free and archival please!!!!!!). A better selection of diary formats would be hugely welcome.

And I'll say it again, a truly slimline A5 without bulky pockets (such as the Adelphi has).

the Merry Lemon (2012-01-08 10:55:04)

I would like to see a diary similar to PlannerPads. Columns divided into appointments and to dos. Both for A5 and Personal.

I would like to see binders have more choices in ring sizes.

I would like to see a binder that could hold a smart phone, or an accessory to attach to a binder to hold a smart phone. For my job i run major events and trade shows. I fill a binder with all the notes I need specifically for each event. I would like to be able to have my iphone attached in or on the binder.

Also, I am a multiple binder user. I have different binders with different inside pocket configurations based on that binder's use. I would also like to have the choice of a binder with no fittings inside. Just a high quality leather binder - plain and simple - no card slots or anything else inside.

Also, i would like to see in some binders a place inside made specifically to hold 3x5 cards.

Regarding catalogues and websites, I would like to be able to see the offerings from all countries and an easy ability to acquire them.

But most of all i would like to see better info in the catalogues and on the websites. The most expensive personal binder, the alligator, does not show the binder interior!!! Online and in print, the interior should always be shown, not just described. And in the catalogues show each binder color. The catalogue presently shows binders in very artsy pictures, but all binder leather colors are,not shown. That doesn't make sense. Also, measurements for each binder should be shown -they are not all the same.

Have they met us? Do they know their audience? Does it occur to filofax that people who are so particular about how they use the filofax products are all about details. If they want our business they need to supply the details necessary for us to make purchases.

rant over\*

Thank you for a place to share these frustrations. I am a long time lurker and love filofaxy!

Patricia (2012-01-08 11:08:48)

Would love a blue Malden!

Claire Joanne Huxham (2012-01-08 11:57:44)

I agree about some coloured page dividers/today rulers. Franklin Covey do some really nice looking ones (wide, transparent and in a range of colours in a pack) which seem to be on permanent "pre-order" status on their European website, sigh.

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-01-08 12:24:54)

My old filofax is a portland personal and as nice as the malden and finchley are, the portland leather quality beats them both.

They need to go back to their earlier quality. My old filofax is all leather except for areas like inside pockets where there is a logo fabric.

And that filofax also has a gusseted zippered pocket. A lot of current filofaxes have pockets but do any of them have gussets anymore?

The zippers are nice for storage but not being able to really have a good opening is a problem, filofax used to address that by gusseting one side... They were so much more usable.

As to the paper, I would be much happier if it was sturdier and I had more options.

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-01-08 12:59:50)

i agree with Tracy. I have a Portland too, and the leather quality seems a lot better than the current models and the gusseted pocket is great. The whole layout of the Portland seems well thought-out as an 'everything filofax' which combines wallet and organiser. If it only had 30mm rings...

I think filofax quality has deteriorated and I wonder if they are in danger of losing their brand status. Lots of people on here think the paper and range of inserts are rubbish. I agree with Laurie, too, they should stop putting everything into 'here today, gone tomorrow' binders and make sure that their core stock is better quality.

Like The Merry Lemon (great name btw!) I think that the information in catalogues and online is poor at times. So, my wishlist:

Good quality, well-thought out binders, with a variety of strong colours like Racing Green, navy, blood-red, more purples like the Finchley, as well as (instead of?) all the others. These would be more unisex (but that's maybe just my feeling...?)

Secondly, to be able to buy all of the range from any filofax site - binders, inserts, everything. In this modern world it is laughable that you can't!

Decent paper that is fountain-pen friendly.

Well-designed inserts. Filofax only need to read this site to know what to provide!

Okay - that'll do.

:)

Tim (2012-01-08 13:10:10)

We're too late now for 2012, as orders will have been placed with Chinese manufacturers months ago. They work on long lead times for production.

I agree with Laurie about function over fashion. For too long, Filofax has (I feel) spent too much effort on designing haute-couture products (such as the Adelphi) which just do not sell, despite all the hype.

Whilst a few devotees will want to return to 1980's style fat binder rings, I think the majority of new users would prefer to see much slimmer rings. With most of our information on laptops and smart phones, many of us only need to carry a few pages (year planner, project notes etc) in paper form, coupled with a space for a few business and credit cards and slots for receipts etc. Too many Filofax binders follow the same functionality. More variety in internal layout, to suit left-handers, for example, would be a step forward.

Sorry Steve, but as a Flex user, I find them very "plasticky" and not projecting a professional image at all. I'm sure leather Flex binders will definitely come in 2012 - preferably with a small binder ring fixed to a slot in card (like the pen holder) option for carrying a few essential punched pages.

mywormy (2012-01-08 14:37:40)

I totally agree with Laurie! I myself would rather have a plain, durable leather binder with good quality inserts and more to choose from.

Unknown (2012-01-08 15:39:04)

I agree with all of the comments about paper quality etc.,

As regards binders etc., I'd frankly like to see a return to a few more 'masculine' products, particularly a slimline A5.

A return, even if it were a limited edition, to a Balmoral with an inbuilt jotter and high capacity rings. I once saw one of these described as a 'portable office' and for many of us there is still that need. I'm sure there would be a market for these, such as this one:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/45091016@N07/4143854107/>

Maybe a bespoke printing service - at a sensible price - for one's own layouts and designs. Questionable whether that might be profitable, given the high quality of modern printers, but much as I love sitting down sometimes and cutting out my own pages etc., there are times when the convenience of being able to mail something to a printing service and have nice cleanly cut crisp inserts returned would be fantastic.

Best Wishes

David

Sari (2012-01-08 15:44:49)

I absolutely agree with Laurie, better paper quality ( yes, yes, yes: acid-free and archival!!) and binders designed for longer use than one season would be preferable and I agree, too, with Scoot that one could design more binders in the high quality range from non-leather material ( although I love high quality leather). Also, a better selection of diary formats is desirable because that is the main advantage of a Filofax over a bound planner: to be able to choose and to change your personal layout. And beside a slimline A5 I would love to see a bigger choice of Mini ;-)

Greg (2012-01-08 15:54:44)

I hate to add to this, but it seems a really big subject matter. You'd think as proud as "Letts" is, they'd realize just who their clients really are (as someone else said).

As most of us do, watch a sale on eBay for a "Winchester" Filofax. They go for "huge" dollars! Why? Because they have larger rings, and are made of "top quality" leather, AND are very basic. Unfortunately, until someone at Letts actually gets the idea that a lot of us are unhappy, (and moving away from Filofax, looking for other brands) nothing will ever happen that will satisfy us completely. Especially me.

Laurie (2012-01-08 16:14:24)

Sari and Greg, you've hit the nail on the head. One of the main purposes of a ring binder is to be able to use it for more than one year. And let's face it, even the non-leather binders are expensive compared to their bound-book counterparts. If I'm going to use a book for only one year or less, I'd prefer to spend less than \$50 on it!

If Filofax/ Letts wants to do fashion, that's fine, but please keep a core selection of high quality leather binders in classic styles.

Novagirl (2012-01-08 20:10:11)

I would like a line of A5 Slimline organizers with high quality leather covers that are really thin and not bulky or puffy so they will fit easily inside a purse.

I would like A5 inserts in cotton cream.

I would like to see all the Today markers be clear plastic instead of black so you can see through them easily.

I would like to see better paper quality for the white paper.

So many of the Personal sizes (other than the Malden) do not have a horizontal pocket inside the back cover where you can put a notepad. I'd like to see this fixed.

The Merry Lemon is right about how organizers are displayed on the on the FF websites. Sometimes I see an organizer listing measurements, and sometimes not. Sometimes I see ring sizes and sometimes not, sometimes there is no photo of the inside of the binder. They need to better standardize their descriptions and err on the side of more detail rather than less.

Most of all, I would like to see Filofax designers and executives become active participants on this site and actually be responsive to their customers' wishes!

Peg (2012-01-08 21:31:03)

I'd like to see a US size

(8 1/2 x 11) binder and also

the Time Management diary inserts in a personal size

Butanben (2012-01-09 02:46:12)

I'd go gooey eyed and would fall in love with a Crimson A5 Malden still with the big ring size and with bespoke cream paper diaries and inserts. Sigh!!!! Wonder if the top management at Filofax read our blog?? Would love to know!!

Lostwithoutyou (2012-01-09 07:32:37)

I'd like to be able to buy more of the stickers I use most of without having to buy another pack that contains all of the different stickers.

For example I use a lot of the medical/date/ stickers but none of the car service ones so I end up with loads of car service ones left over but run out of my most used ones!

LM (2012-01-09 09:18:30)

I would also love to see more classic and simplified binders with an open pocket for notes etc on the left side and one for a notepad at the back - that's really all I need. But in a range of colours so there is something for everyone, dark and professional, bright and cheerful, light and subtle. And a no nonsense binder could easily be made more fashionable by adding accessories; coloured and patterned dividers and rulers, plus more optionals like stickers, page markers and different paler colours of note paper. Even a packet of transparent dividers where people could add their own photos, quotations or plain coloured paper would be good!

kanalt (2012-01-10 09:01:23)

I agree with everything in regards to paper quality and more options for layouts. Personally, I'd like to see something more along the lines of Franklin Covey dpp layout, with space for appointments, to-dos and notes. I'd also like to see monthly tabs and overviews that can be interfiled with the daily/weekly inserts, and I know this has been a gripe for a long time.

At the first NYC meet up, questions were brought to the NYC rep (Justenoughsalt was able to meet with the rep prior to our meet up and came back with his answers). I had asked about improvements for diary pages, and

if I remember correctly, at the time the answer was that there were no plans for inserts, and in fact they were thinking of discontinuing many of them. (But how can you sell binders if there are no inserts to go with them?) I don't know if that was just a US thing or a Filofax company thing. I guess we'll find out...

Nan (2012-01-16 12:20:43)

1-1/4" rings on more of the A5 binders, not just the Finsbury. Anything smaller doesn't hold a full year of DPP plus the A-Z tabs, let alone any other tabs.

DPP Personal in Cotton Cream. More Cotton Cream in general.

Storage binders with rings, not posts.

Monthly calendars with tabs!!

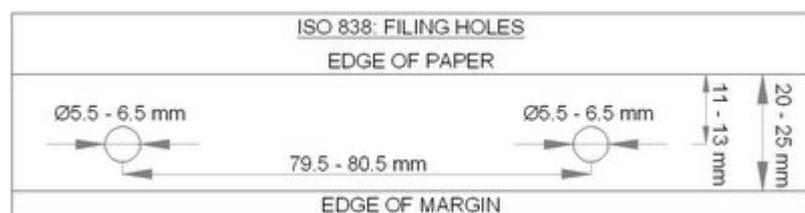
A5 notebooks with removable, hole-punched pages.

## The Great Organiser Hole Spacing Conspiracy (2012-01-09 00:00) - Steve Morton

A dramatic title to this post I know... but when you read on you will begin to wonder!

The focus of this post will of course be Filofax organisers and what hole spacing they use. As well as hole spacing I will include notes on paper size, so you will at least have the information for Filofax if you come across another brand of insert and you can ask them the right questions with regards to size and hole spacing.

Before we get in to this too deeply, here is an explanation of what I mean by 'hole spacing' and a picture might save a few words!



[1]

This is the dimensions for a European 'Two Ring' binder, in this case the hole spacing is 80mm the drawing also shows the tolerance of  $\pm 0.5$  mm on that dimension allowed for in the ISO standard for hole punches.... yes such a thing exists!

### Filofax Mini

The Mini size uses 5 rings each spaced by 19mm or  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch. The paper size is 67 mm x 105 mm.

### Filofax Pocket

The Pocket size uses 6 rings each each spaced by 19mm or  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch. The paper size is 81mm x 120 mm. A number of other brands use this size and spacing.

### Filofax Personal

Filofax Personal size is a very common size, it uses 6 rings split in to two groups of 3 rings. The two groups are spaced by 50 mm or 2 inches with the three rings having the common 19 mm or  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch spacing between them. The paper size is 95mm by 171 mm.

Whilst the hole spacing is a common feature of other brands, be aware that some brands use paper wider than 95mm, this can cause problems especially in the compact and slimline Filofax organisers, which with their smaller ring sizes have narrower covers. Try before you buy... is the best advice... or if you are buying on line, establish the exact size of the paper or the tabs and make a mock up of your chosen size.

### Filofax A5

Filofax A5 uses paper that is 148 mm by 210 mm, exactly the size of European ISO standard A5 paper. However the company chose for what ever reason to use 6 rings, again like the personal size split in to two groups of three rings. The two groups are spaced by 70 mm or  $2\frac{3}{4}$  inch with the three rings having the common 19 mm or  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch spacing between them.

Now looking at other brands, it all gets very different to Filofax, so much so that re-punching some of these other sizes can turn your diary insert in to something resembling a Swiss cheese.

**Quo Vadis** Timer 21 is A5 paper size with six holes, but they use the same hole spacing as Filofax Personal size! Yes it took me a while to realise that! So QV Timer 21 pages need to be re-punched but the Filofax holes fall neatly between the original QV holes.

**Time Manager International** TMI like Quo Vadis use Filofax Personal hole spacing in their A5 products, but only 4 rings not six, they miss out the middle ring of each 3 ring group. So they have 38mm and 50mm spacing Again re-punching their inserts results in having 12 evenly spaced holes.

**Franklin Covey** and **Day Timer** in the USA use a page size of 140mm x 216 mm (5.5 x 8.5 inches) which is close to A5 in size (slightly narrower, but slightly taller), but the hole spacing is very different to Filofax. Firstly they use a 7 ring binder, but ignore the middle ring! If you then think of their insert as being 6 holes split into two groups of three. The two groups are spaced by 38mm or 1.5 inches with the three rings being space by 1 inch (25mm)

Punching one of these to fit a Filofax A5 will result in pages that look something like this:



[2]

As you might be able to see, the top and bottom holes of the row of 7 holes are very close to the top and bottom holes of A5 Filofax, in fact when punched those holes become oval in shape.

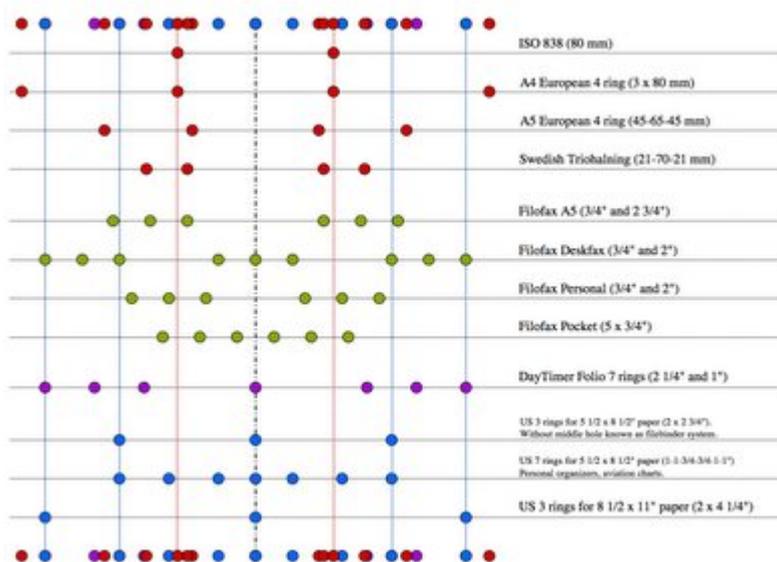
**Mulberry** for reasons best known to them, use A5 paper, but their 6 rings are spaced in to two groups of 3 rings. The two groups are spaced by 45 mm or 1¾ inch with the three rings having the common 12 mm or ½ inch spacing between them. As we have previously mentioned Mulberry sizes on all of their binders are different to Filofax, [3]a previous Philofaxy post gives all of the details for this brand.

#### **Filofax A4**

As previously discussed the A4 size is 297 mm by 210 mm a standard European ISO paper size, the four holes are each spaced by 80 mm, again which is an extension to the ISO standard spacing (ISO 838) Nearly all binders in Europe that use A4 paper use this four hole spacing so finding alternatives shouldn't be an issue.

In the USA, Day Timer sell a 'Folio' size which is 216mm x 280mm (11 inches by 8.5 inches) which is a fraction wider than A4 but shorter. This also uses 7 rings, again if you ignore the middle hole. You then get two groups of three rings. The two groups are spaced by 5.5 inches with each ring spaced by 1 inch. None of these 7 holes aligns with the Filofax 4 holes.

Putting all of the hole spacings together in to one detailed picture I came across this graphic below. US 7 rings is the Day Timer/Franklin Covey 'standard'



[4]

I hope things are a little clearer now... if not... please ask questions in the comments and I will try and respond.

1. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-w0Aq00yU6TQ/TvtGhRCLaTI/AAAAAAAAAKEU/1C5bNuvLmjk/s1600/Filingholes2.gif>
2. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-KG0YuYoUWLg/TvtWL1o4-WI/AAAAAAAAAKES/hmtBfGdPiuA/s1600/DTA5.jpg>
3. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/04/mulberry-inserts-in-filofax-organisers.html>
4. [http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-64V918r8uJE/TvtLXAQPy\\_I/AAAAAAAAAKEg/xs4oVx6sHHM/s1600/holespacing.png](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-64V918r8uJE/TvtLXAQPy_I/AAAAAAAAAKEg/xs4oVx6sHHM/s1600/holespacing.png)

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Alison Reeves (2012-01-09 05:25:18)

Very informative - thank you Steve. This is particularly useful when looking at alternative inserts and also when buying hole punches!

Rori (2012-01-09 08:49:43)

Thank you!! This is SO helpful for deciding if alternative inserts will work for you.

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-01-09 10:09:54)

I used some alternate inserts like this - and it was a big mess. I didnt even do it as neat as you. I can't see it working in the long term because with all the holes it would rip eventually. It would be easier to d/l, print and punch inserts then use ready made inserts you have to re punch

John (2012-01-09 11:40:06)

Has anyone ever tried fitting Japanese 24-hole paper into FF? The Kinokuniya bookstore in NYC has a wide selection of that super-smooth Maruman paper in A5, B5 etc.

FYI there is also Maruman paper that is Personal size-specific (they call it "Bible" size") - if anyone can get some, it's VERY fountain pen friendly.

Steve Morton (2012-01-09 13:03:33)

John

Do you have a link so I can see this 24 hole paper? Sounds like this paper will fit anything!

Thanks

Steve

John (2012-01-09 14:25:11)

Steve,

Maruman website for reference:

<http://www.e-maruman.co.jp/english/>

products/refill/smooth/

Unfortunately, I don't have any UK stockist leads - Kinokuniya is the only place where I've traveled in the US that carries them. This is one of those products (so few in the age of Amazon) that I've only ever seen in person. The paper's in a class by itself - no thicker than FF stock sheets, but holds FP ink as well as cotton cream. Hope this helps.

Steve Morton (2012-01-09 14:26:09)

OK thanks John

Steve

JJ Hitt (2012-01-10 12:02:17)

Fantastic work.

Thanks for this.

trailbilldr (2012-01-10 23:51:21)

That diagram "holespacing.png" looks really familiar, I think I referenced it when comparing A5 Filofax and Time/System A5 hole patterns. I wanted to call out timesystem.us as a source for A5 punches, but they seem to have stopped listing them. The punch I got from them looks like this one at <http://www.opto.se/scalers.htm>, is even labeled "Scaler 61". It happily punches two sheets of 20 lb (75 gsm) paper, and will punch three with a little effort.

KJ (2012-01-12 08:51:55)

For Japanese paper, bring a sheet of whatever you're hoping to match, if you remember and are going to Kinokuniya.

On the B series, you have to read up. I seem to remember reading that it's a few mm off from ISO. Anyway, it's Deskfax that's close to a B series size (B5?).

The chances are probably good on A4. I think the last time I looked at the paper, it had big holes, either two or four of them, in the European placement.

On A5, short of just looking at them in hand, one could probably compare measurements.

Japanese paper has pocket 6 hole in the metric version of 3x5", tall and skinny like every other brand, not the 3.25x4.75" (or 80x120mm) paper, which in some ways is pleasing and convenient at 3x4 proportions.

I wish they had stuck with 4 ring pocket.

## **New poll: how many weeks of diary pages do you keep in your Filofax? (2012-01-09 07:53) - Laurie**

Please vote in the new poll at the left!

Seems to me that most people keep only a few weeks or months of diary pages in their Filofax, and rotate out used pages regularly. Especially people who use daily pages need to keep their binder at a reasonable thickness and can't keep too many weeks in there, especially if they have a lot of other pages and tabs.

Whenever I use a Filofax as my diary/ planner, I like to have as many months in as possible, usually 4-6 months past and at least 6 months future. One of the things I've always liked about using a Filofax as a planner is this ability to constantly see back and forward no matter what time of the year it is.

So what about you? Do you keep only the immediate future diary pages in your Filofax? Or like me do you like to have many months' worth of planning pages in at once?

Please vote to tell us how many weeks of your main diary pages (weekly or daily) you like to have in your Filofax at a time!

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JohnofJenkins (2012-01-09 08:44:01)

I keep all 52 weeks in my Filofax. Apart from work information, I need to keep track of the Fundraising ventures, past, present and future so that i know what dates are available at any time for future events over and above

regular events. Apart from that I just like to have the full year in my Filofax anyway.

Laurie (2012-01-09 08:46:05)

Thanks John! Do you keep the entire current year and replace it in its entirety once per year, or do you rotate out past months and replace with upcoming months as the year goes on?

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-01-09 09:04:11)

In my new system, I have 52 weeks of WO2P, and 1 week of DO2P at once, although when term starts I might have to put in a whole month's DO2P :)

Lynne (2012-01-09 09:12:40)

In my pocket filofax, I keep the whole of the current year maudie made wo2p interleaved with lined pages for to do's and reminders

Lucy (2012-01-09 09:16:39)

In my Pocket, I use about three months of WO2P plus about 4 weeks of DPP, as well as a year planner and various other inserts.

Helen (2012-01-09 09:39:45)

At the moment in my personal Metropol I keep 52 weeks of WO2P.

But I'm thinking about moving up into an A5 and using Day per page, instead of using the day planner inserts. I thought I'd get day per page and have a couple months of them in the filofax, as well as MO2P at the beginning of each month in the day per page section, and use the month separators. And just swap in the day per pages every month or so.

Anyone use a similar method to this? Does it work?

Ray Blake (2012-01-09 10:04:19)

12 months. At this time of the year, I have 12 months of pages, having just disposed of 2011. I'll have 12 months in there until about November, when I'll add the first 6 months of next year and remove the first six months of this year. Next January, I'll add the rest of 2013 and remove the rest of 2012.

So although I always have 12 months in the binder, there are times when as many as ten of those are in the past!

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-01-09 10:07:02)

I just looked and I have a Wo2P up to july but theres no reason I can't have the whole year in an A5 Malden so I'm going to put it in now.

Tim (2012-01-09 10:13:20)

A5, WO2P (Week On 2 Pages) - Last week, this week and next week. That's it for me!

But I don't use the diary pages for appointments. Instead, I write down everything that happens during the day as it happens (GTD style!) and cross entries off as completed or transferred. By the end of this week - at the latest -everything from last week should have been dealt with or transferred to a project, so then last week can get filed and a new next week added.

Each Monday morning, I also print off an A5 week on one page from Outlook, which has all my scheduled appointments on. These also sync onto my iPhone (boo, hiss, I hear!)

All other events go onto the A5 Year Planner which opens out and I find is the best way to see what's coming up in the weeks and months ahead, without constant page turning.

It works for me anyway!

LM (2012-01-09 10:51:37)

I use a Week per page as a regular diary, a Month on 2 pages for tracking daily work output, and a horizontal year planner for a quick overview of my upcoming travels and deadlines. I take the Week pages out after use, because the main events will be marked on the Year planner anyway, and that way I get more and more room for notes as

the year goes on. Works for me!

Beverley (2012-01-09 10:57:26)

I have a whole year. Sometime between June and September I'll need the beginning of 2013 and will be forced to archive some of this year. I remember being at a meeting in June one year and needing a calendar of September the following year and thinking how wrong that was.

Scout (2012-01-09 11:08:50)

As the Filofax website currently lists 2011 and 2012 diaries, not 2013, I assume that those with more than 12 months diary pages use other brands.

Steve Morton (2012-01-09 11:17:04)

Or may be a 4 year planner for those dates well in advance... or Print Your Own even....

Tommies (2012-01-09 12:12:59)

@Scout,

I have have 'voted' more than 12 months, because I usually change my diary in late September / early October. I remove the diary before and refill with the complete new year. So I usually have 15 months of my diary in my Filofax - and they are Filofax refills. I like the possibility of checking back into the past, as well as planning ahead. Kind regards, Thomas

LJ (2012-01-09 12:57:44)

Currently I have 3 months of WO2P interleaved with a couple of to do sheets and a lined sheet per week, 3 months of WO1P with notes, MO2P with tabs interleaved with one lined sheet per month after the most next 3 months are up, and 2 annual planners (one horizontal and one vertical). So far this seems to be working for me - if I can just remember what colours I am supposed to write in for which type of thing I should be all set...

J (2012-01-09 12:59:13)

I voted 1-3 months, as I keep 3 months of daily pages in my Malden, but I also have a full year of tabbed month on two pages and a vertical year planner.

So, technically I suppose I keep a whole year, but only three months of dailies.

bluebonnetreads (2012-01-09 13:01:15)

I have the whole year in monthlies, and two months of 2ppd, in my Filofax.

Laurie (2012-01-09 13:18:26)

J you voted correctly! I know lots of people have monthly or annual calendars for future planning, but what I want to know is how many pages of actual diary (weekly or daily) people keep in at one time.

So far I'm very surprised by the results! People keep more months than I expected!

globetrottingcacti (2012-01-09 14:34:12)

I use the French academic year calendar in my Filofax Pocket so have up to August 5th in mine (and some blank pages after where I can write down appts for after that date)....

Gillian (2012-01-09 14:48:25)

I use WO2P and start the year with 52 weeks. I remove the previous week each Monday do over the course of the year my filofax gets lighter.

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-01-09 15:36:35)

In my personal (non-work filofax) I have a full year of MO2P, a full year of WO2P and a week of DPP. At the end of each month I will take out the WO2P sheets for that month and each week I take out the week that has just passed of DPP and put a new week's worth in. The MO2P stay in all year. I also have an advanced planning

page for jotting down things in 2013 and beyond. Taking out each month as it passes means that my filofax slowly gets lighter until the new diaries are available and then it suddenly gets really heavy again! In about July I will print off another MO2P but for 2013 and pop it in.

At work I have 15 months of WO2P (vertical) as I have a job in academia so have from September 2011 until Dec 2012 in there. In September I will take out the previous academic session's diary and file it, and put in the rest of the next calendar year's diary, assuming they've managed to come on sale by then!

Sari (2012-01-09 16:10:19)

After being forced by my aching back to switch back to Mini as my on-the-go Filo, I have year planners for 2012 and 2013, W/2P all 52 weeks and the current week (Thursday - Wednesday) on DPP in it (incredible what you can stuff in a Mini). In the 'big one' that stays mostly on my desk I have 6 month W2P and one month DPP.....now I am trying to make this 'satellite-system' work for me.

Rabbit (2012-01-09 16:52:15)

I like to keep about 6 months of DPP diary in my Personal planner, as this covers a full semester of my studies. I also don't like to keep too many of my old entries as they serve no purpose for me, and yet I like having the 'bulk' of used pages in my filofax (nothing worse than always opening the FF to have it feel like it's almost new - hard to explain why...?) So I end up keeping about a week of DPP. As the year progresses I start to add the remaining months to keep my planner nice and chubby :)

I've started to dislike duplication as well, so I keep a full year of MPP sheets I've printed out and just record big events in one or two words. I also have a pure colour-coded (no written entries) horizontal year planner in the front of my study notebook (I'm using a slate A5 Flex to keep my notebooks all in one place - love it - as I'm trying to reduce my note-taking)

JohnofJenkins (2012-01-09 21:20:20)

I keep the full year in and replace it mid December with the new year.

indigogarden (2012-01-09 21:26:23)

I simply keep a MO2P to track my writing data each day. I keep the full year in there. My schedule is on google and syncs with my phone. I need to book dates over a year in advance and have the ability to constantly check my dates so that I don't double book. I simply can't keep all that in paper form effectively.

MsPencil (2012-01-10 00:12:23)

I used to keep 3 months the previous, the current, and the following month but now I keep all 12 months.

djthomassen (2012-01-10 16:39:56)

I have a full year DPP, Business Style in my A5 Domino because of my work. I have to look back sometimes, but most of all I am planning almost a year ahead. Also i have inspection reports in my Domino.

trailbilldr (2012-01-10 23:43:39)

I'm still doing it like I learned in the "David Allen course" twenty years ago: my A5 planner contains daily pages for this week, last week, and next week. It also contains monthly pages for this month and next month, and yearly calendar for this year and next year. Each Friday, remove the oldest week's worth of daily pages, and insert the daily pages for the week after next. Update those daily pages per the monthly page (appointments). If the month is done, remove that page and insert the page for the month after next, and update that monthly page per the yearly calendar. The Friday update is also the time to do review and reflection.

## **Free For All Tuesday No. 49 (2012-01-10 00:01) - Steve Morton**

With the posts about punches and hole spacings in the last week or so I suspect you are either more puzzled or now up to date on that topic for a while! But what ever your Filofax question is, this is the

best place to ask it...

Fire away.

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Jy11 (2012-01-10 00:19:21)

Great! I thought I would have to wait for friday!

I'm planning on buying a Filofax as a gift to my husband. Due to budget constrains I narrowed my options down to two: either metropol or sketch personal size. Any advices on that? My concern is that both of them need some "training" to lay flat correct?

Thanks for any advice on that!

Jy11 (2012-01-10 00:20:46)

BTW, I just received the whole punch today! Very nice, and SMALL! Love it! Thank You for sharing/posting this find!

Anke (2012-01-10 00:44:04)

Hi,

just wanted to thank you all for the tips about the smelly filo. I let it sit under a plastic bag with a bowl full of vinegar and it has definitely become better. Although it still smells some, but I guess I will just have to leave it in the carport for a night or two. Thanks again and have a nice day!

indigogarden (2012-01-10 02:32:21)

I wanted to know if anyone has used the program Clickbooks to create pages of text for their filofax. I want to move text files from my computer to create reference files in my personal filofax and thought that this might be a good printing solution.

livermac69 (2012-01-10 03:09:28)

Hi,

I have some nice templates that I would like to use in my A5 Filo. As I wanted to print double sided I thought this would be easy to create a Word Doc, print a4 in duplex, Cut it in half, punch, use. Sounds easy, but I seem to be making it very difficult even with trawling the internet!

Can anyone help as I am sure I am not the first to be getting in a pickle over this?

Thanks

Steve Morton (2012-01-10 03:54:19)

Hi

Here might be your answer to your printing A5:

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

We also have a post about printing personal size pages too:

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/01/printing-your-own-filofax-personal.html>

Alternatively, I bought a ream (500 sheets) of plain white A5 paper and this feeds through my Laser Printer without any problems.

Steve

Steve Morton (2012-01-10 03:59:39)

JY11, don't forget to check out our AdSpot page on the blog some nice 'pre-owned' and 'trained' organisers on the list at the moment.

But of the two you suggest the Metropol I would think will train quicker than the sketch. Once you start using an organiser it soon starts to become less of a problem with laying flat, even my Cuban Zip has started to comply!

But it is just taking longer than normal!

Steve

Alison Reeves (2012-01-10 06:44:21)

I have decided to downsize to a personal set up to see how I get on. I am thinking of getting some Day-Timer inserts because I like the fact they are colourful and also well designed. Only thing is I can't decide whether to go with a week per view or 2 pages per view. Plan is if I used the week per view I could write my task list on the hot lists they do (shorter and narrower than normal paper and you can move them without rewriting everything). I just wondered if anyone had any thoughts or comments that might help me to make up my mind!

Butanben (2012-01-10 07:01:20)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Butanben (2012-01-10 07:15:24)

I have just had great fun making some new tabbed divider pages for my 2012 Filofax. I FINALLY seem to have a diary and system that works for me. My question is.... does anyone else make their own divider tabbed pages and if so which pictures do you use? I have used vintage French adverts this year.... vintage seed packet illustrations and opera posters also look just fabulous. I wish I could make great scrapbook collages. Mine always look just too homemade somehow!! Oh for that professional look!!

Missus Aka (Christa) (2012-01-10 07:41:52)

@Butanben i always use cardstock to make mine this the pic of the dividers in my homebinder filofax on flickr:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/73726568@N08/6662902465/in/photostream>

i put sticky back plastic over mine to make them stronger & more durable so they cant get dirty it does make them look much more professional

Rori (2012-01-10 09:27:08)

@Alison If you go with wk per view, you can put more pages in the Filofax at a time. I don't know how far out you need to plan things, but something to consider :D

Alison Reeves (2012-01-10 10:32:30)

@Rori - good point - I had thought of that, although the day-timer inserts come with a tabbed monthly view which would allow planning in advance. I suppose with a week to view I could add additional pages in between for very busy weeks - I do have a lot of days that maybe don't need a lot of space.

Jy11 (2012-01-10 11:05:09)

@Steve: Thank you for the adspot suggestion! And I thought I had checked most of the features of this site. Always something new!

Good to know that the metropol would "train" easier as well. Thanks again!

TJ (2012-01-10 14:44:58)

Hiya all. I've just managed to purchase my second personal size Windsor in so many months and it's in great condition all bar the pen loop. It's just a tad bit cracked at the edges, Any ideas on how to strengthen the loop?. This ones a brown where my first is black, will post pics on flkr when I get the time.

Anthony (2012-01-10 14:49:34)

@Jy11

I too have received my Rapesco 66P it's great I would recommend it to everyone. Re: Metropol (Personal)I've owned one for three years and it lays flat all the time, no training required, even after it has being closed for quite sometime. Good Luck.

Missus Aka (Christa) (2012-01-10 15:03:43)

i just bought a pink filofax classic in a5 even though i have too many already i couldn't resist at only £56, will it lay flat at all? i dont mind if i have to 'train' it for a while

indigogarden (2012-01-10 15:38:13)

@steve I tried out the printing instructions by Nellie and they worked great! I'm glad I won't need to buy a printshop program after all. Thank you for your help.

Scoot (2012-01-10 15:42:39)

I see that Staples in the UK are attempting to push their ARC notebooks, with videos; in effect a less flexible Filofax.

[http://www.staples.co.uk/ARC\\_Home\\_subsite](http://www.staples.co.uk/ARC_Home_subsite)

I really can't see the point of it, though some of the dividers etc may well interest some Filofax users who are keen on tinkering.

Alison Reeves (2012-01-10 17:17:16)

@Scoot - That is interesting - I really wanted one of these a while ago but they were only available in the US. Not sure I want one anymore!

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-01-10 17:29:59)

@Scoot- sounds interesting, thanks for the link! I think I heard of something similar from the US. I don't think it's as customisable as a Filofax though! ;b

@Alison- I have both the Day Timer day on 2 pages and week on 2 pages. First I bought the DO2P, and of course can't hold it all in 1 filofax, so I wanted to get WO2P for forward planning etc! I'm happy with what I've got now, although they were quite expensive in the end- but there's 20 % off at the moment!

livermac69 (2012-01-10 17:49:57)

@Steve the A5 advise works a treat. Off to sort my templates out now. Thanks for the help.

Butanben (2012-01-10 18:12:52)

@Christa- thank you. I'll look your Flickr page up.

Alison Reeves (2012-01-10 18:21:42)

@ Rori & @ TPS - I think I'm going to go with the week to view - I can always get a more detailed view to add in if I need to - Day-Timer allow you to buy and enter a start month so you don't waste money - good thinking!

LM (2012-01-10 20:51:42)

Oops, am I too late? Does anyone know the ring size of the Pocket Pimlico, please?

Jy11 (2012-01-10 22:14:22)

@Anthony: good to know there is no going wrong with the Metropol! Decision made already! :D

About the Rapesco, does yours have brackets on the side to center the paper? Mine doesn't. It just has a line in the middle. I guess I will have to measure each paper, find its middle and align with that mark to have the wholes placed right. Is yours like that as well?

Lynne (2012-01-11 05:14:03)

LM - I think they are 15mm

LM (2012-01-11 07:10:57)

Thank you, Lynne! Most of the recent Pocket versions seem to have 19 mm rings, but older ones tend to be 15mm. I was hoping for 19, though ... or just have to do a drastic slimdown!

Marc (2012-01-11 16:38:31)

Hi,

I have a question about archiving old leafs.

Filofax is selling a storage binder, but you are unable to turn pages in it. What systems do you use to storage of your old Filofax.

I forgot I use a pocket size Filofax.

Steve Morton (2012-01-11 16:58:12)

Marc

If you want to turn the pages, why not just buy another Filofax, a cheap one in the sales.

I store mine in a box with a tag through the holes, I can still turn the pages, but the tag keeps the pages together

Marc (2012-01-11 17:27:34)

Thank you for the advice

Novagirl (2012-01-11 21:05:13)

I just got a Black Personal Malden in the mail today, but am disappointed with the leather's shine factor. Way too much shine for my taste. Does anyone have any ideas or tips for how to reduce the shine?

## **A Journey Back In Time - Part 1 (2012-01-11 00:00) - Steve Morton**

So today I would like you to join me in a journey back in time, to a time a long, long time ago, before I was born and maybe before some of your parents were born even. Gosh, that is a long time ago!

But before we can go on this journey together back through time, we need to understand how money worked in UK before 1971. After 1971, UK money was decimalised so now we have 100 pence make one £1. Before 1971 UK used pounds shillings and pence. There was 240 pennies in each pound but more commonly it was thought of as twelve pennies equals one shilling, twenty shillings equals one pound. So when we go back in time together and you see £.s.d., it stands for pounds shillings and pence

How amounts were written in the past is also different. So if you see 20/- that means 20 shillings, which equals £1 (one pound) 1/6 is one shilling and six pence or 7.5 new pence (£0.075).

As a young 12 year-old the changeover to decimal coinage was quite a change. You can [1]read more about it here. But in actual fact, as you will all know, the decimal system is a lot easier to use as long as you forget about the pre-decimal system and stop converting back in to it.

So how are we going to travel in to the past, Steve? And what has all this got to do with Filofax... Have you been drinking too much of that French wine again.... ???..... Just stand by, I'm getting there. OK? But I needed to prepare you all for this shock... I could have just taken you back in time and said, 'Right here we are' and you wouldn't have known when we were!

Now, to get back in time we aren't going to need a time machine made from a modified [2]DeLorean DMC-12, the vehicle's time displacement being powered by plutonium, which supplies 1.21 gigawatts of energy to a device they call the "[3]flux capacitor". No, we can do it with a simple desk top document scanner!

So now I need to introduce you to my able assistant... Mrs M or 'The Hand of Philofaxy' to some people, without whose help we wouldn't be on this journey back in time. You see, Mrs M was sorting through an [4]archive box of hers the other day and in it she discovered something that I last saw in the late 1980's - a catalogue for Filofax dating back some considerable time. I thought this had been lost completely so I was very pleased to see it again. How old the catalogue is we aren't quite sure.

So what you are about to see are scanned in images for the pages from the catalogue. Just click on the pictures to see a larger version of each one.

Awards:  
**DIPLOMA & BRONZE MEDAL,**  
 British Empire Exhibition, 1925.  
**DIPLOMA OF MERIT,**  
 International Exhibition of Inventions,  
 1926, 1927, 1928, 1936.

# LOOSE LEAF SERVICES



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# LEFAX

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## the mechanical memory

No need to use your brain as a storehouse.

Leave facts to Lefax and keep your mind  
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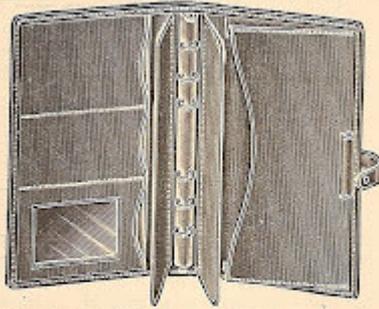
Lefax is simplicity itself. It has the happy faculty of saving for you just what you want in the way of information and at the same time getting rid of all else. It is comprised of condensed data on numerous subjects—the hand-picked material which you need for ready reference; two hundred and fifty forms for your business and personal use—blank forms, ruled forms and forms for numerous specific purposes; binders and files of many types to make your data easy of access and convenient.

Lefax is loose leaf with a Simple Filing System, one standard size—pocket size, and comprise

Pocket and Desk Binders,  
Filing Boxes and Cabinets,  
Loose-Leaf Data Sheets  
Miscellaneous Supplies,  
Loose-Leaf Blank and Ruled Forms.

## POCKET & DESK BINDERS.

Lefax Data Sheets & Blank Forms all fit these Binders.



199— $\frac{1}{4}$ "  
 $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch rings—capacity 60 sheets.  $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch rings—capacity 120 sheets.  
 1-inch rings—capacity 200 sheets.

### Pocket Books.

* E. 199, Morocco Wallet, with Gusset Pocket, Note Case, Pockets for Cards, Tickets and Licence and fitted with Tab and Button ...	£1 1 0
* P.S. 199, ditto, ditto, in Pin Seal, lined Calf, in dark blue and black ...	1 5 0
* E.S. 199, Morocco, gusset pocket inside, two window pockets outside ...	1 1 0
* A. 299, Brown Morocco, gusset pocket, stamp, card and note pockets ...	0 12 6
* A. 20, Flexible Black Morocco, no pocket ...	0 13 6
LS. 90, Black Morocco, with one flat and one Zip Pocket ...	1 1 0
†* E. 200, Morocco Case with pocket ...	0 12 6
†* E. 201, Persian Lamb, flexible, no pocket ...	0 8 6
†* P.E. 201, Persian Lamb, flexible, with pocket ...	0 9 6
†* H. 201, Nut Hide, no pocket ...	0 8 6
†* P.H. 201, Nut Hide, with pocket ...	0 9 6
† E. 202, Canvas, stiff covers ...	0 5 0
†* S. 300, Black Fabricoid (flexible) ...	0 4 0
†* S. 315, ditto, red or blue, with pocket ...	0 5 0
†* S. 415, Pluvuisin, Semi Limp, various colours ...	0 4 6
†* W. 301, as S. 300, with two flat pockets ...	0 5 0

The above prices are for  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch rings.

\*  $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch rings, 1/6 extra. † 1-inch rings, 2/6 extra.

### Zip Fastener Books.

Z.P. 201,  $\frac{1}{4}$ " Persian Lamb, two flat pockets ... 0 16 6

To open—Press end levers. To close—Press rings together.  
 Canvas binders, to take sheets flat, double, treble and quadruple sizes.  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}$  and 1-inch rings can be supplied.

Special Binders made to order, any size and quality.

Monel Metal books for the tropics. Prices on request.

All Binders are British Made. Quality unsurpassed.



## Blank and Ruled Forms.

Among the 250 different blank and ruled forms listed you will find forms which are exactly suited for recording your business, professional and personal data, and keeping it right at your finger tips. They are all sized and punched for insertion in the binders. With a few exceptions these forms all have the Filing Index printed in the upper right hand corner in which to fill in the proper words for systematic filing in the filing boxes and cabinets.

Many of the forms are double, triple and quadruple width, folded to the standard Lefax size. The triple sheets afford a writing surface practically as large as a letter-size sheet.

Whatever you want to remember, put it on a Lefax sheet, insert it in your pocket binder or file, and you will have it when you want it.

Price (all forms) per pack ... 1/6.

Small Assortment (one each of 40 leading forms) 1/6.

Large Assortment (one of each form except maps) 5/-.

**Special forms printed to order. Quotation on application.**

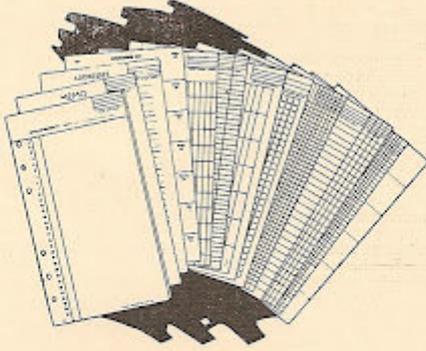
NOTE.—S—single sheet; D—double; T—triple; Q—quadruple.

Numerals before these letters indicate number of sheets per pack.

Form No.	Form No.
*A. Assorted Colours ... 100 S	89 Polar Co-ordinate ... 10 T
*0 Blue paper, ruled ... 150 S	91 Perforated Memo ... 40 S
*1 Blue paper, plain ... 150 S	Sheets, 6 divisions ... 40 S
*1a Green paper ... 150 S	91a Ditto, 3 divisions ... 40 S
*2 White paper, plain ... 150 S	92 Daily Memo, 7 days ... 40 S
*3 Pink paper ... 150 S	on a sheet, undated ... 40 S
*4 Horizontal ruled ... 150 S	93 Engagements ... 50 S
*5 Buff paper, plain ... 200 S	94 Photo, Exposure ... 40 S
*7 Yellow paper, plain ... 150 S	94a Film Exposure Record ... 20 D
*7a Ditto, Perf. down ... 40 D	98 Columnar, Vertical ... 25 D
centre ... 40 D	99 Columnar, Horizontal ... 25 D
8 White paper, plain ... 60 S	100 Daily Memo, 7 days on ... 25 D
9 Horizontal ruled ... 60 S	2 sheets undated ... 25 D
10 Quadrille, 6 lines to in. ... 60 S	103 Photo Mounts, light ... 20 S
11 Cross Section, 10 lines ... 30 S	weight tan ... 7 Q
11a Cross Section, 10 lines ... 60 S	105 Profile, 4 x 20 lines ... 7 Q
12 Cross Section, 20 lines ... 80 S	106 Salesman's Weekly ... 40 S
14 Journal, 2 column ... 50 S	Expense ... 25 D
15 Ledger ... 50 S	107 Salesman's Reminder ... 7 Q
16 Transit and Level ... 40 S	108 Year by Days ... 40 S
17 Surveyors Quantity ... 15 D	126 Auto Tire Record ... 40 S
18 Cross Section, 10 lines ... 15 D	127 Auto Expense ... 40 S
19 Cross Section, 20 lines ... 15 D	128 Payroll—Weekly ... 40 S
20 Logarithmic ... 15 D	130 Quadrille, 8 lines to in. ... 55 S
22 White paper, plain ... 30 D	130a " " ... 30 D
23 Quadrille, 5 lines to 1" ... 50 S	130b " " ... 18 T
29 Daily Memo, dated ... 27 S	130q " " ... 15 Q
33 Cross Section, 16 lines ... 30 S	133 Horizontal ruled ... 28 D
*41 Quad., 4 lines to in. ... 80 S	134 " " ... 20 T
42 Columnar Vert ... 45 S	135 " " ... 15 Q
44 Quadrille ... 25 D	142 Pay Roll, Monthly ... 40 S
45 Monthly Report ... 45 S	145 Cross Section, 20 lines, ... 30 S
46 Transit and Level ... 15 D	onion skin ... 15 D
47 Trilinear Chart ... 30 S	146 Cross Section, 20 lines ... 10 T
50 Cross Section, 10 lines ... 10 T	onion skin ... 40 S
51 Cross Section, 20 lines ... 10 T	147 Cross Section, 20 lines, ... 40 S
52 Quadrille, blue paper ... 40 S	onion skin ... 40 S
53 Quadrille, pink paper ... 40 S	148 Quotation Record ... 40 S
54 Requisition Sheet ... 40 S	149 Construction Report ... 40 S
54a Ditto (Sterling) ... 40 S	150 Quadrille, green paper ... 40 S
56 White paper, plain ... 22 T	151 Employee Record ... 40 S
57 Quadrille, 5 lines to 1" ... 20 D	156 Journal, 1 column ... 50 S
62 Cross Section, Metric ... 30 S	156a Journal, 1 column ... 25 D
63 Ditto ... 15 D	164 Oil Well Record ... 15 D
67 Cross Section, 12 lines ... 20 D	166 Onion Skin (tracing) ... 30 S
to 1-inch ... 15 D	167 Concrete Cost Sheet ... 40 S
69 Quadrille ... 18 T	183 Postage Stamp Ap- ... 40 S
71 Onion Skin (tracing) ... 40 S	proval Sheet ... 20 D
73 Columnar, horizontal ... 45 S	187 Class Record (37 ... 40 S
77 Vertical ruled ... 60 S	sessions) ... 40 S
78 Cross Section, Metric ... 10 T	189 Cost of Production ... 15 D
83 Appointments, ½ hour ... 40 S	192 Circle & Sectors ... 15 D
86 Semi-log ... 15 D	193 Onion Skin (tracing) ... 13 T

\*Economy Quality, No Index.

## Blank and Ruled Forms.



Form No.	Form No.
194 Address Sheet with phone ... 40 S	350 Farm Property ... 40 S
194a Address Sheet ... 50 S	351 Columnar Vertical (4 col.) ... 40 S
195 Prog. of Work Record ... 7 Q	352 Driver and Carrier Record ... 40 S
202 Stock & Bond Record ... 40 S	353 Genealogical Data ... 40 S
203 Monthly Report ... 45 S	354 Physician's Mo. Call List ... 20 D
210 Music Staff ... 40 S	355 Amateur Radio Station Record ... 40 S
211 Journal, 8 col. ... 23 D	356 Minister's Monthly Record ... 40 S
212 Journal, 12 column ... 14 Q	358 Geologist's Report ... 25 D
213 White paper, plain ... 17 Q	359 Auto Sales Prospect Record ... 40 S
214 Quadrille, 6 lines to in. ... 15 T	360 Radio Log, improved ... 40 S
218 Columnar, Vertical ... 13 Q	361 Daily Report, 1 year on sheet ... 40 S
219 do. ... 13 Q	363 Stock Movement Chart ... 7 Q
220 Salesman's Report ... 40 S	364 Minister's Parish Record ... 40 S
220a Record ... 45 S	365 Insurance Field Prem. Record ... 40 S
N. 220a Salesmen's Report ... 45 S	366 Cash Book & Journal ... 7 Q
N. 220b as above with date of calls ... 40 S	367 Petty Accounts ... 40 S
221 Receipt, Cash ... 40 S	368 Customer's Account ... 40 S
222 Quadrille, 5 lines to 1" ... 13 T	369 Insurance Claim Report ... 40 S
228 Perpetual Inventory ... 40 S	370 Check Register ... 30 S
235a Semi log., Triple Scale ... 12 T	371 Physicians' Case Record ... 40 S
235 do. ... 10 T	373 General Purpose ... 40 S
243 Real Estate Listing ... 40 S	380 Stock Record ... 40 S
248 Year-by-weeks ... 10 T	381 Bond Record ... 40 S
249 Salesman's Order Sheet ... 40 S	382 Stock Trading Record ... 40 S
252 Semi log., Quad. ... 10 T	383 Real Estate Income ... 40 S
254 Memo ... 50 S	384 Income from Loans ... 40 S
254d Memo (Self copying) ... 40 S	385 Earned Income Record ... 40 S
254e Sale Note (Self Copying) ... 40 S	386 Income Deductions ... 40 S
254f Order Form (Self copying) ... 40 S	387 Income Tax Record ... 40 S
254g Prescription (Self copying) ... 40 S	388 Income Annual Statement ... 40 S
255 Mineral Description ... 10 T	389 Life Insurance Policy ... 40 S
262 Trade Acceptance ... 25 S	390 Policy Record ... 40 S
266 Class Record (80 sessions) ... 10 Q	391 Household Inventory ... 40 S
278 Auction Bridge Score ... 40 S	392 Information for Executors ... 40 S
280 Geological Formation ... 30 S	400 Motor Contract Record ... 40 S
283 Insurance Prospect ... 40 S	401 Temperature Chart ... 40 S
E. 283a " ... 40 S	402 Cinema Film Booking Record ... 25 T
323a Personal Expense ... 40 S	
325 Pedigree Record ... 10 T	
336 Radio log ... 40 S	
339 Check, Bank, Blank ... 25 S	
341 Lawyers Docket ... 40 S	
342 Radio Reception Stamp ... 40 S	
343 Vacant Lots ... 40 S	

[10]

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Keep the handy memo book with you all the time. It is small enough to carry conveniently in the pocket yet large enough for complete notes. (This Catalogue is Lefax size).

Make your notes on a blank sheet ruled to suit the particular information to be recorded. (There are over 250 different forms). Put only one subject on a sheet. Note the subject in the index space in the upper right hand corner.

When the memorandum has served its immediate purpose, file the sheet alphabetically in the filing box.

All notes on the same subject are thus automatically grouped and can be found at a moment's notice. This file can be added to indefinitely without causing disorder, and will prove of inestimable value to you in after years. And remember that the sheets are transferable between pocket book and file as desired.

## Catching and Filing Ideas.

When a good idea, or a new, original or unusual idea strikes you, regard it as an Angel's visit, chain the Angel to Lefax. Better take time to catch one than to see a thousand flit by and be lost for ever. Write down the Idea on a Sheet while it is fresh in your memory and file for future reference in the filing box. Do not hesitate, thinking that at some convenient time you will recall it, for seldom is this possible.

These ideas thus filed may enormously enrich your future business or professional work.

## Filing Boxes and Cabinets.

All filing equipment is made to the standard size. Every piece of material fits exactly.

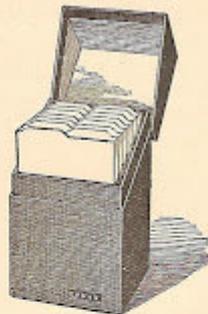
Data sheets and blank forms all fit the same files.

Green Cloth Covered Cardboard (for 1,000 Sheets) ... .. each 4/-

Enamelled Metal (for 1,000 Sheets), 7/6  
10 Guide Cards with each box.

Polished Wood 1-drawer Cabinet,  
2,500 sheets ... .. 12/6

Ditto, 2-drawer ... .. 18/-



Other Types of Filing Cabinets—Price on application

## Extra Guide Cards for Filing Cabinets.

Cards with blank tabs, green or salmon	...	...	25 for 1/-
Filing Folders with Blank Tabs	...	...	20 for 1/6
Alphabetical guide cards, 40 divisions	...	...	3/6 per set.
A—Z	...	...	2/- per set.
Radio guide cards with printed headings, 32 divisions	...	...	3/- per set.

Postage Rates.—Foreign Postage Extra British Isles Free on goods over 10/- Postage Charged on all Filing Cabinets.

## Miscellaneous Items that Increase the Usefulness of the Lefax System.

<b>Punches</b> for punching, clippings, blue prints, etc., to fit Lefax binders ... .. each	£2 0 0
<b>Single Hole Ticket Punch</b> ... .. each	0 9 0
<b>Linen-lined Envelopes</b> , punched, for carrying cards, tickets, clippings, stamps, etc. ... .. each	3d.
<b>Cellophane Envelopes</b> ... .. each	2d.
<b>Filing Envelopes</b> , paper, punched, with Lefax Filing Index, for filing clippings, films, etc. ... .. 15 for	1/6
<b>Opaque Flyleaves</b> ... .. each	6d.
<b>Tracing Cloth, punched:—</b>	
Single sheet size (6½" × 3½") ... ..	1d. per sheet.
Double sheet size (6½" × 7½") ... ..	2d. per sheet.
Triple sheet size (6½" × 10½") ... ..	3d. per sheet.
<b>Carbon Copying Sets</b> ... ..	1d. each.
<b>Index Stamps</b> , gummed, containing imprint of Lefax Filing Index, for indexing clippings, etc., one sheet of 60 stamps ... ..	11d.
<b>Reinforcing Patches</b> : gummed cloth, punched 50 for 1/—	
<b>Horizontal Div. Cards</b> Tab on 6½" side, for Horizontal Filing ... ..	25 for 1/6
<b>Cut-to-Measure Index Tabs for Making Special Indices</b> (per foot 2 strips) ... ..	2/—
<b>Stamp Approval Cards</b> ... .. each	3d.

### MAPS.

Coloured maps of England, China, The World, India, Scandinavia, Russia, New Zealand, Asia, South America, North America, West Indies, Europe, France, Balkan States, Italy, Spain, Africa, South Africa, Scotland, Ireland, Holland and Belgium, Germany, Austria Hungary, etc., English Counties, Great Trunk Roads.

2d. each.

Complete set Maps, 14 sections, England, Wales & Scotland, for Motorists, Salesmen, Tourists, Hikers, etc.

1/— each.

### Lefax Loose Leaf Data Sheets.

Lefax has published approximately 10,000 pages of useful data.

The data sheets contain up-to-date practical reference information on all branches of engineering, chemistry, architecture, agriculture, business and general subjects. They are loose-leaf, 6½ × 3½ inches, the same size and punching as this booklet. They enable you to carry in a handy pocket binder just the facts you need at any particular time, and to build up a compact reference file relating strictly to the subjects in which you are interested.

The information is gathered only from reliable sources, boiled down to essentials and carefully checked by our own editorial staff assisted by consulting experts in nearly every line of endeavour. No pains are spared to insure absolute accuracy.

Write for Special Data Catalogue.

## Special LEFAX Handbooks

5/- each.

This new series consists of selected insets in S. 300 ¼-inch capacity flexible fabricoid cover. Leather binding can be supplied at additional cost of cover. See Page 2 for alternative bindings.

901. **The Motorists and Hikers Map Guide.**—Maps of England, Scotland & Wales in 14 sections.
902. **Camp and Hikers Handbook.**—Data on Route Sketching, First Aid, Antidotes for poisons, Camp Fire and Camp Cookery, Sheets for notes, addresses, expenses, diary, film exposure record, trunk road map.
- 903.—**Nature Lovers Handbook.**—Sheets for compiling data on Birds, Trees, Flowers, Weeds, etc., Film exposure sheet.
- 904.—**Lefax Jotter.**—Plain and faint ruled, cash, appointments, addresses, reports, etc.
- 905.—**Scouts Book.**—Calendar, Data on Knots, Games, First Aid, Rope Splicing, Route Sketching, Film Exposure, Note Sheets and Trunk Road Map.
- 906.—**Girl Guides.**—Calendar, Removal of Stains, First Aid, Route Sketching, Sheets for Notes and Film Exposure, Trunk Road Map.
- 907.—**Doctors Lefax.**—Physicians Monthly call list, Physicians Case record, appointments, memo, prescription, etc. (We particularly recommend the 199 ¼" for this book at 21/6).
- 909.—**Ministers Lefax.**—Monthly record and Parish record, addresses, appointments, notes, etc.
- 910.—**Salesmens Lefax.**—Addresses, appointments, expenses, orders, memo, salesmens reminder and report forms, etc.
- 911.—**Insurance Prospect Record Book.**—Prospect Records, Expense, Engagements, etc.
- 912.—**Cinema Managers' Lefax.**—Film Booking Record, Engagements, Notes, etc.
- 913.—**Lefax Holiday Diary.**—Photo Mounts, Notes, Expense, Addresses, Diary, Auto Expense, etc.
- 914.—**Stamp Collectors Handbook.**—Approval Cards, Sectional Sheets, Cellophane Envelopes, etc.

For other Loose Leaf Services—see separate Lists.

8

[13]

Be sure to come back tomorrow to see Part 2 of this journey back in time!

1. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Decimal\\_Day](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Decimal_Day)
2. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/DeLorean\\_DMC-12](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/DeLorean_DMC-12)
3. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flux\\_capacitor](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flux_capacitor)
4. <http://alison-morton.com/blog/2012/01/08/double-memories/>
5. [http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-7NZ3s0\\_QbPk/Twh0\\_QMUmqI/AAAAAAAAAKGQ/z7q6F0QTIvg/s1600/Cat137\\_cover.jpeg](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-7NZ3s0_QbPk/Twh0_QMUmqI/AAAAAAAAAKGQ/z7q6F0QTIvg/s1600/Cat137_cover.jpeg)
6. [http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-Ctd2aU4Q3g8/Twh1CxMb7cI/AAAAAAAAAKGY/\\_01L9XQ7jka/s1600/Cat137\\_page1.jpeg](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-Ctd2aU4Q3g8/Twh1CxMb7cI/AAAAAAAAAKGY/_01L9XQ7jka/s1600/Cat137_page1.jpeg)
7. [http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-YTKfe\\_yr9IQ/Twh1HDBGafI/AAAAAAAAAKGg/CXheVkBTSso/s1600/Cat137\\_page2.jpeg](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-YTKfe_yr9IQ/Twh1HDBGafI/AAAAAAAAAKGg/CXheVkBTSso/s1600/Cat137_page2.jpeg)
8. [http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-qg9P0HuBJ1w/Twh1LnU2hpI/AAAAAAAAAKGw/OW9RnsaGtG4/s1600/Cat137\\_page3.jpg](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-qg9P0HuBJ1w/Twh1LnU2hpI/AAAAAAAAAKGw/OW9RnsaGtG4/s1600/Cat137_page3.jpg)
9. [http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-LZX5F6YT0cw/Twh1Q0F6\\_QI/AAAAAAAAAKGw/OBI9R822hmI/s1600/Cat137\\_page4.jpeg](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-LZX5F6YT0cw/Twh1Q0F6_QI/AAAAAAAAAKGw/OBI9R822hmI/s1600/Cat137_page4.jpeg)
10. [http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-QCXIe1W27y8/Twh1Um5YqCI/AAAAAAAAAKG4/r1E07ilX0Ac/s1600/Cat137\\_page5.jpg](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-QCXIe1W27y8/Twh1Um5YqCI/AAAAAAAAAKG4/r1E07ilX0Ac/s1600/Cat137_page5.jpg)
11. [http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-FRcvnbqSyY0/Twh1YR6GNjI/AAAAAAAAAKHA/rPcEtX4II\\_E/s1600/Cat137\\_page6.jpeg](http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-FRcvnbqSyY0/Twh1YR6GNjI/AAAAAAAAAKHA/rPcEtX4II_E/s1600/Cat137_page6.jpeg)
12. [http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-3G3nXv06sTE/Twh1c5JH8YI/AAAAAAAAAKHI/oDG351kuqr4/s1600/Cat137\\_page7.jpg](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-3G3nXv06sTE/Twh1c5JH8YI/AAAAAAAAAKHI/oDG351kuqr4/s1600/Cat137_page7.jpg)
13. [http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-t-G6rLDFy-U/Twh1g8\\_r3DI/AAAAAAAAAKHQ/S7KEWKgyv8w/s1600/Cat137\\_page8.jpg](http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-t-G6rLDFy-U/Twh1g8_r3DI/AAAAAAAAAKHQ/S7KEWKgyv8w/s1600/Cat137_page8.jpg)

Jy11 (2012-01-11 00:15:26)

This is precious! Very interesting sections on "Special Lefax Handbooks". Doctors and stamp collectors books! And the binders portrayed in a drawing! so unique! Kudos for the findings of Ms. M!

JohnofJenkins (2012-01-11 00:20:09)

Please Sir,

Did they have Dinosaurs back then?

Kate (2012-01-11 00:56:56)

What an intriguing range of inserts! There used to be a shop in Cambridge called The Organiser Shop which I loved to visit. I remember one wall just full of various inserts and the conversations I had with the owner about organisation. I often wonder what happened to her. Thanks for the trip down memory lane. I'm looking forward to part 2.

Gerard (2012-01-11 01:32:18)

A wonderful post! Thanks Steve.

Femke (2012-01-11 02:21:00)

What a fantastic find! Brilliant!

Tim (2012-01-11 03:32:11)

I was the same age as you Steve at decimalisation (15th Feb 1971). I can still convert any amount from £sd to £p and vice-versa, instantly in my head. So eighty seven and a half new pence - that's 17/6d in old money!

My children glaze over at my "party piece" and think of me as very sad!

To save confusion, it was initially "np" for New Pence. Many older copper coins still say "New Pence" on their face to this day - check your purse!

Scot (2012-01-11 05:16:54)

Lovely insight into the past, also a number of interesting topics for discussion .... but it is the date of printing that has me immediately perplexed.

From the front sheet it obviously has to be at least 1930. The suit looks 1930's, rather than 1940's. Page 4 states "Economy Quality" for certain sections, which possibly suggests wartime paper. However, would Filofax be allowed to use all that paper during wartime? Does anyone know if the address on the front, 16 Newgate St, is that destroyed in 1940?

Anyway my latest TO DO for the fax, after having a brainwave trying to understand one of the handbook descriptions, is to write down all policy details for all insurances.

Steve Morton (2012-01-11 05:30:01)

Hi Scot

Yes I've been puzzling over when this might have been printed.

Originally the company had operated from the premises of W & T Rounce in Appold Street.

According to 'Filofax Facts' the office that was bombed in WWII was in Aldersgate Street on 30 Dec 1940

They then moved to a temporary office in Watford.

Their main customers during the war years were Army officers, so may be they were allowed to maintain production through the war.

Steve

After the

Laurie (2012-01-11 06:29:42)

Oh my gosh Steve this is amazing!!!! I wish they still had all those inserts available, I would love the birdwatching ones and, well, all of them really.

And am I reading those right that the prices of the binders are a pound or less??? Oh how times have changed!!! (PS if it was cost-effective to print all those different inserts back then, surely they could manage it now that

printing is so much cheaper.)

Laurie (2012-01-11 06:31:16)

And ps thanks for the info on the monetary system, it was a huge mystery to me but you have explained it very well!

Marc (2012-01-11 07:00:48)

Hi, the special handbooks look interesting, I wonder why Filofax does not more today. Handbook for gardening, movies etc. Moleskine does this now, why not Filofax.

I would like to have such more special refills

Tim (2012-01-11 07:26:13)

Re: the date, Many documents used to have a printers code - usually on the last or back page. This often gave a clue to date of printing. eg "Printed by Bloggs and Sons 836/5" indicating a printing date of August 1936 and a 5000 print run. However, this was not universal by any means and as it was (presumably) printed in house, might not appear. I'm hoping that Part 2 might reveal something!

Examples of price conversion:-

Pocket Books (binders) (page 2) 25p to £1.25

Indices (Index cards) 7.5p to 17.5p

Forms 7.5p or a Large selection for 25p

The most expensive item was the hole punch at £2

Even some of the big Filofax sales these days don't compare with these prices!

Lynne (2012-01-11 08:12:34)

If the date is available, it may be interesting to apply inflation

Tim Ettenheim (2012-01-11 08:13:30)

Steve,

great post – and I have two boxes of Lexaf stuff! I was directed to this stuff from my post about my Lexaf finds in the Fountain Pen Network ([http://www.fountainpennetwork.com/forum/index.php?/topic/211901-l-exaf-forms-and-notebooks/page\\_-\\_gopid\\_-\\_2211919\\_#entry2211919](http://www.fountainpennetwork.com/forum/index.php?/topic/211901-l-exaf-forms-and-notebooks/page_-_gopid_-_2211919_#entry2211919)). Mine are American, either published in or distributed from New York City, these as late as 1965. I would be pleased to see them find their way to someone who would want them.

Tim in NYC (to differentiate from the other Tim here, as a New Yorker I can't do the conversion, although my adult kids might be impressed if I did...)

abc def (2012-01-11 09:52:46)

This comment has been removed by the author.

abc def (2012-01-11 09:58:16)

The number "137" on the first page. 01/1937?

On Page 7 it says "Austria Hungary" which was dissolved after WW I.

crofter (2012-01-11 11:30:48)

I happen to have two of these in my collection.

The first was on radio, and was very rich in schematics, and construction details. It was in a cardboard binder, was copyrighted in 1930, but it shows it was reprinted in 1959.

The second is on construction, is in a leather Lefax binder and it too is copyrighted in 1930. This one just shows that many basic constuction techniques have not changed, but there has been great advance in both materials and tools. This I believe to be the 1st edition because it show no signs on any of the pages of being a reprint.

It would appear that you could purchase sets on each subject with in the general category in that each specific subject is 4-6 pages long. Both appear to be rather complete, however, not having access to a catalog for that era, I have no way of knowing.

I gave the one on Radio to my brother-in-law as a Christmas gift along with a Filo personal binder to keep it in. It was a brown made in England that I thought would most nearly duplicate the original, however, it wasn't close to the Lefax binder that the construction one was in. He was thrilled, had never seen anything like it.

Sari (2012-01-11 12:45:54)

What a fantastic post - and great pictures, too! Thank you very much, Steve, I simply love your time travel (without the 'flux capacitor' )!!

I, too, would love to see some of the 'old' inserts again - such a wide range, from special inserts for girl-scouts to docters and ministers..... Happy times, dinosaurs or not;-)

Also great information about the change in the monetary system, I never really understood it before.

Can't wait for part two!

Tim (2012-01-11 12:46:27)

January 1937 is certainly possible. But "137" could also be the product number of this product list!

I would suggest there was a typo and the "Austria Hungary" should have had a comma inserted in between.

I've looked through a 1928 RAC Handbook and can't find any reference to "trunk roads". I think this term first came into use with the 1936 Trunk Roads Act - again suggesting 1937 as a likely date!

Scot (2012-01-11 14:04:01)

Not sure about the comma, a hyphen possibly. I know 4 elderly people around 90 years old+, British and Prussian origin, who still commonly refer to that part of Europe (in English) as basically either the Austro-Hungarian Empire or Hapsburg Empire and then distinguish the behaviour of the different people by group. Russia, not the Soviet Union, is also listed in the map section so again perhaps just the noun in popular usage. Admittedly, those elderly people referred to often seem straight out of the 18th Century, but the terms must have been in common use in the 1930's. I still refer to the "Balkans" or "the former Yugoslavia", finding it easier than remembering all the names of new countries (with strange and shifting boundaries) that equate with terrible news.

Looking at the Filofax catalogue list it is hard to imagine the then/my own world/life without computers or internet (I've used computers from age 5), I can't even imagine that some of the inserts would have much appeal to even specific professions. It is interesting that inserts were commonly double, triple, or quadruple in size, also that plain/ruled paper packs consisted of many sheets in various colours. Not sure of the use of tracing paper, but can't see a listing for blotting paper. Half way down page 7 is "Cut-to-measure Index Tabs for Making Special Indices (Per 2 foot strips)", something I didn't think they would have then and which I am thinking would be useful and so I should make now...using double sided sticky tape and clear cellophane.

LJ (2012-01-11 14:51:02)

Duplex binders - now there's an idea :o)

globetrottingcacti (2012-01-11 14:55:35)

Fascinating post and loved reading all the comments too. What a find.....

David F. (2012-01-11 16:22:34)

Wow. Just wow!

What a fantastic archival document and a fantastic post. Thank you so much Steve!

Tim Ettenheim - I would be very interested in your collection of Lefax inserts. Can you please contact me

Best Wishes

David

terriknits (2012-01-11 22:58:06)

great looking post! I can't wait to come back on the weekend and give it a good read.

kanalt (2012-01-12 13:34:35)

Great post Steve! This is amazing. I would love to find storage boxes like these, but they'd have to be a reasonable price, unlike the "storage binders" Filofax sells today.

MsPencil (2012-01-13 11:30:30)

This was really cool stuff. I used to teach History so I enjoy reading about stuff from the past. Hope you guys are enjoying the New Year as much as I. Be well. Lorraine

terriknits (2012-01-14 00:52:14)

"Lefax - the mechanical memory" I love it.

gmax (2012-01-16 07:43:35)

@Tim - just looked at the photos you'd put on FPN - those Lefax leaves look amazing. Like @David F, I'd love to explore that collection. Looks like a fundamental and undocumented chunk of Filofax history is there in a couple of boxes!

## **Filofax France and Italy 50% off sale (2012-01-11 14:45) - Laurie**

I hate to start an enabling frenzy, but Filofax France is having a 50 % off sale. Don't say I didn't warn ya:

[1]Click here to go to the sale items

And Filofax Italy as well

[2]Click here to go to the sale items

1. <http://www.filofax.fr/store/specials.asp?OID=270>

2. <http://www.filofax.it/store/specials.asp?OID=101>

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LJ (2012-01-11 14:52:04)

Ooh - on my way now!!! Thank you :o)

the Merry Lemon (2012-01-11 20:15:05)

Enabler!!!

I just looked at the filofax sites for a few countries. Unless I am missing something, there were no compact binders shown on the UK site???

Jotje (2012-01-12 03:34:26)

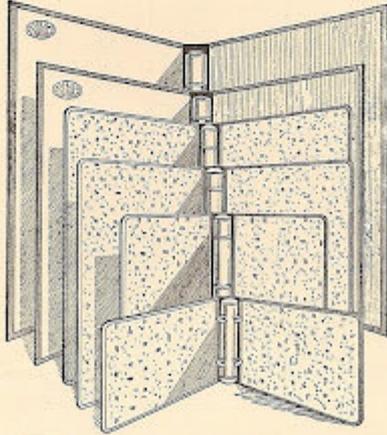
@MerryLemon: the UK website only sells the Osterley Compact (under Personal). However, the Neal Street store also sells the Regency and Chameleon in compact size. Very strange indeed!

## **A Journey Back In Time - Part 2 (2012-01-12 00:00) - Steve Morton**

So after yesterday's [1]first half of our journey back in time, we continue today with the second half of our journey.



**"FILOFAX"**  
**LOOSE LEAF SYSTEMS.**



**THE "RING-BINDER-WAY"**

Saves time and money. Absolutely Reliable  
Superior construction making it the most satisfactory  
Loose Leaf system in use.  
Made with various size fittings, from 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " to 17" deep,  
and any width.

**TRADE MARK.**



**MONOMARK**

**BCM/FILOFAX**

**CHICAGO, ILL.**

## Filifax Loose Leaf Ring Books.

All books have three rings, except 14-inch, which have four.  
 1 1/2-inch capacity holds 100 sheets and index, and 1-inch capacity 200 sheets and index sizes 11-inch, 13-inch, 14-inch, can be supplied 1 1/2-inch and 2-inch capacity if required. Special sizes or rulings to order.

### 300 Series.—Full Bound Fabricoid, stiff covers.

No.	Sheet Size, Binding Side First, Inches.	Capacity, inches.	Price Cover only.	Print, Plain and Quad. 100 Sheets.	Double Ledger, Double Cash 80 Sheets.	Index Canvas Tabs.
301	8 1/2 x 5 1/2	1 1/2	6/6	1/3	2/6	3/-
302	8 1/2 x 5 1/2	1	6/6	1/3	2/6	3/-
303	9 1/2 x 6	1 1/2	6/6	1/6	3/-	3/3
304	9 1/2 x 6	1	6/6	1/6	3/-	3/3
305	11 x 8 1/2	1 1/2	7/-	2/3	4/3	3/6
306	11 x 8 1/2	1	7/-	2/3	4/3	3/6
307	13 x 8	1 1/2	8/-	4/-	5/-	5/-
308	13 x 8	1	8/6	4/-	5/-	5/-
309	14 x 8 1/2	1 1/2	8/-	4/-	5/-	5/-
310	14 x 8 1/2	1	8/6	4/-	5/-	5/-

### 400 Series.—Full Bound Canvas, stiff covers.

401	8 1/2 x 5 1/2	1 1/2	5/6	1/3	2/6	3/-
402	8 1/2 x 5 1/2	1	6/-	1/3	2/6	3/-
403	9 1/2 x 6	1 1/2	6/-	1/6	3/-	3/3
404	9 1/2 x 6	1	6/6	1/6	3/-	3/3
407	11 x 8 1/2	1 1/2	6/6	2/3	4/3	3/6
408	11 x 8 1/2	1	7/-	2/3	4/3	3/6
409	13 x 8	1 1/2	8/-	4/-	5/-	5/-
410	13 x 8	1	8/6	4/-	5/-	5/-
411	14 x 8 1/2	1 1/2	8/6	4/-	5/-	5/-
412	14 x 8 1/2	1	9/-	4/-	5/-	5/-

### 700 Series.—Full Bound, best black morocco.

Also supplied with Zip fastener, and Index if required.

700	11 x 8 1/2	1 1/2	24/-	2/3	4/3	*5/-
701	11 x 8 1/2	1	25/-	2/3	4/3	5/-
702	13 x 8	1 1/2	28/-	4/-	5/-	*7/-
703	13 x 8	1	29/-	4/-	5/-	7/-
704	14 x 8 1/2	1 1/2	30/-	4/-	5/-	*7/-
705	14 x 8 1/2	1	31/-	4/-	5/-	7/-

\*Leather Tabs.

### 800 Series.—Full Black Fabricoid, semi-flexible, lined black-grained cloth.

810	5 1/2 x 3	1 1/2	6/6	9d.	—	2/-
840	7 1/2 x 5	1 1/2	9/6	1/3	—	2/9
841	7 1/2 x 5	1	10/-	1/3	—	2/9
850	8 1/2 x 5 1/2	1 1/2	10/6	1/3	2/6	3/-
851	8 1/2 x 5 1/2	1	10/6	1/3	2/6	3/-
860	9 1/2 x 6	1 1/2	10/6	1/6	3/-	3/3
861	9 1/2 x 6	1	11/-	1/6	3/-	3/3
880	11 x 8 1/2	1 1/2	12/6	2/3	4/3	3/6
881	11 x 8 1/2	1	13/6	2/3	4/3	3/6
882	13 x 8	1 1/2	14/6	4/-	5/-	5/-
883	13 x 8	1	15/-	4/-	5/-	5/-
890	14 x 8 1/2	1 1/2	15/-	4/-	5/-	5/-
891	14 x 8 1/2	1	16/-	4/-	5/-	5/-

### 900 Series.—6-ring metal, 11-inch size only. Flexible Black Fabricoid.

900	11 x 8 1/2	1 1/2	10/-	2/9	—	4/-
901	11 x 8 1/2	1	11/6	2/9	—	4/-

1,000 Series.—Flexible Black Fabricoid. Also supplied in blue and red.

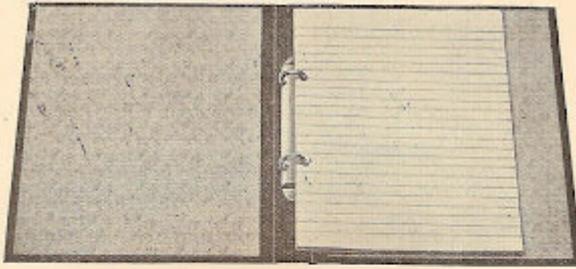
No.	Sheet Size, Binding Side First, Inches.	Capacity, notes.	Price Cover only.	Feint, Plain and Quad 100 Sheets.	Double Ledger, Double Cash 80 Sheets.	Index Canvas Tabs.
1100	8½ × 5½	½	6/9	1/3	2/6	3/-
1200	8½ × 5½	1	7/-	1/3	2/6	3/-
1300	9½ × 6	½	7/-	1/6	3/-	3/3
1400	9½ × 6	1	7/3	1/6	3/-	3/3
1500	11 × 8½	½	7/6	2/3	4/3	3/6
1600	11 × 8½	1	8/-	2/3	4/3	3/6
1700	13 × 8	½	8/6	4/-	5/-	5/-
1800	13 × 8	1	9/-	4/-	5/-	5/-
1900	14 × 8½	½	9/-	4/-	5/-	5/-
1901	14 × 8½	1	9/8	4/-	5/-	5/-

2,000 Series.—6-ring metal, 11-inch size only. Semi-flexible Best Black Morocco.

2100	11 × 8½	½	21/-	2/9	—	*5/6
2200	11 × 8½	1	23/-	2/9	—	*5/6

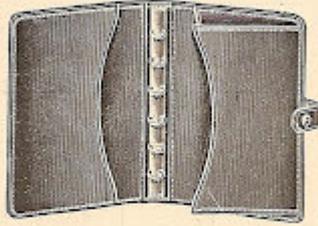
\*Leather Tabs.

### Students Ring Books.



Ref. No.	Sheet Size, Inches.	Centre to Centre.	½-inch Cap Binder.	1-inch Cap Binder.	Plain Refills, 50 Sheets.	Ruled Feint Refills, 50 Sheets.	A to Z Index.	Dividing Sheets.
R. 7	7 × 4½	8 c.m.	1/4	1/7	36.	44.	1/3	9d.
R. 8	8 × 5	8 c.m.	1/7	1/10	40.	54.	1/3	10d.
R. 8½	8 × 6	8 c.m.	1/9	2/-	44d.	64.	1/4	11d.
R. 9	9 × 7	8 c.m.	1/11	2/3	54d.	74.	1/6	1/-
R. 10	10 × 8	8 c.m.	2/-	2/4	6d.	84.	1/9	1/2
R. 11	11 × 8½	14 c.m.	2/3	2/7	7d.	9d.	2/-	1/3
R. 13	13 × 8	14 c.m.	2/8	3/-	8d	10d.	2/3	1/4

**Filofax "Senior" Pocket Book  
Filing System.**



<i>Description.</i>	<i>Ref. No.</i>	<i>6" x 3 1/4"</i>
*Black Morocco, 1 flat 1 gusset pocket	A.8	10/6
*Ditto with season case outside ...	S.29	11/6
Black Morocco, zip pocket ...	SZ.	17/6
Black Morocco, Wallet, Cards, notes and gusset pockets, inside season case ...	S.99	17/6
Brown Morocco, 1 flat, 1 gusset card and stamp pockets ...	A.577	12/6
Ditto, brown Buffalo Calf ...	A.677	17/6
Pin Seal (style as A.8) ...	SPS.	20/-
Black Persian Lamb, 1 flat pocket...	S.22	8/6
Brown Hide, ditto ...	S.20	8/6
† Black flexible fabricoid ...	S.18	3/6
† Black, red, blue, ditto, 1 flat pocket	S.16	4/-
A—Z Index, Leather tabs ...	SL.1	2/3
Blank Index, 12 Linen Tabs ...	S.F.1	1/3
Plain, 50 sheets ...	—	7d.
Feint, 50 sheets ...	—	7d.
Quadrille, 40 sheets ...	—	7d.
Cash, 60 sheets ...	—	1/-
Addresses, 50 sheets ...	—	1/-
Salesman's Report, 40 sheets ...	—	1/-
Temperature Chart, 30 sheets ...	—	1/-
Single Wood Filing Box with 10 guides	—	7/6
Double Drawer, ditto ...	—	11/-
Extra Guides ...	—	25 for 1/-
A-Z, for Filing Box ...	—	2/-

† Fitted with 4 Ring rivetted in metal, 2/6 & 3/-.

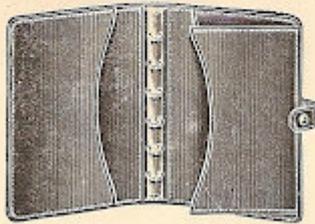
\*Coloured Morocco, 6d. extra.

Tab and Button, 6d. extra.

1/4" capacity metal, 1/6 each extra.

LIST No. 3.

Filofax "Junior" Pocket Book.



<i>Description.</i>	<i>Ref. No.</i>	<i>4½" × 2¼"</i>
*Black Morocco, 1 flat 1 gusset pocket	J.08	8/6
*Ditto with season case outside ...	J.29	9/6
Pin Seal (style as J.08) ... ..	J.PS.	16/-
Black Persian Lamb, 1 flat pocket...	J.22	6/6
Brown Hide, ditto ... ..	J.20	6/6
Black flexible fabricoid ... ..	J.18	3/-
Black, red, blue, ditto, 1 flat pocket	J.16	3/6
A—Z Index, Leather tabs ... ..	J.L.1	1/9
Blank Index, 9 Linen Tabs ... ..	J.F.1	1/-
Refills, feint and plain ... ..	—	6d.
Dated Diary ... ..	—	1/6
Undated Diary, cash, addresses ...	—	9d.
Quadrille ... ..	—	7d.
Filing Box with 12 guides ... ..	J.FB.	3/-
Extra guides ... ..	J.G.	20 for 6d.
Alpha. Index for box ... ..	F.1	1/6
Jotta, Black Morocco, flat and light, no metal fitting, pockets for stamps and business cards, complete with 50 feint sheets ... ..	—	4/-

\*Coloured Morocco, 6d. extra.

Tab and Button fitted 6d. extra.

P.T.O.

LIST No. 8.

**Filofax Jotta.**

Specially designed loose leaf Wallet in black morocco, flat and light, pockets for notes, stamps, business cards, complete with 100 feint ruled sheets and pencil, size 5" x 3½", no metal fittings **5/6**. Refills (50 sheets) **7d**.

**JUNIOR JOTTA**, ditto, sheet size 4½" x 2½", with 50 feint sheets **4/-**. Refills (50 sheets) **6d**.

**LEFAX JOTTA**, ditto, sheet size 6½" x 3½", with 50 feint sheets **7/-**. Refills (50 sheets) **9d**.  
Coloured morocco **6d**, each extra.

**Filofax Despatch Cases.**

We specialise in designing Salesmen's despatch cases, and make any style to suit customers requirements, with or without zip fastening. Quotation on request.

Brown Hide—Handle—Lock—2 short side straps :—

	802/14".	803/16".
1 pocket ... ..	<b>10/6</b>	<b>13/6</b>
2 pockets ... ..	<b>13/6</b>	<b>16/6</b>
3 pockets ... ..	<b>16/6</b>	<b>22/-</b>

**BANKERS WALLETS.**

**Black Morocco Grain Leather.**

No. 1 size 9" x 5".	1 Division ... ..	<b>3/-</b>
No. 2 size 11½" x 5".	1 Division ... ..	<b>3/6</b>
No. 3 size 11½" x 5".	2 Divisions ... ..	<b>4/9</b>
No. 4 size 12" x 7".	4 Divisions. Slide Fastener	<b>8/6</b>

**ZIP TOP CASES.**

Flexible paper cases, single pocket size 14½" x 10½".

Zip Top opening :—

Black Morocco ... ..	<b>11/6</b>
Cheaper grade leather ... ..	<b>7/6</b>
Black Morocco with lock ... ..	<b>15/6</b>

Flexible Black Morocco Grain Leather Paper Cases, no Handle. Two press buttons :—

Size 7" x 10", No. 142 ... ..	<b>5/-</b>
Size 8½" x 12½", No. 142a ... ..	<b>6/-</b>
Size 10" x 15", No. 142b ... ..	<b>7/6</b>

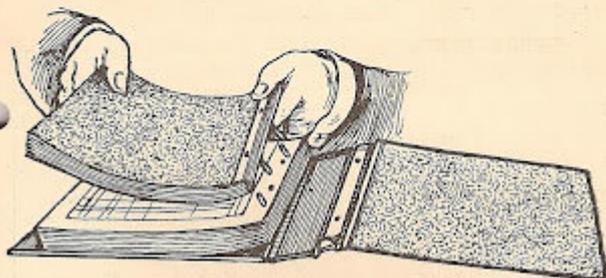
Higher grade in all cases if required.

Various styles in stock.

P.T.O.

## Filofax 4-Post Binders.

Strong, handy ledgers, full bound brown imitation leather. Indexes ruled on strong Azure laid paper with linen tabs.



Reference No.	Sheet Size, Inches.	Capacity, inches.	Cover.	Indexes A-Z.	Sheets per 100.	Sheets per 1,000.	Binder Index and 200 Sheets complete.
F.B. 5	5 × 8	1½	4/6	1/6	1/6	14/-	9/-
F.B. 8	8 × 10	1½	5/-	2/-	2/-	18/-	11/-
F.B. 9	9½ × 9	1½	5/6	2/-	2/-	18/-	11/6
F.B.12	12½ × 9	2	6/6	2/6	2/6	26/-	14/-

*For particulars of Sheets, see Page 16.*

### FILOFAX LEDGERS.

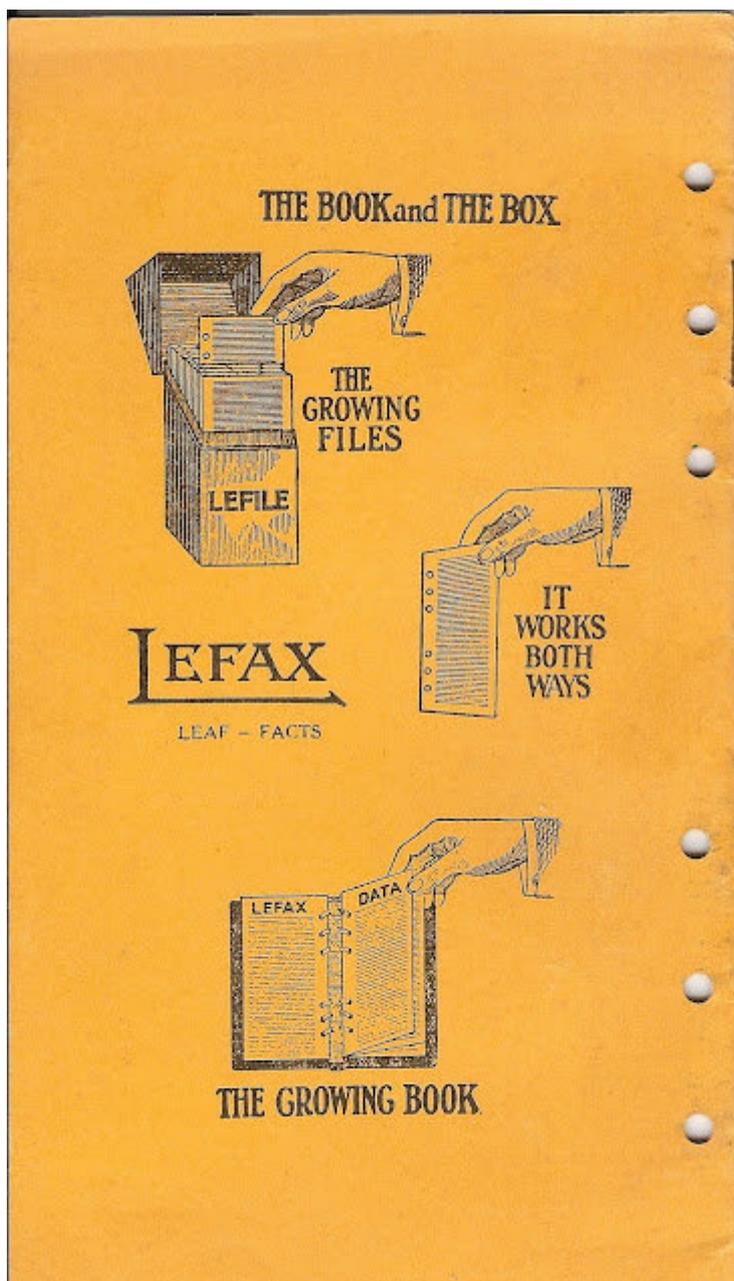
Catalogue No. 66 will be sent on request, for full range of ledgers.

## Sheets for Filofax 4-Post Binders.

Six Rulings are stocked, five of which are illustrated below. The sixth is faint lines only, Form P.B. 1.

Form No. *P.B. 6.	Form No. *P.B. 5.	Form No. P.B. 4.	Form No. P.B. 3.	Form No. P.B. 2.

\*Sheets Nos. 5 and 6 stocked in 8 × 10 size only  
@ 2/6 per 100 and 26/- per 1,000.



[10]

Thank you for all your feed back on yesterday's post, I'm not sure if we have come to a definitive conclusion yet on the date of the catalogue, but for the point of discussion I will use '1937'.

So consider this for a moment, irrespective of the date of the catalogue. Compare the price of an organiser with the price of a punch. The punch is just about the most expensive thing in the catalogue at £2, yet a leather organiser is £1/7/6 or £1.375 for 1 inch rings. Now in today's money the punch from Filofax will cost you £27.75 which would make the organiser in today's money about £19.08

Even my Winchester back in 1985 cost more than £19.00, remember the organisers were sold empty during the period of the catalogue and during the 1980's.

So what has changed... The cost of making a punch back in '1937' must have been considerably higher than today, I suspect the parts although made on a machine were made by a skilled metal worker and assembled by hand. These days and looking at the way the Filofax punch is now made the parts are most probably made using automated machinery. So that might account for some of the changes in price.... there is of course that horrible word 'profit' I suspect the profit margins on today's organisers are higher than they were back in say '1937'

The catalogues in the 1980's were not that different to this one, higher prices of course! But they also listed all the forms and inserts, quite baffling some of them. I will cross check the list against the ones shown in 'Filofax Facts' although that book was published in 1988, it will be interesting to see the

differences. But there has definitely been quite a decline in the number of different inserts available. If more information comes to light about the history and date of the catalogue I will be sure to let you know.

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/01/journey-back-in-time-part-1.html>
2. [http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-Tqnj1vhyEKM/Twh270L6EAI/AAAAAAAAAKHY/xA8Up\\_8ysCk/s1600/Cat137\\_page9.jpeg](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-Tqnj1vhyEKM/Twh270L6EAI/AAAAAAAAAKHY/xA8Up_8ysCk/s1600/Cat137_page9.jpeg)
3. [http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-\\_8BIKjLwKcs/Twh2\\_uh43WI/AAAAAAAAAKHg/v1Rh4jqbw1Q/s1600/Cat137\\_page10.jpg](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-_8BIKjLwKcs/Twh2_uh43WI/AAAAAAAAAKHg/v1Rh4jqbw1Q/s1600/Cat137_page10.jpg)
4. [http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-n0wTzgzU1rM/Twh3De\\_p8DI/AAAAAAAAAKHo/6an5ga8CPW8/s1600/Cat137\\_page11.jpeg](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-n0wTzgzU1rM/Twh3De_p8DI/AAAAAAAAAKHo/6an5ga8CPW8/s1600/Cat137_page11.jpeg)
5. [http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-PYCbGGvsDxo/Twh3G4SWRZI/AAAAAAAAAKHw/D6L1eFm2\\_KA/s1600/Cat137\\_page12.jpg](http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-PYCbGGvsDxo/Twh3G4SWRZI/AAAAAAAAAKHw/D6L1eFm2_KA/s1600/Cat137_page12.jpg)
6. [http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-dLPhNoPNiLs/Twh3J\\_\\_IobI/AAAAAAAAAKH4/5\\_wemma0DcE/s1600/Cat137\\_page13.jpeg](http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-dLPhNoPNiLs/Twh3J__IobI/AAAAAAAAAKH4/5_wemma0DcE/s1600/Cat137_page13.jpeg)
7. [http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-rJnvpoinog8/Twh3NFzjjBI/AAAAAAAAAKIA/A59AiTygxNE/s1600/Cat137\\_page14.jpeg](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-rJnvpoinog8/Twh3NFzjjBI/AAAAAAAAAKIA/A59AiTygxNE/s1600/Cat137_page14.jpeg)
8. [http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-QiUJhUMhm0E/Twh3QvcNhdI/AAAAAAAAAKII/sz7\\_bFDROBQ/s1600/Cat137\\_page15.jpg](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-QiUJhUMhm0E/Twh3QvcNhdI/AAAAAAAAAKII/sz7_bFDROBQ/s1600/Cat137_page15.jpg)
9. [http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-6fmddvDFc0w/Twh3TrLHzsI/AAAAAAAAAKIQ/ADSo81tMOWI/s1600/Cat137\\_page16.jpeg](http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-6fmddvDFc0w/Twh3TrLHzsI/AAAAAAAAAKIQ/ADSo81tMOWI/s1600/Cat137_page16.jpeg)
10. [http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-97xTNxXTy1o/Twh3bBqdAUI/AAAAAAAAAKIY/t0VyyoNwCh8/s1600/Cat137\\_backcover.jpeg](http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-97xTNxXTy1o/Twh3bBqdAUI/AAAAAAAAAKIY/t0VyyoNwCh8/s1600/Cat137_backcover.jpeg)

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Tim (2012-01-12 03:29:33)

There are websites that will calculate UK inflation for any given amount and dates. So, the top of the range binder that was £1/7/6d (£1.375) in 1937 would now be £63.47. A Personal Malden at the current retail price of £72 (with contents) looks very similar.

What has changed is the outsourcing of all production to the Far East. This has saved massively on production costs and resulted in a big increase in mark-up on each item and overall profit for Filofax and parent company Letts, as the retail price hasn't been cut. It also leaves room for the regular discounting we often see and that would have been unheard of (and indeed impossible given low profit margins) in the 1930's.

On the other hand, if production hadn't moved out of the UK, we would certainly not have the vast range of different binders and sizes that we now enjoy and, Filofax may not have survived, let alone flourish!

David F. (2012-01-12 03:42:56)

Again, many thanks for posting this. It is fascinating material.

I guess most of us had our first contact with filofax etc., in the early to mid 80s.

Does anyone possess or has anyone seen any pre-80s binders, inserts etc.,? It would be really interesting to see the binders in particular. Thanks again.

Best Wishes

David

Anita (2012-01-12 07:04:25)

Really interesting & thanks for these 2 posts! I have a 30 year old Winchester & it makes me wonder how much it would have originally cost.

David F. (2012-01-12 13:19:18)

Just out of curiosity - page 14 of this second part of the catalogue. What is a banker's wallet?

Best Wishes

David

Steve Morton (2012-01-12 14:42:07)

David

I think we need to consider in context what a Bankers Wallet might look like...

Think of an era with no bank cards or credit cards to carry. An era of bank notes that went from quite low values. Pre decimalisation there was a 10 shilling note.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bank\\_of\\_England\\_note\\_issues](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bank_of_England_note_issues)

So people would have been carrying more bank notes than these days, so I suspect that's what the 'divisions' refers to?

The Jotta on the same page is a like a leather note pad that you can slip in to your jacket pocket for quick note taking. Quite useful even today I would think. Anyone know if that are still available?

Steve

Gerard (2012-01-12 15:38:24)

Steve,

Thanks for posting the final details - it's intriguing to see how sophisticated things were all those years ago.

There are many 3x5-inch "jotta" type pads available from Levenger (shirt pocket briefcase) in the US and Smythson (pocket memo, as seen in The Da Vinci Code) in the UK, but I'm not aware of any that will hold Filofax Personal pages.

If there was any justice, a present-day bankers wallet would contain only moths :)

David F. (2012-01-12 16:28:57)

Gerard, Steve - I still have a couple of Filofax 'Jottas', which take Personal Size pages on one side only. It's comfortable with about 5 or 6 sheets in, no more.

I wore one out during the late 80s/early 90s. One of my current two is in pretty much mint condition and remains more or less unused, the other sees service pretty much every week - I carry it in my jacket pocket for taking notes when I'm out of my office.

Both of mine carry the marking "CLJ, Real Leather, Made in England.

I'm assuming the CL is Calf Leather.

I'm pretty sure these jottas are of the same era as the leather note/coin holders and chequebook holders.

Best Wishes

David

Best Wishes

David

abc def (2012-01-13 20:56:03)

The same style catalog from 1939 <http://www.flickr.com/photos/filofaxuk/4635725454/in/set-72157624126176802>.

It carries the number ?38 on the top as opposed to the 137.

gmax (2012-01-14 12:48:10)

Great posts thanks Steve.

I've not had so much filo fun since I got the "Large Assortment" on ebay - a selection of one of each of the popular leaves from the late 1980s.

Looking at the cost comparisons, we should bear in mind that the Filofax Punch was disproportionately expensive compared to the rest of the range. In 1989 it cost £99, which is mighty expensive in today's prices and a huge sum back then. Admittedly it was a fairly heavy duty item, but I think it was priced high to ensure the consequent loss of revenue from purchased "official" leaves was mitigated somewhat.

gmax (2012-01-14 12:57:36)

@David F - great to hear that the jottas are still going strong in some quarters.

p.s. Am I the only one who feels an irresistible urge to print out these scanned pages at the correct size, punch them and put them into a binder?

Steve Morton (2012-01-14 13:08:45)

@abc def

Thanks for the link, it's a shame that their scan isn't very high resolution.

Interesting details though Aldergate Street is the office that was bombed during WWII and the office that they lost all the records from. Newgate Street the address on my catalogue is an adjacent street, look on Google Maps and you will see the two streets close to each other.

But yes I think a 1937 date would seem to be about right.

Thanks

Steve

gmax (2012-01-14 19:29:34)

An example of one of the wallets mentioned in the catalogue can be seen [1]here.

1. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/tinkerhell/5349140471/in/photostream/>

David F. (2012-01-15 06:06:21)

gmax - thank you for that link. That is quite a collection of vintage binders. I hadn't seen one of those travelfaxes before either.

Best Wishes

David

## Free For All Friday No. 165 (2012-01-13 00:07) - Laurie

Happy Friday the 13th! I was born on a Friday the 13th so I don't think of them as unlucky, but if you are superstitious, watch out today!

Now that we are a couple of weeks into the year, and you're back to your usual schedule, how is your Filofax setup working for you? Swimmingly? In need of a few tweaks? Total overhaul? Going back to what you used before?

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

Have a great weekend everyone!

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Lime Tree (2012-01-13 00:25:46)

I am still experimenting and trying to adjust.

I changed my work Filofax setup three times already. For my home Filofax I am waiting for some day-timer inserts to experiment as well. My wallet/purse Filofax on the other hand I got the right setup in the first attempt. Probably because it is a very simple one: 1st tab: to-do list; 2nd tab: week per page calendar just for appointments; 3rd tab: notes; 4th tab: jotter pads for WeightWatcher food intake as well as a two page per month calendar for WeightWatcher's points and exercise log.

Josh (2012-01-13 00:34:38)

I am in the planning stages of a major overhaul to my filofax setup. I use one binder for everything, including a wallet. The diary and wallet components are working fine, but my note taking and goal setting are a mess. I need to rearrange my sections to work better. I am thinking as follows: a work tab for work notes, schedules, etc., a school tab for school related notes and such, an "ideas" tab for general idea capture, "goals", and personal notes. I also keep a financial tab with an expenditure log which I think I will keep even though I find it a pain to use. I am thinking it through fairly carefully and hope to implement the changes shortly.

Lime Tree (2012-01-13 01:33:03)

That is a big project! I am curious how do you fit all that in a wallet size organizer? Is it a pocket one? My wallet is a pocket finsbury and just the sections described above plus 2 sheets of cc holder and it is already packed! My work one is also a pocket size but the rings are even smaller although I love the leather of it and how it feels overall. It's a Belmont and I just carry the calendar and notes. What kind is yours? If it has a good size ring I may have to rethink my little finsbury.

Rabbit (2012-01-13 03:18:13)

I thought I would share my experience with a personal Malden in Ochre. This has long been my dream Filofax – I have a personal in Crimson that I LOVE but gosh darn it, I wanted the Ochre too. I was well aware of the issues others had reported – that the leather looks wrinkled, waxy and \*le gasp\* dried out...and surely enough this is exactly what arrived in my mail box.

Did it daunt me?

It sure would have if I hadn't read about the Nivea Crème treatment (and used it with wonderful success on both filox and leather bags). As it was, I took one look at the Ochre out of its box and immediately thought "I need to

moisturise this!" I was a bit hesitant at first: it's my dream filo after all...did I really want to risk wrecking it on my first day of ownership???? But I trusted the Crème and oh my goodness, the filo now looks SPECTACULAR! The very deep wrinkles have filled out to look a lot less 'ancient' (I know it's an 'Antiqued Leather' but at some point the manufacturer almost made it look badly beaten...). It no longer has the appearance of a near-flaky dryness either (thank heavens!), and the colour has deepened slightly to Ochre perfection ^ \_ ^

Without a doubt it's a different leather texture to the Crimson, but I was expecting this and actually enjoy having two very different filos of the same Malden clan [NB – I also have a crimson malden pocket – I love these filos!!]. Finally, and perhaps most importantly, the leather-smell is ever present (anyone using commercial leather creams will know that these can devour the natural goodness of leather scent, and Nivea Crème doesn't have a strong or lasting odour).

I'm in heaven. I'm going to adopt the method expressed by TPS, being that when I get "bored" of one colour (ie: start lusting after the other colour more) I'll just switch binders, and spread the love a little. ^ \_ ^

ace (2012-01-13 05:31:29)

Hmm I think I may have tried to take on too much with my Baroque. I've already bought a Finchley to use as a work diary so I've slimmed down a little by transferring post-its, business cards etc. But I still feel like my Baroque is jack of all trades at the mo so I think I might look for an A5 to use as a project file and have the Baroque as just a personal everyday planner. I'm quite not 'settled' into my 2012 Filos yet.

Also - thank you to Philofaxy & to whoever tweeted about my Filofax for sale. Ends tomorrow!!

x

lifeconsidered (2012-01-13 05:32:23)

I've had my Personal Cuban since last July and for a while, even after just a few months, it lost its spark. But since setting it up for the new year, it's taken on a whole new life. My system works perfectly, so it's now more than just a pretty face coming along for the ride in my handbag. After I bought the Cuban last year, I realized that it would not fit into all of my handbags (I change bags frequently, almost daily), so I also purchased a slimline Adelphi, which is so handsome and elegant in all its damsen glory. It is a synchronized companion to the Cuban; much like an assistant Filofax when the Cuban needs the day off, with less responsibilities. This weekend I will do my 2012 set-up for the Adelphi. I will trawl through my cache of supplies, purchase whatever else may be needed, spread it all out on the credenza in my office and have pure Filofax fun!

Alison Reeves (2012-01-13 05:53:43)

@lifeconsidered - I've tried synchronising filofaxes before and it usually ends in tears! Could you just move relevant pages into the Adelphi as required (say your main week or month to view diary)? This is what I am thinking of doing.

Alison Reeves (2012-01-13 05:57:14)

I'm a very late starter this year for a number of reasons. However I want to bring some colour into my life so have settled on day-timer week to view, but am awaiting their brochure to see the designs to make a final decision (I'm thinking either flavia or garden set). I ordered the brochure a few days ago and am eagerly awaiting - have been working away this week so wasn't able to do much about it anyway. Will make a decision and order anyway if it doesn't come today.

the Merry Lemon (2012-01-13 06:52:29)

I have a few additional thoughts to be shared with Filofax, these for their websites.

First, it would be great to visit a filofax website for any country and be able to read it in a choice of languages.

Example: <http://www.esprit-de-france.com/>

Second, i would like to be able to view the Filofax website in any country and be able to choose the currency displayed (€, \$, £ etc.)

Example: [www.smythson.com](http://www.smythson.com)

I can dream, can't I?

Anita (2012-01-13 07:01:04)

@ Rabbit - I'm glad you're happy with your ochre Malden now it's had a bit of Nivea TLC :) I originally wanted one, but got a crimson after being put off by the issues you mention.

My filofax needs an overhaul. I've slowly stopped using it as everything's out of date & I have notes all over the place instead, aaargh! Feeling very disorganised...

lifeconsidered (2012-01-13 07:40:00)

@Alison...I keep just a month at a glance diary in the Adelphi to capture main events, no details. I can add these events to the Cuban WO2P, with details. My info and address sections are exact copies of the Cuban, because I'll need this info with me everywhere I go. I have a lot of Notes paper in the Adelphi, so if, for example, I'm in an interpreter's meeting, I can take notes and then remove this page and add it to the ASL (American Sign Language) section of the Cuban; or if I'm in church, I can take notes, remove the page and add it to the Bible section of the Cuban. I use the cottom cream paper in both planners so it matches up. It's a very seamless and fluid method.

Dry your eyes, dear. You'll find a system that works for you!

Han (2012-01-13 07:41:10)

I need a serious epic over haul on mine - I ended up back in a normal ring bound diary until I can get mine sorted properly.

I need help lol.

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-01-13 09:50:44)

The sheets I'm using for my todo's are not available on filofax US. They are the A5 filofax 250186 which are the graph sheets with a box at the top. I found ones that look almost alike from here: <http://www.fahrneyspens.com/Item-i-342905> but the paper just isn't the same.

I have two problems - First there were on filo sweden, now they aren't. and second I've shipped all over the world and I know it doesn't cost \$25 to ship paper.

Is there anyone one who has some of these and can send them to the US?

Tracy

Steve Morton (2012-01-13 10:20:10)

Tracy

How about if I make you a template for that layout or very similar and you can print some sheets out as you need them?

Steve

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-01-13 11:06:39)

Steve - I would love that. I should be able to find a suitable paper that way.

It seems that filofax might be phasing out the inserts I got from sweden in favor of the ones I got from the US - which means they are going with cheaper paper...

If that is true it looks like my hopes that filofax will improve their paper quality isn't going to happen. This will take care of that.

Steve Morton (2012-01-13 11:08:07)

I've emailed you a doc. Let me know if it's ok or not.

Steve

Mary (2012-01-13 11:09:39)

I have a question for fellow teachers. Do you use separate files for school and for personal stuff? Is it possible to have a "one life one planner" file as a teacher? What do you think? I started using an A5 but became too bulky to carry it back and forth from school, so I decided to use a bound book (a moleskine large daily diary) for both, but I miss the accessories and the flexibility of the filofax, especially when used outside school. So, I decided to

keep the moleskine for school (such a nice paper!) and go back to my trusted filo (so far a compact chameleon but I contemplate my pocket finsbury as well) for personal.

bluebonnetreads (2012-01-13 11:24:06)

I love my Filofax set-up, but I'm not in love with my calendar. I have the FF Do2P and I feel like it's just too much room for me! Plus I just got a pocket daily Moleskine planner, and using it as a logbook along with the Do2P is redundant. I haven't figured out what I'm going to do yet, however. I may switch to the Swedish weeklies and see if I can do a weekly set-up...haven't decided yet. Or I may suck it up and purchase DPP. Anyone have suggestions? ;)

Also, I'm thinking of getting an A5 to use as a notebook proper, no calendar, but I'm afraid that it will be too big. I also like the idea of having everything in one size so that I can switch between binders with ease, even if the other binder is a dedicated one - and personal is my favorite. Thoughts?

Missus Aka (Christa) (2012-01-13 11:31:30)

tracy is it different from these ones? <http://www.filofax.se/store/paperessentialsdetails.asp?productId=172>

Missus Aka (Christa) (2012-01-13 11:37:55)

sorry tracy just saw you comment about the paper, will keep an eye out for you

Missus Aka (Christa) (2012-01-13 11:40:56)

germany has them, do they ship to the usa?

Missus Aka (Christa) (2012-01-13 11:54:48)

im just going to answer my own question, they dont ship to usa but if you really wanted them i could have them sent to me in the uk then resend to you

terriknits (2012-01-13 12:01:19)

@steve and @tracy, if you do make a template, will you post it on the Files page? That format is my favourite A5 page and I am running out! Thanksssss!

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-01-13 12:25:52)

This comment has been removed by a blog administrator.

Butanben (2012-01-13 12:37:46)

@Mary. I teach and have 2 A5 and an A4 planner. The black Finsbury A5 has my home and work diary combined.... the Filofax business DPP diary. It also has a list of birthdays and anniversaries, with the ones requiring gifts highlighted. At the back I have a year diary from Kristens guide.com.. free download which I colour block holidays, INSETS and mine and colleague's sick leave.I have a future diary page for 2013 onwards, so that dates can be transferred later, also downloaded from Kristen's guide. Then follows lists. Shopping, food menus,must phone, computer to dos and finally my info pages. World and GB maps, computer passwords,(sneaky hints just for me as to the password,theatre and cinema programme and at the back a zippy wallet with a couple of blank cards, address labels and stamps and my Filofax stickers. School planner has much of what the commercially produced planners have but in a Filofax. My to dos and future projects I keep digitally on Wunderlist and from that I make a weekly outline overview plan which goes in my Filofax. I stick to 1 diary one folder and don't split between work and home there, but all other stuff is split. The A4 contains this term's planning and policy documents and another HUGE a4 arch lever is always kept at work for all past planning. Would love to have 1 life one folder, but too much paperwork in teaching. But I do have 1 life 1 diary as it means I don't double book in error as all is in 1 place.

Steve Morton (2012-01-13 12:49:20)

Hi Tracy and Terri

A5 Graph page now on the files page:

I've done it as an A5 single sided sheet. I tend to print straight on to plain A5 paper these days rather than

booklet printing on A4. It saves having to chop the pages in two.

Feel free to modify it to your own needs.

I also removed the comment with your email address in it Tracy to stop the spammers harvesting your address no other reason.

Steve

Chicken (2012-01-13 13:20:00)

Hi,

Just tried to comment and it ended up on a 2009 post :( I have 5 Maldens ( 3 personal in black, ochre and crimson, pocket in grey and mini in vintage pink). Of all of them , I like the feel of the ochre best - most natural. They are all used every day and travel to and from work in my rather large ( heavy) bag :)

Lady\_Tamlynn (2012-01-13 13:38:27)

@ Mary I'm an English teacher and I use a Personal Malden for work. I have a two day per page diary, a month on two pages diary and then six tabs with a to do tab, a list tab, a notes tab, a year planner tab, etc. Then I revamped a set of alphabetical dividers so that I have a tab for each of my classes plus extra tabs such as one for lesson ideas, etc. In each class tab I keep a class list, information on any stamented pupils or any pupils with medical conditions, and an overview of what I'm doing with the class this term plus any additional notes I need for them.

In addition to my work filio, I keep a pocket Malden for personal stuff only. It also has a two day per page diary with tabs for notes, shopping lists, finances, year planner and blank pages for jotting down quick notes.

I've been using the two Filos in tandem for about 4 months now and haven't had to change anything so far because it's working so well.

I hope this helps :-)

Lynne (2012-01-13 15:40:59)

I am struggling so far this year to decide on the right format. I have taken early retirement from a pressured full time job. Having successfully used an A5 for work purposes for a few years, I am now vacillating between a pocket and a personal. I use the pocket for day to day 'capture', diary and to do and have the personal for journalling with day timer day on two pages. I miss having just one planner but cannot make one work for both purposes.

Anthony (2012-01-13 17:11:11)

I have just received from Filofax the Birthdays and Anniversaries and Special Occasions inserts. At the top left there's a box 38mm x 4mm. Rather than just write in by hand. I plan to buy some dry letter transfer sheets and "write" in the months of the year. The whole job will look much better than something hand written. Has anyone had any experiance about this, where's the best place to go for the dry letter transfer sheets.

ailuros (2012-01-13 18:11:28)

Well, I'd been planning to buy an A5 Osterley. I spent a huge amount of time reading here and elsewhere online. About to pull the trigger when I found a place with a half-off sale on some of their stock and ended up buying a pocket Piazza in violet. It should be here next week. Only you guys would understand how a person could have systematically researched and then planned to buy a Filofax in one size and with certain attributes, only to throw reason to the winds and order something simply because it looked so cool.

All along I've intended to buy a large organizer for at-home use. But so many of you love the Malden that I wonder whether I should consider that one over the Osterley. The main issue is that I simply do not love the color choices.

\*\*\*What is the Nivea treatment? And will it work on an old ( 1980s era) Winchester (in green) that could use some rejuvenation? Barring that, can anyone suggest an excellent leather care product, to be found in the U.S., that I might use instead?

alana (2012-01-13 18:28:29)

Help! I got a ink stain (ball point) on the front of my crimson malden. I dapped a little rubbing alcohol on there and a lot of the ink came up and spread. Any tips for cleaning?

Alison Reeves (2012-01-13 18:36:47)

@alana try hair spray on a cotton bud, but try an area you can't see to test first.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-01-13 18:49:36)

@ailuros- I used the Nivea treatment on the green Winchester I had, it sucked in the moisture so much because it was quite dry!

And I LOVE the Malden range, I have 2 A5 Maldens! If you don't like the colours, wait until they bring out the new colours, which they apparently will be doing soon! What colour would you ideally like?

gdigesu (2012-01-13 19:09:41)

Anthony,

I used to do that many years ago. I loved doing it!

In my neighborhood, those products are not available anymore, I am afraid.

Best wishes, Giovanni

Josh (2012-01-13 20:12:44)

@Lime\_Tree, I am using a personal size Malden in Ochre. It is too big to pocket so I just carry it in my bag or my hand. I have two business card holder sheets to take credit/store/insurance cards plus my official ID, work ID, debit and credit cards in the front cover. Keep bills in the pocket behind the zip pocket and a small amount of coin in the zip pocket. Stray receipts in the full front pocket, and several notecards with envelopes in the read full pocket. I also have a notepad in the back cover. It works really well. Just need to tidy up all the notes/information. Its a huge mess right now!

Never thought to rub my malden with Nivea Creme. I think the leather feels like it has some kind of synthetic coating on it which I do not like AT ALL, even though I realize it keeps the binder water and damage resistant. This binder is incredibly practical, but unlike everyone else I do not find it particularly aesthetically pleasing. I prefer the color and texture to the other Malden colors, though. The malden pocket layout can't be beat!

Nancy (2012-01-14 00:35:21)

I'm salivating over the Holborn slimline - I held it in my hand and it feels wonderful - but the pen loop lays inward instead of outward. I hate when the pen intrudes on tabs. why does FF do that? that's a deal breaker for me when I dream about FF, but since the slimline line is so slim, there aren't many alternatives. Do any of you find that you can train the loops to fall away from the pages instead of towards? Thank you!

Rabbit (2012-01-14 02:25:40)

@ailuros - The nivea treatment is outlined here: <http://vanjilla.blogspot.com/2011/11/filofaxs-facial.html>

@Josh - Yes I was a bit hesitant to use nivea on the ochre because there is that detectable 'coating' on it unlike the feeling of the crimson. I crossed my fingers and hoped for the best. Funnily, it still has a bit of a coated feeling to it, but no where near the dryness.

Ray Blake (2012-01-14 03:00:42)

@Anthony. Letraset: <http://www.letraset.com/products/90-Letraset-Transfers/>

ailuros (2012-01-14 10:47:12)

@TPS and @Rabbit, many thanks for the tips re: Nivea. My old Winchester is in dire need of a youth treatment!

@TPS you asked about my ideal color. I can't say that there is one ideal, but I would love to see them in greens, more choices in blues, purples. Actually, any beautiful color. How's that for vague? I'm currently trying to add color to my surroundings, and I'm open to many possibilities. While I'm less fond of the idea of browns, certain shades, eg tobacco and chestnut, could be stunning. (With gold rings of course.) Perhaps I'd even go for the right kind of pink.

I almost bought a Finchley personal sized in mustard, which I'd seen in a store several days ago. But since I was vacillating between really liking it in some lights and deeply disliking it in others, I left it to be returned to the display case. Unfortunately for me, I have the feeling it's probably still there. Fortunately, I won't have time to

return to that town for at least another 2 weeks.

The store also had the Finchley, or maybe it was a Finsbury, in that antique rose color. Definitely not my idea of attractive, and that one was easy to leave behind.

Anthony (2012-01-14 12:31:29)

@Ray

Many thanks for the link. I thought there might be something of the kind available. All I need to do now is select a Font/Style which will be easily readable. Thanks once again.

terriknits (2012-01-14 21:45:51)

@steve, thanks so much for uploading the A5 graph paper file! Yay!! I have some A4 paper here (I use it for my work) but A4 and A5 is nearly impossible to come upon here in Canada. I did see that link on the Suppliers page for Empire Paper; might have to give them a try!

Butanben (2012-01-15 05:38:02)

@Antony. I've made my own birthdays and anniversaries insert in Word. It's in A5. Any good for you? If you let me have your e. mail address or Facebook me your e.mail at Jane McCourt, I can send it to you via attachment.  
xx

## Web Finds 14 January 2012 (2012-01-14 00:00) - Steve Morton

Well another week has zipped by. I've been submerged with my head deep in another unpaid project for another organisation all day, so it's been great to finally finish that one and emerge to do some things on Philofaxy that I love and enjoy doing.

So what have we discovered this week. Lots of 2012 set up posts still coming through naturally.

- [1]My home binder a5 pink finsbury filofax (think flylady) tabs 1-2 - Loving My Filofax
- [2]Bargain Filofax Post-It tabs and a hack to go with them - My Life All in One Place
- [3]Another Filofax cover! - Hooked
- [4]Filofaxes, clutter and no wonder my cortisol level was through the roof - The Crazy Suburban Mom
- [5]Double Memories - Write a novel? I must be mad!!!
- [6]Finchley Filofax - The Young Grasshopper
- [7]Paper Pens and Ink is one today - Paper Pens and Ink (Happy Birthday!)
- [8]Pretty Filofax Dividers - Fantail Designs
- [9]My 2012 Filo system finalized! (For sure this time) - The Crazy Life of J
- [10]Filo pages anomalies - Filofax Fixation
- [11]Filofax Template - Lancashire Cat
- [12]My 2012 Set up - Whimsicality
- [13]Make your own notebook paper and inserts - This is My Life!
- [14]Getting Philofaxy about the Filofax from France - This French Life
- [15]2012 Set Up - Well Planned Life

- [16]London 2012 Sporting Icons - Filomaniac
- [17]My Filofax Family Portrait - Rapunzel's World
- [18]The colour purple.... and Mulberry - Musings of a Caribbean Princess
- [19]Organise Daily Repeat Tasks - Daytimer Blog
- [20]Filofax Love/Getting Organised Part 1 - Love Me and My Ego
- [21]Filofax 2011 Set Up - Within Dreams We Live
- [22]A new resolution in organisation - Never Plain Jane
- [23]Introducing Dinky the personal Deco - Rapunzel's World
- [24]Printing fold out page for Filofax Personal - My Life All in One Place
- [25]The Vintage Pink Malden Debate - Rapunzel's World
- [26]Filofax Dividers - Time2Craft
- [27]My Filofax - Sunshine Stamping
- Your blog post could appear here next week... Please email us if we missed you this week.

Enjoy

1. <http://lovingmyfilofax.blogspot.com/2012/01/my-home-binder-a5-pink-finsbury-filofax.html>
2. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2012/01/bargain-filofax-post-it-tabs-and-hack.html>
3. <http://macscrochet.blogspot.com/2012/01/another-filofax-cover.html>
4. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/01/filofaxes-clutter-and-no-wonder-my.html>
5. <http://alison-morton.com/blog/2012/01/08/double-memories/>
6. <http://theyounggrasshopper.blogspot.com/2012/01/finchley-filofax.html>
7. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.com/2012/01/paper-pens-and-ink-is-one-today.html>
8. <http://fantail-designs.blogspot.com/2012/01/pretty-filofax-dividers.html>
9. <http://thecrazylifeofj.blogspot.com/2012/01/my-2012-filo-system-finalized-for-sure.html>
10. <http://filofaxfixation.wordpress.com/2012/01/08/filo-pages-anomalies/>
11. <http://lancashirecat.wordpress.com/2012/01/08/filofax-template/>
12. <http://scottishwhimsicality.blogspot.com/2011/12/filofaxing.html>
13. <http://thisismylifethisismyway.blogspot.com/2012/01/make-your-own-filofax-notebookpaper.html>
14. <http://www.thisfrenchlife.com/thisfrenchlife/2012/01/philofaxy-filofax-france.html>
15. <http://wellplannedlife.blogspot.com/2012/01/2012-setup.html>
16. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.com/2012/01/london-2012-sporting-icons.html>
17. <http://icclewu.blogspot.com/2012/01/my-filofax-family-portait.html>
18. <http://www.caribbeanprincessmusings.com/2012/01/colour-purpleand-mulberry.html>
19. <http://daytimer.wordpress.com/2012/01/09/todays-productivity-tip-organize-repeating-daily-tasks/>
20. <http://lovemeandmyego.com/?p=1403>
21. <http://withindreamswelive.blogspot.com/2012/01/filofax-2011-set-up.html>
22. <http://www.neverplainjane.com/2012/01/new-resolution-in-organisation-pretty.html>
23. <http://icclewu.blogspot.com/2012/01/introducing-dinky-personal-deco.html>
24. <http://icclewu.blogspot.com/2012/01/introducing-dinky-personal-deco.html>
25. <http://icclewu.blogspot.com/2012/01/vintage-pink-malden-debate.html>
26. <http://time2craft.blogspot.com/2012/01/filofax-dividers.html>
27. <http://sunshinestamping.blogspot.com/2012/01/useful-and-pretty-my-filofax.html>

Ali (2012-01-14 03:47:58)

Just dropped by to say thanks for the link to my Crochet Filofax Cover - I have had loads of visitors from your site! If it generates £50 of sales then I will make you a cover for free!

Ali

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-01-14 06:32:28)

Oh - why did I sneak a look just now?? I have loads of stuff to do before I can settle down and read all this.

Oh well. Some time late this afternoon will be reward time. I always love these posts (and thank you for wishing my blog happy birthday!).

Jotje (2012-01-14 07:18:37)

Could I ask a favor of all the Filofax bloggers out there? Would you please enable the mobile version in your settings? That way I can read all your blogs on my loyal little iPod without straining my eyes. THANKS!!!!

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-01-14 07:29:31)

@Jotje

More than happy to (but don't know how to...). I've had a quick look and I think it should be set okay, but since my phone is too old to be able to check, I'm not sure if it is... Can anyone confirm/deny?

SSA (2012-01-14 12:33:04)

I always look forward to the Saturday "webfinds" post :)

Ray Blake (2012-01-14 17:14:19)

I love these links, and I'm always thrilled when my own links appear here. Appearing in the Philofaxy Web Finds feels like a real seal of approval.

If you followed the link to The Crazy Life of J blog, you probably saw the video of the Franklin Covey Swing Pad, a brilliant idea that I didn't know existed.

It inspired me today to create this hack that achieves a similar outcome:

<http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2012/01/filofax-swing-pad-yo-u-can-make-at-home.html>

ace (2012-01-16 09:25:46)

Just getting round to a good read now! Cup of tea needed. Thanks for the link!

x

## UK vs French paper catalogues (2012-01-15 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

I realise that the paper catalogues have been out for several months now. But it was only last month during the meet up in [2]Poitiers that I managed to pick up a French edition of the 2011/12 catalogue. At first I thought they would be the same, just in French, but no they have some slightly different products, which we more or less know from looking on the website. However, in the catalogue although

they have used the same photos etc they have ordered them differently. In some cases different colours are available compared to UK, but again this is obvious from the website. The other oddity was that the French catalogue doesn't include prices on the pages, were as the UK one does.

I think the few extra pages in the UK catalogue (78 pages vs 72 pages) can be accounted for by differences in stock that is available in both countries.

In terms of organisers. The UK has the 2012 Olympic range, France still have the Sketch, which I think was discontinued in UK recently. France also has the Luxe and the Dakota. Overall UK carries 5 more designs than France. Although in website terms I suspect there is more of a difference, the Deco doesn't appear in either catalogue! So it must be on it's last year I would think.

Reading both catalogues side by side can be a bit mind boggling! It makes you wonder what we are likely to see next year.

Although the Flex isn't mentioned in the paper catalogue. Looking on the Filofax French website, for 2012 they have introduced a slightly different format [3]Week on Two Page diary insert for the Flex, with appointment times and horizontal lining.! So we are also going to be faced with differences in those product ranges as well as normal Filofax products...

I think I need a rest!

1. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-vN2UZ1bAvII/TuOT9DzmefI/AAAAAAAAAJ-M/WBjNj2IIZ0I/s1600/catalogue.jpeg>
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/12/philofaxy-mini-meet-up-poitiers-13-dec.html>
3. <http://www.filofax.fr/store/flexrefillsdetails.asp?productId=2824>

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icclewu (2012-01-15 02:38:29)

The personal deco isn't even on the website anymore. It sold out when on offer for half price, and said email when in stock, but then vanished.

Iris (2012-01-15 03:57:56)

The German Filofax catalogue has Sketch, Luxe and Dakota, too - and a Domino in Orange; but no pics of Bond, Kendal or Finchley.

Songbird, Heart or London 2012 (Olympic range) aren't available in Germany.

No prices included in the German catalogue either.

Scoot (2012-01-15 05:17:50)

Given that currencies are fluctuating wildly, at least one may not last long, I would have been surprised if they could confidently price their own materials or finished goods. Many companies are already into 1970's mode, though the websites will allow the prices of finished goods to be set at will.

The differences design and quantity of faxes listed in different countries, especially in this supposed single market of a political Europe, are interesting. At least with websites there is the option to buy anything you want.

Nellie (2012-01-15 07:15:13)

I find the different offering on the different country website really frustrating! Particularly with EU, you would have thought it would be cheaper for them to have it all the same!

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-01-16 10:13:43)

I'm baffled by it all. Why it isn't the same, why you can't get the same thing all over and why the shipping is a bit nutty... And I don't understand why the paper is so cheesy. That baffles me the most

## **Phone Directory (2012-01-16 00:00) - Steve Morton**

So what do you do when the new telephone directory turns up on your door step or in your mail box?

Most people I expect grab the old one and put it in the recycling..... you do recycle don't you??

Anyway, during my meet up with Nikki last month here in France, she showed me some things she had in her A5 Filofax that had come straight out of the old phone directory.

When I looked at our recently replaced phone directory there was a great map in the back cover of the area which I will salvage. Some of the introduction pages include information from local government agencies, lists of useful phone numbers etc.

Now some of this information was printed on the very thin paper used for phone directories, but I will copy Nikki's idea of laminating those pages with a laminating machine and then punching them to fit my Filofax, this will make sure the pages don't tear when the pages are turned.



[1]

1. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-nVhdIGKSm8g/TwTV8qPeCCI/AAAAAAAAAKGI/JpyzgkA40CU/s1600/DSCF0677.JPG>

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David Popely (2012-01-16 02:31:13)

For years I have just recycled these immediately they arrived....I can find any phone number faster by internet than by paper look-up, so why keep them?

However, some interesting ideas here, and I'll take a closer look next time one arrives, to see if there is anything worth keeping.

However, it will all come back down to the hoary old question of finding a decent FF hole punch (without bankrupting myself in the process) to determine whether I can actually keep stuff filed or not.....

Butanben (2012-01-16 02:50:51)

What a great idea. Off to dust down the directories and the laminator. Thanks Steve. xx

Alison Reeves (2012-01-16 03:29:39)

Never thought of this - how useful!

@David - Steve did a very useful post on reasonably priced whole punches recently - I picked up one on ebay last year which works beautifully.

Steve Morton (2012-01-16 03:42:44)

David

Under ten pounds for a personal size punch... see here for details:

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/01/reader-question-which-punch.html>

Steve

Emma (2012-01-16 12:43:12)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Emma (2012-01-16 12:45:46)

As Steve mentioned - the hole punch [http://www.amazon.co.uk/Rapesco-Diary-6-Hole-Sheet-Punch/dp/B000J6EXM6/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8](http://www.amazon.co.uk/Rapesco-Diary-6-Hole-Sheet-Punch/dp/B000J6EXM6/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8)

&qid=1326735888 &sr=8-1 play.com are also selling it for the same price with free delivery too. Think I might get one at the end of the month as the fold-in-half filofax one is doing my head in!

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-01-16 14:31:57)

Great ideas. Only problem is - I can't remember the last time I we got a new directory. I think they miss our door as it doesn't face the street.

Susanne Namdar (2012-01-16 20:05:28)

Great idea and I just threw the new one into the recycle bin. Next time.

### **Poll results: How many weeks of diary pages do you keep in your Filofax? (2012-01-16 20:12) - Laurie**

Thanks to everyone who participated in this poll! Here are the results:

How many weeks of diary pages do you keep in your Filofax? (252 total votes):

Less than 1 month 11 (4 %)

1-3 months 45 (17 %)

4-6 months 41 (16 %)

7-12 months 130 (51 %)

More than 12 months 25 (9 %)

I was really surprised that so many people keep 7-12 months' worth of diary pages in their Filofax at one time!

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Scot (2012-01-17 08:13:31)

Organiser companies take note, there are people who have already been looking for 2013 diaries. If you don't make them over a year in advance people will wander to another company's products or make them; and you will lose business!

Laurie (2012-01-17 10:02:28)

Scot I completely agree, I would prefer if planners/ diaries were available a year before they start (rather than the usual 4-6 months before) because I like to plan things well in advance. And because I like to see what's new!

terriknits (2012-01-17 13:03:20)

I would be curious to know, of the people who keep 7-12 months of diary pages in their book, what format they are? i.e. Week per page, etc.

Just-Jenny (2012-01-17 14:47:59)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-01-17 16:31:53)

@terriknits

Like Just-Jenny I have a full year of month to view and week on 2 pages. I also have 7 days of day per page but am considering abandoning these...

Butanben (2012-01-17 18:27:05)

I have a year's worth of day per page which I am trialling in A5 and a weekly review page my essential. I used to have a month to view too, but it irritated me witless having to synch diaries all the time. I am really a one diary one life person. I have a thin personal Amazona in my handbag for when I am out and about, in case I bump into friends and arrange a lunch or coffee. I synch that diary as I go along.



[1]

So what questions do you have for us this week?

And for our new readers... Firstly Welcome.. and feel at home and feel free to ask any Filofax questions, this is a regular feature every Tuesday.

Fire away.

1. [http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-iWM2EGJg8j8/TUh0H0Lo4aI/AAAAAAAAI6E/2WfvsKUfHgc/s1600/IMG\\_9777a.JPG](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-iWM2EGJg8j8/TUh0H0Lo4aI/AAAAAAAAI6E/2WfvsKUfHgc/s1600/IMG_9777a.JPG)

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Lime Tree (2012-01-17 00:41:10)

Hello! Thanks for the welcoming note for newbies like me. :) I will start the questions then:

I have searched and found a lot of comments and positive reviews on the Malden organizers. I couldn't find much regarding Aston and Baroque. Are they comparable with the Malden? Is the Baroque one been discontinued?

Alison Reeves (2012-01-17 02:16:04)

@Lime Tree In my opinion the Aston and Baroque are lovely binders and I prefer them to the Malden. It depends on which leather you prefer, and also which internal layout suits your use of the system.

Steve Morton (2012-01-17 02:30:33)

Hi Lime Tree,

Welcome.

We have a couple of posts on the Aston:

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/06/filofax-aston-review.html>

and

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/12/aston-filofax-in-orchid.html>

The Baroque has been discontinued, although it continued to be for sale in France and Germany for a while, which is a typical sort of pattern we find.

The Aston has very similar soft leather to the Finchley

Steve

faxy (2012-01-17 02:45:26)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Lucy (2012-01-17 05:32:07)

Hello!

@Lime Tree: I bought an Aston in the Orchid colour (pocket) just before Christmas. It was really gorgeous, but I found the pen loop to be VERY tight so unfortunately I'm currently selling it on eBay. If you're fussy about what sort of pen you use (which I am), it might not be for you. Otherwise, go for it!

Lucy (2012-01-17 05:53:10)

Good morning everyone!

I have a question. I have recently started reading "The Happiness Project" by Gretchen Rubin. I love it! I feel happier already and I'm only a third of the way through the book!

Anyway, at the weekend I won a Personal Finchley Filofax in Teal on eBay (£28 – a bargain!). It's really beautiful and has only been used a handful of times. The reason I bought it is because I want to use this as my "Happiness

Project/Personal Development/Fun” Filofax. I currently use a Pocket Finsbury Filofax in Aqua for my appointments/reminders/to dos – this is basically my “Responsibilities” Filofax and I may even go down to my Mini Aqua Finsbury for this. My problem is that I put so much focus on my responsibilities as a wife/mother/worker etc that I hardly ever focus on anything else – like fun and personal development.

My question (you knew I’d get there eventually eh?!) is this: how can I organise my Personal Filofax as my “Happiness Project/Personal Development/Fun” Filofax? It came with a week per page diary, some strange-looking day planner sheets from 1983 (!!), a few pages of ruled paper and some to do lists, as well as the usual dividers and addresses section. I’m willing to buy more inserts if necessary but I would prefer to keep the cost down. I recently bought a Rapesco punch so I’m certainly not averse to making my own inserts!

Does anyone have any ideas for me? Have you done this before?

Thanks muchly! Lucy x

Emily (2012-01-17 06:35:42)

@Lucy I love the idea of using a filo for that kind of thing! It reminds me a lot of Gala Darlings ”Radical Self Love” idea (<http://galadarling.com/article/radical-self-love-questions>)

You could use the diary pages to keep track of gratitude lists (writing down things that day that you’re grateful for, things that have made you happy). I suppose it really depends what direction you want to take things in & what areas you want to develop in - that sort of thing. You could think about your ”happiness” goals & then dedicate a section to each goal. Like taking time to read more, or putting together a wishlist of things you really want but maybe don’t really need. I personally really love the plastic sleeve inserts, because you can stick all kinds of great stuff in there - photos that make you smile, tickets from a great movie you saw, that kind of thing. I hope my ideas can help in some way, & best wishes with your happiness project!

Laurie (2012-01-17 06:38:31)

We have a Philofaxy Happiness Project group on Facebook! Join us!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/hpphilofaxy/>

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-01-17 06:54:28)

@Lucy I use EXACTLY the same filofax for EXACTLY the same thing! Happiness must just radiate out of teal finchleys! Unfortunately I haven’t had time to set mine up yet... :(

Scoot (2012-01-17 08:08:08)

For those in the UK who like a bargain, Poundland have a number of offers such as 3 Bic multi coloured pens for £1.

<http://www.poundland.co.uk/product-range/a-z/bic-4-colour-fashion-pens-3pk/>

Lucy (2012-01-17 08:12:12)

@ Emily: Thanks for your good ideas! I’ll check out the link too. Anything to help!

@ Laurie: Yes I joined the Facebook group yesterday!

@ The Perpetual Student: Wow - that’s just weird! I’d be really interested to know how you set yours up. I’m currently reading through the book and intend to read it again once I’ve finished but take notes the second time round. My new Filo will certainly come in handy for that.

Jill V. (2012-01-17 09:16:20)

Hi everyone!!

I have a A5 Domino in brown and an A5 Malden in Ochre. I am looking to either temp trade or sell either/both of them for a Personal size binder (any color). I have a whole new packet of yellow lined paper, 40+ sheets of notepaper, a new notepad, 3 page markers, tabs (A-Z, blank and numbered), 2012 Wo2P diary, 2 zip pouches, and card holder slots) I really really want to try a Personal before I buy so that I can get the best one that works for me! Make me an offer or try me on a trade for any of the above!

Jill V. (2012-01-17 09:26:26)

You can contact me about the above stuff at [jvaughnRN at gmail.com!](mailto:jvaughnRN@gmail.com) Sorry, I left out that critical piece of information!

Butanben (2012-01-17 09:29:55)

By chance, stumbled upon a LARGE PRINT tube map of London on the Transport for London website. Have printed off with index at back in

A4 and folded into my A5. Very handy, as I usually have to squint to read the smaller sized tube maps. Thought this may be a handy tip for someone in Philofaxy Land. Now pondering.... I don't need to use large print for reading etc, just that the tube map is weeny, but.....What else would be useful in Large Print size I wonder????

ailuros (2012-01-17 10:36:07)

A couple of things....First off, is there any way to post pictures to this site directly? I have some before/after pictures of my 1980s-era Winchester, with the before being all drying up and dirty, and the after ...well, after using up TONS of leather cream on it.

Second, I'm hoping to receive my new pocket Piazza today! And, after reading comments here, am now thinking that some kind of happiness/goals journal thingy could be a great way to use my old Winchester. I don't feel like signing up for facebook though. Are there any other places I might go for ideas?

ailuros (2012-01-17 10:40:59)

@Jill V – I am so very tempted by the idea of buying that Malden from you! I really want an A5, but do I REALLY need another Filo? Don't answer that one, people....:) A more important question is, am I an ochre person this year??? Off to look up images of the Malden in ochre, once again....

The Liar (2012-01-17 10:49:51)

Hi Jill V., I would take that Malden A5 from you and name anything you like for that..

I can trade a scanda personal and a slimline guildford for that Malden A5..

(sent a mail too but in my excitement, the subject was left blank!)

phew.. need a glass of water to calm me down..

René Sartoi (2012-01-17 10:52:43)

Does anyone ever get sentimental (or even remember) the Lefax range of organisers and inserts? I particularly miss their bright purple insert paper; there was barely a pen that you could use and write legibly on the inserts because the purple was so overpowering!

(Lefax were bought by Filofax many years ago supposedly to be used as their high-end label but to my memory there was only one or two ranges of Filofax-Lefax products before the label and products disappeared...)

Steve Morton (2012-01-17 10:54:30)

@ailuros Post your pictures on Flickr and post a link to the pictures in the comments. There is no way for readers to post pictures directly in to the blog.

Regards

Steve

Jy11 (2012-01-17 11:11:37)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Lime Tree (2012-01-17 11:13:47)

@Allison: Thanks! I guess not having a store around to go see and touch the binders does make a difference! Hopefully this summer I will be able to take a look at some of them in NY.

@Steve: thanks for the link those were the one I found as well!

@Lucy: I usually carry a a lot of pens with me so I can't really rely on the pen loop anyway. I am glad to know you like it otherwise! I am so glad you asked about the "Happiness Project" Book. I am reading it as well and that's why I was asking about Maldens, Astons and Baroques! I am planning on doing a happiness binder as well!

:D I totally understand your point that you have been so absorbed in responsibilities and your roles that you leave aside fun and personal fulfillment. I am also just starting with this project - don't even have the binder yet! - but I started from very basic: making lists of things - small details and big picture planning - that make me happy and another one for the ones that don't. Also with my current personal Domino, I am doing a very brief summary of my day. If I felt good overall I go back to check what work that day. If at the end of the day I feel too exhausted, overwhelmed, etcetc also I go back to check what could have been improved to make me feel better. I am very curious to see how yours develops and how your final setup will be! :)

Scoot (2012-01-17 12:23:44)

Rene, I don't know anyone with purple, but would personal sized LeFax paper in red, blue and green do? Lined, squared and plain?

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-01-17 13:33:10)

@Lime Tree

I have 2 baroques and posted about them on my blog:

start here...

<http://paperpensink.blogspot.com/2011/04/in-bag-test-of-baroque-part-1.html>

[I did a number of posts one after another)

I LOVE them and they has pretty much the same layout as a Malden but it has this fancy interior and is a squahier leather.

MsPencil (2012-01-17 13:44:52)

Just dropping in to said, "Hi" to everyone.

LM (2012-01-17 14:46:26)

Hi! Does anyone know of another pocket size apart from the Malden with a slip pocket for a notepad at the back? This is the most valuable feature of the Malden over the ones with zipped pockets on the right cover, and I am hoping there are blank notepads out there as well, not just ruled, even if I can't find them on the Filofax website. Those lines are just squashed too tight for my writing! Thanks, Linda

Maus (2012-01-17 15:24:04)

Hello @all!

I'm really engaged to the Pocket size. Does anyone know whether there exists a Baroque (turquoise or pink) in Pocket? (and where it is available)

@Amanda: I do love your fantastic Baroque post!!!

Gerard (2012-01-17 15:28:00)

LM,

The Kendal pocket is 50 % off on the UK website, and has a full height pocket on the \*outside\* of the back cover which could probably hold a notepad, or just a series of loose blank sheets if you prefer. The strap extends across the outside pocket, so that sheets can't fall out.

Available only in brown (in UK anyway) which may be a deal-breaker for you - worth a look though.

The Liar (2012-01-17 15:29:35)

@LM White Plain Notepad for Pocket - Filofax USA sells them at <http://www.filofaxusa.com/store/paperessentialsdetails.asp?productId=55> and filofax UK sells them at <http://www.filofax.co.uk/store/paperessentialsdetails.asp?productId=55>

(Good to see them using the same URL structure!)

Regarding other Pocket ones capable of holding a notepad.. I was thinking why not use a flex pocket sized notebook by inserting the back cover into the right hand side full length pocket of Kendal, Finchley, etc... Just thinking..

The Liar (2012-01-17 15:49:42)

@LM I just checked my Pocket Denim (well another filo which is not getting much use) and as I remembered it has a slot for notepad like Malden! Not necessarily your style but ...

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-01-17 16:22:14)

@Maus

Italy has a pocket baroque in its sale:

<http://www.filofax.it/store/organiserdetails.asp?rangeId=115 &sizeId=2 &dsizeId=2 &spId=878>

Glad you liked my posts! :-)

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-01-17 16:24:01)

@Maus

Oh - only in black for the baroque... France used to have them in colours but only seem to have the mini or personal now.

Sorry!

LM (2012-01-17 16:24:50)

Thank you for all your replies! @Gerard: I'll have a look at the Kendal even though the pocket is on the outside - that could be a good thing. @The Liar: Thanks for the links, but I only found normal unruled paper, not an actual pad which will slide into the back cover of the Malden. It is brilliant for quick notes which can be inserted into the rings later or torn off. Thanks for the tip about the Denim though, I'll check that out!

Steve Morton (2012-01-17 16:26:48)

Here is a link to the Pocket Notepad with ruled paper...

<http://www.filofax.co.uk/store/paperessentialsdetails.asp?productId= 61>

Steve

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-01-17 16:29:14)

I've also seen on the French filofax site some diaries with other covers (as part of the Letts range) - does anyone have any knowledge of what these are like? They have some lovely baroque covers I see...

Lynne (2012-01-17 16:32:53)

Maus,

I have recently become totally addicted to Baroques. I have a mini and pocket with a personal on the way from France. Much prefer them to the Malden.

LM (2012-01-17 16:37:52)

@Steve: I was hoping there was a plain notepad to be had, because the lines on the ruled ones are too narrow for me, but it doesn't look like there are any. Oh, well.

Steve Morton (2012-01-17 16:41:29)

Ah sorry I thought you were looking for a lined one.

Find a similar size note pad and get a copy shop/print shop to guillotine it to size for you 81mm x 120mm?

Filofreak (2012-01-17 16:57:38)

I keep wondering what ever happened in the Design a Filofax contest? The winner was to have been announced several months ago and, unless I missed it, I never saw any more about it or who won. I checked on the Filofax website as this is where contest was originally announced, but there was nothing there either. Does anyone know?

Maus (2012-01-17 17:04:16)

@Amanda and Lynne:

Thanks for your answers and for your searching, Amanda. Yes, I already saw the Italian black Baroque... I'm

not sure if the appearance is comparable with the one of the brilliant colours (pink and turquoise).

@Lynne: What colour is your Pocket Baroque?

Will the Baroque be continued? Or is it already discontinued?

loveloatheandme (2012-01-17 19:08:52)

Hello everyone!

I'm a newbie after discovering this AMAZING blog this past week. I just had a metropol personal but after my dog trainer came round and I saw her A5 classic, that was it. I knew I had to upgrade.

So thanks to Steve and everyone else here at Philofaxy, I've fallen in love with the A5 Malden. After much searching, I've ordered it in ochre and I cannot not begin to tell you how excited I am!

Had to drop by and say hello to you all, I think I'm joining the ranks. The obsession has begun!

Hope you're all well,

Melissa x

Novagirl (2012-01-17 20:49:41)

Lime Tree,

If you are looking for an A5 Aston, I just bought one in black in December, and used it one day but decided it was too large for me. So it's in perfect condition. If you're interested in purchasing it, let me know – my address is: joannacook at yahoo dot com. I am in the US.

The leather is matte and soft, quite lovely.

A Chic Coincidence (2012-01-17 21:45:01)

When will Filofax be introducing any new planners? I've just bought a new FC for my FC inserts, just for a change from my Filofax, simply, because I did not find any Filofaxes that appealed to me.

Any inquiries?

Lynne (2012-01-17 22:45:59)

Maus, my pocket baroque is teal - now unavailable I fear, got it from the Italian Filofax site.

Lime Tree (2012-01-18 00:23:12)

@Amanda: The first pics look gorgeous! Just bookmarked your page to make sure to go back to it with more time to read all! Thanks for the link!

@Novagirl: I hadn't decided yet if I am going for an Aston, Malden or Baroque. Either of them I was thinking of personal size. Thank you for the offer anyway!

Lime Tree (2012-01-18 00:23:23)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Lime Tree (2012-01-18 00:23:38)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Lime Tree (2012-01-18 00:24:12)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Lime Tree (2012-01-18 00:25:46)

so sorry for the repetitive post! I got alerts that they didn't go thru so I kept trying :/

Maus (2012-01-18 08:33:11)

@Lynne

– deep sigh –

That would have been the right one for me, too. What a pity.

I've seen it already on the Suisse page, but it's not possible to order online there... :-(

Scoot (2012-01-18 17:44:57)

This may be old news to some ... but the Swedish filofax site still has five colours of Cameleon A5 faxes at half price.

<http://www.filofax.se/store/specials.asp?OID=262>

The Italian site also has Amazona A5 in 2 colours, also many other sizes and models that are very colourful.

<http://www.filofax.it/store/specials.asp?OID=101>

Yu (2012-04-13 19:23:44)

Yay! Finally found a Baroque! (personal size) :D <3 ... but... It's too expensive. T \_T

But thanks for the tip! I wouldn't have thought to check those websites otherwise. :)

## Filofax 2012 News (2012-01-18 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

A side-street cafe, dusk falling rapidly. A man approached my table. His wide-brimmed felt hat was pulled down hiding his face, his dark trench-coat cinched into his waist. He turned his head left and quickly right, as if fearing somebody, or something, was following him. He hesitated, but with one more glance backwards, slid into the seat opposite me.

'Mr Philofaxy?'

'Yes.'

'I have something for you,' he whispered.

He reached inside his coat and produced a large plain brown envelope. He glanced down at it. His hand was suspended in the air, as if reluctant to take the next step. He placed it on the table, his hand still on the envelope. The tendons on the back of his arched hand cast little shadow valleys in the subdued light. With a jerky movement, he thrust the envelope across the table.

'This envelope contains information vital to the well-being of your community. I cannot over-emphasise how important it is. But you must be careful.'

I pulled the flap open and inserted my fingers into the envelope.

'No!' he hissed at me. 'You can't read it here. You never know who's watching this cafe.' His eyes darted around and settled back to me. 'Take it home to read. But shut the curtains and bolt your door.'

I looked at him, trying to guess at what was behind his dramatic manner. What could be such a secret that it made him so frightened?

Almost to reassure him, I smiled and replied with a simple 'I understand.'

He touched the brim of his hat, looked around once more, stood up and made for the door. I followed him to the entrance, but when I looked up and down the street lit by dull orange lights, I could see nothing. I looked at the envelope. It could only contain a few sheets of paper. I folded it and thrust it into my pocket. I finished the last of my coffee, dropped some coins in the saucer and got to my feet. I tried to act unconcerned, even throwing a quick smile at the waitress, but my hand trembled. Once out of the door, I hurried around the corner where I'd parked my car in the shadow of a warehouse. As I stood in front of the corrugated steel door, I wanted to rip the envelope open. I looked up and down. The street was deserted. But I remembered what my contact had said. After the risk he'd taken, I had to tamp down my curiosity. If I gave in now, somebody could so easily come along and snatch it out of my hand. I only drove through one red light. My mind was so full of thoughts chasing each other that I didn't see

it. The tyres screeched in protest as I braked hard on my driveway. I ran across the gravel, fumbling with my front door key, dropped it, but managed to open the lock at the second attempt. I slid my coat off and left it lying in a heap in the hallway. In my office, I locked the door, threw myself into the chair and opened the envelope.

I read the pages inside wide eyed..... the details of the new 2012 Filofax range.....

1. [http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-ubWxRvQP9zU/TxXFNXU12gI/AAAAAAAAAKLI/Ct7wp3chCYI/s1600/500px-Spy\\_silhouette\\_document.svg+copy.jpg](http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-ubWxRvQP9zU/TxXFNXU12gI/AAAAAAAAAKLI/Ct7wp3chCYI/s1600/500px-Spy_silhouette_document.svg+copy.jpg)

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Josh (2012-01-18 00:34:51)

um, I think I missed something. Where are the details?

Rabbit (2012-01-18 00:35:17)

Well that's just cruel ;)

Nellie (2012-01-18 01:05:31)

Ooh you are a meanie!

Laurie (2012-01-18 01:29:15)

Steve!!!

Nothing like building suspense...

Sharon (2012-01-18 01:39:10)

Well that was just plain cruel!

Nikki france (2012-01-18 01:46:20)

wow, great suspense narrative, you should write a book pronto!!!!!!!!!!!!

pilgrim (2012-01-18 01:51:36)

Silly,love it.

Well done

Whimsical Harmony (2012-01-18 01:55:13)

Very cruel! Nice teaser, though.

Lime Tree (2012-01-18 02:09:32)

LOL that was great!

Now what?

...

Tomorrow gran finale? :D

René Sartoi (2012-01-18 02:29:44)

Quand le vin est tiré, il faut le boire.

Alison Reeves (2012-01-18 02:53:13)

Oh Steve - nicely done!!! Can't wait for the sequel!

I hope it's worth the wait!

Kate (2012-01-18 03:10:44)

Nooooo! You can't stop there!

Steve Morton (2012-01-18 03:12:20)

Rene

Thank you I think that is the key to cracking the code.....

Steve

Livelovelaugh (2012-01-18 04:00:48)  
Fabulous!

Patricia (2012-01-18 04:07:16)  
Tease!

loveloatheandme (2012-01-18 04:47:42)  
If I wasn't glued to this blog enough already!

Imy (2012-01-18 04:59:00)  
HAHAHAHAHA Steve you are so funny!!!! That really made me smile whilst trying to get out of bed this morning!!!

Anita (2012-01-18 06:39:40)  
Brilliant! :)

terriknits (2012-01-18 09:10:40)  
ha ha ha! I'm several time zones behind you, so I didn't see Part 1 last night before I went to bed, but Part 2 was posted when I got up. So no cruel suspense for me. But awesome story!

kayleena (2012-01-18 15:45:49)  
Fantastic. Brilliant build-up.

Butanben (2012-01-18 17:59:15)  
Reminded me of a tv show, aired when I was small, based on an original radio show, called Dick Barton Special Agent. I still remember the Dick Barton music. The cliff hangers each week were just great and what made it so good!!! Those were the days!!! Thanks for the cheery reminder and the little giggle Steve. xx

Alison (2012-01-19 06:00:34)  
Thank you, everybody, for the comments about the suspense writing. It was Steve's idea, but I thoroughly enjoyed polishing the story up.  
In my books, I like writing the action bits, especially when something really, really bad is about to happen...

## Filofax 2012 News... Chapter 2 (2012-01-18 05:00) - Steve Morton

I laid the pages on my desk in front of me.....

Is it safe to come out yet? Yes that was a cruel thing to do [1]this morning wasn't it.....

OK let's get down to business... what will you see this year... not every single detail, but some of the 'headlines' that I'm sure you will be interested in...

So new to the range.... first off... **Purple Malden** in Mini, Pocket, Personal, A5... no need to read any further is there.... oh you want to know what else was in the envelope...

How about a Raspberry Finsbury in A4 size, should brighten up that end of the range. Some other new Finsbury colours such as yellow and blue in all the popular sizes.

Some brighter sounding colours for the Classic in Sage and Lilac. Osterley brown is replaced by orange. This year is the year the Compact size expands in to more styles and colours, with compacts being made available at all price points in the range. Overall the new colours sound as if things are brighter and more colourful compared to the 2011 range.

Now we have heard about some of the outgoing colours and models, some quite short lived styles, the Chameleon will be made extinct this year. Also surprisingly the Slimline in Finsbury and Cuban will be going.. replaced by the new Compacts I suppose...

Also good bye Kendal, it has I suppose had a long run... Likewise a lot of the Zipped organisers are set to disappear from the range.

Maldens in Vintage Pink, Black and Grey are also due to bow out this year. Ochre lives on.

Short lived life for the Regency and Enigma.

As usual some Finsbury colours disappear to be replaced by others, like wise the Domino, and Apex...

There are some new models... but my 'insider' wasn't able to grab any digital pictures... so we will have to wait for details of that they look like... he muttered something about sending off his film to Kodak to get it processed.. so 1950's....

As usual as we get any Filofax news we will of course share it with you.....

Finally, I would like to thank my dear wife [2]Alison for polishing up my basic story line and developing it in to that cliff hanging suspense thriller you had to enjoy/endure this morning... but I will take the credit/blame for the way it finished... by not telling you anything!

Thank you for being such great sports...

Oh just one more thing.....



[3]

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/01/filofax-2012-news.html>

2. <http://alison-morton.com/blog/>

3. [http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-3cYuIeJbf3s/Txacs-ARmDI/AAAAAAAAAKLQ/7wtNeGsWdNc/s1600/AjbuFYfCEAA\\_UTh.jpg\\_large.jpg](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-3cYuIeJbf3s/Txacs-ARmDI/AAAAAAAAAKLQ/7wtNeGsWdNc/s1600/AjbuFYfCEAA_UTh.jpg_large.jpg)

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Sharon (2012-01-18 05:03:17)

Yippeee!!!! Purple Malden will be mine before 2012 is out!

As long as it is Finchley Purple and not Aston Purple! If Aston purple will have to think long and hard! LOL!

ace (2012-01-18 05:11:49)

Loved the build up!

Agreed Sharon! Filofax did tease a bit on their Facebook page that they would have a purple malden - so happy it's true! Yet strangely I'm more excited by the yellows, greens and blues entering the catalogue. Perhaps I've had purple overload with my two Finchleys! I'm really hoping there is more choice in A5 this year, both in binder and inserts.

loveloatheandme (2012-01-18 05:11:56)

Purple Malden?!! My head pretty much burst at that point! Depends what kind of purple though. Hmmmm. Maybe should of waited before ordering the Orche, but it's so purdy. Treating the postman as if he's Santa!

Bronagh (2012-01-18 05:52:39)

Count me in as someone whose head exploded upon hearing of the Purple Malden - my credit card, on the other hand, is just weeping.....

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-01-18 05:53:10)

Lovely! The purple Malden will be on my birthday list! Not sure about the orange Osterley though, won't it look cheap??

And yay for more compacts!!

fluffyferret (2012-01-18 05:55:41)

Purple Malden :o Excellent news! I can't wait to see it. I like the idea of a more colourful range and hope this extends to the accessories (page markers, dividers etc) too.

Imy (2012-01-18 06:06:02)

I just want the Alice!

Sandra (2012-01-18 06:35:52)

Purple Malden?! I nearly spilled my coffee when I read your post!

Alison Reeves (2012-01-18 06:45:42)

I'm with Imy - my real interest is in the Alice. Will be saving up...

However I am one of the few people that love the Enigma so would be interested in one of those if anyone sees them on sale ...

LM (2012-01-18 06:46:31)

Oooh, purple Malden - and in a compact, that would be even better! Are these the only two colours of Malden, do we know? The ochre and the purple? I'm thinking teal ...

Butanben (2012-01-18 06:52:05)

Purple Malden..... will have to get that new job asap. Would love that.Even better would be a crimson in A5..... sigh and wistful dreaming.xxxx

Alison Reeves (2012-01-18 06:55:52)

Just a quick question Steve - do you know when these products will be launched / available?

Steve Morton (2012-01-18 06:59:39)

@alisonr they will be phased in I believe from March onwards through to as late as July for some models/colours. Departing models/colours will be sold until stocks are finished in the usual way I would think.

I might have more information by this time next week.... no I promise not to tease you all in quite the same way again!

SSA (2012-01-18 07:01:18)

Sigh - i am still waiting for a Malden in racing green... maybe next year...

Iris (2012-01-18 07:16:02)

I'm really looking forward to see some more bright colours - I thought last year's range was a bit dark and dull with all these grey, brown and black Filos...

My Little Rabbit (2012-01-18 07:19:21)  
A4 raspberry finsbury...interesting!

Whimsical Harmony (2012-01-18 08:06:40)

Thrilled to learn of brighter colors to come. I love my Osterly in Plum, but it is very dark. In fact, I ordered a pink Classic A5. That's not a color I would normally choose, but I just needed a bit of brightness. (It is scheduled to arrive today!!)

Still a bit of suspense in this post...leaving the Temperley til the end. Loved the posts.

Kate (2012-01-18 10:53:31)

A purple Malden!? Be still, my beating heart.

J (2012-01-18 10:55:33)

SSA- I'm totally with you. While I'm excited to see what shade of purple they come out with, I really want to see a deep green Malden.

Fingers crossed for 2013...

janet (2012-01-18 11:08:23)

Well I do love purple. Though I have to say my Finsbury orange is the most stunning colour.

I can see that Filofax is aiming at a predominantly female and/or trended market now and I love all my binders BUT I wish they would put more effort into their planner system these days. There are so many time management systems that run rings around them (is that a pun?)and are way more innovative these days. It's a pity they seem to have moved away from that more into pretty binders.

It would be so nice to see new and different systems available for their planners particularly at A5 size. There is definitely the market out there as the templates available show.

Anita (2012-01-18 11:20:53)

Purple Malden?!

I could be very tempted, especially as I've recently ordered a purple 13" Cambridge satchel :)

loveloatheandme (2012-01-18 11:24:37)

That image is totally drool worthy! As a newbie though, I don't know what it is! Help?

Tim (2012-01-18 13:58:09)

Well said Janet! It must be a gender thing though that NOT ONE male has commented on this post (so far!).

We men are clearly not getting that excited about vivid purples and oranges!

Whilst fashionable binder colours may be increasingly important to Filofax sales (and some have been a bit drab in the past), I totally agree that they need to remember that serious users also yearn for improved content, systems and above all QUALITY (especially paper/forms).

Nellie (2012-01-18 14:58:06)

Have to agree about inserts... Hopefully we will get some new inserts!

The Liar (2012-01-18 15:29:50)

I am quite happy to see the Ochre Malden still there.. Need to get a A5 version of that (saving harder and harder) and would like a Crimson A5 as well in course of time.. but would like more blacks and browns in new designs and in A5 as well please! (there.. the gender balance restored!)

Butanben (2012-01-18 17:47:32)

If this were an election, looks like the purple Malden would win!!

Saffy (2012-01-18 18:59:28)

@Alison Reeves, I was in the Neal Street store yesterday and the Enigma was on sale, 50 % off. They had more discounted than the web site.

@Whimsical Harmony, I too bought a classic in pink (personal) after finding my Plum Osterley too dark for this time of year. The pink is much brighter and 'happier' on a dull grey day.

Orange Osterley, I just can't picture it.

The purple malden sounds fab but I would much prefer a classic green.

indigogarden (2012-01-18 22:33:19)

Wow. I just bought a personal crimson Malden...and purple is my favorite color....

My Little Rabbit (2012-01-19 00:03:16)

I agree about the serious lack of green filofaxes. Green is just lovely and isnt appreciated as a nice colour anymore. Come on Filofax, bring on the green machines!

FiloOrganized (2012-01-19 09:50:38)

Hi there,

I'm in the market for my first Filofax and was hoping I could get some feedback for those who have the Osterly model. I was looking at the A5 size but have heard some negative comments with respect to the firmness of the leather and the pen holders. Can anyone comment on this? How is the Amazona compared to this model and are there any other models that are similiar. I'm looking for an organizer that has a bit of design flair but is also soft and supple that it will lie flat once opened.

Thanks in advance for your comments!

Rori (2012-01-21 14:05:51)

Please don't look like Barney, please don't look like Barney, please don't look like Barney...

Rori (2012-01-21 14:08:35)

Also...racing green would be BRILLIANT!!!

caribbean princess (2012-01-22 08:55:22)

Purple Malden! Woo Hoo!!

MsPencil (2012-01-23 09:08:14)

This was a cool read! Have a Great Week!

## **Philofaxy by Email... (2012-01-18 12:00) - Steve Morton**

If you subscribe by email to Philofaxy, there were problems with the RSS feed early this morning. I ended up having to delete the feed and recreate it. Unfortunately this meant that all the subscriber details were deleted as well.

So please resubscribe to the feed using the box in the side bar. I've tested it out and it appears to be working again.

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Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-01-19 11:16:07)

Hi Steve,

Has the RSS feed for comments died too? I found it useful to catch up with things added to older posts.

Many thanks,

Amanda

Steve Morton (2012-01-19 11:25:54)

Hi Amanda

Try it again. I've just reset that one as well.

Or point your RSS reader at:

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/feeds/comments/default>

Steve

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-01-19 14:40:56)

Thanks Steve!!

### Dividers with a difference (2012-01-19 00:00) - Steve Morton

We have seen some very creative and beautiful section dividers from different blogs and websites in the past. I have to be honest I'm not that sort of creative person really, crafty but not in a craft sense!

So I've been looking around for some alternative things to make dividers out of, that would be different to the plain cream ones, that would make use of items that are no longer used.

One idea I saw on someone else's site was to use old road atlas pages cut to size then laminated to give them a bit more 'stiffness' I might try this with my French road atlas when I replace it soon. I would most probably pick the pages from our surrounding area which will mean the divider serves two purposes, and I like things like that.

So that was one idea. But at Christmas sitting around with the family I started to think there has to be other ideas that we can try... and there it was stirring at me....

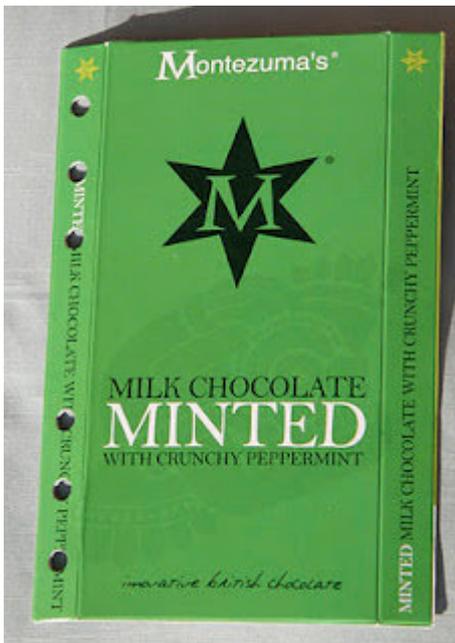


[1]



[2]

A big stack of chocolate, 7 bars in fact, all neatly packed in their own individual boxes. So what do you do after you have eaten all that chocolate? Well you recycle the boxes.... but I had other ideas... Pull the box apart... trim it to size and punch it and you get this:



[3]

A perfect, functioning divider. and the folding bit on the right acts as a tab that can fold out of the way, it can be labelled, trimmed to a tab shape or left as it is. Oh and the chocolate was very nice apart from the milk chocolate with lime... I swapped it for some plain instead!

This week I also received in the post a lovely Vogue desk calendar from our friends at [4]City Organiser. Each week is a different picture taken from the magazine. The picture and the calendar part are perforated, so as each week passes you tear off the picture and the calendar bit to reveal a new week.



[5]

Here are the first two weeks pictures, which you can send as postcards.



[6]

But instead of using them as postcards. I've punched them and they make great personal size dividers.



[7]

These are just some of my simple ideas, but once you start looking around your own home it is surprising what there is that you can reuse like this.

1. [http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-rbdhB1vG7pw/TxHcyRE7d1I/AAAAAAAAAKJA/Odp0jqbtZbA/s1600/IMG\\_0708.jpg](http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-rbdhB1vG7pw/TxHcyRE7d1I/AAAAAAAAAKJA/Odp0jqbtZbA/s1600/IMG_0708.jpg)
2. [http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-W0Z1nNXZzZ4/TxHc1vNEFDI/AAAAAAAAAKJQ/YTvSQHYKEw/s1600/IMG\\_0715.jpg](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-W0Z1nNXZzZ4/TxHc1vNEFDI/AAAAAAAAAKJQ/YTvSQHYKEw/s1600/IMG_0715.jpg)
3. [http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-Ie8p5qyLbFw/TxHc0AznmTI/AAAAAAAAAKJI/ajA8HUCkSug/s1600/IMG\\_0714.jpg](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-Ie8p5qyLbFw/TxHc0AznmTI/AAAAAAAAAKJI/ajA8HUCkSug/s1600/IMG_0714.jpg)
4. <http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/>
5. [http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-vB0Z4ZKnj1k/TxHe1aNihrI/AAAAAAAAAKJY/RjHPGN4cpZk/s1600/IMG\\_0709.jpg](http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-vB0Z4ZKnj1k/TxHe1aNihrI/AAAAAAAAAKJY/RjHPGN4cpZk/s1600/IMG_0709.jpg)
6. [http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-WPQ7umwtXc8/TxHe3fURCPI/AAAAAAAAAKJg/4POTHx0KtxY/s1600/IMG\\_0710.jpg](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-WPQ7umwtXc8/TxHe3fURCPI/AAAAAAAAAKJg/4POTHx0KtxY/s1600/IMG_0710.jpg)
7. [http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-ePSxdDWvd9Q/TxHe5J7s-JI/AAAAAAAAAKJo/bvj0dJodWIs/s1600/IMG\\_0711.jpg](http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-ePSxdDWvd9Q/TxHe5J7s-JI/AAAAAAAAAKJo/bvj0dJodWIs/s1600/IMG_0711.jpg)

Josh (2012-01-19 00:26:51)

Love that Vogue calendar! This is very well timed, I am thinking I need to make some dividers up soon. I am pretty creative but not at all crafty. Will need to think of something good. Laminating something already in the

filofax might be a good idea!

Alison Reeves (2012-01-19 03:50:04)

I suppose what would be a nice idea is to decorate the plain dividers with stencils or other things, then laminate and trim around the tabs. This would preserve the decoration!

Butanben (2012-01-19 05:40:45)

I have looked up vintage adverts and vintage seed packet sites and used these for dividers, printed onto cream card with Avery tabs added at the side and as top dividers. There are some lovely French Vintage advertising posters which can be downloaded too, and American travel postcards/posters. All bright and colourful. Save the image into Word and then scale it to your Filofax size in page layout. Add banner shapes if you want a title.

fluffyferret (2012-01-19 06:10:07)

@Butanben Great ideas. Where do you buy your Avery tabs?

teddy edwards (2012-01-19 07:19:27)

I love this idea and, as an avid consumer of chocolate, I can probably amass enough wrappers to do this by the weekend!

Does your filofax smell of chocolate? I think that would be wonderful!

I currently use a Hampshire as my work filo and a smaller 'microfile' for all things personal. But I am hankering after a burgundy Malden and just need to find the justification for buying it, other than 'I really really want it!' Love this site :)

Steve Morton (2012-01-19 07:22:54)

Hi

I forgot to mention the chocolate was in sealed foil wrappings so no messy choccie bits in my Filofax!

Steve

Maus (2012-01-19 08:13:43)

Great ideas, Steve, many thanks!

Especially the chocolate packages do inspire me... ;-)

So one Filofax can be the "Lindt" (my noble Ivory Deco), the other "Ritter Sport" (Crimson Malden?), the next "Milka" (Purple Finchley?) and there will be found another type for the Siena... mmmhhh I guess I've got a lot to do (eat ;-)) the next days...

Pieces of wallpaper could also be a good idea... I saw it somewhere on a blog.

Rori (2012-01-19 09:02:13)

OHMYGOSH! I love the Vogue calendars! I had to settle for some scrapbooking paper and washi tape—no access here in hell to any groovy postcards.

Butanben (2012-01-19 10:53:41)

@fluffy ferret. I buy my Avery tabs at Staples. They come in a dual pack of pink and cream. They also do semi-circular Avery tabs. I like the cream ones. I label them with my Dymo label maker.... also from Staples. Actually the label maker is so handy for around the house too eg for dating and labelling freezer boxes, baking jars etc. They do various cartridges, one of which prints iron on labels for children's school uniform etc. Handy for mums. The cartridges are dearish, £6-8?, but last ages. Dymo stuff also available in WH Smiths.xx

Butanben (2012-01-19 10:55:24)

PS forgot to say the Avery tabs hold up extremely well and I've never known them to fall off!!

Butanben (2012-01-19 11:01:47)

PPS- I love the picture of your ginger cat. Reminds me of my childhood cat... Ginger. Such a loveable scamp,

bless him! Thank you for the positive comments..... glad you liked my divider thoughts.I print an index on the back of my dividers so I know what is in each section too.

J (2012-01-19 11:31:32)

I just used scrapbook paper that either correlated to the section or I just plain old liked!

I simply trimmed the paper to the size of an existing divider, glued both sides and stuck together! I've had them for ages now, and have never had a problem with them peeling off. Plus, since most of us have random divider sets lying around, they can be changed up whenever you like :)

fluffyferret (2012-01-19 11:42:27)

@Butanben Thank you! We have a Staples in Aberdeen so I'll have a look. Any excuse to add to my stationery hoard :o) Our puss Leo is also a loveable scamp. He was on top of the snow covered shed roof in the picture and had snow on his chin like a beard!

This is my life (2012-01-19 13:08:05)

I love this idea! For the past few weeks I've been wanting to be all crafty and make my own dividers :) this is so inspirering - thank you!

printaddict (2012-01-19 14:33:50)

The chocolate wrappers are such a great idea! When I find chocolate wrapper pretty enough here in Germany, I will think of that.

At the moment I've made the dividers for my pocket filo of postcards I bought at the art museum's shop. But when I made dividers for my mom's filofax (personal) I also used a calendar, because I couldn't find postcards large enough. I think calendar is the better solution because of the thinner paper.

Alison Reeves (2012-01-19 15:43:34)

Has anyone made a ruler?

Ray Blake (2012-01-20 12:18:26)

@ Alison - sort of: <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2011/11/my-unique-new-today-marker.html>

## **Free for All Friday No. 166 (2012-01-20 00:01) - Nan**

Only connect...what does that mean? The prose and the passion...the future and the past...the sacred and profane?

I've always used my Filofax to schedule and prepare for the future, but I believe that most of a Filofax's value may lie in preserving and honoring the past.

Do you usually write things down before the fact or after?

What's on your mind (or Filofax) this Friday?

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Josh (2012-01-20 00:35:57)

I actually use my filofax for forward planning and documenting the past. Each day I write down what I intend to do, and add what I actually do. I also take quick notes on things that came up that day that I may want to be able to recall. I jot something down for any noteworthy weather.

My diary pages in my filofax work fine. I'm in DPP and only problem is they get very cluttered with everything I do in a day. Hoping a switch to Do2P will solve the problem. My issue in my current setup is managing notes and tasks which cannot be assigned to specific dates/times. Thankfully I fired up the philofaxy archive and found LOTS of helpful solutions. I've been trying to organize my notes as I write them in, finding the appropriate page in the appropriate section for this particular thought or activity, but it is MUCH too complicated. Think I will Follow David Popely and just have one notes category for "capture" and then sort through it later and move it to the appropriate section for ideas or to dos. We'll see how it works out!

Thanks again to philofaxy for showing the way!

Lime Tree (2012-01-20 01:04:30)

I am having a similar problem. Well, not actually similar but is related to not yet feeling comfortable with a setup. I want to do big picture planning but can't find a system that works for me so far. My daily tasks go ok but I am feeling a little lost considering that I need the big picture planning to prioritize my daily tasks.

Also I want to put all my stuff in one binder but it just won't fit! :/ I have 4 filofaxes and 2 other organizers I am currently using but am having a hard time coordinating between all them.

1FF is for work when I am actually at work - mostly for tasks and deadlines;

2FF is for work/career that stays at home - I just changed careers and got a new job so I try to put down everything related to it, thoughts, ideas, goals, impressions etcetc;

3FF is my wallet and for appointments outside work (that one is working pretty well actually)

4FF is the one I am lost. There is all the other stuff I want to put down - daily tasks, happiness project, blog, health, overall planning for the year (on every aspect), etcetc and it is a little messy.

One of "Other Planner" is for Grad school - timetables, timelines, notes, syllabus, etcetc.

Second "Other Planner" is for house chores - everything in the house.

I guess my problem is that 4FF. I am trying to tie together all the other ones thru that single one. It's all related after all. Not sure why I am stuck on that. I may just be overanalyzing it! :D

I would appreciate suggestions anyway!

Jo (2012-01-20 02:50:04)

I'm a bit of a before, during and after person....

Before = just to make sure I keep on track..

During - during the calls, whilst I'm browsing my pages, or ad-hoc things.

After - to remind me!

Laurie (2012-01-20 03:59:00)

I definitely use my planner to plan and also as a record for future reference.

My problem with using Filofax for this is the paper is not acid-free/ archival and so I don't trust it to preserve my important records.

Butanben (2012-01-20 04:10:32)

Slightly off topic, but as it's FFAF. What quotes do any of our Philofaxers use and put into their filofaxes that inspire you? Which give you positivity? Which make your day glow and flow? Thank you. xxx

Tim (2012-01-20 04:12:34)

I think this is where using Smart 'phone technology and paper organisers can work side-by-side. It doesn't have to be an "either/ or" when it comes to Filofax v smart phone.

I use an A5 Filofax monthly paper planner for ALL up-coming appointments and meetings. (I'm currently testing two - A5 dismantled cream Flex paper on my desk and a Flex slim for when out and about. I may end up just using the latter).

I then transfer all appointments to Microsoft Outlook (boo..hiss, I hear) and (by synchronising) to my iPhone with any necessary alarms/ reminders. I then don't need to worry about them any more. Clashes or missing a crucial rendezvous (like failing to pick-up my daughter after her hockey match!) are eliminated, as the 'phone will jog my memory.

Just as important, it means that my daily - Filofax A5 - planner is clear and free to log and record all the things that happen during the day (Dave Popely GTD style).

I review all my notes from that day and copy them to the best section of my Filofax as necessary - project plans, information, actions or wherever! This leaves the calendar pages as a record of the day.

So, my answer is before AND after!

Alison Reeves (2012-01-20 04:39:38)

I am reading all this with interest as there are a lot of useful points already. I am awaiting delivery of my day-timer inserts (don't they take ages to deliver?). Plan is to record plans in this week per view (which also includes monthly sheets for planning) and record any must do items on the day. I'm still thinking on the other sections. I also have everything in my outlook calendar which I have set up to sync with iCloud. This means that anything entered into my diary on either my laptop, iPhone or iPad syncs with the other devices automatically (at least that is the theory) so no forgetting.

If I find that the week to view doesn't allow for enough scheduled items, I plan to get the day per view or 2 pages a day from day timer and just slip in the immediate week or day. I could do with recording time spent on individual customers / projects but I am not sure the best method for this as yet.

The next stage is to sort out the todo lists. I have some personal stuff I want to record. I'm thinking of using the day-timer 'hot lists' inserted within the week I am viewing to record todo items as it will keep them in my view. I'm concerned that if I don't I won't look at them! I also have a small white board which I am thinking of re-purposing to list current projects. (I can even forget about those!)

I have an A5 binder I use for menu planning and home related things, but don't really run a diary in this. However I did think I could use a monthly view as a menu planner.

SSA (2012-01-20 04:54:38)

Three weeks into the year I feel like I am having a planner breakdown. Does anyone know that uneasy feeling when something niggles at you but you don't know what you need to do to solve the niggle and you can't rest until you do? Well I am having that right now. I love my pocket Malden but I have been assessing what I am actually using the planner for and why I am carrying all this stuff around with me all the time. In my Filofax I have a WO2P, which is pretty much the only thing in it that I use on a daily basis. The notes section only has a few recipes, there are one or two to-do lists and other pages with notes on etc but none of these are references daily or even weekly in most cases. So, I have been thinking....brace yourselves...that maybe I could use a smaller "diary" for out and about which would replace the WO2P and then use a Deskfax (which was recently given to me by my step-father who has had it since the 1980's and never told me!) as a stay-at-home binder with all the info from the pocket (recipes/info on my dog/quotes/etc etc and as an address book combined.

Does anyone else only have an at home filo?

Maybe I should do the above and just keep the WO2P in the pocket and continue using it. sigh.

Can anyone offer me some advice?

Scoot (2012-01-20 05:42:05)

Butanben, some of my fax quotes ...

"Omission and inactivity are worse than resorting to the wrong expedient."

"While all events are simple in themselves, all things are difficult. You must exhibit initiative, flexibility and improvisation to achieve objectives."

"Efficiency is a quality often appreciated but never loved."

"I could only achieve success in my life through self-discipline and I applied it until my wish and my will became one."

"Success is a journey, not a destination."

Jess (2012-01-20 06:37:18)

Hi everyone! I've been reading Philofaxy for awhile, but it's my first time commenting. I have an unrelated question ... does anyone know if the difference between the "Personal Business/Visiting Card Holder" and the "Personal Credit Card Holder" is just that the business card holder has openings along the top and the credit card holder has them along the side?

I'd like a place to store credit card-sized cards, but I'd rather have the top openings.

Thanks!

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-01-20 06:52:21)

@Jess

I have the ones which open along the top and have store cards (credit card size) in mine.

Hope that helps.

Jess (2012-01-20 07:44:22)

@Amanda Cool, thanks! One other question, how many cards can you fit in there?

SSA (2012-01-20 09:00:13)

@ Jess. The Business card holder (top opening) holds six cards - three front and three back. The credit card holder only holds three credit cards.

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-01-20 09:04:46)

@Jess

As SSA says, this:

<http://www.filofax.co.uk/store/paperessentialsdetails.asp?productId= 506>

technically holds 6, three on each side, but I think I have managed to jam 2 cards in each slot on one side (but haven't tried jamming 2 cards into each slot on each side) - so it could possibly hold 9 cards.

Hope that helps.

Britta (2012-01-20 10:37:17)

Just found out that Filofax Germany has a 3for2 offer on Paper &Essentials (no diary refills, no adress software). If you purchase 3 items from this category, they give you the cheapest one for free. The offer is running till 24. January 2012.

Butanben (2012-01-20 12:00:27)

@Scoot. Thank you so much for the quotes. I particularly liked the success is a journey one. As I am applying for jobs still, that seems apt to keep up the positive motivation and go getting drive. Thanks for your thoughts.

Jess (2012-01-20 12:58:06)

@SSA, @Amanda, Thanks for the info, much appreciated!

Tim (2012-01-20 16:15:20)

@SSA - re: carrying around a big Filofax with little in it... Week 3 and I think I may have come to the same conclusion. I made a list of everything I need to carry around and found that most of it was either on my iPhone (appointments/ to-do's/ contacts etc) or was only needed when at home/ office (I work from home). The only exceptions were a year planner and a note pad for jotting down things as they happen (for transfer when back at the office).

So, after years of carrying around various A5 binders, trying to keep them slim for portability, I'm trying to confine mine to my des. There, it can get fat as I can now stuff anything into it, knowing it's all there in one place. I may bend the "office only" rule if I'm on a really long train journey, but for general out and about, I've purchased a Grey Flex Slim with year planner, Flexion pen and note pad. Credit cards/ receipts and bank notes have gone in the outside slots with - but behind - the elasticated pen holders. This way the whole thing can stay closed and still access my money and keep til receipts. I hate the plastic Flex binders but am confident that leather versions will be coming out soon.

It's going to be tough, but I'm going to see if I can survive with just that!

Good luck with your week 3 review!

loveloatheandme (2012-01-20 18:24:19)

I know this may sound daft but I keep whiteboard pens with me everywhere. I have an amazingly short term memory and so anything that springs to mind I will just jot down on a window! I find the mirror work best though, especially for positive messages as I can't help but give myself a quick glance in the morning before I rush out.

I too am currently baffled by what system I should use but I'm going to figure all that out when my a5 Malden arrives.

But whiteboard pens are the way forward in the meantime, I find they always really help whilst dieting! Be careful

before you write on things like your fridge though, do a small tester in a hidden area first!

Steve Morton (2012-01-21 05:21:10)

In terms of preserving the past, it's 25 years ago since my son was born 19 Jan. And I still have my Filofax diaries from then, they make interesting reading before and after his birth date.

For instance it's 25 years since Terry Waite was reported missing presumed kidnapped in Beirut. The papers of 19/01/1987 were full of the details. South East England was covered in snow.. and Alison and I had just bought a new car, an MG Metro D339 MKN... it's all in the diaries...

Just-Jenny (2012-01-21 14:04:37)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Bridget (2012-01-21 19:35:08)

I have a question about buying a chameleon personal. Seeing as they are going to be retired, do you think they will go on sale, or will they just stay at current prices?

Laurie (2012-01-21 21:09:28)

Bridget, the styles on their way out often do go on sale, but not always right away. Sometimes they go on drastic discount when it's time to make room for the new stock (such as those 50 % off sales).

Problem is, you can't be certain that the color and/or size you want will still be available by sale time. Usually they do the drastic discounts to clear out the last of what remains.

I hate to enable, but my own policy is, if I really really want it, I'd better just buy it. Otherwise I get very disappointed when they are gone and I missed out!

Does anyone else have any info about potential sales?

Iris (2012-01-22 04:55:13)

[1]Filofax Sweden currently has a 50 % sale on Chameleon and other models (Deco, Adelphi, Scanda).

Just saying...

1. <http://www.filofax.se/store/specials.asp?0ID=262>

## Web Finds 21 January 2012 (2012-01-21 00:00) - Steve Morton

So another week passes by, but still a great number of excellent posts for you to read and enjoy. I can't think of a suitable excuse today... so just grab a tea, a coffee, a wine or a beer, put your feet up and enjoy!

- [1]A Filofax that isn't an organiser! - Bagsey - Bags, can you ever have enough?
- [2]Compact Calendar - David Seah
- [3]2011 Archived - Well Planned Life
- [4]A Filofax Swing Pad you can make at home - My Life All in One Place
- [5]What's in your planner - The Crazy Suburban Mom
- [6]A Stationery Love Affair. Moleskine. Filofax - Oh Panda
- [7]Filofax Friday - Cupcakes and Cadenzas
- [8]On being a notebook polygamist - From down the well
- [9]Cheap hole reinforcements - This is My life

- [10]insert witty blog post title here - Filofax Fixation
- [11]Download a monthly planner for your Filofax - My Life All in One Place
- [12]Using my Filofax Flex - Planet Millie
- [13]What's in a name - Filomaniac
- [14]Pocket Filofax - We're gonna need a bigger boat
- [15]A diary system - colourliving
- [16]Random Filofax Musings - Filofax Fixation
- [17]Tickle Me, Filofax - The Crazy Suburban Mom
- [18]How is your 2012 organisation going? - Heather Holistics
- [19]Tweaks to the Filofax set up - Paper Pens Ink
- [20]Filofacsmile - Filofax Fixation
- Your blog post could appear here next week... Please email us if we missed you this week.

Enjoy

**Please note:** Google have recently made a change to Blogger/Blogspot blogs. They have introduced a new type of comment set up.

You will recognise the new set up if you see '**Reply**' below each comment. It's a nice idea... except if someone links to your post, like we do above, for some reason the link takes you straight to the comments and not the top of the post.

If your Blogger/Blogspot blog is behaving like this, go in to the Dashboard, then 'Settings', then click on comments 'Comments' and change 'Comment Form Placement' to 'Full Page' rather than 'Embedded below post' and then scroll to the bottom of the page and click on Save Settings.

That should cure the problem until Google fix the issue.

1. <http://bagsey.blogspot.com/2012/01/filofax-that-isnt-organiser.html>
2. <http://davidseah.com/compact-calendar/>
3. <http://wellplannedlife.blogspot.com/2012/01/2011-archived.html>
4. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2012/01/filofax-swing-pad-you-can-make-at-home.html>
5. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/01/what-in-your-planner.html>
6. <http://www.oh-panda.com/2012/01/stationery-love-affair-moleskine.html>
7. <http://www.cupcakesandcadenzas.com/2012/01/filofax-friday-my-tomato-bloomsbury.html>
8. <http://downthewell.blogspot.com/2012/01/on-being-notebook-polygamist.html>
9. <http://thisismylifethisismyway.blogspot.com/2012/01/cheap-hole-reinforcements.html>
10. <http://filofaxfixation.wordpress.com/2012/01/16/insert-witty-blog-post-title-here/>
11. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2012/01/download-monthly-planner-for-your.html>
12. [http://mslogica.com/2012/01/using-my-filofax-flex/?utm\\_source=twitterfeed&utm\\_medium=twitter](http://mslogica.com/2012/01/using-my-filofax-flex/?utm_source=twitterfeed&utm_medium=twitter)
13. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.com/2012/01/whats-in-name.html>
14. <http://clairejoannehuxham.blogspot.com/2012/01/pocket-filofax.html>
15. <http://colourliving.co.uk/the-quest-for-a-diary-system>
16. <http://filofaxfixation.wordpress.com/2012/01/20/random-filofax-musings/>
17. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/01/tickle-me-filofax.html>
18. <http://heatherholistics.blogspot.com/2012/01/how-is-your-2012-organisation-going.html>
19. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.com/2012/01/tweaks-to-filofax-set-up.html>
20. <http://filofaxfixation.wordpress.com/2012/01/19/filofacsimile/>

LJ (2012-01-21 01:27:31)

Thanks for another great selection, lovely start to my day while the boys were watching The Nightmare Before Christmas :o)

The link to My Life All in One Place seems to be diverting to Flickr...

Ray Blake (2012-01-21 02:07:28)

Yes, the monthly planner link should take you here: <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2012/01/download-monthly-planner-for-your.html>

Steve Morton (2012-01-21 03:11:17)

Hi

Sorry about that, my mistake.

As you can see these posts are not automated in any way!

Regards

Steve

Ray Blake (2012-01-21 03:36:55)

And are much better for it!

Kate (2012-01-21 04:45:58)

Sigh of contentment. Now to start the day. Thanks, Steve.

Scoot (2012-01-21 05:04:36)

Thanks for those. I only got so far through and have to go out, but ...

1. In terms of adding a notebook to a fax, overall I see the idea of a heavy fold out being more of a problem than a benefit. I think it will break, come out/off in handling, but the idea has great merit for options for less bulky items.

But then doesn't that fold out idea lead onto Flex? Perhaps Filofax could create a one off/test Fax with open sides like a flex and the option to slip different Flex inserts into the side? Would it be a Flex with rings or a Filofax with flex sides? How about calling it Felix? If Filofax are reading this, please do it, let us have a look? Call it online product development.

2. One blog post covered the idea of using cellotape along the side to reinforce the holes, but on the front. Could I suggest that it is nicer/neater to use clear tape on the back of a fax insert, so it can't be seen, and that if it is to go on the front then spice it up using any of the jazzy/super multi-coloured tapes now available in stationery/gift stores.

3. LJ, try resisting Moleskins a little more. Filofax Italy and Sweden have a great choice of faxes on sale.

gdigesu (2012-01-21 06:43:51)

Scoot, hi.

Your paragraph 2 of your item 1 is brilliant. I'm going to hack your idea, if I may.

Scoot (2012-01-21 07:04:22)

I think A5 rings on an A5 flex cover will be more practical, and cheaper. I thought about ripping the threads on an unused A5 Kent but it just doesn't have the side folders that come with a flex and which are required to hold booklets.

(For some reason I'm having trouble posting comments on this blog, after the word verification I have to press "publish" rather than "preview" to have my words listed.)

Gerard (2012-01-21 07:56:33)

Scoot - some of the current range seem to already have flex style pockets, such as the Holborn, which is described as having "left and right hand full length pockets" on both back and front covers.

Scoot (2012-01-21 09:47:02)

Thanks for that reference. I haven't held a Holborn but looking at the picture it looks as though you are correct. Such a pocket would allow a notebook or other item to be slipped in and yet remain secure. I will have to investigate the real thing, also think of the ways I could use it.

Rori (2012-01-21 11:14:27)

OHMYGOSH I love these posts! :D I'm going to save it for later, as a treat. I have to go grocery shopping :o(

terriknits (2012-01-21 17:04:03)

@rori, we finished our weekly grocery shopping; now the reward, Web Finds!

Laurie (2012-01-21 20:46:01)

I have held a Holborn in the shop and it does have open full length pockets front and back that seem like they should hold a Flex booklet, assuming they are the correct size. Also I wonder if a Pocket Moleskine cahier or volant booklet would fit in there.

And by the way the Holborn is gorgeous. It is buffalo leather, but more dressed-up looking than the Malden.

Oh! Panda (Rebecca) (2012-01-24 18:15:57)

Thank you for featuring my post and for giving me a whole load more to go and read :)

## New to Philofaxy? (2012-01-22 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

Welcome to **Philofaxy**.

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]Philofaxy 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 Philofaxy 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/0JanJmjb28/s1600/IMG\\_9920.jpg](http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-kHgWaVup_58/TZ229T6RWpI/AAAAAAAAJGo/0JanJmjb28/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>

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gdigesu (2012-01-22 05:09:37)

Steve, this is an excellent post.

It helps all of us better interact with the other folks, to learn faster, and to have more fun.

Giovani

Maus (2012-01-22 07:14:15)

Many thanks for this all including information!

I nearly felt as if it had been written just for me, because I am a newby on Philofaxy as well as on the Filofax system. I'm using it for two month an i'm a "junkie" already, owning five Pocket at the moment!

So many thanks for all the useful information and encouragement!

(Please don't mind my English, I'm just a German girl... or to remain honest... woman ;-)! )

The Liar (2012-01-22 14:19:05)

Thanks you very much for this Steve. I have two requests and while I think one would be appropriate, the other is up in the air.

1. This post should be available via the FAQ for anyone who finds this blog for the first time
  2. Could there be another page pinned to the top crumbs line (home / about / faq / etc) where the followers can say hello, say something about them (like which filo they use / like , diary they use etc.) in less than 5 sentences? Reason being not many of us have blogs (well, not writers or not much to write about – that is me before anyone is upset!) and that would be a good place..
- what do you think?

Steve Morton (2012-01-22 17:40:58)

Hi

Thanks for all your feedback so far.

I am intending to repeat this post say every 2-3 months and update the information in it anyway.

But yes I will add it to the FAQ in a moment.

The second idea is a good one, but it's not possible to implement it easily in to this set up. However... if people put this sort of information in to their Google Profile then that would help us all I'm sure.

Just a thought

Regards

Steve

Susanne Namdar (2012-02-07 17:30:57)

I just want to say how great this website has become. I remember when there were only a few readers and now the comment sections pile up. Thank you all for your effort.

Susanne

## **Poll: Business or Social? (2012-01-22 17:36) - Steve Morton**

A simple question really... What is the primary use of your Filofax organiser Business or Social?  
Please vote in the poll in the side bar.

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terriknits (2012-01-22 17:40:56)

I've been striving really hard to keep my personal Cuban Zip "personal". I work from home so it's important that I create that boundary so when I walk down the hall from my office at the end of the day, my work stays there. I have an A5 for work content.

Scoot (2012-01-22 17:42:17)

My primary objective is managing my life and that can't be separated easily between business and private; voted social because it is a personal choice to use fax based system.

Miss\_Oakden (2012-01-22 17:49:10)

I can't answer that because I Own 2 Filofaxes that get equal usage. A5 is my teacher planner personal is my personal planner. Have both with me at all times.

Lime Tree (2012-01-22 18:01:13)

I use for both although separate ones - one for work and quite a few for personal.

Josh (2012-01-22 18:20:50)

I really use mine for both. I can't even say I use it more for one than the other, flipping through my day pages I see lots of both social and business info, notes, appointments, etc.

Alison Reeves (2012-01-22 18:54:32)

Oh I think you need to extend the poll - I currently have one for work and one for personal so how do I answer?

mywormy (2012-01-22 19:17:46)

I use my personal for both work & "personal". It actually has more personal than work.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-01-22 20:33:34)

I say that what I use my filofax for is just daily life. Most of what I do is uni stuff, with lectures and homework, and then work shifts. I also note down to-dos, which can apply to either work or home life. Unfortunately, I don't have much of a social life!! So I put 'business'.

JohnofJenkins (2012-01-23 01:18:02)

Mainly personal but if I get called in to work I need to record that and the hours so I can make sure I get paid. Therefore, a mixture of business and social really.

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-01-23 04:15:44)

Like many others on here, I use filofxes for both. I have a personal size (for personal) and an A5 for work. I don't know how to vote...

:-(

Tim (2012-01-23 04:20:30)

Can't answer that - it's not that straightforward! For many of us, the 9-5 business day followed by social or family time, is long since history! Everything gets merged into one life with lots of fuzzy edges! I work in the hospitality sector with the 'phone likely to ring and booking enquiries at all hours of the day and all expecting an immediate response. It's just not possible to "shut the office door", unless I want to lose valuable business!

Filofaxes are great for helping to juggle all aspects of our merged lives though! But it follows that many of us should be following the "one life, one Filofax" doctrine. So, why do we still have such a diverse collection of them!?!

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-01-23 04:32:08)

I understand that some people want to follow the 'one-life, one'filofax' principle, but that doesn't suit all of us. After realising that I absolutely needed to be able to separate work from home or risk my health, I am **more** than happy to work out of two filofaxes. But, just because it works for me, I wouldn't insist on anyone else following it. If whatever system is working for someone, why mess with it? Of course, if it's not working, than by all means offer/seek advice.

I don't believe that one size fits all in life - we are all individual.

This is my life (2012-01-23 04:32:41)

I would say both :)

Lynne (2012-01-23 07:58:48)

Very interesting that so many are using the filo for both social and work. Maybe it proves how flexible a beast it is!

MsPencil (2012-01-23 09:11:55)

My mini has to be used for both. I carry it with me everywhere so if someone gives me a date or something I put it there first. I just started using my personal for church. I will use that one for Bible Study. The A5 Family I use for family.

Bridgett (2012-01-23 10:40:13)

I use my one Filo for both. But I have more work stuff like meetings, appointments and deadlines to remember than social stuff. I voted "business" based on that but my days aren't work at work and home at home. I have a schedule that really mixes the two.

J (2012-01-23 11:48:13)

I have to also say both! While I know everyone works differently, I work very well using one Filo for work and personal combined. It probably helps that I use colors to differentiate work appointments vs. personal and work to-dos vs. personal ones. And that I have few actual work appointments, mainly tasks.

LJ (2012-01-23 13:34:16)

Mine is for both, but at present it is used more for work than personal stuff. This is mainly because I am not very good at organising myself personally, but thanks to using a FF for the last 6+ months for work, my work is almost in order and by the end of this week I should be able to go into monthend with no outstanding junk left from last year so I will be ready to start planning on how to achieve the objectives I have been given for 2012 (whilst also planning to cut my hours so I am mainly working the standard 42 hour week that is in my contract). My filo rocks!!!

Bareges (2012-01-23 13:48:11)

Business for me although beginning to add more personal stuff.

By the way Steve told this morning by Time Management (Filofax) TM Week view Annual update has been dropped - no replacement announced - staff member stunned as TM week view a big seller.

Charles

Nellie (2012-01-23 15:50:28)  
No option for One Life One Filo!

Vijay Venugopalan (2012-01-23 17:32:59)

Primarily business (projects / notepad) - The A5 ones. So voted as business..

The filox allocated for personal / social life remain pretty much unused and still look new!

The mini and pockets get used as wallets and emergency note taking - primarily for noting down social life of children! (another one - recording mobile phone numbers of friends / relatives when they change theirs and let know over phone - Ever tried recording that on the phone in contacts app? any smart phone? literally impossible.. atleast for me!)

Adirondack Explorer (2012-01-23 20:20:05)

Everything for both work and personal goes into my A5 Finsbury but it seems that work gets the most ink these days.

Alison Reeves (2012-01-24 03:45:00)

@Bareges - I've given up with the atrocious inserts from Filofax. Have recently taken delivery of day-timer ones for my personal and I really love them. If I decide to go back to a larger binder I would probably buy one of their binders (because of the ring sizes) and give up on Filofax. After all - the whole point of filofax is really the inserts and how you use it. I just don't understand their thinking on the subject of inserts.

janet (2012-01-24 12:19:27)

I have to admit I was surprised how many people used filofaxes for social. I thought the vote would be mostly for business use.

I use one planner for everything but have been disillusioned for the past year or so on filofax's concentration on binders and not their time management system. I am finding the stock filofax inserts totally not up to coping with my business schedule and am now in the process of moving to another system completely. I have a horribly complicated combination of meetings (think like a doctor's booking sheet - totally different each and every day), invoices, attendance registers, billing information, client notes plus I need detailed to do lists as I am forgetful AND I have a complicated job. I travel for my job so my planner needs to be a mini office plus portable.

And Alison I would give you a thousand stars for your post on atrocious inserts if I could.

Sandra (2012-01-24 13:09:46)

I use my personal for both work and social things. I found this today and it made me giggle. I know it's not Filofax, but it was clever.

<http://organize.com/business-or-pleasure-journal-bob-your-uncle-reg.html>

## **Free For All Tuesday No 51 (2012-01-24 00:00) - Steve Morton**

It is Tuesday, so fire away with any Filofax related questions you have... and hopefully there will be more answers than questions!

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Josh (2012-01-24 01:28:08)

Just implemented the GTD paper planner system over the weekend. I must say that the daily chore of transferring the notes/in tray into the various other sections is a rather pleasant task! Makes me feel very in control of my life. I think this might actually work for me, with the caveat that I need to assign myself todo tasks in a more structured way. Its fun to try new systems! Anyone else trying anything new this week?

Alison Reeves (2012-01-24 03:49:10)

Yes, I have taken delivery of my day-timer inserts and spent the evening yesterday transferring all my appointments etc. Really love them and am looking forward to using them. My one diary is in this personal binder.

The other new thing I am trying is a deskfax for workplace planning. Awaiting some more inserts (woefully inadequate range on UK sites - I wonder why Italy has such a full range?).

I am also starting one todo list and bringing forward things to do today each day and listing in the planner - something I read recently in a book. I find GTD a little too much overhead at the moment - but that doesn't mean I won't go back to it at some point!

Alison Reeves (2012-01-24 03:50:45)

Bye the way I was waiting with anticipation the Temperley binders, but yesterdays announcement and price point gave me a shock. I just don't think I could justify spending that much! I guess they are aiming it the very high end market.

Saffy (2012-01-24 04:49:22)

@Alison Reeves - where have you seen the Alice Temperley binder? Has it already been launched?

Alison Reeves (2012-01-24 05:11:34)

@Saffy In one month - but there was an article published which gave prices - I picked it up from the Philofaxy twitter feed. Try this: <http://goo.gl/1S268>

As a general note can I just give a hand of applause to City Organiser in London - I've just received my Deskfax inserts and as always they posted first class the day of ordering and package came the next day: <http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/>

Not their fault, but I wish they stocked more of the deskfax inserts notably the plain or 1-6 numbered dividers.

Scoot (2012-01-24 06:32:33)

I'm not sure that the price tag means the Temperley is aimed at the high end of the market, just that part where the money is merely a number. I hope that there is something unique and wonderful about the product, otherwise it will impact negatively upon the image of Faxes in general.

Saffy (2012-01-24 06:46:34)

Thanks Alison. I agree, way too expensive even if they offered it at half price in a year or so.

Many of us justified a Deco at half price but I imagine very few being able to do the same for the Temperley. I can't wait to see what they come up with though.

keats (2012-01-24 14:21:41)

Couldn't afford a Filofax during their heyday in the 90s, though I truly wanted one and then started using electronic tools for organizer data.

However, I had a recent brainstorm the other day, that I really needed a paper back-up for critical information and found a lovely second-hand filofax on ebay. My Filofax Personal York arrived yesterday and I couldn't be more pleased.

I get the "cult of filofax" now :)

LJ (2012-01-24 15:08:31)

Ah, the Temperley being launched for London Fashion Week, that would explain the price tag. You can't have posh designers and their pals buying special Temperley designed filofaxes if other 'normal' people will be able to buy them too - ha ha ha!!!

Such a shame though. I don't see how the price tag for these can be justified (unless Alice Temperley has designed inserts after looking at all the ideas and wishlists on Philofaxy!!!)

Nancy (2012-01-24 15:11:43)

What sort of system do you all use to store your pages? I bought the FF storage book for Personal size and it's disappointing - \$15 for a cruddy little bit of plastic and metal. And the tabbed pages stick out. And it's small. I don't carry all my pages at once in my FF so I don't think they will all fit at the end of the year in the FF storage. The DayTimer storage looks larger AND it has a slipcase in which to insert the binder. I might try them

out. DayTimer has high-quality pages (at least, in the original style). Maybe storage will be just as high-quality?

cgarsnrealest8 (2012-01-24 17:20:22)

@Nancy

The Franklin Covey Compact sized storage binders work well for filofax pages with plenty of room.

cgarsnrealest8 (2012-01-24 17:22:03)

@Alison

Did you leave your A5 for the personal size? I've been contemplating this. Any thoughts?

Filofreak (2012-01-24 17:31:07)

Does anyone know what the outcome of the design a Filofax contest was? It was a while ago now and I've scoured Filofaxusa as well as Philofaxy, but can't find anything. I'm just really curious,, ,,

Alison Reeves (2012-01-24 18:55:12)

@cgarsnrealest8 - Well I downsized to personal size for home stuff and my main appointment diary. I am currently using a Deskfax for work planning and tasks.

Nancy (2012-01-24 19:08:23)

@cgarsnrealest8 Thanks!

Tacimn (2012-01-24 23:34:47)

I have a small question. Is there any kind of special care that needs to be taken when cleaning the leather on a filofax? And if anyone has some recommended brands?

Thanks!

## **Musing for a Wednesday... (2012-01-25 00:00) - Steve Morton**

To say I'm short of ideas today would be a little bit of an understatement... ok let me get the excuses out of the way. I've been busy with a few non-Philofaxy projects, some of them payment type projects some pro-bono ones, as usual, more of the later than the former... but that's life!

In terms of Filofax news we are in a little bit of a lull awaiting announcements which will start to appear in the public domain from about the end of the month and then hopefully through February. Filofax are at a trade show in Frankfurt next week, so most of their 2012 range will be on display there I would think.



[1]

You will have seen the 'Temperley Teaser' which I've seen reported else where as being priced £379 and £399, there are two sizes and two designs we do know that... and the 'inflated' price is mainly because it's a 'limited edition'

But it got me chuckling when I saw our popular posts list in the side bar. There was my post from last week on [2]Filofax News, sat next to the other post about [3]dividers... You won't be seeing old chocolate box dividers in your Temperley Special Filofax now will you!!! How much am I bid for these colourful chocolate boxes...

I don't wish to comment until I have seen an actual example of these organisers before I make a firm comment on 'are they worth it' However, I've received some 'material samples' for both of the models, and I think they will be quite stylish, but I'm not sure how robust in everyday use they will be. Time will tell.

I would also like to publicly thank you for being such good sports about the [4]part 1 to last weeks News story, I was in stitches of laughter when I saw some of the comments and the barbs throw at me at the time for leaving you all hanging at the end of 'story'. I had given my brief outline to my dear wife Alison to enhance it a bit and suddenly the idea came in to my head of not saying anything about the news! Yes it was cruel... but funny when you think back... and yes I know I won't be able to pull that stunt for a while!

The other thing I'm trying to sort out at the moment is a date for the next meet up in London, this is just a case of finding time in my schedule sometime in the Spring. So look out for announcements soon I hope.

As usual any Guest Posts are welcome... please send them in to philofaxy at gmail dot com Our popular series of posts of Readers Under The Spotlight is also open for new interviewees, email us if you would like to go under the spotlight.

1. [http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-3cYuIeJbf3s/Txacs-ARmDI/AAAAAAAAKLQ/7wtNeGsWdNc/s1600/AjbuFYfCEAA\\_UTh\\_large.jpg](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-3cYuIeJbf3s/Txacs-ARmDI/AAAAAAAAKLQ/7wtNeGsWdNc/s1600/AjbuFYfCEAA_UTh_large.jpg)

2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/01/filofax-2012-news-chapter-2.html>

3. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/01/dividers-with-difference.html>

4. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/01/filofax-2012-news.html>

Scoot (2012-01-25 05:31:36)

Reading this post about the Temperley fabric and pictures, also the links to the previous posts about various fax models, it is interesting to think which models are peoples favourite and will remain so in years to come . It is nice to think that the classic will remain, though with some added colours, though I hope they can produce a fix for the problem of staying open.

Any chance of a poll to check peoples favourite model?

My choices would be Classic which is current, Soho which was late 1990's, Kensington which was late 1990', Westminster which was I think mid 1990's, Cuban which is current.

TheLiar (2012-01-25 06:16:51)

Out of the ones I have handled (sadly not a winchester yet), my favourite ones are Malden and Holborn.

But out of the owned ones it will be Kensington and Scanda. Liked the Bromley leather but only had a pocket and sold it as did not use it much. Looking forward to the delivery of a Guildford A5 and it might change the order but not too sure..

Love my Graphic A5 for places where the leather A5s cannot go and it is real tough and durable..

If only one model has to be chosen (in case of poll) it would be very difficult.. Probably Scanda Personal will win it for me I think.

TheLiar (2012-01-25 06:21:20)

Having said that, have two cross (personal and A5) organisers which are similar to Winchesters in one aspect. There is a leather strip which comes in between the rings and the covers which protects the cover from receiving impressions /pressure marks of the rings over a long period of use. And both of them have been with me for few years and they really stand out in use though don't look particularly attractive or impressive..

Alison Reeves (2012-01-25 10:23:13)

I've never been a huge fan of the classic, although I have an A4 and an A4 folio in that design - I find them very rigid (good for the folio though as I have to lead on it to write in meetings etc).

My favourites for touch have always been the Finchleys. So smooth and tactile. I also currently have a Deskfax 'Richmond' which is also a lovely leather - I'm not sure if they did a Richmond in other sizes but that too is nice to handle (although not as nice as the Finchley!).

My favorite A5 is the Amazona in black as it is patent leather and very 'glamorous'. I recently bought one in personal size and have to admit to being disappointed with it. I have a cream/white Panama which feels much nicer and I am now reluctant to move into the personal Amazona. I really wish I'd bought a personal Finchley instead.

I was also a fan of the Adelphi - it felt good and also reminded me of Chanel bags with the sort of cross hatching on it.

I think a lot of the older binders were a lot more 'tactile' which is probably why they are still so popular.

### **Tickler Filofax (2012-01-26 03:26) - Laurie**

Many of you are probably familiar with the idea of a Tickler File. This is a set of file folders, each labeled with a number 1-31, corresponding to the days of the month. Each day you look in that day's file to see if there are any papers you need that day. So if you have a concert to attend on the 15th, you put the tickets into the file labeled "15" so you know where to find them when you need them.

I, and other people I know, use a similar system in our Filofax diary pages. For example, last February we went to our friends' wedding. I wrote our hotel information, reservation numbers, address and phone number of the hotel, and directions to the hotel on a notes page. I put this notes page on my Filofax rings between the diary pages of the date we would be there to make it easier to find when I needed it, instead of buried behind a tab somewhere.

I have an expat friend who keeps her list of things to buy the next time she's home in the UK on her Filofax rings in the pages of her diary at the date she will be home. That way when she is in that time and place, literally, her list will be there.

Does anyone else use this method of putting reminders and information on the rings in your Filofax diary pages at the date you need it?

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Tommes (2012-01-26 04:01:51)

Great question and suggestion! In fact, I use the Filofax jot pads to note thing to do / to remember, and put them in the rings at the according week. It works fine, and I can even forward them to another date.

Thomas

Rabbit (2012-01-26 04:11:13)

I use a similar method - it's all too easy to make an appointments page messy and cluttered (and impossible to read) if I put all of the necessary information on the diary page.

For instance, tomorrow I want to collect a parcel from the courier depot (by coincidence it'll be my shiny new slimline red Cuban; won it on eBay - YAY!) and so I'd punched and inserted the courier's depot card to not only serve as a reminder, but also to make sure I don't lose it.

Jotting notes on other, non-filo bits of paper has always been a problem for me, so this year I'm working really hard to put all my notes/info IN my filo.

teddy edwards (2012-01-26 05:54:37)

I've been looking into how to integrate a GTD system into my Filo so this post was useful, thanks.

On another note, I was mooching around the 'web finds' last night and found a tip on putting the diary section further back, to make it easier to write on the left hand pages. Don't know why I didn't think of that before, it really does help!

Loving Philofaxy - keep up the good work :)

Butanben (2012-01-26 06:56:39)

I use the jot pads as tickler reminders too, like Tommes. I also use a yearly pull out diary for job application tickler reminders, ie for closing dates.

Alison Reeves (2012-01-26 08:26:16)

I've never thought of doing this - but I will be doing it going forward! Thanks for the idea.

Kelly Marriott (2012-01-26 09:05:02)

Awesome idea! I just implemented it. Thanks.

terriknits (2012-01-26 10:07:17)

Yes, I do this all the time with either a jot pad page or a to-do or blank page, depending on how much detail I need to record. Then I open the rings and pop it in at the date I require that information.

MsPencil (2012-01-26 12:13:49)

No, but I do like the idea. I will use it the next time the family goes on vacation. I have a question: Has anyone ever order from the Denmark Filofax website I need a new mini and they have a good price and better selection than the US site. I wanted to know will it be worth it to have it ship to me in the U.S? Please someone share their experience with me. Thanks. My little mini Finchley as much as I love it the pen compartment is worn and when I place my pen inside it gets stuck and this is becoming somewhat of a nuisance. I have not seen any other websites with a mini Finchley I think they have all sold out. Anyway, Be Well everyone. Thanks Again.

MsPencil (2012-01-26 12:15:05)

Congratulations to Rabbit for winning the new Red Cuban.

kayleena (2012-01-26 14:05:59)

I only use MO2P as my calendar so I put any relevant up-and-comings behind the calendar pages so that it is there if I need it. So I can still see the month without moving the pages.

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-01-26 15:00:06)

I use a number of similar systems:

punch holes in the paper and put it in the filofax in the right place (things like booking email print-outs or so on) and put it in the diary

if I can't punch holes in it (like train tickets) I put them in an envelope which has holes punched in it and put it in the right bit of the diary (and write on the envelope what it is)

I write the relevant information on a sheet and put it in the diary (or if it's small enough just write it in the diary - reminders to do meter readings etc)

Since I've been doing this I haven't lost any important details!

Rabbit (2012-01-26 17:12:10)

@MsPencil - Thanks :) I wanted a nice smooth, slim filofax for my hospital timetable - less chance of germy contamination with a smoother surface ^\_^

As for the Denmark site - this is the only international FF site I've used, mainly due to the wonderful price of postage they offer. I had to use a translator but it went smoothly and the two orders I've placed arrived safely.

Sonya (2012-01-26 17:25:25)

...I didn't, but I will now. :D

Sonya, from Sago on Tuesdays

MsPencil (2012-01-27 02:07:21)

@ Rabbit Thanks so much. Best to you in school.

Anon (2012-01-27 05:12:42)

Yes, I do that - for example, we have a timeshare that we go to in October so I put my plans for that in my diary pages just beforehand

J (2012-01-27 10:36:10)

I do this as well, although I've never heard the term! I've used this system for hotel stays (easy to print the confirmation on smaller paper and put it right in! Right now, I have a concert ticket punched and put right before the appropriate day.

For me, this system makes it less likely that I'll lose important documents before an event/trip/etc.

kanalt (2012-01-28 13:51:34)

I do this in s around-about way. If I'm planning for a trip, I will most likely keep the list behind my "projects" tab and move it to the specific date as it approaches. Often I find it more difficult to find the date that corresponds with the list than if it were behind a specific tab. However, for items like a concert I would probably keep a jot pad sheet of information with the date. I guess it depends on whether it's something I'll continually add to or something that just gets written once and left there until it's needed.

## **Free For All Friday - No. 167 (2012-01-27 00:00) - Steve Morton**

So what changes have you made to your set up that you are finding that are working well for you? One of my success stories is moving my Blog Calendar to A5 size, it's a Google Calendar Month to a Page format printed on to A5 paper and punched.

It works great, it's tucked in to the end of my planner section and I flip to it when I'm planing and dating future posts. It originally started life on A4 size sheets but I downsized it to A5 and it's still working well.

But as it's Friday feel free to discuss anything Filofax related.

Nancy (2012-01-27 00:45:02)

why does filofax make some covers with pen loops that lie towards the pages instead of away from the pages?! I wanted the osterley so bad but I had to pass on it because of the way the pen loops were constructed! I don't suppose it's possible to train the pen loops to lie the other way, is it ?

Babs (2012-01-27 02:36:06)

I was just thinking about this the other day as I have made two major changes to my setup this year both of which are working really well.

First I moved from 2 personal size filos to a gorgeous A5 imperial purple whih is working really well for me. I also decided to use the time management week to view inserts which I'm also loving (and wouldn't have found without philofaxy!). It suits me to have all my reminders, to-dos and calendar entries all in one place.

So two successful changes for me so far this year!

Nicole (2012-01-27 06:26:23)

Do the diary refill inserts come with personal information and Registration pages as they do in brand new Filofaxes? What other inserts do I need when I buy a used, empty binder?

SSA (2012-01-27 06:39:07)

@ Nicole yes, all calendar inserts (MPP, WO2P,DPP, 2DPP, 2days per page etc) all come with the Personal Info sheet and the other information pages.

SSA (2012-01-27 06:43:17)

Has anyone ever hacked a Moleskine pocket daily into the pocket Filofax? I am considering doing this, slicing the pages out and replacing my diary insert. then I can have functional DPP sheets (I hate the Filo DPP) and still carry my lovely pocket Filo around with me.

— interestingly my word verification is 'angsta' - which minus the last 'a' is Angst which means anxiety/fear in German... how fitting.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-01-27 08:01:44)

@SSA yes I did this, but unfortunately the holes go over the times down the page on the right page :(

J (2012-01-27 10:33:40)

After I thought my system was finalized, I added a top opening envelope for coupons, and a small, top tabbed section for work notes.

I hate having to carry work notes in my Filo (I use general legal pads at work for meetings, etc.) but I'm finding it helpful to have one page for notes/to-dos for each project I'm working on. That way, any action items can be transferred to my daily to do list on the appropriate day.

Seems to be working so far!

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-01-27 10:48:17)

Hello everyone! I need an A5 filo, maybe a zipped one, that will take a lot of abuse in my backpack etc, and I'd like your opinion on the Graphic Zip. Does anyone have one and can tell me how it holds up? Thanks! Have a lovely weekend!

terriknits (2012-01-27 10:50:52)

@SSA - brilliant! I have a 2012 pocket daily Mole and a beautiful black pocket Malden with no purpose ... hm-mmm.

@Nancy - You'd think you could train them - if they're leather, maybe with diligent work you could coax them to lie the other way.

As for any major changes, well, I just yesterday got an A5 Holborn Zip for my work, replacing the A5 Cuban (non-zip). I'd fleetingly thought of swapping my personal Cuban Zip for the A5 Cuban for "non-work" use. Hm-mmm. I'll have to ponder that more over the weekend.

SNARLing: (2012-01-27 11:03:26)

@Nancy - one thing to consider is that the osterley has elastic-leather loops (at least it does on the compact) as opposed to all leather like the amazona (incidentally - caved and got a black one since they're being discontinued. hopefully will be here tomorrow)

um, you should just get the oesterley and see whether it suits your need or not. if it doesnt, you could always sell it...if it's a plum one, i'll surely buy it off of you!!!

SSA (2012-01-27 16:38:05)

@ terri knits - I will be playing with power tools tomorrow (I am going to drill the holes through the entire book and then slice out the pages) Will report back with results. I know TPS is right that some numbers in the hours column will go with the holes. But I need DPP pages that are nicer than the crappy Filo ones and I LOVE my malden so much I cant bear not to use him. ...

Lime Tree (2012-01-27 18:28:02)

@Nicole, the inserts that you need will depend on what you are using it for or how you want to use your organizer. You may just want notes and to-dos together with you calendar. Or like me try to squeeze everything in like class notes, class calendar, daily tasks, journaling pages, business card holders,etc,etc

Lime Tree (2012-01-27 18:30:39)

My set-up is so not finalized yet! Not even my organizer size! :/

- - - - -

Would someone have a suggestion of a "flat" smooth A5 style? I have a pocket Belmot and I love it so much because of how smooth it is - not bulky at all! But I can't find it anywhere.

I also had a chance to touch a Finsbury A5 and it was so bulky and "puffy" although I loved the color. Would someone know between Malden A5 and Osterley A5 which one would be smoother/flat and not bulky? There is no filofax store in my city so i can't go touch them - just browse and drool over the computer screen! :)) Any help will be much appreciated!

terriknits (2012-01-27 21:13:47)

@LimeTree, my Cuban A5 (non zip) is really flat and sleek and has 1" rings. My personal Malden is pretty smooth and flat. Steve has a small village of Maldens; he can probably tell you how the A5s feel/look.

Nancy (2012-01-27 21:44:27)

@SNARLing Thanks for the enabling! I finally received my order from PensAndLeather today - a mini, a pocket, and a compact!! - so I got my fix. I won't be jonesing for that Osterley for at least a LITTLE while, but I will keep you in mind!

Lime Tree (2012-01-27 21:44:48)

Thanks terriknit! I thought the Cuban was one of the "puffy" ones, good to know it is not!

I guess as Friday is not over yet (where I live at least) I have one more question:

I read here and there that filofax doesn't offer A5 diary refills in cotton-cream paper. On their site also i couldn't find any. On the Osterley A5 description thou it says that the organizer comes with cotton-cream week to view. Is it really a cc paper or was it a publishing mistake of the website?

terriknits (2012-01-27 22:03:27)

can I squeeze one more FFAF ? I've seen the odd comment about the DIY Planner site's Dynamic Templates <http://www.diyplanner.com/node/6210> Has anyone used this with success? is it pretty user-friendly/intuitive? I just haven't had time to devote to exploring it and am curious if it's worth the time or would it frustrate me?

@Lime Tree - I wouldn't say the Cuban is puffy, it feels very smooth and sleek to me. I, too, would be curious about the cotton cream insert availability for A5.

Also, speaking of A5, is there a Month-on-Two-Pages TABBED calendar like there is for personal?

Babs (2012-01-28 03:05:01)

I've used the DIY planner tools and they're pretty good. It's a fiddle to print on personal pages (from the POV of my printer I mean) but A5 is easy and it has lots of layouts to choose from. You can just generate a week or a month and print it and try. You don't have to print a whole year in one go.

Nicole (2012-01-28 13:45:57)

Thanks for the clarification - I couldn't find the personal information page in people's photos. Anyway, I just scored a new Pocket Chameleon on eBay so I don't need to buy the diary and inserts separately now!

kanalt (2012-01-28 13:53:24)

There's nothing wrong with my setup, as it's working beautifully. However, that hasn't stopped me from buying Franklin Covey inserts to try in my compact Regency. I will be blogging about the specifics of this soon - stay tuned!

Butanben (2012-01-29 02:31:15)

@TPS. I bought a graphic A5 folder and was very disappointed in how it wore. The leather looking part on the spine started to peel quickly at the top and the fabric part stained pretty easily with use. Was not terribly enamoured with all that. I've kept one of the two I had, the zipped one, to keep spare inserts in. The other went to Oxfam, as the spine had worn. Frankly, for me a waste of money. Now have a FINSBURY a5, which touch wood is perfect. xx

## Filofax UK - Free Delivery (2012-01-27 07:34) - Steve Morton

Filofax UK have announced Free Postage and Packing until the end of January. Click on the graphic below.



[1]

It's also the last week of their 50 % off Sale. Grab them while you can....Pockets in Malden, Finchley and Deco's all at half price.

1. <http://tidd.ly/daca4c3c>

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## Web Finds - 28 January 2012 (2012-01-28 00:00) - Steve Morton

Another busy week for me, but I still had time to dig out these posts for your enjoyment.

- [1]After Kodak, Can Old Brands Survive by Re-inventing Themselves? - More than just a logo ■ Philofaxy gets a link!

- [2]The Malden Sage continues - Musings of a Caribbean Princess
- [3]New Filos and plans for them - Bluebonnet reads
- [4]Filofax Friday - Siena Setup - Cupcakes and Cadenzas
- [5]A Clean Slate - The Zeitgeist of Zoe
- [6]Download a perpetual calendar page maker for your Filofax- My Life All in One Place
- [7]My funky up Domino - Rapunzel's World
- [8]Filofax for the Future - Penfountain Blog
- [9]Oh Cavendish - Bluebonnet Reads
- [10]Contemplating a new Filofax set up - Bluebonnet Reads
- [11]How to make dreams come true - Susannah Conway
- [12]Filofax partners with Alice Temperley to launch new collection during LFW - Diary Daily
- [13]Organise your projects - Day Timer Blog
- [14]The Postman didn't have to ring twice - Filofax Fixation
- [15]Filofax Monthly Planner - My Life All in One Place
- [16]Paper World 2012 - Chaotic Perfectionist
- [17]Filofax Do-over - Strickmuse
- Your blog post could appear here next week... Please email us if we missed you this week.

Enjoy

1. <http://ukbrandstrategy.com/2012/01/20/after-kodak-can-old-brands-survive-by-re-inventing-themselves/>
2. <http://www.caribbeanprincessmusings.com/2012/01/malden-saga-continues.html>
3. <http://bluebonnetreads.wordpress.com/2012/01/21/new-filos-and-plans-for-them/>
4. <http://www.cupcakesandcadenzas.com/2012/01/filofax-friday-siena-setup.html>
5. <http://www.theinspiration.com/2011/09/carlsberg-stunt-in-cinema/>
6. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2012/01/download-perpetual-calendar-page-maker.html>
7. <http://icclewu.blogspot.com/2012/01/my-funked-up-domino.html>
8. <http://penfountain.wordpress.com/2012/01/21/filofax-for-the-future/>
9. <http://bluebonnetreads.wordpress.com/2012/01/26/oh-cavendish/>
10. <http://bluebonnetreads.wordpress.com/2012/01/26/contemplating-a-new-filofax-set-up/>
11. <http://www.susannahconway.com/2012/01/how-to-make-dreams-come-true/>
12. <http://diarydirectory.blogspot.com/2012/01/filofax-partners-with-alice-temperley.html>
13. <http://daytimer.wordpress.com/2012/01/23/todays-productivity-tip-organize-your-projects-better/>
14. <http://filofaxfixation.wordpress.com/2012/01/26/the-postman-didnt-have-to-ring-twice/>
15. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2012/01/filofax-monthly-planner-a4a5-version.html>
16. <http://elfenfisch.blogspot.com/2012/01/paperworld-2012-ja-oder-nein.html>
17. <http://www.strickmuse.com/2012/01/filofax-do-over.html>

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joannebu (2012-01-28 02:37:33)

as usual steve a lovely selection of posts, gotta beat reading dull facebook updates when i get time to myself x

Scoot (2012-01-28 06:05:36)

I was watching Lima Neeson's new movie "The Grey", until I remembered it was Saturday, Liam was put on pause until to get through those posts. Thanks.

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-01-28 06:34:10)

@Steve - That was a really interesting link! And 'passion' so true.

nina Elfenfisch (2012-01-28 08:21:50)

@steve

please add the paperworld news ;)

<http://elfenfisch.blogspot.com/2012/01/paperworld-2012-filofax-neuheiten.html>

Alison Reeves (2012-01-28 09:38:55)

I thought the first 'Kodak/brand' article interesting. From my perspective she just doesn't get Filofax at all and I found many of her comments odd. Also the idea of linking filofax and an app has already been done to great effect by Day-Timer so I am not sure if there is a market there.

If she has got Filofax right and I have got it wrong, then I fear for the future of filofax/inserts and the whole planning brigade going forward.

Still it is all an interesting read as usual! Managed to deflect me from what I should be doing for a while!!

Scoot (2012-01-28 10:06:18)

I also think she was wrong, so out of touch with reality. Even if the Filofax brand did end, and considering their market and recognition I don't see that, organisers wouldn't end because they are in common use and still in high demand throughout the world.

A leather Filofax with space for a device holder, for the likes of a smart phone or calculator etc, at the front wouldn't go amiss from the current range. They would have to make different sized device holders because unlike Filofaxes, each smart phone is a fashionable item with some designed with a very limited life span.

TheLiar (2012-01-28 10:25:22)

@Scoot.. spot on with your observation of the lifetime of the devices. Every time I tried to go 'digital', it was either of 1) the life of the device itself - none lasted more than 6 to 8 months 2) the non-standardness of the more sophisticated applications against the simple and feature crippled default applications of the devices that killed it. (Nothing to say about the taboo & inability of using one in a meeting to take notes).. and finally 3) battery life! Filofax (or any paper based organisers) do NOT have any of those disadvantages and are actually a joy to use! The best I had ever had in digital was a windows tablet pc (small but heavy and lasted about 4 hours heavy writing use) but the writing feel was so bad when I came back to filofax / paper / fountain pen, I almost wept.. And I am not alone!

Lucy (2012-01-28 10:39:49)

A little web find of my own here . . . just spotted this on eBay. All I can say is, WOW!!!

[http://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/SMART-POLISHED-WOOD-LEATHER-FILOFAX-](http://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/SMART-POLISHED-WOOD-LEATHER-FILOFAX-NOTE-BOOK-RING-BINDER-/160723759031?pt=UK)

[NOTE-BOOK-RING-BINDER-/160723759031?pt=UK](http://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/SMART-POLISHED-WOOD-LEATHER-FILOFAX-NOTE-BOOK-RING-BINDER-/160723759031?pt=UK) \_Home \_Garden \_PensPencils \_WritingEquipment \_SM &hash=item256be1efb7

Scoot (2012-01-28 17:46:05)

That is a unique fax, perhaps suitable for Fred Flintstone or a Yak herder.

Laurie (2012-01-28 21:27:54)

I too was disturbed by the Kodak/ branding article. It seems she has no knowledge or experience of the brand beyond very recently, and to someone just jumping into Filofax with no previous knowledge it would be easy to think they are only about fashion (since that is their current marketing strategy). I have complained before about Filofax's current marketing strategy of relying on fashion, which is fickle and I hope they have a backup strategy. The one thing I do agree with in this article is that relying on fashion as your main customer base

seems unsustainable. But I think the author is very wrong when she says paper diaries are irrelevant today and have no future. I think the opposite. I think when people realize that they have no permanent record from their e-device they'll go back to paper for this. Also, a marketing strategy that both Filofax and Moleskine use is that we spend so much time each day looking at screens, it's nice (even soothing) to write things on paper instead. And personally, I rely on paper diaries because I can't tolerate the thing not switching on, suddenly losing my information, or running out of battery power on the go. I open my book, I write on the paper, and I know when I go to look at it next time it will be right there where I wrote it!

Steve Morton (2012-01-29 04:49:48)

Laurie

I'm hoping to speak to the author of that article, she got in touch with me yesterday. We hope to link up via Skype sometime during the week.

Hopefully I will be able to enlighten her about our views on Filofax!

Steve

Scot (2012-01-29 05:05:07)

Recently, when looking at the LeFax catalogue Steve posted, I revisited the excellent article of Filofax Chronology by Kevin Hall which outlined the current Filofax strategy. Unfortunately, for some of us, they seem to be continuing with that strategy of focussing on fashionable binders.

<http://www.philofaxy.com/files/filofax-chronology.pdf>

## Filofax 2012 New Range - Part One (2012-01-28 14:13) - Steve Morton

Special agent Nina has been at Frankfurt today going around Paperworld 2012. You can read her full report on her [1]blog... but I thought I would share with you some pictures from her 'concealed camera' So first up is the '**Petal**' it will be in Pocket size only and will retail for about £15.



[2]

And those of you who will recall the [3]discussions and posts we had about a Union Jack Filofax a few months ago, will be forgiven when you suggest that the idea has been taken and used by Filofax when you see this one... the '**Jack Vintage**'.



[4]

It will be available in Pocket and Personal size for £17-20.

This next one is the **Domino Mix** again in Pocket and Personal sizes only it has textured exterior surface. It will sell for between £21 and 24.



[5]

The **Swift** is the replacement for the Songbird, and it is fabric covered and comes in Pocket and Personal sizes with a price of between £28 and £34



[6]

That's the news for today... more coming up tomorrow hopefully...

1. <http://elfenfisch.blogspot.com/2012/01/paperworld-2012-filofax-neuheiten.html>
2. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-RSJVTM9Ie5E/TyRG7XxCb1I/AAAAAAAAAKMs/FW2Y0odDeWM/s1600/petal.jpg>
3. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/08/making-your-filofax-your-own-domino.html>
4. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-txo1xDnhIRM/TyRHWnsv0JI/AAAAAAAAAKM0/N5qwE98HMKM/s1600/JackVintage.jpg>
5. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-d9z175YCRVI/TyRHxAqbxjI/AAAAAAAAAKM8/9pFRGq9wOR4/s1600/DominoMix.jpg>
6. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-Jftbcmluv2w/TyRIaJhxbrI/AAAAAAAAAKNE/gr9m1VawCwE/s1600/Swift.jpg>

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icclewu (2012-01-28 14:23:07)  
Wow!!!!!! I love the union jack one!!!!

Sandra (2012-01-28 14:29:40)  
Lovely mix thus far-thanks!

LJ (2012-01-28 14:29:51)  
Lovely!!! Maybe we will hear news of new inserts too... (or maybe that's wishful thinking) :o)

Sweetspot (2012-01-28 14:56:22)  
I think I'll get the Union Jack one!

Heather from Heather Holistics (2012-01-28 15:07:08)  
@Icclewu @sweetspot I agree I think the Union Jack one is lush

David Popely (2012-01-28 15:20:37)  
Filofax? New inserts? LJ, that's \*definitely\* wishful thinking....

Saffy (2012-01-29 05:03:34)  
I thought the Petal looked familiar or too samey. Here is why.  
<http://aboveaveragebelowspecial-lettie.blogspot.com/2011/01/how-to-ickstart-second-term.html>

Maus (2012-01-29 11:10:49)  
I really like the Petal - and thankfully they bring it in my loved Pocket size... :-)

Laurie (2012-01-29 19:18:42)

I am DEFINITELY getting that Union Jack one!!! Good thing it's in the lower price range!

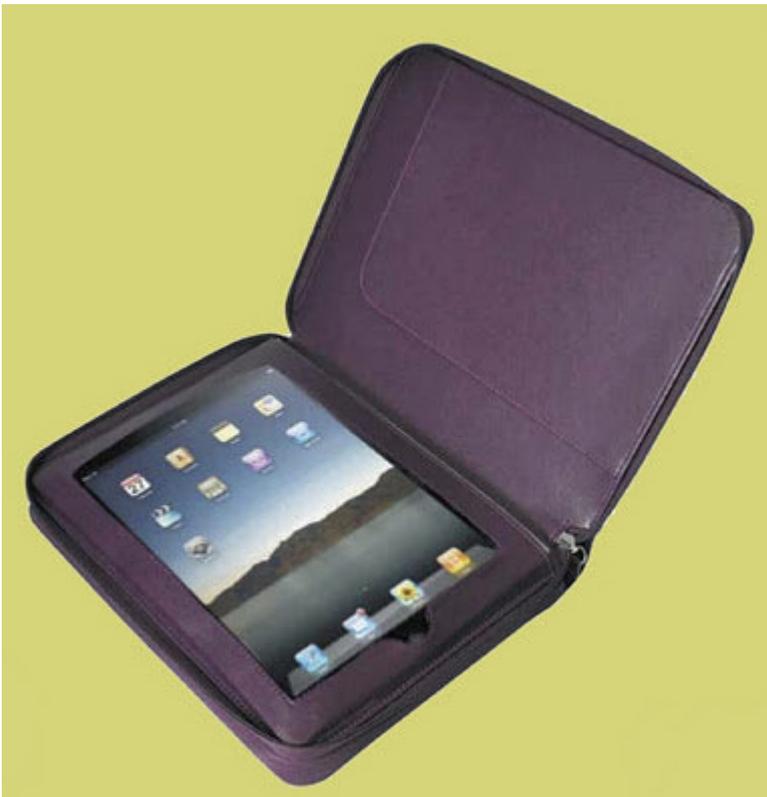
## Filofax 2012 New Range - Part Two (2012-01-28 14:52) - Steve Morton



[1]

Following on from [2]part one. Here are the rest of the significant new additions to the range.

The next new addition is the **Pennybridge**, now this has been available in other markets before (Germany, Denmark etc) It comes in Pocket, Compact and A5 all are zipped in 'leather look' in black and purple. They range in prices of £29, £35 and £49. The A5 comes with an iPad pocket...



[3]

The **Breast Cancer Campaign** organiser, still in pink is now also available in Personal size as well as pocket.

Moving on to the **Finsbury**, as usual they have phased out colours and added new ones. This year we gain Blue and Yellow. The Finsbury will also be available in Compact size as well as Mini, Pocket, Personal, A5, A4 although the colour availability varies a little depending on the size of the Finsbury.



[4]

The **Holborn** will no longer be available in Zip format, but will be available in Compact format...and in Wine colour.

The **Filofax Classic** will be available in two new colours Sage and Lilac in Pocket and Compact sizes



[5]

The **Osterley** becomes available in Orange, bright and different!

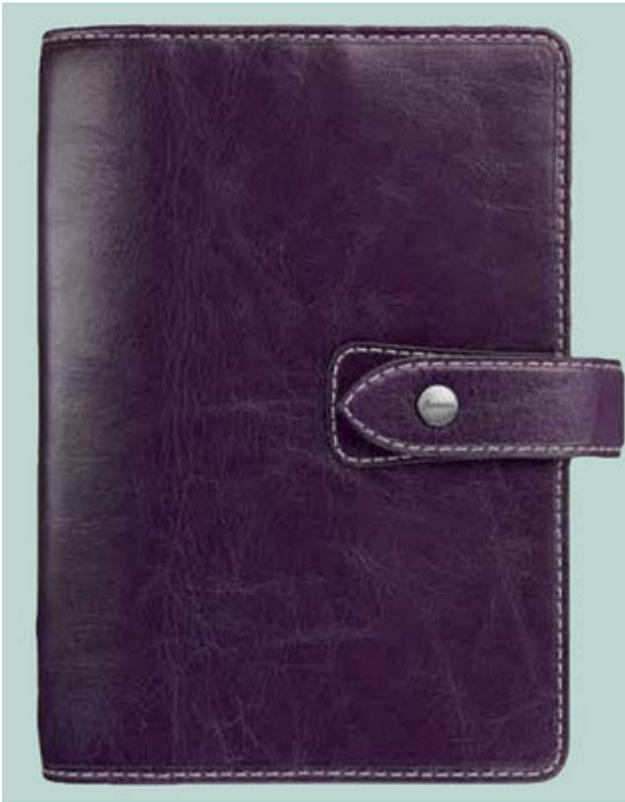


[6]

And finally... the **Purple Malden**...



[7]



[8]

That's it for today... I will try and pick up on some of the other changes later. Once again thanks to Nina for her detailed report from [9]Paperworld 2012

1. [http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-MV1t0IZ282E/TycE7aUA30I/AAAAAAAAKOE/CT9F91HoabU/s1600/pinterest-72\\_o.jpg](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-MV1t0IZ282E/TycE7aUA30I/AAAAAAAAKOE/CT9F91HoabU/s1600/pinterest-72_o.jpg)
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/01/filofax-2012-new-range.html>
3. [http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-wwSR5AF8pvo/TyRNmlVe\\_qI/AAAAAAAAAKNM/95a3iV0\\_nZU/s1600/pennybridge.jpg](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-wwSR5AF8pvo/TyRNmlVe_qI/AAAAAAAAAKNM/95a3iV0_nZU/s1600/pennybridge.jpg)
4. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-E3i60QBqj0I/TyRNneVdtqI/AAAAAAAAAKNU/34wXWNRnSQ/s1600/finsbury.jpg>
5. [http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-2SLzf5At1-M/TyRNn1AudzI/AAAAAAAAAKNc/KsXEab\\_Buao/s1600/classic.jpg](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-2SLzf5At1-M/TyRNn1AudzI/AAAAAAAAAKNc/KsXEab_Buao/s1600/classic.jpg)
6. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-vLIeECMdj3w/TyRNpc3SGWI/AAAAAAAAAKNs/hU51A0XHeLA/s1600/Osterley.jpg>
7. [http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-MV1t0IZ282E/TycE7aUA30I/AAAAAAAAKOE/CT9F91HoabU/s1600/pinterest-72\\_o.jpg](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-MV1t0IZ282E/TycE7aUA30I/AAAAAAAAKOE/CT9F91HoabU/s1600/pinterest-72_o.jpg)
8. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-eOEPrsZ2pSo/TyRNnot4ZPYI/AAAAAAAAAKNg/cXviK3n5xf8/s1600/purplemalden.jpg>
9. <http://elfenfisch.blogspot.com/2012/01/paperworld-2012-filofax-neuheiten.html>

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Sandra (2012-01-28 14:57:10)

Yay for the Breast Cancer Filofax to finally be available in personal size!  
And that purple (plum) Malden—need to start saving my pennies... ;)   
Thanks for posting!

icclewu (2012-01-28 14:57:11)

Mmm. Not keen on the orange osterley, purple  
Malden looks nice though. :)

Sweetspot (2012-01-28 15:00:33)

I was't fan of "the Malden" before. But the purple looks interesting. I would like to see it in person.

Lucy (2012-01-28 15:09:12)

Loving the blue Finsbury and of course the purple Malden. The Classics are quite nice (but too bulky for me) and the Dominos are "ok" (not overly keen on the colours), but everything else is a bit . . . yucky . . . in my opinion! It's probably a good thing really. It will deter me from making any more Filofax purchases . . .

Lime Tree (2012-01-28 15:20:29)

It is great to finally have a sneak peek! Do you know when are they going to be available in stores/websites?

Lucy (2012-01-28 15:24:27)

I've just had a quick look at the inside of the pocket Pennybridge on another Filofax site. I quite like the look of that one. Purple too . . . fabulous!

nina Elfenfisch (2012-01-28 15:30:03)

This comment has been removed by the author.

LJ (2012-01-28 15:30:44)

Orange Osterley & Purple Malden... gorgeous!!! Now I know what I'll be requesting for my birthday :o) And the A5 with an iPad pocket - very good idea, but not sure I'd make use of it. Definitely one to think about though...

nina Elfenfisch (2012-01-28 15:32:49)

thank you steve! my blog's almost exploding... :D

but to get that right - the osterley's picture is way too dark! it's more the RSS feed signs orange :)

the malden's purple is almost exactly the picture's one and my contact on the fair told me that the A5 pennybridge is still "under construction" and was introduced to me as "pennybridge ipad holder"

the one i hold in hands today, had no secretary pocket on the "non ipad side" but covered removable rings in a5, no secretary pocket, but 6 vertical creditcard-slots, an additional notepad-pocket plus another almost full sized pocket vertical.

maybe we have to wait till march/april when they release it :)

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-01-28 16:20:23)

woooooooooohhhooooooooo!!!!!!!!!!!! \*And breathe...\*

Patricia (2012-01-28 16:40:19)

Ooooooh, purple Malden or blue Finsbury.....it's a tough choice! I'm saving for one of them!

kanalt (2012-01-28 17:55:09)

I'd still love to see the Malden in a compact size. I'm loving that the classic will be available in compact, but if it's anything like the slimline and the personal (both of which I currently own), it won't lay flat without rigorous training, and even then it's not a guarantee...

The purple Malden is lovely, but as I've moved on to the compact, I can't justify the purchase. That also allows me to save my pennies for additional compact binders.

Thanks for the updates!

Saffy (2012-01-28 18:15:08)

Aren't those two new Classic colours similar to previous 'Cross' colours?

See here.

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/54326224@N08/5554819255/>

Alison Reeves (2012-01-28 19:05:05)

Oh dear - am I the only person who is positively underwhelmed? Looks like I'll be saving money this year ...

Alison Reeves (2012-01-28 19:06:44)

Oh and what would get me really excited would be some really nice new inserts - possibly similar to day-timer and franklin covey - but to fit ALL the filofax sizes (so in mini, pocket, personal, A5 and A4). Well a girl can dream can't she?

Rabbit (2012-01-29 03:23:22)

@ Alison - I'm in the same boat.

I'm a Malden addict, and was seriously considering forking out the most money I would have ever spent on a new purple A5 Malden, but the purple honestly leaves me completely cold. Don't know what I was expecting, but it wasn't that.

As for the rest - the collection seems a bit 'non-leather' heavy (and that, to me, is moving further away from the Filofax legend). Also, the new songbird-cage design looks like any number of trending journals you can buy for a fraction of the cost.

At least I won't be breaking my resolution to not buy any more filos this year :)

Jotje (2012-01-29 03:27:28)

So, despite our years of begging still no tabbed monthly inserts ....? Disappointing ....

Love the purple Malden, but can't continue buying binders ...!

Savannah (2012-01-29 04:13:55)

I'm somewhat impressed with their choices of colors and binder styles. Can I resist that sage Classic in compact (beautiful color)? or the Pennybridge zip compact in purple? I hope so. Still like to see a simple, durable, pliable and substantial full grain pebbled leather that feels like leather in all sizes.

Steve Morton (2012-01-29 04:51:15)

I am planning Part 3 to this post which will cover things such as inserts and one of two other new binders. It will be posted during the week...

Steve

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-01-29 07:07:45)

@Alison; @Rabbit

I am positively underwhelmed too. I can see that any binders bought by me this year will be from eBay and be the older ones that were beautiful, stylish and functional and things I would be happy to be seen with as a professional woman. None of the new ones do anything for me.

Sorry to all of you who are pleased with the collection!

Globetrotting Cacti (2012-01-29 07:56:50)

LOVING the purple Malden.... doing a happy dance as I type (although I also love my grey pocket!). The iPad holder is some-thing I can't wait to see in the store.

Steve - can't believe you are making us wait for the next post (and inserts too!). I am not feeling patient... give us a hint PLEASE!!!!

Jotje (2012-01-29 07:59:20)

@kanalt: From Nina's blogpost I understand that the Malden will be released as Compact with zip!

Alison Reeves (2012-01-29 08:25:01)

The only binders I have been tempted by recently (if funds had allowed) were the Enigma (which is being discontinued) and the Osterley. Trouble is I don't like Orange (but like the plum) and it really winds me up that they use a brass closure on them, and steel coloured rings. Why of why didn't they put the gold coloured rings in them - it would have really worked well and looked very classy. I was very disappointed when I saw them in the flesh. Can't wait to hear the rest of the story Steve!

Jana (2012-01-29 09:09:51)

I like the Purple Malden and I want to buy it!

Iris (2012-01-29 09:14:21)

The Pennybridge is not available in Germany (as yet) - I bought mine when I was in Sweden.

Maus (2012-01-29 11:08:55)

I'm a bit torn between being exhausted and disappointed...

The only really attractive newcomer is the purple Malden.

I guess that I will buy it - or I think I'm really going to. (@Jana: ;-)

But the other alterations or new Designs are in my opinion more or less disappointing.

@Alison : I agree with you - I can't understand why the Osterley hasn't got the golden rings. :(

katka (2012-01-29 12:09:08)

I'm with Alison and others. There is nothing I really like. I bought Aston personal recently, but again, I got back to my old Stratford. I'm just not comfortable using new filo. I always get back to the old one. There are just small details I don't like, but you know, details make the difference. Anyway, I have Aston purple for sale on ebay, if anyone interested. Now I'm waiting for Deco Ruby, which I bought for bargain. Hopefully I won't be disappointed again.

mywormy (2012-01-29 14:37:46)

This comment has been removed by the author.

mywormy (2012-01-29 14:38:48)

I too am not impressed with these new colors. The only one I like and will probably buy is the purple Malden. You are right Alison - Filofax should concentrate more on the inserts instead of the organizers. Well we will see what Steve shows us next. Hurry up Steve!!!

mywormy (2012-01-29 15:29:03)

This has really nothing to do with the new binders....well maybe it does. What is the difference in size between the compact and the personal?

fluffyferret (2012-01-29 15:32:45)

I love the purple Malden!

Laurie (2012-01-29 19:17:18)

I'm loving all the purple in the new binders, and I'm very glad to see more cheerful colors (blue, yellow, flowers) than the dull grays and browns of last year! But I agree, I can't afford to buy new binders all the time.

Inserts, on the other hand, I do buy every year. And so many people are buying other brands instead of Filofax inserts, you'd think they'd be trying harder to get those customers back!

Mywormy, the Compact size takes the same size pages as the Personal, but has smaller rings. It's usually about midway between Personal and Slimline.

ace (2012-01-30 06:11:38)

@ Alison I feel the same way. None of these make me want to buy them. Mind you, the only thing I really wanted to see from Filofax this year was more colours in A5, colourful Today markers and nicer inserts. I'm quite disappointed with what I have seen so far, but yes, as you say, I might save some cash this year!

Anita (2012-01-30 13:33:13)

Thanks for more details!

Quite like the look of the yellow Finsbury & of course the purple Malden. Compact purple Malden, (pretty please??

I know A4s aren't as popular, but some colour there would be nice.

Sarah (2012-01-30 15:14:08)

Thanks for the preview! I'm interested in the yellow finsbury, but not crazy about the other colors. . . I hope this isn't the second year in a row where they don't come out with anything I'm excited about!

mywormy (2012-01-30 22:19:47)

Thank you Laurie, then I think I would like a compact! I ordered the Osterley in Plum and it was beautiful, but when I opened the binder the whole snap fell off!

Laurie (2012-01-30 22:23:22)

Yikes that is a manufacturing flaw for sure! I hope you'll send it back to Filofax. I've heard of someone else having an issue with an Osterly too.

## Date for your Filofax - Sunday 5 Febuary 2012 (2012-01-29 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 5th February from 10am (US East Coast time), 3pm London time, 4 pm Paris time 9pm Jakarta 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 5th February 2012.

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

2. <http://steve-morton.com/2011/07/30/improving-your-skype-audio/>

nina Elfenfisch (2012-01-29 00:29:52)

why has it to be on sunday? :S

is one of the further calls planned to be on a saturday??

Steve Morton (2012-01-29 04:20:57)

Hi Nina

We have always held them on Sundays, but at your suggestion I'm willing to try the one in March on the Saturday instead.

Regards

Steve

Laurie (2012-01-29 19:13:39)

Steve, ever since the change of the clocks, Jakarta is 7 hours ahead of London instead of 6 (we don't change our clocks here—we are so close to the equator we don't have seasonal variations in daylight). So that puts the chat at 10pm for me. I go to bed pretty early so I probably won't make this time! Sorry!

### **Starting over (2012-01-29 19:33) - Laurie**

Do you ever start completely over with a new Filofax?

Normally when I move over into a new binder, I transfer long-term inserts, information, addresses, and accessories so that I don't have to re-write things that are still current.

But this time when I start my new [1]Aston Filofax, it will be entirely new inside. My plan is to start using it when we move away from Indonesia (which will hopefully be this summer sometime). It will be my all-new Filofax, a fresh start in planning and in life.

I want to make a clean break from this chapter in my life and move forward fresh and new. So I'll have a new diary insert, rewrite my info and address pages, get new maps and even a new sticky notes accessory rather than just transfer over my old ones.

Especially long-time Filofax users, do you always transfer still-current things over from your old Filofax to your new one? Or do you sometimes make a clean break and start completely over with your new Filofax?

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/12/aston-filofax-in-orchid.html>

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Rori (2012-01-29 19:57:23)

Oh crap—I hadn't thought of starting all over...hmmm maybe for my birthday—just for fun!

Now off to look at binders...is the Chameleon on sale yet?

indigogarden (2012-01-29 20:32:05)

I started over fresh with my new Malden this year. I am using the inserts that came with the Malden plus a few more that I purchased from filofaxusa. My old dayrunner was a household binder to keep track of chores and household information. This new binder is a writing companion. Different organization and things needed for it. I am playing with a few decorative ideas that I've found here on the blog too. Another departure from my old, plain plastic dayrunner. :)

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-01-29 21:17:47)

When I set up my crimson Malden I rewrote the things that were on coloured paper onto white paper because I wanted more coordination between the paper, and it to look more professional with just white. Now I'm using pink and purple binders and I think having different coloured paper, especially with my very colourful Flavia Day Timer diary, looks so cute and fun! So when I write things on coloured paper I just move them straight over to the new binder, I don't rewrite them- plus I don't have time for that now!

Steve Morton (2012-01-30 04:07:41)

With my A5 Malden, I started a fresh, the 30mm one had arrived with no inserts at all, so it was good to install just the things I wanted in to it. I did in advance of 2012 and got things in to it by December. I transferred a few things from my old one such as maps, but otherwise it was a fresh start. When I got the Cuban zip I could have just moved everything from my Malden in to it. But I decided to check through it first and in fact it slimmed it down a bit.

Adirondack Explorer (2012-01-30 13:42:28)

I'm awaiting a FedEx delivery of my new A5 Malden in Ochre. It will have all new pages but I'll probably just transfer my current pages from my black A5 Finsbury to the Malden. But now that Laurie is passing on the idea, I may have to reconsider!

kanalt (2012-01-31 06:40:04)

I have started fresh in the past, but honestly, everything ends up being the same - the same set up and information. So now, I don't even bother. I just transfer everything from one binder to another.

Jeff (2012-01-31 07:32:12)

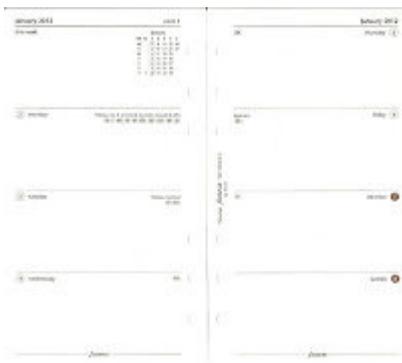
I am starting fresh. I recently bought a new Cuban personal. The diary is used to record shifts, holidays diabetic readings and everyday things, but what prompted the new purchase was the state of the old binder and the address book. I sent a christmas card to an old address I had not updated!!! There were so many crossings out and new adresses. So it is a rewrite and tidy up.

## How I use: Week on Two Page (2012-01-30 00:00) - Steve Morton

With thanks to one of our readers for sending me this idea.

As we all know, we all benefit from picking up ideas from seeing and hearing how other people use their Filofax organisers in their daily lives.

You only need to look at our webstats to see the most popular posts tend to be ones describing in great detail the inner workings of their own individual Filofax, which might not contain fancy inserts or specially printed diaries, it's just their own way of using the standard off the shelf inserts.



[1]

So this week let's focus on people that use a '**Week on Two Page**' diary insert or WO2P to all Philofaxers! We will cover other formats in later posts, so please be patient if you are a Day Per Page person or any of the other formats available.

So the Week on Two Page, a fairly standard diary insert... they are standard in most sizes, come with most new organisers, there are a few variations, some have appointment times, there are some slight variations, Sunday or Monday start. Some have reduced space for Saturdays and Sundays. Some available in cotton cream. Single language, multi language, non-English. So quite a variety in just this one format.

So if you are a WO2P person.... how do you use it? Tell us about your use of this format, include links to

a Flickr photo if that helps. Include as much or as little detail as you like. Which version of the WO2P do you use... etc etc.

1. [http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-WMy5Ch0wos/Ttjv0W\\_xbVI/AAAAAAAAJ7Y/c\\_ydKpk\\_gv8/s1600/weektwopage.jpeg](http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-WMy5Ch0wos/Ttjv0W_xbVI/AAAAAAAAJ7Y/c_ydKpk_gv8/s1600/weektwopage.jpeg)

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Anke (2012-01-30 01:04:42)

I'm pretty new to using a Filofax (and Philofaxy, but I love it!) so I stuck to the calendar that was inside my Domino, which is a WO2P. I use it for work and private stuff, so I needed to find some way of coding, which is where my Pilot Coletto comes in. I use red for work-related stuff, green for private stuff, orange for deadlines and blue for whatever else needs to be remembered.

On the Notes section I write all the copies I need to make for this week, I'm a teacher and I make quite a few copies every week. On the individual days I write the classes I teach that day and a really short reminder of what I planned for the lessons. I also write if I need anything else for that lesson, e.g. a CD player, and usually circle or highlight it.

That's pretty much the system I use, now there's the unsystematic "put private stuff wherever I find a spot for it", too, but that's really random as long as it goes in the correct day space. Oh, and I also try to write down all kinds of appointments when they come up, they usually go on the bottom line of the day in the color they're supposed to be in (e.g. red for parent-teacher-conferences, green for doctor's appointments).

I also use a To-Do-List with my WO2P and a lot of post-its in all colors and sizes, usually for shopping lists and things like that.

Maybe I'll look into making a flickr account and uploading a couple of pics, but for now I really need to get down to correcting those class tests that have been sitting on my desk for nearly 10 days now! ;)

Helen Conway (2012-01-30 02:35:00)

I am using an A5 classic. I colour code. Green for art related items, red for holidays from my day job and travel, black for all other personal things. I insert a coloured page at the beginning of each month with my goals for the month. these are taken from two other places. first I have a tab for my life plans with the overall goals which I then break down into smaller bites each month. Am also a member of the Studio Art Quilt Association ([www.saqa.com](http://www.saqa.com)) and use their members visioning project where we set goals for our art work and keep each other accountable to them and I transfer the monthly breakdown to the filofax ( and a white board in my studio for good measure) so I don't have to keep checking online.

On the diary pages if there is a block of time taken up with a major activity that will decide if I have time for other tasks or commitments I put a coloured line down the edge of the page. So at the moment I am taking an art class so there is a green line for this month. I use the notes part for each week to write my statement of intent for this week. I write any appointments and daily goals in black on the left and keep a record of the hours I spend in the studio on the right in green. there is not all that much room in the boxes for two lives so I also interleave To Do lists which may be a general 'dump list' in no order of all the things I need to do to get them out of my head. Or it could be a travelling list for a project that I will move on week to week until done. So at the moment I have a list of all the steps I need to do to get my website back up to date.

Babs (2012-01-30 04:28:12)

I use an A5 Finchley in Imperial Purple (which I love!) and the time management WO2P diary. For those who haven't seen it, I have taken a photo of my current set-up

<http://flic.kr/p/bkRQ6e>

It works well for me. On the right hand side is my weekly calendar where I can put in day-specific information, then I have a "priority activities" sections where I have important "to dos" for the week. At the top of the right-hand page I have a countdown to important deadlines - in this case, 3 weeks until my next statistics exercise is due in ... all nicely scored out as it's already done! :-D

On the left-hand page I keep my notes for the week, such as the readings I need to do for my course. And at the bottom of that page I record weekly expenses, reminders for shopping, etc, as and when I need to record them.

It works really well for me and I have to say I love the layout of the time management pages.

Scoot (2012-01-30 04:34:18)

Within the diary space for each day, appointments on the left and reminders on the right.

bernhardS (2012-01-30 05:58:32)

In my Winchester of 1990, I put a sheet of blank paper between the two weekly pages, this gives me additional space for writing down notes and sticky notes in various colours.

Actually I get a week on four pages by doing so.

best,

bs

Virelai (2012-01-30 07:40:33)

I once uploaded a picture here:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/heliumxenon/6390752697/in/photostream>

I put my appointments in the day section and to-dos on a to-do sheet thats inbetween the two week pages.

As I'm a student without a Job, I don't have to use color codes or something like that. I just use color for really important things like exams or deadlines.

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-01-30 07:53:41)

At home, I use a lined WO2P and jot down appointments/teaching etc at roughly the right space relating to the time of day. I use a DPP for daily planning though.

At work, with the extra space (I use an A5) the WO2P (vertical columns with appointment times) has all appointments/teaching/etc in the right place. I put the day's to-do on A6 scrap paper on the rings and chuck that away at the end of the day.

Ray Blake (2012-01-30 10:09:10)

I use post-it tabs that I stick to individual days in my WO2P to capture recurring tasks. So, for instance, if I need to invoice a client every other Friday, I'll write 'Invoice client' on a coloured tab and stick it in Friday's space, moving it on two weeks when I've done it.

Vanjilla (2012-01-30 11:23:29)

I've mentally divided each day's space into four squares: left upper one is for important (and mostly business) appointments and to do's, while left lower one is for my private-life (family, housework...) important to-dos and appointments.

Right upper one is for appointments and to-dos regarding my personal life (i.e. pleasures!) and right lower one is for recording any special events of the day I want to remember(i.e. my daughter's first step.)

I put a transparent flyleaf between the week's pages and use it as a transparent dashboard for my post-its, so I still get a glimpse of the whole week (while an ordinary to-do page would cover a half of it).

SSA (2012-01-30 14:33:43)

@ vanjilla - transparent flyleaf - genius...why haven't I ever thought of that!!

Ray Blake (2012-01-30 14:54:36)

Yes, brilliant idea. Stick a tab on it too and it replaces the today marker. Or you could make one of these:

<http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2011/12/making-transparent-dividers-with.html>

Vanjilla (2012-01-30 17:32:10)

@SSA - glad you like it! :)

And if it wasn't for RAY, I'd never think of making transparent flyleaves myself!!! :)

This is why I love philofaxy! :)

Lime Tree (2012-01-30 19:49:55)

@Vanjilla. Your metal division of the 4 areas and the flyleaf ideas are great! Do you have pictures somewhere so

we can see it all together?

terriknits (2012-01-30 23:34:11)

up until this weekend, the Wo2P personal was the diary set up of choice. On particularly busy weeks I would stick in an extra sheet for either ToDos or just extra notes.

Scoot (2012-01-31 04:36:42)

The main problem with writing on transparent flyleaves is that the ink rubs off onto pages and inevitably leather.

Vanjilla (2012-01-31 05:45:41)

@Lime Tree - hopefully I'll finally manage and make a blog post this weekend about it... I'll let you know when I do!

@Scoot - like I wrote, I use the transparent flyleaf as a dashboard for my post-its, I don't write on it directly.

kanalt (2012-01-31 06:44:41)

I used to use WO2P lined exclusively. I don't currently, but you can see how it the week layout was used here:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/90685181@N00/6134488426/in/photostream>

ONutter (2012-01-31 07:08:28)

Scoot, wouldn't an old fashioned overhead pen work for writing on plastic surfaces, like a flyleaf, without rubbing off? I use the kind of overhead pens you can remove with water on my plastic bins, so I can remark them as needed.

I'm in the middle of taking the leap from an ordinary, pocket sized diary to a filofax and love reading these suggestions. Especially like the suggestion for putting an empty page in the middle of the weeks, for post-its, reminders etc. Makes the standard week view that comes with a filofax work for me. :)

Scoot (2012-01-31 08:15:43)

Sorry, hadn't realised that the transparent flyleaf was for actual paper post-it notes. Thought the clear plastic was for writing your own notes upon.

It was in fact OHP pens that I found best for writing on transparent fly-leaves, but the downside was that the ink rubbed off. If you can get away with using a clear sheet and OHP pen then great, while it worked for me it was wonderful. I used two clear sheets, separated by a sheet of grid paper which was used as a writing guide to help keep my writing neat, divided into ToDo sections for letters, phone calls, reports, shopping etc. A special rubber permitted small pieces of writing to be rubbed out, though every one and a while I had to get the alcohol out and give it an entire clean. I wasn't aware of OHP pens with ink that can be removed with water; thanks, they are now on my ToDo list and will check them out.

Lime Tree (2012-01-31 21:22:29)

@Vanjilla: Great! I am really looking forward to see it!

Organized Mommy (2012-02-01 12:12:06)

I use the "Week on Two Pages" because I need to see the whole week to plan, but I write enough to fill a "Day per Page"! So, I only write appts and tasks I absolutely must do on the calendar and I color code them by member of my family. I add a colored piece of paper between to write down flexible tasks.

Laurie (2012-02-01 20:41:40)

I just very recently started using the Personal size Cotton Cream week on 2 pages again, after many many failed attempts over the years at using personal size WO2P. The day spaces are too small for everything I need to write. I've also tried moving up to the A5 Filofax to have more daily space, but the A5 binder is too big for me to carry around everywhere.

My new solution is this: I use the WO2P for an overview of my week's scheduled activities, and to do dinner menu planning.

Then I write all my daily details in my pocket daily Moleskine diary. This has several advantages, including being

able to see today's details (in my Mole) open alongside my weekly overview (in my Filofax). The Moleskine is a bound, permanent record of what I did each day.

For tasks, I write things that are Urgent for that week in the This Week space above each Monday. Non-urgent and ongoing tasks go behind my Lists tab for easy access.

I'm feeling good about this system, and I just might have cracked the code on how to make the personal size WO2P work for me!

## Free For All Tuesday No. 52 (2012-01-31 00:00) - Steve Morton

So here is our usual Tuesday point when you can ask any questions you need answering about your Filofax. Step forward and pop your questions in the comments and we will do our best collectively to answer your questions.

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Susanne Namdar (2012-01-31 00:15:59)

It is Monday evening here in San Diego and I just wanted to let my Philofaxy friends know that I decided to sell a Finsbury Mini, a Domino Italia Pocket and a Botanic Pocket. I have listed them on eBay. This is not a solicitation, but for your information if you were looking for a similar item.

Helen Conway (2012-01-31 02:09:14)

For those of you that keep your previous years diary pages as an archive of you life... How do you store them?

Ray Blake (2012-01-31 02:23:03)

@Helen: I use Vanjilla's method:

<http://vanjilla.blogspot.com/2011/12/filofax-storage-vs-sleeping-beauties.html>

Butanben (2012-01-31 03:24:00)

I have an issue with my to do lists at the moment. I have started using a Day per page Time Management Filofax Diary. It is so far fabulous as you can see all your appointments and to dos - including phone calls, delegated tasks etc in front of you. Only problem is that I don't like moving any undone to dos to the next day.... and even worse if I have to transfer over several days. This feels like a monumental FAIL!!!! Not GTD, but un-GTD!!! I'd appreciate knowing how you folks use your to dos with your diaries. Thanks. xxxx

katka (2012-01-31 03:33:16)

@Helen...I keep them like this

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/54020897@N02/5004028488/>

Laurie (2012-01-31 05:32:21)

I store/archive my personal size pages in these binders by Mead:

<http://www.amazon.com/Mead-Products-Assorted-narrow-ruled-Loose-leaf/dp/B004E3GPGM>

They have rings just like a Filofax binder, so they are much easier to use than the fixed post storage binders. It's easy to remove/add pages, and to flip through.

These binders are really hard to find sometimes, so I stockpile them.

They are called Mead 6 ring Memo Book, 6 ring looseleaf. They take pages size 6 3/4 by 3 3/4 inches. If you google that you'll find a selection available.

kanalt (2012-01-31 06:48:04)

A little off the current topic:

Regarding the sneak peak of the spring range, are the ones mentioned the full new range? I thought I read somewhere that more variety of compact binders would be making an appearance. Am I making that up (wishful thinking)?

I'm actually thinking of buying a slimline Holbourn whose ring size is slightly smaller than the compact. Does

anyone else have the slimline Holbourn? Is it worth it?

Tim (2012-01-31 07:35:20)

@Butanben I agree that the Filofax Time Management pages are excellent. It's a shame that they are hardly promoted at all and that the WOTP (Week On Two Pages) version seems to have been quietly dropped altogether, despite being the most popular version.

I used to suffer that feeling of deflation at the beginning of the day, looking at everything that I failed to do yesterday and copying a now even longer list onto a new day. Three things have worked for me...

Firstly, however tired I am, I force myself to do tomorrow's plan (including to-do's) at the END of the day and not leave it until the next morning, when they'll be zillions of new emails and urgent (but not necessarily important) demands that will take over.

Secondly, I've stopped all those long to-do lists staring at me. I limit myself to SIX "must-do-to-do's-today" and hide all other to-do's! It's rare that there are more than six "have-to-absolutely-must-do-today" items. If I do all of the six, and still have time (ho ho!), I can always go back to my main list for more!

Thirdly, any to-do that doesn't get done, I mark with a big red star, before moving it to tomorrow. I do this for any further days, so that after a few days that to-do with several big red stars next to it MUST get done, to stop it annoying me!

Standard text book stuff, I know, but it works (usually) for me! Good luck! Tim

Butanben (2012-01-31 08:02:05)

Thanks Tim. Great ideas. Actually I am getting more things done in this system than with any other diary. So like you I think it is a fabulous set up. Just my perfectionist side likes to see a line of ticks!! Think your idea to have a main list and a limit of 5-6 must dos is a good one. Otherwise there is a sense of being bombarded by the unfinished. I'll go with that idea I think and the stars idea. So thank you for that. Like you I always plan the night before for tomorrow..... even if I've been out to the theatre ... and even on holiday I'll plan the rough next day's outings. Habit I suppose.

Laura (2012-01-31 08:08:03)

Hello everyone :)

This is a very specific sort of question but I'm hoping you will have some ideas for me...

I'm an art and design student and I'm about to start my final major project. I have a compact chameleon filo that I use religiously, I don't know what I would do without. I have a system which works for me but that is not the issue.

I want to integrate a filofax type system into my developmental work. So the idea would be to have a section for planning my daily tasks, an area for reflecting on the days work, sections for research etc.

Does anyone use a filofax for project planning like this? If anyone knows of any useful sites or blogs which might help me, or if they have any thoughts on this I'd love to hear them!

I don't own an A4 filo and they are a little expensive so I will be putting the system into a normal ringbinder I think.

Cheers guys, and sorry for the mega long comment!

Scoot (2012-01-31 08:32:26)

Laura,

Did you ever try an art journal? How did you get on?

I ask because I am genuinely stumped as to how one would technically organise creative thinking and processes, and so need a clue as to how I could help you.

Babs (2012-01-31 08:34:31)

@Tim - don't tell me the time management WO2P has been dropped!! I only got it this year and I LOVE it!!  
\*sobs\*

Steve Morton (2012-01-31 08:39:56)

Likewise I've just started using the TM Week on two pages this year love the format,

I think we will have to ask Ray if he could come up with a suitable replacement for next year.

For me I would prefer more space for appointments on each day. May be dedicate the left hand page to that with equal space to each day including Sat and Sun and then maximise the right hand page for Actions, Reminders, To-do's etc.

If I get a moment I will look in to using Ray's files to create a new version of this...

Steve

Anita (2012-01-31 08:40:41)

@Butanben I personally keep my to-dos separate to my calendar, unless there's some thing absolutely day/time specific. All my to do lists are by context in a separate section of my filo & I set myself 3 MITs each day (most important tasks from Zen Habits). When I used to use the diary section in my filofax, I'd use a jot pad for my 3 tasks for the day.

Laura (2012-01-31 08:49:17)

Scot -

I usually keep a sketchbook with ideas, notes, tests/documentation of things I have tried out. I usually have a seperate folder with artist research/exhibitions i've been to. I also keep a diary of how the project is going, and plan in my filofax.

So I want to try consolidate all of this info in one place. I have got a few ideas on how to do this but I just wondered if anyone else had tried out something similar.

Laura (2012-01-31 08:50:53)

p.s. I know what you mean, it is very tricky trying to organise ones creative thinking. It has to be made clear to my tutors and peers though so that they can understand what i'm investigating...

Alison Reeves (2012-01-31 10:18:18)

I went to a networking meeting this morning and there were two people there with battered but stuffed A5 filofaxes. I couldn't help having a chat with them and recommending Philofaxy - hope we get to see them here! Interesting that they both commented on the sad lack of inserts and indexes now available as they were lovingly nurturing their old ones to make them last longer!

I do wonder if we should form some sort of organised 'pressure group' to feed info to Filofax about the sort of inserts we would really like to see.

Tim (2012-01-31 10:49:26)

@Alison - I find it staggering that with such product loyalty and continuous interest, Filofax Letts don't have an appointed person monitoring Philofaxy and responding to user problems, product improvement suggestions and other issues raised on an almost daily basis. Most companies would be delighted to have such valuable feedback from their loyal customer base.

Alison Reeves (2012-01-31 10:53:19)

Another question. Well two really. I'm trying to simplify life a bit. Idea is that I have one diary, one todo list and so on. So my questions are: 1) Do you have one todo list or a separate one for business and personal and 2) If you run one list do you colour code with pens for the different areas of your life? I'm thinking it would be useful to be able to pick out customer tasks, my business development tasks, personal tasks and so on - or do you think this would just look messy?

janet (2012-01-31 10:57:57)

As always agree with Alison about the sad lack of inserts. I actually switched back to my Mulberry agenda over the weekend - I have always found the Mulberry inserts too basic for my needs but realised that the better filofax inserts are getting harder and harder to find and the selection for A5 is too narrow. Sob.

Would also appreciate any advice on  
A5 inserts (present and hopefully future) for appointment-heavy days.

Babs (2012-01-31 11:05:23)

OT from the inserts discussion, but I "spotted" a filofax last night on "The Royal Bodyguard" (I think that's the programme's name) on BBC last night. We'd just changed channels and I spotted a black A5 Osterley on the desk.

I did tell hubby but he didn't look impressed that I could "name that filofax"! LOL!

Alison Reeves (2012-01-31 12:07:17)

Just on the off-chance. Has anyone got any Deskfax size dividers they don't want? I have a set of A-Z so it's anything else I am after. Thanks!

Laura (2012-01-31 13:16:44)

Does anyone use their Filofax for journalling? If so do they use diary inserts/note paper/something else....?

Just-Jenny (2012-01-31 14:16:46)

Hi everyone!

Alison - I was wondering if your plans to start using day timer pages had worked out? I would love to know how you were getting on and what you thought about quality, style, how good / bad they are for different types of ink, etc. if you have a chance to post about it?

Laura I use my filo to journal. I have a WPP diary that I jot down a few notes etc and at some later point in the week I transfer these to my main journal that is too big and heavy to carry about.

Missus Aka (Christa) (2012-01-31 14:54:05)

@ Laura

I use an a5 flex lined notebook for journalling which i slip the front cover of it into my long pocket in the front of my a5 filofax

Lynne (2012-01-31 14:57:30)

I am using the Day Timer day on two pages 'coastline' design (to fit Filofax Personal). Very happy with the design and quality so far. I love the fact the months are tabbed and that the quality of the paper is so much better.

Whimsical Harmony (2012-01-31 15:26:44)

@Laura - I use my Filofax as a journal in addition to the "normal" function of any planner. What works best for me (at least right now ;-)) is the A5 Week on Two Pages Lined format (vertical layout) for appointments/to do's for the week, and Week on Two pages (unlined) for a journaling section. I doodle on those pages, reflect on my workout schedule, diet, etc. Having two different calendars in the same planner may seem odd, and be against lots of advice from the 'experts' of time management, but this works for me. I also like having my journaling section private - behind its own tab. That way, if I am in a meeting, no one can see my private journaling notes. I always think I will take photos on my filo organization and post them on my blog, but never get around to it. I am not sure anyone else could make sense of my craziness!

Have you checked out this site on Art Journaling 101? I absolutely love it...there are lots of links to different journaling methods and most of them can be incorporated into my Filofax. Here's the link: <http://daisyyellow.squarespace.com/abstract/art-journaling-101.html>

Wow...sorry for the long response. Hope this gives you some ideas!

LM (2012-01-31 17:40:31)

Hi, a quick question: Has anyone else noticed that September isn't what it should be in the Cotton Cream Pocket size W2P diaries?? I bought one with a Danish diary and one with a German one, and in both September seems to go French some weeks - and even with a different layout! Is it just me?

Butanben (2012-01-31 17:56:36)

Thanks Anita. Like the idea of 3 MITs. Think both you and Tim have it right fewer to do for each day..... so achievable and a longer hidden to do list to transfer items into the diary from. Much food for thought.

Anthony (2012-01-31 18:57:41)

I wondered about having my initials

embossed on the spine of my Metropol or somewhere discretely on the cover. Has anyone had any experience of this.

Rori (2012-01-31 20:31:47)

WHERE did y'all get those TM daily and weekly format pages?? Are they only in A5? And WHY IN HEAVEN'S NAME would they be discontinuing them????

(I'm sure you've said in an earlier post where they came from--and I just missed it--sorry)

Tim (2012-02-01 03:36:02)

@Rori - Filofax UK home page bottom left or directly to <http://www.filofax.co.uk/timemanagement>

They have hardly marketed this range (you can't find it and you're looking for it!. They then start to phase it out because folk aren't buying it. Truly bizarre!

David Popely (2012-02-02 01:34:32)

@Tim I'm afraid that's now the 'Filofax way'.

@Butanben Like Tim, I always do my plan for the following day before I finish my working day. I keep my master to-do list separate from my diary pages (although I've now started transferring a few priority to-do items from the master list to the daily list each evening) - this is a GTD principle, to keep the master next actions lists away from the diary and only use the diary for the 'hard landscape' of the day. That way, you don't have to continually carry forward.

As regards the FF attitude to inserts of all kinds, I've made my opinions known elsewhere....

## **Philofaxy Charity Donation - Thank You (2012-01-31 10:16) - Steve Morton**

Hi Everyone

It is always nice to receive a thank you letter, especially in relation to Philofaxy.

In today's post was a nice letter from MacMillan the cancer charity thanking us for the £175 donation which was made using the commission earned in the last 6 months from all your purchases made through the links on Philofaxy to Filofax UK, WH Smiths and a few other UK retailers.

Thank you for your support with this donation. Look out for further fund raising activities later in the year.

Mr S Morton  
31 January 2012  
Supporter reference:

**WE ARE  
MACMILLAN.  
CANCER SUPPORT**

Dear Mr Morton

Thank you so much for your kind donation of £175. Because of your generosity we'll be able to reach more people and their families with our life-changing support. And as you know, at Macmillan, we'll never stop working to improve the lives of everyone living with cancer.

Cancer is the toughest fight most of us will ever face. There are currently two million people living with cancer in the UK, and with improving treatments we expect that number to double by 2030. This means Macmillan will need to provide more medical, practical, emotional and financial support.

**We're here for everyone who needs us**

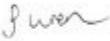
We already reach thousands of people every day. In 2011, the experts on our Macmillan Support Line answered more than 120,000 calls and emails from people who had questions about cancer, needed support or wanted a chat. And our Macmillan helpline benefits advisers reached almost 18,000 people, helping them to receive more than £39 million in benefits they were entitled to.

**Support every step of the way**

Our team offers support along every step of the cancer journey. We are the nurses and therapists helping people through treatment. The information and support centres offering free and confidential information. The campaigners improving cancer care. The online community always giving support. And the fundraisers, like you, who make it all possible.

Thank you for being part of the Macmillan team. We couldn't do it without you.

With best wishes,



Sarah When  
Supporter Donations Department  
Tel: 0207 0912 182  
Email: [sarah@macmillan.org.uk](mailto:sarah@macmillan.org.uk)

**DATA PROTECTION STATEMENT**  
Macmillan Cancer Support and our trading companies would like to hold your details in order to contact you about our fundraising, campaigning and services for people affected by cancer. If you prefer us not to use your details, please call our Fundraising Support Centre on 0300 1005 200 or email us at [fundraising@macmillan.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@macmillan.org.uk). We do not pass-on or sell your details with any third parties, but in order to carry out our work we may need to pass on our details to service companies authorised to act on our behalf.

[1] \_\_\_\_\_

1. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-lCvWuZzyHOQ/TygFY3kXfQI/AAAAAAAAAK08/rsPP8PLYDYk/s1600/macmillan.jpg>

Laurie (2012-01-31 20:00:40)

That's wonderful, thank you so much for doing this Steve!!

Nancy (2012-01-31 22:04:03)

AWESOME! I did not know Philofaxy supported charity. Very kind.

MsPencil (2012-01-31 22:54:09)

This was very nice.

## 1.2 February

**Philofaxy London Meet Up - May 2012 (2012-02-01 00:00) - Steve Morton**

I'm pleased to be able to announce the date of the next Philofaxy London Meet Up.

**Saturday 26th May 2012**

The format of the day is going to be slightly different 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 **March 16th**, 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 16th March, 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 16th March 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.

Looking forward to yet another great meet up in May.

1. <http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/>

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icclewu (2012-02-01 02:14:47)

Ooh. That coincides with end of exams!!!!!! Yippee xx

:)

Alison Reeves (2012-02-01 03:07:36)

Steve - I think the way Philofaxy is going your going to have to arrange an annual 'conference'!!!

Steve Morton (2012-02-01 07:18:36)

Yes I think so... need to get some sponsorship to pay for a suitable venue!

Alison Reeves (2012-02-01 10:43:31)

Would be good if you could get Filofax themselves involved and also have a Q &A session with them to get a communication going - might be good for them to get some feedback from a lot of users. You might find they or one of the other suppliers might have facilities they would make available and attendees could make a contribution as well.

Kelly Marriott (2012-02-01 22:56:42)

I would cross the pond to attend an annual conference!

Miss\_Oakden (2012-02-03 16:31:30)

Oooo that's plenty of time for me to build up the courage to come!!

Butanben (2012-02-03 18:07:39)

@Miss Oakden..... you'd love it!!! If I've got a job by then, then I'd love to come along.

## **Filofax 2012 New Range - Part Three (2012-02-02 00:00) - Steve Morton**

So to finish off our round up of the new range for 2012 and to answer some of your questions from Parts 1 and 2.

There will be a revamp of insert packaging in 2012 and overhaul of insert design and range in 2013, and by this they mean a bit more bolder and colourful in the design, although I've not seen any examples yet... may be they should employ us on a consultancy basis!! I also hear that they are cutting the range of inserts which is bad news in some ways but we don't have any specifics about what is going to disappear. There are some iPhone cases coming in with a Malden one on show at Paperworld this week. Pity I don't have an iPhone... may be if I buy the case that will be a good enough excuse! They are also developing

a range of iPad cases as well although several of the prototypes disappeared from the stand!  
The Luxe is going to be available in UK in Mini, Pocket, Compact and A5, no mention of Personal size which I thought was a little odd... prices ranging from £85 for the Mini to £150 for the A5 my contacts tell me that one of the unique thing about this model is that the ring mechanism is covered in leather, just the rings themselves stick out. It's available only in Blackcurrent...



[1]

There are some changes in colours of the Metropol range and the addition of the Compact size. This one is shown in Kingfisher Blue.



[2]

Later this year there will be some new Flex covers including some leather ones in Malden and Luxe type finishes in black and pink

Malden Zips in Ochre & Purple in Pocket and Personal Compact. Interiors much like the normal binders, but both have a full length gusseted pocket. Availability of this model appears to be an Europe only model, but I guess Neal Street will have it. I'm also assured that [3]City Organiser will be able to get it as well.

Boston in very soft napp-like leather in black and pink with metal Filofax logo on bottom right hand corner.

With regards availability of the new models, (existing ones carry one obviously) in UK they will be phased in starting in March through to about July. Malden is pencilled in for a March launch..

As always if I get any more 'news' I will let you know.

1. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-qi51L73GJsA/TyVpMR2V50I/AAAAAAAAAKN0/HS-Dfa0aao4/s1600/Luxe.jpg>

2. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-YEs4KztwHrE/TyVpdrz2JTI/AAAAAAAAAKN8/Ogap9Zju9Fk/s1600/Metropol.jpg>

3. <http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/>

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Savannah (2012-02-02 00:59:51)

If this is the extent of the new range I'm a little worried. Filofax seems to be making an almost complete break from traditional leather organizers with a twist. It's nice to have a little color and bling but not exclusively. I suppose they are now in the business of fashion accessories? It is what it is. Is anyone else concerned about this? If your happy, I'm happy.

Lime Tree (2012-02-02 02:26:47)

Not nice to improve inserts colors but limit the layout options. Hopefully the specifics yet to come will bring some good news!

Do you know if the purple Malden will be available in A5?

Babs (2012-02-02 03:09:02)

I think they've done well with the new range. Modernising a little but keeping some traditional binders too. There's nothing which appeals to me at the moment but then again, I'm still totally in love with my A5 Finchley so I'm not on the lookout for a new binder ... At the moment!!

RE the inserts. I hope they improve paper quality but don't get rid of too many layouts. Especially not the TM WO2P. I'll really be sulking if they do that!!

nina Elfenfisch (2012-02-02 03:27:09)

@lime tree

of course the purple malden is coming in a5 too. i really really can't wait for my new one to arrive ;)

Tim (2012-02-02 04:01:59)

@Babs - I certainly agree about Time Management WO2P - already quietly deleted and DO2P shown as "sold out".

..and whilst we await orange, yellow and purple binders with baited breath, have you noticed that Filofax have quietly increased the prices of most of the range in the past few days - some binders by as much as £10!

the Merry Lemon (2012-02-02 04:05:20)

Aargh! Wondering what the comments on the inserts really mean. Don't much care about the insert packaging - but more about the inserts themselves! Concerned about them becoming "colorful". I color code my entries and like a white or cream background. A diary in color/colors would be a deal breaker for me. Wanting better quality paper. More cotton cream?

Re: binders - looks like some tempting choices may be coming. The description of the Boston with the metal logo on leather is a no go for me. I prefer a logo, if there at all, to be subtle. Think of "Coach". Used to be beautiful, high quality leather bags in simple designs. Now, so much of their line is dedicated to items covered in big C's. No thank you.

Lime Tree (2012-02-02 04:06:25)

@ nina: Yay, good to know! Thanks! Could it be March yet?

Curious to see pics of your new Malden! :)

Alison Reeves (2012-02-02 04:20:43)

Disappointed to hear about the range of inserts being reduced - and not really knocked out with any binders. If it carries in this way I'll be moving to day-timer or franklin covey binders and inserts - or (shudder) going more digital.

It's odd really - I prefer to carry as little as possible and making filofax into more of a 'fashion accessory' doesn't cut it for me - I want to carry it because it helps me organise my life - if I want to impress someone I'd whip out my Montblanc!

janet (2012-02-02 05:34:48)

Mmm, they seem to be marketing themselves more as a trendy accessory than a kickass organisational tool. Not sure I like the sound of the colourful inserts...would much rather have ones that help me organise my day better. I actually switched back to my Mulberry over the weekend. The paper is nice and Filofax does not offer me much in the time management category. I have over 16 binders but I just cannot find nice inserts anymore unless they are by another brand. I need a time management system, not more and more pretty binders?

PS Just a small question. I don't know what 'gusted' means. Is that related to gusseted in any way?

Scoot (2012-02-02 05:50:26)

I would like to see more inserts, but is there really a market for them?

A problem for manufacturers is that it is so easy, with Office software, for most people to produce their own paper; on their own choice of inserts.

Other than Calendars, but again once someone has their own calendar format in Office Software there is little reason to return to Filofax's own, there is little in the way of practical inserts with a Unique Selling Point and at a reasonable point.

But if Filofax do truly wish to profit from fashionable accessories then why not do things that are cheap and easy yet could stand a high profit margin, such as plastic page markers in a multitude of colours?

Shanananana (2012-02-02 07:03:22)

For inserts, Filofax could go the route of a print-on-demand company like Vistaprint and allow us to make our own inserts, tabs etc, professionally printed on our own choice of paper or card stock, or plastic.

One of the things that sold me on an A5 for my home book (ie the one with major stuff that doesn't leave the house) was the ability to make my own inserts easily without snipping three Personal size sheets from some A4.

Just a heads-up, WH Smith in England have the tail-end of their January sale still online, just ordered a black Finsbury Personal for £22.50, they have a few other sizes and good reductions!

(oh and hi btw, long time reader, first time poster!)

janet (2012-02-02 07:17:37)

I think Scoot makes some very good points about the inserts and how we can make our own.

Having said that though, I have a computer background and started using digital organisation in 1997-About four years ago when my Palm Life Drive started ageing and the market moved into PDA phones I made a decision to go back to paper because I enjoy it more. I don't have the time or the will to do my own inserts, even for A5 which is relatively easy. I want to be able to buy them.

Franklin Covey does excellent inserts that are only part of their whole 'package', but time management is a very important part of their system. Filofax seems to be moving away from that part of their business towards the trend-led binder market.

I have Aspinal, Montblanc, Mulberry and Hermés binders which are basically fashion items with a diary thrown in. But somehow I expect more of my Filofaxes. And I am sorry but unless it is something VERY special, there is no way I would pay £400 for a filofax just because it has the Temperley name on it.

If my current disillusionment continues, I will be selling my A5 collection - Kendal, Cinnamon Siena, Brown Amazona, Bronze Domino Snake, and Finsburys in Purple, Orange and Pink. I also have baroques, Belmonts, Modes in smaller sizes. Will make sure to put them up in the ad section here though because I do want them to go to people who adore filofaxes.

SSA (2012-02-02 07:18:34)

@ Tim - yes I noticed they increased the prices. The A5 Malden (that I have been thinking about for ages went up by £5).

I really hope to see some 'new' inserts too.

Butanben (2012-02-02 07:46:31)

Like Babs and Tim, I too would be upset if the Time Management inserts were no longer available. It is possible to design and print your own, but would take ages to print a year's worth of diary.

I like the idea of colourful though and the new binders seem very colourful, which I personally like. However, that does seem to limit the choice for men who use the Filofax range.

Missus Aka (Christa) (2012-02-02 08:54:38)

everyone that wants the time management inserts to stay and be marketed better can you comment on this message i posted on filofax's facebook wall

[http://www.facebook.com/filofax/posts/10150573385353357?notif\\_t=feed\\_comment](http://www.facebook.com/filofax/posts/10150573385353357?notif_t=feed_comment)

katka (2012-02-02 09:47:00)

There are first adds on Filofax UK website ... Swift and Petal.

Tim (2012-02-02 09:50:58)

@Christa. Done! -Hope others will support your Facebook posting.

The discussion about the demand for genuine Filofax diary inserts made me smile though. Scroll up to the top of the Philofaxy home page and what do we see? A Filofax binder with a very non-genuine Microsoft Outlook WO1P diary insert! LOL

Sweetspot (2012-02-02 10:17:47)

The blackcurrent Luxe looks interesting. I want to see the real thing and compare it to the purple malden. I think I understand why FF doesn't put much focus on the inserts: low profit margin. One probably have to buy 20sets of calendar inserts to contribute to the same profit margin as a (highend) binder. It makes business sense to push out new binder lines every year. I'll bite as long as the color is pretty and craftsmanship is good.

Globetrotting Cacti (2012-02-02 14:46:30)

Did I read the post correctly? A pocket zip Malden in purple? Now that would get my attention (I don't think they make any zip pockets right now!). LOVE my pocket Malden but do worry about the interior contents with young children around (drinks, food crumbs etc) and a zip would work great for me (would be tempted to throw my passport in it when travelling etc). Watching this space...

As for the inserts.... going to wait to see what goes and what is spruced up before I comment. For me personally I use (and don't mind using) a biro so the paper quality is not a major issue (but I appreciate the issues of ink and that other manufacturers use superior quality paper....).

### **The New Range... my own point of view.. (2012-02-02 13:00) - Steve Morton**

OK so far I've reported on the new range, but I've not really commented on it from my own point of view...

New binders... good to see some brighter colours for those of you that are considering a new or replacement organiser this year. I'm happy for you lovers of purple that the Malden will also be available in this colour... I thought last years range was quite dull in terms of colour choices if you don't include the Apex...shhhhhh I'm might be tempted by the Malden Compact Zip... but that is about it for me out of the new ones. However, inserts... this is the major issue for me... packaging like others have said doesn't bother me.. but reducing the range of inserts does concern me.

As yet we don't know what is going to stay and what is going to disappear.

Of course Filofax is a commercial company and they have to make a profit otherwise they can't pay the bills and they will sink without trace.

People have said and continue to say that the quality of Filofax inserts isn't as good as other companies inserts and Philofaxy have supplied you with plenty of information on what fits and what doesn't, or how to make it fit your Filofax.

If however they continue with the same range with the same quality then of course sales of these items will drop off as we drift off to other solutions... so it's a catch 22 situation in a way.

So if the new designs don't improve the paper quality and designs don't please, then I'm not sure what they will do.

If they really are going to discontinue the TM Week per View insert then that is a blow, I'm using it this year and I know at least three other readers that are as well. For me this layout in A5 isn't quite perfect, but it's not far off it.

So if it is not going to be available next year then 'we' have to do something about it. To that end I've started a discussion with Ray over at [1]My Life All In One Place.

Ray has produced some excellent templates for Day Per Page and other calendars, and I'm sure the techniques he has used are adaptable to Week Per View or Week on a Page plus notes/tasks etc. If it is possible to create such a template file I'm tempted to do one that looks similar to the FF TM Week Per View format, and one which I will adapt for my own preference, but of course you would also be able to adapt the design to your liking too.

Now that's a lot of 'ifs' but I'm sure we can come up with something to replace this particular insert design and any others that disappear. These will of course be made available for you to download and print yourself. I can't see me going in to 'production' to print these off on a for sale basis!

As I've said in earlier posts you will be kept informed with any developments either from Filofax or with our own development of substitutes.

[Update] A comment thread has been started on the Filofax Facebook Page to ask them to continue the TM inserts: [2][http://www.facebook.com/filofax/posts/10150573385353357?notif\\_t=feed\\_comment](http://www.facebook.com/filofax/posts/10150573385353357?notif_t=feed_comment)

1. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/>
2. [http://www.facebook.com/filofax/posts/10150573385353357?notif\\_t=feed\\_comment](http://www.facebook.com/filofax/posts/10150573385353357?notif_t=feed_comment)

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Tommes (2012-02-02 13:30:44)

To me, this causes a whole lot of sadness, because I do not think that Filofax is developing in 'my' direction... I do not care about fashionable binders, I care about practical and quality inserts. But, I do not think that they will come - any time, sooner or later.  
Even more sadly, I still stick to the personal size, so making inserts on my own will be a lot harder.  
I'm not giving up hope for the better, so let's wait and see...  
Thanks for the good information being given to us!!!  
Thomas

Filofreak (2012-02-02 13:53:03)

Wait! Are you saying that Filofax is looking at discontinuing the week at a view (2 pages per week) style of insert pages? That is ALL I use!!! Or did I misunderstand you? And if they are is it for the personal AND the A5? Please tell me it isn't so.

ONutter (2012-02-02 14:10:07)

I do understand the need to discontinue not so popular inserts every now and again in order to be able to design and release new ones. Though, personally I am surprised that they have not developed an interactive "design your own" insert feature on their website, discontinuing all but the top selling inserts in each category. It wouldn't be too hard for them, I think, having templates that you can tweak directly on their website. I think that would be the way forward.

Steve Morton (2012-02-02 14:34:02)

Erin

Don't panic, it's the Time Management Week Per View insert that we have heard rumours that it might be disappearing:

<http://www.filofax.co.uk/images/products/refills/line/TMR70X06.gif>

Steve

Steve Morton (2012-02-02 14:34:56)

It's on this page:

[http://www.filofax.co.uk/timemanagement/annual\\_update.asp](http://www.filofax.co.uk/timemanagement/annual_update.asp)

Steve

Tim (2012-02-02 15:13:22)

The link is

[www.filofax.co.uk/timemanagement/annual\\_update.asp](http://www.filofax.co.uk/timemanagement/annual_update.asp)

... but WO2P ain't no longer there! And if you want TM DO1P forget it - "out of stock". Annual update set? Forget that too "sold out"!

It's clearly a deletion because if you hover over your mouse over the main descriptive graphic at [www.filofax.co.uk/timemanagement/pro\\_sys.asp](http://www.filofax.co.uk/timemanagement/pro_sys.asp)

there's no longer a mention of daily or weekly views!

Alison Reeves (2012-02-02 16:00:38)

Right I've made my comment on the Filofax facebook page (Steve could you make this more prominent so others on Philofaxy have the chance to comment too?).

Well, my friends, if the quality of the inserts diminish further we will just have to vote with our feet and buy from alternative suppliers who do care about time management - which may ultimately lead us to buy their binders as well.

I suppose we are all hoping they may just blow us away with some really nice inserts - but I was always an

optimist!!!

SSA (2012-02-02 16:16:23)

I also understand the need to phase out inserts that do not sell quantities that warrant production. I often see inserts (usually in the Personal size) as it has the widest range and do wonder how many people would buy/use that. However, no matter what insert you take away you will upset someone who likes and uses that insert.

I do believe that Filofax really need to work on the inserts more than the binders themselves. However, I wonder why they haven't made any updates to many of the inserts in years. (I have been using a Filofax for 10 years and the standard WO2P has never changed). Maybe the profit on the inserts is small and therefore developing and selling more binders is more important. As we all know, there are very few Filofaxy readers who own ONE (not one of each size) binder.

The idea of designing your own diary would be very useful and I think popular. However, on FF UK website there is a personal insert where you can add photos to a WO2P diary. This is as close to designing your own diary as they do. ( I know its really not designing anything except the pictures) I have never heard of a reader here who uses that format. Are there any?

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-02-02 17:18:14)

I agree with Alison - if the quality of the inserts falls any further, I will be voting with my feet (or my printer...). Yes, there must be economies of scale and some less-well selling inserts are probably making a loss, but then... *how many of us on here have bemoaned the fact you can't get the full range available on every site???* Surely, a solution would be to have all the inserts available on all the sites? I mean, there are things only available on the French or Danish sites that all of us have liked... How many more sales would there be if they were available across all online sites?

Just a thought...

I have to say I am finding myself spending far more time on eBay looking at the old binders than looking at any of the new ones - they are of better quality and are better designs. Does Filofax actually read this site I wonder? They don't appear to take anything we say on board...

Josh (2012-02-02 19:10:09)

Like Tommes, I am upset that Filofax is so squarely moving away from my needs and preferences. Putting out fashionable binders with bright colored inserts is fine, but not when they are discontinuing solid practical binders and offering less choice in practical black and white inserts.

I just ordered a Daytimer day on two pages insert to compare to the Do2P from Filofax. I like the open page on the Daytimer better, but prefer the clean, professional black and white look of the Filofax product.

My wishes? Easy. I want a nice sturdy binder with 30mm rings but not zip. I want two elasticized pen loops. I want the binder to be made of nice sturdy leather with no plasticky coating. For inserts, I want Do2P with more notes space and less to-do space, printed on decent quality paper, please!

Savannah (2012-02-03 00:35:50)

It's alot about what sells. Unfortunately like SSA said, this will make some people unhappy. If Filofax could at least change the quality of their paper (like Mont Blanc, Kate Spade or Franklin) so I could have a more pleasing writing experience I would really appreciate that. I do understand that it probably won't happen and therefore I will have to buy from other vendors if I want that quality. To me this is a pain in the @ #\*.

If a time management system with higher quality pages was offered by Filofax I am sure the price would go up quite a bit too. Franklin has managed to keep their prices somewhat reasonable by compromising a bit. I'm not sure all Filofax users would be happy about increased prices.

If you look at the current selection of Franklin binders you would be very disappointed. Most are black and/or bulky. Their paper planning system is still very well structured but thinner than it used to be. They used to have more of a selection. It seems that paper based planning systems are not what they used be in the good old days (again, a demand issue). It's still a great choice if you like a super structured system with a better writing experience.

It does seem unfair that Filofax decided to discontinue their time management pages. I can see where this would be discouraging after investing so much in leather binders. If they ever made an ideal planner page for the personal

or pocket size, which they don't, I would be unhappy too.

Personally, I do appreciate the simplicity of their pages which means I can customize them however I want. There is no extraneous clutter which makes it easier to follow your writing. I do get frustrated with the paper sometimes and buy another brand just like with any other unsatisfactory product. I have never found a perfect solution.

I hope the structured TM crowd can influence Filofax in some way and it works out well for you.

Babs (2012-02-03 01:28:10)

I have to say I'm not hugely convinced that Filofax \*have\* ditched their TM inserts based on the fact it's sold out on the website. It is February after all and with a smaller print run (presumably) than the standard diaries it's not surprising it's sold out.

I think (hope!) we may be getting our knickers in a twist over nothing here.

Jotje (2012-02-03 03:28:30)

A (IMO) great alternative for A5 business inserts is Timesystem. (timesystem.com). I know they are a bit pricey, but the layout is superb. Here is a link to their Weekly pages: [http://www.timesystem.us/v/vspfiles/V4\\_Backup/refill\\_samples\\_A5.htm](http://www.timesystem.us/v/vspfiles/V4_Backup/refill_samples_A5.htm)

They also have awesome 2PPD format for the A5 (fully compatible with Filofax btw).

What's more: someone on DIYplanner had created an exact copy template of these pages, which you can print out yourself. If you can't find them, drop me a line, cos I know who did them in the past.

Steve Morton (2012-02-03 03:34:33)

Thanks for that link Jotje.

I like their Weekly View:

[http://www.timesystem.us/v/vspfiles/V4\\_Backup/refill\\_samples\\_A5.htm](http://www.timesystem.us/v/vspfiles/V4_Backup/refill_samples_A5.htm)

That has possibilities...

Jotje (2012-02-03 03:39:08)

I actually just discovered the the German Timesystem site offers undated PDF-sample pages to print yourself. Great if you wanna try out their weekly or daily format, or their numerous other forms (have a look at their Checklist-form!!)

<http://www.timesystem.de/index.php?page=92>

janet (2012-02-03 04:04:27)

I guess the market has changed now that people have scheduling systems in their phones and ipads. So ff has had to reinvent themselves as a fashion brand to stay afloat. It has obviously paid off financially or they wouldn't be doing it.

Interesting that they seem to be moving more into the Aspinal/Mulberry/Smythson territory than GTD/FC territory. I wonder how they will fare long term? If I was paying huge money for a binder I would still go Smythson or Mulberry rather than Filofax. Filofax binders these days are not nearly as hardy and robust as they used to be. And their snob value is never going to be up there for Hermés for example, no matter how they price themselves. I moved from digital back to paper because I like doing things on paper. Writing things down is quicker and easier than tapping them in and I find the process calming and comforting. I know I will have recorded it permanently and correctly. I think more and more people will be moving back to paper.

Myself, I find my needs are not met by Filofax inserts as they are. The selection for A5 is measly, the scheduling system too basic, the paper not good enough. But I don't want to print my inserts myself - I want to buy them.

Savannah (2012-02-03 05:24:30)

Yes Janet, I agree. The binders, although prettier, do not have the quality that they used to. This is something I value and I am sad we lost.

Scoot (2012-02-03 06:20:52)

I must also thank Jotje for the Timesystem.de examples, they have a really good layout and are stylish. I am going to have so much fun with these over the weekend.

Leading on from the German site, the Russian site has example inserts in English that can be copied and printed; including such things as wine guides!

Here is the A5....

[http://www.timesystem.ru/index.php?meny=systems \\_open \\_razvorot &crazdel=business &otdel=papir &to-var=inform](http://www.timesystem.ru/index.php?meny=systems _open _razvorot &crazdel=business &otdel=papir &to-var=inform)

Have fun!

T (2012-02-03 10:05:30)

I think this is a mistake. As the economic crisis gets deeper, I don't think the answer is to increase the range of expensive binders.

While the inserts are not a high profit item, they are a niche, and it would be nice if Filofax were to put a little more thought into making these nicer, with higher quality paper, etc.

Shanananana (2012-02-03 11:34:05)

"Of course Filofax is a commercial company and they have to make a profit otherwise they can't pay the bills and they will sink without trace,"

The USP of a Filofax, as opposed to a standard notepad costing 50p, is the ability to keep the binder, and transfer, rearrange and change inserts at will - this is elemental stuff but IF that's the direction they're going, then they are shooting themselves in the foot for users like me who will buy maybe two or three binders a decade, preferring classic professional-looking styles (currently 3 x Finsbury, an A5 Kendal and a cheeky personal Logic for my handbag) over things with hearts, flowers, butterflies or freakin' PUPPYDOGS(that must be next?) on them!

I'd happily pay more (£100-ish) for a binder that isn't all gimmicky and which will last, and then have the inserts available that I need - mind you I'm currently banging the drum for print-on-demand which makes it a bit less of an issue.

I can't comment on paper quality because I still use the gold Parker mechanical pencil (with a B lead - so much more forgiving than HB if you erase things sometimes!) and biro set my nan gave me as a wee kiddie! :D

Jotje (2012-02-03 13:19:10)

@Scoot: there is even a Russian site? Will go and check that out ...

I'm actually a Timesystem gal. My boss (many many years ago) gave every employee a T/S system with annual refill and MADE us use it. We got a timemanagement training every year. I switched over to Filofax, because the binders are so much prettier. At first I used the T/S inserts in my A5 pink Finsbury, then I began downsizing to Personal (even to Pocket - mind you!) and T/S became a thing of the past.

I LOVE the filofax binders, they are so pretty and nice, it just makes me happy to look at them AND USE THEM! Thing is: if I can't use them because the inserts fail, the prettiness of the binder is a waste as well.

I'm still using Filofax binders for: workrelated lists and notes (A5), shopping lists and wallet (Pocket), a journal on my 4 kids (Personal), school-related notes on my kids (A5), travel binder (Personal).

For the real planning - however - I have been using a Wirebound Planner for the past 3.5 months (Erin Condren Life Planner), which satisfies so many of my planning needs. I'm still secretly on the lookout for Filofax-inserts (also other brands obviously), but I haven't found anything yet that matches the practicality of the EC-planner

...

Ray Blake (2012-02-03 15:44:54)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Ray Blake (2012-02-03 15:49:42)

I'm excited about working with Steve on a WOTP diary. It has some real challenges that you don't face with a single day or 2 days per page. The mail merge needs all sorts of conditional expressions for when the week contains a month end. Once we get past that, though, we'll be able to design a whole range of templates around it. If there's a particular feature you'd like to see, let us know.

Anthony Mark Schellenberg (2012-02-06 08:10:22)

Jotji, I'd be interested in a link to the diyplanner TS look-alike's that you mention. I've looked through the templates that I can see on the site and don't see which ones you mean. Thanks!

## Free For All Friday No. 168 (2012-02-03 00:02) - Laurie

It's our first FFAF in February! It's a Leap Year, what are you going to do with your extra day this year?

With the release this week of the new styles of Filofax binders coming out this year, there have been a lot of replies (including from myself) to the effect of: new binders are great and all, but what we really need are new inserts! I keep reading about people using other brands of inserts because Filofax ones don't fit their needs and/ or are increasingly hard to find.

So, let it all out: what inserts would you like to see Filofax come out with? What diary formats would work better for you, and what other types of inserts would you use in your daily life?

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

Have a great weekend everyone!

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David Popely (2012-02-03 01:36:24)

I'd like to see a set of inserts based specifically on GTD categories (yes, I \*know\* I already have David Parker's excellent custom A5 set, but you asked.....) This would include Next Actions, Projects, Project Plan, Agenda, Information, Contacts, Waiting For and Someday/Maybe. Plus maybe a couple I've forgotten (it's early and I'm about to run out to a breakfast meeting).

All of these would be available in Personal \*and\* A5, and would be printed on 'real' paper, not the 'toilet' version FF now prefer to use.

GTD is one of, if not \*the\*, largest bodies of time managers and organisers in the world now, so I wouldn't accept any guff from FF about them not selling well enough.

For me this could be the 'acid test' of whether FF will step up to the plate and finally show some respect for their customers. I won't be holding my breath.....

katka (2012-02-03 03:11:17)

May I ask Deco users? Does the filo loose up (soften) a little bit after 1-2 years of using? I'm just got new one and I'm deciding on using it or returning it. My old filo is so soft and broken in, I just want the same with Deco.

Scoot (2012-02-03 04:21:01)

Have a look at Filofax's recent candidate for Valentine's gift.

<http://www.filofax.co.uk/store/organiserdetails.asp?rangeId=149 &sizeId=2 &dsId=2 &spId=1037 #1037>

The words immediately springing to mind are "Apex", tacky, cheap, unromantic and lack of style.

I've tried to guess what sort of man would give such a fax to a woman, thinking it was romantic, but the nearest I can get is an immature 8 year old boy with a crush who may think that a similar girl may find it fun and cute.

In my view, what they should have done for Valentine's, is at least produce two products being a "him" and a "her"; with a box set (even if it is a loss leader that the retailer has to later split up!). But what is required to make the Valentine's product are stylish dividers with some special pages, "love cheques" ... ie This cheque entitles the named bearer to big hug or ten gentle kisses, a diary with daily or weekly areas to note down how you are to show your love to the other person in your life, cute heart shaped post-it notes, etc etc etc. But, even if they didn't want to do that, they should surely have luxurious, even limited edition, leather binders with some sort of classy heart design.

Dear Filofax, please give us cause to stop complaining about you!

Tamara (2012-02-03 04:56:59)

Two things: I would love the return of Personal sized month on two pages (without tabs). I believe they used to be on the US site. But they seem to have disappeared. Also, I wish slim flex covers could be a bit less expensive.

Tim (2012-02-03 05:22:34)

@David - I think David Allen would have something to say (through his lawyer!) if Filofax started producing GTD inserts as he owns all the copyrights! Of course he produces his own paper organiser range - all non-European sizes of course - and available through his website catalogue <https://secure.davidco.com/store/catalog>

SSA (2012-02-03 05:57:30)

Another Filofax 'sighting' (story):

I was reading a magazine called "Real People" sent to me by my grandmother. In one of the true stories a woman is missing and the husband told her family that she had left him and gone abroad. The sister was suspicious. After some time she found her sisters' Filofax hidden in her home and her passport was in it so she knew he was lying. She went to the police and they found the body in a suitcase in the garage.

If you went missing and a family member found your Filofax at home, would they become suspicious??? I think mine would!

PrincessK (2012-02-03 06:00:23)

I would like to see something for the family. I know Filofaxs are meant to be used for business but I see a lot of mums using them for the kids schedules/household binder. I know there probably wouldnt be a huge market for this sort of insert, but maybe something a bit like the travel pack but with menu planners, shopping lists etc. Im a stay at home mum its quite hard to fit arrange a home schedule into the business style pages x

Steve Morton (2012-02-03 06:03:19)

@Princessk Have you checked out our Files page:

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/files.html>

This includes shopping lists, recipe and meal planner pages in personal size.

PrincessK (2012-02-03 06:07:37)

Hi Steve,

I have checked but I only have a little laptop and no printer and my current budget means I wont be buying one for a long time! I would love to be able to print them but its not really an option for me unfortunately x

Steve Morton (2012-02-03 06:09:22)

Hi Princess K

Contact me philofaxy at gmail dot com and we can see if there is an alternative solution...

Steve

Alison Reeves (2012-02-03 06:09:28)

@Scoot - are you in marketing? If not you should be - some great ideas there! Perhaps Filofax should give you a job!!!

Alison Reeves (2012-02-03 06:17:04)

I think we are 'flogging a dead horse' a bit here.

I suppose one of the great things about Filofax is that it can be all things to all people because of the very diverse way we all want to use it - from planning board meetings and very hectic business trips to the family meal planning and shopping list. And yes I do understand that Filofax has to look at their bottom line and be ruthless about culling non profit making lines.

If this is the case, then less specific and more generic inserts would be useful - we could them label them, or adjust slightly with the odd line or entry. However what is a requirement is some decent quality paper.

I still think the time manager inserts would sell better if people could actually find them, so I find their decisions around this product line very strange.

Perhaps the real truth is that we are a dying breed and most of the population want cheap and tacky binders and all use bic pens so don't need decent quality paper. Perhaps there is a business opportunity for someone to make some really nice inserts and sell them (like Maudie Maide does) but I suspect you wouldn't make enough money

to cover your time!

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-02-03 06:29:07)

I have a WO2P cotton cream diary - free to good home (UK only - sorry). I got it free in a bundle of other giveaways (thank you A Chic Coincidence!) but I have no need for it.

Email me at amanda (dot) fleet (@) btinternet (dot) com if you're interested. First-come, first served.

kanalt (2012-02-03 06:50:13)

@Tamara - Oh no! I didn't realize that Filofax US had removed the monthly layout, as I use them every year. I had to pop over to the site to double check. I'm hoping they've disappeared because they don't have any in stock at the moment, but I'm fearful that they won't make a comeback.

I keep coming back to Filofax from other brands just because I have worked a system for using them. If they take that way from me, I'll be forced to switch brands (for inserts) and never look back.

Saffy (2012-02-03 06:50:57)

I must be one of the few people who are not bothered by the Filofax paper. I can't help think that the finer (lighter) paper was chosen so that we can fit more into our binders and choose how much we want to carry and ultimately how heavy it is. I actually like the way it curls up and makes a crinkly sound when written on heavily which happens when my daughter uses her Filofax.

I have rather unruly handwriting and don't press hard so the only thing that keeps my writing in check is to use a boring old fine orange Bic which does not have any of the problems of wetter ink.

However, I do agree that better quality paper options should be available particularly for those professional/business people and of course fountain pen users. I do love the cotton cream paper and cant for the life of me understand why it is not available in the A5 size when it is for the Mini which I can't really find a use for?

However I do notice a difference in the weight of my Filofax when I choose cotton cream over their standard paper. I would like to see more diary variety and have the same layout of WO2P with notes at the top of the week like the cotton cream WO2P.

I would also like to see them print on the diary the weather symbols and temp and possibly mood indicators.

I don't think they should be decreasing their range but expanding it so that we are all happy. They need to introduce professional pages on good quality paper, family pages for mums at home and the standard offering with a few tweaks for people like me whose life is not so busy. Basically options for all lifestyles and at all price points.

@katka - I have just moved into a Deco also and the main thing I notice is how heavy it is. I transferred out of my compact into the Deco but the back pocket seems to take up quite a bit of room, not that it bothers me too much otherwise I would just be tempted to carry more pages and add to its weight. It does lay flat which is always good but I presume it is supposed to be one of the stiffer more professional/prestigious designs unlike the casualness of the softer more pliable binders like the Baroque, Malden and Topaz. I did find that the button at the front makes using the left hand side wobble when you write - bit of a nuisance.

Ray Blake (2012-02-03 07:25:34)

I think that what Filofax ought to do if they can no longer support as wide a range of inserts as we'd all like is to have a 'print to order' service. They could maintain an online catalogue of specialist papers that they print and dispatch to customers when they are ordered. This means they have no stock to maintain or warehouse but can still boast a full range of general and specialist inserts - fuller perhaps even than in their 80s heyday. And perhaps they could even allow customers to design their own inserts using a web tool that Filofax would print out and send direct to the user. This need not be much more expensive than the bulk-printed inserts, but I imagine most of us would be prepared to pay a little more. Even more so were there to be a choice of paper quality.

Butanben (2012-02-03 07:41:40)

I'd love to see the time management diary, a day per page, on cream paper with small tabbed months. Glad that more colour is appearing in some inserts in the new range. Some colours and designer type today markers in all sizes would be great too. But..... even better would be a bespoke ordering service.

Jana (2012-02-03 08:14:23)

I am okay with the inserts they sell. But I would prefer a better paper-quality.

Laurie (2012-02-03 08:47:28)

PrincessK, it's interesting you are the second person this week to ask for a Family organiser pack. Filofax had this exact thing, the Family Organiser Lifestyle pack, and recently discontinued it (I'm assuming due to low sales). I reviewed it here:

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2009/07/family-organizer-pack.html>

One thing that stands out in my mind when I met the manager of the Conduit Street London Filofax shop a couple of years ago was that Filofax is making fewer inserts because of retailers' limited shelf space. But it seems to me that with internet sales this would be less of an issue. She also said the French personal size week with days as vertical columns inserts sold well even to non French speakers because so many people wanted the format. You would think that would be a clue for them to make an English version, available in the UK!

Laurie (2012-02-03 08:55:00)

Meant to add: the A5 version is still available at Filofax US:

<http://www.filofaxusa.com/store/diaryrefillsdetails.asp?productId=25 97>

SNARLing: (2012-02-03 08:56:34)

i think one thing to keep in mind here is that making these inserts relies heavily on both the printing and paper industries. having been laid off from the printing industry well over a year ago and not being able to get back in, it's pretty obvious to me that it is in a major state of flux. there are a lot of digital demands these days so it's necessary to change focus and interest and adapt in order for the printers to stay afloat. a lot of newspapers are having to adapt with losing their doorstep subscriptions. the online/mobile papers such as the ny times are starting to charge for subscriptions.

this in turn affects the paper industry. with paper, there is additional heavy environmental pressures. the need to get more green is definitely an issue with more and more companies. also, i believe these inserts are printed way in advance. my wpp and mo2p have 2010 on them. my blank pages, 2001, cotton cream todos and plain- 2009... i think it would be really difficult to offer personalized pages as for example, only the uk has the one offer right now and i'm not sure how that's working for them. a p-o-d service could be a whole different enterprise altogether and i imagine it would be pretty expensive as well as a headache to manage. also with their not being a unified filofax front online for example - with all the different websites of the different countries having different binders, different inserts, different shipping policies, etc, i believe the 'simple' task of offering 'better' inserts is a lot more complex than we imagine.

there are things i use and like and things i wish would change, but it is what it is and i try to make do. i agree with alison that the more generic, the more people they are likely to please. i also saw that the mo2p are missing from the us website. they are on others' websites and i feel that they're pretty mainstream so i couldn't imagine they would get rid of them unless they were maybe UPDATING them somehow like with TABS or something...

Kate (2012-02-03 09:01:29)

I'd like a week to a page diary with notes in cotton cream in English only for the space. As I find the lined paper difficult to use I'd like plain paper inserts in a range of colours. please, Filofax.

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-02-03 09:17:18)

filopedia...

Did I get the concept wrong, or was it meant to be a reference-type thing so you could look up filofaxes on it? I just went over and there are pics like that, sensibly tagged... but there's also quite a lot of less useful pictures which I *think* (though happy to be corrected) belong more on the other flickr pool??

Missus Aka (Christa) (2012-02-03 09:55:18)

just to let everyone know that the time management inserts will be continuing into 2013 and they will have a look at making them more accessible on their website. yaaayyyy the power of facebook comments!!!!!!

David Popely (2012-02-03 10:06:37)  
That's good news indeed.....

Scout (2012-02-03 10:21:02)

@ Alison, thanks, but I'm an accountant. I am used to looking into clients' businesses and we try to run/experiment with everything going to look for any new possible USP, yet keeping it realistic and practical as opposed to fanciful or unprofitable. To me, Filofax is a company that should be so much bigger and I constantly wonder why they don't get a team of 3 or 4 creative staff members to drive simple and cheap changes to help customers/retailers with their products; therein drive up profits.

It must be worthwhile for Filofax to have even just one full-time member of staff monitoring/running their own forum about time management, co-operating with people on such sites as Philofaxy and DIY Planner, engaging with customers and giving extra product information such as explaining why they use the paper they do, tell us why Time Management inserts aren't in stock or even just how to use the system!, even giving out experimental versions of PDF inserts and seek feedback.

I think they could make much more of Limited Edition Binders, it would be easy to justify 3 or 4 per year. Other companies, like Succes, appear to be leading in design.

I am probably not alone to have sought prices for the manufacture of Fax inserts from printers, and while there are issues, if I had the time I would do it and sell online; just can't imagine Filofax ever stepping up to the plate and undermining the business model.

Tim (2012-02-03 10:43:22)

Gosh, so there really is someone at Filofax listening to us! Just to check we've got the wording of their statement right: -

"We can confirm again, that the Time Management diary refills will be continuing in 2013. We will investigate the prominence of this series on the website and, if feasible, look to making it more accessible".

Sounds encouraging!

Alison Reeves (2012-02-03 10:54:13)

Just wanted to say that I am selling my A5 Aqua binder on ebay at the moment if anyone is interested - <http://bit.ly/Aaf18L> 99p starting price. Also my old iPhone.

Alison Reeves (2012-02-03 10:59:11)

However they don't say which time management inserts are being continued ...

Shanananana (2012-02-03 11:11:29)

Second call for a print-on-demand service there from Ray Blake (I mentioned it on my 1st ever post here and for all I know it's come up before).

I had some custom notepaper printed on VistaPrint and it cost a small sum to load the first template, but then reprints were dirt cheap - and the quality beats home-printed stuff hands down, the ink doesn't run at the slightest drop of coffee for a start!

Does anyone else feel that this is an area Filofax might move into, offering their less profitable (inc. in terms of retailer shelf-space) inserts as print-on-demand, and also allowing users to custom design pages?

I would LOVE that, and be willing to pay to get my own design printed on punched paper (I have a punch but, tedious much?!) so if anyone else is interested please post, then we could maybe take it to Facebook, and/or direct to the company? :)

Shanananana (2012-02-03 11:15:29)

@ SNARLing, sorry I missed your comment on p-o-d, but I guess Filofax don't chop their own trees and mill their own paper (oops, that looks snarky, was meant as SILLY!) so why not out-source to a company with the gear in place, and then just make sure the special sizing and six-hole thing gets added?

Gah - now I look like a shill for Vistaprint, which I'm SO not!! but I've used them and also a local printer to get my own A5 inserts made which I then punched up, and being able to print in run-proof colours and greys was worth the aggro.

Tim (2012-02-03 11:19:55)

@Alison - and I thought I was the no 1 cynic...! Like you, I always look at any company's (or politician's) statement and read between the lines.

As you say, Filofax only mention continuing the diary refills. So that could mean the range will end up like Deskfax (diary refills and nothing else). My prediction is that they'll keep the other items (meeting planner, results planner etc) until current stocks run out, but won't reprint or add new inserts.

And they say they are "confirming again". When was the first confirmation? 2005?

David Popely (2012-02-03 11:32:38)

Just floating this.....

Why don't we just start our own company and produce what we all obviously want - a range of \*proper\* inserts, on \*proper\* paper, and sell them through one of the p-o-d sites already operative.

If FF don't want the 'minimal' trouble, why let them have the profits?

I'm in if others are....

janet (2012-02-03 11:36:05)

I like A5 vertical WOTP (need to see the week at a glance)but I would like to see a more detailed time system (my day is blocked off into 45 minute appointments with 15minutes to get from place to place)and better paper. Would also like more powerful project management and to do lists.

I need a ring-binder system because my schedule changes so much that I have to rewrite the coming week each Sunday and replace the messy pages.

One thing that should be possible even with today's narrow selection of inserts is monthly tabs. They make such a difference and have been much requested for a long time.

Not sure if it is available in other countries but Sweden has an A5 teacher's pack which is quite useful for me as it has attendance registers, class lists, lesson planning pages and student timetables. Being able to produce specialised packs for a relatively small market for several years now shows that it can be done. You can buy them in a binder or as refill packs.

Shanananana (2012-02-03 11:40:00)

@David, I was wondering about the ramifications (and costs) of loading some stuff up to a certain p-o-d company I've namechecked too much already, then linking other people to that so they don't have to pay the image-loading costs... I can't say how far I'd go with that but it's an area I'm interested in.

Before we storm the citadel, how about an online petition asking for a p-o-d facility, using one of those sites that uses e-mail verification to contact the company with?

David Popely (2012-02-03 11:41:59)

I don't know much about the technicalities of doing that. Why not drop me an email davidpopely (at( googlemail (dot) com)?

Shanananana (2012-02-03 11:42:33)

I meant petition sites, and probably also the Facebook thing, though I don't use FB myself.

Savannah (2012-02-03 11:48:54)

Yes Alison, I think that is the bottom line. We are a dying breed.

Shanananana (2012-02-03 11:51:41)

@Savannah - remember the panda? we only die out when swe stop - oh, okay, not THAT exactly! but stop trying at least.

Remember the Filofax that survived WW2, and saved the company? One little binder against Hitler and the massed Axis powers?

I rest my case! :o)

PrincessK (2012-02-03 11:52:31)

Hi Laurie

They sound good, shame they don't do them anymore. I have a diary for appointments then blank paper for meal planners and more blank paper for shopping lists and end up with different bits all over and five different shopping lists because I keep forgetting where the the previous one is. I think i've got quite a gift, I can even make a filofax un-organised lol. It would be nice to have a week with appointments meal planners etc all in one place instead of all over!

Hi Steve

I saw your comment and i'm not ignoring it. I'm in and out at the minute but i'll e-mail you when the kids are in bed and I have some peace and quiet.

Thanks again x

Alison Reeves (2012-02-03 12:20:47)

For all your home makers out there. Last year for part of my Xmas present, my Sister-in-law got me a meal plan pad from a place called Mums Office. This is A5, with a list of days to plan means on the left and a detachable shopping list on the right. I could find it this year - but it seems they are re-launching it at the end of this month - details are here: <http://bit.ly/wNAJto> I just peeled off all the sheets from the pad, punched them and put them in my 'home' filofax. I really like them and am investigating some of their other products. They are also launching a 'moms todo list' so may be worth checking out as well.

Scoot (2012-02-03 12:25:18)

For fashionistas...

<http://stylebykling.nowmanifest.com/>

Just look at all the comments about faxes, click below her post!

Missus Aka (Christa) (2012-02-03 13:27:17)

Further to alison's comment if you go to the website she suggested if you sign up to their website you can download their templates for free!!!!!!

gdigesu (2012-02-03 14:22:40)

I second Mr. P's "I'd like to see ..."

Will ask around and see if some printer in my hemisphere is willing to do the job ...

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-02-03 15:11:36)

The filofax response about the TM system puzzles me...

"We can confirm again, that the Time Management diary refills will be continuing in 2013. We will investigate the prominence of this series on the website and, if feasible, look to making it more accessible".

*If feasible?*

They own the site, they run the site, they (presumably) want to make money... even if the TM range is done by someone else, presumably THEY want to make money. Surely it's a no-brainer to include the range along with the rest of the diaries??

What's the *if feasible* for??

Babs (2012-02-04 04:54:07)

Thanks for the tip, Christa. I'm going to have a look. It does annoy me intensely, though when a stationery company can't use the correct spelling of stationery!!!! Aargh!

Shanananana (2012-02-04 15:50:52)

Just an update, I e-mailed Filofax UK asking about p-o-d options this morning, I hope I made a decent case for it: I'll let Steve & everyone on here know what they reply!

## Web Finds - 4 February 2012 (2012-02-04 00:00) - Steve Morton

So no sooner has one of these been published then I start looking for new posts for the next one... and this week is no exception.

I'm sat in the kitchen with my laptop, my breakfast and coffee, and whilst you are clicking and reading going through what is now last week's (today's as I write this), I'm looking through my list of news feeds for new posts that have appeared over night, normally from our friends in the USA, it is still their evening by the time my head hits the pillow with my Kindle in one hand to catch up on some reading.

So they start on a Saturday morning normally and get added to though-out the week until I have a final check on Friday night before putting another one to bed and it is time I went to bed too!

So another week has passed and we have found some great posts for you to read ■ This having been written on Saturday of course is a way of hedging my bets! It is a bit like a merchant banker who always irons and presses 5 white shirts on a Sunday evening, assuming he will still be in a job by the end of the week.....

So after that rather lengthy introduction... here they are!

- [1]The Cuban Brothers - Filofax Fixation
- [2]New organisers to come! - Maudie Made
- [3]Inside the Cavendish - Bluebonnet Reads
- [4]Filofax changeover leaves the whole house spent - The Crazy Suburban Mom
- [5]Filofax dividers - Lancashire Cat
- [6]An Exercise In Futility - Well Planned Life
- [7]Not that much - Filofax Fixation
- [8]holy bologna! - Snarling Post
- [9]A new priority in Filofaxes - The Life of The Perpetual Student
- [10]Filofickle - Filofax Fixation ■ Templates now on [11]Philofaxy Files Page Thank you Terri
- [12]My new Filofax toy - Rapunzel's World
- [13]Is this the Perfect Filofax? - Cat's Corner
- [14]Filoh-no! - Filofax Fixation
- [15]Filofax storyboard pages to print - My Life All in One Place
- [16]My home binder filofax a5 (now pink classic) recap of tabs 1 & 2 + tabs 3 & 4 - Loving My Filofax
- [17]The Zen of Filofax - The Crazy Suburban Mom
- [18]The Flexi Filofax, hey! - Abimarvel
- [19]Hang on I will just check my diary! - The Bright Shillings of March
- [20]Filofax love - 24 beauty live
- [21]Filofax Product Guide 2012-2013 - Chaotic Perfectionist
- Your blog post could appear here next week... Please email us if we missed you this week.

And here's a couple of great videos to watch

[EMBED]

[EMBED]

[EMBED]

Enjoy.

1. <http://filofaxfixation.wordpress.com/2012/01/27/the-cuban-brothers>
2. <http://www.maudiemade.com/new-organisers-to-come>
3. <http://bluebonnetreads.wordpress.com/2012/01/28/inside-the-cavendish/>
4. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/01/filofax-changeover-leaves-whole-house.html>
5. <http://lancashirecat.wordpress.com/2012/01/29/filofax-dividers/>
6. <http://wellplannedlife.blogspot.com/2012/01/exercise-in-futility.html>
7. <http://filofaxfixation.wordpress.com/2012/01/29/not-that-much/>
8. <http://thesnarlingpost.blogspot.com/2012/01/holy-baloney.html>
9. <http://thelifeoftheperpetualstudent.blogspot.com/2012/02/new-priority-in-filofaxes.html>
10. <http://filofaxfixation.wordpress.com/2012/01/30/filofickle/>
11. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/files.html>
12. <http://icclewu.blogspot.com/2012/02/my-new-filofax-toy.html>
13. <http://www.cathryncook.co.uk/blog/2012/02/filofax-malden-personal-review/>
14. <http://filofaxfixation.wordpress.com/2012/01/31/filoh-no/>
15. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2012/02/filofax-storyboard-pages-to-print.html>
16. <http://lovingmyfilofax.blogspot.com/2012/01/my-home-binder-filofax-a5-now-pink.html>
17. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/02/zen-and-filofax.html>
18. <http://abimarvel.com/2012/02/01/the-flexi-filofax-hey/>
19. <http://brightshillingsofmarch.blogspot.com/2012/02/hang-on-ill-just-check-my-diary.html>
20. <http://24beautylive.blogspot.com/2012/01/filofax-love.html>
21. <http://elfenfisch.blogspot.com/2012/02/filofax-product-guide-20122013.html>

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Jotje (2012-02-04 02:59:19)

Nina published the product guide! Interesting: A5 Malden with 25mm rings? But also as zipped compact (hopefully also non-zipped ...?). Luxe still with 20mm rings, but now also in purple (does this qualify as a slimline A5?). And -LOL- the Apex in bright yellow. And one in purple.

maudie.made (2012-02-04 05:43:58)

Thanks for the mention - what did you think of the ring sizes?

Steve Morton (2012-02-04 06:16:04)

Jotje: There are also other 20mm ringed A5's in the list...see my latest post.

I'm also checking up on the 25mm Malden, is it a typo, or have they decided to go from 30mm to 25mm all the time... I'm using my 30mm all the time now!

And thanks for the info Maudie, I forgot to check back... see my other questions, I will check back in a day or two...

Scoot (2012-02-04 07:00:14)

I liked the idea behind accessory file though I think they could have made more of the idea, though in practicality I think the smaller Swiss Army Card is more practical in a fax.

The link for Lancashire Cat's dividers appears to be wrong, a duplication of previous entry.

Steve Morton (2012-02-04 07:06:00)

Thanks Scoot...link fixed.

Diane Perin Hock (2012-02-04 14:01:54)

Steve, I discovered Philofaxy a few weeks ago and I have to tell you that reading the Friday web finds post with my morning coffee is my new favorite Saturday morning ritual!

terriknits (2012-02-04 17:38:58)

almost done my errands and chores for the day; then to settle in for the web finds! Highlight of my week.

Butanben (2012-02-05 12:52:44)

Hope the new Malden A5s are in 30mm!!!

Alison Reeves (2012-02-05 18:14:13)

Really loved the videos thanks Steve!

nina Elfenfisch (2012-02-07 17:07:39)

@jotje:

thank´s for writing my name as first word in the comments. feels great :D

i really don´t know if the 25mm in the malden section are right. the purple malden on the fair definately had 30mm!

and the "Z"s in the Product Guide mean "This product is also available with a zip fastening."

And the Zipped compact malden is really nice. the insides are quite similar to the ones in the pennybridge. i wish you guys have seen it already, so we could talk about it for hours!! hahaha

@steve

like mentioned, i really don´t think this 25mm thing is true. also in last years catalogue there was still the wrong ring size with the malden. maybe the preparings for the fair where a bit too busy to look for mistakes in the prints

## **A5 Compacts.... (2012-02-04 06:02) - Steve Morton**

Another frequent request seen on Philofaxy... a slimmer A5. I know we have all seen and commented about the Adelphi not quite being what we had in mind. Whilst it had the smaller rings it lost it with the additional bulk of the binder itself.

So in order to counteract these comments... we will be seeing compact A5's this year... they will all come with 20 mm rings and they are:

- Regency
- Luxe
- Boston
- Pennybridge Zip

I'm not sure if all of these will officially arrive on the UK website, but that doesn't normally stop keen buyers from finding what they want else where!

Availability from about June 2012 onwards possibly before.

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Gerard (2012-02-04 06:21:35)

Hi Steve, Any info on the design of the new Boston model?

Steve Morton (2012-02-04 06:31:18)

The only info I have on the Boston is:

Boston in very soft napp-like leather in black and pink with metal Filofax logo on bottom right hand corner.

Interestingly this model also will be available in Compact (personal) with 15mm rings and Pocket Slim with 11

mm rings. But it's not available in 'regular' sizes...

Tim (2012-02-04 07:51:21)

So they really ARE listening! It has seemed obvious to me for years... 1. Like it or not, most of us keep most of our data (appointments, contacts etc.) on our phones and laptops = less need to carry unnecessary paper around = smaller ring needed

2. A5 is a great size for making notes, sketching etc. but traditional A5 binders are too heavy and bulky to lug around.

2. A5 is the best size for printing documents (certainly in UK/Europe). Most documents come in A4. Simply reduce to A5 (two pages on an A4 sheet) cut, punch and insert into your Filofax. Much easier than trying to reduce on a printer to Personal paper size.

plus - thinner binders may be said to look sleeker (debateable!) and big fat binder rings are awful for left-handers to write around!

So - an A5 slim binder (not in orange or purple please!) with core Filofax Time Management pages (and especially the not-to-be-discontinued WO2P diary!). Now that would be a great business tool! Tim

Laurie (2012-02-04 08:13:23)

While I'm extremely glad to see truly slimline A5s on offer, I'm wondering if I'll be able to afford any of them. I know Regency and Luxe are out of my price range, I'll have to see what the price of the Boston is. The non-leather (and purple!) Pennybridge would be my first choice except it has the iPad holder, and since I don't have an iPad this binder isn't for me.

I'm glad Filofax is listening to us! Thank you Filofax! I hate to be picky, but I guess I should have specified that I'd like a slimline A5 that I could actually afford! Finsbury, and non-leather please?

Steve Morton (2012-02-04 08:53:16)

I think the Pennybridge Compact A5 isn't the one with the iPad strapped to the back of it. I think that is going to be a separate product.

I don't know the price of the Boston but I would guess it will be in the sort of average price bracket for a leather Filofax may be £60-£90, but that is only a guess.

Tim (2012-02-04 09:33:27)

Presumably the Luxe is the model listed on the Swedish and other non-UK websites?

<http://www.filofax.se/store/organiserdetails.asp?sizeId=5 &rangeId=156 &dsizeId=5>

Laurie (2012-02-04 20:14:53)

Hi Steve, in Nina's post with the new Filofax catalog the Boston is shown in the lineup between the Luxe and Aston. Since Filofax shows the lineup in order from most to least expensive, the Boston's position between the Luxe and Aston indicates it will be more expensive than the Aston. The A5 Aston is 130 GBP. I don't expect I'll be getting the A5 Boston. I hope you are right and the Pennybridge has separate models of A5 with and without the iPad holder, because that would be my only budget option.

## Guest Post - Retired Filofax - Michael (2012-02-05 00:00) - Steve Morton

*Today it is great to host a post from Mike, who also writes on his [1]Phillytyper.com blog.*

Below my beloved Slimline in pigskin, Made in England—complete with gold "Harrods" stamp, where I bought it on my first visit to London in the '80s. I was never without it and burned through all sorts of inserts, which a local Philadelphia stationer would order for me. I was my first. So, here's the 1980s, early 90s....



[2]

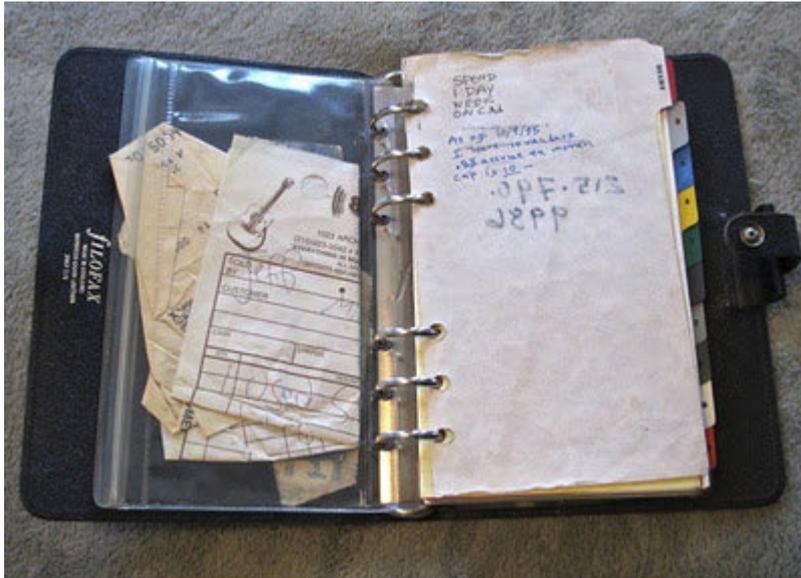
The odd drawing inside, "Evil Paper" was done by mischievous son when he was about 11 or so. After a while (like 8 years!) it got a bit beat-up, but also couldn't handle all the pages. Sometimes you can be too thin...



[3]

So it was supplanted by a chunkier Personal in black Morocco Grain Leather, with no model name, just stamped "2MLG 7/8" – that went out of service around 1997, victim of my infatuation with the first U.S. Robotics Palm Pilot electronic organizers, the scion of a series of disposable and ultimately infuriating little gadgets!

Also tried a few Dayrunners, but their cheapish vinyl and insets with bold type declaring, "ACTION-GOALS" and such were a bit too strivey for me! The simple "To Do" and Tels. seemed more proper, and so the Personal worked hard from early '90s to A.D. (After Digital) The last months of 1997 are sadly blank—my affairs were being tracked with a device that I dutifully plugged into a plastic cradle each day to "sync" it. It all seemed so modern... for a while, at least.



[4]

The cryptic scribble, "Spend 1 Day Week on C. Ad." i.e, Career Advancement, was advice given me by photographer friend, who wisely noted that yes, do your job, but also spend time seeking people who want you to do your job or who can show you how to do it better, so you don't end up with 20 years of experience that turns out to be all the same year!

Then, about a year ago, I made the leap—more of a stroll, really, back into the analog world of daily Filofaxing. Sure, I have an iPhone now, but I also have a Filofax Luxe Compact—which has rings that are a bit bigger than the slimline, but smaller than the Personal—like Goldilocks, I feel the Compact ring capacity is "juuuust rightttt" and hope they make more in that size.



[5]

And today, the Compact carries on—here, overlooking my son's old schoolyard. He likes notebooks, but at 15—no Filofax yet!

Both veterans—the battered Slimline and the still-crisp Personal—are wedged onto a shelf with the refills; the Slimline is empty, so I can't recall so much of what I was doing that, er, decade!... paging through the

Personal, though—wow, old work phone numbers; one for a nanny named Lem-Lem—she had a tiny blue cross tattooed on her forehead right at the hairline, and a huge smile and big strong forearms... a receipt for a bass amp, tels for half-a-dozen camera shops—all closed in the wake of the digital tsunami.... can't say that looking at a bunch of blank-screened Palm Organizers brings back any such feelings whatsoever. They're not obsolete—they're just taking a break.

Well, I've certainly drunk deeply of the Filofax Kool-Aid this time 'round... so much so that I've started selling them in Philadelphia (inside a bike shop, oddly enough), and am mulling a Filofax meet up at a local pub in early February. But I'll leave it up to Steve, Nan and Laurie if they'd like to have more details on that here at Philofaxy.

—Michael McGettigan , Philadelphia USA / phillytyper.com

*Thank you Michael, it was great to see those older Filofax organisers and if anyone would like the details of the Meet Up that Michael is planning in Philadelphia, then contact Philofaxy and we will forward on your emails.*

1. <http://phillytyper.com/>
2. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-3F5w1cdovdQ/TyFz1SQZSLI/AAAAAAAAAKL8/vA9I4xjbaCI/s1600/OLDfilo.jpeg>
3. [http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-PJAZ2K1XF6g/TyFz1CLHdKI/AAAAAAAAAKME/ZCuhr\\_S1j8w/s1600/IMG\\_5238.jpeg](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-PJAZ2K1XF6g/TyFz1CLHdKI/AAAAAAAAAKME/ZCuhr_S1j8w/s1600/IMG_5238.jpeg)
4. [http://4.bp.blogspot.com/--7N0WQSrf7s/TyF0f6mc3kI/AAAAAAAAAKMM/2W96HP\\_I5vg/s1600/PERSONAL1.jpeg](http://4.bp.blogspot.com/--7N0WQSrf7s/TyF0f6mc3kI/AAAAAAAAAKMM/2W96HP_I5vg/s1600/PERSONAL1.jpeg)
5. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-b4Sd1ZTSni0/TyF06gtV4-I/AAAAAAAAAKMU/9gs2ScGYW2U/s1600/COMPACT.jpeg>

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Lime Tree (2012-02-05 02:31:11)

Hi Steve,

I saw your previous post about the London meetup and now I see that footnote about Philadelphia. Is there a link where we can see all the upcoming meetups?

Steve Morton (2012-02-05 02:52:06)

Hi LT

I did have a calendar on the site, but with less than say 10 meet ups a year at best it was mainly empty pages! I will try and put together a list and post it on the site somewhere. But just look out for announcement posts. These all go with 'Meet up' in the labels cloud.

Steve

Lime Tree (2012-02-05 03:02:56)

Perfect! I will keep an eye on those. Thanks!

Hopefully one of them will be in my area :)

Gerard (2012-02-05 05:42:01)

Michael,

Thanks for the interesting write-up. The Hosoi skate sticker rounded off the nostalgic feel nicely.

Gerard

SNARLing: (2012-02-05 10:22:01)

wow. that was great. i love that pigskin one. it looks like the one i wanted when i worked at kate's paperie waaay back. but even with an employee discount i thought money for beer was more important than organizing myself heh heh

Butanben (2012-02-05 12:49:31)

Wow!! When I get that job of my dreams, an international meet up, coupled with a holiday would be a big wowzer!!!

## How do you use - Day per Page (2012-02-06 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1] diary insert or DPP to all Philofaxers!

So the Day per Page, they are standard in most sizes, there are a few variations, some have appointment times, there are some slight variations, Some have reduced space for Saturdays and Sundays. Some available in cotton cream. Single language, multi language, non-English. So quite a variety in just this one format.

So if you are a DPP person.... how do you use it? Tell us about your use of this format, include links to a Flickr photo if that helps. Include as much or as little detail as you like. Which version of the DPP do you use... etc etc.

1. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-tGFErudQmx8/Ten4HJYPhqI/AAAAAAAAAJRY/hFBd4AaXLvg/s1600/BusinessA5blank1h.jpg>

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Bridget (2012-02-06 00:45:30)

I use a dpp diary, I like it for having enough room to write appointments, notes for meetings, workout details etc. Mine has sat/sun on one page, which works fine. I keep about six months at a time in my binder. I also like that having a bit more room lets me add decorations like washi tape, or add doodles!

fluffyferret (2012-02-06 06:38:01)

After trying alternatives I have used a DPP diary in my pocket Malden for a couple of years now. I like the space it gives me for lists and planning. My DPP also has Sat/Sun on the one page but I would ideally prefer a page for each day.

the Merry Lemon (2012-02-06 08:56:20)

I still haven't really found a good format for me. Partly because my job is all about LOTS of details for a long list of diverse areas, plus my job has been changing (growing), and I have taken on some contract work. In addition, there are some personal items I am determined to conquer this year: paying off my debt, studying French and selling stuff on ebay.

I need to have an entire year in my filofax. And my brain has to see month at a glance. That's my ocd.

Right now I have a personal size filofax, month on two pages as dividers (I have FC, I trimmed the inside edges and repunched to fit. I used to like the daytimers like this - but I have not been able to find the green and white month pages I like.)

In between the dividers I have the week on two pages so that I can make notes for the future. In the current month I use DPP. At the end of each month I make the transition and write out those pages, taking notes from the W2P, and from the month pages.

I would like to move this to an A5, but I have not been able to find the month on 2 page dividers. Any suggestions?

The FF month2P does not work for me. The thin paper does not handle my color coding. And I cannot manage having the boxes also numbered with the numbers from the previous and next month so that every box has a number. Who does that! I can't work with vertical month views at all.

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-02-06 09:28:45)

I have one week of DPP in my personal filofax (just in front of the entire year of WO2P). I like the DPP for a more detailed planning of each day, with the WO2P showing just appointments, birthdays, etc. I allocate tasks/goals to each day from a weekly task list (which itself came from a monthly list, which is derived from my goals to next actions lists).

I like to block off the time I will spend on each task in the day. At the start of the week (usually a Sunday) I go through my week's worth of DPP and block off appointments and tasks.

I use the filofax DPP and wish Sat and Sun had separate days. I sometimes add in an extra sheet of paper to act for one of them.

[My work filofax is an A5 and there is enough space on each day (WO2P diary; vertical column with appointments) to be able to do this time-blocking for the 3 days I'm in.]

Butanben (2012-02-06 10:50:58)

I am using a dpp diary for the first time and I seem to get more done with my to dos in front of me. I have made a modified version of it with my teaching lessons.....instead of the hours of the day..... for when I get back to work. Then the dpp originals will be used again for holiday times. They are being used in full for now along with a month on 2 pages, printed from DIY planner. Didn't take me long to do either.

J (2012-02-06 11:15:32)

I've been using a DPP for quite a while now, and just switched over this year to the FC DPP. I love how they provide me with designated space for timed appointments, to-dos, and ample space for notes. Because I color code, I keep all of my work and personal info on the same pages. There is even a perfect little space at the top for my weather doodles!

Here is what one of my January pages looked like (and yes, I had to schedule time to be lazy!)

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/46427476@N05/6661519607/in/photostream>

katka (2012-02-06 15:09:49)

I use DPP as well. I combine work and private stuff in one filofax, so page per day is just big enough to cover whole day. I use color coding for different activities. The only problem I have, is that I get lost within the weeks.

Patricia (2012-02-06 17:25:39)

@ Amanda, I like your idea. I use a similar system, but with 2 filofaxes, a pocket (with wo2p) for appointments etc. and an A5 (with wo2p) for the space to plan my week in more detail. The A5 sits on my kitchen bench. With your system I could take all that info with me!

Vijay Venugopalan (2012-02-07 02:38:48)

@themerrylemon can you please show the month on 2 pages layout that you have in a photo? I could probably make an A5 version for you to print...

Miss Havisham (2012-02-07 08:20:56)

This year I have DPP again but between each work day I have added a to-do-list.

Expands space to record what's happening and what I've done during specially busy days.

Helps me verbally bring my team/boss up to date with what's been happening in team setting. Past year, my memory has been pretty poor. So this is good solution and helping me get back on track

Shanananana (2012-02-07 16:20:25)

One of my former clients (also a friend) uses A5 DPP she designs herself, I can't reach her today to get permission to post it but she uses a JPG made in Photoshop she resizes in Word.

So far so blah, but, she told me she formulated the separate fields (eg expenditure, to call, Don't Forget for upcoming things she's preparing for, and even a Thought For The Day) by writing down for a week the things she:

1. was apt to lose sight of without a reminder - this included stuff like days to buy fresh veg for the week's planned meals (you guys do that, right? ;)
2. things that when she did have them in view, eg a silly cheery motto or something motivational, made her day go better!

She also has a separate page design for weekends, that includes exercise logs, stuff she can't do everyday...

I feel a bit rubbish posting this without being able to "show and tell" but I know she shared the design & theory with a few people, so I'll go that far and hope the idea of noticing ahead what fields you like is of interest to someone, and when she gets back to me I'll see if I can blag a JPG as well!

The Patchwork Rabbit (2012-02-22 08:36:44)

I'm experimenting with D2P with a W2P for an overview of the week. It's working really well, as I have to get a lot done.

I need a whole page for Saturdays and Sundays as those are my busiest days.

## **Free For All Tuesday No 53 (2012-02-07 00:00) - Steve Morton**

Tuesday the day for Filofax questions and answers... Go on..... I know you have been stood at the back whilst everyone has been in the spotlights... time to step forward and ask your question.

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Diane Perin Hock (2012-02-07 02:08:52)

Does anyone here have the cherry Finsbury Zip? I am thinking about purchasing one but I'm wondering if the red is a bright true red, or more the dark burgundy red ( as with the finchley). I would hate to order it and then have it be the burgundy tone I don't want. I've been misled before by what looked bright red in a photo being a lot darker in person. So any advice would be appreciated! Thanks,

Diane

Nikki france (2012-02-07 02:19:07)

Loving my Hampstead A5, and cannot move to a personal, I find the pages too narrow, but does anyone have suggestions for a more lightweight binder in A5 ??

Laurie (2012-02-07 03:33:35)

Nikki the A5 Domino binder is very lightweight, but the rings are large so it may or may not be what you have in mind!

Laurie (2012-02-07 03:37:33)

Speaking of Domino binders, I had a thought: I wonder how cost prohibitive it would be for Filofax to do custom screen-printed Dominos?? You could upload your own image, they print it onto the binder! Would be amazing to have custom-printed Filofaxes, but I have no idea what that would involve.

Laurie (2012-02-07 03:37:34)

Speaking of Domino binders, I had a thought: I wonder how cost prohibitive it would be for Filofax to do custom screen-printed Dominos?? You could upload your own image, they print it onto the binder! Would be amazing to have custom-printed Filofaxes, but I have no idea what that would involve.

Tim (2012-02-07 03:51:55)

@Nikki - as a left-hander, I've never been comfortable with Filofax personal pages. Working my writing hand around the binder mechanism leaves little paper on which to write! I always end up back with A5 and the extra writing space, but find A5 binders too bulky.

As you'll see from recent posts, 20mm ringed A5's are coming later this year. These should be slightly smaller. Not sure about the Hampstead but an A5 Cuban is 235mm tall x 210mm wide, whereas the Adelphi (the only UK 20mm ringed binder of recent times) is only 185mm wide. 25mm difference may not seem a lot but with less pages inside making for lighter weight, it will be very noticeable.

The only way I know of of getting any smaller/ lighter is to fit a small binder ring inside a Flex cover. I've done this with great success using an old 13mm Time Manager mechanism. The binder will hold around 100 sheets of essential pages and brings the dimensions down to 223mm x 170mm (x 23mm thick) and weighs (fully loaded) barely 400g. As you'll know, a fully laden A5 can easily top 1Kg. I have to be very disciplined on what I carry around, so it won't work for many Filofax fans who like to fill theirs with lots of stuff!

PrincessK (2012-02-07 05:32:08)

Hi,  
Just wondering if anyone can help? In an effort to organise my filofax i'm thinking of changing to a slimline, in hopes that it might stop me from carrying around so much rubbish and just carry whats essential. My options are a bit limited, as I cant afford a brand new organiser, so i'm watching 2 on ebay (a cuban and adelphi). I've checked the ring size guide on here and I know the cuban has smaller rings but I think I read somewhere on here (or I might just be making it up lol) that the Adelphi binder is bulky and sort of defeats the object of having a slimline.

At the most I would want to put in a week on one page with notes, a few normal dividers, month on two pages and about 30 sheets of paper. Does anyone who has or has used a slimline know if that would even fit in or am i just wasting my time?

Thanks xx

PrincessK (2012-02-07 05:34:37)

Just wanted to say a big thank you to Steve as well for helping me out with some printed shopping lists.

It so nice how kind and helpful people are on this blog

Thanks again Steve x

Scoot (2012-02-07 06:23:56)

PrincessK, yes those inserts would fit in a slimline and still leave space for cards and notes.

PrincessK (2012-02-07 06:25:18)

Thanks Scoot x

Alison Reeves (2012-02-07 06:26:15)

Has anyone set up a slimming world binder? I'm thinking of doing one with a food diary, list of favourite syns etc. Just wondered if anyone has any tips?

Alison Reeves (2012-02-07 06:29:50)

@PrincessK - I have both the A5 and the personal slimline Adelphi. The personal slimline is much slimmer than the usual personal one, but has a large pocket on the front, which if course be useful for receipts, tickets and so on.

The A5 also has a large pocket - I don't think the A5 is that much slimmer/lighter than other A5s because of this pocket - what were filofax thinking when they added that? Nice binders though. I'd love to see a TRUE slimline A5.

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-02-07 08:26:21)

I have a ring size question, what is the current binder(or binders) with the largest ring size in personal and in A5? And also does anyone know what was the binder(s) with largest ring size filofax had in the past in a5 and personal?

Tracy

Shanananana (2012-02-07 08:26:52)

I'm wondering, has there ever been a Filofax with a wrist-strap, so it can be carried as a wallet without fear of it getting knocked out your hand? I can't remember if I saw such a thing in the '80s, when I wasn't really interested in the topic...

Saffy (2012-02-07 08:47:07)

@Princess K - I am a huge fan of the slimlines. I would go for the larger ring size though. I don't have a Cuban but do have the Adelphi, Classic and Amazona. I weighed the empty binders and the results are interesting, of course I presume my scales to be accurate?

Adelphi = 150g

Amazona = 124g

Classic = 163g

To look at them you would think the Adelphi with its front pocket would weigh the most and the classic the least. I did not find the pocket on the front of the Adelphi to be a problem, if anything it helped keep the binder closed. With what you want to keep in the binder probably all will fit but you may have to only carry around 4 months of the weekly at one time.

If you live near a Homesense they had heaps of Filofaxes on sale and quite a few slimlines.

Hope this helps.

Nikki france (2012-02-07 09:53:49)

Hi Laurie, thanks for the suggestion of the domino, I am sure it would be so practical for me to throw in my bag and have with me, but I am so sold on leather!! I love the feel of high quality leather. I have been so spoiled by my pocket waverley, that is such gorgeous leather, but now my life is way too busy to use a pocket :(

Tim, thanks for such an informative post! You are plainly on the same wavelength as me! I have not handed the flex, but Steve did say it has a quality feel to the binder itself, however, I think the slimline A5 maybe just the thing I am looking for.

I like you am left handed, and I hate the way my writing turns into a complete scrawl on the left side page in a personal binder. I do need the A5 size paper I think! I shall wait till later in this year for a high quality leather A5 in slimline I think :) Thank you so much for your insights

kind regards, Nikki

Tim (2012-02-07 10:03:58)

@Tracy - Steve must be busy today, as he would have replied to your question straight away! There is a pdf document under links or [www.philofaxy.com/files/Filofax.pdf](http://www.philofaxy.com/files/Filofax.pdf) that lists all the current (or at least recent) models and their sizes. I don't think there's now anything bigger than 30mm in either Personal (Cuban Zip) or A5 (various binders). Certainly the A5 Finsbury Zip was 35mm. The smallest A5 I believe was the Executive at 19mm. Not sure if there was ever a binder sold as Personal smaller than 23mm. Others will know for sure!

Tim (2012-02-07 10:24:50)

@Nikki - despite what Steve said about Flex quality (he could hardly be rude about a free sample!) you WILL be disappointed by the Flex cover. I'm looking at mine now, sat next to a Holborn. The Flex is plastic and looks like it! Wait for the slim leather A5, or leather Flex cover would be my top tip.

Jotje (2012-02-07 10:31:42)

@Diane: the Finsbury red is as red as red can get! True Firemen's red, nothing like the more burgundy Finchley!

@Nikki: I have the A5 Adelphi, it's definitely smaller than e.g. the Finchley or Finsbury, much thinner and also lighter. Still, I hope they will present an A5 with 20mm rings, without useless pockets like the Adelphi has. All my hopes are up for the purple A5 Luxe or Pennybridge ...

Steve Morton (2012-02-07 10:54:28)

Hi Everyone. Yes I'm about but been busy today..

Here's one of the prototype diary inserts I've been working on with Ray:

<http://www.philofaxy.com/weekview.jpg>

Tasks can be associated with the days or just as a list.  
I'm testing this layout for the next few weeks, so it's not finalised yet.  
Steve

Steve Morton (2012-02-07 11:03:19)

@Nikki, there are some Compact A5's due out this year with smaller rings:

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/02/a5-compacts.html>

@Tracy, the largest rings are 30mm these days in A5, and also Personal Zip got 30mm. In previous years I've seen larger than that. I think as big as 38 mm in one case, or may be 33 mm

Shanananana (2012-02-07 11:06:48)

@Steve, I like the page, I usually note any scheduled events that are likely to slip my mind - giving blood, 30-day auction ending on e-Bay, stuff like that - at the bottom right of the week-to-view A5 I use at home, so I wonder if 2 lines at the bottom of the "Tasks" column dedicated to "Next Week" or "Coming Up" would be useful to anyone else?

Possibly not :o) but it helps me to have a shout-back from anything forgettable from the coming week, especially if it's on a Monday or Tuesday.

Nikki france (2012-02-07 11:45:55)

thanks for the help Tim, Steve and Jotje :)

I am gonna hold out for the A5 compact, or maybe look at a flex if they come out with a leather one.

I am so close to getting a chap near me to MAKE me a custom binder. Then I could choose my skin/colour design etc. but I am thinking it would probably come to around 200 euro or thereabouts, but it would be A M A Z I N G lol

He has made me a handbag before, and a couple of smaller items.

PrincessK (2012-02-07 12:44:48)

@ Alison

Thanks for the info, I dont know maybe the fact that im unsure of the Adelphi probably means I shouldnt bid on it lol. Im unsure of the cuban as well because of the smaller rings.

@ Saffy

Thanks for all the info. I have the red amazona in the personal size and love it. I would love the slimline version it would be my ideal! I've found it on sale on the Denmark site but at £39.00 its still abit too much for me at the minute. I've got a mini Amazona in Almond and im thinking of selling it on Ebay and just going for the slimline Amazona becuae I never use the mini.

I dont know decisions lol x

Shanananana (2012-02-07 14:10:26)

Might be a bit late in the day to get an answer... but does anyone else here use the old Pak Filofax?

From that weird era just around the millenium, when even watches and Filos had bumpers and roll-bars? :)

Just curious... I gave mine away, and bitterly regret it to this very day!

crofter (2012-02-07 14:28:28)

@Sari. Would you be so good as to tell me how your pocket Glenroyal is working out for you. I have about decided to order one and a briefcase from them, and I am interested in your feedback in advance. Many thanks in advance.

Nikki france (2012-02-07 16:27:38)

BTW Steve, I really ike the week to view pages diary you are working on right now :)

Steve Morton (2012-02-07 17:16:10)

@Shanananana Thanks for your feed back I've added in 'Coming Up' at the bottom of the page.

Same link

<http://www.philofaxy.com/weekview.jpg>

Steve

lulu (2012-02-07 17:18:47)

I am an international student in UK and I bought a filofax personal last month. I am sorry if my question is not clear. After reading philofaxy, I have got a lot of wise use of filofax. But everytime I saw that some user have many colorful inserts and refills and I really want buy some. So my question is what's the exact brand and size of the inserts from other brand could suit persoanl size, such as Dodo, I always saw this name but I don't know the whole name of this product. Thanx a lot if anyone could answer my question.

Filocrazed (2012-02-07 17:58:27)

@Steve. I'm very interested in the planning pages that are being developed. Can you tell me what the current size for these is...A5? I'm guessing it would be hard to have this in a personal layout...which would be simply lovely!

Tim (2012-02-07 18:58:39)

@Steve - Love the WO2P format you've been working on. As a keen Time Management user over many years, I would say it is already even BETTER than the proprietary version! It will look great on cotton cream paper! Well done!

I think the layout and balance is good. I like the "Notes/Reminders", the generic "Communications" (rather than "Phone, Write, Fax, E-mail" and the "Coming Up" as suggested.

My only tiny niggle is the lack of a purpose to the week. The Notes/ Reminders isn't quite enough! On Filofax Time Management this is at the top of the page and called "Main Goals". It gives an opportunity to write THE one thing you really want to achieve or must be your top priority this week. The Flex WO2P has the same thing but calls it "this week". This is a more subtle, less driven way, of achieving the same thing. It should (in my view) be there as a distinct reminder of the most important thing about this week. eg: "Write-up project notes", "School Arts Week", "Submit Tax Return", etc.

If your monthly calendar could just show the current month (rather than showing two months - only really needed when a week crosses into two months) this would free-up space for "this week" at the top of the other page.

Hope this is helpful. Tim

Laurie (2012-02-07 19:43:11)

Steve absolutely brilliant weekly format, that is excellent. I love the organization of it!

Nikki I haven't seen an A5 Aston in person, but I can tell you my Personal Aston is the lightest of my leather personal size binders. If you have any way of seeing one in person I highly recommend checking out the Aston.

Lulu the Dodo insert you mentioned is from [www.dodopad.com](http://www.dodopad.com). I reviewed one awhile back, you can see photos of what it looks like in this post:

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/05/dodo-acad-pad-personal-size-filofax.html>

There are also other brands of diary inserts that fit the Personal size Filofax, Steve did a post on them here:

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/09/diary-inserts-for-2012-part-1-of-many.html>

Filofreak (2012-02-07 20:07:43)

Shanananana

What is the old pak Filofax? Never heard of it.

Butanben (2012-02-07 20:34:02)

Hi Steve.... like the coming up bit in this planner. Seems a great layout, as it looks flexible. Is Jan, Feb etc going in the day columns under the days?? Just to avoid confusion when one flips into the diary at speed. Must say, I like this kind of format. Must take yourself and Ray ages. Am full of admiration for all you CAD boffins out there.

Butanben (2012-02-07 20:47:59)

Like the idea of lines for goals, as Tim says, but also maybe a few lines at the top for writing in Birthdays/Anniversaries/RemembranceDays in the week?? My current DPP has Today, instead of goals, and that's where I write any birthdays or anniversaries. Handy at the top, as you see that first, so can't miss it. Am just so darned forgetful otherwise, so a handy feature.

Butanben (2012-02-07 20:51:32)

PS Agree wholeheartedly with Tim. This is already BETTER BY FAR than the shop bought versions. xxxx

Butanben (2012-02-07 20:55:55)

PPS- Would prefer a WO2P, as you've made, to a DPP which I now have, but don't really like Filofax's current format. Would much prefer your new Time Management design prototype.

Eternally Mine (2012-02-07 22:17:33)

I'd love to know what pens you all use in your pocket sized filofax.

I have just bought a pocket Malden (yay), and while I'm waiting for the package to arrive I'm considering buying a nice new pen to celebrate but I've heard the Malden pen loop is a little stiff? Any ideas?

Shanananana (2012-02-07 22:19:38)

@Filofreak - search "Filofax Pak" - you'll see a nylon beaut with extra bumpers (well, bits where the zip wrapped round anyway!) which was released about 2001, or thereabouts - it's a silly Filofax back from a fun era!

Diane Perin Hock (2012-02-08 01:47:20)

@Jotje Thanks for the info on the color of the red Finsbury! You gave me the last nudge I needed to go for it!

Nikki france (2012-02-08 02:22:25)

@ Laurie

ha ha, it is funny that I have always admired the Aston, and I think it would be my kind of binder :) I will see if there is a way to "meet" the A5 version in the flesh :) Thanks for the insight :) Nikki

Steve Morton (2012-02-08 06:43:26)

Hi Everyone

Version 3 or is it Version 4 of the Week View template is now for previewing here:

<http://www.philofaxy.com/weekview.jpg>

I've added in the Main Goals/This Week at the top.

The two calendars vary during the month so at the end of one month and the start of the next month say Jan/Feb you will see Jan on the left and Feb on the right. Then in say the first full week of Feb you will see Feb on the left with March on the right. And again at the End of the month you will still see the same Feb then March. Once in to March it then becomes March/April.

It will make more sense when you see it. But it's Ray's clever formatting that sorted that out!

I'm testing four weeks worth of this myself at the moment.

Regards

Steve

Heather from Heather Holistics (2012-02-08 07:35:28)

Gentlemen, it looks fantastic. Well done both

Butanben (2012-02-08 08:56:06)

This looks great Steve!!! You could almost fit another line in the this week, or make them narrower. I notice the original has 4 lines in the same space. What do you think??? Great idea to make it this week..... as it covers goals, birthdays or anything. The more flexible the better. xxxx

Filofreak (2012-02-08 14:38:44)

@Shanananana

Cool, I'll check it out. Thanks!

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-02-08 14:47:05)

that looks really great Steve and Ray... well done!!

Tim (2012-02-08 15:31:23)

@Steve - looking really good! Thank you for listening to the various suggestions. Being able to include "this week" and TWO calendars is even better!

terriknits (2012-02-08 18:47:24)

I have an A5 paper question. I ordered a ream of A4 and A5 paper from Empire Imports. The prices were very reasonable but because they shipped it UPS, I had to pay almost \$20 for a brokerage fee to UPS. Does anyone know of another source in North America for A5 paper?

cgarsnrealest8 (2012-02-08 19:00:03)

@terriknits. You can get A4 paper (cut in half to make A5) from Staples On Line. Takes less than a week to come in.

terriknits (2012-02-08 23:49:33)

@cgarsnrealest8 - thanks for the tip, but unfortunately Staples.com won't ship to Canada, and Staples.ca doesn't carry A4 at all. :-)

Nikki france (2012-02-09 03:06:40)

thank you Steve and Ray for creating such a perfect WTV template

We all know how much time and work this involves :)

Jotje (2012-02-09 05:49:27)

@Steve and @Ray: I love you guys!!! I have been looking everywhere for this layout (it looks like the weekly Timesystem pages, but those are not available in Europe — ANYWHERE).

Steve, can I join you in testing this layout ... ? ;- ) I'm totally impatient!!

Steve Morton (2012-02-09 17:21:51)

OK just fine tuned the design for the Main Goals lines, so there are four spaces with three lines the bottom line being the top of the calendar bit effectively.

<http://philofaxy.com/weekview.jpg>

Going to try my hand at designing a Personal Week on Two Pages and Day per Page design.. not sure how successful it will be yet. I will share them with you soon.

## **Restoring my Buckingham? (2012-02-08 00:00) - Laurie**

[1]My Buckingham is my first real Filofax, bought in 2001. It has black, soft smooth leather that I previously thought was indestructible. [2]My Buckingham has done a lot of really hard traveling around the world with me. It was used heavily for nearly a decade.

A couple of years ago I noticed my Buckingham was finally [3]starting to show some signs of wear on the cover. Nothing that anyone else would even notice, really, just a couple of places where the leather was lightly scuffed. So to preserve its beauty, I put it on the shelf in semi-retirement.

Ironically, it has suffered far worse damage in retirement than it ever did in all those years of heavy use. Its first major damage happened in transit here to Jakarta. I packed it in my air shipment, which was supposed to arrive a week after we moved but ended up sitting in customs for a month. In the tropical

Indonesian heat. And I had very stupidly packed my Buckingham right next to a plastic-covered planner. The plastic melted slightly onto the leather cover of my Buckingham, leaving much of it shiny. I was very upset about it, and angry at myself for making such a mistake.

So I put it on my shelf with my other Filofaxes, carefully (I thought). Unfortunately I didn't pay attention to the fact that the back cover was right up against a Domino, and every time I put a book in or out of that shelf the shifting of my Buckingham against the Domino's round strap dug and scuffed the leather right across the back of the binder, much to my heartbreak.

Then to add insult to injury, the front cover of the Buckingham was up against one of my Finsbury Filofaxes. Who knew that the knobbly texture of the Finsbury would imprint itself into the soft leather of the Buckingham??

So first of all I've learned my lesson: this beloved Filofax must be stored in a box, no exception.

Another problem caused by shelving my Buckingham is that during the years it has not been handled on a daily basis the leather has started to look cracky along either side of the spine where the leather creases when the binder is open. All those years of handling my Filofax every day kept it smooth and supple with the oils from my hands. Now it's really starting to show signs of neglect.

Now I'm faced with the question of what to do to try to restore my beloved Buckingham to some of its former glory. My first solution was of course to take it off the damn shelf and put in on my desk along with all my other in-current-use books, and to handle it as often as possible. Already it's looking better—the Finsbury impressions are coming out, and the cracky areas are smoothing. The shiny plastic residue has mostly rubbed off.

But I still have the horrible scuffs on the back cover. Luckily it is the back, and the front is not nearly as marred. But I would like to try to smooth that out.

I haven't tried the Nivea creme trick, because I'm afraid the mineral oil base would remove some of the leather's dye color. I think probably the best thing to do would be to handle it as much as possible, and the scuffs will smooth out at least a little bit over time.

Which brought me to the realization: Filofaxes, especially the well-made leather ones, are like living things. They must be handled and cared for. They need attention and love. Left on the shelf to languish, they wither and die.

So please, learn from my mistakes! And if anyone has any ideas for getting scuffs out of soft, smooth leather please let me know!

1. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/plannerisms/3783583703/in/set-72157623430927643>

2. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/plannerisms/3783648859/in/set-72157623430927643/>

3. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/plannerisms/3784531610/in/set-72157623430927643/>

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Lime Tree (2012-02-08 01:37:06)

I am so sorry about your Buckingham. That process sounded very painful. Your FF is dying to get back to action! Literally

Nikki france (2012-02-08 02:33:40)

oh this is a sad story of your Buckingham :(

I would try a neutral cream leather restorer to put some moisture back into the leather.

I have a couple of small dents in my Hampstead, and I often "massage" them to try to clear them, and it seems to be working a little.

I always remember many years ago me and my partner at the time bought a very expensive soft leather sofa. The sales guy told us the best thing for soft leather was to wipe a bit of sweat into it!! hmmm, not tried that lol

Another alternative is saddle soap. This used to make our new saddles and bridles for the horses much more supple and "fed".

Like you say, regular use is the best thing for any leather.

Good luck, or in France we say "Bonne courage"

Nikki x

bernhardS (2012-02-08 03:34:42)

Hi there!

A real Filofax should look used and cracky and some sort of personal. But for a universal cure, I recommend "Ballistol" which is an oil especially developed for cleaning weapons, but it can be used for other materials as well. Ballistol is great for the ring mechanisms to make them work easier. If you rub it into the leather your Filo will get a second life.

Maybe Ballistol is available in Germany only where I live but you could ask a gunsmith for similar universal oils. best,  
Bernhard

Scoot (2012-02-08 06:37:16)

For once a decent Martha Stewart video...

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UqlJ28cSswE> &feature=related

After looking at some other videos and searching online, I was surprised at the number of restoration products.

ayra k (2012-02-08 07:48:04)

Wow thanks for the post. I know leather lasts longer when constantly handled, but I didn't think that my Filofax would need the same attention.

Definitely not going to shelve it now!

Laurie (2012-02-08 07:52:38)

Thank you for your suggestions everyone!!!

## Guest Post - Writing Filofax - Amanda (2012-02-09 00:00) - Steve Morton

*Thank you to Amanda for submitting this Guest Post about her Writing Filofax....*

I am a (sadly, as yet unpublished) writer, as well as a university tutor. I have written three novels and am currently on my fourth. In the past, I have tried all sorts of methods for planning these – large Moleskine books, ring-binders, index cards... For book #4 I am using an A5 filofax because:

- I liked the size and space of the Moleskine, but didn't like having to flick through it all to find the notes I had scribbled – I wanted the ability to file things.
- So, why wasn't the ring-binder the best choice? Do I really need to answer that? A cheap ring-binder or a Filofax? Is there a contest?
- I wanted more portability than A4 so I went for A5 but I also wanted space, so I went for a Domino because of the 30mm ring size, and also the stiffness of the cover (for writing out and about).
- At the time, WH Smiths were selling the ultraviolet A5 for half price. It seemed fate.

[1] [picture+1.jpg]

The A5 ultraviolet writing Domino

Decision made, I now needed to set it up. I knew what sections I needed and I already had a load of templates that I have used in an A4 ring-binder before. I settled down with my printer and the (hateful) filofax hole-punch and got started.

[2] [picture+2.jpg]  
The Filofax opened up

The first section, unsurprisingly perhaps, is one on **The Plot**. I have a mind-map to look at all the different threads and how they interact and that's right at the front of this section. This was done on a piece of A4, folded in half, with the right-hand edge trimmed and the left side punched so it goes in the Filofax folded, without sticking out. Behind it sit lots of pages of notes – sometimes thoughts as they come to me and some of them a bit more structured. As it is a murder, there are quite a lot of pages about the forensics! Most of these are written on home-made lined paper so I can write in fountain pen and not get irked

[3] [picture+3.jpg]  
The plot section showing the mind-map opened out

The second section is **The Timeline**. This has a page with a table detailing 'fact uncovered; how/by whom; when' and then a day per page calendar (printed using the DIY template software) so that I can write down what is happening each day, on the days leading up to the murder(s), the murder(s) themselves and the investigations (and so avoid having people finding out things before they've occurred or other such errors). There's a home-made 'today' marker in there which is nothing more extravagant than an off-cut of thick card punched so that it sticks up a bit above the pages. At the back of this section, there is also a week on one page to summarise things.

[4] [picture+4.jpg]  
The home-made day to page sheets and 'today' marker

The third section is **Scenes**. In here I file any jottings about any scenes (either written or to be written) plus I plan the next few scenes using a scene-builder template which I adapted from some on the DIY templates site. The front page of the scene-builder sheet covers: a one-line summary of the scene, who is involved, where the scene comes in the book, what happens in it, notes about whose point of view it is, what the character's objective is, what obstacles to them achieving their objective there are and the outcome of the scene. There's also space to note down dialogue, or things that must get mentioned, etc. The reverse of the sheet is lined for notes. The beauty of using a filofax is that I have planned some scenes then changed my mind about the order and been able to re-file them/look at the order of the scenes and work out what's best, something which was cramped on index cards and impossible in the Moleskine.

[5] [picture+5.jpg]  
Home-made scene builder sheets

The fourth section is for **Notes**. I jot down things to look up or check, and things that have occurred to me about scenes or the plot or a character or whatever. Again, the joy is that these notes can be re-filed into other sections when necessary.

The fifth section is for **Paper**. This is in the middle of the filofax to make scribbling things down easier (so the rings are less in the way). From here, notes get moved to the relevant sections.

The sixth section is for **Character Notes**. Again, I have my own templates for these and I write detailed notes about each main character (running to many pages) both to keep the character consistent (so they don't have a nut allergy on page 16 and be munching away on some peanuts in a bar on page 172) and, when I am writing them, to help me to develop the character. There's space to include the layout of their homes, pictures of their favourite outfits, details of their schools, parents, siblings, food likes – you name it, I probably have it in there!

Right at the back there is a plastic top-opening pocket to store bits and pieces in and in the notebook in the back slot, a log of how many words I've written at each sitting.

You'll have seen from the pictures that all the dividers are home-made and have top-tabs instead of side ones. Because the filofax is A5, it seemed wasteful to make dividers with a side tab as it's only possible to get one out of a sheet of card. I wanted to use this gorgeous dark purple card and none of the stick-on side tabs you can buy (Avery; Post-It etc) matched well enough, so I had the idea of making the tabs at the top. Then I could punch the card so that the top 5mm was sticking out above the paper-line and then trim the divider to make a tab. Yes, the divider is now 5mm short at the bottom, but hey, it works for me. I used a silver ball-point pen to write the labels.

[6] [picture+6.jpg]  
The top tabs

So far, it's working out really well. The size of the page is big enough to get stuck into but the whole filofax is still pretty portable and the ability to move things around is a huge bonus for me.

Anyway, I hope you've enjoyed a nosey into my writing filofax!

Amanda

*Thank you Amanda and good luck with finding a publisher my wife knows exactly what you are going through....*

1. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-tUizAgM8NsU/TyCHRRch0wI/AAAAAAAAAKOM/Cf9PP0c-bDM/s1600/picture+1.jpg>
2. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-voHvGznSigI/TyCHRzcKTBI/AAAAAAAAAKOU/1TOXy6aLoKE/s1600/picture+2.jpg>
3. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-RT1DR0b5ybQ/TyCHSbK1KqI/AAAAAAAAAKOY/Cf6airr1xMg/s1600/picture+3.jpg>
4. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-6Ve2w380MRo/TyCHTt6dsI/AAAAAAAAAKOk/rdXCRhQXcNw/s1600/picture+4.jpg>
5. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-qhvu-v8k2gk/TyCHTxJsSbI/AAAAAAAAAKOo/DFFYaa0h25c/s1600/picture+5.jpg>
6. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-QAFi0JGkDt4/TyCHU1T3NKI/AAAAAAAAAKO0/hYTLvCkgT-I/s1600/picture+6.jpg>

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indigogarden (2012-02-09 00:32:41)

Excellent post. I bought my new filofax binder to be a writer's journal as well. I have mind organized differently than you, but it is great to see other writer's concepts of the same idea. Thanks for sharing. :)

Tina Lemon (2012-02-09 06:10:26)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Tina Lemon (2012-02-09 06:11:56)

Great post! I've been using a Personal-sized Filofax for general use. It helps me keep afloat in the sea of tasks I have to do during my day job, as well as social activities, holidays, etc. Basically, I use it for time-keeping, info, notes, and so forth. Some would say it's my brain. I've got several binders I use for this: a Ruby Deco, Ebony Deco, Mushroom Aston and a Scarlet Adelphi. The Aston has been the most practical of all because it's so soft. It's also not too pretty either, so I can use it anywhere without worrying its looks may fade. The others look more

precious. :-) I change binders the way other women would change bags. The only thing I have to do is transfer the inserts.

In my spare time, however, I'm also a freelance journalist, and writer of YA novels. I have myriads of notebooks to help me with my novel writing, but they get messy very easily, and ripping out pages makes them even worse. So I came to the same conclusion as you. FILOFAX. Just a few minutes ago, my Malden A5 in Vintage Pink got delivered to my door. I then logged onto Philofaxy to find your post. That made me smile. So I'm not the only writer doing this!

Equipped with my time-keeping Filofaxes and my new Malden A5, I hope I'm going to meet my novel writing deadlines (eek!).

teddy edwards (2012-02-09 07:31:09)

Brilliant post, really liked hearing how you have set your filo out. I have been wondering about buying a Domino for a while, but I think what is putting me off is the elastic closure (I think the cream colour looks a bit cheap). I do like peeking into other peoples Filo's because you can be inspired in so many ways. Co-ordinating the dividers with the cover colour really ties the whole thing together.

Butanben (2012-02-09 09:05:15)

Fabulous!!! Thank you Amanda, you are an inspiration. xx

Ray Blake (2012-02-09 12:31:33)

That's inspiring. I have all the planning plus the first 6,000 words and some later passages of a novel all in a single Word file. If I could get the kind of structure to my planning that you have I might be able to make faster progress with it.

John (2012-02-09 12:39:51)

I've been waiting for a post like this for a long time, kicking myself for not writing one, in fact. Creative organization is, for me, the most difficult kind. I'm in the same boat as Amanda, a lifelong writer who hasn't YET published. The flexibility to shift pages around gives a ring binder not just a classic but also very contemporary appeal: you can treat handwritten documents like you treat files and folders on a computer.

The A5 Domino hits a particular sweet spot, as it's a premium product yet lacks pretense toward luxury. I have one in black myself, holding a WOTP calendar; a "manuscript" section containing the beginning of a novel; a "projects" section for short stories; and a daily journal section where I write to begin and end each day.

Most importantly, the Domino securely holds ANY pen I choose with the completely elastic loops. The cover and interior can take a serious beating, and the elastic (shame it doesn't seem replaceable) shows no signs of slackening. Amanda, thanks for showing us not just the category but the innards as well. One of my longer term projects is to work on some serial fiction - right now enjoying writing shorter pieces that put less of a premium on plotting and long-perspective. I wish the entirety of my novel appeared to me with the clarity of yours. The pages you use to plot & outline are a very helpful guide, and some I might try for myself.

Saffy (2012-02-09 13:00:35)

Wonderful post, thank you for sharing the inside of your Filofax.

I love to see the alternative ways people use their Filofaxes instead of just a diary/notes book.

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-02-09 14:07:57)

@everyone

Thank you! It's really heart-warming to hear all your support.

:-)

Alison Morton (2012-02-09 14:59:31)

Very clever use of your Filofax and good detail about the methodical way you have organised your information.

I use a grid to keep my timeline straight; it's particularly useful for seasons, for example, to ensure a character doesn't have snow on his overcoat in high summer.

Many people do not appreciate how complex the business of writing a novel really is.

Good luck with securing a publishing deal.

Alison

The Hand of Philofaxy

Susanne Namdar (2012-02-10 20:10:47)

Thank you for sharing your FF set-up. It is so interesting to see how you have created the different sections. I also have a Domino which I like exactly because of the elastic band. I can stuff it as much as I need to.

Laurie (2012-02-13 01:33:49)

This is amazing, thanks so much for sharing your setup with us!

## **Free for All Friday No. 169 (2012-02-10 00:01) - Nan**

I've been thinking about the A-Z pages lately. Before I had a PDA or cellphone, I made much more extensive use of them. And I used them for much more than names and addresses. For example, I'd keep a running list of Filofax inserts that I needed to buy and keep it behind "F." I'd keep Christmas lists behind "C." And in my work Filo, I'd keep info on using, say, the company database behind "D." Now I've trimmed that information way down in order to carry more DPPs.

Has anyone eliminated contact information from their paper planner completely?

Since it's Friday, all other topics are welcome, too!

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terriknits (2012-02-10 00:06:11)

I don't carry my contacts in my Filo. They're on my phone and backed up on Google-whatever (gmail?) Actually, now that I think about it, I'd better check that out. I switched from a BlackBerry to an Android and while they moved the contacts over, I haven't checked to make sure it's all still syncing up.

I use the A-Z tabs in my work Filo to track files. Each file has a page labelled by the client name and filed in the appropriate A-Z section by surname.

Anke (2012-02-10 00:34:38)

I don't keep my contacts in my filio. First because I have them on my iPhone already and second because I use my filio as a work-filio as well and I don't think my friends would appreciate 13-year-olds calling them in the middle of the night should I ever lose my filio in school.

I do carry a page or two of those address sheets in my filio, just in case I want to write down a new address quickly.

I guess I'm just schizophrenic about that.

(PS: Have a look at my new blog, please? \*smiles\*)

Josh (2012-02-10 00:41:36)

I am perhaps a bit paranoid, but I maintain all my personal contact numbers and addresses in my filofax, along with critical work contacts. The work contacts and most essential personal contacts are also transcribed into my work rolodex, and my personal contacts and a few really important work contacts are copied into my home rolodex. And everyone is also stored in my blackberry and synced with my email server. really absurd, but I maintain all this because I can't rely on myself to always have my blackberry on me, and I find it really convenient having this info in my filofax. I maintain a separate A-Z index for filing notes and project info and tasks/projects, which works brilliantly.

Rabbit (2012-02-10 01:42:25)

When I decided to commit all of my important information to my filio this inevitably included my addresses and phone numbers. I keep most of the same info on my phone as well, but things like Vet details aren't (not sure why....in an emergency the last thing I want to be screaming is..."where's the fridge magnet with the vet's phone number?!" And no...the easy answer is not always the right one ;)

Initially I'd hated the address pages in my filio because of the sheer bulk of all the dividers...then I discovered, in

my new slimline Cuban, that there are address pages with tabs on the side - dramatically reduces space on the rings and makes keeping contact info at hand much less of a physical burden. Also lets me quickly get rid of the clutter of excess business cards.

Eliza (2012-02-10 03:15:07)

I use to keep my contacts in my iPhone (which is quite conveniently for a change of e.g. an adress) and backup them on my pc.

The A-Z tabs are still part of my Filo but in my references section (I'm trying to implement GTD my own way :). I find it quite usefull to write down notes or ideas on a certain topic the way I can easily find them. Sometimes this notes develop to projects and sometimes they are just a shopping list for a certain store. :)

Sorry for my clumsy english, but I'm not a native speaker. My german is better. :)

Eliza

Rex (2012-02-10 03:15:33)

My 'go to' contacts are stored on my Blackberry - its ALWAYS with me, but I do have them on my Personal Filo at home, and there they are mixed up with odd notes stored alphabetically. One day I'll do something like put the notes on coloured paper to make it clearer.

Babs (2012-02-10 03:25:27)

I use my A5 filo as a proper (old fashioned) address book. I don't like having all my addresses on my iPhone. I don't have many, if any, phone numbers in my filo though. Something I really should do for backup purposes!

Interestingly has anyone else spotted the picture of a bulging Filofax on the BBC iPhone news app this morning. It's used to illustrate a breach of - what else - address book data in two iPhone apps. How serendipitous!

Tim (2012-02-10 05:02:45)

I must be known on here as a campaigner for a smaller-ringed A5 Filofax. This is because there's no need these days to carry paper copies of all contacts, phone numbers, vet/plumber/restaurants etc.

But I confess, I that I DO still keep a printed version in each of my organisers. A kind of "belt and braces" approach. But you've got me thinking. With everything on my iPhone and on my laptop (Outlook) and a hard drive back-up, perhaps it's time to discard the full paper versions?

Maybe I should just keep a printed list of key contacts, just in case my phone battery goes flat and my laptop crashes at the same time?

Steve Morton (2012-02-10 05:10:52)

So just to be different... and why not! I have my contacts in my A5 Filofax and my Personal one too... but on my phone I don't have all of my contacts which are about 200 in total. I only keep the ones on my phone that I'm likely to ring on a regular basis.

In fact I have a 'UK' Mobile and a 'France' mobile and they have some common numbers between them but quite a few that are different etc.

Sure it's a lot of work... but it works for me!

Scoot (2012-02-10 05:24:29)

I have my full contacts in Outlook, a largely consistent and reliable format for all these years, which I've printed out on A5 and A4 for a fax.

The slimline presently in use has a name/telephone number index, many are probably out of date.

I once had all contact details/addresses on Filofax contact sheets but apart from having issues with the format and space on the sheets, the real problem was that many contact details changed so frequently that it became hard to find addresses and make sense of it all.

Also, I have to admit, when I've got a really gorgeous new Fax I don't want to "infect" it by introducing bad karma in the way of the names and details of horrible/really negative people....which I admit isn't practical.

Laurie (2012-02-10 05:30:23)

I don't keep any addresses at all in my phone. I move to a different country every year or two and my local phone numbers change every time I move. I only keep those local phone numbers in my phone.

I keep addresses and phone numbers of everyone I know in my A5 Finsbury, which stays home all the time. I keep local contacts, frequently used addresses, and a backup list of phone numbers that are in my phone in my personal size Filofax that goes everywhere with me.

lucyclio (2012-02-10 05:43:15)

I keep all addresses and phone numbers in my personal, but I use the Filofax computer paper for my address book section (and a few other pages too). If I have one to add, I scrawl it down in my terrible handwriting but then when I have a critical mass of changes I update the computer file and print out nice clean legible sheets again.

But my work is such that most work contacts are email, and I don't need to keep track of their numbers or addresses.

This is goofy, but I really want some 3 letter tabs rather than the 2 letter, to make the address section more compact. I saw some on the filofax.dk site and think I'm going to order them, even if it means crazy postage and a few extra danish symbols that I don't use. Plus, they come in nice classy black.

Rori (2012-02-10 07:57:12)

Yeah, this is how Josh said he used his in his video a couple of weeks ago. Don't know why he never gets linked...

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-02-10 09:04:40)

I keep 4 address sheets in my filo, and that's it- family, friends, uni, work. They're not behind address dividers, just in my 'reference' section. To be honest, I don't keep that many addresses anywhere- I live in a very technological world where everyone is accessible through facebook or the university email directory, and I very rarely use the postal service!! Surprisingly I have relatively few numbers in my iphone, and no addresses! But I suppose I should get everyone's addresses just in case, and put them in one of my spare filofaxes behind the alphabet dividers- my mum has an address book, and it feels like something grown-ups have- maybe I should set one up now I'm 22!!

Adirondack Explorer (2012-02-10 09:27:17)

I have over 900 contacts in my phone so there's no way to keep all that in my FF. I used to, though.

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-02-10 09:39:18)

Eek. I've realised that I *only* have my addresses in my filofax. About to make a copy and put them somewhere in the house!

Tim (2012-02-10 10:05:36)

I've just checked my personal contact database. I thought (as there are no business names listed) there might be around 100 or 150 entries. There's actually over 600! That does include local restaurants, hospitals, doctors, vet etc. but, no wonder, printed back to back in tiny font, it still fills 26 pages of each Filofax.

I think in totally analogue days, when address books were completely copied out and updated into a new version at least once a year, we were all much better at culling little used data. It's now too easy to let it fester in a database "just in case".

Filocrazed (2012-02-10 11:01:32)

Am looking for advice...I just received my beautiful black Amazona Personal yesterday. I transferred things into it this morning and I've noticed that the bottom ring is slightly "open". The ring teeth won't sit flush against each other. Is there a way to fix this? I'd rather not return it (and the pages seem to turn without an issue) since I just got it!

Suggestions?

Anita (2012-02-10 11:52:13)

Much like many others, I don't keep any contacts in my filo as they're on my phone or iPod touch. I do like the

idea of using the A-Z inserts in the way Steve mentions though :)

J (2012-02-10 12:14:43)

I keep some contacts in a filo, just not the one I carry everyday. I keep a personal domino at home that has my favorite recipes, and a section for personal contacts. Everyone else is stored in Google which syncs to my phone. I also keep a business card file at work as a backup for most of my work contacts. Seems to be working pretty well..

Scoot (2012-02-10 12:34:13)

Look at the rings "end on", to see which side is out of symmetry and then bend slightly with pliers. Ensure tissue between jaws of pliers so that metal is not marked.

Filocrazed (2012-02-10 12:57:24)

@Scoot - Thank you for the solution. I'll try that tonight!

Claire Joanne Huxham (2012-02-10 14:09:11)

I just keep the main numbers I might need in my FF, but on the slimline A-Z (in a Personal). Then I have 1 address sheet to note down a few addresses I might need. All the rest live on my phone/a separate A5 at home.

Izzie (2012-02-10 14:11:53)

Does anyone know if the Time Management Diary A5 is discontinued? I want it so badly but it's sold out for a while now... :(

terriknits (2012-02-10 14:16:51)

@ rori, @ Josh - I was thinking of Josh's video of his A-Z tab system when I read this post! It's awesome!

John (2012-02-10 15:28:55)

Filocrazed, you may also want to make sure that you're not overstuffing the Amazona. I've had that condition occur then disappear when I sacrificed just 1/8th of an inch of paper.

Steve Morton (2012-02-10 15:34:02)

Izzie, have you tried contacting Neal Street Filofax Store, or City Organiser to see if they have any in stock. Look on our Suppliers page for details.  
Steve

the Merry Lemon (2012-02-10 16:45:30)

I have all work and personal contacts in Outlook, which syncs to my iphone. I print it out every month or so to have a paper backup.

Additionally I have one personal filofax with all my personal contact info, with A-Z dividers. My OCD likes one letter per divider. I have yellow sheets behind each appropriate letter with specific lists, like my own "yellow pages." Example: a yellow list of thrift shops under T, a yellow list of restaurants under R. These are all places that are local to where I live.

I also keep a personal size filofax for each of certain cities I visit. One for New York. One for Paris. One for Los Angeles. etc. In it I keep contact info for friends that live there, as well as "yellow pages" with restaurants, etc. When I come across something I want to see or do in these cities, I add it to that binder. Then when I travel to that city I either take key pages from that binder in a slimline, or take the whole binder for that city. Either way I add a few daily pages in the front to schedule my time when I travel there. Saves me from having piles of little papers with notes from different places.

OK, in theory it keeps me from the little piles. In reality, when I do go through the little piles, I have a place to put the information. :)

Keltic Clothing (2012-02-10 17:59:21)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Alison Reeves (2012-02-10 18:04:27)

Wow - I didn't think I had a use for my A-Z dividers as I use outlook sync'd to my iPhone and iPad. However having read all this (and followed some links and blogs all about this subject) my mind is now buzzing with ideas on how to use them! Thanks everyone!

Susanne Namdar (2012-02-10 19:57:53)

I still keep my personal contacts in my FF Domino A-Z address section, updating regularly. I also use Outlook at work but mostly for business contacts and most frequent personal contacts. These are synced to my Blackberry. I have stopped adding names to yahoo or gmail account as I do not want my friends receiving spam emails when a virus hits, which has happened recently although I have all possible software to prevent that. I use an A-Z tabbed Moleskine where I list all my read books by author.

Oh, (sorry long comment) I like Merry Lemon's idea of the yellow pages.

Filocrazed (2012-02-10 22:28:59)

John,

Thanks for the suggestion. Unfortunately I emptied out the binder and the problem persists. I've been using it all say and have had no problems with the paper getting snagged so I'm thinking of just living with it for awhile. I appreciate the suggestion!

kanalt (2012-02-11 07:56:33)

I have only very important numbers in my main Filo - emergency contacts, doctors, and services like car repair, etc. (I am not allowed to use my cell phone at work and many times I have needed these numbers.) I have a full address book in my personal Malden that stays at home. While I have most people's numbers in my phone, I don't rely solely on that - I'm too afraid I'll lose them. I can't tell you how many times I've seen posts on Facebook about people losing their phones and not having anyone's phone number. I go through the phone and address book together about once a year to make sure everything is up to date.

Karon (2012-02-11 09:57:38)

I have had a personal size FF for a very long time, and am now looking to update to the A5. Is the ring placement the same on the A5 or does it have a wider spacing? Thanks!

Tim (2012-02-12 06:01:32)

@Karon - scroll down to older posts and you'll find a detailed article from Steve on this subject. In brief: Filofax Personal and A5 have different spacings. By snipping off the bottom left corner of a personal page it will fit an A5 binder.

Shanananana (2012-02-12 11:51:52)

Scot wrote:

*"Also, I have to admit, when I've got a really gorgeous new Fax I don't want to "infect" it by introducing bad karma in the way of the names and details of horrible/really negative people....which I admit isn't practical."*

I feel the same way... I like to regularly clear out anything that has a bad association, it's practical for me because they just get filed in a shoe-box at the back of a wardrobe, so if I ever needed 'em urgently they're available.

I just spring-cleaned all my Faxes and wallet last week, it's a great feeling! I try to do it about twice a year.

Because people change numbers quite often, I usually only keep a handful in any of my books, they're for real friends and stuff like doctor, dentist, etc: anyone else is in my mobile or on a piece of card in my business-card holder.

## Fashion Targets Breast Cancer (2012-02-10 13:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

I just wanted to let you know about the latest project Filofax have done.



[2] To raise money for [3]Fashion Targets Breast Cancer (FTBC), They have got a number of high end fashion designers and celebrities to sign one of the gorgeous Osterley organisers.

These designers and celebrities include John Rocha, William Tempest, Minnie Driver, Matthew Williamson and Fred Butler.

This organiser has now gone on to eBay so people can bid to win this amazing prize with all profits going to Fashion Targets Breast Cancer.

Auction for the FTBC organiser:

[4][http://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem &item=320846470208](http://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=320846470208)



[5]

As a separate auction, we are also raising more money by auctioning off tickets to the Temperley London for Filofax launch party.

Auction for tickets:

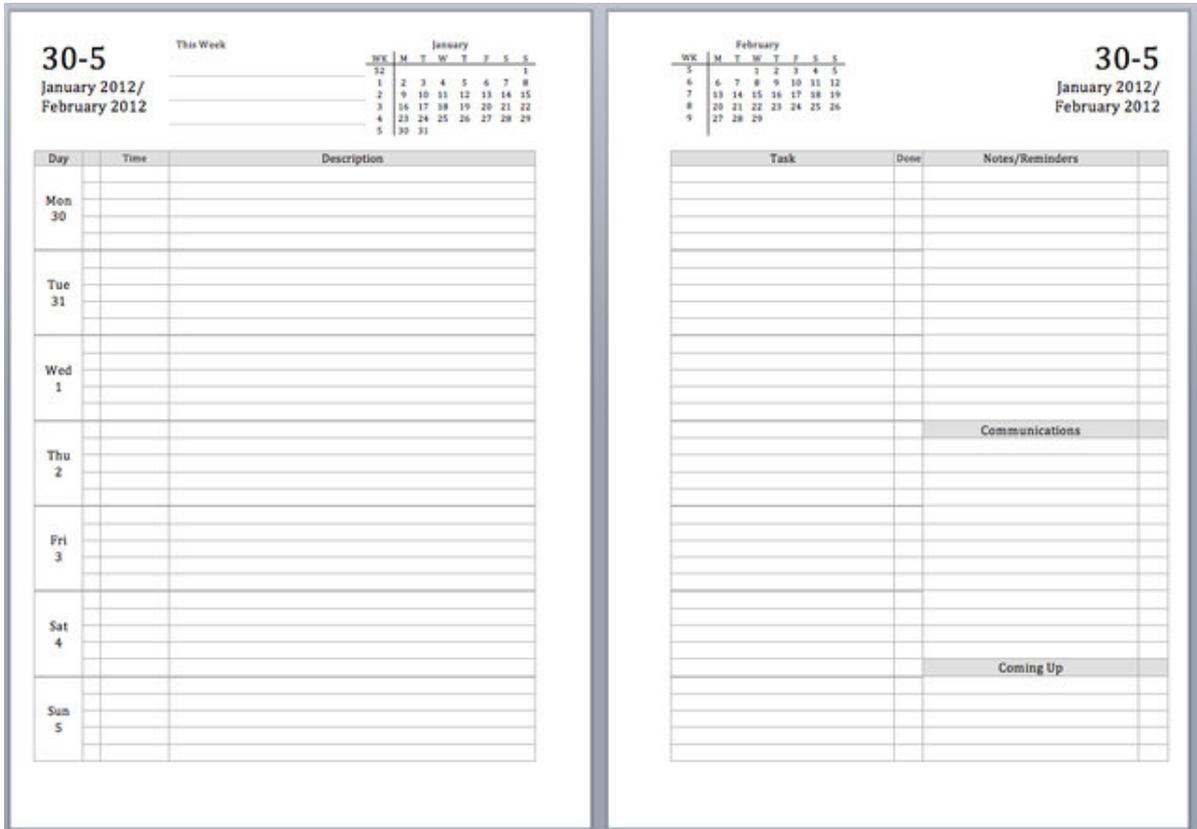
[6][http://cgi.ebay.co.uk/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem &item=320846479374](http://cgi.ebay.co.uk/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=320846479374)

1. [http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-M1795wx2E\\_A/TzUrhPR03PI/AAAAAAAAAKP0/6tS0GCrr0Fo/s1600/osterley+copy.jpg](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-M1795wx2E_A/TzUrhPR03PI/AAAAAAAAAKP0/6tS0GCrr0Fo/s1600/osterley+copy.jpg)

2. [http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-sr9FYRggh3c/TzUriGJQNzI/AAAAAAAAAKP8/q9IE9AJS\\_ik/s1600/page+copy.jpg](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-sr9FYRggh3c/TzUriGJQNzI/AAAAAAAAAKP8/q9IE9AJS_ik/s1600/page+copy.jpg)

3. <http://fashiontargetsbreastcancer.org.uk/>
4. <http://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=320846470208>
5. [http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-Xl40e\\_4N4QM/TzUrgN2Q-7I/AAAAAAAAAKPs/YFX6rg2dAdk/s1600/Alice+copy.jpg](http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-Xl40e_4N4QM/TzUrgN2Q-7I/AAAAAAAAAKPs/YFX6rg2dAdk/s1600/Alice+copy.jpg)
6. <http://cgi.ebay.co.uk/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=320846479374>

**Web Finds - 11 February 2012 (2012-02-11 00:00) - Steve Morton**



[1]

We have had freezing temperatures for over a week.. another good reason to stay in doors with a hot drink and some time to look at the latest blog posts via Philofaxy.

- [2]Filofax - We could grow up together
- [3]Neue Umfrage: Welche Verschluss-Variante bevorzugt Ihr? - Filomaniac
- [4]Fountain pen ink on Day Timer paper in my Filofax - The Life of The Perpetual Student
- [5]Fine tweaking the A5 Cuban - Filofax Fixation
- [6]New A4/A5 Diary Templates are on the way - My Life All in One Place (see above!)
- [7]Unstuff your Filofax with an undated monthly calendar - My Life All in One Place
- [8]Preparing for Duck Pond market - Maudie Made
- [9]Brainstorming - Malden vs. Holborn Zip - Chaotic Perfectionist
- [10]Holborn Zip Personal in Wine - Plannerisms
- [11]Paper and Digital Journals - Quo Vadis Blog
- [12]New Filofax is here! - Lime Tree

- [13]How it all started - Stationery Happiness
- [14]Filofax Writing Journal - No Wasted Ink
- [15]Introducing Crazy Life Designs - The Crazy Life of J
- [16]News about new products - Filomaniac
- Your blog post could appear here next week... Please email us if we missed you this week.

And here is some videos for you to enjoy.

[EMBED]

[EMBED]

Enjoy and have a great week.

1. <http://philofaxy.com/weekview.jpg>
2. <http://wecouldgrowuptogether.blogspot.com/2012/02/filofax.html>
3. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.com/2012/02/neue-umfrage-welche-verschluss-variante.html>
4. <http://thelifeoftheperpetualstudent.blogspot.com/2012/02/fountain-pen-ink-on-day-timer-paper-in.html>
5. <https://filofaxfixation.wordpress.com/2012/02/07/fine-tweaking-the-a5-cuban/>
6. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2012/02/new-a4a5-diary-templates-are-on-way.html>
7. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2012/02/unstuff-your-filofax-with-undated.html>
8. <http://www.maudiemade.com/preparing-for-the-duck-pond-market/>
9. <http://elfenfisch.blogspot.com/2012/02/brainstorming-malden-vs-holborn-zip.html>
10. <http://www.plannerisms.com/2012/02/holborn-zip-personal-size-filofax-in.html>
11. <http://quovadisblog.com/2012/02/07/paper-and-digital-journals/>
12. <http://limetreefruits.blogspot.com/2012/02/new-filofax-is-here.html>
13. <http://stationeryhappiness.blogspot.com/2012/02/how-it-all-started-wie-alles-begann.html>
14. <http://nowastedink.com/2012/02/10/filofax-writing-journal/>
15. <http://thecrazylifeofj.blogspot.com/2012/02/introducing-crazy-life-designs-and.html>
16. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.com/2012/02/neuigkeiten-uber-neuheiten.html>

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Gerard (2012-02-11 04:12:45)

Thanks Steve - a great selection as usual!

Anita (2012-02-11 04:19:55)

Thank you! This will be my treat once I've got some stuff done :)

Anke (2012-02-11 04:38:51)

Thanks for including my blog! I love how everyone is so supportive in the Filo-family!

Alison Reeves (2012-02-11 08:50:03)

Lost of good stuff thanks Steve. I really love the videos - I'm now obsessed with You Tube!

Maus (2012-02-11 09:25:44)

@Steve

concerning the Filofax news 2012:

Will the Deco be discontinued?

Or just some of the colours?

Do you know sth about it?

Thanks,

Renate

Scoot (2012-02-11 11:24:37)

Interesting to read City Organiser's view of the Filofax range. I note their comments about the colour blue, which is perhaps the reason that Filofax don't appear to issue many in favourite dark blue; which I thought would be a popular colour but I see they've ended some of the Cuban in ink blue.

Debi (2012-02-11 11:43:35)

Love your blog, there is just so much information. I just recently bought an A5 Domino in red and named her Quorra(after Olivia Wilde's in Tron:Legacy). Anyway just wanted to say Hi and I'll be around a lot! Debi

Butanben (2012-02-11 18:17:52)

Hi to Deb... hope you are enjoying your new Domino and setting it up!The best bit that!

Great articles again Steve. Better by far..... and less expensive I may add, than a weekly magazine. I really do enjoy Saturdays as this is my post housework treat now. Thanks again:)

## Reader Under The Spotlight - Claire (2012-02-12 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

*This week I would like to introduce you to Claire who agreed to go 'under the spotlight'.*

Claire is a lecturer who lives with her OH (Ben), four cats and numerous giant African land snails in North Somerset, UK. She's been working in Further Education since 2005 and teaches A-level English. Claire also writes fiction and poetry and her work has been published in quite a few places.

She's obsessed with many things such as cats, reading, shoes and sci-fi, but stationery is right up there. For someone so obsessed with stationery she's actually fairly disorganised and is often enveloped in reams of paper. Claire's cat family ranges from Noah, who's eight months old, to a very (un)healthy Mr Tabby who's eighteen and medicated up to his eyeballs. Eighteen! Apparently that's ninety-three or so in human years. She also has loads of foxes all living in the garden – probably because she feeds them left-over Chinese takeaway, Yorkshire puddings and anything else going spare most days. She blogs here: [2]<http://clairejoannehuxham.blogspot.com>

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

Apart from the obligatory fake FF you have as a kid, I've only been a convert to Filofax for about a year. But I've made up for the wilderness years (B.F. – before Filofax) very quickly.

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

I was a Moleskine girl before. I loved the paper quality and the look of them, but ultimately I was pulled in by the lure of all the different designs and colours of Filofax. Don't get me wrong – I still use Moleskine notepads but they can be a little, erm, black and boring. Although I notice their new range has lots more options.

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

Definitely the Deco; I have it in Personal Ivory. It's just so beautiful. I often find myself stroking it in lessons. It amuses my students; I tell myself they're laughing with me, not at me.

4. *How many Filofax organisers do you own?*

Well, I've currently got nine. They are:

- A4 Metropol Black
- A5 Classic Pink
- A5 Finsbury Aqua
- A5 Domino Snake
- Personal Deco Ivory
- Personal Osterley Plum
- Personal Malden Grey
- Personal Domino Grey
- Pocket Amazona Red

I've owned sixteen in total however. One I gave to a friend (nice me!) and the rest I sold on. One was the Personal Osterley in Brown. I loved it, but it seemed a bit silly having two virtually identical. Same with the Malden – I had three at one point (I got rid of the Crimson and Vintage Pink). I'm making room for new arrivals. I can be quite obsessive with things I like; I tend to buy the same thing in lots of different colours. I do this with everything, not just FF. It's a habit I'm trying hard to get myself out of. My secret self is totally Zen and de-cluttered.

5. *What do you use your Filofax for?*

Six are in use. My Personal Deco is my everyday FF, with diary, phone numbers and all that stuff. I use the Pocket Amazona as a purse and shopping list holder. My A5 Domino is my teacher planner. SO useful. The A5 Classic keeps track of my writing submissions and briefs, while the A5 Finsbury houses passwords and receipts and all that kind of stuff you should keep but not necessarily lug around with you all day. My Malden has my book list in it; I just keep a record of every book I've read and the date I finished it. Apart from the Osterley the others aren't in use. The Osterley I alternate with my Deco when I feel like a change. I'm going to sell the A4 at some point. I tried it out for work but it was just too cumbersome – no different really to using a normal A4 file.

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

Where to start? The look. The feel. The smell. The weight of it in my hand. The way the clasp pops. I also love that little buzz you get when you find fellow FF fanatics. I was handing back some student work and I saw one of my A2s had a Pocket Amazona in brown on her desk. Of course, we had to discuss it. Work colleagues and students alike now come up to me to tell me about their FFs, or the one their parent/gran/brother owns. We can find 'our kind' everywhere!

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

For a start some decent pen loops. They should all have that secret little stretchy bit of elastic like the Deco and Osterley. And then I'd look into a better range of inserts. Franklin Covey seem to have an interesting range; I don't see why Filofax can't be a bit more inventive. I just bought some amazing coloured dividers from Franklin Covey – they're really wide and they come in a pack of six for under £3. I'd like to see some different colours in FF too other than purple, pink, red, black and brown. More green. I'd love what I call a real psycho-billy obnoxious green. In fact, animal print. A leopard print FF would make my day.

8. *How do you carry your Filofax?*

In my bag usually. Or if I'm shopping (with the Pocket) or going to lessons (with the A5) then in my hand. I find it really hard to leave the house without one, which is part of the reason I bought the Pocket. I started to panic – if I'm on a boozy night out and I take my Personal, what would I do if I lost it? Left

it in a puddle of cider somewhere? Now if I'm going anywhere dodgy (a rare event I assure you) I can take the Pocket instead of the Deco.

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

Well obviously the Deco, like I said. I know it's being phased out and I keep on thinking, should I get a Pocket one whilst I still can? The Enigma looks interesting. They feel so soft, but it's just not that special for the price and I won't be buying it. I think. Now if that was in leopard print.... I'll probably wait to see the new range 'in the flesh'. A compact A5 sounds interesting, but I won't be going for the Malden in Purple like most of the world will be. It just looks too dark in the photos; I prefer a really vibrant violet.

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

£120 for the Osterley. I'm terrible – if I like something I won't hang around for a bargain. I just rush out and buy it and then bemoan having to live on beans for the rest of the month. Quite a few of my purchases have been full price although I did get the Deco in the half-price sale that so many others took advantage of.

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

I love having a nose in other people's FFs. It's like walking down a street and sneaking a peak through everyone's curtains.

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

**ENABLING.** Oh my god: the enabling. [Sorry!]

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

Today is the Day: 'In the Eyes of God' – I guess you'd call it extreme noise. I have quite eclectic music tastes, though everything is generally alternative in some guise. The Cure, Depeche Mode, The Smiths, Pulp, Fugazi. Alice in Chains, Jeff Buckley, Tool, Deftones and so forth. As you can see I'm stuck in a music time warp. I do listen to a bit of new stuff – but mainly from those bands that were in their peak in the '80s and '90s!

*Thank you Claire, very enjoyable to read. And if any of our readers would like to step under the spot light then please contact philofaxy[at]gmail[dot]com*

1. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-1yT27X3x0TA/Ty5i9e0aJVI/AAAAAAAAKPE/dBeUXSue16I/s1600/ME+AND+THE+DECO.jpg>

2. <http://clairejoannehuxham.blogspot.com/>

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Scot (2012-02-12 03:58:25)

Thanks for this Spotlight, I hadn't realised that I missed them until I read this. Interesting that school students use actual faxes, not even the teachers used them in my day, they would have been laughed at because of the comedy surrounding the Yuppie culture.

I know that I keep mentioning polls, but this leads me to think that it would be interesting to see a poll about users occupations, such as traditional professional, management, technical professional, technical manual, nursing/social services etc. Those studying could be split between Uni, College, High School, Primary? Retired, is there such a thing?, is a hard section to split up because people do so many different things.

Tim (2012-02-12 07:15:53)

@Scot - "self-employed" isn't on your list but would come near the top of keen Filofax users, I reckon.

Lots of us had Time Managers, Day Runners or Filofaxes as part of our employment years ago (to make us more efficient!) and we have returned to our tried and tested ways!

Anita (2012-02-12 08:23:33)

Lovely to 'meet' you, Claire.

Filofaxes & Buffy... a woman after my own heart :)

Alison Reeves (2012-02-12 08:59:05)

Nice to meet you Claire - I love reading about everyone's filofax obsessions! I also love 'peeking' into others filofaxes and seeing how they are set up. I am also getting to really enjoy the you tube videos that are popping

up. I much prefer the 'what's in my filofax' to 'what's in my bag' which have been so popular!

Scoot (2012-02-12 09:00:08)

The trouble with "self-employed" is that someone could be in any sector; even teaching.

I am really fascinated by the idea of Children using faxes, as when I was at school the only planning took place with a few sheets of A4 paper. Does anyone know what children would use them for? Perhaps they just use a fax as a posh diary, or simply a fashion item...if so it would be interesting that such an item could be fashionable (in this age) in place of smart phones.

Shanananana (2012-02-12 11:27:57)

That was really great, love it! Count me in on the self-employed front, personal assistant (also Buffy, sci-fi and cheese, like Claire - isn't that funny!).

Claire if you see this, how are you finding using that little red Amazona as a wallet? Using a Filofax as my wallet is something I've dabbled in before (Mini Finsbury in navy) but the issue of no decent coin pocket defeated me, and anything inserted ruined the lovely smooth lines.

Your Amazona looks great though so I'm wondering if it's still working nicely? :)

Ray Blake (2012-02-12 15:57:23)

Well, my 14-year-old has a Filofax. Of course, he also has a Blackberry and an iPod Touch.

These days the secondary school timetables are so complex it would be worth having one for that alone.

But his also has this page I made for him:

<http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2012/01/printing-personal-fo-ld-out-page-for.html>

Ray Blake (2012-02-12 15:58:16)

Oh, and I meant to congratulate Claire on her choice of music. It inspired me to go and listen to "The Queen is Dead".

Josh (2012-02-12 19:38:04)

I love Claire's taste in music too! Inspired me to break out my Fugazi CD's I've not listened to in 10 years!

Claire Joanne Huxham (2012-02-14 17:24:07)

Hey! Thanks for your comments people! And glad to see there are some others out there with impeccable taste in music ;)

Shanananana: it's going great actually. I know what you mean about the coin bit, but I use a really slim coin purse which slots in and out of the large pocket. You can take it out without opening it and scrabbling around with tiny zips. It does make it a bit more bulky, but I prefer it like that. I've blogged about it if you want to have a look.

C x

Claire Joanne Huxham (2012-02-14 17:26:48)

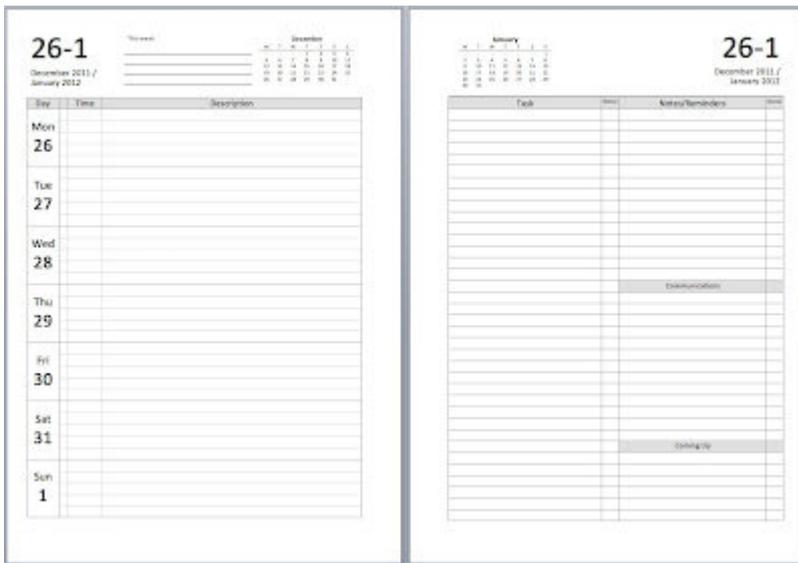
And I hope all the fellow BtVS fans out there are 'five by five'. I almost feel like I should dedicate one of my FFs to the Buffyverse.

C x

## **New A5 Filofax diary layouts (2012-02-12 16:00) - Steve Morton**

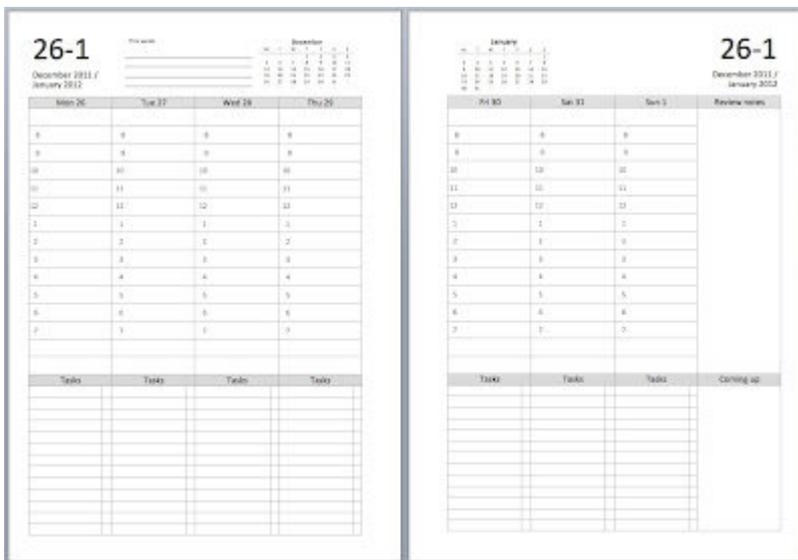
Thanks for your ideas and suggestions. Ray and I have been working on a range of layouts which we're nearly ready to publish. Initially, there will be four layouts available.

The first one is a week per view layout we're calling the 'Enhanced TM Week Per View'.



[1]

Among its features are a number of things people have been asking for, like equal space for the weekend days and a 'Coming Up' section of items to carry forward to subsequent weeks. Next we have our 'Vertical Week Per View'.



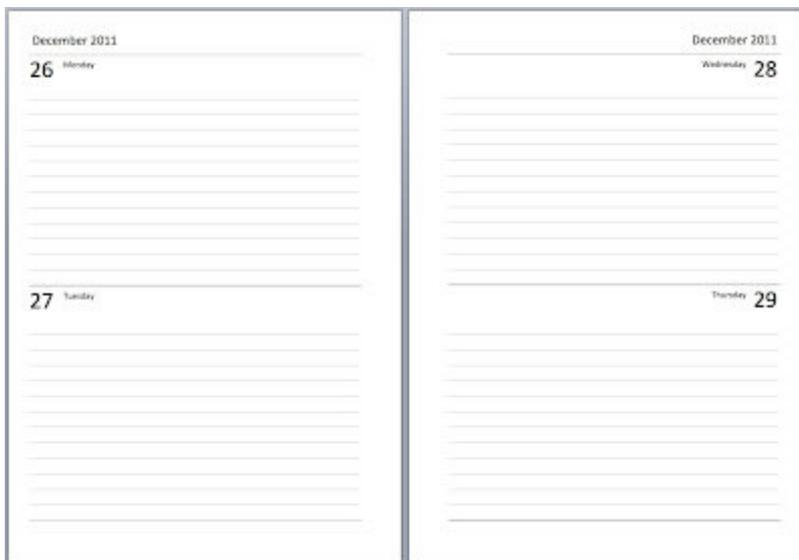
[2]

This one again affords Saturdays and Sundays the same space as weekdays and includes a field for weekly review notes as well as 'Coming Up'. You might use this to collect information and insights for your [3]Monthly Planner.

Finally, we have a Two Days Per Page layout with both lined and unlined day spaces



[4]



[5]

In these layouts, a week crosses four pages. We've given all seven days equal billing and left an untitled eighth day space - for 'coming up' notes or tasks or anything else you might want to note on a weekly basis. Filofax do not currently make a 2PPD A5 diary.

Initially, we'll be making the four layouts available for download as full 2012 diaries. You'll be able to get them here or at [6]My Life All In One Place. Ray has also already made available a [7]Day on One Page insert available.

We'll also look to make source files available soon so those of you who like to can tinker and adapt.

- Some of the things you can do when you have the source files are:
- Make and print a diary for any year - past, present or future
- Adjust the space given to different days or other template elements
- Add your name or other details to each page
- Make a diary for part of a year, or for any period you want
- Change the language of month and day name

Ray will look in to doing some tutorials if there is demand.

Sets for 2012 should be available in the coming week. We're also hoping to make undated versions of the

templates available around then.

I would like to thank Ray for his hard work and team spirit in helping me take my initial ideas in to a finished product.

1. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-9QdIC3uW4hs/TzfZ01p221I/AAAAAAAAKQQ/Yq0wx-hfCL8/s1600/enhancedweekview.jpg>
2. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-z9KdunT7EXI/TzfZP3Su8sI/AAAAAAAAKQc/45D86Qq40VA/s1600/weekviewvertical.jpg>
3. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2012/01/filofax-monthly-planner-a4a5-version.html>
4. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-4v0dQklsI3M/TzfZMMTYv8I/AAAAAAAAKQE/DkkFdMxqeK4/s1600/2daysperpage.jpg>
5. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-lZKbxSacLWE/TzfZNLs2ryI/AAAAAAAAKQM/9YDhLyuhhMo/s1600/2daysperpagelined.jpg>
6. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/>
7. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2012/01/download-your-free-page-per-day-2012-a4.html>

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Ray Blake (2012-02-12 16:22:54)

It's been massive fun to do. I hope that when we get to sharing the source files people will set about adapting and improving for their own needs.

As Steve and I can tell you, nothing beats having your planner pages EXACTLY the way you want them!

Missus Aka (Christa) (2012-02-12 17:00:49)

thanks so much to both of you for taking the time to make these for us, i am loving the 2dpp you made for a5 that is LINED!!

Lime Tree (2012-02-12 17:08:40)

That is great! Thanks for working on them. I'll be experiment with it for this coming weeks.

Rabbit (2012-02-12 19:41:39)

These look fantastic - great idea to provide both a plain & ruled version!!

Adirondack Explorer (2012-02-12 20:32:03)

Very nice. Thanks, guys!

Nancy (2012-02-12 22:09:14)

thank you so much!!

Susanne Namdar (2012-02-12 23:16:30)

These look great, thanks for sitting down and creating these.

Laurie (2012-02-13 00:16:57)

These are absolutely brilliant! Thanks for all your hard work on these you guys!!

Anke (2012-02-13 00:58:21)

Thank you so much for all the work you put into these templates! I love the lined 2DPP and am looking forward to using it!

nickynic (2012-02-13 03:55:47)

Thanks to both of you! This is really great. I especially love the W1P. Now what paper will I print on? A world of options has opened up!

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-02-13 07:10:47)

Fantastic work guys! It's making me want to move back into an A5 for my everyday filofax!

What a fabulous place Philofaxy is, because of you wonderful guys!

Thank you!!

Anita (2012-02-13 12:23:13)

These look great! Thanks to both of you for the time you've put in, & I think Filofax should take you on as consultants :)

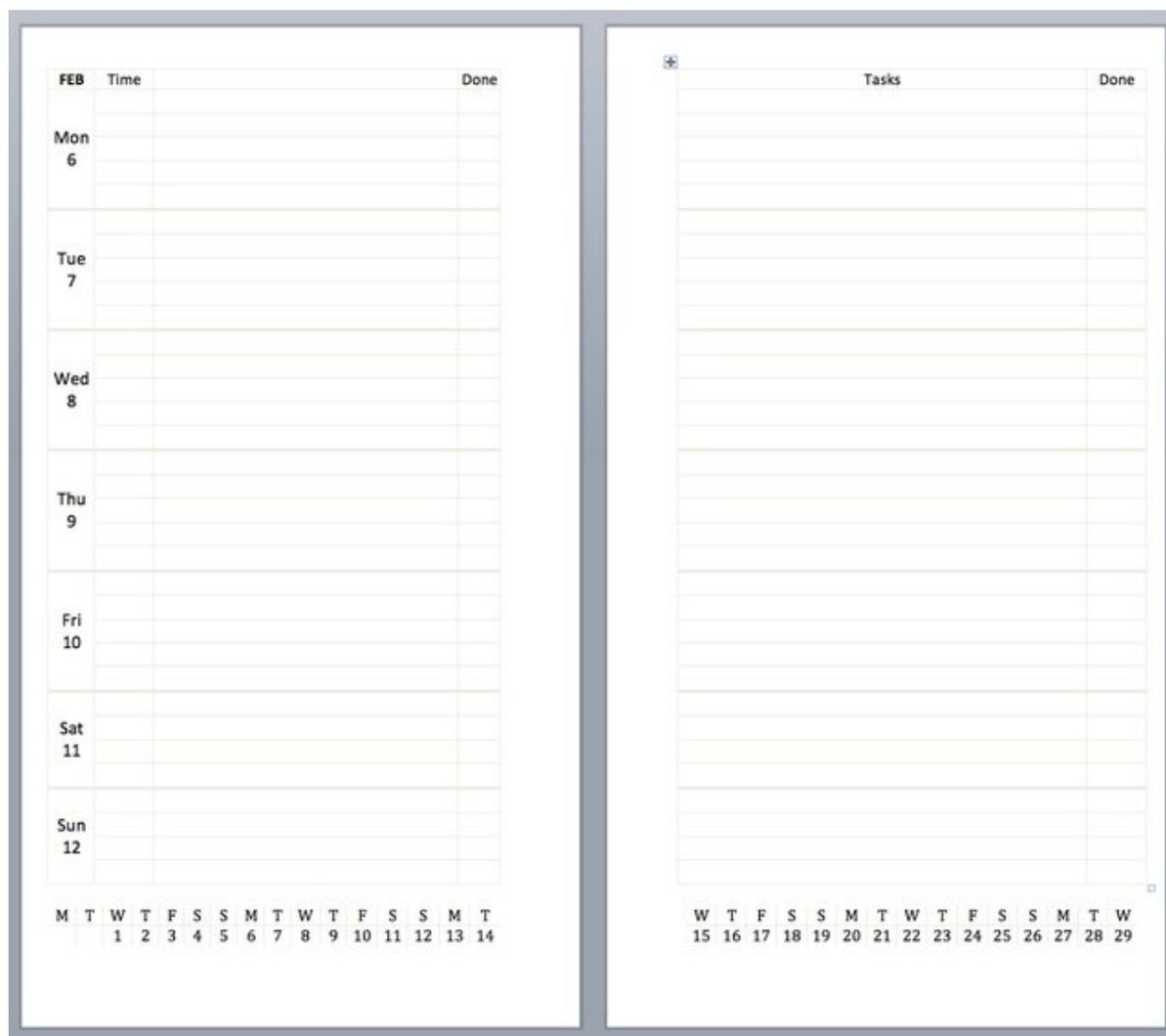
cgarsnrealest8 (2012-02-13 13:41:06)

Fine job, men!

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-02-14 07:47:15)

this is the most fun blog, ever!

## How Do You Use: Week Per Page (2012-02-13 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

So this week let us focus on people that use a '**Week per Page**' diary insert or WPP to all Philofaxers! So the Day per Page, they are standard in most sizes, there are a few variations, some have appointment times, there are some slight variations, Some have reduced space for Saturdays and Sundays. Some available in cotton cream. Single language, multi language, non-English. So quite a variety in just this one format. There are also Week Per Page plus Notes inserts.

So if you are a WPP person.... how do you use it? Tell us about your use of this format, include links to a Flickr photo if that helps. Include as much or as little detail as you like. Which version of the WPP do you use... etc etc.

The picture is a Personal size WPP I've recently created, it's another one that is in development at the moment.

1. <http://www.philofaxy.com/personalwppptask.jpg>

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jaj (2012-02-13 03:41:23)

Hi everybody, and big thanks for this wonderful blog.

I use the week per page +notes, size personal, in my slimline filofax, which is my wallet and always stay in my handbag.

I only take about the three future months, where I keep just few important appointments, or date of travel, reminders... I need to refer when I'm outside.

On the side "notes", I wrote shopping lists, and phone numbers or informations, I will rewrite in my work (A5) or home (personal) filofaxes (these stay at work and at home).

I like this format because it's the same space for each days (sunday is on the back of the other page), there a big space for instant notes I don't need to keep with my later and will be thrown as soon I archived old weeks.

I think it's the better set-up for a slimline used as diary-wallet-notepad, which contain also all my papers (ID card, driving license,...), all my cards (credit, social security, fidelity...) in pockets, cards holders and top-opening enveloppes on the rings, and checkbook on the long back pocket. So I need to have the thinner diary part as possible, and this does well.

(Sorry, don't know if my english is understandable, it's not my native language !)

Louloudorset (2012-02-13 03:49:42)

I used to be obsessed with this format using in my A5 (work) Personal (main filo) and Pocket (small handbag/on the go filo)but this year I've been using the W2P standard format diary inserts in my A5 and Personal.

While in my personal this works brilliantly (and I usually add in a To Do sheet) it was an epic fail in my Work A5 so I'm returning to my WPP with Notes format...I'll take lots of photos later this week as I'm just awaiting the arrival of a new A5 Osterley in Grey (City Organiser and their tremendous discounts strike again!!!) and show you how I use it properly but essentially:

Appointments / meetings are allocated by day in the diary part and then I use the Notes side for my main key actions and to do's for the week. This is then supplemented by ongoing to do sheets for specific projects etc but it means I can see easily all week my main tasks and priorities.

I love the template you have designed though that looks awesome can't wait to see what A5 designs you come up with :)

Lx

Jotje (2012-02-13 05:26:12)

Here's my wishlist (for A5 Filofax):

Appointments go in the appropriate timeslots. Datespecific Todo's are noted in the specific day space. All other Todo's that have to get done in that particular week, and for which I still need to determine the exact date and time, get noted in a "general task box", divided in "work" and "personal". Plus the Mealplan for dinner has its own slot under the day space.

Confused much?

I'm still busy with this, but I'm getting closer and closer!

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-02-13 07:17:03)

Ooh - tempting us with some more "Steve and Ray made this" pictures? I would LOVE a week to page plus notes in Personal similar to the ones done for A5....

I use a WO2P at the moment but have been contemplating moving to a week on one page plus notes for next year (or this year if you guys produces lovely ones!).

:-)

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-02-13 12:20:54)

I've been thinking about switching to week per page inserts since I use my to-do lists extensively and mostly write

in a word or two on the weeklies. This would save me some paper, or I could include more months. Either way it would be space saving. I'd forgetting all about these but I might just place an order right now.

Tracy

Jam (2012-02-13 13:05:37)

This is me! I have the diary pages interleaved with a To Do page. My work is "self-directed" so most days I don't have anything particular scheduled, so the smaller day slots are just right (I used to use Week on Two Pages when I had more daily appointments). At the beginning of each week I write in my tasks on the To Do list. At the bottom of the To Do list, in the last two slots, I write "gym" and "blog" and draw in the number of boxes for the number of times I want to [post/exercise] in the week. Underneath the day-names (Monday through Saturday) I use the "today" marker to draw a little cross; in the lefthand boxes of this cross I put a "W" and an "S" – this makes a set of checkboxes for me to note that I have "W"orked on my dissertation and done some "S"piritual reading six days of the week (hence no little cross on Sundays!). Finally, I use a pencil to note down what thing(s) I will work on each day. Sometimes these get noted well in advance, for example if I am making appointments at archives or libraries, and other times I end up just making a decision the night before about what I will do tomorrow.

Just-Jenny (2012-02-13 13:10:44)

I used to use the WPP all the time in my personal filo. For many years it was my favourite diary layout and if I ever deviated for a change I always regretted it.

When I was at uni and studying for other exams after uni I used the WPP with to do lists to manage my assignments, reading requirements, deadlines and exam dates etc. I use to get a real kick out of ticking everything off. I was able to manage my progress and time quite easily and it was great to see everything clearly (deadlines and tasks) without having to flick through pages and pages of diary inserts.

Since I finished studying I have found that I don't need as much diary space as I don't use my filo for work. So I now use a month on two pages to record headlines, who I am seeing, where and what time. I find I have enough space and love the fact I can see a whole month in one go.

I still have a WPP diary for 2012 which I use as a journal, jotting down headlines and key thoughts for consideration later and to be updated into my main journal. I have to say having less space stops me rambling so much which is good but sometimes a little annoying. This is the first year I have used my filo for journal notes so I will review the options later in the year and maybe use different pages for this. You never know Filofax may come up with some amazing new inserts for us to use!!

Rex (2012-02-13 14:15:16)

I've been reading this blog for a couple of years and feel I should 'contribute' comment-wise.

Week per page is the format I'm using on 3 Filofax's. Personal Malden and Mini Malden have proper purposes, and the Pocket Malden is something I'm trying to make work for the n'th time.

Last year on the Personal, I placed own-dated blank pages between the 2 weeks on show and used these as 'Journal' pages, but you can quickly run out of room in the filo, so this year I use the wpp for planning purposes and have a Day Per Page section separate (about 3 months worth).

Each day slot (on the week view) I use for hum drum type to-do's etc, and for more important to-do's I insert a Pocket-size To-Do sheet. I prefer to use the smaller size sheets, as this doesn't 'take over' the weekly view as would the full sized personal sheet.

The Mini is my wallet, and although the day slots are small, they're enough to have with me for on-the-go reference.

Like I said with the Pocket, I'm TRYING to make a use for it, but find it falling between two stools - paper too small and filo too big for the pocket. But with a blank notepaper inserted within each two weeks and a mini size to-do list there as well, I feel this is a system that could work for some people.

My other half uses the A5 WPP, but I find the multi-language layout really irritating, and thats the only format available, so, not for me.

Great blog this. It makes me feel a little less weird, being a bit obsessed with things filofax, when I realise there are so many of you out there!

Alison Reeves (2012-02-13 17:40:40)

I've decided to sort of 'micro manage' myself for a while as I don't seem to be making the progress I want. In view of this I've been using the Filofax time management range and I really like the week to view in this range. I have an annual overview in which I have put holidays and such, then a month on two pages where I record birthdays and when we are out and about so I get a birds eye view of the month.

The week to view allows me to set weekly goals and list all the things I want to get through. I like that I have an overview of the week (the daily page spaces are not very big, but plenty for me as I don't have a lot of appointments). Also a lot of my work is not day critical so having a weekly list is useful as I can just tick it off as I get around to it. I quite like the idea of listing things I want to do the current week and not beating myself up if I don't get things done on specific days.

I'm debating using a daily page as well for daily todo, but I have to see how I get on.

terriknits (2012-02-14 10:36:09)

I recently switched to an A5 for my personal Filo and made myself a Week on One Page. I really like the format. The layout and size is perfect for my current needs! I don't have an extra ToDo or Notes page because I haven't needed it yet. But if I do on a particularly hectic week, I can just pop it in the binder.

Sauce (2012-02-20 21:01:04)

I'm brand new to Filofax and have settled on the week to a page + notes layout for now.

It's not perfect - being multi-lingual and having all those national/religious holidays in the pocket size means some days there's no real room for your own entries. Even on a clear day you only have enough space for a couple of lines of text.

However, since I'm currently a student with next to no "appointments" outside regular classes, it's very usable. "End of Term", "[Assignment] Deadline", "[Class] Cancelled", "[Name], [Age]" etc. is as much detail as I need for most days. When I need more information, the notes section is plenty of space for me to fill in any relevant times, reference numbers, phone numbers, prices, addresses etc. for complex events, and it means I know exactly where to find this information when I need it thanks to the TODAY book mark (that's why I've never got on with traditional notebooks - I'll jot down all the relevant info and it just gets lost among all the other information in there).

I also make a note of all the MotoGP, Formula 1, World Rally Championship, British Superbikes, World Superbikes, Speedway Gran Prix and home Speedway meetings. I use abbreviations for each type of event on the relevant day (so I can fit multiples on a single line, which is necessary considering most take place on Sundays!) and then fill in the locations for that week on the notes section.

I considered using the more spacious week on 2 pages and inserting notepaper inbetween, but with so many meetings on the same days, I'd still need to use a shorthand code so would just end up using loads of notepaper and, on most days, end up with loads of wasted space in the diary itself.

Overall, I think the layout itself is best for me... if it was English only it would probably be the perfect diary.

## **Free For All Tuesday No 54 (2012-02-14 00:00) - Steve Morton**

Well last week was a very active week as far as FFAT was concerned. Let's hope we get some great questions and comments this week...

And Happy Valentines Day!

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skypeintheskywithdiamonds (2012-02-14 01:41:02)

First of all I have to say how much I love Philofaxy! So good to know I'm not the only one with a Filofax obsession out there...

I just received my a5 Raspberry Finsbury in the post. So chuffed, and such a bargain ( \$36aud, brand new in the box from Ebay!)Happy Valentines Day me! (Better than the lotto ticket and box of chocolates I got from my manfriend).

I have been using a personal domino that i received as a Christmas gift and have found it just a little bit small

for me. I have been filofunking this domino all year (all 2 and half months of it!), and now am very sad that I cant think of a purpose for him (one that I will actually use).

Then the next debacle, to start funking my Finsbury! I spend way too much time on Philofaxy, and making my filofax look pretty - it is ridiculous.

Anyway, back to the purpose of this comment - what could I use my domino for? Any suggestions would be much appreciated - Im not a journal keeper and do prefer to have everything in one place. But I have grown so attached it!

Also, Im sure there is a post on here somewhere, but the Finsbury came with week per view column planner with times. I'm not sure how I will go with it, but willing to give it a try. Does it work for anyone?

First time commenter - sorry about that! and Thanks!

Butanben (2012-02-14 02:59:43)

Hi there Skypeintheskywithdiamonds! I use my personal Amazona as a dream diary. Whenever I wake with a particularly memorable dream, I write it down. I look back at what I've written later..... great believer that the sub-conscious speaks to us in dreamtime. Just a suggestion for your Domino! xx

Butanben (2012-02-14 03:06:20)

Steve, my computer has been down for a few days, so I've just seen your post from 12th Feb on diary inserts. WOW is all I can say. You have worked so hard with Ray to get a selection up and going. Now know what my diary is going to be..... AND I can print it on my own cotton cream paper..... as Filofax don't offer this. What luxury!!!!

Shanananana (2012-02-14 04:22:40)

@skypeintheskywithdiamonds, that vertical planner is the one I usually prefer in my desk A5, it works for me, though the times printed don't always have much relevance to my working day (and night).

I'd written it off for years but then gave it a try, and it was great: I like the space above each day, which I use in various ways, and I write any big purpose or theme for the week along the top, then anything coming up early next week at the bottom right, under Sunday. I do use a ruler each week to create my own lines and stuff, and occasionally I print out my own version, though the hole-punching gets tedious.

Because my handwriting's bad, I prefer using the lines on that design over the blank white field in the horizontal design, which just ends up looking messy.

You could use the Domino to store computer passwords, and a printed backup of important e-mail addresses and mobile numbers, maybe - stuff you might need on hand at some point but not all the time, then it can sit on a shelf ready to help you out in times of need? :)

CatB (2012-02-14 05:06:35)

I know that some of you keep passwords etc in your filofax, well I would like to as I have a number of different sign in names/passwords and whatever else the website asks for, and never remember them all! However my lovely OH pointed out last night that if it gets stolen someone can hack into my emails/online banking etc etc.

So my question is, how do you store this sort of information so that you remember but no one else can see it? Thanks for your help as always guys :)

Steve Morton (2012-02-14 05:12:25)

Hi CatB

I use these pages to store the info.

<http://www.philofaxy.com/files/a5www.pdf>

I place them in the A-Z section of my Filo, you can get them in personal size too.

For the password I code mine in such a way that the 'middle section' of the password is always the same but the beginning is always different

So given a password (not one I use) of say 1234frenchentreeJanuary

In my Filo I just record

1234\*\*\*\*\*January

I know it's frenchentree but that's never written down anywhere.

Another site might be 7890frenchentreeMarch

So I record 7890\*\*\*\*March

The number of \*\*\*\* isn't critical doesn't even need to match the number of letters in the hidden part of the phrase.

Works for me....

Steve

Alison Reeves (2012-02-14 05:17:12)

@CatB - I think the trick here is to have some common component to your password which you DON'T write down and just write the rest (for example some sequence of words or numbers that are meaningful to you). I'm just about to overhaul all mine as in general they are TOO simple and I tend to use the same ones over and over which is dangerous so this is a priority task for me.

@skypepieintheskyindiamonds (pew that is one online name!) - You could use it as a book/film/music list, some sort of hobby binder, a home binder for meal planning and home maintenance, when you have a look around this blog the uses are endless - I'd probably choose something without a lot of printing out if it is a personal size.

Perhaps we should have a blog post to list all the uses we all have for our filofaxes? I'm sure it would end up being very long!! Also I have a couple that I'm not using so it would be good to get more ideas!

Scoot (2012-02-14 05:20:35)

Butanben,

Do you mind me asking the brand of paper do you use in place of "real Filofax cotton cream"? Is it your favourite paper or, is it just the brand you're currently happy with? Or do you use actual Filofax paper?

I use Staples' standard coloured paper in ivory, 80gm2 A4, and just cut in half etc. It is a decent paper to write on with any pen/pencil. However, I would like a lighter coloured paper as rather than being an actual ivory, ie an off white, it is darker than Filofax cotton cream ... if not heading toward terracotta.

Lucy (2012-02-14 05:24:01)

Regarding passwords, I use codes for mine too. I use initials for certain reoccurring words and for numbers, I either just quote 'hubby's old extension number' or I multiply them by my Grandma's old phone number (she died years ago) so only family would be able to work it out. I also write some of them in shorthand, so hardly anybody can read that!

Lucy (2012-02-14 05:42:53)

I have a question . . . does anyone that reads this blog use a Flex? I was looking at them online the other day and thought about getting one just to test it out. I can't imagine they can be better than a Filofax though but it got me thinking. I like the look of them because they look slimmer than Filofaxes, so I've decided to get a compact when they are released this year. More writing space than my pocket but not as bulky as a personal.

I'm still interested to know though . . . does anyone use a Flex???

Shanananana (2012-02-14 06:26:09)

I'm bursting with excitement! My friend and fellow Fax-fan, who posts on here sometimes as Miss Charlie, just bought me a DELICIOUS retro Fax, called Filofax Active!

She got it on e-Bay and I'm just about to take her out to lunch as a thanks, but I HAD to share that special joy with people who "get it"!! Does anyone here know what year this came out? The inserts left in it are copyright 1998.

It's personal size and black, in a kind of rubbery fabric with a thick rubber spine with a Union Jack under the Filofax logo, and a vertical label on the front with the logo & flag as well, and zipped with a big chunky zip! (The flag also makes me think it was released around the "cool Brittania"/Britpop late '90s era...?)

There are two pen loops inside and best of all, a zip pocket on the left that opens beside and parallel to the pen loop, meaning I can use it when the Fax is lying spine-down in my other hand...

OH the bliss! (Okay, I'm outta here before my head asplodes!)

Butanben (2012-02-14 07:35:40)

@Scoot. I don't mind telling you about my paper finds at all. I am currently using up some WH Smith cream paper, from a set of pastel shade paper I bought to jolly up my Filofax printing. It is A4 and I have trimmed it to fit

A5. However, I am not too delighted with the paper quality, as it is thin..... but not as thin as Filofax. There is a great store near me in Poole, called The Market Gallery, which sells all kinds of paper and card, so I may try there next, or the local MR MINUTE store, which I think is a national chain sells better quality paper, including joy of joys, Conqueror paper in cream. Expensive ye olde Conqueror, but worth it sometimes, especially if you love fountain pens.

CatB (2012-02-14 07:48:26)

Thanks for all your replies guys, I particularly like including a phone number to disguise it somehow. I will think about how this could work. Whilst on this topic does anyone use a specific print out sheet for this info or do you just write it on the note paper? It just looks so scruffy on my note paper and I can't find an A5 'file' on here.

On a completely different note, I bought a gorgeous A5 amazona last year which is working so much better for me than my personal malden was, not that I'm getting rid of her yet. But, the Amazona is stuffed to the rims and I don't even have everything I want in there yet. I'm sure I've seen somewhere a guide as to the files with the larger ring sizes, can someone point me in the right direction? This is me hoping there is an A5 with larger than the amazona.

Thanks again

Lucy (2012-02-14 07:58:46)

@CatB: I use a Password landscape template that I made and punched myself. I'll email it to you if you want but it's pocket sized . . . I think I'm in the minority there . . .

Alison Reeves (2012-02-14 08:15:00)

Those of you interested in paper - you can get Clairfontaine paper on amazon which is amazing if you want nice paper that will take a fountain pen.<http://ow.ly/93Kz7>

Jotje (2012-02-14 08:44:00)

@CatB: The Amazona has 25mm rings. If you like 30mm rings, you can choose from Malden (!), Finsbury, Sketch, Metropol, Graphic or Domino. Also Domino Snake btw.

Shanananana (2012-02-14 08:54:20)

@CatB, I type whatever text into a Word doc, then I have a page template with 2 text boxes, with the formatting inside them set so the text direction is vertical and not horizontal - I copy and paste in whatever I've typed, make sure it's all formatted right (turning my head on one side to do it sometimes) and then hit print. There are probably simpler ways but I don't do enough repeats of the same type of page to bother simplifying it any more. For Personal pages, I have 3 text boxes (2 upright so I can type and see the text horizontally, and one sideways at the bottom of the A4 page) and then cut them out with scissors... again, I'm sure there are quicker ways but I sometimes like to keep stuff on thin card and this works for me.

If faffing about with text boxes, Word & PDFs isn't your cup of tea, you could create a template in Photoshop or something and save it as a JPG, rotated, then just insert 2 onto each page of a Word doc and print that.

That sounds so ARDUOUS written out lol! I actually enjoy pottering about with these kinds of things...

CatB (2012-02-14 09:37:48)

Thanks everyone, that's a great help. I will look at creating something I think for A5, it shouldn't be too difficult as I have made other things in the past.

@Jotje - what an excuse for the new purple Malden!

Sandra (2012-02-14 10:31:00)

Hello all!

Just wanted to publicly commend City Organiser for shipping my goodies within 8 hours of placing my order! That is insane but awesome! I used the code xxx to get 15 % off—not sure when it expires. I think that is amazing, and I wish other companies would stand up and take notice. (Ahem)

Nicole (2012-02-14 11:34:22)

Where can I still buy the Baroque model?

How's Filofax France? The postage at 9 Euros is pretty cheap. What kind of postage do they use and is it trackable? In the order form there is a field for comments, can I request alternative postage there (and can I write in English)?

Scoot (2012-02-14 12:37:04)

Thanks Butanben & Alison,

We don't have a Mr Minute in Northumberland, or at least they aren't coming up on searches. Will check out WHS, a pastel shade sounds about right. Conqueror is nice but just too thick for a fax. I once tried Airmail paper, think 50-60gm2, but the colour blue isn't right for my A5 fax; and would tear around holes. I generally look for thin 80gm2 A4, which doesn't necessarily mean cheap. Unfortunately paper seems to be designed for inkjet and laser printers, rather than writing, and Staples have removed so much choice. I was in there yesterday but the only thing that tempted was a magnetic checkers set, thought I might be able to do my own fax checkers set! Rymans also have a limited choice, but can be a gold mine for other goodies.

I've tried to find Clairfontaine Trophe paper, to look at it, but nowhere had it. I was going to break a rule and buy it online, despite having never seen or felt it, but then I read a Fountain Pen Network review that indicated the paper wasn't as good as it used to be.

Jotje (2012-02-14 13:05:09)

@Sandra: I've ordered from CityOrganiser before and there are really great. Very punctual and - gasp! - the rings are always exactly the way they should be ... hehe.

So, .... what did you order????

Jotje (2012-02-14 13:06:30)

@Nicole: Filofax.fr have the teal Baroque at half price at the moment ....

LJ (2012-02-14 14:14:06)

Just a quick question - does anyone know if either of the Filofax stores in London are open on a Sunday? I have discovered today that I need to go on a course in London next week and the only flight available lands at 11:50am, so unfortunately I have time to browse Filofaxes. As you can imagine - I am distraught :o)

Sandra (2012-02-14 14:32:25)

@Jotje Since I traded my personal imperial purple Finchley for an A5 Malden (seemed like a good idea at the time—verdict still out as it is so floppy), I just had to pick up a replacement. I ordered two and plan to sell one on eBay.

The price wasn't bad with the coupon—and shipping was reasonable. And while I could have waited on the purple Malden, I just couldn't help myself.

Glad to hear the rings will be nice as they should be!

Shanananana (2012-02-14 14:35:12)

@LJ, sorry, they're closed on a Sunday, and so are City Organiser!

<http://www.filofax.co.uk/aboutus/stores.asp>

[http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/acatalog/The\\_Shop.html](http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/acatalog/The_Shop.html)

You could try the big WHSmith on Oxford St, at the Plaza - they'll be open, and might have something useful?

Shanananana (2012-02-14 14:41:13)

PS this is the Plaza's website:

<http://www.theplazaoxfordstreet.co.uk/stores/store-54.aspx>

And don't miss the flagship Paperchase store on Tottenham Court Road (nearest tube Goodge St, turn right out the station and walk to the crossing, it's across the road from there):

<http://www.paperchase.co.uk/london/tottenham-court-road/stry/w1t7ps/>

They carry some Filofax stuff, not a huge range, but their downstairs pen and card section is to die for, and there's a Ryman's stationer's right across the road as well.

Anthony (2012-02-14 14:51:50)

Stationery Matters;

Last week I went into Fred Aldous in Manchester city centre they have a web site, what an incredible place, there's loads of art things and the pens well I was staggered by the selection. I bought a Staedtler Pigment 0.1mm.

On another topic has anyone noticed, I expect that someone has that on the Birthdays, Anniversaries and Special Occasions sheets when my Filo is open and two months are shown opposite one another the titles Birthdays, Anniversaries and Special Occasions are aligned at the outside edge in sheet. Why aren't the sheets laid out the same?

Butanben (2012-02-14 19:58:24)

@LJ. What a darned nuisance that timing is for you! Sometimes the airport shops.... oddly enough.... can have the occasional Filofax bargain. Worth a look whilst passing by if you are landing at a major London Airport??? Just a fleeting thought. Have a wonderful time in London.

Butanben (2012-02-14 20:04:34)

OOH @ LJ. A PS..... if you pass by a TK Maxx, or Home Sense, its sister store, they seem to have a lot of Filofax half price bargains at the moment. At least Home Sense in Poole (Branksome) does..... mostly those filos they are phasing out I think.

Jill V. (2012-02-14 22:32:20)

@Sandra—Sorry to hear the Malden isn't working for you! Did you see the pics I posted to Flickr of the Finchley?! I am loving it! Thanks again!

As for the templates, I was super excited to see a time management layout (the one with the week on the left and todos/email etc on the right). Was hoping you guys can get that into a personal size soon. .

and WHEN is the purple Malden going to be available to actually purchase?! I cannot WAIT!

Ray Blake (2012-02-15 02:43:36)

@Jill: I'm working on one of those now. It should be ready next week.

Sandra (2012-02-15 10:16:31)

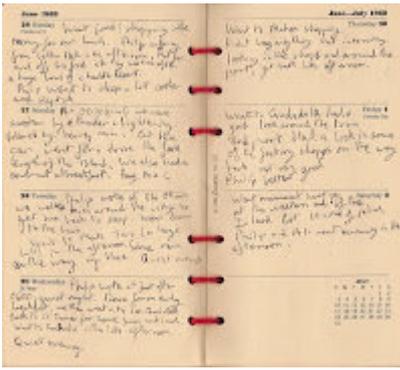
@JillV I did see your pics! So glad you are happy with it. That A5 Malden is beautiful. Maybe I just need to embrace her floppiness. ;)

@Ray I am looking forward to your personal size time management insert as well. Thank you for all that you do!

D (2012-02-15 11:47:48)

grawshwa On a different note, I got a Levenson catalog in the mail today and noticed they are selling the filofax Flex system. Did anyone else notice that?

## Journalling in Your Filofax (2012-02-15 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

Have you been journalling this year? Or journalling in your Filofax even. 'Saffy' came across a series of articles on a Australian site that gives prompts for each day.

You can read them all on [2]Kikki.K and put them in to practice as you like. But read the notes at the [3]start of the series.

I try to make a note of things I do each day, but I'm not the more prolific of journal writers. I will be looking at their tips to try and improve what I write about each day.

Do keep a journal in your Filofax?

1. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-FIWeH1bkLPQ/ThxdhV05RSI/AAAAAAAAJZQ/3XKHGIhxtJA/s1600/1988diary.jpeg>
2. <http://www.kikki-k.com/blogs/blog/journaling-prompts/>
3. <http://www.kikki-k.com/blogs/blog/journaling-prompts/2012/jan/4/new-year-journaling-tips/>

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Lime Tree (2012-02-15 02:39:10)

That is a great website! Thanks for Posting it!

I have been journalling in my Filofax and I am loving it. I use the week on 2 pages that came with it so not much room to write. On the other hand I dont feel overwhelmed that I have to write too much. I really enjoy at the end of the day journaling on my FF and looking at what I already wrote about 2012! :)

Jotje (2012-02-15 04:25:50)

In my personal Deco I have 4 WO2P in cotton cream, where I journal about my kids day. CC paper takes my Lamy FP very well, which motivates the daily journalling. Loving it!

Rex (2012-02-15 08:32:09)

I do keep a journal on my filofax, and since retiring a year ago, its probably the main use of the filo now. I've moved on from making a few notes in the notebook/diary I always needed at work and now need the Day Per Page just for the journal. But that space does get used for 2 purposes. I write appointments (if any) and daily to-do's in pencil in the timed slots on the left of the page. I then write the 'journal' (late in the day), in ink, horizontally accross the page with the 'top' of the page adjacent the rings and if it's a full page that day, I either just write over the penciled stuff, or rub it out first. Writing horizontally overcomes the rings making writing awkward. Something else I do that's a hangover from trying a pc-pased journal, is 'back up' the filo journal to this pc journal. This has the benefit of being readable (my writing IS more legible now I'm using a fountain pen, but was once appalling), and the software I use is very slick at looking stuff up. The software is DavidRM's 'Journal' and is excellent.

And thats how I do it.

Butanben (2012-02-15 09:39:04)

I intended to keep a FF journal in my pocket Adelphi, along with a dream journal. It is such a gorgeous Filofax,in a gorgeous red, that I just have to use it for this. I have already missed quite a few slots in the journal bit though.... so I may look at the site you mentioned and begin again. Thanks for the link. xx

Lynne Dove (2012-02-15 10:59:27)

I have been journaling in my personal Baroque since the beginning of this year. I am using Day Timer Coastline DO2P for the journal and have Day Timer Flavia sections for home and contact info. I hope to make the leap to a sort of art journal - probably just colour and doodles with maybe some small relevant pictures added. I am using a pocket Baroque as my main file which has a capture section with coloured notepaper and a Maudie Made WO2P and use this to feed the journal. It is working very well.

Unknown (2012-02-15 11:03:19)

On a similar note - Charles Lindbergh's flight journal looks familiar in style.

Unknown (2012-02-15 11:04:56)

Ok, it would help if I'd put the link in that last comment: <http://quitecontinental.net/2012/02/15/quite-continental-charm-school-day-15-keep-a-travel-journal/>

Diane Perin Hock (2012-02-15 11:52:08)

Thanks for that great link! Yes, I journal in my Filofaxes. In my "house" FF (an A5 Chameleon that always stays on my desk) I use the WO2p vertical pages. I write the daily to-dos and appointments at the top half of the column, and at the end of the day I make very brief notes about what I did. So it shows plans and history in very brief fashion.

In another A5 which is dedicated to personal things (a pink Finchley) I use the day per page set up for personal journaling. I'm starting to think I might need a day on 2 pages but for now I'm intermixing a plain sheet when I need to go over. Having half pages for Saturday and Sunday annoys me.

ONutter (2012-02-15 12:05:45)

Hopefully I will get my first filofax this week (or at least within the month). An amber personal metropol that I ordered at 50 % off from the .dk site.

Anyhow, I know I will keep a journal part in it on blank paper. I use a small, blank notebook at the moment for my journaling purposes and really like how versatile a blank page is with regards to layout, illustrations, thought processes etc. allowing me to structure the page according to my mood. Sometimes, all girly with flowers and drawings. Sometimes just straight written lines. Sometimes pictures, and writing, and arrows going all over the page. It depends on what I am writing about. A blank page is good that way.

I really had started to think about how to deal with the ring mechanism when writing and drawing. So thank you Rex, that's a very good tip with writing horizontally. Of some reason, I hadn't thought about writing that way!

Saffy (2012-02-15 18:22:44)

I have been struggling with how to start journaling because in the past I got caught up on the 'chore' of it all, you know the 'must write every day, must write every day' mind set. I would get to the point of being so overwhelmed by the empty dated pages and found it impossible to catch up.

After reading the notes at the start of the journaling prompts I thought, this is my kind of journal. The prompts all seemed positive and inspiring and I didn't have to rack my brain for something to write. And best of all there is no start or end date, they can be done at my leisure. I particularly like prompt no. 7 on a cold but sunny day. I copied the prompts and printed them onto personal sized paper and put some into my everyday Filofax.

I thought they may be useful if I am out and about and have time while on a train (or plane) or even having a coffee/ bite to eat in a cafe.

I can then transfer them back into my Journaling Filofax when I get home.

I hope you enjoy them if you decide to give them a try and thanks to Steve for including them in a post.

**Free A5 2012 diary sets to download and print for your Filofax (2012-02-16 02:01)**  
- Steve Morton

Here they are, then.

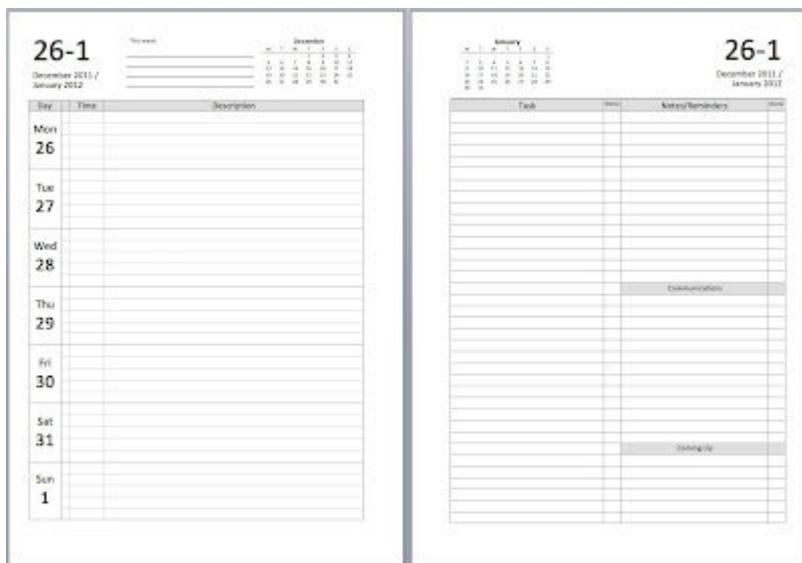
When Ray and I began talking about developing these we imagined there would be a fair bit of work involved, and there was. I don't think we realised how much fun it would be, nor quite how many people would get excited about getting hold of them.

Today we're making available the 2012 diary sets. These are layouts each covering the whole of 2012. They are created as A4 documents. To use them as A5 inserts, print the document in [1]booklet mode on A4 paper, then use a guillotine to divide each sheet into two and [2]punch the required holes, which the templates are set up with mirrored gutters to accommodate. Alternatively if you have A5 paper then your PC and/or printer will be able to scale the page to fit the paper size.

Of course, you can print these on any paper you like; coloured, patterned and fountain pen-friendly are all options, as is plain white A4 printer paper.

So, here are your downloads.

**Enhanced TM Week Per View**



[3]

Download[4] Word version or [5]pdf version

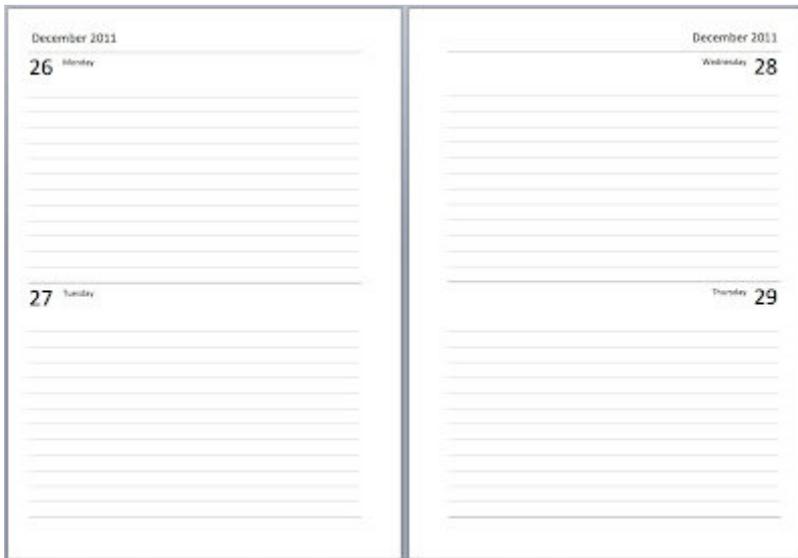
**Version 2 of the Enhanced TM Week Per View** - this has fewer lines and therefore more space to write in.





[13]

Download [14]Word Version or [15]pdf version  
**Two Days Per Page lined**



[16]

Download [17]Word Version or [18]pdf version

Also still available are the [19]Two Page Per Day and [20]One Page Per Day sets.

Are these templates nearly but not quite right for you? If so, watch out for when we post the source files for you to download and adapt as you wish. We'll make them available here soon.

Also coming soon are some Personal size diary inserts, we are still refining these.

Again my thanks go to Ray for all his help and hard work in making these happen.

[21] 

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1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/08/printing-a5-pages.html>
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/01/reader-question-which-punch.html>
3. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-9QdIC3uW4hs/TzfZ01p221I/AAAAAAAAAKQc/Yq0wx-hfCL8/s1600/enhancedweekview.jpg>
4. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced\\_TM\\_Week\\_View/2012\\_merged\\_Enhanced\\_TM\\_Week\\_per\\_view.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced_TM_Week_View/2012_merged_Enhanced_TM_Week_per_view.docx)
5. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced\\_TM\\_Week\\_View/2012\\_merged\\_Enhanced\\_TM\\_Week\\_per\\_view.pdf](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced_TM_Week_View/2012_merged_Enhanced_TM_Week_per_view.pdf)
6. [http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-\\_3QQLQTRs8w/T2XzIaUE08I/AAAAAAAAAKgc/taoAKBL\\_rHo/s1600/tmv2.jpg](http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-_3QQLQTRs8w/T2XzIaUE08I/AAAAAAAAAKgc/taoAKBL_rHo/s1600/tmv2.jpg)
7. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced\\_TM\\_Week\\_View/A52012\\_merged\\_Enhanced\\_TM\\_Week\\_per\\_viewV2.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced_TM_Week_View/A52012_merged_Enhanced_TM_Week_per_viewV2.docx)
8. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced\\_TM\\_Week\\_View/A52012\\_merged\\_Enhanced\\_TM\\_Week\\_per\\_viewV2.pdf](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced_TM_Week_View/A52012_merged_Enhanced_TM_Week_per_viewV2.pdf)
9. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-z9KdunT7EXI/TzfZP3Su8sI/AAAAAAAAAKQc/45D86Qq40VA/s1600/weekviewvertical.jpg>

10. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Vertical\\_Week\\_View/2012\\_merged\\_Vertical\\_Week\\_per\\_view\\_A4.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Vertical_Week_View/2012_merged_Vertical_Week_per_view_A4.docx)
11. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Vertical\\_Week\\_View/2012\\_merged\\_Vertical\\_Week\\_per\\_view\\_A4.pdf](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Vertical_Week_View/2012_merged_Vertical_Week_per_view_A4.pdf)
12. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/2012\\_merged\\_Vertical\\_Week\\_per\\_view\\_A4.pdf](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/2012_merged_Vertical_Week_per_view_A4.pdf)
13. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-4v0dQklsI3M/TzfZMMTYv8I/AAAAAAAAKQE/DkkFdMxqeK4/s1600/2daysperpage.jpg>
14. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/2\\_Days\\_Per\\_Page/merged\\_2\\_days\\_per\\_page\\_2012.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/2_Days_Per_Page/merged_2_days_per_page_2012.docx)
15. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/2\\_Days\\_Per\\_Page/merged\\_2\\_days\\_per\\_page\\_2012.pdf](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/2_Days_Per_Page/merged_2_days_per_page_2012.pdf)
16. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-lZKbxSacLWE/TzfZNLs2ryI/AAAAAAAAAKQM/9YDhLyuhhMo/s1600/2daysperpagelined.jpg>
17. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/2\\_Days\\_Per\\_Page/merged\\_2\\_days\\_per\\_page\\_lined\\_2012.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/2_Days_Per_Page/merged_2_days_per_page_lined_2012.docx)
18. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/2\\_Days\\_Per\\_Page/merged\\_2\\_days\\_per\\_page\\_lined\\_2012.pdf](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/2_Days_Per_Page/merged_2_days_per_page_lined_2012.pdf)
19. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2011/11/download-and-print-your-own-a4-or-a5.html>
20. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2012/01/download-your-free-page-per-day-2012-a4.html>
21. <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/>
22. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/>
23. <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/>

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Tim (2012-02-16 02:41:08)

Thanks for taking on board all the various suggestions made (both through the comments pages and by email). The end results are excellent! Tim

Lime Tree (2012-02-16 03:05:05)

Thanks for all the hard work, I can't imagine how much time went into this! I'm loving having all those different layouts to experiment!

Jotje (2012-02-16 04:06:07)

Steve, the problem seems fixed, I can now see the comments, and comment myself.

Love the new layouts. You and Ray have done a terrific job on this! I love that I can try out any layout, for a week before I decide which works best for me! Brilliant, really! For now, I'm using up my blank punched A5 Time/System note paper, but will investigate in superior paper quality once I decide on layout!

Alison Reeves (2012-02-16 04:36:20)

I think we are now spoilt for choice! Well done Steve and Ray - obviously the result of much hard work!

Shanananana (2012-02-16 07:05:51)

You've done an amazing job on these!!

Hats off to you both! ;-)

fluffyferret (2012-02-16 07:08:12)

Fantastic!

Looking forward to the Personal size inserts.

CatB (2012-02-16 07:57:56)

I would really like to know the best source for A5 paper. I know alot of people print on A4 and cut, but I just can't be bothered with it, and I hate having to measure out half the page etc etc. I know some suggestions have already been made, but perhaps after people have trialed this fabulous new layouts anyone who has found some options could let us know what has been the most successful?

I'm really looking forward to getting the source files so I can edit to my hearts content and get the pages looking exactly as I would want them. For example I want to include a meal section amongst others. Thank you so much to Steve & Ray.

Anke (2012-02-16 08:46:17)

Thank you so much for these great templates!

Sandra (2012-02-16 10:33:33)

Love these! Looking forward to personal templates as well. Thank you!

Peg (2012-02-16 11:30:58)

Ahhh!!!! These are so cool but I don't know what I'm doing when I go to print them. I live in US and have 8 1/2 x 11" paper. Please help me. Thanks.

Ray Blake (2012-02-16 12:34:11)

@Peg, you're going to need to find a supply of either A4 or A5 paper. I know there are lots of readers here who live in teh US and could probably steer you to a source. Hopefully, someone will chip in.

ArtJournal88 (2012-02-16 12:50:57)

Thank you for making this wonderful diary templates! I couldn't wait to download the "Enhanced TM Week Per View" and I'm really wondering if you are a saint not selling them, I would have paid for this one...(and still do, so, if theres any donation chance, I'll find out, hehe) So great and generous, thanks again! GG

Sandra (2012-02-16 12:52:57)

@Peg

You can print to letter size paper as I do and trim them as needed. On print options choose "booklet printing" under page scaling (if printing a pdf). If the scale looks odd adjust it to suit you. :)

Steve Morton (2012-02-16 13:23:44)

Hi Everyone

Thanks for all your comments and feedback. There will be more info and coming up in the next week or so.

We plan to make the personal size inserts available around the middle of next week.

But to pick up on some specific comments:

@peg, try the files as they are, but let the printer or your PC scale the page to fit your paper, I'm not sure what they will look like. But try a couple of pages and see what they come out like.

@Artjournal88 Think of the templates as 'donationware' If you wish to make a donation, then by all means do so here:

<http://www.chimwemwe.net/help.html>

This is a charity run for a very good cause by a Philofaxy reader/supporter and I've donated via PayPal to them and I know others have as well. But please don't think you have to donate. It's totally voluntary.

Thanks

Steve

Butanben (2012-02-16 13:36:27)

A HUGE THANK YOU TO STEVE AND RAY!!

Peg (2012-02-16 13:43:39)

Ray, Sandra & Steve

I printed how Sandra said to and it WORKED, only the calendar side is coming out on the right and the notes section is on left. Maybe I'm doing something wrong. And the 8 1/2 size paper is not as wide as I'm guessing the A4 or A5 paper is. May have to invest in some. Since I have both the A5 and personal, which size paper do you recommend I buy as I will be printing for both Filos? Also, do you think I'm printing wrong for it to come out with the calendar on the right side? Thanks SO MUCH to all of you. This is really cool. And to know that I'll be able to tweak it, THAT'S awesome! Peg

ArtJournal88 (2012-02-16 14:06:07)

@steve: great, thank you for the suggestion, it's donated, and I feel better now, hehe. I always want to give a little bit at least whenever I find anything that I really appreciate. So you made me happy, too. I bookmarked chimwemwe in case of further "purchases" aka downloads.

Ray Blake (2012-02-16 14:11:57)

@Peg,

The template is set up to print the pages in booklet mode. If you follow the link in Steve's post you'll see how to do that. Assuming you have booklet mode, they'll print the right way around as long as you retain the first page, the title sheet, which forces the margins one page on. If you don't have booklet mode but have the option of 2 pages per sheet, then delete the face sheet, or print from page 2, and ensure duplexing is set to flip on the short edge.

Ray Blake (2012-02-16 14:16:21)

When we release the Personal layouts next week they'll be set to print on a4 paper, because that way you can print onto the quality paper of your choice. Subsequently, we'll provide versions you can print straight onto Filofax personal paper should you want to.

cgarsnrealest8 (2012-02-16 14:53:05)

@Peg

@Ray

In the US, Staples carries A5 paper on their website. It can be delivered to a store near you in 2 days for pickup, or a few more days to your house. Staples or Fedex Kinko's will cut it in half and hole punch it for about six bucks. The ream of A5 paper is about ten bucks.

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-02-16 15:04:31)

Steve and Ray - these are fantastic! And thank you for suggesting donations to Chimwemwe - that's really kind of you and I can assure everyone on here that **every** penny given goes to the kids in Malawi.

Nellie (2012-02-16 15:36:14)

These are amazing, thank you for going to so much effort! Start making binders and you might put Filofax out of business!

Matthew Lamb (2012-02-16 15:40:39)

These are seriously better than the ones designed by Filofax. The layout is more graphically sophisticated. I also prefer the font, which is clean, crisp and modern. Pay attention Filofax!

Peg (2012-02-16 19:48:21)

Ray- you were right. I was skipping the front page. It printed correctly after the change.

cgarsnrealest8- thanks for the Staples lead. I'm going to order it tomorrow. Just wish they offered it in a little heavier weight.

Ray & Steve- Do you think the file will be available next week so that I can tweak it my way?

You guys are great. I can't imagine the time you spent doing this.

Thanks again for your help.

Laurie (2012-02-16 20:14:52)

These are spectacular! Thanks for all your time and effort on these you guys!!

janet (2012-02-16 23:01:59)

just wanted to say a huge thank you. You guys have saved my day! xx

Ray Blake (2012-02-17 01:12:15)

OK, geeks (and Peg), the source files are now available if you want to play:

<http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2012/02/download-source-file-s-for-new-a5-diary.html>

Steve Morton (2012-02-17 08:24:15)

We also got an excellent plug on City Organiser on their Facebook page:

Pimp your A5 with a great picture!!!  
<https://www.facebook.com/cityorganiser>  
Steve

Peg (2012-02-17 10:23:12)  
Ray- Too funny. Of course you know I WILL probably writing for help once I start to do this. Hehe.  
Thanks again guys!

LJ (2012-02-18 00:55:59)  
Wow - thanks guys. Moving everything into one personal FF seems to be working for me so far, but seeing these templates is making me seriously want to move back to A5 - lol x

Ray Blake (2012-02-18 02:25:26)  
@LJ: Personal-sized sets are coming in 3 or 4 days' time.

Steve Morton (2012-03-14 12:19:17)  
Hello  
I've just printed off  
my TM Enhanced Week View on A5 paper from these people: <http://www.mondigroup.com/products/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-80/>  
I have the 80 gsm IQ Premium paper.  
Does anyone find the 5 spaces per day too cramped? I've produced a revised version with only 4 spaces per day which suits my hand writing better. If you would like to see a copy of Version 2 then let me know and I will make it more generally available.  
Steve

### **Free For All Friday No 170 (2012-02-17 00:00) - Steve Morton**

Friday is where we open the floor to you to discuss anything Filofax related. There are no entry qualifications, so if you only found the blog 5 minutes ago or 5 years ago, you can add a comment, ask a question, open a discussion on any Filofax topic no matter when it was previously discussed. So let discussion commence... and have a great weekend.

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Anke (2012-02-17 01:00:22)  
Good morning,  
I was wondering whether any of you have got experiences with the Filofax France customer service. I bought a Holborn Zip there and the rings don't close all the way (seems to be a Holborn Zip characteristic :(). I sent Filofax France a message 3 days after it arrived (2 weeks ago). I only heard back from them last Friday telling me they'd see what they could do and would get back to me this week.  
Still no answer... I sent them another email yesterday asking for updates, but I kinda got the feeling they are trying to ignore this.  
Do you know whether there is anywhere else I could contact? Like some international head office I could write to? I'm a bit disappointed, especially since the Holborn wasn't exactly cheap and I've made great experiences with Filofax Italia over a <20€ item.  
Any tips are more than welcome!

Jotje (2012-02-17 01:56:39)  
Since you live in Germany, send Filofax.de an email! There was someone at Filomaniac who got a Filofax replaced that had been bought in the UK.

Anita (2012-02-17 04:23:51)

Nosing on eBay, I came across this!

I'm not sure how many inserts you'd be able to fit with the hip flask inside though...

[http://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/Filofax-Vintage-Burgundy-and-Original-Design-Solid-Pewter-Hip-Flask-New-/140704186380?pt=UK\\_BOI\\_Office\\_Office\\_Supplies\\_Stationery\\_ET&hash=item20c29f800c#ht\\_699wt\\_1185](http://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/Filofax-Vintage-Burgundy-and-Original-Design-Solid-Pewter-Hip-Flask-New-/140704186380?pt=UK_BOI_Office_Office_Supplies_Stationery_ET&hash=item20c29f800c#ht_699wt_1185)

teddy edwards (2012-02-17 04:39:29)

@ Anita - Wow! That would perk up a few meetings wouldn't it!

Steve Morton (2012-02-17 04:55:07)

We shared that link on Twitter the other night, I commented that it wouldn't hold enough wine for my liking! 'This is my drinking Filofax' complete with pub crawl maps, the good pub guide insert, inserts for recording the details and your own reviews of pubs, beers, pub food etc. Oh and emergency instructions sheet... If this person is found asleep in the train sidings at 4AM do not disturb until morning and please drop him off at Tonbridge Station..

Steve

Butanben (2012-02-17 05:27:36)

Has anyone made their own weather charts for their Filofax they could share? I would love to record the weather occasionally, but a) I am useless at drawing and b) Don't really want my Filofax diary pages to look like a kindergarten wall chart!! Any ideas?? So wish Filofax did small discrete weather stickers too!! Mail me at [je.mccourt@virgin.net](mailto:je.mccourt@virgin.net), if you have a weather attachment to share. I'd be so grateful.

Steve Morton (2012-02-17 05:29:02)

Jane

How about using a month to a page diary/calendar so record the weather for each day in just that section?

Steve

Lynne Dove (2012-02-17 06:01:47)

Butanben and Steve. You've got me thinking now! The horizontal year planner would also work very well for this.

Jenny (2012-02-17 08:16:49)

Hello,

@Lynne Dove:

This is the beach of OLU DENIZ, isn't it?

Butanben (2012-02-17 08:57:19)

Thanks for your ideas about weather charts. I think it would be an interesting addition to my Filofax, and interesting to compare the weather trends year on year.

Lynne Dove (2012-02-17 10:29:13)

Hi Jenny, yes it is and that is my foot!

Scoot (2012-02-17 10:39:09)

Not that I read the Mail, but this came up during a search...

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/home/moslive/article-1253755/Keep-blackberry-Even-Gordon-Gekko-didnt-filofax-like-Berluti-Macassar.html>

Absolutely beautiful.

J (2012-02-17 11:04:02)

@Butanben- don't worry about looking like a kindergartner- it's YOUR planner! I can't draw to save my life, but I still put a little weather doodle with the temperature on every daily page.

I'd thought about putting them elsewhere in my binder, but I find I really like being able to look at what I had done that day AND what the weather was like in the same page. That way, I can laugh at myself if I was camping in a thunderstorm or wonder what I was thinking when I went running when the weather was below freezing!

Tim (2012-02-17 12:08:04)

I am coming to the conclusion that Letts Filofax aren't really interested in interacting with their customers. We've had quite a lack of response to numerous issues and suggestions raised on Philofaxy. So, I thought I would try posting a question directly onto the Filofax Facebook page with the hope of reporting back here.

They left it there for a few days and then just quietly deleted it.

Is my question so unreasonable...?

"Is it true that there's to be some slim A5 binders coming? Let's hope so! Many of us now keep most of our data (appointments, contacts etc.) on our phones and laptops so there's less need to carry unnecessary paper around. Smaller rings are needed!

A5 is a great size for making notes, sketching etc. but traditional A5 binders are too heavy and bulky to lug around. Also, A5 is the best size for printing documents (certainly in UK/Europe). Most documents come in A4. Simply reduce to A5 (two pages on an A4 sheet) cut, punch and insert into your Filofax. Much easier than trying to reduce on a printer to other paper sizes. Thinner binders may be said to look sleeker (no, not the gusseted Adelphi!) and big fat binder rings are awful for left-handers to write around!

So - an A5 slim binder with Filofax Time Management pages please. Now that would be a great business tool!"

Steve Morton (2012-02-17 12:20:38)

Tim

I can't see anything in their terms and conditions that would prevent you from asking such a question:

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This is the official Filofax Fan Page and we encourage you to leave comments, photos, videos and links on this page. However, we will review any content which is posted and will remove any that are deemed inappropriate or offensive. Filofax will leave the content that you share which relates to the subjects covered on this Fan page. Please understand that any comments posted to this page do not represent the opinions of the Letts Filofax Group.

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Ask it again and host of us will join in...

Steve

Tim (2012-02-17 13:56:26)

Duly done! Thanks for your support Steve.

Steph (2012-02-17 14:39:09)

Can someone please direct me to the right facebook page please? I would like to support the conversation as well. I am not new to filofax, but I have had some bummer luck with them. I have had 4 binders and only one of them had rings that weren't broken. The customer service has been hit or miss with it. I really want to love them (filofax) completely but with the rings breaking it doesn't give me much to go on. ( just fyi I had 2 pocket maldens, and 2 finsburys.) I am still on the quest for one I like and that works for me. I also don't like the rigidity of most of them.

Steve Morton (2012-02-17 14:44:19)

Steph

It's here: <https://www.facebook.com/filofax>

Steve

Cazzle (2012-02-17 16:12:11)

Hi Guys!

I'm a long time lurker and lover of Filofax... I just wondered if any one owns the Finchley and the Osterley in A5 and which one would they recommend?

It's time to replace my Domino and I'm willing to splurge if the Osterley really is that amazing!

I'm not a fan of really stiff Filo's. I have a Malden and I know neither of them are as soft as that.

Is the the Plum colour of the Osterley more purple or red? I can't tell too much from the pictures I've seen.

Sorry for the rambling!

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-02-17 17:00:29)

@Cazzle

Welcome!!

I have two A5 Finchleys (in red and in green) and they are lovely.

The Finchley doesn't have a stiff cover at all and I find it has a good interior layout (lots of card slots and a zipped pocket on the LHS and a mesh pocket which can hold a notepad on the RHS). I haven't seen the Osterley in real life so I can't comment on it, but I love my two Finchleys!

nina Elfenfisch (2012-02-17 21:48:29)

@J

thank you for the "it's YOUR Planner". it was absolutely necessary to be aware of that again. i love to "pimp" my filofax with coloured selfmade registers, washi tape, quotes and even svarowski-styled-stickers..... sometimes i feel embarrassed for all these girly things in my also professional and serious filofax in front of others. but why should i?!!! it's mine, and even if i look like a kindergartner..... i love the stickers and all the colours. they make me smile and happy. so i really shouldn't care about what others might think....

BUTANBEN START DRAWING!!!! ;) )

@cazzle

i totally agree with amanda. the finchley is such a great one. i own one in personal size and even if i'm not using it, i really can't sell it because i'm so into this leather!!!! the look, the haptic and this smell!! this smell.... you really should went to a store and "meet it in person".

the osterley is also beautiful and i totally understand your lust for the plum :) But the things I don't like: the way the inside Pockets are arranged, the copper coloured button, which is in MY opinion not ok for the plum one (it definately is for the new orange one!!! WOW!!!) and i also didn't like the top and bottom positions of the pen holders.

if you're able to see them in person, you should really touch them to find out which one you prefer :)

i hope it helped ;)

Cazzle (2012-02-18 03:53:00)

Thanks Amanda and Nina...

I'll try and see them in person but I don't think there's anywhere round here that stocks those models.

You've both pretty much sold me on the Finchley anyway! xx

Shanananana (2012-02-18 20:19:07)

@Tim, I e-mailed Filofax UK recently to ask if they were planning to offer print-on-demand and got an answer ("no but thanks" etc) back 5 days later. I think posting stuff and hoping they'll see it, and then that the person who has the answers will reply, is probably a bit of a crapshoot, so why not mail them directly for a start?

Tim (2012-02-19 14:11:29)

@Shanananana - You're probably right! I think it's very sad though that Letts Filofax have got a big, loyal fan club here, but seem to think it's beneath them to respond to questions or suggestions - either regularly on Philofaxy or on their own pages. I run a small business and am always delighted when folk take the time to comment on our Facebook page - good or bad! Filofax seem to regard their wall as purely for them telling us how wonderful they are. I'm not so sure that makes for good customer relations. Whilst they seem to respond well to individual faulty items, there are a lot of range (especially inserts) and quality (eg: ring mechanism) issues about which they should be listening.

Thanks to everyone who supported my question or emailed me directly. We DO now know (thanks to Steve) that compact (20mm) A5 binders are coming soon. Let's hope they fit the bill!

Shanananana (2012-02-19 15:26:16)

@Tim and indeed in general, I think to get their attention you/we'd need an organised campaign, let's face it every company has dreamers who phone/write in with their ideal product.

Unless Filofax pays people to actually sit and read blogs - which carries all sorts of legal potential problems in itself, in terms of creative copyrights and so on - how are they to know the numbers who want this?

Maybe I just have an overly direct communication style or something, but I think if no-one hears the hints, it's time to just up and ask, they have phone numbers, e-mail and even snail mail addresses, and it's only fair to complain (NOT saying *you're* doing that!) AFTER you've actually asked them up front.

JMO. ;o)

Laurie (2012-02-20 00:21:53)

Actually many of us have contacted them directly via Twitter, Facebook and email. Sometimes we get replies, sometimes we don't.

### Download source files for the new A5 diary layouts (2012-02-17 07:28) - Steve Morton

Hopefully you've found one of [1]the new diary layouts that you like. But perhaps it's not quite exactly what you want. Perhaps you'd like the lines to be pink rather than grey, the dates to appear in Comic Sans font. Or perhaps you'd like to produce a diary now for 2013, 2014 or 2525. Maybe you want to print a diary for a particular period rather than a calendar year all in one go. If that describes you, you're in luck.

Today, we are making available the source files that Ray and I used to create the 2012 diary sets. Equipped with these, you can tinker around and design exactly the diary page you want, then get your PC to calculate and print it for any date range you choose. In each of the data source files, you just need to change one date - the starting date - and the file will calculate all the other dates for you. I've highlighted the cell with the date you need to change in each of the files like this:

	A	B	C	D	E
1	DateMo	DateTu	DateWe	DateTh	DateFr
2	26-Dec-11	27-Dec-11	28-Dec-11	29-Dec-11	30-Dec-11
3	02-Jan-12	03-Jan-12	04-Jan-12	05-Jan-12	06-Jan-12
4	09-Jan-12	10-Jan-12	11-Jan-12	12-Jan-12	13-Jan-12
5	16-Jan-12	17-Jan-12	18-Jan-12	19-Jan-12	20-Jan-12
6	23-Jan-12	24-Jan-12	25-Jan-12	26-Jan-12	27-Jan-12
7	30-Jan-12	31-Jan-12	01-Feb-12	02-Feb-12	03-Feb-12
8	06-Feb-12	07-Feb-12	08-Feb-12	09-Feb-12	10-Feb-12
9	13-Feb-12	14-Feb-12	15-Feb-12	16-Feb-12	17-Feb-12
10	20-Feb-12	21-Feb-12	22-Feb-12	23-Feb-12	24-Feb-12
11	27-Feb-12	28-Feb-12	29-Feb-12	01-Mar-12	02-Mar-12

[2]

If you want fewer dates, delete full rows at the bottom end. If you want more, drag the formulae down into more rows. If you mess up, you can always download the file again and start over.

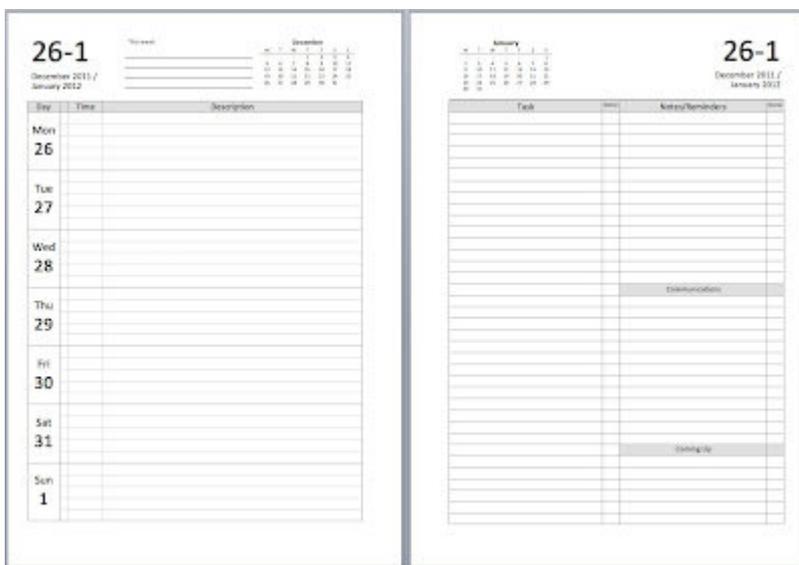
As long as you have some basic Word and Excel skills, you should be able to give this a go (I know that some of you already have, using [3]the source files Ray provided in November for the [4]Day on Two Pages and [5]Day on A Page layouts.) You'll need to be able to set up a basic mail merge file link, and there are plenty of web tutorials that show you the way - Google using the search terms: Word Excel Mail Merge 20xx (where 'xx' is 02, 03, 07 or 10, depending on your version.)

Depending on what version of Word you're using, Word may put section breaks between every record, which will throw out the mirrored gutter formatting in the layout. If it does, the solution is quite simple; do a find and replace on section breaks (^b) to remove them all. You'll also need to add a single page break to the front of the merged document so that each 2-page spread has gutters in the middle for the holes.

Now, if you just read all that and understood at least some of it, get downloading and have a go. However, if it might as well have been Venesian, then you might be better off just downloading the [6]pre-prepared 2012 sets.

Here are the source files.

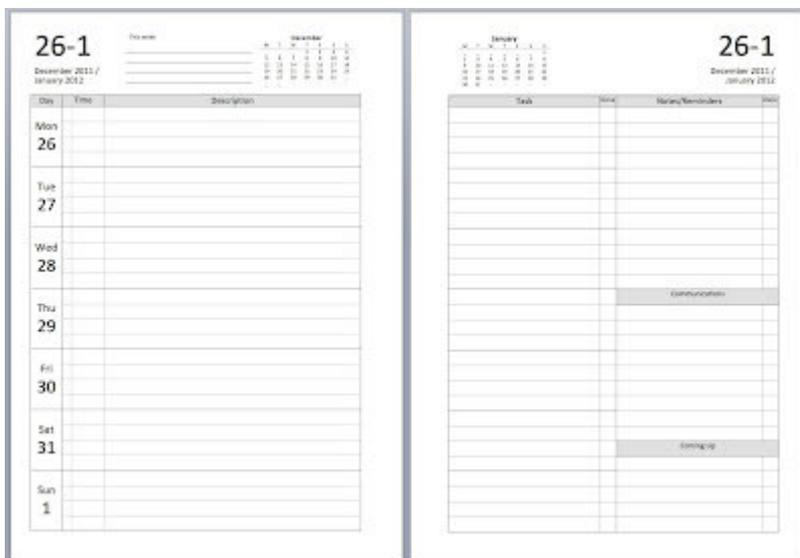
**Enhanced TM Week Per View**



[7]

Download [8]Word file and [9]Excel file Version 1.0

**Enhanced TM Week Per View Version 2**



[10]

Download [11]Word file and [12]Excel file Version 2.0  
**Vertical Week Per View**

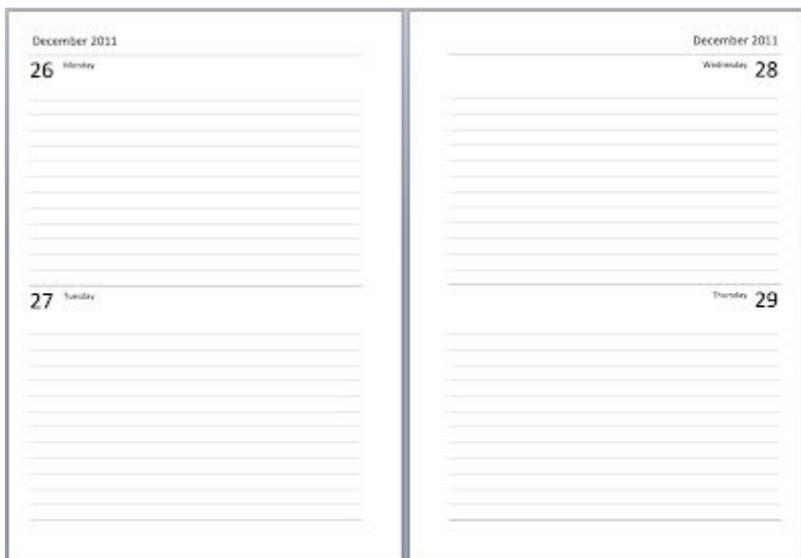
The image shows two side-by-side vertical weekly planners. The left planner is for December 2011, starting on Monday, Dec 26, and ending on Friday, Dec 30. The right planner is for January 2012, starting on Saturday, Jan 6, and ending on Friday, Jan 12. Both planners feature a grid of days with a 'Tasks' column on the right side for each day. The planners are labeled '26-1' in the top corners.

[13]

Download [14]Word file and [15]Excel file  
**Two Days Per Page unlined or lined**

The image shows two side-by-side vertical two-day planners for December 2011. The left page is for Monday, Dec 26, and Tuesday, Dec 27. The right page is for Wednesday, Dec 28, and Thursday, Dec 29. Each page has a large blank area for writing, with the date and day of the week printed at the top. The planners are labeled 'December 2011' at the top.

[16]



[17]

Download [18]Word file (unlined), [19]Word file (lined) and [20]Excel file (same one works for both versions).

Have fun, and please share in the comments any interesting modifications you make. Post some pictures to the [21]Philofaxy Flickr group.

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/02/free-a5-2012-diary-sets-to-download-and.html>
2. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-X1irRvcg3PE/Tz14bZjAqsI/AAAAAAAAAV0/iXBdyLe-HJs/s1600/editdate.png>
3. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2011/11/make-your-own-diary-source-files.html>
4. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2011/11/download-and-print-your-own-a4-or-a5.html>
5. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2012/01/download-your-free-page-per-day-2012-a4.html>
6. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/02/free-a5-2012-diary-sets-to-download-and.html>
7. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-9QdIC3uW4hs/TzfZ0lp221I/AAAAAAAKQQ/Yq0wx-hfCL8/s1600/enhancedweekview.jpg>
8. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced\\_TM\\_Week\\_View/Enhanced%20TM%20Week%20View%20base.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced_TM_Week_View/Enhanced%20TM%20Week%20View%20base.docx)
9. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced\\_TM\\_Week\\_View/DatesSourceFilo\\_WOTP.xlsx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced_TM_Week_View/DatesSourceFilo_WOTP.xlsx)
10. [http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-\\_3Q0LQTRs8w/T2XzIaUE08I/AAAAAAAKGc/taoAKBL\\_rHo/s1600/tmv2.jpg](http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-_3Q0LQTRs8w/T2XzIaUE08I/AAAAAAAKGc/taoAKBL_rHo/s1600/tmv2.jpg)
11. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced\\_TM\\_Week\\_View/A5EnhancedTMWeekViewbaseV2.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced_TM_Week_View/A5EnhancedTMWeekViewbaseV2.docx)
12. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced\\_TM\\_Week\\_View/DatesSourceFilo\\_WOTP.xlsx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced_TM_Week_View/DatesSourceFilo_WOTP.xlsx)
13. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-z9KdunT7EXI/TzfZP3Su8sI/AAAAAAAKQc/45D86Qq40VA/s1600/weekviewvertical.jpg>
14. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Vertical\\_Week\\_View/Vertical%20Week%20View%20base.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Vertical_Week_View/Vertical%20Week%20View%20base.docx)
15. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Vertical\\_Week\\_View/DatesSourceFilo\\_WOTP.xlsx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Vertical_Week_View/DatesSourceFilo_WOTP.xlsx)
16. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-4v0dQklsI3M/TzfZMMTYv8I/AAAAAAAKQE/DkkFdMxqeK4/s1600/2daysperpage.jpg>
17. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-lZKbxSacLWE/TzfZNLs2ryI/AAAAAAAKQM/9YDhLyuhhMo/s1600/2daysperpagelined.jpg>
18. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/2\\_Days\\_Per\\_Page/2%20days%20per%20page%20base.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/2_Days_Per_Page/2%20days%20per%20page%20base.docx)
19. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/2\\_Days\\_Per\\_Page/2%20days%20per%20page%20lined%20base.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/2_Days_Per_Page/2%20days%20per%20page%20lined%20base.docx)
20. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/2\\_Days\\_Per\\_Page/DatesSourceFilo\\_2DPP.xlsx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/2_Days_Per_Page/DatesSourceFilo_2DPP.xlsx)
21. <http://www.flickr.com/groups/40748476@N00/>

terriknits (2012-02-17 11:02:21)

Steve, you and Ray are ALL kinds of awesome. Thanks to Ray providing his templates and source files, I was able to fiddle and get a 2PPD A5 spread that will work perfectly for my WORK needs. Thanks so much again, both of you!

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-02-17 16:20:42)

Well, inspired by all this, I spent some time today producing a very basic WO2P diary in pocket-size!

Your products are a) fabulous; b) inspiring!!

Do you think filofax has even noticed all this? I saw your comment that City organiser had.

nina Elfenfisch (2012-02-17 20:48:44)

wow!! i´m really impressed by all this work you guys are doing here.

also it makes me smile, because i imagine you and ray as(don´t get me wrong!!!!) little schoolboys invented a new game. there is so much enthusiasm, joy and love in all of the new template concerning posts!! i really can´t ignore those feelings in them. and that´s really really impressing.

thank you for all your work! i definately will have a closer look on the A5s ;)

IncomeAdviser (2012-02-18 04:03:38)

Thank You from a long time reader of Philofaxy. I love that Steve and Ray have combined forces to provide these templates and made the source files available too.

Gerard (2012-02-18 07:35:54)

Outstanding work by Ray and Steve - big thanks to you both!

Oh, the enablement!

Deelitefully\_dee (2012-02-21 18:56:40)

I noticed & adore all the sharing :-D

## **Web Finds - 18 February 2012 (2012-02-18 00:00) - Steve Morton**

And so another week and some great finds this week, some for the first time I think.

- [1]My First: A Love Story - Stationery Happiness
- [2]The perfect A5 Filofax notepad - The Life of The Perpetual Student
- [3]At Home with Malden - Well Planned Life
- [4]Ray did the heavy lifting - Filofax Fixation
- [5]Filofax Hole Punch - How to Make Your Own Paper - Cats Corner
- [6]What´s inside my Finsbury A5 Organizer - Rencoutrer Pauline
- [7]Journaling Prompts - Kikki.K
- [8]Finally the New Filofaxes - Whimsicality
- [9]Amazona - Filomaniac
- [10]How I came to own two Domino Italia - Stationery Happiness
- [11]It didn´t look that big on the website! - Filofax Fixation
- [12]Scratching the Pocket/Personal Itch - Paper Pens Ink
- [13]Planner Archives: A Necessity? - Well Planned Life
- [14]Filofax Debulkafication - The Crazy Suburban
- [15]New (to me) Filofax - Fantail Designs
- [16]The pH of Filofax Paper - Maudie.Made
- [17]Top Tab Thursday - Filofax Fixation
- [18]Storing my Filofax inserts - Sense of Gravity

- [19]Trying to work like clockwork - And laugh at gilded butterflies
- Your blog post could appear here next week... Please email us if we missed you this week.

Enjoy

1. <http://stationeryhappiness.blogspot.com/2012/02/my-first-love-story-mein-erster-eine.html>
2. <http://thelifeoftheperpetualstudent.blogspot.com/2012/02/perfect-a5-filofax-notepad.html>
3. <http://wellplannedlife.blogspot.com/2012/02/at-home-with-malden.html>
4. <http://filofaxfixation.wordpress.com/2012/02/12/ray-did-the-heavy-lifting/>
5. <http://www.cathryncook.co.uk/blog/2012/02/filofax-hole-punch/>
6. [http://gogo-penelope.blogspot.com/2012\\_02\\_01\\_archive.html#3344480610454824721](http://gogo-penelope.blogspot.com/2012_02_01_archive.html#3344480610454824721)
7. <http://www.kikki-k.com/blogs/blog/journaling-prompts/>
8. <http://scottishwhimsicality.blogspot.com/2012/02/finally-new-filofaxes.html>
9. <http://filomaniac.blogspot.com/2012/02/amazona.html>
10. <http://stationeryhappiness.blogspot.com/2012/02/how-i-came-to-own-two-domino-italia-wie.html>
11. <http://filofaxfixation.wordpress.com/2012/02/15/it-didnt-look-that-big-on-the-website/>
12. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.com/2012/02/scratching-pocketpersonal-itch.html>
13. <http://wellplannedlife.blogspot.com/2012/02/planner-archives-necessity.html>
14. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/02/filofax-debulkafication.html>
15. <http://fantail-designs.blogspot.com/2012/02/new-to-me-filofax.html>
16. <http://www.maudiemade.com/the-ph-of-filofax-paper/>
17. <http://filofaxfixation.wordpress.com/2012/02/16/top-tab-thursday/>
18. <http://senseofgravity.blogspot.com/2012/02/i-recently-purchased-card-tray-at.html>
19. <http://andlaughatgildedbutterflies.blogspot.com/2012/02/trying-to-work-like-clockwork.html>

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Rabbit (2012-02-18 00:10:15)

Ah, I was wondering why there were Personal sized inserts in what seemed more like an A5 binder - looks like a mix and match of FF with Flex??? Still, will never justify the price in my books.

Jotje (2012-02-18 01:58:54)

Did TemperleyWorld just slit in a large moleskine notebook? That's what it looks like ...?

Scoot (2012-02-18 05:13:06)

Thanks for another Saturday collection.

I spent quite a bit of time pausing the Temperley video and saw lots of stylish ideas, though it is a bit disappointing that dividers and page markers were not unique.

The non-zipped model's rings didn't look very big, almost as if the paper side of things was meant to be small to perhaps live in balance with a modern technological world?

Yes, there was a thick book, slipped in her non-zipped fax "a la flex" but in her case I think a drawing book. Even if you didn't want the book, the space available from the wide spine would allow a phone and calculator etc.

On the non-zipped, at around 15 secs, there was a curved piece of leather/plastic? On the left of the rings, presumably to keep the ringed pages over to the right.

At 24 secs there appears to be two crocodile leather pockets/folders in a zipped fax, side opening to the left as show at 28 secs, for a phone etc.

Despite the inevitably high price, they look really classy and yet both modern and practical, I suspect they will be best sellers.

Anita (2012-02-18 13:43:14)

Thanks for all these great posts to read :)

Butanben (2012-02-18 18:33:09)

On the Alice Temperley, I wonder how the curved bit on the upper and lower edges of the spine, is going to be protected? This is the part that wore terribly, within months on my Graphic A5. I was bitterly disappointed. My

Finsbury has been much tougher. I hope, for that price that the Temperly is hard wearing and practical. Will be interesting to see.....

Butanben (2012-02-18 18:35:21)

Thanks for some great finds again Steve. I am saving the big read until the chores are done tomorrow, as a treat. Yaaaaay!!

Lime Tree (2012-02-19 23:03:49)

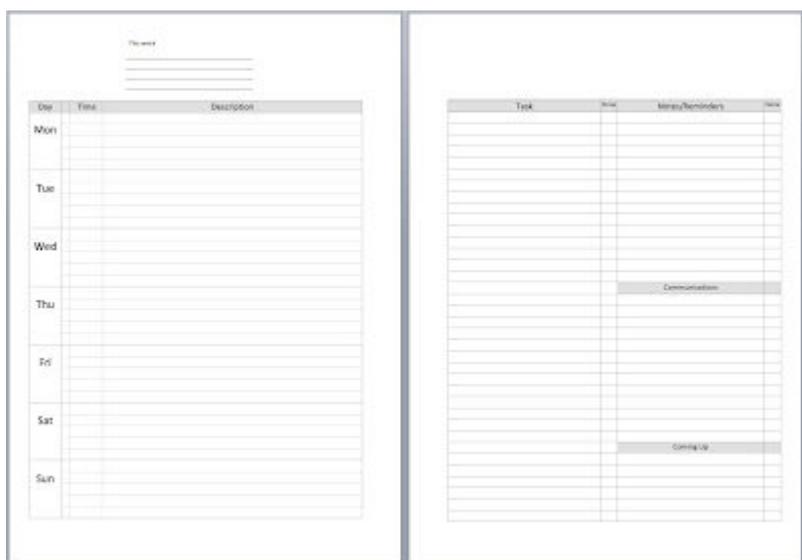
oh I am so late for the web finds this week! Classes are making me very busy but I am glad I finally will treat myself reading this posts! :)

## A5 Undated Diary Layouts (2012-02-18 06:00) - Steve Morton

So as well as the dated versions of the [1]new diary layouts<sup>3</sup> that Ray and I have been working on. We also have undated versions of the same layouts.

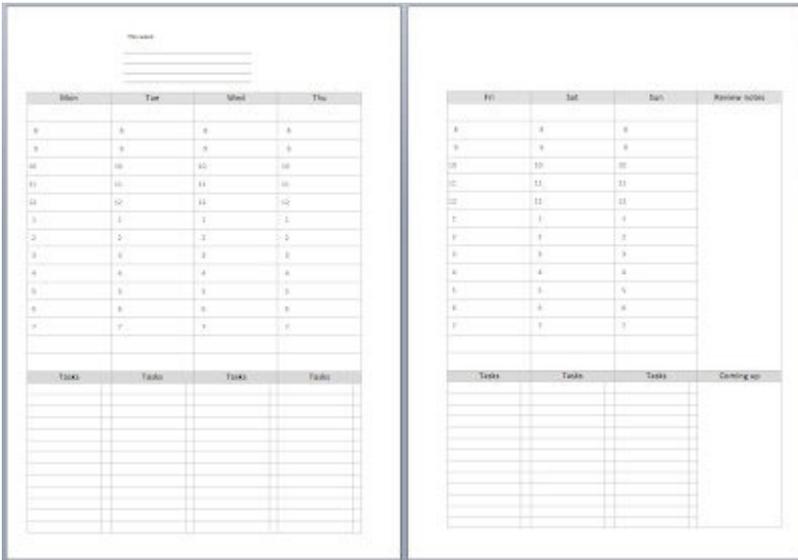
You can print these off as and when you need a week or a day to plan a specific event. Or if you just want to try out these new layouts without printing off a whole load of pages.

### Enhanced TM Week View (Undated)



[2]

Download [3]Word file or [4]PDF file  
**Vertical Week View**

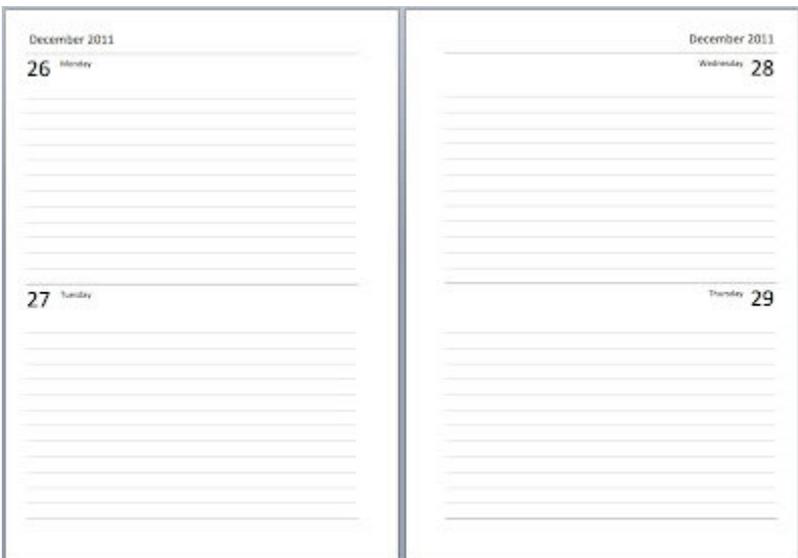


[5]

Download [6]Word file or [7]PDF file  
**2 Days Per Page Lined and Unlined**



[8]



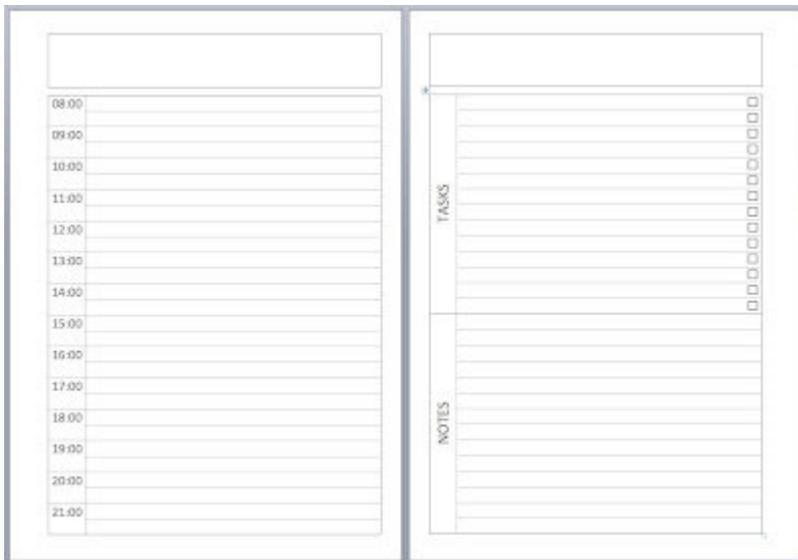
[9]

Download [10]Word file (Lined) or [11]PDF file or [12]Word file (Unlined) or [13]PDF file  
**Day Per Page**



[14]

Download the [15]Word File or [16]PDF file  
**Day on Two Pages**



[17]

Download the [18]Word File or [19]PDF file

All of these files will print on to A5 paper or A4 paper using [20]booklet print mode of your printer.  
 And for our next trick.... tune in next week!

[21] 

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1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/02/free-a5-2012-diary-sets-to-download-and.html>
2. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-N9exKeKvzKw/Tz5NtoAzeNI/AAAAAAAAAKQ0/PI9TR4t3FHw/s1600/TMweekviewundated+copy.jpg>
3. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced\\_TM\\_Week\\_View/Undated\\_Enhanced\\_TM\\_Week\\_per\\_view.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced_TM_Week_View/Undated_Enhanced_TM_Week_per_view.docx)

4. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced\\_TM\\_Week\\_View/Undated\\_Enhanced\\_TM\\_Week\\_per\\_view.pdf](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Enhanced_TM_Week_View/Undated_Enhanced_TM_Week_per_view.pdf)
5. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-ifMoLRBxyIg/Tz5RqXgZLxI/AAAAAAAAAKQ8/g2zPRq9SfmQ/s1600/Verticalweekviewundated+copy.jpg>
6. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Vertical\\_Week\\_View/Undated\\_Vertical\\_Week\\_per\\_view\\_A4.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Vertical_Week_View/Undated_Vertical_Week_per_view_A4.docx)
7. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Vertical\\_Week\\_View/Undated\\_Vertical\\_Week\\_per\\_view\\_A4.pdf](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Vertical_Week_View/Undated_Vertical_Week_per_view_A4.pdf)
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9. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-sCTJ76QfcpU/Tz5S6toJeNI/AAAAAAAAAKRM/ajk-4gvz6wQ/s1600/2daysperpagelined.jpg>
10. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/2\\_Days\\_Per\\_Page/Undated\\_2\\_days\\_per\\_page\\_lined.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/2_Days_Per_Page/Undated_2_days_per_page_lined.docx)
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13. <http://www.blogger.com/>
14. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-Eh61YTc0dDs/Tz5l9vrChcI/AAAAAAAAAKRc/2ExwMsBEEEnM/s1600/1dayperpage.jpg>
15. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/1dayperpage/1dayperpageundated.docx>
16. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/1dayperpage/1dayperpageundated.pdf>
17. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-CjS5tDuCJ-M/Tz5mo5JjKzI/AAAAAAAAAKRk/9BtkLNaxC0c/s1600/1day2page+copy.jpg>
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LJ (2012-02-18 13:50:43)  
Thanks guys - love these :o)

Butanben (2012-02-18 15:45:34)  
This comment has been removed by the author.

Butanben (2012-02-18 15:49:14)  
I am going to trial the first page of the undated WO2P here, as a tv planner. I like to plan my tv and radio ahead, so that I don't miss things and so that I don't sit down and mindlessly watch rubbish until a programme I like comes on!!! So thanks Steve. I've got a weekly planner I use already for this, but it is a bit fiddly, and so I think your p1 here may work better.

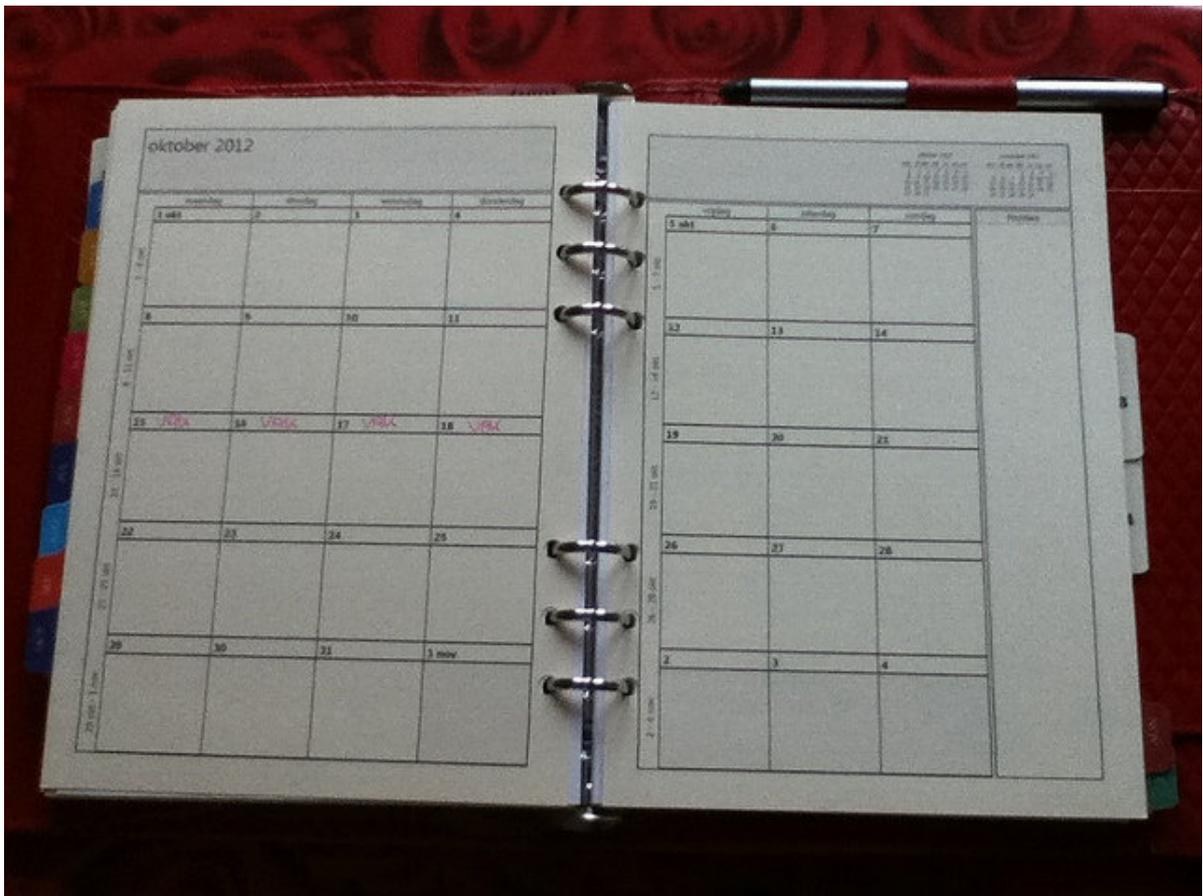
## Guest Post - Do it yourself – Tabbed Month on 2 Pages for your A5 Filofax (2012-02-19 00:00) - Steve Morton

*Thank you to 'Jotje' for sharing this post with us....*

Like many many Filofax lovers and users out there, I am hugely disappointed that Filofax is one of the few that doesn't spoil us with MO2P inserts. Boxes and tabbed please!

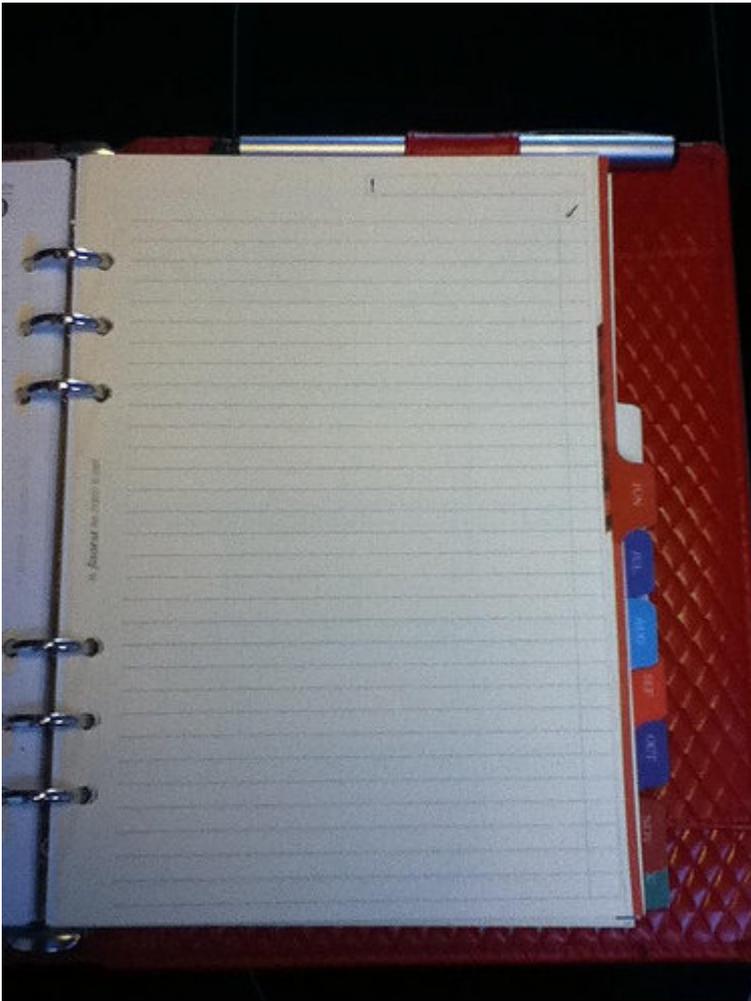
Well, we could surely wait until we are in our eighties, because – you know – one day they might actually listen to us!

Or ... we could just make them ourselves. That's what I did and I must say I'm very pleased with the result:



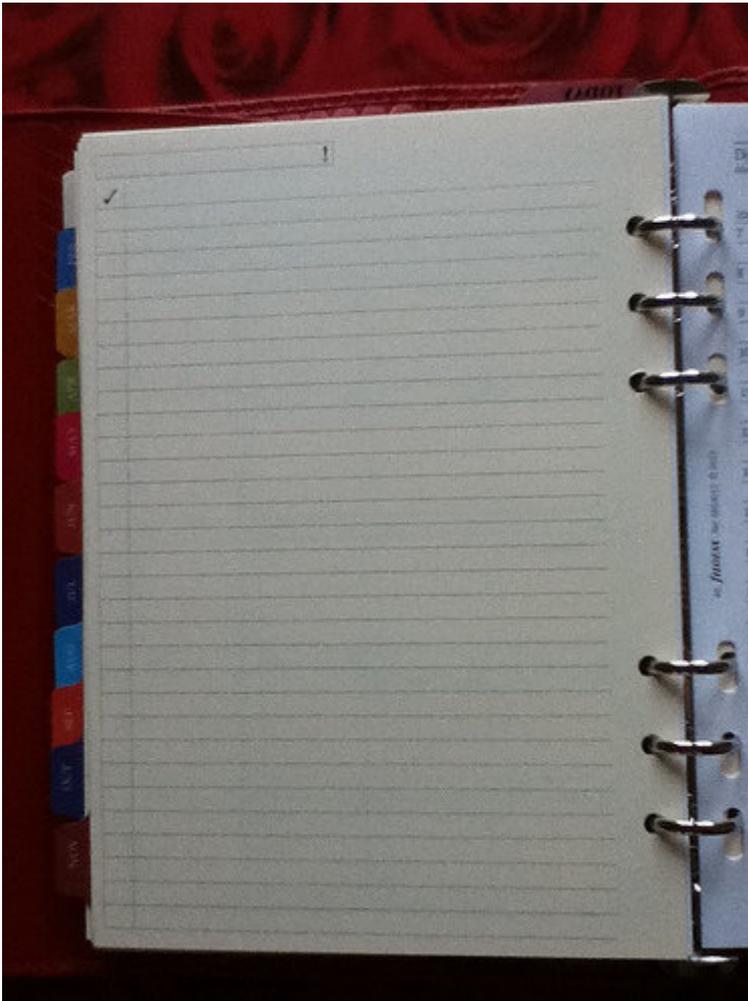
[1]

On the front page there's a list of To do items with check boxes. This is where I can note work-related to do's of that specific month:



[2]

Same sheet is on the backside of the monthlies. This is where household, private and family related to do's can get noted. I use colour coding, so private stuff gets written in purple, limegreen is household and pink is family.



[3]

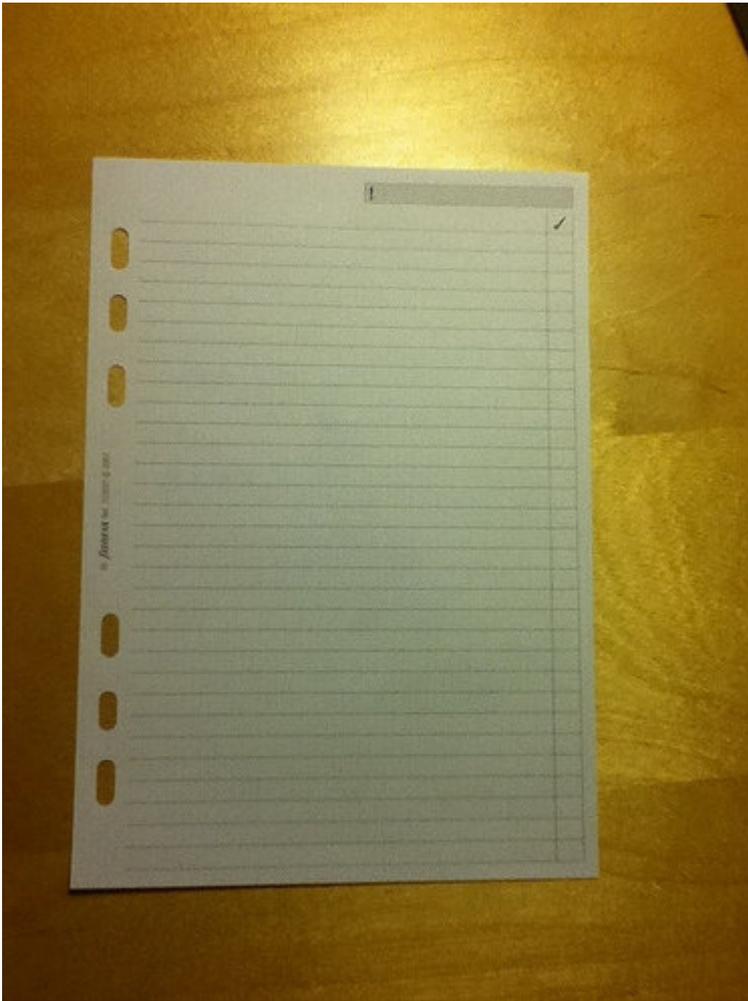
And now we get to the crafting part.

These are the supplies needed:

- 1) 160g heavy printer paper. I had the colour Ivory already at home, and it turned out to be the exact same colour as the standard cream coloured Filofax tabs!
- 2) A paper cutter
- 3) A Filofax hole punch
- 4) A sample page of your favourite Filofax paper for the front and back of the MO2P. I chose the Todo pages from Sweden. Love them, cos you can have such long Todo lists on one page!
- 5) Tabs. I chose last years Daytimer Flavia inserts in Classic size, which I still had.



[4]



[5]



[6]

First you need to slice the A4 paper exactly in half to have 2 A5 sheets. With a paper cutter that's just a breeze!

Next you put the paper in your printer (I used an Inkjet). Next: go to the Outlook calendar and print out Two pages per month. Now, this won't work well if you actually USE Outlook as your calendar,

because then you'll have all those appointments and notes on your printed pages. Unless you'd want that, of course. Outlook lets you chose A5 format in the page setup. You then get to choose the begin and end date. Otherwise, if you are on the 10th of the month, it will print the current week, plus 4 more. Now that's just plain stupid! I got to work around that, but not all months are to my satisfaction (e.g. "august" on my month says "juli 2012 – September 2012" – DUH!). There's probably a good solution for it, but I got frustrated trying and just settled. Leaves me more time to play around with my Filofax, ya know?

After I had punched the pages, I placed the Swedish ToDo sheet on my copier (one of the advantages of an All-in-one-printer ;-)) and first copied it to all the front pages of the month, then I turned the sheet on the copier and printed the backsides. That way, I ensured that there was enough space for the holes. Next step: cut the tabs off the old tabsheets. Like this:



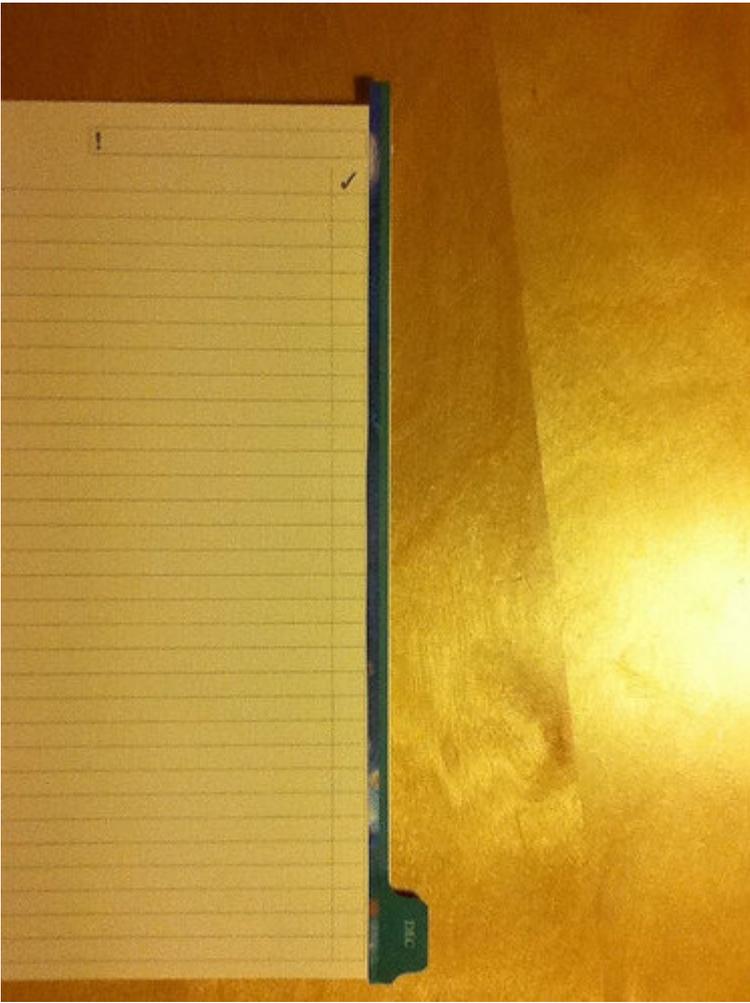
[7]

Obviously I could have chosen to only cut of the tab itself, but I was getting lazy and figured this would make aligning the tabs so much easier. I was – however – wrong about that. I'll show you in a minute. Now I put glue to the tab and stuck it on my monthly page. Since the Daytimer Classic format is slightly longer than Filofax A5-pages, I needed to cut of the last millimeters at the bottom:



[8]

In theory this should have worked brilliantly. Until I got to December and discovered that the darn tab didn't fit completely on my monthly page. So I had to cut some at the top and the bottom.



[9]



[10]

And that's why the December tab seems to hide a bit behind the November tab. Maybe he's shy? Still, I'm extremely pleased with the result! Here's a picture of the tabs in my A5 purple Finchley (sorry about the glare):



[11]

And in my A5 Adelphi:



[12]

The thick paper is lovely to use and write on. It's thicker than the normal Filofax register tabs, but thinner than the monthly pages in the Erin Condren planner.

*Thank you Jotje for sharing this very creative project with us. You might be interested to know that Ray and I have some Monthly insert designs that we will be releasing soon.*

1. [http://farm8.staticflickr.com/7069/6857092719\\_a1648ed2a8\\_z.jpg](http://farm8.staticflickr.com/7069/6857092719_a1648ed2a8_z.jpg)
2. [http://farm8.staticflickr.com/7057/6857015423\\_bb6244a7aa.jpg](http://farm8.staticflickr.com/7057/6857015423_bb6244a7aa.jpg)
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8. [http://farm8.staticflickr.com/7192/6856969965\\_be0c197515.jpg](http://farm8.staticflickr.com/7192/6856969965_be0c197515.jpg)
9. [http://farm8.staticflickr.com/7204/6856970623\\_49f66c49c8.jpg](http://farm8.staticflickr.com/7204/6856970623_49f66c49c8.jpg)
10. [http://farm8.staticflickr.com/7201/6856971069\\_1bd2441086.jpg](http://farm8.staticflickr.com/7201/6856971069_1bd2441086.jpg)
11. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-LCVrW51BDAo/Tzuizzo1eXI/AAAAAAAAAKQs/AE9XbfJeh14/s1600/jotje2.jpg>
12. [http://farm8.staticflickr.com/7203/6857093711\\_c2e1315fdc.jpg](http://farm8.staticflickr.com/7203/6857093711_c2e1315fdc.jpg)

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Ray Blake (2012-02-19 02:09:28)  
Great work.

Gerard (2012-02-19 07:10:11)  
Very nice - thanks for posting. I have some similar cream to do sheets from Filofax Denmark. Does anyone know why the checkbox columns are on opposite sides of the page? Just curious...

Rori (2012-02-19 07:20:53)  
WOW :D

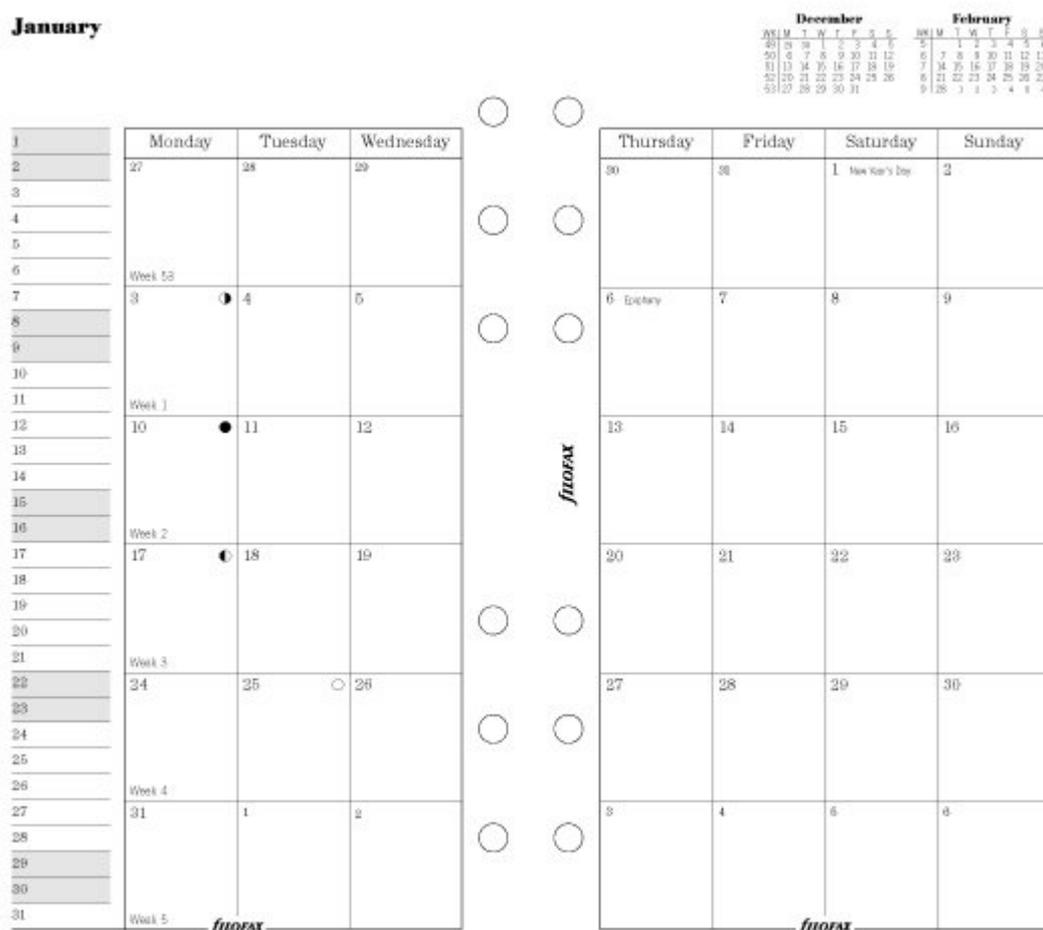
Jotje (2012-02-19 08:41:50)  
@Gerard: my guess would be to keep them on the side furthest from the rings. It's easier to write on the edge of the paper, instead of the inside next to the rings.

kanalt (2012-02-19 09:19:29)

Wow, great post! I would love to do something like this in theory. But I'm afraid I don't have much patience with gluing and aligning things. If it didn't come out perfectly, I couldn't use it. But I just might have to look into something where the personal size is concerned...

Thanks for sharing!

## How do you use: Monthly Pages (2012-02-20 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

So this week let us focus on people that use a 'Monthly' diary insert.

So the Monthly inserts, they are standard in most sizes, there are a few variations, Month on one page or on two pages with some available in cotton cream.

So if you use monthly pages.... how do you use it? Tell us about your use of this format, include links to a Flickr photo if that helps. Include as much or as little detail as you like. Which version of the monthly inserts do you use... etc etc.

1. <http://www.filofax.co.uk/images/products/refills/line/68410x.jpg>

Josh (2012-02-20 00:23:00)

I have the vertical tabbed month on two pages. Use it for appointments past my range of daily pages and as a tickler file for things I need to start or finish on specific dates or during specific months. Works beautifully.

T (2012-02-20 00:51:04)

I have 2 sets of month on 2 pages for my A5.

For one set, I jot important appointments and recycling days (it's complicated here in Flanders – different days

of the week/month for different things). I like to have an overview of the month, as well as a daily to-do list. I place the other set behind a tab called: Migraine Log.

Whenever I have a migraine, I put a small stick-on dot on the day. Since I have a lot of migraines, this gives me a nice visual for me to see the patterns of my migraines for any given month.

indigogarden (2012-02-20 02:25:30)

I use my Mo2P to track my daily word count, where I'm writing, what I'm writing and how long I wrote. It lets me see at a glance how much work I'm getting done. I just do a quick notation at the end of the day. If I need to track details, then I write in the Wo2P planner.

Ray Blake (2012-02-20 02:51:15)

When Steve suggested we make a Personal-size month on a page layout I was skeptical that it would be usable, but making it has been a revelation. You can't write very much in each space, but that's no different from - say - the horizontal yearly planner - and the fact that our pages are printed on both sides means that even if you print it on good paper it will take up less space than the folded up yearly planner.

I'd never use month-on-a-page as my main diary but to track activities it works really well. (We're just finishing off the monthly layouts now and they should be ready in a few days.)

lucyclio (2012-02-20 03:27:34)

This comment has been removed by the author.

lululucy (2012-02-20 03:43:50)

[sorry for posting weirdness]

I use the day per page for my main calendar, but have the one-page month inserted at the beginning of each month's daily pages. Month on one page is small, but great for overview - can keep track of important events (using abbreviations of course!), especially deadlines, plus multi-day things like visitors, conferences, etc. I also have little post-tabs on those month pages, so I can find the right month quickly.

For me, day per page wouldn't work without the month view as well - I need overview as well as detail, and this allows me to have both.

Lucy (2012-02-20 04:30:30)

@lululucy: I like your idea! Something to bear in mind when I change my setup again at some point in the future . . .

I use my monthly view calendar for keeping a record of the hours that I work and I use the list at the side to tally up my hours. I also use it to record the hours my daughter spends with her childminder and any payments I make out for her, such as: dinner money, school trips and childminding fees etc. This means I don't have to remember whether I've paid for something, I can just check on there.

I suppose this calendar is the only one I use that relates to the past. I don't use it for planning, just recording.

SSA (2012-02-20 06:38:37)

I use the MO2P along with the daily pages for an overview. I use abbreviations:

W.O = workout

\$ = pay day

D = a class I attend

A = airtime

MDC = a club with monthly events.

I keep all the codes on a post it and move that month to month so I can see the abbv. for something. I dont use it for things like W = work because I do that 5 days a week. I just have U = Urlaub (vacation in German) and H = public holiday.

This works well and its used really to see how often I am working out or how often I am putting airtime on my phone. I find it really useful.

Steve Morton (2012-02-20 07:53:24)

I use a Month per Page A5 of my own design! for planning blog posts on Philofaxy... that hard core non-fashion Filofax site... you might have heard about it....

J (2012-02-20 10:45:27)

I use my monthly pages in conjunction with my DPP- since I carry all 12 months of monthlies (and only 3 months of DPP) I use the monthly pages to track quick details for future events and then add details to the daily pages. I'm using Franklin Covey (tabbed!!!) monthlies right now so the spaces are a bit bigger, but I still try to mainly use stickers instead of trying to squeeze my handwriting in the small spaces. More detail can be seen here:  
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/46427476@N05/6661518407/in/set-72157628780788277>

Butanben (2012-02-20 11:16:48)

As I am job hunting at the moment, I use the month on two pages for tracking job deadlines and the notes section for notes on specific jobs, eg Headteacher's name etc. I colour code my applications depending on the type of school, primary, secondary, etc.

On another note, I did use the month on 2 pages as an overview, but found having 2 diaries a little worrisome, ie that I may have a date noted in 1 diary and not the other. I kept having to synch diaries. Now I am a 1 diary, 1 life person!!!!

Sydney (2012-02-20 15:22:11)

I have a family A5 Filofax that stays at home so I use MO2P in my wallet/Pocket Filofax to keep track of appointments so I don't double book.

Unfortunately it is usually keeping track of my daughter's social life rather than mine...

doris98 (2012-02-20 19:13:58)

Hi all! Long-time lurker, first-time poster here. I thought it was about time to participate in Philofaxy since I'm on here everyday anyway.

I live in Manila, Philippines, and was so psyched to find a group of people who shared my love (obsession)for Filofaxes. I've been using them since the mid-90's for work and personal stuff, and have recently down-sized to the Pocket (and Mini as wallet!) thanks to you all!

I use a MO2P in my Portobello Mini that I use as a wallet for when I don't carry around my Pink Pocket Malden which is my main diary/planner and which has a W02P. I try to sync the 2 as often as I can so I don't double-book (not that I'm that busy).

(Sorry for the long post.)

Laurie (2012-02-20 19:24:02)

I use monthly pages in my Medical Filofax, and it is so convenient to have a quick-glance reference of who went to the doctor when, when was the date I last refilled my prescription, weight trends etc.

Each time I or a member of my family goes to the doc, I write on that day's space the person, the doctor's name and the diagnosis. If that person needs antibiotics or other treatment I note that on each day's space, numbering the days of treatment (example: B Abx Day 4). Later when I need to submit invoices for reimbursement or remember the last doctor's visit, it's easy to find without flipping a lot of pages.

I also record my weight and blood pressure at each doctor's visit, in green ink so I can see the trends.

Penny (2012-03-02 09:12:12)

I use the monthly pages to track what I wear. This stemmed from a complaint of my husband several years ago that I "wore the same colours all the time" (namely black) ... I also need to practice my drawing skills, so it does double duty. Lately I've been too busy to sharpen my coloured pencils, so I just write what I wore in words, but it is a fun exercise.

This photo is from quite a few years ago: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/peninah/2468093723/>

## Wanted - Reader Reviews (2012-02-20 09:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

So with so many new organisers coming in to the Filofax range, I naturally can't afford to buy all the different ones, let alone have a need for them all! But I'm sure amongst our readership we might have people with say one of the new models.

So would you like to do a **Readers Review**? We can feature these on the blog from time to time. Pictures of course will save explaining things in great detail, although we would appreciate honest and frank opinions on the good and bad points of a particular Filofax design.

If you would like to do a review of a recent Filofax purchase even if it is not from latest 2012 range, then please contact us at: [steve\[at\]philofaxy\[dot\]com](mailto:steve[at]philofaxy[dot]com)

1. [http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-5I2D6Uhz1fw/TtihtSY\\_ykI/AAAAAAAAAJ6w/YhhF3hPNs7I/s1600/IMG\\_0645.jpg](http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-5I2D6Uhz1fw/TtihtSY_ykI/AAAAAAAAAJ6w/YhhF3hPNs7I/s1600/IMG_0645.jpg)

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Butanben (2012-02-20 11:23:31)

I would love to know how anyone finds the a5 Malden, as I am considering,(cough, cough, enabling coming on,) once I have a job of course, the new purple Malden. The only thing holding me back is the 1 pen loop quandry... as currently with my Quiver added, I can have 4 pens with the black Finsbury I use, as it has 2 pen loops.... plus 2 in the Quiver. I can colour code my diary and I like that feature.

Steve Morton (2012-02-20 11:42:20)

Jane

The A5 Malden has two pen loops, one front one at the back...

Steve

Frederique (2012-02-20 14:27:33)

Reader reviews, yes, excellent idea!

I was quite disappointed not to be able to find reviews for "rarer" Filofaxes, ie. the slimlines, or other Filofax products like the bags... Wether it's here or on other websites. And I had been looking for quite some time. Sure, you can find multiples Maldens reviews or pictures, for instance, but I was curious about other models as well.

And as I've recently purchased the one I wanted but couldn't find many pictures of, I've told myself "I should send an email to the folks at Philofaxy, perhaps some of their readers might be interested?"

Same goes for a Filofax bag I acquired (filofax.fr was having a massive sale, 70 % off a selection of bags, and I needed one for my laptop, and one thing led to another :)

I hope you'll have many replies to your post, and as for me, I'm going to send you an email right away !

(I've been lurking here without commenting for \*months\*, and it's this post that finally had me registering for an

open-id, just to be able to comment it. Should have done that ages ago...)

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-02-20 14:55:28)

I'd love to see reviews especially on the older, rarer ones. Sometimes I look around on Ebay and see one I might want but there is little or no info beyond a really bad picture. It's hard to know even what they are made of sometimes, would love reviews!

Tracy

Nikki france (2012-02-20 15:10:42)

I agree with above comments, it is hard to find reviews for the more expensive (old and newer) filofax.

I am happy to do a review of my Waverley if there would be any interest.

Heppy evening all

Nikki X

Louloudorset (2012-02-20 16:09:18)

Yay this would be a fab feature (even if it will make me want to buy more)

Or could I use the chance to be a Philofaxy writer as a reason to purchase hmmm

Lx

Jill V. (2012-02-20 16:37:45)

I cannot WAIT to get my hands on a purple Personal Malden, I would love to review it for you (whenever us US peeps can get them.) Right now I am using my lovely Personal Imperial Purple Finchley.

Jane, I had an A5 malden (Ochre) I have pics on my Flickr. I recently traded it for the abovementioned Finchley. If you have any questions I would love to help!

Anita (2012-02-21 06:37:12)

Great idea! Now I've done my first video, I'll do a review one & send it to Steve. I think it's especially a great idea for ones that have been discontinued & you might want to buy on eBay :)

Steph (2012-02-22 18:31:59)

I would love a review of the dominio mini, or any mini really. I am looking for one for my handbag, and I have a fairly small handbag so...I think the mini might be good.

Reader reviews is an excellent idea.

Heather from Heather Holistics (2012-02-23 05:21:01)

@Steph here is a link to my blog post on the Piazza mini <http://heatherholistics.blogspot.com/2012/01/how-is-your-2012-organization-going.html>. This might help as an initial review.

Steph (2012-02-23 14:23:53)

@Heather, I can't get the link to work it says it is unavailable at blogger.

Steve Morton (2012-02-23 14:25:35)

Steph

Leave out the . at the end.

<http://heatherholistics.blogspot.com/2012/01/how-is-your-2012-organization-going.html>

Steve

Steph (2012-02-23 14:26:58)

Thanks @Steve. I guess my copy & paste technique could use some help. Works now.

Ashleigh (2012-02-23 17:27:09)

I have just seen the new Temperely range by Filofax. WOW!! It looks stunning, anyone with 375 pound? Please

can you leave a review if you are lucky enough to have one of these beauts I really want one!  
www.startyourownjourney.blogspot.com

## Free For All Tuesday No 55 (2012-02-21 00:00) - Steve Morton

It's Tuesday again folks. Time for you to fire away with those questions.

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Lime Tree (2012-02-21 00:27:00)

I will start:

1-Does anyone know if the travel packet will be available at filofaxusa when the new range comes?

2-I flipped thru the pages on the UK website and it seems that the packet is more for the actual trip (games, journaling, exchanging phone #s etc) than for planning the trip. I have a "summer planning" packet from FC on personal size but would love to find something similar for A5 size. Has filofax ever made something like that?

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-02-21 03:56:14)

This comment has been removed by the author.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-02-21 03:58:43)

Hi! I love my zipped Holborn (personal), but like other people, I've got problems with the rings being slightly open. I think this is due to the way the ring mechanism is attached to the leather and I think it must be the reason why it was discontinued by Filofax. One of the rings is permanently open but fortunately doesn't snag, but I notice that the top 2 rings also come open after I've opened them to put in a new week of diary pages. I only open them once per week, and I notice that they close up again after a little while (although the other ring remains permanently open). I wonder if opening the rings more often, like once or twice a day, will help the mechanism ease up, or will it make it worse?? Thanks!!

Alison Reeves (2012-02-21 04:27:14)

@Butenban - I noticed in a previous post you mentioned you have a quiver which I am quite interested in - did you send for it from the US? Am interested in which one you got, how long it took to arrive and what you think of it? If you would prefer to do this off Philofaxy my email is ali at alisonreeves dot co dot uk. Thanks!!! I don't have your email, otherwise I'd drop you a line.

cshepherd (2012-02-21 04:58:24)

I have only ever seen that happen to the rings if people don't use the buttons to open them, instead pulling the rings apart to open. If you have been using the buttons, then return it to filofax and they will fix it for you. It shouldn't be doing that.

Saffy (2012-02-21 05:06:19)

If anyone is interested, the Temperley showed up on Filofax UK website yesterday but not yet available to purchase.

Saffy (2012-02-21 05:08:48)

If anyone is interested the Temperley showed up on the Filofax UK website yesterday but not yet available to purchase.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-02-21 05:21:43)

Hi cshepherd, I use the buttons to open the filo, but this problem with the rings is inherent with the Holborn Zipped filo, and the reason it was discontinued from the filofax website I think :(

Alison Reeves (2012-02-21 05:25:32)

@Saffy Yes I saw the Temperley filofaxes and felt slightly disappointed. They are VERY expensive, but (from what I can tell) both only have very small rings (15mm I believe). I think they are very pretty and I wish they would use these sorts of designs with standard size rings, and also in A5 size. I am a bit of an A5 girl!

janet (2012-02-21 05:42:29)

It was nice to see the Temperley but I would never EVER pay that much for a filofax. My most expensive FFs are A5 Amazona and Siena which were not that hardy and I would not pay that much for a filo again. I have Mulberry and Smythson planners which were at the same price level as the Temperley but the Mulberry leather is legendary (just gets better the more you batter it and their paper is nice. The inserts are basic but so are the FF ones these days). The Smythson paper is breathtaking (lightweight, hardy. The lines are up to 1/10 of a millimetre accurate) and their workmanship is stunning. For them I would pay eye watering prices. Not the Temperley though.

Tim (2012-02-21 06:31:14)

@TPS - I have an A5 Holborn (25mm rings) that works fine. Yet the A5 zipped version (30mm rings) has been widely reported as having "mech problems". The Holborn Zip is still UK listed in personal size, suggesting it may be an A5 batch problem unrelated to your rogue Holborn.

You should get yours back asap whilst a replacement is still available!

I was in a tiny Parisian papeterie last week that stocked just a few Filofaxes - one of which happened to be an A5 Holborn Zip. As this was the first time I had seen one in the flesh, I had to have a quick look inside. The mechanism looked OK but I didn't think it proper to test it a few times, as I wasn't buying!

Saffy (2012-02-21 06:42:03)

@Alison, I agree they are lovely but I wonder how they would stand up to being used every day. I too was surprised at the 15mm ring size but with the added Flex I guess it reduces the need for diary ring space. But the price!!!!?? It would be nice to see a larger range in the A5's, I am looking forward to seeing the Luxe in Purple, it is supposed to be slimline I think.

@Janet, I would love to buy a Mulberry, I have seen one in a local store that must have been there for several years as the diary is not current. The colour is lovely but the price is as you say "eye watering". If it was reduced I would definitely buy it but not at the full price for what in my mind is old, dusty and out of date stock.

My Amazona seems to be quite sturdy, have you had problems with yours?

Alison Reeves (2012-02-21 07:25:11)

@Janet I have a black amazona that I have been very pleased with - but did buy a red one that has shown definite signs of wear. However my black one does have an easy life - mostly it stays on my desk or I might carry it to another room - it rarely goes out!

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-02-21 07:41:56)

@Tim- Thanks for telling me the Holborn Zip is on the Filofax UK website!! It wasn't there a few weeks ago! I'll think about sending it in to get replaced... :D

LM (2012-02-21 07:46:23)

There is a Temperley Affair binder on eBay now at £299 and with good pics if anyone is interested. I'm not - I can't afford it, wouldn't get it if I did and am waiting impatiently for my BNIB black Personal Pimlico instead!

Alison Reeves (2012-02-21 08:00:27)

This is way off topic, but hopefully you will all indulge me. Since the start of November I have been going to Slimming World and have lost 1.5 stone. I still have a way to go! I wanted to add some exercise to my life, but am useless at motivating myself! As the accountability of going to SW has worked so well for me I was looking for something similar for exercise.

After a lot of soul searching, I decided to do a 5K race for life. (Raising money for Cancer Research) I like the

idea of raising money for charity and figure I can do this - I have 4 months to prepare. Bearing in mind I have to go from a standing start - I have zero fitness at the moment! I will do it even if I have to crawl round, but am hoping to do it in a respectable time if all goes well with the training.

Would any of you kind people consider sponsoring me? I have a page setup - <http://bit.ly/y7QnSE> I understand these are tough times for everyone, but if you could just spare a £1 I would be delighted! My target is £200 (which I would love to exceed!). I've never done anything like this before so don't know how easy or hard my target will be!

If anyone feels they can support me I would of course be really grateful and delighted!!!

katka (2012-02-21 08:20:47)

I don't really like the Temperley binder, but I like the notepad idea. Unfortunately it makes the compact binder quite big.

Dollface (2012-02-21 08:46:12)

My red amazona has some of the colour coming off..could i use leather paint? Does anyone else have any experience with this?

Butanben (2012-02-21 09:42:18)

@Alison. I absolutely love my Quivers. They have a site which can be googled easily and they are also on Facebook, so you can e. mail the owner of the firm direct. A very helpful customer service ethic. The web site explains the size of the Quivers and the types. I ordered an A5 2 pen one for my A5Finsbury and it fits very well. It is the width of a standard ruler,aprox, measured it and it is 3.75cm, so you have to allow that amount of space between your ring mechanism and your front left pockets.... but usually there is bags of space. I ordered it from the USA and the postage adds a lot to the price, making it £18 aprox in total. BUT it is a superb product and will last a lifetime of use. It took ten days to arrive each time, so allow a fortnight. So pretty prompt. My first Quiver had some loose stitching,so I sent it back and received a complimentary second one free of charge with a replacement for the first!! No problems whatsoever with the others. High quality. I was given one for Christmas too from my dad. So I'd say go ahead and purchase. I have the 2 pen flat variety in black with red stitching, currently my favourite, a plain black (complimentary) and a brown (the replaced one). Go ahead and be enabled Alison. You will not regret this purchase I promise you.... lovely, as it takes chunky pens ie fountain pens, and means with more pens you can colour code your diary. Also my pens have never fallen out.... huge plus. Hope this helps. xx

Butanben (2012-02-21 09:57:40)

@Alison. I have lost five and a half stone in weight over four years. I finally decided NEVER to diet ever again, but to tweak my habits, ie a healthy dinner, which I love, a lighter but yummy breakfast and lunch and NOT to fret over the occassional meal out ie with Philofaxy- fish and chips at the Tate!!! I too managed the 5k Race for Life. Half walking, half jogging. Was SO SO unfit to start with, but my dad bought me a gym membership for a year and THAT is what lost the weight, a gym and personal trainer. Good for you. You will not regret the steps towards weight loss. I still have a few stones to go and have plateaued.... but each step, even a baby step is a weight and health step in the right direction. It is lovely to be able to buy normal clothes out of normal shops, including Per Una!!! 5km is further than you think, so if it's a hot day dress lightly and take lots of water with you. I did it in just under an hour. Get the best impact ie hard surface cushioned trainers that you can, to support your ankles and cushion your knees. Oh.... and enable an exercise and diet Filofax..... The Olympic one?????? xxxxx

janet (2012-02-21 10:06:41)

@saffy and @alison I have a brown A5 Arizona but the edges and closure are showing definite signs of wear. I chose a colour that was less shiny though (I found the black too bling) so maybe that is why. But it showed wear quickly and I was very disappointed.

The Siena also showed wear quickly but that was described as 'antiqued leather' so I kind of expected it.

I love my Mulberry and it has really stood up well to use. I have several of their bags too and that leather is EPIC. Plus the Mulberry paper is divine. Pricey though but I have to drag my planner out of my handbag about

fifteen times a day so things that I don't kill with use are few and far between. I lug my planner and my handbag up to 12km per day no kidding.

I usually buy Smythson and Mulberry duty free at Heathrow and their outgoing models are often 50 %off so if you travel in December/June you can score.

David Popely (2012-02-21 10:32:29)

OK...rant hat on...

I've been catching up on posts (including this one) from around mid-week last week, since which time I've been away to Somerset for three days and London for two (ending today), hence the lack of activity.

I've been back on the Filofax Facebook page following the comments last week about readers' questions being ignored (hey, nothing new there.....they've been ignoring ours for months and years), and I've come to the conclusion that Filofax now consider themselves to be purely fashion accessory manufacturers and nothing else. If they \*do\* consider themselves to be anything else (purveyors of time and task management aids, perish the thought?) they certainly do a \*very\* good job of disguising it.

The FB page has glamorous young things by the yard...no hint of a committed time manager there...toting (and promoting) insanely overpriced 'fashion' files which add nothing to the functionality of the range, and the inserts issues continue to rank exactly where they customarily have in the FF mindset - nowhere.

I'm all for having nice things (my leather TMI binder and Malden Personal bear witness), but this really has now gone too far. I very sadly (having been a fan for 20-odd years) now have one foot through the door so far as brand loyalty is concerned. Show me someone within the FF empire who stops for even one minute a week to consider the long standing, loyal customers who have put FF where they are, and I'll reconsider.

Worst of all, this isn't even a sane busienss decision. Fashion is fickle. Personally I'm now looking forward to when the wheel turns again (diamante iPhones anyone?) leaving these hollow, useless form-over-function junkies exactly where the deserve to be.

I've got to develop a talk for a number of networking groups on time management to be delivered around Wales and the South West over the next three months. FF won't be figuring. My conscience won't run with it.

OK...rant over...as you were :)

David

janet (2012-02-21 10:50:12)

I totally agree with you David. Filofax is kind of spreading themselves a bit thin - competing on the luxury end of the market with brands like Smythson who have snob value and losing their credibility as a planner brand.

Perhaps they will be like Marks and Spencer who became complacent and lost their core market due to being so big and old they didn't think they had to listen to the customers. Then when the ship started sinking they tried unsuccessfully to rebrand themselves as a cool brand and lost their original customers? I don't think they will ever be able to claw themselves back to where they were.

I am a strange mix of computer technician and fashion journalist. I changed from digital back to paper because I found paper planning soothing and relaxing. But in the fashion market the cycles are shorter and shorter (two weeks for some of the chains) and it just causes fatigue and overload. I need a good looking for planners that work for ambitious time management. And FF ain't cutting it at the moment :(

I wonder where they are trying to pitch themselves at the moment - H and M's COS perhaps?

David Popely (2012-02-21 10:57:46)

Now my comment looks like a slight on the fashion industry, which wasn't intended! :)

I think your phrase 'being so big and old they didn't think they had to listen to the customers' sums it up perfectly. I also prefer paper to digital - I really do. It gives me control, ease of access, variety of perspective across a variety of different planning periods, and the TMI system has all of that in spades - it just weighs so darn much!

I don't believe FF will be able to return themselves or retrieve their loyal customer base either, and I think the comparison with M & S is entirely correct. Of \*course\* we want smart looking (or even uber-smart-looking) binders, but there has to be \*some\* functionality built in.

Babs (2012-02-21 11:13:00)

I have to disagree. The Filofax FB page is most likely run by a PR company to promote their latest products and to get the name out there and recognised. Whenever I have had any dealings with FF customer service itself they have been nothing other than polite, prompt and extremely helpful.

Secondly - the Temperley filofaxes are TWO binders out of the whole range. Yes, there are more fashion binders like the Swift, but surely they have to do that to appeal to the broader market? Otherwise you'll be left with 2 or 3 elegant, full leather binders which please the purists and a company going down the pan rapidly.

As long as they can retain the nicer, old-fashioned, leather binders while drumming up newer businesses with the Temperley range and the more modern Swifts, Songbirds, etc, where's the harm?!

Alison Reeves (2012-02-21 11:39:38)

@Babs - I think the reason some of us are so annoyed is that Filofax are dropping more and more of the 'functional' stuff and replacing with 'fashion' conscious products. I think the best example is the now very much reduced range of inserts. It's now impossible to get hold of any genuine time management inserts for the A5, and they don't even make them for the personal anymore.

Alison Reeves (2012-02-21 11:41:47)

@David Popely - I really think some of the day-timer inserts would suit you for use in your Malden. Very time management focused and a wide range of designs to suit everyone. Now you are back in circulation I'll be in touch.

Scoot (2012-02-21 12:19:44)

I see more Temperley videos have appeared on YouTube, the longest being a review of the models.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nWUA1ixxpg0>

As a regular critic of Filofax I now take my hat off to them, a good business move and I hope it is repeated. I like the Temperley designs, partly because they are new and stylish/original, though am a bit worried about how a printed guinea fowl would look in real life. I think the Guinea model will be the better seller, but Filofax will have to sell a makeup kit to fit in one of the pockets. The Affair model looks to be the most adaptable and practical, but I suspect the first thing I'd do is lose the A5 pad and use the space for a phone and proper calculator.

There are a number of interesting new ideas included within the Filofax Temperley videos and hope that they are transferred in some part to the other models, possibly to be used for a third or fourth Temperley design.

David Popely (2012-02-21 12:23:38)

Hi Babs

With respect, I don't think you've properly read my email. Labelling me as 'a purist' because I object to the vacuous concentration on form alone with no attention to content isn't really helpful to the discussion. I fully accept the market is there for attractive binders aimed at a broad range (I have two \*very\* attractive binders myself, one FF and one from TMI). Also a number of less attractive ones! My argument is that FF aren't aiming at a broad market any more....only at the fashion-driven end - and that that is not only an insult to their historical customer-base (of which I am a member), but it's not even good business sense. You're dead right - marketing across a broad base \*would\* be a \*great\* idea, but that isn't what FF are doing, any more.

You're quite right that the FB page (along with the Twitter and most of the external communications) are now in the hands of the morally-vacant spin-doctors, who will run with any message they are paid to promote...and what a job they are doing. I note that the entire LFW Temperley launch was run by an events/PR company (they get far more credit on the FB page than do FF), and the emperor now really \*does\* have no clothes. Pointing this out doesn't make me a purist - it makes me someone who's not buying FF's very expensive spin, someone who runs his own business, and someone who thinks these business decisions are Very Bad Indeed.

Still, when the fashionista bandwagon has rolled on next year, we'll be left with the same crap insert range printed on poor-substitute toilet paper, and \*that's\* when this whole sorry episode will come home to roost. The fashionistas will be off with their diamante iPhones (or whatever) and those of us who \*used\* to use FF for \*proper\* time management will be looking elsewhere, as many of us already are. At that stage it will be goodbye to FF.

I've no objection to anyone having a good choice of well made (open to discussion there), attractive binders. I just want some content to go with the form, and some sign that FF respects all sectors of its client base.

Ray Blake (2012-02-21 13:21:16)

I think it's interesting to compare Filofax's business model to that of - say - Hewlett-Packard's printer division. HP is all about the consumables. They are happy to sell the hardware at pretty much cost - even below - because people with printers will buy cartridges and toner. One printer sale generates many consumables sales.

Now, Filofax seem to have it the other way around. They charge a premium price for the hardware - the binder - and have over time narrowed the range and neglected the quality of their consumables - the paper inserts.

Given that everyone who has a binder will buy paper, but NO-ONE who DOESN'T own a binder will buy paper, they might be better advised to make their hardware more easily affordable.

On the other hand, I've never run a business of the size and type of Filofax. No doubt cleverer and more experienced people than me have considered and rejected this idea. But I do wonder why.

cgarsnrealest8 (2012-02-21 13:55:35)

I would happily volunteer to be the liaison between Filofax and their customers. I agree with what has been said, and being a Franklin Covey convert, I thought I understood the concept of repeat customers and customer satisfaction. There is no doubt that Filofax makes a superior binder, but how could they allow their customers to seek fillers from other companies? I truly appreciate what Steve and Ray have done to address the needs of those of us truly interested in time management tools, and I am a little surprised that Filofax hasn't seemed to notice what's going on.

Ray Blake (2012-02-21 14:04:31)

Shhh!

David Popely (2012-02-21 14:35:13)

They've noticed.

They just don't care.....

David Popely (2012-02-21 14:38:04)

@cgarsnrealest8 I'd be interested to hear more about your experience with FC....I know it's a time management system and not just an organiser. Ho has it helped? What are the 'distinctives' of it?

I read 'First Things First a few years back and was mightily impressed. I've never read the 'Seven Habits'.....

Scoot (2012-02-21 14:40:06)

There's a Temperly Affair model on ebay... more photos..

<http://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/Ltd-Ed-Temperley-The-Affair-Black-Lace-Fil>

[oFax-Organiser-Clutch-New-/230750506738?pt=UK \\_Women \\_s \\_Handbags &hash=item35b9cd4ef2](http://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/OFax-Organiser-Clutch-New-/230750506738?pt=UK_Women_s_Handbags&hash=item35b9cd4ef2)

Dollface (2012-02-21 15:02:24)

does anyone know about leather paint? anyone? some of us are trying to have a decent looking filo without spending £400

i think they have the right idea with the temperley collaboration- professional women are probably their biggest growing market. I don't know why everyone is hating on them so much, if people are willing to pay then it makes sense that filofax are willing to sell.

but

LEATHER PAINT.. HELP

cgarsnrealest8 (2012-02-21 15:57:32)

@David Popely

FC was and still is a very good system for time and life management based on the books First Things First and The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People. The system is very structured although you can use it as you wish. I used the system, then went electronic (iphone). Upon my return to paper, I somewhat got caught up in the Filofax hype. I think the happy medium is to get the stylish Filofax binder and try to fashion in the FC inserts (or, just wait for Ray to finish).

J (2012-02-21 17:04:20)

@David Popely-

While I don't strictly follow the time management aspect of FC, I do use their inserts and love them. Between the dedicated spaces on the inserts and my color coding system, I feel that my time is much more well managed than it ever has been in the past.

Granted, their size (a bit wider than FF) prevents them from being used by more people, however, I haven't found it to be a problem in the Malden.

Scot (2012-02-21 17:10:41)

Haven't heard of leather paint, just dye and that takes a few coats to get an even finish. Using dye would be difficult on most filofaxes because there is a protective finish to most modern faxes.

Butanben (2012-02-21 17:38:04)

About time Filofax did produce a much wider, broader and higher quality set of stationery. We've been saying it for years. I agree with Ray's Hewlett Packard business model... sell the binders which are good quality, reasonably priced and last for years, so that folks keep coming back for the stationery and add on goodies.... plus customers will buy a new binder from time to time. Also think of the male customers as well as the females. I think the Temperley will be a bit of a damp squib in reality, but time will tell. As a dear friend of mine used to say.... "All fur coat and no knickers!!!!" Very flashy and gorgeous, but too expensive and so small, even in A5, it's very far practical!! I swoon over the design of the A5 Affair model, lovely, but what a ridiculous name.... and for the function a huge NON!!!!

SSJ (2012-02-21 20:42:56)

@DavidPopely,

Hi, I'm experiencing a massive planner fail right now, and it seems to me that you posted something about moving to TMI this year. Did you do that? How is it working out? I can't find Filofax inserts that I like. I currently use a personal size hybrid arrangement that (sort of) duplicates the Time/System model, but it just isn't helping me address my goals or break them into manageable bites. I use A5 Time/System for work (in a Filofax binder), but I use it to track work projects and little else, and I want to keep it that way so that (maybe) work won't take over my life.

Anyway (tying this back into the subject at hand), I'm only considering other systems because I can't find Filofax inserts that I like. I've done FC, but I don't like the fact that the pages are too wide (OCD much?) and I don't like the DayTimer paper.

p.s. I think the Temperley binders are really pretty, and if I was Madonna or maybe even Lady Gaga, I might want one.:)

janet (2012-02-22 02:32:48)

@alisonreeves @babs I think Alison hit the nail on the head with her post. It's the lack of a kickass time planning system to go with the pretty binders that gets me. FF is a planner system after all.

Shanananana (2012-02-22 04:02:22)

@Dollface, I've used Humbrol enamel paints successfully in the past to touch up damaged leather on boots, handbags and purses, also to paint a design on a biker jacket: gloss paints work best on patent/normal leather and matt paints are best on suede, they do a wide range and with half an eye for colour you can usually mix two or more shades to get your colour exact... they're durable and waterproof as well.

Usual cautions apply though, test an area that's less noticeable first and be aware that they're incredibly hard/impossible to get out of leather and fabric, without staining or using harsh chemicals like white spirit.

I had success using the thicker paint at the bottom of the tin (without stirring/shaking TOO much) and I also found they needed a long drying-time, and were still damageable (can't think of a better description) after they were dry to the touch - I'd give it at least 48 hours.

Modelzone are the shop I use for them, they have a big shop near Holborn with a comprehensive range of paints, or you can buy online, <http://www.modelzone.co.uk/>

Hope that helps!

David Popely (2012-02-22 04:48:21)

@SSJ The answer is 'yes and no', I'm afraid. But there is much more than that to say. I certainly feel your pain! If you'd like to email me via davidpopely (at) googlemail (dot) com I'd be only too happy to drivel on at length!

Nancy (2012-02-22 15:29:22)

Can anyone confirm for me that the pen loop on the personal size Holborn is sewn so that it lies flat AWAY from the rings (like the Kendal and the Amazona) instead of TOWARDS the rings/tabs? Much appreciated.

Tim (2012-02-22 18:35:28)

@Nancy - I can only speak for A5 but it'll be the same principle. On the Kendal the loops are fixed leather and are sewn so the pens stick out of the binder cover but inside the fastening strap. On the Holborn the loop is part leather/ part elastic. It is sewn onto the inside hidden pocket (about 12mm inside the A5 cover) still facing out, so the pen loop lies in the space beside the inner pocket and within the main binder cover. Pens of various sizes work well (I use a Frixion) and it is much tidier than the Kendal arrangement (in my view). Hope this is clear.  
Tim

Nancy (2012-02-22 18:49:07)

@Tim Thanks so much for taking the time to respond! I THINK I understand, but not entirely... I have a Holborn Slimline and the pen loop is similar to what you describe, tucked away inside the pocket, but the way the loop is stitched to the cover, along the right edge of the loop, causes it to lay towards the tabs/rings/pocket. Can you picture what I mean?? I'm wondering if the Holborn Personal pen loop has the stitching along its left edge, so that it lays more towards the right-hand edge of the binder rather than towards the center/rings/tabs/pocket. Clear as mud?? <:-\ Thank you for your patience!

## Discount Code for City Organiser.... (2012-02-21 18:00) - Steve Morton

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Alison Reeves (2012-02-21 18:17:30)

Thanks Steve - I have also bought several items from City organiser and have been very pleased with their service and prices.

Tim (2012-02-22 02:24:56)

..and me. Whilst I've always tried to "shop local", my nearest stockist has reduced Filofax lines by so much (due to falling sales), that it's not even worth calling in. City Organiser carry a very extensive range and offer very prompt overnight delivery.

The Patchwork Rabbit (2012-02-22 08:31:24)

DAMN! I placed an order yesterday BEFORE seeing this! That'll teach me!

Steve Morton (2012-02-22 08:39:51)

Give them a call they might oblige with adding the code if they haven't already processed your order.. Worth a call.

Sauce (2012-02-23 20:41:25)

Thank you, and City Organiser, for this.

They just gained a new customer - I needed to get a few inserts to complete a few binders I just picked up on eBay.

curiouser (2012-03-08 20:21:36)

Thankyou for this- this helped with balancing out the postage cost to Australia. I've just bought my first filofax

in years- my personal (a Hamilton) is way too big now.

Maus (2012-03-21 09:48:56)

I've also placed my order yesterday... :-)

I just wrote a mail - oh, hopefully there is a chance.

But, Steve, I've received the sales mail this morning - do you think it is too late then?

Hopefully, Renate

Maus (2012-03-21 10:00:27)

Ohhhh,

I've just called CO (as Steve told before) and Co will be so kind to apply it to my order yesterday!!!

Thanks to Philofaxy, thanks to Steve and thanks to City organiser!!!

## Free Personal size 2012 diary sets to download and print for your Filofax (2012-02-22 00:00) - Steve Morton

As promised, today we're making available the Personal size 2012 diary sets. These are layouts each covering the whole of 2012, but this time for the Filofax Personal. They are created as A4 documents with each A4 sheet yielding 2 double-sided pages.

Print the sets 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.

You can print these on any paper you like, which will please fountain pen users particularly.

So, here are your downloads.

### 1. Personal TM Week Per View

Based on the first of our new A5 layouts, we've made certain compromises to get this onto Personal size pages. There is no room for the mini-calendars, nor for the communications and coming up sections. But we're really pleased with the result.

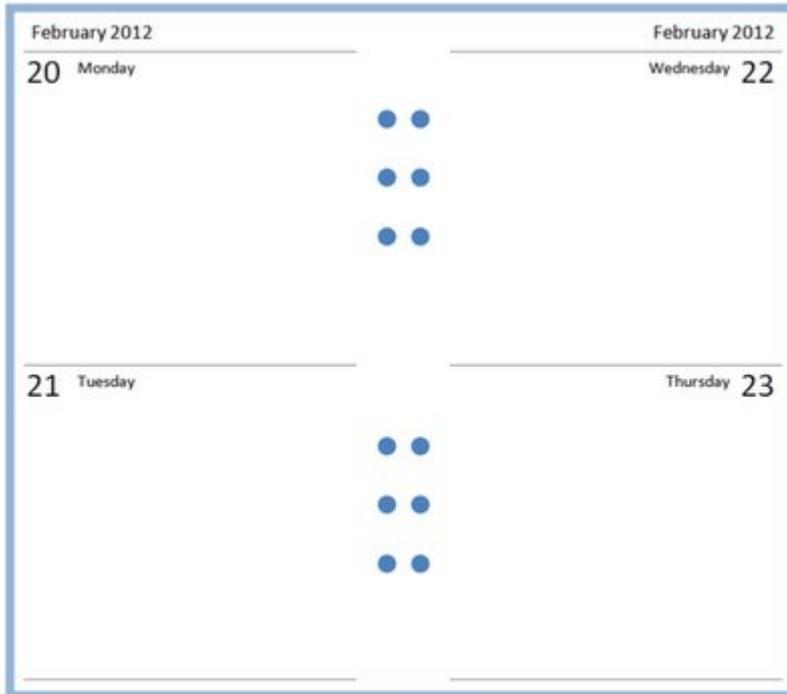
20-26 February 2012			February 2012 20-26	
Day	Time	Description	Task	Done
Mon				
20				
Tue				
21				
Wed				
22				
Thu				
23				
Fri				
24				
Sat				
25				
Sun				
26				

[1]

Download [2]Word Version or [3]PDF version

## 2. Two Days Per Page unlined

This one is a very straightforward implementation of our 2DPP A5 layout.

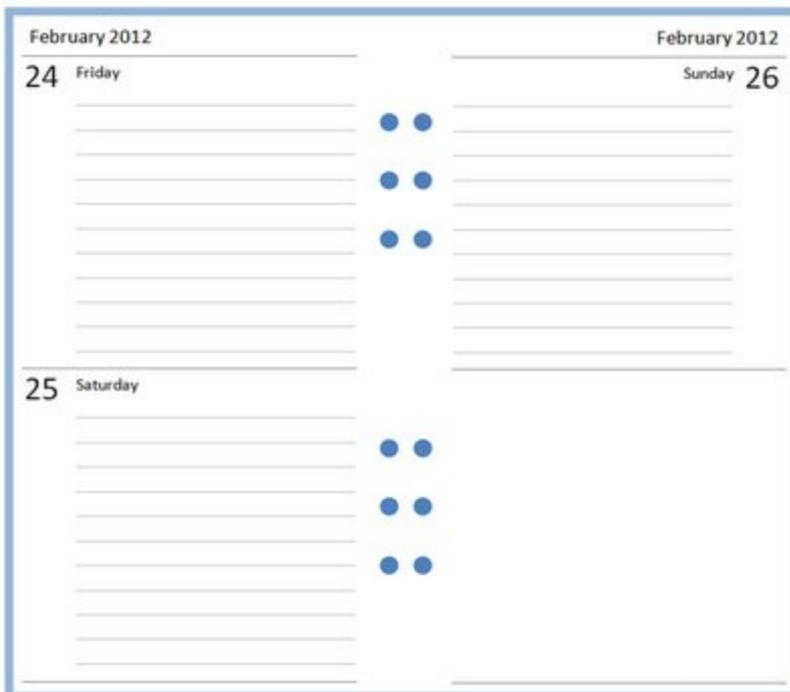


[4]

Download [5]Word Version or [6]PDF version.

## 3. Two Days Per Page lined

Again, we've just adapted our 2DPP A5 layout. It's the same as no 2, but with lines.



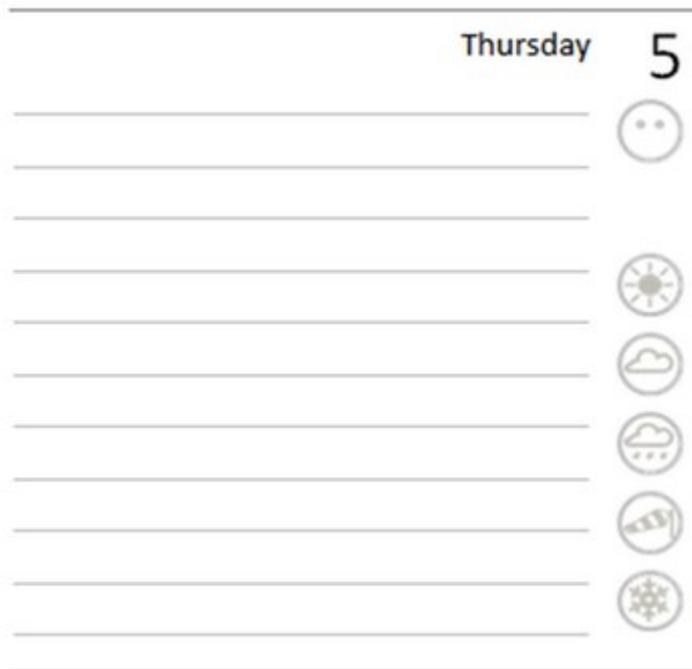
[7]

Download [8]Word Version or [9]PDF version.

## 4. Two Days Per Page with icons

This one is a bit of fun, and results from a special request. Based on the lined version, each day has a vertical strip of icons. As well as a set of weather icons (sun, cloud, rain, wind, snow) which you can use to record the prevailing weather each day, there's also a little face for you to draw in a mouth line

representing your mood - a smile, a frown, a wide 'O' of surprise, perhaps even a little teardrop.



[10]

Download [11]Word Version or [12]PDF version.

We're not done yet with Personal layouts. I am working on a week per page layout and we also want to produce versions that can be printed straight onto Filofax Personal paper, plus undated versions. Of course. We will also make the source files available so that fellow bearers of the Geek gene can tinker.

[13] 

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1. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-sfr1QYySti4/Tz2JC9PYNnI/AAAAAAAAAWE/V01ZBRQIJZ4/s1600/newpers1.png>
2. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal\\_TM\\_Week\\_View/2012%20merged%20Personal%20Enhanced%20TM%20Week%20View.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_TM_Week_View/2012%20merged%20Personal%20Enhanced%20TM%20Week%20View.docx)
3. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal\\_TM\\_Week\\_View/2012%20merged%20Personal%20Enhanced%20TM%20Week%20View.pdf](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_TM_Week_View/2012%20merged%20Personal%20Enhanced%20TM%20Week%20View.pdf)
4. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-3qlJLFM5Wro/Tz2KU0eaTXI/AAAAAAAAAWM/kwmd6ZKCuXw/s1600/newpers2.png>
5. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal\\_2\\_Days\\_Per\\_Page/2012%20merged%20Personal%202%20days%20per%20page.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_2_Days_Per_Page/2012%20merged%20Personal%202%20days%20per%20page.docx)
6. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal\\_2\\_Days\\_Per\\_Page/2012%20merged%20Personal%202%20days%20per%20page.pdf](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_2_Days_Per_Page/2012%20merged%20Personal%202%20days%20per%20page.pdf)
7. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-RSGCmhvYkRw/Tz2Ly03nr3I/AAAAAAAAAWU/BgxrxjAXbRA4/s1600/newpers3.png>
8. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal\\_2\\_Days\\_Per\\_Page/2012%20merged%20Personal%202%20days%20per%20page%20lined.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_2_Days_Per_Page/2012%20merged%20Personal%202%20days%20per%20page%20lined.docx)
9. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal\\_2\\_Days\\_Per\\_Page/2012%20merged%20Personal%202%20days%20per%20page%20lined.pdf](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_2_Days_Per_Page/2012%20merged%20Personal%202%20days%20per%20page%20lined.pdf)
10. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-pSg8fMHNxKg/Tz2MJ3zZg0I/AAAAAAAAAWc/6pBnIsTC0UA/s1600/icons.png>
11. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal\\_2\\_Days\\_Per\\_Page/2012%20merged%20Personal%202%20days%20per%20page%20lined%20with%20icons.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_2_Days_Per_Page/2012%20merged%20Personal%202%20days%20per%20page%20lined%20with%20icons.docx)
12. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal\\_2\\_Days\\_Per\\_Page/2012%20merged%20Personal%202%20days%20per%20page%20lined%20with%20icons.pdf](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_2_Days_Per_Page/2012%20merged%20Personal%202%20days%20per%20page%20lined%20with%20icons.pdf)
13. <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/>
14. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/>
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Josh (2012-02-22 00:42:11)

Very cool guys! I love the little icons! And the week to view looks fantastic, might need to give that a try!

Lime Tree (2012-02-22 00:54:10)

Oh my! They look great! Can't wait to see what's coming next!

Ray Blake (2012-02-22 02:04:02)

What's coming next is Month on a page and month to a view, both for A5 and personal. I was skeptical about these; I didn't think each day would get enough room to be usable, but when I saw Steve's idea the concept grew on me, and reading this week's 'How do You Use' comments it's clear these layouts can come in handy.

Oh, and getting the mail merge set up properly for Personal-size month to a view and building the conditional expressions for first and last page was one of the hardest couple of hours I've ever spent at a PC.

doris98 (2012-02-22 03:27:36)

First off, thanks to Steve and Ray for creating these. Such dedication (:

The TM Week to View looks like it will work for me but I use a Pocket. Will that be available as well? I'm just not sure how much tinkering I'll need to do myself to make this for a Pocket.

Thanks again!

Laurie (2012-02-22 03:31:16)

These are fantastic!!! Thanks you guys!!!

Ray Blake (2012-02-22 03:56:49)

Working on a Pocket sized template.

Heather from Heather Holistics (2012-02-22 04:56:22)

Amazing work. Well done both of you and thank you.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-02-22 05:23:27)

Good work Steve and Ray!! Will you be making a day on 1 or day on 2 pages based on Time Management available for personal? Thanks!! :D

Ray Blake (2012-02-22 06:21:57)

@TPS: Will look at Personal-size DPP on A4, but there is already a version you can print straight to Personal pages: <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2012/01/2012-page-per-day-for-filofax-personal.html>

Saffy (2012-02-22 06:35:52)

These look amazing. I particularly like the icons, thanks Ray ;-)

doris98 (2012-02-22 07:38:21)

@Ray: Yay for Pocket size! Didn't think you would, but was hoping for it.

Thanks!

CatB (2012-02-22 07:48:19)

Oooh I love the one with icons!! I use cotton cream paper in my personal, does anyone know of suitable cotton cream paper to print for personal? I have the filofax branded white paper, but already regretting that purchase as I really have no use for it.

Can I also say again thank you so much to Steve and Ray. These are just wonderful. I am going to keep this icon version in my personal for a journal/collage book. I am also working on editing the A5 layouts to meet my personal needs, something I have never been able to do before and the fact that this has allowed me to is just fabulous.

Nancy (2012-02-22 10:40:41)

Wonderful, thank you! And maybe I can examine these and determine the settings for a mirrored gutter - I needed that, yesterday.

Thanks again!

Nancy

Butanben (2012-02-22 11:04:22)

Thanks Steve and Ray. I downloaded and started to print the A5 Time Management Week to View, having downloaded it in Word, but the lines were very pale and I couldn't read them, even when I highlighted and made everything in Bold and changed the printer cartridge. Is it me and my printer or is there another chart format I can highlight in Microsoft 2010 package? I tried this highlighting the second chart along, which gave bolder lines, but not in groups of 5, as you set out. E. mail me at je.mccourt@virgin.net..... I am not tecchie as in mail merging, but there may be something obvious I am not doing in Word. Thanks guys for all your hard, hard work on this. It is just so much better than Filofax are offering their consumers and just so grateful to see the fabulous ideas you are coming out with for us all. Marvellous.

Anita (2012-02-22 11:53:24)

Thank you so much, these are awesome :)

Ray Blake (2012-02-22 12:05:17)

@Butanben: I'm emailing you.

Butanben (2012-02-22 12:57:15)

@Ray. Thanks for the e. mail and tips Ray. That was very kind of you to take time out to mail me. Much appreciated.

Nan (2012-02-22 16:16:36)

CatB...I'm going to try printing on a high-quality business paper, 24-lb, with 25 % cotton content (Southworth is the brand that's available to me locally). I don't know whether it will exactly match the Filofax cotton cream, but I'm sure it will be close enough. I've been using white DPP for a couple of years now, but I'd love DPP in cotton cream...and right now the only way is to print my own.

However, since I live in the US, I'll have to adjust the template to print 3-up on letter-size paper rather than 4-up on A4.

You can print on individual sheet of Personal Cotton Cream, but that would be much more expensive.

Susanne Namdar (2012-02-24 16:05:33)

Thank you so much for taking the time to create these templates. They look great.

Liisa P. (2012-03-22 09:49:05)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Steve Morton (2012-03-22 12:39:20)

Liisa

Yes we have found the source of the problem. The Word versions are the correct size. We are just redoing the PDF's now.

Regards

Steve

## **Guest Post - Alice - Erin (2012-02-23 00:00) - Steve Morton**

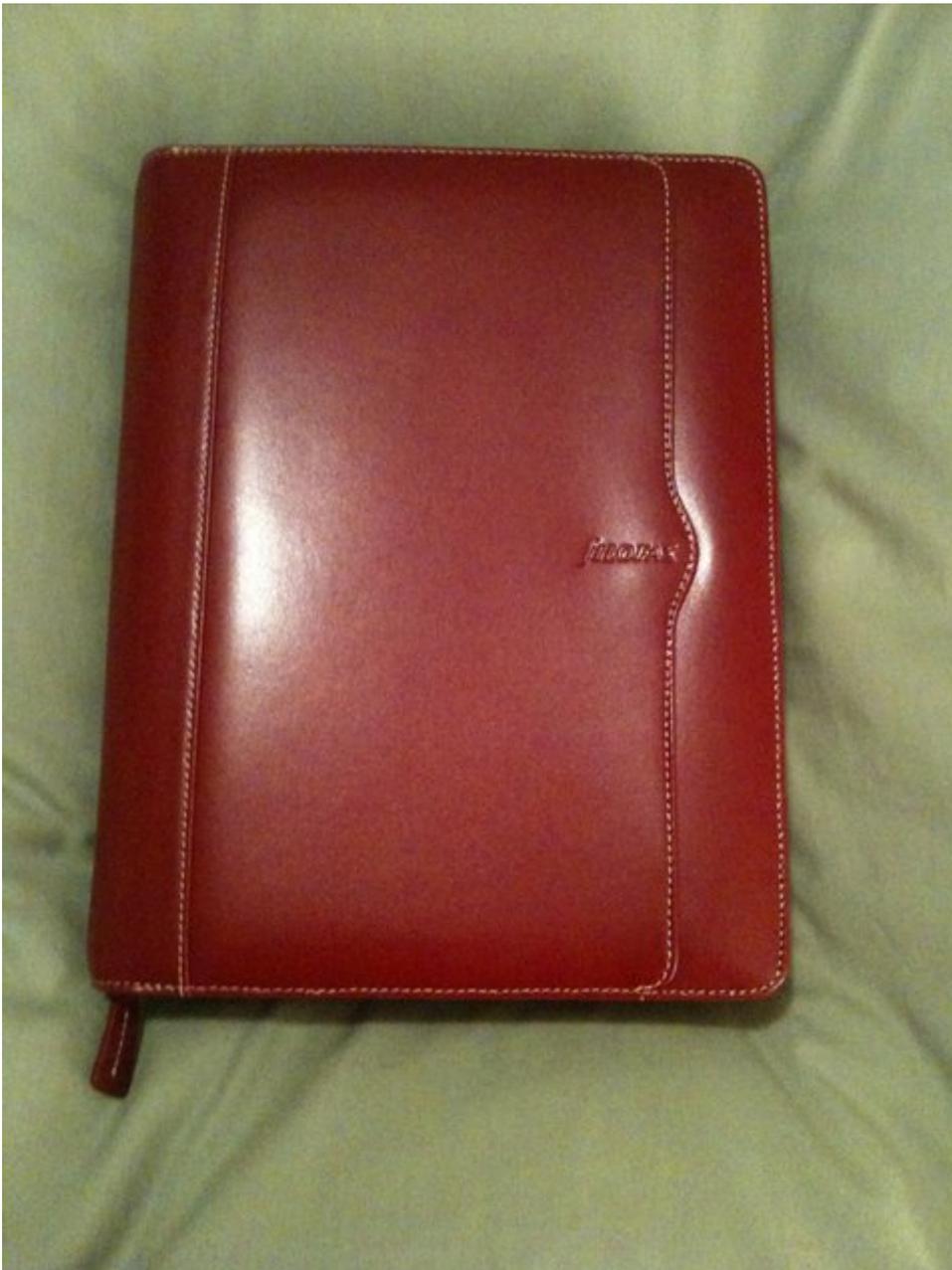
*Thank you to Erin for sending in the details of her Cuban she calls Alice!*

This is my A5 Cuban Filofax in Chili that I named "Alice." There's a story behind the name.

My parents, who both recently passed away, had a great sense of humour. My Dad used to joke with my Mom that he hoped they would never get Alzheimer's Disease.

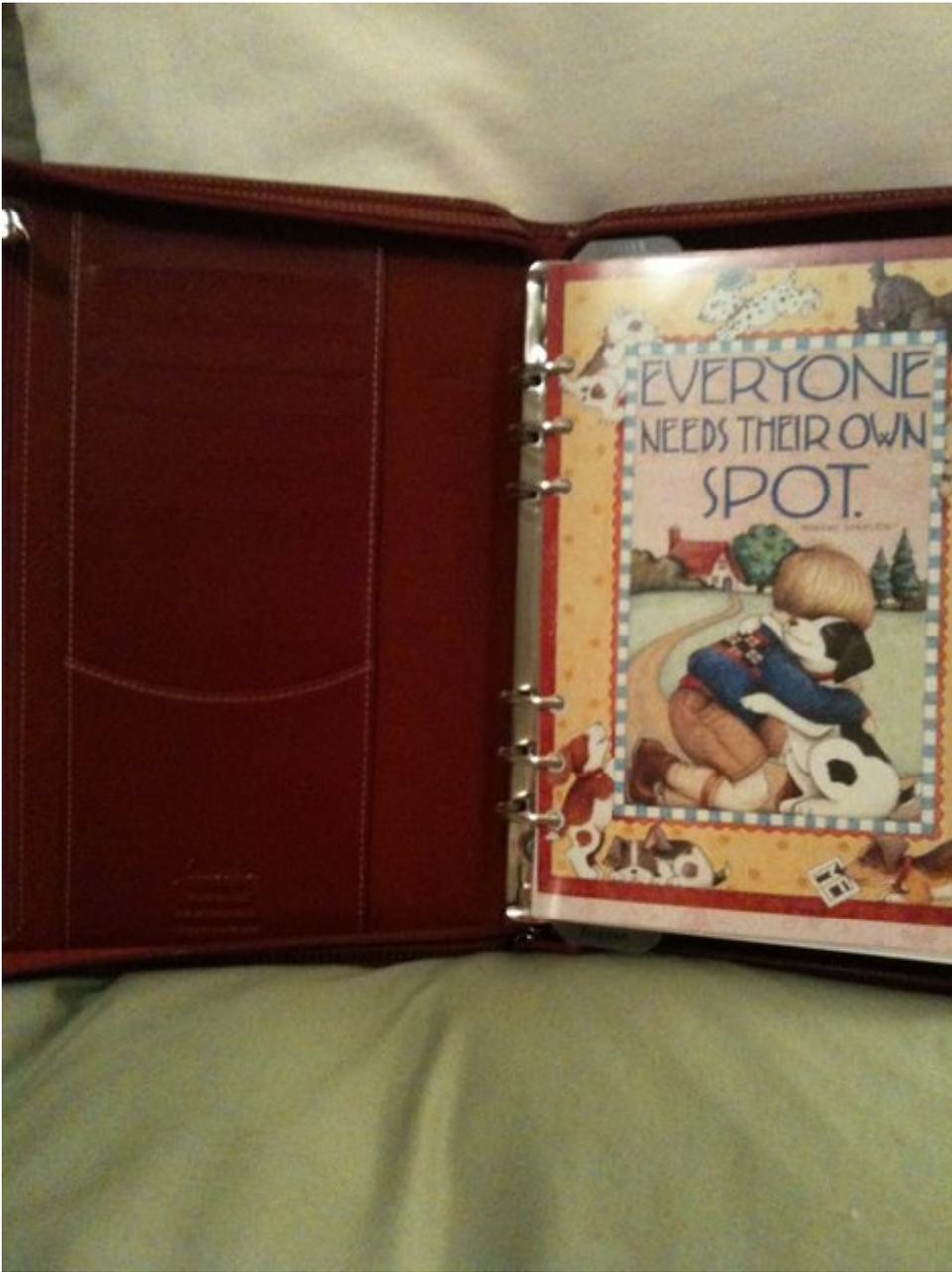
For a joke, he called himself Al Z. Heimer and he called my Mom Alice Heimer. So, I don't mean to make fun of anyone with this horrible disease, but they used this terminology as a fun way to call each other these pet names.

He called her "Alice" so often that many people thought it was her name. So, I named her Alice in honour of not "forgetting" anything since I have my trusty Filofax to write everything down in.



[1]

This is Alice's inside cover and my cover page. I love dogs so that's why I chose this piece.



[2]

This is Alice showing off her spooky Halloween sticker...Alice leaves me lots of room to write in the day per page format.



[3]

These are Alice's brightly colored tabs "To Do" "Books" "Finances" . I have a few blank ones that I need to figure out what to do with.



[4]

Alice's inside front cover showing the Filofax page cover sheet and a drawing that reminds me of my

husband and myself.



[5]

*Thank you Erin for sharing your photos and story with us.*

1. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-zbrKbj5AfhQ/Tz7Y1JYaDxI/AAAAAAAAAKSc/PFEumR7xyfc/s1600/erinphoto.JPG>
2. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-E5o91QbMTWo/Tz7Y2iFnWMI/AAAAAAAAAKSk/6Hm-P40yRUM/s1600/erinphoto2.JPG>
3. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-mP9YR7zhrac/Tz7Y3yFMB4I/AAAAAAAAAKSs/7ciVHNhmEXU/s1600/erinphoto3.JPG>
4. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-Ky4YVbwzcXc/Tz7Y6r02GqI/AAAAAAAAAKS0/hPKyepAvuFo/s1600/erinphoto4.JPG>
5. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-qV3un2qCGdQ/Tz7Y8RONm6I/AAAAAAAAAKS8/UPSV48cYYcw/s1600/erinphoto5.JPG>

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Alison Reeves (2012-02-23 05:07:41)

Lovely binder and a lovely story about the name! Thank you Erin.

Anita (2012-02-23 05:35:42)

What a lovely filo & thanks for sharing, Erin :)

Kate (2012-02-23 05:50:56)

Thank you for the report, Erin. I always enjoy seeing how other people use their Filofax.

Butanben (2012-02-23 15:16:33)

Thanks Erin! My grandmother passed away from Alzheimers. It is such an awful ravaging disease and so many families have been affected by it. I utterly loved hearing of your father's jokiness and I personally was not offended in the least, because humour is so often the best way to diffuse our worries....our family too have some laugh out loud stories.... what a wonderful man... a warmth and twinkle to his personality. Like me, you have been blessed with a wonderful dad, by the sound of things. As a child, I too had the nickname Alice, as in Alice in Wonderland, as it was one of my favourite stories, and I was always a daydreamer extraordinnaire. So it was plain lovely to read all about Alice, your Filofax. I absolutely adore the pictures you have at the front. Is there a website address where one can download these. I'd love to know and look at others to possibly download for my own Filo. Thank you.

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-02-23 21:05:00)

Love the post...

You gave me a big smile :)

Tracy

Susanne Namdar (2012-02-24 15:46:38)

A wonderful post, a great story and a great Filofax.

Filofreak (2012-02-24 20:32:14)

@Butanben

Thank you so much for your kind comments and I'm glad I didn't offend. I truly had the best Papa in the world (I think) along with my Mom and I'm really lucky. The pictures are from an old Mary Engelbreit desk calendar that I cut out and punched holes in.

Thanks to all for such nice comments!

Erin

Butanben (2012-02-26 21:57:45)

Thanks Erin. I'll look out for Mary Engelbright on the internet. I so enjoyed reading your post. It's lovely when folks share little bits of themselves, their lives and thoughts, along with their Filofax set ups. I am always so amazed at how different everybody's set ups are and what superb ideas the Filofaxy community come up with. Thanks for sharing Mary Engelbright's lovely drawings with us too Erin. I loved those. xxxx

### **Free For All Friday No. 171 (2012-02-24 00:22) - Laurie**

It's the doldrums of winter for the northern hemisphere. What do you have planned to liven things up until spring comes?

Feel free to discuss anything Filofax-related!

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Josh (2012-02-24 00:43:26)

Hmmmm. Ordered seeds for the veg garden just this week, probably a bit late really.

Trying to decide if I should try out an A5 for size. Looked at one in the shop and really liked it, but still worried it may be too big for every day carry.

David Popely (2012-02-24 01:47:17)

I'll be setting back up my small beekeeping operation. Last week when down in Somerset we picked up a new, second hive for our garden, and all the necessary frames etc to recommission our existing hive. I used a GTD-style agenda within my FF for this, because it was a long trip, a major purchase, a long list and I didn't want to forget anything as making a second journey would have been pretty much impossible.

This weekend I have to clear out the outhouse to make working space to put the frames and supers together, and in 4-8 weeks (probably, depending on the weather) I'll make a second trip down to Somerset to collect our two new burgeoning colonies of bees (known in the 'trade' as nucs, short for nuclei).

The FF is pretty useful for tracking forward dates for inspections, small tasks, and then the big task of taking honey around the end of July/beginning of August.

Let's hope for a better summer this year!

Alison Reeves (2012-02-24 03:54:09)

Oh this thought has cheered me up. I've just bought a book 'gardening through the year' or similar by Ian Spence so I can extract monthly tasks for the garden and plan better as I've got a bit behind with it. These will go into my phone home fax.

I've set up a spare fax as a diet and fitness fax - this will aid my weight loss and also the Race for Life I've signed up for (must be mad - but you can sponsor me here: <http://bit.ly/y7QnSE> - all proceeds to cancer research!).

I'm also decluttering and selling off stuff - my Aqua A5 Finsbury has been relisted on Ebay, if anyone is interested, due to a non payer. It's so frustrating that someone can bid and not pay and there isn't much I can do about it - I can't even leave them any negative feedback!

Alison Reeves (2012-02-24 03:55:38)

Just another question - does anyone use Mind Mapping for planning, projects or task management? I used to use it a lot and didn't really load it onto my new laptop (which I have done now). Useful for printing out and keeping in the fax for reference hopefully.

missfoc (2012-02-24 04:37:23)

Alison,

How can i find your listing on Ebay - whats your id. Would love to try bidding on that Aqua A5!  
Thx.

Butanben (2012-02-24 04:56:39)

@Alison. I used Mind Mapping a lot to help plan and organise my written assignments and dissertation for my Masters Degree a few years back. It was just such a useful technique.... and there are many internet sites to demonstrate different types of mind map and ways of using mind mapping techniques. I actually downloaded a mind map for PC which you recommended a while back. Passed my written assignments, though sadly not my dissertation, with distinction grades(passing the degree, but missing my longed for distinction by a squeak)..... mind mapping proved to be excellent for marshalling my thoughts and ideas though!! I still carry mind map blanks and pro formas in my work Filofax.Useful.

Today, I am starting a gift ideas list and will add my final purchase to my gifts chart, which I keep on PC. I keep this to have a record of what I have given to whom for birthdays etc..... so that I do not duplicate ideas. My cousin has just had twin girls,yesterday. The girls, Lilia and Jessica, are so very precious, so longed for, and such a miracle really. Mother and twins(and indeed their daddy,) are both doing well. So..... it's out with the Filofax,over a glass of champers later, to write and stick in ideas of THE perfect present two times over!!!What a wonderful excuse to enable some shopping!!!! Heee Heeee.

Butanben (2012-02-24 05:02:24)

PS- Wonder if anybody out there has a baby section, or family children section in their Filofax???? Just a thought.....

Steve Morton (2012-02-24 06:25:16)

Hi Everyone.

Alison, there's a mind mapping template in the files area for A4/A5

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/files.html>

I've not used it myself, not sure who sent it in even!

Regards

Steve

Alison Reeves (2012-02-24 06:28:11)

@missfoc - here is the A5 Aqua I am selling: <http://bit.ly/zeyYDu>

Alison Reeves (2012-02-24 06:30:25)

@Steve - thanks - I may print some out for on the run. I tend to use software on my laptop for mine and print them out for the filofax.

missfoc (2012-02-24 06:34:00)

@Alison

Excellent! Thank you.

Alison Reeves (2012-02-24 06:36:38)

Just another thought. The sun is out here and it has warmed up considerably - showing up some areas where a little cleaning wouldn't go amiss! Does anyone make plans in their FF for spring cleaning or general cleaning routines? Would love to hear if you want to share!

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-02-24 06:59:41)

@Steve

It was me who sent that in! I use it for blog posts/ideas and some general brainstorming, but I guess it's not a real mindmap as such...

Lucy (2012-02-24 07:44:48)

Hello all!

I have a question. Some Filofaxes from the new range are being released in 'March'. Does anybody know when? 1st March? 31 March? It's my birthday in March so need I say more???

SSA (2012-02-24 08:26:55)

@ Alison. I recently started to add some cleaning lists to my Filofax. I have currently only done a "weekly to-clean" list and I will simply tick it off when done and then use a new sheet the following week. This means that if I 'wipe surfaces' on a Monday (first day of the week) and then tick it off the next Sunday when I add the new sheet it may mean that I only wipe the surfaces on the Saturday (therefore meaning it could be nearer 2 weeks). I have only added chores that do not need doing daily like wiping surfaces. I have currently:

- Vacuum entrance
- wash dog toys
- wipe sliding doors
- brush balcony + mat
- wash out trash cans
- wipe inside bathroom cabinet
- dust shelves

I am really still in the experimental stage. but i would like to have a more long-term cleaning list so I can maybe list all the chores that only get done once or twice a year and then write the date it was done on a spreadsheet or year-planner and then I can see what needs doing.

examples:

- sort clothing + make charity bag
- wash curtains
- clean rug
- sort books
- polish floor
- get windows cleaned

etc etc

what did you have in mind? I am interested for more input.

SSA

Jotje (2012-02-24 08:28:59)

@Lucy, I guess you'll have to keep a close look at Filofax.co.uk. I see they already have the personal BCC and the A5 Apex on sale. I expect the remainder of the new models will be introduced one by one.

David Popely (2012-02-24 08:41:03)

@Alison Sun? Sun? What is this 'sun' of which you speak? :)

Here in West Wales the default setting is Wet. Except for the odd day, when it is Very wet Indeed.

Saffy (2012-02-24 09:05:50)

To those Deco owners out there.

I recently started using a Ruby deco and after tossing it in my bag like I do all my other Filo's it now has a few nicks in the leather showing a pinkish-red colour where the leather should be. Has anyone else had this experience? I thought perhaps it would not be too bad on the Ivory. I did think it would be tougher leather and the only issue would be the clasp getting scratched.

I now think I will need to keep it as a home/office filo and use a sturdier filofax for my handbag.

Others experiences would be much appreciated.

missfoc (2012-02-24 09:10:47)

@Alison,

I'm trying to set up a Flylady control Journal (hence why im looking to buy an A5 Filo!) Would be good to hear if anyone else has one of these or similar home management-type system? Im too perfectionist to get started

Properly - Which is why im always on here looking at others set ups... I have started a temporary set up though in my personal using the merged personal TM week to view. I also have my routines listed & use my flyleaf as a wipeclean board so i dont have to write the same jobs out every day/week.

Steve Morton (2012-02-24 09:40:16)

Would anyone in UK be willing to help a reader in Germany.

They want this item:

<http://www.hrsbshop.co.uk/filofax-songbird-personal-organiser-cotton-canvas-cover-stylish-graphic-print-personal-ref-027756-35534-p.as.p>

But they will only deliver to a UK address. All you would be asked to do is to accept the parcel and post it on to them with costs refunded of course.

If you can help please contact [philofaxy\[at\]gmail\[dot\]com](mailto:philofaxy[at]gmail[dot]com) and I will put you in touch with the reader

Thank you

Regards

Steve

Sandra (2012-02-24 10:36:33)

@missfoc If you're on Facebook please join the Filofax and Flylady group. :) I need to start flying again...the CHAOS there is what it is.

Alison Reeves (2012-02-24 11:20:31)

@SSA - This is exactly what I am interested in. Somewhere I have some cleaning lists (i.e. spring, autumn) that I downloaded from I think the Martha Stewart site, and was thinking of doing similar to you. I'm a fan of flylady, but I find their constant emails a bit overwhelming. I'd love to be a one life one FF person but I can't fit it all in, so I have one work one, one for slimming / fitness and hopefully one for the home.

Steve Morton (2012-02-24 12:33:57)

Hi everyone

Thanks for the rapid response we now have someone to help our our German reader.

Regards

Steve

Jotje (2012-02-24 13:13:59)

To the Flylady fans out there: have you seen Christa's post (it was in the webfinds from 4th February).

I have just added the Zone work to my A5. The daily routines are on a selfmade huge wipeboard in the kitchen, together with the kids' chores. I was hoping to avoid all the nagging, but after 2 weeks the novelty of it all has surely worn off ...

Jotje (2012-02-24 13:14:50)

I forgot to include the link to Christa's post ...

<http://lovingmyfilofax.blogspot.com/2012/01/my-home-binder-filofax-a-5-now-pink.html>

Alison Reeves (2012-02-24 13:25:45)

@Jotje - Yes I avidly read Christa's blog post several times! I'm awaiting the update with baited breath as she promised a post on her flylady routines and hope to see it soon!

Louloudorset (2012-02-24 13:52:59)

It's all about the wedding planning for me this weekend...there's a wedding fair on at a venue we were considering so hopefully off to have a nose round.

I'm using my A5 Malden in Vintage Rose as my wedding planner as it just feels all girly and feminine (and squishy) Apart from that I'll be setting up my work/study A5 with new pages from the print your own Philofaxy section (thank you Ray you are wonderful!!) so I'll be wittering on about that a lot I'm sure :)

Plus planning my day in London on Tuesday as I'm off to a marketing/publishing show for work  
Lx

Gerard (2012-02-24 15:25:16)

SSA (and anyone else interested in setting up routines) - take a look at Nan's post here.....

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2008/03/behind-routines-tab.html>

There are some excellent ideas in the linked images for condensing tracking information.

Neil (2012-02-24 18:17:33)

I've have converted my Moleskine into filofax (or should that be the other way round?). Anyway, I have quite a few filofaxes in use for various purposes, but this hybrid is the one that I use every day and, because it's rather unusual, I thought you lot might like to see it: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OEOhQIR4CeA>

Filofreak (2012-02-24 20:39:52)

I received an email today that the Temperly for Filofax planners are now out. Wow, they are pricey! I wasn't even able to see what they really look like inside. Any chance there will be a review of them on Philofaxy?

missfoc (2012-02-25 08:32:35)

@Sandra

I've found the flylady & the Filofax group on Facebook but it's a closed group. How do I join or add it? I'm using my iPhone as I don't have a working pc.

Thx.

Steve Morton (2012-02-25 08:44:24)

@missfoc I guess the 'Ask to Join the Group' link doesn't appear on the mobile app.

Email me at philofaxy at gmail dot com and I will forward your email to one of the admins of the group. I will need to know your name on Facebook and the email address you use as well

Regards

Steve

Steph (2012-02-25 14:18:37)

There are so many links for filofax and flylady...none of the ones I found are private groups...can someone post the links to them both please?

## Web Finds - 25 February 2012 (2012-02-25 00:00) - Steve Morton

Another busy week with a bumper crop of Filofax blog posts. Sit down take some time out of your busy day and enjoy some excellent blog posts. You didn't have anything planned for the next hour or more now did you????!!!!

- [1]On a true Filofax love affair - Vanjilla
- [2]I seem to have enabled myself - Paper Pens Ink [*puts hands up, not guilty... this time!*]
- [3]Filofax Land - Imysworld
- [4]Moving into the Aston Part 1 - Paper Pens Ink
- [5]Packages in the Post - Vintage Giraffe
- [6]Moving into the Aston Part 2 - Paper Pens Ink
- [7]Oh Osterley How I love thee - Modern Musings

- [8]Rings rings rings - Imysworld
- [9]A good idea from Alice Temperley - The Life of the Perpetual Student
- [10]My Filofax Lists Frankensection - The Suburban Mom
- [11]New Filofax - Within Dreams We Live
- [12]Mini-Review: Filofax Piazza Mini Blu - Stationery Happiness
- [13]My Malden Predicament - Musings of a Caribbean Princess
- [14]Alice Temperley reveals all... - Selfridges
- [15]Cornell notes templates for the Filofax A4 and A5 - My Life All in One Place
- [16]She's a real hard working girl. My new Personal Kendal - Sense of Gravity
- [17]Studio Filofax - Tea and Talk for Two
- [18]A Holburn Zip Dilemma - The Life of The Perpetual Student
- [19]The Tracyley - Rapunzel's World
- [20]Moleskine gives it's life to a Filofax - The Crazy Suburban Mom
- [21]Filofax Overload - Lime Tree
- [22]Filofax White Paper v Cream Paper - Sense of Gravity
- [23]Moved in to the Aston - almost - Paper Pens Ink
- [24]New Filofax Obsession - Serendipity
- Your blog post could appear here next week... Please email us if we missed you this week.

Enjoy.

IFRAME: [25]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/SWe-SxsPpv4>

1. <http://vanjilla.blogspot.com/2012/02/on-true-filofax-love-affair-finally-and.html>
2. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.com/2012/02/i-seem-to-have-enabled-myself.html>
3. <http://imysworld.blogspot.com/2012/02/filofax-land.html>
4. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.com/2012/02/moving-into-aston-part-1.html>
5. <http://vintagegiraffe.blogspot.com/2012/02/packages-in-post.html>
6. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.com/2012/02/moving-into-aston-part-2-pictures.html>
7. <http://louloudorsetsmusings.blogspot.com/2012/02/oh-osterley-how-i-love-thee-and-can-you.html>
8. <http://imysworld.blogspot.com/2012/02/rings-rings-rings.html>
9. <http://thelifeoftheperpetualstudent.blogspot.com/2012/02/good-filofax-idea-from-alice-temperley.html>
10. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/02/my-filofax-lists-frankensection.html>
11. <http://withindreamswelive.blogspot.com/2012/02/new-filofax.html>
12. <http://stationeryhappiness.blogspot.com/2012/02/mini-review-filofax-piazza-mini-blu.html>
13. <http://www.caribbeanprincessmusings.com/2012/02/my-malden-predicament.html>
14. <http://style.selfridges.com/self-expression/alice-temperley-reveals-all-about-her-filofax-collaboration>
15. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2012/02/cornell-notes-templates-for-filofax-a4.html>
16. <http://senseofgravity.blogspot.com/2012/02/shes-real-hardworking-girl-my-new.html>
17. <http://teaandtalkfortwo.blogspot.com/2012/02/studio-filofax.html>
18. <http://thelifeoftheperpetualstudent.blogspot.com/2012/02/holborn-zip-dilemma.html>
19. <http://icclewu.blogspot.com/2012/02/tracyley.html>

20. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/02/moleskine-gives-its-life-for-filofax.html>
21. <http://limetreefruits.blogspot.com/2012/02/filofax.html>
22. <http://senseofgravity.blogspot.com/2012/02/filofax-white-paper-vs-creme-paper.html>
23. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.com/2012/02/moved-in-to-aston-almost.html>
24. <http://serendipity-art-journaling.blogspot.com.au/2012/02/new-filofax-obsession.html>
25. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/SWe-SxsPpv4>

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The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-02-25 05:33:19)

Thanks Steve for listing my 2 posts! An update on my Holborn zip one: I have now sent it back to City Organiser and am going to get a refund. Thanks for everyone's help!

Alison Reeves (2012-02-25 15:45:15)

Really enjoyed reading all of these thanks Steve.

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-02-25 21:09:52)

Wow! A lot this week, I love that :) Long lists are the BEST!

## **Download source files for the new Personal-size diary layouts (2012-02-25 12:00) - Steve Morton**

As we did with the new [1]A5 layouts, Steve and I are making available source files for our [2]Personal-size ones, too.

We're releasing them so that those of you who want to can tinker and tweak to get the unique layout that is perfect for you. These are the source files Steve and I built to produce the 2012 sets. The same ones will also produce sets for any year you care to choose. In each of the data source files, you just need to change one date - the starting date - and the file will calculate all the other dates for you. I've highlighted the cell with the date you need to change in each of the files like this:

[3] 

Look for the red-outlined cell - that's the only date you should  
change

If you want fewer dates, delete full rows at the bottom end. If you want more, drag the formulae down into more rows. If you mess up, you can always download the file again and start over.

As long as you have some basic Word and Excel skills, you should be able to give this a go. You'll need to be able to set up a basic mail merge file link, and there are plenty of web tutorials that show you the way - Google using the search terms: Word Excel Mail Merge 20xx (where 'xx' is 02, 03, 07 or 10, depending on your version.)

If that all seems like a lot of work, you can still just download the [4]pre-prepared 2012 sets. Here are the source files.

### **1. Personal TM Week Per View**

20-26 February 2012			February 2012 20-26		
Day	Time	Description		Task	Sent
Mon			• •		
20					
Tue			• •		
21			• •		
Wed					
22					
Thu					
23					
Fri			• •		
24			• •		
Sat			• •		
25					
Sun					
26					

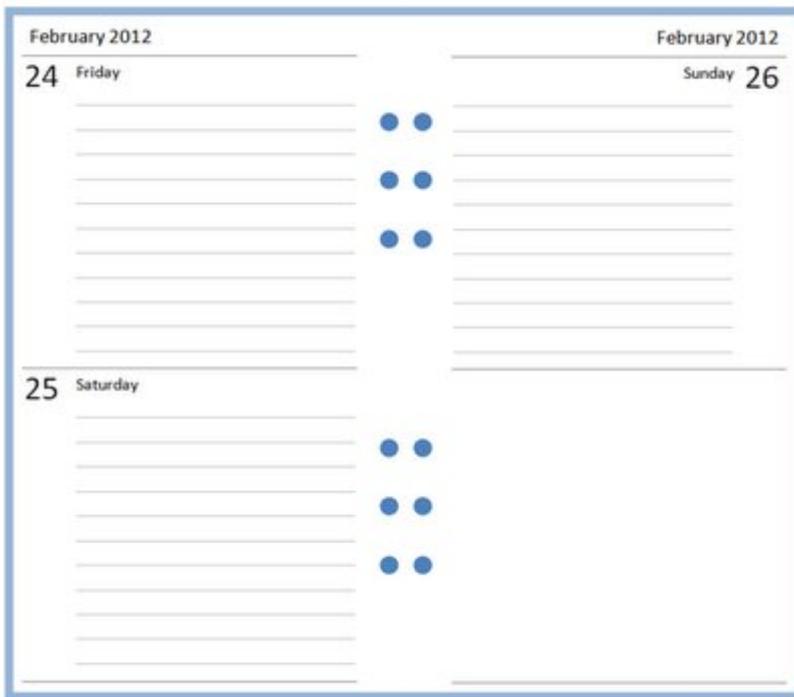
[5]

Download [6]Word file and [7]Excel file

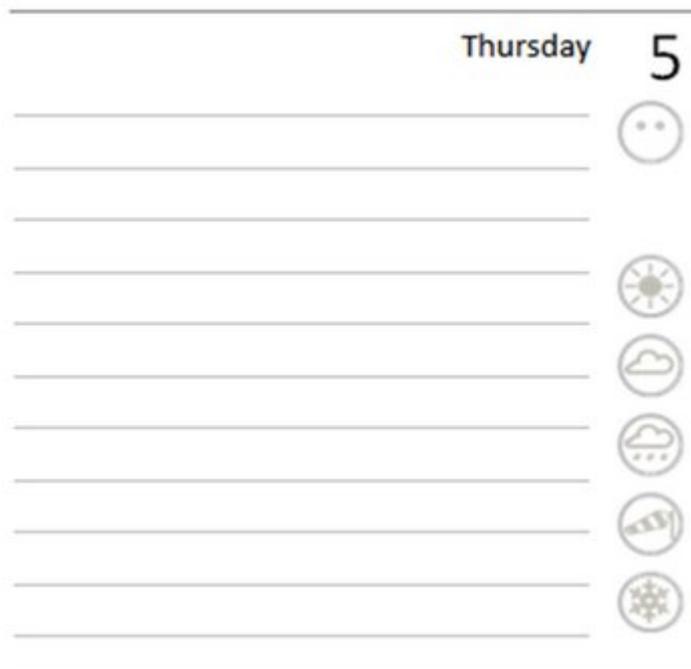
2. Two Days Per Page unlined, lined or lined with icons

February 2012		February 2012	
20	Monday		Wednesday 22
		• •	
		• •	
		• •	
21	Tuesday		Thursday 23
		• •	
		• •	
		• •	

[8]



[9]



[10]

Download [11]Word file (unlined), [12]Word file (lined), [13]Word file (lined with icons) and [14]Excel file (same one works for all three versions).

Have fun, and please share in the comments any interesting modifications you make.

Next on our list are Month Per Page and Month Per View layouts, both for A5 and Personal sizes. And, by popular request, we'll be releasing some Pocket-size layouts soon, too.

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/02/download-source-files-for-new-a5-diary.html>
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/02/free-personal-size-2012-diary-sets-to.html>
3. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-X1irRvcg3PE/Tz14bZjAqsI/AAAAAAAAAV0/iXBdyLe-HJs/s1600/editdate.png>
4. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/02/free-personal-size-2012-diary-sets-to.html>
5. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-sfr1QYySti4/Tz2JC9PYNnI/AAAAAAAAAWE/V01ZBRQIJZ4/s1600/newpers1.png>
6. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal\\_TM\\_Week\\_View/Personal%20Enhanced%20TM%20Week%20View%20base.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_TM_Week_View/Personal%20Enhanced%20TM%20Week%20View%20base.docx)
7. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal\\_TM\\_Week\\_View/DatesSourceFilo\\_WOTP\\_Personal.xlsx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_TM_Week_View/DatesSourceFilo_WOTP_Personal.xlsx)
8. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-3q1JLFM5Wro/Tz2KU0eaTXI/AAAAAAAAAWM/kwmd6ZKCxw/s1600/newpers2.png>

9. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-RSGCmhvYkRw/Tz2Ly03nr3I/AAAAAAAAAWU/BgxrxjAXbRA4/s1600/newpers3.png>
  10. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-pSg8fMHNxKg/Tz2MJ3zZg0I/AAAAAAAAAWc/6pBnIsTCOUA/s1600/icons.png>
  11. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal\\_2\\_Days\\_Per\\_Page/Personal%20%20days%20per%20page%20base.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_2_Days_Per_Page/Personal%20%20days%20per%20page%20base.docx)
  12. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal\\_2\\_Days\\_Per\\_Page/Personal%20%20days%20per%20page%20lined%20base.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_2_Days_Per_Page/Personal%20%20days%20per%20page%20lined%20base.docx)
  13. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal\\_2\\_Days\\_Per\\_Page/Personal%20%20days%20per%20page%20lined%20%20with%20icons%20base.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_2_Days_Per_Page/Personal%20%20days%20per%20page%20lined%20%20with%20icons%20base.docx)
  14. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal\\_2\\_Days\\_Per\\_Page/DatesSourceFiloPers\\_2DPP.xlsx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_2_Days_Per_Page/DatesSourceFiloPers_2DPP.xlsx)
- 

## Date for your diary - Saturday 3 March 2012 (2012-02-26 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?** - **Saturday 3rd March** from 9am (US East Coast time), 2pm London time, 3 pm Paris time 9pm Jakarta etc. See the clocks at the top of this post to see roughly what time you should be on line. We are going to try a **Saturday** for a change, I will judge afterwards if it is worth alternating between Saturday and Sunday for future roundtables.

**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 **Saturday 3rd March 2012**.

1. <http://www.skype.com/>
  2. <http://steve-morton.com/2011/07/30/improving-your-skype-audio/>
- 

## Philofaxy Meet Up - US Mid West - 2012 (2012-02-26 15:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

Sandra is organising another Mid-West meet up in late spring/early summer, yes soon. If you are interested in attending.

Do you want to meet up, talk about Filofax organisers, enjoy a meal may be, share the details of your Filofax set up, generally meet up with like minded people and oh have a good time...

In the first instance contact philofaxy at gmail dot com and we will put you in touch with Sandra, please put USA Meet Up in the subject of your email, it helps me sort them.

1. [http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-kZG2TMvYkj0/Tsg\\_C\\_mPxBI/AAAAAAAAJzk/U\\_Wj0jNFMKw/s1600/2011\\_11\\_19.jpg](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-kZG2TMvYkj0/Tsg_C_mPxBI/AAAAAAAAJzk/U_Wj0jNFMKw/s1600/2011_11_19.jpg)
- 

Lime Tree (2012-02-26 19:22:47)

oh my goodness, this is heaven! I need to find a way to be there!

Sandra (2012-02-27 09:22:15)

We hope you can! Let me know where you are traveling from as details are no where near set. :)

J (2012-02-27 11:10:49)

Whoo hoo! Soooo excited. And I've already contacted Miss Sandra- let the planning begin! :)

Lime Tree (2012-02-27 14:00:14)

Oooooowwww I dont have anyone's email! :/

Let me know where is it happening: limetreefruits at gmail dot com

Steve Morton (2012-02-27 14:19:23)

@LT your email has been forwarded to Sandra who will be in touch.

Steve

Lime Tree (2012-02-27 20:02:20)

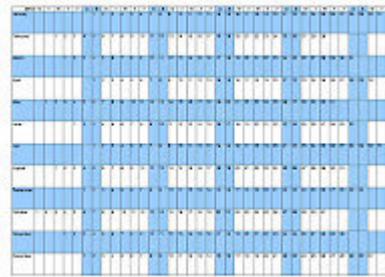
Thanks Steve!

Debi (2012-02-27 21:28:37)

new to the filo world but this would be fun and a great way for me to get a mini mommy vacation. gonna go reread what I need to do for being included in this.

Debi

## How do you use: Year Planners? (2012-02-27 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

So this week let us focus on people that use a '**Year Planners**'.

So the Year Planners, they are standard in most sizes, there are a few variations, Horizontal and Vertical formats, 1 year, 2 year, 4 year.

So if you use year planners.... how do you use it? Tell us about your use of this format, include links to a Flickr photo if that helps. Include as much or as little detail as you like. Which version of the year planner do you use... etc etc.

1. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-i3SPFU0wVmo/TrCCDyBruII/AAAAAAAAJwg/wJCqCC6Uh1c/s1600/planner.jpg>

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Nancy (2012-02-27 00:49:10)

I am using one in personal size in my 'All About The Body' filofax. It's a "Full Year Vertical Planner - Cotton Cream". I use it to track my weight, calories, and activity. Having it all in a column makes it easy to see correlations. I pull the calorie total from my online charting at MyPlate.

Butanben (2012-02-27 07:40:16)

I use my Filofax Horizontal Year Planner to fill in Bank Holidays, School Holidays, Training Days and any sick leave I've needed to take, if any. I fill in the boxes with colour coded stripes. Pink and BH initials for Bank Holidays, Blue for School Holidays, and Green for sickness absence, Violet for INSET Training. Useful to note my work training days, as these are asked for on application forms and for job related paper work. Also useful to note Bank Holidays and to avoid travelling on those dates.

lululucy (2012-02-27 07:40:36)

As I thought I've posted before, I use the vertical yearly planner in conjunction with the MO1P and 1DPP. I'm a university lecturer, so I need all three levels of details to really manage the (kind of weird) rhythms of my schedule. Daily view gets every day schedule, appointments and events, and monthly page at the beginning of each month's daily pages gets important, recurring, and multi-day events so I can see what's coming up in the next few weeks at a glance.

Yearly planner gets imp't conferences, big deadlines, trips, and holidays marked out at the beginning of the year, as well as beginning/end of semesters, exam periods, and so on. This allows me to plan around them easily. Yearly planner also gets record of regular drs appts and other recurring medical stuff.

Lucy (2012-02-27 07:43:18)

I use it for birthdays and anniversaries, important dates to remember (ie: car insurance due), school holidays, holidays and dates I'm on call. It's useful because I don't carry a whole year's worth of planner in my Filofax so I still have all the important dates with me at all times in case something crops up and I need to book something in advance.

Alison Reeves (2012-02-27 07:47:41)

I tend to use my annual view for bank holiday, booked holiday and any other significant events. In the past I would also use it to indicate days out due to work. My highlighter colour coding has usually been green for BHs and hols, orange for work days out.

I now tend to keep things like birthdays and other detail on the month to view where there is more room to write - probably because there are some days where I have 3 or 4 birthdays and the annual view is too small to deal with that!

doris98 (2012-02-27 08:54:19)

I started 2012 with a Year Planner but just never used it. I have a back-to-back unlined sheet I made for Birthdays/Anniversaries that got more use than my yearly tri-fold planner so I just took it out of my Filofax altogether. Nancy's idea of tracking weight on the yearly is a good one. (:

Kate (2012-02-27 09:08:38)

I like the idea of a year planner but dislike the fold out nature. I found that that in use the pages eventually tear at the holes or the folds weaken or both. Frustrating.

J (2012-02-27 11:09:23)

I have to admit, I am completely failing to use my vertical year planner this year! I had the horizontal one last year, and used it quite often- I'm wondering if it is the formatting that is throwing me off.

But, when I do remember to use it, I use it to track trips/vacations, medical stuff, and other planning bits and bobs for long range.

Tim (2012-02-27 14:45:30)

As I only keep a month's worth of WO2P pages in my organiser at a time, I use my fold out (A5 Flex) to record anything and everything that's coming up.

I use highlighter to shade all the dates that are school holidays (that seems to be most of the year!) and love opening the folds out to review the months ahead and what's planned. I back count and mark weeks left to big events. So, for example, I'm doing a big (for me) Yorkshire Dales cycle sportive (185Km) in June and know at a glance there are only 15 weeks left for training! Everything is written in Frixion.

Like Kate, my pages start to fall apart, so I strengthen the folds with fine tape (not ordinary Sellotape) at the start of the year.

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-02-27 16:05:34)

I definitely use these, I change formats and inserts but always use these. They track things for me. They are very good for things like a yearly physical so I know when to schedule next year. I write in most appointments, pay dates, birthdays, holidays and vacations - and odd random things like when I had a tetanus shot. Its an easy place to find small bits of random, but important info.

<http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/01/tickle-me-filofax.html>

terriknits (2012-02-27 16:34:56)

I bought the Filo yearly planner that folded out and had the horizontal lines. I loved the idea of it, but in execution it failed me, both personally and work-wise. I do better with my monthly horizontal calendars. I -so- wanted to like and use the yearly planner, but for my current circumstances it's not functional.

Helen Conway (2012-02-27 17:34:55)

I use the horizontal A5 planner to show blocks of time when I am fully committed. I simply draw a coloured line for the whole period ( red for holidays, green for classes I am taking, black for work travel) and note the destination or class in small writing in the box for the start of the line.

Frederique (2012-02-28 13:42:03)

Just like other fellow readers, I tried using a fold-out yearly planner, each month in its own column. Due to the limited space, I drew small symbols for events like birthdays (a little square with a ribbon on top), all the shows I had tickets for (a small martini glass :), all the times the BF and I would, you know (a little heart) (yes, weird, I know, but it's fun), each week I would also follow my weight, and highlight my days off (I see my future better in a yearly calendar than with a WO2P view).

But then, I found that switching between the WO2P sections (for appointments and reminders), the DPP (for the journaling) and the yealy planner (for my "stats") was just too cumbersome, and I gave up using it.

I really like how people seem to find it useful and use it actively, though; this regularly tempts me to try it once again !

Saffy (2012-03-01 05:55:03)

Late to this but thought I would add to the discussion anyway.

I use my yearly fold out for my cats. Their vet checks and visits for various cat ailments, vaccinations, flea and worm treatment all in one place instead of flicking through months of pages trying to remember roughly when their last treatment was and when their next one is due.

I pencil in when they are next due a treatment/visit and write in pen the actual day it took place. So far it has been the most accurate way of keeping check. Prior to this their treatments where always overdue.

Penny (2012-03-02 09:07:30)

I use multiple vertical year calendars, each one tracks:

- dinner
- birthdays/anniversaries (it isn't ideal for this as some dates have many names and they get squished!)
- distance for training runs

Hope this is helpful...

## **Free For All Tuesday No. 56 (2012-02-28 00:00) - Steve Morton**

The last Tuesday spot of February 2012, I hope you have got some good questions lined up for us to have a crack at.... Fire away!

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Gerard (2012-02-28 02:27:04)

Good morning all,

Philofaxy posts on time and task management usually attract a lot of interest and comment. Is anyone making their own Personal sized forms based on GTD or similar systems which they're willing to share?

Kate (2012-02-28 03:17:42)

Not a question, just another example of Filofaxes getting everywhere. I was rejigging my health file last and listening to 'Old Harry's Game' and was amused by the scene where Gary the demon uses a Filofax to keep on top of his to do list!

Anita (2012-02-28 03:31:37)

Morning :)

@ Gerard - my system is based on GTD's paper planner set up. I've 'fallen off the wagon' (as David Allen calls it) & all sorts of things are out of date. I will revise some parts of the book & will write a post on how I plan to get back in control!

Butanben (2012-02-28 06:38:03)

I have decided to try the new A5 Amended TM week to view, made by Steve and Ray. I have downloaded and printed the diary in a bolder print format- which I amended myself- and I am writing in everything today. I loved the DPP I had been using, but it was way too big for my Filofax really. So planner fail. I have stopped using Frixions, as I found on 1 page of my birthday lists some had self rubbed out. Appointments in the diary are too important to lose through rubbing out through use!! So Frixions are now for shopping lists.... or anything else which has a short life and is thrown out within the week. A shame as I love Frixions colour ranges. I bought some beautifully coloured Staedler pens thin line..... to colour code my diary. But the bleed through was horrid..... so back to my black 'CROSS' make of pen. Any good non bleed through coloured pens folks use????

lowtech (2012-02-28 07:16:05)

I have used Google Calendar for years, so I print copies of each month for my Filofaxes. I print a full month on each side of a sheet of paper for the Mini that I carry as a wallet/organizer in my purse. Printing both sides means less bulk in the Mini. I resize the printout to fit. For the Personal, which is Mission Control at home, I resize the printout to a larger size and print one month on each sheet of paper. I make all changes online in Google and make changes in pen in the Filos. Eventually I print new pages when I have significant or numerous changes. Doing it this way eliminates my messy handwriting and gives me a copy of my calendar online from anywhere if I need it.

Steve Morton (2012-02-28 08:01:11)

Hi Everyone

You might have noticed a change in the way comments are structured on the blog. You can either add a new comment by clicking 'Add Comment' or you can 'reply' to individual comments and your comment will be 'threaded' in with the comment you are replying to.

It took a little finding to enable this option but I got there in the end!

Steve

Steve Morton (2012-02-28 08:01:46)

And just to show what happens if you hit reply... here's a reply...

Sandra (2012-02-28 09:01:31)

I read this and thought of you, myself, and other GTD wanna be users. :) Time to jump back on the wagon!  
<http://www.lifehack.org/articles/lifehack/upgrade-your-gtd-calendar-and-keep-up-with-the-times.html>

Alison Reeves (2012-02-28 09:42:20)

I love this idea Steve for responding to individual comments or requests! Thank you.

Alison Reeves (2012-02-28 09:47:59)

OK, this is a long shot. I really want to get hold of some Deskfax (or B5) dividers - I have the A-Z ones, but wanted some that were either blank or just numbered. I don't have a suitable hole punch else I'd make some, and the hole punches are really expensive. Filofax UK don't sell them anymore, so does anyone have any dividers (or a hole punch for that matter!) they would be willing to part with? Happy to pay a reasonable cost for these. I can get some from FR or IT but thought I would try here first in an effort to avoid the expensive postage costs. A friend gave me the binder and it's a really good size - I'm still using A5 for work etc, but want to use this one for another purpose.

Steve Morton (2012-02-28 10:23:21)

Alison,

The Deskfax can use a normal Personal hole punch just use it twice with the middle three holes being the common ones from each end, it's 'standard' 3/4" with 2" between the three ring groups.

Steve

Steve Morton (2012-02-28 10:23:57)

Yes this is going to work well on Fridays and Tuesdays especially.

Lime Tree (2012-02-28 10:56:46)

I have never used and am so curious on how to use it. Please post it! ;)

J (2012-02-28 11:01:57)

Oooh, can you email me with the instructions on how to do this??? I'm loving it!

Steve Morton (2012-02-28 11:03:51)

Details here: <http://support.google.com/blogger/bin/answer.py?hl=en&answer=1725597>

You need to set the post and comments feeds to Full, then it just works when you have your comments set to embedded.

Steve

Alison Reeves (2012-02-28 11:23:12)

Thanks Steve - I'll give that a try.

Alison Reeves (2012-02-28 12:55:11)

OK - I have another question. When you set up your todo or task lists in your Filofax, do you break them down or just have one long list? For example, do you have a list for work, one for home, one for developing your business or a hobby? Are you careful to separate out true todos vs projects?

I have loads of things I want to review and do across a wide spectrum (for example tasks for customers, business development stuff like updating my website and getting to grips with my social media strategy, and personal stuff like tidying up the patio and decluttering the spare room).

I guess if you practise GTD you have a lot of lists, but I'm not sure I'd cope with all these - if I have overwhelm I'm more likely to not look at them at all!

Just thought it would be interesting and hopefully useful to find out how others deal with this.

Missus Aka (Christa) (2012-02-28 13:40:28)

alison i have a deskfax punch you can have for free if you want, its the heavy metal punch

Gerard (2012-02-28 14:21:34)

Hi Anita - A post on your setup would be great: equal parts experience and reforming zeal, eh? :)

SSA (2012-02-28 15:09:21)

@ Missus Aka (Christa) - If Alison doesn't want the Deskfax hole punch please can I have it? I will send you postage costs.

Gerard (2012-02-28 15:11:29)

I have a set of Staedtler Triplus fineliner (fibretip) pens that don't bleed at all, much to my surprise.

Just-Jenny (2012-02-28 15:35:26)

I was wondering if anyone else was a little curious by the lack of pictures of the new Temperley ff. I wanted to see the inside to get a real feel for it before I decided if I liked it or not.

On Saturday a friend and I went to London and just happened to be walking up Regent Street so decided to stop at the Conduit Street Filofax shop. The new Temperley ff were in a display cabinet in the window and a second set in another cabinet on the right as you walked in... I was gutted because I wanted to have a really good look without the sales staff standing over your shoulder watching your every move. With the rejection of not being able to have a look I soon brightened my mood with the beautiful array of ff in the store... its simply stunning to see and be able to have a good nosey! My friend (thankfully very understanding) had subsequently reviewed the whole store and I was barely half way down the collection of ff... heaven indeed!!

Once I was finished with the ff it was time to review the inserts... nothing new to report there. But... on the way

back from the inserts section... at the back of the shop... yes... you guessed it were both Temperley ff out in the open... free from glass cabinets. I was thrilled to finally get my hands on them and have a good look.

"The Affair" was my preferred ff. The concept is quite interesting a combination of a Filofax binder and the flex. There is an A5 thick lined note book on the inside of the left cover, while useful it made the ff look bulky and heavy. The right hand side had the traditional rings, but due to the size of the flex note book these were tiny. Also the rings are personal size in an A5 ff? Had the smaller size note book been in the left side and A5 rings with a larger diameter been on the right it would be much more functional. The cover of the ff has been beautifully designed and is very elegant. The clasp is not delicate compared to the lace design, I know there is the whole contrast thing to consider. My overall impression is the ff was trying to be too many things.

The second ff "The Guinea" has a 'full grain, soft hair calfskin leather' cover. On picking up this ff I immediately did not like the feel of the cover and almost didn't look inside because I disliked it so much! On the inside left cover there are functional pockets for your phone and cards but these were bulky. Its great if you want to be able to put everything you need in the ff and securely Zip it up for a day or night out to have a functional "designer" clutch. The ff is the personal size and the inserts are personal size. The rings are very small (and bright gold) to leave room to fill the pockets on the left inside cover and to keep the overall size of the ff thinner.

The zip is large and clunky and the 'gold bars' do not improve its look and make the transition from the cover to the zip stick out and remind my of my Nan's old purse with the mental twist clasp that opens the coin compartment, something quite out of place in 2012. The inside is bulky but I can see how it has been designed for the "girl about town" function.

The inserts for both ff are all cotton cream. There are special pages which are interesting because they are different, but not necessarily functional. There are little touches like the birthstones on the birthday pages, something you may consider once in a while but probably are not interested in on a daily business basis. The gold lettering on the dividers, ruler etc stand out. I got the impression that lots of design concepts are all jumping out at you at the same time. The designs are not subtle and therefore you lose the grace and elegance of the ff.

So you have guessed it... I did not like either Temperley ff. Even taking the price completely out of the situation I would never buy either ff. I really hope Filofax consider their customer base on the back of the Temperley ff... all they need to do is read Philofaxy and they would have loads of feedback and ideas!

Scoot (2012-02-28 15:44:12)

Perhaps you will like the next Temperely designs, which I hope include black leather with gold print design seen in the recently released you tube videos.

lulu (2012-02-28 15:56:43)

Recently I want to purchase a filofax A5 snake organizer and I look all around the ebay, amazon, or other website and I find nowhere except for German Filofax. Thus, could anyone tell me where I can buy a snake A5, I mean from UK.

Alison Reeves (2012-02-28 16:11:57)

HI Christa - I would love it please - do you want to email me on ali at alisonreeves dot co dot uk and we can organise. I can send you the postage via paypal if you like, or just send you the money another way of you prefer. Thank you so much!

Alison Reeves (2012-02-28 16:23:35)

HI Lulu - They are no longer available in the UK, so my guess is that you will have to try and get one second hand. That probably means keeping an eye out on ebay and waiting for one to come up. Also check out Adspot here on Philofaxy (link at the top of the page) as member of Philofaxy often advertise binders they have for sale there.

Steve Morton (2012-02-28 17:11:29)

I have some pictures which I will be sharing with everyone on Thursday... internal and external ones of both models. Imy was told off for taking photos of the range, which seems silly to me, given that the launch has been and happened and there are plenty of press pictures circulating around on the net.

Steve

Steve Morton (2012-02-28 17:15:25)

Filofax DE will deliver to UK <http://www.filofax.de/delivery/>

Vanjilla (2012-02-28 17:53:35)

I only recently started to use Sakura Pigma - they come in lovely colours, write fantastically and absolutely without bleed through, even though I tried real hard, heh! Plus the pen looks special, maybe you should give it a try...

Alison Reeves (2012-02-28 18:03:10)

I can't help wondering if these binders are 'all form and no substance' if you want a genuine planner. The rings don't seem large enough to hold a proper planner diary and notes. However if you want something pretty, somewhere to note down a few appointments and notes then it would do the job - especially if the look is important to you. I just couldn't justify the cost and I really enjoy a much larger planner to play with.

However - they have only produced 500 of each so only have to sell that many! Although they may not appeal to us, there may be people who will love them. I just wish they had done a proper A5 version with proper sized rings.

Steph (2012-02-28 19:15:22)

Just made my first filofax online purchase. I can't wait to get the stuff. I am getting the A5 domino in red, which I think is a wonderful colour. I am not sure what I will be using it for. I sorta keep an A5 and a personal basically the same. I love the size of the personal, but absolutely adore the wpp and tm pages that Steve and Ray made, which is why I use an A5. So torn....any advice? Also do you think it is a good idea to use my pocket domino for a notebook? Sorry for the rambling questions, I have medicine head...I dislike cold season.

Butanben (2012-02-28 19:54:27)

Alison, I use a computer list called Wunderlist. It can be googled, and is free. It is just FABBY!! It can be set up as a GTD style projects list, or how you wish really. I look at my GTD style Wunderlist at the weekend when I am doing my weekly review, and then add this week's to dos to my Filofax scheduled tasks. That way, I keep my huge projects lists separate from my to dos. It is such a simple and wonderful programme to use and has won so many computer awards, that I highly recommend Wunderlist to anyone. It keeps your broader GTD map separate from your day to day map, so that you have a list of what needs doing, which is captured down on PC Wunderlist. My GTD does not overwhelm me any more, as it is separate from the day to day, until reviewed weekly. Bonus is also that if you wish to print say a project list for your Filofax, then you can.

Butanben (2012-02-28 20:09:30)

Get well soon Steph! I am just giving the amended Philofaxy TM A5 week to view pages a go.... I think it is trial and error to find the diary system which suits you and your way of working and thinking. But it is worth the effort. Make a list maybe of what you need, or think you will need and use. Then start the setting up process.... the fun bit!!

Look after yourself and get well soon. xx

Butanben (2012-02-28 20:21:50)

Thanks Vanjilla, I will put those onto my Christmas list with daddy Santa, and maybe next year's diary will look better!! In the meantime I have bought some WH Smith neon gel pens... which don't bleed through. Gerard, your pens are exactly the same as mine and yet how odd yours don't bleed through at all and mine do. Maybe the quality of the paper counts too??? I have a suspicion that your paper may be better quality. I have used Staples A5, to print off my own A5 TM WTV... Steve and Ray style, so maybe it is that paper with those pens, ie the combination of the 2 which doesn't work. A shame, as I love these pens to bits!!!!

Butanben (2012-02-28 20:49:14)

I agree Steve!! Being 'Telt aff' for taking pics of the new Temperley range, or indeed any Filofax range, within a shop, does seem a bit odd and precious. I saw some Japanese tourists taking snaps of their British fish and chip lunch the other day, obviously a typically British dish. Shame they hadn't tried the mushy peas though I thought!!!

Maybe instead of the Temperley Guinea fowl Filofax, we could have "Temperley, for the love of mushy peas....."  
just musing away here!!

Just-Jenny (2012-02-29 13:35:36)

This comment has been removed by the author.

## Free Monthly 2012 diary sets to download and print for your Filofax (2012-02-28 09:00) - Steve Morton

So today Ray and I are releasing the Month on one page and Month per View (2 page) files for both A5 and Personal size. These are layouts each covering the whole of 2012, but this time for both the Filofax Personal and A5.

The A5 ones are created as A4 documents with each A4 sheet yielding 2 double-sided pages. Print the sets 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. Then guillotine right down the middle and punch.

The Personal pages are also set to print to A4. 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.

You can print these on any paper you like, which will please fountain pen users particularly.

As an alternative to printing your Personal pages on A4 we've also included versions you can print straight onto Filofax Personal-size paper if your printer can cope with that.

So, here are your downloads.

### 1. A5 Month on One Page



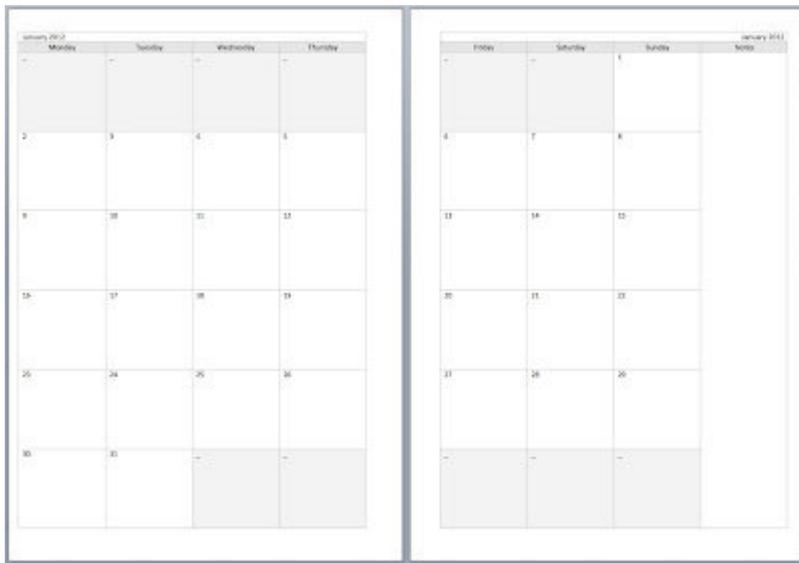
The image shows a calendar for January 2012, designed for A5 size. It is a single-page layout with a grid of days. The days of the week are abbreviated as M, T, W, T, F, S, S. The dates are arranged in a grid, with the 1st of January on a Sunday. The calendar is enclosed in a double-line border.

January 2012						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
--	--	--	--	--	--	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	--	--	--	--	--

[1]

Download [2]Word File or [3]PDF File

## 2. A5 Month View



[4]

Download [5]Word File or [6]PDF File

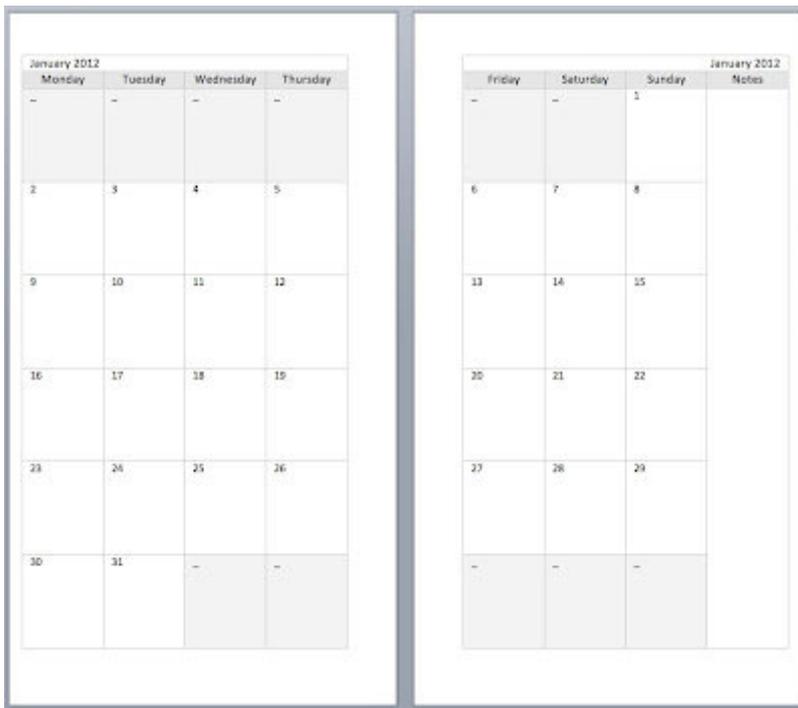
## 3. Personal Month on One Page



[7]

Download [8]Word File (A4), [9]Word File (Personal Size) [10]PDF File (A4) [11]PDF File (Personal Size)

## 4. Personal Month per View



[12]

Download [13]Word File (A4), [14]Word File (Personal Size) [15]PDF File (A4) [16]PDF File (Personal Size)

Of course. We will also make the source files available so that fellow bearers of the Geek gene can tinker.

[17] 

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1. [http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-kr\\_xI6pYSBY/T0fkpHJTjhI/AAAAAAAAKUQ/N4J6NLjN\\_Hg/s1600/monthon1page.jpg](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-kr_xI6pYSBY/T0fkpHJTjhI/AAAAAAAAKUQ/N4J6NLjN_Hg/s1600/monthon1page.jpg)
2. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/MonthView/2012merged\\_monthpage.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/MonthView/2012merged_monthpage.docx)
3. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/MonthView/2012merged\\_monthpage.pdf](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/MonthView/2012merged_monthpage.pdf)
4. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-Xu-kLSmFoAU/T0f1GpPegQI/AAAAAAAAKUY/852f1EChAVE/s1600/monthon2page.jpg>
5. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/MonthView/2012\\_Merged\\_A5Monthon2page.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/MonthView/2012_Merged_A5Monthon2page.docx)
6. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/MonthView/2012\\_Merged\\_A5Monthon2page.pdf](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/MonthView/2012_Merged_A5Monthon2page.pdf)
7. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-B2dGtvuPuBo/T0fnauj8VJI/AAAAAAAAKUg/OQI3MaiEwcc/s1600/personalmonthononepage.jpg>
8. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20MonthView/2012\\_mergedMMPP\\_PersonalPageSizePrintOnA4.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20MonthView/2012_mergedMMPP_PersonalPageSizePrintOnA4.docx)
9. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20MonthView/2012\\_mergedMonth1Pages\\_PersonalPageSizePrintOnPersonal.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20MonthView/2012_mergedMonth1Pages_PersonalPageSizePrintOnPersonal.docx)
10. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20MonthView/2012\\_mergedMMPP\\_PersonalPageSizePrintOnA4.pdf](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20MonthView/2012_mergedMMPP_PersonalPageSizePrintOnA4.pdf)
11. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20MonthView/2012\\_mergedMonth1Pages\\_PersonalPageSizePrintOnPersonal.pdf](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20MonthView/2012_mergedMonth1Pages_PersonalPageSizePrintOnPersonal.pdf)
12. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-qG6xZnas1RE/T0fnx7IGH2I/AAAAAAAAKUo/DGJgzL7ado/s1600/personalmonthon2pages.jpg>
13. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20MonthView/2012\\_mergedMthPerView\\_PersonalPageSizePrintOnA4.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20MonthView/2012_mergedMthPerView_PersonalPageSizePrintOnA4.docx)
14. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20MonthView/2012\\_mergedMonth2Pages\\_PersonalPageSizePrintOnPersonal.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20MonthView/2012_mergedMonth2Pages_PersonalPageSizePrintOnPersonal.docx)
15. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20MonthView/2012\\_mergedMthPerView\\_PersonalPageSizePrintOnA4.pdf](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20MonthView/2012_mergedMthPerView_PersonalPageSizePrintOnA4.pdf)
16. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20MonthView/2012\\_mergedMonth2Pages\\_PersonalPageSizePrintOnPersonal.pdf](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20MonthView/2012_mergedMonth2Pages_PersonalPageSizePrintOnPersonal.pdf)
17. <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/>
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19. <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/>

Lime Tree (2012-02-28 10:54:18)

They look great! So much room to write! Thanks again!

katka (2012-02-28 11:18:10)

That is great. Thanks.

Would be possible to create also day per line format (personal)? Thanks a lot.

Steve Morton (2012-02-28 12:19:39)

I will look in to that for you. I assume that is a one page format or two page format?

Steve

Jotje (2012-02-28 13:04:52)

ohhh, wish I had seen those before I printed my Monthly pages. I like yours so much better!

Next year then ....

katka (2012-02-28 13:18:30)

One page please. Thanks a lot

LJ (2012-02-28 14:14:48)

You guys are awesome!!! And you must have so much patience :o)

Dickie Mint (2012-03-23 17:05:27)

I printed the "month over 2 pages" pdf version - on the print dialogue clicked on "Booklet", Booklet subset = Both sides, Binding = Left, Orientation = Portrait. Half way through the print a box appeared on screen with instruction how to turn the paper over and refeed it (I have an Epson SX215). Followed the instructions and they printed perfectly - each half page had the correct half a month on the rear - perfect! Thanks for your effort in creating the sheets.

Richard

Miss\_Oakden (2012-03-26 14:10:53)

I need to thank u for this. Even though these were posted a while ago I've just purchased my third a5 Filofax. I'm really disappointed to see the Filofax website are only selling 2013 ones!!!

Harri (2012-04-18 14:42:44)

These are fantastic thank you. Would just like to let you know that there are a few errors on the personal size mo2p, there are two april the 26th, two june 28th, two august 30th and two dec 27th. easily corrected though. I'm so pleased with these, I've printed them on lavender paper so they match my vintage pink malden a treat!

## Reader Under The Spot Light - Ray (2012-02-29 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

*It is an honour to introduce to my 'partner in crime' sorry I mean my partner in the creation of the Philofaxy Diary Inserts... Ray.*

Ray is a Filofax returnee, a one-time user who returned to the format to find that an internet community had sprung up in his absence. He recently started a blog, [2]My Life All In Once Place in which he has shared a number of downloadable and printable Filofax projects as well as a few makeable accessories. He has recently worked with Steve to produce a range of printable free diaries for the Filofax. An avowed Excel and VBA geek, he lives with his wife and three sons of 14, 12 and 9.

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

It was bought for me. My employer sent me on a course to learn about time management, as part of which I was given a Filofax and taught how to use it. It was a brown leather Buckingham.

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

In the 90s I followed the herd onto a succession of electronic platforms, but after a number of years realised that none of them worked as well as paper. On my way back to Filofax I spent some time with Moleskine and other bound diaries and notebooks. Interestingly, my wife stuck with Filofax throughout my flirtations with electronica, which she crows about whenever the opportunity arises.

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

My Personal Malden. It feels just right in my hand and it's just individual enough to look good, not so wacky or extravagant as to stick out like a sore thumb.

*4. How many Filofax organisers do you own?*

Half a dozen or so. I only use two at any one time, though.

*5. What do you use your Filofax for?*

The Personal Malden is what I currently use to organise my life. It tells me what I'm doing, when and where. It holds my lists of things I need to do and buy and helps me track my business expenses. I use a lot of notepaper, too, because anything that's not written down tends to be forgotten. I use a black A5 Kensington as a business tool. Its contents vary depending on what job I'm doing and for which client, but it generally impresses the hell out of people.

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

I love that no two people's Filofaxes will ever be the same. They are infinitely adaptable and configurable and you can add your own content.

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

Don't think I haven't thought about this! For me, it's all about functionality, so it wouldn't necessarily be decorative or flashy. It needn't be leather, either, although there's a practicality about leather that's hard to beat. It would have a pen loop that had a little more tolerance for pen size than the Malden's does. It would have no zips on the internal pockets (am I the only person who dislikes zips inside binders?) nor around the outside. It would have a magnetic press-stud, too; there are lifespan issues with the purely mechanical ones.

*8. How do you carry your Filofax?*

In a backpack or messenger bag usually.

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

I still like the Malden. I'm not planning to buy anything else.

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

£30 for the Malden in the Filofax UK half price sale. All my others have been eBay bargains.

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

The enthusiasm. There's always someone who can answer a question and the advice people offer in the comments is generally excellent. I'm often inspired by seeing and hearing how other people use their systems, so I've really enjoyed the recent 'How do you use' series and hope it will continue.

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

Like everyone, I struggle with this question, because I love the site and wouldn't change anything. All I can think of (and it's probably more about me than Philofaxy itself) is that the discussions of different binder styles and colours does little for me. What interests me more is the content and the ways you can use what's inside the binder. That's why you won't generally see much binder talk on my blog.

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

I bought two at the same time. One was Pearl Jam's first album, "Ten". Pearl Jam are a band that

passed me by entirely, but a friend recommended it. It's a great album and I'll be buying more of theirs. The other was Steven Wilson's recent solo album, "Grace For Drowning", which I can't recommend highly enough.

*Thank you Ray for offering to step under the spot light... and another big thank you for your help with the diary inserts..*

1. [http://4.bp.blogspot.com/\\_VyK468men0/Tz6Lnxh\\_qGI/AAAAAAAAAKRs/xPH5vn6bekg/s1600/profile+pic.jpg](http://4.bp.blogspot.com/_VyK468men0/Tz6Lnxh_qGI/AAAAAAAAAKRs/xPH5vn6bekg/s1600/profile+pic.jpg)

2. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/>

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Laurie (2012-02-29 00:49:34)

Ray, YOU ROCK!! I love your blog, and THANK YOU for everything you have done (and Steve too!) to make your awesome printable inserts!!! It was really great to see you under the spotlight!

Laurie (2012-02-29 00:50:38)

And PS I meant to add: I LOVE that your wife gloats about her continual Filofax usage! Does she read Philofaxy?

Gerard (2012-02-29 02:27:07)

Ray, it's great to read about you, and I'd love to see a "How I use my Filofax" piece from you. Thanks for all the Filofax projects!

Ray Blake (2012-02-29 03:16:05)

No, but I might send her a link to this since she gets a reference!

Kate (2012-02-29 03:49:09)

I second Laurie's comments!

Alison Reeves (2012-02-29 05:29:00)

Really enjoyed this Ray - you are a Star! I already bought my planners for this year, but I'll be using yours next year if you are kind enough to do 2013 versions! The key is being able to print on our own choice of paper, either by colour or quality. Love your blog too!

Saffy (2012-02-29 05:57:00)

Ray, you are just FAB! I love all the inventive things you come up with on your blog and then share with the rest of us over here, thank you.

caribbean princess (2012-02-29 07:14:23)

Yay for Ray!!! I love reading your blog too although I am more of a lurker! hehe. I will be thinking about using your inserts next year (or maybe this year if I ever move on from my Malden)

Scoot (2012-02-29 07:18:57)

I'll throw in my thanks to Ray as well. I would give him a gold medal but I think we would have to reserve that for Steve, whom has to unparalleled in terms of his efforts to this blog and community.

Butanben (2012-02-29 08:19:18)

Ray, I have just printed and I am filling in your TM A5 week to view. I have used the border changes you e. mailed me about and enlarged some of the print, as we discussed, so it is not as pale. Now I have a PERFECT diary solution, which feels so bespoke. Ray and Steve, you are the bees kness. I loved reading your spotlight post here too. Like CP I have now become an ardent follower of your blog. Thanks for all that diary hard work.

M Ng (2012-02-29 11:05:59)

Ray, it's lovely to read more about you. I just wanted to second your dislike of interior zip pockets! It's a pet peeve of mine, too.

Lime Tree (2012-02-29 11:07:17)  
Yay Ray! Great amazing work!

Ray Blake (2012-02-29 12:36:34)  
Well, this is all a bit overwhelming. Thank you all for the positive feedback.

Imy (2012-02-29 12:42:12)  
Ray your blog is AMAZING :-)  
It was interesting to read more about you :-)  
Imy

LJ (2012-02-29 15:38:35)  
Totally!!! We love all the tips, tricks & designs that you put out there for us, but your wife rocks!!! She is the coolest - ha ha ha!!!

Maus (2012-02-29 16:13:54)  
Ray, it's interesting to read about your connection to Filofax.  
As you know I'm following your blog since a few weeks and I'm so happy about the Pocket 2DpP you sent to me!!! (At last it worked to print it and I'm using it at the moment - thank you very much!)  
Greetings from Renate

Nancy (2012-03-01 00:20:03)  
I second M Ng's comment about despising interior zippers! They either catch on the page edges or create a bumpy surface. The zipper on the back of the Urban is my favorite. Plus the interior zippered pockets themselves are so tight they are a pain to get stuff out of them. Thanks, Ray, for all your hard work!

Jotje (2012-03-01 15:53:57)  
Lovely to read about you here, Ray! Also from me, many many thanks for your superb diary templates. I find that I especially benefit a lot from my monthly planner sheets (with the goals in different life categories). I printed them on lightblue paper.  
P.S. I just can't believe that you haven't heard about Pearl Jam until now? I mean .... REALLY????  
;-)

Ray Blake (2012-03-02 07:28:17)  
I know. Im my defence, I had a lot going on in my life in the early 90s.

SNARLing: (2012-03-02 11:34:34)  
ditto! so glad you returned to filofax. now that you have a cult following you're stuck here heh heh. also, thanks SO much for sharing your ideas for further productivity with our tool/companion/fetish. i love having more than one binder and can sometimes get caught up in my growing collection but the bottom line is productivity. so glad you're here to remind us what it's all about. cin-cin! to Ray!

## Filofax 2012 release dates (2012-02-29 12:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

Here are the projected release dates of the new ranges/new colours see [2]earlier posts for details.

- Petal - March
- Jack Vintage - April
- Domino - March
- Domino Mix - July
- Apex - March if anyone cares!
- Metropol - March
- Swift - March
- Pennybridge - June
- BCC - April
- Finsbury - March
- Holborn - March
- Malden - March
- Filofax Classic - June
- Luxe - June
- Osterley - June

There might be other new products to be announced later in the year, no details as yet.

1. [http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-EgAZ9tYZINk/T042I5tPN9I/AAAAAAAAAKX4/791XAF0k50U/s1600/Malden\\_Personal\\_Purple.JPG](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-EgAZ9tYZINk/T042I5tPN9I/AAAAAAAAAKX4/791XAF0k50U/s1600/Malden_Personal_Purple.JPG)

2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/01/filofax-2012-new-range.html>

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Iris (2012-02-29 12:11:09)

Apex, Metropol Compact, Domino, BBC, Petal and Swift are already available online.

Jana (2012-02-29 12:14:48)

Can't wait to see them. Does anybody know when they come in germany?

Wind (2012-02-29 12:18:02)

Oh, can't wait! What colours are the Malden going to be in? Is it the purple one in the picture?

Anita (2012-02-29 12:31:06)

Thanks for letting us know.

I will try to resist a purple Malden :)

Lucy (2012-02-29 12:55:56)

I really want to get my hands on a Raspberry Finsbury compact. Can't wait for it to come out! I can't believe they haven't announced that so many of the new ones are available though. I looked for a 'compact' section online this afternoon and there wasn't one so I assumed the new range still wasn't out yet!

caribbean princess (2012-02-29 13:09:02)

The purple Malden is calling my name!!! I may have to sell my Deco to get it :-)

Tim (2012-02-29 15:16:19)

Like their Time Management range, Filofax haven't gone out of their way (yet) to promote things by putting Compact in the dropdown menus. But if you search for "compact" [http://www.filofax.co.uk/search/search.asp?search\\_string=compact](http://www.filofax.co.uk/search/search.asp?search_string=compact) you'll find 4 Compact models already available - Metropol, Osterley, Regency and Temperley (The Affair)

Tim (2012-02-29 15:20:00)

Oh forgot! - they classify Temperley (The Guinea) as a compact too

Lucy (2012-02-29 17:12:38)

Thanks - I'll keep checking for more compacts in this way until they have the one I want! I'm really mystified as to why they haven't promoted them yet though. Very strange!

Sandra (2012-02-29 22:01:08)

C'mom, CP, you know you really want a new Apex!

Anita (2012-03-01 07:33:35)

What about your poor Finchley, CP??

Novagirl (2012-03-01 10:35:51)

Steve, do you know if any of these in the list are going to be A5 slimlines (not sure what the right verbiage is - "compact"?). But basically I mean an A5 size with smaller rings. Just curious if and when one of those is coming out.

Thanks!

Steve Morton (2012-03-01 10:38:45)

Yes, here are the details:

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/02/a5-compacts.html>

Steve

## 1.3 March

### THE NEW LIMITED EDITION ‘TEMPERLEY LONDON FOR FILOFAX’ COLLECTION (2012-03-01 00:00) - Steve Morton

Spring 2012 ushers in the highly anticipated arrival of the Temperley London for Filofax “Your Life in Your Hands” limited edition collection. Bringing Alice Temperley’s signature style from the catwalk to the palm of your hands, the new collection encompasses two exquisite organisers, The [1]Guinea and The [2]Affair.

With a self-confessed magpie like approach to finding inspiration for her fashion designs, including a penchant for collecting memories, notes, photos and sketches, as well as keeping a hectic schedule organised, Alice Temperley has been using a Filofax for years. Alice was inspired by her experiences to create her dream Filofax for others to use, in the signature Temperley London delicate feminine style and tailored to her own specifications inside and out including bespoke stationery and content.

The [3]Guinea harks back to the charm of vintage accessories. Made out of luxury quality pony skin, in a unique black and white print pattern inspired by guinea fowl feathers, the textured surface is soft to the touch. The cover is edged with a gold finished frame with a zip closure, adding an evening clutch feel. The interior features crocodile print calf’s leather and includes a smartphone pocket creating a practical accompaniment to modern day life.



[4]



[5]

The [6]Affair is designed with luxurious black Italian lace bonded onto cream leather, inspired by lingerie against the skin, resulting in an elegant, sensual style. The Affair features beautiful detailing such as the patent leather strap and snap fastener with a signature Temperley London button and nude cord lined interior, with contrasting patent leather pockets. Containing a bespoke Flex by Filofax A5 notebook as well as a full complement of personal organiser stationery, The Affair is a perfect place to capture private thoughts, dates and memories.



[7]



[8]

Alice Temperley says, "I wanted to create something unique, beautiful and functional that contains personal information to help organise, plan and collect things for our busy lives. Throughout the design journey I looked at every element, from how I use my Filofax to my vintage collection. I thought a lot about how to combine its form with function and how to introduce Temperley London's detail and femininity to Filofax. The [9]Guinea and The [10]Affair, two beautiful and stylish functional accessories, can be used and treasured for years."

The limited editions come with their own bespoke range of inserts featuring a varying selection of unique content. Alice Temperley shares some of her own 'loves' including favourite festivals and world markets. Talented chef Mark Hix, a personal friend of Alice's, makes a contribution, providing especially selected recipes for the uniquely designed Filofax pages. Both The [11]Affair and The [12]Guinea are presented in elegant zipped pouches and contain an exclusive Temperley London for Filofax logo badge as a mark of authenticity.

Filofax is enjoying a timely renaissance in the hectic digital age, as self-fulfilled creative individuals hark back to the privacy, importance and simple pleasure of making hand written notes. Temperley London for Filofax is a truly remarkable collection which embodies the heritage of both premium brands and marries together beautiful form and function.

The Temperley London for Filofax range, priced £375 - £399 and are exclusively available in Filofax stores, Temperley London boutiques and Selfridges now.

Product information:

- [13]The Affair, £375/ \$595. Available in one size to accommodate an A5 note pad and personal size inserts
- [14]The Guinea, £399/ \$625. Available in one size to accommodate personal size inserts

Temperley London for Filofax inserts include:

- Temperley London designed front sheet, with handwritten message from Alice Temperley
- Alice Temperley's favourite festivals
- Alice Temperley's favourite world markets
- Seasonal recipes by Mark Hix, one per season
- Birthdays pages by month featuring birth stones and illustrated with star signs
- Illustrated star signs and Chinese birth years
- Illustrated 2012 calendar block page featuring hand drawn illustrations of seasonal produce
- Calendar block pages

- 2012 week on two page diary
- Address and contacts
- Fold out world map
- To do list
- Leather tabbed indices, with gold embossed text
- Leather tabbed A-Z with gold embossed letters

All paper fills use the Filofax luxury cream paper with black print  
*Thank you to SlamPR for sending us the full details and images.*

1. <http://tidd.ly/50de57ae>
2. <http://tidd.ly/5699ead3>
3. <http://tidd.ly/50de57ae>
4. [http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-TC9d6vV0T7I/TOPBTnFQk\\_I/AAAAAAAAAKUI/IycyAKPCSMo/s1600/temperley+2+42701v3.jpg](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-TC9d6vV0T7I/TOPBTnFQk_I/AAAAAAAAAKUI/IycyAKPCSMo/s1600/temperley+2+42701v3.jpg)
5. [http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-jJDdyY0cdcU/TOPBJ091HJI/AAAAAAAAAKTw/T6WnZWqOMWI/s1600/Guinea\\_insert1.jpg](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-jJDdyY0cdcU/TOPBJ091HJI/AAAAAAAAAKTw/T6WnZWqOMWI/s1600/Guinea_insert1.jpg)
6. <http://tidd.ly/5699ead3>
7. [http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-m8W18kGn-sE/TOPBPeBaMsI/AAAAAAAAAKUA/\\_H-z0c7fXRg/s1600/temperley+2+42692.jpg](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-m8W18kGn-sE/TOPBPeBaMsI/AAAAAAAAAKUA/_H-z0c7fXRg/s1600/temperley+2+42692.jpg)
8. [http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-rH2FWdgmF2E/TOPBLbGYKeI/AAAAAAAAAKT4/\\_OJJ1JL021g/s1600/affair+3.jpg](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-rH2FWdgmF2E/TOPBLbGYKeI/AAAAAAAAAKT4/_OJJ1JL021g/s1600/affair+3.jpg)
9. <http://tidd.ly/50de57ae>
10. <http://tidd.ly/5699ead3>
11. <http://tidd.ly/5699ead3>
12. <http://tidd.ly/50de57ae>
13. <http://tidd.ly/5699ead3>
14. <http://tidd.ly/50de57ae>

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Sirpa-Kaarina (2012-03-01 02:45:00)

Am I the only one who thinks that these luxury items are ugly \*blush\*?

Anke (2012-03-01 03:37:48)

Nope, I do think so too. And what makes them even uglier in my book is the price. Unbelievable! :/

Ray Blake (2012-03-01 03:54:47)

I don't have a view on the aesthetic qualities of these binders, but ergonomically they make little sense to me. They are jewellery, not organisers.

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-03-01 04:44:37)

Nope - I think they're awful too. Style over function is something that has always bemused me - from high-heel shoes you can't walk in, to an organiser that you can't organise in...

I'm so obviously \*not\* the target market!

:-)

Saffy (2012-03-01 04:56:58)

"they are jewellery, not organisers" LOL :-)

Alison Reeves (2012-03-01 05:01:24)

That is a good way of putting it Ray. I DO find them attractive, but not functional enough to spend my money on. I'm sure they will have their appeal and we must accept that different people want different things from their binders. That is very evident from the wide range of binders we all use currently. I guess FF are trying to appeal to a different market here, and as long as they continue to produce binders I like in my price range, then I can hardly complain!

Miss\_Oakden (2012-03-01 05:19:04)

I agree with you guys, I think the filofax's themselves are very ugly and as a fashion teacher certainly not something I would see myself carrying!!

However I like some of the inserts that I have seen, do you know if they will be available to purchase separately??

Lynne Dove (2012-03-01 05:28:31)

I am also keen to see if the inserts are available.

I quite like the A5/Personal hybrid idea, but would prefer a more 'functional' and affordable binder. I

katka (2012-03-01 05:42:30)

I don't like it either. But again, it's really a fashion item. I wonder how the lace will look like after few years of usage.

Scoot (2012-03-01 05:47:58)

As you're a fashion teacher, with at least a foot-if not your heart in fashion and design, I'd be interested to learn your views of the Filofax range in general. Also, whether the forthcoming Temperley filofaxes, which at the moment appear to be gold print on black leather and leopard skin printed onto calf like the Guinea.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7vWIAG33li4> &feature=related

Scoot (2012-03-01 05:49:40)

continued ...

Whether those forthcoming designs in the video would change your mind; price point aside.

Shanananana (2012-03-01 06:23:00)

I was wondering the same about the cord interior, specially if someone throws in a leaky ballpoint or a pencil... not to mention crumbs and coffee stains from having lunch at your desk while checking appointments!

Not a happy image...

Just makes me wish they did brass - not gold - rings and big zips on regular Filofaxes, I'm so over the chrome thing. I disliked the small plastic zip on the Cuban zipped model and this at least shows making a zip a feature can work, as they did on the big chunky plastic zip on the '90s Filofax Active zip model.

Tim (2012-03-01 06:29:39)

"...luxurious black Italian lace bonded onto cream leather, inspired by lingerie against the skin, resulting in an elegant, sensual style..." Please pass me a bucket. I feel quite nauseous!

Top marks to the Filofax spin doctors - SlamPR - who describe themselves as "the first ever truly global boutique agency... a creative hot shop, full of entrepreneurial spirit, creative gurus, connected scenesters and passionate marketing experts". I wonder what their daily rate is?

If they can write this kind of hype about themselves and the Temperley, imagine what they would say to promote the Apex?

Shanananana (2012-03-01 06:30:02)

My main thought is that the front page there looks fantastic, and is probably going to appeal to people who wouldn't think of making their own custom inserts, and that I like the black dividers with gold print... enough to try and replicate them at some point, not enough to cough up that much money.

But even if £400 was back-of-the-sofa change to me, I wouldn't buy one because they don't look like they'll age well, and that's my Number One requirement of any Filofax; I hope I'm wrong though, and/or that this gives the company a good boost in sales and popularity!

Dollface (2012-03-01 06:32:25)

If the guinea was in pocket i'd buy it.. Yes, i'm one of those people that just jots appointments and a few telephonenumber down in their filofax. And so what? Isn't that their primary usage?

I think having a phone pocket is a practical idea, although by the time you'd unzipped it the person on the other

end would have hung up..

If i had an affair (ha! I'm not married) id be scared that the little bits of rubbish that accumulate at the bottom of my bag would get under the lace.

Shanananana (2012-03-01 06:36:48)

To be fair, they're competing to some extent against the huge PR organisations behind all the smartphones, net-books and i-Pads etc, who are positioned in a lot of people's minds as making pen-and-paper products obsolete. That they're marketing what's basically the Dr. Frank-N-Furter of Filos isn't exactly their fault! ;o)

Shanananana (2012-03-01 06:50:17)

It looks like the unusual ring placement means this Filofax lies flat right out of the box, and that's quite a big gripe with users otherwise, so that at least counts for something: it's quite a big change in both theory and design when you think about it, and one I'd be glad to see in a more functional looking binder.

Shanananana (2012-03-01 06:59:51)

PS Looking at that interior picture of the Guinea, I'm not crazy about the quality of stitching towards the bottom of the left-hand cover, near the zip pull: quality stitching is what sets aside Filofaxes from cheap lookalike binders, and designer bags & wallets from £5 market stall jobs, and if that's the one they're releasing as the model of the range so to speak, it makes me wonder what the rest look like... it's a bit shoddy and uneven looking, even compared to my old cheapo Logic Zip in 100 % nylon!

Cat Burchmore (2012-03-01 07:16:36)

I have to say there is something about them that appeals, although it isn't the price tag! Do we know anything about the other range their doing? Steve mentioned it a while ago and the implication was that they would be cheaper. Do we know what they will be like? Sizes etc? I do like the inserts in these so am hoping they could be bought separately or at least in the cheaper range.

Anita (2012-03-01 07:47:51)

I don't really like them either, in looks or the price.

If I had to choose, it would be the Guinea, but pony skin??

And I just don't fancy a lacey filofax full stop. Maybe they're a bit different in real life.

Like Amanda, I'm not their target market either :)

crofter (2012-03-01 08:13:34)

Yuk!

Kate (2012-03-01 10:03:16)

My thoughts, exactly!

Neil (2012-03-01 11:14:00)

Although this product obviously wasn't aimed at me, there are two things that I think the Filofax people consider. Firstly, this novel positioning of the binder mechanism could well be the answer to the problem of getting cheap leather to lie flat (in the way that the arguably better quality filofaxes used to do before production was outsourced). Secondly, facing the pockets outwards makes things so much easier if you're trying to use a filofax as a purse or wallet (hasn't anyone at Filofax realised this before. Finally, although this Filofax is eye wateringly expensive, the extra revenue generated helps to keep my local library open. I think they've missed a marketing trick though - if they had offered a bespoke boutique style insert filling service they could have sold it for a lot more.

terriknits (2012-03-01 12:38:12)

No, I think the same. I know my tastes are pretty utilitarian and non- "frou frou" so these don't appeal to me at all. If I'm dropping this ridiculous amount of \$ \$ on a Filofax, I would expect it to be of the softest and most luxurious leather, not .... this!

Jotje (2012-03-01 15:47:37)

Remember when we used to personalise our filofax binders? Give them cute little pet names? Or think about their profession?

Well - to me at least - those two Temperfaxes with all their lace and nude skin colours and bling are obviously working in the worlds oldest profession ...

(if you get my drift)

Anita (2012-03-01 18:13:04)

Well said, Jotje! And it made me laugh :)

My Malden just doesn't mix in the same social circles as them, I think.

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-03-01 20:29:29)

For me, it's a mix. Putting aside the price because I can't afford one, I like some things design-wise about both but find neither really suited for what I do with a filofax. I think they are both attractive, I like the lace one better but prefer accent design aspects of the other. I doubt I could ever make anything work with rings that small for an 'everything' filofax and it costs too much to be just a jot pad and address book. I also agree with some other comments, I don't see this wearing well over time which is something important.

kanalt (2012-03-02 03:06:59)

I agree - not at all something i would be interested in. They're "too much" for me - too frou frou, like Terri said. And no matter what they looked like, I would never pay that much for a planner.

SNARLing: (2012-03-02 11:17:03)

i like some of the concepts of these products. i love the compact zip with a phone pocket however, i'd rather put the phone in that longways pocket. or if the pocket went vertically instead of horizontally that might work better. (looking forward to seeing the malden zip - wondering how similar it will be to this one) currently in the aqua chameleon (yes i switched again!), i put my iphone in the bottom front pocket. it works well. i really love the simplicity and versatility of the chameleon. it's a shame they're discontinuing that style so quickly. perhaps they'll keep key design aspects for a 'new' future line.

the 'affair' is interesting. i hate that it's a desk piece though as i do a lot of work on my lap. i also hate that they market this design as a sort of revolutionary avant garde product. the holbron and the regency have those outside pockets where you can potentially put a slimmer book in them - they just haven't made proper inserts for it nor have they marketed that aspect of that binder - so wierd to me. the compact flex notebook would fit ok. it's not perfect but there is potential and hopefully filofax will make products and inserts that cater to their existing affordable products and enhances their capabilities even more.

i don't mind so much that these "high end" products are released. i would hope their designers use this as an uninhibited playground to experiment with alternative concepts and designs and hopefully prefect them for again, more affordable products and combinations of inserts and binder and technology. that's the positive end. on the negative side, if i were to spend this amount of cash on a binder, i'd go lizard, ostrich or alligator. pony hair, patent, pink and lace...not my thing. nothing can ever trump the filofax holy trinity as far as i'm concerned

Savannah (2012-03-02 15:51:34)

These would be nice in a much cheaper synthetic material (I'm thinking \$50./60. price range). I would not spend that kind of money on this type of design with this material, it's too transiently fashionable and I question their function and durability. That said, I am sure there are upper income people that would bite the hook. It's overall an interesting experiment.

Kelliejo (2012-03-20 05:18:35)

I can't help it. I want one.

## Free For All Friday No 172 (2012-03-02 02:30) - Steve Morton

So the first Friday of March, Spring is about to Spring or the leaves are about to turn to Autumn depending which hemisphere you are in.

So do you record the first sign of spring in your Filofax? The first daffodil in bloom, or the first or last cut of the grass?

But as it is Friday, you are of course free to discuss anything Filofax related.

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Scoot (2012-03-02 04:13:43)

My Filofax Facts, derived from a Collins fact book that was pulled apart and then stuck back together to create my custom set of Filofax facts (then photocopied onto A5 paper to put in the fax), tells me that Earth is closest to the Sun around 4th January (I did check this is correct, it doesn't feel like it in the UK); which is the time when it becomes noticeably lighter for longer in the evenings. It is also the time when Snowdrops appear and Daffodils are becoming noticeable, any my Spring Salmon fishing starts in January.

With the "Winter" period being so mild I have to wonder, yet again, whether traditional seasons are at all relevant. My "Summer" really starts at the end of March.

Having a look at my fax I realise that I've also added local tide times, sunrise and sunset times etc to the Diary.

teddy edwards (2012-03-02 08:07:09)

I just noticed the request, in the top left of the home page, about not linking to images on here from Pinterest. Can I ask why this is?

Steve Morton (2012-03-02 08:08:29)

My blog post here pretty much explains why...

<http://steve-morton.com/2012/02/23/why-im-against-pinterest/>

Steve

Daniel Walters (2012-03-02 08:27:56)

I should be getting my first ever Filofax soon... after trying in vain to use any number of electronic devices since I entered the world of work in 2002 after uni, I think pen-and-paper is the way forward. For my birthday next week, I've asked my parents for an A5 Filofax (of their choice!) so I can easily print off custom inserts etc and use it as a GTD folder, as well as a 'pocket' Flex off my mother-in-law as a notebook/wallet/diary replacement.

I like the look of the page-per-month templates you put up here recently for 2012 - how difficult would it be for you to generate an identical version for 2013, as a forward planner?

Finally, any tips for printing off contacts from Outlook onto a A5 Filofax-friendly format?

Steve Morton (2012-03-02 08:32:05)

Hi Daniel

Welcome to the world of Filofax... wise choice!!

Yes we will making 2013 versions available in the next few months. Or you can generate them yourself from the source files for any year... fairly easily. We are still coming up with new designs so we want to get them all on line and then we will turn our attention to doing pre-merged 2012/2013 and 2013 files. All in good time!

You can print direct from Outlook to A5, but you will have to play around with the options until you get a suitable set up that you like. You can also export your contacts and then import them into the Filofax Address book software which works well. Search for it on the blog I've done a few posts about it.

Butanben (2012-03-02 08:35:28)

I stuck a sunshine sticker into my Filofax yesterday. It was unusually sunny and warm, so the first day of sitting in the park with a sandwich and a juice. Okay, it was with my coat and scarf on, but nevertheless, to get some warm sunshine onto my face, was pretty blissful. So I marked this down in my Filofax as MY first day of Spring!

stagasaurus (2012-03-02 09:56:22)

I got my first filofax last week (a second hand grey personal Finsbury) and I am having so much fun with it - I think I am falling head over heels. I am tempted to name my filofax. I have always named every car I owned and it feels odd to have such a useful object without a name. I am thinking of calling her Miss Pettigrew.

So I am curious? Do any of you out there give your filofax a name? If so, what are they called?

Lucy (2012-03-02 10:58:51)

For anyone who's interested, the Pennybridge has now made its way onto the Filofax UK website . . . although only so that you can request an email when it comes in stock!

DEM (2012-03-02 11:55:41)

I have yet to name any of mine but I love the idea and may just have to consider naming them. I feel like each one has a personality of its own...so why not have each one named to match that?! I think Miss Pettigrew is a lovely name! I say Go For It! And congrats on your first Filofax.

Alison Reeves (2012-03-02 13:07:15)

Daniel - I've printed out my outlook contacts before - if I remember correctly I printed to A4 double sided and set it to 'booklet print'. If you play around with a few test prints you will find out what works for your printer. One point though - I printed out the whole thing (A-Z) and wished I'd done it in alphabetical characters so I could file in the A-Z dividers. So print out all A-B then C-D etc depending on the A-Z divider set you have. Hope this makes sense.

Miss D (2012-03-02 13:57:01)

Did I imagine it or did I read somewhere that there was going to be a leather flex cover this year?

Scoot (2012-03-02 13:58:01)

Sunshine stickers sound like a fun idea, though the trouble I have had with office stickers is that they invariably become unstuck; the glue losing strength.

When I saw the postman this afternoon I realised that it is the second day running he was in shirt sleeves.

Perhaps I should record such things in my fax, ie personalise any spare space in the diary.

stagasaurus (2012-03-03 04:54:09)

Thank you! I am loving the feeling of having my life at my fingertips!

kanalt (2012-03-03 16:27:33)

My Malden is simply called Malden, or Maldy if I'm feeling playful. My compact Regency (which is what I use as my main Filofax and dairy) is called Reggie - just a watered down version of Regency.

kanalt (2012-03-03 16:37:46)

This is somewhat off Philofaxy topic, but for those you who decorate your planners/inserts with washi tape, what is its purpose? Can you write on it, or is simply for decoration? How do you use it - to embellish diary pages or spice up dividers perhaps? I'm looking for some decorative inspiration...

## Additional Pen Loop (2012-03-02 12:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

We all like the option of extra pen loops and we have in the past seen various options for adding extra pen storage capacity to your Filofax organiser.

But browsing our friends [2]Dodo-Pad website today I noticed a very reasonably priced pen loop that you could use on a Filofax section divider.

Here is a link to it: [3]<http://www.dodopad.com/shop/pen-loop.html> they come in a range of colours and they are elasticated.

By adding them to a section divider you can of course swap and change the position of the pen holder, remove it completely and no damage will be done to your Filofax.

The different colours would help you colour code your pens for different entries.

Take a look today.

1. <http://www.dodopad.com/shop/calendar-year-diaries-calendars/filofax-compatible-organisers>

2. <http://www.dodopad.com/shop/calendar-year-diaries-calendars/filofax-compatible-organisers>

3. <http://www.dodopad.com/shop/pen-loop.html>

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Jotje (2012-03-02 12:56:31)

Those are the Leuchtturm-penloops. I have used them and can confirm that they stick rock-solid on their surface. Once stuck, it's hardly possible to remove them. Great stuff!

Lucy (2012-03-02 13:42:12)

Fab, thanks! Ordered one, but from Amazon where the postage is 55p cheaper! :-)

Lucy (2012-03-02 13:51:43)

Also . . . has anyone ever tried buying a Flex pen loop, punching it and using it in a Filofax? Does it work? I am curious . . .

Scoot (2012-03-02 16:59:49)

You can make your own with sticky backed velcro.

Josh (2012-03-02 18:48:22)

I've used these in my Malden. They work particularly well with small barrel pens as the loop is quite small..while elasticized it can be mightily difficult to get a larger pen in..i used two in a domino, one on the front inside cover and one on a card holder insert to carry a total of three pens. Really nice! They do indeed stick very well and are unlikely to come off ever..i also have one attached to the inner back cover of my dodopad..

Anita (2012-03-02 18:51:08)

I bought one of these, hoping my Lamy Safari fountain pen would fit but unfortunately it doesn't :(

Lynne Dove (2012-03-03 03:04:07)

Lucy - I use flex pen holders in both pocket and personal, works very well for me.

Lord Dodo (2012-03-03 16:29:58)

They are indeed Leuchtturm pen loops - we were so impressed with them we decided to stock them ourselves but we have to stick to their recommended pricing (and Leuchtturm are quite strict!). If you are buying anything else from the Dodo Pad cyberstore then the p & p is less of an issue but I do see that bought alone it would be quite expensive - perhaps it's an opportunity to try a very heavily discounted Dodo Pad A5 or Personal Organiser diary at the same time. #justanidea :)

kanalt (2012-03-03 16:32:36)

For those of us in the US who might not want to pay shipping for a small item, the Container Store sells something similar.

<http://www.containerstore.com/shop?productId=10031250 &N= &Ntt=pen>

I bought one for my mom for Christmas but I don't know if she's used it yet or how the quality is.

kanalt (2012-03-03 16:34:13)

Clarification: for those of us who might not want to pay international shipping charges (you will most likely still need to pay shipping if you order from CS's website).

doris98 (2012-03-03 18:21:26)

Philofaxy just pushed me over the edge, I ordered two. I've seen these before but finally gave in and ordered. Glad I did, because although the Container Store ones are cheaper, I don't think they ship outside the U.S.

I hope these fit my fat pens - Pilot Coletto and Uni-ball Style Fit 5-barrels. Been tweaking my pen location for days and it's driving me crazy. (:

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-03-04 07:06:09)

I just ordered a couple from Amazon and got free P+P (though only by doing it as two orders... as soon as I put 2 in my basket, the free P+P turned into £1.95)

I'm going to stick them on dividers so I can move them around, not have them permanently stuck to the binder and be able to move them from binder to binder. (I got 2 - one for the pocket and one for the personal size file)

Christina O (2012-03-04 21:49:32)

I found something similar at Staples where they sell spiral notebooks. It was only available in black but was cheap.

## Web Finds - 3 March 2012 (2012-03-03 00:00) - Steve Morton

So here we are again... you know the drill by now.. find yourself an hour or so, a drink of your choice and a quiet moment to enjoy the following finds this week.

- [1]Moleskine Cahier within personal-sized Filofax Amazona - Sense of Gravity
- [2]Diary Formats - Joshua LaPorte
- [3]A5 Domino Filofax Video - The Life of The Perpetual Student
- [4]A new take on an old concept - The Voracious Vacillator
- [5]It's only a test - Filofax Fixation
- [6]Guest Post - Filofax Sketch Bag - Review - Bagsey
- [7]London Haul - Imysworld
- [8]Training my mini Topaz to lie flat AND my purpose for her - Sense of Gravity

- [9]Impending Filo Fail - Filofax Fixation
- [10]Flex by Filofax - Pooh Corner Adventures
- [11]The List Show - Third Coast International Audio Festival
- [12]An affair with Temperley for Filofax - Paper Lovestory
- [13]Filo Tweaking - The Crazy Suburban Mom
- [14]A Slew of Day Timer inserts fit my Personal size Filofaxes perfectly! - Sense of Gravity
- [15]Reggie on Location: Filos Gone Wild - Well Planned Life
- [16]Temperley London for Filofax - The Guinea - LOVE - Imysworld
- [17]Temperley London for Filofax - The Affiar - Interesting.... - Imysworld
- [18]A5 Dodopad for Personal Filofax - Rapunzel's World
- [19]A5 Dodopad for Personal Filofax - The Life of the Perpetual Student
- [20]Ten uses for the Filofax Malden zip pocket - My Life All in One Place
- [21]Fixing up the personal size Dodopad Filofax insert - Joshua Laporte
- Your blog post could appear here next week... Please email us if we missed you this week.

Can I also give a shout out to Alison Reeves who is fund-raising for Cancer Research UK by doing a Race for Life, you can sponsor her by visiting her '[22]Just Giving' webpage. You can pay via Pay Pal using your own local currency too.

And an Oscar nomination to [23]Tracy for her video about her A5 Malden...

IFRAME: [24][http://www.youtube.com/embed/JQa\\_UOsIZpg](http://www.youtube.com/embed/JQa_UOsIZpg)

Don't forget the [25]Philofaxy Roundtable today.. I will also be about on Sunday at the same time to catch anyone who can't make Sunday...

Keep up with Philofaxy news on [26]Twitter this account is fed from Philofaxy and a Google Search feed so you will pick up other Filofax related news in your time line.

Enjoy

1. <http://senseofgravity.blogspot.com/2012/02/moleskine-cahier-within-personal-sized.html>
2. <http://joshuabuffumlaporte.tumblr.com/post/18299572501/diary-formats>
3. <http://thelifeoftheperpetualstudent.blogspot.com/2012/02/a5-domino-filofax-video.html>
4. <http://voraciousvacillator.blogspot.com/2012/02/new-take-on-old-concept.html>
5. <http://filofaxfixation.wordpress.com/2012/02/26/its-only-a-test/>
6. <http://bagsey.blogspot.com/2012/02/guest-post-filofax-sketch-bag-review.html>
7. <http://imysworld.blogspot.com/2012/02/london-haul.html>
8. <http://senseofgravity.blogspot.com/2012/02/training-my-mini-topaz-to-lie-flat-and.html>
9. <http://filofaxfixation.wordpress.com/2012/02/27/impending-filo-fail/>
10. <http://pooh-corner-adventures.blogspot.com/2012/02/flex-by-filofax.html>
11. <http://www.thirdcoastfestival.org/library/1017-re-sound-155-the-list-show>
12. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/02/affair-with-temperley-for-filofax.html>
13. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/02/filotweaking.html>
14. <http://senseofgravity.blogspot.com/2012/02/slew-of-day-timer-inserts-fit-my.html>
15. <http://wellplannedlife.blogspot.com/2012/03/reggie-on-location-filos-gone-wild.html>
16. <http://imysworld.blogspot.com/2012/03/temperley-london-for-filofax-guinea.html>
17. <http://imysworld.blogspot.com/2012/03/temperley-london-for-filofax-affiar.html>
18. <http://icclewu.blogspot.com/2012/03/a5-dodopad-for-personal-filofax.html>

19. <http://thelifeoftheperpetualstudent.blogspot.com/2012/03/a5-dodopad-for-personal-filofax.html>
20. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2012/03/ten-uses-for-filofax-malden-zip-pocket.html>
21. <http://joshuabuffumlaporte.tumblr.com/post/18616266487/fixing-up-the-personal-size-dodopad-insert>
22. <https://www.raceforlifesporsorme.org/alisonreeves>
23. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/>
24. [http://www.youtube.com/embed/JQa\\_U0sIZpg](http://www.youtube.com/embed/JQa_U0sIZpg)
25. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/02/date-for-your-diary-saturday-3-march.html>
26. <https://twitter.com/PhilofaxyNews>

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LJ (2012-03-03 00:06:46)

Looking forward to taking some time out and reading these today :o)

Thanks Steve

Scoot (2012-03-03 06:13:01)

Thanks for the links, more journeys into another series of worlds and lives.

I empathised with the Well Planned Life story about leaving the Filofax at work.

I once returned home to realise that I didn't have my fax, a slimline fax cum wallet, and simply didn't have a clue where I could have left it. Searched the car at least three times but nothing, searched the garden and pathway through the house but again nothing, eventually driving to my then work place but security wouldn't let me in or check my office for me, after searching the car park and phoning the only person who was still at the office when I'd left, I had to remain in a terrible state of angst until the next morning when I also found it stuck down the arm of my chair.

After seeing Imy's blog I note the second claim that the Temperely Guinea is "Pony Skin". But where is the pony skin on the Guinea fax? All media advertise it as calf.

Alison Reeves (2012-03-03 06:54:40)

Thanks for the mention Steve! Much appreciated. The more sponsorship I get the harder I feel I have to work at the program! Hope to raise lots of money for Cancer Research, and lose some lbs of my own in the process.

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-03-03 12:15:25)

Thank you Steve! What would we call an award for Filofolk? A Faxy maybe?

Mikko (2012-03-03 13:25:14)

i have a unused filofax from 1997 i got it as a birthday present and never used it (computer nerd)

Wind (2012-03-03 13:34:16)

Great roundup! And I really enjoyed the roundtable conference today, even wrote a little post about it on my blog :) It was great getting to hear the voices behind the blogs!

kanalt (2012-03-03 14:32:51)

Scoot - I felt at such a loss without my planner. I was very edgy and didn't know how to proceed with my evening (I didn't know what needed to get done or how to plan for the week, etc.). Since then I've been very aware of where the planner was at all times. I've always known how dependent on it I am, but that day just reinforced my dependency. I'm not sure if that's a good thing or a bad thing.

Scoot (2012-03-06 05:47:44)

As long as you have the fax it is a good thing, allowing you to use brain power to decide rather than remember. But the loss of the information in a fax, never mind who's got it, is just too much and so I use codes and abbreviations where ever possible.

Download source files for the new Monthly diary layouts (2012-03-03 14:00)  
- Steve Morton

It's time to get geeky again. As we did with the new [1]A5 layouts and the new [2]Personal layouts, Ray and I are making available source files for our [3]new monthly layouts, too.

We're releasing them so that those of you who want to can tinker and tweak to get the unique layout that is perfect for you. These are the source files Steve and I built to produce the 2012 sets. The same ones will also produce sets for any year you care to choose. In each of the data source files, you just need to change one date - the starting date - and the file will calculate all the other dates for you. I've highlighted the cell with the date you need to look for and change in each of the files like this:

	A	B	C	D	E
1	DateMo	DateTu	DateWe	DateTh	DateFr
2	26-Dec-11	27-Dec-11	28-Dec-11	29-Dec-11	30-Dec-11
3	02-Jan-12	03-Jan-12	04-Jan-12	05-Jan-12	06-Jan-12
4	09-Jan-12	10-Jan-12	11-Jan-12	12-Jan-12	13-Jan-12
5	16-Jan-12	17-Jan-12	18-Jan-12	19-Jan-12	20-Jan-12
6	23-Jan-12	24-Jan-12	25-Jan-12	26-Jan-12	27-Jan-12
7	30-Jan-12	31-Jan-12	01-Feb-12	02-Feb-12	03-Feb-12
8	06-Feb-12	07-Feb-12	08-Feb-12	09-Feb-12	10-Feb-12
9	13-Feb-12	14-Feb-12	15-Feb-12	16-Feb-12	17-Feb-12
10	20-Feb-12	21-Feb-12	22-Feb-12	23-Feb-12	24-Feb-12
11	27-Feb-12	28-Feb-12	29-Feb-12	01-Mar-12	02-Mar-12

[4]

These monthly layouts are set up to give you a whole year so probably don't need much tinkering with at the Excel end, although you might want to jazz up or adapt the Word base files. If you mess up, you can always download the file again and start over.

As long as you have some basic Word and Excel skills, you should be able to give this a go. You'll need to be able to set up a basic mail merge file link, and there are plenty of web tutorials that show you the way - Google using the search terms: Word Excel Mail Merge 20xx (where 'xx' is 02, 03, 07 or 10, depending on your version.)

If that all seems like a lot of work, you can still just download the [5]pre-prepared 2012 sets.

Here are the source files.

### 1. A5 Month on One Page

January 2012						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
--	--	--	--	--	--	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	--	--	--	--	--

[6]

Download [7]Word File and [8]Excel File  
**2. A5 Month View**

January 2012				January 2012			
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Sunday
--	--	--	--	--	--	1	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30	31	--	--	--	--	--	

[9]

Download [10]Word File (use same Excel file as for A5 Month on One Page above)  
**3. Personal Month on One Page**

January 2012						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
-	-	-	-	-	-	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	-	-	-	-	-

[11]

Download [12]Word file (print on A4), [13]Word file (print on Personal) and [14]Excel file  
**4. Personal Month per View**

January 2012			
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
-	-	-	-
2	3	4	5
9	10	11	12
16	17	18	19
23	24	25	26
30	31	-	-

January 2012			
Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Notes
-	-	1	
6	7	8	
13	14	15	
20	21	22	
27	28	29	
-	-	-	

[15]

Download [16]Word file (print on A4), [17]Word file (print on Personal) and [18]Excel file

The diary layout range is still growing. Next up, Pocket-size versions of at least some of our layouts and a yearly planner layout for A4 and A5.

- Visible links
1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/02/download-source-files-for-new-a5-diary.html>
  2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/02/download-source-files-for-new-personal.html>
  3. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/02/free-monthly-2012-diary-sets-to.html>
  4. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-X1irRvcg3PE/Tz14bZjAqsI/AAAAAAAAAV0/iXBdyLe-HJs/s1600/editdate.png>
  5. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/02/free-monthly-2012-diary-sets-to.html>
  6. [http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-kr\\_xI6pYSBY/T0fkpHJTjhI/AAAAAAAAKUQ/N4J6NLjN\\_Hg/s1600/monthon1page.jpg](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-kr_xI6pYSBY/T0fkpHJTjhI/AAAAAAAAKUQ/N4J6NLjN_Hg/s1600/monthon1page.jpg)
  7. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/MonthView/MonthPerPage\\_BaseDoc.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/MonthView/MonthPerPage_BaseDoc.docx)
  8. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/MonthView/DateSourceFiloMonthlyNew.xlsx>
  9. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-Xu-kLSmFoAU/T0f1GpPegQI/AAAAAAAAKUY/852f1EChAVE/s1600/monthon2page.jpg>
  10. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/MonthView/A5Monthon2pagesBase.docx>
  11. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-B2dGtvuPuBo/T0fnauj8VJI/AAAAAAAAKUg/OQI3MaiEwcc/s1600/personalmonthononepage.jpg>
  12. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20MonthView/Personal%20MPP%20A4%20base.docx>
  13. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20MonthView/Monthon1pagesPersonalonPersonalBase.docx>
  14. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20MonthView/DateSourceFiloMonthOn2PagesPers.xlsx>
  15. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-qG6xZnas1RE/T0fnx7IGH2I/AAAAAAAAKUo/DGJgzL7ado/s1600/personalmonthon2pages.jpg>
  16. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20MonthView/Personal%20MPV%20A4%20base.docx>
  17. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20MonthView/Monthon2pagesPersonalonPersonalBase.docx>
  18. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal%20MonthView/DateSourceFiloMonthOn2PagesPers.xlsx>

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J.L.Gray (2012-03-23 17:07:15)

cant get the word doc for the month on 2 pages to open. Is the link broke?

Thanks Jim

Steve Morton (2012-03-23 17:10:59)

Jim try again

Steve

## Reader Review - Filofax Malden - Doris (2012-03-04 00:00) - Steve Morton

*Thank you to Doris for sending in this review of her Filofax Pocket Malden organiser which she calls Emma...*

### Meet Emma

(Disclaimer: Please excuse the quality of the pictures. Photography is not one of my strong suits.)

Emma is my Pocket Malden. I bought her in November from Pens and Leather at a lower price vs. Filofax USA. Living in Manila, I can only order online. I needed another one after my Chocolate Pocket Domino, which has remained nameless its entire life, was on its way to retirement. I hadn't used that Domino for a while and after months of disuse in a drawer, its suede interior was starting to peel away. It now serves as storage for my inserts.



[1]

### **My Filo History.**

I started with a Personal size in the mid-90s, first with a non-Filofax one I got locally. It was a black sturdy leather version from Fino that served me for years. It still looks very good. I moved on to a Pocket Portobello with a PDA slot when Palms were in vogue. I used that for years as well, but after I retired from my 9-5 Marketing job, I needed (read: wanted) another one. My Domino was my next Filo. It didn't get the love and attention it deserved as I moved on to other things like Interior Design school, enjoying unemployment, and exactly a year ago (anniversary!), my own home décor business. **Enter Philofaxy.**

After browsing online for the Domino's replacement, I chanced upon Philofaxy, and an obsession was born. I see-sawed between the Finsbury and the Malden because I wanted a leather one. I chose the Malden, but couldn't decide on the color. It was a toss-up between the Ochre and the Vintage Pink. The Vintage Pink won out. (I eventually got a Mini Ochre because I loved the color so much.)

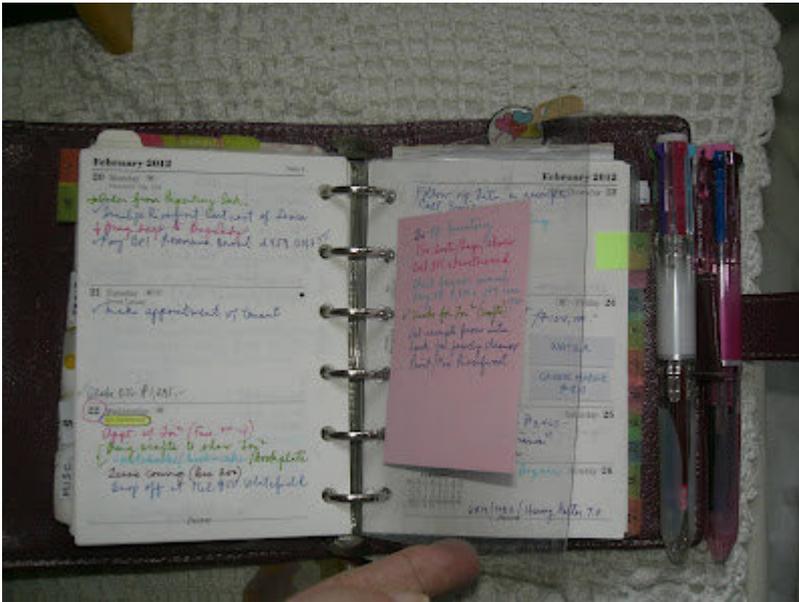
Emma is now decked out like no other Filofax I've had. I've borrowed (stolen, really) lots of ideas from other Filo fans on the web. I have top tabs, side tabs, a dashboard, a DIY swing pad, etc., etc.



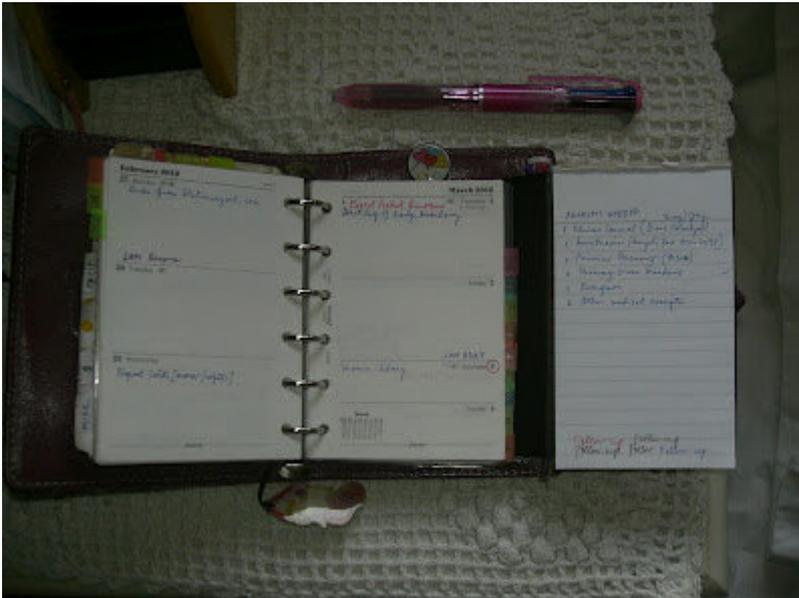
[2]



[3]

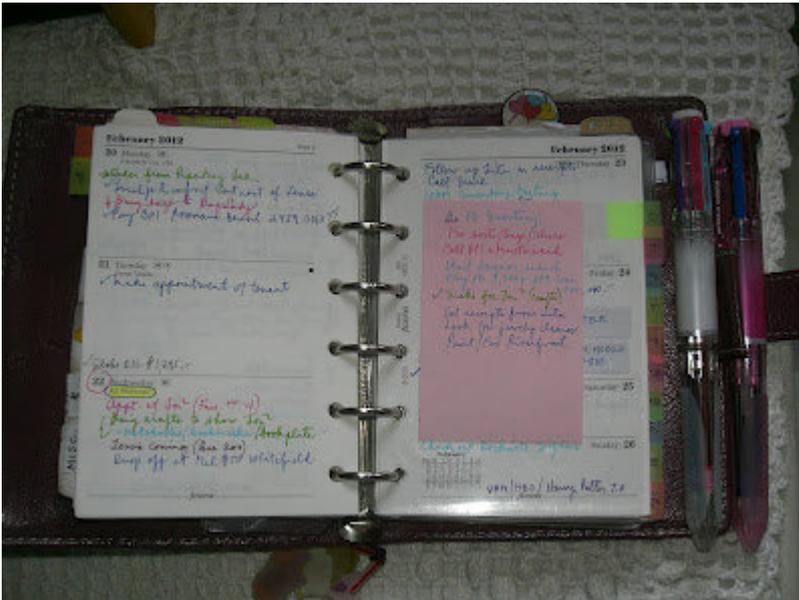


[4]



[5]

I love her. She's as fat as she can get, with a full year of WO2P and tabbed MO2P. She contains my life, really, and I have all the information I need in one place. I carry her around, doodle in her, set appointments (not that many) and let her manage my life. I tried to make her pretty and fun. My card-making hobby came in handy for that. I color code like a maniac with my 2 Pilot 5-Barrel Coletos.



[6]

Emma has siblings. A Mini Malden is a food diary, a Mini Portobello is a wallet (purse to you), and a Mini Baroque and Pocket Baroque are on their way to me (the Baroque has arrived since the writing of this post). I plan to find uses for them all, or rotate using them depending on my mood. They deserve love and attention, and their leather needs to be handled.



[7]

### The Setup.

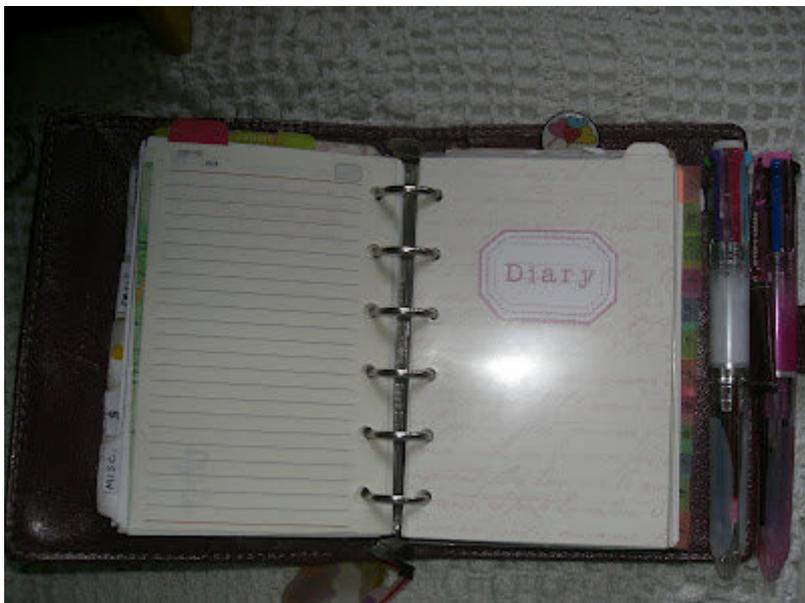
This is how Emma's set up. It's pretty straight-forward – my personal data up front, Tabs for different needs, Lists, a MO2P and WO2P Diary with a home-made transparent flyleaf as dashboard serving as my weekly to-do list, top-opening envelopes for receipts, cards, photos, and a DIY swing pad finally perfected after three tries. My major To-do and Shopping lists are in the Portobello.



[8]



[9]



[10]

[11]



[12]



I'm now hankering after a Mini Amazona in Almond or Brown, it looks so grown-up. So, that's Emma. She's loved and cherished, and I don't need to be precious with her, she's sturdy and doesn't show wear. I love her size, pockets, and color, and 19 mm rings. She's stuffed to the gills but she can handle it. She serves me well.



[13]

*Thank you Doris you are certainly using your pocket to its full capacity!*

1. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-0heJ4oGIGLU/T0q4F0cZauI/AAAAAAAAAKVI/vHnWz7pg74Q/s1600/Photo1.JPG>
2. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-11iMpMrFqJA/T0q4WMvgZ5I/AAAAAAAAAKVw/zZdntr4-yBs/s1600/Photo2.JPG>
3. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-57mweBrtkuU/T0q4ZfyRoHI/AAAAAAAAAKV4/pz3d-AJT0t0/s1600/Photo3.JPG>
4. [http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-U1a6Rh\\_pBTE/T0q4cxSiKNI/AAAAAAAAAKWA/hKLIB0TH1yw/s1600/Photo4.JPG](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-U1a6Rh_pBTE/T0q4cxSiKNI/AAAAAAAAAKWA/hKLIB0TH1yw/s1600/Photo4.JPG)
5. [http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-vL\\_-eQHsLnI/T0q4gIezmAI/AAAAAAAAAKWI/Gf8cRkA11g0/s1600/Photo5.JPG](http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-vL_-eQHsLnI/T0q4gIezmAI/AAAAAAAAAKWI/Gf8cRkA11g0/s1600/Photo5.JPG)
6. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-EbwGZUkS0ZQ/T0q4jQphd1I/AAAAAAAAAKWQ/Ysa0kASnbQA/s1600/Photo6.JPG>
7. [http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-vELrkm6pzp0/T0q4m4H2nxI/AAAAAAAAAKWY/TMxRQ\\_SyVbo/s1600/Photo7.JPG](http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-vELrkm6pzp0/T0q4m4H2nxI/AAAAAAAAAKWY/TMxRQ_SyVbo/s1600/Photo7.JPG)
8. [http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-PqIEmICV9LE/T0q4p\\_y10fI/AAAAAAAAAKWg/Nkb4qHhkoq/s1600/Photo8.JPG](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-PqIEmICV9LE/T0q4p_y10fI/AAAAAAAAAKWg/Nkb4qHhkoq/s1600/Photo8.JPG)
9. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-kV5uZACY1ok/T0q4tS0uvZI/AAAAAAAAAKWo/xg0bJP-XcGw/s1600/Photo9.JPG>
10. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-sfGv0ehuRbk/T0q4I1DcBJI/AAAAAAAAAKVQ/s01c0ulIt5E/s1600/Photo10.JPG>
11. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-FiDXjIO4kA0/T0q4Lzg9mNI/AAAAAAAAAKVY/SYRVM1YE5bU/s1600/Photo11.JPG>
12. [http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-yBy72oIiE3g/T0q4PW-\\_LyI/AAAAAAAAAKVg/Xr7HOH-Riak/s1600/Photo12.JPG](http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-yBy72oIiE3g/T0q4PW-_LyI/AAAAAAAAAKVg/Xr7HOH-Riak/s1600/Photo12.JPG)
13. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-eFZwSckxKSw/T0q4Sku8tPI/AAAAAAAAAKVo/6L7jhKQ6j-s/s1600/Photo13.JPG>

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Josh (2012-03-04 00:15:40)

Doris, I love your filofax(es) and your setup! I am so impressed with everyone's colorful planners! Mine is so plain! Nice to "meet" you too!

Sandra (2012-03-04 00:29:03)

Outstanding, detailed write-up—thank you for sharing your Malden and other Filofax love here with us! I have not gone for a mini Malden...yet. ;)

Lime Tree (2012-03-04 02:03:16)

Emma is beautiful and clearly so loved! Thanks for sharing her set-up and cuteness!

BTW pleeeeeease do a post on your baroques! They are so beautiful and there aren't many posts about them.

Maus (2012-03-04 02:52:40)

Doris,

thank you so much for sharing your Emma-Malden-Story!

Yesterday arrived my Pocket Malden Vintage Pink from City Organiser and I instantly moved into it - it's gorgeous!

There are so many ideas in your post which I will have to think over...

Especially the name inspired me. ;-)

doris98 (2012-03-04 05:26:46)

Thanks Josh! The color just 'happened'. I'm just not ready to grow up yet (:

doris98 (2012-03-04 05:28:48)

Thanks Sandra! I never even considered a Mini until I found this great community!

doris98 (2012-03-04 05:31:55)

You're welcome Lime Tree! It was a pleasure to do a post on Philofaxy. And I would love to do a Baroque post. You think Steve will let me? (:

doris98 (2012-03-04 05:39:12)

@Maus: You're most welcome! I hope you find the review helpful. Only this wonderful group of people understand that our Filofaxes have personalities, and deserve a name. (: Enjoy your new Malden!

WindyMiller (2012-03-04 05:41:05)

Wow! Thanks so much.

I too have a pocket Malden (in Ochre) but recently bought an A5 Cuban which is now solely for my work stuff. Hence the Malden is now all about me!! Mine is looking a little empty; but now I've loads of ideas of how to fill her up. Who knew a Malden would hold so much?

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-03-04 06:34:08)

I love this review, and Emma is so pretty and colourful! I can see this becoming one of Philofaxy's most popular posts!!

doris98 (2012-03-04 06:51:45)

Hi Windymiller. I love the ochre color so much! But I wanted a girly pocket size after blacks and browns, so Vintage Pink it was for me. Your pocket will be the perfect size for a "ME" binder! Enjoy!

doris98 (2012-03-04 06:52:34)

Thanks! (:

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-03-04 07:01:13)

I love Emma and all your others, love the colors and how organized it is. And I loved how you wrote everything, detailed but fun!

Tracy

WindyMiller (2012-03-04 07:26:37)

Thank Emma - I was concerned that the pocket Malden might be too small but Doris has proved that it isn't! I love the pink colour - it was so hard to choose between the two for me! Maybe I'll get a pink Malden one day :-)

caribbean princess (2012-03-04 07:42:52)

Such a cute little filofax! I love her. The set up is great too. Best of all is how personalised it is for you. You could never do that with an electronic planner.

Love it!!

DEM (2012-03-04 11:10:17)

Great post! Thank you for sharing, Doris! I love it when posts have a lot of detailed pictures of the set-up! Your Emma looks fabulous! I think its fantastic that she is so full...there's just something about a FF that is full to almost bursting!

Seeing your post has inspired me to reexamine my set up in my Personal and to also pull out my Pocket and Mini and get them working again!

doris98 (2012-03-04 19:01:36)  
Thanks Tracy!

doris98 (2012-03-04 19:04:40)  
Thanks CP! I love Filos for exactly that reason!

doris98 (2012-03-04 19:09:33)  
Hi DEM! I have to be careful not to stuff her too much or she won't close (:  
Have fun with the re-tweaking of your binders!

Caroline (2012-03-05 10:47:58)  
Just wondering, but what kind of pen is that? I love it! It must keep your filofax looking even more colorful and organized! Ah! I have malden envy! I love the color of Emma, she is as beautiful as they come!

doris98 (2012-03-05 18:46:13)  
Hi Caroline! Those are Pilot Coletto 5-barrel multi-pens, don't know if you've heard about them. They write really well and I can carry around 8 colors, plus a pencil and eraser, in just 2 pens. Another great multi-pen is the Uni-ball Style Fit because the ink is waterproof, but they don't make an eraser component. Hope that helps. The Malden pink is very unique color, but it's not for everyone.

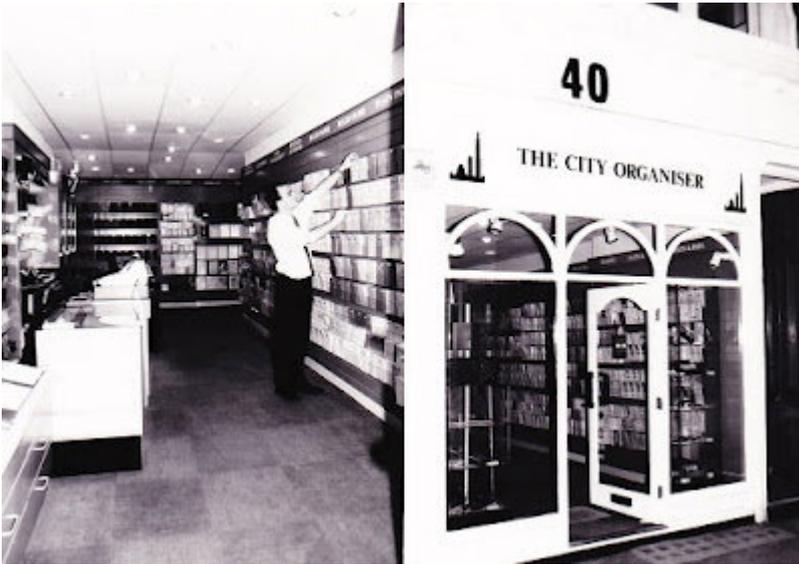
Susanne Namdar (2012-03-06 00:58:56)  
Thank you for the detailed post. It is always fun to read how others set up and use their FFs. I look forward to read about the new additions. And thanks for the pen tips, I have added them to my wishlist.

## **City Organiser Under the Spotlight (2012-03-05 00:00) - Steve Morton**

*Today we look behind the scenes at [1]City Organiser. Our friend Andy Morse at City Organiser agreed to go under the Philofaxy spotlight and answer some questions.*

*1. Which model of Filofax has been the most popular model/size in say the last 1-2 years?*

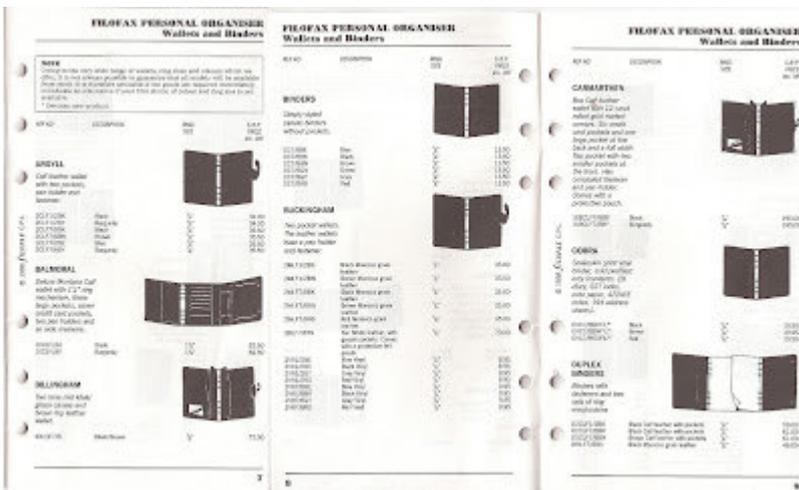
If you ignore the individual colour variations then we've sold Finsburys the most (boring) with Maldens, Metropols and since the price reduction Finchleys. At the top end we've done well with the Osterleys and most of the croc print variations while the Enigma was, is and always will be something of an enigma (though not as catastrophic as the Swarovski or the pocket zip-around hard clamshell special edition they brought out around five years ago – I've erased its name from my memory but I am sure a Philofaxy friend will remember; we ordered two of those and eventually gave the last one away in a competition to a man who said he was going to use it as an ashtray.



[2]

2. What size of Filofax is the most popular in the range?

Still Personal but closely followed by Pocket and A5 these days. Very little A4 and increasingly fewer Minis (or organisers for people with no friends as we call them). Deskfax diary sales are still quite strong and we have one packet of M2 inserts that I shall probably put away in the archive (ha ha – if only). The M2 is an awkward subject for us as we know that Filofax brought it out to complement (i.e. steal) a piece of the Mulberry mini market (as they had successfully done a few years earlier with their Mini organisers); we sold Mulberry lines at the time and managed to get some ‘inside info’ from Mulberry that they had big plans for that size and we’re going to run a big, impressive PR campaign in support. We passed this information on to our Filofax friends only to find out subsequently that Mulberry had decided to change the ring mechanism, got cold feet and then ditched the product completely in true fashionista style. So there was no market to steal and the M2 was doomed before it launched!



[3]

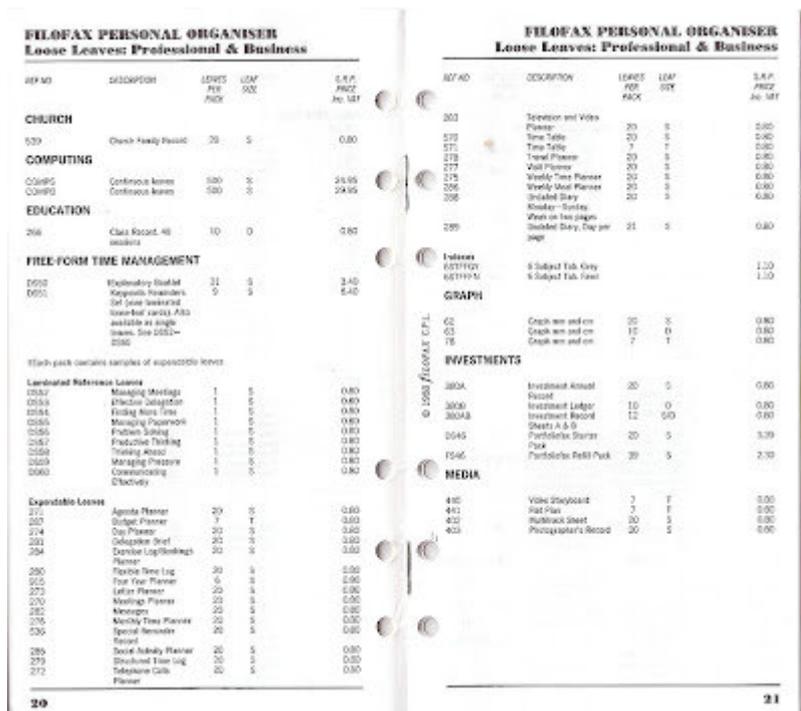
3. I see you have been in business since 1987, how do today’s customers compare to those of 25 years ago?

Most of our customers these days we only meet in cyberspace or at the end of a phone (and vice versa) but they’re younger, more feminine and in the shop we have many more sales where the customer spends their whole time on the mobile phone arranging their social life or babysitter problems while we try to interpret their semaphore gesticulations and hold their coffee for them.

All the traditional users of the Filofax when we started (military, church, teacher, film-maker) have fallen away as their specialist inserts have disappeared; we miss the heady days of the Target Grouping Range Card insert and the Lens Angles 16mm/35mm & Super 16mm Data laminated insert card. On the plus side, our customers have always had money to spend; a recession in the City is not people with less money it’s just less people with money. The customers in Bow Lane are either in a desperate hurry, squeezing

everything into a lunch hour, or relaxed because they're 'away from their desk' wandering around the City doing a bit of shopping – those are the most enjoyable parts of the day because you can have a chat and really try to give the kind of service that is helpful and informative.

I think there's been a huge shift in the relationship between the customer and the retailer – the customer used to be nervous of the retailer but now the retailers are nervous of the customers – are they happy? what are they going to tell their 20,000 followers? how much of a discount are they going to ask for? when are they going to bring the item back? Generally, I think it's a change for the better. I think good shops and bad shops are easier to spot – we decided last year to use our Amazon rating as our major reference because our customers are nowadays much more likely to trust another customers experience than any claims we make for ourselves!

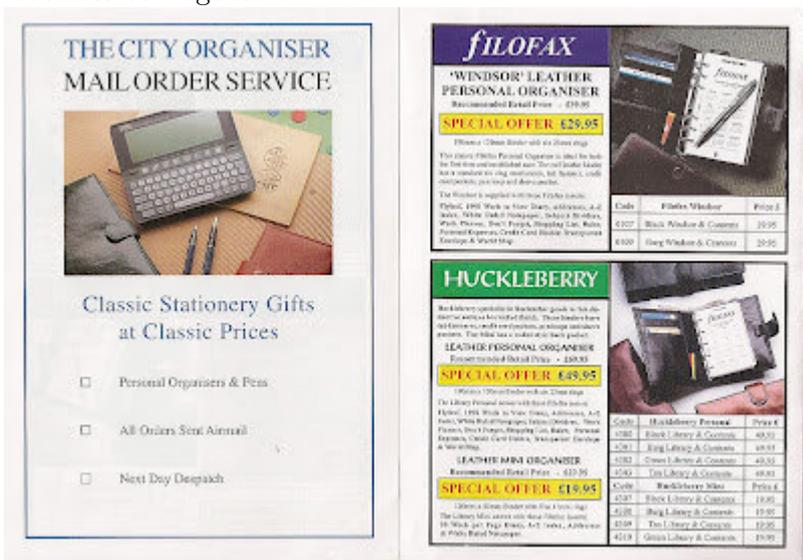


[4]

4. What changes have you seen in that time?

The disappearance of cash (boo) and cheques (hurrah).  
 The increased importance of brands and their identity. We generally don't take a risk on me-too products any more unless they are really offering something different.  
 The inexorable increase in costs (rent is up five times from the 80s and our annual rates bill is up almost ten times and to top it all we have to pay over £1 to get a bag of rubbish collected! grrr).  
 We are now surrounded by coffee shops and mobile phone shops – but can't get a good signal.  
 We never see a policeman or an H &S Inspector or a VAT Inspector – we do get the occasional friendly visit from Trading Standards Authority and the man from the Performing Right Society hasn't come and stood in the shop to make a note of the music that we play since Yaz was at number one!  
 Quality control has been passed by the suppliers to the retailer. You can barely make a carriage free order from a supplier for less than £400. We don't see reps or get much interaction with most of our suppliers (Filofax are an honourable exception). We're supposed to be living in more environmentally conscious times but some of the packaging waste on our major brands is getting more excessive to the point of criminality; look at the new Montblanc refill packaging and weep!  
 More positively, I would say that everyone is generally a bit friendlier when dealing face to face; there's less of a class system in the City than there used to be and there's more respect for some of the less-paid workers in honourable professions like retail ha ha!  
 People appreciate humour more – it's needed more than ever to balance the madness.  
 We've had boom periods and more than our fair share of close-to-bust moments (thankfully not recently). I actually prefer trading in a recession as everyone's expectations are more realistic and there's generally a better and more supportive relationship between supplier and retailer; to balance some of my earlier

Montblanc criticism I would say that their UK management has always been very supportive (not reducing terms when our business was reduced) and we consider ourselves to be in a proper mutually-beneficial partnership with Filofax and very lucky to have Lisa, Simon and Carole from the company as our friends and business colleagues.



[5]

**5. Twenty five years in any industry is a long time, how do you keep yourself motivated?**

Personally, and apart from the Bob Cratchett requirement to make enough money to provide some kind of a Christmas for my wife and three boys, I would say that I have an obsession for trying to find best solutions – the shop atmosphere that will make my staff and the customers comfortable, the products that will get them excited, the correct balance between investment and profit – when there is one. Retail is addictive because it’s a world of continuous and instant feedback – every sale feels like some sort of accreditation, each unsold item like a child of yours that nobody likes. There are weekly results, monthly patterns and there’s the cycle of the retail year...

**January** – Too busy to think about anything than selling everything we can to turn stock into money and back into the ‘right’ stock.

**February** – Trade shows mmm. We have the last shopping rush of the season in Valentine’s Day and then we’re scratching around for new lines and ideas to try and prise money out of fatigued customers.

**March** – Most of the bills have been paid from Xmas (VAT etc) – bank account and energy levels at a verry low ebb. Start watching ‘The Only Way Is Essex’ and thinking about dusting off that old film script.

**April** – Enviously eyeing up the queues at the chocolate shops. New organisers dribble in from Filofax when we really need a big Spring promotion.

**May** – Is the air-conditioning going to survive the summer? Too many Bank Holidays draining away all the sales momentum. New autumn lines from Paul Smith & Vivienne Westwood – eek!

**June** – Most of the new organisers in now from Filofax – all the colour needs good weather to feel right. Stifling heat or persistent rain – retailers hate any extreme of weather; we love non-descript mild and cloudy days.

**July** – Closer to Xmas than not for the first time in the year – hope springs eternal. Start updating the Filofax diaries in the binders.

**August** – Seen most of the product ideas for Xmas – beginning to place some large orders. Extended credit order from Filofax (buy now, pay December). Seeds of hope beginning to sprout.

**September** – Bank Holiday generally wipes out the first week. Online action begins to hot up. Can we match Amazon prices? Normally some stock surprises from Filofax. Everyone back from their holidays. Pace of life increasing.

**October** – Last minute gambles on some fun gifts. Suppliers beginning to offer deals on unsold stock. Nervous laughter in our stock room as the boxes come in.

**November** – The most difficult month of the year; either the calm before the storm or the calm before the calm – whatever it’s quiet, too quiet. Normally we drag out our best online discount code to try and pull some Xmas spending forward and reduce the stock concerns.

**December** – Every day feels like a week, but every week rushes past in a blink. Generally we get a sense early in the month what the final result will be. Please God no snow! Then suddenly everyone is in the shop, everyone is on the phone, blink and there’s another ten or twenty orders. Madness. Crowds. Alcohol fuelled purchases. Goodwill to all men. Peace on earth. Who are these strangers? Ah yes, my family. Sleep Christmas Day. Enjoy Boxing Day and then back to work. Still crowds but slightly less goodwill...

The reality is that despite all the repetition from year to year you never quite end up where you were and lessons learned and technique sharpened can often be irrelevant or actually backfire on you; but the process itself can be wonderfully enjoyable and stimulating. As a small business owner I’ve found myself having to learn and understand a huge amount in a wide variety of areas and the people I’ve met and the experiences I’ve shared are hugely stimulating and rewarding. Every day is different and the memory of working in environments where every day was the same still spurs me on some 25 years later!



[6]

**6. Tell us about 5 unusual facts about City Organiser we might not know already.**

1. We sold (very) up-market sex toys for five years in the 1990s! It turned out that we were more desperate than our customers and so we removed the batteries and settled back into more conventional lines. I don’t miss it but I used to get a vicarious pleasure from going to the trade shows and having earnest conversations about revs per minute etc etc...
2. One year our Filofax rep thought we would sell the unused diaries they had given us to update the binders (strictly forbidden for some unknown reason!) so he surprised us with an unexpected visit and spent the day cutting up the diaries with a dodgy pair of scissors. We didn’t offer him tea.
3. When the Filofax shop first opened in Conduit St we were invited to a special opening event at which the MD of the time opened the ultra-expensive ‘animal-skins’ Filofax cabinet to show us what had been made from poor snakes, crocodiles, ostriches and the like. Our tour went on, the cabinet was left unlocked and all the binders were nicked!
4. In the early years of the shop and before emails we had a visit from a Nigerian Bishop who asked whether he could leave a substantial sum of money ‘behind the counter’ as a line of credit against future purchases. We agreed. We never saw him again and to this day we have no idea whether he was genuine, whether he died or will still come back one day.
5. We have one of the limited edition (200 or 500) Filofaxes made from reindeer skins recovered from the two hundred year old wreck of a Danish trading ship and sold in 1988 in support of the RNLI. It’s in a safety deposit box in a bank. Not because it’s especially valuable but because I can be pretty disorganised!



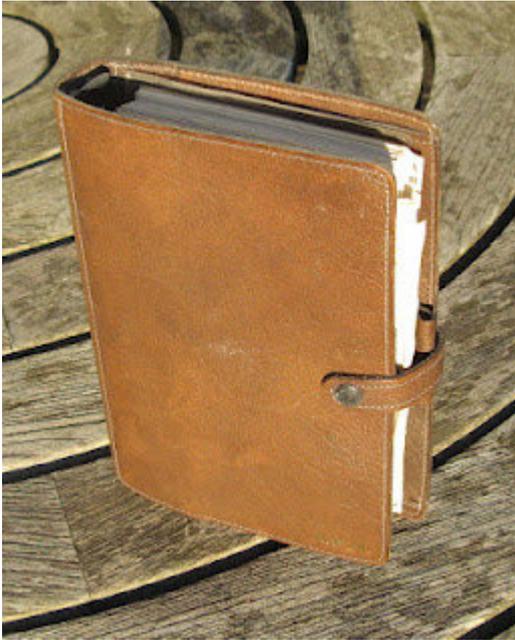
[7]

**7. Where do you see Filofax in say 5-10 years' time...**

I think we're seeing the beginnings of a major split in the Filofax offering – based on the declining sales of the current inserts. There will still be traditional ring mechanism organisers but a larger range of more traditional notebook covers and all the fills may be as basic as different colours of ruled notepaper (diaries, address sheets and everything else as an optional extra); I think they'd like to invade some of the Moleskine territory but I wouldn't be surprised to see them fall out of bed with W H Smiths. They have the same 'brand' challenge as a pen company like Parker, trying to generate mass market sales while still retaining their aspirational identity. It's a very difficult trick to pull off and I wouldn't be surprised to see them split into different brand identities.

I think Filofax will continue with their move towards the fashion industry with smaller runs geared towards the two fashion seasons (Spring & Autumn) and more of the manufacturing will come out of the UK. I think will buy a second and larger pen company, give up on the briefcases and men generally, continue to flirt with the electronic market, have a few more stabs at the yooof market and generally move towards the arty community and away from the office.

I think the current management is more minded towards innovation and there could be some 'out-of-the-blue' products sooner rather than later (nudge, nudge etc). I hope they're will be some grand follies (I still remember with affection the £99 hole puncher) but that we don't stock too many!



[8]

8. *What pens prove the most popular with Filofax users?*

We're still looking – any suggestions welcome! Twenty five years ago it really had to be a Cross but the fit was so tight that the cap of the pen used to come off as you tried to prise it out of the loop. With the elasticated loops (and we're told that all the organisers are going to have these) there's a lot more choice and my personal favourite would be a Lamy twin or tri pen (metal not plastic). We hoped for years that Montblanc would bring out a range that was compatible but when they did (the mini or Mozart) it was too small for most people to hold comfortably. We're always surprised by how many of the Filofax own-brand pens we sell and it's a shame that there aren't more inserts suitable for fountain pen writing. Pen technology may eventually give us a good flat pen that will stand a bit of bending but we're not holding our breath!

## Like 'fax like owner

The City Organiser is to Filofaxes what Boots is to corn plasters. Open for three months, this shop in Bow Lane is the only one in the City to specialize in everything for the yuppies' security blanket, the personal organizer, be it Filofax or one of the other makes. Andrew Morse, the managing partner, reckons that, just as people are said to look like their dogs, so they mirror their 'faxes. Small, neat people tend to go for the small, neat organizers while fatsos nearly always buy large Filofaxes and stuff them fit to burst. There are also "junkies" who come in every day to buy something new with which to feed their pet. The booming market has led to some strange inserts, such as menstrual calendars, slimming guides and a guide to the Financial Services Act. The City Organiser intends producing maps of the Tokyo and Hong Kong financial districts, as well as a detailed guide to the Square Mile itself. Because Filofax is currently the trendy thing in Japan, Japanese clients in Bow Lane refuse to use any other make, while the anti-trendies shun the heavy, bulky, organizers in favour of the smallest version which measures only three inches by two and fits into the back pocket. Their oddest customer has been a priest from St Paul's who wanted an insert for his Filofax which would hold his communion wafers. An insert for credit cards apparently does the job perfectly.

**Joe Joseph**

[9] The Times Friday 10 June 1988 *Thank you Andy a great insight and also very amusing... never a dull moment!*

Before we finished Andy asked me to remind you all of the discount code that runs until the end of April which is **andy15** which will get you 15 % of your order, put the promo code in at the check out when you visit the [10]City Organiser website.

1. <http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/>
2. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-YUjbV00MDi4/T06RQagwzHI/AAAAAAAAKYI/xjRZGppI01A/s1600/cityorg1.jpg>
3. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-K0lh3eQSGeG/T06RS8XE0CI/AAAAAAAAKYI/Zx1pVHmjsWE/s1600/cityorg3.jpg>
4. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-X4r-yGnAAnA/T06RT1vieqI/AAAAAAAAKYg/NuChk8SHf-GI/s1600/cityorg3b.jpg>
5. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-KCngYZpFwOg/T06RVHkAyXI/AAAAAAAAKYo/b-CqCFLlr5o/s1600/cityorg4.jpg>
6. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-U8i61a4eSvE/T06RWP-vrSI/AAAAAAAAKYw/59KpiK0dqJM/s1600/cityorg5.jpg>
7. [http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-Ybx0nsvzbKY/T06RXQzRyvI/AAAAAAAAKY4/RoCHP\\_aA9AA/s1600/cityorg6.jpg](http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-Ybx0nsvzbKY/T06RXQzRyvI/AAAAAAAAKY4/RoCHP_aA9AA/s1600/cityorg6.jpg)
8. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/--C8Bsj6brM/T06RPT5I1rI/AAAAAAAAKYA/Cpo46cmhN1E/s1600/cityorg0.jpg>
9. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-7329h4M5eoQ/T06g11Yk-1I/AAAAAAAAKZI/KyCVMsGeXuU/s1600/cityorg2+2.jpg>
10. <http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/>

Shanananana (2012-03-05 00:19:37)

Fascinating, thanks!!

"With the elasticated loops (and we're told that all the organisers are going to have these) there's a lot more choice..."

I wonder if this means, just elastic, or with that clever elasticated section, like the Kendal has?

Dollface (2012-03-05 00:37:17)

Really interesting! Will try and visit when i next venture up to central ;)

Lime Tree (2012-03-05 02:11:34)

Awesome post! Very original to interview a seller instead of a customer. I really enjoyed reading that post and learning about CO. Thanks!

Nancy (2012-03-05 03:01:26)

Love it!!

katka (2012-03-05 03:09:36)

Brilliant post. Thank you.

Daniel Walters (2012-03-05 04:20:54)

Interesting thoughts about the future of Filofax. I guess the fashion/bright colours/feminine side of the market makes commercial sense to pursue, as does the cover-for-regular-notepads (I assume he's talking about Flex here?). I'm not sure about trying to take Moleskine's market will yield much results directly though - isn't one of Moleskine's USPs their high quality paper, which Filofax inserts aren't really renowned for? Anyone know if the paper in the Flex notepads are Moleskine quality?

I think Filofax may be missing a fairly big trick though in giving up the male market (if that is what they are doing). They're never going to regain the 'executive toy' status that they had in the 1980s, but I get the impression that amongst us geeks generally there are quite a few who like to adopt time management systems (GTD, Covey, GSD, etc) using a pen-and-paper solution, and a loose-leaf binder is much more flexible than a bound pad like Moleskine.

Perhaps they should look at licensing deals with David Allen Co or Franklin Covey or the like?

Andy Morse (2012-03-05 04:25:17)

Hi Shanananana (and now my brain is trying to work out the song reference and my reply at the same time). My understanding is that in the short term it's going to be that 'clever elasticated section' solution but, as that's a relatively complicated manufacturing process, the long term may revert to one piece of elastic material. Best wishes, Andy.

Alison Reeves (2012-03-05 04:28:06)

I really enjoyed reading this and Andy sounds like great fun to chat to. I've bought several things from them as their customer service is superb. Also some interesting insights about where things are going with FF and the history.

I hope they don't give up on their better inserts (particularly their A5 time management ones) as I love them. I was at a training conference/networking event on Friday and several people talked about time management and how to get a grip in it. I told them about my current system and they were very keen and interested. Now, I know that because FF have sold out of these inserts, they can no longer buy them - so they have missed a trick there! I just wonder if FF aren't doing enough to market some of the benefits of FF because I'm meeting a lot of people who are mightily interested (smaller business owners) when I talk about them.

Also interesting points about the pens. I am currently running a black A5 amazona (which I love). I can get my black Mont Blanc Meisterstuck 146 ball point in one of the loops but not the other which is annoying. I can also get my Waterman fountain pen in one loop. I would welcome elasticated loops - even if they were totally elasticated!

It would be fun if FF decided to hold some sort of focus group meeting where we could contribute our thoughts

because I feel we have a lot of great ideas they could use.

Anyway - brilliant post Andy and Steve - I'm sure with City Organiser's great customer service it will be here for a long time to come!

Alison Reeves (2012-03-05 04:33:50)

PS - I also have the Mont Blanc Mozart range that Andy is talking about. I love using mine and they are brilliant in the pocket size. However the loops on all the larger binders (at least the ones I have) are too large and I am frightened they will fall out. I have other pens (the Lamy Safari and All Stars are too big for the loops) and my precious ones are only carried in their own leather pen cases - I wouldn't dream of putting them anywhere near a binder loop! I mostly use my A5 binder at home as that is where I work so this is not a great problem to me. If I want to take my binder out I take a lesser value pen to use.

Alison Reeves (2012-03-05 04:38:00)

Daniel - I think they would need to go further than Moleskin on the paper stakes. Most moleskins won't take a fountain pen which is a pain and there are a lot of other really lovely note pad options - see here:<http://tiny.cc/vfm2i>

David Popely (2012-03-05 05:21:43)

Great post - thank you Andy. I was a regular at Bow Lane and also Canary Wharf (now gone) when I lived in London (until 2004), and CO's customer service is brilliant - highly recommended.

Butanben (2012-03-05 06:10:40)

A very detailed post, which I thoroughly enjoyed reading..... but..... the Finsburys.... boring....???? I beg to differ.I love all 3 of mine. Raspberry, aqua and black. They are in a price range which is affordable,not all of us earn huge bucks,the A5 design works with it's big rings and a large zipper pocket and even the black one, which I use a lot is practical.... looks professional and takes a lot of wear and tear with daily use. I don't have to be precious about its care. I would like a purple A5 Malden when it comes out, but don't think I'll be buying it at City Organiser if I am one of those BORING Finsbury type customers.

Babs (2012-03-05 06:16:10)

Alison - as an aside, I spotted some Filofax A5 TM inserts in Staples the other week, so it's definitely still worth looking for them

Babs (2012-03-05 06:17:22)

I thoroughly enjoyed reading this post, and I have to say I have ordered from CO many times over the years and the service has always been impeccable.

I do want to know, though ... do you still have the Nigerian Bishop's money and what are you going to do with it if he never comes back?!

Laurie (2012-03-05 06:32:15)

Thanks for this fascinating and entertaining insight behind the scenes of your business! I especially liked the year timeline, very interesting what goes on and when.

Scoot (2012-03-05 06:52:25)

Lets hope the Filofax strategy is more consistent, in that by attempting to attract discerning customers from the quality end of the market they would focus on both quality leather and quality paper.

Filofax don't have decent briefcases and I find it hard to source good briefcases at reasonable prices, as for mens Filofaxes just where are the dark blue, British racing green and dark claret organisers in A5 and A4 that look professional and would match the boardroom (ie no zips!)? Has Filofax not already given up on men, and with the time inserts....left many professional people in the lurch.

After seeing a Jeff Banks organiser on ebay and seeing that such things are sold, together with many other brands, at Debenhams I will be paying them a visit soon and checking their quality. Perhaps they will at least use thick leather without plasticky coatings.

Sandra (2012-03-05 08:48:03)

Wow! What a history you've had with your shop.

Regarding 6.1, in the States shops that sell "special" toys have a private room that is curtained off for adults only. Please tell me you had those things in a proper case with fancy lighting! Bwah ha ha!

Picturing the Temperley line next to, ahem, well, you know...\*

gianautes (2012-03-05 08:51:25)

Hi there,

as a regular lurker on this great blog/site I just wanted to recommend Parker Jotter ballpoint or Caran d'Ache Ecridor fp/bp which work great in the loops of my pocket Cavendish and Malden.

Oh, and as an introduction I use: pocket Malden as brain central command, slimline Cuban as work planner and mini Malden as master plastic card holder. And will introduce the Singaporean made GrandLuxe A5 binder (FF compatible) for private projects. Have a vintage personal Winchester on the way which will become my Commonplace Book.

All the best to you all /M

janet (2012-03-05 08:52:41)

I loved the Mulberry story! Thank you for sharing!

Jotje (2012-03-05 08:58:32)

Andy, thanks so much for this interview/post. I had to laugh out loud several times...!

So, what Filofax are YOU using yourself? The ochre one in the picture? Also, loved that newspaper clip: if their theory is right, I'm a large, fat, yet unstuffed woman. Kinda hard to believe if you know I'm only 1.61 m ... (and using an A5 Adelphi). LOL!

Pity, I won't be at the next meetup, cos I would've loved to meet you IRL. I hope you'll be there again in one of the future meetups aswell ...!

Shanananana (2012-03-05 10:46:14)

Lol reference is to Guns N'Roses "Welcome to the Jungle"...

Thanks for the reply!

Shanananana (2012-03-05 10:50:46)

I'm female and dress quite girly, but also hate the flowers, butterflies, pixies, whatever theme on the newer Faxes - I don't think they make a business-like statement or a good impression, no matter who you are. I'd love more navy & racing green binders, far more professional looking IMO.

Gerard (2012-03-05 12:04:59)

Thanks for a great post, Andy! That's a great looking (Winchester?) Filofax you use, and the gold embossing looks great. It's also really interesting to see the old catalogues. Thanks again.

DEM (2012-03-05 13:35:20)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Neil (2012-03-05 15:25:26)

Daniel, I agree that Filofax may be missing a trick with regard to a possible abandonment of the male customer, in favour of the undoubtably profitable "fashion accessory" lines. Personally, after many years of filofax use, I feel embarrassed to be seen carrying what is generally being perceived as a female item, and so my collection of binders stays at home, and I have become very much a Moleskine user about town, but with a difference. My pocket Moleskine has the spine replaced with the pocket sized Filofax mechanism, and is filled with a combination of the ubiquitous 72gsm Moleskine paper if you don't use a fountain pen), fountain pen friendly "Optik" paper (if you do), and a couple of clear plastic Filofax wallets to hold a note pad and loose items.

Just google "filofax moleskine hack" and let me know what you think.

Neil (2012-03-05 15:39:43)

Debenhams are knocking out the Jeff Banks leather organiser sets for £7.50 at the moment, Scoot. Maybe they're dropping the line.

Neil (2012-03-05 16:21:06)

Great post Andy, and my congratulations on your survival over many years.

But why don't you have a word with those nice Filofax people and suggest the following:

1. Decent leather - none of this stuff that's really thin and bonded to a man made substrate. It's a bit like laminate flooring - you think it looks impressive but deep down you would have preferred the real thing.
2. Decent paper that is at least 90gsm, so that all your posh customers can use their posh fountain pens. Skimping on the paper quality to marginally increase profits, and it probably is very marginal because I can buy a 200 page fountain friendly A5 pad in Costco right now for just £1.10, is like a burger van vendor using cheap coffee to save an extra penny on a 70p cup and not realising that he's alienating half his potential customer base. It's just plain daft when you look at the profile of the average Filofax customer and consider how many of us are printing and punching their own templates. If you had fountain friendly personal sized paper, I'd buy it. But you don't so I make my own arrangements.
3. Why oh why don't Filofax offer "print on demand" for not just their current templates, but all previous ones and all new designs added by customers too (to encourage customer participation, if you like). Your posher customers will lap it up, popping in for a coffee and their regular supplies of their favourite (possibly personalised) inserts while they fall in love with yet another binder. You could be quids in - get them to consider these 3 points, Andy. That is all.

Filofreak (2012-03-05 17:50:30)

What a delightful post! Thank you so much!

Susanne Namdar (2012-03-06 00:45:40)

Thank you for a wonderful post. It was fun and informative.

Andy Morse (2012-03-06 05:18:32)

Hi Daniel, Alison & Neil

I agree with you and it is possible that Filofax are throwing up a smokescreen in seeming to be so ambivalent about their male market. Sometimes when manufacturers do this it's to disguise the upcoming launch of the product that they are hoping will break open a lost market.

We know there was a new 'concept' originally planned for a 2012 launch which has been delayed by unexpected focus group results. As I understand it the focus group weren't negative about the product but suggested strongly that the 'contents' were mis-targeted. Since I gave Steve my Philofaxy thoughts my feeling is that this new concept is both a pocket product and ring mechanism based...

Andy Morse (2012-03-06 05:25:05)

Hi Butanben

Before we never talk again I should make clear that we don't think the Finsbury itself is boring - a retailer would never say that about anything that is so popular (personally I have used a couple!). I meant 'boring' in the sense that it is every retailers top seller (and Filofax's too) so the fact that it is our top seller too is not very interesting! But don't get me started on the Bond, Aston or the Classic...

Andy Morse (2012-03-06 05:31:55)

Hi Babs

We took an executive decision about ten years ago and gave half to UNICEF and the other half towards a Xmas party. We thought this would inevitably trigger his immediate return to the shop but he's never returned. We did try to Google him at the time but nothing came up and although I can just about picture him my visual interpretation has mutated into a version of Desmond Tutu (sadly not well). If Desmond came into the shop then we would probably feel impelled to fall to our knees, beg forgiveness and open our wallets.

Andy Morse (2012-03-06 05:38:44)

Hi Sandra, our 6.1 products (as I shall always think of them from now on) were very tastefully sold from a cabinet; we couldn't have them on open display as the shock of a customer picking up one and inadvertently switching it on might have caused heart murmurs and expensive legal action.

Our display was so tasteful that it led a few customers to ask what they were, normally at the busiest time of the day and in a very loud voice. We didn't offer demonstrations and gently turned down the customer who bought one and then tried to return it as it had turned out not to be suitable for their 'needs'...

Andy Morse (2012-03-06 05:48:31)

Hi Jotje

I still use the Filofax in the picture but only at home for thoughts, jottings and incedentals. It was something I picked up on a visit to Filofax in 1988. I chose it because it was such an odd colour; it might have even been a substandard manufacturing return because I've never seen the colour again. It has the internal pockets of the classic Winchester except that it doesn't have the internal window pocket.

As for the Times article, I was far too well brought up to ever mention anyone's size in those terms so I think that my comment that Filofaxes tended to resemble their owners may have been expanded into something more eye-catching by Joe Joseph - the sort of creative journalism that probably has given him a long career in Murdochland...

Best wishes, Andy

Andy Morse (2012-03-06 05:59:18)

Hi Neil

I have a product meeting with Filofax towards the end of this month as a result of some suggestions that we made at the 2012 preview and that I had collated from customers and previous posts on these pages. Paper and leather quality is high on the agenda and I particularly agree with you on Point 3. I think it should be a free online resource with (as you say) historical designs and opportunitites for everyone to post their own suggestions. Exactly this kind of interaction and innovation would stimulate the whole insert side of the business and relieve Filofax of what they obviously perceive as a burden of having too many insert SKUs.

I'll let Philofaxy know how I get on at the meeting. If they don't satisfactorily cover Point 3 then maybe Philofaxy would consider extending their own range with a DIY Design Day...

kanalt (2012-03-06 06:36:08)

This is great! Seeing as I'm in the US, I won't be getting to City Organizer any time soon, but rest assured that WHEN I get to London, it will be one of my stops. I wish there were more Filofax retailers here and that they were more interested in meeting with and discussing the products with their customers. While there are retailers, they are few and far between and the sellers aren't necessarily users and so don't know the products all that well (in my experience). Sadly, Filofax US doesn't give much feedback on anything, in addition to new products not being available here in the US until well after (meaning several months in many cases) their launch in the UK.

Butanben (2012-03-06 08:39:15)

Ahhhhh, thanks for clearing that one up Andy!!! I am sighing with relief here. It is clearly a predictable product to sell, which is actually an endorsement of it. Glad you have used a few Finsburys yourself too. I am not surprised that they sell well, as they are just so hard wearing and functional.I am terribly fond of mine. I bet that the purple A5 Malden will be top of the best sellers when it comes out too. .... at one of the next Philofaxy London Meet ups..... a purple Malden chez City Organiser is now going to the TOP of my shopping list after all.... Now have to get that job of my dreams and save on up. I really do look forward to meeting you in person and to seeing inside the shop. What a lovely address it has, Bow Lane. I'll need to look up the history behind the street name. Feel as if I should know that fact already..... as in the Bow bells maybe.So I'll go Google.Sending warmest wishes to all at City Organiser.

Neil (2012-03-06 11:20:49)

Thanks for your reply, Andy. I'm really pleased to learn that leather quality is being discussed. Leather (and I mean real, amazing, tactile, gorgeous, supple, "last-a-lifetime" leather) is big business for american craftsmen

supplying covers for Moleskine users, so I'm sure that there would be a demand from your loyal customer base, for upmarket binders. After all, if Alice Temperley can hit a 400 quid price point then I'm sure there would be room for a 200 quid binder made of the very best hide, perhaps with customisation options to add value (the owner's initials tooled into the leather, maybe?) I'd definitely buy at that price point if the quality was top notch. Food for thought, perhaps?

With regards to point 3, just imagine the following scenario. Your customer either selects on-line, or choose in-house (over coffee), their preferred (that means fountain pen friendly) blank paper stock, which is then printed in your shop using any of the Filofax templates which you would hold on disc, maybe even printing templates that are created by the likes of Ray and Steve, or even the customer themselves, and then do a custom fill of their new binder, which itself may be customised as previously outlined. And, of course, their 12 month diary inserts could start on any day of the year they like with print on demand facilities, so helping to even out the peaks and troughs of your yearly business cycle.

Even car manufacturers now understand the value of adding an element of customisation to what is an otherwise production line product, and I just don't understand why Filofax, with the particular customer base they have, haven't realised this.

If they don't wish to explore these possibilities, Andy, maybe you could do so yourself, with the undoubted position and ability you appear to have.

Doesn't this sound like the sort of service that will have customers literally flocking to your store?

It wouldn't be the first time that one person gave the Filofax brand some much needed impetus now would it?

If you can get those nice people at Folofax to open their eyes, and this turns your operation into an earner, you can buy me a pint.

Regards, Neil.

Neil (2012-03-06 11:46:12)

Andy, just an extra thought.

When you have your meeting with Filofax, you can point out that many paper and notebook suppliers have actually changed their paper in response to customer feedback, and that the ARC planners that are now being sold in the UK as a direct alternative to the Filofax system have also changed their inserts from 80gsm to 100gsm. And of course, once companies make the change to fountain friendly paper, they obviously aren't slow to use this as a selling point. Maybe Filofax could do the same thing, ie listen to their customers.

Lord Dodo (2012-03-11 11:01:59)

I've just read though this fascinating and fun post - and all the comments - and Andy we must talk again soon :)! Dodo Pad has been producing Filofax compatible diary inserts for the past few years - initially A5, then Personal and, for 2012/13 mid year & 2013, an A4/US Letter compatible version (UNIVERSAL) will make its debut. Happily sales are going from strength to strength. One of the comments we consistently hear back (apart from our customers' enjoyment of the Dodo Pad grid design and humour!) is how much the quality of our paper is appreciated.

At 100gsm it is identical to that of our original desk diary that will soon celebrate its 50th anniversary (so we must be doing something right). We test the paper thoroughly every year with a variety of ink, fountain, ball point, roller ball and felt pens and even alcohol based marker pens to ensure no or minimal show through.

Yes, it does mean a bulkier diary insert but you can always put just half the year's pages in (which is what I do with my A5 Domino) to avoid that problem.

## **Free For All Tuesday No 57 (2012-03-06 00:00) - Steve Morton**

Fifty Seven varieties of Free For All Tuesday and no two the same.... You get to ask the questions... anything as long as it's Filofax related of course... and we will comment/answer your questions.

To get you started, we had a reader send us a question:

I am thinking about using an A4 for work. I currently use bound notebooks, but with up

to 10 projects on the go at any one time, it isn't really working well. I do like bound books though as it does keep everything on one place. I was wondering if anyone who uses an A4 Filofax for this sort of work and how they got on with it? How do they store their notes for long term reference etc?

But if you have any other questions.... fire away...

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Lime Tree (2012-03-06 00:04:06)

Why are all Filofax websites down? Are they updating their online inventory? Mmmmmmm... If so, can't wait! :)

haikukolorum.com (2012-03-06 01:42:21)

I'm Identity.

Bold. Utilitarian.

Democratic. Cheap.

I'm Identity.

Easier on the pocket  
than perhaps the eye.

Shanananana (2012-03-06 02:06:03)

Does anyone else use, not just the perfectly sized & punched card when you buy refills and dividers etc, but also the cellophane wrapping?

I always keep the wrap safe and flat, and use it for things like reference pages, which would get fingermarked eventually, and I also have it over my "in case of emergency" page in the 'Fax I carry about with me, a friend is a paramedic and said having that info with you is really helpful if there's an accident or you're taken ill... the cellophane wrap seemed like the perfect protection, since printer inks tends to run and blur.

Does anyone else use "everything but the squeal" when buying inserts?

Nikki france (2012-03-06 02:23:04)

Got a birthday coming up, and considering a personal to carry around with me. Still struggling with the weight of the A5 I have.

I really fancy a zip, so have been eyeing up the Cuban or Holborn.

Like the sound of the soft leather on the Holborn, but LOVE the thought of 30mm rings on the Cuban.

How do the Cubans' wear? Do they soften up and get a lived in look, or are they like the classic, and stay like shiny painted leather?

Sorry, I am a soft leather freak!!! Having lived for so long with my Waverley pocket (feels like silk to touch and handle) I NEED soft lol I do like the leather of the Hampstead I am using. It has a nice aged patina, and is flexible and tactile also. Any thoughts and help much appreciated :) Hope you all have a super day :)

Louloudorset (2012-03-06 03:06:17)

Re the A4 question - I use an A5 for work and similarly have multiple projects on the go - I find the Filofax system works as I can add and move sections freely without the need for multiple project books. I have a secondary Filofax as a storage binder on my desk where all the archive notes/projects go for reference.

My key sections are:

1. DIary
2. Dashboard - instant must do's/thoughts/random things that I jot down before filing/adding in where they should be
3. Overall To Do's
4. Meeting Notes
5. Project 1
6. Project 2 etc etc

I find having an area for meeting notes separate is easier then I can file the notes under the correct section once the meeting has ended and I sum up the points/actions.

Having a general to do section allows me to log all requests for the general side (ie non project related) and tasks from my boss etc

With an A4 system you could archive in a ringbinder on your desk and use the A4 Filofax for "live" projects only  
Hope my ramblings help :)

Steve Morton (2012-03-06 03:27:25)

Hi Nikki

I assume you are thinking of Personal. The Holborn Zip definitely lays flatter than the Cuban Zip. My Cuban Zip eventually will now lay flat, but zip it back up again and say a day later you have to retrain it again.

But the Personal Cuban Zip does have 30mm rings where as the Holborn only has 23 mm rings.

I regularly swap between my Malden Personal (23mm) and the Cuban Zip (30mm) and I've fine tuned the contents now to do the swap in less than 5 mins. When swapping to the Malden, some inserts are left in the Cuban (UK maps for instance)

But I do like the Holborn it looks comparable to the Malden in softness.

Wear wise the Cuban is looking good, but I've only had it a few months.

Steve Morton (2012-03-06 03:43:15)

Back now... no sign of the purple Malden yet... although someone is bound to correct me!

Daniel Walters (2012-03-06 04:13:31)

I have nervously ordered a KW Trio 9170 hole punch from DinoDirect.com after reading this post and the comments following:

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/01/reader-question-which-punch.ht ml>

I know some have ordered from there and got the punch eventually (I'm expecting a 2-3 week wait) - but I didn't get a confirmation e-mail, which makes me even more nervous. Is that typical for them?

greyssetter (2012-03-06 04:33:16)

Re A4

I just bought mine, primarily for travel and meetings where there is only one or two projects to be discussed.

I stripped out most of the standard inserts, and use my own minimalist year planner.

It is good for airticket and hotel reservation printouts, itineraries, expence receipts and draft expence report sheets.

I will have a list of essential tel nos in case my mobile goes awol.

The Finsbury A4 has a an internal slip holder on the right, which holds and Ipad.

The A4 is good for holding standard sized docs, and it is easy to write on, compared to smaller ff, whose rings get in the way.

I am however searching for an Extra slim pocket or similare, where I can keep my passport, Uk currency and credit cards ( cannot understand why ff does not design around a standard UK banknote, passport and say 6 credit cards?).

Alison Reeves (2012-03-06 04:39:50)

I really like your ideas on this Louloudorset, I hadn't thought of using my FF for project info - I tend to create a traditional file and carry that with me when required. As I tend to work mainly from home and not an office this works well for me.

I am still very torn between using one overall task list, and several which are category based. I like the idea of them being category or project based, but am frightened that a really important task will get overlooked because it is buried in the project 3 section and I haven't noticed it recently!

The person who asked the question mentioned using an A4. I have an A4 Classic which is a lovely binder, but I don't use it as much as I would like. It can be a bit bulky/heavy to carry around, and takes up a lot of desk space when open, but if I worked entirely in a corporate environment I can see it would be a good option. I will be interested to hear any other opinions on this.

lifeconsidered (2012-03-06 04:45:16)

I decided I needed an A5 Filo for my home organizer. It will loosely based on the Fly Lady Control Journal. I got my husband to buy this for me with the promise of a more efficiently run home. I decided on a Sketch. Haven't heard much about that one. Does anyone own one or have experience with one? I know, I know...I should have conferred with the Philofax Family first. I hope I haven't made a big mistake!

Scoot (2012-03-06 04:49:39)

Re A4 Fax: How you use it will depend on what you want or need to do with it.

I would suggest getting a cheap A4 ring binder (preferably the "display" type with a clear outside cover so that you can insert things), not lever arch, and try to collate all your working papers and information. Perhaps stick, with double-sided sticky tape, post it notes and tabs to the inside cover. A set of blank dividers are normally 70p? Forget various systems for now, just work out a system that would help you. You may just need a diary (an A4 diary can be bought at my local cheap shop for £1.50 and can be guillotined and hole punched), some reference material, one sheet of telephone numbers and addresses, also some blank note paper. Use post in notes as tabs and stick them on anything you like.

See how your system operates and continuously modify and experiment to suit yourself, looking at other systems online to see if there are any practical ideas that would help you. Treat the Filofax "system" as just a general suggestion, which it is.

If you are still using the system in a month, and it is helping you, then I'd dive in and upgrade the binder to an organiser.

I operated an A4 organiser but gave it up due to lack of space in my briefcase, also I was concerned about wasting paper; many A4 sheets with one or two sentences going into separate client files. I still have the A4 organiser but it is used as an Office work file.

Alison Reeves (2012-03-06 06:29:05)

Does anyone have a timesheet or template to record time spent on different customer projects? I have to invoice customers individually and often have to provide timesheets, so it would be useful to have something where I could record time spent on each project each day, then I could update the timesheets. I will devise something, but thought I'd ask here first in case I can save some time!

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-03-06 06:36:23)

Ha ha! I just did a post on this!

<http://paperpensink.blogspot.com/2012/03/envelope-insert-hacks-for-filofax.html>

I used the cellophane that the inserts came in as a thin, cheap pocket for a picture in the front of my filofax. I like the idea of the important info going in one too.

Sandra (2012-03-06 06:55:21)

Oooooh....Filofax haiku! I'll play after more coffee.

Daniel Walters (2012-03-06 07:08:53)

If you're using an A5 Filofax, the DIY Planner 'core' package has some relevant forms:

<http://www.diyplanner.com/templates/official/classic>

Alison Reeves (2012-03-06 07:54:34)

Thanks Daniel - I'll go and check it out.

Minnie (2012-03-06 09:54:12)

I wrote a long reply that disappeared a few times so I had to switch from chrome to firefox, weird.. but anyways :p The personal sketch was my first filofax a bit over a year ago and I put it back into use recently as a study filofax. I love it because I am not worried about its leather or interior or any part of it showing any signs of wear or damage like my leather filofaxes, it looks as new as when I first bought it (no exaggeration). hope you enjoy using it! :)

Anita (2012-03-06 11:19:09)

Re A4:

I've been using an A4 Strata for a while for different projects, as my GTD tickler file, for reading material & for paperwork too big for my personal Malden. Notes for long term reference are eventually moved to lever arch files, as my filo is more a working file. It's still a work-in-progress, but the plan is that actionable items will only be in my Malden & Strata, so I don't have to search for them.

David Popely (2012-03-06 12:59:45)

Hi Alison, do you want to record time manually or via a keyboard onto an excel spreadsheet? If the latter I probably have something which will do the job.

Nikki france (2012-03-06 15:25:24)

yes personal size!

oh, the decision is too hard!!

Anthony (2012-03-06 16:12:46)

I think this question has been answered before, my apologies in advance. It's about storage, what's the best way to store previous pages, calendars etc? I know Filofax have storage binders at £9.50 is there an alternative or anything better?

terriknits (2012-03-06 17:57:07)

I just got an A5 Kendal and the oiled leather on it is unbelievable. It doesn't have that coating on it like the Malden or the Cuban have. It is going to be well-worn and lived in. The (A5) Holborn Zip I have seems to have a different feel to the leather than the Malden. It doesn't seem to have any protective coating on it.

Butanben (2012-03-06 19:53:31)

Being a teacher, have used my A4 Filofax, bought at an utter knockdown price of £9, to store my weekly lesson plans and policies. It is a day to day file to take home. All the massive amounts of paperwork and filing go in large traditional A4 ring binders, which stay at work. My A4 is a decant into folder to hold just a few relevant sheets, to avoid lugging big thick folders back and forth all the while.

Butanben (2012-03-06 20:03:14)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Butanben (2012-03-06 20:18:56)

I have really enjoyed downloading Ray and Steve's diaries and have printed off my own. Thanks guys for all of these and all your hard work for us all. I am hugely delighted with the A5 amended TM diary, Philofaxy style and the month on two pages. Think I have found THE diary for me. My printer is pretty aged right now and so will need updated at birthday time. It is pre laser. Is a laser printer better? Are all printers for PCs laser now? Not a clue. Also, does anyone use anything to set the ink. I haven't but I am curious about this, as I do a lot of print your own stuff. Any thoughts much appreciated.xx

Lime Tree (2012-03-06 23:50:46)

and I was here certain to see some juicy stuff...

Nikki france (2012-03-07 01:52:40)

oh this is interesting, you are describing the leather well! My filo in use now is the oiled leather, and you are so right, it is fabulous and "natural" for want of a better word. You know it will just improve with age, and develop a patina. I am not a fan of this coated type feeling on the leather!

I had a classic a long long time ago, and the finish just started peeling off in the end, YUK

I just know you and your Kendal will have a very long and happy life together :)

Frederique (2012-03-10 09:08:09)

I really like this idea - usually, people tend to get a Filofax in the format they desire to test said format out. I guess we are even more willing to switch to another format if we have to proper binder to switch into, but trying out a new format in an alternate no-brand-and-dirt-cheap binder is clever.

And that's how I found out I wanted a new filofax more than I wanted more organization :) And my new 5€ 2-ring A5 binder remains unused on my home desk, even though it's pretty, has translucent colored dividers and Leyes sheet like the ones I had in school ages ago! I have plans to use it for the home, though, as a Flylady Control Journal, or something like it, or something else entirely, I have no idea what, right now.

What I do know is that trying an low-cost-alternative to Filofax was the smartest idea I had this month and I saved quite a few bucks along the way, too !

Frederique (2012-03-10 09:13:12)

- "Leyes" + "Seyès" sheets (duh)

## Reader Under The Spotlight - Lucy (2012-03-07 00:00) - Steve Morton

*A big thank you to Lucy for volunteering to stand under the Philofaxy spotlight today.*



[1]

Hi I'm Lucy, I live in Dorset by the seaside with my lovely fiance (we are planning our wedding for next year) I work in marketing and love Filofaxes, handbags and shopping. You can read my witterings on Filofaxes and the like at [2]<http://louloudorsetsmusings.blogspot.com/>

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

My first Filofax that I can properly remember was a pocket size in pink. I think it may have been a classic although I'm not sure but it was definitely leather. She was a birthday gift from my mother and was essential for making sure I always had phone numbers and addresses as well as my diary on me at all times - this was long before the days of smartphones (in fact it was barely a mobile phone that I had then!!) Sadly she was stolen when I was mugged while living in Croydon a million years ago or so. For a few years I was too scared to carry around too much information on me after loosing everything in one hit but happily when I moved back to Somerset and started a new job in the mid 2000's I found Filofax again and have been obsessed ever since!

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

I've used other types of Letts diaries, Moleskine diaries, online calendars and smartphones but nothing compares to the flexibility and range of designs that you can get with Filofax to personalise your diary.

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

It has to be my Personal sized Amethyst Deco. I absolutely adored this Deco then the Amethyst didn't stay around for long and the price point for it was scarily high. However my lovely man tracked one down for my birthday last year and I haven't been tempted to stray once since I started using her 7 months ago - a first for me!

*4. How many Filofax organisers do you own?*

Hmmm here's hoping my better half doesn't read this but I have 6 A5, 9 Personal, 4 Pocket. A Domino

conference folder in lilac and an A5 Magenta Flex (crumbs quite a few then....)

5. *What do you use your Filofax for?*

My Deco is my bible - it has everything in it - all the things I'm supposed to be doing, those must not forgets, birthdays, phone numbers, addresses, emergency contact numbers....I would be totally lost without it. My A5 Osterley is my work Filofax - luckily I'm able to keep my work and home life separate (and of course it gives me an excuse to indulge in different binders)

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

How you can personalise them to suit your needs from the style of diary to all the different notepaper etc and of course there are the stickers....

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

It would be super soft leather, probably similar to the Deco but squishy like the Malden. It would of course have to have the largest ring size possible - but the main thing is there would be a print your own diary format to suit you. I love the templates Philofaxy have done (as the official range is woefully lacking in options) but I don't have access to a printer. So if you could choose a template and have Filofax (or someone else??) print them, cut them and send them out that would be just perfect....

8. *How do you carry your Filofax?*

Nearly always in my handbag or clutched in my mitts depending on what I'm up to.

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

I'm most intrigued by the purple Malden that is coming up - I know that's not current as such but the Malden is so tactile and lovely and if the purple is a lovely as it looks then I might be persuaded by the A5....I also really like the new Temperley designs and how they seem from the video at least quite Filofax/Flex like but at that price no way am I going to be purchasing one unfortunately.

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

The most I've spent is on an A5 Osterley in Grey which is also my most recent purchase (oops) and is my current work binder. However it was an absolutely bargain thanks to the [3]City Organiser and their fab prices and additional valentine's discounts

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

I love the community feel of Philofaxy. I wish I had more time to join in more as I know when I log into the site I lose hours reading all the comments, posts and links. Everyone is so helpful and friendly and we all want the same thing from our planners - to find the format/size/layout that works and I adore reading about the different set ups and getting ideas for changes to mine. The GTD posts have been fantastic from a work perspective as I try to juggle work/studying/home life in particular. My absolute favourite moment is the Saturday morning round up when I can lie in bed before anyone is awake and read through all the posts.

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

I really can't think of anything I don't like....other than I'd like more time to spend on it :)

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

My last music purchase was the album Trouble by Ray LaMontagne

*Thank you for agreeing to go under the spotlight... and if any of our readers would also like to be featured please contact [steve\[at\]philofaxy\[dot\]com](mailto:steve[at]philofaxy[dot]com)*

1. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-f4u1YaCp3rY/TODmHB1uZbI/AAAAAAAAAKTc/wccnJK6gfgqQ/s1600/Moi.jpg>

2. <http://louloudorsetsmusings.blogspot.com/>

3. <http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/>

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caribbean princess (2012-03-07 07:21:30)

Yay for Lucy!! I have seen some of her stunning filofaxes in real life too!! Do you have a wedding filofax?

Louloudorset (2012-03-07 08:35:29)

Ah thanks CP and I do indeed have a wedding filofax (an A5 Malden in Vintage Pink) I truly am obsessed Lx

Alison Reeves (2012-03-07 11:12:07)

Nice to 'meet' you Lucy. You have a great range of FFs!

Saffy (2012-03-07 12:48:23)

Hi Lucy, popped over to your blog. Lucky you winning an Enigma. Have you used it yet? Nice to read about you. Would love to see a new 'family photo', perhaps when your fiancé is out ;)

LJ (2012-03-07 12:56:43)

Yay Lucy!!! You are a true enabler - we love you xxx :-D

Just-Jenny (2012-03-07 13:58:57)

Hi Lucy its great to see you as the 'reader under the spotlight'. I love your blog... very entertaining!

MsPencil (2012-03-07 17:38:29)

Very Nice Post Lucy, Nice to me another person hooked on Filofax. Be Well:D

Louloudorset (2012-03-08 08:54:11)

Aah thanks everyone I'm still very excited to be under the spotlight so thank you for all the kind comments Lx

Sandra (2012-03-08 11:11:09)

Lovely post! Nice to "meet" you officially here. ;)

Gerard (2012-03-08 15:01:50)

Hi Lucy, I'm late to the party, but enjoyed reading all about you. Thanks for your great post!

## Philofaxy News Up Date (2012-03-07 10:51) - Steve Morton

Hi Everyone.

Just a couple of updates to tell you about.

The details of the [1]**London Meet Up** will be posted on here on **Thursday 15th March**, it contains all the details of the meet up and more importantly how to apply for a place on the meet up. You cannot apply until the **16th March** so don't panic. Please read the full post before applying for a place.

My second bit of news is about the comments. The transition over to threaded comments seems to have worked well. Although there have been a few reports of problems trying to leave comments, either the log in side of it. Or that people hate the two word verification.

I've not managed to pin down what the log in problem is it could be a general Google issue, or it could be an issue with a bit of software on your own PC. Once you are logged in you enter a secure (HTTPS) session this could be the problem, but I'm not sure.

The two word verification is a bit of a bind I realise, but click on the circular recycle arrow until you get two words you can make out easily!! I have to do this quite often now. Sadly Google haven't given us the option of going back to the old single word option. It's either two word or none... and I would hate to think how much SPAM we would get without the verification on the site.

The next [2]US Mid-West meet up is gathering a lot of interest, please see the earlier post if you are in that region or you are able to travel to that region for a meet up.

Steve

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/02/philofaxy-london-meet-up-may-2012.html>

2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/02/philofaxy-meet-up-us-mid-west-2012.html>

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Alison Reeves (2012-03-07 11:16:18)

Steve, I can't help thinking my problems with leaving a comment is twofold - 1. it seems to dislike Chrome sometimes (but not consistently) and 2. If my internet signal is lower than usual it just keep kicking me out and saying website not available.

I have mixed feeling on the nested comments - on the one hand I love that we can effectively leave comments for specific comments - much easier when responding to someone's request or statement. On the other hand it's

harder when you come back later in the day to see which ones you have read and which you haven't - although with my memory I usually end up reading them all again and enjoying them as much the second time around!!!

Steve Morton (2012-03-07 11:23:16)

Other Chrome users have made similar comments about them having problems, which is odd you would think Chrome would work! Have you tried another browser (Firefox, Safari, or even... IE)?

On your second point, if you are receiving the comments by email, as I do... then because people don't address a specific person/comment because they don't need to, then of course the emails don't make a lot of sense on their own. So I have to come and look on the site to make sense of the comments! I still try to read all of the comments though.. and respond where I can.

nina Elfenfisch (2012-03-07 18:04:53)

I've tried chrome and Mozilla now and couldn't leave any comments since about a week. So it's quite obvious no chrome problem.

Safari on the iPhone is working. Not very well though, and i always have to go out of the comment window and back, but at least it works.

I hope the Bug is fixed soon

## **How do you use: Diet and Fitness (2012-03-08 00:00) - Steve Morton**

Following on from our series on different format diary inserts that we have been covering the last few weeks. I would like to venture in to another area of how you use for your Filofax for specific tasks.

So this week, how have you set up your Filofax to keeping track of your diet and fitness including any goals you might set?

Are there any specific inserts you use, or require?

If you can share pictures on Flickr or your own blog post then please post links in the comments.

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haikukolorum.com (2012-03-08 00:36:28)

I'd like an insert

to keep track and organise

my other inserts.

Lime Tree (2012-03-08 01:27:19)

I use my day on two pages to track daily food intake. I follow the weight watchers plan so I have to track the corresponding points as well. Then I transfer the total points of the day to my month-per-view calendar so I can have an overall view of how I did every week. On that monthly calendar I also track weekly weight change together with little color-coded circles for the days I do yoga, weights and/or physical therapy exercises. I color-code those circles so I can quickly look at that week and see how I did. Then at the end of the month I compare those notes on my yearly planner that has my weight and physical goals projected for every month. I know it sounds complicated (now that I re-read what I wrote) but it really isn't. It is simple and I have fun tracking and monitoring myself!

XClaireX (2012-03-08 03:28:44)

I have two tabbed sections one for my food diaries and another for my exercise log. I also use a day per page where I plan my meals in advance.

Sharon (2012-03-08 04:18:36)

This is such a wonderful topic to have posted on, thank you! XClaireX do you have any pictures or blog where you have written about it?

I would love to be able to incorporate my food and exercise into my daily filofax binder, so am reading the comments with interest!

HM (2012-03-08 04:22:11)

I have a Notes page that i use to track my workouts (date, type of exercise, duration), and i also put a sign in my diary for the days i did work out (to check i do it 3 times a week).

I love the inserts you did, i hope you'll do some for health/diet too :) (and Pocket sized?..)

doris98 (2012-03-08 05:23:59)

My mini Malden is my food diary, weight and BMI tracker. I just write down what I eat during the day to see how my diet reflects on my results. I put a smiley (or frowney) face depending on which direction the weight/BMI go. Haven't incorporated exercise into the fitness yet though. Maybe later.

Alison Reeves (2012-03-08 05:29:48)

I've set something up recently (although I have to admit if life takes over it gets neglected!) I am following Slimming World (SW) and have set up one of my A5 binders for this. The reason I chose A5 is that the books they give you to bring every week and record your weight in are A5, and you can download info from the website which for me tends to be A4 so I just punch and pop in my binder.

The set up so far is: I have a day on two pages diary on which I record everything I eat every day and also my exercise. I have a section called books in which I record which SW books I have - they sell them at group and with my memory there is a good chance I could buy one twice! I have a section each for the diet and exercise sheets they provide (haven't used these yet, but plan to). I also have an A-Z section in which I am building up a list of foods and syns that I often want to eat (for example Gravy with my meal, salad cream, tomato sauce, even biscuits for that odd treat!). With SW there is a vast array of foods that you don't have to count, and a smaller number which you do, some like to use their syns on choc and wine, I prefer to use mine to make my meals more tasty - each to their own! I also have my SW membership card in the front of the binder, so when I go to class I just grab my binder and I'm good to go.

I hadn't thought of using a month to view to show an overview - great suggestion Lime Tree! I may well go and print out Ray and Steve's month to view for my binder to do this.

Some of you may know I am doing the Run for Life at the end of June, (<http://ow.ly/9wGTB>) so tracking my exercise will become more important from now on (had a serious plumbing problem this week which has sent everything including my bank balance into meltdown!!!). Hopefully once to run is over my new found exercise regime will have stuck and I will continue with it. I may get some new stickers to use in the monthly view!

Really looking forward to hearing what others are doing in this area.

Kate (2012-03-08 08:40:33)

I use my Filofax to keep track of my diabetes. Currently, I'm using my Swarovski special edition as I just love stroking it or I switch between my amethyst Deco for the same reason. I have created a table divided into 2 hour blocks so I can match blood sugar readings against insulin and food and a graph for an at a glance record. I also keep a food diary. It all works because I love my Filofaxes!

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-03-08 09:07:00)

I have my 'training for my half-marathon' schedule in my filofax and have also logged miles per week and weight (and watched the lines converge). Maybe unusually, I have to make sure I eat *enough* calories with the half-marathon training (a weekend run can consume 1000 calories!). The half marathon is in April, so only 6 weeks to go!

Neil (2012-03-08 09:13:49)

I tried SW a year or so ago, and used one filofax to religiously record my food intake, syns, exercise, all that stuff. The benefit of using one filofax to record all this stuff cannot be denied, but I found it difficult to keep writing everything down. What I do now is have a single sheet of graph paper in my main filofax, showing my weight over time. It's the first page I see when I open my filofax so there's no avoiding it, lol. If I'm above the line I just eat 5 portions of fruit or veg that day but nothing else. If I'm below the line I eat what I like. Just that one page in my filofax keeps my diet on track and saves me an awful lot of faffing about with anything more complex. I'm consistently losing a gentle 1/2 lb a week - nothing too drastic - and saving the fiver I was forking out for SW, which I can put towards another 2nd hand Winchester perhaps.

Alison Reeves (2012-03-08 11:31:18)

I'm afraid the only way diet works for me is accountability - hence I have to go to class even if I think I've gained. Otherwise I just get complacent and it all comes back on!

Daximillian (2012-03-08 13:12:53)

I've just written a post on how I use my running and fitness Filofax.

<http://notfarfromlife.tumblr.com/post/18954531505/my-running-filofax>

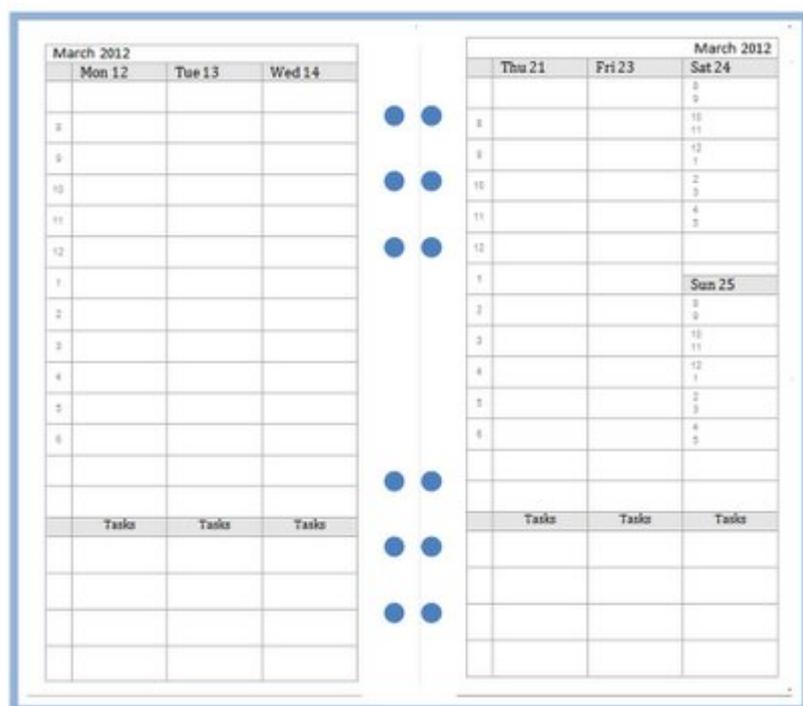
Hope it helps. I personally think that logging fitness related things in your Filofax should be a bonus - another incentive to do the workout. I know that I enjoy opening my hideous Apex and looking at the sheer number of pages of workout info that I've filled. It gives me a sense of accomplishment.

Gems33 (2012-03-08 15:20:16)

I have a menu planner to plot out my meals for the week. I follow a low carb way of eating which needs planning. I also have a section for the kids if they want something different. I then use it to place a delivery order. It is one of my most uses sections.

## Free Vertical Weekly Diary pages for the Filofax Personal (2012-03-08 12:00) - Steve Morton

When Ray and I set about adapting our [1]A5 diary layouts to [2]Personal size, the one layout we missed out was the Vertical Week to View. We didn't think this would be a particularly usable layout in Personal size. However, that's just our view, so why not give it a try?



[3]

We've done this a few ways for you.

### Pre-prepared 2012 diary sets

First, we have the usual A4-based set. Choose between the [4]Word file and the [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. And for those of you who want to print directly onto Filofax Personal size plain paper, we have versions for you, too. Choose either the [6]Word file or the [7]PDF file.

### Source files

You can also roll your own using our source files. The A4-based version uses [8]this Word file as the base document and [9]this Excel file as the data source.

The version that prints on Personal size paper uses [10]this Word file and [11]this Excel file.

If you want to know how to go about using the source files, [12]this post will help you.

[13] 

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1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/02/free-a5-2012-diary-sets-to-download-and.html>
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/02/free-personal-size-2012-diary-sets-to.html>
3. [http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-Te1bH\\_QZqfQ/T1ByFenoPiI/AAAAAAAAAYU/u-Em3AYpMzw/s1600/vertweek.png](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-Te1bH_QZqfQ/T1ByFenoPiI/AAAAAAAAAYU/u-Em3AYpMzw/s1600/vertweek.png)
4. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal\\_Vertical\\_Week\\_View/2012\\_merged\\_Vertical\\_Week\\_per\\_view\\_Personal\\_printA4.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_Vertical_Week_View/2012_merged_Vertical_Week_per_view_Personal_printA4.docx)
5. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal\\_Vertical\\_Week\\_View/2012\\_merged\\_Vertical\\_Week\\_per\\_view\\_Personal\\_printA4.pdf](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_Vertical_Week_View/2012_merged_Vertical_Week_per_view_Personal_printA4.pdf)
6. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal\\_Vertical\\_Week\\_View/2012\\_merged\\_Vertical\\_Week\\_per\\_view\\_Personal\\_Personal.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_Vertical_Week_View/2012_merged_Vertical_Week_per_view_Personal_Personal.docx)
7. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal\\_Vertical\\_Week\\_View/2012\\_merged\\_Vertical\\_Week\\_per\\_view\\_Personal\\_Personal.pdf](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_Vertical_Week_View/2012_merged_Vertical_Week_per_view_Personal_Personal.pdf)
8. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal\\_Vertical\\_Week\\_View/Personal%20Vertical%20Week%20View%20base%20print%20on%20A4.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_Vertical_Week_View/Personal%20Vertical%20Week%20View%20base%20print%20on%20A4.docx)
9. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal\\_Vertical\\_Week\\_View/DatesSourceFilo\\_WOTP\\_PersonalOnA4.xlsx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_Vertical_Week_View/DatesSourceFilo_WOTP_PersonalOnA4.xlsx)
10. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal\\_Vertical\\_Week\\_View/Personal%20Vertical%20Week%20View%20base.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_Vertical_Week_View/Personal%20Vertical%20Week%20View%20base.docx)
11. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal\\_Vertical\\_Week\\_View/DatesSourceFilo\\_WOTP.xlsx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_Vertical_Week_View/DatesSourceFilo_WOTP.xlsx)
12. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/02/download-source-files-for-new-personal.html>
13. <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/>
14. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/>
15. <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/>

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David Popely (2012-03-08 12:31:11)

Hi all, just an off-topic line to say that I shall be missing the FFAF tomorrow as we're away for a long weekend in Cornwall. Have fun, and I will catch up n Sunday evening/Monday morning!

nina Elfenfisch (2012-03-08 17:23:49)

(also off-topic:  
because i made none ;) )  
but now.

i really want to say thank you guys for all the work you're doing with the new diary pages. unfortunately i'm very lucky right now with my selfmade month2p and my original DpP. but who knows... when the malden's released, maybe i want some purple shaded diary pages \*twink twink\* is it possible to colourize the diaries?? haven't downloaded one yet, so i don't know

Saffy (2012-03-08 18:09:52)

I have a Danish 2012 Cotton Cream version of the vertical week per page if anyone would like it. Free to good home in the U.K. :) email me at [sewsaffy@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sewsaffy@hotmail.co.uk)

Saffy (2012-03-08 18:12:40)

P.S. here is a link to see what it looks like.

<http://www.filofax.dk/store/diaryrefillsdetails.asp?productId=2475>

Ray Blake (2012-03-09 02:29:26)

@Nina: Yes, you can add any colour to any element you want. If you get into difficulty, I'll help you.

krissydawn16 (2012-04-02 11:10:23)

I'm not sure if this has been pointed out- but the Thursday dates are wrong on the vertical WO2P layout. I need inserts beginning May 2012 and I wanted to use these so I've started correcting the dates in the Word document.

Steve Morton (2012-04-02 14:48:14)

We will look in to this error.

Steve

Steve Morton (2012-04-02 15:44:38)

Krissy

Files now updated, thanks Ray

Steve

## **Free For All Friday No 173 (2012-03-09 00:00) - Steve Morton**

So we are advancing towards Spring, although I wish someone would tell the weather that!

This weekend the clocks go forward an hour in the USA and Canada, in a couple of weeks time it will be the turn of Europe to do the same. I will have to remember to only allow 5 hours instead of the usual 6 hours for blog post timing for those two weeks. Note in my Filofax of course in the blog post monthly pages.

Next week will see the opening of applications to attend the next London Meet Up, so I'm getting getting quite excited about that. Time to start planning what to bring with me etc.

What plans are you looking forward to? But as it is Friday once again you are of course free to discuss anything Filofax related.

Please note: Due to an issue with the commenting system, I've swapped the blog back to 'Full Comments' instead of 'Embedded Comments' Sadly this means we don't have threaded comments, but it does mean people can leave comments... I'm waiting for a response from Google on this issue. It's not just Philofaxy that has this issue at the moment.

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FiloJr (2012-03-09 00:37:07)

I'm just curious what others do when changing plans in your Filofax,, ,,do you cross out the original plans and write in different plans or do you white out the area to change so it's a clean slate? I'm guessing it depends on what size Filo you use and how picky you are about keeping your Filo neat. Any ideas?

Lime Tree (2012-03-09 01:01:41)

@FiloJr, I had that same problem a few weeks ago. I started writing ideas and planning like crazy. Then when I changed routes I was just leaving all the notes together. It was good to leave them all side-by-side (old and new ideas) so i could compare and incorporate the good ones into the new planning. But, as you said, at some point everything started looking very messy. so I decided to use different sizes of post-it. Specially for the plans that are just starting. I put down the idea on the post-its then I place them all together in one page. Once my planning starts to shape better I write them down on the Filofax pages. It is working so far. Will see! :)

Butanben (2012-03-09 03:25:30)

I am afraid that I always have to start with a clean slate if plans start to look messy, as that helps me to focus. A waste of paper sometimes, which I feel guilty about, but I gain clarity. I usually use mind maps to start with....very visual way of planning and being able to see the whole picture.... then I make smaller plans. Mind maps can be

googled.... many types and formats, so you can choose what suits you. @Lime Tree... I have promised myself not to use post its in my newly set up Filofax, as they can be easily lost by becoming un-sticky.... but habits die hard and I've already got two stuck in this week's pages!!! Hey Ho!!

Steve Morton (2012-03-09 03:27:16)

Frixion pens allow me to change my plans easily.. but any major change to say a To Do list and I just re-write it.

Butanben (2012-03-09 03:33:07)

Another completely different topic. I love all kinds of stationery, pens etc. French stationery shops used to be the best in the world for finding the unusual stickers, papers etc for a Filofax and as a teenager, I just loved to holiday in France for the stationery shopping experience. Also I've been looking for wasabi(washabi?) tapes or similar. Is anyone able to enable me \*cough, cough\* with new ideas here??

S. (2012-03-09 04:25:01)

This comment has been removed by the author.

S. (2012-03-09 04:26:43)

I want to buy a new personal -sized Filofax. I currently own a personal Finsbury Raspberry and want something:

- More luxurious with softer leather
- Has 2 pen holders
- Lays completely flat

I have a Sienna which I use for work and to me, it's the perfect Filofax fitting all my criteria above. I love the leather of the Sienna. I don't want to buy another Sienna however.

Are there any other Filofaxes similar to the look, feel and function of the Sienna?

Thanks in advance!

Scoot (2012-03-09 05:07:29)

When I change plans or cancel something I will simply put a large line through it, topping and tailing it with a line to creating a large capital letter "T". If I wish to cancel my strike through then I write "STET" and if I am to rehash plans or lists on another page I circle the words "c/f:IV.a" being an example for carried forward to page 4a.

lifeconsidered (2012-03-09 05:15:29)

I arrived home last around 10:00 after a long day of work, grocery shopping, and visiting my mom. There awaiting me was large brown box. My new A5 Sketch! I had just enough time to open it, take a few pix and pour through its contents before heading off to dreamland. I must say I was delightfully surprised at its beauty. I didn't expect much, as it isn't leather, and I bought it strictly for utilitarian purposes. The binding is a smooth leather-look, which can almost pass for the real McCoy, in a deep chocolate brown. The front and back covers have a cocoa brown satiny finish with a very fine ribbed texture, giving off a coppery sheen, with thin beige grosgrain piping, all stitched in a golden thread. There is an outside pocket on the back, and three pockets that run the length of the binder on the inside front cover. It is equipped with WO2P diary, a (little) bit of paper, a map, the Today ruler, a plastic sleeve, and a notepad on the inside back cover. The indexed dividers are so papery thin, one would think they were an after-thought if not for the hues: Rust Red! Sage Green! Pumpkin Orange! Cadet Blue! I must admit, I drew in a breath when I saw the spectrum. I will have a fun Filofax-filled Friday planning, writing, punching, labeling, indexing, mapping, projecting, journaling...

Jotje (2012-03-09 05:42:54)

Regarding the pens I'm with Steve: I only use Frixion pens (in 4 different colours, as I colour-code entries), and they can be erased whenever there is a change. I love that my pages look so much neater and cleaner now!

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-03-09 08:05:06)

@Butanben Do you mean Washi Tape? The Japanese tape with designs and in all colors? I've gotten it online a few places - I'll put some links here if that's the kind of tape you mean

Tracy

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-03-09 08:09:47)

As to rewriting and using Frixion pens I don't. Since most of my planning is in the form of To-Do lists whenever is left over gets moved to the next day – If I don't need to do it I don't rewrite it.

The exception is my year on a page calendar - which I usually fill in in pencil or after the appt. in pen.

I haven't used the frixon pens because I keep the sheets to refer back to. I plan to get one for highlighting books but for the filo, I want to keep the info.

Sandra (2012-03-09 09:42:27)

@Butanben I want washi tape, too!

Why is stationery from Japan so cool, and American stuff so uncool? I mean, really.

And, we can put a man on the moon but no decent inserts (\*cough\* Filofax) can be had. I. Do. Not. Understand. Happy Friday, friends!

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-03-09 09:48:04)

Re: Washi tape - I wrote a blog post not that long ago <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/02/filofax-as-art-and-magic.htm> l

Scroll down its almost to the bottom and I've added links.

It has the four places I've gotten washi. Three are esty shops one is Baum-Kutchen (which has midori travelers notebooks too) The etsy shops are nice because on a lot of them you can buy smaller rolls of a few feet each so you can try a whole lot of them at one time.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-03-09 09:52:55)

I think you could probably make your own washi tape, with masking tape and felt tips! I'm going to try it later! (I need to buy some masking tape first!)

nina Elfenfisch (2012-03-09 10:06:23)

@butanben

I also love washi tapes ( ; ) and geeky stationary. Have a Look on [modes4u.com](http://modes4u.com)

It's the Shop from a German Girl in hong Kong And there are many funny tapes, papers, pens etc. And also cute kawaii things. Shipping is able all over the World And lasts about 2 weeks

Lynne Dove (2012-03-09 11:09:08)

Nina, Thanks for the link - what a fab website.

Tonya (2012-03-09 11:17:00)

Has anyone used the Kate Spade refill pages? If so, what do the Month on Two Pages look like? I have been trying to see the format but can't find an image of it anywhere (I can only see WOTP). I'm currently using the Filofax MOTP pocket size and the day squares are so small I can hardly write anything on them. I'm hoping the Kate Spade pages might utilize the space a little better. Thanks.

Neil (2012-03-09 12:19:42)

@ Jotje.

Re: Frixion pens.

I use Frixion inserts in G2 pens. Much nicer to hold and the G2 clip works well on Filofax rings. Also, when I've done everything on a "to do" page, I save them and stick them in the microwave so I can use the paper all over again.

Butanben (2012-03-09 12:28:10)

@Tracy, thank you so much for the links to washi tapes. I'll put those into my favourites page and they will be there for birthday present time in June. Yaaaay!! @ perpetual student, I never thought of making my own, now there's a creative thought for one evening. @Sandra, your comment made me giggle... man on the moon but

Filofax not able to produce good quality insert. I couldn't agree more!!! Still with Ray and Steve onto the job... no problems really.

Ray Blake (2012-03-09 12:28:50)  
@Neil: Genius!

Nicole (2012-03-09 13:11:43)

@FiloJr I use correction tape or whiteout on my pocket-sized white coloured pages.

I went to Kinokuniya bookstore here in Malaysia (read in Plannerisms that Laurie visited the one in Singapore so I hoped the Malaysian one might stock Filofaxes too) They stock a limited selection of Filofaxes, with a price mark up of 50%! They also have some Filofax brand inserts which must be a few years old such as shopping lists and dividers on green marbled paper, as well as the standard 2012 diaries.

Is there an affordable way to trim paper neatly? Such as small guillotines used to trim photos. I use a craft knife to cut and I end up shaving off little slivers of my metal ruler instead when cutting through card because I have to use so much pressure.

Mary (2012-03-09 13:12:21)

Has anyone ever changed between pocket and compact size? I am torn between a finsbury pocket which is by far my most used organiser and compact chameleon which I find a bit stiff and don't use as much as I would like. Are the other compact models softer?

nina Elfenfisch (2012-03-09 14:03:08)

@Neil

I think i have to switch over to the frixions again O.O

that's just great! aren't there staying any signs of usage on the paper?? how often can you "wash" your paper?

@Lynne

you're welcome ;) I just love this page and could spend tons of hours and earnings on it.... but i just allow me one visit per month. (or when the newsletter hits me :D )

@all

i'm so sorry i got a huge problem with the new comment system and am unable to leave comments on your blogs :(

it's just working with the pop-up commentary function)

(lime tree, ray, iris, and many others lost some great comments....)

so has anyone an idea, how to solve this problem? or @steve: did you receive an answer from google yet?

Neil (2012-03-09 14:31:29)

@Nina.

Re: washing paper.

Probably about fifty times so far. You can definitely tell that the paper has been written on many times, but it's fine to use for notes and to do lists.

nina Elfenfisch (2012-03-09 14:41:48)

@Neil

I really can't wait to buy my new frixions tomorrow :)

also i can imagine, that it's just a great feeling to write on "old and used" paper, and to know that there have been many many successfully done Todos on it.

thank's for sharing this!

Louloudorset (2012-03-09 14:44:39)

Wowser @Neil I had no idea you could microwave paper clean with Frixion pens I am so trying that tomorrow :)

Lime Tree (2012-03-09 14:46:48)

@nicole

That store you have there sounds juicy! Do they have older style Filofax binders as well?

Alison Reeves (2012-03-09 14:57:53)

Washi tape: <http://ow.ly/9z0NM>

Steve Morton (2012-03-09 15:26:45)

@nina I discovered this entry tonight:

<http://knownissues.blogspot.com/2011/10/were-investigating-reports-of-users-not.html>

Still listed as a known bug since October last year! So it looks like we will use this form for a while.

RSGB-DCC (2012-03-09 15:51:42)

Just a test comment using one of my other accounts...

Steve

Iain (2012-03-09 16:46:03)

Hi all,

I am a believer in "one filo, one life" but I can't seem to overcome the need for note taking to be done via a separate pad. Has anyone else experienced this or even found a way to overcome this?

Scoot (2012-03-09 17:10:07)

Nicole, paper trimmers that are rated for at least 8-10 A4 80gsm sheets are normally reliable machines that last for years. Those that are rated for up to 5 sheets aren't very well made and don't stand up to much use, especially with card.

Ensure that the trimmer takes an entire length of A4 paper otherwise you will have to mess around with scissors.

Scoot (2012-03-09 17:21:41)

Iain, a single fax policy is very much in keeping with rules and reasoning about efficiency and time management, but incompatible with most (at least on this blog) people's obsession to own and use more lovely faxes.

Ray recently re-engineered an idea for a fold out notepad, something like a flex booklet that folds out at the back of the fax.

<http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2012/01/filofax-swing-pad-you-can-make-at-home.html>

The Holborn Fax has the ability to hold a flex type booklet, though the side opening pocket doesn't have much depth and so you would have to cut the cover of any side opening notepad.

Iain (2012-03-09 17:30:31)

Thanks Scoot. I saw the fold out pad which did interest me. I also saw a post recently suggesting a thin Moleskine booklet which may also be the way forward. Finally, perhaps I can just accept that my life is in one place but current notes live somewhere else first :)

kanalt (2012-03-09 18:35:29)

Mary - I have never used a pocket, though I have one. Mostly I was a personal user until the compact came along. I had always found that the pocket was too small, and while I loved the size of the personal, I found I was carrying more than I needed due to the ring size. I love the compact because it allows me to use the size of the personal without having to carry around unnecessary items. I have the compact chameleon, which I didn't love just because it would not lay flat (otherwise, it's a great binder). I have since bought the regency, which does lay flat, and which I absolutely adore! The price leaves a lot to be desired, however (I got mine at a bit of a discount since I bought it from someone else). I don't know if the others lay flat. I have heard that more compact models are on their way, though I don't think a specific date has been mentioned.

Neil (2012-03-09 19:00:34)

No problem. About three minutes should do it, depending on your microwave. I know what you mean about writing on old and used paper - I use Frixion pens in an old Moleskine and put that one in the oven at 200 degrees for 4 mins, which wipes all of the 240 pages clean )just wrap the book in a towel to stop the covers touching any metal) - and the book becomes nicer to write in each time as the Moleskine becomes a little worn around the edges.

Savannah (2012-03-09 19:09:22)

Iain,

Keeping your notes in a larger notepad/notebook is not incompatible with using a Filofax. I don't think anything needs to be fixed. You could use an A5 or A4 that has a place for a large notepad that you can keep within your planner to keep it all together if you don't mind transporting this size.

David Popely (2012-03-11 13:22:44)

I only \*ever\* write my diary in pencil....no matter how 'certain' think arrangements are. I like to use a pencil with an eraaser on the top....if only they had clips or were the right size to fit in the pen loop of my Malden!

Stationery Gal (2012-03-11 13:28:52)

Hi Tonya, I have used the Kate Spade MOTP pocket inserts and they do have a little more room and the paper is heavier. I can email you a picture of it.

I just received my new pocket Ochre Malden in the mail and will have the ceremonial opening of it this afternoon! I can't wait!!

Peggy

## Web Finds - 10 March 2012 (2012-03-10 00:00) - Steve Morton

So here we are again... you know the drill by now.. find yourself an hour or three, a drink of your choice and a quiet moment to enjoy the following web finds this week.

- [1]Group Chat! - Musings of a girl called wind
- [2]Inspiration in my Filofax - Miscellany from a Filofax Fanatic
- [3]With much trepidation - Filofax Fixation
- [4]Filofax Love - My Lifes A Tea Cup
- [5]My new custom rubber stamp - My Life All in One Place
- [6]The set up of an affair - Paper Love Story
- [7]A5 Kendal lovefest continues - Filofax Fixation
- [8]Opening a Pandora-Filofax Box - Miscellany from a Filofax Fanatic
- [9]Filofaxes, the good, the bad and the gusseted - The Crazy Suburban Mom
- [10]Envelope insert hacks for the filofax - Paper Pens Ink
- [11]Filofax's amputated inserts - The Crazy Suburban Mom
- [12]Pimp Your Filofax - Chaotic Perfectionist
- [13]A-Z becomes Jan-Dec (+1) - Filofax Fixation

- [14]My Filofax Siena - Strickmuse
- [15]Filofax - Good can be better - City Organiser Blog
- Your blog post could appear here next week... Please email us if we missed you this week.

This weeks Oscar Nominations:

IFRAME: [16]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/riqmHdB96M8>

IFRAME: [17]<http://www.youtube.com/embed/qF4Jj3suOjw>

Enjoy.

1. <http://musingsofwind.blogspot.com/2012/03/group-chat.html>
2. <http://filofanatic.blogspot.com/2012/03/inspiration-in-my-filofax.html>
3. <http://filofaxfixation.wordpress.com/2012/03/03/with-much-trepidation/>
4. <http://mylifeasateacup.blogspot.com/2012/03/organization-filofax-love.html>
5. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2012/03/my-new-custom-rubber-stamp.html>
6. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/03/set-up-of-affair.html>
7. <http://filofaxfixation.wordpress.com/2012/03/04/a5-kendal-lovefest-continues/>
8. <http://filofanatic.blogspot.com/2012/03/opening-pandora-filofax-box.html>
9. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/03/filofaxes-good-bad-and-gusseted.html>
10. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.com/2012/03/envelope-insert-hacks-for-filofax.html>
11. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/03/filofaxs-amputated-inserts.html>
12. <http://elfenfish.blogspot.com/2012/03/pimp-your-filofax.html>
13. <http://filofaxfixation.wordpress.com/2012/03/08/a-z-becomes-jan-dec-1/>
14. <http://www.strickmuse.com/2012/03/my-filofax-siena.html>
15. <http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/blog/organiser-products/filofax-time-to-share/>
16. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/riqmHdB96M8>
17. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/qF4Jj3suOjw>

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Lime Tree (2012-03-10 00:28:33)

Thanks for that again! I will HAVE to start with that Adelphi video!

Jotje (2012-03-10 03:55:25)

Steve, you crack me up with your Oscar-comment, haha. Truth be told, I liked making these little vids very much, especially because I didn't have to star in them myself, he he.

There might be coming other vids about the setup and uses of the members of my (ever-growing) Filofax-family!

Scoot (2012-03-10 05:13:21)

Thanks for the links.

City Organisers blog entry mentions more variety of the better selling inserts, including more fun types, which is surely a no brainer when you consider that binders are becoming more colourful and exotic. Their other suggestions are spot on, though they largely restate what has been stated on this blog umpteen times.

Nikki france (2012-03-10 10:07:54)

Thanks for all the web finds Steve, enjoyable read as always.

Love the city organiser piece, hope filofax take notes of this!!

To all, just noticed that filofax UK has the Chameleon on special right now 50 % off, making it 32.50 each (personal) which I think is very good for a nice leather filo, they have all the colours bar the aqua/turquoise, which is the one I like phew!! :)

Butanben (2012-03-10 12:43:01)

A great host of posts Steve.I love this part of the week.Let's hope Filofax start to listen to their customer base at that meeting with City Organiser.I personally would jump up and down with joy if there were to be an A5 Crimson Malden. I have already posted this on their FB page and it was taken forward.... but obviously no result this year.I loved the stamper idea. As a teacher, I used a librarian's stamper to date pieces of assessment, memos to photocopy, to date letters received on..., pupil worksheets, etc etc. My stamper was different, but handy to have too.

Kristin (2012-03-11 21:14:33)

Thank you for featuring my post! Much thanks, and I feel so honored!

## Winchester vs Malden - Design Comparison (2012-03-11 00:00) - Steve Morton

We hear a lot of comments about 'Vintage' Filofax organisers and how their design can't be equalled... ok may be that is going too far, but you get the idea. So I thought in one of my [many] idol moments, let's compare say a Malden and my 'old' Winchester in terms of design qualities and see how they compare. So a recap for those that don't know the history of my old black Winchester personal organiser. I bought it in late 1986, so it is over 25 years old now. Yes it is showing some sign of use in that period, it has not been sat on a shelf or left in a box. It was in daily use for the first 6-7 years of its life and then occasional use from then on, but it went into retirement for a few years. Some of the inserts I have date back to the late 80's so that will prove the longevity of paper if stored correctly.

It was brought back in to full use in 2005 when my new employer at the time did not allow personal electronic devices in the office due to security issues (enough said on that one!) So no mobile phones, PDA's (Psion, Palm, iPaqs... iPhones etc). So a paper solution seemed appropriate.

In 2006 I then bought my A5 Finsbury which was easier to print off calendars and other information sheets I needed access to. This led me creating some of my own inserts, I put these on DiY Planner, then I discovered by chance Philofaxy in early 2008, in June 2009 I became a full time contributor to Philofaxy and the rest as they say is history!

My particular Winchester has 7/8" rings 23mm in metric terms, they came in bigger sizes too. I think the design is classic in terms of its simplicity nothing too fancy it just does the job it is intended to do.



[1]

So here are the two 'brothers' or is it 'Father and Son' along side each other. As you can see the Malden has a much broader clasp, the one on the Winchester is a little flimsy in this area and if the leather hasn't been cared for and allowed to dry out too much they can crack or worse become detached completely.

As you might also notice the plastic cap is missing on my Winchester press-stud, one of the other failings of this design I guess. I must get around to putting a dab of enamel paint on it.

The Malden is fractionally bigger than the Winchester in height and width.



[2]

The rear of the covers show a similar method of securing the clasp to the cover, although the Malden appears to be stitched to a large pad which is then in turn stitched to the cover. I suppose this method might be easier to repair in say 20 years time...

The Malden also has a stitched beading around the outer edge of the cover, where as the Winchester is just stitched around the whole of the outer edge close to the edge of the adjoining leather. As a comparison the Chameleon uses this same method of construction as the Winchester.



[3]

Many of you will be familiar with the internal layout and construction of the Malden, so I won't go in to too much detail in this post. As you can see it has a multitude of card pockets. It also has a full height zip pocket. The zipper it self can add unwanted bulk/lumpiness to the front cover. In the back cover there is a notepad slot and a full height pocket as well. And yes as you can see it lays flat. This particular Malden I have owned for nearly 12 months.

Moving now to the Winchester.



[4]

No zips, only leather flaps which also serve as additional protection for the ring mechanism. There is an id card slot. No credit card slots as such, but this was designed and sold in an era before credit cards were in extensive use! Just a single leather pen loop as well.



[5]



[6]

Under the front cover flap is access to the ID card window slot and another pocket as well as a full height pocket. The table is a 1960's G-Plan nest of tables!



[7]

In the back cover there is a gusseted pocket which is a nice feature, I've put my reading glasses in to the pocket to show it expanded without my hand in the photo...



[8]

This final photo shows how flexible the two organisers are when empty. The Malden appears to use thicker leather hence it is more 'rounded' appearance around the ring mechanism compared to the Winchester which is quite angular I suppose.

If I was redesigning the Malden I would include the leather flaps to cover the full height pocket openings and do away with the zip pocket, mainly due to the long term life of a zipper. May be I would also add a gusseted pocket like on the Winchester. And my final wish would be for a larger ring version of the Malden with say 30 mm rings. But I would also suggest a compact version as well for the slimmer Filofax users too.

What my Malden will look like in 25 years time... is anyone's guess. It is in daily use these days, it gets

occasional rest when I swap in to the Cuban Zip which I like because of the bigger rings. If you have any questions about the Winchester pop them in to the comments and I will do my best to answer them, but I wouldn't call myself a Winchester expert as such.

1. [http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-ufP2k8E8u1o/T1CZDEZ-\\_QI/AAAAAAAAAKZY/AY66y\\_LGX14/s1600/IMG\\_0725.jpg](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-ufP2k8E8u1o/T1CZDEZ-_QI/AAAAAAAAAKZY/AY66y_LGX14/s1600/IMG_0725.jpg)
2. [http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-\\_z8a0TIaBMw/T1CZE1AkyI/AAAAAAAAAKZg/w-YBPN8BfC0/s1600/IMG\\_0726.jpg](http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-_z8a0TIaBMw/T1CZE1AkyI/AAAAAAAAAKZg/w-YBPN8BfC0/s1600/IMG_0726.jpg)
3. [http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-t0QhWp8Zuvs/T1CZGb-vofI/AAAAAAAAAKZo/2j9Te1scM0c/s1600/IMG\\_0727.jpg](http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-t0QhWp8Zuvs/T1CZGb-vofI/AAAAAAAAAKZo/2j9Te1scM0c/s1600/IMG_0727.jpg)
4. [http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-9j2R0Pzwxo/T1CZIFsoc4I/AAAAAAAAAKZw/hy0sasIqg-0/s1600/IMG\\_0728.jpg](http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-9j2R0Pzwxo/T1CZIFsoc4I/AAAAAAAAAKZw/hy0sasIqg-0/s1600/IMG_0728.jpg)
5. [http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-KH7L6lmxyRQ/T1CZJsN530I/AAAAAAAAAKZ4/g1DqM3mihso/s1600/IMG\\_0729.jpg](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-KH7L6lmxyRQ/T1CZJsN530I/AAAAAAAAAKZ4/g1DqM3mihso/s1600/IMG_0729.jpg)
6. [http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-avJVdF7GNPc/T1CZNB1Y80I/AAAAAAAAKaI/nfsAC0kF\\_rg/s1600/IMG\\_0731.jpg](http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-avJVdF7GNPc/T1CZNB1Y80I/AAAAAAAAKaI/nfsAC0kF_rg/s1600/IMG_0731.jpg)
7. [http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-8NeDvq1WXWc/T1CZLpt7iBI/AAAAAAAAAKaA/XEBc17TbyVA/s1600/IMG\\_0730.jpg](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-8NeDvq1WXWc/T1CZLpt7iBI/AAAAAAAAAKaA/XEBc17TbyVA/s1600/IMG_0730.jpg)
8. [http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-CBzX-ATZE14/T1CY\\_QRj8fI/AAAAAAAAAKZQ/nQhdMbyVqMk/s1600/IMG\\_0732.jpg](http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-CBzX-ATZE14/T1CY_QRj8fI/AAAAAAAAAKZQ/nQhdMbyVqMk/s1600/IMG_0732.jpg)

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HM (2012-03-11 06:10:43)

Your Winchester is exactly as old as me :)

Thanks for this post, it's great and i love all the pics!

Steve Morton (2012-03-11 07:28:57)

Scary thought... my Filofax being as old as some of our readers... I feel old!! I have my diary inserts from when my son was born back in 1987!

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-03-11 08:01:13)

That was great! I really enjoyed it and so glad you did this because every once in a while one comes up for sale with no details and one bad picture - this is so helpful!

Tracy

Steve Morton (2012-03-11 09:39:25)

It's the only 'old' one I own although my wife Alison (the hand!) has one of similar age, and I also have a non-leather one of similar vintage. But I know the Winchester is very popular and at the time when I bought it it seemed a little bit more special than the others for sale.

I hope it helps people if they are considering buying one off of Ebay.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-03-11 10:06:50)

I briefly had a Winchester, and of course I have lots of Maldens :D I didn't really like the Winchester in comparison with my Maldens, I think because I love the soft and supple leather of my Maldens, and the Winchester's leather is so hard. But I can see why it was so popular in the 1980s, and I love how they had so many different versions- not just different colours, but different leathers- cow leather, even pigskin!! I sold mine on ebay (for a profit :D )

Wind (2012-03-11 16:02:22)

I can't believe they had it in pigskin! Very interesting post nevertheless :)

baggirl (2012-03-11 16:06:32)

Having hacked apart a number of filofaxes for various reasons(!), I just wanted to comment that the Malden isn't made of thicker leather but, like most of the current filofaxes, made of thinnish leather sandwiching cardboard. That's probably not true of the Winchester! I have sometimes ripped out parts of the inner cardboard in order to make the filofax thinner and more flexible.

Josh (2012-03-11 20:05:05)

I suspected as much but wasn't sure, and wasn't brave enough to check! Thanks!

Josh (2012-03-11 20:06:57)

Your Winchester has held up really nicely! I will need to keep an eye out for one of those, preferably one of the ones with the 30mm rings.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-03-11 20:17:59)

I unfortunately scraped the top corner of my crimson Malden, and yes it is a cardboardy-substance underneath. But still, it's so supple!!

Shubha (2012-03-12 11:05:15)

My old one, bought in 1985 had no name. Just said Filofax Made in England. :) I used it for about 15 years and now cannot find it!

Neil (2012-03-12 15:04:16)

My goodness, TPS. If you can go through the "leather" on a Malden in one scrape, I think I'm going to stick to the traditional Filofaxes of yesteryear.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-03-12 16:29:12)

Oh no Neil, it wasn't just a little scrape, it got dragged across the ground under the wheel of my suitcase for a few metres!! Normally it holds up really well!

Neil (2012-03-12 16:50:40)

I understand, TPS, thankyou for explaining.

Susanne Namdar (2012-03-13 01:21:57)

Thank you for a wonderful comparison, Steve. I hope that my Siena will hold up that well that long. I got my first FF in the late 80s too, but like a few mentioning here, I also do not remember what model it was and where it is now. There was this electronic hype/break that many have experienced, I guess. I am so glad that I have come back to FF and paper.

## **Filofax Employee Under the Spotlight (2012-03-12 00:00) - Steve Morton**

*So this week I would like to introduce you to Lloyd, he is the 'Customer Service Manager' for Filofax USA. We made sure the spot light had a nice new bulb in it for this interview! Thank you also to Lorraine for doing the interview for Philofaxy.*

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

I bought my first Filofax in 1986 when I went to college. I used it every day to manage my homework, my work schedule, and my personal life. Unfortunately, I cannot remember which one it was. I believe that it got put away in my parent's attic with the rest of my college books and papers. Maybe someday soon I will dig it out and bring it back into play.

*What other brands have you used or considered using out of the organizers you used or considered using?*

After college, I went away from any personal organizer and just used whatever desk calendar was around.

*Out of the organizers you own which is your current favorite?*

Actually, I think it's a tie. I currently flip back and forth between my personal Guilford Zip in black and my Personal Cuban in chestnut. Unlike many other people, I only use one at a time. I will switch the complete insides back and forth as I currently use my Filofax to organize my daily life.

*How many Filofax organizers do you own?*

I currently own four Filofax's. I have the Personal Cuban Zip in chestnut, a personal Guilford Zip in black, a Pocket Sienna in espresso, and a Pocket Hampstead in brown.

*What do you use your Filofax for?*

What don't I use my Filofax for? I use it for daily planning, for keeping my son's schedule, I keep my complete address book in it, I plan household projects, I keep automobile maintenance records, and much, much more.

*What was the feature about Filofax you like the most?*

The feature that I like the most is the fact that I can make it my own. There is the flexibility of including

the pages that I need or removing pages that I don't.

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

My Filofax would have more credit card slots and a bigger pen loop in order to incorporate my Lamy pens. Turning to the inserts, I would love to see all calendars come in the cotton cream colored paper and since I am big Sudoku player I would love to see a new Sudoku product insert.

*How do you carry your Filofax?*

I carry my Filofax in my brief case during the day and when it is at home it stays with me in the house.

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

I really like the Cuban Zip in saddle brown. I am not sure if I will make the purchase or not.

*What is the most you have ever spent on a Filofax which model?*

That's an interesting question. The most I ever spent on a Filofax I believe was \$95. That was the one that I bought for college and I do not remember which model it was. Currently, as a Filofax employee, we get very generous discounts on our products.

*How long have you worked with Filofax?*

I have worked with Filofax for a little over a year and a half.

*What has been your biggest challenge as a Customer Service Manager thus far?*

The biggest challenge so far definitely came this past fall when we upgraded our computer systems right at the beginning of our busy season. Like any computer upgrade, we had our share of speed bumps, but everyone pulled together as a team, kept our composure and made it through very successfully. For that I thank everyone involved in the upgrade. A special thanks goes out to the Customer Experience Team!!

*What has been your biggest reward as a Customer Service Manager?*

When I began my employment with Filofax in 2010, one of the first things I did was change the name of my department from Customer Service to Customer Experience Team. Our goal is to guarantee that every Filofax customer has an amazing experience when dealing with us, because there is no better advertising than word of mouth. I am very confident that when a customer calls in and speaks with one of our team members that they are being provided with exceptional service. There is no better feeling then knowing that our team cares enough about our Filofax customers to provide them with the service that they deserve.

*Thank you to both Lloyd and Lorraine*

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Laurie (2012-03-12 01:36:37)

Thanks so much for this excellent interview!!

Jotje (2012-03-12 04:01:32)

Very insightful, and I would LOVE LOVE LOVE to see the insides of that Personal Filofax, managing so much at one time!

Alison Reeves (2012-03-12 04:50:36)

A really interesting interview - thanks!

HM (2012-03-12 05:16:25)

That's so interesting, thanks!! Like Jotje, i would love to see inside his Filo :)

Thanks again for this awesome read!

Anita (2012-03-12 13:34:19)

After the excellent City Organiser post, I was just thinking it would be great to hear more from some one at Filofax... & hey presto! I thought it was interesting to hear about how Lloyd uses his own filo & a little about what it's like to work for the company. I'm sorry that Scoot didn't feel the same way.

And thanks to Lorraine for doing the interview :)

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-03-12 15:06:26)

I don't understand Scoot's comment - aren't these the same questions as for other people under the spotlight? So why is it any different from any of those features?

Anyway, *I* found it interesting and like others, I would have enjoyed a peek inside the filofax!

Adirondack Explorer (2012-03-12 20:56:17)

I've emailed Lloyd before so it was good to "meet" him on Philofaxy!

kanalt (2012-03-12 23:29:35)

Great post! I have had great customer service experiences here in the US where Filofax is concerned, however it's not often that we hear from the corporate side of Filofax US. Almost all of the news and information we get is from the UK, and though not a problem in any way, it's nice to see that someone from the US is aware of Philofaxy and is willing to be involved on some level. Thanks!

Susanne Namdar (2012-03-13 01:11:58)

Thank you Lloyd for participating and Lorraine for doing the interview. Any pictures of Lloyd's set-up? That would be nice.

Gerard (2012-03-13 06:26:56)

Thank you Lloyd and Lorraine for an interesting post.

MsPencil (2012-03-15 20:07:07)

Wow, Thanks Lloyd, I am glad I got a chance to see this. Thanks Lloyd. I thought it would be interesting to hear from someone the Customer Service side.

## Free For All Tuesday No. 58 (2012-03-13 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

Once again we open the floor to you to ask any Filofax related questions. And hopefully we will be able to find you some answers too.... so fire away...

1. [http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-iWM2EGJg8j8/TUh0H0Lo4aI/AAAAAAAAI6E/2WfvsKUfHgc/s1600/IMG\\_9777a.JPG](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-iWM2EGJg8j8/TUh0H0Lo4aI/AAAAAAAAI6E/2WfvsKUfHgc/s1600/IMG_9777a.JPG)

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Butanben (2012-03-13 01:33:33)

I thought I'd share with you that I am using squared paper as notepaper and I am dividing the page in two- one half for home and the other for job related notes. The paper comes from the Philofaxy files. I have coloured in the squares in a pattern across the middle, so that it looks like a washi tape type divider. Making these pages is actually quite relaxing to do in front of the tv of an evening. Does anyone else colour in squared paper or doodle in their Filofax to divide areas and sections of notepaper up?

Iain (2012-03-13 03:09:30)

Hi all,

Has anyone got any good ways of storing unused inserts? I don't have any packaging or a spare binder. Just interested in the communities ideas.

Thanks in advance

T (2012-03-13 04:07:48)

@Iain:

I use either an old square cookie tin (1kg size) else a Really Useful Box 9L size  
<http://www.reallyusefulproducts.co.uk/uk/index.php>

Jotje (2012-03-13 04:25:35)

Also practical are the Ikea DVD or CD-boxes. You could make some extra cardboard dividers, to have everything sorted in an obvious way.

Scoot (2012-03-13 04:29:23)

Without a spare binder, which I hope you can rectify at some time (seriously, the spare binders need spare inserts to keep their shape!), I've used a shoe box, magazine holder etc.

Nothing stopping you from jazzing the box up, I'd be reluctant to pay the prices of the Laura Ashley range as advertised by Staples in the UK.

<http://staples.shoplocal.com/staplesuk/default.aspx?action=entryflash&promotioncode=StaplesUK-110131>

Though, if I were a woman, I may just forget the price!

Steve Morton (2012-03-13 05:28:00)

Can I just remind people of the Commenting Guidelines which are published here:  
<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/commenting-guidelines.html>

industrious housewife (2012-03-13 05:32:44)

Hello, my first time posting on Philofaxy, though I've been reading avidly since Christmas when clever Santa ;- ) brought me my first Filofax. I bought an A5 punch to go with it and it is rubbish. Having read through the archives I'm going to buy the Rapesco punch and punch twice but have a question about it -

Can the Rapesco punch go through card? Like postcards and thick crafting papers?

Steve Morton (2012-03-13 05:35:59)

Hello and welcome...

So which A5 punch did you buy? Have you considered the KW Trio punch. If you look in Adspot you will see them for sale there.

The Rapesco P66 punch will punch through thin card ok. Postcards ok, and up to about 5 sheets of paper ok.

Regards

Steve

Steve Morton (2012-03-13 05:36:46)

I keep mine in a small tray in a desk drawer.

industrious housewife (2012-03-13 05:46:25)

Oh my, I hadn't even seen the Adspot! The KW Trio would certainly be handier as it does the A5 size already.

Hmm. Is there anything else to choose between the two?

Steve Morton (2012-03-13 05:47:47)

Not as far as I'm aware, quite a few of our readers have the KW Trio and they are guaranteed for 15 years

industrious housewife (2012-03-13 06:03:16)

Sounds good, I'll have a ponder. Thank you!

Alison Reeves (2012-03-13 06:13:47)

I've got mine in a white box which I chose especially because it was A5 - however I found that is was that size when you take the lid into account, so when you load with A5 the lid fits only precariously! I was trying to get my desk and surrounds looking tidy - I may investigate the 9 litre really useful boxes - especially as they do a deep version with a raised lid - will get my tape measure out!

Alison Reeves (2012-03-13 06:17:42)

Scoot - I agree that the Laura Ashley prints you linked to are more likely to appeal to women rather than men, however I think the decision about whether to buy 'attractive boxes' of whatever design is determined by whether visuals are important to you. If the boxes are likely to be on show then I perfectly understand why anyone would want to pay more. However if you have room to stash them away in a cupboard somewhere, then a cheaper option might be a better option - as long as it is functional.

industrious housewife (2012-03-13 06:41:32)

And it was the Filofax portable punch I bought initially. Not sure what use it would be really.

Steve Morton (2012-03-13 06:44:17)

The plastic ones are only good for single sheet paper punching and they aren't that good at that really. I was given one a few years ago, after a short time it stopped punching cleanly and the paper would tear easily.

Steve

Cat Burchmore (2012-03-13 06:46:50)

I have the KW Trio and it's great!

On another note, I am thinking about an A4 filifax... I use alot of A4 sheets for work and I can't get them to work in A5 format. I already use an A5 as my life planner and another A5 for my part time job. My full time one requires something bigger. it's either that or a standard ringbinder and I do so want something better. Does anyone have any recomendations on a particular model? I won't be using it as a diary as all, just for different projects & notes. I am a little disappointed that black seems to be my only option, but hey I guess black is professional.

Jotje (2012-03-13 06:54:57)

Cat, Filofax will be introducing the raspberry Finsbury in A4 size soon! If you don't like black, I would wait for that one!

If I need A4, I always end up choosing A4 binders, sometimes in a more "appealing" look. For me, there is really not need for the A4 binder to have a closure snap, so I'll save me the money ;-)

P.S. I also have the KW Trio. The best feature is being able to punch Pocket, Personal AND A5 sized paper. I love it, and it is in full service here. Never failed me!

Jotje (2012-03-13 06:56:41)

Am I missing something ....???????

Jotje (2012-03-13 06:57:46)

Talking about offensive ... You should see some of the security words, blogger gives me! Ouch! LOL

Scoot (2012-03-13 07:41:42)

The trouble with loving leather Faxes themselves, not just using a standard ring binder, is that I have to admit to being guilty of putting visuals and aesthetics ahead of basic practicality. I rather liking the Laura Ashley design, like the Temperley, but it is just going a little too far in buying them for myself. I believe that a certain someone wouldn't worry about spending £10 on a cardboard box if she liked the design; unlike me.

I have my frequently accessed inserts in spare faxes and box files but most others are in the attic and stored within shoe boxes/off boxes strengthened with packing tape, also plastic bags with large rubber bands wrapped around etc. If they're not in plastic packets then I have string tags through them to keep them together.

I have thought about recovering my frequently used sturdy boxes with sticky backed plastic or wallpaper etc but the designs are invariably focussed toward the feminine perspective, being the creative flair/deciding factor in making such decorating decisions, and so I suppose I've just stayed the coward and kept with multi-coloured stationery box files.

Anita (2012-03-13 08:12:24)

I have an A4 Strata which I managed to pick up cheaply on eBay. For me personally, it looks quite boring & too masculine so I've purchased some Swarovski crystals to bling it up. On the plus side, it's a filo, holds quite a lot & is pretty light for its size. I was originally eyeing up some cherry Classics, but they still go for more than I wanted to pay 2nd hand & would be much heavier.

Could've gone for a normal binder, but the pockets & writing pad are handy & I do think it looks more professional for when I'm seeing clients.

Steve Morton (2012-03-13 08:14:36)

An A4 binder or folder with an iPad holder built in would interest me at the moment.... Malden one especially!... Justsayin!

Butanben (2012-03-13 09:13:01)

Just wanted to say how much I am enjoying using Steve and Ray's A5 Amended Time Management Week per View diary. Think I have found my perfect format. Thanks guys!

Steve Morton (2012-03-13 09:46:41)

And we have year planners out later today...

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-03-13 11:10:10)

My KW Trio is MUCH better than my Rapesco!! I vote for that one!!

Anita (2012-03-13 12:16:45)

Why are filofaxes so addictive?? Got back down to two & have just bought a bargain personal Domino snake on eBay. No enabling required from you peeps! Looks like it was one of the beauty gift box ones as only things missing are the atomiser pen & voucher.

Cat Burchmore (2012-03-13 12:21:47)

Steve I am SO with you there, that would be wonderful!

Cat Burchmore (2012-03-13 12:23:00)

Thanks Jotje, I would seriously love that, but do we know when it's coming? I want it now! I have no patience when it comes to filofas :)

Steve Morton (2012-03-13 12:30:58)

According to my reliable source of information... it will be sometime in March... and we are nearly half way through so soon I would say!

Cat Burchmore (2012-03-13 12:38:24)

Fab, thanks Steve, I think I might just hold out then. Although I won't enjoy having to pay full price, I do like a bargain. Although if City Organiser gets them I can use their fab code :)

Alison Reeves (2012-03-13 13:39:53)

I have an A4 Cherry Classic - I bought it because I was convinced it was the answer to my everyday organisation, but I found it a bit too big to have open on my desk all the time, and when travelling to clients with a pad and some file papers a document folder would do just as well. Which reminds me that I also have a Camel A4 document folder that I had planned to use for this purpose. Both are really beautiful, and I wish I could get more use out of them, but there is always a but ...

Shanananana (2012-03-13 14:02:28)

Europa (stationery brand sold by Ryman's in the UK) do an expanding file that's the perfect width and just a bit longer than tabbed dividers for Personal size Faxes, I have two and found them perfect for storing my inserts and things, and for A5 I use a DVD box from Paperchase.

crofter (2012-03-13 14:06:15)

I went to Bill Westerman's Getting Sh\*t Done system in November of last year just to try it, and at the first of the year I liked it so well that I switched over to it completely. Now I use the tabbed month on 2 pages, and cut my squared paper from A-4 Rhodia pads. The paper is oh so nice, and as I have retired now, I don't have near the appointments to keep track of, but still have much to do. I find this system works really well for me, and the real bonus is, it enabled me to get away from the Filo paper.

There is a link on this site for that system, plus a big comment section on Flickr, just type in Bill Westerman and it will take you right to the link.

LucyLastic (2012-03-13 14:20:43)

I asked Filofax when the Compact Finsbury in raspberry would be coming out and they said 'in the next couple of weeks'. That was on 5 March . . .

Ray Blake (2012-03-13 14:23:24)

Nicer to be able to write on good paper, too, isn't it?

Butanben (2012-03-13 22:07:16)

Ray, you're so right!! I've printed my Philofaxy amended TM WPV off on my usual standard paper, but now it is working well for me, I shall use some of my Conqueror paper. You've read my mind in that I am yearning to do that now!! I've put your MOTP onto Conqueror vellum style paper now for my job search updates. I've looked at the planners new out today too. Middle of the night insomnia has had me reading philofaxy. Amazing the number of formats there are actually, which is just great. I've said it before, but I think being able to \*actualize\* these onto the computer is such a talent and must be great creative fun for you both too. Isn't it wonderful when you can share a talent for the enjoyment of others too? Think I have mucked up with my use of pens though. Gel ones from WH Smith, so I can colour code my diary. They are fabulous colours, and I love them, but run out quickly.... maybe all gel pens do, but I think I will have to investigate the range of multi coloured diary pens available out there.

Butanben (2012-03-13 22:18:06)

Sounds like a good excuse to enable the purchase of a new pen and gorgeous atomiser perfume. \*Ahem\* \*Cough\* just to go with the beautiful Filofax. Enjoy your new Domino..... sounds fabulous.

Butanben (2012-03-13 22:27:31)

I think that the universe may be telling me to go on a diet, as one of my double passwords in replying here was oinks!!! Hmmmm!! Is my computer web-cam secretly bugged, FBI style, to catch me eating fattening munchies?? After all, I've always said, if you eat chocolate whilst reading Philofaxy, the calories don't count, right???

Lime Tree (2012-03-14 03:26:56)

Oooowwww I so want an A5 Snake Domino! Enjoy your new beauty!

Lynne Dove (2012-03-14 04:12:08)

A4 with ipad holder --- yum!

David Popely (2012-03-14 05:33:56)

Hi Crofter

I'm just experimenting with the Bill W GSD 'system', I'll report back here in due course. This has been prompted by the decision that I now have to give up using 'standard' FF inserts due to the incredibly poor paper quality, and also a bit of frustration with the proliferation of lists which seems to be arising out of GTD

Watch this space!

David Popely (2012-03-14 05:34:56)

I just keep mine in my bottom desk drawer. Tidy it isn't.....:)

crofter (2012-03-14 09:21:05)

Hi David,

I looked at GTD and it seemed to me to be a bit overkill, I spent so much time keeping up with it that I felt it actually cut down on my productivity. All the reviews and such. With GSD, you do a review everyday, just look at the list tells me all I need to know. To me, I was able to do more doing and less planning. Everybody is different, so if it works for you, that is all that matters.

I know how you feel about Filofax paper. There are some of their forms that I still use, Motor Running Record is a favorite, but here again I just run them on Rhodia plain paper, cut them to size and punch them and it works great.

I will be interested to hear what you decide to do!

## Free yearly planner for your Filofax (2012-03-13 12:00) - Steve Morton

So far, we've produced a whole variety of diary layouts, but what's been missing until now is the big picture of the year on a page. Ray and I just had to tick that one off, so today we're sharing yearly planner pages for the A4 or A5 Filofax, and a fold out version for the Personal Filofax.

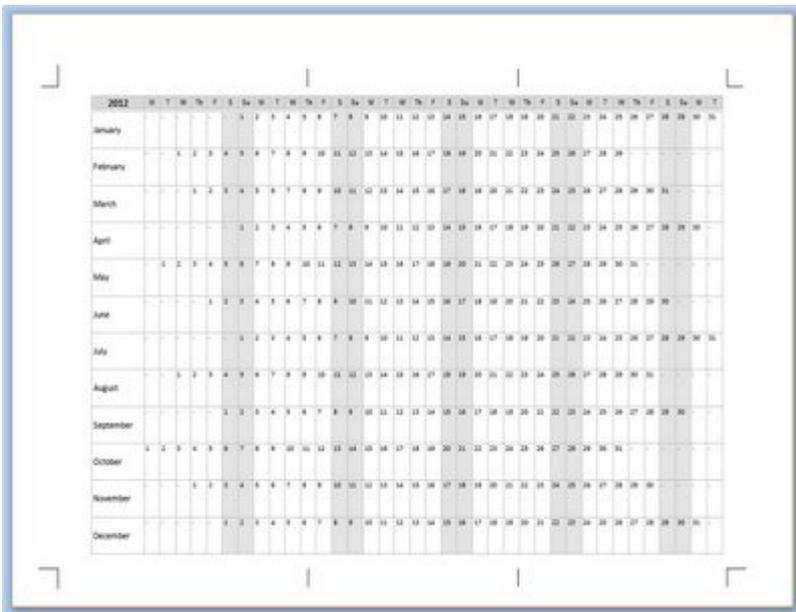
First of all, we're offering the pre-built, 2012 versions. Here is the A4 and A5 version:

[1] [yearlyA5.png]

You can download this as a [2]Word file or as a [3]PDF file. Either way, simply print for an A4 version or print on A4 using [4]booklet mode for an A5 page.

Alternatively you can print this A4 [5]Word file or this [6]PDF file and [7]Z fold it to fit A5.

Here's the version for the Personal Filofax:



[8]

Download either the [9]Word file or the [10]PDF file. You can find cutting and folding tips for this one in [11]this post.

## Source files

If you want to tinker, you can download the source files. For the A4/A5 version you'll need [12]this Word file and [13]this Excel file. For the Personal version you'll need [14]this Word file and the same Excel file. For the Z fold version you will need this [15]Word file and the same Excel file.

If you're into the whole mail merge thing and want to poke around under the bonnet, you'll find we've done this layout a little differently. Each record is just a month and we've used a special type of mail merge called a catalogue or directory merge to put twelve separate records on one page. To ensure you only get one header row on the table, we placed that in the document's header.

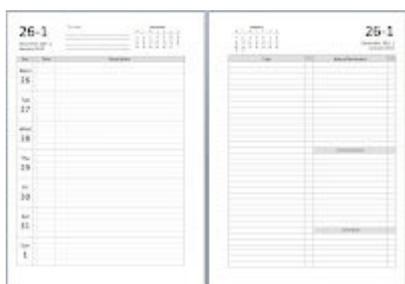
[16] 

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1. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-VY01-64WSWE/T1EReGVnfgI/AAAAAAAAAYk/mgLGeRxx3kc/s1600/yearlyA5.png>
2. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/YearPlanner/2012%20merged%20A4\\_A5%20annual%20planner.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/YearPlanner/2012%20merged%20A4_A5%20annual%20planner.docx)
3. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/YearPlanner/2012%20merged%20A4\\_A5%20annual%20planner.pdf](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/YearPlanner/2012%20merged%20A4_A5%20annual%20planner.pdf)
4. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/08/printing-a5-pages.html>
5. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/YearPlanner/2012%20merged%20A5%20annual%20planner%20ZFold.docx>
6. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/YearPlanner/2012%20merged%20A5%20annual%20planner%20ZFold.pdf>
7. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2010/07/want-to-use-bigger-pages-in-your-a5-its.html>
8. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-hd6I7MXFZpc/T1ERoG0Su-I/AAAAAAAAAYs/BinsqYsZdxg/s1600/yearlyPers.png>
9. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/YearPlanner/2012%20merged%20Personal%20annual%20planner.docx>
10. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/YearPlanner/2012%20merged%20Personal%20annual%20planner.pdf>
11. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2012/01/printing-personal-fold-out-page-for.html>
12. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/YearPlanner/Annual%20planner%20A4-A5%20base%20doc.docx>
13. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/YearPlanner/Annual%20planner%20source%20data.xlsx>
14. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/YearPlanner/Personal%20annual%20planner%20base%20doc.docx>
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## Diary Inserts - What next? (2012-03-13 17:21) - Steve Morton



[1] Ray and I are making good progress with our programme of creating all the various 'standard' formats of diary inserts for most sizes of Filofax organisers. We still have a few more to release in the next few weeks. However, we are now looking to do some non-standard ones.

You will see I have created a poll to estimate the sort of demand for some of the ideas we came up with in a mini very informal brain storming session earlier this evening on Skype.

Are there any other ideas you would like to see for a dated insert? Some silly suggestions could be a diary with a space to record which Filofax organiser you are currently using, or one with a 5 star rating included for the boy friend or girl friend of the moment....

We have included an 'Other' category in the poll, if you can put in the details of your suggestion in the comments to this post... or email [philofaxy\[at\]gmail\[dot\]com](mailto:philofaxy@gmail.com) with your suggestion including what size you would like it in. May be include a sketch of the rough layout of the page to give us a bit of a head start that will be great.

1. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-9QdIC3uW4hs/TzfZ01p221I/AAAAAAAAKQQ/Yq0wx-hfCL8/s1600/enhancedweekview.jpg>

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The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-03-13 17:27:54)

Hullo! I would LOVE a time management style day on 2 pages for personal please, to print on A4 paper (not pre-cut personal paper as I have no way to put other paper in the library printers I use)

Thanks!!

JohnofJenkins (2012-03-13 21:33:34)

Hi, I would like an insert for "Cellar Notes" both Personal and A5. This would include, Wine, Date of purchase, Vintage, Price, Merchant. Then two columns - Date Opened and Remarks. I think that would be neat and I would make good use of that.

Thanks

John

haikukolorum.com (2012-03-13 21:40:56)

a week on one page

with a scale from one to five

to rate your mood. good?

Butanben (2012-03-13 22:40:15)

I use a tv planner to plan my viewing and radio listening for the week. Means I don't waste idle time tv grazing and don't miss my favourite programmes either. Takes time to use at first, but is then is quicker, as many programmes are on at the same time and day each week. I buy a TV guide and enter the programmes from there.

Ray Blake (2012-03-14 03:02:00)

@TPS - that one is on its way.

@Butanben - Steve showed me the page you sent him with your TV/Radio schedule. I like it.

Alison Reeves (2012-03-14 05:52:18)

Ray/Steve - I have a number of inserts that I have created which I'll happily send across - you could probably make them look a lot prettier. do we currently have one for passwords/logins? That is the next thing I have to get a grip on.

I've started to try and keep a (spasmodic!) diary for food / exercise so would be happy to collaborate on this.

The Slow Coach (2012-03-14 11:10:06)

I really like the Project Plan included with the Filofax Time Management series of diary inserts. It would be great to have a customisable year-long planner similar to the one provided by Filofax but, in addition, I'd love a set of twelve monthly Project Plans.

Steve Morton (2012-03-14 12:08:23)

Try this one Alison on the Files page Internet Site Info (A5)

Steve Morton (2012-03-14 12:15:33)

I have a copy of the project plans but I'm not sure how easy they will be to recreate/adapt. But I will look in to your idea of a 12 monthly one.

Tim (2012-03-14 16:39:30)

All the undated Time Management pages are still currently available (in the UK at least) and marked as copyright Filofax. That includes Project Plan, Project Planner, Results Planner, Meeting Planner etc. It's one thing reproducing items that have long since been discontinued (such as Cellar Notes) or are long-term unobtainable (the TM 2012 WO2P diary inserts in particular). However, I personally don't think we should risk breach of copyright by copying/ replicating page designs that are both in the current Filofax range and listed as in stock.

There has never been a monthly Time Management Project Plan, so that would be different!

Steve Morton (2012-03-14 16:49:45)

Yes as you will have seen all of the designs released so far are different to the Filofax ones. Hopefully better! I'm looking in to the Monthly Project plan request. I have a copy of the year one, I've never used it myself. But I'm sure a monthly one will be possible to create.

Ray Blake (2012-03-14 16:54:56)

@Tim: I agree. I'm all about filling gaps and creating what doesn't already exist.

Saffy (2012-03-15 05:46:58)

I completely missed this and the previous post, don't know how.

I would have thought a family planner would be requested. I used the Filofax family pack last year and it was brilliant for me although on the website people complained about the boxes being too small. I had the A5 version and had no complaints. It worked a treat when I stuck with it. It did come with a whole lot of 'useless' inserts, well useless to me.

Liisa P. (2012-03-15 20:23:48)

I would like to have a blank A5 and personal day per page diary. No time slots, tasks or notes, just plain lined page (though I do love the icons on the 2DPP inserts!) with the month and date on the top.

janet (2012-03-16 13:56:35)

I just wanted to thank you for all the hard work you have done in filling the huge gap for this kind of refill. I was really battling with the standard filo inserts.

## **How do you use: Home Maintenance ('Fly Lady') (2012-03-14 00:00) - Steve Morton**

Continuing with our series of how you use for your Filofax for specific tasks.

So this week, how have you set up your Filofax to keeping track of your Home Maintenance Tasks, cleaning, renewals, kitchen equipment maintenance, cleaning filters on dishwashers, washing machines etc.

Are there any specific inserts you use, or require? If they don't exist already I'm sure we can create them and make them available for you.

Do you have a home Filofax dedicated to running your home combined with Family planner. Tell us in the comments.

If you can share pictures on Flickr or your own blog post then please post links in the comments.

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Deeji (2012-03-14 05:02:44)

I love Philofaxy... After months of not having access to the internet I came on here today with the sole purpose of finding info about a home/family organizer, which I intend to use my A5 Vintage Rose Finchley for. Me and DH are finally getting cracking with moving in together for the first time :D SO EXCITED! And once again Philofaxy is amazingly on par with my train of thought! Thank you Steve, I look forward to everyone's posts here - for now I'm off to look in the Files section!

ONutter (2012-03-14 05:37:59)

I've found through trial and error that cleaning and general home maintenance really is not something that lends itself to planning in detail. Now it is probably because I'm a "clean enough" person, who tend to things when they start to bother me or I must but otherwise tend to let cleaning be.

With that said, I do have a few important reminders written in my calendar. Such as the fire alarm and extinguisher checks, but only things that I am prone to forget entirely about if not written down.

I also do write down any "musts" at the top of my journal page every evening. So I am sure to get them done the

next day. Such as making sure the extra nice shirt is washed and dry for the presentation by the end of the week, and to put on another loaf of bread in the bread machine.

For all the rest, the routine things that are not vital, they don't need planning since they remind you themselves (such as dust bunnies multiplying). All you need to do, and all I do, is to make sure there is time in the day to tend to those routine things. No lists or fancy sections in the world will help you keep a nice home if you don't allocate time for the home. So, boxed in pink, I set aside an hour a day for everything that needs doing in my home from cleaning the kitchen to sorting through the socks.

Miss.Oakden (2012-03-14 06:04:48)

I don't follow the fly lady method but I have an entire section in my filofax set up for home management, just to make sure I remember when I have done things. I have pages for meal planning, food I have in the house, cleaning schedule, budgetting.

I have made quite a few of these pages myself (some to be filled in and printed and some for printing then filling in) which I am more than happy for anyone to have a copy of.

xx

Alison Reeves (2012-03-14 09:33:36)

I've emailed you!

Alison Reeves (2012-03-14 09:36:56)

@Onutter - I love the idea of just boxing an hour off in the diary to get this done - I always run out of time so this would work well for me. However I also need some lists / checklists / daily priorities as it would be easy for me to get sidetracked.

Butanben (2012-03-14 09:47:47)

What a great idea to have a home task question. I have set up a 1 page cleaning rota to try and track tasks each day. Just started, so I'll see how it goes. My kind of mini fly lady. Miss Oakden, I would love to see your household inserts. Do you mind sharing them and sending by e. mail attachment?? If so, my e. mail address is je.mccourt@virgin.net.I'd be ever so grateful.I will only use anything just for my individual use, but I am badly needing to get a household system back in place.Being unemployed throws all usual routines out of synch.Rebalance is needed!!

Jotje (2012-03-14 09:59:21)

Another Flylady-fan here! In my Filofax, I have colour-coded the weeks on the year-overview so that I always know what zone I'm currently in. Behind that I have one page that lists chores that get repeated weekly (e.g. Monday: pay bills, water plants; Tuesday: mop kitchen floor, make menu-list from wednesday to saturday; etc etc). Here I also keep a list of the Quick Cleaning that I do on Saturday (Flylady calls this "Home Blessing").

I transfer the weekly and Quick Cleaning items to the appropriate date. I like to have it in front of me every day. Behind one of my tabs I have the Zone's activities all written out. I check them off with Frixion pens, so that I can erase the checkmarks once I move on to the next zone. I also block out an hour a day to work on my zones.

I no longer write down my morning and evening routines, because I have now done them a million times and know them by heart. Morning routines get done when I get up, and the rest after I have gotten the kids to school. Evening routines after dinner and before I go to bed. Routines are life-savers IMO!

I have my dinner plans written at the bottom of the day on my weekly pages. In lime-green frixion pens, so that I can move it around, should anything unforeseen happen. Or maybe just because nobody felt like eating spinach, I'm really not the meanest of all mums ... he he.

To answer the original question, of whether I need preprinted sheets: nope, I'm just fine with what I have. With household chores you have to make sure that the strive for perfection isn't blocking the actual process!

Femke (2012-03-14 10:53:07)

Wow, Judith, that's inspiring! I have just picked up my Filofax again, so I may use your system as a guideline!

I did a post on plannerisms about Filofax and the Flylady system: <http://www.plannerisms.com/2011/09/philofaxy-all-stars-guest-post-femke.html> (though I fell off the bandwagon right after that post!). Still think it's a

fabulous system.

Anita (2012-03-14 11:15:37)

I do like FlyLady, but also found that the cleaning just gets done & don't feel the need for in-depth planning. Some times I'll add 'clean bathroom' etc. to my to-do lists if I'm feeling a bit overwhelmed, but don't have a separate home filo.

I will also box time off & find cleaning is a great antidote to some thing like studying/brain stuff.

missfoc (2012-03-14 11:43:47)

Do you have images to go with this? I'd love to see your layout for this to see exactly how it works. I'm still trying to perfect not being a perfectionist! lol.

DEM (2012-03-14 14:14:01)

Hello! I have emailed you as well. Would love to see your creations!

Miss\_Oakden (2012-03-14 14:42:10)

Not sure what's happened but I've not recieved any emails.

Anyone whose interested still please email. Louise.oakden28(at)btinternet(dot)com

Steph (2012-03-14 15:22:51)

I was unable to email you for some reason. but I would love to see the pages you came up with. I have a section in my filo for household as well, but can't find any good printables for it. Really interested in the meal planning, food inventory and budgeting. you can send me an email if you would like. stephanie dot jm @ live dot ca or the one attached to this message.

Steph (2012-03-14 15:31:48)

I sent one to you. Thank you.

kari m (2012-03-14 18:13:27)

I found this blog about a month after buying my first filofax ever. I bought a pocket butterfly and my plan with the planner is to be more focused/organized both personally and in my professional life.

This blog has given me so much start help with my filofax.... A big thank you, from me to you :)

The home maintenance idea is a great idea. I think a kind of system can make my home maintenance much more efficient. Im so new to filofax... i have just started to see all the possibilities this planner gives me.

What i clearly see is that my planner is to small..... :)

Kari

Susanne Namdar (2012-03-14 20:06:21)

I am not familiar with flylady but I do have a sub section "Home and Garden" under my Projects tab. General cleaning gets done and I do not need to make notes for that. I wrote down the dimensions of areas in our apartment, like kitchen countertops, patio door height and length, etc. These are areas I am planning to improve one day and it is great to have the information handy. Also some paint samples. So no real planning happening here. Just random notes.

industrious housewife (2012-03-15 07:04:03)

I saw how you set this up in the video further down the blog, very, very inspiring. I'm going to be pretty much copying it!

I'm not totally on the ball with the smaller elements of the flylady system, ie. shiny sinks and found I've gotten 'bogged down' in those first steps which stopped me progressing on the bigger picture elements ie. doing zones, by taking the flylady system out of the pink fluffy website and cheesy emails it should be doable.

I'd been wondering how to fit daily/routine things that I need to work at into a sort of GTD system and have settled on a daily checklist to include things like taking the rubbish out, taking vitamins, practicing things I'm working on etc. So not all housework, but included.

Looking forward to my frixion pens arriving!

Joey Quinton (2012-03-15 09:29:38)

I would love to see the household pages that you have created.  
quinton42503@gmail.com

stagasaurus (2012-03-17 10:24:31)

I have two transparent envelopes with coloured notepaper in to help me remember my routines. I have written out my morning, afternoon and bedtime routines on one and my weekly home blessing and the weekly task list on another. I tear out and throw away (recycle) my old diary pages once I finish a week, so that my routine sheet is always next to this weeks diary.

missfoc (2012-04-20 05:35:18)

Bit late to the party on this one, but i too would be interested in these. I've just this week received my A5 Domino which i have assigned as my Home Binder - to log anything & everything - Cleaning Scheudles a la Flylady, finances, Meal Planning, My daughter/school info etc.

I know what my dividers will be... I just haven't committed to actually starting the set up.

## Philofaxy London Meet Up - May 2012 (2012-03-15 00:00) - Steve Morton

So this is a 'calling notice' for people who would like to attend the next Philofaxy Meet Up in London. 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 26th May 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:

IFRAME: [1][http://maps.google.co.uk/?ie=UTF8 &ll=51.507571,-0.099468 &spn=0.007145,0.011973 &t=v &z=17 &output=embed](http://maps.google.co.uk/?ie=UTF8&ll=51.507571,-0.099468&spn=0.007145,0.011973&t=v&z=17&output=embed)

[2]View Larger Map

The [3]menu for [4]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. 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 [5]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** but **not before 9am (UK time) tomorrow Friday 16th March 2012**. Please only request a place if you are 99 % certain that you will be able to attend on the 26th 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 16th and 26th May.

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.

### 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 [6]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 have now been allocated for this meet up. But if you would like to be added to the reserve list, please email me and I will add you to the list.

In your email please include your mobile number and how close to the meeting date and time we can call you to say someone has dropped out and would you like to come instead of them.

For instance if you live in London and some one drops out that morning I would look down the list for someone who could get there in the remaining time and call them first. I hope that makes sense and is fair to everyone.

Thank you for all the prompt emails this morning.

Steve

1. <http://maps.google.co.uk/?ie=UTF8&ll=51.507571,-0.099468&spn=0.007145,0.011973&t=v&z=17&output=embed>
2. <http://maps.google.co.uk/?ie=UTF8&ll=51.507571,-0.099468&spn=0.007145,0.011973&t=v&z=17&source=embed>
3. [http://www.tate.org.uk/modern/pdf/jul11-lunch\\_afternoon.pdf](http://www.tate.org.uk/modern/pdf/jul11-lunch_afternoon.pdf)
4. <http://www.tate.org.uk/modern/eatanddrink/cafe.htm>
5. <http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/>
6. [http://journeyplanner.tfl.gov.uk/user/XSLT\\_TRIP\\_REQUEST2?language=en](http://journeyplanner.tfl.gov.uk/user/XSLT_TRIP_REQUEST2?language=en)

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haikukolorum.com (2012-03-15 00:47:04)

wish I could attend  
but my boss wont let me go  
bosses are rubbish.  
but while in London  
see Holborn, Finsbury, Finchley  
and then New Malden.

Ray Blake (2012-03-15 03:39:58)

Wish I could be part of this one, but I'm going to be in Leicester at the Space Centre with the kids. Darn.

Laurie (2012-03-15 05:42:03)

Wish I could be there!! Have a wonderful time everyone!!!

Butanben (2012-03-15 06:59:29)

@Ray...Space Centre.... Leicester!!!!!!????!!!! I lived in a small village called Anstey, on the outskirts of Leicester and went to the local village school there. No Space Centre then.... we always did manage Bradgate Park though, which was always fantastic for a picnic and for the deer. Plus the wonderful story of Lady Jane Grey and the pollarded trees... the tops of the trees were cut off on the day she was beheaded and have remained pollarded ever since. So sad... she was such a young queen.Have a WONDERFUL time and say hi to Leicestershire for me!!

Steve, I am sorry, but as I am still job seeking, I can't manage it this time, much as I would really love to. It sounds so good. Hope that folks have just a superb day. If anyone is dithering over going.... don't. It is just fabulous... great company and so much sharing of Filofaxes, task management bits and bobs and a whole load of laughter, chat and photographs on the way. Plus a good meal shared together. Lovely!

Heather from Heather Holistics (2012-03-15 07:42:16)

@Butanben Ha Ha, guess where I live now? Yes Anstey. Bradgate Park is wonderful but so is the Space Centre :)

Tim (2012-03-15 07:43:33)

The last weekend in May is always the Late Spring Bank Holiday in the UK (successor to Whitsuntide, which varies according to when Easter falls - hence the change a few years ago). However with the Queen's Jubilee in

2012, the Bank Holiday has been moved to 4th June with the official Jubilee Bank holiday on Tuesday 5th. I mention this because a lot of our holiday cottage guests seem very confused, especially as some diaries were printed before the decision was taken by Parliament to move the Late Spring Bank Holiday into June. Filofax and Flex diary pages seem to be accurate, but readers will no doubt be hurriedly checking! So, in short, Steve's date is NOT on the UK Bank Holiday weekend but on a normal Saturday. (I'm already booked onto a lads fell walking weekend in the Lake District, alas!)

Tim (2012-03-15 08:33:46)

... and why not Bloomsbury, Hampstead, Stratford etc! And then maybe head out (on the A4!) to take in Eton and Winchester? If we've time we could press on to Kendal (A5!) before taking tea at Balmoral! (I'm originally from Birmingham so let's not end up under Spaghetti Junction in Aston!)

Jotje (2012-03-15 08:39:54)

While I cannot join you this time anyway, I was still wondering if for future meetups the actual booking could be several weeks sooner? When you first announced the date of the meetup, Eurostar tickets were half the price that they are today! And you'll understand that I'd rather spend my money on Filofaxes than tickets .... ;-)

Butanben (2012-03-15 12:57:09)

WOW!! What a small world it is. I can barely believe that!! My childhood home was in Peartree Close... still there I believe. I was always at Bradgate Park as a child or cycling with my dad around the reservoir at Cropstone. Happy days! I also remember the packhorse bridge and taking a fishing net and jam jar down to the brook. There was a lovely church and a wee sweetie shop on the corner. Mum would occasionally give my friend and I a sixpence to spend there. Oooh the choices it had. My cat, Ginger, used to trot down the hill to the school gates and wait for me every day at 3.30... and walk me the short walk home.... bless him. Wow!! Give my love to Anstey. I am sure, as it is such a coincidence, that Steve won't mind me posting a non Filofax related comment here. xx

Filofreak (2012-03-15 13:01:29)

Oh, how I wish I could attend! But, from California, this is such a long and expensive journey. However, one day I hope to make it there and meet you all in person and have a wonderful lunch while discussing our lovely Filos. Have a great time everyone!

Anita (2012-03-15 13:48:42)

I hope you all have a wonderful time! It was already in my diary, but I had the opportunity to get a place on an amazing course over that week end. You'll be able to see the new ones including the purple Malden :) For anyone undecided about going, I'd thoroughly recommend it as every one was so friendly & I had a great day at the last one.

nina Elfenfisch (2012-03-15 18:26:39)

i like the way this meet up is planned and explained here ^^

much much fun to you guys!

(i think my comment function is working again oO i'm almost scared to push the publish button in a few seconds :D )

nina Elfenfisch (2012-03-15 18:27:07)

iiiihihihihihi it's working!!!! hihihhi

Steve Morton (2012-03-16 05:51:27)

Yes it was a tricky one to plan with all the Bank Holidays around that time. I also wanted to avoid getting anywhere near the Olympics which has increased the cost of air travel in that period.

Steve Morton (2012-03-16 05:52:50)

We will try to live tweet on the day so look out for updates on Twitter.

This is our 5th London meet up so the planning is fairly routine now!

Steve Morton (2012-03-16 08:32:55)

All places have now been allocated. See my Update above if you wish to be added to the reserve list.  
Steve

Steve Morton (2012-03-16 10:35:30)

Thank you everyone for your prompt response this morning.

## Free For All Friday No. 174 (2012-03-16 00:32) - Laurie

”[1]Beware the Ides of March...” Did you all make it through unscathed?? I hope so!

Tomorrow is St. Patrick’s Day! Do you or your community do anything to celebrate the [2]wearin’ o’ the green?

And for those of you in the UK and Ireland, don’t forget to call your Mum this Sunday!!

As always on Fridays, the floor is yours to discuss anything Filofax-related.

Have a great weekend everyone!

1. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ides\\_of\\_March](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ides_of_March)

2. <http://www.stpatricksfestival.ie/>

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Mary (2012-03-16 02:41:35)

Good day to everyone! Having reread many times Jotje’s post for her pocket Malden I have a question for those who started using the pocket size recently. Do they continue using it or are back to personal size? Just wondering...

David Popely (2012-03-16 04:40:10)

Got through the Ides OK thanks! Filofax-wise, I have now made a decision to junk all the rubbish quality paper inside my lovely Malden. I \*love\* the binder and having it with me - but when I open it.....urgh! All that horrible \*horrible\* appalling-quality FF paper staring at me. So I’m going to completely ‘spring-clean’ the contents, not really changing the setup or sections, but upgrading everything to a proper grade of paper. If anyone has any ‘stock’ of good quality inserts from other suppliers (in personal size) which they’re no longer using, I’d be interested in hearing from you. Otherwise, it’s off to London again Monday and Tuesday and I’ll sort something out while I’m there.....

Jotje (2012-03-16 04:57:29)

David, while time-consuming, I think the best option would be to buy high-quality paper from e.g. Staples (preferably bring your fountain pen to test the bits of sample paper they usually have) and then choose one of the great Ray/Steve templates and print your own.

Another option could be the Swedish or Danish inserts. I swear that the quality is much better than the flimsy UK Filofax paper ...

Jotje (2012-03-16 05:03:22)

Mary, I have now discovered that my work/personal life evolves in phases during the year. June to August are slow (thus Pocket-months); September-December are manageable (thus Personal) and November to May are crazy-full (thus A5). I always use only ONE binder for both work and personal. Anything else does not work for me.

At the end of the year I archive all different sizes in one Ikea DVD-box. Needless to say: I don’t rewrite stuff once I switch sizes. And I’m no longer bothered that I can’t stay with one size for the full year. I actually like it this way, because this means that all my Filofaxes are put to good use at least once a year!

If you print your own templates, you can switch sizes easily without too much waste of paper!

David Popely (2012-03-16 05:06:30)

Hi Jotje! Great idea, but just too time-consuming....all that printing...cutting...punching...for some people this is a hobby - for me it’s a business tool and I just don’t have the disposable time to devote. I hear that Smythson

and Mont Blanc both have refills (at sky-high prices) on decent paper, so I might take a stroll up Bond Street in Monday/Tuesday and see what's there. Agreed about the Swedish/Danish inserts, but the vagaries of internet ordering and the continuing lack of a joined-up worldwide website (don't even get me started on that one) mean it's all just too much trouble. Why can't things be simple, eh? :) The UK inserts have got to go, though, the only in-house option I would even consider are cotton cream - does anyone use cotton cream and can comment on the paper weight and quality?

Using a fountain pen....ah, I remember that....i \*need\* paper in my FF which will take a fountain pen \*properly\* without bleed-through. The set-up has been working fine since December....now all I need is decent pen and paper to go inside those lovely ochre covers and I'm well and truly sorted!

doris98 (2012-03-16 05:28:08)

Mary, I myself have not used a Personal for years. It's probably because I don't have a 9-5 job, I'm not in school, and have small handwriting. If I did, the Personal would be the size for me.

katka (2012-03-16 05:36:03)

Good friday all. Has anybody seen Filo Petal in person? Do you know if there are any card slots and pen loop inside?

Steve Morton (2012-03-16 05:48:08)

May contract it out? Donationware may be..

Steve Morton (2012-03-16 05:48:58)

Busy morning here with people requesting places for the meet up. There are a few places still available but get your requests in sooner rather than later....

HM (2012-03-16 06:00:56)

Hi Mary! I've just bought an A5 because my pocket wasn't big enough for me (i'm entering a phase which will involve lots of note taking) But i'm keeping my Pocket! I'll use it as a wallet and diary on the go (to have my schedule handy and a place to take notes) while the A5 will mainly stay home. I think Pocket is a great size, Personal is too "in-between" for me (less portable than Pocket, not easy enough to write in ) which is also its main advantage for other people :)

Tim (2012-03-16 06:11:59)

David - I've been gradually going over to cotton cream. I started last June with a Flex academic year WO2P diary, spliced and punched (Steve did the same thing and wrote a post on the topic). Vast improvement! When this runs out in the summer, I will switch to printing the new Philofaxy Enhanced WO2P on cotton cream.

My year planner 2011 (and now 2012) has also been the Flex one. This gets used daily and is holding together much better than the Filofax Time Management year page, I used to use.

I purchased a ream of A4 cream paper and am gradually re-printing all my printed information pages onto this (cut into A5 pages) I'm also now trying a Flex slim ruled notebook - cotton cream again. This is working surprisingly well.

The cream pages look great in my brown A5 Holborn which has become a sort of "Filoflex combi".

It's only when you write on better quality paper that you realise how poor the standard Filofax stuff is.

Sandra (2012-03-16 06:43:44)

The Swedish inserts are so much nicer quality then the regular Filofax paper. I had no troubles ordering online, and I think I received items quickly considering I'm in the US(6 business days!).

Scoot (2012-03-16 06:56:37)

I tried using A6 paper (105mm wide) in a ff slimline, as opposed to the personal sized paper being 94mm wide, and immediately found myself writing complete sentences and paragraphs. I think this was due to the extra width, although subconsciously I could have been reacting to the differing proportions of A6 paper...which match paper that I normally write on...being A5 & A4. Since "my place/system" for writing sentences and paragraphs was the

A5 fax, and that was too useful to lose, I went back to using 94mm wide personal sized paper for notes in the slimline and again just record some facts and figures...which I believe is correct for the size of paper.

I believe that, as I used to do, technically I could generally get away with a "sort of personal sized" fax that takes A6 paper...but with big rings. The one downside to putting A6 paper in a slimline fax was that 5mm of the edge became slightly crumpled.

Scot (2012-03-16 06:59:23)

Can I suggest using dark brown ink on the cream paper. It was a tip from the fountain pen network website, which I immediately dismissed as boring but on reflection found it perfect... I think it adds a touch of class.

David Popely (2012-03-16 07:20:58)

@Scot that's a \*great\* idea....who makes the ink? Is it available in cartridge form? My go-to fountain pen is a Watermans.....can get brown ink for it? Superb idea!

@Tim indeed, I've just got fed up with having a good looking binder, good setup which does the job (now), and poor quality paper which wont even take a fibre tip let alone a fountain pen. Tempted to try this Swedish inserts idea as well.....

Scot (2012-03-16 08:08:51)

I like Waterman inks too, strong colours, even in my Mont Blanc which has never liked same brand of ink. The store didn't have Waterman brown so I mixed some red and green to get one version of brown, also red with a little black to get a brown with a hint of purple; which I prefer. I use a syringe to fill a number of cartridges and then use melted hot glue to seal the end.

David Popely (2012-03-16 08:15:21)

I've just looked at the Watermans website and they appear to do a barrel converter - I might go into a Websters Pen Shop when I'm in London next week and see if I can get a converter, then I can just buy any brand of ink. The only issue is that the pen doesn't fit the small FF pen loop (again, don't get me started on this), so I might look at a slimline fountain pen instead.

Steve Morton (2012-03-16 08:23:34)

All places now filled. If anyone would like to go on the reserve list. Please email me

Iris (2012-03-16 08:38:28)

One of my readers (on Filomaniac) has seen one and confirmed that there are no card slots/pockets inside.

Jotje (2012-03-16 10:53:27)

I use the Lamy fountain pens with cartridges, and those come in brown as well (and a rainbow of other colours actually). I use the Fine nib and the cotton cream FF paper is very suitable. The nib slides smoothly over the paper ...

David Popely (2012-03-16 10:57:18)

I've heard very good reports of the Lamy fountain pens elsewhere.....I think this is something I might try out - thanks Jotje.

Anyone got a recommended supplier for the Lamy pens (and full range of cartridges) in London? I'm there Monday/Tuesday, so seems like a good opportunity.....

Steve Morton (2012-03-16 11:01:31)

Try City Organiser: <http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/acatalog/Lamy.html>

David Popely (2012-03-16 11:05:00)

Thanks Steve, just visited their website and they seem to have a very good range of Lamy, so I'll trawl up there on Tuesday afternoon and have a good look.

Butanben (2012-03-16 11:54:54)

What a fabulous idea. Brown ink on cotton cream paper. That really does appeal to me. I am having a real pen dilemma here, as I stupidly chose some cheap gel pens, which are not really doing it for me. I love to colour code my diary, so I am kind of back to square one pen wise. I have a lovely slimline fountain pen which I would really like to use. You've got me thinking now about brown ink. Sounds superb.

On another note. Does anyone spray fixative onto their Ray, Steve, printed diaries? Just wondered if folks set the ink in some way? .... Not that it is a problem at all.... more a question asked out of curiosity, as I am doing more and more print my own inserts. As always some great posts here.

Neil (2012-03-16 12:00:39)

Just wondering if anyone else thinks Filofax are missing a trick.

I'd like to see a pocket sized product that is aimed at men, one that would actually fit into a jeans pocket. Pocket sized paper, with decent leather but thin enough to lay flat straight out of the box (none of this rubbish that's bonded to a man made substrate and is never going to lay flat in a million years), that measures the same as the paper (ie no overlap), maybe a choice of ring sizes, and with no girly colours - black will do, and none of those assorted girly coloured inserts (like lavender blue or salmon pink). In fact, they could call it the "Filofax Black", perhaps.

Does anyone else think that Filofax should be talking to men as well as women in their focus groups?

Neil (2012-03-16 12:30:09)

Scoot, if you want to use A6 paper then why not try 140mm x 90mm paper (the size used in pocket Moleskines and many other notebooks) and use a pocket filofax.

It works so brilliantly you'd think that the filofax was designed for this size of paper.

Tim (2012-03-16 12:53:41)

Neil - to be fair, Filofax do currently offer Slimline (171mm x 95mm paper size), Pocket (120mm x 81mm) and Mini (105mm x 67mm). I personally use a Flex Slim wallet (150mm x 85mm) in grey. it's manly enough and I take it around with me when my A5 is too big to carry. It holds credit cards, business cards, bank notes, year planner, notepad, pen etc. and fits in a jacket or trouser pocket. It's made of their most awful grey, tacky plastic but a leather version is promised for later in the year.

See the recent interview with the City Organiser guy to read his view that Filofax are getting less and less interested in the male market.

Most of us agree with your comments on current Filofax quality, but these days they're built to wear out and be quickly replaced - not last forever like they were twenty five years ago!

As the majority of folk on this forum are women, I suggest any views on lavender, pink and (especially) purple Maldens, are best kept to yourself!

Nan (2012-03-16 12:59:21)

Not at all...we love you manly men! Besides, I'm a lady and most of my Filos are various shades of brown. I used a black A5 for business for years!

Nan (2012-03-16 13:00:15)

Well, actually I have 3 red ones as well...but red is a unisex color, no?

Steph (2012-03-16 13:09:47)

I use my pocket size in my handbag as a notebook. I do have a calendar in there so I can always know what is going on....but I use an A5 for all the time, and a pocket for notes. I love it!

Jotje (2012-03-16 13:33:27)

Neil, have you considered the slim pocket Topaz? Or pocket Lyndhurst? Both could match your description...

DJ (2012-03-16 14:33:10)

Neil—I agree with Jotje, I used a black Slimline Pocket Executive for 12 years, and now I have a brown Pocket Slimline Topaz (both with 11mm rings). Another option is the Pocket Guildford Extra Slim, also 11mm. You can still get the Pocket Topaz Slimline (in red) for \$50 on ebay.com. For superslim, go "Japanese" with the 8mm DaVinci:

<http://global.rakuten.com/en/store/ayumuzo/item/10052/>

Less is more, more or less...

LM (2012-03-16 14:37:13)

Hi, I have had a look at the pic of the purple Malden (again!!) and it just struck me that it looks like more of an Ochre than Vintage Pink kind of leather, ie that it is not all the same colour and that it will scratch easily but that it will add to its vintage charm. Can anyone confirm or deny this? Thanks!

Neil (2012-03-16 14:48:34)

@Jotje, I actually quite like the Lyndhurst (I use an A4 Lyndhurst at work) but I just find that whilst I can just about fit a "pocket" sized filofax in my pocket, I have to take it out when I am driving or sitting down. I do have an old pocket Kensington, filled with 140mm x 90mm paper, which I keep in the garden shed to record what I've planted where, but even with the slimmer rings it's still too big for me.

@Tim, I've nothing against feminine colours in the Filofax range; I was using a "tongue in cheek" macho persona to help emphasise what may well be the reason why men are far less likely to want to be associated with Filofax than they used to be.

@Tim, Many thanks for the suggestion about the flex. I hadn't thought of that.

Neil (2012-03-16 15:00:05)

@DJ, it's not the size of the rings, it's the height and width of the pocket filofax. What I'm suggesting is reducing the overlap so that the leather cover has the same height and width as the actual paper. In fact, you could actually use rings as big as 30mm and still get it into your pocket, if there was no overlap.

Steve Morton (2012-03-16 15:05:50)

News from City Organiser...

Purple Maldens have arrived in all sizes and will be online Monday / Tuesday. See Facebook tomorrow for buying advice!

Their Facebook page is: <https://www.facebook.com/cityorganiser>

Nikki france (2012-03-16 15:44:55)

sorry if this has been addressed before, but are Franklin Covey inserts fountain pen friendly?

IF I switch to personal size, I quite fancy the slightly wider page size ;)

Happy Friday to all

Nikki X

DJ (2012-03-16 16:05:26)

@Neil; the Pocket Slimlines (Executive, Topaz, Guildford Extra Slim) are considerably narrower and shorter than the regular Pocket Filofaxes. The DaVinci is narrower yet, barely covering 3 x 5" inserts (regular Pocket inserts are approximately 3 3/16" wide).

Gerard (2012-03-16 16:06:39)

David, I'm using the Danish WO2P diary, aka "uge per opslag". The paper is creme coloured but is \*not\* the same as cotton cream. Fountain pen ink doesn't feather on this paper, but there is some bleed-through, likewise with their checklist pages (Ref. 753027).

DJ (2012-03-16 16:12:12)

Here in California we usually celebrate St. Patrick's Day with a seven-course Irish dinner: a six-pack of Guinness

and a potato.

Alison Reeves (2012-03-16 16:23:56)

David - I have a spare cotton cream insert for Personal you can have if you email me your address.

I thoroughly recommend Lamy Safaris, but they do have a large barrel which won't fit into your pen loop. You could try a pen loop you stick into your binder I suppose. The Lamy's normally come with a M nib, but you can get everything from EF through Oblique to BB.

I have a fab Waterman my other half bought me for Xmas (can take cartridge or convertor and I got the convertor thrown in with it) - it writes beautifully in my filofax (TM pages). It's quite slim as well. In my experience Waterman inks are some of the best around despite being one of the most inexpensive and work well in all my pens including Mont Blanc. Having said that one of my absolute favourite inks is the Mont Blanc 'Toffee' - it's a great brown - but of course it depends on your eye and what shade you prefer.

LM (2012-03-16 16:47:34)

Does that mean they are available in the shop in London, where I happen to be? :)

Steve Morton (2012-03-16 16:50:53)

I suggest you ring them on Monday morning to check.

+44 (0) 20 7236 4166 9:30-18:00

By the way before anyone wonders... no I'm not on commission!!

Steve

Scot (2012-03-16 16:56:36)

I view the pocket and mini sizes of paper as impractical for a ringed system, the personal width of 94mm being as small as I am prepared to go. Also, I have such an enormous quantity of papers in personal size, A5 and A4 that I just couldn't bear the idea of spending more money on another size.

katka (2012-03-16 17:06:33)

Thanks a lot Iris.

Cat Burchmore (2012-03-16 17:58:13)

Wow, very very excited. Will defo be ordering one!!

terriknits (2012-03-16 20:31:06)

My Lamy Al-Stars and Safari fit in the elasticized pen loop of my A5 Kendal.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-03-17 09:24:10)

Hi everyone! I have put my A5 vintage pink Malden up on ebay, please take a look (and buy it!)

[http://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/A5-Malden-Vintage-Pink-Filofax-/3208695136\\_61?pt=UK\\_BOI\\_Office\\_Office\\_Supplies\\_Stationery\\_ET&hash=item4ab55039bd#ht\\_500wt\\_1287](http://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/A5-Malden-Vintage-Pink-Filofax-/3208695136_61?pt=UK_BOI_Office_Office_Supplies_Stationery_ET&hash=item4ab55039bd#ht_500wt_1287)

Thanks!!



[1]

Thank you to Gerard for the St Patrick's Day card.

Busy week? Why not relax and enjoy some Filofax blog posts... and we have some new sites to sneak up on and surprise!

- [2]Oops I did it again! - Heather Holistics
- [3]Weekly time sheet to print for your Filofax - My Life All in One Place
- [4]Have you twaddled up your Filofax? - The Crazy Suburban Mom
- [5]an update about my affair - Paper Lovestory
- [6]Planner Threesome - The Crazy Suburban Mom
- [7]Filofax update... - Bluebonnet Reads
- [8]Deco vs Enigma....chunky monkey Folifax - Loulou's Modern Musings
- [9]Moving to Wo2P and stickers galore! - Lancashire Cat
- [10]Filofax Compact Pennybridge Review - Rapunzel's World
- [11]What have I got in my pocketsets? - Paper Pens Ink
- [12]Update & New Favourites: Filofax - Sugar Cherries
- [13]Filofax love - Dear Little Fawn
- [14]Jazz in a Mini Filofax - Making Music
- [15]Customizing my Filofax Siena - Strickmuse
- [16]Bargain diaries and organisers in Tesco! - All Things Stationery
- [17]Aston pocket Filofax review after a week of use - Heather Holistics
- [18]Tab Fancy - Well Planned Life
- [19]How I carry credit cards, photos, and insurance cards in my mini Filofax - Sense of Gravity
- [20]Yoda: On Filofax - The Crazy Suburban Mom

- Your blog post could appear here next week... Please email us if we missed you this week.

Enjoy

1. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-d8UNomjQM80/T2D6XBGHPJI/AAAAAAAAAKfI/um4np6gqmT8/s1600/Philo+17-Mar-2012+v2.jpg>
2. <http://heatherholistics.blogspot.com/2012/03/oops-i-did-it-again.html>
3. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2012/03/weekly-time-sheet-to-print-for-your.html>
4. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/03/have-you-twaddled-up-your-filofax.html>
5. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/03/update-about-my-affair.html>
6. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/03/planner-threesome.html>
7. <http://bluebonnetreads.wordpress.com/2012/03/12/filofax-update/>
8. <http://louloudorsetsmusings.blogspot.com/2012/03/deco-vs-enigmachunky-monkey-folifax.html>
9. <http://lancashirecat.wordpress.com/2012/03/12/moving-to-wo2p-and-stickers-galore/>
10. <http://icclewu.blogspot.com/2012/03/filofax-compact-pennybridge-review.html>
11. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.com/2012/03/what-have-i-got-in-my-pocketses.html>
12. <http://sugarcherries.blogspot.com/2012/03/update-new-favourites-filofax.html>
13. <http://deerlittlefawn.blogspot.com/2012/03/filofax-love.html>
14. <http://ivan-makingmusic.blogspot.com/2012/03/jazz-in-mini-filofax.html>
15. <http://www.strickmuse.com/2012/03/customizing-my-filofax-siena.html>
16. <http://allthingsstationery.blogspot.com/2012/03/bargain-diaries-and-organisers-in-tesco.html>
17. <http://heatherholistics.blogspot.com/2012/03/aston-pocket-filofax-review-after-week.html>
18. <http://wellplannedlife.blogspot.com/2012/03/tab-fancy.html>
19. <http://senseofgravity.blogspot.fr/2012/03/how-i-carry-credit-cards-photos-and.html>
20. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/03/yoda-on-filofax.html>

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Sydney (2012-03-17 07:22:53)

sigh.... I have finished reading. I have to actually DO something now.

Sydney (2012-03-17 07:43:08)

Oh and I constantly see things on here I would like to do that would mess up my current system. I then spend a couple of days wondering how I could somehow adapt what I have. I then usually realise that what I already do works best for me. A few days later I read another post that makes me think 'oh I'd like that' and it starts all over again...

For example the moleskine book journal from Bluebonnet Reads - I think to myself 'mmm tasty, I would love to have that to read through again'.

I just list the books I read with an 'out of 10' mark and a code to say why it lost marks. Not fun to read again - just informative for me. However I am not sure I would keep up with writing that much about a book every time I read one. I read a lot. So am I looking at it as something I would actually do or just something I would like to do? I could just end up with an expensive notebook with 2 pages used...

Gerard (2012-03-17 16:27:14)

Thanks for the updates Steve - you always seem to find posts that I've missed!

## 'What's in my Filofax' - Nikki (2012-03-18 00:00) - Steve Morton

*You will remember [1]Nikki and I met up in Poitiers just before Christmas on a very wet and windy day! Anyway we had a great time exploring a nearby stationery shop. But you will recall the interest in Nikki's A5 Hampstead... well all will be revealed..*

I have almost "got there" with my organisation for my lifestyle and my filo, and thought I would share with the site, as it has given me soooooo much inspiration to truly make my Filofax my own!!

So I introduce my overstuffed A5 Hampstead in brown



[2]



[3]

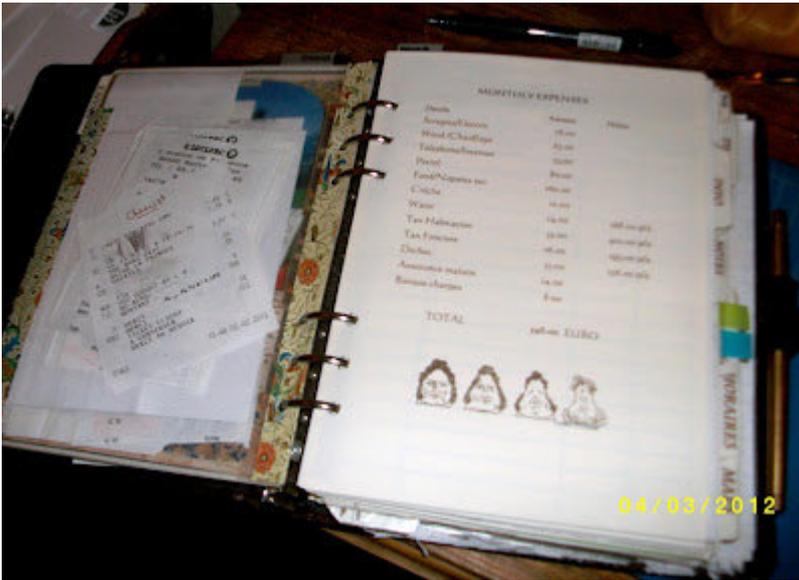
Inside I made a personal page inspired by illustrations from an old 'book of hours'. I am not particularly religious, but very inspired by medieval art, which you will discover as you walk through my filo :)



[4]

Small note pad and a few leaflets tucked into the side pockets, and a credit card calculator occupying one card slot!





[7]

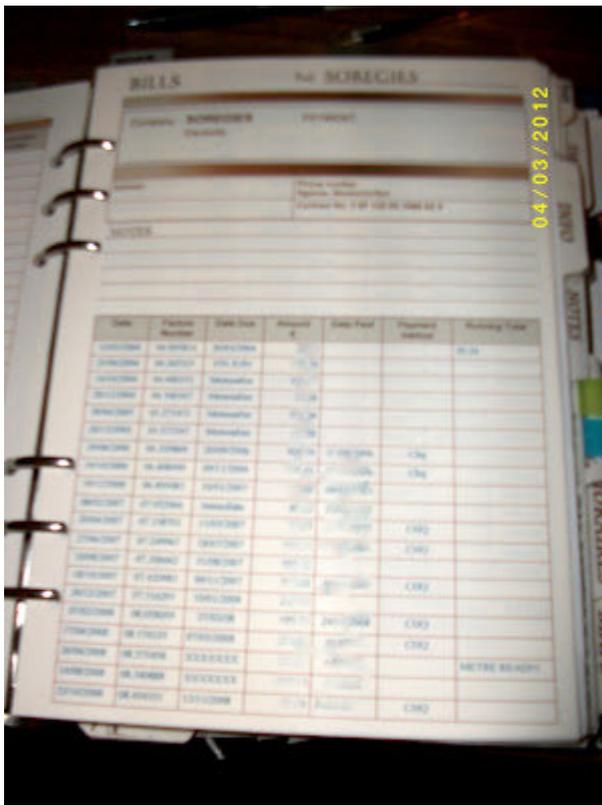
The a self made printed bills outstanding page, when due, when paid etc.



[8]

Next photo is a separate sheet I devised for each bill I get regularly for services/taxes etc. this gives me an overview of when I can expect a bill to come in, and how much it is likely to be. These will be hand written from now on, but I went back to the first bill since I moved into this house, and typed in the information up to date.

The photo is SOREGIES, my electric supplier. It includes all the information of this company, where to send payments, telephone numbers for breakdown, changes etc. ,account number, and then a list of every single bill I have received from them, how much it was, invoice number, when and how I paid it. I made a small lined section to include any notes. I find this section so usual for budgeting, and keeping track of unpaid bills etc.



[9]

Bank account self made pages to keep track of my bank balance on a daily basis. This completes the finance section for now, but I tend to add a few more bits to it. I need a secretarial pocket for my outstanding bills to be paid, and, I will also add a page for my direct debits each month, and the date they go out.

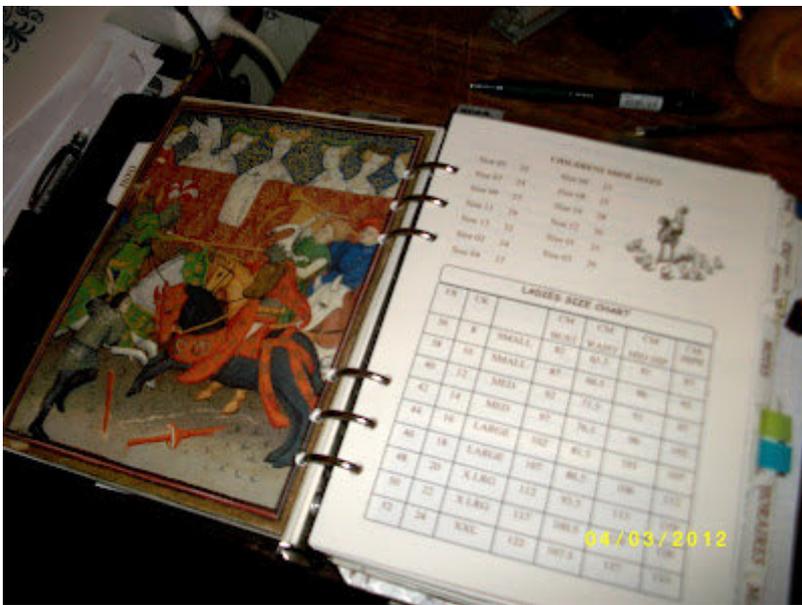


[10]

Next tab is Info Book of hours illustration. Self explanatory, size charts, kids shoe measurements, my house room measurements etc etc;

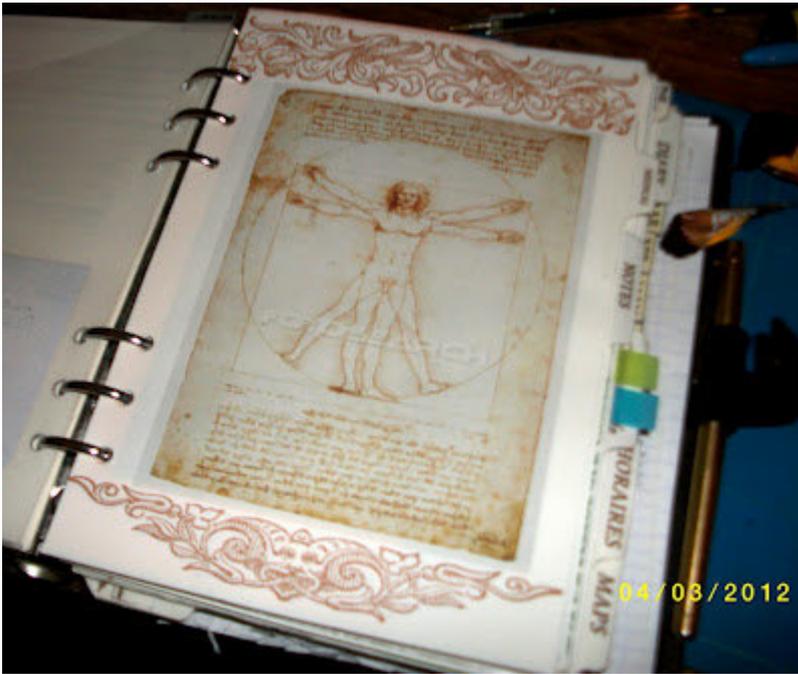


[11]



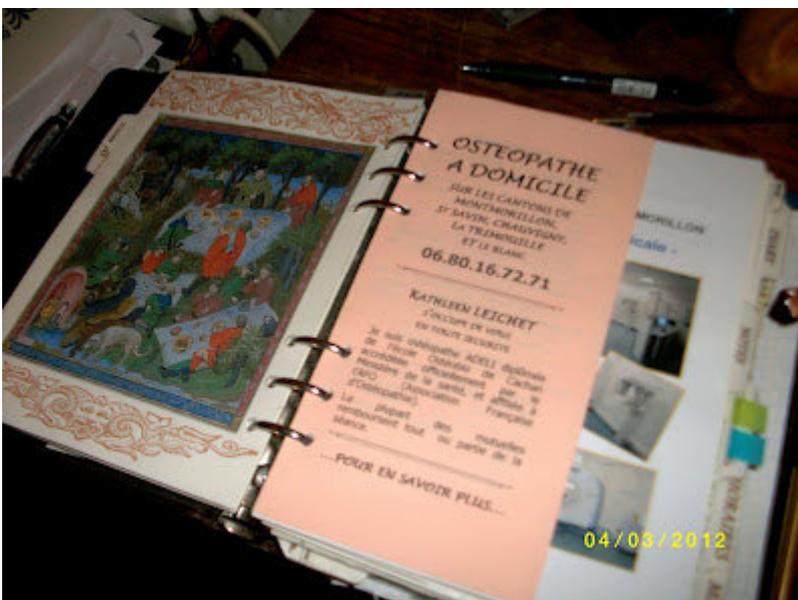
[12]

The next tab is MEDICAL. this is quite an important section..... front of tab is Leonardo da Vinci, and the reverse is a book of hours illustration again :)



[13]

Contains general medical info, blood group etc. then a list of doctor/hospital/specialist appointments. Brief description of outcome, and any drugs prescribed. This is useful to track your last mammogram for example, and I have found that here in France, the doctors do not really keep notes for you, and often ask what they prescribed to you on your last visit!! Includes any X Rays (broke my nose last September!!!) specialist visits (had to see an ENT specialist for this as my sinus got filled with blood!!! yuk!) etc.

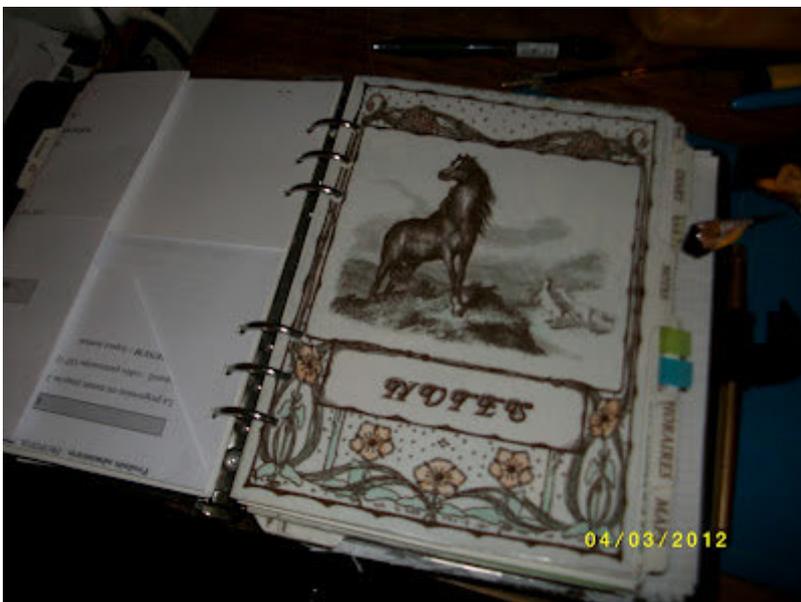


[14]



[15]

Notes tab, a pretty page frame I found on the internet, then put a lovely drawing of a horse into it, and added the "notes" in the appropriate box :) then hand coloured the border after printing.



[16]

Computer Info tab illustration I found on line and hand coloured. reverse is a colourful African art picture I found cheerful, and colourful :)



[17]

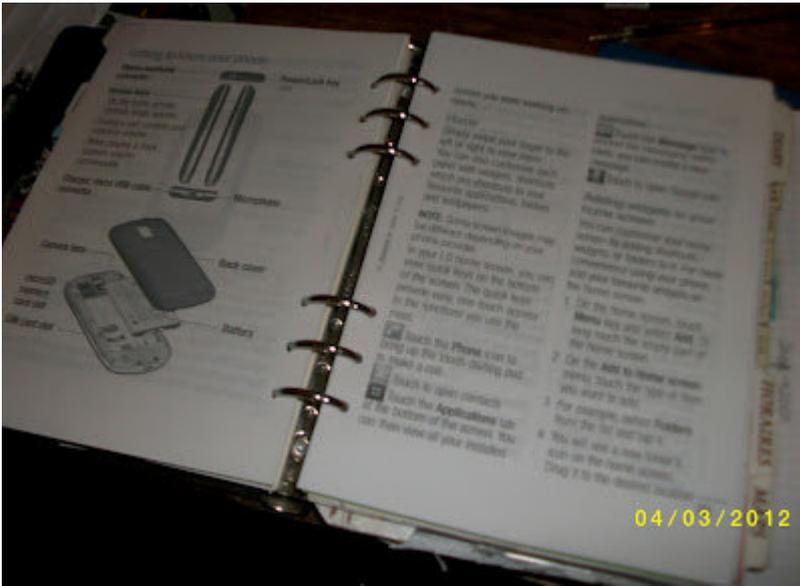


[18]

Here I have made a page for computer maintenance. I found I was not de-fragging etc. often enough, and it was slowing my old laptop down, so now I have a log of scanning, de-fragging, empty cache and all that malarkey, and do it at least once a month now. I know you can set the computer to do it, but I prefer to do it manually, then I know it is done, and what the results were.

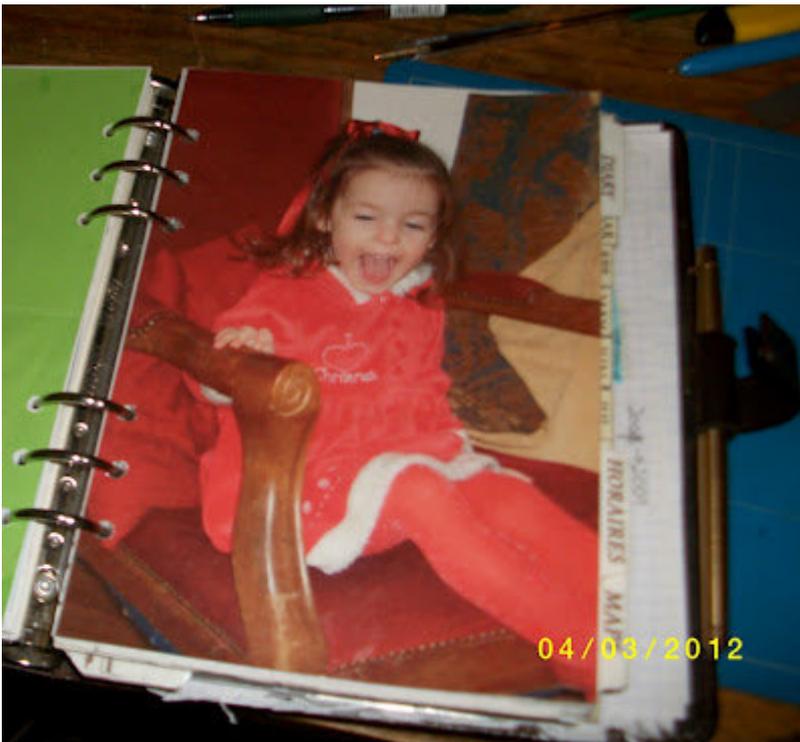
Also in this section, is basic instructions to use my mobile!!!!!!! Yes I know, I have been living in a cave for a long time, and I find my new phone a pain in the \*\*\*. This is why I have a Filofax lol

Also have Steve's wonderful home network setting page, WWW pages. then I have notes for my printer setting etc, for printing these sheets for my filo.

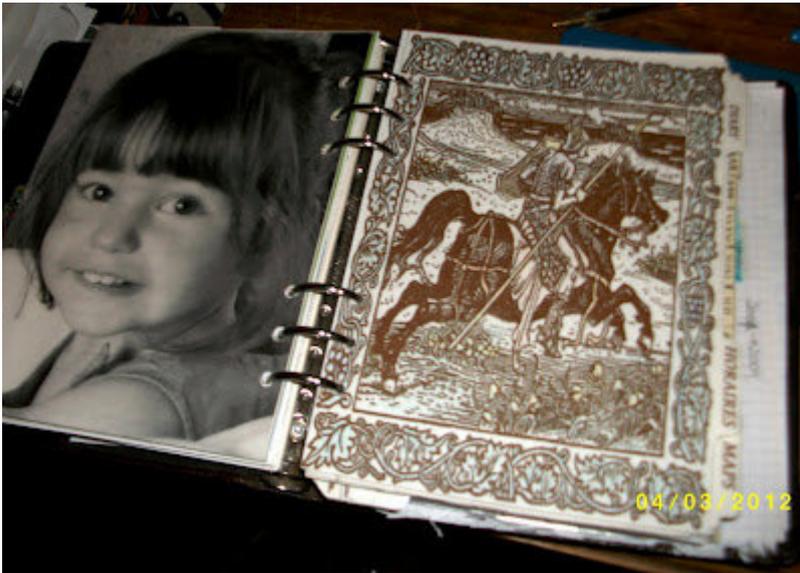


[19]

Obligatory picture of my beautiful little girl to remind me how lucky I am :))))))))) on the left, and HORAIRE tab on the right.



[20]



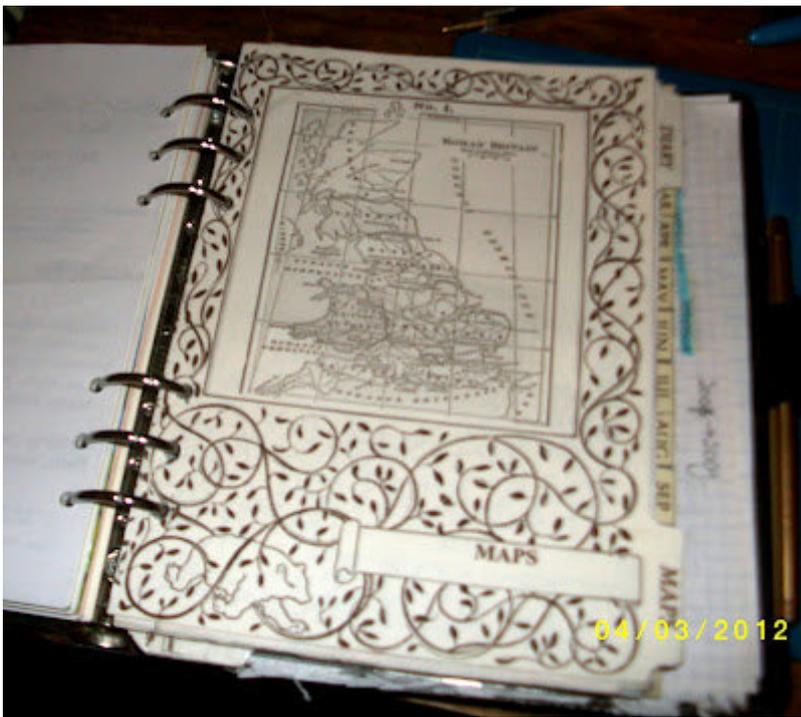
[21]

Again, pictures I found online whilst looking at medieval art. In this section, I have printed out the opening hours of all the places I visit regularly, like the local Tresorie and tax office, Crèche for my daughter, town hall, dechetterie etc, and contact details. I refer to this ALL the time, as the opening times in France seem to be totally random!! All typed and interspersed with little medieval illustrations, I like :)

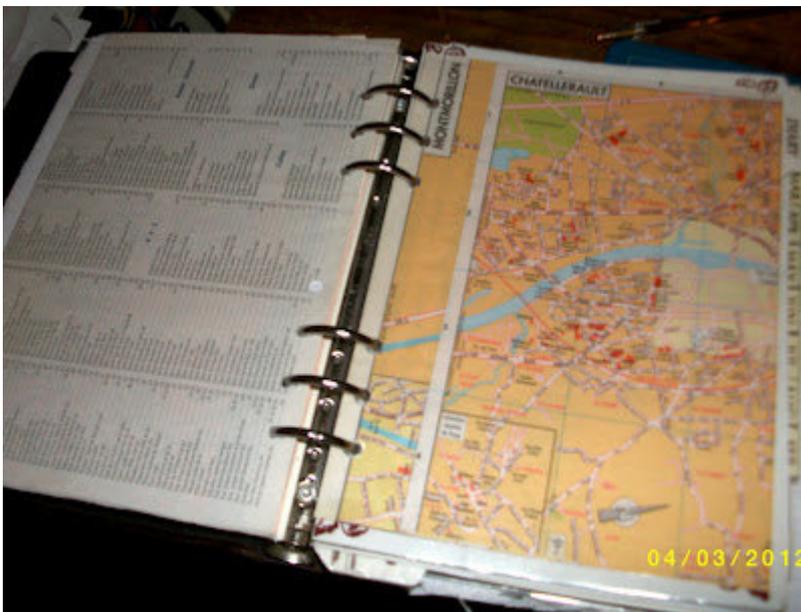


[22]

Next is maps, with an old illustration of Roman Britain, with a simple scroll border. My maps are mainly "stolen" from an old post office calender. They have great maps for you local area in there.

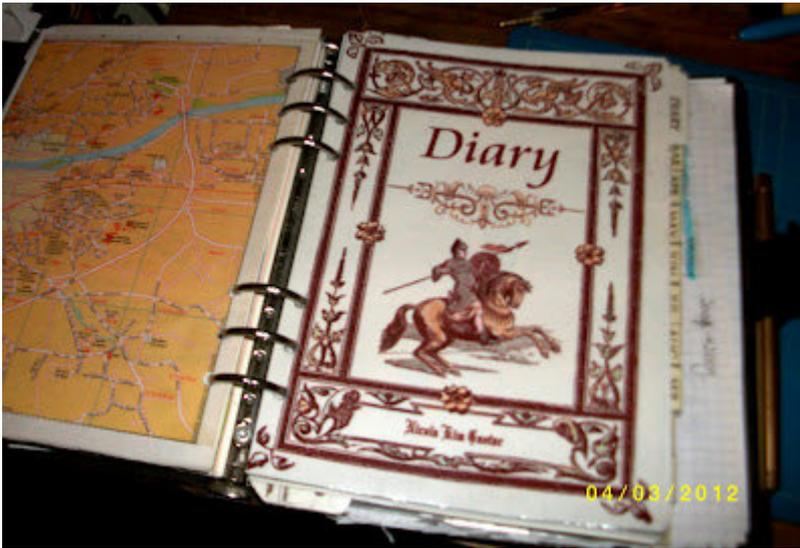


[23]



[24]

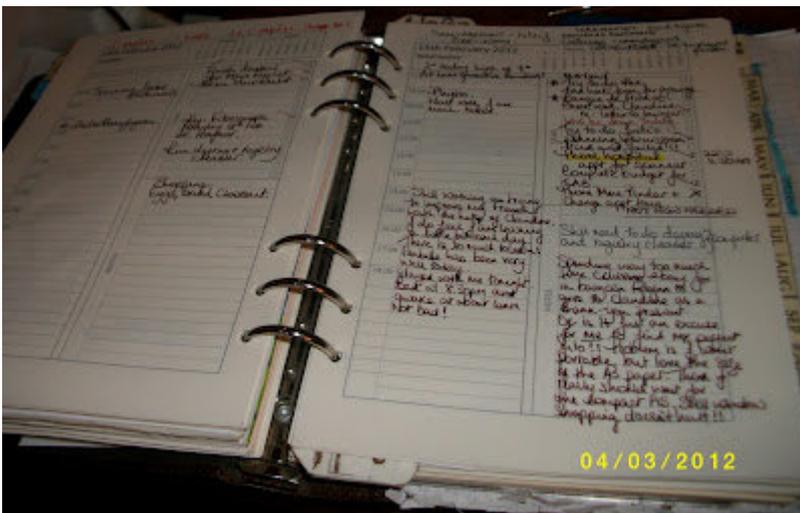
Next is diary tab, more medieval influence, hand coloured after printing. I use a day per page here with appointments, and then notes for the day/shopping needed/my thoughts or whatever really :) Then I have made a monthly page, that I have tabbed for the beginning of each month. This gives me an overview of the month with any appointments, and birthdays/anniversaries coming up.



[25]

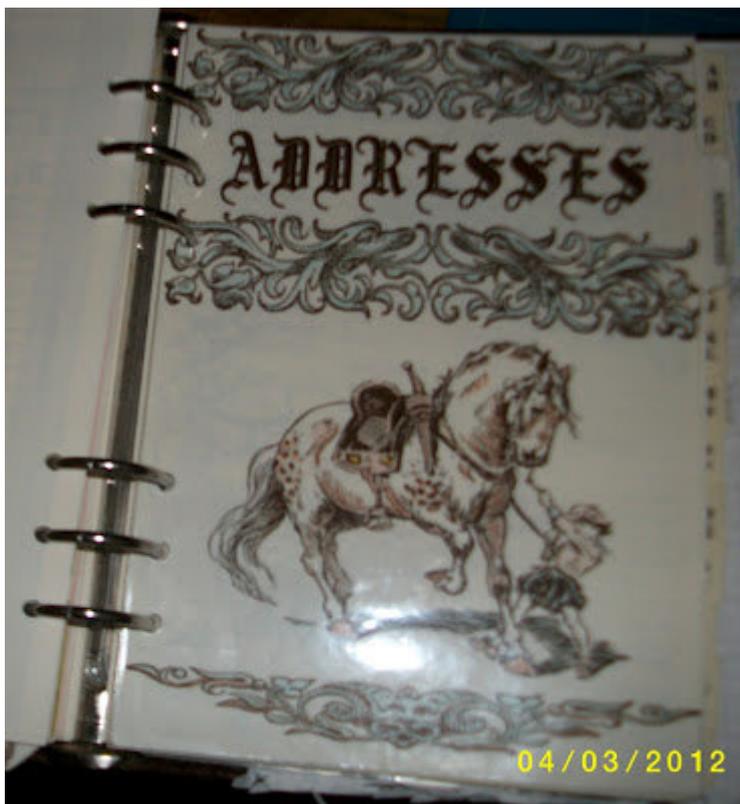


[26]



[27]

My final section is addresses and A-Z



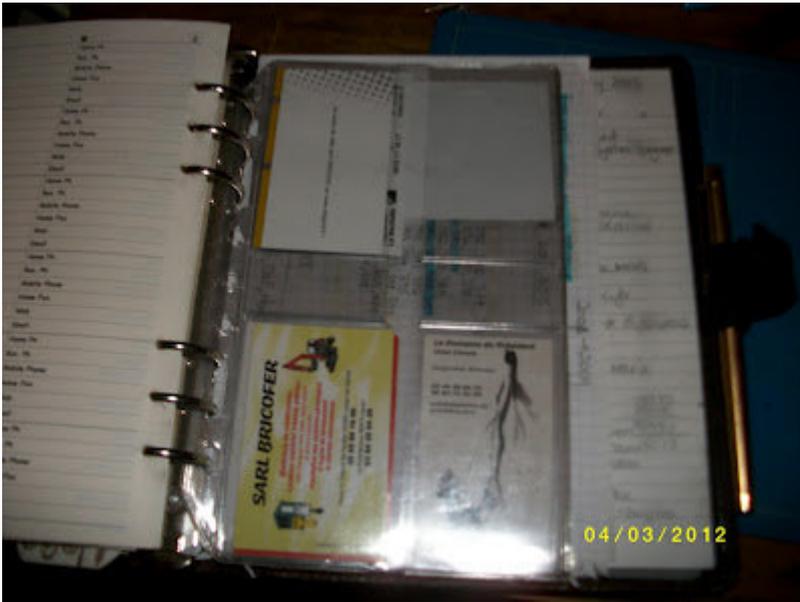
[28]

The first page I have printed off just phone numbers for quick access, and then I have the address etc. in the A-Z.



[29]

These pages are all printed from the Filofax address book software I bought a long long time ago for my pocket filo, and never used, as I found the writing in the pocket too small to read easily. At the back just holds a few business cards, and a note pad.



[30]

My home made today marker.



[31]



[32]

I would like to add, to thank Ray at "[33]My Life All in One Place" for the diary pages. I love to browse his site for ideas.

And also, that even on a very low budget, I bought an empty bargain file on ebay, and now have it full of "my life" for the cost of a bit of printer ink, and a packet of paper. Filofax, can be done on a budget :)) Hope you all enjoyed the tour into my slightly less chaotic life :)

*Thank you for a very detailed tour of what is in your Filofax.*

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/12/philofaxy-mini-meet-up-poitiers-13-dec.html>
2. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-1TFdNbLTN0c/T1krXjzDMTI/AAAAAAAAAKfA/m42Pu2CdtHE/s1600/IMGPO0544.JPG>
3. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-Xx0To-gebzE/T1krH1HzMzI/AAAAAAAAAKe4/SoEpxZtqRe0/s1600/IMGPO0545.JPG>
4. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-E4tL6yDRCXU/T1kqid6HwnI/AAAAAAAAAKeo/XbnPuonRmKE/s1600/IMGPO490.jpg>
5. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-7bPy793Y81w/T1iuESFf71I/AAAAAAAAAKbA/pB4rQYNterc/s1600/IMGPO491.jpg>
6. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-faBDqJeNINQ/T1iuFQ3F1FI/AAAAAAAAAKbI/R-PMFXWONAK/s1600/IMGPO492.jpg>
7. [http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-qUTTBFtXVzA/T1iuHS\\_nYKI/AAAAAAAAAKbQ/10I7PtGV2bQ/s1600/IMGPO493.jpg](http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-qUTTBFtXVzA/T1iuHS_nYKI/AAAAAAAAAKbQ/10I7PtGV2bQ/s1600/IMGPO493.jpg)
8. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-qDKWG2-dXWE/T1iuIiVxf-I/AAAAAAAAAKbY/Pe2JfD60G0w/s1600/IMGPO494.jpg>
9. <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-BCnan5ZSDHO/T1iuJoLa1PI/AAAAAAAAAKbg/80UWs0Vb9Mw/s1600/IMGPO495.jpg>
10. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-N93M0VisEuE/T1iuLE6oXiI/AAAAAAAAAKbo/QJbn1x2LpL4/s1600/IMGPO496.jpg>
11. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-o-0IHLw7Aoo/T1iuMt1eqSI/AAAAAAAAAKbw/IZUjCCJzEhA/s1600/IMGPO497.jpg>
12. [http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-NBNW3PctUsI/T1iuOn08y8I/AAAAAAAAAKb4/\\_XZgGOBi0ic/s1600/IMGPO498.JPG](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-NBNW3PctUsI/T1iuOn08y8I/AAAAAAAAAKb4/_XZgGOBi0ic/s1600/IMGPO498.JPG)
13. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-RrDHR3-Jn1U/T1iuPhdLRYI/AAAAAAAAAKcA/5QbN4heORHO/s1600/IMGPO499.jpg>
14. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-beHaoaY2hdK/T1iuRCuXETI/AAAAAAAAAKcI/lgp3UEjCuUM/s1600/IMGPO500.jpg>
15. [http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-o\\_fud7LVm6Q/T1iuSLiV4QI/AAAAAAAAAKcQ/XL1Uvm7-yPs/s1600/IMGPO501.jpg](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-o_fud7LVm6Q/T1iuSLiV4QI/AAAAAAAAAKcQ/XL1Uvm7-yPs/s1600/IMGPO501.jpg)
16. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-ByQrJdXgro0/T1iuTjDY8NI/AAAAAAAAAKcY/geUQLX31zR0/s1600/IMGPO502.jpg>
17. [http://3.bp.blogspot.com/--8GRiVPEtDY/T1iuVKesxuI/AAAAAAAAAKcg/f2k\\_CjUiGx4/s1600/IMGPO504.jpg](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/--8GRiVPEtDY/T1iuVKesxuI/AAAAAAAAAKcg/f2k_CjUiGx4/s1600/IMGPO504.jpg)
18. [http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-0j5\\_7Q-qH-U/T1iuWq9N3vI/AAAAAAAAAKco/oew\\_16mw11E/s1600/IMGPO506.jpg](http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-0j5_7Q-qH-U/T1iuWq9N3vI/AAAAAAAAAKco/oew_16mw11E/s1600/IMGPO506.jpg)
19. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-xu80-gXfHuE/T1iuX2tWkvI/AAAAAAAAAKcw/oz8Ncorsbgc/s1600/IMGPO507.jpg>
20. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-7xErfDHjzeI/T1iuZrGduNI/AAAAAAAAAKc4/r5nwzoqAz0c/s1600/IMGPO508.jpg>
21. [http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-A7morEzTFbY/T1iucFivN\\_I/AAAAAAAAAKdA/lxIKDIM0xbk/s1600/IMGPO509.jpg](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-A7morEzTFbY/T1iucFivN_I/AAAAAAAAAKdA/lxIKDIM0xbk/s1600/IMGPO509.jpg)
22. [http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-1iUeNU\\_wn08/T1iudkkg1EI/AAAAAAAAAKdI/mwFPq1xj3rE/s1600/IMGPO510.jpg](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-1iUeNU_wn08/T1iudkkg1EI/AAAAAAAAAKdI/mwFPq1xj3rE/s1600/IMGPO510.jpg)
23. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-oHxhaqWknKA/T1iuf098IMI/AAAAAAAAAKdQ/tBXsmHnzf9E/s1600/IMGPO511.jpg>
24. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-1QAHNfX3iEQ/T1iugkUBQnI/AAAAAAAAAKdY/OKL3wc52dCE/s1600/IMGPO512.jpg>
25. [http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-jeJvUKi\\_iRQ/T1iuiNBwTzI/AAAAAAAAAKdg/GknKcWu9CaI/s1600/IMGPO513.jpg](http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-jeJvUKi_iRQ/T1iuiNBwTzI/AAAAAAAAAKdg/GknKcWu9CaI/s1600/IMGPO513.jpg)
26. [http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-tq1N1uP3TY8/T1iujZXCc\\_I/AAAAAAAAAKdo/WTrKQZ\\_DuM4/s1600/IMGPO514.jpg](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-tq1N1uP3TY8/T1iujZXCc_I/AAAAAAAAAKdo/WTrKQZ_DuM4/s1600/IMGPO514.jpg)
27. [http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-q\\_9x1HRI01o/T1iuknV9v8I/AAAAAAAAAKdw/n0MpjLtx1fc/s1600/IMGPO515.jpg](http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-q_9x1HRI01o/T1iuknV9v8I/AAAAAAAAAKdw/n0MpjLtx1fc/s1600/IMGPO515.jpg)
28. [http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-tz6\\_HNWmZBA/T1iumqUdMFI/AAAAAAAAAKd4/5Zyd\\_v2AB34/s1600/IMGPO516.jpg](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-tz6_HNWmZBA/T1iumqUdMFI/AAAAAAAAAKd4/5Zyd_v2AB34/s1600/IMGPO516.jpg)
29. [http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-0Si6UKjuvXI/T1iuosaESXI/AAAAAAAAAKeA/\\_F9DCR9K1C8/s1600/IMGPO517.jpg](http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-0Si6UKjuvXI/T1iuosaESXI/AAAAAAAAAKeA/_F9DCR9K1C8/s1600/IMGPO517.jpg)
30. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-bn3-6rt2Fbo/T1iurmgTbOI/AAAAAAAAAKeQ/b0zgtG1XedQ/s1600/IMGPO519.jpg>

31. <http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-We-ff4i2CoE/T1iutHMf31I/AAAAAAAAKeY/zJFwsrxCIfk/s1600/IMGPO520.jpg>
32. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-fm6wPZtTbWY/T1iuuSGkIPI/AAAAAAAAKeg/i-QNjmGFFCE/s1600/IMGPO521.jpg>
33. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/>

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Josh (2012-03-18 00:15:56)

This has to be the coolest filofax EVER! Makes me want to try an A5.

T (2012-03-18 01:13:06)

Holy Moly! I am speechless with admiration.

I bow down before your total awesomeness!

Nikki france (2012-03-18 02:47:09)

blushing\* thank you both very much, I am happy you enjoyed it :))

Butanben (2012-03-18 06:38:10)

WOW!!! I love medieval illustrations too, and often have put a picture from the St. Louis Bible onto my laptop desktop page. Discovered it whilst browsing illustrations pages. Boy would I just love to have your today bookmark in my Filofax. That is just lovely.

Sandra (2012-03-18 07:19:07)

Lovely contents—definitely a labor of love. So smart to include that store information section. I regret not opening up the Filo and jotting these details down when I am looking the info up—again—on my phone or computer.

Your Filo is an awesome self-made reference tool—thanks for sharing!

Joey Quinton (2012-03-18 09:30:37)

This is, most definitely, the most beautiful and awesome Filofax that I have ever seen! Great job...I am most envious!!!

Scout (2012-03-18 13:47:29)

Often people personalise their fax with practical/fun items and the result lacks any appreciable style, but your fax shows a flair for creativity while balancing practicality to show off a really original style that is really top draw. Also, I like that in creating the fax you've maintained your own personal element that I suspect reflects your personality.

Nikki france (2012-03-18 13:56:32)

Thank you all very much for your lovely comments, I have really enjoyed doing it, and find it so practical, and it inspires me to use it more, which is obviously a good thing :)

Butanben, I would be more than happy to make you a divider, the same as mine, or from any other design you would like :)

kind regards, Nikki X

Savannah (2012-03-18 14:53:21)

Loved it. Full of character inside and out. I only wish I had the skill and patience to create such work. Thanks for sharing.

Joey Quinton (2012-03-18 16:00:03)

I have been inspired to recreate my A5 Cuban.....I will post pics when I am done!

Nikki france (2012-03-18 16:22:51)

It really is not hard, just a very basic knowledge of a publisher program :)

Thank you for your kindness

Nikki X

Nikki france (2012-03-18 16:23:56)

Oh I am so pleased it has inspired you, I can't wait to see it  
Nikki X

Ray Blake (2012-03-18 16:46:13)

Nice work. You've packed a lot in there. I love the idea of including the phone instructions. These days you can download all sorts of booklets and quick guides as PDFs and I could see a use for a number of those in my A5.

Steph (2012-03-18 18:25:46)

I love it!! I really like the prescription inserts you made. Is there any way you would be willing to share a pdf of it? You have done a fantastic job with it.

Alison Reeves (2012-03-18 18:31:35)

Hi Nikki - was really blown away with your binder contents and have reread your post several times! It probably has something to do with your style which appeals to me - specific comments:

1. I love the pictures throughout - can you give me some idea of where you found some of these magnificent illustrations on the internet?
2. Your 'today' bookmark is really lovely - can you tell us how you made it?
3. I was very impressed by how totally practical your inserts were. Some of course are specific to your life in France (for example prescriptions - my doctor keeps very careful records). I've never really 'got' what people use the finance tab for, but seeing what you have done has given me a real 'aha' moment. I think I am going to record all our private budget details, and also my work targets and goals and I think this will really spur me on when I am flagging!

Thank you so much for this detailed view into your filofax - I have really enjoyed it!

Nikki france (2012-03-19 05:00:06)

Thank you Steph, Steve is working on changing the file to PDF for you, as it is a pageplus file right now :)  
kind regards, NikkiX

Nikki france (2012-03-19 05:03:53)

Thanks Ray :) Yes it is stuffed, I need to spend some time paring it down a bit!

Yes that is exactly what I did for my mobile, and then just printed the pages for the bits I felt would be useful to me :)

Thanks for your DDP diary I grabbed!! Have also added your expense envelope, which I use monthly to track my cash withdrawals, and see where the cash goes!!

kind regards, Nikki X

Nikki france (2012-03-19 05:19:11)

thank you Alison, very kind comments :)

1. Well most of the illustrations came from the British museum, and then just search results for "book of hours". The page frames and divider stuff, I search on google for free stuff, and then put medieval in the search tool.

If there are any specific sites that have any you like, I may be able to specify the site, but there are many!!

2. The bookmark is a piece of plastic from a cheap clear file (about the thickness of the front flyleaf in a filo) cut to size. I then get a design I like and cut to the same size, then "wrap" it in clear sticky back plastic, usually 2 layers. Hardest thing is to get the punch to make a clean hole, then I just take a craft knife and cut a fine slit from the hole to the outside to move it over easily. Does that make sense?? Next time I make one I will do a pictorial tutorial :)))

3. Glad the finance section has given you a few ideas. Having the regular bills on their own page is so helpful to see when the next bill is due, and how the prices vary from winter/summer etc. Gives a great overview!! Also the bills due is good. When the bill comes in the post it is very easy to pop the details on the page, then if the bill gets lost or mislaid, at least you know what is due, and what you have already paid :)

Thanks again, Nikki X

Jotje (2012-03-19 05:19:58)

Nikki, I also loved reading this post! In fact, I reread it a couple of times, then spent lots of time admiring your pictures. I concur that this filofax is a piece of art! Very well thought-through, great setup. Thanks so much for sharing!

Steve Morton (2012-03-19 11:47:47)

I've created a similar prescriptions page based on Nikki's example, you will find it on the Files page in amongst the A4/A5 templates.  
Steve

Nikki france (2012-03-19 12:18:22)

Thank you so much for taking the time to comment. I am very flattered to have it called a work of art. I like to think of myself as artistic, but I am not really, just am attracted to beautiful things \*smile\*  
Thanks again, Nikki x

Butanben (2012-03-20 05:05:56)

Nikki, I am bowled over that you would share your today marker with me. Just how very kind. My e. mail address is je.mccourt@virgin.net, if you want to send me an attachment or mail. Do look up the St. Louis Bible on Google. I think you will find the story behind it and the illustrations fascinating.

Rory Fugerson (2012-03-21 02:05:10)

That's a great idea to use filofax. I use my [1]cheap filofax for my schedules and appointments at the office but I haven't tried to use it by keeping and using designs for it. Thank you for a great great idea.

1.

<http://www.eurooffice.co.uk/g/d11/Office-Supplies/Diaries-Calendar-and-Organisers/Personal-Organisers/>

Shanananana (2012-03-22 18:08:06)

I LOVE your aesthetic there - I mean seriously most people's Filos are a bit like their heads: nice for them, and it's interesting and enjoyable to be allowed to peek inside... but I wouldn't want to live there *myself*, ya know? lol But yours is a **stunningly** lovely piece of art, every bit a credit to ancient penmanship, from the scribes of Ancient Egypt to those mediaeval guys toiling over the lovely illuminated manuscripts, all of which were, after all, practical given their own world view - seriously gorgeous!

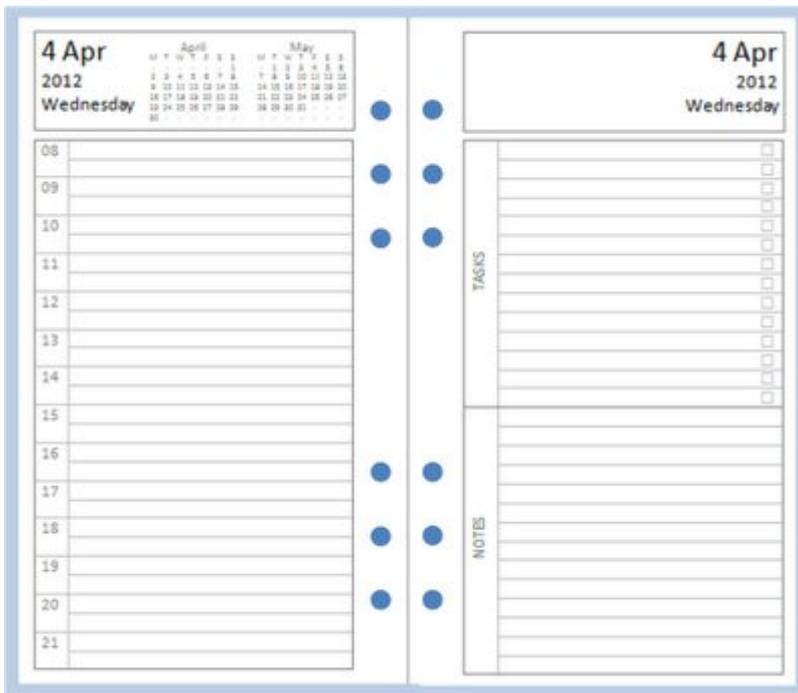
(I use a print of Vitruvian Man in my 'Fax as well, for my health & lifestyle section, though not as stylishly as yours!)

Thanks for sharing.

## **Free Day-Per-Page and Day-On-Two-Pages diary pages for the Filofax Personal (2012-03-19 00:00) - Steve Morton**

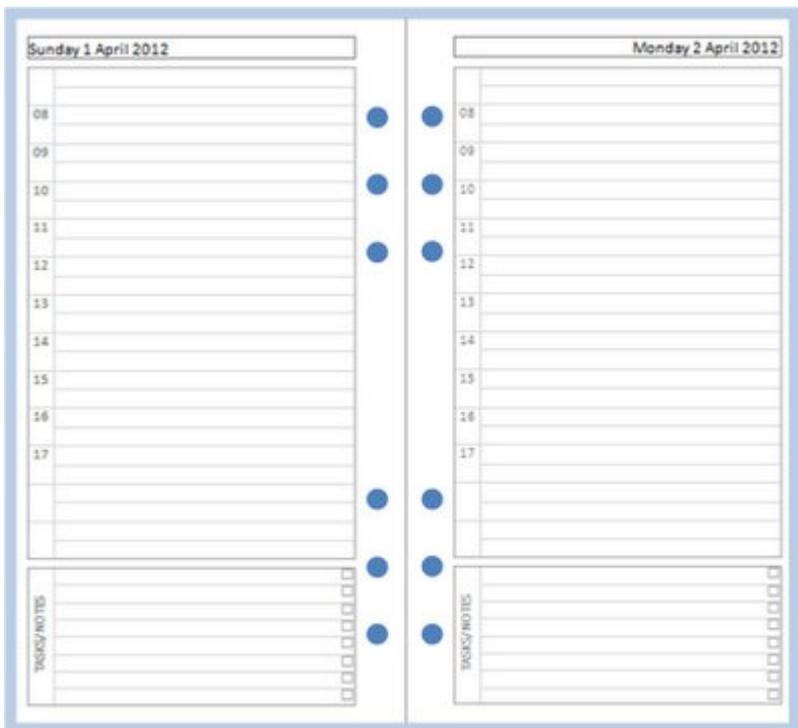
Before Ray and I began our project to design a full range of diary pages, Ray created a couple of A5 layouts for [1]Day-On-Two-Pages and [2]Day-Per-Page diaries and it's these - adapted for the Filofax Personal - that we are releasing today.

First up is the Day-On-Two-Pages:



[3]

Then we also have Day-Per-Page:



[4]

### 1. Pre-prepared 2012 sets

Choose between the [5]Day-On-Two-Pages Word file, the [6]Day-On-Two-Pages PDF file, the [7]Day-Per-Page Word file and the [8]Day-Per-Page 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 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.

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.

#### Source files

You can also roll your own using our source files. The Day-On-Two-Pages version uses [9]this Word file as the base document and [10]this Excel file as the data source. The Day-Per-page version uses [11]this

Word file as the base document and [12]this Excel file as the data source.

If you want to know how to go about using the source files, [13]this post will help you.

[14] 

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1. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2011/11/my-perfect-a4a5-diary-layout.html>
2. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2012/01/download-your-free-page-per-day-2012-a4.html>
3. [http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-xLW4nVU4\\_Z0/T20QIt3u-mI/AAAAAAAAAas/ag4EEhx-GQQ/s1600/2newest.png](http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-xLW4nVU4_Z0/T20QIt3u-mI/AAAAAAAAAas/ag4EEhx-GQQ/s1600/2newest.png)
4. <http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-QNv3RjAkm2c/T20QUIVygVI/AAAAAAAAAa0/FY6cQYDo6bo/s1600/1newest.png>
5. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/1day2page/2012%20merged%20Personal%20DPV%20print%20on%20A4.docx>
6. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/1day2page/2012%20merged%20Personal%20DPV%20print%20on%20A4.pdf>
7. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/1dayperpage/2012%20merged%20Personal%20DPP%20print%20on%20A4.docx>
8. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/1dayperpage/2012%20merged%20Personal%20DPP%20print%20on%20A4.pdf>
9. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/1day2page/Personal%20DPV%20print%20on%20A4.docx>
10. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/1day2page/DatesSourceFiloDPVPers0nA4.xlsx>
11. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/1dayperpage/Personal%20DPP%20print%20on%20A4.docx>
12. <http://philofaxy.com/inserts/1dayperpage/DatesSourceFiloDPPPers0nA4.xlsx>
13. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/02/download-source-files-for-new-personal.html>
14. <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/>
15. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/>
16. <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/>

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Josh (2012-03-19 09:15:12)

Oh wow, I love the do2p!

Anita (2012-03-19 09:20:04)

I agree with Josh, these are brilliant! Thanks :)

Kelly Marriott (2012-03-19 09:55:18)

Oh my word! EXACTLY what I was looking for! Thanks so much.

Nan (2012-03-19 10:03:18)

Brilliant!

## Mid-West US Meet Up (2012-03-19 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. We know it's a ways off, but we wanted to give as many interested Philofaxers time to plan ahead.

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

mppaul2 (2012-03-19 12:31:58)

Will be there!!

mppaul2 (2012-03-19 12:40:30)

FYI. Paper Source in Oak Park does not carry FiloFax products. I just called to check and the sales person confirmed they do not.

Sandra (2012-03-19 12:43:31)

But Fitzgerald's Stationery does...and they will order in Filofax binders per our request just so we can look at them! Yes, I am happy about that!

mppaul2 (2012-03-19 12:48:45)

okay :-)

J (2012-03-19 14:49:02)

We just added Paper Source for those stationery nerds amongst us! Myself included... I could go broke in that store!

SimpleGirlFineTaste (2012-03-20 01:58:22)

There is a great paper source store in the city in the Southport neighborhood. Very kid-friendly and a gorgeous part of Chicago. But either way, I will be there! I'm new to the philofaxy communitiey :)

kanalt (2012-03-21 06:47:36)

I seriously thought about finagling a way to join. But sadly, I have to work that Saturday, plus that's the start of a busy week for me. Boo! But one day I'll make it to Chicago and we will have a meet up then! =)

Jersey Girl (2012-03-21 14:12:28)

Stumbled upon Philofaxy last fall. Avid fan ever since. Looking forward to Mid-West Meet Up. Chicago is a great place! /\* \*\_\*\

## Free For All Tuesday No. 59 (2012-03-20 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

So here we are again. Time for some questions and answers. Please don't hang about at the back... first time posters and experienced regulars can all take part... we don't make a fuss.

Fire away.

1. [http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-iWM2EGJg8j8/TUh0H0Lo4aI/AAAAAAAAI6E/2WfvsKUfHgc/s1600/IMG\\_9777a.JPG](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-iWM2EGJg8j8/TUh0H0Lo4aI/AAAAAAAAI6E/2WfvsKUfHgc/s1600/IMG_9777a.JPG)

Lime Tree (2012-03-20 01:00:15)

Hello all!

Those of you that have been following the trends of Filofax for a few years may be able to help with my question. What is happening to the Snake Domino? Is it been discontinued? I have been trying to find one of these for months but still the only place that sells is the German Filofax. And it hadn't been on sale (a sign of a design been discontinued like many others were recently?). So I keep thinking that for some odd reason they have that

style as a part of their permanent inventory; like a black Metropol or something.

Should I be that naive and \*aham\* trust that Filofax.de will have those around for a while or should I get ready to snap one right now before it disappears? What is your guys take on that?

Laurie (2012-03-20 01:10:37)

Hi Lime Tree, the Snake Domino is definitely discontinued from the Filofax UK lineup, it's not a part of their permanent collection. Other sites might still have some lingering stock but it's no longer being produced. So if you really want it, there's no time to waste!

Jotje (2012-03-20 04:10:53)

Also, Filofax Germany rarely has a sale. If you look at their website you will see several "nearly extinct" filofax species, still sold at full price!

I have the A5 in Snake Bronze and it is so much sturdier than the "regular" Domino models. The Snake surface isn't so sensitive to scratching and despite much use it really still looks brandnew. Why they ever decided to discontinue it, is beyond me.

Perhaps, the Snake isn't FASHIONABLE anymore....? ;-)

Louloudorset (2012-03-20 04:37:48)

I have the Snake too and as Jotje says it's so durable it looks brand new even after a couple of years battering - buy now you'll love it!

Anita (2012-03-20 06:07:25)

Hi Lime Tree, like Laurie says it seems that the Snake Domino is discontinued unfortunately. What size are you after? I have just acquired the beauty gift box with the paler Snake in & am not convinced I'm going to keep it, that's all.

Scoot (2012-03-20 06:12:24)

Surely the problem with calling a model "snake" is that most people will have subconscious thoughts that are negative, if not actually think that some part is made of snake. I think the Enigma suffers because of the snake skin design. I think the actual Domino Snake's toned cover design is quite classy so perhaps they could re-launch it with slightly different patterns and other colour/tone combinations, perhaps also using other such classical patterns, such as Celtic, Greek and Saxon patterns. I'd love to see some fabric Filofax covers with designs from the book of Kells, something I was reminded of when I saw Nikki's post the other day.

Tim (2012-03-20 06:28:50)

Lime Tree - It's important to understand modern methods of production in the Far East and selling in international markets.

Gone are the days when a local production line would switch between making different models - say each week - based on supply and demand. The norm now is for a single bulk order for a product to be placed with a manufacturer - usually in China. This will then have a "slot" for manufacture (often months later) and the entire order for that model will be made in one go. In many cases, this will be the **ONLY TIME** that the product will ever be manufactured. If it sells well, a new order will be placed (often in a different colour!) but it will be months before the new slot comes up. This is why some popular Filofax models are seemingly unavailable for a long time. If worldwide sales have been overestimated, the item will often be discontinued from some markets (such as the UK) and the unsold supplies shipped for sales to be concentrated in just certain countries. Otherwise they will be disposed of by way of heavy discounting or sold in bulk to the likes of TK-Maxx.

If you really want to be sure of a certain model in a particular size and colour, you need to buy it when you can! Very often it's a case of "when it's gone, it's gone!"

Laurie (2012-03-20 06:34:07)

Scoot YES, I would love to see that too!!!

curiouser (2012-03-20 07:12:49)

Steve, do you have a lot of Australian members? I bought a pocket recently and I'd rather see if I can swap my WO2P for monthly rather than ebay it.

Steve Morton (2012-03-20 07:16:51)

Yes there are a few, looking at the google stats that is...

Adspot may be?

Steve

curiouser (2012-03-20 07:25:04)

thank you

D (2012-03-20 09:07:54)

On another note city Organiser has the purple Malden up...just sayin'

Preethi (2012-03-20 09:25:46)

Hi Lime Tree, While doing what I do always - on ebay checking for filofax, happened to notice this and remembered your comment here.

Take

a look: [http://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/Filofax-Domino-Natural-Snake-Personal-Organiser-/180836905529?pt=UK\\_BOI\\_Office\\_Office\\_Supplies\\_Stationery\\_ET&hash=item2a1ab83239](http://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/Filofax-Domino-Natural-Snake-Personal-Organiser-/180836905529?pt=UK_BOI_Office_Office_Supplies_Stationery_ET&hash=item2a1ab83239)

Jotje (2012-03-20 09:32:58)

Where? It's nowhere on their website ...?

Kels (2012-03-20 09:39:38)

other than making my own (no access to a printer unfortunately), does anyone know where i can get some A5 lined paper? the lines on filo paper are too narrow for me. thanks!!

Steve Morton (2012-03-20 09:50:07)

Here:

<http://www.cityorganiser.co.uk/acatalog/Personal-Malden-Purple-by-Filofax-incl.-2012-2013-contents.html>

Steve Morton (2012-03-20 10:57:35)

Other sizes will be on line by the end of today...

mppaul2 (2012-03-20 11:18:59)

This comment has been removed by the author.

Nikki france (2012-03-20 11:21:21)

yes that would be amazing!! I would certainly save up for that!! Some of my illustrations are from the Book of Kells

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-03-20 11:48:06)

I just spoke to someone in the City Organiser Mail Order dept., and he has just (15:45 GMT) put mini, pocket and A5 sizes on the website :) I asked him about the compact size and he says they're not bringing those out this year :(

I asked about the leather because I was concerned that the leather would be thin like on my ochre Malden, but he says the leather is nice and thick :) I can't wait to buy one!!! :D

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-03-20 11:50:23)

Hi, are you in the UK or elsewhere? If you are in the UK, I know Rymans do a pad of A5 lined paper, but you could also just get a perforated A5 notepad and take paper out of there :)

Mare Biddle (2012-03-20 12:15:33)  
OMG! OMG! I just bought the A5! I'm so excited!

Kels (2012-03-20 13:20:56)  
i'm in the US

T-na (2012-03-20 13:46:50)  
Creased vs. More Creased – CO gives you the option of choosing – is it just cosmetic or will one age better than the other?

Boz (2012-03-20 16:39:50)  
Hi everyone,  
I've been a lurker on this site for the past few months (it's taken that long to go through lots of old posts) and I have to say I really enjoy reading all of your comments, opinions and shared interests for all things FF! So I thought I would come out from hiding and say hello.  
Today I ordered the purple Malden (A5) which I can't wait to get my hands on! I already have the ochre personal Malden which I love!  
On another note: I'm in Leicester which seems to be a common stomping group for a few people on here!  
Boz :)

Clamball (2012-03-20 17:31:33)  
Hi Everyone, I just obtained a personal Malden in vintage pink from city organiser. I have found this site invaluable in helping me decide what kind of filofax I needed and having links to the city organise site as well. I can't wait to begin using it fully and all your blogs and posts have really inspired me.

Steve Morton (2012-03-20 17:45:35)  
Welcome to the Philofaxy community Boz. Reading back through the old posts is something I did before I became a contributor back in 2009 it was quite a task then, I think I managed to do it a year per day, I don't think it would be so easy to do now!!!  
The year books are a great way of going through the previous years posts and comments.  
Enjoy  
Steve

Alison Reeves (2012-03-20 18:39:50)  
Nikki - have you seen the Paperblanks range based on Book of Kells? They have some other beautiful designs as well. [#http://www.paperblanks.com/us/en/collections/1/filtered?collection\\_id=254 #1798](http://www.paperblanks.com/us/en/collections/1/filtered?collection_id=254)

Tim (2012-03-20 18:49:22)  
I just cannot believe my eyes. City Oganiser selling brand new, latest model (purple Malden) Filofaxes in two varieties - "creased" or "more creased"! It's a inovative way to stop disatisfied customer returns, I guess!

Anita (2012-03-20 20:10:22)  
Hi Preethi,  
Minimalism, running & filofax - we have lots in common! (happens a fair amount with Philofaxy readers)  
:)

Lime Tree (2012-03-21 00:42:02)  
@everyone, Thanks for all the replies! It is great to have so much feedback!  
@Anita, I am very indecisive so A5 or Personal. Did you not bond very well with it? I can give it a try! hehe In case you decide to sell it: limetreefruits at gmail dot com.  
@Tim, thanks for that explanation. Makes so much sense why it has been just available in Germany for months! I hadn't been around Filofax world for that long so I am not sure: was the Snake Domino not really popular?

Would that shortage of inventory be just a gap in between orders? — Oh, who am kidding, right? :) That Domino is really going away. If I want one I need to be brave and deal with full price AND a very high shipping costs from Germany. Argh!

@Preethi Thanks! I don't know how I missed that. I even looked into ebay.fr and ebay.de! I will keep an eye on it.

Lime Tree (2012-03-21 00:45:29)

@Laurie @Jotje @Loloudorset, Thanks for the feedback! I guess I thought as there was no sale I was still safe! I can't be waiting around then.

Nikki france (2012-03-21 04:32:46)

OMG thank you so much Alison, this site is fab!!!!!!!!!! I have not seen this before!

Steve Morton (2012-03-21 14:27:56)

Someone somewhere was asking about dividers with pockets in them... but I can't find out who it was or where... so I'm dumping the link here on the off chance that the person spots it!

[http://livingwithliisa.wordpress.com/2011/10/19/diy-tabs-with-pocket s/](http://livingwithliisa.wordpress.com/2011/10/19/diy-tabs-with-pocket-s/)

Steve

## How do you use?: Gardening (2012-03-21 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

Continuing with our series of how you use for your Filofax for specific tasks.

So this week, how have you set up your Filofax to keeping track of your gardening tasks. Do you record the first signs of blossom, daffodils, when you planted seeds, the variety of vegetables you are growing each year and the success rates etc.

Tell us in the comments.

Are there any specific inserts you use, or require? If they don't exist already I'm sure we can create them and make them available for you.

If you can share pictures on Flickr or your own blog post then please post links in the comments.

1. [http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-ktr\\_oKcZPAw/SuIEHMScB2I/AAAAAAAAH1s/IkG2k8KS4ak/s1600/IMG\\_8317.JPG](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-ktr_oKcZPAw/SuIEHMScB2I/AAAAAAAAH1s/IkG2k8KS4ak/s1600/IMG_8317.JPG)

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Nikki france (2012-03-21 04:39:09)

I would love some sort of insert for gardening tasks season by season, and when to prune specific things etc. but I do not have enough knowledge of gardening to compile such a thing, but it would be sooooo useful! I have tried to imprint in my brain, and noted in my diary that my peach tree needs pruning in late spring, and that is as far as I have got lol

Alison Reeves (2012-03-21 05:46:38)

I'm not much of a gardener - but would like to be!

I've just bought a couple of books second hand. One is called Gardening Through the Year and the other Your Garden Week by Week (both from ebay). They lay out what to do month-by-month and week-by-week. I had this sort of idea that I could refer to them and create my own todo list. I've suddenly got a bit busy with work and haven't really had chance to sit down and figure it out - but the changes are it will be in a filofax of some kind. Either as a section in the home one, or in one of it's own.

I've also got quite a few back issues of some mags with some inspirational garden pictures that I planned to cut out and make a sort of 'mood' board from for different areas of the garden (we have quite a large, long garden). So you see I have plans and ideas, I'm just not sure how to action them. I'll be reading the responses here hoping for some sort of 'aha' moment! I don't think I need a traditional dated diary - more of a month or week schedule that can be used year to year with some added notes as time goes by. I suppose a filofax with tabs for each month would be a start with notes and ideas for that month, and then another section to paste picture ideas and jot down thoughts.

icclewu (2012-03-21 06:08:22)

I like to grow veg and sunflowers. I tend to write on filofax notepaper the date i sowed the seeds, the date they started sprouting and the amount of weeks they will be ready in. This is done in columns. It works quite well for me :) xx

Steve Morton (2012-03-21 08:28:42)

Likewise I'm not much of a gardener, so I've created an A4/A5 insert on 'When to Prune'

<http://philofaxy.com/files/whentoprune.pdf>

<http://philofaxy.com/files/whentoprune.docx>

Steve

Nikki france (2012-03-21 09:02:21)

I am liking your ideas so far, and totally relate to it!!

Nikki france (2012-03-21 09:04:16)

This is a great start, thank you so much Steve. This will be VERY useful. I can feel a new tab coming on!!!! Can my filo take it all lol

ONutter (2012-03-21 12:31:30)

I did try to set up a garden section on my personal sized filofax, but gave up on that notion rather quickly. Mainly because of how thick and heavy my filofax became once I had managed to squeeze in all the garden information. That, and because I realised that I didn't need most of the garden information on an everyday basis.

The garden section in my filofax is very simple and straightforward now:

1. Plant and harvest list. This is on the front of my garden section and contains dates for when I need to plant things and by what date they should be harvested. I have a tendency to plant things too late, and harvest too late, which makes for a bad result. The harvest result, specific problems, taste etc. I note down in my garden journal since there is no need for me to carry that information with me always.
2. Looking for: under this section I have a list of plants and seeds that I am looking for for various reasons. For example, I have a lovely pear tree that gives perfect sweet but firm pears. Just perfect. I would love another one to keep it company, but haven't seen any in the plant nurseries around here. So on the list it goes, so I can keep an eye out. Same thing for my favourite carrot seeds etc.
3. Avoid: when you buy a lot of seeds and plants this is really, really super important to have with you at all times to avoid making a bad purchase twice.
4. To Do: this section is divided into months, each monthly tab containing reminders for what I need to do during that month. For example, right now, I need to prepare the vegetable beds for planting by turning them over.

Alison Reeves (2012-03-21 16:41:06)

Brilliant = thanks Steve! This is just the sort of thing I want to keep in my 'gardening' planner.

Neil (2012-03-21 18:30:51)

A filofax is perfect if you have an allotment. I use an old pocket sized filofax stuffed full of fountain pen friendly "Oxford" branded 140mm x 90mm paper (no need for dividers). Each page records activity pertaining to a particular patch of ground or raised bed. An additional advantage is that standard sized seed envelopes fit the wrap around wallet pocket common to many pocket sized filofaxes.

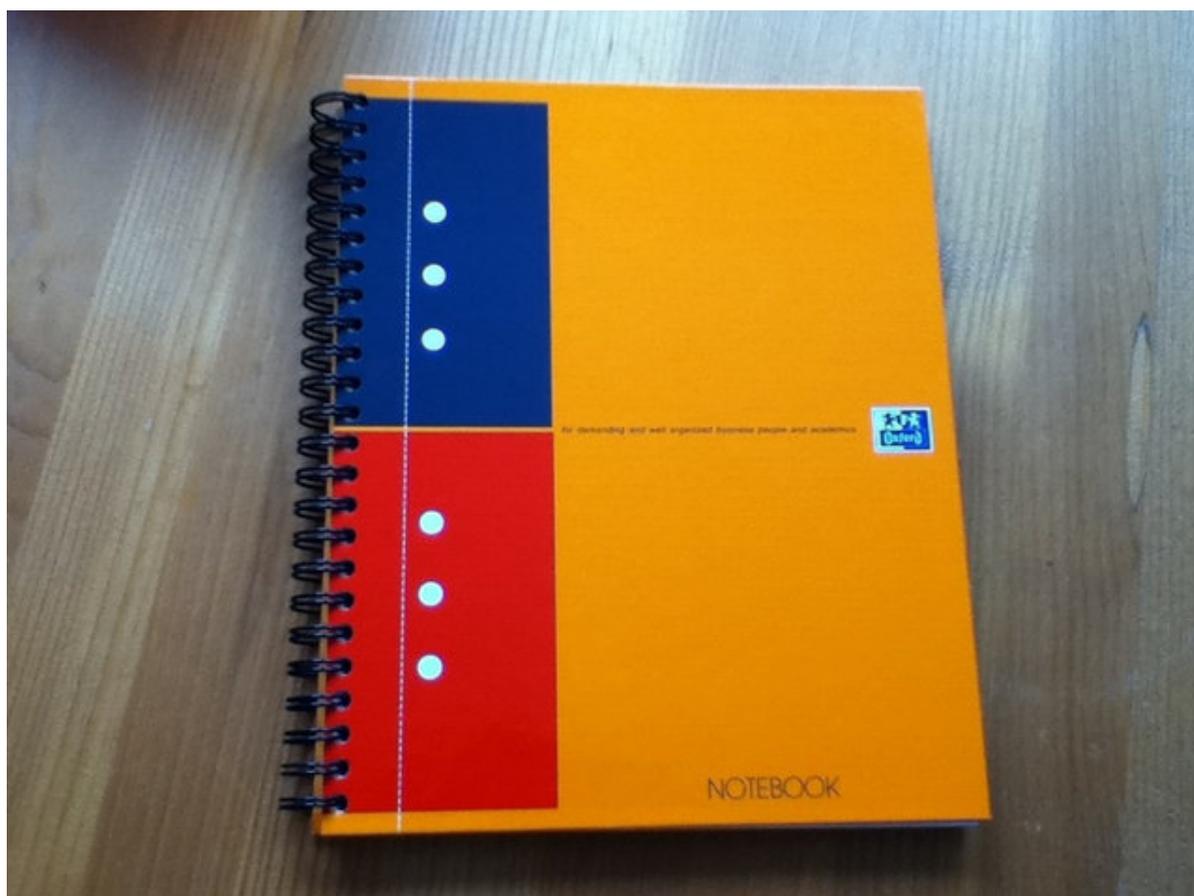
Thumbing through a vintage filofax, adding ink to paper whilst waiting for the allotment kettle to boil, is what it's all about.

### Guest Post - Oxford International A5 Notebook - Jotje (2012-03-22 00:00) - Steve Morton

During my visit at Staples today (one of the many bonuses of being self-employed is a company pass to Staples ...), I discovered the A5 Oxford International Notebook. It immediately caught my attention, because it had pre-punched pages. Would it actually fit an A5 Filofax, I wondered? Luckily, I had mine with me and could check it out immediately. Bingo! Perfect fit!

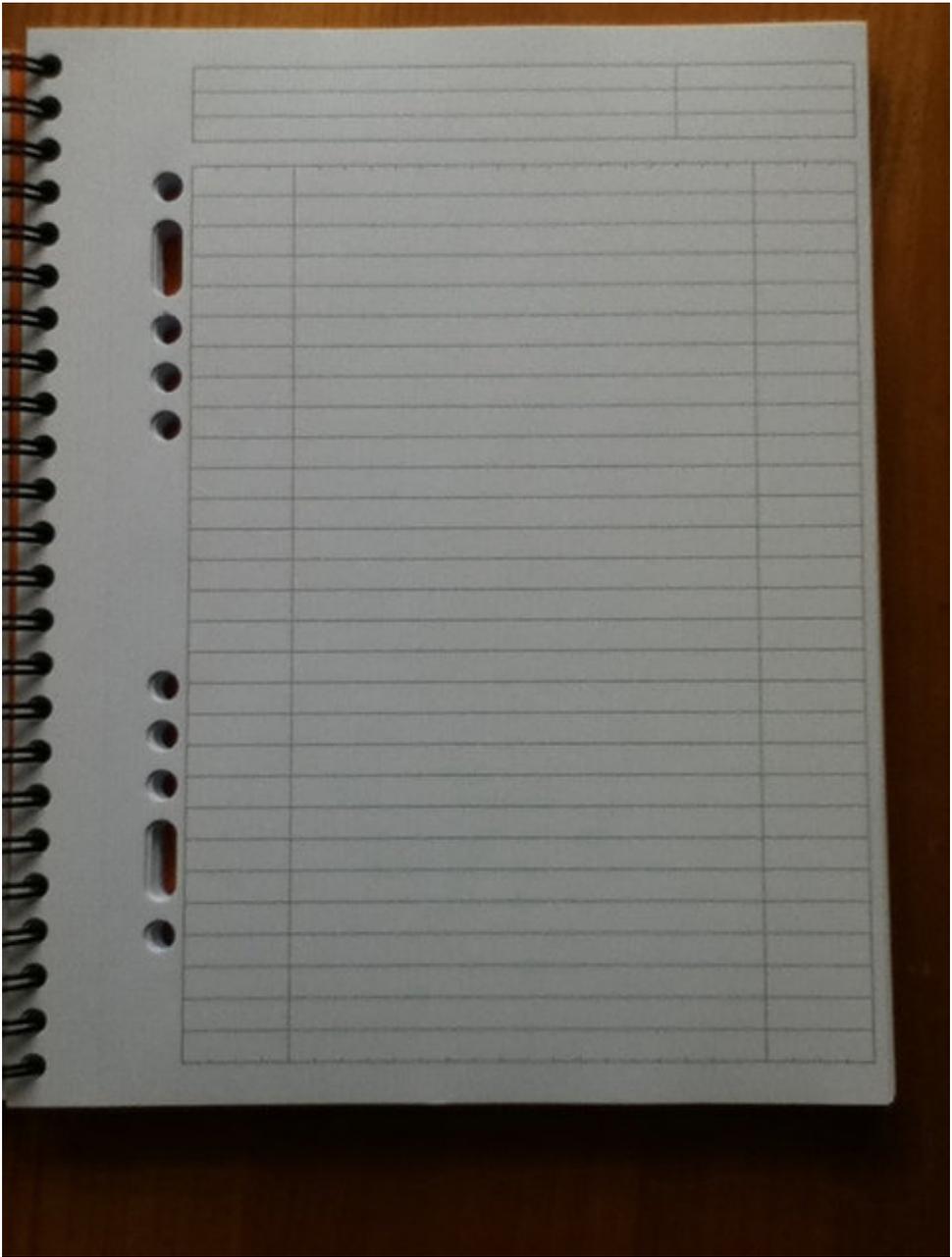
Because the paper looked and felt so nice, I bought it for "investigation purposes".

The notepad comes with 80 sheets of 80 gsm paper.



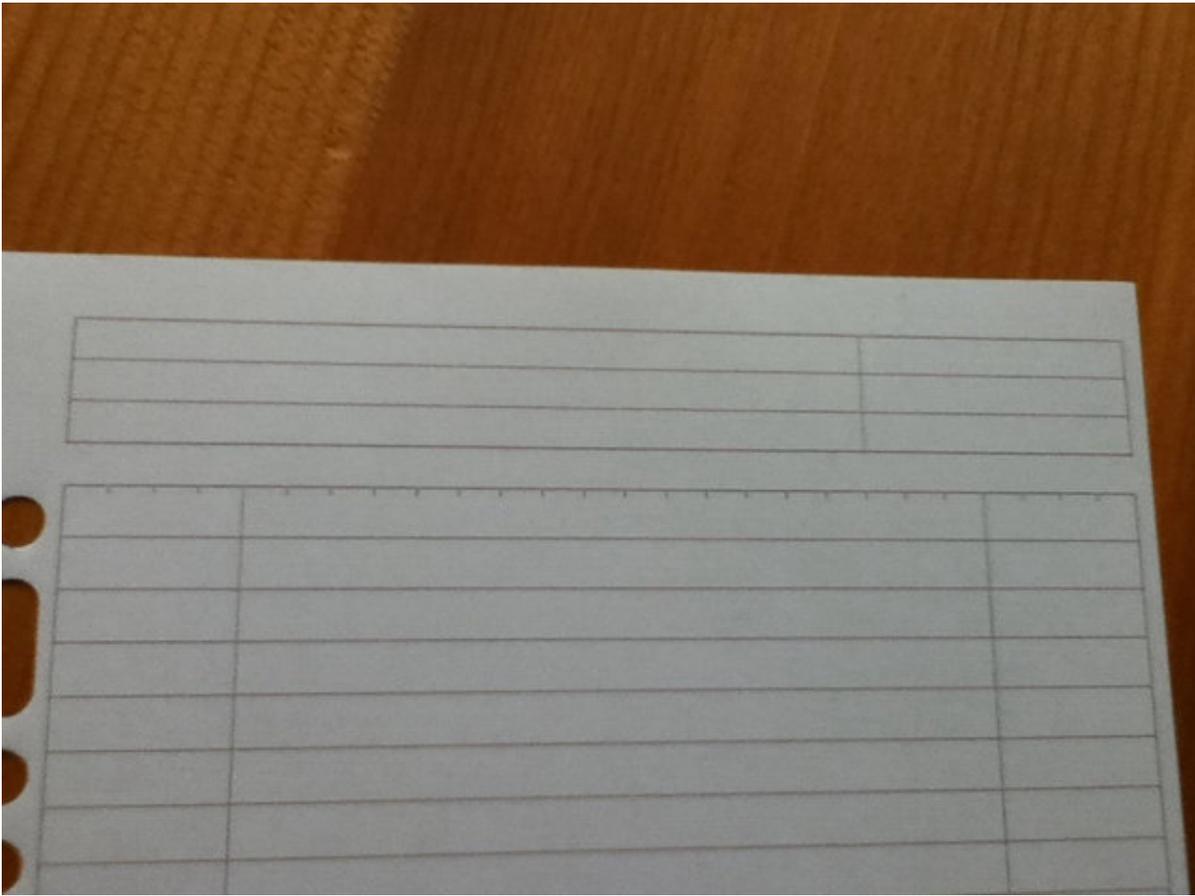
[1]

Upon opening I saw that it was multi-punched in order to fit a variety of A5 binders (Filofax being one of them). The page also has a very interesting grid layout. Ideal for taking notes during meetings or phone calls. The left-hand small column could be used to note down the date of a To-Do, then the right-hand small column for the date when the To-Do has been finished. Just a thought ...



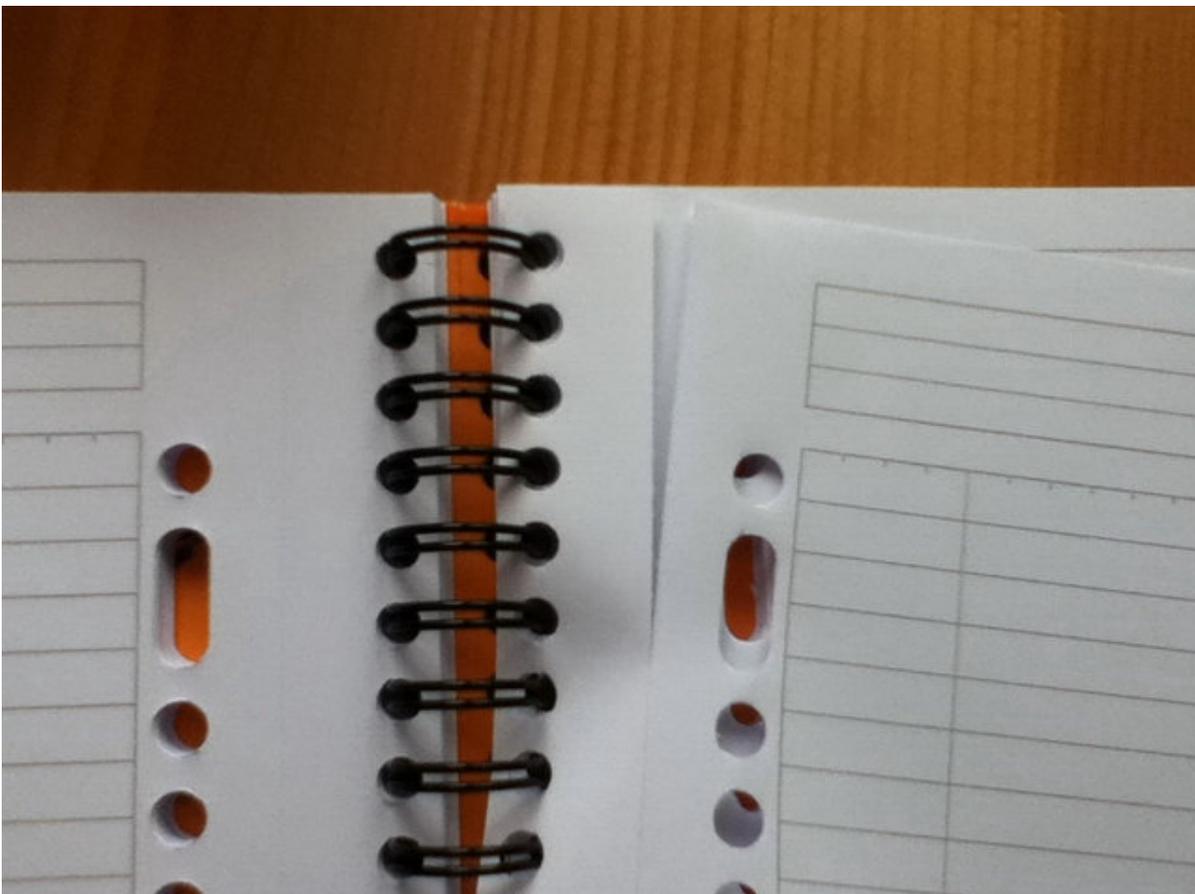
[2]

The top and bottom row has some sort of added grid, maybe to be able to add vertical lines? Here is a close-up of that grid:



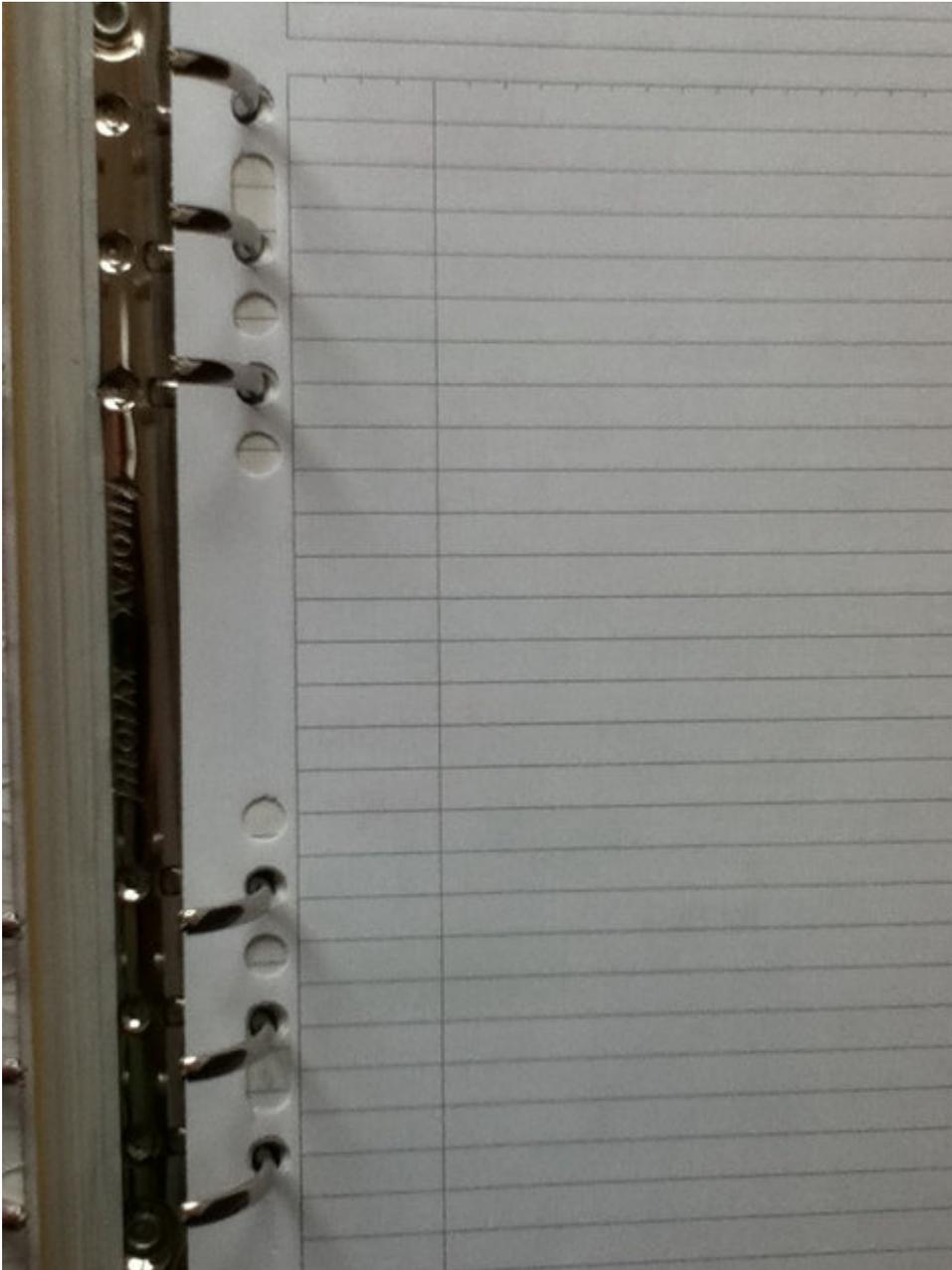
[3]

The pages itself are micro-perforated and are easily removed from the notepad, without that typical “feathered” look of perforated pages. Nicely done!



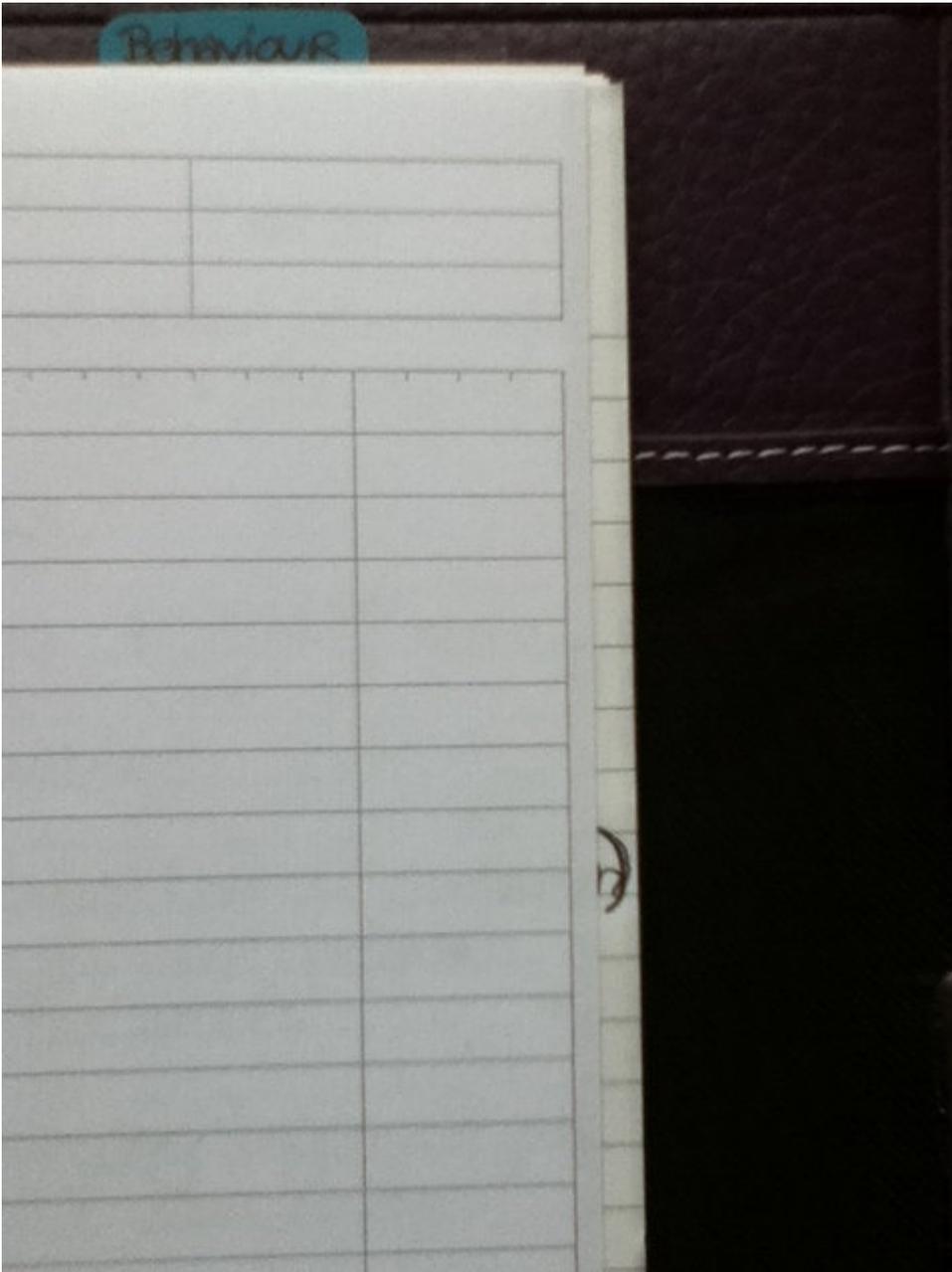
[4]

The pages fit nicely in the rings of my Filofax. The page size itself is identical to the A5-Filofax pages.



[5]

However, the punched holes are a little bit off. Filofax have the holes punched more towards the edge of the paper. Therefore, the pages appear a bit narrower compared to Filofax inserts:

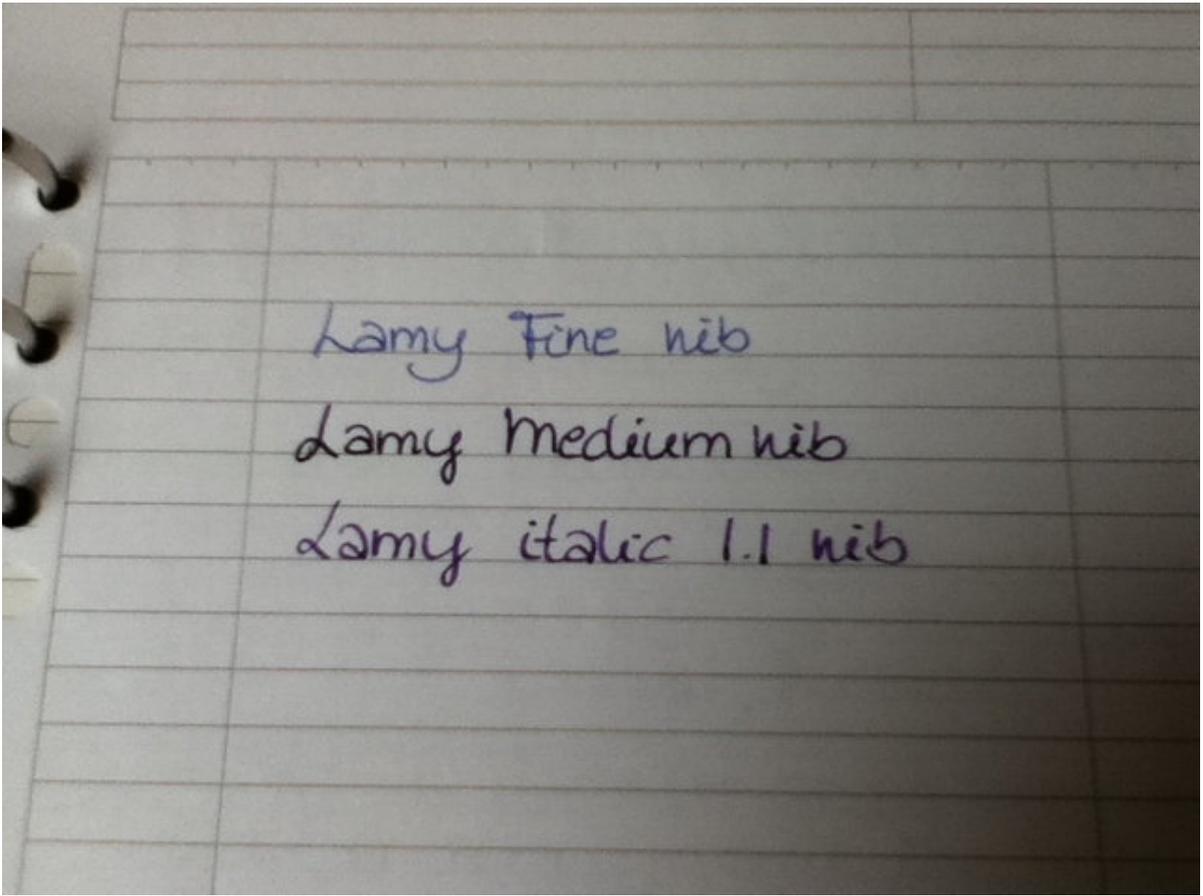


[6]

Honestly, I couldn't care less!

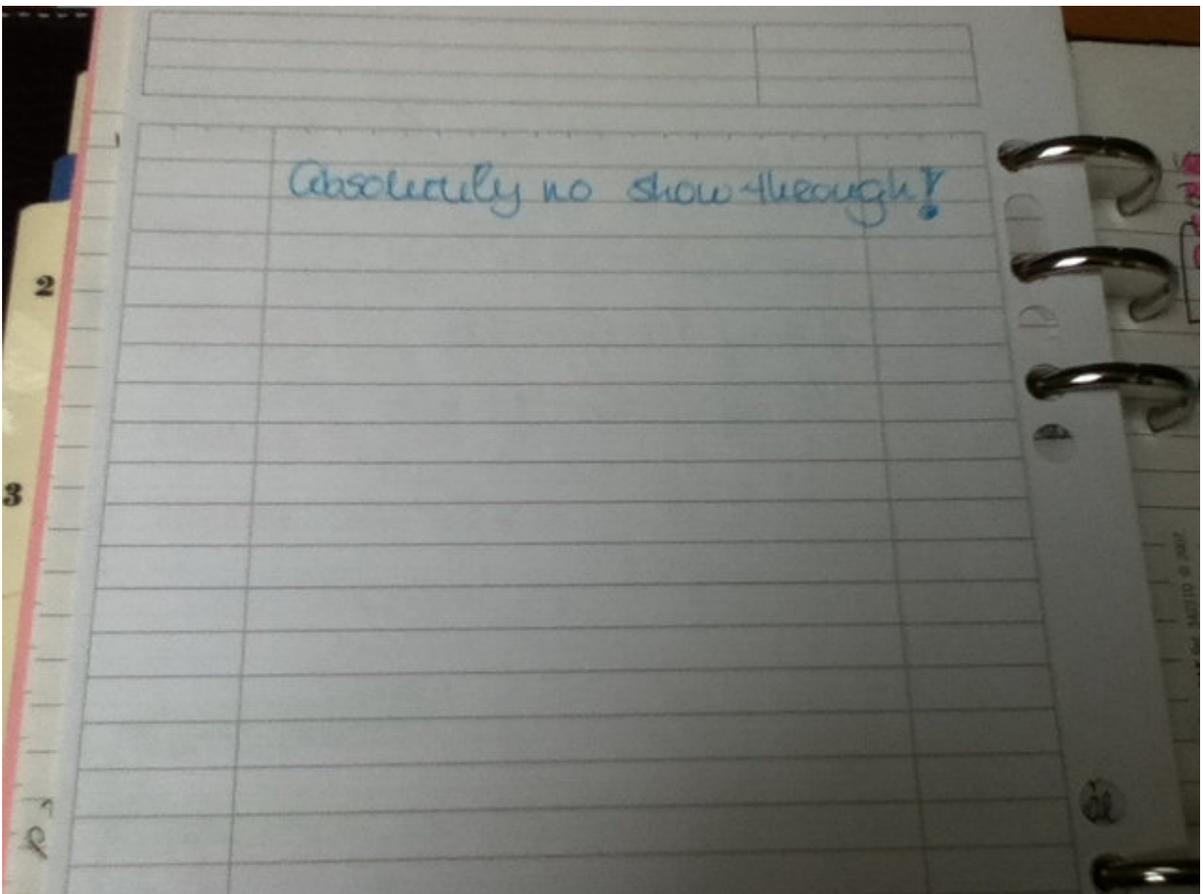
Because next was the fountain pen test. Since the paper feels very smooth and substantial, I had high hopes.

Here is the result of my fountain pens:



[7]

Just delightful!  
Curious how the reverse side is looking?



[8]

That's right! Where the Filofax pages typically show major bleed-through, there isn't even the slightest show through of the ink on this paper! I'm totally in love!  
Here is the rear cover with information about the company:



[9]

They also produce a wide range of very nice bound notebooks in various sizes with 90 gsm paper! And even with purple lines ...!

*Thank you Jotje for another excellent review*

1. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/50053159@N02/6976557081/>
2. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/50053159@N02/6830431720/>
3. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/50053159@N02/6830431164/>
4. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/50053159@N02/6830431442/>
5. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/50053159@N02/6976555605/>
6. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/50053159@N02/6976555945/>
7. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/50053159@N02/6976554955/>
8. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/50053159@N02/6976554679/>
9. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/50053159@N02/6976555313/>

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Alison Reeves (2012-03-22 05:01:41)

These are brilliant notebooks - I seem to remember that they are a premium price here in the UK, however when compared to FF paper the cost is reasonable. I'll definitely be stocking up on some of these when I see them.

Paperchase do a really nice notebook if you like a grid pattern on your pages: <http://www.paperchase.co.uk/invnt/00223010/> but you would have to punch as they only have two holes pre-punched. It has some Spanish paper which takes fountain pen very well.

Virelai (2012-03-22 05:13:59)

What a great finding! :)

I'm happy for you!

Scoot (2012-03-22 05:15:52)

I think that's a cute idea. From the hole spacing I would suspect that it is designed for all organisers, though the UK Staples site doesn't have it listed.

I was thinking how I would use the wide margin to take notes, leaving the main page for a summary/principal facts/action points ..... as I've always liked the idea behind the Cornell note taking system, though I'm not so keen on the Cornell format which always appears to urge me to re-read all the notes again! .... which are invariably in rough handwriting that I don't want anyone to see. However, there just isn't enough margin space for me to do what I want.

My current system is to write notes on the back of a piece of paper and write a summary/principal facts/action points on the front (A derivative of Cornell notes). As the original detailed notes were never written slowly, the handwriting was not so neat and therefore it was best kept out of sight, but as I can write at a normal speed for the summary etc they are neat and therefore I am quite happy about it being on the front of the sheet.

Butanben (2012-03-22 05:32:50)

What a great find. Thank you for the tip off! I'll be investing in one of these when I next go to Staples.

JJ Hitt (2012-03-22 06:00:56)

Very, very, cool. Anyone know of a US source? Doesn't appear to be listed on Staple's US site.

Saffy (2012-03-22 06:15:36)

Jotje, I love reading (and now watching) your reviews. You are so thorough and being a visual person I appreciate all the photos. Thank you and keep them coming.

Neil (2012-03-22 07:27:47)

For anyone in the UK, who is happy with 80gsm paper, look no further than the Pukka Pad "Jotta" A5 size. 200 pages (100 sheets), perforated (but you'll have to punch them yourself), and just (wait for it) £1.10 each from Costco (you'll have to buy a pack of six for £6.60).

Jotje, you might also like to try the Oxford "Pink n Black" A5+ notebook from Staples, which is perforated (but not punched), is exactly A5 size after separation (hence the "A5+" designation), has even better 90gsm paper, and works out at roughly half the price per page than the Oxford International notebook you purchased. Lots of people on "the fountain pen network" rave about this paper.

I do sometimes wonder whether Filofax are actually aware that so many of us fill our filofaxes with paper from other sources, given that so many of their competitors actively listen to their customers and change their paper quality accordingly.

Maus (2012-03-22 10:22:11)

Thanks to Jotje for the great hint!!! :-)

Tim (2012-03-22 11:29:22)

I'm a regular user of these. They are very popular with academics. Whilst expensive these can often be found reduced in sales ("on sale" in American English!). Makro (wholesale cash and carry) have recently had some at almost half-price.

You can still also get the older "Activebook" version with six equally sized holes top and bottom (rather than the oval holes). This model has the barcode ending 014128 (rather than 014124).

Clamball (2012-03-22 11:57:00)

I use an A4 version of this notebook at work all the time. It is wonderful that you can take the page out using the perforations and it is perfect for storing in other folders without all the ragged edges. I find the margin on the left hand side great for assigning to-do's and the heading area at the top I tend to use for meeting titles etc.

In the A4 versions there are many different oxford notebooks so it can be a bit of an ordeal to ensure you re-order the correct one, as they all look so similar.

terriknits (2012-03-22 14:55:51)

what a great find! I wonder what the chances of finding this in North America are ...

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-03-22 15:56:18)

That looks great!

LJ (2012-03-22 16:11:34)

Wow!!! Love that - time to trawl the net to find some. Thanks Jotje :o)

ayra k (2012-03-25 12:38:22)

The notebook sounds perfect... I live in Australia though, does anyone know of any webstores that ships internationally?

Jotje (2012-03-26 04:10:58)

Wow, thanks!

Jotje (2012-03-26 04:12:31)

Thanks for that advice, Neil! Our Staples is not very extensively stocked regarding Oxford-products, but I'll give it a proper check next time I'm in!

## **Free for All Friday No. 175 (2012-03-23 00:01) - Nan**

This weekend, Europe joins the [1]US and Canada in moving to Summer Time (one hour ahead of Standard Time). But as in the case of, say, Arizona in the US, there are always exceptions. For example, Iceland doesn't move their clocks ahead, and Belarus and the Russian Federation will stop observing Summer Time for the first time this year.

I've always been fascinated by the information pages that come at the start of Filofax diary refills, like The World and Time. Sometimes, I leave them where they are; in some cases, I remove them to make space. In the 2012 Personal Cotton Cream diary I bought recently, I noticed that the Clothing Size Equivalents page has been removed. I'm just as glad to see it gone – it was really inaccurate when it came to the American sizes for woman's clothing.

Do you keep the info pages in your Filofax? If so, how often do you refer to them?

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/03/free-for-all-friday-no-173.html>

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Rabbit (2012-03-23 00:38:55)

People may or may not already know: the Purple Malden is FOR SALE on the City Organiser website ^\_^

Butanben (2012-03-23 01:01:15)

There was a post a week or so ago about the joys of brown ink on cotton cream paper. I have discovered the joy of using a violet coloured pen for my diary, a uniball fine 'eye' pen which I've bought in WH Smith. Lovely colours in the range-pale blue, pink and orange also available. The pen lasts much longer than some other gel pens I have tried. The violet colour I think is lovely against cotton cream.

David Popely (2012-03-23 04:32:55)

This week I've carried out my intention to convert to cotton cream, as I was in London with time to spare and able to visit the Conduit Street shop. So the whole interior of the Personal Malden is now cotton cream. I've also reverted back to the standard index pages, as I'm trying to simplify my system just a little.

I also bought a FF own-brand pencil, which, if a little over-priced, is very nice indeed and fits the Malden's one)

pen loop, thus solving an ongoing problem. Pen-wise I was interested in looking at the Lamy range, but got 'timed out' so was unable to complete the task. Your Uniball idea sounds interesting....I'll go and check them out (although the whole idea of having to visit WHS for \*anything\* gives me the twitches - presumably the cotton cream takes the Uniball without bleed-through?...

Tim (2012-03-23 04:38:47)

Hi Rabbit - Yes, they became available on Monday but are not yet on the Filofax websites. See this week's "Free for All Tuesday" (below) for more views.

I would be interested to know whether folk are opting for the "creased" or "more creased" version? (or just deciding that they don't really need yet another organiser and saving their money?!!)

David Popely (2012-03-23 04:40:09)

I'd be interested to hear from anyone using the two-FF system as standard, with their larger (usually A5) binder staying on their desk and their 'satellite' Pocket/Personal going out with them. I've always been a staunch proponent of the 'one life' one organiser' approach, but I'm wondering if it might be worth taking a look at the 'split system' option again. Specifically, how do you keep your diary together? But anything else which you think is relevant would be of interest.....

Steve Morton (2012-03-23 04:50:35)

Puts hand up... me sir... I'm using an A5 and a Personal Malden...

The A5 stays on the desk, open at the TM Enhanced Week View (Ray and Steve variety) I note appointments and tasks in that one all the time.

My personal sits just to the side of it. In it I also note appointments but on a Week Per Page FF diary. I add any notes I will need away from the desk, shopping lists etc. A lot of my tasks are things I will be doing at the desk so I don't need to have a copy of those in the personal.

Also in the personal is another copy of my addresses and contacts, passwords etc etc. I use it when I'm out and about for making notes of things like opening hours of shops to add to our master list at home. They all vary here!

If you need more detailed info on how the two work together email me.. Steve

David Popely (2012-03-23 05:14:01)

Steve did you get my emailed reply? My email is doing weird things today, since I was apparently hacked yesterday.....

Anita (2012-03-23 05:52:21)

Hi David,

I'm a two filo girl. My personal Malden is my main one, which has all my lists, projects etc. I also have an A4 which is used for project support material, reading, GTD tickler file & any other papers too large for my personal. I use Google calendar on my iTouch, so don't need to keep diaries in my filofaxes.

I bought the A4 for the space as I can find it hard to plan things on the personal size paper & it's really a back up filo, as my Malden is my main one.

JasJan (2012-03-23 06:00:33)

Hi, My first time posting, though I have been an avid lurker. Thought I would introduce myself. I am a stay at home Mum of two toddlers and am fully consumed by the Filo bug. This week I have bought the Purple Malden in pocket and personal as well as an A5 Finsbury - I think I need help?! Anyway I would also be interested in how people keep two filos running at the same time. Jen

curiouser (2012-03-23 06:03:33)

Not exactly sure how this has happened but in a few weeks time, I am going from the owner of an ancient filo, to three- I've added two maldens in- I looked high and low for a crimson, so bought an ochre but then an Australian sale came up (In the spirit of enabling Australians, buyinvite has some FF on sale until Tues 9am)

PS I think Philofaxy made me do it ;)

LM (2012-03-23 06:34:03)

When I bought mine, very shortly after they were added to the online shop, I can't remember seeing the 'creased or more creased' option, but then it did all happen very fast ...:) I didn't ask for one or the other, and the one I got is very smooth and looks quite dry, even though it isn't - I covered it in leather balm and it still looks dry and cracked. It does give it that vintage look, but I think I secretly prefer the leather in my vintage pink one - purely a personal thing, I like grainy and textured leather. The leather in the purple seems to be more like the ochre, and I assume the 'more cracked' will be softer, maybe - mine won't lie flat yet. But the dark purple colour is lovely!

Scot (2012-03-23 07:01:30)

It is interesting that you mention clothing sizes being "inaccurate", but isn't it more accurate to state that they were increasing useless because the manufacturers and designers in different countries don't keep to any one standard set of sizes? I suspect that is the reason why FF withdrew the clothing sizes.

For me personally, consistent clothing sizes aren't a problem because apart from the odd special suit or shoes I'm principally a Marks and Spencer shopper and they have quite consistent sizes. But I have a client who has continuously attempted to "fiddle" her clothing expenses from a trust fund, often paying for the clothes of her friends and in return they would pay for her jewellery/restaurant bills/airline tickets etc or just give her cash in exchange, but the only way to identify an irregularity with expenses is when unusual clothing/shoe sizes appeared on the invoices supplied. But the obvious question is what is an unusual size? Sizes in Northern Italy aren't necessarily the same as Paris, Madrid, London or New York, and even within any city in any country there are different retailers with their own (sometimes radical) interpretation of any size. When I met the young lady I would try and match the clothing I saw to retail invoices and over the years I managed to build a picture of matching each retailer's sizes, in all the countries she normally visits, which extended to 3 sides of A4 paper for just her narrow band of sizes. I couldn't make chart on one sheet because there were so many exceptions, seemingly designed to flatter a person into thinking they were still a certain size. In the end I gave up because various retailers changed their sizes in an effort to conform, but it didn't work so all they ended up doing was creating more confusion.

Alison Reeves (2012-03-23 07:19:59)

Does anyone have any tips for setting up a project file or book? I have a number of meaty projects that I need to progress all with a significant number of tasks. My idea is to list them all, along with their tasks which I can add to as I think of them, and then transfer tasks across to my planner each day to try and progress them. Is this what others do? Otherwise I just hide from these projects and don't get anything done!!! Can't decide to do this in a FF or a very attractive notebook that I would enjoy using!

Tim (2012-03-23 07:24:53)

Hello David - you're a TMI (Time Manager) guy. They always advocated keeping a full organiser on your desk/ in your briefcase and a pocket planner wallet for when out-and-about.

I've gone back to this with great success. I keep my A5 (Filofax Holborn modified with a narrower 17mm ex TMI ring) for desk and bag. I then have a Flex slim wallet (supplemented by iPhone for core data) for when I'm out and don't need my full organiser.

Boz (2012-03-23 07:25:24)

Hi Jen,

Welcome -I am also a newbie here! (my 2nd post)

What do you think of the purple malden? I ordered it in A5 size and got it yesterday in the post (I asked for the 'smooth' version - which is just lovely and soft - exactly like my Ochre Malden personal).

My personal I use as my everyday (in my bag with me wherever I go) and my A5 I'm now going to use as my "everything" diary/ notebook, lists/ journal (including project work etc) which sits happily on my desk in my study. Boz.

David Popely (2012-03-23 07:39:14)

hi Tim

Good connection, well made - thank you.

What precisely do you keep in the Flex to take out, and what processes do you have in place to 'reunite' stuff gathered/updated while out and about with the 'mother-ship' system?

Daniel Walters (2012-03-23 07:46:41)

I have only just entered the Filofax world, but I am doing almost exactly the same as Tim. For my birthday recently I received an A5 Finsbury which has everything in it, and a pocket sized Filofax Flex. In the latter I have a notebook (to capture any ideas or things I've remembered I need to do - I'm a GTD man) and a vertical year planner which gives me just enough space to put essential (non-work) appointments, so that I can check when I'm free.

This works for me, but probably only because I'm at my desk for most of my working day, so don't need to carry around any work stuff in my Flex...

Scoot (2012-03-23 07:54:38)

I try to avoid setting up such project/work files because I end up with what is basically yet another personal organiser, rather than just a basic storage file of data.

I keep my main points, and therefore the functions of management (being planning/leadership/organisation/control), within the Organiser along with the focus being the problem/objective. I look at what questions and answers I need to resolve the problem/achieve the task, which involves some sort of mind map with "to do" points, and keep to it otherwise I lose my focus and waste time.

Tim (2012-03-23 08:41:23)

David and Daniel - here's a list of my core Flex Slim contents:-

Flex slim wallet in grey (ghastly plastic but I'm waiting for the promised leather version)

2 pen holder cards - front and back. One "upside down". These act as wallet closure when the pen (Frixion) is passed between them.

Jot Pad - I write everything that crops up onto the sheets for transfer to A5 later. Kind of GTD!

Year Planner - this is the only item that is in both my Flex and A5 - so I regularly check that the contents are the same!

Credit cards/ driving licence card, stamps and business cards go in vertical slots.

Banknotes (right) and receipts (left) go in the vertical inner pockets

Rail tickets go in one of the outer vertical pockets. They can then be reached without opening the wallet up.

Plus, also in the outer pockets, because I have too many cards to go in the card slots, I have made two cut down card holders that will take 4 cards each.

Sounds a lot, but when closed the whole thing is 16-18mm thick.

doris98 (2012-03-23 08:49:32)

I have 2 'working' filos - a pocket Baroque for everything EXCEPT long-term to dos, media (books/movies), and shopping lists, which are in a mini Malden also used as a wallet. This way, I have no duplications. I don't think I can handle having to sync everything all the time. I'm even contemplating moving the to-dos and media lists in the Baroque just so that I really reach for only one Filo.

I've only ever needed the Clothing Size sheet once while at M & S and didn't have it with me. It's now the back page of the January tabbed MO2P which is why it's in my filo, otherwise, I would still have left it out. When I was working a 9-5 job, I had all the Int'l Travel Info pages since I had global contacts and was traveling all the time.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-03-23 10:32:46)

Is anyone thinking of buying BOTH the smooth and 'more creased' versions of the purple Malden (from City Organiser) to see which you prefer and then return the other one? I really don't know which one I'd like (when they come back in stock next week!)

JasJan (2012-03-23 10:37:20)

Hi, I love them. The colour is so rich and the leather seems thicker than my pink and ochre( which I must now sell!) - I picked the smooth option which I am very happy with. It's good of city org to offer a choice. I am going to trial using my A5 Finsbury for home and having all of my life in it with my pocket Malden as my handbag Filo. My personal will go into storage unless I can't get on with the above set up.

JasJan (2012-03-23 10:41:15)

TPS, I only have the smooth and I love it. I would say in time the smooth would go more creased with regular usage. Jen

Josh (2012-03-23 13:02:04)

Alison,

Here in the States we can get punched index cards which fit into a small index card ring binder, probably about the size of a pocket or mini filofax. I used to use these to manage projects with huge numbers of tasks, as you could easily add new tasks and shuffle the order. You could use the same sort of system in a filofax, although it may be wasteful to write only one task onto a full sheet. Another option would be a rolodex.

Steve Morton (2012-03-23 13:04:53)

Alison I've created some month project activity pages for A4/A5 that might help you. Monthly Activity Planner (A5)

Steve

Steve Morton (2012-03-23 13:05:49)

I don't think they would be too happy about sending out both to everyone that ordered them... imagine if everyone did that.

Butanben (2012-03-23 14:14:38)

Hi David,

Yes the uni ball does not bleed through my paper, but as it is 100 thickness and I have printed my own cotton cream diary, Ray and Steve's version, I honestly don't know about bleed through on the Filofax paper. You will have to try on a spare piece of your cotton cream, to see if bleed through occurs. I bought myself some blotting paper in Smiths too, and trimmed to A5 size, to avoid any smudgeleys. The colours of the eye uniball pens are quite bright and jazzy, but I like them that way, as it is easy to colour code appointments. The violet one is just lovely on cotton cream I think. My nearest Staples is a little bit far just to 'nip' for something like a pen. WHS convenient for me in terms of being nearby.... a time saver.

LucyLastic (2012-03-23 14:16:24)

Wow, I like your idea of using two pen loops to close the Flex! What a fab idea!

Just-Jenny (2012-03-23 14:27:23)

I didn't know the purple Malden was for sale... thank you! I almost, very, very nearly got the A5 one. I have been looking / thinking / wondering about getting an A5 filo for a while and think the purple Malden might be it. Before I clicked the button and added it to my shopping cart I finally updated my accounts for this month so far... its a great deterrent from spending more money. But I am really, really tempted, even now...

LJ (2012-03-23 15:40:09)

I think there is something wrong with me - after receiving my fabulous new filos this week I have just gone onto the UK website to see that the 2013 diaries are available. First reaction - quick, must look, start planning my set-up for next year... :o)

Steve Morton (2012-03-23 15:42:23)

Before any one asks... the Ray and Steve inserts for 2013 will be available in the next few days. I've started

creating them this evening.

I will announce when they are available. And a little hint we have pocket size coming out this weekend... for 2012 Steve

Rabbit (2012-03-23 17:22:45)

I would love to see some reviews (picture heavy, of course) of the new Malden. I don't plan on buying one myself...The purple doesn't do a lot for me, and I already have an A5 in Ochre (it's so beautiful that it intimidates me and I'm not quite sure what to do with it, so I'm using a new 50 % A5 Chameleon instead. How daft is that?! ;)

Anyway, that doesn't dampen my curiosity in the slightest. I want to see the internet flooded by pictures of this new cult icon!!

Neil (2012-03-23 18:14:22)

David, I too use a two ff system, based on the logic that I'd probably be continually agonising over what size of filofax to use, and also because I'd probably have to compromise my system if I tried to cram everything into just one binder, even if it was an A4.

On my desk I fill as many filofaxes as I need, all in a row on a bookshelf, a bit like a set of encyclopaedias. I've stuck to personal size because I prefer the quality of vintage ff's, and their smaller size makes them much easier to juggle at speed on the desk when you've got the phone in one hand and a pen in the other. Also, not stuffing them too much means that you can turn the pages faster without tearing the punched holes. I just have one set of a-z dividers and file everything alphabetically, using a simple gtd based system that connects with the folders in my filing cabinet.

When I'm out I take my Moleskine/Filofax hybrid, which contains my diary, contextual based action lists (ie just the stuff I need to do or know about when I'm out), some contacts, personal data protected with a basic cypher (in case I lose my ff when I'm out), and an "inbox".

I keep money and cards separately in my wallet (I can't imagine anyone waiting for me to separate my ff from my cards and cash if I'm robbed).

Neil (2012-03-23 18:41:23)

David, have you tried WHS on-line? Everything is cheaper than the actual stores, and they will either deliver free of charge to your nearest store or ship post free via Royal Mail if your order is more than £15. I use them all the time and haven't had any problems.

Butanben (2012-03-23 18:49:52)

2013 already?? Wow, that is super organised Steve!! I have only just finished finalising my 2012 set up.... after several failed diary formats. Now on cotton cream paper, with the Ray and Steve amended TM diary..... and loving it, so far.... so good!! I am now a 1 diary 1 life person. My personal slimline was my carry about diary, but I got fed up of synching 2 diaries and the fear of missing something from one to the other. Now my slimline personal is my address book, which travels in my handbag. Much more useful with that one function.

doris98 (2012-03-23 19:42:24)

Yay for pocket size! I've been on tenterhooks waiting for them to come out. Thanks in advance!

doris98 (2012-03-23 19:48:43)

Has anyone ever used a Filofax as a Diary/Journal? I'm undecided on whether a filo or a bound book would be better. If anyone does use a filo, how do you find it, and how do you archive your past years?

DEM (2012-03-24 00:17:58)

Doris98, I have set up one of my FFs as my Happiness Project binder. In it I have a 2012 diary in cotton cream that I am using as a journal. I write 2-4 sentences in it each day (my version of an expanded 1-sentence diary). It's working really well!

LJ (2012-03-24 03:00:26)

2013 inserts - fantastic. So clearly thinking about my set up for next year even though it is only March does not make me crazy - that's a relief :o)

doris98 (2012-03-24 06:30:05)

DEM, thanks for the input. I do want to keep a Journal, and I do want to use one of my filofax for that. What size are you using for your journal? I may just try to do what you do and limit my 'thoughts' to 2-4 sentences. (:

Butanben (2012-03-24 10:15:30)

Doris and DEM, I am using a pocket red Adelphi as a dream journal. I use lined paper, rather than a dated journal. Interesting to look back and see what your sub-conscious is trying to tell you!!

Butanben (2012-03-24 10:17:46)

A great tip Neil! Thanks for that.

David Popely (2012-03-24 16:27:25)

Good idea Neil, I'll definitely try that out. Maybe they're concentrating more on online now - they're certainly not giving any of their stores any love.....

ONutter (2012-03-27 06:00:17)

I think what type of diary and what size is a very personal choice. Personally, I use and love my filofax (personal sized metropol) as my diary/journal. For my needs it is just about perfect, save the inconvenience of the the rings being in the way when writing on the left page.

Why I like my personal filofax over a bound notebook:

1. The pages are protected by the filofax. No more dog eared, dirty notebooks!
  2. Because it has my calendar, it goes with my everywhere. Which means that when my mood strikes me the journal is right there.
  3. I don't have to carry my entire journal with me everywhere. I can take 100 plain pages or just 10 with me, it is my choice. With a bound notebook, you don't have that choice.
  4. I like that I can switch up the kind of paper I use and experiment with different sorts. In a bound notebook, you are stuck with the paper in the notebook. When I'm in a watercolour phase, I can add paper that can take that. When I'm just using lead pencil, then I can use cheap copy paper.
  5. Finally, I love how cute the journal bundles look with the "brass trumpets"\* and finally, when the year is out (or you have to start a new stack), a red ribbon around. I store mine in a journal box in my wardrobe.
- I don't know the name in English of these wonderful little things. They are almost like a two-legged brass nail with a very wide head. You simply stick them through the perforated holes in your papers, and then stack up your journal until half the nail(s) is filled. Then you bend the legs, to lock the pages down.

**Webfinds - 24 March 2012 (2012-03-24 00:00) - Steve Morton**



[1]

Only 9 months until Christmas... too early.. yes I think so too... but in the mean time why not forget that random thought by reading some Filofax blog posts we have uncovered this week....

- [2]iPad my first thoughts and impressions - Steve Morton (yes there is some Filofax content!)
- [3]A free time and activity tracker for your Filofax - My Life All in One Place
- [4]Oops, I did it again! - Anita Lim
- [5]My Personal Filofax Travel Pack (Update) - Tommes S
- [6]Filofax fate... - Filofancy
- [7]DiY CD sleeves for Filofax - Stationery Happiness
- [8]Planner Fail? - LJ's Blog of Stuff
- [9]Ernest Hemingway: On Filofax - The Crazy Suburban Mom
- [10]Review of the Personal Finchley in Imperial Purple - Paper Pens Ink
- [11]Has A Nice Ring To It - The Zeitgeist of Zoe
- [12]university: balancing social life and work - Paperlovestory
- [13]Austen powers through her last tick box - Pen to Paper
- [14]Miss Finch's backside... The Crazy Suburban Mom
- [15]My First Filofax: The Pocket Guildford - Filofancy
- [16]Poor Ms Aston – I had to intervene... Paper Pens Ink
- [17]Lord Byron: On ink - The Crazy Suburban Mom
- [18]UK Delivers - LJ's Blog of Stuff
- [19]Update & New Favourites: Filofax - Sugar Cherries
- [20]Sweden Too - Time For a Filofax Family Photo... - LJ's Blog of Stuff
- [21][Filofax] Update - Janas Book Look
- Your blog post could appear here next week... Please email us if we missed you this week. We currently check over 50 blogs for Filofax posts... could yours be the 51....52...53...54th?

Can I give a shout out to two of our readers who are fund raising for Cancer Research UK. [22]Alison and [23]Sharon are both doing their own 'Race for Life' in June (different dates). Click on the links and give your support to them.

Enjoy.

1. [http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-6oqYTWtaQtw/TtISY0v\\_17I/AAAAAAAAJ5g/c2lkUEa\\_SIE/s1600/christmas.png](http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-6oqYTWtaQtw/TtISY0v_17I/AAAAAAAAJ5g/c2lkUEa_SIE/s1600/christmas.png)
2. <http://steve-morton.com/2012/03/18/ipad-my-first-thoughts-and-impressions/>
3. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.com/2012/03/free-time-and-activity-tracker-for-your.html>
4. <http://anita-lim.blogspot.com/2012/03/oops-i-did-it-again.html>
5. <http://tommes-s.net/?p=801>
6. <http://filofancy.blogspot.com/2012/03/filofax-fate.html>
7. <http://stationeryhappiness.blogspot.com/2012/03/diy-cd-sleeves-for-filofax.html>
8. <http://ljsblogofstuff.blogspot.fr/2012/03/planner-fail.html>
9. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/03/ernest-hemmingway-on-filofax.html>

10. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.fr/2012/03/review-of-personal-finchley-in-imperial.html>
11. <http://thezeitgeistofzoe.wordpress.com/2012/03/20/has-a-nice-ring-to-it/>
12. <http://www.paperlovestory.com/2012/03/university-balancing-social-life-and.html>
13. <http://justjennypentopaper.blogspot.fr/2012/03/austen-powers-through-her-last-tick-box.html>
14. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/03/miss-finchs-backside.html>
15. <http://filofancy.blogspot.fr/2012/03/my-first-filofax-pocket-guildford.html>
16. <http://paperpensink.blogspot.fr/2012/03/poor-ms-aston-i-had-to-intervene.html>
17. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/03/lord-byron-on-ink.html>
18. <http://ljsblogofstuff.blogspot.fr/2012/03/uk-delivers.html>
19. <http://sugarcherries.blogspot.fr/2012/03/update-new-favourites-filofax.html>
20. <http://ljsblogofstuff.blogspot.fr/2012/03/sweden-too-time-for-filofax-family.html>
21. <http://janasbooklook.blogspot.fr/2012/03/filofax-update.html>
22. <http://www.raceforlifesporsorme.org/alisonreeves>
23. <http://www.raceforlifesporsorme.org/sharonstafford>

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LJ (2012-03-24 01:38:20)

Ooh - my favourite time of the week. Filofax in hand ready to write down things I want to investigate further to change my set up. Thanks Steve, and thanks also for including my posts. LJx

Just-Jenny (2012-03-24 02:56:43)

Thank you for including my post!

Anita (2012-03-24 03:18:14)

Yay, this is my treat when I've done my study for today!

Thanks as well for including my post. I've included a link to my video of the filofax in that post :)

Scoot (2012-03-24 09:59:49)

Next time a poll in run to learn how many Organisers are owned, I suggest the grouping of 20+ is expanded to bands of 10 to take into account those whose family is growing to astonishing proportions.

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-03-24 14:31:22)

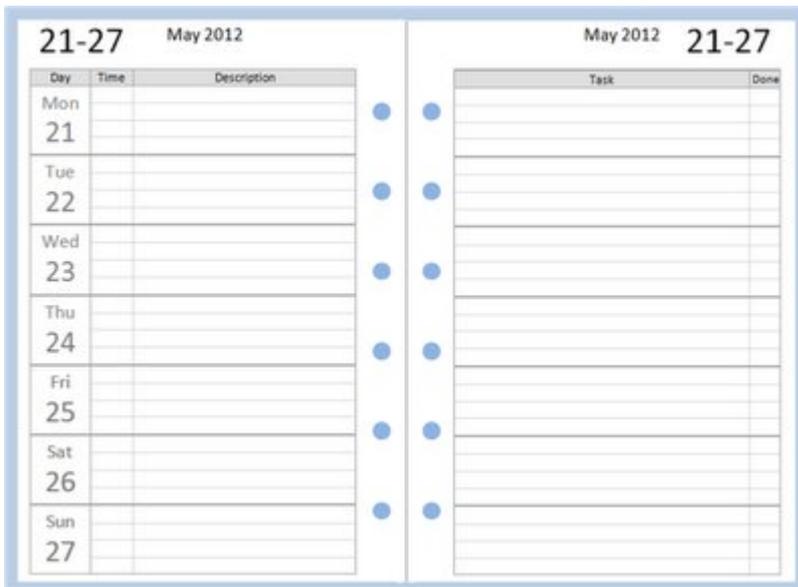
Yay! Now I don't have google search filofax to find posts! This is so much easier! Thanks steve!

## **Free Pocket Filofax diary layouts to download (2012-03-25 00:00) - Steve Morton**

People have been very patient. Ray and I are now ready to release Pocket-sized versions of some of our diary layouts.

### **1. Enhanced TM Week on Two Pages**

First, we have the very popular Enhanced TM Week on Two Pages layout:



[1]

Is the Pocket page big enough for this layout to be usable? You'll have to decide. But with this layout, you can view the whole week's schedule alongside daily tasks. And, weekend days get as much space as weekdays, which I know lots of people are clamouring for.

You can download a prepared 2012 set in this layout as either a [2]Word file or a [3]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.

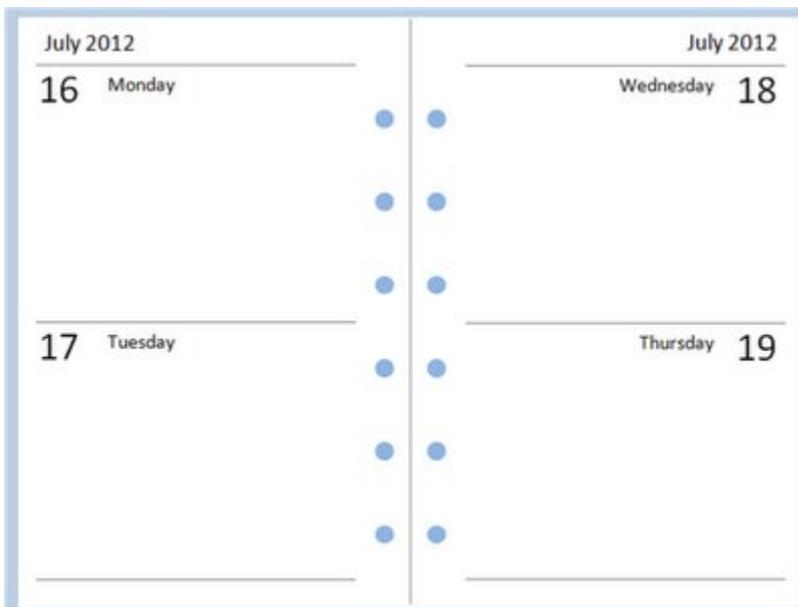
On one side of each sheet you'll find crop marks. Use a craft knife and a steel ruler to release the Pocket pages and punch them. The templates are set up with mirrored gutters to accommodate the holes.

As usual, we're also giving you the facility to lift the bonnet and play with the innards. You'll have full freedom to edit and create your own adapted version by downloading [4]this Word file and [5]this Excel file.

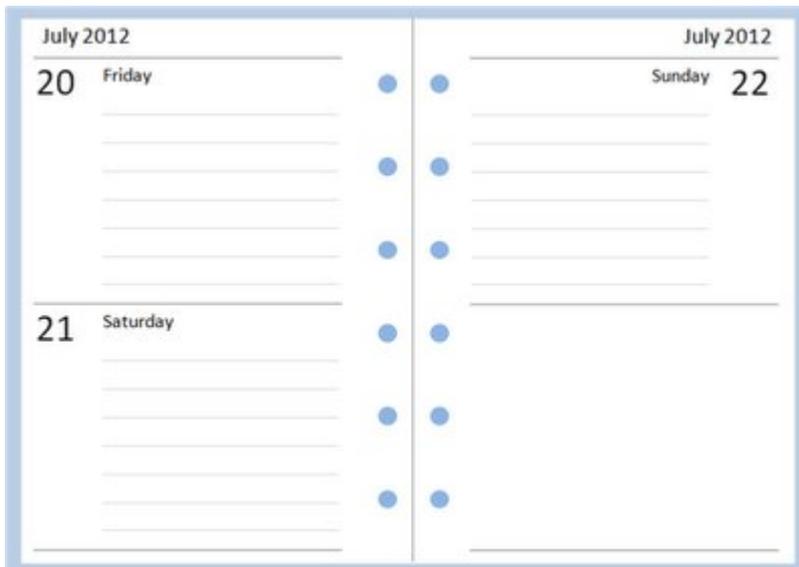
If you want to know how to go about using the source files, [6]this post will help you.

## 2. Two Days Per Page

Next we have the Two Days Per Page layout, in two flavours: unlined and lined:



[7]



[8]

You can download a prepared 2012 set in the unlined layout as either a [9]Word file or a [10]PDF file. If you want lines, then use this [11]Word file or this [12]PDF file. Use the instructions above to print and finish your pages.

Before printing any of the prepared sets, please see our note on printing PDF files [13]on this page

All you tinkers need to download [14]this Word file for the unlined version or [15]this Word file for the lined version. In either case, you'll also need [16]this Excel file.

[17] 

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1. <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-5GQQUCapNps/T20vC0peqI/AAAAAAAAAa8/WzvdGfCaZQI/s1600/1new.png>
2. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal\\_TM\\_Week\\_View/2012%20merged%20Pocket%20Enhanced%20TM%20Week%20View.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_TM_Week_View/2012%20merged%20Pocket%20Enhanced%20TM%20Week%20View.docx)
3. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal\\_TM\\_Week\\_View/2012%20merged%20Pocket%20Enhanced%20TM%20Week%20View.pdf](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_TM_Week_View/2012%20merged%20Pocket%20Enhanced%20TM%20Week%20View.pdf)
4. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal\\_TM\\_Week\\_View/Pocket%20Enhanced%20TM%20Week%20View%20base.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_TM_Week_View/Pocket%20Enhanced%20TM%20Week%20View%20base.docx)
5. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal\\_TM\\_Week\\_View/DatesSourceFilo\\_WOTP\\_Personal.xlsx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_TM_Week_View/DatesSourceFilo_WOTP_Personal.xlsx)
6. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/02/download-source-files-for-new-personal.html>
7. [http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-wELkKTZ\\_Cf8/T20xlcQNEDI/AAAAAAAAAbE/EbExtNB-qco/s1600/1new1.png](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-wELkKTZ_Cf8/T20xlcQNEDI/AAAAAAAAAbE/EbExtNB-qco/s1600/1new1.png)
8. [http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-r0V0XI062Zw/T20xZrn1SNI/AAAAAAAAAbM/wDA\\_nOROTZU/s1600/1new2.png](http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-r0V0XI062Zw/T20xZrn1SNI/AAAAAAAAAbM/wDA_nOROTZU/s1600/1new2.png)
9. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal\\_2\\_Days\\_Per\\_Page/2012%20merged%20Pocket%202%20days%20per%20page.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_2_Days_Per_Page/2012%20merged%20Pocket%202%20days%20per%20page.docx)
10. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal\\_2\\_Days\\_Per\\_Page/2012%20merged%20Pocket%202%20days%20per%20page.pdf](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_2_Days_Per_Page/2012%20merged%20Pocket%202%20days%20per%20page.pdf)
11. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal\\_2\\_Days\\_Per\\_Page/2012%20merged%20Pocket%202%20days%20per%20page%20lined.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_2_Days_Per_Page/2012%20merged%20Pocket%202%20days%20per%20page%20lined.docx)
12. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal\\_2\\_Days\\_Per\\_Page/2012%20merged%20Pocket%202%20days%20per%20page%20lined.pdf](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_2_Days_Per_Page/2012%20merged%20Pocket%202%20days%20per%20page%20lined.pdf)
13. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/free-diary-inserts.html>
14. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal\\_2\\_Days\\_Per\\_Page/Pocket%202%20days%20per%20page%20base%20new.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_2_Days_Per_Page/Pocket%202%20days%20per%20page%20base%20new.docx)
15. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal\\_2\\_Days\\_Per\\_Page/Pocket%202%20days%20per%20page%20lined%20base%20new.docx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_2_Days_Per_Page/Pocket%202%20days%20per%20page%20lined%20base%20new.docx)
16. [http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal\\_2\\_Days\\_Per\\_Page/DatesSourceFiloPers\\_2DPP.xlsx](http://philofaxy.com/inserts/Personal_2_Days_Per_Page/DatesSourceFiloPers_2DPP.xlsx)
17. <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/>
18. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/>
19. <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/>

doris98 (2012-03-25 05:55:37)  
Thanks! Thanks! Off to print my pages! (:

Maus (2012-03-25 11:01:23)  
Many thanks for provide us Pocket users, too!!! :-)

Maus (2012-03-25 11:02:23)  
...providing... (sorry)

HM (2012-03-25 11:54:24)  
Thanks a lot!!!

doris98 (2012-03-25 22:56:49)  
Ray & Steve, thanks again for this, I'm so excited to use this. As I printed out a few pages to test, I found out a few things. I hope you don't mind if I give a few inputs:

- 1) Size is fine with me as I have tiny handwriting.
- 2) I like the format! I may just get rid of my transparent flyleaf/dashboard in lieu of this.  
And a few niggles, hope you don't mind the input, just to point a few things out:
- 3) Is it just me? or are the pages smaller than regular pocket pages?
- 4) The gray lines inside the days are just a teeny bit too light to be seen. Is there an unlined version? No big deal here though, I can still work with it.

More importantly though, the printing part - I printed out a few pages to test and I don't know if it's just stupid little ole me, but I can't seem to set the printing to just a few pages to print back-to-back . . . it always prints out the whole 56 pages. Not one to tinker (I can use Word/Excel but those source files are too complicated for me), I haven't really done anything to fix this, just thought I'd share with you to see if you encountered this. What I did for now was print regularly, cut them out, and glued them on back-to-back.

Overall, I like the Pocket TM! The format is simple and clutter-free, the gray lines are great and soft to the eyes, and it looks like there's enough spaces for me to work with. I already copied this week's info to use it. (:  
Again, hope you don't mind the long-ish feedback. I just wanted to put in my 2 cents.  
Thanks!

doris98 (2012-03-25 23:25:15)  
By the way, the back-to-back alignment is perfect! (:

Steve Morton (2012-03-26 02:08:31)  
Hi  
Please see the note on the diary inserts page regarding printing the PDF files. By default your reader will scale the page to about 96 % you need to turn that off.  
<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/free-diary-inserts.html>  
Which particular insert did you find the gray lines too light?  
And it's your printing settings that are printing the whole set of pages rather than just a few pages.  
Steve

Ray Blake (2012-03-26 02:44:37)  
What you might find is that because Word has applied sections in the merge it is tricky to print off just a small range. What I'd do in these circumstances is just delete the pages you don't want and then print what is left. As long as you don't save the file (or save it with a different filename) no harm is done.  
On the size issue, look as Steve suggests at the Acrobat print dialog if you're printing from PDF.  
The lines are designed to be faint enough to ignore, but on some printers might be slightly fainter or bolder. If you know what you're doing in Word, the line weight is adjustable.

doris98 (2012-03-26 06:34:54)  
Steve, thanks, I'll check my printer settings and adjust to 100 % scale. I finally figured out how to print alternate pages and then print the rest to make them back-to-back.

I printed the 2012 TM Diary, and as Ray mentioned below, I could adjust the line weights but I think I'll just leave them the way they are now. Might just be too much work for something that doesn't really bother me.

## Date for your Filofax - Sunday 1st April (2012-03-25 12:00) - 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 1st April** 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 1 April 2012**.

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

2. <http://steve-morton.com/2011/07/30/improving-your-skype-audio/>

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J (2012-03-26 12:02:29)

I would love to, but I'll be heading out the door to attend a wedding walk- I can't miss out on the chance to win a free honeymoon!

Hope you all have a great chat!

**Pen and Paper Test (2012-03-26 00:00) - Steve Morton**

I've just swapped over from using the [1]Filofax Time Management Week View insert to the Ray and Steve [2]Enhanced TM Week View insert (must come up with a new name!)

In fact I created a version 2 of the insert with a little bit more room between the lines and some other tweaks to the format. You will see the links to the new version on the post and in the [3]Diary Inserts page.

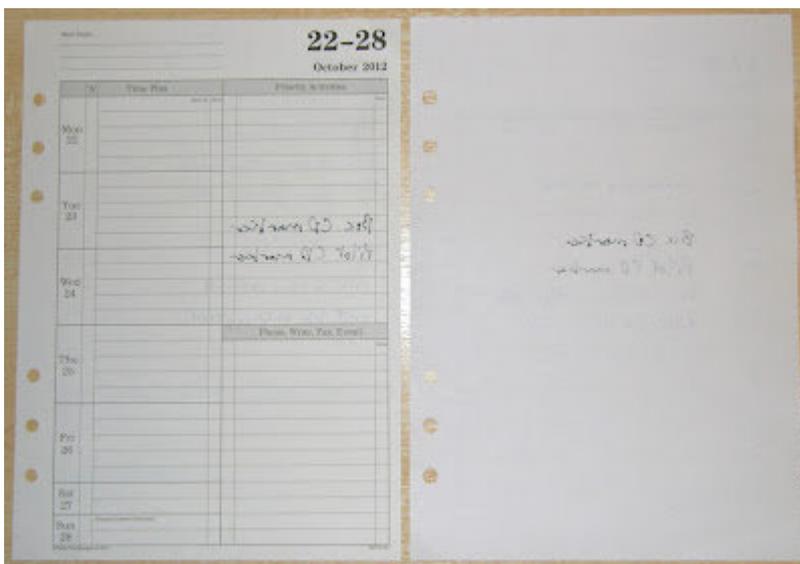
Having got unused pages of both formats I decided to do a very quick and simple pen test on both pages. I had printed the Enhanced TM insert on some A5 paper I bought in UK from my local [4]Ryman stationery store. It is made by [5]Mondi, 80 gsm and it says for Laser, inkjet printers and copiers, so nothing very special. I bought a 500 sheet pack, so enough to keep me going quite a while!

So here are the two pages side by side Filofax on the left, 'Steve and Ray' on the right:



[6]

and the reverse side:



[7]

And here's the stack of pens I used:



[8]

It might not be so obvious from the pictures... but here are my findings.

On both pages the CD markers bleed through quite obviously, they are a spirit based felt pen designed for writing on the shiny surface of a CD/DVD, so they will leak through paper easily. But the Filofax paper seems worse than the Mondri.

Next worst is the Pilot V5 Hi Techpoint this shows bleed through on the Filofax paper, but not on the Mondri paper.

There is some very very faint bleed through on the Filofax paper on the Pilot G1 Grip rollerball.

On the Filofax paper the first four pens are very very faintly showing through the paper, I wouldn't class it as bleed through, it is just the paper thickness really. The 0.5 Frixion is very hard to see through the paper on both samples.

So if anything if you are considering printing your own inserts, try to get a sample of the paper first and try as many different pens as you are likely to use before buying a large pack of the paper.

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/02/time-management-from-filofax.html>
2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/free-diary-inserts.html>
3. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/p/free-diary-inserts.html>
4. <http://tidd.ly/9f3f7a9f>
5. <http://www.mondigroup.com/products/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-80/>
6. [http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-tEm\\_Akz0WaE/T2X8Q7BHLuI/AAAAAAAAKgk/EC5d1puH86E/s1600/IMG\\_0746.jpg](http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-tEm_Akz0WaE/T2X8Q7BHLuI/AAAAAAAAKgk/EC5d1puH86E/s1600/IMG_0746.jpg)
7. [http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-u-I6SL48KMM/T2X8UZuE9GI/AAAAAAAAAKgs/nLn1sttfJlU/s1600/IMG\\_0747.jpg](http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-u-I6SL48KMM/T2X8UZuE9GI/AAAAAAAAAKgs/nLn1sttfJlU/s1600/IMG_0747.jpg)
8. [http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-GEVdC7n\\_e1k/T2X85rcx46I/AAAAAAAAAKg8/XaPFfNwePS4/s1600/IMG\\_0748.jpg](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-GEVdC7n_e1k/T2X85rcx46I/AAAAAAAAAKg8/XaPFfNwePS4/s1600/IMG_0748.jpg)

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Alison Reeves (2012-03-26 04:10:44)

Thanks Steve - very useful. I usually go for 90 or 100gsm for fountain pen writing (depends what I can get), so I guess it is a balance between good quality paper and how much space it takes up in the binder - the thicker paper does take up more room overall.

Cat Burchmore (2012-03-26 04:37:22)

I bought some cream paper from Staples but have found that my lamy pen looks all 'scratchy' when I'm writing on it :(

I also have found that I can't seem to cut the paper very well for personal sizes. I'm not sure what I'm doing wrong but they're coming out all different sizes which is bugging me alot. Does anyone have any tips? I am using the guides on the print out and a craft paper cutting thing - the official name of course ;)

Cat

Ray Blake (2012-03-26 05:27:32)

In the print dialogue, make sure you're printing at 100 % size. By default, Adobe Acrobat Reader will shrink your pages slightly.

Cat Burchmore (2012-03-26 05:47:51)

Thanks Ray, I did try that after getting it wrong but it's still not working. I think it's my cutting rather than the printing being wrong. I seem to cut the marks off and have to almost guess the last few cuts. Maybe there's a knack to it that I just can't get!

Ray Blake (2012-03-26 06:37:34)

Oh, I see. What you need to do is cut the pages out, rather than cutting the edges off. You should end up with an A4 sheet rather than a few strips of offcut. Don't cut right to the edges, only as far as the crop marks.

Steve Morton (2012-03-26 06:38:47)

I think you need to do a 'Blue Peter' style video, in the best John Noakes tradition! 'And here is one I prepared earlier' ;-)

Cat Burchmore (2012-03-26 07:15:39)

Ah, I think I understand then where I might be going wrong. I just struggle to get a straight line with a craft knife and ruler, even a metal one, so I thought using a proper trimmer would be better. I'll try tonight and see how I get on. But a video would be awesome, though I am feeling a little silly for not getting it right and needing a video lol!

David Popely (2012-03-26 07:49:14)

Hi Steve

As a 'relevant aside', I'm \*very\* happy with the cotton cream inserts I've migrated to on my Personal Malden....I generally use pencil only for my diary (believe me, it's necessary!), but where I \*have\* used fountain pen (cheap Parker with bog standard Parker cartridges), there has been no bleed-through at all. Likewise on the A5 Finsbury where I'm currently trialling the TM Time Management day-on-two-pages set.

Scoot (2012-03-26 11:27:12)

You could always take a ream of A4 paper to a printers and ask them to cut it for you using their professional guillotine. Even when I was charged for cutting A4 into A6 sheets it cost no more than £5.

Butanben (2012-03-26 11:36:50)

Blue Peter, John Noakes?? Surely you're not going to launch Ray out of aeroplanes and such like, John Noakes style?? I met John Noakes, Peter Purves and Valerie Singleton many moons ago, as a birthday surprise, I had a tour of television centre and watched the filming. My uncle worked in children's tv, on Jackanory, and later on the news. Valerie Singleton was just so so lovely to me, like the best of aunties and gave me a signed copy of her script and a Blue Peter badge. The badge is still in the loft somewhere. It was the episode where they planted the tree with a memory box, to be dug up in the year 2000.

In Blue Peter tradition, I have printed off my own Filofax diary. I am delighted with the Ray and Steve A5 amended TM version. I have printed it onto cotton cream 100gsm paper, bought from WHS. I too have made a few changes, in that I have thickened the line divisions and darkened the lines, so that it is not so pale, ie bold. Easier to quickly scan read. Expensive paper, but it just makes using my filofax so enjoyable and such a pleasure. Like most of us, I wonder if Filofax will ever opt for better quality paper and a wider selection of diaries. Keep going Cat, it is well worth the perseverance.

Neil (2012-03-26 14:12:55)

Heavier weight paper doesn't necessarily take up more space. As an example, an Oxford "signature" notebook from Staples has 90gsm paper, and its 96 sheets are the same thickness as the 96 sheets of pocket Moleskine that uses 72gsm paper; so the paper is effectively denser, not thicker.

I agree with Steve about friction pens; both the 0.5 and 0.7 versions show very little through Moleskine and Filofax paper, and the 0.7 version works particularly well on cotton cream paper (0.5 version can be a little scratchy for faster writers).

I have tried Filofax cotton cream paper - I actually quite liked both its appearance and tactile quality, but ulti-

mately decided not to use it because the amount of "shadow", and occasional bleed through show with my fountain pen was unacceptable. Check, using you own pen and ink, would be my advice.

Here's a tip if you do like cotton cream paper - just buy 3 packs of 20 sheets, print (or hand draw in fountain pen) the lines to denote each day, to effectively create your own wotp diary, and then exclusively use Frixion pens to denote both the date and your memos. Then stick last week's sheet into the microwave for 60 seconds (your printed lines will still be there) and re label it for use in 52 weeks time. If you're feeling a little miffed at paying a whopping 8 pence per sheet, you'll feel a lot better knowing that you can re-use each sheet over and over again. And of course, you can apply this frugality to all your other cotton cream inserts too. Obviously Filofax themselves would rather Frixion pens had never been invented, but the money you save could be put towards your next binder, perhaps.

A blue Frixion 0.7 looks superb on cotton cream, but use a Frixion 0.7 refill inserted into a Pilot G2 body (because it's so much nicer to write with and also because the G2 clip works perfectly on filofax rings).

Steve Morton (2012-03-26 14:22:49)

0.7 mm Frixion refills fit the 0.5mm Frixion pens perfectly too and fit the Malden Pen loop as well.

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/08/pen-loop-compatible-pens.html>

Neil (2012-03-26 14:53:29)

Steve, many thanks for the link.

None of my vintage filofaxes have loops that will accomodate either a Frixion or a G2. A stretchy loop would be more useful with the variety of pens available these days..

However, the design of the G2 clip lends itself very well to being slid down inside the binder mechanism, and clipped onto the topmost ring, almost as if they sat down and designed it that way.

Butanben (2012-03-26 20:13:52)

I have stopped using the Frixion pens now, as I had some writing rubbing out by itself, just through day to day use of my diary I think!! Not enough to stop me from working out what I had written, but enough to make me think I could lose important appointment data. I wonder if anyone else has had the same problem?? I now use the Frixions for day to day lists, ie shopping lists etc, stuff where it doesn't matter if wee bits get erased. That also means that my pens don't go to waste. I have worked out that my diaries are going to be an expense each year, whether bought from Filofax or hand printed. I am kind of justifying the cost to myself by really enjoying the pleasure of using good cotton cream paper in my diary and by thinking well.... Philofaxy (and all the related blogs and task managment sites,)and designing my own inserts, has become firmly one of my hobbies now.... so as hobbies go, the odd purchase of paper and printer ink..... and even the odd outing to London for Philofaxy meet ups.... is not hugely expensive in the long term. Neil, the G2 is a good tip. Thank you for that. I am intrigued. Does putting the paper into the microwave erase the Frixion pen then??? Also isn't there the danger of setting fire to your paper???? I haven't got a microwave, so can't test out the theory, but I am curious anyway!!

Neil (2012-03-27 07:10:14)

Butanben, 60 seconds in the microwave does the trick. I agree with you that one has to be careful with Frixion - always keep away from warm car dashboards, window sills and the like. I'm doing a long term test using Frixion and a Moleskine, carrying it in my pocket as I work and play, to see if the cumulative effect of warm environments affects the ink - ok so far after a couple of months, although the black ink is a little on the grey side (blue is perfect).

Jotje (2012-03-28 14:19:46)

Actually the Slimline metal FriXIon housing fits perfectly into small penloops, and takes both the 0.5 and 0.7 refills. I'm expecting a major FriXIon haul from Japan tomorrow: colored highlighters and retractable FriXIon pens in all my favorite colors. I'm still a huge FriXIon fan and haven't had any ink disappearance problems this far!!!!

Heather from Heather Holistics (2012-03-28 14:25:48)

@Jotje I'm a FriXion fan too and so far haven't lost anything. If only they would create a multi-pen FriXion. Enjoy your haul.

Jotje (2012-03-28 16:40:59)

I know !!!!!!! That really must be next on their list, right? Would be perfect if you could choose the vessel and insert the refills that you like best.

Oh, one can dream....!

## Free For All Tuesday No. 60 (2012-03-27 00:00) - Steve Morton



[1]

Time for you to fire those questions at us..... as long as they are Filofax related of course.

1. [http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-iWM2EGJg8j8/TUh0HOLo4aI/AAAAAAAAI6E/2WfvsKUfHgc/s1600/IMG\\_9777a.JPG](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-iWM2EGJg8j8/TUh0HOLo4aI/AAAAAAAAI6E/2WfvsKUfHgc/s1600/IMG_9777a.JPG)

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Paul B (2012-03-27 01:16:22)

Hi Guys. Been reading the site for a couple of months now but this is my first post. Its a question.

I have a Portland Grand (Personal size), I bought it a long time ago, can't remember when. I wanted the biggest rings I could get, and the lady at Filofax told me it was the biggest available at that time. Having read a few posts which mention the Winchester with oversized rings, I wondered if the Winchester has bigger rings than the Portland Grand? If so, I'm going to try and locate one. I print a lot of stuff for work so my binder is constantly overflowing.

I love my Portland Grand, it has the softest leather of any Filofax I've ever owned, but it just doesn't seem to mark. Hope some guru can answer my query and thanks in advance. Its a great site and the templates are excellent.

Paul B

Gerard (2012-03-27 02:35:47)

Hi Paul, the large capacity Winchesters have rings of 5/4 inch diameter. As far as I know Filofax never made anything bigger.

Anita (2012-03-27 05:53:03)

Hello!

Is it common for people to completely change their set up??

I think I've been suffering from 'filofax fail' recently. Have just bought a vintage pink A5 Malden & am going to sell my A4, personal & associated bits & pieces. It seems silly to spend more money when I already have two great binders, but I want every thing in one place & generally reach for an A5 sized notepad, rather than my filofax. I also think the minimalist in me is desperate just to have one filo & be content :)

Has any one completely changed & then regretted it?

Tim (2012-03-27 06:25:13)

Oh yes Anita! - I've been regularly switching between A5 Filofax, A5 Time Manager and TMI Original/ compact size (similar to Filofax personal) since about 1986! There is no right answer! A smaller size is great for portability, a quick note and core data. I've moved everything to that size several times and then regretted it after a few days

or weeks! As a left-hander, I usually get fed-up fighting the rings and not having enough space to write! So, I've then gone A5 (again!) and got frustrated at carrying what feels like a house brick around all day!

On balance, I personally find A5 is better for most things, such as taking notes at meetings, printing pages, mind-mapping, sketching, doodling etc. etc.

Dare I say the advent of the smartphone has helped, because using that for appointments, contacts and to-do's has made me able to create a slim, compact Flex/Filo A5, which is light and portable. For me, the 30mm rings in a Malden would have me stuffing it full! Small rings (I'm on 17mm) force a strict discipline which I find helps me focus on the really important projects and papers. I have a strict rule that my A5 binder must never be thicker overall than 25mm. It's working for me at the moment!

kari Soursa (2012-03-27 06:37:46)

Hello Paul. I know that the personal cavendish has 1 1/4 inch rings. Yesterday i saw one at ebay.

David Popely (2012-03-27 07:10:56)

Hi Anita

I change my setup all the time! So do a lot of the people here....and I think we treat it as a learning experience rather than a series of disappointments! Basically, we are 'tweaking' to a greater or lesser extent (usually greater!)....my advice would \*definitely\* be to make changes, and to \*keep\* making changes, and not to expect to ever arrive at the 'perfect' setup - because our circumstances change and the 'holy grail' of setups doesn't exist in any place. After all, isn't part of the reason we use Filofaxes is precisely because they can be restructure internally? :)

Tim (2012-03-27 07:12:56)

As I recall, The Winchester came in 4 Imperial sizes (marked in gold on the inside cover) 1/4 inch, 1/2, 7/8 and 5/4 (that's 1 and 1/4 inches or 32mm in new money). I remember The Balmoral was also 5/4.

David Popely (2012-03-27 07:16:36)

Hi Tim

I don't know anyone who doesn't use their phone as their go-to application for address/phone details now....the functionality is so good compared with paper-based systems. t's in the diary area that paper wins....a smart-phone just won't give you the perspective(s) to plan properly...but then, I know that you already know all of ths! For my money the MI system is far and away the best combination of planning perspectives out there - monthly, weekly and daily, all alongside one another in clear view.

For me, it's task management which is the thorn in my side. I've tried GTD, GSD, TMI, and a handful of phone apps (Evernote, Remember the Milk, Wunderlist, but they all have attendant problems. If I can crack the task management issue, that will be a great weight lifted.

as The Apprentice say.....the search continues!

Butanben (2012-03-27 07:17:20)

Out of curiosity, has anybody bought an Olympics 2012 binder?

Neil (2012-03-27 07:30:01)

Just a quick question:

I've often wondered whether Filofax have ever considered going back to selling empty binders instead of full ones. Does anybody know if this question has been addressed by Filofax?

Paul B (2012-03-27 08:24:08)

Thanks Tim.I didnt realise they were the Imperial measures. Doh..... Just measured it and its definitely 5/4. Strangely, mine doesnt actually give the code or the number on the inside. It simply says "Filofax Portland Grand Real Leather". which is embossed into the leather, but has no gold leaf, so its very discreet. I bought it from the Filofax store, so I know its genuine. The funny thing is, I have had it for so long, I am now convinced there must be bigger rings out there.

I guess that if this is the biggest they ever made, it is nature's way of telling me I need to organise my organiser.

I use an A5 for projects at work, as I need to put A4 paper in. The personal is my favourite, though, and always will be. The quintessential Filofax :)

Paul B (2012-03-27 08:25:56)

Hi Kari. I looked on the UK eBya site, but all I saw was a pocket Cavendish. But it appears that mine already has the biggest rings they make, so time for some lateral thinking.....

LucyLastic (2012-03-27 08:34:56)

Hello all.

My new Filofax has arrived today . . . a COMPACT Finsbury in raspberry. It is absolutely perfect - more space for writing but still fairly slim and compact for my handbag, as well as a fully-elasticated pen loop. I can't wait to get it set up now!

Globetrotting Cacti (2012-03-27 09:24:35)

I remember seeing the option to buy empty binders at the Filofax store in Neal St ( & the price was adjusted for this).

katka (2012-03-27 09:25:47)

Oh, I would love to see some pictures. Can you post some on your blog?

LucyLastic (2012-03-27 09:38:56)

Hi Katka!

I would do, but would you believe it . . . I've got to send it back! Can you believe one of the rings is RUSTY?! How can that be? It's a brand new design that's only just come out! I'm so disappointed.

If I get chance I'll take some pics anyway and put them on my blog. It is gorgeous though . . . apart from Mr Rusty who tagged along for the ride . . . :(

kari Soursa (2012-03-27 10:03:07)

[http://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/360409388881?ssPageName=STRK:MEWAX:IT & \\_trksid=p3984.m1438.l2649 #ht\\_4477wt\\_986](http://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/360409388881?ssPageName=STRK:MEWAX:IT & _trksid=p3984.m1438.l2649 #ht_4477wt_986)

This was where i saw it Paul, its in Wien.

Alison Reeves (2012-03-27 10:19:13)

Hi David

What is failing you on the task management side? What is it that you are looking for? In other words, wherein lies the problem that GTD, GSD, TMI etc can't solve? My biggest problem appears to be me! I have a tendency not to look at my lists ... ..

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-03-27 10:42:49)

Hmm.. only this week I emailed both filofax.co.uk and Neal Street to ask about this. I wanted a personal Holborn (after some enabling by a Webfind post on Saturday... you know who you are!! :-) )

With the City Organiser discount (andy15 to get 15 % off) the full binder is £52. Filofax.co.uk wouldn't sell the binder alone; Neal St said they would reduce it from £68 to £58 but that P+P would be between £7.50 and £10. I went to City Organiser and bought it full for £52.

I think that if they DO go back to selling binders only, filofax needs to check out what the competition is.

PrincessK (2012-03-27 10:51:11)

Hi Everyone,

I've been thinking about switching diary type and was looking at the day on 2 pages on the french filofax site. The postage and cost of the diary refill on the french website are a bit expensive, I was just wondering if there was any UK version or something similar anywhere for sale, im not bothered about it being the filofax brand?

Thanks x

LucyLastic (2012-03-27 10:54:30)

Pictures now on my blog!

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

katka (2012-03-27 11:00:57)

I'm sorry that you have to send it back. Otherwise it's beautiful.

PrincessK (2012-03-27 11:26:16)

Hi Everyone

I've been thinking about changing diary formats and I have been looking at the day on 2 pages on the Filofax France website. The thing is the diary and postage to the UK are quite expensive and I was wondering if anyone knew of a UK version or a diary insert with a similar layout? I'm not bothered about it being Filofax brand as long as it fits the personal size binder.

Thanks x

LucyLastic (2012-03-27 11:37:48)

If you click on the 'Diary Inserts' link at the top of this page, you'll see a whole selection of ones you can print off yourself. Here's a link to the one you are describing:

<http://philofaxy.blogspot.co.uk/2012/03/free-day-per-page-and-day-on-two-pages.html>

No doubt Steve or Ray will chip in with any further info!

PrincessK (2012-03-27 11:49:29)

I know I've seen them but no printer, cutter or hole punch. I'm saving for a small printer at the minute but I'm far too impatient to wait for a printer before I can change diaries :-)

David Popely (2012-03-27 12:00:26)

Hi Alison

The biggest problem is \*still\* the one I've told you about previously, namely the large number of deadlines I have to track, often linked together in series, usually around 120 'active' deadlines at any one time. Outlook is OK (just OK) for this, but Evernote doesn't allow for adding due dates to notes, Wunderlist won't download for BlackBerry, paper based solutions seem the best bet but I haven't cracked it yet!

DEM (2012-03-27 12:02:57)

Would love to hear your thoughts...I have, within less than a month, purchased two new FFs - a personal black Amazona and a personal ruby Deco. I now have 10 (maybe more) Filofaxes! My question is: how often do you switch your FFs out? Having so many, and loving them all, I want to keep them but then I feel guilty for having them sitting on my dresser! I have been using my Amazona since I first got it and I LOVE it! I got the Deco a week ago (I'd been drooling over it for months) and really want to move into that one but can't bring myself to stop using the still new Amazona. What to do, what to do? How do you rotate your Filos and how often?

terriknits (2012-03-27 12:03:45)

I think we always fiddle with our setups/layout. I did change from a personal size (which I was happy with) to an A5 for my "personal" Filofax and am just soooo much happier with it!

DEM (2012-03-27 12:08:09)

Glad to hear that her twin sister is on her way to replace her "older" sister. How surprising that it is rusty! The binder is beautiful! Congrats!

DEM (2012-03-27 12:13:40)

I'm a "tweaker" of my system as well. I've noticed that reading all of the great posts on this site has given me more excuses to change my system around to try new things.

Scoot (2012-03-27 12:37:10)

With slimlines I just change them to match a suit, so blue suit and a blue slimline. I just move the inserts and a few cards. I just couldn't wear a light grey suit with matching tie and grey shoes, only to have a black slimline.

Steph (2012-03-27 12:56:44)

I haven't yet but I really want one. Not so much the binder but the inserts and I wish you could just by them separately.

the Merry Lemon (2012-03-27 12:59:31)

Can you get Daytimer in the UK? The portable size fits FF personal perfectly.

<http://day-planner.daytimer.com/choose-your-pages/format/7C217AF6BA144DB4BB2094AD11EFE316/False>

They have a day per page, a day on two pages, and a week on two pages.

Alison Reeves (2012-03-27 13:17:43)

@Scoot - I can't decide if you are joking or not! Sounds like some people and their handbags! And there was me trying to downsize and everyone else is collecting!

@DEM - I can only suggest that you use whatever one you love the most at the moment. Also have you thought about using some of your other binders for other uses - for example for hobbies etc? Steve has done a series on here recently asking how people use their binders for (amongst other things) health and fitness (food and exercise entries), gardening and so on. You may get some inspiration from that and get more than one binder in use at any given time.

Alison Reeves (2012-03-27 13:20:04)

I really do think that their postage is extortionate! They charged me £8.50 to send a binder a while ago. And it certainly isn't at cost as they say it is - they must be charging the the packaging as well. And don't get me on the subject of the costs to send me the TM diaries. Trouble is I couldn't get them from anywhere else.

Neil (2012-03-27 13:20:45)

I'm guessing they're shipped by sea from China - your fax has probably been in a box nearest the shipping container door in some heavy seas.

PrincessK (2012-03-27 13:23:00)

Thanks, i'll have a look x

Alison Reeves (2012-03-27 13:26:10)

@David Popely - Oh, I see what you mean David. I tend to think of these types of items as more calendar items because they have a due date, and of course it's handy to have an alarm of some kind prior to the event so you can plan your workload.

It strikes me that electronic is really one of the best options because of that, and also because I imagine that many of these items are recurring.

Have you sounded out any other accountancy people to see how they manage it? Or indeed looked to see if there is any specific software that would help. The other option would be to get an Access database program written which would effectively give you a custom system. You could devise this so you can print things out as well as have reminders. Steve and Ray may know someone who could help, or you could look at something like people per hour and put a project on there and get a quote.

Just some of my random thoughts!

Scoot (2012-03-27 14:54:07)

Not joking, I just took matching seriously to the extent that it became a matter of course....as do many people in my environment. At the end of the day, matching the colour of slimline faxes (as a wallet/notebook/diary etc) is no different to the normal matching of shoe colour or matching a striped tie with a striped suit. I keep business cards in a Slimline so it does get to be on display.

I think that many women wearing a black outfit and say black Christian Laboutin shoes (with visible red soles)

would want to carry a black or red purse/handbag/fax, not green/brown etc. Though obviously you could get away with contrasting black fax with white suit. I've seen a woman in her late 30's carrying a Temperley Guinea to a meeting and while otherwise well dressed, I don't think the Guinea worked with her outfit or accessories. However, the Temperley Guinea works with an evening dress.

LJ (2012-03-27 15:27:44)

I got the blue one for Christmas and the inserts are lovely. It is still in it's box as I don't want to touch the inserts though :o)

crofter (2012-03-27 15:36:41)

I think you have the biggest rings that Filos have. Like the Winchester 5/4s, My portland measures the same. 1 1/4".

LucyLastic (2012-03-27 15:36:46)

Everything else about it is fine though! My hubby reckons that they have a large supply of ring mechanisms in stock and mine just got an old one. Talk about bad luck!

Jotje (2012-03-27 16:06:27)

Hi Anita! I also upgraded from Personal to A5. But won't sell any Personal Filofaxes, because I know that I will downgrade in less hectic times. As long as everything fits in ONE BINDER, I'm a happy gal. Right now, I'm very very happy in my A5 Finchley (the 20mm-rings of the Adelphi soon exploded, so had to switch to 25mm rings).

Tim (2012-03-27 16:17:28)

Hi Paul - I'm no expert but I suspect your Portland may be from the 1990's rather than earlier. As I understand it, up until 1991, everything was British made and binders had "Made in England" in gold on the inside cover, with the model name, material (eg: Calf Leather) and ring size (eg: 5/4).

From 1991, much production switched to overseas and the (cheaper) Filofax name was merely embossed, naturally without "Made in England".

These days, no Filofaxes are British made. Such is life.

Steve Morton (2012-03-27 16:21:33)

That might be changing... in future..... but don't tell anyone I told you!

Steve Morton (2012-03-27 16:24:32)

David

I would be interested to see a break down of each of your projects to see how complex each is. I then assume that the complexity multiples by the number of projects you have running concurrently at the same time?

Steve

Steve Morton (2012-03-27 16:26:52)

Iris got one and reviewed it.

<http://filomaniac.blogspot.fr/2012/01/london-2012-sporting-icons.htm> l

Steve

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-03-27 16:51:12)

My Portland has standard sized rings, so I guess there were Portlands and 'Portland Grands'.

Ooh - I LOVE my Portland - the leather is like nothing else - and the thought they did a 5/4" version??? Holy Grail for me!

Tim (2012-03-27 17:51:37)

Ah! a retro, British Made, exclusive, upmarket, decent leather Filofax - as suggested by City Organiser - perhaps? The Lefax range reborn? (they wouldn't call it that!). Now, this would be of interest.

But if they were going to go Made in Britain for a new top-of-the-range surely they would have started with Temperley, n'est-ce pas?

Anita (2012-03-27 18:56:14)

Thanks for your input :)

I know I want the extra space of the A5, but have been having a hard time justifying the cost of one! Have finally taken the plunge mainly because I'm just not using my personal one & that's silly because I do love it. Hopefully I think the size will suit me, as I rarely carry my filo with me.

Not sure why I expected my one & only setup to work immediately, as there are so many other things in life that need to be tweaked to work & run smoothly :)

DEM (2012-03-27 19:42:32)

@Scoot: I love your thinking! I think that's fantastic!

@Alison: Thanks for the great suggestions! Right now I'm using an A5 Aston for work (solely as a notes and files binder), the Personal Amazona as my personal and work planner, and a Personal Aqua Finsbury as my Happiness Project Binder. I'll have to give some hard thought to uses for my other binders! I guess I'm still too in love with the Amazona to want to change to the Deco. Might I have found my "perfect" binder? Is that possible????!! Every other time that I've acquired a new FF, I've never hesitated to move into that new one, so...this is a first for me!

doris98 (2012-03-27 19:46:38)

DEM, I'm in the same boat. I acquired quite a few in the last few months (awaiting the Amazonas) and I switch over to the newcomer as soon as I get it. I am now trying to find uses for each of them and I know they will inevitably be inserts and archive storage at some point in their lives and I have accepted that (: As I get tired of one and feel a change, I know I'll rotate them as needed.

It's nice to have the option however to change color/model as the whim arises. Since my filos are stuffed, I haven't gone the route of matching my outfits to them yet, but I may for the occasional special occasion.

May I suggest – move into whatever filo you feel like. This'll also help you decide which to keep/sell later should you decide to do that later.

Jen (2012-03-27 22:34:51)

I think I am the oddball. I haven't changed my setup. I've had it since October and it seems to work. Sometimes I feel like I should mix it up, just so I can fit in.

Diane Perin Hock (2012-03-28 00:50:26)

I wish that Filofax made a 3-ringed binder that held 8.5 x 11 inch paper. I am in need of such a thing (oh, for a Finchley that size) – can anyone recommend something that size that will accommodate standard US style 3-ring 8.5 x 11 inch paper? Is there a brand that carries such a thing?

David Popely (2012-03-28 01:59:39)

Thanks Steve, I'll reply offlist as it will be long! I'll send a copy to Alison, as she has followed these trials and tribulations for a while now, as well!

Tim (2012-03-28 02:30:10)

Hi Dianne - Oh for the Quatro (Letter) paper size!

It doesn't help but there's a really interesting article on paper sizes on Wikipedia [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paper\\_size](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paper_size)

It seems that only the USA, Canada and Mexico still use the Imperial sizes - the UK changed in 1959 - and Canada and Mexico are changing to the International ISO standards over time.

I suspect on this the USA will eventually fall in line with the rest of the world (rather than the other way round, which is what often seems to happen!), I certainly can't see Filofax introducing new sizes.

Diane Perin Hock (2012-03-28 02:54:36)

I see that DayTimer has a "Folio" snap closure binder that holds 8 1/2 x 11 paper... anyone have experience with them? The last time I used DayTimer was in my early work days where my firm supplied all of us with vinyl desk books for keeping time records. {Shiver... }

Lime Tree (2012-03-28 03:23:51)

I am so glad to read all those comments! It really frustrates me that we are about to go into the fourth month of the year and I am still not happy with my set-up. From pocket to personal and thinking of an A5. Plus all the countless dairy inserts I had tried out. Feels better to know that this is "standard practise". :)

Jotje (2012-03-28 03:53:35)

Diane, wouldn't the A4 Finsbury hold this paper? You'd only need to invest in a hole punch, which by the way, are dead cheap here in Europe and available at every stationery shop. Just sayin' ...

crofter (2012-03-28 09:11:33)

Levenger makes very nice leather 3 ring binders. Renaissance Arts make leather binders with ring capacity up to 2.5 inches. One of those should work for you.

Nancy (2012-03-28 09:56:00)

@David Popely Have you tried the Cozi Family Organizer? You can use it on your computer and your phone (and you can just use it for yourself, not a family, or use the 'family members' as specific job functions)... it's pretty good, although I admit I haven't flexed all of its muscles because I went back to paper. I have tried almost all of the apps you mention, too. Good luck! Fortitude!

JJ Hitt (2012-03-28 11:04:03)

I'm no fan of Franklin-Covey, but that is what their "Monarch" size is: 3 hole 8.5 x 11.

DEM (2012-03-28 12:17:05)

Doris-I think that's the route I'm going to take. I'll just use whichever one I feel like using at the time. That is the nice thing about having several binders ... Choice.

Steph (2012-03-28 15:04:53)

i am not sure if I can still leave a question on here, as it is no longer Tuesday, but my question is this...has anyone here from Canada ordered off of the Filofax UK site, and had to pay duties? I really want to order the Olympic package for my birthday but I don't want to pay duties on it.

Alison Reeves (2012-03-28 16:47:30)

Steph - if you don't get a reply, try asking again on Friday when you can ask any question - not sure if many people look back at previous days.

Steve Morton (2012-03-28 16:52:39)

Hi Steph

We do have some Canadian readers, I will try to remember who they are and ask them!

Regards

Steve

PS you can ask questions on a FFAT any time in the week!

Steph (2012-03-28 18:14:43)

Thank you Steve. and Alison.

JJ Hitt (2012-03-28 19:33:14)

Error... FC Monarch is seven hole. Compatible with exactly nothing.

Paul B (2012-03-29 08:53:46)

Tim,

I've had it so long, I can't remember which decade it was. the 90s might be right, as for the most of the 80s, I had my all-time favourite, which got stolen. It was a personla in pigskin, and after a couple of years, it looked as if it could have been 100 years old. The leather was beautiful and was destined to age gracefully. I always thought it would probably outlive me. Then I put it down on my table in a London pub, and the rest is history. I at least hope it went to a good home. Losing all my data was a pain (no electronic backup in those days).

If the production WAS done overseas then, I can only say that they obviously still used quality materials. The PORTland Grand is the softest leather I have ever felt on a Filofax, yet its strangely robust. Amanda (above) obviously feels the same way about hers.

I wish someone would start another "Buy British" campaign.....

Paul B (2012-03-29 08:55:42)

Amanda,

If I ever find a nice vintage 5/4 binder, I'll give you first option on a lovingly cared for Portland Grand in black :)

Amanda (from Paper, Pens and Ink) (2012-03-29 12:57:09)

@Paul B

You're on!!

:)

## **How do you use: Travel? (2012-03-28 00:00) - Steve Morton**

Continuing with our series of how you use for your Filofax for specific tasks.

So this week, how have you set up your Filofax to plan travel, be it for holidays or for business trips. Do you use calendar pages at all to record the details of your travel schedule or just jot them down on note paper.

Tell us in the comments.

Are there any specific inserts you use, or require? If they don't exist already I'm sure we can create them and make them available for you.

If you can share pictures on Flickr or your own blog post then please post links in the comments.

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Rene Raggl (2012-03-28 00:45:13)

I would only note down general information in my calendar pages, like "10:45 departure BRU". For the detailed planning I am using a service called WorldMate. I only have to forward the booking e-Mails that I get from our secretary and WorldMate will automatically build an itinerary for me with all relevant confirmation available at a glance. (Ticket and flight no., departure and arrival times, phone numbers, etc.).

After all information is in, I print it out in an A5 booklet, along with other relevant information like airport maps, an expense form for all expenses made during the trip. That is punched and goes into a specially reserved section (Tab Nr. 6, if you must know) in my A5 Kendal.

The advantage? WorldMate syncs it's information with my Android phone and my iPad too. I can call the information up wherever I might need it. But most of the time I use the booklet in my Filo. That is what I call a "digital / analog fusion". ;-)

Anke (2012-03-28 00:49:42)

Good morning!

Funny , I had a blog post prepared about how I use my Personal Baroque as a Travel Filo, so I just published it! Have a look here:

<http://stationeryhappiness.blogspot.com>

I'm looking forward to seeing how everybody else uses their filos!

lululucy (2012-03-28 04:42:03)

I made a travel tab and keep several pages there. Because I travel by train and to London lots, the Tube/National Rail map. I also have the Central London maps in the back pocket of my Malden to bring out and put on the rings when I'm there - I use them often enough to merit carrying them around, so I always have them, but not often enough to use up valuable ring space on them. I'm slowly adding maps for other Euro cities, though they don't come out as often.

Then I made a page listing peak/off-peak times for the Tube and the West Coast Main Line. When I lived in London for several months, I also had pages I made with Overground schedules for the stations I used.

Then for air travel, there's a page with carry-on sizes and restrictions for the 3 airlines I fly most (of course they are just \*slightly\* different in ways I can never remember!), plus my frequent flyer numbers and customer service numbers for those airlines. And another page with my travel insurance details and contact numbers.

I use 1DPP now, so there's enough space to record flight/train times, confirmation numbers etc w/in my regular diary.

Alison Reeves (2012-03-28 05:15:05)

This is interesting - I didn't think I needed to do this and just have a list of things to remember to take when I do my training courses. However having read this I can see a lot of advantages to what has been mentioned so far.

My only niggle is that I prefer to use A5 for so many reasons, but I don't really want to carry it when I travel. I really wish FF would do a super slim (i.e. lightweight) A5 version then I could transfer the bare minimum and carry it in my bag. It could also hold any tickets etc and be really useful. I don't mind carrying my A5 to a meeting or something, but when I am also taking my overnight stuff and laptop/training materials it all gets too heavy and bulky.

kanalt (2012-03-28 06:47:01)

I don't change my inserts in any way, but I do keep detailed information on my diary page for the travel day - flight information, etc. I might also have a separate sheet or two behind my notes or projects tab for travel phone numbers and the like. And because I want to remember everything I did while away, I do write down the activities I do and places I've been. And if there is any specific music that seems to go along with my vacation, I make note of that too. I have a "vacation" playlist on my iPod so that I can always revisit my travels.

Neil (2012-03-28 06:56:20)

For ultimate weight saving with a travel fax, use the lightest pocket fax you can find, fill it with 72gsm paper from a pocket sized Moleskine (140mm x 90mm paper exactly matches pocket faxes, using up all that spare space where the binder overlaps the pages to provide space for dividers), dispense with dividers completely (just fold the corner of the first page in each section and they're easy to spot), and insert a G2 pen inside the rings (the G2 aligns itself perfectly with the top and bottom of a pocket fax when clipped to the top binder ring).

Whether you're on a high flying business trip or a training mission to Belize, addressing the weight of each component in your "kit" can make an enormous difference to your travel efficiency, and that applies to your filofax too.

Neil (2012-03-28 07:10:54)

One thing I would also recommend is not to have all your cards and money inside your filofax. Plus, if you choose an unattractive filofax, there's a better chance of hanging on to it if you're robbed - a leather filofax is an easy 20 bucks for a thief. One final thing - some muggers are more clued up than you think, so for goodness sake don't store any pin numbers in your fax.

Butanben (2012-03-28 08:49:42)

Just wanted to say that Transport for London do a large print underground map. I printed it onto A4 for my info Filofax. So much easier to read than the standard ones. Available on their website. Also, for folks who don't know, the E111 European Health card has to be on your person to be valid, ie if you have an accident in Europe, it is no good it being back in your hotel room as that will invalidate the card. A tip I picked up oddly enough from watching Countdown the other day. A Legal Eagle money tips chap was their guest on the show.

Scoot (2012-03-28 11:14:17)

I have so many pin numbers for this and that, it is a must to write them down.

Incorporate them into a grid of other numbers.

7 3 5 6 0 1

6 2 4 1 9 0

9 4 2 5 7 1

3 2 5 9 0 1

2 3 5 9 2 5

And, realistically, nobody will be able to work out the correct 4 digit pin with three attempts; especially if certain numbers are juxtaposed in a way that only you know. You can add letters to the end of a row so that you get a hint.

Laurie (2012-03-28 11:57:23)

I've been using Filofaxes for travel for years and years.

I created a personal size travel Filofax (Domino, it's lightweight) specifically for Scotland. I've been traveling there at least once per year for the past 7 years. I have tabbed sections on each region and each major city, maps, reference info and contacts.

In my reference Filofax that stays at home I have packing lists that I can transfer to my current working Filofax whenever I'm preparing for a trip.

In my current working Filofax I keep all addresses, phone numbers and other contact info I might need while traveling. I have maps, time zone info, frequent flyer miles numbers, and any other reference info I might need while I'm away from home. I keep all this in my current Filo so if there's an emergency and I need to go right away, I don't have to search for my info.

If I'm using my Filo as my diary, I put notes pages with relevant info into the diary section at the relevant date. For example, I'll write my flight itinerary and numbers on a page, and on a separate page I'll write my hotel reservations and the address and phone number of the hotel. I put these pages on the rings at the date when I'll need them. Alternatively, if I'm not using my Filo as my diary at that time I'll keep these pages in my Notes section for easy reference.

I love the flexibility of a Filofax and being able to add in maps and other info that I wouldn't need in my day to day life but do need when traveling. Then when I get home I take those pages out and store them until I need them again next time.

Laurie (2012-03-28 12:00:12)

PS Here is the link to my Scotland Travel Filofax set on Flickr with photos of some of my pages and text with more details on how I use it if you are interested in seeing more:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/plannerisms/sets/72157622035170176/>

Rene Raggl (2012-03-28 12:16:58)

I also did a post on my blog on how I am using my Filo for travel. You can find it here:

<http://rene.raggl.me/post/12390559925/filofax-the-perfect-travel-assistant#notes>

the Merry Lemon (2012-03-28 16:32:22)

I keep separate filofaxes (Cuban, personal size, I like the mesh zipper sections on the back cover) for cities I visit regularly. In it are maps for the area along with transportation maps and schedules. In the address section I keep regular address pages listing people and businesses and restaurants I like in that city behind the correct letter. (Mary Smith is behind "S", Lord & Taylor Dept. Store is behind "L") In addition, behind each letter I have lists on yellow paper. They are my personal "yellow pages." A list of consignment stores under "C", a list of pen stores under "P".

When I travel to one of these cities, I bring the filofax for that city. In the front I usually put undated day planner pages to plan what I will be doing each day during my trip. I usually also carry a slimline with me. Chances are I will move the day planner pages into it along with key pages for whatever I am doing on a particular day.

In my regular daily filofax, behind the "travel" section, each trip has a page with my travel itinerary on the front, and my packing list on the back. I update it constantly as I think of things to include. In my "list" section I also

keep a page for each city I plan to visit. As I come across things to do or places to see I add them to the list. That list will then come with me when I go.

I have been doing this for years and it works well for me.

Globetrotting Cacti (2012-03-29 15:45:56)

I have a separate tab in my pocket Malden for travel. All my travel details go in there on yellow paper ( & I keep these to remind me of those trips later). New page per trip and I include all details (flight times, hotel details, booking ref numbers, phone numbers associated with trip, transfer details etc). My main diary has minimal info ( & I refer to this travel section). Also in this section I have the 'Where on Earth' page from the travel pack (and I write all my trips in there so when I moan that I never go any-where, I can review this page!), my Frequent Flyer details (not log-ins but details about tier-points and status targets/reviews), a list of airports reachable from my house with post-code (for sat nav), distance in miles and also average travel times (helpful when booking and looking at departing airport options), my EKit details (for when my iPhone dies in an emergency - it has happened!), phone numbers of my nearest and dearest for the same reason, map of UK (detailed road map for parts I travel frequently on), world map and underground map. I also use TripIt but would not rely on it!

ayra k (2012-04-18 12:41:47)

Have any of you used the Travel Journal Pack that you can buy from the Filofax UK site? I've ordered a pack but haven't used it yet.

## New York City Meet Up - June 16th (2012-03-29 00:00) - Steve Morton

It's time for another New York City Meet Up! The [1]first and [2]second meet-ups were quite successful and a lot of fun! My list of contacts for upcoming meet-ups in NYC has grown, so I am following [3]Steve's outline for planning the next one - this post is just a "calling notice" - please read the entire post before responding.

**Date:** Saturday, June 16

**Time:** 1:00 pm

**Where:** Sam Flax store, 900 Third Ave (between 54th & 55th Streets)

In the past, it has worked well that we meet at Sam Flax, shop the Filofax selection, then head to [4]Le Pain Quotidien (937 Second Ave, between 49th & 50th Streets) for a late lunch/early dinner. A few people travel quite a distance to attend, so we have to meet after noon.

### **How to book a place for the meet up:**

Please send an email to Susan at kanalt17 [at] gmail [dot] com on Friday, April 6, beginning at 9:00 a.m. US time. This gives people a week (between the announcement date and the sign up date) for people to look into arrangements should they need to. (Please do not book travel arrangements until you have been confirmed a place.) I will add people to the list on a first-come, first-served basis and will notify you via email regarding confirmation as soon as I can.

In order to keep the group to a level that allows for easy shopping and dining, we will limit the list to 10. If there are more than 10 people to respond, I will create a reserve list - if one of the original 10 drops out between April 6 and June 16, I will contact someone from the reserve list in order of placement. Please do not request a spot for the meet up unless you are fairly certain that you'll be able to attend - I'd like to give as many people the opportunity to attend as possible.

Please let me know if you have any questions - you can email me directly at kanalt17 [at] gmail [dot] com. Thank you!

1. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/05/new-york-meet-up-kanalt-and-j.html>

2. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2011/09/philofaxy-new-york-meet-up-live-update.html>

3. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/03/philofaxy-london-meet-up-may-2012.html>

4. [http://www.lepainquotidien.us/#/en\\_US/menu](http://www.lepainquotidien.us/#/en_US/menu)

J (2012-03-29 11:30:14)

Man, I totally wish I could come this time around... definitely don't see that happening though :( Have fun!!!

Butanben (2012-03-30 05:49:29)

At times like these, I wish I were super rich and could just jet over to NY for a break and meet you all!! Have a superb time!!

## Free For All Friday 176 (2012-03-30 00:00) - Steve Morton

Hopefully a sunny and warm weekend is around the corner. I've started to note down the weather conditions in my Filofax, so I can compare one year to the next.

So do you record any information on a daily or weekly basis in your Filofax?

But of course it's a Friday so feel free to discuss anything Filofax related.

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Kevin Smith (2012-03-30 02:27:30)

Thanks for sharing value able information.

[1]Make your own quiz

1. <http://www.skill-guru.com/quiz>

Scoot (2012-03-30 05:54:39)

Working while soaking up the beautiful sunshine, so I had my A5 fax, I finished far earlier than expected (no phone, no email, no distractions other than singing birds) but felt uncomfortable at the thought of just tanning myself. I looked at my fax to see whether there was anything else I could do, looked at my project and to do lists, also my diary, and realised that there were quite a few things I could plan and think about while in the sun. Firstly I thought that it was lucky that I could do that but then realised that it wasn't luck, it was just proof that my system works. Out of my office, away from phones and computers, my system works; such may seem silly to others, but after so much chopping and changing it is a delight to have it proved.

Also, I was thinking about the leather being in strong sunlight ... and so Nivea went on the shopping list! I have also added a "to do" for one year hence; reconditioning and cleaning of fax.

The Perpetual Student TPS (2012-03-30 06:00:11)

I can't wait to get my hands on a personal purple (smooth) Malden from City Organiser- does anyone know when they will be getting some more stock in? :D

Butanben (2012-03-30 06:58:04)

Is the smooth version like the Crimson Malden, or is the rough version more like that do you happen to know??? Only I just adore my Crimson Malden and one day,would love a purple A5 Malden.

Vanjilla (2012-03-30 08:11:31)

Hello everyone, hopefully you all enjoy these sunny days!

I have another question: is anyone familiar with Franklin Covey inserts? I remember someone saying that their pocket size fits Mulberry agenda (personal-like size) well without any repunching needed - any clues to that?

Anita (2012-03-30 08:29:23)

Sounds lovely & I absolutely agree with you, Scoot!

I always plan things on paper & find it so much easier to concentrate in disconnect mode. Glad to hear your system's working. Mine's in for a major overhaul now that my A5 Malden's arrived :)

Alison Reeves (2012-03-30 09:55:50)

@Scoot - Have you posted anything on your setup? I'd love to hear more about it as it obviously works really well for you. Could you elaborate?

Gareth Buxton (2012-03-30 10:01:31)

I am currently recording my temperature twice a day. I recently had an infection which resulted in a three day trip to hospital. So keeping an eye on it is important. I had a temperature at one point of 39.9 which raised a few doctor's eyebrows ;-)

Forever New (2012-03-30 10:16:51)

Vanjilla, Compact Franklin Covey fits Personal Filofaxes as far as having the same hole configuration and size. HOWEVER, Franklin Covey pages are 4.25 inches wide rather than the filo 3.75 inches and this could really cause problems with sticking out the sides, interfering with your pencil holder, etc., etc. Apparently a few personal size filos are built slightly wider and can accommodate this better.

David Popely (2012-03-30 11:24:28)

hi Scoot.....

Could I just add a huge LIKE to this?! No comments....just hands down proof that PAPER WORKS.

To help me prove my point, Barclays online banking has been off-air all day, the last day of the month, the last day of the week, the last month-end of the tax year. Technophiles please note.....

Ro (2012-03-30 12:08:06)

In process of moving from one condo to another... And it feels GREAT every time I check off another thing from the move-specific to-do list. Everything seems to be going so well and falling into place. Definitely feels meant to be.

Have a great weekend everyone!

J (2012-03-30 12:31:59)

I can vouch for the FC inserts fitting into a personal Malden- I'm not sure about Mulberry planners. They do stick out a bit further, but it is totally worth it for me to have an ideal layout.

You can see how they look in a personal Malden in this post I did a while back: <http://thecrazylifeofj.blogspot.com/2011-11/my-2012-filo-system-finalized-i-think.html>

J (2012-03-30 12:33:54)

Definitely not a sunny day here in Chicago, but I'm glad someone is enjoying some sunshine!

I also have done weather doodles on my daily pages for as long as I can remember- I just draw a little sun, sun w/ cloud, cloud, raindrops, etc. and then put the temperature next to it. It's silly, but it is fun looking back on it :)

Nia (2012-03-30 15:12:16)

I am impatiently awaiting the delivery of a mini Ochre Malden that I bought for an amazing price on ebay, it's brand new in its box. I have very small writing anyway, and find that I just don't need that much space - I turn the Wo2P into a grid-layout (almost Dodo Pad style) and this way I find I have more than enough room to plan out each day. The lack of structure in the Wo2P layout is what made me think I needed more space than I do I think.

I just can't get over how wonderful the mini binders look, can't wait to see if it'll work for me.

Oh and this means I'll have a Malden in each size (Mini ochre, Pocket black, Personal ochre)!

Steve Morton (2012-03-30 15:25:04)

Mia you need a Malden in A5 to complete your collection....

JasJan (2012-03-30 15:58:10)

Does anybody use a mini as a wallet or purse? I was wondering if it would work to supplement my home bound A5. Jen

Scout (2012-03-30 16:05:55)

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.

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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 thOSE 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.....

Scout (2012-03-30 16:11:49)

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

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.

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.

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 Gutenberg 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.

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!).

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

Scoot (2012-03-30 16:15:28)

Woops, first part of previous post has disappeared...here it is again.

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Tracy Reinhardt (2012-03-30 17:04:09)

When it’s an especially beautiful day I write down the temperature and a pretty picture :) A little silly but it makes me happy!

Tracy

Steve Morton (2012-03-30 17:11:12)

Mr Scoot

Would you be willing to send in photos so we could see your set up along with the text to form a Guest Post?

Steve

Anita (2012-03-30 17:18:29)

Has any one had problems with the pen loops on the Maldens?

Just purchased an A5 (yay) & the material inside the loops has shifted & got stuck. I really don’t want to have to send it back. Had a look inside & wonder if I can fix it or if it’ll just get worse & rip...

doris98 (2012-03-30 20:51:14)

JasJan: I’ve been using a mini as a wallet/purse for the past few months and it’s been working well for me. I did need to use the side-opening plastic envelopes for loyalty/store cards, driver’s license and such, and keep the extra paper to a minimum. You’ll probably also want to look for one with a zipped pocket for coins so you won’t need to carry around a separate coin purse. I’m using a mini baroque at the moment but also used a Malden, although that was a tighter squeeze.

mywormy (2012-03-30 21:49:38)

The FC pocket inserts fit the Mulberry organizer.

Scoot (2012-03-31 05:55:07)

I’ll see what the phone’s resolution is like.

Vanjilla (2012-03-31 09:38:11)

Thanks - just what I needed to hear! :-)

Vanjilla (2012-03-31 09:39:54)

Yes, Mulberry which I’m tempted to test is a bit wider and looks therefore chunkier, just like the filofax pockets... thanks for answering!

Vanjilla (2012-03-31 09:40:41)

Thanks J, am off to your lovely blog! :)

kanalt (2012-03-31 10:28:14)

I started recording the weather conditions in relation to how I was feeling - I get bad sinus pressure and headaches

if there is a change. However, it has grown into more than than. I look forward to recording the weather everyday. It's my opportunity to catch up on what the weather is supposed to be for the next few days. For some reason, it makes me happy.

mywormy (2012-03-31 11:15:39)

Vanjilla, after spending over 50.00 on the Mulberry refills and other fillers - I was looking through my desk. At one time I was using FC pocket planner and I found some papers and those pretty rulers with the flowers - so I decided to see if they would fit in my Mulberry and they do. I was so upset, because I had spent so much on the Mulberry fillers only to find out the FC pocket fit. I am now using my Mulberry, but I am thinking of using my Deco now. Believe it or not - and I know you will believe it. I carry both with me, but I have got to stop and only use one. I think it will be the Deco for now. What color is your Mulberry? Not even the sturdiest of the new Filos compare to the Mulberry leather. What do you think?

Vanjilla (2012-03-31 18:44:07)

mywormy, that's exactly what would happen to me hadn't you revealed the shortcut to FC - I so appreciate it! I haven't used FC before, but here we go!

And I'm so familiar with your dilemma, the Decos are really out of this world! Which colour do you have? I don't have any of those, have always admired them, but then somehow gave my heart to the equally extinct Amazonas! It's such a relief hearing that you carry them both around - so I'm not the only one, lol! Really, I got the Mulberry last week and have been carrying it around with me just to stroke it every now and then, what a condition of mine!

I have mine in black congo and just got it as it was a complete bargain, out of curiosity as I really consider myself a straight Filofaxer...

But exactly as you say: nothing, nothing compares to that leather!!It just wants to be used and loved and I bet it can survive 20 years of real use! And besides, I really like it's size and proportions of the pages, it looks just like a big pocket filofax version!

I use Finchley in teal at the moment, have been dying for the spring to come so I could activate it, but it kinda faded next to this one and I'm really seduced by these Mulberry powers now!

Which Mulberry do you have, do you have any pictures posted anywhere to be seen? :-)

doris98 (2012-03-31 20:48:02)

Wormy & Vanjilla: I've been tempted by Mulberry but have resisted so far. I too am curious and your raving review is making me rethink it.

mywormy (2012-04-01 00:04:21)

Vanjilla: I have decided to use my Mulberry since I spent so much on the fillers. I have the Ivory Deco and I really, really like it. The ebony and ruby are on sale at Filofax USA - I did order the Ebony, but when I got it the clasp was broken, so I sent it back. I also have the black Congo and I love, love it!! Sorry Filo!! I have taken plenty of pictures, but have not posted them - I will do it soon. You are right Vanjilla, the Mulberry does remind me of the pocket filo. I also have the Amazona in brown and hadn't used it for very long when the snap broke! I have noticed that Filofax organizers are no where near the quality of the Mulberry, maybe the older ones - if you can find them!! :-(.

doris98 - I never thought of leaving Filo and I never really will, but I don't like the quality of their products anymore. you will love the Mulberry!!

Alison Reeves (2012-04-01 05:14:49)

@Scoot - thanks for this - really fascinating - I really enjoyed reading it. Just out of interest - did you pull together the English grammar section, or did you get it from somewhere? It's something I would find of great value. I do hope you get chance to do some photo's and format as a proper guest post. Do you maintain your own blog?

Also - out of interest - which binder do you use?

doris98 (2012-04-01 08:51:14)

Not being in the U.K., I have always admired them from afar. I guess the cost of the Mulberry will sometimes justify its more superior quality. I'll definitely check them out. Thanks!

mywormy (2012-04-01 12:27:20)

Hi doris98, I am not from the UK - but I bought mine from Ebay - I did pay 300.00 for it - but in my opinion it was well worth it!!!

doris98 (2012-04-01 18:34:28)

Filo pocket and personal fit the Mulberry rings, right? I don't want to invest in more inserts when I have so many already.

mywormy (2012-04-01 20:13:36)

doris98 - The Franklin Covey inserts for their "pocket" planner fit the Mulberry. The Filofax inserts for the "personal" don't fit the Mulberry.

mywormy (2012-04-01 20:16:33)

This comment has been removed by the author.

mywormy (2012-04-01 20:18:30)

doris98: The only inserts other than the Mulberry are the Franklin Covey "Pocket Planner". The Filofax "Personal" will not fit.

Vanjilla (2012-04-02 16:47:28)

mywormy, I so agree with your opinion on quality of the Mulberry (I'm so glad we both have the same model!), and also on love for Filos being something irrational in fact! :-)

Please, make a post on your beauty and let me know! :-)

Vanjilla (2012-04-02 16:48:43)

doris, just as Wormy said: you will love it, I'm sure!... :-)

mywormy (2012-04-04 15:40:12)

Hi Vanjilla: I will post pics of my Mulberry so that you can take a look at it! I really do love it. Are you going to start using yours anytime soon?

## Web Finds - 31 March 2012 (2012-03-31 00:00) - Steve Morton

So another great week of Filofax finds on the web....

- [1]The Humble Filofax Versus The Mighty iPad - Cupcakes and Cadenzas
- [2]Watching the pennies - Pen to Paper
- [3]Personal size PlanAhead for less than \$12! Cleverly designed. - Sense of Gravity
- [4]Filofancy: Filofax ART - Filofancy
- [5]Free Sudoku pages for your Filofax - My Life All in One Place
- [6]Filofax - The New Smartphone! - Filofancy
- [7]Sometimes you just need it... - The Crazy Suburban Mom

- [8]My new gorgeous Filofax! But . . . - All things stationery
- [9]Turbo tasks for your A5 Filofax - My Life All in One Place
- [10]The laws of physics applied to Filofax - The Crazy Suburban Mom
- [11]Filofax paper... the stationery hoards unveiled - Pen to Paper
- [12]Aristotle: On Filofax Rulers - The Crazy Suburban Mom
- [13]Travel Filo - Stationery Happiness
- [14]What's in my Filofax - Skyespace
- Your blog post could appear here next week... Please email us if we missed you this week.

Tune in tomorrow for something slightly different on Philofaxy.....  
And don't forget we have the [15]Philofaxy Skype chat on Sunday as well...

Enjoy

1. <http://www.cupcakesandcadenzas.com/2012/03/humble-filofax-versus-mighty-ipad.html>
2. <http://justjennypentopaper.blogspot.com/2012/03/watching-pennies.html>
3. <http://senseofgravity.blogspot.com/2012/03/personal-size-planahead-for-less-than.html>
4. <http://filofancy.blogspot.fr/2012/03/filofancy-filofax-art.html>
5. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.fr/2012/03/free-sudoku-pages-for-your-filofax.html>
6. <http://filofancy.blogspot.fr/2012/03/filofax-new-smartphone.html>
7. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/03/sometimes-you-just-need-it.html>
8. <http://allthingsstationery.blogspot.fr/2012/03/my-new-gorgeous-filofax-but.html>
9. <http://mylifeallinoneplace.blogspot.co.uk/2012/03/turbo-tasks-for-your-a5-filofax.html>
10. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/03/law-of-physics-applied-to-filofax.html>
11. <http://justjennypentopaper.blogspot.fr/2012/03/filofax-paper-stationery-hoards.html>
12. <http://www.crazysuburbanmom.com/2012/03/aristotle-on-filofax-rulers.html>
13. <http://stationeryhappiness.blogspot.fr/2012/03/travel-filo.html>
14. <http://skypepieintheskywithdiamonds.wordpress.com/2012/03/22/whats-in-my-filofax/>
15. <http://philofaxy.blogspot.com/2012/03/date-for-your-filofax-sunday-1st-april.html>

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LJ (2012-03-31 00:20:23)

Yay!!! Time to chill and read :o)

Tracy Reinhardt (2012-03-31 11:11:36)

I love Saturday! So many new ideas! Thank you Philofaxy

filofit (2012-03-31 15:45:31)

Hi Steve, a bit off the topic. I crave for a Finchley - but one in mustard, teal, vintage rose or even in jade. I found an A5 mustard on the German site, but at Euro 169.00, I think it is just a bit too much. Saw they have Finchely mustard on their corporate sales website and have sent a mail to Filofax UK. Are there any other people wanting the same colours that I want? Is there any way to start a petition requesting for more colours in Finchley? Do people at Filofax care what their customers really want? Being a newbie any information would be helpful. Thanks, Preethi

Alison Reeves (2012-03-31 19:14:37)

@filofit - I'm fairly sure the Finchley is being discontinued. The nearest one to it is the Aston. If you really want a finchley your best bet would be to keep an eye on ebay.

Iris (2012-04-01 04:36:08)

Filofax Denmark still has lots of Finchleys in different sizes and colours, 50 % off.

Denise Mitchell (2012-04-02 03:32:18)

Lots of really good web finds this week, Steve.

Many thanks for including mine

Denise (cupcakes and cadenzas)



BlogBook v0.4,  
L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X 2<sub>ε</sub> & GNU/Linux.  
<http://www.blogbooker.com>

Edited: April 27, 2012